

**Hartest Lake, Hartest,
Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/17/03284

HER Ref: HRT 037

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(October 2018)

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Site details for HER

Name: Hartest Lake, Hartest, Suffolk, IP29 4EQ

Client: Maple Building Services

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: DC/17/03284

Development: Erection of one dwelling

Date of fieldwork: 11 & 17 September, 2018

HER ref: HRT 037

OASIS: johnnewm1-328060

Grid ref: TL 8286 5338

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Summary: Hartest, Hartest Lake (HRT 037, TL 8286 5338) monitoring of ground works for a new dwelling close to the site of a recorded Roman period site of apparent high status did not reveal any features of any archaeological significance with the few stray finds in the upcast spoil being of recent date (John Newman Archaeological Services for Maple Building Services).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Maple Building Services on behalf of their client 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/17/03284. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Mr J Rolfe 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 new dwelling at Hartest Lake, Hartest, (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Hartest parish lies approximately midway between Bury St Edmunds and Sudbury in south Suffolk in a landscape historically characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern partly focused within parishes on the respective church but largely scattered round the numerous greens and along roads and lanes. The planned development site on land at Hartest Lake is located on a gentle south facing slope just above the 90 m OD contour 1000m north-west of the parish church and c600m north of a small stream course.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location close to a large artefact scatter recorded on the County Historic Environment Record (HER HRT 027) indicative of a Roman period site of high status. Therefore further archaeological deposits of this period might be anticipated in this area. However given the limited ground disturbance for this build being restricted to stanchion pad bases to avoid damage to nearby tree root avoidance areas the archaeological mitigation strategy was specified as monitoring of these ground works.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 Two visits were made to the site to monitor the excavation of the relevant stanchion pits with this type of construction method being adopted to avoid areas where tree root protection precluded other types of foundation work. During these visits the pits were entered to examine the exposed deposits with the upcast spoil also being examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for archaeological finds. A number of digital images were also taken of the excavated pits and they were plotted in relation to nearby mapped features and a representative number are included in Appendix I below.

3. Results

3.1 The stanchion pits along the wall lines for the planned new builds (see Fig. 2) were 1200/1300mm by 1200mm and were mechanically excavated to a depth of 800mm-900mm into the top of the underlying natural glaciofluvial stiff pale brown chalky clay with flints where archaeological features would have been exposed if

present. The topsoil was 300mm deep above 200mm to 300mm of mid brown clay subsoil with the pits being taken into the top of the natural boulder clay to ensure that no archaeological features were missed.

3.2 With some 36 stanchion pits being examined no archaeological features were identified. In addition the only stray finds in the upcast spoil were occasional small pottery sherds and small brick and tile fragments of later 19th to early/mid-20th century date. In addition the metal detector search only recovered small scraps of sheet copper alloy and small lead fragments of indeterminate date. The previous use of the site a general storage area for building materials and as coach depot had also led to the general discard of small fragments of iron debris that caused a lot of background interference for the detector search.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While the site for this new dwelling is some 500m east of the recorded find spot of various finds of Romano British date that indicate the location of a high status building or complex (HER HRT 027) the monitoring of the stanchion pits did not reveal any archaeological features and the only stray finds in the upcast spoil were of recent date. Therefore it can be confirmed that these development works have not disturbed any archaeological deposits and from these results it can only be concluded that the nearby Roman period site does not extend into this area at Hartest Lake and while area of the north-eastern structure was not seen it seems unlikely that work here would reveal anything of significance.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone from Maple Building Services for their close cooperation during the monitoring)

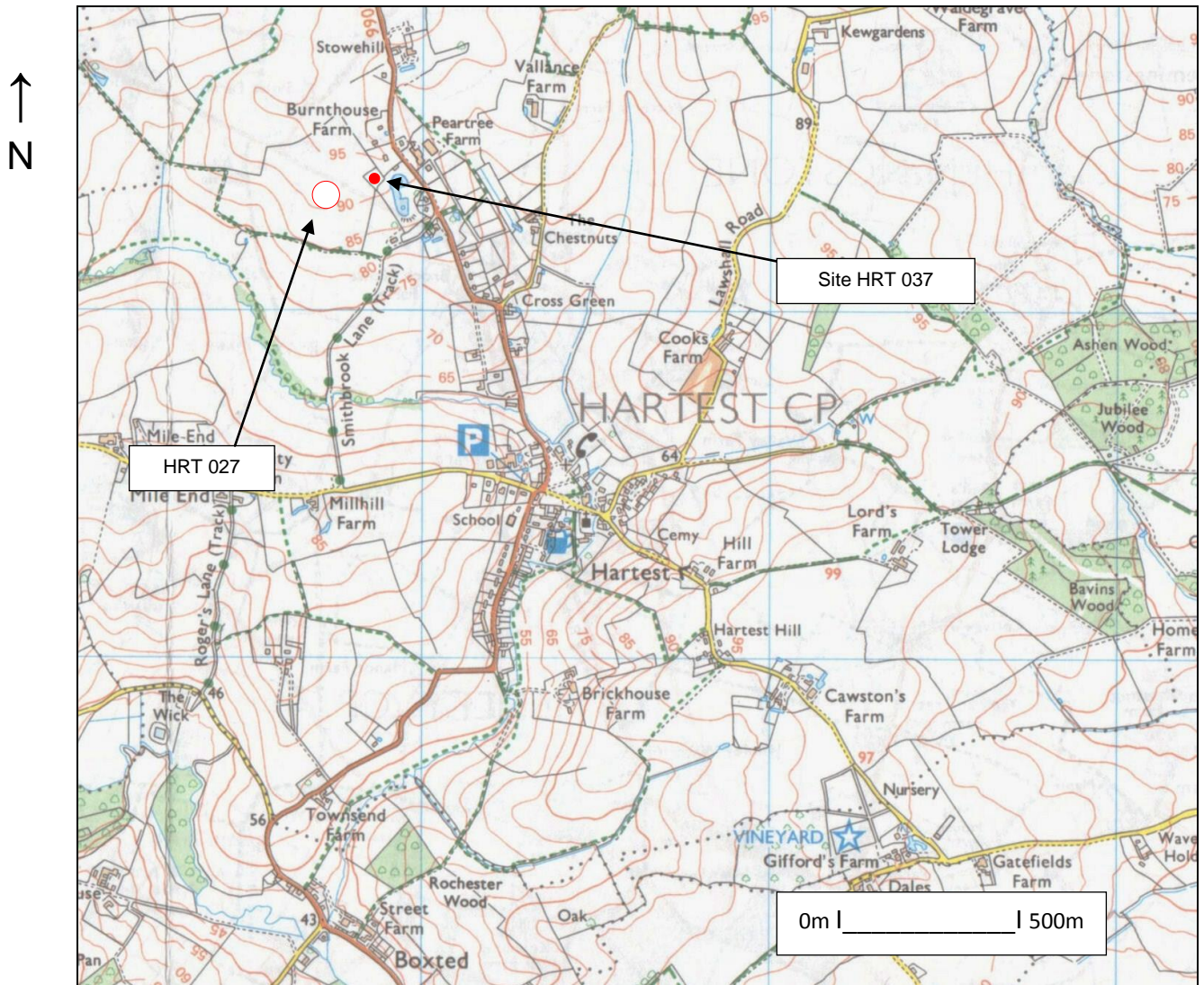


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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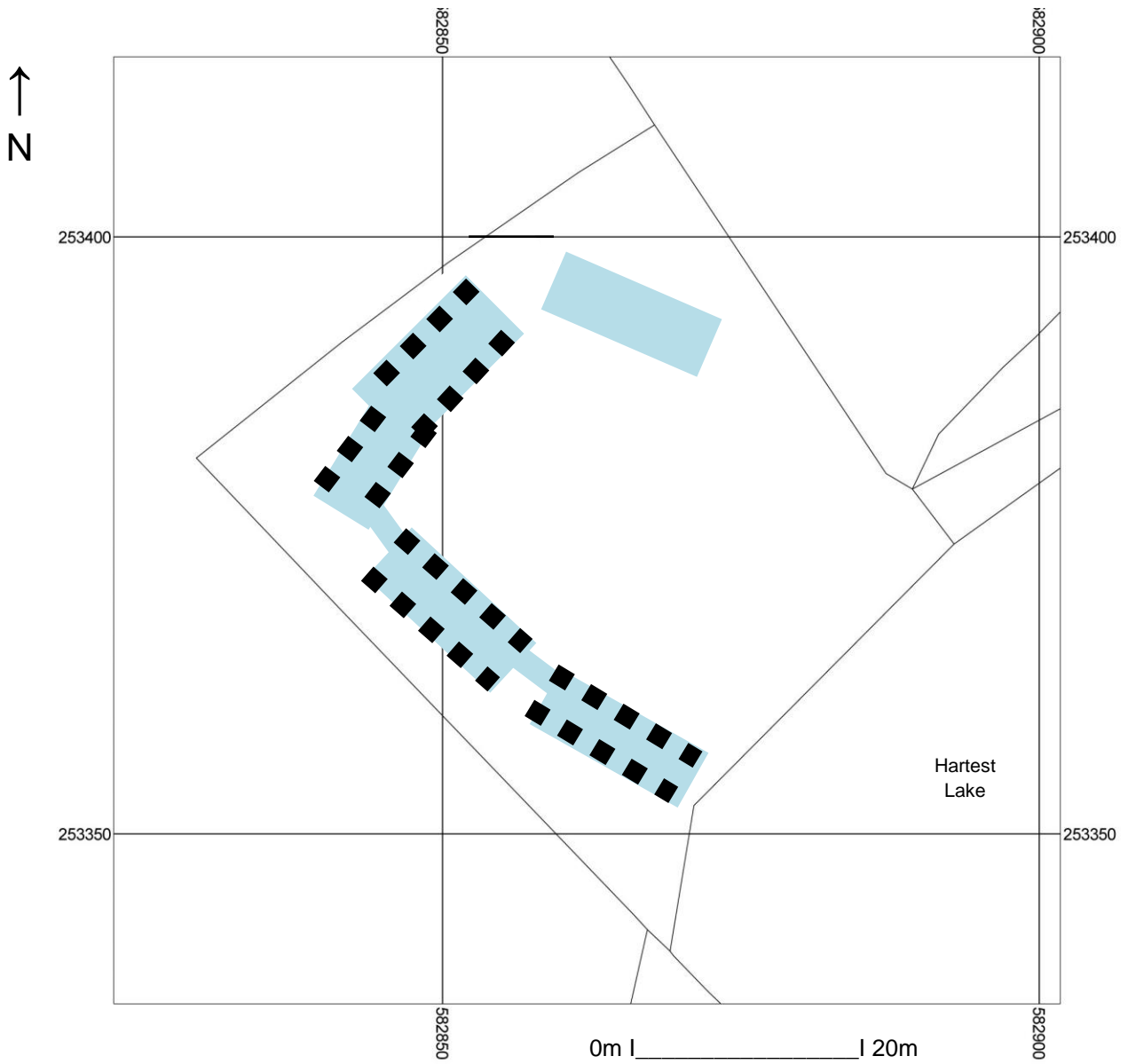


Fig. 2: Location of monitored stanchion pits
 (Light blue- new build footprints, black- stanchion pits)
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Appendix I- Images



General view from northwest



General view from south



Stanchion pit on eastern side of site



Stanchion pit on southern side of site



Stanchion pit on western side of site



Stanchion pit on northern side of site

**Hartest Lake, Hartest,
Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/17/03284

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

Site details

Name: Hartest Lake, Hartest

Client: Maple Building Services

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: DC/17/03284

Proposed development: erection of new dwelling

Proposed date for ground works: tbc (September, 2018)

Brief ref: SCCAS Archaeological Monitoring Brief 17_03284_Hartest Lake_Hartest

Grid ref: TL 8286 5338

Area: c200m²

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2. Location, Topography & Geology
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1. Introduction

1.1 Maple Building Services 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/17/03284. 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 Mr J Rolfe 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 new dwelling at Hartest Lake, Hartest.

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 Hartest parish lies approximately midway between Bury St Edmunds and Sudbury in south Suffolk in a landscape historically characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern partly focused within parishes on the respective church but largely scattered round the numerous greens and along roads and lanes. The proposed development site (PDS) on land at Hartest Lake is located on a gentle south facing slope just above the 90 m OD contour 1000m north-west of the parish church and c600m north of a small stream course.

2.2 The PDS is located in an area described by the British Geological Survey as having superficial deposits of chalky till of the Lowestoft Formation with outwash sands, gravels and silts.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'This site lies in an area of archaeological potential recorded on the County Historic Environment Record, in close proximity to a large Roman artefact scatter including metalwork and building material, suggesting a high status site (HRT 027). As a result, there is high potential for the discovery of below-ground heritage assets of archaeological importance within this area, and groundworks associated with the development have the potential to damage or destroy any archaeological remains which exist.' 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 as these will be limited to foundation pad pits and service trenches with no major ground disturbance at the site.

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 Roman period activity. Site monitoring arrangements with the contractor and 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 restricted to 46 no foundation pads with a maximum size of 900mm x 900mm plus service 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 foundation pits with sections at appropriate points with adequate time 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

John Newman Archaeological Services

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 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



Planned development

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-328060

Project details

Project name	Hartest Lake, Brockley Road, Hartest, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Hartest, Hartest Lake (HRT 037, TL 8286 5338) monitoring of ground works for a new dwelling close to the site of a recorded Roman period site of apparent high status did not reveal any features of any archaeological significance with the few stray finds in the upcast spoil being of recent date.
Project dates	Start: 11-09-2018 End: 17-09-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	HRT 037 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/17/03284 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH HARTEST HARTEST LAKE, BROCKLEY ROAD
Postcode	IP29 4EQ
Study area	2000 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 8286 5338 52.147915858484 0.672953161691 52 08 52 N 000 40 22 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 89m Max: 90m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design	John Newman

originator	
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	Hartest Lake, Hartest, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
Description	Loose bound client report and pdf
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