

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT



**Lower Chare Farmhouse, Stanton  
SNT 047**



## **A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF FOUNDATION TRENCHES FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING FARMHOUSE**

**Planning Application No.:SE/08/0568**

**NGR: TL 956 743**

**Oasis Ref. suffolkcl-46347**

**Funded by: H Frost and Sons**

**SCCAS Report no. 2008/186**

### **Summary**

An archaeological monitoring of foundation trenches for an extension to the existing farmhouse at Lower Chare Farm in Stanton was undertaken. A single undated, though probably post medieval, pit/ditch terminal was encountered, no artefacts were recovered from the soil horizons.

### **Introduction**

Monitoring of foundation trenches at Lower Chare Farm took place on the 28th July 2008 in advance of the construction of an extension to the existing farmhouse. The work was carried out by Liz Muldowney on behalf of H. Frost and Sons who funded the project, the Brief and Specification were produced by Judith Plouviez (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team, March 2007). The development area was approximately 70m to the east of a Roman villa (SAM SF228, SMR ref: SNT 001) which also had evidence for later Saxon activity.

Four foundation trenches were monitored which were excavated by a 360 degree mini digger fitted with a 1m wide toothed bucket. Each trench measured 7m in length and 1m in width, all were excavated to a depth of between 0.9 and 1.1m. Demolition of the previous extension had already taken place, and the footings and a brick lined drainage chamber had already been removed. Excavation of the foundation trenches was underway on arrival at the site.



**Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service**



Figure 1. Site location

## Results

The natural horizon 0005 was encountered at approximately 0.75m below modern ground level, and comprised stiff bluish grey clay, mottled yellow with lenses of yellow sand and gravel. This was overlain by a mid yellow brown sandy clay subsoil 0004 measuring c. 0.35m in depth, below 0.45m of mid grey brown topsoil/garden soil. A single feature 0001 encountered in the northernmost foundation trench was seen only in the north-west baulk and is likely to have been either a pit or ditch terminal (Fig. 3). It had been excavated by machine prior to arrival. In section it measured 0.6m in width and 0.48m in depth, and it cut subsoil 0004 and was sealed by topsoil 0003. Its single fill 0002 was homogenous mid grey brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel. No finds were retrieved but as it cut the subsoil 0004 it is likely to have been post-medieval in date.

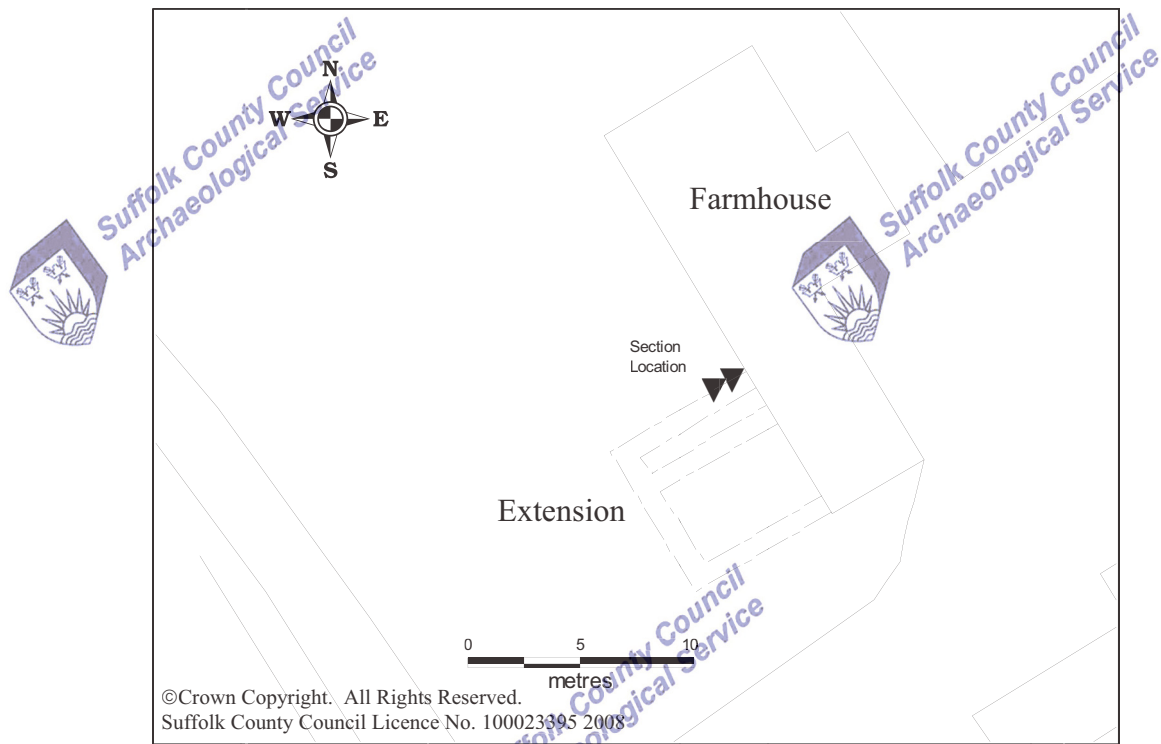


Figure 2. Site plan

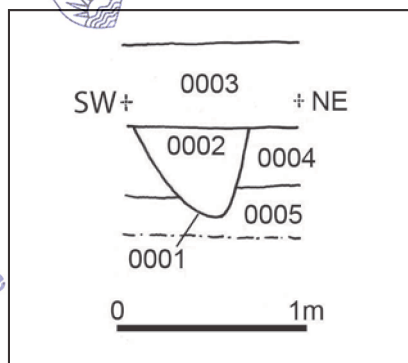


Figure 3. Section of pit/ditch

### Conclusion

No evidence for activity associated with the nearby Roman villa was encountered in the monitored area, the single pit/ditch terminal probably related to the post-medieval use of the land. The absence of artefacts in the upcast material might indicate a general absence of previous occupation in the immediate vicinity.

Liz Muldowney  
July 2008