

Archaeological Monitoring Report

BAC 025

Application (1316/04)

Grid Ref. TM 0520 6716

Report No. 2005/62

Oasis No. suffolk-1-8095

Summary

The archaeological monitoring of the excavation of a raft footing at The Surgery, Bacton, showed a complete absence of archaeological features.

Introduction

A single visit was made to the site on the 28 April 2005 to monitor excavation work during the conversion of the surgery at Bacton into a residential property (Fig.1). The work involved the stripping of the new footprint in advance of the construction of a concrete raft. The work had been requested by R.D. Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team) and was funded by the developer, R. N. Design.

Interest in the site is based on its situation, which is close to the medieval church (BAC 014), and the possibility of locating evidence for the earlier origins of the settlement.

Methodology and Results

The site was located in a fairly flat piece of land to the west of the medieval church. An area of approximately 25 square metres was observed during the topsoil strip following the removal of an existing porch. The footing was c.0.4m from the top of the existing ground surface of which c.0.25m was a silty loam topsoil and the remainder a khaki clay with occasional stones, which was the natural subsoil. No finds were recovered from the spoil and no archaeological features were observed. The area of the strip which was seen accounted for c. 75% of the development area.

Discussion

The stripping showed a complete absence of archaeological features. It seems likely that the exposed clay was close to the surface of a more mixed boulder clay, which was not reached by the footing, but any archaeological features should have been clearly visible at the level of the strip, if they had been present.

Andrew Tester, April 2005

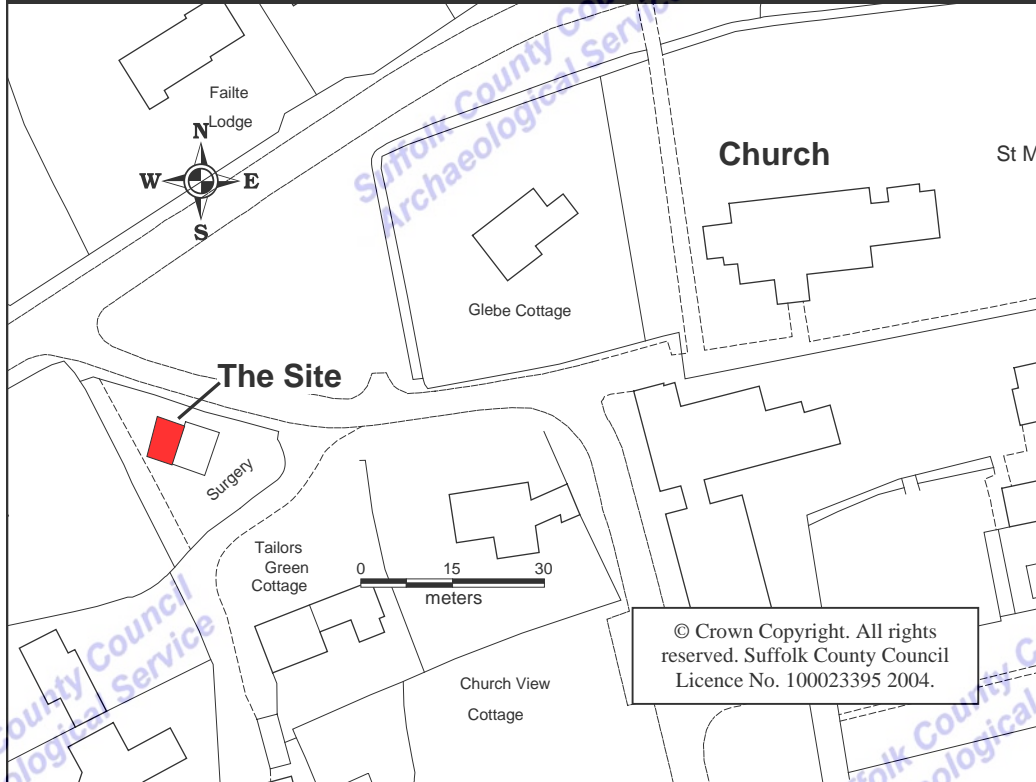


Figure 1 Site Location