

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

BOWLS CLUB, CASTLE STREET, FRAMLINGHAM (SMR ref. FML 046)

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2007
(Application No: C/07/0366/FUL)

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2007/173
(OASIS Ref. suffolkc1-31385)

Summary

Framlingham: Framlingham Castle Bowls Club (TM 2862 6367; FML 046). A trial trench evaluation was carried out at the above site in advance of the construction of extensions (conservatory and store room) to the existing clubhouse. Two trenches (total area 5.70m²) were excavated, representing approximately 20% of the area of the proposed development.

The evaluation revealed turf over probable garden soil to a depth of at least 0.30m. No archaeological features or deposits were observed and no artefacts were recovered.

SMR information

Planning application no:	C/07/0366/FUL
Site code:	FML 046
Date of fieldwork:	12 September 2007
Grid Reference:	TM 2862 6367
Funding body:	Framlingham Castle Bowls Club

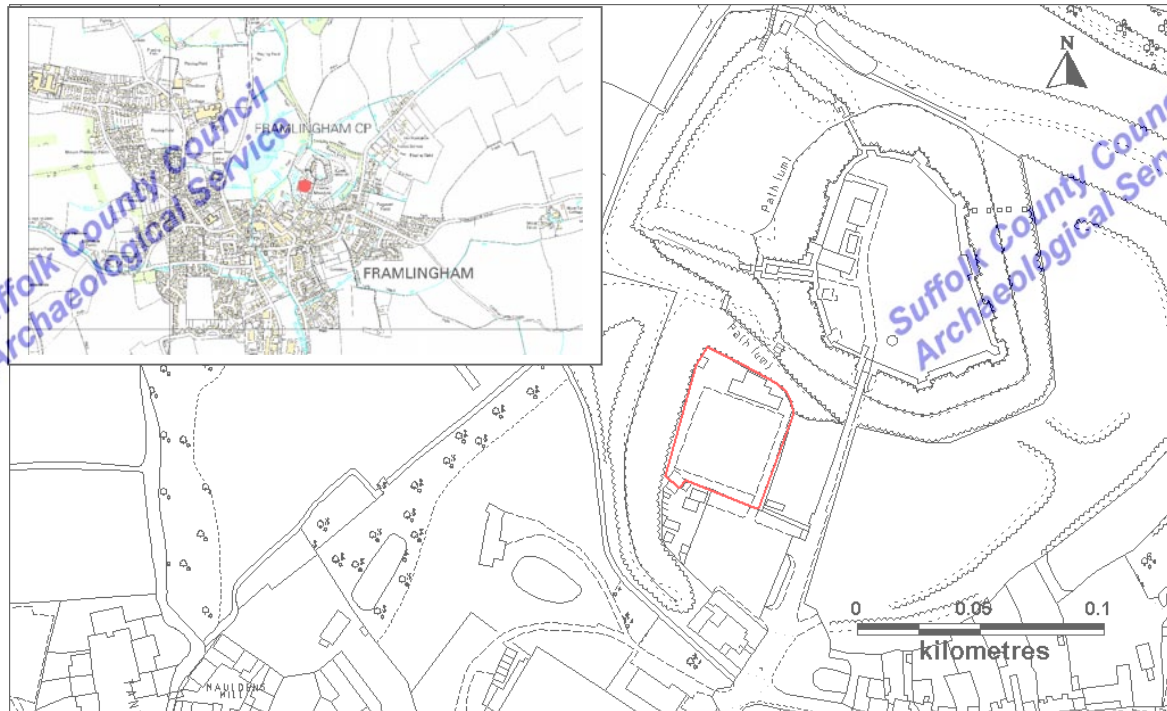


Figure 1. Maps showing the location of the Framlingham Castle Bows Club

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Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Framlingham Castle Bows Club, Castle Street, Framlingham (Fig 1) as part of an archaeological condition in relation to planning permission for the construction of extensions (conservatory and store room) to the existing clubhouse, (application number: C/07/0366/FUL).

The site is located in the Outer Bailey of medieval Framlingham Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument considered to be of national importance. Although the Bows Club (and adjacent car park) are currently unscheduled they have the potential to contain archaeological remains that are as important as those within the Scheduled Ancient Monument. For example, an Anglo-Saxon cemetery is known to underlie the bowling green.

Methodology

The archaeological evaluation was carried out largely in accordance with a Brief and Specification written by Keith Wade of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Conservation Team (see Appendix).

The writer visited the site on 12 September 2007 to oversee the excavation by hand of two evaluation trenches by members of the Bows Club (Fig 2). The trench to the side of the existing clubhouse (in the area of the proposed conservatory), measured 4.70m x 0.60m x 0.30m deep. The trench to the rear of the clubhouse (in the area of the proposed store room), measured 2.90 x 1.00m x 0.30m deep. The latter was in variation to Mr Wade's specification for the evaluation; the presence of a concrete slab outside the back door of the clubhouse meant that this evaluation trench had to be made shorter but wider

than was envisaged originally. The limited depth of both trenches was due to the nature of the proposed foundations for the extensions – reinforced concrete raft slabs to a depth of 300mm.

The sides and bases of the evaluation trenches were examined for archaeological features and deposits. The excavated material was scanned visually and with a metal detector for artefacts that might be dated archaeologically. Representative vertical sections in each trench were trowelled clean and photographed.

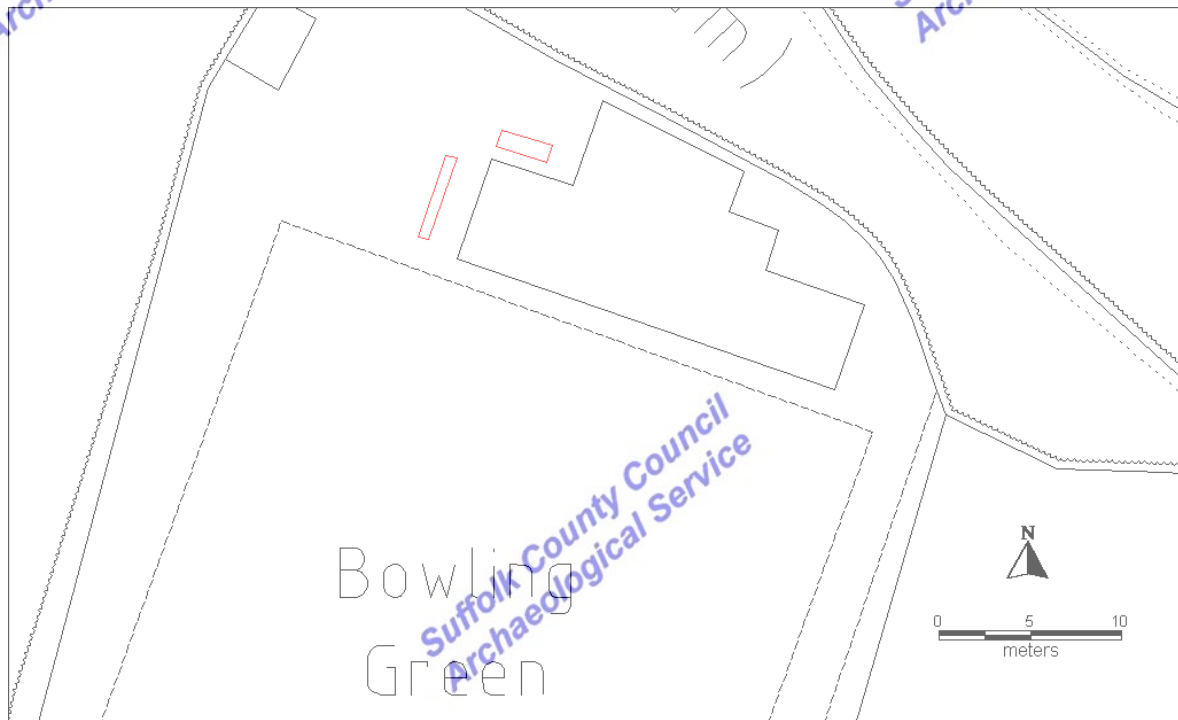


Figure 2. Plan locating the evaluation trenches (red)

Results

Both trenches revealed the same sequence of turf over probable garden soil (Fig 3), the latter being a friable, brownish grey sandy silt containing frequent pebbles and fine roots, occasional small fragments of coal, brick, tile, slate, 19th-century pottery and clay tobacco pipe stems and modern objects. The garden soil extended below the bases of both trenches.

No archaeological features or deposits were seen in the evaluation trenches and no artefacts were recovered from the excavated material.



Figure 3. Photo showing the evaluation trench at the rear of the clubhouse

Conclusion

Due to the limited depth of the evaluation trenches only modern deposits of turf and probable garden soil were exposed. Any archaeological deposits or features that exist on this site can be assumed to be at greater depth.

Based on this evidence, it is considered improbable that the groundwork associated with the proposed extensions to the clubhouse will have any impact on archaeological remains. However, it should be noted that any decision regarding additional archaeological work on the site remains with the Archaeological Planning Officer.

Kieron Heard
Project Officer, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Projects Team

13 September 2007

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APPENDIX: Brief and Specification

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

BOWLS CLUB, CASTLE STREET, FRAMLINGHAM

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

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.

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning Consent has been granted for the erection of a conservatory and store room at the Bowls Club, Castle Street, Framlingham (C/07/0366/FUL) subject to the following condition:

"No development shall take place within the area of the application site until a full archaeological evaluation of the site has taken place and the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval in writing (see Note 1).

Reason: To ensure the proper recording of archaeological artefacts.

Notes to the Applicant:

1. The site is considered to be of national archaeological importance and the archaeological evaluation may result in a conclusion being reached that it is not appropriate to develop the site owing to the detrimental impact upon archaeological features. The applicant is advised to contact Keith Wade (County Archaeological Service) on 01284 352440 to discuss the details of the archaeological evaluation and programme of works."
- 1.2 **An archaeological evaluation of the application area is required as the first part of such a programme of archaeological work; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of additional briefs..**
- 1.3 The site lies within the outer bailey of Framlingham Castle (a nationally important archaeological site). The bowling green and adjacent car park are excluded from the area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument but the archaeological deposits underlying them are technically of the same, national importance.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 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 the planning condition 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 deposit exists in the area, 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 within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.

2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and natural soil processes. Define the potential for existing damage to archaeological deposits. Define the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits, their impact and potential to mask any archaeological deposit. Define the potential for artificial soil deposits and their impact on any archaeological deposit.

2.4 Establish the potential for 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.

2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

2.6 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.

2.7 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.

2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.

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

3. Specification for Field Evaluation

- 3.1 A single trench 0.6m wide is to be dug by hand across the centre of the proposed footprint of both the conservatory and store room to a depth of 300mm.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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).
- 3.5 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.
"Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England" English Heritage and the Church of England 2005 provides advice and defines a level of practice which should be followed whatever the likely belief of the buried individuals.
- 3.6 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.

- 3.7 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 3.8 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.
- 6.12 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).

6.13

Specification by: Keith Wade

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

Tel: 01284 352440

Date: 25 May 2007

Reference: /Bowls Club, Castle Street

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.