

Ménage at Langley Abbey, Langley with Hardley, Norfolk

Scheduled Monument Ref: NF 150

Scheduled Monument Consent: S00005462

HER Ref: ENF 124332

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(Continuous observation of soil stripping)

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

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Site details for HER

Name: Langley Abbey, Langley with Hardley, Norfolk

Client: Langley Abbey Estates Ltd

Local planning authority: South Norfolk

Planning authority: English Heritage- SMC Ref: S00005462

Development: Creation of a ménage & landscaping of a pipe run

Date of fieldwork: 22 & 23 March and 19 April 2010

HER Ref: ENF 124332

Scheduled Monument Ref: NF 150

OASIS Ref: johnnewm1-77473

Grid ref: TG 3633 0285

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Summary: Langley Abbey, Langley with Hardley, Norfolk (HER- ENF- 124332, TG 3633 0285) monitoring of a shallow soil strip for a proposed horse ménage some 50m to the east of the main abbey complex was carried out under a Scheduled Monument Consent. The soil stripping revealed mainly brick foundations and a well of probable 18th century date forming part of the farmyard complex that had been demolished by the mid 19th century date as no structures appear in this area on the local tithe map. Many of the bricks were unusually large being 10" and 11" long indicating a medieval date but also being a more typical 18th century thickness at 4" and 5.5". All the recorded structures were left in situ under the formation level for the ménage. Evidence for the recycling of medieval lead at Langley Abbey was indicated by an extensive scatter of debris, including window came fragments. The only single find of note was a copper alloy dress hook of early Post medieval date. (John Newman Archaeological Services for Langley Abbey Estates Ltd).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Langley Abbey Estates Ltd commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring of shallow soil stripping for a horse ménage and landscaping to conceal an overflow pipe required under the relevant Scheduled Monument Consent (Ref: S00005462) issued by English Heritage. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Mr D Robertson of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology; Norfolk CC acting as county representatives for English Heritage (Appendix I). This development concerns the creation of a horse ménage, measuring 20m x 40m; and the extension and concealment of an existing overflow pipe, in an area directly east of the main medieval complex of Langley Abbey and partially within the area of the Scheduled Monument (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Langley Abbey lies on the southern side of the River Yare at the southern end of Langley Green in south-east Norfolk and c4km north of Loddon. The area shows a dispersed settlement pattern characteristic of East Anglia with the nearby river probably forming the main communication route in past times. The local drift geology is a well drained sand and gravel mix.

1.3 The abbey was founded in the late 12th century as a House of Premonstratensian Canons, with associated estates, and flourished through the medieval period with the granting of a market and other privileges though decline had set in by the period of the suppression in the 1530s. In the main the site of Langley Abbey appears to have survived in a good state of preservation to allow a detailed earthwork survey to be drawn up in recent times and some archaeological investigations were carried out in the early 20th century in the area of the church and cloister. Parts of some structures have also survived and enough evidence survives to allow an interpretation of the main monastic complex. Due to this good state of preservation the core area of the abbey is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (No: NF 150) and as such receives statutory protection against damage and disturbance. Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) has therefore been sought and granted (Ref: S00005462) for the construction of a horse ménage on an area c40m east of the main church and cloister range. The major surviving medieval monastic remains are also Grade I listed structures while the later 16th century stable block is a Grade II* structure. The latter structure indicating how the former abbey site has remained at the core of a substantial farm complex where earlier buildings have been re-used and specifically agricultural structures constructed, including a farm house, since the time of the Dissolution.

1.4 The area chosen for the location of the ménage is some 40m east of the site of the abbey church and main cloister and c80m west of the point at which the ground level drops away on the edge of the flood plains along the River Yare. The ménage site is also immediately adjacent and to the east of various farm outbuildings including livestock shelters of probable 18th and 19th century date. Immediately to the west of the ménage site is a relatively small sunken area recorded on the earthwork survey of the precinct which is interpreted as a fish pond of likely medieval date. This northern part of the proposed ménage lay within the SM area and the whole area to be soil stripped lies within what would have been the overall monastic precinct. Prior to the time of the soil stripping the ménage site was down to pasture with its northern half showing some indistinct and irregular earthworks while the southern half had an even surface. It was also known that an overflow pipe ran west-east under the area

for the ménage to empty into a ditch that further ran towards drainage channels flowing eastwards into the nearby floodplain.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The SMC was conditional upon a programme of archaeological works being carried out to ensure minimal disturbance to any archaeological deposits that might be present in the area of the proposed ménage. This was further detailed in the brief from NLA which required continuous archaeological supervision and monitoring of the stripping works for the 20m x 40m and 200mm deep operation. The SMC also required that the stripping works be done under conditions that will cause the minimum disturbance to the monument as a whole. While the soil strip was shallow it had the potential to reveal deposits and features of archaeological interest requiring recording and a continual reassessment of the stripping strategy in order to allow for preservation in situ of exposed structures and features. Supervision of the works was also required to ensure that no damage or alteration is done to nearby earthworks through operation of machinery or disposal of spoil. Finally a careful examination of the disturbed topsoil by eye and through use of a metal detector had the potential to recover artefacts which, while essentially unstratified in archaeological terms, do have a context in being immediately associated with Langley Abbey and pre and post Dissolution activity on the site as a whole so do form an integral part of the monument. Finally works within this area were to be taken as an opportunity to conceal and landscape the already present overflow pipe into the southern edge of the adjacent fish pond noted above. This landscaping work was also to be monitored to ensure that any ground disturbance should be kept minimal and landscaping be kept in sympathy with the existing earthworks.

2.2 The soil stripping operations were carried out using a 13 tonne 360 machine, equipped with a wide toothless bucket, over two days. Depth of soil stripping was kept to a maximum of 200mm and continuous archaeological supervision enabled close liaison so exposed foundations over the northern part of the ménage area were left in situ by discussing with the machine operator the best direction to work from around each feature. Over the southern half of the ménage operations were simpler as the soil strip remained within the topsoil layer with no features being exposed. As the spoil was removed a continuous non-ferrous metal detector scan was maintained and spoil temporarily stock piled nearby was also searched. Some soil was used to help conceal the overflow pipe as outlined in section 2.3 below, however the bulk of the stripped soil was removed from the site to be re-used as topsoil elsewhere on the estate and well outside the SM area. The soil stripping was also visually scanned for pottery finds which were recovered while occasional animal bones were not retained. When possible archaeological features were revealed these were examined by hand to help identify their respective character and extent so they could be recorded and kept in situ. Fortunately the building foundations revealed were, in the main, of largely brick construction so could be left with a flat surface and so were easier to leave in place and are in situ under the ménage base layer of sand (see Appendix II).

2.3 The archaeological monitoring to cover the concealment and landscaping of the overflow pipe was undertaken over a single day. Initially a series of digital images were taken to record the area concerned before works commenced. Once this was done the 360 machine using a toothless bucket carefully scraped back undergrowth

and the turf layer only along the southern edge of the fishpond which then ran into a west-east ditch flowing eastwards to a drainage channel on the side of the nearby floodplain. The base of this ditch was lowered by 100-150mm to give a drop on the planned overflow extension. Following these preparatory works the overflow pipe was extended and the topsoil was carefully spread over the pipe run to re-establish the profile of the southern edge of the fishpond and also cover the pipe in the ditch bottom. Finally a second series of digital images were taken of the area concerned to confirm that the overflow pipe had been successfully concealed and that the integrity of the fishpond had been maintained (see Appendix III).

3. Results (see Fig. 3)

3.1 Soil stripping started in the north western corner of the ménage area and immediately revealed moderate to quite dense concentrations of brick, tile and flint rubble under a thin covering of 100-150mm of sandy topsoil in an area with some indistinct and irregular earthworks. Work therefore proceeded carefully and the first identifiable feature to be noted was a circular brick built well (0002) with an external diameter of 1.70m and internal one of 1.30m. The fill in the well was made up of large quantities of building debris in a sandy matrix and this was left in situ once the top course of well bricks had been revealed. The high density of building rubble which concentrated towards the north western corner of the ménage area dropped off towards the north eastern corner where a rather insubstantial north-south wall foundation (0003) made up of predominantly flint and mortar with some brick fragments and measuring 3.60m long by 360mm wide was uncovered. The northern end of this wall foundation continued under the northern edge of the ménage area while its southern end was indistinct and may, originally, have gone further. Close to the southern end of this wall line (0003) a small area of probable clay floor surface (0004) covering an area of c4m² was recorded.

To the south of the well (0002) feature an east-west wall foundation (0005) made up in the main of unusually large bricks that were 11" long (see further discussion in Section 4, The Finds, below) was revealed. This wall line could not be traced to the western edge of the stripped area at the 200mm depth that was being worked to but its eastern end could be traced, though many of the bricks had been removed along this stretch, to a corner and a return to the south along another wall foundation (0009). At one point on the northern side of this east-west wall line a particularly solid mortared block (0006) of mainly flint with some brick fragments was revealed. This block measured 900mm, north-south, by 650mm, east-west, and could be interpreted as a buttress supporting the adjacent wall (0005) or perhaps a stand for something like a water tank.

Just to the south of the east-west wall line described above a parallel and similar wall foundation (0007), also made up of large bricks, which in this case were 10" long, was recorded. This more southerly wall line (0007) is clearly related to the nearby wall alignment (0005) as it corners and returns to the south in an identical way. The gap, or possible passage way, between the two wall lines being 1m on the north-south alignments and slightly more on the east-west one. A break in the southerly wall line was recorded and this contained a rectangular brick edged structure (0008) which contained an unexcavated fill of rubble fragments in a sandy matrix. The function of this infilling structure (0008) is uncertain though it could be the foundation for a base or perhaps the base of a step in an access point through the wall (0007).

That the construction of this feature (0008) was an afterthought is probable as the brick edging was composed of broken, used, bricks (length ?x4.5"x2.5") rather than complete, new ones.

The only other features recorded in the soil stripping were two small foundations pads (0010 & 0011) made up of a mix of mortared flints and brick fragments and the line of the trench for the known east-west overflow pipe. As noted above in the southern half of the ménage area the stripping stayed within the top soil layer and no features and very little building debris was noted.

All of the structural features described above were hand cleaned to aid identification as definite features in the surrounding rubble deposits and allow recording before being left in situ with minimal disturbance.

Recovery of finds from the ménage area mirrored the density of structural features recorded with the great majority of the pottery and metal detected copper alloy and lead finds coming from the northern half of the area. The lead waste in particular concentrated with the brick, tile and flint rubble deposit.

3.2 Prior to monitoring of the landscaping work to extend and conceal the existing overflow pipe along the southern edge of the probable fish pond to the east of the ménage site a series of digital images were taken (see Appendix III). Work then proceeded with the removal of scrubby vegetation and some turf from the fish pond side and the scraping of some 100/150mm from the base of the ditch running from the south-east corner of the pond. The overflow pipe was then extended before being covered with topsoil, available from the ménage stripping, and landscaped under supervision to recreate the fish pond side profile now containing the pipe. Finally a second series of images were taken as a record of the completed works. Once vegetation is re-established the benefit of this work should be apparent with the pipe hidden and the fish pond profile restored.

4. The Finds (with Sue Anderson)

4.1 Pottery, Clay Tobacco Pipe and CBM (SA)

Introduction

All finds were unstratified (0001) and comprised 17 sherds of pottery (183g) and 7 pieces (31g) of clay tobacco pipe.

Pottery

Table 1 shows the quantities of pottery by fabric.

Fabric	Code	No	Wt	Notes	Date
Grimston Ware	GRIM	1	7	body, green-glazed	13th-14th c.
Late Grimston Ware	GRIL	1	20	small jar or jug rim, green glazed	14th-15th c.
Siegburg stoneware	GSW1	1	15	unglazed body	14th-15th c.
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	6	48	4 body, 1 base and rim of a lid, two with internal glaze, one external with brown slip stripe	15th-16th c.
Raeren stoneware	GSW3	1	8	brown-glazed body	L.15th-16th c.
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	3	65	jug handle and two body sherds, orange-brown glaze	16th-18th c.
Cologne stoneware	GSW4	1	4	'tiger ware' sherd	16th-18th c.
Westerwald stoneware	GSW5	1	3	combed neck, trace of manganese decoration	17th-18th c.
Late glazed redware	LGRE	1	12	dark brown glazed body	18th-19th c.
Nottingham stoneware	ESWN	1	1	dark brown glazed body	19th c.
Total		17	183		

Table 1. Pottery by fabric

This small assemblage ranges in date from the medieval to the modern periods. Some of the pottery (GRIM, GRIL, GSW1, LMT, GSW3) is almost certainly contemporary with the use of the Abbey and may represent domestic waste from the kitchens. The presence of German stonewares, particularly Siegburg, in a rural part of East Anglia would be unusual, but recent work at Binham Priory has shown that – at least in that establishment – the use of German stoneware drinking vessels was widespread in the period prior to the Dissolution (Anderson forthcoming). The vast majority of material collected during the excavations at Binham related to the last phase of use.

A few of the later wares (GRE, GSW4) have date ranges which would place them towards the end of the monastic phase, but they may still derive from the Abbey. The few modern sherds may be related to the use of the site for farm buildings.

With the exception of the German stonewares, most of the pottery was locally or regionally manufactured. The only non-local English ware in the assemblage is the 19th-century Nottingham-type stoneware sherd.

Clay pipes

Of the seven clay pipe fragments, six were stems. One bowl was also recovered but had no maker's marks. The large bowl and oval flat heel are typical of the second half of the 17th century, and the relatively large bore sizes in the stem fragments would suggest a similar date range, perhaps extending into the 18th century, for

these.

Ceramic building material

Brick sizes were recorded on site for three features: well 0002 8.5 x 4 x 2"; wall 0005 11 x 5.5 x 2.75"; wall 0007 10 x 5 x 2.5". The bricks from the well could be of early date (15th/16th c.), although an 18th-century date is also feasible. The measurements for both wall bricks would be unusual at any period. Bricks longer than 10" are generally early (13th/14th c.), but these so-called 'great bricks' are usually below 2" in thickness. Perhaps the most likely origin would be re-used bricks which were specially commissioned (or manufactured at the site) by the monks at the Abbey.

4.2 Metal Finds

All of the metal finds were recovered from the topsoil during a non-ferrous metal detector search carried out by Jimmy Woodrow while the soil stripping was underway and are therefore all unstratified and from the overall topsoil context (0001). These finds are summarised below with more detail in Appendix IV as much of the material is undiagnostic in terms of date and function as it is fragmentary and often derived from building debris.

The single most interesting metal find is a decorative copper alloy dress hook (0100) of a known 16th-early 17th century type perhaps worn by an individual of middling status and easily lost so can be interpreted as a stray find. Amongst the other copper alloy finds a small buckle plate (0103), two buckle fragments (0104 & 0106) and a chape (0105) are all plain but can be broadly dated to the 17th-18th century period. One worn copper alloy token (0101) of later medieval date and a worn copper alloy halfpenny of William III, 1694-1702, (0102) were also recovered.



Copper alloy dress hook (0100)- scale 5cm

The majority of the metal finds recovered were of lead with the bulk of the material (0114- 74 fragments weighing 3,350g) being made up of undiagnostic off-cuts and a few droplets, the latter indicative of lead being melted nearby. In addition 9 fragments of window came (0113- 95g) were also recovered which, with the other lead debris, is to be anticipated on a monastic site which would have seen extensive re-use of building materials following the Dissolution at which point the church in particular would have been vulnerable as its religious use ceased. That evidence for

a lead melting furnace was found during excavations in the nearby east end of the church is relevant with respect to these widespread metal finds in the topsoil.

In general lead finds are often difficult to date though function is usually more apparent. From the soil stripping of the ménage a variety of complete lead objects were recovered including 6 musket balls (0108) of Post medieval date, 8 hollow cylindrical weights (0109- the majority being just over 1oz/around 30g or 4oz/c100g), a plain disc (0110) and one possible palm protector (0111) for work such as repairing sacks or nets.

As with the ceramic finds, the metal finds point to activity in the ménage area in the 16/17th -18/19th century period with evidence of post-Dissolution lead recycling and then stray finds relating to the sites location towards the edge of a busy farm complex.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Within areas given statutory protection as Scheduled Monuments there is a presumption that archaeological features and deposits should not be disturbed or altered without prior consultation with the relevant authorities. In this case at Langley Abbey SMC was issued following such a process of consultation for the construction of a horse ménage with constraints of a shallow soil strip to a maximum depth of 200mm and all ground works to be under continuous archaeological supervision so any exposed features could be recorded and left in situ. This approach to the needs of the land owner has worked well in this case and various structural features and finds related to Post medieval activity at the site have been recorded.

5.2 As outlined in section 3 above a well and various wall foundations were recorded over the northern half of the ménage area. Due to the limited nature of the ground works only the upper parts of archaeological features that were close to the modern ground level could be recorded and wall lines could not be further investigated to establish their full extent though it does appear likely that the two east-west alignments (0005 & 0007) ran beyond the western limits of the area stripped of 200mm of topsoil. Dating of the recorded features is also constrained by the limited character of the investigation and the ambiguous conclusions given by the brick sizes in the major foundations (0005 & 0007). As noted by Anderson in section 4 so called 'great bricks' are normally of medieval date but also are usually below 2" in thickness. The alternative date suggested of the 18th century does seem more likely in this case as this would fit better with the nearby brick built well (0002) and the recorded thickness of these large bricks of 2.5" or more. In addition the bulk of the pottery and copper alloy finds recovered, plus the clay tobacco pipe, point to a marked increase of activity in the ménage area in the Post medieval period. The evidence from the finds for medieval activity in this area on the other hand is much more limited when it appears to have been peripheral to the main foci of life elsewhere in the precinct. A separate and probably more casual use of the ménage area in the Post Dissolution period also appears to be represented by the lead scrap recovered from the site and here it may well be relevant that evidence for a lead melting furnace was found in the nearby eastern end of the abbey church during archaeological excavation work on the site in the early 20th century (P Spoerry pers. comm.). The Dissolution of the monasteries in England in the 1530s gave rise to one of the major re-distributions of land in the country and this process was accompanied

by extensive demolition and salvaging work on monastic churches in particular which were of limited use if no longer required for religious worship. That stray losses continued may also be indicated by the only copper alloy find of note, the decorative dress hook of 16th/earlier 17th century date.

5.3 As outlined above a Post medieval date appears to be most likely for the structural evidence recorded on the ménage site. The large bricks are most probably of 18th century date and in this context it is interesting to note that nothing is shown in the area stripped on either a detailed map of the earlier 17th century of the Langley Abbey and green area, the tithe map of the later 1830s or the 1st edition OS map of 1880. Therefore it is probably safe to conclude that an 18th century date is correct with these structures having been demolished by the 1830s. The function of the recorded structures is also uncertain but their location with regard to the main house and complex and similar alignment to existing farm yard structures immediately to the west of the ménage site points to them having been farm buildings of some sort; perhaps for livestock with a local water supply from the well.

5.4 In final summary therefore it can be concluded that some structural evidence relating to Post medieval activity at Langley Abbey was recorded and this has been left in situ under the ménage. In addition an overflow pipe in the area has been successfully landscaped into concealment. It is also apparent that features of Post medieval date may be present elsewhere within the precinct as well even if they are not shown on the known historic maps of the area. As a future research aim at Langley Abbey a study of the standing fabric, of both medieval and Post medieval date, would be of value in trying to confirm whether 'great bricks' were used more extensively around the precinct. Such ceramic building material may also have been produced in the Langley area as pre-modern brick and tile manufacture was often very localised to where construction work was planned.

Reference

Anderson, S., forthcoming, 'The pottery', in Wade Martins, P. (ed.), *Excavations at Binham Priory*, E. Anglian Archaeol.

Acknowledgements: JNAS would like to thank everyone at Langley Abbey for their close cooperation, Jimmy Woodrow for carrying out the metal detector search, Sue Anderson for reporting on the ceramic finds and Sue Holden for preparing Fig. 3.

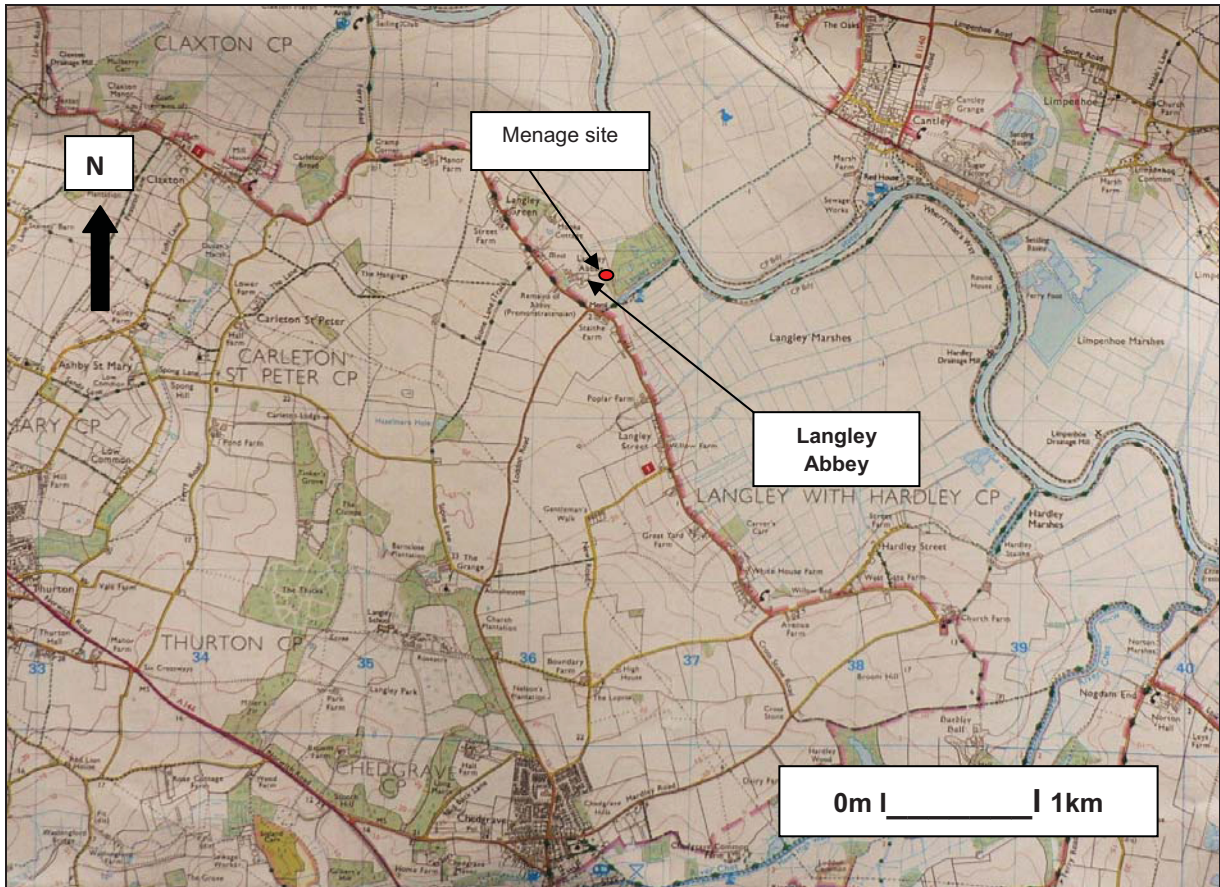


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2010 All rights reserved. Licence number WL1005096)

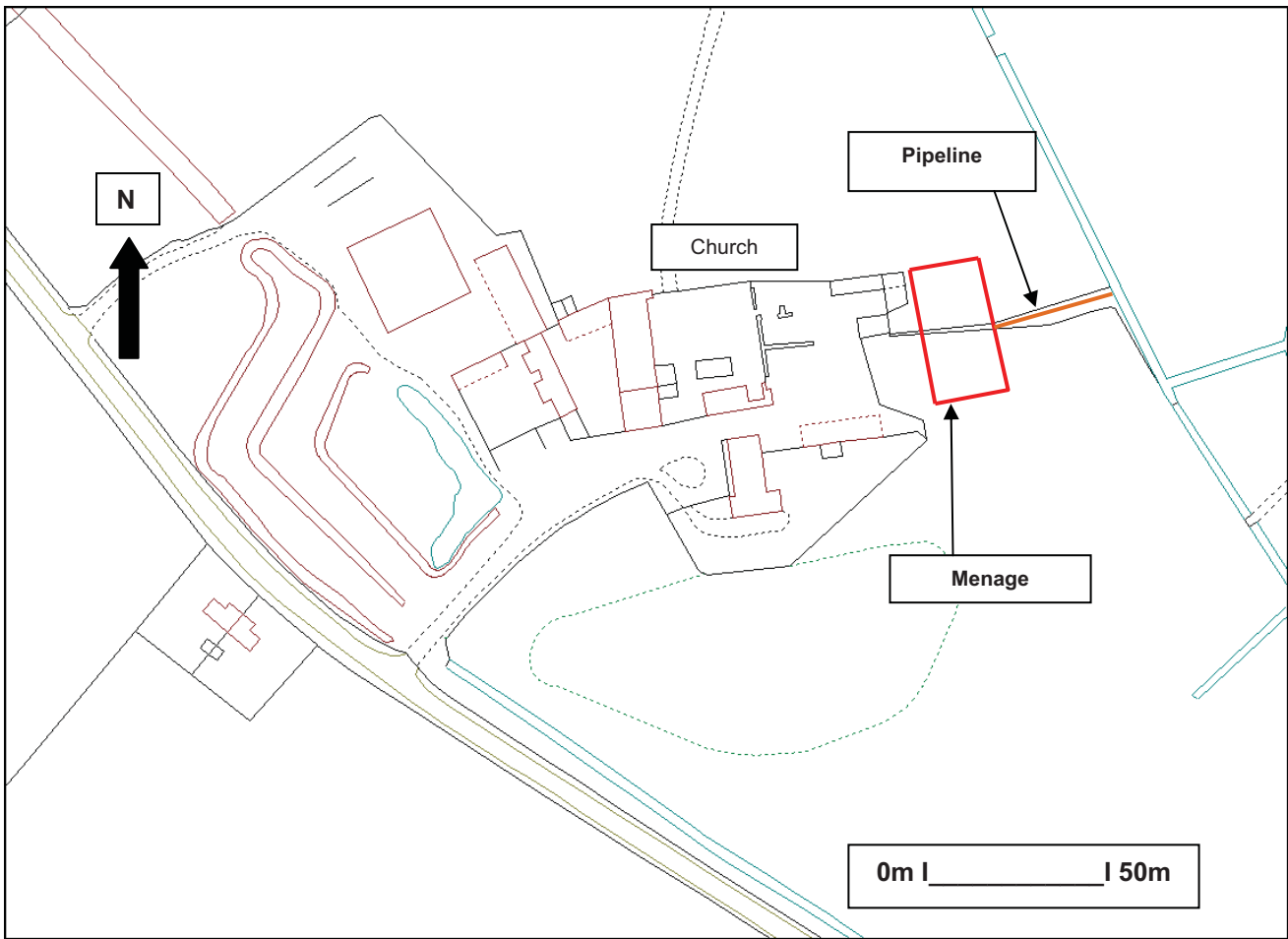


Fig. 2: Location of ménage and monitored length of pipeline (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2009. All rights reserved. Licence number: WL1005096)

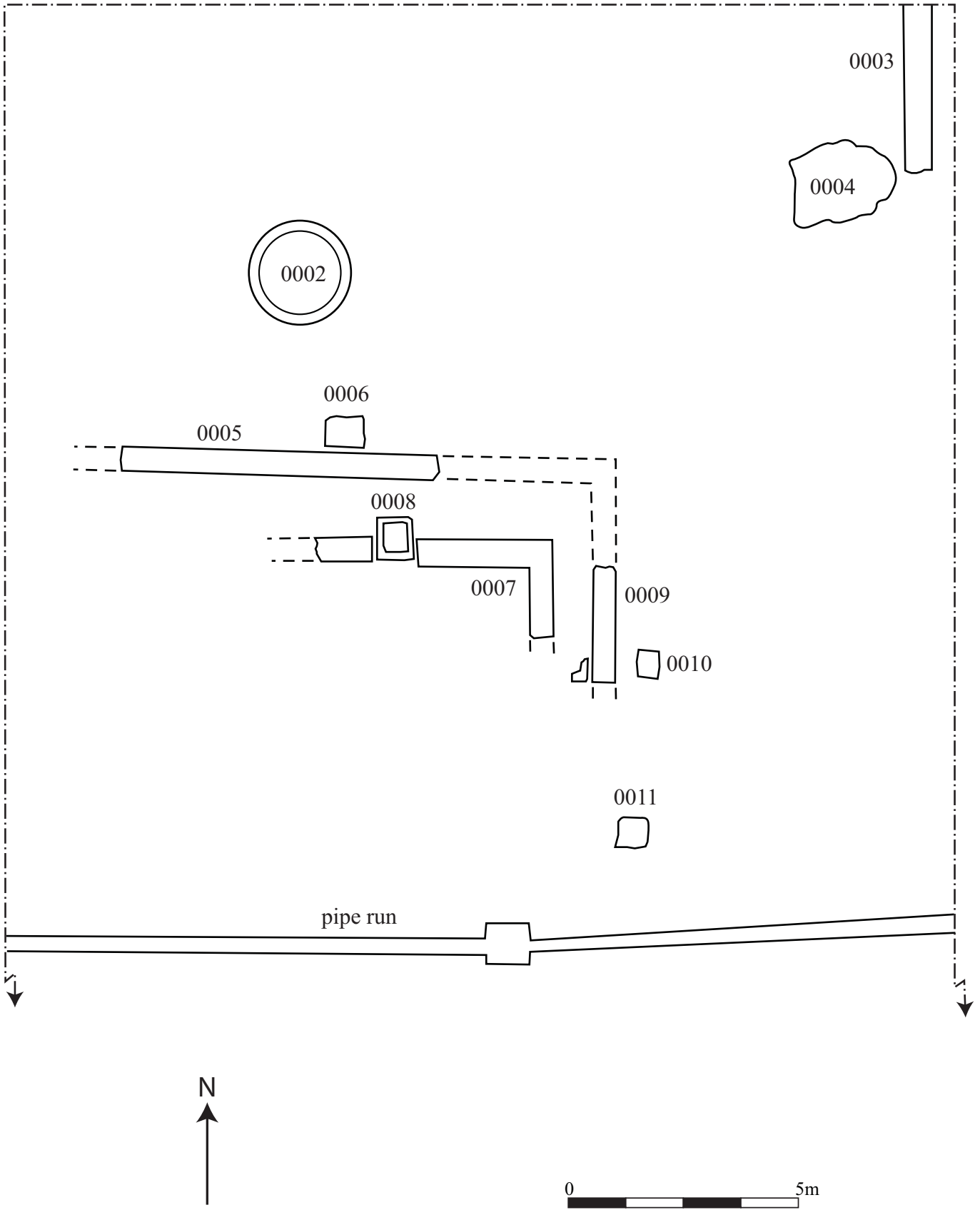


Fig 3 Recorded archaeological features.

**BRIEF
FOR THE MONITORING OF WORKS
UNDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

Site or Project Name: Ménage at Langley Abbey
Parish: Langley with Hardley
Grid reference: TG 3633 0285
Scheduled Monument No.: NF150
Norfolk HER No.: To be arranged
NLA Reference: To be assigned Associated N
Planning Authority: English Heritage
(Scheduled Monument Consent)
Level Required Constant Attendance
Issued by: David Robertson
Historic Environment Countryside Adviser
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Date: 15 March 2010
Notes:



If you need this document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact David Robertson on 01362 869291 and we will do our best to help.

THE BRIEF

A ménage will be constructed to the northeast of Langley Abbey farmhouse and to the east of the site of the Abbey church and monastic buildings (see the attached earthwork plan for the approximate location). Scheduled Monument Consent has been granted for the work.

The purpose of the archaeological monitoring is to ensure that:

- All archaeological contexts and artefacts uncovered during the groundworks are fully recorded.
- The works do not cause inadvertent damage to earthworks surviving in adjacent areas.

The Archaeological Contractor should confirm that the Monitoring of Works Under Archaeological Supervision and Control will be undertaken in accordance with the following:

1. Provision will be made for monitoring the development, including, where appropriate, the following:-
 - all areas of below-ground disturbance, including excavations, foundation trenches, service trenches, drains and soakaways.
 - above-ground remains when the development affects a building of historic importance
 - pipeline and cable trenches.
2. Monitoring will be undertaken at the level indicated i.e. occasional visit, regular visit or constant attendance.
3. Where appropriate, topsoil or spoil will be scanned by metal-detector before and during its removal.
4. All archaeological contexts and artefacts exposed, examined or excavated will be fully recorded on appropriate context, finds and sample sheets, on plans and sections and by photographic record.
5. Provision will be made for an appropriate level of analysis, including identification of artefacts, specialist reports if appropriate, production of archive and report, donation of finds to an appropriate museum, transfer and storage of artefacts and archive in an acceptable form to an appropriate museum, conservation and inclusion of the results of the project in the County Historic Environment Record.
6. Indicate that any areas of environmental potential will be sampled, as advised by the environmental specialist.
7. The results will be presented in a report, the nature of which should be commensurate with the findings. Negative or low-key results may simply be reported to the Norfolk Historic Environment Record on the appropriate form or by a one-page report and location/site plan.
8. The report should include appropriate scale plans showing the locations of all features and finds, and detailed plans and sections where necessary.
9. The report should include comprehensive details of all finds.
10. Three hard copies and a PDF copy on CD of the Report should be supplied to NLA for the attention of the Head of Archaeological Planning within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork on the understanding that this will become a public document after an appropriate period of time

(generally not exceeding six months). Two hard copies and the PDF file will be deposited with the Norfolk Historic Environment Record, and the third hard copy will be forwarded to the Local Planning Authority.

11. Hard copies of the Report should be sent directly to William Fletcher (Inspector of Ancient Monuments) and Helen Chappell (Regional Adviser for Science), English Heritage, Brooklands House, 24 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2BU.
12. At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.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 for submission to the Norfolk Historic Environment Record. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report. Hard copies of the report must still be provided as specified.
13. Hard copies of the report must also be provided, as specified below.
14. All works will be carried out in full accordance with the appropriate sections of Gurney, D., 2003, '**Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England**', as adopted by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers for the East of England Region and published as *East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14*. This is available as a PDF file on the web at www.eaareports.org.uk. Archaeological Contractors should note that the **Standards** document stipulates basic *methodological* standards. It is considered axiomatic that all contractors will strive to achieve the highest possible *qualitative* standards, with the application of the most advanced and appropriate techniques possible within a context of continuous improvement aimed at maximising the recovery of archaeological data and contributing to the development of a greater understanding of Norfolk's historic environment. Monitoring officers will seek and expect clear evidence of commitment to the historic resource of Norfolk, with specifications being drawn up within a context of added value.
15. The Archaeological Contractor will contact the HER Officer of NLA in advance of work starting to obtain a HER number for the site or, if a number is already given on the Brief, to ensure that it is still applicable.
16. NLA and English Heritage will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. The archaeological contractor will give NLA and English Heritage not less than two week's written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.

THE MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL

This means that you will need to commission an archaeological contractor to ensure that an archaeologist is present during certain phases of the development to record any features exposed or any archaeological finds.

This does not mean that the development programme will be stopped or delayed by the archaeologist, who will work alongside other contractors on

site to ensure that any necessary archaeological records are made.

In the unlikely event of the discovery of unanticipated remains of very great importance, discussions will take place on how these might be preserved or recorded.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

You should forward a copy of this Brief to one or more Archaeological Contractors, and discuss with them the timing and costs. Your appointed contractor should be asked to confirm in writing to Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA) and English Heritage that this brief will be adhered to.

NLA and English Heritage do not see Contractors' costings, nor do we give advice on costs. You may wish to obtain a number of quotations or to employ the services of an archaeological consultant.

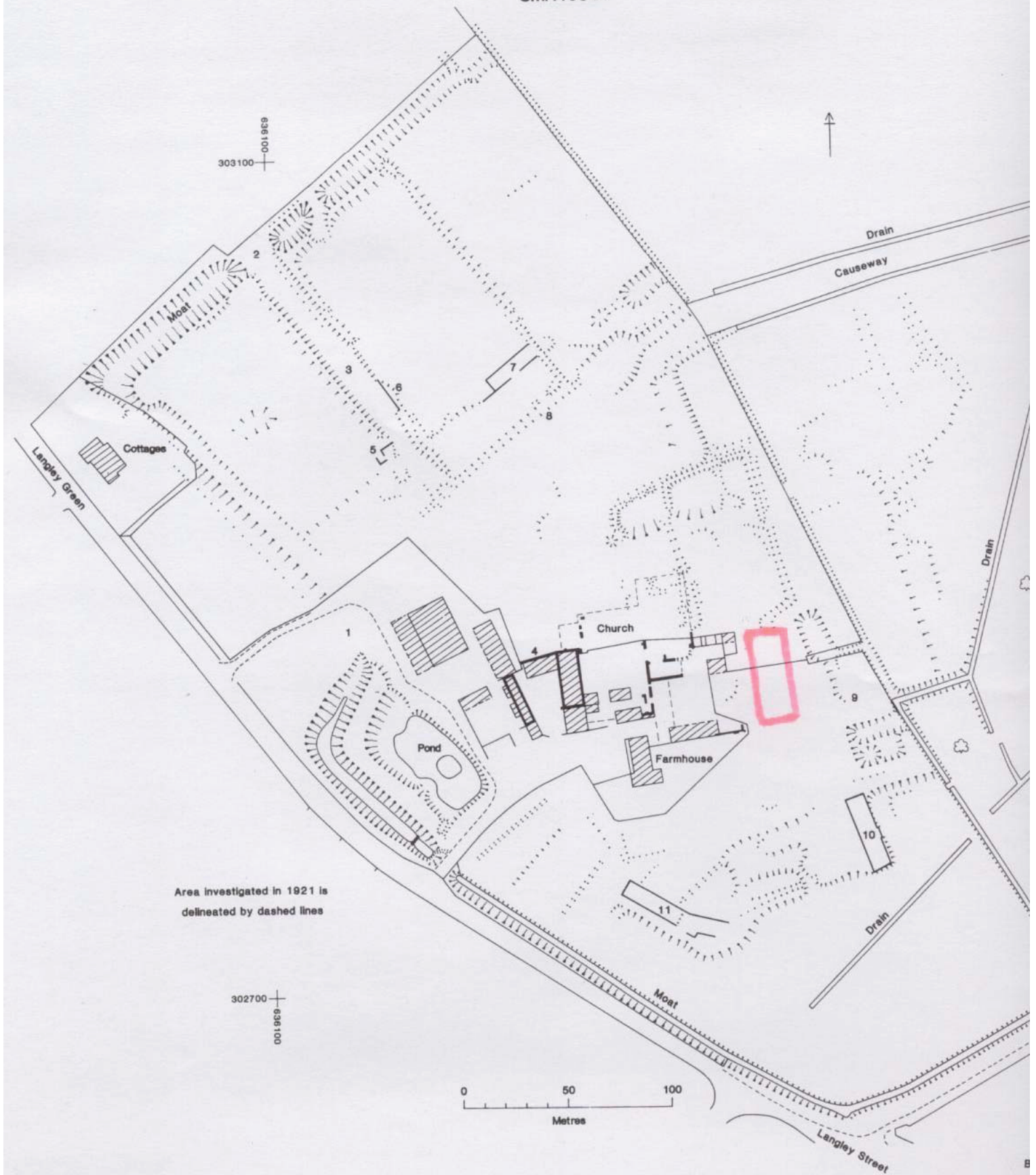
Details of archaeological contractors based in Norfolk and beyond may be found in the Institute of Field Archaeologists Yearbook & Directory, available from the I.F.A., University of Reading, 2 Earley Gate, PO Box 239, Reading RG6 6AU. Tel: 0118 931 6446. Fax: 0118 931 6448. Email: admin@archaeologists.net. Website: www.archaeologists.net.

FOR FURTHER HELP, INFORMATION AND ADVICE CONTACT

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Email: david.robertson@norfolk.gov.uk

Norfolk Landscape Archaeology is responsible for safeguarding the County's archaeological heritage. NLA is consulted by Planning Authorities and provides advice on archaeological work that may be required as a result of development proposals.

LANGLEY ABBEY
SMR10344



Area investigated in 1921 is
delineated by dashed lines

0 50 100
Metres

LANGLEY ABBEY: EARTHWORK SURVEY AND APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF MENAGE (taken from EAA 104).

Mr Chris Townsend
Langley Abbey Ltd
Langley Abbey
Norwich
Norfolk
NR14 6DG

Direct Dial:
Direct Fax:

2 March 2010

Dear Mr Townsend

**Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended);
Section 2 control of works
Application for Scheduled Monument Consent**

**LANGLEY ABBEY, LANGLEY WITH HARDLEY, SOUTH NORFOLK,
NORFOLK
Scheduled Monument No: NF 150
Our ref: S00005462**

1. I am directed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport to advise you of the decision regarding your application for Scheduled Monument Consent dated 3 February 2010 in respect of proposed works at the above scheduled monument concerning Construction of a Menage partially within the Scheduled Ancient Monument boundary. The works were described in the following documentation submitted by you:

- Application for Scheduled Monument Consent dated 3 February 2010
- Proposed Location Plan 1:1250
- Proposed Location Plan 1:625
- Cross Section of Construction
- Construction Method Statement

2. In accordance with paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1979 Act, the Secretary of State is obliged to afford you, and any other person to whom it appears to the Secretary of State expedient to afford it, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for that purpose. This opportunity was offered to you by English Heritage and you have declined it.

3. The Secretary of State is also required by the Act to consult with the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage) before deciding whether or not to grant Scheduled Monument Consent. English Heritage considers the effect of the proposed works upon the monument to be minor ground works which would alter the present condition and appearance of the monument but where restriction of levels by condition can avoid damage to its historic fabric and / or buried archaeological deposits and / or visual amenity.

I can confirm that the Secretary of State is agreeable for the works to proceed providing the conditions set out below are adhered to, and that accordingly Scheduled Monument Consent is hereby granted under section 2 of the 1979 Act for the works described in paragraph 1 above, subject to the following conditions:

a) The works to which this consent relates shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, who will be advised by English Heritage. At least 4 weeks' notice (or such shorter period as may be mutually agreed) in writing of the commencement of work shall be given to

William Fletcher
Inspector of Ancient Monuments
English Heritage
Brooklands
24 Brooklands Avenue
Cambridge
CB2 8BU

in order that an English Heritage representative can inspect and advise on the works and their effect in compliance with this consent.

b) This consent may only be implemented by

Chris Townsend
Langley Abbey Ltd
Langley Abbey
Norwich
NR14 6DG

c) Any ground disturbance works to which this consent relates shall be carried out under the overall archaeological supervision of

David Robertson
Norfolk Landscape Archaeology
Union House
Gressenhall
Dereham
Norfolk
NR20 4DR

who shall be given 4 weeks' notice (or such shorter period as may be mutually agreed) in writing of the commencement and timetable of work. No works shall commence until David Robertson has provided a Brief and Specification for the works and has confirmed in writing to English Heritage that they are willing and able to carry out the agreed supervision.

d) No ground works shall take place until the applicant has confirmed in writing the commissioning of a programme of archaeological work during the development in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State advised by English Heritage.

e) All those involved in the implementation of the works granted by this consent must

be informed by the owner, occupier and/or developer that the land is designated as a scheduled monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended); the extent of the scheduled monument as set out in both the scheduled monument description and map; and that the implications of this designation include the requirement to obtain Scheduled Monument Consent for any works to a scheduled monument from the Secretary of State prior to them being undertaken.

f) Equipment and machinery shall not be used or operated in the scheduled area in conditions or in a manner likely to result in damage to the monument/ ground disturbance other than that which is expressly authorised in this consent.

g) A report on the archaeological recording shall be sent to the County Sites and Monuments Record/ Historic Environment Record and to

Andrew Northfield
English Heritage
Brooklands
24 Brooklands Avenue
Cambridge
CB2 8BU

within 3 months of the completion of the works (or such other period as may be mutually agreed).

4. By virtue of section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within the period of five years beginning with the date on which this consent was granted (being the date of this letter), this consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless a shorter time period is set by a specific condition above).

5. This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bye law, order or regulation other than section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

6. Your attention is drawn to the provisions of section 55 of the 1979 Act under which any person who is aggrieved by the decision given in this letter may challenge its validity by an application made to the High Court within six weeks from the date when the decision is given. The grounds upon which an application may be made to the Court are (1) that the decision is not within the powers of the Act (that is, the Secretary of State has exceeded the relevant powers) or (2) that any of the relevant requirements have not been complied with and the applicant's interests have been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply. The "relevant requirements" are defined in section 55 of the 1979 Act: they are the requirements of that Act and the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 and the requirements of any regulations or rules made under those Acts.

Yours sincerely

Will Fletcher

Ancient Monuments Inspector

E-mail: will.fletcher@english-heritage.org.uk

For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Appendix II- Ménage Images



Ménage from NE with wall foundation (0003) in foreground



Well (0002) from south



View from SE, pad 0011 in foreground, foundations 0007 & 0009 beyond



Wall foundation 0005 from east

Appendix III- Images of pipeline monitoring



Before works start from north



Before works start from north west



After concealment of pipe from north



After concealment of pipe from north west

Appendix IV

Context list- ENF 124332 Ménage at Langley Abbey, Norfolk

Context	Type	Description
0001	U/S	U/S finds, whole site (pottery, clay pipe)
0002	well	brick built well (brick size 8.5"x4"x2") filled with demolition debris (diam 1.7m, internal 1.3m)
0003	wall	flint & mortar wall foundation with few brick frags, length 3.6m, width 360mm (aligned N-S)
0004	?floor	small area of yellow/brown clay, size 2mx1.5m, close to 0003, possible floor remnant
0005	wall	wall foundation, mainly brick (size 11"x5.5"x2.75"), with some flint & mortar, aligned E-W traced for 11m from corner at E end, width 480mm
0006	?buttress	possible buttress on N side of 0005, largely flint & mortar with some brick frags, size 900mmx650mm
0007	wall	wall foundation, brick built (size 10"x5"x2.5") E-W aligned & turns to S at E end, parallel to 0005, width 500mm
0008	?support	square, brick edged feature with void in centre, set into break in wall 0007 brick size ?x4.5"x2.5", possible stand/support, size ext. 950mmx800mm
0009	wall	wall foundation, brick built (size 10"x5"x2.5") N-S return of 0005 at its E end, width 500mm
0010	pad	flint & mortar ?support pad, size 600mmx600mm
0011	pad	similar to 0010 & 3m to S

Metal detector finds from overall soil stripping of the site, all unstratified from 0001 with the main concentration of the lead waste being over and around the structural features 0002-0011 in the northern part of the ménage area. Copper alloy finds were more uniformly scattered over the whole area.

Copper alloy finds

0100 Dress hook, cast as one decorative element on a single plane with loop at base and recurving hook at 90° at opposite end, Gaimster Group II. Main body an

openwork disc with beaded border with a small central boss at the centre of cross arms, L 35mm, W 19mm, typological dating- 16th-E 17th century.

0101 Token, worn, diam. 29mm, garbled legend, obv. standing figure, rev. shield, dating- late medieval.

0102 Halfpenny, worn, William III (1694-1702).

0103 Small buckle plate with lobed end, simple line of punched decoration round edge and below two rivet holes, L 24mm, W 15mm, dating ?16/17th century date.

0104 Fragment from the bar of a large buckle, 17/18th century date.

0105 Chape made from sheet metal, plain, rounded end, 5 small rivets in place, traces of Fe on inner surface, dating- ?16/18th century.

0106 Half a small spectacle type buckle, 17/18th century date.

0107 Misc later Pmed finds- plain suspension ring, decorative strip, 4 plain sheet metal edging/binding fragments, button.

Lead finds

0108 6 musket balls, max diam. 18mm (x1), min diam. 9mm (x5).

0109 8 cylindrical weights (weights- 20g, 30g(x2), 31g, 32g(x2), 40g, 100g) and one crude bun shaped weight with central piercing (75g).

0110 1 plain disc, diam. 30mm, wt 25g.

0111 1 disc with one side slightly domed, diam. 42mm, wt 75g,- ?palm protector.

0112 1 folded strip fragment with crude incised cross, W 35mm, wt 55g.

0113 9 window came fragments, wt 95g.

0114 74 fragments of scrap lead made up of strip pieces, off-cuts and a few apparently molten droplets, wt 3,350g.