

**No 6 Hall Cottages, The Street,
Poslingford, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/18/1278

HER Ref: PSG 029

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(March 2019)

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Site details for HER

Name: No 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Poslingford, Suffolk, CO10 8QY

Client: Mr & Mrs B Hill

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: DC/18/1278/HH

Development: Erection of rear extension

Date of fieldwork: 15 January, 2019

HER ref: PSG 029

OASIS: johnnewm1-339132

Conservation Area

Grid ref: TL 7700 4824

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Summary: Poslingford, 6 Hall Cottages (PSG 029, TL 769 482) monitoring of ground works for a rear extension in the historic core of the village revealed one pit of recent date. Stray finds in the upcast spoil included a moderate number of brick and tile fragments of 18th-20th century date plus one small sherd of medieval pottery (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs B Hill).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Nick Peasland Architectural Services on behalf of his clients Mr & Mrs B Hill 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/18/1278. 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 a rear extension at 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Poslingford (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Poslingford is a small village to the north of Clare in south-west Suffolk with a linear settlement pattern strung out along the north-south aligned main street and with a small stream flowing southwards close and parallel to this road. The site at No 6 Hall Cottages is located some 60m to the north-east of the parish church and on the eastern side of the main street and stream. At the time of the evaluation the area for the new extension had been part of the rear patio and garden at the house.

1.3 Topographically the close is close to the 70m OD contour with the British Geological Survey describing the superficial deposits as being 'Head, comprising gravel, sand and clay.'

1.4 Archaeological interest in this development was therefore generated by its location in the historic core of the village close to the church of St Mary (HER PGS 003). In addition a previous archaeological investigation (HER PSG 020- see Fig. 1) adjacent to this site recorded evidence for settlement type activity of medieval and Post medieval date. Therefore deposits of medieval and earlier Post medieval were anticipated at this site 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 20m of 700mm wide foundation trench were excavated (see Fig. 2) to a depth of 1000mm with 150mm-250mm of topsoil over 200mm-300mm of mid

brown clay subsoil. The underlying natural glaciofluvial deposit was pale brown chalky clay with flints.

3.2 The upcast spoil contained a few small fragments of brick and peg tile of later Post medieval date, one small sherd (wt. 3g) of sandy medieval coarseware and a larger pottery sherd of 19th-20th century common whiteware. The only feature revealed in the trenches, apart from a few plastic pipes of recent date, was a 1000mm wide and 900mm deep pit in the north-eastern part of the foundations which contained brick fragments of 19th to early/mid-20th century date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site lies within the area defined as the historic core of Poslingford and close to a site (HER PSG 020) where evidence of medieval settlement has been recorded the only feature revealed in the foundation trenches was a pit of recent date with the only stray find of any date being a small pottery sherd of medieval date.

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

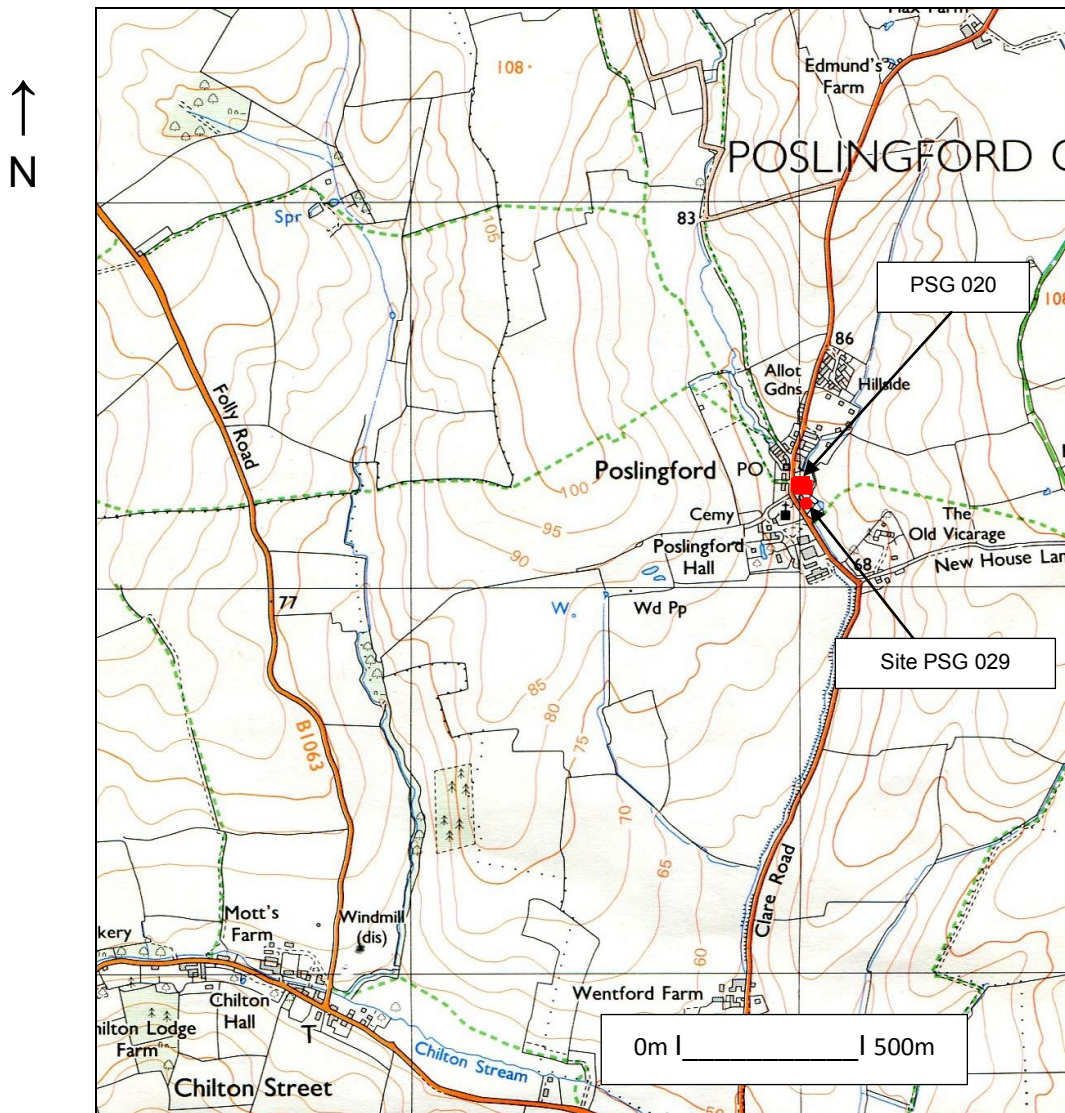


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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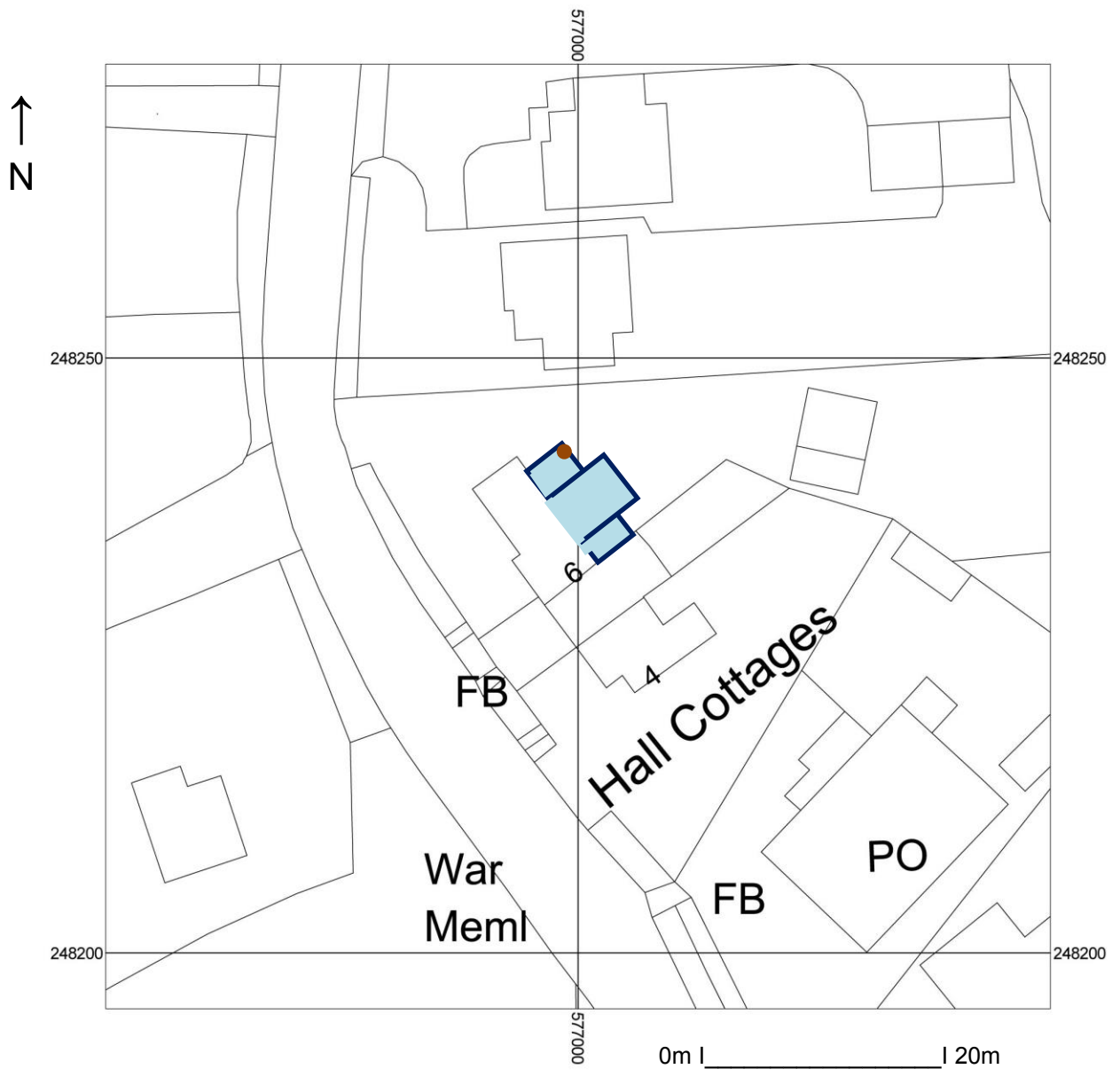


Fig. 2: Location of monitored extension area (brown circle- 20th C pit)
(Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2019 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

Appendix I- Images



General view from east



Foundation trench on eastern side



Central foundation trench from west



Recent pit on right-hand side in NW corner of trench

**No 6 Hall Cottages, The Street,
Poslingford, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/18/1278/HH

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

Site details

Name: No 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Poslingford, Suffolk

Client: Mr & Mrs B Hill

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: DC/18/1278/HH

Proposed development: Erection of rear extension

Brief ref: Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring_ 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Poslingford_2018_1278

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TL 769 482

Current land use: garden

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2. Location, Topography & Geology
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5. Methodology
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1. Introduction

1.1 Nick Peasland Architectural Services on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs B Hill 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/18/1278/HH. 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 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 a rear extension at 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Poslingford.

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 Poslingford is a small village to the north of Clare in south-west Suffolk with a linear settlement pattern strung out along the north-south aligned main street and with a small stream flowing southwards close and parallel to this road. The proposed development site (PDS) is located some 60m to the north-east of the parish church and on the eastern side of the main street and stream. At present the PDS is garden to the rear of the house.

2.2 Topographically the PDS is close to the 70m OD contour with the British Geological Survey describing the superficial deposits as being 'Head, comprising gravel, sand and clay.'

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, near the medieval church of St Mary (POS 003). The plot is directly adjacent to a known excavated area of medieval occupation (POS 020). 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.'

3.2 The archaeological advice then confirms that while this small scale development may reveal deposits of archaeological significance 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.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the PDS lies in a location with high archaeological potential to contain evidence for past activity of later Saxon to early Post medieval date in particular as it is close to the parish church and a site that has produced evidence for activity of medieval date. 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 with the primary aim of gaining more information relating to past activity potentially of later Saxon to early Post medieval date.

5. Methodology

5.1 To inform any positive results from the monitoring a search will be commissioned from the County HER covering the area within 500m of the PDS with the relevant invoice number noted in the report.

5.2 The construction method to be used on the site will be the excavation of foundation trenches. In addition any ground reduction works going below 300mm will be monitored, this will be carried out using a flat bucket. These ground works will be monitored during and after excavation and the upcast spoil will be examined for finds and the trench sides and base and the upcast spoil will be scanned with a metal detector. 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. Time will be available to hand clean sections as necessary and investigate any possible archaeological deposits.

5.3 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of archaeological contexts under an overall site 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 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.

5.4 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before recording. Archaeological deposits will be fully hand investigated (contained features half sectioned within the constraints of the trenches and linear features examined with slots again within the trenches and bonded features cleaned and recorded and sectioned if they cannot be left in situ) and recorded with sections recorded related to the trench sides 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 at the site. Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples (40 litres) will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and

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research agendas if relevant archaeological deposits are revealed. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCC Archaeological Officer and the Coroner 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 low).

5.5 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 under the *Guidelines for preparation and deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk* (2014). 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.

5.6 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 4 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.

5.7 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 site visibility. 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). 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, a pdf copy will also be sent to the client's agent 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.

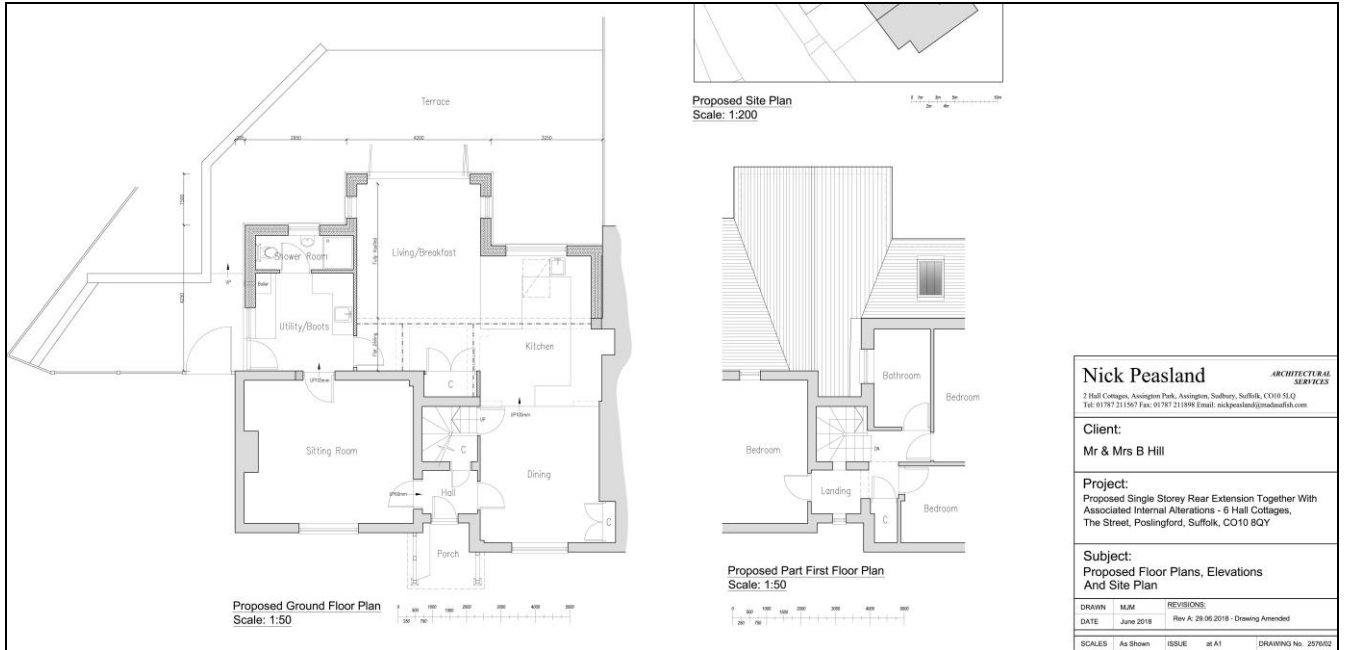
6.5 Deep holes/trenches will only be entered if assessed to be safe and after consultation with the contractor on site, they will not be entered if no-one else is in the vicinity.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider 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 period ceramics	S Benfield (CAT)
Roman period small finds	N Crummy
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

John Newman Archaeological Services



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<small>2 Hall Cottages, Assington Park, Assington, Suffolk, CO10 5LQ Tel: 01787 211567 Fax: 01787 211899 Email: nickpeasland@madefish.com</small>		
Client: Mr & Mrs B Hill		
Project: Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension Together With Associated Internal Alterations - 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Postlingford, Suffolk, CO10 8QY		
Subject: Proposed Floor Plans, Elevations And Site Plan		
<small>DRAWN</small>	<small>MJM</small>	<small>REVISIONS:</small>
<small>DATE</small>	<small>June 2018</small>	<small>Rev A: 28.06.2018 - Drawing Amended</small>
<small>SCALE:</small>	<small>As Shown</small>	<small>ISSUE: 01/11 DRAWING No: 207602</small>

Proposed extension works

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-339132

Project details

Project name	No 6 Hall Cottages, The Street, Poslingford, Suffolk-Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Poslingford, 6 Hall Cottages (PSG 029, TL 769 482) monitoring of ground works for a rear extension in the historic core of the village revealed one pit of recent date. Stray finds in the upcast spoil included a moderate number of brick and tile fragments of 18th-20th century date plus one small sherd of medieval pottery.
Project dates	Start: 15-01-2019 End: 15-01-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	PSG 029 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/18/1278 - Planning Application No.
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Modern
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY POSLINGFORD No 6 HALL COTTAGES, THE STREET
Postcode	CO10 8QY
Study area	20 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 7700 4824 52.103663427548 0.584716262668 52 06 13 N 000 35 04 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 69m Max: 70m
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 recipient	Discarded
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)
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