

# Kings Head, Moulton MUN 050

## **Archaeological Monitoring Report**

**SCCAS Report No. 2013/086**

**Client: Big Brown Dog Ltd**

Author: Simon Cass

June 2013

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# Kings Head, Moulton

## MUN 050

Archaeological Monitoring Report

SCCAS Report No. 2013/086

Author: Simon Cass

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Editor: Richenda Goffin

Report Date: June 2013



## HER Information

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**Site Code:** MUN 050

**Site Name:** The Kings Head, Bridge Street, Moulton

**Report Number** 2013/086

**Planning Application No:** F/2013/0041/FUL

**Date of Fieldwork:** 17-18/06/2013

**Grid Reference:** TL 6969 6452

**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1-153215

**Curatorial Officer:** Dr Jess Tipper

**Project Officer:** Simon Cass

**Client/Funding Body:** Old Brown Dog Ltd

**Client Reference:** -

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

### Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Prepared By: Simon Cass

Date: 21/06/2013

Approved By: John Craven

Position: Senior Project Officer

Date:

Signed:



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## **Summary**

Archaeological monitoring of new footings at the Kings Head, Moulton, revealed two distinct chalk floor/surface layers beneath the present car park area. The date or purpose for these surfaces are unclear as no dateable finds were recovered from the footing trench, but they are likely to either be deliberate land-raising to avoid intermittent flooding from the River Kennett, or as part of an animal shelter (chalk floors were used since they did not damage the animals hooves). No further archaeological work is anticipated for this first phase of work, although an evaluation of the land to the rear of the present building is planned to take place in advance of phase two of the project – the creation of new B and B accommodation.



# Drawing Conventions

## Plans

- Limit of Excavation - - - - -
- Features - - - - -
- Break of Slope . . . . .
- Features - Conjectured - - - - -
- Natural Features . . . . .
- Sondages/Machine Strip - - - - -
- Intrusion/Truncation - - - - -
- Illustrated Section S.14 - - - - -
- Cut Number 0008
- Archaeological Features
- Modern

## Sections

- Limit of Excavation - - - - -
- Cut - - - - -
- Modern Cut - - - - -
- Cut - Conjectured - - - - -
- Deposit Horizon - - - - -
- Deposit Horizon - Conjectured - - - - -
- Intrusion/Truncation - - - - -
- Top of Natural - - - - -
- Top Surface - - - - -
- Break in Section - - - - -
- Cut Number 0008
- Deposit Number 0007
- Ordnance Datum  $\frac{18.45m}{\times}$  OD

## **1. Introduction**

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Planning permission was granted by Forest Heath District Council for the erection of extensions and alterations to the existing public house, including reconfiguring the existing car park and the creation of additional car parking to the rear, the construction of a new access point (including partial demolition of the front boundary wall to facilitate new access), and the erection of a rear extension and conversion of the existing first floor staff residential accommodation into B & B accommodation and the creation of a first floor staff flat (F/2013/0041/FUL). A condition (No. 9) placed on this planning permission required the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority). In this case, it was agreed that the archaeological investigations could be carried out in two phases – an initial monitoring of a new foundation alongside the existing public house within its current car park and a second phase of work in the area of the proposed new B & B accommodation to the rear of the property, initially in the form of archaeological evaluation of the area but with the potential for further investigation or mitigating work should the results of the evaluation merit it.

## **2. Geology and topography**

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The site lies just to the west of the River Kennett (c.40m to the east), on a slight slope between 35m and 40m AOD. The river has on occasion flooded in this area, with the water reaching approximately to the front steps of the pub. The underlying geology is recorded as being well-drained coarse to fine loamy soils over calcareous coarse loamy soils with chalk outcroppings. The observed geology in the monitored trench was soft fine silty sand.

## **3. Archaeology and historical background**

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The site lies close by to the Packhorse Bridge (MUN 008), a scheduled and listed medieval bridge crossing the River Kennett, and faces onto Bridge Street within the historic medieval village core (MUN 045). Although the majority of recorded historic environment entries in the area are of medieval date, one relates to a small glass Roman *unguentarium* (MUN 012), found some 250m southeast of the site on the far side of the river.

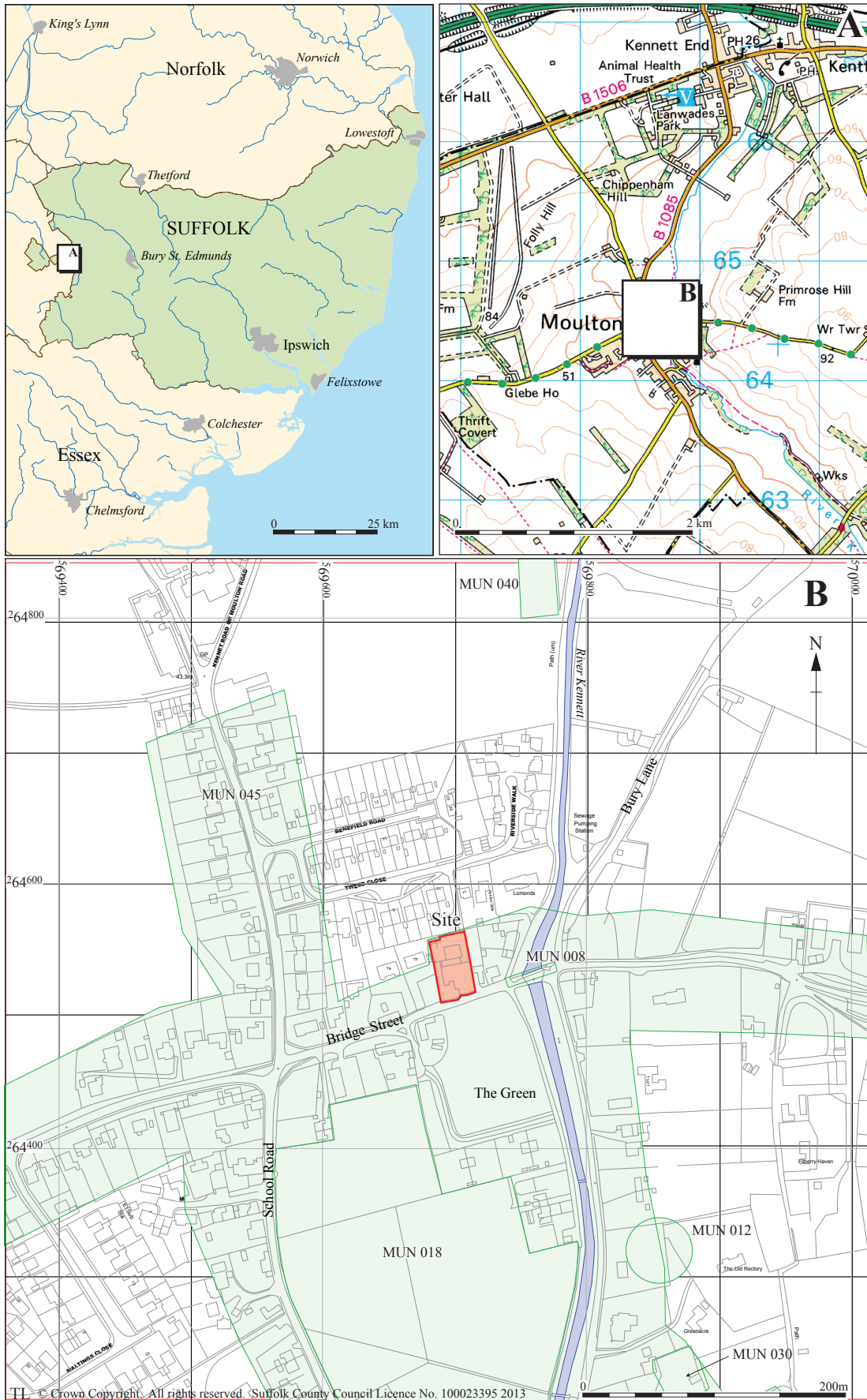


Figure 1. Location plan showing development area (red) and HER entries (green).



Figure 2. Plan showing the location of the monitored footing trench and location of sections

## 4. Methodology

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The footing for the new walkthrough corridor was excavated by the construction contractor using a small (c.3-tonne) mechanical excavator fitted with a toothed bucket. Archaeological supervision was in place intermittently during excavation and the sections were cleaned and examined during monitoring visits. Modern drainage was noted at various points crossing the trench, though it only appeared to have caused localised disturbance.

All deposits were recorded using SCCAS *pro forma* sheets and plans and sections were hand-drawn at 1:50 and 1:20 where appropriate. Individual context numbers were allocated to each definable context and a full photographic record was made using a high resolution digital camera.

The area was not scanned with a metal detector prior to excavation - scattered modern metallic objects and fragments were assessed as being likely to cause too much interference, although a metal detector was on site for scanning of individual features if appropriate.

A digital copy of the report will be submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>) upon completion of the project and an online OASIS record has been completed already.

## 5. Results

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### 5.1 Trench results

The footing trench measured 14.5m long, 0.5m wide and was up to 1.1m deep. The stratigraphy observed consisted of 0.1m-0.15m of modern tarmac/gravel yard surfacing above 0.1-0.15m of disturbed gravels, ceramic building material fragments, and dark grey sandy soils, interpreted as the remains of a previous yard surface. This overlay a layer of compacted chalk 0.15m thick – probably an old consolidation layer to firm up the yard surface. Below this was a deposit of mid grey soft silty sand, 0.2m thick, with very intermittent small/medium sized CBM flecks/fragments and lumps, interpreted as a deliberate levelling layer, probably to raise the height of the yard surface. This lay directly above another firm compacted chalk layer between 0.05m and 0.1m thick which appeared to be directly above natural alluvial sand deposits with occasional river gravel outcrops (PI.1 and PI.2 show representative sections 1 and 2 respectively).



Plate 1. Representative section 1, facing east (2m scale)



Plate 2. Representative section 2, facing east (2m scale)

## **6. Finds and environmental evidence**

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Simon Cass

### **6.1 Ceramic Building Material**

Small fragments of brick were recovered during the monitoring works. None of it had any diagnostic features and the material has not been retained.

## **7. Discussion**

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The chalk floor layer revealed in the footing trench is believed to be a yard/working surface pre-dating the construction of the public house. Compacted chalk floor surfaces such as this are commonly found in old cattle-sheds as the soft chalk did not damage animals hooves (D. Gill, pers. comm.) although examination of the 1838 tithe apportionment map of the parish records that the building was already the Kings Head, not farm buildings. That being said, there are obvious structural features suggesting that the brick-built frontage of the current pub was added to a pre-existing flint-walled structure, though no evidence remains of what this structure was.

Equally, the two layers of chalk separated by a redeposited natural sand layer may be a result of deliberate attempts to raise the ground away from potential flooding levels. The site is just on the edge of a Zone 2 flood risk area (low to medium risk) originating from the River Kennet and within the recent memory of local residents the waters have reached as far as the front steps of the pub.

## **8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

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No further archaeological work is recommended as being necessary in this area as part of phase 1 of the construction/renovation of the present building, although an archaeological evaluation is planned to be undertaken prior to commencement of work on the new accommodation block to the rear of the property.

## **9. Archive deposition**

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Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\  
Archive\Moulton\MUN 050 Monitoring

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\  
Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HTA-HTZ\HTN 92-99 and HTO 1-59

Finds and environmental archive: None

Store Location: -



## **10. Acknowledgements**

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The fieldwork was carried out by Simon Cass. Project management was undertaken by John Craven who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Post-excavation management was provided by Simon Cass.

The report illustrations were created by Ellie Hillen and the report was edited by Richenda Goffin.

## **11. Bibliography**

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Ordnance Survey, 1983, *Soils of England and Wales*: Soil survey of England and Wales, sheet 4 Eastern England 1:250,000. Harpenden

**Appendix 1. Brief and Specification****Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording**

AT

The Kings Head, Bridge Street, Moulton

<b>PLANNING AUTHORITY:</b>	Forest Heath District Council
<b>PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:</b>	F/2013/0041/FUL
<b>HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:</b>	To be arranged
<b>GRID REFERENCE:</b>	TL 696 645
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:</b>	Construction of extensions, reconfiguration of existing car parking and additional car parking to rear.
<b>THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:</b>	Jess Tipper County Archaeologist Conservation Team Tel. : 01284 741225 E-mail: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk
<b>Date:</b>	23 April 2013

**Summary**

- 1.1 The Local Planning Authority (LPA) was advised that any planning consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of archaeological investigation work taking place before development takes place in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA.
- 1.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) or Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements, to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scrutiny, before seeking approval from the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 1.3 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.4 Following acceptance, SCCAS/CT will advise the LPA that an appropriate scheme of work is in place. The WSI, however, is not a sufficient basis for the

full discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.

- 1.5 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

### **Archaeological Background**

- 2.1 This application lies in the historic settlement core recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER no. MUN 045). There is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest at this location.

### **Planning Background**

- 3.1 The below-ground works will cause ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority were advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.

### **Requirement for Archaeological Investigation**

- 4.1 Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by the development relating to the Phase 1 extension link can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological monitoring and recording during all groundworks.

In addition, trial trenching will be required in advance of the construction of the Phase 2 bedroom wing and the additional rear car park will require a trial-trenched evaluation to establish the archaeological potential of these areas. This work is the subject of an additional brief.

- 4.2 Any ground works, and also the upcast soil, are to be closely monitored during and after excavation by the archaeological contractor (and subject to metal-detecting survey) in order to ensure no damage occurs any heritage assets. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.
- 4.3 The archaeological investigation should provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent. Opportunity must be given to the archaeological contractor to hand excavate and record any archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations.
- 4.4 The method and form of development should be also monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

- 4.5 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this brief may be required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

### **Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation**

- 5.1 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.2 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork (e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.

### **Reporting and Archival Requirements**

- 6.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared and must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Service's Store or in a suitable museum in Suffolk.
- 6.3 It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Archaeological Service or the designated Suffolk museum, and this should be agreed before the fieldwork commences. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval.
- 6.4 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation (including the digital archive), and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.
- 6.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service, or similar digital archive repository, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 6.6 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 6.7 An digital copy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single hard copy and also a .pdf digital copy should be presented to the Suffolk HER.

- 6.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the Suffolk HER.
- 6.9 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A .pdf version of the entire report should be uploaded where positive results have been obtained.
- 6.10 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 6.11 When no significant features or finds are found, a short report will be sufficient with the following information: grid ref., parish, address, planning application number and type of development, date(s) of visit(s), methodology, plan showing areas observed in relation to ground disturbance/proposed development, depth of ground disturbance in each area, depth of topsoil and its profile over natural in each area, observations as to land use history (truncation etc), recorder and organisation, date of report.
- 6.12 This brief remains valid for 12 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.

### **Standards and Guidance**

Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

### **Notes**

The Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors ([www.archaeologists.net](http://www.archaeologists.net) or 0118 378 6446). There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS/CT does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects.



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