

30 Mundays Lane, Orford, Record of Archaeological Monitoring

SMR Information

Planning Appe. No.: C/03/2066
Developer: Mr J. Partridge
Features: None
Date: N/A

Grid Reference: TM 4200 5014
SMR No.: ORF 107
Finds: None
SCCAS Rpt. No. 2004/92

Introduction

Planning consent was granted for an extension to 30 Mundays Lane, Orford (Figs 1 & 2). One of the conditions of this consent required that the applicant provide for a programme of archaeological works which, in this case, involved the archaeological monitoring of the groundworks, particularly footing trenches, associated with the new building.

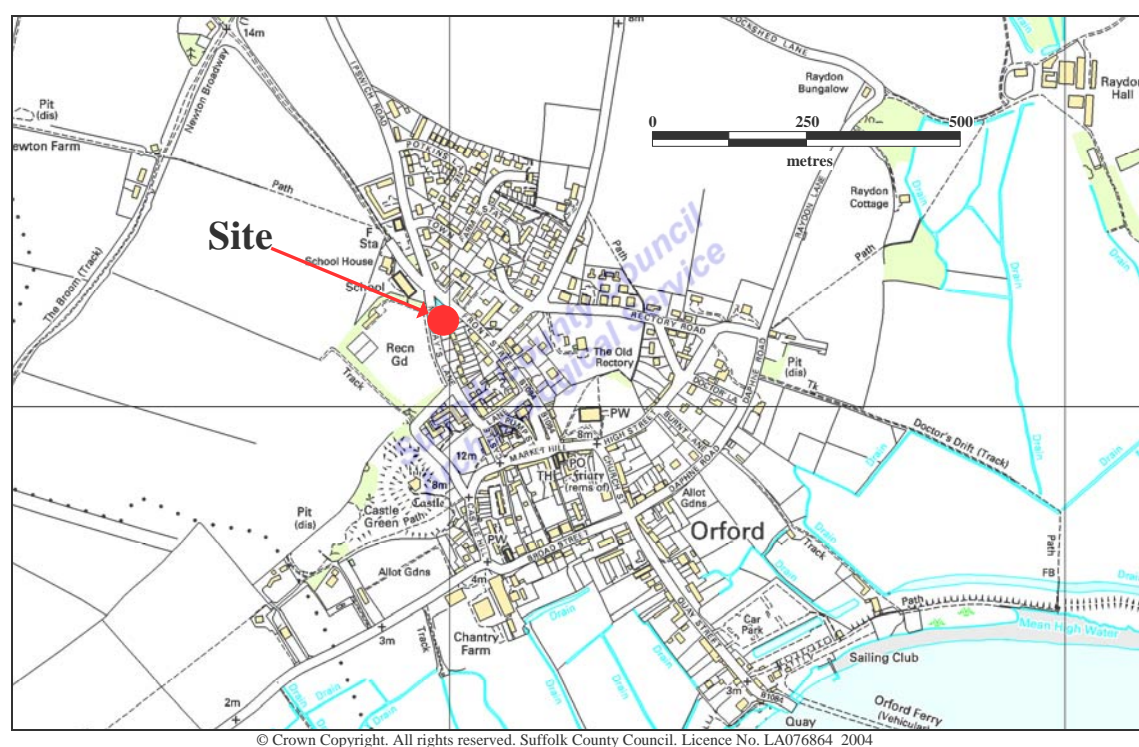


Fig. 1 1:2,500 scale OS map extract showing the location of the site

The perceived archaeological potential for the site was based on its location within the area of medieval Orford defined in the county SMR (Sites and Monuments Record) as being of national importance.

A Brief and Specification document outlining the scope of the archaeological works (appended to this report) was written by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Councils Archaeological Service.

Subsequently, Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Field Projects Team were commissioned to undertake the monitoring, the fieldwork for which was carried out on the 15th of June 2004.

Results

The site visit made on the 15th of June 2004 coincided with the time when the footings for the extension were open. In addition, a small soakaway pit had also been excavated and was available for observation.

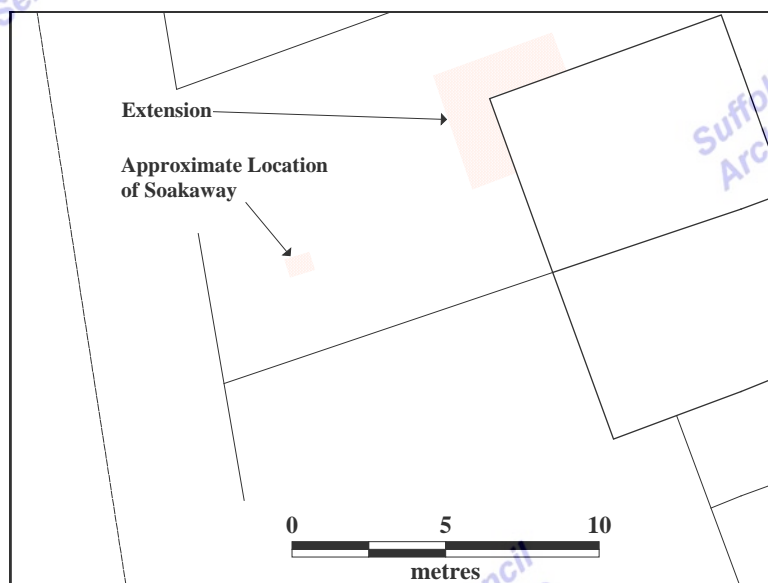


Fig. 2 1:250 scale OS map extract showing the location of the extension & approximate location of the soakaway

The homogenous brown sandy topsoil, with occasional flecks of red brick, was found to be c.0.6 metres thick, lying directly on the naturally occurring orange sand subsoil. No archaeological features were observed and no artefactual evidence was recovered from the upcast spoil.

Conclusions

The results of monitoring clearly show that there were no archaeological features present within the confines of the footing trench and soakaway pit.

Stuart Boulter
Field Projects Team, Archaeological Service,
Environment & Transport Dpt.,
Suffolk County Council
June 2004

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Appendix I: Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

30 MUNDAYS LANE, ORFORD

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning consent has been granted to extend 30 Mundays Lane, Orford, conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (C/03/2066). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence and the proposed foundation methods indicates that the area affected by new building can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 The proposal lies within the area of medieval Orford defined in the County Sites and Monuments Record as an archaeological site of regional importance and will involve significant ground disturbance.
- 1.3 As strip foundations are proposed there will only be limited damage to any archaeological deposits, which can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation of the trenches by the building contractor.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which would be damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for medieval occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of building footing trenches. These, and the upcast soil, are to be observed whilst they are excavated by the building contractor.

3. Arrangements for Monitoring

- 3.1 The developer or his archaeologist will give the County Archaeologist (Keith Wade, Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR. Telephone: 01284 352440; Fax: 01284 352443) 48 hours notice of the commencement of site works.
- 3.2 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the observing archaeologist) who must be approved by the Planning Authority's archaeological adviser (the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service).
- 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 County Archaeologist should be immediately informed so that any amendments deemed necessary to this specification to ensure adequate provision for recording, can be made without delay. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

4. **Specification**

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Archaeologist and the 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity should 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.
- 4.3 In the case of footing trenches unimpeded access at the rate of one and half hours per 10 metres of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording before concreting or building begin. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed should be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.5 All contexts should be numbered and finds recorded by context as far as possible.
- 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*, should be prepared and included in the project report.
- 5.5 County Sites and Monuments Record sheets should be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

Specification by: Keith Wade

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Environment and Transport Department
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR

Date: 13 February 2004

Reference: /Orford-MundaysLane02

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.