

**10 CHURCH LANE,
NEWTON BROMSWOLD,
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

NGR REF: SP 99956 65905



ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING
(OASIS ID: independ1-247074)

MARCH 2016

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Summary

An archaeological monitoring was conducted by Independent Archaeology Consultants for the construction of a new garage, fencing and improved access drive at 10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire. The development area contained a backfilled pond, with associated man made earth banks. The artificial bank contained Post Medieval pottery and the site, therefore, showed evidence of human activity from the 18th to the 20th century.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The site was located at 10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire (NGR: SP 99956 65905) (Figure 1-2). The project was carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2015), as well as discussions with Liz Mordue, Assistant Archaeological Officer at Northamptonshire County Council. The project was based on a WSI, which complies with the principles of NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework 2012).

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning Permission has been granted (EN/16/00020/FUL) for a new development at 10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire. The development comprises the construction of a new garage, fencing and improved access drive.
- 2.2 The development site was located in the eastern parts of the village of Newton Bromswold. It enclosed an area of some 600m² at an average height of 85m AOD. The northern, eastern and western sides of the site were occupied by existing dwellings, while Church Lane was limiting the site in the south. A system of earthworks from older settlements was known from photos and maps of the area. The geology of the site comprised Oadby Member Diamicton over Oxford Clay Formation Mudstone (British Geological Survey).
- 2.3 The site was situated within an area of archaeological potential, as defined by Northamptonshire HER. Therefore, archaeological monitoring and documentation was required prior to the proposed construction works. This condition was mentioned in the Planning Permission granted by East Northamptonshire District Council, and was in line with standards described in *NPPF* (2012).

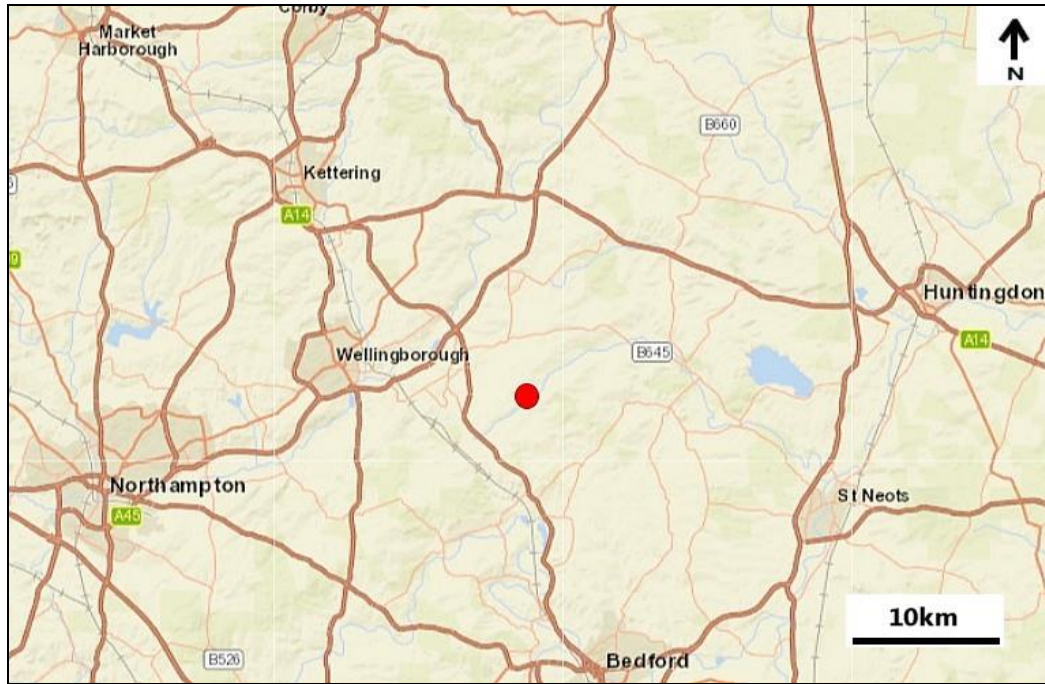


Figure 1. The location of Newton Bromswold in England.

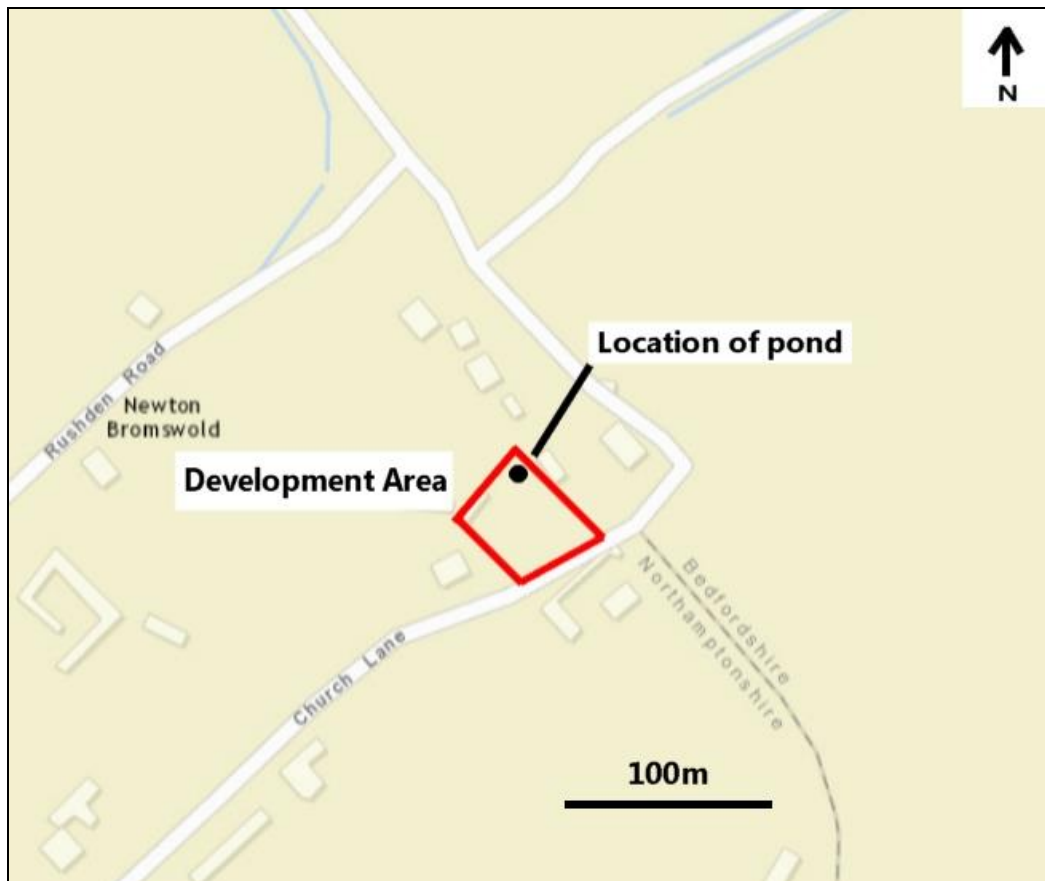


Figure 2. Site Location in Newton Bromswold.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The development site was located within the area of the historic settlement, and on the north side of Church Lane. Newton Bromswold is characterised in the County Historic Environment Record as a shrunken village, and the earthwork remains of former settlement are visible at a number of locations in the modern village. These have been mapped from aerial photographs.
- 3.2 No.10 itself is listed as a Grade II property, and is probably of mid-18th century origins, though it has a datestone of 1801. No earthworks are recorded within the site itself, but the area of the proposed garage was uneven and there was a risk it would contain earthworks which were not visible from aerial photographs due to tree cover.

4 AIMS

- 4.1 The aims of the investigation were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
- i) to gain information about the heritage assets within the proposed development area;
 - ii) to provide detailed information regarding the date, nature, extent, integrity and degree of preservation of the identified heritage assets;
 - iii) to inform a strategy for the recording, preservation and/or management of the identified assets;
 - iv) to mitigate potential threats;
 - v) to inform proposals for further archaeological investigations (namely targeted area excavations) within the ongoing programme of research;
 - vi) to define the sequence and character of activity at the site, as reflected by the excavated remains;
 - vii) to interpret the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national archaeological context.
- 4.2 The investigation also considered the general investigative themes outlined by: *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda* (Ed. Nicholas J. Cooper) Leicester Archaeology Monograph No. 13, *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight, D; Vyner, B; Allen, C. 2012), *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 sites in the broader landscape;
- *characterisation of the activities identified on the site;
- *characterisation of changes affecting land-use through time

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Opening up of Test Trench within the Development Area

The archaeological monitoring consisted of the opening up of a 5.5m long and 0.6m wide test trench across the site for the new garage, as well as studies of the various deposits behind a modern retaining wall where the new driveway was going to be built. The monitoring was therefore concentrated to areas of development, and focused mainly on the footprints of the new garage and driveway.

The stripping of overburden was conducted under constant archaeological supervision using a flat bladed ditching bucket. The investigation area was mechanically stripped to the upper interface of secure archaeological deposits or, where these were not present, to the upper interface of natural deposits. Thereafter, hand-excavation was required to sample the exposed features.

The excavation of the site took into consideration potential above- and below-ground constraints and/or hazards, such as trees, utility trenches, overhead cables and areas of modern disturbance. When archaeological features were encountered they were hand cleaned, investigated and recorded according to the parameters described below. The investigation was not carried out at the expenses of the heritage assets within the site.

5.2 Metal Detecting

Thorough metal detector sweeps of exposed features and spoil heaps were carried out in advance of, and during, the excavation process.

5.3 Hand Excavation

All man-made features were hand cleaned, photographed, excavated and documented. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) were sampled sufficiently to establish their origin and to characterise any related human activity. Hand excavation and feature sampling were sufficient to establish the date, character and relationships with other features. 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.

The investigation provided a full documentation and interpretation of the site's archaeology at no significant cost to the value or integrity of the historical remains therein. Judgement regarding the removal of structural remains, or other special

remains or deposits, was led by this consideration, and was always made in consultation with the Archaeological Advisor for Northamptonshire County Council.

The developer was informed that provision had to be made for delays caused by the need for archaeological recording or bad weather.

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 that show all exposed features (including natural features, modern features, etc.) and excavated areas. Excavation plans and sections in the scales 1:100 and 1:20 were produced for all excavated features and deposits. These were accurately tied in to 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. A selection of digital photos was also used in this report (a maximum of two photos per A4 sheet). The photographic record followed the outlines in NAAWG 2014 paragraph A1.10.9 for site photographic guidance.

6 RESULTS

- 6.1 The archaeological monitoring began with an investigation of the deposits behind the Modern retaining wall in the southern parts of the development area. This study showed that the new driveway would go on top of up to 0.60m thick deposits of Modern gardensoil. This soil had obviously been brought into the garden in order to reduce the slope towards Church Lane in the south.
- 6.2 The oldest deposit encountered during the fieldworks was the Natural ground. It consisted of yellow, hard clay with occasional limestones and roots. Cut into the Natural was the pond [103].
- 6.3 This pond was about 3.5m wide where it was visible in the N-S running testtrench, and the length can be estimated to about 7m from the surrounding earth bank. The pond had been backfilled and contained a very wet fill (102) of dark, soft clay with occasional limestones and roots. The bottom of the pond was not reached during the groundworks, as there was a risk this would cause instability in the new garage.
- 6.4 The surrounding earth bank (101) was up to 0.65m thick and were made of dark brown, soft silty clay with frequent roots from the surrounding trees. The

earth bank also contained a number of large stones and pieces of Red Earthenware.

- 6.5 Since the development area had been much changed in the last 200 years due to extensive landscaping work the original topsoil and subsoil could not be seen anywhere within the site.



Figure 3. The deposits behind the modern retaining wall were about 0.60m thick, and were made up of modern garden soil.



Figure 4. The test trench across the area for the new garage revealed a backfilled pond. The surrounding man made earth bank contained Red Earthenware sherds from the 18th-20th century.

7 FINDS

- 7.1 The artefactual evidence from the site at 10 Church Lane in Newton Bromswold consisted to 100% of various pottery sherds. In the man made earth bank (101) five sherds of Red Earthenware (of which some showed traces of white glazing) were found. This pottery can entirely be dated to the 18th-20th century and indicates that the earth bank and the pond were constructed during the last two hundred years.

8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The archaeological monitoring at 10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire revealed some well preserved archaeological features and deposits from the Post Medieval period.
- 8.2 The most important feature comprised a backfilled pond from the Post Medieval period. The testtrench across the pond revealed how it had been constructed. The earth bank surrounding the pond was artificial and contained 18th-20th century pottery.
- 8.3 The pond is not showing up on any older maps over the village, but it is likely to be from the 18th-20th century. It was probably backfilled in about the same period.

9 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	Finds

The archive is currently maintained by Independent Archaeology Consultants.
The archive will be transferred to:

The Archaeological Collections for Northamptonshire County Council.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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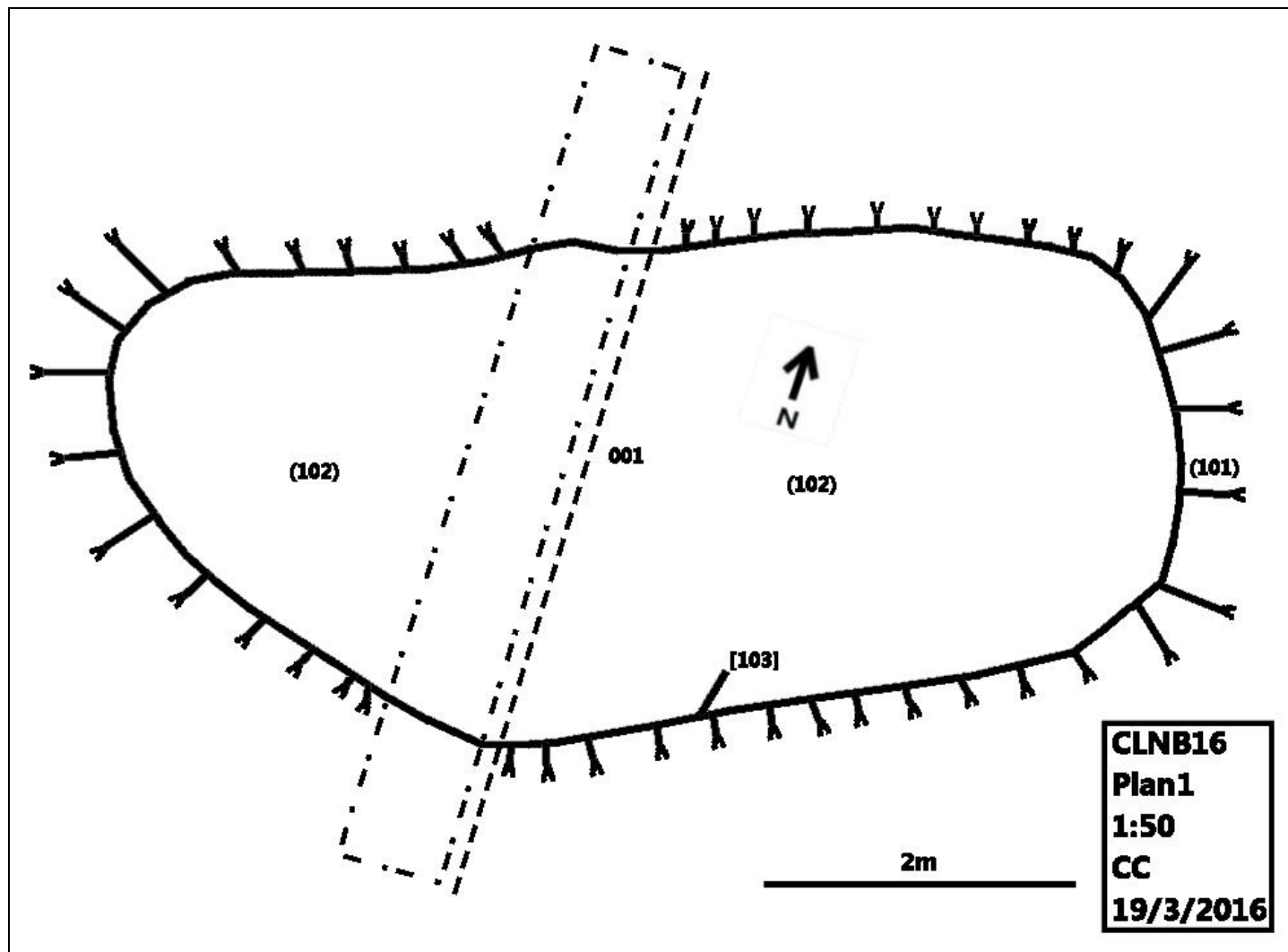
APPENDICES

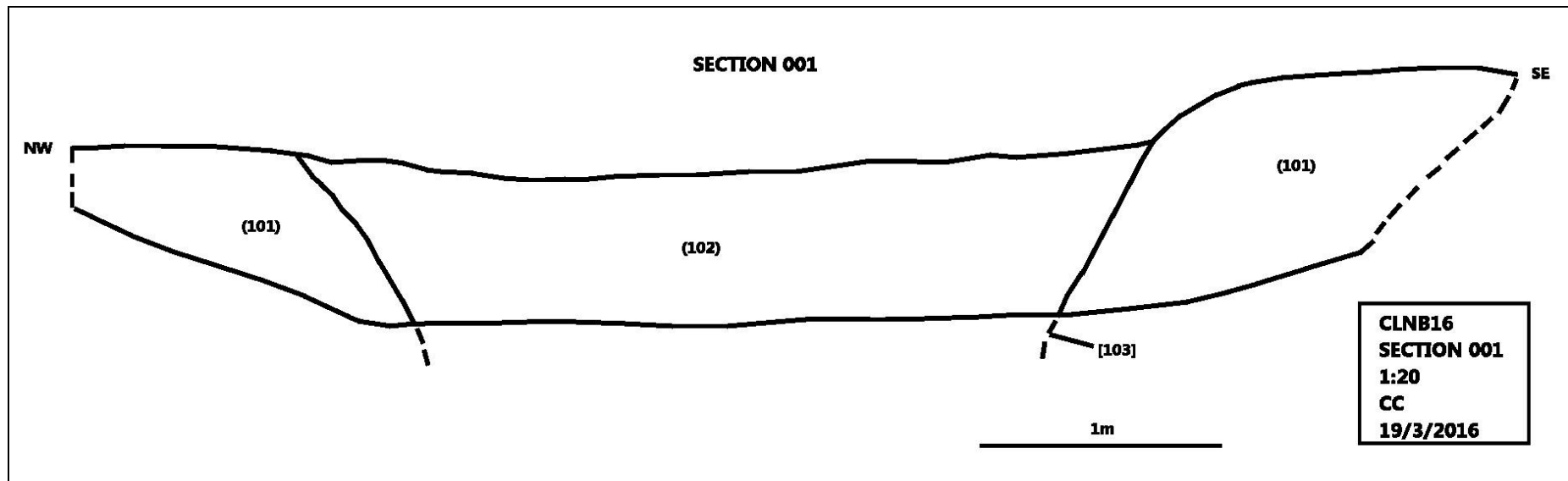
CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context nr	Depth (m)	Description	Younger than	Older than
(101)	0.65	Man made earth bank of dark brown, soft silty clay with frequent of roots and stones.	Natural	(102)
(102)	?	Fill of pond [103]. Very wet, dark clay with occasional roots and stones.	(101)	-
[103]	?	Cut of pond [103].	(101)	(102)
Natural	-	Yellow, hard clay with occasional limestones and roots.	-	[103]

FINDS LIST

Find nr	Context	Material	Object	Description	Period
1	(101)	Fired clay	1 sherd of pottery	Red Earthenware	AD 18 th -20 th century
2	(101)	Fired clay	1 sherd of pottery	Red Earthenware	AD 18 th -20 th century
3	(101)	Fired clay	1 sherd of pottery	Red Earthenware	AD 18 th -20 th century
4	(101)	Fired clay	1 sherd of pottery	Red Earthenware	AD 18 th -20 th century
5	(101)	Fired clay	1 sherd of pottery	Red Earthenware	AD 18 th -20 th century





OASIS ID: independ1-247074

Project details

Project name	10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire
Short description of the project	Archaeological Evaluation of the site due to the construction of a new garage with associated driveway. A Post Medieval pond with broken bottles and pottery was uncovered during the siteworks.
Project dates	Start: 19-03-2016 End: 20-03-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	CLNB16 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	EN/16/00020/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NT Post Medieval
Monument type	SN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CL Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Metal Detectors", "Photographic Survey", "Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Car park (flat)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Monitoring

Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE NEWTON BROMSWOLD 10 Church Lane, Newton, Bromswold, Northamptonshire
Postcode	NN10 0SR
Study area	600 Square metres
Site coordinates	SP 99956 65905 52.281789171943 -0.534588984289 52 16 54 N 000 32 04 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 83m Max: 87m

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	Northamptonshire County Council
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Northamptonshire County Council
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Northamptonshire County Council
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	10 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, Northamptonshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Carlsson, C
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Independent Archaeology Consultants
Place of issue or publication	Peterborough
Entered by	Christer Carlsson (contact@independentarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	31 March 2016