

Pottery Cottage, Wattisfield WSF 061

Historic Building and Archaeological Monitoring Report

SCCAS Report No. 2014/031

Client: GS Property Projects

Authors: Leigh Alston and David Gill

March/2014

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HER Information

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Summary

Pottery Cottage is a timber-framed and rendered building on the western side of Pottery Hill, Wattisfield. It abuts a separate red-brick property known as Pottery House on the north and until its replacement by a new housing estate in 2006/7 it adjoined the factory of Henry Watson's Potteries on the south and formed the dwelling of the eponymous potter Thomas Watson.

The timber-framed structure was the remains of a small two-cell domestic dwelling of the late-16th or early-17th century – although it could be interpreted as a detached kitchen. The building initially extended to just 7.6m in total length by 4.25m in width (25ft by 14 ft) with walls of 2.2m in height (7 ft), but was fully framed and contained diamond mullion windows. A central chimney with a single wide fireplace divided a parlour and parlour chamber on the south (left) from a slightly larger hall and hall chamber on the north. Documentary evidence is understood to link the site with pottery manufacture as early as the 16th century, and both its size and isolated location are consistent with what at the time was a low status and antisocial occupation. It was extended to the south in the late 17th century when it was re-roofed and provided with a new cellar.

The monitoring of the foundation for a replacement dwelling discovered a series of post-pads; evidence of a previous building, possibly an open-sided shed which stood previously on the site. Large pits, excavated for the extraction of sand for use in the pottery manufacturing process, were found behind Pottery Cottage. All of the pits were backfilled with a mix of yellow clay, dark silts, and a crumbly, ferruginous clay silt (a dried clay slurry/mud) was thought to be spoil or waste from the clay extraction pits or some primary clay processing associated with the pottery manufactory. Sand digging from this area seems to have occurred throughout the productive life of the pottery with the pits dating from the late 17th century through to the later 19th century.

**Pottery Cottage,
Wattisfield, Suffolk
WSF 061**

Historic Building Record

OASIS ID: Suffolkc1-162553



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December 2013

Pottery Cottage, Pottery Hill, Wattisfield, Suffolk

(TM 014 745)

Heritage Asset Assessment

This report provides a record and analysis at English Heritage (2006) Level 3 of an unlisted timber-framed cottage. It has been prepared to a specification by Rachel Monk of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service dated 11th June 2013 and is intended to fulfil a condition of planning consent for demolition (Mid Suffolk District Council ref. 3593/11).

Introduction

The report is accompanied by a CD containing a full photographic record in the form of 88 digital images of 21 megapixels (Appendix 1), but also contains 20 printed photographs of key features to illustrate the text. Each image is described in a separate schedule and wherever possible includes a scale rod with half-metre divisions in red and white. The frame drawings use solid lines to indicate extant features and broken lines for those that no longer survive. The site was inspected prior to demolition on 18th November 2013 and again on 3rd December after the partial removal of cladding.

Summary

Pottery Cottage is a timber-framed and rendered building on the western side of Pottery Hill 0.5 k north-east of Wattisfield parish church. It abuts a separate red-brick property known as Pottery House on the north and until its replacement by a new housing estate in 2006/7 adjoined the factory of Henry Watson's Potteries on the south. The area was labelled The Pottery on the Ordnance Survey of 1885 and in 1838 both Pottery Cottage and Pottery House appear to have formed the dwelling of the eponymous potter Thomas Watson. Pottery House was rebuilt or remodelled in brick between 1838 and 1885 but was still connected internally until the mid-20th century. The timber-framed structure appears to be complete in itself, however, and to represent an exceptionally small two-cell domestic dwelling of the late-16th or early-17th century – although it could be interpreted as a detached kitchen. The building initially extended to just 7.6 m in total length by 4.25 m in width (25 ft by 14 ft) with walls of 2.2 m in height (7 ft), but was fully framed and contained diamond mullion windows. A central chimney with a single wide fireplace divided a parlour and parlour chamber on the south (left) from a slightly larger hall and hall chamber on the north. The smallest and poorest rural dwellings of the 16th and 17th centuries were often built on waste land such as road margins and former greens, and the distinctive triangular outline of its boundary in 1838 suggests Pottery Cottage may well have originated in such a manner. Documentary evidence is understood to link the site with pottery manufacture as early as the 16th century, and both its size and isolated location are consistent with what at the time was a low status and antisocial occupation. Most early cottages of this scale failed to stand the test of time, and the building is accordingly a rare survival of considerable historic interest. It was extended to the south in the late 17th century when it was re-roofed and provided with a new cellar. This extension was replaced by the present brick garage after a fire destroyed the nearby factory in 1963, but a large collection of pottery survives in a currently inaccessible section of the cellar beneath. Much of the original wall framing is intact, along with its ceilings and rebated floorboards, but the cottage may not meet the strict English Heritage criteria for listing given the replacement of its roof in the 17th century and the loss of the rear wall when a narrow lean-to extension was added in the 18th century. Nonetheless it would not normally be possible to gain planning consent to demolish a building of this age and historic significance.

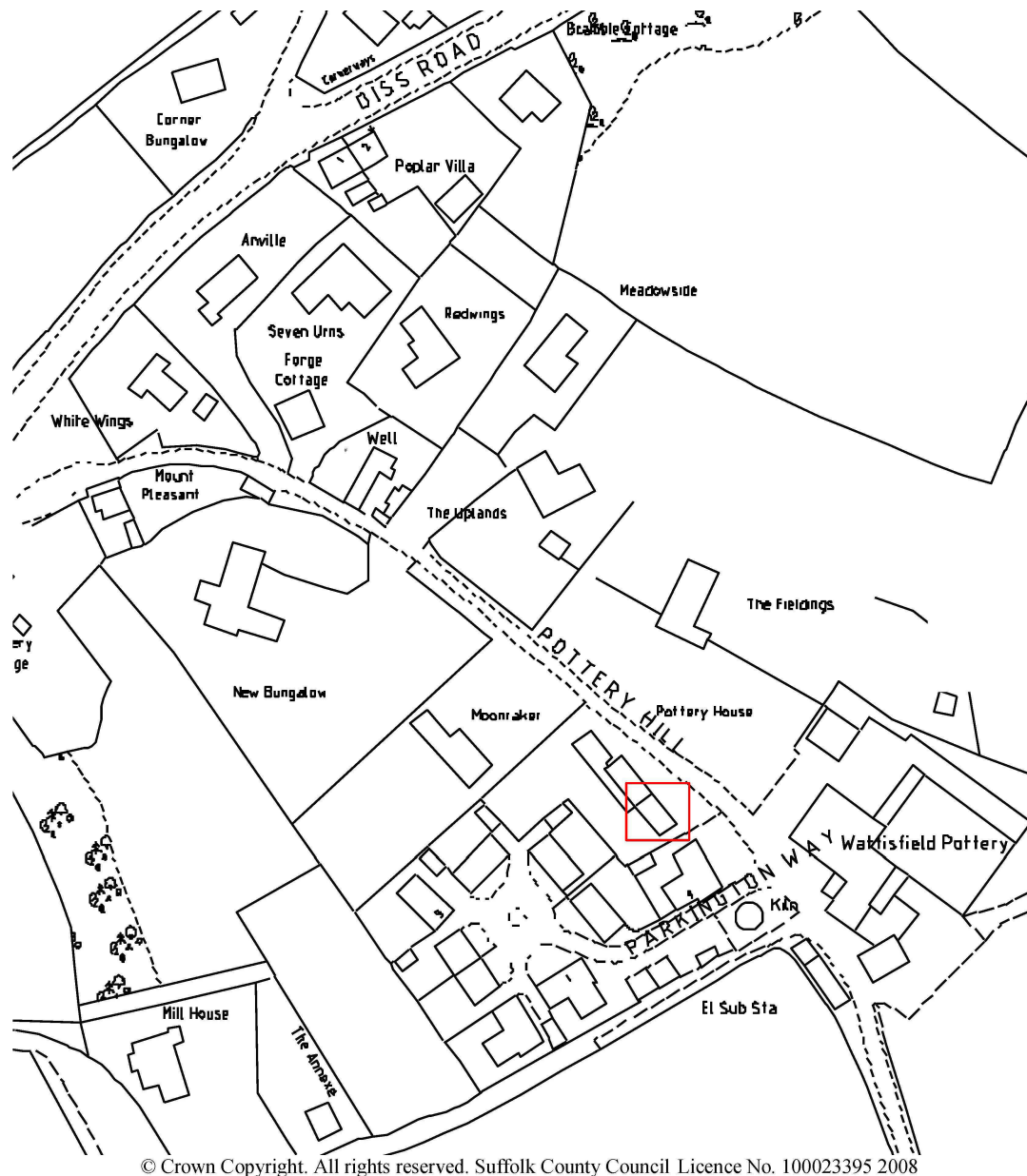


Figure 1. Current Ordnance Survey Site Plan.

Pottery Cottage is enclosed in red with Pottery House adjoining to the north, ‘Wattisfield Pottery’ to the east and the preserved circular kiln on the corner of the new housing estate to the south. The A143 road between Bury and Diss is shown top left.

Documentary and Cartographic Evidence

Pottery Cottage is a timber-framed and rendered building on the western side of Pottery Hill approximately 0.5 km north-east of Wattisfield parish church. It abuts a separate red-brick property known as Pottery House on the north and lies in close proximity to the office and shop premises of Henry Watson’s Potteries Ltd. on the opposite side of the road. The cottage formerly adjoined Watson’s factory on the south, but this was demolished in 2006 and replaced by a new development of bungalows leaving only a circular down-draught kiln and chimney as an historic monument. The company’s kitchenware products are now manufactured overseas. Excavations were undertaken during demolition by Suffolk County Council’s Archaeological Service, and further details of the company’s history are available in its report (Henry Watson’s Potteries, November 2006, J.A. Craven, SCCAS report 2006/98).

The Watson family is understood to have produced pottery on Pottery Hill for more than two centuries, as documented in the company archives. These archives, as reported by J.A. Craven, include letters and wills referring to commercial potting on the site as early as the 16th century. The owner in 1734 was John De'ath, from whom Thomas Watson purchased the pottery in 1800 along with a dairy and 20 acres of land (Craven). White's Suffolk Directory for 1844 notes that Wattisfield contains 1600 acres of fertile land 'under which is a bed of fine clay, of which excellent bricks, tiles and brown earthenware are manufactured': it lists two makers of earthenware, Thomas Harrison and Thomas Watson, and one of brick and tile.



Figure 2. The Wattisfield tithe map of 1838 (Suffolk Record Office.) The pottery complex occupies the southern end of a long, triangular half-acre plot of land (271) adjoining the junction of three roads with a section of church glebe land to the north. This configuration is highly characteristic of ancient tyes or greens, and suggests Pottery Cottage may have been built on a medieval common.

The parish tithe map of 1843 (figure 2) shows a long, triangular plot of land including Pottery House and Pottery Cottage in red and a group of outbuildings including a circular kiln in grey. The northern tip of the triangle is marked as church glebe, suggesting the boundary is an ancient feature in the landscape as the Church rarely acquired new land after the Middle Ages. Medieval Suffolk contained large numbers of small, triangular greens, often known as tyes, that typically focused on triple road junctions in precisely this manner. Most were used as common grazing by small farming hamlets, but by the 16th century, as farm sizes increased and these hamlets contracted, many became redundant and were prone to squatter settlement. The smallest and poorest rural dwellings of the 16th and 17th centuries were often built on road margins and former greens, and Pottery Cottage may well have originated in such a manner.

The triangular plot (no. 271 in figure 2) was described only as 'house, yards, etc.' on the title apportionment but was both owned and occupied by Thomas Watson and evidently served as his home and pottery. He also owned the 'orchard and garden' on the eastern side of the road (plot 281) and the adjoining arable field known as 'Two Acres'. A further 15 acres of land was leased from Thomas Thornhill Esquire, who owned several farms in the parish, and this included a 'barn and yard' on the site of the present shop (plot 282). No division is indicated between the southern and northern ends of the house (i.e. Pottery Cottage and Pottery House), but the western projection can be equated with the surviving rear lean-to extension of Pottery Cottage. The relatively narrow proportions of the building's northern section indicates the presence of a similarly small, timber-framed structure on the site of Pottery House, which was rebuilt or remodelled later in the 19th century.

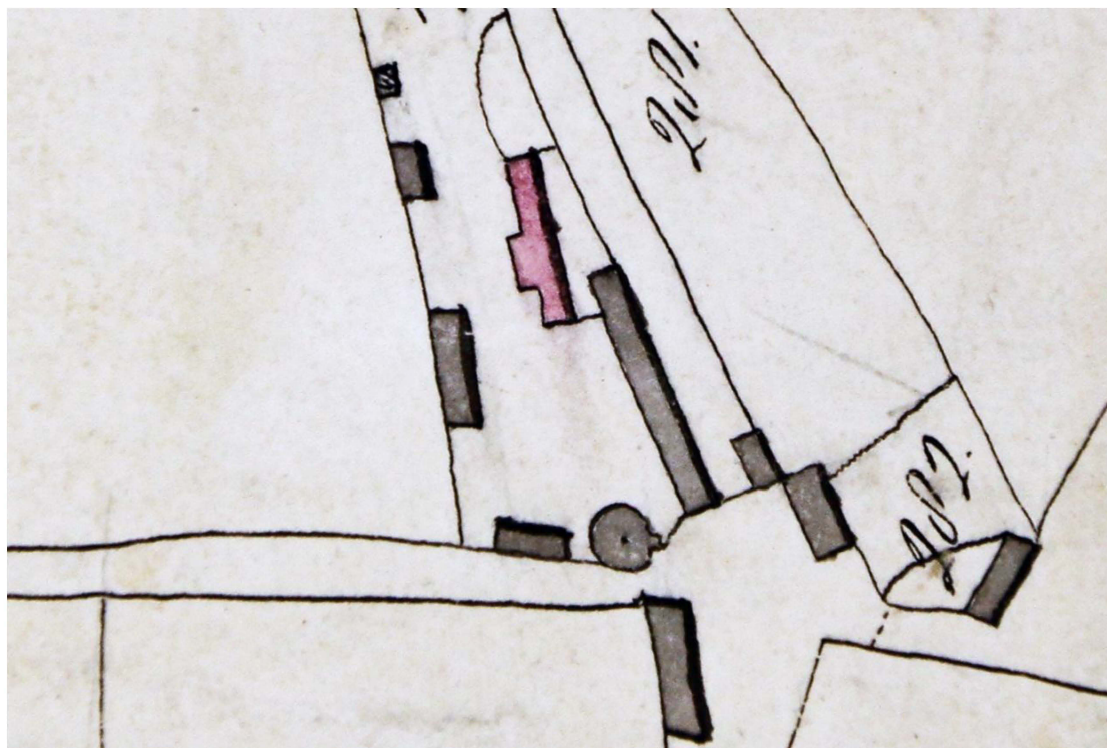


Figure 2a. A detail of the 1838 map showing Pottery Cottage and Pottery House in red with a circular kiln to the south. The westward projection represents the surviving brick lean-to extension of Pottery Cottage.

By the time of the first edition Ordnance Survey of 1885 the business had been much enlarged, with a new kiln closer to the cottage and a new complex of outbuildings including open-sided drying sheds on the opposite side of the road. This redevelopment appears to have included the rebuilding or extensive remodelling of Pottery House, which is shown with its existing proportions. A new down-draught kiln was built at the southern end of the site in 1940/41 to meet wartime fire regulations (the older bottle kiln having shown its light to enemy aircraft) and this was the sole survivor of a major fire which destroyed the rest of the buildings on the western side of the road in 1963. This fire presumably damaged the narrow southern end of Pottery Cottage which was replaced by the current brick garage at around the same time. The rebuilt 1960s factory was finally demolished to make way for the new bungalow development in 2005/6, leaving only the cottage and down-draught kiln as a monument to centuries of pottery manufacture in Wattisfield.

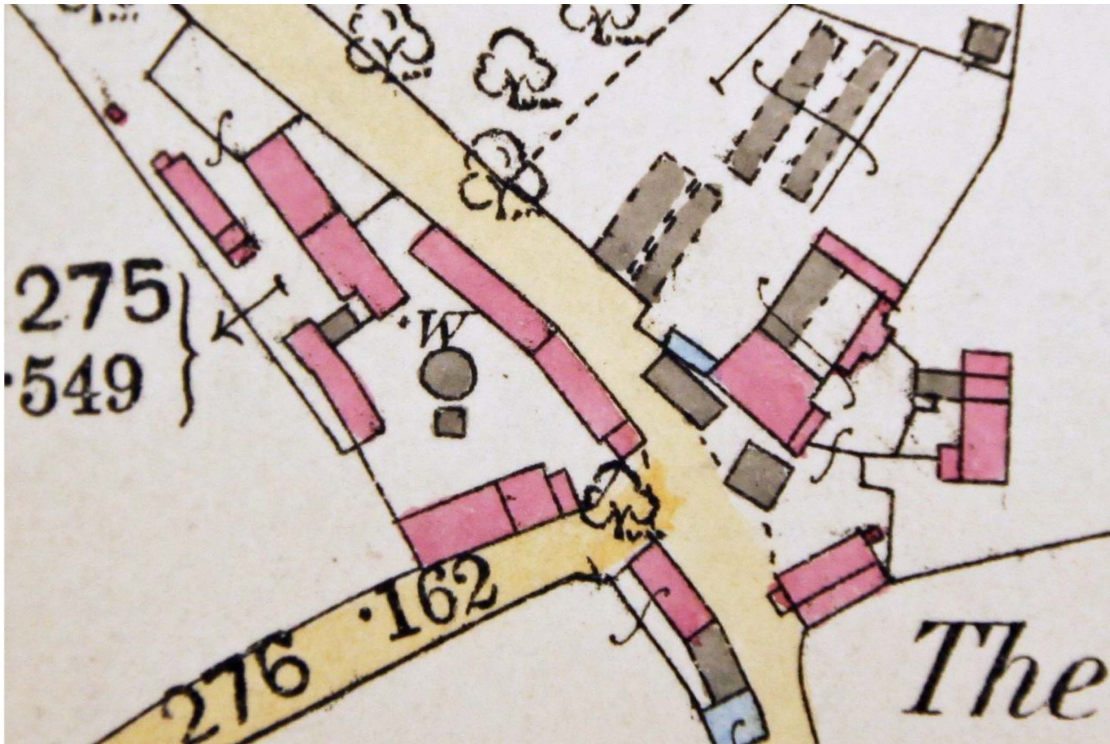


Figure 3. The First Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1885. Since 1838 a new kiln had been built in closer proximity to Pottery Cottage, with a well between the two buildings, and the wider current proportions of Pottery House had replaced the narrower range shown in figure 2. The narrow southern section of Pottery Cottage was replaced by the present brick garage after the fire of 1963. The two houses are now delineated as separate dwellings. Note the open-sided drying sheds and other new buildings on the eastern side of the road. The entire complex is labelled The Pottery (bottom right).

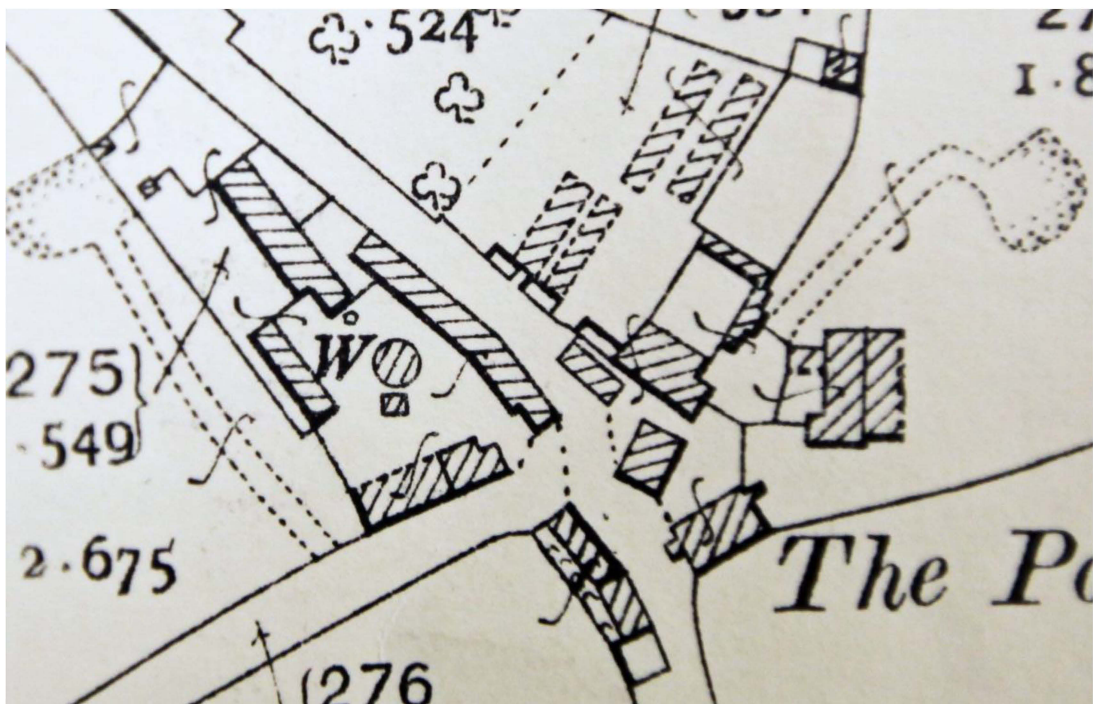


Figure 4. Second Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1904. Pottery House and Cottage are no longer shown as separate dwellings, but other internal partitions have also been omitted.

Building Analysis

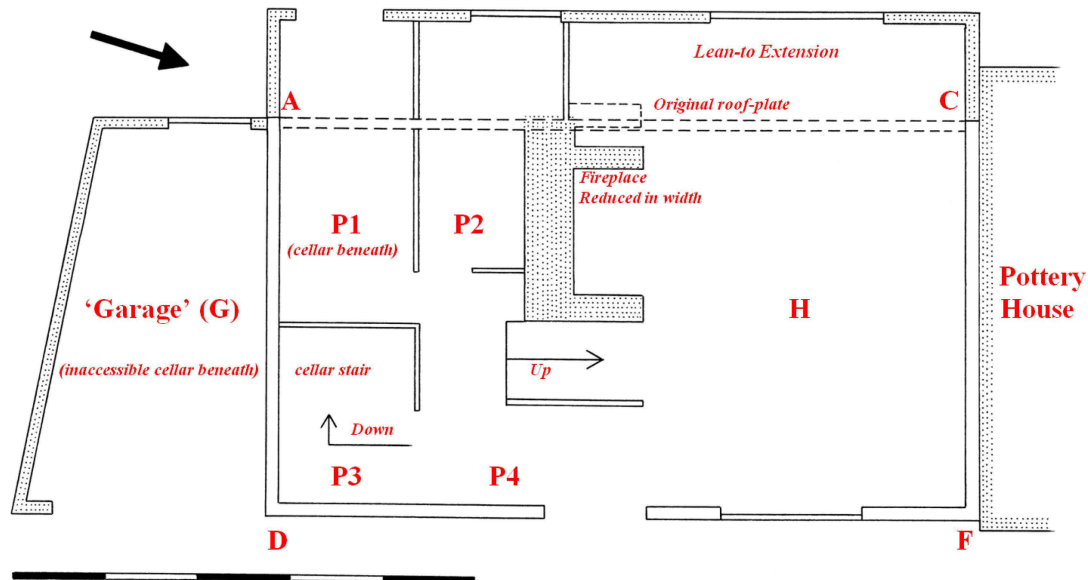


Figure 5

Ground plan of Pottery Cottage identifying each area with a letter for ease of reference in the text and photographic record. Scale in metres. Not fully surveyed. The original timber-framed building lay between the corner posts marked A, C, D and F, and contained a parlour (P) to the left of its chimney and a hall (H) to the right. A lean-to brick extension was added to the rear (west) in two phases during the 18th and 19th centuries, and the parlour has been subdivided as shown with P1 representing a rear entrance lobby and P2 a bathroom. The garage to the south is a brick structure that is likely to post-date the fire of 1963. A 17th or early-18th century brick cellar was dug beneath an earlier extension on the site of the garage and the southern half of the original parlour (P1 and P3). The present roof structure probably dates from the same 17th century phase of extension.

Original Structure

Proportions, layout and date

The original timber structure of Pottery Cottage was well framed in oak but exceptionally small at just 7.6 m in total length by 4.25 m in width (25 ft by 14 ft). Its walls rose to just 2.2 m at their roof-plates (7 ft) and consisted of a single tier of studs with internally trenched braces rising from all four jowled corner posts to both gable tie-beams and roof-plates. The interior contained two rooms of unequal length divided by a chimney with a single ground-floor fireplace: the larger heated room to the north extended to 4.6 m (15 ft) including the fireplace and evidently formed a hall, while the smaller room of 2.75 m (9ft) to the south was probably a parlour but could also be interpreted as a service (storage) area. The present front door opposite the chimney appears to occupy its original position, with lintel mortises in both jambs, and the resulting layout is typical of the late-16th and 17th centuries with a lobby or 'baffle' entrance between a hall and parlour. Both rooms retain their original ceilings and the upper storey would have been reached by a straight or newel stair against the chimney, much as today (although the present stair is a 19th century replacement). The wall framing is impossible to date with precision on stylistic grounds alone, although it can be no later than

the early-17th century given its use of trenched wall braces, but the proportions and chamfers of the hall ceiling confirm the date range of *circa* 1580-1620.

The chimney

The existing brick chimney contains a single wide fireplace with a timber lintel in the hall. Its aperture has been narrowed by inserting a new pier to the front (east) and demolishing the original rear pier which was visible only in outline at the time of inspection. Two Marian apotropaic 'M' symbols have been boldly incised into the lintel in order to protect the otherwise vulnerable flue against witchcraft and other evil spirits (a common practice in 17th century Suffolk). The present chimney may have replaced an earlier timber-framed example during the 17th or early-18th century, particularly as it projects slightly beyond the rear wall, but a chimney certainly existed here from the outset as the rear roof-plate lacks stud mortises as shown in figure 6. It may be possible to locate the foundations of the original chimney during any forthcoming archaeological investigation. Part of the gap in the rear framing may have accommodated a back door, of which there is no obvious evidence elsewhere (braces rose from both corner posts and would have obstructed any doors in the usual alternative locations).

Diamond mullion windows

The only firm evidence of an original window lies to the south of the eastern entrance where a lintel survives intact with two diamond mullion mortises in its soffit (underside). The mullions and the sill have been lost, although the latter's pegged mortises remain. The lintel overlaps the jambs and would have projected through the original clay render which concealed the frame externally. Its outer surface has been partly removed, but it retains two large dowel holes angled upwards at approximately 45 degrees. These are occasionally seen in similar contexts elsewhere but their purpose is uncertain; they were probably intended to support a drip board or hood to prevent rain entering the unglazed window. It proved impossible to determine the positions of any other windows as the relevant studs were lacking, but figures 6 and 7 show their probable configuration.

Roof structure

There is no evidence of either doors or windows in the two gables where all the studs remain *in situ*, and there is nothing to suggest the original building continued further. The southern end of the rear roof-plate projects by several inches beyond the plane of the wall and is shaped and weathered as might be expected in an exposed external gable, although its front counterpart has been sawn off. (Both are now visible in the garage extension.) The northern tie-beam was concealed at the time of inspection but the absence of stud pegs in the upper surface of the southern tie-beam indicates the roof was originally hipped as shown in figure 7. The present roof is a 17th century replacement, the rafters of which fail to respect the seatings in the original roof-plates. There are no mortises for braces in the external faces of the corner posts, but the north-western post contains a high pegged mortise that may have secured the rail of a fence defining an adjoining yard.

Original ceilings

The ceilings on both sides of the chimney are entirely original, but constructed in different ways. The heavy-sectioned joists of the smaller parlour to the south are lodged on a horizontal clamp (rail) which is pegged to the studs of the southern gable; their opposite ends would have rested on a similar rail behind the chimney but only part of this survives (to the front of the chimney, with empty mortises for the parlour door jambs). These joists extend to approximately 15 cm by 10 cm (6 ins by 4) but are not uniform and may have been re-used (although there is no evidence of secondhand material elsewhere in the building). The common joists of the hall are smaller and more decorative, with narrow chamfers to their edges and measuring 10 cm by 8 cm (4 ins by 3). They are soffit-tenoned to a chamfered axial joist which is supported by the chimney to the south and tenoned to a central post in the northern gable. The latter junction is further supported by a neatly hewn corbel block which

projects from the post. There is no indication of a central tie-beam and the frame effectively consists of a single large bay.

Original floorboards

The two first-floor chambers retain complete and impressive floors of wide, rebated boards, some of which are hidden beneath secondary deal boards. These are chiefly of oak, but a number in the southern chamber are lighter in colour and may be of poplar; if so, they represent a rare survival. The undersides of the boards in the hall were originally exposed to view, and are heavily smoke stained. This staining was preserved beneath later lath-and-plaster nailed directly to the boards (leaving the joists exposed), as shown by a series of lath scars, and is of particular historic interest. It demonstrates the smoky nature of the original cramped interior, which may have contained ovens and coppers in conjunction with the principal fireplace.

Interpretation

The small proportions of the original structure are rarely encountered today as most early cottages of this scale failed to stand the test of time. They were rebuilt entirely or extended beyond all recognition. Maps and documents of the late-16th and early-17th century depict and describe many similar properties however, particularly in rural contexts and often on road margins and commons where, at a time of rapid population growth, poorer householders were obliged to encroach on waste land. The triangular outline of the building plot in figure 2 strongly suggests that Pottery Cottage occupies the site of a medieval green. Small cottages of this kind were typically thatched and provided with chimneys of wattle rather than expensive brick – as clearly indicated on early pictorial maps. Some were independent dwellings, but others were ancillary to larger farmsteads on the same plot and operated as detached kitchens. Pottery Cottage may be interpreted as an outbuilding of this type, particularly given its unusually smoky interior, but it is more likely to have formed a primary residence. Documentary evidence is understood to link the site with pottery manufacture as early as the 16th century, and a small dwelling of this type is entirely consistent with the low-status nature of the industry at this period. Potteries were often located on village margins due to their anti-social fires and fumes.

The 1838 tithe map appears to show an adjoining building of identical proportions on the site of Pottery House to the north. It is tempting to interpret this as an identical dwelling forming a pair of semi-detached tenements for agricultural labourers (given the isolated location on the margins of the village); if so, it may have been contemporary with Pottery Cottage but was more probably a 17th century addition as there is no obvious evidence of the earliest structure continuing in this direction. Part of the narrow range of 1838 may still survive within the Victorian brickwork of Pottery House, which was not inspected for the purpose of this report.

Later Alterations

17th century Extension and re-roofing

The late-16th or early-17th century building underwent considerable alteration during the latter part of the 17th century, or possibly the early-18th century. The roof was rebuilt as a clasped-purlin structure with vertical gables and pegged collars but without the curved wind-braces that might have been expected in the original. The new rafters, although pegged to the purlins and of archaic appearance, do not respect the rafter housings in the roof-plates. The new roof may well have been contemporary with a new extension to the south, as indicated today only by the presence on the original southern gable of nailed brackets to support its ceiling. The narrow outline of this extension is shown on the historic maps pre-dating the fire which destroyed the adjoining pottery factory in 1963 and is likely to have destroyed or damaged the

extension. The present brick garage on the site was built to replace it. A possible northern extension may further explain the desire to rebuild the roof.

Cellar

The late-17th century refurbishment is also likely to have included the cellar and the present brick chimney. The cellar was dug beneath the southern end of the original parlour bay and the new extension, with a well-framed ceiling of flat-sectioned joists lodged on a chamfered axial joist. All but the north-eastern corner of this ceiling was presumably destroyed by the fire and was replaced by softwood joists and shuttered concrete. The section beneath the garage was divided from the rest by a solid brick wall that abutted the now missing central joist and appeared to have been inaccessible at least since the 1960s as it contained a large quantity of miscellaneous pottery that may have been discarded after the fire. However the dividing wall abutted the central ceiling joist before its decay and seems to pre-date the fire, and closer inspection of this pottery may shed further light on the time of its deposition. Given the building's proximity to the factory the southern section of the cellar may have been separated and for use as a pottery store, or possibly, given its blackened walls, as a store for coal or charcoal used to fire the nearby kiln.

18th century rear lean-to

The narrow width of the original hall was increased by 1.2 m (4 ft) during the late-18th or early-19th century by a rear brick lean-to extension laid in English bond. This required the removal of the timber-framed back wall and the insertion of a re-used timber with various irrelevant mortises beneath the remaining roof-plate in order to support the ceiling joists. A matching second lean-to of brick laid in Flemish bond was added to the southern parlour bay at a slightly later date in the 19th century. In consequence no original framing now survives in the rear wall apart from its corner posts, but the exposed mortises of the roof-plate suggest the missing wall mirrored the front as in figure 6.

Fire of 1963

The most recent refurbishment of the property probably took place shortly after the 1963 fire when much of the internal wall fabric was concealed behind dry-lining (i.e. plasterboard and hardboard). A partition was inserted to create a narrow bathroom (P2 in figure 5), the present garage was built and the roof was re-tiled. At some point the fireplace was narrowed by inserting new brickwork within the original eastern pier and replacing the western pier with another approximately half a metre inside its former position. Removal of the modern dry-lining revealed former doorways on both the ground and upper storeys linking the cottage internally to Pottery House. Both were blocked with mid-20th century cement blocks and appeared to have been in use immediately prior to the refurbishment. An aperture at the southern end of the front elevation that presumably contained a window above the cellar steps had been similarly blocked. A serving hatch was also revealed in the north-western corner of the hall, along with a door that opened into the first-floor chamber of the earlier extension on the site of the garage. The exact nature of the historic link with Pottery House remains uncertain in the absence of internal inspection of the latter, which evidently became a separate property only in relatively recent years.

Assessment

The original fabric has been considerably depleted by these various alterations, although the building retained considerable historic character at the time of inspection and its general proportions had changed remarkably little in four centuries. The studs of the back wall had been entirely removed to accommodate the lean-to extension but both gables survived intact with substantial areas of ostensibly original wattle-and-daub. The roof had been renewed, albeit at an early date, and the front wall retained five of its original eight studs together with a window lintel, one of two internal braces and, again, large areas of wattle-and-daub. Both roof-plates survived intact together with all four heavily jowled corner posts.

Historic Significance

Pottery Cottage is probably a small domestic house of the late-16th or early-17th century, although it could be interpreted as a detached kitchen belonging to a missing larger house in the immediately vicinity. The triangular shape of its boundary in the 19th century strongly suggests it was built on a medieval green and may therefore reflect the wave of encroachment on waste land associated with the population boom of *circa* 1600. Small, low status dwellings of this early period are now notoriously rare and the house is of great historic interest, particularly as documentary evidence is understood to link it with pottery manufacture from the outset. Archaeological investigation of the subsoil may determine whether it occupies the site of an older house, and whether the present chimney replaced a timber-framed predecessor. It would not normally be possible to obtain planning consent to demolish a structure of this type, which is among the oldest half dozen properties in the parish and retains great visual character, but an erroneous historic assessment ascribing it to the late-18th century was submitted with the application. Despite its historic significance, particularly in a local context, the building is unlikely to meet the current English Heritage criteria for listing which require an improbably high proportion of the original fabric to survive.

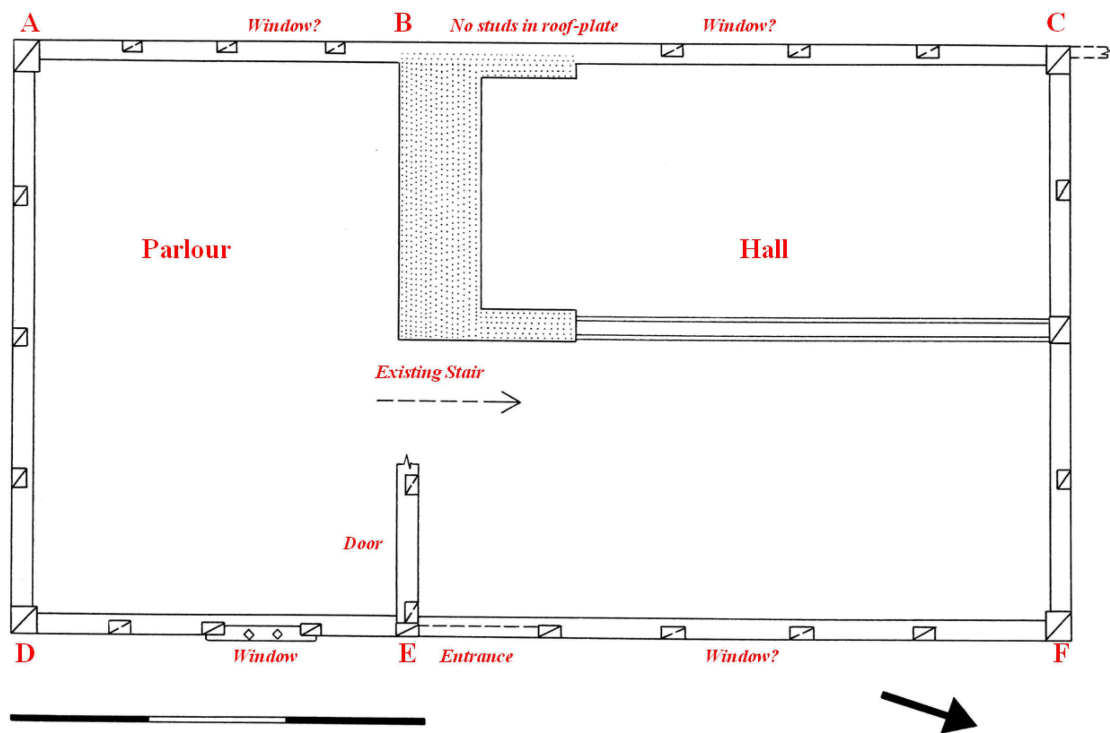


Figure 6

Original ground plan showing the 17th century chimney which may have replaced a timber-framed predecessor. The back (southern) edge of the fireplace appears to have been rebuilt in the 18th or 19th century. Solid lines indicate surviving timbers and broken lines those which have been lost. The smaller southern room (A-B-D-E) could be interpreted as a service (storage) area rather than a parlour, although the latter is more likely.

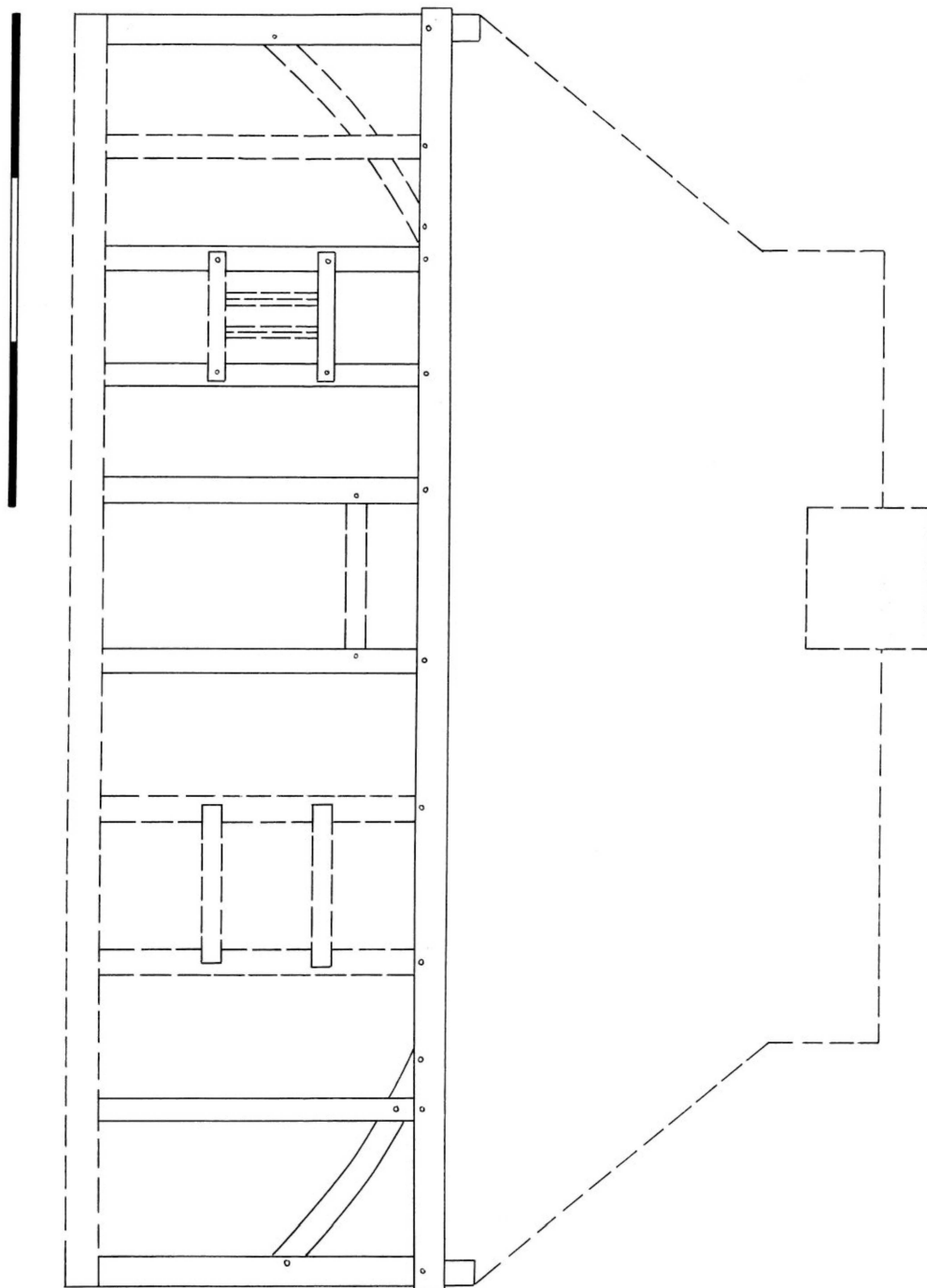


Figure 7

A reconstruction of the original eastern facade (D-F) showing the surviving window lintel to the left. The hipped roof was replaced in the latter part of the 17th century. The framing would have been concealed by external render, with only the door and window lintels and sills exposed.

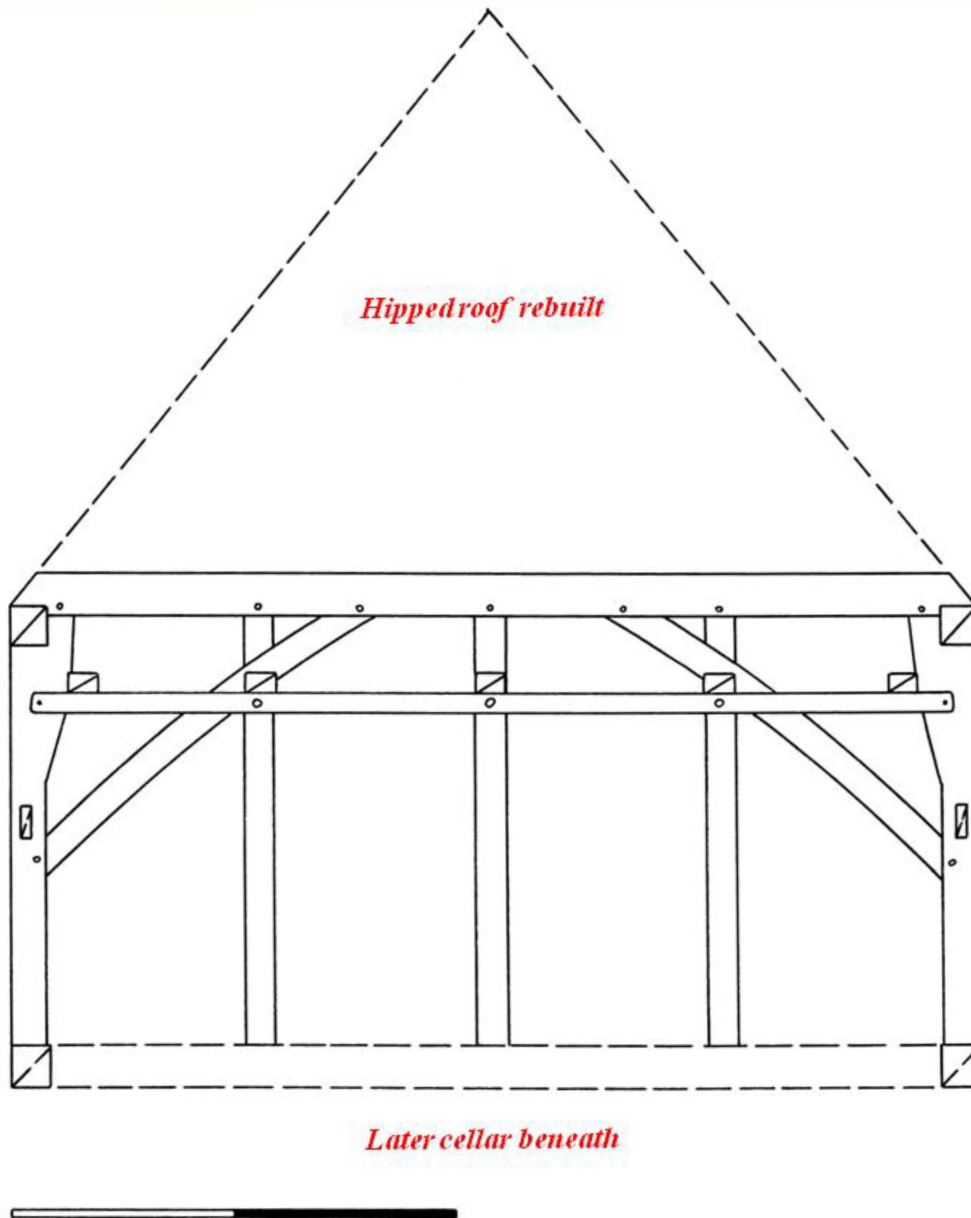


Figure 8

Internal elevation of original southern gable (D-A) showing the original pegged clamp (rails) supporting the ends of the ceiling joists. The absence of pegged mortises from the upper surface of the tie-beam suggests the gable was initially hipped. The northern gable (C-F) is identical but for the presence of a central post with an integral corbel block supporting the axial joist of the hall ceiling.

Appendix 1 (on accompanying CD): Full Photographic Record

Descriptions of Photographs in Appendix 1

Photograph no.

Taken 18th November 2013 on initial inspection

1. General view of site from Pottery Hill to south-east showing disused kiln to left with Pottery Cottage in rear & Pottery on right.
2. Premises of Watson's Pottery office & retail shop from site of disused kiln to west of Pottery Hill.
3. Disused down-draught kiln & chimney of 1940-41 from south-east showing 2006/7 housing in rear with Pottery Cottage to right.
4. General view of site from Pottery Hill to north-west showing Pottery House on right & premises of Watson's Pottery in rear.
5. Exterior from east showing Pottery Cottage to left and brick facade of Pottery House to right.
6. Eastern facade showing 20th century cement tiles with double doors of extension (G) to left & Pottery House to right.
7. Detail of eastern facade showing early-19th century door case and 20th century casement window.
8. Southern external gable showing mid-20th century brickwork of garage (G) with double doors to right.
9. Exterior from rear (west) showing scale of garden plot with 2006/7 boundary to right.
10. Exterior from south-west showing two-phase brick lean-to extension with mid-20th century brick garage (G) to right.
11. Rear lean-to with 18th or early-19th century English bond brickwork to left of central window & later Flemish bond to right.
12. Interior from west of rear entrance lobby (P1) showing original southern gable to right.
13. Interior from east of rear entrance lobby (P1) showing original pegged clamp supporting ceiling joists on southern gable to left.
14. Original ceiling joists in rear lobby (P1) from west showing empty stud and brace mortises in original roof-plate.
15. Coat hooks attached to original ceiling clamp so southern internal gable seen from rear lobby (P1).

16. Ceiling joists of rear lobby (P1) from north showing larger possibly re-used central joist with reduced eastern edge.
17. Front entrance lobby (P4) from east showing cellar stair (P3) left , bathroom (P2) in centre & main stair to right.
18. Front entrance lobby (P4) from rear (west) showing main stair with entrance door and original wattle-and-daub in centre.
19. Interior from east of bathroom (P2) showing blind painted brickwork of chimney to right & window in rear.
20. Interior from west of bathroom (P2) showing blind painted brickwork of chimney to left & recent partition to lobby (P1) right.
21. Western end of bathroom (P2) from south showing corner of chimney with original southern gable of lean-to in centre.
22. Interior of eastern facade from lobby (P4) showing original wattle-and-daub with window lintel to right of door.
23. Detail of original window lintel to western interior of entrance lobby (P4) showing empty diamond mullion mortises.
24. Entrance lobby (P4) from south showing partition rail cut by present stair with pegged mortises for door jambs to left and right.
25. Entrance lobby (P4) from north showing access to cellar stair (P3) with original ceiling joists and studwork to southern gable.
26. Original brace, ceiling clamp and stud of southern gable seen from cellar stair to north (P4). The central stud is secondary.
27. 17th or 18th century plank and ledge door to cellar stair (P3) seen from south.
28. Original ceiling joists with early lath-and-plaster above cellar stair (P3) seen from west.
29. Cellar stair (P3) from north showing secondary brick wall dividing cellar at foot of steps.
30. Southern end of western interior from cellar stair (P3) showing blocked secondary door or window.
31. Cellar from west showing steps to east and later perforated brick wall beneath original central axial ceiling joist.
32. Cellar stair from west showing arched recess beneath and secondary lateral partition beneath original southern gable to right.
33. Cellar ceiling from south west showing original ceiling joists lodged on fragmentary axial joist to left.
34. Western half of cellar ceiling from south showing modern joists beneath rear lobby (P1) and decayed original axial joist to right.

35. Western section of cellar from south showing apertures of missing wooden shelves to left.
36. Cellar beneath rear lobby (p1) from east showing window or access chute blocked by later brick partition to left.
37. Cellar from north showing later brick partition with central aperture for missing axial joist. The area beyond is inaccessible.
38. Inaccessible southern part of cellar beneath garage (G) from aperture of missing axial joist showing similar aperture opposite.
39. South-western corner of inaccessible cellar beneath garage (G) showing western window or chute to right.
40. South-eastern corner of inaccessible cellar beneath garage (G) showing 20th century internal partition to left.
41. Miscellaneous pottery on floor of inaccessible southern section of cellar beneath garage (G).
42. Interior of hall (H) from rear (west) showing late-20th century dry-lining to walls.
43. Hall from north showing 17th century fireplace concealed by 20th century dry-lining.
44. Hall fireplace from north showing truncated original western pier to right of existing.
45. Wide flue of 17th century chimney above former 'inglenook' fireplace in hall (seen from west).
46. Hall from east showing blocked window in secondary lean-to with fireplace to left.
47. Hall ceiling from north showing original smoke-stained ceiling joists and oak floorboards with scars of lath-and-plaster.
48. Hall ceiling from west showing recent softwood joists strengthening original oak joists and wide floorboards.
49. Stair to upper storey seen from eastern entrance lobby (P4) showing chimney to left and access to hall (H) on right.
50. Stair landing from west showing late-20th century balustrade and wide oak floorboards.
51. Northern bedroom from rear (west) showing dormer window with stair landing to right.
52. Floor of northern bedroom from west showing wide rebated oak floorboards to rear hidden beneath later deal boards to east.
53. Northern bedroom from east showing blocked door to Pottery House on right.

54. Northern bedroom from south showing blocked door to Pottery House in gable.
55. Stair landing from north-east showing wide oak floorboards and narrow chimney without first-floor fireplaces.
56. Interior from south of southern bedroom showing wide rebated oak floorboards, chimney breast & entrance to stair lobby.
57. Eastern interior of southern bedroom showing dormer window with trench of missing roof collar above.
58. Internal southern gable of southern bedroom showing late-20th century dry-lining.
59. Clasped-purlin roof structure in southern bedroom showing later high collars of 20th century ceiling.
60. Southern bedroom from east showing intact purlin and rafters of 17th century roof with pegged rafters and removed collars.
61. Apex of southern gable from bedroom showing wattle-and-daub infill with softwood rafters and brickwork of garage (G) beyond.
62. Rear (western) rafters of southern bedroom showing oak floorboards with roof of lean-to extension beyond.
63. Roof of lean-to extension from south showing secondary plate between original roof-plate and rafter feet.
64. Interior from east of 20th century garage (G) extension above earlier cellar showing original framing of southern gable to right.
65. Southern gable from mid-20th century garage (G) showing central first-floor door to earlier floored structure on same site.
66. Detail of front jowled corner post, tie-beam and internal wall brace of exterior of southern gable seen from garage (G).
67. Detail of rear jowled corner post, tie-beam and internal wall brace of exterior of southern gable seen from garage (G).
68. Detail of weathered original rear roof-plate of southern gable from garage (G) showing nailed support for later ceiling.
69. Interior of eastern entrance door from lobby (P4) showing original studwork & wattle-and-daub to right.

Taken 3rd December 2013 after partial stripping of cladding

70. Eastern facade showing original roof-plate, studs & wattle-and-daub.
71. Detail of eastern facade showing original window lintel to left of door.

72. Original window lintel to eastern exterior shaved but still overlapping jambs to project through daub.
73. Window lintel to eastern exterior with diamond mullion mortises & angled dowel holes for possible hood.
74. Northern end of eastern exterior showing original stud & internal brace with notches for original rafters in roof-plate.
75. Detail of original stud, internal corner brace and wattle poles to right of eastern facade.
76. Fireplace in hall with exposed lintel and showing position of original rear wall above right edge.
77. Hall from north showing original width of fireplace beneath timber lintel truncated to right.
78. Detail of fireplace lintel in hall showing wooden block indicating original eastern pier.
79. Detail of two Marian apotropaic marks cut into lintel of fireplace (highlighted by torch).
80. Rear roof-plate of hall with rafter notches sandwiched between re-used timber beneath & secondary plate above.
81. Detail of original rear roof-plate of hall from lean-to extension showing re-used timber supporting joists beneath.
82. Northern gable of hall showing intact framing identical to southern gable with later blocked door to Pottery House.
83. Northern end of eastern interior of hall showing original pegged clamp supporting ceiling joists.
84. Detail from rear of original corbel block supporting tenoned axial joist in central post of northern hall gable.
85. Serving hatch in hall opening into Pottery House with pegged mortises for corner brace and external rail in post.
86. Eastern interior of hall showing original chamfered clamp supporting joists above window.
87. Mortise for door lintel in southern edge of present door jamb in eastern interior (P4).
88. Blocked doorway in original southern gable opening onto missing upper floor of earlier extension on site of garage (G).

Photographic Appendix 2 follows on pp. 12-17

Appendix 2 (pp. 12-17): Selected Printed Photographs



Illus. 1. A General view of the site from Pottery Hill to the south-east showing the disused down-draught kiln and chimney of 1940-41 with the new housing development which replaced the old pottery complex in 2006/7. Pottery Cottage and Pottery House are visible to the right.



Illus. 2. The site from the east showing the rendered structure of Pottery Cottage to the left and the brick structure of Pottery House to the right. The two were linked internally at least until the mid-20th century and formed the potter's residence in the 19th century.



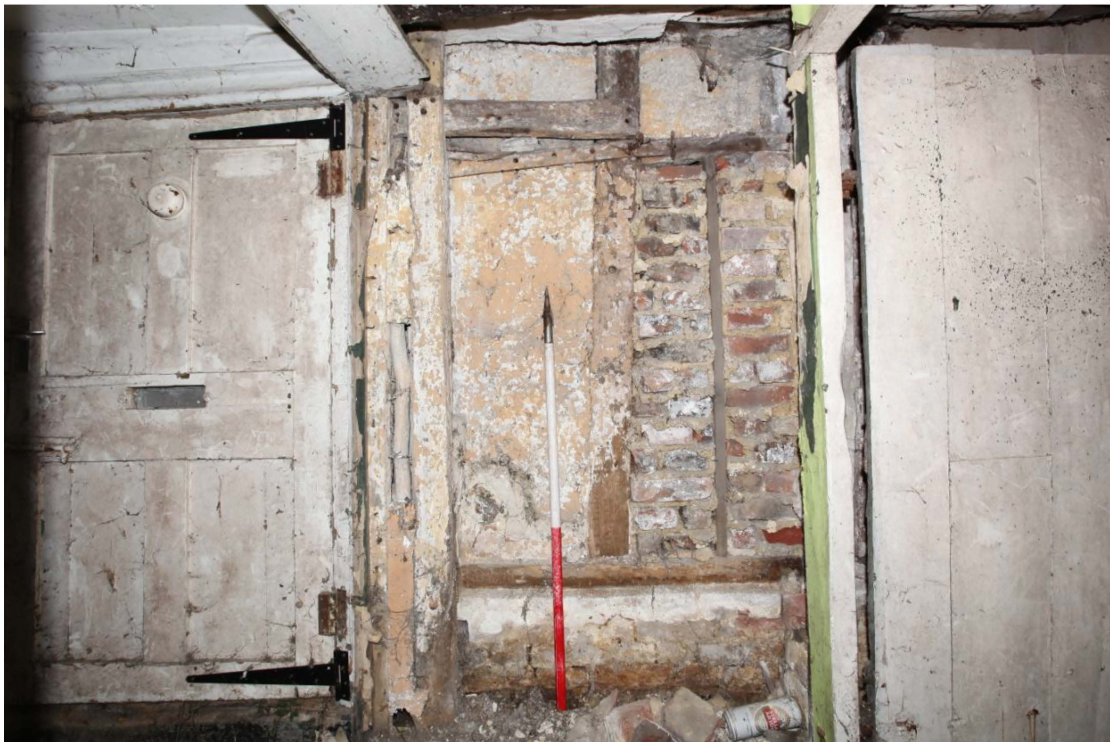
Illus. 3. The eastern facade showing the building's mid-20th century cement tiles and rendered timber-framed walls. The double doors to the left open into a brick garage (G) that probably replaced a 17th century extension damaged by the fire of 1963. The diminutive original structure may have formed the dwelling of the potter who is understood to have worked on the site as early as the 16th century.



Illus. 4. The rear (western) exterior showing the 1960s brick garage to the right with a brick lean-to extension adjoining the original timber framed structure. The lean-to was built in two phases, with 18th or early-19th century English bond brickwork to the left and 19th century Flemish bond to the right of the central window's left-hand jamb.



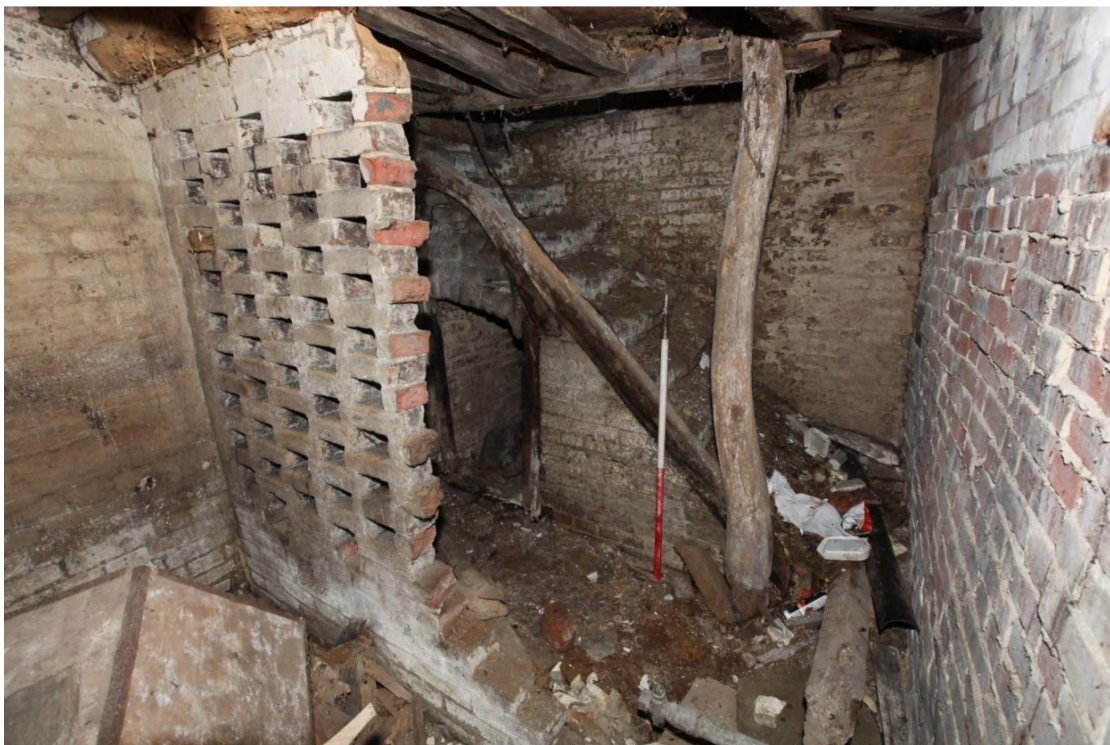
Illus. 5. The front (eastern) entrance lobby (P4) from the north, showing the access to the cellar stair (P3) inserted into the south-eastern corner of the original building in the late 17th century. The heavy-sectioned ceiling joists are original, supported by a horizontal clamp (rail) pegged to the studs of the southern gable in the rear. The partitions to the right post-date the fire of 1963.



Illus. 6. The eastern interior from the entrance lobby (P4) showing the front door to the left with original studs and wattle-and-daub to the right. The horizontal timber above the area of brickwork is an original window lintel with two empty mortises for diamond mullions in its exposed soffit.



Illus. 7. The cellar stair (P3) from the north showing the intact original framing of the southern gable with a jowled corner post, internal wall brace, ceiling clamp and stud. The central stud is not tenoned and pegged to the tie-beam and is a later insertion.



Illus. 8. The cellar stair from the west showing an arched recess beneath the brick steps with the remains of a later perforated brick partition beneath the original axial ceiling joist. This cellar is a 17th century addition that extended beneath a contemporary extension to the south which was probably replaced by the present garage after the fire of 1963. The section of cellar beneath the garage survives beyond the right-hand brick wall but was inaccessible at the time of inspection.



Illus. 9. Miscellaneous pottery on the floor of the inaccessible southern section of the cellar beneath the modern garage (G). This photograph was taken from the northern section through a small aperture in the dividing brick wall (formerly occupied by the axial ceiling joist which had rotted away). This pottery was presumably abandoned after the fire and appears to represent a diverse assemblage of vases, flower pots and chamber pots – some of the latter resembling medieval cooking pots.



Illus. 10. The hall from the north showing its 17th century fireplace concealed by 20th century dry-lining. The fireplace has been truncated, but its mutilated original pier is visible to the right.



Illus. 11. The hall ceiling from the rear (west) showing a number of recent softwood joists inserted to strengthen the original oak joists which survive largely intact and in good condition along with the original rebated oak floorboards. Both joists and floorboards were heavily and abnormally smoke stained before the application of render to the undersides of the floorboards as indicated by the distinctive pattern of stripes.



Illus. 12. The northern bedroom from the east showing a blocked door to Pottery House on the right and the unusually complete floor of rebated oak boards. The framing is hidden by late-20th century dry-lining.



Illus. 13. The southern bedroom from the east showing the intact purlin and rafters of a 17th century roof with later softwood collars above. The original collars have been removed as indicated by pegged trenches in the centre and against the chimney to the right. The rebated oak floorboards are intact. Despite its antiquity this roof is secondary to the building as the original roof-plates contain bird's mouth joints and notches for earlier rafters in slightly different positions.



Illus. 14. The garage (G) showing the intact framing of the original southern external gable with pegged plank-sectioned braces rising from the heavily jowled corner posts to the tie-beam. The original gable is likely to have been hipped as there are no obvious stud mortises in its upper surface. A series of nailed wooden corbels beneath the tie-beam supported the ceiling of an extension which was probably damaged in 1963 and replaced by the present garage. The inaccessible section of cellar lies beneath this space.



Illus. 15. The eastern facade photographed on 3rd December 2013 after the partial removal of the render shown in illus. 3 above. The original roof-plate, studs and internal braces proved to be largely intact with substantial areas of wattle-and-daub. Note the window lintel to the left of the entrance.



Illus. 16. A detail of the original window lintel to the left (south) of the entrance door in the eastern facade with two diamond mullion mortises in its soffit. The sill has been removed but its pegged mortises remain in both jambs. The lintel has been damaged slightly but still overlaps these jambs and would have projected through the original external daub. It contains two dowel holes angled upwards at approximately 45 degrees that may have supported an external drip board or hood to exclude rain in the absence of glass.



Illus. 17. The newly exposed fireplace in the hall with a large timber lintel that formerly extended to the rear wall – the position of which is indicated by the scale rod. The timber supporting the original ceiling joists was inserted when the lean-to extension was added and the wall removed; it contains stud mortises but has been re-used from elsewhere. The original roof-plate survives immediately above.



Illus. 18. A detail of two Marian apotropaic (evil-averting) symbols cut into the timber lintel of the fireplace (highlighted by torchlight).



Illus. 19. The northern gable of the hall showing its largely intact framing with internal arch-braces and two studs flanking the central post which supports the axial ceiling joist. Note the recently blocked door (right) and the serving hatch (left) that formerly linked this room to Pottery House. These features were previously hidden by dry-lining and were probably blocked during the post-1963 restoration.



Illus. 20. A detail of the northern gable of the hall from the rear (west) showing the integral corbel block which projects from the central post to support the neatly chamfered axial joist of the ceiling. The common joists are secured by soffit-tenon joints in the typical manner of the 16th century. The original chamfered clamp of the front wall is visible in the rear.

Archaeological Monitoring report

1. Introduction

An archaeological monitoring of groundwork excavations was undertaken following the demolition of Pottery Cottage. The archaeological work followed on from a survey and analysis of the former standing building and was completed in accordance to a specification issued by Rachael Monk of Suffolk County Council's Conservation Team. The excavations were for the footings of a replacement dwelling which was to be built directly over the footprint of the previous building and the archaeological monitoring was a condition of the planning consent.

The monitoring was completed during February 2014 by members of SCCAS Field Team. At the time of the first visit the building had been demolished to ground level and the remains of the building's fabric removed from the site; the floors had been lifted and the cellar recorded during the building survey had been backfilled with spoil.

Finds collected by the contractors during the demolition of Pottery Cottage were passed on to the monitoring archaeologist and have been included in the site archive and described in the finds chapter of this report. The finds included a finger-ring and a coin/token recovered from between the mortar joints of the 19th century rear extension and a hand-written note of manor court fines, dated 1671, which had been secreted beneath the floor-boards of the upper storey.

2. Methodology

The bedding sand for the tiled floor in the uncellared northern half of the building had been left in place following the demolition to protect any underlying archaeological deposits and was removed under archaeological supervision. This allowed for the archaeological features within this area to be recorded and excavated in plan. Outside the footprint of Pottery Cottage the archaeological features were buried beneath modern garden soil/overburden and were recorded only by section in the sides of the foundation trenches. The new-build's footing design comprised ring-beams supported on four large concrete pads. The excavation of the ring-beam trenches was observed and the trench sides recorded by photographs and section drawings. The excavations for the pads were too deep to enter safely and these were recorded by photography alone. Plans and sections are shown in Figures 9 and 10 and printed photographic images are included at the end of the report.



Figure 9. Site plan, showing (left) Phase 1 features (pre 16th century) and (right) Phase 2 features (post 16th century).

3. Results

Pottery Cottage was constructed without foundations in the manner of all medieval box-framed buildings and very little in the way of physical remains of the building can be seen in the archaeological record. The only below ground evidence for the cottage relates to later alterations and there is no indication of the original 16th century structure although there is evidence of an earlier building that preceded it. The archaeological activity fell into two broad periods

- Period 1 - events that occurred prior to the construction of Pottery Cottage
- Period 2 - events that have happened since.

Period 1: pre-16th century

Clay surface 0021

The earliest feature on the site was an extensive re-deposited, spread of yellow/green clay (0021). It existed only within the footprint of Pottery Cottage and was initially interpreted as possibly the original floor; however the western extent spread beyond the line of the 16th century building's rear wall (Fig. 9. Phase 1). The planned width (4.6m) was the full extent of clay's spread but its length was cut by Pottery House to the north and had been removed by the cellar to the south, but it was possibly identified in the foundation pad (Pl. 10) beyond the cellar's south-east corner. The clay was very thick (400mm in depth) and made up of a combination of yellow silty clay and, the usually lower-lying, blue boulder clay suggesting that at least some of the clay's mix was derived from deep excavations. The clay was compacted and had been truncated; what appeared to be plough-lines(?) (Pl. 4) were noted running diagonally across the surface and the position of two hearths (0018 and 0019) had been reduced to no more than vestigial burnt patches. The clay was sealed directly by the bedding sand for the former cottage's pammet floor and the apparent truncation may have been the result of preparing the ground in readiness for this replacement floor during the 19th century.

The ground beneath the clay had been truncated and the clay was laid down on a horizon of coarse gravel/grit. The gravel was (?)iron-stained and seemed to be graded with the larger stones toward the bottom; this lay directly over the natural sands of the surface geology but it was uncertain whether the gravel was a deposit or a naturally occurring horizon (Fig. 10 S8 and Pl. 5). The western side of the clay was bordered by a layer of brown silt, a 150mm deep deposit of buried topsoil that was either cut by or butted against the clay edge.

Building 0001

Building 0001 was built over and cut into the clay surface 0021 but preceded the construction of Pottery Cottage. The building was identified by two lines of post-pads that once formed the

opposing long walls 4.2m apart (Fig. 9, Phase 1). The building's length was unknown but it seems to share a similar footprint to Pottery Cottage and the postpads were located directly below their equivalent walls in the later box-framed structure. Five post pads were recorded (0002, 0004, 0012, 0014 and 0016). The postpads were formed from holes cut into clay layer 0021 and then packed with distinctly different green clay (PIs. 2 and 3). The postpads were neatly rectangular in plan but were aligned at an angle with the direction of the wall; they were flat-bottomed and 20cms deep. The clay was packed solid with no indication that a post was set into the hole and in postpad 0002 the clay was consolidated with a large sandstone pebble which was set at its centre.

The postpads were paired across the width of the building (0002 with 0012 and 004 with 0014) and closely spaced but the interval to posthole 0016 was larger suggesting perhaps an entrance, which coincidentally was in the same position as the lobby entrance of Pottery Cottage. The postpads of the west wall were positioned on the edge of the clay layer 0021 and were cut by a brick-built dwarf wall which was a later addition to underpin the Pottery Cottage frame. The cellar cut postpad 0016 and removed the opposing one on the rear wall together with any potential further evidence of the postpad building south of 0016.

Period 2: post 16th century

Pottery House was built against Pottery Cottage so that the north gable (altered in the 17th century) of the timber-framed building was incorporated into the later house as a shared, party wall (PI.1). The north gable therefore had to be retained and serves as a strong visual reminder of the cottage's profile. The only other surviving elements of the cottage are the result of later alterations, added to the original building during the 17/18th century and again in the 19th century and these are described below. In addition to the cottage alterations extensive pit-digging occurred in the rear yard throughout this period.

Late 17th-18th century cottage alterations

On site the most visible change to the building was the addition of a cellar excavated beneath the south end of the then standing building (Fig. 9, Phase 2). The cellar had been backfilled but was recorded and dated to the 17th century during the building survey. The monitoring showed that there was no construction pit for the cellar, but instead, it had been created by simply walling a precisely cut square hole 1.9m deep; the wall was constructed tight against the edges of the original excavation so there was no requirement to 'make good' by any backfilling behind the walls; the only indication of a construction pit was where it was cut slightly wider on alongside the east wall (0025, Fig. 9 Phase 2). The walls were made of a triple thickness of brick, the thickness being achieved with one whole and two half –batts to form a variation on English-bond. The cellar was constructed as part of several alterations at this time including the

replacement of the chimney; above ground the chimney was recorded as a large, robust structure but it was built without foundation and it left no evidence of its existence. Within the area of the chimney's hearth was a small brick-lined box (0024 –presumably an under duct/flue for a range), measuring 350mm x 600mm x 130mm deep, and a patch of burning 0019. Both the box structure and the burning contained coal dust.

Alongside of the west wall of the cellar was a clay-packed slot (0006) (Fig. 9 and Pl. 6). The slot was a square-sectioned trench filled with a pale yellow/green clay, which differed from the green clay of the postpads. It was interpreted as a foundation for a sill beam for the west wall of the 'parlour' end of Pottery Cottage; the clay acting as damp proofing for the sill/ground beam of the timber-frame. The slot foundation was part of the 17th/18th century alteration that included the cellar and the clay fill butted against, and slightly overlay the cellar wall. The slot's north end terminated at (what would have been) the rear of the inserted chimney which was also added at this time. The slot cut through a pit 0008 which was well-dated by a large pottery assemblage. The pit which was no more than a shallow scoop was packed with a dump of broken sherds of glazed earthenwares. It was located in the angle between the end of the original 18th century extension to the back of the cottage and the cottage rear wall. The spread of pottery dates for the assemblage covered only a narrow span of time from the late 17th to early 18th century.

Extraction pits

The monitored trenches to the rear of the cottage were excavated wholly within the backfill of a series of large pits (Fig. 9 Phase 2). The surface geology of the immediate area is soft, yellow sand, the sand deposits are clean and deep and it is thought that the pits were excavated primarily to extract this material. Two phases and methods of sand extraction seem to have occurred; the later one involved the excavation of discrete pits each 3-4m across and 1.20m deep. Six of these deep pits could be identified but they were cut into a general background of disturbance which covered the whole of the rear yard. This 'background disturbance' seems to suggest a truncation, or open, shallow quarrying of the sand over a broader area. The depth of disturbance is 400-500mm, about the same depth as the clay layer 0021, implying that this may have occurred before the building that preceded Pottery Cottage was built.

The pottery-filled pit 0008 was cut into the top of one of the infilled discrete extraction pits (0022) which suggests that the deep quarrying was in full swing before the end of the 17th century. No deep pits were recorded beneath the Pottery Cottage itself although the excavation for the addition of the cellar (also during the late 17th century) would have provided a large surplus of sand. The extraction within the yard seems to have been comprehensive with pits 0022 and (?)0023 being excavated tight against the cottage's rear wall.

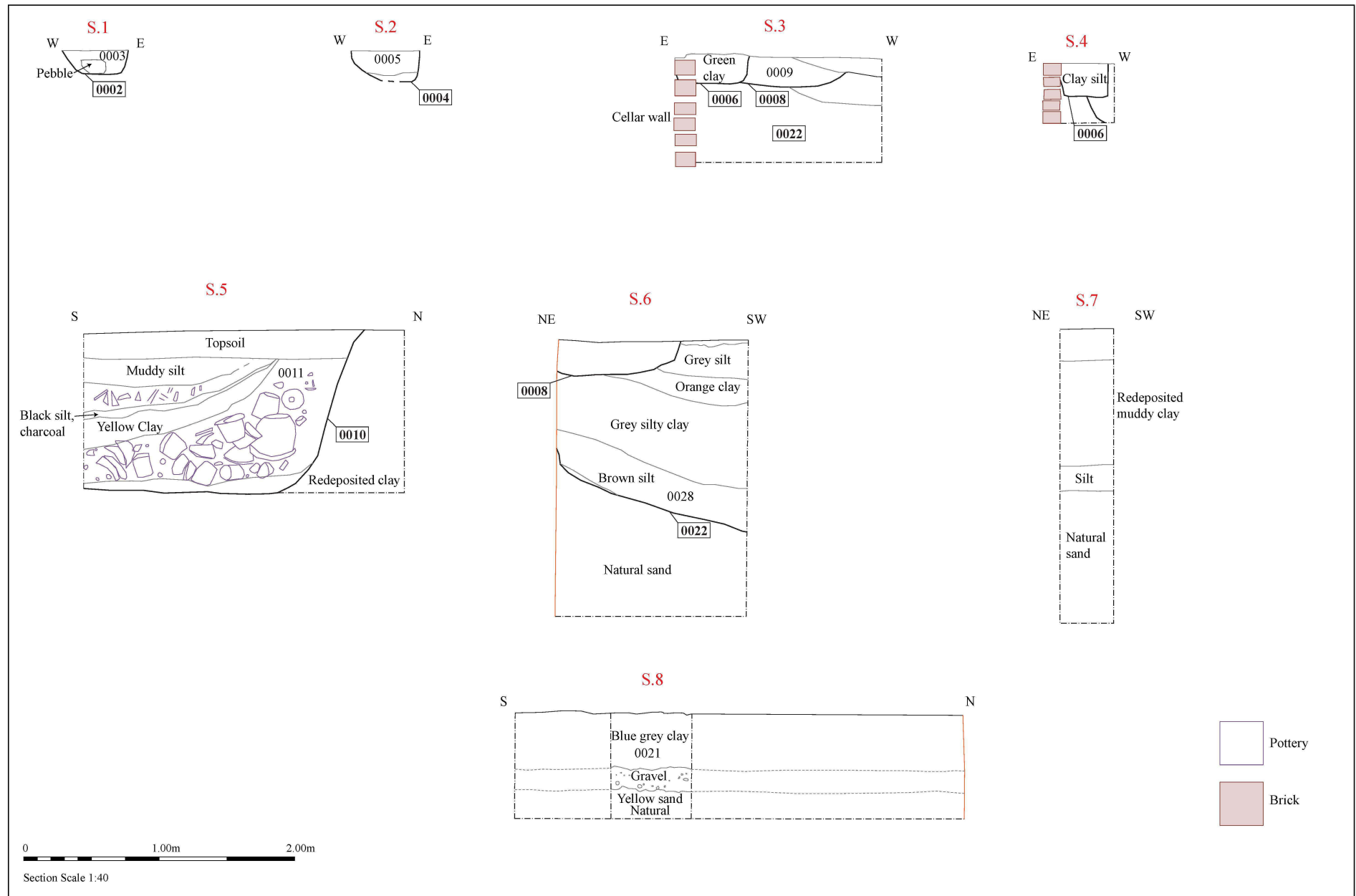


Figure 10. Sections of excavated features and foundation trenches

All of the pits were backfilled with a mix of yellow clay, grey sands, dark silts, occasional gravel and a crumbly, ferruginous clay silt (dried clay slurry/mud) (Fig 10 and Pls. 7-9). The material was deposited in thick bands and was thought to be spoil or waste from the clay extraction pits or some primary clay processing associated with the pottery manufactory. The earlier pits (0022 and 0027) contained no artefacts or cultural material, pit 0027 contained a large glazed urn (Pl. 7) dating to no earlier than the end of the 17th century whilst the latest pits (0010 and 0023) included large dumps of pottery and fuel residues from the clearing of the kilns. The pottery from the later pits (Pls. 11 and 12) was either whole (? seconds) or large sherds and the assemblages were made up of large numbers of terracotta flower pots and large ornamental horticultural pots with iron oxide glazes.

4. Finds and environmental evidence

Richenda Goffin

4.1 The Finds

Pottery, post-medieval bottle glass, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone and the remains of an iron object were recovered from the fill 0009 of pit 0008.

A complete clay tobacco pipe bowl with slight rouletting can be dated to c. 1680-1710. The iron object is part of a horseshoe. A single fragment of very dark green bottle glass was present of post-medieval date. In addition the fragmentary remains of a bovine ?radius was also retained.

The pottery was counted and weighed by context and the fabrics and forms were scanned in order to gain an overview of the types of ceramics represented and their date ranges.

Post-medieval pottery

A total of 152 fragments of pottery weighing 2977g was recovered from pitfill 0009 (see photo). The majority of the assemblage is made up of Glazed red earthenware vessels, including bowls, pancheons, jars and chamberpots dating to the 16th-18th century. A small number of redwares with a heavily speckled iron oxide glaze were present, mainly in the form of different types of mug. This fabric variant is considered to date to the late 17th to 18th century in Norwich (Jennings 1981, 156). Some of the redwares are similar to Red Border wares both in form and fabric (Pearce, 1992), but they may represent the products of another, more local kiln. Two additional fabrics help refine the dating of this deposit. Four sherds of tin-glazed earthenware were also found in 0009 (58g). They consist of two joining sherds of a plain white vessel, and two fragments of a blue and white dish with intersecting arcs between concentric bands. The latter decoration is present on a plate which is considered to date from the late 17th to early 18th century (Orton and Pearce, 1984 54-56). In addition a single fragment of a Staffordshire

White Salt Glazed ware jug handle was present, dating to c. 1720-80. The assemblage as a whole probably dates to the late 17th and first quarter of the 18th century.

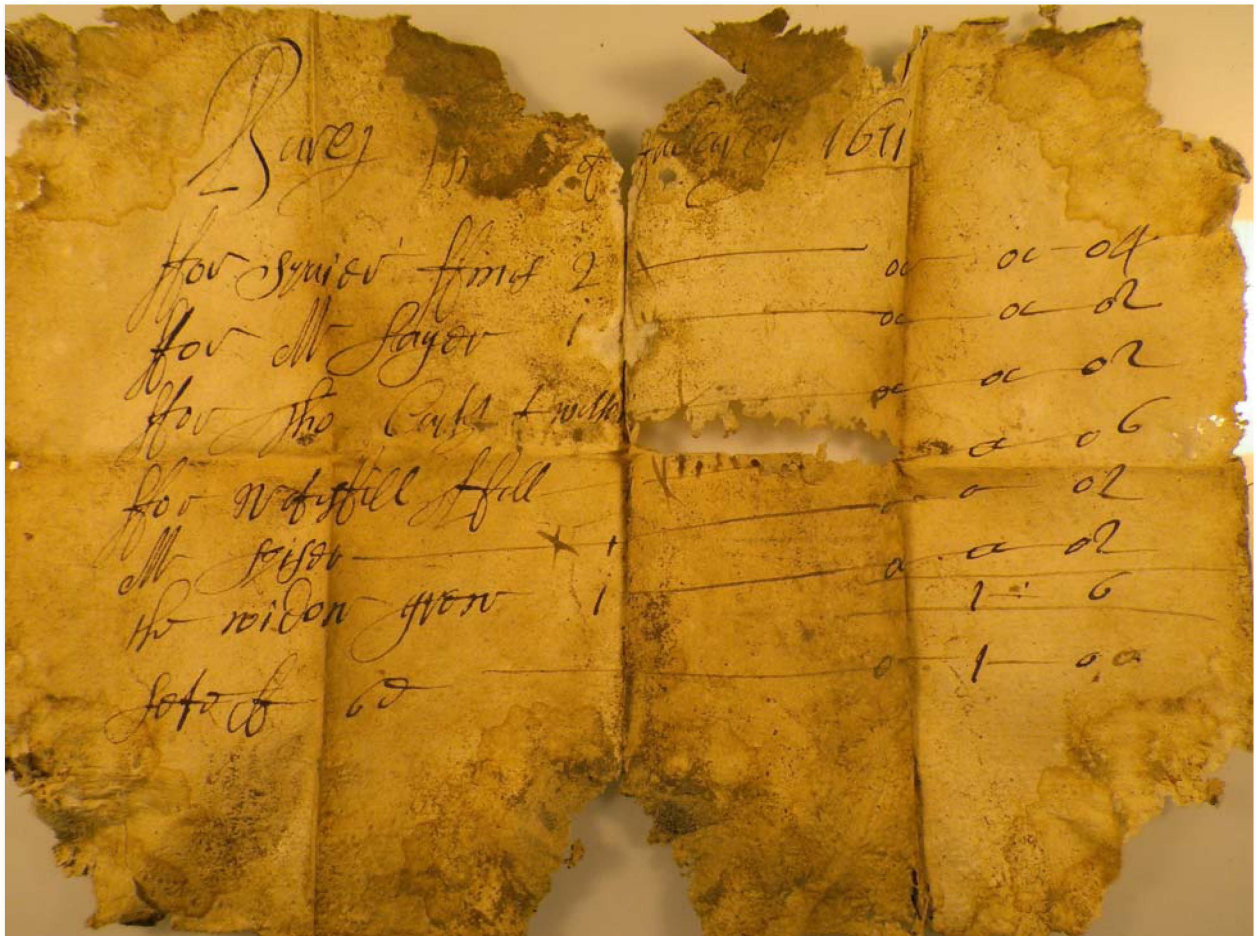
Several well preserved ceramic vessels were excavated from one of the fills 0011 of a later pit 0010. A very large iron-glazed redware horticultural container with loop handles has a diameter of c. 360mm (2 fragments weighing 1459g). It has a fine red fabric which is not micaceous. In addition two redware flowerpots were recovered weighing 893g. Both vessels are slightly overfired and have superficial cracking; they were perhaps rejects or seconds from the kiln. Both are the same height (114mm) and have the similar diameters and both have a drainage hole in the flat base. A single small redware body sherd which does not belong to the three vessels described above is made in a fine orange fabric which has mica on both external surfaces. These horticultural vessels are difficult to date accurately, as they are still manufactured like this today, but it seems likely that the ceramics date to the 19th century or even later.



Assemblage of late 17th-early 18th century pottery from pit 0008 (context no 0009)

Paper document

A folded piece of paper which had been secreted beneath the floor-boards of the upper storey; between the boards and the joists, was by the main contractor during the demolition of the pottery cottage. The document was a draft list of fines paid by manorial tenants at a Court Baron (i.e. that part of the court dealing with manorial property) dated 3rd of February 1671. On the inside face was a list of names and fines and on the reverse was a calculation; a piece of addition which totalled £3 11' 6d. The document was examined and transcribed by Leigh Alston and is re-produced below.



A draught list of fines paid by manorial tenants, it is headed Baron 3rd of February 1671. On the left is a list of names and the right a figure in pounds, shilling and pence. A transcription reads as follows

Baron ?Thirde of Fabarey 1671

<i>For squier Fines 2</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>00-00-04</i>
<i>For Mr Sayer 1</i>		<i>00-00-02</i>
<i>For Tho(mas) Carles at ?Willes</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>00-00-02</i>
<i>For Watisfill Hall</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>00-00-06</i>
<i>Mr ?Seiser 1</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>00-00-02</i>
<i>the widou Gren 1</i>		<i>00-00-02</i>
		<hr/> <i>1- 6</i>
<i>Lete 6d</i>		<i>0-1-00</i>

5. Discussion

Study of historic maps suggested that the plot shape reflected the landscape of the Middle-Ages and is an example of encroachment onto a medieval green. It was expected therefore that the monitoring would produce medieval finds and deposits relating to the green edge and its use. Whilst there is evidence of a previous building this could not be dated by finds and there was a disappointing absence of medieval material or 16th century finds associated with the initial occupancy of Pottery Cottage, from the site. This is thought to be largely due to the wholesale reworking of the pre-pottery manufactory soil profile, as a result of the sand extraction, which will have removed any evidence of earlier occupation.

The similarity of the post-pad building's footprint to that of Pottery Cottage suggests that the two may be successive or close in terms of date. The use of posts on the ground as a building technique for houses stopped during the early medieval period (c. 12th century) but remained in use for insubstantial out-buildings like cart sheds right up until the 19th century. Open-sided sheds for air-drying of bricks and pottery prior to firing are a feature of such manufacturing sites and it is possible that such a drying shed once stood here.

Sand is mixed with clay in the manufacture of bricks, although the clay at Wattisfield has a naturally high sand content and it was not necessary to add more in brick-production here (pers comm. Jeremy Watson). Sand was used however to stop-up the kilns, once loaded and lit, for reduction firing; starving of the kiln of oxygen produces colour changes in glazes. The earliest pits predate the end of the 17th century and continuous pottery manufacture on the site is documented from 1641. The later sand pits contained vast quantities of discarded flower and glazed horticultural pots, the mainstay of Watson's production throughout of the 20th century, so it is clear that the sand extraction in this immediate area carried on throughout the productive life of the site. So whilst the monitoring failed to record any evidence of the site's use during the medieval period it has added to the knowledge of the area as a manufacturing centre.

6. Plates



(1) Pottery House with the gable end of Pottery Cottage preserved in its south wall. The 16th century timber-framing is protected by polythene. In the foreground is yellow clay layer 0021 beneath the footprint of the former cottage. The postpads are alongside and just to the right of the scale and the wall plate of the cottage (indicating the original wall lines) are outlined in red. (2) Postpads 0002 and 0004 along the line of the rear wall of Pottery Cottage cutting the clay layer 0021.



3) Postpad 0002 with large pebble set in the clay at its centre. There is no indication that a post was secured in the hole but it must have rested on the top of the green clay as a consolidated and damp-resistant pad.



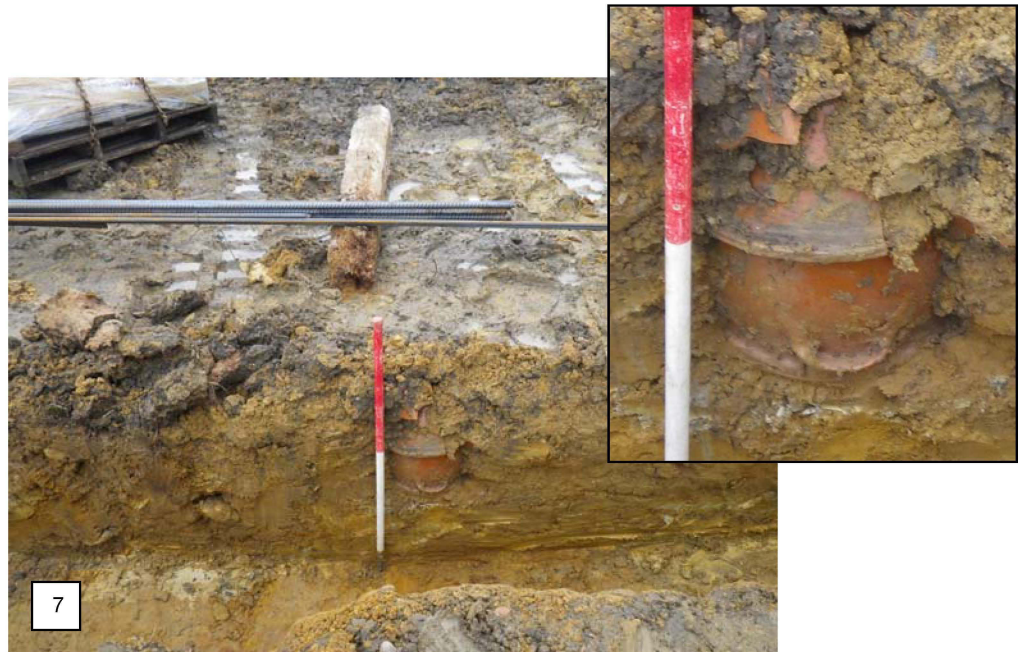
4) Surface of layer 0021 immediately below the 19th century floor at the north half of Pottery Cottage. The large 17th century fireplace and chimney was located in the middle of the picture but the only surviving evidence was the small brick-lined sunken-flue which was part of a 19th century adaptation located at the centre of the former hearth. Note the diagonal stripping, evidence of a re-working of truncation of the clay.



5) Section 8 (see plan) showing the thickness of clay layer 0021 over a layer of gravel and the truncated underlying natural sand. Scale 1m



6) Excavated pit 0008 and the clay filled slot 0006. The slot was part of the foundation to the timber-framing and part of the modifications to the south end of the cottage at the end of the 17th century. The clay butted against and partly covered the NW corner of the cellar wall. The pit which produced a large assemblage of late 17th century pottery was cut by the slot.



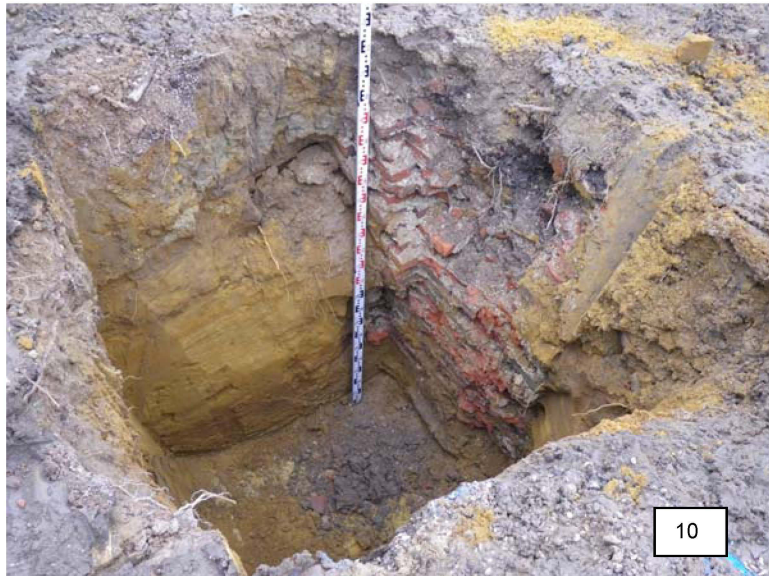
7) Section 9 showing redeposited clay and silts backfilled the top of the sand extraction pits with a stack of 19th century glazed vessels; the whole of the footing trench is excavated within redeposited material. Scale 1m



8) Section 6 looking SW showing the cut of a 17th century sand extraction pit, backfilled with debris from the clay quarries, and the natural sand at the bottom of the hole. The NW corner of the cellar wall can be seen bottom left. The total depth of the excavation 2.25m.

9) Section 7 looking S. Extraction pit similar to above with clay debris infilling most of the pit with grey and burnt sands at the base of the cut. The total depth of the excavation was 2.3m.





10) Section 11 rear face of the 17th century cellar showing the absence of a construction pit for the cellar. The disturbance at the top of the section to the left of the scale includes a layer of grey/green clay possibly a continuation of layer 0021. Hole depth 2.6m



11) Section 5 through pit 0010. The lower fill of the pit was packed with a dump of flower and glazed horticultural pots; seconds and wasters dating to the 19th century.



12) Large flower pot with drainage hole in the sides and base. The pot is a second that was used as some form of kiln furniture that caused the inside of the pot to be coated with soot from the coal-fired kilns.

9. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\
Archive\Wattisfield\WSF 061

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds main store.

10. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Leigh Alston, David Gill and Andrew Tester

Post-excavation management was provided by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and was undertaken by Jonathon van Jennians.

The report illustrations were created by Ellie Cox and the report was edited by Richenda Goffin

11. Bibliography

Jennings, S., 1981, *Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich*, East Anglian Archaeology Report No 13

Orton C. R., and Pearce, J. E., 1984, 'The pottery' in Thompson, A., Grew, F., and Schofield J., Excavations at Aldgate, 1974 in *The Journal of the Society for Post-medieval Archaeology*, Volume 18

Pearce, J., 1992, *Border Wares, Post-medieval pottery in London 1500-1700*, London HMSO

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING and ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

LAND ADJACENT TO POTTERY HOUSE, WATTISFIELD: DEMOLITION OF AN EXISTING COTTAGE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DWELLING ON THE SITE.

SUFFOLK HER NO: WSF 061	PLANNING APPLICATION REF: 3593/11
OASIS REF: c1-162553	
SCCAS JOB CODE: WATTPOT 001	START DATE November 2013
GRID REF: TM 014 745	DURATION: continuous monitoring (approx 2-3 days on site)
STAFF: Project Officer + architectural historian	CT Officer: Rachael Monk

1. Background

- Planning consent has been given for the demolition of the derelict cottage attached to the Pottery House and for a new dwelling to be constructed on the site. The consent is conditional on the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation which includes the recording of the existing building prior to demolition and the continuous monitoring of the groundwork excavations associated with its replacement.
- The building is located on the edge of the Henry Watson Potteries' former manufacturing site where ceramic objects have been produced on the site since at least the 16-17th century; prior to the Watson Family's ownership. The Building is shown on the tithe map of 1839 as part of the dwelling at the centre of what was at the time the pottery manufacturing site with the kiln, which was excavated in 2005 (SCCAS report no 2006/098) and the sheds occupying the south end of the plot. A heritage identifies the building as an agricultural workers cottage which was dated to the 17th century.
- A brief and specification for the excavation has been prepared by Rachael Monk of, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (*dated 11 June 2013*) and the Field Team has been asked to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which details how the requirements of the brief will be fulfilled. The WSI has been produced on behalf of developers GS Property Projects and adequate provision has been made to cover the cost of this work.

2. Project aims

- The immediate aim of the work is to record the buildings as they currently stand and any archaeological deposits that may be damaged or destroyed by the subsequent development.
- To produce a permanent record the archive of which will be deposited with Suffolk HER.

- Make provision for the dissemination of results

3. Method statement

- A new site code, WSF 061, has been obtained from the Suffolk HER Officer and will be included on all future project documentation and an OASIS form has been initiated (c1-162553).

Building recording method statement

- The survey will be carried by Leigh Alston, an experienced architectural historian and chairman of the Suffolk Historic Building Group.
- The survey will comprise a Level 3 record as defined in the English Heritage guidelines *Understanding Historic Buildings 2006*.
- The exterior and interior of each of the buildings and structure will be viewed and described, detailing dimensions, fabric and methods of construction.
- A block plan will be produced of the site to locate the building within its immediate context.
- Scaled floor plans will be drawn, showing the outline of the building the arrangements of bays, partitions, stairs and relevant fixtures that may exist. The components will be numbered for reference within the report.
- Scale drawings of each elevation, internal and external, will be produced detailing dimensions, openings, fabric, phases of construction and alterations to the building. Note will be made of carpentry joints, marks, finishes or pigments, etc. and any significant details necessary for the interpretation and dating of the building.
- The descriptions will be supported by a full photographic record. This will comprises an archive record taken using an 8.2 megapixel digital camera. Images of key features or colour pigments to illustrate the text will be included in the report. A metric scale will be included where possible.
- A study will be made of all of the cartographic and documentary material held within the local record office to examine the development of the site.
- The results of the building survey will be included with the archaeological monitoring results in a combine report. The building report element will include:
 - A summary of the survey's findings
 - A current plan of the site at 1:250 locating the subject of the survey.
 - A discussion of the buildings historic context, illustrated with figures showing the tithe and early OS maps.
 - A description and analysis of the building and a statement of its historic significance. A discussion of the building's historic context with reference to farming/industry and social changes that may influence the development of the site. Changes to the site layout will be illustrated with figures showing the tithe

and early OS maps discussion of the buildings historic context, illustrated with figures showing the tithe and early OS maps

- Plates illustrating the building's setting and its significance characteristics
- A full photographic archive supplied on cd copy

4. Archaeological monitoring method statement

- The client or their representatives will give two working days notice of the start of excavation work.
- The archaeological fieldwork will be carried out by an experienced Project Officer with the SCCAS Field Team.
- Fieldwork standards will be guided by 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England' EAA Occasional Papers 14.
- Archaeological deposits and features will be sampled by hand excavation as necessary in order to satisfy the requirements of the brief. Trench sides will be hand cleaned and recorded as required.
- Archaeological contexts will be catalogued with a unique number and recorded on SCCAS pro-forma sheets. Site plan/sections will be drawn by hand on plastic film and located to the national grid. Plans and sections of individual features, soil layers etc will be recorded at 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. Normal Field Team conventions, compatible with the County HER, will be used during the site recording. Levels will be recorded electronically and related to OS datum.
- A digital photographic record will be made throughout. A scale will be included in the pictures where possible.
- All pre-modern finds will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed.
- In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed; although this is unlikely on this site.

5. Post-excavation stage

- The post-excavation work will be managed by Richenda Goffin. Specialist finds staff will be experienced in local and regional types and periods for their field. Members of the project team will be responsible for taking the project to archive and assessment levels.
- All site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County Historic Environment Record. Ordnance Datum levels will be recorded on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued within the County HER photographic index.
- All finds will be processed, marked and bagged/boxed to County HER requirements. Where appropriate finds will be marked with a site code and a context number. All finds will be stored according to their material requirements, as specified by the Museums and

Galleries Commission (MGC), in the secure stores of the Archaeological Service at Bury St. Edmunds.

- Bulk finds will be fully quantified on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by OP and context with a clear statement for specialists on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- Metal finds on site will be stored in accordance with Institute of Conservation (ICON) guidelines and assessed for significance. Sensitive finds will be conserved if necessary and deposited in bags/boxes suitable for long term storage to ICON standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.
- Specialist reports will be done in-house or commissioned as necessary to meet the following requirements at assessment level:
- The pottery will be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with:

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of post-Roman ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper No 2.

- Animal and human bone will be quantified and assessed to a standard acceptable to national and regional English Heritage specialists.
- An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as 'slag').

6. Report

- A combined report covering the building recording and monitoring of the groundworks will be produced within 4 weeks of completion of fieldwork and contain sufficient information to stand as an archive report, should further work not be required. The report will include:

A scaled current plan of the site locating the subject of the survey and scale plans and section of any archaeological features and deposits.

A description of the excavation methodology and an objective account of the archaeological evidence. This will be clearly separated from an interpretation of the results, which will include a discussion of the results in relation to relevant known sites recorded in the Suffolk HER.

A stand alone summary suitable for inclusion in the PSIAH

- The archive in paper and electronic form will be submitted to the County Historic Environment Record. The landowner/developer will receive copies of the report.
- The OASIS form will be completed and a digital copy of the report will be submitted to the Archaeological Data Service: <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

7. Project archive

- The site archive will be consistent with 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)', and will meet the requirements detailed in 'Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk' (SCCAS Conservation Team 2008).
- At the completion of the project, all material related to it will be archived in the SCCAS stores at Bury St. Edmunds. Store conditions adhere to Institute for Conservation guidelines.
- At completion of the project the client and/or landowner may agree to deposit all finds from the fieldwork with SCCAS, who can provide permanent storage of bulk finds. A form transferring ownership of the archive to SCCAS will be completed and included in the project archive.
- Exceptions from the above include material covered by the Treasure Act which will be reported and submitted to the appropriate authorities, and human skeletal remains which will be stored within the archive until a decision is reached upon their long term future, i.e. reburial or permanent storage.
- The client and/or landowner will be made aware that if they choose not to use the SCCAS storage facilities they will be expected to make alternative arrangements for the long term storage of the archive that meet the requirements of SCCAS/CT.
- Bulk finds will be stored in labelled boxes of a standard size and quality; acid free brown card, brass wire stitched measuring 460mm x 255mm x 180mm. The packaging materials within boxes will conform to ICON and MGC standards. Finds in the sensitive store will be packed individually in re-sealable polythene boxes or in crystal boxes labelled with the site code and context/small find number. Packaging methods will follow ICON guidelines, or conservation advice will be sought before deposition.

8. Health and safety/ Staff welfare

- Suffolk County Council holds full insurance policies for field work (details on request).
- All SCCAS staff are experienced in working on a variety of construction sites, hold CSCS operative cards and are aware of SCCAS H&S policies.
- Staff will adhere to the health and safety policies of the main contractors
- Site staff will wear protective clothing at all times on site (hard hat, high visibility vest, steel-toe cap boots).
- Vehicles will be parked in a safe location
- A fully charged mobile phone will be on site at all times.
- Site staff will be aware of the location of the nearest A&E unit.

David Gill 28/10/2013
Field Team, Suffolk CC Archaeological Service

Appendix 2

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

[Printable version](#)

OASIS ID: suffolkc1-162553

Project details

Project name	WSF 061 Pottery Cottage, Wattisfield Monitoring and HBR
Short description of the project	Pottery Cottage lies on the western side of Pottery Hill, abutting a separate red-brick property known as Pottery House on the north and the former site of the Henry Watson's Potteries factory on the south. The timber-framed structure appears to represent an exceptionally small two-cell domestic dwelling of the late-16th or early-17th century - although it could be interpreted as a detached kitchen. The building initially extended to just 7.6 m in total length by 4.25 m in width with walls of 2.2 m in height. A central chimney divided a parlour and parlour chamber on the south from a slightly larger hall and hall chamber on the north. The smallest and poorest rural dwellings of the 16th and 17th centuries were often built on waste land such as road margins and former greens, and the distinctive triangular outline of its boundary in 1838 suggests Pottery Cottage may well have originated in such a manner. Documentary evidence is understood to link the site with pottery manufacture as early as the 16th century, and both its size and isolated location are consistent with what at the time was a low status and antisocial occupation. In 1838 both Pottery Cottage and Pottery House appear to have formed the dwelling of the eponymous potter Thomas Watson. Most early cottages of this scale have failed to survive and the building is accordingly of considerable historic interest. It was extended to the south in the late 17th century when it was re-roofed and provided with a new cellar. This extension was replaced by a brick garage after a fire destroyed the nearby factory in 1963. Much of the original wall framing is intact, along with its ceilings and rebated floorboards, but the cottage may not meet the strict English Heritage criteria for listing.
Project dates	Start: 01-12-2013 End: 21-02-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WSF 061 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	WSF 061 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	3593/11 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	HOUSE Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Post Medieval

Monument type	SURFACE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Photographic Survey"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK WATTISFIELD WSF 061 Pottery Cottage Wattisfield
Study area	30.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 014 745 52.3310822298 0.956175874154 52 19 51 N 000 57 22 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team
Project director/manager	David Gill
Project supervisor	Leigh Alston
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "other"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Photograph", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Title	Pottery Cottage, Wattisfield, Suffolk, WSF 061, Historic Building Record
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Alston, L.
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	SCCAS
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	SCCAS Historic Building Record report

Project bibliography 2

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Pottery Cottage, Wattisfield WSF061: Historic building recording and archaeological monitoring report
Author(s)/Editor (s)	'Alston, L. and Gill, D.J.'
Other bibliographic details	SCCAS report no 2014/31
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Suffolk County Council
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	SCCAS client report A4/ soft bound/colour
Entered by	David Gill (david.gill@suffolk.gov.uk)
Entered on	21 March 2014

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