

**Saddlers, No 36 High Street, Ixworth,  
Suffolk**

**Planning application: SE/13/0524/HHLBCA**

**HER Ref: IXW 106**

**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: Saddlers, No 36 High Street, Ixworth, Suffolk, IP31 2HH

Client: Mr R Springham

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: SE/13/0524/HHLBCA

Development: Erection of rear extension

Date of fieldwork: 18 & 19 March, 2014

HER Ref: IXW 106

LBS Ref: 1031482 (Grade II)

OASIS: johnnewm1-174548

Conservation area

Grid ref: TL 93226 70411

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*Summary: Ixworth, Saddlers, No 36 High Street (IXW 106, TL 93226 70411) monitoring of ground works for a small rear extension to a listed building of early 19<sup>th</sup> century date in the centre of the village did not reveal any archaeological features though one small pottery sherd of medieval date and two larger sherds of 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from the upcast spoil (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr R Springham).*

## 1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr M Lewis on behalf of his client, Mr R Springham, 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 SE/13/0524/HHLBCA. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Ms J Plouviez 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 rear extension to Saddlers, No 36 High Street, Ixworth (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Ixworth lies to the north-east of Bury and is now a large village having seen extensive development since the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century around what was originally a settlement strung out along the High Street in what was historically a linear settlement type. This site is located on the eastern side of the High Street towards its southern end and is c70m east of the parish church which is set back on the western side of the High Street. No 36 High Street is a Grade II listed building described as being an 'early 19<sup>th</sup> century cottage' located at c30m OD in an area of generally light, well drained, soils derived from the underlying glaciofluvial sands and gravels.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this small scale development was generated by its location in the historic core of Ixworth (HER IXW 068) where evidence for later Saxon and medieval activity might be anticipated. In addition Ixworth lies over the site of a Roman period settlement and pottery of this date has been found close to No 36 High Street (HER IXW 006).

## 2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Two visits were made to the site to observe the excavation for a raft type foundation for the extension as it progressed using a small 360 machine equipped with a 600mm wide toothed bucket under fine weather conditions with site visibility good at all times. The foundation area was entered to allow for closer inspection of the exposed soil profiles and hand cleaning of indistinct areas and the upcast spoil was examined as the work progressed. The foundation area was 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 was c7m<sup>2</sup> being 3.06m by 2.30m (see Fig. 2) and the raft type foundation was taken to a depth of 550mm. The exposed deposit profile below a brick patio surface comprised an upper 250mm of patio sub-base which lay over 200mm of a mid brown sandy subsoil. Below the subsoil the locally occurring glaciofluvial deposit proved to be degraded chalk with occasional pockets of orange sand.

3.2 The raft foundation area did not reveal any archaeological features and the only finds seen in the upcast spoil apart from small fragments of later Post medieval brick and tile were a small base sherd (wt 10g) of medieval coarseware of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>

century date and two larger sherds (wt 100g) of glazed red earthenware of 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century date.

## 4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site lies in an area of archaeological interest in the historic core of Ixworth, and close to the recorded find spot of Roman period pottery sherds, no features of archaeological interest were revealed and the only finds of any real significance was a small sherd of medieval date. However the ground works undertaken were on a small scale and further developments in the general area would merit archaeological input.

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 Robert Springham and everyone from Breen Builders for their close cooperation during the monitoring)*



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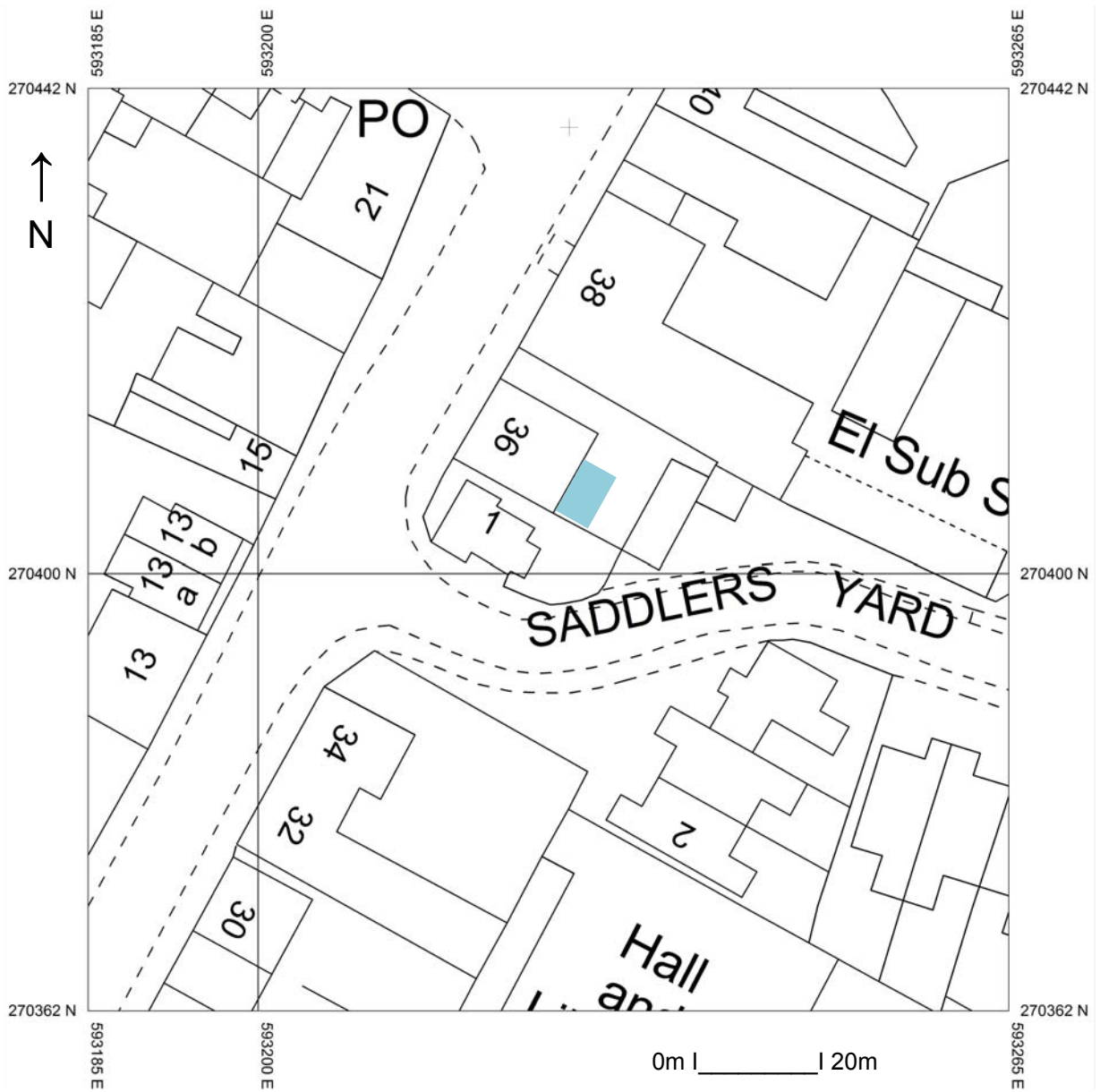


Fig. 2: Monitored extension footprint (light blue)  
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## Appendix I- Images



North-eastern corner of raft foundation



North-western corner of raft foundation

**Erection of Rear Extension to Saddlers,  
No 36 High Street, Ixworth, Suffolk**

**Planning application: SE/13/0524/HHLBCA**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for  
Continuous Archaeological Monitoring**

## **Site details**

Name: Saddlers, No 36 High Street, Ixworth, Suffolk, IP31 2HH

Client: Mr R Springham

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: SE/13/0524/HHLBCA

Proposed development: Erection of rear extension

Proposed date for ground works: tbc (early autumn)

Brief & Specification ref: 2014\_02\_11\_SCCAS\_Archaeological Monitoring  
Brief\_Saddlers 36 High Street

Grid ref: TL 93226 70411

LBS 1031482, Grade II

Conservation area

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

1.1 Mr M Lewis on behalf of his client, Mr R Springham, 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 SE/13/0524/HHLBCA. 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 J Plouviez 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 a new rear extension to Saddlers, No 36 High Street, Ixworth.

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 Ixworth lies to the north-east of Bury and is now a large village having seen extensive development since the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century around what was originally a settlement strung out along the High Street in what was historically a linear settlement type. The site is located on the eastern side of the High Street towards its southern end and is c70m east of the parish church which is set back on the western side of the High Street. No 36 High Street is a Grade II listed building described as being an 'early 19<sup>th</sup> century cottage' located at c30m OD in an area of generally light, well drained, soils derived from the underlying glaciofluvial sands and gravels.

## 3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief: 'This proposal lies in an area of archaeological interest recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, close to finds of Roman date (IXW 006, 010, 037) and the unconfirmed line of a major Roman road (IXW 020) and within the medieval core of the settlement (IXW 068), close to the church (IXW 010) . There is high potential for important archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.'

3.2 The Brief then confirms that while this development may reveal deposits of archaeological significance and 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 Roman and 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 medieval village and in an area which has revealed extensive evidence for Roman period settlement activity.

### 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 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 'observable phenomena' (OPs) 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 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 & 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 Torgate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

### 7. Specialists

Conservation:

Conservation Services

Faunal remains:

J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)

## John Newman Archaeological Services

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Human remains:	S Anderson (CFA Archaeology)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Pre-historic flint:	C Pendleton (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (CFA Archaeology)
Roman period ceramics	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

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**OASIS ID: johnnewm1-174548**

### Project details

Project name	Saddlers, No 36 High Street, Ixworth, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Ixworth, Saddlers, No 36 High Street (IXW 106, TL 93226 70411) monitoring of ground works for a small rear extension to a listed building of early 19th century date in the centre of the village did not reveal any archaeological features though one small pottery sherd of medieval date and two larger sherds of 18th/19th century date were recovered from the upcast spoil.
Project dates	Start: 18-03-2014 End: 19-03-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	IXW 106 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	SE/13/0524/HH - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	1031482 - LBS No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY IXWORTH SADDLERS No 36 HIGH STREET
Postcode	IP31 2HH

Study area 7.00 Square metres  
 Site coordinates TL 93226 70411 52.2973159993 0.834011169174 52 17 50 N 000 50 02 E  
 Point  
 Height OD / Depth Min: 29.00m Max: 30.00m

### 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 recipient Discarded  
 Digital Archive recipient Suffolk CC Archaeological Service  
 Digital Contents "Ceramics"  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"  
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk CC Archaeological Service  
 Paper Contents "Ceramics"  
 Paper Media available "Report"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
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 Date 2014  
 Issuer or publisher John Newman Archaeological Services  
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