



**Archaeological observation, investigation and  
recording at Gardeners Bungalow  
Passenham, Northamptonshire  
March 2014**

S/2013/0264/FUL

Report No. 14/124

Author: Yvonne Wolfram-Murray

Illustrator: Amir Bassir



# Archaeological observation, investigation and recording at Gardeners Bungalow Passenham, Northamptonshire March 2014

S/2013/0264/FUL

Report No. 14/124

Quality control and sign off:

Issue No.	Date approved:	Checked by:	Verified by:	Approved by:	Reason for Issue:
1	11/06/2014	Pat Chapman	Anthony Maull	Andy Chapman	Draft for client review

Author: Yvonne Wolframmm-Murray

Illustrator: Amir Bassir

© MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) 2014

MOLA  
Bolton House  
Wootton Hall Park  
Northampton  
NN4 8BN  
01604 700 493  
[www.mola.org.uk](http://www.mola.org.uk)  
[sparry@mola.org.uk](mailto:sparry@mola.org.uk)

## **STAFF**

Project Manager: Anthony Maull Cert Arch supported by  
David J Leigh BA

Fieldwork: Gemma Hewitt BA  
Garreth Davey BA

Text: Yvonne Wolframm-Murray BSc PhD

Illustrations: Amir Bassir BSc

**OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		<b>Oasis No. molanort1-181215</b>	
Project title	Archaeological observation, investigation and recording at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenham, Northamptonshire		
Short description	Archaeological observation, investigation and recording was undertaken by MOLA in March 2014 on land at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenham, Northamptonshire during the construction of a new dwelling with detached garage. No pre-modern deposits or artefacts were present.		
Project type	Watching Brief		
Site Status	-		
Previous work	-		
Current land use			
Future work	unknown		
Monument type and period	-		
Significant finds	-		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>			
County	Northamptonshire		
Site address	Gardeners Bungalow, Passenham		
Post code	-		
OS co-ordinates	SP 77950 39592		
Area (sq m/ha)	480sqm		
Height aOD	-		
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>			
Organisation	MOLA Northampton		
Project brief originator	Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northampton County Council		
Project Design originator	MOLA Northampton		
Director/Supervisor	Gemma Hewitt		
Project Managers	Anthony Maull		
Sponsor or funding body	Adam Learner		
<b>PROJECT DATE</b>			
Start date	5 March 2014		
End date	13 March 2014		
<b>ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Location (Accession no.)</b>	<b>Contents</b>	
Physical	MOLA Northampton	-	
Paper		Site records (1 small archive box)	
Digital		Client report PDF	
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)		
Title	Archaeological observation, investigation and recording at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenham, Northamptonshire		
Serial title & volume	14/124		
Author(s)	Yvonne Wolfram-Murray		
Page numbers	12		
Date	11/06/2014		

# Contents

1	INTRODUCTION
2	BACKGROUND
2.1	Location and topography
2.2	Historical and archaeological background
3	OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY
4	THE RECORDED EVIDENCE
5	THE SITE ARCHIVE
6	DISCUSSION
	BIBLIOGRAPHY

## Table

Table 1: Summary of the site archive

## Figures

Front cover: General view of the development area, looking south

Fig 1: Site location

Fig 2: Development area, looking south-east

Fig 3: General stratigraphy

Fig 4: Excavated foundation trench

# Archaeological observation, investigation and recording at Gardeners Bungalow Passenham, Northamptonshire March 2014

## Abstract

*Archaeological observation, investigation and recording was undertaken by MOLA in March 2014 on land at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenham, Northamptonshire during the construction of a new dwelling with detached garage. No pre-modern deposits or artefacts were present.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA was commissioned by Adam Learner to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording in March 2014 on land at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenham, Northamptonshire (SP 77950 39592, Fig 1). Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of an existing bungalow and the construction of a new dwelling with detached garage (S/2013/0264/FUL).

The works were required as part of a planning consent in line with *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012). The Assistant Archaeological Advisor for Northamptonshire County Council required that the impact of development on heritage assets potentially present on the site be mitigated through investigation and recording (Mordue 2014). A Written Scheme of Investigation was produced by Northamptonshire Archaeology for the work (Leigh 2014). The works were monitored by the Assistant County Archaeological Advisor to Northamptonshire County Council.

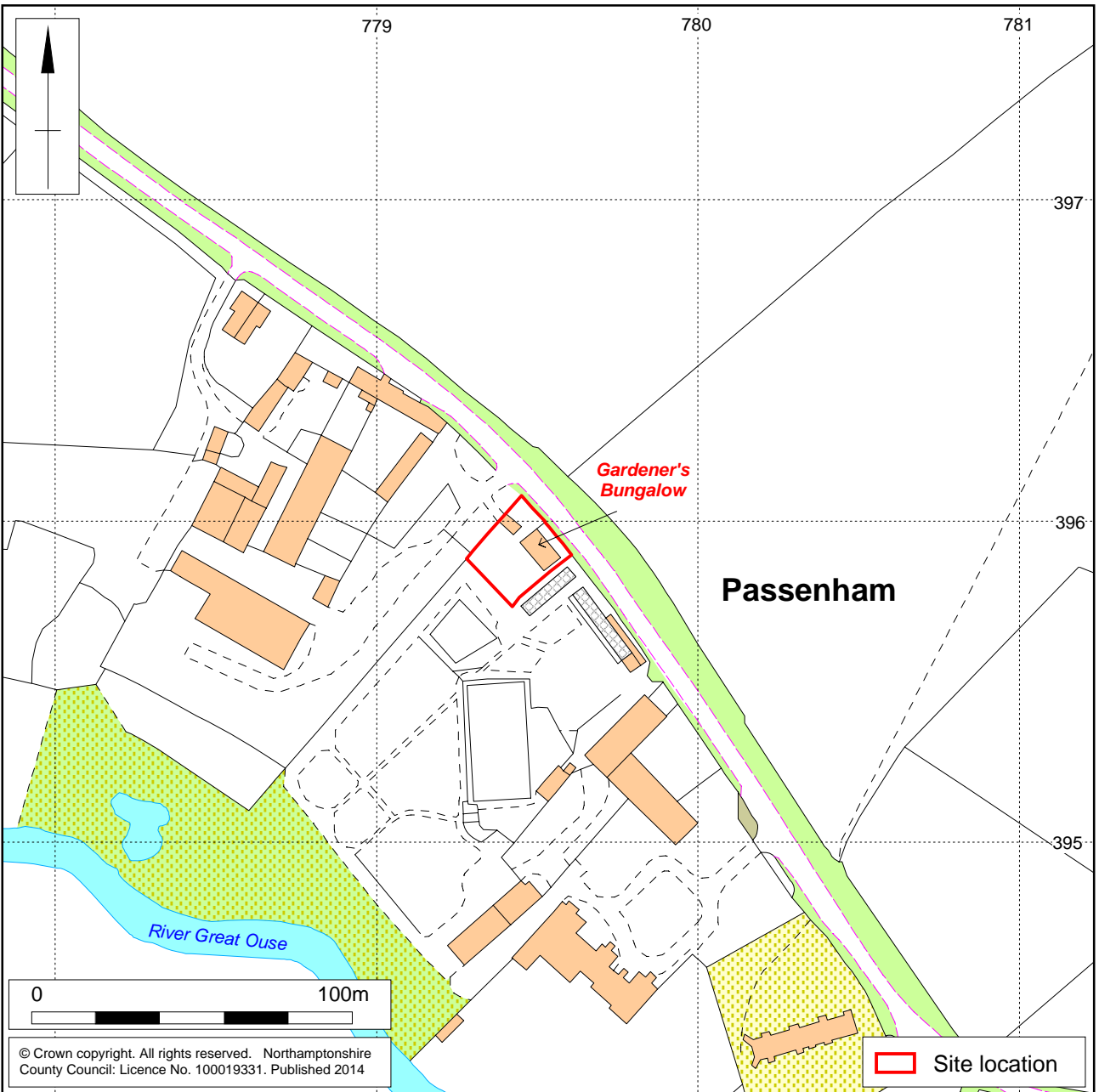
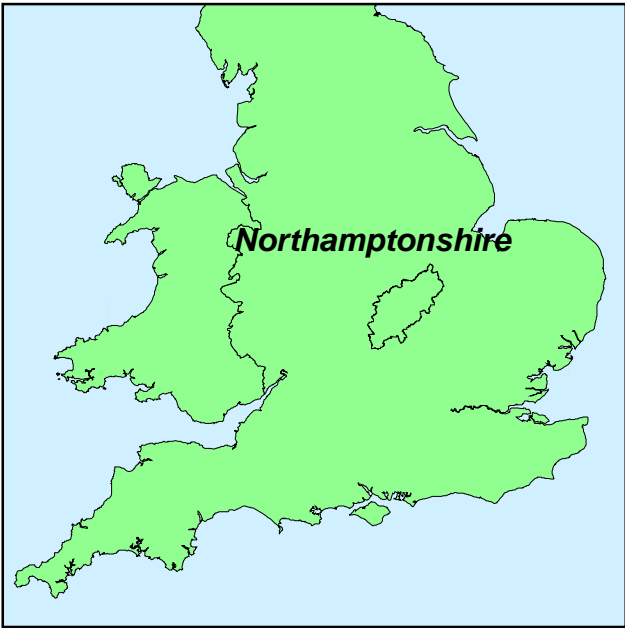
MOLA is an Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) registered organisation. The work was carried out in accordance with the current best archaeological practice as defined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 2008) and the procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (EH 2009).

## 2 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Location and topography

The site lies on the south-west side of the main road through the village. The site is currently occupied by Gardeners Bungalow, which is scheduled to be demolished as part of the present application. Up to the present application the site has been occupied by a domestic building known as Gardeners Bungalow.

The local geology is mapped as Boulder Clay (BGS 1969).



Scale 1:2000

Site location Fig 1

## 2.2 Historical and archaeological background

The site lies in the village of Passenham and within an area of archaeological interest.

Close by to the south-west of the site evidence for Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon activity was recorded during archaeological investigations in 1996 (Mordue 2014).

The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086AD where it is recorded as *Pas(s)eham*. An entry in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in 921AD records the overwintering of King Edward the Elder's army in Passenham. Cartographic evidence dating from the 17th century (Mordue 2014) indicates that at that time houses lined both sides of the main road, suggesting that the present village has been subject to some contraction. South of the investigation area lies the Manor House, this dates from the 17th-18th centuries, possibly being preceded by an earlier manor house.

Whilst archaeological deposits of medieval date are the most likely to be encountered, deposits of any other period cannot be discounted.

## 3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

In order to examine the archaeological resource within the proposed development area the objectives of the investigation were to:

- Identify, investigate and record all archaeological deposits, exposed during the groundworks for the new dwelling and any associated groundworks;
- Determine and record the date, extent, character, state of preservation and depth of burial of any archaeological deposits;
- Recover any artefacts that may assist in the development of pottery type series within the region;
- Establish the relationship of any archaeological deposits within the wider contemporary landscape;
- Create a permanent archive and record of the archaeological information collected during the course of the fieldwork and analysis.

The character, composition and general depositional sequence of stratification was recorded on MOLA Northampton watching brief sheets. All recording followed the guidelines detailed in the MOLA *Archaeological Fieldwork Manual* (2014). A photographic record was maintained, consisting of digital images and black and white photographs. All records were compiled during fieldwork into a comprehensive site archive in accordance with the guidelines of Appendix 3 in the English Heritage procedural document, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (2009).

The development site comprised an area of c 480m<sup>2</sup> (Figs 1 and 2). The fieldwork was carried out in March 2014 during the groundworks associated with the construction of the driveway and excavation of foundation trenches of the new dwelling. The groundworks were undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a combination of both toothed and toothless buckets.





Development area, looking south-east Fig 2

#### 4 THE RECORDED EVIDENCE

The lifting of the concrete raft from the demolished building was observed; this revealed building sand and a disturbed ground. At the location of the driveway the ground was reduced between 0.20m and 0.40m. This comprised the depth of the topsoil, exposing subsoil.

The foundation depth of the trenches ranged between 1.40m in the north-eastern corner to 1.20m in the north-western corner of the house foundations. The natural geology, at a depth of 1.00m to 0.80m, comprised orange-yellow sandy gravel. This was overlain by 0.30m mixed layer of sandy gravel and subsoil. The subsoil, between 0.50m and 0.70m thick, was medium brown-grey silty sand (Figs 3 and 4). The topsoil had been previously removed. In the south-western corner modern building material was observed.



General stratigraphy Fig 3



Excavated foundation trench Fig 4

## 5 THE SITE ARCHIVE

The project has generated a small archive that will be prepared and consolidated for deposition.

*Table 1: Summary of the site archive*

RECORD	NUMBER
Watching brief forms	4
Digital photographs	22
B&W photos	8
Photo registers	2

## 6 DISCUSSION

A programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording was carried out in March 2014 on land at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenheim, Northamptonshire during the groundworks associated with the demolition of an existing bungalow and the construction of a new dwelling with detached garage.

Disturbed ground was recorded under the concrete raft of the old building. Undisturbed soils were uncovered during the excavation of the foundation trenches of the new dwelling.

No pre-modern deposits or artefacts were present.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS 1969 British Geological Survey

DCLG 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department of Communities and Local Government

EH 2009 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, English Heritage Procedural Document

IfA 2008 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, Institute for Archaeologists

MOLA 2014 *Archaeological Fieldwork Manual*, MOLA Northampton

Mordue, L, 2014 Correspondence dating to 13th January 2014

Leigh, D J, 2014 *Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication of works on land at Gardeners Bungalow, Passenheim, Northamptonshire*, MOLA Northampton

MOLA

June 2014

# MOLA



MOLA  
Bolton House  
Wootton Hall Park  
Northampton  
NN4 8BN  
01604 700 493  
[www.mola.org.uk](http://www.mola.org.uk)  
[sparry@mola.org.uk](mailto:sparry@mola.org.uk)