
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

BOUNDARY WALL AT THE ROSE AND CROWN
10 ST MICHAELS STREET
ST ALBANS

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

Authors: Lisa Smith BA Kathren Henry	
NGR: TL 13742 07421	Report No: 4451
District: St Albans	Site Code: AS1639
Approved: Claire Halpin MifA	Project No: 5418
Signed:	Date: 4 th November 2013

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CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**
- 3 METHODOLOGY**
- 4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**
- 5 THE BOUNDARY WALL**
- 6 DISCUSSION**

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDICES

- 1 HISTORIC BUILDING LISTING**
- 2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET**
- 3 ARCHIVE CONTENTS FORM**

PLATES

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

FIGURES

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET			
Project name	<i>Boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans. Historic Building Recording</i>		
Summary			
<p><i>In October 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted historic building recording of a boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans (NGR TL 13742 07421). The recording was required as part of listed building consent to alter the wall (St Albans Ref. 5/13/1692).</i></p> <p><i>The boundary wall at the Rose and Crown once formed part of 18th century outbuildings lying to the west of the pub. The inclusion of timber bearers and robust orange brickwork are characteristics which sit well within this period. After the demolition of most of the outbuildings the wall was made good with a number of courses capped by a soldier-course all of Luton grey type brick. A wide aperture to Blacksmith's Lane has been blocked in two phases and there is modern repair in Fletton brickwork to the corners.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>10th October 2013</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>?</i>
P. number	<i>5418</i>	Site code	<i>AS1639</i>
Type of project	<i>Historic building recording</i>		
Site status	<i>Grade II listed</i>		
Current land use	<i>Public house – boundary wall enclosing the car park</i>		
Planned development	<i>Alteration and repair of the wall</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>18th century and later boundary wall</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>n/a</i>		
Project locations			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>St Albans</i>	<i>St Albans</i>
HER for area	<i>HALS</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>AL3 4SG</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 750m</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 13742 07421</i>		
Height AOD (max)	<i>c.90m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Advice from St Albans DC</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Lisa Smith</i>		
Funded by	<i>Punch Taverns</i>		
Full title	<i>Boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans. Historic Building Recording</i>		
Authors	<i>Smith, L. Higgs, K.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4451</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>November 2013</i>		

BOUNDARY WALL AT THE ROSE AND CROWN
10 ST MICHAELS STREET
ST ALBANS

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

SUMMARY

In October 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted historic building recording of a boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans (NGR TL 13742 07421). The recording was required as part of listed building consent to alter the wall (St Albans Ref. 5/13/1692).

The boundary wall at the Rose and Crown once formed part of 18th century outbuildings lying to the west of the pub. The inclusion of timber bearers and robust orange brickwork are characteristics which sit well within this period. After the demolition of most of the outbuildings the wall was made good with a number of courses capped by a soldier-course all of Luton grey type brick. A wide aperture to Blacksmith's Lane has been blocked in two phases and there is modern repair in Fletton brickwork to the corners.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted historic building recording of a boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans (NGR TL 13742 07421). The recording was required as part of listed building consent to alter the wall (St Albans Ref. 5/13/1692).

1.2 The recording was undertaken according to a specification prepared by AS (19th July 2013), approved by St Albans City & District Council. It followed the procedures set out in English Heritage's '*Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2006), and also conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists' '*Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*' (IFA 2008). The recording was conducted to **Level 2/3** as defined in the EH document.

1.3 The aims of the project were:

- the archaeological recording of the existing standing structure (the boundary wall), with additional research undertaken as necessary to place the findings in the context.

Planning policy

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 and 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 Rose and Crown lies along the northern frontage of St Michael's Street, at the western end of Fishpool Street, which extends from the centre of the city of St Albans, in Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). It lies within the parish and historic village of St Michaels, which now forms the north-western extent of St Albans. The site is situated within the extent of the previous Iron Age territorial *oppidum* and subsequent Roman town of *Verulamium*, however it lies just outside the Scheduled Areas associated with the Roman town.

2.2 The site comprises a roughly rectangular plot of land covering an area of c.750m² (Fig. 2) bounded to the south by St Michael's Street and to the west by Blacksmith's Lane. The site is occupied by the Rose and Crown public house, whilst the brick wall subject to historic building recording lies along the western and southern boundary, enclosing the car park and rear seating area of the public house. The brick wall is part of the Grade II listing of the Rose and Crown public house (LB No. 1103082; Appendix 1) which is described as early 18th century in appearance.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The site was visited on 10th October 2013 in order to compile descriptions of the wall and undertake the photographic work. The written description, analysis and photographic survey were carried out by Lisa Smith who also completed the drawing work. A plan and detailed elevations based upon drawings provided by the client are included with annotations (Figs. 4 & 5).

3.2 The photographic recording was conducted using medium format (4.5cm x 6cm) black and white film and included all external views and general internal shots.

3.3 This utilised a Zenza Bronica ETRS camera and Ilford HP5 IOS 400 120mm film. Colour photographs were taken using a Canon 60D (18 megapixels) digital camera, duplicating the black and white photography. Where necessary, architectural detail was captured using 35mm black and white film and supplementary colour photography used 35mm Ektachrome colour transparency. External lighting and weather conditions were good at the time of the survey. A scale was used wherever possible, and a flash was employed for internal shots. A pictorial index of the digital photography is included below together with location plots (Fig. 4 & 5).

4 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

4.1 Post-medieval development of the town saw the construction of roads, specifically catering to the coaching industry, as St. Albans formed the first stop on the coaching route north from London. It accounts for the town's numerous inns, many dating from the Tudor period. Later development saw the steady expansion of industries such as printing, engineering, clothing and hat manufacture, while the construction of the railway in 1858 allowed an increase in communication and trade. The Abbey Church was granted Cathedral status and the town received a City charter in 1877. In the inter-war years it became a popular centre for the electronics industry, while following World War II, the city expanded significantly as it took a part in the post-War redistribution of population out of London (St Albans Archaeology & History website).

4.2 The building listing describes the Rose and Crown as early 18th century in date (LB No. 1103082; Appendix 1). This is also correlates with a series of licensing documents held in the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS). The earliest source dates to 9th September 1786 and concerns sureties, relating to the Rose and Crown, St Michael in the Liberty of St Albans (HALS Ref. LS/Var/6/44), yet sheds no light on the date of the boundary wall. Subsequent census data reveals that the Rose and Crown was occupied by the publican Charles Payne in 1861, yet by 1866 it was inhabited by John Irons, whose widow Elizabeth and daughter Susan maintained the license until 1912. The Post Office Directory records later publicans including Mrs Fanny Alloway in 1922, George Charles Munt 1926 – 29 and Charles Beeson 1933 – 37 (Pub History website).

4.3 Cartographic sources confirm that the site has remained as the Rose and Crown public house throughout the later 19th and 20th centuries. The large-scale Ordnance Survey town plan, which dates to 1879, reveals that the main building was extended eastwards towards the boundary (Fig. 3). To the rear of the pub in the site's north-eastern corner stood a series of three outbuildings which are no longer present. More significantly, a range of five outbuildings stood along the site's western boundary, including the existing garage/store outbuilding, suggesting that the brick wall originally formed part of these structures. Subsequent cartographic sources depict very little change to the site until 1939, when only two of the outbuildings remain. The brick wall subject to recording thus formed part of outbuildings until as late as 1939.

5 THE BOUNDARY WALL (Figs. 4 & 5)

5.1 The boundary wall encloses the western extent of the car park and extends along Blacksmiths Lane, its northern end incorporated within a garage or store. At the southern end a short section returns to the east, terminating at the entrance to the car park.

5.2 The wall is constructed of brick, the external face presenting a fairly homogenous appearance that contrasts with the internal face where alterations are visible as well as modern repair. At low level a pale render has been applied, while the upper section comprises a soldier course of brick. The majority of the fabric has been re-pointed though original mortar survives in places.

5.3 The best preserved section forms the western wall of a garage. Here the brickwork survives in good condition, consisting of a homogenous reddish orange fabric (8¾" x 2 7/8" x 4" or 222mm x 73mm x 102mm) with some randomly placed overburnt headers. At the northern end a buttress projects slightly, possibly supporting the gable roof truss for the garage. To the south, modification is evident and includes the blocking of a wide aperture in two phases, first reduced in size and subsequently blocked in modern brick laid in stretcher bond. There has also been some rebuilding at upper level in a purple fabric.

5.4 The remaining element extends to the corner with St Michaels Street in what appears to be two phases of brickwork, the lower section in the orange brick described above and the upper portion having been rebuilt in a purple fabric above. The brickwork of the central sections is heavily weathered and some bricks preserve graffiti. The corner has been repaired in modern Flettons and the lower portions have been covered in render along the entire length. Two square bolts and plates survive, once supporting tall planked supports on the interior.

5.5 The short section returning to the east continues in the same form, again rendered at lower level. Here the brickwork retains much graffiti, while the eastern corner has been repaired in modern fabric with a short return constructed to the north in the same material.

5.6 Internally the wall is more complex though now in a poorer condition than its external appearance suggests. Here there appears to be three phases of brickwork, the earliest forming the lower section which retains a slight plinth offset, however remains of whitewashing, poor quality and later repair make it difficult to establish a date. Above, good quality orange brickwork as seen on the exterior forms the main structure before being capped by purple fabric. The western section retains a single continuous timber bearer at high level, lost and decayed in places and interrupted by the blocked opening mentioned above. A short section beyond the opening also carries a timber bearer at this level with a similar example set below. Both appear to continue within the garage.

5.7 The extent of the wide aperture (now blocked) noted from the west is less well-defined on this face. The earlier blocking has an additional timber bearer, while the infilling brickwork is laid in stretcher bond and comprises fabric of a single brick depth which creates a slight recess. Otherwise, traces of render are visible at low

level and to the south a vertical plank is bolted to the wall, the presence of a second example indicated by a further bolt as well as impressions within the paintwork.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 The boundary wall encloses a small plot of land now occupied by the car park of the Rose and Crown public house. Early maps suggest that this side of the plot was formerly occupied by a series of outbuildings and it is likely that the wall was once integral to these structures. However, at the point the ranges were demolished, the outer wall was retained as a boundary wall. This was made good with several courses in a varying fabric and later topped with a soldier course of brick in the 19th or 20th century. The garage in the north-west corner presumably represents the sole surviving element of the former outbuilding complex.

6.2 A wide aperture to the north was reduced in size, possibly while the range was extant and in use, this latterly infilled in modern times. There are other signs of repair particularly at the external corners where modern Fletton brickwork is present, while a short return has been added at the car park entrance in modern brickwork.

6.3 Regarding a date for construction, the low level brickwork is hard to characterise due to the deterioration of the fabric and the presence of paint and lime-wash. However, limited observation suggests it may form part of a range constructed at an earlier date than the orange fabric above. This orange fabric which forms the principal make up of the wall is consistent with an 18th century date, while the upper courses may be 19th or 20th century date.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

An archive of all materials produced by the report has been created and listed according to English Heritage (MAP2) standards. Copies of the final report will be lodged with the Hertfordshire Heritage Environment Record (HER) and the National Monument Record (NMR), Swindon. The project archive will be lodged with Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions is grateful to Design i.d. for commissioning the work on behalf of Punch Taverns, and Mr Stephen Sillibourne of Design i.d. for arranging access.

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Web resources

www.british-history.ac.uk

www.english-heritage.org.uk

<http://pubshistory.com>

<http://www.salbani.co.uk/>

APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC BUILDING LISTING

Name: ROSE AND CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE

List entry Number: 1103082

Location

ROSE AND CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE, 10, ST MICHAEL'S STREET

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
Hertfordshire	St. Albans	District Authority	

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 27-Aug-1971

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

ST MICHAEL'S STREET 1. (West Side) 1582 No 10 (Rose and Crown Public House) TL 1307 SE 7/270

II

2. Early C18 appearance. 2 storeys, 3 windows. Moderately high pitched, tiled roof with eaves cornice of square section. Red brick with random, blue headers. Sash windows with glazing bars in flush, boxed frames on 1st floor. Ground floor windows wider, under gauged, segmental brick arches, having replaced sashes with glazing bars. Plain doorway. Gabled rear extension.

Listing NGR: TL1374207421

National Grid Reference: TL 13742 07421

APPENDIX 2 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans
County: Hertfordshire	District: St Albans
Village/Town: St Albans	Parish:
Planning application reference:	St Albans Ref. 5/13/1692
Client name/address/tel:	Punch Taverns
Nature of application:	Repair and reconstruction of a boundary wall
Present land use:	Boundary wall to pub car park
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated
NGR (8 figures):	TL 13742 07421
Site Code:	AS1639
Site director/Organization:	Archaeological Solutions
Type of work:	Historic Building Recording
Date of work:	October 2013
Location of finds/Curating museum:	HALS
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: late 18 th century onwards
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p>In October 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted historic building recording of a boundary wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans (NGR TL 13742 07421). The work was required as part of listed building consent to alter the wall (St Albans Ref. 5/13/1692).</p> <p>The boundary wall at the Rose and Crown once formed part of 18th century outbuildings lying to the west of the pub. The inclusion of timber bearers and robust orange brickwork are characteristics which sit well within this period. After the demolition of most of the outbuildings the wall was made good with a number of courses capped by a soldier-course all of Luton grey type brick. A wide aperture to Blacksmith's Lane has been blocked in two phases and there is modern repair in Fletton brickwork to the corners.</p>
Author of summary: Lisa Smith	Date of Summary: October 2013

APPENDIX 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS BUILDING RECORDING ARCHIVE FORM

Site Details							
Site Name: Boundary Wall at the Rose and Crown, 10 St Michaels Street, St Albans					NGR: TL 13742 07421		
County: Hertfordshire				Museum Collecting Area: HALS			
Site Code: 4451				Project Number: P5418			
Date of Work: October 2013				Related Work: No			
Brief/s				Specification/s			
Date		Present		Date		Present	
		No		19 th July 2013		Yes	
Site Records (Description)							
n/a							
Site Drawings (Give Details of Formats & Size)							
2 x A3 sheet of draft film							
Architect's Drawings:							
Plans and elevations 3 sheets A3 – annotated							
Plans and elevations 5 sheets A3							
Plans and elevations 1 sheets A4							
Digital Drawings							
Printouts of Drawings			Printouts of Data			Digital Data	
In report						Digital photographs and drawings in digital format on CD	
Reports							
Report No		Report Type				Present	
4451		Historic Building Recording				Yes	
Site Photographs							
Black & White Contact Prints					Colour Slides		
Film No	Film Type	Negs	Negs Present	Contacts Present	Film No	Negs	Present
1	120mm	6-15	Yes	Yes	1	7 -22	Yes
2	120mm	1-6	Yes	Yes			
Photographic Location Plans Present? (Give Details)							
In report and separate printouts in archive folder							
Digital Photographs (Give Details):							
Digital photography. Index and selected plates printed in report. Separate printout of index included in archive folder and digitally on CD							

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1

Boundary wall to the Rose and Crown, taken from the south



2

Boundary wall to the Rose and Crown, taken from the north



3

Boundary wall, south-west elevation, taken from the south-east



4

Northern end of north-east elevation taken from the north-east



5

Mid section (N) of north-east elevation, taken from the north-east



6

Mid section (S) of north-east elevation, taken from the north-east



7

Southern end of north-east elevation taken from the north-east



8

North-west elevation, taken from the north-west



9

Short return constructed in modern fabric, taken from the west



10

Short return constructed in modern fabric, taken from the north-east



11

South-east elevation, taken from the south-east



12

South end of south-west elevation, taken from the south-west



13

Mid section (S) of south-west elevation, taken from the south-west



14

Mid section (N) of south-west elevation, taken from the south-west



15

Wall to the side of garage/store (S), south-west elevation, taken from the south-west



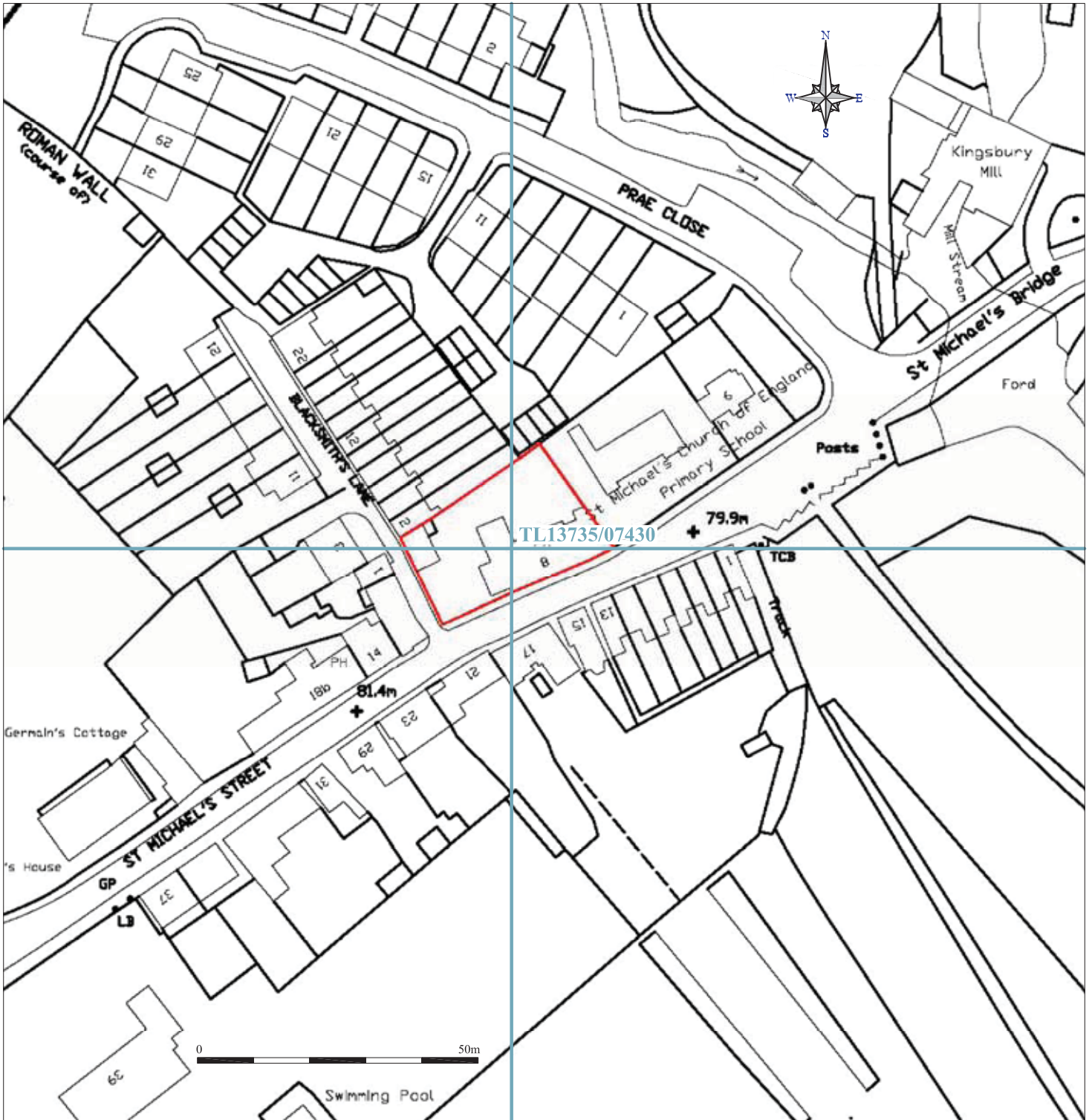
16

Wall to the side of garage/store (N), south-west elevation, taken from the south-west



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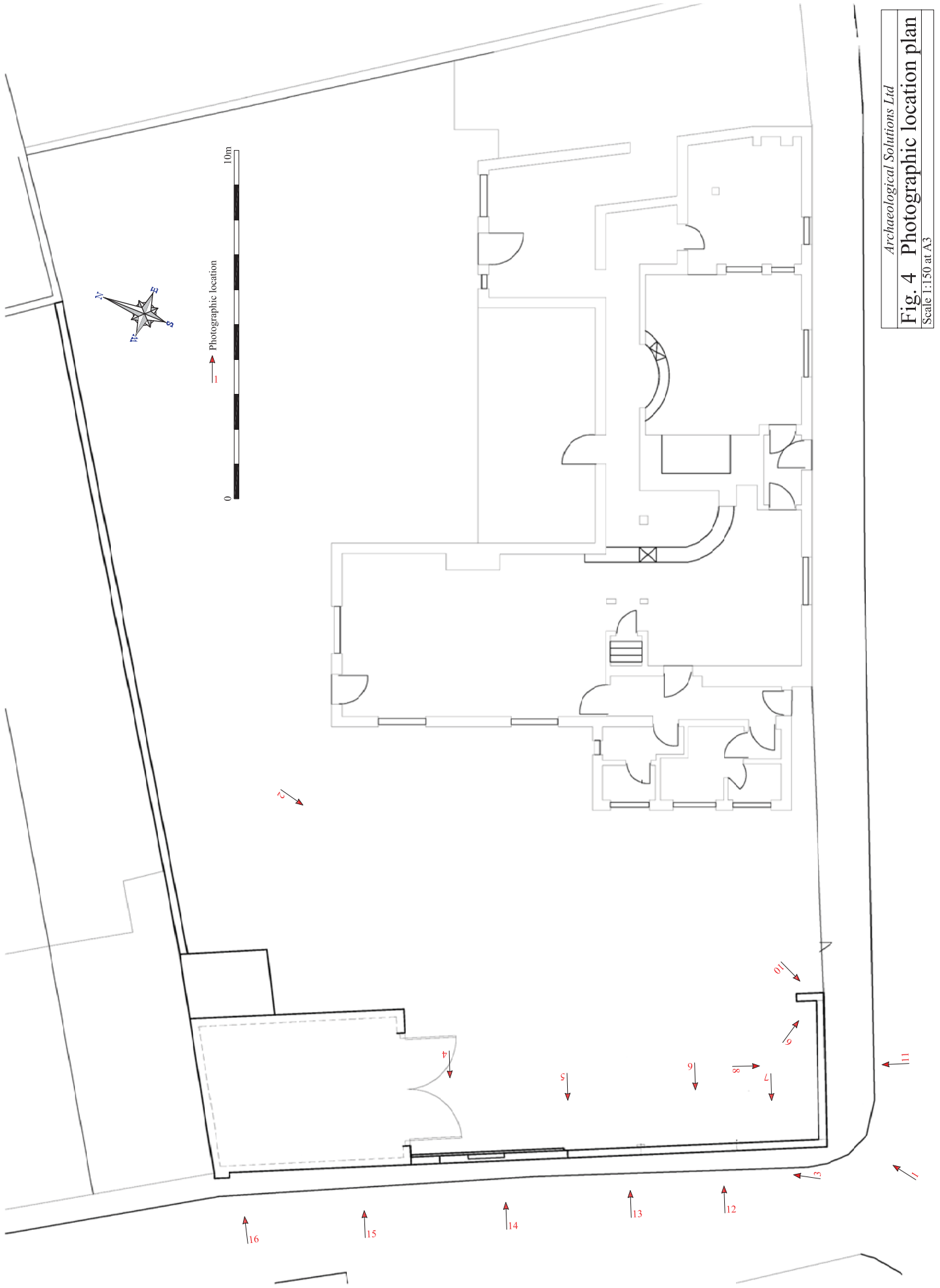
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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





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Fig. 4 Photographic location plan
 Scale 1:150 at A3

