

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2011/026

Refreshment Kiosk, Framlingham Castle, Framlingham FML 057

HER Information

Planning Application No: C/10/2223

Date of Fieldwork: 07-08/12/2010

Grid Reference: TM 286 637

Funding Body: English Heritage

Curatorial Officer: Keith Wade

Project Officer: Rob Brooks

Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-94345

Scheduled Monument: SF.3

Listings: Castle – LBS No. 286297
Poor House – LBS No. 286298

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

Summary

An archaeological monitoring was carried out within the curtain wall of Framlingham Castle, Framlingham, Suffolk. This revealed a stone foundation under the northern wall of the Poor House, which may relate to the Great Hall which originally stood there. Apart from this, post-medieval and modern disturbed deposits were uncovered, as well as one medieval pot sherd and some undatable mortar.

1. Introduction and methodology

Groundworks for a refreshment kiosk and associated service trench were monitored at Framlingham Castle, within the curtain wall and to the north of the Poor House (Fig. 1). The site was located at grid reference TM 286 637. An octagonal area was excavated to c.0.2m below ground level to accommodate the slab footing for an ice cream kiosk (Fig. 2). This measured c.3.35m across from opposite corners. A further service trench was dug from the north-east corner of the Poor House to the northern side of the octagon to provide water and electricity services. This was up to 0.8m deep in places and varied in width from 0.35-0.45m. The work was monitored as a condition on planning permission C/10/2223 and to a Brief and Specification issued by Keith Wade (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team – Appendix 1). The work was funded by English Heritage.

A castle has been present on the site since c.1100 when the land was given to Roger Bigod by Henry I. The castle has undergone multiple alterations since then, including the demolition of all of the original internal buildings and the construction of a Poor House 1664 in the shell of the Great Hall. 'The North wing [of the Poor House] is the oldest and evolved from construction that was in place during the castle period. Externally this now comprises 16th Century and later brick work' (English Heritage, 2010).

Owing to the site's historical significance the groundworks required monitoring in order to record any archaeological deposits or finds that might be uncovered. The conditions were suitable to effectively record any archaeological deposits and the groundworks were constantly monitored. All the trenches were hand dug by the

building contractors. Measurements were made of the soil profiles and *pro forma* context sheets were filled in, working on a continuous numbering system. Colour digital photographs were taken of the site and any archaeological points of interest. Plans were made using a RTK GPS, with some measurements laid out on a 1:50 plan.

2. Results

The most important result of the groundworks was to reveal the foundation of the Poor House at its north-east corner (Fig. 2 and Plate 1). This was constructed of flint and mortar and emerged c.0.2m from the existing wall which sat on top of it. It may have originally formed the foundation of the Great Hall prior to its conversion to the Poor House, although this cannot be claimed with certainty.

Generally however the trenches revealed post-medieval and modern deposits, with post-medieval finds and one piece of redeposited medieval material. Throughout the northern half of the service trench and the kiosk foundation, topsoil 0001 was found down to 0.15m below ground level. CBM was relatively common in this deposit and a sample was kept, which was dated as post-medieval, along with glazed red earthenware of 16th – 18th century date. Underneath this a patch of mortar was recorded as 0003 and sampled. It was not closely datable, but had a 12th – 14th century pot sherd with it. Underlying 0003 was a 0.1m deep loose layer of mixed coarse orange sand, concrete rubble and CBM rubble. This was part of the phase of activity recorded as 0002 and produced CBM and ceramic pipe, which was post-medieval. Below 0002 in the service trench was 0.2m of dark grey sandy-clayey-silt with CBM, frequent chalk and stones, numbered 0004. The natural geology was not revealed.

In the tarmac area surrounding the Poor House the profile of the service trench was different, with 0.1m of tarmac overlying 0.1m of 0002. Below this >0.55m of mid grey heavily disturbed coarse sand and silt, with concrete and CBM was recorded as 0005. This deposit was clearly disturbed and contained post-medieval CBM. Several existing service pipes also crossed the trench in this area.

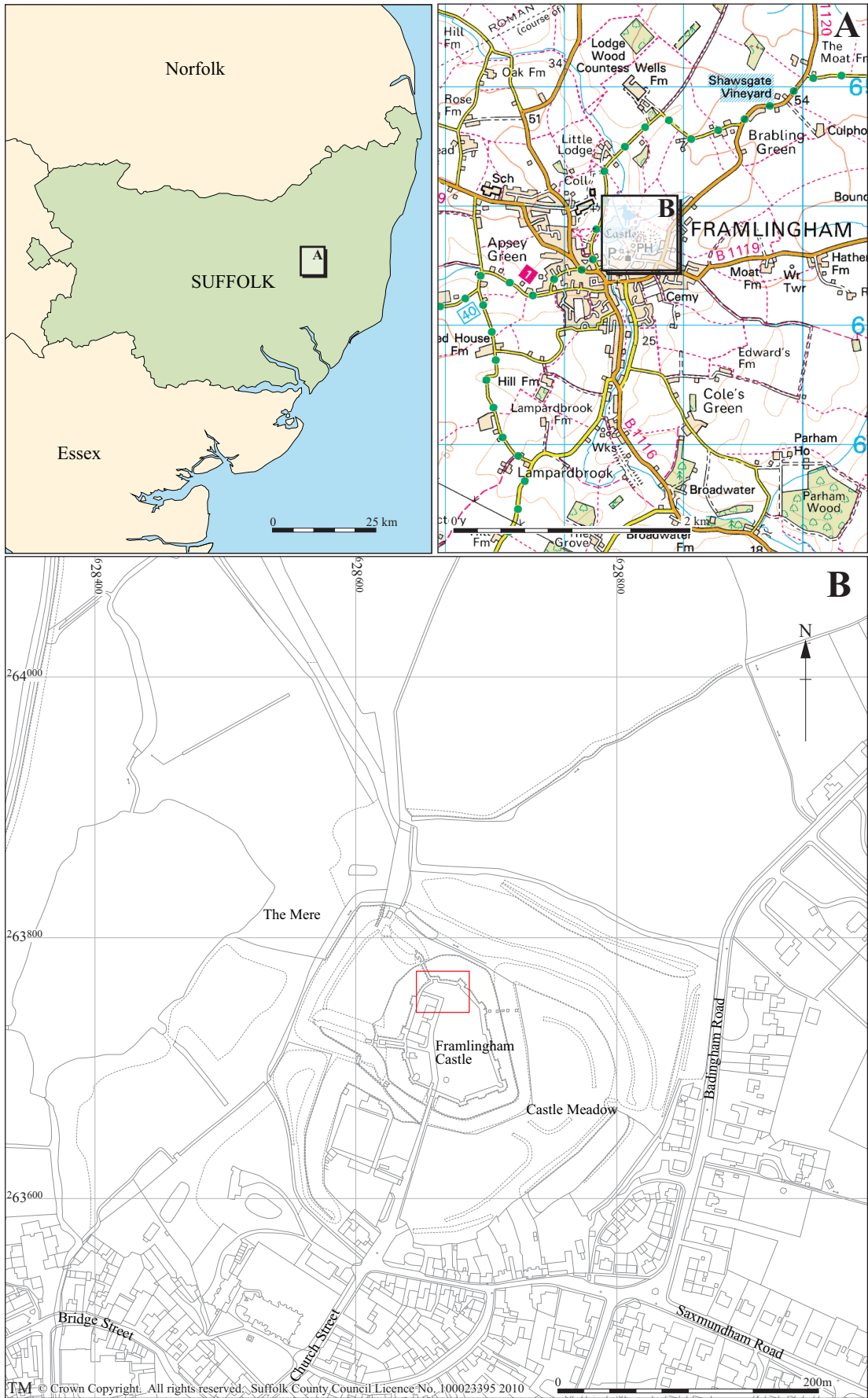


Figure 1. Location map showing development area (red)

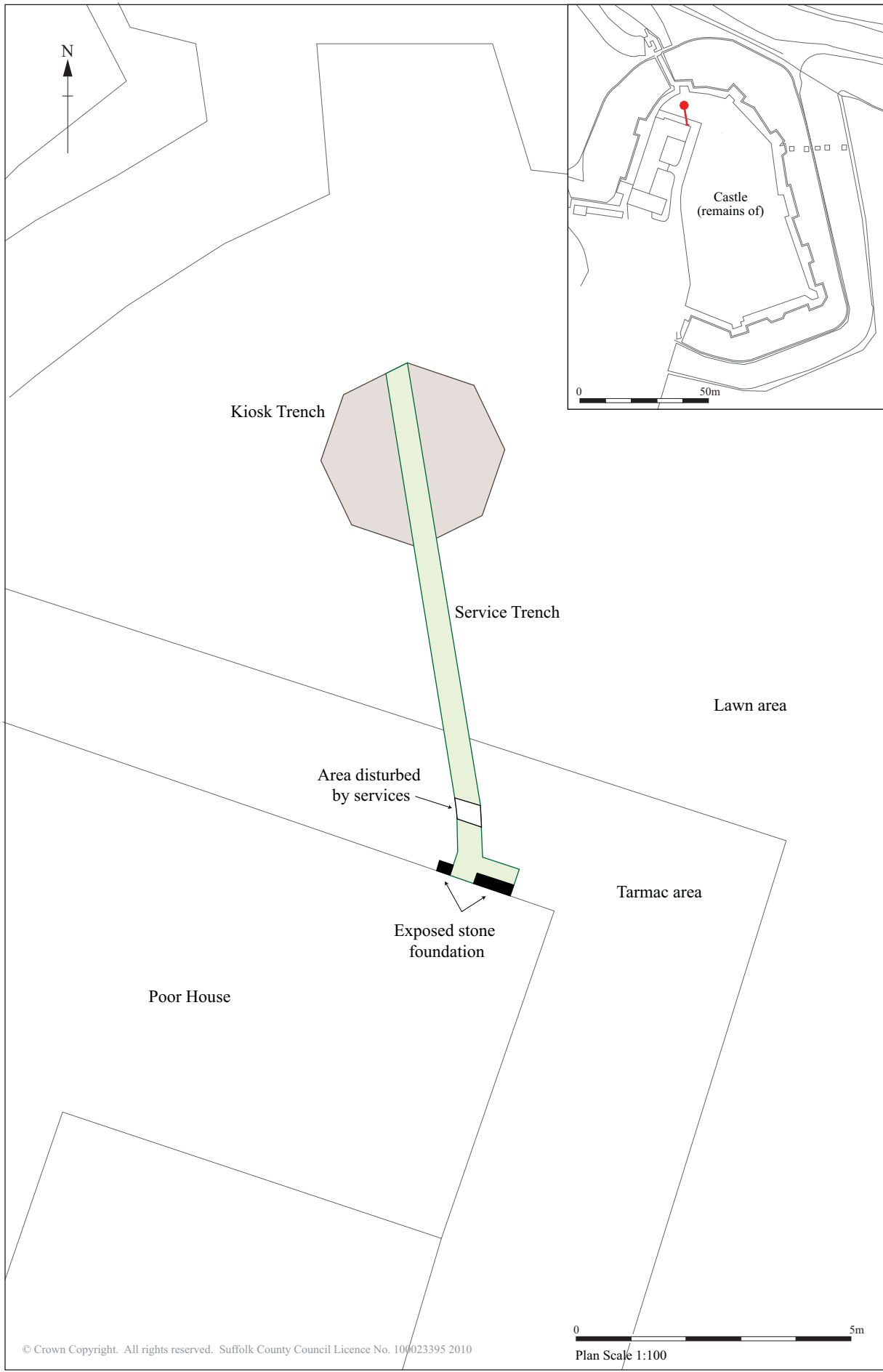


Figure 2. Site Plan



Plate 1. Poor House foundation, facing south-west

Context number	Description
0001	Dark brownish-grey silty-coarse sand. Friable compaction. Frequent very small sub-angular stones and chalk lumps. 0.1->0.2m deep. Clear soil horizon where visible. Interpretation – topsoil, relatively recently disturbed (see CBM sample). Above 0003. Seen in both trenches.
0002	Grey degraded concrete/mortar and coarse orange sand. Loose-compact compaction. Frequent stones and one patch of charcoal and coke. >0.1m deep. Interpretation – modern deposit. Originally looked to possibly be foundations of an old wall but contains post-medieval CBM, drain, etc. Unclear if it's part of a service trench of a post-medieval foundation, though probably too shallow to be a foundation. Under 0003.
0003	Pale cream mortar. Friable compaction. Contained occasional small chalk lumps. 0.03m deep, c.0.2m wide by c.0.6m long. Interpretation – medieval/post-medieval plaster. Sample retained. Below 0001, over 0002.
0004	Dark grey sandy-clayey-silt found in the northern half of the service trench. Friable-compact compaction. Contained modern CBM, frequent chalk and stones. Below 0002. >0.2m deep. Interpretation modern deposit or disturbed post-medieval deposit.

Context number	Description
0005	Mid grey coarse sand and silt found in the service trench in tarmac area immediately north of the Poor House. Contained concrete and CBM. >0.55m deep. Heavily disturbed by trenches/pipes. Interpretation – very recent/modern deposit.

Table 1. Context list

3. Finds

Andy Fawcett

Introduction

A total of fourteen finds with a weight of 807g was recorded in three contexts. A breakdown of these can be seen in Table 1.

Context	Pottery		Late Brick		Roof tile		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0001	1	5	3	529	1	31		16th to 18th C
0002			1	30	2	156	Ceramic pipe 1 @ 34g	
0003	1	7					Mortar 4 @ 29g	Late 12th to 14th C
Total	2	12	4	559	3	187		

Table 2. Finds quantities

Pottery

Two sherds of pottery were recorded (12g), one in the topsoil 0001 and a second in the unstratified context 0003. The first of these in 0001 is an abraded body sherd of Glazed red earthenware (GRE) dated from the 16th to 18th century. Post-medieval brick and tile were also noted alongside the sherd.

The body sherd in 0003 displays only slight abrasion and is dated from the late 12th to 14th century. This is a general medieval coarseware (MCW) whose fabric is reduced and consists of ill-sorted quartz.

Ceramic building material

Ceramic building materials were recorded in 0001 and deposit 0002. They are divided between roof tile (3 fragments @ 187g) and late brick (4 fragments @ 559g).

Roof tile

The piece in context 0001 is a small and abraded oxidised fragment. Its fabric is composed of medium sand with sparse flint (msf) and it is dated to the post-medieval period.

The remaining two fragments in context 0002 are both oxidised and display only slight abrasion. They are both in a medium sandy fabric (ms) and are dated to the post-medieval period.

Late brick

The three late brick fragments in 0001 are all considerably abraded (529g). The largest piece in this context is in a medium sandy fabric (msf) with flint and is coloured medium red. It has a depth of around 62mm, this corresponds with Drury's Group 5 (1993, 163-68). The fabric is similar to that noted at Angel Hill in Bury St Edmunds (Anderson 2005); it is dated to the post-medieval period.

The one small and abraded piece in context 0002 (30g) is oxidised and in a medium sandy fabric (ms). Some traces of mortar can be observed on the fragment, this too is dated to the post-medieval period.

Ceramic piping

A single piece of stoneware piping was recorded in context 0002. The fragment is dated to the post-medieval period; this context also contained post-medieval brick and roof tile.

Mortar

A small number of mortar pieces were noted in context 0003 (4 fragments @ 15g). However, these were the only whole pieces from a bag that was essentially composed of near powder (29g). It is a lime based mortar which contains a quantity of ill-sorted quartz (it could possibly be classed as medium sandy) and it is extremely friable. The mortar was accompanied by a single sherd of medieval pottery.

Conclusion

This is a very small collection of finds from disturbed deposits which are mostly dated to the post-medieval period. The only exception to this is a single sherd of unstratified medieval pottery, which cannot be considered unusual given the location of the site.

R. Brooks

February, 2011

References

Anderson, S., 2005 ' Building materials' in Duffy, J., Angel Hotel (BSE 231); A report on the archaeological investigations, SCC Report No 2005/173

Drury, P., 1993 'Ceramic building materials', in Margeson, S., Norwich Households, East Anglian Report No 58, 163-8.

English Heritage, 2010, *Framlingham Castle Design and Access Statement*, 26/08/2010, English Heritage, available at http://apps3.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/planningonlinedocuments/112636_14.pdf

Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

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SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

REFRESHMENT KIOSK, FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission to erect a refreshment kiosk at Framlingham Castle has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out. 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 Castle Courtyard, on the north side of the Poor House. The potential for damaging significant heritage assets within the courtyard is low as the top 30cm of most sites is disturbed ground. In 1970, a series of trenches, excavated across the courtyard, revealed that the 'top 3 to 4 ft of the courtyard...is of relatively recent date , and has been disturbed well into the present century. A series of 19th-century pits and small drainage gullies crossed the area' (page 156 in J G Coad, 'Recent Excavations within Framlingham Castle', *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*, XXXII, 1972, 152-163).
- 1.3 As a shallow raft foundation and short length of drain trench is proposed there could 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 castle period and later occupation and/or activities.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavations for the raft foundation and drainage trench. 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 All archaeological features exposed (and which would otherwise be destroyed) should be fully excavated and planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.4 All contexts should be numbered and finds recorded by context as far as possible.
- 4.5 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.

4.6 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 must be prepared, commensurate with the importance of the results and consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4. 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 Where appropriate, a digital vector plan showing all the areas observed should be included with the report. This must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration into the County HER. 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.

- 5.6 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: 16th August 2010

Reference: Fram Castle Kiosk

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.