

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

MOAT END, DUNSTALL GREEN ROAD, DALHAM. CB8 8TZ DAL 027

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING, 2007
(Planning app. no. F/2006/0872)

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

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Field Team
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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All Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service unless otherwise stated.

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Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Mr D. Standing and the archaeological work specified by Mr W. Fletcher (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team). The fieldwork was carried out by Stuart Nichols from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team. Finds processing was carried out by Gemma Adams and the specialist finds report produced by Richenda Goffin.

Summary

An archaeological monitoring was carried out during the extraction of 1300 square metres of topsoil, subsoil and natural to a depth of approximately 1.4 metres for the construction of a wildlife pond. This did not locate any evidence of any archaeological deposits.

SMR information

Planning application no. F/2006/0872
Date of fieldwork: 23rd and 24th April 2007
Grid Reference: TL 7474 6018
Funding body: Mr D Standing
Oasis reference. Suffolkc1-27247

Introduction

A series of four visits was made to the site (Figs. 1 & 2) over two days on the 23rd and 24th April 2007 to monitor the removal of topsoil during the extraction of material to create the wildlife pond which measures 50m x 26m. This work was carried out to the Brief and Specifications (Appendix 1) issued by Mr W Fletcher (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team) to meet the archaeological planning condition on planning application F/2006/0872 namely, the assessment of the works impact on any archaeological deposits and the adequate recording of any deposits located. The landowner and applicant, Mr D Standing, funded the work.

The proposed groundworks to create the pond were of potential archaeological interest as the site lay within an area of significant archaeological potential. The site is located at grid ref: TL 7474 6081 at c.117m OD on the western edge of Southwood Park, which is an ancient Deer Park (County Sites and Monument Records HRG002). A scatter of Roman pottery sherds (County Sites and Monument Records DAL009) was also found 80 metres to the northeast of the proposed area of development and there is evidence of a moated site in the immediate vicinity. Additionally, the house, Moat End, lies on a green lane, which is likely to be of medieval origin. Therefore, it is clear that the development is centred in a potentially sensitive area.

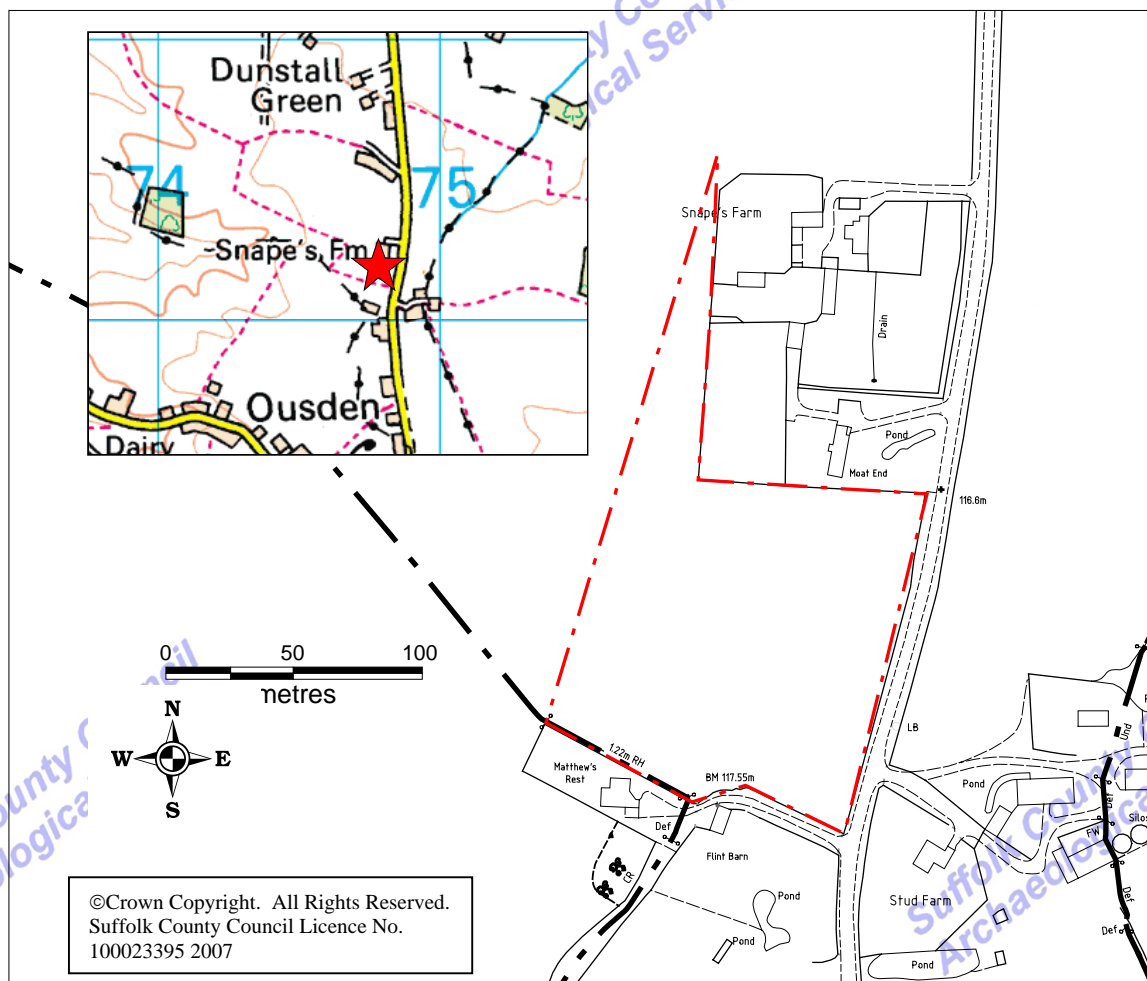


Figure 1. Site location

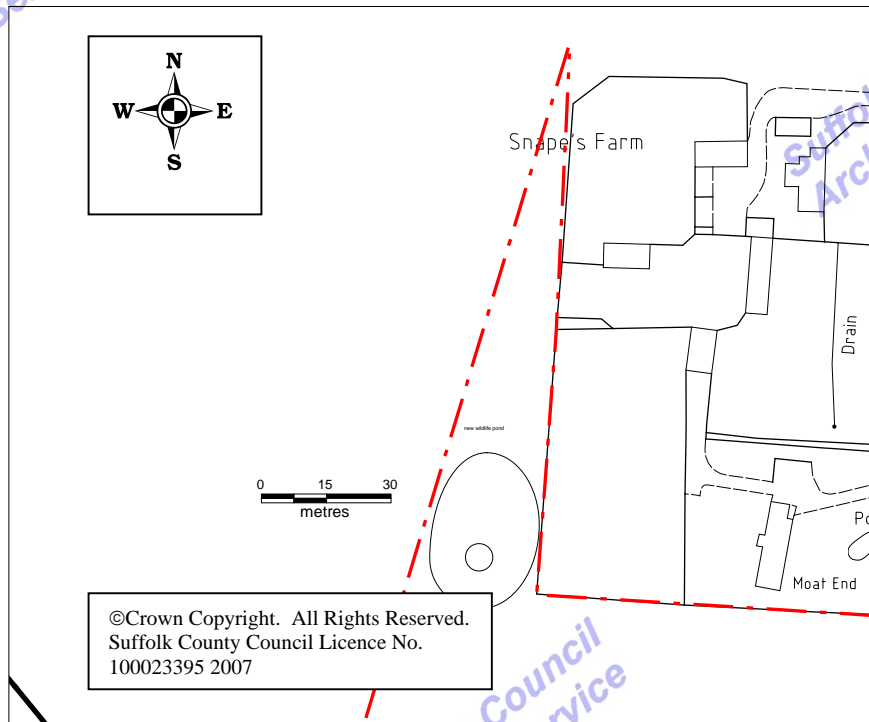


Figure 2. Site plan

Methodology and Results

The removal of the topsoil (50cm deep brown earths) was observed and monitored across the site and this appeared to be undisturbed ground which may have lain under pasture or had little deep ploughing for sometime. There was a modern land drain to the northern end and a further land drain in the centre of the groundworks, each ran east to west. There were no archaeological deposits contained within this soil.

There was a small layer of brown-grey subsoil (10cm) and this was removed separately to the topsoil. No archaeological deposits were seen.

The natural soil deposits were of yellow/ beige heavy clays, mixed with chalk. These were examined and apart from the modern land drains there was no evidence of disturbance.

Finds and Environmental Evidence by Richenda Goffin

Introduction

Finds were collected from a single context, as shown in the table below.

OP	Pottery		CBM		Animal bone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0001	7	53	2	129	6	31	1 iron patten	Topsoil, med/post-med
Total	7	53	2	129	6	31		

Table 1. Finds quantification

Pottery

A total of seven unstratified fragments of pottery were recovered, weighing 0.053kg. The earliest sherd is a small sooted fragment of medieval coarseware, dating to the Late 12th-14th century. A fragment of Colchester-type slipped redware was also present, dating to the 13th-14th century (Cotter 2000, 118), together with three other Colchester-type wares. An abraded fragment of Heddingham fineware (L12th-13th C) was identified, and an abraded sherd of a micaceous redware may also be of this date rather than being a later Essex product.

Ceramic building material

Two fragments of red-fired sandy roof tile were collected, which are post-medieval in date.

Metalwork

The substantial remains of an iron circle-type patten were identified. The iron ring and the back part of the attachment with nails still survives. The front part of the attachment is missing, but otherwise the patten is complete. Such fittings were attached to a wooden clog to enable the wearer to negotiate wet and muddy surfaces without getting wet, as it raised the clog from contact with the ground by several inches. This particular form of overshoe dates from the 17th to the early 20th century.

Animal bone

Six joining fragments of a probable bovine rib were recovered from the topsoil.

Discussion

The small quantity of medieval pottery recovered from the topsoil may be due to manuring practices, although the sherds may have come from the settlement nearby.

Conclusion

The monitoring clearly indicated that this part of Moat End, whilst forming part of the medieval landscape, was predominantly used for animal husbandry or arable practices. The pottery sherds found in the topsoil were all of mediaeval origin and were very likely to have come from the spreading of animal waste as a fertiliser.

Stuart Nichols
May 2007

References

Cotter, J., 2000, *Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85*, Colchester Archaeological Report 7, English Heritage

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Appendix 1

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring of Development

Works to create a Wildlife Pond at Moat End, Ousden

Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications, for example see paragraphs 2.3 & 4.3.

1. Background

- 1.1 Permission to complete this work has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council. Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that there exists at the site the potential for evidence relating to medieval settlement, and a former moat. Sites affected by development can be adequately recorded by the use of archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project.
- 1.3 A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractors as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits, which are damaged or removed during the development, permitted under this proposal.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will be to monitor and investigate the areas of the pond.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the removal of topsoil and the excavation of material for the creation of a pond. This work and the up-cast soil are to be observed after they have been excavated. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation (see 4.3).

3. Arrangements for Monitoring

- 3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) - see 1.3 above.
- 3.2 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of SCCAS five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.
- 3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.
- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered the Conservation Team of SCCAS must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

4. **Specification**

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Council Conservation Team archaeologist and the contracted 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity must be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail, one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 and sections at 1:20.
- 4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context.
- 4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

5. **Report Requirements**

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.2 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.3 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results,

and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

5.4 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, must be prepared and included in the project report.

5.5 County Sites and Monuments Record sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

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Date: 9th March 2007

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.