Report BAU2671

nps archaeology

Archaeological Excavation at Jolly Sailor Yard, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk

Assessment Report and Updated Project Design

ENF 126681

Prepared for
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BAU2671

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Location:	Jolly Sailor Yard, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk
District:	North Norfolk District Council
Planning ref.:	09/1107
Grid Ref.:	TG 9194 4371
HER No.:	ENF 126681
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Client:	Mr and Mrs J Needham
Dates of Fieldwork:	13-21 June 2011

Summary

An archaeological excavation was conducted by NPS Archaeology for Mr and Mrs J Needham in advance of construction work at Jolly Sailor Yard, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk. Previous evaluation at the site established that sub-surface remains of building of possible 17th- or 18th-century date were present at the site. The resulting excavation covered an area of approximately 170m^2.

The excavation revealed further remains of this building at the site's northern end. It was apparent that this building had been altered over the course of its use by the addition of new floors and a wall. In places its construction had cut into the underlying chalk bedrock, so that the building's earliest floor incorporated and consisted of this chalk. In a later alteration a tiled surface within what is thought to be a scullery was laid down. The walls of the building were built from clunch and lime mortar, some of this material having been robbed out and perhaps incorporated within the site's boundary wall.

Documentary sources supported by the excavated evidence would seem to suggest that the building remains encountered at this site might be those of the Jolly Sailor Public house itself, built in 1720 and demolished in 1807. A tithe map of 1843 shows no buildings on the plot and apart from some use as a boat yard it appears not to have been occupied since perhaps the early 19th century.

This report provides an assessment of the findings of the excavation and presents a programme for further analysis including publication.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The archaeological excavation examined an area of approximately 170m^2 set within a walled plot of land at Jolly Sailor Yard, Wells-next-the-Sea (Fig. 1) and was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition set by North Norfolk District Council (Ref. 09/1107) and a brief issued by the Norfolk Historic Environment Service NHES (Ref. CNF 42965). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NPS Archaeology (Ref. NPSA/BAU2671/NP).

The fieldwork and report were commissioned and funded by Mr and Mrs J Needham.

The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the redevelopment area, in

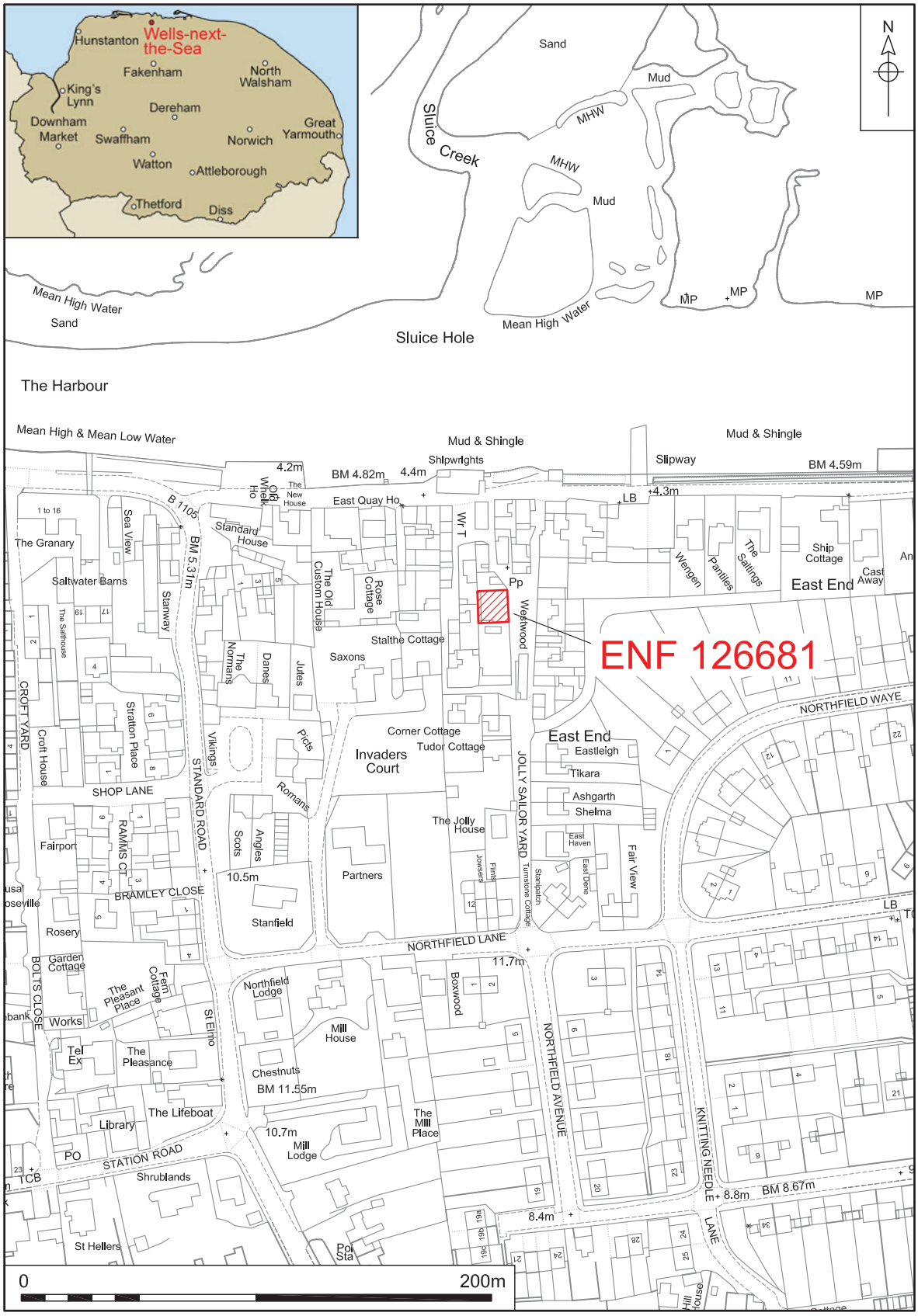


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:2500

accordance with principles set out in Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010).

The site archive is currently held by NPS Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service (NMAS), following the relevant policies on archiving standards.

2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site lies between the 10m and 5m contours with a gentle slope down from south to north, also appearing to slope down to the north-west.

The solid geology in this part of Norfolk comprises Upper Chalk (British Geological Survey 1985) overlain by sandy fluvio-glacial drift (Lawes Agricultural Trust 1973). Undisturbed geological deposits at the site consisted of chalk with occasional pockets of medium-grained red brown sand frequently mixed with small chalk fragments.

Site survey was undertaken using a Temporary Bench Mark with a value of 6.94m OD transferred from an origin of 4.30m OD located near the Slipway on the Quay.

The site is located towards the east end of the historic core of Wells-next-the-Sea, some 50m south from the harbour wall.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Comparatively little archaeological work has been undertaken within Wells-next-the-Sea. Archaeological evaluations have taken place on Church Street (Wallis 1999) where nothing of interest was found and at Standard Road (Trimble 2002) where an undated ditch was revealed. More significantly, evaluation and subsequent excavation at Staithe Street (Robertson 2005, Watkins 2005) some 330m to the south-west of the current excavation site recorded a pit of Iron Age date and two Roman ditches; the first features of these periods to be identified in the town. Of particular interest was the presence of briquetage (fired clay) within the Iron Age pit, suggesting salt production might have occurred nearby. Other finds of Roman material including greyware pottery have been recovered from uncontrolled interventions and chance finds in the town (NHER sites 1849 and 18177).

Wells-next-the-Sea was probably well-established by the Late Saxon period, with the Domesday book (Brown 1984) recording it as being divided into the ownership of six manors. Settlement of the town has been inextricably linked to its coastal location, with Wells probably developing initially as a small fishing village. From the late medieval period the town developed northwards from an earlier focus around the church of St Nicholas, with a formal gridded street pattern being set out in an area north of The Buttlands.

The granting of a charter to the wealthy fenland abbey of Ramsey to expand the port for grain export in the early 13th century probably underpinned the development of the planned town, and the establishment of a market in 1202 (Dymond 2005) must have also stimulated the town's medieval growth.

In the post-medieval period Wells continued to benefit from its traditional use as a port. Fishing remains an important though diminished sector within its economy, whilst the malting industry that flourished in the 19th century has disappeared

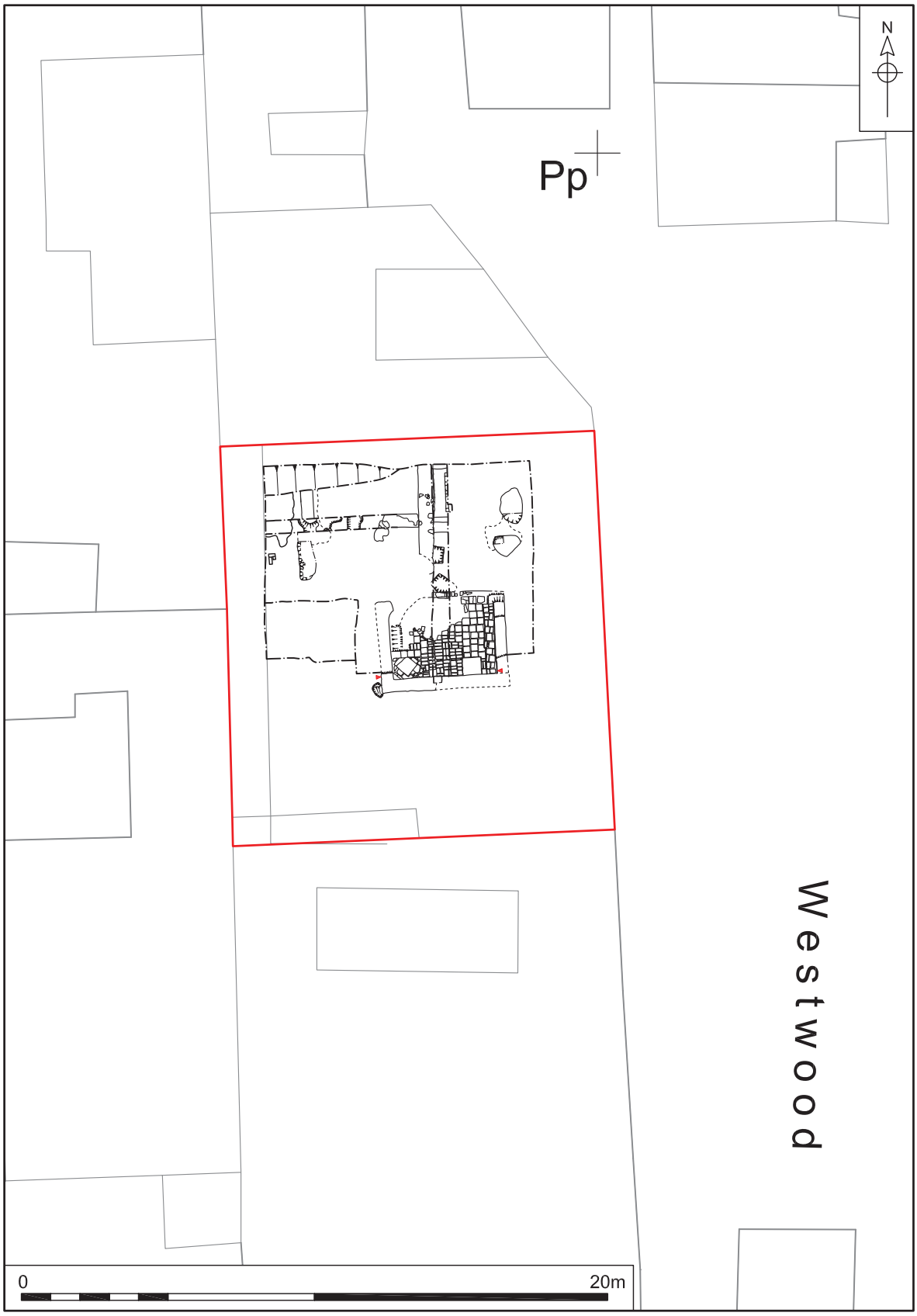


Figure 2. Excavated area. Scale 1:200

entirely. Tourism is now of major importance and the decision to base the support centre for the Sheringham Shoal off-shore wind farm has placed the port back at the centre of the town's economy.

An evaluation of the current site in the autumn of 2010 (Adams 2010) examined a single trench of 3m by 3m in plan located within the footprint of the proposed build. This recorded what appeared to be part of a robbed-out structure comprising the angle of two walls and an associated pamment tile floor. Reference to the available maps of the area indicated the plot appeared to have been open from the late 19th century, suggesting that this structure pre-dated this date.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

The objective of excavation is to recover as much information as possible on the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status, significance and the nature of social, economic and industrial activities on the site. The Brief required that the excavation examine the area of the 'footprint' of the proposed building on the site (Fig. 2).

Machine excavation was carried out with a hydraulic 360˚ excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds other than those which were obviously modern were retained for inspection. A total of four soil samples were taken during the course of the excavation (Samples <1>, <2>, <3> and <4>) to enhance the recovery of small faunal remains, in particular of birds and fish.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NPS Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.

As the majority of the archaeological remains described below coincided in height with the construction formation level these remains have at least partially survived *in situ* below the new building. Two foundation trenches for the new building (A and B) were hand excavated by the archaeological team.

Period resource assessments set out in the document Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000) pose specific research questions for periods ranging from the palaeolithic to the modern period. One of the key regional research questions is the pattern and character of coastal settlement and because of its location the proposed development site may contain significant information that will help to address that question. The aims of the archaeological work may therefore be summarised as follows:

i. To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the area.
ii. To determine the extent, condition, nature, quality and date of any archaeological remains occurring within the area.
iii. Ensure that any archaeological features discovered are identified, sampled and recorded.

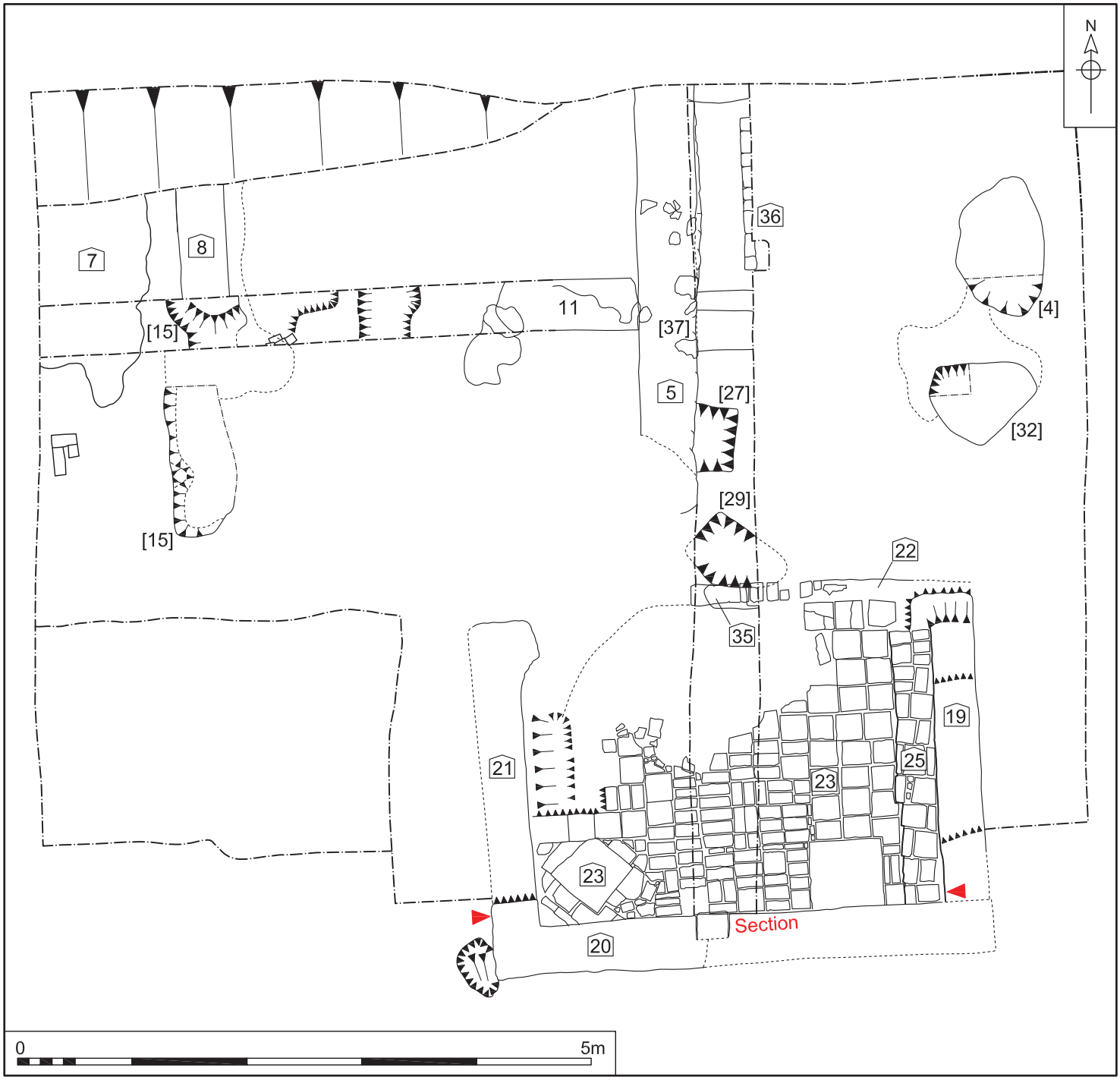
iv. *To establish, as far as possible, the extent, character, stratigraphic sequence and date of archaeological features and deposits, and the nature of the activities which occurred at the site during the various periods or phases of its occupation.*
v. *To establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of subsurface deposits by ensuring that any deposits with the potential to yield palaeoenvironmental data are sampled and submitted for assessment to the appropriate specialists.*
vi. *To explore evidence for social, economic and industrial activity.*
vii. *To produce an assessment report and updated project design.*

Site access was constricted and space for storage of spoil was extremely limited which slowed the mechanical excavation of the site and adversely impacted on the proposed excavation programme.

Post Excavation

Artefacts recovered from the site have been processed and examined by the relevant specialists whose reports are presented in 6.0 Finds with supporting appendices at the back of the report.

A stratigraphic matrix of the contexts allocated at the site has been generated using a Harris Matrix Composer with provisional Groups, Phases and Periods and assigned to the archaeological events and activity at the site.



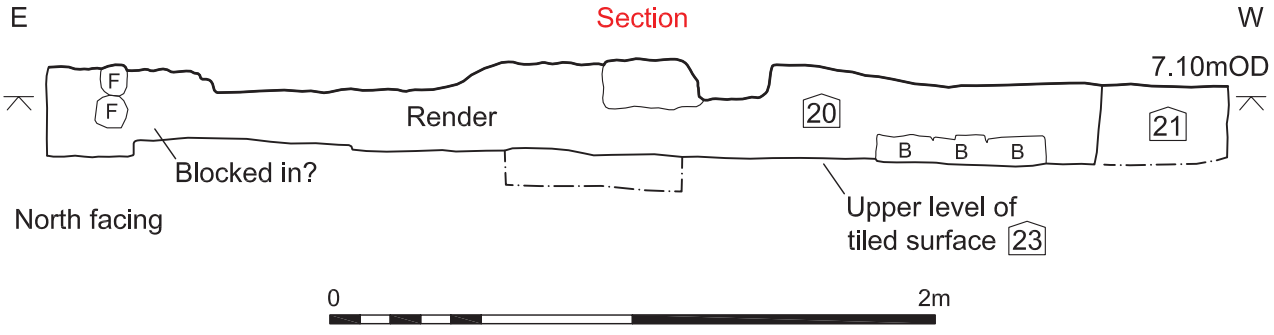


Figure 3. Plan of Excavated Features and North facing section.
Scale 1:50 and 1:25

5.0 RESULTS

Undisturbed geological deposits comprising solid chalk and pockets of red brown sand and chalk were exposed across the site. An area of pale yellow silt or silt clay present in the west of the site was initially thought to be a floor, but was subsequently demonstrated to be a geological deposit.

All the archaeological remains recorded during the excavation have been interpreted as post-medieval or later in date. The structural remains of a building revealed at the site are considered to be of a single building altered over time (Fig. 3). The construction, occupation and destruction of this building (Period 1) has been separated into three phases (Phases 1, 2 and 3). Phases 1 and 2 identify the earliest use of the building with alterations over time, with Phase 3 representing the disuse and demolition of the building.

5.1 Archive Content

The full site archive incorporates material generated during the evaluation stage (BAU2517, ENF125355) and the excavation (BAU2671 ENF126681). The quantifications of the excavation archive only are presented here.

Archive element	**Quantity**	
Context Sheet	38	
Primary site drawing	Plans	5 sheets
	Sections	1 sheet
Black and white photographs	44	

5.2 Periods and phases used in the report

Period 1 18th century to 1806

Period 1 Phase 1 The earliest building layout.

Period 2 Phase 2 Addition of wall and pamment flooring

Period 3 Phase 3 Destruction

Period 2 1807 to modern

5.3 Stratigraphic descriptions

Period 1 Phase 1 The earliest building layout

Group 1 Contexts [9] [11] [38]

Group 2 Contexts [22] [35] [36]

In the north-east of the site a floor had been formed by the removal of overlying material which exposed the underlying chalk; this truncated level then served as a floor. Slight variations in its level appeared to have been filled with crushed chalk, though it was not possible to identify these deposits with certainty as they so closely matched the underlying geology. The earliest floor identified at the site, [38], consisted therefore of this truncation horizon on which a spread of ash/clay

[11] had accumulated, and through which the underlying chalk rose in places, making this a discontinuous layer. It proved difficult to define the limits for this floor as where the ash was absent it could not be distinguished from the underlying chalk. An area of clay present in context [11] was interpreted as a possible repair or addition to this original surface and was recorded and sampled (Sample <3>). A patch [9] (not illustrated) of burning on this clay had no associated structure. Covering an area of *c*.0.38m by 0.30m, it was a result of heating taking place on this surface, perhaps a small hearth for instance and a sample (<2>) was taken of this deposit. A further area of *in situ* burning was present close to [9] on surface [11].

Two structural features associated with the earliest building phase were recorded. In the southern half of the site was a single course of bricks [35] laid side by side and bedded on a thin lime mortar pad that was directly set on top of chalk bedrock. Interpreted as a threshold, these bricks measured 0.18m in length by 0.10m in width with a rubbed upper edge at their north ends. This run of brick measured 1.10m in length, with the remainder of this feature present to the east of these bricks as a flint and mortar wall [22] (not illustrated). These bricks were clearly overlain by the bedding for a tiled surface of Phase 2.

A brick structure [36] present in the north of the site was aligned approximately east west and measured 1.30m in length. These bricks were identical to those of feature [35] though lacking the rubbed upper edge. These were set end to end in a single stretcher course on a thin mortar bed directly onto the underlying chalk. A later (Phase 2) floor sealed these bricks. These are not thought to be part of a supporting wall and might have served as a threshold or as part of a small internal structure of some type.

Plate 1. Deposit profile at north end of site showing depth of made ground and slope down to north, 1m scale

Period 1 Phase 2 Addition of wall and pamment flooring

Group 3 Contexts [5] [37]

Group 4 Contexts [14] [15]

Group 5 Contexts [39]

Group 6 Contexts [23] [24] [25]

Group 7 Contexts [6] [12]

Group 8 Contexts [2] [4] [32] [33] [34]

Group 9 Contexts [19], [20], [21]

Group 12 Context [16]

The earliest building phase at the site ends with the construction of a substantial north-south aligned wall [5] that clearly cut the Phase 1 floors. This wall measured 3.45m in length with a width of 0.50m. Its construction cut [37] (not illustrated) was cut to a depth of *c*.0.10m into the underlying chalk. The upstanding part of the wall had been completely robbed out and the foundation only partly survived. The foundation was constructed of chalk blocks (clunch) up to 0.15m in length bonded with a pale yellow lime mortar. Occasional flints were also present in the foundation. Overlying this construction cut along its eastern edge was a pale yellow clay [39] that formed a floor thought to be associated with this wall. This floor was up to 0.10m in depth in places, perhaps infilling variations in the level of the preceding surface. It consisted of a pale yellow brown silt with occasional charcoal, mortar and chalk inclusions. It appeared to be an actual floor surface with no impressions of tiles, and indeed would not have provided a suitable bedding for setting tiles. This particular material appeared to be limited in its occurrence to the east of wall [5], while the Phase 1 floor to the west of this same wall was overlain by a bedding material of a grey mortar with ash and charcoal flecks (contexts [6] and [12]). This material was up to 0.05m in depth with tile imprints clearly visible where it survived best. This survival of imprints indicated that the area to the west of wall [5] had been tiled with the tiles later removed and not replaced, presumably this taking place during the final destruction phase.

Sealed below [6] was a feature initially interpreted as robber cut [15]. The profile of this cut was steep sided, with an uneven base and was cut to a depth of 0.25m into the chalk. It was not well defined in plan with an amorphous shape that was aligned broadly north-south. Though possibly a robbed out foundation, it was cut considerably deeper than any other foundation recorded at the site. Its fill [14] contained several tile fragments of which a small percentage was retained. This sample included tile and brick of medieval and post-medieval date. This feature cut a spread [16] of mid red brown sand clay with frequent chalk lumps that contained a small quantity of pottery of late 18th- to 20th-century date.

Also belonging to this phase were two features in the north-east of the site that cut clay floor [39]. Pit [4] was sub-oval in plan with a length of 1.20m, width of 0.80m and depth of 0.16m. Its base was concave in form. The single fill [2] of this feature was a homogeneous dark brown ash with frequent flecks of coal. A sample (Sample <1>) was taken from this deposit which contained small bird bones. This feature gave no indication from its appearance that the ash resulted from *in situ* burning or heating, rather that this material was redeposited from elsewhere.

Close to the south of this feature was shallow pit [32] of irregular form in plan with a length of 0.94m and depth of 0.10m. The primary fill [34] of this pit was a dark grey brown silt with a high ash and organic content and frequent charcoal flecks. Soil Sample <4> was taken from this deposit. Sealing this deposit was a thin layer of mid orange brown silt sand [33] that was 0.04m in depth with inclusions of charcoal, chalk and fired clay Though this material had been heated there was no indication of *in situ* burning within the feature, suggesting this deposit originated from activity elsewhere. This feature appeared to have been particularly neatly infilled with its upper surface level with the surrounding clay floor, suggesting this feature was contemporary with the occupation of the building.

At the south of the structure were three walls (contexts [19], [20], [21]) that bounded a tiled surface. An earlier phase of wall [22] with brick threshold [35] was aligned broadly east west at the north of the tiled area, where it had been robbed out and overlaid by the tiles. All three walls [19], [20], [21] were of identical contemporary build, constructed of clunch with a small proportion of flints bonded by a pale yellow lime mortar. Measuring 0.45m in width, wall [20], the longest of this group was aligned broadly east-west and measured an estimated 4.34m in length (its full extent could not be ascertained as it extended east beyond the site limits though would seem likely to have formed a return with wall [19]). Much of these walls had been robbed away, presumably during the demolition of the building.

Wall [21] aligned along the west side of the tiled surface was built with only a thin bed of crushed chalk and lime mortar on the chalk bedrock as a foundation. A white plaster render was noted on the internal face of walls [19] and [20] with small areas of what appeared to be yellow paint observed.

These walls contained an area of tiled surface (numbered [23] and [25]) that measured 3.54m by 2.70m (Plate 2). The tiles were red pamments that measured 0.23m by 0.23m square and half pamments. Inset within the floor were two York stone slabs each *c* 0.50m square. The westernmost of these slabs had a heated surface and was perhaps associated with a single course of a brick structure attached to wall [20]. One interpretation is that the slab and brick formed part of the support for a copper for heating water.

The tiles were set on a loose sand bedding with perhaps a very small lime content, the arrangement of tiles indicating perhaps three separate episodes of tiling had taken place, most obviously with strip [25] along the east of the surface thought to be a later repair to the surface.

Plate 2. Work in progress on tiled floor of possible 'scullery' in Building 18, 1m scale looking south

Period 1 Phase 3 Destruction

Group 10 Contexts [26] [27] [28] [29]

Two pits [27] and [29] both cut features of Phase 2 date. Although possibly associated with the building's occupation, these features are considered more likely to be associated with the building's disuse and demolition. One of these pits contained a gritty soil interpreted as the backfilling of a feature that had been cut through a soil, taken to indicate this feature dated to a time when a soil had developed or been dumped at the site. To support this suggestion it was noted that features at the site thought to be contemporary with the building's occupation generally contained fills rich in ash or reworked chalk and similar deposits rather than soils.

The larger of these pits ([29]) was broadly rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base; it measured 0.80m wide and 0.54m long. It had been cut neatly into the underlying chalk and is fill [28] was notable for containing a small assemblage of clay tobacco pipes. A total of seven metal objects were also recovered from this pit, including possible tools. The pit fill consisted of a dark grey brown gritty soil with frequent charcoal mortar flecks and small chalk lumps, as well as inclusions of coal and burnt debris.

Period 2

Group 11 Context [40]

A spread of crushed chalk [40] that was up to 0.35m in depth and present across the north of the site appeared to seal all of the previously described remains. It is thought to be debris resulting from the destruction of the building that previously occupied the site.

Unlisted

Context [8]. Recorded as possible wall, thought to be natural feature

5.4 Finds descriptions

All finds recovered from the excavation were processed and recorded by count and weight, and an Excel spreadsheet produced outlining broad dating. Each material was considered separately and presented below organised by material. Appendix 2a contains a full list of finds from the site.

5.4.1 Pottery

by Sue Anderson

Twenty-two sherds of pottery weighing 656g were collected from four contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix 3. All pottery was of post-medieval or modern date.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	eve	MNV
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	6.12	5	52	0.10	1
Refined white earthenwares	REFW	8.03	6	109	0.02	6
Yellow Ware	YELW	8.13	1	31		1
English Stoneware	ESW	8.20	1	40		1
Porcelain	PORC	8.30	2	42	0.25	1
Late slipped redware	LSRW	8.51	3	140	0.04	2
Late blackwares	LBW	8.52	4	242	0.05	2
Totals			*22*	*656*	*0.45*	*14*

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric

The earliest vessel, from bedding layer (24), was a brown-glazed GRE bowl with beaded rim and bands of incised horizontal lines. This has a broad date range of 16th-18th century.

A range of modern wares was recovered as unstratified finds [1] and from clay layer [16] and pit fill [28]. The majority are probably of 19th-century date. They comprise fragments of refined whiteware and porcelain cups and plates decorated with transfer prints or hand-painted designs and a slip-decorated yellow ware ?tankard base, along with utilitarian wares such as the base of a stoneware inkwell and several bowls in slipped or black-glazed redware. This variety of teawares, kitchenwares and other vessels is typical of domestic assemblages of the period.

5.4.2 Ceramic Building Material

by Sue Anderson

Twelve fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 5,173g were collected from four contexts (Appendix 4). The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. The width, length and thickness of bricks and floor tiles were measured. Forms were identified from work in Norwich (Drury 1993), based on measurements. Table 2 shows the quantification by fabric and form.

Fabric	Code	EB?	DB?	LB	QFT
Estuarine clays	est	1	4		
Fine sandy	fs			1	
Fine sandy with grog	fsg			1	
Fine sandy with grog and fine calcareous inclusions	fsgc				1
Medium sandy with flint and ferrous inclusions	msffe			1	
White-firing fine sandy					2
White-firing fine sandy with grog	wsg				1

Table 2. Ceramic building material by fabric and form

One fragment of a possible 'early brick' (EB) was found in rubble deposit [14]. The fabric was red with a grey core and contained occasional coarse ferrous inclusions. Both sides of the brick had been worn and it was only 30mm thick, probably indicating a long period of use in a floor which had at some point been re-laid.

Four fragments of two 'Dutch' bricks (DB) were sampled from threshold [35]. These small bricks in an estuarine fabric measured 90mm wide by 44-47mm thick and were over 175mm long. One end was missing on both examples. One end of one of the bricks had been rubbed or worn. The bricks were yellowish buff internally with common voids, but the surfaces were red. They were covered in a buff mortar with occasional chalk inclusions. Small Dutch bricks in grey reduced fabrics are occasionally found in Norwich and are usually dated to the same period as the early estuarine bricks. However, so-called 'Dutch' bricks were exported to America and occur in buildings of 16th- to early 18th-century date there. These yellow bricks appear to be of a similar type and probably belong to the early medieval period. Their presence in Wells is likely to be due to North Sea trade links.

Three post-medieval 'late bricks' were identified. A half-brick in fabric 'msffe' from rubble [14] measured 103 x 43+mm and, like the early brick, it was worn on both surfaces. It was hard and overfired to a dark purple colour. A fine sandy red brick from the same context also showed signs of wear on the unstruck surface and had presumably been used as a paviour; it was 51+mm thick. A fragment of brick in a fine sandy grog-tempered fabric in layer [17] had a silty appearance similar to that of estuarine clays and it may be a local product.

Four fragments of quarry floor tile (QFT) were found in clay layer [12] and rubble [14]. All showed signs of wear. No samples were collected from the *in situ* tile floors. The fragment in fabric 'fsgc' was also made from a clay matrix which appeared similar to the estuarine clays of early bricks and may be a local product. The other three pieces were in white-firing gault clay fabrics for which some of the closest sources are the fens of Cambridgeshire and the area around Woolpit in Suffolk. These tiles were common in houses of 18th-/19th-century date in the region.

5.4.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe

by Rebecca Sillwood

A total of 21 fragments of clay tobacco pipe, weighing 114g, were recovered from four contexts, including layers, a pit and unstratified (Appendix 5).

Unstratified context [1] and compressed clay layer [12] each produced a single fragment of undiagnostic stem. Another stem fragment from layer [17] was decorated with a panel of barley twist decoration with impressed triangles along the ridges, and rows of crosses in the next panel.

The fill of pit [29] contained the majority of the pieces of clay pipe, with seventeen in total. Of these, eleven were undiagnostic, undecorated stem fragments. A single end stem fragment partially covered in a brown glaze, was recovered. Two bowls, identical in form and decoration were found. They have forward drooping bowls with a pointed heel, and are of DUA type 28 (Grove 1984). The decoration consists of the Prince of Wales' feathers on either side of the bowl, with further leaf decoration down the seam of the bowl. Above the feather motif are the embossed words 'Scott' on one side and 'Hull' on the other. The maker Joseph Scott (1788-1851) was working in Hull from 1810 through to 1839 (White 2004, 179), so this gives a relatively precise date for these pipes. Also from pit fill [28] were four pieces which are likely to be associated with each other, including part of a stem and an elaborate bowl which fit together. The bowl is decorated with five-plumed feathers at the seam, with panels all around the piece depicting thistles, fruit and possibly clover. The heel of this bowl is curled into a snail-like form, and the detached part of the stem has part of the interspersed cords and ridges decoration showing. Two 19th-century stem fragments, although they do not adjoin, are likely to be from similar pipes. Both have the words 'Lincoln' and 'Norwich' incuse (sunken) at one end however one also has cords and ridges decoration at the opposite end.

5.4.4 Metal Finds

by Rebecca Sillwood

A total of twelve metal objects from three contexts were recovered from the excavation.

Three objects were unstratified ([1]) and comprised an undiagnostic copper alloy wire ring, a copper alloy discoidal button and a fragment of curved iron rod. The wire ring and the iron rod remain undated, although the button is likely to be late post-medieval in date.

Pit fill [2] from pit [4] produced an iron object, roughly lozengiform, which is likely to be the head of a stud or rove. A rove is a structural fitting, which would fit onto the end of a clench nail, and was used to secure two pieces of timber together; they could also be used in ship-building. As such these pieces are not closely datable, they are known from the Roman period through to the post-medieval period, although this piece is unlikely to be of any great age, due to the condition and colouration of the metal.

Pit [29] produced the largest quantity of metalwork, all of iron, totalling seven objects in eight pieces. Two large iron nails, probably structural were found, along with several undiagnostic pieces. Two similar objects, one in two pieces, were of

triangular section, and could have been tools, perhaps files. X-radiation may aid tighter identification of these objects.

5.4.5 Animal Bone

by Julie Curl

5.4.5.1 Methodology

The analysis was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992). All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present (Appendix 3). A record was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, working and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context with additional counts for each species identified. Information was input into an Excel database and a catalogue has been produced in table form in the appendix. Worked faunal material has been recorded by context and species on the faunal sheet and more fully on the faunal artefacts sheet.

5.4.5.2 The assemblage – provenance and preservation

A total of 75g of faunal remains, consisting of nine pieces, was recovered by hand-collection from excavations at the Jolly Sailor Yard, Wells-next-the-Sea. An additional 6g of bone, consisting of nineteen pieces was recovered from four sieved samples (collected from contexts [2], [9], [11] and [34], Samples <1>-<4> respectively).

Sample <1> 1 tub - deposit [2] - ash fill, burning debris with small bird bones.
Sample <2> 1 tub deposit [9] - burnt patch on floor.
Sample <3> 1 tub deposit [11] - burnt layer on earlier floor.
Sample <4> 1 tub deposit [34] - organic/burnt material in pit.

Each sample was washed through a 2mm sieve with faunal remains collected from the residue by hand. The samples

Remains were produced from five contexts, including two pit fills and a floor deposit. The faunal remains were found in association with artefacts and ceramics of a later post-medieval to modern date.

Context	Recovery Method			Context Total
	Sample 1	Sample 4	Hand-Collected	
1			26g	26g
12			1g	1g
2	5g		13g	18g
34		1g		1g
39			33g	33g
Sample/Hand-Collected Total	5g	1g	73g	79g

Table A3 1. Quantification of the faunal assemblage by weight and recovery methods.

The assemblage is in good condition, allowing full species identification and analysis of modifications. The material from sieved samples is in a more

fragmentary state, although these remains produced three complete small vertebrae. Some erosion and invertebrate damage is evident on the worked ivory from deposit [1].

5.4.5.3 Species and modifications

Six species were identified in the hand-collected material, an additional species of fish was produced from the sample bone.

Species	Recovery Method			Species Total
	Sample 1	Sample 4	Hand-Collected	
Bird	2			2
Bird - Duck			1	1
Bird - Fowl			3	3
Cattle			1	1
Fish		1		1
Fish	11			11
Fish - Cod			1	1
Fish -Herring	1			1
Mammal	4			4
Sheep/goat			2	2
Walrus			1	1
Recovery method Total	18	1	9	28

Table 2. Quantification of species by recovery method

Four bones of bird were recorded - three of domestic fowl and one of duck, probably mallard; two further avian neck vertebrae were produced from Sample <1>, context [2] which are likely to be from the fowl in the hand-collected remains. All of the bird remains were discovered in the pit fill [2], along with two teeth of sheep/goat, a single cod vertebra and a single back bone from an eel. A butchered rib of cattle was found in the floor deposit [39]. The most interesting species in this assemblage is walrus, which is represented by a piece of a tusk, which has been worked. The tusk fragment is from a small, slender tip; the more gracile nature of the tip suggests the tusk is from a female walrus or a young male.

Butchering had occurred on the fowl remains; the lack of butchering on the duck does not rule out this bird being eaten as birds are often cooked whole, once cooked, the avian meat needs little, if any, butchering to remove it from the bone. The cattle rib shows clear chopping and cutting marks where the animal had been divided into cuts of meat and the meat and been removed from the bone. The walrus tusk showed clear working and is reported on in more detail below.

5.4.5.4 Ivory object

A single piece of worked ivory was recovered from the unstratified context [1] (Plate 3). The object is 112.39mm in length and has a maximum width of 24.87mm, tapering to a point of just over 9mm. The depth of the piece varies from 21.57mm at its widest point to less than 10mm at the tapered end, which has a

small piece missing on one side, which does not affect the overall length. On either side of the object there is recessed decoration measuring approximately 50mm and reflecting the long, tapering almond shape of the object itself. At the widest end there is an oval-shaped hole into the centre of the object that is at least 39mm deep. The function of this deep hole is perhaps for housing a blade or point, although no remains of such or residue from corrosion of metal is evident.

Plate 3. Ivory object

This piece is in good condition, although some erosion of the surface and invertebrate and root damage has occurred since the object has been buried. Some small cuts and scratches can be seen around the pierced end of the piece, which may have occurred when the piece was manufactured or during use. Polishing is evident around the piece, particularly around the recessed decoration; this polishing would have occurred when the object was made and used.

The ivory is derived from a walrus tusk - one of the elongated canine teeth, which are present in both sexes, but more slender in females. Identification of this piece as walrus is made based on the observed marbled core of the dentine and the rich butter colour which distinguishes the walrus tusks from other ivory The delicate shape and tapering point of this object might suggest this is from a female tooth and that the natural tapering shape of the tusk has been utilised in the object.

The function and date of the object is unclear. It could be a fid or sailors tool, more often made of whalebone, and commonly used for splicing ropes and working with knots and also for opening holes in canvas sails without breaking the threads. However, such items were often longer (200mm to perhaps 500mm). The hole in the end may represent a secondary use for the object. It might perhaps be a handle, perhaps for a knife, given that there is a deep socket at one end that might have held the knife tang. However there is no iron stain in the socket, which would be expected with an earlier example of a knife, which might indicate a later date for this piece and the use of a different metal for the blade.

5.4.5.5 Conclusions

The assemblage from this site is predominately food waste. The bird, fish and cattle rib are all quite likely to be from meat waste from the pub itself. All of the food waste species probably locally kept or sourced. The presence of walrus in the assemblage is interesting and it may have been locally sourced but is perhaps more likely to have originally derived from the Arctic region.

Taking samples for sieving to collect smaller bones proved worthwhile as an additional small species of fish was recovered.

5.4.6 Glass

by Rebecca Sillwood

Two fragments of glass vessel were recovered from deposit [28], the fill of pit [29]. One fragment was part of the base of a wine bottle, made of natural green glass with an almost vertical domed rounded kick. The piece weighs 110g, and is likely to come from a wine bottle of the 19th-century. The second piece is of colourless glass, probably from a drinking vessel, as the glass is rather thin for a bottle or other item. The piece is slightly curving and weighs only 1g. As the piece is so fragmentary it is difficult to date it, although it is similar to tumblers of the 18th-century.

5.4.7 Shell

by Rebecca Sillwood

A piece of oyster shell and a cockle shell was recovered from layer (16), weighing 28g. These pieces have been discarded.

6.0 ASSESSMENT

6.1 Stratigraphic Assessment

The key finding of the excavation was of a masonry structure revealed in the north of the site which covered an area of approximately 63m^2.

The current ground level of the site had obscured the early topography of the site with a significant slope down from south to north and a lesser slope from east to west.

Following its exposure by the archaeological excavation this slope could be seen to have influenced how this building was constructed. It would appear the earliest floor of this structure used the truncation of this slope to provide a level horizon on the underlying chalk over which occupation was indicated with the remains of ash spreads. Aside from this, the earliest structural evidence appeared to be two brick constructions, a threshold and a further similar form of structure.

It was noted that walls at the site were frequently founded on top of thin mortar pads placed directly onto the chalk bedrock. Perhaps these examples did not need to support significant loading, in contrast with the construction of wall [5] of a later phase which had a deeper set foundation. Whilst wall [5] probably was load bearing, it is suggested that part of the reason it occupied a construction cut rather than being built straight onto the underlying chalk was that it had to be cut through earlier floor accumulations and other Phase 1 deposits.

Figure 4. Detail of 1843 Tithe map

Norfolk Record Office reference DN/TA 816

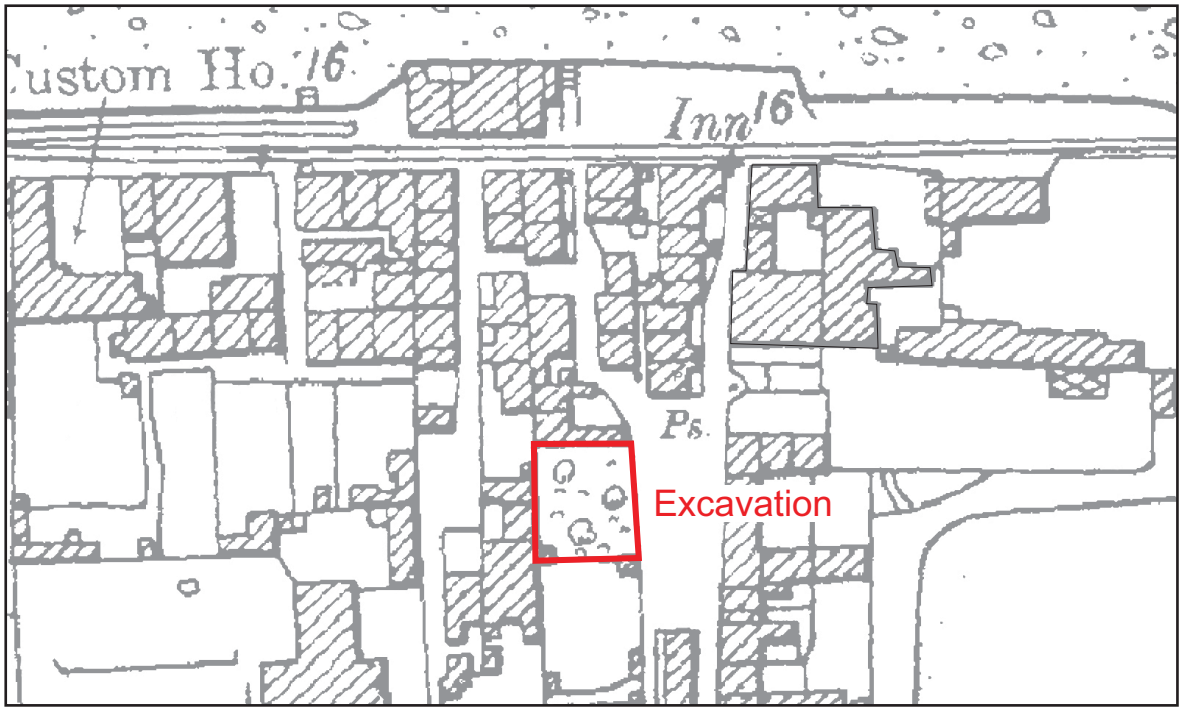


Figure 5. Detail of 1905 Ordnance Survey map

6.1.1 Identifying the building

During the evaluation phase of this project it was established that the current plot was shown as open and without buildings on the 1905 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 5)

Further research undertaken as part of this assessment indicates that a Tithe map of 1843 (Norfolk Archive Office Ref:- DN/TA 816) also shows the plot to be open and unoccupied by any building (Fig. 4). The reliability of this map is supported by its accuracy in relation to other buildings that still stand in the vicinity. This usefully dates the demolition of any building at the plot as occurring before 1843. To this can be usefully added information from the Norfolk Public Houses online site *http://www.norfolk pubs.co.uk* which provides a listing of pubs within the county. Here it states 'The original JOLLY SAILOR stood from at least 1720 to March 1807 when it was demolished. The house reopened in new premises, close to the original site, on 11th October 1807'. Though not providing a location for this pub, or indeed a source for this statement, this appears to neatly fit with the excavated evidence from the site, suggesting that the building revealed was the Jolly Sailor Public House founded in the early 18th century.

The limited dating evidence provided by the tile and brick recovered supports a post 17th-century to early 20th-century date. Unfortunately little of the artefactual evidence recovered indicates the use of the building as a public house, with only fragments of a wine bottle and possibly of glass drinking vessels suggesting a link, though such objects have a ubiquitous distribution.

The preservation of this building can be considered good, despite no upstanding remains (above the surface) being identified, the lowering of the footings and floor below the level of surrounding undisturbed deposits at an indeterminate date aiding its preservation.

6.2 Finds Assessment

The information already provided which identifies and interprets the artefacts and ecofacts is considered to be sufficient. No further work is required on any of the materials recovered.

7.0 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

No new research aims have been defined as part of this Assessment phase of the project.

It is felt that no further analysis of the stratigraphic evidence is required and that the information already prepared will be presented in an archive report.

Further analysis of the artefacts is considered to be unnecessary. It is suggested that the information already produced on the artefacts and ecofacts will be presented in an archive report.

The documentary evidence already available is also considered sufficiently informative to provide an interpretation of the nature of the building. The building revealed at the site is of interest in that it reflects the vernacular building style that made use of the local resources available in the 18th and 19th centuries. It also

has, if the interpretation is correct, a particular social resonance as a public house and thus central to the at least a particular element of the local community.

7.1 Publication proposal

An archive 'grey literature' report that includes all the stratigraphic, artefactual and ecofactual information will be produced.

It is proposed that a short note on the excavation and its findings be prepared for publication in Norfolk Archaeology to consist of *c.*3,000 words to include descriptions of the structure that was discovered and its interpretation. Reports on the finds (especially the ceramics including ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, small faunal remains and the ivory object) will also be included. Figures will comprise the site location and a plan of the revealed extent of the building enhanced by two plates.

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The site was machined by David Needham.

The finds were washed and processed by Lucy Talbot and analysed by Becky Sillwood, Sue Anderson and Julie Curl.

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*http://www.norfolk pubs.co.uk a*ccessed 07.11.11

Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill of	Description	Period	Group
1	U/S Finds			Unstratified finds	Post-medieval/modern	-
2	Deposit		4	Burnt fill with bird bone	Post-medieval/modern	8
3	Deposit			Natural	Quaternary	-
4	Cut	Pit		Pit	Post-medieval/modern	8
5	Masonry		37	North south wall	18th/19th century	3
6	Deposit			Mortar surface	18th/19th century	7
7	Masonry			North south wall?	18th/19th century	
8	Masonry			North south wall?	18th/19th century	-
9	Deposit			Burnt patch in centre of site	18th/19th century	1
10	Masonry			Mortar chalk	18th/19th century	
11	Deposit			Burnt layer below 6	18th/19th century	1
12	Deposit			Compressed clay	18th/19th century	7
13	Deposit			Compacted mortar	18th/19th century	
14	Deposit		15	Rubble deposit below 13	18th/19th century	4
15	Cut	?robber		Possible robber cut?	18th/19th century	4
16	Deposit			Red brown silt clay below 8	18th/19th century	12
17	Deposit			Layer below 6	18th/19th century	
18	Master No.			Tile floored building	18th/19th century	
19	Masonry			East wall of 18	18th/19th century	9
20	Masonry			South wall of 18	18th/19th century	9
21	Masonry			West wall of 18	18th/19th century	9
22	Masonry			North wall of 18	18th/19th century	2
23	Masonry			Tiled floor of 18	18th/19th century	6
24	Masonry			Sand bedding for 23	18th/19th century	6
25	Masonry			Separate tile area within 24	18th/19th century	6
26	Deposit		27	Fill	18th/19th century	10
27	Cut	Pit		Pit	18th/19th century	10
28	Deposit		29	Fill with clay pipe fragments	19th century	10
29	Cut	Pit		Pit cut	19th century	10
30	Master No.			East west new build foundation	18th/19th century	
31	Master No.			North south new build foundation	18th/19th century	
32	Cut	Pit		Pit	18th/19th century	8
33	Deposit		32	Burnt clay upper fill of 32	18th/19th century	8
34	Deposit		32	Ashy lower fill of 32	18th/19th century	8
35	Masonry			Threshold	18th/19th century	2
36	Masonry			Brick structure	18th/19th century	2
37	Cut	Pit		Construction cut wall 5	18th/19th century	3
38	Masonry			Floor	18th/19th century	1

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill of	Description	Period	Group
39	Masonry			Floor	18th/19th century	5
40	Deposit			Make up	19th century	11

Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Type	Total
Post-medieval	Pit	5
	Wall	6
	Floor	2
	Foundation cut	1

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Ctxt	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
1	Pottery	9	249g	Post-medieval	17th - 20th century
1	Clay Pipe	1	7g	Post-medieval	Stem fragment
1	Animal Bone	1	26g	Unknown	Worked object
1	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Post-medieval	Discoidal button
1	Copper-Alloy	1	1g	Unknown	Thin wire ring
1	Iron	1	9g	Post-medieval	Curved wire fragment
2	Animal Bone	6	13g	Unknown	
2	Iron	1	19g	Unknown	?Stud head
12	Ceramic Building Material	1	120g	Post-medieval	Quarry floor tile fragment
12	Clay Pipe	1	1g	Post-medieval	Stem fragment
12	Animal Bone	1	1g	Unknown	
14	Ceramic Building Material	1	304g	Medieval	Early brick?
14	Ceramic Building Material	5	2,826g	Post-medieval	Brick, floor tile
16	Pottery	1	1g	Post-medieval	L18th - 20th century
16	Shell	2	28g	Unknown	Oyster, Cockle; Discarded
17	Ceramic Building Material	1	42g	Post-medieval	Brick
17	Clay Pipe	1	3g	Post-medieval	Stem fragment; decorative
24	Pottery	5	52g	Post-medieval	16th - 18th century
28	Pottery	7	354g	Post-medieval	18th - 20th century
28	Clay Pipe	17	98g	Post-medieval	Bowls, stem fragments
28	Glass	2	111g	Post-medieval	Bottle, vessel fragments
28	Iron	2	137g	Post-medieval	Nails
28	Iron	1	57g	Post-medieval	implement; ? File
28	Iron	2	44g	Post-medieval	unidentified
28	Iron	2	19g	Post-medieval	unidentified; fused
28	Iron	1	230g	Post-medieval	unidentified; block
35	Ceramic Building Material	4	1,881g	Medieval	Brick
39	Animal Bone	1	33g	Unknown	

Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Medieval	Ceramic Building Material	5
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	7
	Clay Pipe	20
	Copper-Alloy	1
	Glass	2
	Iron	9
	Pottery	22
Unknown	Animal Bone	9
	Copper-Alloy	1
	Iron	1
	Shell	2

Appendix 3: Pottery

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date
1	ESW			1	40	17th-19th c.
1	YELW			1	31	L.18th-19th c.
1	LSRW	bowl	EV	1	36	18th-19th c.
1	PORC	cup	UPPL	2	42	18th-20th c.
1	REFW	plate	EV	1	43	L.18th-20th c.
1	REFW			1	27	L.18th-20th c.
1	REFW	cup?	UPPL	1	22	L.18th-20th c.
1	REFW			1	8	L.18th-20th c.
16	REFW			1	1	L.18th-20th c.
24	GRE	bowl	BD	5	52	16th-18th c.
28	LSRW	bowl		2	104	18th-19th c.
28	LBW	bowl	EV	3	154	18th-E.20th c.
28	LBW			1	88	18th-E.20th c.
28	REFW			1	8	L.18th-20th c.

Appendix 4: Ceramic Building Material

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/ g	Length	Width	Height	Mortar	Comments	Date
12	wsg	QFT	1	120			25+		worn	pmed
14	wfs	QFT	2	801			30+		worn	pmed
14	fs	LB	1	218			51+		worn on unstruck surface	pmed
14	msffe	LB	1	112 9		103	43+		worn on both surfaces, overfired purple	pmed
14	est	EB?	1	304			30+		worn on both surfaces	med+
14	fsgc	QFT	1	678			41+	msf	worn	pmed
17	fsg	LB	1	42					estuarine clay?	pmed
35	est	DB?	1	906		90	47	buff msc	slightly sunken margin one side	med?
35	est	DB?	3	975	>175	90	44	buff msc	=1 brick, rubbed/worn header, sunken margin one side	med?

Appendix 5: Clay Pipe

Context	Form	Qty	Wt	Completeness	Inscription	NOTES	DUA Type	DATE
1	Stem	1	9	incomplete	none	plain	-	Post-medieval
12	Stem	1	3	incomplete	none	plain	-	Post-medieval
17	Stem	1	3	incomplete	none	barley twist; indented triangles; lozengiform pattern	-	Post-medieval
28	Stem	11	50	incomplete	none	plain	-	Post-medieval
28	Stem	1	7	incomplete	Norwich' and 'Lincoln' on opposing sides	opposite end corded pattern between ridges	-	Post-medieval
28	Stem	1	7	incomplete	Norwich' and 'Lincoln' on opposing sides	plain	-	Post-medieval
28	Stem	1	2	incomplete	none	brown glaze on end	-	Post-medieval
28	Bowl	2	17	incomplete	on bowl: Scott and Hull	decorated with fleur-de-lys	28	1810-1839
28	Bowl& Stem	2	16	incomplete	none	curled heel; elaborate Prince of Wales feathers; thistles; etc.; stem fits to bowl		19th- century

Appendix 6a: Hand Collected Animal Bone

Context	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Age	Element range	Butchering	Working	Comments
1	1	26	Walrus	1		tusk		1	worked walrus tusk, possible handle. See worked ivory report
2	6	13	Sheep/goat	2	a	teeth			worn M3 and P4
			Bird - Fowl	2	a	ll (tibiotarsus)	c		2 pieces of same bone
			Bird - Duck	1	a	ll (tibiotarsus)			tibiotarsus of a ?mallard
			Fish - Cod	1	a	v			large vertebrae
12	1	1	Bird - Fowl	1	a	ul (rad)	ch		
39	1	33	Cattle	1		r	c, ch		section of large rib, chopped and cut

Appendix 6b: Animal Bone from Samples

Context	Sample No	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Age	Element range	Comments
2	1	18	5	Mammal	4		fragments	Small fragments
				Bird	2		neck vertebrae	Neck vertebrae - chicken/duck-sized bird
				Fish -Herring	1		v	Vertebrae
				Fish	11		fragments	Small fragments
34	4	1	1	Fish	1		fragment	Fragment