

Erection of Front & Rear Extensions to 10 Garden Place, Sudbury, Suffolk

Planning application: B/10/01550/FHA/GC

HER Ref: SUY 104

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(© John Newman BA MIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(December 2011)

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details for HER

Name: 10 Garden Place, Suffolk, CO10 2DR

Client: Lord A Phillips

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/10/01550/FHA/GC

Development: Erection of front & rear extensions

Date of fieldwork: 8 & 15 September, 2011

HER Ref: SUY 104

OASIS: johnnewm1-115199

Grid ref: TL 8684 4121

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Summary: Sudbury, 10 Garden Place (SUY 104, TL 8684 4121) monitoring of foundation trenches for front and rear extensions to a house which was originally constructed in c1830 as an outworks factory for the local silk industry revealed two Post medieval phases for material being dumped to create ground levels above the adjacent Mill Stream, the initial phase apparently being for this small factory structure (John Newman Archaeological Services for Lord A Phillips).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Tricker Blackie Associates on behalf of their client, Lord A Phillips, commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring of ground works required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for application B/10/01550/FHA/GC. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief and Specification set by Mr K Wade of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy this condition (Appendix II). This development concerns the erection of front and rear extensions to 10 Garden Place, Sudbury (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Sudbury is a small town located on the River Stour and close to the county boundary with Essex in south Suffolk. The town has seen considerable expansion in the last 150 years with its historic core lying in a loop of the River Stour and as a settlement it has historic characteristics that indicate an urban status from the Late Saxon period which built on a Middle Saxon site of potentially high status around the main town church of St Gregory's. These urban characteristics including a market status recorded in the 11th century and the existence of a mint in the later Saxon and post-Conquest periods. Additionally the street pattern within the historic core coupled with archaeological observations at various sites indicates a curved defence line of a large ditch and internal bank with Christopher Lane running along the inside of these defences and Friars Street on the outside around the eastern side of the town. The western side of the historic town core having the natural defence formed by a relatively steep slope dropping down to the flood plain of the River Stour. Medieval suburbs grew up outside this defended area, principally to the east and south with the latter one growing up around the point where Cross Street runs to Ballingdon Bridge. The site at 10 Garden Place lies on a small cul-de-sac on the western, and therefore river side of Cross Street/Mill Hill and therefore just outside the defended urban core marked nearby by the line of Mill Lane (see Fig. 1). The property backs onto The Mill Stream, just below the Mill Pond, a channel which must be largely artificial in origin taking water away from Sudbury Mill. The water level on the northern edge of the rear garden to the property is recorded as 23.53m OD with the concrete paving to the rear of the house as being at 25.02m OD. Borehole tests to the rear of the property indicated deposits 1.5m deep containing brick rubble with a similar deposit up to 2.5m deep to the front of the house, both over a silty sandy gravel.

1.3 The property at 10 Garden Place is of some local interest as it was constructed in c1830 as an outworkers factory for the town's textile industry and was later altered during conversion works to change it into a residential house (pers. comm. Alan Beavis). The current renovation works confirming this original function as evidence for silk working, an industry Sudbury is famous for, has been found under the floor boards.

2. Monitoring methodology

2. Two visits were made to the site to observe the excavation of the foundations for the front and rear extensions, both visits being on dry, sunny days with good visibility. On each occasion the foundation trenches were entered to allow a closer inspection of the exposed soil profiles and hand cleaning of indistinct areas. Due to the confined nature of the site upcast spoil was stockpiled nearby allowing for a

close inspection for stray finds. The foundations were recorded in relation to nearby mapped features and on each occasion a small number of digital images were taken in order to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 The initial visit was made to monitor the foundation trenches for the rear extension. These trenches were 16m long, 500mm wide and 800mm deep and therefore remained within made ground at the site. In these foundation trenches a 280mm wide red brick wall foundation (0002) was revealed 1.40m from the rear wall of 10 Garden Place and running parallel to the back of the house (see Fig. 2). The line of this wall is clear on the relevant large scale OS map for the area and with brick sizes of 9.5in.x4.5in.x2.5in. and 9in.x4.5in.x2.5in. making it seems likely that this wall is of 19th century date. On the southern, house side of this wall (0002) the exposed deposit profile in the trench side was a mid grey/brown silty sand with numerous small brick and tile fragments (0003) and this material ran under the shallow foundations to 10 Garden Place. However on the northern, river side, of the wall (0002) foundation the exposed deposit was a dark brown silty loam containing window glass fragments and blue, transfer printed pottery sherds of later 19th/earlier 20th century date.

3.2 On the second visit the ground works for the front extension were inspected as they were undertaken. In this case the complete 3m x 4m footprint was lowered by 600mm with foundation trenches round the perimeter away from the house wall then being taken down to 1100mm in 500mm wide trenches. Again the foundations remained within made ground with the existing house having foundations 400mm deep lying over the mid/grey brown silty sand deposit with small brick and tile fragments also seen to the rear of the house (0003). The only pottery sherds seen in the upcast spoil from the foundation at the front of the house were two small sherds (15g) of 18th century brown glazed red earthenware.

5. Conclusion

5.1 With different deposits on each side of the wall foundation (0002) revealed in the foundation trenches for the rear extension in an area of the town close to the river where boreholes have confirmed deep deposits of made ground it seems likely that it was constructed to form a retaining wall in the earlier 19th century period to allow the construction of the outworkers factory that was to become 10 Garden Place on made ground around 1830. At some, later, point more material was dumped to the north of the wall (0002) thereby extending the rear garden towards the Mill Stream. Perhaps this later phase of ground raising was carried out when the structure was converted to a house in the later 19th or early 20th century. That all the deposits exposed at the site were made ground of Post medieval date is of interest as it adds some detail to the development of Sudbury. As outlined in section 1.2 above the northern boundary to the garden at 10 Garden Place is formed by the Mill Stream and the evidence for deep Post medieval deposits below the house demonstrates how this part of the town has been extensively re-modelled and raised in the last 200-300 years as the economy and social make up of the town has changed.

5.2 In conclusion it is clear that the limited nature of the monitored footings has had a minimal impact on the area of archaeological importance within the town though some useful, local topographic information has been recorded.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Alan Beavis for his close cooperation with regard to this site monitoring and to Sue Holden for her illustration work)

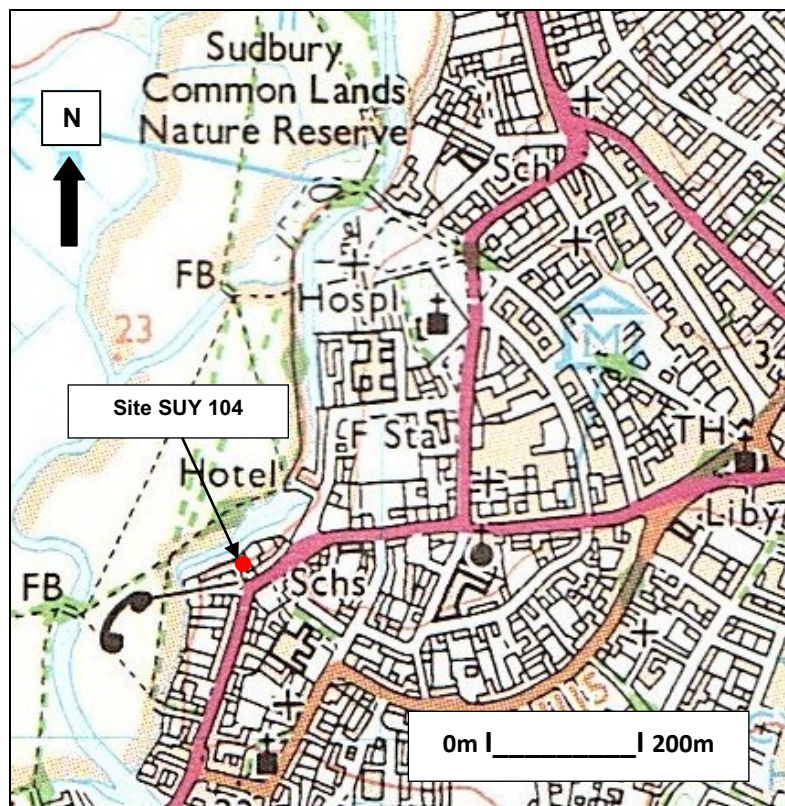


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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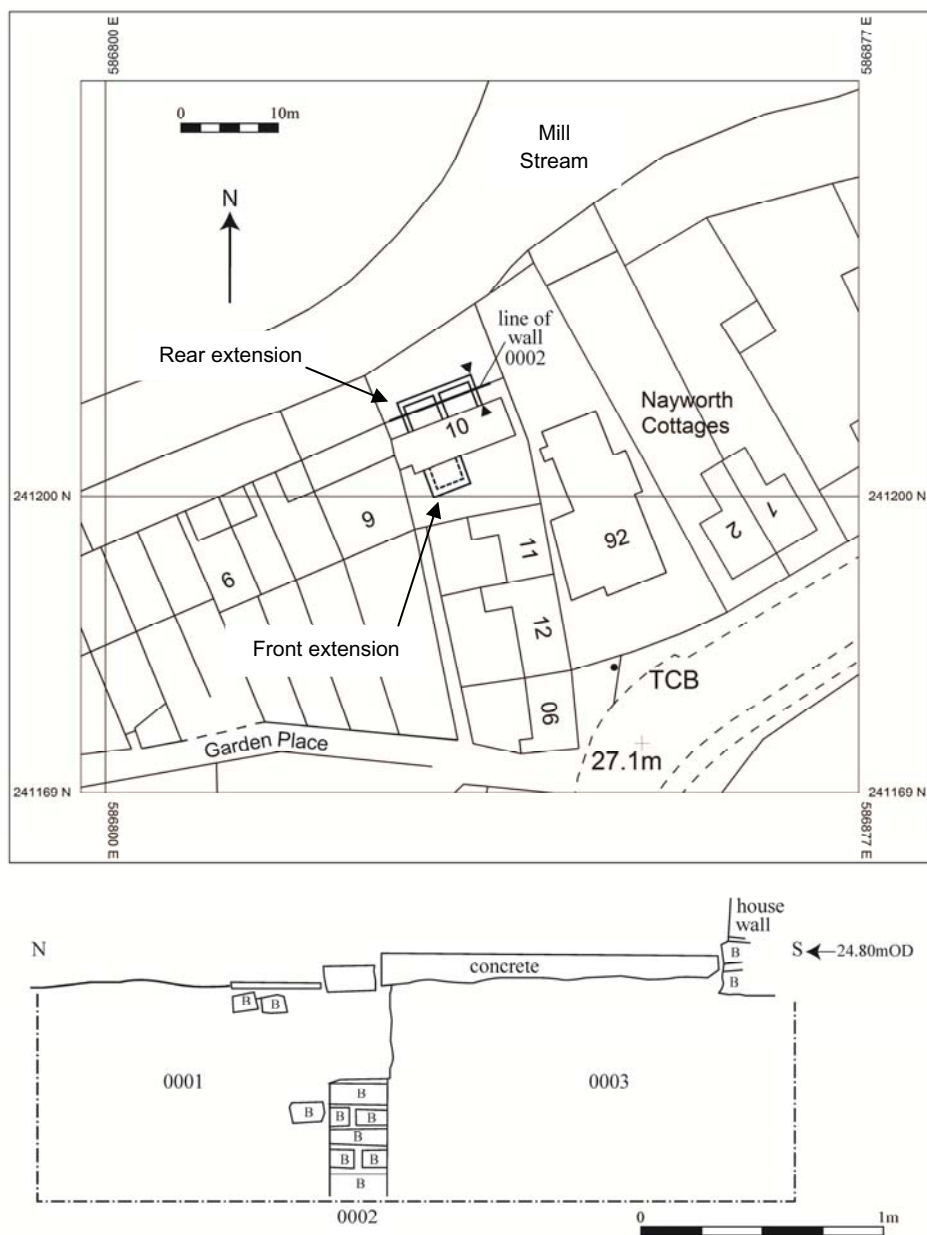


Fig. 2: Monitored foundations and section of eastern trench to rear extension.
(Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2010 All rights reserved LN 100049722)

Appendix I- Images



General view of the rear of the house from north-east



Eastern footing trench to rear extension with wall 0002 & 0001 to left & 0003 to right



Eastern footing to rear of house from south looking towards house



Front extension eastern end of footings from south



Front extension footings under excavation

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

10 GARDEN PLACE, CROSS STREET, SUDBURY

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission for the erection of front and rear extensions at 10 Garden Place, Cross Street, Sudbury has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (B/10/01550). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence and the proposed foundation methods indicates that the area affected by new building can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 The proposal lies within the Area of Archaeological Importance defined for Sudbury in the Babergh Local Plan and will involve significant ground disturbance.
- 1.3 As pile and beam foundations are proposed there will only be limited damage to any archaeological deposits, which can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation of the trenches by the building contractor.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which would be damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for the medieval and earlier occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of building footing trenches. These, and the up-cast soil, are to be observed during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor.

3. Arrangements for Monitoring

- 3.1 The developer or his archaeologist will give the County Archaeologist (Keith Wade, Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR. Telephone: 01284 352440; Fax: 01284 352443) 48 hours notice of the commencement of site works.
- 3.2 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the observing archaeologist) who must be approved by the Planning Authority's archaeological adviser (the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service).
- 3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and timetable.
- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered, the County Archaeologist should be immediately informed so that any amendments deemed necessary to this specification to ensure adequate provision for recording, can be made without delay. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

4. Specification

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Archaeologist and the 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity should be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.
- 4.3 In the case of footing trenches unimpeded access at the rate of one and half hours per 10 metres of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording before concreting or building begin. Where archaeological detail is observed, one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean and sections drawn at a minimum scale of 1:50.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed should be half sectioned and then fully excavated when possible and recorded in section and plan at a minimum scale of 1:50. Trench locations should be recorded on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.

- 4.5 All contexts should be numbered and finds recorded by context as far as possible.
- 4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.
- 4.7 Developers should be aware of the possibility of human burials being found. If this eventuality occurs they must comply with the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857; and the archaeologist should be informed by '*Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England*' (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005) which includes sensible baseline standards which are likely to apply whatever the location, age or denomination of a burial.

5. Reporting Requirements

- 5.1 **Reporting should be commensurate with results.**
If significant archaeological features or finds are found:
- 5.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible. This should include a plan showing the proposed development with all areas observed during the monitoring clearly marked.
- 5.3 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County HER if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.4 A report, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must also be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

- 5.5 A summary report should be provided, in the established format for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology* (which can be included in the project report)
- 5.6 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.7 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).
- 5.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector plan showing all the areas observed should be included with the report. This must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software for integration into 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.

When no significant features or finds are found

- 5.9 A short report should be provided including the following information:
- Grid Ref
 - Parish
 - Address
 - Planning Application number
 - Date(s) of visit(s)
 - Methodology
 - Plan showing areas observed in relation to ground disturbance/proposed development
(a digital vector plan as in 5.8 above when possible)
 - Depth of ground disturbance in each area
 - Depth of topsoil and its profile over natural at each location of observation
 - Observations as to land use history (truncation etc)
 - Recorder and Organisation
 - Date of report

Specification by: Keith Wade

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Economy, Skills and Environment Department
9-10 The Churchyard
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR

Date: 15th February 2011

Reference: 10 Garden Place.doc

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 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.