

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

**Easter Green, Thetford Road, Ixworth Thorpe,  
IXT 035**

**A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF GROUNDWORKS  
DURING AN EXTENSION**

**SCCAS Report no. 2005/56  
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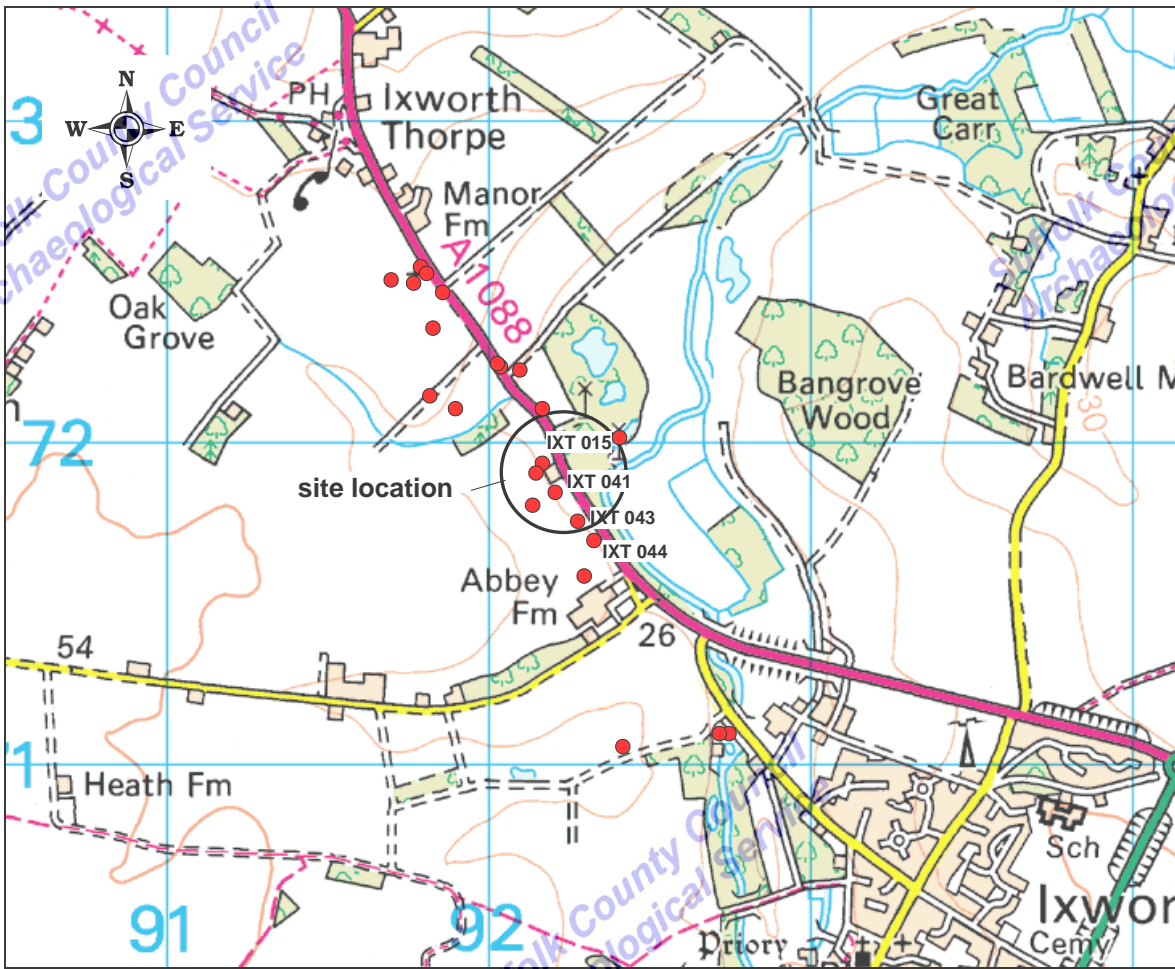
## *Introduction*

A single visit was made to monitor the groundworks of a proposed extension (c.6m x 10m) at Easter Green, Thetford Road, Ixworth Thorpe. The monitoring was a condition of the consent on planning application (SE/05/1059/P) and was completed in accordance with a brief and specification by Jude Plouviez from Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service, Conservation Division. The visit was made 21st March 2005.

The site lies at TL 922 719 on the west side of the Black Bourne Valley at the base of a slope just below the 30m contour. The county's Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) lists a succession of medieval pottery concentrations (13th-14th century) alongside the road out of Ixworth (IXW 043, 044) and two of them (IXW 041 and IXT 015) are immediately either side of the development area. The site is situated on the parish boundary and there is also evidence of earlier activity in the vicinity including Roman sherds in IXW 041.

## *Results*

At the time of the visit all of the footing trenches were open and available for inspection. The footing trench was c.50cm wide and 1m deep, excavated into the underlying silty clay of the surface geology. The surface of the clay was c.80cm below the surface beneath 30cms of topsoil and 50cm of homogenous brown silt. The only feature was a relatively recent pit containing brick and other household debris, which dated to the 19th/20th century. In addition to this the contractors reported finding a bottle dump whilst excavating for the swimming pool (to which the monitoring condition did not apply) in the garden to the west of the house.



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Figure 1 Site Location Plan

● Sites recorded on the County SMR

*Discussion*

There was no evidence of occupation activity within the trenches that predated the current house which, from a perfunctory assessment of the outside, dates from around the turn of the 19th century. There were no indications as to why concentrations of medieval pottery have been found surrounding the property and it is possible that these are the result of manuring the fields, possibly with composted material from the neighbouring villages. The depth of silt suggests that the field has been under cultivation for a long time causing the movement of soil down the base of the slope.

D.Gill  
 March 2005