

Film a damp squib for village

AFTER all the hype surrounding the television film *The Affair* on Sunday, extras from the Nayland area hoping to see themselves on screen were disappointed.

The Affair, originally entitled *Black Tuesday*, was shot partly in Nayland and Stoke-by-Nayland in June but little of the location material appeared in the final version.

Hundreds of local extras earned £50 a day and many were bussed to London for a dance hall sequence.

But the film, which caused such a stir while it was being shot, turned out to be rather a damp squib for those who took part.

Views on the picture ran from "excellent" to "disjointed and slow" with locals disappointed so much had been omitted.

Nayland Parish Council chairman Gerry Batty, who was seen in the opening sequence, said from the village's point of view it was a pity so much of the local footage had ended on the cutting-room floor - "but that's showbiz!"

"What we saw of the village looked beautiful and it was a powerful story but I felt a bit guilty to have been included when so much other material was dropped," he said.

Hours of filming at the Anchor Inn and "Roxy" cinema, Nayland, and at the Halstead Empire were all omitted.

Jack Norris (73) of Birch Street, Nayland, who spent four days as an extra, failed to spot himself at all.

"I liked seeing some of the scenery but apart from that it wasn't such a good picture," he said. "I only watched it because it was connected with Nayland and wouldn't have bothered otherwise.

"And I still haven't been able to see myself because my video wasn't working so I can't watch it again!"

S.f. Press 7-12-95