

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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## 11-15 GREAT COLMAN STREET, IPSWICH IAS 1005 IPS 479

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2005



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Field Team  
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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## List of Contributors

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## Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Greencroft Properties Ltd, and was monitored by Keith Wade of the SCCAS Conservation Team.

The project was directed by Rhodri Gardner and managed by John Newman, who also provided advice during the production of the report. The evaluation was carried out by Rhodri Gardner, Tim Browne, Roy Damant and Tony Fisher; all from the SCCAS Field Team.

Thanks are due to Andy Peck of Rose Builders Ltd for his assistance throughout the evaluation.

## Summary

**Ipswich**, 11-15 Great Colman Street (TM 1657 4470; IAS 1005, IPS 479). A trial trench evaluation was carried out at the above site in advance of a residential development. A single trial trench (22m<sup>2</sup>) was excavated. Evidence of nearby Middle and Late Saxon activity was found in the form of residually derived Ipswich ware and Thetford-type ware pottery. Sparse Early medieval deposits were recorded but their exposure was too limited for detailed interpretation. A substantial dump deposit of redeposited sands and gravels was interpreted as being associated with the AD 1204 town ditch, but it remains unclear whether it was derived from the initial construction of the ditch and bank or during later maintenance or levelling. Documentary evidence dating from at least the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century indicates that grants were given for land abutting the defences that stipulated maintenance of the ditch. Two substantial 'garden soil' deposits of Late medieval and 17<sup>th</sup> century date concur with the documentary evidence which suggests that the site was then under formal gardens until well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Great Colman Street itself was laid out in 1821 and later features attest to 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century occupation along its frontage. It is suggested that the site could have seen relatively little occupation other than being used as urban gardens from possibly as early as the Middle Saxon period until late in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Given the depth of the deposits and the fact that the site was to be piled no further work was recommended.

(Rhodri Gardner, SCCAS, for Greencroft Properties Ltd., report no: 2005/111)

## SMR information

Planning application no.	IP/04/00904/FUL
Date of fieldwork:	5 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2005
Grid Reference:	TM 1657 4470
Funding body:	Greencroft Properties Ltd.



# 1 Introduction

An Archaeological Evaluation was carried out at 11-15 Great Colman Street, Ipswich, where planning consent for the construction of residential flats had been granted (IP/04/00904/FUL). A condition of this consent was the requirement for a programme of archaeological works. The work was commissioned by the Architects Barefoot and Gilles, on behalf of their client Greencroft Properties Ltd., who also funded the work. This document reports the findings of the resultant Evaluation.

The site is centred approximately on NGR TM 1657 4470 and encompasses an area of *c.* 900m<sup>2</sup>. It lies on generally level ground at 11.3m AOD. At the time of the evaluation the site had undergone significant demolition and had been levelled, apart from the buildings that occupy the street frontage of Nos. 11-13, which were to be retained. The site is bounded to the north and east by retaining walls of neighbouring properties fronting Old Foundry Road, to the south by Great Colman Street and to the west by the neighbouring property at 9 Great Colman Street.

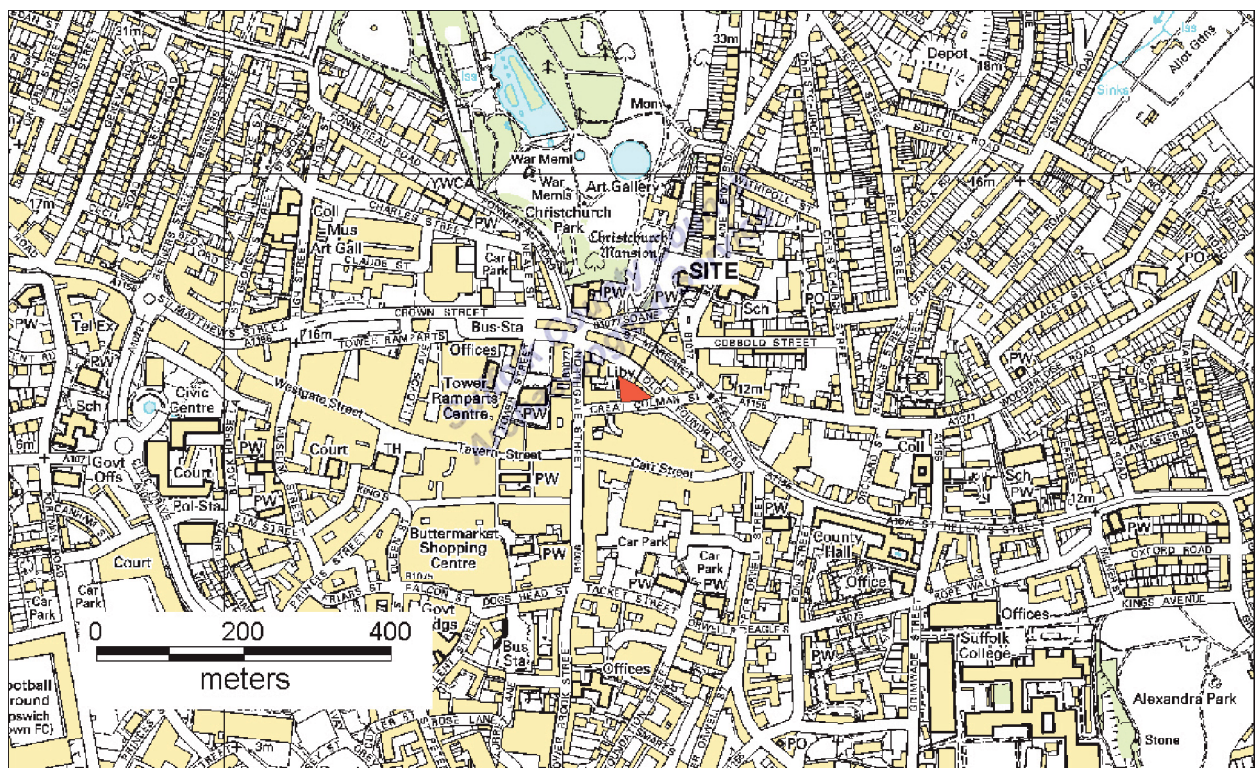


Figure 1. Site location

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No known archaeological sites lie within the area of the proposed development. However significant archaeological remains are known from previous investigations in the nearby area and the site has significant archaeological potential. The location of these previous investigations is shown in Figure 2 (information held in the County Sites and Monuments Record).

- **IAS 1001.** Sherds of pottery dating from the Middle Saxon to post-medieval periods was recorded on the site of the old Free Library during building works in the 1920s.
- **IAS 1002.** Two separate phases of work were carried out: the examination of three engineers' test pits in 1991 prior to the building of an extension to the library and the excavation of a lift shaft in 1993. Both recorded substantial depths of archaeological deposits. Features included a single Middle Saxon pit and three phases of Late Saxon/Early medieval occupation including a Late Saxon cellared building (Loader, 1993).

- **IAS 1003.** Observation of footing trenches dug during the construction of a small extension to the rear of 5-7 Great Colman Street in 1996 recorded natural subsoil at 2.3m below ground level, but no dateable finds were retained.
- **IAS 1004.** A flint-built wall was recorded to the rear of the site during works in 1997.
- **AH01 and AH02.** Service trenches on the northern side of Old Foundry Road identified the northern edge of the Late Saxon ditch. This was c. 4m wide and is thought to lie under the present day Old Foundry Road.
- **IAS 1501/1502.** These sites confirmed the presence of the early medieval (AD 1204) ditch. Indeed this ditch was preserved, at least in part, to such a degree in the 1880s that it was recorded along the northern side of Old Foundry Road on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map.

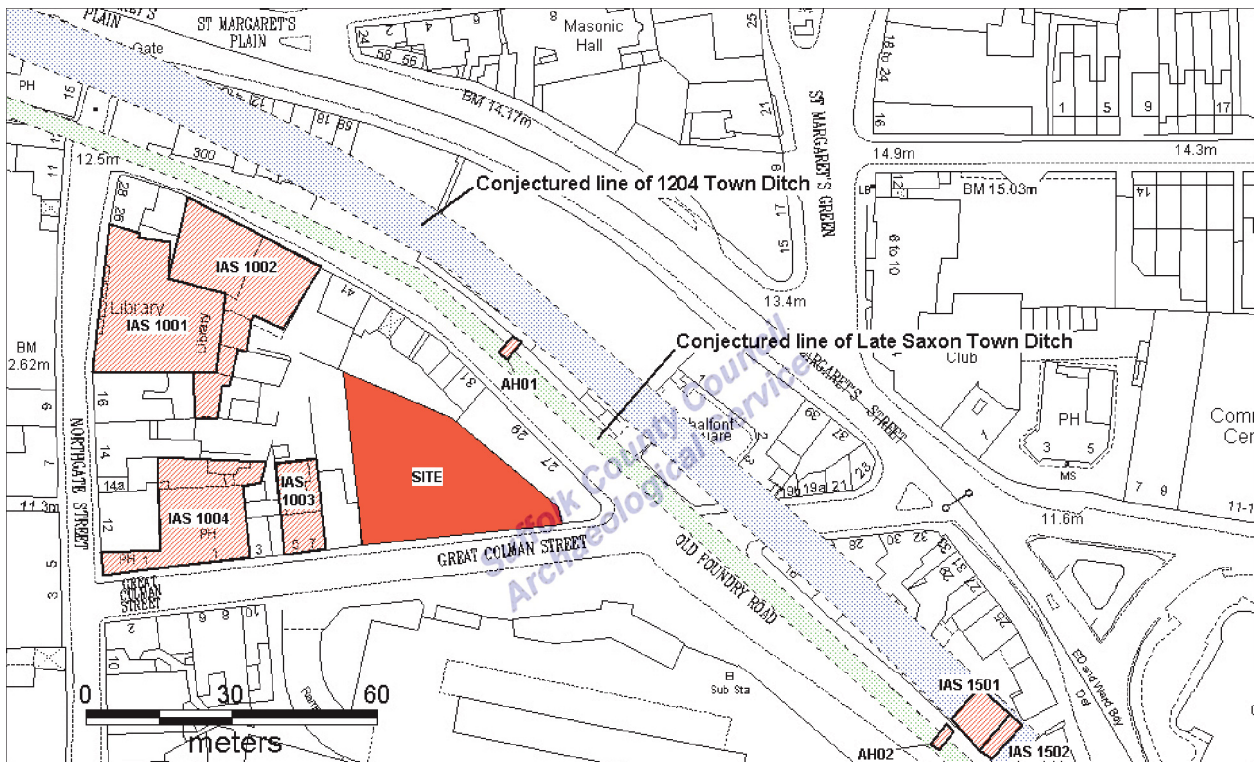


Figure 2. Location of sites referred to in the text and conjectured location of defensive ditches  
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In addition, a thorough documentary search of all historical records relevant to the site was undertaken. The results are given in Appendix 3.

The site was considered to have high archaeological potential. It was thought that evidence relating to the defences might extend into the site. It also had potential for the preservation of occupation evidence from the Middle Saxon period onwards. Keith Wade of the SCCAS Conservation Team therefore recommended a trial trench evaluation be carried out. A simple trench design was agreed and the SCCAS Field Team were subsequently commissioned to carry out the work.

## 2 Methodology

The documentary research for this report was carried out at the Suffolk Record Office in Ipswich.

The field evaluation was carried out between the 5<sup>th</sup> of July and 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2005. A single trial trench 11m long and 2m wide (with a total area of 22m<sup>2</sup>) was excavated as shown in Figure 3. The trench was excavated using a small



360° tracked mechanical excavator (minidigger) fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. All mechanical excavation of overburden was carried out under close archaeological supervision until the top of the first appropriate undisturbed archaeological deposit was encountered. The trench location was recorded by triangulation from existing boundaries and buildings in the vicinity of the site.

Although the total excavated area represented just less than 2.5% of the site's total area it was deemed sufficient in the first instance to broadly characterise the nature of the deposits.

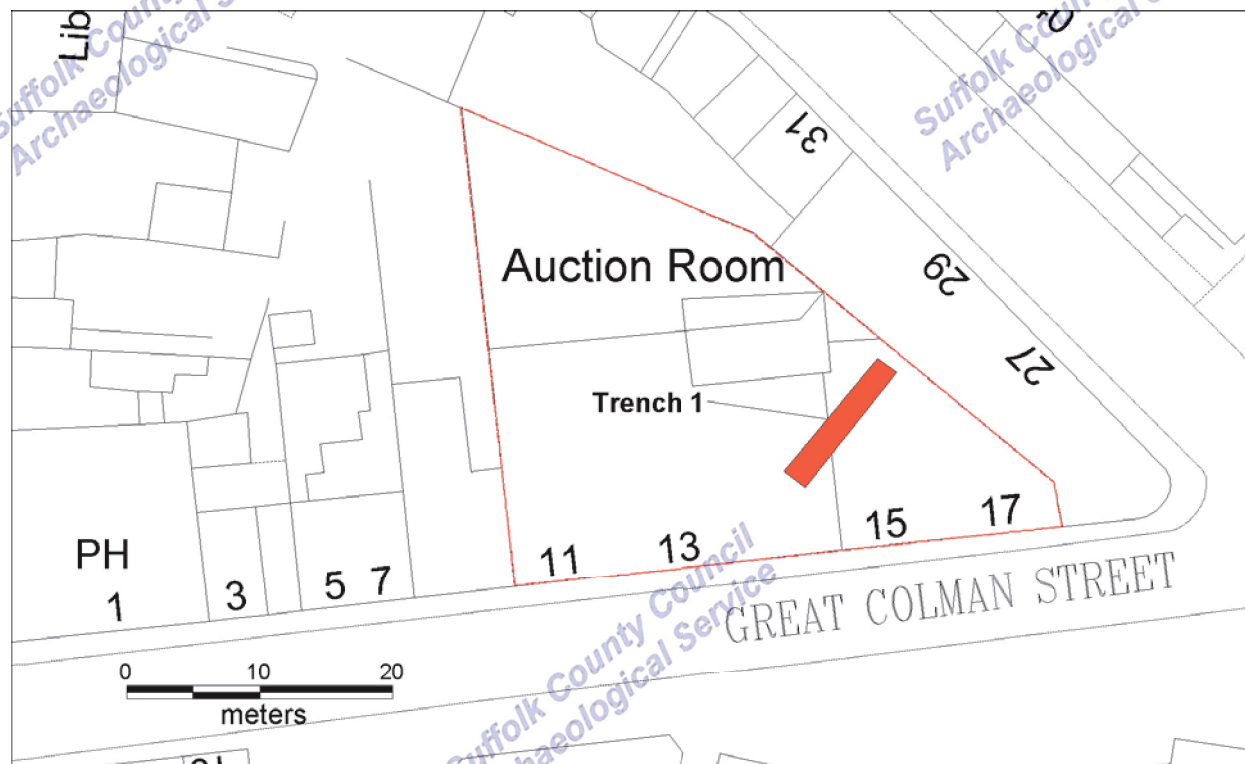


Figure 3. Trench location

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The Ipswich Archaeological Survey (IAS) number 1005 and the SMR reference number IPS 479 were allocated to the site and all the stratigraphic elements of the deposits were allocated context numbers within a continuous numbering system. This context information is shown in Appendix 1. All features were excavated and recorded in a series of 1:20 scale plans and 1:20 scale section drawings. Context records were entered onto an Access97 database, and inked copies of the drawings were prepared on archive quality drafting film. A photographic record (35mm colour slide, 35mm black and white and digital photographs) was maintained throughout.

Finds were processed and quantified by in-house staff, with the data then input onto a Microsoft Access97 database. The results of this analysis are given in Section 4 below.

### 3 Results

#### 3.1 Documentary search (see Appendix 3 for more detail)

Until Great Colman Street was laid out in 1821 the area of this site had been formal gardens. These are shown on Pennington's map of 1778 and survived in part until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1887. In 1821 the gardens and a mansion called Harebottle House were offered for sale at auction following the death of Mrs Edge. The ownership of this property can be traced in the rate books back to Phillips Colman whose name appears on Pennington's map. Harebottle House can be traced back to 1610 when it was sold with other tenements by Harebottle Grimston to Joseph Parkhurst. Other property records have not been deposited at the Record Office or have not survived and it is not possible to trace the history of the property between 1610 and 1821 with accuracy. The map evidence suggests that additional properties may have been added and the formal gardens were created under the ownership of Phillips Colman sometime in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Sir Harebottle Grimston was an important political figure he served in various parliaments in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and Phillips Colman had been a parliamentary candidate in 1734.

Ogilby's map of 1674 shows the area of this site covered with formal gardens though these were probably connected with more than one property. On Speede's map of 1610 there are no houses shown on this site and the line of the town ditch appears to be intact. The Corporation began to grant out parcels of land abutting on to the ditch from the 14<sup>th</sup> century onwards and references to Carr Street can be found in some of the earliest documents relating to the town. It may well be the case that this area of Ipswich was sealed in by the town wall and ditch and divided up into gardens and orchards in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. It then remained relatively free from any major structures until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## 3.2 Field evaluation

### 3.2.1 Trench 1

The natural subsoil (0025) encountered comprised a compact sand matrix with poorly sorted rounded to sub-angular flint pebbles/gravel. Its highest occurrence was at c. 9.65m AOD in the central part of the trench.

Stratigraphically, the earliest feature observed was 0041, a partially revealed linear feature with a rounded terminus, gently sloping sides and a rounded base. This was at least 1.82m long (north-east to south-west), at least 0.3m wide and up to 0.34m deep. It contained a single fill (0042) of soft mid brown silty clay that produced no dateable finds.

The fill of this feature was overlain by 0027, a layer of silty clay up to 0.25m thick and only seen in the north-western end of the trench (Figures 7 and 8). This contained very rare small flint pebbles but no dateable finds.

This, in turn, was overlain by 0018, a sandy clay with frequent pockets of silt and moderate poorly sorted flint pebbles, most likely a dump of redeposited natural subsoil. This contained pottery of Middle Saxon, Late Saxon and Early medieval date. It was only observed in the south-eastern section and extended some 1.2m into the trench.

This was cut at its northern end by 0019, a partially revealed feature (most likely a pit given its irregular western edge) that was at least 1.8m long (north-west to south-east) and at least 0.6m wide. It was up to 0.4m deep with irregular steeply sloping sides that broke sharply to a flat base. It held a single fill (0020) of clayey silty sand that produced a small quantity of Thetford-ware type pottery (10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> century), although this must be residually derived given the stratigraphic relationship of the feature with layer 0018. This feature is not illustrated in section as the north-eastern end of the trench lay directly against the footings of an extant building.

Feature 0023 was partially revealed at the south-western end of the trench. It measured at least 2.5m long (east to west) and at least 1m wide with steeply sloping sides that broke gradually to a flat base. It was up to 0.3m deep and contained three fills. The primary fill, 0024, was a loose silty sand with frequent small flint pebbles. The secondary fill, 0017, was a silty sand with moderate flint pebbles and rare animal bone and pottery (of early medieval date) fragments. The tertiary fill, 0026, was a loose silty sand with frequent small to medium flint pebbles that produced no dateable finds. The nature of these fills does not suggest domestic refuse disposal so it is most likely that this feature represents a ditch or other open feature of some kind.

The south-western end of 0018 was overlain by 0009, a substantial deposit up to 0.75m thick comprising a compact sand matrix with frequent very poorly sorted small to medium flint pebbles. It was noticeably less substantial on the south-eastern side of the trench, sloping away and becoming thinner to the north-west. Figure 5 shows the trench with the surface of 0009 exposed. This deposit was unusual, given the 'normal' deposits usually encountered in an urban context within Ipswich, and is interpreted here as a large dump of redeposited natural subsoil. Careful hand excavation of this deposit yielded a small quantity of pottery of medieval (13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century) date. Further detailed interpretation of this deposit appears in the *Discussion and Conclusions* below. No notable buried soil could be discerned beneath this deposit but a number of large sandy silt lenses were identified within it. These were allocated a single context number (0014) and drawn where applicable (see Figure 7). The finds recovered from these lenses included pottery of 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date.

A single feature, 0010, was cut into the surface of deposit 0009. This was a partially revealed sub-rounded pit 2.1m long (north-east to south-west) and at least 0.95m wide with moderately sloping sides and a gently rounded base. This was 0.5m deep and contained a single fill (0011) of sandy silty clay with mixed inclusions suggestive of rubbish disposal, including some potsherds of 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date.

Fill 0011 was overlain by 0008, which was recorded throughout the whole trench. This was up to 0.85m thick in the north-western side of the trench and was a soft mid grey slightly sandy clayey silt with mixed inclusions (see Appendix 1). The most likely interpretation is one of a garden soil-type deposit of 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century date.

Some 3m from the north-eastern end of the trench 0008 was cut by 0039, a partially revealed pit or the end of a ditch. This was 0.5m wide (north-east to south-west) and at least 0.25m long with steeply sloping slightly concave

sides and a rounded base. It's single fill (0040) comprised silty clay with brick/tile and crushed chalk flecks and flint pebbles. It contained no dateable finds.

At the north-eastern end of the trench 0008 was cut by 0012. This was at least 1.2m long and at least 0.5m wide and had a near vertical south-western edge that broke very sharply to a flat base. It was c. 0.7m deep and contained two fills. The primary fill, 0016, was clayey silty sand with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks and small flint pebbles which also produced some brick/tile fragments and residually derived pottery. The secondary fill, 0013, was a silty sandy clay, also with chalk and charcoal flecks and small flint pebbles. It produced no dateable finds. Unfortunately its exposure was too limited for any informed interpretation to be made.

Adjacent to the south-western edge of 0012 structure 0007 was laid directly onto deposit 0008. This has been interpreted as a low exterior (?garden/raised bed) wall and was constructed using a mix of fabrics including some rough flints but predominantly of red unfrogged bricks, few of which were whole. This was just a single course high and two stretchers thick and bonded with a soft pale grey mortar. It measured at least 1.48m long (east to west) and was 0.23m wide. A thin (c. 0.2m thick) mortar and chalk spread or surface (0005) partly overlay the northern edge of 0007 and extended beyond the north-eastern end of the trench. It contained no dateable finds.

At the south-western end of the trench the 'garden soil' 0008 was overlain by a more complex sequence of deposits. The earliest of these was 0015, a substantial (up to 0.52m thick) build-up deposit of clayey sandy silt with small to medium flint pebbles that also held a small quantity of animal bone, brick/tile fragments and residually derived pottery.

This was overlain by 0030, a probable make-up/levelling layer up to 0.4m thick comprising sandy clayey silt with rare brick/tile fragments, occasional chalk lumps and flint cobbles. It contained no dateable finds.

This in turn was overlain by 0031, another make-up/levelling deposit up to 0.4m thick. This was of similar character to 0030 but contained more crushed brick/tile fragments and less chalk along with smaller flint pebbles. It also produced no dateable finds.

A further crushed chalk consolidation dump (0032) overlay 0031. This was up to 0.28m thick and was made up of a silty clay matrix with abundant small crushed chalk pieces. No dateable finds were recovered.

Deposit 0032 was cut by 0033, a sub-rounded pit with steep straight sides and a rounded base. Only revealed in the far south-western corner of the trench it was c. 1m in diameter and some 0.9m deep. It contained a single fill (0034) of clayey sandy silt with very mixed inclusions with frequent crushed brick/tile, chalk and mortar pieces.

A 0.28m thick concrete raft (0035) associated with wall 0036 directly overlay the fill of pit 0033. Structure 0036 itself was north to south aligned and constructed of red unfrogged bricks (breadth unknown, 65mm thick and 225mm long). This was a laterally spreading wall footing, with the bricks laid as headers on the bottom and then courses of progressively narrowing stretchers. It was bonded with a hard yellowish white sandy mortar.

The next latest deposit stratigraphically was 0006, a substantial later garden soil-type layer. This was up to 0.8m thick and comprised very soft dark grey sandy silt with moderate brick/tile and mortar fragments, rare potsherds (some residual – the latest being 17<sup>th</sup> century) and frequent poorly sorted small to medium flint pebbles.

A single feature cut deposit 0006. This was 0022, which was 0.5m wide with vertical sides and a flat base and held wall footing 0021. This was roughly east to west aligned and built onto a thin concrete raft in the base of 0022. It was constructed with red frogged bricks (112mm broad, 55mm thick and 240mm long) bonded with a hard whitish grey lime mortar. Only the very end was exposed in the upstanding section so further recording was not possible.

Toward the south-western end of the trench 0006 was overlain by two further levelling or make-up layers. The first of these was 0037, a loose sandy silt up to 0.2m thick with frequent crushed brick/tile fragments and flint gravel. This was overlain by 0038, a layer of loose silty sand up to 0.25m thick with frequent large sub-rounded flint cobbles and occasional crushed brick/tile pieces.

Stratigraphically, the latest features recorded in the trench were 0002 and 0028, which both cut 0038.

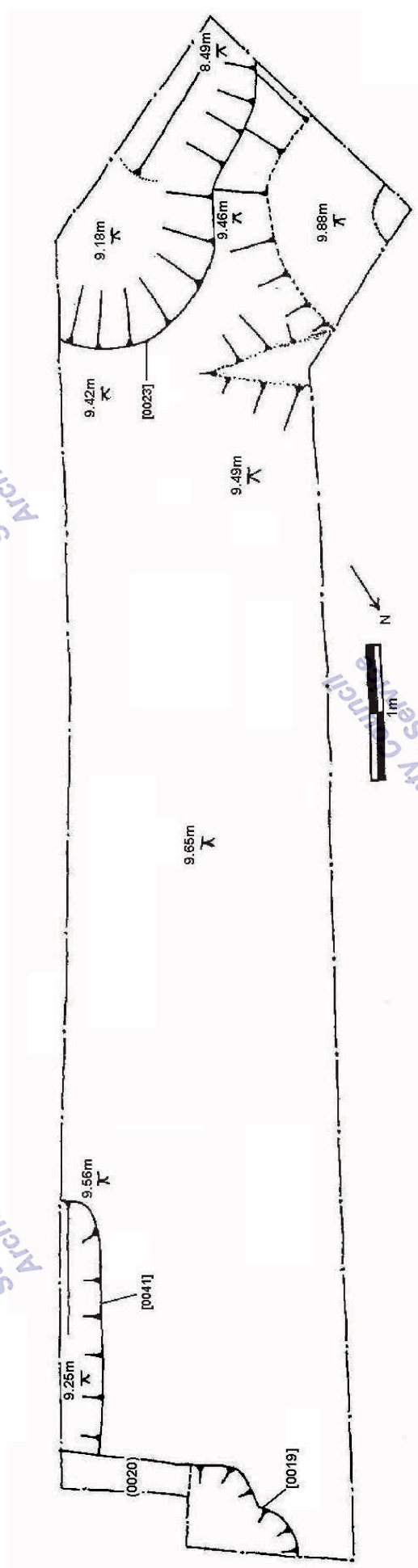
The first of these was 0002, a rectangular vertical sided feature interpreted here as a small cellar/cold store. It measured 2m long (north-west to south-east), 1.2m wide and c. 1.5m deep. The base of this feature was lined with a brick floor (0003) constructed using yellow unfrogged bricks (110mm broad, 60mm thick and 230mm long) laid as simple stretchers with no discernible traces of mortar and no bedding layer beneath. This contained a single very mixed recent backfill (0004) comprising light grey ashy silt with frequent modern brick, iron, glass and wood fragments.



The second of these was 0028, a modern construction cut with vertical sides that broke sharply to a flat base. This was only seen in the south-eastern section and was 1.65m deep and 0.38m wide. Its length could not be determined due to its limited exposure. This held a single fill (0029) of soft very mixed sandy silt with very frequent modern rubble.

### 3.2.2 *Monitoring*

A number of extant wall foundations were grubbed out in other areas of the site during the time of the evaluation. None of this activity disturbed any deposits deeper than the upper of the garden soil-type layers (0009). No archaeologically sensitive deposits were encountered. As such, no detailed record of the locations of the grubbing out is reproduced here.



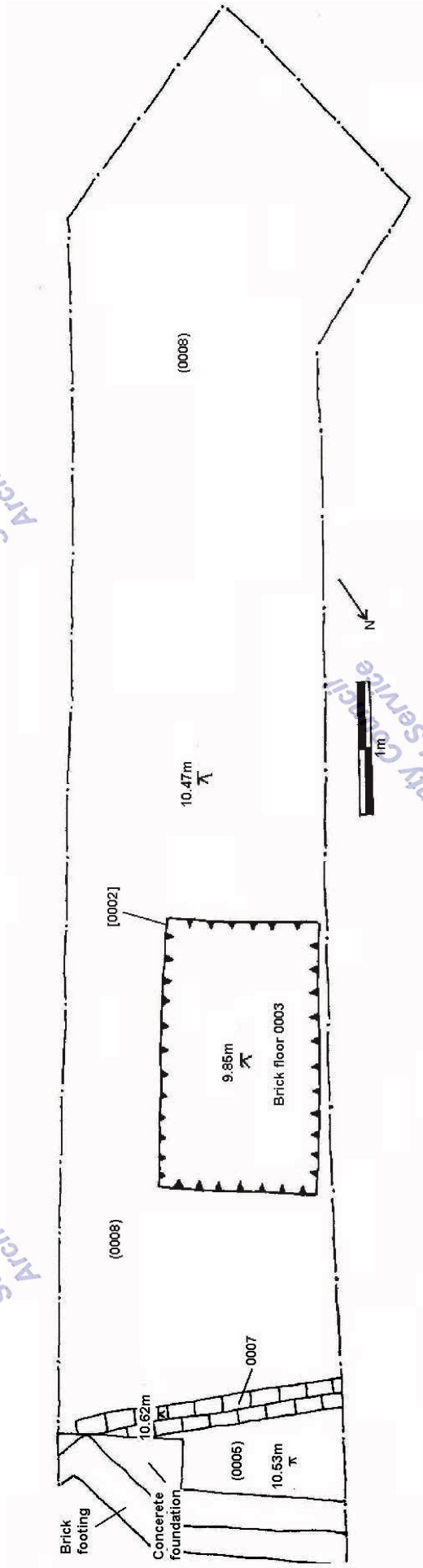


Figure 6. Surface plan of early 'garden soil' (0008) and associated later features

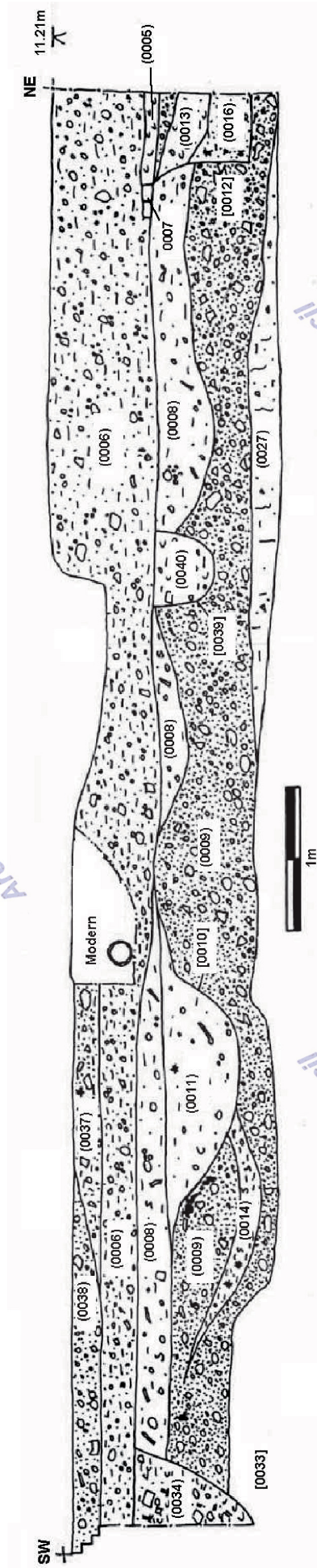


Figure 7. South-east facing section



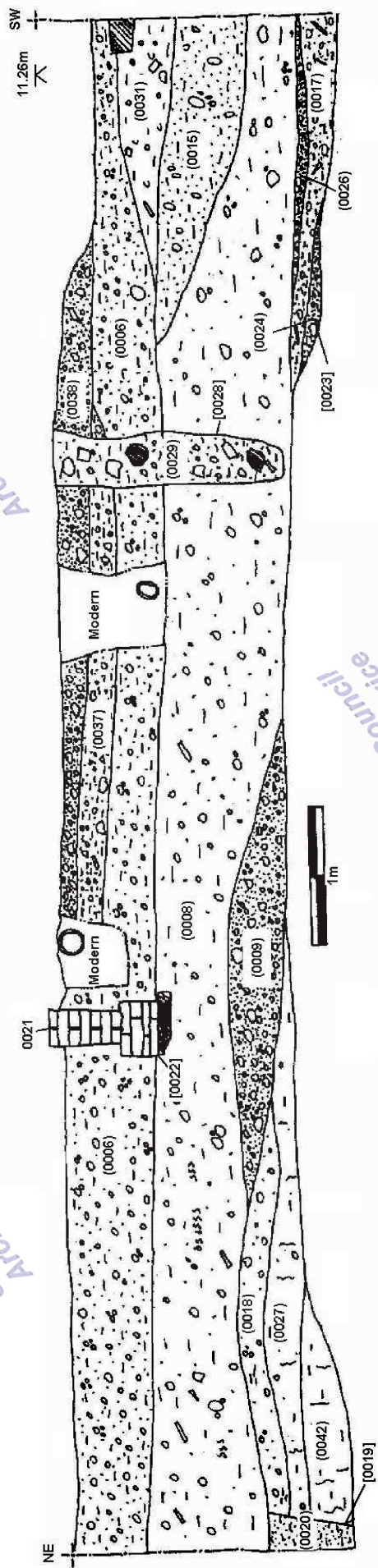


Figure 8. North-west facing section

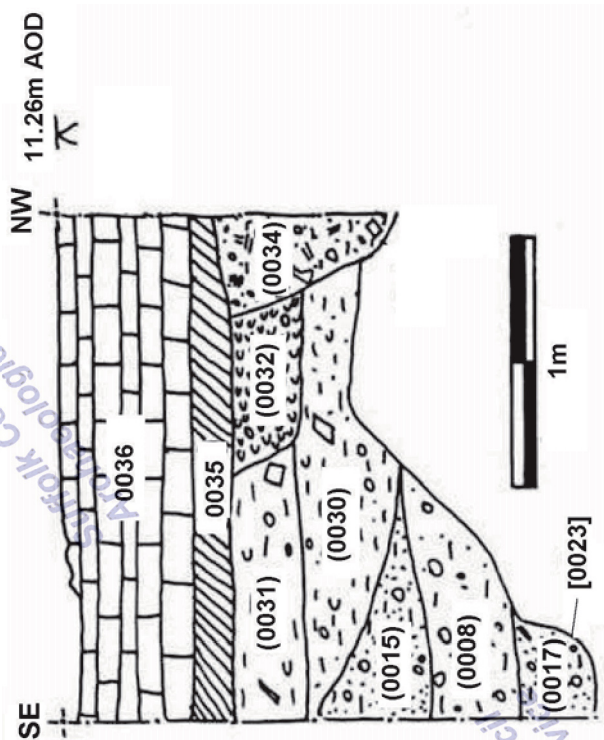


Figure 9. North-east facing section

## 4 The Finds

Richenda Goffin, July 2005

### Introduction

Finds were collected from 11 contexts, as shown in the table below.

Context	Pottery		Animal bone		CBM		Shell		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0006	18	154	2	70	14	1225	2	25		17th C
0008	57	790	8	81					1 flint @ 8g	14th-15th C
0009	17	120							2 iron nails @ 9g, 1 fe object	13th-14th C
0011	13	140	5	101						13th-14th C
0013			1	3	15	542				Post-med
0014	13	159	1	17						12th-14th C
0015	22	233	10	261	2	57				12th-14th C
0016	4	32			1	67				Pot 12th-14th C but possibly later tile frag.
0017	4	42	1	63						11th-12th C
0018	22	140	3	52					1 iron nail @ 10g	11th-12th C
0020	3	21								10th-11th C
Total	173	1831	31	648	32	1891	2	25		

Table 1. Finds quantities

### Pottery

A total of 173 fragments of pottery weighing 1.831kg were recovered from the evaluation. A full catalogue of the pottery recorded by context is presented in Appendix 2.

Eighteen sherds were recovered from 0006, a deposit of late garden soil. The pottery is mixed in date, and includes fragments of Thetford-type ware, some medieval sherds and a few fragments that are post-medieval, the latest of which date to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The pottery from the underlying soil layer (0008) is earlier. In addition to the residual material, a range of medieval coarseware was identified, and some glazed wares. A fragment of a glazed red earthenware jar rim dates to the late medieval period (14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century). 17 fragments of pottery were recovered from an underlying deposit of gravelly sand 0009. In addition to a sherd of Sandy Ipswich ware and some Thetford-type ware, fragments of medieval coarseware were present, with rim types which are indicative of a 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date. Sherds of pottery deposited into the backfill of pit 0010 are made from similar fabrics, and can also be dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century. A discrete lens of silty 'soil' 0011 found within the gravel deposits contained 13 pottery sherds, including a fragment of Sandy Ipswich ware, some Thetford-type ware, and some shell-tempered wares which are likely to date to the earlier part of the medieval period. A fragment of medieval coarseware was also found. On the eastern side of the trench a total of 22 sherds of pottery were recorded from a build-up deposit 0015. The ceramics show a similar pattern of fabric types. They include a fragment of Ipswich ware, some Thetford-type wares and medieval coarsewares, including Yarmouth-type ware and Early medieval shelly ware, but also a sherd with oxidised margins, which contains small calcareous inclusions and is covered with a yellow glaze with green flecks, with an overall date of 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century.

A small amount of pottery was present in 0016, the fill of a partially excavated feature. In addition to a single fragment each of Ipswich ware and Thetford-type ware, a fragment of an Early medieval jar with everted flared rim was identified with a fragment of medieval coarseware, indicative of a 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century date.

Twenty-two sherds were recovered from 0018, a dump of redeposited material. Fragments of Middle and Late Saxon wares were identified, with a number of early medieval shelly coarsewares of 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century date.

Three sherds of Thetford-type ware were present in pit fill 0020, in the northeast corner of the trench. The ceramics included a jar rim of Dallas type AB13, a long-lived type that cannot be closely dated (Dallas 125).

### Ceramic building material

A total of 32 fragments of ceramic building material was recovered, weighing 1.891kg.

Several post-medieval roof tile fragments were identified in deposit 0006, which were all made in a hard, uniformly fired red fabric. Some had mortar adhering to the reverse and on the side, with others on other surfaces, suggesting



that some may have been re-used. Further fragments of roof tile of a very similar type were present in the secondary fill 0013 of feature 0012 (14 fragments). In addition, a small fragment of roof tile, which was more abraded and less highly fired is likely to be slightly earlier in date. A single roof tile fragment which was found in the primary fill 0016 of this feature is made from a hard dark orange fabric with sparse ferrous and calcareous inclusions is medieval/post-medieval.

Two pieces of roof tile made from two different fabrics were present in build-up deposit 0015. One of them is made from a hard sandy fabric with occasional ferrous inclusions, whilst the second fragment has a finer fabric, and has fine moulding sand on the reverse. The tiles date from the medieval to late medieval period (13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century).

## **Metalwork**

Two iron nails were present in deposit 0009, along with a fragment of corroded iron. A further nail was found in dumping 0018.

## **Worked flint by Colin Pendleton**

A flint scraper of probable Bronze Age date was found in the garden soil deposit 0008.

## **Animal bone**

Thirty-one fragments of animal bone were recovered from the evaluation, weighing 0.648kg in total. A small piece of a large mammal bone (probably from cattle) was found in garden deposit 0006, along with a vertebra of a pig or sheep. A number of rib fragments and three metapodia of small mammals were present in 0008. Bone fragments in pit fill 0011 include a small femur, probably from a domestic fowl, and a large but fragmentary piece of a cattle humerus. The largest quantity of animal bone came from build-up deposit 0015 on the eastern side of the trench. Five pieces are very fragmentary, but there is evidence of a cattle femur, tibia and molar, and a sheep/goat metacarpal. Three fragments of bone in dumped deposit 0018 are relatively featureless, but they are from the longbone of a large mammal such as cattle.

## **Shell**

Two oyster shells were recovered from garden deposit 0006.

## **Discussion of the finds evidence**

The ceramics from many of the features are wide-ranging in date, and indicate considerable redeposition of material. Fragments of Middle Saxon and Late Saxon pottery were found in association with later ceramic types in most contexts. Pottery of early medieval date was identified in deposits 0017 and 0018, with a few fragments of Thetford-type ware in pit fill 0020 towards the bottom of the sequence, dating to the 10th-11th century. Many fragments of ceramic roof tile were recovered, which are medieval and post-medieval in date. A single fragment of tile present in 0016 may perhaps have originated from the fill above 0013, since it appears to be later in date than the ceramics from the primary fill.

# **5 Discussion and Conclusions**

As is often the case in an urban location such as this securely dating some of the features and deposits has proved difficult due to the large quantity of residually occurring finds.

The surface of the natural subsoil (0025) was markedly uneven with a substantial slope (see Figure 4) at the southern end of the trench. No single cut feature could be identified as a contributing factor in the creation of this slope.

No closely dateable Middle Saxon features were encountered, despite the presence of some deposits of this date at the nearby library site. The period was only represented by residually occurring finds of Ipswich ware in some of the earlier deposits in the sequence.

Similarly, the Late Saxon period was also represented by a quantity of residually occurring material: in this case Thetford-type ware pottery. No Late Saxon features were recorded. This could be seen as unexpected as the site lies well within the town's defences and extensive remains (including a building) of the period have been found only c. 40m to the west. However

the library site lies adjacent to the medieval North Gate, and it is possible that it could also have been the site of an entrance in the Late Saxon period that might have acted as a focus for settlement. The present site lies quite far north, close to the defensive circuit and would be a sufficient distance from any entrance to make it a relatively unattractive location for occupation.

Limited Early medieval activity was recorded. A small sand and gravel dump layer toward the north-eastern end of the trench has been dated to the 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> century. A broad, shallow ditch-like feature that was partially revealed at the southern end of the trench contained similarly dated pottery in one of its lower fills. It contributed to the substantial slope observed on the surface of the natural sands and gravels at this end of the trench. Too little of this feature was exposed to enable any further conclusions to be drawn.

Perhaps the most significant finding of the evaluation was the substantial dump of redeposited natural material (0009). This was an atypical deposit for this kind of urban context in Ipswich. It (and some discrete silty layers sealed within it) has been assigned a 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date. A single pit cut into the top of this layer has been similarly dated. Given this date and the effort required for the movement of such a significant amount of sand and gravel it is tempting to associate the deposit with the construction of the AD 1204 defences. However, it is not possible with the available evidence to identify the deposit with any particular aspect of the defences or their maintenance. As such, it could have been derived/deposited in any of four ways:

1. **Upcast spoil from the original digging of the 1204 ditch.** It is possible that not all the upcast produced during these works would have been used for the creation of a bank or rampart; it may have been redeposited more widely in the town.
2. **Upcast spoil from later maintenance/cleaning of the 1204 ditch.** The documentary sources (see Appendix 3) indicate that grants (the “common soil grants”) for land alongside the ditch were issued from c. 1344, and these carried a stipulation that the ditch was to be maintained by the grantholders.
3. **In situ deposits of the trailing inner edge of the associated bank, which has been recorded elsewhere in the town.** A medieval bank has been recorded elsewhere in the town over the top of the Late Saxon ditch. However, given the known alignment of the two ditches in this area (see Figure 2) it would seem that the present site is too far inside their circuit for any bank deposits to be encountered. In addition, the lack of any buried soil horizon beneath the deposit in question on the present site suggests this is unlikely.
4. **Redeposited remnants of the bank after it was slighted/levelled.** No clear archaeological evidence or documentary account of a slighting of the town bank has yet been found. However, periodic repair and maintenance of the bank/rampart must also remain a possible source of deposit 0009 on the present site.

The documentary and cartographic evidence (see Section 3.1 and Appendix 3) suggests that the town defences in this part of the town were largely intact on Speede’s map of 1610. From that time until the establishment of Great Colman Street in 1821 the site appears to have been occupied by gardens associated with a large property, Harbottle House, which can also be traced back in the documentary evidence to at least 1610. The archaeological evidence recorded during the evaluation concurs with this account. Two substantial ‘garden soil’ type deposits overlay deposit 0009. The first of these, although it contained a large quantity of residual material, has been dated to the later medieval period (14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century). It, in turn, was overlain by a second garden soil-type deposit dated principally to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

All the features later than these garden soils would seem to be related to 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century activity after the foundation of Great Colman Street.

Overall it seems likely that the site has seen a relatively low level of occupation throughout all periods, despite its location within the town's defences. The Middle and Later Saxon periods are represented only by residually occurring finds suggesting some activity in the vicinity but not the dense occupation seen elsewhere. Some Early medieval deposits were encountered but are difficult to interpret. A substantial High Medieval deposit of sands and gravels is interpreted here as being associated with the town's medieval defences but few further conclusions can be drawn. Many questions relating to the medieval ditch and bank/rampart remain open. Later deposits were associated with formal gardens until the foundation of Great Colman Street in 1821. The site could well have seen a similar usage as gardens (whether communal in the Saxon or Early medieval period or under more formal ownership as indicated by the 'common soil grants' in later times) from the Middle Saxon period right up to the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## 6 Recommendations for Further Work

The evaluation revealed some sensitive medieval deposits sealed beneath up to 1.1-1.7m of later medieval/post-medieval garden soils, but at a quite considerable depth (c. 10m AOD). The grubbing out of walls observed during the evaluation did not disturb deposits at this depth.

As the site is to be piled and the pile caps are highly unlikely to disturb deposits beyond this depth no further work is recommended.

### References

- Dallas, C., 1984, 'The pottery' in Rogerson, A., and Dallas, C., Excavations in Thetford 1948-59 and 1973-80, EAA Report No 22.
- Loader, T., 1993, *A Report on the Archaeological Excavation at the Northgate Street Library Site, Ipswich*, SCCAS Report No. 93/12.

Report No. **2005/111**

Rhodri Gardner, for SCCAS, August 2005.

#### Disclaimer

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.

## APPENDIX 1

### Context List

Context	Feature	Type	Description	Section No	Under	Over	Cuts	Cut By	Trench	Dating
0001		Finds	Unstratified finds. None retained in this case.						1	
0002	0002	Structure	Rectangular, vertical sided soakaway or small cellar/cold store. Flat base.	N/A	0003	0006	0006		1	P Med
0003	0002	Structure	Brick floor. Yellow unfroglged bricks (BTL=110x60x230mm). Stretcher bond, no mortar. 2.15m long (N-S), 1.2m wide and 1 course deep.	N/A	0004	0002			1	P Med
0004	0002	Fill	Backfill of 0002. Loose light whitish grey ashy silt with very frequent modern CBM, wood iron frags etc.	N/A	+	0003			1	P Med
0005		Layer	Small mortar spread or surface partially revealed to north of wall 0007. Firm light yellowish brown mortar matrix with occasional olive brown clay inclusions, crushed chalk pieces and small to medium flint pebbles. 1.2m+ (E-W), 0.7m wide (N-S), 0.2m deep.	1	0006	0007			1	P Med
0006		Deposit	Garden soil (later). Very soft dark grey sandy silt with moderate brick/tile and mortar frags, very rare pottery and frequent poorly sorted small to medium sub-rounded flint pebbles. Observed in whole of trench.	1, 2	0037	0005, 0008, 0031, 0034			1	P Med
0007	0007	Structure	Rough exterior (?garden) wall. Mixed fabric, mainly red unfroglged brick (BTL=110x50x230mm) with occasional rough flints (80mm dia). No bonding pattern. Bonded with soft pale greyish white mortar. 1.48+m long, 0.23m wide and 0.15m deep.	1	0005	0008			1	P Med
0008		Deposit	Garden soil (earlier). Soft mid grey (occasional slightly greenish colour) slightly sandy clayey silt with rare oyster shell; occasional brick/tile, pottery and small to medium sub-rounded flint pebbles. Very poorly sorted.	1, 2	0007, 0012, 0015, 0039	0011		0012, 0039	1	L Med
0009		Deposit	Compact mottled light orangey grey sand (some grey silty clay patches) with frequent very poorly sorted small to medium sub-rounded to angular flint pebbles. Very rare pottery and iron frags. Dumped redeposited natural - ?bank.	1, 2	0010	0018		0010	1	Med
0010	0010	Cut	Partially revealed sub-rounded pit. Steeply sloping straight northern side with gradual BOSb, moderately sloping slightly concave southern side with imperceptible BOSb. Gently rounded base. 2.1m long (E-W), 0.95m+ wide and 0.5m deep.	1	0011	0009	0009		1	Med
0011	0010	Fill	Single backfill of pit 0010. Soft mid grey sandy silty clay with rare pot and ANBN frags; very rare clay lumps, chalk flecks, charcoal flecks and shell fragments; occasional small to medium flint pebbles.	1	0008	0010			1	Med
0012	0012	Cut	Partially revealed incised feature. Type unclear. Near vertical southern edge and flat base.	1	0016	0008, 0020	0008, 0020		1	P Med



0013	0012	Fill	Secondary fill of 0012. Soft mid greyish brown silty sandy clay with occasional chalk flecks; rare charcoal flecks; frequent small sub-rounded flint pebbles.	1	0005	0016			1	P Med
0014		Layer	Pocket of silty 'soil' between redeposited gravel layers. Soft mid grey clayey sandy silt with occasional pottery, charcoal, oyster shell and chalk flecks.	1	0009	0018			1	Med
0015		Layer	Substantial build-up deposit (possibly garden soil) recorded in eastern side of trench. Soft light to mid grey clayey sandy silt with moderate small to medium flint pebbles; very rare pottery, ANBN and CBm frags.	2	0030	0028			1	Med
0016	0012	Fill	Primary fill of 0012. Soft mid greyish brown clayey silty sand with occasional small flint pebbles, charcoal flecks and chalk flecks.	1	0013	0012			1	P Med
0017	0023	Fill	Secondary fill recorded in 0023. Soft light slightly brownish grey silty sand with rare pot and ANBN frags; moderate small to medium sub-rounded flint pebbles.	2	0026	0024			1	E Med
0018		Deposit	Substantial dump of redeposited natural sands/gravel. Soft mid orange-brown sandy clay with frequent grey silt mottling. Contains moderate poorly sorted small to medium sub-rounded flint pebbles; very rare pottery frags.	1, 2	0009	0027			1	E Med
0019	0019	Cut	Partially revealed pit in NE corner of trench. Slightly irregular steeply sloping sides with a sharp break to a flat base.	N/A	0020	0042	0042		1	L Sax
0020	0019	Fill	Single fill of 0019. Soft light greyish brown clayey silty sand with some pockets of orangey sand and very rare pot frags.	N/A	0012	0019	0012		1	L Sax
0021	0022	Structure	19th century footings. Red frogged brick (BTL=112x55x240mm) bonded with very hard whitish grey lime mortar. Not enough exposed for detailed description. Only revealed in eastern section face. Built on concrete raft in base of 0022.	2	+	0022			1	P Med
0022	0022	Cut	Construction cut for wall footing 0021. 0.5m wide with vertical sides and a flat base.	2	0021	0006	0006		1	P Med
0023	0023	Cut	Partially revealed incised feature at S end of Trench. Straight northern edge with curving NE end (?terminus). Steeply sloping stepped northern side with gradual BOSb. Flat base.	2, 3	0024	NFE	Nat		1	?Med
0024	0023	Fill	Primary fill of 0023. Loose light orange/brown slightly silty sand with common small rounded to sub-rounded flint pebbles.	2	0017	0023			1	?Med
0025		Deposit	Number allocated to natural drift. Firm/compact slightly reddish yellowish brown mottled sand matrix (60%) with frequent to moderate poorly sorted rounded to sub-angular flint pebbles/gravel.	N/A	0023, 0041	-	-	0023, 0041	1	N/A
0026	0023	Fill	Tertiary fill of feature 0023. Very loose dirty mid orange-brown silty sand with frequent poorly sorted small to medium sub-rounded to rounded flint pebbles.	2	0015	0017			1	?Med
0027		Layer	Layer of 'dirty' silty clay overlying natural in northern end of Trench. Firm mid brownish yellow slightly sandy silty clay with very rare small sub-angular flint pebbles and marked bioturbation.	1, 2	0018	0042			1	L Sax/E Med
0028	0028	Cut	Modern trench. Only revealed in E section. Vertical sides with sharp break to flat base.	2	0029	0038	0038		1	Mod
0029	0028	Fill	Single backfill of 0028. Soft/loose very mixed sandy silt with frequent modern 'rubble'.	2	+	0028			1	Mod



0030	Layer	Make-up/levelling layer recorded in southern section. Firm mid grey slightly sandy clayey silt with rare CBM frags; occasional chalk lumps and medium sub-angular flint cobbles.	3	0031	0015		1	P Med
0031	Layer	Make-up/levelling in S end of Trench. Soft light slightly brownish grey clayey silt with occasional CBM frags; rare chalk flecks and small sub-rounded flint pebbles.	1, 3	0032	0030		1	P Med
0032	Deposit	Crushed chalk consolidation/make-up dump. Soft pale whitish grey silty clay matrix (20%) with abundant small crushed chalk pieces (80%) and very rare small flint pebbles.	3	0033	0031	0033	1	P Med
0033	Cut	Modern/19th century pit. Only partially revealed, but appears sub-rounded. Steeply sloping smooth sides with sharp BOSb. Gently rounded base.	1, 3	0034	0032		1	P Med
0034	Fill	Single fill of 0033. Soft mid grey slightly clayey sandy silt with frequent crushed CBM and chalk frags; occasional crushed mortar pieces.	1, 3	0035	0033		1	P Med
0035	Structure	Concrete raft base for footing 0036.	3	0036	0034		1	P Med
0036	Structure	19th century wall footing. Constructed of red unfrosted brick (BTL = 765x225mm). Spreading footing - row of headers on bottom with stretchers above. Approx N-S aligned. Bonded with hard yellowish white sandy mortar. 4 courses of joints = 0.25m	3	+	0035		1	P Med
0037	Layer	Upper dumping/consolidation. Loose dark brownish grey sandy silt matrix with frequent crushed CBM and flint gravel.	1, 2	0038	0006		1	P Med
0038	Layer	Uppermost levelling/make-up layer visible in E section. Very loose orange-brown silty sand matrix (50%) with large sub-rounded to sub-angular flint pebbles/cobbles (40%) and crushed CBM pieces (10%).	1, 2	0022, 0028	0037		1	P Med
0039	Cut	Partially revealed incised feature. Steeply sloping slightly concave sides with gradual BOSb. Rounded base.	1	0040	0008	0008	1	P Med
0040	Fill	Single backfill of 0039. Mid grey silty clay with rare small CBM frags; occasional chalk flecks and small sub-rounded flint pebbles.	1	0006	0039		1	P Med
0041	Cut	'Early' gully in NE corner of trench. Partially revealed. Shape in plan unclear, but appears to be straight-sided linear with rounded terminus. Gently sloping slightly concave W side with very gradual BOSb. Gently rounded base.	2	0042	NFE		1	L Sax/E Med
0042	Fill	Single fill of 0041. Soft mid brown silty clay with no significant inclusions. Very pronounced bioturbation.	1	0027	0041		1	L Sax/E Med

# Pottery Records

[illegible]

9	M	MCW	CP/JAR	1	1	12	S	Rim type E3
9	M	EMWS	CP/JAR	1	1	7		Rim type E3
9	M	YARM?	CP/JAR	1	1	4	SA	Rim type E3, coarse fabric
9	MS	SIPS	BODY	1	1	20		
9	LS	THET	CP/JAR	2	2	12		
9	LS	THET	BODY	3	0	7		
9	LS	HOLL?	BODY	1	1	6		
9	M	HOLL	BODY	1	1	10		13th-14th C
9	M	YARM?	BODY	1	1	9		Incised wavy line decoration
9	M	MCW	BODY	3	0	22		Sandy abraded fabric, no shell
9	M?	MISC	BODY	1	1	5		
9	LS	MISC	BODY	1	1	2		Misc greyware, poss N French import
11	M	MCW	CP/JAR	1	1	21	S	Oxid, poss overfired THET
11	MS	SIPS	BODY	1	1	11		L13th-E14th C
11	LS	THET	BODY	1	1	27	AA	Rim type E3
11	M	YARM	BOWL?	2	0	20		Base sherd
11	M	MCW	BODY	3	0	20	S	Base sherd
11	M	MCW	BODY	1	1	7	A	Sandy, oxid margins
11	M	IPSG?	BODY	1	1	20		Glazed with slipped stripe
11	M	IPSG?	BODY	1	1	3		
11	M	MCW	BOWL	2	0	6		2 joining
14	MS	SIPS	BODY	1	1	50		Base sherd
14	LS	THET	CP/JAR	1	1	14		
14	LS	THET	CP/JAR	1	1	7	A	
14	LS	THET	BODY	4	0	14		
14	LS?	THET?	BODY	2	0	32		Base sherds, one a bit Ipswich like
14	M	MCW	BODY	1	1	8		
14	M	MCW	BODY	1	1	14	S	Base sherd, with shell
14	M	EMWS	BODY	1	1	6		
14	LS	THET	BOWL?	1	1	11	A	
15	MS	GIPS	CP/JAR	1	1	26		
15	LS	THET	CP/JAR	1	1	13	S	
15	LS	THET	BODY	11	0	109		Includes base sherd

	M	MCW	BODY	2	0	18			
15	M	MCW	BODY	2	0	18			
15	M	MCW	BODY	1	1	15	A		
15	LS	THET?	BODY	1	1	6	B		
15	M	UPG	BODY	1	1	23			12th-14th C Fine calcareous inclusions, not Ely type But much coarser than usual
15	M	YARM?	BODY	1	1	5			
15	M	EMWS	BODY	3	0	15	S		
16	MS	SIPS	BODY	1	1	11			
16	LS	THET	BODY	1	1	12	A		11th-13th C, poss 11th-12th C
16	M	MCW	BODY	1	1	5	S		
16	M	EMW	CP/JAR	1	1	3			Small flared rim
17	MS	SIPS?	BODY	1	1	25	RAA		Contains white residue
17	LS	THET	BODY	2	0	3			
17	M	EMWS	CP/JAR	1	1	13	SA		Rim type
18	LS	THET	BODY	10	0	91	A		11th-13th C
18	M	YARM	BODY	2	0	13	S		Not much shell
18	M	EMW	BODY	1	1	1			
18	M	YARM	BODY	1	1	6			Base
18	MS	SIPS?	BODY	1	1	12	AA		
18	M	EMWS	BODY	2	0	12			11th-12th C
18	LS	THET?	BODY	1	1	6	B?		?burnt sherd
18	LS	THET?	BODY	3	0	13			Dark brown oxid parts
18	LS	THET?	BODY	1	1	6			Fragment of angled bowl?
20	LS	THET	CP/JAR	1	1	16			Rim type AB12, Everted wedge, 'present since the beginning' (Dallas)
20	LS	THET	BODY	2	0	4			10th-11th C

## APPENDIX 3

### Historic Documents

by Anthony M Breen

#### Introduction

This site is within the former town walls and ditch of Ipswich. The remnants of these were described in "Hunt's Handbook of Ipswich" of 1864 as "Some remains are visible at Foundry Road, a turning on the left, near the east end of Carr Street. On the right hand side of this road you may observe some traces of a high bank, which but a very short time ago ran quite along that side: that is understood to be the east end of the old rampart. We pause here a moment to notice St Margaret's Schools, on the opposite side, built on the site of what was, less than 20 years ago, Messrs Ransomes' Foundry, before the Works were removed to the present spot". The account continues "Pursuing our course in a direct line, we come to St Margaret's Ditches where the rampart wall still stands in a fair state of preservation". Ransomes' Foundry was established at St Margaret's Ditches in 1789 and moved to the Orwell Works in the late 1830's.

The line of Great Colman Street is absent from the earlier historical maps of Ipswich and is first shown on Monson's map of 1848. In this report it has been possible to detail the development of this street and to identify various members of the Colman family. Before the street was set out this site was connected to the properties that lined the northern side of Carr Street. A number of people of some considerable local political importance were residents of Carr Street and this site was covered in part by formal gardens connected with this properties.

#### Maps and Rate Books

The archaeological unit have supplied copies of the first three editions of the 1:2500 Ordnance Survey maps sheet number LXXV.11. On the 1927 edition (Fig. 10) the northern side of Great Colman Street is shown as a series of small properties forming the base of a triangle of roads with Old Foundry Road (including the remains of ditches) to the northeast and Northgate Street to the west. Within this triangle a Boundary Stone is marked on the map but the former parish boundaries are omitted. The 1904 edition (Fig. 11) shows fewer buildings along this site of the road and on this map the parish boundaries are shown. A slightly longer length of the former ditch is evident along Old Foundry Road. The first edition published in 1886 (Fig. 12) shows a garden covering the entire area of this site. The position of a fountain is marked within the centre of the garden and five stones mark the parish boundary. The entire site was then in the parish of St Margaret's, Ipswich.

The area is shown on the 1849 tithe map (Fig. 13) of St Margaret's, Ipswich (ref. P461/149). The parish consisted of over 1288 acres though only 181 acres were subject to the payment of tithes. Areas of the parish outside of the town are described in detail in the apportionment (ref. FDA149/1A/1a). This site appears under the heading "Parts of the Parish within the Town" and is listed as "212 Between the Ditches and Carr Street 4 acres 2 roods and 2 perches". The line of Great Colman Street is shown though the street unlike most others is not named. Monson's map (not reproduced here) of 1848 (ref. MC4/56) does name the street again the area of this site



is shown as gardens and only the southern side of the street was built on. The same detail appears on White's map (Fig. 14) of 1867 (ref. MC4/57).

In order to trace earlier documents relating to this site, it is first necessary to identify the owners and occupiers of the land. On Pennington's 1778 "Map of Ipswich" (Fig. 15), the area to the west of this site is marked with the name "P. Colman esq" (ref. MC4/53). The name of Phillips Colman appears in the church rate book for the parish of St Margaret's. He is listed under Cross Key Street in 1760 (ref. HD22/6/10). He is again listed from 1770 to 1780 (ref. FB93/E1/9). In 1781 his property passed to a Miss Raffie and in 1788 to Revd John Edge. In 1807 the street name appears in the rate book as "Car Street". In a later rate book (ref. FB93/E1/10) covering the period 1821- 1835 the owner of the same property is listed as the "executors of Mrs Edge deceased" in 1821 and as "Late Edge" in the following year. In 1823, the owner was John Dalton Harmer but the property description changes under his ownership from a "House and Garden" to a "House and Shop". Harmer's name appears under each year until 1835. The rate for 1832 does however include a separate entry for a property "late Edge".

The Church Rate Books for this parish are divided into the individual streets. The last rate collected before the Municipal Borough Act of 1835 omits any reference to Great Colman Street, though there are listing for individual rows and tenement blocks. The street is named in White's directory of 1844.

In the William S. Fitch's collection, there is a sale plan for this property listed in the catalogue as "late Mrs Edge" (ref. HD480/30). This is an antiquarian collection. The sale particulars describe the property as "Plan of the Ground late the Mansion & Garden of Mrs Edge deceased and of a proposed New Street". On the plan itself the street is named as Great Colman Street. The estate comprised of "nearly an acre and half of land situate in the several parishes of Saint Margaret's and St Mary at Tower in Ipswich and now forms the scite of the Capital Mansion House and Premises called Harebottle House late the residence of Mrs Elizabeth Edge, deceased". For the sale it had been divided into 35 lots, though "If the estate should not be sold in lots as described, the whole (except for a small piece of ground next to the premises of Colonel Neale extending in a straight line from Carr Street to the distance of 113 feet and of the width of 9 feet next the street and 60 feet 8 inches at the other end thereof) will be immediately afterwards put up to Auction with all the buildings thereon". The auction was held at the Great White Horse Tavern on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1821 and it is certain from the evidence of later maps that the property was not sold as intended.

There is a small additional detail shown on Pennington's map of 1778 that is a circle of trees close to the centre of this site. These may possibly mark the position of the fountain shown on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map. Philips Colman's name is marked over another garden abutting Northgate Street to the west. On Ogilby's 1674 map (Fig. 16) of Ipswich (ref M4/51) a capital letter 'W' is marked on the map in the same position and in the legend it is described as 'Lady Leaks House'. This property appears to be unconnected with those along the north side of 'Carr Street'. Speede's map (Fig. 17) of 1610 (ref. MC4/50) shows the line of the houses along Northgate Street and Carr Street only. The town ditch appears as a continuous line without any buildings between the northern end of Northgate Street and the

eastern end of Carr Street. On this map Northgate is marked as 'Old Bar Gate' and Barre Gate is marked at the western end of the town.

### The Colman Family

There are a wills for various members of the Colman, though unfortunately not for Phillips Colman. He and other family members are mentioned in Clarke's "History... of Ipswich" published in 1830. In 1734, he was one of four candidates who stood to represent the borough in Parliament.

Christian Colman in her will dated 17<sup>th</sup> November 1766, mentions her sisters Deborah Walford and Mrs Elizabeth Raffe, widow as well two of her brothers the Revd. Joseph Colman deceased and John Colman, though the only property mentioned was in St Mary Stoke. The same property is mentioned in a codicil to her will dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1768 (ref. IC/AA1/189/22). She also left a small legacy to her friend Mrs Elizabeth Alston. Her father was Joseph Colman, a grocer and his will is dated 11<sup>th</sup> August 1721 (ref. IC/AA1/150/143). He mentions his wife Elizabeth and his brother Francis, and his "*loving three daughters Christian, Deborah and Elizabeth Colman*". The only property mentioned was in Tuddenham. Francis also left a will dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 1736 (ref. IC/AA1/169/35). In his will he bequeathed legacies to various family members including his sister Deborah, then the wife of Richard Frost, his sister Ann the wife of Thomas Raffe and his nephew also Thomas Raffe, a niece Ann Perry and her family, his sister in law Elizabeth Colman the widow of Joseph and her son Revd Joseph Colman, another nephew John Colman, and his other nieces Ann Randall, Christian Colman and Deborah Walford. He also mentions his brother in law Richard Phillips. It is at the end of the will that he states "*I give and devise unto my son Philips Colman to his heyers for ever ... all my reall estate, messuages, lands & tenements & hereditaments whatsoever ...freehold as copyhold scituate lying & being in Freston, Bucklesham, Alderton or elsewhere*". Philips Colman also received the residue of his father's personal estate and was made executor of the will. The only other property specifically mentioned was a farm in Kirton in the occupation of a John Harrison.

There are wills for other Colmans. The wills of Joseph Colman dated 12th March 1770 (ref. IC/AA1/200/17), John Colman dated 20<sup>th</sup> October 1763 relate to members of another family. Frances Colman's property was in Combs according to her will of 1719 she appears to have been related to the Bridgman Family (ref. IC/AA1/157/179). Edmund Colman in 1703 had property in various Suffolk parishes including two Ipswich parishes St Nicholas and St Mary Elms. These properties were bequeathed to his son also Edmund Colman of Bury St Edmunds to his wife Elizabeth and his daughter of the same name (ref. IC/AA1/123/1).

The Francis Colman who died in 1736 is described as a "gentleman of Ipswich" in two mortgages dated 1719 and 1720 (ref. HA61/436/588 & 589). The properties were in Bramford and Blakenham Parva "*late Altson's 1648 – 1771*". It appears likely that the Mrs Elizabeth Alston mentioned in the will of Christian Colman was connected with of this family. This same Francis Colman is again mentioned in deeds in the St Lawrence' Ipswich collection. These are for the Francis Colman's Charity. In September 1729 he leased a six acre of land in St Helens for 1000 years "*together with springs, waterheads, waterpipes etc*" in trust to the corporation of Ipswich in order that the rents derived from the land would be used for the benefit of the poor of

St Lawrence (ref. FB 106/L2/1 & 2). He retained “free supply of water at his residence and garden and also to supply free water at the poor workhouse belonging to the parish of St Margaret”.

Clarke offers further details. On the 28<sup>th</sup> November 1717 “One hundred and fifty pounds was agreed to be paid to the proprietors of the conduit-head late Mr Caley’s, for supplying the town with water: about which great pains were taken by the bailiffs, and a piece of land adjoining is hired of Mr Bailiff Colman, for the purpose of forming a reservoir, laying down pipes &c., and the whole was managed under the direction of Mr Colman”. Under a description of the church of St Lawrence, Clarke noted the monument of Francis Colman “many times bailiff of Ipswich and a considerable benefactor of this parish”. In a list of the bailiffs given at the end of his book Francis Colman’s name first appears in 1709 and then in 1718, 1726 and 1731.

Possibly the same Francis Colman or another family member is mentioned in a mortgage dated 20<sup>th</sup> December 1690 for a “messuage with malting office abutting on Great Street in St Clements Ipswich” (ref. HA 1538/277/16).

Though this is a very important family and obviously connected with the Miss Raffie listed in the St Margaret’s Rate Book from 1781 to 1788, the property sold in 1821 is likely to have been accumulated over a period of time. Unfortunately the original property deeds do not appear to have been deposited at the Record Office.

## **Title Deeds**

Harebottle House is named as the residence of Mrs Elizabeth Edge in the sale particulars of 1821. There is a single deed for this property dated 30<sup>th</sup> August 1610 (ref. X1/5/5.3). The deed was between Sir Harbottle Grymston of Rishangles, Suffolk and Joseph Parkhurst, a grocer. The property is described as “*all that Capytall or Cheife Messuage called or known by the name of Harbottle Howse & three of the tenements unto nere adioyninge together with the yards, gardens ortchards, easements & other commodities thereunto or to any of them belonginge with the appurtenances scytuate lyinge & beinge in the paryshe of St Margaret in Ipswich aforesaid late in the tenure or occupation of Edward Grymston esq deceased, Nicholas Pecke, John Bacon, Nicholas Bucke & John Norman or any of them*”. The deeds were conveyed with the sale of the house but have not survived in this collection. Sir Harbotell Grymston of Bradfeild, Essex acquired another property in St Mary Tower in 1623 (ref. X1/5/5.4) though the street is not named in the deed or the mortgage for the property (ref. X1/5/5.5). He is also named as the lord of the manor of Blofeilds and Barneviles, Trimley in a deed of 1632 (ref. X1/5/5.6). His father Edward Grimston had acquired this manor in 1586 and died in 1610. His grandfather also Edward Grimston acquired the manor of Rishangles in 1557 and was buried in the parish church there in March 1599. Edward, his eldest son acquired the estate in Bradfield, Essex through his marriage to Joan Risby of Lavenham. There is a survey of “all lands and tenements late of Thomas Rysbye of Lavenham gent deceased which after his death descended to Joan his wife Thomas Clenche esq and Elizabeth wife of Edward Grymston esq and daughter and co-heir of Thomas Rysbye” dated 1603 (ref. HA 1538/102). The lands are described in great detail though the survey does not mention Ipswich. Edward Grymston of Ipswich is mentioned in a bond dated 4<sup>th</sup> May 1554, though the property is described in other documents that have not survived (ref. HD 1538/274/14).



Sir Harbottle was created baronet in 1612 and was “sheriff of Essex 1614 – 1615, M.P. for Harwich 1614 for Essex 1626 and 1628-29 for Harwich again April to May 1640 and November 1640 until his death” (Copinger). He died in February 1648. Thomas Clenche was the recorder of the borough of Ipswich in 1573. This family owned several properties in the parish of St Margaret’s, Ipswich and are mentioned in a tax assessment for 1689 – 1690. In the same assessment there are no references to the Colman family under this parish (ref. HA 247/5/2).

There is a will for Joseph Parkhurst of Ipswich proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in October 1635. The original records for this court are held at the National Archives and are available on-line. Joseph Parkhurst left the “*houses in which I the said Joseph doe dwell to Elizabeth Parkhurst*” his wife (ref. PROB11/169/97). No other family members are mentioned. A George Parkhurst of Ipswich gentleman left a will proved at the same court and dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1634. He was “on a passage to Virginnie on the good ship called the ‘Primrose’ of London” (ref. PROB11/ 167/149).

It is not possible to trace the property history through further searches of probate records or tax assessments.

## The Town Ditch

The line of the town ditch is still shown on Speede’s map of 1610. From 1344 onwards the corporation began to grant out parts of the ditch to the town’s citizens. These grants appear in a series of grants of common soil (ref C/3/8/4/1 – 24). These have been indexed in detail (Allen). In January 1344, the corporation granted to James Le Clerk premises lying “between the great ditches of the town and the highway from Thingsteade towards Caldewalle strete”. The next grants were in 1392 followed by another in 1406 both stipulated that the ditches were to be maintained. Not all of these grants relate to land within the town and the positions of each can be deduced from the orientation of the abuttal with the ditch, several, however in 1480, 1484 and 1499 did abut the ditch to the east. In a deed of 1535 the ditch is described as the “waldykes”.

There are numerous medieval references to Carr Street. One of the earliest in the form ‘Caristrete’ is to be found in a rental of Holy Trinity Priory, Ipswich dated to circa 1260. The careful use of these sources and others may add further detail for a fuller description of the development of this part of Ipswich.

## References

### Maps

1:2500 Ordnance Survey Map sheet number LXXV.11 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 1927  
1:2500 Ordnance Survey Map sheet number LXXV.11 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1904  
1:2500 Ordnance Survey Map sheet number LXXV.11 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1887  
MC4/57 White’s Map of Ipswich 1867  
P461/149 Tithe Map St Margaret’s Ipswich 1849  
FDA149/1A/1a Tithe apportionment St Margaret’s Ipswich 1849  
MC4/56 Monson’s Map of Ipswich 1848  
HD480/30 Sale Particulars Estate Late Mrs Edge 1821

MC4/53 Pennington's Map of Ipswich 1778  
MC4/51 Ogilby's Map of Ipswich 1674  
MC4/50 Speede's Map of Ipswich 1610

### *Rate Books*

HD 22/6/1 (HD 22 Box 13 Bdl 6) Church Rate Book St Margaret's, Ipswich 1760  
FB93/E1/9 Church Rate Book 1770 - 1808  
FB93/E1/10 Church Rate Book 1821 - 1835

### *Wills Archdeaconry of Suffolk*

IC/AA1/123/1 Will Edmund Colman, gent 1703 probate 6<sup>th</sup> February 1706  
IC/AA1/150/143 Will Joseph Colman, grocer 1721  
IC/AA1/157/179 Will Frances Colman, Spinster 1719 probate 28<sup>th</sup> October 1728  
IC/AA1/169/35 Will Francis Colman 1736 probate 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1740  
IC/AA1/187/88 Will John Colman, Yeoman 1763  
IC/AA1/189/22 Will Christian Colman, spinster 1766  
IC/AA1/200/17 Will Joseph Colman, Innholder 1770

### *Wills Prerogative Court of Canterbury*

PROB11/169/97 Will Joseph Parkhurst, grocer Ipswich 1635  
PROB11/167/149 Will George Parkhurst of Ipswich 1634

### *Deeds*

#### **St Lawrence, Ipswich Francis Colman's Charity**

FB 106 L2/1 Counterpart of grand lease, Six Acres of land in St Helen's, Ipswich 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1729  
FB 106 L2/2 Lease and Release "parcel of land in St Helens, Ipswich 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September 1729

### **Lorraine Collection**

HA 61/ 436/588 – 589 Land in Bramford and Blakenham Parva 1648 – 1771 "Late Alston's"

### **Iveagh Collection**

HA 1538/102/1 Survey of Lands of Thomas Rysbye 1603  
HA 1538/277/16 Mortgage by Cooper Gravenor of Ipswich to Frances Colman of Ipswich spinster of capital messuage with malting office abutting on Great Street in St Clement, Ipswich" 20<sup>th</sup> December 1690  
HA 1538/274/14 Bond of Edward Grymston of Ipswich 4 May 1554

### *Miscellaneous Collections*

X1/5/5.1 – 5.6 Deeds Sir Harbottle Grimston 1610 - 1635

### *Tax Assessments*

HA 247/5/2 Tax assessment Ipswich 1689 – 1690

### *Published Works*

David Allen "Ipswich Borough Archives 1255 – 1835" Suffolk Record Society Volume XLIII Woodbridge 2000  
Anon. "Descriptive Handbook of Ipswich: A Guide-Book for Visitors" pub, William Hunt, Steam Press, Ipswich 1864  
G. R. Clarke "The History and Description of the Town and Borough of Ipswich" Ipswich 1830.  
W. A. Copinger "Manors of Suffolk" Hartismere, Vol. 3 Manchester 1909  
W. P. Hunt "Two Renatls of the Priory of Holy Trinity in Ipswich, Suffolk temp Henry III and Edward I" Printed in Ipswich 1847  
William White "Directory of Suffolk" Sheffield 1844

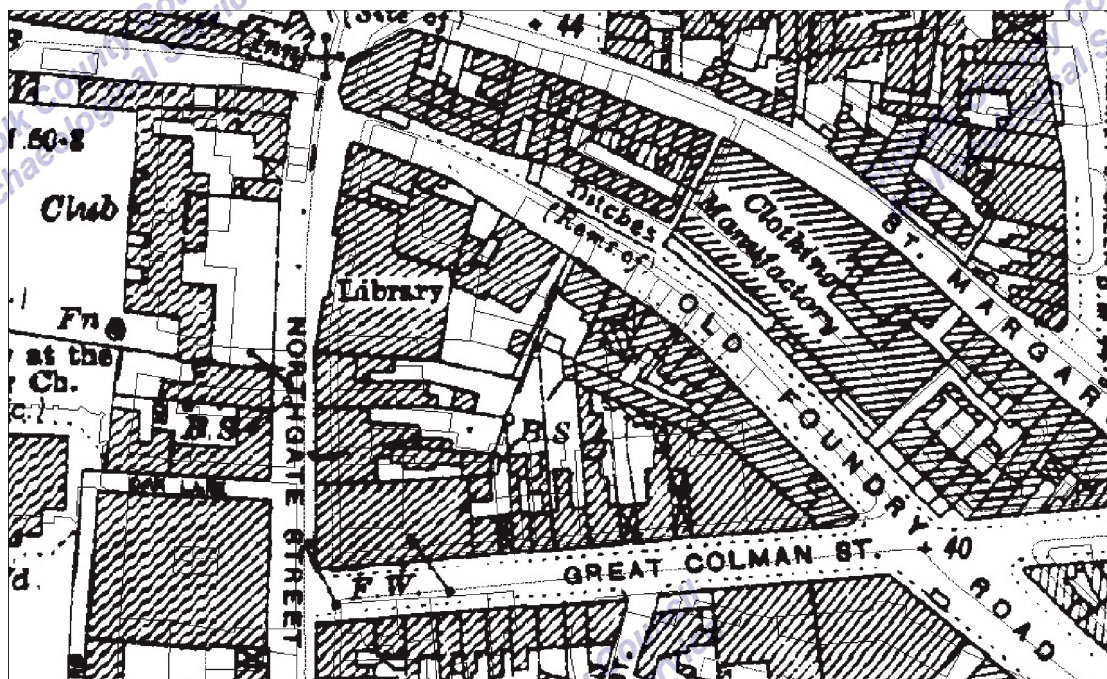


Figure 10. Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1927)

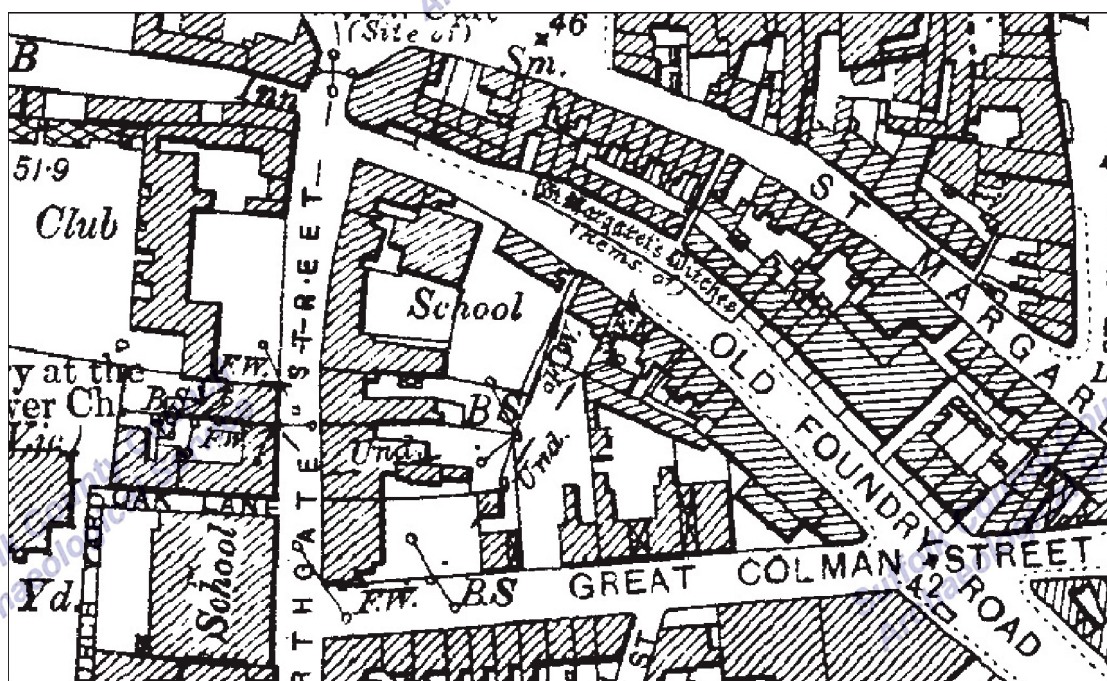


Figure 11. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1904)



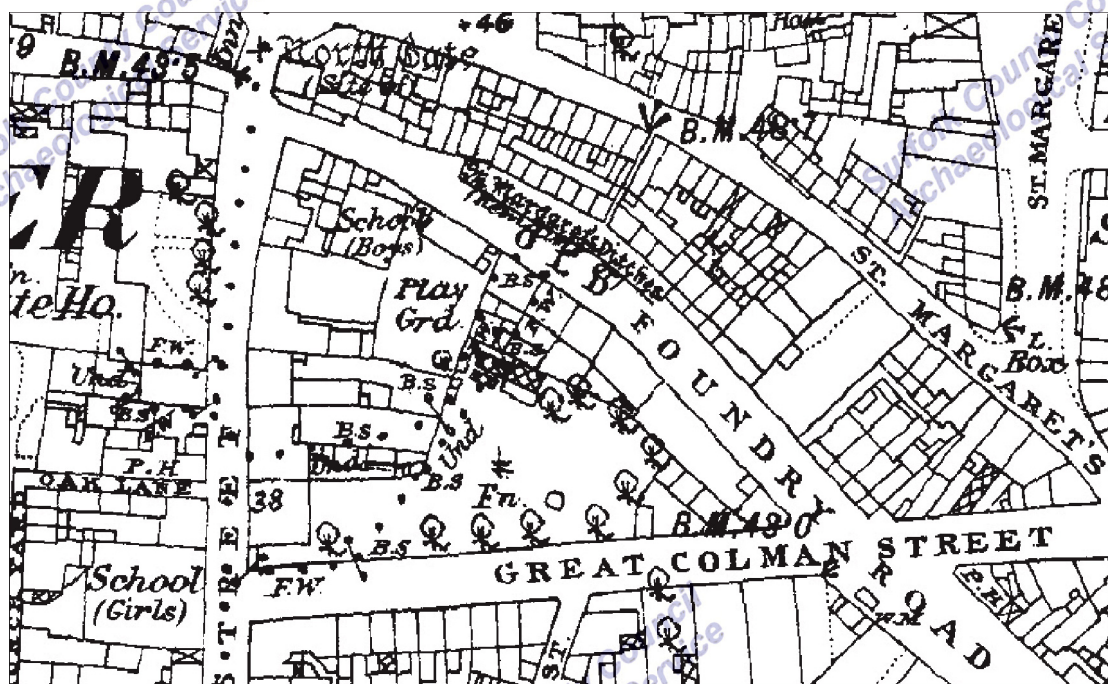


Figure 12. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (1886)



Figure 13. Extract from Tithe Map (1849)





Figure 14. Extract from White's map (1867)



Figure 15. Extract from Pennington's map (1778)





Figure 16. Extract from Ogilby's map (1674)

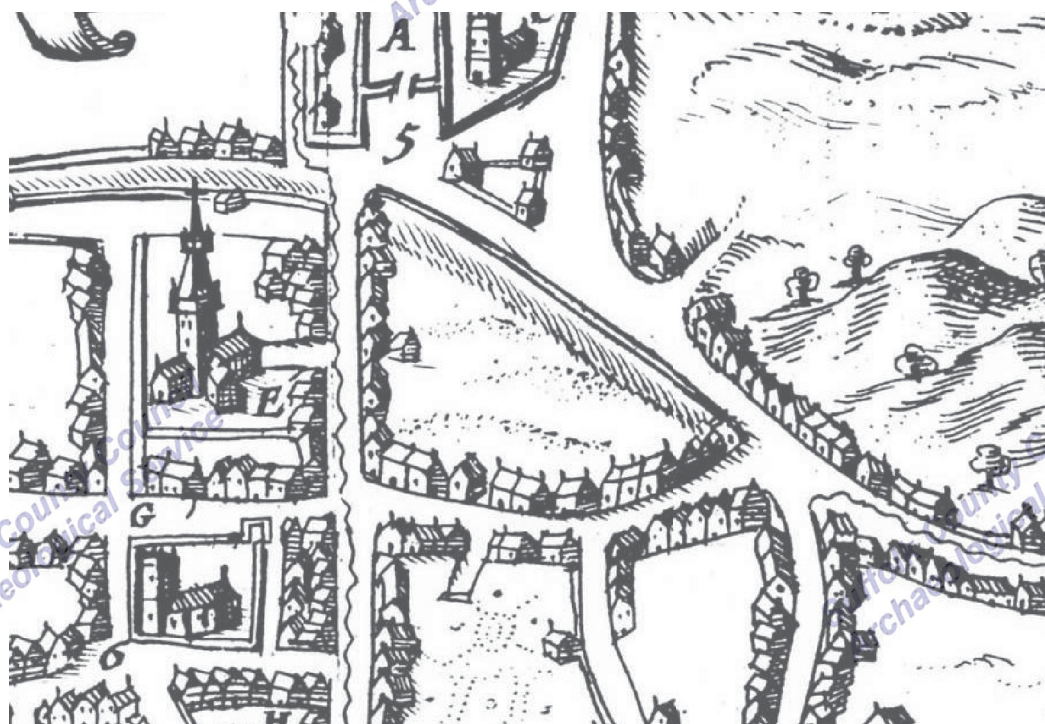


Figure 17. Extract from Speede's map (1610)