

**Kedington Gate, Bures Road,  
Little Cornard, Suffolk**

**Planning application: B/15/01379/FUL**

**HER Ref: COL 085**

**Archaeological Monitoring Report**

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

(February 2016)

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## **Site details for HER**

Name: Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard, Suffolk, CO10 0NP

Client: Foxearth Developments Ltd

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/15/01379/FUL

Development: Replacement dwelling

Date of fieldwork: 5, 6 & 12 January, 2016

Event ref: ESF 23388

HER ref: COL 085

OASIS: johnnewm1-236108

Grid ref: TL 8870 3856

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*Summary: Little Cornard, Kedington Gate, Bures Road (COL 085, TL 8870 3856) monitoring of ground works for a replacement dwelling relatively close to a poorly located 19<sup>th</sup> century record concerning the discovery of a cemetery of Anglo-Saxon date did not reveal any archaeological features or finds (John Newman Archaeological Services for Foxearth Developments Ltd).*

## 1. Introduction & background

1.1 Dean Jay Pearce Architectural Design & Planning Ltd on behalf of their client Foxearth Developments Ltd 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/15/01379/FUL. The monitoring requirements were set by Dr R Hoggett of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) 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 replacement dwelling at Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard (see Fig. 1) following the removal of some small farm buildings.

1.2 Little Cornard parish lies to the south of Sudbury in an area where the local soils are dominated by the heavier boulder clay or till deposits of central and south west Suffolk on the higher ground and lighter soils derived from sandier deposits towards the valley base nearer to the River Stour. The proposed development site at Kedington Gate is located some 1,600m south-west of the parish church in a landscape characterised by dispersed settlement along the roads and lanes and around the greens and tyes (formerly areas of common grazing). The site is just above the 20m OD contour in an isolated location fronting onto Bures Road and is 600m east of the River Stour and c200m south of a small stream that flows from Cornard Mere. While the existing Kedington Gate is a house of relatively recent construction the Bures Road is a historic route way running along the Suffolk side of the Stour valley just above the flood plain linking Sudbury to villages to the south.

1.3 Archaeological interest has been generated in this planned development due to its location close to an area where a cemetery of Anglo-Saxon date (HER COL 001) was found during quarrying operations in the 1868 with recorded grave goods comprising a sword, a spear and buckles (West, 1998, 24, see Fig 1). However as this 19<sup>th</sup> century discovery was not recorded in detail or plotted with any accuracy by the then local interested antiquarians its exact location in the old quarry works to the south is uncertain and therefore how close the Kedington Gate site is to this 19<sup>th</sup> century find is unknown.

## 2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Three visits were made to the site to observe the initial ground lowering, with a flat bucket, and then the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new dwelling. This work was undertaken using a medium sized 360 machine which was under continuous archaeological supervision with weather conditions being dry and generally overcast 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 The initial ground lowering was carried out to create a flat site for the new dwelling with 500mm to 600mm of topsoil and upper subsoil being removed with a flat bucket on the eastern side of the footprint area but only 200mm of topsoil on the down slope, western side. These ground lowering works remained within the mid brown sandy subsoil and no archaeological features or finds were revealed.

3.2 The foundation trenches (see Fig. 2) were 500mm wide and between 1300mm and 1800mm deep and these revealed 800mm to 1000mm of clean mid brown largely stone-free silty sand subsoil which merged into the pale yellow naturally occurring glaciofluvial sand below which in turn lay over a more compact orange sand with flints. While the horizon between the silty sand subsoil and the natural pale yellow sand below was indistinct it was clear that a substantial depth of subsoil has accumulated across this site which lies towards of a moderately steep east-west slope as the land drops into the base of the Stour valley. The subsoil was very clean with no archaeological features or layers being exposed and the only finds in the upcast spoil were in the topsoil and were of recent date.

## 4. Conclusion

4.1 From the results of this monitoring it is clear that while the new dwelling site is located close to the recorded find spot of material indicative of the former presence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery this archaeological site does not extend into what is now a domestic curtilage known as Kedington Gate.

4.2 In conclusion it can be concluded that the construction of a replacement dwelling at Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard did not cause disturbance to any deposits of archaeological significance.

*(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Richard Brand and everyone on site for their close cooperation during the monitoring)*

Ref.

West, S      1998      'A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Material from Suffolk,' East Anglian Archaeology Report No 84

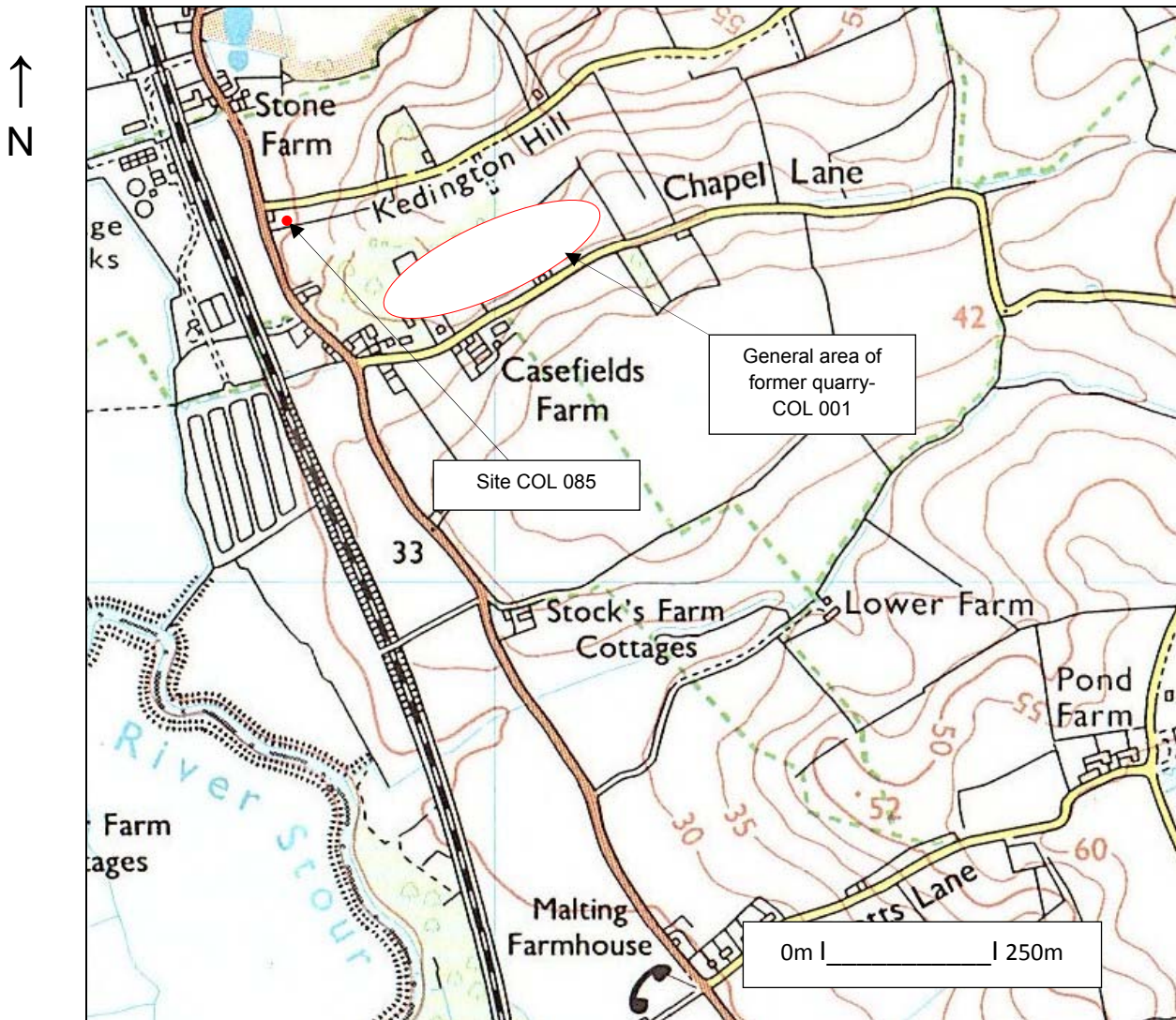


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008  
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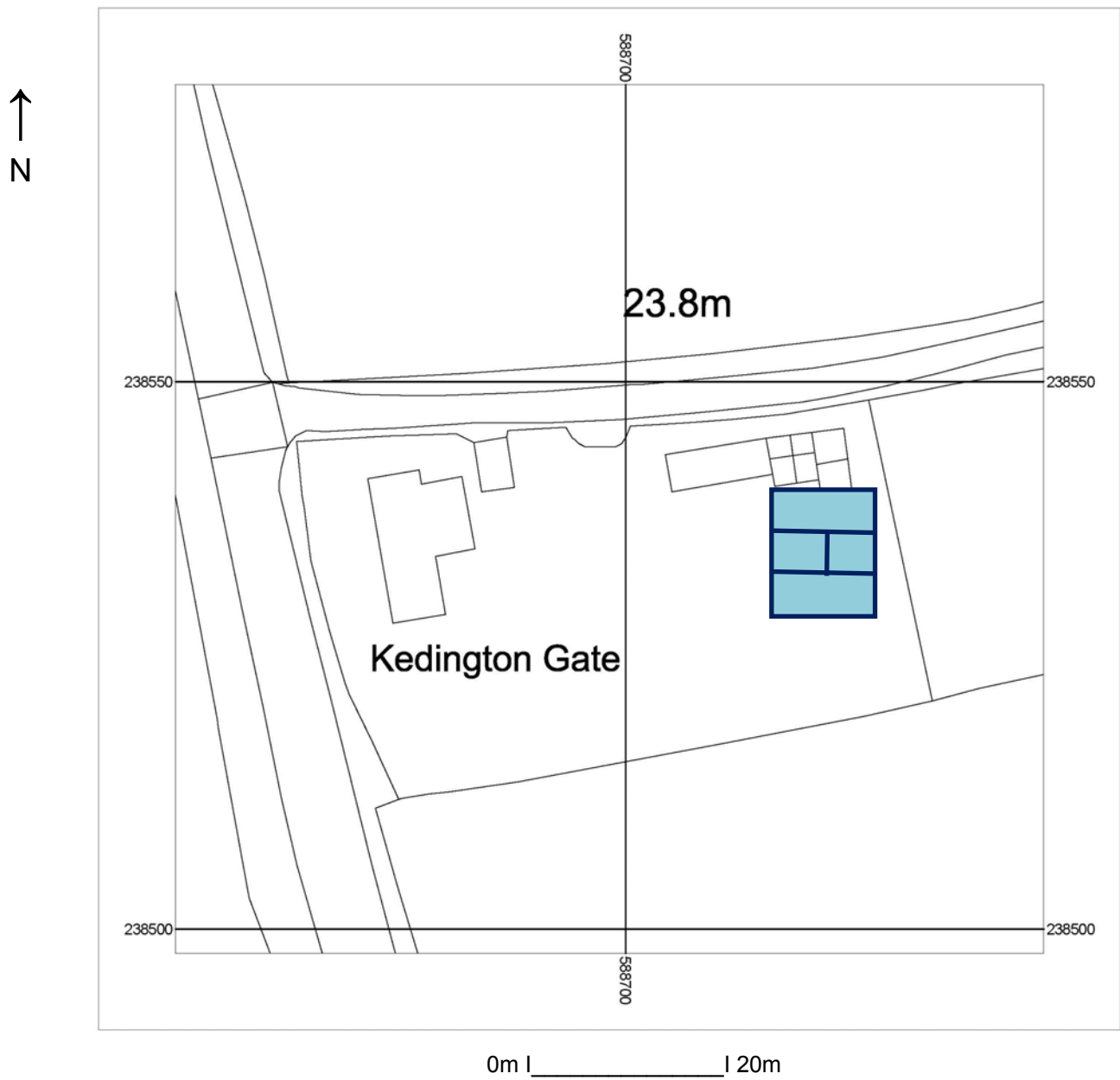


Fig. 2: Monitored new dwelling area (dark blue- foundation trenches)  
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## Appendix I- Images



General view from east



General view of initial ground lowering from southwest



Southern trench from west



Deposit profile of southern trench





Central trench from west



Deposit profile in central area



Deposit profile on northern side

**Kedington Gate, Bures Road,  
Little Cornard, Suffolk**

**Planning application: B/15/01379/FUL**

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

## **Site details**

Name: Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard, Suffolk

Client: Foxearth Developments Ltd

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/15/01379/FUL

Proposed development: Replacement dwelling

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TL 8866 3852

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# John Newman Archaeological Services

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## 1. Introduction

1.1 Dean Jay Pearce Architectural Design & Planning Ltd on behalf of their client Foxearth Developments Ltd 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/15/01379/FUL. 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 R Hogget 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 replacement dwelling at Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard.

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 Little Cornard parish lies to the south of Sudbury in an area where the local soils are dominated by the heavier boulder clay or till deposits of central and south west Suffolk on the higher ground and lighter soils derived from sandier deposits towards the valley base nearer to the River Stour. The proposed development site (PDS) at Kedington Gate is located some 1,600m south-west of the parish church in a landscape characterised by dispersed settlement along the roads and lanes and around the greens and tyes (formerly areas of common grazing). The PDS is just above the 20m OD contour in an isolated location fronting onto Bures Road with and is 600m east of the River Stour and c200m south of a small stream that flows from Cornard Mere. While the existing Kedington Gate is a house of relatively recent construction the Bures Road is a historic route way running along the Suffolk side of the Stour valley just above the flood plain linking Sudbury to villages to the south.

## 3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'This application, for a replacement dwelling at the above site, lies in an area of archaeological interest recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. Specifically, the proposed dwelling lies in the vicinity of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery which was discovered in the late 19th century (recorded as COL 001). The proposed works would cause ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposits which exist'. The proposed works will cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

3.2 The relevant Brief confirms that while this development may reveal deposits of archaeological significance this potential disturbance to local heritage assets can be

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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 further evidence for the nearby Anglo-Saxon cemetery or possibly for related settlement evidence. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the foundation and service trenches 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. The excavation of the trench footings and any related service trenches and any other ground works will be observed once they are underway and then through to completion and any up cast spoil examined for finds and scanned with a metal detector. 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 archaeological contexts under overall site event and HER numbers 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 1:10, 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 litres 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

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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. 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 medium to high given its location close to an area where burials have been recorded).

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 Finds that qualify under the Treasure Act will be reported to the local Finds Liaison Officer within 14 days of their discovery and any discard policy of other finds 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 *MoRPHE* 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 As noted above the monitoring report will be consistent with the principles of *MoRPHE* 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 4.1 above and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3, 8 & 24 1997, 2000 & 2011) and in relation to nearby recorded archaeological sites and finds. A 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 for the County HER, a digital copy will be also 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.

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## 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.

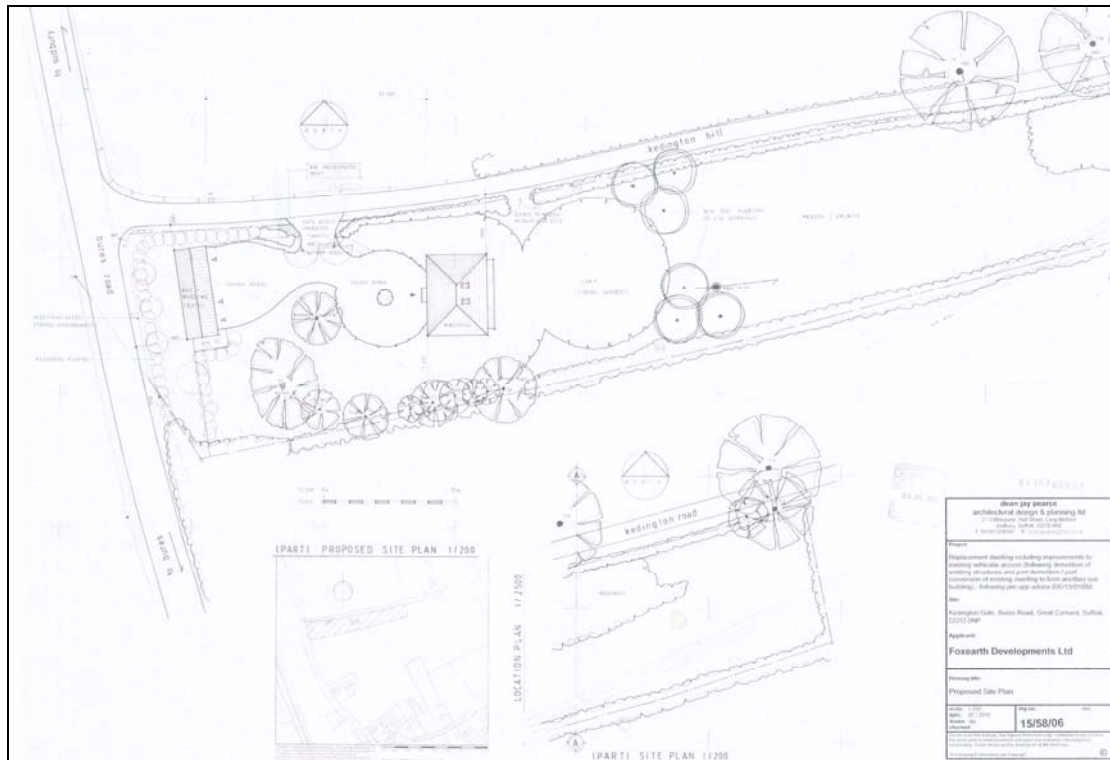
6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

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



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Proposed development

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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**OASIS ID: johnnewm1-236108**

### Project details

Project name	Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Little Cornard, Kedington Gate, Bures Road (COL 085, TL 8870 3856) monitoring of ground works for a replacement dwelling relatively close to a poorly located 19th century record concerning the discovery of a cemetery of Anglo-Saxon date did not reveal any archaeological features or finds.
Project dates	Start: 05-01-2016 End: 12-01-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 23388 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	COL 085 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	B/15/01379/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH LITTLE CORNARD KEDINGTON GATE, BURES ROAD
Postcode	CO10 0NP
Study area	300 Square metres
Site coordinates	

TL 8866 3852 52.012496890903 0.749411610221 52 00 44 N 000 44 57 E  
Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 19m Max: 20m

### 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 Developer

### 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 Kedington Gate, Bures Road, Little Cornard, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Newman, J

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