

Archaeological Watching Brief

**Anstey House
Anstey
Hertfordshire**

**ASE Project No: 170385
Site Code: AHA17**

ASE Report No: 2017325



September 2017

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OASIS No: 291589**

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by the owners of the property to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for a new kitchen/breakfast room extension at Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire.

Anstey House itself is originally of late 17th-century construction and occupies the interior of a sub-square medieval moated enclosure. Previous watching brief works in 2014, on the north side of the house did not encounter any significant archaeological remains.

The extension site was located on the south side of the extant house. Observation of the building contractor's excavation of underpinning pits and wall foundation trench identified the presence of medieval and post-medieval remains.

The medieval remains comprised a large rubbish pit that evidences occupation of this site in the 13th century and corroborates the assumed medieval date of the moated enclosure itself. Two further undated pits could possibly also have been of medieval date.

The recorded post-medieval remains comprised soil layers, brick-built drains and wall foundations, all of which relate to the construction and subsequent use of the late 17th century Anstey House.

The construction of the new kitchen/breakfast room extension has had a moderate impact upon the below-ground archaeological remains present within this site. It is likely that further medieval and post-medieval features and deposits survive in this wider vicinity outside the extension footprint.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by the landowner to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for a new kitchen/breakfast room extension at Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire.

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 Anstey is a small, dispersed/polyfocal settlement located approximately 5 miles north-east of the historic market town of Buntingford, in East Hertfordshire. Anstey House is located on the south side of Mill Road (formerly Meesdon Road) (NGR TL 41239 32992), just east of the village itself (Figure 1).

1.2.2 Anstey House is located within the earthwork remains of a moated enclosure, with a domestic garden and paddocks/ pasture to the immediate west, east and south of the house, and agricultural land beyond this to the west. On the north side is the driveway from the adjacent road and a large barn.

1.2.3 According to the British Geological Survey (British Geological Survey © NERC 2017) the site is situated on the glacial till of the Lowestoft Formation (Diamicton), which overlies the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application (3/13/0401/FP) was submitted to East Herts Council in March 2013 for “*ground floor single storey rear extension and alterations to roof over existing kitchen and utility with new bathroom in attic space. New dormer in place of existing rooflight. New external finishes to walls and roof. New insulated roof to Barn, changes to fenestration to allow garaging, reinstatement of chimney and new flue for boiler*”.

1.3.2 As the site is located in an Area of Archaeological Significance (No. 16) as identified in the Local Plan, the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the Local Planning Authority, recommended that a programme of archaeological works be undertaken in order to mitigate the impact of the development on the historic environment.

1.3.3 The following recommendation was made in line with guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012) and has subsequently been attached as a planning condition to the grant of consent for the development:

No development or groundworks shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme, and this condition will only be discharged when the required archaeological reports are submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To secure the protection of and proper provision for any archaeological remains in accordance with policies BH2 and BH3 of the East Herts Local Plan Second Review April 2007.

1.3.4 The Historic Environment Unit of Hertfordshire County Council (HCC HEU) was consulted regarding the aims and scope of the required archaeological work. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was subsequently prepared by Archaeology South-East (2017). This WSI was submitted to, and approved by, HCC HEU in their capacity as archaeological advisors to East Herts Council prior to the commencement of groundworks.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aim of the work was to sufficiently investigate and record any archaeological remains that were present, to ensure their *preservation by record* prior to any damaging or destructive works associated with the development. Particular attention was to be paid to any archaeological evidence for:

- Structures pre-dating the current late 17th-century house, in order to determine the nature, form and/or date of any structures/ buildings that occupied the site previously
- Any other evidence for post-medieval, medieval and Anglo-Saxon activity on the site, particularly with regard to land use and the development of Anstey

1.4.2 In the event that significant discoveries were made, further research objectives would be identified for any post-excavation assessment and reporting work that is required, in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report describes and assesses the significance of the results of monitoring and recording carried out during groundworks for a new kitchen/breakfast room extension at Anstey House between the 6th and 28th of June 2017. The fieldwork was undertaken by Trevor Ennis and managed by Andy Leonard.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following information is largely taken from the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) and the Heritage Statement for Anstey House prepared by Kay Pilsbury Thomas Architects (2013).
- 2.1.2 The site is located within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 16, which includes Anstey House itself; a Grade II listed (UID 160238), large timber-framed house of late 17th century date with 18th century and later additions. The eastern part of the house was restored in 1959-60 after a fire. Also located within the property, 40m north of the house, is a Grade II listed (UID 160239), timber-framed barn, the western part of which dates to the late 16th century and the eastern part to the late 17th century.
- 2.1.3 The house is situated within a large moated enclosure of likely medieval date (HHER 1946) and the current house is unlikely to be the first building to have occupied the site. To the south lies another, smaller, moated enclosure that is also a designated asset (Scheduled Monument Herts 19, UID 1005508), while to the south-east are the low earthwork remains of possible fish ponds.
- 2.1.4 More generally, Anstey village to the west is a settlement of medieval origin; the manor of Anstey is recorded in the Domesday survey (HHER 2661) and it is likely that the motte and bailey castle (HHER 27) to the west of the site was constructed around this time. The church of St. George (HER 4329) is late 12th century. There is another probable medieval moated enclosure at Pain's End (HHER 10168) to the north of the village.

2.2 Previous archaeological work

- 2.2 Archaeological Monitoring and Recording undertaken in 2014 during groundworks for the installation of a Klargestar unit and associated sewer runs on the north side of the house identified no archaeological remains (ASE 2014).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Prior to the start of fieldwork, an OASIS online record was started and key fields on Details, Location and Creators forms were completed. The site code AHA17 was used as the unique identifier for all data and artefacts recovered during this project. Context numbering was continued from the previous 2014 monitoring works.
- 3.1.2 The watching brief was undertaken by ASE archaeologists on construction groundworks that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy any archaeological remains that might be present. The relevant groundworks consisted of the excavation of three underpinning trenches and the external foundation trench for the new kitchen/breakfast room extension. Ground reduction within the new extension footprint was not generally sufficient to expose any archaeological remains.
- 3.1.3 External area stripping and some of the foundation excavation was undertaken with by a mini-digger fitted with a flat-bladed bucket. In places, due to the small size of the machine, ground compaction and the presence of roots, etc., a toothed bucket was also employed.
- 3.1.4 Standard ASE excavation, artefact collection and recording methodologies were employed throughout. All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching brief, Code of Conduct (CIfA 2014a & 2014b), and the ALGAO Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003). ASE is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the CIfA.
- 3.1.5 Where safe to do so, all archaeological features and deposits were recorded as exposed in the various groundworks. Spoil was inspected for the recovery of artefacts.
- 3.1.5 Finds were identified by context number to a specific deposit, and have been processed according to ASE and CIfA guidelines (2014c). All pottery and other finds where appropriate were marked with the site code and context number.

3.2 Site Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at Bishops Stortford Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are summarised below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	24
No. of files	1
Plan and sections sheets	5
Photographs	45 digital
Bulk finds	1 box
Environmental samples	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

- 4.0.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on groundworks for the new kitchen/breakfast room (Figure 2; Figure 5, photo 1). Specifically, archaeological monitoring was undertaken on the foundation trench for this new extension and the excavation of two underpinning trenches adjacent to the historic core of the building. A third underpinning trench in a disturbed area beneath a large tree stump and adjacent to a later (modern) lean-to addition was not observed.
- 4.0.2 The interior of the extension was reduced to the required construction level. However, this necessitated only the removal of the topsoil and the upper part of a chalky clay deposit (see layer [21] below). Consequently no underlying natural deposit or archaeological remains were exposed.
- 4.0.3 The results of the observation of these various groundworks are described below. Further context detail is presented in Appendix 1.

4.1 Underpinning trenches (Figure 3)

- 4.1.1 Two underpinning trenches (UP1 and UP2) were excavated adjacent to the eastern end wall of the original house (since extended). Both trenches were 1.1m long by c.0.7m wide. The more northerly trench (UP1) was 1m deep and the southerly (UP2) was 0.8m deep. The two trenches were separated by a narrow baulk that was subsequently removed.

UP1

- 4.1.2 The earliest identified feature in UP1 was a roughly east/west aligned trench or ditch [12] that continued beneath the original east wall of the house. Ditch/trench [12] was in excess of 0.9m long by 0.95m wide by 0.46m deep and had steep sides and a flat bottom (Figure 4, Section 1). It was filled with mid grey ashy silt [11] containing frequent mortar flecks and occasional fragments of brick. Four of the largest brick fragments were recovered. Two had remnants of hard sandy lime mortar adhering. Although too fragmented to date precisely, the bricks may be of late 15th to early 16th century date.
- 4.1.3 Fill [11] was truncated by the nominal cut ([15]) for a similarly aligned brick drainage culvert [13]. The culvert was rectangular in shape, 0.38m wide by 0.32m high, consisting of sides formed from three courses of stretcher brick, bonded by creamy mortar, over a flat tile base (Figure 5, photo 2). The bricks appeared unfrogged and were c.0.11m wide by 0.06-0.07m high probably of 18th or early 19th century date. The brick culvert was infilled with speckled dark grey clay silt [14] and was capped by a series of header bricks, of which the example shown in section was noticeably crisper and flatter (at 0.05m high) and perhaps more likely to be of 19th century date. The drainage channel continued beneath the original eastern wall of the house (relationship uncertain) and linked with a metal grate in the floor at the eastern edge of the current dining room.
- 4.1.4 Fill [11] also appeared to be truncated by the southern wall of the c.19th century house extension. The foundation for this wall, [16], was 0.22m wide and composed of whole and half bricks in a yellow lime mortar. One complete brick measured 0.22m x 0.11m x 0.06m. None of the bricks appeared to be frogged. Seemingly abutting wall foundation [16], and sealing drain [13], was a 0.24m thick layer of mid greyish brown sandy ashy silt [10]. This deposit underlay the removed modern flooring from within the former

kitchen area.

- 4.1.5 In the north-facing section of UP1, foundation [19] for the original eastern wall of the house was exposed (Figure 4, section 2; Figure 5, photo 3). This was 0.38m high by 0.3m wide and consisted mostly of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ bricks (unfrogged) bonded by a cream lime mortar. The bricks were of varying size with widths of 0.10 to 0.12m and heights of 0.05 to 0.07m. The foundation was cut into the top of a layer of brown clay subsoil [18] that overlay the natural deposit, and was abutted by a mixed topsoil deposit [17] that continued south of the building.

UP2

- 4.1.6 Topsoil [17] and brown clay subsoil [18] were also exposed in the sides of UP2. However, the subsoil did not extend far into the garden before being replaced by a thicker deposit of topsoil. The sloping interface between these two deposits was defined by a deposit of grey brown clay [20] (Figure 4, Section 3). A further part of wall foundation [19] was also exposed and this had a slightly arched appearance (Figure 5, photo 4). Three courses of brick were revealed, with two courses of headers sandwiching a middle course of stretchers and headers.

4.2 Foundation Trench

- 4.2.1 The footprint for the new kitchen/breakfast room extension covered approximately c.33sq m and extended south of the former kitchen house for c.6.5m. Its wall foundation trenches varied from 1.0-1.3m in depth and from 0.65-0.70m in width. Three features ([23], [30] and [33]) were identified mainly in section.
- 4.2.2 In the southern wall foundation trench, a large shallow pit [23] was exposed in the south-facing section (Figure 5, photo 5). This did not extend into the opposing section, save for one small area, which was in part truncated by a modern drain. The pit was 2.1m long and 0.42m deep with gradually sloping sides and a flat base (Figure 4, Section 4). It was filled with mottled mid to dark grey silty clay [22] and contained a single sherd of early medieval pottery. Partly truncating the fill on its eastern side was an area of ?modern disturbance [25], perhaps associated with a former drainage run as its loose organic fill [24] contained fragments of broken drain of post-medieval or more recent date along with two residual sherds of 12th-14th century pottery. This feature, along with pit [23], was sealed by up to 0.2m thickness of redeposited chalky clay [21].
- 4.2.3 With the co-operation of the building contractor, a small area of chalky clay [21] was removed by machine within the extension interior to chase in plan the northward extent of pit [23] (Figure 3). This established that the pit cut extended for just over 1m beyond the drawn section giving a total width of c.1.7m. The fill, though similar to [22], was allocated a separate context number, [26], to accommodate the recovery of numerous sherds of mid-12th to 14th century medieval pottery and a small assemblage of animal bone (pig) from its surface. The pit was not further investigated in this sondage.
- 4.2.4 Features [30] and [33] were exposed in the eastern wall foundation trench. Pit [30] was recorded in the east-facing trench section (Figure 4, Section 5) and had been observed and part-excavated within the trench (Figure 5, photo 6). It was 1.65m long by 0.3m+ wide by 0.45m deep and contained three silty clay fills ([27], [28] and [29]). Recovered finds consisted only of a piece of hard sandy lime mortar, similar to that adhering to a fragment of possible Tudor brick in the fill of feature [12], from top fill [27].

- 4.2.5 Feature [33] was exposed in the west-facing section of the wall foundation trench and was probably of natural origin (Figure 4, section 6). It was c. 1.5m long by 0.5m deep and contained two fills ([31] and [32]). In the base of the feature and on its southern slope was a deposit of dark grey silty clay [32] that was quite organic in nature. Above was a paler mixed brown and grey chalky clay [31]. Numerous roots were present, particularly in the overlying topsoil. No finds were recovered from either fill.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the watching brief at Anstey House, Anstey. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 2). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Mortar	Weight (g)
11			4	706				
22	1	2						
24	2	12	2	80				
26	30	416			4	34		
27							1	22
<i>Total</i>	33	430	6	786	4	34	1	22

Table 2: Finds quantification

5.2 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

5.2.1 The pottery assemblage comprised 32 sherds with a total weight of 431g. It is all earlier medieval (12th – 14th century). The following fabric types were noted:

EMW: Early Medieval Sandy Ware, 11th – 12th century (Pieksma 1996).

HEDI: Hedingham Coarseware, mid 12th – 14th century (Walker 2012).

HGW: Hertfordshire Grey Ware, mid 12th – 14th century (Turner-Rugg 1993).

MGW: Mill Green Ware, late 13th – 14th century (Pearce et al 1982).

5.2.2 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 3. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is fairly typical of sites in the region. The assemblage is largely in very good condition, and appears reliably stratified. It comprises entirely unglazed jars, with the exception of the small sherd of Mill Green Ware, which is from a glazed jug, a typical product of the tradition. The group of material from pit fill [26] includes a number of fairly large and re-fitting sherds, and appears to be the result of primary deposition.

Context	EMW		HEDI		HGW		MGW		Date
	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	
22	1	7							11thC
24			2	10					12thC
26	1	30			27	383	1	1	L13thC
Total	2	37	2	10	27	383	1	1	

Table 3: Pottery quantification by count and weight (in g) per context by fabric type

5.3 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.3.1 Seven pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 808g were recovered from three contexts: [011], [024], and [027]. The only context that produced any diagnostic material was ditch/trench fill [011], from which several brick fragments were retrieved, all in a very quartz-rich fabric. One brick piece could be measured and was 40mm thick, and on both this and another fragment were the remnants of a hard sandy lime mortar.

The brick pieces are of most probable late medieval date, c. late 15th or early 16th century, although were too fragmentary to date precisely.

5.3.2 A further chunk of the same type of mortar as [011] was collected from [027]. Two pieces of undiagnostic curving tile from [024] may be fragments of post-medieval pantile of c. 18th century, or alternatively pieces of land drain or some other curving CBM form which is not immediately clear from the fragments found.

5.3.3 The retrieved CBM is not believed to be of any further archaeological potential and has therefore been discarded.

5.4 Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee

5.4.1 A small assemblage of animal bone containing just four fragments weighing 34g was recovered during the watching brief. The bone was all hand-collected from the top of pit fill [026] and is in a moderate state of preservation with minimal signs of surface erosion present. No complete bones are present.

5.4.2 The bones retrieved from context [026] have been identified as pig occipital and temporal skull fragments. No evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing, non-metric traits or pathology was observed.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 6.1.1 The watching brief established that on the south side of the house the general deposit sequence of topsoil (deposits [10] and [17]) over subsoil (deposits [18] and [21]) over natural clay was present. Archaeological remains were found both above and below these subsoil-like horizons, generally intruding into the undisturbed natural deposit below.
- 6.1.2 The recorded archaeological remains comprised either cut ditches and pits or brick-built drain structures. These spanned the medieval to late post-medieval periods, reflecting the perceived span of occupation activity within the wider moated enclosure.

6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 6.2.1 The constraints of the observed groundworks made it difficult to establish the extent to which previous activities associated with the occupation and development of this site had impacted upon below-ground archaeological remains present.
- 6.2.2 Disturbance appeared to be greatest in close proximity to the standing building. Modern garden cultivation activity had clearly impacted remains within the upper stratigraphic sequence. However, chalky subsoil-like deposit [21], in particular, appeared to seal and protect earlier features – defining a distinct horizon between post-medieval and medieval remains. Modern cultivation activity did not generally penetrate this horizon.

6.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Pre-medieval

- 6.3.1 No features, deposits or artefacts predating the medieval period were encountered.

Medieval

- 6.3.2 Feature [23] is clearly the remains of a fairly large pit, probably infilled in the later 13th century. Although minimally excavated by hand, the relatively large quantity of pottery and animal bone recovered from it suggests that it was for rubbish disposal. This provides clear evidence for the medieval occupation of the moated enclosure; particularly significant here as the 2014 watching brief did not encounter any remains of this period.

Post-medieval

- 6.3.3 Although its function is unclear, trench/ditch [12] was observed to extend under the east wall of the original late 17th century house. As such, this feature attests to some kind of activity predating the standing building. Given its tentative late medieval / Tudor date, it is possible that it was a robber trench resulting from the removal of an earlier (brick or timber?) structure that had hitherto occupied the enclosure interior.
- 6.3.4 Layers [18], [20] and perhaps [21] would all seem to be relatively early post-medieval deposits that either overlie medieval remains or else are cut by later post-medieval features, including robber trench [12] and the original east wall foundation of the late

17th century house, [19]. It is conjectured that these brown to grey-brown or clay or chalky clay layers represent levelling activity to create a clear and flat construction site for the post-medieval house.

- 6.3.5 The various defunct brick-built drains (i.e. [15], and the uncontexted example observed in UP2) cut into the levelling layers, generally from relatively high up in the deposit sequences recorded. These drains are probably of 18th to 19th century date and contemporary with the occupation of Anstey House.

Undated

- 6.3.6 Pits [30] and [33] are undated. While a fragment of mortar was retrieved from the top fill of [30], this could be intrusive and does not necessarily date the feature. This pit was recorded to be overlain by chalky clay layer [21] and so can perhaps be assumed to be of relatively early, perhaps medieval, date. Pit [33] was less convincing as a pit and may rather have been a tree hole.

6.4 Consideration of research aims

- 6.4.1 The general aim of the work to investigate and record any archaeological remains that were present, to ensure their *preservation by record* was successfully achieved by the watching brief, with a range of archaeological features and deposits recorded, as described and discussed above.

Evidence of structures pre-dating the current late 17th-century house, in order to determine the nature, form and/or date of any structures/ buildings that occupied the site previously:

- 6.4.2 Remains have been recorded that pre-date the extant late 17th-century house. However, these are fragmentary and their nature, form and date is not readily discerned. If ditch/trench [12] is correctly interpreted as the robber trench of a structure, then it provides some suggestion that a probably timber-framed building formerly occupied this part of the medieval moated enclosure. The occurrence of at least one medieval rubbish pit in close proximity to this potential structural feature would further hint that this building was likely of domestic use. It is possible that the medieval building(s) within the enclosure were not cleared until the Tudor period.

Any other evidence for post-medieval, medieval and Anglo-Saxon activity on the site, particularly with regard to land use and the development of Anstey:

- 6.4.3 The recorded post-medieval remains all appear to relate to the site's preparation for the construction of the extant late 17th-century house or its subsequent occupation. While this informs upon the subsequent use of the medieval moated enclosure, these remains are too localised and of small-scale to inform upon wider issues of land use and the development of Anstey village.

6.5 Updated Research Agenda

- 6.5.1 In view of the medieval and post-medieval discoveries made during this watching brief, the following updated research objectives can be identified in relation to the regional Research agenda for the east of England:

- Can the date, nature and development of the medieval occupation of the medieval moated enclosure be further explored and clarified? Can the layout and form of buildings and other structures be established?
The regional research agenda states: *A regional study of moated sites is needed, incorporating excavated, documentary and cartographic evidence* (Medlycott 2011, 70).
- Can further assemblages of medieval cultural material be recovered (e.g. from further rubbish pits) that inform upon site status, wealth and activity? What was the basis of the site's economy and nature of its contact with surrounding towns and markets in the medieval period? (cf. Medlycott, 2011, 70)

6.6 Conclusions

- 6.6.1 The watching brief has established the presence and survival of archaeological remains of medieval and post-medieval remains on the south side of the extant house.
- 6.6.2 The medieval remains relate to the occupation of this site in the 13th century and corroborate the assumed medieval date of the moated enclosure itself.
- 6.6.3 The recorded post-medieval remains all relate to the construction and subsequent use of the extant late 17th century Anstey House.
- 6.6.4 The construction of the new kitchen/breakfast room extension has had a moderate impact upon the below-ground archaeological remains present within this site. It is likely that further medieval and post-medieval features and deposits survive in this wider vicinity outside the extension footprint.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Mrs K. Walton for commissioning the archaeological work. Thanks also go to Kay Pilsbury Thomas Architects for their assistance throughout the project. The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Trevor Ennis. Andy Leonard project managed the fieldwork and the post-excavation process was managed by Mark Atkinson. The project was monitored by Alison Tinniswood of HCC HEU on behalf of the local planning authority.

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Appendix 1: List of Recorded Contexts

Context	Type	Description	Depth (max.)
10	Layer	Mid greyish brown sandy ashy silt, mortar flecks, CBM frags	0.24m
11	Fill of 12	Mid grey ashy clay silt, frequent mortar flecks & brick frags	0.46m
12	Trench	Linear, 0.9m+ x 0.95m, 50-80° sides, flat base	0.46m
13	Brick drainage culvert	Rectangular box structure, 0.8m+ x 0.38m, 3 course sides + capping brick, on tile base	0.32m
14	Fill within 13	Speckled dark grey clay silt, charcoal & mortar flecks	0.22m
15	Drain cut	Linear cut for 13, 0.8+ x 0.38m, vertical sides, flat base	0.32m
16	Wall foundation	0.22m wide, whole and ½ bricks, yellow lime mortar	0.40m+
17	Layer	Topsoil – Mixed grey clay silt, charcoal, CBM & mortar flecks	0.23m
18	Layer	Mid brown clay, rare chalk inclusions	0.28m
19	Wall foundation	0.29m wide, mixed ½ and ¾ bricks, white lime mortar	0.37m
20	Layer	Grey brown clay, chalk flecks	0.20m
21	Layer	Redeposited chalky clay, ribbons of dark silt	0.20m
22	Fill of 23	Mid-dark grey silty clay, some brown mottles, chalk & charcoal flecks	0.42m
23	Pit	2.1m long, 0.65m+ wide, 25-45° sides, flat base	0.42m
24	Fill of 25	Loose dark grey organic silt	0.08m
25	Disturbance	Shallow cut, demolished drain? 0.70m wide	0.08m
26	Fill of 23	Mid-dark grey silty clay, some brown mottles	0.10m+
27	Fill of 30	Dark grey silty clay, charcoal flecks, common flints	0.27m
28	Fill of 30	Mixed dark grey to dark brown silty clay, chalk & charcoal flecks	0.39m
29	Fill of 30	Dark grey (smearly) clay, charcoal flecks	0.17m
30	Pit	1.65m wide, variable sides, flat base	0.45m
31	Fill of 33	Mixed mid brown and mid grey chalky clay	0.38m
32	Fill of 33	Dark grey silty clay, chalk and charcoal flecks	0.28m
33	Natural feature	c.1.5m wide, 30-40° sides concave base	0.50m

Appendix 2: HER Summary Form

Site name/Address: Anstey House, Mill Road, Anstey, Hertfordshire, SG9 0BJ		
County: Hertfordshire	District: East Hertfordshire	
Village/town: Anstey	Parish: Anstey	
Planning application ref: 3/13/0401/FP		
HER enquiry reference:		
Funding source: Client / homeowner		
Nature of application: Extension, alteration and refurbishment of private house		
Present land use: Residential		
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated: c.33 sq. m	
NGR: TL 41239 32992		
Site Code: AHA14		
Site Director/organisation: T. Ennis, Archaeology South-East		
Type of Work: Archaeological Watching Brief		
Date of Work:	Start: 6 June 2017	Finish: 28 June 2017
Location of Finds & site archive/Curating Museum: Bishops Stortford Museum		
Related HER Nos: 1946	Periods represented: Medieval, Post-med	
Relevant previous summaries/reports: ASE. 2014, Archaeological Monitoring and Recording: Anstey House, Anstey, Herts (ASE Rep No. 2014325)		
Summary of fieldwork results:		
<p><i>A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks for a new kitchen/breakfast room extension at Anstey House. Anstey House itself is originally of late 17th-century construction and occupies the interior of a sub-square medieval moated enclosure. Previous watching brief works in 2014, on the north side of the house did not encounter any significant archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>The extension site was located on the south side of the extant house. Observation of the building contractor's excavation of underpinning pits and wall foundation trench identified the presence of medieval and post-medieval remains.</i></p> <p><i>The medieval remains comprised a large rubbish pit that evidences occupation of this site in the 13th century and corroborates the assumed medieval date of the moated enclosure itself. Two further undated pits could possibly also have been of medieval date.</i></p> <p><i>The recorded post-medieval remains comprised soil layers, brick-built drains and wall foundations, all of which relate to the construction and subsequent use of the late 17th century Anstey House.</i></p>		
Author of Summary: T. Ennis	Date of Summary: September 2017	

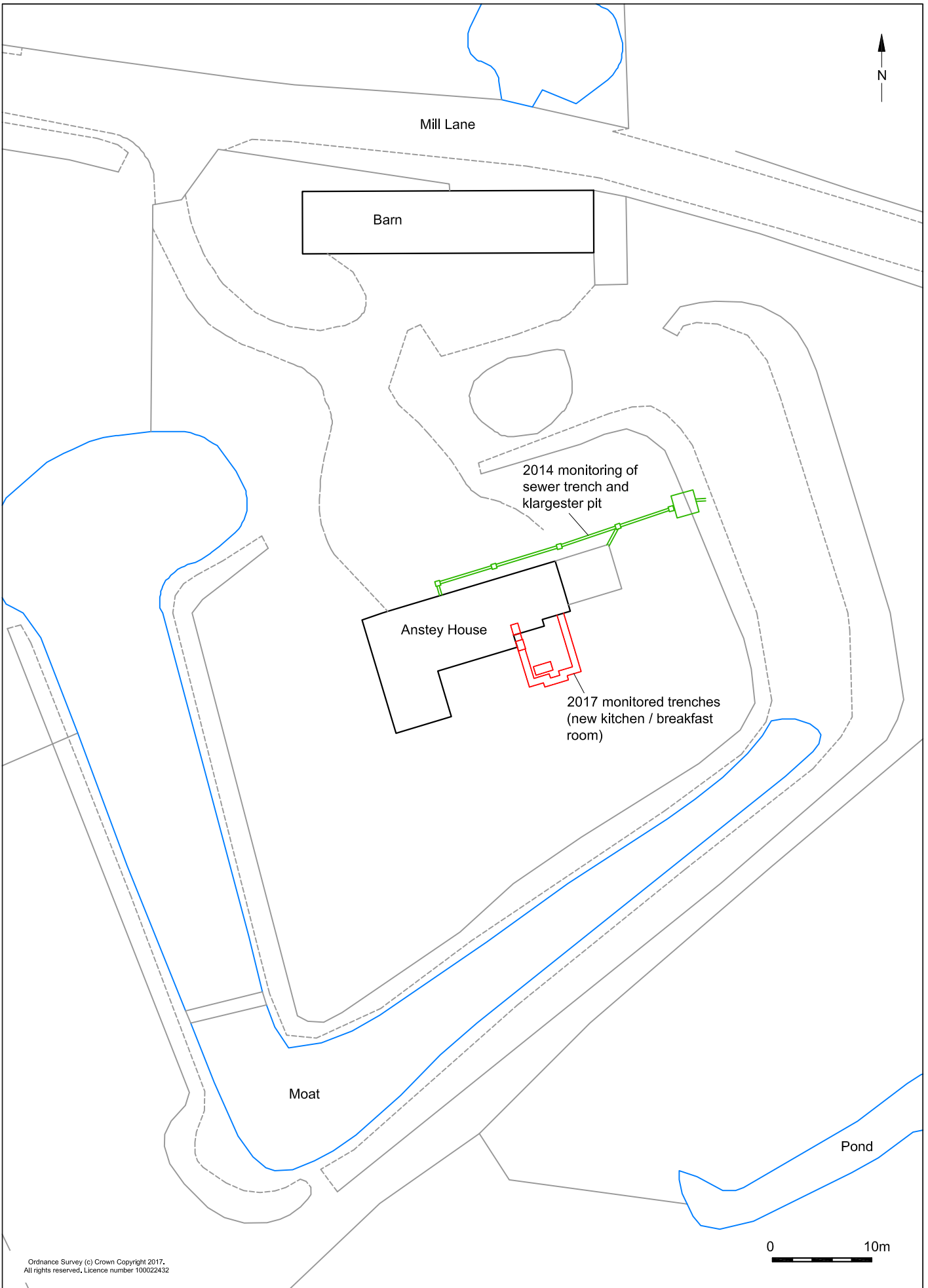
Appendix 3: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-291589	
Project details	
Project name	Anstey House, Anstey, Herts
Short description of the project	A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks for a new kitchen/breakfast room extension. Anstey House itself is originally of late 17th-century construction and occupies the interior of a sub-square medieval moated enclosure. The extension site was located on the south side of the extant house. Observation of the building contractor's excavation of underpinning pits and wall foundation trench identified the presence of medieval and post-medieval remains. The medieval remains comprised a large rubbish pit that evidences occupation of this site in the 13th century and corroborates the assumed medieval date of the moated enclosure itself. Two further undated pits could possibly also have been of medieval date. The recorded post-medieval remains comprised soil layers, brick-built drains and wall foundations, all of which relate to the construction and subsequent use of the late 17th century Anstey House.
Project dates	Start: 06-06-2017 End: 28-06-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Associated project reference codes	AHA 14 - Sitecode 170385 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	TRENCH Post Medieval PIT Medieval LAYER Post Medieval DRAIN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval BRICK Post Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE ANSTEY Anstey House
Postcode	SG90BJ
Study area	33 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 41239 32992 51.976968728865 0.056612014939 51 58 37 N 000 03 23 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Hertfordshire County Council

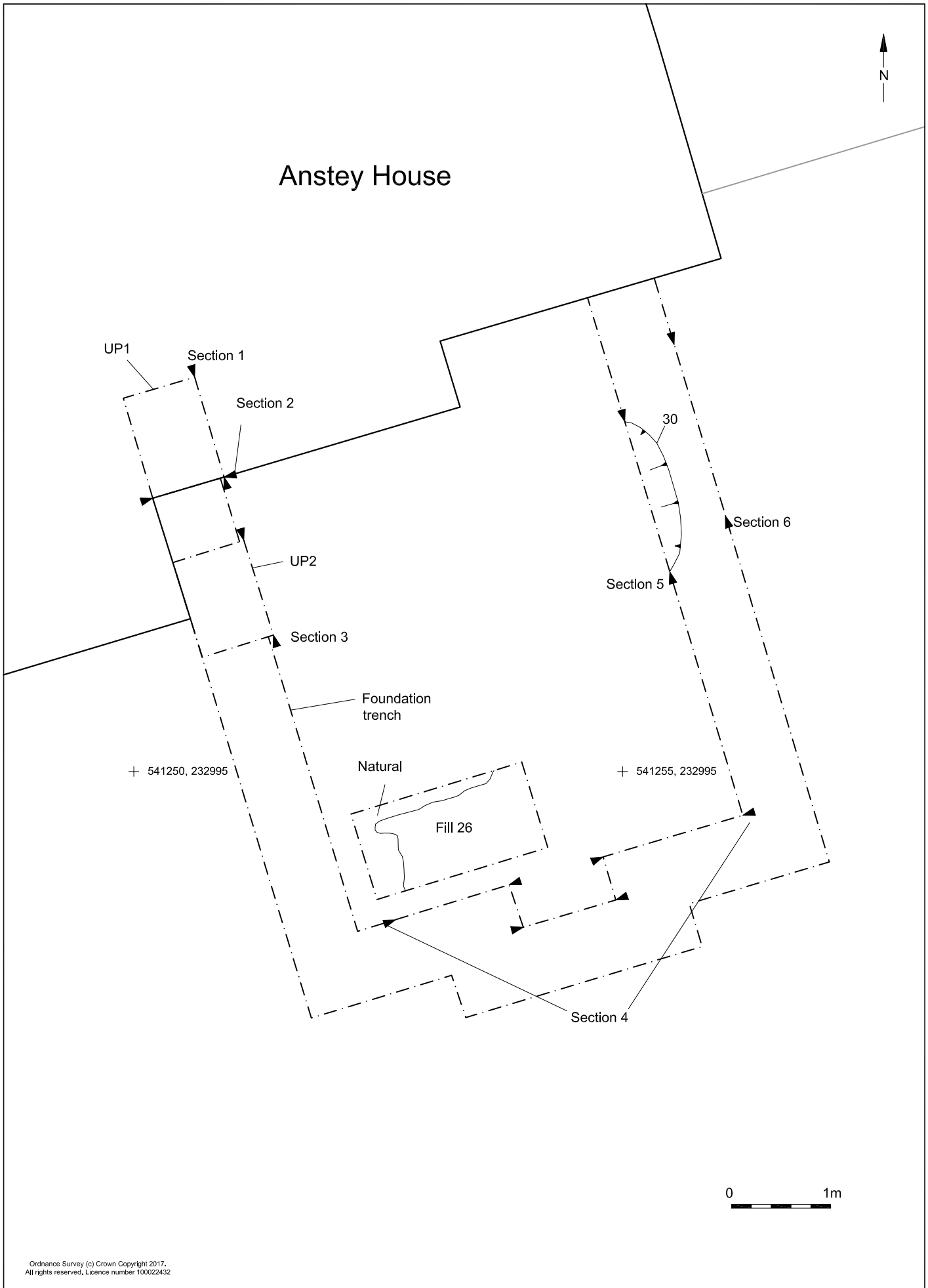
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Trevor Ennis
Type of sponsor/funding body	client
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Bishops Stortford
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Bishops Stortford
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Bishops Stortford
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Watching Brief: Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ennis, T.
Other bibliographic details	Rep No. 2017325
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Witham
Entered by	Mark Atkinson (mark.atkinson@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	26 September 2017



© Archaeology South-East		Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 170385	Sept 2017	Site location	
Report No: 2017325	Drawn by: APL		

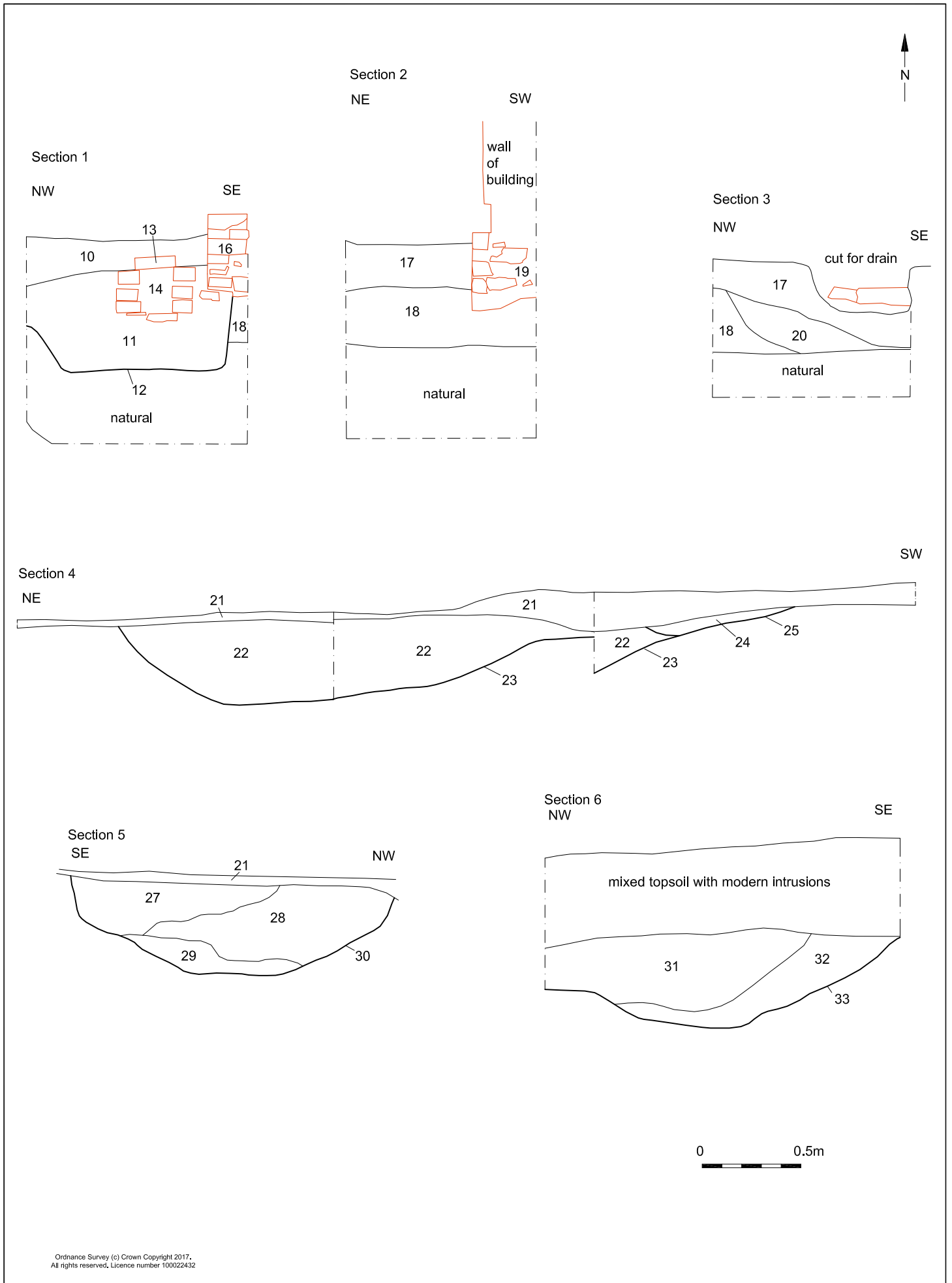


© Archaeology South-East		Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 170385	Sept 2017	Location of current and previous archaeological monitoring	
Report Ref: 2017325	Drawn by: APL		



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© Archaeology South-East		Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 170385	Sept 2017	Plan of monitored trenches	
Report Ref: 2017325	Drawn by: APL		



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Project Ref: 170385	Sept 2017	Sections 1 - 6	
Report Ref: 2017325	Drawn by: APL		



1. General view of groundworks



2. Brick drain 15 in UP1



3. Wall foundation 19 and Trench 12 in UP1



4. Wall foundation 19 in UP2



5. Pit 23



6. Pit 30

© Archaeology South-East		Anstey House, Anstey, Hertfordshire	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 170385	Sept 2017	Selected photographs	
Report Ref: 2017325	Drawn by: APL		

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