Land To The Rear of No3 Preston Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk

Planning application: IP/15/00211/FUL

HER Ref: IPS 774

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

(July 2015)

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details for HER

Name: Land to the rear of No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 3DS

Clients: Mr M Purnell

Local planning authority: Ipswich BC

Planning application ref: IP/15/00211/FUL

Development: Erection of single dwelling

Date of fieldwork: 29 June, 2015

HER ref: IPS 774

Event ref: ESF 23126

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-215893

Grid ref: TM 1480 4662

Contents

Summary: Ipswich, No 3 Preston Drive (IPS 774, TM 1480 4662) evaluation trenching for a single dwelling development to the rear of 3 Preston Drive in an area on the eastern side of the Castle Hill, Whitton, Roman period villa on the north-western side of Ipswich did not reveal any archaeological finds or features pre-dating the mid 20th century residential development of the area (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M Purnell).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr M Purnell commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works for a single dwelling development on land that was formerly part of the rear garden of No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich (see Fig. 1). The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief, following the granting of planning application IP/15/00211/FUL, set by Ms J Plouviez of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the area for the new dwelling. The Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation (see Appendix II) was subsequently prepared by JNAS in order to gain a conditional discharge and allow the trenching to go ahead before any other ground works were undertaken.

1.2 The site at No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich is located on the north-western side of Ipswich in an extensive area of mid 20th century residential development close to the 45m OD contour with an underlying drift geological background varying between lighter sands and gravels and heavier boulder clay with flints. This part of suburban Ipswich covers the Castle Hill Roman villa, a substantial and complex archaeological site which was identified in the 19th century and partially investigated as residential development spread across its extensive layout between c1930 and 1950 (HER IPS 015) and again in the late 1980s (HER IPS 200 & 204) and in then in 2003 (HER IPS 421).

1.3 The area around No 3 Preston Drive is located on the eastern side of the recorded location of the main Roman villa complex around Chesterfield Drive (Harding, 2003) and was therefore of archaeological interest as the main eastern boundary for the villa complex has not been previously exposed and recorded. In addition the eastern limits to the main villa complex have not been defined by previous investigations which have in the main have been on a small scale in recent years following the main residential development of the area in the 1930-1950 period when detailed archaeological recording was undertaken on a limited basis. At the time of the evaluation the site was largely soft ground having been a garden in the recent past.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The area of the proposed residential development was trenched to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2), using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 1000mm flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times with any indistinct areas being hand cleaned for better clarity.

2.2 The sides and base of the 1.80m wide trench and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds and any indistinct areas or potential features were investigated by hand. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under very dry and sunny conditions. At the end of the evaluation the location of the trench was plotted from nearby mapped features and as the evaluation progressed a full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) was taken of the trenching works.

3. Results

3.1 In this case the results for the single trench are most easily summarised as in the table below as nothing of archaeological interest was revealed (see also Fig. 2 & Appendix I):

Orientation	Length (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/ natural features & finds
East-west	10m	250	250 of mid brown clay subsoil	Stiff sandy orange clay with flints & pockets of orange silty sand	No features and the only stray finds were debris of recent date
	10 (18m^2)	250	250		Trench depth 500mm

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 As indicated in the table above no archaeological features were revealed during the evaluation with the trench being 500mm deep above the locally occurring glaciofluvial orange sandy clay deposit which was taken to a slightly deeper level close to its western end due to the presence of recently buried building debris.

3.3 The only finds seen in the upcast spoil proved to be various fragments of domestic debris of recent date dating to the mid and later 20th century use of the area for residential use.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site by location has a relatively high archaeological potential being close to the recorded Roman period villa complex on the north-western side of Ipswich at Castle Hill, Whitton, no evidence for related activity was recorded in the evaluation trench. Therefore it is suggested on this evidence that the eastern limit to the villa complex is located to the west of No 3 Preston Drive.

4.2 Based on these evaluation results it is recommended that no further archaeological investigations need to be carried out at this planned single dwelling development to the rear of No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref: IPS 774.

Disclaimer- any opinions regarding the need for further archaeological work in relation to this proposed development are those of the author's alone. Formal comment regarding the need for further work must be sought from the official Archaeological Advisors to the relevant Planning Authority.

***(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful* to Matt Purnell for his close cooperation and to Ian for his skilled machine operation)**

Ref.

Harding, P 2003 'Castle Hill, Ipswich, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and an Assessment of the Results,' Wessex Archaeology report ref: 52568.02)

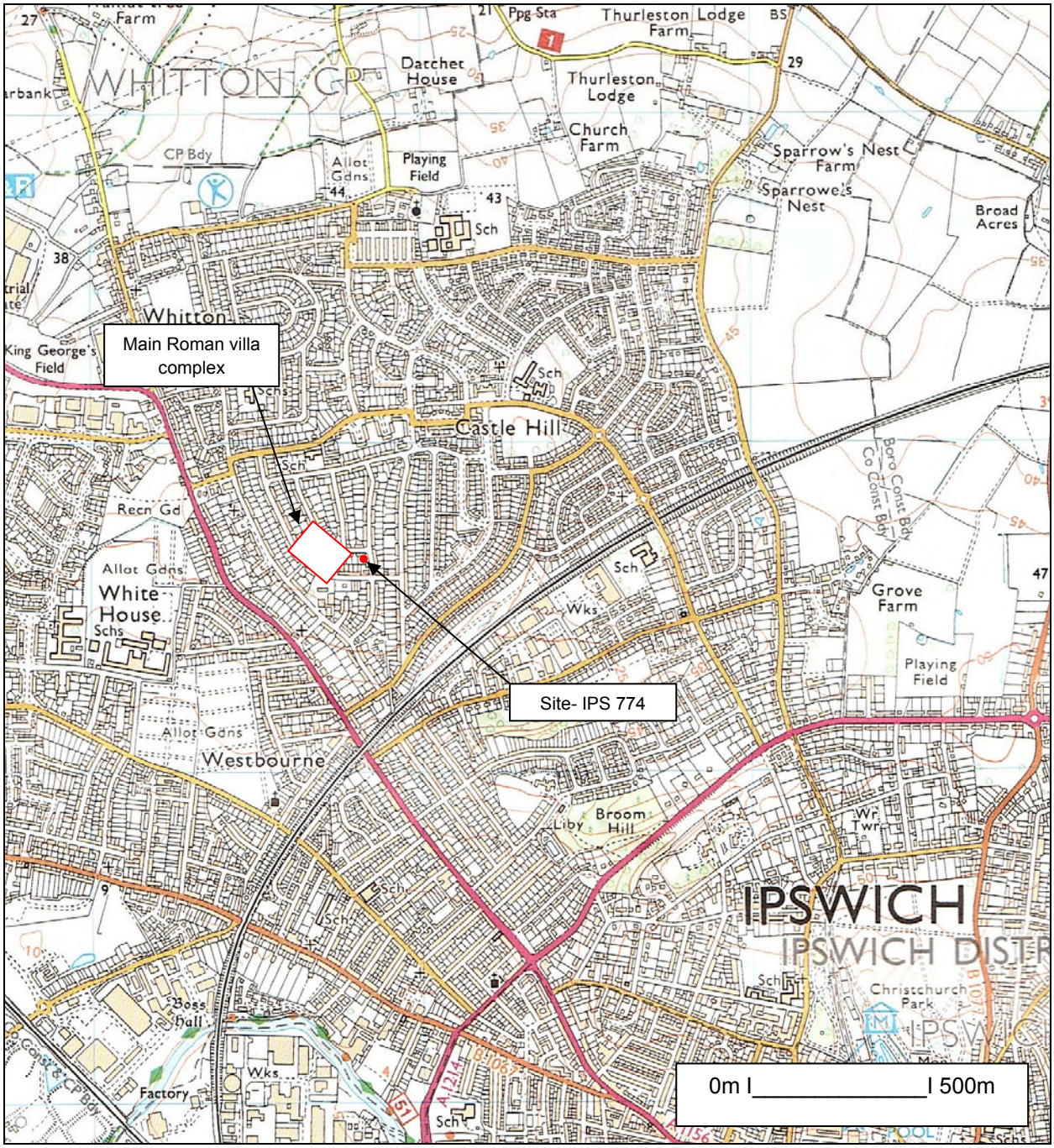

Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trench (light blue- planned new dwelling footprint)

Appendix I- Images

General view from south-east

Trench from west

Trench from east

Trench deposit profile

Land Adjacent to No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

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

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details

Name: Land adjacent to No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 3DS

Client: Mr M Purnell

Local planning authority: Ipswich BC

Planning application ref: IP/15/00211/FUL

Proposed development: Erection of a single dwelling

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: 2015-06-08_Trenched Archaeological Evaluation Brief_adj3PrestonDrive_JP

Grid ref: TM 1480 4662

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Mr M Purnell has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for a proposed single dwelling development that has recently received consent to go ahead. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological requirements for planning application IP/15/00211/FUL and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation set by Ms J Plouviez of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated this proposed development concerns the construction of a single detached dwelling on land adjacent to No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich.

1.2 The evaluation 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),* locally in *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver. 1.1 (Suffolk CC)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 The site at No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich is located on the north-western side of Ipswich in an extensive area of mid 20th century residential development close to the 45m OD contour with an underlying drift geological background varying between lighter sands and gravels and heavier boulder clay with flints. This part of suburban Ipswich covers the Castle Hill Roman villa; a substantial and complex archaeological site which was identified in the 19th century and partially investigated as residential development spread across its extensive layout between c1930 and 1950 and again in the late 1980s.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'This development lies in an area of archaeological interest, recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER). The development lies immediately east of the Roman villa buildings recorded as IPS 015, IPS 200, IPS 204, IPS 421, which also include some evidence of prehistoric and early Anglo-Saxon activity. This Roman villa is the largest and most complex example recorded in Suffolk. It is likely that evidence related to this significant complex extends into the proposed development area.' The main structures within the villa complex lie to the west of Preston Drive however the proposed development does fall within the overall villa

complex area. This planned development therefore has the potential to reveal and disturb significant and unique archaeological deposits.

A site evaluation by trial trenching is therefore required

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.

- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

4. Aims of the Site Evaluation

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the archaeological potential relates to the site's location within the recorded area of a major Roman period villa where evidence for prehistoric and early Anglo-Saxon activity has also been revealed. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the proposed development area with an evaluation trench across the proposed new build area so if archaeological deposits are revealed they can be sampled and characterised. With this information a strategy can then be formulated for their possible preservation in situ or, failing that, the systematic recording of these deposits and the associated working practices, timetables and orders of cost with regard to the planned new dwelling construction.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development is for a single residential dwelling on land adjacent to No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich.

5.2 The Brief requires a single linear 1.80m wide trench across the proposed new dwelling footprint. The trenching will be undertaken using a 1/1.20m wide toothless ditching bucket on a suitably sized machine operated by an experienced driver with a trench plan as set out below. The machine will be closely supervised by an experienced archaeologist as the overburden is removed in shallow spits to the top of any

archaeological deposits that are present, where hand investigation will start, or to expose the underlying drift geology which will be further hand cleaned and examined. The spoil will be stored adjacent to the excavated trench with top and sub soil kept separate to allow for subsequent sequential backfilling. No trenches will be backfilled until the relevant officer at SCCAS has been consulted and should any modification to the trench layout be required due to any unforeseen circumstances, such as local services, then SCCAS will be contacted immediately. A metal detector search will be carried out by an experienced operator at all stages of the evaluation. The up cast spoil will also be closely examined for unstratified artefacts as evidence for past activity in rural areas in particular is often as evident via artefact scatters as by undisturbed archaeological deposits.

5.3 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under overall site event and HER numbers obtained from the Suffolk CC HER beforehand. 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. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record in high resolution digital images will be made of the site and exposed features.

5.4 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before appropriate hand investigation and recording. Exposed archaeological features will be sampled at standard levels with care being taken to cause minimum disturbance to the site consistent with evaluation to a level adequate to properly form a subsequent mitigation strategy. Significant features such as solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post holes (where fills are sampled) will have their integrity maintained (and during backfilling). Otherwise for discrete, contained, features, sampling will be at 50%- possibly rising to 100% if requested, and 1m wide sampling slots across linear features. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCCAS Officer will be informed and the clear presumption must be to preserve such remains in situ with minimum disturbance during this evaluation stage. If this is not possible then a Ministry of Justice licence will be obtained prior to full on site recording (total 100% sampling if a cremation deposit) and removal of the remains followed by examination by the relevant specialist and possibly scientific dating. If human remains do have to be recorded, removed from site and reported on then these works will add an additional cost to the evaluation works which may involve radiocarbon dating (in this case the likelihood of revealing human burial

is assessed as being low to medium given the location close to a major villa type site).

5.5 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant SCCAS 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 SCCAS Store under their relevant HER code and site numbering for future reference. If this is not possible then the SCCAS Officer will be consulted over any requirements for additional recording (which may have an additional cost implication). Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant SCCAS Officer.

5.6 Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas. The sampling, processing and assessment will follow the guidelines as detailed in *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis* (Murphy P L & Wiltshire P E J, 1994). In accordance with standard practice bulk samples of 40 litres (or 100% of the deposit where less) will be taken from a representative cross section of archaeological deposits of all periods (respecting defined fills within features), in consultation with the relevant SCCAS Officer (and RSA if the deposits merit more targeted advice) including deposits that cannot be immediately dated by their artefact content, so the state of preservation and full archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of the deposits can be assessed and any further sampling, should further field work take place, be systematically planned and fully costed. Archaeological deposits of all types may reveal valuable data through the processing and assessment of samples with high priority features including the primary fills of pits, wells and cesspits, layers of middens, occupation surfaces and structural features as well as other discrete activity areas, contents of hearths, ovens, and other craft related or industrial structures. In addition more generalised settlement and land use features such as ditches may also yield valuable and informative data when sampling is undertaken systematically as the sum of all the assessment results can add considerably to the interpretation of a site and its landscape. Through an integrated study of all the data recovered from the evaluation the results from the assessment of the samples will be reviewed in terms of:

- What is the quality and state of preservation of charred plant remains, mineralised plant and animal related remains, small

vertebrates and industrial residues such as evidence for iron working (contributing to the fullest interpretation of the evaluation results and to aid the planning of any further field work- if any RC dates are required on features containing suitable material but no easily dateable finds then this will incur an additional cost though this is a rare occurrence on small scale evaluations).

- What is the concentration of macro-remains (to inform sampling strategy in any further field work), in particular how might bulk sampling inform the interpretation of burial deposits.

- Can any patterning or similarities/differences be ascertained between deposits from different periods represented on site, similarly can any useful comparisons be made with undated and unphased deposits (to aid interpretation of the evaluation results and help in the study of undated deposits which may otherwise be overlooked and which may via sampling yield material for RC dating)

- Do waterlogged deposits exist on site, if so is there potential for palaeoenvironmental data from preserved insects or pollen and do such deposits contain organic material suitable for RC dating from samples taken as advised by the relevant soil specialist (who would also coordinate the assessment for pollen and insect remains), the RSA will also be consulted in such cases in conjunction with the relevant SCCAS Officer. Incremental column samples will be taken should waterlogged deposits be revealed in close consultation with the evaluation soils specialist with 10-20 litre sample sizes which will be sub-sampled for preserved pollen, insects, diatoms, preserved parasite eggs etc. If waterlogged wood is encountered it will ideal to leave in situ, if it has to be lifted it will be packed while wet in black polythene and stored at 5C until it can be transferred to a specialist for species identification, assessment and potential for RC dating is undertaken (should RC dating be required in the evaluation on such deposits this will be covered within the resources agreed for the first date but will take time to obtain, examination of the topographic location of the site indicates that the presence of waterlogged deposits is unlikely unless particularly deep features are present).

- Deep blanket type deposits resulting from both natural and human derived actions and events can yield valuable land use and palaeoenvironmental information. In particular such deposits can form at the base of a slope, if located in the evaluation the relevant

SCCAS Officer and RSA will be consulted over monolith sampling and assessment by the relevant evaluation specialist (the composition of such deposits may give information on past land use in the area through a study of the soil matrix notwithstanding additional data if it is waterlogged)

5.7 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the principles in *Management of Archaeological projects* (MAP2, and particularly Appendix 3). This archive will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 3 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number and following the guidelines outlined in '*Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk'* (SCCAS Conservation Team 2008*)*. As necessary the site digital archive will deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the monitoring and reporting works.

5.8 The evaluation report will be consistent with the principles of MAP2 (particularly Appendix 3.1 & Appendix 4.1) and this report will summarise the methodology employed and relate the archaeological record directly to the aims of this WSI and section 4 above in particular. The report will give an objective account of the deposits and stratigraphy recorded and finds recovered with an inventory of the latter. The report will include an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features in relation to both dated and undated features and in terms of patterning across the site.

5.9 Any interpretation of the evaluation will be clearly separated from the objective account of the evaluation and its results and the results will be discussed with the relevant SCCAS Officer at an early stage in the reporting process following reporting on the day of the immediately apparent conclusions. The report will give a clear statement regarding the results of the site evaluation in relation to both the more detailed aims in section 4 above and their significance in the context of local HER records and of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3, 8 & 24, 1997, 2000 & 2011). There will be no further work on site until the evaluation results have been assessed and the SCCAS Officer has considered whether further archaeological works are required if this application receives consent. The report may give an opinion regarding the necessity for further evaluation work as appropriate. A draft copy of the report will be presented to SCCAS following completion of the site works. Once accepted a bound hard copy will be provided for the County HER with a digital version on disc. As required the site evaluation 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 vector plan of the trench location will be provided in .dxf format for inclusion in the County HER.

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 machine operator for excavation of the trenches and examination of the 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 Discussion with the client's agent has already confirmed that there is no known, or likely, ground contamination and the discovery of underground services is unlikely. No overhead services impinge on the trench locations. Gloves and hand wash/wipes be available and any information on possible ground contamination revealed during the evaluation will be passed to finds and environmental specialists.

6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

6.5 It is unlikely that any trench plus excavated feature depth will go below c1/1.3m from the present ground level. If any excavations need to go deeper measures such as stepping in the sides will be employed.

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)
Metal detecting:	J Armes (experienced freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)

Soils specialist	R Macphail (UCL)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Roman period small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman period ceramics:	S Benfield (CAT)
Medieval coins:	M Allen (Fitzwilliam Museum)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

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Proposed location of trial trench

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-215893

Project details

Project name	No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	Ipswich, No 3 Preston Drive (IPS 774, TM 1480 4662) evaluation trenching for a single dwelling development to the rear of 3 Preston Drive in an area on the eastern side of the Castle Hill, Whitton, Roman period villa on the north-western side of Ipswich did not reveal any archaeological finds or features pre-dating the mid 20th century residential development of the area.
Project dates	Start: 29-06-2015 End: 29-06-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 23126 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	IPS 774 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	IP/15/00211/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches'"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK IPSWICH IPSWICH No 3 PRESTON DRIVE

Postcode	IP1 3DS
Study area	80.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 1480 4662 52.0756732155 1.13487099691 52 04 32 N 001 08 05 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 45.00m Max: 46.00m

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	"Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	No 3 Preston Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
Description	Loose bound client report and pdf

Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
Entered on	30 July 2015