

**Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green,
Wickhambrook, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/18/0170/HH

HER Ref: WKB 052

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: Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green, Wickhambrook, Suffolk, CB8 8XS

Client: Mr & Mrs Merry

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: DC/18/0170/HH

Development: Erection of conservatory

Date of fieldwork: 8 June, 2018

HER ref: WKB 052

LBS ref: 1264825

OASIS: johnnewm1-318702

Grid ref: TL 7455 5565

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Summary: Wickhambrook, Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green (WKB 052, TL 7455 5565) monitoring of ground works for a conservatory extension at a listed building of 17th/18th century date close to a green edge did not reveal any features or finds of archaeological significance (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs Merry).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr & Mrs Merry 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/18/0170/HH. 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 conservatory at Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green, Wickhambrook (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Wickhambrook is located to the south-west of Bury St Edmunds close to the upper reaches of the River Glem with, historically, a settlement pattern located around the parish church and strung out along roads and the local roads and greens in the parish such as Moor Green and Coltsfoots Green. Clematis Cottage is located c1300m north-west of the parish church close to what was Moor Green (now Meeting Green) and is a grade II listed building described as being of 17th-18th century date.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by the proximity of Clematis Cottage to a medieval green and to the site where substantial foundations for a structure of uncertain date were revealed at Sunset Bungalow (see Fig. 2, HER WKB 010) in the 1950s.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring of the ground works for the foundation trenches, which were hand excavated, was carried out in a single day under good weather conditions and the upcast spoil was inspected closely as the work progressed. The foundation trenches 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 foundation trenches for the new conservatory (see Fig. 2) were 400mm wide and below 200-300mm of topsoil 200mm of mid brown clay subsoil containing a few small brick/tile fragments of later Post medieval date was revealed. The locally occurring natural glaciofluvial deposit at the site was very stiff pale brown chalky clay as anticipated. No archaeological features were revealed in the c12m of foundation trenching

4. Conclusion

4.1 With no archaeological features or finds revealed during this monitoring it can only be concluded that the structural evidence seen at the nearby Sunset Bungalow

does not extend into this area and, in addition, no indication was seen of activity pre-dating the construction of Clematis Cottage in the 17th/18th century period.

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

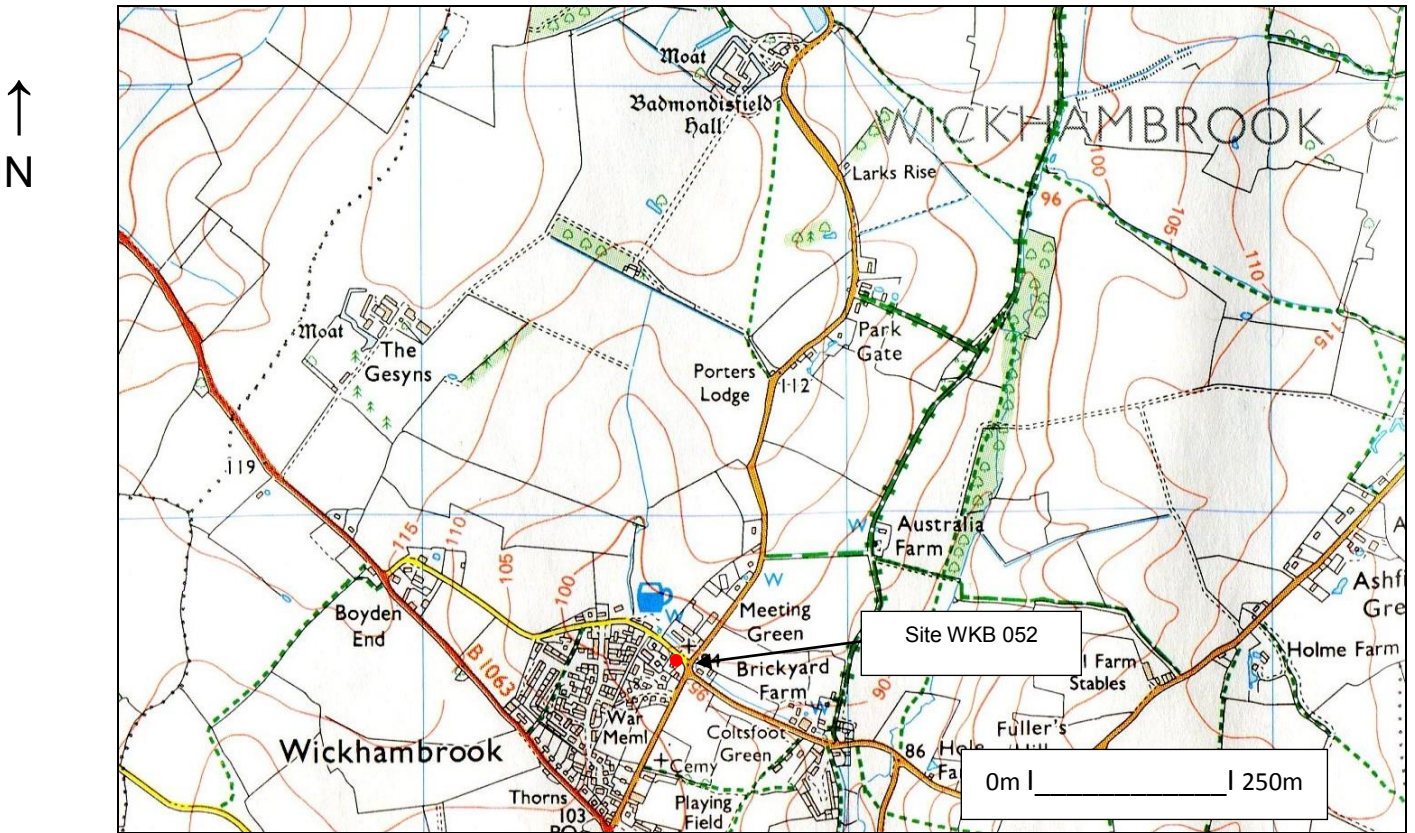


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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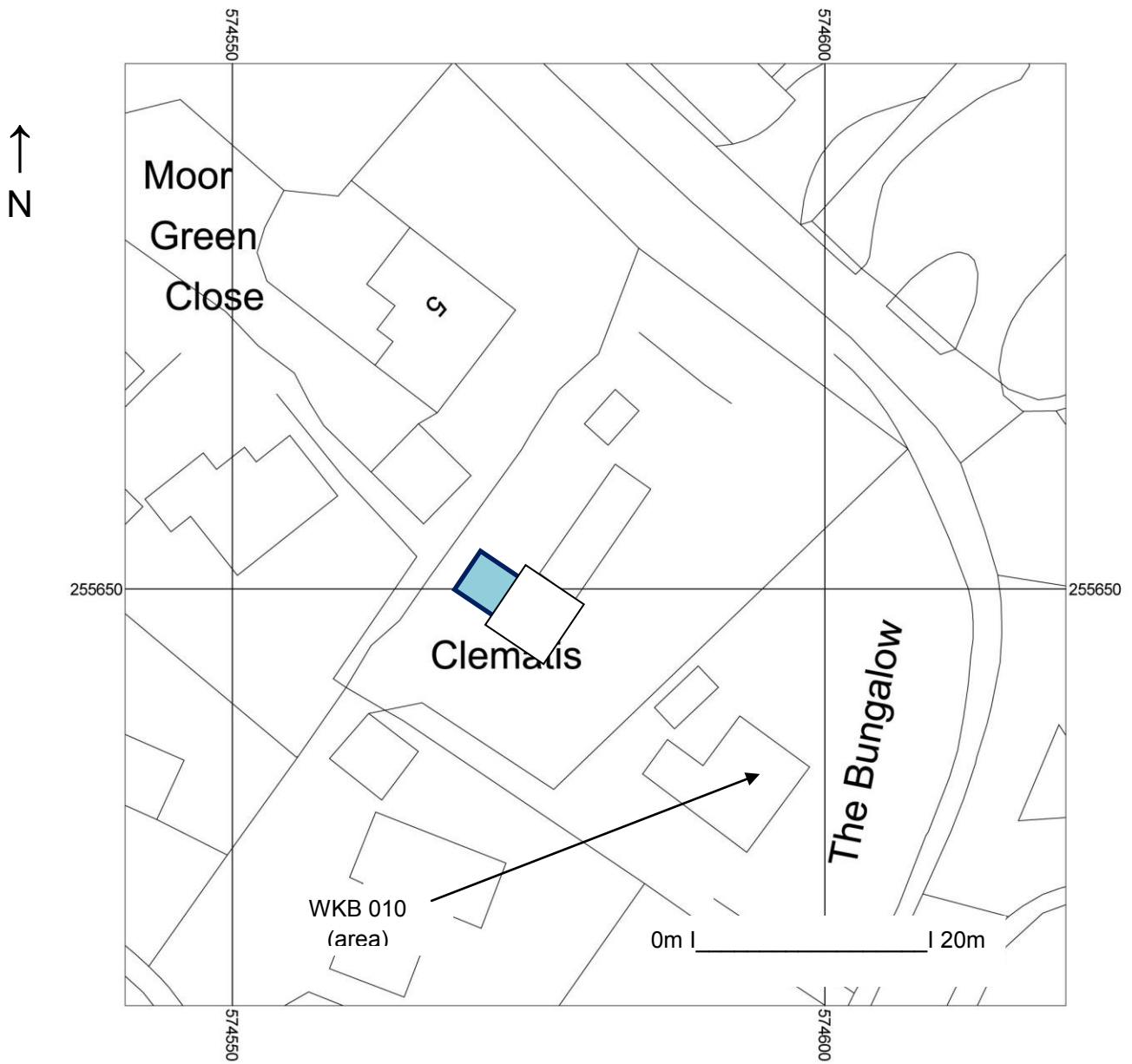


Fig. 2: Location of monitored conservatory foundations (dark blue)
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Appendix I- Images



General view from southwest



Southern foundation trench



Western foundation trench



Northern foundation trench

**Clematis Cottage, Wickhambrook,
Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/18/0170/HH

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

Site details

Name: Clematis Cottage, Wickhambrook, Suffolk, CB8 8XS

Client: Mr & Mrs Merry

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: DC/18/0170/HH

Proposed development: erection of conservatory

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Brief ref: 2018_04_27 Clematis Cottage Wickhambrook Archaeological Brief

Grid ref: TL 7458 5565

Area: c20m²

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2. Location, Topography & Geology
3. Archaeological & Historical Background
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5. Methodology
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1. Introduction

1.1 Mr & Mrs Merry 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/18/0170/HH. 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 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 a conservatory extension at Clematis Cottage, Wickhambrook.

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 Wickhambrook is located to the south-west of Bury St Edmunds close to the upper reaches of the River Glem with, historically, a settlement pattern located around the parish church and strung out along roads and the local roads and greens in the parish such as Moor Green and Coltsfoots Green. Clematis Cottage is located c1300m north-west of the parish church close to what was Moor Green (now Meeting Green) and is a grade II listed building described as being of 17th-18th century date.

2.2 The British Geological Survey describes the local superficial deposits as being chalky till of the Lowestoft Formation with outwash sands, gravels and silts with the site being at c95m OD.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'The application is for a conservatory extension to Clematis Cottage, a listed building of 17th-18th century date. The application lies within c20m of the record of substantial foundations, including a massive stone block, which were encountered during the excavation of footings (for Sunset Bungalow) in the 1950s and which meant that the original site had to be abandoned (County Historic Environment Record WKB 010). The date and nature of the structures that the recorded finds represent is not known, but are potentially early.' The advice then confirms that the disturbance caused by the relevant ground works for this 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 medieval to early Post medieval period activity. Site monitoring arrangements with the landowner will allow for unimpeded access to the foundation works 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 the excavation of foundation trenches. These ground works will be monitored during and after excavation and the upcast spoil will be examined for 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. A search will also be commissioned from the County HER for an area within 250m 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 the 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 trenches with sections at appropriate points with adequate being given to carry out these investigations. 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 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

John Newman Archaeological Services

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 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



BLOCK/SITE PLAN
AREA 90m x 90m
SCALE 1:500 on A4
CENTRE COORDINATES: 574586, 255885



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Planned development

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-318702

Project details

Project name	Clematis Cottage, Wickhambrook, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Wickhambrook, Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green (WKB 052, TL 7455 5565) monitoring of ground works for a conservatory extension at a listed building of 17th/18th century date close to a green edge did not reveal any features or finds of archaeological significance.
Project dates	Start: 08-06-2018 End: 08-06-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WKB 052 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	1264825 - LBS No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/18/0170/HH - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
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 ST EDMUNDSBURY WICKHAMBROOK CLEMATIS COTTAGE
Postcode	CB8 8XS
Study area	20 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 7455 5565 52.171005676525 0.552782391667 52 10 15 N 000 33 10 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 99m Max: 100m
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	Clematis Cottage, Meeting Green, Wickhambrook, Suffolk-Archaeological Monitoring Report
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