

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/265

Proposed Highways Depot, Goddard Road, Ipswich IPS misc

S. Cass
© October 2009
www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/e-and-t/archaeology

HER Information

Planning Application No: Pre-planning

Date of Fieldwork: 24th – 25th September 2009

Grid Reference: TM 1337 4748

Funding Body: SCC Property

Curatorial Officer: Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Simon Cass

Oasis Reference: suffolkc1 - 64744

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

Contents

Summary

	Page
1. Introduction	1
2. Geology and topography	1
3. Archaeological and historical background	2
4. Methodology	2
5. Results	2
Trench 1	
6. Finds and environmental evidence	4
7. Discussion	4
8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work	5
9. Archive deposition	5
10. Contributors and acknowledgements	5
Disclaimer	6

List of Figures

1. Site location	1
2. Location of trenches	3

List of Plates

1. Trench 1, facing west	4
--------------------------	---

List of Appendices

1. Brief and specification

7

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land off Goddard Road, Ipswich on the 24th September 2009. A single trench was excavated along the site of the proposed new salt barn and brine maker, measuring 60m long by 1.8m wide. Although no archaeological finds or features were observed, the presence of a layer of subsoil within the trench allows the possibility that scattered archaeological deposits may have survived on the site. It is therefore suggested that an appropriate mitigation strategy may allow for the monitoring of any major groundworks (footings and foundations), dependent on the precise nature of the planned building.

3. Archaeological and historical background

There are several archaeological findspots within a short distance (c. 500m) of the present site, most frequently small finds of Roman date consisting of brooch fragments, coins, pottery and urn fragments. There are also significant quantities of Bronze Age and Anglo-Saxon material, including a bronze knife, bronze spearhead tip and pegged spearhead, one complete axe head and fragments of another, along with scrap bronze material as well as Anglo-Saxon coins, a gilded disc-brooch and fragments of a bronze strap end. In addition Palaeolithic and Iron Age finds were recovered from two other sites. Very few of the finds identified came from identifiable features, although many of them were located by metal-detecting, rather than archaeological excavation methods.

4. Methodology

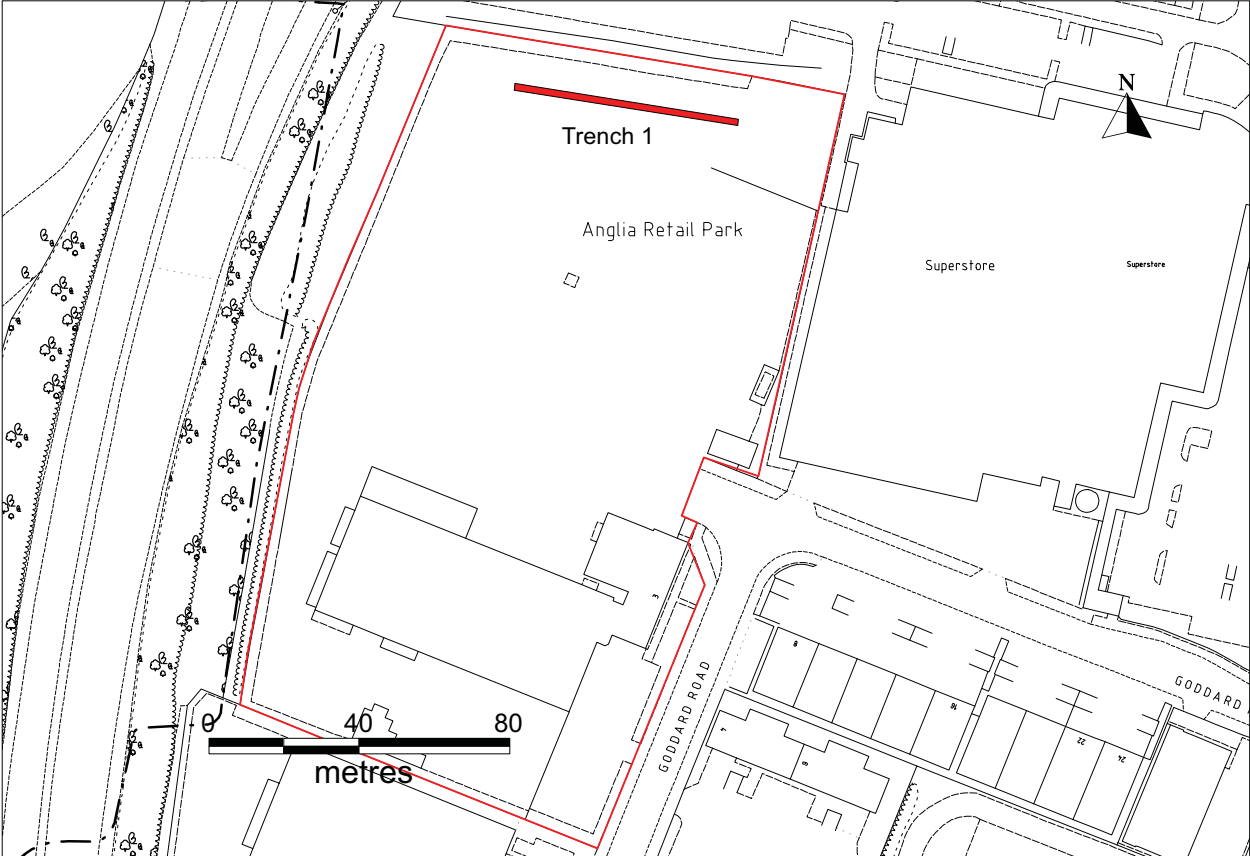
A single trench was excavated using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless 'ditching' bucket under constant archaeological supervision. The eastern portion of the trench was covered in a layer of tarmac, which was broken out using a large breaker fitting, but due to the depth of hardcore/type 1 base layer, this had no impact on the soils below. Three arbitrary sondages were excavated along the length of the trench to confirm the nature of the underlying geology, and check for the presence of any masking deposits.

5. Results

5.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was 60m long, 1.8m wide and orientated approximately east-west. The trench was between 0.55 and 0.88m in depth, with sondages up to c. 1.1m in depth. At the eastern end of the trench the observed stratigraphy consisted of 0.08m of black tarmac above 0.13m of pale pink type 1 hardcore/ crushed stone. This overlay another layer of mid grey silty sandy stone hardcore approximately 0.2m deep which sealed 0.3m of firm mid orangey brown clayey sandy silt subsoil. The natural geology visible in the base of the trench was a mix of bright orangey brown stony sandy clays with grey/brown chalky clay pockets and bands of pale yellowish orange sands, visible to a depth of 1.1m.

At the western end the stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of mid grey silty sandy stone hardcore above 0.2m of a modern disturbance layer - a greenish grey sandy silt with occasional stones and modern wood fragments. Under this was a layer of apparently undisturbed subsoil c. 0.1m thick sealing the natural geological deposits. This end of the trench was shallower because of the lack of modern overburden (the tarmac and pink stone hardcore), rather than a significant rise in the level of natural geology which was present at depths of around 42.5 - 42.6m AOD.



© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved, Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2009

Figure 2. Trench location



Plate 1. Trench 1, facing west

6. Finds and environmental evidence

No finds of archaeological relevance were located during the course of this evaluation. Identifiably modern artefacts from the made ground layers were discarded on site.

7. Discussion

While there were no archaeologically relevant finds or deposits present within the area of the evaluation trench the presence of apparently intact subsoil deposits, although probably significantly truncated in areas, could point towards the preservation of archaeological remains in other areas of the site. This may have an impact on further

works in the area, as it is possible that preservation of *in situ* deposits has been better than previously suspected.

8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

Although this evaluation has proved to be negative, in that no archaeologically relevant finds or deposits have been identified or located, the presence of an intact subsoil/natural horizon raises the possibility of there being an intact archaeological horizon in places across the site. Coupled with the intermittent scattering of findspots in the vicinity of the site, there remains the very real possibility that intact isolated deposits or features could still be present within the proposed development area, despite the relatively recent development/landscaping of this site as part of the business park. It is suggested that an appropriate method of mitigation could be monitoring of the excavation of any footings or foundations required for the new building, dependent on the precise nature of the ground disturbance entailed by the proposed new structure.

9. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Ipswich T:\ENV\ARC\PARISH\Ipswich

Finds and environmental archive: None

10. List of contributors and acknowledgements

The evaluation was carried out by Simon Cass and Tony Fisher of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was managed by Rhodri Gardner, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The production of site plans was carried out by Simon Cass and the report was checked by Richenda Goffin.

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation**PROPOSED HIGHWAYS DEPOT, GODDARD ROAD, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK**

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. **The nature of the development and archaeological requirements**
 - 1.1 Planning permission for the development of a new SCC Highways depot on land off Goddard Road, Ipswich, Suffolk (TM 133 473) is to be sought by Suffolk County Council. **(see accompanying location plan; please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the development).**
 - 1.2 The Planning Authority (Suffolk County Council) will be advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service that this proposal lies in an area of high archaeological importance. In order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required, prior to consideration of the application, to provide an archaeological impact assessment of the proposed site as suggested in DoE Planning Policy Guidance 16 (November 1990), para 21.
 - 1.3 The area of the proposed development measures c. 2.23 ha. in size, on the west side of Goddard Road. It is located at c. 25 - 30.00m AOD, and overlooking the River Gipping. The underlying geology of the site comprises glaciofluvial drift (deep loam).
 - 1.4 This proposal lies in an area of high archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. There are a number of known archaeological sites within the immediate proximity of this proposed development. In particular, there is an important late Anglo-Saxon site immediately to the south (HER no. IPS 247). There are also important Roman sites to the north and south of this location (HER nos. IPS 096, 184, 188 and 282). The site has good potential for the discovery of important unknown archaeological sites and features in view of its proximity to known remains and also given the landscape setting overlooking the valley of the River Gipping. This location is topographically favourable for early occupation. Moreover, the location of this development has not been subject to systematic archaeological survey. Aspects of the proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance with the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
 - 1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work will be required:
 - A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area.
 - 1.6 **The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Decisions on the suitability of the area for development, and also the need for and scope of any mitigation measures, should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional specification.**
 - 1.7 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.

- 1.8 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.9 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. A Written Scheme of Investigation (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 contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.
- 1.10 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.11 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.12 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.

- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) 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.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification: Trenched Evaluation

- 3.1 A single linear trial trench is to be excavated across the location of the proposed salt barn and brine maker (in the northern part of the site), measuring 60.00m in length x 1.80m in width. These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site, prior to demolition of existing buildings.
- 3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 3.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.4 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.5 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:
- For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;
- For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).
- 3.6 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 3.7 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English

Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

- 3.8 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 3.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.10 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.11 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.12 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 3.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 3.15 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.
- 4.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.
- 4.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.6 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.11 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.12 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure the proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 5.13 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County HER or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County HER is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
- 5.14 The site archive is to be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.

- 5.15 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.16 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.17 An unbound copy of the evaluation report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.
- Following acceptance, two copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.
- 5.18 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.19 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.20 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Environment and Transport Service Delivery
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR
Tel: 01284 352197
Email: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 30 June 2009

Reference: / GoddardRoad-Ipswich2009

This brief and specification remains valid for six 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.