

**St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road,
Bradfield St Clare, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/18/2005/HH

HER Ref: BCS 001

Archaeological Monitoring Report

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

(October 2019)

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Site details for HER

Name: St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road, Bradfield St Clare, Suffolk, IP30 0EJ

Client: Mr & Mrs M Craggs

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: DC/18/2005/HH

Development: Erection of extension

Date of fieldwork: 22 July, 2019

HER ref: BCS 001

LBS ref: 1279341 (Grade II)

OASIS: johnnewm1-360182

Grid ref: TL 91998 57711

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Summary: Bradfield St Clare, St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road (BCS 001, TL 91998 57711) monitoring of ground works for a new extension to the rear of a Grade II listed former manor house with 15th-16th century origins set within a moat of medieval date revealed one pit of later Post medieval date, a brick foundation/small cellared structure of 19th century date and a small section of flint and mortar wall with the latter being below a corner of the existing hall (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs M Craggs).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Roger Balmer Design on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs M Craggs 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/18/2005/HH. 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 St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road, Bradfield St Clare (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Bradfield St Clare parish is located to the south of Bury St Edmunds in an area characterised by dispersed settlement and a low population density with small clusters of farms and cottages near the various parish churches and scattered settlement along historic roads and lanes. This parish church is in an isolated location adjacent to a single farm with St Clare Hall Farm (HER BCS 001) being 1000m to the east in a similarly isolated setting. The building is a Grade II listed structure described by Historic England's national heritage list as being 'formerly manor house, 15th and 16th century in three phases, timber framed....moated site of de St Clare family originally.'

1.3 The British Geological Survey describes the drift deposits as being chalky till of the Lowestoft Formation so ground conditions were anticipated as comprising heavy ground. The site is close to the 95m OD contour in an area of gentle topography relatively high on an interfluvium.

1.4 Archaeological interest in this development was therefore generated by its location on a moated site of medieval origin with the existing structure being of early Post medieval date.

1.5 Prior to this development the site for the new rear extension was rear back yard and garden behind St Clare Hall and in the north-eastern quarter of the island surrounded by the medieval moat.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring of the ground works for the new extension, which were excavated using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 600mm bucket, was undertaken during a single site visit under good weather conditions and the upcast spoil was inspected closely as the work progressed and it was stockpiled nearby. The trench type foundations were examined as works progressed and 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 600mm wide foundation trench were excavated (see Fig. 2) and these trenches were 1100mm deep. Below a 250mm mix of modern debris and topsoil 400mm of mid brown clay subsoil was revealed over a further 300mm of light to mid grey clay subsoil with the underlying natural glaciofluvial deposit being stiff light brown chalky clay with flints and pockets of silty orange sand.

3.2 Within the trenches a 4000mm+ wide and 1100mm deep pit containing a mid-brown clay fill containing oyster shells and brick and tile fragments of later Post medieval, 19th to earlier 20th century, date was revealed in the north-eastern corner of the trenching. In addition a red brick (bricks 4in. x 2.5in x 2.25in) foundation appearing to represent the edge of a small cellared structure, that would have been located below a now demolished 19th century farm outbuilding, was revealed on the southern edge of the southern foundation trench. Within the remainder of the trenching no features were revealed and no finds of pre-1800 date were recovered from the monitoring.

3.3 The only feature of potentially earlier date was a very small section of flint and mortar foundation revealed in a test pit on the north-eastern corner of the existing building (see Fig. 2 & Appendix I) though the foundations above this under the eastern wall of the structure were of brick and Post medieval in date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site is located within the area of a medieval moat (HER BCS 001) and to the rear of a listed building of earlier Post medieval origin the only hint of medieval structure was a very small section of flint and mortar foundation revealed under the north-eastern corner of the existing structure. Within the trenching for the new rear extension the only features revealed were a relatively large pit of later Post medieval date and the edge of a small cellared structure of 19th century date that can be associated with now demolished farm outbuildings of this date. In conclusion it can be confirmed that no archaeological deposits of any great significance were disturbed during the construction of a rear extension in the north-eastern quarter of the moated site at St Clare Hall, Bradfield St Clare.

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

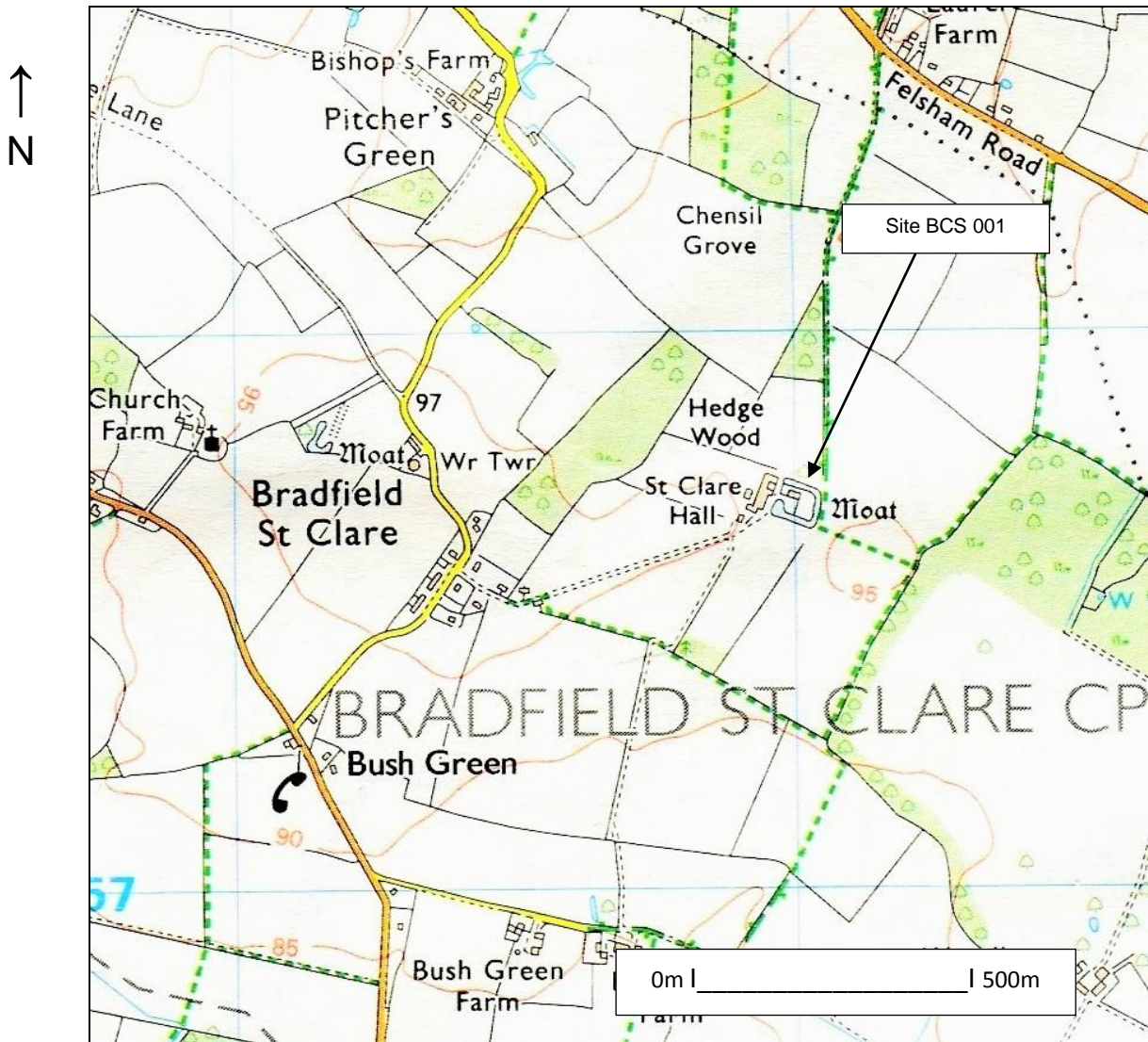


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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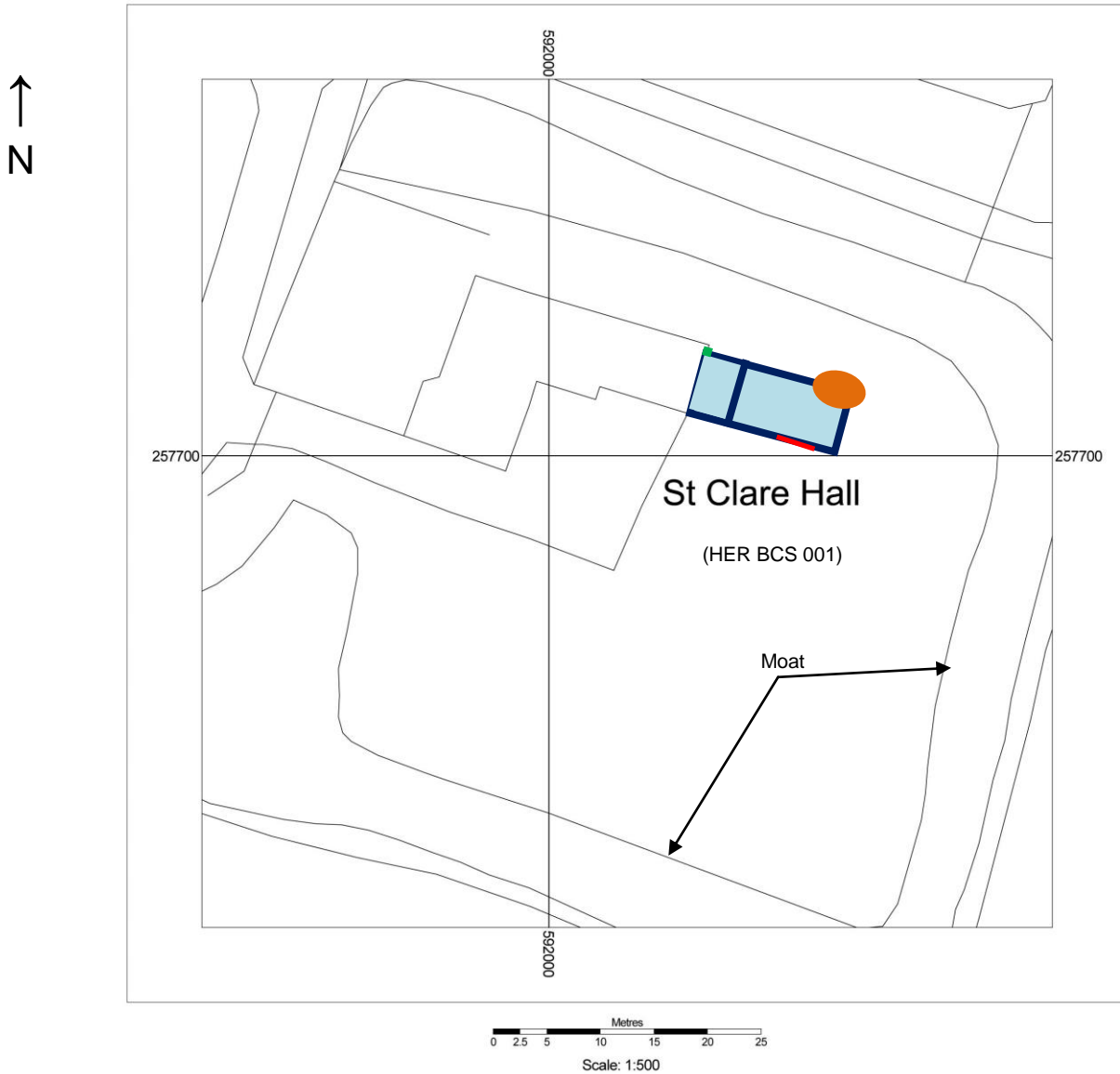


Fig. 2: Location of monitored extension area
 (Red- northern edge of small 19th C cellared area, brown- late Post medieval pit, green- fragment of flint and mortar foundation)
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Appendix I- Images



General view from east



Northern trench from east



Late Post medieval pit in north-eastern corner foundations



Eastern trench from north



Southern trench from east



Red brick 19th century probable small cellar foundation close to south-eastern corner of trenches



Small section of flint and mortar foundation below north-east corner of building

**St Clare Hall Farm, Hall Road,
Bradfield St Clare, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/18/2005/HH

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

Site details

Name: St Clare Hall Farm, Hall Road, Bradfield St Clare, Suffolk, IP30 0EJ

Client: Mr & Mrs Craggs

Local planning authority: St Edmundsbury BC

Planning application ref: DC/18/2005/HH

Proposed development: Erection of extension

Brief ref: SCCAS (HJC) Brief for continuous archaeological monitoring_ St Clare Hall Farm_St Clare Hall Road_Bradfield St Clare_2018_2005

HER ref: BSC 001

LBS ref: 1279341 (Grade II)

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TL 91998 57711

Current land use: garden

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2. Location, Topography & Geology
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1. Introduction

1.1 Roger Balmer Design on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs Craggs 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/18/2005/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 an extension at St Clare Hall Farm, Hall Road, Bradfield St Clare.

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 Bradfield St Clare parish is located to the south of Bury St Edmunds in an area characterised by dispersed settlement and a low population density with small clusters of farms and cottages near the various parish churches and scattered settlement along historic roads and lanes. This parish church is in an isolated location adjacent to a single farm with St Clare Hall Farm being 1000m to the east in a similarly isolated setting. The building is a Grade II listed structure described by Historic England's national heritage list as being 'formerly manor house, 15th and 16th century in three phases, timber framed....moated site of de St Clare family originally.'

2.2 The British Geological Survey describes the drift deposits as being chalky till of the Lowestoft Formation so ground conditions can be anticipated as comprising heavy ground with potentially poor local drainage. The site is close to the 95m OD contour in an area of gentle topography relatively high on an interfluvium.

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 as it is on the site of a Medieval moated site (BSC 001). 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 this moated site has high archaeological potential to contain evidence for past activity of medieval to early Post 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 medieval 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

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palaeoenvironmental samples (40 litres) 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 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.

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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.

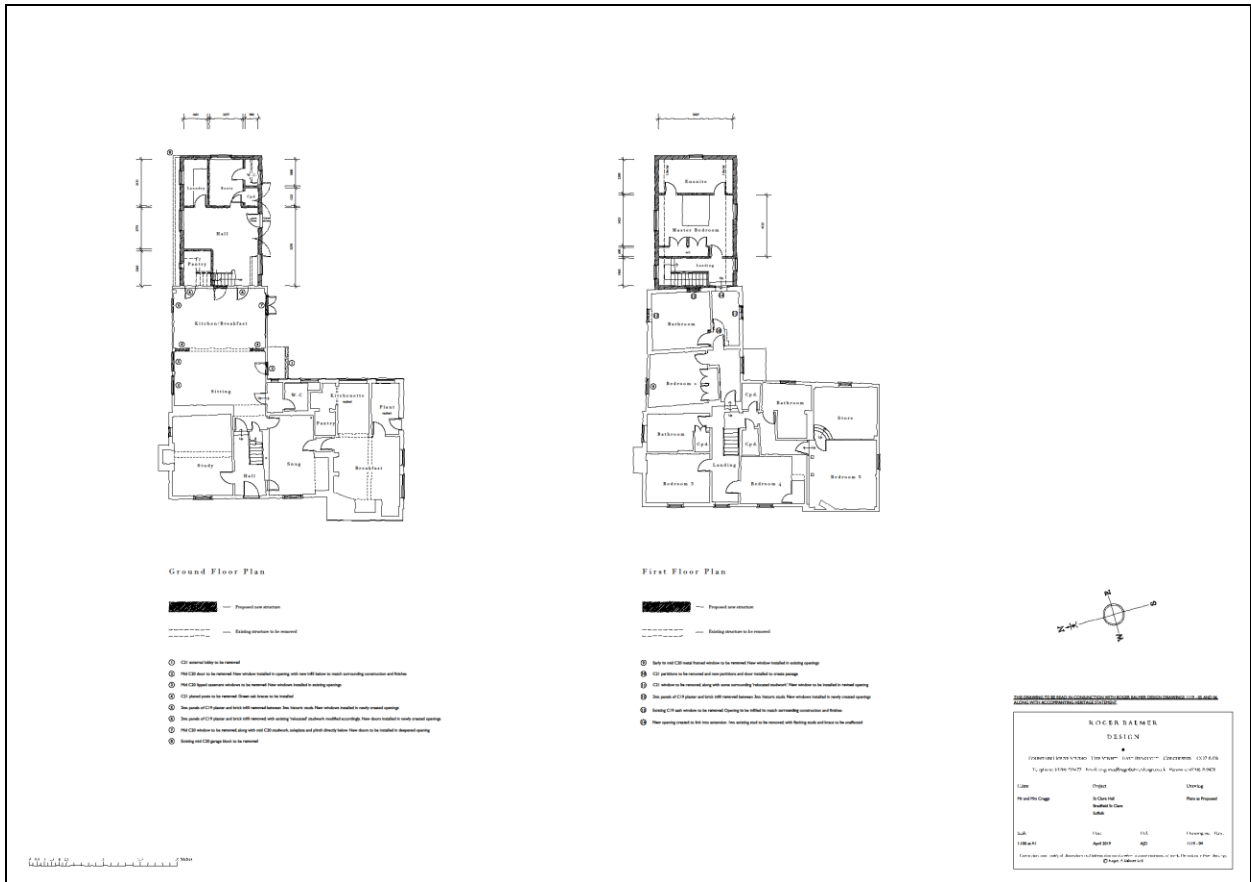
6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

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	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Roman period small finds	N Crummy
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS



Proposed extension works

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-360182

Project details

Project name	St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road, Bradfield St Clare, Suffolk-Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Bradfield St Clare, St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road (BCS 001, TL 91998 57711) monitoring of ground works for a new extension to the rear of a Grade II listed former manor house with 15th-16th century origins set within a moat of medieval date revealed one pit of later Post medieval date, a brick foundation/small cellared structure of 19th century date and a small section of flint and mortar wall with the latter being below a corner of the existing hall.
Project dates	Start: 22-07-2019 End: 22-07-2019
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BCS 001 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	1279341 - LBS No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/18/2005/HH - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Medieval
Monument type	CELLAR Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY BRADFIELD ST CLARE St CLARE HALL, St CLARE HALL ROAD
Postcode	IP30 0EJ
Study area	200 Square metres

Site coordinates	TL 91918 57711 52.183724659734 0.807639446118 52 11 01 N 000 48 27 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 93m Max: 94m
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)
Title	St Clare Hall, St Clare Hall Road, Bradfield St Clare, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
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