

Floriston Hall, Wixoe, Suffolk WIX 016

Application No. SE/03/3718/P

TL 7197/4331

Oasis No. suffolkc1-5083

Report No. 2004/173

Summary

An archaeological monitoring of groundworks at Floriston Hall, Wixoe, showed a complete absence of archaeological features.

Introduction

An archaeological monitoring was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by R.D.Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team) to fulfil a planning condition on planning application SE/03/3718/P. The work was funded by the developer, Mr & Mrs D Vail. The focus of the work was the excavation of the building footprint for a swimming pool (work involving the excavation of building footings, which is included in the Brief, was subsequently dropped from the planning proposal).

Interest in the site was based upon its location close to an area where Roman artefacts have been recorded (WIX009). Medieval material has also been found on the same site, which may relate to a precursor of the present Hall.

Methodology and Results

A single visit was made to the site on 24th November to 2004 to monitor the excavation of the footprint of a new swimming pool. A partial surface strip had already taken place of the are of the swimming pool, prior to the full excavation of the pool area. Early indications suggested there was limited archaeological potential with natural subsoil directly beneath topsoil. This contained peg-tile and coal fragments and appeared to be fairly recent. It was agreed with the building contractor to expose two more trenches within the footprint in order to determine whether the first trench was representative of the site as a whole. This was found to be the case and no further work was carried out on the site.

The section showed c.0.25m of garden type soil over c.0.1m of red/brown fine silt with small stones. Beneath this the ground consisted of yellow brown silt/clay mixed with stones and small boulders of various sizes.

Discussion

There was no evidence of archaeological features anywhere on the site. Finds observed during stripping and in the removed of topsoil were all recent or early modern in date (peg-tile fragments examined appeared to be post-medieval). The natural subsoil was glacial drift.

Andrew Tester

Field Projects December 04

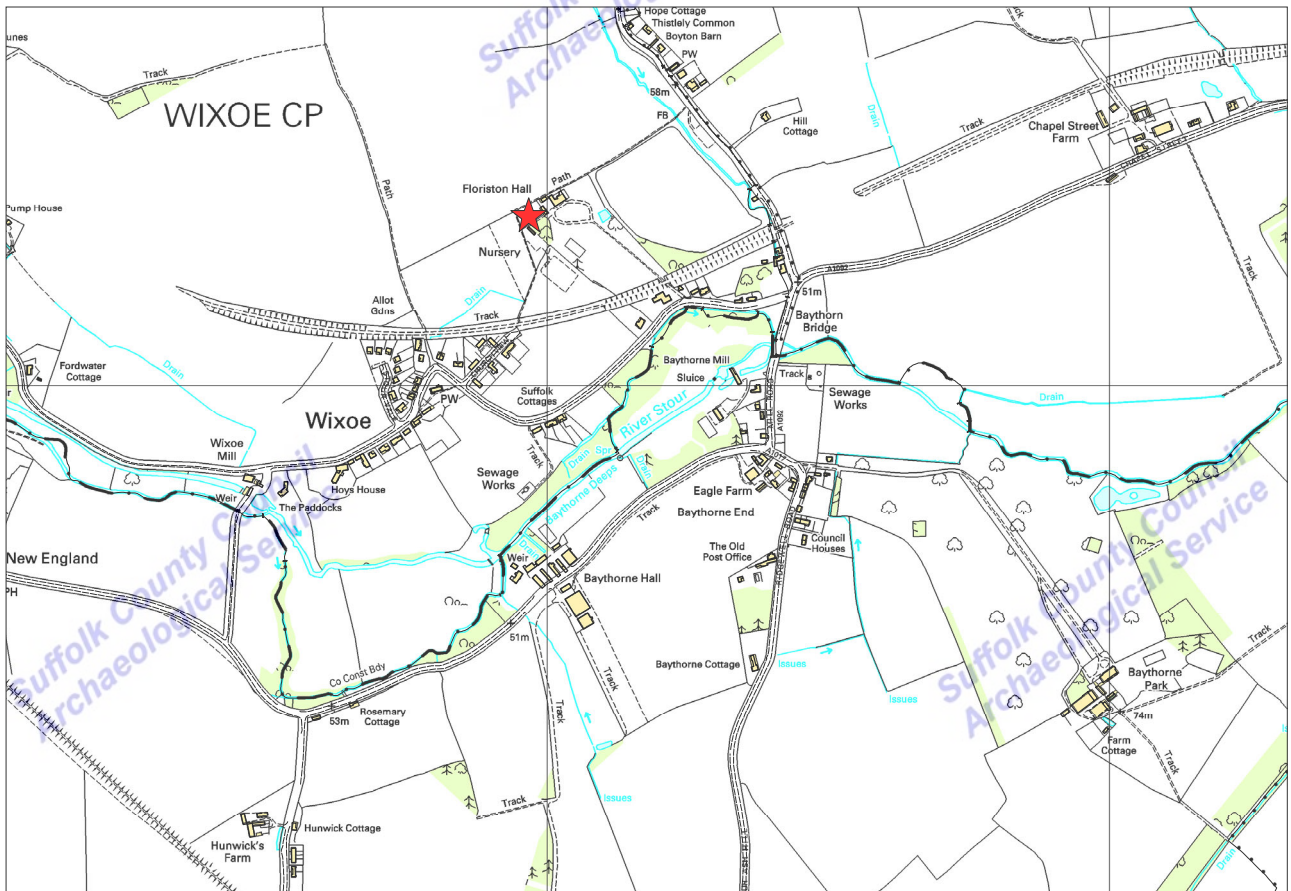
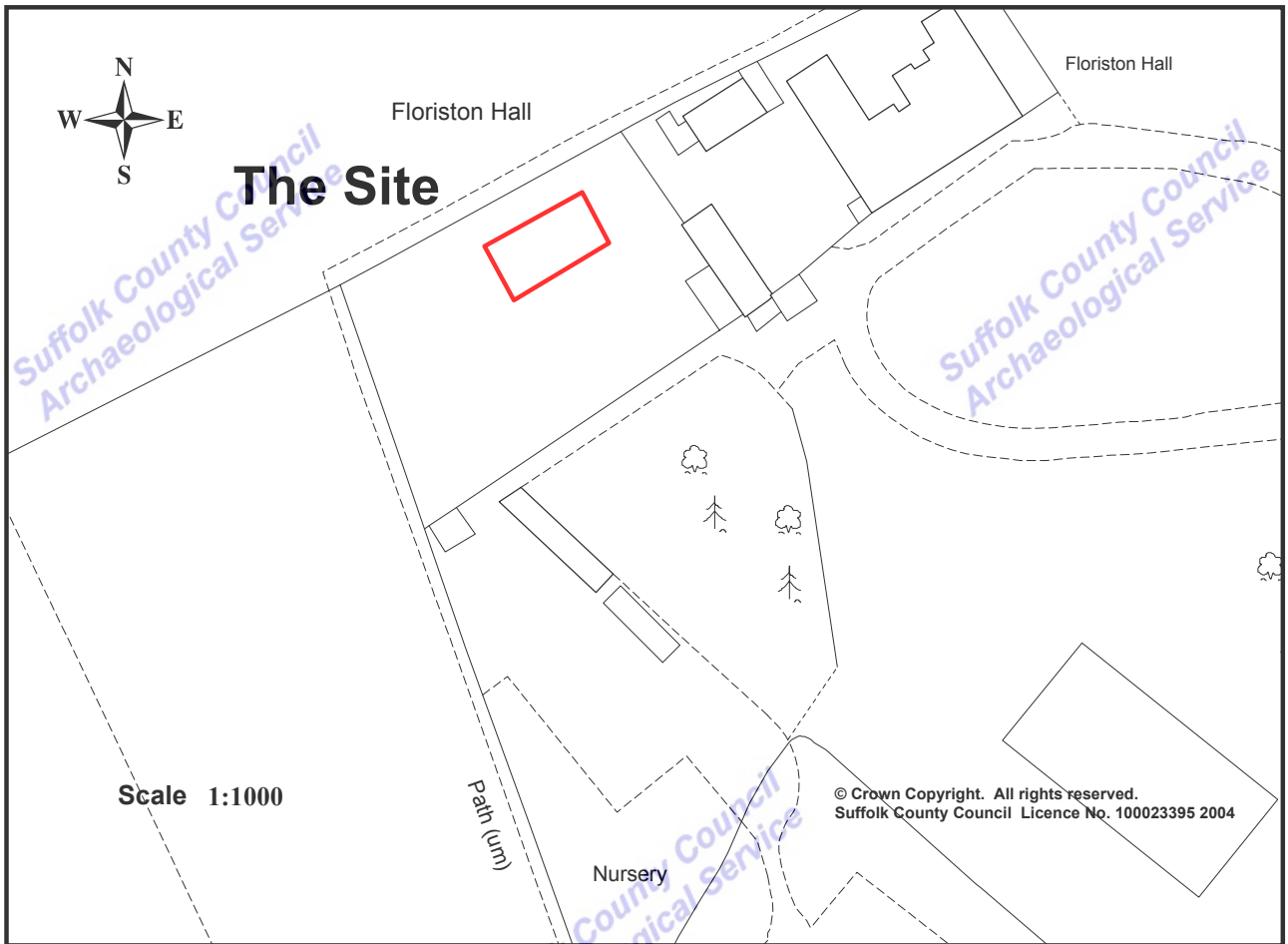


Figure 1. Site Location Plan