

**Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street,
Lavenham, Suffolk**

Planning application: B/12/01415/FHA

HER Ref: LVM 098

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(October 2013)

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Site details for HER

Name: Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street, Lavenham, Suffolk

Client: Mrs S Wheeler

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/12/01415/FHA

Development: Erection of rear extension & new garage

Date of fieldwork: 6, 19 & 21 August & 9 September, 2013

HER Ref: LVM 098

LBS Ref: 1037163

Conservation area

OASIS: johnnewm1-156465

Grid ref: TL 91812 49173

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Summary: Lavenham, Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street (LVM 098, TL 9181 4917) monitoring of ground works for a large extension to the rear of a listed house of early Post medieval date and a new garage close to the street frontage did not reveal any features or finds of archaeological significance. With just one stray pottery find of medieval date from the upcast spoil it might be suggested that the town did not expand into the Shilling Street area until the 16th century (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mrs S Wheeler).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Nick Peasland Architectural Services on behalf of their client, Mrs S Wheeler, 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/12/01415/FHA. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Dr A Antrobus 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 erection of a large rear extension to Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street, Lavenham (see Fig. 1) and the construction of a new garage within the curtilage.

1.2 Lavenham is a well known historic town in south Suffolk that was granted a market by 1257 and grew to prominence and great prosperity in the later medieval period as reflected by its major church and numerous listed buildings. The town lies within the till plateau of central Suffolk with Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street being located within the historic core some 500m north east of the parish church and nearly 200m south east of the Market Place. Listed as Arundel House, Jane Taylor's Cottage is a grade II listed structure described as being a 'timber framed and plastered building of 16th or 17th century date but very much altered in the 18th century and later.' The house is located on the eastern side of Shilling Street at 54m OD with archaeological interest in this development being generated by its location within the historic core of the town (HER LVM 053) in addition to being in the curtilage of a listed building.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Four visits were made to the site to observe the excavation of the foundations for the extension and garage as they progressed using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 500mm wide toothed bucket under fine weather conditions with site visibility good at all times. The foundation trenches were entered where they were under 1400mm deep to allow for closer inspection of the exposed soil profiles and hand cleaning of indistinct areas though some of the trenches for the eastern part of the extension were too deep to enter. Upcast spoil was inspected visually and scanned with a metal detector as the work progressed. 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 The overall footprint area of the new build area for the extension is c74m² while the garage area is c30m² and in total 60m of 500mm wide and 800mm to 2600mm deep foundation trench were excavated (see Fig. 2) following the removal of a small extension and various garden features to the rear of the house and a former garage to the south of the house and close to the street frontage.

3.2 Immediately to the rear of the house the trenches were 1200mm to 1300mm deep and they revealed 300mm to 400mm of a mid brown sandy clay subsoil over the locally occurring natural glaciofluvial deposit which was orange sandy clay with flints. Two features were exposed in the sides of the trenches with one being a

1000mm wide and 600mm deep pit of late 19th to early 20th century date while the other was small brick lined cellar or coal-hole of a similar date which was 1100mm deep and 1800mm wide (see Appendix I- Images). The foundation trenches for the back part of the rear extension were much deeper at 1500mm to 2600mm due to the proximity of large trees in a nearby garden and they revealed the same deposit profile with no evidence for past disturbance.

3.3 The foundation trenches for the new garage revealed extensive evidence for later 19th and 20th century disturbance close to the road frontage including the chute to a coal cellar of the same date. In the upcast spoil one small sherd (2g) of medieval coarse ware pottery was retrieved.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Evidence from this monitoring to the rear of a listed building of early Post medieval date would suggest that Lavenham experienced a period of expansion in the 16th to 17th century when the economy at that time favoured the smaller market towns of East Anglia that were at the top of the regional woollen cloth industry. With very little evidence of pre 16th century activity at the site it seems likely that the medieval town was smaller in area and focused on the market square and High Street and growth into the Shilling Street area was in the 16th-17th century period.

4.2 In conclusion it is clear that the monitored footings have not impacted on any deposits of archaeological significance.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Tony Murphy and everyone from Rose Builders for their close co-operation during the monitoring)

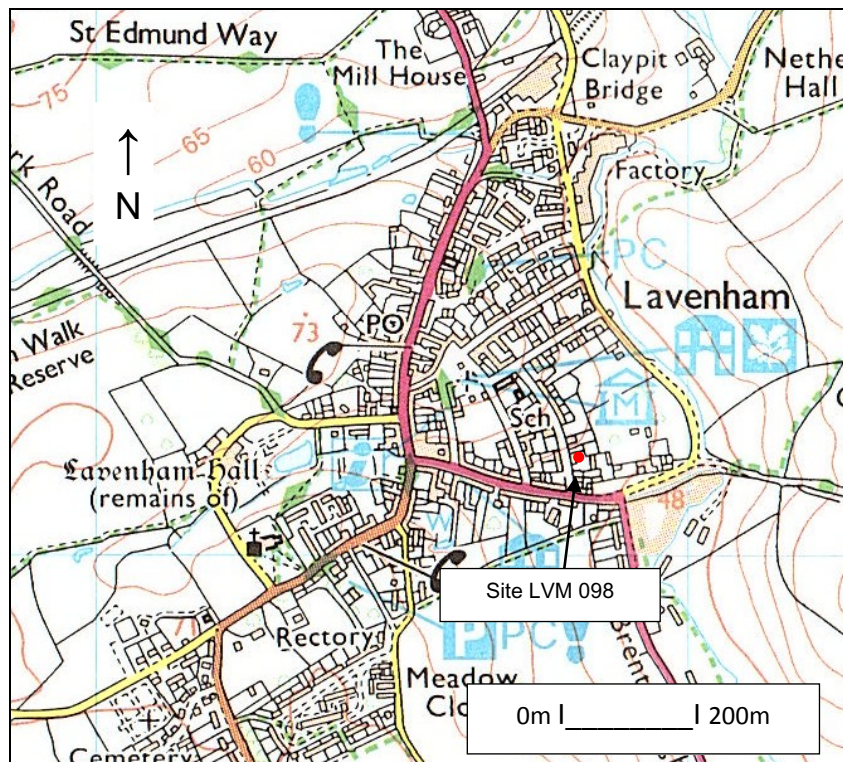


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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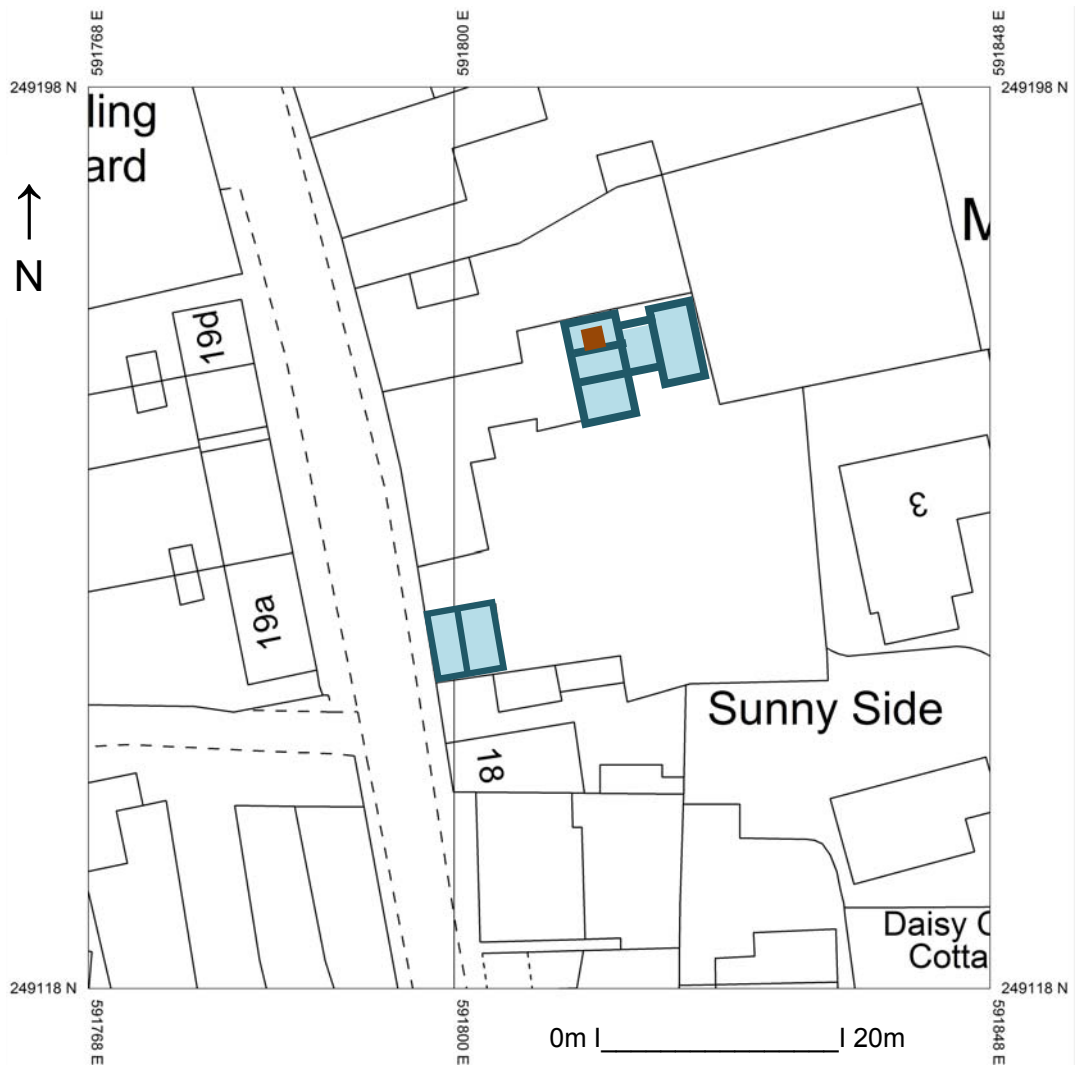


Fig.2: Monitored extension & garage foundation trenches (darker blue, small cellar- brown)
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Appendix I- Images



General view from south



Small cellar in foundation trench to rear of house



Trench for rear extension



Foundation trench in middle of rear extensions from south



Coal chute in western garage foundation trench



Eastern foundation trench for garage with later Pmed deposits in profile at end

Erection of Extensions & New Garage/Store at Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street, Suffolk

Planning application: B/12/01415/FHA

Written Scheme of Investigation for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring

Site details

Name: Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street, Lavenham, Suffolk

Client: Mrs S Wheeler

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/12/01415/FHA

Proposed development: Erection of extensions & new garage/store

Proposed date for ground works: mid July

Brief & Specification ref: 2013_05_08_SCCAS_Archaeological Monitoring
Brief_Jane Taylors Cottage, Lavenham

Grid ref: TL 91812 49173

LBS Ref: 1037163 Grade II (as Arundel House)

Conservation area

Contents

1. Introduction
2. Location, Topography & Geology
3. Archaeological & Historical Background
4. Aims of the Site Monitoring
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1. Introduction

1.1 Nick Peasland Architectural Services on behalf of their client, Mrs S Wheeler, has 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/12/01415/FHA. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological condition and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief set by Dr J Tipper 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 erection of extensions and a new garage/store at Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street, Lavenham.

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 Lavenham is a well known historic town in south Suffolk that was granted a market by 1257 and grew to prominence and great prosperity in the later medieval period as reflected by its major church and numerous listed buildings. The town lies within the till plateau of central Suffolk with Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street being located within the historic core some 500m north east of the parish church and nearly 200m south east of the Market Place. Listed as Arundel House, Jane Taylor's Cottage is a grade II listed structure described as being a 'timber framed and plastered building of 16th or 17th century date but very much altered in the 18th century and later.' The house is located on the eastern side of Shilling Street at 54m OD.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief: 'This application lies in the historic settlement core recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER no. LVM 053). There is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest at this location.'

3.2 The Brief then confirms that while this development may reveal deposits of archaeological significance this potential disturbance to local heritage assets can be mitigated by their investigation and recording as

ground works progress through a programme of continuous monitoring by an archaeologist with subsequent full reporting.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the site lies in a location with high archaeological potential where evidence for medieval and earlier Post medieval period deposits in particular might be found and continuous monitoring of ground works as they progress can best record what may be revealed. This monitoring will aim to record all possible details relating to depth of overburden and evidence, character and date of any past activity that is revealed with the primary aim of gaining more information relating to past activity in this location within the historic core of the town at a listed structure of earlier Post medieval date.

5. Methodology

5.1 The construction method to be used on the site will be strip foundations. The excavation of the strip foundations and any prior demolition works involving ground disturbance, service trenches, soakaways or landscaping works will be observed as they are undertaken and any up cast spoil examined for finds. Notice of ground works starting and then any unexpected findings will be reported back to the relevant Suffolk CC Archaeological Office. Time will be available to hand clean sections as necessary and investigate by hand any possible archaeological deposits within the foundation trenches.

5.2 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of archaeological 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 sections at 1:10 or 1:20 (all on plastic drawing film) and related to OS map cover with the monitored footings shown. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record of 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 within the constraints of the trench foundations with sections recorded in relation to the trench sides, if possible, and with levels OD. Even if no archaeological deposits are revealed every effort will be made to gain a record of the natural occurring deposits and overburden that could help in the understanding of the general history of land use and topography at

the site. Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas if relevant archaeological deposits are revealed. 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 which would incur an additional cost. The possibility of modifying the ground work design to leave any such remains in situ will also be examined (the potential of this site 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 be 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 & 24 1997, 2000 & 2011). 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 will be provided plus another for the County HER, a copy will be sent to the client so they can gain full discharge of the relevant condition. The project will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record 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 round-up

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 while at the same time allowing efficient use of plant. 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's agent and any 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 Deep holes/trenches going below c1.30m will only be entered if assessed to be safe and after consultation with the contractor on site, they will not be entered if no-one else is in the vicinity.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Tovergate 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 (Freelance)

John Newman Archaeological Services

Metal detecting	tbc
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Roman period ceramics	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-156465

Project details

Project name	Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street, Lavenham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Lavenham, Jane Taylor's Cottage, Shilling Street (LVM 098, TL 9181 4917) monitoring of ground works for a large extension to the rear of a listed house of early Post medieval date and a new garage close to the street frontage did not reveal any features or finds of archaeological significance. With just one stray pottery find of medieval date from the upcast spoil it might be suggested that the town did not expand into the Shilling Street area until the 16th century.
Project dates	Start: 06-08-2013 End: 09-09-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	1037163 - LBS No.
Any associated project reference codes	LVM 098 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	B/12/01415/FHA - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
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 LAVENHAM JANE TAYLOR'S COTTAGE, SHILLING STREET

Site coordinates TL 91812 49173 52 0 52 06 25 N 000 48 04 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 53.00m Max: 54.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation John Newman Archaeological Services

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)

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