

**Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East,
Reydon, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/12/0029/FUL

HER Ref: REY 074

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(April 2014)

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Site details for HER

Name: Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East, Reydon, Suffolk, IP18 6SN

Client: Mr J Scott

Local planning authority: Waveney DC

Planning application ref: DC/12/0029/FUL

Development: Erection of replacement dwelling

Date of fieldwork: 28 January & 11 March, 2014

HER Ref: REY 074

OASIS: johnnewm1-169668

Grid ref: TM 4894 7906

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Summary: Reydon, Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East (REY 074, TM 4894 7908) monitoring of ground works for a new house located close to the recorded find spot of Bronze Age pottery and flint finds and a possible ring ditch revealed extensive ground disturbance caused by farm buildings that previously covered the site. However ground reduction for an associated garage/utility building did reveal a shallow ditch which had a very clean fill and though not directly dateable is potentially of medieval or earlier origin (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr J Scott).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr J Scott 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 DC/12/0029/FUL. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Ms S Poppy then 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 new dwelling and associated garage/utility building at Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East, Reydon (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Reydon is a relatively large parish in north-east Suffolk, close to the coast and just to the west of Southwold with the former providing the mother church for the latter as it grew and became established in the late medieval/early Post medieval period. Grove Farm lies in an isolated location in the northern part of the parish some 750m north of the parish church. The site is close to the 10m OD contour on the crest of the slope overlooking a relatively wide valley to the north/north-east which contains the low lying Smear Marshes, an area of potentially rich grazing land and a nearby water source for past settlement in the vicinity. The local drift geology is largely composed of sands and gravels of geofluvial origin giving rise to light, well drained soils. The site for the planned new dwelling was previously occupied by a concrete yard and farm buildings which were demolished in the recent past while the associated garage/utility building was less disturbed under grass cover.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location close to the site of a possible ring ditch (HER REY 006) recorded on an aerial photograph in the area to the north of Grove Farm and which, by analogy with other ring ditch sites, could be a burial mound site of Bronze Age date (see Fig. 1). In addition the site for the new dwelling is close to the recorded find spot of early Bronze Age pottery sherds and worked flints (HER REY 016- see Fig. 1) recorded in 1982. Finally three mounds (HER REY 013, 014 & 016- see Fig. 1) are also recorded to the north of the extant farm buildings though whether these mounds represent burial mound sites or piles of spoil from the general area and deposited in more recent times is uncertain.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 An initial visit was made to the site to observe the excavation of the foundations for the new house as they progressed using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 600mm wide toothed bucket under cold, dry conditions and site visibility is considered to have been good. Following this initial monitoring a second visit was made to observe the ground reduction of the garage/utility building footprint area which was undertaken using a flat, 1500mm wide bucket. Again site visibility was good under dry, sunny conditions. Upcast spoil was inspected visually 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 dwelling is c210m² and in total some 86m of 600mm wide and 1000mm deep foundation trench were excavated around its perimeter (see Fig. 2). As the site had previously contained a range of agricultural buildings built on concrete raft foundations no topsoil layer was present over the footprint area for the new dwelling. Therefore the exposed deposit profile was composed of an upper layer 450mm to 600mm deep made up of re-deposited sandy subsoil mixed with brick, tile, tarmac and concrete fragments of recent date which represents the sub-base to the farm buildings mixed with demolition debris. This mixed upper material lay directly over the locally occurring glaciofluvial deposit which proved to be dark orange, heavily iron stained silty sand with flints. The only finds seen in the sides of the trenches and the upcast spoil were all of recent date.

3.2 The ground reduction for the garage/utility building revealed 400/500mm of topsoil over 200mm of mid brown sandy subsoil with the underlying glaciofluvial deposit again being a clean yellow sand with occasional flints. One archaeological feature was revealed close to the eastern end of the stripped area and this was a north-south aligned ditch (0002). This feature was 1200mm wide but only 350mm deep with a gently rounded profile (see Fig. 3). The fill (0003) within this ditch (0002) was a mid brown sand which was very clean and no finds of any date were recovered from the excavated section. As the ground reduction was underway the upcast spoil was examined for finds but the only material seen was brick and tile fragments of later Post medieval date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site lies in an area of archaeological interest close to previous finds of Bronze Age date and close to a possible ring ditch site no clear evidence was revealed for past activity of any age. However the single identified feature, ditch 0002, had a very clean fill (0003) and it can therefore be suggested it is likely to be of medieval, or earlier, date and in all probability functioned as a field boundary. It should also be noted that the area of the new dwelling had seen previous ground truncation when the farm buildings and yard, which previously occupied the site, were constructed and then demolished and these works may have removed archaeological deposits if any were present.

4.2 Therefore in conclusion it is clear that the monitored ground works have not impacted on any deposits of archaeological significance.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to John Lytton and everyone on site for their close cooperation during the monitoring)

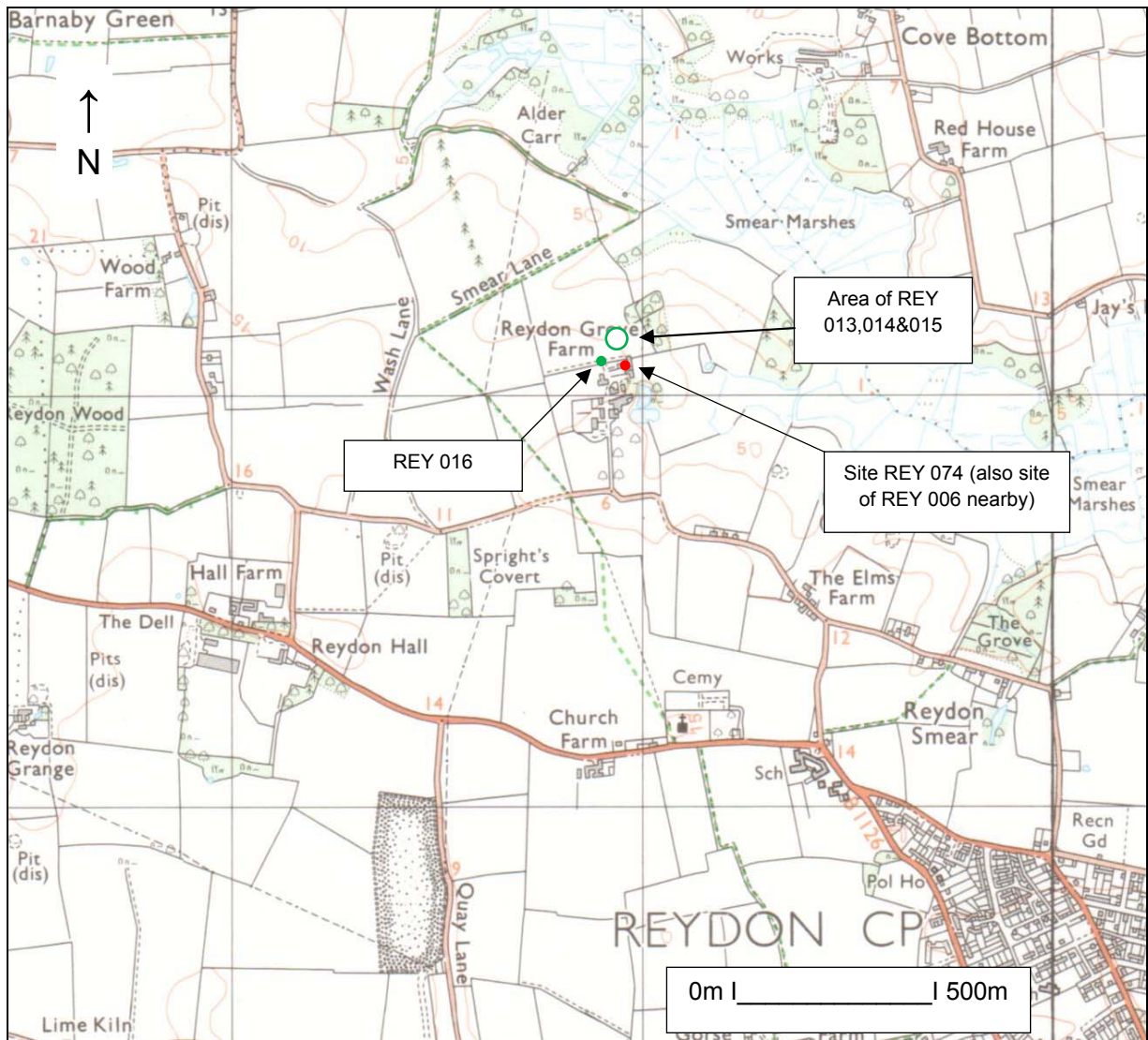


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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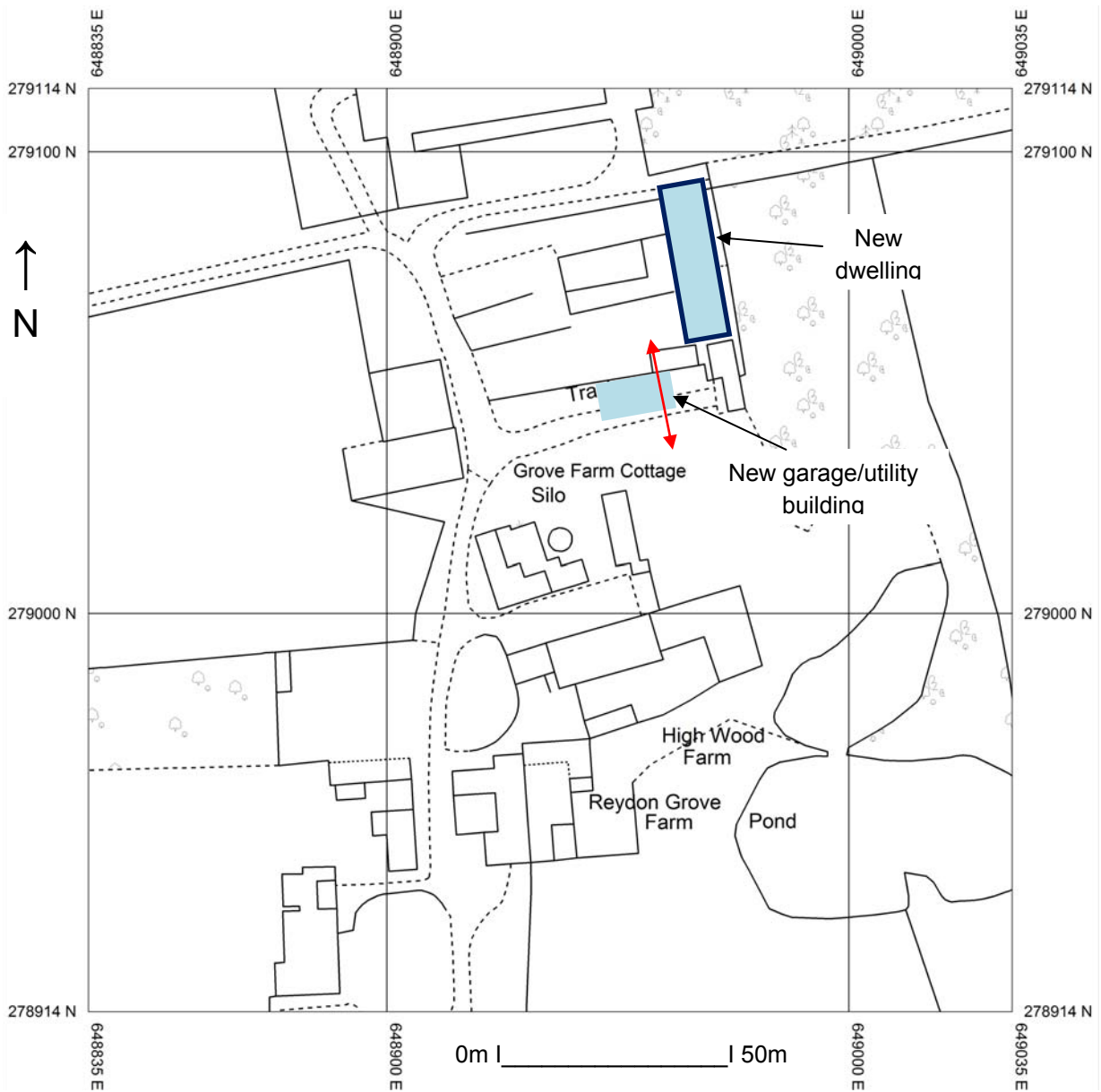


Fig. 2: Monitored new build footprints (foundation trenches- dark blue, red- undated ditch 0002)
 (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2014 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

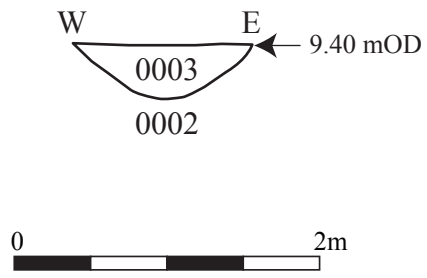
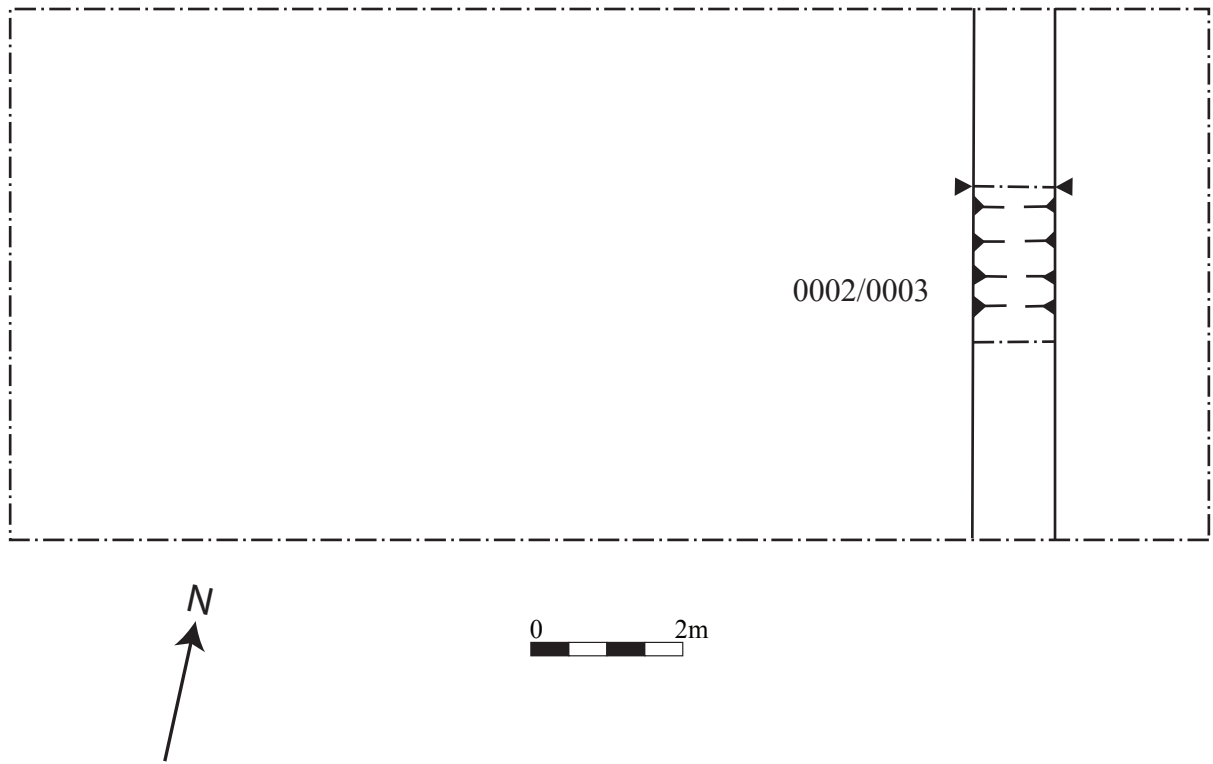


Fig. 3: Footprint of reduced level excavation area for garage/utility building .

Appendix I- Images



General view from south



Eastern house footing from north



Western house footing from north



Deposit profile of house footing



Ground reduction for garage/utility building



Deposit profile on southern side of garage/utility building



Ditch 0002 from south

**Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East,
Reydon, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/12/0029/FUL

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Monitoring**

Site details

Name: Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East, Reydon, Suffolk, IP18 6SN

Clients: Mr J Scott

Local planning authority: Waveney DC

Planning application ref: DC/12/0029/FUL

Proposed development: Erection of replacement dwelling

Brief ref.: 2012_03_13_SCCAS_Archaeological Monitoring Brief_Reydon Grove Farm

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TM 4894 7900

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2. Location, Topography & Geology
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1. Introduction

1.1 Mr J Scott 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 DC/12/0029/FUL. 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 Ms S Poppy, then of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS), to satisfy the condition. The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the erection of a replacement dwelling at Grove Farm, Rissemere Lane East, Reydon.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Reydon is a relatively large parish in north-east Suffolk, close to the coast and just to the west of Southwold and Reydon provided the mother church for this town as it grew and became established in the medieval period. Grove Farm lies in an isolated location in the northern part of the parish some 750m north of the parish church. The site lies close to the 10m OD contour on the crest of the slope overlooking a relatively wide valley to the north which contains the low lying Smear Marshes, an area of potentially rich grazing land and a nearby water source for past settlement in the vicinity. The local drift geology is largely composed of sands and gravels of geofluvial origin giving rise to light, well drained soils. The site for the planned new dwelling was previously occupied by a concrete yard and farm buildings.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'The site is located in an area of high archaeological potential, as identified on the County Historic Environment Record. The proposed development is located on the site of a ring ditch recorded on an aerial photograph, which may represent the remains of a Bronze Age burial mound (HER ref REY 006). There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development.' However as the site has already seen development and ground disturbance for the farm complex noted in section 2.1 above a suitable archaeological mitigation strategy has been set as the continuous monitoring by a trained archaeologist of ground works.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the site lies in a location with high archaeological potential, in this case to reveal evidence for what may be the site of a Bronze Age burial which has been recorded on aerial photographs. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the foundation and service trenches before other works progress to allow for detailed investigation and recording work. This monitoring will aim to record all possible details to the exposed overburden and depth of deposit as revealed within the ground works and evidence for the character and date of any past activity that is revealed.

5. Methodology

5.1 The construction method to be used on the site will be trench foundations plus service trenches and a pit for a treatment plant. These ground works will be monitored during and after excavation and the upcast spoil will be examined for finds. Any unexpected findings will be reported back to the relevant Suffolk CC Archaeological Office as will notice of when the site works are scheduled to start.

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 of high resolution digital images will be made of the site and any 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 at appropriate points. 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. 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. Any such work will

incur an additional cost as would the need to obtain a radiocarbon date of any human remains or associated organic material should burial evidence of a potentially early date be revealed. The possibility of modifying the ground work design to leave any such remains in situ will also be examined (in this case the possibility of finding burials is assessed as being medium to high given the archaeological background to the site).

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). A 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 will be sent to the County HER in addition to a pdf version for the client for submission to the relevant

LPA. The site monitoring 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 and, if appropriate, a vector plan in .dxf format will be provided showing the area examined. The reporting will be commensurate with the findings from the monitoring and at its most basic level will detail the location, circumstances and characteristics of the deposits exposed and any finds that are revealed.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steel-toe cap boots, and 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's agent 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 footing trenches 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 (Freelance)

John Newman Archaeological Services

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 small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman pottery & CBM	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-169668

Project details

Project name	Grove Farm, Rissmere Lane East, Reydon, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Reydon, Grove Farm, Rissmere Lane East (REY 074, TM 4894 7908) monitoring of ground works for a new house located close to the recorded find spot of Bronze Age pottery and flint finds and a possible ring ditch revealed extensive ground disturbance caused by farm buildings that previously covered the site. However ground reduction for an associated garage/utility building did reveal a shallow ditch which had a very clean fill and though not directly dateable is potentially of medieval or earlier origin.
Project dates	Start: 28-01-2014 End: 11-03-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	REY 074 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/12/0029/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK WAVENEY REYDON GROVE FARM, RISSMERE LANE EAST
Postcode	IP18 6SN
Study area	300.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 4894 7908 52.3525535669 1.65597561193 52 21 09 N 001 39 21 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 9.00m Max: 10.00m

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 "Plan","Report","Section"

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Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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