Installation of Turntable at 15 College Road, Framlingham, Suffolk

Planning application: C/11/1387 HER Ref: FML 073

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(January 2013)

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Site details for HER

Name: No 15 College Road, Framlingham, Suffolk, IP13 9EJ

Client: Mr M Davy

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/11/1387

Development: Installation of retaining walls & turntable for off road parking

Date of fieldwork: 10 January, 2013

Conservation area

HER Ref: FML 073

OASIS: johnnewm1-141573

Grid ref: TM 2822 6343

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Summary: Framlingham, No 15 College Road (FML 073, TM 2822 6343) Monitoring of ground works for the installation of a car parking turntable in the front garden on the road frontage did not reveal any features or finds pre-dating the construction of the house in the early to mid 19th century (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M Davy).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Hollins Architects on behalf of their client, Mr M Davy, 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 C/11/1387. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Mr K Wade of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy this condition and in response JNAS produced the relevant Written Scheme of Investigation (see Appendix II) in order that conditional discharge could be gained from the LPA and ground works commence on site. This development concerns the installation of a car parking turntable in the front garden of No 15 College Road, Framlingham (see Fig. 1).

1.2 In East Anglia major medieval castles are not common but the Bigod stronghold at Framlingham survives as a significant indicator of the medieval era and its political turmoil between the crown and the major aristocratic families. In existence by at least 1157, the town is dominated by the later medieval structure of the castle and the nearby urban townscape owes much to this major defensive structure. Below the castle, the town developed gaining market status by at least 1270 and the street pattern close to the outer baileys and market place may well indicate the line of the outer castle and medieval town defences. The site at 15 College Road lies some 240m west of Market Hill at 32m OD, outside the area of the defended medieval town but within the likely extent of the later medieval and early Post medieval settlement whose limits are poorly defined.

1.3 Archaeological interest was therefore generated by the location of the planned car parking turntable as installation of this structure to the on the southern side of College Road would require extensive ground lowering in an area adjacent to a historic road line. Opportunities to investigate below ground deposits have been limited in modern times in most small towns in East Anglia as high densities of existing historic properties preclude development making any significant ground disturbance a valuable window into past land use and activities.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 A single visit was made to the site to observe the removal of overburden down to the top of the underlying chalky Till deposits as this work progressed using a 500mm wide toothless bucket on a 360 mini-digger on a cold, foggy but relatively dry day with good site visibility at all times. The machine worked from that part of the footprint for the turntable nearest to the house back towards College Road leaving a clean, scraped surface. Any indistinct areas were investigated by hand as the work progressed and the upcast spoil was stockpiled temporarily before being removed from the site allowing for a close examination at both stages. Finally the stripped area was plotted 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 The stripped footprint for the turntable covered an area of some $64m^2$ (see Fig. 2) as it sloped down from a southern edge near the house northwards to a brick retaining wall which ran along the boundary with the pavement, the adjacent road level being c1.50m below the former garden to the front of the house. Removal of

200mm of topsoil and 200mm of a mid brown clay subsoil revealing the locally occurring glacial deposit which proved to be a stiff chalky light grey clay with flints.

3.2 During the monitoring of the footprint area the only features identified were a later Post medieval rubble filled soak away in the south-western corner, a service trench along the eastern side, the remnants of concrete steps and a path to the house dating to the period when No 15 was two cottages and an area of in-fill immediately behind the retaining wall on the northern side. All of these features are directly related to the house currently standing at the site which is a red brick structure of early to mid 19th century date. Similarly the few stray finds seen in the upcast spoil were of later Post medieval, post 1800, or modern date comprising a few small glazed white and blue and white transfer printed pottery sherds, a single small clay tobacco pipe stem fragment and occasional small brick or tile fragments.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While the area examined was relatively small the only conclusion that can be drawn from this monitoring is that the expansion of Framlingham westwards along this part of the southern side of College Road dates to the post 1800 period. However it would be of archaeological value to examine further areas around the fringes of the late medieval and early Post medieval town as and when they may arise as potential development sites.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone on site from Moore Brothers for their close cooperation in relation to this site monitoring)

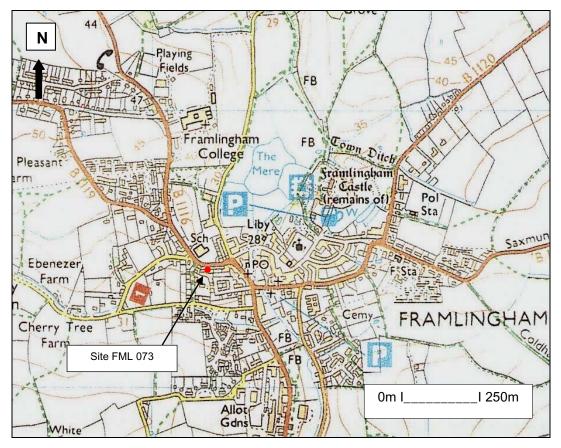


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

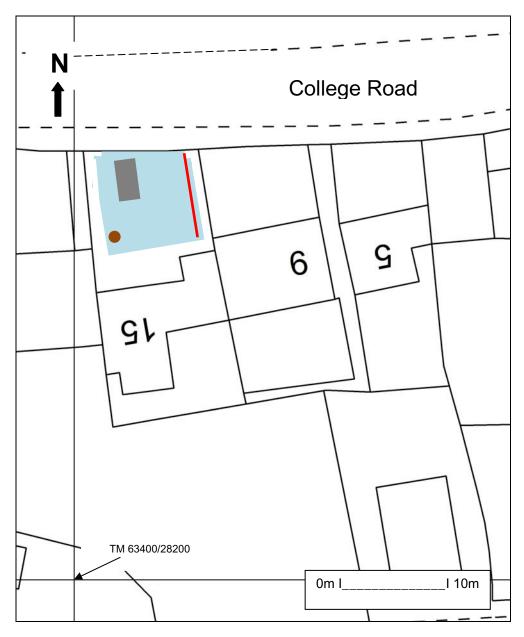


Fig. 2: Monitored turntable footprint (Soak away- brown, service trench- red, path & steps- grey) (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2012 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

Appendix I- Images



Site from front (north)



Stripped area from north-east



Stripped area from south

Installation of retaining walls & turntable for off road parking at 15 College Road, Framlingham, Suffolk

Planning application: C/11/1387

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring

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Site details

Name: No 15 College Road, Framlingham, Suffolk,

Client: Mr M Davy

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/11/1387

Proposed development: Installation of retaining walls & turntable for off road parking

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Brief & Specification ref: SpecMonUrban(KW)_15CollegeRd.doc

Grid ref: TM 2820 6343

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1. Introduction

1.1 Hollins Architects on behalf of their client, Mr M Davy, have 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 C/11/1387. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological condition and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief and Specification set by Mr K Wade of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy the condition. The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the installation of retaining walls and a turntable to facilitate off road parking to the front of 15 College Road, Framlingham.

1.2 The monitoring will be carried out to the standards set regionally in the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occ. Papers 14, 2003) and nationally in Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001).

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 In East Anglia major medieval castles are not common but the Bigod stronghold at Framlingham survives as a significant indicator of the medieval era and its political turmoil between the crown and the major aristocratic families. In existence by at least 1157, the town is dominated by the later medieval structure of the castle and the nearby urban townscape owes much to this major defensive structure. Below the castle, the town developed gaining market status by at least 1270 and the street pattern close to the outer baileys and market place may well indicate the line of the outer castle and medieval town defences. The proposed development at 15 College Road lies some 240m west of Market Hill at c30m OD and close to the western limits of the medieval and earlier Post medieval town. However the full extent of the historic town is uncertain as opportunities to investigate below ground deposits has been limited in modern times as, in common with many small towns in East Anglia, a large number of existing historic properties has restricted development. The site of the proposed development falls within this historic town area.

- 3. Archaeological & Historical Background
- 3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief and Specification:

'The proposal lies within the area of archaeological interest for medieval Framlingham as defined in the County Historic Environment Record and will involve significant ground disturbance.'

3.2 The proposed installation of a turntable for off road parking will entail the removal of up to 1500mm over an area of close to 40m² to the front of 15 College Road and the construction of retaining walls. This road frontage site being an area where past settlement activity might be anticipated.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the site lies in a location with high archaeological potential within a historic town and monitoring of ground works by a trained archaeologist in close liaison with the agent, owner and contractor can best record what may be revealed. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the area of the planned ground lowering. This monitoring will aim to record all possible details relating to depth of overburden as revealed within the turntable area and evidence for the character and date of any past activity that is revealed.

5. Methodology

5.1 As indicated above the installation of the turntable will entail substantial ground lowering which will be carried out using a flat, toothless bucket, on a suitably sized machine in 200-300mm 'spits.' This operation will be monitored as it is undertaken and down to the base of the overburden until undisturbed underlying drift geology is fully exposed. If archaeological remains are revealed the mechanical reduction of the area will be halted until a full investigation and recording is completed by the monitoring archaeologist. During the works the upcast spoil will be examined for finds. Any unexpected findings will be reported back to the relevant Suffolk CC Archaeological Office. Time will be available to hand clean areas as necessary and investigate any possible archaeological deposits.

5.2 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under an overall site HER number supplied by Suffolk CC. All contexts will be numbered and finds recorded by context. Conventions compatible with the county HER will be used throughout

the monitoring. Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and related to the proposed development, and sections at 1:10 or 1:20 (all on plastic drawing film) and related to OS map cover. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record in monochrome film and high resolution digital images will be made of the site and exposed features.

5.3 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before recording. Archaeological deposits will be fully hand investigated and recorded, with sections at appropriate points, within the turntable foundation. Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCC Archaeological Officer will be informed and a Ministry of Justice licence obtained before excavation, recording and removal of the remains. The possibility of modifying the ground work design to leave any such remains in situ will also be examined – (the potential of this part of the town to contain burials is assessed as being very low).

5.4 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant SCC Archaeological Officer. Finds will be assessed by recognised period specialists and their interpretation will form an integral part of the overall report. Finds will be stored according to ICON guidelines with specialist advice/treatment sought for fragile ones. Every effort will be made to gain the deposit of the site finds to the SCC Archaeological Store under their relevant HER code and site numbering for future reference. If this is not possible then the SCC Archaeological Officer will be consulted over any requirements for additional recording. Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant Archaeological Officer at Suffolk CC.

5.5 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the principles in *Management of Archaeological projects* (MAP2) and particularly Appendix 3 and this will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 3 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number. As necessary the site digital archive will deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the monitoring and reporting works.

5.6 The monitoring report will be consistent with the principles of MAP2 (particularly Appendix 4) and this report will summarise the methodology employed and relate the archaeological record directly to the level of visibility allowed by the operation of plant given the nature of the

underlying natural deposits. The report will also give an objective account of the deposits and stratigraphy recorded and finds recovered with an inventory of the latter. Any interpretation of the monitoring results will be clearly separated from the objective account of the monitoring and its results. The report will give a clear statement regarding the results of the site monitoring in relation to both the more detailed aims in section 2 above and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3 & 8, 1997 & 2000). An unbound draft copy of the report will be presented to the Archaeological Service at Suffolk CC within 3 months of the completion of the site works. Once accepted a bound hard copy and pdf version and electronic archive on disc will be provided for the County HER, a copy will also be sent to the LPA via the architect/owner. The site monitoring will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record should the results merit further dissemination followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH roundup. The area observed will also be supplied to the County HER as a vector plan in .dxf format for incorporation into the relevant Mapinfo system.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steel-toe cap boots, ear muffs if required). A safe working method will be agreed with the contractors on site in order to maximise access to disturbed ground and up cast spoil. Suitable clothing will be available to mitigate against extremes of weather.

6.2 Vehicles will be safely parked away from work areas and lines of access.

6.3 Before work on site starts any special requirements regarding potential site contamination will be discussed with the client and ground test reports examined. Gloves and hand wash/wipes be available and any information on possible ground contamination will be passed to finds and environmental specialists. The potential for services in the area will be discussed with the client and their contractor.

6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

6.5 Close liaison will be maintained with the contractor on site with regard to the depth and stability of the ground works and any potential health and safety considerations.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

7. Specialists

Conservation:	Conservation Services
Faunal remains:	J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)
Human remains:	S Anderson (CFA Archaeology)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (CFA Archaeology)
Roman small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman pottery & CBM	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-141573

Project details

Project name	No 15 College Road, Framlingham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Framlingham, No 15 College Road (FML 073, TM 2822 6343) Monitoring of ground works for the installation of a car parking turntable in the front garden on the road frontage did not reveal any features or finds pre-dating the construction of the house in the early to mid 19th century.
Project dates	Start: 10-01-2013 End: 10-01-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	FML 073 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	

CountryEnglandSite locationSUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL FRAMLINGHAM No 15 COLLEGE ROADPostcodeIP13 9EJStudy area24.00 Square metresSite coordinatesTM 2822 6343 52 1 52 13 16 N 001 20 30 E PointHeight OD / DepthMin: 31.00m Max: 32.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm

Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman

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	No 15 College Road, Framlingham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
Description	Loose bound client report
Entered by Entered on	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com) 25 January 2013

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