
Archaeological Solutions Ltd

**42 MAIN STREET, EAST HADDON,
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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NGR: SP 66900 68179	Report No: 4314
District: Daventry	Site Code: AS 1591
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 5263
Signed:	Date: 16/05/2013 Revised: 12/07/2013

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>42 Main Street, East Haddon, Northamptonshire</i>		
<p><i>In May 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried an archaeological evaluation at land at No.42 Main Street, East Haddon, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 66900 68179). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Alan Curtis and was undertaken in association with a planning application to redevelop the site for residential use.</i></p> <p><i>The site is located in the historic core of the village 120m east of St Mary's Church which contains architectural remains dating from the 12th century (NHER 977/1/1, 977/1/2). The possible site of a medieval manor house and possible medieval tofts are located approximately 440m to the south (NHER 977/2). The house at No 42 Main Street dates to 18th century and was altered in 19th century. The site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the evaluation revealed a pit which contained two medieval (10th - 12th century) sherds and a late 19th – 20th century boundary wall.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>14/05/2013</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>
P. number	<i>5263</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1591</i>
Type of project	<i>An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Former bakery and residential</i>		
Planned development	<i>Redeveloping the site for residential use</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Medieval pit, modern wall</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>10th – 12th century pottery</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Northamptonshire</i>	<i>Daventry</i>	<i>East Haddon</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Northamptonshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>NN6 8BU</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 1050 m²</i>		
NGR	<i>SP 66900 68179</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>156.50m/157.50m</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>NCC</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr Alan Curtis</i>		
Full title	<i>42 Main Street, East Haddon, Northamptonshire: An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4314</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>16/05/2013 (Revised 12/07/2013)</i>		

42 MAIN STREET, EAST HADDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In May 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried an archaeological evaluation at land at No 42 Main Street, East Haddon, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 66900 68179). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Alan Curtis and was undertaken in association with a planning application to redevelop the site for residential use.

The site is located in the historic core of the village 120m east of St Mary's Church which contains architectural remains dating from the 12th century (NHER 977/1/1, 977/1/2). The possible site of a medieval manor house and possible medieval tofts are located approximately 440m to the south (NHER 977/2). The house at No 42 Main Street dates to 18th century and was altered in 19th century. The site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains.

In the event the evaluation revealed a pit which contained two medieval (10th - 12th century) sherds and a late 19th – 20th century boundary wall.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried an archaeological evaluation at land at No 42 Main Street, East Haddon, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 66900 68179; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Alan Curtis and was undertaken in association with a planning application to redevelop the site for residential use.

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Assistant Archaeological Advisor of Northamptonshire County Council (NCC; dated 22/03/2013) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 19/04/2013) and approved by NCC. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it aimed to establish the presence or absence of any remains relating to the area of late Iron Age and Roman occupation. It was also important to understand the level of truncation on the site.

Planning policy context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF 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. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies on the northern side of Main Street in the village of East Haddon, c.10km north-west of Northampton. The site comprises a rectangular plot of land containing an existing dwelling, proposed to be demolished, and an existing coach house, set in a mature plot. Former pigsties are also located in the south-east corner of the site.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is situated at c.157m AOD on land gently sloping towards the south. The solid geology of the area is Middle Jurassic clay and siltstones or silty mudstones of Inferior Oolite Group surrounded by Mesozoic geology of Lias Group (British Geological Survey 1978). Soils on the site are those of Hanslope association, described as slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils historically suitable for winter cereals and grassland in the moist lowlands. (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site is located in the historic core of the village 120m east of St Mary's Church which contains architectural remains dating from the 12th century (NHER 977/1/1, 977/1/2). The possible site of a medieval manor house and possible medieval tofts are located approximately 440m to the south (NHER 977/2). The historic development of the village is not well known, though it is believed to have contracted from its former medieval extent. The location of St Mary's Church suggests that this was the former historic core, rather than any settlement shift to the north.

4.2 No. 42 Main Street appears to date originally to the 18th century, as a dwelling. It underwent at least one major phase of alteration in the 19th century, as well as more minor changes in the 19th and 20th centuries (NHER 977/6/1). To the rear of the house, on the plot boundary is a brick, detached barn with a tiled roof, of similar construction to the 19th century extensions to the house (NHER 977/6/2). A two-bay brick-built extension of agricultural or industrial form which included a group of bread ovens was added to 42 Main Street on the east side during the 19th century which have since been demolished (NHER 977/6/3). Walcott House immediately to the west of No. 42 is Grade II listed (NHER 977/0/1).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Two trenches were excavated using a mechanical 180° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2). Trench 1 measured 15 x 1.6m and Trench 2 measured 20 x 1.6m.

5.2 Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Trench 1 (Fig. 2, DP 3-4)

<i>Sample section 1A (DP 5): west end, north facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 157.10m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark brownish grey, soft, sandy silt.
0.14 – 0.33m	L1001	Subsoil. Light to mid brown, firm, silty sand.
0.33m +	L1002	Natural mid yellow, compact, sandy clay.

<i>Sample section 1B (DP 6): east end, north facing</i> <i>0.00 = 156.61m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.13m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.13 – 0.59m	L1003	Modern made ground. Light brown, loose, silty sand with CBM rubble and debris.
0.59m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

Description: Pit F1004 and modern disturbance (F1006) around remains of a wall (M1008) were recorded within the trench. Pit F1004 contained two moderately abraded sherds of medieval (10th – 12th century) pottery.

Pit F1004 was irregular in plan, roughly rectangular (1.20+ x 1.00 x 0.45m). It had vertical sides and flattish base. Its single fill, L1005, was a light brown, compact, silty sand. Two moderately abraded sherds of early medieval (10th – 12th century) pottery were recovered from the fill.

In the centre of the trench modern (20th century) disturbance was recorded (F1006). Roughly linear in plan and containing debris and CBM rubble F1006 was located on both sides of what appeared to be remains of a wall (M1008). The latter was orientated north/south and was parallel to the eastern, outer wall of existing buildings. M1008 (1.60+ x 0.23m) was constructed of red bricks (0.225 x 0.105 x 0.065m) and was likely a boundary wall of late 19th – early 20th century origin.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2, DP 8-9)

<i>Sample section 2A (DP 10): north end, west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 156.98m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.19m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.19 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.48m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above, Tr. 1.

<i>Sample section 2B (DP 11): south end, west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 156.14m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.14m +	L1002	Natural clay. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a dark, brownish grey, soft, sandy silt (0.10 – 0.20m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a light to mid brown, firm, silty sand (0.10 – 0.30m thick).

8.2 The western part of Trench 1 contained L1003, a deposit of made ground containing mainly CBM rubble and debris. L1003 (0.20 – 0.60m thick) was present directly above the natural clay.

8.3 The natural clay, L1002, was present at 0.13 – 0.70m below existing ground level and comprised a mid yellow, very compact, sandy clay.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for medieval and post-medieval activity. The site lies within the historic core of the village and in the vicinity of the medieval church.

9.2 In the event one medieval (10th – 12th century) pit (F1004) was revealed within the western end of Trench 1. It was probably associated with so-called 'backyard activity' in the area of domestic occupation immediately north of Main Street. The boundary wall (M1008) present in Trench 1 was likely related to 19th – 20th century development of the site. It may have divided the site into residential (west) and farming (east).

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be stored at Archaeological Solutions until the proposed county depository is available. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Alan Curtis for funding the project and for his assistance during the project, and Mr Tark Millican of MSquare Architects for his assistance. .

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Liz Mordue, Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northamptonshire County Council.

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Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW), 1983, *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales*. SSEW, Harpenden

APPENDIX 1

Specialist report

The Pottery

by Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered two moderately abraded sherds weighing 8g from L1005 which would match a 10th-12th centuries date. One sherd (7g) from a flat base is brown with dark grey core and contains abundant quartz and limestone. It most closely fits F.307 of the Northants fabric type series. The second sherd (1g) is a thin orange body sherd containing fine sand, dissolved calcareous material and occasional small orange pellets or iron mineral and may be related to F.340.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. 42 Main Street, East Haddon, Northants. Looking west-north-west.



DP 2. The site. Looking north-west.



DP 3. Trench 1. Looking east-north-east.



DP 4. Trench 1. Looking west.



DP 5. Trench 1, west end. Sample section 1A. Looking south.



DP 6. Trench 1, east end. Sample section 1B. Looking south.



DP 7. Trench 1, Pit F1004. Looking west.



DP 8. Trench 2. Looking south-south-east.



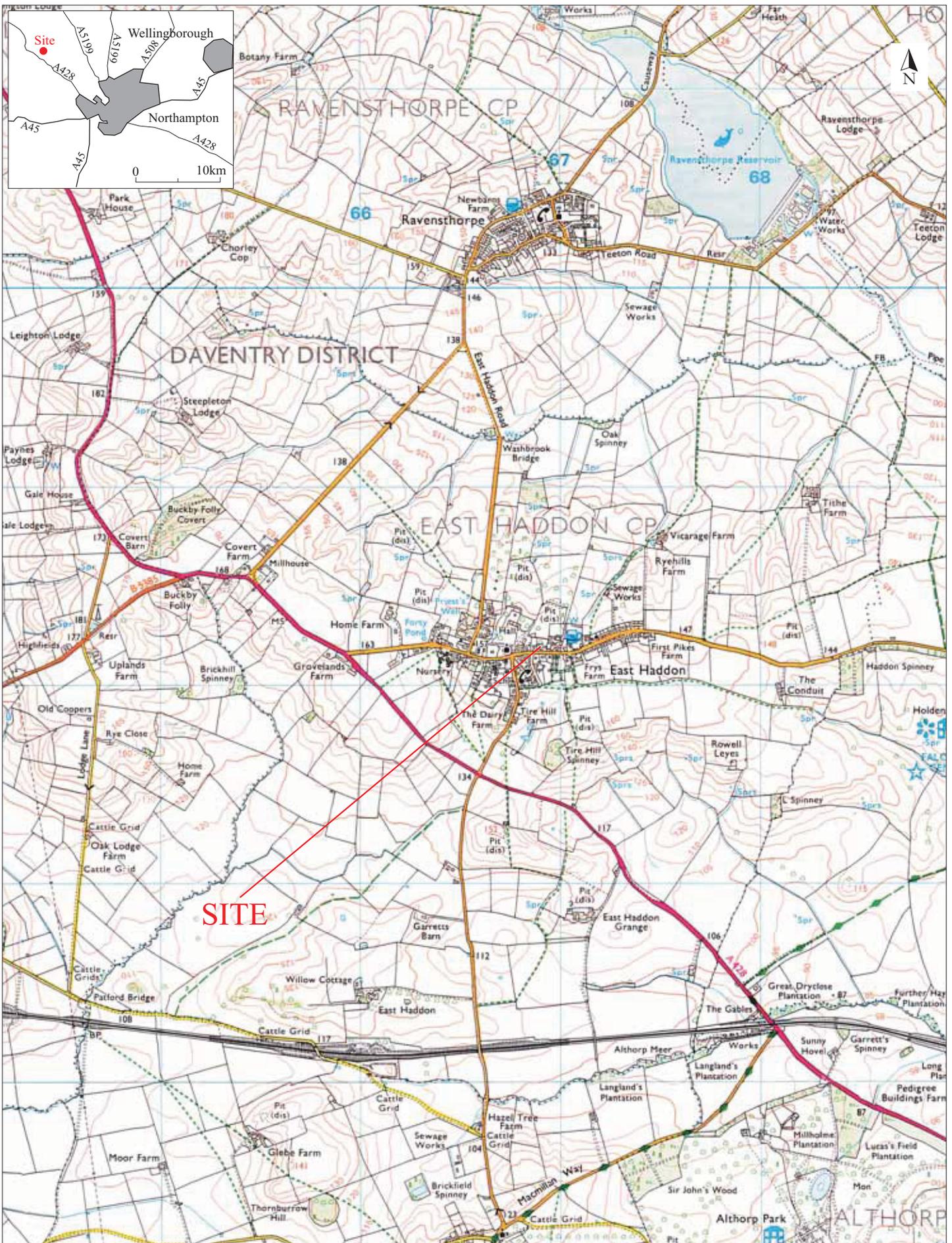
DP 9. Trench 2. Looking north.



DP 10. Trench 2, north end. Sample section 2A. Looking east.

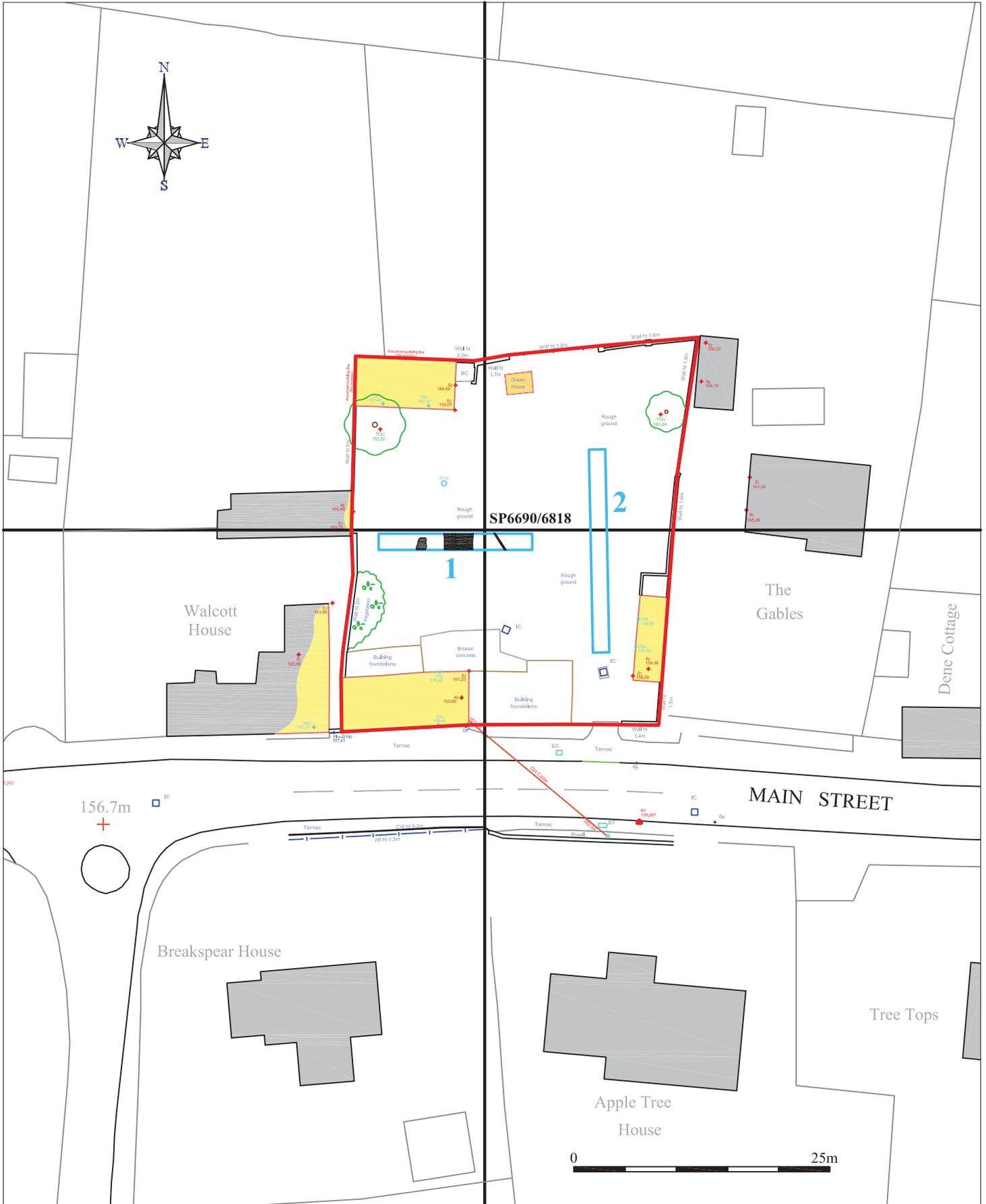


DP 11. Trench 2, south end. Sample section 2B. Looking east.



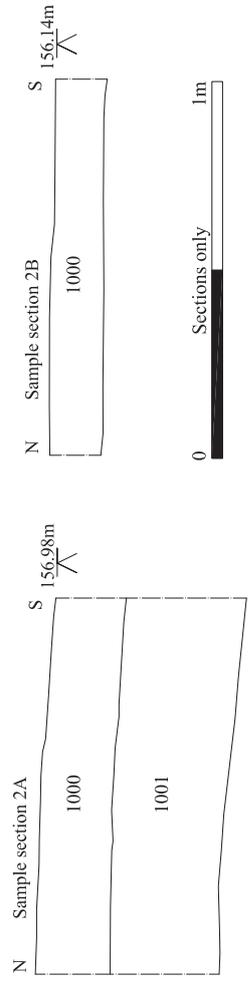
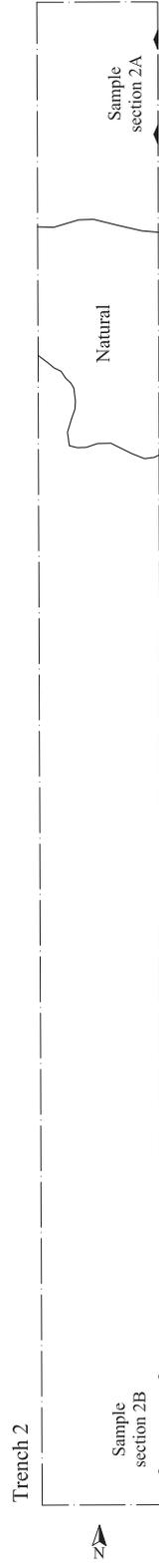
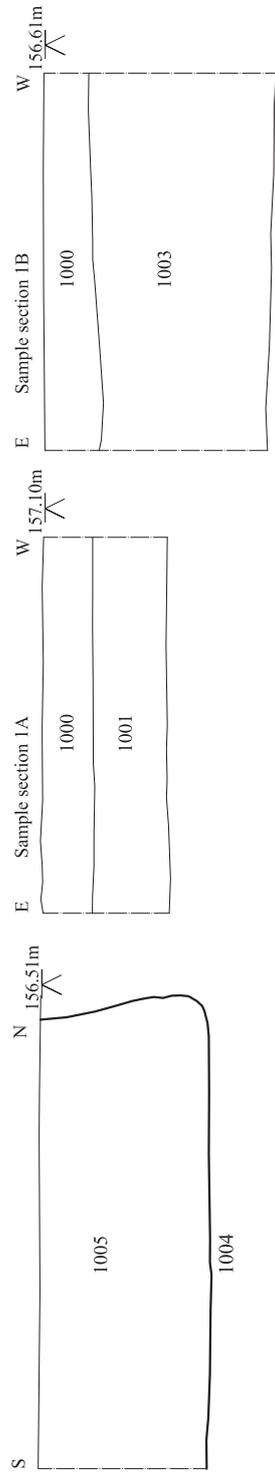
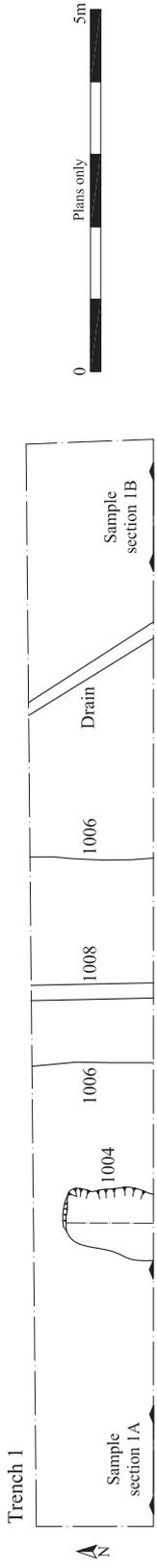
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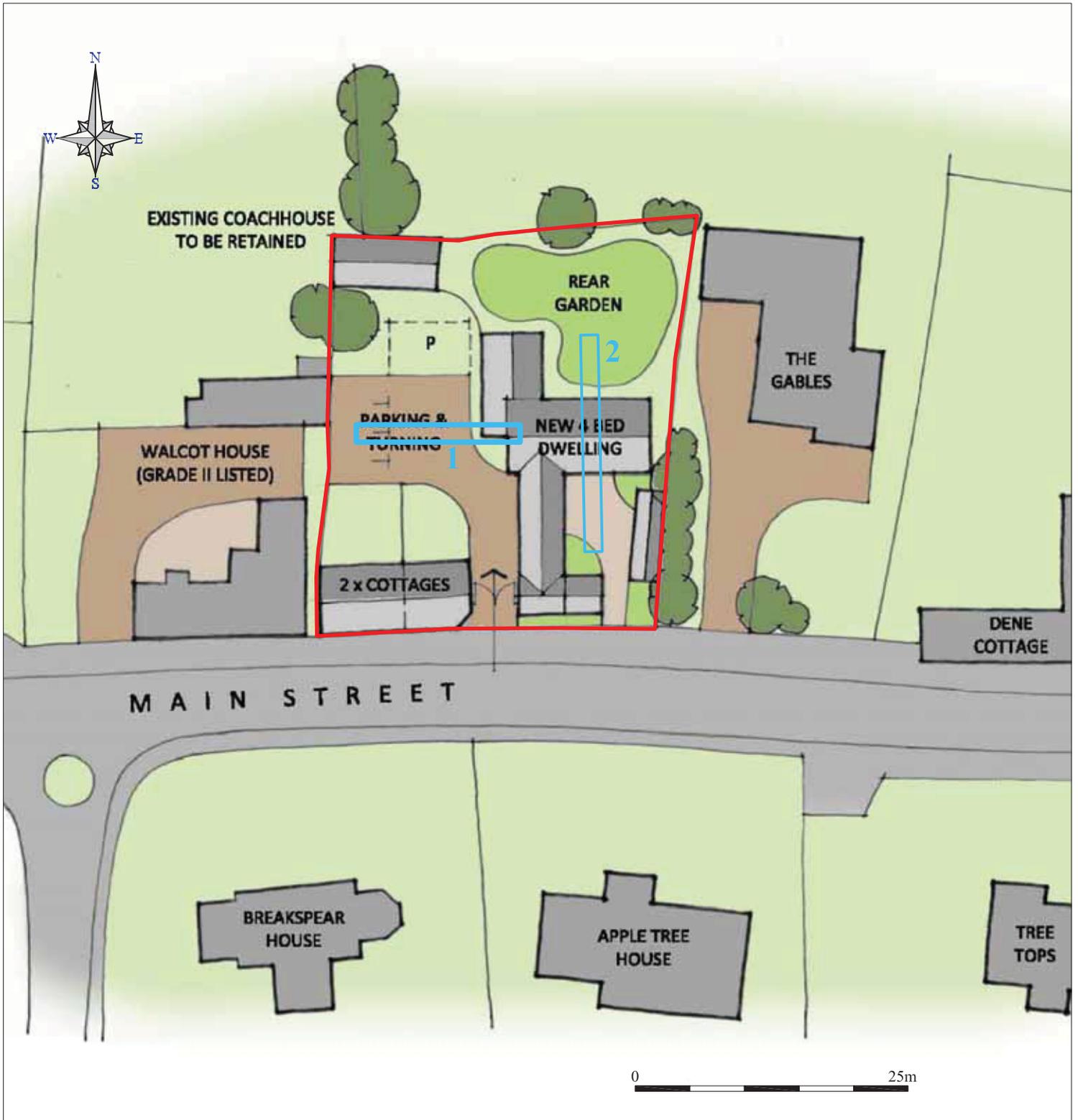
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:500 at A4





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Fig. 4 Proposed development plan
 Scale 1:500 at A4