ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NEW ADMISSIONS BUILDING FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE, FRAMLINGHAM

SMR Ref. FML 047; OASIS ref. suffolkc1-33244

SCCAS Report No. 2007/197

Summary: *An archaeological evaluation was undertaken during October 2007 to investigate the potential for buried archaeology within the footprint of the proposed new admissions building inside the Outer Bailey at Framlingham Castle, Framlingham (NGR ref. TM 2862 6361). A single hand dug trench was excavated to the depth of the proposed raft foundation. This revealed various layers of made ground. The upper layers comprised hardcore associated with the modern car park surface although a layer of dense clay at the base of the excavation, which yielded two sherds of medieval pottery, may be associated with the construction of the castle earthworks. No cut features of any period were noted. The evaluation is recorded on the County SMR under the reference FML 047. The evaluation was undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service who were commissioned and funded by The Whitworth Co-Partnership, on behalf of their client, English Heritage.*

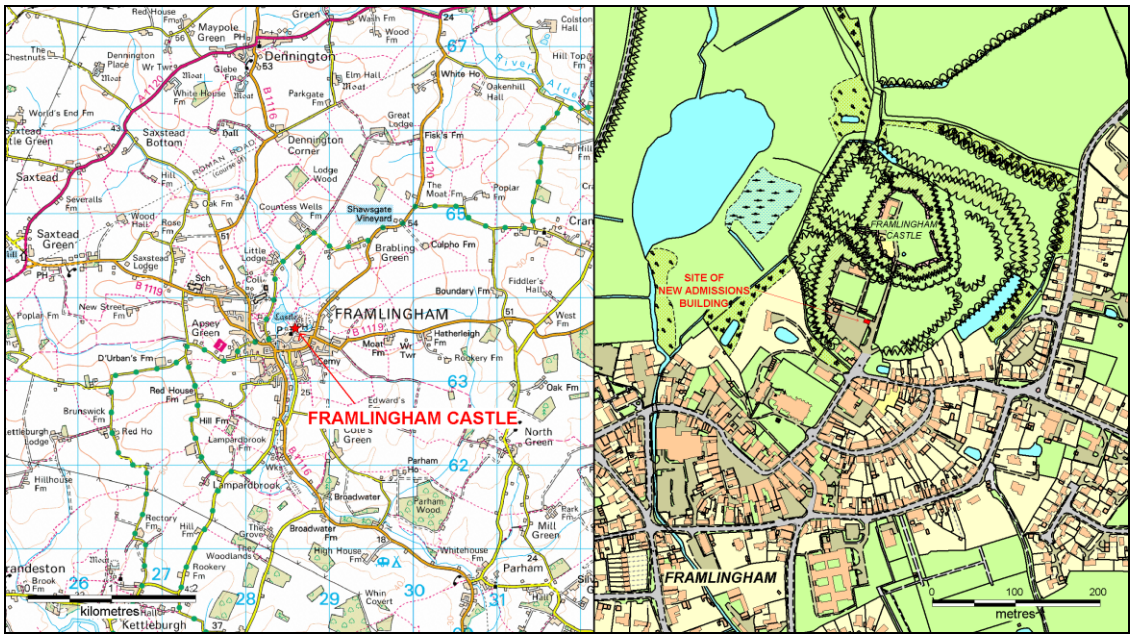

Figure 1: Location Plan

1. Introduction

It has been proposed to construct a New Admissions Building at Framlingham Castle, Framlingham. The chosen site lies in the northeast corner of the carpark within the castle's Outer Bailey. The building is to be built on a raft foundation no deeper than 650mm. Planning permission has been granted (application Number C/07/1337/FUL)

but is conditional on an agreed programme of archaeological works being in place prior to any works on site. The first stage of the programme was to comprise an evaluation in order to establish the full archaeological implications of the proposed development and to inform decisions as to what further archaeological work may be required.

Framlingham castle is a medieval castle dating from the 12th century. It is a Scheduled Monument although the site of the New Admissions Building is just outside the scheduled area. The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the New Admissions Building is TM 2862 6361.

To detail the work required a Brief and Specification was produced by Dr, Jess Tipper of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team for the evaluation phase of the programme (See Appendix). The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by The Whitworth Co-Partnership, on behalf of their client, English Heritage, who funded the work, and was undertaken by the Field Projects Team of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.

The evaluation archive is lodged with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at its Bury St. Edmunds office under the Sites and Monuments Record reference, FML 047. A summary of this project has also been entered onto OASIS, the online archaeological database, under the reference suffolkc1-33244.

2. Methodology

A single trial trench was hand dug to the depth of the proposed raft foundation. The tarmac surface of the carpark had been removed by the onsite contractors. This overlay a sub-base of rammed/rolled sand and gravel over a brick rubble hardcore which required a small hand operated pneumatic breaker to loosen prior to its removal.

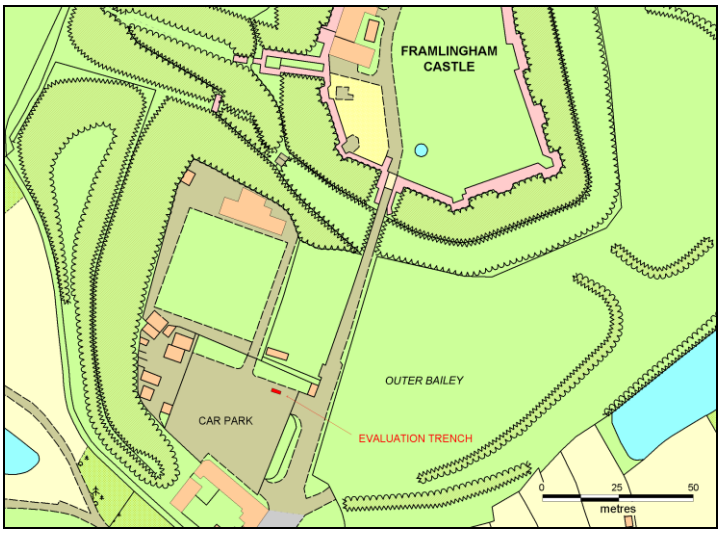

Figure 2: Trench Location

The area of the trench was then progressively lowered in spits in order to identify any archaeological features or deposits that may be present and to recover any significant artefacts. Following excavation the revealed stratigraphy was recorded, the trench location plotted and the depth noted. Context numbers were issued to each observable phenomenon starting at 0002, 0001 being reserved for unstratified finds from the site although in the event none were recovered. A dumpy level was used to transfer a Bench Mark from the nearby St Michael's

Church to record relative heights above sea level. A photographic record was also compiled.

3. Results

A single trench measuring 3m by 1m (context number 0002) was excavated across the area liable to be affected by the proposed construction. See figure 2 for a plan of its location and figure 3 for a section through the stratigraphy exposed in the northern face of the trench (see also Plate I).

A series of layers were cut through and these are described as follows (context numbers in brackets): The upper layers comprised the tarmac surface of the carpark and a sub-base of yellow sand and gravel (0003), this in turn overlay a 0.2m thick deposit of rubble comprising broken and crushed soft frogless reds with lime mortar and occasional blocks of ?septaria (0004) . Beneath this lay a 0.18m thick deposit of dark brown clayey loam with small chalk lumps and charcoal flecks (0005). The final layer encountered comprised dense, stiff, grey clay with lumps of chalk and occasional charcoal flecks (0006). The clay appeared to in one deposit but upon excavation it could be seen that it consisted of lumps and chunks. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from this clay layer which have been dated to the XXth century. Only horizontal layers of material were encountered and no incised features were noted.

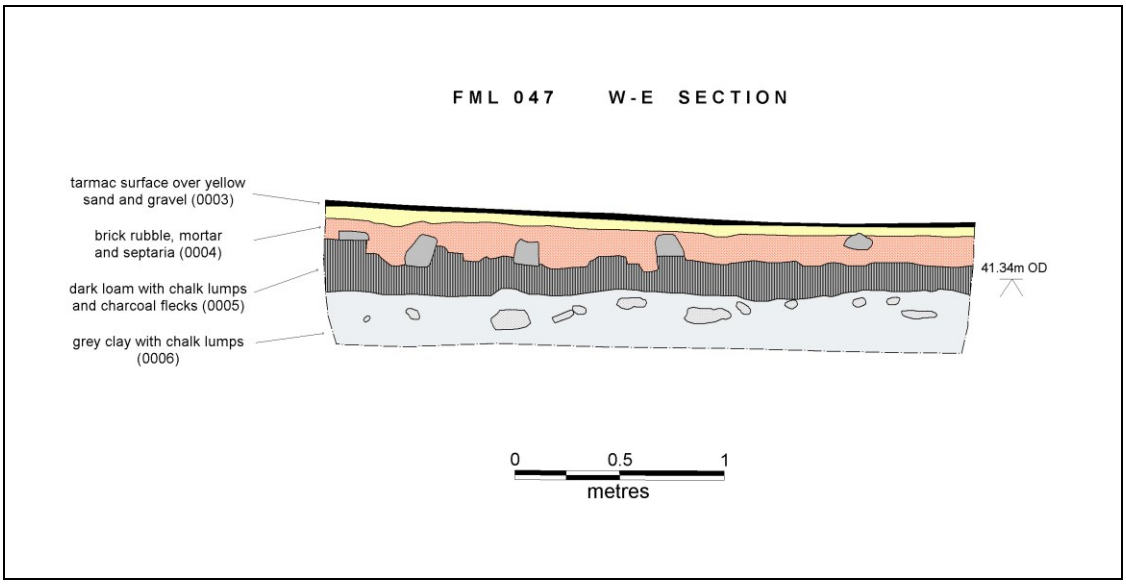

Figure 3: Section – north face of trench

4. The Finds

Richenda Goffin, August 2008.

Introduction

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

OP	Pottery		CBM		Flint		Animal Bone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0006	26	331	1	83	1	6	1	47		13th-14th C
0007	31	332					9	88	1 burnt flint @ 64g	13th-14th C
0008	5	63								13th-14th C
0009	2	37								L12th-14th C
0010	22	370								13th-14th C
0011	9	220	1	5			7	63	2 oyster shell @ 64g	L13th-14th C
Total	95	1353	2	88	1	6	17	198		

Pottery

A total of 95 fragments of medieval pottery was recovered from the monitoring and excavation, weighing 1.353kg. The assemblage has been fully quantified and catalogued, with the information presented in Appendix *. The pottery consists of a range of medieval coarsewares including Hollesley-type ware, and smaller quantities of Glazed wares. The dating of the pottery from the different contexts appears to be homogenous, for the most part covering the 13th and 14th centuries.

The majority of the assemblage is made up of coarseware body sherds, but several jar rims were present, most of which are thickened, everted and squared, dating to the 13th-14th century. In addition, part of a strap handle from a coarseware jug was also identified (0007). A small number of glazed wares were also present, including a sherd provisionally identified as Hollesley glazed ware. A glazed strap handle from deposit 0011 may be from a jug or could perhaps be a curfew handle.

Only a few earlier sherds were present in the assemblage (4 fragments @ 0.045kg). Several fragments of Yarmouth type ware dating to the 11th-12th century were present in layer 0006 and a fragment of Orange Shelly Ware was found in the same context (12th-13th C).

The pottery assemblage is dominated by different types of wheelthrown coarsewares ranging from fine to coarse gritty fabrics. In addition a quantity have been classified as ‘Hollesley type wares’, made in pale buff to off-white fabrics in forms which follow the tradition of such wares in East Suffolk. The fabrics themselves may not be the same as the products of the Hollesley kilnsite itself, and are likely to have been produced elsewhere. Small number of unprovenanced glazed ware jug sherds were also present, some of which are likely to have been produced locally. One sherd of

Hollesley Glazed ware and one of Yarmouth Glazed ware were provisionally identified, but no Hedingham Fineware, (commonly found further to the south and to the west of the county), Grimston or Ipswich Glazed wares were identified. No imported wares were identified.

Ceramic building material

A single fragment of medieval pegtile was present in layer 0006. The tile has a sandy fabric with a reduced core and with sparse shell and occasional clay pellet inclusions, and dates to the 13th-15th century. A small sliver of ceramic building material from 0011 made in a fine oxidised fabric is likely to be post-medieval and is probably intrusive.

Flint (identification by Colin Pendleton)

A single fragment of flint was present in layer 0006. It is an unpatinated squat flake with hinge fracture, and has a natural striking platform, and limited edge retouch or ?use/wear. It is probably Bronze Age or Iron Age.

Burnt flint

A fragment of burnt flint was present in 0007.

Animal bone

Seventeen fragments of animal bone were recovered from three contexts (0.198kg). Part of the lower jaw of a pig was present in 0006, and a fragment of an upper jaw was identified in 0007 with a fragment of a sheep radius and a bird femur, two ribs and three pieces of burnt bone. A fragment from the proximal end of a horse metacarpus was present in 0011 with the radius of a sheep and 3 rib fragments.

Discussion

Considerable quantities of medieval pottery dating to the 13th-14th century were recovered from the monitoring and evaluation. Much of this material was collected during the machining for the new structure and during the excavation of the sewer trench (contexts 0010 and 0011). In addition, some of the pottery appears to have been redeposited as part of the consolidation within the castle itself, and may have come from the castle ditches. The pottery assemblage appears to have been made up of utilitarian jars and jugs, some of which are glazed, but no imported wares were identified, indicative of a high status site.

5. Discussion

The tarmac, the sand gravel sub-base (0003) and the brick rubble (0004) are undoubtedly part of the modern carpark surface although the surface of the brick rubble layer was relatively level suggesting it may actually represent an earlier phase of hardstanding in this area. The dark loam (0005) appears to be a buried topsoil suggesting that prior to the creation of the hardstanding/carpark this area may have been grassed similar to area of the outer bailey to the east of the castle approach road.

The clay layer (0006) noted at the base of the excavation is undoubtedly imported material as testified by the inclusion of the pottery sherds. It was also noted to have the appearance of having been deposited as lumps and chunks which have been rammed together over time suggesting that this material was excavated elsewhere and transported to this site as lumps and chunks prior to their deposition. The most likely

source of this material is from the excavation of the castle ditches with the material being dumped within the areas enclosed to raise them higher and so enhancing the defences of the castle.

The surface of the clay is possibly the ground level at the time of the completion of the outer bailey and its ditches and as such is the level at which occupation evidence could be expected although no obvious occupation deposits were noted.

6. Recommendations for Future Work

Excavation for the slab foundation will cut into the clay layer possibly associated with the castle's construction and upon which occupation may have occurred. Although no features or deposits were noted in the evaluation trench there remains the possibility that they may be encountered. Consequently as excavation approaches the level of the clay an opportunity should be made for a monitoring archaeologist to examine the surface for features and excavate as required prior to excavation to finished construction levels.

M. Sommers 30th October 2007
Suffolk County Council, Field Projects Team

PLATES

Plate I: Stratigraphy as seen in the north face of trench

Plate II: General view, looking northwest

APPENDIX

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE, CASTLE STREET, FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. Background

1.1 Planning consent has been made to Suffolk Coastal District Council (application C/07/1337/FUL) for the erection of a new admissions building (on the site of the existing ticket office) at Framlingham Castle, Castle Street, Framlingham (TM 2860 6361).

1.2 The Planning Authority will be advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition). An archaeological evaluation of the application area will be 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 evaluation.

1.3 The site is a medieval castle (Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record FRM 001). It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, which is protected by statute. The proposed building, measuring 7.60 x 4.90m in area, will be located within the area of the outer bailey on the western side of the entrance to the inner castle, which is immediately outside the scheduled site. There is high potential for medieval occupation deposits to be disturbed by development at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance with the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

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 the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) 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.

1.9 Any changes to the specifications that the project manager may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT for approval.

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* [at the discretion of the developer].

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 the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

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 SCCAS/CT (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: Field Evaluation

3.1 A single trial trench is to be excavated within the area of the new admissions building, measuring c. 3.00m x 1.00m in area. This shall be positioned within the grassed area to the west of the existing admissions shed, which is to be demolished. **(Please contact the applicant for an accurate map of the final application area).**

3.3 All excavation should be undertaken by hand. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

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 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must 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 J. Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

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 SCCAS/CT 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. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. 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 and/or high resolution digital images.

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 SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than ten days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.

4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to

have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record.

4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.

4.4 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.

4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.

4.6 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 report should reflect the aims of the Project Design.

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, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. 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 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the county SMR.

5.8 The project manager must consult the SMR Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

5.9 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.

5.10 The project manager should consult the County SMR officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.

5.11 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.

5.12 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.

5.13 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

5.14 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County Sites and Monuments Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

5.15 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.

5.16 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: Dr Jess Tipper

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Date: 1 August 2007 Reference: / FramlinghamCastle-Framlingham2007

This brief and specification remains valid for six 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.

Archaeological contractors are strongly advised to forward a detailed Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council for approval before any proposals are submitted to potential clients.

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.