

**Erection of Extension to No 1 Christopher Lane,
Sudbury, Suffolk**

Planning application: B/12/00327/FHA

HER Ref: SUY 113

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(© John Newman BA MIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(July 2012)

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Site details for HER

Name: No 1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2AS

Client: Mrs M Gilbert

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/12/00327/FHA

Development: Erection of side extension

Date of fieldwork: 18 July, 2012

HER Ref: SUY 113

OASIS: johnnewm1-130849

Grid ref: TL 8707 4112

Conservation area

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Summary: Sudbury, No 1 Christopher Lane (SUY 113, TL 8707 4112) monitoring of foundation trenches for a small side extension did not reveal any archaeological features with the few stray finds in the upcast spoil being pottery sherds from the 18th to earlier 20th century period and small brick and tile fragments of a similar date (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mrs M Gilbert).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Dean Jay Pearce Architectural Design on behalf of their client, Mrs M Gilbert, commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring of ground works required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for application B/12/00327/FHA. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief and Specification set by Mr K Wade of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy this condition (Appendix II). This development concerns the erection a side extension to No 1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Sudbury is a small town located on the River Stour and close to the county boundary with Essex in south Suffolk. The town has seen considerable expansion in the last 150 years with its historic core lying in a loop of the River Stour and as a settlement it has historic characteristics that indicate an urban status from the Late Saxon period which built on a Middle Saxon site of potentially high status. These urban characteristics including a market status recorded in the 11th century and the existence of a mint in the later Saxon and post-Conquest periods. Additionally the street pattern within the historic core of the town coupled with archaeological observations at various sites indicates a curved defence line of a large ditch and internal bank with Christopher Lane running along the inside of these defences and Friars Street on the outside. No 1 is located on the southern side of Christopher Lane at its western end close to the junction with School Street and some 300m west of the area where the town defences would have reached the drop down to the floodplain of the River Stour. The site is at c25m OD in an area of sand and gravels of glaciofluvial origin with the house externally appearing to date from the 19th century.

2. Monitoring methodology

2. A single visit was made to the site to observe the excavation of the foundations for the side extension as they progressed using a small mini-digger equipped with a 700mm wide toothed bucket on a sunny day with occasional heavy showers though site visibility remained good at all times. The foundation trenches were entered to allow for closer inspection of the exposed soil profiles and hand cleaning of indistinct areas. Upcast spoil was stockpiled nearby allowing for a close inspection for stray finds before being removed from the site. The foundations were recorded in relation to nearby mapped features and a small number of digital images were taken in order to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 In total some 12m of 700mm wide and 1200mm deep foundation trench, plus a 1200mm wide bay foundation, were examined along the northern and western sides of the extension footprint with the remaining sides planned to butt up against the house (see Fig. 2). The exposed deposit profile in the trenches proved to be uniform across the extension footprint and comprised 300/400mm of topsoil over 200mm to 300mm of a clean pale to mid brown sandy subsoil which in turn lay over the local glaciofluvial deposits that, as anticipated, proved to be a loose orange sand containing occasional small flints giving a total of 500mm to 700mm of top and subsoil at the site.

3.2 The 12m of foundation trench did not reveal any archaeological features with the only finds visible in the upcast spoil being occasional small sherds of 19th/early 20th century blue and white transfer printed wares plus one small sherd of brown glazed red earthenware of 18th century date and small fragments of later Post medieval brick, tile and clay tobacco pipe stem.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site is within the area of archaeological interest at Sudbury where evidence for medieval activity might be anticipated the limited extent of the foundation trenches for this small extension did not reveal any features or finds of any significance. This negative result can be partly put down to the small scale of the works but may also be due to the site possibly having been under the general area of the bank within the medieval town ditch and so not available for other activities until the Post medieval period following the final levelling of the bank and expansion of the town.

4.2 In conclusion it is clear that the limited nature of the monitored footings has had a minimal impact on the area of archaeological importance within the town.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Stephen Goodwin for his close cooperation in relation to this site monitoring)

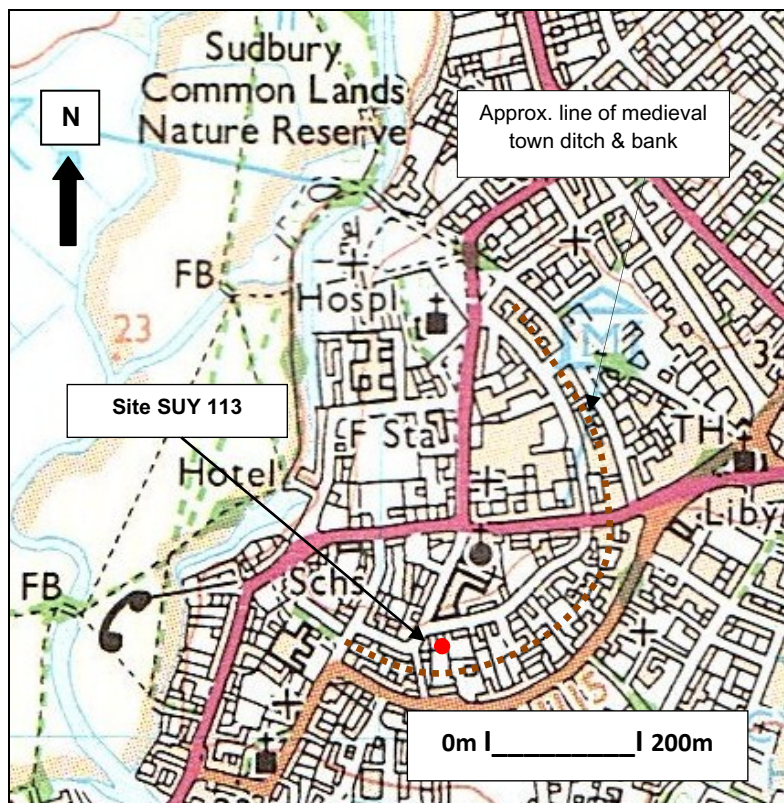


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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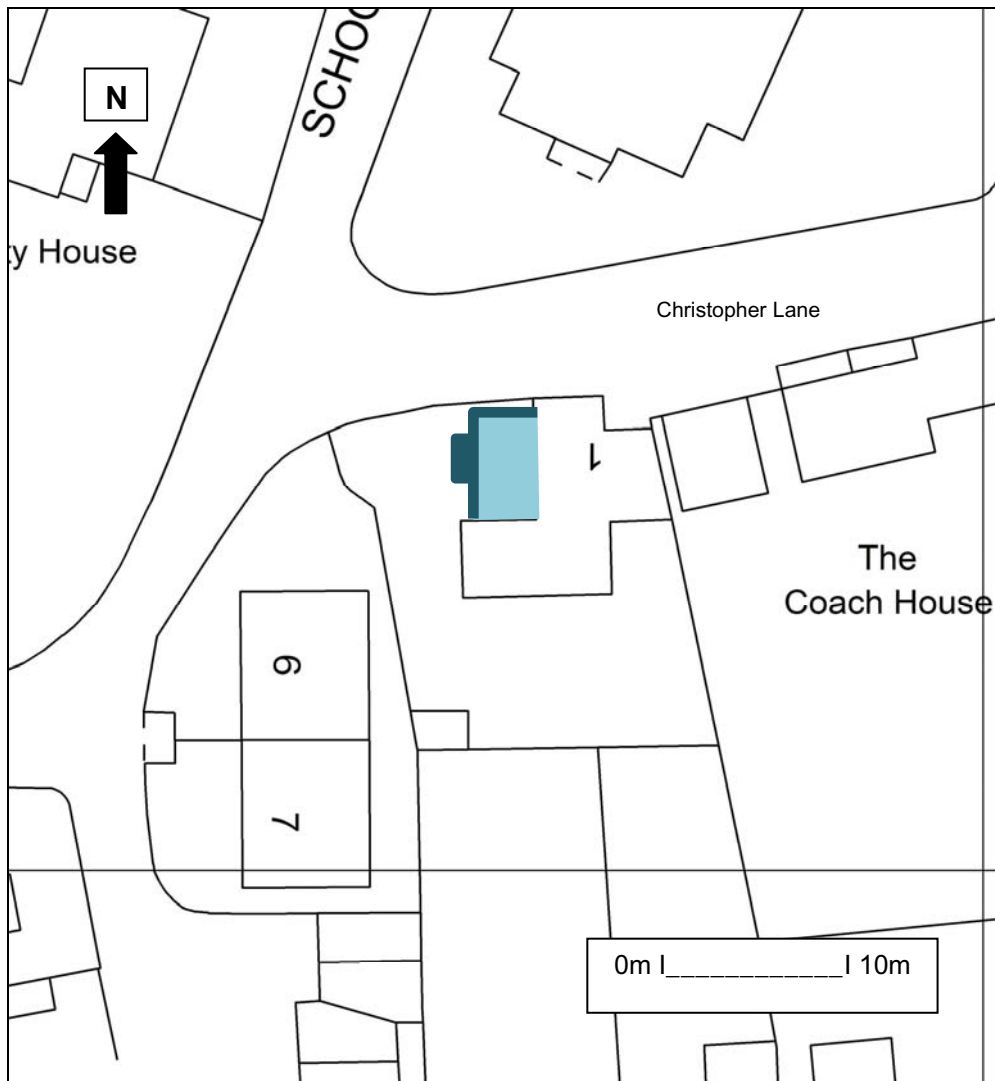


Fig. 2: Monitored foundation trenches (dark blue)
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Appendix I- Images



Extension area from west with house in background



Foundation trench from northwest with bay to right



Foundation trenches from southwest

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring

1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning permission for an extension to 1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury has been granted conditional upon an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out (B/12/00327/FHA). Assessment of the available archaeological evidence and the proposed foundation methods indicates that the area affected by new building can be adequately recorded by archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 The proposal lies within the Area of Archaeological Importance defined for the Anglo-Saxon and medieval town of Sudbury in the Babergh Local Plan and will involve significant ground disturbance.
- 1.3 As strip foundations are proposed there will only be limited damage to any archaeological deposits, which can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation of the trenches by the building contractor.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

- 2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which would be damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.
- 2.2 The main academic objective will centre upon the potential of this development to produce evidence for the post Roman occupation of the site.
- 2.3 The significant archaeologically damaging activity in this proposal is the excavation of building footing and service trenches. These, and the up-cast soil, are to be observed during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor.

3. Arrangements for Monitoring

- 3.1 The developer or his archaeologist will give the County Archaeologist (Keith Wade, Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1RX. Telephone: 01284 741230; Fax: 01284 741257) 48 hours notice of the commencement of site works.

- 3.2 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the observing archaeologist) who must submit a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), based on the outline works in paragraph 2.3 of the Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and timetable. The WSI must be approved by the Planning Authority's archaeological adviser (the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service).
- 3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist.
- 3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered, the County Archaeologist should be immediately informed so that any amendments deemed necessary to this specification to ensure adequate provision for recording, can be made without delay. This could include the need for archaeological excavation of parts of the site which would otherwise be damaged or destroyed.

4. **Specification**

- 4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both the County Archaeologist and the 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.2 Opportunity should be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.
- 4.3 In the case of footing trenches unimpeded access at the rate of one and half hours per 10 metres of trench must be allowed for archaeological recording before concreting or building begins. Where archaeological detail is observed, one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean and sections drawn at a minimum scale of 1:50.
- 4.4 All archaeological features exposed should be half sectioned and then fully excavated when possible and recorded in section and plan at a minimum scale of 1:50. Trench locations should be recorded on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.5 All contexts should be numbered and finds recorded by context as far as possible.
- 4.6 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.
- 4.7 Developers should be aware of the possibility of human burials being found. If this eventuality occurs they must comply with the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857; and the archaeologist should be

informed by 'Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England' (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005) which includes sensible baseline standards which are likely to apply whatever the location, age or denomination of a burial.

5. Reporting Requirements

- 5.1 **Reporting should be commensurate with results.**
If significant archaeological features or finds are found:
- 5.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within 3 months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible. This should include a plan showing the proposed development with all areas observed during the monitoring clearly marked.
- 5.3 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County HER if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.4 A report, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must also be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000*).
- 5.5 A summary report should be provided, in the established format for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology* (which can be included in the project report)
- 5.6 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.7 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire

report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

- 5.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector plan showing all the areas observed should be included with the report. This must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software for integration into the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

When no significant features or finds are found

- 5.9 A short report should be provided including the following information:
- Location (Grid Ref, Parish, Address)
 - Planning Application number
 - Date(s) of visit(s) and Methodology
 - Plan showing areas observed/proposed development (a digital vector plan as in 5.8 above when possible)
 - Depth of ground disturbance and soil profile in each area
 - Observations as to land use history (truncation etc)
 - Recorder, Organisation and date of report

Specification by: Keith Wade

Suffolk County Council, Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Economy, Skills and Environment Department
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. IP33 1RX

Date: 10 May 2012

Reference: 1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-130849

Project details

Project name	No 1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Sudbury, No 1 Christopher Lane (SUY 113, TL 8707 4112) monitoring of foundation trenches for a small side extension did not reveal any archaeological features with the few stray finds in the upcast spoil being pottery sherds from the 18th to earlier 20th century period and small brick and tile fragments of a similar date.
Project dates	Start: 18-07-2012 End: 18-07-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	SUY 113 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH SUDBURY No 1 Christopher Lane
Postcode	CO10 2AS
Study area	24.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 8707 4112 52 0 52 02 11 N 000 43 39 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 23.00m Max: 24.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
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Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Erection of Extension to No 1 Christopher Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk-Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
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Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
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OASIS: