



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Archaeological Observation and Recording Report

Langley Lodge Farm Barn
Kings Langley
Hertfordshire



Quality Check

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Summary

In July 2021 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire in order to fulfil planning conditions for the development of the site. The project required various areas of excavation under archaeological supervision, both inside and outside the existing barn.

Interior ground reduction revealed the presence of brick piers described in the Historic England list entry, which once supported a raised timber threshing floor. In between these was a layer of chalk that may have been all that remained of an earlier threshing floor, although its date could not be ascertained. No other features of archaeological interest were identified, although service trenches and footings pads were subsequently excavated inside the barn.

Ground reduction was also carried out at the exterior, as well as the excavation of further service trenches, a patio area, a soakaway and a pit for a fuel tank. These revealed varying areas of topsoil and made ground, suggesting that a great deal of landscaping had occurred in the recent past, which may have truncated any features that previously existed.

1 Introduction

1.1 In July 2021 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by Damon Smith of Lodge Barn Developments Ltd, and was carried out at the request of Alison Tinniswood of the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Team (HHET), Archaeological Advisor (AA) to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Dacorum Borough Council. The relevant planning application references are 20/02633/FUL & 20/02634/LBC.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This project has been required under the terms of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as Conditions 7 & 8 of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *The Site*

Location

Kings Langley Lodge Barn is located southwest of the town centre of Kings Langley, in the civil parish of Kings Langley and administrative district of Dacorum Borough Council. The National Grid Reference is TL 06302 01536 (Fig. 1).

Description

The barn is situated west of Langley Lodge Lane and is bounded on all sides by private residences. The building immediately to the southeast was, until recently, the associated cow barn (Fig. 2). It is a 5-bay structure with opposing porches, which are now blocked, and side aisles under a clay tiled roof. It, along with the adjoining Cow House, is Grade II listed and is described as follows (NHLE Ref: 1100421):

Barn and cowhouse, now workshops. Later C17 barn, early C17 cowhouse. Timber frames on red brick sills (renewed) dark weatherboarded with steep old red tile roofs. A tall 5-bay barn with continuous added side-aisles orientated E-W with projecting gabled porches to N and S and lower 6-bay cowhouse attached to SE corner and running N-S. The barn has unjowled posts, mid-height rails tenoned in-line, long straight braces to cambered tie-beams, inclined queen-post trusses with clasped purlins and diminished principals. Face-halved bladed scarf joint in



wallplate over each post but squint-butted scarf to purlin. Angle ties in porches. Roof continued down over rear contemporary aisles with single purlin propped from aisle ties fixed to faces of posts. Remains of unusual raised threshing floor of wide planks carried on irregular timbers with carefully notched cross-battens between, supported on cross timbers and red brick piers (survey report by KLLHMS 1978 before part demolition of floor). Older cowhouse has unjowled posts but curved braces to cambered tie-beams and inclined queen-post clasped-purlin roof. Face halved bladed scarf joints in wallplate over posts.

Geology & Topography

The site lies west of the River Gade, at an elevation of approximately 120m AOD. It is on sedimentary bedrock of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated). This is overlain by superficial deposits of the Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup of sand and gravel, which formed up to 3 million years ago in an environment dominated by rivers. (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>)

Proposed Development

Alterations to existing listed barn to facilitate conversion into a single dwelling with associated car parking and landscaping (Figs. 3 & 4).

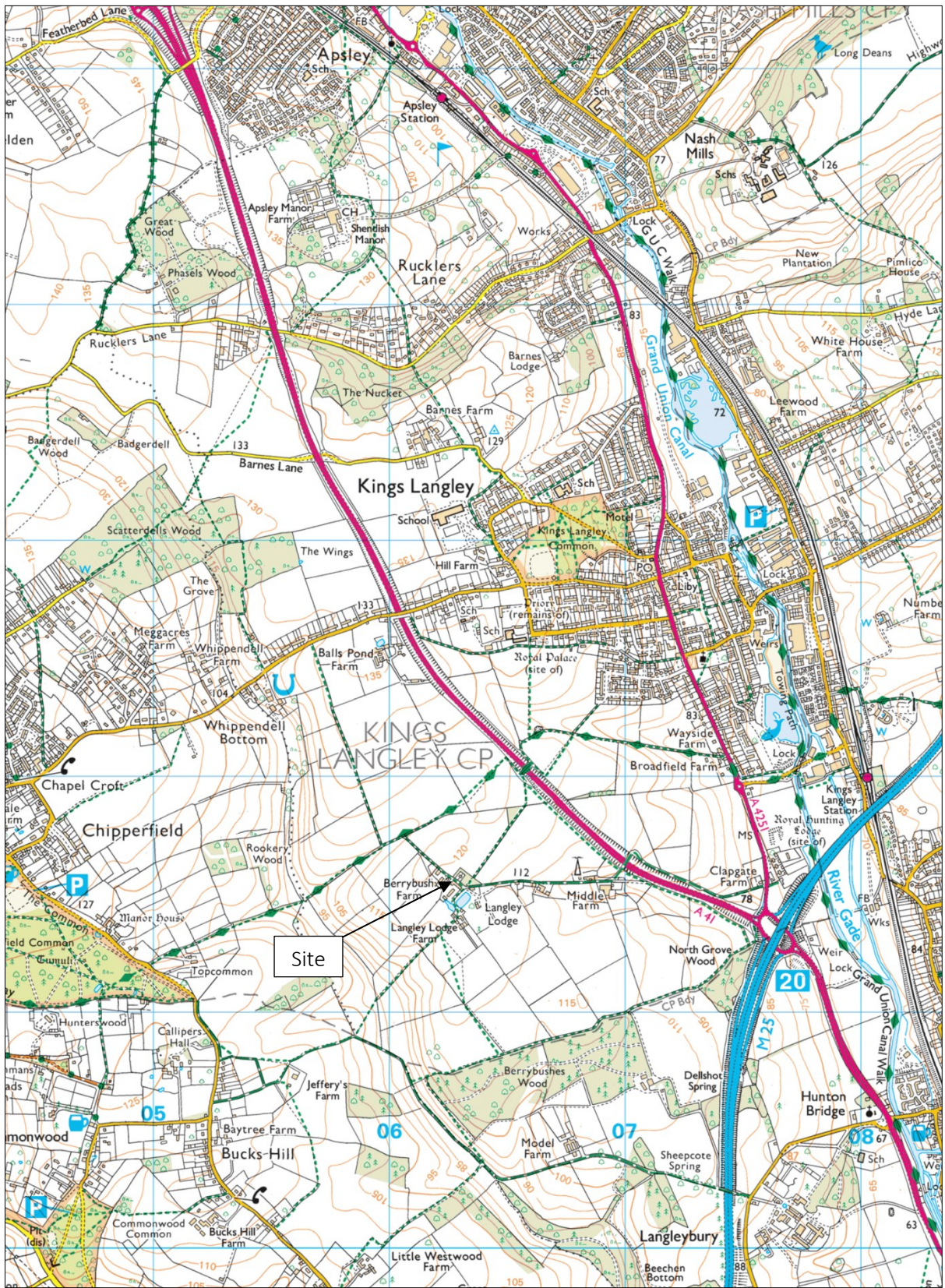


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

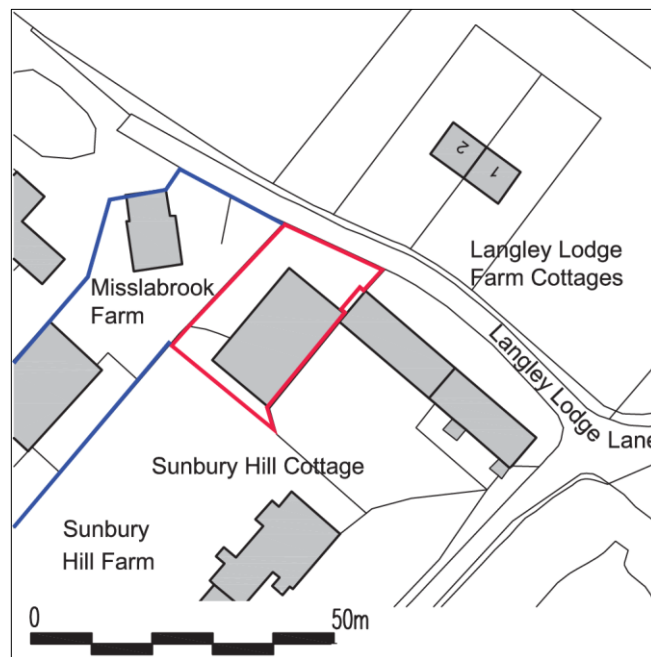


Figure 2: Site location, outlined in red (scale 1:1,250)



Figure 3: Proposed development plan (scale 1:500)

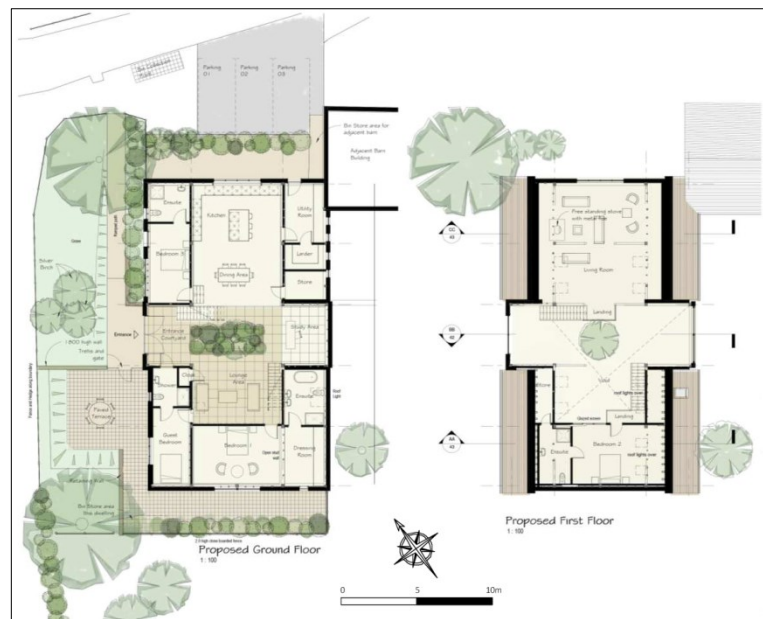


Figure 4: Proposed ground and first floor plans (scale 1:500)



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

The aims of this project as defined in the approved WSI (Shlasko 2021) 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 WSI, the methods used were as follows:

- All ground or other works likely to have an impact on archaeological deposits or remains were carried out under continuous and constant archaeological supervision. This included foundation pads and service trenches, ground reduction, soakaway, landscaping and other intrusive work.

2.3 Standards

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The WSI
- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2020)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2019)
- Current Historic England guidelines (EH 2008, HE 2015)
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003)
- Data Protection Act 2018



3 Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 Kings Langley rose to prominence in the medieval period as a royal residence and priory, but its location along the River Gade made it an attractive site for human occupation at least as far back as the late Mesolithic. The village had two principal areas of development, the main commercial area in the valley bottom along the High Street and on Langley Hill to the west, where the palace and priory were located. The proposed development site lies approximately 1km south of Langley Hill, within the bounds of the former royal deer park (HER 4099).

This section has been compiled with information from a previous Historic Building Appraisal of Langley Lodge Farm Barn (Semmelmann 2006), previous KDK Archaeology Ltd reports (Kaye 2020; Shlasko 2019) and data from the Hertfordshire HER (HER Ref: 188/21).

- 3.2 **Prehistoric - Roman** (before cAD450)

There is some evidence for early occupation near the River Gade, including a Palaeolithic flint implement that was found about 700m south of the proposed development site in the late 19th century (HER 806). A Late Iron Age linch pin was found in 1937, somewhere north of the proposed development site. This was subsequently purchased by the British Museum (HER 808). Outside the study area, which is defined as an area within 750m of the proposed development site, there have been other finds, including a Roman villa located south of the village near the Gade (HER 510).

- 3.3 **Saxon** (c.450-1066)

In c1060, the settlement, called *Langalege*, appears for the first time in the documentary record (Page 1908: 234-245). The name was a fairly common one, meaning 'long wood or clearing' (Mills: 1991: 203-204). At the end of the Saxon period, the manor belonged to Egelwin le Swarte and Aelfleda, his wife, who granted it to the abbey of St Albans (*ibid*). This took place between 1042 and 1049 (Reader 1994:103), but there was some dispute over ownership of the manor by the end of the Saxon period, and the abbey seems to have lost control over the land by 1066, when the manor was held by Særic and Thorir, two of Earl Leofwin's men (Williams and Martin 2002: 379).

- 3.4 **Medieval** (1066-1500)

According to the Domesday Survey, in 1086 the manor of *Langelai* was held by Ralph from Robert, the Count of Mortain. The manor encompassed enough land for 16 ploughs, but at the time there were only two men's ploughs. The population included four *villans*, five *bordars* and one Frenchman, as well as two slaves. The settlement boasted two mills and there were also three ploughs of meadow, pasture for livestock and woodland for 240 pigs (*ibid*).

By the 13th century, the manor had begun a lengthy association with the Crown. It was granted to a succession of royal women, from Isabella of France, through Katherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn and Jane Seymour (Page 1908: 234-245). The deer park was first documented in 1276 as the queen's new park, the queen at that time being Eleanor of Castile (HER 4099). The site of Pingel's Gate, which led into the park, is located approximately 600m west of the proposed development site (HER 16342).

Langley Lodge Farmhouse may have originated in the 15th century as a home for the keeper of the royal park (HER 15356). The Grade II* listed building still retains some of its 15th century structure, as well as one post that may be 13th or 14th century in date (*ibid*).

The palace, which gave Kings Langley its royal designation, also appeared in the 13th century (HER 96). It was used by Edward I, Edward II, Edward III and Richard II. Edmund of Langley, fourth son of Edward III and the First Duke of York, was born there in 1341. The king held court there



in 1349 while the plague was in London. Richard II spent time at the palace and was buried in Kings Langley priory (*ibid*). The palace fell out of use in the 15th century, following a fire in 1431 (Hastie 1991), but the park, which is depicted on a mid-17th century map, was sold to the Cassiobury estate in 1631 (HER 4099) and disparked sometime later.

The Dominican Priory was established by Edward II in 1308 (Hunn and Semmelmann 2009:5). Both the palace and the priory were located on the plateau above the village, with a wide ceremonial drive, now Langley Hill, that led up to the palace (HER 12533). The priory was at one point the richest Dominican priory in England (HER 97). Although little survives, geophysical survey identified a medieval wall foundation (HER 31497) to the north of the proposed development site. The grounds of the Priory are scheduled.

3.5 **Post-Medieval** (1500-1900)

In the post-medieval period, the focus of settlement reverted to the valley bottom. This focus was reinforced by changes in transport, beginning with the development of the Sparrows Herne Turnpike Road in 1782, followed by the Grand Junction Canal in 1804 and the London and Birmingham Railway in 1839 (Hunn and Semmelmann 2009: 7; <http://www.kingslangley.org.uk/railway.html>).

Improved transportation brought new economic opportunities, from the development of coaching inns to the growth of paper mills.

The former royal deer park was converted to farmland in the post-medieval period. The agricultural buildings at Langley Lodge Farm were probably built in the 17th century, although the farm is first documented in 1713 (HER 15355). Langley Lodge Farm barn, the proposed development site, is one of these 17th century structures.

3.6 **Modern** (1900-present)

Whilst papermaking and printing remained important industries, an important contributor to the local economy was the Ovaltine factory and its 'Model Poultry and Dairy Farm', still a local landmark (Hastie 1991: 75-77).

3.7 ***The Known Archaeology & History of the Site***

The earliest documentary evidence for Langley Lodge Farm dates from 1713 when John Cartwright was the tenant (Munby 1963: 103). The barn is first depicted in an estate map of 1797, which shows the building in its present layout. Records show that the farm was rented by Newman Hatley in the 1830s when it belonged to Earls of Essex and by Thomas Baxendon in 1900 when it was bought by E. Henry Lloyd (HALS D/BE2310/T59). In 1919 both Langley Lodge and Balls Pond Farm were purchased by Hertfordshire County Council to provide smallholdings for ex-servicemen (<https://www.dacorumheritage.org.uk/article/a-history-of-farming-in-kings-langley/>).

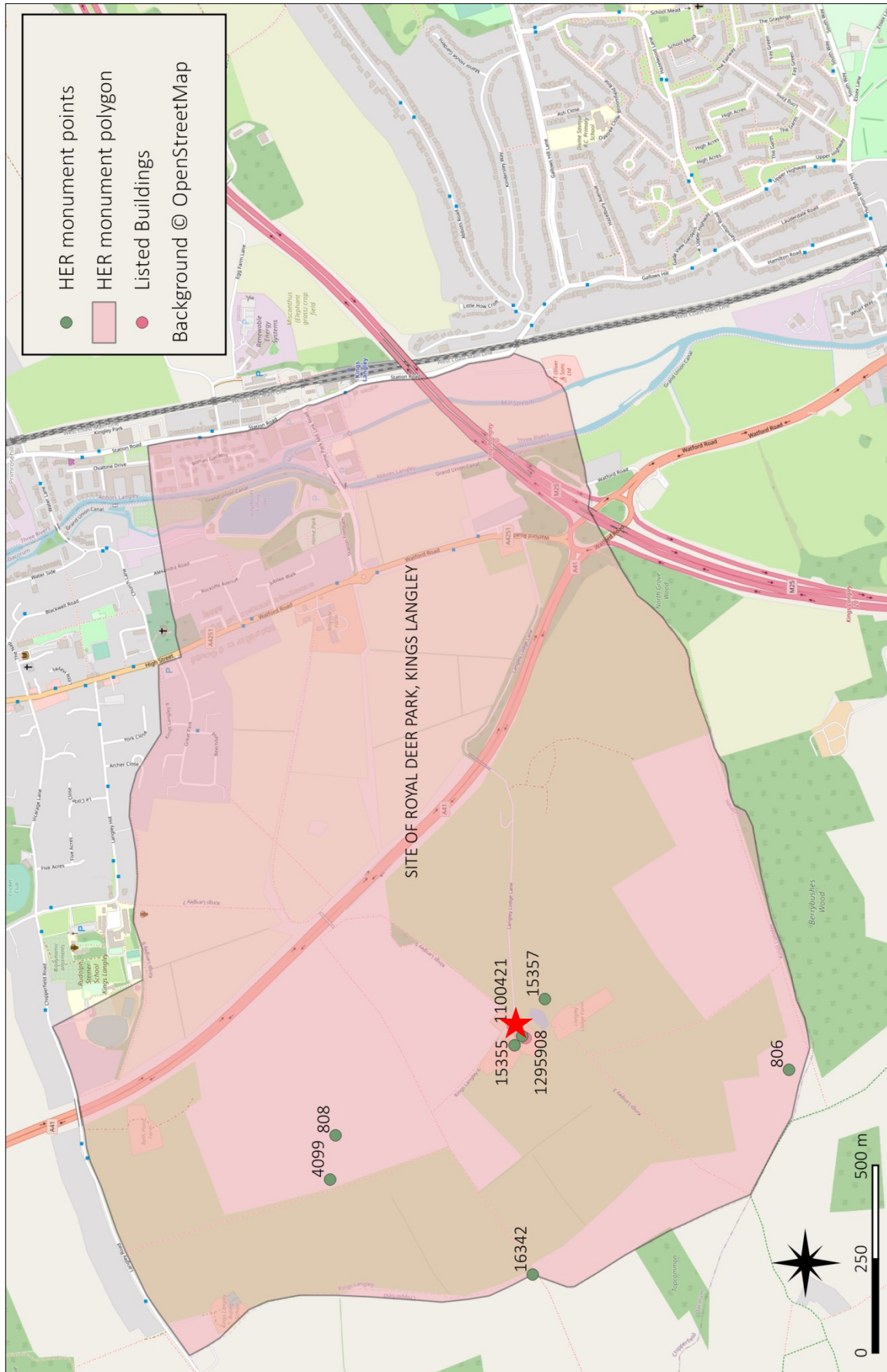


Figure 5: HER data plan, site marked with red star (scale 1:25,000)



4 Results

4.1 Introduction

This development project required various excavations both inside and outside of the barn. These were accomplished with a 3 tonne tracked excavator fitted with a 0.6m wide toothless grading bucket for areas of ground reduction and a 0.3m wide toothless ditching bucket for other excavations. The stratigraphy generally encountered was natural gravelly or clayey sand beneath layers of modern made ground or mixed topsoil. These layers were relatively built up to the exterior of the building but were shallow on the interior. Before excavation could take place inside the barn, a large quantity of modern rubbish had to be removed, and a modern concrete floor had to be broken and removed.

4.2 Description

After removal of the concrete floor, a stage of ground reduction was carried out inside the barn. This entailed the lowering of all interior dirt floors by 20cm (Fig. 6, Plates 1-4). This work revealed two red brick piers running either side of the central threshing bay, between the opposing gabled sections to the southeast and northwest. The piers were 34cm in width and 5.5m in length, but only the depth of a single course remained. The individual bricks appeared to be predominantly frogged and measured 22 x 10 x 6.5cm (8½ x 4 x 2½ inches). They were bonded with lime mortar and had been disturbed in places by later demolition (Plate 5). Between the brick piers was a thin layer of chalk, mostly measuring no more than 5cm deep except for near the northwest wall, where the layer became 20cm thick. The chalk was patchy but stretched across the entire central threshing bay, from northwest to southeast, a length of 11.7m and a width of 4m (Plate 6).

The internal ground reduction also included the floors of the more modern side aisles at the corners of the barn, except for the aisle in the east corner, which did not need to be reduced (Plates 7-9). All reduction of the internal made ground revealed natural gravelly sand. This had been disturbed in places by pockets of modern disturbance and a patch of topsoil at the edge of the west aisle, but the natural soil was otherwise ubiquitous and lay beneath the central chalk floor and brick piers.

Four internal service trenches were monitored following the internal ground reduction (Fig. 7), but these revealed only natural soil with a thin layer of made ground above in places (Fig. 8). All trenches measured 0.3m wide but varied in depth from 0.9m deep in Service Trench (ST) 1 and only 0.3m deep in ST 2 and ST 3 (Plates 10-16). Ten pits were excavated around the central section of the barn in order to accommodate concrete footings pads for a mezzanine floor. Each pad was 0.7m long, 0.5m wide and 0.4m deep at the deepest point. All pads showed only natural soil (Plates 17-26).

Ground reduction also took place to the exterior building. The largest area reduced measured 1.8m wide and ran 20m along the full length of the barn. The reduction was 0.65m deep and revealed made ground containing large amounts of modern CBM and other materials to the southwest, but did not breach below the topsoil at the northeast end (Plates 27-28). 0.55m of topsoil was visible in section prior to the reduction of the patio area, but this gave way to made ground near the base of the excavation (Fig. 9, Plate 29). It appeared in section that there had been past ground reduction at the southwest end of the garden, followed by the deposition of topsoil, although this certainly occurred in the modern period. Service Trench 5 was excavated within the area of ground reduction, also along the edge of the barn. This was 0.3m wide and 0.4m deep and revealed natural soil below 0.05m of made ground and topsoil (Plates 30-31). Two further service trenches of similar dimensions were excavated to the exterior. ST 6 connect ran from the reduced area to the soakaway and ST 7 connected to the LPG tank. These were also 0.3m wide, although ST 6 was slightly deeper at 0.6m and showed made ground and some



natural soil, whereas ST 7 was only 0.3m deep and did not breach the topsoil (Plates 32-33). The patio area was excavated to adjoin the area already reduced, this measured 5.5m long by 2.5m wide and 0.4m deep. It showed made ground to the northeast and topsoil to the southwest (Plate 34). A soakaway was excavated in the west corner of the garden measuring 2m by 1.6m and 0.7m deep (Plate 35). The stratigraphy showed 0.4m of mixed topsoil over 0.3m of visible natural sand (Fig. 10, (Plate 36)). The LPG tank was excavated 14m to the northeast and measured 2.8m by 1.6m (Plate 37). It was 0.8m deep and the stratigraphy showed 0.3m of topsoil over 0.3m of modern chalky made ground, below which was 0.2m of natural clayey sand (Fig. 11, Plate 38).

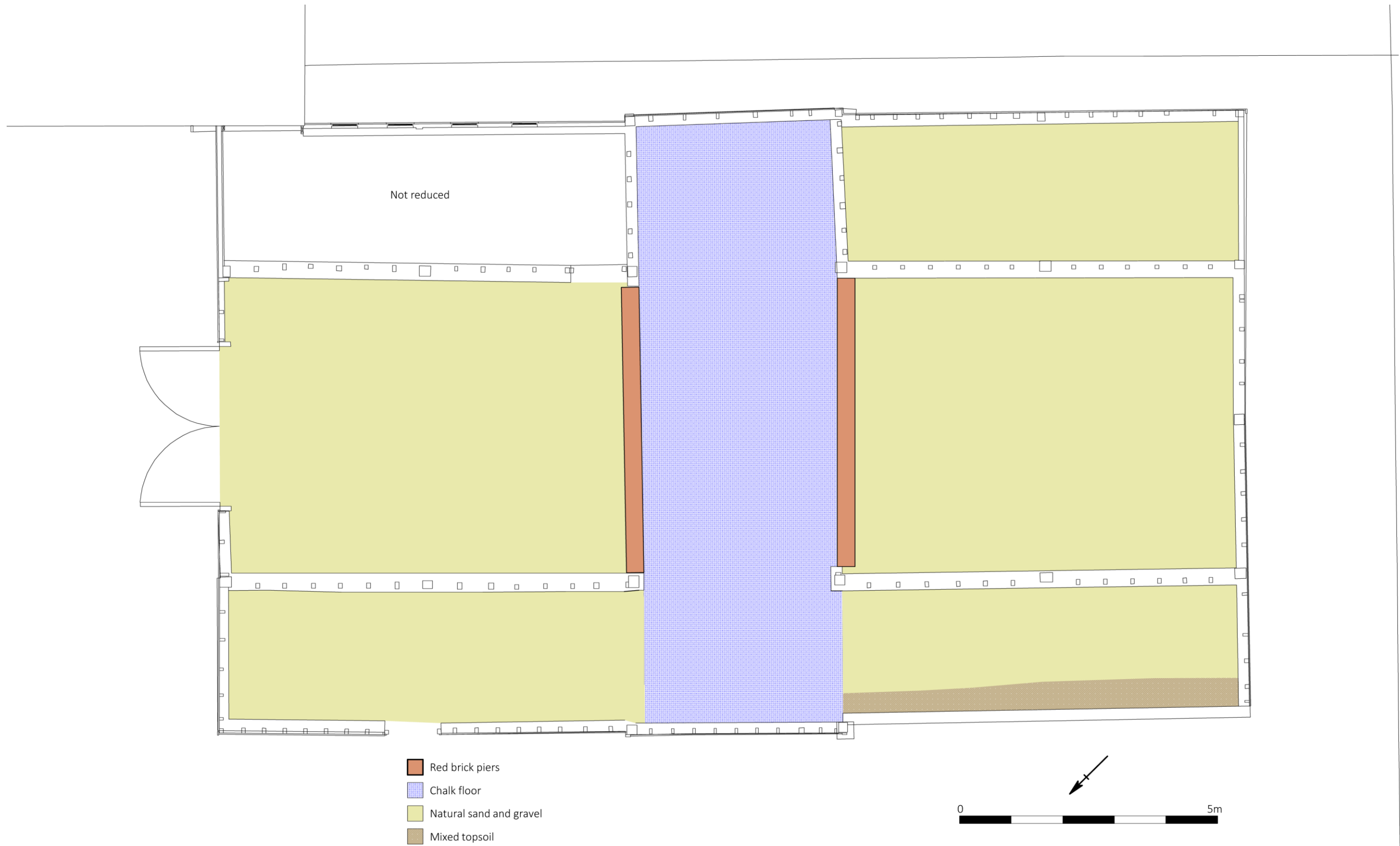


Figure 6: Ground reduction to the barn interior (scale 1:75)

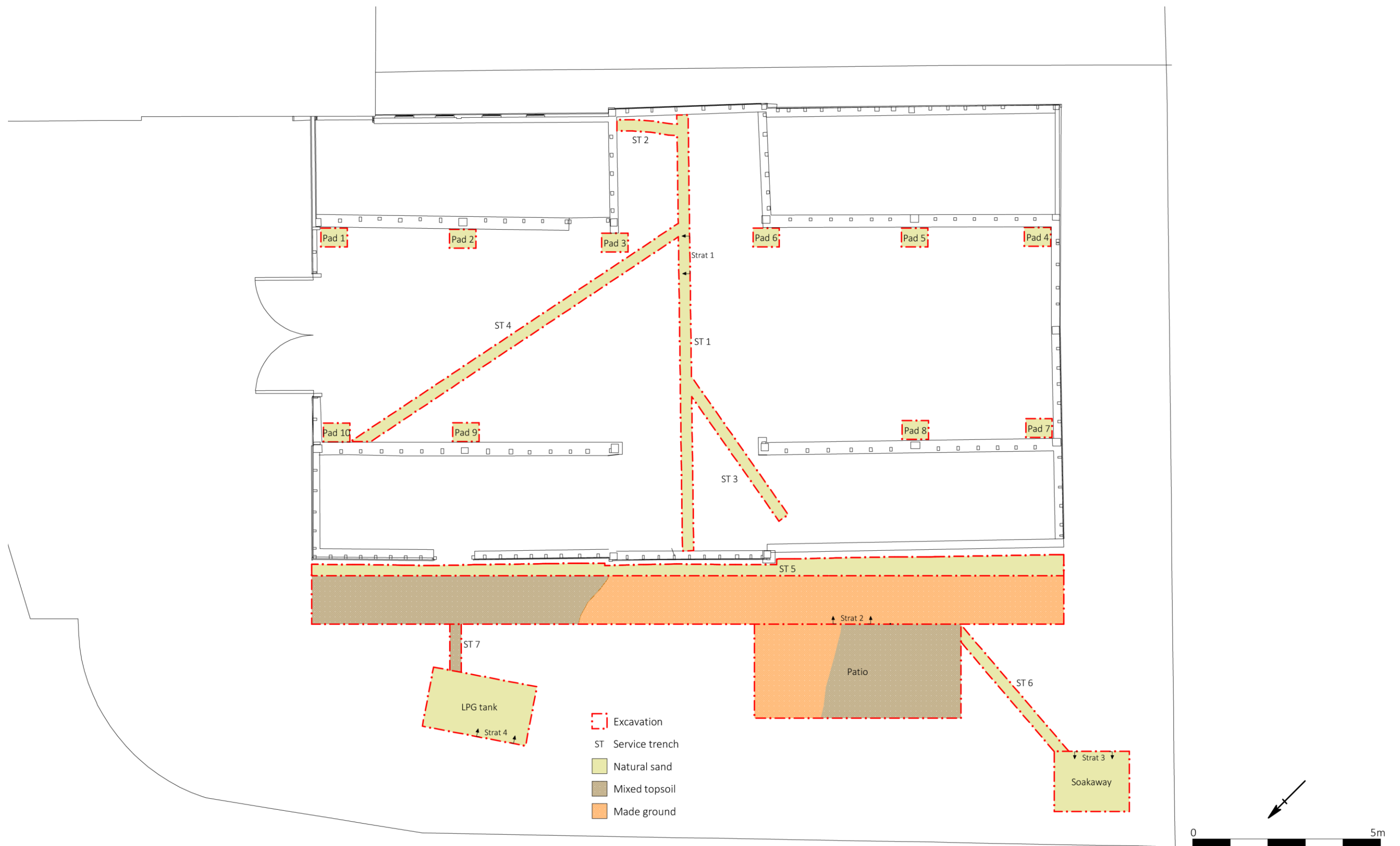


Figure 7: Interior and exterior excavations (scale 1:100)



Plate 1: Main barn floor reduced, view NW



Plate 2: Main barn floor reduced, view SE



Plate 3: Main barn floor reduced, view SW



Plate 4: Main barn floor reduced, view NE



Plate 5: Surviving brick pier, view SW



Plate 6: Central chalk floor, view N



Plate 7: North aisle reduced, view NE



Plate 8: South aisle reduced, view SW



Plate 9: West aisle reduced, view SW



Plate 10: Service trench 1. View SE



Plate 11: Service trench 1. View NW



Plate 12: Service trench 1 stratigraphy

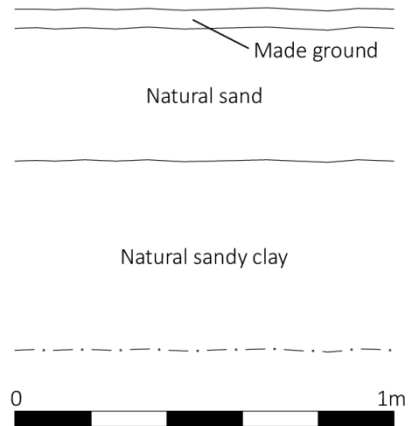


Figure 8: Service trench 1 stratigraphy (Strat 1)



Plate 13: Service trench 2, view SW



Plate 14: Service trench 3, view E



Plate 15: Service trench 4, view N



Plate 16: Service trench 4, view S



Plate 17: Pad 1, view SE



Plate 18: Pad 2, view SW



Plate 19: Pad 3, view SW



Plate 20: Pad 4, view SE

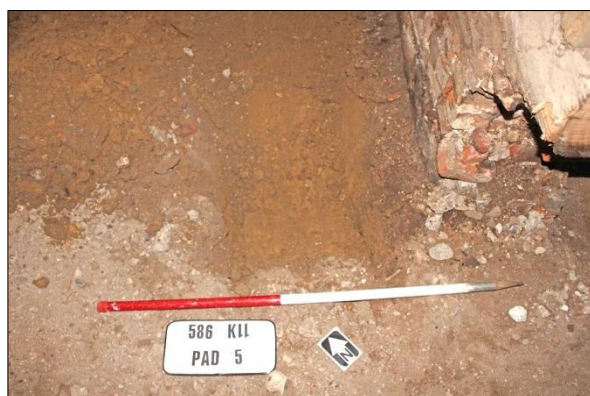


Plate 21: Pad 5, view NE



Plate 22: Pad 6, view NE



Plate 23: Pad 7, view NW



Plate 24: Pad 8, view NE



Plate 25: Pad 9, view NW



Plate 26: Pad 10, view NW



Plate 27: Exterior ground reduction along the length of the barn, view SW



Plate 28: Exterior ground reduction along the length of the barn, view NE



Plate 29: Exterior ground reduction stratigraphy

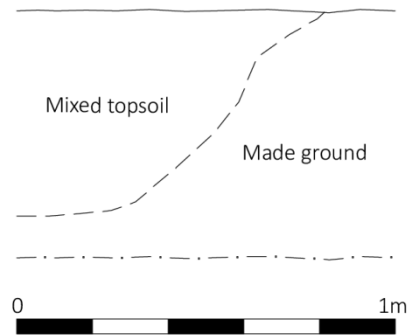


Figure 9: Exterior ground reduction stratigraphy (Strat 2)



Plate 30: Service trench 5, view SW



Plate 31: Service trench 5, view NE



Plate 32: Service trench 6, view W



Plate 33: Service trench 7, view SW

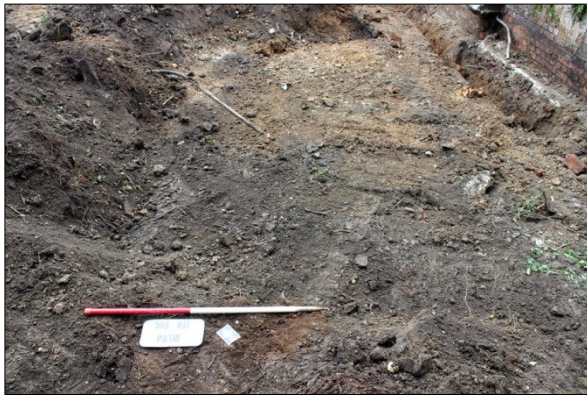


Plate 34: Patio ground reduction, view NE



Plate 35: Soakaway, view NE



Plate 36: Soakaway stratigraphy

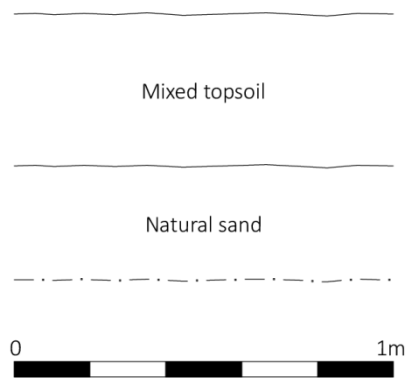


Figure 10: Soakaway stratigraphy (Strat 3)



Plate 37: LPG tank, view SW



Plate 38: LPG tank stratigraphy

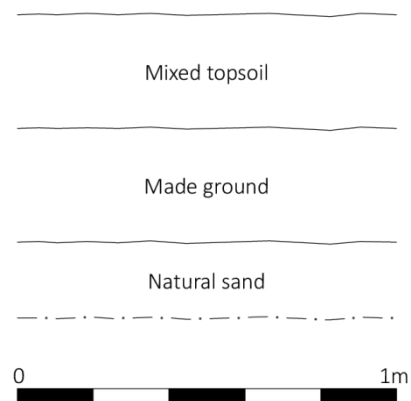


Figure 11: LPG tank stratigraphy (Strat 4)



5 Conclusions

The varied excavations required for the development of Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley revealed generally little in the way of archaeological interest, save for the brick piers and chalk floor uncovered during interior ground reduction. Examination of the bricks suggested that they were 19th century in date and would seem to be the same red brick piers mentioned in the National Heritage List entry. These originally supported an raised timber threshing floor that was demolished after 1978, which would explain the poor condition of the brick piers. Nothing remained of the timber floor at the time of the archaeological monitoring.

A chalk floor is not mention in the list entry. However, the floor identified on site would have been located beneath the raised timbers, so may be the remains of an earlier threshing floor that occupied the entire central bay. It extends into the opposing gables so must have been deposited following their construction.

No other features of interest were identified and almost all excavations contained evidence of modern disturbance. There were alternating areas of mixed topsoil and made ground to the exterior that possibly represent instances of modern landscaping efforts. This may explain the lack of archaeological features in the areas were the natural was reached, as the archaeological horizon may have been truncated by past excavations. It is also possible that the excavated areas may lie between widely dispersed archaeological features, particularly as the site is some distance from the denser areas of archaeological activity such as Kings Langley village and the medieval palace.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Damon Smith for commissioning this report. Thanks are also due to Rebekah Hart of Hertfordshire County Council for providing historic environment records and other relevant documents and to Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire Historic Environment Team for monitoring the project.

Special thanks go to Damon Smith and Mark Bowen for their assistance during the project

The fieldwork was carried out by Chris Martin-Taylor BSc The report was written by Chris Martin-Taylor, 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. Recording sheets
4. Site drawings
5. Client's site plans
6. Photographs

7.2 In order to respect the deposition policy for Dacorum Museum, the physical archive will be retained by KDK Archaeology and the report and photographs uploaded to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).



8 References

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Appendix 1: Photograph List

SITE NO/CODE: 586/KLL		Site Name: Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire
Shot	View	Subject
1	SW	Exterior ground reduction
2	NE	Exterior ground reduction
3	SE	Exterior ground reduction, former entrance
4	NW	Exterior ground reduction stratigraphy
5	SW	SW brick pier
6	SW	SW brick pier
7	N	Central chalk floor
8	NW	Main barn reduced floor
9	SE	Main barn reduced floor
10	SW	Main barn reduced floor
11	NE	Main barn reduced floor
12	W	Entrance reduced
13	NE	North aisle
14	SW	South aisle
15	SW	VOID
16	SW	West aisle
17	SW	VOID
18	SW	ST 1 stratigraphy
19	SW	ST 2
20	NE	ST 2 stratigraphy
21	SE	ST 1
22	NW	VOID
23	NW	ST 1
24	E	ST 3
25	N	ST 4
26	S	VOID
27	S	VOID
28	S	ST4
29	SE	VOID
30	SE	Pad 1
31	SW	Pad 2
32	SW	Pad 3
33	SE	VOID
34	SE	Pad 4
35	NE	Pad 5
36	NE	Pad 6
37	NW	Pad 7
38	NE	Pad 8
39	NW	Pad 9
40	NW	Pad 10
41	NE	Soakaway
42	SE	Soakaway stratigraphy
43	NE	Patio
44	SW	ST 5
45	SE	ST 5 stratigraphy
46	NE	ST 5
47	W	ST 6



SITE NO/CODE: 586/KLL		Site Name: Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire
Shot	View	Subject
48	E	VOID
49	ESE	Tank
50	NNW	Tank stratigraphy
51	SW	ST 7
52	NW	ST 7



Appendix 2: OASIS and Site Data

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name & Address	Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire	Project Site Code	586/KLL
OASIS reference	kdkarcha1-501425	Event/Accession no	N/A
OS reference	TL 06302 01536	Study area size	249m ²
Project Type	Archaeological Observation & Recording	Height (mAOD)	120m
Short Description	<p>In July 2021 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire in order to fulfil planning conditions for the development of the site. The project required various areas of excavation under archaeological supervision, both inside and outside the existing barn.</p> <p>Interior ground reduction revealed the presence of brick piers described in the Historic England list entry, which once supported a raised timber threshing floor. In between these was a layer of chalk that may have been all that remained of an earlier threshing floor, although its date could not be ascertained. No other features of archaeological interest were identified, although service trenches and footings pads were subsequently excavated inside the barn.</p> <p>Ground reduction was also carried out at the exterior, as well as the excavation of further service trenches, a patio area, a soakaway and a pit for a fuel tank. These revealed varying areas of topsoil and made ground, suggesting that a great deal of landscaping had occurred in the recent past, which may have truncated any features that previously existed.</p>		
Previous work	Semmelmann, K. 2006 - Historic Building Appraisal	Site status	Grade II listed
Planning proposal	Alterations to existing Listed barn to facilitate conversion into 1 No. dwelling with associated car parking and landscaping	Current land use	Disused barn
Local Planning Authority	Dacorum Borough Council	Planning application ref.	20/02633/FUL & 20/02634/LBC
Monument type	Barn	Monument period	Post-medieval
Significant finds	Possible chalk threshing floor	Future work	No
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project Brief originator	-	Project Design originator	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager	Karin Kaye MA MCI/fA	Director/Supervisor	Chris Martin-Taylor BSc
Sponsor/funding body	Lodge Barn Developments Ltd		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	07.07.2021	End date	14.07.2021
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical	KDK Archaeology Ltd/ADS	None	
Paper		WSI, report	
Digital		Report, digital photographs, fieldwork sheets	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title	Archaeological Observation & Recording: Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire		
Serial title & volume	586/KLL/2		
Author(s)	Chris Martin-Taylor BSc		
Page no's	33	Date	29.07.2021



Appendix 3: Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record Sheet

Site name and address: Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire		
County: Hertfordshire	District: Dacorum	
Village/Town: Kings Langley	Parish: Kings Langley	
Planning application reference: 20/02633/FUL & 20/02634/LBC		
Client's name, address, & tel. no: Damon Smith		
Nature of application: Alterations to existing Listed barn to facilitate conversion into 1 No. dwelling with associated car parking and landscaping		
Present land use: Disused barn		
Size of application area: 617m ²	Size of area investigated: 249m ²	
NGR (to 8 figures): TL 0630 0154	Site code: 586/KLL	
Site director: Chris Martin-Taylor BSc	Organization: KDK Archaeology Ltd	
Type of work: Archaeological Observation & Recording		
Date of Work:	Start: 07.07.2021	Finish: 14.07.2021
Curating museum: Dacorum Museum		
Related HER no's: HER 4099		Periods represented: Post-medieval - modern
Relevant previous summaries/reports: Sommelmann, K. 2006 Historic Building Appraisal: Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire ASC Report 777/LLF/1. Milton Keynes: Archaeological Services & Consultancy		
Summary of fieldwork results: In July 2021 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at Langley Lodge Farm Barn, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire in order to fulfil planning conditions for the development of the site. The project required various areas of excavation under archaeological supervision, both inside and outside the existing barn. Interior ground reduction revealed the presence of brick piers described in the Historic England list entry, which once supported a raised timber threshing floor. In between these was a layer of chalk that may have been all that remained of an earlier threshing floor, although its date could not be ascertained. No other features of archaeological interest were identified, although service trenches and footings pads were subsequently excavated inside the barn. Ground reduction was also carried out at the exterior, as well as the excavation of further service trenches, a patio area, a soakaway and a pit for a fuel tank. These revealed varying areas of topsoil and made ground, suggesting that a great deal of landscaping had occurred in the recent past, which may have truncated any features that previously existed.		
Author: Chris Martin-Taylor BSc	Date: 29.07.2021	