

**Rose Villa, Priory Walk ,  
Sudbury, Suffolk**

**SUY135**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

**SCCAS Report No. 201 4/050**

**Client: Park Hill Homes (UK) Ltd**

Author: Kieron Heard

May 2014



# RoseVilla,PrioryWalk,Sudbury,Suffolk

SUY135

ArchaeologicalEvaluationReport  
SCCASReportNo.201 4/050

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## HERInformation

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### Disclaimer

AnyopinionsexpressedinthisreportabouttheneedforfurtherarchaeologicalworkarethoseoftheField ProjectsTeamalone.UltimatelytheneedforfurtherworkwillbedeterminedbytheLocalPlanning AuthorityanditsArchaeologicalAdvisorswhenaplanningapplicationisregistered.SuffolkCounty Council'sarchaeologicalcontractingservicescannotacceptresponsibilityforinconveniencecausedto theclientsshouldthePlanningAuthoritytakeadifferentviewtothatexpressedinthereport.

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## Summary

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SUY135, Rose Villa, Priory Walk, Sudbury: An evaluation by trial trenching was carried out on the site of a proposed residential development, which was located within the precinct of the Dominican Priory (SUY005). Three trenches (total area 11.5m<sup>2</sup>) were excavated, representing approximately 2% of the total area of the development site and 7% of the area of the proposed new buildings.

The natural stratum was river terraces and sand and gravel. This was truncated by some large late medieval or post-medieval pits, possibly quarries. Part of a mortared flint and tile foundation represented an early post-medieval building or structure that was constructed over one of the backfilled pits. A brick-built cellar or chamber in the southern half of the site was part of a 19th-century building shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885.

The results of the evaluation are of some archaeological significance and it is likely that further fieldwork will be required by the Archaeological Officer in relation to this planning application. This will probably take the form of a monitoring of groundwork during construction of the proposed buildings.

This evaluation report will be disseminated via the OASIS online archaeological database and a summary of the results will be published in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.



# 1. Introduction

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An evaluation by trial trenching was carried out in relation to a planning application for a residential development. Roger Brown of Park Hill Homes (UK) Ltd commissioned the archaeological project and Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SC CAS) Field Team conducted the fieldwork.

The proposed development is for four terraced dwellings with a combined footprint of 160m<sup>2</sup>, occupying a site measuring approximately 600 m<sup>2</sup>. The site is bounded to the north, east and south by neighbouring residential properties and to the west by Priory Walk (Fig. 1). The site is occupied currently by Rose Villa, a detached house of late Victorian date.

## 2. Geology and topography

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Chalk bedrock is overlaid by superficial deposits of river terraces and sand and gravel, as shown on the British Geological Survey's *Geology of Britain* map viewer: ([www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html)). The river terrace deposits have been recorded during previous archaeological fieldwork on a site immediately south of Rose Villa, when they were described as 'yellow sand and gravel with a high silt content' at a maximum height of 23.4 mOD (Sommers 2004, 3). During the construction of the property 'Calace' to the north of Rose Villa in the 1970s, natural sand and gravel (described as 'ballast') was encountered at a fairly uniform depth of 1 m below ground level, or an estimated height of 24.2 mOD (house owner and builder, *pers comm*).

Current ground level within the site is at an average height of approximately 25 mOD, with a very slight fall from north to south. The River Stour is located approximately 250 m to the south of the site.

The site is in an urban setting close to the southern edge of Sudbury. Before the expansion of the town this area would have been characterised as *Rolling Valley*

*Farmlands*, as defined in Suffolk County Council's Landscape Character Assessment ([www.suffolklandscape.org.uk](http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk)). The key characteristics of this landscape type are:

- Gentle valley sides with some complex and steep slopes
- Deep, well-drained loamy soils
- Organic pattern of fields smaller than on the plateaux
- Distinct areas of regular field patterns
- A scatter of landscape parks
- Small ancient woodlands on the valley fringes
- Sunken lanes
- Towns and villages with distinctive mediaeval cores and late medieval churches
- Large, often moated, houses

### **3. Archaeological and historical background**

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The site lies within the Area of Archaeological Importance defined for the Anglo-Saxon and medieval town of Sudbury in the Babergh Local Plan (County Historic Environment Record SUY040). It is also within the assumed precinct of the Dominican Priory (SUY005) founded before 1248 and dissolved in 1538. Medieval priory walls and pottery were recorded in 1969 on the subsequent site of the housing development (Cricketers Close) immediately southeast of Rose Villa.

An archaeological evaluation immediately south of the site (SUY065; Sommers, 2004) revealed probable medieval pits and ditches, sealed by up to 2m of post-medieval soil accumulation and subsequent dumping/land reclamation. Further south, the evaluation of a large site in the floodplain of the River Stour (SUY082; Heard, 2007) revealed riverine deposits and a former north-south watercourse sealed by post-medieval soil horizons and modern dumping.

The historical background to the site is described in greater detail in Appendix 4.

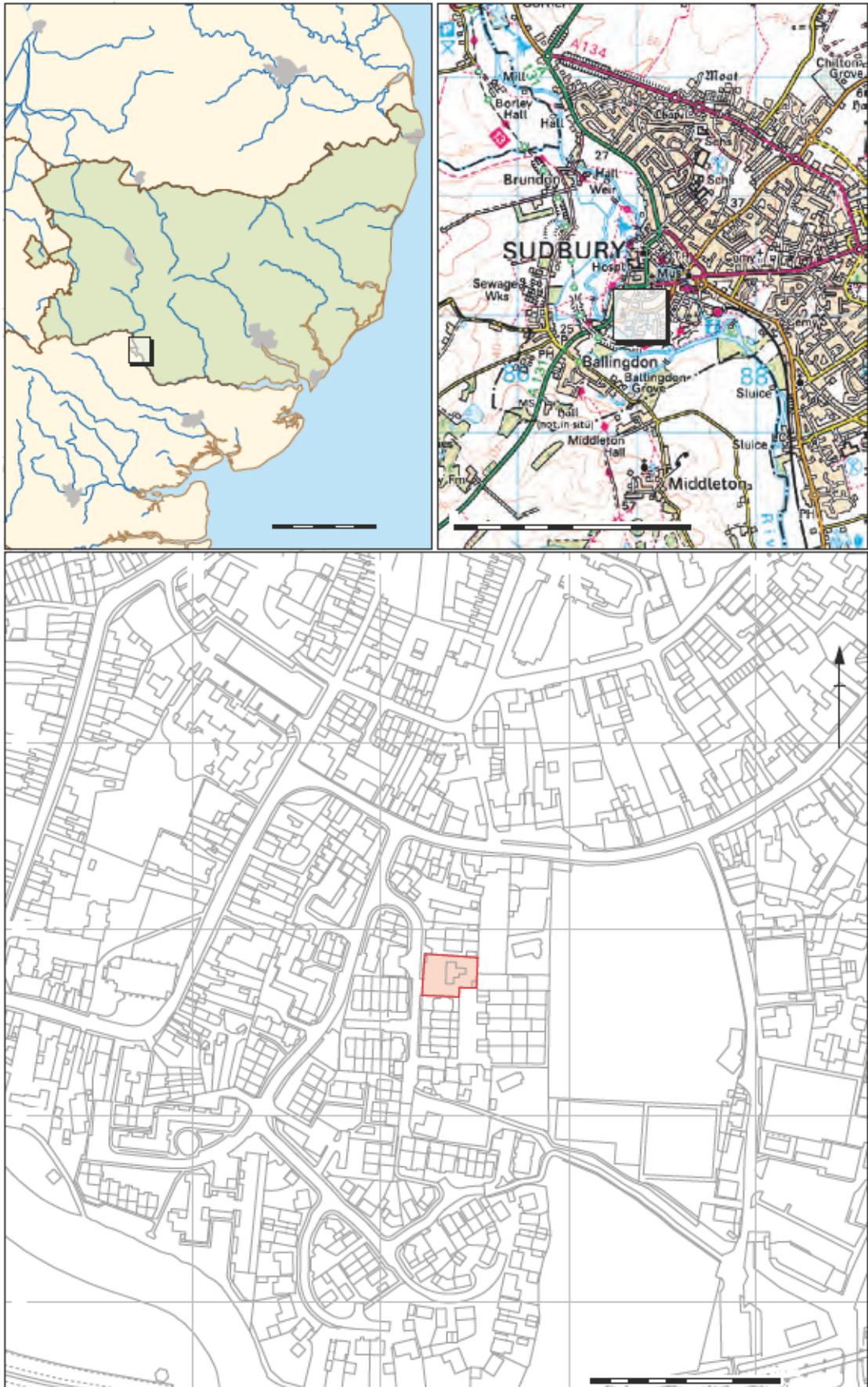


Figure 1. Location map showing development area (red)

## 4. Methodology

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The archaeological evaluation was carried out broadly in accordance with a Brief issued by Dr. Abby Antrobus of SCCAS Conservation Team (Antrobus, 2014; Appendix 1) and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Kieron Heard of SCCAS Field Team (Heard, 2014).

The trial trenching took place on 23–24 April 2014 and was conducted by SCCAS Field Team Project Officer Kieron Heard. Three trenches were excavated, as shown on Figure 2. The dimensions and locations of the trenches differed slightly from those proposed in the WSI (Heard, 2014) due to ground conditions; notably the proposed trench to the north east of the house had to be moved to avoid a modern soak-away. The proposed trench to the southeast of the building was not excavated due to the presence of a concrete patio in this area of the site. All variations to the fieldwork methodology stated in the WSI were made with the approval of Dr. Antrobus.

The evaluation trenches were dug under direct archaeological supervision using a small, 360° excavator. They had a combined area of 11.5m<sup>2</sup>, representing approximately 2% of the total area of the development site and 7% of the area of the proposed new buildings.

Archaeological deposits and cut features were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 0001–0028. A representative section in each trench was drawn at a scale of 1:10 and archaeological features in Trench 3 were drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20. Context descriptions were written on the drawings sheets (rather than on paper context sheets) and subsequently transcribed into a Microsoft Access database (included in this report as Appendix 2). A photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution digital images (archived as H WY0 12–061); a catalogue of digital images is included in this report as Appendix 3.

The trench locations were planned by offset measurements from Rose Villa and adjacent property boundaries. Levels were calculated by reference to comprehensive spot heights shown on a surveyor's plan of the sites supplied by the client.

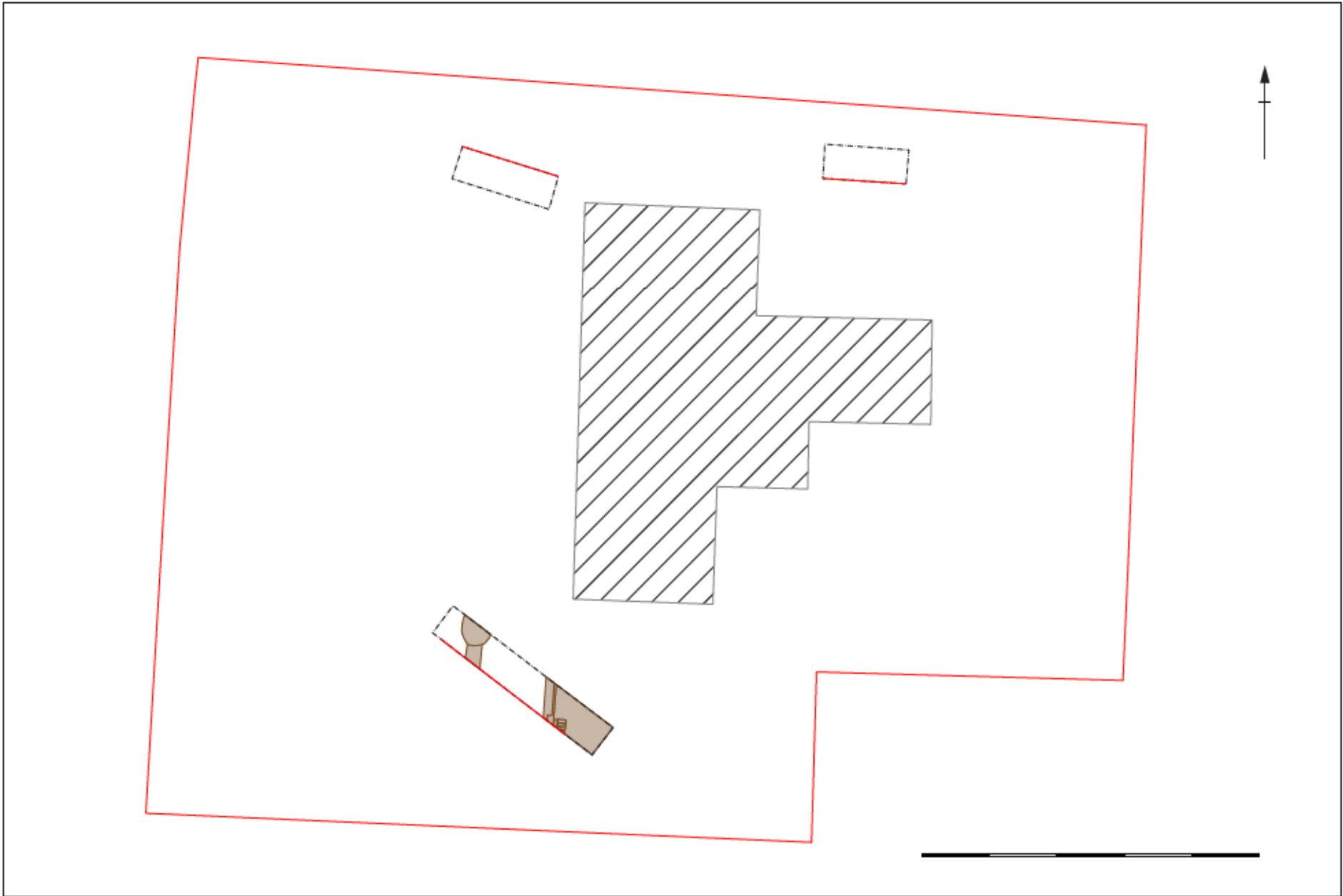


Figure 2. Trench plan

## 5. Results

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### 5.1 Introduction

Each evaluation trench revealed a different sequence of deposits and features, as summarised below. Further details (deposit descriptions, etc.) can be seen in the Context List (Appendix 2). In this report context numbers are shown thus: 0001.

### 5.2 Trench details

#### Trench 1

*Dimensions: 2.50m long (W–E) x 1.00m wide x upto 2.00m deep*

*Ground level (G.L): 25.30m OD (E), 25.20m OD (W)*

Feature/deposit type	Depth below G.L	Location
Current garden soil 0006	0.00m	Trench-wide
Buried soil horizon 0007	0.30m	Trench-wide
Fill 0008/0009	0.70m	Trench-wide
Fill 0010	0.93m (E) / 1.37m (W)	Trench-wide
Fill 0028	1.90m	Northside only
Natural sand 0011	1.60m (S) / 1.90m (N)	Trench-wide

Table 1. Summary of deposits and features in Trench 1

#### Comments

All deposits recorded in Trench 1 are shown on section S.1 (Fig. 3).

The natural stratum in Trench 1 was soft, light yellowish brown coarse sand 0011. The surface of this deposit sloped from c. 23.68m OD on the southern edge of the trench to c. 23.40m OD in the northern half of the trench. The direction of slope ran counter to the general topography, suggesting that the natural stratum was truncated in this area of the site. A deposit of dark grey soil 0028 seen at the base of the trench (but not examined in detail due to its depth) is assumed to have been a fill of the cut feature that truncated the natural sand (PI. 2).

Thick deposits of soil 0010 and soil with demolition rubble 0008 (the latter including a large but *ex situ* fragment of bonded brick and flint masonry 0009, shown on Plate 1) had a combined thickness of 0.85m and might have been upper fills within the same cut

features as deposit 0028. Roof tile fragments recovered from 0008 are of medieval to late medieval date, while brick fragments are of early post-medieval date (16th–17th century).

Fill 0008 was sealed by a trench-wide layer of homogenous sandy soil 0007 with few inclusions, approximately 0.40m thick; it is interpreted as a former cultivation soil. Above this, a 0.30m thick layer of foamy garden soil 0006 formed the current ground surface at an average height of 25.25m OD.

## Trench 2

*Dimensions: 3.00m long (W–E) x 1.00m wide x up to 2.50m deep*

*Ground level (G.L.): 24.85m (W), 24.75m OD (E)*

Feature/deposit type	Depth below G.L.	Location
Current garden soil 0001	0.00m	Trench-wide
Buried soil horizon 0002	0.30m	Trench-wide
Fill 0003	0.50m (E)/0.63m (W)	Trench-wide
Fill 0004	c. 1.35m	Trench-wide
Fill 0005	c. 1.45m	Trench-wide
Possible natural sand & gravel 0025	2.00m	Trench-wide
Natural sand & gravel 0026	2.40m	Trench-wide

Table 2. Summary of deposits in Trench 2

## Comments

All deposits recorded in Trench 2 are shown on section S.2 (Fig. 3).

Natural sand and fine gravel 0026, similar to 0011 in Trench 1, was observed but not recorded in detail at 2.40m below ground level (22.45m OD). It was sealed by a much coarser deposit of orangey brown sand and gravel with silt pockets 0025, approximately 0.40m thick. This might also have been a natural stratum, although during machine excavation a fragment of medieval to late medieval roof tile (0012) was recovered, apparently from this deposit; its interpretation is uncertain therefore.

The interface between 0025 and an overlying deposit of yellowish brown sand and gravel 0005 was indistinct. Limited hand excavation of layer 0005 produced a sherd of medieval pottery (1250–1350) and some charcoal, indicating that this was redeposited

material rather than a natural stratum. 0005 was sealed by a thin (0.10m ) layer of soft, mid brown silty sand 0004 that did not obviously contain cultural material.

Fill 0003 was soft, mid brownish grey sand silt with moderate pebbles and shell (oyster and mussel), occasional small to medium fragments of late medieval to early post-medieval roof tile and some animal bone. It was up to 0.80m thick and was similar to fill 0010 in Trench 1 . Overlying soil layer 0002 was similar to layer 0007 and is likewise interpreted as a former cultivation soil. Garden soil 0001 formed the current ground surface at an average height of 24.80m OD.

### Trench 3

*Dimensions: 6.00m long ( NW–SE) x 1.00m wide x up to 1.65m deep*

*Ground level (G.L): 24. 68m ( SE), 24. 60m OD ( NW)*

Feature/deposit type	Depth below G.L	Location
Turf and top soil (not numbered)	0.00m	Trench-wide
Garden soil 0019	0.10m	Trench-wide
Cellar (0013 –0015)	0.30m	SE end of trench
Buried soil horizon 00 20	0.30m	Trench-wide
Foundation 0016	c. 0.60m	NW end of trench
Pit 0018 (fill 0017)	c. 0.60m	NW end of trench
Pit 0022 (fill 0021)	c. 0.60m	Middle of trench
Fill 00 23	c. 0.60m	NW half of trench
Possible natural sand & gravel 002 4	1.18m–1.38m	Seen in middle of trench

Table 3. Summary of deposits in Trench 3

### Comments

All deposits in Trench 3 are shown on section S.3 (Fig. 3 ) and features recorded in plan are shown on the same figure .

The earliest observed deposit 0024 was loose, yellowish brown sand and gravel with pockets of grey sand silt; it was similar to 0025 in Trench 2 and is likewise interpreted as a possible natural river terraced deposit. Very limited hand- excavation was carried out but no cultural material was recovered. The surface of the deposits sloped down slightly to the southeast from 23.5m OD to 23.3m OD. It had a irregular, disturbed interface with the overlying deposit 0023.

Deposit 0023 was up to 0.75 m thick. It was light brown sand silt with moderate pebbles and small amounts of medieval/early post-medieval roof tile, occasional pottery (medieval and early post-medieval) and shell (oyster and mussel), and was therefore similar to 0003 in Trench 2 and 0010 in Trench 1. It is assumed to have been the fill of a large cut feature that extended beyond the limits of the trench to the north, east and west.

North-south foundation 0016 was trench-built, cutting fill 0023. It was constructed of flint pebbles and cobbles (up to c. 80 mm but generally 40–60 mm), randomly coursed and heavily bonded with light yellowish brown lime mortar. There was a single string course of roof tile fragments near the surviving top of the foundation, with random use of tile fragments elsewhere; one of the tile fragments has been dated to the late medieval/post medieval period. The overall dimensions of the foundation were >1.30 m long x 0.44 m wide up to 0.40 m high and it extended beyond the edges of the trench to the southwest and northeast; its full extent and function are unknown. The foundation was partially removed to the northeast by pit 0018 and was presumably truncated horizontally so that the level of the contemporary ground surface is unknown.

Cut feature 0022, which truncated deposit 0023 but was only recognised in section, might have been a pit or part of a ditch; it extended beyond the edges of the trench to the northeast and southwest. It was backfilled with loamy soil containing frequent late medieval/early post-medieval roof tile fragments, one fragment of late medieval (15th century) pottery, some bone and shell. The function of the feature is unknown although an agricultural or horticultural use seems likely.

Small pit 0018 partially truncated foundation 0016. It was filled with loamy soil containing some roof tile (probably derived from the foundation), bone (not kept), a small fragment of 17th–18th-century pottery and a piece of clay tobacco pipe stem (18th–19th century). The pit was probably contemporary with Rose Villa, and might have been a horticultural feature such as a flower bed or planting hole.

Foundation 0016 and cut feature 0022 were sealed by an extensive layer of soil 0020, 0.30 m thick, which was broadly equivalent to 0002 in Trench 2 and 0007 in Trench 1 and is likewise interpreted as a former cultivation soil. The relationship between pit 0018 and layer 0020 was not recorded.

Cultivation soil 0020 was removed at the southeast end of the trench by the construction cut for a 19th-century building incorporating a cellar or sub-surface chamber. Only the west wall of the building (0015) was seen, running north– south. It was constructed of red bricks laid in alternate header/stretcher courses and bonded with hard, off-white lime mortar. A recess, seen partially at the south end of the wall, might have been a doorway or other opening, although it appeared to have been a modification to the original structure. Floor 0014, of yellow brick laid in stretcher rows, abutted the wall at a depth of only 1.2m below current ground level (23.50mOD); this suggests that this was not a full-depth cellar unless the ground floor of the building was raised above the contemporary land surface. The only structural feature seen within the cellar/chamber was 0013, a single course of bricks laid on edge next to the recess in wall 0015 and overlying floor 0014. It was presumably associated with the recess, perhaps as part of a stairway.

Following the demolition of the building the cellar /chamber was backfilled with soil and demolition rubble 0027 and was buried below a layer of garden soil 0019. This was overlaid by a turf layer forming the current ground surface at an average height of 24.64mOD.

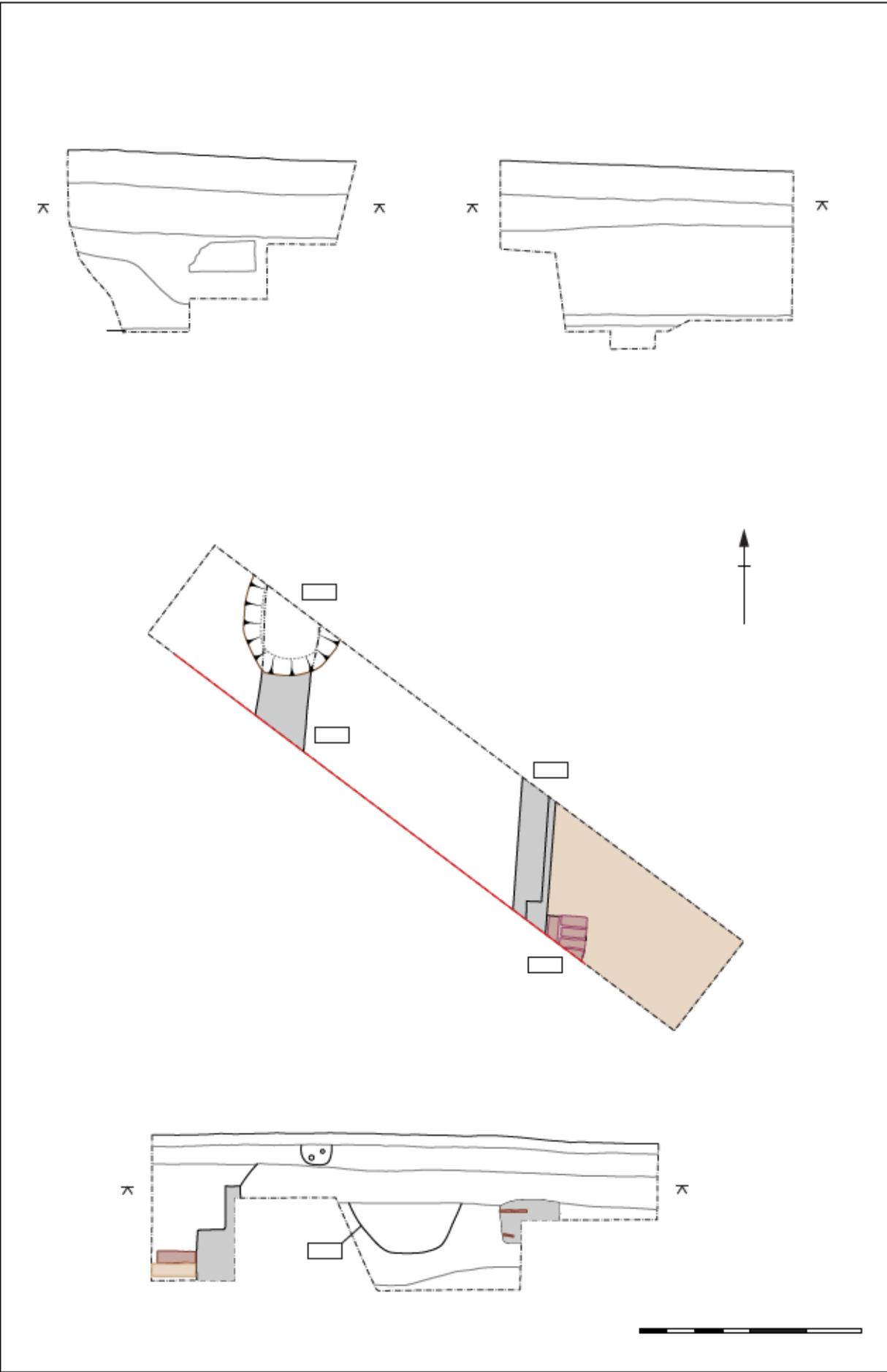


Figure 3. Plan and sections



Plate1.SectionS.1,north -facing in Trench1( 1m scale)



Plate2.Fill0028andnaturalsand0011in the baseof Trench 1,lookingeast



Plate3.SectionS.2,south-facingin Trench 2(1 mscale)



Plate4.Cellarwall0015andfloor0014in Trench 3,lookingnorthwest ( 0.5m scale)



Plate5.Foundation0016andpit0018in Trench 3,looking south east (0.5mscale)



Plate6.SectionS. 3, northeast-facing in Trench 3( 1m scale)

## 6. Findsevidence

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RichendaGoffin

### 6.1 Introduction

Small quantities of pottery, ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe were recovered. They have been quantified by context in Appendix 5, and are summarised in Table 4:

Finds Type	No	Wt(g)
Pottery	5	116
CBM	38	9417
Clay tobacco pipe	1	3

Table 4. Bulk finds quantities

### 6.2 Pottery

#### Introduction

Five sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from four contexts in Trenches 2 and 3.

#### Methodology

The ceramics were quantified using the recording methods recommended in the MPRG Occasional Paper No 2, Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of Post-Roman ceramics (Slowikowski *et al.*, 2001). The number of sherds present in each context by fabric, the estimated number of vessels represented and the weight of each fabric were noted. Other characteristics such as form, decoration, fabric date and condition were recorded, and an overall date range for the pottery in each context was established. The pottery was catalogued on *proform* sheets by context using letter codes based on fabric and form and has been recorded on a Microsoft Access database that forms part of the site archive.

The codes used are based mainly on broad fabric and form types identified in *Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich* (Jennings, 1981), and additional fabric types established by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit (SAnderson, unpublished fabric list).

## Pottery by period

### Medieval

A single fragment of Hedingham Fineware (1250–1350) from sand and gravel deposit 0005 was the only pottery recovered from Trench 2. A glazed and slip-decorated redware dated to the 13th–14th century (Sue Anderson, *pers comm*) was present in deposit 0023 (Trench 3).

### Late medieval/post-medieval

A heavily rilled sherd of a Langerwehe stoneware jug was present in fill 0021 in Trench 3. It has a patchy, brown shiny glaze with no glaze on the inside. It is probably from a small type of jug dating to the 15th century (Hurst *et al* 1986, 187).

The sagging base of an early post-medieval jug or cistern was present in deposit 0023 (Trench 3). It is made in a fine hard fabric with a partially reduced core, and has small spots of lead glaze externally and two thumbing impressions grouped together at the junction of the wall and base of the pot. It is a transitional ware of a Late Colchester ware type dating to the 15th to 16th century, and was found with a sherd of an earlier, medieval date.

A fragment of a plain white tin-glazed earthenware bowl (17th–18th century) was found with a clay tobacco pipe stem in fill 0017 of pit 0018 (Trench 3).

## Discussion of the pottery

The small pottery assemblage dates from the medieval through to the post-medieval period. Small quantities of medieval and late medieval wares were identified, which could be contemporary with the nearby medieval priory. The remainder of the pottery dates to the 16th–18th centuries. The assemblage is made up of locally produced wares from the Essex region, such as the Hedingham fineware and Late Colchester ware type, but also includes an imported ware from the Rhineland.

## 6.3 Ceramic building material

### Introduction and methodology

A total of thirty-eight fragments of ceramic building material was recovered, weighing 9417g. The assemblage was fully quantified by fabric and form and the information is presented in Appendix 6. Fabric codes used are based on the appearance and main inclusions of the fabric types, while forms are based on the catalogue used in Drury's work on the ceramic building material of Norwich (Drury, 1993).

### Ceramic building material by period

#### Medieval – early post-medieval

A small number of fragments of medieval roof tiles were present as residual elements with later ceramic building material (6 pieces weighing 583g). The fragments are sandy with reduced cores and on some fragments (0016 & 0017) the presence of mortar indicates that they were re-used. One fragment from foundation 0016 is late medieval to post-medieval in date.

Although some medieval tiles were positively identified, many of the other tiles are hard to date as they could span the period of the medieval/later medieval and early post-medieval period. Some of the tiles are well made but have reduced cores (an indication of a medieval or late medieval date), and are made in fine and medium sandy fabrics with inclusions of moderate clay pellets. Circular holes (diameters 12mm, 15mm and 18mm) are present on some tiles, confirming that they are peg tiles.

#### Post-medieval

Some of the roofing tiles such as some of those in pit fill 0017 are post-medieval rather than late medieval in date. Post-medieval brick fragments were present in the large feature 0008, dating to the 16th–17th century.

A complete white-firing brick (19th century) with frog moulded with 'Chilton Suffolk' was recovered from brick floor 0014. A second complete red-fired brick which was partially encased in a heavy coating of mortar that was retained from masonry 0013 overlying the floor is of a similar date.

## Summary of ceramic building material by trench

Roofing tiles and broken up fragments of post-medieval brick were present in the soil and demolition rubble 0008 of the large possible quarry in Trench 1.

Small quantities of roofing tiles dating to the late medieval to early post-medieval period were present in the fill 0003 of the possible quarry in Trench 2.

The majority of the ceramic building material was recovered from Trench 3. Several fragments of roofing tile in medieval/post-medieval fabric had been re-used in the wall foundation 0016. They had been partially covered in a coarse sandy cream coloured mortar. The fill 0023 of a large cut feature that was cut by this foundation contained fragments of roofing tiles which are more consistently medieval/early post-medieval in date.

The fill 0017 of pit 0018 had more roofing tile fragments that are a mixture of late medieval/early post-medieval fabrics and some fully oxidised post-medieval tiles. Fill 0021 of a ditch / pit 0022 also contained roofing tiles that date to the late medieval and early post-medieval period.

A complete white-firing brick was retained from the floor 0014 of the cellar. This was made locally at one of the brickworks at Chilton in Sudbury in the 19th century. A second nineteenth-century brick was recovered as a sample from masonry 0013 overlying the cellar floor.

The assemblage consists for the most part of a quantity of roofing tiles that are hard to date closely, as many of them could be medieval or late medieval, or even early post-medieval in date. In this respect they could be pre-dissolution and date to the lifetime of the Dominican priory. Many of the fragments show evidence of re-use in later features.

A small amount of post-medieval brick and tile was identified in a few features. Evidence of locally made bricks was also shown in the presence of bricks from the Chilton Sudbury brickworks.

## 6.4 Clay tobacco pipe

A single fragment from the stem of a clay tobacco pipe (18th–19th century) was present in the fill 0017 of pit 0018. It was found with sherds of 17th –18th century pottery and post-medieval ceramic building material.

## 7. Discussion

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From what was known previously about natural ground levels in this part of Sudbury it is clear that the river terraced deposits within the site have been truncated to considerable depths. This was especially so in the areas of Trenches 1 and 2, in the northern half of the site. The reason for this truncation is not known, although quarrying of sand and gravel seems a likely explanation, with thick deposits of fill (0003, 0010 & 0023) that overlay the truncated natural strata representing deliberate backfilling and ground consolidation. Limited dating evidence suggests that the quarrying occurred in the late medieval/early post-medieval period, after the Dominican Priory had been dissolved.

The mortared flint foundation 0016 in Trench 3 is of particular interest. It was built over a probable backfilled quarry pit (represented by deposit 0023) and therefore represented a distinct change of land use in the early post-medieval period. The precise date, form and extent of this building or structure are unknown, although its relatively late date of construction indicates that it was not part of the medieval priory.

An extensive layer of 'former cultivation soil' (0002/0007/0019) that was seen in all three evaluation trenches (and that sealed foundation 0016) probably reflected the use of the site in the post-medieval period as an orchard. This land use is shown on a 1734 plan of the former priory (see Appendix 4) and continued until the late 19th century, as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 (Fig. 4). Note that Rose Villa was built on the site of the orchard after the First Edition map was drawn but before the compilation of the Second Edition map in 1903.

The 19th-century brick-built cellar or chamber at the southeast end of Trench 3 was part of a building shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (see Figure 4). The Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, from the 1890s, shows that when Rose Villa was built that building had been demolished, although part of the west wall was apparently still standing when the map was compiled. The long, north–south building shown on those early maps immediately to the south of the site stood until 2004. Originally it might have been a malting but it subsequently became the Gainsborough silk factory.

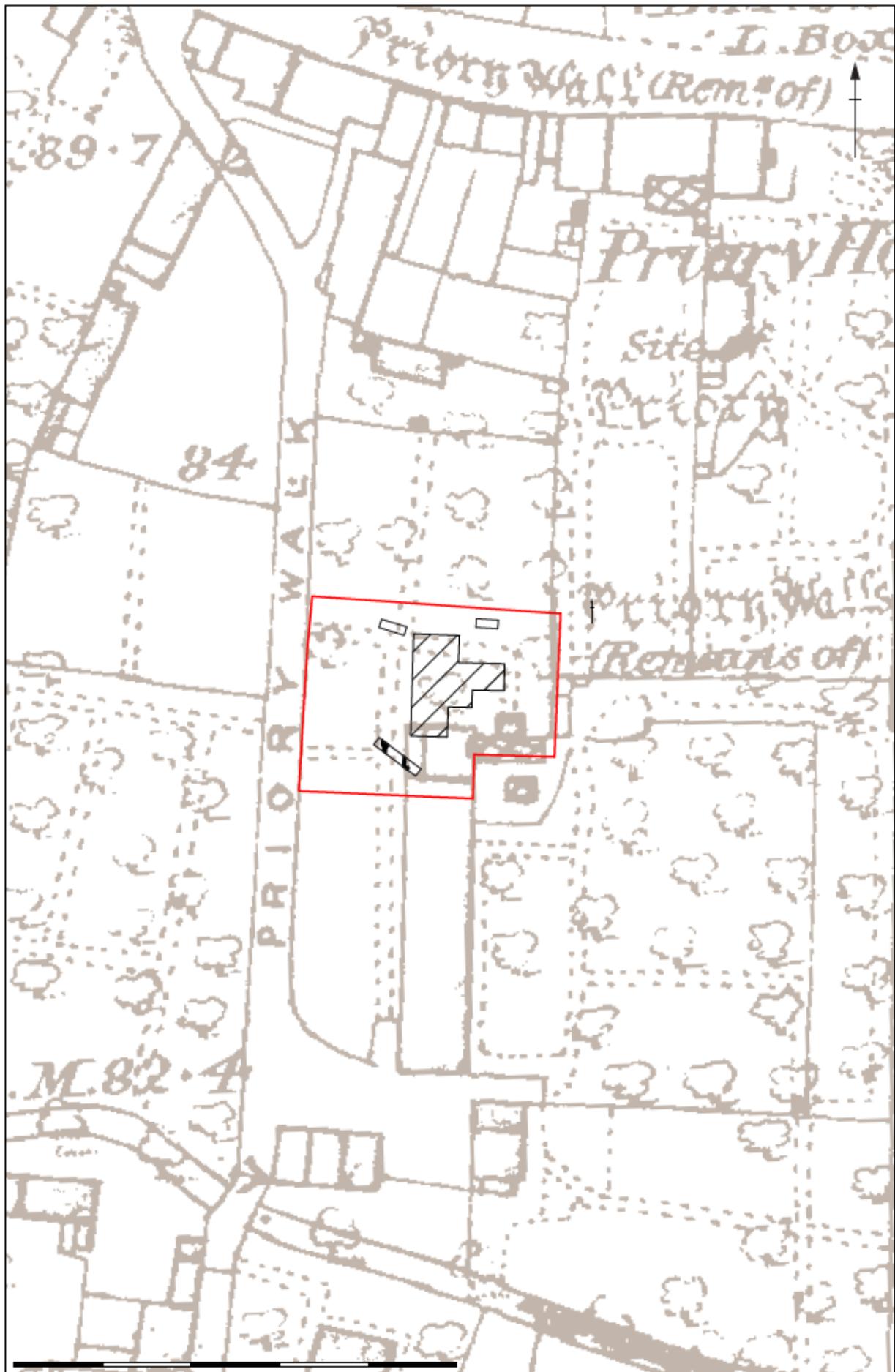


Figure 4. Rose Villa and evaluation trenches superimposed on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885

## 8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

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The evaluation has had positive results that are considered to have local significance in relation to historic land use within the precinct of the Dominican Priory. However, the limited scale of the investigation has hampered the interpretation of those results.

The fieldwork has raised a number of research questions relating to activity on the site in the late medieval and early post-medieval periods. Notably, can it be confirmed that the late medieval/early post-medieval ground reduction seen in all three evaluation trenches was due to quarrying? Also, what were the date, form and extent of the early post-medieval building or structure represented by foundation 0016?

In order to address those questions it is likely that further fieldwork will be required by the Archaeological Officer in relation to this planning application. A monitoring of groundwork for the new buildings (especially the foundation trenches but also service trenches and landscaping) will probably be the preferred option.

This evaluation report will be disseminated via the OASIS online archaeological database and a summary of the results will be published in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

## 9. Archived deposition

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Paper archive: SCCAS office, Ford House, Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: R: \Environmental Protection\ Conservation\ Archaeology\ Current Recording Projects \Sudbury\SUY135 Rose Villa Evaluation

Digital photographic archive: R: \Environmental Protection\ Conservation\ Archaeology\ Catalogues\ Photos\ HWY\ HWY 012–HWY 061

## 10. Acknowledgements

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Roger Brown of Park Hill Homes (UK) Ltd commissioned the archaeological project.

Dr. Abby Antrobus (SCCAS, Conservation Team) produced the Brief and monitored the project.

David Gill (SCCAS Field Team, Senior Project Officer) managed the project and Kieron Heard (SCCAS Field Team, Project Officer) carried out the fieldwork. Graphics are by Crane Begg (SCCAS, Graphics Manager). Richenda Goffin (SCCAS, Post-Excavation Manager) provided the finds information and edited the report. Anthony Breencarried out the documentary research.

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## Appendix 1. Local Authority Brief

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### Brief for Desk -Based and Trenched Archaeological Evaluation

AT

#### ROSEVILLA, PRIORY WALK, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK

**PLANNING AUTHORITY:** Babergh District Council

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:** B/08/00842/FUL

**HERNO. FOR THIS PROJECT:** To be arranged

**GRID REFERENCE:** TL87 034097

**DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:** Erection of four terraced dwellings

**AREA:** 0.06ha

**CURRENT LAND USE:** Open area

**THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:** Abby Antrobus  
Archaeological Officer  
Conservation Team  
Tel: 01284741231  
E-mail: abby.antrobus@suffolk.gov.uk

**Date:** 04 April 2014

#### Summary

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following condition relating to archaeological investigation, under PPG16:

'No developments shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.'

This brief is for archaeological evaluation, which is the first stage of the programme of archaeological work. Decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of additional briefs, which will enable a Written Scheme of Investigation to be produced.

- 1.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements (and in conjunction with our standard Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver 1.1), to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scrutiny; SCCAS/CT is the advisory body to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on archaeological issues.

- 1.3 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.4 Following acceptance, SCCAS/CT will advise the LPA that an appropriate scheme of work is in place. The WSI, however, is not a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting (including the need for any further work following this evaluation), will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.5 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met. If the approved WSI is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected.

### Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The development area lies within the Area of Archaeological Importance defined for the medieval town of Sudbury in the Babergh Local Plan (County Historic Environment Record SUY040), and within the precinct of the Dominican Friary, founded before 1248 and dissolved in 1538 (SUY005). Medieval Friary walls and pottery were recorded in 1969 from the housing development to the south-east of this proposal. There is, therefore, a high probability that the development will damage or destroy archaeological deposits.

Archaeological evaluation to the immediate south of the proposal revealed medieval pits, probably for quarrying, as well as ditches (SUY069), under 1-2m depth of later buildup. However, although adjacent to the site, it may have had a different land-use history. A plan of 1852 shows the site as part of an orchard, but its medieval and post-medieval history is not known.

### Planning Background

- 3.1 There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority was advised that any consents should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.

### Requirements for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 To inform field investigation, desk-based assessment is required, involving:
- Consultation of the County Historic Environment Record (HER) for records relating to the site and its immediate environs, including paper files, where relevant to the site itself and its context within Sudbury and the friary site.
  - Examination of all readily available cartographic and documentary sources (e.g. those in the County Records Office) to record evidence for previous land uses. Where permitted, photographs, photocopies or traced copies should be presented in the report.

- Consultation of relevant publications
  - Assessment of any further potential for documentary research that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site
  - An assessment of the site at present and any barriers to evaluation.
- 4.2 Evaluations should proceed sequentially, with desk -based work informing trench design. This sequence will only be varied if benefit to the evaluation can be demonstrated.
- 4.3 A linear trench evaluation is required of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified.
- 4.4 Trial Trenching is required to:
- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
  - Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
  - Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
  - Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 4.5 Further evaluation could be required if unusual deposits or other archaeological finds of significance are recovered; if so, this would be the subject of an additional brief.
- 4.6 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover between 5- 10% of the area of the development area and shall sample all parts of the site. If the evaluation is undertaken prior to the demolition of Rose Villa, at least four trenches will be required, sampling the north-west, northeast, south- west and south -east areas of garden adjacent to the house. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. Trench locations should be informed by the DBA, where appropriate.
- 4.7 As scale plans showing the proposed location of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before fieldwork begins.

### **Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation**

- 5.1 The composition of the archaeological contractor's staff must be detailed and agreed by SCCAS/CT, including any subcontractors/specialists. Ceramics specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 5.2 All arrangements for the evaluation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.3 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork (e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and other ecological considerations) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.

## Reporting and Archival Requirements

- 6.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared and must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Service's Store or suitable museum in Suffolk. na
- 6.3 It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Archaeological Service or the designated Suffolk museum, and this should be agreed before the field work commences. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval.
- 6.4 The project managers should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation (including the digital archive), and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.
- 6.5 A report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance. The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the Suffolk HER.
- 6.6 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given, although the final decision lies with SCCAS/CT. No further site work should be embarked upon until the evaluation results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 6.7 Following approval of the report by SCCAS/CT, a single copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.
- 6.8 All parts of the OASIS online form <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A digital copy of the report should be uploaded to the OASIS website.
- 6.9 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.
- 6.10 This brief remains valid for 12 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.

## Standards and Guidance

Further detailed requirements are to be found in our Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver 1.3. Standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* (revised 2008) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

### **Notes**

The Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors ([www.archaeologists.net](http://www.archaeologists.net) or 01183786446). There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS/CT does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects.



## Appendix2. Contextlist

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
0001	2	Soft, dark brownish greysand silt (loam) with occasional small to medium pebbles, flecks of chalk, mortar and coal, flecks to small fragments of brick and tile and small fragments of white china (not kept). 0.30m thick, extending trench-wide. Blurred interface with underlying deposit.	Current garden soil
0002	2	Soft, mid greyish brown sand silt with occasional small to medium pebbles, flecks of chalk, mortar and coal, flecks to small fragments of brick and tile and small fragments of animal bone (not kept). Upto 0.36m thick, extending trench-wide.	Buried soil horizon. Former cultivation soil?
0003	2	Soft, mid brownish greysand silt with moderate small to medium pebbles and flecks to small fragments of shell (oyster and mussel), and occasional flecks to small fragments of chalk, small to medium fragments of tile and animal bone (bone not kept). Upto 0.80m thick. Extend trench-wide. Blurred interface with underlying deposit.	Assumed fill, perhaps quarry?
0004	2	Soft, mid brown silt sand with moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional flecks to small fragments of chalk. 0.20m thick.	Assumed fill, perhaps quarry?
0005	2	Loose, light yellowish brown sand and gravel with one small fragment of pot and occasional flecks to small fragments of charcoal. Hand-excavated to 0.20m thick. Subsequent machine excavations suggest it was c. 0.55m thick	Assumed fill, perhaps quarry?
0006	1	Soft, dark brownish greysand silt (loam) with occasional small to medium pebbles, flecks of chalk, mortar and coal, flecks to small fragments of brick and tile and small fragments of white china and 19th century CTP stem (not kept). 0.30m thick, extending trench-wide. Blurred interface with underlying deposit.	Current garden soil (same as 0001 in Trench 2)
0007	1	Soft, mid brownish greysand silt with moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional small fragments of chalk, red brick and roof tile (not kept) .0.40m thick, extending trench-wide.	Buried soil horizon. Former cultivation soil?
0008	1	Loose, mid brownish greysand silt (50%) mixed with small to medium fragments of red brick and tile, and crushed mortar (50%). Moderate small to medium pebbles and occasional small fragments of chalk. 0.20m thick at the east end of the trench, increasing to 0.64m thick in the middle of the trench. Contains masonry fragment 0009	Fill of a large, unspecified cut (possible quarry) containing much demolition rubble and a large piece of brick masonry.
0009	1	Red bricks and flint cobbles, random coursed and bonded with hard, very light yellowish brown lime mortar. Overall dimensions 0.60m EW x > 0.50m NS x 0.27m high.	Large disturbed fragment of bonded masonry within fill 0008
0010	1	Various soft to compact, mid brownish greysand silt with pockets and lenses of light yellowish brown clay with chalk flecks, occasional pebbles and flecks to small fragments of charcoal. Upto 0.70m thick, extending trench-wide. Good interface with underlying deposits.	Fill of a large, unspecified cut (possible quarry).
0011	1	Soft, very light yellowish brown coarse sand with pocket of greysilt (roots?) and some possible charcoal flecks. Seen during hand-excavation on south side of the trench at 23.68m OD. Seen during machine-excavation on the north side of the trench at c. 23.40m OD	Probably natural sand, with the apparent slope down to the north reflecting the base of the cut for deposits 0008 and 0010.
0012	2	Number given to finds recovered during machine excavation of deposit 0025. Might be from overlying deposit 0005. Pot and CBM.	
0013	3	Rectangular block of masonry built of red bricks, 230x110x65mm, laid on edge, surviving as a single course, bonded with buff, lime mortar. Built on top of floor 0014 and abutting wall 0015. Overall dimensions > 0.40m x 0.36m x 70mm high.	Internal feature of cellar represented by wall 0015 and floor 0014.
0014	3	Brick floor constructed of stretcher rows of yellow bricks on bed, laid perpendicular to wall 0015. Bricks are 230x110x	Floor of cellar represented by wall 0015.

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation
		65mm and frogged. Bedding layer of mortar.	
0015	3	Wall built of red bricks laid in alternate header/stretcher courses. Bricks are 230x110x70mm (None retrieved) and bonded with hard, off-white lime mortar. The wall has been repointed with cement mortar. Overall dimensions >1.40m long x >0.80m high. The upper surviving four courses (0.30m high) are 0.24m wide. Below this is a 60mm offset on the internal face (external face of wall not exposed).	Wall on west side of cellar (see 1880 and 1890 Ordnance Survey maps).
0016	3	Foundation constructed of flint pebbles and cobbles (up to c. 80mm but generally 40-60mm), random course and heavily bonded with light yellowish brown lime mortar. There is a single string course of roof tile fragments near the surviving top of the foundation, with random use of tile fragments elsewhere. Overall dimensions are >1.30m long x 0.44m wide up to 0.40m high. Truncated on east side by pit 0018.	Wall foundation, but not clear if it was a building or boundary wall.
0017	3	Soft, dark grey sand silt with occasional pebbles, moderate small to medium fragments of roof tile, and small fragments of bone (not kept), CTP stem, pot and coal.	Single fill of pit 0018
0018	3	Oval, >0.60m long x 0.54m wide at least 0.30m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile. Only recognised at the level where it cut foundation 0016.	Pit, function unknown, although likely to be a garden feature.
0019	3	Soft, mid to dark grey loam with moderate pebbles and occasional small fragments of red brick, tile and slate. Up to 0.23m thick and only recorded in section.	Buried soil horizon. Former garden soil?
0020	3	Soft, mid brownish grey sand silt with moderate pebbles and occasional small fragments of red brick, tile and slate. Up to 0.30m thick and only recorded in section. Seals foundation 0016.	Buried soil horizon. Former cultivation soil? Same as 0002 in Trench 2?
0021	3	Soft, dark grey loam with frequent small to medium fragments of roof tile, moderate flecks of mortar and chalk, occasional bone (not kept) and x1 medium fragment of pot.	Single fill of pit 0022.
0022	3	Cut feature measuring >1m long x 1m wide x 0.45m deep. Moderately steep, slightly concave sides and a flat base. Only recorded in section, cutting deposit 0023	Pit or ditch, function unknown, but possibly horticultural.
0023	3	Compact, light brownish grey sand silt with moderate small to medium pebbles, occasional small to medium fragments of red roof tile, oyster and mussel, and a few small to medium fragments of pot. Up to 0.75m thick, the bases sloping down to the south. Truncated by the construction cut (un-numbered) for foundation 0016.	Fill of an unspecified cut feature, perhaps a quarry.
0024	3	Loose, yellowish brown sand and gravel with pockets of grey sand silt, at least 0.20m thick. Irregular (disturbed) interface with overlying deposit 0023.	Possible natural river terrace gravels
0025	2	Loose, orangey brown sand and gravel with pockets of grey sand silt, approximately 0.40m thick. Excavated by machine and not examined in situ. Surface at approximately 26.85m OD.	Possible natural river terrace gravels
0026	2	Loose, light yellowish brown coarse sand and very fine gravel, at least 0.10m thick. Excavated by machine and not examined in situ. Surface at approximately 22.45m OD.	Natural river terraces and gravel.
0027	3	Discrete dumps of soil and demolition rubble (roof tile, bricks and mortar) with some thick lenses of crushed chalk. 0.90m thick, overlying floor 0014.	Demolition backfill of cellar represented by wall 0015.
0028	1	Dark grey soil, apparently filling a east-west cut in the base of Trench 1. Only seen after second phase of machining, and not recorded in detail.	Cut feature, possibly the same as that contains fills 0008 - 0010, if not earlier.

## Appendix3. Digitalimagecatalogue

Image	Description	Date
HWY012	Sitevisit:proposedareaoftrenchtoNWofhouse,lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY013	Sitevisit:housefrontage,lookingSE	17/04/2014
HWY 014	Sitevisit:proposedareaoftrenchtoSWofhouse,lookingSE	17/04/2014
HWY015	Sitevisit:proposedareaoftrenchtoSEofhouse,lookingNE	17/04/2014
HWY016	Sitevisit:pavinginareaofproposedtrenchtoSEofhouse	17/04/2014
HWY017	Site visit:patioareatoSEofhouse,lookingS	17/04/2014
HWY018	Sitevisit:outbuildingsinSEcornerofgarden,lookingSE	17/04/2014
HWY019	Sitevisit:boundarywallonEsideofplot(Send),lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY020	Sitevisit:boundarywallon Esideofplot(generalview)lookingNE	17/04/2014
HWY021	Sitevisit:boundarywallonEsideofplot(blockedgate,southjamb)lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY022	Sitevisit:boundarywallonEsideofplot(blockedgate,northjamb)lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY023	Sitevisit:boundarywallonEsideofplot(blockedgate)lookingSE	17/04/2014
HWY024	Sitevisit:boundarywallonEsideofplot(generalview)lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY025	Sitevisit:extensiontorearofhouse,lookingNW	17/04/2014
HWY02 6	Sitevisit:generalviewofhouse,lookingSW	17/04/2014
HWY027	Sitevisit:gardentoNofhouse(probablegasmain)lookingW	17/04/2014
HWY028	Sitevisit:areaofproposedtrenchtoNEofhouse,lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY029	Sitevisit:gardentoN ofhouse(probablegasmain)lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY030	Sitevisit:entrancetodrive,lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY031	Sitevisit:overheadtelephone/electriccables	17/04/2014
HWY032	Sitevisit:housefrontagefromstreet,lookingE	17/04/2014
HWY03 3	Sitevisit:57FriarsStreet(priorygate)1/3	17/04/2014
HWY034	Sitevisit:57FriarsStreet(priorygate)2/3	17/04/2014
HWY035	Sitevisit:57FriarsStreet(priorygate)3/3	17/04/2014
HWY036	SectionS.2,southfacinginTrench2(1mscale)	23/04/2014
HWY037	SectionS.2,southfacinginTrench2(1mscale)	23/04/2014
HWY038	GeneralviewofTrench2,lookingwest	23/04/2014
HWY039	GeneralviewofTrench2,lookingwest	23/04/2014
HWY040	SectionS.1,northfacinginTrench1(1mscale)	23/04/2014
HWY041	SectionS.1,northfacinginTrench1(1mscale)	23/04/2014
HWY042	GeneralviewofTrench1,lookingwest	23/04/2014
HWY043	GeneralviewofTrench1,lookingwest	23/04/2014
HWY044	Detailofmasonry0009inTrench1,lookingsouth	23/04/2014
HWY045	Probablecutfeature0028runningE -WinbaseofTrench1	24/04/2014
HWY046	GeneralviewofTrench2followingdeepermachining	24/04/2014
HWY047	MachininginTrench2	24/04/2014
HWY048	Cellarwall0015andfloor0014inTrench1,lookingnorth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY049	Cellarwall0015andfloor0014inTrench1,lookingnorth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY050	Cellarwall0015andfloor0014inTrench1,lookingnorth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY051	Cellarwall0015andfloor 0014inTrench1,lookingvertically(noscale)	24/04/2014
HWY052	Cellarwall0015andfloor0014inTrench1,lookingvertically(noscale)	24/04/2014
HWY053	Cellarwall0015andfloor0014inTrench1,lookingnorth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY054	Cellarwall0015inTrench1,lookingnorth(noscale)	24/04/2014
HWY055	Cellarwall0015inTrench1,lookingnorth(noscale)	24/04/2014
HWY056	Foundation0016lookingnorth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY057	Foundation0016lookingnorth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY058	Foundation0016andpit0018lookingsouth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014

<b>Image</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
HWY059	Foundation0016andpit0018lookingsouth(0.5mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY060	CentralpartofsectionS.3,eastfacinginTrench3(1mscale)	24/04/2014
HWY061	CentralpartofsectionS.3,eastfacinginTrench3(1mscale)	24/04/2014

## Appendix 4. Documentary research

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Anthony Breen (edited by Kieron Heard)

### Introduction

The site of Rose Villa adjoins the boundary wall of the courtyard of the former Friars House of Sudbury's Dominican Priory, although this site was within the bounds of the lands formerly owned by the priory (HER No. SUY005). At the dissolution of the priory in October 1538 the former friars or priors house became a private dwelling whilst the priory's former church and cloister were demolished. A blocked gateway in the wall at the rear of the garden of Rose Villa leads into the area of a former courtyard that occupied the space between the Friar's House and the priory gateway in Friars Street, to the north. There is a second gateway within the boundary wall which now divides the grounds of 53a Friar's Street from the adjoining cricket pitch to the east. Both gateways are shown on Joshua Kirby's engraving of the 'North West View of Sudbury Priory' in 1748 (Fig. 1). The engraving shows that the Friars' House was to the south of these gateways.

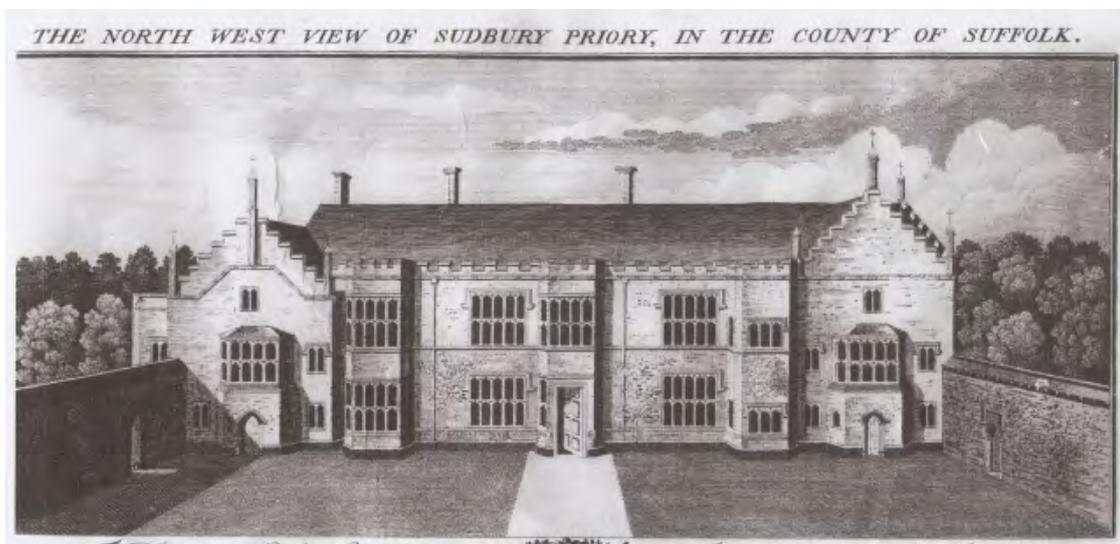


Figure 1. Kirby's engraving of 'The north west view of Sudbury Priory, in the county of Suffolk'

A second view of the Friars' House from the north is to be found on an 1852 copy of an earlier plan of the priory (Fig. 2). The site of Rose Villa is shown as being part of an orchard, numbered 4 on the plan.

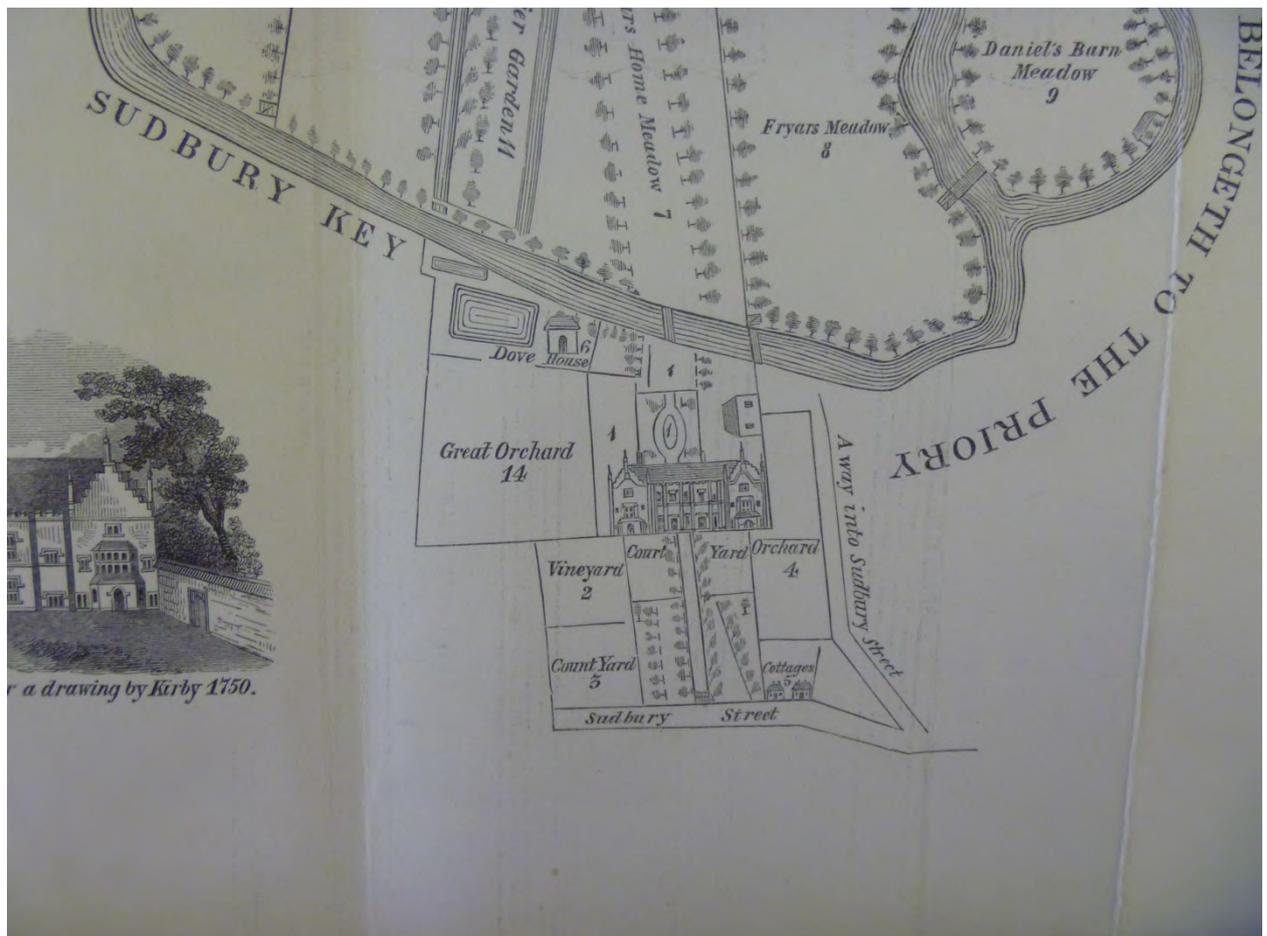


Figure 2. 1852 copy of an earlier plan, showing the layout of the Priory

Rose Villa is shown on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (1903), though not named or numbered, but it is not shown on the First Edition of this map (1885). There are a considerable number of plans dating from 1895 of individual buildings in the Sudbury Borough Collection (ref. E E501/9/24-27) and individual properties dating from 1856 in the Solicitors collection for the firm of Messrs Weyman and Long (ref. 993/4/59-117); none of these properties are indexed as Rose Villa and none are indexed under 'Priory Walk'. 'Rose Villa' is unlikely to have been the original name of the house. In the Sudbury & District Directory & Diary of 1967-8 a 'B.H. Rose' was listed as living at Rose Villa, Priory Walk and the house name may date from that period.

The former priory church was demolished by 1541 and the exact site of this building is unknown. Late medieval sources in the form of requests for burial within the grounds of the priory strongly suggest that the priory's cloisters were to the north of the church, possibly in an area to the south of the former Friars or Prior's house. A number of these burials, some within stone coffins, have been disturbed by building work in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, although the exact positions of these burials is unknown and

they are only vaguely described in various published sources. The absence of late 19th and early 20th century plans of the buildings in Priory Walk creates a further difficulty in locating the sites of these burials. It would be possible to overcome some of these difficulties if the 1910 Valuation Office records were readily available in Suffolk for research. These records are held at the National Archives and their value will be discussed in the conclusion of this report.

Fortunately there are details of an excavation carried out by Thomas Howlett in 1969 in the grounds of the house known as 'The Old Priory'. In the HER records this house is described as 'Priory House'. The HER mentions the report of the excavation published in 'Medieval Archaeology' (Volume XIV, 1970, page 170) but not the manuscript records held at the Suffolk Record Office in Bury St Edmunds. The published report only mentions that the excavations were in 'Friars Street on the site of the Dominican Friary', not that they were in 'Priory Walk'.

Though a number of excellent, well researched books have been published on various aspects of the history of Sudbury, a number are in part derived from earlier published works and the sources of the information they contain not specified. Amongst the various works those by Rev. Erend Badham (1852), C.F.D. Sperling (1896) and more recently by Barry Wall (1983–2004) and David Burnett (2002) are the most useful.

Though the Suffolk Record Office in Bury St Edmunds hold the former Sudbury Borough Council collection, the 1:500 Ordnance Survey maps used by the borough surveyors' department have been given to Sudbury Museum. The maps first published in 1887 are on the museum's website but subsequent editions of the map were used to show the positions of new buildings. Sudbury Museum's website also hosts 'Caughton Camera' - a very full collection of the Historic Photo Archive of Sudbury. Amongst the photographs a number are of the former 'Gainsborough Silk Factory' site in Priory Walk. The factory, immediately to the south of Rose Villa was demolished in 2004 to make way for the houses and flats now numbered 15 to 29 Priory Walk.

### **Excavations of 1969**

The Suffolk Record Office in Bury St Edmunds hold the surviving records of the excavation at the site of 'The Old Priory' in 1969 (ref .GC733/1/1 -6). In the record office catalogue the collection is listed simply as 'Sudbury Ephemera Archive' and as with all

modern catalogues the name of the depositor is withheld. In the published account of this excavation given in 'Medieval Archaeology' the National Grid reference is given as 'TL871405' although in the typescript 'Notes on recent excavations at the site of the Dominican Friary' the grid reference is given as 'TL871408'. These notes have been examined in detail for this report. All the measurements given are those in the original text and the imperial measurements have not been converted here into metric measurements.

The notes begin with an extract of the history of the priory taken from Sperling's book of 1896 in which he noted that:

*Upon the breaking up of the foundations of the Priory several stone coffins, and graves of flint-work, were discovered: on one the name 'Edmund' could be deciphered but the rest of the inscription was illegible. A stone coffin, said to have been dug up at this site, stood for many years in the yard of the 'Maldon Grey' public house, where it was used as a horse-trough but this coffin has since disappeared.*

As this account follows another account of the demolition of the Priors' House 'circa 1820', it might be assumed that the discovery of these burials occurred in 1820. Unfortunately there are no published contemporary accounts of the discovery of burials at that period.

The notes continue with an account of the location of the site. It was then the property of 'Mr H Smith' who was listed in the 1967-8 directory as living at 'Old Priory, Priory Walk'. In the notes it states:

*the building is located about 60 feet east of the lane which leads from the 'Ship and Star' public house, Friar's Street - to the Sudbury Football Ground, and the north end of his cottage is about 200 feet south of Friars Street in a direct line. Immediately north of his cottage is an area of wasteland owned by Messrs Brown's (Builders) on which is stored builder's materials. The west side of this plot is flanked by the rear wall of an old red-brick building, believed to have been an old Malting. At the northern extremity of this wall, another free-standing wall of red (Tudor?) - brick runs at right-angles in an easterly direction for about 25 feet. The end of this wall joins a Flint - wall which runs at right-angles in a northerly direction.*

On the sketch plan attached to these notes (Fig. 3) the site of the 'Factory formerly a malting?' is shown in the same position as the modern houses and flats numbered 15 to 29 Priory Walk. The factory is shown as a long building orientated north-south on the Ordnance Survey maps from 1885 onwards, but it is not labelled as a malting on those maps. The building is also shown on the 1:500 Ordnance Survey map published in 1887, now held at Sudbury Museum and viewable at the following address:

<http://www.sudburiesuffolk.co.uk/photoarchive/mapexplorer/?map=10>

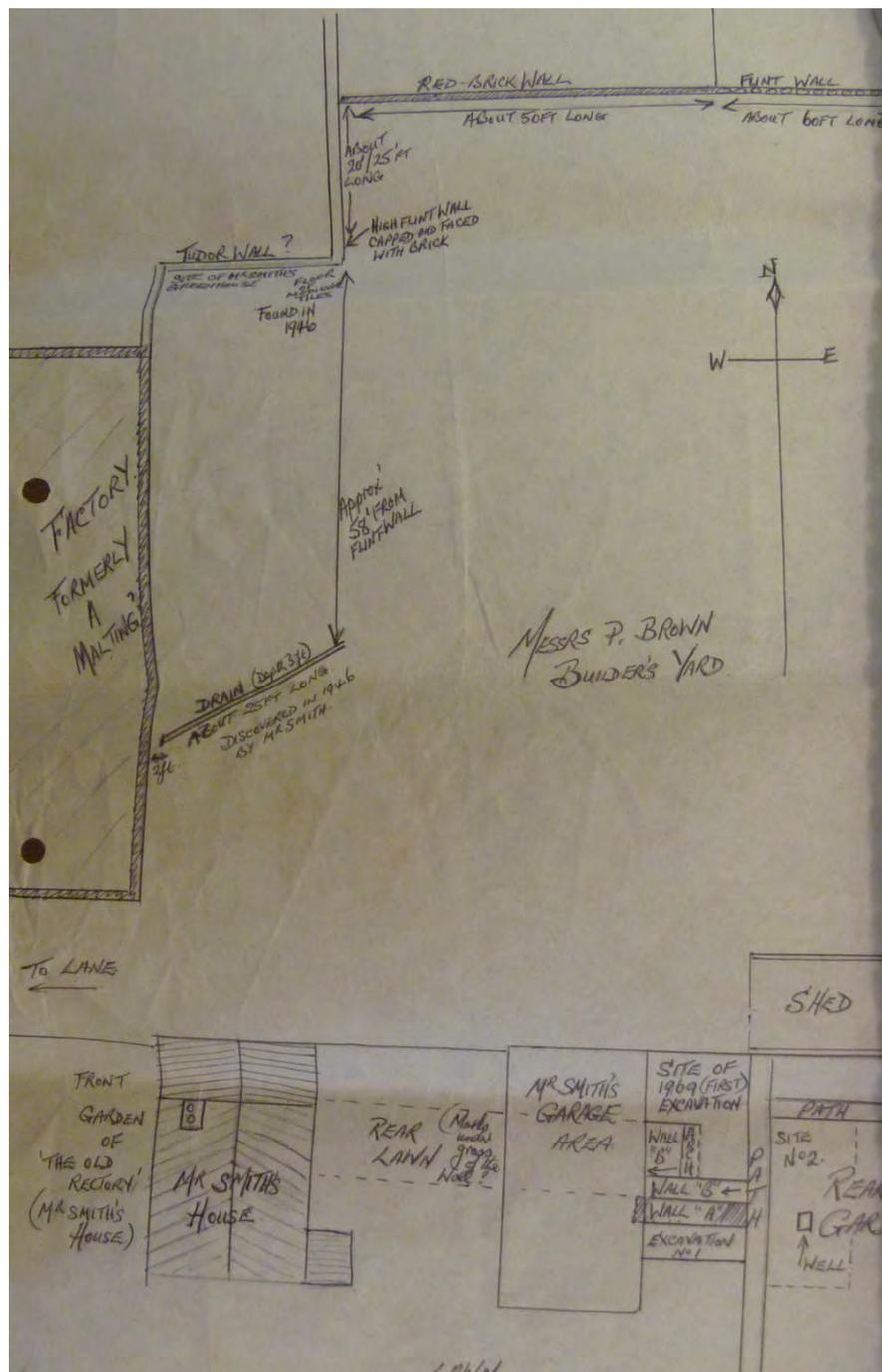


Figure 3. Sketch plan in the archive of the 1969 excavation

Through the careful use of contemporary rate books it might have been possible to ascertain the date of the factory's construction. In the Sudbury Borough Collection there is only one rate book for this period dated 1872 (ref. EE501/11/7). The books are subdivided by parish but without any further geographic description of the individual properties within each parish. Another rate book of 1874 only relates to the properties in Ballingdon (ref. EE501/11/8). There are no further borough rate books until 1901. There are no references to 'Priory Walk' in 'Kelly's' directory of 1879 or 1883, or in 'White's' 1885 'Directory of Suffolk'. In this directory and others all the listings for Sudbury are arranged alphabetically by the name of the owner or occupier and not by street. In White's 1891–92 directory a Mrs Maud Mitchell is listed as a 'Factory Manageress' in Priory Walk and a Mr William Pretty is listed as a 'stay manufacturer' in 'Priory Walk & Ipswich'. The commercial listing printed at the end of these directories has a heading for 'Stay & Corset Makers'. William Pretty is listed under this heading for the first time in White's Directory of 1891–92 and in Kelly's of 1892. His premises in Ipswich were at Tower Rampart. The company is listed in 1888 under Footman, Pretty & Nicolson with 'factory, Sudbury (Miss Emma Fear, manageress)'; the entry for the same company in the 1885 directory does mention Sudbury but without a reference to their factory and in 1883 there is no reference to the company having any premises in Sudbury. In the 1891 census a Louisa Mitchell is described as the forewoman in the stay factory. She lived at 1 Priory Walk.

There are no references to 'Priory Walk' in Kelly's Directory of Suffolk published in 1896. By 1908 the 'Gainsborough Silk Weaving Company' is listed in Kelly's at Priory Walk. This company had been founded by Reginald Warner in 1903 and was still trading in January 1985 when it received its Royal Warrant (ref. EADT2 January 1985). The factory was at that date no longer located at Priory Walk. The firm had been planning to use their old equipment to form the basis of a museum dedicated to Sudbury's silk industry when a fire damaged their premises in April 1991 (ref. EADT24 April 1991). Though the equipment was damaged it is likely that the company records have survived as the Gainsborough Silk Company is acknowledged on the Sudbury Museum website as a donor of photographs to the archives. The photographs probably include 'Reginald Warner's silk factory in Priory Walk'. The caption states 'he moved his business into these premises c1906- the building had previously been Pretty's corset and stay making factory'.

Though it is clear that Footman, Pretty & Nicolson had owned the premises from about 1885 it may have occupied the site of an earlier malting. There are no earlier detailed maps of this area and on the 1847 tithe map of Sudbury All Saints an elongated plot of land close to or on the site of the later factory is shown as a blank on the map, excluded from the adjoining number plots (ref. T27/2). In White's 'Directory of Suffolk' published in 1855 there were only three 'maltsters' listed under Sudbury and none with addresses in Priory Walk or Friars Street. In the 1844 edition of this directory a Robert Death is listed as a maltster with premises in Friars Street but this name does not appear in the tithe apportionment as the owner of any of the adjoining lands (ref. T27/1).

The 1969 excavation notes contain details of previous archaeological events:

*It was in the area formed by these walls that Mr Smith discovered a floor of encaustic medieval Paving- Tiles in 1946. Mr Smith was digging at a point about 10 feet south of the end of the above flint -wall when he made his discovery. He was later assisted by a student, Mr Geoffrey H. Martin, then of 'Homeleigh', Whitehall Road, Old Heath, Colchester. In a letter which he wrote to Mr Cape dated 5th July 1946, Mr Martin mentions that he found some shattered paving- tiles under this wall of flint and had expected the wall to be thus of early 13th century, but had been disappointed on being told by some authority that the tiles were of a type not known to be in use before the 15th century.*

Mr Howlett was shown the tiles and in his mind they were similar to others he had found at an excavation of Cheshunt Nunnery in 1957. The Cheshunt tiles were verified by Mrs Margaret Eames of the British Museum as 'being of mid- 14th century date'. 'When these tiles found by Mr Smith and Mr Martin are again examined by an authority on the subject, they may therefore be established to be of the 14th century and not post 15th century date'.

There is a copy of Mr Martin's letter to Mr Cape in the excavation file together with a coloured illustration of four of the tiles, though the excavation notes mention 'about 5 different patterns'.

The notes continue 'Mr Smith found a Bellarmine Bottle whilst digging on the site some years ago and gave it to Mr Grimwood of Meadow Lane, Sudbury, who, in turn, passed it to the Sudbury Borough for the Corporation Museum'.

'Mr Smith found the foundations of a flint -wall, about 4 feet underground, at a depth of 2 ½ feet underground, running parallel to the north boundary wall of the Builder's Yard (and being about 6 feet south of that boundary wall), in the north/east corner of that yard'.

Mr Smith also found 'an open culvert at a depth of about 3 ft underground. This commenced at a point about 58 ft due south of the flint -wall (where the paving -tiles were found); the culvert running at an angle SW, stopping about 2 ft short of the red- brick wall of the present factory (formerly Malting) '. The culvert is described in some detail in the notes.

From these events Mr Howlett had concluded that 'It is believed that the main part of the Priory Building was within the present Builders Yard and the Ministry of Works wish to prevent any unauthorised excavations in this area until a proper excavation by the Ministry can be undertaken'.

The context of the 1969 excavation is given, as follows:

*In the rear garden of 'The Old Priory' cottage, east of the cottage and abutting the east wall of his garage, Mr Smith was digging some years ago to make a soakway when he found a foundation wall of flint. This was so extensive that he was obliged to cut a hole into the wall. In 1969, Mr Smith was approached by Mr J Timworth, (Chairman of the newly -formed 'Sudbury Historical Research Group') for permission to excavate part of Mr Smith's garden, as it was known that a bungalow was to be built in that area at some time in the near future. Permission was given by Mr Smith, but Mr West (representing the Ministry of Works for this area of Suffolk) - was reluctant for such an excavation to be made unless it was made in a careful manner and properly recorded. Work was then begun by members of the Sudbury Group in the north/west part of Mr Smith's garden in the latter part of May, 1969.*

*The excavation was confined to the region of the flint wall which had been found by Mr Smith (by the soak -away). The site measured approximately 17½ feet by 8½ feet, bounded by a Garage wall along the west side, a paved path on the east, a concreted area on the north (under which a sewer runs in an east/west direction), on the south side of the site was restricted by young hazel trees'.*

The report then continues with a full account of the progress of the excavation and Mr Howlett's visits to the site. The walls found during the excavation ran 'due west' and continued under the garage. Some of the pottery excavated from this small site went to Ipswich Museum and the County Council HER mentions an 'Ipswich Museum card' with a date of 1969.

The HER also mentions that 'According to the daughter -in-law of a Mr Hayward, he has a boy (circa 1910) dug up stone coffins and tiles in the back garden of Priory Cottage, Friars Street (number 57?), said to have been put in Colchester Castle Museum'. The family of Mr Alfred Hayward are listed at: 3 -4 Priory Walk, Sudbury in the 1911 census. The 'Old Priory' or 'Priory Cottage' is not named in the census returns.

In 1972 Mr Tarling , the then chairman of the Sudbury & District Historic Research Group, wrote to Mr West concerning a planning application to build houses at what is now 'Cricketers Close' and asking for an archaeological intervention or watching brief. The details of the planning application are amongst the HER records but contain no details of any intervention.

In 1974 Mr Stanley West formed the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service and was subsequently the county archaeologist. He compiled the original HER entry for this site.

Photographs of the former factory and the Old Priory have been published in David Burnett's 'Sudbury, Suffolk : the unlisted heritage' published by the Sudbury Society in 2002. The description of the Old Priory contains an additional piece of information relating to a survey of the Priory Estate.

## Earlier Illustrations and Maps

There are three known illustrations of the former prior's or 'Friars' House'. The earliest illustration is on Brewer's 1714 map of Sudbury. The original map in the Sudbury Borough Collection (ref. EE501/6/159) has been recently removed from the record office in Bury St Edmunds for a display in Sudbury. The map has been published a number of times such as (in black and white) in C.G. Grimwood and S.S. Kay's 'History of Sudbury Suffolk' or as the cover of Edith Freeman's 'Sudbury's Story: A Thousand Years in the History of a Small English Town' (1982). More recently it has been published in colour by A. Lewis-Johnson and E. Freeman (1987). The illustration shows the building from the south with possibly three projecting gables. The gable to the west appears to have a tower, though it is more likely that this is a primitive attempt at a perspective indicating that this gable was longer than the others. Chimney stacks are shown above the central gable and eastern gables. Along the street frontage the priory wall or 'the Friars Wall' is clumsily drawn as a continuous line without indication of the position of the gatehouse.

A second illustration again from the north is on a plan of the priory estate (Fig. 2). It was published in Rev. Charles Badham's 'The History and Antiquities of All Saints Church and of the Parish Generally' in 1852. The plan printed alongside Kirby's 1748 engraving of the building is pasted into the book between pages 130–131. In the published edition the plan is undated, however in David Burnett's 'Sudbury, Suffolk: the unlisted heritage' in his commentary on the Old Priory he states 'This cottage is marked on Jeremy Nicholl's Survey map of the Priory Estate drawn in 1734'. Mr Burnett's observations suggest that the plan is still in existence. In the HER there is a note that 'Old Priory' cottage appears to be marked as a building on Badham's plan'.

On this 1734 plan the Friars house appears to be the same as on Kirby's engraving though the position of the chimney stacks are not shown as clearly. The plan also marks the position of the dovehouse with the ponds, possibly stewes, to the east. A large circular pond is shown on the 1847 tithe map of Sudbury All Saints (ref. T27/2) within the field numbered 5 on the map. The field is further described in the apportionment as the property of Lady Margaret Maclean in the occupation of William Welham: it was then named 'Middle Pasture'. The estate plans show the then known layout of the priory's grounds; the site of Rosa Villa was within the orchard, numbered 4 on the plan.

Badham wrote his work at a time when a number of the town's inhabitants still remembered the building.

Joshua Kirby's 1748 engraving (Fig. 1) shows the building from the northwest (ref. 1511/234/1) with the drive or pathway to the entrance, and the positions of two small gateways leading into the gardens. Kirby shows three chimneys but none above the western end of the building. This engraving was reproduced in C.F.D. Sperling's 'A Short History of the Borough of Sudbury, in the County of Suffolk compiled from materials collected by W.W. Hodson' published in 1896. Hodson had died in 1894 and at the time of his death, as Sperling noted: 'No history of Sudbury has yet appeared in print'. Neither Sperling nor Hodson devoted much of their work to the former priory and most of their comments are based on earlier work published by Rev . Badham in 1852. Sperling does give some details of the history of the priory after the dissolution of 1539 and these details are in the excavation notes. Sperling mentions the discovery 'Upon the breaking up of the foundations of the Priory' of the 'several stone coffins in sand graves offlint-work'.

### **Published Histories**

In 1891 W.W. Hudson published an article on 'The Old Timbered Houses of Sudbury' in the proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology. In his article in relation to Friars Street he states 'Here formerly stood the Priory founded in 1272, which was ruthlessly demolished by a modern Vandal about 1740, though it was in an excellent preservation'. It is strange that this date is completely incorrect and that he does not mention the discovery of any stone coffins.

Rev. Badham in his work of 1852 also fails to mention the discovery of the stone coffins and merely states that 'This conventual establishment consisted principally of a Priory and Church. Of this latter no vestiges remain'. This may suggest that the stone coffins had not been found at that date. Sperling records that Badham had intended to publish a full history of the borough but 'At his death in April 1874, most of his papers were burnt'.

Sperling states 'On October 19th, 1540 the King, under the seal of the court of Augmentations, granted to Thomas Eden, Clerk of the Council, and Grisell his wife 'All the site, circuit, ground and ambit of the late House or Priory now dissolved of the

Friars-Preachers in our town of Sudbury in our county of Suffolk, and all the church, belfry, and burial ground of the same late House or Priory'.

Healson noted that 'The house was pulled down, about the year 1820, by Sir James Marriott of Twinstead, and the materials employed by him in the commencement of a new church at Twinstead, which was never completed.... Sir James, however, was not disposed to alter his plans, so the work was stopped, and part which had been erected, after standing for a time, was ultimately removed'. Some of the wood-work of the Old Priory was also moved to Twinstead and used in the house of Mr Manning Cook, whilst the doors were set up in the house of Mrs Sikes, in the Old Market Place, Sudbury.

Other elements of Sperling's description are drawn from Rev . Badham's work:

*The front elevation was about fifty yards from the street, and was approached, as the engraving represents, and as some of the oldest inhabitants likewise remember, by an old gateway with folding gates of oak, still in existence, though removed, and an avenue of limes: which, the garden being past, extended in a straight line to the river .....*

*At the right of the entrance gate of this priory, and adjoining the pasture next the road, were two small cottages. Beyond the pasture, a square courtyard with stoned doorways, which are still standing, though bricked up, leading out to the right and left; that upon the right to the orchard, that upon the left to the vineyard... .. In front of the vineyard, and separating it from the street, was the mount yard. On the north side of the garden behind the Priory, was the great orchard and the dovehouse garden. On either side of the avenue in the direction of the river, were fine meadows, bounded on two sides by the river and the fisheries .*

*The estate is in this parish, as indicated by the plan which has been engraved for this work... consisted of about eighteen acres.*

In a footnote Badham stated 'For our knowledge of the existence of this plan we are indebted to Mr J. A. Glover of this town: and for the loan of it to Mr A. Syer, of Sepulchre Street'. He also gave a full list of the measurements of the plots , with the Orchard number 4 being measured at just 2 roods , that is half an acre. The total acreage of the

site was given at 17 acres 2 roods and 28 poles. There were 40 poles or perch to a rood and 4 roods to an acre.

A more recent assessment of the priory site appears in Barry Wall's 'Sudbury History & Guide' published in 2004. Again he has reproduced a copy of Kirby's engraving in his work together with photographs of 'a door from the Priory House now at No 31 Friar's Street', 'The fifteenth-century Priory Gatehouse' and 'a skeleton discovered on the priory church site in 1922'. Unfortunately there is no indication as to the owner of the 1922 photograph or any further details of its context.

*The Priory Gate is a rare and fine example of a medieval timber-framed monastic gatehouse. Its remarkable state of preservation is due to the fact that for many years it was hidden behind a later facade of brick and plaster and only rediscovered in the 1930's. The timber frame is now completely exposed leaving no doubt about the original function of the building. Both pedestrian and carriage entrances are exposed although the latter has been filled in leaving its timber arch with carved foliage still visible. The arch of the pedestrian doorway has been renewed but its framework and overdoor panels are original. The upper floor projects and is supported by brackets and slender shafts and all of the work can be dated to around 1450.*

*A few yards past the gatehouse is a building constructed against part of the boundary wall and known until recently as The Ship and Star Inn. Originally it had no windows on to the street, only a doorway, which inspired its earlier name as the Hole in the Wall. This house pre-dates the Gatehouse and was most probably used by the friars as a guest house for travellers.*

Wall suggests that following the dissolution 'The Priory House was adapted for his own use' (that is Sir Thomas Eden's use). He notes Sir James Marriott's demolition of the house in 1820 and that the new church at Twinstead was demolished in 1860 and then states 'A fourteenth-century window from the priory found its way into a garden of a house called The Friars in Friar Street where it still can be seen'.

He continues:

*The construction of a silk factory in the nineteenth century led to the discovery of some stone coffins and another containing a skeleton was discovered close by in the early twentieth century helping to identify the site of the church. Part of it was exposed during a minor excavation in the 1970's but no serious attempts have been made to excavate the site, much has now been covered by the Blackfriars development.*

He also suggests that some of the stone used for the sixteenth century repairs of Ballingdon Bridge may have come from the priory.

He further writes that 'a more substantial remnant of the church, the roof of its chancel, can be seen in all its glory at Saffron Walden church in Essex. It was taken there by John Hodgkin, a friar from Sudbury, who was appointed vicar at Walden in 1541'.

Barry Wall has developed his careful assessment of the site in an article on the subject in the 'Suffolk Free Press' on 15 September 1983.

## **Burials**

The Suffolk Record Office in Ipswich has a copy of the John Weever 'Antient Funeral Monuments of Great Britain, Ireland and the Islands adjacent with the Dissolved Monasteries therein contained, their Founders and What Eminent Persons have been in the same interred' reprinted by William Tooke, London 1767. The original work was published in 1631. Amongst Weever's helpers was Sir Symond D'Ewes (1602– 1650) who was the MP for Sudbury in the Long Parliament of 1640. Most of the references in Weever's list are undated. He added after a few names the Latin 'qui obit' who died and then a date.

*One Baldwin De Shipling or Shimpling and Chabill his wife, were sole founders who lie buried in the chancel of the priory church. Besides in the said church lie buried (as I have it, in the notes of burials, from William Le Neve, York, herald) the bodies of Robertson of Sir William Simperling, knight; Sir Robert Carbonell and Sir John hisson, knights, Sir William Grey, knight; Sir Peter Giffard knight, and Julian his wife; Sir Thomas Giffard, hisson, knight, Sir William Giffard, knight, Sir William Glanville, knight, Sir Thomasson of Sir William Cranvile, and Maud his wife, Sir Galbert of Greymonde and Gunnorah his wife, Dame Agnes de Bello Campo, Dame Alice de Insula, wife of sir Robert Fitzwater, knight, Dame Katherine Hengrave, Sir John Culthorpe and Alice his*

wife, the heart of Sir Thomas Weyland, Sir John Giffard knight, Robert Giffard, William Giffard, Sir John Goldingfield, John Liggon, Sir Thomas Lotun, knight, Sir William Tendring, qui obit 1375, and Margarethis wife, qui obit 1394, Dame Joan Shelton, Dame Joan Walgrave, John Cressenor, Maud Cressenor, Margaret Fuller daughter of John Cressenor, John Waldgrave, William Cressenor, Thomas Cressenor, John Waldgrave, William Cressenor, Thomas Cressenor, Maud Haukedon, daughter of Sir Thomas Lacy, knight, William Walgrave, John Drury, son of William Drury, Robert Cressenor and Christian his wife, Walter Cressenor, William Cressenor, qui obit 1454 and Margarethis wife qui obit 1461, William West, Emme West, Maud, wife of Robert De Bello Campo, Henry father of Robert St Quintin, Philip St Quintin, Joa daughter of ... Cressenor, wife of Richard Waldgrave, Alexander and John Cressenor, Thomas West.

The same or a similar list was published in Richard Taylor's *Index Monasticus* published in London in 1821. Taylor also noted that 'The last remains of this priory have been recently pulled down, and the site, which was the property of the late Rev John Newman, has been sold by his son Lawrence'. The only illustration of the site noted by him was Kirby's engraving of 1748.

The distinguished Suffolk historian Peter Northeast studied all of Suffolk's surviving medieval wills and translated or transcribed their contents with the intention of future publication. Though the Suffolk Record Society was able to publish some of his work before his death and has continued to do so afterwards his original unpublished transcriptions are now in the Record Office in Ipswich. The transcripts are arranged by parish. Though the parish churchyards in Sudbury were the most commonly used sites of burial a significant number of wills request burial within the grounds of the Priory or 'Friars Preachers'. The wills are listed below. Some of the wills contain reference to bequests of sums of money to the priory normally for prayer for the soul of the deceased; these bequests have not been noted in full in this list.

Walter Brakener of Sudbury, dated 5 February 1448 'to be buried in the house of the Friars Preachers of the same town'.

Richard Wederton of Hitcham , dated 1 July 1461 *'I wish my gravetobemadeinall ways according to the form of the grave of William Cressenere in the Friars; church of Sudbury'* (possibly the William Cressenor who died in 1454 mentioned by Weever).

John Schede of Sudbury , fuller, dated 16 March 1466 *'tobe buried in the cloister of the Friars Preachers of the house of Sudbury'*.

Thomas West esq of Sudbury, dated 16 February 1466 *'tobe buried in the church of the Friars Preachers of Sudbury, in the entrance of the North door of the church'* (he is mentioned in Weever's list).

Thomas Alston of Sudbury (ref. Baldwyne 398) dated 30 August 1469, though not buried in the priory he gave *'to the convent of Sudbury to the reparation of the wall of 'Bryke' to celebrate for my soule etc 40s'*.

Thomas Fenne, clerk, rector of the parish church of Horley, [sic Borley] diocese of London, dated 10 April 1473 *'tobe buried in the burial of the Friars Preachers of Sudbury, if it please the prior & convent theretoput my body in their church before the image of St Mary viz outside the doors, then I wish my executor to buy out of my debts & chattels, a marble stone to be put over my body to the praise of God & memory of my soul'* and *'I wish my executor to pay the friars & convent of Sudbury to the reparation of their house £7'* .

Joan Arnald alias Brown, widow of Sudbury , dated 24 December 1475 *'tobe buried in the cloister of the house of the Friars Preachers of Sudbury next to the grave of John Brown my husband'*.

Joan Derby of Sudbury, widow , dated 2 November 1478 *'tobe buried in the church of the Friars Preachers, Sudbury next to the grave of my husband there'*.

John Epulthweytes of Sudbury , dated 28 January 1481 *'my body to holy sepulture in the church of the friars in Sudbury'* and *'to the said Friars in Sudbury for the reparation of the church, to pray for my soul 20s'* .

Nicholas Somer of 'Balydon' , dated 3 November 1482 'to be buried in the church of the house of Friars Preachers of Sudbury' .

Maud Ware of Sudbury, widow , dated 15 November 1497 'to be buried at the Friars in Sudbury upon the south side in the church' .

William Martyn of Sudbury , dated 4 February 1497 'to be buried in the north side of the 'cloyster beside the pulpett' within the friars of Sudbury'.

William Ware of Sudbury, 'chaundler', dated 22 February 1497 'to be buried within the holy sepulture of the church of the Friar Preachers of Sudbury'.

John Bryon of Sudbury the elder , dated 16 August 1500 'to be buried in the Friars' church in Sudbury by my wife's grave'.

Lettice Broun of Sudbury , widow, dated 12 November 1500 'to be buried in the Friars of Sudbury by my father & mother' .

Margaret Elyngham of Sudbury, widow , dated 14 November 1500 'to be buried in the Friars' church betwixt the pulpit & the door going into the cloister'.

William Levyng, priest of Sudbury , dated 20 April 1503 'To be buried in the church of the Friars, Sudbury by the altar of Jesus next the sepulture of my father' and 'to the high altar of the Friars my altar cloth of panys white & crimson & I will that all the altars of the Friars be clothed with the same clothes, the one part of the altars all in one suit'.

John Levyng late the son of John Levyng of Sudbury , date 10 August 1503 at Sudbury 'to be buried in the church of the Friars Preachers in the same town' and 'to the reparation of the church of the Friars Preachers 6s 8d' .

Robert Bawde of Sudbury , dated 25 June 1510 'to be buried in the church of the Friars Preachers in Sudbury betwixt the north door of the same church & these pulture of Katherin late my wife'.

Robert Strutt of Sudbury, yeoman, dated 7 March 1531 *'to be buried by the licence of my curate within the Friars' church of Sudbury betwixt my 2 wives'*.

John Chestor of Sudbury 'late mayor of the same town' dated 13 April 1532 *'to be buried within the church of the Friars of Sudbury whereas my executor shall think most convenient by their discretion'*.

The cloister area is likely to have been to the north of the church as the pulpit is normally positioned on the north side of a church. The named burials represent only a small portion of the possible burials within the priory site.

## **Conclusion**

The Sudbury and District Historic Research Group published a magazine but the record office does not have any copies of this magazine nor does it hold the records of this society. Barry Wall appears to have some knowledge of their interest in the excavations of c. 1972 and it is possible that the group's records are still kept by another society, individual or at Sudbury Museum.

There are no deeds relating to this site and the map evidence is limited. In the absence of such records the Valuation Office records of 1909 are of some value. These are held at the National Archives and consist of annotated copies of the 1:500 Ordnance Survey plans coloured to show the boundaries of each property. The properties are given an individual hereditaments number and are further described in the field books. The field books sometimes contain additional details such as the date of construction of the more recent buildings. The maps are in class IR127 and field books in class IR58. The books for Sudbury list 2247 hereditaments and the records are divided between IR 58/16137-16159. These records would be useful for the exact boundaries of the Old Priory, a further description of the factory site and the location of Mr Hayward's house.

It is possible that although Sperling mentions the discovery of burials this discovery occurred during the construction of the factory to the south of the Rose Villas site and not during the demolition of the Friars House in 1820. The further discoveries detailed in the 1969 excavation notes all relate to structures to the south and east of Rose Villa. It is clear that Rose Villa was built in a former orchard and outside the area of the priory's buildings.

## References

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GC733/1/1-6 Sudbury Ephemera Society 'Excavations at the site of the Dominican Friary, Sudbury 1946 - 1969'

1511/234/1 Joshua Kirby's Engraving of the Friar's House, Sudbury 1748

T27/1&2 Tithemap and apportionment Sudbury All Saints 1847

*Manuscripts held by Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich*

HD2448/1/1/425/1&2 Peter Northeast 'Transcripts of Suffolk's Medieval Wills: Sudbury' 1376-1558

### *Published Works*

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Kelly's Directory of Suffolk 1879, 1883, 1892, 1896, 1908

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### *Newspapers*

East Anglian Daily Times 2 January 1985 & 24 April 1991

Suffolk Free Press 15 September 1983



## Appendix5. Catalogueofbulkf inds

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ContextNo	PotteryNo	PotteryWt(g)	CBMNo	CBMWt(g)	ClayPipeNo	ClayPipeWt(g)	Overalldate
0003	0	0	3	188			Late medieval +
0005	1	4	0	0	0	0	1250–1350
0008			7	596			16th–17th century
0012	0	0	1	29	0	0	Medievaltolate medieval
0013	0	0	2	3558	0	0	19th century
0014	0	0	1	3062	0	0	19th century
0016	0	0	5	1013	0	0	Late medieval +
0017	1	6	9	383	1	4	17th–18th century
0021	1	10	6	258	0	0	Late medieval +
0023	2	97	4	330	0	0	15th–16th century



## Appendix 6. Catalogue of ceramic building material

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt(g)	H (mm)	L (mm)	W (mm)	Re-used	Mortar	Notes	Date
0003	fscp	RT	1	37				NO		Medium mouldings and on reverse	Lmed-Pmed
0003	fsc	RT	2	152				YES	Off white mortar on 1 side and on edge	One fragment has partial reduced core	Med-Lmed
0008	msfe	LB	5	347				NO	Hint of mortar	Abraded fragments, mixed clays	Pmed
0008	mscp	RT	1	63				YES		Reduced core	Med/Lmed
0008	fsfe	LB	1	164	43			NO		Dense oxidised fabric with moderate small voids	16th-17th C
0012	msf	RT	1	28				NO		Corner of roof tile with circular nail hole, oxidised but poorly made	Med/Lmed
0013	ms	LB	2	3512	64	230	122	NO	Thick layer of mortar	Brick is frogged and late, red-fired	19th C
0014	ws	LB	1	3024	64	234	109	NO	No mortar	White firing frogged brick with Chilton manufacture	19th C
0016	msfe	RT	4	553				YES	Same mortar as est tile	Re-used, mortar on broken edges. Some with reduced cores could be	Med/Lmed
0016	msc	RT	1	444				YES	Creamy coarse mortar	Reused - mortar on one face and over a third of other side	Medieval
0017	mscp	RT	1	38				NO			Lmed/early Pmed
0017	fsfe	RT	3	203				YES	On one frag		
0017	mscp	RT	2	62				NO	Slight mortar remains	Circular peg hole, medium sanding	Lmed/early Pmed
0017	msf	RT	3	81				YES		Reduced cores, mortar on broken edges	
0021	mscp	RT	3	127				NO	Mortar present		
0021	fscp	RT	1	64				YES		Partial reduced core	Lmed/early Pmed
0021	msf	RT	1	29				NO			
0021	fscp	RT	1	33				NO			Lmed/early Pmed
0023	msc	RT	1	21				NO		Small oxidised fragment	
0023	fscp	RT	1	205				NO	Some sandy cream mortar	Lead glaze on one edge, circular peg hole c12mm diameter, mortar oversanded side	
0023	ms	RT	1	37				NO	Some mortar	Ms but some burnt out voids, thick reduced core	Medieval
0023	fscp	RT	1	56				NO		Two large circular peg-holes, 15mm and 18mm	Lmed/early Pmed



## Appendix 7. OASIS form

**OASIS ID: suffolkc1-176848**

### Project details

Project name	Rose Villa, Priory Walk, Sudbury
Short description of the project	An evaluation by trial trenching was carried out on the site of a proposed residential development, which was located within the precinct of the Dominican Priory (SUY 005). Three trenches (total area 11.5m <sup>2</sup> ) were excavated, representing approximately 2% of the total area of the development site and 7% of the area of the proposed new buildings. The natural stratum was river terrace sand and gravel. This was truncated by some large late medieval or post-medieval pits, possibly quarries. Part of a mortared flint and tile foundation represented an early post-medieval building or structure that was constructed over one of the backfilled pits. A brick-built cellar or chamber in the southern half of the site was part of a 19th-century building shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885.
Project dates	Start: 23-04-2014 End: 24-04-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SUY 135 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	B/08/00842/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	QUARRY Post Medieval
Monument type	BUILDING Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH SUDBURY Rose Villa, Priory Walk, Sudbury
Study area	600.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 8704 4098 52.0351419379 0.727176244273 52 02 06 N 000 43 37 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	Abby Antrobus
Project director/manager	David Gill
Project supervisor	Kieron Heard
Type of sponsor/funding body	Land owner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Park Hill Homes (UK) Ltd

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Physical Archive ID	SUY 135
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Digital Archive ID	SUY 135
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Paper Archive ID	SUY 135
Paper Contents	"Ceramics", "Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Plan", "Report", "Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Rose Villa, Priory Walk, Sudbury, SUY 135: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Heard, K

Other bibliographic details	SCCAS report no. 2014/050
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Suffolk County Council
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	A4, 71 pages, wire bound, card covers
Entered by	Kieron Heard (kieron.heard@suffolk.gov.uk)
Entered on	15 May 2014

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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