

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

2, MARKET HILL, FRAMLINGHAM (HER ref. FML Misc.)

A REPORT ON THE MONITORING OF GROUNDWORKS
ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN EXTENSION
(Application Nos. C/05/1525)

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report No. 2008/155
OASIS ref. suffolkcl-53410.

Introduction

Archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction of an extension to No. 2, Market Hill, Framlingham (NGR; TM 2846 6349), was undertaken on the 25th April 2008. The monitoring was carried out to fulfil an archaeological condition on the application (C/05/1525) and followed a brief and specification set by Mr K. Wade of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team (See Appendix). The site is located close to the central market area of Framlingham and is c. 50m to the west of St Michael's Church. This area slopes steeply down from east to west and it would appear that the yard to the rear of No. 2, Market Hill has been terraced into the slope with the land immediately to the north and east being significantly higher and retained behind brick and concrete walls.

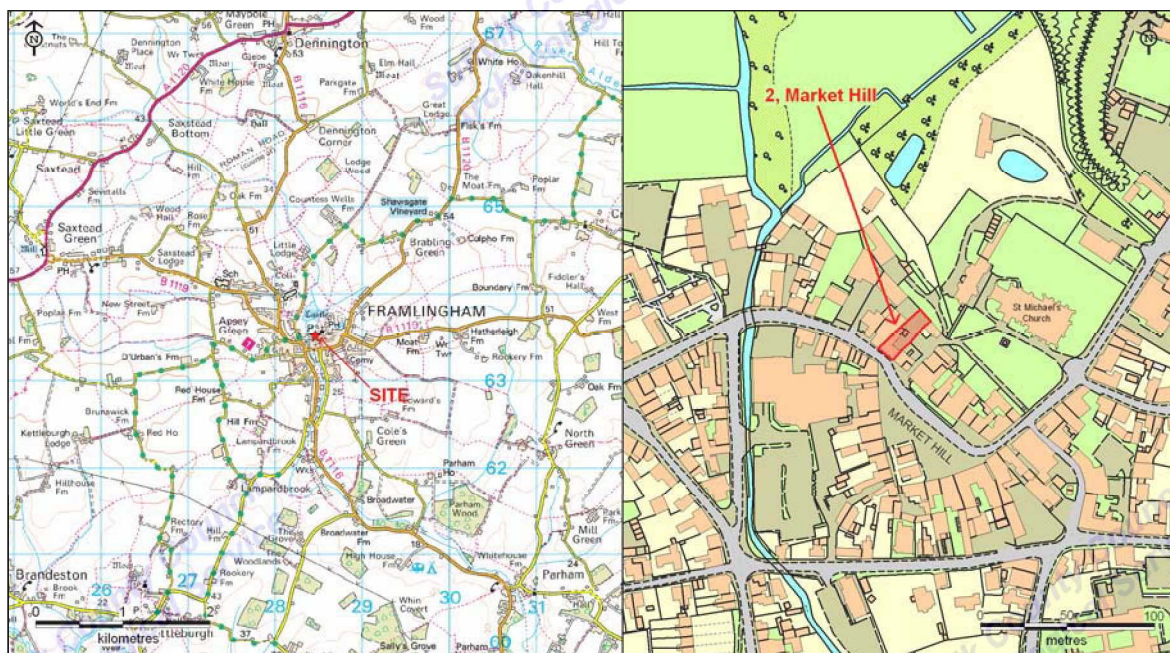


Figure 1: Location Plan

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Results

The new construction is to be built on a combination of strip foundations and pads with connecting beams, all of which were open during the monitoring visit. The area of the new extension was also levelled and the terrace extended which entailed further cutting into the back edge of the slope within the garden plot. All spoil had been removed from the site and was not available to be inspected for artefacts. Two post-medieval circular shafts

constructed of frog-less red bricks were revealed. Both had been backfilled with what appeared to be topsoil with occasional fragments of brick and mortar. Although these have been slightly reduced in height by the excavation of the connecting ground beams the greater majority of their structures will be preserved under the new extension (see figure 2 for their locations). No other significant archaeological features were noted within excavated trenches.

The subsoil comprised a stiff blue-grey clay with chalk and was immediately encountered beneath a thin layer of poor topsoil, this combined with the evidence for terracing would suggest the original, sloping ground surface has been heavily truncated.

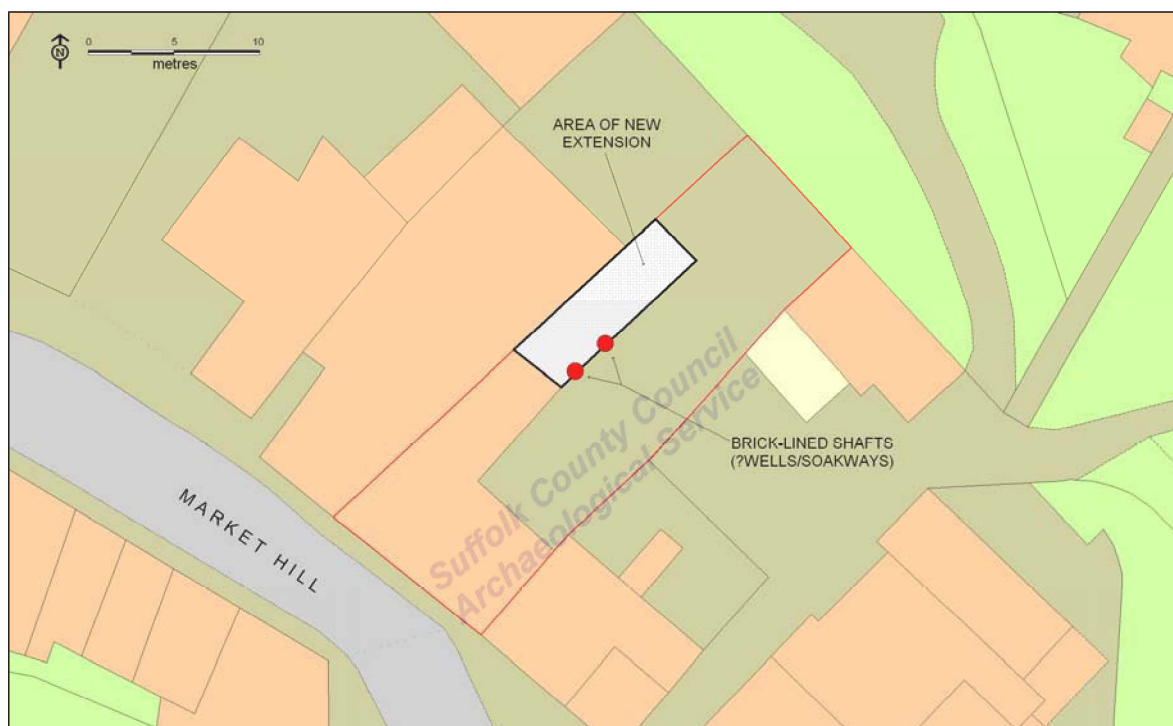


Figure 2: Location of Extension

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This monitoring event will be recorded on the Historic Environment Record under the reference FML Misc. A summary of this project has also been entered onto OASIS, the online archaeological database, under the reference suffolkc1-53410. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Projects Team, who were commissioned and funded by Hollins, Architects, Surveyors and Planning Consultants, on behalf of their client, Mr W. Bulstrode.

Discussion

No significant archaeological deposits or features were identified during the monitoring visit although it was noted that the area of the new extension was likely to have been heavily truncated during the creation of a terrace into the slope up to the church. The two brick-lined shafts, which were post-medieval in appearance, are either wells for drawing fresh water or possibly soakaways associated with drainage. It is assumed that they are associated with post-medieval occupation of No. 2 Market Hill.



General view of the site looking SW

APPENDIX

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

2 MARKET HILL, FRAMLINGHAM

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission to develop on this site has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (C/05/1525/FUL). 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, defined in the County Sites and Monuments Record as an archaeological site of regional importance, 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.

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 begins. 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.

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: 21 October 2005

Reference: /Framlingham-MarketHill10

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.