

# **New House, Church Row, Redwick, Newport, NP26 3DE, 17/0610**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**



Prepared for  
**Mr Christian Rogers**  
of  
**New House, Church Row,  
Redwick, Newport NP26 3DE**

By



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Front cover: View to the south west of New House, Church Row.

## **Summary**

*Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd/Archaeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf were commissioned by Mr Christian Rogers to prepare a Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation (WSHEM) (Lewis 2017) and implement an archaeological watching brief for a proposed development at New House, Church Row, Redwick, NP26 3DE. The proposed development comprised the demolition of an existing lean-to extension to the rear and the erection of a single storey rear extension and two storey side extension with front canopy; the creation of new vehicular access and landscaping.*

*The present report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief, in accordance with the agreed WSHEM (Lewis 2017), which was carried out on the 11th November 2017.*

*The archaeological watching brief identified a single archaeological feature of significance, a palaeochannel (B03) of undetermined date. The linear feature was aligned SE/NW and located to the rear of the house in the footings for the rear extension.*

*The investigation did not identify any further features or deposits of archaeological origin in any of the remaining excavated areas. The stratigraphy was fairly uniform across the site. The only variation being areas of recent demolition and disturbance.*

*Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief. Published 2014*

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Project Background and Proposals

- 1.1.1. Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd/Archaeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf were commissioned by Mr Christian Rogers to prepare a Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation (WSHEM) (Lewis 2017) and implement an archaeological watching brief for a proposed development at New House, Church Row, Redwick, NP26 3DE (Figure 1; NGR ST 341297.850, 184185.810). The proposed development comprised the demolition of an existing lean-to extension to the rear and the erection of a single storey rear extension and two storey side extension with front canopy; the creation of new vehicular access and landscaping (Figures 2).
- 1.1.2. The archaeological advisors to the LPA (GGAT) have indicated the potential to encounter significant multi-period archaeological deposits associated with the evolution of the Gwent Levels. They note that "...site is located within both the Newport Archaeological Sensitive Area, the Historic Settlement (C5) of Redwick and within a conservation area. It is also within the Gwent Levels Registered Historic Landscape (HLW (Gt) 2), specifically Redwick Village (HLCA005), as defined within the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*. Redwick is the best preserved nucleated settlement on the Caldicot Level" (Archaeological Planning Advice Letter NEW1369/RD).
- 1.1.3. The present report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief, in accordance with the agreed WSHEM (Lewis 2017), which was carried out on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

## 1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The definition of an archaeological Watching Brief as set out by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* (CIfA) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.
- 1.2.2 The purpose of an archaeological watching brief (as defined CIfA 2014) is:
  - to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.
  - to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.



- 1.2.3 A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.
- 1.2.4 The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.
- 1.2.5 (*Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief. Published 2014*)

### **1.3 Legislative Framework**

- 1.3.1 Planning legislation is set out in the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. *Planning Policy Wales (PPW 9th Edition)* sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 sets out the Welsh Government's policy towards the historic environment. It states "*The historic environment of Wales is made up of individual historic features, archaeological sites, historic buildings and historic parks, gardens, townscapes and landscapes, collectively known as historic assets. The most important of these historic assets have statutory protection through scheduling, listing or designation as a conservation area. Other assets are included in formal registers, which identify them as being of special historic interest. Many others make a positive contribution to local character and sense of place. Some, such as buried archaeological remains, have still to be identified. It is important to protect what is significant about these assets and sustain their distinctiveness. Historic assets should be the subject of recording and investigation when they are affected by proposals that alter or destroy them. Historic assets are a non-renewable resource.*" (PPW 2016, 90).
- 1.3.2 Underpinning PPW are a series of legislative powers and TANs. The *Planning (Wales) Act 2015* sets out a series of legislative changes to deliver reform of the planning system in Wales, to ensure that it is fair, resilient and enables development. The 2015 Act also introduces a mandatory requirement to undertake pre-application consultation for certain types of development. The *Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016* defines in *Schedule 4(I)* the parameters and definitions for the requirement of pre-application consultation by Welsh Ministers, particularly in response to the effect of statutory designated monuments, buildings, and parks and gardens.
- 1.3.3 Advice on archaeology and buildings in the planning process was contained in Welsh Office Circular 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology and Welsh Office Circular 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment, which updated Welsh Office Circular 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas following the Shimizu (U.K.) Ltd. v. Westminster City Council Judgement (February 1997). Detailed advice on Environmental Impact Assessment is contained within Welsh Office Circular 11/99 Environmental Impact Assessment. Following adoption of the TAN 24 Historic Environment on 31st May 2017, Welsh Office Circulars 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology; 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas; and 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment have been cancelled.

- 1.3.4 Any works affecting an ancient monument and its setting are protected through implementation of the *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*. In Wales the 1979 Act has been strengthened by *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016*. The 2016 Act makes important improvements for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also stands at the centre of an integrated package of secondary legislation (Annexes 1-6), new and updated planning policy and advice, and best-practice guidance on a wide range of topics (*TAN 24 Historic Environment*).
- 1.3.5 Taken together, these will support and promote the careful management of change in the historic environment in accordance with current conservation philosophy and practice.
- 1.3.6 The *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* and *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016* sets out a presumption in favour of preservation *in-situ* concerning sites and monuments of national importance (scheduled/listed), and there exists in the current *Planning Policy Wales (Chapter 6)* a presumption in favour of preservation *in-situ* of all types of heritage assets.

#### **1.4 Location, Topography and Geology**

- 1.1.4. New House is located in the centre of the village of Redwick, 70m northeast of the medieval Church of St Thomas, on the Caldicot Level (Figure 1 and 2; NGR ST 341297.850, 184185.810). The Caldicot Levels are an Outstanding Historic Landscape (HLW(Gt)2), which represents the largest and most significant example in Wales of a 'hand-crafted' landscape (Cadw and ICOMOS 1998). They are an extensive area of low-lying land characterised by artificial reens, fields of pasture and natural watercourses, whilst beyond the active salt marsh in the intertidal areas are natural channels and artificial reens. The Levels are identified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) chiefly for their diversity of flora and fauna associated with the reens and banks; the foreshore areas are also noted for hosting migrant bird populations (Gerrard and Lewis 2007). The village of Redwick is situated within the Redwick Conservation Area (167 – City and County of Newport 2002).
- 1.1.5. The general geology is superficial post-glacial (Holocene) Tidal Flat Deposits of clays and silts (alluvium) overlying sandstone bedrock (Mercia Mudstone Group Formation) of sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 251-200 million years ago in the Triassic Period (British Geological Survey). The superficial deposits of the Caldicot Level are characterised as the Wentlooge Series and generally consist of brownish-grey moderately friable silty clays becoming more grey in colour and heavier in texture with depth (Rippon 1996). The Wentlooge Formation can be subdivided into Upper, Middle (a peat layer) and Lower Wentlooge Formations. Archaeological artefacts and structures dated to the Bronze Age are associated with the Middle Wentlooge peat formation (Bell 2013). The Upper Wentlooge formation was laid down from the Iron Age through to the post-medieval period (Lewis 2007).
- 1.4.1 The archaeological watching brief was carried out between the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Ground conditions were wet but not saturated and the weather was predominantly scattered showers and sleet.

## **1.5 Archaeological background**

### **1.2. Archaeology and History**

- 1.2.1. The proposed development area is located at Redwick on the Caldicot Level, part of the Gwent Levels (Figure 1 and 2). Cadw and ICOMOS (1998) note that the “...Gwent Levels have been designated an *Outstanding Historic Landscape* (HLW(Gt)2), which represents the largest and most significant example in Wales of a ‘hand-crafted’ landscape. The Levels are entirely the work of humans, having been recurrently inundated and reclaimed from the sea from the Roman period onwards. The area has distinctive patterns of settlement, enclosure and drainage systems belonging to successive periods of use, and a proven and possibly vast potential for extensive, well-preserved, buried, waterlogged, archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits surviving from earlier landscapes”.
- 1.2.2. Redwick is a clearly defined reclaimed wetland landscape of irregular fields bordered to the east by the Cold Harbour Reen and west by the Windmill Reen and centred on the medieval village of Redwick, the largest and best preserved nucleated village on the Levels. The village probably originated in the late 11<sup>th</sup> century although an Early-medieval precursor is suggested by the curved churchyard boundary. A house at Redwick is mentioned in a 1270 survey of the manor of the Lordship of Striguil (Yates 2000). This may refer to a mansion supposedly demolished in 1810 somewhere in the vicinity (City and County of Newport 2002, 5).
- 1.2.3. Gradual enclosure between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries has shaped the fieldscape around the village with the enclosure of street commons marking another significant change in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, several areas of roadside common survive, one with a plaque commemorating the enclosure act of 1850. Another plaque on the wall of the church commemorates the great flood of 1606 when many thousands of people and animals died, many other examples are known from other contemporary local Gwent Levels churches. A range of Commissioners of Sewers notices relating to the drainage system are on display built into the bus shelter near the church, along with some stones that were placed along reens to demarcate the stretches which individual tenants were responsible for maintaining (Lewis 2007, 28-29).
- 1.2.4. The area around Redwick and on the coastal margins is known to contain significant buried and preserved archaeological remains from the Prehistoric period through to the present day. Discoveries of Mesolithic human footprints, Bronze Age and Iron Age roundhouses, palstave axes, cattle footprints and fish-traps all demonstrate the high archaeological potential of the area for the presence and survival of Prehistoric remains. The Caldicot Level contains a buried Roman landscape of a drained and managed fieldsystems and industrial metalworking areas. Following periods of inundation, the Early-medieval ecclesiastical and later medieval landscape of drained and managed fieldsystems is fossilised in many of the field boundaries and reens extant today (Bell 2013, 13-63; Lewis 2007, 28-29).
- 1.2.5. New House is noted within the Redwick Conservation Area Appraisal as making a strong contribution to the character of the area (City and County of Newport 2002).

Probably dating from the later interwar years, the house (only) is noted on both the Ordnance Survey 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (1949) map and the RAF 1945 aerial photographic sorties.

### **1.3. Previous Investigations**

- 1.3.1. 2000 – Event E004539: GGAT carried out trenching at The Croft, Redwick. The fieldwork identified a medieval ditch and post-hole together with Post-medieval clay and daub material, interpreted as an industrial feature.
- 1.3.2. 2001 – Event E002504: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at 1 Church Row, Redwick. The primary groundworks consisted of the removal of the existing paving slabs and hand digging the foundation trenches for an extension. No discoveries noted.
- 1.3.3. 2002 – Event E004714: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Belle Vue, Redwick for an extension. An 18<sup>th</sup> century foundation trench was recorded.
- 1.3.4. 2002 – Event E004798: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at the church of St Thomas for drainage work in the graveyard. Four burials were located and numerous stray human bones together with 19<sup>th</sup> century ceramics, roof tiles, coffin handles and glass fragments.
- 1.3.5. 2003 – Event E004809: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Coronation Cottage for an extension. An infilled medieval reen was identified.
- 1.3.6. 2003 – Event E004816: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Deep Lake Cottage, Redwick for an extension. Pottery sherds from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century was found. No significant archaeological finds or features were discovered (Bray 2003).
- 1.3.7. 2006 – Event E005009: Monmouth Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief at King's Head Redwick for an extension. Unstratified finds included medieval pottery, brown-stained bones and a Post-medieval import, possibly a costrel. There were no structural remains or significant finds discovered (Bray and Clarke 2006).
- 1.3.8. 2006 – Event E005010: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Church House Farm, Redwick. Two sherds of 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered.
- 1.3.9. 2012 – Event E004546: Cardiff Archaeological Unit carried out a watching brief prior to the replacement of Redwick Village Hall. The watching brief covered the soil reduction of the site. Excavation for a storage tank revealed a reen ditch cut into alluvial clays, running east-west. No artefacts or features were uncovered during the watching brief (Stewart-Turner 2012).

## 2 Methodology

- 2.1.1 The archaeological watching brief observed the machine excavation of the footings for the rear and side extension, the excavation of two drainage sumps and the re-excavation of the modern foul drain (Figure 2). The excavations were carried out using a 3t back acting tracked excavator with 600mm wide toothed bucket and a JCB with a back acting hoe and 900mm toothed bucket. The excavations were tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum using a Geomax Zenith 35 Pro GNSS/Glonass (GPS) Receiver and data logger with a 20mm tolerance.
- 2.1.2 All trench sections were rapidly cleaned by hand and general stratigraphy noted. Two sample sections were recorded in detail. The archaeological recording techniques conformed to the best industry standard; all deposits were recorded using a single continuous context numbering system and are summarised in Appendix III. Contexts were schematically drawn in section and the excavations drawn in plan. All excavations and contexts were photographed in digital using a Fujifilm FinePix S4800 super wide (30x) 24-720mm camera at 16mp. In all excavations, the natural Upper Wentlooge Formation was encountered and recorded.
- 2.1.3 All classes of finds were identified as modern and associated with the present house. The material, which included domestic ceramics (pottery and tiles), brick, metal fragments and wire, mortar and slate, were not retained. The only deposit with palaeoenvironmental potential was palaeochannel B03, however, the feature was only visible in plan at the base of the foundation cut and no further excavation allowed beyond foundation formation level.
- 2.1.4 A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) was made, reference number 5701.
- 2.1.5 The archaeological watching brief was carried out to the standards of the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*. Published 2014.
- 2.1.6 A digital copy of the report and archive will be supplied to the regional HER, the LPA and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

## 3 Results

### 3.1 Stratigraphical evidence

- 3.1.1 The excavation for footings was carried out by machine, cutting a continuous rectangular shaped trench 0.9m wide and averaging 1m in depth around the rear (SE) and side (NE) of the existing house. A foul drain was re-excavated, extending 10m SE from the SE corner of the house into the garden terminating at a brick manhole (septic tank D04). Two soakaway sumps were also excavated in the front and rear gardens. The only archaeological discovery made was the upper surface of a palaeochannel (B03) found in the footings excavation on the SE corner of the house identifiable as a 0.7m wide x 4m long very clean blue grey alluvial clay band aligned SE/NW.
- 3.1.2 The results of area of excavation are detailed below and contextual information can be found in Appendix III.
- 3.1.3 **Footings and Drainage** (Figure 2)
- 3.1.4 The Side Foundation (NE) trench was 11.45m long by 0.9m wide and had an average depth of 0.85m. At the trench's northern end it returned (west) to the house (3.7m long x 0.9m wide x 0.85m in depth). The stratigraphy was uniform along its length.
- 3.1.5 Section A (Plates 1 and 2) was 1m in width and 0.85m in depth. The basal layer (A02) was a mid-brown clay with orange mottling, with infrequent charcoal flecks from bioturbation, forming part of the Upper Wentlooge formation. The overlying topsoil (A01) was a very mixed dark-brown sandy clay loam topsoil containing frequent fragments of mortar, brick, coal and modern ceramics.
- 3.1.6 The Rear Foundation (SE) trench was 10m long by 0.9m wide and had an average depth of 1m. At the trench's western end, it returned (north) to the house (4.1m long x 0.9m wide x 1m in depth). The stratigraphy was uniform along its length. The only archaeological discovery being the upper surface of a palaeochannel (B03) found in at the base of the excavation on the northern return of the foundation trench. The palaeochannel was identifiable as a discrete band of very clean blue-grey alluvial clay 0.7m wide x 4m long on an SE/NW alignment. The linear feature was hand cleaned to define its extent but was not excavated or sampled as this would have undermined the foundation design. No datable evidence, or any finds or ecofacts, were identified in the deposit.
- 3.1.7 Section B (Plates 3-5) was 1.8m wide and partly positioned over palaeochannel B03 and natural clays (Upper Wentlooge Formation). The basal layer in the eastern half of the section was a mid-brown clay of the Upper Wentlooge Formation, with orange mottling and infrequent charcoal flecks from bioturbation (B04). The basal layer in the western half of the section was the upper surface of palaeochannel B03, which overlay or was contained within B04. A fairly mixed grey-brown clay, with frequent quantities of construction/demolition material, overlay both the palaeochannel (B03) and natural clays (B04). The topsoil (B01) was a very disturbed dark-brown sandy clay loam, with frequent fragments of mortar, brick, coal and modern ceramics derived from the recently demolished rear extension.

- 3.1.8 An existing foul drainage (Plates 6-8) pipe was re-excavated around 10m SE from the house to a brick-built manhole (D04). The trench was 0.9m wide and averaged 1m in depth. The basal layer encountered was a mid-brown clay with orange mottling, part of the Upper Wentlooge Formation (D03). This was overlain by a grey-brown clay (D02) subsoil and sandy clay-loam topsoil (D01). The manhole (D04) was almost entirely buried but the excavation revealed at least four courses of Flemish-style brickwork and a 150mm foul pile.
- 3.1.9 **Sump 1** (Figures 2)
- 3.1.10 Soakaway drainage Sump 1 (Plate 9) was located in the rear garden, adjacent to the foul drainage trench noted above. Trapezoidal in shape, the excavation was 3.3m x 3m x 1.8m in area and 1.6m in depth. The topsoil was very disturbed by the tracking/driving back and fourth of the excavator and dumper.
- 3.1.11 The basal deposit encountered was a grey-brown alluvial clay of the Upper Wentlooge Formation (S102). Overlying this was a substantial, up to 0.5m in places, depth of dark-brown clay-loam (S101), probably the remains of flower or vegetable beds. It is curious to note that no great depth of topsoil was observed in the adjacent foul drainage trench.
- 3.1.12 **Sump 2** (Figure 2)
- 3.1.13 Soakaway drainage Sump 2 (Plate 10) was located in the front garden between the driveway and northern hedgerow boundary, around 5.6m east off main road. The was trapezoidal in shape, 4.3m x 3.1m x 2.3m in area and 1.6m in depth.
- 3.1.14 The soakaway revealed successive layers of the Upper Wentlooge Formation (S205, S204 and S203) at its lowest extents. These deposits tended to be grey-brown clays with graduating orange (S205) to blue (S203) colouring, typical of the formation. The subsoil was a dark-brown friable clay-loam, which sat directly underneath a modern concrete surface (driveway and pathway).

## 4 Discussion and Conclusions

- 4.1.1 The archaeological watching brief identified a single archaeological feature of significance, a palaeochannel (B03) of undetermined date. The linear feature was aligned SE/NW and located to the rear of the house in the footings for the rear extension. It was not possible to excavate or sample the feature as this would have taken the excavations below the formation layer for the foundations and as such remains preserved *in-situ* beneath the footings of the rear extension.
- 4.1.2 Palaeochannels on the Gwent Levels, particularly on the Upper Wentlooge Formation, are fairly common and largely fall into several groups. Natural streams or channels forming during periods of inundation or preserved Roman or medieval field boundaries (drainage channels or reens). The Upper Wentlooge Formation formed during successive periods of inundation by the sea from the Bronze Age (Middle Wentlooge Formation) up until the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC (Rippon 1996). The formation of the Caldicot Level, with successive deposits of clays, then slows as the landscape is drained and managed, first in the Roman period and then later in the Early-medieval and medieval periods.
- 4.1.3 Whilst the length of palaeochannel (B03) discovered in the rear foundation trench is too small to draw any useful conclusions regarding comparable Roman and medieval field systems (see Marvell 2004), the identification of a reen cut into alluvial clays, running east-west, during the replacement of Redwick Village Hall (Stewart-Turner 2012; E004546) on a similar alignment may hint towards a managed Roman or medieval landscape buried beneath the fringes of the village. Similarly, no artefacts were found during the village hall replacement with which to date the reen.
- 4.1.4 The investigation did not identify any further features or deposits of archaeological origin in any of the remaining excavated areas. The stratigraphy was fairly uniform across the site. The only variation being areas of recent demolition and disturbance.



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## 6 Appendices

### 6.1 Appendix I Figures



Figure 1. New House, Church Row, Redwick location plan. Scale 1km grid. Ordnance Survey base map produced under licence 100058761.

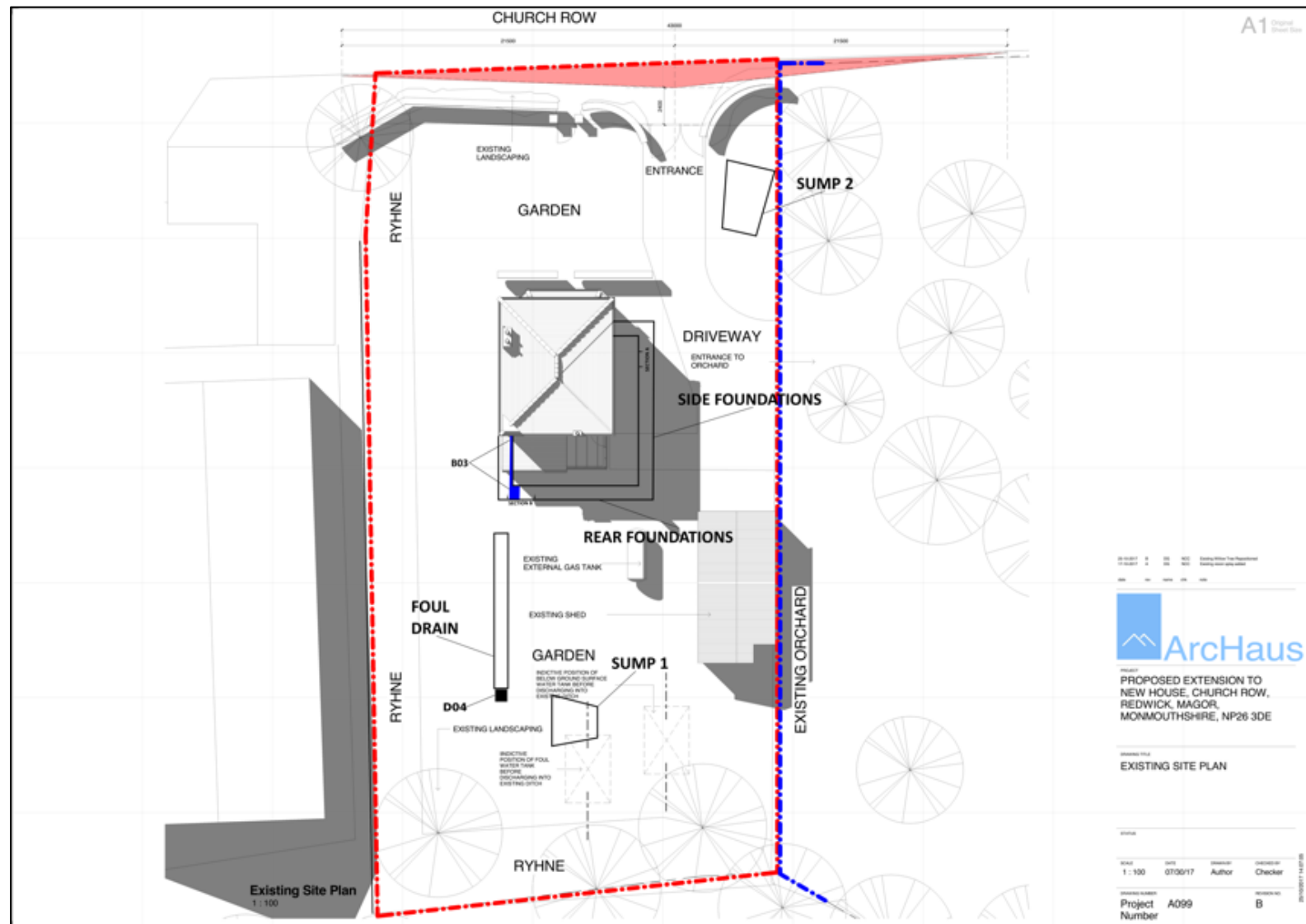


Figure 2. Location of Side and Rear Foundations, Foul drainage, Sumps 1&2 and features of archaeological interest B03 (blue) and D04. Scale 1:100 at A1.



## 6.2 Appendix II Plates



Plate 1. Side (NE) footings, view SE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 2. Side (NE) footings, view SW of Section A. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 3. Rear (SE) footings, view NW of Palaeochannel B03. Scale 2m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 4. Rear (SE) footings, plan view NW of Palaeochannel B03. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 5. Rear (SE) footings, view SE of Section B. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 6. Foul drainage re excavation, rear garden, view SE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 7. Foul drainage re excavation to brick manhole D04, rear garden, view SE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 8. Foul drainage re excavation, rear garden, view NW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 9. Sump 1, rear garden, view SW. Scale 3m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 10. Sump 2, front garden, view NW. Scale 2m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 11. Side (NE) footings excavation, view to SW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 12. Side (NE) footings excavation, view to SE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.





Plate 13. Rear (SW) footings excavation, view to SW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



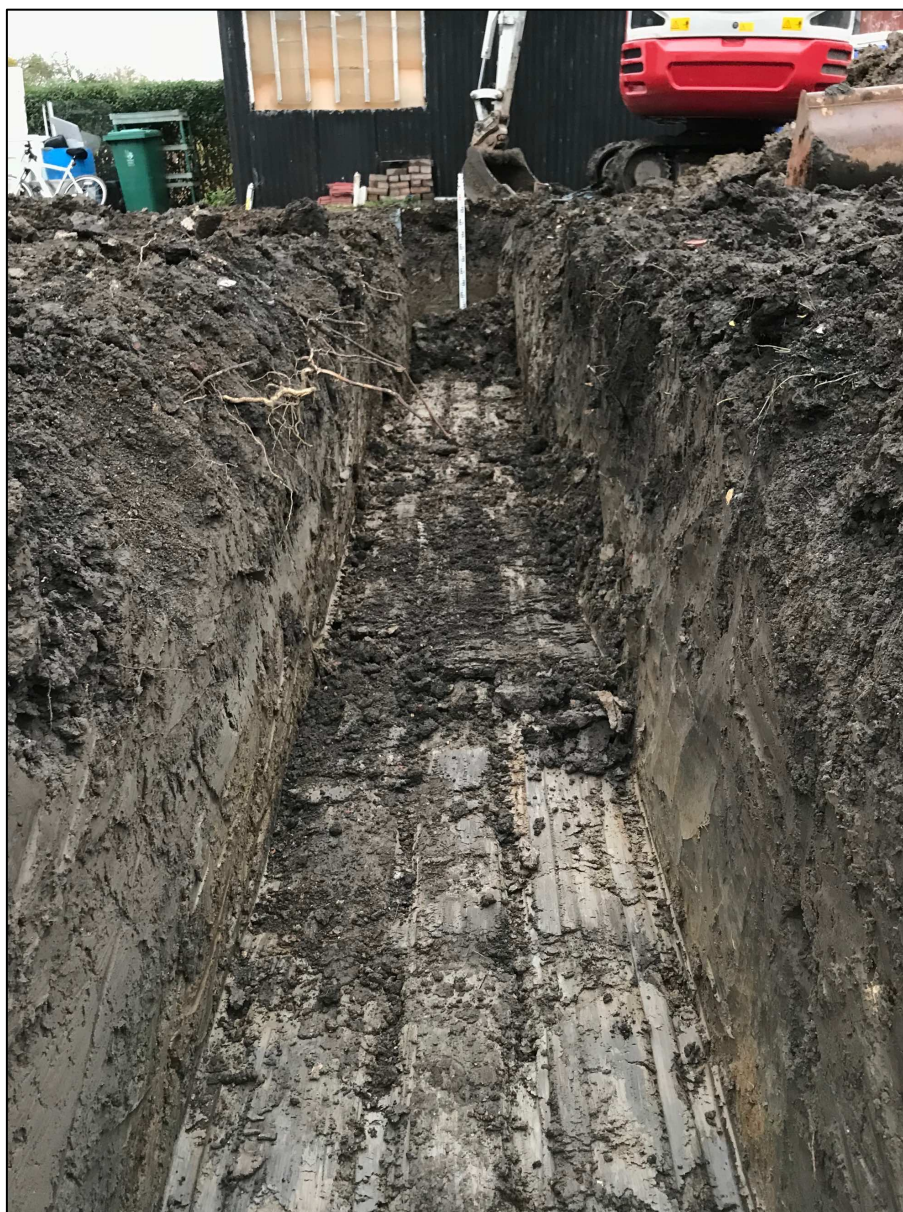


Plate 14. Rear (SW) footings excavation, view to NE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.

### 6.3 Appendix III Context Inventory

6.3.1 The excavation for footings was carried out by machine, cutting a continuous rectangular shaped trench 0.9m wide and averaging 1m in depth around the rear (SE) and side (NE) of the existing house. A foul drain extending 10m SE from the SE corner of the house into the garden to a brick manhole (septic tank). The only archaeological discovery made was the upper surface of a palaeochannel found in the footings excavation on the SE corner of the house identifiable as a 0.7m wide x 4m long very clean blue grey alluvial clay band aligned SE/NW.

#### 6.3.2 Footings and Drainage - Section A

6.3.3 Level of present ground surface: 6mOD No archaeological deposits or features was present in the footings trench. Topsoil A01 contained 20<sup>th</sup> century material associated with the construction and occupation of the house.

| Context | Type    | Depth                | Description  | Period  |
|---------|---------|----------------------|--|---------|
| A01     | Deposit | 0m – 0.25m           | Dark-brown sandy clay loam topsoil. Very mixed deposit, frequent fragments of mortar, brick, coal and modern ceramics. Overlies A01. | Modern  |
| A02     | Deposit | 0.25m – 0.85m<br>n.b | Mid-brown clay with orange mottling. Some charcoal flecks from bioturbation. Upper Wentlooge formation.                              | Natural |

All depths below present ground surface. n.b = not bottomed

#### 6.3.4 Footings and Drainage - Section B

6.3.5 Level of present ground surface: 6mOD. Palaeochannel B03 noted on the SE corner of the house identifiable as a 0.7m wide x 4m long very clean blue grey alluvial clay band aligned SE/NW. Topsoil B01 contained 20<sup>th</sup> century material associated with the demolition of the rear extension to the house.

| Context | Type    | Depth               | Description   | Period  |
|---------|---------|---------------------|---|---------|
| B01     | Deposit | 0m – 0.25m          | Dark-brown sandy clay loam topsoil. Very mixed deposit, frequent fragments of mortar, brick, coal and modern ceramics. Frequent quantities of demolition material from recently demolished extension. Overlies B02. | Modern  |
| B02     | Deposit | 0.25m – 0.8m        | Grey-brown clay with frequent quantities of construction/demolition material. Overlies B03 and B04.   | Modern  |
| B03     | Deposit | 0.8m – 1.05m<br>n.b | Upper surface of Palaeochannel 0.7m wide x 4m long, partially under baulk. SE/NW alignment. Clean blue-grey alluvial clay. Overlies B04.  | Natural |
| B04     | Deposit | 1.05m<br>n.b        | Mid-brown clay with orange mottling. Some charcoal flecks from bioturbation. Contains B03. Upper Wentlooge formation.   | Natural |

All depths below present ground surface. n.b = not bottomed



### 6.3.6 Footings and Drainage – Foul Drainage

6.3.7 Level of present ground surface: 6mOD. A foul drain was re excavated to 1m in depth, extending 10m SE from the SE corner of the house into the garden terminating at a brick manhole (septic tank).

| Context | Type      | Depth            | Description   | Period  |
|---------|-----------|------------------|---|---------|
| D01     | Deposit   | 0m – 0.1m        | Dark-brown sandy clay loam topsoil. Overlies D02.   | Modern  |
| D02     | Deposit   | 0.1m – 0.4m      | Grey-brown clay. Overlies D03.  | Modern  |
| D03     | Deposit   | 0.4m – 1m<br>n.b | Mid-brown clay with orange mottling. Some charcoal flecks from bioturbation. Upper Wentlooge formation. | Natural |
| D04     | Structure | -                | Partially buried brick built manhole. Four Flemish built brick courses visible.                         | Modern  |

All depths below present ground surface. n.b = not bottomed

### 6.3.8 Sump 1

6.3.9 Level of present ground surface: 6mOD. Soakaway drainage sump was located in the rear garden. Trapezoidal in shape, 3.3m x 3m x 1.8m in area, 1.6m in depth. Topsoil churned up by excavator and dumper.

| Context | Type    | Depth       | Description   | Period  |
|---------|---------|-------------|---|---------|
| S101    | Deposit | 0m – 0.5m   | Dark-brown clay loam garden deposit. No finds except foul drainage pipe at base of deposit. | Natural |
| S102    | Deposit | 0.5m – 1.6m | Grey-brown alluvial clay, deposit darkens in colour with depth. Upper Wentlooge formation.  | Natural |

All depths below present ground surface. n.b = not bottomed

### 6.3.10 Sump 2

6.3.11 Level of present ground surface: 6mOD. Soakaway drainage sump was located in the front garden between the driveway and northern hedgerow boundary, 5.6m east off main road. Trapezoidal in shape, 4.3m x 3.1m x 2.3m in area, 1.6m in depth.

| Context | Type    | Depth               | Description   | Period  |
|---------|---------|---------------------|---|---------|
| S201    | Deposit | 0m – 0.1m           | Concrete pavement/driveway.                                 | Modern  |
| S202    | Deposit | 0.1m – 0.3m         | Friable dark-brown clay-loam.                               | Natural |
| S203    | Deposit | 0.3m – 0.8m         | Mid-brown alluvial clay with bluish hue.                    | Natural |
| S204    | Deposit | 0.8m – 1.2m         | Grey-brown clay. Upper Wentlooge formation.                 | Natural |
| S205    | Deposit | 0.1m – 0.33m<br>n.b | Grey-brown clay with orange hue. Upper Wentlooge formation. | Natural |

All depths below present ground surface. n.b = not bottomed

### Acknowledgements and Copyright

6.3.12 The fieldwork, report and illustrations were undertaken by Richard Lewis BA MCIfA. The author would like to thank Mr Christian Rogers for his help and support during the project. Thanks also to GGAT Curatorial for helpful archaeological advice. The copyright of this report is held by Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd, who have granted an exclusive licence to Mr Christian Rogers and his clients enabling them to use and reproduce the material it contains. Ordnance Survey maps are reproduced under licence 100058761. Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd retains copyright of any annotations.



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