

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

Monitoring Report

19 Church Road, Felixstowe
(Planning Application C/06/1143/FUL)

SMR- FEX 274

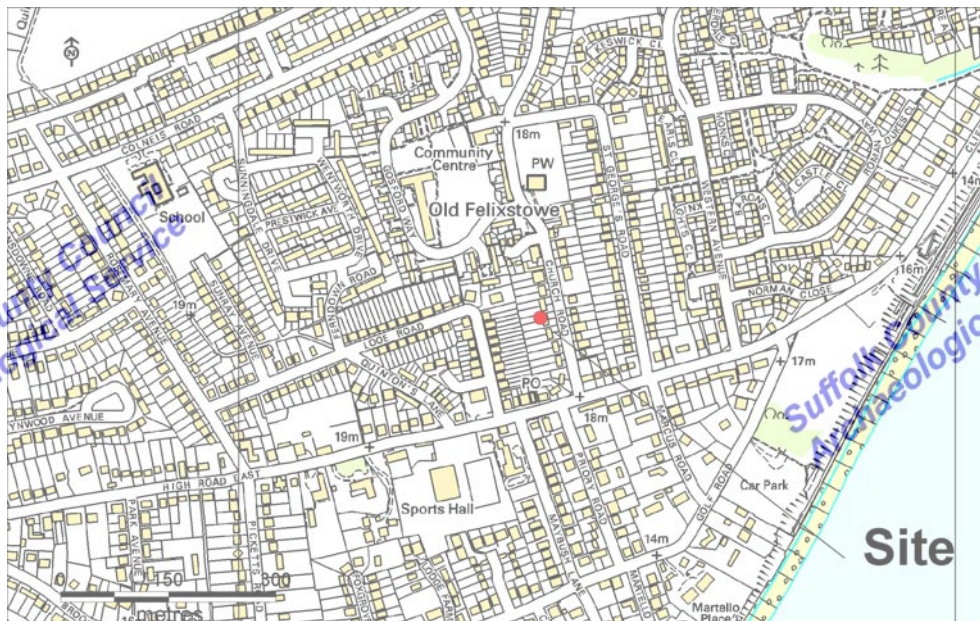
SCCAS Report No.2006/210

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Jess Tipper: SCCAS Conservation Team (Brief and Specification)
John Newman: Field Officer/Contracts Manager

Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 19 Church Road, Felixstowe as a condition of planning application C/06/1143/FUL; the monitoring is funded by Mrs S. Ronaldson. The site is centred on TM 3142 3552 where a small extension to the rear of the existing dwelling is to be constructed, along with a detached studio. This entails digging around thirty linear metres of building footings. A single visit was made to the site on the afternoon of 12th September 2006. It was possible to examine all of the open trenches and also a small services pit in bright dry conditions. A quantity of the upcast soil was also available for inspection. However, in spite of a thorough examination of all deposits, under the full co-operation of the landowners, the monitoring failed to produce any evidence of archaeological features or finds.

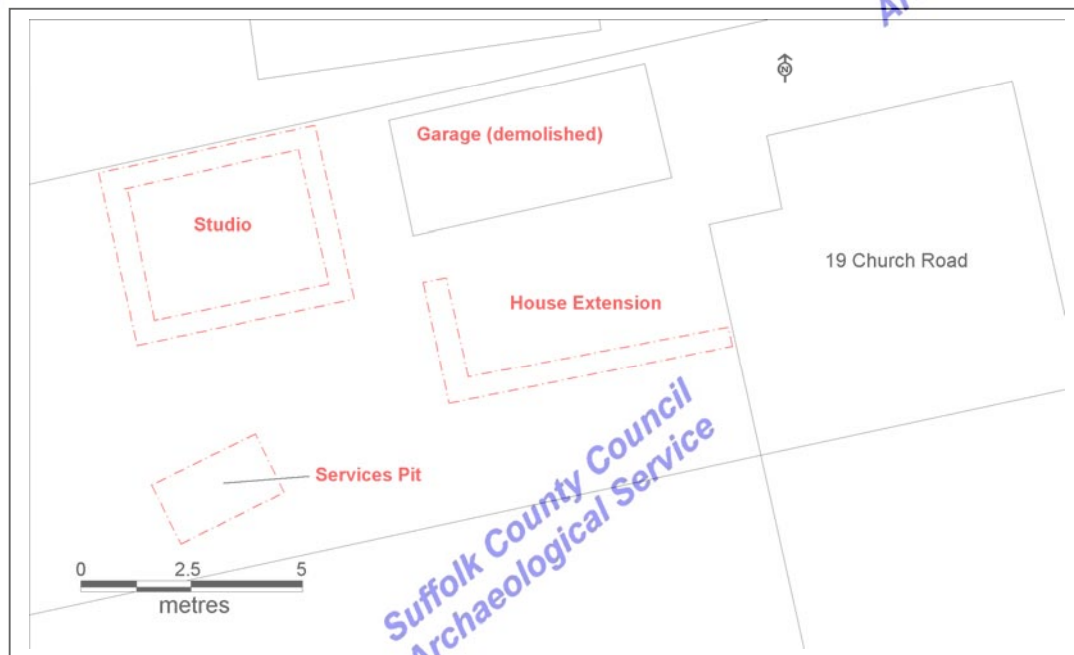


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Introduction

The Brief and Specification for the archaeological monitoring (dated 22.08/06) was produced by Jess Tipper of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (Tipper 2006).

The site lies within close proximity to known archaeology, in an area of extensive Roman settlement (FEX093) recorded in the County Sites and Monuments Record. It was considered that the ground disturbance was likely to cause significant damage to any existing archaeological remains.



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Locations of Footing Trenches and Services Pit

Methodology

The area within which the ground disturbance took place, measured 12.80m. by 10.00m.. This area was recorded using a sketch plan in order to plot the trench locations, localised soil profiles and any observable features. The footing trenches and services pit had been dug using a tracked mini-digger fitted with a toothed 0.50m. wide bucket. Some areas of the trench sides were hand cleaned in order to clarify the deposits. A quantity of the spoil remained on site and was searched for the purpose of retrieving any archaeological finds.

Conclusion

All of the footing trenches measured 0.50m. in width and were between 1.10m.-1.15m. deep. Soil profiles were recorded at three points along the footings and demonstrated very consistent characteristics. The topsoil was around 0.20m. in depth and consisted of mid-brown fine silty loam containing very few stones. The upper subsoil was of reddish-brown clayey silt between 0.20-0.25m. deep, while below this was a further subsoil deposit which was slightly redder in colour and 0.45m. in depth. The underlying natural deposit was Suffolk crag from a depth of between 0.85-0.90m. below the present ground surface; none of the footings reached beyond the depth of this natural deposit.

No archaeological features or finds were observed within the footing trenches and the spoil failed to produce any finds.

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October 2006

References

Tipper, J. 2006 'Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring of Development: 19 Church Road, Felixstowe' Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team, Bury St Edmunds.