
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**GLEBE HOUSE, SCHOOL ROAD,
RISBY, SUFFOLK**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

Authors: Walter Mccall MifA Phd	
NGR: TL 801 663	Report No. 3541
Parish: Risby	Site Code: RBY 039
Approved: C Halpin MIFA	Project No. P3783
Signed:	Date: April 2010

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

Archaeological Solutions Ltd, 98-100 Fore Street, Hertford, SG14 1AB.
Tel: 01992 558170 Fax: 01992 553359 E-mail: info@ascontracts.co.uk
Web: www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk
Registered Number: 4702122

CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**
- 3 METHODOLOGY**
- 4 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS**
- 5 CONFIDENCE RATING**
- 6 DEPOSIT MODEL**
- 7 DISCUSSION**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

BIBLIOGRAPHY

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	Glebe House, School Road, Risby, Suffolk. Monitoring and Recording		
<p>Summary: <i>In April 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at Glebe House, School Road, Risby, Suffolk (NGR TL 801 663). The monitoring was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new two-storey extension to the north elevation and the construction of a detached garage. It was undertaken to comply with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposal (St Edmundsbury BC Planning Ref. SE/09/0412).</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within the historic settlement core of the village of Risby, near to the medieval parish church (Suffolk County Historic Environment Record No. RBY 024). The site had a potential for evidence of medieval occupation associated with the early settlement of the village. The project specifically aimed to characterise any evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity associated with the historic settlement core of the village of Risby.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring and recording revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	07/04/2010 & 08/04/2010		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	3783	Site code	
Type of project	Monitoring & Recording		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Residential		
Planned development	Extension to house, and detached garage		
Main features (+dates)	-		
Significant finds+dates	-		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Suffolk	St Edmundsbury	Risby
HER/ SMR for area	Suffolk HER		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	c.50m ²		
NGR	TL 801 663		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c.70.50m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT)		
Project supervisor/s PO	McCall, W.		
Funded by	Mr & Mrs Willis		
Full title	Glebe House, School Road, Risby, Suffolk. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Authors	McCall, W.		
Report no.	3541		
Date (of report)	April 2010		

GLEBE HOUSE, SCHOOL ROAD, RISBY, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

SUMMARY

In April 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at Glebe House, School Road, Risby, Suffolk (NGR TL 801 663). The monitoring was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new two-storey extension to the north elevation and the construction of a detached garage. It was undertaken to comply with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposal (St Edmundsbury BC Planning Ref. SE/09/0412).

The site lies within the historic settlement core of the village of Risby, near to the medieval parish church (Suffolk County Historic Environment Record No. RBY 024). The site had a potential for evidence of medieval occupation associated with the early settlement of the village. The project specifically aimed to characterise any evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity associated with the historic settlement core of the village of Risby.

In the event the monitoring and recording revealed no archaeological features or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of continuous archaeological monitoring and recording at Glebe House, School Road, Risby, Suffolk (NGR TL 801 663; Figs.1-2). The monitoring was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new two-storey extension to the north elevation and the construction of a detached garage. It was undertaken to comply with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposal (St Edmundsbury BC Planning Ref. SE/09/0412).

1.2 The monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT) (Tipper; 22nd December 2009), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 22/01/2010). The recording conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2008) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, Gurney (2003).

Objectives

1.3 The brief required the recovery of a record of archaeological deposits that may be damaged or removed by any development (including services and landscaping). It

required the monitoring of the groundworks associated with construction of the new extension (including services and landscaping). The project therefore included:

- monitoring of ground reduction, new foundation excavation and excavation of service trenches (as appropriate)
- mitigation by a programme of recording, if archaeological remains are present

Planning Policy Context

1.4 PPG16 (1990), the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology and PPG15 (1994) the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment (by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible) have been replaced by Planning Policy Statement 5 (2010), the national Planning Policy Statement that applies to the historic environment

1.5 PPS5 (2010) states that 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 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography, geology and soils

2.1.1 The site is situated at c.70.60m AOD on soils comprising the Melford Series defined as Typical Argillic Brown Earth. This overlies solid geology of Upper Cretaceous Chalk.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

2.2.1 There are comparatively few archaeological remains recorded from Risby. A Middle Bronze Age looped palstave was found at an unrecorded location (RBY 010). A ring ditch c.25m in diameter, of unknown date but potentially Bronze Age, is recorded to the north of the village (RBY 015). A mound c.14m diameter in the Old Rectory gardens, shown on 1888 and 1904 OS maps but gone by 1926, could be a Bronze Age burial mound, but may be a garden feature (RBY 024). An evaluation at Risby Business Park found a small quantity of Iron Age pottery (RBY 034).

2.2.2 Roman remains were found at the west end of the church nave including a prone human burial, pottery and slag (RBY 024). A Roman bronze brooch was found in the garden at Driftwood (RBY 018).

2.2.3 Risby means 'farmstead or village among the brushwood or by a clearing' and is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey. The Church of St Giles has a Norman round tower and nave and most of it is medieval including some wall paintings (RBY 024). The evaluation at Risby Business Park found an infilled pond and two ditches containing medieval pottery (RBY 034).

2.2.4 Ancient woodland is recorded at Oak Pin, to the north of the village (RBY 027), Old Broom Wood to the north-east (RBY 028), and at Risby Little Wood, the latter also has a substantial bank and ditch on its north-western side (RBY 031). The Risby Antique Centre is situated in a 15th century thatched barn and the Crown and Castle Public House has a covered well and had a Victorian brewery.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were excavated by hand and recorded by means of *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

3.2 The monitoring and recording encompassed on all intrusive activity associated with the ground works including ground reduction, the digging of service trenches. The site was visited in April 2010.

4 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Fig 3)

Site visit 07/04/10 (DP 1 – 2)

The ground to the west of the house was reduced by 0.17m for the shallow foundations of a cart lodge. A foundation trench for the northern extension to the house was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.05m. No archaeological finds or features were present.

Sample Section 1, cart lodge (DP 2) South side, north facing 0.00m = 70.54m AOD		
0.17m+	L1000	Topsoil. Loose, mid yellow brown loam with moderate angular flint.

Site visit 08/04/10 (DP 3 – 6)

The remainder of the foundations for the extension were excavated. The original area was reduced because of demolition debris on site. No archaeological finds or features were present.

Sample Section 2, house extension (DP 5) West side, west facing 0.00m = 70.36m AOD		
0.00 – 0.06m	L1001	Loose gravel surface of existing drive.
0.06 – 0.18m	L1002	Loose hardcore and brick rubble bedding layer.
0.18 – 0.87m	L1003	Made ground. Compact mottled blue grey and mid yellow brown clay.
0.87m+	L1004	Natural geological. Compact, light yellow clay and flint.

Sample Section 3, house extension (DP 6) East side, east facing 0.00m = 70.22m AOD		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1005	Light grey white concrete surface with light yellow brown sandy bedding.
0.18 – 0.92m	L1003	Made ground (as above).
0.92m+	L1002	Natural geological deposit (as above).

5 CONFIDENCE RATING

5.1 It is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or the recovery of artefacts during the monitoring and recording

6 DEPOSIT MODEL (Fig. 3, DP 5 & 6)

6.1 The only topsoil observed was in the area of the cart lodge. L1000 was a dark organic loam covered by grass, and excavated to a depth of 0.17m. The full depth of the topsoil is unknown and no underlying subsoil layers were exposed.

6.2 In the area of the house extension, the natural stratigraphy was replaced by modern layers. The surface of the western foundation trench comprised the thin gravel surface of the existing drive, L1001 (0.06m), above a bedding layer of loose hardcore and brick rubble, L1002 (0.12m). A thicker layer of concrete, L1005 (0.18m) was observed in the eastern trench. Each surface rested on a thick made ground layer, L1003 (0.71 – 0.74m), of mottled blue grey and yellow brown clay.

6.3 The natural geological deposit, L1004, consisted of compact light yellow clay and flint.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 The site lies within the historic settlement core of the village of Risby, near to the medieval parish church (Suffolk County Historic Environment Record No. RBY 024). The site had a potential for evidence of medieval occupation associated with the early settlement of the village. The project specifically aimed to characterise any evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity associated with the historic settlement core of the village of Risby.

7.2 In the event the monitoring and recording revealed no archaeological finds or features.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site with Suffolk County Historic Environment Record. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr & Mrs Willis for funding the archaeological monitoring.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Dr Jess Tipper of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology occasional paper No. 14

Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*. IFA, Reading

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
Footprint of cart lodge. Looking SW.



2
Sample Section 1. Looking S



3
*Foundation trench, W side of N extension.
Looking N.*



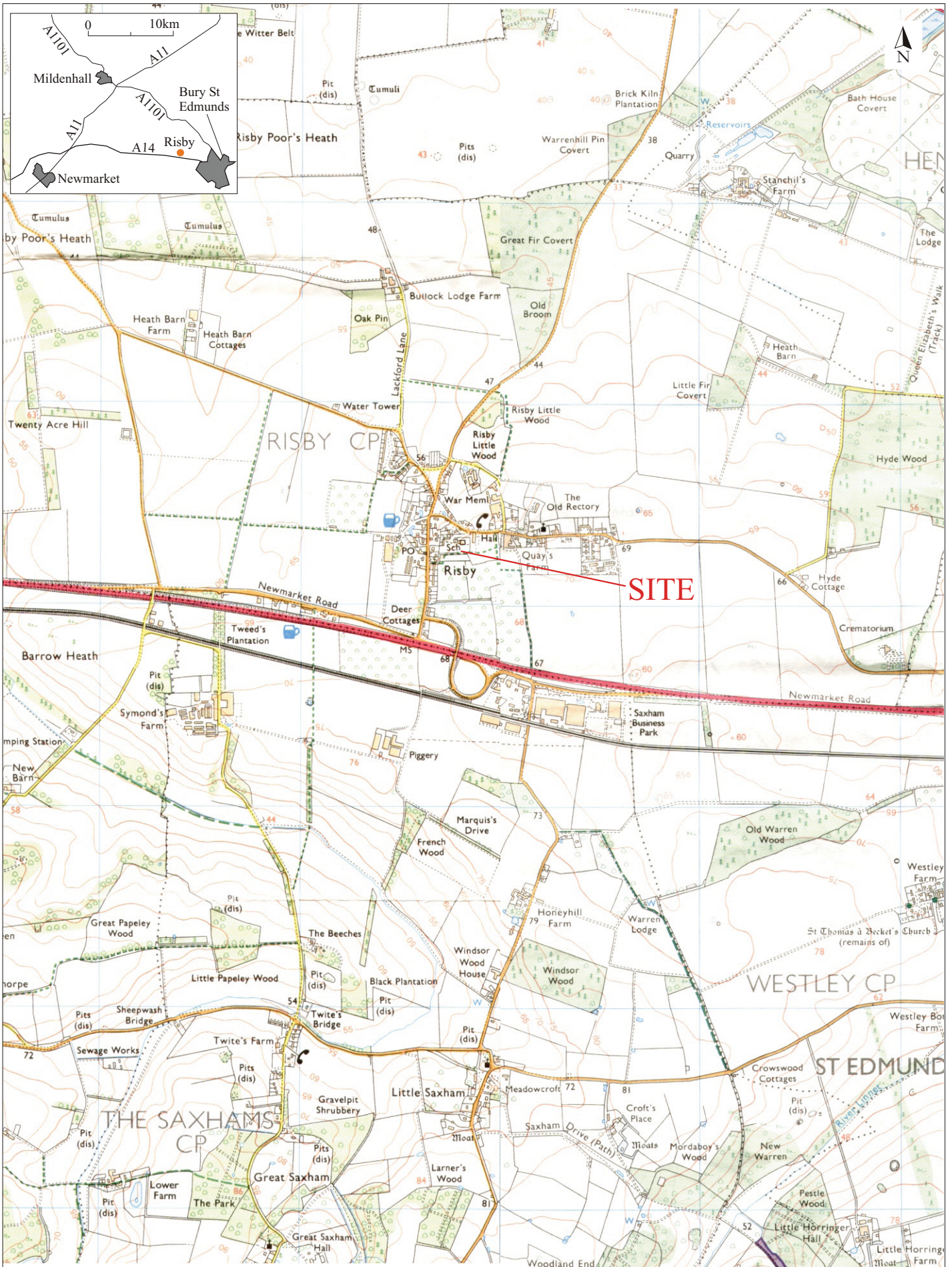
4
*Foundation trench, E side of N extension.
Looking N.*



5
*Sample Section 2, N extension.
Looking E.*

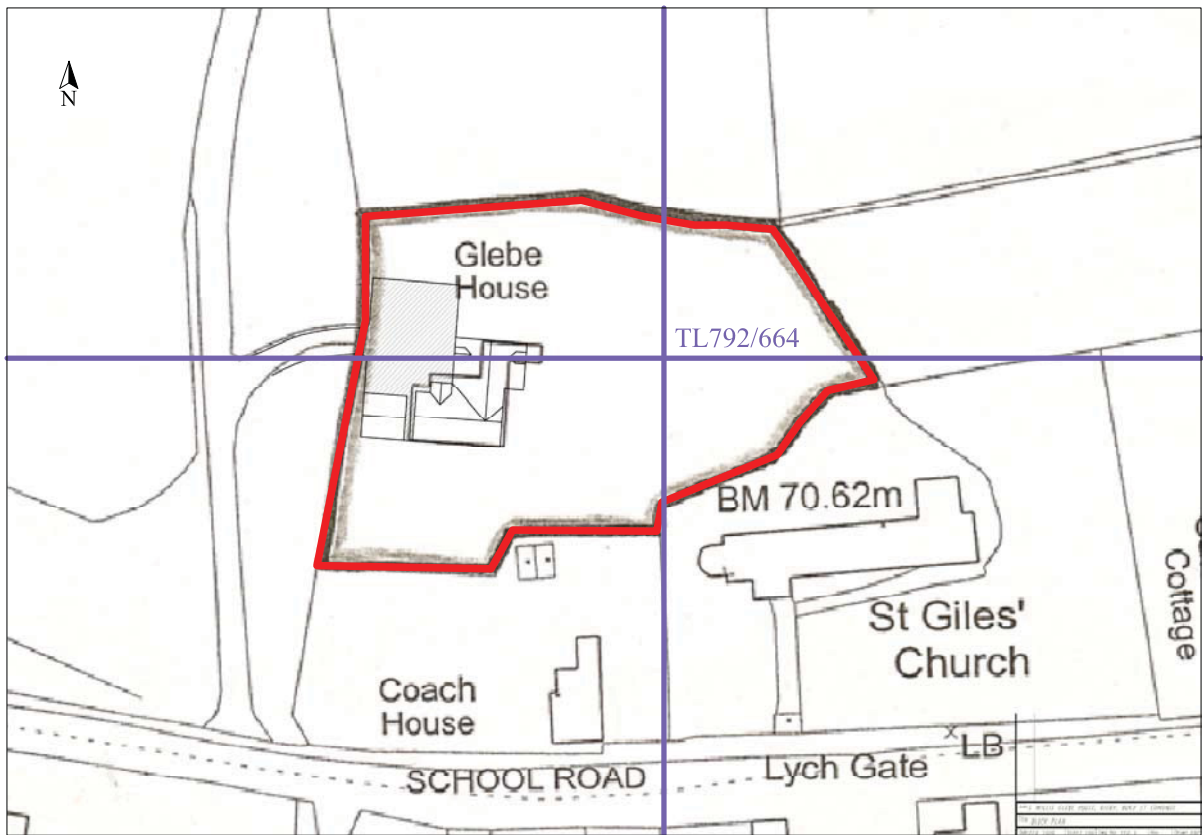


6
*Sample Section 3, N extension.
Looking W.*



Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

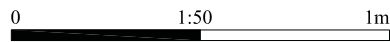
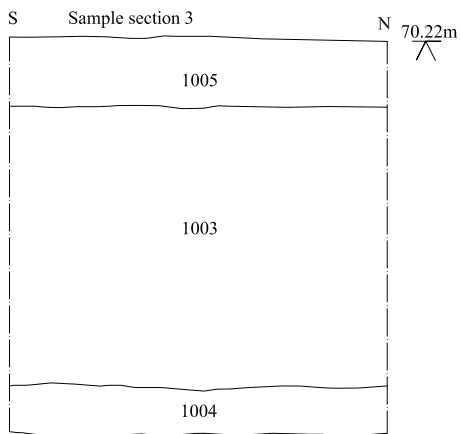
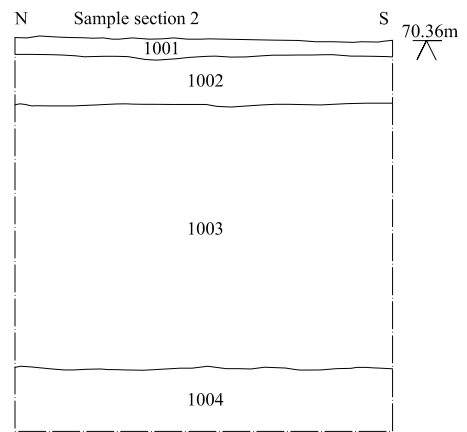
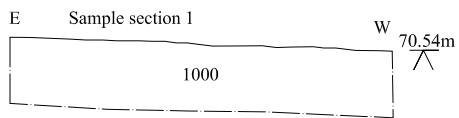
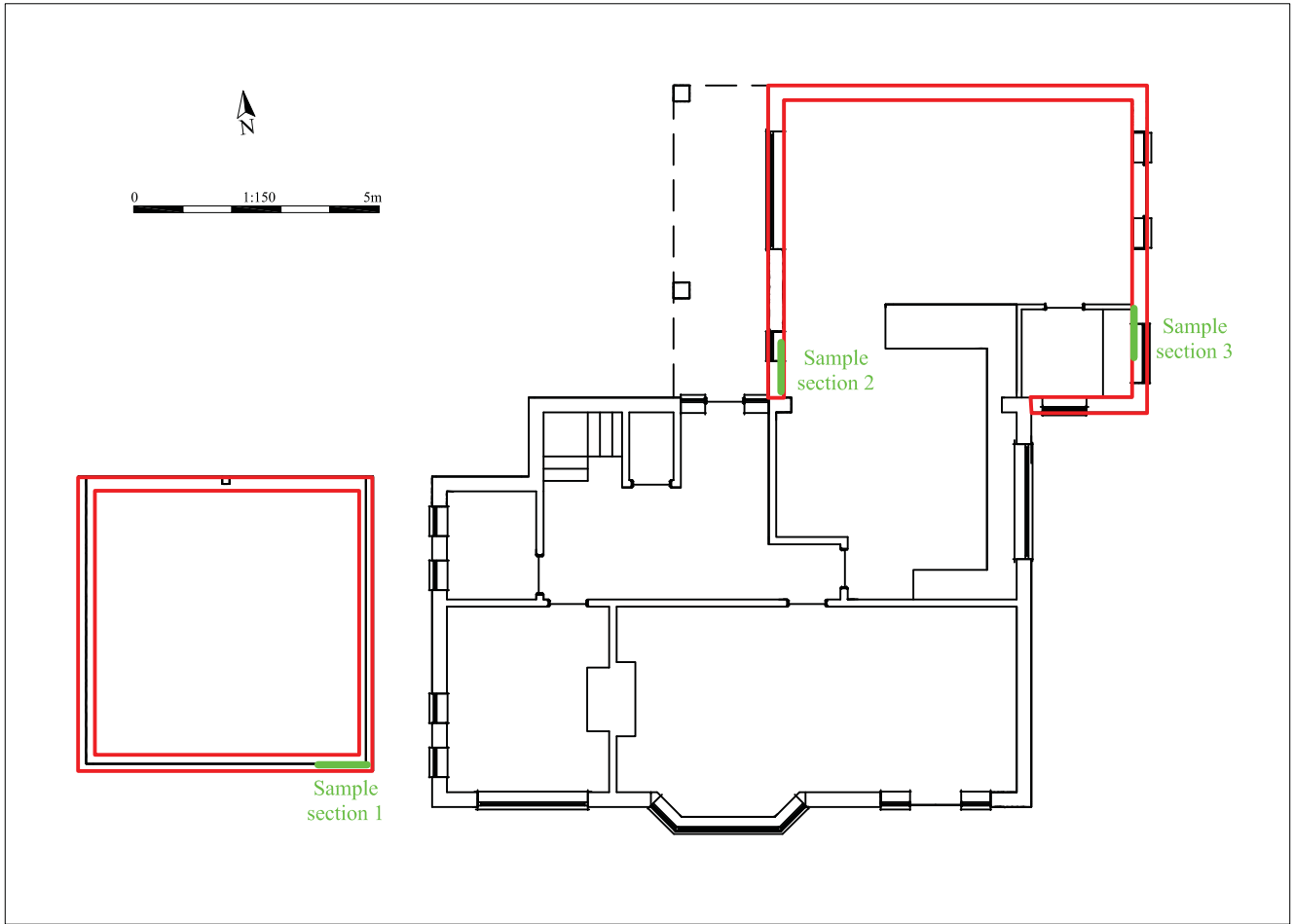
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd. Licence No. 100036680

0 50m

Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:1000 at A4



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 3 Sections
 Scale - Plan 1:150, sections 1:20 at A4