

**NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT**

Report No. 978

**An Archaeological Evaluation at  
Streetgate Cottage, Roudham,  
Norfolk**

38106 RDH

John Ames  
August 2004

© Norfolk Archaeological Unit



## Contents

---

### ***Summary***

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Methodology
- 3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background
- 4.0 Results
- 5.0 Conclusions

### ***Acknowledgements***

### ***Bibliography***

### **Figures**

- Fig.1 Site location
- Fig. 2 Trench location

Local Authority No. 100019340

Fig.1 is based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map with the permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 'Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings' Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Norwich (06/08/2004). **Reference copy: no further copies to be made.**



Location: Streetgate Cottage, Roudham  
District: Breckland  
Grid ref: TL 9554 8715  
HER: 38106 RDH  
Date of fieldwork: 14th March 2003

---

## **Summary**

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the proposed development of a garage extension at Streetgate Cottage, Roudham, Norfolk. The proposed development was situated south of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Roudham deserted medieval village. The surviving earthworks of the deserted village include five croft sites (farm buildings) and a moated manor house which have some surviving masonry remains.*

*A single evaluation trench was placed through the centre of the proposed garage extension, however, no archaeological features or deposits were observed.*

## **1.0 Introduction**

(Fig. 1)

This archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Norfolk Archaeological Unit (NAU) in accordance with a brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA Ref: 27/02/03/ARJH). Whereby it was requested that an archaeologist be present to recover as much information as possible on the extent, date, phasing, character, function, status and significance of the site. Also to evaluate the state of preservation of any archaeological features and deposits within the affected area.

The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Newlove, who also supplied the excavation plant and operator.

## **2.0 Archaeological and Historical Background**

The Norfolk Historic Environment Record shows that the proposed development lies within an area of considerable archaeological interest. Previous archaeological work in the area includes an evaluation a short distance to the west at Stud Farm (Bates 2000), which was largely negative, although a fairly recent brick-lined feature was recorded.

Just to the north of the present site, however, lies the deserted medieval village of Roudham, a Scheduled Ancient Monument of national importance. The remains of the church and earthworks indicate the location of the site; building material, coins, pottery and metalwork of medieval date have been recovered from that site and from others nearby. Worked flint of prehistoric date and Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery have also been found in the area.

### **3.0 Methodology**

(Fig. 2)

A single east to west trench, 7m x 3m (21 sq. m), was excavated through the centre of the footprint of the proposed garage extension using a wheeled JCB. Excavation continued until the natural ground was encountered. The excavated soil was placed directly onto the spoil heap located on the northern side of the site for visual inspection and metal detection.

The top and sub soil were recorded using a NAU *pro forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of the relevant trench and deposits.

The weather conditions and site access was very good. Although, access to the trench was at times limited because of the machinery operating within a restricted space.

### **4.0 Results**

The topsoil ([1]) measured c. 0.60m in depth and consisted of mid to dark brown humic loam. The subsoil ([2]) also measured 0.60m in depth and consisted of mid orange sandy silt with moderate sized medium to large sub-rounded, angular and sub-angular flint nodules. The topsoil and subsoil had been heavily disturbed by tree roots and other vegetation growth which extended into natural ground at a depth of 1.20m.

No archaeological features, deposits or objects were located during the evaluation and is considered negative.

### **5.0 Conclusions**

The lack of archaeological features and deposits possibly indicate that the earthworks of the deserted village did not extend into this area.

Recommendations for future work based upon the results of this work have already been made by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

### ***Acknowledgements***

Thanks to Mr Newlove who commissioned and funded this report. The report was illustrated, formatted and produced by Maggie Footit and edited by Alice Lyons.

### ***Bibliography***

Bates, S., 2000 Report on an Archaeological Evaluation at Stud Farm, Bridgham Manor Estate, Roudham, NAU Report 473, (Unpublished)

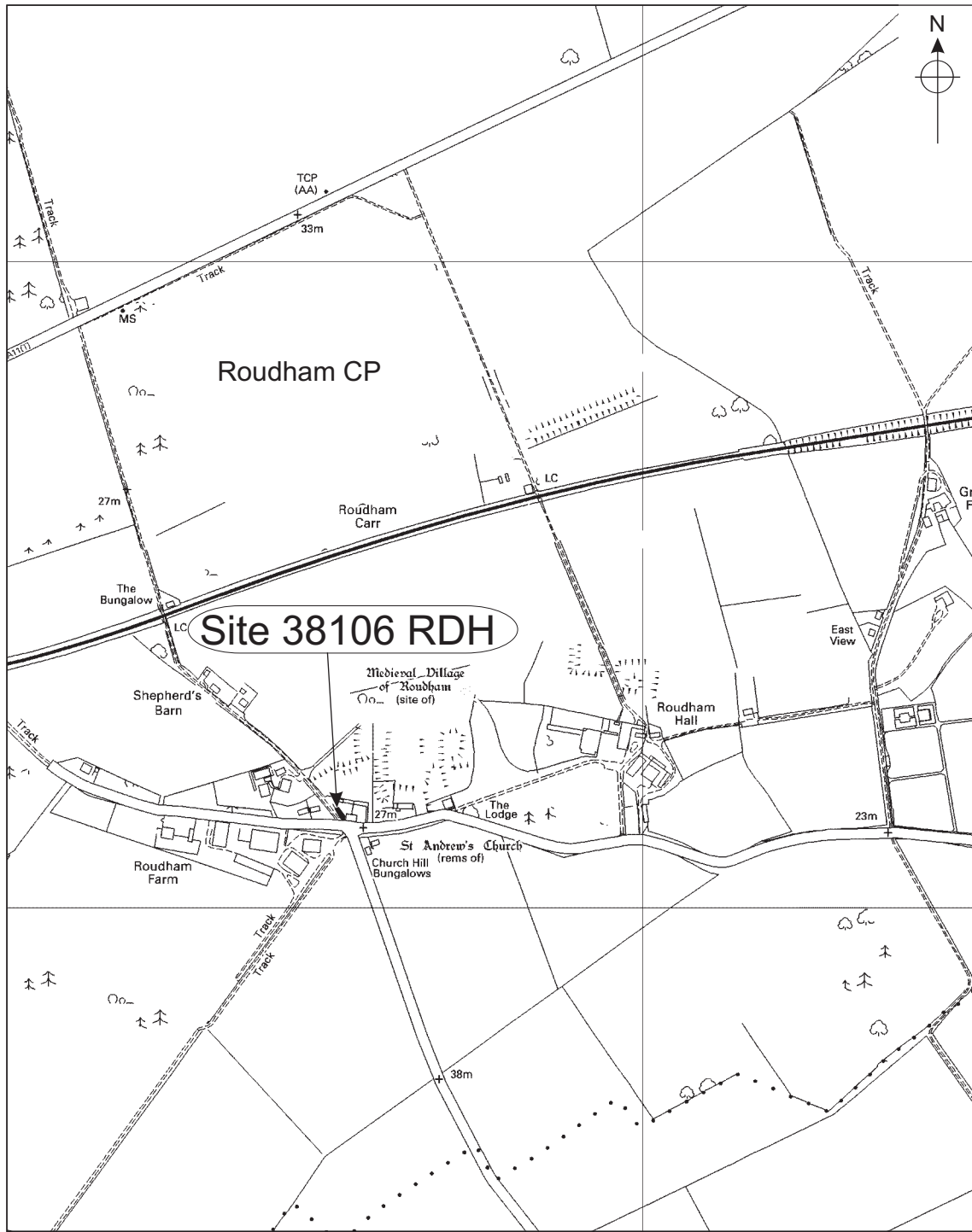
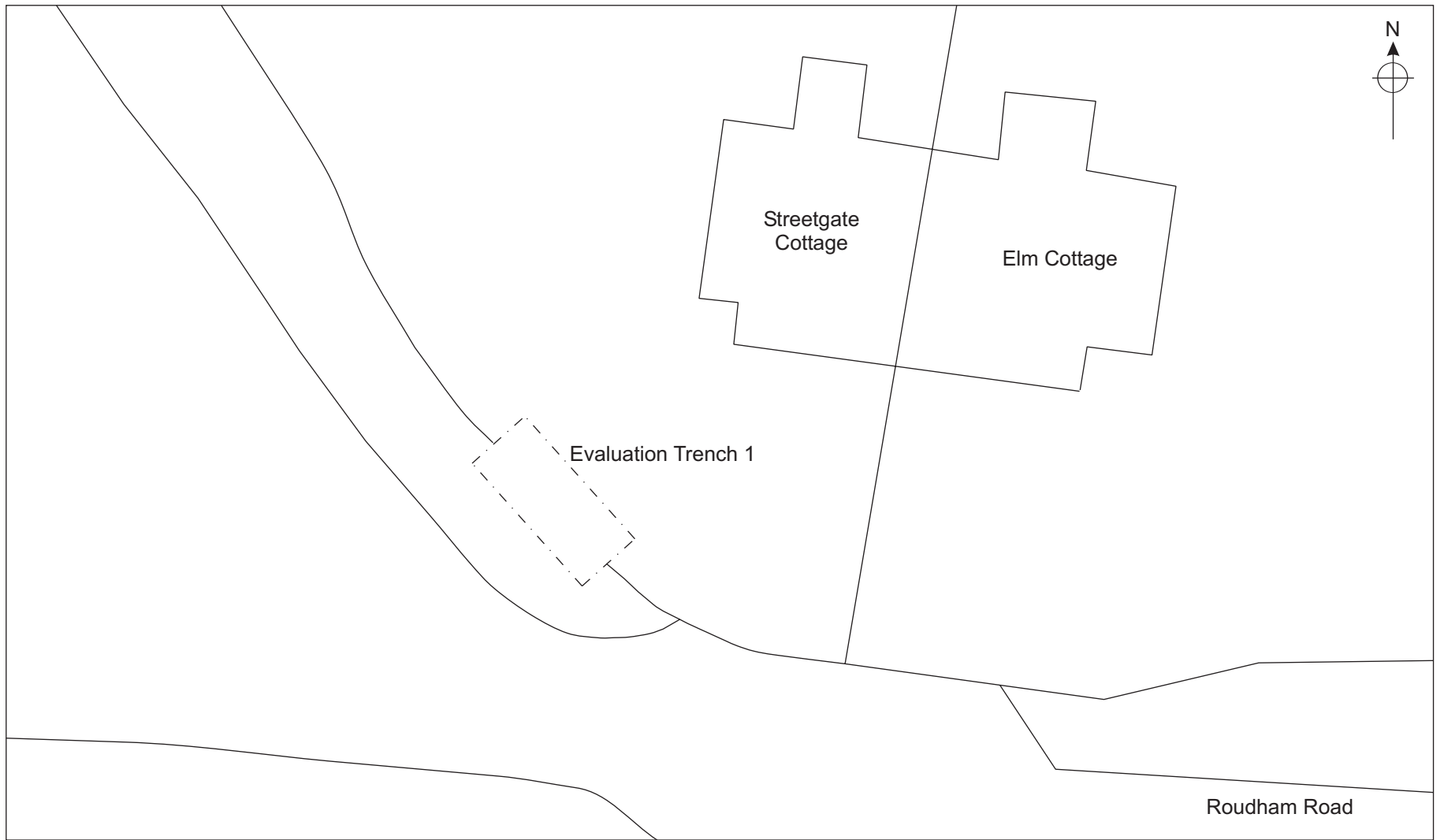


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:10,000



0 20m

Figure 2. Trench location. Scale 1:250