

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

The Parish Church of All Saints & St Margaret's, Pakefield (LWT 030), Record of an Archaeological Evaluation

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Detail of Blocked East Window

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Summary

Lowestoft, All Saints & St. Margaret's Church (TM 5386 9050; LWT 030) In order to assess the archaeological impact of a proposed extension to the north-western corner of the existing church an archaeological evaluation was undertaken involving a survey of the north wall of the building and the excavation of test-pits.

The survey of the north nave and chancel walls revealed that the main body of the northern of the two adjoined churches (St. Margaret's) belongs to one constructional phase, dating to the first half of the 14th century. Dating evidence was provided by the decorated reticulated tracery of the eastern chancel window and the architectural style of the north nave doorway. The walls had contemporary buttresses, now heavily repaired, and there was evidence for a possible external stair turret halfway down the nave. One of the varied fabrics of the wall included a significant quantity of brick which was thought to be contemporary with the structure and, therefore, of genuine medieval date. Recorded alterations included the insertion of four rectangular perpendicular style windows of probable later 14th century or 15th century date and the replacement of wall fabric along its top, almost certainly relating to the gutting of the building that occurred during the Second World War.

Results from the test-pits failed to identify structural evidence relating to earlier phases of the church, but did record a number of burials, some closely spaced, the shallowest of which were encountered at only 0.9 metres below the level of the existing path.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council & Pakefield Parochial Church Council)

1. Introduction

1.1 Planning & Historical Background

A planning application [W/18715] was made for an extension to be added to the north-west corner of the existing church building (Fig. 2).

The extant building is unusual in that it was originally two separate but adjoining churches, one belonging to the manor of Rothenhall and the other to the manor of Pakefield Pyes, each with its own dedication (Mortlock, 1992, p.145). While there were clearly two churches present as early as the 11th century, the existing buildings appear to have been constructed later in the medieval period.

Robert Carr of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Conservation Team, acting in his role as Archaeological Advisor to the Diocese, considered that a proposed extension could have archaeological implications. Groundworks associated with the extension had the potential to damage any surviving structural evidence for earlier phases of the church and to disturb churchyard burials of various dates.

As a consequence, a Brief and Specification document (Appendix I) was prepared detailing a programme of archaeological evaluation aimed at assessing the archaeological implications of the proposed extension.

The two phases of the evaluation would involve an initial assessment of the entire north wall of the standing building, effectively the nave and chancel of St. Margaret's, and then a series of manually excavated test-pits, the locations of which would be partially informed by the earlier survey.

1.2 Topographical Setting & Drift Geology

The church is now located close to the existing cliff edge in the parish of Lowestoft (TM 5386 9050) (Fig. 1).

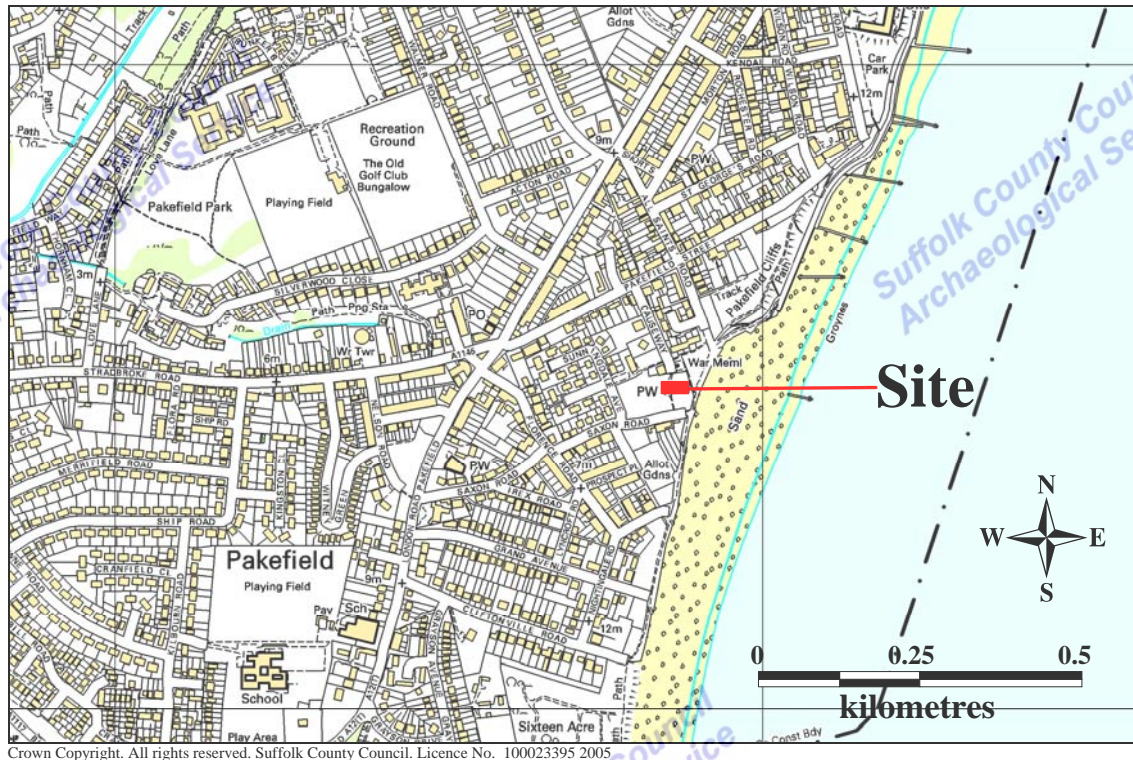


Fig. 1 1:10,000 scale map extract showing the location of the church

As little as 100 years ago the cliff-edge was some 220 metres further to the east, the distance since being reduced by the ongoing coastal erosion. At present the beach deposits are stable in this area.

The existing ground level on the northern side of the church is at approximately 7.8 metres OD with the underlying drift geology comprising fluviatile sands and gravels with a well-developed iron-pan/podsolised surface.

2.0 Methodologies

2.1 Fieldwork

2.1.1 Wall Fabric Analysis

By undertaking a detailed survey of the existing north wall it was hoped that it would be possible to understand the phases of construction and alteration which have occurred and brought the building to its present state. The subsequent test-pits would then be targeted on areas where there was the potential for structural remains of earlier church phases to survive.

A full photographic record was made including monochrome prints, colour slides and digital shots. In order to undertake rectification of the digital shots a number of survey points were imposed on the wall in areas where the architects elevation drawings did not include enough detail to use for photogrammetry.

The entire wall was examined in detail with a record made of the different wall fabrics and architectural features.

2.1.2 Test-Pits

The positions of two of the test-pits had already been determined (Appendix I, 3.1 & 3.2), one (Test-Pit A) at the junction between the buttress and the north wall and the second (Test-Pit B) across the marked grave of Mr Bicker (Fig. 2). The remaining two (Test-Pits C & D) were to be positioned with due regard to the results of the wall survey and the findings from the initial trenches. Subsequently, as the results of the wall survey did not reveal any significant structural information, it was decided to excavate the remaining two trenches on the line of the proposed north wall of the extension.

Test-pits were excavated manually with the upcast spoil stored on plastic sheeting in order to maintain the tidiness of the site. Turf and gravel layers were retained separately to facilitate their sequential replacement.

The location of the excavated test-pits was recorded on a base plan.

Plans and sections of the excavated test-pits were drawn in pencil on plastic drafting film at a scale of 1:20.

Section strings were related to Ordnance Datum directly from a Benchmark on the base of the church tower (8.46 metres OD). All levels used in this report relate directly to this benchmark and are absolute figures. These do not relate in any way to relative levels shown on the architect's plans.

A full photographic record was made including monochrome prints, colour slides and digital shots.

2.2 Post-Excavation

Details of the project were recorded on the Oasis Database.

All photographs were added to Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Photographic Archive held at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

Digital photographs were registered in Mapinfo 6.5 and digitally manipulated (Plates 2 & 3).

Plans and section drawings were inked to archive standard and are reproduced in this report as Figures 3–6 at a reduced scale of 1:50.

A site narrative (this document) was written to include the results of both phases of the evaluation.

3.0 Results

3.1 Wall Fabric Analysis

Careful examination of the north wall fabric, which effectively represent the continuous north nave and chancel walls of the St. Margaret's component of the two churches, revealed a remarkably uniform structure which, although undergoing some alteration, was almost certainly of one build for its entire length.

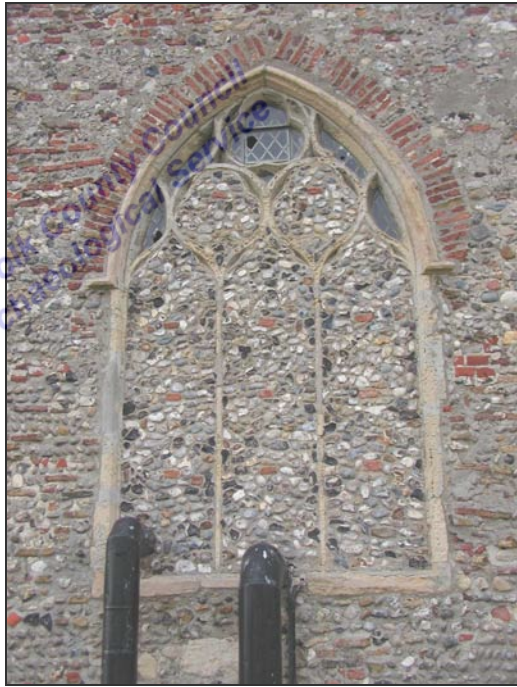


Plate 1: East Window

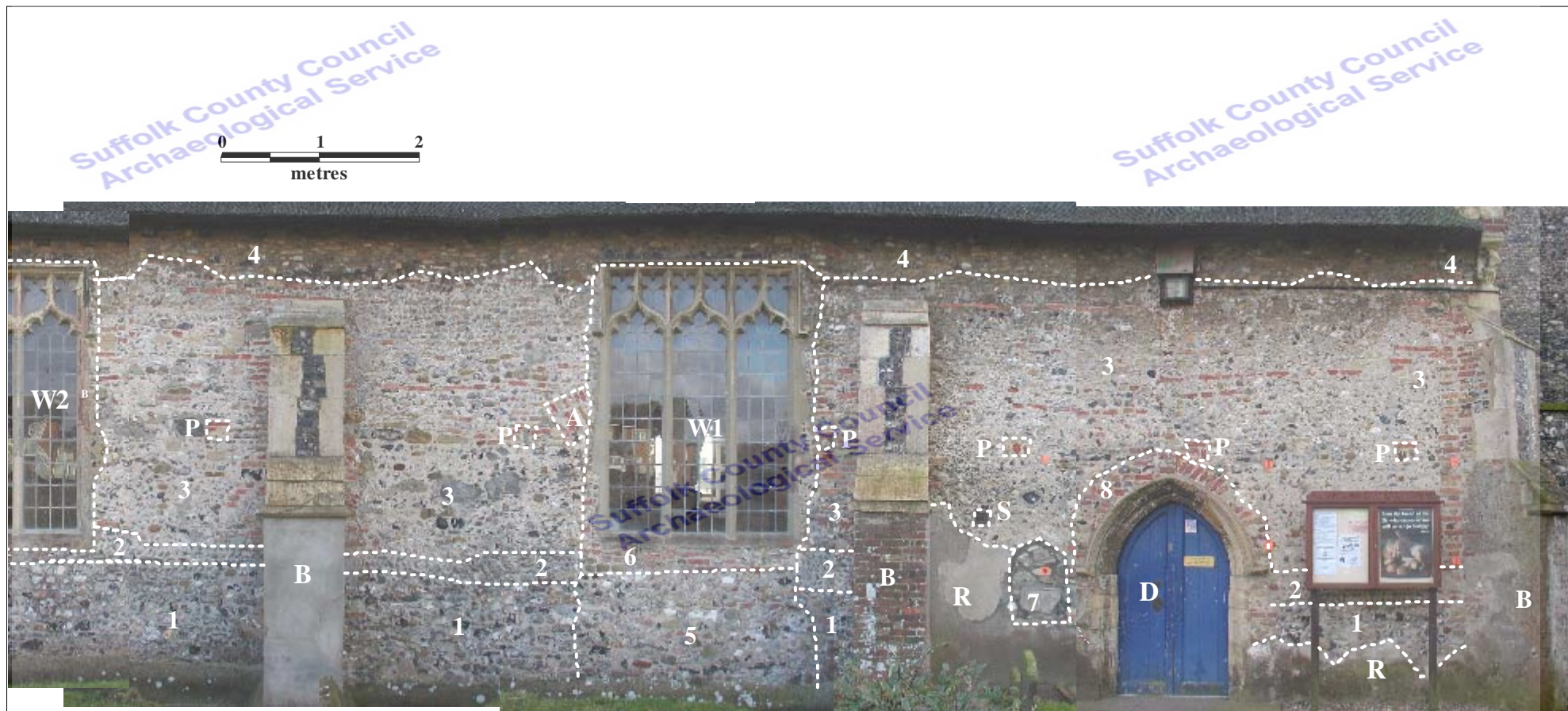
The true age of this part of the church was indicated by two architectural features, the north doorway and east window which, although suffering somewhat through time, appear to be contemporary with the fabric of the wall. The most diagnostic is the window in the eastern end wall of the building which is now blocked, but still exhibits clearly identifiable reticulated tracery that dates it firmly to the first half of the 14th century. With the contemporaneity of the window with its surrounding wall fabric not in doubt, it must be assumed that the bricks included in the wall fabric and used in the decorative surround to the window arch are genuinely medieval, an observation which helps with the dating the north wall.

A doorway at the western end of the north wall (D on Plate 2) was also in a style consistent with a 14th century date, although the arch had clearly been reset at a lower level and the voussoirs at the springing points do not now sit squarely on the masonry of the door jambs. However, it was unclear whether the jambs themselves had been reset, as their junction with the wall was all but obscured by modern render (shown as R on Plate 2). The gap left above the arch after resetting was filled with bricks (19th or 20th century type), those on the eastern side horizontally coursed and those to the west radially coursed (shown as 8 on Plate 2).

Diagonal buttresses were evident at each end of the north wall with four more conventional buttresses distributed along its length (shown as B on Plates 2 & 3). All have been partially rebuilt, or at the very least refaced during the last c.150 years, but their junctions with the main wall suggest that they represent original features. In addition to the post-medieval brick used to repair the buttresses, bricks similar to those seen in the east wall were commonly included, particularly where they had been used to tie the buttresses into the main wall. These bricks were poorly mixed and fired, yellow, brown green and pink in colour and somewhat irregular in their dimensions, measuring c.24 x c.11.5 x c.5 centimetres (approximately 9 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 2 inches).

One other architectural feature was recorded that may have been contemporaneous with the construction of the wall, a stoup (shown as 7 on Plate 2) immediately east of the door which had been blocked up with rubble, including fragments of a ?12th century Purbeck Marble font (Carr, *pers. comm.*).

The wall fabric itself was laterally consistent, but exhibited vertical variations which, themselves, were consistent along its whole length. The bottom c.1 metre of the wall comprised a mixture of poorly coursed, predominantly unknapped, flint cobbles and large glacial erratics with no brick fragments (shown as 1 on Plates 2 & 3). With the exception of the stretch of wall between the eastern corner and the first buttress, the facing then changed to a herringbone pattern for between 0.2 and 0.5 metres, formed by regular-sized, rounded, flint pebbles lain in opposed diagonal courses (shown as 2 on



See main text for descriptions of annotation

Plate 2: North Wall Elevation, West End



See main text for descriptions of annotation

Plate 3: North Wall Elevation, East End

Plates 2 & 3). A similar herringbone pattern had also been used in the construction of the east wall (Plate 1).

Above this level, effectively from the bottom of the windows (shown as 3 on Plates 2 & 3) to a point approximately 0.5 metres from the top of the wall, the wall fabric was relatively well coursed comprising predominantly of small, unknapped flint cobbles with some glacial erratics and bricks, the latter often in string courses (shown as 3 on Plates 2 & 3). The bricks were identical to those used in the buttresses and in the east chancel wall (Plate 1).

Structural features associated with this fabric included nine putlock holes, constructed in brick, all at a similar height in the wall (shown as P on Plates 2 & 3). In addition there is a small square hole through the wall (shown as S on Plate 2), just above and east of the infilled stoup, which has been glazed. The function of this feature is unclear. While at a reasonable height for a squint, it runs straight through the wall, not at an angle at which the altar could be seen. Furthermore, it does not occupy a position that would tie it in with the putlock holes. It has been suggested (Mortlock, 1992, p.145) that features such as these were for use from the inside of the church, almost certainly to provide a view of people approaching the doorway.

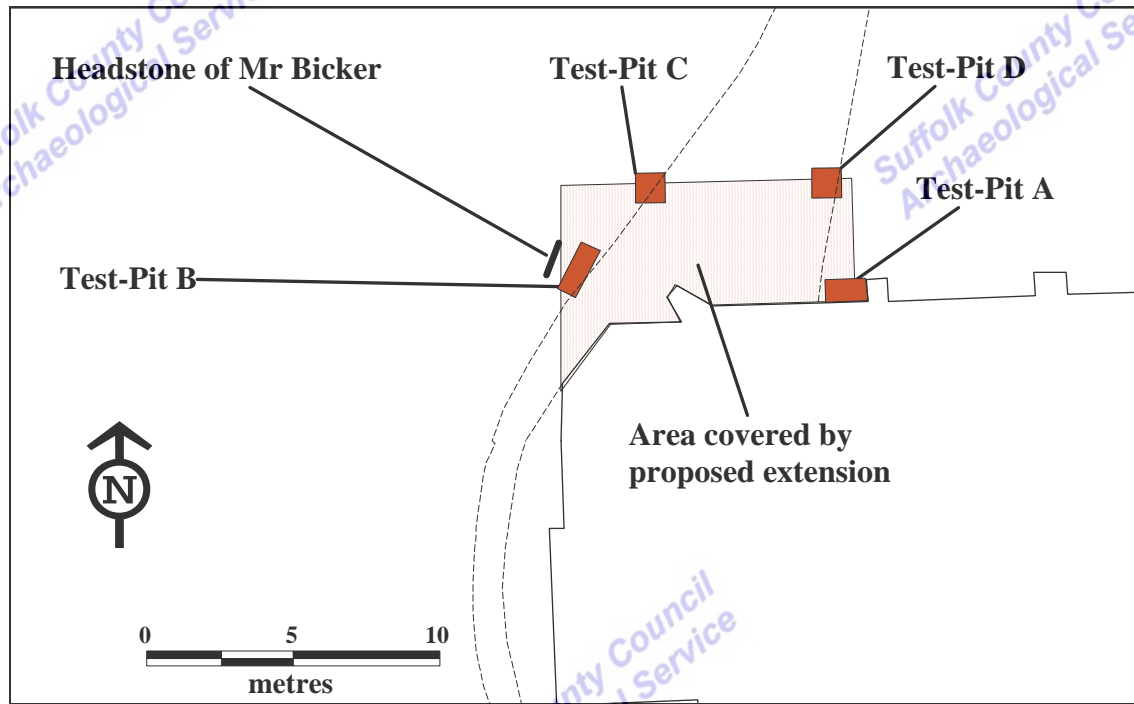
Another structural feature recorded in this fabric was the vestiges of a brick arch cut by the westernmost of the inserted windows (shown as A on Plate 2). The bricks are similar to those used in the rest of fabric 3 and appear to be contemporary with the main wall. The function of this arch is unclear, but the wall fabric below the window (shown as 5 on Plate 2) is clearly different to the adjacent fabrics 1 & 2. This suggests that there had been a major architectural feature at this juncture. It has been suggested that this could represent the location of an earlier doorway (Carr, pers. comm.). However, during the course of the survey it became possible to enter the church and examine the internal wall face revealing a blocked rectangular opening towards the top of the wall and two steps built into the existing window opening. On this basis, it seems possible that the arch represents the remains of a small stair turret which would partially have been accommodated within the wall, but protruded out to the north. While this interpretation appears to concur with the physical evidence, the location of this feature is at odds for what could be expected with a traditional church layout. Indeed, there is a small rood stair, with a partially external turret, in the south wall at the junction between the nave and chancel, a location where a feature such as this would be expected, not halfway down the nave as in the north wall.

For the top c.0.5 metres of the wall the facing comprised closely spaced, randomly set, rounded pebble to small cobble-sized flints set in a hard cement mortar (shown as 4 on Plates 2 & 3). While not thought to indicate a raising of the wall (contra. Mortlock, 1992, p.145), as the existing windows are too high, this fabric almost certainly represents repair work undertaken after the gutting of the building during the Second World War.

There are four windows in the north wall (shown as W1 & W2 on Plate 2 & W3 & W4 on Plate 3), all are insertions which have completely removed any trace of the earlier windows. The original stone masonry of these replacement windows is present but has weathered badly and been repaired with hard cement mortar. The windows are rectangular in shape with perpendicular style tracery, a form which, at the earliest, dates their insertion to the second half of the 14th century.

3.1 Test-Pits

The location of the four excavated Test-Pits are shown on Figure 2.



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Fig. 2 1:250 scale OS map extract showing the location of the excavated test-pits

Test-Pit A, measuring 1.4 metres from east to west and 0.8 metres from north to south, was located at the junction of the north wall with the western side of the first buttress to the east of the doorway (Fig. 2) where the existing ground level was at 7.65 metres OD.

Description	Level	Depth
Ground level	7.65 mOD	-
Bottom of exposed gravestone	7.15 mOD	0.50 m
Base of wall	6.91 mOD	0.74 m
Natural subsoil	6.67 mOD	0.98 m
Human skeletal remains	6.61 mOD	1.04 m

Table 1: Test-Pit A Levels

A loam topsoil layer was found to vary in depth between 0.2 metres and 0.35 metres, being at its deepest where it was banked up behind a standing gravestone (Fig. 3).

Below the topsoil a homogenous light brown silty loam, including some mortar flecks, was recorded. This layer continued down with little variation to a depth of 0.6 metres where the first hints of grave cuts were visible. When the naturally occurring subsoil, comprising, podsolised, orange/brown sand, was encountered at a depth of 0.98 metres, the eastern ends of two graves could clearly be seen cutting into it. The southernmost of these graves was excavated down to the level at which the toes of the burial and associated coffin nails were visible, at a depth of 1.04 metres below the present ground level (Fig. 3 & Plate 4).



Plate 4: Test-Pit A, Grave & Base of Nave Wall



Plate 5: Test-Pit A. Buttress & Nave Wall

Test-Pit A also provided structural information regarding the north wall of the nave. Below the modern render, which had been lipped out to deflect runoff water away from the wall face, a further six or seven courses of relatively well coursed flint cobbling was recorded which were continuous with those of the buttress, with no discernible break (Plates 4 & 5). At this level there were no bricks included in either the wall of the church or the buttress. The base of the wall, recorded at a depth of 0.74 metres, appeared to lie directly on subsoil with no evidence for a formal footing, although there was a shallow depression cut into the naturally occurring subsoil on the line of the wall. However, the brown silty sand fill of this depression was effectively indistinguishable from the adjacent soil.

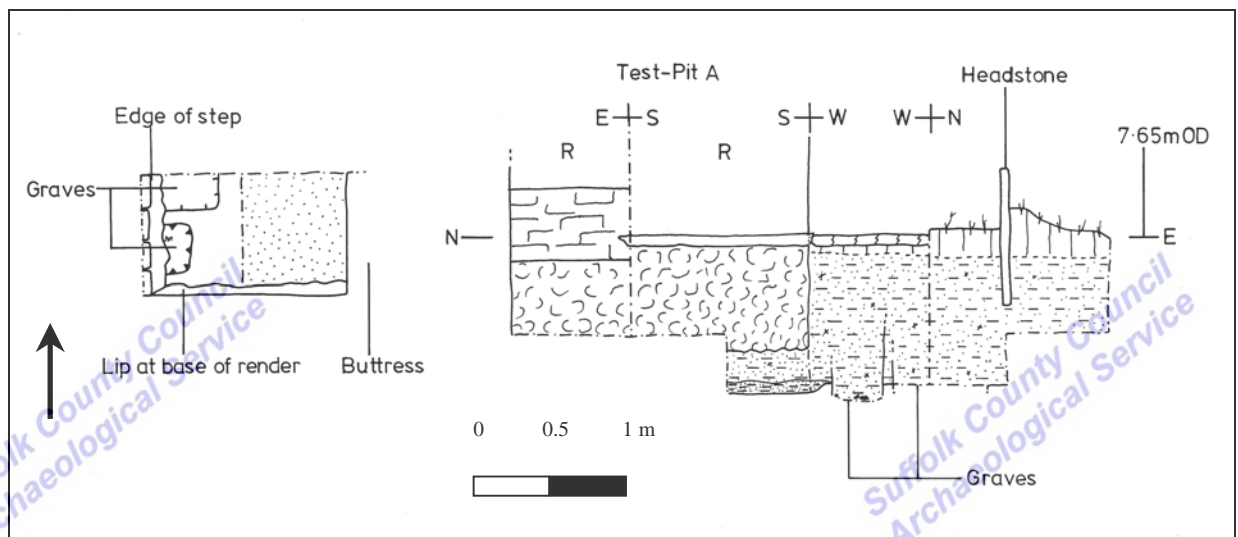


Fig. 3 Test-Pit A: 1:50 scale plan & section drawing

Test Pit B, measuring 1.8 metres from north-north-east to south-south-west and 0.65 metres from west-north-west to east-south-east, was positioned across the known grave of Mr Bicker, some c.0.5 metres to the east of his headstone (Fig 2).

Description	Level	Depth
Ground level (maximum)	7.88 mOD	-
Human skeletal remains	6.80 mOD	1.08 m
Natural subsoil (not encountered)	-	-

Table 2: Test-Pit B Levels

The foot of the grave had already been encroached upon by the landscaping associated with the present path and the slope of the ground surface seen on the section (Fig. 4) is a reflection of this.

A 0.3 metres deep layer of loam topsoil was found to overlie homogenous mid brown



Plate 6: Test-Pit B, Grave with Exposed Skeleton

silty sand in which the hints of a grave cut were visible from a depth of approximately 0.7 metres (Fig. 4 & Plate 6).

Excavation within this cut revealed an articulated skeleton and coffin furniture (iron handle) at a depth of 1.08 metres. The position of the skeleton in a grave cut aligned with the standing gravestone suggests strongly that the two were associated, the latter in situ, and that the remains were actually those of Mr Bicker.

Naturally occurring subsoil was not encountered in this trench.

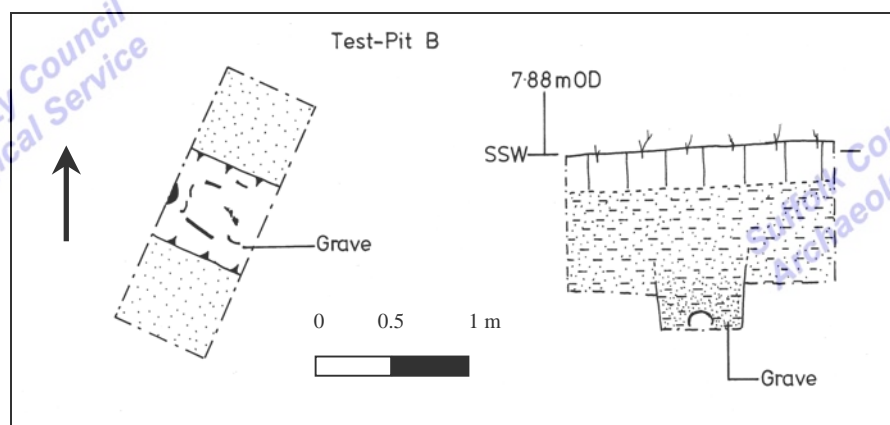


Fig. 4 Test-Pit B: 1:50 scale plan & section drawing

Test-Pit C, measuring *c.*1 metre by *c.*1 metre, was positioned to coincide with the western end of the north wall of the proposed extension on the relatively steeply landscaped slope beside the existing path (Fig. 2). The depth measurements in Table 3 are measured from a point equating to the maximum ground level. It should be noted therefore, that the copper pipe recorded in the trench was buried beneath the path, which was considerably lower by approximately *c.*0.27 metres, and as a consequence, was actually encountered at a depth of *c.*0.24 metres below the existing ground surface.

Description	Level	Depth
Ground level (maximum)	7.96 mOD	-
Copper pipe	7.45 mOD	0.51 m
Human skeletal remains	6.60 mOD	1.36 m
Natural subsoil	6.64 mOD	1.32 m

Table 3: Test-Pit C Levels



Topsoil depth varied between 0.18 and 0.35 metres, the difference caused by the landscaping associated with the path (Fig. 5 & Plate 7).

Below this was a relatively homogenous brown silty sand, although there was a suggestion of a vertical grave cut recognised immediately below the topsoil. Further excavation confirmed the presence of a grave when articulated skeletal remains were encountered at a depth of 1.36 metres.

Plate 7: Test-Pit C, Grave With Exposed Skeleton

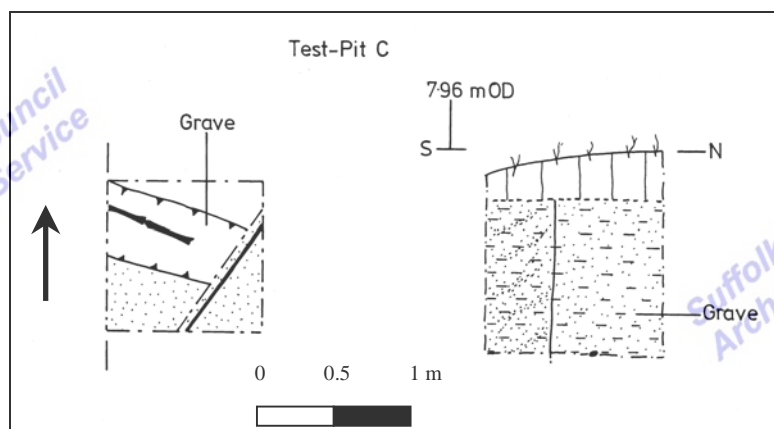


Fig. 5 Test-Pit C: 1:50 scale plan & section drawing

Test-Pit D, measuring *c.*1 metre by *c.*1 metre, was also positioned to coincide with the north wall of the proposed extension, this time its eastern end (Fig. 2). The trench was entirely excavated into the existing path.

Description	Level	Depth
Ground level	7.69 mOD	-
Human skeletal remains	6.79 mOD	0.90 m
Natural subsoil (not encountered)	-	-

Table 4: Test-Pit D Levels



The beach gravel forming the path was found to be a uniform 0.18 metres thick. This accumulation was almost certainly the result of a number of repeated applications. Removal of the gravel revealed a relatively homogenous brown silty sand with a localised gravel and mortar layer (Fig. 6 & Plate 8). A clear grave cut was recorded at a depth of only 0.45 metres. A sondage excavated into

Plate 8: Test-Pit D, Grave With Exposed Skeleton the grave against the western side of the trench revealed an articulated skeleton at a depth of 0.9 metres below the present ground surface.

Naturally occurring subsoil was not encountered in this trench.

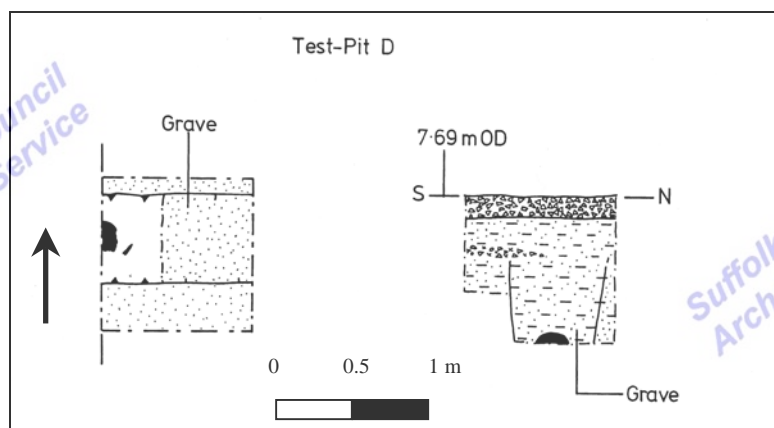


Fig. 6 Test-Pit D: 1:50 scale plan & section drawing

4. Archaeological Interpretation & Conclusions

The fabric survey of the north wall of the nave and north and east walls of the chancel of the northern church component (St. Margaret's) suggests that they belong to a single constructional phase dating to the first half of the 14th century.

Only one original window, that in the east chancel wall, has survived. The doorway also appears to belong to this phase, but has suffered some resetting of its masonry, certainly the arch and possibly the jambs as well. The buttresses are also thought to be an original feature of the building, although all have been subjected to major repairs during the last one hundred and fifty years. There is also evidence for a significant architectural feature halfway down the nave that may represent a partially external stair turret, the purpose of which has not been determined.

The wall itself exhibits variable, but laterally extensive fabrics, all of which are considered to belong to the one period of construction. The variability may reflect the availability of different building materials during the construction programme. There is no evidence that they performed a structural function and the presence of surviving patches of surface treatment suggests that the contrasting fabrics would actually have been obscured behind a layer of lime mortar.

One major phase of alteration was recognised, the replacement of the original windows and putative stair turret in the north walls of the chancel and nave with rectangular windows in the perpendicular style, probably during the later 14th or 15th centuries.

The results from the test-pits failed to identify any earlier buildings or constructional phases to the existing structure, but did confirm the contemporaneity of one of the buttresses with the nave wall, an observation which suggests that the other buttresses were also original features.

Burials were recorded in all test-pits. The graves are clearly closely spaced (see Test-Pit A) with articulated skeletal material occurring at a maximum OD of 6.8 metres, a depth of only 0.9 metres below the existing path.

5. Recommendations for Further Work

The evaluation has proved that the construction of the proposed extension will not disturb archaeological deposits associated with earlier structural phases of the church. However, it is clear from the excavated test-pits that there are likely to be closely spaced burials underneath the whole footprint of the proposed building. The articulated skeletal remains were recorded at a highest level of c.6.8 metres OD which equates to only 0.9 metres below the existing pathway.

It is likely that the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (Robert Carr) will recommend the controlled archaeological excavation of any burial that would be disturbed by the groundworks associated with the extension.

While it would be possible to archaeologically remove the burials within the footprint of the proposed extension this would represent an expensive undertaking. It seems, therefore, that an engineering solution that limits the depth of the groundworks excavation, preferably to above 6.8 metres OD (0.9 metres below the existing path), would represent a favourable option.

6. Bibliography

Mortlock, D. P.,
1992

The Popular Guide to Suffolk Churches. No. 3 East Suffolk
Acorn Editions

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. 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 service cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

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Appendix I: Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

ALL SAINTS & ST MARGARET, PAKEFIELD (LOWESTOFT)

*The commissioning body should be aware that it may
have some legal responsibilities, see paragraph 1.6.*

1. Background

- 1.1 An application [W/18715] has been made to add an extension to the north-west corner of the north aisle.
- 1.2 In order to establish the full archaeological implications of this application the planning authority has been advised that an archaeological evaluation of the application area should be required of the applicant before determination.
- 1.3 This is a medieval church with accompanying churchyard. The church is a Listed Building; it is recorded on the county Sites and Monuments Record (LWT030). 'The building has a dual dedication because as early as the C11 it comprised two parish churches built side by side, one belonging to the manor of Rothenhall and the other to the manor of Pakefield Pyes' (D.P.Mortlock, Suffolk Churches). The proposed extension has the potential to obscure and damage medieval fabric which is currently exposed and visible. There is potential for foundations, service trenches and other ground interventions to disturb burials and other archaeological deposits.
- 1.4 There is a need for an assessment of the significance, phasing, date and context of the medieval fabric which would be obscured from distant or close up view by any new building, or damaged at the attachment point to any new structure. This assessment must precede the trenched evaluation so that results can inform trench locations.
- 1.5 The visible fabric of the north wall suggests nothing earlier than the 14th century (other than fragments of a ?12th century Purbeck font embedded in the blocked opening of a ?stoup); in view of the documentary suggestion of at least an early medieval origin there is the potential for earlier church structures in the area of the proposal. Since the two churches operated as distinct buildings at one time it is possible that there was once a porch at this location. It is certain that there will be burials in the area of the proposal [a standing headstone marks a grave position which is crossed by the proposed west wall] and quite probable that there will be brick built vaults.
- 1.6 There is a need for trial excavation to establish the presence and depth of any archaeological deposit or structure. It is believed that excavation will require Faculty Consent or Archdeacon's Licence. The archaeologist is advised not to commence excavation unless the necessary permissions are given.

- 1.7 The church has been advised that should planning consent be forthcoming, any building would require a footing which minimises the risk of disturbance to burials. In order to inform a decision on whether this is possible archaeological trial excavation is required. The intention is to establish the depth of disturbed soil (probably containing mixed disarticulated bone) which exists in this general location in the churchyard. And also to identify the depth of known burials marked by headstones within the area. There is no intention at this time to disinter articulated burials. The object of the exercise is to try and define the depth of disturbance which might be acceptable for a raft type foundation or for ground beams between piles.
- 1.8 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site including the acquisition of the necessary Faculty to allow evaluation and disturbance of the churchyard, 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.
- 1.9 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in, *Archaeological Requirements for Works on Churches and Churchyards*, Association of Diocesan & Cathedral Archaeologist Guidance Note 1, 2004. Further general standards are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.10 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 should 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 this brief will be adequately met.

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 Examine and analyse the fabric of the north elevation of the church nave and chancel to establish the construction phases and approximate dates of the structure in order to allow an assessment of the fabric which it is proposed to obscure. At this stage there is not a requirement for a systematic survey record of the structure but there must be drawings and photographs sufficient to define, illustrate and locate the findings. This analysis must precede the trenched evaluation so that results can, if necessary, inform trench locations.

- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.5 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. If consent for development is granted 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.
- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. **Specification : Field Evaluation**

- 3.1 An archaeological test pit is to be dug immediately east of a headstone of 19th century date (commemorating a Mr Bicker) which lies to the west of the path near the north doorway. A trench, aligned north to south across the supposed burial is proposed. Excavation to cease when articulated remains are encountered, or the depth where shuttering would be required [i.e. c. 1.3m], whichever is the shallower.
- 3.2 An archaeological test pit is to be dug against the north wall of the church between the east side of the external threshold slab and the adjacent buttress to the east. This is intended to establish the probable external ground level of the church at the time of construction, to establish the nature of the church foundations and to cross the potential line of any porch which may show as a footing or as a stub on the nave wall footing.

- 3.3 Additional archaeological trial excavation to a total of 3 sq.m. is to be allowed for. The need for additional holes and their precise location is to be decided in discussion with this office either following the structural assessment and / or on site following the excavation of the first two trials; it is probable that at least one will be dug across the line of the north wall of the proposed extension.
- 3.5 There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine
- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit
- 3.8 Human burials 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 (this is an unlikely eventuality). Human bones or fragments from the disturbed 'burial horizon' which are un-articulated or divorced from an original context may be excavated and stored discretely and sensitively for immediate return to the evaluation trench once it is complete and ready for re-filling. Except in exceptional circumstances (which can only be determined during the monitoring process) no detailed study of these fragments will be required, and no human remains will be removed from the churchyard. However, the excavator should be aware of Faculty regulations and conditions that cover the disturbance of burials and as a matter of good practice follow the principle of normal practice as though a licence were required under the Burials Act 1857.
- 3.9 The contractor shall 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 P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available.
- 3.10 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.
- 3.11 All artefacts 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).

3.12 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.

3.13 A photographic record illustrating both the structural assessment and the excavation is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.

3.14 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 structural and excavation 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 and structural evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation and analysis.

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.
- 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/T> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.12 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).

Specification by: R D Carr

Date: 18 October 2004

Reference:/Pakefield-AllSaints&StMargaret10.doc

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 work defined by this brief is required to further inform a Planning Application, 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.

CONSERVATION TEAM Archaeological Service SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL
Shire Hall Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR 01284 352443

Appendix II Key to Plans & Section Drawings



Gravel



Sand



Silt



Loam



Lime Mortar



Vegetation



Brick Wall Facing



Flint Wall Facing



Render



Concrete



Copper Pipe



Articulated Skeletons &
Coffin Furniture