

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

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## Crows Hall, Debenham (DBN 124); Record of an Archaeological Evaluation & Monitoring

SCCAS Report No. 2006/125; Oasis No. suffolkc1-20302



Crows Hall, Surviving North Range

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## Summary

*Debenham*, Crows Hall (TM 1923 6283; DBN 124) An extensive programme of refurbishment to the standing building included below ground disturbance to archaeological deposits. A trenched evaluation and subsequent monitoring facilitated the full recording of all the exposed archaeological features.

The earliest securely dated features were two pits recorded in one of the evaluation trenches excavated to the east of the standing buildings. Ceramic evidence recovered from their fills suggested a medieval date, although accompanying tile/brick may have been later. Two flint and mortar walls seen to the north of the standing building, but on a slightly different alignment, were also consistent with a medieval date.

Considerable evidence was also recorded for structures relating to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Tudor, phase of the hall. This included wall stubs proving that an east and south range had originally been present along with a similar range of rooms to the south of the gatehouse that mirrored the extant structure to the north. There was also evidence proving that the original gatehouse had been a discrete square structure and the flanking rooms to the north and south were a secondary construction, although possibly added not long after the initial phase. Wall stubs recorded north of the surviving north range confirm the presence of broadly contemporary structures on the north-west corner of the moated platform.

Later structures (mostly 19<sup>th</sup> century) included sections of moat revetment wall, two soakaways, drains, a chimney base and chambers and chutes for an outside lavatory, the latter known from the early OS maps.  
(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council & Ms. Caroline Spurrier)

## SMR information

<b>Planning application no:</b>	N/A but Includes MS/1247/06
<b>Site code:</b>	DBN 124
<b>Date of fieldwork:</b>	April-October 2006
<b>Grid Reference:</b>	TM 1923 6283
<b>Commissioning body:</b>	Ms. Caroline Spurrier
<b>SCCAS Rpt. No.</b>	2006/125
<b>Oasis No.</b>	suffolkc1-20302

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Planning Background

Detailed proposals (including 1247/06) for an extensive renovation project at Crows Hall, Debenham (a Grade II\* listed building) (TM 1923 6283, Fig. 1) were considered by the Local Planning Authority's Archaeological Advisor (Robert Carr) to have a significant archaeological impact and would require a programme of evaluation and recording. The aim of the evaluation work, which in this instance would involve the mechanical excavation of trial-trenches, was to provide information to inform mitigation proposals to lessen the archaeological impact of the construction works.



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**Fig. 1** 1:10,000 scale OS map extract showing the location of the site

Initially, the planned proposals included works on the main moated island and significant landscaping of existing ditches to the north. However, the latter was not undertaken as part of this project and this report only covers the former.

Subsequently, Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Field Projects Team were commissioned by the project Architects (Nicholas Jacob Architects) on behalf of their client (Ms Caroline Spurrier) to undertake the programme of archaeological works. While a series of monitoring visits were made between March and October 2006, mostly in direct response to calls from the contractors when structures had been exposed in various excavations for services. The main evaluation trenching was undertaken towards the beginning of that period, in March 2006.

The results of the evaluation and monitoring works form the basis of this report. An interpretation of these results gives a broad idea regarding the dating and form of the building complex which should be viewed in

conjunction with the detailed report on the phased development of the structure as written by freelance Architectural Historian, Philip Aitkins.

## 1.2 Historical & Archaeological Background

The building complex at the site (Sites & Monument Record No. DBN 007) has elements dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century (components of a brick-built main hall & gatehouse on a revetted moated platform, converted dovecote, a large barn & associated landscaping), with significant alterations and additions of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

The manorial history of the site extends back to 1086 with Ranulph Peveler named as the first owner (Sandon 1977, 258-9). Clearly, none of the standing structures date prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, although it is speculated that some timber framing and fittings such as doors were reused from earlier buildings (Sandon 1977, 259; Martin 1990). That there were earlier buildings is attested by a document of 1519 that mentions a chapel at Crows Hall.

While the evidence recorded during the fieldwork showed that there was a phased progression of building work relating to the brick Tudor hall, Sir Charles Framlingham is put forward as the most likely builder during the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Sandon 1977, 259). His coat of arms, now illegible, were those over the gatehouse and the evidence suggests that this was one of the earlier building components.

Prior to the works associated with this building project, no formal archaeological works had been carried out at the site, although an organised site visit was made by members of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History in 1990, under the direction of Edward Martin, during which a number of interesting observations were made. These will be referred to at relevant points in the text.

## 1.3 Topographical Setting & Drift Geology

The site lies on a west facing spur of higher ground above the 55 metre contour line and overlooks the south-east flowing River Deben c.730 metres to the south and one of its tributaries c.460 metres to the north, the latter flowing westwards until joining the larger river on the eastern margin of Debenham c.1.5 kilometres to the west.

The underlying drift geology comprises heavy glaciogenic boulder clay, the water retaining character of which made the construction of moated sites possible.

## 2. Methodologies

### 2.1 Fieldwork

Evaluation trenches were excavated by the building contractors using a small 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket for a good clean cut.

The location of the trenches was plotted on a copy of the architects plan (reproduced as Fig. 2 of this report). Detailed trench plans and section drawings were executed in pencil on plastic drafting film at scales of 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50 as appropriate.

Features and their stratigraphic elements were allocated OP (observed phenomena) numbers within a 'unique continuous' numbering system under the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) number DBN 124.

Artefactual evidence was retained from discrete features as an aid to dating and interpretation.

A full photographic record was made, both colour digital and monochrome prints.

### 2.2 Post-Excavation

Context information was also input onto a Microsoft Access database (Appendix II).

Finds were processed (washed, marked & quantified) and identified with the results input onto a Microsoft Access database. A Finds Report was written by Richenda Goffin.

A digitised representation of the groundplan of the extant building was prepared with the results of the fieldwork superimposed (Fig. 2).

Plans and section drawings were inked to form part of the archive. A number were scanned and reduced for inclusion in this report (Figs. 3-10).

The photographs were integrated into Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Photographic Archive held at Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds (FRC 28-36, FGR 1-23, FRH 9-31, FRI 1-26, FRP 8-27, FRQ 10-31, FRW 13-16 & FRY 26-37; monochrome prints, and FRM 1-96 & FRN 1-64; digital shots).

## 3. Results

### 3.1 Evaluation

A total of four evaluation trenches were opened; two in the existing courtyard south of the main building, one in the garden to the east of the main building, these all on the route of major services, and the fourth, an L-shaped trench in the grassed area immediately to the north of the main building (Fig. 2).



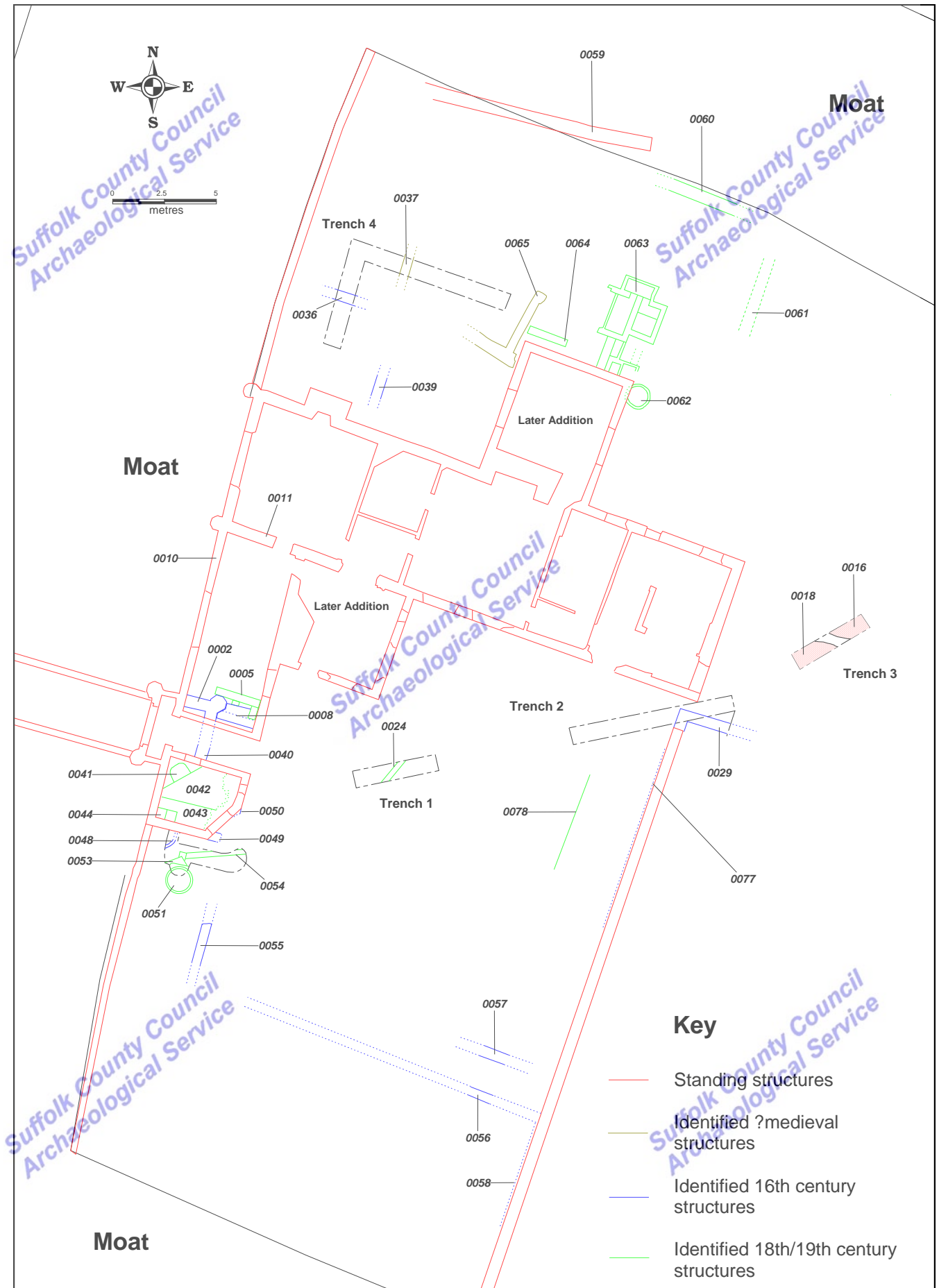
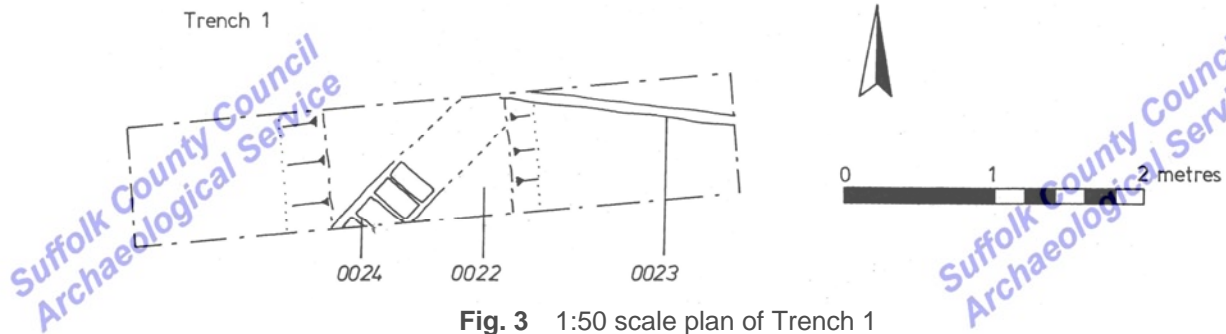


Fig. 2 1:250 scale plan showing the principal archaeological features



**Fig. 3** 1:50 scale plan of Trench 1

**Trench 1:** measured 0.80 metres by 4.00 metres and orientated east-north-east to west-south-west and was located in the centre of the existing courtyard (Plate 2). Its position was chosen as it coincided with one of the proposed new manholes at the junction of four pipe-runs (Fig. 2). Details of the features recorded in Trench 1 are shown on Figure 3.

The trench straddled the edge of the existing brick pavement (0020) and the lawn to the south (Plate 2). The brick pavement (0020) and its underlying sand bedding layer (0021) had a combined thickness of 0.18 metres. A modern plastic 'french drain' (0023) in a pebble-filled trench running across the north-east corner of Trench 1 was probably contemporary with the overlying brick surface. Where the trench was cut through the lawn, a c.0.18 metre thick layer of dense clayey topsoil (0025) was encountered. Both the topsoil layer and those associated with the paved surface gave way to c.0.40 metres of grey loamy clay (0022) with included fragments of brick/tile and animal bone (Plate 1). The vestiges of a north-north-east to south-south-west orientated brick-lined drain (0024) ran across the middle of the trench. Its top and sides had been removed leaving only its base formed from yellow/buff coloured floor bricks and was thought likely to be of 19<sup>th</sup> century date. A similarly, although not identically constructed drain (0054) was recorded immediately south of the gatehouse complex which, although not on exactly the same alignment, may have been a continuation of the Trench 1 feature, or at least part of a contemporary phase of construction.

**Trench 2:** measured 0.80 metres by 8.00 metres and was orientated on the same east-north-east to west-south-west alignment as Trench 1 (Fig. 2 & Plates 3-5). The trench was positioned on the line of a service trench as it passed through the existing gate adjacent to the south-east corner of the standing building, a location where surviving evidence for a former east range might occur. The features recorded in Trench 2 are shown on Figure 4.

The south-west end of the trench was cut through the same brick pavement (0020) and its sand bedding layer (0021) as seen in Trench 1. In addition, a brick built raised flower bed (0026) was removed, although a deeper component of its concrete footing was left intact. Removal of the brick pavement and underlying sand bedding revealed a layer of homogenous brown clay (0027) with frequent flecks of charcoal and fragments of brick/tile and animal bone. The layer continued on beyond the base of the trench at 0.6 metres below the existing ground surface.



Plate 1 Trench 1; west end from north



Plate 2 Trench 1; from the west end



Plate 3 Trench 2; wall 0029 from the north



Plate 4 Trench 2; wall 0029 from the west



Plate 5 Trench 2; wall 0029 & feature 0033



Plate 6 Trench 2; detail of wall corner 0029



Plate 7 Trench 3; from the south-west



Plate 8 Trench 4; wall 0036 from the north



Plate 9 Trench 4; wall 0037 from the east



Plate 10 Trench 4; wall 0038 from the south



Plate 12 Detail of rendered face



Plate 11 Straight junction in render

On its north side, concrete footing 0026 could be seen to cut a ceramic pipe (0028) comprising interlocking sections, flared at one end, of a type usually used to remove surface water and run-off. The trench excavated to accommodate the pipe itself cut a brick-built wall stub (0029) (Plates 3-6). The wall stub formed a corner (Plate 6) turning at 90° from its north-north-east to south-south-west alignment, coinciding with the extant garden wall (Plates 3 & 4), to the east-south-east and on beyond the eastern end of the trench. While the above-ground garden wall at that juncture was constructed from frogless red bricks measuring 9 x 4 ½ x 2 ¾ inches, the below-ground wall stub comprised 9 x 4 ½ x 2 inch 'Tudor-type' bricks and was considered to represent the footing for the east range. It was similar in width (0.48 metres) to other 16<sup>th</sup> century walls seen at the site and was itself 0.48 metres from the corner of the standing building. This width of wall essentially accommodates two stretchers or a stretcher and two header widths. The base of the wall was not seen in the trench, but it survived to at least six courses and in excess of 0.4 metres below the existing ground surface. Where ceramic pipe 0028 cut the wall, a single course of bricks had been removed to accommodate it. A section of the wall had also been partly truncated by the insertion of a concrete set gate-post (0030) at the northern end of the standing garden wall (Plates 3 & 4). The east-south-east component of 0029 could be seen to be cutting a layer of grey/brown chalky clay (0032) which may represent the upper weathered surface of the naturally occurring boulder clay subsoil, although there was no direct evidence to confirm that it had not been re-deposited.

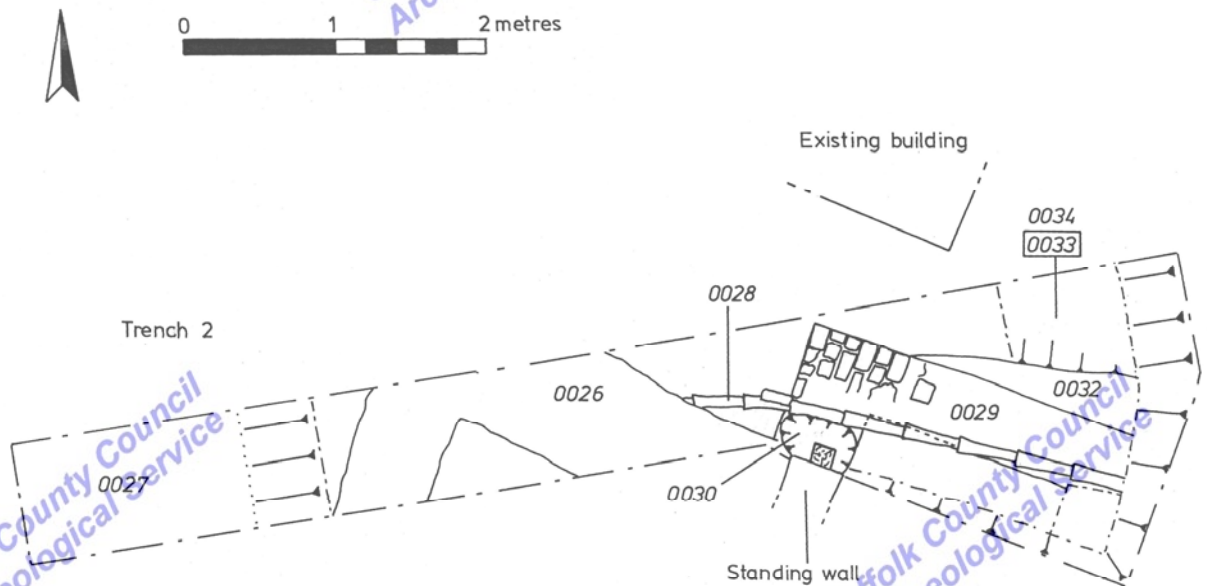


Fig. 4 1:50 scale plan of Trench 2

Clay layer 0032 was also partly truncated by an ill-defined feature which, within the trench, had a relatively straight sided cut (0033), but beyond the north side of the trench curved round, almost surrounding the south-east corner of the standing building (Plate 5). The fill (0034) comprised stiff yellow

clay with chalk and hard-packed stones at a depth of 0.70 metres below the existing ground surface and continuing on beyond the base of the excavation. The interpretation of this feature remains uncertain. There are two possibilities; firstly that it post-dates the building and represents an attempt at stabilisation, as the corner did exhibit evidence for post-constructional movement. Secondly, that it represents the base for an external stair or timber-framed structure connecting the east wing with the north wing, possibly entering the latter through the blocked doorway visible today at first floor level. The blocked doorway did seem to be an original feature and clearly had become redundant prior to the construction of a building to the east of and abutting the existing north wing. While no longer present, the scar of its gable end runs through the blocking of the doorway indicating that they were not in use at the same time (Plate 56). An external stair would explain the apparent lack of connectivity between the north and east wings. While there was clearly a scar for a wall projecting southwards from the eastern end of the existing north wing, there was no evidence for a footing that would connect it with that for the east wing (0029) seen in Trench 2.

One other feature, a modern plastic pipe (0031) was recorded entering the trench on its northern side. This was a thin perforated pipe acting as a 'french drain' beneath the brick pavement.

**Trench 3:** measured 0.80 metres by 4.20 metres and was orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment and was located to the east of the existing building on the line of the new sewer where it crossed an open garden area (Fig. 2). Details of the two pit features recorded in Trench 1 are shown on Figure 5.

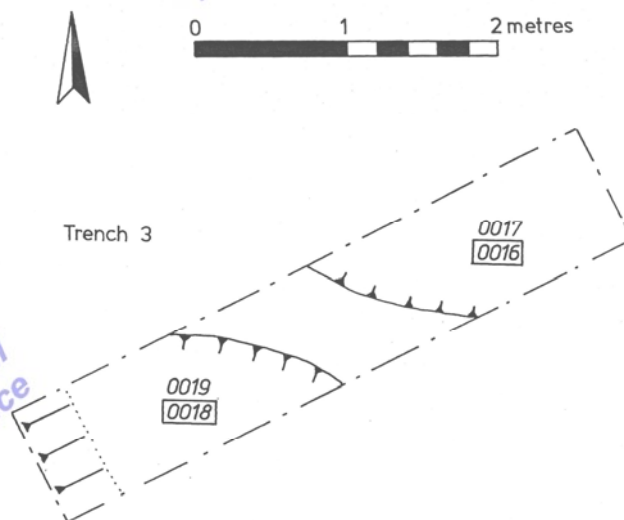


Fig. 5 1:50 plan of Trench 3

Removal of 0.4 metres of dark grey topsoil revealed naturally occurring clay subsoil in the centre of the trench with large pit-like features at each end (0016 & 0018) (Plate 7).

Pit 0016, to the south-west, was in excess of 0.90 metres deep, measured from the existing ground surface, with a fill (0017) comprising heavy grey/brown silty clay.

Pit 0018, to the north-east, was 1.00 metre deep, measured from the existing ground surface, with a fill (0019) comprising heavy brown silty clay.

Artefactual evidence was recovered from both features; pottery, animal bone and tile in 0016/0017 and just pottery and animal bone in 0018/0019 (see page 31).

**Trench 4:** L-shaped trench measuring 5.00 metres north-north-east to south-south-east and 7.50 metres from west-north-west to east-south-east, was excavated to the north of the standing building (Fig. 2) in an area proposed as a formal garden. Details of the features recorded in Trench 4 are shown on Figure 6.

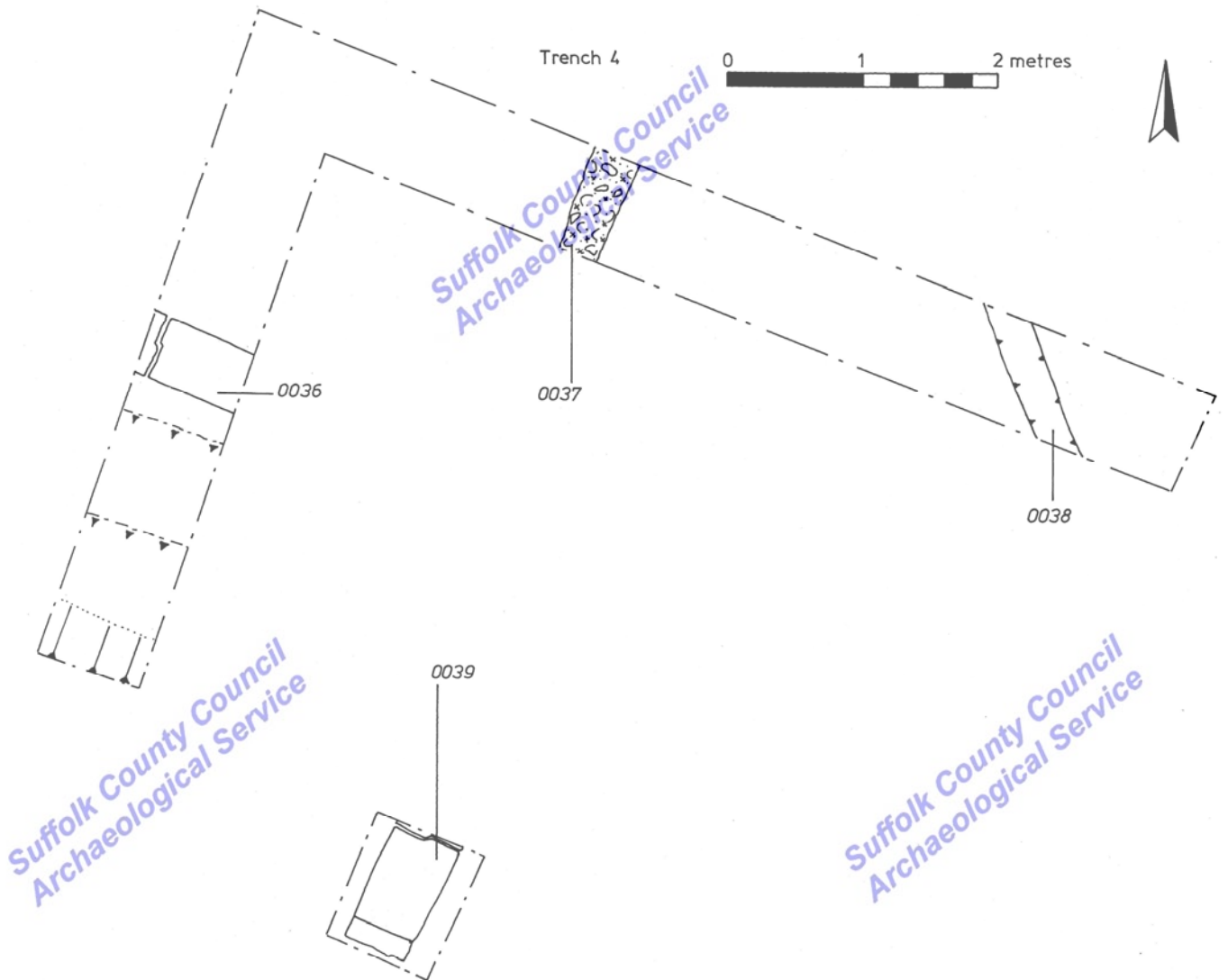


Fig. 6 1:50 scale plan of Trench 4

Throughout these trenches 0.20 metres of topsoil was found to overlie c.0.40 metres of light brown clay (0035) with frequent inclusions of building debris/rubble.

Four features were recorded, three in the L-shaped trench and one in a small hand-dug excavation close to the standing building where the contractors were constructing a new revetment.

The stub of a brick built wall (0036) was recorded running approximately east to west across the approximately north to south component of the trench on the same alignment as the north wall of standing building (Plate 8). The bricks were all 'Tudor-type' measuring 9 x 4 ½ x 2 inches. The wall was 0.48 metres wide with, in its top course, stretchers on the outer face with another brick across the wall in the middle. The lime mortar bonding was very light in colour with frequent inclusions of chalk.

A second wall (0037) was recorded in the east to west component of the trench running in a north to south direction. Totally different in character, this wall was constructed in flint and lime mortar, was 0.40 metres wide with an unknown depth (Plate 9).

Another brick wall stub (0039) of similar character to 0036 was visible as a truncated end in the contractors excavation c.2.00 metres from the standing north wall and continuing in a northerly direction, although not reaching the evaluation trench some 5.00 metres to the north (Plate 10). The base of this wall was clearly not as deep as that of the standing building as there was no evidence for it adjacent to its north wall. If it had ever continued up to the existing wall, it must have butted against it. There was some evidence that this was the case; if the line of the wall stub was continued to the north wall of the standing building, it coincided with a vertical line on the wall face marking the boundary between exposed brickwork to the east and a rendered surface to the west (Plate 11). This rendered face was clearly an external surface as it had horizontal lines, at 3 ½ inch intervals and vertical lines scored on its face designed to imitate brick (Plate 12). The rendered face also had hints of red colour surviving. It has been suggested (Philip Aitkins *pers. comm.*) that this technique was common during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

### 3.2 Monitoring

The site monitoring included structures internal to the standing buildings and groundworks on the moated platform (both in the existing courtyard & beyond) and in the wider area of the adjacent farmyard and garden of the cottage (originally a Dovecote). Observations were also made regarding the standing structure that were unrelated to the renovation project but were in themselves of some archaeological importance. Where these observations had some bearing on the interpretation of other aspects of the monitoring they have been included in those sections of the text, otherwise they have been included as a short section of Miscellaneous Observations.



## Monitoring internal to standing buildings

There were two major areas of the building refurbishment which revealed structures of archaeological interest that merited formal recording. These were located in the two existing rooms immediately north and south of the gatehouse (Fig. 2).

**North of gatehouse:** The first was in the room immediately to the north of the gatehouse, which was being converted into a kitchen. Here, a complex of wall stubs was exposed following the removal of studwork forming the framing for a cupboard that once occupied the whole southern end of the room up to a point 1.50 metres from its south wall (Fig. 7 & Plate 13).

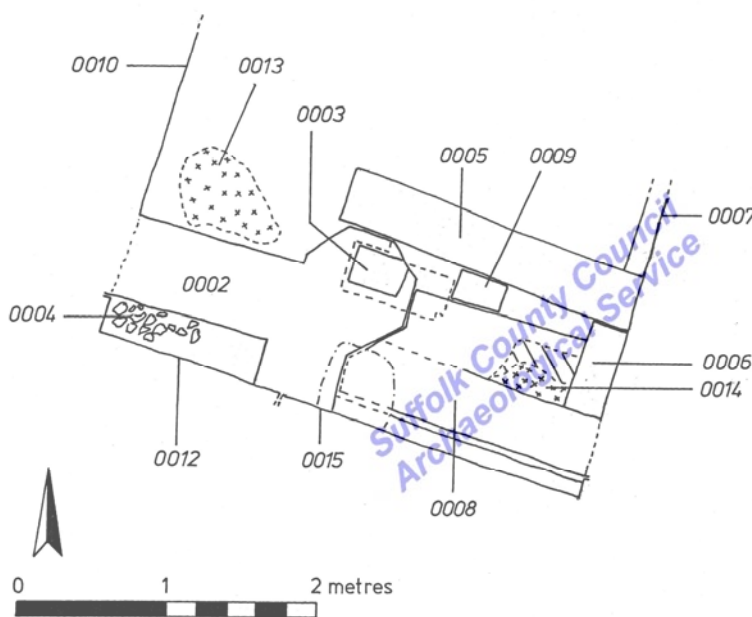


Fig. 7 Room north of gatehouse, 1:50 scale internal plan

The most significant wall stub (0002) formed a right-angle with a ground plan indicating that a five-sided structure clasped the corner (Plate 14). This was interpreted as a decorative buttress that would have continued up beyond the top of the wall similar to those on the front of the gatehouse. This was clearly the

remains of the north-east corner for the original gatehouse forming a discrete square structure with sides of c.3.5 metres. The walls were 0.55 metres wide and constructed from the characteristic 2 inch thick 'Tudor-type' bricks bonded with lime mortar. A rectangular (0.35 x 0.25 metre) concrete lined hole (0003) cut into the bricks of the five sided pillar was a recent floor safe accessed through the floor of the alcove flanked by the cupboards (Plate 14). Flint cobbles set in a clay matrix (0004) recorded in the angle of wall 0002, and therefore internal to the original gatehouse, probably represent a metallised surface.

It was clear then that the extant room was a secondary development of the original structure and there was ample evidence to support this interpretation. Firstly, at its northern end, the eastern wall of the room (0007) was only butted against the south wall of the north range (0011) and was therefore, almost certainly, later in date (Plate 15). This wall was also continuous with an east

to west orientated wall stub (0008) which butted against the gatehouse stub (0002) and marked the original southern end of the room (visible on Plates 13 & 14). Walls 0007 and 0008 would originally have met forming the south-east corner of the room. It is unclear what happened to the five-sided decorative corner of 0002 immediately after the construction of 0007/0008. It may have been incorporated into the new room or tidied up to a clean flat face. At 0.80 metres, wall stub 0008 was unusually wide, with its northern face lining up with that of 0002. However, there was some discrepancy, as a vertical scar, visible on the face of 0007, was only 0.50 metres wide and the bonding of the bricks within 0008 did suggest a face at 0.5 metres that also tied up with marks on the roof beam. If the internal face of 0008 was at its full 0.8 metre width, the effect would have been to obscure all but the most northerly facets of the corner of 0002. At some later date 0008 and gatehouse wall 0002 were demolished down to ground level and a new end to the room constructed immediately to the south (Plate 16). In addition, there was also evidence visible in the external face of the room's west wall (0010) where it seems that the original moat revetment wall (with diaper work) was modified, certainly heightened (the upper courses of the wall only butt against the south wall of the north wing) and windows were inserted (Plate 17). An irregular interface between the two phases was visible along with a straight joint which represented the edge of one of the windows which was itself subsequently blocked to accommodate new windows at their present locations. Both the new work on the western side and eastern wall of the building were constructed in 'Tudor-type' bricks, although their fabric was a slightly lighter, more orange colour than those used in the earlier north range and the moat revetment. The diaper pattern used on the south wall of the north range was also absent in this later fabric, indeed at one point at the junction between the earlier and later builds, a truncated diamond shape was evident with no attempt to continue the pattern through (Plate 16). While clearly representing a significant phased development for these buildings, both the principal wall fabrics were consistent with a 16<sup>th</sup> century date, although the main roof beam was thought to be late 17<sup>th</sup> century (Philip Aitkins *pers. comm.*).

The rebuilt south wall was also a phased structure with two distinct elements (0012 & 0015) with a vertical junction occurring within the area where the north-south component of gatehouse wall 0002 continues on to the south (Plate 18). Following the removal of the modern internal wall covering (plaster over plasterboard attached to vertical batons) the detailed structure/character and interrelationship of these walls became more apparent. The two phases were butted against each other with no tying in between them. A vertical crack seen in the rendered face of the external wall within the gatehouse arch also coincided with the junction between the two walls (Plate 17).

Prior to the batons being attached to the wall there had been an earlier plaster layer directly applied to the wall face within a round-topped alcove (rebated very slightly into the brickwork). While the majority of this layer had subsequently been removed, enough of the plaster remained to show the shape of the feature and that it had been painted with a decorative frieze (Plate 19). Photographs taken during the 1960's held by the present owner show this feature with fitted cupboards flanking the alcove.



Plate 13 North of gatehouse; overall shot



Plate 14 Detail of Wall 0002 & floor safe 0003



Plate 15 Wall 0007 butting against 0011



Plate 16 Wall 0010; truncated diaper work



Plate 17 Vertical crack in external render



Plate 18 Junction between walls 0015 & 0012

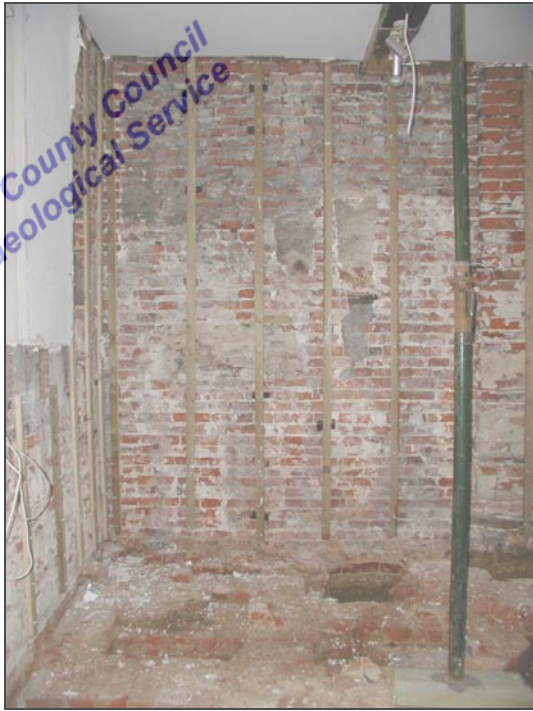


Plate 19 Wall fabric 0015

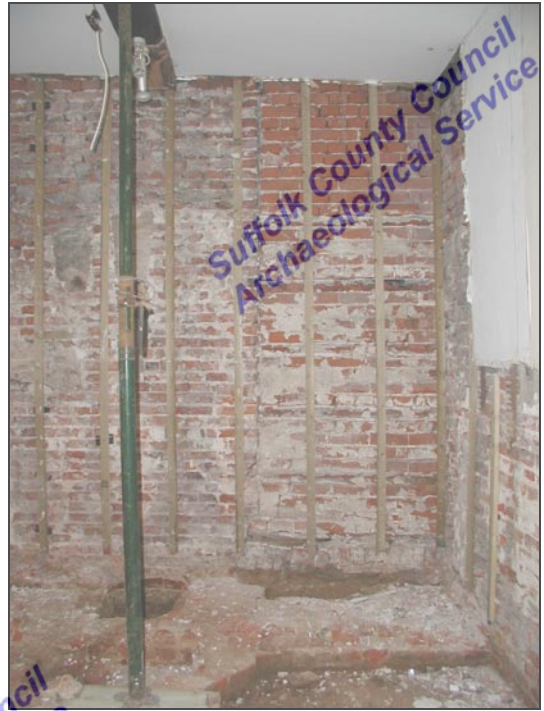


Plate 20 Wall fabric 0012



Plate 21 Detail of wall 0005 & 0009



Plate 22 Wall 0040



Plate 23 Base of fireplace 0041

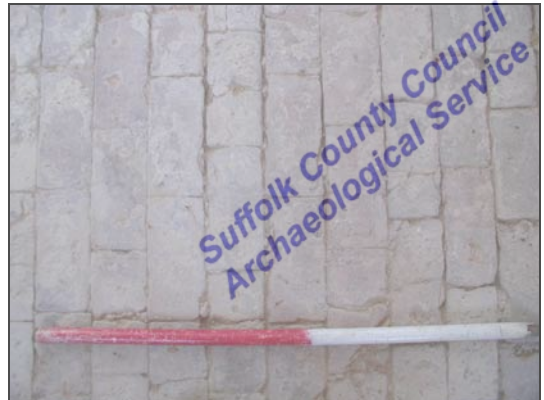


Plate 24 Brick floor 0042

Of the two wall phases, the c.2.00 metres long section to the east (0015) was considered to have been built first, as the mortar slops protruding from the joints in 0012 fitted to the shape of the earlier 0015 brickwork. Both phases were poorly constructed and clearly not expected to have been exposed either internally or externally. Fabric 0015 was comprised predominantly from pieces of 2 inch 'Tudor-type' brick, although there were some fragments of 2  $\frac{3}{4}$ -3 inch bricks which give a better indication of its date (Plate 19). The wall had clearly been constructed from the south with no attempt made to clean up the lime mortar oozing out on the north side, possibly because it was constructed while wall 0008 was still standing and no access would have been possible. While there was no deep set footing for 0015, the lowest course of bricks was stepped out by 0.10 metres and was bedded on c.0.10 metres of clay and mortar. The lowest course of bricks was at c.0.10 metres below the top of wall stub 0002.

Fabric 0012 formed only the westernmost 1.2 metres of the wall and was constructed entirely of whole and fragmentary 2  $\frac{3}{4}$ -3 inch thick bricks and was bedded on an even more insubstantial footing than 0015, with a single row of on edge headers bedded directly onto earth (Plate 20). The wall base was effectively two courses higher than the adjacent 0015 at level c.0.10 higher than the exposed wall 0002 with earth filling the intervening gap. Shallow horizontal channels in the wall at intervals up its face would once of held timber onto which earlier vertical timbers would have been attached, which in turn would have held horizontal laths attached to hold plaster. Given the width of this section of wall it is thought that it may represent a blocking to a doorway originally inserted when the gatehouse wall (0002) and the secondary wall (0008) were dismantled and wall 0015 was built. A similar doorway, also a later insertion, occurs on the opposite side of the gatehouse corridor and is described in more detail later in this section.

Other contexts associated with the complex structure north of the gatehouse included the following features.

A 0.35 metres wide wall stub (0005) projected from the eastern wall (0007) for a distance of 2.00 metres with its western extremity appearing to represent a genuine end (Plate 21). The wall comprised one brick course (9  $\frac{1}{4}$  x 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch bricks) constructed directly on earth with its base, at its eastern end, lying directly on the top of the c.0.10 metre toed base to wall 0007 which it abutted. The alignment of the wall was slightly off from the standing building and that of the other wall stubs to the south. Most recently, this wall had been used as the base on which a studwork wall had been constructed, but previously would have coincided with the front of the timber built cupboards seen on the 1960's photographs of the room.

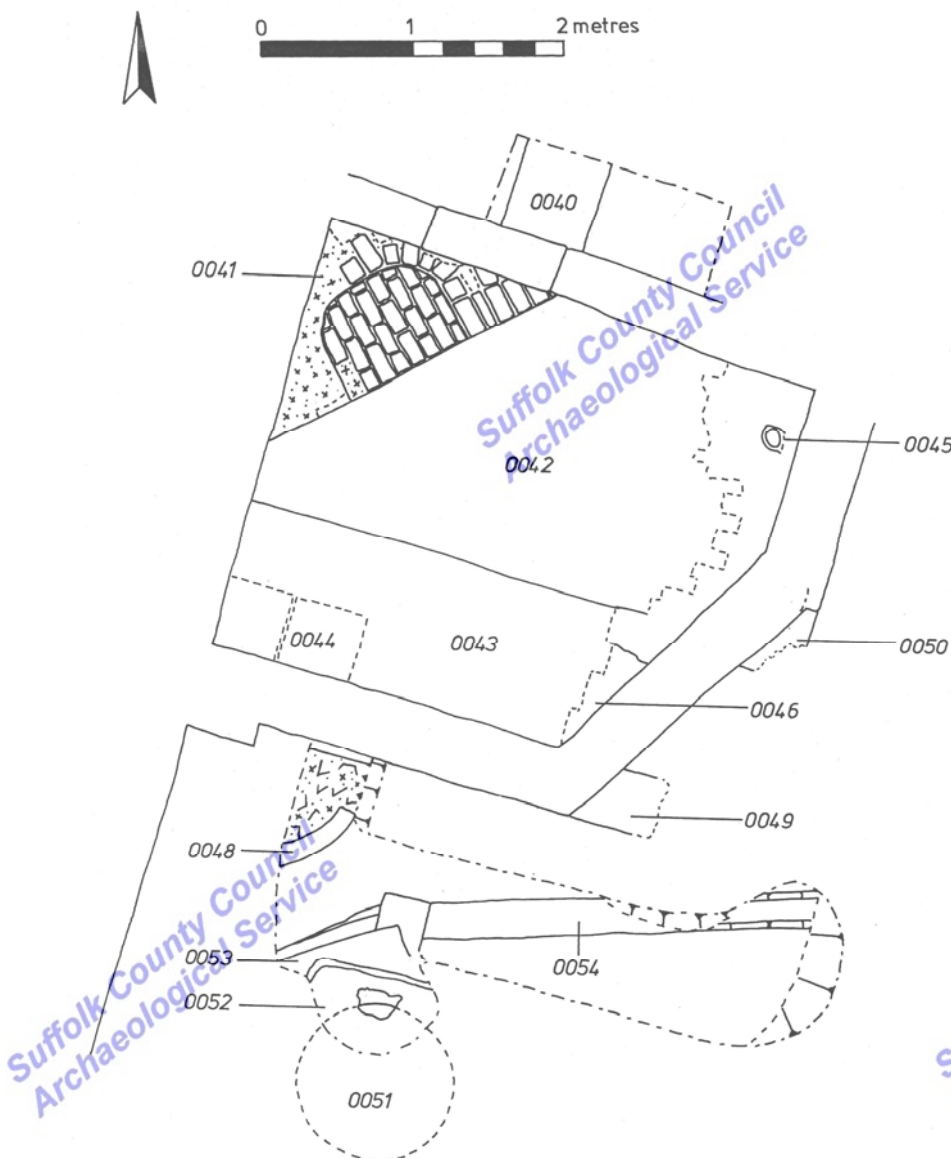
A series of three adjacent bricks (0009) had been placed bridging the gap between 0005, to the north, and 0008. Although not tied in to 0005, these were similar bricks and also lay directly on earth at the same level and almost certainly performed a similar function as a base for an above ground timber structure. Similarly, a single course of re-used 2 inch bricks laid adjacent to

wall 0007 to the south of 0005 was considered to be contemporary with the latter and part of the cupboard base.

The area between wall stubs 0005, 0006, 0008 and 0009 had been filled with dirty brown clay overlain by hard mortar (0014). These layers were considered to be contemporary with 0005, 0006 and 0009.

A patch of hard patchy pink coloured mortar (0013) immediately north of 0002 was interpreted as a possible early floor surface.

**South of gatehouse:** Refurbishment works within the room immediately south of the gatehouse also revealed structural features of archaeological interest (Fig. 8).



While evidence for the early phase of the gatehouse was not seen within the room itself, its 0.56 metres wide east wall (0040) was exposed as a stub in a new service trench on the south side of the existing entrance way passage where it continued on under the standing wall (Plate 22).

The room had originally been rectangular, measuring c.3.30 metres from east to west and between 2.80 and 2.92

**Fig. 8** Room south of gatehouse, 1:50 scale internal & external plan

metres from north to south (the north wall was not straight). At a later date the south-east corner was removed with a diagonal wall inserted across,

giving the room an irregular shape. There was also evidence externally (discussed in the next section) to suggest that a doorway had been included in the inserted diagonal wall section and was only later reduced to a window. The plastered face of the internal walls made it difficult to positively identify even the major constructional phases, and some questions regarding this part of the standing structure remain unanswered.

Removal of the existing floor in the room south of the gatehouse, the character of which was not recorded archaeologically as it had been lifted prior to the monitoring visits, revealed an earlier floor surface, itself exhibiting evidence for considerable alteration.

The exposed floor surface had four distinct elements:

- In the north west corner, the base of a fireplace (0041) and its truncated surround formed the floor surface (Plate 23). The bricks were heat-reddened, measuring  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches with an indeterminate thickness and a fabric consistent with their being of 'Tudor-type', although possibly reused. Clearly, this structure could not have functioned within the proposed original gatehouse and it is likely to belong to one of the subsequent phases of alteration. Equally, the extant doorway must be an even later insertion as it could not have been present while the fireplace was a functioning structure.
- Abutting the fireplace was an area of floor consisting of bricks (0042), fawn to pink in colour and measuring  $9 \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 2-2\frac{1}{4}$  inches (Plate 24). It was unclear what lay below these bricks as the only area where they had been disrupted coincided with the outlet for a modern toilet (0045) in the north-east corner of the room where rubble was visible to a depth of 0.20 metres.
- To the south of a straight junction with brick floor 0042 there was an area of pammments (0043) consisting of  $9 \times 9$  inch tiles of fawn to red colour, the majority of which were in poor, badly cracked condition (Plate 25). Where these were disrupted close to the east wall clay/earth could be seen below with an area of concrete (0046) associated with the blocked doorway in the diagonal section of wall to the south-east.
- In the south-west corner of the room there was a rectangular area of floor (0044) measuring c.0.45 metres by c.0.90 metres, effectively that covered by eight floor tiles, where bricks and on-edge tiles had been used to for the surface (top of Plate 25).

Floor 0044 was initially thought to represent the blocking of a drain or similar feature, an interpretation that was confirmed when a hole dug down to facilitate the air intake for a new boiler revealed the vestiges of a depressed, four-centred arch (0047) forming a conduit within the brick fabric of the wall (Plate 26). The external structure of the conduit was seen in subsequent excavations to the south of the building (see following section). The conduit itself appeared to be filled with rubble, while the overlying fill layers excavated down through to reveal the arch included clay with brick fragments, charcoal and rammed chalk, possible indicating earlier floor levels in the room (Plate 26). However, it must not be assumed that these layers were laterally

persistent across the entire area, as they were only seen within the immediate vicinity of the filled in conduit and may represent localised deposits associated with this feature.

### Monitoring external to standing building in existing courtyard

Significant ground interventions associated with the provision of services were monitored, both within the existing courtyard and to the north of the standing buildings.

A service trench excavated immediately to the south of the existing room south of the gatehouse exposed structural features relating to earlier and later phases of the buildings chronological history (Fig. 2). The earliest was the external continuation of the arched conduit through the southern wall (0047) initially described in the previous section. While the top and most of the sides of conduit had been broken, it was full of rubble, enough survived (0048) to ascertain that it had clearly continued, curving to the west and discharging into the moat through a hole in the revetment wall (Plate 27). Constructed in 2 inch bricks bonded with a hard cream-coloured lime mortar, there was no evidence to suggest that the conduit was anything but contemporary with the wall through which it passed.

Also revealed in this trench were the stubs representing the continuation of the south (0049) and east (0050) walls of the room immediately south of the gatehouse (Plate 28 & 29). These proving that prior to the insertion of the diagonal wall cutting across its south-east corner, the room had previously been more regular in shape. There was also a suggestion in the wall fabric that the inserted wall had originally held a doorway which had only subsequently been reduced to a window (Plate 30).

On the southern side of the same trench a circular brick-built soakaway (0051) was uncovered (Plate 31). Constructed with red unfrosted bricks measuring  $9\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, those forming the sides were unmortared while those in the vestiges of its domed top were bonded with lime mortar. The dome had previously been breached and replaced with a concrete and steel capping formed at c.0.20 metres below the existing brick patio surface with a, probably contemporary squared brick structure (0053) protruding to the south joining it with drain 0054. While still being able to function as a soakaway, the presence of a considerable quantity of rubble and pieces of wood in it suggest that it may have become redundant (Plate 32). It was unclear if brick drain 0054 was an earlier feature discharging into the moat which had subsequently been diverted into the soakaway or whether they were contemporary. The drain cut across what would have been the line of the east wall of the west range (the presence of which is indicated by a wall stub 0055, see next paragraph) and as such would appear to be a later insertion. However, the drain, which was encountered at 0.4 metres below the existing patio surface, was constructed primarily using 2 inch 'Tudor-type' bricks, although these could have been re-used (Plate 33). Bricks were lain lengthways along its base, with others lain on edge to form the sides with bricks lying crossways to form the top. A line of peg-tiles had then been place



along the top. This was a similar type of feature to 0024 seen in Trench 1, although the brick types used in its construction and the way in which they had been used were not identical.

Provision of a gas pipe into the new kitchen to the north of the gatehouse required excavation beneath the existing east wall (0007). While the full extent of the trench was not seen, the entire profile of the wall base was recorded. Both internally and externally, the wall base stepped out at a similar level. Internally the wall stepped out by 0.10 metres before continuing on down almost vertically for three courses (c.0.20 metres) (Plate 34). Externally it stepped out by c.0.08 metres from a point c.0.10 metres below the existing ground surface and continued down vertically for c.0.12 metres (two courses) then stepping out a further 0.18 metres before dropping vertically for c.0.07 metres (one course) (Plate 35).

It had previously been postulated (Sandon 1977, fig. 79; Martin 1990) that the extant buildings form only a part of the original Tudor suite of buildings that he suggests would have been symmetrical in layout. The evidence for the corner of the east wing, seen in Trench 2, has already been described. However, there was also evidence for a south wing and a more complete west wing recovered from other minor ground disturbances monitored during the development (Fig. 2).

**West wing:** Immediately to the south of the above service trench further ground disturbance revealed the stub, truncated by modern pipes to the north, of a wall (0055) on the same north to south alignment as the existing east wall of the gatehouse and its flanking rooms (Fig. 2). The wall was 0.44 metres wide and constructed using 2 inch 'Tudor-type' bricks (Plate 36). This wall was considered to have provided evidence for the presence of a structure bridging the gap between the gatehouse and a southern wing, similar in layout to the standing buildings to the north. However, the phases of building south of the gatehouse are still not fully understood and will be discussed further in the Discussion section of this report.

**South Wing:** The evidence for a south wing was gleaned from three different sources:

- An east to west wall of 2 inch 'Tudor-type' bricks (0056) was seen in the bottom of holes left after the removal of the upright posts from a wooden pergola (also seen as a parch mark in the grass; Martin 1990).
- Two east to west aligned walls, 0056 to the south and 0057 some 2.00 metres further north, both in 2 inch 'Tudor-type bricks' were seen in a service trench crossing the existing courtyard and garden. If mirroring the north range, 0057 (Plate 37) would represent the external wall of the south range and 0056 the internal wall forming a passageway running intermittently along the length of the building.
- The stub of east to west wall 0056 (Plate 38) and a length of a north to south wall (0058), the latter directly under the existing later garden wall, were seen at the base of the standing wall. Wall 0058 would have formed part of the eastern end of the southern range.



Plate 25 Tile floor 0043 & 0044



Plate 26 Conduit 0047 (internal section)



Plate 27 Conduit 0047 (external section 0048)



Plate 28 Truncated wall stubs 0049 & 0050



Plate 29 Diagonal wall, truncated plinth

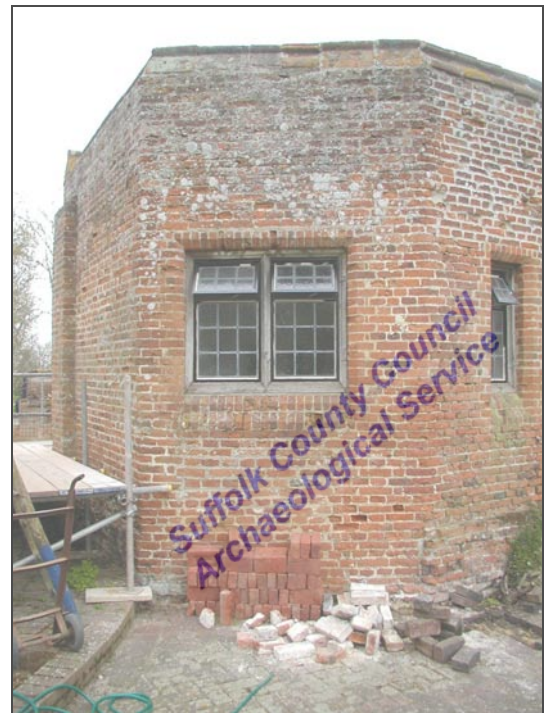


Plate 30 Diagonal wall with door scar



Plate 31 Capped soakaway 0051



Plate 32 Rubble fill in soakaway 0051



Plate 33 Drain 0054 from the east



Plate 34 Base of wall 0007, internal



Plate 35 Base of wall 0007, external



Plate 36 Wall 0055 from the east



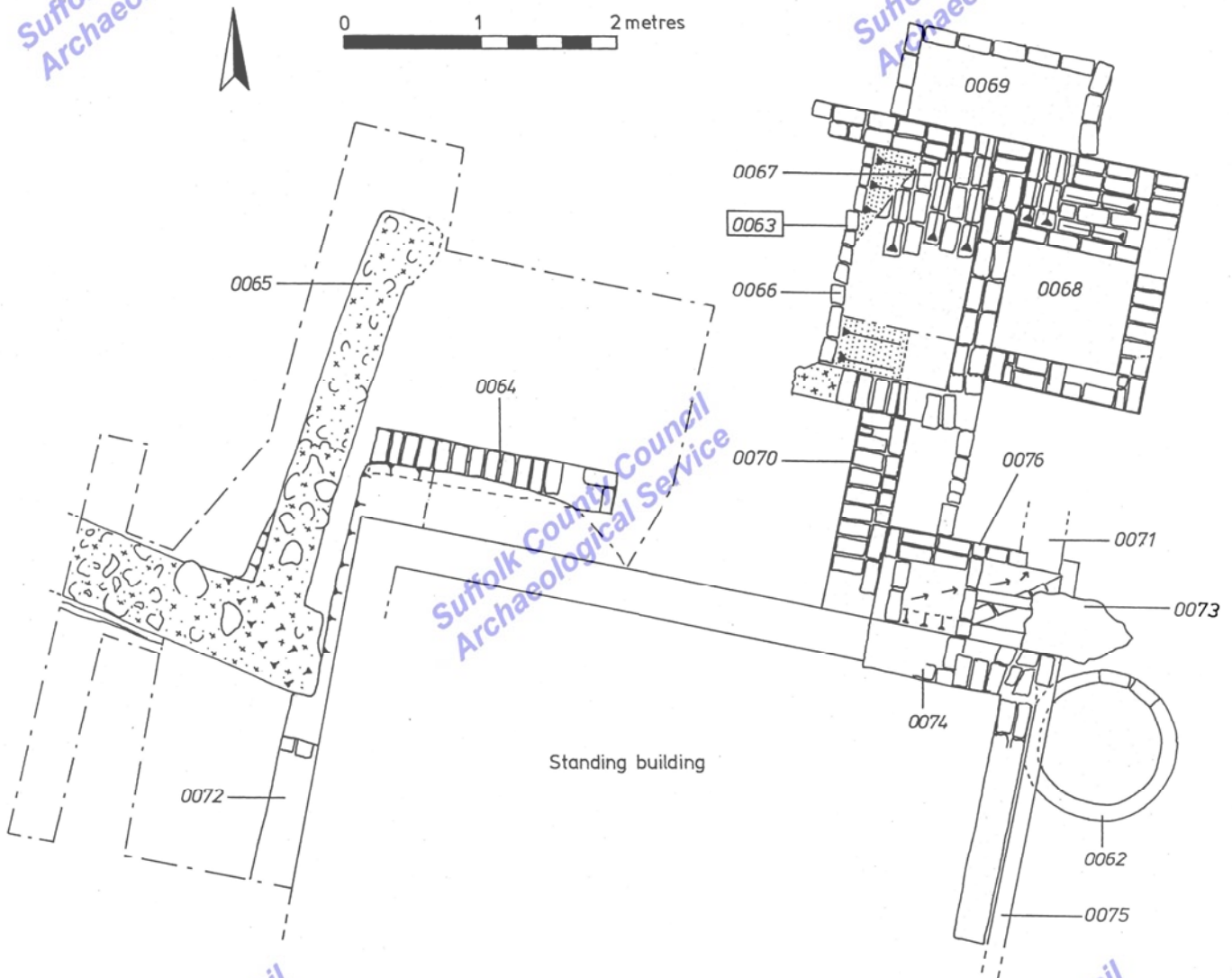
Plate 37 East to west wall 0057



Plate 38 Stub of east to west wall 0056

### Monitoring on moated platform north of standing buildings

Considerable excavation works, comprising ground lowering, service trenches, a new jetty/decking area and alterations to the existing extension structure, were required to the north of the main standing buildings (Plate 39).



**Fig. 9** Structures north of standing building, 1:50 scale plan

In order to facilitate the construction of a new timber jetty towards the western end of the northern side of the moat platform, the existing brick steps were dismantled. In addition, slumped material on the edge of the platform was removed to allow the construction of timber revetting in the vulnerable areas flanking the jetty. Here, a section of brick wall (0059) lying parallel to the platform edge and running for a distance of c.10.00 metres from the existing steps towards its north-west corner had been interpreted as a collapsed section of a previous revetment, possibly associated with the existing steps to the east (Fig. 2). The bricks used in its construction were unfrogged with a hard red fabric and measured  $9\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches and were clearly not part of the original Tudor structure and were probably 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century in

date. During the mechanical excavation of footings for the new jetty an *in situ* section of wall (0060) was recorded on a similar orientation as the fallen section, but set c.1.00 metre back towards the platform edge (Fig. 2 & Plate 40).

The excavation of the footing for the new jetty also revealed a brick-built conduit/drain (0061) (Plate 41). The feature was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west, similarly to the standing buildings, and had clearly once discharged into the moat until it had become completely blocked with silt (Fig. 2). The conduit had been constructed using both 2 ¾ inch and re-used 2 inch bricks with seven bricks arranged to form the arched top to the structure. The internal void measured 0.36 metres from the brick bottom to the top of the arch with a width of 0.26 metres.

In the area adjacent to the existing extension a number of features were revealed in the various groundworks (Fig. 9).

Immediately to the west of the north-west corner of the standing building an L-shaped length of flint and lime mortar wall (0065) was uncovered measuring 3.75 metres from north-north-east to south-west and then turning to the west-north-west and continuing for 2 metres (Plates 42 & 43). While generally quite substantial, the northern end of the wall did comprise less well consolidated material that seemed peter out somewhat. The wall included flint cobbles of up to 0.15 metres in diameter. It was first thought that wall 0065 had originally continued beyond its corner towards the east where a protruding stub was recorded, having been truncated by the footings (0072) for the existing extension. However, on closer inspection, this seemed to be a genuine end with stacked roof-tiles included in what may have been a buttress. The concrete footing (0072) for the extension had actually been modified to avoid wall 0065, both narrowing and stepping down by two brick courses. Wall 0065 was not on the same alignment as the standing buildings on the site and while it could have been related to the other flint and lime mortar wall (0037) in Trench 4 some 4.00 metres to the west, its orientation was slightly different. Clearly this represented a different build to the Tudor building and while dating evidence was absent, there was no reason to suggest that this was not related to an earlier, possibly medieval structure.

To the north of and lying parallel to the existing extension a c.2.00 metres long stub of wall (0064) was exposed (Plate 44). Constructed primarily from red unfrogged 9 ¼ x 4 ½ x 2 ¾ inch bricks, this was found to coincide with the location of a chimney shown on the early OS maps (Figs. 11 & 12). Clearly this had been dismantled during later alterations to the extension.

The demolition of the north wall of the existing extension as part of the present scheme of refurbishment revealed details regarding its construction. Its western wall and the majority of its north wall had been rebuilt during the 1960's (Spurrier *pers. comm.*) on a new concrete footing (Plate 45) coinciding with the line of the earlier walls seen on the OS maps (Figs. 11 & 12). Flettons had been used up to the damp course and then re-used 3 inch thick bricks.



Plate 39 View of excavations north of building



Plate 40 Revetment wall 0060



Plate 41 Conduit 0061



Plate 42 Wall 0065 from the south



Plate 43 South side of wall 0065 in trench



Plate 44 Wall 0064



Plate 45 Concrete footing for wall 0075



Plate 46 Drain 0076 & pipe 0071



Plate 47 Well 0062, drain 0076 & wall 0074



Plate 48 Well 0062



Plate 49 Limestone slab well capping



Plate 50 Toilets 0063 from the south-east



Plate 51 First phase chamber 0066



Plate 52 Second phase brick floor 0067



Plate 53 Second phase brick floor 0068

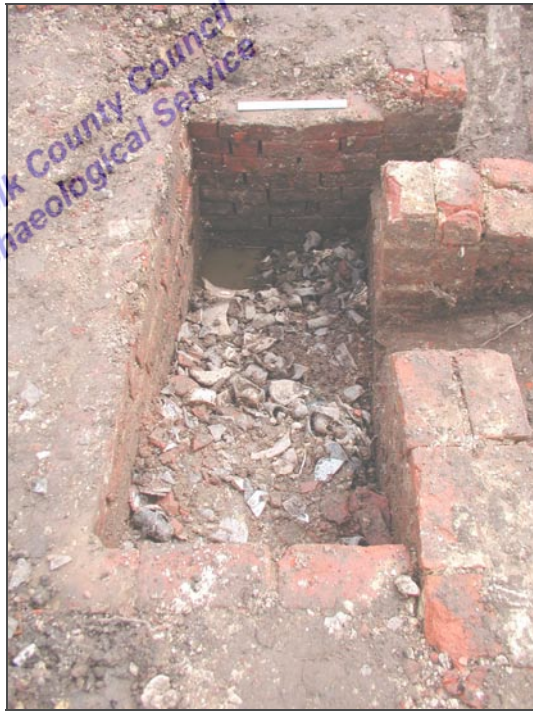


Plate 54 Second phase chamber 0069



Plate 55 Sample of bottles from 0069



Plate 57 Surviving paint on brickwork



Plate 56 Blocked doorway & gable scar



Plate 58 Wall 0077 under garden wall



Plate 59 Wall 0078 (in foreground)



However, its eastern wall and the north-east corner were more complicated. Prior to its demolition, it was noted that a small section of the north wall of the extension immediately to the west of its eastern corner comprised earlier fabric (0074) coinciding with a slight kink in the wall (Plate 46). Following the demolition of the wall it was seen that this section of wall had been left due to the presence of an underlying complex of brick drains (0076) that probably continued in use beyond the 1960's rebuilding (Plate 46). A flint-built pier in the north-east corner of the building, demolished by the contractors, had been built directly off the earlier wall stub (0074).

Also present was a brick-built well or soakaway (0062) located immediately to the east of the extension with its western side actually underlying the wall of the building (Plate 47). On closer inspection it was evident that the 1960's eastern wall had been constructed as a secondary brick skin over the earlier structure and that the well/soakaway would have been completely outside the original extension building. In addition, it was noted that the original building south of the doorway on the eastern side was timber framed suggesting that there may have been an earlier phase to the structure than that represented by wall fabric 0074.

Well/soakaway 0062 was 1.00 metre in diameter and constructed using red, unbonded, frogless 9 x 4 x 2 ¾ inch bricks. The structure had not been back-filled as part of the later refurbishment and water was present (Plate 48). The well had been capped off by a combination of a limestone slab (4 ft x 2 ft x 2 inches), probably a re-used threshold or hearth, and reinforced concrete (0073) (Plate 49). The later skin had been built directly off the reinforced concrete.

The function of the surviving drain base (0076) at the north-east corner was unclear as the construction seemed to be more substantial than would be required simply to take a downpipe from guttering, although one was present attached to the pre-demolition wall face. Water clearly entered the structure at its western end where an angled face against the wall of the building directed it away to the north and then to the east against a diagonally lain series of bricks which, in turn, directed the flow into a ceramic pipe (0071) that headed towards the moat (Plate 46).

Drain complex 0076 was abutted on its western and northern side by a wall stub 0070 that bridged the gap between it and the complex of walls (0063) to the north which clearly represented the below ground structure of external toilets (Plate 50). A structure was present at this location on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map of c.1880 (Fig. 11) with what appears to be a wall connecting it to the main building and continuing on northwards to the moat edge. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS map of c.1900 (Fig. 12), it is still present, but is shown as a completely detached building.

The cleaning and partial excavation of the complex revealed a two phase structure. Originally there had been a 1.20 metres by 2.20 metres rectangular brick-lined chamber (0066) with vertical sides to the north, south and east and an angled face to the west continuing down to a flat brick base at 0.56 metres

below the top course of bricks (Plate 51). It is unclear if there had been an exit pipe to this chamber as its likely location through its northern end below was below second phase structure that was left intact. Both 2 inch Tudor bricks and later 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch frogless red bricks were in evidence, the former predominantly used in the five top courses of the sloping west face and presumably reused from an earlier structure. At some stage the first structure was remodelled; the chamber was filled in with rubble and soil with a new chamber (0069) built to the north abutting the earlier build. A north sloping brick floor lain on the rubble at the northern end of the original chamber directed material through a gap in its rebuilt, or at least remodelled, northern wall into the new chamber (Plate 52). Furthermore, a second cubicle (0068), measuring 1.20 metres by 1.80 metres, was abutted onto the eastern side of the original chamber, it also exhibited a north sloping brick floor directing material through a gap into chamber 0069 (Plate 53). Secondary chamber 0069 was found to be 0.75 metres deep, measured from the topmost of its ten brick courses to its brick base (Plate 54). The upper two courses were bonded, the remainder apparently dry-lain. However, it is unclear if lime bonding mortar had originally been present in the joints, but was subsequently washed or dissolved out. Another possibility is that, similarly to the soakaways, the bricks had been dry lain to facilitate the passage through in to the surrounding soil of the liquid component of the effluent. Following its abandonment as a functioning toilet, the secondary chamber was used as a dump for rubbish, mainly glass bottles (Plate 55) and ceramics, to a depth of c.0.40 metres, with an overlying c.0.30 metres thick layer of rubble and building debris that was probably introduced when the above ground structure was demolished.

### Miscellaneous observations

A number of miscellaneous observations were made during the multiple site visits.

Examination of the face of the south wall of the standing north wing of the hall revealed the survival of, arguably, original surface treatment in the form of a layer of red paint adhering to the mortar in the joints (Plate 57).

After the removal of the modern brick-built raised flower beds in the north-east corner of the courtyard, a period of heavy rain exposed a toe (0077) at the base of the existing garden wall in the section immediately south of evaluation Trench 2 (Plate 58). While constructed in 2 inch bricks rather than the 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch bricks of the above ground structure at this juncture, without excavation it was unclear whether this represented a genuine Tudor wall stub or reused bricks. A similar toe at the base of the wall immediately north of Tudor wall stub 0056 (Plate 58) was only two courses thick and had subsided away from the more substantial wall to the south. In this instance the disparity between 0056 and the less robust wall base to the north was considered to be evidence that the shallow toed wall was a later build. However, the evidence from Trench 2 clearly shows a genuine corner of the earlier east wing (0029) underlying the present garden wall and surviving to a depth of 0.7 metres

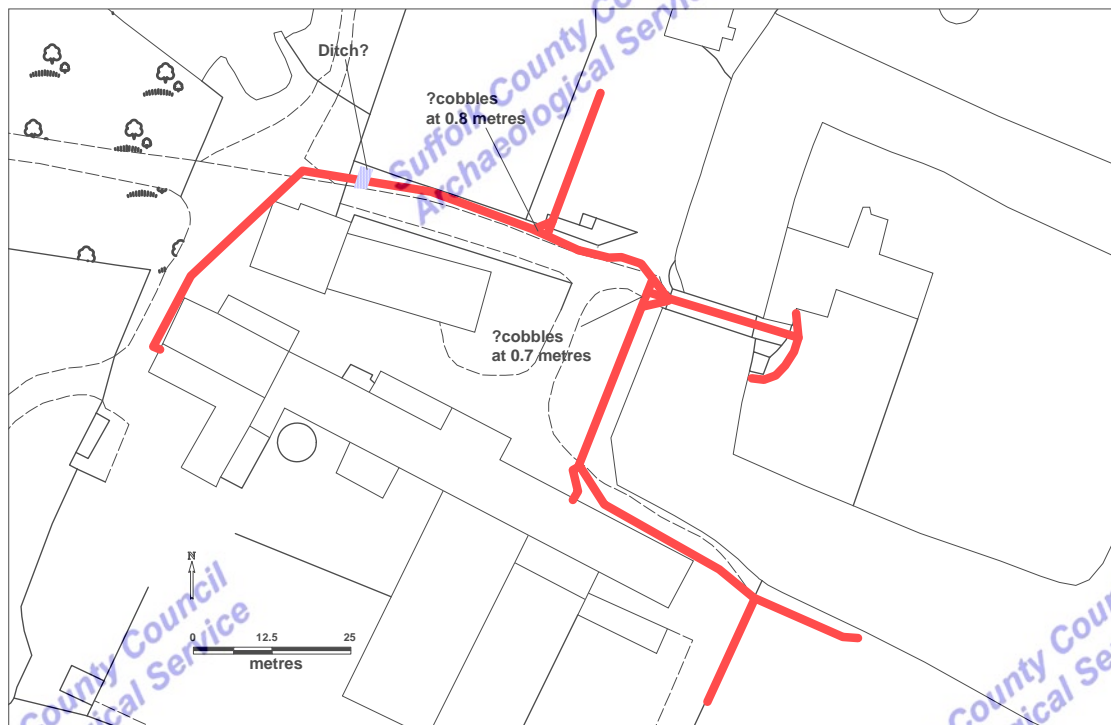
(nine brick courses). If this wall carries on to the south it could be continuous with 0077.

Removal of the 20<sup>th</sup> century flower beds in the courtyard also exposed a c.5 metre length of an earlier brick footing (2 ¾ inch frogless reds) (Plate 59). This feature coincided with the known location of a greenhouse shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Editions of the OS maps (c.1880 & 1900 respectively).

The surviving sections of the earliest (Tudor) brick revetment are all at the western end and southern side of the moat platform. While it was not possible to say if there had originally been a continuous wall around the whole platform, the vestigial remains of a brick built structure were seen at the south-east corner of platform. This was clearly constructed from 2 inch bricks and may have mirrored the corner structures that had been present at the western end of the platform.

### Monitoring external to moated platform

The refurbishment works at the hall included the need for the insertion of a network of services that required the excavation of a series of trenches (Fig. 10).



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Fig. 10 1:1,250 scale OS map extract showing the location of the monitored trenches

A number of visits were made while the trenches were open and the observations made were as follows:

- A trench exiting the western end of the principle range of farm buildings turned to the north and headed across the main drive before turning

again to the east. At this juncture, clean naturally occurring clay subsoil was encountered at 0.30 metres below the existing concrete yard surface.

- The character of the trench changed somewhat as it ran down the northern edge of the main drive. The overburden increased to a depth of 0.80 metres and included common fragments of brick and tile. There was a suggestion that an open ditch feature to the north had previously continued to the south at least as far as the excavated trench.
- Possible formally lain cobbles were seen opposite the entrance to the cottage (at 0.80 metres depth) and immediately to the east of the bridge over the moat at a depth of 0.70 metres.
- With the exception of the trench that turned into the garden of the detached cottage (originally the dovecote) where the overburden comprised 0.40 metres of topsoil lying directly on natural clay subsoil, there was generally a mixed overburden of soil, clay and rubble giving way to clay subsoil at a depth of between c.0.40 and 0.70 metres.
- In the trenches immediately to the west of the bridge there was a hint of stratification with mortar layers at a depth of c.0.30 metres. These may have related to earlier formally lain surfaces.
- Where a trench was excavated under the wall of the north wall of the 16<sup>th</sup> century barn, the brick footing was seen to continue to a depth of 0.55-0.60 metres below the extant ground surface.
- The bridge across the moat required some repair work to its fabric. In addition, services were inserted into a trench excavated into the bedding layers encountered after the removal of the existing brick surface. Evidence was also revealed for earlier alterations and insertions, although the bulk of the fabric was considered to be original and of 16<sup>th</sup> century date.

## 4. The Finds (Richenda Goffin)

### Introduction

Finds were collected from two contexts, as shown in the table below.

OP	Pottery		CBM		Animal bone		Shell		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0017	1	11	4	131	1	7	1	8	1 iron nail @ 9g	Post-med?
0019	9	60			1	8	1	9		L12th-14th C
Total	10	71	4	131	2	15	2	17		

**Table 1** Details of the finds from pits 0016 (fill 0017) & 0018 (fill 0019)

### Pottery

Ten sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the evaluation (0.071kg). A single fragment of Hollesley type coarseware was present in pit-fill 0017 (Late 13th-14th century). Nine further fragments from pit-fill 0019 include two early medieval sherds dating to the 11th-12th century. A small sooted body sherd of Early medieval ware was identified, together with another fragment of

Early medieval ware with sparse shell. The remainder of the ceramics from the pit-fill consist of medieval coarsewares which date to the late 12th-14th century.

### **Ceramic building material**

Four fragments of ceramic building material from pit-fill 0017 include part of a roof-tile made of a medium sandy fabric with sparse calcareous inclusions, which is likely to be medieval. Three other small fragments are made of red-firing sandy fabrics with ferrous inclusions, and these are probably post-medieval.

### **Metalwork**

The remains of an iron nail was present in pit-fill 0017.

### **Shell**

Single pieces of oyster shell were recovered from both pit-fills. These were discarded after quantification.

### **Animal bone**

Two small fragments of animal bone from the pit-fills include an immature tibia, probably from a pig.

### **Discussion**

The ceramic assemblage recovered from the evaluation includes two early medieval sherds which may be associated with the earlier medieval structure pre-dating the moated hall. Other sherds dating to the L12th-14th century may also belong to this phase of activity. The fragmentary remains of ceramic building material present in pit-fill 0017 are however later in date, suggesting that the sherd of medieval pottery may be residual.

## **5. Discussion**

The programme of refurbishment at Crows Hall revealed a considerable body of archaeological information regarding the sequential development of the buildings on the site. Attributing absolute dates to the structural phases has been left to the Architectural Historian (Philip Aitkins) and the following interpretation is based predominantly on stratigraphic archaeological evidence and only broad date ranges are suggested.

The earliest positively dated evidence was found in Trench 3. The presence of medieval pottery in two pits confirms activity of that date. As the manorial history dates back to the late 12<sup>th</sup> century (Sandon 1977, 258-9), it is possible that there was an unbroken continuity of occupation from that time with the earlier manor buildings also present on the site. While not closely datable, the flint and mortar walls recorded to the north of the standing buildings were consistent with a medieval date and may represent the vestiges of these earlier structures.

It is clear that major elements of the standing buildings date to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, including the main body of the structure which would originally have been the north range. The evidence suggests that the fully developed 16<sup>th</sup> century layout of the building complex included two other brick-built ranges (south and east) with access provided over a brick-built bridge and through a gatehouse with flanking suites of rooms. Other buildings to the north of the north wing are also consistent with their being built during the 16<sup>th</sup> century, or could have been added very soon after. The brick revetment along the entire west side and part of the south side of the moated platform was probably one of the earliest structures to be built during the 16<sup>th</sup> century, but it is uncertain how far this extended around the other three sides.

However, this fully developed layout was not the result of one single integrated programme of building. Clearly, there was a phased construction with the original access to the courtyard area provided through a small square gatehouse, which only later became subsumed within flanking buildings. There was no stratigraphic evidence to indicate the constructional sequence of the main three ranges or when the east and south ranges were demolished.

The secondary construction to the north of the gatehouse comprised a continuous suite of rooms which butted up against the already existing north range. To the south, the situation was more complex. While there was evidence for the presence of a structure on a similar line and south of the building as it is today, the presence of a brick plinth on the south external wall, similar to that on the east wall, and the contemporary brick conduit within the fabric of the wall suggests that this range may not have been continuous. However, if this were the case the symmetry of the complex when approached from the west would have been disrupted and this also seems unlikely. The dating for these additions is uncertain. The bricks are similar in size to those used in the surviving north range and moat revetment, although noticeably different in colour, and are essentially a 'Tudor-type' consistent with a 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century date. However, the main roof beam running from north to south in the northern room appears to contradict this date as it was attributed on stylistic grounds to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century by Philip Aitkins. One possibility is that the roof beam is not contemporary with the walls, representing a later replacement. What does appear to be reasonably certain is that the main roof beam was present prior to the dismantling and moving 0.50 metres to the south of the south wall of this room. Evidence for this was provided by the disparity in colour and condition of all but the southernmost c.0.50 metres of the beam where a straight junction between the darker wood to the north and the lighter to the south indicates the former position of the internal face of the earlier wall.

At a later date, possibly during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, but more likely during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the south wall of the room north of the gatehouse was dismantled and replaced with another wall some 0.50 metres to the south. This new wall did not extend all the way across the room, stopping at a straight joint some 1.25 metres from the west wall, suggesting that there may have been an

entrance directly into the room from the gateway passage at this juncture. This doorway was subsequently blocked, probably coinciding with the construction of the cupboards and arched alcove which subsequently occupied the south end of the room. While it was not uncovered during the refurbishment and was not, therefore, available for detailed examination, it seems likely that the north wall of the room immediately to the south of the gatehouse was also a 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century rebuild. The argument for this is based on the fact that when the original gatehouse was subsumed within the new west range, the symmetry would have been maintained. Given that both walls now run through flush with the internal arch, it seems likely that similar to the south wall, that to the north was also rebuilt.

The room to the south of the gatehouse was then subject to a whole series of alterations. The fireplace was clearly not an original feature, it could not have functioned within the footprint of the original gatehouse, and must also post-date or be contemporary with the presumed rebuilding of the north wall. It is also possible that the insertion of the fireplace coincided with the remodelling of the south-east corner of the room, with a doorway constructed in the new diagonal wall. At some later date, probably 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century, the fireplace was demolished and the present doorway inserted into the entrance passage with the previous doorway remodelled into a window. The composite floor had also clearly been subjected to a series of alterations with the area that would have provided access to the brick conduit through the south wall covered over.

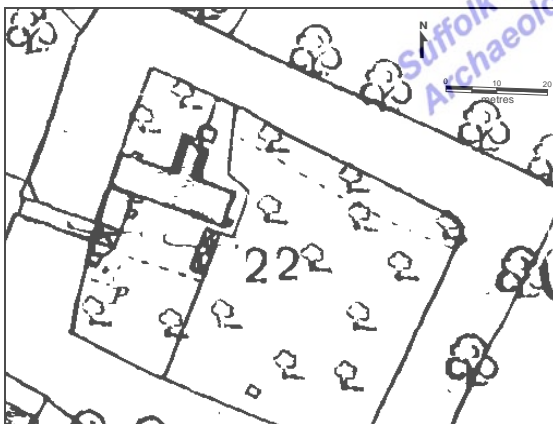


Fig. 11 Extract of 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map, c.1880

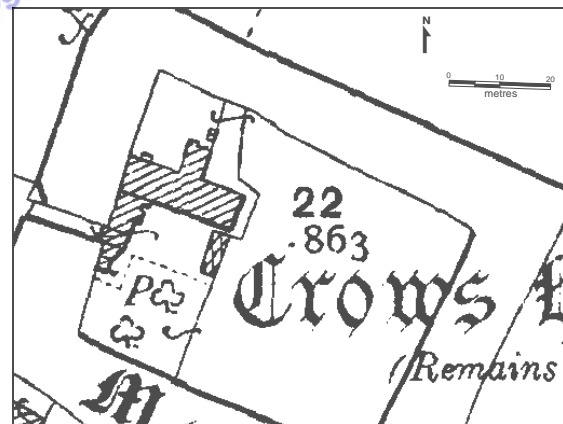


Fig. 12 Extract of 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS map, c.1900

During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century there were a number of other substantial additions and alterations throughout the site. The chimney stack attached to the north wall of the north range, the toilet complex (Figs. 11 & 12), the secondary moat revetment, the entrance hall to the north range, greenhouse and the steps and jetty were all later additions that represent a series of improvements undertaken during that time. The extension on the north side of the building may date to this time, although there is a possibility that there was an earlier timber-framed structure present which was subsequently consolidated in brick. The straight vertical edge seen in the render on the north wall of the north range, attributed an 18<sup>th</sup> century date by Philip Aitkins, suggests that there was another structure abutting the north wall at that time.

As the wall stub recorded here appeared to be c.16<sup>th</sup> century in character, it seems likely that it was one of the broadly original Tudor phase buildings.

Minor construction works and alterations clearly continued into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The toilet block became redundant and was dismantled as was the greenhouse in the courtyard area which was replaced by a series of raised beds. The extension on the north side of the north range was also extensively remodelled.

## 6. Conclusions

The archaeological evidence recorded during the refurbishment works only represents a tiny proportion of what actually survives below ground on the site. Even so, enough quality information was gleaned to confirm the medieval origins of the site, the presence of multiple ranges of the Tudor building and deduce the character of the 19<sup>th</sup> century structures shown on the early maps. However, it was the structural evidence recorded in the rooms flanking the gatehouse that added what was effectively a whole new phase to the constructional sequence of the building, albeit possibly not long after its initial construction during the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

## 7. Acknowledgements

The project would not have been successfully completed without the help and support of the following people:

Thanks are extended to the owner of Crows Hall, Caroline Spurrier who funded the archaeological work, provided background information and very welcome tea and biscuits. Also to John Hogg and his site staff with whom a close working relationship was established from the outset that enabled all of the necessary recording works to be undertaken. The project architect (Shaun Soanes of Nicholas Jacobs Architects) was supportive throughout. Thanks also for the input of Bob Carr of Suffolk County Council's archaeological Conservation Team. A number of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Field Team members worked on the project, under the direction of Stuart Boulter who was also the principal author of this report; Robert Atfield and Tony Fisher were involved in the fieldwork while Gemma Adams processed the finds and Richenda Goffin wrote the finds report.

## 8. Bibliography

Sandon, E., 1977 *Suffolk Houses, A Study of Domestic Architecture*. Baron Publishing, Woodbridge, Suffolk

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**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM**

**Appendix I Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation**

**CROWS HALL, DEBENHAM**

*This is the brief for the first part of a programme of archaeological work. There is likely to be a requirement for additional work, this will be the subject of another brief.*

**The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety and other responsibilities, see paragraphs 1.7 & 1.8.**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 There are a series of proposals for works to the moat and pond complex at Crows Hall, Debenham. At a site meeting (17 November 2005) the owner and agent were advised that some evaluation is necessary to determine the archaeological content of the proposal areas in order to inform an impact assessment and enable the preparation of proposals for mitigation and preferred ways of working to minimise adverse impacts.
- 1.2 The building and moat complex are included in the County Sites and Monuments Record (DBN 007); they comprise a large rectilinear moat and island, partly brick revetted and with a brick access bridge and house of the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century (Listed Building 281460 Grade II\*); a 16<sup>th</sup> century barn to the south of the access, probably part of an outer court to the moated area (LB 281461 Grade II); a complex of linear and rectilinear water filled ditches to the north which are provisionally interpreted as a moated orchard, garden canal and associated walkway and fish ponds (Figure 1).
- 1.3 **The principal proposed works & archaeological objectives** (see meeting note by Nicholas Jacob Architects received 30/11/05) are:

The desilting and clearing of the water filled ditches to the north. The archaeological objective of evaluation will be to establish the depth of silt, the age of the silt and the potential for early deposits and structures within it or at the ditch base; the potential for survival of significant organic deposits which could be suitable for scientific analysis to inform on the history of the immediate environment.

- 1.4 Provision of drainage within the main moated island from the access bridge area to the existing septic tank on the north side of the moat. This will cross an area with high potential to include formal paved yards and buildings which formed the inner court of the house (of which the standing building is only a surviving fragment). The likely pipe run will require evaluation to establish the extent of archaeology likely to be affected, its quality and depth, in order to inform design and a programme of mitigation.
- 1.5 The provision of services into the house. This will entail a gas pipe from the listed barn area to the bridge, and across the bridge. On the basis of the likely construction method of narrow cut and fill trenching, and shallow burial beneath the brick decking of the bridge, this action is likely to require constant archaeological monitoring and recording.
- 1.6 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.

- 1.7 Detailed 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.
- 1.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of any planning condition, which may be applied, will be adequately met.
- 1.7 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with this office before execution.
- 1.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

## 2. **Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation**

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposits or structural remains exist in the areas specified in 1.3-1.4, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Establish the potential for significant (particularly structural) waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area. Define the location and level of such deposits and their vulnerability to damage by development where this is defined.
- 2.4 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.5 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design, this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.6 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.

2.7 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

### 3. Specification: Field Evaluation

3.1 Trial trenches should be excavated to define the archaeological content of areas affected by 1.3 & 1.4. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' must be used. An indicative trenching design is laid out in Figure 2, however, a detailed design should be prepared by the archaeological contractor. The final trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins. Whatever the final trenching design a contingency allocation for the equivalent of a further two sections across the ditches (para. 1.3) and 10m of additional trenching within the main moat (para. 1.4) are to be made.

3.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

3.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.

3.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.

3.6 The contractor shall provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available.

3.7 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.

3.8 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.

3.9 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service during the course of the evaluation).

3.10 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.

3.11 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.

- 3.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 3.13 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

#### 4. **General Management**

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
- 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).
- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 4.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

#### 5. **Report Requirements**

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.8 The site archive is to be deposited with the County SMR within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.

- 5.9 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.10 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.11 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.12 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: R D Carr

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

Tel: 01284 352441

Date: 12 December 2005

Reference: /Debenham-CrowsHall12

**This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.**

**If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.**

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0001	0001	U/S finds	Unstratified finds					
DBN 124	0002	0002	Wall	Wall stub, north-east corner of original gatehouse seen in room to north of present entrance passage. 2 inch bricks				0012, 0015	c.16th
DBN 124	0003	0003	Floor safe	Hard cement lined floor safe cut into 0002	0002				c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0004	0004	Layer	Layer of cobbles seen in south-west corner of room north of gatehouse in angle formed by 0002. interpreted as possible metallated surface in original gatehouse					c.16th ?
DBN 124	0005	0005	Wall	One brick thick wall, base for studwork and front of cupboards seen on 20th century photographs (red frogless 2 3/4 inch bricks)		0007			c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0006	0006	Wall	Similar to 0005, but with reused 2 inch bricks, runs down eastern side of room north of gatehouse, S. of and butting with 0005		0007			c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0007	0007	Wall	Existing E. wall of room north of gatehouse, 2 inch 'orangey' fabric. No diaper work					c.16th
DBN 124	0008	0008	Wall	Wall stub, E-W orientated, continuous with 0007, abuts 0002					c.16th
DBN 124	0009	0009	Wall	Three bricks similar to 0005, but not tied in. Probably related to same wooden superstructure (red frogless 2 3/4 inch bricks)					c.19th-20th

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0010	0010	Wall	Standing W. wall of room north of gatehouse. Includes original portions at either end and base, upper and central portions contemporary with insertion of new room N. of gatehouse.			c.16th
DBN 124	0011	0011	Wall	S. wall of N. range, continuous with lower portion of 0010			c.16th
DBN 124	0012	0012	Wall	W. end of existing S. wall of room N. of gatehouse. No footing as such. Constructed from reused 2 inch bricks. Post-dates 0015	0002		c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0013	0013	Layer	Patchy area of pink mortar immediately N. of 0002, possibly part of a formally lain surface.			?
DBN 124	0014	0014	Layer	Hard mortar over dirty clay, respects 0006, either contemporary or layer it.			c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0015	0015	Wall	E. end of existing S. wall of room N. of gatehouse. 2 3/4 inch bricks, predates 0012	0002		c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0016	0016	Pit (Cut)	Large pit, NE end of Trench 3			med
DBN 124	0017	0016	Pit (Fill)	Dark grey/brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, fill of 0016			med
DBN 124	0018	0018	Pit (Cut)	Large pit, SW end of Trench 3			med
DBN 124	0019	0018	Pit (Fill)	Dark grey/brown silty clay with charcoal flecks, fill of 0018			med
DBN 124	0020	0020	Pavement	Existing brick pavement in courtyard (8 cm thick over hoggin)	0021		20th-21st

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0021	0021	Layer	Hoggin bedding layer for brick pavement 0020 (10 cm thick)				0020	20th, 21st
DBN 124	0022	0022	Layer	Grey loamy clay, 0.4 metres thick, seen in Trench 1. Includes fragments of CBM			0023, 0024	0021	?
DBN 124	0023	0023	Drain	Modern plastic 'french drain' seen in Trench 1	0022	0024			20th-21st
DBN 124	0024	0024	Drain	Base of brick drain (sides and top previously removed) seen running NNE-SSW across Trench 1	0022			0023	c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0025	0025	Layer	Topsoil associated with lawn in existing courtyard		0022			-
DBN 124	0026	0026	Wall	Brick-built raised flower bed with concrete footing, cuts through Trench 2	0027, 0028				20th
DBN 124	0027	0027	Layer	Layer of grey/brown clay with CBM frags and charcoal seen at W. end of Trench 2. Different in character to 0022, but probably the same feature			0026		?
DBN 124	0028	0028	Drain	Ceramic pipe comprising interlocking sections seen in Trench 2	0029		0026		c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0029	0029	Wall	NW corner of the demolished E. range seen under the existing garden wall and turning to the east in Trench 2 (2 inch bricks)	0032, 0033		0028, 0030		c.16th
DBN 124	0030	0030	Post-Hole (Cut)	Post-hole (concrete filled) on S. side of gateway between garden wall and the existing north wing	0029				20th
DBN 124	0031	0031	Drain	Plastic pipe seen on N. side of Trench 2					20th-21st



## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0032	0032	Layer	Grey/brown clay layer seen below topsoil at E. end of Trench 2, probably continuous with 0027		0029, 0033	-
DBN 124	0033	0033	Feature (Cut)	Feature apparently surrounding SE corner of standing building. Approx 0.4 metres deep in excavated section		0029	?
DBN 124	0034	0033	Feature (Fill)	Yellow chalky clay with basal layer of gravel/pebbles	0032		?
DBN 124	0035	0035	Layer	Layer of light brown clay with inclusions of CBM c.0.4 metres thick between the topsoil and underlying naturally occurring clay subsoil		0038	-
DBN 124	0036	0036	Wall	E-W orientated wall stub seen in W. arm of Trench 4. Tudor 2 inch bricks. Immediately below turf. Crack suggests W. end had pulled away towards the moat. 0.48 metres wide, at least 4 courses deep.			c.16th
DBN 124	0037	0037	Wall	N-S flint and lime mortar wall stub seen in N. arm of Trench 4			?med
DBN 124	0038	0038	Pipe-Trench	0.3 metre wide pipe-trench seen running from NW-SE across N. arm of Trench 4. Contains copper pipe and seen to enter side of standing building after cutting top of 0065	0035		c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0039	0039	Wall	N-S orientated wall stub, seen in small isolated excavation but dealt with as Trench 4. Tudor 2 inch bricks. Lines up with vertical end of render on N. wall of standing building. Truncated to south.			c.16th

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0040	0002	Wall	Continuation of E. wall of original gatehouse seen in existing entrance passage.			c.16th
DBN 124	0041	0041	Structure	Brick base and surround of fireplace seen in the NW corner of the room immediately S. of gatehouse. Orange red fabric, measuring 9 x 4 1/2 x ? Inches.			?c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0042	0042	Floor	Brick floor adjacent to 0041, straight joint with 0043 to S. Fawn/pink fabric 9 x 4 1/4 x 2 1/4 inches			?c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0043	0043	Floor	Tile floor (pamment) S. of 0042. 9 x 9 inches			?c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0044	0044	Floor	0.9 metres by 0.45 metres area in SW corner of room S. of gatehouse. Mixed floor bricks and tiles, found to be associated with conduit 0047 through wall to south.			?c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0045	0045	Pipe	Outlet pipe for modern toilet in NE. corner of room S. of gatehouse			c.20th
DBN 124	0046	0046	Layer	Layer/lump of concrete at base of diagonal component to the SE of room S. of gatehouse. Possibly associated with blocking of doorway			c.19th-20th
DBN 124	0047	0047	Conduit	Brick conduit through S. wall of room S. of gatehouse. Depressed 4-centred arch, contemporary with wall. Constructed in 2 inch bricks.			c.16th

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0048	0047	Conduit	Continuation of 0047 where seen external to building. Partially dismantled and filled with rubble. Curves round to discharge into moat.			c.16th
DBN 124	0049	0049	Wall	Truncated stub of S. wall of room S. of gatehouse. Cut to facilitate insertion of diagonal wall across SE. corner			c.16th
DBN 124	0050	0050	Wall	Truncated stub of E. wall of room S. of gatehouse. Cut to facilitate insertion of diagonal wall across SE. corner			c.16th
DBN 124	0051	0051	Soakaway	Brick-built soakaway. Dome broken and replaced with concrete (0052). Bricks unmortared 2 3/4 inch reds		0052	c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0052	0052	Capping	Concrete capping of 0051, includes some iron reinforcing. Hole covered with aluminium disk.	0051		c.20th
DBN 124	0053	0053	Structure	Squared brick structure immediately N. of 0051. 2 3/4 inch brick in hard lime mortar. Appears to be of later construction, possibly contemp with 0052. Either diverts earlier drain (0054) into 0051, or contemporary with 0054.			?c.20th
DBN 124	0054	0054	Drain	Brick-built drain, uses 2 inch bricks and peg tile in its construction. Original relationship with 0051 unclear			c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0055	0055	Wall	N-S aligned wall stub, represents E. wall of west wing, on line with 0050 and 0007. Constructed in 2 inch bricks, truncated by later pipes to the N.			c.16th

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0056	0056	Wall	Vestiges of E-W brick wall seen in post-holes from pergola and as a stub at base of existing garden wall. 2 inch bricks, represents ?internal wall of S. wing			c.16th
DBN 124	0057	0057	Wall	E-W aligned wall stub seen N. of 0056. 2 inch bricks, represents N. wall of S. wing			c.16th
DBN 124	0058	0058	Wall	Possible vestiges of E. wall of S. range seen at base of extant garden wall S. of 0056. 2 inch bricks			c.16th
DBN 124	0059	0059	Wall	c.10 metres long collapsed section of moat revetment wall on N. side of platform towards NW corner. Constructed in 2 3/4 inch bricks			c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0060	0060	Wall	In situ section of revetment wall E. of 0059. Seen after demolition of existing steps. Similar to 0059			c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0061	0061	Conduit	Brick-built conduit draining towards N. side of platform seen after removal of brick steps. Constructed using 2 3/4 inch bricks and re-used 2 inch bricks			c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0062	0062	Well	Brick-built well (possibly a soakaway). Unmortared 2 3/4 inch bricks. Capped by reinforced concrete & limestone slab. Would have been immediately adjacent to original extension, but actually encroaches under applied 1960's brick skin		0073, 0075	c.18th-20th
DBN 124	0063	0063	Structure	Overall number given to the surviving below ground brick structure of a series of toilets			c.18th-19th

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0064	0064	Wall	E-W wall stub, represents base of N. wall of a chimney breast seen on early OS maps attached to existing extension. 2 3/4 inch bricks			c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0065	0065	Wall	L-shaped flint and lime mortar wall stub with buttress at E. end. Includes some tile in construction. Possibly related to 0037, but slightly different alignment.			?med
DBN 124	0066	0063	Structure	Phase I toilet chamber. Three vertical sides, W. side slopes down to flat base. Constructed from mix of 2 inch (reused) and 2 3/4 inch bricks		0067	c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0067	0063	Structure	Phase II remodelling of 0066. Earlier chamber was backfilled with rubble with a new sloped floor & chute inserted to take material through to new chamber (0069) to the N.	0066		c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0068	0063	Structure	Phase II structure abutting 0066 to W. Includes outer wall base and chute discharging into Phase II chamber 0069 to N.			c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0069	0063	Structure	Phase II chamber to N. of 0067 and 0068. Brick floor with dry lain brick sides (unless mortar has leached out). Filled with rubbish (mainly bottles and ceramics) with rubble on top.			c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0070	0063	Wall	Wall running between toilet complex 0063 and wall 0074 of existing extension to S.			c.18th-19th

## Appendix II DBN 124: Context List and Descriptions

SITE	OPNO	CONTEXT	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	CUTS OVER	CUTBY UNDER	MODIDATE
DBN 124	0071	0076	Pipe	Ceramic pipe discharging from drain complex 0076. Heads under Phase II toilet block 0068. Probably running into moat.			c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0072	0072	Footing	Modern (1960's) footing of extension rebuild. Seen mainly around NW corner, where it had been narrowed to avoid damaging wall 0065			c.20th
DBN 124	0073	0073	Layer	Capping for well 0062. Combines reused limestone slab (possibly a fireplace or threshold) and reinforced concrete slab (c.5 cm thick) on which 0075 was built	0062	0075	c.20th
DBN 124	0074	0074	Wall	Surviving section of earlier extension wall adjacent to drain 0076.			c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0075	0075	Wall	1960's remodelling of earlier extension. Flettons up to damp, then reused 3 inch bricks. Whole wall on W. and N. side, just a brick skin over brickwork and timber frame to E.	0063		c.20th
DBN 124	0076	0076	Drain	Drain complex immediately north of 0074			c.18th-19th
DBN 124	0077	0077	Wall	Length of 2 inch brick wall seen at base of existing garden wall between N. gate and central gate. Possibly continuous with 0029			?c.16th
DBN 124	0078	0078	Wall	Length wall base (frogless red bricks) seen in garden coinciding with a greenhouse seen on early OSS maps			c.19th