# Land To The Rear Of 51-55 Earsham Street, Bungay, Suffolk

Planning application: DC/19/3187/FUL

HER Ref: BUN 194

**Archaeological Monitoring Report** 

(© John Newman BA CMIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA) (July 2020)

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

#### Site details for HER

Name: Land to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 1DE

Client: Mr R Derham

Local planning authority: East Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: DC/19/3187/FUL (formerly DC/14/2910/FUL)

Development: Demolition of workshop and erection of one dwelling

Date of fieldwork: 18 December, 2019 & 26 February, 2020

SM ref: SF 1, HA 1006060

SMC ref: S0022229922

HER ref: BUN 194

OASIS: johnnewm1-378186

Grid ref: TM 33450 89772

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Summary: Bungay, land to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street (BUN 194, TM 33450 89772) monitoring of ground works for a new dwelling following the demolition of a workshop just within the outer bailey of Bungay Castle was carried out under a SMC as well as a planning condition as it affected parts of the scheduled outer bailey wall on its western side and northeastern edge. With close cooperation it was possible to photographically record the surviving wall foundations and leave the majority of it in situ with some wall foundation being as built and some appearing to be large blocks of collapsed masonry. No archaeological features or finds of any age were revealed below the workshop floor (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr R Derham).

#### 1. Introduction & background

- 1.1 Mr J Putman on behalf of his client Mr R Derham commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring and recording of ground works required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for DC/19/3187/FUL. 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 following the granting of Scheduled Monument Consent by Historic England (Ref: S0022229922) as the surviving wall lines on the northern and western sides of the former workshop form part of the Scheduled Monument at Bungay Castle (SM ref: SF1/HA 1006060) to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street (see Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Located in north-east Suffolk on the River Waveney that forms the county boundary with Norfolk Bungay is a small town and local centre with a market recorded from 1199/1200, the market place being on the eastern side of the castle. A castle was probably in existence in Bungay soon after the conquest period of the mid-11th century though after Hugh Bigod joined the Earl of Leicester's revolt in 1173 Henry II ordered its destruction along with the Bigod castles at Framlingham and Walton but Hugh managed to ransom it back soon after the demolition started and restore it as motte and bailey with stonework defences (Martin, 1989, 58). The site of the castle forming a major influence in the street pattern in the town with Castle Orchard on its southern side and Earsham Street to the north and west; the ditch, bank and wall defences of the castle being easier for later generations to work around rather than erase from the townscape; this site being just inside the outer bailey of the castle on its north-western side.
- 1.3 The British Geological Survey describes the local drift deposits as being river terrace deposits made up of sands and gravels at c13m OD on the southern side of Earsham Street so therefore the back-land areas behind the street frontage lying just within the north-western castle defensive line.
- 1.4 Archaeological interest in this development was therefore generated by its location within the outer bailey of Bungay Castle (HER BUN 004) with the site having been a workshop of later Post medieval date until recently which was partly cut into the castle defences and related earthworks.

#### 2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring of the ground works to remove the recent structure and expose the surviving castle wall foundations was undertaken using a medium sized 360 machine during two site visits under good weather conditions and the upcast spoil was inspected closely as the work progressed and it was stockpiled nearby. The

castle wall foundations were then cleaned by hand to remove loose soil and flints to allow recording before the concrete floor to the workshop was broken up and scraped away using a flat bucket on the machine. A number of digital images were taken in order to record the monitoring (see Appendix I) and exposed foundations.

#### 3. Results

- 3.1 On the western side of the site the surviving flint and mortar bailey wall foundation proved to be 2100mm wide and up to 1200mm high with some portions robbed away and this large foundation continued under the adjacent Post medieval wall of the house to the west (see Fig. 2). This western wall was partly faced on the side facing the workshop with concrete. At its southern end this western wall foundation continued out of the site with the ground rising steeply towards the adjacent garden with later Post medieval brick, tile and fragments visible in the exposed sloping material. A block of flint and mortar masonry was visible in the south-western corner of the former workshop and with subsoil visible below it this appeared to be a block of fallen castle wall. In addition when the workshop floor and underlying subsoil had been removed it became apparent that part of this western wall had large crack lines (see Appendix I final image) running vertically suggesting that part of this wall represents at least partially collapsed masonry that has slipped downwards since the medieval period.
- 3.2 In the north-eastern corner of the former workshop another flint and mortar stub of a foundation that was 1900mm wide and 900mm high was exposed and this could be seen to be continuing to the east under the existing garden bank though with a more recent facing. Across the former front to the workshop area this foundation had been removed.
- 3.3 Removal of the workshop floor revealed 150mm of concrete surface over 100mm of mid brown sandy subsoil which when removed revealed clean orange sand with flints. No archaeological features were exposed and the few stray finds in the subsoil were brick and tile fragments of recent date.

#### 4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site is within the outer bailey of Bungay Castle it can be confirmed that no features or finds of archaeological interest were revealed below the workshop floor. In addition it can be confirmed that only loose material was removed from the exposed bailey walls in this area and the existing solid walls and possible large collapsed fragments of masonry were left in situ as a basis for the new dwelling (see Appendix I for a photographic record of the exposed wall foundations). Therefore little disturbance has been caused to the scheduled lines forming this part of the outer bailey perimeter. The outer bailey wall in this area was obscured before demolition of the workshop so the fact that the new dwelling will also largely also obscure these wall lines means that the works recently carried out in this part of the

outer bailey of the castle site have not made any fundamental change to the visibility

Ref:

and enjoyment of the monument.

Martin, E 1989 'Medieval Castles' in Dymond, D & Martin, E An Historical Atlas of Suffolk (SCC & SIAH)

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Rupert Derham, John Putman and everyone on site for their close cooperation during the monitoring)

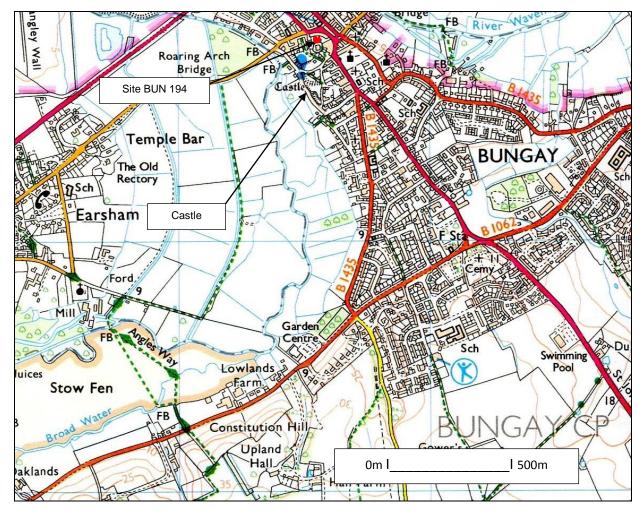


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

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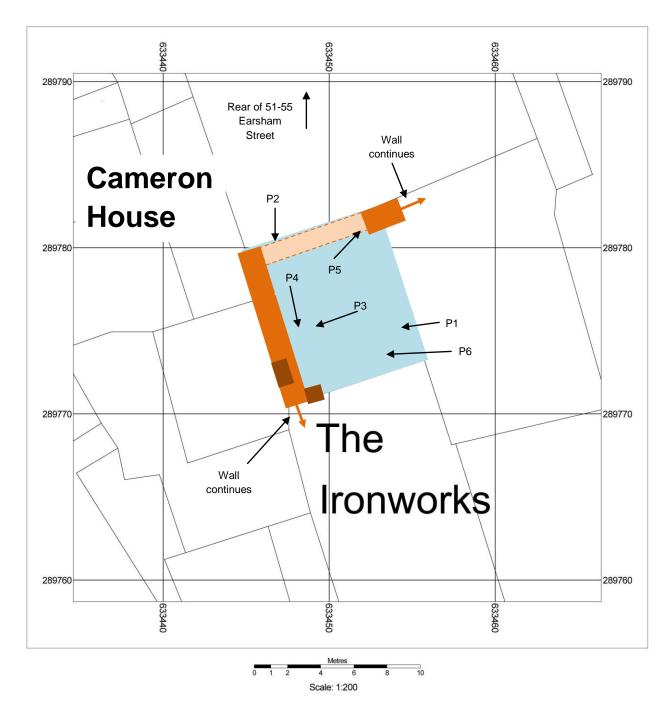


Fig. 2: Location of monitored area with surviving castle wall base (P1-P6 images, see Appendix I)

(Planned footprint area, brown- surviving wall base, light brown- line of removed section of wall, dark brown- probable collapsed sections of masonry)

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# **Appendix I- Images**



P1 Western wall as left in situ from east



P2 Western wall from northeast



P3 Western wall from east



P4 View along western wall from north



P5 Stub of wall in northeastern corner of former workshop area



P6 Removal of workshop floor

# Land to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street, Bungay, Suffolk

Planning application: DC/19/3187/FUL

Written Scheme of Investigation for Continuous Archaeological Monitoring

### Site details

Name: Land to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 1AF

Client: Mr R Derham

Local planning authority: Waveney DC (East Suffolk DC)

Planning application ref: DC/19/3187/FUL (formerly DC/14/2910/FUL)

Proposed development: Demolition of workshop and erection of one dwelling

Proposed date for ground works: Early-mid December, 2019

Brief ref: 2017\_07\_27 rear of 55 Earsham St Bungay archaeological brief SCCAS

Scheduled Monument ref: SF 1, HA 1006060

SMC ref: S0022229922

Grid ref: TM 334 896

Area: c200m<sup>2</sup>

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Proposed development

Typical slab construction design

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Mr J Putman on behalf of his client Mr R Derham 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/19/3187/FUL. 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 and the related Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) set by Historic England. The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the erection of a new dwelling at land to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street, Bungay following the demolition of a workshop. This site being within the Scheduled Monument area designated for Bungay castle (SM SF 1, HA 1006060).
- 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 Located in north-east Suffolk on the River Waveney that forms the county boundary with Norfolk Bungay is a small town and local centre with a market recorded from 1199/1200, the market place being on the eastern side of the castle. A castle was probably in existence in Bungay soon after the conquest period of the mid-11<sup>th</sup> century though after Hugh Bigod joined the Earl of Leicester's revolt in 1173 Henry II ordered its destruction along with the Bigod castles at Framlingham and Walton but Hugh managed to ransom it soon after the demolition started and restore it as motte and bailey with stonework defences (Martin, 1989, 58). The site of the castle forming a major influence in the street pattern in the town with Castle Orchard on its southern side and Earsham Street to the north; the ditch, bank and wall defences of the castle being easier for later generations to work around rather than erase from the townscape, this site being just inside the outer bailey of the castle.
- 2.2 The British Geological Survey describes the local drift deposits as being river terrace deposits made up of sands and gravels at c13m OD on the southern side of Earsham Street so therefore the back-land areas behind the street frontage lying just within the northern castle defensive line.
- 3. Archaeological & Historical Background
- 3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'The site lies within the historic core of Bungay,

on the projected line of the castle defences (County Historic Environment Record BUN 004). Previous projects on a similar boundary line within the town have revealed deep deposits at least 2.6m deep (BUN 067, BUN 048). The proposal involves demolition of a building that has been a workshop. The building is partly cut into the build-up of material that relates to the castle's defensive earthworks and related bailey defensive walls. Deposits have therefore been partly truncated, but the nature and character of archaeological remains on the site is unknown, as is potential impacts on deep deposits of the castle ditch or other archaeological remains, or on defensive earthworks.' In addition significant elements of masonry walling are visible within the site, relating to the defences of Bungay castle. These flint and mortar wall core foundations have recently been revealed on the northern and western side of the existing workshop having been covered in more recent years by wall construction related to the existing workshop that is due to be demolished to ground level. It appears at present that only flint and mortar wall cores exist with no outer faces visible.

3.2 The advice then confirms that the disturbance caused by the relevant ground works for this development, both the demolition and construction works, can be recorded by a trained archaeologist during works by the building contractor including the recording by drawing or photography of any extent castle masonry within the requirements of the relevant SMC

### 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 further evidence relating to the outer defences of Bungay castle. Site monitoring arrangements with the landowner and contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the demolition and foundation works before other works progress at each stage to allow for detailed investigation and recording work particularly relating to the castle defences. 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 in particular as the demolition works will expose more of the extant castle bailey wall foundations. Notice will be given to Historic England (HE) and SCCAS four weeks before works start on site with the archaeological works to be carried out under the requirements of the relevant SCCAS brief with this WSI having been submitted to HE and the LPA to meet the SMC and planning condition requirements.

### 5. Methodology

5.1 Initial work at the site will involve the demolition of the existing workshop to ground level; this will be monitored as and might expose bank deposits and further castle wall foundations. It will also further expose the flint and mortar wall foundations on the northern and western sides of the workshop area and these will

be recorded in plan and photographically as existing in addition as exposed as demolition works progress. When fully exposed the wall foundations will be further recorded as above with particular emphasis on any areas of the historic fabric that needs to be removed under the SMC to gain the proposed width of the new build. The main emphasis will be to retain as much historic fabric as possible in order to achieve the new build all under archaeological supervision.

- 5.3 The workshop is considered to be on a very shallow foundation, any removal of this will be closely monitored as will removal of the existing modern floor slab. The construction method to be used on the site for the new dwelling foundation will be a slab with a maximum depth of 450mm to 500mm around the toe on its edges (see below) to minimise the ground disturbance. The ground works for the slab foundation will be monitored during and after excavation and the upcast spoil will be examined for finds including scanning with a metal detector. The only deeper works will be for a service trench from the street to the north, this work will be closely monitored as it progresses and with a narrow trench is not anticipated to cause major ground disturbance. If possible an auger survey will be undertaken at regular points along the trench to try and establish where the castle ditch edge is on its northern side behind Earsham Street.
- 5.2 Any unexpected findings will be reported back to the relevant Suffolk CC Archaeological Office and to Historic England 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). Care will be taken to avoid ground works during inclement weather where excessive disturbance may take place though given the well-drained local geology this should not be a problem.
- 5.3 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 to a base OS map cover, 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.
- 5.4 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 will also be examined (in this case the possibility of finding burials is assessed as being low given the location of the site and planned shallow foundation works).

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. 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 6 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.

5.7 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 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, particularly in relation to previous deposit records for nearby castle edge sites, 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). 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 and pdf version will 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 ADS 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)

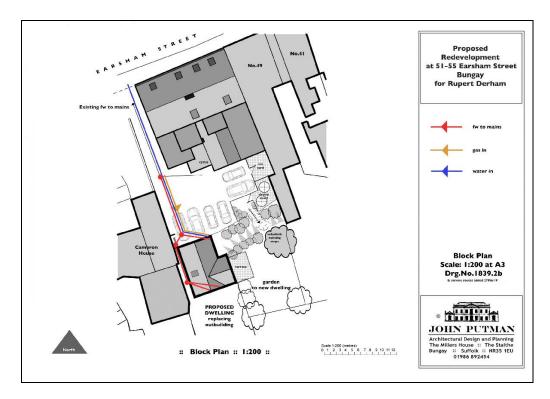
Roman small finds: N Crummy (Freelance)

Roman pottery & CBM Colchester Archaeological Trust

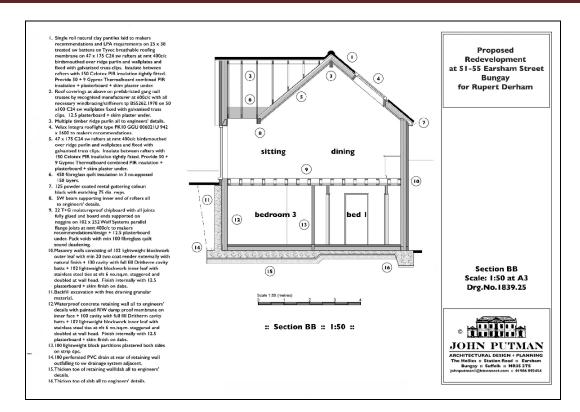
Post Roman small finds: JNAS

Ref.

Martin, E 1989 'Medieval Castles' in Dymond, D & Martin, E 'An Historical Atlas of Suffolk (SCC & SIAH)



Planned development



Typical foundation slab design

## OASIS ID: johnnewm1-378186

Project details

Project name Land to Rear of 51-55 Earsham Street, Bungay, Suffolk-

Archaeological Monitoring Report

Bungay, land to the rear of 51-55 Earsham Street (BUN 194, TM 33450 89772) monitoring of ground works for a new dwelling following the demolition of a workshop just within the outer bailey of Bungay Castle was carried out under a SMC as well as a planning condition as it affected parts of the

Short description of the project

scheduled outer bailey wall on its western side and northeastern edge. With close cooperation it was possible to photographically record the surviving wall foundations and leave the majority of it in situ with some wall foundation being as built and some appearing to large blocks of collapsed masonry. No archaeological features or finds of any age were revealed below the workshop floor.

Project dates Start: 18-12-2019 End: 26-02-2020

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated

project reference BU

codes

BUN 194 - Related HER No.

Any associated

project reference

codes

1006060 - SM No.

Any associated

project reference

oject reference

codes

DC/14/2910/FUL - Planning Application No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status Scheduled Monument (SM)

Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Other 2 - In use as a building

Monument type WALL Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt Planning condition

Prompt Scheduled Monument Consent

Project location

Site location

Country England

SUFFOLK WAVENEY BUNGAY LAND TO THE REAR

OF 51-55 EARSHAM STREET

Postcode NR35 1DE

Study area 72 Square metres

TM 33450 89772 52.455375468306 1.43640078984 52 27 19 Site coordinates

N 001 26 11 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 13m Max: 14m

Project creators

Name of

John Newman Archaeological Services Organisation

Project brief Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning

originator Authority/advisory body

Project design

originator

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

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) Publication type

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