

Archaeological Standing Building Recording



**Eastcote Baptist Chapel
Gayton Road
Eastcote
Northamptonshire
NN12 8NG**

On behalf of

Ceilingworks Ltd

June 2022

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Cover: View looking west-northwest showing Eastcote Chapel and former schoolroom

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1 Executive Summary

Border Archaeology (BA) has been commissioned to undertake a programme of Archaeological Standing Building Recording to Historic England Level 2 of the former Eastcote Baptist Chapel, Gayton Road, Eastcote (Northants), with regards to a planning application for the conversion of the former chapel to a residential dwelling including rebuilding of the porch. The results of this programme of ASBR can be summarised thus:

Eastcote Baptist Chapel was built in 1838 founded by the Baptist minister Thomas Chamberlain with the support of the Reverend Thomas Marriott, pastor of Milton Malsor. It is not designated as a listed building but has been recognised as being of historical and/or architectural significance and is recorded as such in the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER) by virtue of its historic fabric and its association with the history of the Nonconformist movement as practised in rural Northamptonshire.

The chapel itself, situated prominently within a triangular churchyard above the roadway, is a simple rectangular gabled edifice aligned northwest-southeast, of orange-red brick construction (laid in Flemish Bond) with a pitched Welsh Slate roof and a projecting gabled entrance porch with bargeboarded eaves. The low arched window openings in the southwest-facing elevation and the flat arched windows in the northwest end of the church appear to be original although the existing glazed casements are clearly modern insertions (replacing sash windows).

Attached to the northeast end of the chapel is a single-storey rectangular gabled building of red brick and rubble masonry construction with a pitched slate roof which was originally built in 1870-71 as a Sunday School (replacing an earlier building on the site which was demolished). The construction of the new school building necessitated the blocking up of a window in the northeast wall of the chapel. It appears that the schoolroom building was formerly three-bays in length, the front wall being of orange-red brick construction while the northeast gable wall and the northwest gable elevation are both built of roughly coursed limestone masonry. A gabled brick extension was added to the northeast end of the schoolroom at some point during the late 19th century to accommodate a storeroom; this extension was further altered with the insertion of concrete breezeblock partitions for lavatories in the mid-late 20th century.

Internally, the chapel is of a single-cell 'preaching-box' type, characteristic of small Baptist chapels of early to mid-19th century date, which has been subject to considerable refurbishment in the mid-late 20th century, with replacement of the original sash windows with casements. The roof structure, which appears to be original, comprises a central kingpost truss and two open trusses with angled struts, while the suspended wooden boarded floor appears to have been renewed in places. The existing wooden panelled pulpit and pews appear to be of 20th century date. Few fixtures or fittings of historical or architectural interest were noted within the chapel interior, the sole exception being the wall tablet commemorating Thomas Chamberlain (d.1869), the founder and first minister of the chapel which was relocated from Pattishall Chapel following its closure in 1955. The interior of the schoolroom has a simple collar and tiebeam roof and has been similarly refurbished with the insertion of a modern kitchen unit and replacement of the original door and windows with uPVC glazing.

The chapel may be regarded as a typical example of a simple 'preaching box' Baptist chapel of early to mid-19th century date, with restrained architectural detailing and similar in form to the nearby former chapel at Pattishall.

2 Introduction

Border Archaeology Ltd (BA) was instructed by Ross Matthews of Ceilingworks Ltd to undertake a programme of Archaeological Standing Building Recording (ASBR) to Historic England/RCHME Level 2 of Eastcote Baptist Chapel Gayton Road Eastcote Northamptonshire NN12 8NG (NGR SP 68021 53958).

This programme of ASBR is required in connection with the conversion of the former Eastcote Baptist Chapel to a residential dwelling including rebuilding of the porch, a change of use from B1/A1 to residential (C3) (West Northamptonshire Council Planning Ref. WNS/2021/2185/FUL).

Condition 4 of the Decision Notice states that *'no development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. REASON: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded and the results made available, in accordance with NPPF Paragraph 205.'*

The programme of archaeological work consists of a programme of building recording to Level 2 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings* (Lane 2016) as published by Historic England with sufficient emphasis on documentary research to allow an appreciation of the building's history). The ASBR has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to Liz Mordue Archaeological Advisor and approved as an appropriate methodology for the proposed programme of work.

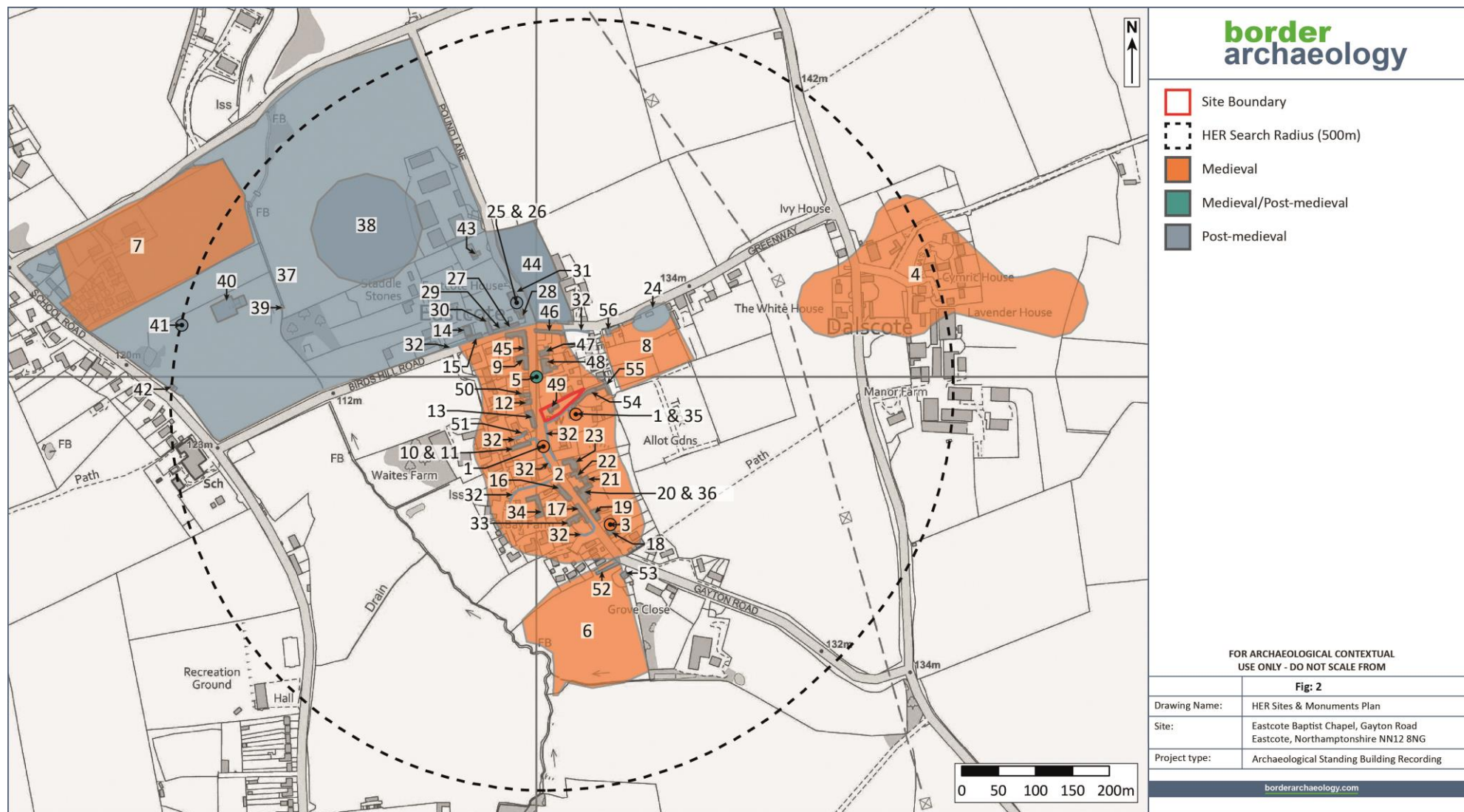
3 Site Location

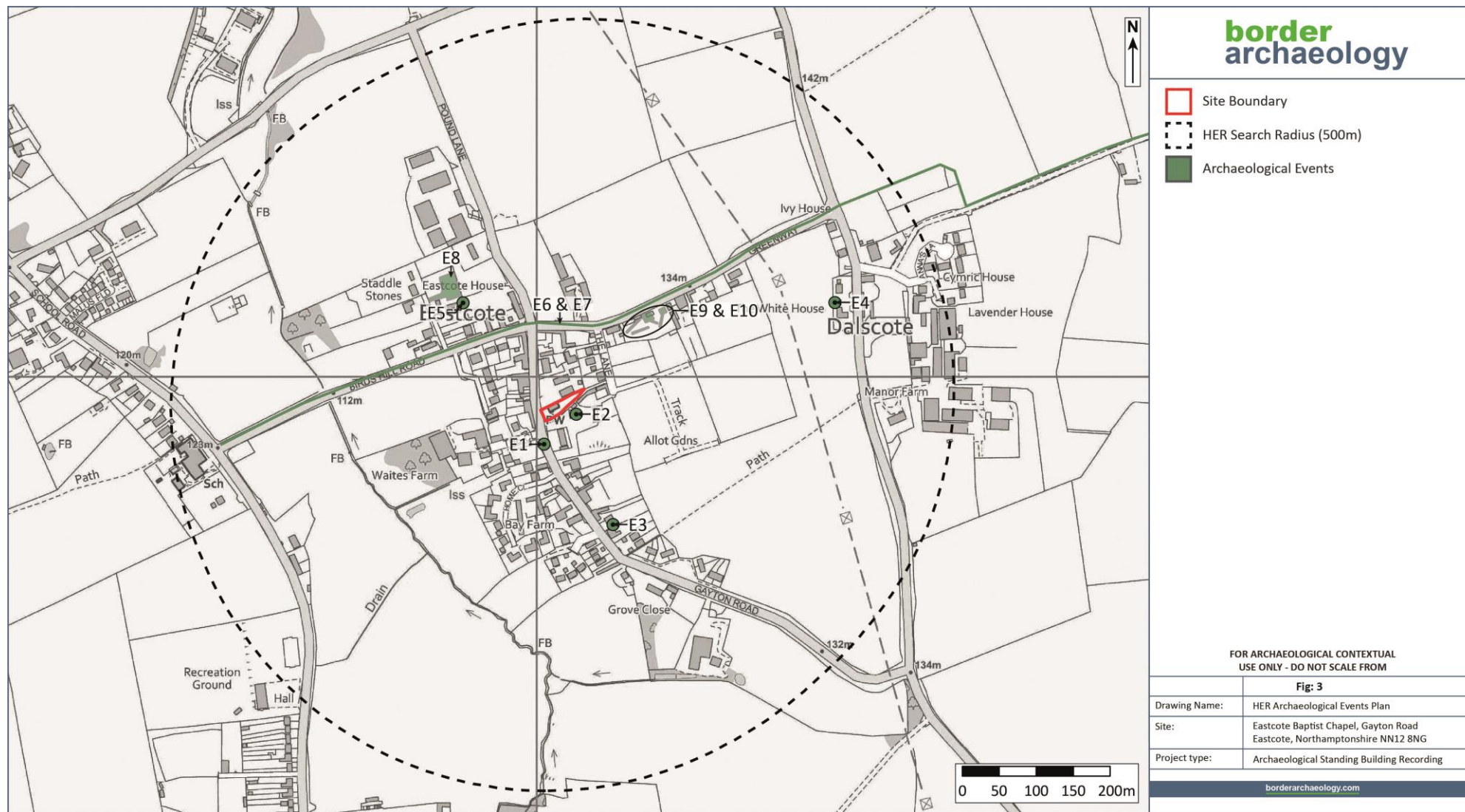
The building forming the subject of this programme of ASBR is a single-storey former Baptist Chapel (opened in 1838) comprising a rectangular structure of brick construction with a slate roof, located within a triangular churchyard atop a raised bank (c. 123.3m AOD) above and to the E of Gayton Road within the centre of the small village of Eastcote. Attached to the NE end of the chapel is a single storey annexe (built in 1870-71 as a Sunday School). Eastcote Baptist Chapel (HER MNN165380) is not designated as a listed building but been recognised as being of historical and/or architectural significance and is recorded as such in the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER). A number of Grade II Listed Buildings are recorded in the village but there are no Scheduled Monuments or Conservation Areas within the vicinity of the site.

3.1 Soils and Geology

The geology of the area predominantly comprises interbedded sandstone, limestone and ironstone sedimentary bedrock of the Northampton Sand Formation formed approximately 170 to 174 million years ago in the Jurassic Period in a local environment dominated by shallow seas. Areas of bedrock geology of the Stamford Member are also present, these being interbedded sandstone and siltstone sedimentary deposits formed approximately 166 to 170 million years ago again in the Jurassic Period in a local environment dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. Superficial deposits where present consist of glacial material of the Oadby Member created by the action of ice and meltwater up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period in ice age conditions (BGS 2022).







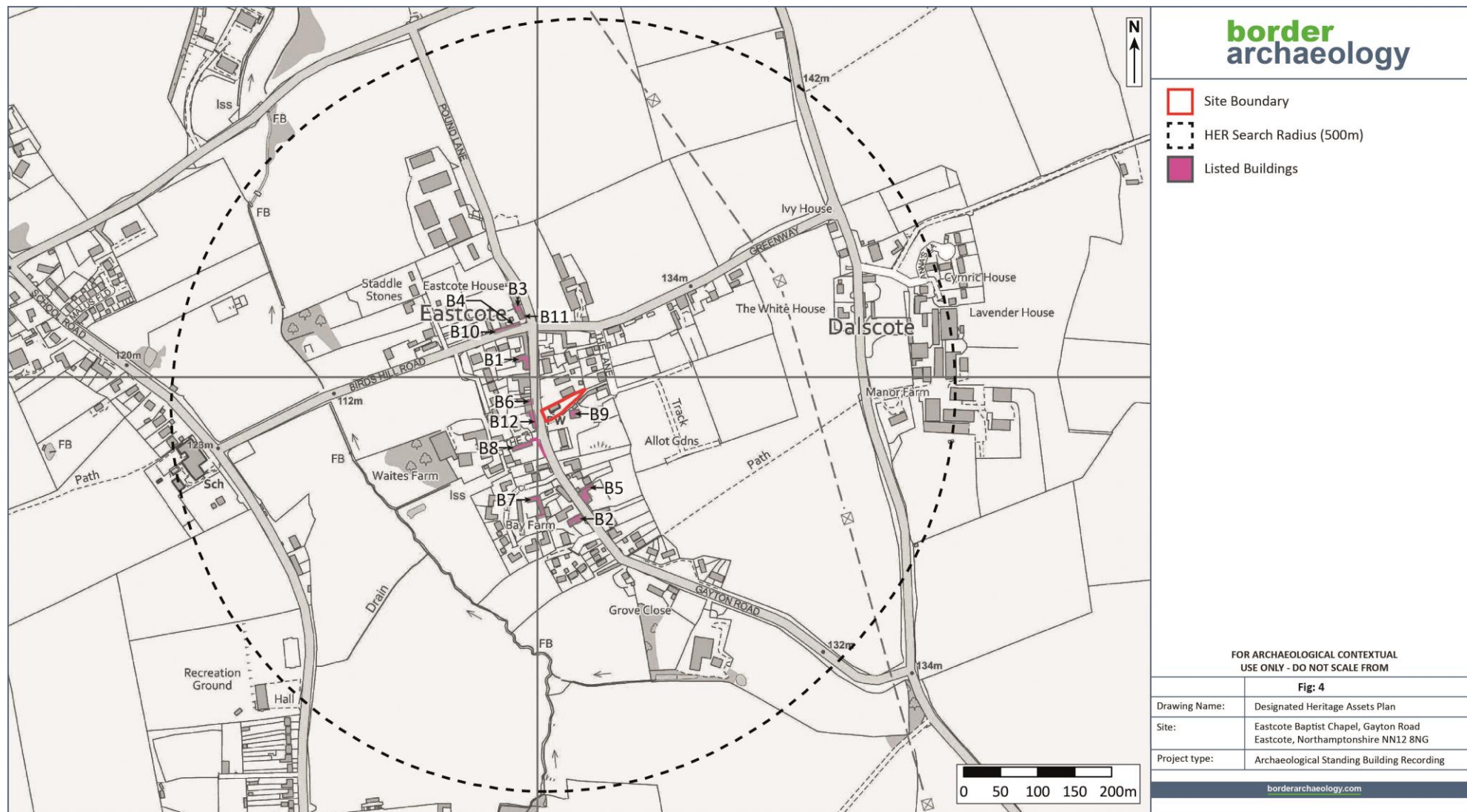
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- Site Boundary
- HER Search Radius (500m)
- Archaeological Events

FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTUAL
USE ONLY - DO NOT SCALE FROM

Fig: 3	
Drawing Name:	HER Archaeological Events Plan
Site:	Eastcote Baptist Chapel, Gayton Road Eastcote, Northamptonshire NN12 8NG
Project type:	Archaeological Standing Building Recording

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- Site Boundary
- HER Search Radius (500m)
- Listed Buildings

FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTUAL
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Fig: 4	
Drawing Name:	Designated Heritage Assets Plan
Site:	Eastcote Baptist Chapel, Gayton Road Eastcote, Northamptonshire NN12 8NG
Project type:	Archaeological Standing Building Recording

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4 Historical and Archaeological Background

4.1 Site Specific Historical Background

The following historical background is based on consultation of available documentary records and historic mapping and the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (*figs. 2-4*).

The hamlet of Eastcote forms one of four discrete settlement units comprising the large parish of Pattishall, the others being Pattishall village, Astcote and Dalscote. Pattishall is first recorded as 'Pascelle' in the Domesday Survey of 1086, together with an estate at Astcote, both held by Walter de Flanders (Morris 1977). The hamlet of Eastcote is first recorded as 'Edeweneskote' in 1277 although finds of Middle Saxon coins made nearby in 1933 and 1950 suggest that the origins of the settlement may well date back to before the Norman Conquest (MNN19415). The hamlet lies within an extensive open field system covering most of the parish of Pattishall which was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1771 (HER 5450); substantial remains of this medieval field system are attested by extant areas of ridge and furrow cultivation which are visible on aerial photographs (Hall 1995; HER MNN133828, MNN133830, MNN133831, MNN133823).

There have been relatively few archaeological investigations undertaken in the vicinity of the site, although it may be noted that evaluation trenching on land to the S of Greenway in 2020 identified remnants of medieval furrows; a series of post-medieval features and a large quarry pit were also identified, along with 17th/18th century pottery and a small quantity of late medieval ceramics and a bone pin of possible medieval date. A strip, map and sample excavation subsequently found further evidence of quarry pits, an undated posthole and a stone-capped drain containing post-medieval and modern pottery, probably associated with cottages that were demolished in the second half of the 20th century (HER 5447/0/20; Flavell 2020; Day 2021).

The origins of Eastcote Chapel (MNN165380) can be traced back to the 1830s and appear to be associated with a significant resurgence of the Baptist ministry in South Northamptonshire during the first half of the 19th century (Jarvis 2001). Eastcote formed one of a group of Baptist churches founded in the locality during the mid-19th century including Pattishall (1840), Grimscote (1837), Farthingstone (1847) and Litchborough (1862). Reverend Thomas Chamberlain (1800-69), the founder and first minister of Eastcote Chapel and Pattishall Chapel, compiled a brief account of its origins (contained in the Pattishall and Eastcote Church Book) in 1863 which provides valuable information about the circumstances leading to its foundation (Northamptonshire Archives Ref. B/ECB/001).

A key role in the establishment of a Baptist community at Eastcote was played by the Reverend Thomas Marriott, the minister at Milton Malsor (opened in 1827), who is mentioned by Chamberlain as first 'introducing the gospel' at Eastcote and is described as 'a noble man in helping the cause for many years at this place'. Other individuals involved in preaching activities at Eastcote were a Mr Goodman 'who rendered help for many years he lived at Towcester', the Reverend Foskett the minister at Blisworth, Mr William Woodhouse (Deacon of Blisworth church) and Mr William Clarke another member of the chapel at Milton.

In 1833, according to Chamberlain's account, 'the gospel was introduced into Pattishall and Eastcote by the efforts of the Reverend Thomas Marriott of Milton, he visited the place Sabbath afternoon August 1833 and preached in open air midway between the two places. But the support of the main that is the expense was nobly met by Mr Marriott of Milton. This way of working the cause continued five years at the close of which Thomas Chamberlain was invited to visit [1837] and preach the Sabbath in October 1837 – which led to a happy settlement among the people. Thomas Chamberlain from East Haddon, Mr Marriott of Milton became pledged that the people were to do what they could and he would make it up to twenty pounds a year, this he very nobly performed and done it as a great pleasure never wearied, he was a noble man'. It would thus appear that the raising of funds to build the chapel at Eastcote was a collaborative process between Marriott and Chamberlain, in contrast to the nearby chapel at Fosters Booth Road, Pattishall, where, apparently Chamberlain 'begged all the money for the house myself'.

Eastcote Chapel was built in 1838 and opened on 17th October of that year; the Parish Book records about 11 persons as forming the earliest members of the congregation, all of whom appear to have been farmers, agricultural labourers or artisans from Eastcote and the surrounding hamlets. In January 1839 a Sabbath (Sunday) School was opened with a class of 30 children and three teachers, including Ann Chamberlain, the pastor's wife.

The Parish Book records a steady stream of persons baptised and received into the church during the 1840s; by 1851, the ecclesiastical census records a congregation of some 60 people with 22 Sunday scholars at Eastcote (NA HO 129/165/36). Thomas Chamberlain died on 23rd April 1869 and was interred in the burial ground adjoining Eastcote Chapel. It may be noted that his obituary describes him as having settled in Pattishall 'as a Home Missionary agent, under the supervision of the church at Milton' which again emphasises the role of Thomas Marriott in the establishment of the Baptist chapels at Eastcote and Pattishall (Northampton Mercury 1 May 1869).

The original Sunday School appears to have been located within the churchyard close to the chapel; however, it was pulled down in September 1870 and replaced by a new Sunday School, the foundation stone for which was laid in October 1870 and which was formally opened on 17th April 1871. This can clearly be identified with the single-storey gabled brick and rubble masonry building attached to the NE facing elevation of the chapel, which is visible on the OS 1st edition 25-inch map of 1885 (fig. 8). The OS 1st edition map marks a triangular burial ground extending to the NE of the chapel which appears to have been used for interments until as late as 1923. Little change to the layout of the chapel is shown on later OS maps dated 1900, 1933 and 1952 (figs. 9-11).

References in the Parish Book and subsequent account books show that periodic repairs were carried out to the chapel during the 20th century. In 1920-21, repairs were made to the roof and the wall of the chapel and the schoolroom roof and floor, while in 1925 a new organ was installed (B/EBC/002). Electric lights were installed in the chapel in 1931, with further records of minor repairs in 1932, 1940, 1944 and 1946. It may be noted that the windows of the chapel and schoolroom were originally sashes as there is a record of expenditure on new sash cords in 1946 (Northamptonshire Archives Ref. B/EBC/003).

In May 1955, following the closure of Pattishall Chapel, the memorial to Thomas Chamberlain was relocated to Eastcote; while the schoolroom roof was again repaired in 1957 (B/ECB/003). The accounts for 1969 refer to expenditure on a fence and the substantial sum of £297 spent on the rebuilding of a wall at the chapel; it is possible that this could refer to the perimeter wall around the churchyard and the existing gates with brick piers, stone

coping and lamp standards which appear to be of late 20th century date (*Plates A & B*). In 1970 it appears that the windows of the chapel and schoolroom, which were originally sashes were replaced with double glazing. The last service at Eastcote Baptist Chapel was held in 2019 and it was finally closed as a place of worship in 2020.



Plate A: View looking ENE from Gayton Road towards Eastcote Chapel



Plate B: View looking WNW showing entrance gates, perimeter wall and fence

4.2 Historic Environment Record Gazetteers

#	MonUID	PrefRef	Name	Date	NGR
1	MNN19415	881/0/0	Findspot: AS Coins	Medieval	SP 6800 5300
2	MNN6598	5447	Eastcote Medieval Settlement	Medieval	SP 6801 5394
3	MNN25418	5447/0/1	Abandoned Closes at Eastcote	Medieval	SP 6810 5380
4	MNN2026	5448	Dalscote DMV	Medieval	SP 6855 5415
5	MNN6600	5450	Open Field System: Pattishall	Med./PM	SP 6800 5400
6	MNN133823	5450/0/8	Open Fields Project: Areas of Survival of Ridge & Furrow	Medieval	SP 6806 5366
7	MNN133831	5450/0/11	Open Fields Project: Areas of Survival of Ridge & Furrow	Medieval	SP 6748 5417
8	MNN133822	5450/0/13	Open Fields Project: Areas of Survival of Ridge & Furrow	Medieval	SP 6815 5404
9	MNN105227	5447/0/2	The Eastcote Arms PH (Formerly The Rose & Crown)	Post-med.	SP 6798 5401
10	MNN105228	5447/0/3	Barton Mead & Attached Wall	Post-med.	SP 6797 5390
11	MNN137219	5447/0/4	Barton Mead, Boundary Wall	Post-med.	SP 6800 5390
12	MNN105232	5447/0/5	14 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6798 5396
13	MNN105219	5447/0/6	18 Gayton Road & Attached Barn	Post-med.	SP 6799 5394
14	MNN165370	5447/0/7	8-10 Birds Hill Road (The Matron's House for Eastcote Camp)	Post-med.	SP 6790 5406
15	MNN37152	5447/0/8	Former WWI Hospital Building: 6 Birds Hill Road	Post-med.	SP 6791 5405
16	MNN165383	5447/0/9	26-30 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6803 5384
17	MNN165384	5447/0/10	Barn, Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6806 5381
18	MNN165387	5447/0/11	21 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6810 5379
19	MNN165388	5447/0/12	17 & 19 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6807 5381
20	MNN165389	5447/0/13	Garage, Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6805 5384
21	MNN165390	5447/0/14	The Orchard, Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6806 5386
22	MNN165391	5447/0/15	Pinewood, Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6805 5386
23	MNN165392	5447/0/16	Garden House, Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6804 5388
24	MNN172056	5447/0/20	Quarries S of Greenway	Post-med.	SP 6815 5408
25	MNN37153	5447/1	Eastcote House	Post-med.	SP 6797 5410
26	MNN105225	5447/1/1	1 & 2 Birds Hill (Eastcote House)	Post-med.	SP 6797 5409
27	MNN105242	5447/1/2	Stable Block & Attached Outbuilding at Numbers 1 & 2 (Eastcote House)	Post-med.	SP 6796 5406
28	MNN105241	5447/1/3	Coach House at Numbers 1- 2 (Eastcote House)	Post-med.	SP 6798 5408
29	MNN105240	5447/1/4	Barn Adjacent to Stable Yard at Numbers 1 & 2 (Eastcote House)	Post-med.	SP 6794 5406
30	MNN165372	5447/1/5	House, Possible Former Barns for Eastcote House	Post-med.	SP 6793 5406
31	MNN165373	5447/1/6	Possible C19 House	Post-med.	SP 6796 5411
32	MNN162789	5447/1/7	Possible C18/19 Boundary Wall	Post-med.	SP 6334 4442
33	MNN105229	5447/2/1	Bay Farmhouse	Post-med.	SP 6805 5380
34	MNN105230	5447/3/1	The Homestead	Post-med.	SP 6799 5382
35	MNN105231	5447/4/1	11 Gayton Road (The Manor)	Post-med.	SP 6804 5395
36	MNN105220	5447/5/1	15 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6806 5384

#	MonUID	PrefRef	Name	Date	NGR
37	MNN17700	7132/1	WWI Eastcote Internment & PoW Camp	Post-med.	SP 6775 5415
38	MNN37156	7132/1/1	Possible Earthworks of Former WWI Huts	Post-med.	SP 6777 5420
39	MNN37161	7132/1/2	Concrete Bridge, Possibly Formerly Within WWI Internment Camp	Post-med.	SP 6765 5409
40	MNN37158	7132/1/3	Possible Former Camp Water Tanks	Post-med.	SP 6758 5409
41	MNN37159	7132/1/4	Modern Well	Post-med.	SP 6752 5407
42	MNN37160	7132/1/5	Modern Agricultural Building, Possibly Used in Camp	Post-med.	SP 6750 5398
43	MNN37155	7132/1/6	Possible Former Chicken House	Post-med.	SP 6791 5416
44	MNN37154	7132/1/8	The Linen Field	Post-med.	SP 6799 5414
45	MNN165374	MNN165374	Jubilee House, 2 & 4 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6797 5405
46	MNN165375	MNN165375	1 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6801 5406
47	MNN165378	MNN165378	1a Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6801 5403
48	MNN165379	MNN165379	3-9 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6801 5401
49	MNN165380	MNN165380	Eastcote Baptist Chapel	Post-med.	SP 6802 5395
50	MNN165381	MNN165381	10 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6798 5397
51	MNN165382	MNN165382	Outbuilding, The Close	Post-med.	SP 6798 5392
52	MNN165385	MNN165385	36 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6809 5374
53	MNN165386	MNN165386	38 Gayton Road	Post-med.	SP 6811 5373
54	MNN165393	MNN165393	4a The Lane	Post-med.	SP 6806 5397
55	MNN165394	MNN165394	4 The Lane	Post-med.	SP 6809 5398
56	MNN165395	MNN165395	1 The Lane	Post-med.	SP 6809 5406

Table 1: Gazetteer of monuments recorded within a 500m radius of the site based on consultation of the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record

#	EvUID	Name	Date	NGR
E1	ENN5561	Find: AS Coin	1933	SP 6800 5390
E2	ENN5562	Find: AS Coin	1950	SP 6800 5390
E3	ENN5563	Aerial Survey: Pattishall	1982	SP 6810 5380
E4	ENN5565	Survey: Pasttishall	1982	SP 6840 5410
E5	ENN19790	DoB Survey: Eastcote WWI Internment/POW Camp	1999	SP 6790 5410
E6	ENN104718	DBA: Cold Higham to Litchborough Water Main	2007	SP 6855 5428
E7	ENN104719	WB: Cold Higham to Litchborough Water Main	2007	SP 6855 5428
E8	ENN109814	WB: Birds Hill	2020	SP 6787 5412
E9	ENN109949	Eval.: Land S of Greenway	2020	SP 6814 5407
E10	ENN110074	Excavation: Land S of Greenway	2020	SP 6815 5408

Table 2: Gazetteer of archaeological events recorded within a 500m radius of the site based on consultation of the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record

#	DesigUID	National Ref	Name	Grade	NGR
B1	DNN5806	1040992	Eastcote Arms PH	II	SP 6798 5401
B2	DNN5815	1040993	Bay Farmhouse	II	SP 6805 5380
B3	DNN5775	1041028	Numbers 1 & 2 (Eastcote House)	II	SP 6797 5408
B4	DNN19594	1041029	Stable Block & Attached Outbuilding at Numbers 1 & 2 (Eastcote House)	II	SP 6796 5406
B5	DNN5805	1041032	Number 15	II	SP 6806 5384
B6	DNN5808	1191668	Number 14	II	SP 6798 5396
B7	DNN5814	1191673	The Homestead	II	SP 6800 5382
B8	DNN5821	1286927	Barton Mead & Attached Wall	II	SP 6797 5390
B9	DNN5802	1286991	Number 11 (The Manor)	II	SP 6805 5395
B10	DNN19596	1287033	Barn Adjacent to Stable Yard at Numbers 1 & 2 (Eastcote House)	II	SP 6794 5406
B11	DNN19597	1287057	Coach House at Numbers 1 & 2 (Eastcote House), & Attached Outbuildings	II	SP 6798 5408
B12	DNN4635	1371560	Number 18 & Attached Barn	II	SP 6799 5394

Table 3: Gazetteer of listed buildings recorded within a 500m radius of the site based on consultation of the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record

5 Methodology

5.1 Archaeological Standing Building Recording

This Archaeological Standing Building Recording (ASBR) was undertaken by Border Archaeology on 16th May 2022. This programme of work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation submitted to and approved by Liz Mordue, Archaeological Advisor, South Northamptonshire Council on 13th May 2022.

The specific recording methodology is based on a Historic England/RCHME Level 2 record as detailed in *Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice* (Lane 2016), which sets out guidance on the recording of historic buildings for the purposes of historical understanding and is a revised and expanded version of *Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification* (RCHME 1996). It has also been undertaken in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists - ClfA 2020b).

Level 2 is defined as follows:

‘Level 2 is a descriptive record, made in similar circumstances to Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require a more detailed record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and interior of the building will be seen, described and photographed. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but it will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project’ (Lane 2016).

This Level 2 record comprises the following specifics:

5.1.1 Drawn record

This consists of the following:

- Plans of the building, with photo locations clearly marked, and a location plan related to the national grid
 - Annotated elevation drawings;
 - Appropriate additional illustrations that help support findings and the interpretation of the buildings;
 - Additional illustrations of dateable fixtures and fittings (mouldings, catches, hinges, latches etc.);
 - A summary description of the buildings in their current form in the format of a typical listed building description.
-

5.1.2 Photographic record

The photographic survey comprises the following:

High-resolution colour digital photographs, with suitable scales, of the following:

- All external elevations;
- All internal room spaces (where accessible);
- Details of any architectural or functional fixtures, fittings and features relating to either the function or development of the building;
- Photographs illustrating the buildings relationship to surrounding buildings and setting.

5.1.3 Written Account

This consists of the following:

- A summary statement describing the building's significance and purpose, historically and at present, its materials and possible date(s) so far as these are apparent from a superficial inspection.
- A programme of documentary research was carried out, including consultation of the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record and surviving chapel records held at the Northamptonshire Record Office, sufficient to allow an appreciation of the building's history.

5.1.4 Recording Methodology

The photographic record was undertaken using a Sony RX100 Mk. II digital camera with 20mpx resolution. Photographs were taken of all the external elevations where possible with an appropriate scale.

Additional photographs of relevant architectural details were also taken, with all internal room spaces photographed as obliques, with additional photographs of fixtures and fittings as appropriate. Each interior photograph contains an appropriate scale and all photographic images will be indexed and cross-referenced to a written photographic register, with details concerning subject and direction of view maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number.

6 Results

6.1 Exterior

6.1.1 Chapel

Eastcote Chapel (HER MNN165380) is a gabled rectangular building (erected in 1838) two bays in length (aligned NW-SE), situated within a triangular churchyard atop a steep bank on the E side of Gayton Road within the village of Eastcote. The chapel is constructed of orange-red bricks (laid in Flemish bond) with a pitched Welsh Slate roof (*Plates 1 & 2*). Attached to the NE-facing elevation of the building is a single-storey rectangular gabled annexe of brick and rubble masonry construction with a slate roof, originally built in 1870-71 as a Sunday School and more recently used as a hall and kitchen.

The principal SE-facing elevation of the chapel is three-bays in width and devoid of fenestration, with a projecting central gabled entrance porch with a slate roof and wavy bargeboarded eaves, beneath which is a low segmental-arched door opening set beneath gauged brick headers with a pair of panelled wooden double doors (*Plates 3 & 4*).

Immediately above the doorway is a weathered stone memorial tablet which bears the following inscription '*To commemorate the gift of £475 by the people of Eastcote to the War Memorial Appeal of Northampton General Hospital – World War 1939-1945 – Sweet Mercy is Nobility's True Badge*'. This tablet appears to have been installed in 1946 and formed one of a series of memorials set up to commemorate donations made to the Northampton Hospital War Memorial Appeal by numerous parish churches and Nonconformist chapels throughout the county.

To the left of the porch is a series of four gravestones set against the wall of the chapel; it is unclear whether these are *in situ* or have been relocated from elsewhere within the churchyard. The inscriptions are all heavily weathered and almost illegible but the largest stone bears the date '1869', while the stone closest to the porch is inscribed with the initials 'R.G.' (*Plate 5*).

Set diagonally on the left- and right-hand corners of the front elevation are two small cast-iron scrolled wall brackets which appear to have carried hanging baskets or possibly lamps (*Plate 6*). The SW-facing elevation has two windows (the original sashes having been replaced by modern 6/6 casements) set within tall, low-arched openings with gauged brick headers and stone sills (*Plate 7*).

The corresponding NE-facing elevation shows clear evidence of having been altered when the schoolroom was added (in 1870-71); the position of the original left-hand window (which has been blocked up) is indicated by its gauged brick arch, partially truncated by the insertion of a later flat arched window with a wooden lintel and stone sill which contains a modern 6/6 casement (*Plates 8 & 9*). The rear (NW-facing) elevation of the chapel is partially clad with ivy creeper and is lit by two flat-arched 6-paned casement windows with wooden lintels and stone sills (*Plates 10 & 11*).

6.1.2 Hall (former Sunday School)

Attached to the NE-facing elevation of the chapel is a low single-storey rectangular annexe of orange-red brick and rubble masonry construction with a slate roof (aligned SW-NE) situated on a concrete plinth which was originally built in 1870-71 to house the Sunday School (replacing an earlier schoolhouse) and which in turn was altered with the addition of a bay at the NE end, probably in the late 19th/early 20th century, to accommodate a storeroom and subsequently lavatories.

The principal SE-facing elevation (*Plate 12*) is four bays long and of red-brick masonry construction, laid in an irregular English Garden Wall Bond. The fenestration comprises a modern uPVC door set within a low-arched opening with brick headers extending up to eaves level, flanked by two uPVC 3/9 casement windows set within similar low-arched openings with brick headers and stone sills. Set into the masonry beneath each window is a rectangular stone tablet; both of which were heavily weathered and defaced with no visible evidence for an inscription noted. Within the NE bay is a plank and batten door providing access to a storeroom, set within a low-arched opening again extending up to eaves level. The NE bay appears to have been added at a slightly later date to the rest of the building, as indicated by a distinct change in the bonding of the brickwork to the left of the doorway (*Plate 13*).

The NE gable end of the annexe has a blocked segmental-arched window with gauged brick headers, set slightly off centre within the elevation (*Plate 14*); to the right of which is a pair of flat arched modern doors with concrete lintels which appear to have been inserted at a later date when lavatories were installed in the building (*Plate 15*). The rear (NW-facing elevation) of the annexe is predominantly of roughly coursed sandstone rubble masonry, with the construction break between this earlier portion of the building and the NE bay, which is of brick construction, clearly discernible (*Plate 16*).

6.1.3 Churchyard-

The chapel is set within a triangular churchyard which appears to have been used for burials of several ministers and members of the chapel from the early 1840s (the earliest dating from 1843) up to 1923, based on the evidence of entries contained in the Eastcote and Pattishall Parish Book (there does not appear to have been a regularly maintained register of burials) and extant memorials within the churchyard (*Plate 17*). There has evidently been some clearance and relocation of memorials as evidenced by a row of 16 gravestones placed against the rear (NW) wall of the churchyard which appear broadly to be of late 19th/early 20th century in date (*Plates 18 & 19*), several commemorating several generations of the same family who were long-standing members of the congregation (including the Ashbys, Ayres, Kirtons and Nightingales).

There are two ledger stones commemorating *in-situ* graves, most notably the grave of Thomas Chamberlain, the first pastor and founder of Eastcote Chapel who was buried in 1869, along with his wife Ann, which is situated immediately E of the path leading to the front porch of the chapel (*Plate 20*). Further to the NE, roughly opposite the Sunday School, is another ledger stone commemorating Chamberlain's successor as pastor of Pattishall and Eastcote, the Reverend Charles Mace, who died on 24th November 1874, aged 49 years.

Due to the incomplete nature of the burial records, it is not possible to accurately determine the full number of persons buried in the churchyard (and the exact position of many of the graves) although the evidence of available records and extant memorials appears to indicate at least 40-50 persons were buried at Eastcote between c.1840 and 1923. As far as can be determined, there are no records of burials within the chapel itself, although there do appear to have been interments recorded within Pattishall Chapel based on entries in the Parish Book.

6.2 Interior

6.2.1 Chapel

The chapel is accessed via a small, narrow brick entrance porch with panelled double doors at either end (*Plate 21*). The interior of the chapel consists of a single-cell 'preaching box' layout with a suspended timber-boarded floor (which appears to have been renewed in places) and plastered walls (the lower half covered in blue wallpaper) with a high wooden dado rail and skirting extending around the interior (*Plate 22*).

At the NW end of the chapel is a raised wooden dais with a simple wooden panelled hexagonal pulpit with flanking steps; the pulpit has been moved from its original central location against the NW wall, the lower portion of which has been stripped of its wallpaper and plasterwork to expose the brick masonry beneath (*Plates 23-25*).

The roof of the chapel has been exposed by the removal of the ceiling plasterwork to expose the timber joists; the structure comprises a central kingpost truss, with two open roof trusses to the NW and SE with angled struts connecting the tiebeam to the principal rafters, which in turn are interconnected by two pairs of trenched purlins. A hexagonal ceiling hatch was noted in the centre of the roof and two pairs of brass ceiling lights were attached to the joists (*Plates 26-27*).

The interior of the chapel appears to have been heavily refurbished in the mid to late 20th century and very few features of architectural or historical interest were noted. No visible structural evidence was noted for an internal gallery within the chapel. No visible evidence was noted for a baptismal font within the interior (as often encountered in Baptist Chapels). The two casement windows at the NW end of the chapel (flanking the pulpit) appear to have been renewed with modern frosted glass.

A plaque or board to the left of the right-hand window appears to have been removed (*Plate 28*), while immediately to the right of the left-hand window is a marble wall tablet moved from Pattishall Chapel following its closure in May 1955 commemorating Thomas Chamberlain 'for thirty-two years the faithful pastor of the church and devoted evangelist of this district. Endowed with great natural ability and force of character joined with a large heart, he so preached the gospel of salvation with his lips and his life that many believed and turned to the Lord. Through his untiring labours this chapel and that at Eastcote were built. God so blessed his teaching and example in all this neighbourhood that a region once a spiritual wilderness became a garden fruitful unto God' (*Plates 29 & 30*).

Chamberlain's tablet is the only extant memorial to remain within the chapel. The SW wall of the chapel is largely devoid of features of interest; the glazing consists of two modern uPVC casements (replacing earlier sashes), with

a number of simple carved pews and kneelers (probably of early 20th century date) stacked up against the wall (*Plates 31 & 32*). Further evidence of carved wooden pews of similar form and date was also noted against the NE wall of the chapel (*Plate 33*).

6.2.2 Hall (former Sunday School)

Inserted in the NE wall of the chapel, to the right of the dais, is a large rectangular opening with a pair of wooden panelled double doors providing access to the hall annexe which was originally built in 1870-71 to house the Sunday School (*Plates 34 & 35*). The annexe appears to have been used as a schoolroom up to the late 20th century and more recently has been adapted for use as a hall and a kitchen. It has a planked floor (which appears to have been renewed fairly recently), while the walls are wallpapered. The roof structure is of simple collar and tiebeam type, with collar trusses connecting the principal rafters with a substantial horizontal tiebeam located roughly in the middle of the roof which appears to be a later insertion (*Plates 36-38*). The outline of a possible former chimneybreast is visible at the NE end of the annexe (*Plate 39*).

The annexe has been subject to extensive refurbishment in the late 20th century with the installation of a kitchen unit and replacement of the original door and casement windows with uPVC fittings (*Plates 40 & 41*); however, a wooden coat rail with hooks was noted extending along the entirety of the rear wall (*Plate 42*); it is possible that it may represent a fixture associated with the former usage of the building as a schoolroom.

Attached to the NE end of the former schoolhouse is a separate brick structure which appears originally to have been built as a storehouse but was later partially adapted for use as lavatories. The interior has been truncated with the insertion of concrete breezeblock partition to separate the storeroom from the lavatories to the N, with further partitions inserted to demarcate the two lavatories. The NE wall of the building has also been partially reconstructed with concrete breezeblocks internally, resulting in the blocking up of a window in the storeroom (*Plate 43*). Of particular interest is the fact that the NE gable wall of the adjoining schoolroom, though coated in white render is clearly of roughly coursed sandstone rubble masonry construction (*Plates 44-46*). It is possible, though unproven, that the rubble masonry may represent building materials from the original schoolroom (demolished in 1870) which were then used in the construction of the new building.

7 Conclusions

Border Archaeology (BA) has undertaken a programme of Archaeological Standing Building Recording to Historic England Level 2 of Eastcote Baptist Chapel, Gayton Road, Eastcote (Northants) the results of which can be briefly summarised thus:

Eastcote Baptist Chapel was built in 1838 founded by the Baptist minister Thomas Chamberlain with the support of the Reverend Thomas Marriott, pastor of Milton Malsor. The chapel itself is a simple rectangular single-cell gabled edifice aligned NW-SE, of orange-red brick construction (laid in Flemish Bond) with a pitched Welsh Slate roof and a projecting gabled entrance porch with bargeboarded eaves. The low arched window openings in the

SW-facing elevation and the flat arched windows in the NW end of the church appear to be original although the existing glazed casements are clearly modern insertions (replacing sash windows).

Attached to the NE end of the chapel is a single-storey rectangular gabled building of red brick and rubble masonry construction with a pitched slate roof which was originally built in 1870-71 as a Sunday School (replacing an earlier building on the site which was demolished). The construction of the new school building necessitated the blocking up of a window in the NE wall of the chapel.

It appears that the schoolroom building was three-bays in length, the front wall being of red brick construction while the original NE-gable wall and the NW gable elevation are both constructed of roughly coursed sandstone masonry (possibly derived from an earlier building demolished in 1870). A gabled brick extension was added to the NE end of the schoolroom at some point during the late 19th century to accommodate a storeroom; this extension was further altered with the insertion of concrete breezeblock partitions for lavatories in the mid-late 20th century.

Internally, the chapel is of a single-cell 'preaching-box' type characteristic of small Baptist chapels of early to mid-19th century date, which has been subject to considerable refurbishment in the mid-late 20th century, with replacement of the original sash windows with casements. The roof structure, which appears to be original, comprises a central kingpost truss and two open trusses with angled struts, while the suspended wooden boarded floor appears to have been renewed in places.

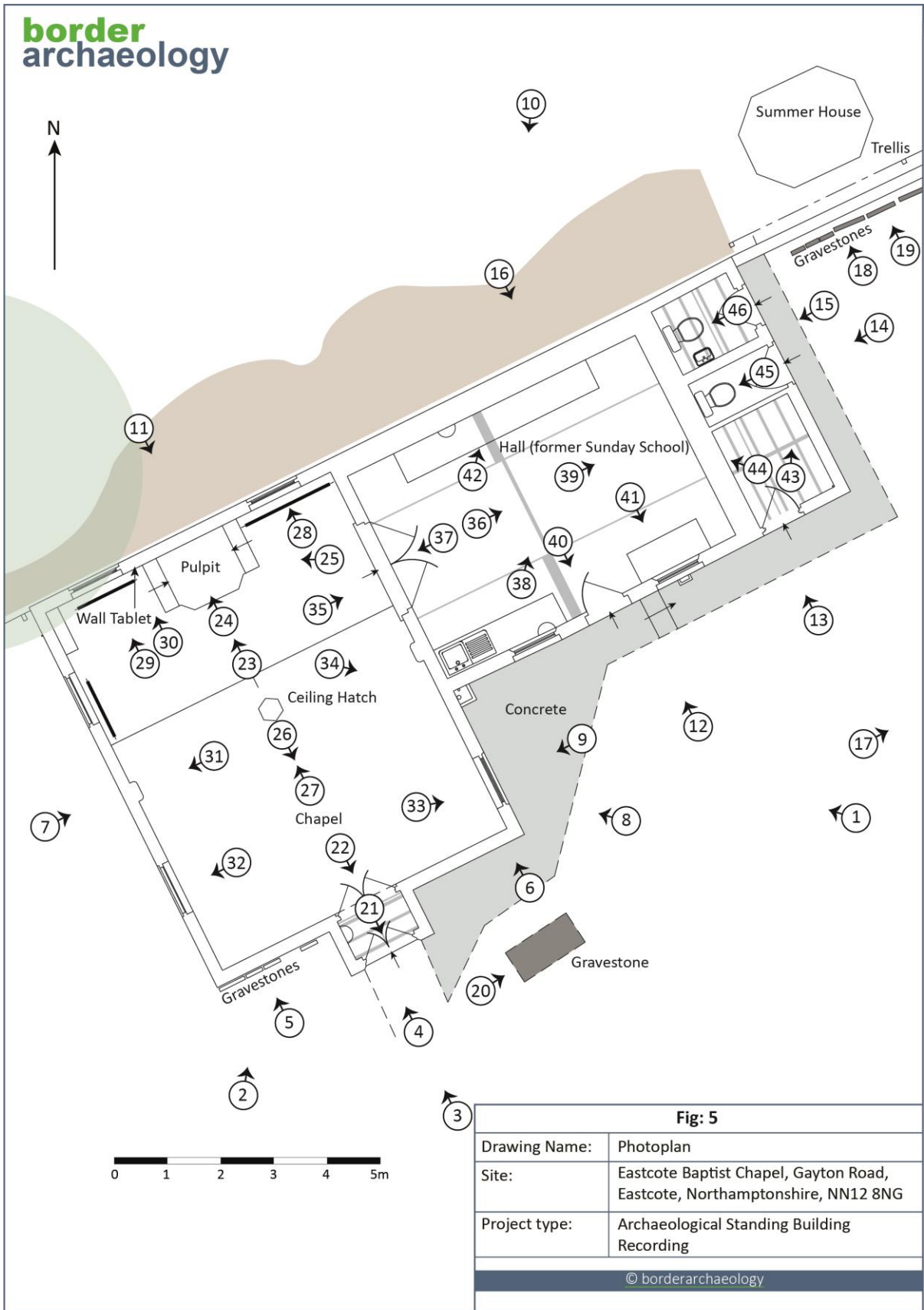
Few fixtures or fittings of historical or architectural interest were noted within the chapel interior, the sole exception being the wall tablet commemorating Thomas Chamberlain (d.1869), the founder and first minister of the chapel which was relocated from Pattishall Chapel following its closure in 1955. The existing wooden panelled pulpit and pews appear to be of 20th century date.

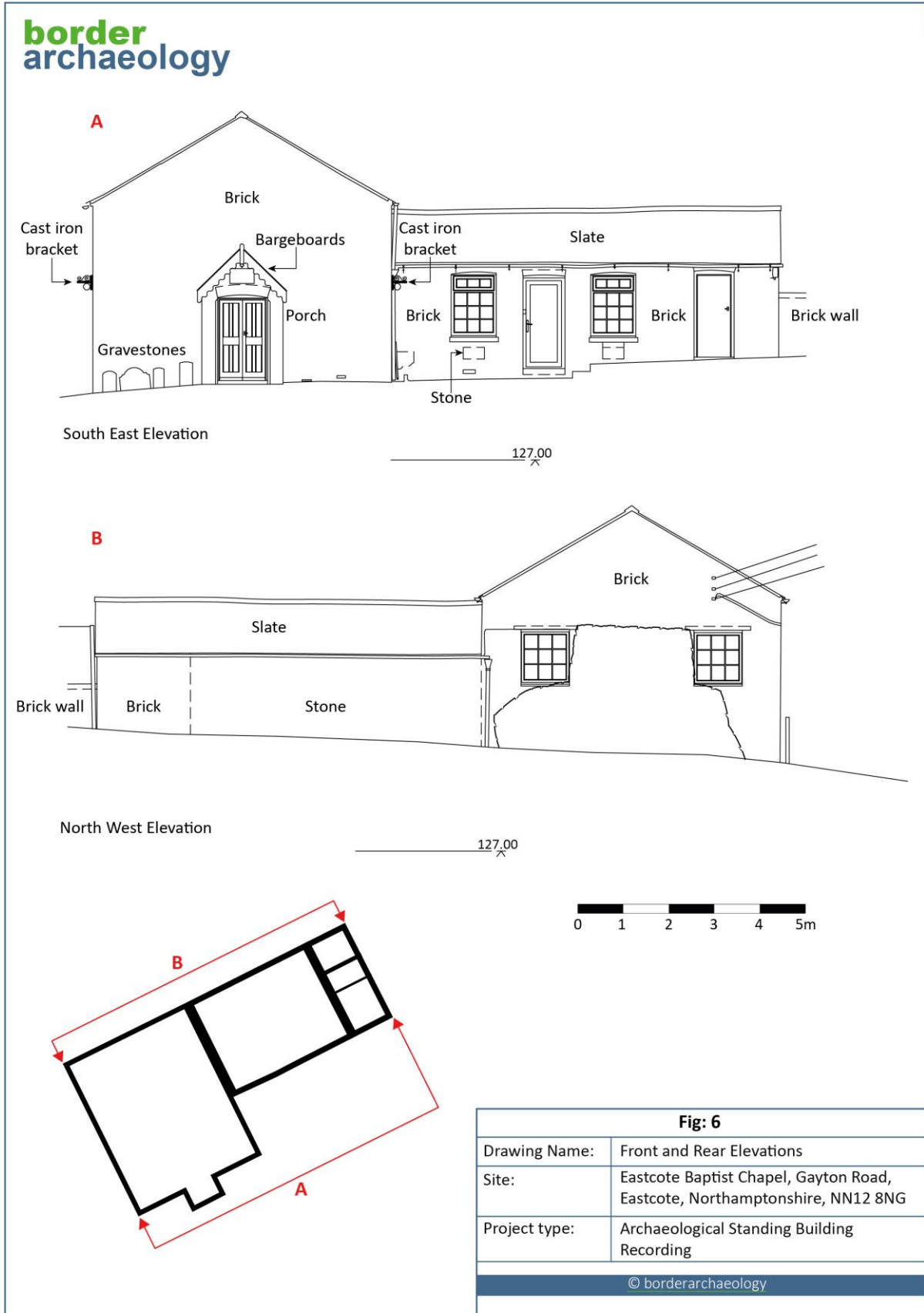
The interior of the schoolroom has a simple collar and tiebeam roof and has been similarly refurbished with the insertion of a modern kitchen unit and replacement of the original door and windows with uPVC glazing.

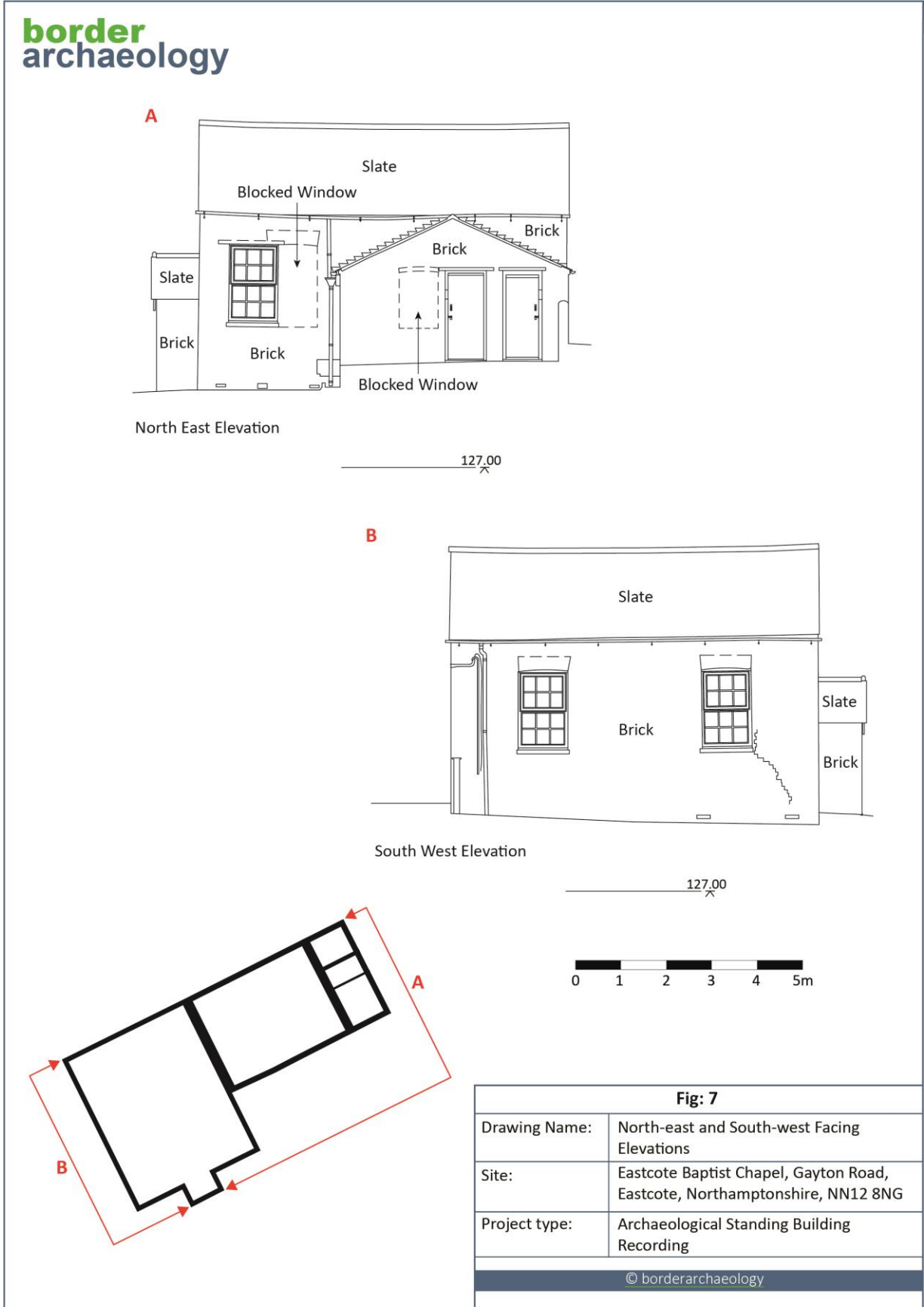
Eastcote Chapel may be considered to be as a typical example of a simple 'preaching box' Baptist church of early to mid-19th century date, with minimal architectural detailing and similar in appearance and layout to the nearby former chapel at Pattishall.

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9 References

9.1 Primary Sources

Northamptonshire Archives

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1914-1934: Eastcote and Pattishall Baptist Church Book (Northamptonshire Archives Ref. B/ECB/002)

1914-1974: Eastcote and Pattishall Baptist Church Accounts (Northamptonshire Archives Ref. B/ECB/003)

National Archives

1841-1911: Census Returns for Eastcote

1851: Ecclesiastical Census Return for Eastcote Chapel (HO 129/165/36)

9.2 Secondary Sources

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9.3 Cartography

(All maps were obtained from the National Archives unless otherwise stated)

1813: OS Surveyor's Drawing of Northampton and district

1885: OS 1st edition 25-inch map

1900: OS 2nd edition 25-inch map

1933: OS 3rd edition 6-inch map

1952: OS provisional edition 6-inch map

1968: OS National Survey 1:2500 edition map

10 Appendix 1: Photographic Record



Plate 1: General view looking WNW towards the former Baptist Chapel (1838) and former Sunday School (1870-71)



Plate 2: View looking N showing front elevation of former Baptist Chapel with Schoolroom to right of picture



Plate 3: View looking NW towards principal (SE-facing) elevation of Eastcote Chapel



Plate 4: View looking NW showing detail of memorial tablet (1946) and wavy bargeboarding over entrance porch to chapel



Plate 5: View looking NW showing detail of 19th century gravestones to left of entrance porch to chapel



Plate 6: View WNW showing detail of cast-iron scrolled wall bracket attached to the SE corner of the front elevation



Plate 7: View looking NE showing SW-facing elevation of chapel with low-arched windows with gauged brick headers



Plate 8: View looking WNW showing NE-facing elevation of chapel with schoolroom to right of picture



Plate 9: View looking WSW showing NE facing elevation of chapel with blocked window to left of modern glazed casement



Plate 10: General view looking S of rear (NW-facing) elevation of chapel and schoolroom



Plate 11: View looking SE showing rear (NW-facing) elevation of chapel with casement windows



Plate 12: View looking NW showing SE-facing elevation of schoolroom annexe



Plate 13: View looking NW showing detail of doorway at NE end of front elevation of schoolroom, with construction break visible to left of doorway



Plate 14: View looking SW showing NE gable end of schoolroom annexe



Plate 15: View looking SW showing detail of modern doors inserted for toilet compartments at NE end of schoolroom



Plate 16: View looking SE showing rear (NW-facing) elevation of schoolroom annexe, constructed of roughly coursed rubble masonry with later brick extension to left of picture



Plate 17: General view looking NE across eastern portion of churchyard with schoolroom to left of picture and ledger stone commemorating the Reverend Charles Mace (d.1874) visible to SE of schoolroom



Plate 18: View looking NW showing gravestones of late 19th/early 20th century date along NW wall of churchyard adjacent to schoolroom



Plate 19: Oblique view NW showing further gravestones of late 19th/early 20th century date lining NW wall of graveyard

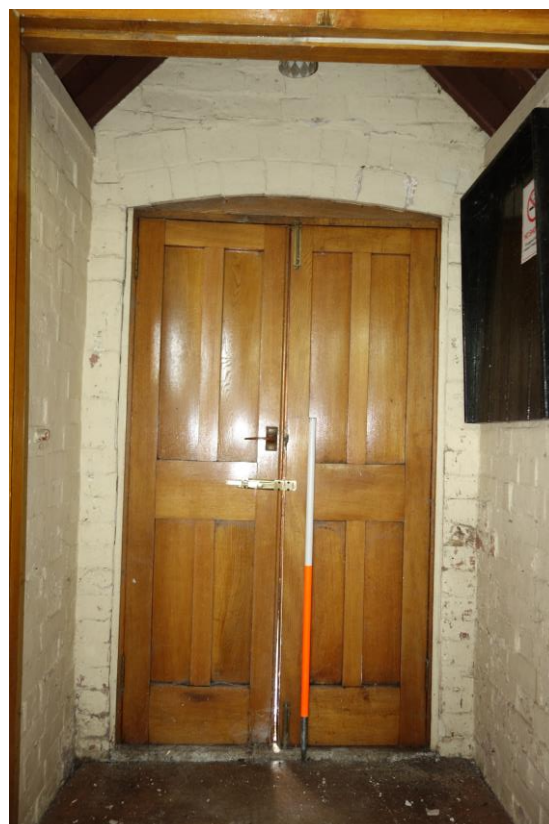


Plate 20: View NE showing detail of ledger stone commemorating Thomas Chamberlain and his wife, to SE of chapel
Plate 21: View SE showing detail of interior of entrance porch with panelled doors



Plate 22: View looking SE towards SE end of chapel showing boarded floor and dado rail



Plate 23: View looking NW towards dais at NW end of chapel with pulpit to right of picture



Plate 24: View looking NW showing pulpit moved from its original location (to left of picture)



Plate 25: View looking WNW showing detail of pulpit at NW end of chapel



Plate 26: Views looking SE showing detail of roof structure with kingpost roof and hexagonal ceiling hatch



Plate 27: View looking NW, showing detail of roof structure with kingpost roof, open trusses with angled struts and ceiling hatch



Plate 28: View NW showing detail of casement window in right hand corner of NW wall of chapel



Plate 29: View looking NW showing detail of casement window in left hand corner of NW wall, with wall tablet to right commemorating Thomas Chamberlain



Plate 30: View NW showing detail of wall tablet commemorating Thomas Chamberlain (d.1869) first pastor of Eastcote Chapel (moved from Pattishall Chapel in 1955)



Plate 31: View looking WSW towards SW wall of chapel showing casement windows and pews (to left of picture)



Plate 32: Internal view looking SW showing detail of left-hand casement window in SW wall of chapel

Plate 33: Internal view looking ESE showing detail of casement window in NE wall of chapel



Plate 34: Internal view looking E showing NE wall of chapel with double doors leading to hall (former schoolroom)



Plate 35: View looking NE from dais showing double doors leading to hall (former schoolroom)



Plate 35: Internal view of hall (former schoolroom) looking NE showing boarded floor and roof trusses



Plate 37: View looking SW towards SW end of former schoolroom showing double doors with modern kitchen unit to left



Plate 38: View looking NE showing detail of collar trusses and tiebeam in roof of former schoolroom



Plate 39: Internal view looking NE towards NE end of former schoolroom showing outline of former chimneystack in wall



Plate 40: Internal view looking SE showing modern uPVC door and casement windows in SE wall of former schoolroom



Plate 41: Internal view looking SE showing detail of casement window to left of door in SE wall of former schoolroom



Plate 42: Internal view looking NE showing detail of rear wall of former schoolroom with coat rack with hooks attached to wall



Plate 43: Internal view looking N showing NE wall of storeroom with blocked window and modern concrete partition
Plate 44: Internal view of storeroom looking NW, showing original NE gable wall of former schoolroom



Plate 45: View SW showing interior of left-hand W.C. at NE end of former schoolroom, with masonry wall in background
Plate 46: View SW showing interior of right-hand W.C. at NE end of former school room with rubble masonry wall visible

11 Appendix 2: Historic Maps

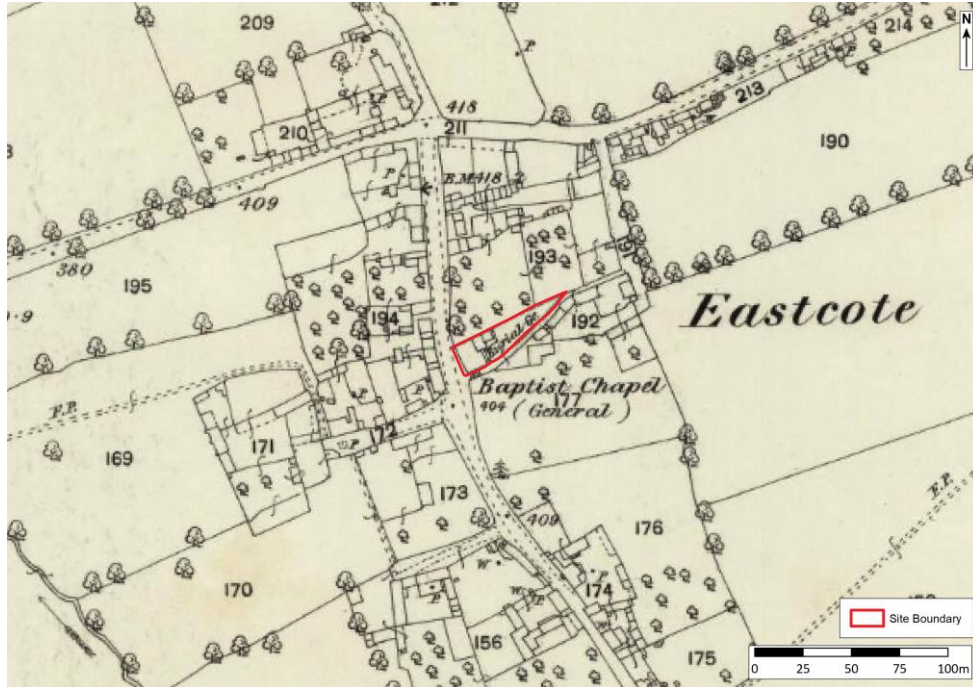


Fig. 8: Extract from the OS 1st edition 25-inch map of 1885
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

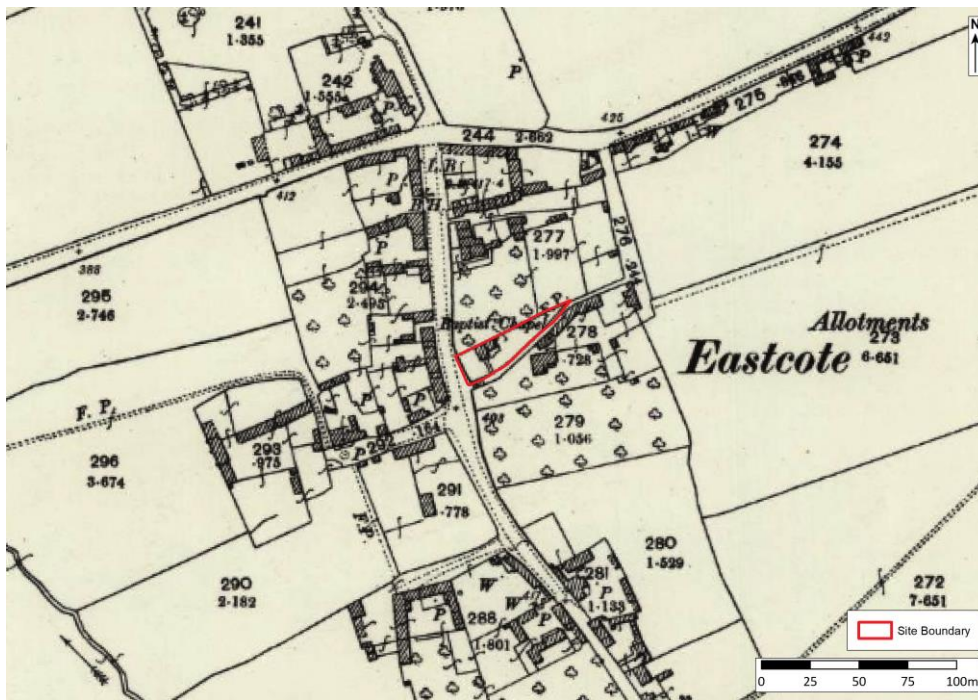


Fig. 9: Extract from the OS 2nd edition 25-inch map of 1900
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)



Fig. 10: Extract from the OS 3rd edition 6-inch map of 1933
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

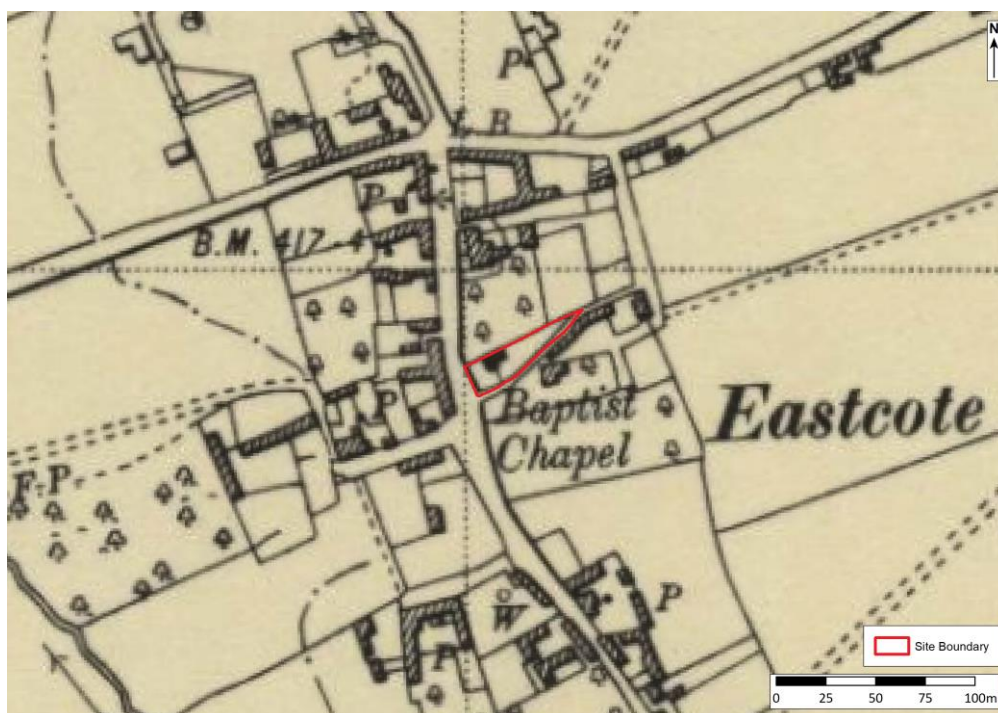


Fig. 11: Extract from the OS provisional edition 6-inch map of 1933
(Reproduced by courtesy of the National Archives)

12 Appendix 3: OASIS Archaeological Report Form

OASIS ID (UID)	borderar1-507205
Project Name	Descriptive Buildings Record (Level 2) at Eastcote Baptist Chapel
Sitename	
Activity type	Descriptive Buildings Record (Level 2)
Project Identifier(s)	
Planning Id	WNS/2021/2185/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	Border Archaeology Ltd
Project Dates	16-May-2022 - 16-May-2022
Location	Eastcote Baptist Chapel, Gayton Road, Eastcote, Northamptonshire NN12 8NG NGR : SP 68021 53958 LL : 52.1796908142549, -1.00661639632431 12 Fig : 468021,253958
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Northamptonshire District : South Northamptonshire Parish : Pattishall
Project Methodology	The specific recording methodology is based on a Historic England/RCHME Level 2 record as detailed in Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice (Lane 2016) comprising a drawn, photographic and descriptive written record of the chapel with documentary research to inform the results of the recording.

Project Results	<p>A programme of Archaeological Standing Building Recording to Historic England Level 2 was carried out at Eastcote Baptist Chapel, Eastcote (Northants) prior to conversion to a residential dwelling. The chapel was built in 1838 with a Sunday School added in 1870-71. It is not designated as a listed building but has been recognised as being of historical and/or architectural significance and is recorded as such in the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record.</p> <p>The chapel consists of a simple rectangular gabled edifice aligned northwest-southeast, of orange-red brick construction (laid in Flemish Bond) with a pitched Welsh Slate roof and a projecting gabled entrance porch with bargeboarded eaves. The low arched window openings in the southwest-facing elevation and the flat arched windows in the northwest end of the church appear to be original although the existing glazed casements are clearly modern insertions (replacing sash windows).</p> <p>Attached to the northeast end of the chapel is a single-storey rectangular gabled building of red brick and rubble masonry construction with a pitched slate roof which was originally built in 1870-71 as a Sunday School (replacing an earlier building on the site which was demolished). A gabled brick extension was added to the northeast end of the schoolroom at some point during the late 19th century to accommodate a storeroom; this extension was further altered with the insertion of concrete breezeblock partitions for lavatories in the mid-late 20th century.</p> <p>Internally, the chapel is of a single-cell 'preaching-box' type, characteristic of small Baptist chapels of early to mid-19th century date, which has been subject to considerable refurbishment in the mid-late 20th century. The roof structure comprises a central kingpost truss and two open trusses with angled struts, while the suspended wooden boarded floor appears to have been renewed in places.</p> <p>Few fixtures or fittings of historical or architectural interest were noted within the chapel interior, the sole exception being the wall tablet commemorating Thomas Chamberlain (d.1869), the founder and first minister of the chapel which was relocated from Pattishall Chapel following its closure in 1955. The interior of the schoolroom has a simple collar and tiebeam roof and has been similarly refurbished with the insertion of a modern kitchen unit and replacement of the original door and windows with uPVC glazing.</p> <p>The chapel may be regarded as a typical example of a simple 'preaching box' Baptist chapel of early to mid-19th century date, with minimal architectural detailing and similar in form to the nearby former Baptist chapel at Pattishall, founded in 1840.</p>
Keywords	Nonconformist Chapel - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Northamptonshire SMR - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	S, Priestley
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ENN110644
Archives	Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre;

Document Title		Document Reference	
Archaeological Standing Building Recording: Eastcote Baptist Chapel Gayton Road Eastcote Northamptonshire NN12 8NG		BA2243EGN	
Compilation	Stephen Priestley MA MCI <i>f</i> A		
Editing	George Children MA MCI <i>f</i> A		
Artwork	Holly Litherland BA (Hons)		
Issue No.	Status	Date	Approved for issue
1	Final	June 2022	George Children MA MCI <i>f</i> A