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**3 MAIN ROAD, BROOKVILLE, NORFOLK
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING**

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NGR: TL 7352 9606	Report No: 4000
District: Brookville	Site Code: ENF127479
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 4264
Signed:	Date: January 2012

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	3 Main Road, Brookville, Norfolk		
<p><i>In September and December 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks at 3 Main Road, Brookville, Norfolk (NGR: TL 7352 9606). The monitoring was commissioned by Robertson Builders Ltd, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings (King's Lynn and West Norfolk Ref. 09/00461/O).</i></p> <p><i>The site lies on the western side of Main Road in the village of Brookville, bordered by Brook Lane to the south. The main archaeological potential of the site is for archaeological remains of Roman date. An area of Roman settlement, including enclosures and a possible kiln site is recorded adjacent to the site to the south west (Norfolk HER 36379 & 24174).</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trenches revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	5 th & 7 th September, 6 th , 7 th & 9 th December 2011		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	N
P. number	4264	Site code	ENF 127479
Type of project	Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
Site status	Area of archaeological potential		
Current land use	Waste ground		
Planned development	Two new residential dwellings		
Main features (+dates)	None		
Significant finds (+dates)	None		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Norfolk	Brookville	Methwold
HER/ SMR for area	Norfolk HER		
Post code (if known)	IP26 4RA		
Area of site	Approximately 900m ²		
NGR	TL 7352 9606		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c.6m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Norfolk Historic Environment Service (NHES)		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Adam Dyson		
Funded by	Robertson Builders Ltd		
Full title	3 Main Road, Brookville, Norfolk: Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
Author	Quinn, S.		
Report no.	4000		
Date (of report)	January 2012		

3 MAIN ROAD, BROOKVILLE, NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

SUMMARY

In September and December 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks at 3 Main Road, Brookville, Norfolk (NGR: TL 7352 9606). The monitoring was commissioned by Robertson Builders Ltd, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings (King's Lynn and West Norfolk Ref. 09/00461/O).

The site lies on the western side of Main Road in the village of Brookville, bordered by Brook Lane to the south. The main archaeological potential of the site is for archaeological remains of Roman date. An area of Roman settlement, including enclosures and a possible kiln site is recorded adjacent to the site to the south west (Norfolk HER 36379 & 24174).

In the event the monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trenches revealed no archaeological features or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September and December 2011 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks at 3 Main Road, Brookville, Norfolk (NGR: TL 7352 9606; Figs. 1-2). The monitoring was commissioned by Robertson Builders Ltd, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings (King's Lynn and West Norfolk Ref. 09/00461/O).

1.2 The monitoring was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Norfolk Historic Environment Service (NHES; dated 28/01/11) and a written scheme of investigation compiled by AS (dated 03/02/2011), approved by NCC HES. It also adhered to the *IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2008) and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The aims of the project were:

- To ensure the archaeological excavation and monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- To secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the appropriate publication of the project results, if required;
- To secure the analysis, long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

Planning policy context

1.4 PPS5 (2010) states those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies on the western side of Main Road in the village of Brookville, bordered by Brook Lane to the south. It is situated on a triangular parcel of waste land. Much of the central area of the northern plot has been subject to modern disturbance associated with a recently demolished dwelling and adjacent garage. The area surrounding the site is residential and characterised by semi-detached and detached dwellings.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 A concentration of worked Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age flints were found during excavations to the west of the site (NHER 4780). A Middle Bronze Age copper alloy looped spearhead was found during ploughing near 5 Brook

Lane (NHER 21188, TL 7323 9613). A prehistoric occupation site comprising pot boilers and a spread of dark stained soil was identified by a stream 500m to the west (NHER 24484). Further prehistoric occupation sites have been located to the south-west of this site at Thornhaugh Farm and beyond (NHER 23119, 23054), while another is located to the north-west (NHER 24481).

3.2 The main archaeological potential of the site is for archaeological remains of Roman date (Norfolk HER 36379 & 24174). Rectilinear enclosures identified as crop marks from 1996 aerial photographs reach to within 150m west of the site. They appear to have subdivided interiors, and several possible pit like features are also apparent (NHER 36379, TL 7324 9594). The possible features are suggested as being associated with a nearby Roman villa site of 'Sleisham' located further to the west (NHER 4780, TL 73 95). This site was excavated in 1887 and was then re-discovered in 1932. An Iron Age to Roman occupation site was identified at the north end of Methwold including Iron Age pottery and loomweights and Roman metal working debris, wall plaster and a human skull (NHER 23054, TL 7323 9523). Fieldwalking by Methwold School and metal-detecting have also recovered a large number of Roman finds including coins, building material, and circumstantial evidence for a Roman pottery kiln (NHER 24174). Fieldwalking as part of the Fenland Survey in the parish of Methwold has also recovered Roman pot, tile and bone indicative of Roman settlement although the grid reference is not provided (NHER 24174).

3.3 Approximately 500m west of the site is the location of WWII defences thought to include a gun emplacement, barracks and a searchlight battery (NHER 28806, TL 7441 9593). A watching brief carried out in 1979 some 150m east of the site proved negative (NHER 15520, TL 7441 9593).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during the excavation of the foundation trenches. The foundations for the northern plot were 0.60m wide and a maximum depth of 0.80m. The foundations for the southern plot were 0.60m wide and a maximum depth of 0.90m. The foundation trenches for the garage were 0.45m wide and 0.70m deep. The excavation was carried out using a 360° tracked mini excavator, under close archaeological monitoring.

4.2 Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds using a standard metal detector. Deposits were recorded using pro forma recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate.

5 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS Figs.3 - 4

Thirteen sample sections of the stratigraphy were recorded and are tabulated below:

<i>Sample Section 1</i> <i>South facing. DP1</i> <i>0.00m = 6.10m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, friable sandy silt. Occasional ceramic building material fragments.
0.40m – 0.66m	L1001	Subsoil. Mid brown orange, moderately compact clay silt. Moderate chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks.
0.66m+	L1002	Natural geology. Light white, compact chalk.

<i>Sample Section 2</i> <i>North facing; DP2</i> <i>0.00m = 6.05m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.27m – 0.42m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.42m+	L1002	Natural geology. Light white, compact chalk.

<i>Sample Section 3</i> <i>West facing, DP7</i> <i>0.00m = 6.08m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.24m – 0.42m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.42m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 4</i> <i>North facing, DP5</i> <i>0.00m = 6.02m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.26m – 0.56m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.56m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 5</i> <i>North facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.95m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.36m – 0.90m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.90m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 6</i> <i>West facing, DP8</i> <i>0.00m = 5.96m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.40m – 0.77m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.77m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 7</i> <i>West facing, DP6</i> <i>0.00m = 5.80m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, friable sandy silt. Occasional ceramic building material fragments.
0.33m – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.57m+	L1002	Natural geology. Light white, compact chalk.

<i>Sample Section 8</i> <i>South facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.82m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.34m – 0.74m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.74m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 9</i> <i>West facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.79m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.26m – 0.45m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.45m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 10</i> <i>West facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.78m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.30m – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.50m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 11</i> <i>West facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.78m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.29m – 0.47m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.47m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 12</i> <i>West facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.78m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.31m – 0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.52m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

<i>Sample Section 13</i> <i>West facing</i> <i>0.00m = 5.78m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.30m – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.50m – 0.70m+	L1002	Natural geology. As above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

6 CONFIDENCE RATING

6.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 Uppermost was Topsoil, L1000, a dark grey brown, friable sandy silt with occasional ceramic building material fragments (0.24m - 0.40m thick). Below L1000 was Subsoil L1001, a mid brown orange, moderately compact clay silt with moderate chalk flecks and occasional charcoal flecks (0.12m - 0.60m thick). Beneath L1001 was a compact layer of white chalk, L1002, the natural drift geology.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The main archaeological potential of the site was for archaeological remains of Roman date, associated with the known settlement and kilns sites in the area. However, no archaeological features or artefacts were present. No residual finds were made. Some previous ground disturbance from the construction and demolition of the previous dwelling and garage on the site was evident.

9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Norwich Castle Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank Robertson Builders Ltd for funding the monitoring and for their kind assistance.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mr James Albone of Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper no. 14

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 2008) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP1
Sample Section 1. Looking north.



DP2
Sample Section 2. Looking south.



DP3
Post-excavation photograph of northern plot.
Looking west.



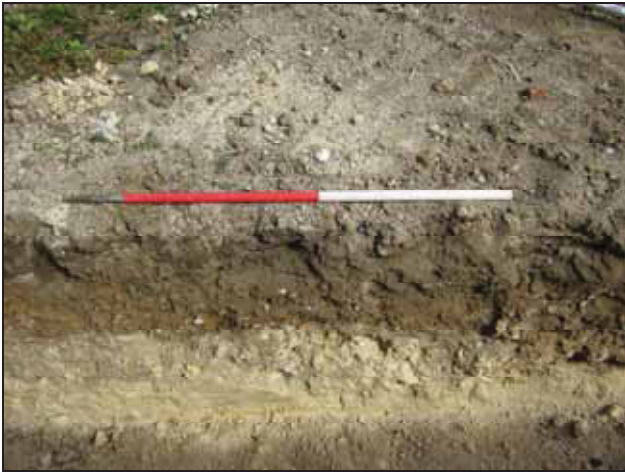
DP4
Post-excavation photograph of southern plot.
Looking west.



DP5
Sample Section 4. Looking south.



DP6
Sample Section 7. Looking east.



DP7
Sample Section 3. Looking east.



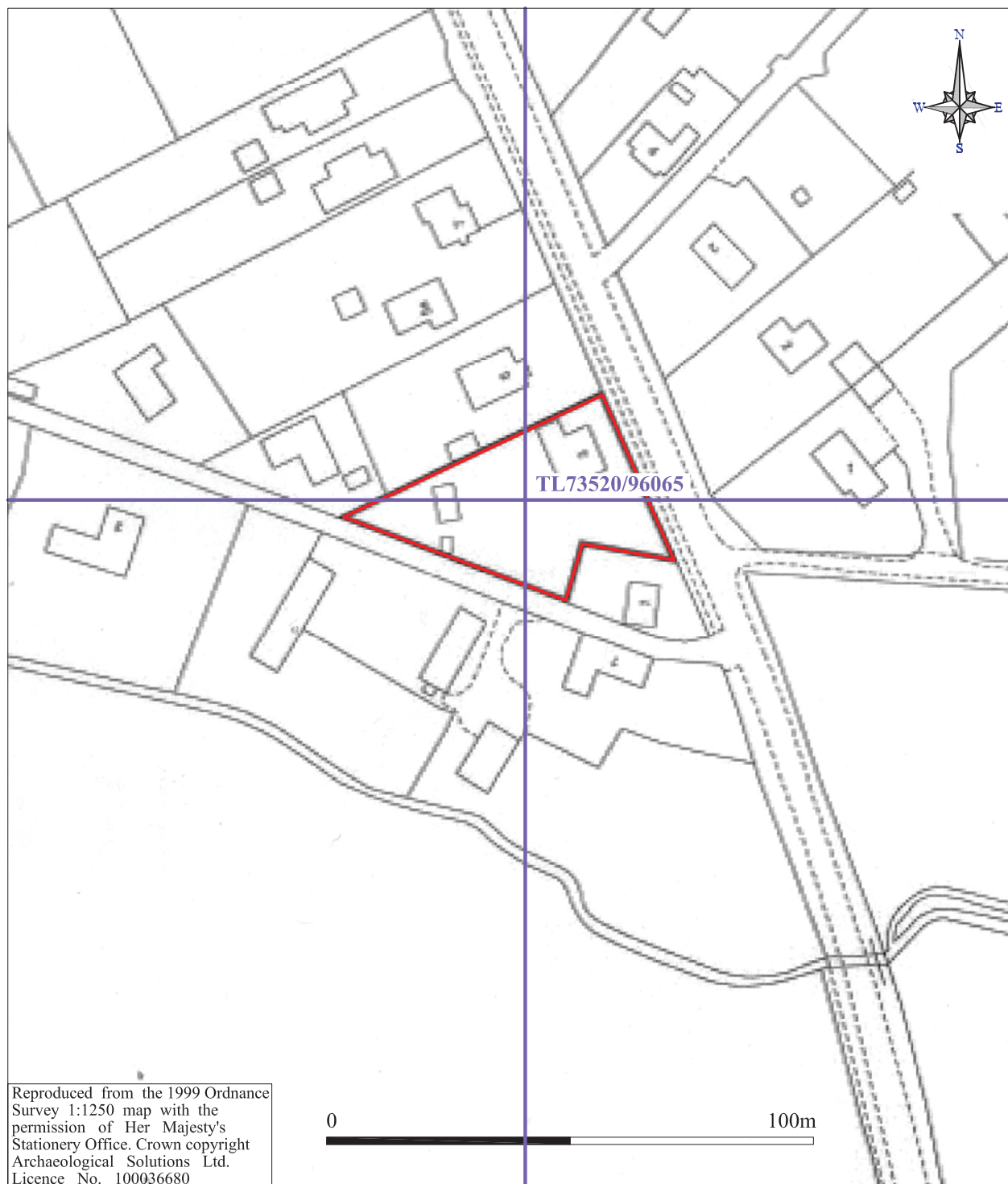
DP8
Sample Section 6. Looking east.



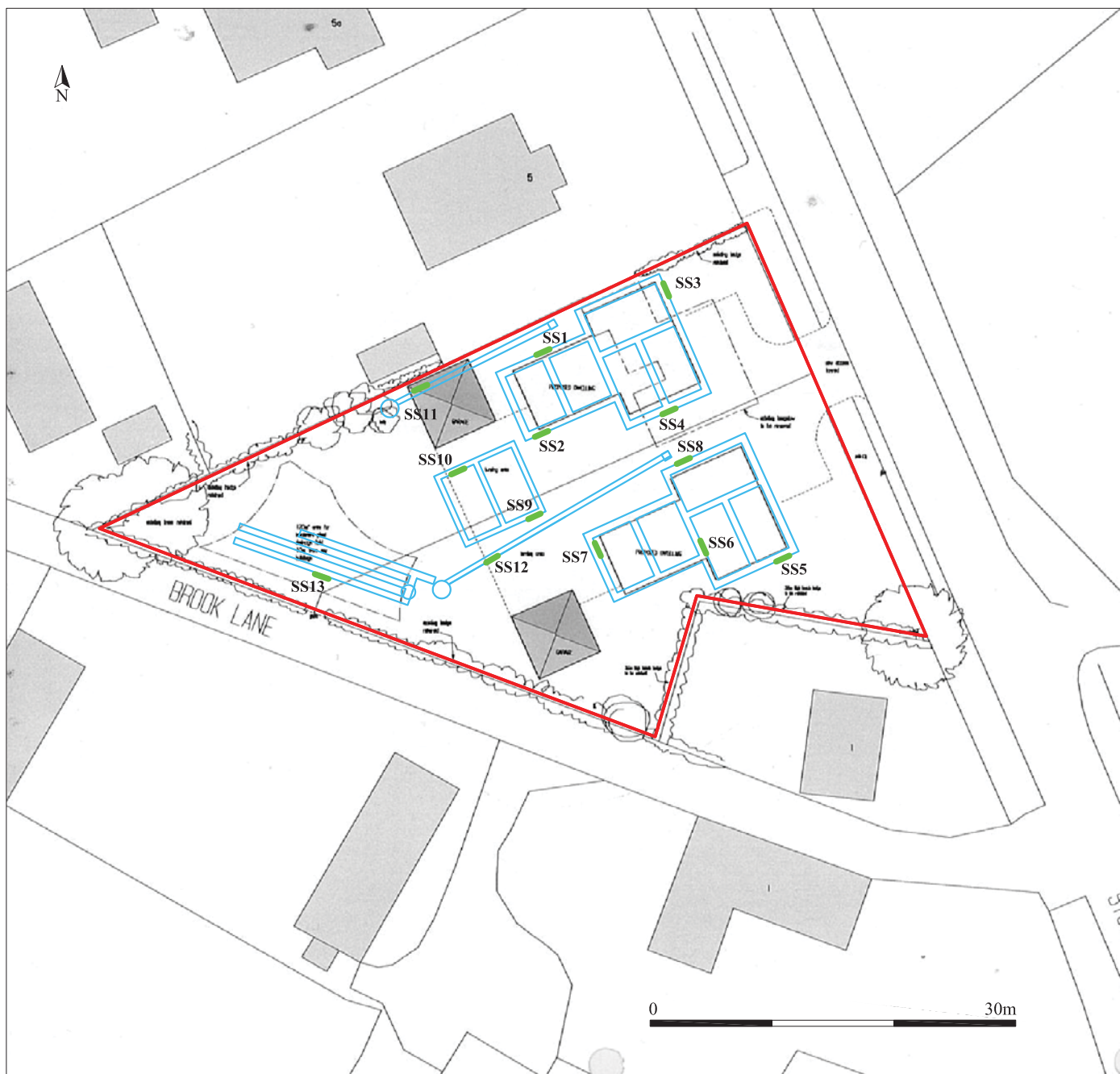
DP9
Post-excavation photograph of garage plot.
Looking east.



DP10
General site photograph.

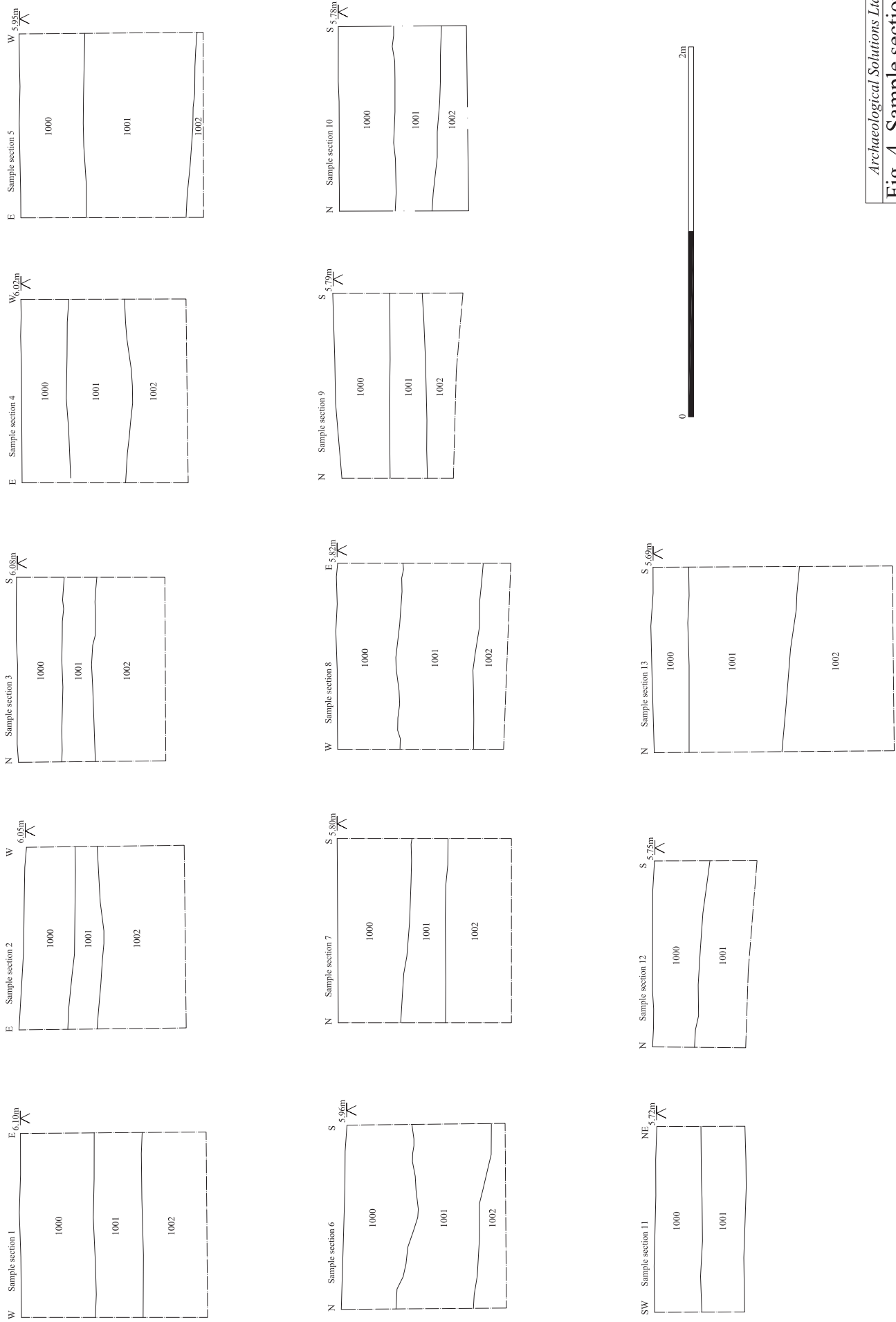


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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:1250 at A4



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Fig. 3 Location of monitoring
 Scale 1:500 at A4



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Fig. 4 Sample sections
Scale 1:20 at A3