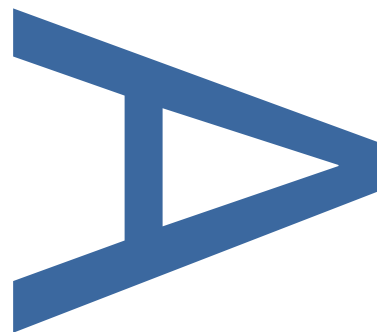
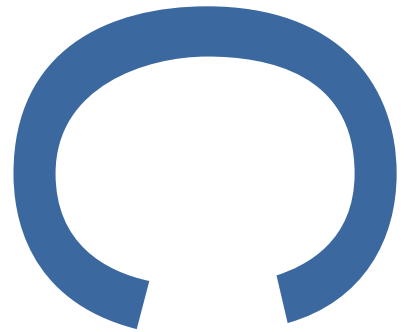


**LAND AT CHURCH FARM,  
CHURCH ROAD,  
NORTHBOROUGH,  
PETERBOROUGH:**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
MONITORING**

**PCA Report Number: R13322**

**July 2018**



**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

Land at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough,  
Peterborough:

**Report on Archaeological Monitoring**

Quality Control

<b>Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd</b>	
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Report Number	R13322

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Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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**Land at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough:  
Report on an Archaeological Observation**

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**Local Planning Authority:** Peterborough Council

**Central National Grid Reference:** TF 1532 0801

**Written and Researched by** Margaret Leman

**Project Manager:** Gary Taylor

**Commissioning Client:** Hardy Construction

**Planning Reference** 10/00508/FUL

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**July 2018**

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**PCA Report Number: R13322**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*This report describes the results of an archaeological observation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough (NGR TF 1532 0801). The observation occurred on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and the work was commissioned by Hardy Construction. Archaeological observation and recording occurred during the excavation of the service trenches. The aim of the work was to identify and record archaeological remains revealed during the development at the site. Saxon remains have been found previously in immediate proximity. The adjacent church is 13<sup>th</sup> century and Church Farmhouse dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century.*

*The archaeological observation identified a thin layer of modern building material. The topsoil, subsoil and natural deposits present on the site were also recorded. No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were uncovered during the observation.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 An archaeological observation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) during the excavation of service trenches as part of development on land at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough (NGR TF 1532 0801). The observation took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (**Figure 1; Plates 1-6**).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Hardy Construction. Groundworks comprised excavation of the service trenches (10/00508/FUL).
- 1.1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation was produced for the site by Gary Taylor of PCA Ltd in March 2018 and was adhered to in full.

### **1.2 Site Location and Description**

- 1.2.1 The site lies within the civil parish of Northborough and within the administration of Peterborough Council. The site is in the centre of Northborough, directly east of the buildings of Church Farm, which lies immediately north of the parish church of St Andrew. It is sub-rectangular in shape covering an area of approximately 0.45ha. The site is bounded by a playing field to the east, a school to the south, residential development to the north, and to the west is Church Farm. The site is centred at NGR TF 1532 0801.

### **1.3 Topography and Geology**

- 1.3.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS) indicates a solid geology of Kellaways Sand Member, interbedded sandstone and siltstone of the Jurassic Period. Overlaying the bedrock are superficial River Terrace deposits of sand and gravel, formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by rivers (BGS Geological Viewer 2018).
- 1.3.2 The superficial natural deposits observed across the site consisted of a layer of orange and grey friable fine sand with frequent tiny chunks of sandstone and was >0.22m deep (context 103).
- 1.3.3 The development site is located immediately east of the Church Farm buildings. The site is on a very gentle slope down to the east at about 6m OD.

### **1.4 Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 1.4.1 The following summary of the historical and archaeological background is taken from the WSI prepared by Gary Taylor of PCA Ltd in March 2018. The development site lies within an area of archaeological potential with features dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods. The site lies within the historic core of the village, close to the medieval parish church.

- 1.4.2 Prehistoric features, including a causewayed enclosure, other enclosures, and barrows, have been identified in the area, mostly at or to the east of the village. Roman remains, including the Car Dyke Roman waterway which passes through the eastern edge of the village, have also been recorded.
- 1.4.3 Northborough is recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for the year 656 and the place-name means the northern fortified place. An Anglo-Saxon pit, perhaps associated with two undated ditches, was identified at the nearby church and Early and Middle Saxon pottery was recovered.
- 1.4.4 The church of St Andrew dates largely to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The Manor House is of mid-14<sup>th</sup> century date. Buildings of post-medieval date are located close to the development site. These mostly date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and later and many are listed buildings. Amongst these is Church Farmhouse, which dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and is located immediately adjacent to the site.

## **2 AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of the investigation were:

- To establish the location, nature, extent, date and state of preservation of any archaeological or geo-archaeological deposits or features within the site, to recover any associated objects and to record the surviving evidence.
- To analyse and interpret the site archive and to disseminate the results to promote local and national research objectives.
- To deposit the site archive with the Peterborough Museum for long-term conservation.



### 3 METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

3.1.1 On 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018, archaeological observation took place during the excavation of service trenches at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough (**Plates 1-6**). The monitoring was undertaken in accordance with ClfA guidelines (2014).

3.1.2 All exposed deposits/layers were cleaned using hand tools and recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009). Contexts were recorded according to PCA's fieldwork manual approved for use in Peterborough, including written, photographic and drawn records.

3.1.3 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (context number) and recorded utilising PCAs printed *pro forma*.

#### 3.2 Post Fieldwork Methodology

3.2.1 Historic England's Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015) was used as the framework for post-excavation work. Additionally, post-excavation analysis was undertaken with reference to the regional research framework (Medlycott 2011).

3.2.2 No finds were recovered from the fieldwork phase with only modern material being observed. A paper and digital archive was produced that will be transferred to the receiving Peterborough Museum.

#### 3.3 The Contexts

3.3.1 A unique context number was assigned to each distinguishable depositional event. Context numbers will be discussed in greater detail in **Section 4** and will be given in bold.

3.3.2 Four context numbers were allocated to layers whilst one number was given to the natural deposits on the site. The five distinct contexts observed during the works are presented in **Appendix 1**.

## **4 THE RESULTS**

### **4.1 Natural Deposits**

4.1.1 The natural deposits encountered on the site consisted of a layer of friable fine orange sand **(103)**.

### **4.2 The Archaeological Sequence**

4.2.1 No features of archaeological significance were identified during the archaeological observation.

4.2.2 A layer of modern building material was observed **(100)**. This occurred in patches throughout the site and did not exceed 0.2m in thickness **(plates 2-5)**.

### **4.3 Additional Deposits**

4.3.1 Topsoil **(101 and 104)** was observed across the site and in some areas underlay the modern layer of building material **(100)**. The topsoil consisted of a fairly compact, mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel inclusions and small limestone chunks; the layer was c.0.34m deep **(101)**. In some areas of the site the topsoil contained greater quantities of limestone inclusions and vegetation horizon; this layer was 0.26m deep **(104)**.

4.3.2 Beneath the topsoil was a subsoil consisting of a moderately compact, mid brownish grey silty clay; this was c.0.4m deep **(102)**.

## **5 CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1.1 The observation fulfilled the aims and objectives of monitoring the areas of development.
- 5.1.2 Natural deposits on the site consisted of orange sand, which are river terrace deposits.
- 5.1.3 No evidence of any Prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval or post-medieval activity was identified on this site.
- 5.1.4 The only other element identified was a layer of modern building material.

## **6 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **6.1 Written Sources**

CIfA, 2014 *Standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading

Historic England, 2015 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*

Medleycott, M. (ed), 2011 *Research and Archaeology: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper **24**)

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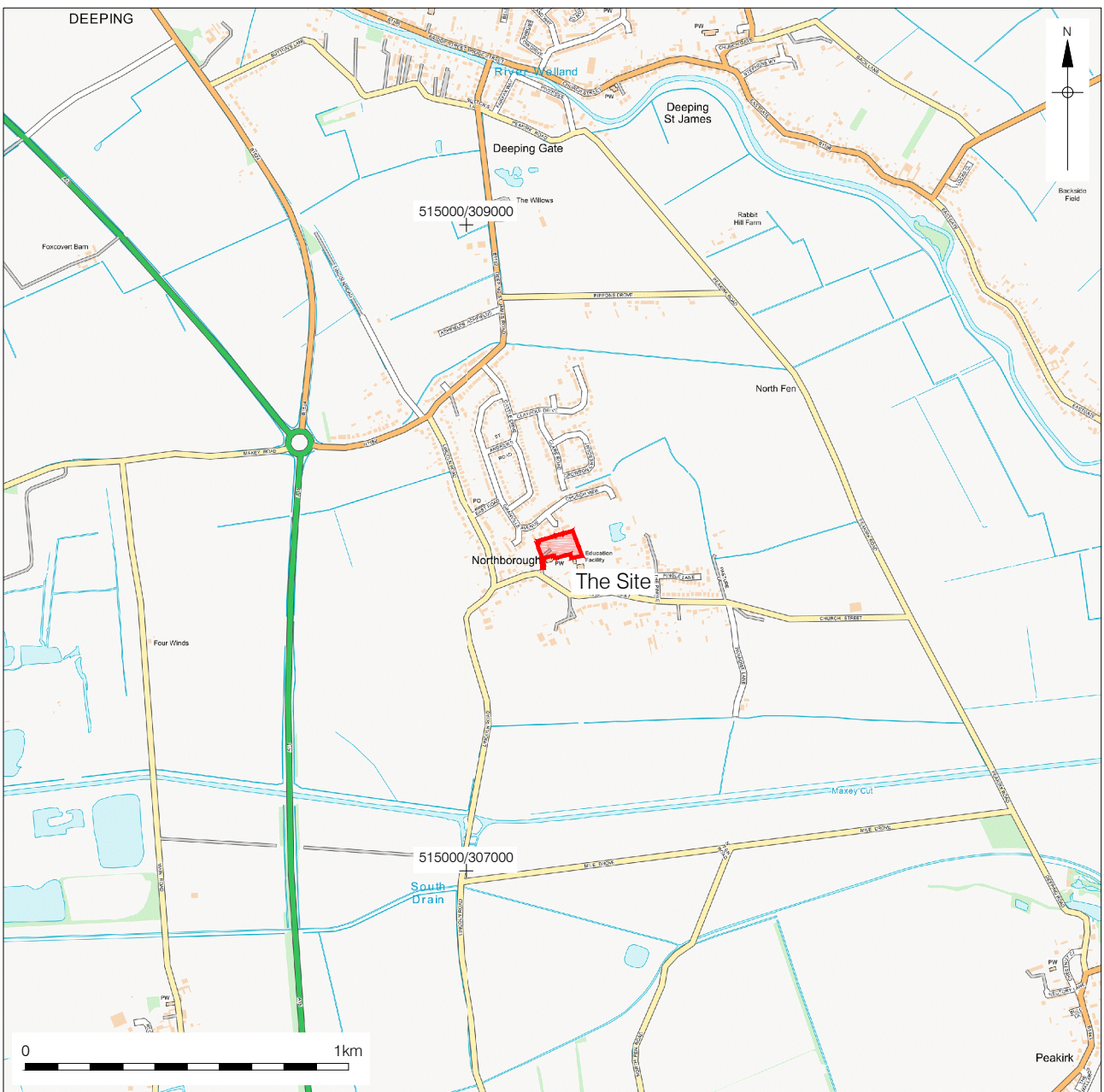
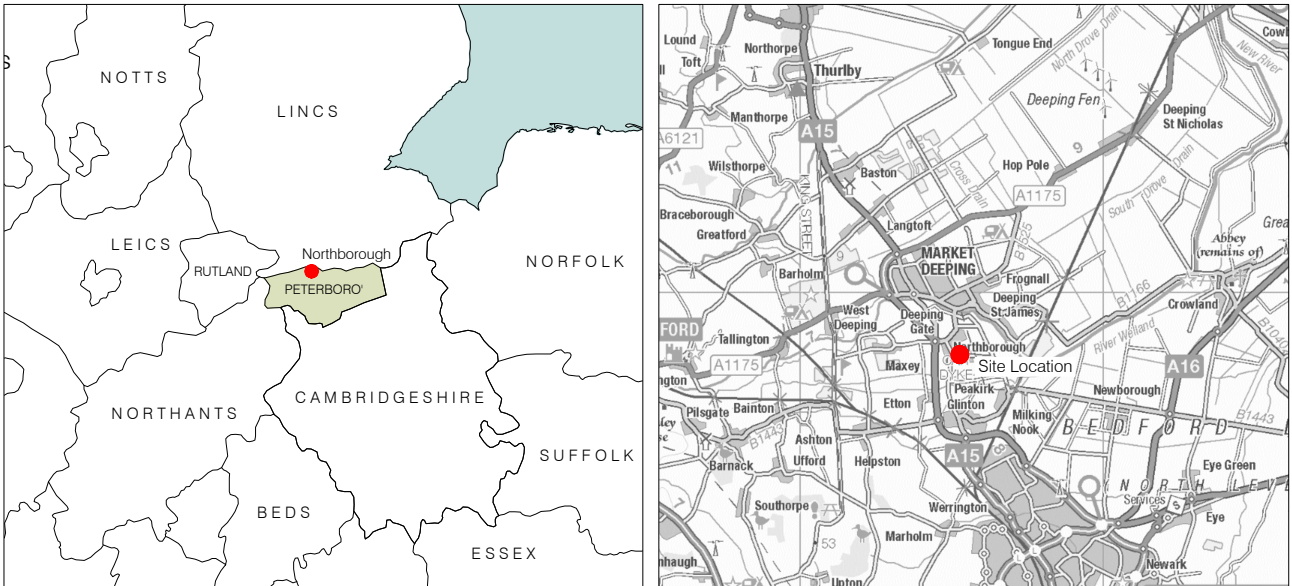
Taylor, J. & Brown, G., 2009 PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual Operations Manual 1

### **6.2 Websites**

The British Geological Survey Map (BGS) - <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>  
Accessed on 18/05/2018

## **7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

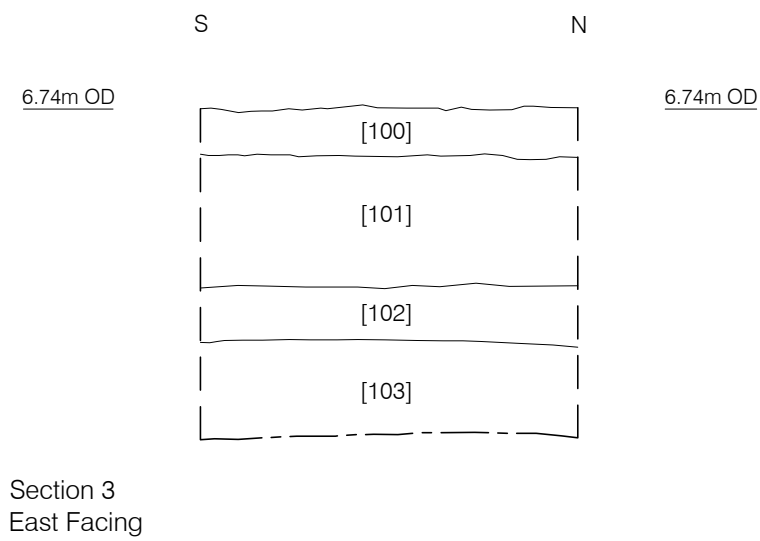
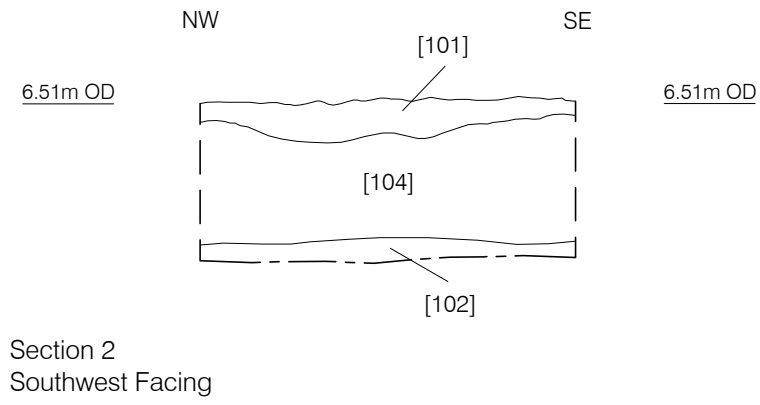
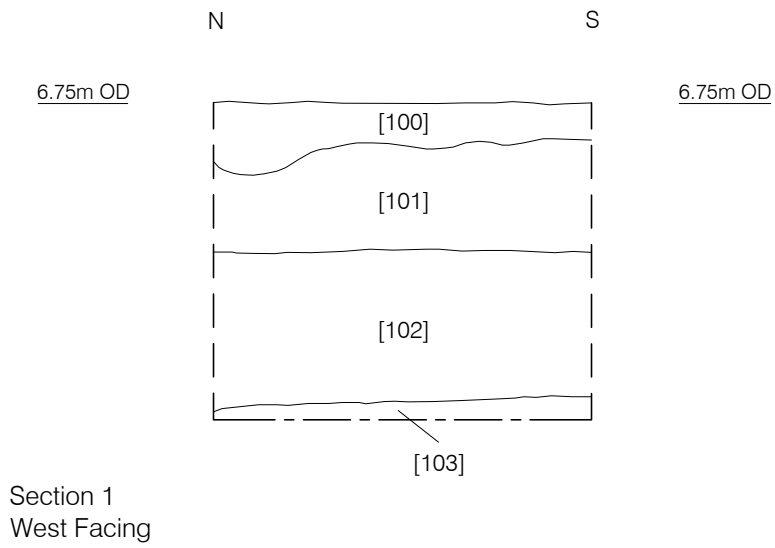
Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Hardy Construction for commissioning the work. The observation was carried out by Rebecca Dickinson. Project management & editing were undertaken by Gary Taylor of PCA Newark. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by PCA's CAD department.





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01/06/18 MS

Figure 2  
Detailed Site Location showing Area Monitored  
1:500 at A4





## Appendix 1: Site Photographs



**Plate 1:** View of the site looking northeast.



**Plate 2:** View of a service trench looking north.



**Plate 3:** View of west-facing section 1.



**Plate 4:** View of southwest-facing section 2.



**Plate 5:** View of east-facing section 3.



**Plate 6:** View looking northwest showing an excavated service trench.

## Appendix 2: Context Index

Abbreviations: UE means 'unexcavated'; N/A means 'not applicable'; > means 'greater than'; < means 'up to'; Context numbers are followed by a brief description and interpretation; their dimensions in metres (in the order length x width x depth; or diameter x depth); and their critical stratigraphic relationships.

Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
		Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
100	Layer	Yellow	Loose sand	Frequent medium-sized limestone chunks	Builders' hardcore layer	0.2 deep	101	-
101	Layer	Mid greyish brown	Fairly compact silty sand	Occasional small gravel and limestone chunks	Topsoil	0.34 deep	102	100
102	Layer	Mid brownish grey	Silty clay	-	Subsoil	0.4 deep	103	104 101
103	Deposit	Orange with grey streaks	Friable sand	Frequent tiny sandstone chunks	Natural	-	-	102
104	Layer	Mid greyish brown	Fairly compact silty sand	Frequent limestone chunks and occasional small gravel	Topsoil – same as context 101 but with more limestone and a vegetation horizon	0.26 deep	102	101

## **Appendix 3: OASIS Form**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: preconst1-323584**

### Project details

Project name	Watching brief on land at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough
Short description of the project	A watching brief was carried during the excavation of service trenches in an area where Saxon remains had been found previously. However, no archaeological remains were identified.
Project dates	Start: 17-05-2018 End: 17-05-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CFNP18 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	10/00508/FUL - Planning Application No.
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	CAMBRIDGESHIRE PETERBOROUGH NORTHBOROUGH Church Farm, Church Street
Study area	1170 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 1532 0801 52.657176158247 -0.294878918802 52 39 25 N 000 17 41 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 6m Max: 6m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA Newark
Project brief originator	none
Project design originator	Gary Taylor

Project director/manager Gary Taylor  
 Project supervisor Rebecca Dickinson  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
 Digital Archive recipient Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery  
 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey"  
 Paper Archive recipient Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery  
 Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"  
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Correspondence","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
 Title Land at Church Farm, Church Street, Northborough, Peterborough: Report on an Archaeological Observation  
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Leman, M.  
 Other bibliographic details R13322  
 Date 2018  
 Issuer or publisher PCA Newark  
 Place of issue or publication Newark  
 Description A4 comb-bound  
 Entered by Gary Taylor (gtaylor@pre-construct.com)  
 Entered on 25 July 2018

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](mailto:historicengland@oasis.ac.uk) for OASIS help and advice  
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 Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

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