

**Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common
Road, Bressingham, Norfolk**

Planning application: 2020/0422

CNF Ref: 47719

HER Ref: ENF 149731

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(Continuous observation of ground works)

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

(December 2020)

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

Site details for HER

Name: Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common Road, Bressingham, Norfolk, IP22 2HD

Client: Mr M Grant

Local planning authority: South Norfolk DC

Planning application ref: 2020/0422

Development: Erection of garage

Date of fieldwork: 14 September, 2020

Norfolk CC ref: CNF 47719

HER Ref: ENF 149731

NMS accession ref: NWHCM: 2020.135

Grid ref: TM 08518 84345

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-398413

Current use: Garden

Area: c32m²

Contents

Summary

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

Fig. 1 Site location

Fig. 2 Monitored garage footprint area

List of appendices

Appendix I- Images of raft foundation

Appendix II- Written scheme for monitoring of works

Appendix III- OASIS data collection form

Summary: Bressingham, Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common Road (ENF 149731, TM 08518 84345) monitoring of works for a new garage just within the southern limit of the moated complex at Old Boyland Hall did not reveal any archaeological features or finds of any age with the ground works being limited to an extent that only in one small portion was the lower depth of the subsoil disturbed in the toe of the raft type foundation with the remainder staying in the local subsoil deposit (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M Grant).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr M Grant 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 2020/0422. 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 new garage at Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common Road, Bressingham (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Bressingham is located to the west of Diss in south central Norfolk in an area of historically dispersed settlement with Old Boyland Hall being some 3700m north of the parish church on what, as historically shown on Faden's 1797 map of Norfolk, was the western edge of Boyland Common. The hall is grade II listed and described as being of 16th century date on the site of a medieval moat in the northern part of the complex. To the south of the hall Tinkers Barn is a more recent former agricultural building of mid-20th century origin that has been converted to residential use and it is located in an area of a subsidiary moat surrounding associated garden/orchard areas with their eastern and southern arms now filled-in. The planned new garage site is located towards the south-western corner of the outer moated area with Old Boyland Hall being at the northern end of the moated complex some 230m from the new garage site.

1.3 As a previous small scale monitoring for new bridge abutments was carried out in 2018 at Old Boyland Hall (ENF 145035, Newman 2018) it was agreed with the Norfolk CC Historic Environment Record (NHER) that a second search for this more recent monitoring would not be required given the negative results with regard to archaeological features or finds of any significance. Therefore the previous NHER search results are used as outlined below (see also Fig.1).

1.4 To quote from the previous search and report from 2018:

1.4.1 This search revealed evidence for past activity of Bronze Age, Roman, later Saxon, medieval and early Post medieval date close to Old Boyland Hall though at a low intensity. To the north, south-east and south-west thin scatters of Bronze Age, Roman, medieval and Post medieval artefacts have been recovered from the plough soil (NHER 36095, 59801 & 60473) plus a medieval pottery scatter (NHER 31183) 450m to the north-east. In addition single finds of prehistoric flint axes are recorded nearby (NHER 10885 & 12890). These recorded finds being indicative of past activity from as yet unlocated settlement foci though the relative paucity of recorded evidence for past activity suggests a lack of systematic field survey rather than a lack of archaeological sites. The nature of the historically dispersed settlement pattern in this area is also indicated by a number of scattered listed

earlier Post medieval buildings along nearby roads and lanes (NHER 129801,40709 & 48740).

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring was undertaken over a single day in September, 2020 under dry and sunny conditions giving good visibility. The excavation for the foundation raft was undertaken using a medium sized 360 machine equipped mainly with a 900mm flat bucket and a narrower bucket for the toe foundations around the perimeter. The stripped area was entered as it was exposed to allow a closer examination and hand cleaning of indistinct areas. The stripped area was plotted in relation to the adjacent plot boundaries and a number of digital images were taken to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 The 6150mm by 6200mm raft area (see Fig. 2) below a thin loose gravelled surface revealed a mix of 20th century brick rubble over a layer of redeposited yellow clay giving a total depth of 300mm to 350mm which was still in mid brown sandy subsoil. The toe around the perimeter of the raft was taken to a further depth of 300mm to 350mm and still remained in clean subsoil though a glimpse of the underlying natural drift geology was seen in the south-western corner of the toe where the full depth for a short length was 900mm due to the proximity of some trees.

3.2 As the trenches largely 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 brick and tile of 20th century date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Whether archaeological deposits are present at this site remains uncertain as the relevant horizon was only very partially exposed in one corner of the new garage site. If present they would remain preserved below the raft foundation. In addition no hint was given by any stray finds for earlier activity in this part of the moated complex.

4.2 In conclusion it is clear that this small garage development at Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Bressingham has not disturbed any significant archaeological deposits.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone on for their close cooperation with regard to this site monitoring)

Ref.

Newman, J 2018 'Barns at Old Boyland Hall, Bressingham, Norfolk- Report on Archaeological Mitigatory Works' (John Newman Archaeological Services, OASIS johnnewm1-327768)

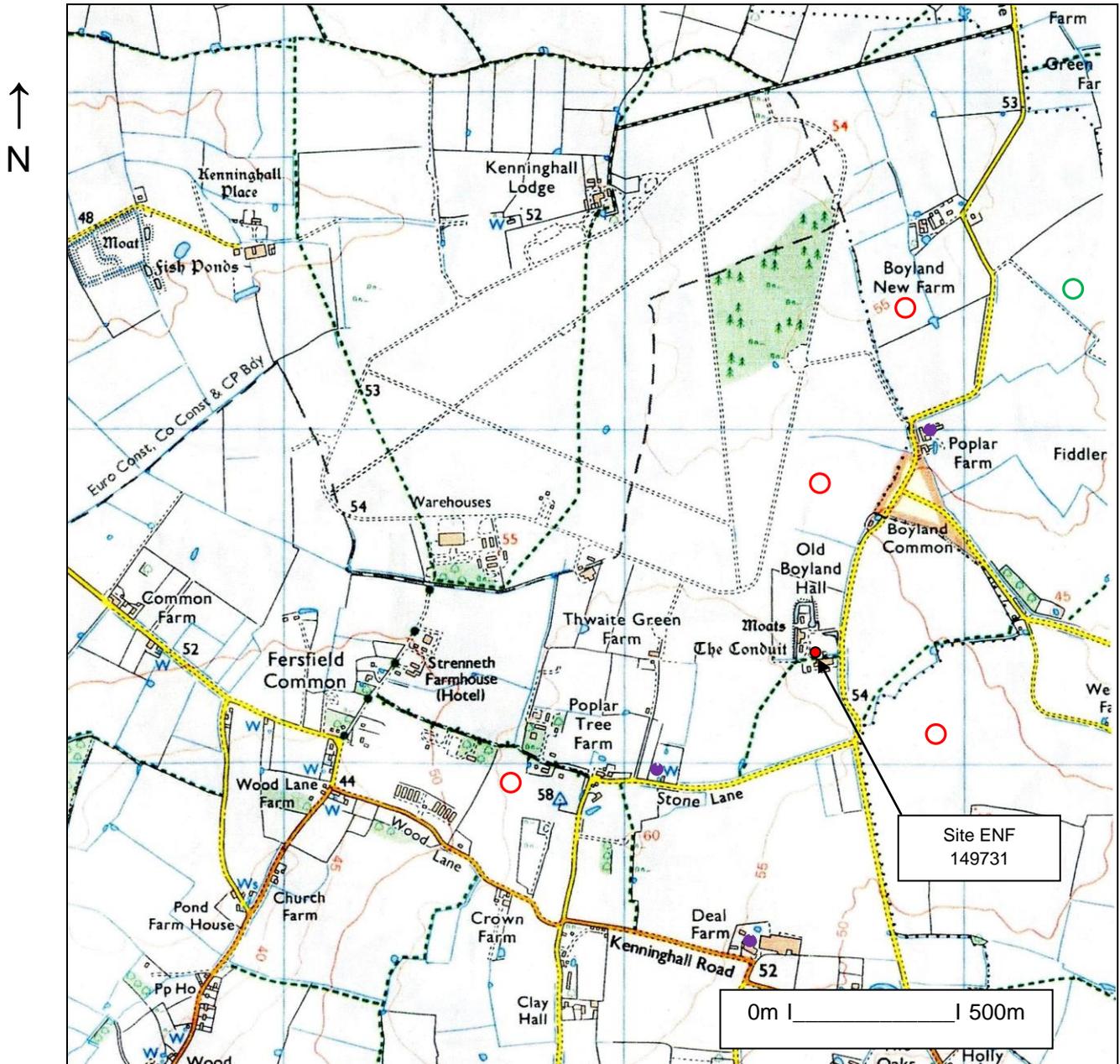


Fig. 1: Site location

(Purple- early Post medieval buildings, green circle- medieval pottery scatter, red circles- multi-period finds scatters)
(Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

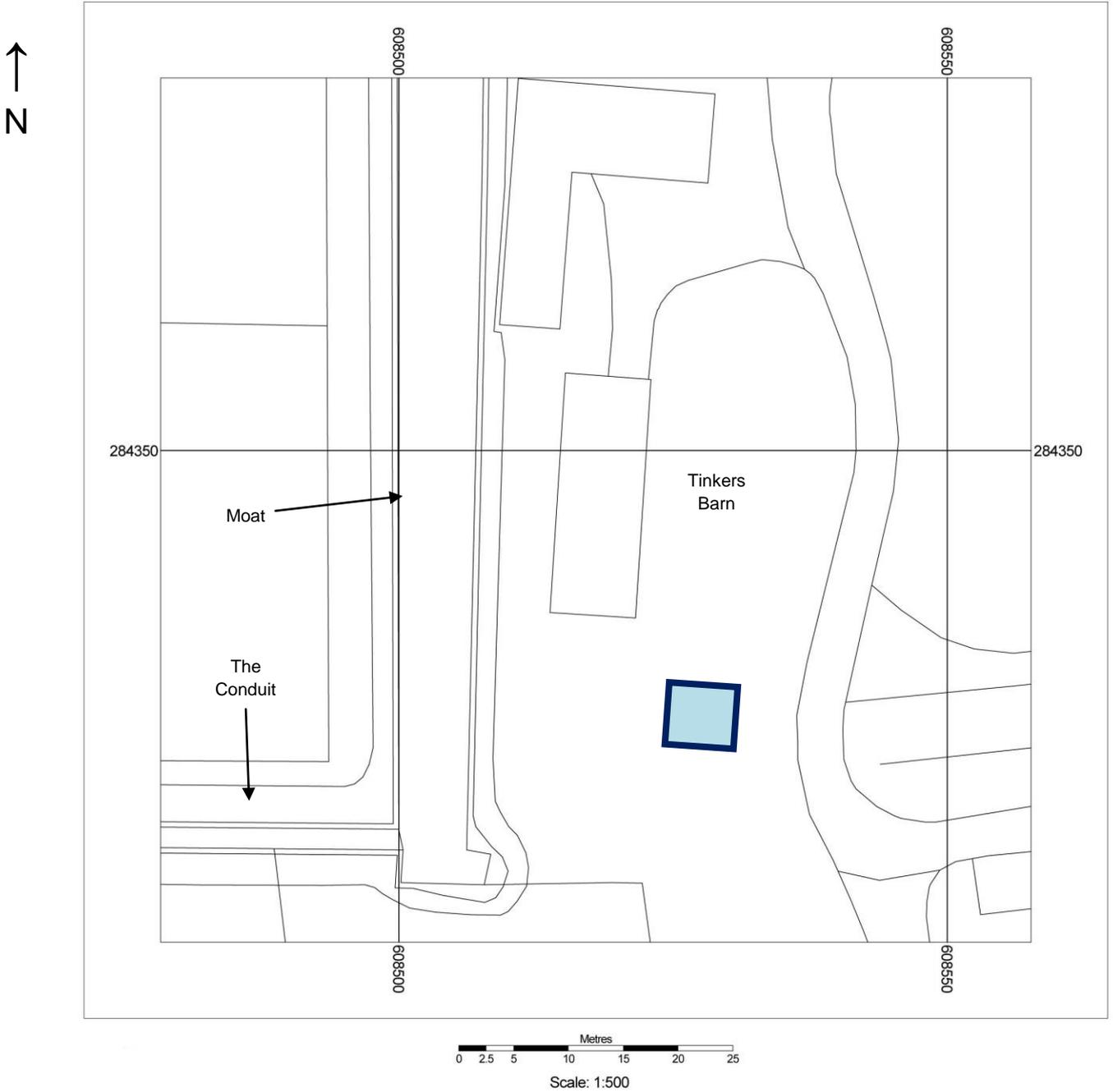


Fig. 2: Monitored garage footprint area (dark blue- toe around raft)
(Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

Appendix I- Images of raft foundation



General view from southeast



Fully excavated raft foundation



Western edge of raft foundation



Southern edge of slab foundation



Eastern slab foundation

**Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common
Road, Bressingham, Norfolk**

Planning application: 2020/0422

CNF Ref: CNF47719

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

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

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

Site details

Name: Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common Road, Bressingham, Norfolk, IP22 2HD

Clients: Mr M Grant

Local planning authority: South Norfolk DC

Planning application ref: 2020/0422

Proposed development: Erection of garage

Norfolk CC ref: CNF47719

Norfolk HER ref: tbc

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TM 08518 84345

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-398413

Current land use: garden

Area: c32m²

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 new garage area

1. Introduction

1.1 Mr M Grant has 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 2020/0422. 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 garage at Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Bressingham.

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 Bressingham is located to the west of Diss in south central Norfolk in an area of historically dispersed settlement with Old Boyland Hall being some 3700m north of the parish church on what, as historically shown on Faden's 1797 map of Norfolk, was the western edge of Boyland Common. The hall is grade II listed and described as being of 16th century date on the site of a medieval moat. To the south of the hall Tinkers Barn is located in an area of subsidiary moats surrounding associated garden/orchard areas with their eastern and southern arms now filled-in. The planned new garage site is located towards the south-western corner of the outer moated area.

2.2 The British Geological Survey indicates superficial deposits in the area of this site as being chalky till of the Lowestoft formation with it being at 55m OD in an area of gentle topography.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 Archaeological interest in this development was therefore generated by the record held by the Norfolk CC Historic Environment Record (NHER ref. 10894) that it lies within a moated complex of medieval and earlier Post medieval date with a moat that may date to the 13th century. Therefore the planned development may impact on an area of early gardens or orchards related to the main medieval hall/moat complex.

3.2 The Brief for this application confirms that while this planned garage 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.

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 medieval and earlier Post medieval date in particular. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the ground 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 and with a metal detector.

5. Methodology

5.1 The grounds works for this site will involve the excavation for a raft foundation of 500mm to 600mm depth. This work plus any soil stripping within the footprint area and any associated yard areas or access track will under archaeological supervision using a wide flat bucket on a suitably sized machine with plant not crossing stripped areas until they have been examined and investigated. NHES will be informed of the confirmed start date and then updated a ground works progress.

5.2 A search will be commissioned form 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 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

John Newman Archaeological Services

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 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 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

John Newman Archaeological Services

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. All COVID social distancing requirements will be discussed with the client and contractor with no sharing of equipment unless it has been suitably cleaned and it is planned to travel alone and use the vehicle for rest periods.

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.

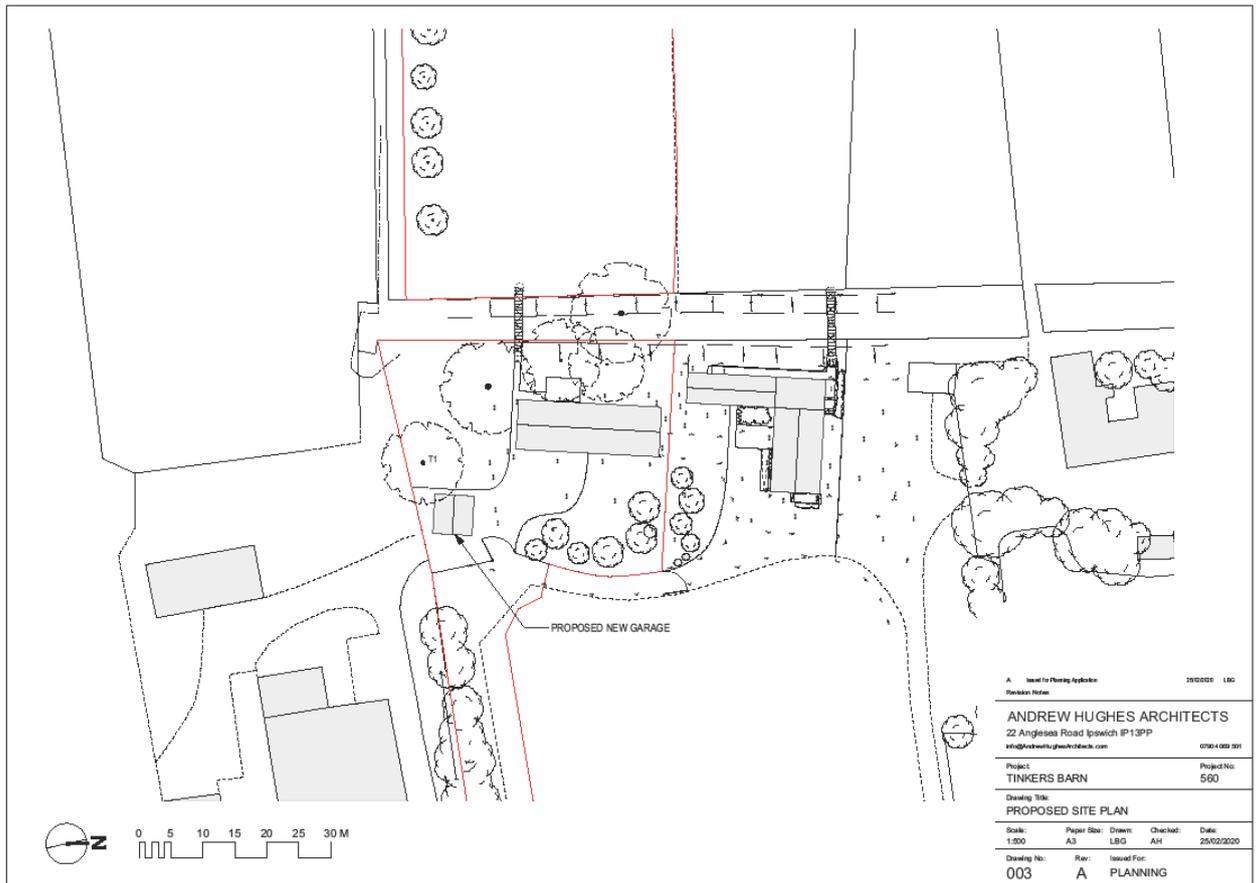
6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

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)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (Freelance)

John Newman Archaeological Services

Soil scientist	tbc
Roman small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman pottery & CBM	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS



Proposed new garage site

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-398413

Project details

Project name	Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common Road, Bressingham, Norfolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Bressingham, Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, Common Road (ENF 149731, TM 08518 84345) monitoring of works for a new garage just within the southern limit of the moated complex at Old Boyland Hall did not reveal any archaeological features or finds of any age with the ground works being limited to an extent that only in one small portion was the lower depth of the subsoil disturbed in the toe of the raft type foundation with the remainder staying in the local subsoil deposit.
Project dates	Start: 14-09-2020 End: 14-09-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ENF 149731 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	2020/0422 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	10894 - Related HER 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 BRESSINGHAM TINKERS BARN OLD BOYLAND HALL COMMON ROAD
Postcode	IP22 2HD
Study area	32 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 08518 84345 52.416800236388 1.066617665429 52 25 00 N 001 03 59 E Point

Height OD / Depth	Min: 51m Max: 52m
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 Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Services
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Services
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Report"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Tinkers Barn, Old Boyland Hall, bressingham, 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, Bramford
Description	Loose bound client report and pdf

Entered by
Entered on

John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
26 December 2020