

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/061

1 Lower Olland Street, Bungay, Suffolk
BUN 092

HER Information

Planning Application No: DC/09/1012/FUL

Date of Fieldwork: 25 March 2010

Grid Reference: TM 33737 89610

Funding Body: Mr J. Walker

Curatorial Officer: Keith Wade

Project Officer: Kieron Heard

Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-75004

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

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

Summary

BUN 092, 1 Lower Olland Street, Bungay: An archaeological monitoring was carried out in advance of the conversion and extension of a garage block to residential use. The garages are located to the rear of the former Angel public house, built in the 16th century.

The monitoring revealed dumped deposits interpreted as fills of the medieval town ditch that is known to extend across the site. These deposits were truncated by three mortared flint and brick foundations, probably associated with former outbuildings or structures to the rear of the Angel public house. The foundations were sealed by a layer of 18th- or 19th-century garden soil, which in turn was overlaid by a brick surface.

1. Introduction and methodology

An archaeological monitoring was carried out at 1 Lower Olland Street, Bungay (Fig. 1) in accordance with an archaeological condition relating to planning permission for the conversion and extension of a garage block into a bungalow (planning application number DC/09/1012/FUL). It was commissioned and funded by the owner, Mr. J. Walker. The Brief and Specification for the monitoring was written by Keith Wade (SCCAS, Conservation Team) and is appended to this report.

The site is located within the Area of Archaeological Importance defined for medieval Bungay in the Waveney Local Plan. It overlies the in-filled southern town ditch that is known to run east–west along the north side of Quaves Lane. The ditch (BUN 018 in the County Historic Environment Record) is thought to be at least 18m wide and 4m deep. Its date of construction is not known but it was probably backfilled in the 13th- or 14th century. 1 Lower Olland Street, formerly the Angel public house, is a Grade II listed building thought to have been built in the 16th century.

The writer visited the site on 25 March 2010 to inspect the trench for the strip foundations of the proposed extension to the garage block. The trench measured 0.60m wide x up to 1.60m deep and was approximately 23m long (Fig. 2). The sides

of the trench were unstable, particularly on the southeast side of the proposed extension – consequently access to that part of the trench was not possible and no archaeological recording was carried out in that area of the site.

Archaeological features and deposits were recorded using a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 0001–0015. Two vertical sections (Fig. 2) were drawn at a scale of 1:20 on sheets of gridded drawing film and context descriptions were written on the same sheets. The drawn sections and context descriptions have been reproduced in full in this report. A photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution digital images; this forms part of the SCCAS photographic archive, referenced as HAE 001–005.

2. Results

The earliest recorded deposit was an undulating layer of loose, mid yellowish brown coarse sand (context 0009) that extended trench-wide (Fig. 2, Sections 1 and 2). It was at a maximum recorded height of 8.40m OD but its thickness is unknown since it extended below the base of the trench. At one location (see Section 2) 0009 was overlaid by a similar deposit of loose, mid greyish brown coarse sand 0015. No cultural material was found in these sand deposits.

Sand layers 0009 and 0015 were sealed by a localised deposit of firm, mid greenish grey clayey silt 0014 containing frequent small to medium pebbles and chalk fragments but no cultural material. This deposit was up to 0.44m thick and had an undulating surface (Fig. 2, Section 2).

Clayey silt layer 0014 and sand layer 0009 were overlaid by mixed deposits of mid brown or greyish brown soil 0008 (Fig. 2, Sections 1 and 2). These contained varying amounts of pebbles, some patches of yellowish brown sand, red (scorched) sand and patches or lenses of charcoal, but no cultural material. These deposits extended trench-wide and had a combined thickness of up to 0.56m, with a surface at an average height of 8.90m OD.

Soil deposit 0008 was truncated partially by the construction trenches for three masonry foundations – 0004 and 0006 (Fig. 2, Section 1) and 0012 (Fig. 2, Section

2). These were of similar construction methods, being trench-built of un-coursed, rounded flint cobbles and occasional angular flint fragments bonded heavily with a light grey mortar. Foundation 0004 included a red brick measuring 230mm wide x 50mm thick.

Foundation 0004 (Fig. 2, Section 1) was 0.86m wide x 0.20m deep and seems to have been oriented southwest–northeast. It was removed partially during the machine excavation of the trench, but according to the site contractors it did not extend more than a few centimetres into the trench. The same is true of foundation 0006 (Fig. 2, Section 1), which seems to be on the same orientation but is more substantial, being 1.76m wide x 0.30m deep.

Foundation 0012 (Fig. 2, Section 2) was 1.40m wide x 0.50m deep, and was probably also oriented southwest–northeast. It was removed partially by machine, but (like foundations 0004 and 0006) does not seem to have extended very far into the trench – it certainly did not appear in the opposite face of the trench.

All the masonry foundations were sealed by the same layer of soft, dark brownish grey sandy silt 0003 containing frequent pebbles and flecks of mortar and brick or tile (Fig. 2, Sections 1 and 2). A small fragment of 19th-century clay tobacco pipe stem was found in this deposit, but not retained. The soil layer is up to 0.46m thick and extends trench-wide, with an undulating surface at a maximum recorded height of 9.24m OD.

Soil layer 0003 was sealed by deposits of compact soil containing frequent crushed coal, pebbles and fragments of brick and tile (0002 and 0011; Fig. 2, Sections 1 and 2). These deposits were up to 0.40m thick and probably formed the make-up for a brick surface 0010 that was recorded in a localised area of Section 2 but that might have originally extended trench-wide.

Brick surface 0010 was overlaid by a tarmac layer that extended trench-wide and formed the current ground surface at a height of 9.54m OD.

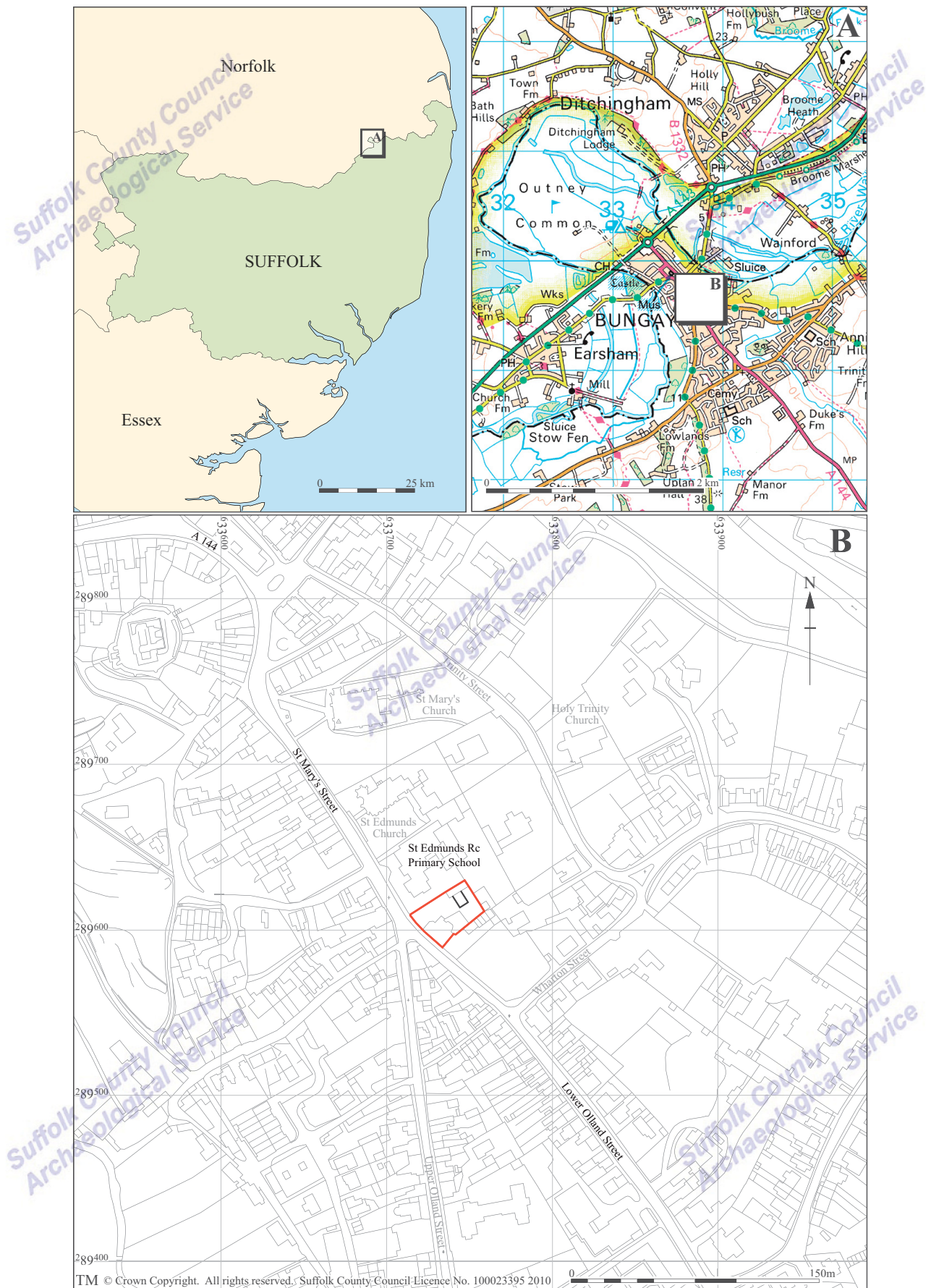


Figure 1. Location of the development area (red) and the monitored trench (black)

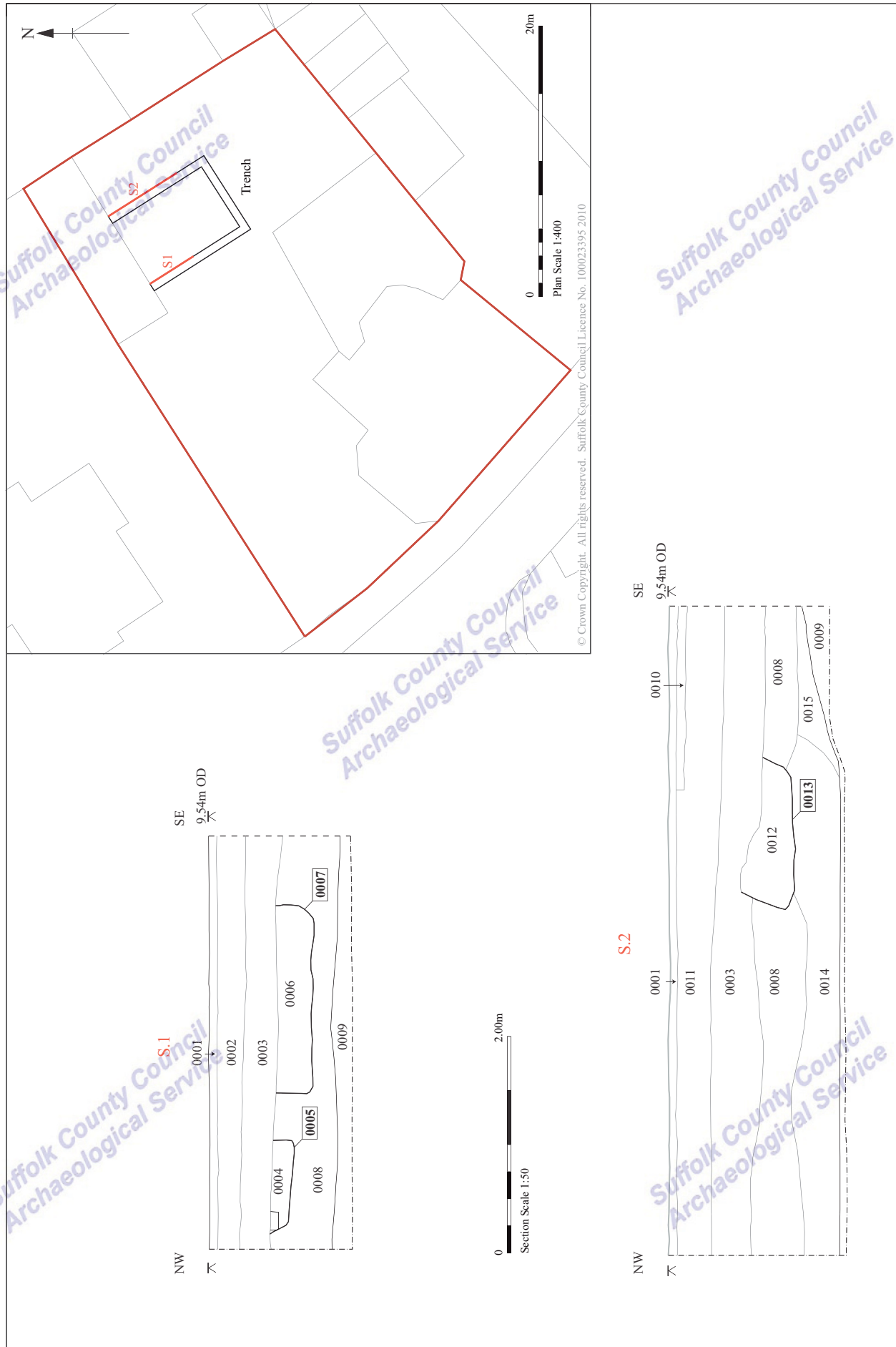


Figure 2. Plan locating the monitored trench and Sections 1 and 2



Plate1. Foundation 0006 in section, looking east (1m scale)



Plate 2. Foundation 0012 in section, looking east (1m scale)

3. Discussion

The site is located over the town ditch, and it is likely that deposits 0008, 0009, 0014 and 0015 represent the infilling of the ditch. No dating evidence was recovered from these deposits.

Masonry foundations 0004, 0006 and 0012 are so similar in construction that they are likely to have been of contemporary date; clearly they post-date the infilling of the ditch, and the inclusion of a brick in foundation 0004 indicates that it was built no earlier than the late medieval period.

The foundations were probably for outbuildings or structures to the rear of the Angel public house, which was built in the 16th century. They seem to have been truncated – no evidence survived for the associated buildings/structures or for the contemporary ground surface. None of the foundations continued across the width of the trench and it seems likely that they were localised pad foundations rather than strip footings.

The foundations were sealed by layer 0003 – probably an 18th- or 19th-century garden soil. This in turn was buried by make-up layer 0002/0011 for brick surface 0010, suggesting a change in use of the open area to the rear of the Angel public house. This must have occurred in the 19th- or 20th century, although since the bricks that formed the surface were not frogged (and therefore probably of pre-19th-century date) they must have been reclaimed.

4. Conclusions

The monitoring has had positive archaeological results, revealing structural remains of late medieval or post-medieval date overlying the in-filling of Bungay's southern town ditch.

No further fieldwork will be required on this site in relation to the current development. This document will be disseminated as a 'grey literature' report *via* the OASIS on-line archaeological database and a summary will appear in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

Kieron Heard
Project Officer, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

April 2010

Appendix: Brief and Specification

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

1 LOWER OLLAND STREET, BUNGAY

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission to convert and extend a garage block into a bungalow has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (DC/09/1012/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 area of Archaeological Importance defined for medieval Bungay in the Waveney Local Plan and will involve significant ground disturbance. The garage block lies over the in-filled southern town ditch known to run along the north side of Quaves Lane.
- 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 town ditch and/or medieval occupation.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of building footing trenches. These, and the up-cast 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 Historic Environment 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 the 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 Historic Environment 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 HER 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 Historic Environment Record sheets should be completed, as per the county manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.6 If archaeological features or finds are found 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 HER. 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: 2nd March 2010

Reference: /1 Lower Olland Street

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.