

**No 7B High Street, Debenham,
Suffolk**

Planning application: 3460/12

HER Ref: DBN 151

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(May 2014)

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Site details for HER

Name: No 7B High Street, Debenham, Suffolk, IP14 6QL

Client: Mr S Huntingford & Ms H Boulton

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 3460/12

Development: Erection of rear extension & cartlodge

Date of fieldwork: 1, 2 & 3 April, 2014

HER Ref: DBN 151

OASIS: johnnewm1-175951

Grid ref: TM 1742 6334

LBS ref: 281507 (Gate House 7A & Lloyds Bank grade II)

Conservation area

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Summary: Debenham, No 7B High Street (DBN 151, TM 1742 6334) monitoring of ground works on back land to the east and behind listed buildings of late medieval and early Post medieval date fronting the High Street did not reveal any features or finds pre-dating the 18th/19th century period. Below the side extension area a large, probable quarry type, pit of Post medieval date was revealed while the cartlodge site only revealed smaller pits of 18th/19th and early/mid 20th century date (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr S Huntingford & Ms H Boulton).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr S Huntingford & Ms H Boulton 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 3460/12. 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 side extension and cartlodge at No 7B High Street, Debenham (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Debenham is a small market town in central Suffolk to the north of Ipswich that had, in all probability been established by the late Saxon period at least, and flourished through the medieval period with the market being recorded from 1221. The town is focused on the area around the parish church and the main, north-south aligned, historic high street that runs parallel to the upper part of the River Deben which rises just to the north of the town. The site at 7B High Street is c90m north of the parish church at c40m OD on eastern side of the High Street with the cartlodge site being 40m from the frontage while the side extension area is a further 20m to the east. Numbers 7 & 7A High Street which are on or close to the frontage are Grade II listed buildings and described as 'an early 16th century range facing the street with a 15th century carriage entrance and later 16th century wing to the rear.'

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Three visits were made to the site to observe the excavation of the foundations for the side extension and cartlodge as they progressed using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 700mm wide toothed bucket under fine weather conditions with site visibility good at all times. The foundation trenches were entered where they were less than 1300mm in depth to allow for closer inspection of the exposed soil profiles and hand cleaning of indistinct areas. 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 footprint area for the cartlodge is c42m² and in total 28m of 700mm wide and 1100mm deep foundation trench were excavated (see Fig. 2) revealing a deposit profile comprising 400mm of topsoil over 300mm of mid brown sandy subsoil. Below the subsoil the local glaciofluvial drift geology proved to be pale brown sand with flints and occasional pockets of yellow and very silty sand. The only features revealed in the trenches were two pits in the south-eastern corner which were 900mm to 1000mm across and 1100mm deep with dating evidence in the form of two sherds (wt 20g) of brown glazed red earthenware and small peg tile fragments and a pit of early to mid 20th century date in the south-western corner. The latter feature was 800mm across and 900mm deep with a fill containing glass bottles of recent date.

3.2 The side extension is larger at c96m² and in total some 44m of 700mm wide foundation were excavated (see Fig. 2). Close to the eastern wall of the existing house the 1200mm deep trenches revealed 400mm of mid brown sandy subsoil under 200mm of concrete with the underlying natural glaciofluvial deposit again being a pale brown sand with flints. However the eastern half of the extension area proved to be more problematic as a large pit type feature was encountered with a base varying between 1800mm below ground level on its western side increasing to well over 2000mm along the eastern trench where a sewer pipe was also revealed at a depth of 2600mm crossing under the south-eastern corner of the footprint. This large pit type feature clearly extended beyond the extension area (see Fig. 2) and while finds were scarce occasional small fragments of Post medieval peg type suggest a 18th-19th century date with a probable origin for such a large feature as a quarry pit.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site lies in an area of archaeological interest in the historic core of Debenham the ground works for the new extension and cartlodge only revealed evidence for more recent activity of 18th century or later date with a small number of smaller pits under the latter and clear evidence for extensive and relatively recent ground disturbance in the area of the former. In consideration of the results from the extension area it may also be noted that this area in all probability formerly may have been within a plot of land beyond the backyard areas of the High Street properties. While this development did not reveal any features or finds of any antiquity future 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 Helen Boulton and Mike Garnham for their close cooperation during the monitoring)

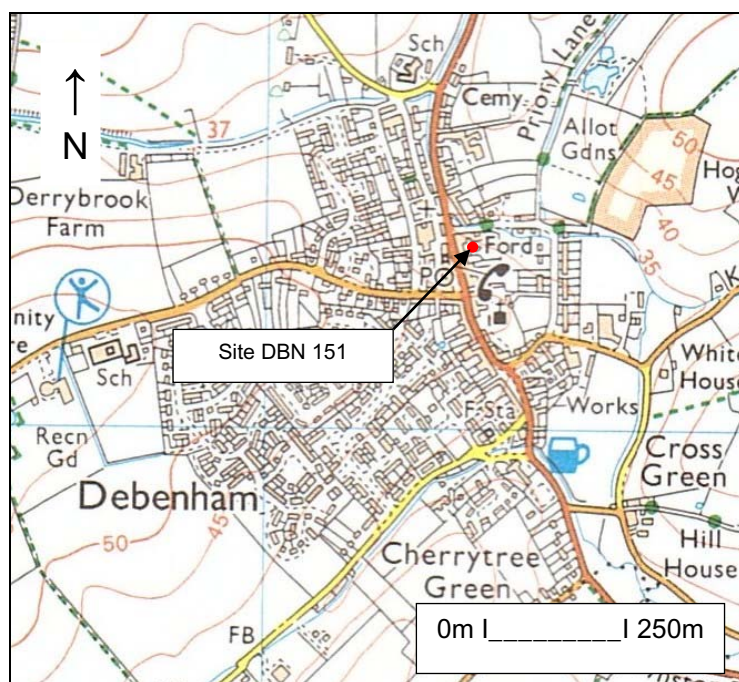


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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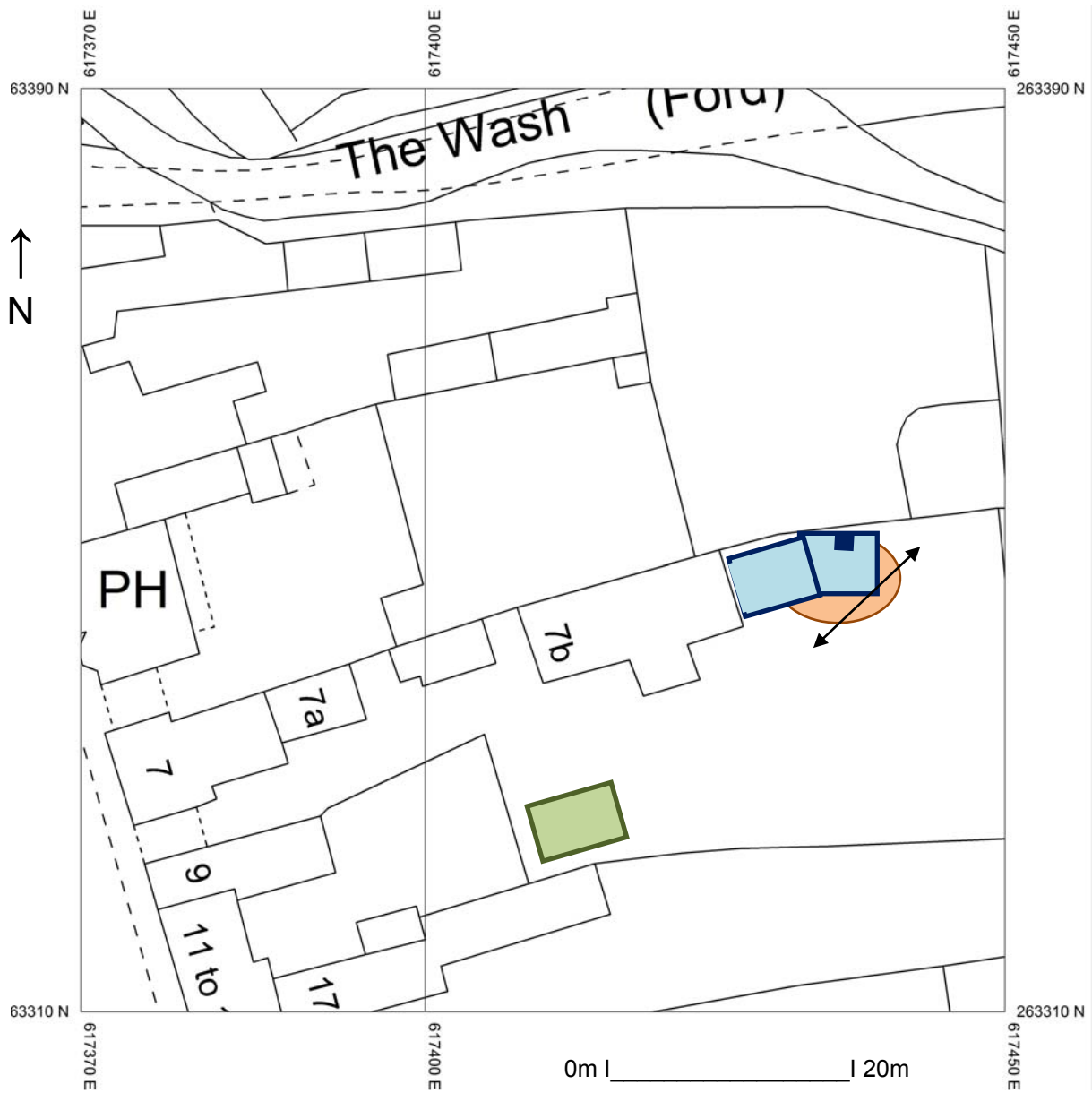


Fig. 2: Monitored areas (extension- blue, cart lodge- green, trenches darker shade)
 (Late Post medieval pit- approx area brown, mains sewer pipe- black)

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Appendix I- Images



General view of cartlodge area from east



General view of extension area from south-east



Southern trench of cartlodge from west



Eastern trench of cartlodge from north



North-western length of extension trench



Chimney foundation in north-eastern length of trench



Eastern trench from north

**Extension to 7B High Street,
Debenham, Suffolk**

Planning application: 3460/12

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

Site details

Name: No 7B High Street, Debenham, Suffolk, IP14 6QL

Client: Mr S Huntingford & Ms H Boulton

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 3460/12

Proposed development: Erection of extension

Proposed date for ground works: tbc (JNAS request at least 2-3 weeks notice)

Grid ref: TM 1739 6334

LBS ref: 281507 (Gate House 7A & Lloyds Bank grade II listed)

Conservation area

Contents

1. Introduction
2. Location, Topography & Geology
3. Archaeological & Historical Background
4. Aims of the Site Monitoring
5. Methodology
6. Risk Assessment
7. Specialists

1. Introduction

1.1 Mr N Stallard on behalf of his clients, Mr S Huntingford & Ms H Boulton, 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 3460/12. 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 A Antrobus 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 an extension to No 7B High Street, Debenham.

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 Debenham is a small market town in central Suffolk to the north of Ipswich that had, in all probability been established by the late Saxon period at least, and flourished through the medieval period with the market being recorded from 1221. The town is focused on the area around the parish church and the main, north-south aligned, historic high street that runs parallel to the upper part of the River Deben which rises just to the north of the town. The site at 7B High Street is c90m north of the parish church at c40m OD and close to the High Street frontage. Numbers 7 & 7A High Street adjacent are Grade II listed buildings and described as 'an early 16th century range facing the street with a 15th century carriage entrance and later 16th century wing to the rear.'

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 The proposal lies within the area defined for the medieval town of Debenham in the County Historic Environment Record and will involve ground disturbance. As strip foundations are proposed for the extension there will only be limited damage to any archaeological deposit and these works can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation of the trenches by the building contractor. In summary there is high potential for encountering medieval, and possibly earlier, occupation deposits 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 deposits in particular might be found and close monitoring of ground works 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 this historic settlement.

5. Methodology

5.1 The construction method to be used on the site will be trench foundations. The excavation of the trench footings and any related service trenches will be observed once they are underway and then through to completion 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 any possible archaeological deposits.

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 related 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 in the town. Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples (40 litre if possible) 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 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 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. As appropriate a dxf type vector plan of the area examined will be supplied for inclusion into the County HER map base.

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 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 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 Townergate 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

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 period ceramics	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-175951

Project details

Project name	No 7B High Street, Debenham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Debenham, No 7B High Street (DBN 151, TM 1742 6334) monitoring of ground works on back land to the east and behind listed buildings of late medieval and early Post medieval date fronting the High Street did not reveal any features or finds pre-dating the 18th/19th century period. Below the side extension area a large, probable quarry type, pit of Post medieval date was revealed while the cartlodge site only revealed smaller pits of 18th/19th and early/mid 20th century date.
Project dates	Start: 01-04-2014 End: 03-04-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	DBN 151 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	3460/12 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	281507 - LBS No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country England
 Site location SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK DEBENHAM No 7B HIGH STREET
 Postcode IP14 6QL
 Study area 50.00 Square metres
 Site coordinates TM 1742 6334 52.2247495853 1.18374487982 52 13 29 N 001 11 01 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 39.00m Max: 40.00m

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

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