

AW Pumping Station, Bures Road, Little Cornard COL 028

Application No. B/03/02089/CPA

TL 8847 3860

Report No. 2004/117

Oasis No. suffolkc1-2873

Summary

An archaeological monitoring of various groundworks at the Anglian Water pumping station, Bures Road, Little Cornard showed undisturbed subsoil and an absence of archaeological features.

Introduction

A single visit was made to the site (Fig. 1) on 16th May 2004 to monitor the various groundworks being excavated during re-development of the pumping station. The work was to fulfil a planning condition on application B/03/2089. The work was funded by the developer, Anglian Water.

The site was thought to have only limited potential for locating archaeological evidence as it lies on the floodplain of the river Stour. However, situated 350m to the east, there is an Anglo-Saxon cemetery (COL 001) overlooking the valley, and so a low level of archaeological monitoring had been recommended by R.D. Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team).

Methodology and Results

The main part of the groundworks that were seen was a circular area, approximately 20m in diameter, excavated to a depth of 0.8-1m. The centre of this area had already been backfilled but the edges of the area and sections were exposed and showed the natural subsoil, composed of orange/brown silts and gravels, underlying the topsoil.

Two further trenches were observed on the eastern part of the site but these were exposing existing pipelines and only disturbed ground was visible.

Discussion

No archaeological features were seen during the monitoring although only a limited amount of trenching was observed. Where undisturbed by the modern works on the site, the trenches showed the riverine sands and gravels of the Stour floodplain.

John Craven, August 2004

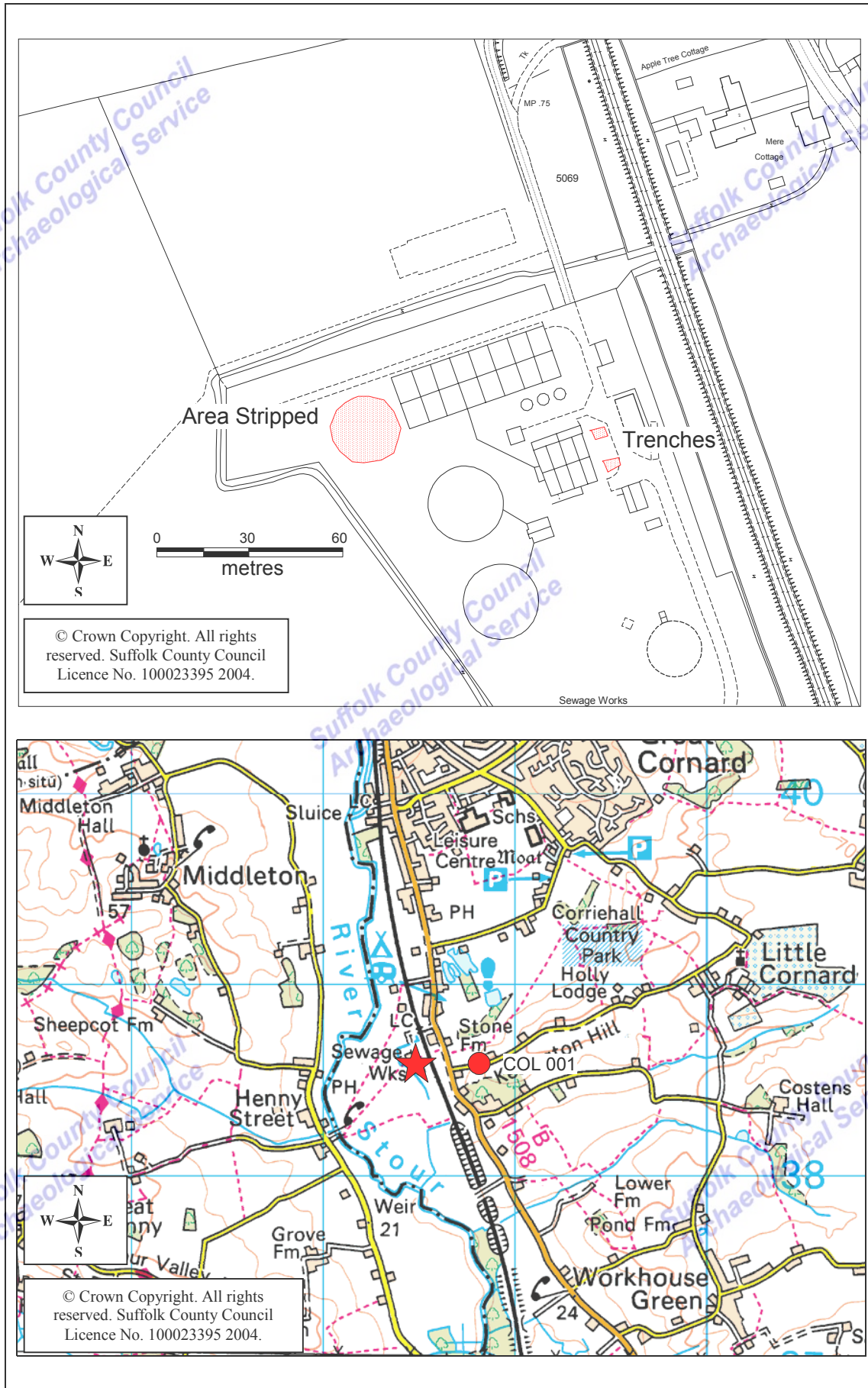


Figure 1. Site plan