

**42 Double Street, Framlingham, Suffolk**

**Planning application: C/10/1273**

**HER Ref: FML 055**

**Archaeological Monitoring Report**

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## **Site details for HER**

Name: 42 Double Street, Framlingham, Suffolk, IP13 9BN

Client: Mr S Sykes & Ms C Barker

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/10/1273

Development: Erection of rear extension

Date of fieldwork: 13, 14 & 15 October, 2010

HER Ref: FML 055

LBS: 286359 (Grade II)

Grid ref: TM 2871 6350

OASIS Ref: johnnewm1-92153

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*Summary: Framlingham, 42 Double Street (FML 055, TM 2871 6350) monitoring of ground works for a rear extension revealed possible evidence for the remnant of the bank associated with the town ditch on the eastern side of Double Street which, with its curving alignment, is probably the intramural street. Two sherds of early medieval and nine sherds of 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered from the top of the possible bank deposit. (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr S Sykes & Ms C Barker).*

## 1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr S Sykes and Ms C Barker 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/10/1273. 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 an extension to the rear of 42 Double 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. Double Street lies within this area of archaeological interest and may well lie just outside an outer bailey but within a town ditch defined by the line of Fore Street and therefore well within the area of medieval settlement with the curving line of each marking the line of the town defences with the former as the intra-mural street. Monitoring of ground works to the rear of 55 Fore Street (HER FML 051) some 90m south of the site in Double Street recorded evidence of what is probably part of the medieval town ditch.

1.3 The extent of the historic core is uncertain as opportunities to investigate below ground deposits has been limited in modern times as, in common with many small towns in East Anglia, a large number of existing historic properties has restricted development. The site of the proposed development falls within this historic town area with 42 Double Street also being a Grade II listed structure (LBS 286359) described as 'mid 19<sup>th</sup> century facade to 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> core, timber framed, faced in white brick.' Before ground works commenced a previous rear extension that had a very superficial raft foundations was removed, this work did not cause any ground disturbance below a depth of 100mm.

## 2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Three visits were made to inspect the ground works and upcast spoil with all of the excavation being undertaken by a small mini-digger equipped with a small toothed, bucket for an initial test hole and a wider toothless bucket for the main soil strip. Spoil from what was a confined site (see Fig. 2) went straight into a small dumper and then into a skip in Double Street so it was examined at various points between these points as opportunities arose.

2.2 The initial site visit was made after only a small area in the north western corner of the planned extension footprint adjacent to the house and the boundary wall with 44 Double Street had been cleared of 400mm of topsoil so a test hole could be excavated for the proposed strip footings. This test hole, which was mechanically excavated, was 300mm wide and 500mm long, revealed the naturally occurring drift geology at the site as yellow boulder clay with flints at a depth of 700mm under a homogenous layer of grey clay with charcoal flecks (see Fig. 3). As the extent of the ground disturbance was very limited at this point detailed archaeological recording

was left until more substantial lengths of footing would be open, therefore Fig. 3 has been reconstructed to give a schematic representation as further ground works were restricted to just stripping away the 400mm of topsoil for a raft foundation. The change in the foundation plans for the extension being caused by the presence of large trees nearby which would have enforced the excavation of very deep strip footings adjacent to a party wall with less substantial footings.

2.3 Two further visits were made to the site on subsequent days to inspect the area stripped and upcast spoil as the 400mm of topsoil was removed with particular emphasis being put on examining the top of the exposed grey clay deposit. Finally the extent of the stripped area was recorded in relation to locally mapped features and a number of digital images were taken to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

### 3. Results

3.1 In total an area of 48m<sup>2</sup> was stripped of 400mm of topsoil revealing the top of the homogenous grey clay deposit across the footprint for the extension, the only deeper being the small test hole described in section 2.1 above. A small number of pottery sherds (0002) were recovered from the top of this grey clay deposit.

### 4 The Finds

4.1 A small group of 11 medieval/late medieval transitional pottery sherds (0002) plus a Post medieval sherd and a clay pipe stem were recovered from the top of the grey layer revealed after the removal of the topsoil so are not from an archaeologically secure context and should be regarded as a potentially mixed assemblage. The full finds report by Sue Anderson is attached as Appendix III but in summary comprised 2 sherds of earlier medieval wares, 7 sherds of medieval coarseware with a date range in the 12<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century period, 2 later medieval sherds of L.14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century date and a single sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> century red earthenware. The assemblage spans the 11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century period which is interesting as it reflects, in a small way, the period of more intense urban life in Framlingham. Perhaps of particular note is the single 11<sup>th</sup> century sherd of a type recognised as a late variant of Thetford-type ware.

### 5. Conclusion

5.1 While the ground works for the rear extension ultimately caused relatively little ground disturbance as the presence of nearby trees caused a change in plans to a shallow raft foundation the single, small test hole did give some opportunity to interpret the archaeological deposits at the site. The grey clay deposit under the topsoil and lying directly over the underlying naturally occurring boulder clay appeared to be remarkably homogenous throughout its 700mm depth. Such a uniform deposit, given the location of this site on the eastern side of Double Street and just inside the apparent line of the medieval town ditch, could be interpreted as the base of the town-side bank which must have existed in this area within the defensive ditch. While this conclusion must be tentative as it is based on one, small, test hole it does fit in with the topography of the town. A bank type deposit might also be expected to yield a mixed assemblage of finds though, as noted above, this group came from the top of the layer and it would therefore be imprudent to use it as a means of dating the deposit.

5.2 In conclusion it is clear that the ground works for the proposed extension have enabled potentially valuable information to be recorded relating to the medieval town defences at Framlingham and have only had a very minor impact on archaeological deposits of any importance. In addition a small, but archaeologically useful, group of medieval pottery has been recovered from the town.

*(The monitoring archive is to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER Ref. FML 055).*

*(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Mr S Sykes & Ms C Barker and their contractor for the close cooperation and to Sue Anderson of CFA Archaeology for her specialist finds work).*

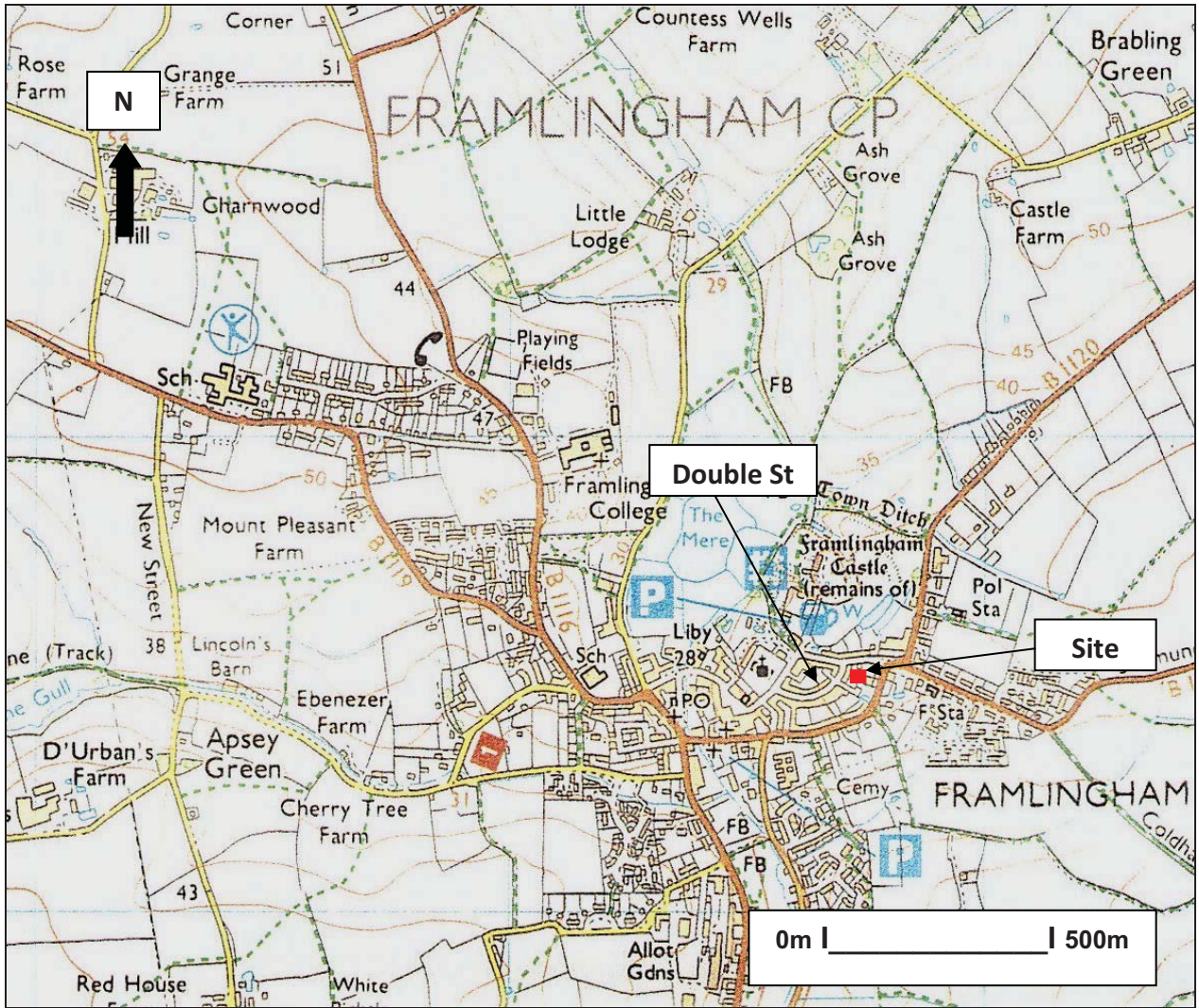


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006  
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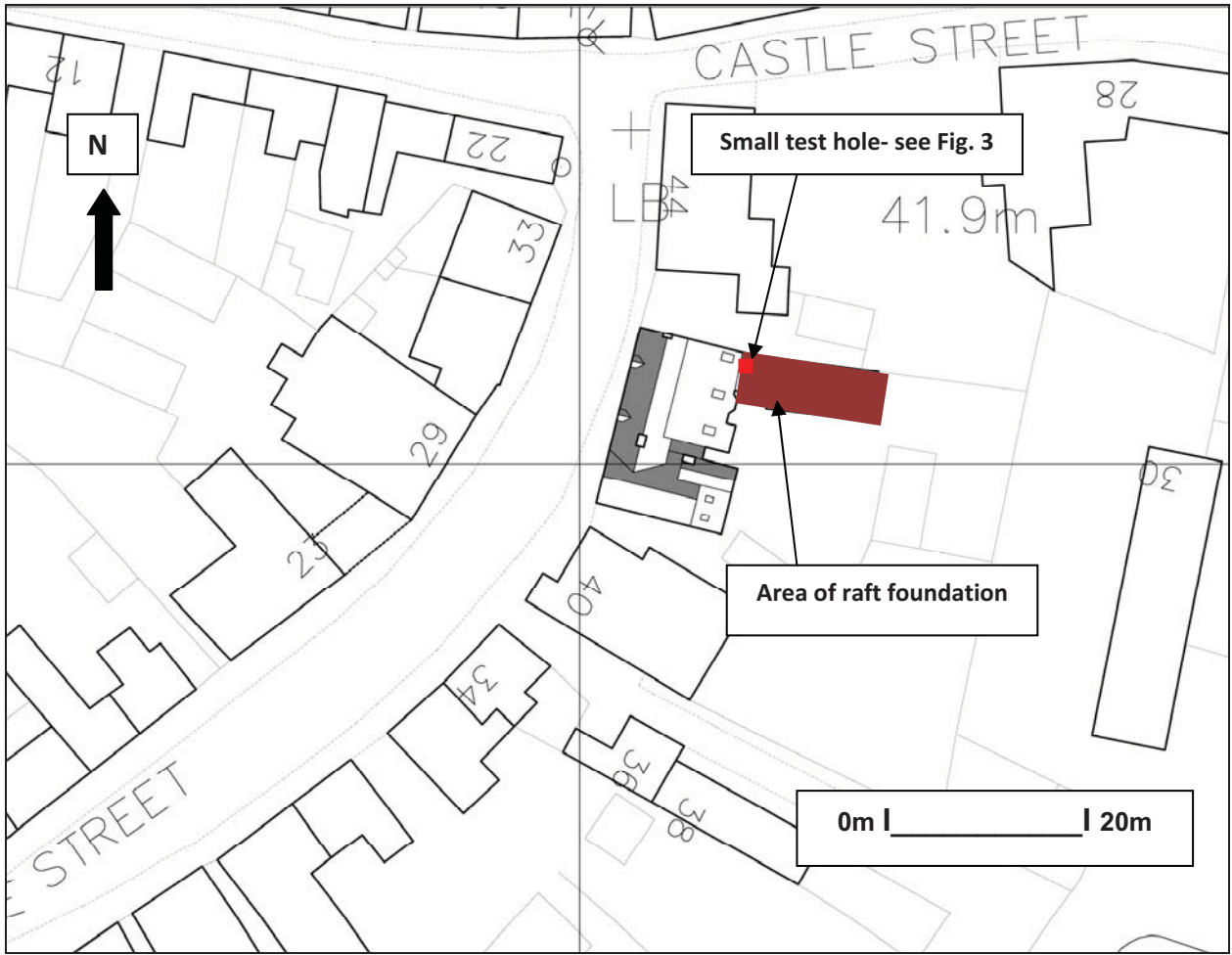


Fig. 2: Monitored extension footprint (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2010  
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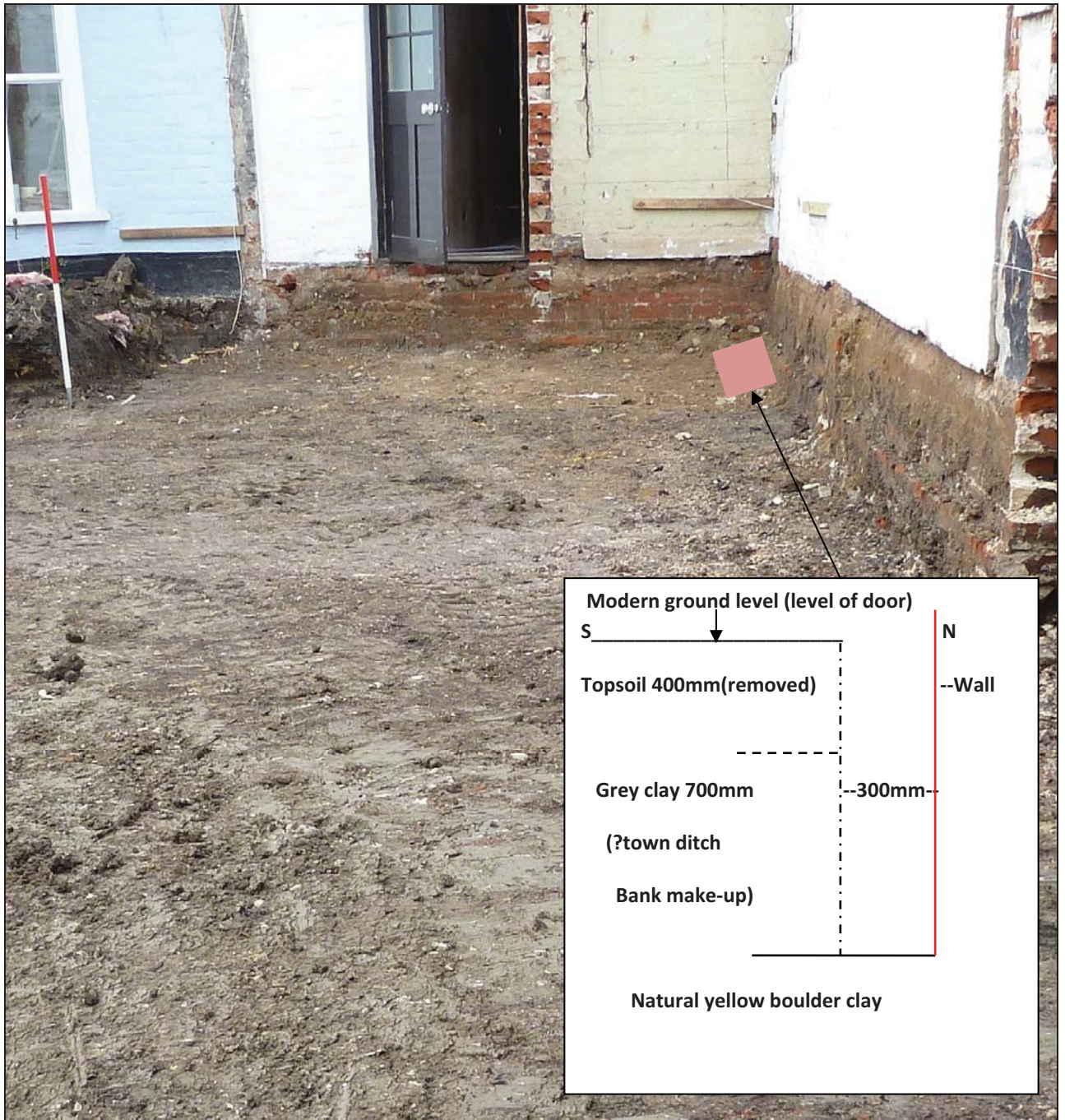


Fig.3: Image of extension footprint with 400mm topsoil removed and schematic section reconstruction of the deposits seen briefly in one small test pit (before foundation plan was changed from strip footings to a raft)- modern ground level 40.10m OD.



## Appendix I- Images



Stripped extension footprint from east



Stripped footprint from east- detail

## Appendix II

/Spec MonUrban

### SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

##### Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

##### 42 Double Street, Framlingham

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission for a rear extension to 42 Double Street, Framlingham has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (C10/1273). 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 the medieval town of Framlingham, as defined 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.
- 1.4 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with this office before execution.

#### 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 occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of building footing trenches. These, and the upcast 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 it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed should be fully excavated and planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 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 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from the English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P L and Wiltshire, P E J, 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 4.8 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. Report Requirements

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must 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).

- 5.4 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, should be prepared and included in the project report.
- 5.5 County Historic Environment Record sheets should be completed, as per the county manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.6 If archaeological features or finds are found 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).

Specification by: Keith Wade

Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service Conservation Team  
Environment and Transport Department  
Shire Hall  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 2AR

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Reference: 42 Double 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.**

## Appendix III- The Finds

### 42 Double Street, Framlingham (FML 055): the finds

Sue Anderson, November 2010.

Finds were recovered from the top of a single context, clay layer 0002, and comprised twelve sherds of pottery (116g) and a clay pipe stem (6g). The pottery quantification is shown in Table 1.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Wt (g)</b>
'Early medieval' sandwich ware	EMSW	1	6
Early medieval ware	EMW	1	5
Medieval coarsewares	MCW	7	51
Late medieval and Transitional	LMT	2	20
Late glazed red earthenware	LGRE	1	34
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>116</b>

Table 1. Pottery quantification.

One sherd of 11th-century date was recovered. This was a body fragment of EMSW, a late variant of Thetford-type ware. A body sherd of EMW (11th/12th c.) was also present.

The medieval coarsewares (12th–14th c.) were in fine sandy fabrics with varying degrees of mica. They were similar to Waveney Valley products and no examples of Hollesley-type ware were found. All fragments were body sherds, but two were from an oxidised vessel which may have been a jug.

Two body sherds of LMT (L. 14th–16th c.) were found, one burnt with internal glaze, and one with patchy external glaze.

A worn base sherd of LGRE in a buff fabric was glazed internally and externally with a pale orange glaze. It is likely to be of 18th-century date. The clay pipe stem was probably contemporary.

Overall the assemblage indicates that the upper surface of 0002 was a mixed layer, containing finds which spanned some eight centuries of activity.