

**Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording,
Analysis and Publication at Coldham Lodge Farm Swineshead
Road Riseley Bedfordshire**

Grid reference: 505180 263372
Planning Application No: 12/00239/FUL
Oasis Ref: 132058
HER No: EBB 798

Commissioned by:
Ruth Goodfield
Mosscliff Environmental Ltd
Horham Airfield
Horham Road
Denham
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IP21 5DQ

ARCHAEOSERV
(Dennis Payne Archaeological Services)
September 26th

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Summary

This is a report for archaeological observation, investigation, recording, and analysis at Coldham Lodge Farm Swineshead Road Riseley Bedfordshire, in advance of the erection of a single 50kw Endurance wind turbine. It has been written in response to an archaeological brief written by Vanessa Clarke, senior archaeological officer of Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team planning Services, dated August 2012.

Monitoring of the ground-works (base for the wind turbine and two cable trenches) took place between the 10th and the 11th of September 2012, during which no archaeology was encountered.

1. Introduction and Planning Background

Planning permission (No:12/00239/FUL) was granted by Bedford Borough Council for the erection and installation of a single 50kw Endurance wind turbine with a hub height of 36.4 m and a blade diameter of 19.2 m.

The planning application 12/00239/FUL for the, “*Erection and installation of a single 50kw Endurance wind turbine with hub height of 36.4m and blade diameter of 19.2m*”, was submitted to the Local Planning Authority on 03.04.2012 and received permission on 23.07.2012 with an archaeological condition attached – number 8. The wording of the condition and the reason for it is as follows:

Recommendation: Archaeological observation, investigation, recording, analysis and publication.

No development shall take place until an archaeological mitigation strategy has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Bedford Borough Council: Historic Environment Team (BBHET) Archaeological monitoring and recording at Coldham Lodge Farm, Riseley 07/08/2012

The archaeological mitigation strategy shall include a timetable and the following components (the completion of each to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority will result in a separate confirmation of compliance for each component):-.

(i) fieldwork and/ or preservation “in situ” of archaeological remains;

(ii) a post-excavation assessment report (to be submitted within six months of the completion of fieldwork);

(iii) a post-excavation analysis report, preparation of site archive ready for deposition at a store approved by the Local Planning Authority, completion of an archive report, and submission of a publication report (to be completed within two years of the completion of fieldwork).

The archaeological mitigation strategy shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and timings.

REASON: To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development, in accordance with Saved Policies BE24 & BE25 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002, Policy CP23 of the Bedford Borough Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan (2008) and according to national policies contained in PPS5; Planning for the Historic Environment (since superseded by the historic environment policies in National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012).

The archaeological monitoring will be carried out based upon the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the National Planning and Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010). *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG March 2012).*



Figure 1. Location of Riseley, Bedfordshire

2. Site Location and Geology

Grid Reference: 505180 263372

The excavations took place within a field approximately 230 metres to the south-east of Coldham Lodge Farmhouse and Cottages and approximately 550 metres to the east of the nearest point of the Swineshead end of Riseley. The site is located close to the ridge running to the south east of Riseley and the highest point between Riseley and Keysoe. Bridleways are to the north and east and public footpaths cross fields to the south and west. The solid geology is Oxford clay with dispersed Boulder clay (Riseley Clay Farmland character).

3. Methodology

Fieldwork

A plan of the trench for the wind turbine base was drawn (fig.3) to a scale of 1:50; sections were drawn at 1:20.

A metal detector survey was carried out at all stages of the project.

A full photographic archive was produced consisting of colour slide, monochrome print and digital at 10 million pixels resolution.

Site levels were taken from a TBM adjacent to the farm buildings.

4. Results

Excavation of the turbine base trench (7m by 7m by 2m in depth) revealed no archaeology. The trench (fig. 2) was opened using a mechanical digger; the plough soil was removed to reveal the natural. Further excavation by machine was carried out down to a depth of 2 metres, cutting into the natural drift geology of clays and chalk. A cable trench was excavated by mechanical digger from the base of the turbine to Coldham Lodge Farm. This was excavated 1.40m deep by 0.40m in width by 225m in length, no archaeology was revealed in the entire length of the trench. A further cable trench was excavated to the north of the site (see fig.2), again was 1.40m deep by 0.40m in width by 197m in length and ran from an electricity transformer back to the farm buildings, and no archaeology was revealed in this trench either.

No finds were found from metal detecting of the up-cast soils.

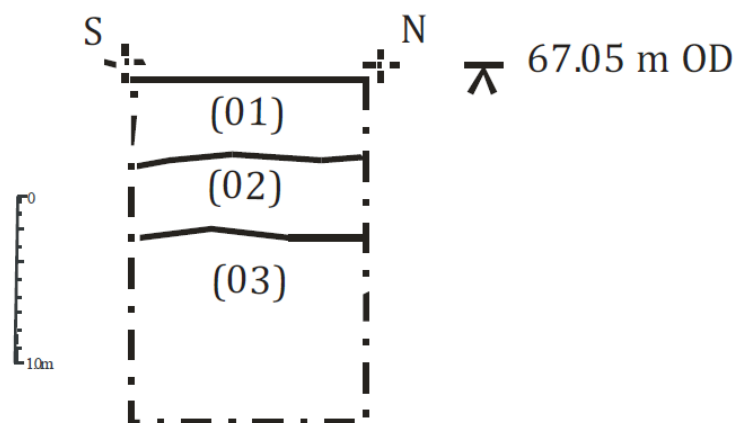
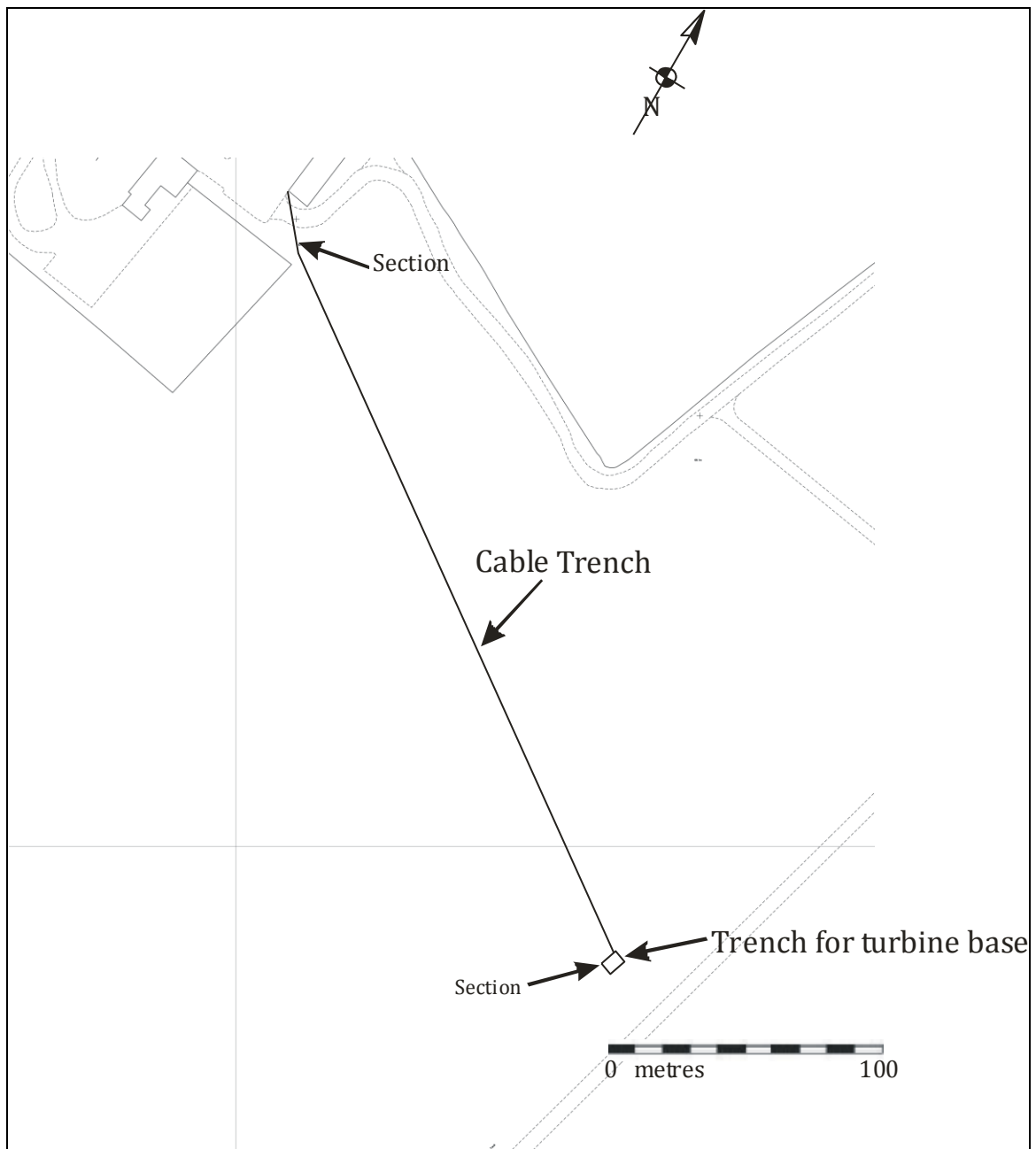


Figure2. Section within trench for turbine base



Ordnance Survey, licence No. 100047655

Figure 3. Location of turbine trench and sections

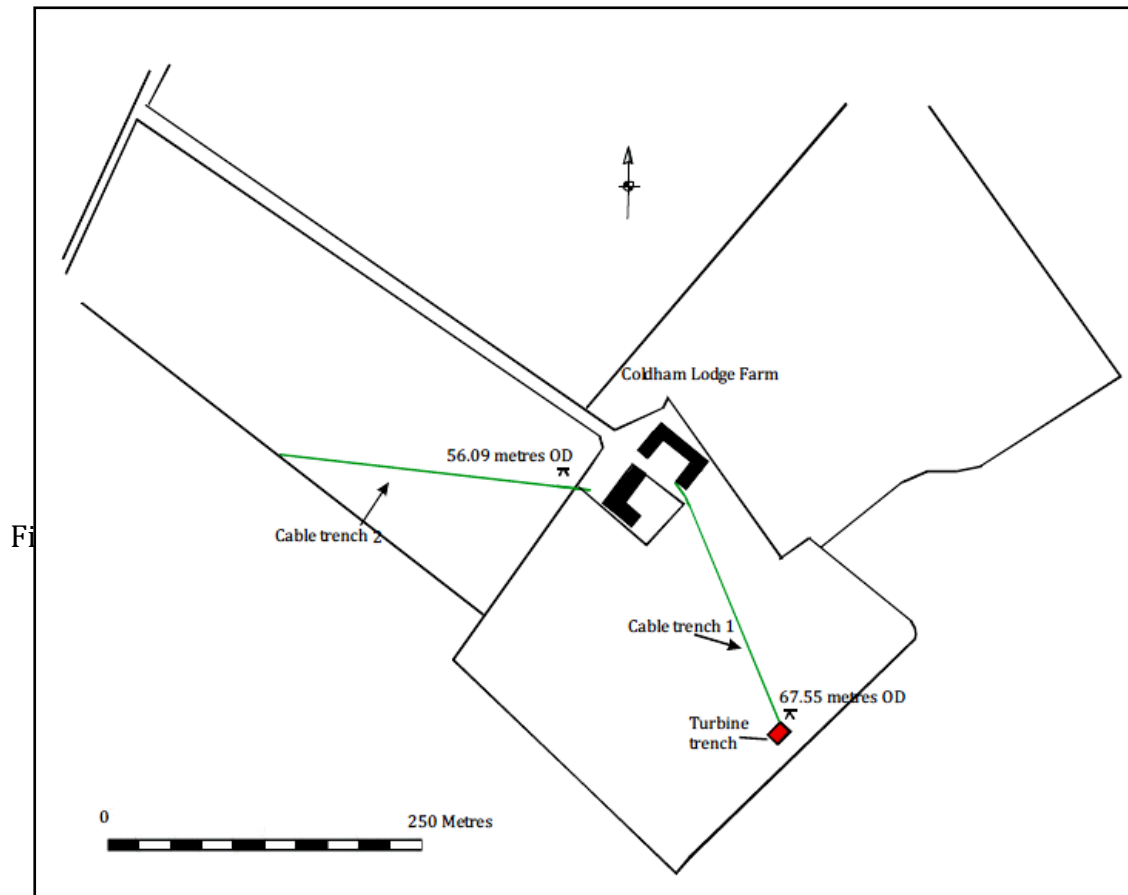


Figure 4. Plan of base trench for the turbine and the two cable trenches

5. Contexts

Context (01) was the top soil of a mid-brown silty plough soil to a maximum depth of 0.40m; (02) a sub soil of brownish orange, predominantly of a silty clay composition to a maximum depth of 0.45m; (03) was the natural, consisting of bluish-grey clay with common chalk nodules.

6. Interpretation

The excavation of the turbine trench of seven by seven metres gave only a small area of opportunity to reveal any possible archaeology. The cable trenches, by nature of their length did allow for a good section through whatever archaeology might have been present, but failed to locate anything of archaeological interest.

Continuous archaeological recording has shown that no archaeology was compromised during the excavation of the turbine base trench or in either of the cable trenches.

No further work is recommended for this site.

7. Post Excavation

Site plans were digitized to archive standard, reduced versions of which are included in this report.

No finds were made during the project.

The paper and digital archive, photographs and negatives will be presented to the Bedford Museum for long-term storage.

8. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Ruth Goodfield of Mosscliff Environmental Ltd. who commissioned and funded the archaeological work.

This report for archaeological evaluation was written by Dennis Payne Archaeoserv (DPAS), who also managed the project and carried out the field-work.

Bibliography

Bedford Borough Landscape Types and Character Assessment; Northamptonshire County Council - undated

British Geological. Survey. 1990

ONLINE REFERENCES

PastScapes <http://www.pastscape.org/homepage/index.htm>

Digital Images



Plate 1. Trench for turbine id shot from the south-east



Plate 2. Turbine trench excavated, viewed from the north-east



Plate 3. The cable trench running from the turbine base to the farm to the north, viewed from the south



Plate 4. Section through trench (north end) leading from turbine base to farm, viewed from the east



Plate 5. Cable trench from transformer to the north of the site, viewed from the east



Plate 6. The northern cable trench, general view from the south

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OASIS ID: dennispa1-132058

Project details

Project name	ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION, RECORDING, ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION AT COLDHAMS FARM RISELEY BEDFORDSHIRE
Short description of the project	MONITORING OF THE GROUNDWORKS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A WIND TURBINE AT COLDHAMS FARM RISELEY TO INCLUDE THE CABLE TRENCHES LOCATED NO ARCHAEOLOGY WITHIN THE BASE FOR THE TURBINE OR THE CABLE TRENCHES
Project dates	Start: 10-09-2012 End: 11-09-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	RISCLF12 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	NA None
Significant Finds	NA None
Investigation type	"Field observation", "Recorded Observation", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country	England
Site location	BEDFORDSHIRE MID BEDFORDSHIRE RIDGMONT RISELEY
Postcode	MK44 1BT
Study area	500.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 505180 263372 51 0 51 54 53 N 000 11 19 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 55.00m Max: 72.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	ARCHAEOSERV
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator	VANNESA CLARKE
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Project director/manager	DENNIS PAYNE
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Project supervisor	DENNIS PAYNE
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Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
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Name of sponsor/funding body	NA
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Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
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Physical Archive recipient	NA
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Physical Archive ID	NA
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Digital Archive Exists?	No
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Digital Archive recipient	BEDFORD BOROUGH MUSEUM
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Digital Archive ID	NA
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Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
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Paper Archive Exists?	No
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Paper Archive recipient	BEDFORD BOROUGH MUSEUM
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Paper Archive ID	NA
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Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Diary","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"
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Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Title	BEDFORD BOROUGH LANDSCAPE TYPES AND CHARACTER
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Author(s)/Editor(s)	NA
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