
SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

**Land adjacent 13, Church Lane, Walton, Felixstowe
FEX 272**

**Planning application no. C/05/1490/FUL
Archaeological Monitoring Report no. 2006/145
OASIS ID No. 16436**

Summary

Felixstowe, Land adjacent 13, Church Lane, Walton (TM/296357; FEX 272) Conditional planning consent for the construction of a new dwelling on land adjacent to 13, Church Lane, Walton, Felixstowe, required archaeological monitoring of the associated groundworks. Despite the potential for evidence of medieval settlement, no artefacts were recovered from the topsoil or upcast spoil nor were any interventions observed within the exposed trench sections.

(Linzi Everett for S.C.C.A.S. and Needhams Contracts Ltd.; report no. 2006/145)

1. Introduction

Conditional planning consent for the construction of a new dwelling on land adjacent to 13, Church Lane, Walton, Felixstowe, required a programme of archaeological monitoring. The site is centred on TM 2956 3570, at a height of approximately 23m OD, within 35m of the medieval church and churchyard. In addition, the precinct of the medieval Walton Priory lies within 100m and the site fronts a route-way likely to be of some antiquity. The potential for evidence of medieval settlement is considered to be high.

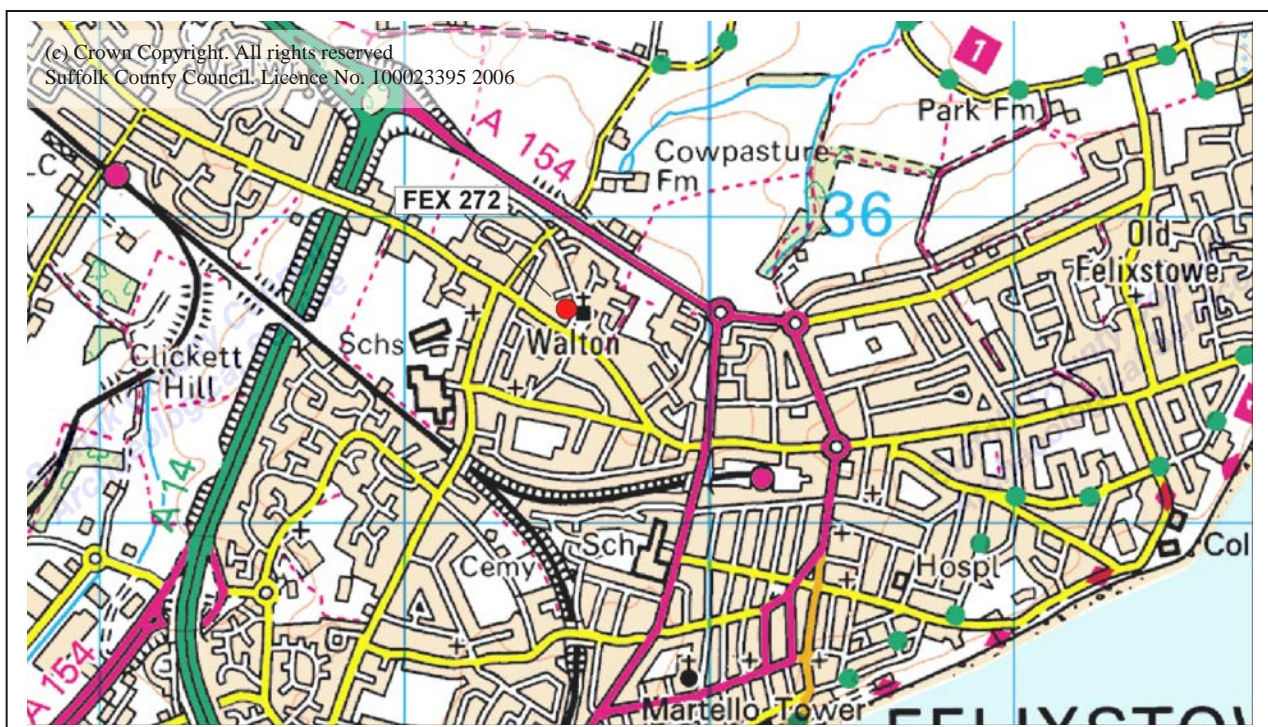


Figure 1: Site location

2. Methodology

Vists made to the site by the Field Projects Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) in order to inspect the excavated footings. The site was recorded under the SMR code FEX 272. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work was produced by Bob Carr of the SCCAS Conservation Team (Appendix I). The monitoring work took place in March 2006 and was funded by Needhams Contracts Ltd.

The monitoring archive is held in the county SMR in Bury St. Edmunds.

3. Results

Trenches were excavated to a depth of *c.* 1.2m showing the composition of the soil in the exposed sections. Where present, the topsoil comprised dark brown sandy loam topsoil up to 250mm thick and sealed a clean orange gravelly sand natural subsoil. No features were observed in any of the footings. A service trench excavated at the front of the building plot showed the same soil composition as the footings described above, but had been subject to previous disturbance from earlier services.

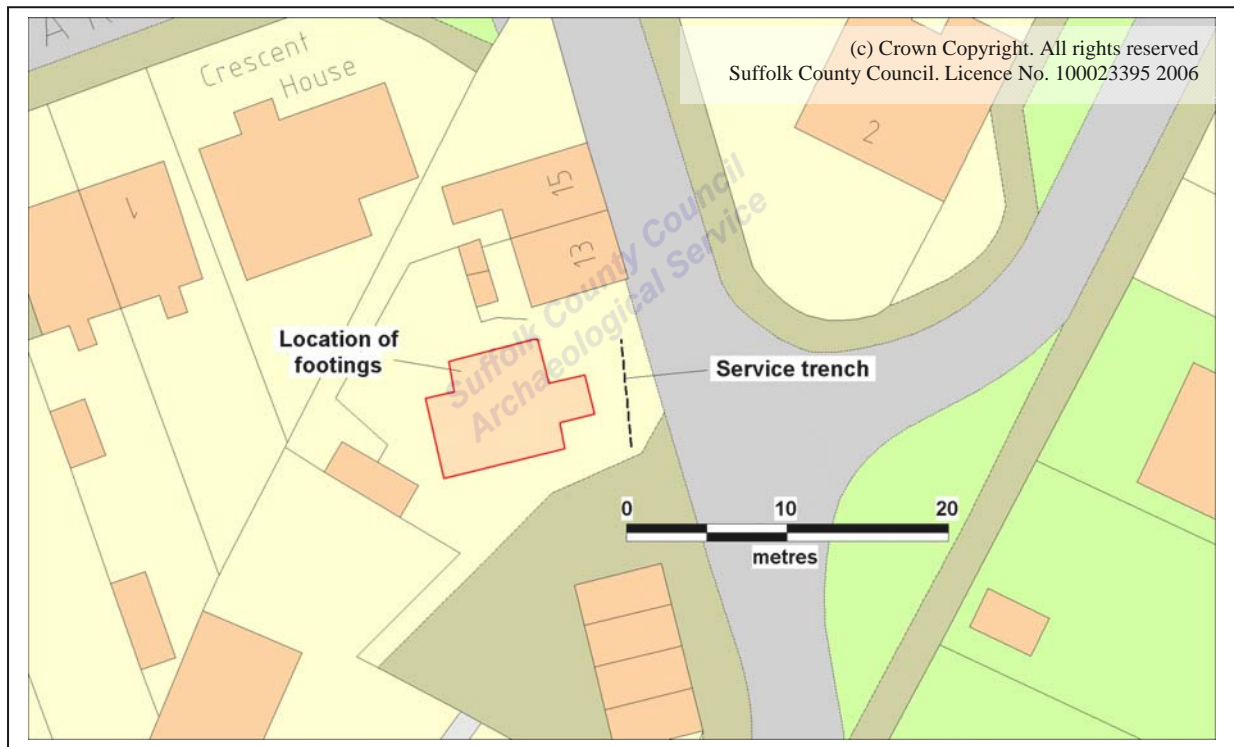


Figure 2: Location of excavated footings

5. Discussion

Despite the high potential for evidence of medieval settlement, no archaeological features or artefacts were revealed by the groundworks. However, the groundworks observed only provided a small window into the archaeology of the site and a part of the area had been disturbed. It is still possible that deposits survive here, although they were not revealed during this event.

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