

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT**

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SCCAS REPORT No. 2008/224

# **Blox Hall, Hitcham**

## **HTC 065**

R. Brooks  
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[www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/e-and-t/archaeology](http://www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/e-and-t/archaeology)

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Lucy Robinson, County Director of Environment and Transport  
Endeavour House, Russel Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX.

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## HER Information

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**Planning Application No:** B/08/00863/FHA

**Date of Fieldwork:** 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th October, 2008

**Grid Reference:** TL 972 525

**Funding Body:** Mr and Mrs Eve

**Curatorial Officer:** Jess Tipper

**Project Officer:** Rob Brooks

**Oasis Reference:** Suffolkc1-49669

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:  
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

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## Contents

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### Summary

	Page
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background	2
2. Methodology	4
3. Results	6
3.1 Extension trenches	6
3.2 Drive-way stripping	7
3.3 Moat recording	8
4. Finds	9
4.1 Introduction	9
4.2 Pottery	9
4.3 Ceramic building material	10
4.4 Discussion	10
5. Discussion	10
6. Conclusions and significance of the fieldwork	11
7. Archive deposition	12
8. Contributors and acknowledgements	13
9. Bibliography	13
Disclaimer	

### List of Figures

1. Site location	1
------------------	---

2.	1841 tithe map, with Blox Hall in apportionment '178'	2
3.	First Edition OS map, 1885, showing Blox Hall in apportionment '36'	3
4.	Plan showing existing ponds	5
5.	Site plan	5
6.	Extension trench plan	6
7.	Feature plan and sections at 1:20	8

### List of Plates

1.	Well showing domed top	7
2.	Well showing section	7

### List of Tables

1.	Finds quantities	9
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### List of Appendices

1.	Brief and Specification	
2.	Context list	
3.	Finds catalogues	

## Summary

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An archaeological monitoring was carried out on land at the front and rear of Blox Hall, Hitcham, Suffolk. This uncovered a post-medieval well and ditch-like feature, as well as a deposit possibly relating to a phase of post-medieval house construction. Unstratified medieval and post-medieval pottery and CBM were also recovered. The soil horizons were generally intact, except for minor truncation of the topsoil around the areas close to the house. A survey of the presence of standing water extended the existing plan of the moated enclosures.

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# 1. Introduction

A series of visits were made to the site on the 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th October 2008 to monitor the excavation of 7 trenches for a house extension and the stripping of an area for a new drive way at Blox Hall, Hitcham (Fig. 1). The work was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by Jess Tipper (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team – Appendix 3) to fulfil a planning condition on application B/08/00863/FHA. The work was funded by the current owners, Mr and Mrs Eve.

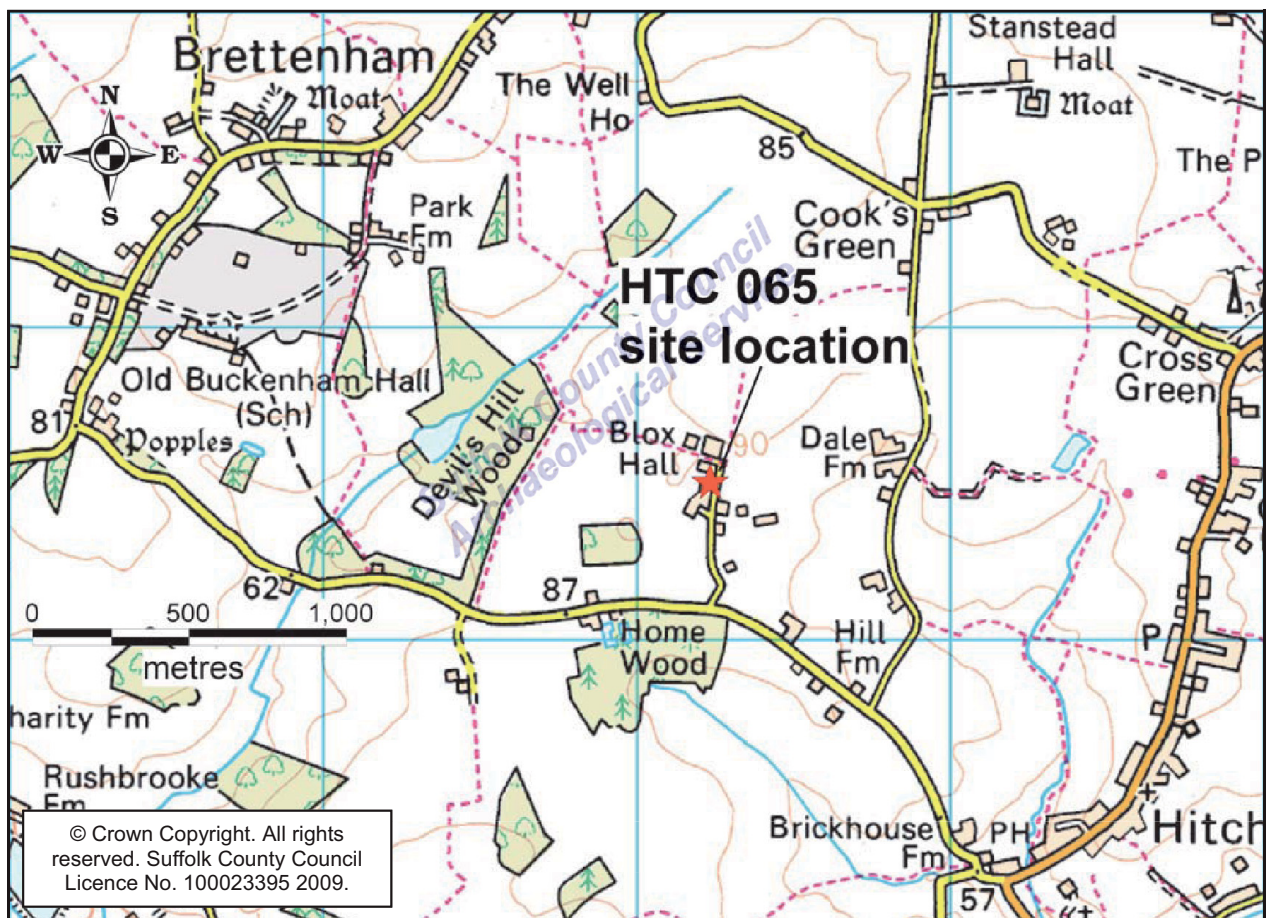


Figure 1. Site location

Interest in the site was based upon its location within close proximity of a medieval ditched enclosure or moated site, recorded under Historic Environment Record code HTC 021 (Fig. 2). The development therefore had the potential to disturb archaeological deposits, and thus required constant monitoring during the groundworks to record any archaeological features or finds disrupted by the development which would potentially impact on the wider understanding of medieval Hitcham.



## 1.1 Background

Blox Hall is situated c.1.5km north-west of the village of Hitcham (Fig. 1). This apparently isolated position is to be expected, with medieval moated sites often being found in 'backlands' areas outside of the main village settlement (Martin, 1999). Moated enclosures were used partly to provide protection from stock rustlers or predators, although they often lack defensive walls and banks. In fact the main purpose of these features was to emphasise lordship and social status in the medieval period (ibid.). Most medieval moats were rectangular in form, although early examples are sometimes circular or rounded. Their size is taken to be indicative of a hierarchy, where enclosures over an acre in size (c.4047sqm) tend to be manorial or monastic, whereas those of approximately half an acre are more likely to be associated with parsonages or ancient free tenement farms (ibid.). The two existing enclosures at Blox Hall are c.0.8 of an acre (c.3200sqm) and c.0.78 of an acre (c.3120sqm). Associated barns and other farm buildings would not usually be situated within the house moat, being more regularly found close to the approach to the moat entrance or sometimes within a separate moated or ditched enclosure (ibid.). Whilst moats were a feature from the late 12th century until c.1550, most were built in the period of 1200-1325 (ibid.).

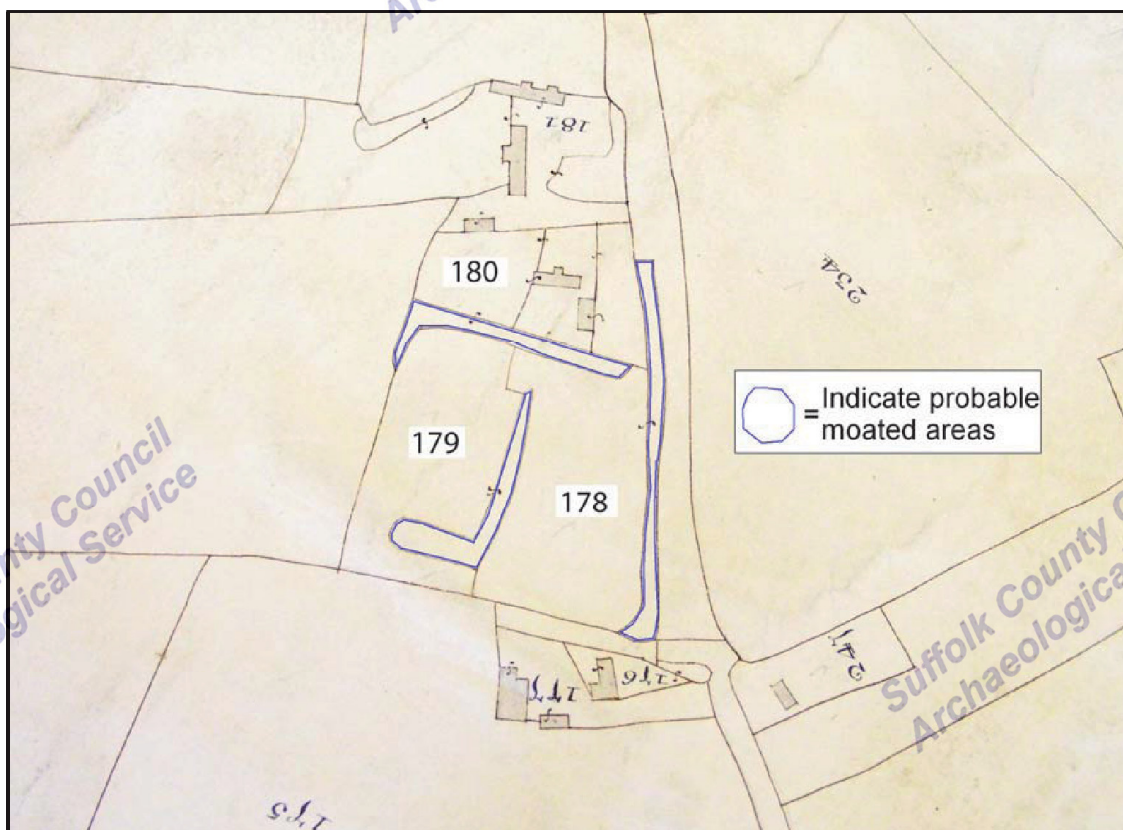


Figure 2. 1841 tithe map, with Blox Hall in apportionment '178'

Blox Hall itself can be traced back prior to 1251 and was not located on the current position of the house (alternatively spelt as Bloxhall or Blockshall), which is thought to have been within the now more clearly defined enclosure to the north-west ('Phase 1 house area', Fig. 2) (Martin, pers. comm.). This earliest phase may pre-date the property being known under its current title, a name it was probably given c.1251 when Robert Blok and his wife Iveta became free tenants of the manor estate (ibid.). At some point the house is thought to have then been rebuilt as the property now known as Old Bloxhall House to the north-east of the existing site, after which it then moved to its current position. The structure has a roof of probably 16th century date (ibid.).

On the 1841 title map there is no sign of either the first phase of the house or its current form (Fig. 2). The associated listings record only "orchard" in both apportionment 178 and 179. However, in 180 there are listings of a house and gardens, which are almost certainly Old Bloxhall House. The listed occupier at the time for all three plots was John Adams and the landowner was John Camac. A long stretch of what is probably the old moated enclosure still ran north-south along the road. The house also shows up on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885, revealing what appears to be an ornately shaped path or drive way in front of the house (Fig. 3). Apart from this, the map shows the site to have changed little since the late 19th century.

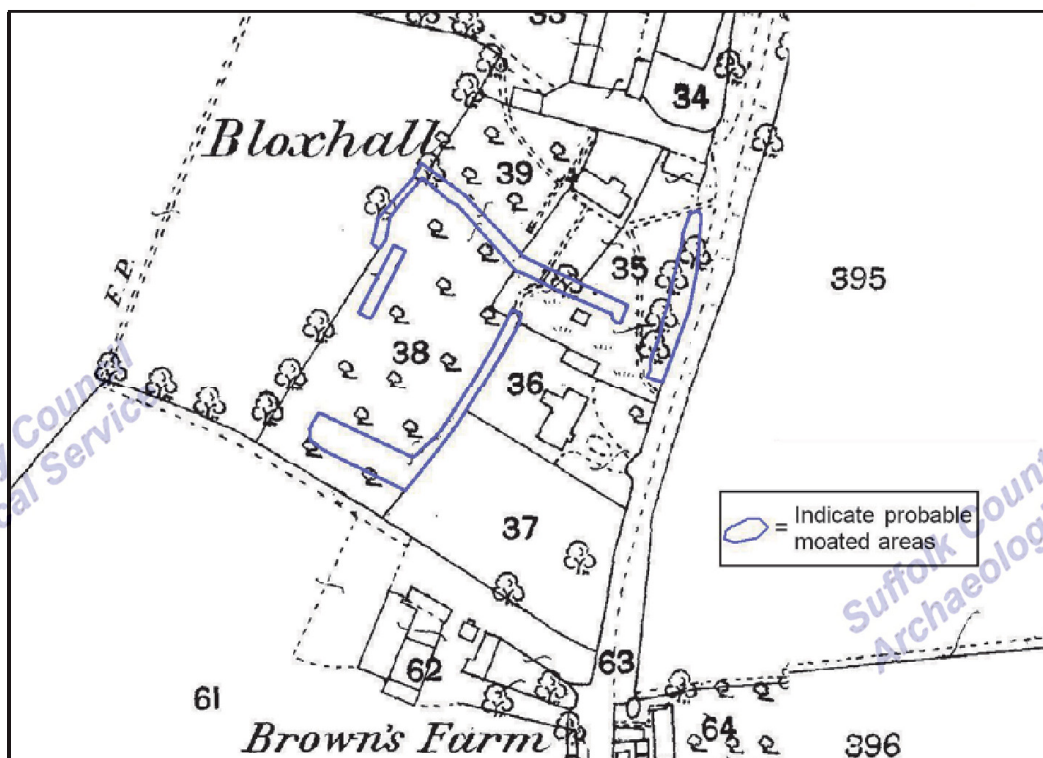


Figure 3. First Edition OS map, 1885, with Blox Hall in apportionment '36'

## 2. Methodology

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Seven linear trenches were excavated on the northern side of the house, using a mechanical digger fitted with a c.0.5m toothed bucket under the constant supervision of an archaeologist. 11.9sq metres were excavated at c.0.5-0.7m wide (Figs. 4 & 5). The majority of the trenches were excavated to c.1.1m deep, and in part of Trench 1 to a depth of c.1.65m. Three trenches were only excavated to c.0.7m deep as marked on Figure 4. The natural subsoil of orange and grey clay with chalk flecks was generally found at a depth of c.0.7m in this area, beneath a modern layer of aggregate (c.0.3m thick) and topsoil with high clay content. Upcast soil was regularly examined for finds. After these trenches were excavated, an area of 193.4sq metres was stripped at the front of the house for a drive way and path. This was carried out with a machine equipped with a toothless bucket to a depth of c.0.3-0.4m deep. To compliment the understanding of Blox Hall's former site layout, the existing moats and ponds of the area were hand measured from OS points (Fig. 3). This was felt necessary to effectively illustrate the former layout of the site and thus to potentially help to explain any deposits found during the monitoring.

Archaeological features were sampled where possible by hand excavation to at least the minimum requirements of the specification (Appendix 1). However, feature 0005 was only partially hand excavated as it was initially hard to distinguish from the natural subsoil and also was located at a substantial depth and in a very confined space, which posed safety risks. Sections were recorded of any features and the trench stratigraphy at a scale of 1:20 (Fig. 7) and the features and trench locations were planned against points on the national grid (Fig. 5). A 1:20 plan was made of well 0004 in Trench 1. Digital colour JPEG format photographs at a resolution of 72 x 72 dpi were taken of trench profiles, well 0004 and feature 0005. The site was recorded using a single continuous numbering system (Appendix 2). Bulk finds have been washed and quantified, and inked copies of section drawings have been made. An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolkc1-49669) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>). The site archive is kept in the main store of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds under Historic Environment Record number HTC 065.



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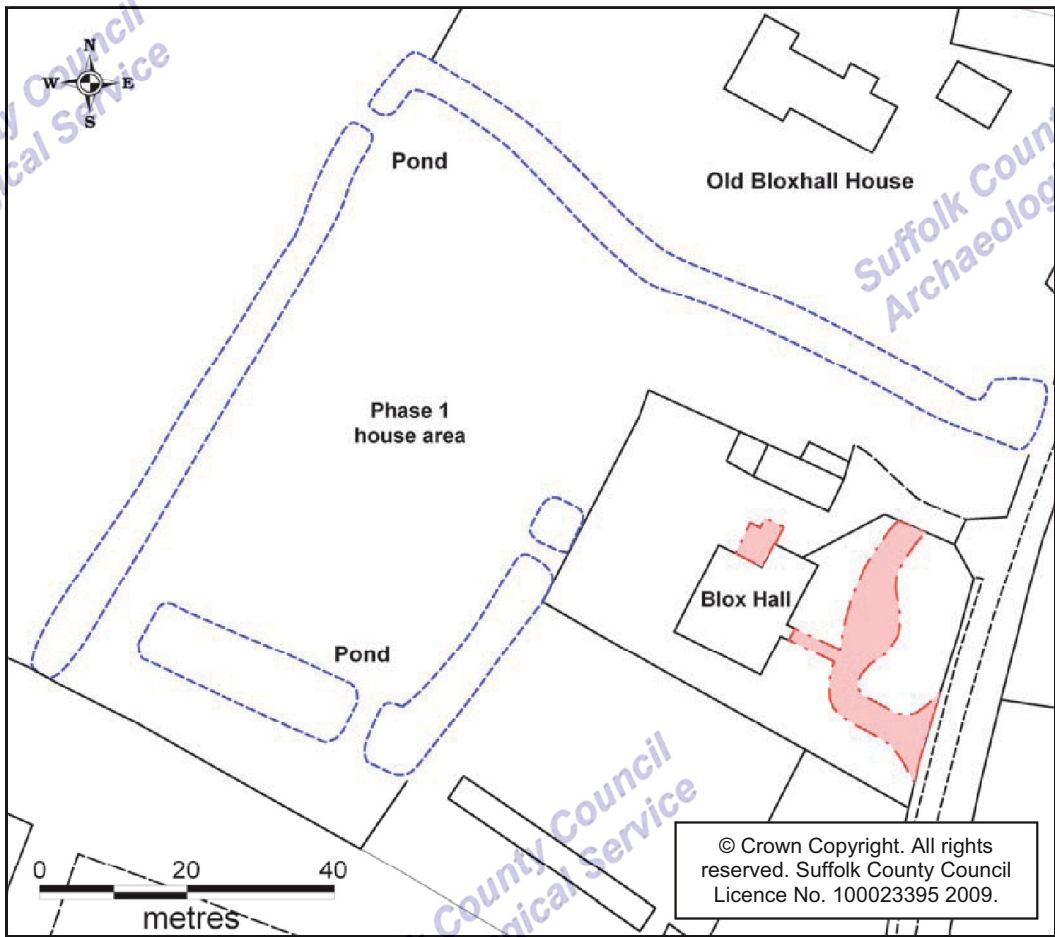


Figure 4. Plan showing the existing moat

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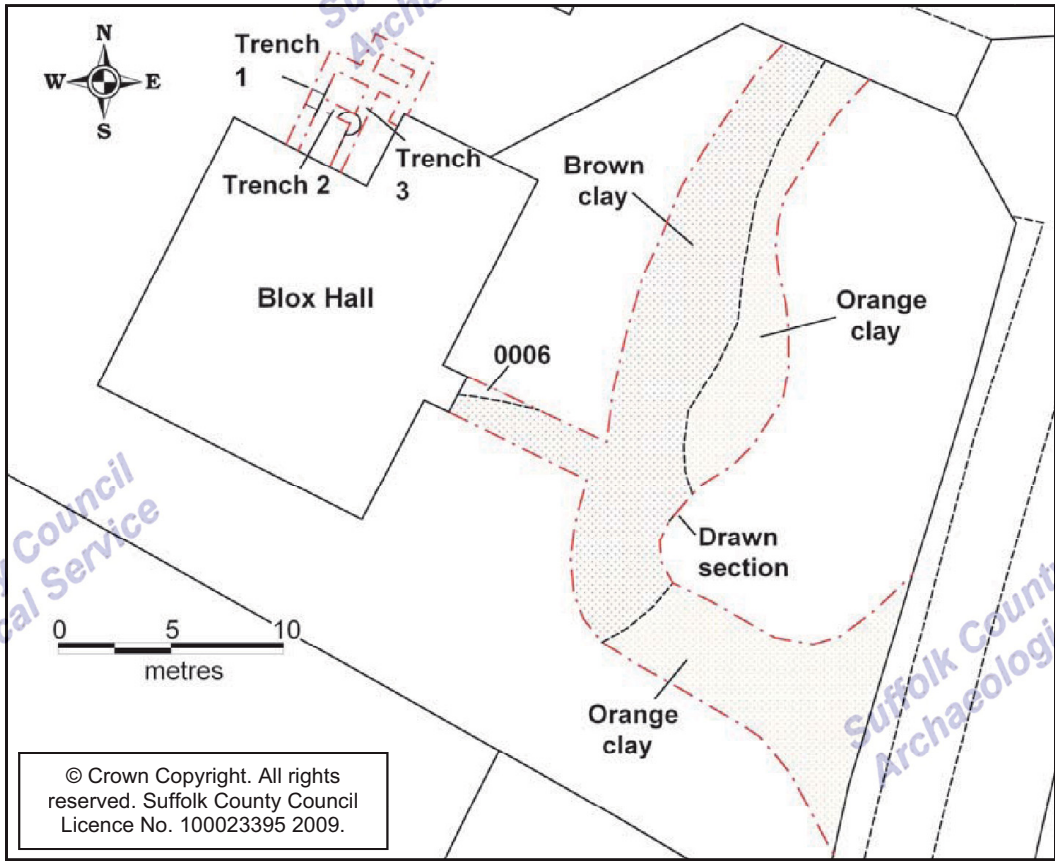


Figure 5. Site plan

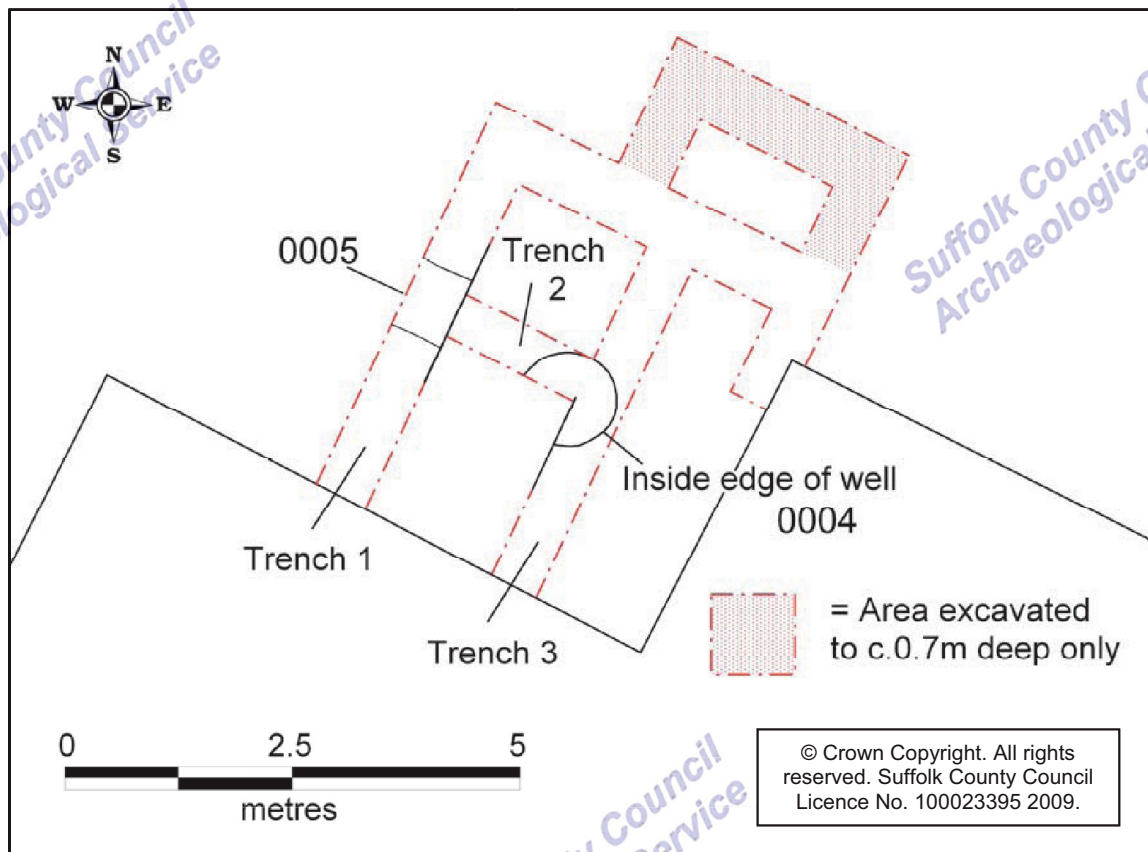


Figure 6. Extension trench plan

### 3. Results

(Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7, Plates 1 and 2, and Appendix 2)

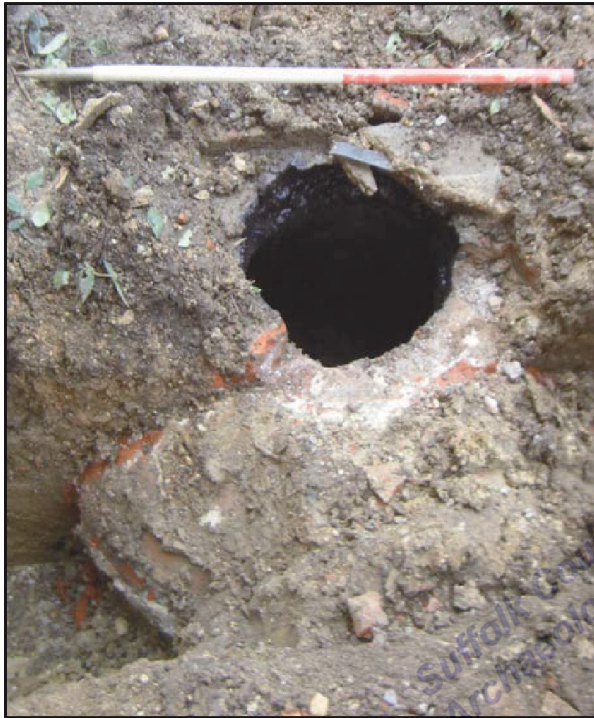
#### 3.1 Extension trenches

The monitoring of the extension trenches to the rear of the house revealed well 0004 and feature 0005. The well was in the corner of Trenches 2 and 3, and the bricks used date it to the Late 17th-18th century. It had a circular shaft, which was domed at the top. The brickwork was irregular, with internal dimensions that were variable between c.1.04m-c.1.11m. In the main shaft there were approximately 16 bricks per course. It had been lined with a black water-proofing material, which was possibly degraded bitumen. The wall of the house to the south-east had 'Well 6 F' marked into the paintwork, which refers to the distance of 0004 from the house of c.6 feet (c.1.83m).

Feature 0005 was in Trench 1. It ran through both sections, with 80°-90° sloping sides, and appeared to be aligned north-west to south-east, in line with 0004. The fill, 0003, was made up of a grey/green/orange clay mix with chalk nodule inclusions, which was very similar to the surrounding natural subsoil, making it difficult to define although its



form was of a ditch or trench. It was machine excavated as it was initially unclear that it was a separate feature and it was also too deep to be safely hand-excavated. It was not clearly visible in Trench 2, though this may be because it was impossible to distinguish. The upcast spoil was closely sorted for finds and fragments of brick and roof tile were collected from within fill 0003, which date the feature to the 17th century or later.



Plates 1 and 2. Well 0004 showing domed top and section

### 3.2 Drive-way stripping

The drive-way stripping removed c.0.3m of topsoil. In areas closest to the road frontage this uncovered brownish-orange clay natural subsoil 0002, but towards the house was light-mid brown clay 0007, which overlaid 0002 and was a subsoil layer below the topsoil. Unstratified finds from 0002 included medieval coarseware pottery and one post-medieval porcelain fragment. One unstratified post-medieval CBM fragment was recovered from 0007.

A small deposit of CBM, mortar and stones, recorded as 0006, was found extending from the front of the house. This material included two different brick types dating from the late or post-medieval period and was only a loosely concentrated and thin (<c.0.04m deep) deposit heavily mixed with topsoil that was not seen elsewhere. It was recorded as it was thought to possibly relate to the drive-way shown on the First Edition

Ordnance Survey Map, or to a phase of the house construction. It dates to the 17th century onwards.

### 3.3 Moat recording

The survey of the location of the existing areas of standing water and ditches revealed the majority of a surviving rectangular enclosure to the north-east of Blox Hall that totalled c.0.8 of an acre, or c.3200sqm ('Phase 1 house area'- Fig. 2). Based on the remaining areas of standing water and the historical maps, it is thought that another moat also surrounded the area where the existing house now stands. This would have been approximately the same size and shape as the first enclosure. Such a feature would have encompassed an area of c.0.78 of an acre (c.3120sqm). The First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows another length of wide ditch, running south-west to north-east along the road, possibly indicating a further enclosure.

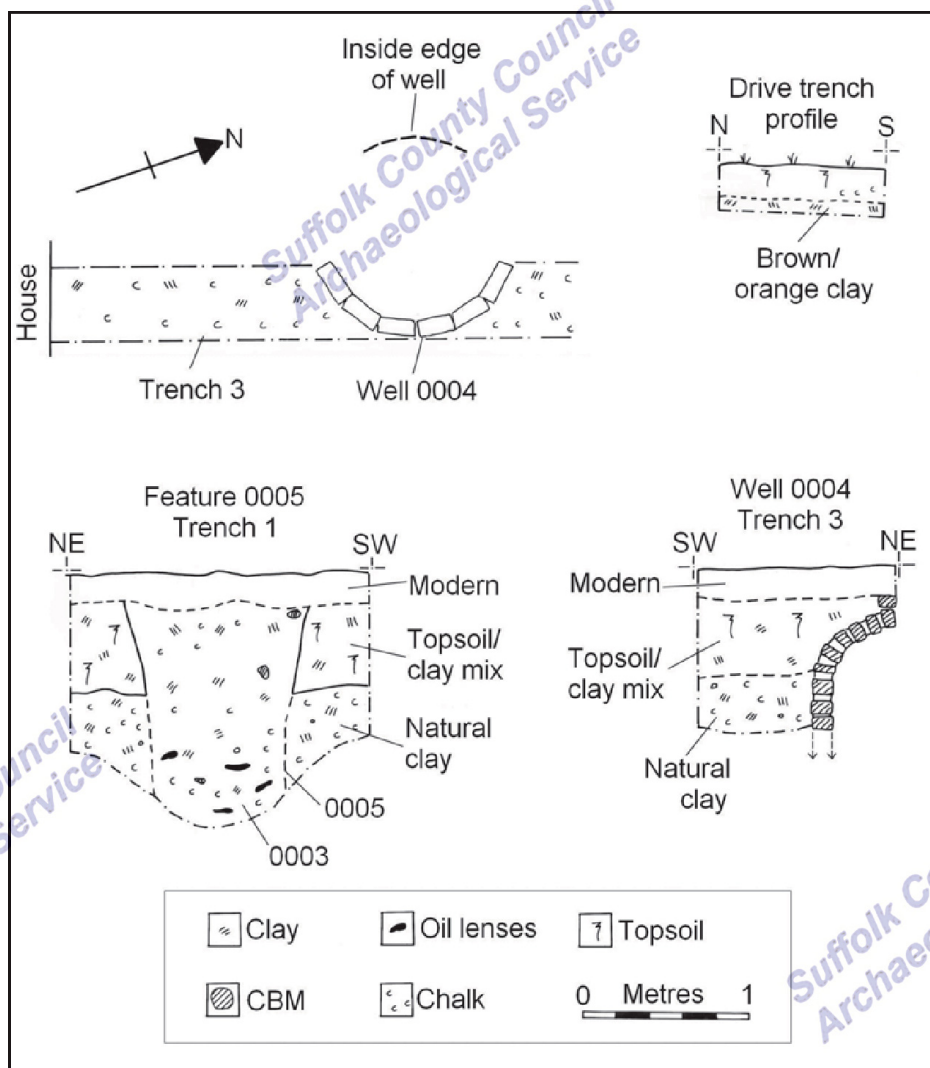


Figure 7. Feature plan and sections at 1:20

## 4. Finds

Richenda Goffin

### 4.1 Introduction

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

Context	Pottery No.	Wt/g	CBM No.	Wt/g	Spotdate
0002	6	81			Med/Pmed, unstratified
0003			2	221	17th C+
0004			2	4184	L17th C-18th C
0006			2	295	17th C+
0007			1	48	Post-med
Total	6	81	7	4748	

Table 1. Bulk finds

### 4.2 Pottery

Six sherds of pottery were recovered from the monitoring (0.081kg). The ceramics have been fully catalogued (Appendix 2).

Five fragments of medieval coarseware were identified dating to the Late 12th-14th century, including two sooted sherds from the base of a jar or cooking vessel. A small abraded fragment classified as Medieval Coarseware Gritty has a fabric which contains moderate coarse quartz up to 2mm in length. The majority of sherds are uniformly reddish to dark brown on the outer surfaces and have reddish brown or pale grey interiors, and are similar to coarsewares produced in the Essex region.

A single fragment from the base of a porcelain dish or bowl decorated with blue applied sprig decoration was also found in this context, dating to the 18th -19th century.

The pottery is unstratified but was collected from near the front of the house. The medieval coarsewares represent evidence for the original moated house built to the west of the present hall, or Old Bloxhall House to the north.

### **4.3 Ceramic building material**

Seven fragments of ceramic building material were collected (4.748kg). The assemblage was fully quantified and catalogued (Appendix 2). The group mainly consists of brick fragments, but a small number of roof tiles were also identified.

A single fragment of roof tile made in a medium sandy fabric with calcareous voids which is likely to be medieval was found redeposited into feature 0003. It has been reused and has mortar over a broken edge. It was found with a brick fragment dating to the seventeenth century or later.

A small sample of ceramic building material was retained from the well 0004, including a nearly complete brick. Its dimensions are similar to post-medieval bricks catalogued by Drury as dating to the Late 17th-18th century (Drury 165). A fragment of a reused brick from the same feature is similar in date.

Another brick of the same date was found deposited into the driveway on the north-east corner of the front door of the house, with a small fragment made from sandy fabric with clay pellet inclusions dating to the late or post-medieval period.

### **4.4 Discussion**

The small quantity of unstratified medieval pottery is likely to have originated from the medieval moated house. The fabrics identified are similar in appearance to coarsewares found at Syers Farm, Hitcham (Goffin, forthcoming).

The ceramic building materials recovered from the monitoring provide an indication that the well at the intersection of Trenches 2 and 3 dates to c17th century or later.

## **5. Discussion**

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The project revealed evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity on the site. There was little truncation across the area, except for the shallow disturbance seen in the top



of the footing trenches, and it is not thought that this affected any archaeological deposits.

A well was uncovered in Trenches 2 and 3, which was clearly associated with the post-medieval phase of the existing house according to its close proximity and the marking 'Wall 6 F' on the wall to the south-east of the feature. The bricks used in construction of the shaft and the lack of evidence for it on the First Edition OS map suggest that it was in use from the Late 17th-18th century until prior to 1885 (Fig. 3). A feature of unknown function or type was also identified in Trench 1 and recorded as 0005. It appears to have been some sort of ditch or trench, but its full extent was unclear and its fill only produced redeposited post-medieval material. Its alignment with the well perhaps indicates that it was associated in some way.

No features were uncovered at the front of the house, which is possibly as a result of the shallow stripping. However, deposits 0006 and 0007 produced unstratified finds from the 17th century onwards and are probably the remnants of redeposited building refuse and natural topsoil accumulation, respectively. Further finds from the front of the house were recovered from the top of the natural orange clay and were mainly 12th-14th century medieval pottery. These may relate to the current house in its earliest form, or perhaps to one of the earlier phases of the house.

The standing water survey revealed two probable moats, one of which is more clearly defined, and is probably associated with the earliest phase of the house, with the second possibly containing associated buildings, or a later rebuild of the house. The size of both enclosures, at close to an acre each, suggests a relatively high status residence, which fits with the records of Robert and Iveta Blok as free tenants.

## **6. Conclusions and significance of the fieldwork**

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Monitoring of the footing trenches and drive-way stripping has extended the understanding of the post-medieval occupation on the site, particularly to the rear of the existing house where the well was uncovered. Whilst feature 0005 could not be fully explained, it also represents post-medieval activity on a significant scale in the small

area uncovered and may be the remainder of a boundary ditch, drainage system, or feature related to 0004.

The quantity of unstratified medieval pottery is also important and may indicate the spread of medieval activity over the drive-way strip. It seems unlikely that features would be located directly in this area however, as none were observed across the natural subsoil where it was visible.

With projects of this nature it is difficult to be confident of the interpretation of features such as 0005, or unstratified finds. This is because of the limited visibility in the footing trenches and in this case, the limited areas of natural subsoil revealed during drive-way stripping. However, the evidence does serve to extend the understanding of the post-medieval occupation of the site and was particularly useful in helping to confirm its medieval status.

## **7. Archive deposition**

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Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds T:\Arc\Archive field proj\Hitcham\ HTC 065 Hitcham Blox Hall

Finds archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds store. Parish box H/80/4.



## 8. List of contributors and acknowledgements

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The monitoring was carried out by Rob Brooks from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was directed by Rob Brooks, and managed by Andrew Tester, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and the production of site plans and sections were carried out by Gemma Adams, and the specialist finds report by Richenda Goffin. The report was checked by Richenda Goffin.

## 9. Bibliography

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Drury, P., 1993, 'Ceramic Building Materials' in Margeson, S., *Norwich Households*. East Anglian Archaeology 58, Norwich Survey.

Goffin, R., 'The pottery' in Gardner, R., Excavations at Syers Farm, Hitcham, SCCAS forthcoming.

Martin, E., 1999, 'Medieval Moats' in Dymond, D., and Martin, E., *An Historical Atlas of Suffolk*. Suffolk County Council.

Martin, E., 2009, pers. comm.

### Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

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### The Archaeological Service

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Environment and Transport Service Delivery  
Shire Hall  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk  
IP33 2AR

## Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

### BLOX HALL, BURY ROAD, HITCHAM, SUFFOLK

*Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications*

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission for the construction of a new driveway and extension, following removal of existing extensions, at Blox Hall, Bury Road, Hitcham, Suffolk IP7 7PR (TL 972 525), has been granted by Babergh District Council conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (B/08/00863/FHA).
- 1.2 Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological monitoring (**Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the development**).
- 1.3 This application lies in an area of archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, within the area of a medieval moated enclosure (HTC 021). There is a strong possibility that medieval occupation deposits will be encountered at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.4 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 Written Scheme of Investigation (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 WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be

used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

1.5 Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liaise with the site owner, client and the Conservation Team of SCCAS (SCCAS/CT) in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.

1.6 All arrangements for the excavation 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 by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.

1.7 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

1.8 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.

1.9 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

## **2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring**

2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.

2.2 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the ground works associated with the new driveway, principally topsoil stripping/ground reduction to a depth of 0.30 – 0.40m, and also the new extension, principally foundation and service trenches. Any ground works, and also the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after stripping by the building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.

## **3. Arrangements for Monitoring**

3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by SCCAS/CT.

3.2 The developer or his contracted archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT 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. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

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 this Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.

- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

#### **4. Specification**

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to SCCAS/CT and the contracted archaeologist to allow archaeological monitoring of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground. In particular, the topsoil stripping for the new driveway should be the subject of continuous archaeological monitoring.
- 4.2 Opportunity must be given to the contracted archaeologist to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.
- 4.3 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development, 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.
- 4.4 A photographic record of the work is to be made of any archaeological features, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images.
- 4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum.
- 4.6 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. 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.
- 4.7 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with SCCAS/CT during the course of the monitoring).
- 4.8 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.

#### **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 Historic Environment Record within three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.2 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record 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.
- 5.3 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.4 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).



- 5.6 The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record 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.
- 5.7 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, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. 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).
- 5.8 An unbound copy of the assessment report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.
- 5.9 Following acceptance, two copies of the assessment report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT. A single hard copy should be presented to the County Historic Environment Record as well as a digital copy of the approved report.
- 5.10 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*, must be prepared and included in the project report.
- 5.11 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 Historic Environment Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.12 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.
- 5.13 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to County Historic Environment Record. 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

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

Tel. : 01284 352197  
E-mail: jess.tipper@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk

Date: 21 August 2008

Reference: /Bloxhall-Hitcham2008

**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.**

**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 2 - Context list

Context	Feature	Identifier	Type	Description
0001		Finds		Unstratified finds from the trenches to the rear of the house/extension trenches. None were collected.
0002			Deposit	Brownish-orange clay natural subsoil at the front of the house. Contained medieval and post-medieval pottery.
0003	0005	Feature	Fill	Fill of feature [0005] in Trench 1. Yellow/grey clay with frequent chalk flecks. Interpretation - redeposited natural possibly associated with well construction. Oil contaminated.
0004	0004	Well	Structure	Well in corner of Trenches 2 & 3. 1:20 plan and section drawn where accessible. Made up mainly of bricks measuring 0.23m x 0.11m and elsewhere, such as the top dome/arch, with broken bricks. Very pale grey mortar. Hole at top of dome internal diameter = c.0.45m. Internal diameter of main shaft from inside edge to inside edge - c.1.04m (north-south) to c.1.11m (east-west). 16 bricks per course at the well's full width. Lined with what appears to be a black, shiny waterproofing substance.
0005	0005	Feature	Cut	Possibly north-west to south-east aligned trench feature seen in Trench 1. Appears to run towards well 0004. Filled with redeposited clay 0005, that was extremely similar to natural subsoil. Contained CBM and towards the base it contained lenses of oil contamination. It was at least 1.55m deep below the existing ground level and at least 1.14m wide on its north-east to south-west alignment. The sides sloped at 80-90° and the base was not reached due to the confined trench and unsafe depth of the feature.
0006			Deposit	Potential remainder of late 19th century drive way seen on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map. It was located just on the north-east corner of the existing house front door. It was only a very fragmentary deposit consisting of CBM lumps, mortar and stones in brown clay, so may instead be construction debris.
0007			Deposit	Brown clay deposit at front of house. Subsoil that overlies 0002. Contained CBM.



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## Appendix 3 – Finds catalogues

### CBM catalogue

Context	Period	Fabric	Form	No	Weight	Height	Length	Width	Re-	Mortar	Notes	Date
0003	PM	msfe	LB	1	172	68				No	Hard-red brown frag, LB6 type, prob c 17th C	17th C
0003	PM	msc	RT	1	49					Yes, on broken edge	Coarse orange sandy w mortar on broken edge. Prob med/l med	Med/Lmed
0004	PM	msfe	LB	1	2616	63	235	105		Slight patches	Nearly complete, LB3 type L17th-18th C	17th-18th C
0004	PM	fsfe	LB	1	1545	65	116	110		Yes, soft cream limey mortar over broken end of half brick	Reused brick, half size. LB6 type, 17th C?	17th C?
0006	PM	fsfe	LB	1	277	68				Some mortar	LB6? 17th C	17th C?
0006	PM	fscp	LB?	1	18	48					Silty brick frag, late med/p med, 16th C+	16th-17th C
0007	PM	msf	RT	1	48						Hard, red-fired, late, post-med med	17th C+

## Ceramics catalogue

ID	Context	Period	Fabric	Form	Dec	Sherd No	Estimated No Vessels	Weight (g)	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
1	0002	M	MCW	BASE		2	1	37	SA	Reddish brown fabric, sagging base	L12th-14th C	
2	0002	M	MCWG	BODY		1	1	2			L12th-14th C	
3	0002	M	MCW	BODY		2	2	32	S		L12th-14th C	
4	0002	PM	PORC	BODY	SPRIG	1	1	8			18th-19th C	18th-19t