



# Northamptonshire Archaeology

An archaeological strip, map and record on land at  
Home Farm, Milton Malsor,  
Northamptonshire  
October 2010



## Northamptonshire Archaeology

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Northamptonshire  
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Report 11/31

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**QUALITY CONTROL**

	Print name	Signed	Date
Checked by	Charlotte Walker		
Verified by	Steve Parry		
Approved by	Andy Chapman		

**OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project name	An archaeological strip, map and record on land at Home Farm, Malzor Lane, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire	
Short description	An archaeological strip, map and record was undertaken in advance of residential development on land at Home Farm, Malzor Lane, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire. Modern disturbance was noted along the north-western boundary of the investigation area, whilst undisturbed soils were present throughout the remainder. No archaeological deposits or artefacts were present.	
Project type	Strip, map and record	
Site status	None	
Previous work	None	
Current Land use	Agricultural	
Future work	No	
Monument type/ period	None	
Significant finds	None	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address	Home Farm, Malzor Lane, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire	
Study area (sq metres)		
OS Easting & Northing	SP: 7318 5561	
Height OD	C88.4 – 87.4m aOD	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	The Assistant Planning Archaeologist, Northamptonshire County Council	
Project Design originator	David J Leigh, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	David J Leigh	
Project Manager	Dr William A Boismier, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Sponsor or funding body	S&S Construction	
<b>PROJECT DATE</b>		
Start date	October 2010	
End date	October 2010	
<b>ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Location (Accession no.)</b>	<b>Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)</b>
Physical		
Paper		Watching brief forms (1) Colour slides (10) black and white contact prints (10) Digital photographs (35)
Digital		Report text and figures

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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND RECORD ON LAND AT  
HOME FARM, MILTON MALSOR, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
OCTOBER 2010**

*Abstract*

*An archaeological strip, map and record was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in October 2010 in advance of residential development on land at Home Farm, Malzor Lane, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire. Modern disturbance was noted in the eastern half of the investigation area which was connected to a recently demolished farm building, whilst undisturbed soils were present throughout the remainder of the site. No archaeological deposits or artefacts were present.*

**1 INTRODUCTION**

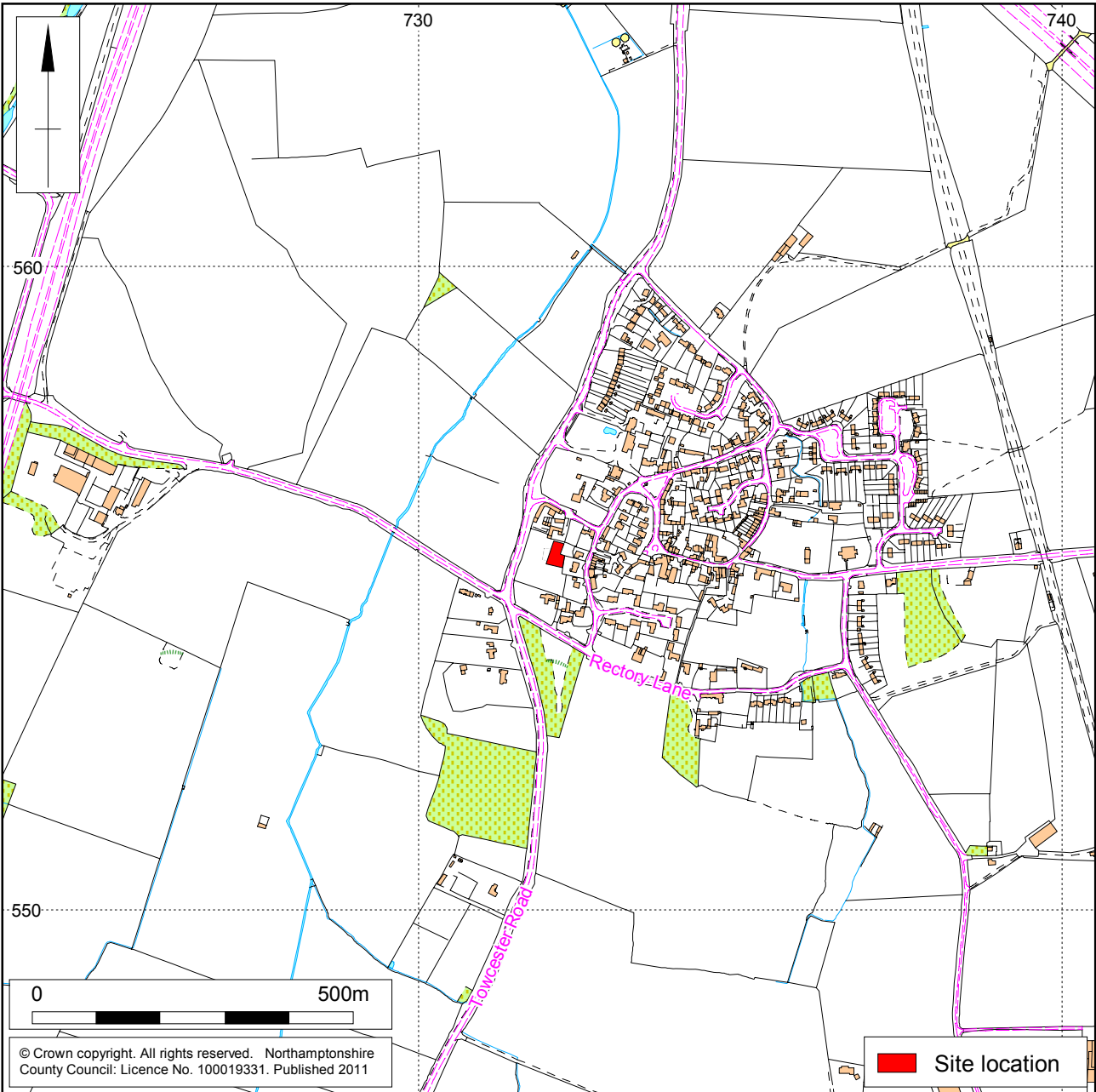
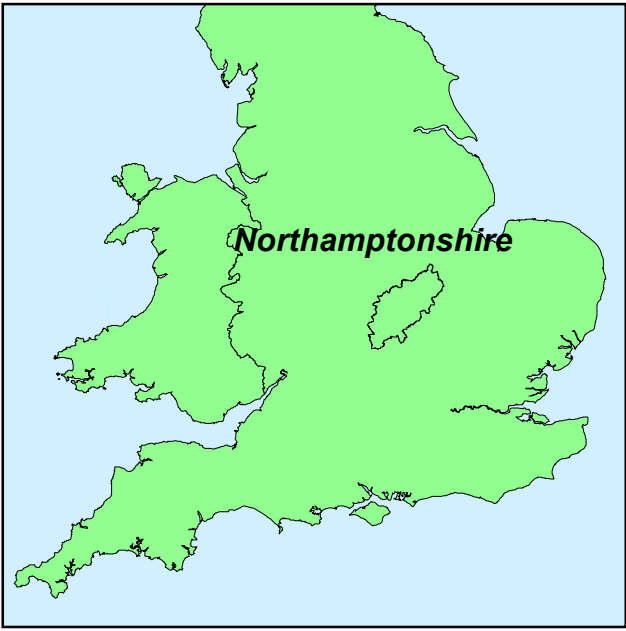
An archaeological strip, map and record was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in October 2010 in advance of residential development on land at Home Farm, Malzor Lane, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire (NGR: SP 7318 5561; Figs 1 to 3). The work was carried out on behalf of S&S Construction and followed a specification produced by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Leigh 2010) and approved by the Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northamptonshire County Council on the 11 October 2010. It adhered to the procedural document MoRPHE issued by English Heritage (EH 2006) and the appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008).

**2 BACKGROUND**

**2.1 Location and topography**

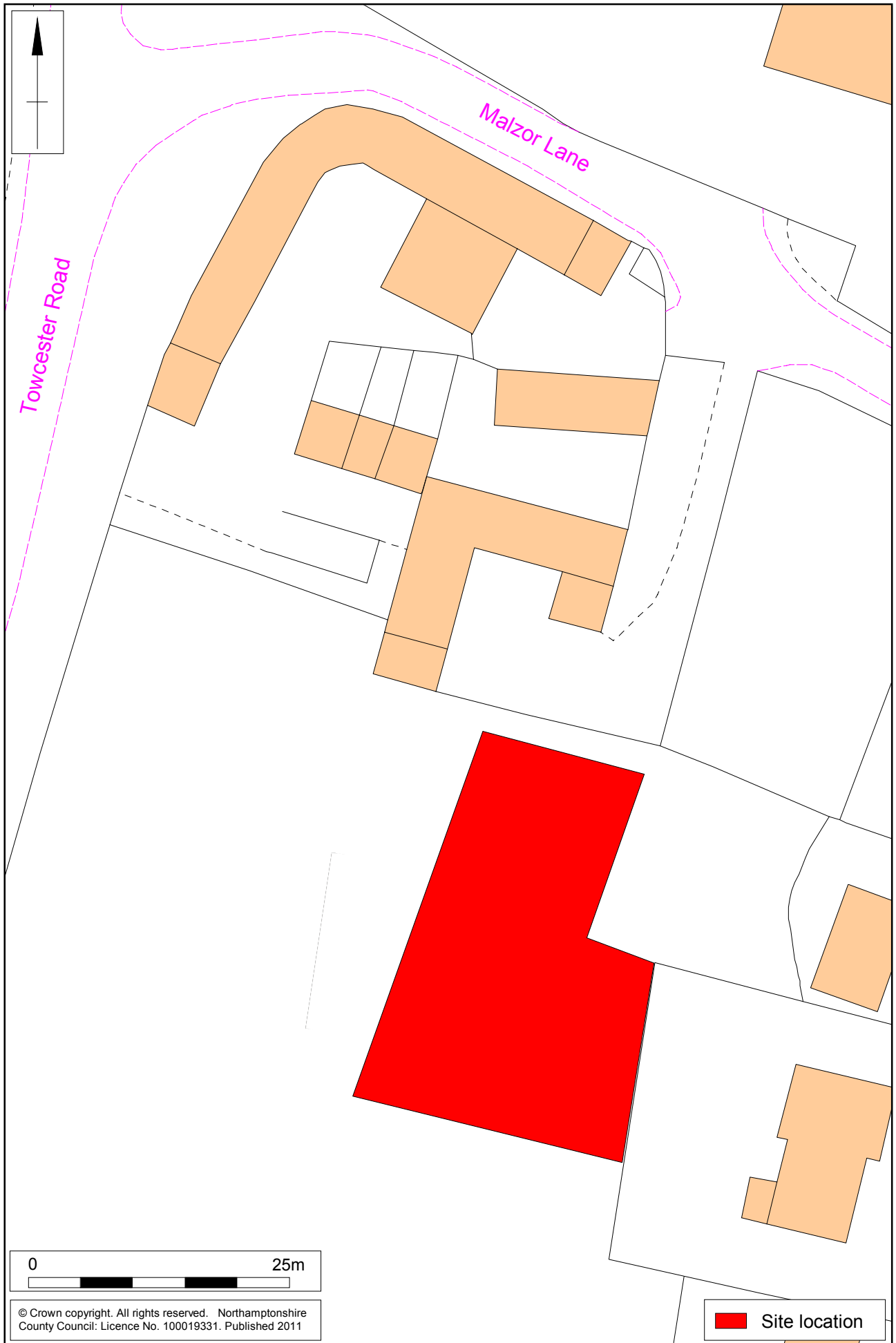
The village of Milton Malsor lies approximately 8km to the south of Northampton. The development area lies on land to the south of Home Farm, and up to the present application has been utilised as a general storage area for building materials during renovation works on the adjacent barns.

The site is situated on ground sloping gently down to the north and lies at a height of between c88.4m and 87.4m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology has been mapped by the British Geological Survey of Great Britain as comprising Glacial Sands and Gravels.



Scale 1:10,000

Site location Fig 1



## 2.2 Historical background

The development area lies in an area of archaeological interest, from historical research Milton Malsor has been a focus of occupation and settlement since before the Norman Conquest of 1066AD. The Domesday Book of 1086AD records Milton as comprising two distinct manors held by William Peverel and the King, William the Conqueror.

The historic core of the village is centred around the High Street and Green Lane which lie to the north and east of the development area. At the southern end of the village a number of 2nd century AD Roman coins were found, Historic Environment Record (HER) No: 6021, 6021/0/0. The HER also contains information suggesting the presence of a possible Romano-British pottery production site along with evidence suggestive of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery approximately 250m south of the development area.

The Towcester Road which runs immediately to the west of the development area is recorded as a former turnpike road in the 18th century (HER No: 7377). Home Farm itself is a Grade II Listed Building (HER No: 4639/5/1, MNN 105) and appears to date from the mid 18th century. Associated with the farm are a number of barns and outbuildings, the largest of these is an L-shaped barn which is individually Listed Grade II (HER No: 4639/5/2 MNN 105).

Previous archaeological work recorded as having been carried out in the development area has comprised a building recording of the barns associated with Home Farm (McAree 2010). Up to the present application the development site has contained scrub vegetation and has been in use as a building material storage area.





The development area at the start of groundworks, looking west Fig 3

### 3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The aims of the strip, map and record were to:

- ◆ Remove under archaeological control topsoil and subsoil down to the natural substratum within the footprint of the new development 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
- ◆ Create a permanent archive and record of the archaeological information collected during the course of the fieldwork and analysis.

The fieldwork was carried out in a single day and was carried out using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket.

A photographic record in both black and white negative and colour slide was kept, with supplementary photographs in digital format. The written record used Northamptonshire Archaeology pro-forma sheets. The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the standards and guidelines for an archaeological watching brief (IfA 2008).



The groundworks in progress, looking east Fig 4

#### **4 THE RECORDED EVIDENCE**

The natural substratum was encountered approximately 0.60m below present ground level and comprised yellow-red sand. This was overlain by mid grey-brown silt loam subsoil, up to 0.50m thick, containing occasional irregular stones. Sealing this was grey-black silt loam topsoil, up to 0.10m thick, containing occasional irregular stones and numerous fragments of modern ceramic building material.

In the north-western edge of the investigation area modern disturbance, deriving from the recent demolition of a former pigsty, was noted. This comprised numerous fragments of modern ceramic building material and occasional fragments of reinforced concrete within a matrix of blue-black silt loam (Fig 5). No archaeological deposits or artefacts were present.



Modern material along the north-western boundary of the investigation area Fig 5

## 5 THE SITE ARCHIVE

The project has generated a small archive comprising:

RECORD	NUMBER
Watching brief forms	2
Colour slides	10
Black and white contacts and negatives	10
Digital photographs	35

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

Modern material relating to a recently demolished pigsty was noted along the north-western boundary of the investigation area, whilst undisturbed soils were recorded throughout the remainder of the area.

No archaeological deposits or artefacts were present. The watching brief was undertaken in favourable circumstances and the results are considered to be reliable.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS 2009 <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html> British Geological Survey website

EH 2006 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* English Heritage Procedural Document

IfA 2008 *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Institute for Archaeologists

McAree, D, 2010 *Archaeological Building recording of barns at Manor Farm, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire* Northamptonshire Archaeology Report **10/88**

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Leigh, D J, 2010 *A Specification for an Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample on land at Home Farm, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire*, Northamptonshire Archaeology

Northamptonshire Archaeology  
a service of Northamptonshire County Council

14 February 2011



Northamptonshire County Council

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