

**45 KING STREET,  
RAMPTON,  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**NGR REF: TL 4243 6783**



***ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION***  
**(OASIS ID: independ1-297409)**  
**(EVENT NR: ECB5192)**

**OCTOBER 2017**

**PREPARED BY CHRISTER CARLSSON**

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## **Summary**

*An archaeological evaluation was conducted by Independent Archaeology Consultants 2-3 October 2017 for the construction of two new dwellings with associated new access at 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire. Two evaluation trenches were opened up across the development area, but no features of archaeological interest were encountered during the investigation.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out at 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 4243 6783) in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014), as well as discussions with Gemma Stewart, Archaeological Officer at Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 1.2 Independent Archaeology Consultants is an archaeological consultancy company based in Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. The company subscribes to the *Code of Conduct, the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (CIfA 2014), *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (EAA Occasional Paper 14) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (EAA Occ. Paper No 24, 2011). All relevant CIfA Codes of Practice were adhered to throughout the course of the project.

## **2 PROJECT BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Planning Permission has been granted (S/2632/14/FL) for a new development at 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire. The development comprised the construction of two three-bedroom detached bungalows and detached carports including modifications to the access. No archaeological features were known from within the development area, but remains from the Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval and Modern periods were known to exist in the surroundings.
- 2.2 The plot enclosed an area of some 1600m<sup>2</sup> at an average height of 6m AOD. Rampton is a historic fen edge village approximately six miles to the north of Cambridge. The proposed development was situated in the south western parts of the village on Ampthill Clay formation geology (British Geological Survey).
- 2.3 The site was located within an area of archaeological potential, as defined by the CHER, and an archaeological evaluation was required prior to any construction on the site. This condition was mentioned in the Planning Permission granted by South Cambridge District Council, and was in line with standards described in the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework).

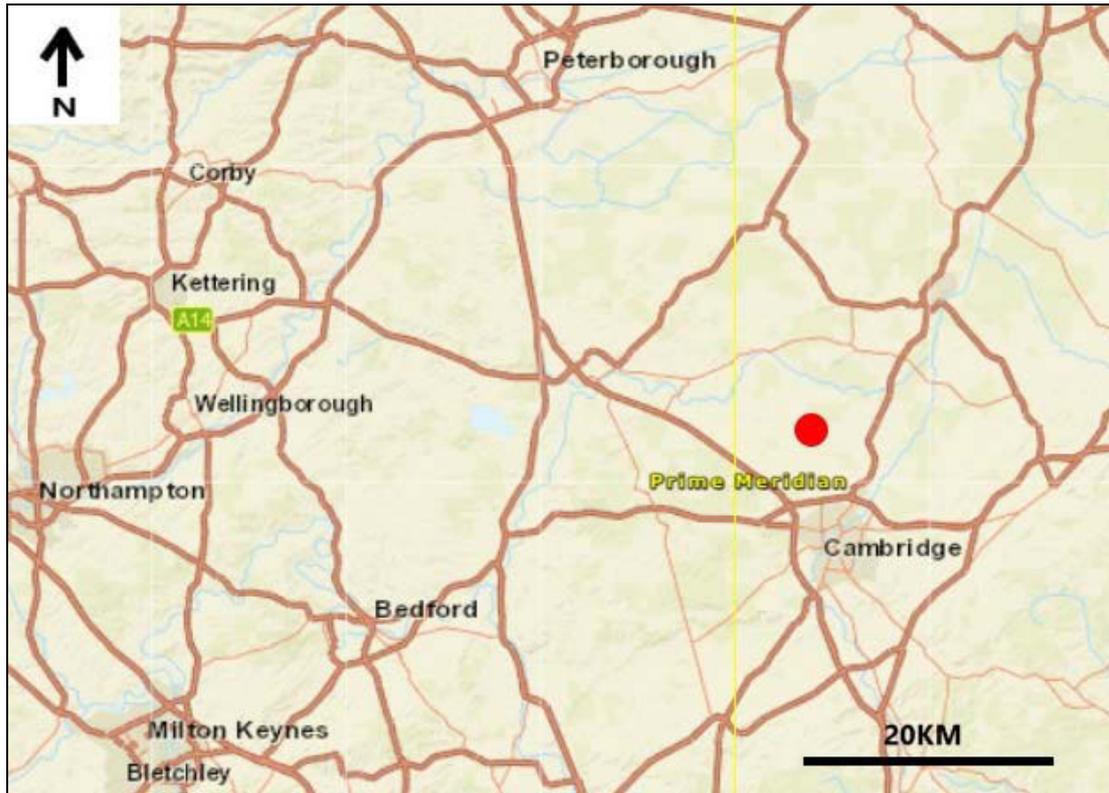


Figure 1. The location of Rampton in England.



Figure 2. Site Location in Rampton (Red). (Ordnance Survey maps produced with Licence nr: Ordnance Survey 0100031673).

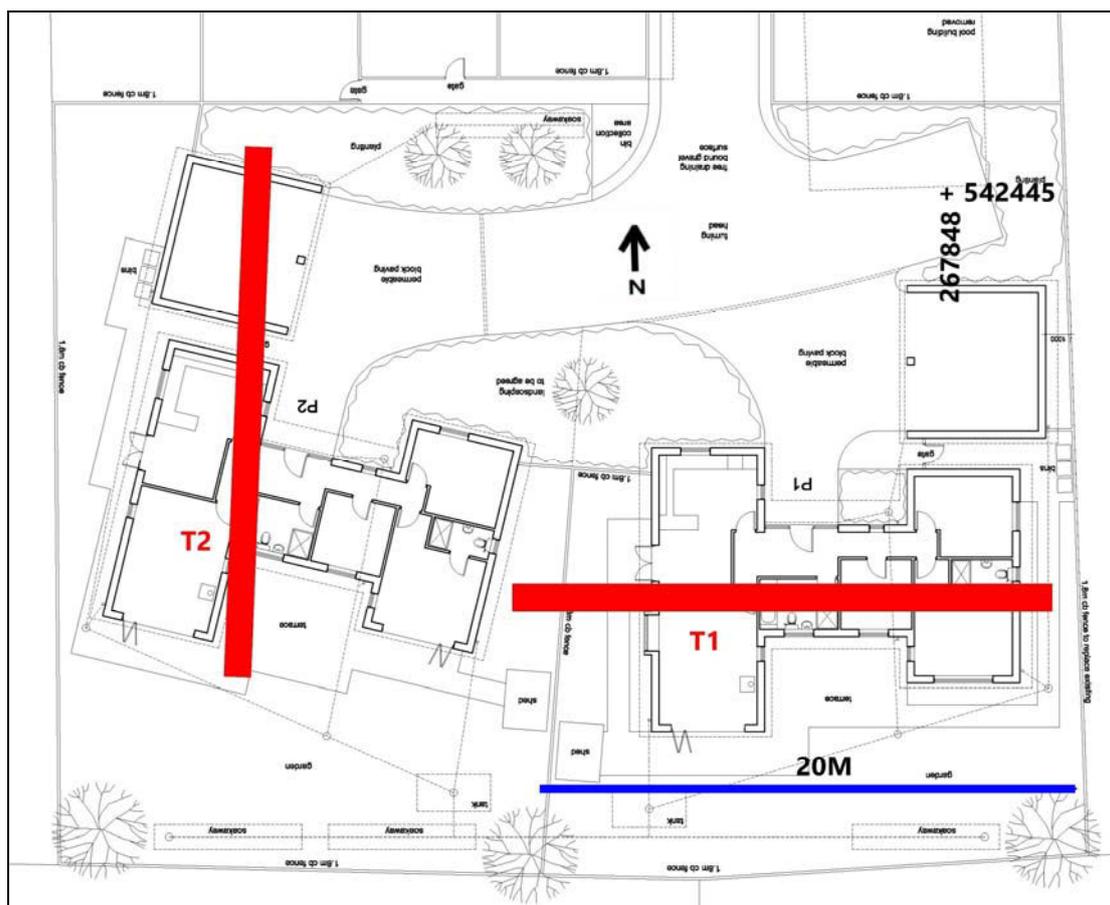


Figure 3. Site Outline and Trench Locations.

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The known archaeological sites in the area were mainly located some 100-400m north and northeast of the proposed development site at 45 King Street. Archaeological finds and features within 500m from the centre of the site could be dated to the Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval and Modern periods.
- 3.2 A Geophysical and topographical survey was carried out at Giant's Hill, a former motte and bailey castle some 450m northeast of the proposed development site, in 2014. The survey generated much information about the layout of the previous castle. The former castle area includes parts of a Medieval settlement and associated field systems (ECB4422) (ECB1767) (ECB4710), and the Giant's Hill is now a Scheduled Monument (1011778). Close to the castle area has also been excavated Saxon and medieval features at Church End (MCB23427).
- 3.3 In an area just south of the castle there also known findspots of medieval pottery (MCB23760) and (MCB23761), of Roman and medieval pottery (MCB23748) and a possible medieval ridge and furrow system (MCB23769).

- 3.4 A number of HEFA test pits were opened up some 100m northeast of the site in 2014, but revealed little of archaeological interest (ECB4254) (ECB4662). Post-medieval pottery sherds have otherwise been found at Rampton Village Hall at Church End (MCB20154), and Late Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery have been found at No. 14 The Green (MCB20155).
- 3.5 Further Medieval and Post-medieval pottery have been found at No. 11 King Street (MCB20156) (MCB20157), at the Chestnut Cottage, No. 17 The Green (MCB20158), at No. 9 Home Farm Close (MCB20159) (MCB23756), at No. 24 High Street (MCB20160), at the Black Horse Pub, High Street (MCB20161) and at No. 22 Cow Lane (MCB20162). Roman and Victorian pottery have been collected from No. 25 Cow Lane (MCB20163).
- 3.6 Late Saxon, Medieval and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery has been found at 14 Cow Lane, some 300m northeast of the site (MCB23764), and Medieval and post-medieval pottery have been found at 1 Church End (MCB23762). Medieval and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery has also been found at Manor Farm (MCB23763), and Roman, Medieval and post-medieval pottery has been found at 16 King Street (MCB23751). Roman, Medieval and post-medieval pottery has been found at 26 Cow Lane (MCB23765).
- 3.7 North of King Street, some 50m from the site, are also finds of Roman and 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery at Orchard End (MCB23754) and Medieval pottery at 36 King Street (MCB23759). Some 50m east of the site are also finds of Late Saxon and medieval pottery at 21 King Street (MCB23750). In the same area have also been found Neolithic polished flint axes (05183).
- 3.8 The parish Church of All Saints is a 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century church with 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century restorations. The walls are made of puddingstone and limestone rubble with some fieldstone and limestone and clunch dressings. Red bricks have been used in the south porch and the building has a reed thatched roof over the nave, slate over the south aisle and tiles covering chancel. The west tower is probably 15<sup>th</sup> century, but the pointed lancets suggest a possible earlier date (DCB4460).
- 3.9 A pair of Grade II listed cottages, probably c.1700 and of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century date, are located at No. 1 and 2 The Green (DCB6022). At No. 31 High Street is a Grade II listed cottage from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century or early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The building has been much altered in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century (DCB5701).
- 3.10 The Manor House is a Grade II listed building of early and late 17<sup>th</sup> century date, located some 300m northeast of the proposed development site. The Manor is a timber framed structure, almost completely cased in soft red brick, with broad mortar courses of late 17<sup>th</sup> century date (DCB6321).
- 3.11 At No 14 Church End is a preserved Grade II listed cottage, which probably dates from ca 1700. It is a timber framed structure with plaster rendered and long straw thatch (DCB5640). 3.13 Home Nest is a late 17<sup>th</sup> century, Grade

II listed, cottage at No. 12 and 13 The Green, with 20<sup>th</sup> century additions at the rear. The building is a timber framed structure with plaster rendered, and weatherboarded on rendered plinth (DCB4462).

- 3.12 The Village Pump from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century is made of cast iron with wood casing and is located at The Green in the central parts of the village (DCB6678). At the Green are also located the remains of an old black smiths work shop (MCB23420) and the base and stump of the Medieval village cross (05184). The cross was made of limestone and the preserved remains are much worn (DCB4461).
- 3.13 Home Nest is a late 17<sup>th</sup> century, Grade II listed, cottage at No. 12 and 13 The Green, with 20<sup>th</sup> century additions at the rear. The building is a timber framed structure with plaster rendered, and weatherboarded on rendered plinth (DCB4462).
- 3.14 At No.15 The Green are two Grade II listed and mid 17<sup>th</sup> century timber framed cottages, plaster rendered with steeply pitched roof now with corrugated iron (DCB5279). At No. 1-3 King Street is a Grade II listed cottage of mid and late 17<sup>th</sup> century date, converted to two cottages and a shop in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The building is timber framed, plaster rendered with brick and clay lump to the left hand end wall (DCB5277).

#### 4 AIMS

- 4.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
- i) to determine the location, extent, character, date, condition, significance and quality of the archaeological resource;
  - ii) to define the nature and extent of any mitigation works that may be required;
  - iii) to inform a strategy for the recording, preservation and/or management of the identified assets;
  - iv) to inform proposals for further archaeological investigations (namely targeted area excavations) within the ongoing programme of research;
  - v) to interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national archaeological context.
- 4.2 The evaluation also considered the general investigative themes outlined by: Medlycott, M. 2011 (ed.) *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24; *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties*

(Glazebrook 1997; Brown & Glazebrook 2000), *English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda* (1997); *Discovering the Past, Shaping the Future: Research Strategy 2005 - 2010* (English Heritage 2005).

4.3 Specifically the following investigative aims were accommodated in the programme of archaeological work:

- \*characterisation of the site in the broader landscape;
- \*characterisation of the activities identified on the site;
- \*characterisation of changes affecting land-use through time

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Trial Trenching**

The evaluation aimed at determining the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. It was therefore suggested that two 20m long and 2m wide machine cut trenches were going to be opened up under constant archaeological supervision using a flat bladed ditching bucket. The total length of trenching was therefore 40m, totalling 80m<sup>2</sup>, or ca. 5% of the 1600m<sup>2</sup> large plot.

The location of the trenches targeted areas of proposed ground disturbance and provided representative sample coverage. The location of the trenches were, however, slightly flexible and took into consideration potential above- and below-ground constraints and/or hazards, such as trees, utility trenches, overhead cables and areas of modern disturbance. The investigation area was searched for live cables and other potential threats prior to the evaluation.

The trenches were excavated to the upper interface of natural deposits. Thereafter, hand-excavation was required to sample any deposits uncovered. The field evaluation was not carried out at the expenses of the heritage assets of the site and was minimally intrusive to potentially archaeological remains.

### **5.2 Metal Detecting**

Metal detector sweeps of exposed deposits and spoil heaps were carried out in advance of, and during, the excavation process, but no metal items of archaeological interest were encountered.

### **5.3 Hand Excavation**

All man-made features were investigated. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) were sampled sufficiently to establish their origin and to characterise any related human activity. Hand excavation and sampling was sufficient to establish the date and character of all deposits exposed, and to allow appropriate levels of recording.

Deposits and layers (including buried horizons of top- and subsoils) were sampled sufficiently to enable a confident interpretation of their character, date and relationships with other features. A characterisation of the artefact contents of the topsoil and subsoil was attempted to provide an understanding of the presence/absence and condition of possible underlying archaeological remains. However, only modern demolition materials were being found. The topsoil and subsoil was bucket sampled in 90 litre samples. Thereafter, mechanical removal and visual scanning for artefacts was acceptable.

#### **5.4 Recording**

A numbered single context-based recording system, written on suitable forms and indexed appropriately, was used for all elements of the archaeological recording programme.

Measured plans were produced showing all exposed deposits (including natural and modern features etc.) and excavated areas. Individual measured plans and sections were produced for all excavated deposits. These were accurately tied into trench plans/trench location plans, that in turn were accurately related to the Ordnance Survey grid and to suitably mapped local features (boundaries, buildings, roads etc.).

All sections and plans were related accurately to Ordnance Datum. A photographic record comprising monochrome and digital photos formed part of the excavation record, and a selection of digital photographs was used in this report.

## **6 RESULTS**

### **Trench 1**

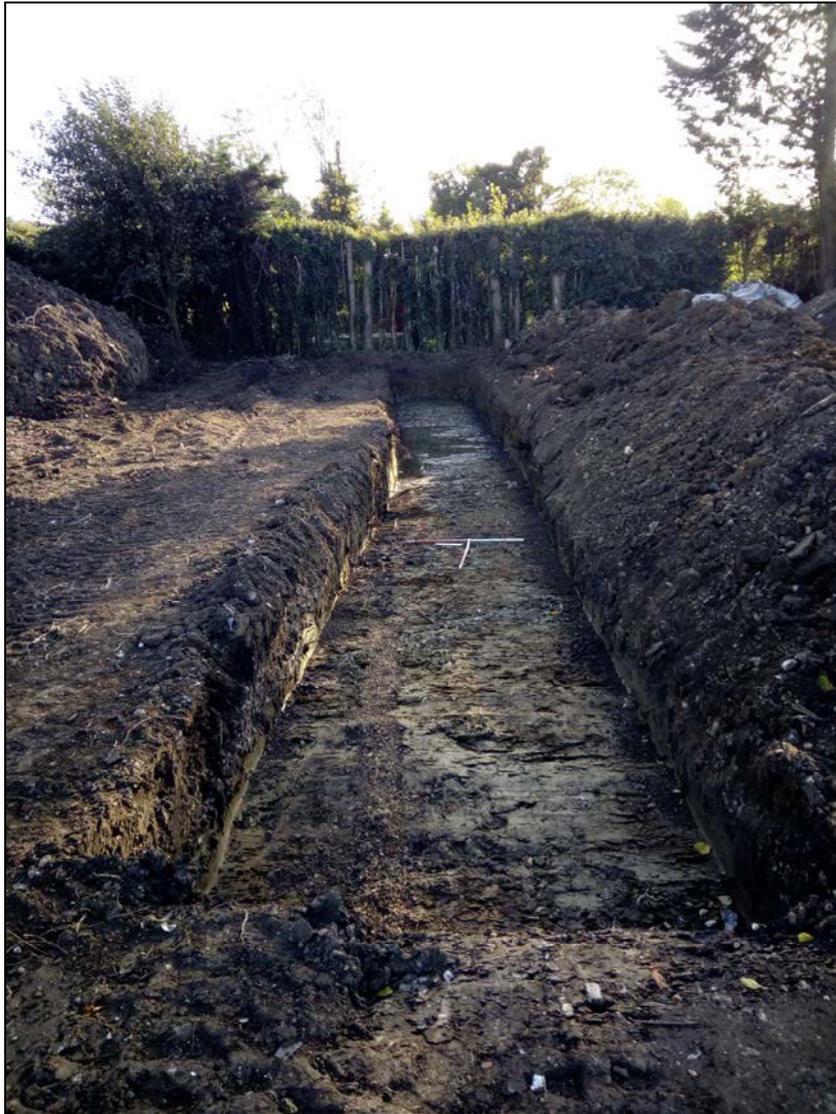
- 6.1 Trench 1 was east-west orientated, 20m long, 2m wide and up to 0.60m deep (Figure 4). Underlying all other deposits in the trench was the Natural deposits consisting of yellow grey, plastic silty clay with frequent stones and roots. Cut into the Natural deposits was the modern drain [104]. This drain was 0.22m deep and had a fill of grey gravel (103).
- 6.2 Covering the drain was the up to 0.20m thick Subsoil (102) of grey-yellow, plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items. The uppermost deposit in Trench 1 was the up to 0.40m thick Topsoil (101) of dark brown, soft silty clay with frequent modern inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items.

### **Trench 2**

- 6.3 Trench 2 was north-south orientated, 20m long, 2m wide and up to 0.75m deep (Figure 5). Underlying all other deposits in the trench was the same kind of material as in Trench 1, consisting of yellow grey, plastic silty clay with

frequent stones and roots. Cut into the Natural deposits was the modern drain [204]. This drain was 0.20m deep and had a fill of grey gravel (203).

- 6.4 Covering the drain was the up to 0.20m thick Subsoil (202) of grey-yellow, plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items. The uppermost deposit in Trench 1 was the up to 0.55m thick Topsoil (201) of dark brown, soft silty clay with frequent modern inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items.



*Figure 4. Trench 1. Overview from west.*



*Figure 5. Trench 2. Overview from north.*

## **7 DISCUSSION**

- 7.1 The archaeological evaluation at 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire indicated that no archaeological features or deposits were present within the proposed development area.
- 7.2 In both Trench 1 and Trench 2 there was evidence for deep modern disturbance, largely due to the fact that the area had been used as a builder's yard for the last 30 years. Modern material, such as concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items, could be seen stretching down to the Natural deposits. After basic documentation the two evaluation trenches were backfilled on recommendation from Cambridgeshire County Council.

## 8 ARCHIVE

The archive consists of the following:

### Paper Record

The project brief	The project report
Written Scheme of Investigation	The primary site records
The photographic and drawn records	

The archive will be transferred to:

The Archaeological Collections for Cambridgeshire County Council.

## 9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

*British Geological Survey*. Internet based service.

*English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda (1997); Discovering the Past, Shaping the Future: Research Strategy 2005-2010* (English Heritage 2005).

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*NPPF 2012*. (National Planning Policy Framework). Department for Communities and Local Government. London 2012.

*Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, Medlycott, M. 2011 (Ed.) East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24.

*Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Glazebrook 1997; Brown & Glazebrook 2000).

*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. Reading.

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## APPENDICES

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Nr	Depth (m)	Description	Younger than	Older than
<b>Trench 1 (10m x 2 m)</b>				
(101)	0.40	Topsoil of dark brown, soft silty clay with frequent modern inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items	(102)	-
(102)	0.20	Subsoil of grey-yellow, plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items	(103)	(101)
(103)	0.22	Fill in modern drain of grey gravel	[104]	(102)
[104]	0.22	Cut of modern drain	Natural	(103)
Natural	-	Yellow-grey, plastic silty clay with frequent stones and roots	-	[104]
<b>Trench 2 (10m x 2m)</b>				
(201)	0.55	Topsoil of dark brown, soft silty clay, with frequent modern inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items	(202)	-
(202)	0.20	Subsoil of grey-yellow, plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of concrete, bricks, mortar and rusty iron items	(203)	(201)
(203)	0.20	Fill in modern drain of grey gravel	[204]	(202)
[204]	0.20	Cut of modern drain	Natural	(203)
Natural	-	Yellow-grey, plastic silty clay with frequent stones and roots	-	[204]

***OASIS ID: independ1-297409***

**Project details**

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation, 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation consisting of two trenches at 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire. Both trenches proved to be disturbed by modern activities all the way down to the Natural deposits.
Project dates	Start: 02-10-2017 End: 03-10-2017
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	KSR17 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	S/2632/14/FL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	N/A Modern
Monument type	N/A Modern
Significant Finds	N/A Modern
Significant Finds	N/A Modern
Methods & techniques	"Metal Detectors","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

**Project location**

Country	England
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## 45 King Street, Rampton: Archaeological Evaluation

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Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE RAMPTON 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire
Postcode	CB24 8QD
Study area	1600 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 4243 6783 52.289703530947 0.088535983679 52 17 22 N 000 05 18 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 4m Max: 7m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Independent Archaeology Consultants
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Independent Archaeology Consultants
Project director/manager	Christer Carlsson
Project supervisor	Christer Carlsson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire HER
Physical Contents	"other"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire HER
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire HER
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography 1

## 45 King Street, Rampton: Archaeological Evaluation

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Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation, 45 King Street, Rampton, Cambridgeshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Carlsson, C
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Independent Archaeology Consultants
Place of issue or publication	Peterborough
Entered by	Christer Karlsson (contact@independentarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	4 October 2017

