

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

## CROWN HOTEL, MARKET HILL, FRAMLINGHAM (HER ref. FML 048)

A REPORT ON THE MONITORING OF GROUNDWORK ASSOCIATED  
WITH AN EXTENSION TO THE FUNCTION ROOM  
(Application Nos. C/06/1730)

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2007/225  
(OASIS Ref. suffolkc1-35352)

*Summary: Archaeological monitoring of groundwork associated with the refurbishment of existing outbuildings to create a function room at the Crown Hotel, Market Hill, Framlingham (NGR; TM 2850 6338), was undertaken during March 2007. The lowering of a floor area and the excavations for underpinning were examined but only made ground deposits were seen. Pottery sherds recovered from this layer suggests an 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date for its build up. No natural subsoil was seen in any of the monitored excavations. This monitoring event is recorded on the Historic Environment Record under the reference FML048. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Projects Team, who were commissioned by MR+P Architects on behalf of their client, Greene King Pub Partners, who funded the work.*



Figure 1: Location Plan

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## Introduction

Archaeological monitoring of groundwork associated with the refurbishment of existing outbuildings to create a function room at the Crown Hotel, Market Hill, Framlingham, was undertaken during March 2007. Although there are no known archaeological sites within the development area interest in the site is due to its location within the area of the medieval town of Framlingham.

Works primarily entailed the lowering of floor levels and the excavation of underpinning trenches, both of which were likely to involve significant ground disturbance with the potential to reveal and damage any archaeological deposits or features that may be present. Consequently an archaeological condition was placed upon the planning consent to allow for archaeological monitoring of the work in order to provide a record of any archaeological features or deposits that may be revealed. To detail the archaeological work required a Brief and Specification was produced by Mr K. Wade of the Suffolk County Council Conservation Team (see Appendix).

The National Grid Reference for the approximate centre of the function room is TM 2850 6338 (for a location plan see figure 1); the site lies at a height of approximately 32m OD. This monitoring event is recorded on the Historic Environment Record under the reference FML048. It is also recorded on the OASIS, online database under the reference; suffolkc1-35352. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Projects Team, who were commissioned by MR+P Architects on behalf of their client, Greene King Pub Partners, who funded the work.

## Methodology

Visits were made to inspect the groundworks once they were underway. Any open excavations present during the site visit were examined for cut features and archaeological deposits. Any revealed soil profiles were recorded, with the depths and thickness of any layers identified noted. The surfaces of any spoil tips present on site during the monitoring visits were examined for archaeological artefacts.

## Results

The site was visited on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007 and the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007 to inspect the groundworks then underway (see figure 2). The ground level within the new function room had been lowered by up to 300-400mm and the resultant surface and spoil was examined but no features or deposits were noted and no significant artefacts were identified. No natural subsoil was revealed as only made ground deposits had been removed. Brick and tile fragments and a small number of 18<sup>th</sup>



Figure 2: Area of Function Room  
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century pottery sherds were identified within the spoil but these were not retained.

A series of excavations for underpinning some of the existing internal partition walls were also inspected but these did not penetrate through the made ground layer. Again, occasional sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery were noted but no significant archaeological deposits or features were identified.

The monitoring archive from this project will be deposited at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service offices in Bury St Edmunds under the reference FML 048.

## **Conclusion**

No significant archaeological deposits or features were noted within the monitored excavations with only made ground deposits being disturbed. Artefactual evidence suggests a 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date for its deposition and it is presumed that earlier levels remain undisturbed.

# APPENDIX

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

### Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

## CROWN HOTEL, MARKET HILL, FRAMLINGHAM

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission to extend the function room of the Crown Hotel, Market Hill, Framlingham, has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (C/06/1730). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence and the proposed foundation methods indicates that the area affected by new building can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 The proposal lies within the medieval town of Framlingham and will involve significant ground disturbance.
- 1.3 As strip foundations are proposed there will only be limited damage to any archaeological deposits, which can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation of the trenches by the building contractor.
- 1.4 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.

### 2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which would be damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for the medieval occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of building footing trenches. These, and the upcast soil, are to be observed during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor.

### 3. Arrangements for Monitoring

- 3.1 The developer or his archaeologist will give the County Archaeologist (Keith Wade, Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR. Telephone: 01284 352440; Fax: 01284 352443) 48 hours notice of the commencement of site works.
- 3.2 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the observing archaeologist) who must be approved by the Planning Authority's archaeological adviser (the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service).
- 3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and timetable.
- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered, the County Archaeologist should be immediately informed so that any amendments deemed necessary to this specification to ensure adequate provision for

recording, can be made without delay. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

#### 4. **Specification**

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Archaeologist and the 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity should be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.
- 4.3 In the case of footing trenches unimpeded access at the rate of one and half hours per 10 metres of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording before concreting or building begin. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed should be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.5 All contexts should be numbered and finds recorded by context as far as possible.
- 4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.
- 4.7 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. 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.
- 4.8 Developers should be aware of the possibility of human burials being found. If this eventuality occurs they must comply with the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857; and the archaeologist should be informed by '*Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England*' (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005) which includes sensible baseline standards which are likely to apply whatever the location, age or denomination of a burial.

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

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value

of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

- 5.4 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, should be prepared and included in the project report.
- 5.5 County Sites and Monuments Record sheets should be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.6 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.
- 5.7 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: Keith Wade

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

Date: 26 January 2007

Reference: /Crown Hotel, Market Hill

**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.**