

**Remedial Drains System Work, Ickworth House,
Ickworth, Suffolk**

Planning application: NA

HER Ref: IKW 020

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(May 2015)

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Site details for HER

Name: Ickworth House, Ickworth, Suffolk, IP29 5QE

Client: The National Trust

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: NA

Development: Remedial works to drainage system including new tank

Date of fieldwork: 29 January, 2 February & 9 March, 2015

HER ref: IKW 020

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-206555

Grid ref: TL 8134 6210 (new tank area)

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Summary: Ickworth, Ickworth House (IKW 020, TL 8134 6210) Monitoring of ground works for remedial works to the piped drainage system revealed nothing of archaeological interest with works being limited and generally in previously disturbed trenches. However monitoring of works for a related new tank site close to Ickworth Lodge revealed a moderately large pottery sherd assemblage. This assemblage was largely of 16th to 18th century date though it did include one possible Thetford type ware sherd of Late Saxon/early medieval date and another sherd of likely medieval date. All of these finds were from subsoil deposits and no features of archaeological interest were revealed though their presence does suggest the potential for 16th to 18th century settlement evidence nearby possibly predating the early 18th century origin for Ickworth Lodge (John Newman Archaeological Services for The National Trust).

John Newman Archaeological Services

SUMMARY SHEET

Site name/Address: Ickworth House, Ickworth, Suffolk	
Planning application: NA, below ground works to improve drainage systems along existing piped systems and construction of a new below ground tank complex to the north of Ickworth Lodge	
Parish: Ickworth	District: St Edmundsbury BC
NGR: TL 8134 6210	Site Code: IKW 020 (OASIS johnnewm1-206555)
Type of Work: Watching brief on mechanical excavation of new trenches adjacent/over existing trenches for remedial drainage works and construction of new tank complex to the north of Ickworth Lodge.	Site Director/Group: John Newman Archaeological Services
Date of Work: 29 January, 2 February & 9 March, 2015	Size of Area Investigated: 90m ² (tank area)
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: National Trust	Funding source: The National Trust
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Archaeological interest: The area of works is located within the park surrounding Ickworth House which is a grade I listed building of late 18 th & early 19 th century date with the earlier Ickworth Hall lying further to the south. In addition the main works for the new tank were located directly to the north of the grade II listed Ickworth Lodge which is of early 19 th century date with an early 18 th century core.
Final Report: NA	
Periods Represented: Medieval and Post medieval,	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: (See also Figs. 2 & 3 & Appendix I)</p> <p>The lengths of drainage pipe requiring open trench remedial works were short and widely separated (see Fig. 2). In addition the monitored trenching works were largely within existing pipe trenches and were therefore already disturbed. The main length seen was to the north-west of the Porters (Honeyballs) Lodge and the exposed deposit profile comprised 250mm of tarmac road and sub-base over 250mm of mid brown clay subsoil running to 200mm of topsoil over 250mm of subsoil in the adjacent grassed area. No archaeological features were revealed and the only finds in the upcast spoil were small fragments of later Post medieval brick and tile. A similar deposit profile was also seen to the south-east of Ickworth Lodge again with no features revealed.</p> <p>The ground works for the new tank to the north of Ickworth Lodge (see Fig. 3) were continuously monitored during the removal of all of the top and subsoil using a large 360 machine fitted with an 1800mm wide flat bucket. The area stripped covered an area of some 90m² and this was covered with 300mm of topsoil over</p>	

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450mm of clean mid brown clay subsoil. While no archaeological features were revealed a moderate number of archaeological finds were recovered at the interface of the top and subsoil. A detailed report and detailed table of pottery fabric types and date by Sue Anderson is included below as Appendix II.

In summary 26 pottery sherds (473g) and two clay tobacco pipe stem fragments were recovered as stray finds with 24 of the sherds (442g) dating from the 16th to 18th century period and being of types commonly found in the region while one small sherd (2g) is probably Late Saxon/early medieval (10th-11th century) Thetford type ware and the remaining sherd (29g) was of medieval (11th-13th century) date. The pottery report notes that the Post medieval sherds predate the early 19th century date of Ickworth House though they could in part be related to the early 18th century origin for the nearby Ickworth Lodge. Alternatively the 16th to 18th century date for the bulk of the sherds may indicate the former presence of a farm and/or cottages nearby which predate the construction of Ickworth Lodge. Finally the presence of the two earlier sherds may simply be the result of the spreading of domestic waste during manuring activities on arable land in the medieval period.

Conclusion: Monitoring of ground works for a new tank close to Ickworth Lodge recovered a moderate number of 16th to 18th century pottery sherds all of which were types commonly found in the region. While no archaeological features were revealed during the works these 24 sherds (442g) suggest the potential for past early Post medieval settlement nearby.

Author of Summary: John Newman

Date of Summary: 7 May, 2015

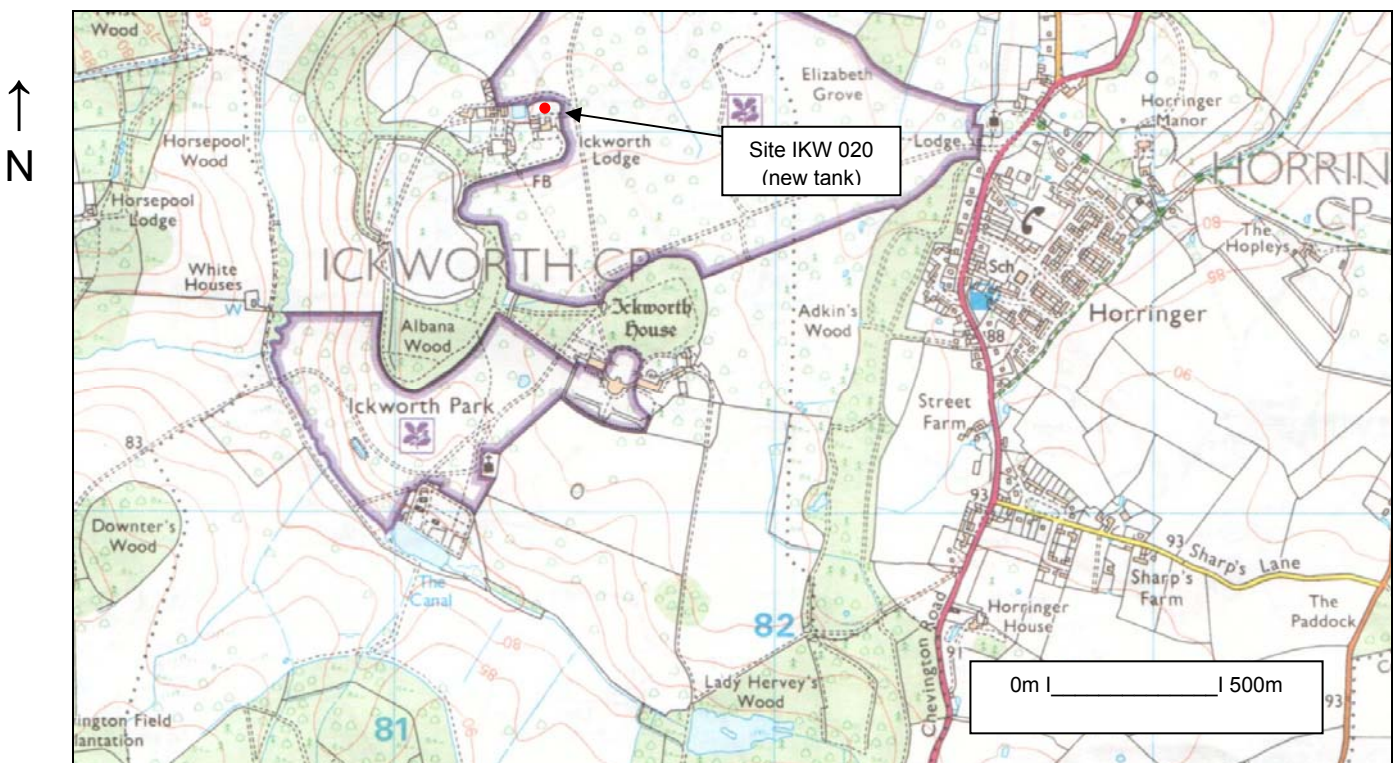


Fig. 1: Site location

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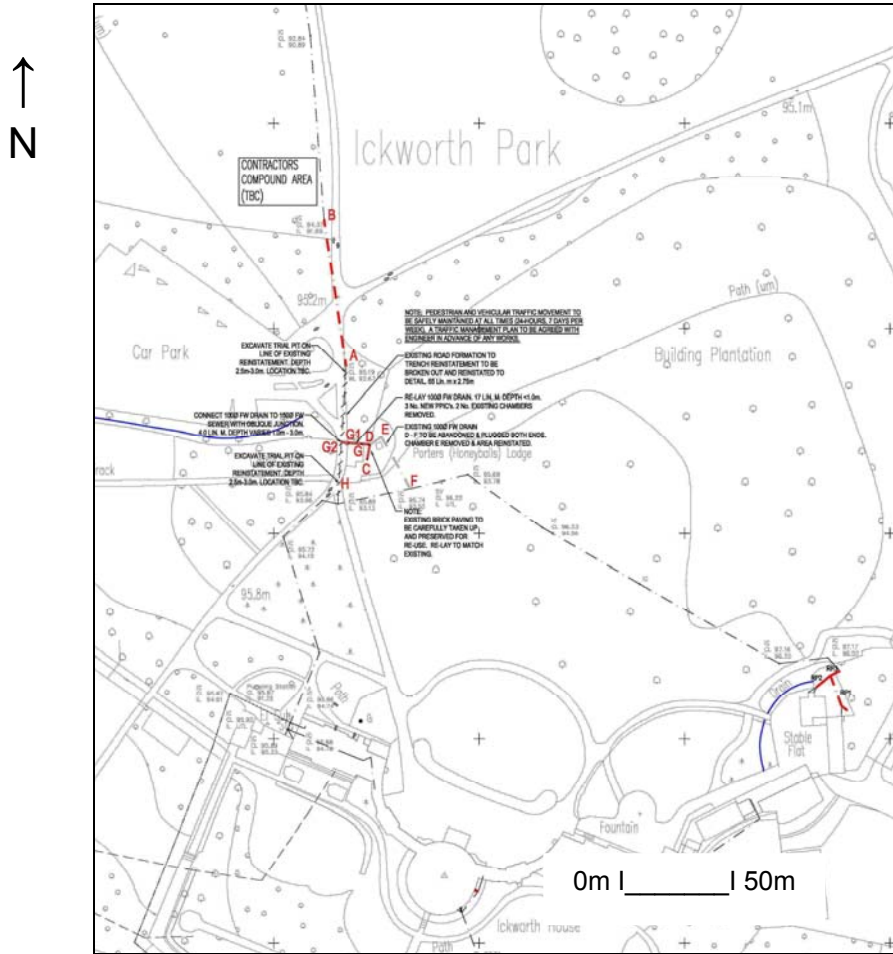


Fig. 2: Monitored areas of trenching work (red)

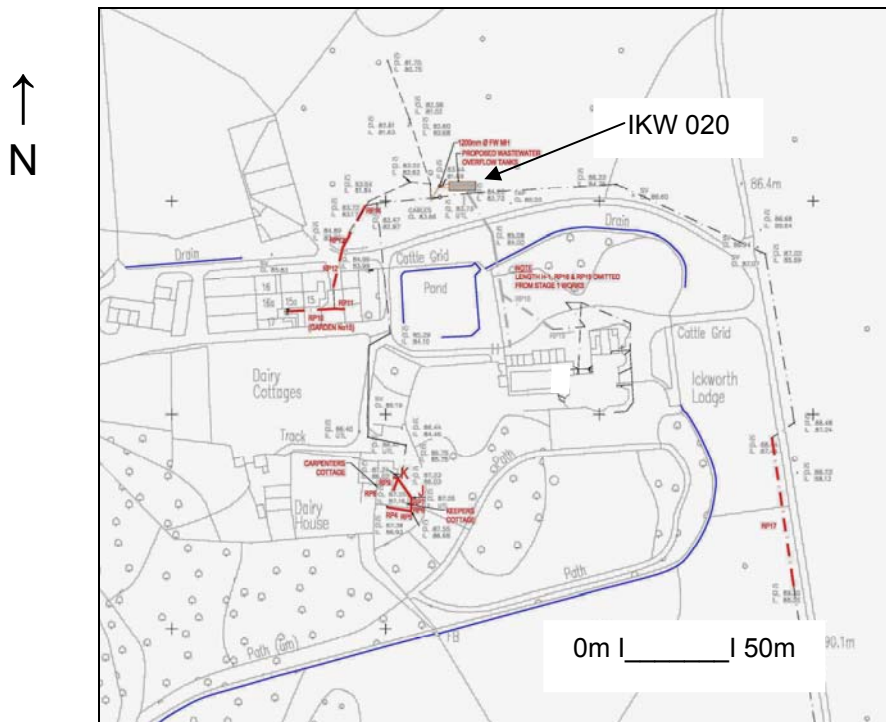


Fig. 3: Monitored new tank area (arrowed- IKW 020, trenching-red)

Appendix I- Images



Pipe trench remedial work near the Porters Lodge



General view of new tank area from north



New tank area stripped of topsoil from north



Ground works for new tank with 300mm topsoil over 450mm subsoil and 20th century manhole brickwork exposed

Appendix II- The Finds

Ickworth House, Ickworth (IKW 020): ceramic finds

Sue Anderson, April 2015.

Pottery

Twenty-six sherds of pottery (473g) were collected as unstratified finds (0001). A tabular summary and catalogue are included below.

Quantification was carried out using sherd count and weight. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Local wares and common imports were identified from Jennings (1981). Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes. The results were input directly into an Access database.

Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	MNV
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	1	2		1
Essex early medieval ware?	EMWE	3.102	1	29		1
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	5.10	1	35	0.15	1
Post-medieval redwares	PMRW	6.10	1	13		1
Iron-glazed blackwares	IGBW	6.11	3	62		3
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	6.12	16	282	0.05	16
Border Wares	BORD	6.22	1	30	0.14	1
Tin glazed earthenwares	TGE	6.30	1	5		1
Cologne/Frechen Stoneware	GSW4	7.14	1	15		1
Totals			26	473	0.34	26

Table 1. Pottery by fabric.

One small body sherd of greyware in a fine hard fabric has been recorded as Thetford-type ware (10th/11th c.), although there is a possibility that it could be an Essex medieval greyware. A thick, oxidised body sherd in a medium sandy fabric was probably an early medieval ware of Essex type (11th–13th c.).

A rim sherd of late medieval and transitional ware was recovered (15th/16th c.). It was from a dish with a lug handle, decorated with 'piecrust' style thumbing along the edge and a copper green glaze internally.

Most of the pottery recovered was of post-medieval date and comprised glazed and unglazed redwares of local or regional origin (PMRW, GRE, IGBW). Fabrics varied from relatively soft with visible sand grains, to fine and hard, so several production centres were probably represented. Most pieces were undiagnostic body and base sherds, but both open and closed forms were present. A GRE handle was possibly from a chamber pot or similar form, and there was an IGBW handle which was probably from a mug or tankard. One small sherd of a tin glazed earthenware bowl or dish was decorated with a blue hand-painted pattern, although the design was indeterminate. A rim fragment from a Surrey/Hampshire Border Ware pipkin with internal green glaze was also recovered, and there was a body fragment of a

Frechen stoneware bottle or jug. These sherds can all be placed in the 16th–18th-century date range, although the Border Ware vessel and the TGE sherd were probably both 17th-century vessels. Most or all of the assemblage probably predates the construction of the late 18th-century house.

Clay pipes

Two clay pipe stem fragments were collected as unstratified finds 0001 (see below). The bores measured 2.9mm and 3.1mm in diameter, which suggests a 17th/18th-century date.

References:

Jennings, S., 1981, *Eighteen Centuries of pottery from Norwich*. E. Anglian Archaeol. 13, Norwich Survey/NMS.

MPRG, 1998, *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1.

Pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date	Fabric date range
0001	THET			1	2		10th-11th c.
0001	EMWE			1	29		11th-13th c.
0001	LMT	DSH	THEV	1	35		15th-16th c.
0001	PMRW			1	13		16th-18th c.
0001	IGBW	TK		1	52		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE	BL	LSEV	1	15		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			1	49		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			1	50		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			1	38		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			4	39		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			3	25		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			2	23		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			1	12		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			1	17		16th-18th c.
0001	GRE			1	14		16th-18th c.
0001	IGBW			1	7		16th-18th c.
0001	IGBW			1	3		16th-18th c.
0001	TGE			1	5	17?	16th-18th c.
0001	BORD	PK	LSEV	1	30	17	16th-18th c.
0001	GSW4			1	15		16th-17th c.

Clay pipes

Context	Frag	No	Wt (g)	Bore diam	Notes	Date
0001	stem	1	6	2.9		17/18
0001	stem	1	4	3.1		17/18

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-206555

Project details

Project name	Ickworth House, Ickworth, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Ickworth, Ickworth House (IKW 020, TL 8134 6210) Monitoring of ground works for remedial works to the piped drainage system revealed nothing of archaeological interest with works being limited and generally in previously disturbed trenches. However monitoring of works for a related new tank site close to Ickworth Lodge revealed a moderately large pottery sherd assemblage. This assemblage was largely of 16th to 18th century date though it did include one possible Thetford type ware sherd of Late Saxon/early medieval date and another sherd of likely medieval date. All of these finds were from subsoil deposits and no features of archaeological interest were revealed though their presence does suggest the potential for 16th to 18th century settlement evidence nearby possibly predating the early 18th century origin for Ickworth Lodge.
Project dates	Start: 29-01-2015 End: 09-03-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	IKW 020 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Site status	National Trust land
Site status	English Heritage List of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Voluntary/self-interest

Project location

Country England

Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY ICKWORTH ICKWORTH HOUSE
Study area	80.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 8134 6210 52.2267399077 0.655425411088 52 13 36 N 000 39 19 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 79.00m Max: 80.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	National Trust
Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	National Trust

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	National Trust
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"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Remedial Drains System Work, Ickworth House, Ickworth, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
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