

Archaeological Evaluation Report

The Spinney
Hoddesdon Road
Stanstead Abbotts
Hertfordshire



Quality Check

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Summary

In July 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an Archaeological Evaluation at The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Hertfordshire, prior to the erection of 6 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping. The evaluation revealed a series of cut features including a ditch terminus, a pit, linear features, and a pit/posthole. Animal bone, pottery, a shard of glass, and a clay pipe stem were also recovered. Only one of the features, a pit, contained datable material in the form of potsherds dating from the 12th-14th century. The economy of the settlement at Stanstead Abbotts was predominantly agricultural during the medieval to post-medieval periods and the cut features appear to be consistent, with demarcating land boundaries.

1 Introduction

1.1 In July 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an Archaeological Evaluation at The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by Cliff Turnbull, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Watson 2019), and approved by Alison Tinniswood, Archaeological Advisor (AA) to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), East Hertfordshire County Council. The relevant planning application references are 3/17/0274/FUL & 3/18/2556/VAR.

1.2 Planning Background

This evaluation has been required under the terms of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Conditions 7 (3/18/2556/VAR) and 8 (3/17/0274/FUL) of the Planning Consent for permission for site development.

1.3 The Site

Location

The development site is in the town and parish of Stanstead Abbotts, which is within the administrative district of East Hertfordshire Council, at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 3802 1140 (Fig. 1).

Description

The development site was historically used as office accommodation, and for storage and distribution purposes. The site is bounded to the north and south by residential properties, to the east is Hoddesdon Road, and to the west is a strip of land lying adjacent to the New River (Fig. 2).

Geology & Topography

The bedrock geology is the White Chalk Subgroup, which formed approximately 66 to 100 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. The superficial deposits are Kempton Park Gravel Member, sand and gravel (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html). The site is at an elevation of 35m AOD

Proposed Development

The proposed development is for the demolition of existing B1/B8 units and erection of 6 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping (Fig. 3).



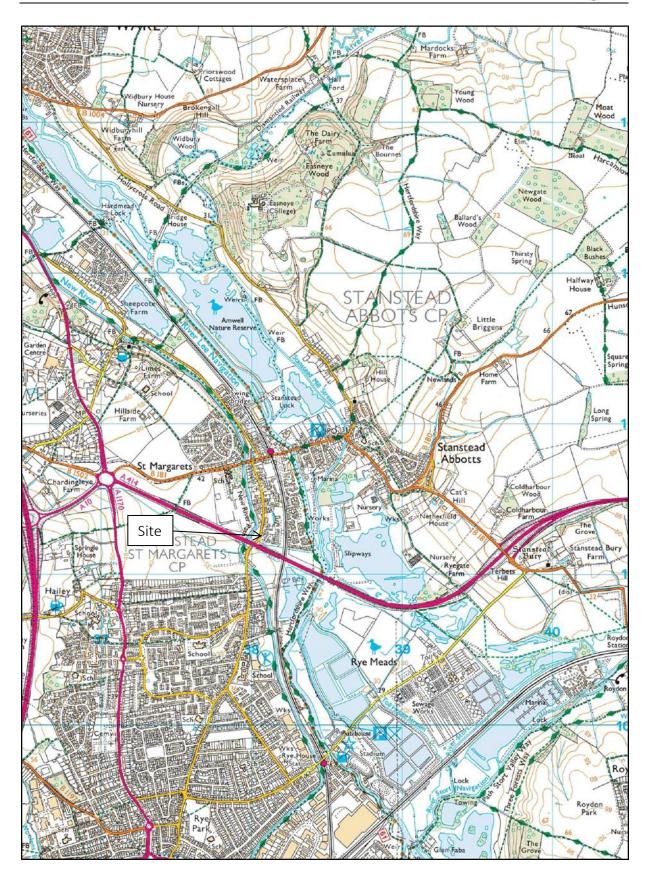


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)



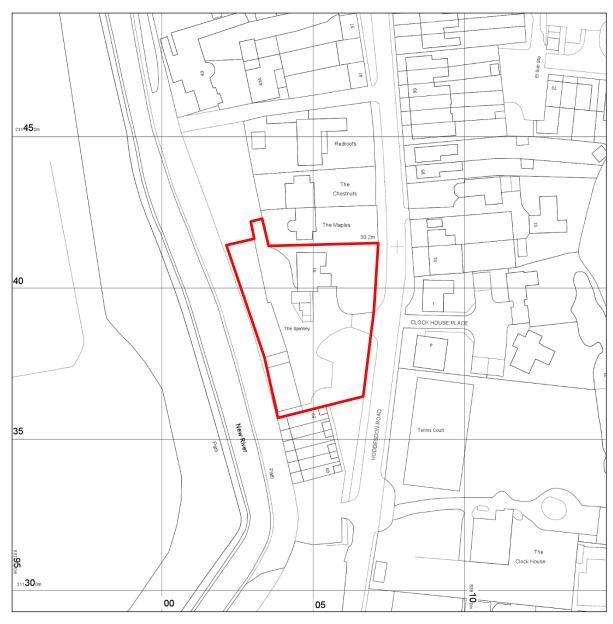


Figure 2: Site location (scale 1:1250)





Figure 3: Proposed development (scale 1:400)



2 Aims & Methods

- 2.1 The aims of this project as defined in the approved WSI (Watson 2019) were:
 - To establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation within the development area
 - To establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscape
 - To recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

2.2 Methods

In line with the requirements of the Brief, this is the first part of a staged investigation whereby the results of this stage will be assessed to determine the need and extent of further stages of archaeological investigation. The methods used were as follows:

• Trial trenching of 5% of the development site consisting of three 20m trenches, 1.8m wide targeting the footprint of the houses and the access drive (Fig. 5).

2.3 Standards

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (CIfA 2014)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct (CIfA 2014)
- Current English Heritage guidelines (HE 2015, EH 2008)
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (ALGAO 2003)



3 Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 The town of Stanstead Abbotts is located in the Lea Valley. The name of the village derives from the Old English for 'stony place' (stãn + stede), and by the 14th century its suffix was added due to its possession by the Abbot of Waltham (Mills 1991: 307; Seddon & Bryant 1999: 3). In the Domesday Survey of 1086 the village was a sizeable settlement known as 'Stanestede' and it has four separate entries for property held by such notables as Ralph de Tosny and Geoffrey de Bec (Williams & Martin 1992: 383, 386, 388, & 393). However, what is now commonly known as 'Stanstead Abbotts' is actually made up of two villages, Stanstead Abbotts, and Stanstead St Margarets (SAH 2019), which are separated by the New River and the Lea River/Navigation. Stanstead St Margarets, the location of the development site, is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, though it had acquired a separate parochial existence by the middle of the 13th century (BHO 2019). Available archaeological evidence indicates some prehistoric activity in the area followed by an apparent hiatus in occupation/activity until the medieval period. The development site is situated within an Area of Archaeological Significance No 184, and Stanstead Abbotts Conservation Area D (SACAAMA 2014: 49).

This section has been compiled with information from the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER), reliable online sources, and KDK's library. The HER data, from a 500m radius search, is shown in Fig. 4. As this WSI proposes an archaeological evaluation, the details of the listed buildings within the HER search area have been condensed as these heritage assets will not be impacted by this project.

3.2 **Prehistoric** (before 600BC)

The Lea Valley was a particularly favoured area for human settlement from the earliest times, and evidence of prehistoric occupation is known from several sites in and around Stanstead Abbotts (Seddon & Bryant 1999: 2). Conversely, in Stanstead St Margarets, comparatively few finds dating to this period have been recorded in the HER. At St Margaret's Farm on Hoddesdon Road, c. 100m southeast of the development site, a sub-circular prehistoric pit was discovered during excavations: its fill contained flint flakes, burnt flint and other struck flints (HER 9715; EHT4258, 5339). No other prehistoric activity was found, indicating limited and localised occupation/activity at this broadly dated site.

An archaeological evaluation at Sanville Gardens (HER 12821; EHT5416), 240m northeast of The Spinney, uncovered residual struck flints that were typologically Mesolithic and Neolithic; radiocarbon dating of peat samples from this site (3990-3300 BC) dated its 'formation' to the latter period. Palynological analysis recorded an expansion of hazel with a corresponding decline in elm, followed by rise in lime/ lindeus, oak and hazel woodland, in an area that was eventually dominated by alder and wetland species (Britchfield et al., 2005).

Palaeoenvironmental analysis of peat deposits from St Margaret's Farm (HER 1563; EHT5240), on the opposite side of Hoddesdon Road to the Spinney, dated a local decline in tree pollen to the Neolithic (c. 4000-2200 BC). The peat formed in an environment of alder woodland with grass-sedge fen that became gradually water-logged prior to being sealed by alluvium. This occurred due a corresponding rise in the local water table and sea levels during the late prehistoric and early historic periods. Contiguous dry land was dominated by lime woodland. Peat deposits, typical of those found in the Lea Valley, have also been observed in archaeological investigations at 8 Hoddesdon Road (HER 15568), and land north of the Clock House, also on Hoddesdon Road (EHT7666; Pozorski 2009).



A residual prehistoric (possibly early Neolithic) struck flint was discovered in an evaluation trench (HER 30361; Pozorski 2013) at the Manor House (HER 13523) north of The Spinney. The final portable find in the local HER is a Bronze Age leaf-shaped socketed bronze spearhead (HER 607) recovered from the Lea River in 1858, c. 400m south of the development site.

A series of extensive, undated cropmarks (enclosures and linear features) concentrated immediately south of the A41 may be the remnants of prehistoric, or later field system(s). These include rectilinear enclosures (60m x 65m, HER 1500; 50m x 120m, HER 2756), and linear ditches (c. 25m to 190m in length; HER 2757, 7618, 2762, 2783, 7619, 7620); various cropmarks have also been documented in aerial photographs (EHT 2537, 2716-7).

3.3 *Iron Age* (600BC - AD43)

No remains dating to this period are listed within the HER search area.

3.4 *Roman* (AD43 - c.450)

No remains dating to this period are listed within the HER search area.

3.5 **Saxon** (c.450 - 1066) **to Medieval** (1066 - 1500)

The earliest name for Stanstead St Margarets village and parish (HER 2644) seems to be *Thele* (and variants thereof; BHO 2019). At the end of the 13th century an alternative was derived from the name of the bridge over the Lea River called *Pons de Thele* (and variants thereof; BHO 2019). By the 16th century the name changed to St. Margaret's Theale or Stanstead Thele: the first from its church and the second from the fact that the village of St. Margaret's adjoins the village of Stanstead Abbots (HER 2645). Stanstead St. Margaret's is the modern form of the name. The two settlements, representing two different parishes and manors, developed on either side of the Lea River. Stanstead St Margarets remained a rural settlement, whereas Stanstead Abbotts became comparatively more urbanised.

Documentary evidence indicates the presence of a settlement by the late Saxon period, but no archaeological evidence dating to this period is listed in the HER search area. Stanstead St. Margarets might have originally formed part of the manor of Hailey in Great Amwell, to the northwest, and the woodland mentioned in the Domesday Survey (1086) as the extent of that manor may have been the woods in St. Margarets (BHO 2019; Williams & Martin 1992: 388). The manor of Hailey changed ownership many times during subsequent centuries (ibid.). Agriculture was the mainstay of the local economy but as the area was heavily forested during the Middle Ages, the clearance of woodland supported charcoal production, an industry that lasted locally until the end of the 18th century (SAH 2019).

The medieval manor house in Stanstead St Margarets may have stood in the same location as the extant 17th century Manor House (HER 13524). If so, then the older manor house also stood to the north of the development site adjacent to St Mary's Church (HER 4368, 4761; Grade II*, List Entry No. 1078703; EHT1178, 5546). The church has Norman architectural features but was largely rebuilt c.1316 for Goldington's collegiate foundation of a chantry with five chaplains. During a visitation to the college of Stanstead Thele in 1430, by the Bishop of London, William Gray, he found it so 'badly run and reduced to only the master' that he exercised his authority to transfer all its lands and property to the care of *Elsyngspital* in the City of London.

Substantial evidence of medieval occupation has been documented by archaeological investigations along Hoddesdon Road and in Sanville Gardens. An evaluation in Sanville Gardens revealed medieval ditches and a possible pit with fills containing 11^{th} - 15^{th} century



potsherds (HER12820). Another evaluation of land north of the Clock House (HER 30360; EHT7666; Pozorski 2009), opposite The Spinney on Hoddesdon Road, uncovered pits, ditches, and a possible roadside plot. The two ditches contained small amounts of worn medieval pottery, peg tile and oyster shell. The pottery included South Herts Greyware (a cooking pot base, and a jug rim), a sherd of medieval glazed ware, and local coarse wares, all dating to the late 12th to 14th centuries. Immediately north of the development site, an evaluation was undertaken in the garden (HER 30361; Pozorski 2013) north of the Manor House, which discovered four ditches, pottery (mid-12th - 14th century), building material, and charred cereal grains indicating local crop processing and food preparation.

3.6 *Post-medieval* (1500 - 1900)

Stanstead St Margarets has a number of post medieval buildings/structures listed in the HER, with concentrations, especially Grade II listed buildings or a number of locally significant 'site of...', dating from as early as the 16th to the 19th centuries along Hoddesdon Road, Station Road, and the High street connecting to Stanstead Abbotts (SACAAMA 2014: 49-53). The New River (HER 5999) adjacent to the development site was built in 1608-13 by Sir Hugh Myddelton as an aqueduct to carry fresh water from Ware to London.

The partly timber-framed, partly brick 17th century Manor House on Hoddesdon Road (HER 13523; Grade II, List Entry No 1341860) with its 17th - 18th century garden wall, gate piers and iron gate (Grade II, List Entry NO 1078704) is situated c. 130m north of the development site. An evaluation on land adjacent to the Manor House at 33 Hoddesdon Road revealed no archaeology (EHT7337; Pozorski 2013). To the southwest of the Manor House is a group of 17th century buildings around a yard, the Barn Cottage & the Tithe Barn at 35a & 43 Hoddesdon Road (HER 13524; Grade II, List Entry 1341861), these were the manor farm but were converted into three domestic properties in the early 20th century.

St Margarets Farm (HER 10459; EHT5240, EHT5339) with its 18^{th} century Grade II Farmhouse (List Entry No 1341858), may have formed part of the medieval manor of Thele, and is ≤ 100 m southeast of The Spinney. St Margarets Farm also has an 18^{th} century granary (HER 10460; Grade II, List Entry No 1078701), a post-medieval timber barn (HER 10461; Grade II, List Entry No 1078702), and potentially 17^{th} century dovecote (HER 10462; Grade II, List Entry No 1341859), altered in the 19^{th} century.

On the opposite side of Hoddesdon Road is the site of St Margarets (HER 15765), a country house that burnt down in the late 18th century; traces of the landscaped gardens survived, as did the stable block which is now the Clock House (Grade II, List Entry No 1078700).

The settlement remained relatively bucolic, and agriculture remained a vital component of the local economy. This enabled the development of another mainstay of local industry - malt production. Various maltings were concentrated near the High Street (HER 0276, 5399) including the surviving Grade II (List Entry No 1078761) weather-boarded building (HER 5398). Stanstead Abbotts/St Margarets position on the river Lea enabled efficient transportation of large quantities of malt to the major breweries of London. Yet the industry has declined and only a single malting of French & Jupps currently remains in Stanstead Abbotts.

The Hertford Branch of the Northern and Eastern Railway line opened in 1843, providing Stanstead St Margarets with a more modern form of transportation though the nearest station is the Grade II (List Entry No 1341841) Railway Station (building, canopy and platform) in Great Amwell (HER 5534).



3.7 *Modern* (1900 - present)

No modern heritage assets are listed in the HER search area.

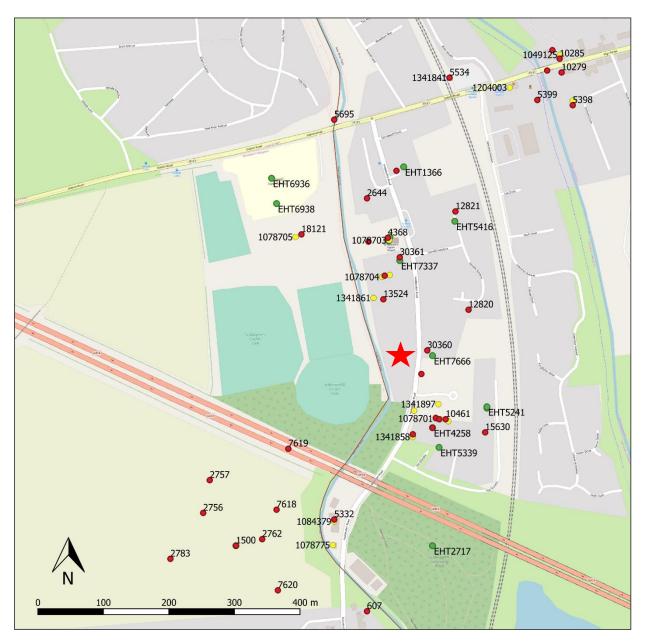


Figure 4: HER data plan (500m search radius; red star = development site)



4 Results

4.1 *Introduction*

In July 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an Archaeological Evaluation at The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Hertfordshire. The evaluation comprised the excavation of three variably long, 1.8m wide trenches within the footprint of the proposed development. However, due to topographic obstacles and services the trenches had to be re-positioned (Fig. 5). The trenches were excavated using an 8 tonne machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. A total of 193sq metres were investigated during this evaluation.

4.2 *Trench 1*

This trench was orientated northeast-southwest and was located to the north of the site between 'The Spinney' building to the east, and the commercial buildings to the west (Figs. 5 & 6; Plate 1). The trench measured 16m long and was 1.80m wide. It was originally intended to be 20m long but it had to be shortened due to the presence of a high concentration of modern services near the southwestern end of the trench. The presence of water and communications cable/pipes in the middle section of the trench prohibited excavation this area, and necessitated 'stepping-up' the trench base.

The stratigraphy in Trench 1 comprised concrete (101) and made-ground (102-104) overlying a possible buried soil (105) and the natural geology (106) (Fig. 7; Plate 2). Two fragments of medieval CBM (flat roof tiles) were found in modern made-ground (104).

Two linear features [107] and [109] were exposed at the northern end of Trench 1 (Figs. 6, 8 & 9; Plates 3-5). These appear to be parallel and orientated, approximately, north-south, though as only a portion of each was revealed at the limit of the trench excavation their actual dimensions and orientations could not be accurately determined. The section of Linear [107] exposed within the trench was c. 1.81m in length x 0.40m wide x 0.13m deep. The fill (108) was mid greyish brown silty gravel that contained frequent inclusions of angular flint and stone (<50mm), but no dateable finds. A smaller portion of Linear [109] was visible at the south-eastern baulk, measuring 1.72m in length and 0.28m in depth, though only 0.30m of its width was exposed. The fill (110) was mid greyish brown silty clay and included angular stone (<100mm), though much less than the fill of Linear [107]. Unfortunately this feature was also devoid of any archaeological finds. It is likely that the function of linear features is that they were originally used for drainage.





Figure 5: Evaluation trench Location plan: proposed (red) and actual (green) layout (scale 1: 400)

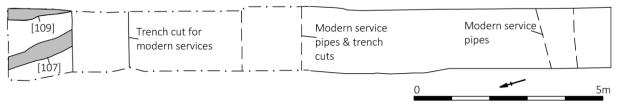


Figure 6: Trench 1 plan (scale 1:100)



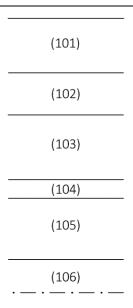


Figure 7: Trench 1 stratigraphy

Plan of Ditch [107] and [109]

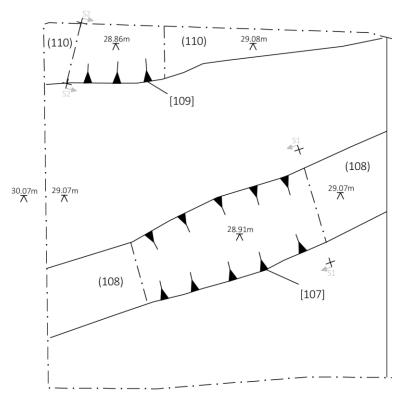


Figure 8: Trench 1, linear features [107] & [109]. (Scale 1:20)



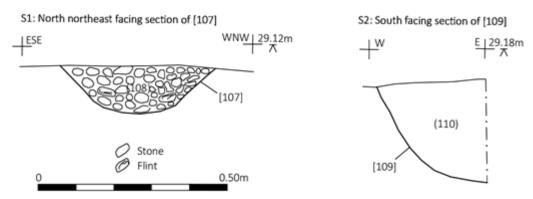


Figure 9: Trench 1, sections of linear features [107] & [109]. (Scale 1:10)



Plate 1: Trench 1, looking south



Plate 3: Trench1, Linear cuts [107] & [109], looking east



Plate 2: Trench 1, stratigraphy



Plate 4: Trench 1, Linear [107], looking southwest





Plate 5: Trench 1, Linear [109], looking east

The contexts encountered within Trench 1 are outlined below:

Context no.	Туре	Dimensions (max)	Description
101	Layer	W: >1.80m L: >18.20m D: 0.24m	Thick stony concrete layer covering the whole site. Thin steel poles found throughout, which have been used to reinforce the concrete.
102	Layer	W: >1.80m L: >18.20m D: 0.18m	Made ground layer beneath concrete (101). Mid orange, very loose gravelly sand, with thick lenses of charcoal. 'Builders sand' with gravelly inclusions. Also contained chunks of chalk that appeared in wide lenses near the northern end of the trench. Contained modern CBM - noted but not quantified or removed from site.
103	Layer	W: >1.80m L: >18.20m D: 0.28m	Layer of clay between sand (102) and (104). Madeground. Purposely dumped material to build up the ground level. Contained modern CBM including frogged brick. Noted but not quantified or removed from site due to their insignificance.
104	Layer	W: >1.80m L: >6.10m D: 0.08m	Made-ground. Secondary layer of builder's sand and gravel. Similar to (102), but chalk inclusions absent. Two fragments of medieval CBM were found.
105	Layer	W: >1.80m L: >18.20m D: 0.27m	Possible buried subsoil. Dark greyish brown, soft, friable clayey silty sand. Contained CBM and brick near the top of the layer indicating contamination from overlying modern layers via compression. Contained frequent flint inclusions (≤100mm). The majority were rounded riverine pebbles, but sub angular flints present. Animal bone also observed.
106	Layer	W: >1.80m L: >18.20m D:> 0.14m	Mid greyish yellowish orange, gravel. Natural geology, which is consistent throughout the site.
107	Cut	W: 0.40m L:>1.81m D:0.13m	Cut for linear with <45 degree sloping sides and a u- shaped base, with a stone-rich fill. Orientated SE-NW. Possibly used for drainage. No datable material recovered from the fill. Context extent obscured by the limit of excavation to the northwest and southeast.



Context no.	Туре	Dimensions (max)	Description			
108	Fill	L:>1.81m	Fill of linear [107]. Mid greyish brown. Compact stones set in a silty gravelly matrix. Did not contain any datable material.			
109	Cut	L: >1.72m D: 0.28m	Linear in east corner of trench 1. Continues beyond the limit of excavation. This feature was orientated SSE-NNW, and had a >45 degree sloping sides and a ushaped base. Possibly used for drainage.			
110	Fill	1 1'51 //m	.30m Fill of linear [109]. Mid greyish brown, fairly friable silt			

4.3 *Trenches 2-3*

Trenches 2-3 were originally intended to be entirely separate, but local topographical constraints necessitated their re-positioning, and so both were joined together into a roughly L-shaped trench (Figs. 5 & 10; Plates 6-9).

Trench 2 measured 20m in length x 1.8m in width and had a maximum depth of 1.44m in depth, and was excavated through the middle of the site, on an approximate southwest-northeast orientation. Trench 2 intersected with the northern end of Trench 3, which was cut into the southern portion of the development site, where it ran parallel with the existing structures to the west. Trench 3 was orientated northwest-southeast, and measured 22m in length x 1.8m in width with a maximum depth of 1.44m.

The stratigraphy in both trenches was similar, and comprised concrete (201, 301), madeground (202, 302), a buried topsoil (203, 303) overlying made-ground (204, 304), subsoil (205, 305), and the same natural geology (206, 306) (Figs. 11-12; Plates 10-11). Modern blue and white pottery, part of a clay pipe stem, and two fragments of medieval CBM were found in made-ground (204).

In Trench 2 a large cut feature that may be a Pit [207] was revealed near the middle of the trench (Figs. 10 & 13; Plates 12-13). This feature was 1.6m wide x 0.67m deep, whereas only 1.22m of its apparent length was exposed within Trench 2, and whilst it has been categorised as a pit it is equally possible that it was the terminus of large ditch. It contained three clayey silty sand fills (208-210), and 12th-14th century potsherds were found in the upper fills (208-209). The upper fill (208) also contained modern green glass, and the radius of a red deer (*Cervus elaphus*). The glass may intrusive as there was a moderate amount of rooting associated with this feature. Fill (208) was cut by [211] to the southwest, which was only visible in section so its length is unknown, but it was 0.45m wide x 0.19m deep. Cut Feature [211] may have been a gully, a posthole or small re-cut pit.

A potentially large Ditch Terminus [309], measuring more than 2.15m in length, greater than 1.82m in width and up to 0.24m deep, was partially revealed at the intersection of Trenches 2-3 (Figs. 10 & 14; Plates 14-15). Its fill (310) comprised mid-brownish grey silty clay fill, a large proportion of stone and flint inclusions, a small fragment of animal bone, and a <1g fragment of fired clay. As its full extent and morphology remain unknown it is possible that it was a large pit, but as these are often used for waste disposal the lack of finds suggests it may have been part of a ditch.

An isolated cut for a possible small Pit/Post-hole [307], measuring $0.65m \times 0.5m \times 0.14m$, was revealed at the southeast end of Trench 3 (Figs. 10 & 14; Plate 16). Its mid-greyish brown sandy clay fill (308) contained no artefacts.



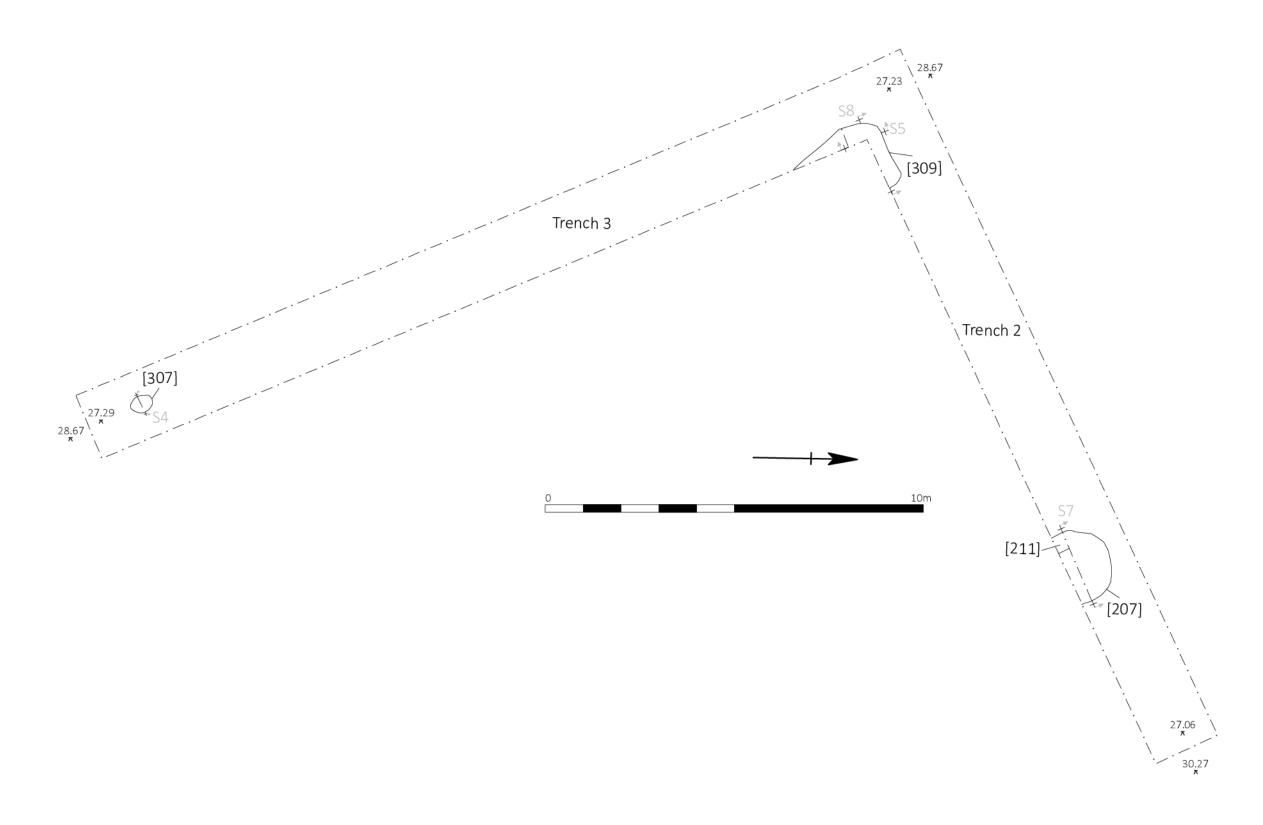


Figure 10: Trenches 2 & 3 plan (scale 1: 100)

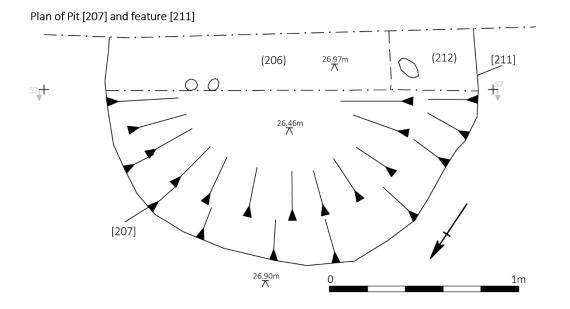


(201)	(301)
(202)	(302)
(203)	(303)
(204)	(304)
(205)	(305)
(206)	(306)

Figure 11: Trench 2 stratigraphy

Figure 12: Trench 3 stratigraphy





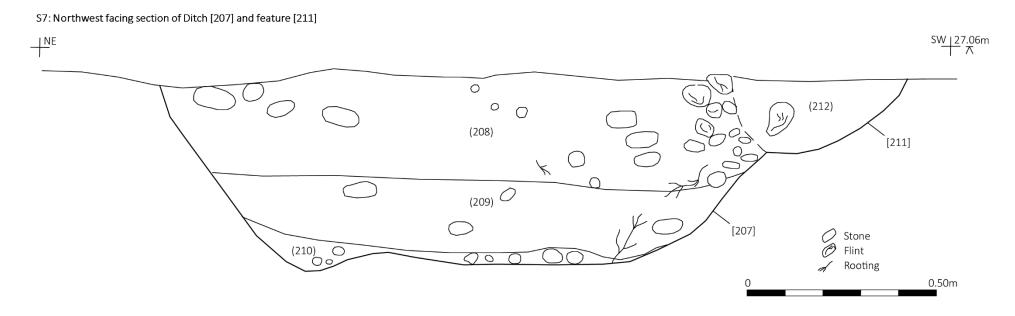


Figure 13: Trench 2 cut features (section 1:10; plan 1:20)



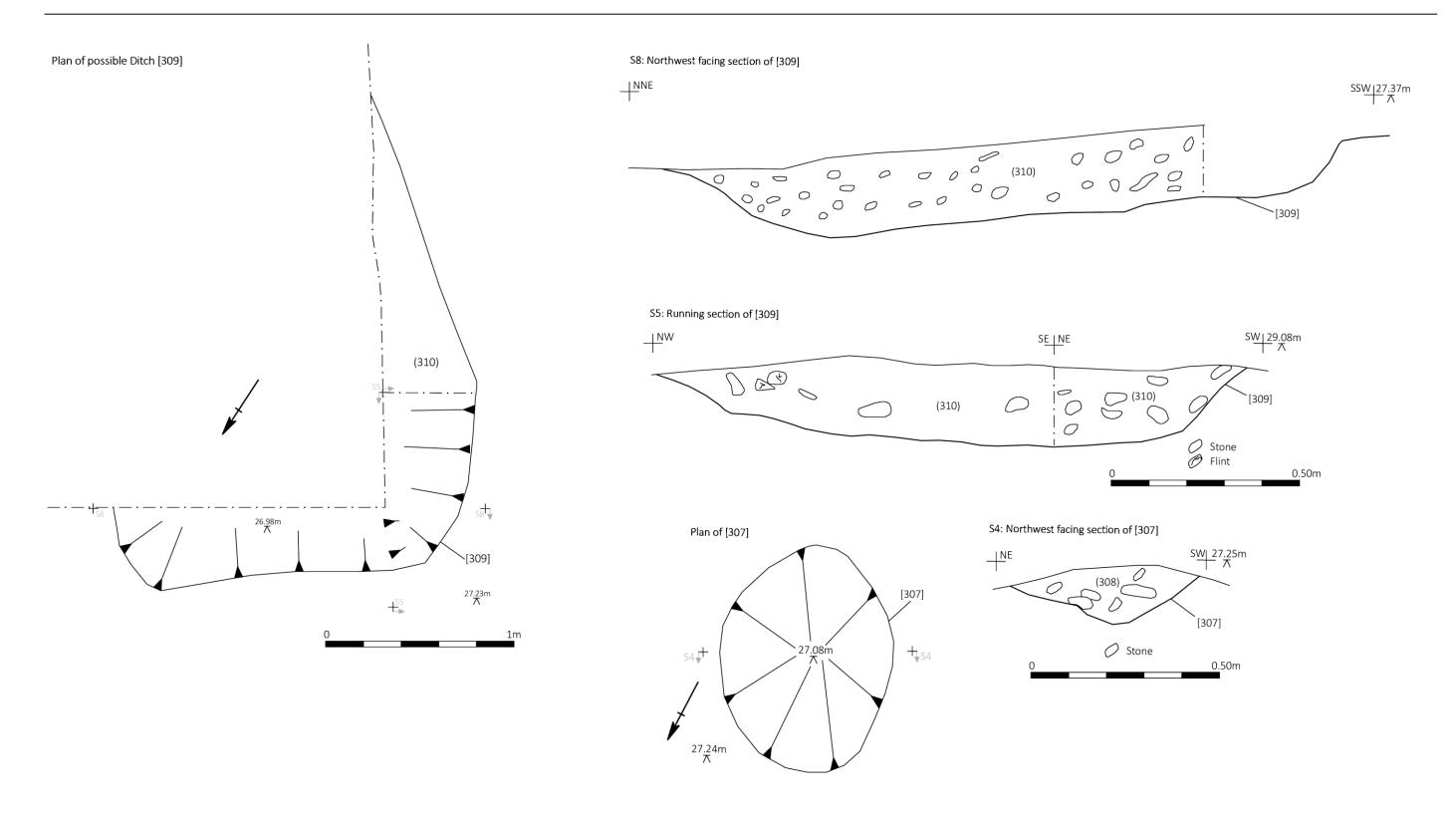


Figure 14: Trench 3 cut features (sections 1: 10; plan of [307] = 1:10; plan of [309] = scale 1:20)





Plate 6: Trench 2, NE end looking northeast



Plate 7: Trench 2, SW end looking northeast



Plate 8: Trench 3, looking southeast



Plate 9: Trench 3, looking northwest



Plate 10: Trench 2 stratigraphy



Plate 11: Trench 3 stratigraphy





Plate 12: 'Pit' [207], looking northwest



Plate 13: 'Pit' [207], looking southeast



Plate 14: Ditch Terminus [309], looking southeast



Plate 15: Ditch Terminus [309], looking southeast



Plate 16: Pit/Post-hole [307], looking southeast



The contexts encountered within Trench 2 are outlined below:

Context no.	Туре	Dimensions (max)	Description
201	Layer	>1.80m D: 0.26m	Thick stony concrete layer covering the whole site. Thin steel poles found throughout which have been used to reinforce the concrete.
202	Layer	D: 0.21m	Modern made ground. Mid orangey yellow very loose silty sans with frequent rounded stones and a high proportion of brick and tile throughout. Modern services are cut into this layer. Directly on top of buried topsoil (203).
203	Layer	D: 0.14m	Buried topsoil beneath modern made ground layers. Dark greyish brown, very friable silty sand. Contained frequent rounded stones, occasional sub-angular flint and CBM which appears to have been either surface detritus or pushed down through compression from the upper layer. Included modern brick and tile. The CBM was not quantified or removed from site.
204	Layer	D: 0.37m	Layer of earlier made ground beneath buried topsoil. Mid greyish brown, very friable silty sand with frequent stone and flint inclusions. Contained older bricks, some appear to be handmade. Finds comprised modern blue and white pottery, part of a clay pipe stem, and two fragments of medieval CBM.
205	Layer	D: 0.29m	Subsoil beneath made ground layer (204). Dark brownish grey, very friable silty sand with frequent stone inclusions
206	Layer	D: >0.11m	Natural geology found throughout the site. Mid greyish yellow, very loose sandy stony gravel which contained frequent flint pieces and nodules throughout
207	Cut	W: 1.60m L: >1.22m D: 0.67m	Cut of a large possible pit near to the centre of Trench 2. Circular in plan with >45 degree sloping sides and a flat base. It is also possible that this feature is the terminating end of a boundary ditch. Continues beyond the limit of excavation to the southeast.
208	Fill	W: 1.60m L: >1.22m D: 0.28m	Fill of possible pit/ terminating end of ditch [207]. Dark greyish brown, very friable clayey, silty sand. Contained occasional charcoal flecks. Appears to be deliberate backfill of organic matter with a small amount of domestic rubbish. The fill contained frequent stony and flint inclusions. Most of the flints were complete or fractured nodules and the majority of the stones were river rounded pebbles. Animal bone, 12 th -14 th century pottery, and green glass were recovered. (208) is cut by [211] to the southwest.
209	Fill	W: 1.36m L: >0.64m D: 0.19m	Secondary fill of [207]. Almost identical in composition to (208), however, contained an ashy type substance throughout. Contained 12 th -14 th century pottery, animal bone, and worked/unworked flint.



Context no.	Туре	Dimensions (max)	Description
210	Layer	L: >0.25m D: 0.08m	Primary fill of [207]. Mottled red brown very friable clayey silty sand. Appears to be a mixed natural/backfill interface or may be a result of the rooting pushing the upper fills into this context. No finds recovered from this fill.
211	Cut	W: 0.45m L: unknown D: 0.19m	Feature visible in the section of [207]. Possible gully or perhaps a posthole or small recut pit. No observable in plan so the purpose of this feature is unclear. Cut to the northeast defined by a high concentration of stones which line the feature. The feature had <45 degree sloping sides and a U-shaped base.
212	Fill	L: unknown	Fill of [211]. Appears almost identical to (208) but contained noticeably less stone within the fill and no charcoal. No datable material recovered

The contexts encountered within Trench 3 are outlined below:

Context no.	Туре	Dimensions (max)	Description		
		D: 0.26m	Thick stony concrete layer covering the whole site. Thin steel poles found throughout which have been used to		
301	Layer		reinforce the concrete.		
302	Layer	D: 0.24m	Same as (202)		
303	Layer	D: 0.25m	Buried topsoil beneath modern made ground layers. Same as (203)		
304	Layer	D: 0.32m	Layer of earlier made ground beneath buried topsoil. Same as (204)		
305	Layer	D: 0.25m	Subsoil beneath made ground layer (304). Same as (205)		
306	Layer	D: >0.21m	Natural geology found throughout the site		
307	Cut	W: 0.50m L: 0.65m D: 0.14m	Cut for possible pit [307] located at the southeast end of trench 3. Circular feature with <45 degree sloping sides and a U-shaped base. May also be a large posthole.		
308	Fill	W: 0.50m L: 0.65m D: 0.14m	Fill of possible pit [307]. Mid greyish brown, fairly loose clayey sand containing large amounts of stones/flint and no artefacts.		
309	Cut	W: >1.82m L: >2.15m D: 0.24m	Cut for possible terminating end of ditch [309]. May also be a pit, although its true shape is obscured by the limit of excavation to the northeast and southeast. The feature had straight sides, a flat base and was orientated E-W		
310	Fill	W: >1.82m L: >2.15m D: 0.24m	Fill of possible ditch [309]. Mid brownish grey fairly compact silty clay containing a small fragment of bone. Likely to be the result of natural silting, however this is unclear. Contained a high proportion of stone throughout.		



5 Conclusions

The evaluation revealed a series of cut features including Linears [107, 109], a Pit [207], a cut feature [211], a Pit/Post-hole [307], and a possible large ditch terminus [309]. No dating evidence was discovered in the Trench 1 features ([107, 109]) and the two fragments of medieval CBM found in made-ground (104) were residual. Further residual material was also recovered from modern made-ground (204) in Trench 2. In the same trench, however, 12th-14th century potsherds were found in the upper fills (208-209) of Pit [207] suggesting that this feature, at least, dates to the medieval period.

The medieval settlement at Stanstead Abbots was largely agricultural, and scant, indirect evidence of the economic basis of the community is provided by plant and animal remains from the site. Two charred cereal grains were identified in the fills (208 & 209) of Pit [207], and (208) also contained a bone from a Red deer, a species that were sought after during the Middle Ages., as a source of meat. The only other species identified in the animal bone assemblage was represented by the remains of an undated, potentially immature pig (*Sus scrofa*) from made-ground (104). This may have been served, perhaps, as 'suckling pig', or it was simply an animal that died soon after birth.

The types of cut feature revealed in the evaluation trenches are also consistent with an agricultural setting; agriculture remained a vital component of the local economy into the post-medieval period. The ditches, gullies, and linears probably provided local land drainage, and the pits were utilised, among other potential uses, for waste disposal, with some, particularly the larger cut features demarcating land boundaries.

In essence the results of the evaluation demonstrate that there was probably medieval agricultural activity in the area, though the density of features would suggest it was not particularly intense. There was no substantive evidence of structures on the site, as the single isolated post hole could not be attributed to a building. However it is possible that forms part of structure, the rest of which lies outside the excavated area.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Cliff Turnbull for commissioning this report. Thanks are also due to Rebekah Hart and Alison Tinniswood of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team for providing historic environment and monitoring the project respectively.

The fieldwork was carried out by Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA. The report was written by Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA and Derek Watson PhD, and edited by David Kaye BA ACIfA.



7 Archive

- 7.1 The project archive will comprise:
 - 1. Written Scheme of Investigation
 - 2. Initial report
 - 3. Trench recording sheets
 - 4. Sample records
 - 5. Finds records
 - 6. Finds
 - 7. Site drawings
 - 8. Client's site plans
 - 9. List of photographs
 - 10. B/W prints & negatives
 - 11. Specialist reports
 - 12. CDROM with copies of all digital files.
- 7.2 The archive will be deposited with Ware Museum.



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Appendix 1: Photograph List

Digital	B&W	View	Subject	
1	226/24	S	Overall trench 1	
2		NE	Trench 1 strat	
3		Е	Trench 1 pre ex	
4		NW	Linear [107]	
5		Е	linear [109]	
6		NE	Trench 2 NE Void	
7	23	NE	Trench 2 NE	
8	22	NE	Trench 2 SW	
9	21	SE	Trench 3	
10		NNW	Trench 3	
11		SE	Trench 2 strat	
12		SE	Trench 2 strat	
13		ENE	Trench 3 strat	
14		SE	Pre-ex [307]	
15		NNE	Pre-ex [309]	
16		NE	Pre-ex [207]	
17	20	SE	[307] NW facing section	
18	19	SE	[307] Mid excavation	
19		NE	SW facing profile section [309]	
20	18	SE	NW facing profile section [309]	
21		SE	NW facing profile section [309]	
22	17	NW	Possible pit [207]	
23		NE	Possible pit [207]	
24		SE	NW facing section [207]	
25		SE	NW facing section [207]	
26		SE	NW facing section [207]	
27		SE	NW facing section [207]	
28		SE	NW facing section [207]	
29		SE	NW facing section [207]	
30	16	SE	NW facing section [207]	
31	15	SSE	[307] fully excavated	
32	14	SE	[309]	
33	13	NE	Linear [107]	



Appendix 2: Finds Concordance

Ctxt	No.s	P	ot	Вс	ne	С	ВМ	G	lass		Other	
Fill	Cut	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	Notes
104				4	37	2	97					
204		3	53			2	183			1	5	Clay pipe
208		8	83	16	189			1	1	1	3	Flint
209		21	231	15	70					1	11	Flint
310				1	1	1	1					
To	tal	32	367	36	297	5	281	1	1	3	19	



Appendix 3: Excavation Summary Tables

Plan Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Details
3	1	1:20	Plan of
6	2	1:20	Plan of
9	2	1:20	Plan of
10	1	1:10	Plan of

Section Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Contexts
1	1	1:10	
2	1	1:10	
4	1	1:10	
5	2	1:10	
7	2	1:10	
8	2	1:10	

Sample Register

Sample No	Context No	Sample Type	Quantity
1	(108)	Bulk	401
1	(108)	Bulk	401
1	(108)	Bulk	401
1	(108)	Bulk	401
1	(108)	Bulk	401
1	(108)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
2	(208)	Bulk	401
3	(310)	Bulk	10
3	(310)	Bulk	10
3	(310)	Bulk	101
3	(310)	Bulk	101
3	(310)	Bulk	101
3	(310)	Bulk	10
4	(308)	Bulk	301
4	(308)	Bulk	301
4	(308)	Bulk	301
4	(308)	Bulk	301
5	(209)	Bulk	401
5	(209)	Bulk	401
5	(209)	Bulk	401
5	(209)	Bulk	401
5	(209)	Bulk	401
5	(209)	Bulk	401
5	(209)	Bulk	401



Appendix 4: Specialist Reports

4.1 Pottery and CBM from Stansted Abbots, Herts (Site 469/SAH)

Paul Blinkhorn

Pottery

The pottery assemblage comprised 33 sherds with a total weight of 363g. It was largely medieval, although a few modern fragments were also noted. The following fabric types were noted:

F327: Hedingham Ware, late 12th – 14th century (Walker 2012). 13 sherds, 155g.

F333: Hertfordshire Grey Ware, mid 12th-14th century (Turner-Rugg 1993). 10 sherds, 107g,

F360: Sandy Coarsewares, 12th – 14th century. 7 sherds, 49g.

F999: Miscellaneous 19th and 20th Century Wares. Mass-produced white earthenwares, stonewares etc. 3 sherds, 52g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region.

The group from 208 included a jar rim in F360. The sherds of Hedingham Ware were all from a single vessel, a jug with a thumb-frilled base and white slip stripe decoration. Both are common products of their respective traditions. The assemblages are generally in good condition, and appear reliably stratified.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

	F3	60	F333		F327		F9	99	
Cntxt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
204							3	52	MOD
208	5	40	4	43					M/L12thC
209	2	9	6	64	13	155			L12thC
Total	7	49	10	107	13	155	3	52	

СВМ

A small assemblage of fired clay building material was noted, mainly in the form of flat roof-tiles. They were all in a red sandy fabric, and of medieval date. Two fragments, both with traces of mortar and weighing 96g occurred in context 104, while two further fragments weighing 181g occurred in context 204. They were all between 10 -12mm thick.

A small flake of sandy fired clay weighing < 1g occurred in context 310. It is not dateable.

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4.2 Animal bone from an Archaeological Evaluation at The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Hertfordshire (469/SAH)

Derek Watson PhD

Introduction

An Archaeological Evaluation at The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Hertfordshire, generated an animal bone assemblage of 40 fragments (306g bone dry weight; Table 1). Fragmentary animal bones were recovered from 4 contexts that were the fills of cut features. The pottery found in contexts (208, 209) were spot-dated to the mid/late 12th, and the late 12th century AD. Contexts (104, 310) are undated.

Methodology: Taxonomic identification and Quantification

All elements were identified to species or taxonomic group, where possible, using published criteria, and quantified by a fragment count that grouped the fragments (Number of Identified Specimens; NISP=34 specimens). Only one species was positively identified - red deer (*Cervus elaphus*). The identification of immature pig (*Sus scrofa*) is tentative. Specimens that were not identifiable to species were assigned to size classes (e.g. small/medium/large). As most elements were assigned to broad size classes, it is probable that some of the remains in the small-medium categories may derive from, for example, domesticated species such as sheep/goat and/or pig, whereas medium-large mammal remains may be from cattle and/or horse. However, none of these species were formally identified, and the remains may not be from domesticated species.

Estimation of age-at-death is based on dental eruption and tooth wear of mandibles with in situ teeth (Grant 1982), and the stage of epiphyseal fusion (Bennett 2008; Habermehl 1975; Silver 1969) for elements identified to species. The animal bone was too fragmentary to acquire metric data (von den Driesch 1976). Butchery marks were observed on some fragments, but no other forms of (anthropogenic) surface modification were observed in the assemblage. The Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) is calculated from the greater number of left or right complete bones, epiphyseal ends, and/or mandibles with in situ teeth. The identified species comprise no more than a single individual in each context.

Mid to Late 12th Century Remains (208 & 209)

Contexts (208 & 209) were the primary and secondary fills of possible pit/ditch terminus [207]. The remains from these contexts comprise red deer, a game species, and numerous fragments of small to large sized mammalian species. The latter may be the remains of domesticated species (see above), but given the existence of a deer it is possible that least some of the other fragments may have also derived from hunted animals. The remaining proximal end of the deer radius has a single possible cut mark that extends partly across the anterior aspect of the element. Small-medium and large mammal bone fragments from contexts (208) also had cut marks. The skull fragments were from the occipital condyle/foramen magnum region of the skull and had been repeatedly chopped. The remaining bone two fragments were probably marked by filleting.



Undated Remains

Animal bone from contexts (104 & 310), the fill of linear [107] and the fill of a possible ditch [309], respectively, are both undated. Most of the remains are merely sized classed as the bones from these contexts were highly fragmented. However, two elements may derive from an immature pig (the bones lack epiphyseal ends), that was <1 year old. The surface appearance of these elements suggests a neonate.

Conclusions

Due to the small size of the sample it is not possible to formulate any reliable conclusions concerning broad patterns of human activities and animal exploitation. The deer remains are, however, intriguing as these are from a 12^{th} - 14^{th} century context, and red deer were sought after by hunters in the Middle Ages, for meat and, particularly, as an aristocratic sport (Adamson 2004: 35). The undated, immature, potential pig remains may represent 'suckling pig', or simply a young animal that died soon after birth.

The body parts that constitute the assemblage are commonly generated by primary butchery: the removal and discard of the least meaty bones/portions (e.g. lower extremities and mandibles/teeth) during initial disarticulation of an animal carcass. These elements are often incorporated into the fills of convenient cut features that were used for disposal. The animal remains in the assemblage, particularly the wide range of possible species represented by the size classed material, were probably exploited for a range of uses and products, e.g. meat, leather, sinew, sport etc.

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Date	N	И-L 12th C	L	.12th C		Und	date	d		
Context		208		209	10	4	3	310		Totals
Species/Element	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)	#	(%)
Pig? (Immature)					2	(5.9)			2	(5.9)
pelvis					1	(2.9)			1	(2.9)
femur					1	(2.9)			1	(2.9)
Red Deer	1	(2.9)							1	(2.9)
radius	1	(2.9)							1	(2.9)
Small	3	(8.8)	5	(14.7)					8	(23.5)
radius	1	(2.9)							1	(2.9)
astragalus	1	(2.9)							1	(2.9)
rib	1	(2.9)							1	(2.9)
indeterminate			5	(14.7)					5	(14.7)
Small-Medium	8	(23.5)	6	(17.6)			1	(2.9)	15	(44.1)
tibia	1	(2.9)							1	(2.9)
rib			3	(8.8)					3	(8.8)
indeterminate	7	(20.6)	3	(8.8)			1	(2.9)	11	(32.4)
Medium	1	(2.9)	3	(8.8)					4	(11.8)
skull fragment	1	(2.9)	3	(8.8)					4	(11.8)
Medium-Large			2	(5.9)					2	(5.9)
indeterminate			1	(2.9)					1	(2.9)
mandible frag.			1	(2.9)					1	(2.9)
Large			1	(2.9)	1	(2.9)			2	(5.9)
femur			1	(2.9)			_		1	(2.9)
tooth fragment					1	(2.9)			1	(2.9)
Totals	13	(38.2)	17	(50.0)	3	(8.8)	1	(2.9)	34	(100)

Table 1: Animal bone from project 469/SAH. (M = mid; L=late; frag. = fragment)



4.3 The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Herdtfordshire, NGR TL 3802 1140, KDK 469/SAH : Assessment Of Environmental Samples

Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA

1.Introduction – Aims and Objectives

Five samples were presented for assessment. All were taken during an evaluation in advance of development (Watson 2019, 3). At the time of writing no information about the sample features other than two pot dates are available.

The aims of this assessment are to determine the significance and potential of the plant macro-remains in the samples and consider their use in providing information about diet, craft, medicine, crop-husbandry, feature function and environment.

2.Sampling And Processing Methods

These samples were taken and processed by KDK Archaeology Ltd and completely processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried.

Once with the author the flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in the sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.

Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers *et al.* 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

At this stage numbers given are estimates but where only one item is present that has been noted. Identifiable charred wood >4mm in diameter has been described as that. Charred wood <4mm diameter are described as 'flecks'. Samples this size are easier to break to reveal the cross-sections and diagnostic features necessary for identification and are less likely to be blown or unintentionally moved around the site (Asouti 2006, 31; Smart and Hoffman, 1988, 178-179). Fragments smaller than this and larger then 2mmØ were scanned in case any fragments of twig or roundwood survived.



3.Results

Table 1: Flot contents

		Charred								ā			
		v	Sample Volume (L.) Flot Volume (L.)			Grain		S	eed		>4mm charcoal	<4mm charcoal	Uncharred Root/rhizome fragments
Sample	Ē	Pot Date	Sample	Flot Volume (а	d	р	а	d	р	w≯<	~4m	Uncharred fragments
1	108	no date	40	0.002	-	-	-	ı	-	-	ı	1	2
2	208	M/L 12th C	40	0.2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	-	3
3	310	no date	10	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
4	308	no date	30	0.01	-	-	-	1	-	-	ı	1	2
5	209	L 12th C	40	0.2	1	1	2	ı	-	-	-	ı	3

Key: a = abundance [1=occasional1-10,2=moderate 11-100 and 3= abundant>100; d = diversity[1=low1-4 taxa types, 2=moderate 5-10, 3= high; p = preservation [1 = poor (family level only), 2= moderate (genus), 3= good (species identification possible)

3.1. The Plant Remains

Fragments of charcoal of identifiable size were found in sample 2. Two charred cereal grains were recovered. One bread/club/rivet wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum*) was found in sample 2 and one poorly preserved barley/wheat (*Hordeum/Triticum* sp.) grain was found in sample 5. No chaff was recovered to confirm the identify of these grains. One charred seed was found in sample 2. This was poorly preserved but resembled a small pea or vetch (*Pisum/Vicia* sp.) seed. Uncharred, intrusive root/rhizome fragments were frequent in each sample.

3.2. Fauna

The only faunal remains were low numbers of terrestrial snails in each sample.

3.3. Artefacts

No artefactual remains were found in these samples.

4.Discussion

4.1. Biases in Recovery, Residuality, Contamination

Nothing with regards biases in recovery, residuality or contamination was highlighted for any of these samples at the time of writing but terrestrial mollusca, particularly the subterranean mollusc *Ceciliodes acicula* (Müller) and uncharred root/rhizome fragments were present in both samples and these indicate possible bioturbation.



4.2. Quality and type of preservation.

The plant remains were present that have been preserved by charring. Charring of plant macrofossils occurs when plant material is heated under '…reducing conditions…' where oxygen is largely excluded (Boardman and Jones 1990, 2) leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to biological and chemical decay (Campbell et al. 2011, 17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds, 1979, 57).

No plant remains were preserved by mineralisation (Green 1979, 281) or silicification (Robinson and Straker 1990), which means that there is no archaeobotanical evidence for the cess disposal or slow-burning aerated fires. No waterlogged plant remains were present meaning that the area was well-drained with no evidence of standing or running water.

4.3. Potential and Significance and Recommendations for further work on these samples

If further excavation takes place at this site, then bulk soil sampling is recommended because it is clear that charred plant remains survive here. No further archaeobotanical work is recommended on either of these flots.

5. Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Nicola Bell (KDK Archaeology Ltd) for providing background information.

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Appendix 5: OASIS and Site Data

	PROJECT	DETAILS							
Project Name & Address	The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbots, Hertfordshire	Project Site Code		469/SAH					
OASIS reference	kdkarcha1-353291	Event/Accession no		TBC					
OS reference	TL 3802 1140	Study area size		2168.5sq m					
Project Type	Archaeological Evaluation	Height (mAOD)		35					
Short Description	In July 2019 KDK Archaeology L Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abb associated parking and landscapir ditch terminus, a pit, linear featur and a clay pipe stem. Only one of potsherds dating from the 12th - Abbotts was predominantly agricut features appear to be consist ditche) demarcating (agricultural)	otts, Hertfordshire, prior to the fig. The evaluation revealed a sizes, a pit/post-hole, and animal fithe features, a pit, contained 14th century AD. The economy ultural during the medieval to tent, with some, particularly to	ne ered eries of bone, datable of the post-r	ction of 6 dwellings with of cut features including a pottery, a shard of glass, le material in the form of e settlement at Stanstead medieval periods and the					
Previous work	None	Site status		None					
Planning proposal	Demolition of existing B1/B8 units and erection of 6 dwellings with associated parking and landscapin (Amended Layout)	Current land use	Current land use						
Local Planning Authority	East Herts Council	Planning application ref.		3/17/0274/FUL & 3/18/2556/VAR					
Monument type	Ditch, Linears, Pit, Pit/Post-hole, and a Cut Feature.	Monument period	Monument period						
Significant finds	Pottery, CBM, animal bone, glass, clay pipe,	Future work	Future work						
	PROJECT (CREATORS							
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd								
Project Brief originator	N/A	Project Design originator	KDK	Archaeology Ltd					
Project Manager	David Kaye BA ACIfA	Director/Supervisor	pervisor Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA						
Sponsor/funding body	Jack Harvey Construction SG12 Ltd 2PZ	d, Ivy Lodge, Park Lane Paradise	e, Ches	hunt, Hertfordshire EN7					
	PROJEC	T DATE							
Start date	16/07/2019	End date	18/0	07/2019					
	PROJECT A	ARCHIVES							
	Location	Content (e.g. pottery, a	animal	bone, files/sheets)					
Physical		Potsherds, animal bone, CBM	, glass,	, clay pipe, flint					
Paper	Ware Museum	WSI, report, site records, B&V	NSI, report, site records, B&W photographs						
Digital	Digital CD containing all digital data								
		CD containing all digital data							
BIBLIOGRA	APHY (Journal/monograph, published		ed clier	nt report)					
BIBLIOGRA Title	APHY (Journal/monograph, published Archaeological Evaluation Report: Hertfordshire	d or forthcoming, or unpublishe		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
	Archaeological Evaluation Report:	d or forthcoming, or unpublishe		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report: Hertfordshire	d or forthcoming, or unpublishe The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road		· · · · · ·					



Appendix 6: Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record Sheet

Site name and address	: The Spinney, F	Ioddesdon R	oad, Stanstead A	bbots, Hertf	fordshire	
County: Her	County: Hertfordshire			trict: East Herts Council		
Village/Town: Star		Parish:	Parish: Stanstead Abbotts			
Planning application re	/0274/FUL 8	& 3/18/2556/VAR				
Client's name, address	& tel no:	struction SG12 Ltd 7 2PZ	d, Ivy Lodge,	, Park Lane Paradise, Cheshunt,		
Nature of application:	Demolition of exi landscaping. (Am	_		n of 6 dwelli	ings with associated parking and	
Present land use:	Commercial prer	nises				
Size of application area	a: 2168.5sq m		Size of area in	vestigated:	104.4 sq.m	
NGR (to 8 figures):	TL 3802 1140		Site code:		469/SAH	
Site director:	Laura Dodd M	Sc ACIfA	Organization:		KDK Archaeology Ltd	
Type of work:	Archaeological Evalua	tion				
Date of Work:	Start: 16/07/2019			Finish:	18/07/2019	
Curating museum:	Ware Museum					
Related HER no's:		Pe	riods represented: Medieval to Modern			
Relevant previous sum	maries/reports:			•		

Summary of fieldwork results:

In July 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an Archaeological Evaluation at The Spinney, Hoddesdon Road, Stanstead Abbotts, Hertfordshire, prior to the erection of 6 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping. The evaluation revealed a series of cut features including a ditch terminus, a pit, linear features, a pit/post-hole, and animal bone, pottery, a shard of glass, and a clay pipe stem. Only one of the features, a pit, contained datable material in the form of potsherds dating from the 12th -14th century AD. The economy of the settlement at Stanstead Abbotts was predominantly agricultural during the medieval to post-medieval periods and the cut features appear to be consistent, with some, particularly the larger cut features (e.g. the ditche) demarcating (agricultural) land boundaries.

Author: Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA & D	erek Watson PhD	Date: 20/	/09/2019
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