GIFFORD'S HALL
WICKHAMBROOK, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: ST. EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PARISH/SITE CODE: WKB 051

OASIS REF: preconst1-306521

PCA REPORT NO: 13256

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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation and Watching Brief at Gifford's Hall, Wickhambrook, Suffolk

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ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by the property owners, through their agent Cowper Griffith Architects, to carry out a programme of archaeological investigation at Gifford's Hall, Wickhambrook, Suffolk. The work was carried out in support of a planning application for a development at the site, which will consist of the construction of two new extensions to the existing house, the reinstatement of the north arm of the moat that was backfilled in the early 1900s and the construction of a new bridge over the west arm of the moat. The first stage of the investigation was a watching brief, carried out during geotechnical works at the site in March 2018. The second stage was undertaken in April 2018 and consisted of the excavation of four trial trenches, located in areas that will be impacted by the proposed development.

Within the moated enclosure, in the area of the car park to the north of the house and in a gravelled area to the east, medieval remains were revealed beneath layers of post-medieval and modern made-ground, at a depth of between 1.0m and 1.5m below ground level. The nature of the remains, which largely date to the mid-12th to 14th centuries, is uncertain, but they include a possible ditch or pit, a buried soil layer and two thick deposits of soil that may be associated with earth-moving activity during this period.

It was demonstrated that the northern arm of the moat, which was backfilled in the early 1900s, had largely been cleaned out prior to it being backfilled with dumps of clay, soil and brick rubble. The north side of the moat was intact, excavation revealing its outer bank overlying vestiges of the former subsoil and topsoil horizons, but the south side had been extensively truncated by modern groundworks. The latter may have been associated with the demolition and post demolition groundworks of a brick building that once occupied the east end of the car park. Map evidence suggests that this building was built after 1904 but had been demolished by 1958.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 A planning application is being prepared for submission to St. Edmundsbury District Council (SDC) for a development at Gifford's Hall, a Grade I Listed moated manor house in the parish of Wickhambrook, Suffolk (NGR: TL (5)7708 (2)5384; Fig. 1). Following the demolition of an existing open garage on the north side of the moated area, the proposed development will consist of the construction of two new buildings. One will be built on the approximate site of the former garage and adjoin the granary building, which occupies the northwest corner of the site; the other will be a three-storey extension with a basement on the north elevation of the main house, in its northeastern corner. In addition, the north arm of the moat, which was backfilled in the early 1900s, will be reinstated and a new bridge will be built over its western arm.

1.2 Due to the archaeological potential of the site and in accordance with *National Planning Policy Framework* paragraph 128 and 129 (DCLG 2012), Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) advised SDC that a programme of archaeological investigation should be carried out prior to the finalisation of designs and the determination of planning permission. The scope of the programme of investigation was outlined in a *Brief* issued by SCCAS on 28th December 2017 (SCCAS 2017a).

1.3 The property owners, through their agent Cowper Griffith Architects, commissioned Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) to undertake the archaeological investigation of the site, which consisted of the archaeological monitoring of geotechnical works (watching brief) and the excavation of four trial trenches in areas that will be impacted by the proposed development (Fig. 2). The methodology for the project was set out in a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) that was prepared by (PCA 2018) and approved by SCCAS prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

1.4 All work relating to the project was carried out in accordance with the approved WSI, in addition to guidelines set out in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2017b) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b) *and Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014c).

1.5 The project was managed in accordance with the Historic England procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015).

2 SITE BACKGROUND

2.1 Site location, topography and geology

2.1.1 The site lies within the grounds of Gifford's Hall, which is located *c.* 1.3km to the south-east of Clopton Green, a small hamlet situated on Bury Road (A143), approximately 14km south-west of Bury St. Edmunds (Fig. 1). The site consists of a complex of buildings and gardens centred on the late 15th-century Grade I Listed hall, which stands within a moated enclosure. The evaluation site is located within the northern half of the moated enclosure, in an area currently used as a car park. The property is set within open farmland, with views to the south and east, and the moat is fed by a spring located in a field to the west of the site.

2.1.2 The general site of Gifford's Hall, which lies at approximately 95m above Ordnance Datum, is situated on a gradual, east-facing slope that overlooks the head of a small valley, at the base of which is a small tributary stream that flows south and then east towards its confluence with the River Glem, near Hawkedon.

2.1.3 The bedrock geology of the site consists of undifferentiated Cretaceous rocks of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Formation, Newhaven Formation and Culver Formation (BGS 2018). The chalk is overlain by superficial glacigenic deposits of the Lowestoft Formation (diamicton), consisting of chalky till with outwash deposits of sand and gravel.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

2.2.1 The following account is based on information obtained from records held by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER), historic mapping and available online sources (British History Online, Old Maps, Heritage Gateway). The request for information held by the SHER was made on 16th January 2018, with a 1km radius study area.

2.2.2 Gifford's Hall is a Grade I Listed timber-framed building, situated within a moated enclosure (Listing no. 1235864; HER WBK002). It takes its name from the *Gyfforde* family, who are known to have held the manor in the latter half of the 13th century. The current hall was built in the late 15th century by Clement Heigham (1445-1521) and later came into the ownership of the Owers and Chinery families. In the mid-19th century the property passed to new owners and in the early 1900s the hall was extensively restored and refurbished, including the addition of a new wing in the style

of the original building (Plate 1). The north arm of the moat was infilled around this time. The interior has four fine 16th-century panelled rooms and one dating to the 17th/18th century. The bridge over the south arm of the moat dates to the 16th century.

2.2.3 Approximately 250m to the west of the site is a large, irregular moated enclosure with an outer bank, thought to be the possible site of the manor house of Clopton Hall (WBK 001).

2.2.4 In 2013, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Gifford's Hall during the construction of a swimming pool, pool house and sun terrace (SCCAS 2013). The site was located immediately to the south of the moated enclosure, approximately 90m to the south of the current site. The remains of an infilled pond and an undated roadside ditch were recorded, sealed beneath a thick layer of made-ground.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The main aim of the archaeological investigation, as stated in the WSI (PCA 2018), was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site through the identification, sample excavation and recording of any archaeological remains that may be encountered by the watching brief and evaluation and determining their location, extent, date, character and state of preservation.

3.2 With reference to regional research agendas, the specific aims of the investigation were to:

- Identify features and deposits that may be associated with medieval buildings and activity within the moated site prior to the construction of the existing hall in the late 15th century;
- Prepare a deposit model, based on the results of the geotechnical survey and trial trenching, that will indicate areas where archaeological remains, if present, are likely to occur or to have undergone significant truncation;
- Collect soil samples for assessment, primarily to establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site but also to gain an insight into the range of activities (i.e. domestic, industrial, agricultural) that were undertaken at the site in the past;
- Establish the full profile of the northern arm of the moat and determine the depth of archaeologically significant deposits;
- Recover evidence that will enhance our understanding of the origins and development of moated sites, contributing to the research aim highlighted in the regional research agenda (Medlycott 2011, 70).

4 METHODOLOGY

General

4.1 The investigation consisted of the archaeological monitoring of geotechnical works, followed by a programme of trial trenching in areas that will be impacted by the proposed development.

4.2 The geotechnical works consisted of the excavation of two hand-dug test pits, six percussion boreholes and ten window sample boreholes (Fig. 2). Of these, two percussion boreholes, seven window sample boreholes and both hand-dug test pits were monitored. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of four trenches of varying dimensions (Fig. 2). The trench dimensions are as follows:

Trench 1	1.5m by 1.5m (hand-dug)
Trench 2	1.6m by 3.4m
Trench 3	12.5m by 0.8m slit trench
Trench 4	4.5m by 1.6m

4.3 Trench 3 was positioned to investigate the deposits in the north arm of the infilled moat. Due to the expected depth of the moat from the current ground surface (*c.* 4m), the limited space for the storage of spoil and the constraints imposed by two large trees in this location, it was agreed with SCCAS that a stepped trench was not feasible. However, the project aims were achieved through the excavation of a 0.8m wide slit trench that was dug down to the sides and base of the moat. Soil samples were taken from the excavated deposits for analysis and the deposits were scanned for finds. To mitigate against the collapse of the trench sides, it was excavated in two 5m sections, with the first section backfilled before the second section was opened. Due to site constraints, including maintaining access to the car park, buried services and the lack of spoil storage space, the sizes of Trenches 2 and 4 had to be reduced slightly from those stated in the WSI.

Excavation methodology

4.4 Trench 1 was hand-dug and Trenches 2–4 were opened under archaeological supervision using an 8-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.8m or 1.6m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed geological substrate or the surface of the archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. The overburden was stored in temporary bunds

along the sides of the trenches. Exposed surfaces were hand-cleaned to define archaeological features and deposits and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. With the agreement of SCCAS, machine-dug sondages were excavated in Trenches 2 and 4 to examine the nature and thickness of deposits at the base of the trench.

4.5 Archaeological features and the soil bunds were scanned using a metal-detector to maximise the recovery of metal objects.

Recording Methodology

4.6 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica dumpy level and measuring tapes, with measurements taken off the surrounding buildings. Section drawings and plans of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).

4.7 Field excavation techniques and recording methods followed those detailed in the PCA *Operations Manual I: Fieldwork Induction Manual* (Taylor and Brown 2009). All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 1.

4.8 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital colour photographs were taken of the general site and archaeological features and deposits.

4.9 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site. Five bulk soil samples were taken for palaeoenvironmental assessment from suitable deposits.

5 EVALUATION RESULTS

5.1 Watching brief results

5.1.1 The watching brief was maintained over two days and examined the deposits revealed by a series of seven window sample boreholes (WSC–WSI), two percussion boreholes (BH1 and BH4) and two hand-dug test pits (HP1 and HP2)(Fig. 2).

5.1.2 The window sample boreholes (WSC–WSI) were positioned along the approximate centreline of the former moat (Plate 2), revealing a similar sequence of backfill deposits and a relatively consistent depth to the base of the moat of approximately 3.6m below ground level (bgl), at 93.5m aOD. It is likely that the shallower depths to the base of the moat recorded in some of the boreholes (e.g. WSH, WSI) is accounted for by the boreholes being 'off-centre' and penetrating the sides of the moat. With the exception of a thin layer of organic silty clay at the base of the moat in borehole WSD, there was no evidence for surviving *in situ* waterlogged deposits. It was clear that the moat had been thoroughly cleaned out, with soft sediment being removed prior to it being backfilled with dumps of boulder clay, soil and rubble in the early 1900s.

5.1.3 Borehole BH1 was located in the car park in northeast corner of the site, in the approximate location of the proposed new three-storey extension. The geological substrate, consisting of mid greyish brown clay with chalk pebbles, was encountered at a depth of *c.* 1.2m bgl (95.71m aOD). This was overlain by a layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt, approximately 0.1m thick, from which was recovered a small sherd of late 12th to 14th-century pottery. This buried soil layer was sealed by a 0.5m thick layer of redeposited clay, succeeded by a deposit of brick rubble of a similar thickness. The brick rubble was capped with a layer of concrete, *c.* 0.10m thick, and a thin skim of tarmac and gravel.

5.1.4 Located at the western end of the car park, to the north of the granary building, Borehole BH4 revealed a similar sequence of deposits to BH1, although the geological substrate was encountered at a greater depth of *c.* 2.0m bgl (95.20m aOD). Overlying the boulder clay was a 1.7m thick deposit of made-ground, consisting of dark greyish brown silty clay containing ash, charcoal and fragments of brick. This was sealed by a layer of brick rubble, capped with concrete and a thin skim of tarmac and gravel.

5.1.5 Test pit HP1 was dug against the foundation of the west wall of the granary building, in the northwest corner of the site (Plate 3). This was excavated to a depth of *c.* 1.2m bgl, exposing the geological substrate at a depth of *c.* 0.9m bgl (96.23m aOD). This was overlain by a layer, up to 0.7m thick, of soft, dark brown silty clay containing brick and tile fragments. This made-ground deposit was sealed by a 0.21m thick layer of concrete embedded with cobbles and bricks on the surface. The concrete foundations of the wall and its lower brick courses were exposed in the side of the excavation (base of concrete foundations at *c.* 0.6m bgl).

5.1.6 Test pit HP2 was dug against the foundation of the north wall of a small brick-built extension on the northeast corner of the house (Plate 4). This was excavated to a depth of *c.* 0.7m bgl, revealing a layer of made-ground, at least 0.5m thick, overlain by a 0.21m thick layer of concrete. The concrete foundations of the wall and its lower brick courses were exposed in the side of the excavation (base of concrete foundations at *c.* 0.6m bgl).

5.1.7 Although not monitored by the watching brief, the preliminary results of boreholes BH5 and BH6 (RSA Geotechnics 2018), which were located either side of the west arm of the moat to investigate the ground for the new bridge abutments, revealed the geological substrate at a depth of *c*. 1.2m bgl. On the inner bank of the moat (BH5), this was encountered at 95.54m aOD and it was overlain by a layer of made-ground, approximately 0.2m thick of soft greyish brown silty clay containing fragments of brick and ash. It was sealed by a 0.9m thick layer of stony made-ground, capped with a layer of gravel. On the outer bank of the moat (BH6) the surface of the geological substrate lay at 96.71m aOD and it was overlain by a 0.8m thick layer of made-ground containing brick fragments and pebbles. This was sealed by a layer of topsoil and turf, *c.* 0.4m thick.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 was located in a narrow, gravelled area between the northern end of the east elevation of the house and the hedge bordering the east arm of the moat (Fig. 2). The trench, which measured *c.* 1.5m by 1.5m, was hand dug as there was no suitable access for a mini-digger or any other plant.

5.2.2 The geological substrate (101) was encountered in the northern half of the trench at a depth of 1.04m bgl, at *c.* 95.63m aOD (Figs 2 and 3; Plate 5). It was cut by the base

of a shallow, concave feature [102], possibly a ditch or elongated pit on a north to south alignment. The feature was filled with a cessy deposit (103) that contained two sherds of 11th to 12th-century pottery, daub, burnt flint and a small number of charred cereal grains. This feature was sealed by a layer of dark grey clayey silt (104), approximately 0.18m thick, that may be a buried soil horizon. This deposit contained a small assemblage of mid-12th to 13th-century pottery, including part of a jar, pieces of daub and a sizeable assemblage of charred cereal grains (predominately naked wheat, with some spelt/emmer). Above the possible buried soil were successive layers of made-ground (105), (106) and (107), with a combined thickness of *c*. 0.47m.

5.2.3 Cutting through the made-ground deposits from near the surface was a vertical cut [108], probably the northern edge of a large trench. The trench appears to have been backfilled shortly after excavation as the vertical sides (in places undercut) showed no sign of slumping or collapse, despite the relatively soft deposits through which it was excavated. The feature was at least 1.0m deep and it was filled with a sequence of backfill deposits, (109)–(115), consisting of redeposited clay, soil and brick and tile rubble. Sherds of pottery dating to the late 18th to early 20th century were recovered from fills (113) and (115).

5.2.4 Crossing the western side of the trench was a modern (still active) drain [116], set within a 0.52m deep trench, covered with pea-grit gravel and a capped by a layer of concrete (122).

5.2.5 The above features and deposits were sealed by a thin layer of buried topsoil (118), over which had been placed a geotextile membrane (119) and two layers of gravel, (120) and (121), to form the modern surface.

5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 Located within the footprint of the proposed new extension to the north elevation of the house, in the eastern part of the car park, Trench 2 measured 3.4m long by 1.6m wide and was aligned approximately north-northeast to south-southwest (Figs 2 and 4; Plate 6). In the northern half of the trench, the geological substrate (201) was encountered at a depth of 0.85m bgl (96.21m aOD; the nearby borehole BH1 recorded the surface of the boulder clay at 95.40m aOD). At the request of SCCAS, a machine-dug sondage was excavated into this layer to test that it was not redeposited. The hardness and compaction of the layer confirmed that it was *in situ*

boulder clay, with a thickness of at least 1.1m. The geological substrate was overlain by a layer of mid brown silty clay (202), up to 0.11m thick, probably the remnants of a former subsoil horizon.

5.3.2 In the southern half of the trench the northern edge of a large cut [203], which was over 0.5m deep and extended beyond the limits of the trench, was revealed. The feature was cut from high up in the section and cut subsoil horizon (202), suggesting that it is probably post-medieval or later in date. It was filled with two deposits, (204) and (205), that dipped to the south, suggesting that they were infilling a large pit or ditch to the south of the trench.

5.3.3 Built directly over feature [203] was a brick building of probable early 20th-century date. The northeast corner of the building was exposed in the trench, with its surviving courses of mortar-bonded, machine-made frogged bricks [207] resting on a concrete foundation. The unstamped bricks had a shallow frog, a light brownish red sandy fabric and measured 9" x 4 3/8" x 2 1/2". The area within the building had been infilled with charcoal-flecked soil (208) and brick rubble (209) and covered with a surface layer of concrete (210).

5.3.4 Abutting the north wall on the outside of the building was a layer of dark, loose soil (212) containing hearth waste, modern broken glass bottles and brick fragments, overlain by a layer of loose brick rubble (213). Extending over the entire trench was a layer of tarmac (211).

5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 Positioned to investigate deposits in the backfilled north arm of the moat, Trench 3 measured *c.* 12.5m long by 0.8m wide (Figs 2 and 5; Plates 7 and 8). It cut into the bank on the north side of the former moat and was extended south as far as the kerb of the car park. Due to the uneven ground, low-hanging tree branches and other obstacles, the lower deposits in the centre of the trench could not be safely reached by the machine, so these were left *in situ*. There were some limitations to the accurate recording of the deposits in the trench due to its depth and the seepage of water near the base. Deposits from near the base of the trench had to be recorded from material placed on the spoil heap and the section drawing was produced by taking measurements using a 5m staff and dumpy level.

5.4.2 Beneath the bank on the north side of the moat were vestiges of the former land surface that predated the construction of the moat. Here, overlying the geological substrate (301), the surface of which was recorded at 96.83m aOD, was a layer of subsoil (302) and buried topsoil (303), with a combined thickness of 0.34m. These were sealed by a deposit, up to 0.67m thick, of firm light to mid-brown clay (304), presumably upcast from the excavation of the moat.

5.4.3 The cut for the northern, outer edge of the moat was clearly visible in section, sloping steeply from the top of the bank down to a flat base (from 97.83m down to 94.02m aOD). The depth of the moat accorded well with the results from the window sample boreholes.

5.4.4 At the base of the trench was a layer of stiff dark greyish blue clay with flint pebbles (306), which was not seen *in situ* (due to the ingress of water) but was recorded from material on the spoil heap. It differed from the lighter bluish grey clay with chalk pebbles that formed the sides of the moat, so was interpreted as a basal fill, although it may be a strata within the geological drift deposits. Directly over this deposit was a thin layer, approximately 0.05m thick, of soft, dark grey organic silt with greenish brown mottles (307), probably the remains of the material that was dredged out of the moat prior to it being backfilled. It contained abundant decayed plant matter and a sizeable assemblage of weed seeds and snail shells, indicative of damp/moist conditions. A similar, but thicker deposit (315) was identified in the base of the moat in the southern half of the section; it is likely that this material was displaced to the south by the dumping of clay into the moat.

5.4.5 Overlying (307) was a sequence of backfill deposits, (308) to (311), of redeposited silty clay and soil, with a combined thickness of *c.* 2.6m. The decaying branch of a tree protruded from (308) in section and early 20th-century glass bottles, mostly broken, were recovered from (309). It is possible that the moat was only partially backfilled at this time, as these deposits were sealed by a thin layer of topsoil (312), approximately 0.14m thick.

5.4.6 Following the backfilling of the moat, probably in the mid-20th century, its south side was truncated by a large cut [316] that penetrated to a depth of over 2.8m bgl. The groundworks may have been associated with the demolition of the building identified

in Trench 2 and subsequent landscaping of the area of the car park. The basal fill of the cut was redeposited boulder clay (317), overlain by a layer of brick rubble and mortar (318), 0.12m thick, that dipped to the south. The upper deposit (319) consisted of mid brown silty clay and contained rusty sheet metal and other modern refuse.

5.4.7 The shallow hollow that would have marked the location of the backfilled moat was subsequently infilled with a further deposit, up to 0.62m thick, of silty clay mixed with soil, brick rubble and stones (313). The area was subsequently landscaped with a thick layer of topsoil (314), leaving only a shallow depression to mark the moat's former location.

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 Located in the western part of the car park, Trench 4 was positioned within the footprint of the proposed new extension to the granary building. The trench measured 4.5m long by 1.6m wide and it was aligned northeast to southwest. Due to the limited space available for the storage of spoil and the need to maintain access to the car park, the trench was not excavated to its full length (as stated in the WSI).

5.5.2 The geological substrate (401) was revealed in a sondage at a depth of *c.* 2.1m bgl (95.18m aOD). It was overlain by two successive layers of silty clay, (402) and (403), with a combined thickness of 0.79m. Layer (403) contained seven sherds of mid-12th to mid-14th-century pottery, including a sherd from a jug, and a small quantity of charred cereal grain. The deposits are too thick to be buried soil horizons, so may be associated with medieval remodelling of the northwest corner of the moated area, an activity that would have involved substantial earthmoving.

5.5.3 The medieval horizons were sealed by a layer of made-ground, consisting of redeposited silty clay up to 0.38m thick (404).

5.5.4 Cut from high up in the section (the top of the cut was at 96.73m aOD) was the eastern edge of a large, modern cut [405] that penetrated to a depth of over 1.0m and truncated the medieval horizons at the southwest end of the trench. The feature had been backfilled with dumps of redeposited silty clay, (406) to (408), that dipped to the west.

5.5.5 Feature [405] was sealed by layers of modern made-ground, (409) to (411), that had

been put down to form a level surface for the car park, which was surfaced with tarmac (413). At the southwest end of the trench, removal of the tarmac revealed concrete hardstanding, the northern edge of which ran parallel to the north wall of the granary building.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 Struck flint *by Ella Egberts*

6.1.1 Context 103, the fill of a possible ditch or pit [102], contained 13 fragments of burnt flint weighing a total of 44.78 g (with min and max: 0.3-25.1g). All pieces are fire-crazed, some decoloured. The flint may have been burnt accidentally and is not indicative of a certain prehistoric period.

6.2 Post-Roman Pottery *by Berni Sudds*

6.2.1 The evaluation produced a total of 28 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 167g, dating predominantly to the medieval period. The pottery types identified on site are listed chronologically below in Table 1. The material was recorded and quantified for each context by fabric, vessel form and decoration using sherd count (with fresh breaks discounted), weight and minimum number of vessels. The fabrics were examined under x20 magnification and recorded using a system of mnemonic codes based on common name. The codes designated to fabrics are taken from the Suffolk Ceramic Type Series, a copy of which is held by the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service. The data has been entered onto an Access Database, a copy of which is held with the archive. A catalogue of the pottery by context, with date ranges and suggested spot dates, appears at the end of the report (Appendix 2, Table 1).

Table 1: The pottery types

Common name	Fabric code	Date range		SC	Wg (g)
St Neots ware	STNE	875/900	1100	2	2
Early medieval ware	EMW	1000	1300	4	16
Hedingham-type ware	HFW	1150	1250	1	10
Medieval coarseware	MCW1	1150	1400	1	4
Medieval coarseware	MCW2	1150	1400	10	63
Medieval coarseware	MCW3	1150	1400	2	16
Bury sandy fine ware	BSFW	1170	1400	1	1
Bury sandy ware	BSW	1170	1400	3	35
Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration	TPW	1780	1900	2	8
Bone china	BONE	1794	1900	1	6
Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed 'flow blue' decoration	TPW FLOW	1830	1900	1	6

SC = sherd count. Wg (g) = weight in grams.

6.2.2 Two small sherds of St Neot's-type ware represent the earliest dated post-Roman pottery, although both sherds are residual in later deposits ([104]/ [403]). A small number of early medieval wares were also recovered, including a jar rim with thumb-

impressed decoration, but the majority of the small assemblage is comprised of featureless medieval coarseware body sherds (MCW1-3/ BSFW/ BSW) dating from the mid/late 12th to 14th century. A number of subtle variations are evident amongst this group, although the majority exhibit the same basic fabric characterised by a fine micaceous brickearthy matrix containing moderate sub-angular to rounded quartz grains. The reduced hard grey examples are similar to Bury sandy wares or Bury sandy fine ware where no quartz grains are present, but there are also sherds demonstrating more variable firing or with the addition of other sparse inclusions that might indicate another source, or perhaps more than one source. Whether these represent Bury sandy ware variants, Bury medieval coarsewares or were more locally produced is not certain but coarsewares resembling Bury products have been identified at a number villages around the town (Goffin 2012; Anderson 2005; Sudds 2015, 2017). As a group they also demonstrate affinities with Hedingham coarsewares, examples of which have been recovered in some quantity to the south-west of site at Haverhill (Anderson 1999). A single sherd of Hedingham fineware represents the only glazed medieval ware, from a jug with combed decoration and mottled green glaze. The remainder of the small assemblage is comprised of 19th to 20th century mass-produced refined wares.

6.2.3 The pottery ranges in date from the 10th to 19th century but does not demonstrate ceramic continuity. The earliest pottery is of 10th to 11th century date, with the majority dating from the 12th to mid-14th century, perhaps originating from an earlier manor house occupying the site, or at least indicative of medieval settlement activity nearby. Pottery of late medieval or early post-medieval date, contemporary with the extant hall, was not recovered but this may simply suggest waste was being dumped elsewhere. The composition of the group, comprised predominantly of coarsewares with just one glazed ware, is fairly typical of rural assemblages. If associated with an earlier manor more glazed wares and even imported pottery might be expected, although the assemblage is too small to be considered representative. The 19th to early 20th century pottery represents waste from the hall, deposited in pits, or in the moat, backfilled prior to the erection of the north wing in the early years of the 20th century.

6.2.4 Although a relatively small assemblage the pottery is in fairly good condition and demonstrates a similar composition to others in the locality (Anderson 1999, 2005, 2011; Sudds 2015, 2017). No further work is recommended, although should any

further investigation be undertaken on site the assemblage should be reappraised alongside any additional pottery recovered.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material *by Amparo Valcarcel*

Introduction

6.3.1 A small quantity of ceramic building material (CBM) (202 examples; 1.42 kg) collected from an evaluation at Gifford's Hall was reviewed in order to provide a list of spot dates and to identify the form and fabric of the CBM.

Methodology

6.3.2 The application of a 1kg masons hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10).

6.3.3 As there was no comparative reference collection of building material from this part of Suffolk that matched with the Museum of London series, the fabric was prefixed by *WKB* and a number thus *WKB01.*

Preservation

6.3.4 All of the CBM from this site was in a fragmentary condition, with no complete examples present (202 examples; 1.42 kg).

Daub

6.3.5 It is likely that the small fragments of fired daub from fill (103) of possible ditch [102], and layers (104), (403) and (404) in Trenches 1 and 4 (185 examples, 643 g) are medieval or early post-medieval in date. They either represent burnt clay or material from a timber-framed wattle and daub structure.

CBM

6.3.6 Peg tiles (6 examples, 295g) made of a sandy medium-coarse opaque quartz fabric (WKB01) (WKB03), have a fine to medium grade moulding sand suggesting perhaps that they were early post-medieval peg tile (*c.* 1450-1800). These are found in fills (109) and (113) from pit/trench [108] in Trench 1.

WKB01 Very-coarse opaque quartz inclusions, occasional clear quartz set in fine red matrix (peg tile)

WKB03; Black iron oxide fabric - iron oxide fabric red, some clear quartz common small to medium opaque quartz (peg tile)

6.3.7 A poorly-made sandy brick made *of* medium-coarse opaque quartz inclusions, occasional clear quartz set in fine red matrix *(WKB02)* was collected from Trench 1 (fill (109) of pit/trench [108]).

WKB02: medium-coarse opaque quartz inclusions (brick)

Table 2: Quantification of the CBM from Gifford's Hall

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
103	3102	Small fragments of burnt clay	35	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	1400-1700	No mortar
104	3102	Small fragments of burnt clay	118	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	1400-1700	No mortar
109	WKB01;WBK02	Post medieval local sandy brick and peg tiles	4	1450	1900	1450	1900	1400-1800	No mortar
113	WKB01	Post medieval local sandy peg tiles	6	1450	1900	1450	1900	1450-1800	No mortar
307	WKB03	Post medieval local sandy peg tiles	1	1450	1900	1450	1900	1450-1800	No mortar
315	UNK	Small fragments of sandy fabrics	6	-	-	-	-	Undatable	No mortar
402	3102	Small fragments of burnt clay	2	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	1400-1700	No mortar
403	3102	Small fragments of burnt clay	30	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	1400-1700	No mortar

Conclusions

6.3.8 Evidence for medieval materials is provided by fragments of burnt daub found in Trenches 1 and 4, although daub was used until the late 17th century.

6.3.9 The identification of different types of peg tile and brick throughout the site, most of which are well-made and manufactured out of local London clay, is probably related to phases of demolition/refurbishment at Gifford's Hall.

6.3.10 The building materials assemblage indicates multi-period activity at this site, as seen from other material types. Clearly medieval and post-medieval activity can be

pinpointed from the daub, roofing tile and brick. All the material should be discarded, except the daub from (104). No further work is recommended.

6.4 ***Metalwork and glass objects*** *by Ruth Beveridge*

6.4.1 A total of three objects were recovered from the evaluation, two of glass and one of lead. These finds have been fully recorded and a complete listing is provided in the catalogue below. They have been examined with the assistance of low level magnification. They are discussed below by period and material type. The glass objects were found in the backfill layers of the moat in Trench 3; the piece of lead in the fill of cut [108] in Trench 1.

6.4.2 Overall, the condition of the metalwork is poor with corrosion products visible on the lead. The surface of the glass is stable, though the bottle is fragmentary.

Modern

Glass

6.4.3 Two items of glass were recovered from fill 309 of moat cut [305], Trench 3. One is the base of a brown glass bottle with remnants of the bottle walls. On the underside of the base are the letters/numerals: R 322/ S 80/ UGB. These are likely to relate to mould/batch numbers. UGB is reference to United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Incorporated. The mark dates from 1913 to about 1968.

6.4.4 The second glass item is a screw top Bovril jar. The jar is oval in plan, has a short cylindrical neck and has two flat oval sides for labelling. Embossed with 4oz on the shoulder and Bovril Limited 302 on the body. On the base it is embossed with 'BOTTLE MADE IN ENGLAND BY FGC'. FGC refers to Forsters Glass Company based in St. Helens, Lancashire, between 1902-1966. This particular jar is probably of *c.*1930s - 1940s in date.

Uncertain date

Lead

6.4.5 From fill 113 of modern cut [108], Trench 1. Piece of lead sheet; triangular in plan, slightly curved in profile.

Discussion

6.4.6 The small assemblage of finds is primarily modern in date. Overall, they reflect

damaged or unwanted items that have been discarded. The items have been fully recorded with no further work required. It is suggested that they are photographed to keep a record for the archive, and then discarded.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE *by Kate Turner*

Introduction

7.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of the environmental remains found in five bulk soil samples taken during the archaeological evaluation at Giffords Hall, Wickhambrook. The samples were taken from two soil layers, two deposits within the area of the moat, and one cess-like deposit within a shallow feature, the context information for which is given in Table 3 below.

7.2 The aim of this assessment is to:

- Give an overview of the contents of the assessed sample;
- Determine the environmental potential of these sample;
- Establish whether any further analysis is necessary.

Table 3: Context information for environmental samples

Context No.	Sample	Cut	Context type	Interpretation
307	1	305	Fill	Organic layer at base of moat
315	2	305	Fill	Possible cessy deposit near base of moat
403	3		Layer	Buried deposit with Med/Post-Med pot
104	4		Layer	Dark soil layer
103	5	102	Fill	Cessy deposit in shallow feature

Methodology

7.3 Five environmental bulk samples, of between six and twenty-nine litres in volume, were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300 µm mesh for the light fraction and a 1 mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4 mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items).

7.4 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. A note

was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material.

Results and discussion

7.5 The samples will be discussed individually, to establish environmental potential. Cultural material collected from the heavy residues has been catalogued and passed to the relevant specialists for further assessment. A full account of the sample contents is given in Appendix 3, Tables 1 and 2.

Sample <1>

7.6 A single bulk sample was taken from an organic layer at the base of a backfilled moat feature, [305]. Environmental preservation in this sample was good, particularly with regard to archaeobotanical remains. A large proportion of the flot material was comprised of fragmented plant matter, including leaves and woody steams/twigs, along with preserved wood, of which there was a moderate amount (30-100 pieces). Wood charcoal was also recorded in this sample, though fragment size was small, and less than ten pieces of a suitable size for species identification were recovered (>4 mm in length/width). Weed seeds were abundant, with over one-hundred specimens identified. Diversity of taxa was limited; eight genera were identified across the sample with dominant species being sedge (*Carex* sp.), nettle (*Urtica* sp.), and woundwort (*Stachys* sp.), the former of which may be indicative of a moderately waterlogged environment. A reasonably sized mollusc assemblage was additionally recovered; of the represented species *Discus Rotundatus* and *Carychium* sp. were the most frequent, which are also common to damp and/or moist places.

Sample <2>

7.7 In addition to sample <1>, a second sample was also collected from feature [305], from a cessy deposit near the base of the moat. Preservation of ecofacts in this deposit was poor, and the assemblage was dominated by a large proportion of modern root material. A very small amount of wood charcoal was recorded, along with a minimal number of terrestrial snail shells, including specimens of *Vallonia* sp. and *Vertigo* sp., though these may have been introduced by root activity after the deposit was formed.

Sample <3>

7.8 Sample <3> was collected from a buried soil layer of probable medieval date. Of the environmental remains collected from this deposit, mollusca were the most frequent; between thirty and one-hundred shells were recovered, including *Discus Rotundatus,* which may, again, suggest moist conditions. The archaeobotanical assemblage was more limited, with only a small number of weed seeds reported, including specimens of elder (Sambucus sp.) and rush (*Juncus* sp.), the condition of which would suggest are modern intrusions. A low frequency of charred cereals were also identified, with specimens of wheat (both *durum/aestivum* type and *dicoccum/spelta*) recovered, as well as some heavily damaged grains, of which species could not be determined. Charred seeds of pea (*Fabaceae* spp.), medick/melilot (*Medicago/Melilotus*), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and grass (*Poaceae* sp.) were additionally found. Wood charcoal was present in abundance, though sizeable fragments were scarce.

Sample <4>

7.9 The greatest abundance of environmental material was recovered from sample <4>, which was collected from a dark soil layer. Wood charcoal was frequent in this sample, with over thirty sizeable pieces recorded, and over one-hundred fragments counted in total. There was a substantial grain assemblage identified, including a significant density of naked wheat (*aestivum/durum* type), along with a more moderate concentration of spelt/emmer grains. A large number of grains that could not be identified were also found; these specimens were too heavily degraded for any distinguishing features to be observed, likely as a result of prolonged or high-temperature burning. In addition to the cereals, burnt weed seeds were additionally recovered, with specimens such as pea and brome (*Bromus* sp.) discovered. Un-burnt seeds were scarce, and those that were identified are likely to be modern contaminants. The mollusc assemblage was small, and dominated by terrestrial species.

Sample <5>

7.10 Environmental preservation was poor in sample <5>, which was taken from a cess-like deposit, within a shallow archaeological feature. Wood charcoal was recovered, though no sizeable pieces were found, and the seed assemblage was limited to a low abundance of charred cereals, including naked and spelt/emmer wheat, and a single

grain of barley (*Hordeum* sp.), along with a small number of carbonised peas. Molluscs were present, though less than thirty specimens were recorded, all of terrestrial origin.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

7.11 To summarise, of the environmental samples taken from Gifford's Hall, samples <1> and <4> contain the only remains of statistical significance. The charred grain and seed assemblage in sample <4> is of significant size and preservation to warrant additional specialist study, as this may help to develop our understanding of the agricultural practices that were being carried out during the occupation of the site, as well as the importance of cereals to local diet. Preservation of seeds was good in sample <1>, however this was associated with substantial root material, which may indicate bioturbation; if further interventions are undertaken, effort should be made to obtain undisturbed material from this context, as it is unclear whether these remains are *in situ*.

7.12 It is also clear from this assemblage that the potential for well-preserved mollusc remains on this site is good. If future excavations are carried out contiguous bulk samples should be collected from suitable deposits for further study of this archive, as it may yield valuable information regarding the environment of the site, and how it may have changed over the different phases of occupation

7.13 In areas where there is suitable material and little evidence of contamination, C14 dating could be undertaken on the charred cereal of wood remains, in order to improve the chronology of the site.

7.14 A summary of these results should be included in any subsequent site publications.

8 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

8.1 The archaeological investigation at Gifford's Hall has identified buried features and deposits of medieval date within the moated area, although it has not been able to characterise these remains to any extent due to the depth at which they occur (generally over 1m below the surface) and the constraints imposed on the investigation by buried services and the limited space available for the storage of spoil. However, the results confirm activity in this part of the site between the mid-12th and mid-14th century, prior to the construction of Clement Heigham's house (the earliest part of the house that currently occupies the site) in the late 15th century.

8.2 Despite later large-scale groundworks within the area, largely associated with the early 20th century refurbishment and extension of the house, it is considered probable that medieval remains will be impacted by the proposed building works at the house, subject to foundation designs and levels.

8.3 Investigation of the northern arm of the moat, which was backfilled in the early 1900s, has shown very limited potential for any features or deposits pre-dating the modern period to survive *in situ.* The full profile of the moat ditch could not be determined due to the impact of 20th-century groundworks and landscaping along the inside edge of the moat.

8.4 In identifying areas of surviving medieval remains within the moated area and recovering artefactual and palaeoenvironmental information from the deposits, the archaeological investigation has fulfilled the research objectives of the project, although the interpretation of the results is limited by the depth and limited exposure of the remains. Although the full profile of the moat could not be established due to modern truncation, a partial profile was established and it was demonstrated that the moat was unlikely to contain any archaeologically significant deposits.

Watching brief on the geotechnical survey

8.5 The watching brief on the borehole survey provided valuable information to compare against the results of the subsequent archaeological evaluation. The window sample boreholes along the approximate centreline of the backfilled moat indicated at an early stage that any soft sediment that may have accumulated over time in the based of the moat had been cleaned out prior to it being backfilled in the early 1900s. Only

one of the seven boreholes monitored by the watching brief showed evidence for soft organic sediment at the base of the moat, and this was only 0.05m thick. Otherwise, the moat was shown to have been backfilled in the early 20th century with dump deposits of redeposited clay, soil and small quantities of brick rubble.

8.6 The boreholes also indicated the approximate depth of the moat as *c.* 3.6m bgl, which assisted in determining the strategy for positioning and excavating the trial trench (Trench 3).

8.7 Monitoring of the boreholes within the moated area consistently showed thick deposits of made-ground within the area of the car park. The upper layers of made-ground were clearly modern deposits as they contained significant quantities of brick rubble, tile and mortar, but the lower layers tended to be darker and to be flecked with charcoal, suggesting that they could be associated with earlier phases of activity, possibly of medieval date 9a suggestion borne out by the subsequent evaluation). Although the sherd could be residual, medieval pottery dating to the mid-12th to 14-century was recovered from a soil layer at a depth of *c*. 1.1m bgl in borehole BH1, in the area of the proposed three-storey extension.

Archaeological evaluation

The north arm of the moat

8.8 The results of the excavation of the trial trench through the north arm of the moat (Trench 3) largely confirmed those of the borehole survey. The moat was shown to be approximately 3.6m deep and to have been cleaned out prior to it being backfilled with dumps of redeposited clay and soil. A thin layer of soft sediment was identified at the base of the moat; palaeoenvironmental assessment of this deposit indicated that it contained a statistically viable assemblage of weed seeds and snail shells characteristic of a damp/moist environment, along with large amounts of decayed plant matter. A thicker deposit of soft, possibly cessy soil that appeared to have been displaced by the backfilling and to have piled up against the inside (south) side of the moat, contained few ecofacts.

8.9 Backfilling of the moat in the early 1900s was shown to involve the dumping of redeposited clay and soil into the largely cleaned-out moat. Tree branches were mixed in with the clay, along with small dumps of modern glass bottle and jars,

including a 'Bovril' jar from near the base of the moat.

8.10 Not apparent in the results of the borehole survey was that the moat had undergone two phases of backfilling, along with a phase of groundworks that had largely truncated the south side of the moat. In the first stage the moat had been largely backfilled, leaving a depression of *c.* 1.2m from the top of the outside bank to the centre of the moat. Later in the 20th century and possibly associated with the demolition of a nearby brick building, the south side of the moat was dug away and the resultant pit backfilled with redeposited clay (the upper clay layer contained rusty sheet metal) and a dipping layer of brick rubble and mortar. Due to difficulties in positioning the machine on the uneven ground beneath the branches of the nearby trees, it was not possible to machine out the deposits in the very centre of the trench, so it was not possible to get an exact relationship between the backfill deposits and the cut of the pit.

8.11 Following the groundworks on the south side of the moat, there was a second stage of backfilling, with dumps of rubbly clay, brick rubble and topsoil reducing the depth of the hollow to 0.7m from the top of the outer bank.

The interior of the moated area

8.12 Beneath layers of modern made-ground, at a depth of between 1.0m to 1.5m bgl, deposits and features of medieval date were identified in two of the three trenches within the moated area (Trenches 1 and 4). A shallow feature in Trench 1, possibly a small ditch or elongated pit, contained two sherds of 11th to 12th-century pottery, burnt flint and daub. Due to the small area exposed in the base of the trench and modern truncation of the feature, it was not possible to determine its full extent or its function. It was sealed by a layer of consistent thickness, probably a buried soil layer, that contained a small assemblage of mid-12th to 13th-century pottery, including part of a jar, and a sizeable assemblage of charred cereal grain.

8.13 The medieval activity in Trench 4 consisted of two successive layers of soil that overlay the boulder clay. Their character and thickness suggests that they are not *in situ* buried soil horizons but are probably associated with large-scale earth moving activity. The upper layer contained seven sherds of mid-12th to mid-14th-century pottery, suggesting that this activity dates to the medieval period. A sizeable

assemblage of charred cereal grain from this deposit indicates grain processing within the site in the medieval period.

8.14 The area of the car park had been subject to multiple phases of levelling and groundworks, most of which appeared to be relatively recent in date, suggesting that the area to the north of the 15th-century house, prior to later early 20th-century development in this area, had been open ground, possibly used as gardens or orchards. The made-ground deposits included large quantities of post-medieval and modern brick and tile, presumably from demolished buildings within or near the moated enclosure. The remains of one such building were encountered in Trench 2, where the northeast corner of a late 19th/early 20th century brick building with concrete foundations survived beneath the surface of the car park.

8.15 This building is not shown on the 1904 Ordnance Survey map of the site, but it appears on a plan of the hall and farm, dated 1952 (Fig. 7). By 1958, map evidence indicates that the building, which would have been located only a few metres from the edge of the former moat, had been demolished, so it is possible that the large-scale groundworks that removed the south side of the moat were undertaken at around this time.

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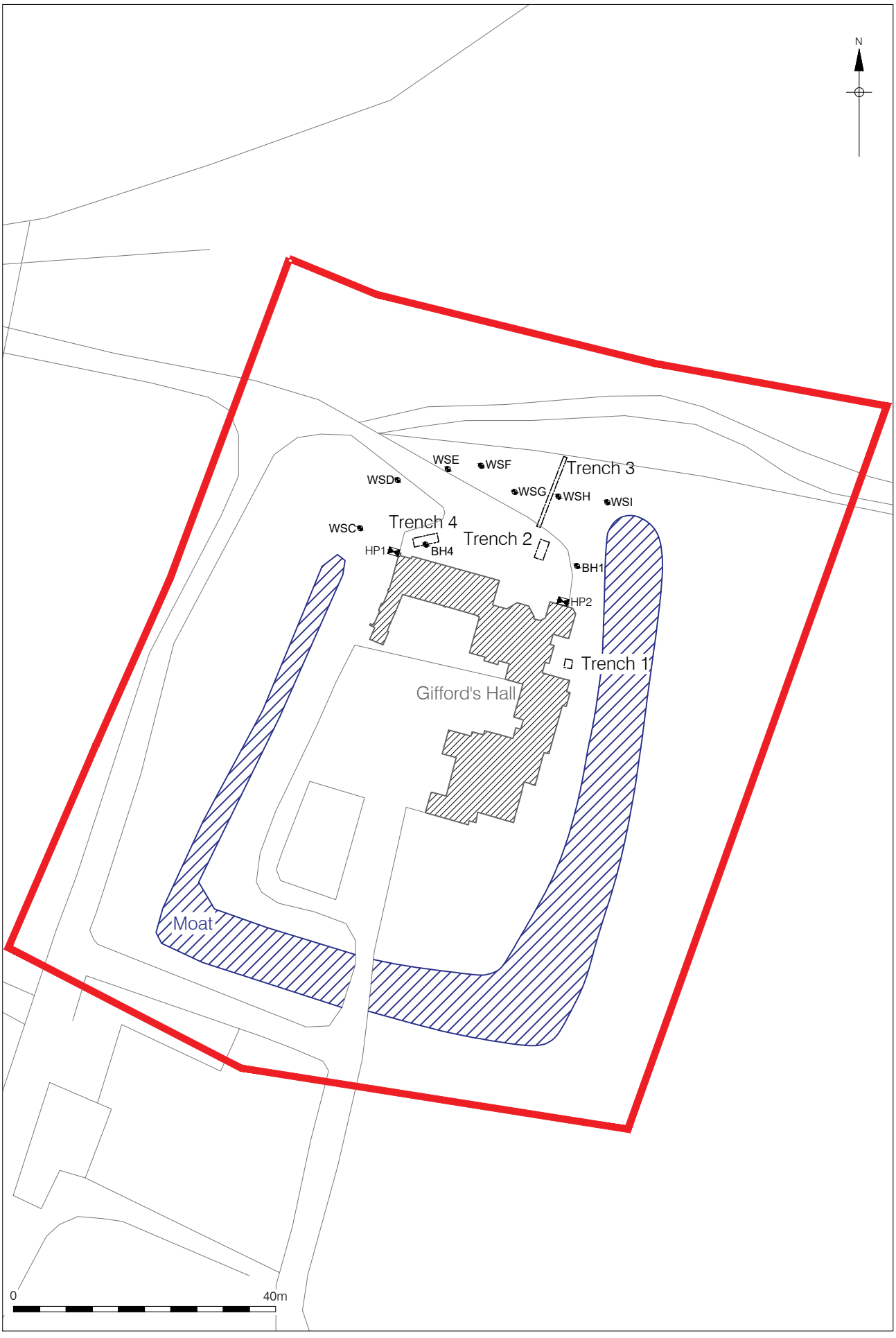
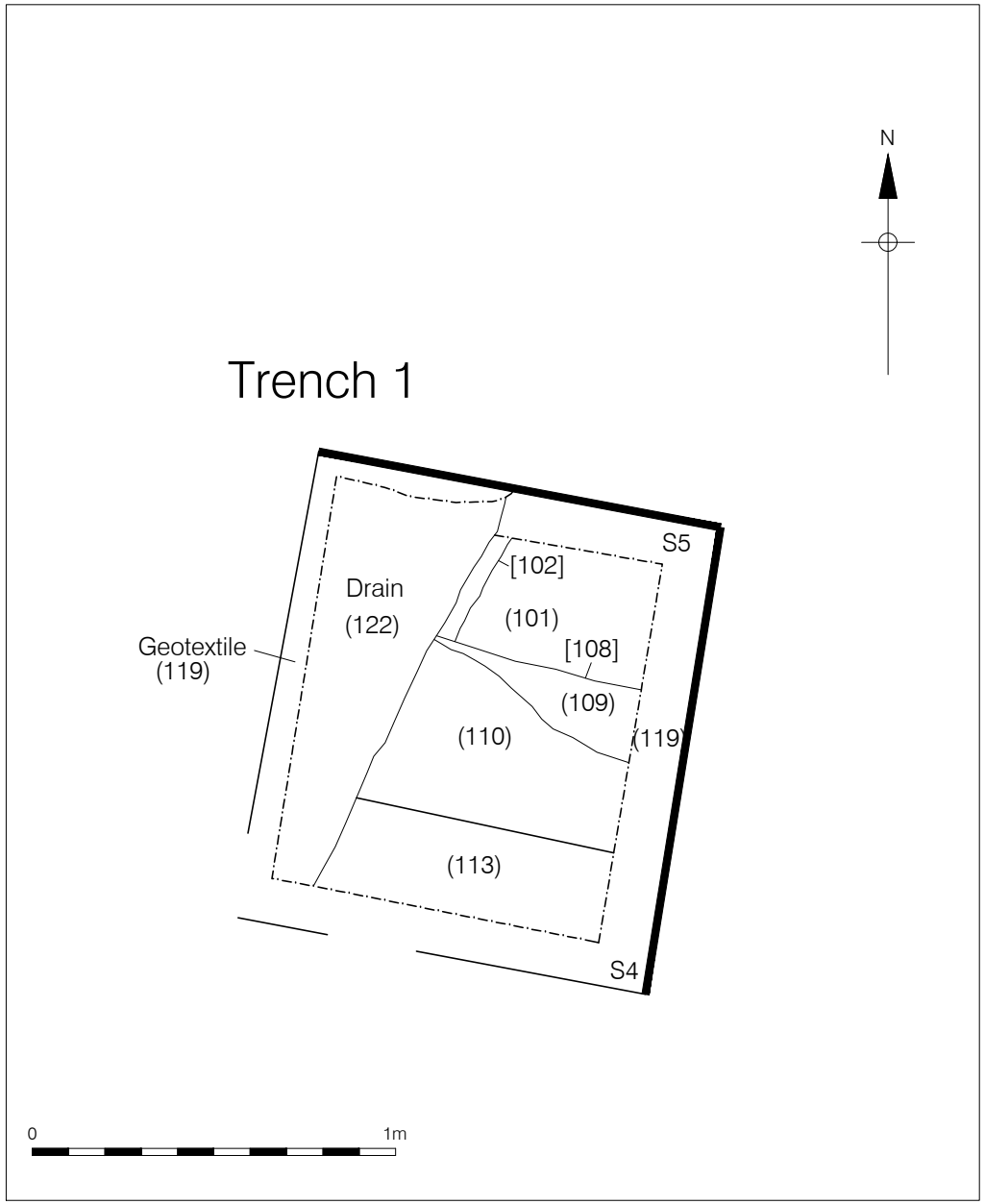
04/05/18 RS

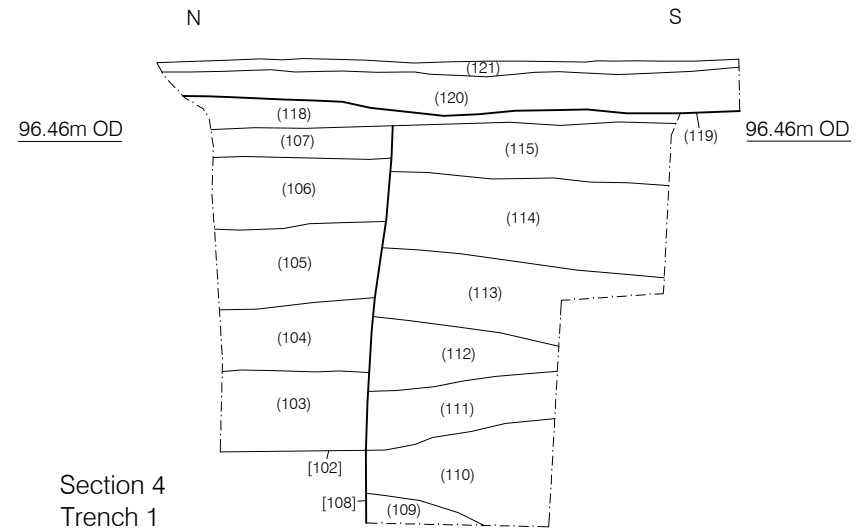
Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:100,000 & 1:20,000 at A4



08/05/18 RS

Figure 2
Trench Location and Borehole and Geotechnical Test Pits
1:800 at A4





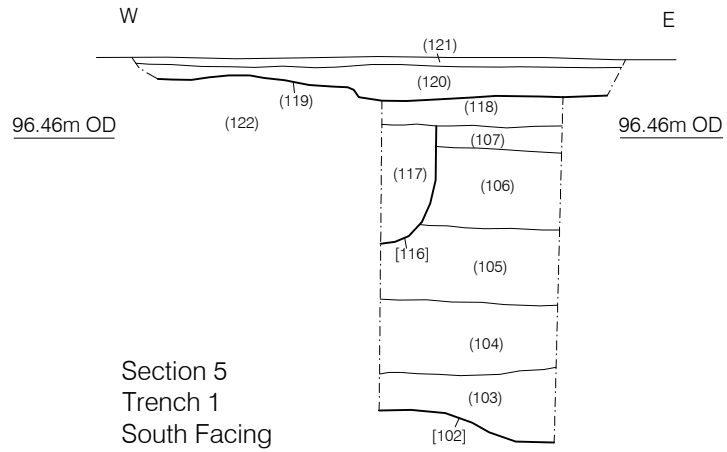


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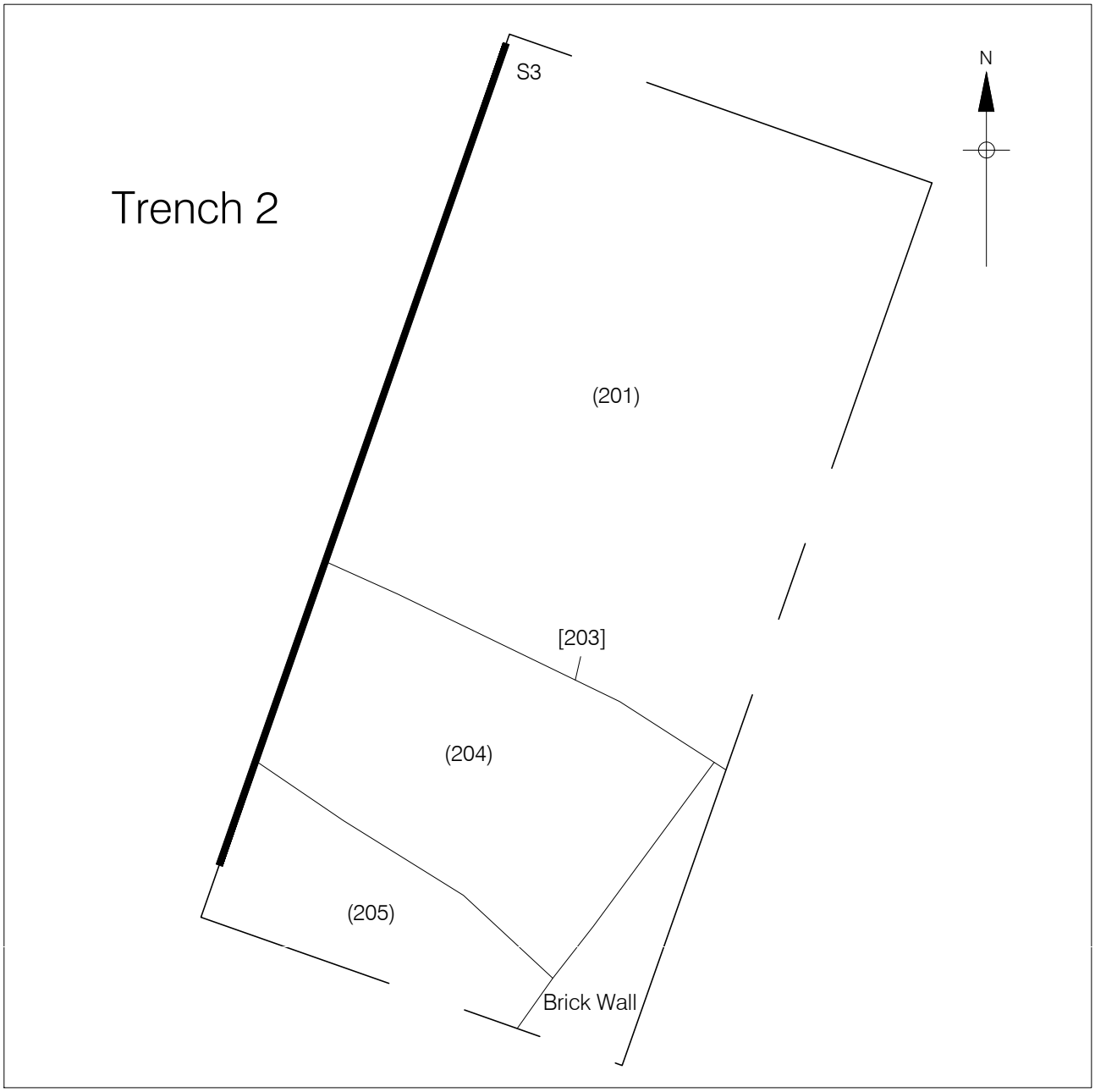
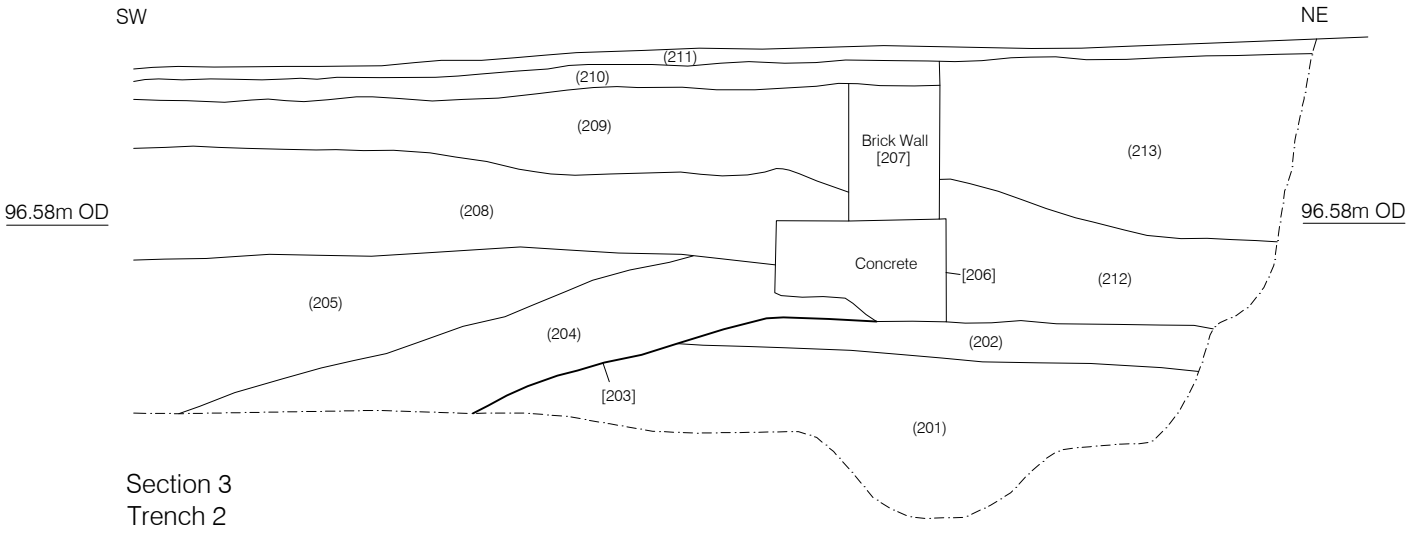
Figure 3
Trench 1 Plan and Sections
Plan 1:20; Sections 1:20 at A4





Section 3
Trench 2
Southeast Facing

0 1m

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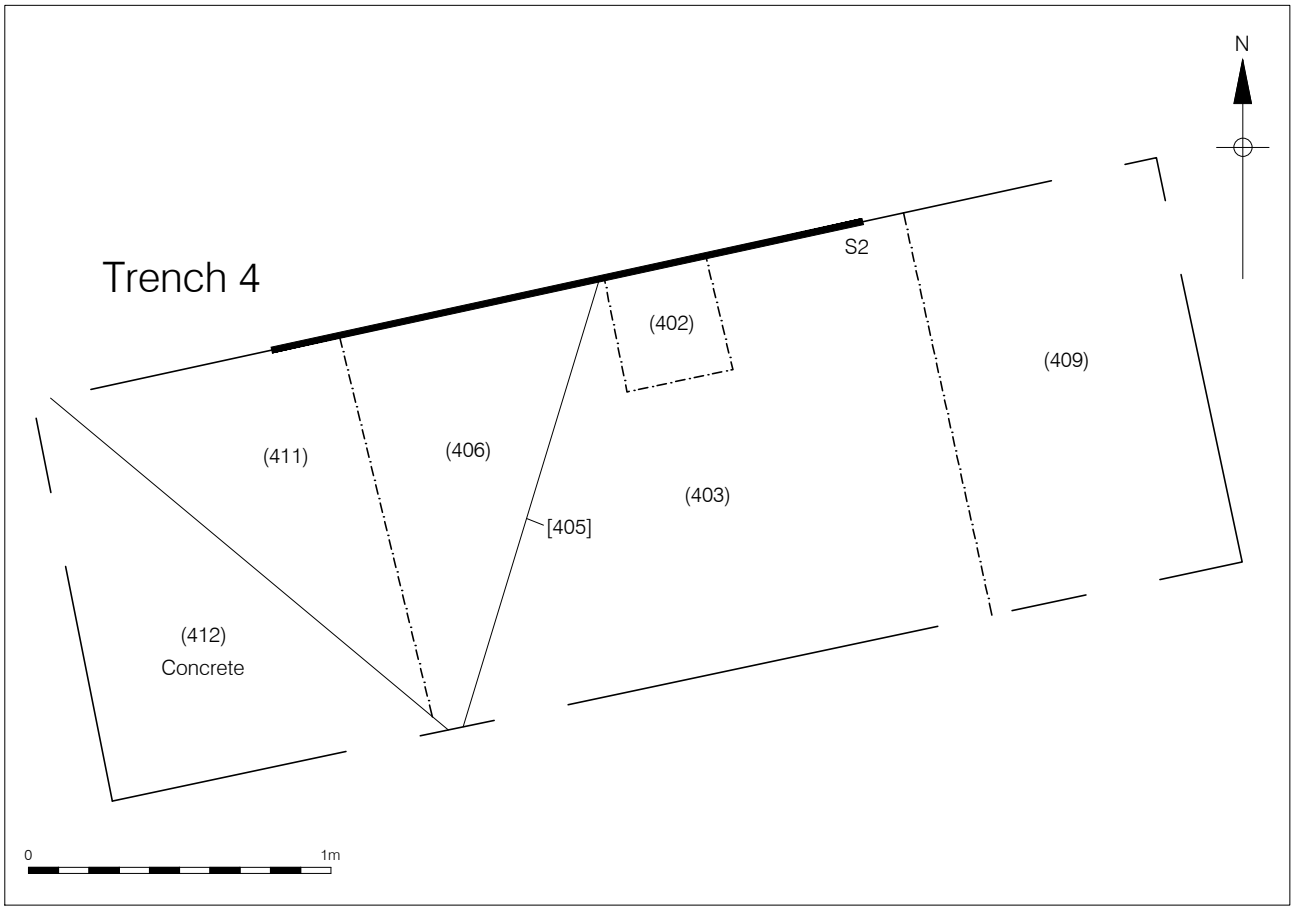
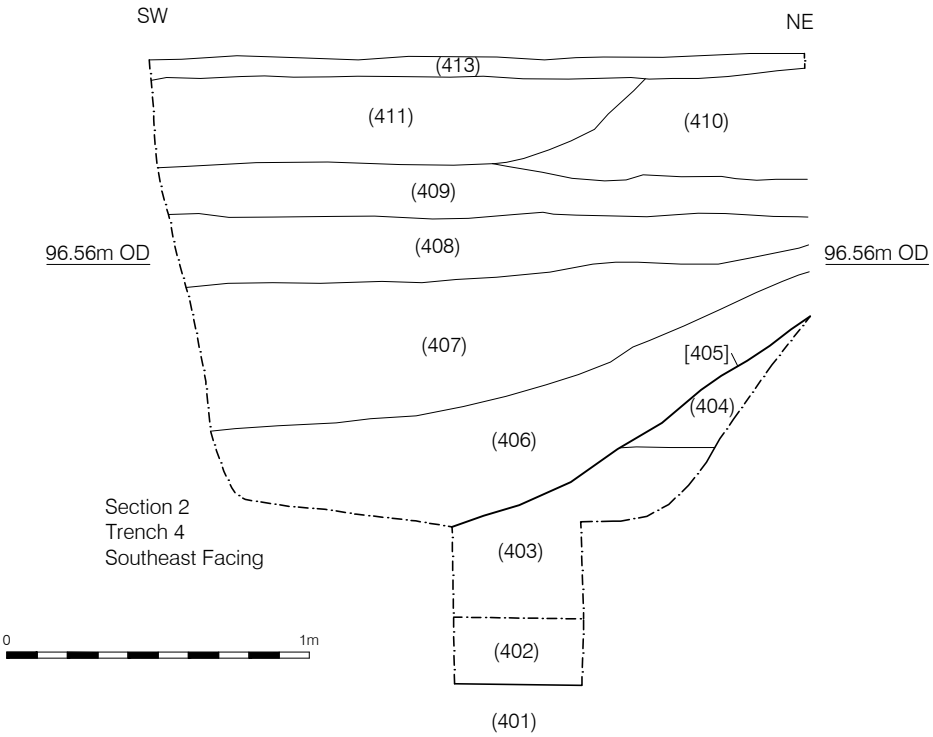
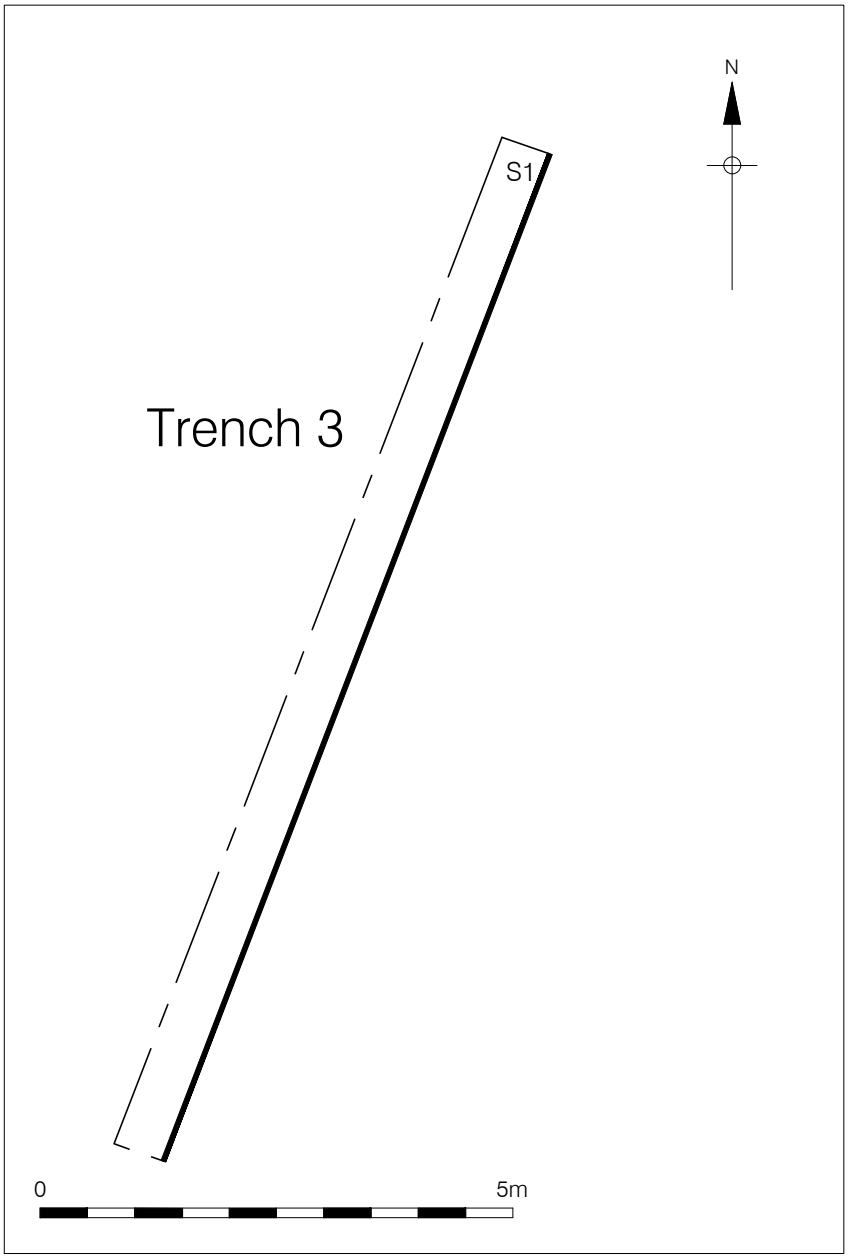
Figure 4
Trench 2 Plan and Section
Plan 1:20; Section 1:20 at A4

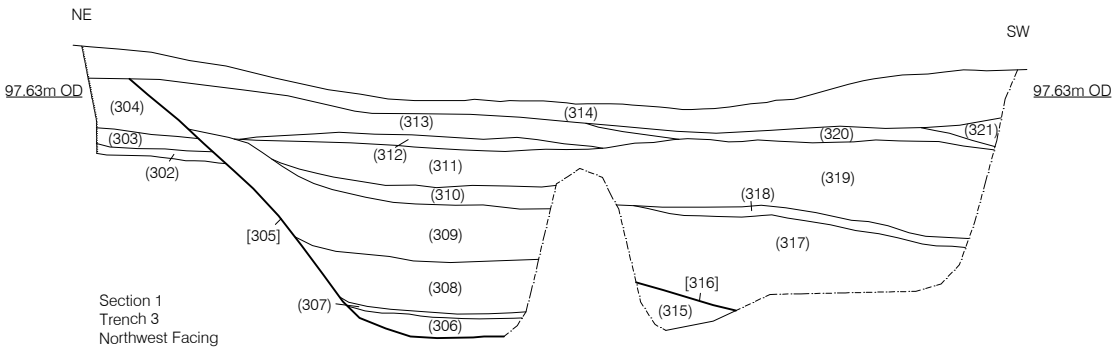




08/05/18 RS

Figure 6
Trench 4 Plan and Section
Plan 1:25; Section 1:25 at A4





08/05/18 RS

Figure 5
Trench 3 Plan and Section
Plan 1:80; Section 1:100 at A4

Plate 1: View of Gifford's Hall from the outer northwest corner of the moat (moat in foreground), looking southwest

Plate 2: Window sampling rig in operation at the west end of the backfilled moat, looking west

Plate 3: Geotechnical test pit HP1, looking northeast (scale 1m)

Plate 4: Geotechnical test pit HP2, looking south (scale 1m)

Plate 5: General view of the backfilled moat (north arm) and car park, looking south

Plate 6: Trench 1, looking east (scale 1m)

Plate 7: Trench 2, looking west (scale 1m)

Plate 8: Trench 3 (through backfilled north arm of moat), looking south

Plate 9: Trench 4, looking northwest (scale 2m)

APPENDIX 1: CONTENTS INDEX

Context No	Cut	Trench	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
101	101	1	Layer	Geology				Firm mid bluish grey clay with occ. chalk pebbles
102	102	1	Cut	Ditch?	0.38	0.47	0.22	Concave base of a possible linear cut, full extent undetermined
103	102	1	Fill	Ditch?			0.22	Soft mid greenish brown clayey silt (cessy?)
104	104	1	Layer	Buried Soil			0.18	Soft dark grey clayey silt with occ. charcoal flecks
105	105	1	Layer	Made Ground			0.21	Firm mid brown silty clay with occ. pebbles
106	106	1	Layer	Made Ground			0.18	Soft mid brownish grey silty clay with occ. brick and tile fragments
107	107	1	Layer	Made Ground			0.08	Soft mid grey silty clay with occ. brick and tile fragments
108	108	1	Cut	Construction cut	0.81	0.77	1.00	Vertical cut, full extent and depth unknown
109	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.06	Soft (wet) dark grey clayey silt
110	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.27	Soft mid bluish grey clay with occ. chalk pebbles and lenses of mid brownish grey clayey silt
111	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.14	Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay withocc. chalk pebbles and lenses of mid brownish grey clayey silt
112	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.18	Soft mid bluish grey clay with occ. chalk pebbles and lenses of mid brownish grey clayey silt
113	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.20	Soft mid greyish brown clayey silt with mod. tile fragments
114	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.22	Soft mid yellowish brown silty clay
115	108	1	Fill	Construction cut			0.15	Soft mid brownish grey silty clay
116	116	1	Cut	Drain	1.56	0.52	0.44	Linear cut, aligned NNE-SSW, U-shaped profile with vertical sides
117	116	1	Fill	Drain			0.31	Soft mid brownish grey silty clay with occ. brick fragments
118	118	1	Layer	Made Ground			0.07	Soft dark grey clayey silt with mod. pebbles
119	119	1	Layer	Surface			0.01	Geotextile membrane
120	120	1	Layer	Surface			0.10	Coarse gravel (similar to Type II stone)
121	121	1	Layer	Surface			0.04	10mm gravel
122	122	1	Fill	Drain			0.10	Concrete capping over drain (pea grit gravel beneath)

Context No	Cut	Trench	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
201	201	2	Layer	Geology			0.44	Hard light grey silty clay with freq. chalk pebbles
202	202	2	Layer	Subsoil			0.11	Soft mid brown silty clay
203	203	2	Cut	Pit	2.00	1.60	0.42	N edge of a large cut feature, full extent and depth unknown
204	203	2	Fill	Pit			0.20	Soft mid brownish grey silty clay with v. occ. pebbles
205	203	2	Fill	Pit			0.41	Firm light yellowish brown silty clay with freq. fine chalk pebbles
206	206	2	Cut	Construction cut	1.60	0.45	0.27	Vertical-sided cut, flat base, aligned E-W
207	207	2	Masonry	Wall	1.60	0.25	0.62	Brick wall, mortar bond, frogged bricks, concrete foundation pad
208	208	2	Layer	Made Ground			0.29	Soft dark brownish grey silty clay with occ. charcoal flecks and pebbles, dump of tile fragments abut 207
209	209	2	Layer	Made Ground			0.24	Loose brick rubble, mortar and soil
210	210	2	Layer	Surface			0.07	Concrete
211	211	2	Layer	Surface			0.03	Tarmac
212	212	2	Layer	Made Ground			0.37	Soft dark grey clayey silt with lenses of ash and charcoal and mod. brick fragments
213	213	2	Layer	Made Ground			0.47	Loose brick rubble, mortar and soil
301	301	3	Fill	Geology			0.17	Hard light greyish blue clay with freq. chalk pebbles
302	302	3	Layer	Subsoil			0.13	Firm mid brown silty clay with occ. chalk pebbles
303	303	3	Layer	Buried Soil			0.21	Soft mid brownish grey clayey silt with occ. charcoal flecks
304	304	3	Layer	Made Ground			0.67	Firm light mid brown clay with mod. fine chalk pebbles
305	305	3	Cut	Ditch		7.10	3.20	N edge of linear cut, aligned E-W, steeply sloping at 45 degrees to a flat base
306	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.26	Stiff dark greyish blue clay with occ. flint pebbles
307	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.05	Soft dark organic grey silt with mod. greenish brown mottles
308	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.71	Firm light brown silty clay with occ. chalk pebbles and decayed tree branches
309	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.72	Soft mid brown silty clay
310	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.29	Firm light brown clay
311	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.49	Soft mid brown silty clay
312	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.14	Soft, friable mid brownish grey organic clayey silt with fragments of brick and occ. to mod. pebbles
313	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.62	Mixed deposit of redeposited boulder clay, topsoil and occ. brick rubble
314	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.21	Soft mid brownish grey organic clayey silt with occ. fine to co. pebbles

Context No	Cut	Trench	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
315	305	3	Fill	Ditch			0.62	Soft mid greenish brown (cessy?) clayey silt with v. occ. charcoal flecks and pebbles
316	316	3	Cut	Unknown	0.80	5.40	2.70	N edge of large cut feature, full extent and depth unknown
317	316	3	Fill	Unknown			1.26	Firm mid brown clay with occ. to mod. chalk pebbles
318	316	3	Fill	Unknown			0.12	Mixed layer of building rubble, soil and mortar, dips to S, peters out to N
319	316	3	Fill	Unknown			1.10	Soft mid brown silty clay with rusted metal scrap and occ. brick fragments
320	320	3	Layer	Made Ground			0.17	Soft mid brownish grey organic clayey silt with occ. pebbles
321	321	3	Layer	Made Ground			0.32	Firm mid brown clay containing modern bricks
401	401	4	Layer	Geology			0.21	Hard dark greyish blue clay with occ-mod chalk pebbles and occ flint nodules
402	402	4	Layer	Made Ground			0.37	Firm mid yellowish grey silty clay with occ charcoal flecks and occ fine-co pebbles
403	403	4	Layer	Made Ground			0.57	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with occ. charcoal flecks and occ. fine to co. pebbles
404	404	4	Layer	Made Ground			0.38	Stiff mid greyish brown silty clay with occ. pebbles
405	405	4	Cut	Pit	1.00	1.80	1.02	N edge of large cut feature, full extent and depth unknown
406	405	4	Fill	Pit			0.38	Firm light yellowish brown clay with v. occ. pebbles
407	405	4	Fill	Pit			0.48	Firm mid greyish blue clay
408	405	4	Layer	Pit			0.22	Soft mid yellowish brown clay
409	409	4	Layer	Made Ground			0.17	Soft dark grey clayey silt with mod. charcoal flecks, occ. brick and tile fragments and occ. fine to co. pebbles
410	410	4	Layer	Made Ground			0.33	Loose brick rubble and soil, dumps of ash and charcoal, tree branches
411	411	4	Layer	Made Ground			0.29	Compacted brick rubble
412	412	4	Layer	Surface			0.15	Concrete
413	413	4	Layer	Surface			0.07	Tarmac

APPENDIX 2: POTTERY CATALOGUE

Table 1: Summarised catalogue and dating of the pottery by context.

SC = sherd count. MNV = Minimum number of vessels. Wg (g) = weight in grams.

Context	Fabric	Form	SC	MNV	Wg (g)	Comments	Date range		Context considered date
Borehole BH1	BSFW	-	1	1	1	Small body sherd, externally sooted.	1170	1400	1170 - 1400
103 (Fill of ditch)	EMW	-	2	2	3	Small body sherds. Grey cores, oxidised/ partially oxidised surfaces. Possibly later?	1000	1300	1000 - 1300
104 Sample 4 (Layer)	STNE	-	1	1	1	Very small sherd.	970	1100	1150 - 1300
	EMW	-	1	1	1	Very small sherd. Possibly later.	1000	1300	
	EMW	Jar	1	1	12	Thickened rim, internal bevel to top and small bead to internal edge. Continuous, slightly spaced light thumb impressions to outer top corner. 12th - 13th c? Brown core, oxidised margins, orange-brown surfaces.	1000	1300	
	MCW2	-	2	1	15	Body sherds. Same vessel?	1150	1400	
	MCW2	-	2	2	10	Body sherds.	1150	1400	
	MCW2	-	1	1	1	Base sherd?	1150	1400	
	MCW3	-	2	1	16	Body sherd. Wheel-thrown. Slight external corrugations. Sooted.	1150	1400	
	BSW	-	1	1	13	Slightly sagging base. Hard. Grey core and surfaces, buff margins.	1170	1400	
	BSW	-	1	1	19	Body sherd. Grey core and grey to brownish grey surfaces.	1170	1400	
113 (Fill of pit)	MCW2	-	1	1	24	Body sherd. Bowl form? Recess/ bottom of neck and knife trimming to other side of sherd perhaps suggesting close to base. Oxidised throughout. Orange to orange-buff	1150	1400	M/L.19th - early 20th century
	TPW	Cup	1	1	1	Mid-blue transfer. Small fragment of rim. Landscape scene.	1780	1900	
	TPW FLOW	Saucer	1	1	6	Stylised floral/ foliate design.	1830	1900	
115 (Fill of pit)	MCW2	-	1	1	5	Body sherd, black core, buff to grey surfaces.	1150	1400	Late 18th - early 20th century
	TPW	Meat dish	1	1	7	Meat/rectangular dish rim. Geometric border.	1780	1900	
312 (Fill of moat)	BONE	Cup	1	1	6	Rim/body sherd. Internal green glaze to majority of body, pale yellow glaze in band to rim. Clear glaze externally. Over-glaze	1794	1900	M/L.19th - early 20th century

						painted gilt floral/ foliate embellishment.			
403 (Made ground)	STNE (from sample 3)	-	1	1	1	Very small body sherd. Bryozoa present.	970	1100	1150 - 1350
	HFW	Jug	1	1	10	Body sherd. Buff body, combed horizontal and diagonal decoration. Speckled clear/green glaze. Fine fabric.	1150	1250	
	MCW1	-	1	1	4	Body sherd. Orange brown core, grey margins and surfaces.	1150	1400	
	MCW2 (from sample 3)	-	3	3	8	Small body sherds.	1150	1400	
	BSW	-	1	1	3	Body sherd. Pale grey core, dark grey surfaces.	1170	1400	

APPENDIX 3: ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1: Assessment of environmental residues

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

Sample No.		**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Context No.		**307**	**315**	**403**	**104**	**103**
Feature No.		**305**	**305**			**102**
Volume of bulk (litres)		6	15	28	29	7
Volume of flot (millilitres)		260	80	20	150	11
Method of processing		F	F	F	F	F
HEAVY RESIDUE						
Charcoal						
Charcoal >4 mm		1		1	3	
Charcoal 2-4 mm		1	1			2
Wood						
Wood >4 mm		3				
Wood 2-4 mm		2				
Charred Grain						
Hordeum sp.	Barley					1
Triticum dicoccum/spelta	Spelt/Emmer wheat				1	1
Triticum durum/aestivum	Naked wheat					1
No ID (specimens too broken/damaged)					1	1
Marine Molluscs						
Mytilus edulis (frags)	Mussel				1	
Ostrea edulis (frags)	Cockle				1	
Bone						
Small animal bone		2		1	4	2
Molluscs						
Cochlicopa lubrica	Terrestrial	1				1
Discus rotundatus	Terrestrial	1		1	1	
Oxychilus sp.	Terrestrial	1		1	1	1
Shell fragments		3			1	
Other artefacts						
CBM		1	1			
Burnt clay				1	4	3
Pottery				1	2	1
Burnt flint					2	

Table 2: Assessment of environmental flots

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

Sample No.		**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Context No.		**307**	**315**	**403**	**104**	**103**
Feature No.		**305**	**305**			**102**
Volume of bulk (litres)		6	15	28	29	7
Volume of flot (millilitres)		260	80	20	150	11
Method of processing		F	F	F	F	F
FLOT RESIDUE						
Charcoal						
Charcoal >4 mm				1	2	
Charcoal 2 - 4 mm		1	1	2	4	1
Charcoal <2 mm		3		4	4	4
Frags. of ID size		X		<5	<5	X
Fragmented wood						
Wood >4 mm						
Wood 2 - 4 mm		3				
Wood <2 mm						
Seeds						
Carex sp.	Sedges	3				
Clinopodium sp.	Calamints	2				
Juncus sp.	Rushes			1	1	
Lamiaceae spp. (undiff.)	Deadnettles			1		
Lamium sp.	Deadnettle				1	
Pinus sp.	Pines				1	
Rapistrum rugosum	Bastard Cabbage	1				
Rubus sp.	Brambles	1				
Sambucus sp.	Elder	2		1	1	
*Sambucus*sp. (broken)	Elder			2		
Solanum sp.	Nightshades	1				
Stachys sp.	Woundworts	3				
Urtica sp.	Nettles	3				
Seed cases (No ID)		2				
Burnt seeds						
cf. *Agrimonia* sp.	Agrimonies				1	
Anthemis sp.	Chamomiles				1	
Asperula arvensis	Blue Woodruff				1	
cf. *Avena fatua*	Wild-oat				1	
Bromus sp.	Brome				1	
Carex sp.	Sedges				1	
Fabaceae spp. (indet)	Peas			1	2	1
Medicago/Melilotus sp.	Medicks/Melilots			1	1	
Poaceae sp. (large)	Grasses			2	3	
Rumex sp.	Docks			1	1	
Broken/Distorted					3	
Cereals						
Triticum dicoccum/spelta	Spelt/Emmer wheat			1	2	
Triticum durum/aestivum	Naked wheat			2	4	1
Broken/Distorted (No ID)				1	4	1

Sample No.		**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Context No.		**307**	**315**	**403**	**104**	**103**
Feature No.		**305**	**305**			**102**
Other plant macrofossils						
Fragmented plant matter		4		1	1	
Woody stems/twigs		3				
Roots/tubers		4	4		1	2
Calluna vulgaris (leaf frag.)					1	
Molluscs						
Carychium sp	Terrestrial	3		1		1
Cecilioides acicula	Terrestrial				1	
Clausilia sp.	Terrestrial			1		
cochlicopa lubrica	Terrestrial				1	1
Discus rotundatus	Terrestrial	3		3	1	1
Oxychilus sp.	Terrestrial	2		2	1	
Trichia sp.	Terrestrial	1	1	1		
Vallonia sp.	Terrestrial	2	2	1	1	
Vertigo sp.	Terrestrial	1	1	1		
Vitrea sp.	Terrestrial	2		1	1	
Juveniles (no ID)			1	3	2	
Bone						
Small animal bone		1			1	
Bone fragments					3	
Other remains						
Slag			1		3	1
Vitreous material				2	3	2
Coal			1	1	4	1

APPENDIX 4: OASIS

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: preconst1-306521

Project details

Project name	Gifford's Hall, Wickhambrook
Short description of the project	The first stage of the investigation was a watching brief, carried out during geotechnical works at the site in March 2018. The second stage was undertaken in April 2018 and consisted of the excavation of four trial trenches, located in areas that will be impacted by the proposed development. Within the moated enclosure, in the area of the car park to the north of the house and in a graveled area to the east, medieval remains were reveled beneath layers of post-medieval and modern made-ground, at a depth of between 1.0m and 1.5m below ground level. The nature of the remains, which largely date to the mid-12th to 14th centuries, is uncertain, but they include a possible ditch or pit, a buried soil layer and two thick deposits of soil that may be associated with earth-moving activity during this period. It was demonstrated that the northern arm of the moat, which was backfilled in the early 1900s, had largely been cleaned out prior to it being backfilled with dumps of clay, soil and brick rubble. The north side of the moat was intact, excavation revealing its outer bank overlying vestiges of the former subsoil and topsoil horizons, but the south side had been extensively truncated by modern groundworks. The latter may have been associated with the demolition and post-demolition groundworks of a brick building that once occupied the east end of the car park. Map evidence suggests that this building was built after 1904 but had been demolished by 1958.
Project dates	Start: 14-03-2018 End: 18-04-2018
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	306521 - OASIS form ID
Any associated project reference codes	WKB051 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	MOATED HOUSE Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
	"Sample Trenches"

Methods & techniques	
Development type	Not recorded
Prompt	Listed Building Consent
Prompt	NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY WICKHAMBROOK Gifford's Hall
Postcode	CB8 8PQ
Study area	0.2 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 7708 5384 52.153938695577 0.58879870981 52 09 14 N 000 35 19 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 95m Max: 97m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council’s Archaeological Officer
Project design originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project director/manager	Simon Carlyle
Project supervisor	Simon Carlyle
Type of sponsor/funding body	Private Client

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Physical Archive ID	WKB051
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Paper Contents	"none"

Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation and Watching Brief at Gifford's Hall, Wickhambrook, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Carlyle, S
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Place of issue or publication	Cambridge
Description	Bound paper copy and CD-ROM

Entered by	Simon Carlyle (scarlyle@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	24 July 2018

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