

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2013/105	Parish: Badley
Badley Hall,	Planning application no: 0791/05
BADLEY	HER Event No: BAD 009
	OASIS ref: suffolkc1-156721
Address:	Grid reference: TM 0602 5584
Badley Hall,	Number of site visits: 1
Badley,	
Suffolk.	Date of visits: 7th August 2013

Nature of the work: Excavation of a service trench to the rear of the Badley Hall, part of a substantial medieval hall complex.

% of total seen: 100% of the hand excavated trench

Location Map:

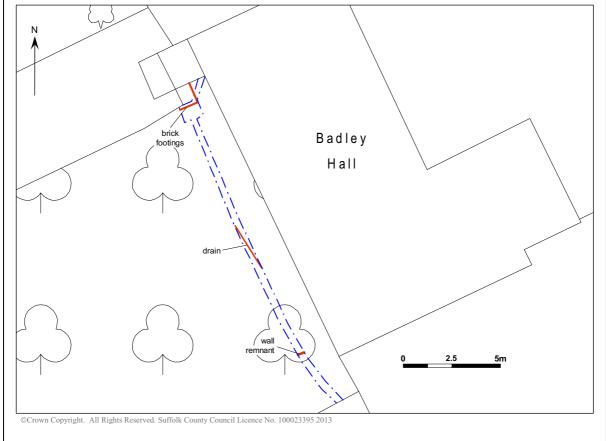


Figure 1. Location of monitored trench (blue line)

Results:

The trench measured 0.4m wide except at the northern end where it opened to a square measuring approximately 1m and was up to 0.6m in depth. It was excavated through c.0.2m of dark brown clay loam topsoil with regular chalk flecks and up to 0.4m of made-up ground (Plate 2). This mixed layer consisted of a mid brown chalky clay and topsoil matrix with regular brick and tile fragments, oyster shells, flint pebbles and chalk lumps and flecks. Lenses of coarse sand and charcoal flecks were also noted. Throughout the base of the trench, a mid orangey brown clay was observed, assumed to be the natural subsoil.

At the southern end of the trench, remains of a SW-NE aligned wall were noted in the form of a brick and lime mortar footing (Plates 3 & 4). It measured approximately 0.5m wide, was constructed of narrow, probably late medieval or early post-medieval, red bricks and was well faced on the north side but its south side was heavily damaged. It shares the same alignment as the hall and extant garden walls.

Approximately central to the trench was a brick built drain, constructed as shown in Figure 2 and of the same bricks described above (Plate 5).

Brick footings in the northern end of the trench (Plate 6) appeared to represent the continuation of an extant SW-NE wall with a 90° northern return up to (and incorporated in) the porch (Plate 7). It was constructed from the same bricks as previously described, bonded with a lime mortar and at the foot of the northern side of the wall, a brick built drain of similar form to that observed in the centre of the trench was noted. The wall and porch are shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map dated 1885 but a porch is not present on a plan of the hall complex dated 1741.

A small number of late medieval and post medieval pot sherds were recovered from the upcast spoil.

Finds: late medieval and post medieval ceramics

Recorded by: Linzi Everett Date: 8th August 2013

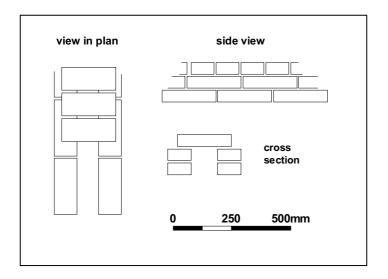


Figure 2. Measured drawing showing approximate construction of the brick-built drain



Plate 1. General view of the service trench, looking SE



Plate 3. Southern wall remnant, looking SE



Plate 2. Soil profile



Plate 4. Southern wall remnant, from above



Plate 5. Brick built drain, from above



Plate 6. Brick footings in the north end of the trench, looking N



Plate 7. Northern wall remnant incorporated into the fabric of the porch. Looking S from inside the porch