

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING
AT MOOR END COTTAGE, MOOR
END, GREAT SAMPFORD,
SAFFRON WALDEN, CB10 2RQ**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBERS:
UTT/1086/10**

PCA REPORT NO: R11434

SITE CODE: GSFMC12

MAY 2013



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AT MOOR END
COTTAGE, MOOR END, GREAT SAMPFORD, SAFFRON
WALDEN, CB10 2RQ**

Site Code: GSFMC12

Report No: 11434

Central National Grid Reference: TL 638/359

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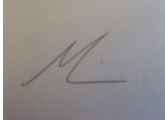
May 2013

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AT MOOR END
COTTAGE, MOOR END, GREAT SAMPFORD,
SAFFRON WALDEN, CB10 2RQ

Quality Control

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Project Number	K2981
Report Number	11434

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ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology was commissioned by Colin Watson of Delta Build to carry out archaeological monitoring at Moor End Cottage, Moor End, Great Sampford, Saffron Walden, Essex. The monitoring was of groundworks in preparation for the redevelopment of the site into a single dwelling, located outside the footprint of the existing cottages. In the field directly north of the site (Shillingstone Field), the local Historical Society has found evidence of Roman occupation. Therefore, a programme of archaeological monitoring was required as part of planning permission. The monitoring was undertaken on 22nd May 2013. No archaeological features were present within the stripped footprint of the new building.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report details the methodology and results of archaeological monitoring carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) at Moor End Cottages, Moor End, Great Sampford, Saffron Walden, Essex (Figure 1; Plate 1). The project was commissioned and funded by the developer Delta Build.
- 1.2 The archaeological monitoring was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by PCA (Hinman 2012), in response to a Brief issued by Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Team (Havis 2012). The fieldwork took place on the 22nd May 2013 and was managed for PCA by Mark Hinman and supervised by Karl Hanson.
- 1.3 Moor End Cottages are located within the north-western part of Great Sampford parish, on the main road leading out of Great Sampford towards Radwinter and Ashdon. In the field north of the redevelopment area, called Shillingstone Field, the local Historical Society has found evidence of Roman activity during field walking and trial trenching.
- 1.4 The archaeological monitoring was of stripping within the footprint of the proposed new building, and other excavation associated with the development of a new single dwelling in a different position to the current dwellings (Planning Ref. UTT/1086/10).
- 1.5 The site is bordered to the north by agricultural land including Shillingstone Field and to the south by the B1051, which runs the length of the site boundary. The natural topography of the ground north of the development site is largely flat, dropping away southwards as it reaches Great Sampford's northern edge and down further to the River Pant south of the village. The site is at 93m OD, on a terrace which has a slight slope from west to east. This terrace appears to have been artificially formed in

order to make a building platform and is 2m below the level of Shillingstone Field, which now overlooks the site. The underlying geology is sand and gravel (Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup) overlying chalk bedrock (Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following archaeological background is taken from the ECC HEM Brief for archaeological investigation (Havis 2012). The Essex Historic Environment Record shows the development site lies immediately adjacent to an area assessed by the Local Historical Society, comprising a large Roman site (EHER 18042). Both archaeological fieldwalking and trial trenching have been undertaken on the adjacent field, which has extensive archaeological deposits. The character of the material identified, including Roman box flue tile, roof tile, nails and daub, suggests the presence of a small Romano-British farmstead at the southern end of Shillingstone Field. As yet the precise location of this settlement is unknown. There is the potential for the Roman settlement to extend into the site.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The monitoring archaeologist was present on site on the 22nd May 2013 and observed the reduction of an area measuring 10 x 15m down 0.15m for the placement of a concrete floor pad (Plate 2). The excavation was carried out using a 3-tonne rubber-tracked 360° excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed 0.5m-wide bucket (Plate 3). The strip for the platform was taken down to the maximum development depth needed for the pad; no natural geology was encountered. Excavated soil was removed in even spits to facilitate recognition of any archaeological features and deposits.

3.2 All aspects of the monitoring were conducted in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and the Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (2008), as well as the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003). Field techniques and guidance are detailed within the PCA fieldwork induction manual (Taylor and Brown 2009).

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 Due to the limited depth needed for the laying of the concrete pad, only one layer was encountered. This was topsoil (1), consisting of mid orangey-brown silty clay (Plate 4) which had finds of modern ceramic building material and garden waste. This reinforces the known recent land-use history of this part of the site as gardens associated with the existing cottages.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Due to the limited depth impact of the concrete foundation platform and the high probability that the site was terraced for the construction of the previous buildings, the monitoring only encountered topsoil containing modern garden waste.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited is grateful to Colin Watson of Delta Build for commissioning and funding the project and to Richard Havis of Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Team for their assistance and advice.

7 REFERENCES

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 14, ALGAO, Gressenhall

Havis, R. 2012 *Archaeological Monitoring At Moor End Cottage, Great Sampford*. Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Team, Chelmsford

Hinman M. 2012 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Groundworks Monitoring At Moor End Cottage, Great Sampford*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, Cambridge

Institute for Archaeologists 2008 *Code of Conduct and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*

Taylor, G. and Brown, J. 2009 *Fieldwork Induction Manual*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, London

APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Area of site before commencement of groundworks.



Plate 2: New building footprint, stripped of topsoil.



Plate 3: Stripping the footprint of the new building.



Plate 4: Close-up of area, stripped.



APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context	Type	Category	Notes
(1)	Layer	Topsoil	Topsoil overlying area of new building footprint

APPENDIX 3: OASIS SUMMARY

7.1 OASIS ID: preconst1-151284

Project details

Project name	ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AT MOOR END COTTAGE, MOOR END, GREAT SAMPFORD, SAFFRON WALDEN, CB10 2RQ
Short description of the project	Pre Construct Archaeology was commissioned by Colin Watson of Delta Build to carry out archaeological monitoring of ground works in preparation of the redeveloped of the site, to a single dwelling outside the current footprint of the existing cottages. In the field north of the current redevelopment the local Historical Society has found evidence of Roman occupation in Shillingstone Field, therefore a program of full archaeological monitoring was undertaken during the ground works. The monitoring was undertaken 22 May 2013 at which the strip for the floor pad was open, in the strip no archaeological features the only ground disturbance was modern tree rooting.
Project dates	Start: 22-05-2013 End: 22-05-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX UTTLESFORD GREAT SAMPFORD MOOR END COTTAGE, MOOR END, GREAT SAMPFORD, SAFFRON WALDEN, CB10 2RQ
Postcode	CB10 2RD
Study area	150.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 638 359 51 0 51 59 48 N 000 23 10 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation		Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project originator	brief	Richard Havis
Project originator	design	Mark Hinman
Project director/manager		Mark Hinman
Project supervisor		Karl Hanson
Type of sponsor/funding body		Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body		Delta Build

Project archives

Physical Exists?	Archive	No
Digital	Archive	No

Exists?

Paper Archive No
Exists?

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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Author(s)/Editor(s) Hanson, K

Other bibliographic details Report no. 11434

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Description Grey Report

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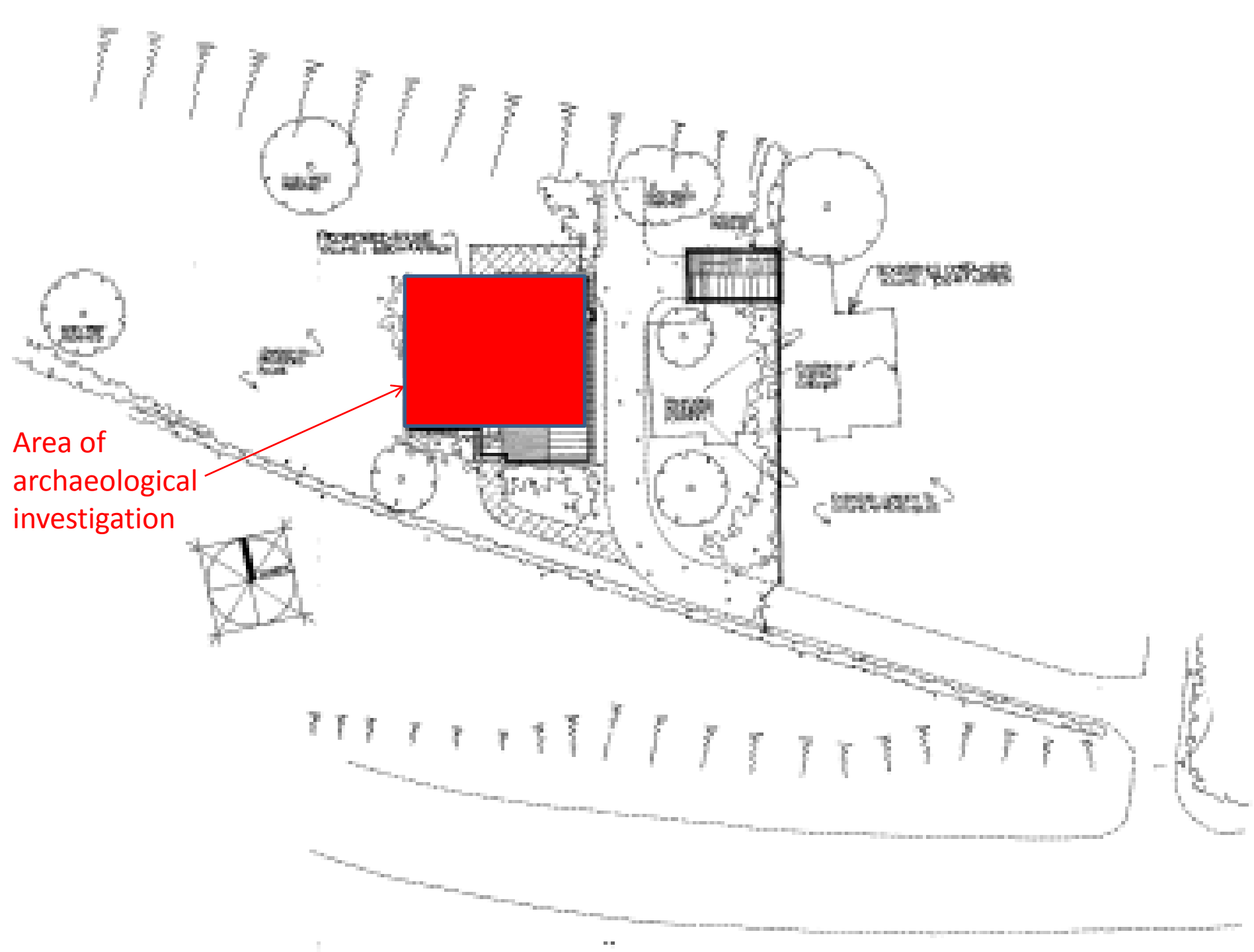
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APPENDIX 4: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD/ ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY SUMMARY SHEET

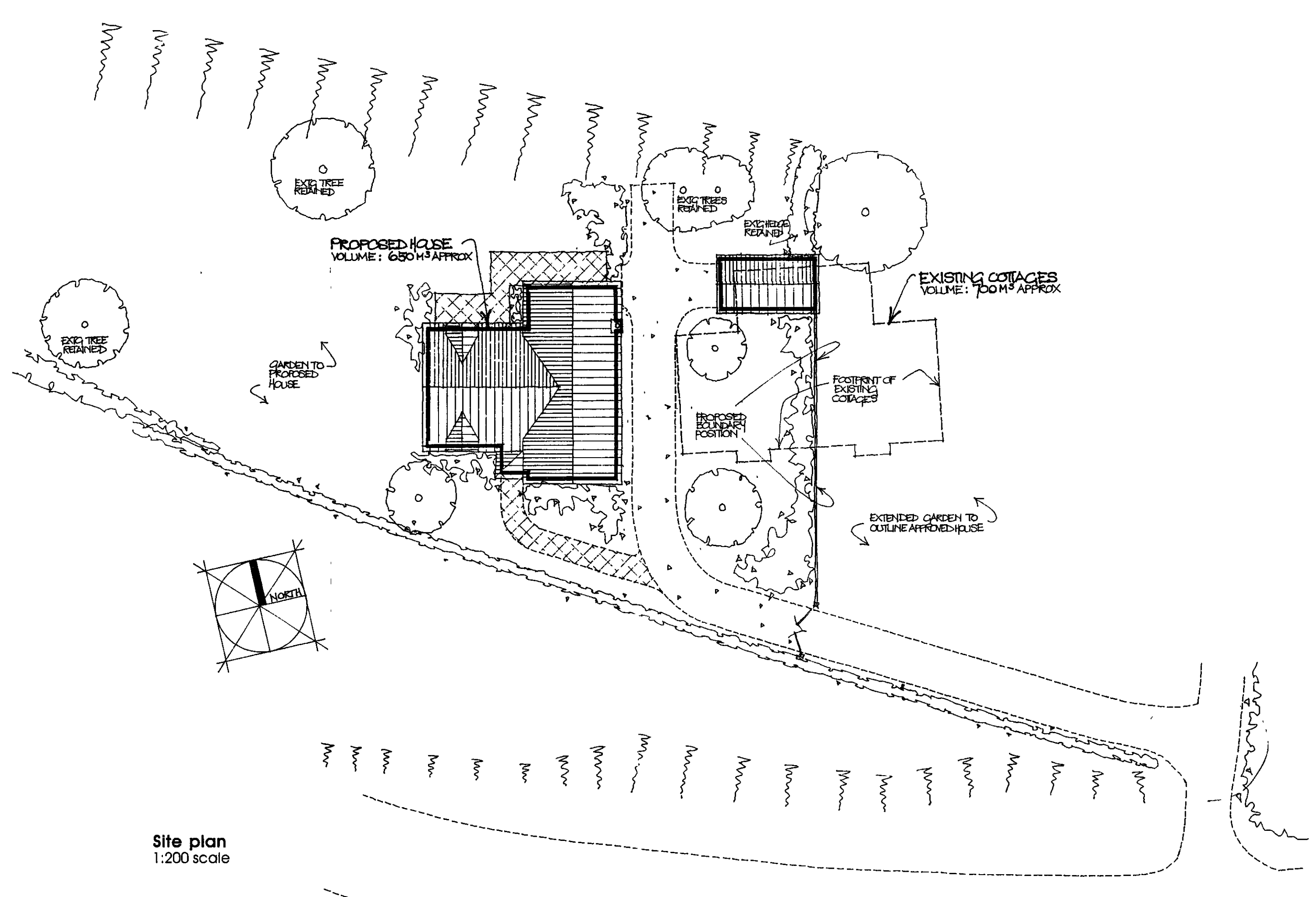
Site name/Address: Moor End Cottages, Moor End, Great Sampford, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 2RQ	
Parish: Great Sampford	District: Uttlesford District Council
NGR: TL 638/359	Site Code: GSFMC12
Type of Work: Archaeological monitoring of groundworks	Site Director/Team: Karl Hanson, Pre-Construct Archaeology
Date of Work: 22/05/2012	Size of Area Investigated: 150m ²
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: No finds. Report held at Essex HER	Funding source: Developer: Delta Build
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related EHER Nos.:
Final Report: Yes	
Periods Represented: Modern (20 th century)	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: <i>The monitoring was undertaken on 22nd May 2013. No archaeological features were present within the stripped footprint of the new building. The ground level was only reduced by 0.15m for the foundation pad of the new building and only topsoil was encountered.</i>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: none	
Author of Summary: Karl Hanson	Date of Summary: 22/05/2013

FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION

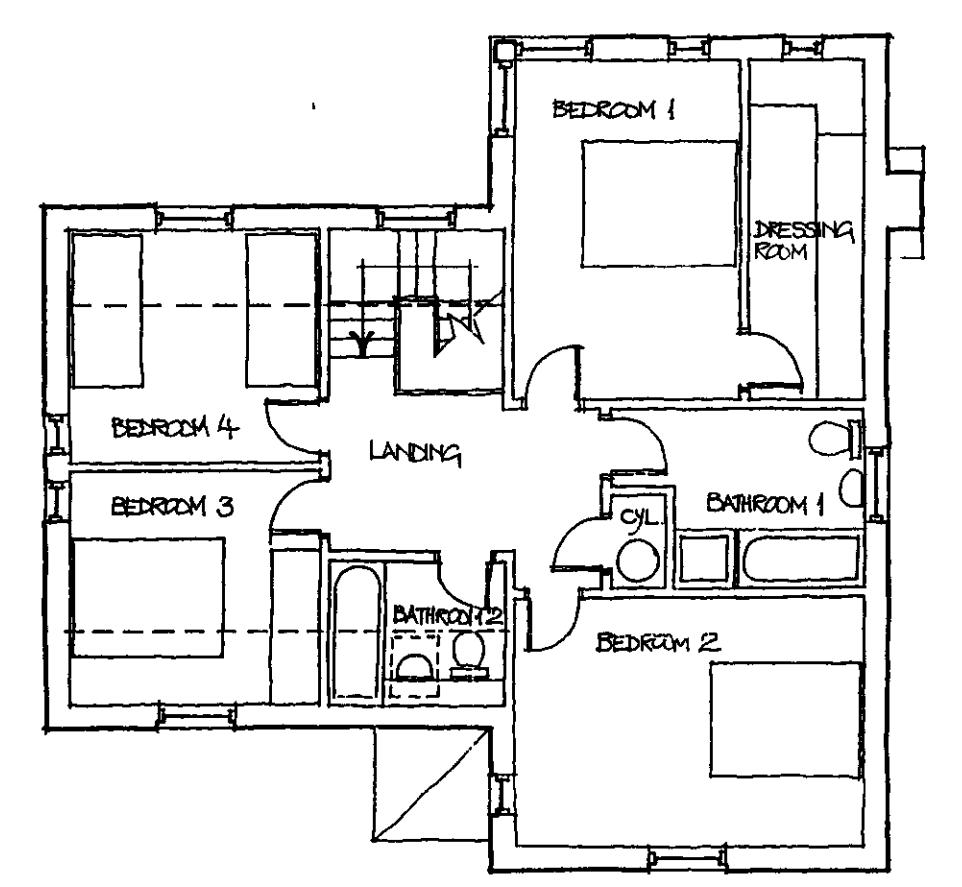
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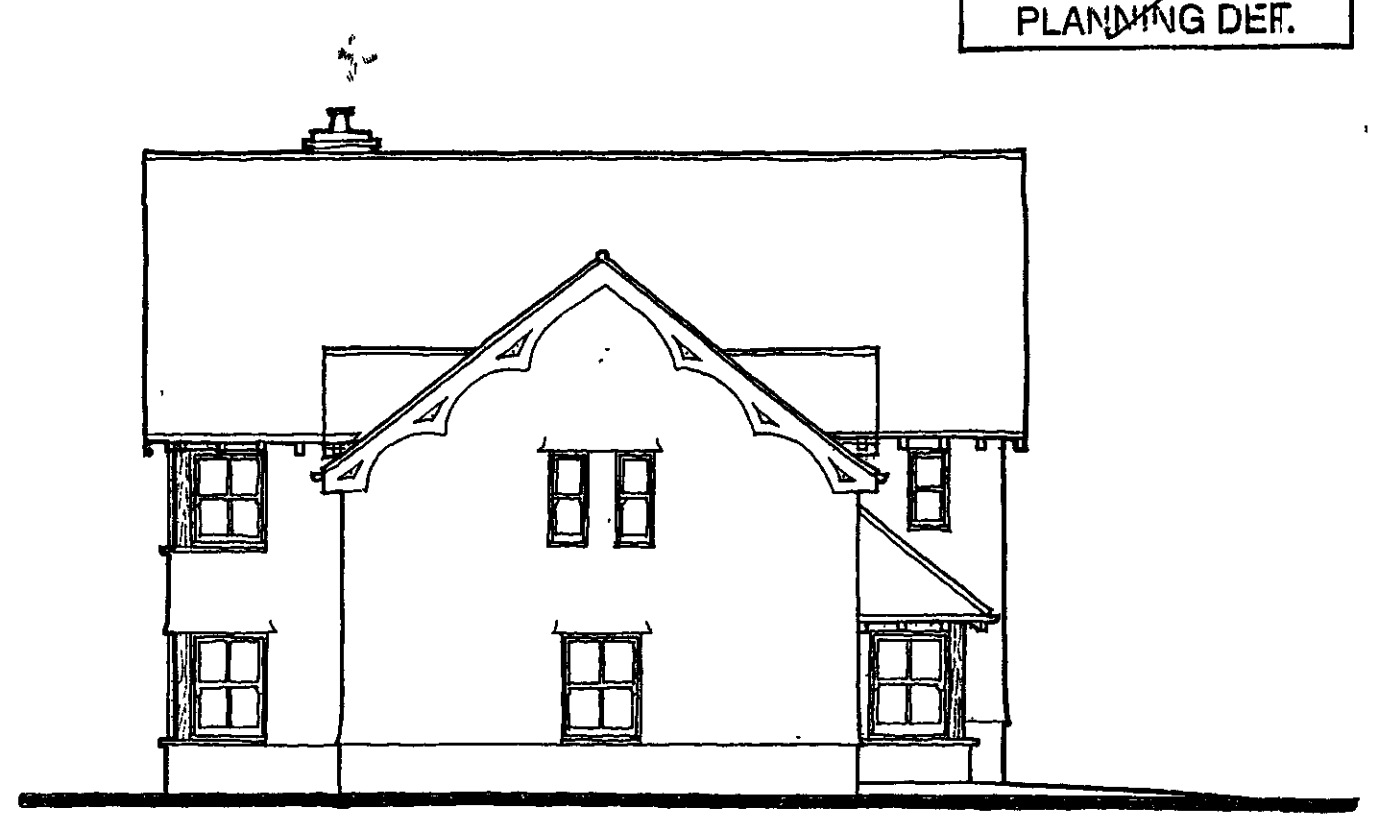
Area of
archaeological
investigation



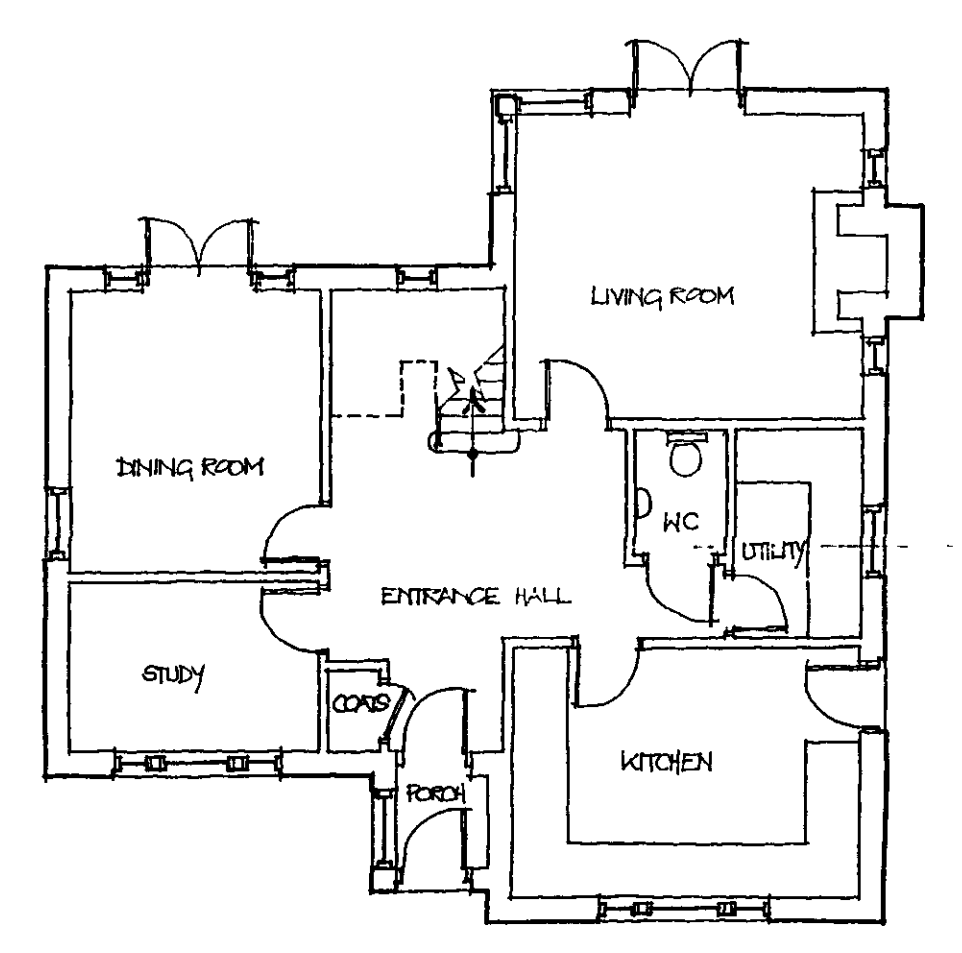
Site plan
1:200 scale



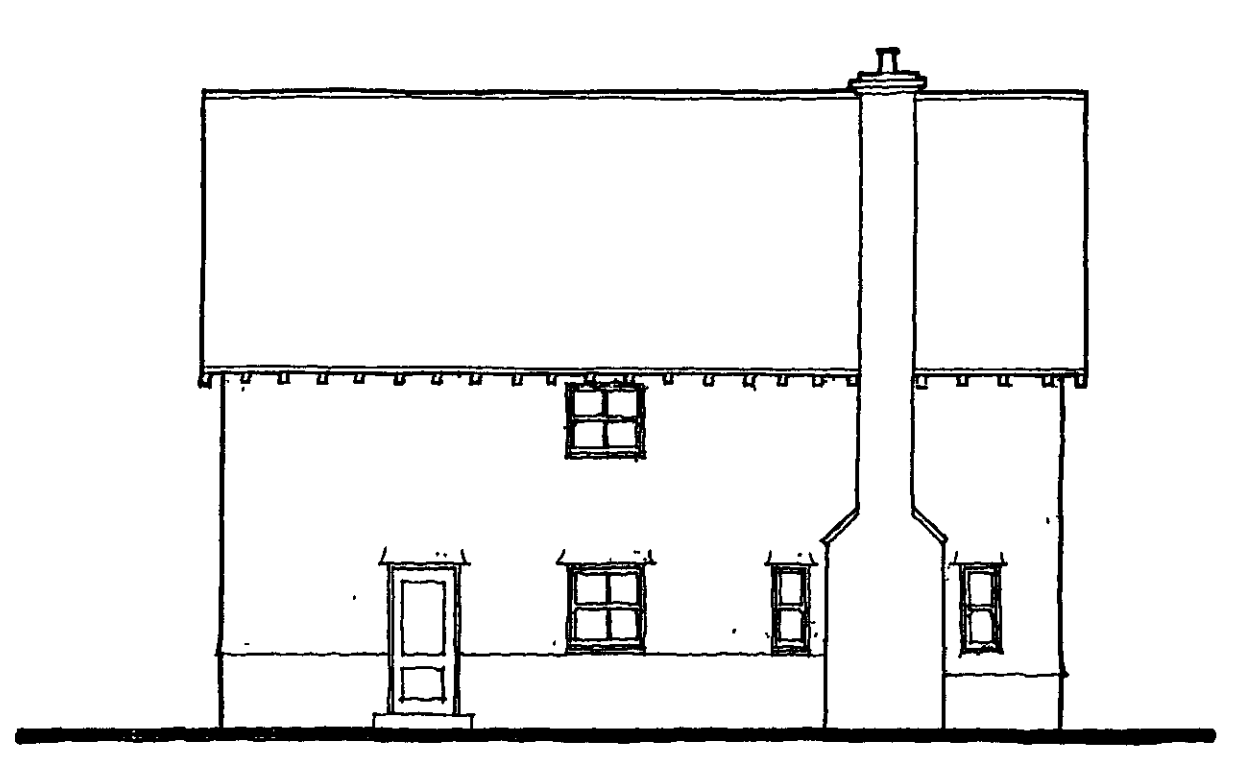
house:
First floor plan
1:100 scale



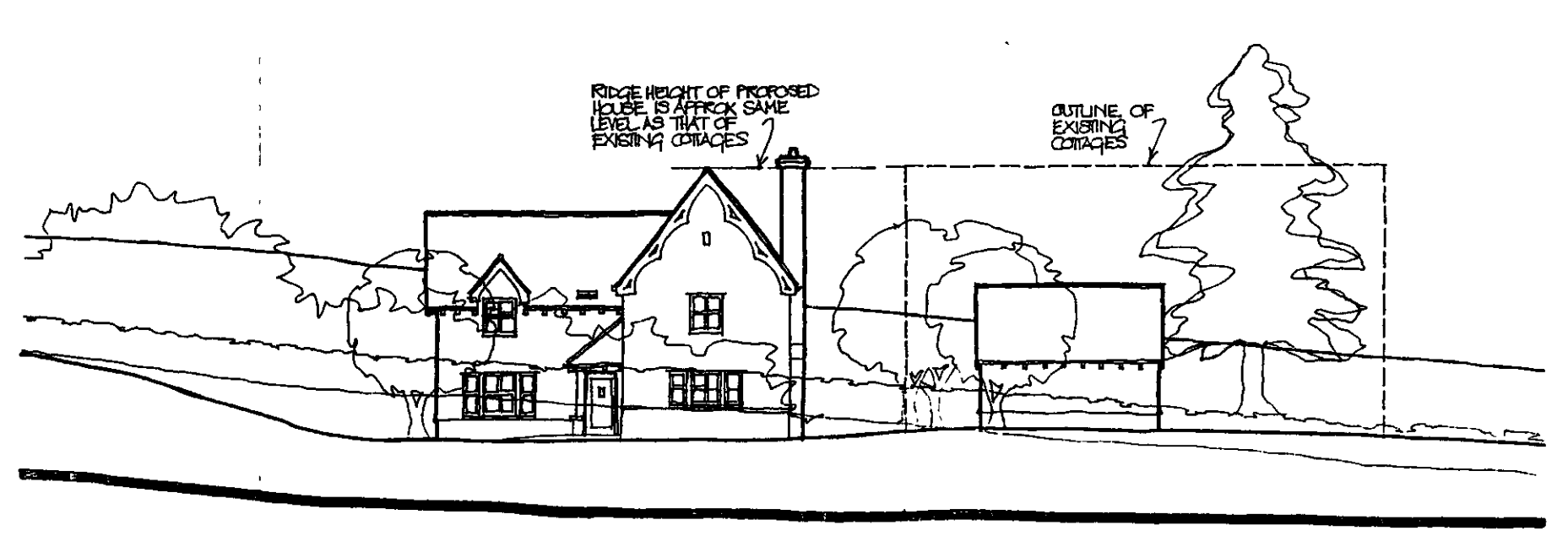
house:
West elevation
1:100 scale



house:
Ground floor plan



house:
East elevation



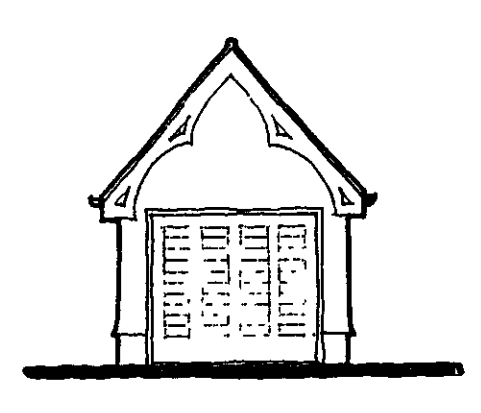
Street scene
1:200 scale



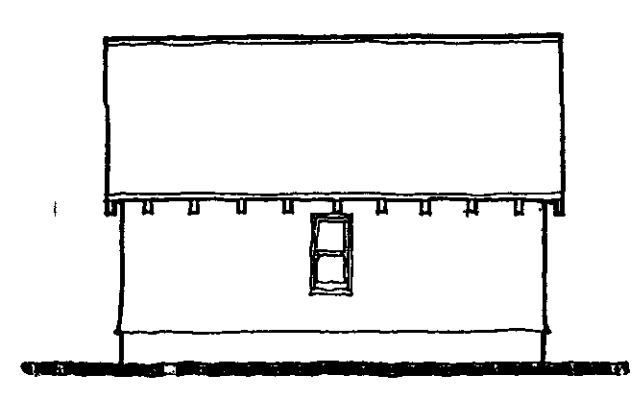
house:
South elevation



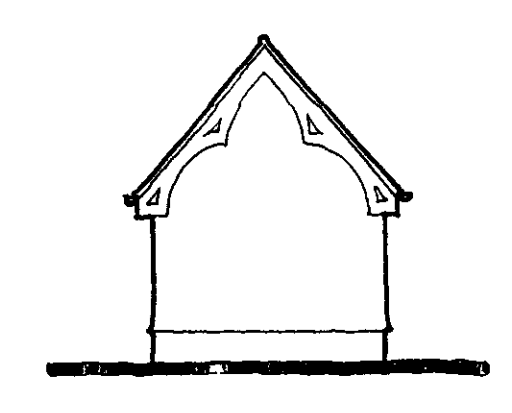
house:
North elevation



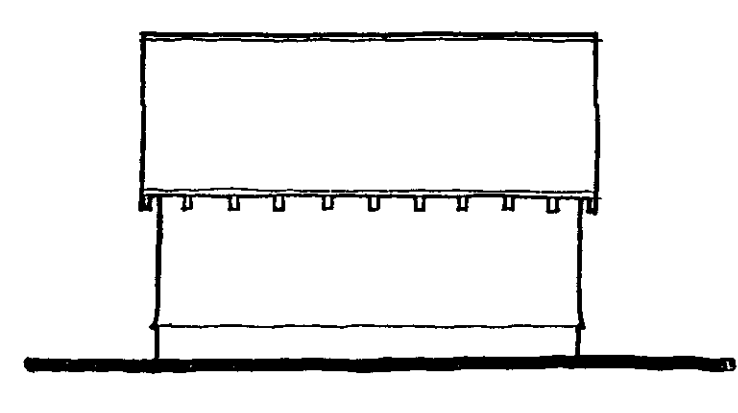
garage:
West elevation
1:100 scale



garage:
South elevation



garage:
East elevation



garage:
North elevation

Job:	Date:	Scale:	Drawn by:
PROPOSED NEW HOUSE ON THE SITE OF MOOR END COTTAGES, GREAT SAMPFORD	MAY 2002	1/100 1/200	AB
Drawing:	Drawing No:		
SITE PLAN, FLOOR PLANS, ELEVATIONS & STREET SCENE	OR/979 L/4		

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