

# Archaeological monitoring at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9QT

July 2019



**by Dr Elliott Hicks**

with contributions by Dr Matthew Loughton and Laura Pooley  
figures by Chris Lister, Ben Holloway and Sarah Carter

fieldwork by Ben Holloway

**commissioned by Mr & Mrs Buckle**

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**CAT Report 1446**

July 2019

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CAT WSI

OASIS summary sheet

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## 1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk during groundworks for a single-storey rear extension. A wall foundation which formed the remains of one of series of outbuildings previously located to the rear of the property was recorded. Two pits were also uncovered. The first pit was of modern date, while the second was post-medieval or modern in date. The latter of these pits yielded a small assemblage of Roman building materials, indicating that the remains of a Roman villa may lie nearby.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk which was carried out on 5th July 2019. The work was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Buckle in advance of the construction of a rear extension, and was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The Local Planning Authority (Babergh District Council: Planning reference B/17/02514) was advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) that this site lies in an area of high archaeological importance, and that, in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2018).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording* detailing the required archaeological work written by Abby Antrobus (SCCAS 2018), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the SCCAS brief and agreed with SCCAS (CAT 2019).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14 and 24). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014b).

## 3 Archaeological and landscape background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9222234.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Crag Group (sand) with superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation (diamicton).

### Historic landscape

Lavenham is defined as *rolling valley farmlands* with nearby *ancient rolling farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment<sup>2</sup>. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map<sup>3</sup> it is defined as Landscape sub-type 10.1, built up area – unspecified. The landscape immediately around the built up area is characterised as sub-type 1.2 (pre 18th century enclosure – rectilinear fields), sub-type 3.2 (post-1950 agricultural landscape – boundary loss from rectilinear fields) and sub-type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland – meadow).

<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, v. 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council.

## **Archaeology<sup>4</sup>** (Fig 2)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site). Due to the large number of results for the area the background is focused on results within a 500m radius of the site.

### *Prehistoric*

Prehistoric finds within 500m of the development site are scarce, but do include some later prehistoric flints found during an evaluation in on land off Norman Way (LVM 120, 512m NNW) and a possible prehistoric ditch identified at Barn Street (LVM 058, 330m NE).

### *Romano-British*

Romano-British finds within 500m of the development site area also scarce, except for a tessellated floor thought to have been found near to Grove House, between Lady and Barn Streets, in the 1940s. This may be the same feature as a Roman bath/crypt reported in 1965 (LVM 018, 283m NE).

### *Anglo-Saxon*

The only evidence within the area is a probable Anglo-Saxon pottery sherd from Salisbury House (LVM 054, 147m NNE).

### *Medieval*

The site is located at the southern edge of the main centre of the medieval town of Lavenham (LVM 053). The centre of Lavenham has yielded a large amount of information about its medieval origins, both through historical buildings and archaeological evidence. Part of a tenter frame was found by a local builder during work at 80 Church Street, opposite to the current site (LVM 010, 34m NNW). A medieval pit and post-medieval features were observed during monitoring at Laneham Yard, Church Street (LVM 063, 40m ENE). Just to the west of the site is the Church of St Peter and St Paul, which has its origins in the medieval period and possibly lies on the site of an earlier church (LVM 009, 169m W). To the northwest is the site of Lavenham Hall, a medieval manor house (LVM 007, 377m NW)

Other significant medieval remains and deposits to the north include a medieval pit and window mullion found at 3 High Street (LVM 050, 198m NNE). The Market Cross, a scheduled monument, said to be an ecclesiastical wayside cross (LVM 004, 350m NE). Medieval floor tiles have been identified at 51/52 Water Street (LVM 003, 222m NE) and medieval ovens and post-medieval building remains at 32 Prentice Street (LVM 048, 500m NE). To the east lies a green known as The Common which is recorded on historic maps (LVM028, 488m ENE) and the site of the Lavenham Press, where a number of medieval and post-medieval features have been recorded (LVM 043, 320m ENE).

### *Medieval/post-medieval-modern*

Close to the current site, monitoring at 90 Church Street revealed a single post-medieval ditch (LVM 055, 147m NNE).

A number of listed buildings dating from this period surround the development site (see below), those of particular interest within the search area include Lavenham Guildhall, a two-storey timber-framed hall for the Guildhall of Corpus Christi, the guild founded by John de Vere in 1529 (LVM 005, 309m NE). Monitoring work on land north of Bolton Street revealed a flint and mortar well, a pit and post-medieval pottery (LVM 035, 417m NE). An evaluation followed by a small excavation at The Grove, Lady Street found a late medieval to post-medieval post-hole building (LVM 036, 259m NE). Monitoring work at 7 Water Street revealed a thin burnt lens, possibly associated with a former smithy (LVM 046, 214m NE) and at the Garden House an evaluation identified an in-filled roadside ditch and a 16th- or 17th-century timber framed house (LVM 059, 233m

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<sup>4</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

NW). A late medieval or early post-medieval dyeing workshop was discovered at The Swan Hotel during evaluation work followed by an excavation. Prior to the workshop the site contained 13th- and 14th-century quarrying and refuse pits. The dyeing workshop included structures enclosing ten furnaces plus a two further furnaces were found in the upper area with a large channel that functioned as a water course. A scattering of post-medieval post holes and pits marked the decline in the workshop (LVM 080, 227m NE). Ditches and pits have been found at The Grove, Lady Street (LVM 110, 271m NE), Great House Hotel, Market Place (LVM 113, 356m NE), the rear of the Greyhound Inn (LVM 114, 245m NNE) and The Old Manse on Barn Street (LVM 077, 274m NE). To the east of the site is a post-medieval culvert at Water Street (LVM 051, 165-432m ENE) and a post-medieval iron gasholder with five iron stations and tank (LVM 006, 377m ENE). A possible 16th-century layer and post medieval features at the Old Rectory (LVM 056, 280m SW). At the site of Lavenham Hall a number of ovens have been recorded. These were initially thought to have originally been Roman in origin, but more recent interpretations are that they are more likely medieval pottery ovens (LVM 026, 312m NW). Post-medieval stables have also been recorded at Hall Road (LVM 061, 256m NW).

#### Medieval and post-medieval finds:

Find scatters (primarily pottery and brick/tile) have been identified at Shilling Street (LVM 098, 366m ENE), 7 Water Street (LVM 046, 214m NE), 1 Hall Road (LVM 057, 206m NNE), Salisbury House (LVM 054, 147m NNE), Gable End, 29 High Street (LVM 116, 382m NNE).

#### *Modern*

A 19th-20th century brickworks was located to the ENE (LVM 027, 500m ENE). Horsehair and coconut matting factories were located to the northeast and east-northeast of the site (LVM 093, 428m NNE, LVM 069, 296m NE and LVM 094, 314m ENE), and formed the town's primary industry during the 19th century. Baker's Mill, Prentice Street, a late 19th-century corn mill (LVM 070, 405m NE). A brick-lined pit has also been uncovered off of Market Lane (LVM 111, 273m NNE)

#### *Undated*

There are three main areas recorded on the HER as being of unknown date. Firstly, just to the southwest of the site an evaluation revealed a pit and a ditch of unknown date, although there were some residual early finds (LVM 042). West of the Church of St Peter and St Paul is an area recorded by aerial photography to show a slight ring-ditch, with external bank of c 10m diameter and a small central mound (LVM 032). To the west of the site are earthworks of unknown date, in the form of linear banks and ditches (LVM 025, 304m WSW)).

#### *Negative sites*

An evaluation at White Gates, Sudbury Road, did not uncover any significant archaeological deposits or material (LVN 062, 268m SW)

#### **Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>** (Fig 2)

Located in Lavenham's historic core, the site is surrounded by approximately 183 listed buildings within a 500m radius (13 Grade I, 26 Grade II\*, 143 Grade II and 1 Grade DL). They date from the medieval period through to the 19th century and are primarily located along the High Street, Prentice Street, Market Place, Water Street and Shilling Street. Key buildings not mentioned above include the 16th-century former grammar school in Barn Street (LVM 008, 304 NE), a 14th-century aisled hall at 88 High Street (LVM 065, 205m NNE), a 14th-century timber framed house with two cross-wings at 3 High Street (LVM 074, 200m NNW), Cordwainers, at 89 High Street, a 15th-century timber-framed house which was originally a jettied inn called the One Bell (LVM 079, 293m NNW), a 15th-century open hall house at 18 Shilling Street (LVM 097, 364m

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<sup>5</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

ENE) and a 15-16th century timber-framed and rendered house at Dyers Hall, 95 High Street (LVM 115, 248m NNE).

#### 4 Aims

The aim of the monitoring was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits which may be disturbed by the groundworks.

#### 5 Methodology

All groundworks were carried out by the contractor. They were continuously monitored for archaeological remains by a CAT archaeologist. All archaeological horizons were excavated and recorded according to the WSI. For full details of the methodology, refer to the attached WSI.

#### 6 Results (Figs 2-3)

An area measuring 68.98m<sup>2</sup> was reduced by approximately 0.75-0.8m below current ground level.

Groundworks occurred through a hardtop drive/patio surface and associated sub-base (L1, c 0.15-0.2m thick), modern topsoil (L2, c 0.2m thick, firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with CBM flecks) and accumulated subsoil (L3, c 0.25m thick, firm, moist dark grey/brown silty-clay with CBM flecks) onto natural (L4 firm, moist medium orange/brown clay, encountered at a depth of c 0.6-0.65m below current ground level).

Two pits, F1 and F3, were uncovered. F1, which dated to between 1500 and the 19th-20th century, extended beyond the limit of excavation (LOE) but its exposed extent was 1.19m wide and 0.59m deep. F2, which was of 19th-20th century date, similarly extended beyond the LOE, but its exposed extent was 0.99m wide and 0.38m deep.

Wall foundation F2, which was of mid 19th- to 20th-century date, was composed of soft, frogged red bricks and lay on a NNW-SSE alignment.



Photograph 1 F3 – looking east northeast



**Photograph 2** F2 – looking west southwest

## 7 Finds

### 7.1 Clay and pottery finds

*by Dr Matthew Loughton*

The watching brief uncovered a modest collection of post-Roman pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) with 27 sherds with a weight of nearly 9 kg (Table 1).

Ceramic material	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	No. Rim	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
Post-Roman	13	196	15	1	0.05	1
Ceramic Building Material (CBM)	14	8,769	626	-	-	-
<b>All</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>8,965</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>1</b>

**Table 1** Details on the main types of ceramics and pottery

The pottery and CBM was recovered from three features (F1, F2, F3), and two layers (L2, L3) although most of this material came from F2 (Table 2).

Feature	Feature Type	No.	Weight g	MSW g
F1	Pit	5	356	71
F2	Wall foundation	1	2,435	2,435
F3	Pit	4	583	146
L2	Topsoil	10	5,402	540
L3	Accumulated subsoil	7	189	27
<b>Total</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>8,965</b>	<b>332</b>

**Table 2** Number and weight of pottery, CBM and baked-clay from features and other contexts

### Post-Roman pottery

This material was classified using the fabric groups from CAR 7 (2000) (Table 3) and mostly consists of 18th- to 19th-century Staffordshire-type white earthenwares (fabric F48D) alongside a small quantity of post-medieval red earthenwares (fabric F40) (Table 4). Finally, there were rare sherds of Staffordshire-type slipware (fabric F50) and modern English stoneware (fabric F45M). Most of the post-Roman pottery was recovered from layers L2 and L3 with rare sherds from pits F1 and F3.

Fabric code	Fabric description	Fabric date range guide
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	c 1500-19th/20th century
F45M	Modern English stoneware	19th-early 20th century
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	19th-20th century
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	1650-19th century

**Table 3** Post-Roman pottery fabrics recorded

Fabric Group	Fabric description	No.	Weight (g)	MSW/g	Rim	Base	Rim EVE	Rim EVREP
F40	Post-medieval red earthenwares	4	149	37	0	1	0.00	0
F45M	Modern English stoneware	1	12	12	0	1	0.00	0
F48D	Staffordshire-type white earthenwares	6	17		1	0	0.05	1
F50	Staffordshire-type slipware	2	18	9	0	0	0.00	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>1</b>

**Table 4** Details on the post-Roman pottery

### Ceramic building material (CBM)

There was a small quantity of Roman and post-medieval CBM amounting to 14 sherds with a weight of 8,769g (Table 5). The Roman CBM, which includes a piece of *imbrex*, all came from pit F1. The post-medieval CBM mostly consists of peg-tile fragments which were recovered from pits F1 and F3, and layers L2 and L3. There were also three complete bricks:

F2 (5) orange coloured fabric with some coarse pebbles, with dimensions of 225 mm x 110 mm x 68 mm and a broad frog.

L2 (1) pale yellow/cream coloured fabric, with dimensions of 225 mm x 115 mm x 63 mm and a broad frog which is stamped on both sides of the frog: MA.SECANS//? MA.SEGANS//? or MA.SECARS//? This is possibly a Suffolk White-type brick according to Ryan's Essex brick typology, which dates to the late 18th to the 19th century (1996, 95). The stamped frog would suggest a date after 1875 (Ryan 1996, 92).

L2 (1) a double-cant brick (AN6) with dimensions of 245 mm x 119 mm x 48 mm

Finally, a plain floor tile (?) in a fine cream fabric with dimensions of 100+ mm x 90+mm x 28 mm was recovered from F3 (6).

CBM code	CBM type	No.	Weight (g)	MSW
Roman				
RI	Roman <i>imbrex</i>	1	71	71
RBT	Roman brick or tile (general)	1	40	40
Post-Roman				
PT	Peg-tile	7	441	63



BR	Brick	4	7,852	1,963
FT	Floor tile	1	365	365
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>8,769</b>	<b>626</b>

**Table 5** CBM by period and type**Summary**

Table 6 provides a brief dating summary for the features and layers which produced datable ceramic finds. The features and layers can all be dated to the 19th-20th century.

Feature	Post-Roman pottery	CBM	Overall date approx.
F1	F40	RI RBT PT	1500-19th/20th century
F2	-	BR	19th-20th century
F3	F40	PT BR FT	19th-20th century
L2	F48D F50	PT BR	Late 19th-20th century
L3	F40 F45M F50	PT	19th-20th century

**Table 6** Approximate dates for the individual features and layers**7.2 Clay tobacco pipe and non-ceramic finds**

by Laura Pooley

A small quantity of clay tobacco pipe, glass and oyster shell came from L2, L3 and F1. The assemblage includes fragments of two clay pipe bowls categorised as Type 7, c 1670-1700, and fluted, c 1820-1860 (CAR 5). The fragment of glass is from a 19th-20th century six-sided ink bottle.

Context	Finds no.	Description
L2	1	<b>Clay tobacco pipe:</b> Three fragments of clay pipe stem, 9.7g, post-medieval (discarded). <b>Glass:</b> Incomplete base fragment from a six-sided glass ink bottle in pale blue, 24.6g, modern (19th-20th century). <b>Shell:</b> One fragment of oyster shell, 4.7g (discarded).
	2	<b>Lead:</b> Cylindrical lead plumb bob, pencil-shaped with one pointed end and the other end damaged, 97mm long, c 9mm diameter, 66.8g, post-medieval/modern.
L3	3	<b>Clay tobacco pipe:</b> 1) Incomplete bowl fragment with part of one side and rim missing, stem broken close to bowl. A Type 7 bowl with straight sides and back (CAR 5, 49), date range: c 1670-1700. 12.4g. 2) Incomplete bowl fragment with upper bowl, foot spur and part of stem missing. A fluted bowl with narrow flutes and oak leaves rising from both sides of both seams (CAR 5, 57), c 1820-1860. 57.5g. 3) Two fragments of clay pipe stem, 14.1g, post-medieval (discarded).
F1	3	<b>Clay tobacco pipe:</b> One fragment of clay pipe stem, 4.3g, post-medieval (discarded).

**Table 7** Clay tobacco pipe and non-ceramic finds

## 8 Conclusion

Groundworks at this site revealed one post-medieval or modern pit, a modern pit, and a 19th- or 20th-century wall foundation. The wall foundation appears to represent the remains of one of a series of outbuildings which previously stood to the rear of the property. These buildings are depicted on ordnance survey mapping of the area compiled during the late 19th and early 20th centuries (see Map 1 below), and were extant until at least the 1970s.



**Map 1** Extract from Suffolk LXIV.SW, rev. 1902; pub. 1905. The outbuildings are indicated by the blue arrow.

Both pits were uncovered in an area at least partially overlain by the footprint of these now-demolished outbuildings. The recovery of a floor-tile confirmed one as modern, and it would appear that this feature post-dated the demolition of the outbuildings. The other yielded finds dating it to the period from 1500 to the 19th or 20th century, and while it too may have post-dated the demolition of the outbuildings, it could equally have preceded their construction. Importantly, given the sparsity of Roman archaeological remains in the surrounding area, it should be noted that a fragment of Roman *imbrex* and another of brick or tile were recovered from this latter feature, suggesting that the remains of a Roman villa may lie in the vicinity.

## 9 Acknowledgements

CAT is grateful to Mr and Mrs Buckle for commissioning and funding the project. The project was managed by C Lister, fieldwork was carried out by B Holloway. Figures are by C Lister, B Holloway and E Holloway. The project was monitored by Abby Antrobus for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services.

## 10 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

- |                             |      |  |
|-----------------------------|------|--|
| Brown, N and Glazenbrook, J | 2000 | <i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA 8) |
| CAR 7                       | 2000 | <i>CAR Report 7: Post-Roman pottery from excavations in</i>  |

		<i>Colchester, 1971-85</i> , by J Cotter
CAT	2018	<i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>
ClfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i>
ClfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives</i>
MHCLG	2018	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).
English Heritage	2006	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
MHCLG	2018	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
Ryan, P	1996	<i>Brick in Essex from the Roman Conquest to the Reformation</i>
SCC	2008	<i>The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3</i>
SCCAS	2017	<i>Archive Guidelines</i>
SCCAS	2018	<i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Recording at 25 Church Street Lavenham, Suffolk</i> . Abby Antrobus, February 2018

## 11 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBM	ceramic building material, ie brick/tile
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	a single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or find.
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, can contain ‘contexts’
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c AD 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
peg-tile	rectangular thin tile with peg-hole(s) used mainly for roofing, first appeared c AD1200 and continued in use to present day, but commonly post-medieval to modern
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, eg a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD 410
SCC	Suffolk County Council
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
SCHER	Suffolk County Historic Environment Record
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
wsi	written scheme of investigation

## 12 Contents of archive

**Finds:** One box

### **Paper record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1446)

SCCAS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photos and log

Site section drawings

Inked section drawings

### **Digital record**

Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds log)

The report (CAT Report 1446)

SCCAS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation  
Graphics  
Site digital photos and log

### **13 Archive deposition**

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with SCCAS under Parish Number LVM 146.

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**Distribution list:**

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Abby Antrobus, SCCAS  
Suffolk County Historic Environment Record



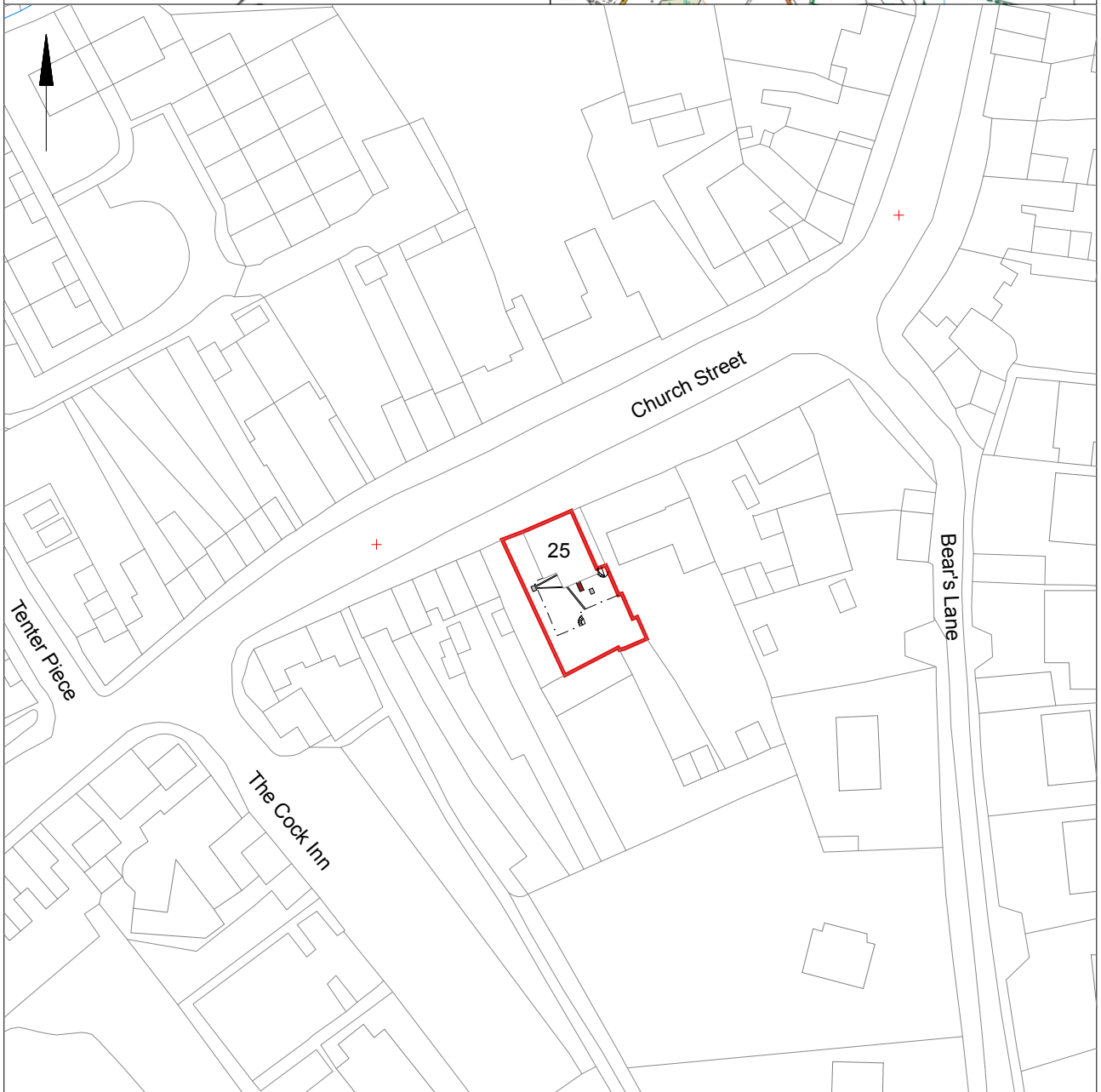
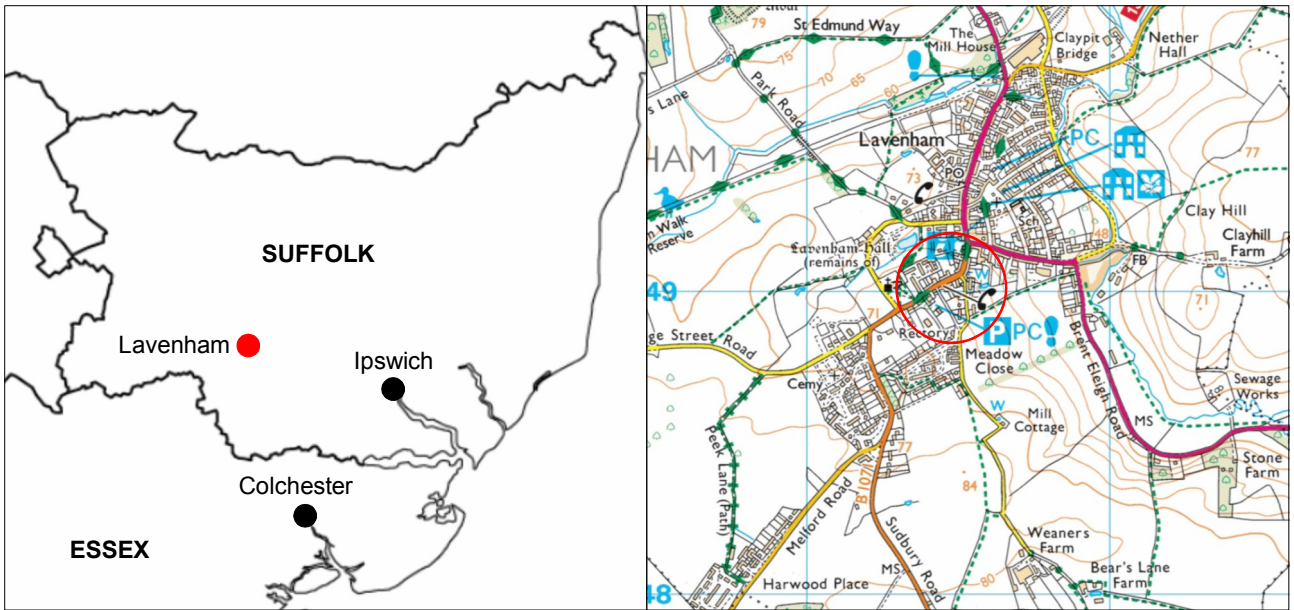
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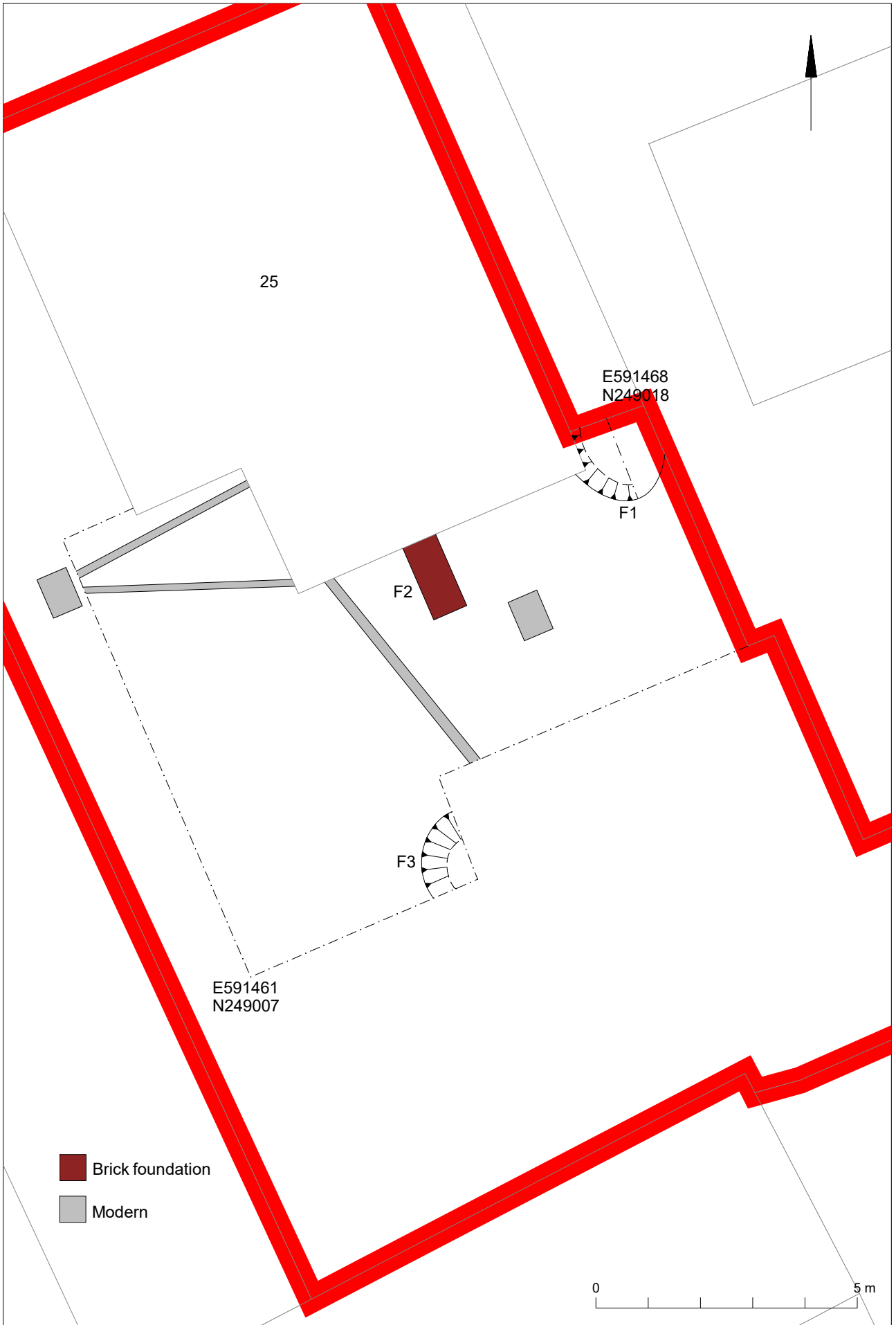
Fig 1 Site location.

0 50 m



Fig 2 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

Imagery ©2019 Google, Map data ©2019 Google  
HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record



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Fig 3 Monitoring results.

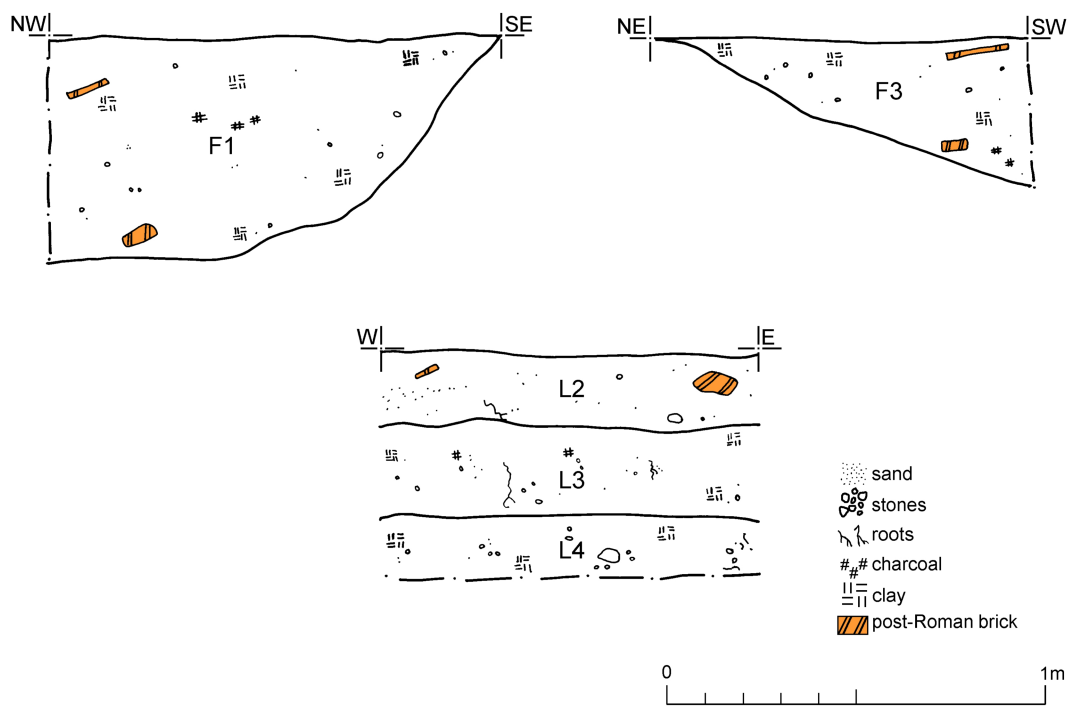


Fig 4 Feature and representative sections.



# **Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological recording at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9QT**

**NGR:** TL 913 490 (centre)

**Planning references:** B/17/02514/FUL

**Commissioned by and on behalf of:** Mr & Mrs Buckle

**Curating museum:** Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

**Suffolk parish number:** LVM 146

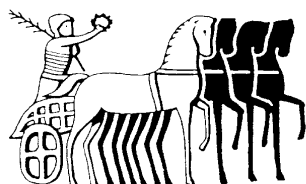
**CAT project code:** 2019/01g

**OASIS reference no.:** colchest3-340485

**Site manager:** Chris Lister

**SCCAS Monitor:** Abby Antrobus

**This WSI written:** 11.02.2019



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## Site location and description

The development site is located at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk (Fig 1). Site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 913 490.

## Proposed work

The development comprises of the erection of single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation and annex, following demolition of existing garage and replacement of flat roof with pitched roof on existing two storey rear extension.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9222234.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Crag Group (sand) with superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation (diamicton).

### Historic landscape

Lavenham is defined as *rolling valley farmlands* with nearby *ancient rolling farmlands* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment<sup>2</sup>. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map<sup>3</sup> it is defined as Landscape sub-type 10.1, built up area – unspecified. The landscape immediately around the built up area is characterised as sub-type 1.2 (pre 18th century enclosure – rectilinear fields), sub-type 3.2 (post-1950 agricultural landscape – boundary loss from rectilinear fields) and sub-type 5.1 (meadow or managed wetland - meadow).

### Archaeology<sup>4</sup> (Fig 2)

(All measurements are taken from the centre point of the development site to the centre point of the archaeological site). Due to the large number of results for the area the background is focused on results within a 500m radius of the site.

#### *Prehistoric*

Prehistoric finds within 500m of the development site are scarce, but do include some later prehistoric flints found during an evaluation in on land off Norman Way (LVM 120, 512m NNW) and a possible prehistoric ditch identified at Barn Street (LVM 058, 330m NE).

#### *Romano-British*

Romano-British finds within 500m of the development site area also scarce, except for a tessellated floor thought to have been found near to Grove House, between Lady and Barn Streets, in the 1940's. This may be the same feature as a Roman bath/crypt mentioned in 1965 (LVM 018, 283m NE).

#### *Anglo-Saxon*

The only evidence within the area is a probably Anglo-Saxon pottery sherd from Salisbury House (LVM 054, 147m NNE).

#### *Medieval*

The site is located at the southern edge of the main centre of the medieval town of Lavenham (LVM 053). The centre of Lavenham has yielded a dense amount of information about its medieval origins, both through historical buildings and archaeological evidence. Opposite the current site part of a tenter frame was found by a local builder during work at 80 Church Street (LVM 010, 34m NNW). Monitoring at Laneham yard, Church street revealed a medieval pit and post-medieval features (LVM 063, 40m ENE). Just to the west of the site is the Church of St Peter and St Paul, a medieval church with a potentially earlier church

<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey – <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3, 2008, Suffolk County Council

<sup>4</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

underneath (LVM 009, 169m W). To the northwest is the site of Lavenham Hall, a medieval manor house (LVM 007, 377m NW)

Other significant medieval sites to the north include a medieval pit and window mullion found at 3 High Street (LVM 050, 198m NNE). The Market Cross, a scheduled monument, said to be an ecclesiastical wayside cross (LVM 004, 350m NE). Medieval floor tiles identified at 51/52 Water Street (LVM 003, 222m NE). Medieval ovens and post-medieval building remains were identified at 32 Prentice Street (LVM 048, 500m NE). Towards the east a sequence of medieval and post-medieval features were recorded at the Lavenham Press (LVM 043, 320m ENE). And an area of green land known as The Common recorded on historic maps (LVM028, 488m ENE).

#### *Medieval/post-medieval-modern*

Close to the current site, monitoring at 90 Church Street revealed a single post-medieval ditch (LVM 055, 147m NNE).

A number of listed buildings dating from this period surround the development site (see below), those of particular interest within the search area include Lavenham Guildhall, a two-storey timber framed hall for the Guildhall of Corpus Christi. The guild founded by John de Vere in 1529 (LVM 005, 309m NE). Monitoring work on land north of Bolton Street revealed flint and mortar well, a pit and post-medieval pottery (LVM 035, 417m NE). An evaluation followed by a small excavation at The Grove, Lady Street found a late medieval to post-medieval post-hole building (LVM 036, 259m NE). Monitoring work at 7 Water Street revealed a thin burnt lens, possibly associated with a former smithy (LVM 046, 214m NE) and at the Garden House an evaluation identified an in-filled roadside ditch and a 16-17<sup>th</sup> century timber framed house (LVM 059, 233m NW). A late medieval-early post-medieval dyeing workshop was discovered at The Swan Hotel during evaluation work followed by an excavation. Prior to the workshop the site contained 13th-14th century quarrying and refuse pits. The dyeing workshop included structures enclosing ten furnaces plus a two further furnaces where found in the upper area with a large channel that functioned as a water course. A scattering of post-medieval post holes and pits marked the decline in the workshop (LVM 080, 227m NE). Ditches and pits have been found at The Grove, Lady Street (LVM 110, 271m NE), Great House Hotel, Market Place (LVM 113, 356m NE), the rear of the Greyhound Inn (LVM 114, 245m NNE) and The Old Manse on Barn Street (LVM 077, 274m NE). To the east of the site is a post-medieval culvert at Water Street (LVM 051, 165-432m ENE) and a post-medieval iron gasholder with five iron stations and tank (LVM 006, 377m ENE). A possible 16th century layer and post medieval features at the Old Rectory (LVM 056, 280m SW). At the site of Lavenham Hall a number of ovens have been recorded. These were initially thought to have originally been Roman in origin, but more recent interpretations are that they are more likely medieval pottery ovens (LVM 026, 312m NW). Post-medieval range of stables recorded at hall Road (LVM 061, 256m NW).

#### Medieval and post-medieval finds:

Find scatters (primarily pottery and brick/tile) have been identified at Shilling Street (LVM 098, 366m ENE), 7 Water Street (LVM 046, 214m NE), 1 Hall Road (LVM 057, 206m NNE), Salisbury House (LVM 054, 147m NNE), Gable End, 29 High Street (LVM 116, 382m NNE).

#### *Modern*

The 19th-20th century brickworks were located to the ENE (LVM 027, 500m ENE). Horsehair and coconut matting factories were located to the northeast to east-northeast of the site (LVM 093, 428m NNE, LVM 069, 296m NE and LVM 094, 314m ENE). These are remnants of horsehair weaving which was the main activity for the town in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Baker's Mill, Prentice Street, a late 19<sup>th</sup> century team corn mill (LVM 070, 405m NE). A brick-lined pit off Market Lane (LVM 111, 273m NNE)

#### *Undated*

There are three main areas recorded on the HER as being of unknown date. Firstly just to the southwest of the site an evaluation revealed a pit and a ditch of unknown date, although, there were some residual early finds (LVM 042). West of the Church of St Peter and St Paul is an area recorded by aerial photography to show a slight ring-ditch, with external bank of c 10m diameter and a small central mound (LVM 032). To the west of the ring-ditch 304m

WSW). To the west of the site there is an area of earthworks of unknown date, in the form of linear banks and ditches (LVM 025, 304m WSW)).

#### *Negative sites*

Evaluation at White Gates, Sudbury Road (LVN 062, 268m SW)

#### **Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>** (Fig 2)

Located in the heart of historic Lavenham, the site is surrounded by approximately 183 listed buildings within a 500m radius (13 Grade I, 26 Grade II\*, 143 Grade II and 1 Grade DL). They date from the Medieval period through to the 19th century and are primarily located along the High Street, Prentice Street, Market Place, Water Street and Shilling Street. Key buildings not mentioned above include the 16th century former Grammar school in Barn Street (LVM 008, 304 NE), 14th century aisled hall at 88 High Street (LVM 065, 205m NNE); 14th century timber framed house with two cross-wings at 3 High street (LVM 074, 200m NNW); 15th century timber framed house at Cordwainers 89 High Street, which was originally a jettied Inn called the One Bell (LVM 079, 293m NNW); 15th century open hall house at 18 Shilling Street (LVM 097, 364m ENE); 15-16th century timber framed and rendered house at Dyers Hall, 95 High Street (LVM 115, 248m NNE).

#### **Planning background**

The planning application was submitted to Babergh District Council (B/17/02514) for erection of single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation and annex, following demolition of existing garage and replacement of flat roof with pitched roof on existing two storey rear extension.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Suffolk HER as having a high potential for archaeological deposits, an archaeological condition was recommended by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT). The recommended archaeological condition is based on the condition based on the guidance given in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012) and in this case in section 3 of the planning permission:

*" No development shall take place within the area indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions."*

#### **Requirement for work**

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological recording of all groundworks. Details are given in the Project Brief (*Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording at 25 Church Street Lavenham, Suffolk*) written by SCCAS (2018).

Specifically, the work will include the monitoring and recording of all groundworks for archaeological remains. If any unexpected remains are encountered the SCCAS/CT will be notified immediately.

All work will take place within and contribute to the goals of the Regional research frameworks (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011).

Decision on the need for any further archaeological investigation (eg excavation) will be made by SCCAS, in a further brief, based on the results presented in the report for this evaluation. Any further investigation will be the subject of a further WSI, submitted to SCCAS for scrutiny and formally approved by the LPA.

#### **Staffing**

The number of field staff for this project is estimated as follows: One CAT archaeologist for

<sup>5</sup> This is based on records held at the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (SCHER).

the duration of the groundworks.

## **General methodology**

All work carried out by CAT will be in accordance with:

- professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2008a, b)
- Standards and Frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2017)
- the Project Brief issued by SCC Historic Environment Officer (SCC 2018)
- The outline specification within *Requirements for Continuous Archaeological Recording* (SCC 2011) to be used alongside the Project Brief

Professional CAT field archaeologists will undertake all specified archaeological work, for which they will be suitably experienced and qualified.

Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the start date for the project will be provided to SCCAS/CT one week before start of work.

Prior to the commencement of the site a parish code and Event number will be sought from the HER team. This code will be used to identify the finds bags and boxes, and the project archive when it is deposited at the curating museum.

At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to EHER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

## **Monitoring methodology**

There will be continuous on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works (reductions, footings, service trenches, landscaping, etc) to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done either by hand or with a mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket.

If archaeological features or deposits are uncovered, time will be allowed for these to be planned and recorded.

If any features or deposits uncovered are to be destroyed by the proposed development, time will be allowed for these features to be excavated by hand. This includes a 50% sample of discrete features (pits, etc) or more if this is deemed appropriate and 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) in 1m sections where possible.

Fast hand-excavation techniques involving (for instance) picks, forks and mattocks will not be used on complex stratigraphy.

A metal detector will be used by the attending archaeologist to examine the site, spoil heaps, and the finds recovered.

Individual records of excavated contexts, layers, features or deposits will be entered on proforma record sheets. Registers will be compiled of finds, small finds and soil samples.

All features and layers or other significant deposits will be planned, and their profiles or sections recorded. The normal scale will be site plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be appropriate.

If exceptional or significant archaeological deposits are encountered CAT will inform SCCAS/CT and these may be reviewed on site.

### **Site surveying**

Normal scale for archaeological site plans and sections is 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

The site grid will be tied into the National Grid. Corners of excavation areas and trenches will be tied into Ordnance Datum.

### **Environmental sampling policy**

The number and range of samples collected will be adequate to determine the potential of the site, with particular focus on palaeoenvironmental remains including both biological remains (e.g. plants, small vertebrates) and small sized artefacts (e.g. smithing debris), and to provide information for sampling strategies on any future excavation. Samples will be collected for potential micromorphological and other pedological sedimentological analysis. Environmental bulk samples will be 40 litres in size (assuming context is large enough).

Sampling strategies will address questions of:

- the range of preservation types (charred, mineral-replaced, waterlogged), and their quality
- concentrations of macro-remains
- differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer (Loddon) whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Val Fryer will do any processing and reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF and/or the English Heritage Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking monolith samples.

### **Human remains**

CAT follows the policy of leaving human remains *in situ* unless there is a clear indication that the remains are in danger of being compromised as a result of their exposure, or unless directed to do so by SCCAS. If circumstances indicated it were prudent or necessary to remove remains from the site during the monitoring, the following criteria would be applied; if it is clear from their position, context, depth, or other factors that the remains are ancient, then normal procedure is to apply to the Department of Justice for a licence to remove them. In that case, conditions laid down by the license will be followed. If it seems that the remains are not ancient, then the coroner, the client, and SCCAS will be informed, and any advice and/or instruction from the coroner will be followed.

### **Photographic record**

Will include both general and feature-specific photographs, the latter with scale and north arrow. A photo register giving context number, details, and direction of shot will be prepared on site, and included in site archive.

### **Post-excavation assessment**

If a post-excavation assessment is required by SCCAS, it will be normally be submitted within 2 months of the end of fieldwork, or as quickly as is reasonably practicable and at a time agreed with SCCAS.

Where archaeological results do not warrant a post-excavation assessment, preparation of the normal site report will begin.

## **Finds**

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Howard Brooks (Deputy Director). This includes specialist subjects such as:

prehistoric and Roman pottery: Matthew Loughton  
post-Roman pottery: Howard Brooks  
animal bones (small groups): Alec Wade / Adam Wightman  
small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley  
flints: Adam Wightman  
environmental processing: Robin Mathieson

or to outside specialists:

animal bones (large groups) and human remains: Julie Curl (*Sylvanus*)  
environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray  
conservation/x-ray: Laura Ratcliffe (LR Conservation) /

Norfolk Museums Service, Conservation and Design Services

Other specialists whose opinion can be sought on large or complex groups include:

prehistoric and Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield  
Roman brick/tile: Ernest Black / Ian Betts (MOLA)  
Roman glass: Hilary Cool  
Prehistoric pottery: Paul Sealey  
Small finds: Nina Crummy  
Other: EH Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England).

All finds of potential treasure will be removed to a safe place, and reported immediately to the Suffolk FLO (Finds Liaison Office) who will inform the coroner within 14 days, in accordance with the rules of the Treasure Act 1996. The definition of treasure is given in pages 3-5 of the Code of Practice of the above act. This refers primarily to gold or silver objects.

Requirements for conservation and storage of finds will be agreed with SCCAS and carried out as per their guidelines (SCCAS 2017).

## **Results**

Notification will be given to SCCAS when the fieldwork has been completed.

An appropriate archive will be prepared to minimum acceptable standards outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 2006).

The draft final report will be submitted within 6 months of the end of fieldwork for approval by SCCAS.

The approved final report will normally be submitted to SCCAS as both a PDF and a hard copy.

The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological project
- Location plan of the area in relation to the proposed development.
- Section/s drawings showing depth of deposits from present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Archaeological methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion and results referring to Regional Research Frameworks (EAA8, EAA14 & EAA24).
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- Appendices to include a copy of the completed OASIS summary sheet and the approved WSI

A HER summary sheet will also be completed within four weeks and supplied to SCCAS/CT as an appendix to the CAT site report.

The OASIS entry will be completed at the end of the post-excavation work and the summary sheet included with the report along with a copy of the approved WSI.

Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report will be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.

## Archive deposition

The archive will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service as per their archive guidelines (SCCAS 2017).

If the finds are to remain with the landowner, a full copy of the archive will be housed with the SCCAS.

The archive will be deposited with the SCCAS within 3 months of the completion of the final publication report, with a summary of the contents of the archive supplied to SCCAS.

## Monitoring

SCCAS will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project, and will be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, post-excavation and publication stages.

Notification of the start of work will be given SCCAS one week in advance of its commencement.

Any variations in this WSI will be agreed with SCCAS prior to them being carried out.

SCCAS will be notified when the fieldwork is complete.

The involvement of SCCAS shall be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

## Education and outreach

The CAT website ([www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk](http://www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk)) is updated regularly with information on current sites. Copies of our reports (grey literature) can be viewed on the website and downloaded for free. A magazine (*The Colchester Archaeologist Vol 28* out now) summarises all our sites and staff regularly give lectures to groups, societies and schools (a fee may apply). CAT also works alongside the Colchester Archaeological Group (providing a venue for their lectures and library) and the local Young Archaeologists Club.

CAT archaeologists can be booked for lectures and information on fees can be obtained by contacting the office on 01206 501785.

## References

- |                              |       |  |
|------------------------------|-------|--|
| Brown, N and Glazenbrook, J. | 2000  | <i>Research and Archaeology: a frame work for the Eastern Counties 2 Research agenda and strategy</i> , East Anglian Archaeological, occasional papers 8 (EAA 8) |
| CAT                          | 2018  | <i>Health &amp; Safety Policy</i>  |
| CifA                         | 2008a | <i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological evaluation</i>  |
| CifA                         | 2008b | <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>  |
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| Gurney, D                    | 2003  | <i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14).  |
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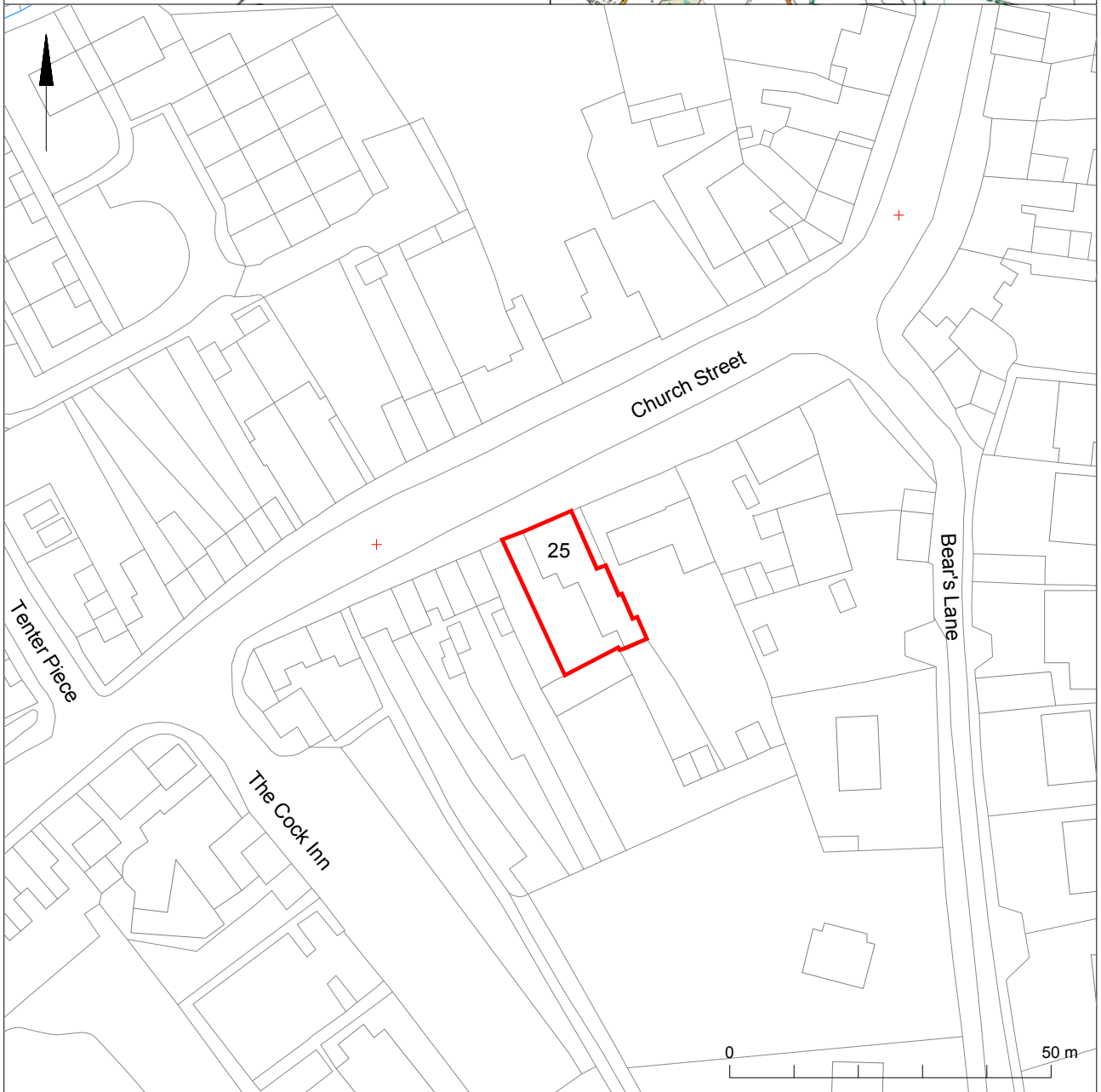
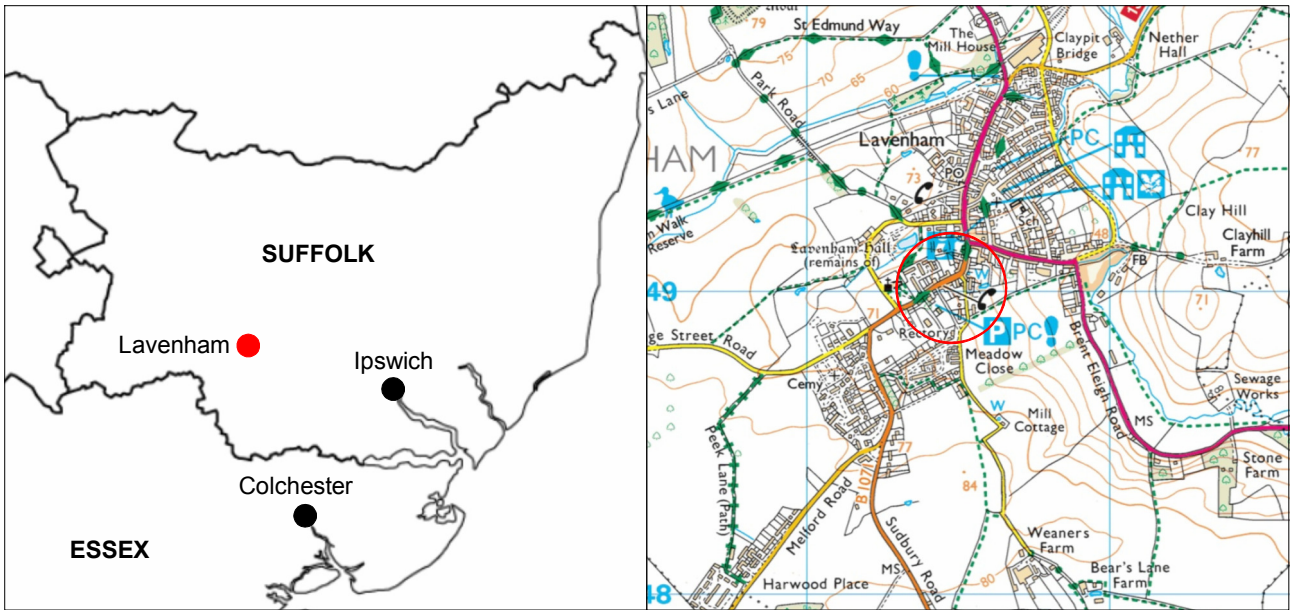
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Medlycott, M	2011	<i>Research and archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the East of England</i> . East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 (EAA 24)
SCC	2008	<i>The Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map, version 3</i>
SCCAS	2017	<i>Archive Guidelines</i>
SCCAS/CT	2018	<i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Recording at 25 Church Street Lavenham, Suffolk</i> . Abby Antrobus, February 2018

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Fig 1 Site location.



Fig 2 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

Imagery ©2019 Google, Map data ©2019 Google  
HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: colchest3-340485**

### Project details

Project name	Continuous archaeological recording at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9QT
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at 25 Church Street, Lavenham, Suffolk during groundworks for a single-storey rear extension. A wall foundation which formed the remains of one of series of outbuildings previously located to the rear of the property was recorded. Two pits were also uncovered. The first pit was of modern date, while the second was post-medieval or modern in date. The latter of these pits yielded a small assemblage of Roman building materials, indicating that the remains of a Roman villa may lie nearby.
Project dates	Start: 05-07-2019 End: 05-07-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2019/01g - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	B/17/02514 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	LVM 146 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Modern
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	PEG-TILE Modern

Investigation type ""Watching Brief""  
 Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

### Project location

Country England  
 Site location SUFFOLK BABERGH LAVENHAM 25 Church Street, Lavenham  
 Postcode CO10 9QT  
 Study area 0.03 Hectares  
 Site coordinates TL 913 490 52.105709143001 0.79370644707 52 06 20 N 000 47 37 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Colchester Archaeological Trust  
 Project brief originator HEM Team Officer, SCC  
 Project design originator Emma Holloway  
 Project director/manager Chris Lister  
 Project supervisor Ben Holloway  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Owner  
 Name of sponsor/funding body Mr & Mrs Buckle

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service  
 Physical Archive ID LVM 146  
 Physical Contents "Ceramics"  
 Digital Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service  
 Digital Archive ID LVM 146  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"  
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service  
 Paper Archive ID LVM 146  
 Paper Media available "Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Report"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title	Archaeological monitoring at 25 Church Street, Iavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9QT: July 2019
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hicks, E.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1446
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Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
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Entered by	Dr Elliott Hicks (eh2@catuk.org)
Entered on	29 July 2019

## OASIS:

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