KDK Archaeology Ltd

Archaeological Observation and Recording Report

Inn on the Park Footpath

Verulamium Park

St Albans

Scheduled Monument Reference:1003515

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Quality Check

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Summary

In September 2022 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at the Inn on the Park footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans as part of a Scheduled Monument Consent. These works included the installation of a new footpath linking two existing pathways to the east and south of the Inn on the Parks seating area and the resurfacing of existing paths. The ground was reduced to a depth of 0.25m exposing a layer rich in datable material, of which most were dated to the Roman period. This layer may be the result of a demolition event. A gully was also uncovered to the south of the excavation area which was post-medieval/modern in date.

1   Introduction

1.1   In September 2022 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at the Inn on the Park footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans. The project was commissioned by St Albans City and District Council, and was carried at the request of Jess Tipper, as Inspector of Ancient Monuments covering Hertfordshire, and Simon West Archaeological Advisor (AA) to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), St Albans City and District Council.

1.2   *Planning Background*

This project has been required under the terms of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as part of a Scheduled Monument Consent (National Heritage List for England reference 1003515).

1.3   *The Site*

Location & Description
The site is located to the south of St Michael's Street and to the north of Verulamium Park. The site itself is within the boundaries of the Scheduled Monument of Verulamium and within insula XI of the Roman Town. The Inn on the Parks hedged seating area is centred on National Grid Reference TL 1376 0713 (Fig. 2).

Geology & Topography
Verulamium Park lies on the southwest slope of the Ver valley. The underlying geology consists of chalk of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated), which is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago. Overlying the chalk are sand and gravel River Terrace Deposits (undifferentiated) (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html). The site is approximately 85m AOD.

Development
The development includes the construction of a gravel footpath with concrete curbs which will link two existing gravel paths to the south and northeast of the Inn on the Park (Fig. 3).
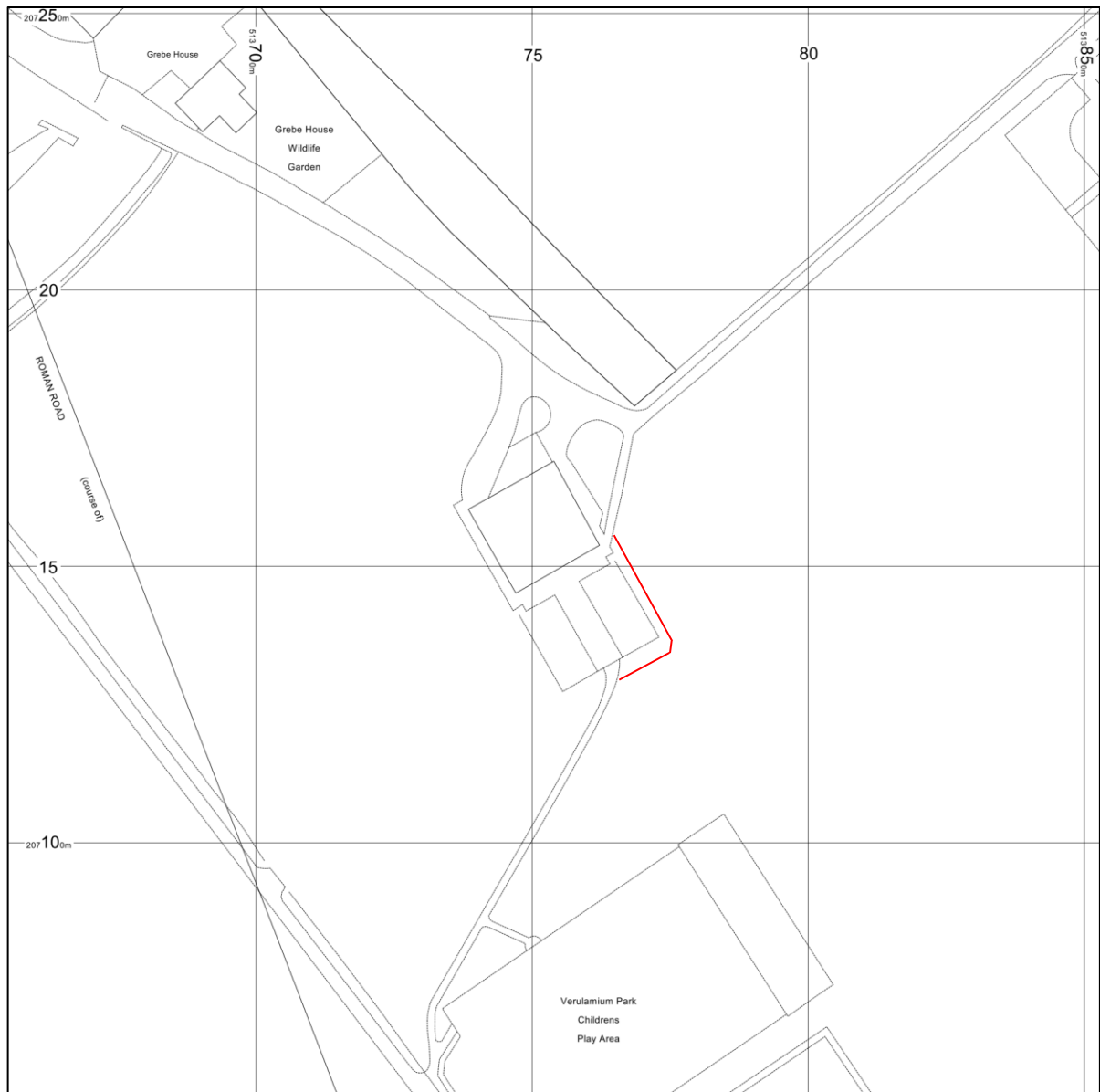
Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)
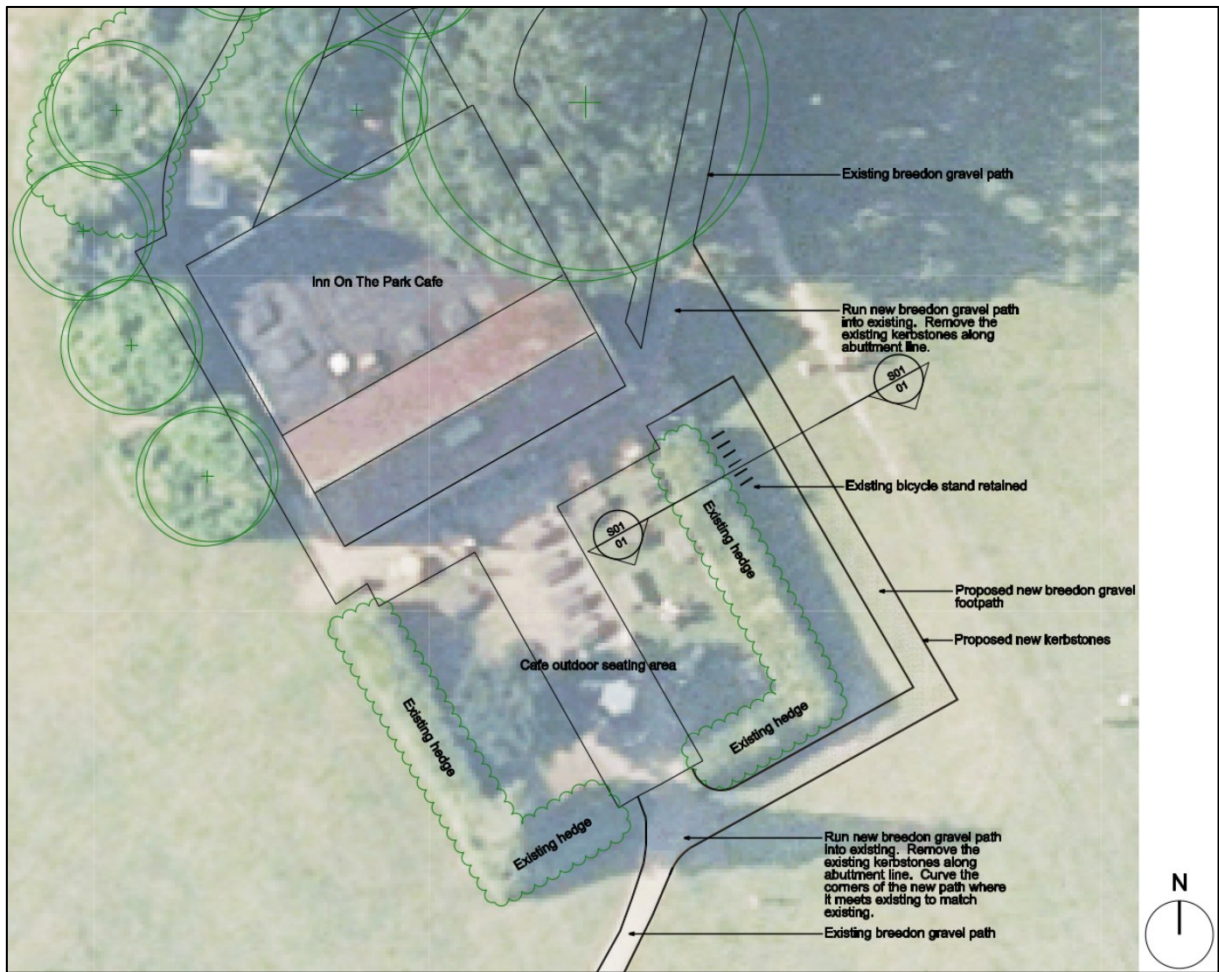
Figure 2: Site layout (scale 1:1,250)

Figure 3: Development plan

2   Aims and Methods

2.1   *Aims*

The aims of this project as defined in the approved WSI from AB Heritage (Dodds 2022) were to:

- Establish the presence or otherwise of archaeological deposits within the footprint of the new footpath
- Record any archaeological features or deposits encountered during the new footpath groundworks
- Establish the extent to which past ploughing and / or other processes have affected such deposits on site

2.2   *Methods*

The methods used were as follows:

- The proposed new footpath joined existing gravel paths at the south and north east of the seating area of the Inn on the Park. The layout of the footpath will be in accordance with the site-specific plan (Fig 3).
- The trench was dug by the Client's contractor, in spits using a 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and hand tools.
- The trench was inspected for archaeological features and/or finds. No excavation was carried out beyond the formation level required for the proposed new footpath.
- A representative section from the trench was drawn at a scale of 1:20 and photographed in colour (digital) once excavation reached its full depth. A series of working shots were also maintained during the course of the fieldwork

2.3   *Standards*

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2020a)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2021)
- Current English Heritage 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)

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Although the beginnings of the modern city of St Albans can be traced to the establishment of the Saxon period abbey, the history of settlement along the banks of the River Ver stretches much further back in time. By the Late Iron Age, St Albans was an important settlement, with evidence of a large population, political and ritual significance and links with a wider landscape of sites and features. During the Roman period, Verulamium, as it was called, became the third largest Roman city in Britain, straddling Watling Street, the main road from London to Chester. The abbey, founded on the execution site of Alban, England's first Christian martyr, was a rich and powerful landowner until the Dissolution. St Albans was the site of two battles during the Wars of the Roses and was held by Parliamentarians throughout the Civil War. In the 18th and 19th centuries it was remained an important regional market and manufacturing centre.

This section has been drawn from the Heritage Asset Assessment previously prepared for a neighbouring project (Shlasko 2022).

3.2 *Iron Age (600BC – AD43)*

A number of major sites of this period are located in the Ver valley, including significant occupations at Prae Wood (Wheeler & Wheeler 1936) and Gorhambury (Neal *et al.* 1990), the high-status burial at Folly Lane (Niblett 1999), the Iron Age cemetery at King Harry Lane (Stead and Rigby 1989). The royal or ceremonial centre of Iron Age *Verlamion* is thought to lie within a large ditched enclosure that surrounds the later Forum and Basilica (HER 14336).

3.3 *Roman (AD43- c.450)*

Following the Roman invasion in AD43, the settlement at *Verlamion* was incorporated into the Roman world, becoming Roman Verulamium. Watling Street, one of the most important roads in Roman Britain, passed through the town on its way from London to Chester (St Albans District Council 2016). During the Boudiccan revolt of AD61, the settlement of Verulamium was burnt to the ground, but it was quickly rebuilt and grew to become an important administrative settlement, the third largest city in Roman Britain (HER 4), with a massive town wall, a theatre, multiple temples and other public buildings. Verulamium is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1003515).

The area of investigation is located in the heart of the Roman city, within Insulae XI. Recent geophysical survey by the Community Archaeology Geophysics Group (CAGG) has revealed a number of surviving below ground remains close to the excavation site. Both the magnetometer (which measures earth magnetism) and the GPR (ground penetrating radar) surveys, show *in situ* stone and robbed out walls, streets and other features (Fig 5).

3.4 *Saxon (c.450-1066)*

Even after Roman influence declined in the 5th century, Verulamium remained a substantial town. It was long believed that the focus of settlement shifted to the north of the river, to an area known as Kingsbury (Page 1908: 469-477). The exact date of its foundation is unknown, but it has been postulated that it was established by King Offa at the same time as the Abbey, an opinion supported by the fact that Kingsbury was governed by officers of the king, independently of the Abbey itself (*ibid*). More recent scholarship argues that Kingsbury was actually located in the remains of the Roman city (Niblett & Thompson 2005: 178-195).

St Albans Abbey was founded by Offa in 793, on high ground above the Roman city and Kingsbury, on what was believed to be the execution site of Alban, England's first Christian martyr. The abbey prospered during the Saxon period, controlling large areas of land around Hertfordshire. A small town was established within the Abbey walls, supplying the needs of the monks and their visitors (https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/history/monastic-site).

It was not until the latter part of the 10th century that the sixth abbot of St Albans, Abbot Wulsin, decided to enlarge the town surrounding the Abbey, establishing a market and attracting inhabitants by providing assistance with money and building materials to those who came. It was also Wulsin who built the churches of St Stephen, St Michael and St Peter, along the main routes into the town. Eventually the town of St Albans eclipsed Kingsbury as the focus of local settlement (*ibid*).

Unsurprisingly, given its proximity to the Saxon abbey, there are a number of Saxon period archaeological features in the vicinity of the proposed development site. It has long been assumed that the modern Verulamium Park lakes are in the approximate location of the Saxon period fishponds, which Abbot Alfric purchased from the king in the 10th century (HER 4069). There is no firm evidence for this assumption, although it is possible that The Causeway (HER 14178), formed the dam on the southern end of the fishpond.

3.5 *Medieval (1066-1500)*

At the time of the Domesday Book, St Albans was already a large settlement. Not including the monks in residence at the abbey, there were 91 households in the manor, with 16 ploughlands and woodland for 1,000 pigs. Three mills were located on the River Ver and there was a fishery (www.opendomesday.org).

Although earlier abbots had been quarrying building materials from the ruins of the Roman city, construction of a new Abbey church did not begin until 1077, under Abbot Paul de Caen. Building continued into the 12th century. The Abbey Church is a Grade I listed building (NHLE 1103163; HER 4074). The 14th century Gatehouse is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHLE 1003523), as is the site of the conventual grounds around the church, which extend down to the river (NHLE 1003526). During the medieval period, St Albans Abbey dominated the town and played an important local, national and international role.

Originally a corn mill, there is some evidence that Abbey Mills was used as a fulling mill in the 14th and 15th centuries. (HER 5830). The earliest buildings have been replaced, but during archaeological investigations at the site prior to redevelopment of the mill into residences, below ground remains of several medieval structures were observed, including a 14th-15th century barn (HER 14041) and a corn drying oven (HER 14048), as well as other structures (e.g. HER 14049, HER 14066). In the late 19th century, antiquarian Henry Fowler identified the site of a possible medieval bridge near the mill (HER 14042).

3.6 *Post-Medieval (1500-1900)*

In 1539, the abbey was dissolved and most of the monastic buildings were torn down. The church was purchased by the townspeople and was used as a parish church until it became a cathedral in 1877 (https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/the-history-of-st-albans-cathedral).

Despite the loss of the abbey, St Albans was still a large and significant settlement. It was granted a market charter in 1553 and gradually developed a number of industries, including straw hat manufacturing (Page 1908: 477-483).

3.7 *Modern* (1900-Present)

The biggest change to impact the proposed development site came in the 1930s, when the City of St Albans purchased the southern half of the Roman city from the Earl of Verulam. The land was converted from farmland to a public park, lakes were dug and large areas of archaeological remains were excavated by Sir Mortimer Wheeler and others.
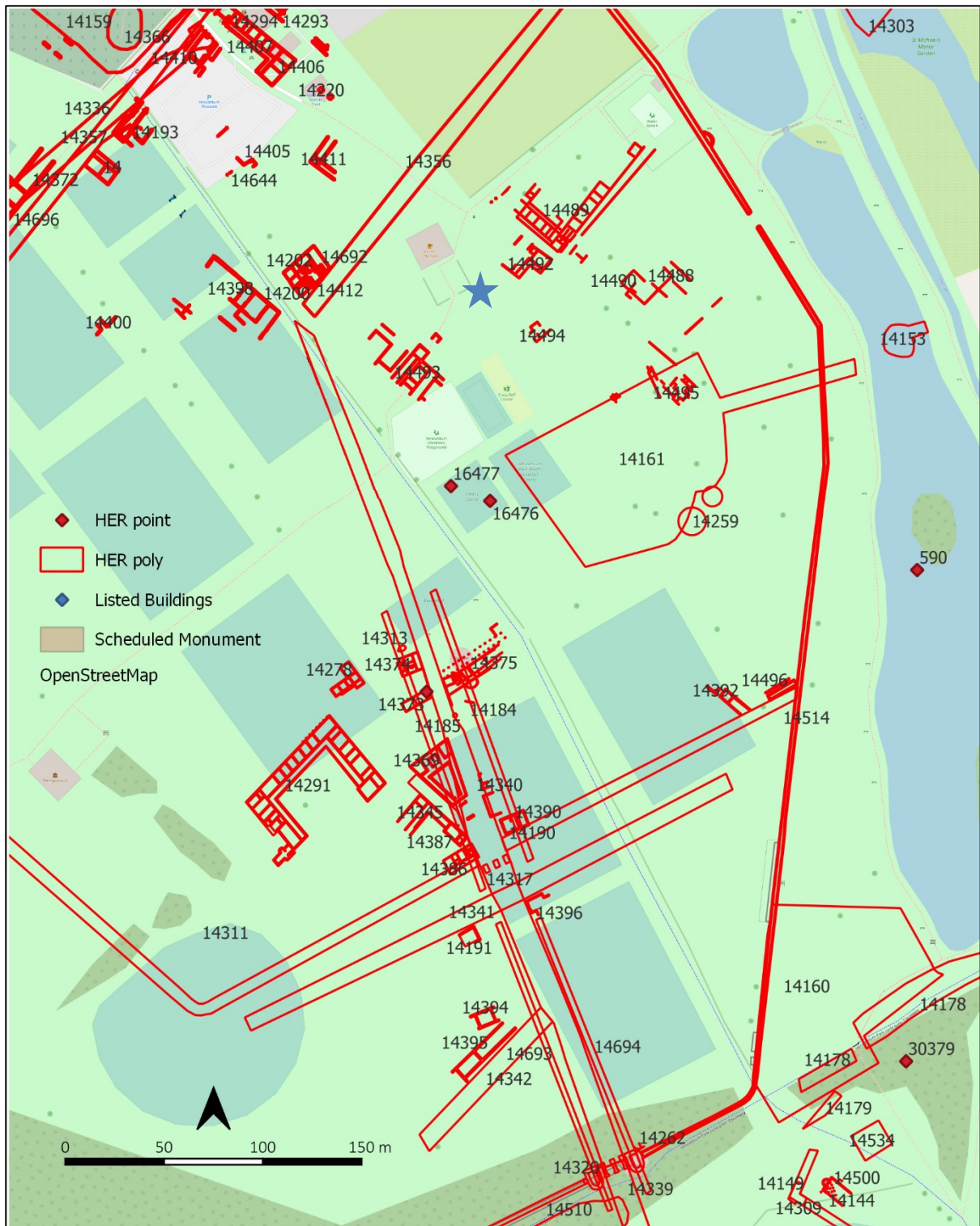

Figure 4: HER data plan. Site indicated by star (scale 1: 5000)

4   Results

4.1   *Introduction*

A single trench was excavated running parallel to the modern hedged boundary of the Inn on the Park (Figs. 5-6; Plates 1-3). Excavations were carried out using a 2 tonne 360° excavator fitted with a 0.80m toothless ditching bucket. The ground level was reduced in careful spits and intermittent metal detecting was undertaken throughout the investigation. The stratigraphy encountered comprised:

- Topsoil (01). Dark brownish grey friable sandy clayey silt containing occasional small rounded stones and sub angular flint. This layer is found throughout the excavation and reaches a depth of between 0.14 and 0.25m deep. Roman pottery, ceramic building material (CBM), animal bone, shell, iron objects, glass, slate and two modern coins (King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II) were recovered from this layer.
- Roman demolition layer (02). Dark brownish grey layer similar in composition to topsoil (01) but contained a greater number of inclusions. Very rich in artefacts including Roman pottery, CBM, animal bone, iron objects and slag. Flecks of chalk, stone and flint were observed frequently within this layer. The depth of (02) is unknown.
- Possible demolition layer (05). This layer was almost identical to (02); however, it was much looser and contained far fewer artefacts. Roman pottery, CBM, animal bone, iron objects and a Victorian coin (AD1901) were recovered. A possible lump of fused pottery was also recovered from this layer which may be waste material from a nearby kiln. The base of this layer was not reached.

The natural geology was not encountered during this investigation.

4.2   *Features*

Gully [03]
A narrow linear feature orientated southeast-northwest was located to the southeast of the excavation area (Figs. 6-7; Plate 4-5). This feature was >2m long, 0.49m wide and 0.14m deep and was cut into demolition layer (05). As it continued beyond the limit of excavation on either end, its true dimensions could not be determined.

The cut contained a single dark brownish grey sandy clayey silt fill (04) which was rich in datable artefacts including 21 pieces of modern pottery, 44 pieces of CBM, animal bone, a copper object and a modern iron C-hook. Frequent rounded stones, a moderate amount of angular and sub-angular flints and flecks of chalk were also present. Due to the presence of densely packed stones and silt, this feature has been interpreted as a gully; however, it could also be the remains of demolished wall foundation.

No environmental samples were taken.

Plate 1: Excavated path, looking south

Plate 2: Excavated path, looking northeast

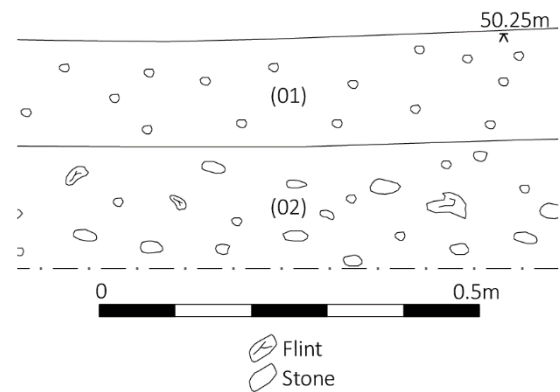**Plate 3:** Trench stratigraphy, looking east

Figure 5: Representative site stratigraphy (scale 1:10)

Plate 4: Gully [03]- Pre-excavation, looking southwest

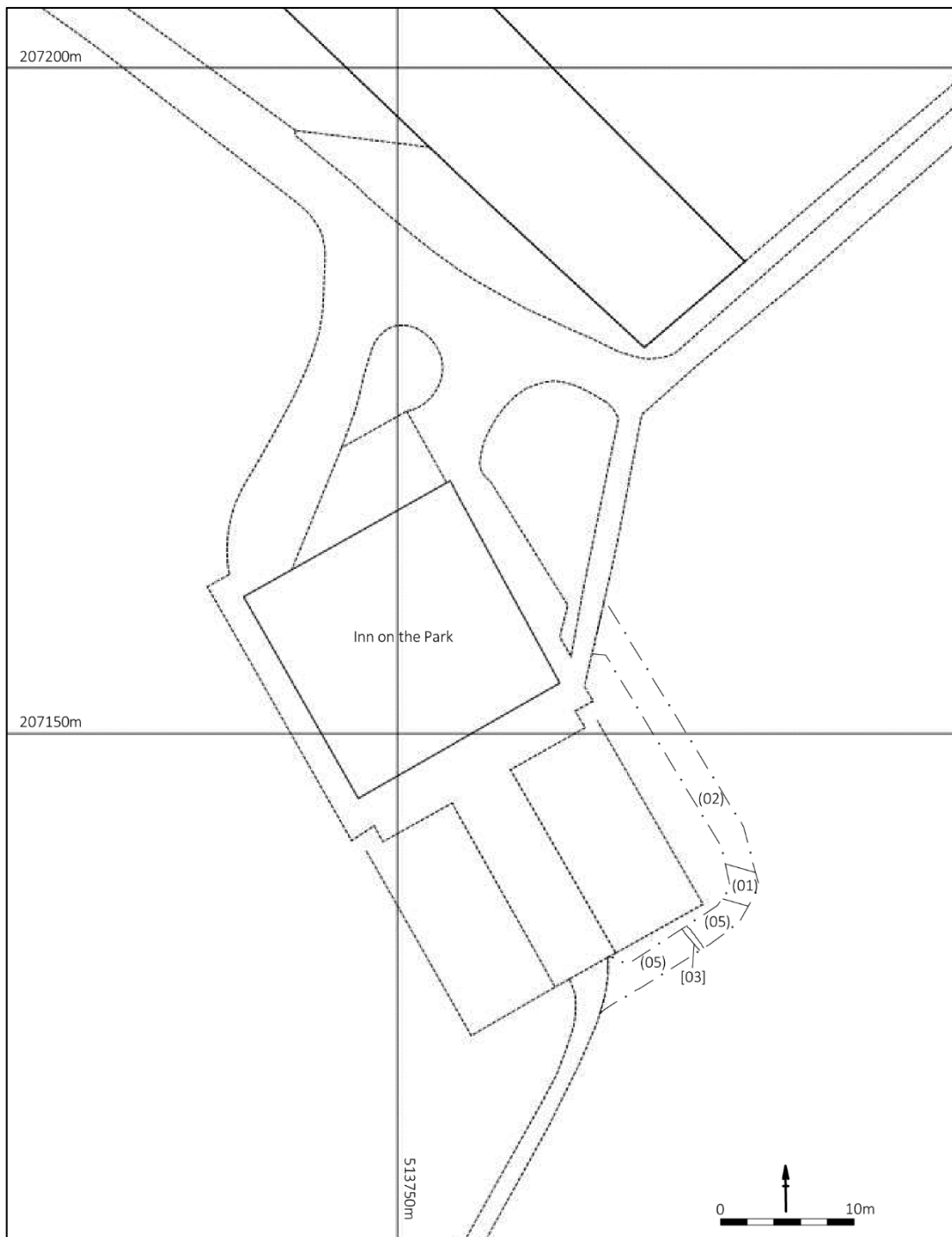**Plate 5:** Southeast facing section of Gully [03], looking northwest

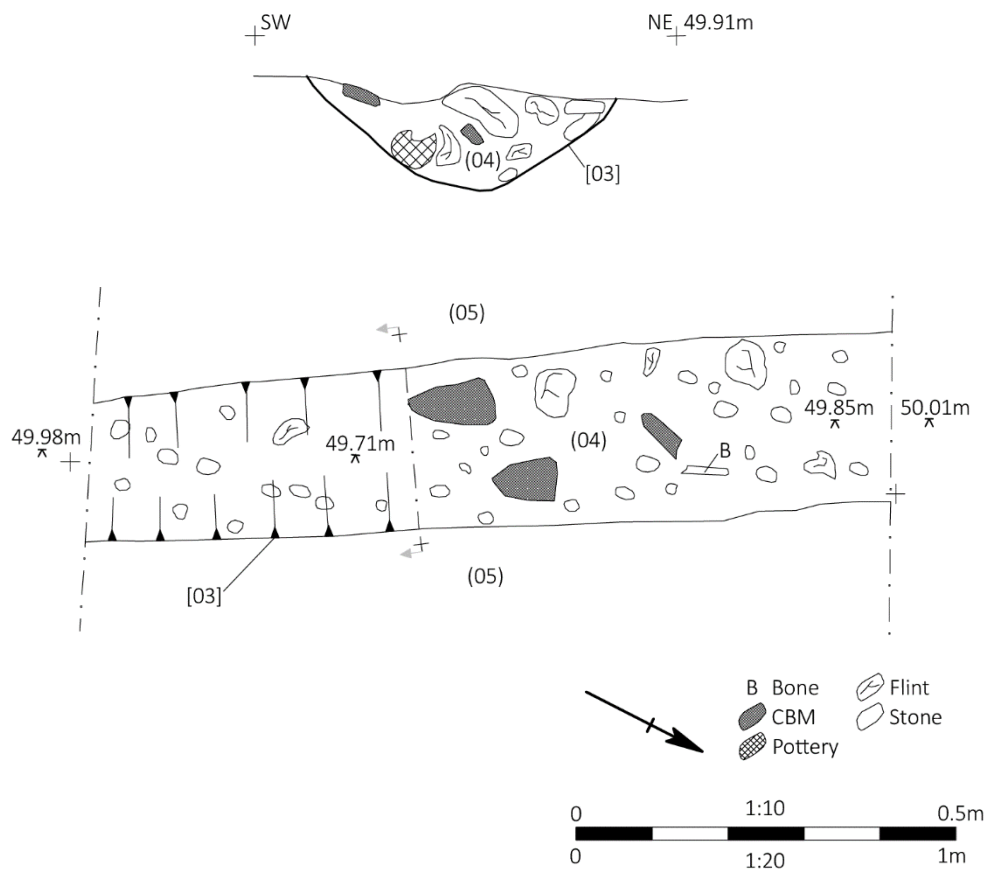**Figure 6:** Trench location plan (scale 1:500)

Figure 7: Section (scale 1:10) and plan (scale 1:20) of Gully [03]

5 Conclusions

The new path was installed to link two existing pathways to the east and south of the Inn on the Parks hedged seating area. Daily foot traffic and bicycles through this particular area had caused unpaved desire tracks to form which caused concern as continued erosion may eventually damage potential Roman deposits which lie close to the modern ground surface.

Demolition layer (02) was originally identified in 2004 during the installation of an electric cable was encountered during the installation of the new path. It contained a significant amount of Roman building detritus as well as other artefacts including pottery, oyster shell and animal bone. A second probable demolition layer was also encountered to the south which contained far fewer artefacts.

Although no specific research aims could be addressed, this investigation has helped further identify the potential extent of Demolition layers (02) and (05), which spanned almost all of the excavated area. The Roman city of Verulamium is known to be the site of several destructive events; the Boudiccan revolt (AD60-61), a fire during the reign of Antonius Pius (r. AD 138-161) and the eventual abandonment of the site in the late 5th century. It is likely that Roman demolition layer is related to the latter event. Substantial features, including buildings, have been identified through magnetometer and GPR surveys and if future excavations show the deposit is present above or below these features it will aid in the understanding of this event and help in dating of archaeological remains.

A single cut feature was observed during this investigation; this was Gully [03]. The fill contained a high proportion of post-medieval/modern artefacts. Due to the presence of densely packed stones and the presence of a high proportion of silt, this feature is believed to be a small gully, possibly related to water management concerning the Inn on the Park or possibly an earlier building. Alternatively, the feature may represent a very shallow foundation.

The depth of this investigation did not exceed 25cm below the modern ground level and was not deep enough to cause any significant damage to subterranean features that may be located beneath the Roman or post-medieval made ground. The natural geology was not reached anywhere during this investigation and cut features predating the post medieval period were not encountered.

6   Acknowledgements

7   Archive

7.1   The project archive will comprise:

1. Written Scheme of Investigation
2. Initial report
3. Monitoring sheets
4. Client's site plans
5. List of photographs
6. Specialist reports

7.2   The archive will be deposited with St Albans Museum.

8   References

Standards & Specifications

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Domesday Book: opendomesday.org

St Albans Abbey: https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/history/monastic-site

St Michael's Parish Tithe information: The Genealogist.org

Appendix 1: Photograph List

Shot	View	Subject
1	S	Excavated path
2	NE	Excavated path
3	SE	Shot showing change in elevation in the landscape
4	W	Trench stratigraphy
5	SW	Gully [03] pre-excavation
6	SW	Gully [03]
7	NW	Southeast facing section of Gully [03]
8	SE	Northwest facing section of Gully [03]
9	SE	Depth of topsoil in dip in the landscape

Appendix 2: Finds Concordance

Context Number		Pottery		CBM		Animal Bone		Shell		Fe objects		Other		
Fill	Cut	No	Gms	No	Gms	No	Gms	No	Gms	No	Gms	Description	No	Gms
01	-	13	125	80	11056	7	76	5	70	10	155	Glass	10	155
												Coins (20th century)	2	14
												Slate	1	7
02	-	141	2663	76	18822	76	721	10	90	11	58	Mortaria	2	55
												Slag	2	219
04	03	21	149	55	5983	5	18			1	60	Slate	1	1
												Cu object	1	176
												Limestone	2	6
05	-	2	284	35	7688	16	358			1	320	Coin (Victorian)	1	6
Total		177	3221	246	43549	104	1173	15	160	23	593		12	480

Appendix 3: Excavation Summary Tables

Context	Type	Measurements (m)			Description			Interpretation
		W	L	D	Colour/ Shape	Texture/ Sides	Consistency/ Base	
01	Layer	-	-	0.14	Dark brownish grey	Slightly sandy clayey silt	Very friable	Modern topsoil. 30cm deep in natural 'dip' to the south. The dip was approximately 2.10m in width; however, it did not have well defined edges. The dip could be seen on the landscape. Contained pottery, iron nails, CBM and 19th century coins. Plastic and modern picnic detritus also noted but this was not collected. A number of modern coins were recovered
02	Deposit	>2	>21.3	>0.15	Dark brownish grey	Slightly sandy clayey silt	Very friable	Noted in the WSI as a Roman demolition layer. Made ground layer comprising a high concentration of Roman and later detritus, particularly CBM. Likely a made ground layer deposited to heighten the ground level to the north. Depth unknown as only a depth of 15cms was exposed.
03	Cut	0.41	>2	0.14	Linear	<45 degrees	U-shaped	Cut of post-medieval foundation. Orientated southeast-northwest and spanned the width of the trench. Contained a high concentration of flint and CBM rubble.
04	Fill	0.41	>2	0.14	Dark brownish grey	Slightly sandy clayey silt	Very friable	Foundation rubble. Densely packed flint and CBM rubble fill. Also contained animal bone, pottery, Iron hook and a copper alloy object.
05	Fill	>2m	>15	>0.13	Dark brownish grey	Slightly sandy clayey silt	Very friable and loose	Demolition layer similar to and maybe the same as (02) but contained far fewer finds. More modern material found and ground was much looser, containing larger flint nodules than (02). Animal bone, pottery and iron recovered. Also recovered was a 1901 Queen Victoria penny. This layer was cut by [03]

Drawing Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Details
1	1	1:10	Southeast facing section of Footing [03]
1	2	1:20	Plan of Footing [03]

Appendix 4: Specialist Reports

Pottery and Ceramic Building material - *Rob Perrin*

Introduction

A total of 126 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 1407g and with an estimated vessel equivalent, based on rims, of 1.78 was recovered from three of the five excavated contexts. All bar seven sherds came from context 2, with context 1 having six sherds (59g) and context 5 one sherd (59g, 0.09 EVE). Context 1 is a topsoil layer, context 2 Roman demolition layer and context 5 possible demolition layer. Context 1 also contained six modern sherds and the 21 sherds in context 4 were all modern. Context 2 also contained fragments of tile and brick and context 5 a lump of seemingly fused pottery. A total of 24 vessels were identified.

The Roman pottery

Table 1 shows the assemblage by fabric. Where applicable, the fabrics are assigned their National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Fabric	Description	NoSh	Wgt (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
Continental wares					
LEZ SA 2	Central Gaulish samian	2	11	0	
BAT AM 1?	South Spanish amphora	1	19	0	1
Regionally-traded wares					
LNV CC	Lower Nene Valley colour-coated	5	55	0	2
OXF WH	Oxfordshire white ware	2	68	0.09	2
PNK GT	Pink grog-tempered ware	1	36	0.16	1
BB2?	Black burnished ware, Category 2	1	26	0.09	1
Local wares					
Grog	Grog-tempered	1	20	0.07	1
Shell	Shell-gritted	2	21	0	
Buff	Verulamium white ware (VER WH)	29	427	0.82	8
Grey		63	570	0.55	6
Reddish-yellow		18	148	0	1
GBTN?	Gallo-Belgic Terra-Nigra?	1	6	0	1
Total		126	1407	1.78	24

Table 1: Fabric quantification

Continental and regionally-traded wares
The two sherds of LEZ SA 2 are of uncertain form and are of 2nd century date, while the sherd of possible amphora could be from a Dressel 20 type and dated late 1st to 2nd century. Of the regionally-traded wares, the LNV CC includes a fragment of a beaker with a horizontal line of barbotine dots below a possible animal leg and part of the narrow neck of a flagon, while both the OXF WH vessels are mortaria, one a Young (1977) type 22, date mid-3rd to late 4th century. The PNK GT vessel is a jar with a long, curved neck and a triangular rim (cf. Marney 1989, fig. 27, 7 and 9) of probable late 3rd to 4th century date and the fabric appears to have been produced in the Stowe and Milton Keynes areas (Taylor 2004; Marney op cit. 64-9). The BB2 vessel is a bread-rimmed dish with lattice decoration, but it is uncertain as to whether it is a Colchester or North Kent product.

Local wares

The only grog-tempered ware sherd is from a jar and is likely to be of mid-1st century date and the shell-gritted sherds may be of later Roman date. The buff ware vessels are products of the local Verulamium-region kilns and comprise a jar with a triangular, lid-seated rim which has three rows of rouletted decoration (cf. Neal 1974, fig. 103, 218), another jar and a small jar or flagon, two carinated bowls with reeded rims and three mortaria, two of which appear to be flanged types. The date for these vessels is late 1st to 2nd century. reddish-yellow ware is probably also a product of the local Verulamium-region kilns and the one vessel is a white-slipped flagon of late 1st to 2nd century date; two sherds appear to have a reddish slip or colour-coat. The grey ware vessels are two jars, one with a bead rim, two dishes or bowls with bead rims, a bead-rimmed dish and a flanged bowl; the bead-rimmed dish may have a dark grey slip. The bead-rimmed vessels and the flanged bowl are of later 2nd to 3rd century date, though the flanged bowl could be later. At least some of the grey ware is probably form the Hadham kilns. One hard-fired and heavily burnished base sherd, possibly from a cup or dish, is similar to Gallo-Belgic Terra Nigra but it is not an import, rather a local copy and likely to be of mid-1st century date.

The lump of fused ceramic?

It is difficult to be certain whether the 'layers' of this lump are actually ceramic but, if so, it would suggest either a high temperature episode or even something associated with an unsuccessful kiln firing. Roman pottery kilns are known or suspected in nearby Insulas V and XIII and Verulam Hills Fields (https://romankilns.net).

Ceramic building material

The fragments are all in a reddish-yellow ware, bar one in shell-gritted ware and a piece of buff ware which is probably from a brick or floor tile, or possibly even a hypocaust pilae. The other fragments are mainly from tegula, but there is one piece of box tile.

Conclusions

The excavations are located within the heart of the Roman town of Verulamium, so it is inevitable that Roman pottery would be recovered. The date of the pottery spans the Roman period and the fused lump hints at the possibility of a kiln in the vicinity, unless it derives from one of the other known or suspected kilns. No further work on the pottery is warranted but additional excavation is desirable.

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Animal Bone - *Derek Watson PhD*

Introduction
Archaeological Observation and Recording at the Inn on the Park Footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans, Hertfordshire, generated an animal bone assemblage of 96 fragments (1.173kg bone dry weight; Table 1). Fragmentary animal bones were recovered from 4 contexts comprising topsoil, demolition layers, and the fill of a gully. All of the pottery, and CBM, recovered dated from the Roman period (Perrin, this volume).

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 when they could be conjoined (Number of Identified Specimens; NISP=96 specimens; Table 1). A total of three species were positively identified in the assemblage: cattle (*Bos taurus*), pig (*Sus scrofa*), and chicken (*Gallus gallus*). Differentiation between sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goat (*Capra hircus*) was not possible as none of the requisite diagnostic features were preserved in the assemblage. Consequently, sheep/goat will be referred to by the general term 'ovicaprine'. 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 specimens assigned to the small mammal classes may be the remains of ovicaprines, or pig, and the large fragments might be those of cattle; though other species may be represented.

Unfortunately, as the remainder of the assemblage was heavily fragmented this limited the amount of possible data that could be determined from the assemblage. The only remains that provided any data on age-at-death were the remains of the pig: the unfused distal epiphyses of the metacarpals from a single animal indicate that it was <2 years old, based on Silver (1969). No forms of surface modification (e.g., gnawing/burning) or butchery were observed in the assemblage. No metric data was acquired (von den Driesch 1976).

The Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) is difficult to determine due to the fragmentation as it is calculated from the greater number of left or right complete bones, epiphyseal ends, and/or mandibles with *in situ* teeth. However, there appears to be no more than a single animal of any species identified in each context.

Roman demolition layer (02, 05)
Most of the animal bone assemblage was recovered from these contexts, which also included pottery, CBM, iron objects, slag, and oyster shell. The animal species found are common on Romano-British sites and the remains have been included with destruction detritus that may relate to eventual abandonment of the site (i.e., the Roman city of *Verulamium*) in the late 5th century.

Topsoil (01) & Fill (04) of Gully [05]
The small quantity of predominantly indeterminate fragments of animal bone recovered from these contexts were found among post-medieval/modern artefacts. Many of these remains probably relate to the Inn on the Park or possibly an earlier building, or were naturally incorporated into the topsoil as it developed.

Conclusion
As the animal bone assemblage from 722SAVP is small and highly fragmented, it is difficult to formulate any reliable conclusions concerning human activities and animal exploitation. Still, the species identified in the assemblage are livestock typically found on Romano-British sites. The body parts represented in the assemblage correspond to a pattern of carcass disposal

frequently observed at the periphery of rural settlements - i.e., primary butchery, generally involving the removal and discard of the least meaty bones/portions (e.g., lower extremities and mandibles/teeth) during initial disarticulation of an animal carcass, and the opportunist disposal of those remains. However, in this instance the remains have been amalgamated within building destruction layers.

	Roman		Post-med/Modern		
Contexts	**02**	**05**	**04**	**01**	**Totals**
Species/Element	**# (%)**	**# (%)**	**# (%)**	**# (%)**	**# (%)**
Cattle (*Bos taurus*)	**11 (11.5)**			**1 (1.0)**	**12 (12.5)**
Incisor	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Molar (Mandible)	1 (1.0)			1 (1.0)	2 (2.1)
Teeth fragments	2 (2.1)				2 (2.1)
Metacarpal	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Pelvis fragment	4 (4.2)				4 (4.2)
Tibia	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Phal 2	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Ovicaprine (Sheep/goat)	**3 (3.1)**				**3 (3.1)**
Molar (Mandible)	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Humerus	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Pelvis fragment	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Pig (*Sus scrofa*)	**2 (2.1)**				**2 (2.1)**
MC3	2 (2.1)				2 (2.1)
Chicken (*Gallus gallus*)	**2 (2.1)**				**2 (2.1)**
Coracoid	2 (2.1)				2 (2.1)
Bird (Chicken ?)	**1 (1.0)**				**1 (1.0)**
Indet. Fragments	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Small Mammal	**27 (28.1)**				**27 (28.1)**
Ribs	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Phal 1	1 (1.0)				1 (1.0)
Indet. Fragments	25 (26.0)				25 (26.0)
Large Mammal	**25 (26.0)**	**16 (16.7)**		**6 (6.3)**	**47 (49.0)**
Ribs	4 (4.2)				4 (4.2)
Pelvis fragment		1 (1.0)			1 (1.0)
Indet. Fragments	21 (21.9)	15 (15.6)		6 (6.3)	42 (43.8)
Indet. Fragments	**1 (1.0)**		**1 (1.0)**		**2 (2.1)**
Indet. Fragments	1 (1.0)		1 (1.0)		2 (2.1)
Totals	**72 (75.0)**	**16 (16.7)**	**1 (1.0)**	**7 (7.3)**	**96 (100)**

Table 1: Animal bone from 722SAVP (Indet. = indeterminate; Phal = phalange; Post-med = Post-medieval)

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Metal finds- *Laura Dodd*

Introduction

A total of 27 metal finds were recovered during this investigation. The metal objects were assessed with the aid of radiography under low powered magnification (Plate 6). The objects were wrapped in acid free paper, placed within bags and then sealed within a plastic Stewart box and sachets of silica gel were included with the metal objects for long term storage.

Copper alloy objects

A total of four copper alloy objects were recovered during this excavation including three coins. Two, a coin of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II, were recovered from Topsoil (01), the third was a coin of Queen Victoria from demolition layer (05). In addition to the coins was a small copper strip recovered from Gully [03]. All artefacts were in good condition.

Iron objects

Twenty-three iron objects were recovered during the excavation. The preservation of the objects was good and the majority of the artefacts were complete. A total of 17 nails were recovered during this investigation. Four from topsoil layer (01) were modern, whereas the remaining nails from (02) appeared to be older.

An intact chain comprising 10 links was recovered from Demolition Layer (05). Several of the links were fused through corrosion. A broken chain like was recovered from Topsoil (01) as well as a handle and a thin round bar.

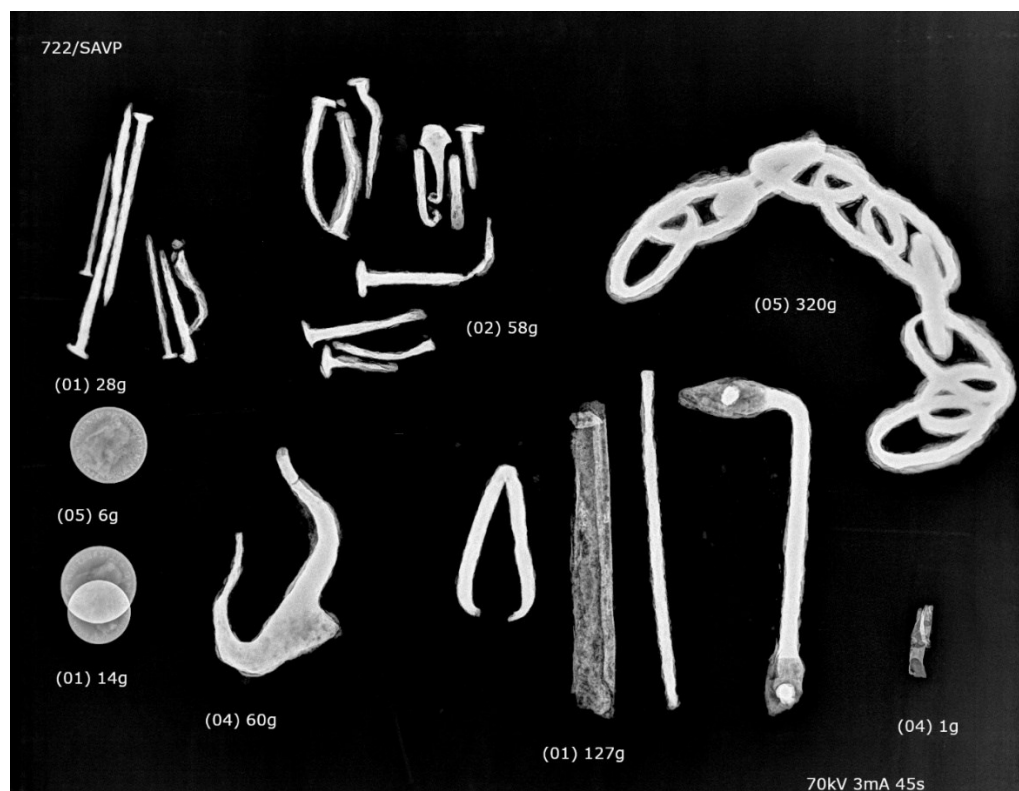A C-hook was recovered from the fill of Gully [03].

Plate 6: Radiograph of metal objects (Pieta Greaves 2022)

Appendix 5: OASIS and Site Data

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name & Address	Inn on the Park Footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans	Project Site Code	722/SAVP
OASIS reference	kdkarcha1-509474	Event/Accession no	Accession Applied for
OS reference	TL 1376 0713	Study area size	81.73sq m
Project Type	Observation and Recording	Height (mAOD)	c.85m
Short Description	In September 2022 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at the Inn on the Park footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans as part of a Scheduled Monument Consent. These works included the installation of a new footpath linking two existing pathways to the east and south of the Inn on the Parks seating area and the resurfacing of existing paths. The ground was reduced to a depth of 0.25m exposing a layer rich in datable material, of which most were dated to the Roman period. This layer may be the result of a demolition event. A gully was also uncovered to the south of the excavation area which was post-medieval/modern in date.		
Previous work	None	Site status	Scheduled Monument. NHLE reference 1003515
Planning proposal	The development includes the construction of a Breedon Gold gravel footpath with concrete curbs which will link two existing gravel paths to the south and northeast of the Inn on the Park	Current land use	Public Park
Local Planning Authority	St Albans City and District Council	SMC ref.	S00242506
Monument type	Roman made ground, post-medieval gully	Monument period	Roman-modern
Significant finds	-	Future work	No
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project Brief originator	-	Project Design originator	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager	David Kaye	Director/Supervisor	Laura Dodd
Sponsor/funding body	St Albans City and District Council		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	15.09.2022	End date	16.09.2022
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical	St Albans Museum	Pottery, animal bone, shell, CBM, Iron objects, copper objects, slate,	
Paper		Report, WSI, fieldwork forms	
Digital		Digital photographs, all digital files	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title	Archaeological Observation and Recording Report: Inn on the Park Footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans		
Serial title & volume	722/SAVP/1.2		
Author(s)	Laura Dodd MSc MCIfA		
Page no's	27	Date	03.11.2022

Appendix 6: Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record Sheet

Site name and address:	Inn on the Park Footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans		
County: Hertfordshire		District: St Albans	
Village/Town: St Albans		Parish: St Albans	
SMC reference: S00242506			
Client's name, address, & tel. no: St Albans City and District Council, Civic centre, St Peter's Street, St Albans			
Nature of application: The development includes the construction of a gravel footpath with concrete curbs which will link two existing gravel paths to the south and northeast of the Inn on the Park			
Present land use: Public Park and scheduled monument. NHLE reference 1003515 SMC ref. S00242506			
Size of application area: 81.73sq m		Size of area investigated: 81.73sq m	
NGR (to 8 figures): kdkarcha1-509474		Site code: 722/SAVP	
Site director: Laura Dodd		Organization: KDK Archaeology Ltd	
Type of work: Observation and Recording			
Date of Work: Start: 15.09.2022		Finish: 16.09.2022	
Curating museum: St Albans Museum			
Related HER no's: -		Periods represented: Roman, post-medieval	
Relevant previous summaries/reports:-			
In September 2022 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording at the Inn on the Park footpath, Verulamium Park, St Albans as part of a Scheduled Monument Consent. These works included the installation of a new footpath linking two existing pathways to the east and south of the Inn on the Parks seating area and the resurfacing of existing paths. The ground was reduced to a depth of 0.25m exposing a layer rich in datable material, of which most were dated to the Roman period. This layer may be the result of a demolition event. A gully was also uncovered to the south of the excavation area which was post-medieval/modern in date.			
Author: Laura Dodd MSc MCIfA		Date: 03.11.2022	