



**Archaeological strip, map and sample investigation
at 56 Church Street, Broughton
Northamptonshire
February-March 2014**

Planning application no: KET/2013/0731

Report No. 14/53

Author: Simon Markus

Illustrator: Amir Bassir



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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		Oasis No. Molanort1 – 173345	
Project title	Archaeological strip, map and sample investigation at 56 Church Street, Broughton, Northamptonshire, February-March 2014		
Short description	An archaeological strip, map, and sample investigation was undertaken at 56 Church Street, Broughton, Northamptonshire. Areas of recently disturbed ground and remains of housing demolished by 1972 was recorded. No earlier archaeological finds or features were identified.		
Project type	Mitigation		
Site Status	None		
Previous work	Heritage Assessment (CgMs 2012)		
Current land use	Overgrown		
Future work	None		
Monument type/period	None		
Significant finds	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County	Northamptonshire		
Site address	56 Church Street, Broughton		
Post code	NN14 1LU		
OS co-ordinates	483675 275800		
Area (sq m/ha)	1ha		
Height aOD	111m above Ordnance Datum		
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	MOLA		
Project brief originator	Northamptonshire County Council		
Project Design originator	Adam Yates, MOLA		
Director/Supervisor	Simon Markus, MOLA		
Project Manager	Adam Yates, MOLA		
Sponsor or funding body	Mr and Mrs Manning		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	26/02/2014		
End date	03/03/2014		
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Contents	
Physical	MOLA office	None	
Paper		Site records (1 small archive box)	
Digital		Client report PDF	
BIBLIOGRAPHY		Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (MOLA report)	
Title	Archaeological strip, map and sample investigation at 56 Church Street, Broughton, Northamptonshire, February-March 2014		
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Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Investigation at 56 Church Street, Broughton, Northamptonshire February-March 2014

Abstract

An archaeological strip, map, and sample investigation was undertaken at 56 Church Street, Broughton, Northamptonshire. Areas of recently disturbed ground and remains of housing demolished by 1972 was recorded. No earlier archaeological finds or features were identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Manning to provide archaeological mitigation works at 56 Church Street, Broughton, Northamptonshire (Fig 1; NGR 483675 275800). The work was carried out in advance of a housing development on the site.

A heritage assessment was produced in 2012 by CgMs Consulting (Dawson 2012). The excavation followed an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Northamptonshire Archaeology, now operating as MOLA (2013), and adhered to the procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* and *MoRPHE* (EH 2006).

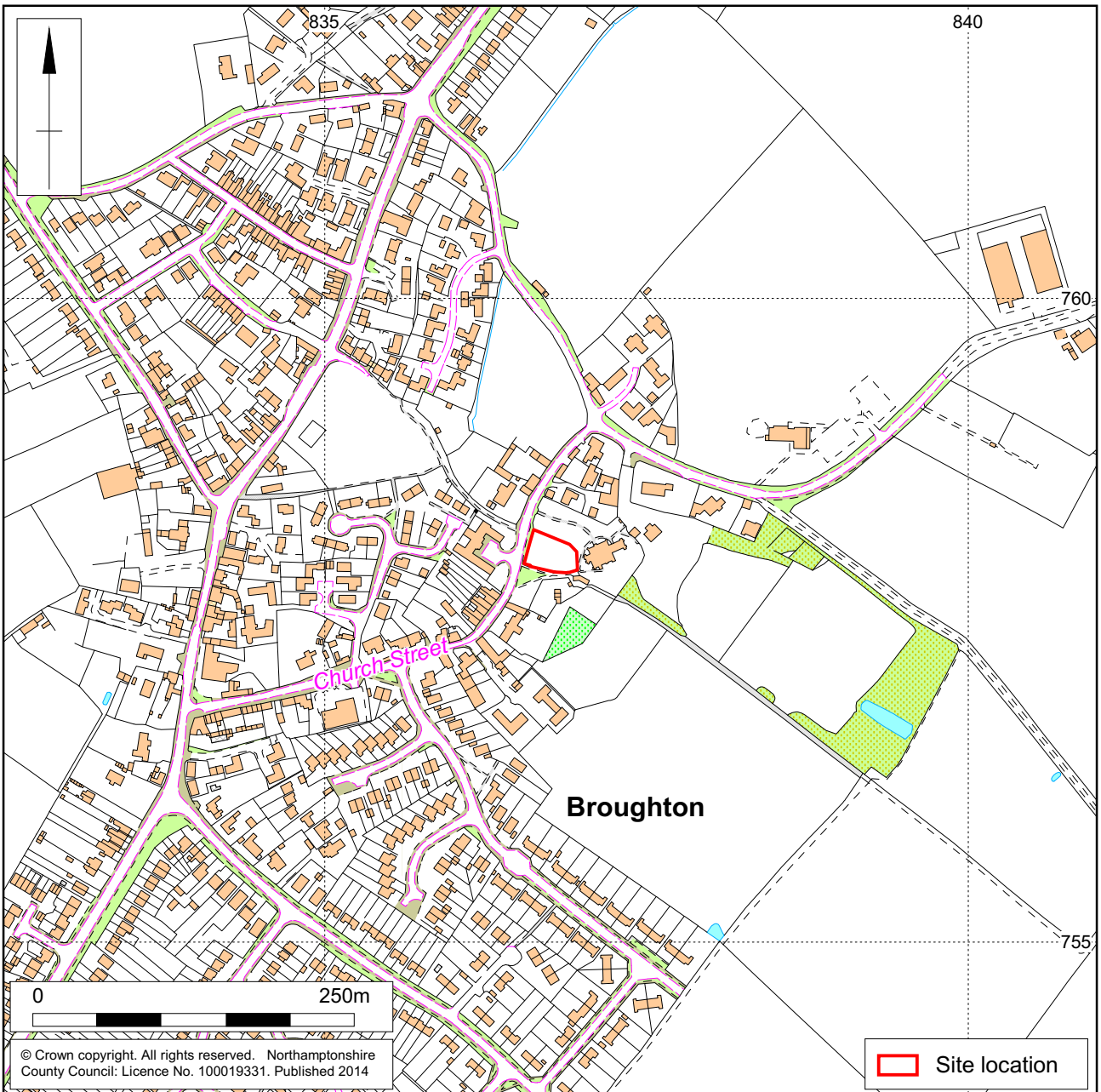
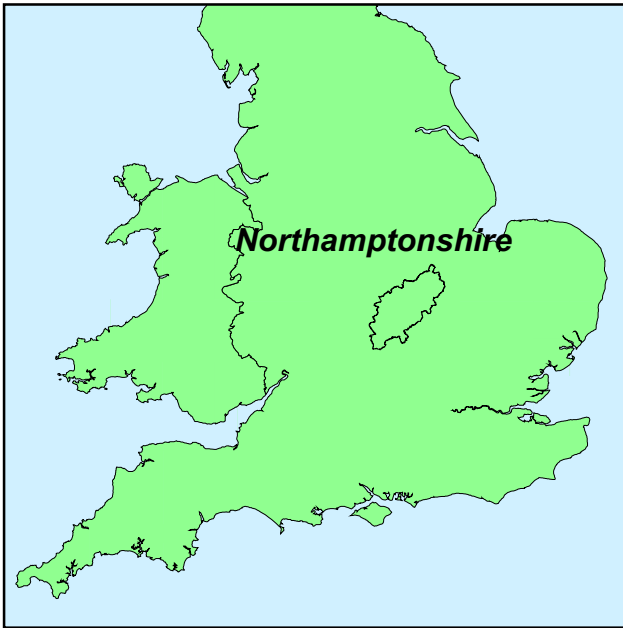
This report has been prepared in accordance with current best archaeological practice as defined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2008) and the *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2010). Work was carried out in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

2 BACKGROUND

Topography and geology

The development area is located in the north-east of the village of Broughton. The site is bounded to the east by St Andrew's Church, to the west by Church Street, and the north and south by housing. The proposed work covers an area of approximately 1ha.

The solid geology of the area is Rutland Formation mudstone. The superficial geology is Boulder Clay, classified as Oadby Member Diamicton (BGS 2012).



Scale 1:5,000

Site location Fig 1

2.2 Historical and archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been examined as part of a Heritage Assessment (Dawson 2012).

The Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER) lists one possible enclosure or ring ditch to the south of the village (HER 8846/0/1). Apart from this, the only known archaeology relates to the historic settlement of Broughton. St Andrew's church, to the immediate east of the site, has features dating to the 14th century. Medieval enclosures, earthworks and house sites have been recorded further north-east into the village.

The site is depicted on a map of 1728, produced for John, Duke of Montague. This shows the plot in existence but does not depict any structures on the site. The 1850 Lewis Lloyd Estate map shows a number of small structures probably cottages on the Church Street frontage and to the rear. The site is progressively more built over during the later 19th century and into the 20th century, although by 1972 all these structures have been demolished.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The main aim of the investigation was to mitigate the impact of development on any archaeological remains through preservation by record.

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- identify, investigate and record all archaeological deposits exposed during the groundworks associated with the construction of the house;
- determine and record the date, extent, character, state of preservation and depth of burial of any archaeological deposits;
- establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation in the development site;
- establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes;
- recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- create a permanent archive and record of the archaeological information collected during the course of the fieldwork and analysis;
- recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions as an intrinsic part of the investigation.

4 METHODOLOGY

All works were conducted in accordance with the procedural documents *The Management of Archaeological Projects* issued by English Heritage (1991), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (EH 2006), the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching*

Brief (2008) and *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2010) . Where appropriate the research frameworks were borne in mind (Knight *et al* 2012).

Within the building footprint, the topsoil and non-structural post-medieval and later deposits were removed by a mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, to reveal significant archaeological remains or, where these were absent, the natural substrate. In the meadow garden, the land was observed once the topsoil was removed, with the exception of an area at the frontage which was stripped of subsoil (Fig 2). Here the stripping was continuously observed.

The character, composition and general depositional sequence of the site stratification was recorded on *pro-forma* sheets, with a unique context number being allocated to each distinct deposit and feature. All recording followed the guidelines detailed in the MOLA Northampton *Archaeological fieldwork manual* (2014).

A photographic record comprising digital images was maintained.

All records were compiled during fieldwork into a comprehensive and fully cross-referenced site archive. All records and materials will be compiled in a structured archive in accordance with the guidelines of Appendix 3 in the English Heritage procedural document, *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (1991).

5 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

The natural substratum (3) was a mixture of white and orange sands, and patches of fragmented ferruginous sandstone. This was overlain by a layer of disturbed ground (2) consisting of mid orange-brown silty sands, with 10-15% brick and sandstone inclusions. Also present was post-medieval glass and ceramics, none of which was retained. The topsoil (1) consisted of dark brown loam, with 5% brick and gravel inclusions.

The north and east boundaires of the site were marked with a stone wall (4) that had been constructed and patched in multiple phases (Fig 2). This was made of sandstone and limestone in irregular coursing.

The southern boundary of site consisted of cottage frontages (6), reconstructed by Mr and Mrs Manning as a boundary wall (5) (Fig 3). The original cottage frontages (6) consisted of sandstone foundations 0.35m-0.40m deep. These were topped with brick and sandstone to make the walls of the cottage fronts, with up to 1.00m surviving. These were recently heightened using sandstone recovered from the site to create a continuation of boundary wall (4).



Scale 1: 500

Excavation area Fig 2



Original cottage frontage (6) with boundary wall construction (5), looking south Fig 3

Within the building footprint, two brick foundations (7) were present, aligned north – south, with only a single course surviving (Fig 4). These were 0.20m wide, and were up to 7m long. Between these was an area of disturbance (8), 4m wide, 7m long, and 0.05m deep. It consisted of mid brown silty sand with 2-3% small sandstone lumps.



Walls (7) and disturbance (8) within building footprint, looking north-west Fig 4

Further areas of disturbance (9) were noted in several locations across the site, including within the building footprint. These varied between mid brown and black, with 5-30% sandstone and brick inclusions.

6 DISCUSSION

Standing walls in various conditions were present. These all relate to the cottages which were built on the site during the 19th century, and demolished prior to 1972. Similarly, brick foundations observed in the strip for the new dwelling relate to the 19th century cottage or outbuilding.

Areas of disturbance noted across the development site can be attested to domestic / demolition, in the form of rubbish pits containing varying materials of post-medieval glass, pottery, brick and animal bone (none of which was retained).

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APPENDIX: CONTEXT TABLES

Trench 1				
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1	Topsoil	Dark brown loam, with 5% brick and gravel.	D: 0.30m-0.45m	--
2	Layer of disturbed ground	Mid orange-brown silty sand, with 10-15% brick and sandstone.	D: 0.25m-0.50m	--
3	Natural	Mixed white and orange sands, with 20% fragmented ferruginous sandstone.	--	--
4	Stone boundary wall	Stone wall on north and east boundaries of land. Likely built in multiple phases, limestone and sandstone.	D: 1.40m W: 0.45m	--
5	Reconstructed cottage frontage walls	Reconstruction of cottage frontages as a boundary wall on south boundary of land, aligned east – west. Built of sandstone.	D: 1.00m W: 0.40m L: 12.00m	--
6	Original cottage frontage	Original cottage frontage, on south side of site, aligned east – west. Built of brick and sandstone.	D: 1.40m W: 0.55m L: 12.00m	--
7	Internal cottage walls	Internal brick walls of cottage, aligned north – south.	D: 0.15m W: 0.20m L: 7.00m	--
8	Disturbance around (7)	Mid brown sand between internal walls (7) from disturbance of floor surface.	D: 0.05m W: 4.00m L: 7.00m	--
9	Domestic/demolition disturbance	Scattered disturbance across site ranging from mid orange-brown to black, with 5-30% brick and sandstone inclusions.	D: 0.05m-0.35m W: 0.35m-1.20m	--



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