

# Continuous archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2EZ

September-November 2021



by **Megan Seehra and Chris Lister**  
figures by Laura Pooley and Emma Holloway

fieldwork by Megan Seehra and Chris Lister

commissioned by **Richard Page, Whymark & Moulton Chartered Surveyors**  
on behalf of the homeowner

NGR: TL 8723 4217 (centre)  
Planning ref: DC/21/02209  
CAT project ref.: 2021/07m  
Suffolk Parish Number: SUY 215  
OASIS ref: colchest3-426598



## Colchester Archaeological Trust

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**CAT Report 1747**  
December 2021

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## 1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk during groundworks for underpinning of a building on the grounds of this address. 11-12 Weavers Lane itself is a Grade II\* listed building, and evidence of the town's late Anglo-Saxon/early medieval defensive ditch has been found close by to the development site. Sudbury itself is a prosperous market town with Anglo-Saxon origins, with evidence of earlier human activity found. Unfortunately work carried out during groundworks were too limited to reveal or confirm archaeological remains.

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This report presents the results of continuous archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, which was carried out on the 8th September 2021 and 15th November 2021. The work was commissioned by Richard Page of Whymark & Moulton Chartered Surveyors in advance of the underpinning of a Grade II\* Listed Building within the curtilage. This was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The Local Planning Authority (Mid-Suffolk District Council: Planning reference DC/21/02209) was advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) that this site lies in an area of high archaeological importance. Therefore, 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 2019).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording* detailing the required archaeological work written by Teresa O'Connor (SCCAS 2021), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the SCCAS brief and agreed with SCCAS (CAT 2021).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2016), 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 archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

## 3 Archaeological and landscape background (Fig 2)

The following archaeological background draws on CAT Report 1430 and information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9508964.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) – chalk, with superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits 3 – sand and diamicton.

### Historic landscape

The development site is located in an area defined as *urban* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment<sup>2</sup>. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map<sup>3</sup> it is defined as Landscape type 10.2 Built up area - (town). The landscape immediately around the site is

<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

characterised as: Landscape sub-type 1.1 pre-18th-century enclosure (random fields) and 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).

This background is focused on results within a 500m radius of the site.

11 Weavers Lane is a Historic England Grade II Listed building located within a Conservation area and an area of archaeological importance. Sudbury is a historic market town on the Suffolk-Essex border which is situated close to the River Stour.

#### **Prehistoric**

During the Iron Age it is generally thought that southern Suffolk was in the territory of the *Trinovantes*. Evidence for earlier occupation in the area that became Sudbury is primarily in the form of pottery and isolated features. Within the grounds of Stour House ditches recorded are thought to be part of an enclosure ditch. Finds included pottery, decorated combs, clay slingshots (SUY 028). Pottery was recorded on two sites on Gregory Street (SUY 014, 117.84m W) and at Walnut Tree Hospital (SUY 029).

#### **Roman**

Sudbury is not thought to have been the site of a Roman town as there was an important Roman small town to the north at Long Melford (Dymond and Martin 1999, p43). However, a large number of bricks present in the fabric of the 15th-century St Peter's Church (SUY 013, 210m ESE) has led to the inference that there must have been a large Roman structure in Sudbury town centre (but not necessarily any larger than a villa).

Find spots within the search area include seven Roman coins.

#### **Anglo-Saxon**

Sudbury was urbanised by the Late Saxon period. First recorded in 799 as *Suthberie* meaning 'South-Borough', the town was minting coins in the 10th-century. The suspected mint site is 150m east of St Peter's church (SUY 045, 444m ESE).

Defences can be traced in the curve of the street plan (SUY 040, Dymond & Martin 1999). On land between Weavers Lane and Burkitts Lane, two evaluation trenches were dug across the defensive town ditch. The ditch was 13m wide and 3.4m deep (SUY 058, 48m SE). Evidence of the town ditch has also been found at 84 Friars Street (SUY 146, 376m SW).

The church of St Gregory was founded in the later 10th century (SUY 032, 215m NW) and a market in 1009. Sudbury is mentioned in the Domesday book and had burgesses by this time.

An archaeological evaluation at the nearby Gainsborough House revealed pits of Late Saxon and medieval date (SUY 164, 47m S). Anglo-Saxon finds have been found at Gregory Street (SUY 014, 117.84m W).

#### **Medieval**

There are numerous records of medieval features and finds on the HER for Sudbury which support the notion that the town was thriving at this time. In the 12th century, the town was enlarged to provide for a market and two new defence ditches were added accordingly. In one area the Saxon ditches were backfilled in the 13th-14th centuries (SUY 040). In the medieval period the Chapel of the Holy Sepulchre faced Gainsborough Street and burials have been found in close proximity (SUY 026, 161m SW). The current building of the Collegiate church of St Gregory dates from the 14th century (SUY 032, 215m NW and SUY 004, 210m NW). It houses the mummified skull of Simon of Sudbury, who was Chancellor and instigator of the Poll

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

Tax, and was beheaded during the Peasants Revolt of 1381. In the 14th century Flemings were settled in the town as it flourished through the wool industry. St Peter's (SUY 013, 210m ESE) and All Saints (SUY 035, 530m SW) Churches were added in the 15th century. There was also a Dominican Friary (SUY 005, 404m SSW). Several of the town's historic buildings, including Salters Hall and Cleeve House, are medieval in origin.

Pits and ditches containing medieval pottery were found on land adjacent to Priory Walk (SUY 069, 482m SW), pits and medieval pottery from The Old Rising Sun (SUY 108, 376m SW) and pits recorded at 17 Market Hill (SUY 074, 154m WSW). At 2 Friars Street there is a building of probable medieval origin with a c 1630 two-bay structure (SUY 160, 164m SE).

Medieval finds have been found at the back of Lloyds Bank (SUY 011, 170m SE), at Gregory Street (SUY 014, 117.84m W), 102 Cross Street (SUY 075, 382m SW) and 46 Church Street (SUY 091, 489m SW), St Gregory's Primary School (SUY 129, 407m SW), 18 Market Hill (SUY 140, 162m SE), at Vanners Silks Ltd (SUY 145, 55m W) and an ivory chess piece was recorded c 227m NE of the current site.

### ***Post-medieval to modern***

Between the 16th and 18th centuries, the wool industry was less prosperous in the town. An important Tudor building was The Moot Hall which stood on Market Hill (SUY 051, 150m SW), which was demolished in 1844. In the 17th century Sudbury was a Puritan town and many families emigrated to North America.

The railway reached Sudbury in 1847. A goods yard and station was the original terminus of the line connected to the old Sudbury Station. It is visible on First Edition OS maps and was closed in 1966 (SUY 068, 437m SE).

The majority of post-medieval records from the HER for Sudbury relate to industrial works of the town, including the Ballingdon Grove brickworks (BCB008), a pair of warehouses by basins at the head of Stour Navigation (SUY 110, 556m S), silk workshops (SUY 111, 369m N), a converted water mill (SUY 169, 300m WSW) and gas works for the town was built in 1836 (SUY 059, 476m S). Kiln waste and soft clay with a group of 19th-century clay tobacco stems from the garden of 62 Friars Street indicate that the site of a clay-pipe kiln lies nearby (SUY 060, 327m SW)

Friends Meeting House built in 1804 with adjacent burial ground is located 265m SSE of the current site (SUY 151).

Post-medieval features and finds have been recorded during archaeological investigations at Friars Street (SUY 005, 404m SSW), 92 North Street (SUY 071, 216m NE), 9 Walnut Tree Lane (SUY 073, 290m W), The Fire Station, Gregory Street (SUY 092, 160m WSW), Lorne Villa (SUY 093, 286m NW), Rose Villa, Priory Walk (SUY 135, 454m SW), 1-3 Croft Road (SUY 142, 101m NNW) and at Mulberry House (SUY 150, 181m WSW).

Finds including pottery have been recorded at the back of Lloyds Bank (SUY 011, 170m SE), 2 Meadow Lane (SUY 012, 294m SE), Station Road (SUY 057, 220m SE), St Christopher Lane (SUY 113, 300m SW), 18 The Croft (SUY 143, 289m NW) and at Vanners Silks Ltd (SUY 145, 55m W). Within the search area, a hoard of coins was discovered in 1963.

### ***Undated***

Undated features recorded within the search area include two pits on the site of the former Four Swans Hotel, North Street (SUY 052, 163m NE), a wall at 33-35 Kind Street (SUY 084, 236m SE), human remains found in 1800 on the corner of School Street and Stour Street (SUY 067, 209m SW), a large pit and ditch at St Joseph's Primary School (SUY 102, 328m NW) and a dark blackish brown silty sand layer thought to possibly be related to backfill of the town wall ditch at 11 Weavers Lane (SUY 103, 15m SE).

### Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>

Within the search area, there are 190 Historic England Listed Buildings within the 500m search radius (4 Grade I, 5 Grade II\* and 181 Grade II). They date from the medieval period through to the early 19th century. They are primarily located along Friars Street, Gainsborough Street, Stour Street and Girling Street (see yellow dots on Fig 2). Key buildings related to the site are mentioned by period above.

The site is located within the curtilage of 11-12 Weavers Lane which is a Historic England Grade II Listed building (1052000). The building dates to the 16th century but has had later alterations, especially to the front (DSF894).

## 4 Aims

Monitoring was undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site. Specifically, to identify evidence of layers relating to the backfill of the town wall ditch found at 11 Weavers Lane (SUY 103).

## 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 (Fig 3)

Initial works monitored in September 2021 involved inspection of the sub-base after the removal of the floor (c 0.2m thick) and excavation of a test pit (c 1m by c 0.7m, and c 0.5m deep) to expose foundations of the wall. This test pit revealed five courses of foundation (Photograph 1). Lighting conditions at the time were poor, but the composition of the soil below the building's floor appeared to be a homogeneous layer of pale grayish-brown silty sand containing fragments of lime mortar. No CBM, pottery or other finds were apparent either on the surface or in the sections of the test pit.

Later works monitored in November 2021 comprised of thirty-four mini piles for a new foundation. The piles were between 5-6m deep, and were c 0.20m wide. The piles were created using a pneumatic mole with 0.15m wide metal casings to compress the soil down. As a result, no spoil was created and therefore stratigraphy and evidence of archaeological remains were not seen.

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



**Photograph 1** Test pit showing depth of foundations, looking northeast.



**Photograph 2** View of north end of building, showing excavated area on right hand side.



**Photograph 3** Plan of a completed pile.



**Photograph 4** Method of creating piles with pneumatic mole.



## 7 Finds

There were no finds discovered during this monitoring.

## 8 Conclusion

Previous archaeological work at 11 Weavers Lane (SUY 103) identified a dark blackish-brown silty-sand layer, and Photograph 3 would seem to suggest that this was the same material, although lighter in colour across the majority of the site. This layer likely represents the backfill of the ditch, however not enough intrusive work was undertaken to confirm this. The technique used for piling did not enable any soil removal, and therefore any archaeological material or deposits could not be observed.

## 9 Acknowledgements

CAT is grateful to Richard Page of Whymark & Moulton Chartered Surveyors for commissioning this project, and to the homeowner for funding the project. The project was managed by C Lister and A Wightman, fieldwork was carried out by M Seehra and C Lister. Figures are by L Pooley and E Holloway. The project was monitored by Teresa O'Connor 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 & 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	2021	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2EZ</i> , by E Holloway
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation</i> . Updated Oct 2020
CIfA	2014b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> . Updated Oct 2020
Dymond, D & Martin, E	1999	<i>An Historical Atlas of Suffolk</i> (revised edition); Wade K & Dymond D, 'Smaller Medieval Towns', 162-3, map 74
Historic England	2015	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i>
MHCLG	2016	<i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> . Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
PSIA	1970	<i>Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology, XXXII</i> . Suffolk Institute of Archaeology
SCCAS	2019	<i>Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition</i>
SCCAS	2021a	<i>Brief for a Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury</i> , by Teresa O'Connor

## 11 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from c 500 – 1066
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain, can contain 'contexts'
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
Iron Age (Early)	Early Iron Age, period from c 600 – 400BC
Iron Age (Middle)	Middle Iron Age, period from c 400 – 100BC
Iron Age (Late)	Late Iron Age (LIA), period from c 100 – 50 BC to Roman invasion of AD 43
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit (layer) of material
medieval	period from AD 1066 to c 1500
modern	period from c AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity

Neolithic	period from c 4000 – 2500 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
post-medieval	from c AD 1500 to c 1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
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
ws	written scheme of investigation

## 12 Contents of archive

**Finds:** n/a

### **Paper and digital record**

One A4 document wallet containing:

The report (CAT Report 1747)

SCCAS evaluation brief

Original site record (sections)

Site digital photographic log

### **Digital record**

The report (CAT Report 1747)

SCCAS evaluation brief, CAT written scheme of investigation

Site digital photographs, thumbnails and log

Graphic files

Site data

Survey data

## 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 SUY 215. The archive will be deposited in line with SCCAS guidance (SCCAS 2019).

**Distribution list:**

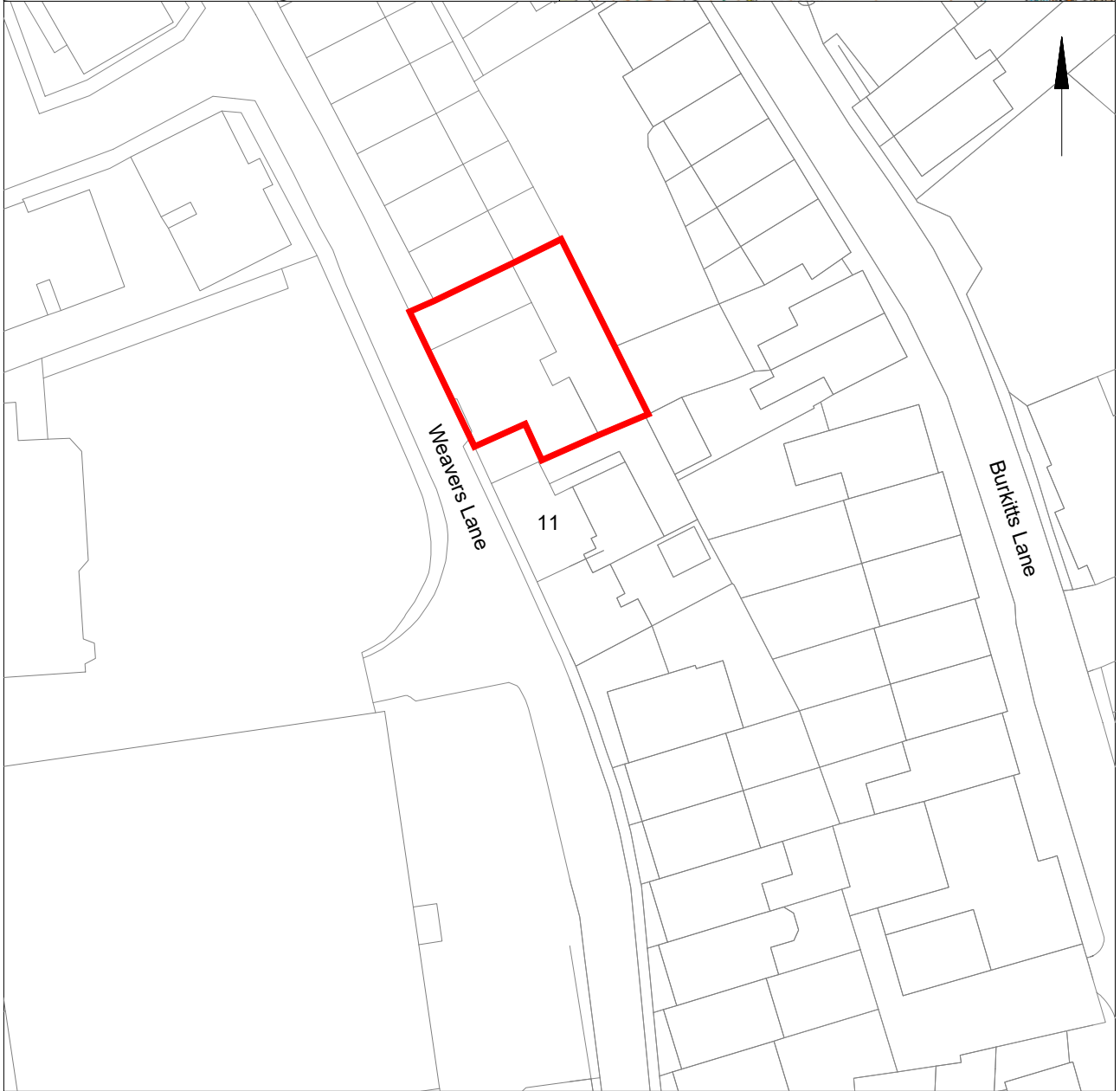
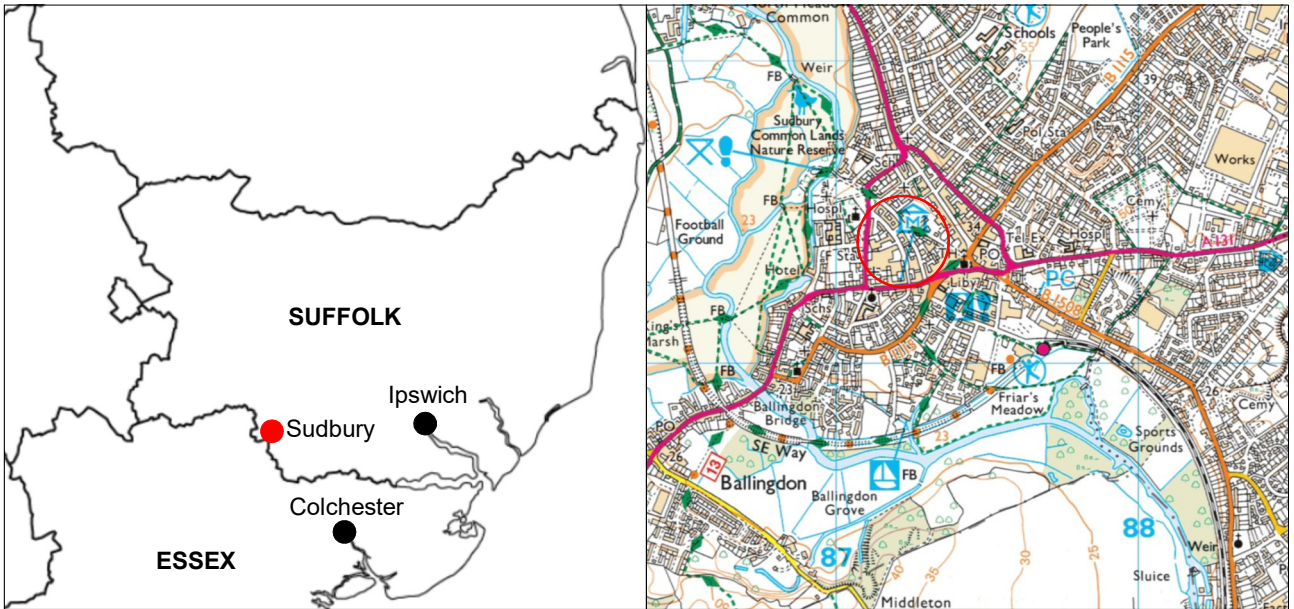
The homeowner  
Richard Page (Whymark & Moulton Chartered Surveyors)  
Teresa O'Connor  
Suffolk County Historic Environment Record



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checked by: Philip Crummy  
date: 14/12/21



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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. Listed Buildings are noted as yellow dots.

Imagery ©2021 CNES/Airbus, Getmapping PLC, Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky, Maxar Technologies, Map data © 2021  
HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record



Fig 3 Results

# Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2EZ

**NGR:** TL 8723 4217 (centre)

**Planning references:** DC/21/02209

**District:** Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council

**Parish:** Sudbury

**Commissioned by:** Richard Page

**Client:** Whymark & Moulton Chartered Surveyors

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

**Suffolk parish number:** SUY 215

**CAT project code:** 2021/07m

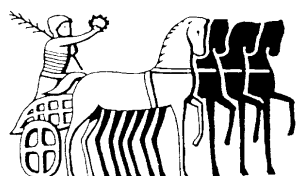
**OASIS reference no.:** colchest3-426598

**Contracts manager:** Chris Lister

**Site manager:** Adam Wightman

**SCCAS Monitor:** Teresa O'Connor

**This WSI written:** 06.09.2021 (revised)



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## Site location and description

The site is located in the centre of historic Sudbury on land immediately adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk (Fig 1). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 8723 4137. 11 Weavers Lane is a Historic England Listed building which dates to the 16th century with later alterations, and located within the area of the Anglo-Saxon town ditched defence.

## Proposed work

11-12 Weavers Lane is a Historic England Grade II Listed building (1052000) The development comprises the underpinning of a building within the curtilage.

## Archaeological background

The following archaeological background draws on CAT Report 1430 and information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record ([archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)), SCC invoice number 9508964.

### Geology

The Geology of Britain viewer (1:50,000 scale<sup>1</sup>) shows the bedrock geology of the site as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) – chalk, with superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits 3 – sand and diamiction.

### Historic landscape

The development site is located in an area defined as *urban* in the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment<sup>2</sup>. Within the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map<sup>3</sup> it is defined as Landscape type 10.2 Built up area - (town). The landscape immediately around the site is characterised as: Landscape sub-type 1.1 pre-18th century enclosure (random fields) and 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).

This background is focused on results within a 500m radius of the site.

11 Weavers Lane is a Historic England Grade II Listed building located within a Conservation area and an area of archaeological importance. Sudbury is a historic market town on the Suffolk-Essex border which is situated close to the River Stour.

### **Prehistoric:**

During the Iron Age this part of Suffolk was in the territory of the *Trinovantes*. Evidence for people living in what became Sudbury is primarily in the form of pottery and isolated features. Within the grounds of Stour House ditches recorded are thought to be part of an enclosure ditch. Finds included pottery, decorated combs, clay slingshots (SUY 028). Pottery was recorded on two sites on Gregory Street (SUY 014, 117.84m W) and at Walnut Tree hospital (SUY 029).

### **Roman:**

Sudbury is not thought to have been the site of a Roman town as there was an important Roman small town to the north at Long Melford. However, a large number of bricks present in the fabric of the 15th century St Peter's Church (SUY 013, 210m ESE) has led to the inference that there must have been a large Roman structure in Sudbury town centre.

Find spots within the search area include seven Roman coins.

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### **Anglo-Saxon**

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### **Medieval:**

There are numerous records of medieval features and finds on the HER for Sudbury which support the notion that the town was thriving at this time. In the 12th century the town expanded beyond the defences and a market and two new defences were established. In one area the Saxon ditches were backfilled in the 13th-14th centuries (SUY 040). In the medieval period the Chapel of the Holy sepulchre faced Gainsborough Street and burials have been found in close proximity (SUY 026, 161m SW). The current building of the Collegiate church of St Gregory dates from the 14th century (SUY 032, 215m NW and SUY 004, 210m NW). It houses the mummified skull of Simon of Sudbury, who was Chancellor and instigator of the Poll Tax, and was beheaded during the Peasants Revolt of 1381. In the 14th century Flemings were settled in the town as it flourished through the wool industry. St Peter's (SUY 013, 210m ESE) and All Saints (SUY 035, 530m SW) Churches were added in the 15th century. There was also a Dominican Friary (SUY 005, 404m SSW). Several of the town's historic buildings, including Salters Hall and Cleeve House, are medieval in origin.

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### **Post-medieval to modern:**

Between the 16th and 18th centuries the wool industry was less prosperous in the town. An important Tudor building was The Moot Hall which stood on Market Hill (SUY 051, 150m SW), which was demolished in 1844. In the 17th century Sudbury was a Puritan town and many of the more extreme families emigrated to North America.

The railway reached Sudbury in 1847. A goods yard and station was the original terminus of the line connected to the old Sudbury Station. It is visible on First Edition OS maps and was closed in 1966 (SUY 068, 437m SE).

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Post-medieval features and finds have been recorded during archaeological investigations at Friars Street (SUY 005, 404m SSW), 92 North Street (SUY 071, 216m NE), 9 Walnut Tree Lane (SUY 073, 290m W), The Fire Station, Gregory Street (SUY 092, 160m WSW), Lorne Villa (SUY 093, 286m NW), Rose Villa, Priory Walk (SUY 135, 454m SW), 1-3 Croft Road (SUY 142, 101m NNW) and at Mulberry House (SUY 150, 181m WSW).

Finds including pottery has been recorded at the back of Lloyds Bank (SUY 011, 170m SE), 2 Meadow Lane (SUY 012, 294m SE), Station Road (SUY 057, 220m SE), St Christopher Lane (SUY 113, 300m SW), 18 The Croft (SUY 143, 289m NW) and at Vanners Silks Ltd (SUY 145, 55m W). Within the search area hoard of coins was recorded in 1963.

#### **Undated:**

Undated features recorded within the search area include two pits on the site of the former Four Swans Hotel, North Street (SUY 052, 163m NE), a wall at 33-35 Kind Street (SUY 084, 236m SE), human remains found in 1800 on the corner of School Street and Stour Street (SUY 067, 209m SW), a large pit and ditch at St Joseph's Primary School (SUY 102, 328m NW) and a dark blackish brown silty sand layer thought to possibly be related to backfill of the town wall ditch at 11 Weavers Lane (SUY 103, 15m SE).

#### **Listed buildings<sup>5</sup>**

Within the search area there are 190 Historic England Listed Buildings within the 500m search radius (4 Grade I, 5 Grade II\* and 181 Grade II). They date from the medieval period through to the early 19th century. They are primarily located along Friars Street, Gainsborough Street, Stour Street and Girling Street (see yellow dots on Fig 2). Key buildings related to the site are mentioned by period above.

The site is located within the curtilage of 11-12 Weavers Lane which is a Historic England Grade II Listed building (1052000). The building dates to the 16<sup>th</sup> century but has had later alterations, especially to the front (DSF894).

### **Project background**

A planning application was submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council in April 2021 for an *application for Listed Building Consent - Underpinning of curtilage listed building*.

As the site lies within an area highlighted by the Suffolk HER as a Listed Building and 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 (MHCLG 2019).

### **Requirement for work**

The required archaeological work is for continuous archaeological monitoring and recording of all groundworks. Details are given in the Project Brief (*Brief for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 11 Weavers Lane Sudbury*) written by SCCAS (2021a).

Specifically:

The monitoring is being undertaken to identify and record any surviving archaeological deposits that may exist on site.

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

All work will take place within and contribute to the goals of the Regional Research Frameworks. This includes the regional review by Medlycott (2011) and the recently revised period specific frameworks (accessible via <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>).

This document represents a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological monitoring ONLY; this document alone will NOT result in the discharge of the archaeological condition.

## **Staffing**

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

In charge of day-to-day site work: Ben Holloway/Sarah Veasey

## **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* (ClfA 2014a-c)
- Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003)
- Regional research and resource frameworks for the East of England (Medlycott 2011 and <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>)
- relevant Health & Safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2021), including a Risk Assessment which will be carried out before the evaluation begins.
- the Project Brief issued by SCCAS (2021a)

CAT is covered by Aviva Insurance Ltd, 006288/04/21, which includes Professional Indemnity £2,000,000, Employer's Liability £10,000,000 and Public Liability £5,000,000.

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 ten days before start of work.

Unless it is the responsibility of other site contractors, CAT will study mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

Prior to the commencement of the site a HER parish code will be sought from the HER team. The HER parish 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 SCCAS. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

## **Monitoring methodology**

There will be sufficient on-site attendance by CAT staff to maintain a watch on all contractors' ground works to record, excavate or sample (as necessary) any archaeological features or deposits. The investigation will involve monitoring of all groundworks and inspection of upcast soil.

All topsoil removal and ground reduction will be done by the contractors either mechanically with a toothless bucket or by hand. This will be carried out under the supervision of the CAT archaeologist.

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), 10% of linear features (ditches, etc) and 100% of all complex features and burials (see Human Remains policy below).

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

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

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

### **Site surveying**

The groundworks and any features will be surveyed by Total Station or GPS, unless the particulars of the features indicate that manual planning techniques should be employed. 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 will be located by NGR coordinates.

### **Environmental sampling policy**

CAT aims to follow guidance set out in the Historic England guide for Environmental Archaeology (Historic England 2011). 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
- and differences in remains from undated and dated features
- variation between different feature types and areas of site

CAT has an arrangement with Val Fryer/Lisa Gray whereby any potentially rich environmental layers or features will be appropriately sampled as a matter of course. Trained CAT staff will process the samples (unless complex or otherwise needing specialist processing) and the flots will be sent to VF/LG for reporting.

Should any complex, or otherwise outstanding deposits be encountered, VF/LG will be asked onto site to advise. Waterlogged 'organic' features will always be sampled. In all cases, the advice of VF/LG and/or the Historic England Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science (East of England) on sampling strategies for complex or waterlogged deposits will be followed, including the taking of 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 advised to do so by the project osteologist or CCT.

The SCCAS will be notified immediately if any human remains are encountered during the investigation.

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 and seek advice from the project osteologist. Human remains removed from site for analysis may be sent for radiocarbon dating.

Following Historic England guidance (2018) all archaeological human remains excavated during the course of the monitoring will either be analysed and reported by CAT project osteologist Megan Seehra or will be sent to external specialist Julie Curl. If the human remains are not to be lifted, the project osteologist should be available to record the human remain *in situ* (i.e. a site visit).

## Photographic record

The photographic record will consist of general site shots, and shots of all archaeological features and deposits and follow Historic England guidelines (2015a). A photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Standard "record" shots of contexts will be taken on a digital camera. A photographic register will accompany the photographic record. This will detail as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

Basic site record shots will be taken using the site recording tablet at a resolution of 2592 x 1944 (5 megapixels).

Photographs of significant archaeological features and deposits will be taken using a Nikon D3500 DSLR camera with a 24.2 megapixel DX-format sensor.

## Finds

All significant finds will be retained.

All finds, where appropriate, will be washed and marked with site code and context number. CAT may use local volunteers to assist the CAT Finds Officer with this task.

Most of our finds reports are written internally by CAT Staff under the supervision and direction of Philip Crummy (Director) and Laura Pooley (Post-excavation Manager). This includes specialist subjects such as:

- ceramic finds (pottery and ceramic building material): Dr Matthew Loughton
- animal bones: Alec Wade (or Adam Wightman, small groups only)
- small finds, metalwork, coins, etc: Laura Pooley
- non-ceramic bulk finds: Laura Pooley
- flints: Adam Wightman
- environmental processing: Bronagh Quinn
- project osteologist (human remains): Meghan Seehra

or to outside specialists:

- animal and human bone: Julie Curl (Sylvanus)
- archaeometallurgy: David Dungworth
- environmental assessment and analysis: Val Fryer / Lisa Gray
- radiocarbon dating: SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Glasgow
- 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:

- flint: Tom Lawrence / Hazel Martingell
- prehistoric pottery: Stephen Benfield / Nigel Brown / Paul Sealey
- Roman pottery: Stephen Benfield / Paul Sealey / Jo Mills / Gwladys Monteil
- Roman brick/tile: Ian Betts (MOLA)

- Roman glass: Hilary Cool
- 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 2019b).

## 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* (Historic England 2015b).

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

Results will be published, to at least a summary level, in the PSIAH (Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History) annual round up should archaeological remains be encountered in the evaluation. An allowance will be made for this in the project costs for the report.

Final reports are also published on the CAT website and on the OASIS website.

## Archive deposition

The archive will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service as per their archive guidelines (SCCAS 2019).

If the client does not agree to transfer ownership to SCCAS they will be required to nominate another suitable repository approved by SCCAS or provide funding for additional recording and analysis of the finds archive (such as, but not limited to, additional photography or illustration of objects). In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.

If the finds are to remain with the landowner or an approved third party, 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. Prior to deposition CAT's data management plan (based on the official guidelines from the Digital Curation Centre [DCC 2013]) will ensure the integrity of the digital archive.

## Monitoring

SCCAS officers are responsible for monitoring all archaeological work within Suffolk and will need to inspect site works at an appropriate time during the fieldwork and will review the progress of excavation reports and/or archive preparation.

Notification of the start of work will be given to SCCAS ten days in advance of its commencement and a monitoring visit will be booked with SCCAS at this time.

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.

### **SCCAS remote monitoring requirements during the Covid-19 pandemic**

Currently SCCAS are undertaking monitoring visits.

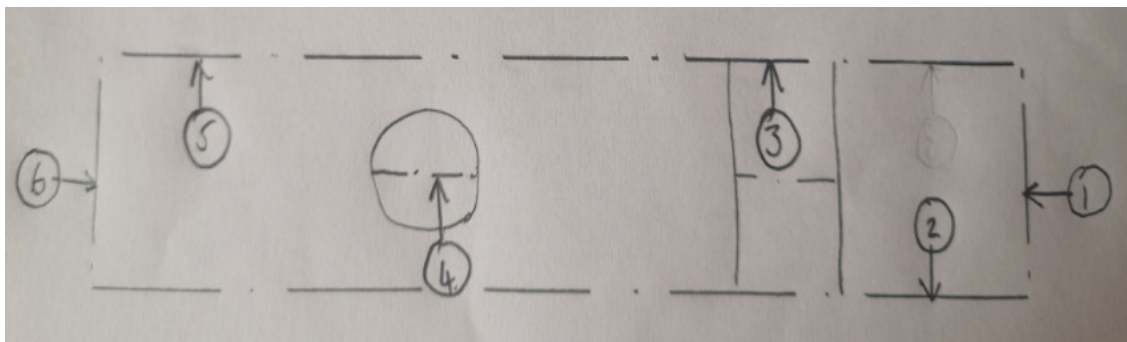
However, if government/local government advice changes due to a spike in cases/localised lockdown, etc. SCCAS may have to start remotely monitoring sites again.

In this case, the following remote monitoring requirements have been laid-out by SCCAS:

- All features present, including presumed natural and geological features are to be investigated as per the WSI

In addition, the following must be sent to the SCCAS to enable them to decide if the fieldwork can be signed-off and trenches backfilled.

- GPS plans showing what is present – with context numbers included,
- Written text stating what finds were found (if any) in each context, with provisional date,
- Text stating which features environmental samples have been taken from,
- Photographs of 1) sections (bulk); and 3) features (all photographs will be taken at appropriate times of day and not in bad lighting conditions and once sections and features have been cleaned)
- A diagram showing the direction each photograph was taken from, with photograph number. For example,



Provision will be made in the timetable of works for the SCCAS to review the remote monitoring documents and for any queries to be resolved.

CAT understands that if SCCAS cannot gain sufficient information remotely, they will not be able to sign off fieldwork which may lead to delays in the completion of projects.

## 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. Staff regularly give lectures to groups, societies and schools (a fee may apply). CAT also works in partnership with 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

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

- |                               |       |  |
|-------------------------------|-------|--|
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| SCCAS                         | 2019  | <i>Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition</i>   |
| SCCAS                         | 2021a | <i>Brief for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 11 Weavers Lane Sudbury</i> , by Teresa O'Connor  |

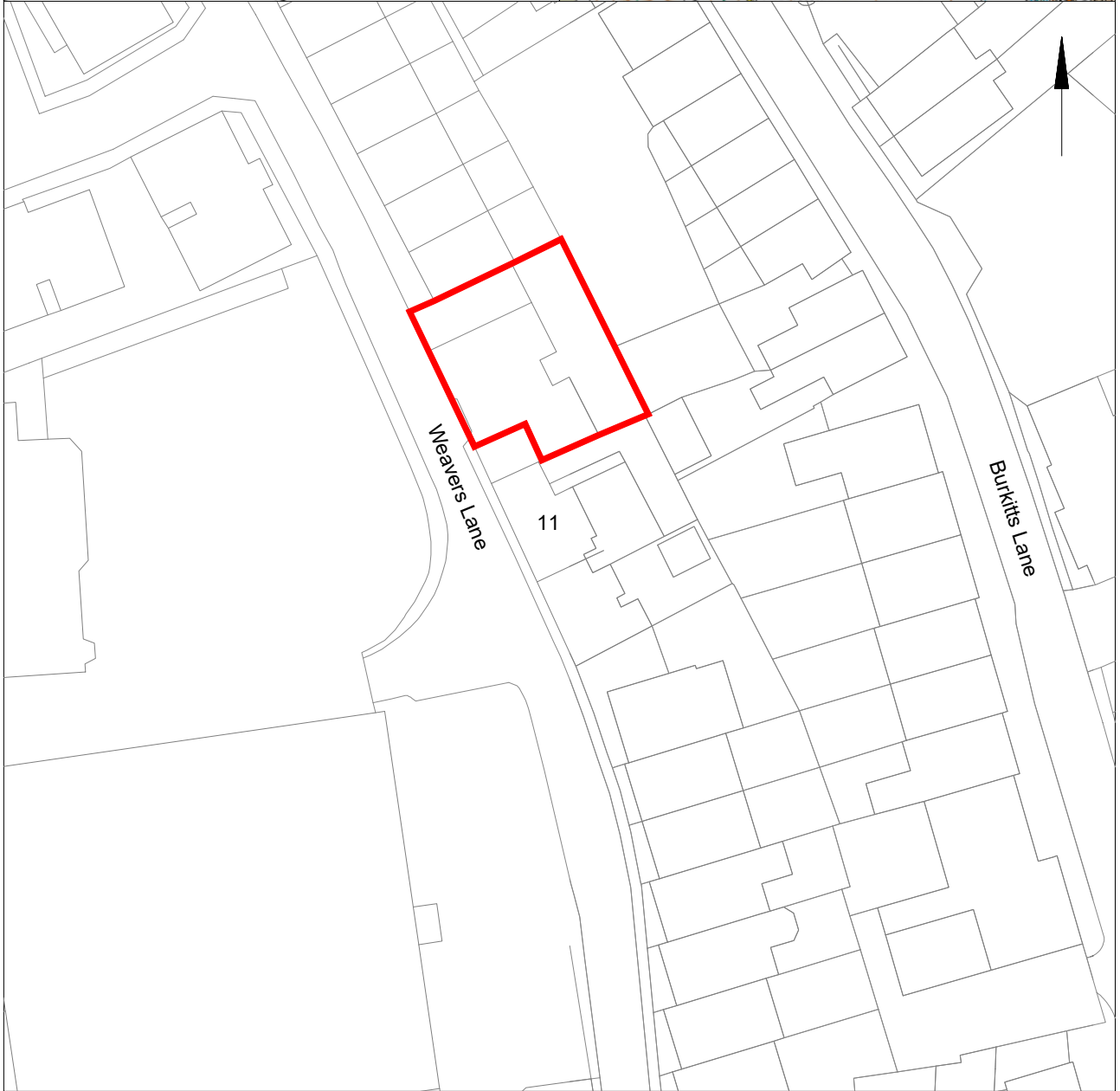
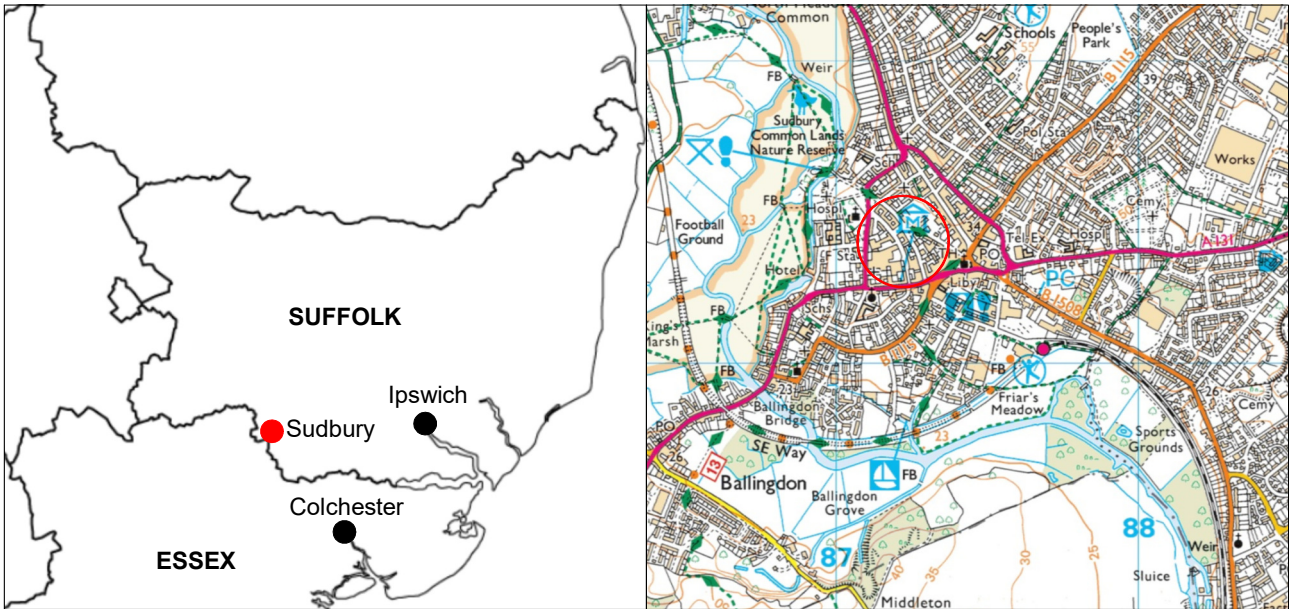


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Fig 1 Site location.





Fig 2 Development site (in red) shown in relation to archaeological and historic sites recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. Listed Buildings are noted as yellow dots.

Imagery ©2021 CNES/Airbus, Getmapping PLC, Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky, Maxar Technologies, Map data © 2021  
HER data © Suffolk Historic Environment Record

## Summary for colchest3-426598

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-426598
Project Name	Archaeological monitoring on land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2EZ
Activity type	WATCHING BRIEF
Project Identifier(s)	2021/07m
Planning Id	DC/21/02209
Reason For Investigation	Planning requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	08-Sep-2021 - 15-Nov-2021
Location	11 Weavers Lane Sudbury NGR : TL 87230 41370 LL : 52.0391102155693, 0.728428040106256 12 Fig : 587230,241370
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Suffolk District : Babergh Parish : Sudbury
Project 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.
Project Results	Archaeological monitoring was carried out at land adjacent to 11 Weavers Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk during groundworks for underpinning of a building on the grounds of this address. 11-12 Weavers Lane itself is a Grade II* listed building, and evidence of the town's late Anglo-Saxon/early medieval defensive ditch has been found close by to the development site. Sudbury itself is a prosperous market town with Anglo-Saxon origins, with evidence of earlier human activity found. Unfortunately work carried out during groundworks were too limited to reveal or confirm archaeological remains.
Keywords	
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - SUY215
Archives	Physical Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service