

# OLD BOWTELL'S STORES, 14 ST MARY'S STREET, BUNGAY

## BUN 058

### Archaeological Monitoring Report

Planning Application No: W/13871/15

Date of Fieldwork: 10/08/05 and 11/08/05

Grid reference: TM 3360 8970

Funding Body: Coopers (Great Yarmouth) Ltd

### Introduction

A Planning Application (W/13871/15) was made to build a small extension to the rear of the Old Bowtell's stores at 14 St Mary's Street, Bungay.

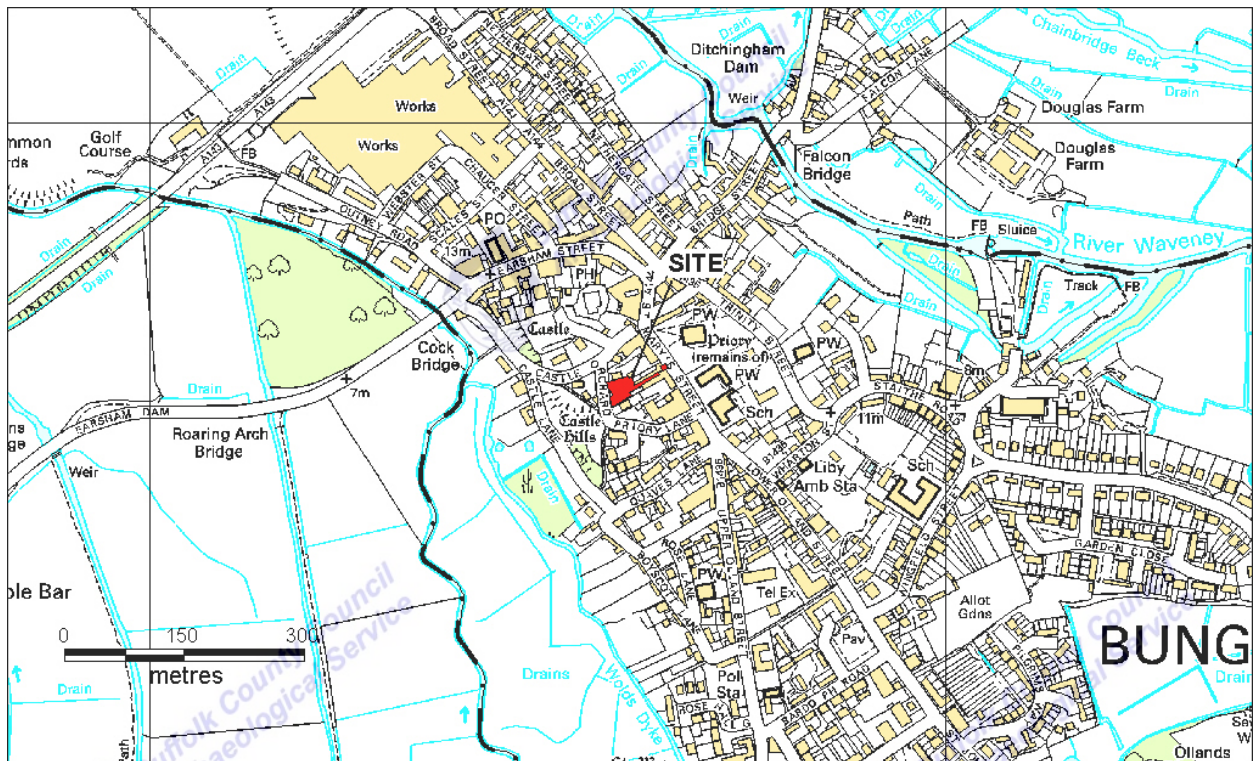


Figure 1. Site location

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The site lies within the historic core of Bungay on generally level ground at *c.* 14m AOD. The area of the extension (see Figure 2) is centred approximately on NGR TM 3360 8970. The location of the extension is just 100m to the south-south-east of the castle and 30m to the east of the southern earthworks associated with the castle immediately on the other side of Castle Gardens. The town ditch has been recorded to the rear of 20 Quaves gardens, some 125m to the south. It also lies just 90m to the south-west of St Mary's Church.

Given the sensitive location of the site, its resultant archaeological potential and the intrusive nature of the groundworks (strip foundations) an Archaeological Monitoring condition was recommended in a Brief and Specification produced by Keith Wade of the SCCAS Conservation Team. The SCCAS Field Team was subsequently commissioned by the Paul Robinson Partnership on behalf of their client, Coopers (Great Yarmouth) Limited, who also funded the work.

## Methodology

Two visits were made on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2005 to observe the open foundation trenches.

The trenches were excavated with a 180<sup>0</sup> wheeled mechanical excavator (JCB) fitted with a 0.5m toothed bucket. This necessitated brief hand cleaning of the base of the trench and the faces of the upstanding sections in some areas in order to clarify the nature of the deposits. All the trenches were excavated to the surface of the natural deposits, which were seen at a maximum depth of 1.3m below the existing ground level.

The site was allocated the SMR number BUN 058 and observed archaeological features and deposits were allocated OP (observable phenomena) numbers and recorded on *pro forma* context sheets.

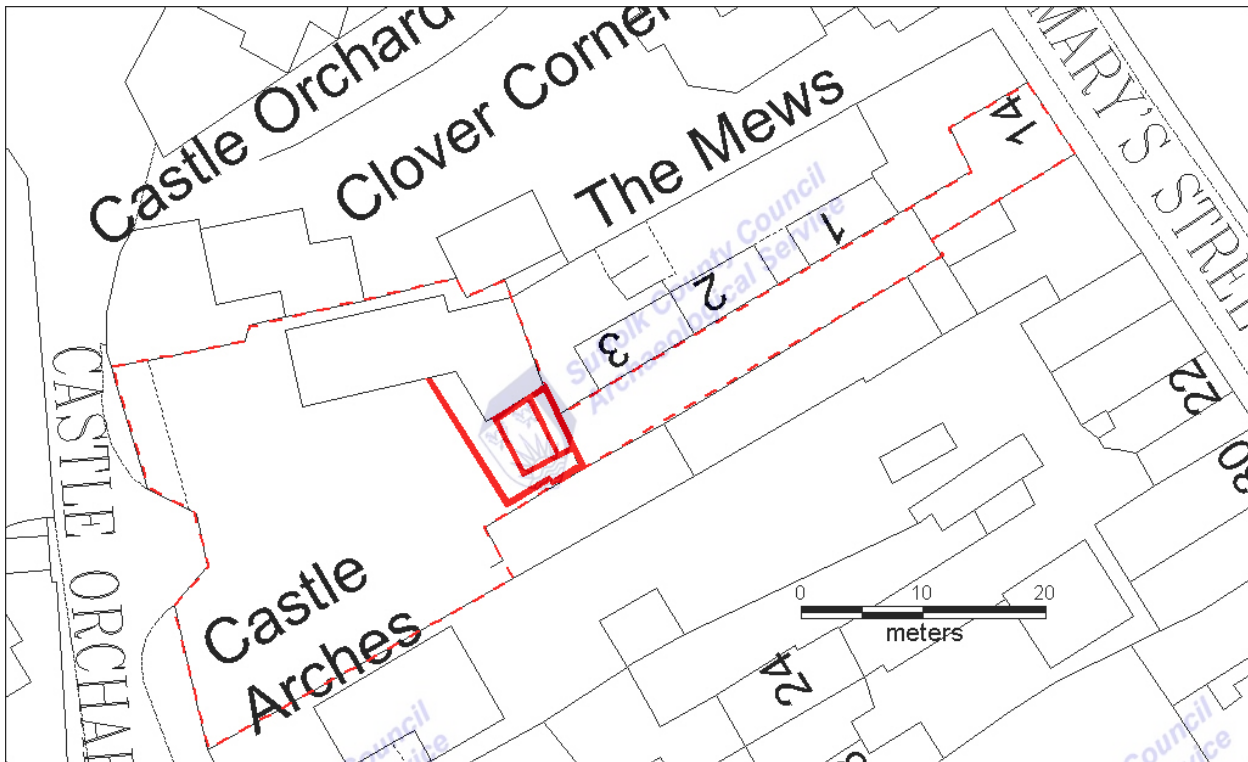


Figure 2. Position of strip foundations (highlighted in red)

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## Results

The location of the observed footing trenches is shown in Figure 2, above.

The following common stratigraphy was observed throughout the site:

Context	Depth	Description
0002	0-0.9m (max)	<b>Garden/yard soil.</b> Very soft mid slightly brownish grey silty sand with rare small to medium sub-angular flints.
0003	0.9 – 1.3m	<b>Weathered subsoil.</b> Very soft light greyish brown slightly silty sand with very rare small rounded to sub-rounded flint pebbles.
0004	1.3m+	<b>Natural drift.</b> Loose mid yellowish brown medium to sharp sand with poorly sorted moderate to frequent small rounded to sub-rounded flint pebbles.

The fragmentary remains of two brick-built box drains were observed. These were poorly preserved and were quite late in date, as they contained some frogged red bricks. No further recording of these was thought necessary.

No other archaeological finds or features were observed.

## Conclusions

Despite the site's sensitive location no medieval or earlier archaeological features were encountered. The fragmentary remains of two post-medieval box drains were observed cutting an undated garden/yard soil deposit.

Report No. **2005/131**

Rhodri Gardner, for SCCAS, August 2005

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