

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

MOAT GROVE FARM, PETTAUGH

(SMR ref. PAU 004)

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF
GROUNDWORK ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONVERSION OF
EXISTING BARN AND OUTHOUSES FOR RESIDENTIAL USE
(Application No. 998/01)

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2005/143
(OASIS Ref. suffolke1-10430)

Summary: Archaeological monitoring of the groundwork associated with the conversion of a series of barns and outhouses at Moat Grove Farm, Pettaugh (NGR TM 1624 5939), was undertaken during the autumn of 2004. The site is partially enclosed by a moat which is believed to be medieval in origin. Underpinning and footing trenches were examined but, other than a single undated ditch, no significant deposits or features were recorded. This monitoring event is recorded on the Sites and Monuments Record under the reference PAU 004. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Projects Team and funded by Mrs R.E. Denyer.

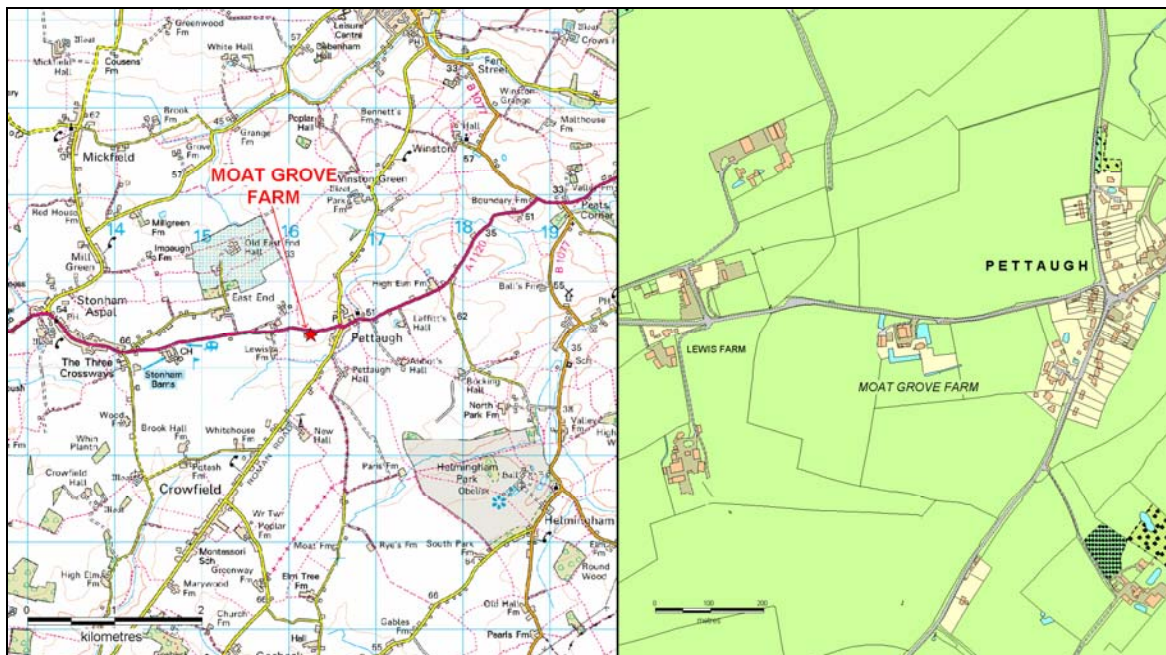


Figure 1: Location Plan

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Introduction

An application for the conversion of barns and outbuildings for residential use at Moat Grove Farm, Pettaugh (application no. 998/01), was approved but with an attached condition requiring a programme of archaeological works to be put in place prior to any construction work.

The archaeological interest in the site was due to its location within a medieval moated enclosure which is recorded on the County Sites and Monuments Record under the reference PAU 004. It is apparently the site of Woodward's Manor (recorded in AD 1332) although the present house dates from c.1880 and was built to replace a late medieval structure on the same site that had burnt down shortly before. Research undertaken by the owners suggests that the sections of moat to the east and south of the house originally extended around the southeast corner and formed a single, continuous stretch (Mrs Denyer, pers. comm. September 2004).

The proposed works entailed the conversion of existing structures of Victorian or later date to form three residential units. As this was likely to entail limited ground disturbance a monitoring condition was considered adequate. The aim of the monitoring was to provide a record of any archaeological features or deposits revealed by the groundworks associated with this development and to detail the archaeological work required a Brief and Specification was produced by the Suffolk County Council Conservation Team (see Appendix I).

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the site is TM 1624 5939; for a location plan see figure 1 above. This monitoring event is recorded on the Suffolk County Sites and Monuments Record under the existing reference PAU 004. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Projects Team, with funding from Mrs R.E. Denyer.

Results

The site was visited a total of seven times during September and October 2004 by three members of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Mr J. Newman (JN), Mr S. Boulter (SB) and Mr M. Sommers (MS). See figure 2 for the site layout and any details noted during the monitoring.

After an initial site visit on the 6th September 2004 (JN) to assess the site the first monitoring visit was made 29th September 2004 (JN) to inspect footings for Unit 1. These had been excavated to a depth of 1m to 1.2m into the natural subsoil, which comprised of a heavy boulder clay. The top 0.15m was cut through a layer of debris associated with the former barn floor and apart from a two modern intrusions, no cut features were seen and no artefacts recovered.

The second two visits were made on the 1st October 2004 (SB) and 6th October 2004 (MS) to inspect two separate sections of underpinning trench on the south side of Unit 2 but only natural clay was seen. A short length of footing east of Unit 3 and two short lengths of service trench were also open during the 6th October visit but only undisturbed natural clay was seen. All excavations were to a depth of 1m to 1.2m.

The site was visited again on the 20th October 2004 (JN) during which the footing west wall of Unit 3 was examined. This has been excavated to a depth of 1.2m revealing a ditch feature c.1.5m wide and cut to a depth of 1m. It appeared to be aligned perpendicular to the footing although only a short length was seen. No finds were recovered during this visit.

The final two visits were made on the 25th & 27th October 2004 (JN). Footings for the north wall, a cross wall and the west end walls of Unit 2 were seen during these visits but only debris associated with the 20th century farm and natural clay were seen. No artefacts

were recovered. An area to the north of the southwestern section of moat had been scraped clean of the former yard surface but this did not reveal any evidence that the moat ever continued to the north.

The monitoring archive from this project will be deposited at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service offices in Bury St Edmunds under the existing reference PAU 004, it is also recorded on the OASIS, online database, reference: suffolkc1-10216.

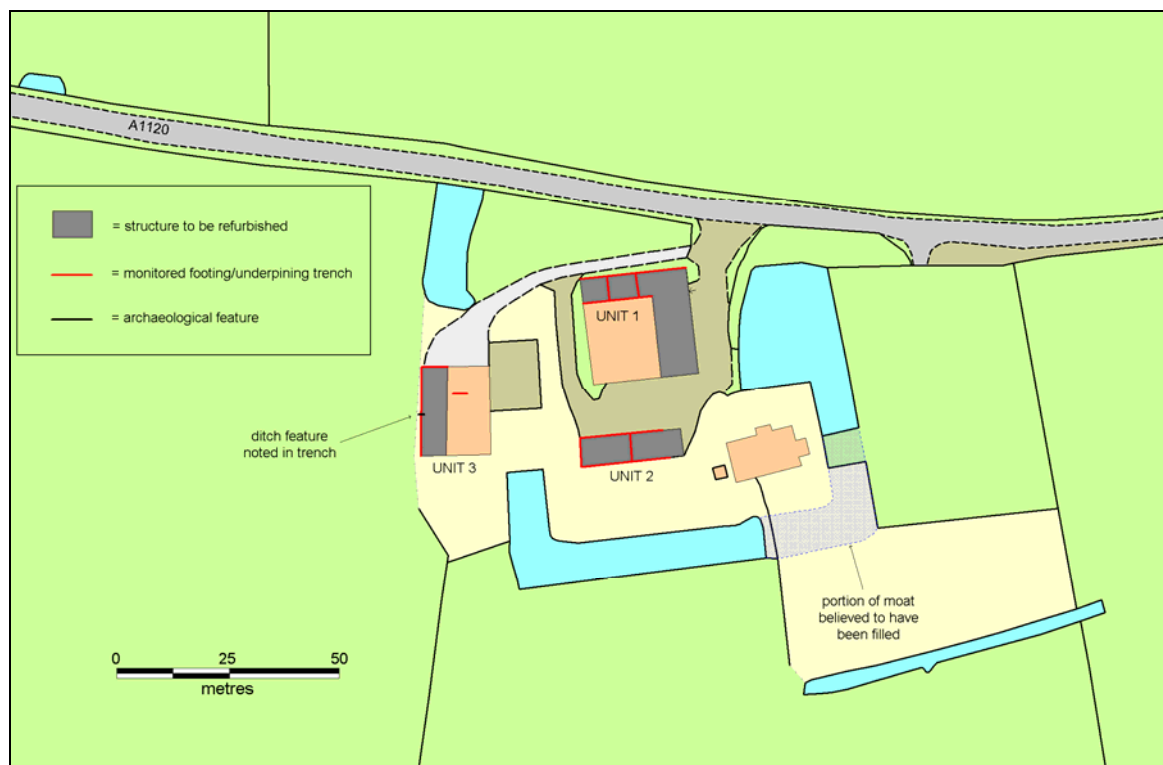


Figure 2: Site Detail and Monitoring Results

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Conclusion

No significant archaeological deposits or features appear to have been destroyed by this development as, other than the ditch seen under Unit 3, no features or deposits were noted in any of the monitored excavations. The observed footings were cleanly cut and had any archaeological features or deposits been present it is highly likely they would have been identified.

The feature seen under Unit 3 has been interpreted as a ditch based on its profile and perceived shape. No dating evidence was recovered from the fill but as no ditches are recorded in this location on any Ordnance Survey maps (c.1880 onwards) all that can be said is that it must relate to a pre-modern field system.

It was hoped that further information relating to the form of the western side of the moat could be recovered during the monitoring. A stripped surface was observed in the area north of the southwestern arm of the moat indicating that this section did not continue north along its present alignment.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM



Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring of Development

MOAT GROVE FARM, PETTAUGH

*Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a **general building contractor** and may have financial implications, for example see paragraphs 2.3 & 4.3.*

1. Background

1.1 Planning permission to develop on this site has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (application 998/01). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.

1.2 The development area falls within the area of a medieval moated enclosure which is included in the County Sites and Monuments Record (PAU 004) and has a high degree of archaeological potential. There are likely to be archaeological deposits close beneath the present ground surface which represent earlier dwellings, ancillary buildings, yards and associated deposits.

The scope of ground disturbance involved in development is not entirely clear from the application, but there will be trenches for services and new walling and topsoil stripping for new road lines, and provision of a new 'cart-lodge' garage building.

The area of unit 3 (on the west side of the area) may be either on the moat ditch or outside it, simple confirmation of this is all that is required here.

Elsewhere monitoring is to be aimed at identifying and recording any early evidence for structures and yards and provision of sufficient artefacts to provide a date range for occupation and to identify the likely source of pottery in use on the site.

1.3 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.

2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for earlier occupation of the site.

2.3 The damaging activities in this proposal are the excavation of building footing trenches and road preparation. These, and the upcast soil, are to be observed **after they have been** excavated by the

building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation (see 4.3).

3. **Arrangements for Monitoring**

3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) - see 1.3 above.

3.2 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of SCCAS five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.

3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered the Conservation Team of SCCAS must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

4. **Specification**

4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Council Conservation Team archaeologist and the contracted 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.

4.2 Opportunity must be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.

4.3 In the case of footing trenches, unimpeded access at the rate of **one and a half hours per 10 metres** of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording, before concreting or building begin. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean. In the case of road stripping, unimpeded access at the rate of **one hour per 10 square metres** must be allowed for archaeological recording, before the prepared surface is disturbed by vehicle movement or laying of hard core.

4.4 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.

4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context.

4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

5. **Report Requirements**

5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.

5.2 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.

5.3 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the

stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

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

Specification by: R D Carr

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

Date: 29 January 2003

Reference: /MoatGrove-Pettaugh01

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.