

**The Cockpit, The Street,
Easton, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/17/4362

HER Ref: ETN 027

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(July 2018)

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Site details for HER

Name: The Cockpit, The Street, Easton, Suffolk, IP13 0EE

Client: Mr & Mrs K Gray

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: DC/17/4362/FUL

Development: Erection of extensions

Date of fieldwork: 16 & 18 April, 2018

HER ref: ETN 027

OASIS: johnnewm1-312973

Grid ref: TM 2822 5876

Conservation area

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Summary: Easton, The Cockpit, The Street (ETN 027, TM 2822 5876) excavation works for two new extensions at this site which is located over part of the site of The White House; a major country house that in its final form was largely rebuilt in c1830 and demolished to ground level in 1925, had to take the form of shallow raft foundations as large 19th century brick wall foundations were revealed and largely left in situ to maintain local structural stability (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs K Gray).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Ashton Deign Co Ltd on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs K Gray 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 DC/17/4362. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Dr H Cutler 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 two extensions at The Cockpit, The Street, Easton (see Fig. 1); however a hydro pool that was initially planned has now been dropped from the overall scheme at present.

1.2 The village of Eason is located in the Deben valley to the north-west of Wickham Market in east Suffolk. The village has a linear settlement pattern which historically has been influenced in recent centuries by the creation of 'The White House' and associated parkland which replaced the medieval manor house in 1627 and was built by Anthony Wingfield. This early Post medieval country house was rebuilt and enlarged in c1830 as the seat of the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon and then demolished in the mid-1920s following its use as an army hospital and depot in World War I. The main survival of this country house is its serpentine boundary walls and the area of the planned development at The Cockpit is some 80m to the west of the parish church on part of the site of The White House as indicated on the tithe map extract of 1838 included as Fig. 2 below.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location within the historic core of the village (HER ETN 017) close to the parish church. In addition The Cockpit, a house of mid-20th century date, is on or very close to the site of the medieval manor house (HER ETN 005) that, as noted above, was replaced in 1627 by Anthony Wingfield. Also, as outlined above, the latter early Post medieval country house was again replaced in c1830 when the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon rebuilt it as a substantial country house (see Fig. 1).

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Initial foundation works were designed as straightforward trench fill, however it soon became apparent that local deposits were not suitable for this and a second site visit was arranged following consultation between the contractors and an engineer when shallow raft type foundations were agreed as a suitable way forward. The short initial lengths of trench were recorded with a small number of digital images and more were taken when the raft areas were opened (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 The initial lengths of trench type foundation (see Fig. 2) were at the south-eastern corner of the eastern extension area and the eastern side of the northern extension. At the former part of a substantial red brick wall foundation was revealed adjacent to an area where mid brown sandy subsoil deposits were at least 1500mm deep. The latter length of trench on the eastern side of the northern extension again revealed deep mixed mid brown clay and sand deposits to a depth of over 1000mm with a probable 19th century cellar wall along the internal side of the trench. Therefore these short lengths of trench were back-filled once an engineer had examined the ground conditions.

3.2 The second monitoring visit examined the works for the re-designed raft type foundations and these were 350mm to 400mm deep across each planned new extension footprint area. This work removed a mix of top and sandy subsoil plus loose medium sized flint cobbles and some loose tarmac fragments which represent vestiges of past garden paths/patio areas.

3.3 At the base of the raft areas 500mm wide red brick wall foundations were revealed (see Fig. 2) on broadly parallel or perpendicular orientations to the standing house in each new extension area. The bricks in the foundations were 9in. x 4.50in. x 2.50in. (228mm x 114mm x 64mm) and can be broadly dated to the early-mid 19th century when The White House was largely reconstructed. These wall foundations and the portion of filled-in cellar were all left in situ apart from removal of parts of the upper surviving brick course in places to achieve a level raft base.

3.4 No stray finds of pre 20th century date were seen in the upcast spoil apart from red brick fragments.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While these monitored new extension areas are in the locality of the medieval manor house and the country house of early Post medieval date the monitored footprint areas were small and the foundations were shallow giving little opportunity to understand and interpret what was revealed. In addition The White House of c1830 date was a substantial structure with wide, well founded, brick walls and areas of cellar below this building which must have caused extensive disturbance. Therefore it is perhaps not surprising that only evidence of small areas for this 19th century period of activity were exposed and the red brick walls and cellar that were revealed have been largely left in situ below the new build.

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

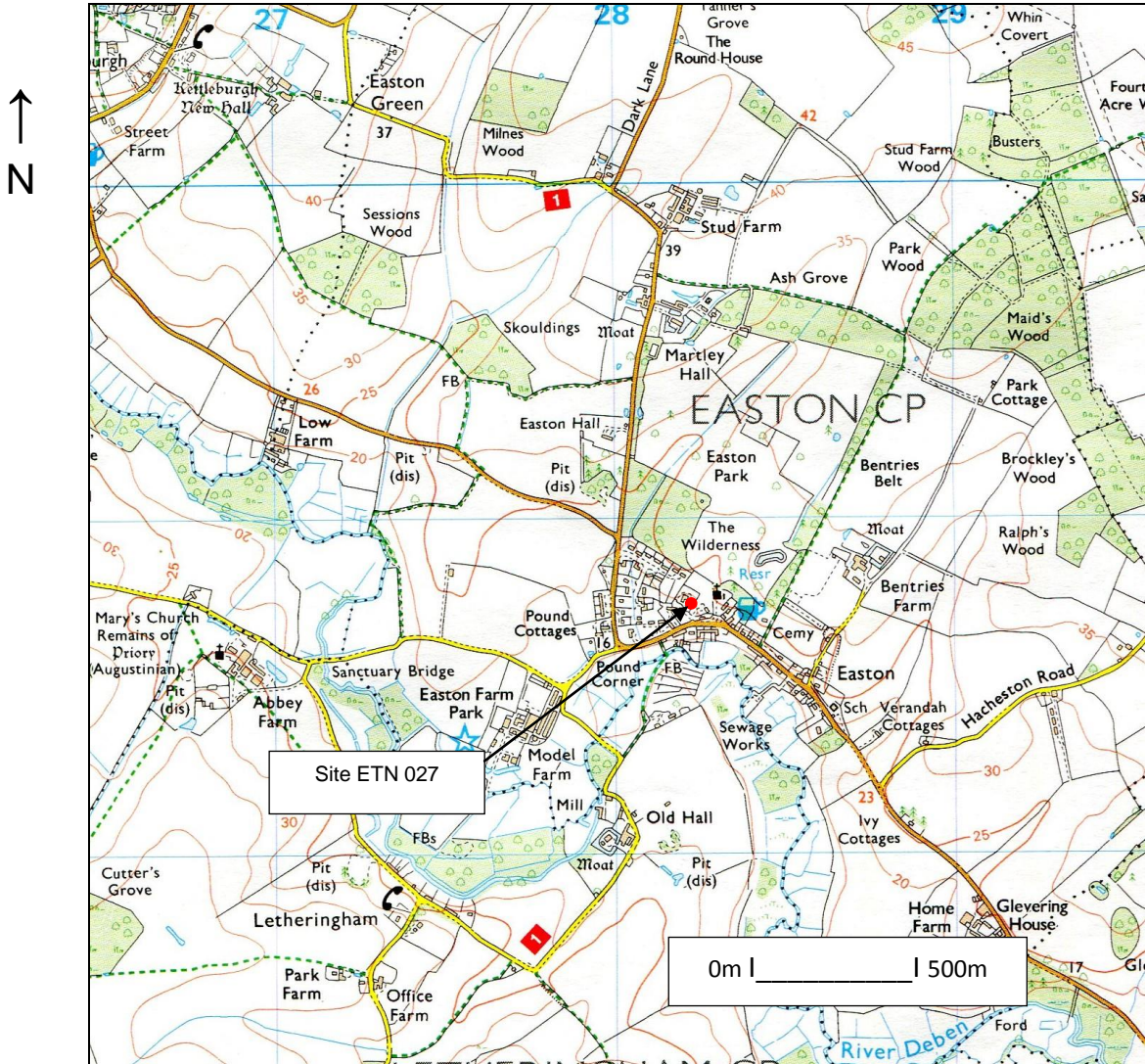


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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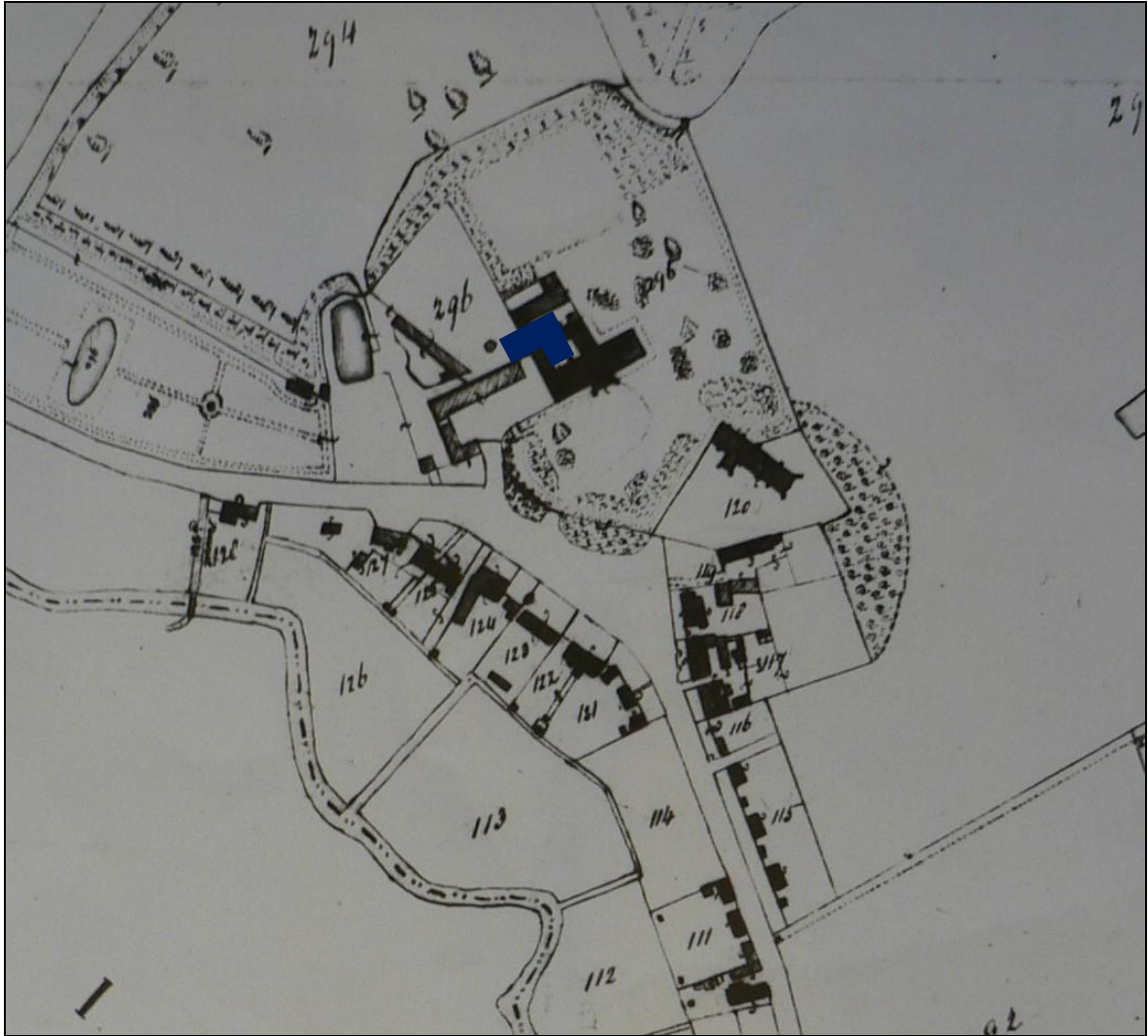


Fig. 2: Extract from the parish tithe map showing The White House in 1838
(Dark blue- The Cockpit, North to top right, Suffolk RO ref. P461/88)

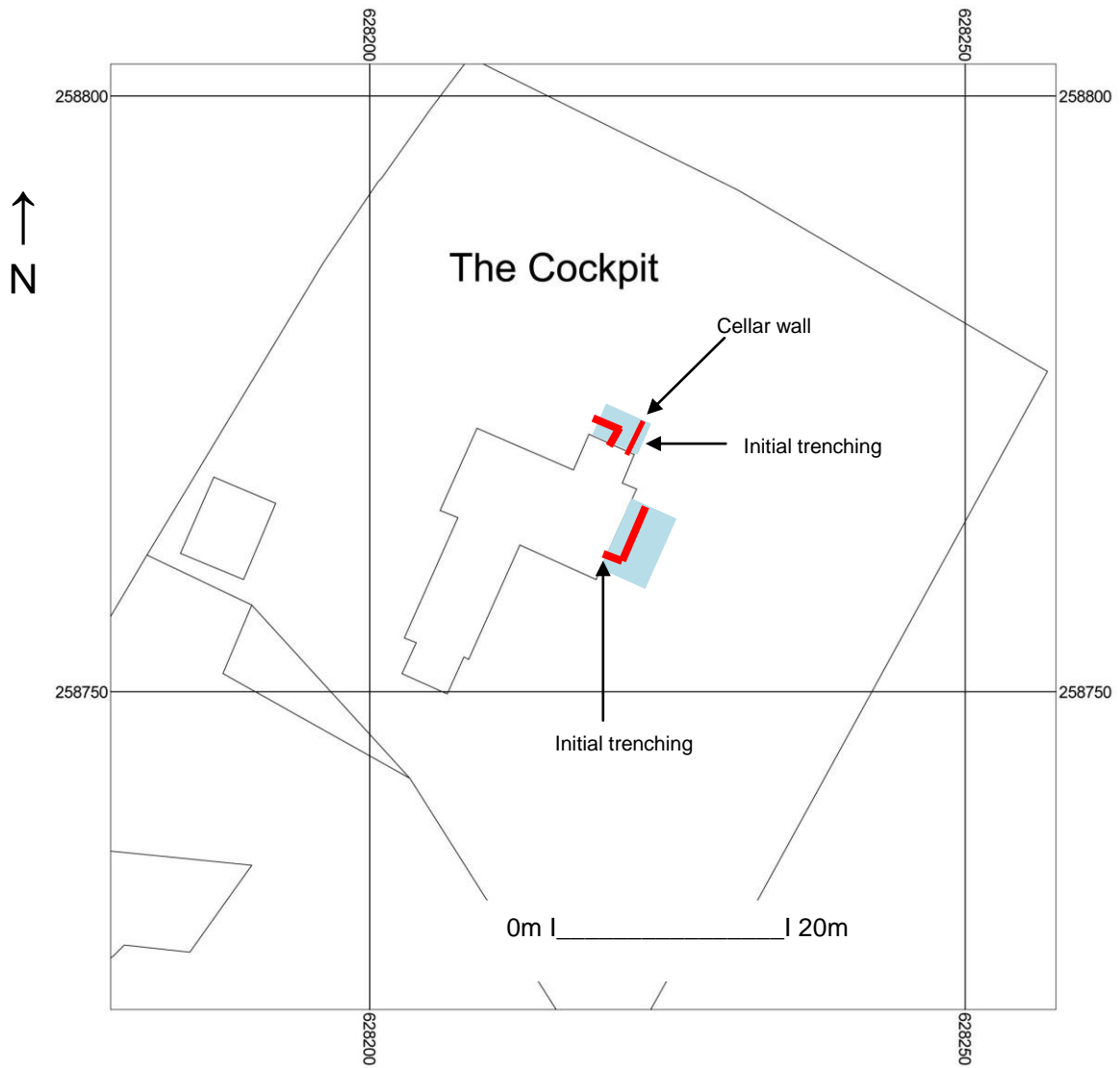


Fig. 3: Location of monitored extension raft foundation areas (light blue)
 (Red- 19th century red brick wall foundations)

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Appendix I- Images



Initial trenching at southern end of eastern extension area



Maximum depth of raft area for eastern extension



Initial trench excavation on eastern side of northern extension area with cellar wall partially exposed



Brick foundations in southwestern corner of raft area for northern extension



Full extent of raft foundation for northern extension

**The Cockpit, The Street,
Easton, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/17/4362

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

Site details

Name: The Cockpit, The Street, Easton, Suffolk, IP13 0EE

Clients: Mr & Mrs K Gray

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: DC/17/4362

Proposed development: erection of extensions including hydro pool

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Brief ref: 2015_SCCAS_Archaeological Monitoring Brief_The Cockpit, The Street, Easton

Grid ref: TM 2822 5872

Conservation area

Area: c80m²

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 Ashton Design Co Ltd on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs K Gray have 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 DC/17/4362. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological condition and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for monitoring set by Dr H Cutler 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 extensions, including the creation of a hydro pool, at The Cockpit, The Street, Easton.

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 (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001 & reissued 2014)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 The village of Eason is located in the Deben valley to the north-west of Wickham Market in east Suffolk. The village has a linear settlement pattern which historically has been influenced in recent centuries by the creation of 'The White House' and associated parkland which replaced the medieval manor house in 1627 and was built by Anthony Wingfield. This early Post medieval country house was rebuilt and enlarged in c1830 as the seat of the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon and then demolished in the mid-1920s following its use as an army hospital and depot in World War I. The main survival of this country house is its serpentine boundary walls and the area of the planned development at The Cockpit is some 80m to the west of the parish church on or very close to the site of The White House as indicated on the tithe map extract included below.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 Advice from the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service has highlighted the archaeological potential of this site as it lies within the area defined in the Historic Environment Record (HER) as the historic core of the village (HER ETN 017) close to the parish church. In addition the planned development area is on or very close to the probable site of the medieval manor (HER ETN 005) which was replaced in the earlier 17th century by Wingfield's country house that was extensively rebuilt in c1830 and demolished in the mid-1920s. The advice then confirms that the disturbance caused by the relevant ground works for this small scale development can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during excavation by the building contractor.

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 of later late Saxon, medieval and earlier Post medieval settlement activity within the area of the historic village core, close to the parish church and on, or close, to the site of the medieval manor. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the foundation trenches excavation for the planned pool before other works progress to allow for detailed investigation and recording work. This monitoring will aim to record all possible details related 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 exposed.

5. Methodology

5.1 The construction method to be used on the site will be trench foundations plus the creation of the hydro pool. These ground works will be monitored during and after excavation and the upcast spoil will be examined for finds with the excavation works being taken initially to the depth where archaeological deposits if present might be revealed so they can be fully investigated and recorded. 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. A search will also be commissioned from the County HER for an area within 200m of the site to inform any positive monitoring results (with the associated invoice reference included in the report).

5.2 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under an 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 and as appropriate a metal detector search will be carried out. Archaeological deposits will be fully hand investigated and recorded within the constraints of the trench and pool foundations with sections at appropriate points with adequate time being given to carry out these investigations via liaison with the contractor. 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 40 litre palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas if

John Newman Archaeological Services

relevant archaeological deposits are revealed. If human burial evidence is revealed the relevant 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 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 *MoRPHE* and this will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 6 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 *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 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 works on site start 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 and, if appropriate, a vector plan in .dxf format will be provided showing the area examined. 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 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.

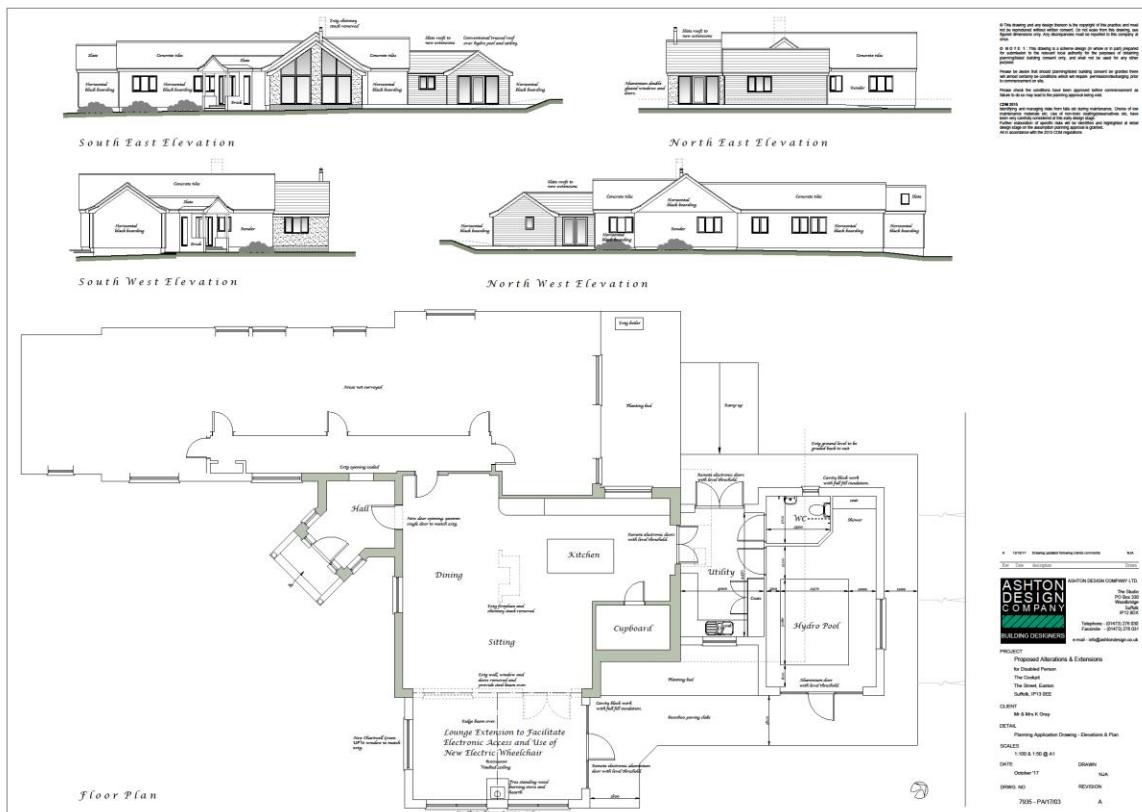
6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Tovergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

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



Extract from parish tithe map of 1838



Planned development

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-312973

Project details

Project name	The Cockpit, The Street, Easton, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Easton, The Cockpit, The Street (ETN 027, TM 2822 5876) excavation works for two new extensions at this site which is located over part of the site of The White House; a major country house that in its final form was largely rebuilt in c1830 and demolished to ground level in 1925, had to take the form of shallow raft foundations as large 19th century brick wall foundations were revealed and left in situ to maintain local structural stability.
Project dates	Start: 16-04-2018 End: 18-04-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	ETN 027 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/17/4362/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	CELLAR Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL EASTON THE COCKPIT, THE STREET
Postcode	IP13 0EE
Study area	60 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 2822 5876 52.179244542222 1.338522819136 52 10 45 N 001 20 18 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 19m Max: 20m
Project creators	
Name of	John Newman Archaeological Services

Organisation	
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	Left in situ
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	The Cockpit, The Street, Easton, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
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