No 30 East Street, Southwold, Suffolk

Planning application: DC/16/1006

HER Ref: SWD 079

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(© John Newman BA MIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA) (February 2019)

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

Site details for HER

Name: No 30 East Street, Southwold, Suffolk, IP18 6EH

Client: Mr S Matthews

Local planning authority: Waveney DC

Planning application ref: DC/16/1006

Development: Erection of rear extension and alterations

Date of fieldwork: 27 November, 2018

HER ref: SWD 079

OASIS: johnnewm1-334852

Conservation Area

LBS: 1384349 (Grade II)
Grid ref: TM 50898 76120

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Summary: Southwold, 30 East Street (SWD 079, TM 50898 76120) monitoring of ground works for a rear extension revealed one pit of 20th century date. Stray finds in the upcast spoil included a large number of brick, tile and glass fragments of recent date plus a small number of pottery sherds of medieval, 12th to 14th century date, with the size and relatively unabraded state of these sherds indicative of past activity of this date in the East Street area (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr S Matthews).

1. Introduction & background

- 1.1 Mr R Pirkis on behalf of his client Mr S Matthews 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/16/1006. 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 rear extension at 30 East Street, Southwold (see Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The coastal town of Southwold while not mentioned by name in the Domesday Book appears to be recorded under the entry for nearby Reydon with a population (heads of household/tax payers) of 9 at 1066 and 62 in the later in 1086 (Gault, 1990). However Southwold had outgrown Reydon by the later medieval period with a market in the former by at least 1221 and by 1524 there are 115 taxpayers recorded while by 1674 there were 200 households and a population of 1,054 in 1801 (ibid.). This Post medieval expansion of Southwold can clearly be seen in the townscape with numerous buildings of 18th and 19th century date lining the main streets with 30 East Street falling into this category being a Grade II listed brick built structure, along with No 32, with a pan tile roof of mid-18th century date having originally been built as four cottages. No 30 East Street is located on the northern side of the street some 70m east of the Market Place at c 8m OD in a an area of light and well drained glaciofluvial sands and gravels.
- 1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was therefore generated by its location within the area defined in the County Historic Environment Record (CHER) as the historic core of the town (CHER SWD 051). Therefore deposits of medieval and earlier Post medieval might be anticipated though due to the small scale of the relevant ground works monitoring followed by full reporting was seen as a suitable archaeological mitigation strategy.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring of the ground works for the foundation trenches, which were excavated using a medium sized 360 machine, was undertaken during a single site visit under good weather conditions and the upcast spoil was inspected closely as the work progressed. The foundation trenches were then entered and examined closely. The 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 In total some 26m of 700mm wide foundation trench were excavated (see Fig. 2) to a depth of 800mm with 400mm of topsoil already having been removed from the extension footprint area. These trenches revealed 500mm of mid brown sandy subsoil above 40mm to 60mm of a dark brown iron pan deposit with the underlying natural glaciofluvial deposit being yellow sand with flints.
- 3.2 The upcast spoil contained a large number of brick, tile and glass fragments of early to mid-20th century date plus a few whiteware sherds of a similar date. At the north-western corner of the new extension area a 600mm deep and 1300mm wide pit which contained fragments of late 19th to early 20th-century brick, tile and glass fragments was revealed.
- 3.3 A small number of pottery sherds (4no-wt. 111g) of medieval, 12th-14th century AD, date were also recovered from the upcast spoil and the full report on these finds by Sue Anderson is included as Appendix III below. In summary these sherds are all of coarseware types common to the county though it may be noted that two of the sherds were of a moderate weight (31g & 48g) and are relatively unabraded. In addition a sherd of 16th-18th century glazed red earthenware was also recovered as a stray find.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site lies within the area defined as the historic core of Southwold the only feature revealed in the foundation trenches was a pit of recent, early/mid-20th century, date. The recovery of a few sherds of medieval pottery from the upcast spoil is, however, of interest particularly as two of the sherds from their condition suggest local past disposal therefore indicating that this area at East Street formed part of medieval Southwold and that any further developments in this area should be investigated for archaeological deposits and finds.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone on site for their close cooperation during the monitoring and to Sue Anderson for her specialist finds work)

Ref: Gault, W 1990

A Survey of Suffolk Parish History (Suffolk CC) Ν

Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

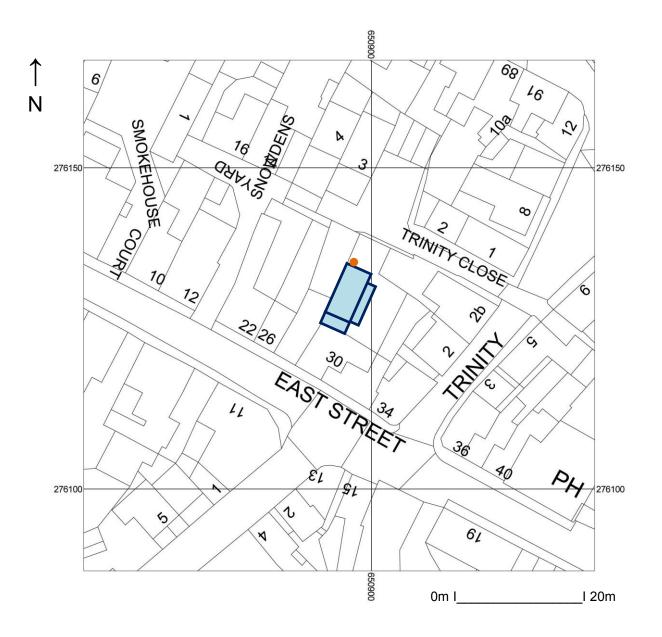


Fig. 2: Location of monitored extension area (Light blue- footprint area, dark blue- trenches, brown- 20th century pit) (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2019 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

Appendix I- Images



General view from north



Deposit profile to rear of house



Recent pit in northern trench



Deposit profile in eastern trench

No 30 East Street, Southwold, Suffolk

Planning application: DC/16/1006

Written Scheme of Investigation for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring

Site details

Name: No 30 East Street, Southwold, Suffolk, IP18 6EH

Client: Mr S Matthews

Local planning authority: Waveney DC

Planning application ref: DC/16/1006

Proposed development: Erection of rear extension and alterations

Brief ref: tbc

LBS ref: 1384349 (Grade II)

Proposed date for ground works: tbc (autumn 2017)

Grid ref: TM 50898 76120

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1. Introduction

- 2. Location, Topography & Geology
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- 4. Aims of the Site Monitoring
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Mr R Pirkis on behalf of his client Mr S Matthews 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 DC/16/1006. 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 A Antrobus 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 rear extension plus alterations at 30 East Street, Southwold.
- 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, reissued 2014).

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 The coastal town of Southwold while not mentioned by name in the Domesday Book appears to be recorded under the entry for nearby Reydon with a population of 9 in the former and 62 in the latter in 1086 (Gault, 1990). However Southwold had outgrown Reydon by the later medieval period with a market in the former by at least 1221 and by 1524 there are 115 taxpayers recorded while by 1674 there were 200 households and a population of 1,054 in 1801 (ibid.). This Post medieval expansion of Southwold can clearly be seen in the townscape with numerous buildings of 18th and 19th century date lining the main streets with 30 East Street falling into this category being a Grade II listed brick built structure, along with No 32, with a pan tile roof of mid-18th century date having originally been built as four cottages. No 30 East Street is located on the northern side of the street some 70m east of the Market Place at c 8m OD in a an area of light and well drained glaciofluvial sands and gravels.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 As outlined in the relevant Brief archaeological interest in this extension development has been generated by its location within the area defined in the County Historic Environment Record as the medieval core of Southwold (SWD 051). Therefore archaeological deposits of medieval and early Post medieval date may be present and potentially would therefore be disturbed by the planned works.
- 3.2 While this development may reveal deposits of archaeological significance the Brief confirms that this potential disturbance to local heritage assets can be mitigated by their investigation and recording as ground works progress through a programme of continuous monitoring by an archaeologist with subsequent full reporting as the development is small scale.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the site lies in a location with high archaeological potential where evidence for activity of medieval and earlier Post medieval date might be found and close monitoring of ground works can best record what may be revealed. This monitoring will aim to record all possible details relating to the depth of overburden and evidence, 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 will be observed once they are underway and then through to completion and any up cast spoil examined for finds both visually and 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 and works will also be monitored to ensure that excessive damage to deposits is not caused during any period of inclement weather.
- 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 1:20 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 litre 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 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 with 100% retention of any cremation deposits for full processing and assessment. 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 low based on the location of the works).

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 and any finds that might qualify under the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to the County Finds Liaison Officer within 14 days of their recovery.

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 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 in 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 2 above and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3, 8 & 24 1997, 2000 & 2011) and the requirement for a local HER search will be discussed with SCCAS if the monitoring results are positive. A draft pdf 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 and the pdf version will be also sent to the agent and client so they can gain discharge of the relevant condition. The project will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record before site works 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.

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)

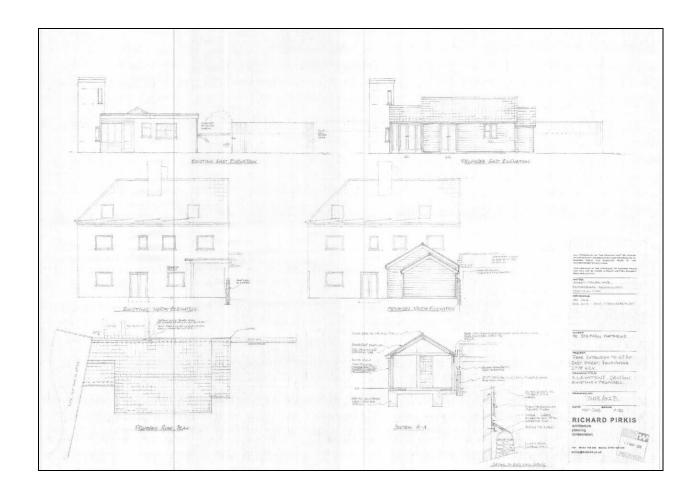
Post Roman ceramics & CBM: S Anderson (Freelance)

Roman period ceramics S Benfield (CAT)

Post Roman small finds: JNAS

Ref:

Gault, W 1990 A Survey of Suffolk Parish History (Suffolk CC)



Proposed extension plan

Appendix III- The Pottery

No 30 East Street, Southwold (SWD 079): pottery Sue Anderson, January 2019

Five sherds (122g) of medieval and later pottery were recovered as unstratified finds. Four fragments were of medieval coarsewares in fine sandy fabrics with sparse mica. At least three of these sherds were Hollesley wares (HOLL; L.13th-14th c.), including a wide strap handle with a central line of stabbing and a jug with a thickened flat-topped rim. The other was a fine sandy fabric of uncertain origin but probably local (MCWM) One rim fragment of a glazed red earthenware bowl was also recovered, and dates to the 16th-18th centuries.

Although this is a small assemblage, very little medieval pottery has been recovered from fieldwork in Southwold in recent times, and the material should be retained in the archive.

Appendix: summary catalogue of pottery

Context	Fabric	Туре	No	Wt/g	MNV	Form	Rim	Handle	Base	Spot date
0001	MCWM	В	1	48	1				sagging	12th-14th c.
0001	HOLL	Н	1	31	1			wide strap		L.13th-14th c.
0001	HOLL	R	1	23	1	jug	upright thickened			L.13th-14th c.
0001	HOLL	U	1	9	1					L.13th-14th c.
0001	GRE	R	1	11	1	jar?	bead			16th-18th c.

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-334852

Project details

Project name

No 30 East Street, Southwold, Suffolk- Archaeological

Monitoring Report

Southwold, 30 East Street (SWD 079, TM 50898 76120) monitoring of ground works for a rear extension revealed one

pit of 20th century date. Stray finds in the upcast spoil

Short description of

the project

included a large number of brick, tile and glass fragments of recent date plus a small number of pottery sherds of medieval,

12th to 14th century date, with the size and relatively unabraded state of these sherds indicative of past activity of

this date in the East Street area.

Project dates Start: 27-11-2018 End: 27-11-2018

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated

project reference

SWD 079 - Related HER No.

codes

Any associated

project reference

1384349 - LBS No.

codes

Any associated

project reference

codes

DC/16/1006 - Planning Application No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status Listed Building

Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Other 5 - Garden

Monument type PIT Modern

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

Project location

Country England

Site location SUFFOLK WAVENEY SOUTHWOLD NO 30 EAST

STREET

Postcode IP18 6EH

Study area 30 Square metres

TM 50898 76120 52.325095985537 1.682457106225 52 19

30 N 001 40 56 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 7m Max: 8m

Project creators

Name of Organisation

John Newman Archaeological Services

Project brief

Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning

originator

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

Suffolk CC Archaeological Service

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

No 30 East Street, Southwold, Suffolk- Archaeological

Monitoring Report

Author(s)/Editor(s)

Newman, J

Date

2019

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@btinernet.com)

Entered on 4 February 2019