
SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

**The Stables, The Street, Walberswick
(WLB 069)
Planning application no. C06/0582/FUL
Archaeological Monitoring Report, 2007/55
Oasis ID no. 25704**

Summary

Walberswick, The Stables, The Street, Walberswick (TM492747; WLB 069) Conditional planning consent for the construction of guest accommodation at The Stables, Walberswick, required a programme of archaeological monitoring. One pit of unknown date was recorded in the excavated footing trench sections, as well as a series of late 19th or early 20th century rubbish pits. (Linzi Everett for Suffolk County Council and Bradley Building Contractors; report no. 2007/55)

1. Introduction and Methodology

Conditional planning consent for the construction of guest accommodation at The Stables, Walberswick, required a programme of archaeological monitoring. The site is centred on TM 4924 7469 on the 10m OD contour. Archaeological potential was based on the sites location within the area of archaeological interest for Walberswick medieval village, and directly north of various Roman findspots.

One visit was made to the site by the Field Projects Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service in order to inspect the machine excavated foundation trenches. This took place on 18th January 2007. The site was recorded under the SMR code WLB 069. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work (Appendix I) was produced by Keith Wade of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team. The monitoring work was funded by Bradley Building Contractors and the archive is held in the county SMR in Bury St. Edmunds.



Figure 1: Site location

2. Results

The trenches had been excavated to a depth of c.800mm, revealing the composition of the soil in the exposed sections. The topsoil was some 250mm thick and comprised a dark brown sandy loam with gravel and modern rubbish throughout. Below this was a mid-dark brown sand subsoil c.200mm thick, with frequent flint gravel. Below this was a 350mm thick layer of mid brown sand subsoil with occasional small stones but otherwise quite sterile. This sealed the naturally occurring subsoil, an orange sand with frequent flints. Various interventions were observed cutting the subsoil layers, comprising modern rubbish pits containing late 19th or early 20th century ceramics, metal and glass. A brick built septic tank of a similar age was also revealed in the footings.



Figure 2: Building footprint showing location of features observed during monitoring

4. Discussion

No pre-modern features were observed in the exposed trench sections, nor was any artefactual evidence recovered from the topsoil or the upcast spoil available to view. No archaeological features were visible, however, the trenches only represent a small window into the site. As such, this negative evidence does suggest that the area was not subject to intensive occupation in antiquity, but more scattered deposits may still be present.

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