



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:

LAND AT LONG ACRE KENNELS
HARTWELL ROAD
ROADE
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

on behalf of Will Smith



NGR: SP 7631 5142

Derek Watson PhD & David Kaye BA AlfA

KDK Project:080/RHR/2

November 2014

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Site Data

<i>KDK project code:</i>	080/RHR		
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	kdkarcha1-191063	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	TBC
<i>County:</i>	Northamptonshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Roade		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Roade Parish Council		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 7631 5142		
<i>Present use:</i>	Former cattery and arable land		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Residential development with associated access and landscaping		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Northamptonshire County Council		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	S/2014/0389/MAF		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	14 th - 16 th October 2014		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Avebury Projects Ltd 1 Copperhouse Court Caldecotte Milton Keynes MK7 8NL		
<i>Client:</i>	Mr Will Smith 12 Tall Trees Close West Hunsbury Northampton NN4 9XZ		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Peter Wale		

Quality Check

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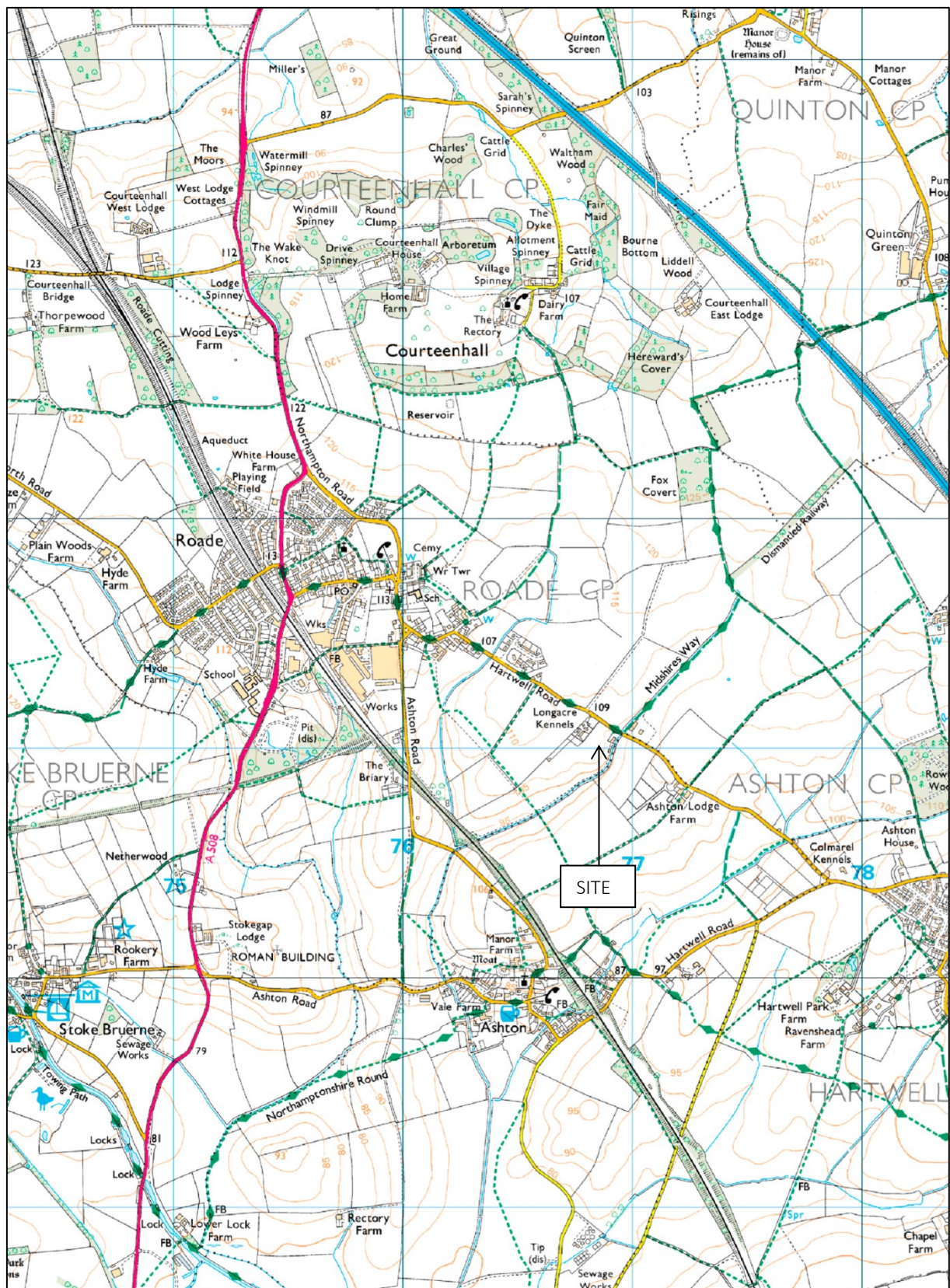


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)



Summary

In October 2014 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook archaeological evaluation of land at Long Acre Kennels, Hartwell Road, Roade, Northamptonshire, as the area is to be developed as a single residence with associated access and landscaping. A total of eight trenches were excavated with a combined area of 366m². Five of the trenches were blank, with the remaining three containing only minor archaeological features.

1 Introduction

1.1 In October 2014 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation of Land at Long Acre Kennels, Hartwell Road, Roade, Northamptonshire, NN7 2NU. The project was commissioned by Avebury Projects Ltd on behalf of Mr Will Smith, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Watson 2014), and approved by Northamptonshire County Council, archaeological advisor (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), South Northamptonshire District Council. The relevant planning application reference is S/2014/0389/MAF.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation has been required under the terms of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *The Site*

Location

The development area is situated on the southwest side of Hartwell Road in southeast of the village of Roade on National Grid Reference SP 7631 5142 (Fig. 1). The village straddles the A508 between Northampton and Milton Keynes and lies within the administrative district of South Northamptonshire District Council and the Civil Parish of Roade.

Description

The development area is partly occupied by cattery buildings with the remainder comprising part of an arable field. It is bordered by residential and farm buildings to the north and west and open fields to the east and south (Fig. 2).

Geology & Topography

The general area is covered by freely draining lime-rich loamy soils (Soil Survey 1983, 342a). Superficial deposits, formed during the Quaternary, which extends back about 2.6 million years from the present, are unrecorded. However, the sedimentary bedrock comprises limestone of the Blisworth Limestone Formation, formed during the Jurassic Period, (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

Topographically, the southwestern part of the site is relatively level and lies at an approximate height of 105m AOD, while the remainder of the development area slopes northeastwards to c. 95m AOD.

Proposed Development

The proposal comprised the demolition and removal of buildings associated with the cattery and the eventual development of a new dwelling with associated access and landscaping (Fig. 3).

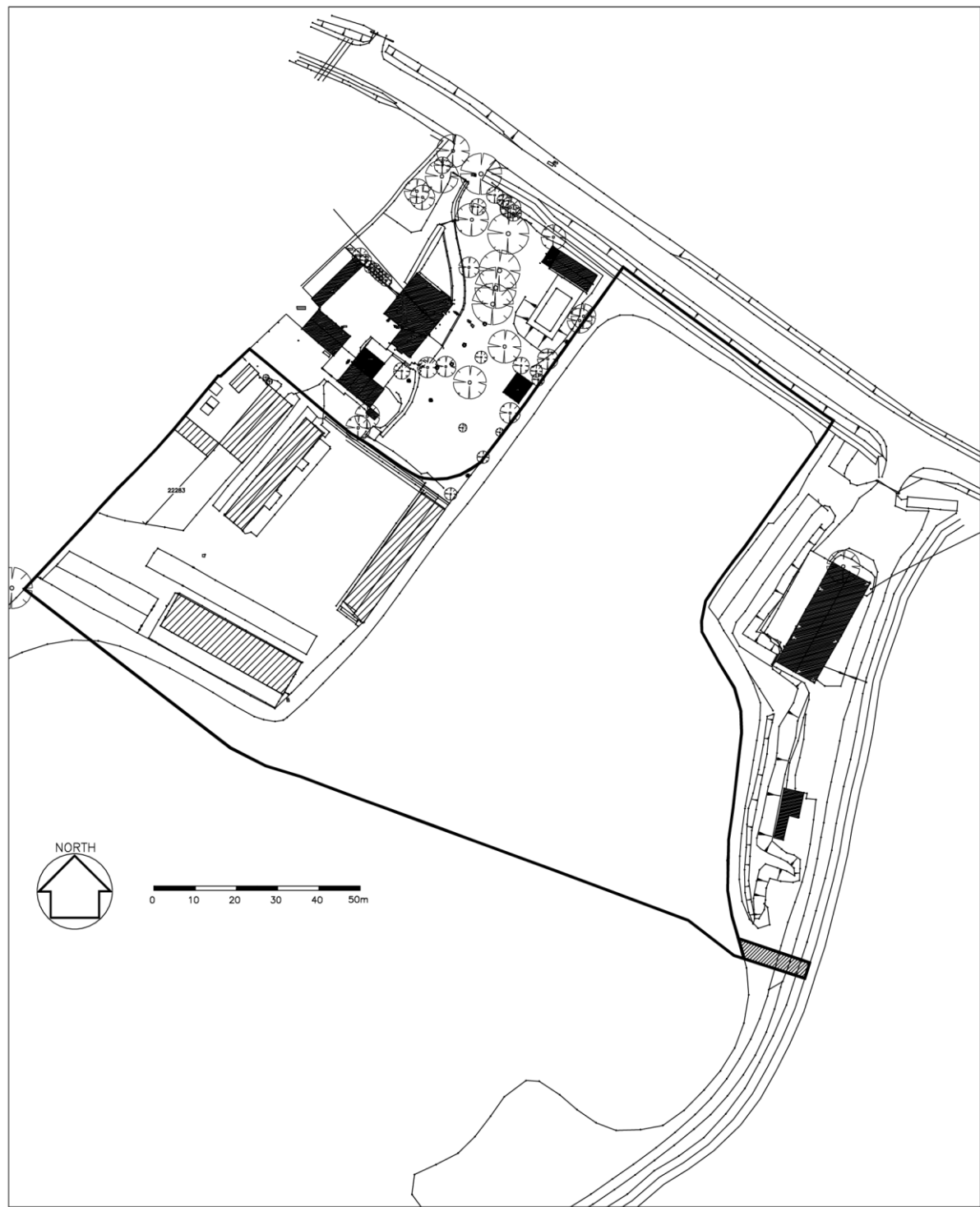


Figure 2: Site location (scale 1:1500)

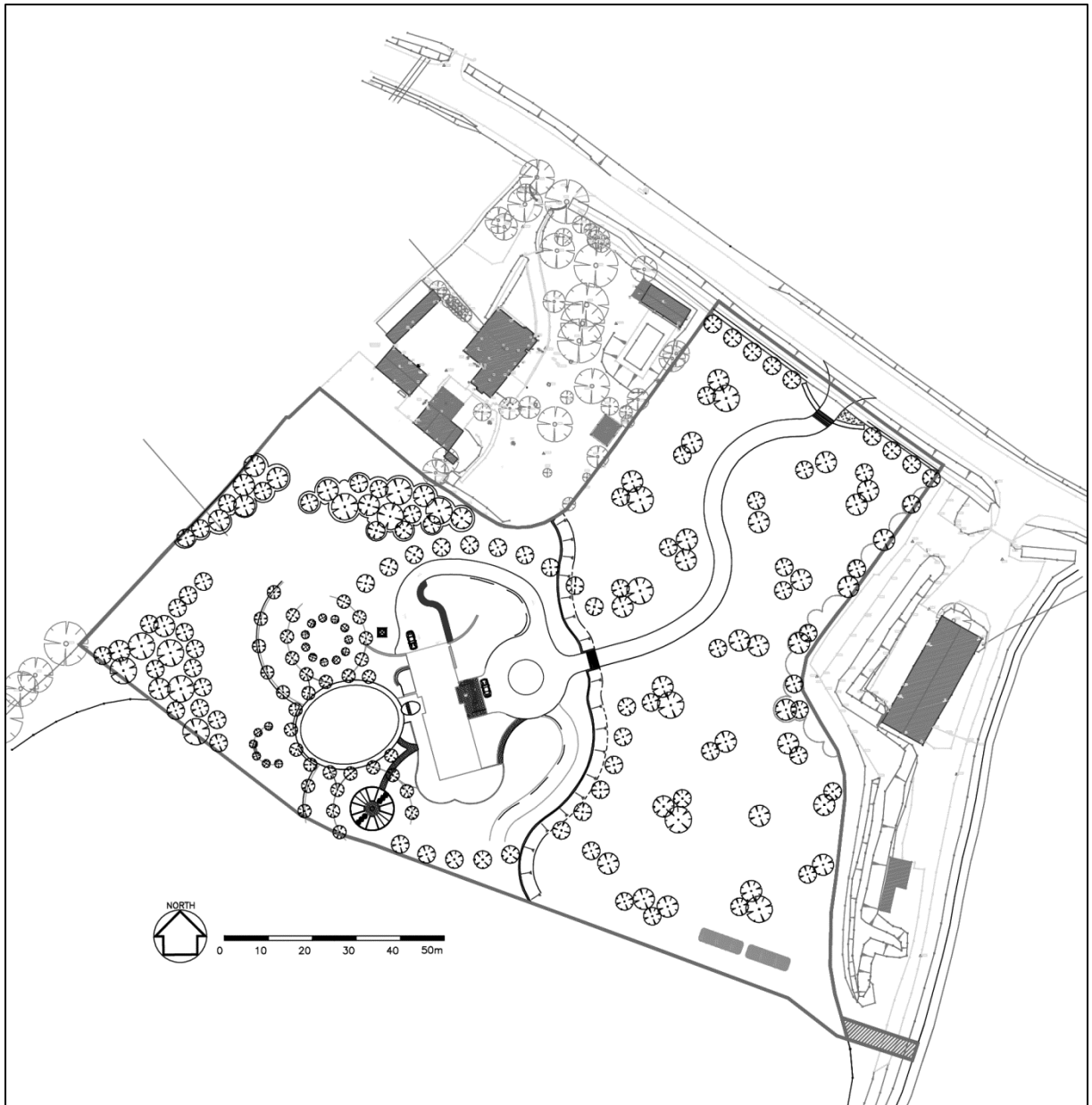


Figure 3: Proposed development (scale 1:1500)



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 The aims of this evaluation as defined in the approved WSI (Watson 2014) were:

- To establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation within the development area
- To establish the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present
- To recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region
- To recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions

2.2 *Methods*

In line with the requirements of the brief, the methods used were as follows:

STAGE I – An archaeological field evaluation of the site to locate, define and characterise any archaeological remains that exist.

STAGE II – An appraisal of the results of the field evaluation and their significance with regard to the proposed development.

STAGE III – No further work was deemed necessary

The initial evaluation comprised:

- Trial trenching of 366m²
- There was a contingency of 45m² of additional trenching
- The trenches were a minimum of 1.8m in width and were excavated under archaeological supervision using a machine fitted with a toothless bucket (Fig. 4)

2.3 *Standards*

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The design brief
- The relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2008a)
- The Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2013)
- Current English Heritage guidelines (EH 2006,2008)

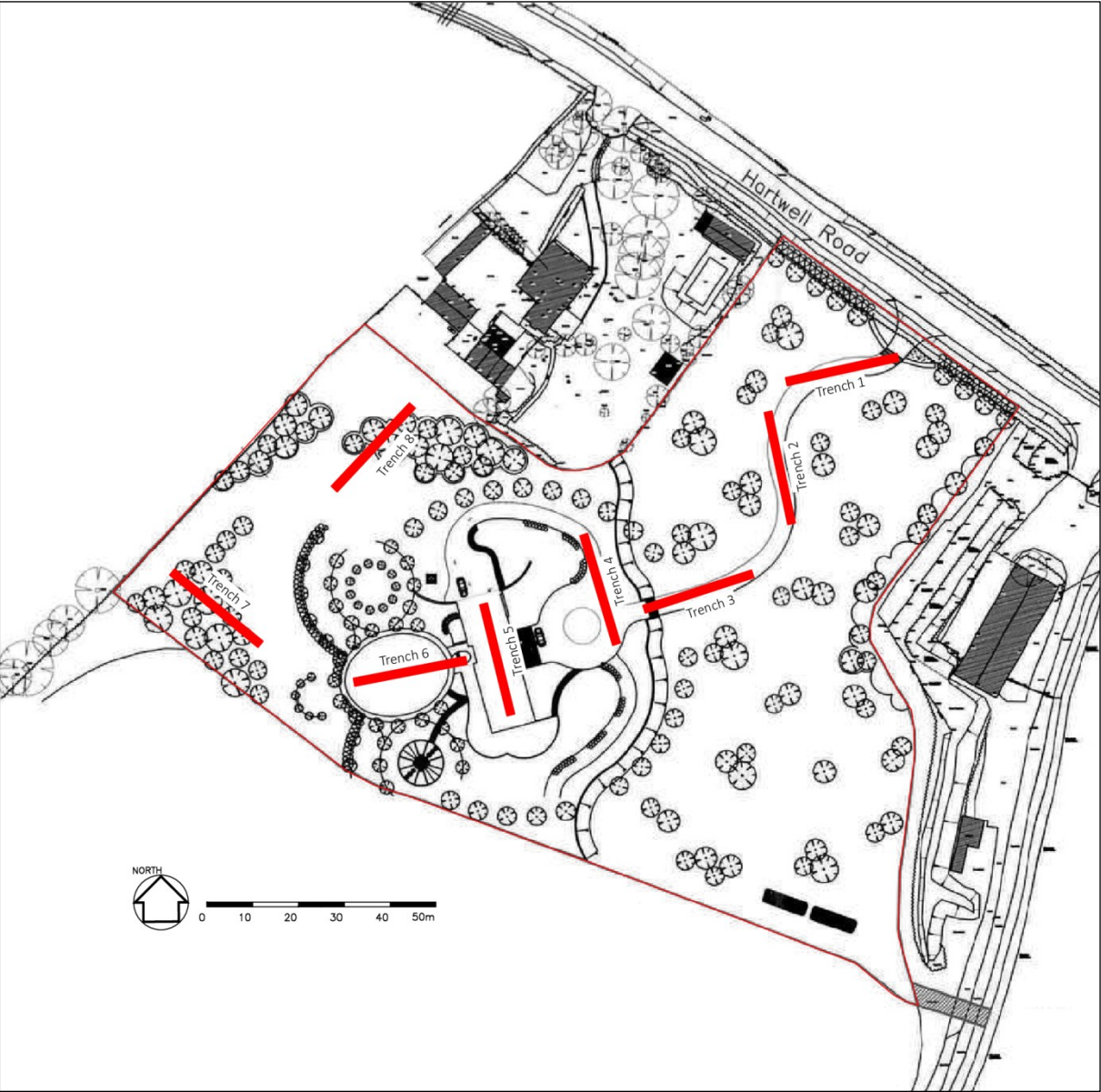


Figure 4: Proposed trench locations (scale 1:1500)

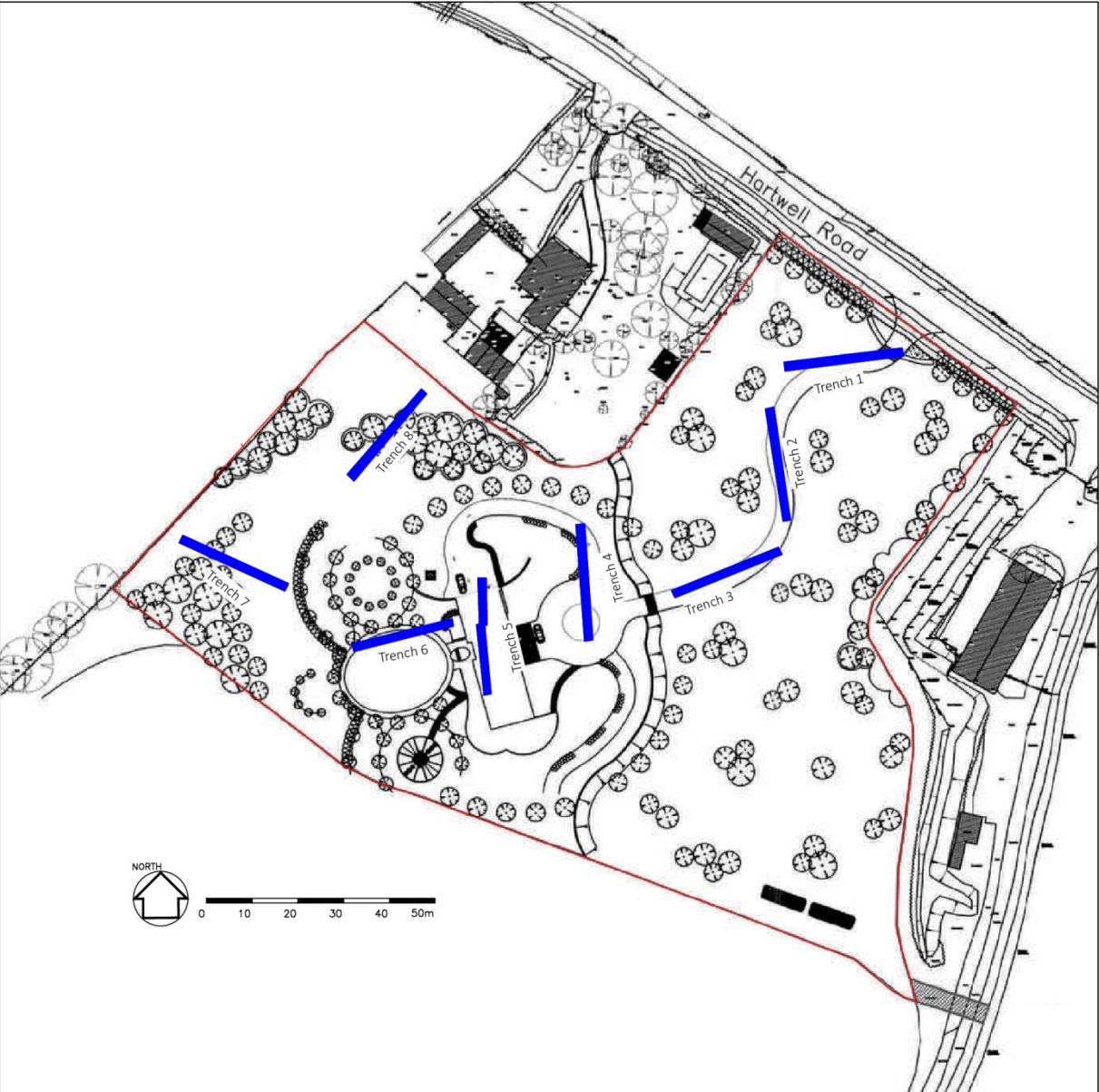


Figure 5: Actual trench locations (scale 1:1500)



3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 Evidence of human settlement or activity contiguous to the development site is scant and inconclusive prior to the end of the Saxon period. However, potential prehistoric enclosures are situated immediately to the northwest and c. 1km northeast of the impacted area. The first historical evidence for settlement at Roade is provided by the Domesday Survey of 1086, which records the existence of a small manor in the area. The 12th – 13th century church of St Mary the Virgin at Church End probably marks the focus of the medieval settlement, though most of the houses were probably clustered south of the church along the London-Northampton and Ashton and Hartwell roads. The monks of St. James's abbey, Northampton held an adjacent manor, on the Hyde estate, from the 12th century, which was eventually incorporated into Roade.

Roade and its environs were divided into various estates and manors during the Middle Ages and post-medieval periods and it remained a predominantly arable farming community, with only a modest range of trades and crafts, until the early 19th century. The building of the London & Birmingham Railway in the 1830s, and the development of industry in the early and mid-20th century fundamentally altered the rural based economy of the village.

The following section has been compiled from information from the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record, reliable internet sources and KDK's own library.

Prehistoric (before 600BC)

A variety of prehistoric sites have been discovered in Northamptonshire (e.g. Deegan & Foard 2008) but these are sparse and no definite sites dating to this period are recorded near the development area. Cropmarks of two small sub-rectangular enclosures, c. 0.5 hectares, are situated approximately 1km northeast of Long Acre Kennels (English Monument No. 343345). The date(s) of these features, however, is uncertain and they are recorded as possible Later Prehistoric or Roman rectangular enclosures dating from c. 4000BC-43AD or 43-410AD, respectively (Pastscapes 2014). The nearest potential site is the putative enclosures and pits identified immediately northwest of the development area (HER 4706) This is possibly a small settlement, of unknown date, as no fieldwork has been undertaken (NCC 2014b: 1). A series of ditches, enclosures and pits are known through cropmarks and aerial survey to the north-northeast of the site (HER 1483). These too remain unexcavated and therefore of uncertain date.

Iron Age (600BC-AD43)

Iron Age sites have been discovered in Northamptonshire, but none are situated within, or in the immediate vicinity of Roade (Deegan 2008) However, an Iron Age ring and a flint arrowhead were discovered in 1933 at the same spot in the local school as the Roman artefacts described below (Riden & Insley 2002).

Roman (AD43-c.450)

There are a considerable number of significant Roman remains within Northamptonshire: the Roman road Watling Street; the town of *Lactodurum* (modern Towcester) and other settlements on the site of the modern towns of Kettering, Northampton, Raunds, and along the River Nene; and the county has 93 known or suspected villas (Deegan 2008: 113; Greenall 1979: 20, 29). None of these sites are situated within 2km of the development area. Still, a number of Roman coins and pottery were found at an unspecified location within the parish prior to 1904, and in 1926 a Roman bronze pin was unearthed in the local school garden (Riden & Insley 2002).



Saxon (c.450-1066)

The name *Roade* derives from *Rode* (Old English), meaning *the place at the clearing* (Mills 1991: 273). The earliest evidence of settlement dates to the end of the Saxon period and comprises the small manor recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, which was held as freehold by Swein. Following the Norman Conquest the manor, which was within the administrative area of the Cleyley Hundred was held by Dodin of Gunfrid de Chocques (Williams & Martin 2002: 617-618). The survey describes the estate as being 4 parts of half a hide with land for one plough and a small wood. Prior to acquisition by its new Norman landlord, Roade was worth 12d and by the time of the survey its value had increased to 4s (*ibid*).

Medieval (1066-1500)

The most comprehensive source of historical data concerning Roade is found in Riden & Insley (2002) from which this and parts of following sections are summarised. The earliest post-Roman settlement in Roade probably developed around or just south of the church of St Mary the Virgin, which dates from the 12th – 13th century. It is now situated roughly in the centre of the village, close to the junction of the main London-Northampton road and the road to Ashton and Hartwell; at approximately 750m northwest of the development area. The medieval village probably clustered along these roads, though an area of secondary settlement formed around the junction where the roads to Hartwell and Ashton diverge, and this remained separated by fields from the rest of the village until modern times. A third smaller settlement evolved on an estate named Hyde (c. 800m west of the church) close to the boundary between Roade and Stoke Bruerne. This estate was granted to the monks of St. James's abbey, Northampton, in the 12th century by Anselm de Chocques. The medieval manor on the estate is almost entirely 14th in origin, and includes a circular dovecote and a fishpond in the valley immediately to the south of the house. The abbey had a water-mill at Hyde from at least the 12th century, which went out of use in the 16th century. In the 16th century the 'hamlet' may have decreased in extent, eventually comprising only the single large farmhouse shown in the Grafton estate survey of 1727.

Roade and its environs were divided into various estates and manors including those described previously at Roade and Hyde, and the Mauntell (from 1086), the Knightley (from 1429) and the Woodville (from 1434) estates. The economic history of this and the subsequent period is relatively complex, at least in terms of how the area was divided and utilised by the various manors, estates and tenanted farmers, but it was largely based upon arable farming. Evidence for the medieval ridge and furrow farming system survives at Ashton Lodge Farm to the south east of the development site (HER 8594/0/1). Much of the land around Roade and the hamlet at Hyde was cultivated as common arable in the Middle Ages: there were also common meadows along the stream which separates Roade from Stoke Bruerne. An open field was held by Hyde (north and south of the lane running from the main Northampton road to the capital messuage) and another, presumably shared by the other estates with land in the township, consisted of Hall Field to the north of the village, Mill Field to the south, and West Well Field to the southeast. Surviving examples of ridge-and-furrow have been recorded at, for example, West Well Field (SP 763501), but this system of ploughing was used locally until the 18th century.

Post-Medieval (1500-1900)

From 1542 the former Mauntell (and Cartwright), Knightley and Woodville estates in Roade and Ashton formed part of the Honour of Grafton and were included in the 1673 grant to Henry, Earl of Arlington. The Roade estate was not described as a manor, although from c. 1713 the 2nd Duke of Grafton claimed the lordship of Roade. A manor court was held for



Roade, which appointed or nominated various officials (i.e. constable, thirdborough, field tellers and hayward), made orders for the management of the common fields, and recorded a handful of fealties from incoming freeholders. The court sat twice a year until 1732, thereafter at irregular intervals every few years.

After the establishment of the Honour of Grafton, officials in Roade leased individual farms, cottages and parcels of land for terms of 21 years until 1705. Subsequently, the 2nd Duke of Grafton became the largest local landowner and by 1720 he held “near half the town”. In 1733-4 new leases were granted to the two main farms, at greatly increased rents: Blunt's and Travell's farms, and a third holding was added in the 1740s. In the 18th and early 19th centuries more than three quarters of the parish was arable. The Enclosure Award of 1819 did not radically change farming in Roade, despite consolidation of the land into discrete blocks, as a large number of freeholders remained. Indeed, during the 18th century, approximately a dozen freeholders owned between 20 and 120 acres. Nevertheless, agricultural land was gradually concentrated into a single holding or let with farms outside the parish, with the Grafton estate the largest single holding.

Occupations and activities other than arable farming included jobbing builders, stone quarrying (limestone), and various other trades mostly servicing the local farming economy (e.g. haulage, blacksmithing), with most established during the 19th century. Quarry pits identified by aerial photography are noted in the Historic Environment Record immediately to the west of the development site (HER 4791).

A Baptist chapel built in 1736-7, and altered in the late 18th and early 19th centuries is situated approximately 500m northwest of the development site.

Modern (1900-present)

In the early 19th century, Roade remained mainly a farming community, with only a modest range of trades and crafts. The building of the London & Birmingham Railway in the 1830s (mostly on land bought from the Grafton estate) eventually altered the local economy and community with the establishment of associated business, building of new public houses, and demographic movement enabled by the railway. The line of the Stratford upon Avon, Towcester and Midland Junction Railway (HER 7351), which opened in 1891, was located to the northwest of the development site until it was dismantled in 1964. It carried passengers between 1892 and 1893 and then goods traffic until 1952. The arrival of the factory-based economy further affected the previously rural character of Roade, with the opening of the J. Masters & Co. polishing paste factory in c. 1910. After WWII, two large industrial employers opened premises outside of the parish, which nevertheless affected its economy: the R.A.F. maintenance depot in Salcey Forest, and the railway works at Wolverton.

Fundamental changes also occurred in the local farming economy as in 1913 c. 2,120 acres of land were put up for auction by the 7th Duke of Grafton, in the first of the Grafton sales, including most of the Roade estate. Apart from Hyde, which remained a family business, the land belonging to the other farms at Roade were either sold for development or absorbed by Burman Farms after WWII. In 1963, it was incorporated as Burman Farms Ltd. and was centred on premises in Hartwell Road a short distance from the older farmhouse and buildings, which were sold for residential conversion in the 1990s.

To the east of the development area, on the opposite side of Hartwell Road, are the remains of a WWII searchlight battery (HER 4699; NCC 2104b: 1).



3.2 *The Known Archaeology & History of the Site*

No specific information regarding the archaeology or history of the site is available or recorded in the HER or other sources.



4 Results

Introduction

In October 2014 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation of land at Long Acre Kennels, Roade prior to its development for a single residence with associated access and landscaping. Eight trenches were excavated, each c. 25m long x c. 1.8m wide, with a total coverage of 366m², and these were situated as close as circumstances allowed to areas that will eventually be impacted by the proposed development (Fig. 4). However, the location of some of the trenches had to be altered due to the local geomorphology and the presence of semi-demolished buildings previously associated with the cattery (Fig. 5). Most of the area investigated consists of arable land which is currently under cultivation. All of the trenches were excavated to the natural limestone geology, and archaeological features were present in three of the eight (Fig. 6)

Trench 1

Trench 1 (Fig. 5; Plate 1) was 25m in length, orientated NW-SE, and was 0.30m to 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy comprised up to 0.25m of dark brown clayey silt topsoil a mid-reddish brown clayey silt subsoil c.0.13m deep, overlying a mixed natural geology of pale yellowish grey limestone, and clay. The subsoil was present only in approximately 4m of the trench at the northwestern end.

Indications of archaeology comprised a linear feature (Fig. 7; Plate 2) and a possible post-hole (Fig. 7; Plate 3). The linear [103], which was orientated NW-SE and extended 1.8m in length across the trench, was 0.10m deep, and filled with reddish brown, friable silty clay (102). The post-hole [105] extended into the baulk, with 0.50m diameter exposed, and was an irregular ovoid in plan, orientated N-S. In section it was bowl-shaped with sloping sides, and a maximum depth of 0.16m. Its fill (104) comprised reddish brown, soft to firm silty clay and angular platy limestone

Trench 2

Trench 2 (Fig. 5; Plate 4) was 25m in length, orientated NW-SE and was up to 1m in depth. The stratigraphy comprised topsoil overlying a mid-reddish brown clayey silt 0.20-0.50m deepening northwards. The natural geology comprised a soft powdery, light greyish white limestone in the northern 18m of the trench, and with the addition of large quantities of angular platy limestone in the remainder. No archaeological features or materials were present in this trench.

Trench 3

Trench 3 (Fig. 5; Plate 5) was 25.5m in length, 0.65m in depth and orientated approximately W-E. The stratigraphy comprised topsoil, overlying a thin tapering layer of subsoil up to 0.18m thick which was present only in the eastern end of the trench. The trench base was made up of natural solid limestone except in the final 7m at the east end which was a fine degraded limestone deposit.

At this end of the trench, a 0.05m deep x 1.30m wide linear feature [303], orientated N-S, extending c. 2.09m across the width of the trench. Its fill (302) was an orange brown clay with frequent limestone fragments (Fig. 7; Plate 6).



Trench 4

Trench 4 (Fig. 5; Plate 7) was 25.5m in length, 0.55m in depth and orientated N-S. The stratigraphy comprised topsoil directly overlying natural limestone geology. No subsoil was present.

One archaeological feature was noted in this trench. Orientated NW-SE, cut [403] was linear in plan, 0.92m wide x 0.34m deep, with 3.88m exposed in the trench (Fig. 7; Plate 8). Its sections had near vertical sides to the south, concaved to the north, and a fairly flat base. The fill (404) was reddish brown silty clay with frequent angular/sub-angular platy limestone fragments <0.2m in diameter.

Trenches 5-8

Trenches 5-8 were located in the southwest corner of the site, which was a small, relatively flat plateau approximately 1.3m higher than the lowest part of the site investigated (Trench 1). The stratigraphy of all four trenches was the same, with shallow topsoil overlying the limestone natural present on much of the site.

Trench 5 contained modern services which necessitated its realignment, Trench 6 was shortened to 22.8m due to the presence of a substantial quantity of demolition rubble, and Trench 7 was relocated 2m northeast to avoid a chain link fenced enclosure. Trench 8 was located as per the proposed layout.

No archaeological cut features or deposits were noted in any of these trenches.

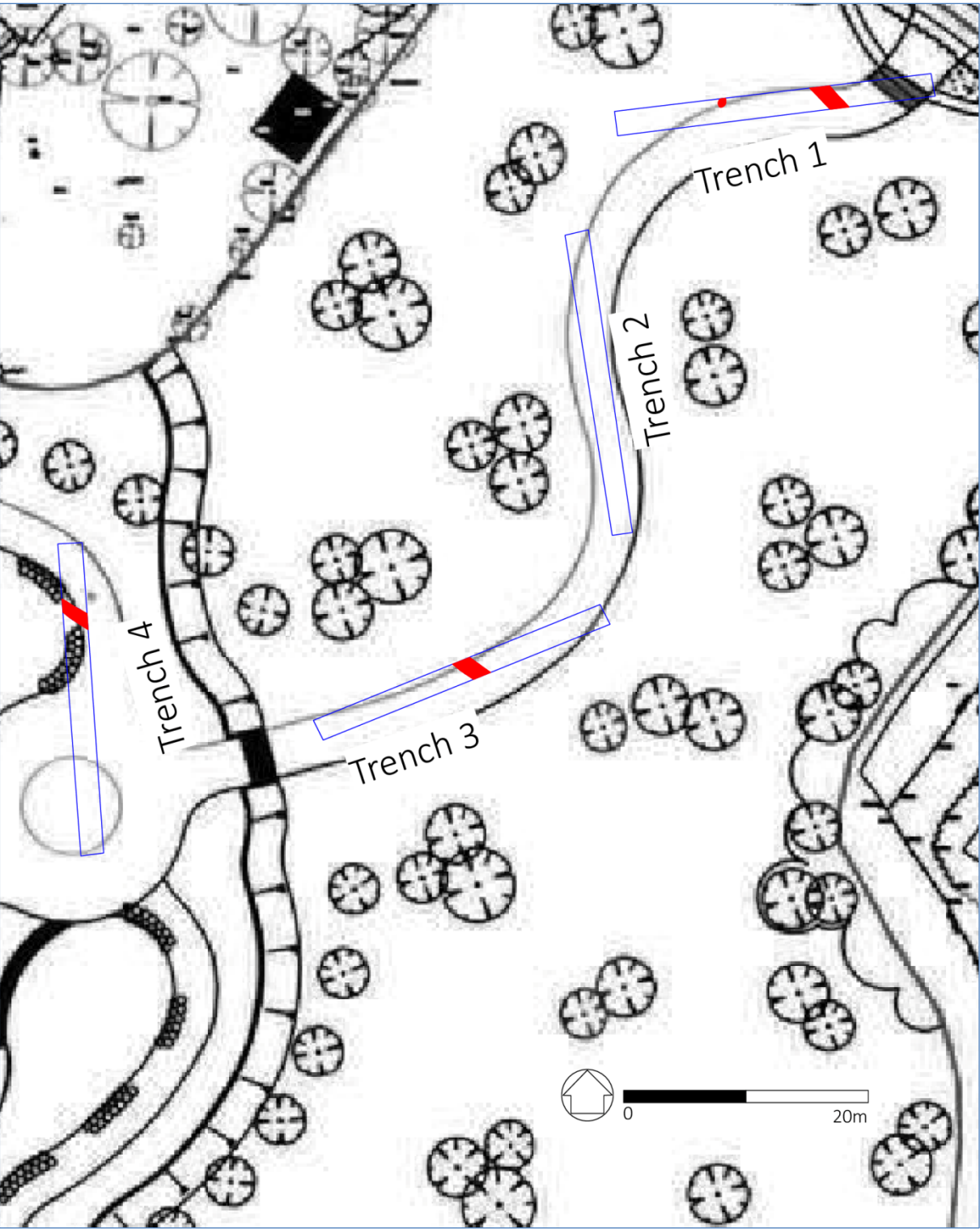


Figure 6: Distribution of archaeological features (scale 1:500)

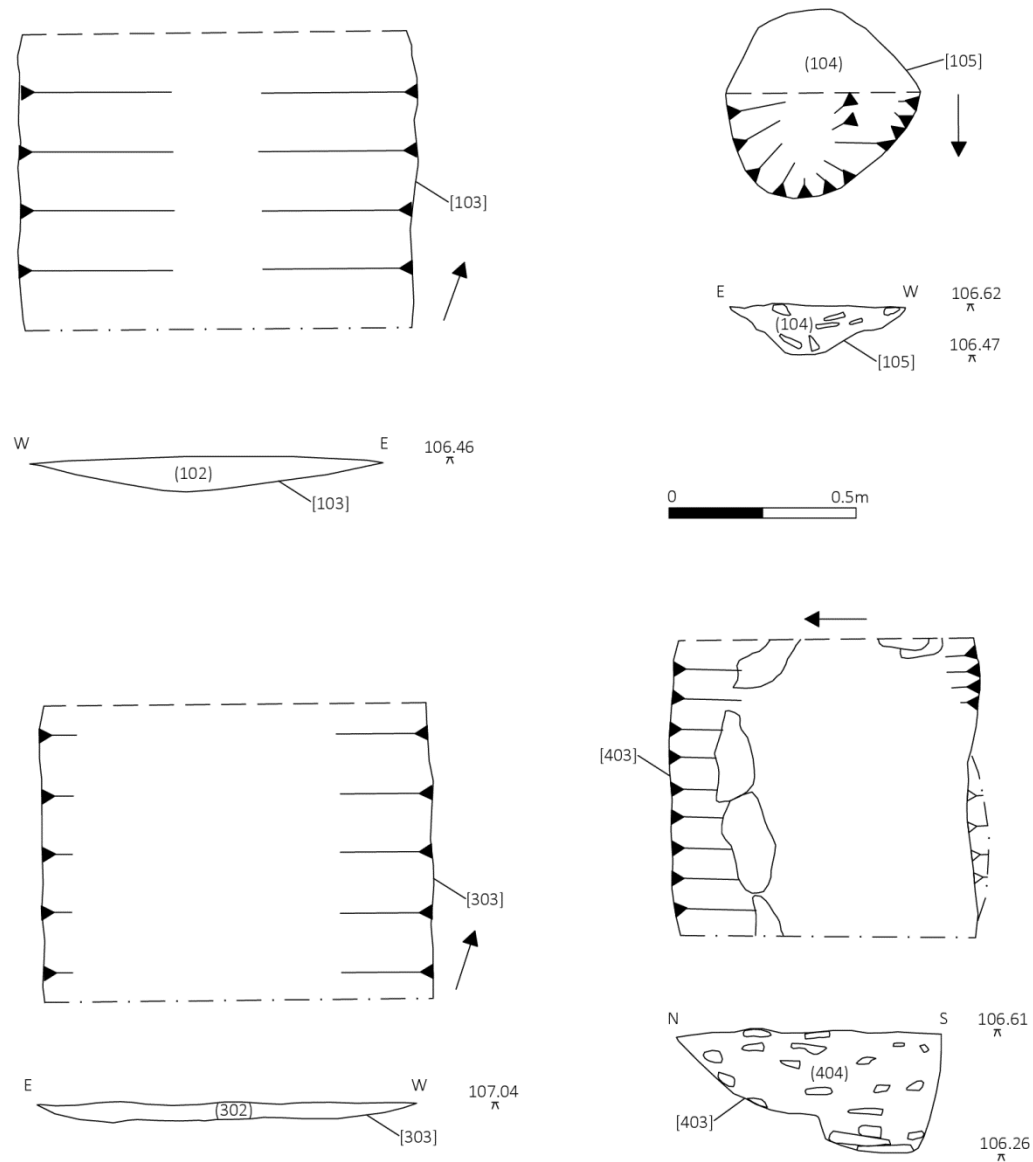


Figure 7: Plans and sections of features (scale 1:20)



Plate 1: Trench 1, facing northeast



Plate 2: Linear feature [103], facing south



Plate 3: Posthole [105], facing southeast



Plate 4: Trench 2, facing southeast.



Plate 5: Trench 3, facing northeast



Plate 6: Linear feature [303], facing northwest



Plate 7: Trench 4, facing southeast



Plate 8: Ditch cut [403], facing south



Plate 9: Trench 4 stratigraphy



Plate 10: Trench 3, stratigraphy



Plate 11: Trench 2



5 Conclusions

The eight evaluation trenches on the development site revealed archaeological remains comprising of a post-hole, a probable ditch and two other shallow linears. However, no datable artefacts were recovered. The development site comprises arable land to the northeast and an area that has previously been built on in the southwest of the plot, which is consequently heavily disturbed. Roade was largely a farming community until the early 19th century and it is likely that the development area has been subjected to arable farming since, at least, the Middle Ages. The ditch and post-hole may be indicative of human activities associated with farming/settlement, and the shallow linear features are probably the bases of remnant furrows from medieval ridge and furrow field systems. The relative paucity of ridge and furrow encountered is likely to be a result of sustained intensive ploughing, and the geology of the site being such that little impression will have been made into the underlying limestone. There is also the likelihood that the site lay on the outer limits of the medieval settlement activity.

The stratigraphy of the site is a product of sustained ploughing, weathering and its geology. The upper parts of the site have a thin layer of topsoil overlying the natural limestone, with no subsoil present as it has been homogenised through ploughing (Plate 9). This part of the site is the most exposed and the topsoil has been eroded by wind and rain. Subsoil was noted only in trenches 1-3, with its depth increasing to 0.5m in the north of the site (Plates 10 & 11). It is probable that there is a natural bowl in the underlying geology which has been filled over time with 'hillwash'. The overall depth of the soils and the sheltered nature of this part of the site may have made it more attractive to medieval farmers.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Mr Peter Wale for commissioning this report on behalf of Mr Will Smith. Thanks are due to Katherine Daws of Northamptonshire County Council for providing historic environment records; the staff of Northamptonshire County Record Office for their assistance in the historic research and Mark Smith for operating the digger.

The fieldwork was carried out by Karin Kaye MA MIfA, David Kaye BA AifA and Derek Watson PhD. The report was written by Derek Watson and David Kaye and edited by Karin Kaye.



7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Written Scheme of Investigation
3. Initial report
4. Trench recording sheets
5. Sample records
6. Finds records
7. Finds
8. Site drawings
9. Client's site plans
10. List of photographs
11. B/W prints & negatives
12. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 As the local depository, Northampton Borough Museum, is currently unable to accept archives, the archive will be stored by KDK Archaeology Ltd.



8 References

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Appendix 1: Photograph List

SITE NO/CODE: 080/RHR			Site Name: Land at Long Acre Kennels, Roade, Northamptonshire
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	x	x	Trench 1, facing NE
2	x	x	Trench 1, facing SW
3	x	x	Fill (102), Trench 1, facing NE
4	x	x	Fill (104), Trench 1, facing NE
5	x	x	Trench 2, facing SE
6	x	x	Trench 2, facing NW
7	x	x	Trench 3, facing W
8	x	x	Trench 3, facing NE
9	x	x	Trench 4, facing NW
10	x	x	Trench 4, facing SE
11	x	x	Trench 5, facing NW
12	x	x	Trench 5 facing SE
13	x	x	Trench 7, facing NW
14	x	x	Trench 7, facing SE
15	x	x	Ditch [103], facing S
16	x	x	Post-hole[105], facing SE
17	x	x	Post-hole[105], facing SE
18	x	x	Trench 8, facing SW
19	x	x	Trench 8, facing NE (wrong arrow)
20	x	x	Trench 8, facing NE
21	x	x	Trench 6, facing W
22	x	x	Trench 6, facing E
23	x	x	Ditch/furrow [303], facing W



Appendix 2: KDK OASIS Sheet

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Land at Long Acre Kennels, Hartwell Road, Roade, Northamptonshire	OASIS reference:	kdkarcha1-191063
Short Description:	In October 2014 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook archaeological evaluation of land at Long Acre Kennels, Hartwell Road, Roade, Northamptonshire, as the area is to be developed as a single residence with associated access and landscaping. A total of eight trenches were excavated with a combined area of 366m ² . Five of the trenches were blank, with the remaining three containing only minor archaeological features.		
Project Type:	Evaluation		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	None	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	None
Current land use:	Former cattery and arable field	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	Unknown
Monument type:	Remnant furrows, posthole, ditch	Monument period:	Unknown
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Northamptonshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 7631 5142
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	Land at Long Acre Kennels, Hartwell Road, Roade, Northamptonshire, NN7 2NU		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	1.6552 Ha	Height OD: (metres)	c. 105m-95m AOD
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Liz Mordue, Northamptonshire County Council	Project design originator:	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager:	Karin Kaye	Director/Supervisor:	David Kaye
Sponsor / funding body:	Mr Will Smith, 12 Tall Trees Close, West Hunsbury, Northampton, NN4 9XZ		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	14 th October 2014	End date:	16 th October 2014
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	KDK Archaeology Ltd	None	
Paper:		WSI, field record sheets, architect's drawings, reports etc	
Digital:		Digital CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Archaeological Evaluation: Land at Long Acre Kennels, Hartwell Road, Roade, Northamptonshire		
Serial title & volume:	KDK Archaeology Ltd Report ref. 080/RHR/2		
Author(s):	Derek Watson PhD & David Kaye BA AlfA		
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