

**Moat House, 31 Castle Street,
Framlingham, Suffolk**

Planning application: C/12/1105

HER Ref: FML 074

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(February 2013)

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Site details for HER

Name: Moat House, 31 Castle Street, Framlingham, Suffolk, IP13 9BP

Client: Mr Fox

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/12/1105

Development: erection of conservatory & entrance enclosure

Date of fieldwork: 30 January, 2013

Conservation area

HER Ref: FML 074

LB Ref: 286305 (Grade II, 17th century)

OASIS: johnnewm1-143237

Grid ref: TM 2876 6356

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Summary: Framlingham, Moat House, 31 Castle Street (FML 074, TM 2876 6356) Monitoring of trenching works for a rear conservatory revealed a uniform one metre deposit of mid grey clay containing no finds save occasional small fragments of peg tile while the foundation for a side entrance enclosure will be a shallow raft due to its proximity to a large tree, a shallow trench nearby to re-route a pipe was also relatively shallow. It is notable that the site lies on the line of the medieval town bank and ditch as defined by the curving intra-mural Double Street and extra-mural Fore Street to the south and the uniform clay deposit recorded in the conservatory foundation trenches may be on the inner side of the now filled-in ditch close to its junction with the putative bank and the name of the house may reflect this location (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr Fox).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Hollins Architects on behalf of their client, Mr Fox, 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 C/12/1105. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief (see Appendix II) set by Mr K Wade of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy this condition. This development concerns the erection of a rear conservatory and side entrance enclosure at Moat House, 31 Castle Street, Framlingham (see Fig. 1).

1.2 In East Anglia major medieval castles are not common but the Bigod stronghold at Framlingham survives as a significant indicator of the medieval era and its political turmoil between the crown and the major aristocratic families. In existence by at least 1157, the town is dominated by the later medieval structure of the castle and the nearby urban townscape owes much to this major defensive structure. Below the castle, the town developed gaining market status by at least 1270 and the street pattern close to the outer baileys and market place may well indicate the line of the outer castle and medieval town defences. The site at Moat House, 31 Castle Street lies some 250m north-east of Market Hill and just outside the outer bailey of the castle at 43m OD. Moat House, a listed timber framed building of 17th century date, is located on the northern side of Castle Street between the junctions on its southern side with Double Street to the west and Fore Street to the east. This location is of particular interest because the latter pair of streets in all probability define the line of the medieval town ditch as the intra and extra-mural streets (see Fig. 1).

1.3 Archaeological interest was therefore generated by the location of the planned ground works for the conservatory and entrance extensions within the historic area of the medieval town of Framlingham. Opportunities to investigate below ground deposits have been limited in modern times in most small towns in East Anglia as high densities of existing historic properties preclude development making any significant ground disturbance a valuable window into past land use and activities.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 A single visit was made to the site to observe the excavation of the conservatory foundation trenches to the rear of the house and a shallow trench for the diversion of a pipe on the eastern side as this work progressed using 400mm and 500mm wide toothless buckets on a 360 mini-digger on a cold but generally dry day with good site visibility at all times. The foundation for the side entrance enclosure was not monitored as this will be built on a shallow raft, following the diversion of the pipe, due to the presence of a large tree nearby. Any indistinct areas were investigated by hand as the work progressed and the upcast spoil was stockpiled temporarily before being removed from the site allowing for a close examination at both stages. Finally the trenches were plotted in relation to nearby mapped features and a small number of digital images were taken in order to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 In total 14m of 500mm wide and 1000mm deep foundation trench were monitored along the eastern, northern and western sides of the conservatory footprint to the rear of the main, east-west aligned, range of Moat House (see Fig. 2). A yard surface

had previously been removed from the area so there was no topsoil present and the exposed deposit profile was made up of a uniform mid grey clay containing occasional small flints, charcoal flecks and small peg tile fragments. While the base of the trenches was partially obscured by the ingress of ground water (see App. I-Images) it appeared to be just onto the locally occurring natural glaciofluvial deposits which proved to be a stiff light greyish blue clay. Apart from the few small peg tile fragments noted above no other finds were visible in the trench sides or upcast spoil.

3.2 As outlined in section 2.1 above the entrance enclosure on the eastern side of the house was not monitored as it will be founded on a shallow raft and examination of a 400mm wide and 500mm deep trench for a pipe diversion round the eastern edge of the planned footprint area (see Fig. 2) confirmed the presence of a mid brown clay subsoil containing occasional 19th century and later pottery sherds. The raft foundation will be less than 500mm deep and therefore will remain in subsoil deposits.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this monitoring recorded only a uniform mid grey clay deposit in the area of the conservatory footprint this is of potential archaeological interest as the location lies on what appears the line of the inner side of the now filled-in medieval town ditch demarked by Double Street and Fore Street to the south. As Moat House is of 17th century date this would point to the town defences going out of use prior to this date and, perhaps, bank material being pushed into the redundant ditch. The small scale of the monitored ground works can only make this a tentative suggestion but it would fit with the clean and uniform nature of the deposits examined in the foundation trenches.

4.2 Little can be concluded from the works on the eastern side of the house as these were too shallow to reach deposits of any archaeological significance.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone on site for their close cooperation in relation to this site monitoring)

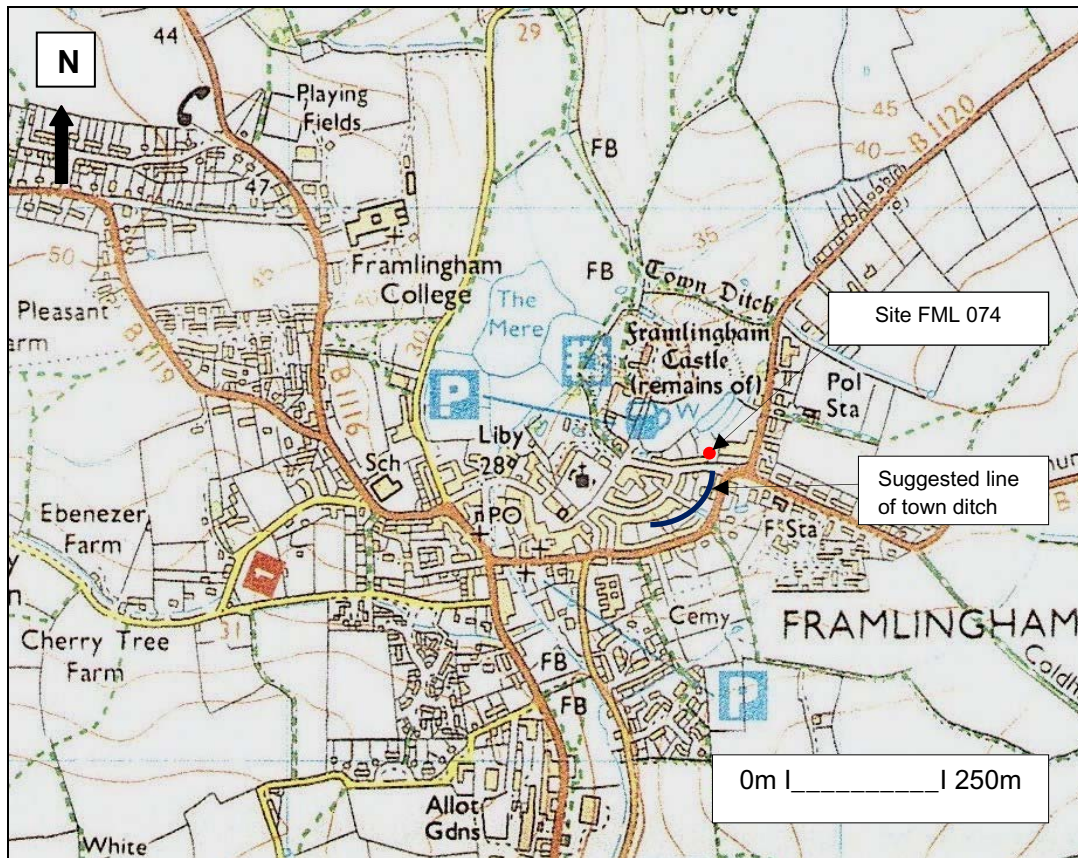


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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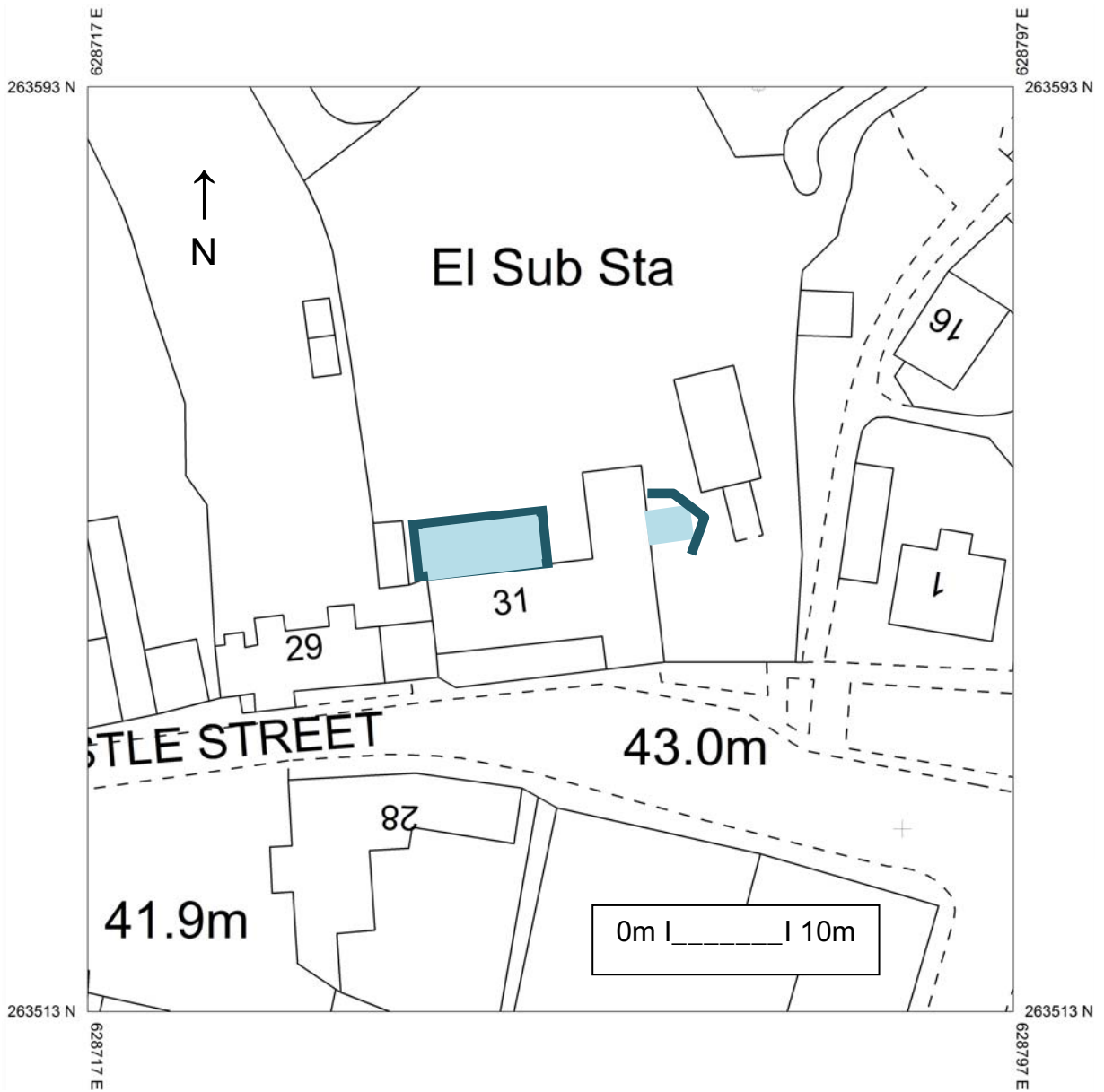


Fig. 2: Monitored foundation & pipe trenches (darker blue)
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Appendix I- Images



General view of conservatory area from north-east



Northern footing from east



Western footing from north



Deposit profile for conservatory footings



Entrance enclosure pipe diversion trench from south

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

31 CASTLE STREET, FRAMLINGHAM

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission to erect a conservatory and new entrance enclosure at 31 Castle Street, Framlingham has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (C/12/1105). 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 interest defined for medieval Framlingham in the County Historic Environment Record and will involve significant ground disturbance.
- 1.3 As strip 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 or 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 1RX. Telephone: 01284 741230; Fax: 01284 741257) 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 submit a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), based on the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and timetable. The WSI 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.
- 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 and proposed development (a digital vector plan as in 5.8 above when possible)
 - Depth of ground disturbance and depth of topsoil and its profile over natural at each location of observation
 - Observations as to land use history (truncation etc)
 - Recorder, Organisation, and 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 1RX

Date: 21 September, 2012

Reference: 31 Castle Street

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.

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-143237

Project details

Project name	Moat House, Castle Street, Framlingham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	: Framlingham, Moat House, 31 Castle Street (FML 074, TM 2876 6356) Monitoring of trenching works for a rear conservatory revealed a uniform one metre deposit of mid grey clay containing no finds save occasional small fragments of peg tile while the foundation for a side entrance enclosure will be a shallow raft due to its proximity to a large tree, a shallow trench nearby to re-route a pipe was also relatively shallow. It is notable that the site lies on the line of the medieval town bank and ditch as defined by the curving intra-mural Double Street and extra-mural Fore Street to the south and the uniform clay deposit recorded in the conservatory foundation trenches may be on the inner side of the now filled-in ditch close to it junction with the putative bank and the name of the house may reflect this location.
Project dates	Start: 30-01-2013 End: 30-01-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	FML 074 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL FRAMLINGHAM MOAT HOUSE, CASTLE STREET
Postcode	IP13 9BP
Study area	60.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TM 2876 6356 52 1 52 13 19 N 001 20 58 E Point
 Height OD / Min: 43.00m Max: 44.00m
 Depth

Project creators

Name of Organisation John Newman Archaeological Services
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator John Newman
 Project director/manager John Newman
 Project supervisor John Newman
 Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
 Digital Contents "none"
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
 Paper Contents "none"
 Paper Media available "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title Moat House, 31 Castle Street, Framlingham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Newman, J
 Date 2013
 Issuer or publisher John Newman Archaeological Services
 Place of issue or publication Henley, Suffolk
 Description Loose bound client report
 Entered by John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
 Entered on 6 March 2013