

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

Land Adjacent Prettys House, Church Lane, Bacton

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: 1947/05

National Grid Reference: TM 0545 6721

Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record Reference: BAC 026

Clare Good, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, February 2007

SCCAS Report Number: 2007/041

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Summary

The construction of a new house at Land adjacent Prettys House, Church Lane, Bacton (TM 0545 6721, BAC 026), required a programme of archaeological monitoring to be undertaken. The site is within 120m of Bacton Church (BAC 014), at least Medieval in origin. The new house required a topsoil strip prior to excavation of footings, both of which were inspected after excavation. No archaeological finds or features were revealed during the monitoring

Introduction

Planning consent for the construction of a new dwelling required a programme of archaeological monitoring to be undertaken. The development required an area to be stripped to lay hard for a driveway, and footings to be excavated for the dwelling itself. The site is within an area of medieval settlement, to the east Bacton Church (BAC 014), a building at least Medieval in origin. Howard New Homes commissioned the project.



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Figure 1: Site location

A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work (Appendix 1) was produced by Jess Tipper of the Conservation Team, Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS), who requested a monitoring visit during the excavation of the stripped area, and one after the excavation of the footing trenches. This was to observe the stripped area, trenches and the upcast soil to determine the presence, if any, of archaeological evidence in this area.

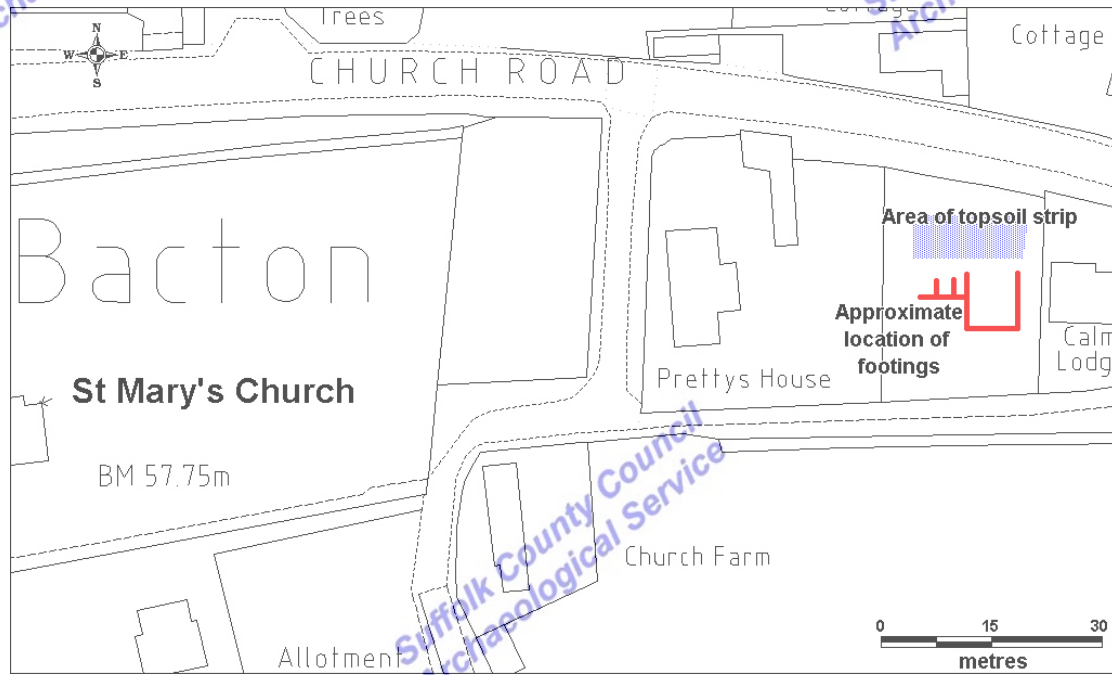


Figure 2: Development area in relation to St Mary's Church (BAC 014)

Results

The northern edge of the site was stripped to lay hard for a driveway, to a depth of c.0.25m at the eastern end rising to c.0.1m at the west. This was stripped within topsoil, a dark brown loamy clay, with occasional modern pottery fragments and a land drain evident.

The footings were dug to a depth of c.1.1m, and consisted of c.0.3m of topsoil, a dark brown loamy clay, c.0.1m of subsoil, a mid orange brown clay sand, and the remainder was natural subsoil, a bright orange clay sand. Both the stripped area and the footings were observed after excavation and the upcast soil was retained on site for inspection.

Despite revealing the natural subsoil and the good visibility afforded by the clean excavation of the footings, no archaeological finds or features were found within the footing trenches.

Clare Good
Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service, 21st February 2007