

Walnut Tree Hospital, Sudbury

Desk-Based Assessment

SCCAS Report No. 2012/105

Client: Castons Chartered Surveyors

Author: J. A. Craven

July 2012

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Walnut Tree Hospital, Sudbury

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment Report

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Report Date: July 2012

HER Information

Site Name:	Walnut Tree Hospital, Sudbury
Report Number	2012/105
Planning Application No:	Pre
Grid Reference:	TL 8699 4143
Oasis Reference:	131976
Curatorial Officer:	Keith Wade
Project Officer:	John Craven
Client/Funding Body:	Castons Chartered Surveyors

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<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

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Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

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List of Abbreviations used in the text

DBA	Desk Based Assessment
HER	Historic Environment Record
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PAS	Portable Antiquities Scheme
PDA	Proposed Development Area
PPG 16	Planning Policy Guidance 16
PPS 5	Planning Policy Statement 5
SM	Scheduled Monument
SCCAS/FT	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Field Team
SCCAS/CT	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Conservation Team

Summary

An examination of the Suffolk HER, documentary and cartographic search and a site inspection, has set the proposed 0.95ha development area (PDA) within its immediate archaeological landscape.

The general topographic location of the PDA and the known archaeology of the area, being located within the area of the Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement of Sudbury and in particular upon the site of the medieval St Gregory's College, suggests that there is a moderate to very high potential for encountering archaeological remains within the PDA but that such deposits are likely to be affected by the PDA's recent land-use and in variable states of preservation.

Further archaeological investigation, beginning with a programme of trial trench evaluation to identify and assess the extent, character, density, depth and level of preservation of any archaeological deposits is therefore recommended prior to submission of a planning application.

Consultation with the LPA'S archaeological advisor, SCCAS/CT, is recommended at the earliest possible opportunity to determine the actual program of archaeological works required as archaeological investigations can have considerable time and cost implications for any development.

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

This archaeological DBA has been prepared by SCCAS/FT for Castons Chartered Surveyors at the commission of KLH Architects Ltd.

This DBA is the first stage of a programme of archaeological works to access the archaeological potential of the PDA and has been requested by SCCAS/CT, the Archaeological Advisor to the LPA, to inform development proposals and the future consideration of any planning application by the LPA

The proposed development is for the conversion of the site to residential accommodation which will involve partial demolition of existing buildings, new building and associated infrastructure and landscaping.

1.2 Site description

The subject of this DBA covers an area of approximately 0.95ha centred at TL 8699 4143, in the parish of Sudbury (Fig. 1). The site lies on the western edge of the modern town, immediately adjacent to a diverted channel from the River Stour which formerly supplied a mill to the south.

The present land use of the PDA is as a complex of hospital buildings, with areas of carparking and occasional open spaces.

The site is bordered to the south by Walnut Tree Lane, to the west by the River Stour, to the east by the graveyard of St Gregory's Church and rear gardens to a line of residential properties and to the north by further gardens and residential properties.

1.3 Topography and geology

The PDA is located within the modern town of Sudbury which is situated on the east bank of a bend in the River Stour. The PDA is located immediately to the east of the river, on a west facing slope from c.27m-32m above OD (Fig. 2). The localised geology of the PDA is deep well drained fine-coarse loam and sandy soils over glaciofluvial drift (Ordnance Survey 1983) (Fig. 2).

1.4 Scope of this report

In order to set the PDA in its archaeological context a study area of a 1km radius from its centre was selected for examination (Figs. 2-7).

In accordance with the NPPF, the Government's guidance on archaeology and planning, (<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>) and based on a SCCAS/CT specification, this assessment examines the available archaeological sources. These include the Suffolk HER, reports of any archaeological investigations, all readily available cartographic and documentary sources and a site walkover.

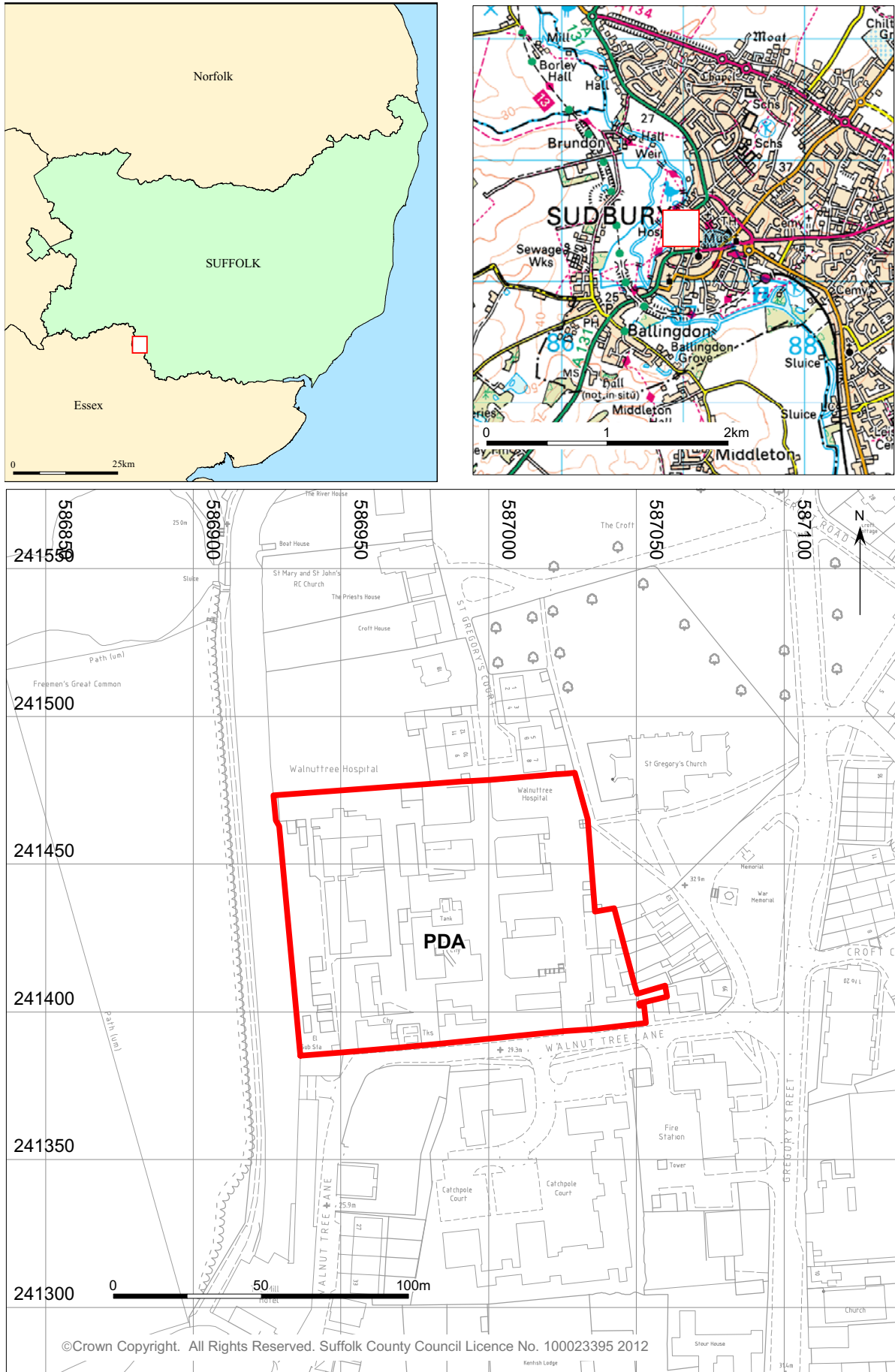
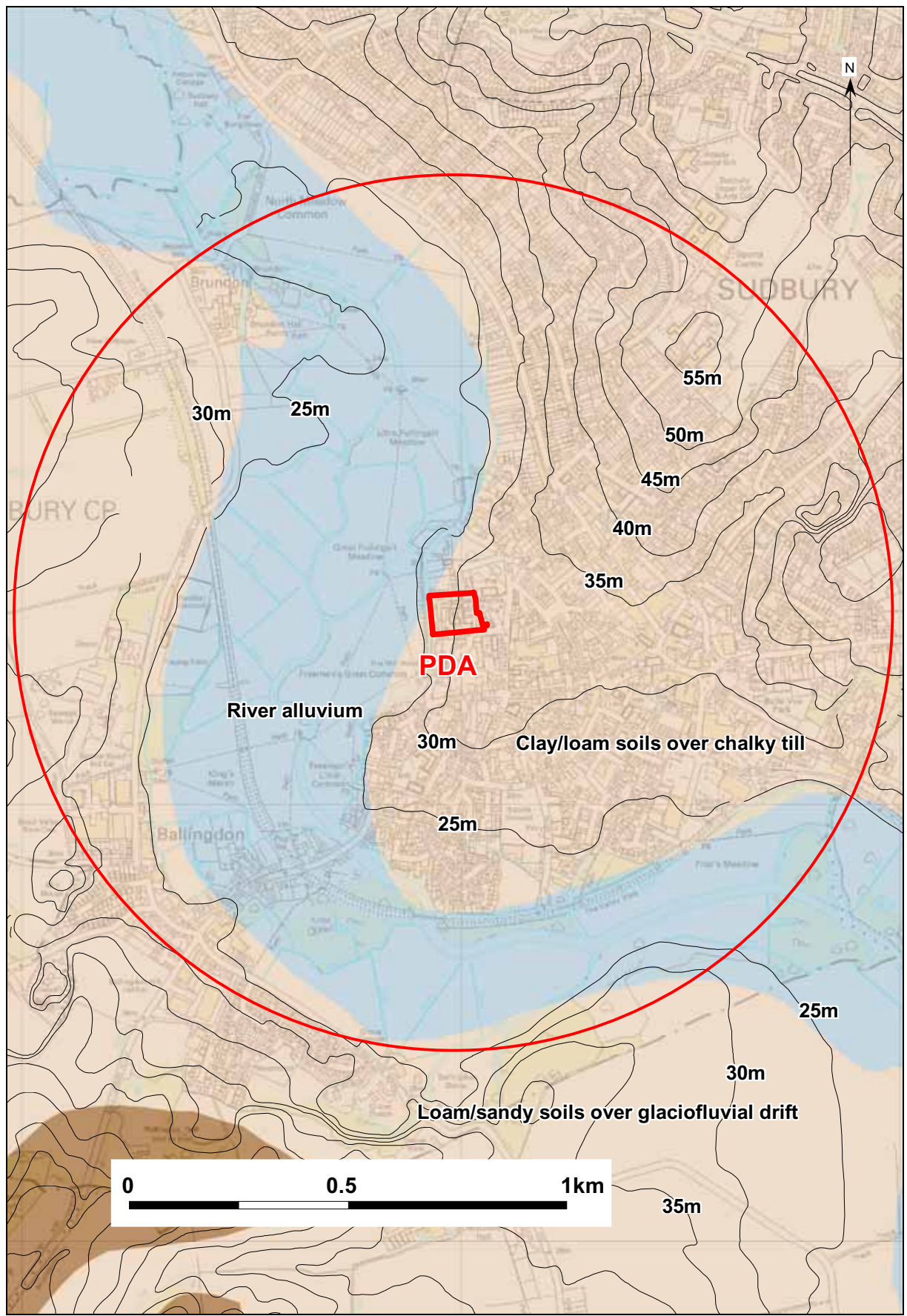


Figure 1. Location map



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Figure 2. Topography and geology

1.5 Aims

The aim of the DBA is to determine as far as reasonably practicable from the existing records, the previous landuse, the nature of the archaeological resource and the potential resource within the PDA. In particular the DBA will:

- Collate and assess the existing information regarding archaeological and historical remains within and adjacent to the site.
- Identify any known archaeological sites which are of sufficient potential importance to require an outright constraint on development (i.e. those that will need preservation *in situ*).
- Assess the potential for unrecorded archaeological sites within the application area.
- Assess the likely impact of past land uses (specifically, areas of quarrying) and the potential quality of preservation of below ground deposits, and where possible to model those deposits.
- Assess the potential for the use of particular investigative techniques in order to aid the formulation of any mitigation strategy.

1.6 Methods

The methodology involved interrogating the following sources of data to meet the aims of this DBA.

A search of the Suffolk HER for any records within 1km from the centre of the PDA. The results are described and mapped in section 2 below.

An examination of the literature with reference to archaeological excavations within the study area.

An examination of the metal detecting and fieldwalking survey data recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database.

A search for listed buildings that may have a line of sight to the PDA was carried out. A summary is presented in section 2.2 below.

A historical documentary search, including an assessment of all cartographic sources was commissioned. The results have been summarised in section 2.4 below, with the full report presented in Appendix 1.

A site walkover was conducted on the 13/07/2012, for which notes and digital photographs were taken (Appendix 2).

1.7 Legislative frameworks

National Planning Policy Framework (which replaced PPS5 in March 2012) provides guidance for planning authorities, developers and others on planning and the historic environment (paragraphs 128 & 129 below).

128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979 statutorily protects Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) and their settings as nationally important sites.

Listed buildings are protected under the Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act of 1990. This ensures that listed buildings are given statutory protection against unauthorised demolition, alteration and extension. Buildings are listed because they are of special architectural importance, due to their architectural design, decoration and craftsmanship; also because they are of historical interest. This includes buildings that illustrate important aspects of the nation's social, economic, cultural or military history or have a close association with nationally important persons or events.

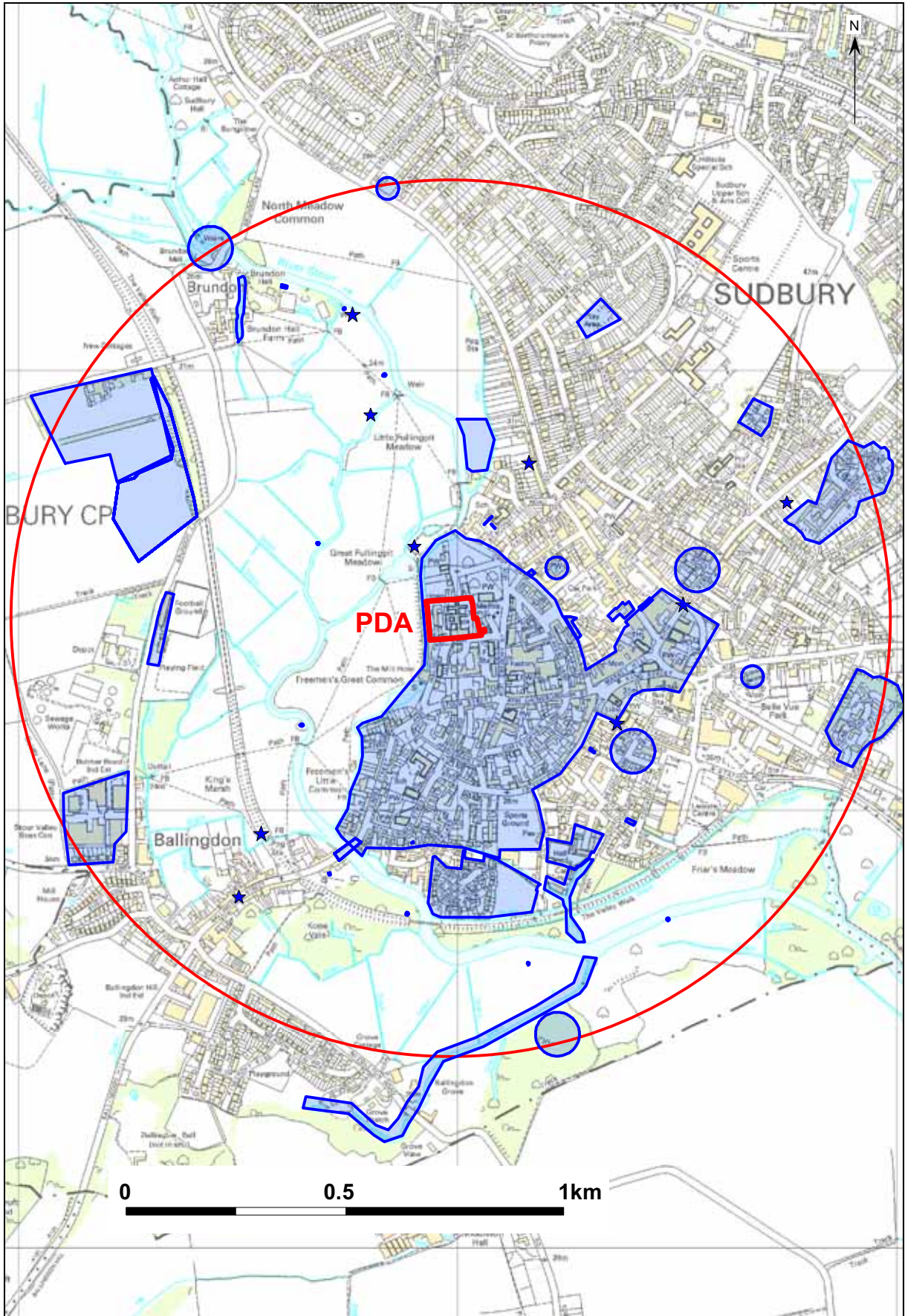
Conservation areas are designated for their special architectural and historic interest, usually by the local planning authority. Any alterations to properties, structures, trees etc in a conservation area may need permission from the local planning authority.

A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is an area that has been notified as being of special interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981, due to its flora, fauna or geological or geomorphological features.

A Registered Park or Garden is a site included on the 'Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England' which is maintained by English Heritage. It currently identifies over 1,600 sites assessed to be of national importance.

Registration is a 'material consideration' in the planning process, meaning that planning authorities must consider the impact of any proposed development on the special character of a registered park or garden.

Chapter 7 of the Babergh Local Plan Alteration No. 2 (2006) details local policy towards the historic environment and national policy. Of particular relevance are policies CN05, CN06 and & CN07 (Listed buildings), policies CN08 and CN09 (Conservation Areas), CN14 and CN15 (Historic Parks and Gardens) and CN16, CN17 and CN18 (Scheduled Monuments and archaeology).



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Figure 3. HER sites within 1km of the centre of the PDA

2. Results

2.1 Suffolk HER search

The HER only represents the archaeological material that has been reported, this is the 'known' resource. It is not therefore, a complete reflection of the whole archaeological resource of this area because other sites may remain undiscovered, this is considered as the 'potential' resource.

Figure 3 shows (unlabelled) all sites recorded in the HER within 1km of the centre of the PDA. The individual Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval sites within the defined area of the Anglo-Saxon and medieval town (SUY 040) are not shown separately. A specific selection of sites of these periods, those lying within or adjacent to the PDA, are shown separately in Figure 4 and detailed below.

All known archaeological sites within or adjacent to the PDA

SUY 004. St Gregory's College. Site of St Gregory's College – destroyed and now underlying hospital. A secular college founded by Simon of Sudbury in 1375, dissolved in 1544. Former college buildings rented and used as workhouse in 18th/early 19th century until, in 1836, the last remains of the building were pulled down, and the present Union House erected on their site. The old restored gateway, opposite the W tower of St Gregory, is the sole relic now remaining.

SUY 014. Gregory Street. A small excavation identified hand-made pottery, probably Iron Age, associated with a curving gully and a large shallow feature pitted with irregular holes. Also two late Anglo-Saxon pits, followed by a building represented by two parallel slots, then five large gravel extraction pits, one containing Late Anglo-Saxon (Thetford type ware) and early medieval pottery, weaving artefacts and environmental evidence for grain cleaning (Wade 1977).

SUY 019. 47 Gregory Street. Two pits dating to 17th and 19th century identified in excavation, natural geology at 1.5m depth (Wade 1978).

SUY 020. Walnut Tree Hospital. Buried soil horizon sealed by 0.1m of yellow clay exposed in building operations. Soil consisted of dark grey sandy loam, not bottomed and trench abandoned. One sherd of pottery, possibly prehistoric, from top of buried soil.

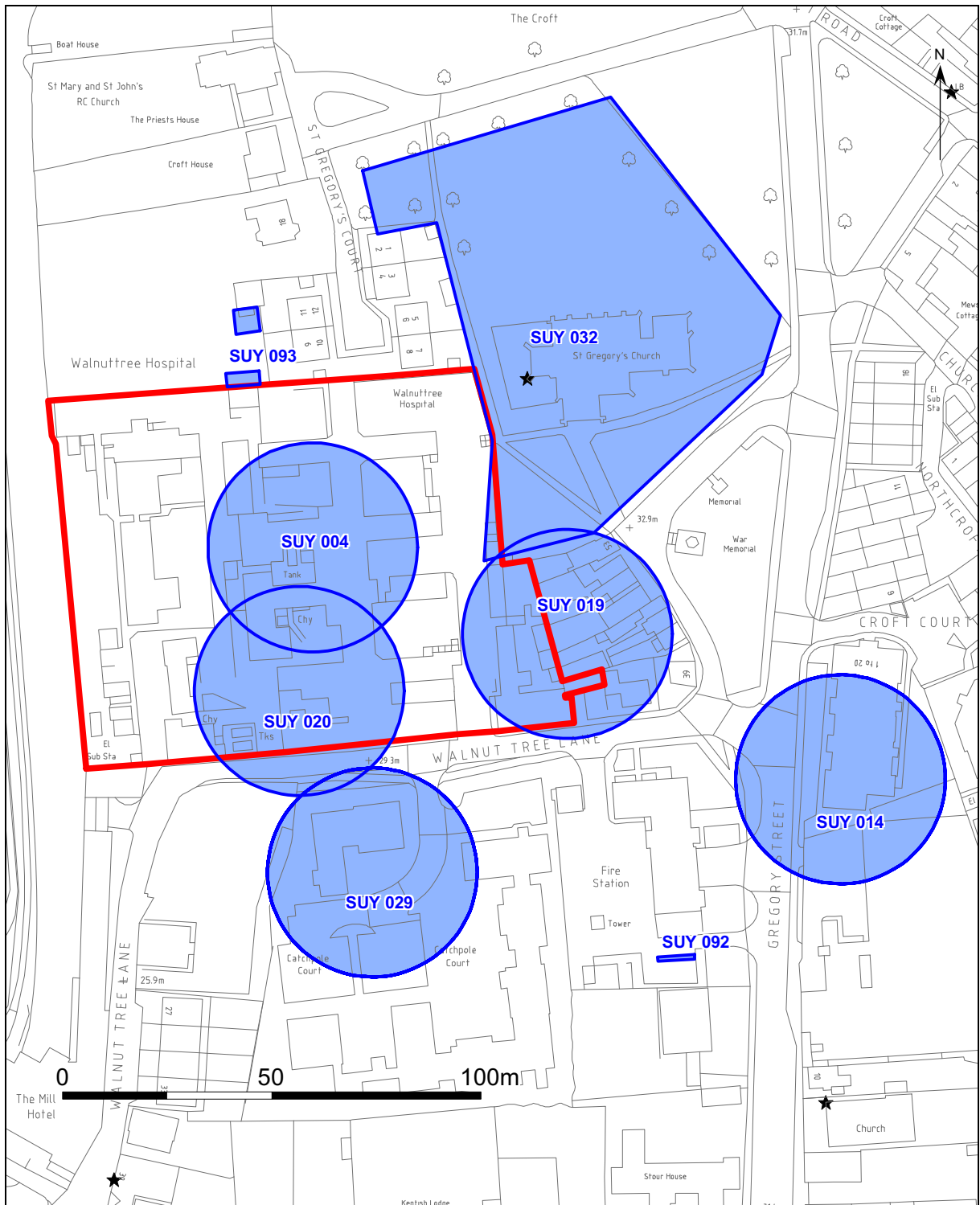
SUY 029. Walnut Tree Hospital. 1000sqm excavation on site of old orchard and garden, fronting Walnut Tree Lane, identified residual Iron Age, Roman, middle and late Anglo-Saxon pottery, and early medieval and medieval pottery amongst heavy 19th century disturbance by quarrying. Small undisturbed area contained two large pits, of Middle Anglo-Saxon and Early medieval date.

Second undisturbed area of 250sqm in south-west corner contained two Iron Age pits and eight pits, one ditch, one slot and a post hole boundary line of early medieval date (Newman undated).

SUY 032. Church of St Gregory. 14th century collegiate church on site of earlier medieval and Anglo-Saxon churches. Reputedly based on a church dating to circa AD 780. Mother church of Sudbury. Present building probably third church on site. A church of St Gregory existed in 1206 when it was given by Amicia Countess of Clare to the Prioress of Eaton. This was purchased by Simon de Sudbury off the Nuns of Eaton in the 14th century whereupon he 'raised the roof of the nave, and built the clorestory'. Adjoining college (SUY 004) founded by Simon de Sudbury in 1375.

SUY 092. The Fire Station, Gregory Street. Evaluation trench identified series of layers and pits, all post-medieval or modern in date. Excavation stopped at a depth 1.2m, natural geological horizon not seen.

SUY 093. Lorne Villa. An archaeological monitoring carried out in the grounds of Lorne Villa identified a heat-affected brick structure, which may be a late medieval kiln/oven and a series of post-medieval deposits and pits.



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Figure 4. HER sites within or adjacent to the PDA

2.1.2 All known archaeological sites within 1km of the centre of the PDA

In addition to the sites listed above and the other Anglo-Saxon to post-medieval sites located within SUY 040 there are fifty-four entries on the HER recorded within 1km of the centre of the PDA (Figs. 5-8).

General prehistoric

BCB 025. Kings Marsh. Palaeoenvironmental assessment of deposits indicated peat accumulation adjacent to the River Stour between the Iron Age and the Medieval periods. The pollen record suggested no reduction in the tree cover in the locality that could be attributed to human activity. The beetle and insect record were both typical of a floodplain backswamp, which imply the main channel of the Stour was probably some way to the east of the sampling site. The general sequence of the deposits illustrated a significant phase of floodplain evolution from the Iron Age, with accumulation of organic peat followed by channel migration and deposition of alluvium during the Saxon period.

Palaeolithic (BC 500,000 – BC 10,001)

BCB 002. Brundon Pit. Flints including ? Clactonian flakes, notched flake, subcordate hand-axe, flake hand-axe, Acheulean borer.

SUY 010. Implements and faunal remains identified in late 19th century. Location uncertain.

Neolithic (BC 4,000 – BC 2,351) /Bronze Age (BC 2,350 - BC 801)

BCB 002. Brundon Pit. "Scores of worked flints", including leaf-shaped and barbed and tanged arrowheads, and Neolithic polished axes have been found in the gravel pit since work commenced around 1918, but all are dispersed and cannot be located'.

SUY 028. Stour House, Gregory Street. Earliest phase of activity identified in 144sqm excavation was Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, with a few small pits associated with grooved ware and beaker sherds.

Iron Age (BC 800 – 42 AD)

BCB 002. Brundon Pit. Two pottery vessels (from burials?) Belgic. Both possible pre-Conquest imports.

SUY 028. Stour House, Gregory Street. Phase of Iron Age activity identified in 144sqm excavation. Features consisted of two pits, the larger producing high status finds including burnt fragments of three decorated bone combs, another decorated burnt bone fragment of uncertain function and a dozen baked clay sling shot. Six of these were found in a little cache within the pit and the total of fourteen from the site is the largest group from Suffolk. Later on the site appears to have been on the edge of an enclosure as three, nearly parallel, ditches were found. Each was just over a metre deep. Two were of Late Iron Age date and from the top of one came a bronze button and loop fastener. The third ditch appears to be early Roman. The medieval property boundary ran parallel to these ditches and suggests that they could still be seen during the medieval period.

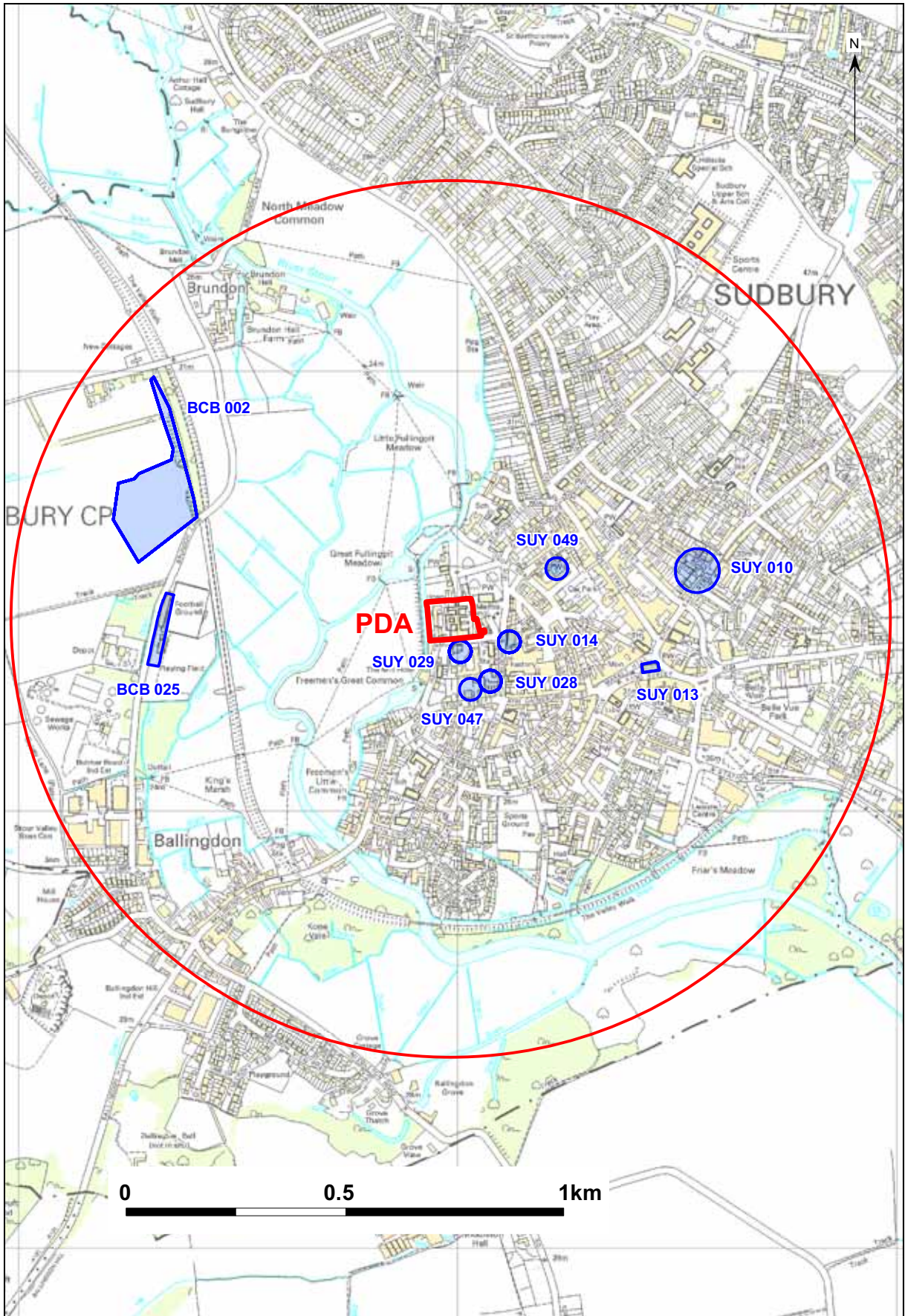
SUY 047. Hardwick House, Stour Street. Two Iron Age pits identified during monitoring of footing trenches for extension to Hardwick House.

Roman (43 AD – 409 AD)

BCB 002. Brundon Pit. Site of Roman cemetery, found in 1948 'at a depth of about 0.8m, whilst removing topsoil prior to gravel extraction. 'Several urns' found each appearing to have contained cremated remains. Reported finds of pottery, including Samian, found in the gravel pit since work commenced around 1918. Other finds from gravel pit include cremated bone in glass bottle, iron lamp slipper, pots, including 'Belgic' (?) type.

SUY 013. Church of St Peter. 'A large number of Roman bricks used in the construction of St Peter's Church'. In the upper half of all the walls.

SUY 049. Seven Roman coins (late 3rd and 4th century) found digging a hole in garden.



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Figure 5. Prehistoric and Roman sites within 1km of the centre of the PDA

Anglo-Saxon (410 AD – 1065 AD)

SUY 040. Anglo-Saxon town of Sudbury. Urban by Late Anglo-Saxon period.

Construction date of defensive ditch surrounding town unknown but backfilled by 13th/14th century. Anglo-Saxon finds and features identified in several locations within defined area of town,

SUY 045. Possible site of Anglo-Saxon mint.

Medieval (AD 1066 – AD 1539)

BCB 012. Ballingdon Bridge. Medieval bridge, construction date unknown. Several phases of rebuilding known, one being of stone. Known to be standing at the beginning of 13th century as Amicia, Countess of Clare, endowed hospital of St John (SUY 006) with tolls of the bridge (circa early 13th century). Swept away by a flood on 4 November 1520, but re-built the following year. The bridge was broken again by a flood on 8th September 1594. Mapped by Saxton in 1575 and by Speede in 1610. Monitoring of the project to demolish and replace Ballingdon Bridge in 2002 produced evidence of four previous bridges dating from between the 13th century to the early years of the 20th century. The remains of a stone, brick and two wooden bridges were found along with evidence of both collapses and phases of repair, this tied in closely with documentary accounts to provide a detailed history of the crossing.

BCB 015. Brundon Mill. In 1406-7 Brundon Mill is described in a Latin account of the Manor of `Brundon cum Molendino' as a Fulling Mill "Molend' Fullon".

BCB Misc. River Stour dredging, Brundon. Small group of potsherds recovered from river dredgings.

SUY 001. Site of St Leonard's Hospital. Founded in 1272 by John Colneys or Colness, its first governor or warden. In the later corporation books of Sudbury there are several references to the `hospital called Colnes' and lands adjoining. In 1619-20 `the little house at the Colnes' was rebuilt. In 1822 the building was let in rooms to fifteen poor people and the land to other people. In 1858 the managers, the Municipal Church Trustees, built two detached double tenements near the site of the old buildings.

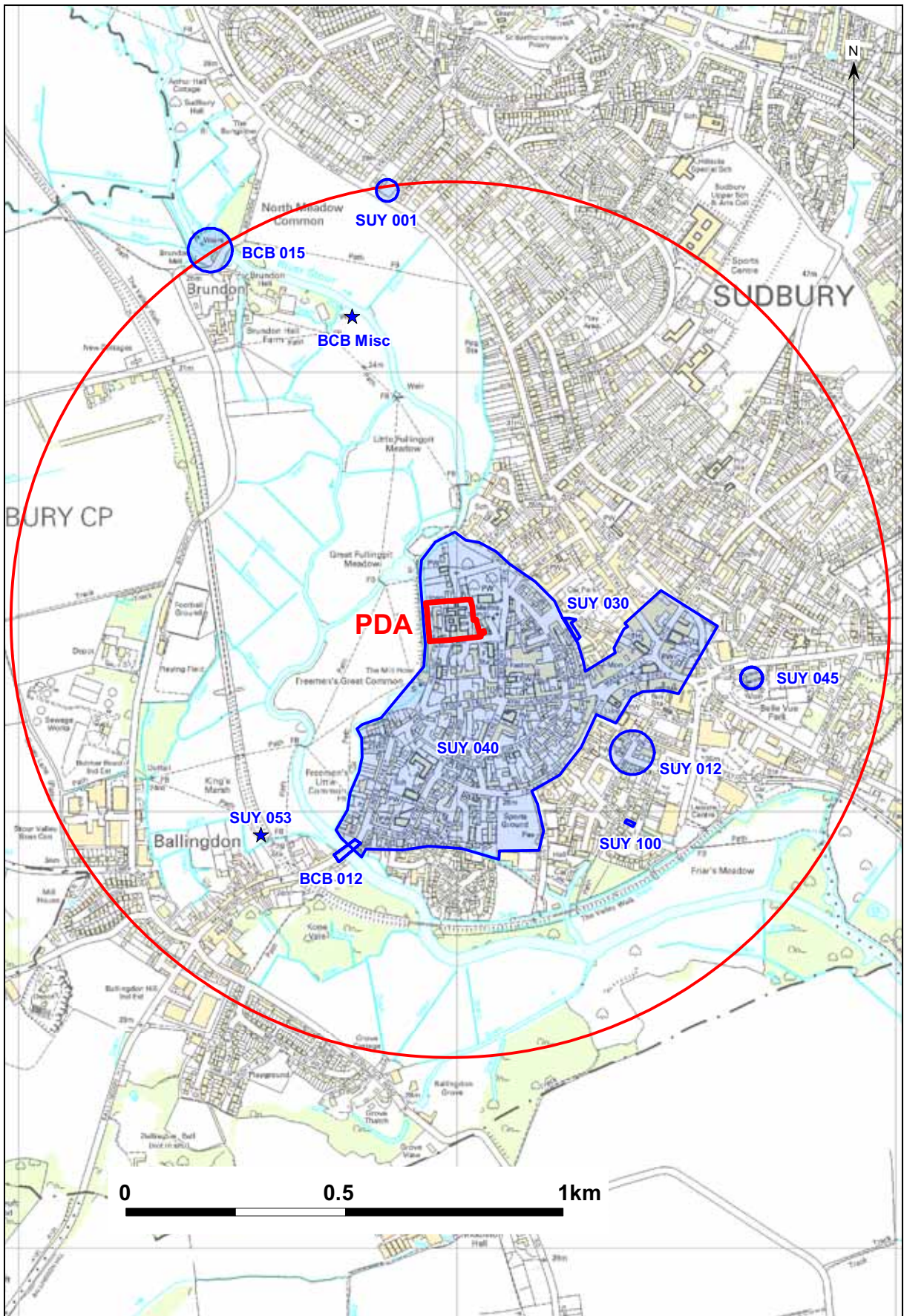
SUY 012. 2 Meadow Lane. ?Medieval ridge and floor tile. 17th century pottery from below cobble stone floor. Found in garden.

SUY 030: Burbitts Lane/Gaol Lane. Ground investigation (by developer) prior to housing development located deposits 1.2m to 1.5m deep over south end of site, dropping to between 2m to 3.3m deep at north end. Medieval and ?Thetford type ware pottery sherds and oyster shells reported from north part of site.

SUY 040. Area of medieval town of Sudbury. `Area of archaeological interest' defined in Babergh Local Plan in April 1990. Area of town defined on west side by `Mill Stream', on north and east sides by presumed defensive ditch along surviving street plan, with secondary settlement surrounding 15th century church of St Peter, and to south by defensive ditch, which had been backfilled by 13th/14th century, along line of surviving street plan with further secondary expansion toward River Stour and around 15th century church of All Saints. Area also includes church of St Gregory (and adjoining college; Chapel of Holy Sepulchre; Dominican Friary; Hospital; various finds and excavations revealing medieval features and artefacts.

SUY 045. Possible site of Saxon & Norman mint.

SUY 100. Land at Westway, Edgworth Road. Monitoring of footing trenches identified a single unstratified sherd of medieval pottery.



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Figure 6. Anglo-Saxon and medieval sites within 1km of the centre of the PDA

Post-medieval (AD 1539 – AD 1900)

BCB 008. Ballingdon Grove Brickworks. Three lime kilns. Also location of major brickworks, Ballingdon Grove Works, operated by Robert Alfred Allen 1844-1858, R A Allen & Sons 1865, Allen & Boggis 1922-1939.

BCB 012. Ballingdon Bridge. Bridge shown on Brewer's 1714, Hodskinson's 1783 and Bowen's 1755 maps. Added to list of County Bridges on 8 February 1892. Evidence of post medieval buildings adjacent to the river and the augmentation of the Sudbury bank through revetments and dumping of household and industrial rubbish from the 15th century were also found in 2002 monitoring.

BCB 014. Ballingdon Cut. The Ballingdon Cut, an early 19th century waterway linking Ballingdon Brickworks with the River Stour. The Cut, now dry and overgrown, still contains the remains of nearly twenty wooden lighters lying bow to stern where they were moored by the Navigation Company. The last of them were deliberately scuttled in 1914 to prevent their being useful to the enemy should Germany invade. Named as 'canal' on 1845 tithe apportionment.

BCB 015. Brundon Mill. Watermill, commonly called Brundon Mill.

BCB 019. Victoria Works. 1887: Victoria Brick Works shown on OS map with kilns, drying sheds etc, in north half of plot. Operated by Edward C Gibbons 1883-1888, closed 1910.

BCB 024. Brundon Hall Moat. Monitoring visits made during de-silting of the moat showed it was fairly shallow with a flat base. The base of a brick and flint wall was seen, thought to be nineteenth century.

BCB 027. Barn at Brundon Hall. 19th century barn built in two sections in the grounds of Brundon Hall, an 18th century Grade II* listed building.

SUY 036. Railway Chalk Pit. Lime kiln/s shown on 1881 and 1904 OS maps. Site cleared or infilled by July 1978. Chalk(?) pits also extended further to east.

SUY 037. Lime kiln/s in former chalk pit near waterworks, cleared or infilled by 1978.

SUY 038. Lime kiln to west of Acton Lane. Shown on 1904 OS map, cleared or infilled by 1978.

SUY 039. Victoria Works. Mapped lime kilns at Victoria Works, cleared or infilled by 1978. Three shown on the 1904 OS map.

SUY 048. North Meadow. Meadow works on North Meadow consisting of slight parallel depressions at right angles to the River Stour. Depressions approx 1m wide and 3.5m apart, water-filled in winter. Area coincides with that part owned by Alexander Duff, silk manufacturer of Sudbury in 1840. Works probably date from c.1800 when floated water meadows were in vogue.

SUY 057. Station Road. Contractors tunnelling under road encountered a group of post-medieval artefacts at c.4m depth from present street level. Late 17th/early 18th century finds likely from a deep feature such as latrine, well or basement.

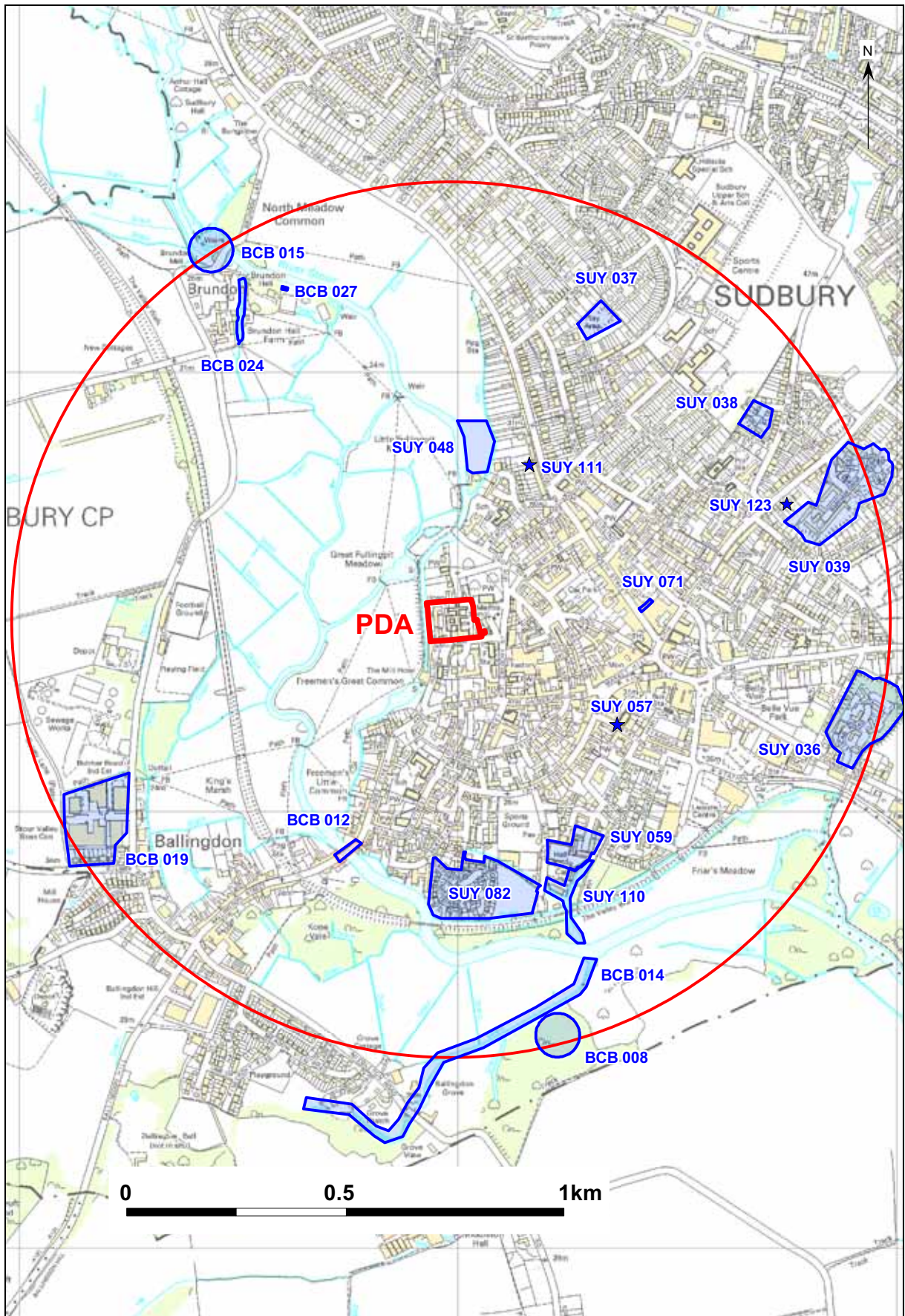
SUY 059. Sudbury town gas works. Built 1836. Shown on Tithe map and later OS maps which show changing positions of tanks. Remnants levelled June 2002.

SUY 071. 92 North Street. Archaeological monitoring for an extension located a large rubbish pit of late medieval/post-medieval date and a 19th/20th century foundation trench and brick lined well or soakaway.

SUY 082. Priory Stadium. Archaeological evaluation located post-medieval cultivation layers and a paleochannel.

SUY 110. Navigation Warehouses. Pair of fine 18th century warehouses by basins at the head of Stour Navigation. Basin holds the recently restored Stour lighter, which apart from the necessary addition of a rudder is very similar to those shown in Constable's paintings.

SUY 111. Silk Workshops, Melford Road. Buildings representing the stages of development of the silk industry, domestic workshops. Location corrected to match 1880s mapping of 'Silk Manufactory'.



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Figure 7. Post-medieval sites within 1km of the centre of the PDA

Modern (1900 - present)

SUY 053. Near Ballingdon Bridge. Tett turret - rare one-man pillbox. Totally destroyed - 2001.

SUY 114. Ballingdon Meadow. Standard type 27 WW2 pillbox. Entrance faces south. Brick internal and external shuttering, but all external shuttering has been removed. Round pillar, metal pivot on square column. Square vents. One-piece steel plates at embrasures. Some 200m south of 'Quay Theatre', on opposite bank of River Stour, some 50m from south bank.

SUY 115. Friar's Meadow. Standard type 27 WW2 pillbox. All external brick shuttering has gone. Some remains of metal camouflage net supports on roof. One piece steel plates at embrasures. Entrance faces south.

SUY 116. Type 27 pillbox. Internal and external brick shuttering. Round central pillar, square vents. Entrance faces south. Nearly all exterior brick shuttering gone. No steel plates at embrasures.

SUY 118. Large pillbox, of a type common in this area , mixture of a type 22 with a type 27. Hexagonal, with central chamber with mounting for anti-aircraft gun. Pit is 6-sided, each side with a small hole leading downwards into the main part of the pillbox. Small embrasures. 'Creep-through' entrance on west side with raised lip at entrance to keep out floodwater. The yellow brick cladding is mostly gone. There are the remains of two vertical metal bars, cut off flush with the roof, which probably held up camouflage netting.

SUY 119. Type 27 pillbox. External yellow brick shuttering largely gone. No steel plates at embrasures. MG mount on square pillar on round column. Square vents. Entrance faces west.

SUY 0120. Hexagonal pillbox, facing east. Creep-through entrance.

SUY 021. Type 27 pillbox. Hexagonal pillbox facing east. Small embrasures of which two are now blocked. The creep through entrance has grass on its roof and the LAA chamber is now filled with earth. Most of the yellow brick cladding has fallen away.

SUY 122. Anti-tank cylinders lying in the river bed and against the banks. Look as if they have been removed post-war from their original location - perhaps on the adjacent railway line - and used as reinforcement for the banks of the river.

SUY 123. *Banham Close.* Spigot mortar emplacement. Tall pedestal (2.5ft - 3ft high), no bomb alcoves. Destroyed by residential development prior to 1997.

SUY 127. Pillbox noted on a visit in 1998. Removed by 1999, no surviving traces.

SUY 128. Large square pillbox, thick-walled. The blocked-up main embrasure appears big enough to have taken a 6-pdr anti-tank gun. Chamfered corners with airbricks. Small blocked embrasures on sides.

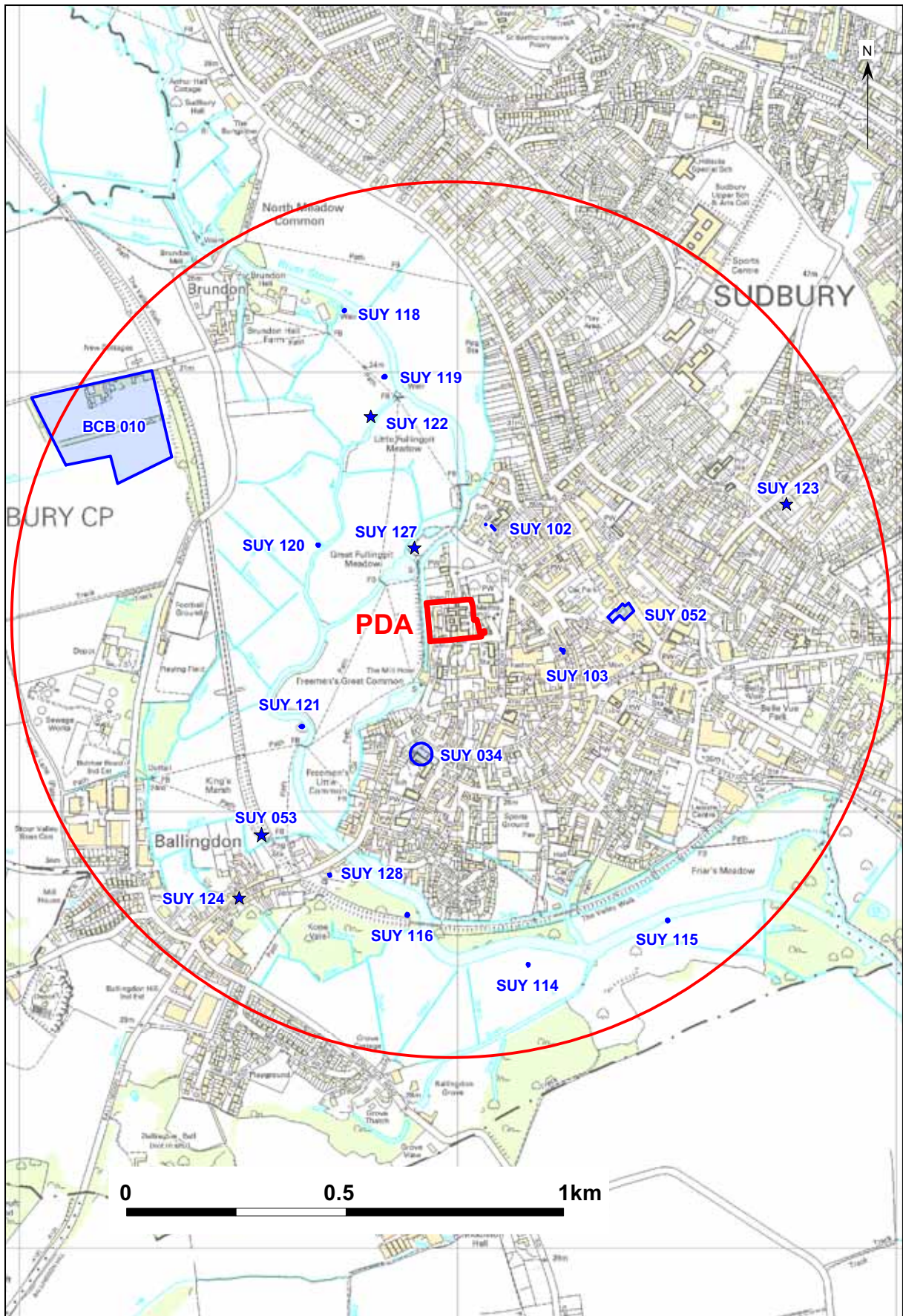
Undated

BCB 010. *New cottages near Brundon Pit.* Remains of field boundaries forming rectilinear pattern.

SUY 034. *Mill Lane School.* Three worked flints, date unknown, from Mill Lane School excavation.

SUY 052. *Former Four Swans Hotel, North Street.* Monitoring of groundworks located two undated pits. Rest of site suffered severe truncation, probably during construction of earlier hotel.

SUY 102. *St Josephs Primary School.* Trenched evaluation revealed large, probably 19th century pit/quarry and an undated ditch.



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Figure 8. Post-medieval sites within 1km of the centre of the PDA

2.1.3 Unmapped sites recorded in the HER from the vicinity of the PDA.

Further prehistoric and Roman finds, for which the location is unknown but are recorded as coming from the parish in the Suffolk HER, may lie within the search area.

- Palaeolithic implements (SUY Misc – MSF5742).
- Palaeolithic implements from various pits near Sudbury and elsewhere (SUY Misc – MSF5743).
- Neolithic polished Whin stone celt (SUY Misc - MSF5744).
- Neolithic polished axes and other implements (SUY Misc – MSF5745).
- Neolithic handaxe now in the Ashmolean Museum (SUY Misc – MSF5746).
- Bronze Age socketed axe (SUY Misc - MSF5747)
- Bronze Age beaker, domestic type, non-plastic rusticated (SUY Misc - MSF5748)
- Roman coins (SUY Misc -MSF5749).
- Three Roman vases found 1848 (SUY Misc - MSF5750).
- Roman rim sherd of black wheel-made cooking pot, mid - late C1 AD (SUY Misc - MSF5751).

2.2 Listed Buildings

A search was carried out on the Suffolk HER and on the listed building web site <http://list.english-heritage.org.uk>. There are over 100 Listed Buildings within 1km of the centre of the PDA, the vast majority of which lie to the south and east within the Conservation Area and historic core of Sudbury (Fig. 9).

Of these fourteen lie within c.125m of the perimeter of the PDA and may potentially have a line of sight to a part of it (Fig. 10). These include:

1037484. 41 and 43, Gregory Street

Grade II

18th century with alterations. Rectangular block of 2 cottages. Stucco with applied wood ribbing at 1st floor. Tile roof. White brick chimney. 2 storeys. 2 flush frame sash windows with glazing bars. Flush frame casement, with glazing bars, on return.

1037529. 18, The Croft

Grade II

19th century. Yellow brick. 2 storey. 3 windows including splay bay, left. Central entrance. Sash windows with central glazing bars only. Slates. Included for Group Value. All the listed buildings in The Croft (West Side) form a group.

1037530. Croft Lodge, The Croft

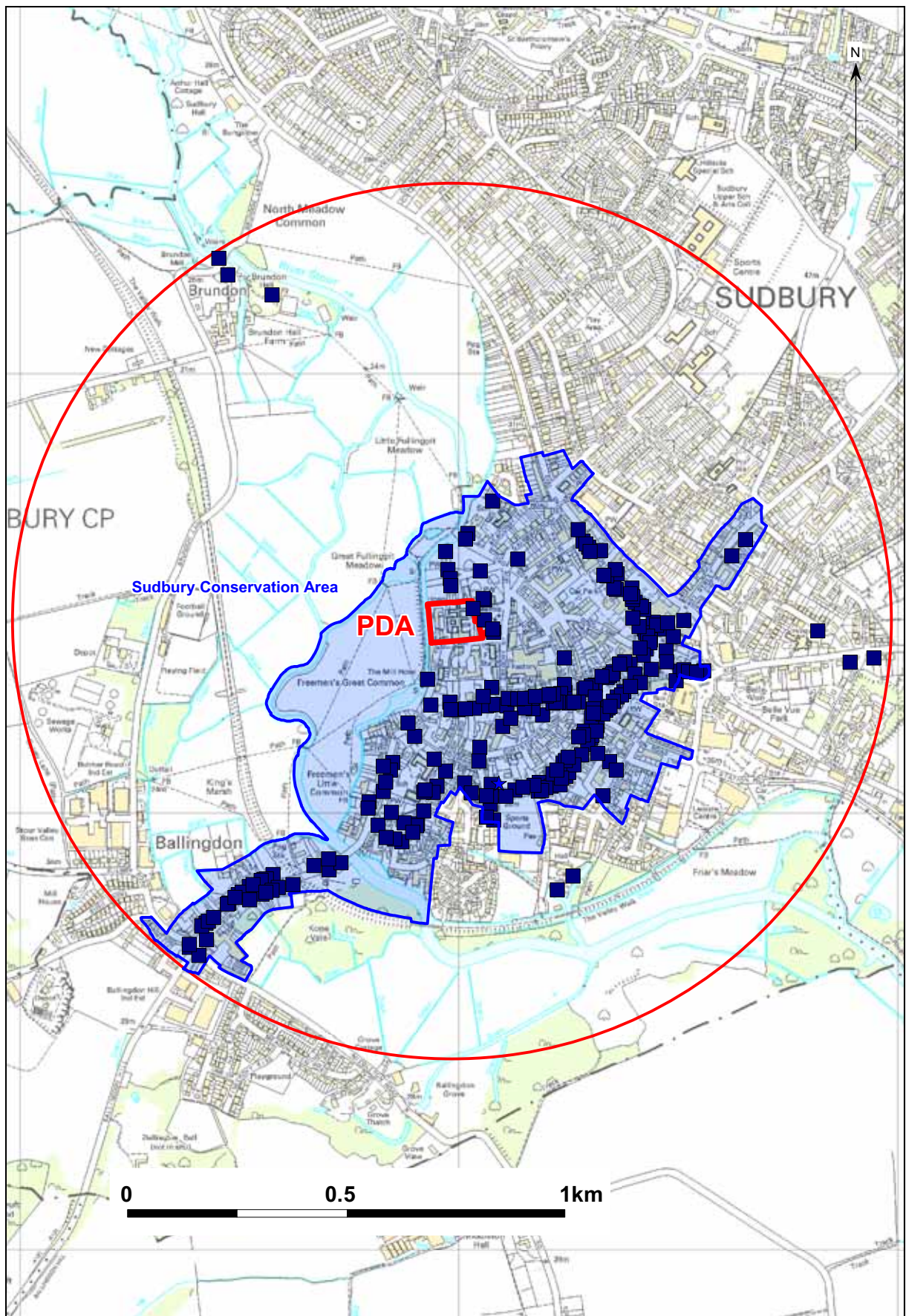
Grade II

Early 19th century. 2 storeys. 3 windows with central projection with glazed porch. Stucco, lined and painted. Deep band below eaves soffit. Slate roof, hipped. Mainly flush-frame sash windows with glazing bars. Glazed verandah, right and left. Lawned garden. All the listed buildings in The Croft (West Side) form a group.

1037548. CHURCH OF ST GREGORY

Grade I

The mother church of the town and originally collegiate (St Gregory's college, where is present workhouse west of church). On Saxon site but mainly Perpendicular with later additions. Some good windows and south door, 20 miserere stalls. Fine traceried 15th



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Figure 9. Listed buildings and Conservation Areas within 1km of the centre of the PDA

century font cover. Head of Archbishop Simon of Sudbury (14th century) beheaded by mob in Wat Tylers rebellion 1381, preserved in niche in vestry.

1037549. Churchyard Walls

Grade II

Medieval with restorations, brick and stone churchyard walls, part with Gothic cope.

1051998. Stour House (Nurses Home), Stour Street

Grade II

Early 19th century. 2 storeys 3 windows brick, painted with stone or stucco dressings, painted. Wide eaves to low-pitch roof with modern covering. Sash windows, 3-light at sides, with glazing bars. Coupled pilasters to central entrance and to centre 1st floor window, single pilasters at flanks of side windows. Entablature above entrance and ground floor windows. 3-panel door with divided fanlight.

1051999. Corn Mill (Sudbury Flour Mills), Walnut Tree Lane

Grade II

17th/18th century with alterations and additions. 4 storey and attics 3 windows. Weather boarded. Flush frame casements with glazing bars. Hoist at 1st floor. Steep tiled roof with centre gable. 19th century wing east 4 storey 2 windows, yellow brick, recessed casements with segmental arches.

1180553. 39, Gregory Street

Grade II

Early 19th century 2 storey 2 window cottage. Flint with Suffolk brick dressings. Mainly 3-lights casements with cambered heads, (1 sash window) with glazing bars. Wood trellis porch at south west corner. Small garden. Corner position.

1194668. Gateway to St Gregory's College (now Modern Workhouse), West side Of Churchyard

Grade II

Later Perpendicular red brick gateway with embattled head, straight arch and carved spandrels. An escutcheon with Arms of Archbishop Simon of Sudbury over archway. All

largely rebuilt or restored. College was founded 1374, in early 18th century, was sold to court of Guardians for workhouse, 1836 last remnants of old building pulled down.

1194821. Stable Block at Croft Lodge, The Croft

Grade II

Contemporary with Croft Lodge, gault brick, hipped slate roof. Large gabled central left opening. All the listed buildings in The Croft (West Side) form a group.

1285419. Gregory Cottage, 53, Gregory Street

Grade II

2 storey terrace with centre part (Nos 49 and 51) remodelled. No 47 probably 17th century. Stucco 1st floor with front gable. Brick, painted, ground floor. Steep tiled roof. Flush frame sash windows, with glazing bars remaining at ground floor. 6-panel door. Nos 49 and 51, mid 19th century yellow brick with red dressings. Slate roofs. Gregory Cottage probably 17th century in origin, altered 18th century, 2 storey stucco with front gable. Tile roof. Flush frame sash windows now with central glazing bars only.

1285531. Church of St Mary and St John, The Croft

Grade II

1893. Architect Leonard Stokes. Red brick with stone dressings including bands and stone traceried mullion window right. Entrance, left, with stone case, in slightly recessed portion which rises to turret with fleche. All the listed buildings in The Croft (West Side) form a group.

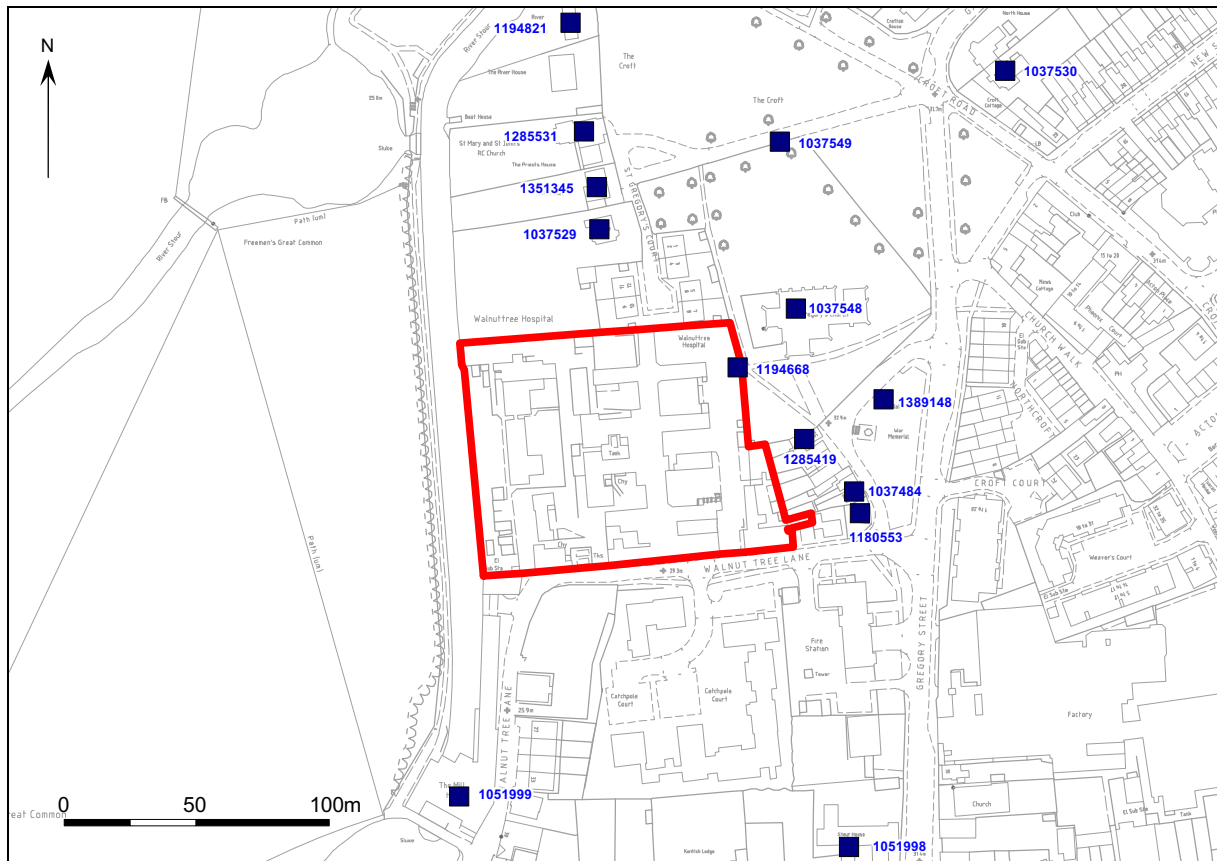
1351345. 19, The Croft

Grade II

Early 19th century roughcast with plain pilasters, and band to small eaves soffit. Slates. Near flush frame windows, casements 1st floor, sash with glazing bars ground floor. Central entrance with wood case with quasi pediment. All the listed buildings in The Croft (West Side) form a group.

1389148. War Memorial opposite St Gregory's Church, Gregory Street
Grade II

War Memorial. 1920. To the designs of Sir Reginald Blomfield. Stone ashlar with bronze sword and plaques. Octagonal pedestal rises in steps and has bronze plaques recording the names of the fallen in both World Wars. Above is a tall cross with reversed sword on the front. The memorial was moved to its present position from the top of North Street in the mid 1960's.



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Figure 10. Listed buildings within 125m of perimeter of the PDA

2.3 Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas and SSSI's

2.3.1 Scheduled Monuments

There are no SM's within 1km of the centre of the PDA.

2.3.2 Conservation Areas

The Conservation Area of Sudbury, which largely encompasses the area of the medieval town, lies wholly within the 1km search area. The PDA itself is wholly within the Conservation Area (Fig. 4).

2.3.3 Registered Parks or Gardens

There are no Registered Parks or Gardens within 1km of the centre of the PDA.

2.3.4 Sites of Special Scientific Interest

There are no SSSI's within 1km of the centre of the PDA.

2.4 Documentary study summary

The study of available documentary and cartographic sources (Appendix 1) summarises the basic history of St Gregory's College which once occupied the PDA and details the extent of its survival into the 18th and 19th centuries whereupon it was finally demolished in 1836 and replaced by the Union Workhouse.

Sources examined during the study provide evidence for the size, layout and appearance of the college buildings in the 18th/early 19th century. Together they indicate two main ranges aligned west to east, each of two or three stories in height, lying to north and south of a central courtyard. Downes' plan of the borough of 1815 and its derivative tithe map of 1840 indicate that the surviving college buildings were of a similar size to St Gregory's church, i.e. c.40m east to west, while the depiction of the college in 1818 suggests that the surviving buildings measured c.25-30m from north to south (a rough calculation based upon the size of gateways and human figures) which

suggests a total area of perhaps 40m by 40m once the missing southern range is included.

Brewers map of 1714 is highly stylized, showing the appearance of the college buildings and a southern boundary wall, but is perhaps of less use when assessing the size and position of the complex, it simply being shown as occupying the area between churchyard and the river.

The PDA as a whole is shown as three plots in 1815, with two outlying buildings. The 1818 picture of the College indicates that at least one of the boundaries separating the plots was defined by a stone wall.

Of particular importance is the position of the college, hitherto generally assumed to have lain under the workhouse, i.e. entirely within the PDA. The tithe map however indicates that the college buildings lay as far north as the church and so, while generally being in the north-east quadrant of the PDA, the northern range may actually lie to the north of the PDA, with the wall extending westwards possibly marking the current PDA boundary.

The northern boundary of the College/workhouse grounds on the 1840 tithe map also appears to correspond to a boundary shown on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Edition Ordnance Surveys (Figs. 11-13), c.20m to the north of the PDA. The tithe map boundary connects to an unusual, unexplained 'U' shaped plot which again corresponds to a circular feature (a pond?) lying across the boundary on the 1st and 2nd Ordnance Surveys.

The Ordnance Survey maps all show the mid 19th century workhouse occupying the site, with very little variation during the 40 year period covered. The eastern half is shown as being covered by the main hospital buildings, with a separate hospital building in the north-west corner and open orchard or gardens to the south-west. The present layout of the layout remains essentially unchanged from these maps apart from the addition of various structures in the south-west part of the site.

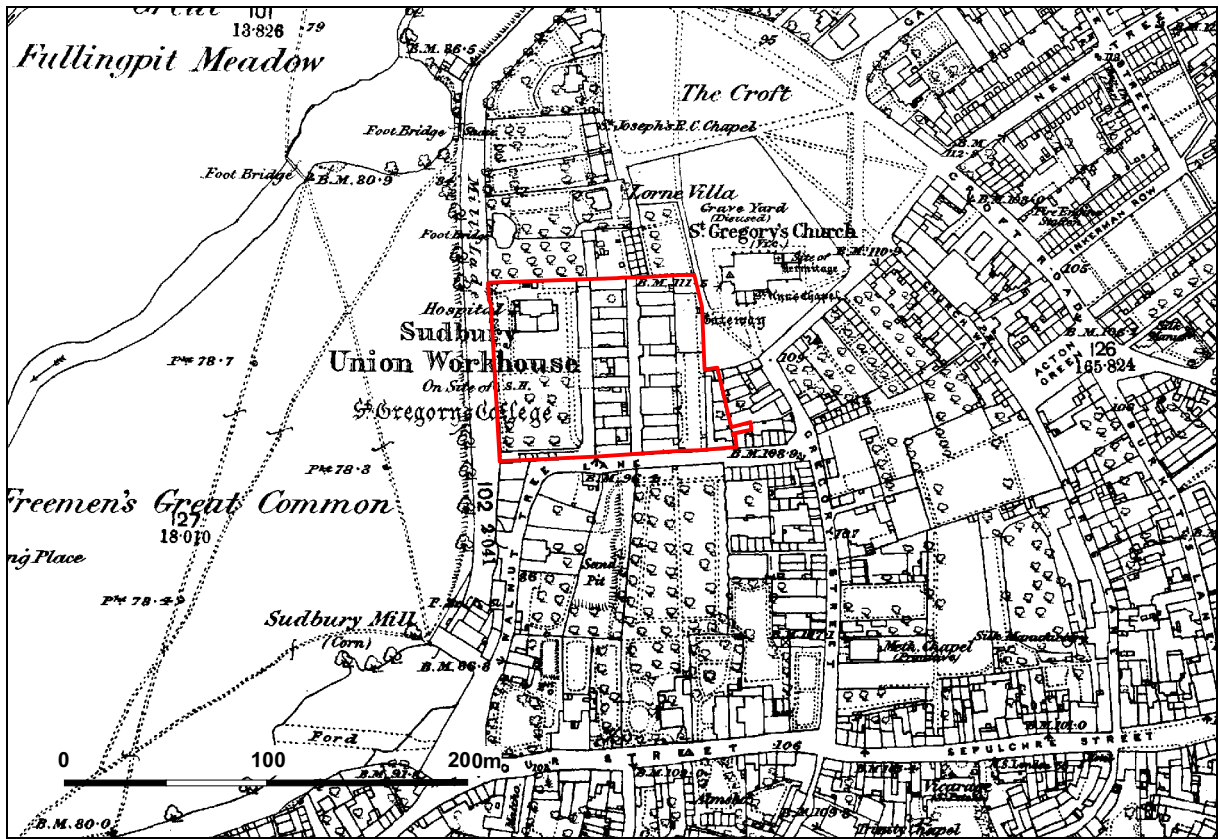


Figure 11. Location of the PDA on 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, 1886.

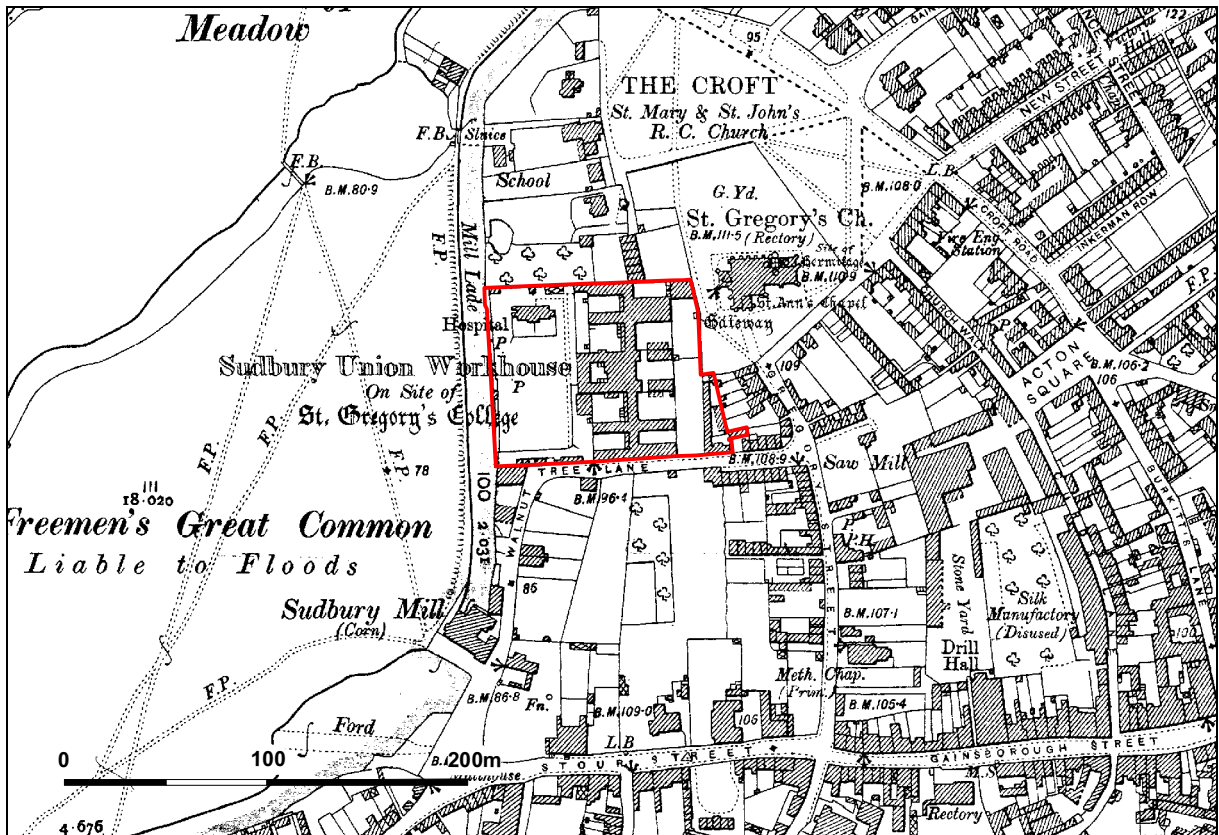


Figure 12. Location of the PDA on 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, 1904.

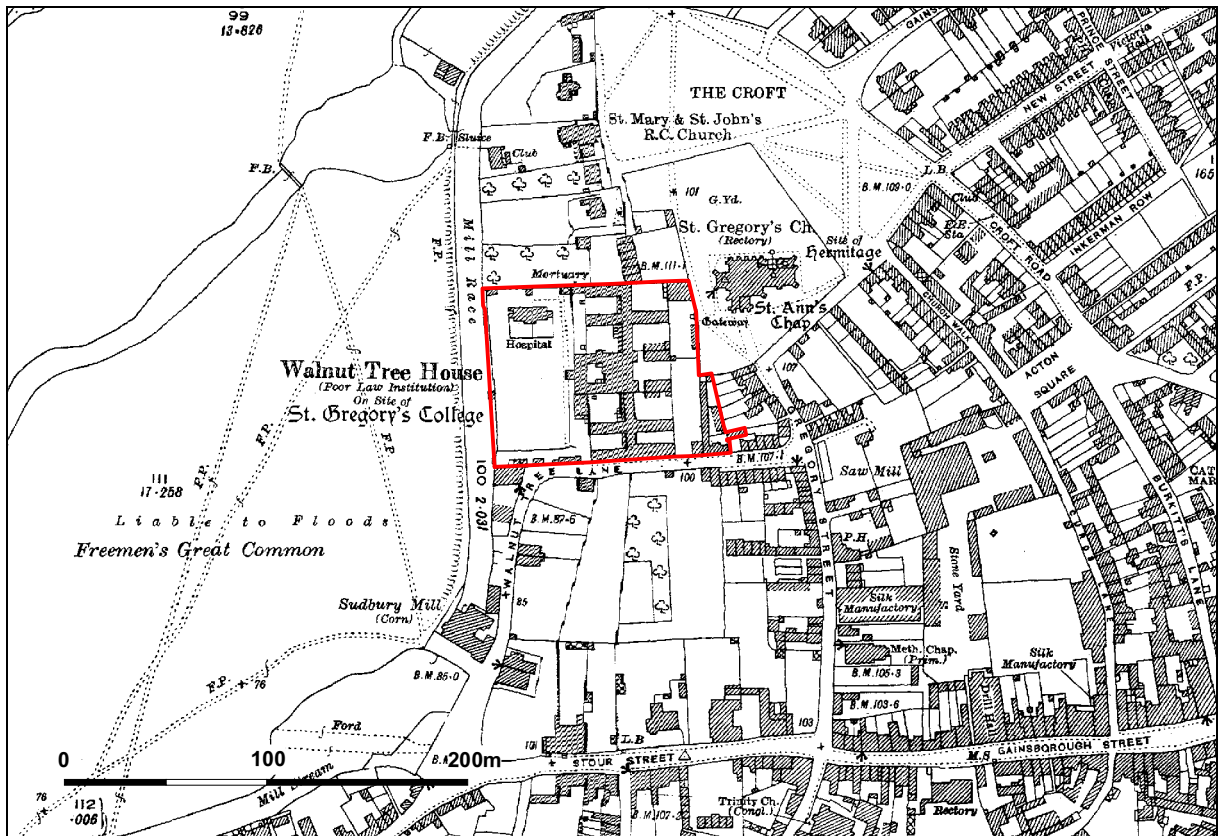


Figure 13. Location of the PDA on 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey, 1926.

Original plans for the new buildings constructed in 1836-1837 have not survived, although later plans of the buildings have survived in the borough collection, the county council collection and in the hospital and health authority collections.

There is no evidence to show that any part of the site was used for burials during its usage as a workhouse.

It is thought that further documentary research is unlikely to add significant details for the interpretation of the site.

2.6 Site inspection

A visit to the PDA was made on 13/07/2012 to determine the presence of any factors likely to impact on the overall assessment of its archaeological potential. Photographs of the PDA taken during the site inspection are included in Appendix 2.

As described above the site consists of a complex of hospital buildings which consists of a substantial 19th century core in the eastern half of the site, a separate 19th century building to the north-west and a variety of 20th century smaller buildings in the south-west quarter. A substantial proportion of open space within the PDA is in use as access roads or carparking areas, particularly throughout the eastern half. Open, undeveloped spaces are limited to several small garden/courtyard areas in between the wings of the main hospital and areas of grass lawn along the eastern edge, although as the main building in this area is a set of semi temporary office cabins built either on pads or a raft ground disturbance is likely to have been relatively slight.

The development of the site since the 19th century has largely removed all evidence of the natural slope which once descended westwards to the River Stour. Changes in ground level are still evident but now largely consist of artificial slopes, steps or ramps. The western part of the site is level ground but, as the Gateway to St Gregory's College and the adjacent churchyard to the east are both c.1.5m higher there appears to have been significant terracing, although ground-levels in churchyards are often artificially raised. The main hospital building then totally divides the site but while on its western side groundlevel gives access direct to the groundfloor, on the eastern side groundlevel gives access to a series of basements. Various steps and ramps then take groundlevels down to the eastern lawn area which itself slopes down to the edge of the diverted channel from the River Stour. In the south-west corner an area of concrete yards ends at a revetment wall dropping c.1.2m to the water channel. To the north the PDA is bordered by sloping open gardens which, while at first being roughly the same height as the PDA, rapidly drop to being c.1m below the level of the tarmac slope along the north-west side of the PDA. On the south side of the site Walnut Tree lane descends a fairly consistent slope to the west.

3. Assessment of impacts and effects

3.1 The archaeological potential of the PDA

3.1.1 Prehistoric

Although the landscape setting of the PDA, overlooking the River Stour, is topographically favourable for early occupation of all periods the predominantly urban or water meadow nature of the search area means that the opportunity for fieldwalking and metal-detecting surveys etc has been limited, although there are references to unlocated Palaeolithic and Neolithic finds being recovered from the parish. Accordingly there is only sporadic evidence of prehistoric activity recorded in the HER within the search area, specifically a Late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement focus immediately to the south of the PDA represented by SUY 014, 028, 029 and 047 and a range of prehistoric finds recovered from Brundon Pit to the west.

The close proximity of the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement evidence to the PDA, coupled with its topographic location, means that it is thought to have moderate potential for unknown archaeological deposits of prehistoric date.

3.1.2 Roman

Evidence of Roman activity within the search area is limited to Roman material at Brundon Pit, a findspot of seven late Roman coins in a garden and Roman tile being reused in St Peters Church. As with prehistoric deposits this lack of evidence may be largely due to the PDA's position within the modern town and lack of field survey or archaeological excavation. It does however suggest that the PDA has only low potential for evidence of Roman activity to be present.

3.1.3 Anglo-Saxon

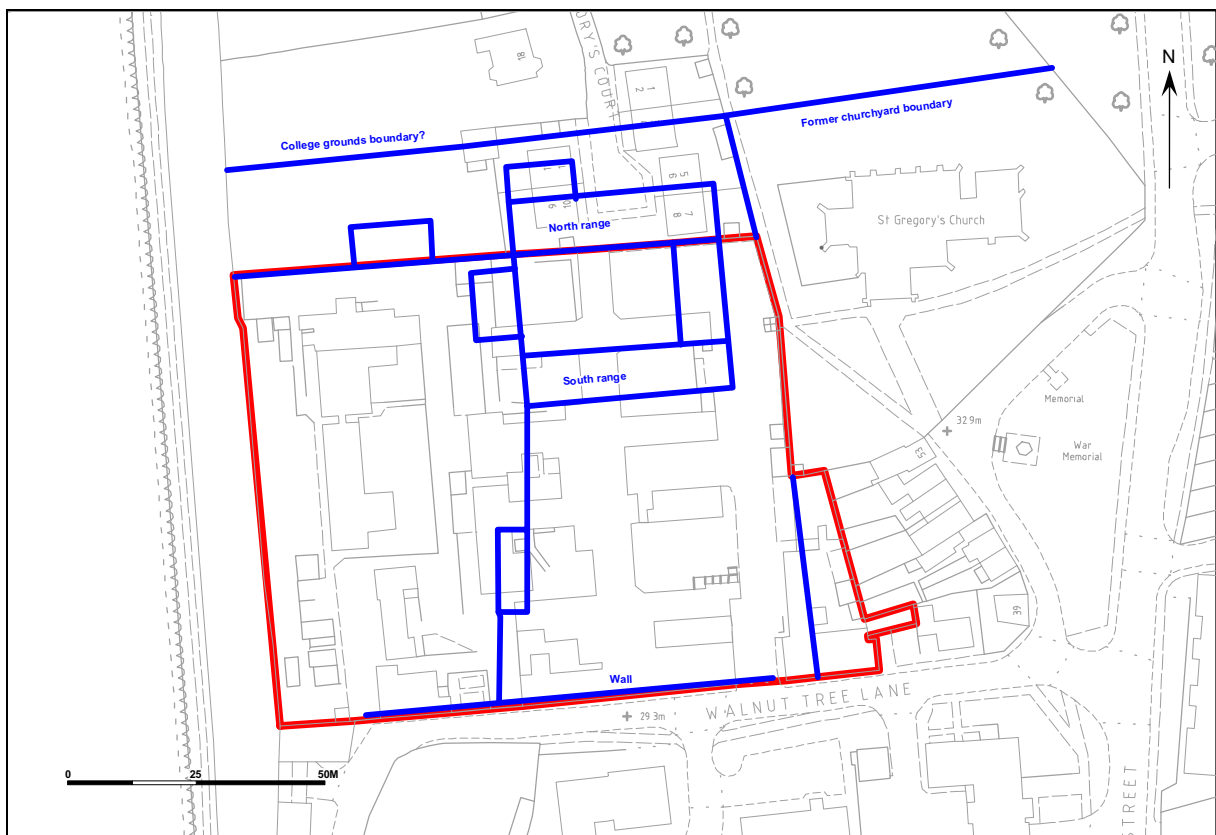
The site lies within the defined area of Anglo-Saxon Sudbury (SUY 040), adjacent to the probable site of an Anglo-Saxon church and, while systematic archaeological investigations in the historic core have generally been limited to small-scale interventions or monitoring, is in close proximity to known Anglo-Saxon deposits at SUY 104 and SUY 029.. The PDA therefore has high potential for unknown

archaeological deposits of Anglo-Saxon date, which could be of local and regional significance.

3.1.4 Medieval

The PDA similarly lies within the defined extent of the medieval town (SUY 040) and is located directly upon the former site of the medieval St Gregory's College (SUY 004), the buildings of which (including vaults and crypt) are known to have largely survived till the mid 19th century. Direct archaeological evidence of medieval occupation has also been identified in close proximity to the PDA at SUY 014, SUY 029 and SUY 093.

The College buildings are likely to lie in the north-east part of the PDA, in close proximity to the surviving gateway but also extending northwards beyond the PDA boundary, and are estimated to have measured c.40m square. Additional outlying buildings and boundary walls are also known to have existed within the PDA and a suggested broad outline of the estimated college position, derived from the combined documentary sources, is shown in Figure 14 below.



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Figure 14. Estimated position of St Gregory's College and other features.

The PDA therefore has very high potential for unknown archaeological deposits of medieval date, specifically relating to the College and the medieval development of the town, which could be of regional significance.

3.1.5 Post-medieval

The post-medieval history of the PDA is well established, with the dissolution of the college in 1544, later use of the surviving college buildings as a workhouse from 1702 and their final demolition in 1836, and the subsequent construction of a new workhouse, now forming the present hospital, in the mid 19th century. Late 19th century mapping shows that the workhouse ayout broadly resembles that now existing, with clearly defined areas of open space.

While evidence of post-medieval activity such as rubbish pits or quarrying has been observed in nearby sites such as SUY 019, SUY 029 and SUY 092, this is perhaps less likely on the PDA. The documentary report also indicates that the site was not used for any burials associated with the workhouse. As post-medieval buildings are still extant the PDA is thought to have only low/moderate potential for unknown archaeological deposits of this date.

3.2 Potential level of preservation of archaeological deposits

The main observation made during the site inspection was that the site has seen high levels of landscaping and modern disturbance, there being little evidence left of the natural topography, and this will have had a detrimental affect on the survival of potential archaeological deposits.

Prior to the construction of the present hospital the site was occupied by the substantial remains of the medieval St Gregory's College which, as shown in the 1818 depiction, appears to have been set on an artificially levelled terrace atop a fairly steep slope. Although the College was totally demolished in the mid 19th century it is likely that substantial below-ground archaeological deposits, such as wall foundations or cellars would have remained intact, possibly at relatively shallow depths. The development of the hospital however over the past c.150 years, including the additions of extra

buildings, associated buried services and car parking, will all have had a major impact on any archaeological deposits.

The precise extent of this impact is unclear and is presumed to vary widely. While many areas will have undoubtedly seen truncation, and construction of the main hospital building will have caused severe damage, it is also possible that certain parts of the site may have seen ground levels raised, thereby potentially protecting deposits. The estimated position of the College buildings also suggests that its eastern and southern ranges could feasibly largely lie under carpark or courtyard areas rather than the hospital/workhouse buildings.

Parts of the western half of the site, shown as open gardens or orchards on historic mapping, are still relatively undeveloped and may also contain relatively undisturbed archaeological remains although the documentary evidence suggests this area may have lesser potential.

Previous archaeological work at nearby sites such as SUY 104 and SUY 029 have demonstrated that multi-period archaeological deposits do survive in the vicinity, often at considerable depth, even amongst substantial post-medieval disturbance such as quarrying. Monitoring of a small area of groundworks in the south part of the PDA (SUY 020) has also shown that buried soil horizons survive at depth below modern deposits.

Archaeological deposits existing on the site therefore are likely to survive in a variety of conditions from poor to good. Certain areas may have seen complete destruction of deposits while in other areas substantial or deeper deposits, such as medieval wall foundations etc, may possibly survive largely intact.

3.3 Potential impact of development on the archaeological resource

As the potential for archaeological deposits within the PDA is thought to be high, particularly for the medieval period, and levels of preservation are likely to be variable, it is thought that the potential for the development to have a detrimental impact on archaeological deposits could be high.

The level of such impact will partly depend however upon the nature of development, and how it relates to the existing layout. In particular new building or landscaping in the western half of the PDA could have a high detrimental impact upon archaeological deposits while the impact of remodelling etc of the eastern hospital buildings could be relatively slight.

3.4 Potential impact of development on other heritage assets

The existing hospital buildings, while largely dating to the mid 19th century are not listed. The hospital however is an important structure within the Conservation Area of Sudbury, and lies in close proximity to several listed buildings, in particular the Church of St Gregory and the gateway which once connected churchyard to the college precinct. Development of the site has potential to have a high detrimental impact on the setting of such listed buildings and the appearance of the Conservation Area as a whole.

However while SCCAS/FT is unaware of the details of the proposed development it is assumed that the main hospital building is largely to be retained and converted, as opposed to demolished. If done sensitively this could greatly reduce the impact of the development on the Conservation Area and adjacent historic assets. Removal of some of the uglier outbuildings and general maintenance works may even have a beneficial impact.

Similarly clearance and development of the western half of the PDA has potential to be of benefit to the Conservation Area, rather than detrimental, by removing poor quality 20th century buildings.

4. Mitigation measures

The PDA has low/moderate potential for archaeological deposits of prehistoric and Roman date, and high to very high potential for deposits of Anglo-Saxon or medieval date of regional importance. The preservation of such deposits is likely to be highly variable from poor to good but as the PDA has largely not been subject to any previous systematic archaeological investigation, the actual nature, presence and state of preservation of any such archaeological deposits within the PDA is unknown.

Applicants for planning consent are reminded that national guidance recommends that potential archaeological sites are evaluated (fieldwalking and/or geophysical survey and/or trenching) prior to the determination of any application and that refusal of consent is an option to ensure that nationally important sites are preserved *in situ*.

Although at present there are currently no grounds to consider refusal of planning permission in order to achieve preservation *in situ* of any designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Monuments, or of important but non-designated heritage assets within the PDA, there is a possibility that the results of further archaeological investigation could lead to grounds to consider the refusal of permission in order to achieve preservation *in situ* of important archaeological deposits, such as remnants of St Gregory's College.

It is therefore recommended that further archaeological investigations to assess the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits present within the PDA takes place before consideration of any planning application. The results of such investigations can then be used by the LPA's Archaeological Advisor (SCCAS/CT) to make any decisions regarding heritage assets in respect of any planning application, and determine the need and scope for preservation *in situ*, or excavation and preservation by record prior to development, which could be imposed by conditions on planning consent.

The sites recent history and present land-use means that non-intrusive investigation techniques such as fieldwalking, metal-detecting and geophysical survey are not appropriate. The first stage of investigation therefore should ideally be a systematic

programme of evaluation trial trenching across the PDA, to identify and assess the extent, character, density and depth of the archaeological deposits present and to assess any damage caused by the previous land use of the PDA. However the sites current landuse presents serious practical problems for carrying out such a survey, the potential areas available for trenching are currently limited and may not correspond to areas to be affected in the development proposals.

If investigation prior to assessment of the planning application is not possible then a requirement for evaluation could be imposed as a condition on any planning consent, to take place after the PDA has been partially/fully cleared or demolished to ground-level, and when detailed development plans are known, so that trenching can be targeted to areas to be affected. The area of highest potential lies in the western half of the PDA for instance but will only be available for evaluation once existing semi-permanent cabins are removed. However this approach does mean that archaeological issues affecting the development of the site will not be known prior to planning consent and could cause serious implications at a later date.

Consultation with the LPA and SCCAS/CT, should take place at the earliest possible opportunity, as archaeological investigations can have considerable time and cost implications. This consultation will determine the program of archaeological works that will need to be carried out.

Purchasers or developers of land should be aware that, until an evaluation is undertaken, it is usually impossible to define the extent of archaeological work that may be required on a site and equally difficult to calculate the likely cost and time implications. Bearing this in mind developers are strongly advised to undertake archaeological evaluations at the earliest opportunity to clarify the likely archaeological work required and its cost.

5. Conclusions/Recommendations

Through an examination of the Suffolk HER and National Heritage List for England, a documentary and cartographic search and a site inspection, this DBA has set the PDA within its immediate archaeological landscape. Walnut Tree Hospital is located within the area of the Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement of Sudbury and in particular occupies the site of the medieval St Gregory's College.

In general the topographic location of the PDA and the known archaeology of the area suggests that there is a moderate to very high potential for encountering archaeological remains within the PDA but that such deposits are likely to be affected by the PDA's recent land-use and in variable states of preservation.

Further archaeological investigation, consisting of a programme of trial trench evaluation to identify and assess the extent, character, density, depth and level of preservation of any archaeological deposits is therefore recommended prior to submission of a planning application. However it is recognised that this may not be feasible until after planning consent is granted, the hospital closed and the site partially/fully cleared, and when trenching could be targeted to specific areas to be affected by development proposals.

Consultation with the LPA'S archaeological advisor, SCCAS/CT, is recommended at the earliest possible opportunity to determine the actual program of archaeological works required as archaeological investigations can have considerable time and cost implications for any development.

6. List of contributors and acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by KLH Architects on behalf of Castons Chartered Surveyors. The desk based assessment was carried out by John Craven, of SCCAS/FT, the documentary study by Anthony M. Breen, a freelance local history researcher.

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Appendix 1. Documentary and Cartographic Study

Anthony M Breen, July 2012

Introduction

The research for this report has been carried out at the Suffolk Record Office in Bury St Edmunds and the Suffolk Archaeological Service have supplied copies of the first three editions of the 1:2500 Ordnance survey maps for the purposes of this report.

The site history of this hospital, former poor law union workhouse 1837-1929, borough workhouse (1702-1834) and late medieval college (1374-1544) is well known and references to the site appear in a number of published sources. Amongst the more recent histories of the site, Phyllis Felton's 'Beyond the Bricks of Walnuttree Hospital Sudbury' published privately in 2006 takes the history of the site, especially that of the hospital, through to the early 1970's. In the opening chapter of her work she also mentions two excavations close to the site of the main buildings. These were the sites in Gregory Street opposite Walnuttree Lane excavated in 1977 and the excavation of the garden of Stour House in 1989. Details of these excavations are available in the Archaeological Service's Sites and Monuments Records.

The surviving original manuscript material relating to the site is scattered amongst a number of different archive collections and reflects in part the earlier administrative history of the site.

Plans

There are a series of detailed plans for the former workhouse in an un-catalogued collection held at Bury (ref. ADA 501). These are records transferred from the former poor law unions to the county council. References to this collection appear on the record office's computerised index CALM, this index is not open to the public. Further references to these plans appear in the 'Dictionary of Architects of Suffolk Buildings 1800-1914' (Brown, Haward, Kindred 1991). The earliest plans are those of John Brown and Robert Kerr dated 1848. John Brown, Norwich (1805-1876) was appointed in 1836 as architect for the new Sudbury Poor Law Union Workhouse built on the same site as the former Borough Workhouse. The building contract of £7,110 was given to Messrs Warner Liddiard and Robert Kitton of Cornhill, London who completed the work after some delays in 1837. The original plans have not survived and those of 1848 are for later alterations. Further plans in the same collection dated 1883 are the work of the Sudbury Architect Woolmer R Firmin. Firmin in partnership with Edward Salter also prepared plans for the 'Infectious Wards, Sudbury Union Workhouse' in 1875 but these plans have not survived. The final and most complete collection of 19 plans are those of the architects Clare and Ross for the 'New Sanitary Arrangements' dated 1904-1905. During their brief partnership this firm's offices were located at Finsbury Circus, London, Chelmsford and Westcliff on Sea. George Edward

Clare lived from 1868-1953. There are further copies of some of these plans in the Sudbury Borough Collection (ref. EE 501/9/24/90,91).

There are later plans in the Walnut Tree Hospital, Sudbury Collection (ref. ID 502). The former Sudbury Union Workhouse became the Sudbury Poor Law Union Institution in 1929 and was later called Walnut Tree Hospital at the creation of the National Health Service in 1946. These further plans the work of Messrs Sadler and Sons' Ipswich dated 1928, John Creese, County Architect dated 1937 and a drainage plan of 1946 (ref. ID 502/C1/1-3). Also a 'Plan of proposed new wards, Sudbury Workhouse', dated 1883 can be found in the separate collection of records relating to individual hospitals in Health Authorities records (ref. ID 508/C5/1).

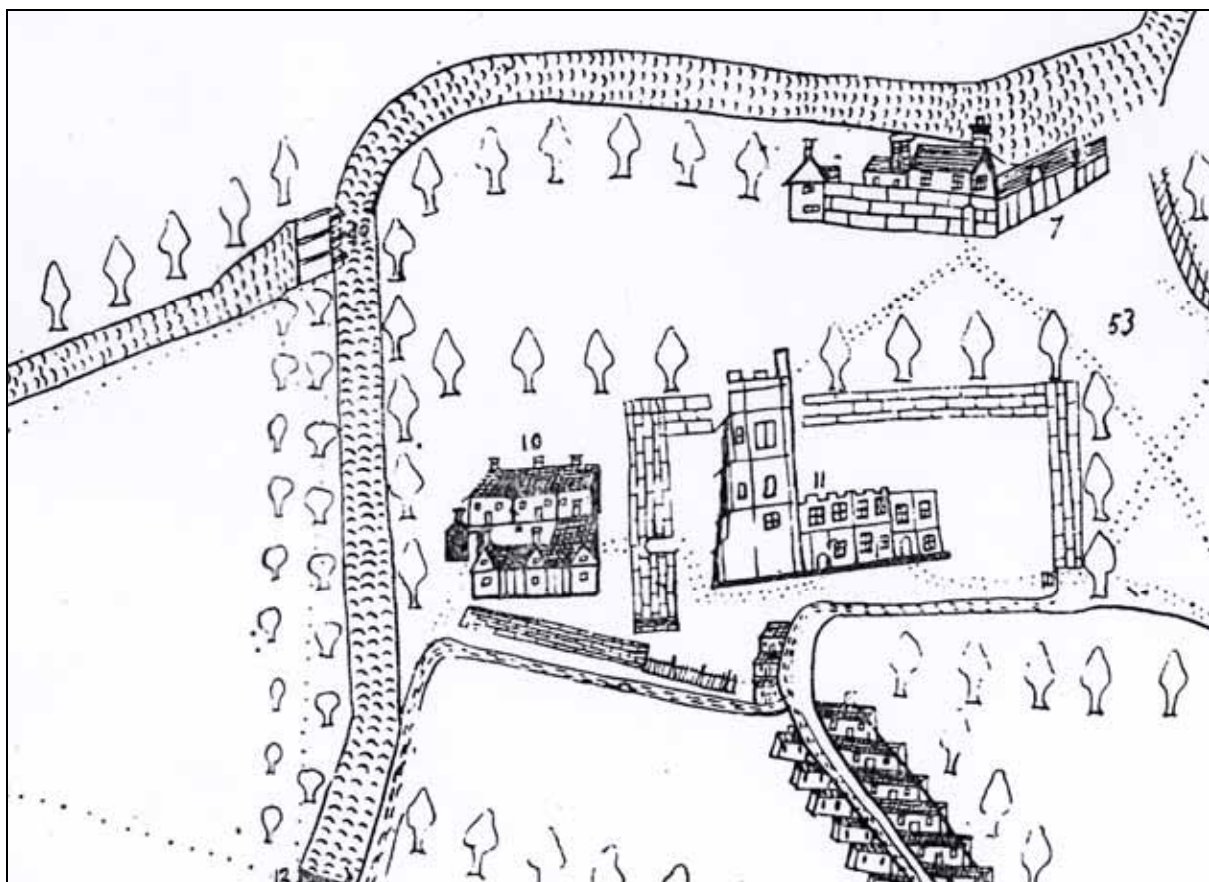
Burials

The Ordnance Survey maps and plans of the site and its buildings do not show the position of any burial ground. There was an isolation hospital on the site and infectious diseases at times caused high levels of mortality amongst the paupers. Unfortunately the admissions registers for both the borough and later poor law union workhouse are no longer extant. All of Sudbury's earlier burials grounds including the churchyards of the three parish churches, Trinity Chapel burial-ground, the Baptist Chapel burial-ground and Friars Street Chapel burial-ground were closed for further burials by reason of public health under an order in council made on 18 October 1854 (ref. FK3 501/2/24,25). This order makes no mention of the Union Workhouse in the parish of St Gregory. The churchyard of St Gregory was enlarged in 1819 through the acquisition of part of the adjoining borough property known as the Croft and this extension may have proved adequate room for burials from the workhouse. A separate joint burial board for Sudbury and Ballingdon was established in 1854 and a new borough cemetery opened in 1859.

Though the admissions registers for the workhouse are no longer extant, it is possible to determine the burial practices from the surviving parish register for St Gregory. After 1813 the new style printed registers number each entry and give a brief address for the deceased and their age. In 1825 there were 33 burials at St Gregory's numbered 309-342, only 5 were from the workhouse ranging in age from 51 to 84 years. In the entries up to the start of 1825 covering the period 1813-1824 there is only one infant burial from the workhouse. In 1845 there are 46 burials recorded in the register and 20 of these were from the 'Union House' ranging in age from 7 weeks to 88 years. In the first four months of 1838 of the 38 burials recorded in the register 26 had come from the 'Union House' and of these 9 were babies or young children ranging in their ages from 3 weeks to 4 years of age (ref. FL 634/4/7). Still births were not registered until 1874.

Maps

The earliest map of Sudbury, Brewer's 1714 map of 'Sudbury Common Pasture and Town', shows the town's principle buildings in elevation. The building that then occupied the site of Walnut Street Hospital is shown on this map and numbered 10. It is listed in the schedule at the foot of the map as 'The Worke House'. The view of the buildings appears to have been taken from the south and two ranges are shown with a small extension at the western end of the northern range. A stone or brick boundary wall is shown to the south and a larger more elaborate wall is shown to the east separating the site of the workhouse from the site of the church of St Gregory's numbered 11 on the map. The original map (ref. EE 501/6/159) is temporarily unavailable for research. This map has appeared in a number of published sources (see Grimwood & Kay 1953 and Freeman n.d.).



Extract from Brewer's map of Sudbury, 1714

Both published sources also contain a copy of a later print showing the '17th Century Ruins of Sudbury College' or 'Ruins of the "College" built by Simon of Sudbury as they appeared in the seventeenth century (From an old engraving)'. Both printed versions appeared to have been re-workings of the original print which was published in 1891 to accompany W.W. Hodson's article in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute on 'S. Gregory's Church and College, Sudbury'. Phyllis Felton identifies the date of this print as 'St Gregory's College in the 19th century, engraved by J Greig from a sketch by I Higham for 'Excursion through Suffolk'. 'Excursions in the County of Suffolk' was published in 1818 with the original print from the sketch by T. Higham labelled as 'Bishop's Palace, Sudbury'. The copies of the print

dated August 1818 were also sold separately by the publishers Longman & Co, Paternoster Row, London. The earlier version of the print also appears on the Sudbury History Society's website (www.sudburyhistorysociety.co.uk). The society used the print for their 2007 exhibition on Archbishop Simon of Sudbury, the founder of the earlier college.

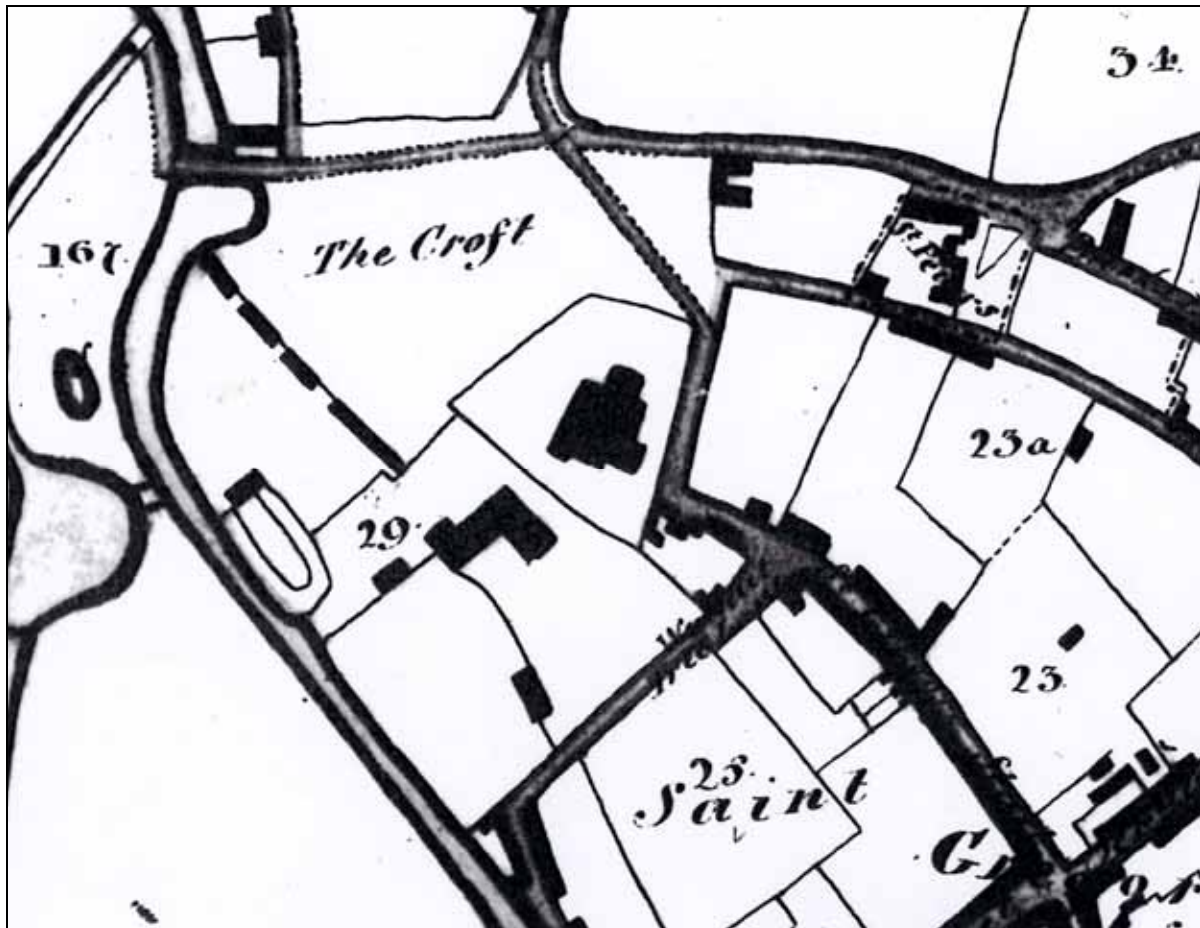


1818 print of St Gregory's College

The 1818 print shows a view of the building from the south west, this building is not the same as that shown on Brewer's 1714 map of Sudbury. The southern range is absent. Both Brewer's map and the 1818 print show the late medieval buildings and enclosing walls of which nothing or very little now remains. 'The only portions of the earlier buildings which remain are the basement, the one-time vaults and crypt of the college, and in the wall separating it from St Gregory's Churchyard is a late Gothic Archway, with the coat of arms of Simon' (the founder) 'which at one time gave the college easy access to the church' (Grimwood & Kay, p. 42, 1953). The buildings had been used since 1702 as the borough workhouse for Sudbury. This workhouse was established under a local Act of Parliament 'For erecting hospitals and workhouses within the town of Sudbury for the better employment and maintaining of the poor thereof (1 Anne cap. XXXIV)' (ref. EE 501/16/14).

The gateway first listed in 1971 is described as 'Later Perpendicular red brick gateway with embattled head, straight arch and carved spandrels, an Escutcheon with arms of Archbishop Simon of Sudbury over archway. All largely rebuilt or restored. College was founded in 1374, early C18, was sold to court of Guardians for workhouse, 1836 last remains of old building pulled down'.

The position of the buildings shown on the 1818 print is given on two maps. Coates' tithe map of the parishes of Saint Gregory and Saint Peter's within the Borough of Sudbury' (ref. T 140/2) is undated and is unlikely to have been new survey. The former college buildings had been demolished by 1836 so the map has to be earlier than the accompanying apportionment which is dated 1840 (ref. T140/1). Also the map does not show any change in the boundary between the croft and the churchyard of St Gregory's, though the boundary had been altered in 1819. On the tithe map the Croft is labelled but only the workhouse buildings 29 are numbered on the map and not the adjoining properties.



Extract from 1840 tithe map, a reworking of Downes' 1815 plan.

The tithe map appears to be a reworking of William Downes' 1815 'Plan of the Borough of Sudbury' (ref. EE501/6/162). The original map is too large for photocopying and is too discoloured for digital photography. On this plan the site of the Croft is simply labelled without reference to its ownership. The land to the west and southwest of the workhouse is numbered 29 on the plan as on the later tithe map. This offers further evidence that the tithe map was not an original survey. On the 1815 plan the land to the east of the workhouse is shown as a separate enclosure numbered 27 the boundary between this property and the adjoining workhouse was removed before the date of the later map. This piece is labelled with the name of the then owner James Strutt. The land to the south numbered 28 is also labelled with the name of the then owner Sir L Ma'clean. The map had an administrative purpose as the accompanying schedule (ref. EE501/16/15) is labelled on the cover 'Sudbury

Workhouse Court'. The Act of Parliament set up a Court of Guardians to govern the running of the workhouse and their minutes books 1771- 1927 form the main body of the surviving records (ref. EE 501/16/1-8). In the schedule the field 28 the property of Sir L Maclean is described as 'Tithe Barn piece' measured at 1 acre 23 perches and the field 27 listed as the property of James Strutt is described as 'Tanterfield' measured at 3 roods and 9 perches. A tanter was originally a dye house but the name was also applied to the fields where tantering frames had been set up to hang woven clothes from the dye works or fulling mills held on tantering hocks to prevent shrinkage during drying.

The Workhouses

According to Phyllis Felton the Court of Guardians established under the 1701 act 'rented St Gregory's College, together with three cottages and part of the College yard from Samuel Pannill' and 'For many years Sudbury Workhouse was rented from several different owners until December 1834, when the old court of Guardians purchased the workhouse and the cottages'.

The original deeds covering this purchase are not listed amongst the borough archives or the archives collections of the later Poor Law Union and Health Authority. There are likely to have been references to these transactions in both the minute books and contemporary local press.

The Sudbury Poor Law Union was established under the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act and at their meeting held on 28 October 1835 the Court of Guardians ordered 'that the workhouse and premises thereto belonging be offered to be sold to the Guardians of the Sudbury Union at the sum of five hundred pounds'. 'A Year later the new Board of Guardians pulled down the remains of the old building and built the Union Workhouse in its place' (Grimwood & Kay op. cit). According to Peter Higginbotham, the author of the website www.workhouses.org.uk, the contract to demolish the former workhouse included 'two cottages near adjoining one of which was used as a nursery for small pox and was also called the Pest House and the other was made and converted into a stable. In addition 'an adjoining one and a half acres of land called Workhouse Piece was acquired for £400'. There is no specific reference to the source of this information.

The Medieval College

The history of the site as a college is set out in W.W. Hodson's article 'Sudbury College and Archbishop Theobald' published in 1889 in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute. In addition to the medieval history of the site Hodson was able to trace the post medieval owners of the site beginning with the grant of 3 February 1544 from Henry VIII to Sir Thomas Paston of the 'seat, circuit, capitall house or late College of S. Gregory in Sudbury commonly called Sudbury College' together with the former college's estates. The college remained in the possession of the Paston family until 1634 when it was sold as 'the scite of

the late dissolved Colledge in Sudbury and two tenements in the Churchyard of Saint Gregory' to John and Oliver Andrew of Sudbury. In 1664 the 'Capitall Messuage called the Colledge and other property were granted to Samuel Pannell', however the College Barn was sold to Samuell Hasell in the following year. There is a copy dated 21 October 1706 of the original grant to Sir Thomas Paston in the Sudbury Borough Collection (ref. EE 501/6/50) but the other later deeds are absent from the archives.

The Borough Collection does have a bundle of deeds relating to 'Sudbury College (St Gregory's College) and its endowments, 1340-1545' but only the copy of the grant to Sir Thomas Paston and two earlier deeds relate to the college site itself. In Sperling's 1896 'Short History of the Borough of Sudbury ... compiled from materials collected by W. W. Hodson', the author states that 'The Pastons do not appear to have lived in the College. But it was occupied by George Clopton, third son of John Clopton of Melford who died in 1565 and was buried in St Gregory's Church'. Hodson mentions the deed in the borough collection as 'a beautifully executed grant of land near the Croft'. The land had adjoined the house of Nigel and Sarah Thebaud, the parent of Archbishop Simon of Sudbury and his brother John. 'The two brothers, Simon and John, founded the College of S. Gregory having received a Charter for that purpose from King Edward the Third about a year before his Jubilee, which charter was dated 21 February 1375' (Hodson). Hodson also mentions further records relating to the college's estates but none relating to the buildings on the site. Sperling records a series of grants of lands and benefices to the college and also mentions the grant of land near the Croft dated 'Thursday after the Feast of St Gregory 1339'. He published a full transcript of the original Latin text of the grant which is translated in the Sudbury Borough Collection catalogue as 'cottage, grange with adjoining curtilage, and two plots of land in Sudbyr', said cottage, grange and curtilage lying next to the land of John de Chilton', one head abutting on street called Rotourisstret', one plot of land lying next to the land of John Bynesle, and other plot lying between the land of Nigel Thebaud on either side' (ref. EE 501/6/45). Sperling also mentions a grant to the college in 1415 by John Roughered of 'one messuage and lands in Sudbury, Great Cornard &c' but it is uncertain whether or not any of this land adjoined the site of the college.

In the borough collection the grant of a 'croft of land called 'leketoun croft' in the boundary of St Gregory's church on one part, the road leading from the market place towards the Stour on the other' dated 10 April 1436 which may relate to part of the later hospital site (ref. EE 501/6/48).

The article 'The College of Sudbury' in the Victoria History of Suffolk (Page, VCH 1907) contains no further details relating to the site of the college.

Conclusion

The site of Walnut Tree Hospital is within the late Saxon Town and the potential archaeological significance of the site is shown by the excavations of the nearby sites in 1977 and 1989.

Though an earlier deed dated 1339 relating to the site is preserved in the Sudbury Borough Archives further property records for the college founded in 1375 are absent. The property descriptions as they appear in post medieval deeds are quoted in Hodson's articles on Sudbury College and its founder, who he names as 'Archbishop Theobald', that is Simon Theobald of Sudbury later archbishop of Canterbury. Further details of Simon's life and unfortunate death are available in a number of published sources.

Though the Borough of Sudbury and its three parishes were empowered to build a new workhouse they chose to rent the former College's buildings until 1834 when the Court of Guardians finally purchased the property in advance of the establishment of the Sudbury Poor Law Union under the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act. In 1835 the Court of Guardians offer the former college to the newly established union and it was the Union that demolished the then existing buildings to accommodate the present structure. The college buildings are shown on Brewer's 1714 map of Sudbury and on the 1818 print published in that year in 'Excursions in the county of Suffolk'. These two illustrations suggest that a southern range of buildings within the site were demolished during this period. The positions of the buildings are shown on Downes 1815 'Plan of Sudbury' and again on the tithe map of the parishes of St Gregory and St Peter's Sudbury'. The tithe map is undoubtedly a copy of the 1815 plan.

Though the name of the architect of the new buildings constructed in 1836-1837 is known his original plans have not survived though his later plans of 1848 have survived. Later plans of the buildings have also survived in the borough collection, the county council collection and in the hospital and health authority collections.

There is no evidence to show that any part of the site was not used for burials.

Further documentary research is unlikely to add significant details for the interpretation of this site.

References

Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds

Sudbury Borough Archives

Maps

T140/1 & 2 Tithe map and Apportionment Sudbury St Gregory and St Peter 1840

EE 501/6/162 Plan of the Borough of Sudbury, William Downes 1815

EE 501/6/15 'Sudbury Workhouse Court': Schedule to William Downes' map 1815

Plans

Suffolk County Council former Poor Law Union Records

ADA 501 Sudbury Union Workhouse Plan 1848-1905

Walnut Tree Hospital, Sudbury

IC 502/C1/1 Proposed Casual Quarters ground and first floors plans, Sudbury Union Guardians 26 May 1928

IC 501/C1/2 Proposed Alterations and additions ground, first and second floors 16 January 1937

IC 501/C1/3 Drainage Plan 1946

West Suffolk Health Authority Individual Hospital Records

IC 508/C5/1 Plan of Proposed new wards, Sudbury Workhouse May 1882

Property Deeds

EE 501/6/45 Deed of feoffment High de Dedham of Sudbury to Simon son of Nigel Thebaud and Sarah, wife of Nigel Thebaud 16 March 1339 (1340)

EE 501/6/48 Grant Thomas Dobbys of Sudbury to Thomas West and others of 'a croft of land called 'leketon croft' ... Sudbury 10 April 1436

EE 501/6/50 Attested copy of Letters Patent dated 21 October 1706 site of the college of St Gregory Henry VIII to Sir Thomas Paston 3 January 1545.

Other Records

EE 501/16/14 Local Act of Parliament Workhouses in Sudbury 1 Anne, cap XXXIV, 1701

FL 634/4/7 Burial Register Sudbury St Gregory 1813-1857

FK3 501/2/24,25 Copies of Order in Council for the closure of Burial-grounds in Sudbury 1854

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T. Cromwell, 'Excursions in the County of Suffolk ... Forming A Complete Guide for the Traveller and Tourist', Volume 1, London 1818

C.G. Grimwood & S.A. Kay, 'History of Sudbury, Suffolk', pub Sudbury 1953

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Edith Freeman, 'Sudbury's Story: A Thousand Years in the History of a Small English Town'

W. W. Hodson 'Sudbury College and Archbishop Theobald' and 'S. Gregory's Church and College, Sudbury' in Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute Vol 7, 1891

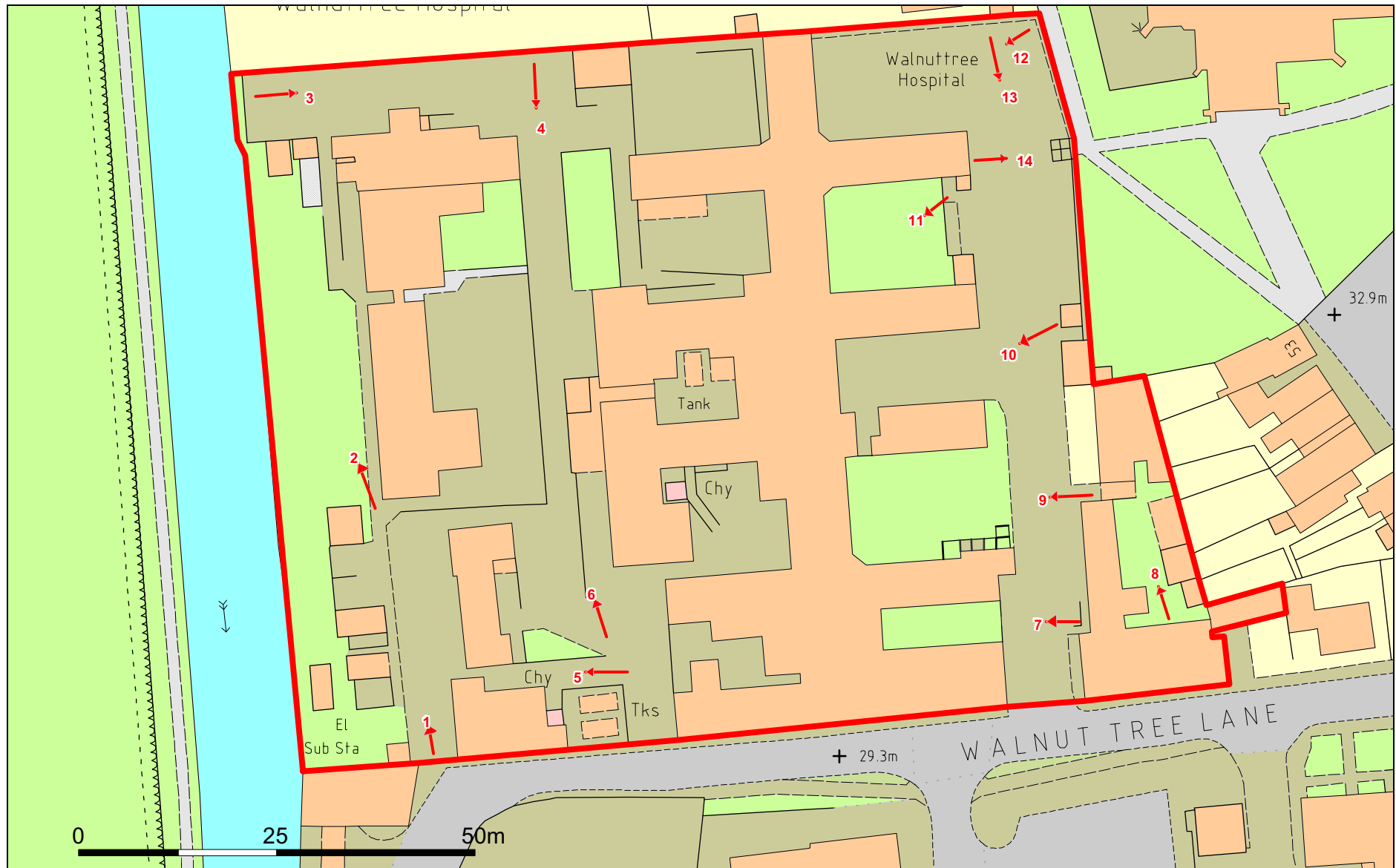
C.F.D Sperling 'A Short history of the Borough of Sudbury in the County of Suffolk compiled from materials collected by W.W. Hodson' pub Sudbury 1896

Websites

Sudbury History Society www.sudburyhistorysociety.co.uk

Peter Higginbotham Workhouses www.workhouses.org.uk

Appendix 2. Site inspection photographs



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Figure 1. Photograph locations and direction of view



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7



Photo 8



Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 11



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14

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