

2 OLD VICARAGE MEWS, HERTFORD, HERTS.

HN618
Report No. 368

Site name and address:	2 Old Vicarage Mews, Hertford, Hertfordshire		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Hertford	Parish:	Hertford
Planning reference:	3/06/1105	NGR:	TL 32682 12515
Client name and address:	Four Seasons Conservatories, Unit E 1, Romford Seedbed Centre, Davidson Way, Romford, Essex RM7 0AZ		
Nature of work:	Construction of conservatory	Former land use:	Patio
Site Status:	AS172	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (PPG16)
Position in planning process:	After full determination (as a condition)	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c.735m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.8.1m ²
Site Code:	HN618	Other reference:	n/a
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc...	Monitoring	Archive Recipient:	Hertford Museum
Start of work	11/09/06	Finish of work	11/09/06
Related SMR Nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	None
Oasis UID:	heritage1-18520	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Narrative:

In order to meet the requirements of an archaeological condition on the planning permission for building work at 2 Old Vicarage Mews, Hertford, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by Four Seasons Conservatories to monitor the groundworks associated with the construction of a new conservatory.

The site is located in the historic core of Hertford, approximately 200m to the south east of the River Lea, centred on NGR TL 32682 12515 (Figure 1).

The development lies within Area of Archaeological Significance (AS172), as designated in the East Herts District Local Plan. This defines Hertford as a late Saxon defended settlement. The site is situated within the limits of the Saxon 'burh' and lies c. 200m to the west of the walls of Hertford Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).

The footings for the conservatory were of a pad and beam construction. One site visit was made to monitor the digging of the pads which was done by hand due to confined nature of the site (Figure 2).

Beneath the existing block paved patio was a layer of very dark grey (10YR 3/1) made ground consisting of silty clay mixed with hardcore. The pads were dug to depth of 700mm and did not breach this layer.

No archaeological cut features or deposits were observed.

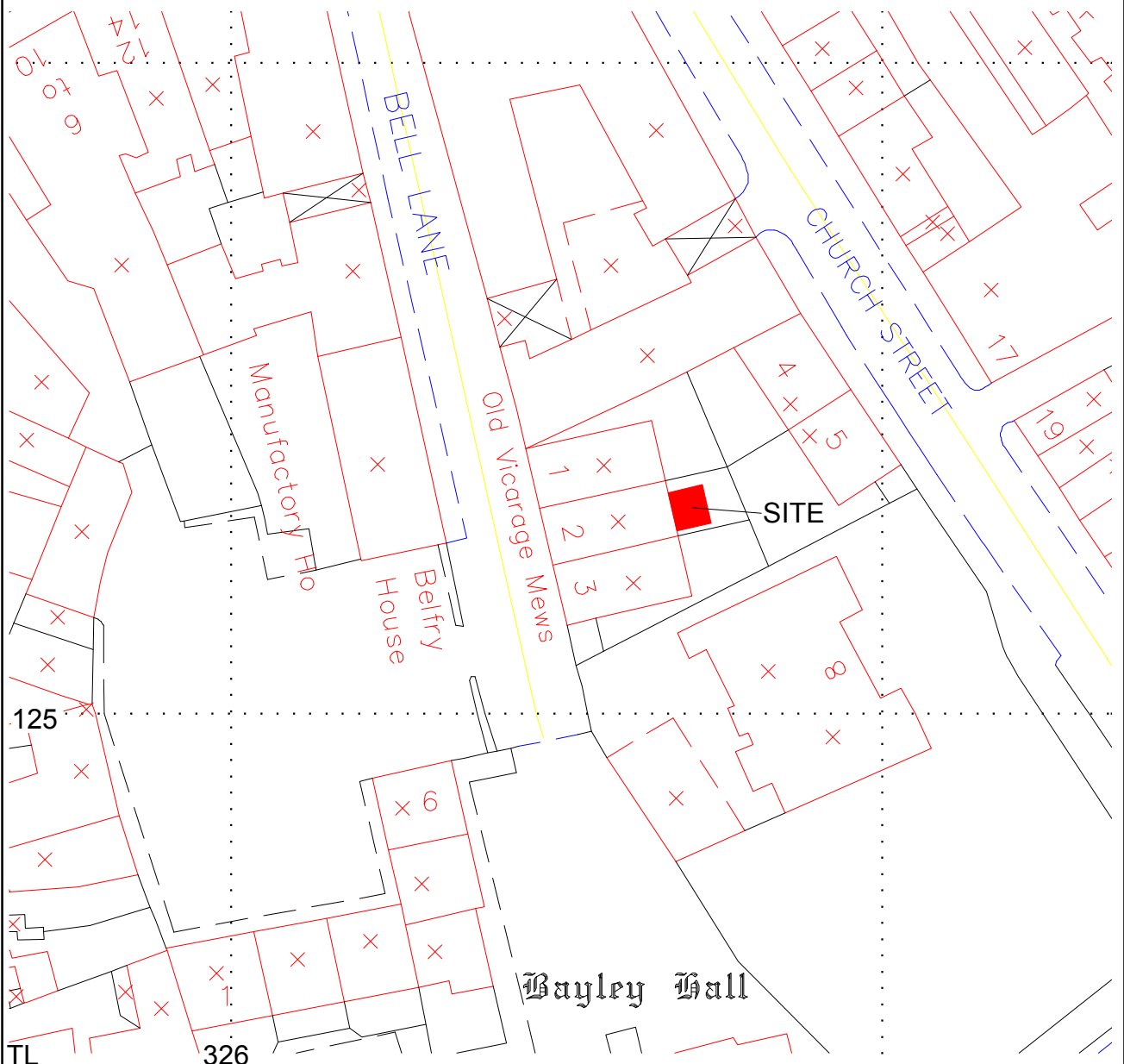
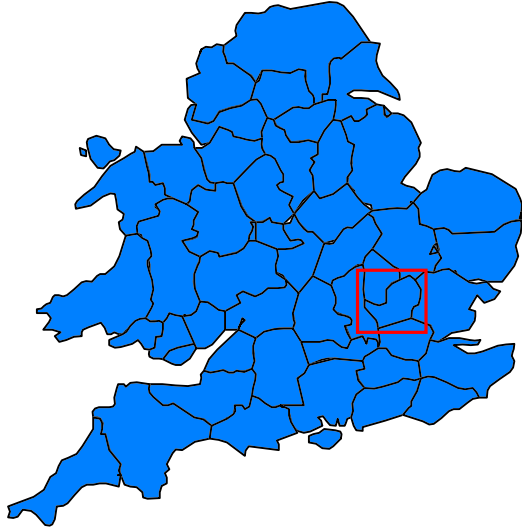
The spoil from the excavation was inspected but no datable artefacts were recovered.

David Kaye BA PIFA, September 2006

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

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HN618

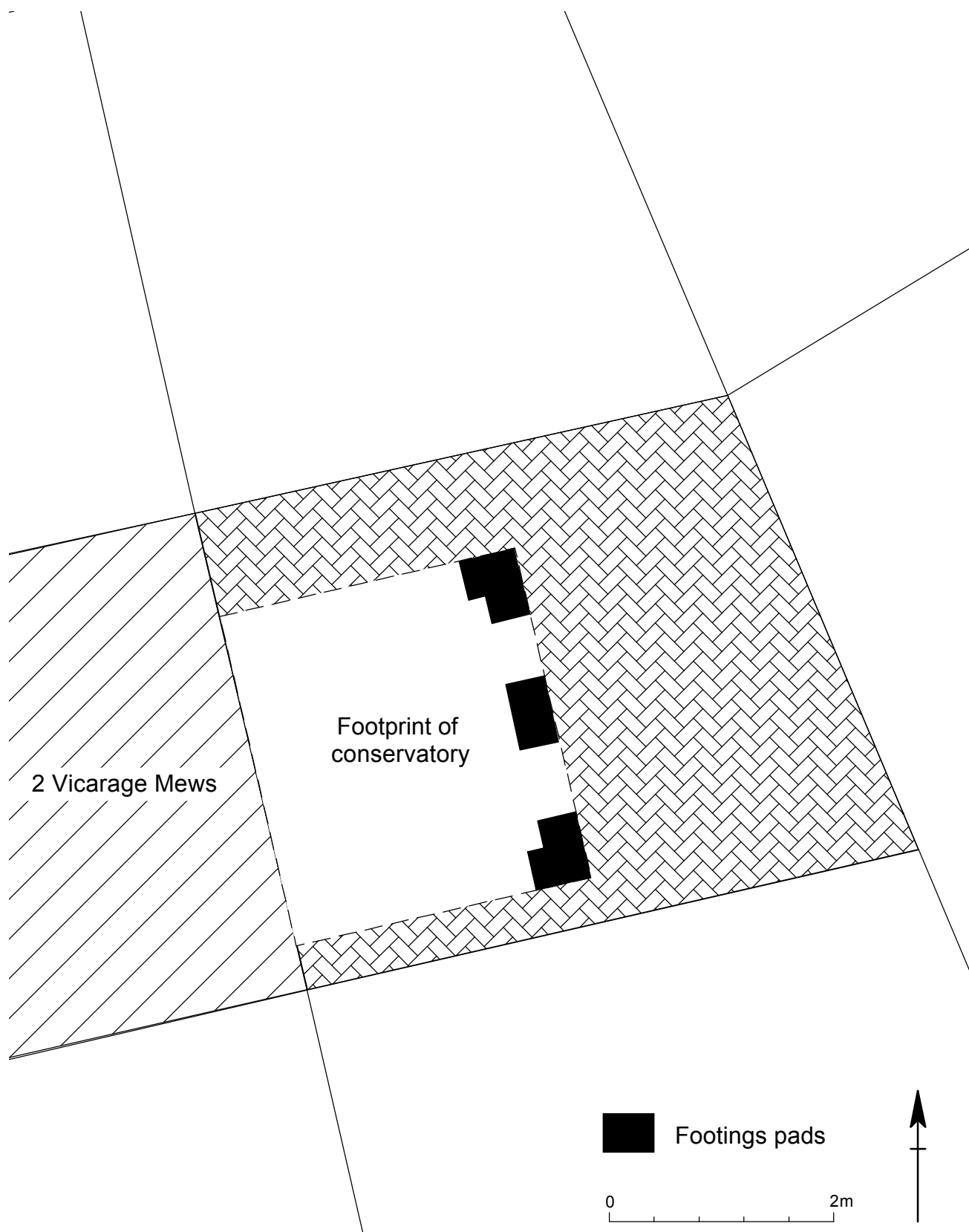


Site Location

Scale 1:500

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Figure 1



Site Layout

Scale 1:50



Plate 1a:2 Old Vicarage Mews



Plate 1b:Stratigraphy of footings pad