

Continuous Archaeological Recording on Land at Gulling Green Brockley Suffolk IP29 4AG



Grid reference: TL 827 563
Planning Application No: SE/11/1152
Oasis No: 120628
HER No: BKY 026

Prepared for

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Summary

This is a report for archaeological continuous archaeological recording in advance of the extension of the moat at Gulling Green. It has been written in response to an archaeological brief written by Sarah Poppy of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services Conservation Team, dated the 5th of October 2011.

Monitoring of the ground-works took place between the 12th and the 15th of March 2012, during which no archaeology was encountered.

1. Introduction

Planning permission (No: SE/11/1152) was granted by St Edmundsbury District Council for the extension to the existing moat on land at Gulling Green, Brockley, Suffolk.

The planning permission was granted, conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage asset before it is damaged or destroyed. This is in accordance with National Planning Policy Statement 5 (policy 12.3).

This application lies in an area of known archaeological importance recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, on the site of a medieval moat and farmstead (HER ref BKY 002). Evaluation in 2008 revealed that the existing moat was never a complete, discrete circuit but extended from a field boundary to create a moated enclosure. Monitoring in 2010 within the moat identified evidence of both medieval and post-medieval activity, and a small medieval finds assemblage of 12th-14th century pottery was collected (HER ref BKY 022). There is a high probability therefore that the remainder of the moat platform contains archaeological deposits relating to the past occupation and development of the site.



Figure 1. Gulling Green, Brockley Location

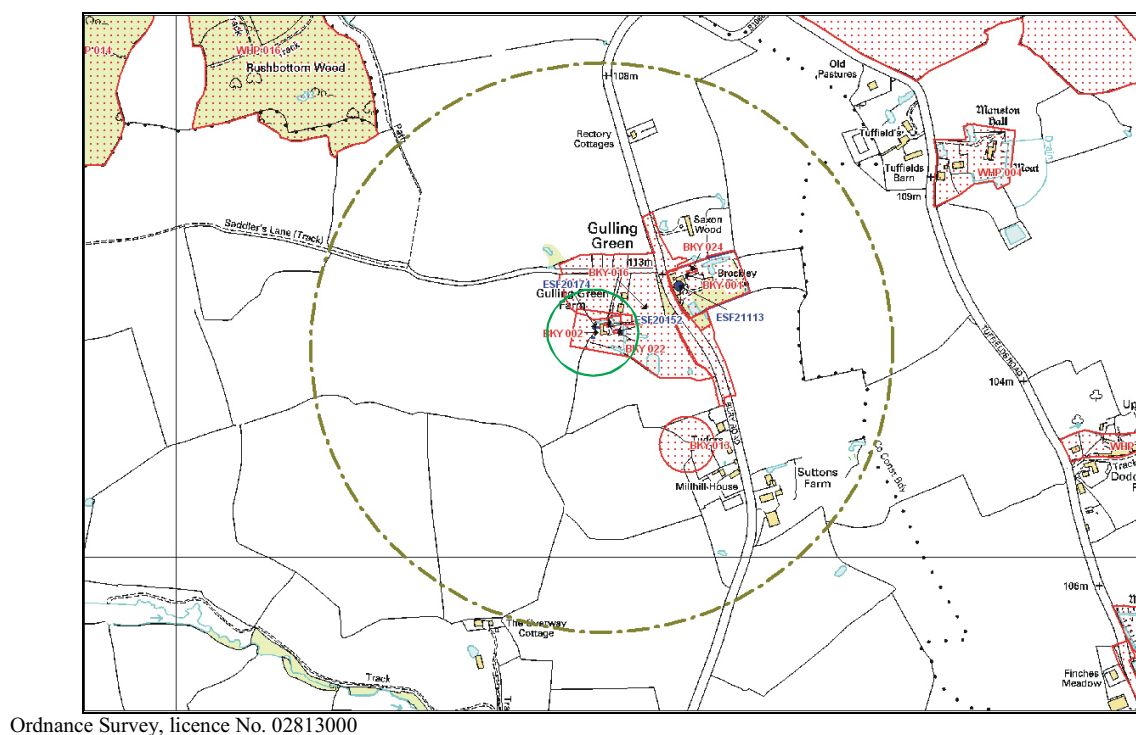


Figure 2. Site Location

2. Site Location and Geology

Grid Reference: TL 827 563

The site is situated at TL 8278 5640 and lies some 1.5km to the north of the main village of Brockley at a height of c.110m, atop a ridge of high ground overlooking the Chad Brook some 700m to the south.

Gulling Green Barn is a partially moated site, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record as BKY 002, surrounding a set of 18th century barns. The site lies on the southern edge of a medieval green and is one of several moated Halls or farmsteads in the vicinity, lying between the settlements of Brockley and Whepstead.

The site geology is of clayey soils over chalky till (BGS, 189).

Map Information

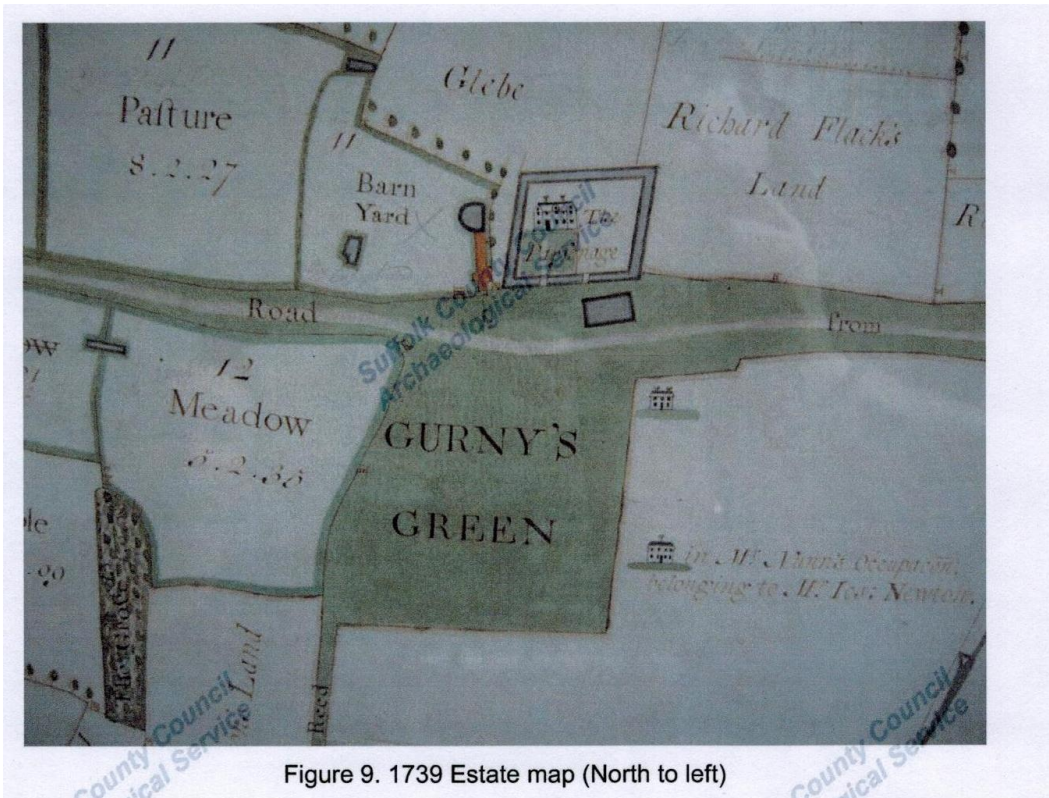


Figure 9. 1739 Estate map (North to left)

Figure 3. Estate map of 1739 showing Gullings Green as Gurny's Green.

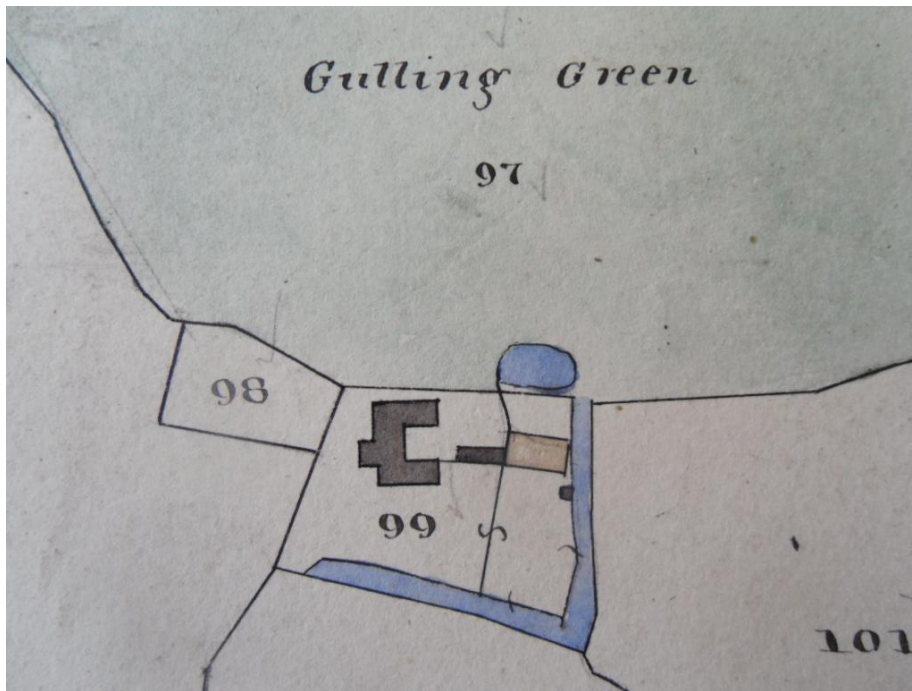


Figure 4. The Tithe map of Gulling Green, dated 1845

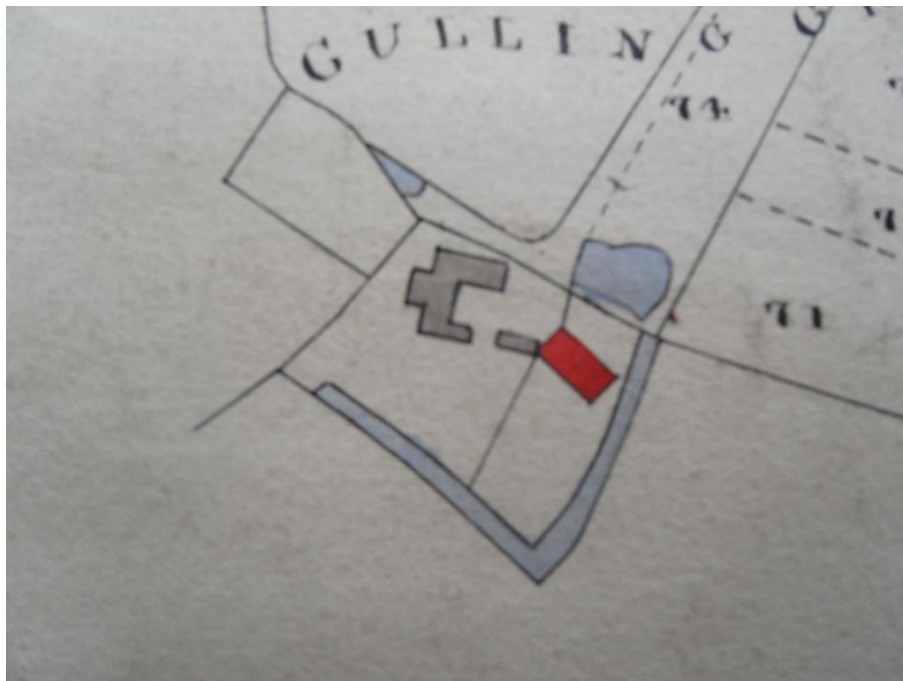


Figure 5. The Enclosure map of Gulling Green, dated 1850

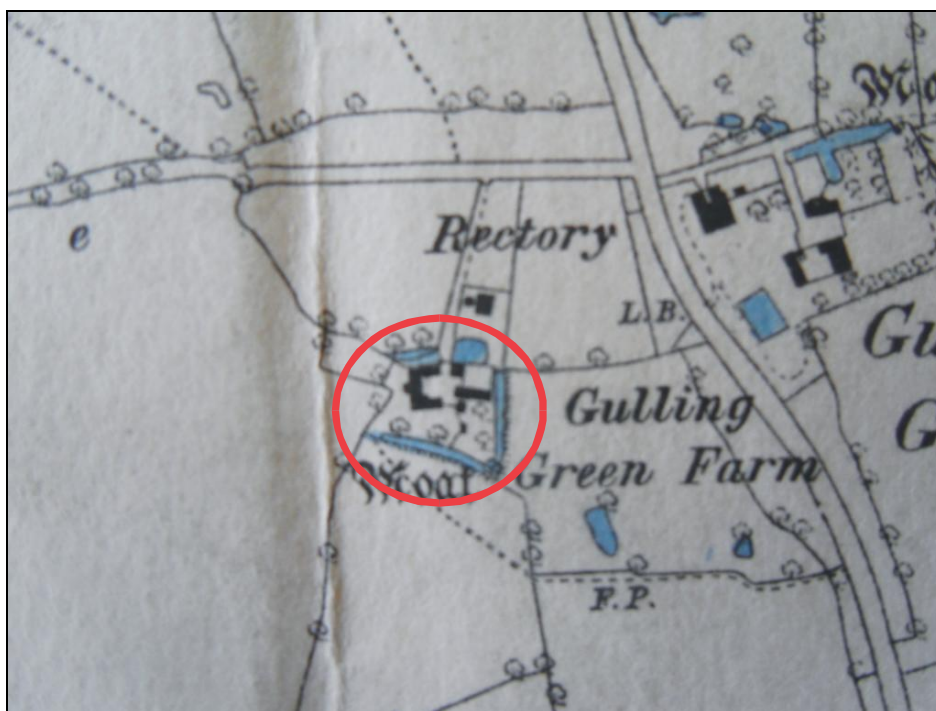


Figure 6. The ordnance Survey of Gulling Green, dated 1889, site highlighted

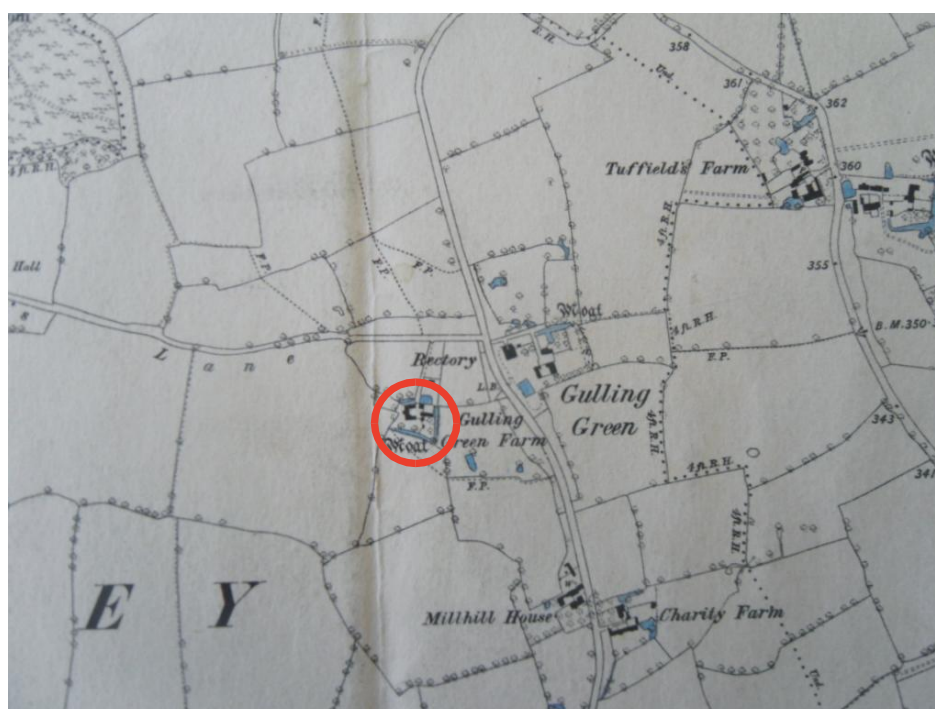


Figure 7. Ordnance Survey of Gulling Green, dated 1904

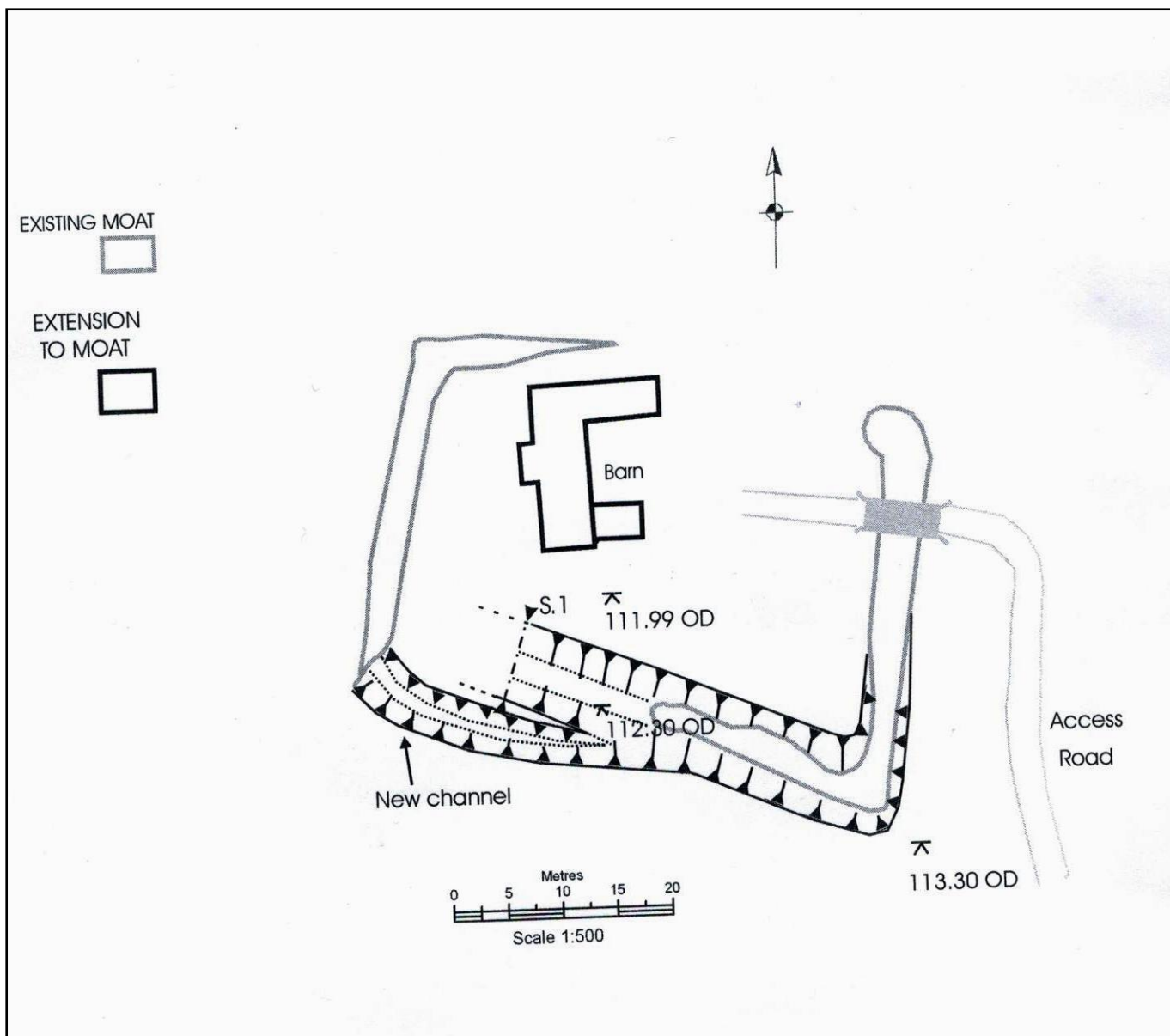


Figure 8. Post-excavation plan showing existing moat and new channel

3. Methodology

Fieldwork

A plan of the trench was drawn to a scale of 1:50; sections were drawn to a scale of 1:20.

A metal detector survey was carried out at all stages of the project.

A full photographic archive was produced consisting of colour slide, monochrome print and digital at 10 million pixels resolution, and will form part of the site record to be curated at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

Relative site levels were taken from a TBM on the road adjacent the site; the section was recorded at 27.49 OD; the base of the trench at 27.24 OD and the top of the trench at 27.80 OD.

4. Results

Excavation of the moat was carried out by mechanical digger. All parts of the excavation were inspected. No archaeology was located within any part of the moat extension except the original moat, this was back-filled by the County Council roads department whilst working on the road adjacent to the site in 2007, no further information was available from the owner, Geoffrey Baber. No finds were found from metal detecting or from inspection of the up-cast soils.

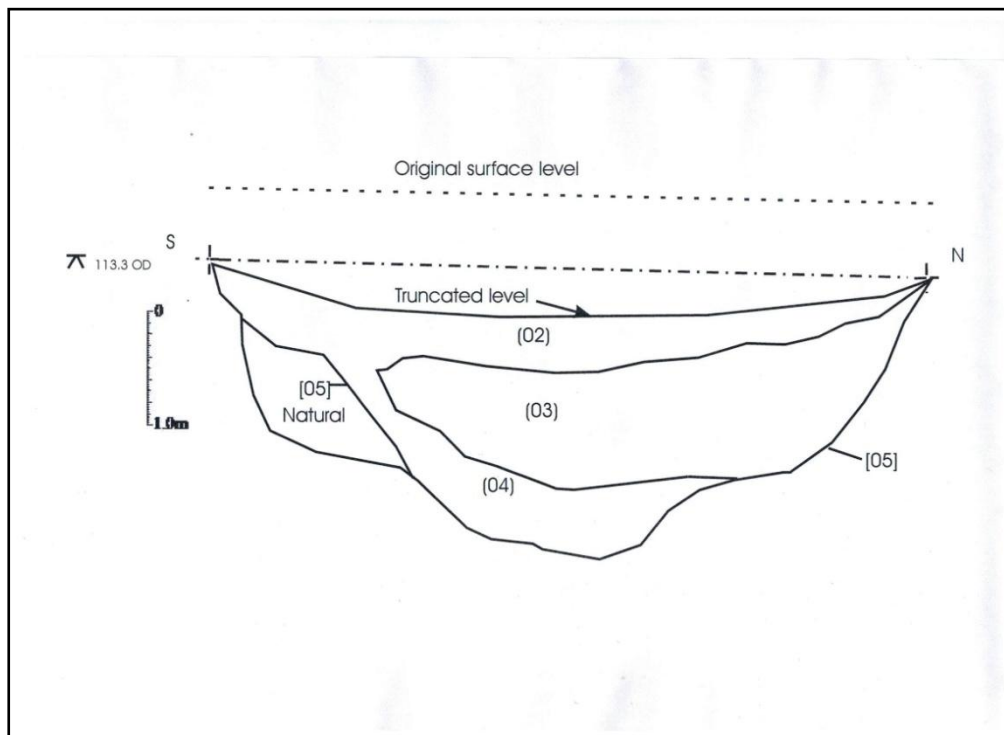


Figure 9. Section of original moat

A new channel for the moat was cut away from the original alignment, see (fig 8.). A new section (S.1) was requested to observe the profile of the original moat. This was carried out by mechanical digger due to its

size, which was recorded by a scaled drawing (fig 9.) and photographs. This section of the moat revealed the backfilling carried out by the council a few years ago and was therefore all of modern date.

5. Contexts

Contest (01) was the top soil; (02) a modern back-fill consisting of a dark greyish-brown silty soil; (03) consisted of a re-deposited natural of yellowish-brown sandy clay; (04) consisted of a blackish-grey silty clay with modern brick fragments;[05] was the cut of the moat

6. Discussion

In spite of the location of the moat, being part of a medieval farmstead or domestic dwelling, no archaeology was encountered.

Continuous archaeological recording has shown that no archaeology was compromised during the excavation of moat extension. No further work is recommended for this site.

7. Post Excavation

Site plans and sections were digitized to archive standard, reduced versions of which are included in this report.

The author would like to thank Mr Geoffrey Baber who commissioned and funded the archaeological work.

This report for archaeological evaluation was written by Dennis Payne Archaeoserv (DPAS), who also managed the project and carried out the field-work.

Bibliography

British Geological Survey. 1990 Bury St Edmunds, 189

ONLINE REFERENCES

PastScapes <http://www.pastscape.org/homepage/index.htm>

Photographs



Plate 1. Pre excavation of site from the east



Plate 2. Section of original moat from the east (S.1)



Plate 3. View of moat from the east from the south



Plate 4. General view of the existing moat from the west



Plate 5. Cutting the new channel from the east



Plate 6. The cut of the original moat, seen obliquely in the new cutting



Plate 7. General view of moat from the west

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