



Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire Archaeology

An archaeological watching brief at

22 Rotton Row, Raunds

Northamptonshire

October 2009



Mark Patenall

October 2009

Report 09/135

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Northamptonshire
County Council

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 2009**

NGR: SP 9995 7302

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT 22 ROTTON ROW, RAUNDS
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
OCTOBER 2009
REPORT 09/135**

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QUALITY CONTROL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	An Archaeological watching brief at 22, Rotton Row, Raunds, Northamptonshire, October 2009	
Short description	Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief during the removal of topsoil and excavation of foundation trenches prior to the building of a double garage and kitchen extension at the rear of the property at 22 Rotton Row, Raunds, Northamptonshire. A brick-lined well was located next to the kitchen foundation, but no other archaeological features or artefacts were present.	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Site status	Sites and Monuments number 11507	
Previous work	Yes	
Current Land use	Garden	
Future work	None	
Monument type/period	Medieval	
Significant finds	N/A	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address	22, Rotton Row, Raunds, NN9 6HU	
Study area	0.1692 Hectares	
OS Easting & Northing	SP 9992 7324	
Height OD	52m – 53m	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire archaeology	
Project brief originator	English Heritage	
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	Mark Patenall	
Project Manager	Iain Soden	
Sponsor or funding body	Scatter Developments Ltd	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	October 2009	
End date	October 2009	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Not applicable	
Paper	N/A	One archive box of site documents
Digital	N/A	Photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)		
Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief at 22, Rotton Row, Raunds, Northamptonshire	
Serial title & volume	09/135	
Author(s)	Mark Patenall	
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Date	28th October 2009	

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	BACKGROUND	1
	2.1 History and archaeology	1
	2.2 Topography and geology	1
3	METHODOLOGY	2
4	RESULTS OF FIELDWORK	2
5	DISCUSSION	3
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	3

Figures

Cover: Rear elevation of 22 Rotton Row, looking east

Fig 1: Site location, Scale 1:1500

Fig 2: Plan of foundation and service trenches, Scale 1:250

Fig 3: Garage foundation trenches, looking north-east

Fig 4: West face of eastern garage foundation trench

Fig 5: Kitchen foundation trenches, looking east- north- east

Fig 6: Brick-lined well, looking east-south-east

Back cover: West foundation trench of kitchen extension, looking west

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AT 22, ROTTON ROW, RAUNDS

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

OCTOBER 2009

ABSTRACT

Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief during the removal of topsoil and excavation of foundation trenches prior to the building of a double garage and kitchen extension at the rear of the property at 22 Rotton Row, Raunds, Northamptonshire. A brick-lined well was located next to the kitchen foundation, but no other archaeological features or artefacts were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology in October 2009 on land at 22 Rotton Row, Raunds, Northamptonshire. The work was carried out prior to the building of a kitchen extension and double garage, (NGR: SP 9995 7302 Fig 1).

The work was carried out to discharge a planning condition attached to a planning consent by East Northants Council (EN/08/02173/FUL and EN/09/00878/FUL), and in accordance with Scheduled Monument consent from Department of Culture, Media and Sport (Ref: HSD 9/2/13015, 3rd June 2009).

The purpose of the works was to identify and record any archaeological features in pursuance of the site's status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 History and archaeology

The land to the rear of 22 Rotton Row encompasses the south-eastern corner of the plots believed to have been part of the late Saxon and medieval Furnells manor. This was extensively excavated in the late 1970s and early 1980s by Northamptonshire County Council Archaeology Unit (Audouy and Chapman 2009). The land to the immediate west and south, the Langham Road site was extensively excavated in the 1980s as part of the Raunds Area Project (Audouy and Chapman 2009). A small block of land to the rear of 14 Rotton Row was excavated prior to development in 2002 (Morris 2002).

For further details of the archaeology of north Raunds refer to the desk-based assessment for 22 Rotton Row (Chapman 2009).

2.2 Topography and geology

The development area lies on the west side of Rotton Row on a relatively flat piece of land at c 52-53m aOD. The land forms part of the upper valley side which drops away fairly steeply to the east towards the Raunds Brook.

The valley slopes comprise Jurassic limestone of the Great Oolite series, including Northamptonshire Sand and Ironstone, Blisworth limestone and cornbrash. At Furnells

the limestone was capped with clay, while the area between Furnells and Langham Road is a depression covered with a red-brown clayey loam. The Langham Road area is mixed cornbrash, clay and red loam (Audouy and Chapman 2009, 9).

3 METHODOLOGY

All works complied with the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990) (PPG16). The watching brief was carried out in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and county standards and guidelines including:

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991)

Code of Conduct (Institute for Archaeologists 2000 reissued 2008)

Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (Institute for Archaeologists 2001, reissued)

Policy and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork Projects in Northamptonshire (NCCNH 1995)

Northamptonshire County Council Health and Safety provisions and Northamptonshire Archaeology Health and Safety at Work Guidelines (2003)

Standard Northamptonshire Archaeology recording procedures were employed. Contexts were recorded on pro-forma sheets with a unique context number being allocated to each distinct deposit. A photographic record comprising both 35mm monochrome negatives, with associated prints and colour transparencies was maintained, with additional digital photographs.

4 RESULTS OF FIELDWORK

The watching brief took the form of monitoring of topsoil stripping and the excavation of the foundation trenches across the area of the garage at the rear of the property. The east and west trenches were 6.7m long, 0.7m deep and 0.5m wide, the north trench was 6.8m long, 0.7m deep and 0.5m wide. Only three sides of a square were excavated as the southern end comprised a slight return of the east and west trenches and a central hole for a pillar. These were excavated with a mechanical tracked mini-digger fitted with a toothless bucket (Figs 3 and 4).

The trenches for the kitchen extension at the rear of the property were on the lower part of the eastern slope and approximately 2.5m lower than the garage foundations. These were hand dug and measured 1.35m long, 0.8m deep and 0.4m wide on the west, and 3.0m long, 0.8m deep and 0.4m wide on the south.

A service trench was excavated from the garage foundation aligned north-east and curving towards the property boundary, 10m long, 0.6m deep and 0.5m wide. The observed deposits were the same as the garage foundations.

The natural substrate was observed within all the trenches and consisted of clays and fragmented limestone. A firm dark grey clay subsoil with limestone fragments, was present in the garage foundation trenches and service trench, which was 0.3m deep, and which overlaid the natural substrate. The topsoil consisted of a dark grey clay garden soil, 0.4m deep, which contained limestone fragments and building debris.

A single feature was present in the kitchen area; this consisted of a brick-lined well, 1.1m wide at the top and 4.9m deep. The well construction consisted of alternate unbonded courses of headers and stretchers which bowed out towards the base forming a bottle

shape. The southern foundation trench revealed the upper outer edge of the well to be 0.8m in depth. The remaining iron pipework both on top and inside, now removed, suggests there was a possibility of a hand pump/stand pipe in operation in the late 19th to early 20th century (Fig 6).

5 DISCUSSION

There was no archaeology present connected to the Furnells Manor or Langham Road sites. The single feature observed was the late Victorian brick-lined well, probably associated with the current house when first built. This does not preclude the existence of any archaeological evidence which may exist on the remaining western extent of the garden area.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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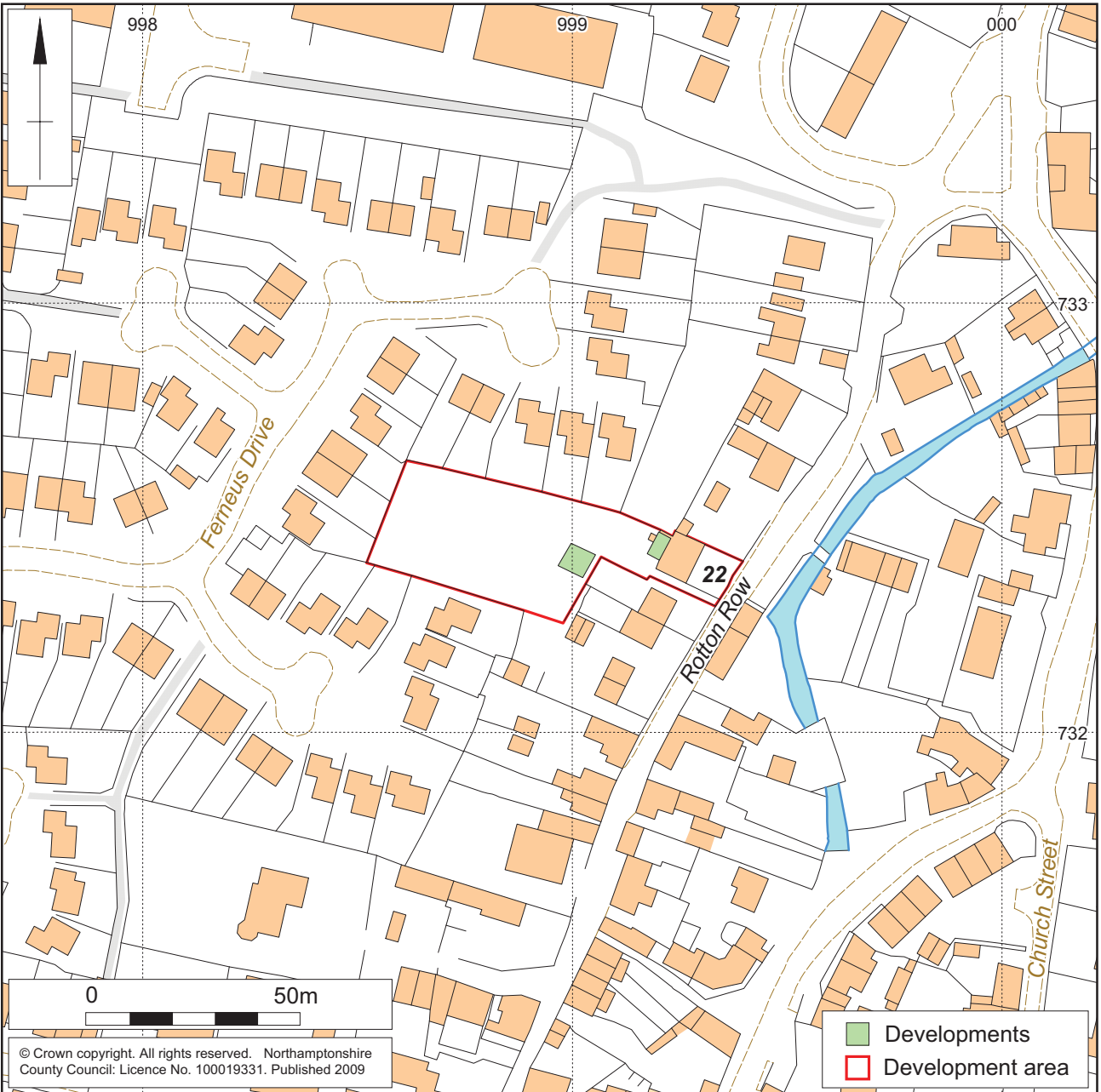
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Scale 1:1500

Site Location Fig 1



Scale 1:250

Plan of foundation and service trenches Fig 2



Garage foundation trenches, looking north-east Fig 3



West face of eastern garage foundation trench, Fig 4



Kitchen foundation trenches, looking east-north-east Fig 5



Brick-lined well, looking east-south-east Fig 6



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