

**Land at Compana, School Road,
Earsham, Norfolk**

Planning application: 2020/0471

HER Ref: ENF 149032

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(Continuous observation of ground works)

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

(July 2020)

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

Site details for HER

Name: Compana, School Road, Earsham, Norfolk, NR35 2TF

Client: Mr & Mrs I Stone

Local planning authority: South Norfolk DC

Planning application ref: 2020/0471

Development: Erection of conservatory extension

Date of fieldwork: 15 & 16 June, 2020

Norfolk CC ref: CNF48976_1

HER Ref: ENF 149032

NMS accession ref: NWHCM: 2020.100

Grid ref: TM 3256 8889

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-395067

Contents

Summary

1. Introduction & background
2. Monitoring methodology
3. Results
4. Conclusion

Fig. 1 Site location

Fig. 2 Monitored conservatory footprint

List of appendices

Appendix I- Images of foundations

Appendix II- Written scheme for monitoring of works

Appendix III- OASIS data collection form

Summary: Earsham, Compana, School Road (ENF 149032, TM 3256 8889) monitoring of foundation trenches for a conservatory extension at a site where previous monitoring had indicated evidence for shallow Post medieval quarrying activity revealed a substantial depth of subsoil containing small fragments of late Post medieval brick and tile and a few small pottery sherds of similar date. The trenches were taken to a depth of 1000mm where they were still in subsoil. Examination of historic map sources indicates that the site area was on the western edge of a common until enclosure in the late 18th century (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs I Stone).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr & Mrs I Stone 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 2020/0471. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Mr S Hickling of the Historic Environment Service at Norfolk CC to satisfy this condition and JNAS produced the relevant written scheme (Appendix II) to gain the conditional discharge allowing works to start on site. This development concerns the erection of a conservatory extension at Compana, School Road, Earsham (see Fig. 1). At the time of the monitoring this proposed development site was part of the garden on the eastern side of a new house which was monitored with negative results in 2017 (Newman 2107, ENF 141550).

1.2 This development site is located some c50m north-west of All Saints Church on the western side of School Road at c8m OD at Earsham, a rural parish one mile east of Bungay and whose southern boundary is the River Waveney. The main settlement in the parish is located some 500m north of the church at Earsham Street and Faden's 1797 map of Norfolk depicts an isolated church with the area to the east and north appearing to be stippled which for this map's conventions depicts common land and greens. That the area to the north and east/north-east of the church was open common land is confirmed by the Earsham enclosure map which for a previous report by the author for a monitoring of a site directly to the north of Kingsbridge was examined online in 2014 (<http://historicmaps.norfolk.gov.uk/mapexplorer/>). This late 18th century historic map for the area north of the church depicts the Compana site as well as the paddock to the east of School Road and between Church Road and the drive to The Close as coming under this parish enclosure act. Therefore until c1800 it can be concluded that all of the garden of Kingsbridge, including Compana, and area to the south was common used for grazing animals and other activities by the commoners which typically might include collecting fuel and extracting sand and gravel. Topographically the site is flat with the local drift geology being well drained sands and gravels as confirmed by previous archaeological monitoring at the overall Kingsbridge/Compana site.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this small scale development was generated by its proximity to the area around the parish church where antiquarian sources to quote the County Historic Environment Record (HER) note that 'several possible barrows around Earsham church were demolished in the 19th and early 20th century' leading to the recovery of Roman finds and Early Anglo-Saxon cremation burials (HER no 11110). An urn was also found in the churchyard in 1906. Archaeological advice from NHES also notes the possible presence of an oval enclosure to the north of the church that perhaps influenced the location of the cremation burials. A previous HER search produced the following results in 2014, an enquiry was made to the NCC HER for this report and that confirmed that no new archaeological records are known for this area (NCC HER ref. 20_07_05):

- HER site 1110- the record noted above covering the churchyard and the area to the north and east of the church. This record also mentions an urn found in the churchyard in 1906 and that the field to the north of the church and east of School Road has extensive irregular earthworks indicative of quarrying activities in the past
- HER site 11116- Earsham Watermill to the south of the church, a structure of 19th century date
- HER site 11118- All Saints Church, a Grade I listed building
- HER site 13577- the route of the 19th century Waveney Valley Railway, now the line of the A143 road
- HER site 33516- The Close, Grade II building of 16th/17th century date to the east of the development site
- HER site 41153- a listed house of Grade II status and 18th century date
- HER site- 41644- the area where an archaeological evaluation was carried out in 2005 directly to the west of Kingsbridge which recorded a large ditch of medieval date on a north-east/south-west alignment, some medieval pits and a large quarry pit of Post medieval date (see Fig. 2)
- HER site 45578- a listed house of Grade II status and early 19th century date
- HER site 45579- a listed house of Grade II status and 18th century date
- HER site 45737- a listed house of Grade II status and 17th century date
- HER site 48531- a listed house of Grade II status and 17th century date

Apart from The Close to the east of the site all of the listed buildings noted above are along the northern side of Church Road to the west of Kingsbridge. In addition it can be noted that monitoring of a single dwelling development to the north Kingsbridge (Newman, 2014, ENF 135241- see Fig. 2) only recorded evidence for quarry type pitting of later Post medieval date as did monitoring during the construction of the three houses that replaced the original Kingsbridge house in 2017 (Newman, 2017, ENF 141550) which included Compana.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring was undertaken over two days in June, 2020 under dry and sunny conditions giving good visibility. The excavation of the foundation trenches was undertaken using a small 360 machine equipped with a 600mm flat bucket, plus some hand excavation, and the upcast spoil was closely inspected. The foundation trenches were entered as they were opened to allow a closer examination and hand cleaning of indistinct areas. The footprint area was plotted in relation to the adjacent

house and a number of digital images were taken to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 The 600mm wide foundation trenches for the extension footprint area (see Fig. 2) revealed 400mm of topsoil above 700mm of mid brown sandy subsoil making an overall depth of 1000mm with the local glaciofluvial deposits not being exposed at this point.

3.2 As the trenches remained in subsoil deposits no archaeological features were exposed.

3.3 The only stray finds in the upcast spoil were a few small fragments of late Post medieval brick and tile, one small blue and white pottery sherd of late 19th to early 20th century date (wt. 3g) and a small fragment of late Post medieval clay tobacco pipe stem.

4. Conclusion

4.1 In conclusion the results of this small monitoring at Compana, School Road, Earsham confirm the results of the previous examination of ground works at the overall Kingsbridge site (ENF 141550) that this area in general has seen extensive low level quarrying activity in the later Post medieval period which extended to a depth in this area of over 1000mm. Therefore it is likely that any archaeological deposits that may have been present have been removed in the 18th to early 20th century period. Whether the Anglo-Saxon burial area extended into this area therefore cannot be proven or not proven though a lack of any stray finds of any age would suggest the latter.

4.2 In conclusion it is clear that this small scale extension development at Compana, School Road, Earsham has not disturbed any significant archaeological deposits.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Gill and Ian Stone and Kit and Steve for their close cooperation with regard to this site monitoring)

Ref.

- | | | |
|-----------|------|--|
| Newman, J | 2014 | 'Land North of Kingsbridge, Church Road, Earsham, Norfolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report' (John Newman Archaeological Services, OASIS johnnewm1-196396) |
| Newman, J | 2017 | 'Land at Kingsbridge, Church Road, Earsham, Norfolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report' (John Newman Archaeological Services, OASIS johnnewm1-267556) |

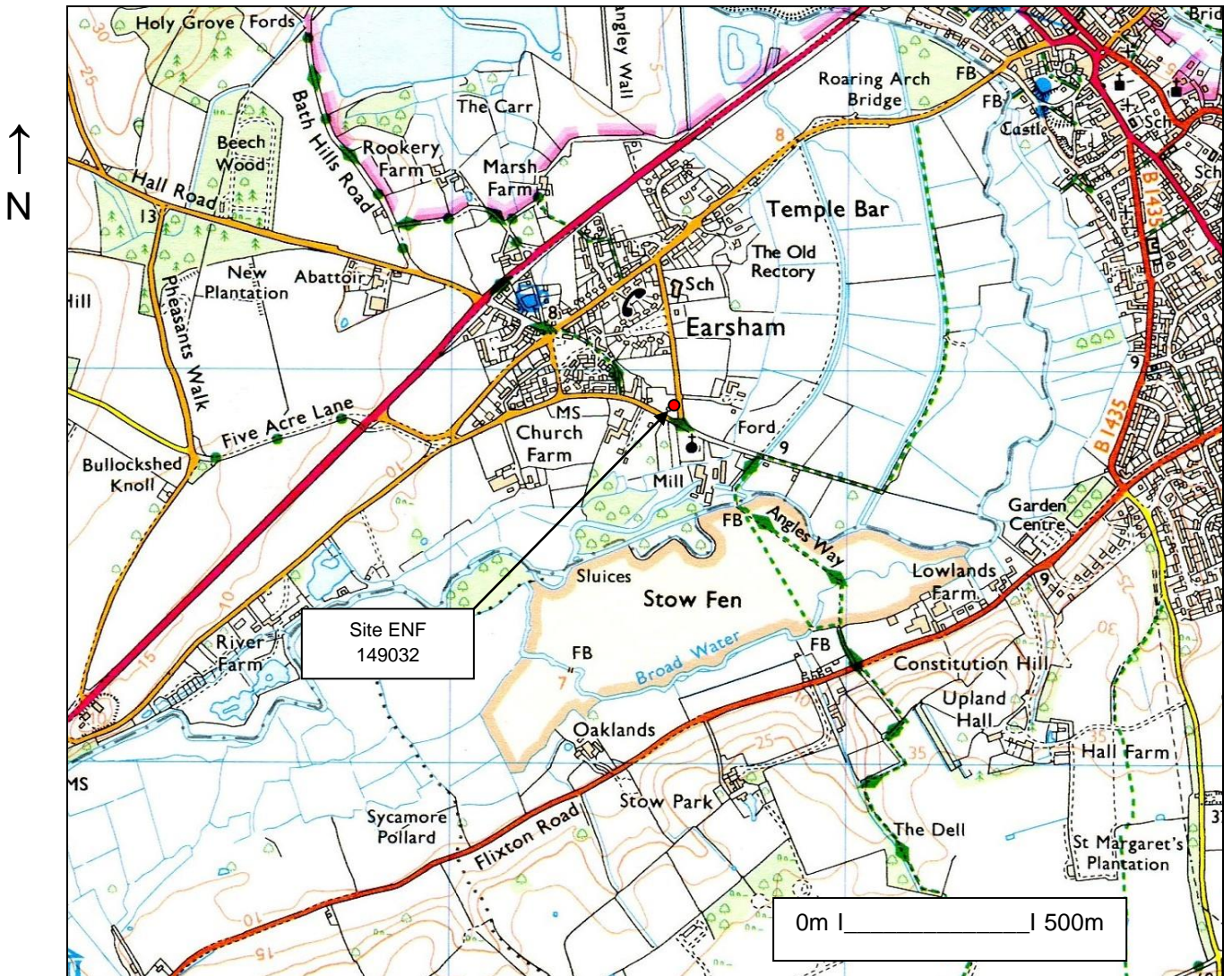


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)



Fig. 2: Monitored footprint area

(Green- conservatory extension footprint area with trenches darker green, dark blue- 2017 foundation trenches, large medieval ditch at site ENF 41644- green)

(Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2017 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

Appendix I- Images



Site from southeast



Southern trench from east



Southern trench deposit profile



Southeastern corner of trenches



Northern trench from east



Deposit profile of eastern trench

**Compana, School Road,
Earsham, Norfolk**

Planning application: 2020/0471

CNF Ref: CNF48976_1

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Monitoring and Archaeological Supervision and
Control of the Works**

Site details

Name: Compana, School Road, Earsham, Norfolk, NR35 2TF

Clients: Mr & Mrs I Stone

Local planning authority: South Norfolk DC

Planning application ref: 2020/0471

Proposed development: Erection of conservatory

Norfolk CC ref: CNF48976_1

Norfolk HER ref: tbc

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TM 3256 8889

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-395067

Current land use: Garden

Area: c20m²

Contents

1. Introduction
 2. Location, Topography & Geology
 3. Archaeological & Historical Background
 4. Aims of the Site Monitoring & Supervision of the Works
 5. Methodology
 6. Risk Assessment
 7. Specialists
- Planned conservatory area

1. Introduction

1.1 Mr & Mrs I Stone have commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring and supervision of ground works required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for application 2020/0471. 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 Mr S Hickling of the Norfolk CC Historic Environment Service (NHES) to satisfy the condition. The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development now concerns the erection of a conservatory at Compana, School Road, Earsham

1.2 The monitoring and recording will be in full compliance with *Standards for Development-led Archaeological Projects in Norfolk* introduced 1st May 2018 and the *Cifa Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief 2014*, (https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CifAS&GWatchingbrief_2.pdf). The monitoring will also be carried out to the standards set regionally in the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occ. Papers 14, 2003)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 This development site is located some c50m north-west of All Saints Church on the western side of School Road at c8m OD at Earsham, a rural parish one mile east of Bungay and whose southern boundary is the River Waveney. The main settlement in the parish is located some 500m north of the church at Earsham Street and Faden's 1797 map of Norfolk depicts an isolated church with the area to the east and north appearing to be stippled which for this map's conventions depicts common land and greens. That the area to the north and east/north-east of the church was open common land is confirmed by the Earsham enclosure map which for a previous report by the author for a monitoring of a site directly to the north of Compana was examined online in 2014 (<http://historicmaps.norfolk.gov.uk/mapexplorer/>). This late 18th century historic map for the area north of the church depicts the Kingsbridge site as well as the paddock to the east of School Road and between Church Road and the drive to The Close as coming under this parish enclosure act. Therefore until c1800 it can be concluded that all of the garden of Kingsbridge, including Compana, and area to the south was common used for grazing animals and other activities by the commoners which typically might include collecting fuel and extracting sand and gravel. Topographically the site is flat with the local drift geology being well drained sands and gravels.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 Archaeological interest in this small scale development was generated by its proximity to the area around the parish church where antiquarian sources to quote the County Historic Environment Record (HER) note that 'several possible barrows around Earsham church were demolished in the 19th and early 20th century' leading

John Newman Archaeological Services

to the recovery of Roman finds and Early Anglo-Saxon cremation burials (HER no 11110). An urn was also found in the churchyard in 1906. Archaeological advice from NHES also notes the possible presence of an oval enclosure that perhaps influenced the location of the cremation burials.

3.2 The Brief for this application confirms that while this conservatory development may reveal deposits and finds of archaeological significance this potential disturbance to local heritage assets can be mitigated by their investigation and recording as the ground works progress through a programme of continuous monitoring and investigation by an archaeologist with subsequent full reporting for the these works. Similar monitoring was carried out when Compana was constructed with the two new houses to the west but this did not reveal any archaeological features or finds.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the site has the potential to reveal archaeological deposits and finds of Early Anglo-Saxon date in particular. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the conservatory works as they progress to allow for detailed investigation and recording work via the investigation of any exposed deposits and features plus close examination of the upcast spoil both visually with a metal detector.

5. Methodology

5.1 The grounds works for this site will involve the foundations for the erection of the planned conservatory.

5.2 A search will be commissioned from the NHER for the area within 500m of the site in order to set it within its local archaeological and historic setting for the final report.

5.3 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts and finds under an overall site event number requested from the NHER beforehand. With any positive results an accession number will also be gained from the Norfolk Museum Service. All contexts will be numbered and finds recorded by context. Conventions compatible with the NHER will be used throughout the monitoring. Site plans, if required, 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 (using a Lumix DMC-FZ5) and monochrome film (using an Olympus) will be made of the site and any exposed features.

5.4 As necessary to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before recording. Archaeological deposits that are revealed will be

John Newman Archaeological Services

fully hand investigated and recorded within the constraints of the relevant terrace works. Even if no archaeological deposits are revealed every effort will be made if possible to gain a record of the natural occurring deposits and overburden that could help in the understanding of the general history of land use at this site plus collection of any finds that are revealed. Where appropriate 40 litre palaeoenvironmental deposit samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas if archaeological deposits are revealed. If human burial evidence is revealed the NHES 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 very low).

5.5 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant NHES 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 Norfolk Museums Service. If this is not possible then the NHES Officer will be consulted over any requirements for additional recording. Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant NHES Officer. Also any finds that potentially qualify under the Treasure Act will be reported to the Treasure Team at the British Museum and copied into the Norfolk FLO.

5.6 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the guidelines in *MoRPHE* and this will be deposited with the NHER within 4 months of work finishing on site under the relevant NHER 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 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 local NHER search results if required. An unbound draft copy of the report will be presented to the relevant NHES Officer within 3 months of the completion of the site works. Once accepted a hard copy and pdf version will be sent to the NHER in addition to a pdf version for the client for submission to the relevant LPA. The site

John Newman Archaeological Services

monitoring has been registered on the OASIS online archaeological record before field work starts followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. An NHER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual round-up. 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 and to comply with present social spacing requirements. 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's agent 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 any potential health and safety considerations.

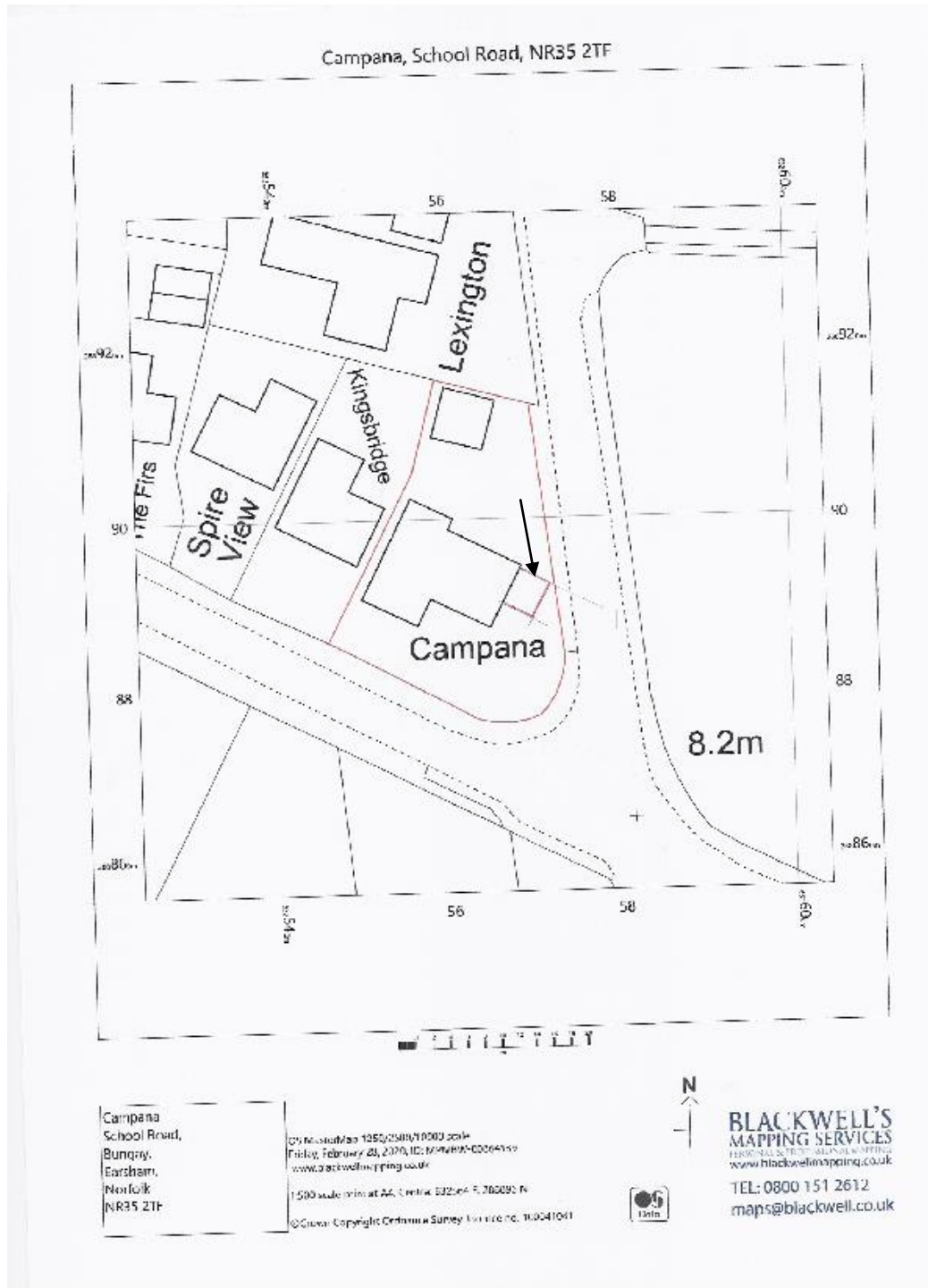
6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

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)
Metal detector search	J Armes
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)

John Newman Archaeological Services

Post Roman ceramics & CBM: S Anderson (Freelance)
Roman small finds: N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman pottery & CBM Colchester Archaeological Trust
Post Roman small finds: JNAS



Proposed conservatory area

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-395067

Project details

Project name	Compana, School Road, Earsham, Norfolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Earsham, Compana, School Road (ENF 149032, TM 3256 8889) monitoring of foundation trenches for a conservatory extension at a site where previous monitoring had indicated evidence for shallow Post medieval quarrying activity revealed a substantial depth of subsoil containing small fragments of late Post medieval brick and tile and a few small pottery sherds of similar date. The trenches were taken to a depth of 1000mm where they were still in subsoil. Examination of historic map sources indicate that the site area was on the western edge of a common until enclosure in the late 18th century.
Project dates	Start: 15-06-2020 End: 16-06-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ENF 149032 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	2020/0471 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK SOUTH NORFOLK EARSHAM COMPANA SCHOOL ROAD
Postcode	NR35 2TF
Study area	20 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 3256 8889 52.447841821329 1.422710889687 52 26 52 N 001 25 21 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 7m Max: 8m
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 supervisor	John Newman
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Discarded
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Services
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Services
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Report"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Compana, School Road, Earsham, Norfolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2020
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@btinternet.com)
Entered on	8 July 2020