
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LOCKSLEY COTTAGE, NORTH STREET,
BURNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: Matthew Baker and Tom McDonald (Fieldwork and report)	
Illustrations: Thomas Light	
NGR: TF 583375 342247	Report No: 5058
District: North Norfolk	Site Code: ENF140234
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: P6356
Signed:	Date: 29 February 2016

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way,
Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ
Tel 01284 765210

P I House, Rear of 23 Clifton Road, Shefford,
Bedfordshire, SG17 5AF
Tel: 01462 850483

e-mail: info@ascontracts.co.uk
www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk



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CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY

SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**
- 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**
- 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**
- 5 METHODOLOGY**
- 6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS**
- 7 CONFIDENCE RATING**
- 8 DEPOSIT MODEL**
- 9 DISCUSSION**
- 10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDICES:

- 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS**
- 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS**

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Locksley Cottage, North Street, Burnham Market, Norfolk</i>		
<p><i>In February 2016 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Locksley Cottage, North Street, Burnham Market, Norfolk (NGR TF 583375 342247; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a condition to be imposed on planning approval for a residential development (Kings Lynn & West District Council Planning Reference 15/00887/F), based on the advice of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES).</i></p> <p><i>In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features. Three lightly abraded medieval (13th – 14th century) sherds were found within the Subsoil L1001. Two sherds are conjoining body sherds, and the third almost certainly also derives from the same jug.</i></p> <p><i>Contrary to expectation, though intact, the site did not reveal further evidence of the adjacent archaeological excavation.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>February 2016</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>6488</i>	Site code	<i>ENF140234</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Cottage and rear garden</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>3 sherds of residual medieval (13th – 14th C) pottery</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>Kings Lynn & West Norfolk</i>	<i>Burnham Market</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Record</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>-</i>		
Area of site	<i>1,200m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TF 83375 42247</i>		
Height AOD (max/min)	<i>c.8.50m AOD</i>		
Brief issued by	<i>Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service</i>		
Project supervisor (PO)	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>		
Funded by	<i>Catherine David</i>		
Full title	<i>Locksley Cottage, North Street, Burnham Market, Norfolk. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Baker, M., and Thompson, P.</i>		
Report No.	<i>5058</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>February 2016</i>		

LOCKSLEY COTTAGE, NORTH STREET, BURNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In February 2016 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Locksley Cottage, North Street, Burnham Market, Norfolk (NGR TF 583375 342247). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a condition to be imposed on planning approval for a residential development (Kings Lynn & West District Council Planning Reference 15/00887/F), based on the advice of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES).

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential in the historic core of the village. Immediately to the west is the probable site of St Edmund's Church abandoned in the mid 14th century (NHER 1752). An archaeological evaluation reaching to within 110m north-west of Locksley Cottage identified post-medieval ditches and residual prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval finds (NHER 52958). Just north-west of these ditches were three probable medieval ditches (NHER 35777). A probable Romano-British inhumation was also found approximately 100m to the north-west of Locksley Cottage (NHER 28915).

In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features. Three lightly abraded medieval (13th – 14th century) sherds were found within the Subsoil L1001. Two sherds are conjoining body sherds, and the third almost certainly also derives from the same jug.

Contrary to expectation, though intact, the site did not reveal further evidence of the adjacent archaeological excavation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2016 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Locksley Cottage, North Street, Burnham Market, Norfolk (NGR TF 583375 342247; Figs. 1-2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a condition to be imposed on planning approval for a residential development (Kings Lynn & West District Council Planning Reference 15/00887/F), based on the advice of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES).

1.2 NCC HES advised the Local Planning Authority that they would require an excavation in line with their generic brief, but have since advised that a trial trench evaluation can be carried out in the first instance.

1.3 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 16th December 2016), 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 Evaluation (2014),

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

1.4 The evaluation aimed to determine the presence/ absence, date, extent, state of preservation and significance of any archaeological layers or subsoil archaeological features, in order to identify if any archaeological issues will affect the application and if further mitigation is required if the development is approved.

Planning Policy Context

1.5 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.

1.6 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 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 The village of Burnham Market is located 30km north-east of Kings Lynn and 8 km west of Wells-next-the-Sea. The site is located on the Northern side of North Street in the historic core of Burnham Market. It is proposed to demolish the existing residential dwelling of Locksley Cottage which occupies the street frontage with a garden area to the rear, and replace it with 4 new dwellings.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 Burnham Market is located on the west side of a slight valley slope with the River Burn 600m to the east; the site is at approximately 10m AOD. The sea is reached 2.5km to the north-east at Burnham Staithe. The underlying bedrock comprises chalk of the Lewes/Seaford/Newhaven Formation, which is partially overlain by superficial deposits

of clay, silt, sand and gravel. The local soils are described as shallow well-drained calcareous coarse loamy and sandy soils over chalk rubble.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential in the historic core of the village. Immediately adjacent to (west of) Locksley Cottage is the probable site of St Edmund's Church, a medieval parish church which was abandoned in the mid 14th century. Its presence is suggested by the discovery of two human burials in 1957, while immediately to the north a grocers shop and a late Georgian house contain 12th century work from the church (NHER 1752). An archaeological evaluation in 2009, reaching to within 110m north-west of the Locksley Cottage site, recorded a number of post-medieval ditches and a possible post-hole of unknown date (NHER 52958). Finds from this site include two struck prehistoric flints possibly of Late Neolithic or Bronze Age date, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval pottery, and various other mainly undatable finds including animal bone, clay tobacco pipe and fragments shell.

4.2 A trial trench off Herrings Lane some 150m north-west of the site, revealed three probable medieval ditches containing pottery, animal bone, and a nail, beneath colluvium (NHER 35777). A probable Romano-British inhumation was also found approximately 100m to the north-west of Locksley Cottage (NHER 28915). The skeleton found in 1992 was extended west to east, in a grave 1m deep cut into natural sand; a single sherd of Roman grey ware pottery was present.

4.3 In the opposite direction centred on Ulph Place 280m to the east of Locksley Cottage, a series of ditches have been excavated. Pottery dates them from the Middle Saxon to the medieval periods, while a hearth and a part of a Late Saxon wall were also identified supporting the view that continuous occupation took place over that period (NHER 34581). In the same area, at Crabbe Tree Hall Farm, an archaeological evaluation revealed a buried surface interpreted as a possible post-medieval farmyard area which was overlain by an early 19th century deposit (NHER 58597). The finds recovered dated from the 19th century to the 20th century and included pottery, glass, a souvenir enamel mug, animal bone and oyster shell.

4.4 A large area to the south-west of Burnham Market, mainly south of Joan Short's Lane, contains a group of undated cropmarks. Some may be medieval to post medieval field boundaries, visible on aerial photographs, but the remainder consist of a possible enclosure or ring ditch, and several groups of pits, as well parallel linear features (NHER 27007). On the Overy Road some 270m east of the site is the location of a possible second church named St Andrew's Church, which was consolidated with St Clement's in Burnham Overy in 1421 (NHER 1753). Skeletons and disarticulated human remains have been found there from time to time along with 12th-13th century pottery sherds.

4.5 The principal research aims were to characterise and excavate any further evidence of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement, and identify any evidence of earlier (prehistoric and/or Roman) activity in this part of the village.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Three trenches (each measuring 15m x 1.6m) were excavated under close archaeological supervision using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 3). In addition test pits were excavated at either end of the trenches.

5.2 Exposed sections 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 archaeological finds and the excavated trenches were scanned with a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 1A 0.00 = 9.06m AOD		
0.00 – 0.62m	L1000	Topsoil. Very dark grey brown, friable, silty sand with frequent small and medium angular flint
0.62 – 0.87m	L1001	Subsoil. Mid grey brown grey, friable, silty sand with frequent small and medium sub-angular flint
0.87 – 1.00m+	L1006	Natural. Pale yellow brown, firm, sandy gravel with frequent small to medium angular flint

Sample section 1B 0.00 = 9.13m AOD		
0.00 – 0.57m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.57 – 0.80m	L1001	Subsoil. As above
0.80 – 1.05m+	L1006	Natural. As above

Description: Trench 1 contained no archaeological features or finds.

Trench 2 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 2A 0.00 = 8.61m AOD		
0.00 – 0.56m	L1000	Topsoil. As above in Trench 1
0.56 – 0.85m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.85m+	L1006	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 2B 0.00 = 8.31m AOD		
0.00 – 0.57m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.57 – 0.80m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.80m+	L1006	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 2 contained modern building remains and a modern layer, L1005.

L1005 was present in the southern end of Trench 2 (4.20+ x 1.50+ x 0.82m+). It was associated with the construction cut for the modern building. It contained no finds.

Trench 3 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 3A 0.00 = 8.31m AOD		
0.00 – 0.12m	L1007	Sand, gravel and concrete.
0.12 – 0.55m	L1002	Made ground. Very dark grey brown, firm, silty sand with frequent small sub angular flint.
0.55 – 0.93m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.93m+	L1006	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 3B 0.00 = 8.20m AOD		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1007	Sand, gravel and concrete.
0.29 – 57m	L1002	Made ground. As above.
0.57 – 0.83m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.83m+	L1006	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 3 contained a modern pit, F1003

Pit F1003 was sub circular in plan (0.52+ x 1.37 x 0.56m+). It had steep sides and its base was unseen. Its fill, L1004, was a compact, very dark brown, friable, silty sand with moderate small sub-angular flint. It contained modern finds of glass

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 On the northern and western side of the site, Topsoil L1000 was uppermost and comprised a very dark grey brown, friable, silty sand with frequent small and medium angular flint (0.56 to 0.62m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a mid grey brown grey, friable, silty sand with frequent small and medium sub-angular flint (c.0.20m thick). On the eastern side of the site (Trench 3) modern made ground (L1002 and L1007) overlay Subsoil L1001.

8.2 L1001 overlay the natural geology (L1006), a pale yellow brown, firm, sandy gravel with frequent small to medium angular flint (encountered at 0.80m to 0.93m below the present ground surface).

8.3 Mechanically-excavated test pits at either end of each trench established that mixed bands of fine yellow sand and gravel with patches of mineralisation were present.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential in the historic core of the village, and immediately adjacent to the south of a site where previous archaeological investigations revealed late Saxon and medieval settlement activity, with a lesser degree of prehistoric activity, and which likely extends into the current site.

9.2 In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features. Three lightly abraded medieval (13th – 14th century) sherds were found within the Subsoil L1001. Two sherds are conjoining body sherds, and the third almost certainly also derives from the same jug.

9.3 Contrary to expectation, though intact, the site did not reveal further evidence of the adjacent archaeological excavation.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the Norwich Castle Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank Catherine David for funding the evaluation

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

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Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983

Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales (Harpden, Soil Survey of England and Wales)

WEB SITES

Norfolk Heritage Explorer

APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORT

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

The archaeological evaluation recovered three lightly abraded medieval sherds (50g) from the Subsoil L1001. The sherds were analysed in keeping with the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001). The sherds are of glazed Grimston ware (Leah 1994) with dispersed vertical lines of brown slip indicating a 13th-14th centuries date. Two sherds are conjoining body sherds, and the third almost certainly also derives from the same jug.

Bibliography

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Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J. 2001 Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, *Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2*

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
F1003 in Trench 3 looking north-east



2
Sample Section 1A in Trench 1 looking north-east



3
Sample Section 1B in Trench 1 looking south-east



4
Sample Section 3A in Trench 3 looking south-west



5
Sample Section 3B in Trench 3 looking north-east



6
Post-excitation view of Trench 1 looking north-east



7
Post-excitation view of Trench 2 with test pits
looking south-east



8
Post-excitation view of Trench 3 with test pits
looking south-east

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
F1003 in Trench 3 looking north-east



2
Sample Section 1A in Trench 1 looking north-east



3
Sample Section 1B in Trench 1 looking south-east



4
Sample Section 3A in Trench 3 looking south-west



5
Sample Section 3B in Trench 3 looking north-east



6
Post-excitation view of Trench 1 looking north-east



7
Post-excitation view of Trench 2 with test pits
looking south-east

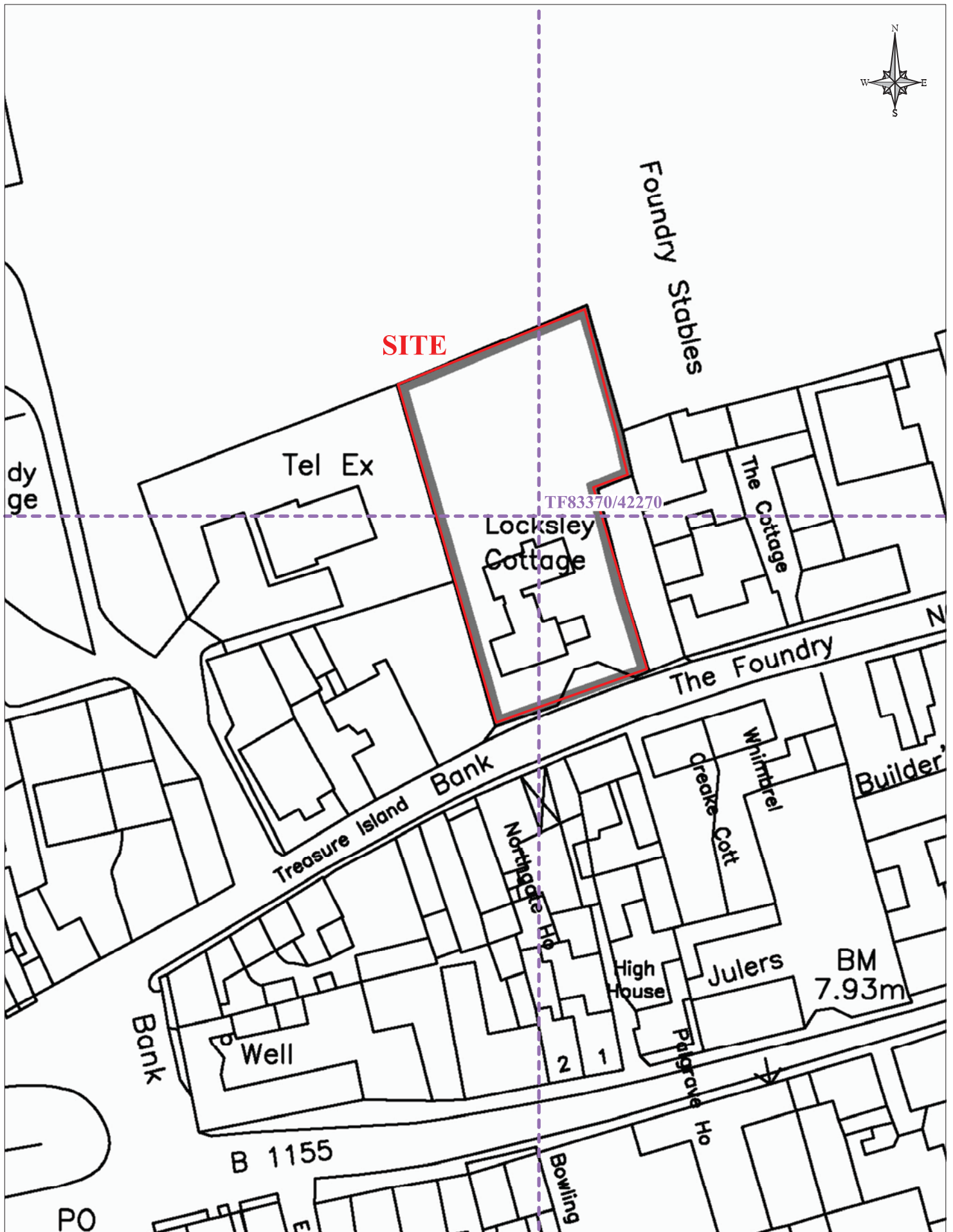


8
Post-excitation view of Trench 3 with test pits
looking south-east



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Locksley Cottage, Burnham Market, Norfolk (P6552)

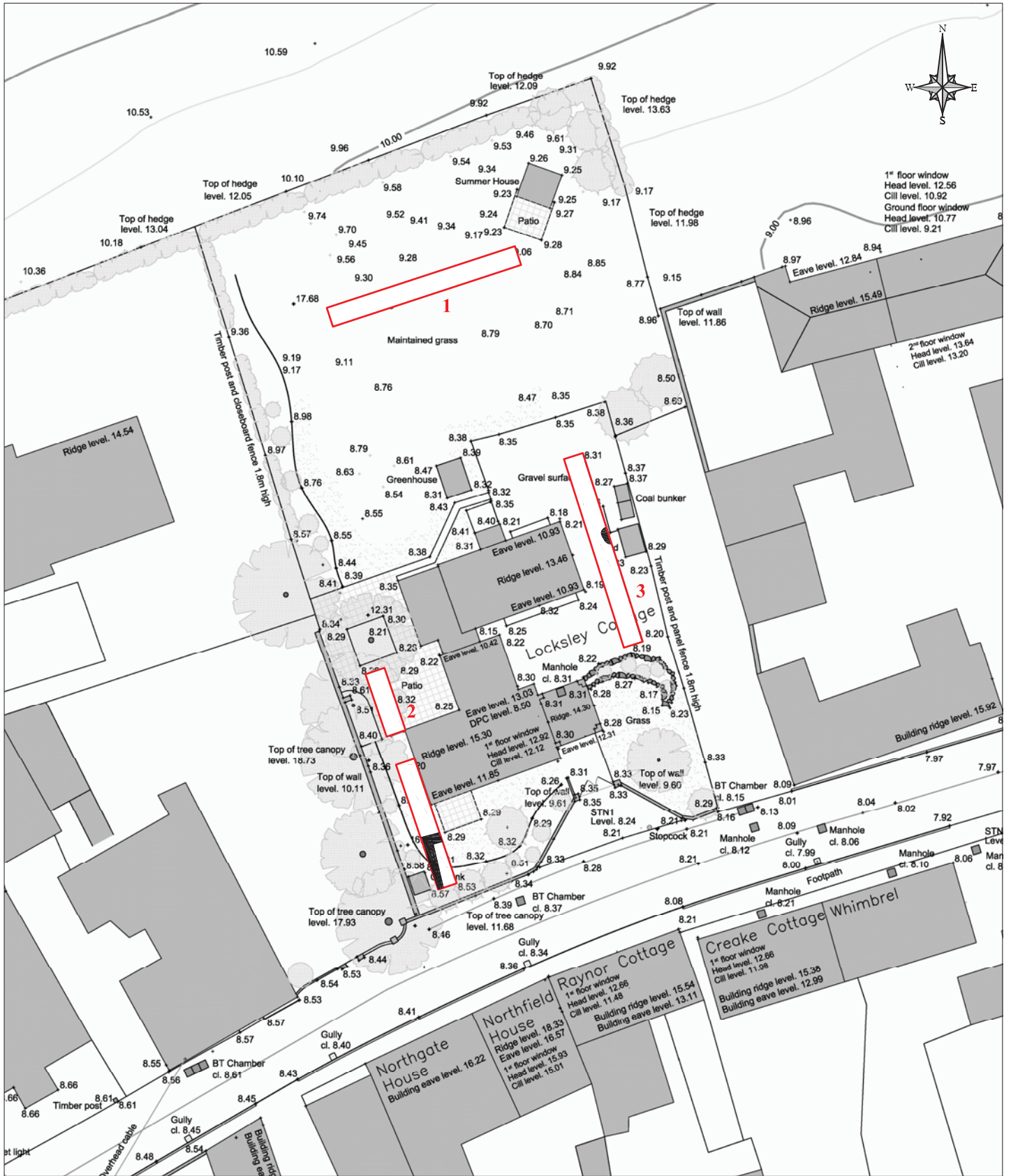


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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:750 at A4

Locksley Cottage, Burnham Market (P6488)

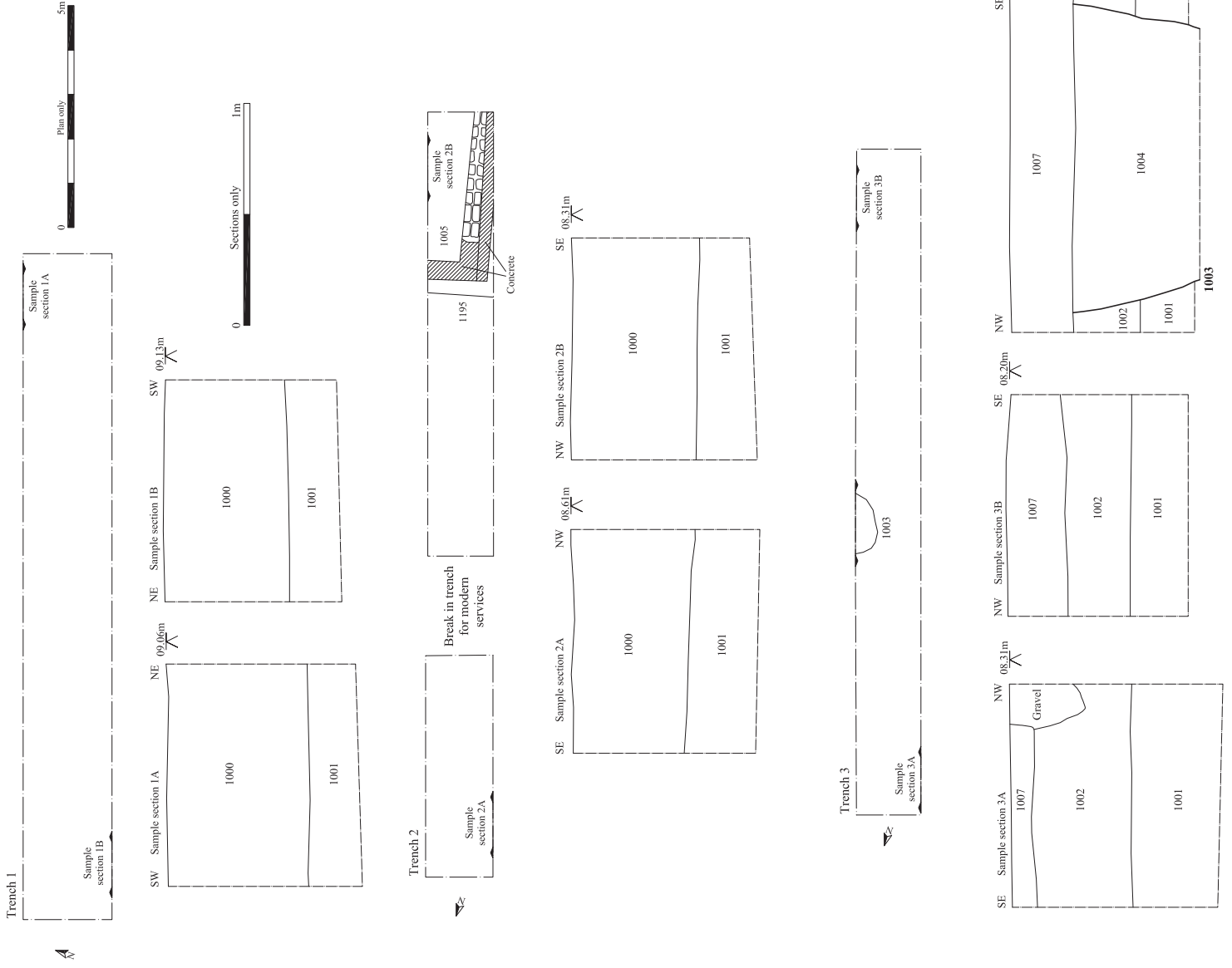


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Fig. 3 Trench location plan

Scale 1:400 at A4

Locksley Cottage, Burnham Market (P6488)



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Fig. 4 Trench plans and sections
 Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3
 Locksley Cottage, Burnham Market (P6488)