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# SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

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**102, Cross Street, Sudbury  
(SUY 075)**

**Planning Application No. B/04/01359/FHA  
Archaeological Monitoring Report No. 2005/200  
OASIS ID no. 12222**

## **Summary**

Sudbury, 102, Cross Street, Sudbury (TL/869412; SUY 073) Conditional planning consent for an extension to 102, Cross Street, Sudbury required archaeological monitoring of the excavated footings. Layers of overburden were identified to a depth of 1.2m from the existing ground surface. No features were visible in the sections, however medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the lowest layer of overburden which sealed the natural subsoil.

(Linzi Everett for Suffolk County Council and Mrs. D. Gilks; report no. 2005/200)

## **1. Introduction**

Conditional planning consent for the construction of an extension to 102, Cross Street, Sudbury, (Fig. 1) required archaeological monitoring of the excavated footings. The site is centred on TL 8688 4121 within the boundaries of both Saxon and medieval Sudbury. The site lies just above the 25m OD contour on a moderate slope falling away to the River Stour to the north west. There was high potential for archaeological deposits to be exposed in the course of excavation and the site is located approximately 100m south west of known medieval deposits excavated at the Old Granary, Mill Lane (SUY 073).

## **2. Methodology**

One visit was made to the site on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2005 by Linzi Everett of the Field Projects Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service in order to inspect the machine and hand excavated trenches. The site was recorded under the SMR code SUY 075 and finds were collected for identification and dating. A Brief and

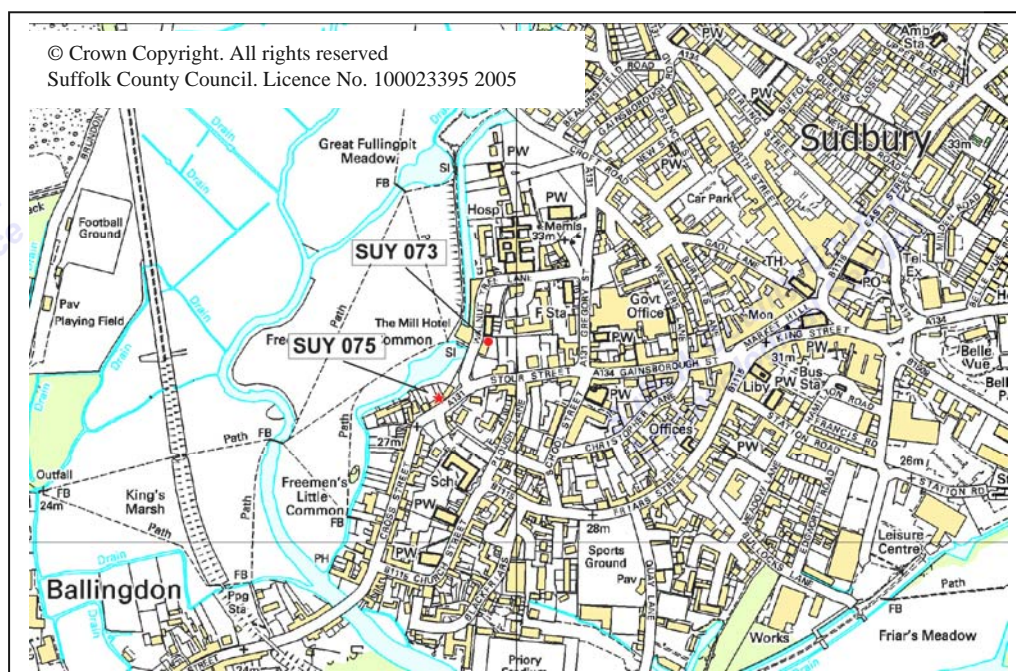


Figure 1: Site location

Specification for the archaeological work (Appendix I) was produced by Keith Wade of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team. The monitoring work was funded by Mrs. D. Gilks and the archive is held in the county SMR in Bury St. Edmunds.

### 3. Results

The NW-SE trench and some of the SW-NE trench were heavily disturbed by modern drains. The remainder of the trenching was excavated to a depth of 1.2m, revealing the composition of overburden in the exposed sections. The topsoil was a dark brown sandy loam approximately 250mm thick. Below this was a layer c.550mm thick of dark brown sandy silt subsoil containing moderate pebble and post-medieval tile and ceramic inclusions. At the base of the section, a mid-pale brown silty sand layer of subsoil was observed to seal the natural gravelly sand subsoil. This layer was approximately 400mm thick, flecked with charcoal and believed to be the source of the medieval pottery sherds recovered during excavation. No interventions were observed to cut the excavated trench sections, other than the modern drains.

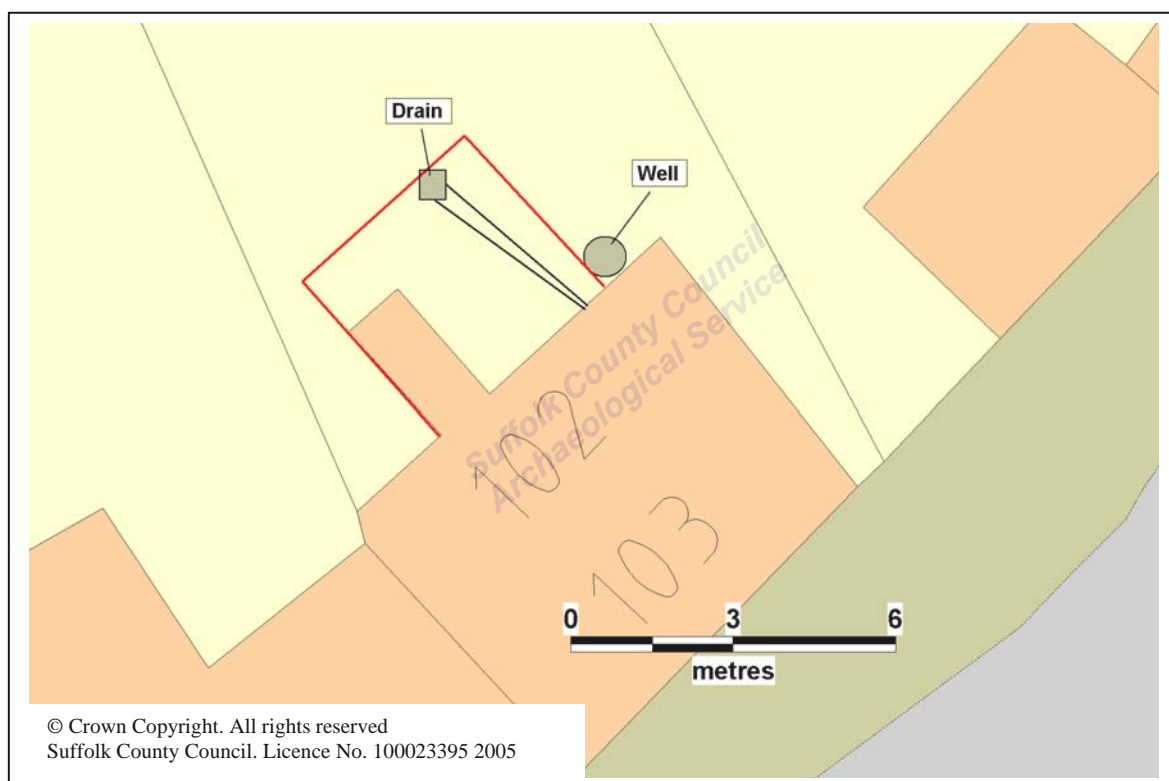


Figure 2: Location of monitored area

### 4. The Finds

#### Stour Cottage, 102 Cross Street, Sudbury (SUY 075): the finds

Richenda Goffin, May 2006

#### Introduction

Finds were collected from a single context, as shown in the table below.

OP	Pottery		CBM		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0001	2	71	1	126	14th-15th C
Total	2	71	1	126	

## **Pottery**

Two fragments of pottery were collected as unstratified finds, weighing 0.126kg. They are made from a medium sandy fabric with sparse fine mica with sparse quartz, a later variant of Hedingham ware (HFW2), dating to the 14th and 15th century. Both sherds are wheelthrown and probably come from the same vessel, which has a sagging base.

## **Ceramic building material**

A single fragment of a flat rooftile was also unstratified. The tile is made from a medium sandy orange fabric with coarse sanding on one face. It has been subsequently re-used as there is mortar on all of the faces, including the broken edges. It has a circular peghole and is unglazed. The rooftile dates to the medieval and late medieval period, 13th-15th century.

## **Discussion**

The small quantity of unstratified finds which was collected by the builder is relatively homogenous in date, as both the pottery and the ceramic building material are late medieval. Hedingham wares are principally associated with the medieval period but unglazed coarsewares were also produced from the late 12th century into the later part of the medieval period (McCarthy and Brooks 301-2).

## **5. Discussion**

Much of the foundation trench area had been heavily disturbed by modern drainage. However, where this was not the case, the sections revealed that a significant depth of overburden had built up on the site. Much of this was clearly post-medieval, or at the earliest, late medieval in date. The lower subsoil layer present was noticeably cleaner than the layers above it and almost certainly contained medieval artefacts. Given the sites location within the boundaries of the medieval town and close to known archaeology, it is not surprising to find medieval evidence, whether it is redeposited with later material or in a sealed medieval context.

Linzi Everett  
Field Team  
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service  
May 2006

## **References**

McCarthy, M., and Brooks, C., 1988, Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900-1600

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

#### Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

#### 101 CROSS STREET, SUDBURY

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission to construct a boundary wall on this site has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (B/04/1950/FUL). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence and the proposed foundation methods indicates that the area affected by new building can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 The proposal lies within the Area of Archaeological Importance defined for Sudbury medieval town in the Babergh Local Plan and will involve significant ground disturbance.
- 1.3 As strip foundations are proposed there will only be limited damage to any archaeological deposits, which can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation of the trenches by the building contractor.

#### 2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which would be damaged or removed by any development permitted by the current planning consent.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for the medieval occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of footing trenches. These, and the upcast soil, are to be observed during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor.

#### 3. Arrangements for Monitoring

- 3.1 The developer or his archaeologist will give the County Archaeologist (Keith Wade, Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR. Telephone: 01284 352440; Fax: 01284 352443) 48 hours notice of the commencement of site works.
- 3.2 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the observing archaeologist) who must be approved by the Planning Authority's archaeological adviser (the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service).
- 3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and timetable.
- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered, the County Archaeologist should be immediately informed so that any amendments deemed necessary to this specification to ensure adequate provision for recording, can be made without delay. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

#### 4. Specification

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Archaeologist and the 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity should be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.

- 4.3 In the case of footing trenches unimpeded access at the rate of one and half hours per 10 metres of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording before concreting or building begin. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed should be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.5 All contexts should be numbered and finds recorded by context as far as possible.
- 4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County 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*, should be prepared and included in the project report.
- 5.5 County Sites and Monuments Record sheets should be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.6 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.7 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Keith Wade

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

Date: 7 February 2005

Reference: /Sudbury-CrossSt02

**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.**

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