
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**PROPOSED DWELLING, CARRSTONE HOUSE,
GAYTON ROAD, EAST WINCH, KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK**

**MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski	
NGR: TF 6926 1640	Report No: 4893
District: King's Lynn & West Norfolk	Site Code: ENF 135883
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 5955
Signed:	Date: 8 th July 2015

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Proposed dwelling, Carrstone House, Gayton Road, East Winch, King's Lynn, Norfolk</i>		
<p><i>In March 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out a programme of monitoring of works under archaeological supervision and control at Carrstone House, Gayton Road, East Winch, King's Lynn, Norfolk (NGR TF 6926 1640). The monitoring was commissioned by Mrs R Raimondo in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a dwelling with garage.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, in particular multi-period archaeological remains have been found to the west of the site. The remains comprised Roman, Saxon and medieval archaeology associated with extensive enclosures identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs. The eastern boundary of this archaeology is not defined, and it may extend into the vicinity of the proposed development site. The site therefore had a potential for Roman, Saxon and medieval archaeology.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds. That said, the groundworks were relatively shallow and did not expose the natural geology.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>03/03/2015</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>5955</i>	Site code	<i>ENF 135883</i>
Type of project	<i>Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Side garden</i>		
Planned development	<i>New detached dwelling with garage</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>King's Lynn & West Norfolk</i>	<i>East Winch</i>
HER/ HER for area	<i>Norfolk HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>PE32 1NW</i>		
Area of site	<i>c.400m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TF 6926 1640</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c.15m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>NCC HES</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mrs R Raimondo</i>		
Full title	<i>Proposed dwelling, Carrstone House, Gayton Road, East Winch, King's Lynn, Norfolk: Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4893</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>July 2015</i>		

PROPOSED DWELLING, CARRSTONE HOUSE, GAYTON ROAD, EAST WINCH, KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK

MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL

SUMMARY

In March 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out a programme of monitoring of works under archaeological supervision and control at Carrstone House, Gayton Road, East Winch, King's Lynn, Norfolk (NGR TF 6926 1640). The monitoring was commissioned by Mrs R Raimondo in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a dwelling with garage.

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, in particular multi-period archaeological remains have been found to the west of the site. The remains comprised Roman, Saxon and medieval archaeology associated with extensive enclosures identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs. The eastern boundary of this archaeology is not defined, and it may extend into the vicinity of the proposed development site. The site therefore had a potential for Roman, Saxon and medieval archaeology.

In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds. That said, the groundworks were relatively shallow and did not expose the natural geology.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out a programme of monitoring of works under archaeological supervision and control at Carrstone House, Gayton Road, East Winch, King's Lynn, Norfolk (NGR TF 6926 1640; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was commissioned by Mrs R Raimondo in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a dwelling with garage (King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council Ref 14/00764/F).

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance to a brief issued by Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES; dated 24/09/2012), and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 05/09/2014), and approved by NCC HES. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for An Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014), and the

document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the project of archaeological monitoring and recording were:

- to ensure the archaeological monitoring and excavation 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; and
- to secure the analysis, interpretation, publication (if required), long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

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 eastern side of Gayton Road, East Winch, Norfolk, c.6km south-east of King's Lynn (Fig. 1). It comprises a rectangular plot of

land within part of the former garden of Carrstone House to the north. The site is bounded to the west by a stone and brick wall.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at c.15m AOD where land undulates but generally falls in the direction of the Nar River valley to the south and south-east.

3.2 The site is located on the Western Escarpment, traditionally known as the Greensand Belt, which is a narrow strip of exposed sedimentary deposits forming a structural continuation of the Chiltern hills and heavily affected by glacial erosion (Larwood and Funnell 1970; Dymond 1990). This is an area of Cretaceous Carstone, Snettisham and Tealby Clays, Sandringham Sands and Spilsby Sandstone (British Geological Survey 1978). It forms a low but distinct terrace along the eastern edge of the fens. It is cut by several westward flowing rivers which drain into the fens and the Wash, dividing the Western Escarpment into distinct blocks separated by flat marshy valleys.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Evidence of the Iron Age is sparse in Norfolk (Davies 1996) but there are indications that by the later Iron Age the landscape was intensively exploited. Roman sources record the presence of a tribal grouping known as the Iceni occupying northern East Anglia. Late Iron Age material derived from the local area is dominated by the excavation of an ironworking site and comprises pottery, pits, a torc, briquetage, extensive plant remains and a furnace (HER 12559).

4.2 Residual prehistoric flints have been recovered from later contexts at sites to the south-west (NHER 28129), south (NHER 30987) and west (Grant, Roberts and Weston 2003) of the site. A prehistoric quernstone, similar to Neolithic and Bronze Age examples, has also been found to the west (NHER 3422). A prehistoric 'pot boiler' site (NHER 32859) was recorded at the multi-period site of Mill Drove Pit, also to the west.

4.3 Several military forts were constructed in the area as part of the conquest and subjugation of the Iceni, particularly after the rebellion of Boudicca (AD 60), together with a network of military and civilian roads. Although the Fenland Survey Project on the Nar valley (Silvester 1988) revealed only a single domestic site, at Setchy near the mouth of the river, it demonstrated that the area had long been the focus of industrial activity. Evidence for this can be seen in the excavation of a kiln to the west of Fosters End, at Blackborough End (Gurney 1990), which is assigned to a small regional group dating from the mid 2nd century AD onwards that comprised Shouldham, Pentney, Witton and Hevingham (Swan 1984, 121). To the south-west of Blackborough End, excavation revealed extensive evidence for salt production during the late 3rd and early 4th centuries AD (Crowson *et al.* 2000) which, coupled with the remains of Roman iron smelting activities across the

valley on Wormegay Island (Silvester 1988, 172), indicates that the local natural resources of Gault clay, iron ore, salt and possibly peat were being extensively exploited (Crowson *et al.* 2000).

4.4 Roman and later period remains are associated with extensive enclosures identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs (HER 56317, 50836). Roman domestic sites in the Nar valley, revealed by the Fenland Survey Project, are few, comprising Setchey, Marham and tentative evidence of a third at Wormegay (Silvester 1988, 170-2). However, the Greensand ridge was the focus of industrial activity in this period (Gurney 1994, 34). Evidence for this comes from the excavation of a kiln, to the west of the site, at Blackborough End (Gurney 1990) forming part of a small regional group from the early to mid 2nd century onwards that comprised Brampton, Witton and Hevingham (Swan 1984, 121). Local pottery production continued in the 3rd and 4th centuries at nearby Shouldham and Pentney (de Bootman 1983; 1984). Evidence for Roman iron smelting is known at nearby Ashwicken (Tylecote and Owles 1961) and across the valley on Wormegay Island (Silvester 1988, 172). This industrial activity clearly extended into the immediately adjacent fenland; to the south-west of Blackborough End, excavations have revealed extensive features related to late 3rd- and early 4th-century salt production (Crowson 2001; Leah 1992). The local natural resources of Gault clay, iron ore, salt, and possibly peat, were clearly being exploited during the Roman period (Crowson 2001). Silvester (1988, 128) asserts that there is likely to have been Roman settlement in the area beneath the modern settlement of Blackborough End.

4.5 Archaeological Solutions Ltd carried out a staged excavation in advance of sand extraction at Fosters End Drove, Blackborough End, East Winch, Norfolk 1-1.5km south-west of the site (Lally *et al.* forthcoming publication). In summary:

The excavation revealed a Romano-British pottery production site – part of the Nar Valley industry – as well as more limited evidence of Iron smelting and possible habitation. The principal features were a delineated trackway, potentially linking the site to the nearby iron smelting site at Ashwicken, and part of a ditched enclosure containing a number of structures including an aisled building and a well. Four Nar Valley kilns were present within the excavated area in addition to a single drying oven; the recovered pottery assemblage adds considerably to our current understanding of this industry. Of principal importance is the occurrence within the pottery assemblage of tightly dated imports which assist in developing a chronology for the Nar Valley industry. Archaeomagnetic dating of one of the kilns indicated a last firing at some point between AD 200 and 250. Romano-British activity was indirectly preceded by limited middle Iron Age activity and succeeded by 18th century enclosure.

4.6 On the eastern side of East Winch civil parish a Roman settlement has been identified on the basis of the quantity of Roman pottery, tile and metalwork, including some evidence for metalworking, in this area (NHER 30030, 41832). Roman remains in the vicinity of the site include isolated finds

of quernstones to the south (NHER 3432, NHER 17372) and jewellery to the west and north (NHER 28129, NHER 31095), the latter being found in an apparently later context. In addition, there have been finds of a scabbard chape to the east (NHER 29323) and a coin (NHER 3427) to the west. The domination of the archaeological record by metal objects may be related to extensive metal detecting in the region.

4.7 No early Saxon remains have been recovered from the immediate area of the site excepting a small amount of pottery associated with later Saxon and medieval metalwork to the south-east (HER 28459). Some architectural features of the church at East Winch are Saxon (HER 3418). Two medieval moated sites (HER 1062 and HER 3418) and a 12th century kiln (Rogerson and Ashley 1985) are known. Many medieval finds have been discovered during metal detecting, farming and archaeological investigations including pottery (NHER 3401, NHER 12559), coin weights (NHER 23392, NHER 29324), a key (NHER 34353) and a brooch (NHER 29323). In addition two significant collections of Saxon and medieval metal dress, furniture, book and horse fittings (NHER 28129, NHER 28459) were found by metal detectorists to the north-west and south-east of the site.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The elements monitored were mechanically-excavated foundation trenches for the dwelling and garage, and associated drainage (Fig. 2).

5.2 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Archaeological features and deposits were recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the excavated area was scanned by metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 Deposits located within the area of excavation were recorded in sample sections presented below.

<i>Sample section 1 (DP 4)</i>		
<i>North foundation trench, facing south</i>		
<i>0.00 = 15.25m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. Mid to dark grey, friable, silty sand with frequent roots and occasional modern CBM fragments.
0.30 – 0.60m+	L1001	Subsoil. Mid brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments.

<i>Sample section 2 (DP 6)</i> <i>East foundation trench, facing west</i> <i>0.00 = 15.34m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.32m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.32 – 0.64m+	L1001	Subsoil. As above.

<i>Sample section 3 (DP 8)</i> <i>South foundation trench, facing north</i> <i>0.00 = 15.26m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.26m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.26 – 0.44m+	L1001	Subsoil. As above.

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 during the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was overlain by Topsoil L1000, a mid to dark grey, friable, silty sand with frequent roots and occasional modern CBM fragments (0.25 – 0.34m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a mid brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments (0.15 – 0.30m+ thick). The natural geology was not exposed.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the Romano-British, Saxon and medieval archaeology. Extensive enclosures identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs to the west may extend into the vicinity of the proposed development site. A Roman pottery production site has also been recorded and excavated to the west.

9.2 In the event no archaeological features or finds were revealed. No indication of any previous development of the site was identified, and little evidence of previous truncation appeared to have taken place. No residual finds were recovered.

9.3 The groundworks were limited in their scope and relatively shallow (0.44 – 0.64m), and the natural deposits were not revealed.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 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 would like to thank Mrs R Raimondo for funding the project and for her assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr James Albone of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. The site. Looking north-east from Gayton Road.



DP 2. Excavated foundation trenches for new house. Looking south-west.



DP 3. North foundation trench. Looking north-east.



DP 4. North foundation trench. Sample section 1. Looking north.



DP 5. East foundation trench. Looking south-east.



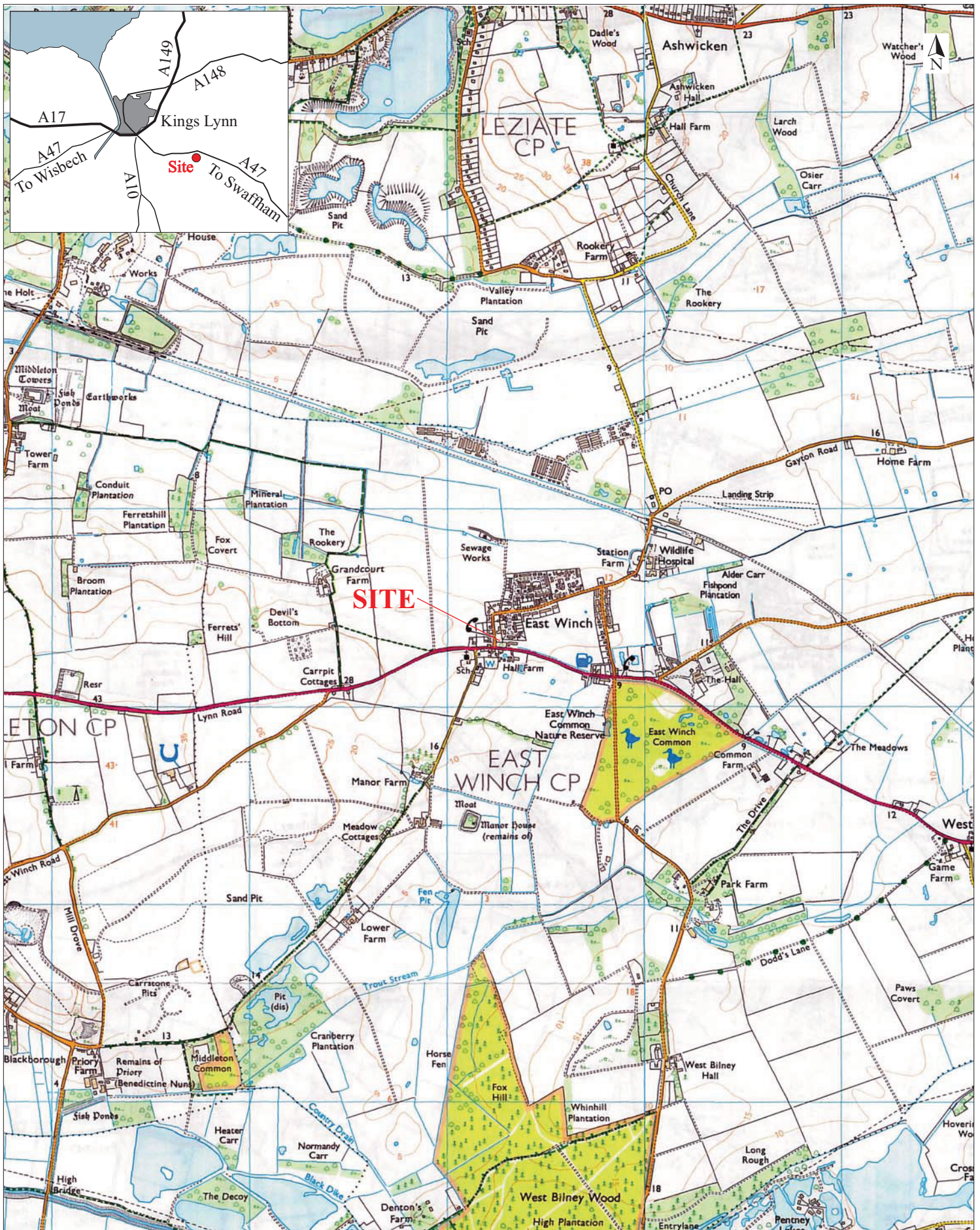
DP 6. East foundation trench. Sample section 2. Looking east.



DP 7. South foundation trench. Looking south-west.



DP 8. South foundation trench. Sample section 3. Looking south.



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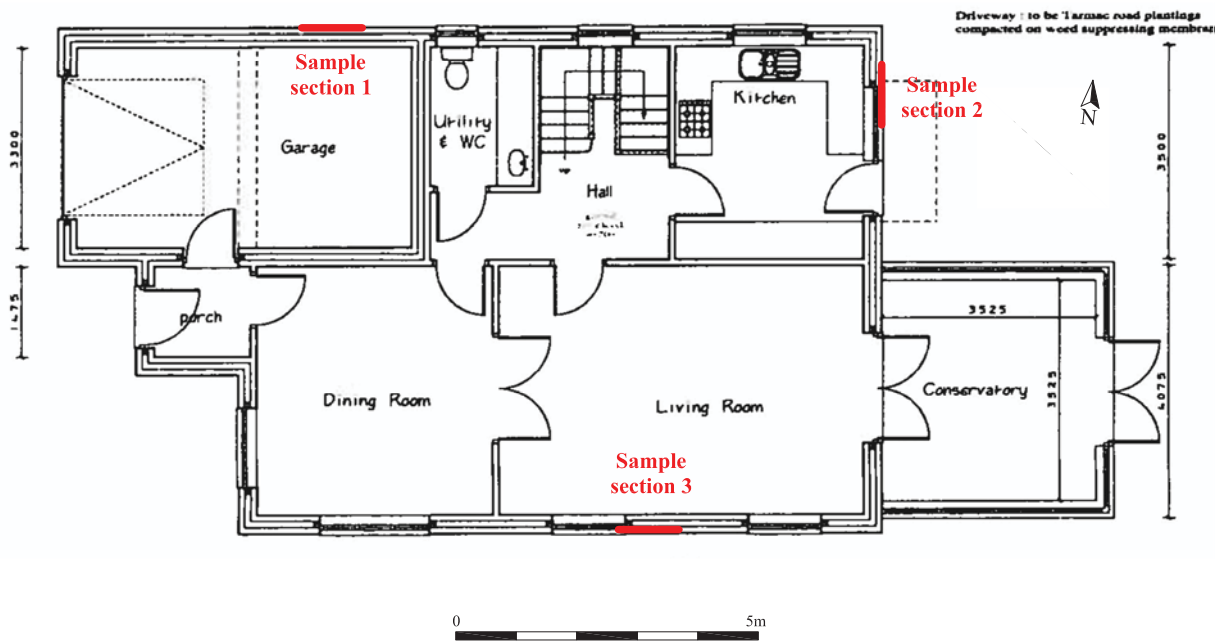
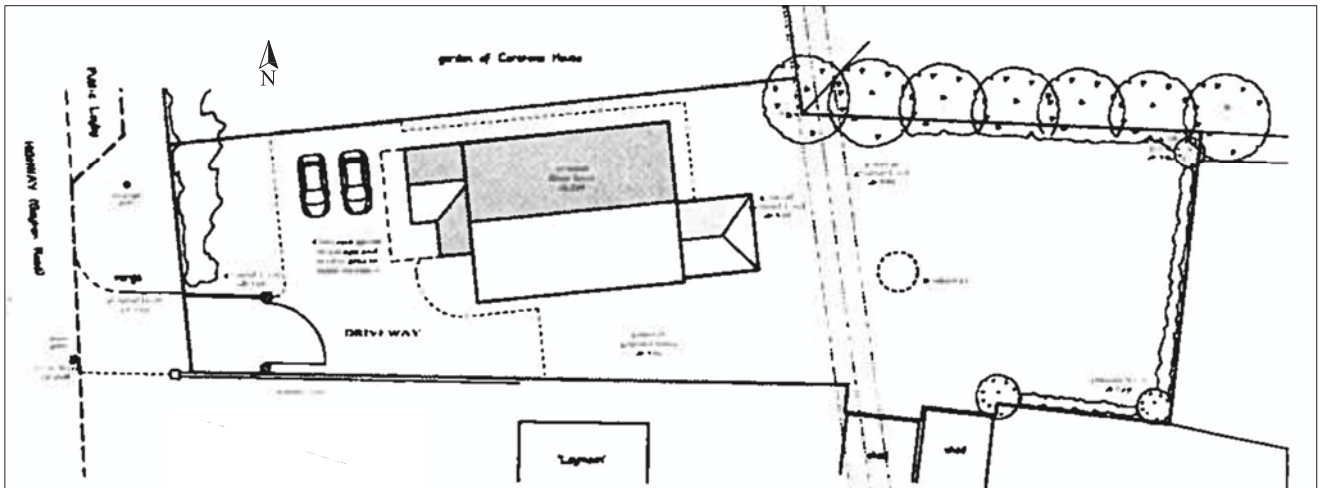
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Carrstone House, Gayton Rd, East Winch, Norfolk (P5955)



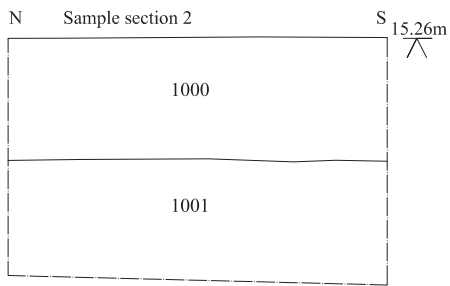
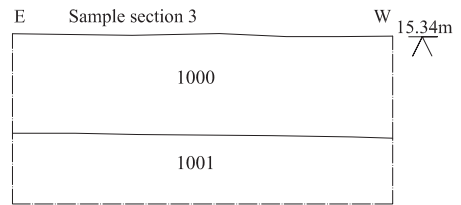
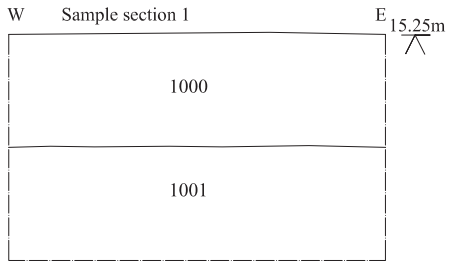
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:10,000 at A4
 Carrstone House, Gayton Rd, East Winch, Norfolk (P5955)

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (1:400)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 3 Sample section location plan
Scale - Footings 1:125 at A4
Carrstone House, Gayton Rd, East Winch, Norfolk (P5955)



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Fig. 4 Sample sections
Scale 1:20 at A4
Carrstone House, Gayton Rd, East Winch, Norfolk (P5955)