

**The Parker Long House, Queens Road,
Erwarton, Suffolk**

Planning application: B/14/00453

HER Ref: ARW 066

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(March 2015)

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Site details for HER

Name: The Parker Long House, Queens Road, Erwarton, Suffolk, IP9 1LL

Client: Mr & Mrs G Aubrey

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/14/00453

Development: Erection of extension & construction of new access

Date of fieldwork: 20 February, 2015

HER ref: ARW 066

LBS ref: 1036905 (Grade II)

Event ref: ESF 2285

OASIS: johnnewm1-203386

Grid ref: TM 2204 3469

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Summary: Erwarton, The Parker Long House, Queens Road (ARW 066, TM 2204 3469) monitoring of ground works for a side extension confirmed that the northern and southern foundations were already in place following previous unfinished works in the 1980s while the line of the western foundation was found to be heavily disturbed by modern drains and a water pipe. To the west of the house two trenches were taken to the formation level for the new access which exposed the top of the sandy subsoil; while no archaeological features were visible at this level pottery sherds of medieval and Post medieval date were recovered indicative of activity at the site from the 12th/13th century period to the present time (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs G Aubrey).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr & Mrs G Aubrey 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/14/00453. 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 the creation of a new access/parking area at The Parker Long House, Queens Road, Erwarton (see Fig. 1) which is a grade II listed brick built building of mid 18th century date.

1.2 Erwarton parish is located to the south-east of Ipswich on the northern side of the River Stour estuary on the southern side of the Shotley peninsula. The main settlement is made up of a small village strung out along The Street and Queens Road with The Parker Long House being on the southern side of the latter immediately to the west of St Mary's church. Soils on the Shotley peninsula are generally light and well drained being derived from the underlying glaciofluvial sands and gravels which in many areas are capped by a very light silty brickearth type deposit. To the south of the house the ground falls away from c26m OD to the edge of the River Stour at a point mapped as Waterhouse Creek which in all likelihood was a former landing point for shallow draught vessels.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location close to the parish church where archaeological deposits of later Saxon and medieval date might be anticipated as evidenced by a recent archaeological investigation (HER ARW 064) to the north of Queens Street (see Fig. 1).

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 A single visit was made to the site to observe the excavation of the western side of the foundations for the extension as the northern and southern concreted foundations were already in place following construction works in the 1980s but which stopped at this stage; a western foundation was also in place but the planned extension will be longer than the previously planned version. In addition two 1000mm wide trenches were excavated across the area of the new access/parking area to test it for archaeological deposits. All of these excavation works were undertaken using a medium sized 360 machine which was under continuous archaeological supervision with weather conditions being dry and sunny giving good site visibility. Upcast spoil was inspected closely 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 As outlined above only one 4m and 500mm wide trench (see Fig. 2) was excavated for the planned extension and this proved to be heavily disturbed by two modern drainage pipes and a live water pipe which was cut by the machine leading to ingress of water which obscured visibility to some extent. However when the trench was bailed out it became clear that below 200mm of topsoil and 300mm of

mid brown sandy subsoil the natural yellow sand below was undisturbed. In addition the upcast spoil contained only modern debris.

3.2 The site of the new access/parking to the west of the planned extension will be c180m² in area and two 1m wide and 15m long east-west orientated trenches (see Fig. 2) were taken to its formation level which was a depth of 250mm. At this depth only the topsoil was removed exposing the mid brown sandy subsoil below and therefore no archaeological features could be seen. However a small number of pottery sherds were recovered from the upcast spoil and the top of the subsoil and they are described below.

4. The Finds (Sue Anderson)

4.1 Eight pottery sherds (77g) were recovered as unstratified finds (0001) from the trenching across the access/parking area. The pottery quantification is shown in Table 1:

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
0001	MCW	2	12	body sherds, greywares	12th-14th c.
	MCW	1	5	body sherd, oxid with reduced core, similar to Colchester ware but not as coarse	13th-15th c.
	BOUD?	1	9	body sherd, v hard, poss an early stoneware	15th-16th c.?
	LEPM	1	19	base of tankard? Copper green glaze inside and out	16th c.
	GRE	1	6	body sherd, orange glazed inside	16th-18th c.
	ESW	1	21	body sherd, white fabric, brown glaze ext	19th/20th c.
	REFW	1	5	body sherd, willow pattern	19th/20th c.
	Totals		8	77	

Table 1. Pottery catalogue.

Key: MCW – medieval coarseware; BOUD – Bourne D ware; LEPM – local early post-medieval; GRE – glazed red earthenware; ESW – English stoneware; REFW – refined factory-made whitewares.

Three sherds are of medieval date and are in fabrics typical of the south of the county, all with similarities to reduced and oxidised wares made in north and east Essex. The fragments are all body sherds and are not closely dateable. The late medieval and early post-medieval period is represented by a sherd of hard-fired earthenware which is probably from Bourne in Lincolnshire, and two local glazed redwares (LEPM, GRE), suggesting 15th/16th-century or later activity. Modern pottery comprised a sherd of a stoneware storage vessel and a fragment of a willow pattern vessel. A stem fragment (3g) of clay tobacco pipe s collected as an unstratified find 0001. The bore diameter varied between 1.8-2.0mm, suggesting an 18th/19th-century date.

5. Conclusion

5.1 As anticipated this site produced evidence, in the form of a small number of unstratified pottery sherds, for medieval and early Post medieval activity close to the parish church; however due to the low level of ground disturbance required following the creation of extension foundations in the 1980s and the shallow depth of the formation level for the new access/parking area little disturbance to archaeological deposits will be made by the planned works. Therefore no further archaeological

input is recommended at The Parker Long House, Queens Street, Erwarton when the access/parking area is completed.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Graham and Elizabeth Aubrey and everyone else on site for their close cooperation during the monitoring)

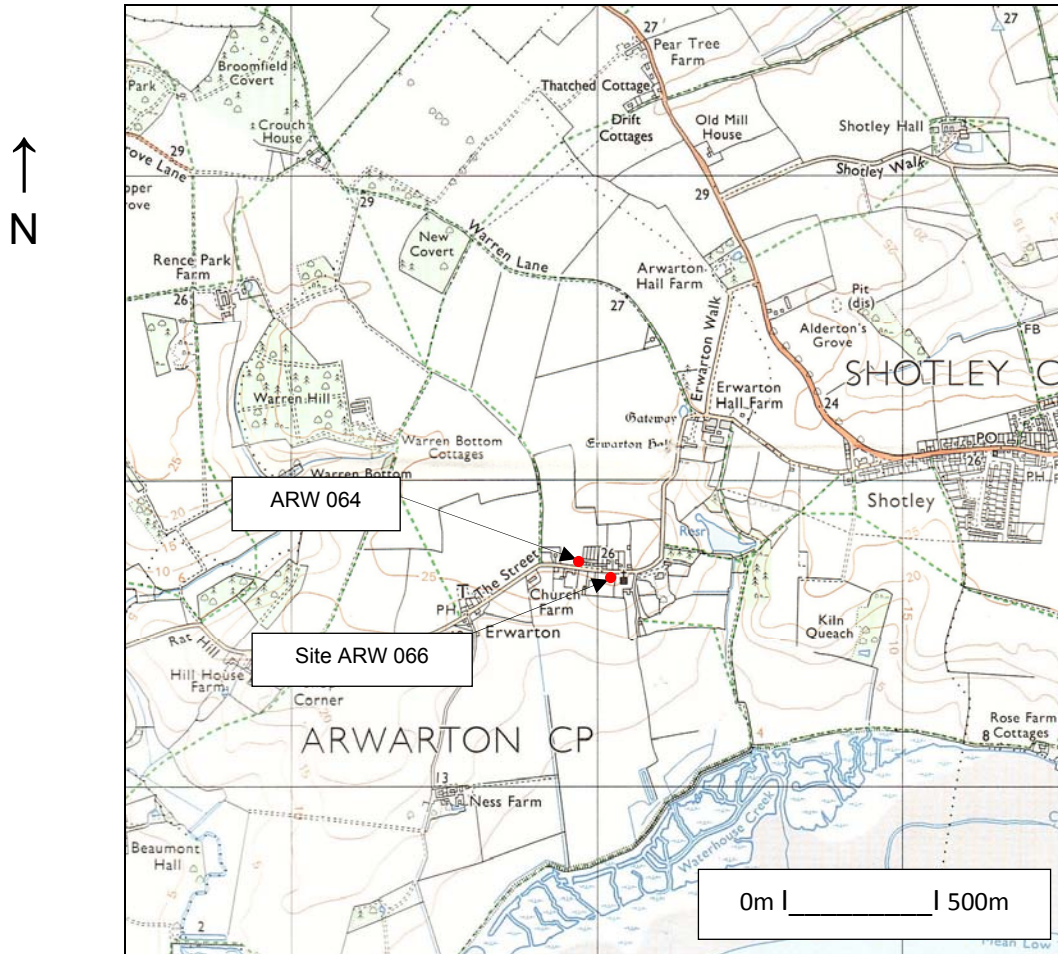


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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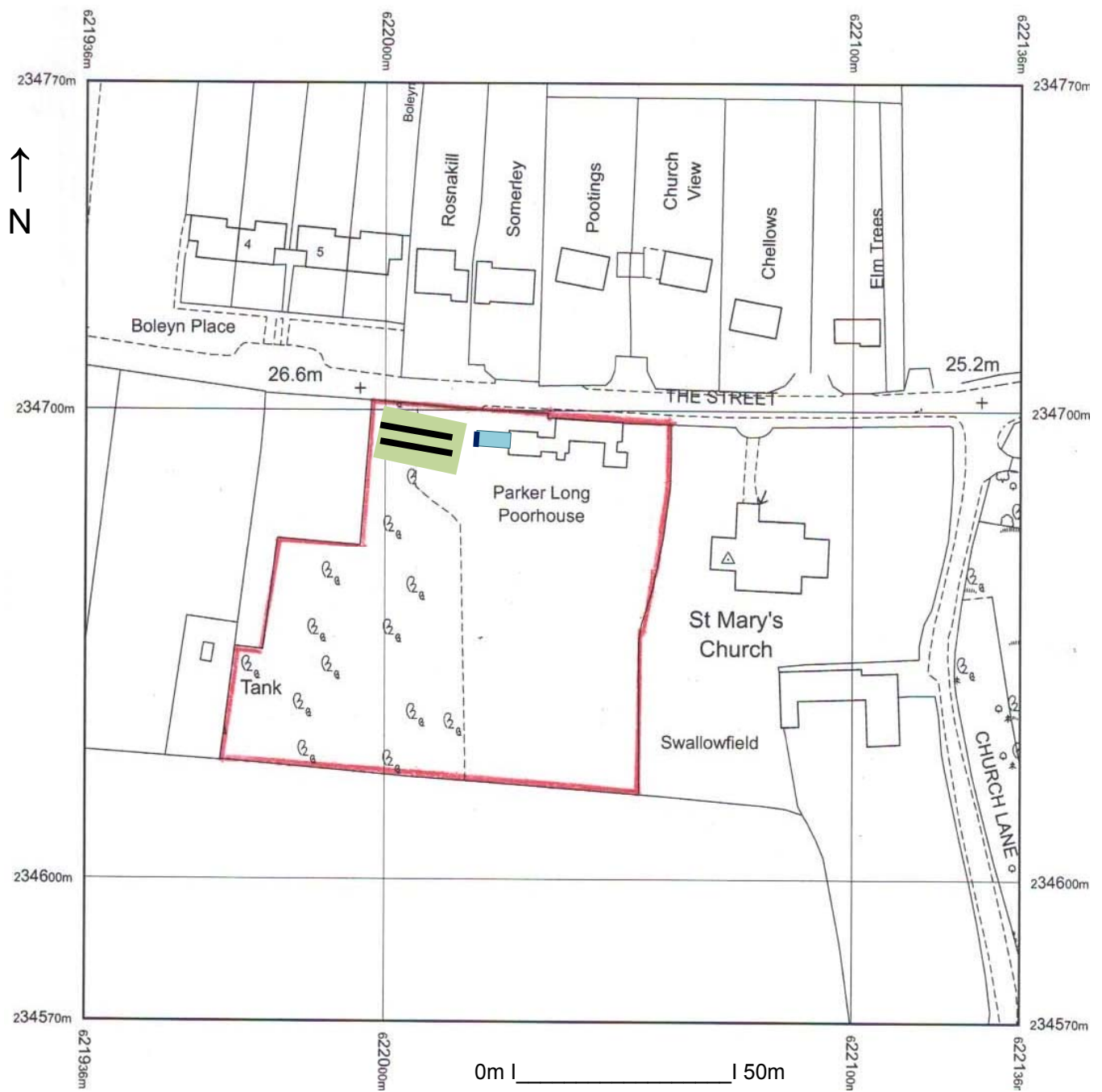


Fig. 2: Location of monitored foundation trench (dark blue) and trial trenches across car access/parking area- black)

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Appendix I- Images



General view of extension area from west



Extension area from west with northern and southern foundations in place



Western foundation trench from north



Access/parking area from northeast with trial trenches to formation level

**The Parker Long House, Queens Road,
Erwarton, Suffolk**

Planning application: B/14/00453

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Monitoring**

Site details

Name: The Parker Long House, Queens Road, Erwarnton, Suffolk, IP9 1LL

Clients: Mrs E Aubrey

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/14/00453

Proposed development: Erection of extension and construction of new access

Brief ref: 2014_10_17_SCCAS_ArchMonSpec_Parker Long House Erwarnton DC14_00453

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TM 22044 34699

LBS ref: 1036905 (Grade II)

Contents

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

1.1 Mrs E Aubrey 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/14/00453. 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 (SCCAS) 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 and the creation of a new access at The Parker Long House, Queens Road, Erwarton.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Erwarton parish is located to the south-east of Ipswich on the northern side of the River Stour estuary on the southern side of the Shotley peninsula. The main settlement is made up of a small village strung out along The Street and Queens Road with The Parker Long House being on the southern side of the latter immediately to the west of St Mary's church. Soils on the Shotley peninsula are generally light and well drained being derived from the underlying glaciofluvial sands and gravels which in many areas are capped by a very light silty brickearth type deposit. To the south of the house the ground falls away from c26m OD to the edge of the River Stour at a point mapped as Waterhouse Creek which in all likelihood was a former landing point for shallow draught vessels.

2.2 The Parker Long House is a Grade II listed building listed under its original name as the Erwarton Almshouses and described as being a 'row of three, dated 1740 constructed of red brick with a red plain tiled roof.'

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief: 'This application area lies within an area of archaeological importance, recorded on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. The property is located 50m to the west of 15th century St. Mary's church, and recent archaeological work to the north of The Street has identified structural evidence and pits dating to the medieval period, indicating that the site may lie within the early settlement core and has a high potential for encountering medieval occupation deposits. The proposed development would cause ground

disturbance with the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.'

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, in this case to reveal evidence for medieval and earlier Post medieval period activity, as it is located in an area that has recorded evidence for both of these periods. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the foundation and any service trenches and creation of the new access 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. These ground works and any related service trenches and the creation of the new access will be monitored during and after excavation and the upcast spoil will be examined both visually and with a metal detector for archaeological 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 within the constraints

imposed by health and safety considerations in areas of excavation going below 1.30m. 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 bulk soil 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. The possibility of modifying the ground work design to leave any such remains in situ will also be examined (in this case being outside the adjacent churchyard the possibility of finding 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 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 before field work starts 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. 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.

John Newman Archaeological Services

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)
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: johnnewm1-203386

Project details

Project name	The Parker Long House, Queens Road, Erwarnton, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Erwarnton, The Parker Long House, Queens Road (ARW 066, TM 2204 3469) monitoring of ground works for a side extension confirmed that the northern and southern foundations were already in place following previous unfinished works in the 1980s while the line of the western foundation was found to be heavily disturbed by modern drains and a water pipe. To the west of the house two trenches were taken to the formation level for the new access which exposed the top of the sandy subsoil; while no archaeological features were visible at this level pottery sherds of medieval and Post medieval date were recovered indicative of activity at the site from the 12th/13th century period to the present time.
Project dates	Start: 20-02-2015 End: 20-02-2015
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 22885 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	ARW 066 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	B/14/00453 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	1036905 - LBS No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
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 BABERGH ARWARTON THE PARKER LONG HOUSE, QUEENS ROAD
 Postcode IP9 1LL
 Study area 30.00 Square metres
 Site coordinates TM 2204 3469 51.9657029382 1.2326171957 51 57 56 N 001 13 57 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 25.00m Max: 26.00m

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 Landowner
 Physical Contents "Ceramics"
 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"

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