



**Northamptonshire
County Council**

Northamptonshire Archaeology

An archaeological watching brief

At Glebe Cottage, 15 Church Gate

Hallaton, Leicestershire

March 2005



David Leigh

February 2006

Report 05/53

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QUALITY CONTROL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	An archaeological watching brief at Glebe Cottage, 15 Churchgate, Hallaton, Leicestershire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks connected with the construction of a first floor extension at Glebe Cottage, 15 Churchgate, Hallaton, Leicestershire. A truncated natural substratum was revealed across all the development area. No archaeological deposits were present and no artefacts were recovered.	
Project type (eg DBA, evaluation etc)	Watching Brief, Planning Application No: 04/00828/LBC	
Site status (none, NT, SAM etc)	None	
Previous work (SMR numbers etc)	None	
Current Land use	Domestic	
Future work (yes, no, unknown)	Unknown	
Monument type/ period		
Significant finds (artefact type and period)		
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Leicestershire	
Site address (including postcode)	Glebe Cottage, 15 Churchgate, Hallaton, Leicestershire	
Study area (sq.m or ha)		
OS Easting & Northing (use grid sq. numbers)	SP 785965	
Height OD	c95m OD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	The Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire Museums	
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	David J. Leigh	
Project Manager	Andy Mudd	
Sponsor or funding body	Mr & Mrs Kenyon	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	February 2005	
End date	March 2005	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		
Paper	Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Record Service Accession No: X.A24.2005	Watching brief forms (2) Colour slides (13) black and white contact prints (13) Digital photographs (12)
Digital	Ditto	Report text and figures

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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT GLEBE COTTAGE,
15 CHURCHGATE, HALLATON, LEICESTERSHIRE
FEBRUARY - MARCH 2005**

Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology during groundworks connected with the construction of a first floor extension at Glebe Cottage, 15 Churchgate, Hallaton, Leicestershire. A truncated natural substratum was revealed across all of the development area with occasional pockets of modern disturbance. No archaeological deposits were present and no artefacts were recovered.

1 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology between February and March 2005 during groundworks associated with the construction of a first floor extension at Glebe Cottage, 15 Churchgate, Hallaton, Leicestershire (Planning application No: 04/00828/LBC; NGR SP785 965: Fig 1). The work was carried out on behalf of Oliver Middleton Consultants acting on behalf of Mr and Mrs Kenyon in order to fulfil the requirements for archaeological work in a brief issued by The Planning Archaeologist, Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council on the 14th October 2004.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and Topography

The development area is located within the village of Hallaton and lies at a height of c95m OD. The underlying geology has been mapped by the British Geological Survey as Upper Lias Clay overlying Marlstone Rock Bed.

2.2 Historical Background

The development area is located within the core of Hallaton, close to the medieval church (Sites and Monuments Record No: SMR 79NE AS) and the site of a medieval manor house (SMR 79NE AV). Glebe Cottage itself is a Grade II listed building which dates mostly from the 17th and 18th centuries. Evidence of the earlier timber framed structure can be seen in the posts around the fireplace and a pair of cruck blades, whilst some of the internal walls are of mud and stud construction. Tree ring analysis carried out in 2002 on timbers from 10-14 Churchgate suggest a felling date of 1484 – 1509. No previous archaeological work has been carried out in the development area.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The aims of the watching brief were to:

- ◆ Observe the groundworks connected with the construction of the new extension, and to record all archaeological deposits uncovered.
- ◆ Determine the date, character, state of preservation and depth of any archaeological deposits observed and to retrieve all datable artefacts.

The fieldwork comprised three visits to the site during the excavation of foundation trenches for the new extension (Fig 2). A photographic record in both black and white negative and colour slide was kept and the written record used Northamptonshire Archaeology pro-forma sheets. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the standards and guidelines for an archaeological watching brief (IFA 1999).

4 THE RECORDED EVIDENCE

A uniform stratigraphy was revealed across all the development area. The natural substratum was encountered at a depth of *c*90m OD and comprised pale brown compact clay with occasional flint fragments. Overlying this was mid grey/brown silt loam topsoil, up to 0.28m thick, no discernible subsoil was noted. Occasional pockets of modern disturbance were noted within the foundation trenches, these contained fragments of modern ceramic building material and large concrete fragments within a grey/black silt loam matrix.

5 THE SITE ARCHIVE

The site archive comprises:

RECORD	NUMBER
Watching brief forms	3
Colour slides	13
Black and white contacts and negatives	13
Digital photographs	12

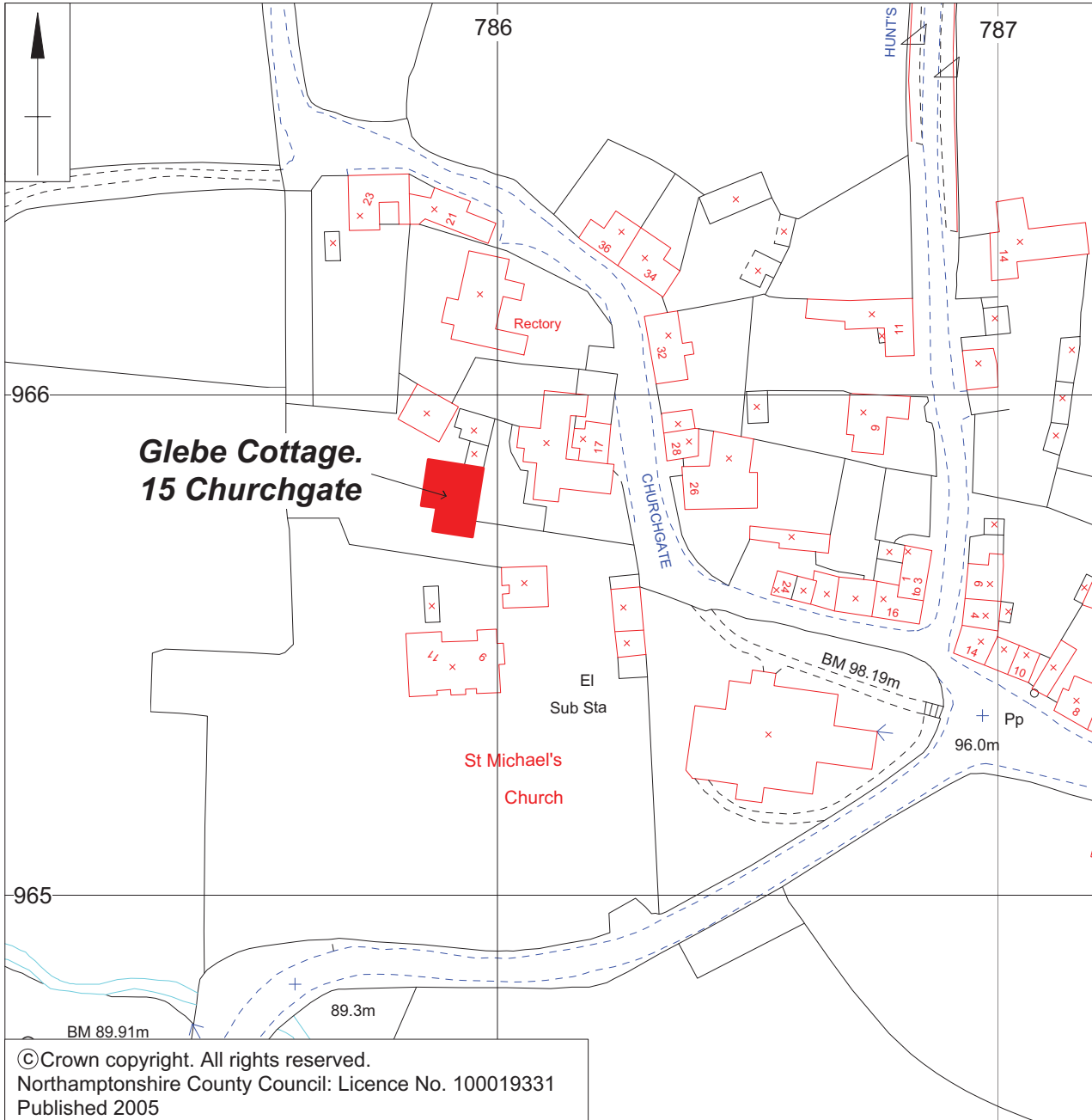
6 CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological deposits were present and no artefacts were recovered. A heavily truncated natural substratum was revealed within the development area, this probably resulted from the construction of the extension and associated area of hard-standing that were located within the development area up until their demolition at the start of the present development.

Whilst a heavily disturbed stratigraphy was revealed in the immediate area of the new development there remains the potential for the presence of archaeological deposits within the garden of Glebe Cottage which does not appear to have been subject to recent disturbance.

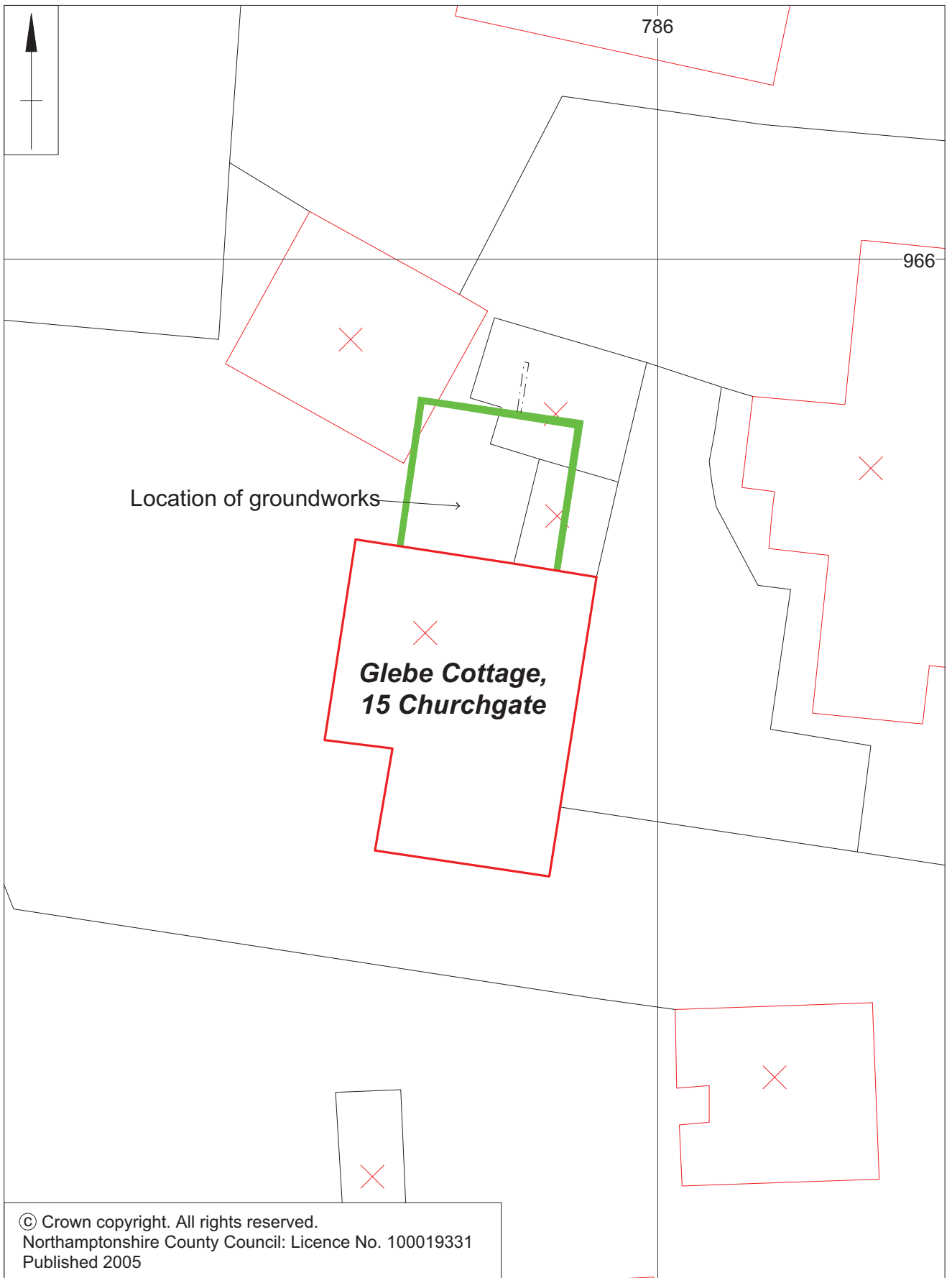
BIBLIOGRAPHY

IFA 1999 *Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* Institute of Field Archaeologists



Scale 1:1300

Fig. 1



Scale 1:2500

Fig 2



Plate 1: Glebe Cottage, Hallaton



Plate 2: The groundworks for the new extension