

Falcon House, 2 Stortford Road, Standon, Herts.

HN1200

Report No. 943

Site name and address:	Falcon House, 2 Stortford Road, Standon, SG11 1LT		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Standon	Parish:	Standon
Planning reference:	3/14/2224/FP	NGR:	TL 39670 22500
Client name and address:	Mr and Mrs M Koyce, Falcon House, 2 Stortford Road, Standon, SG11 1LT		
Nature of work:	Extension	Present land use:	Private Residence
Site Status:	AAS No. 96	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	Post-determination (as a condition)	Project brief originator:	Chris Turner
Size of affected area:	c.7m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.7m ²
Site Code:	HN1200	HER reference:	17/15
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.	Observation and Recording	Archive Recipient:	Hertford Museum
Start of work	18/5/2015	Finish of work	18/5/2015
Related HER Nos:	None	Periods represented:	Modern
Oasis UID:	heritage1-209496	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Narrative:

This report has been prepared at the request of Martin Koyce Esq., to complete a scheme of archaeological work carried out as part of a programme of development at Falcon House, 2 Stortford Road, Standon, Herts. SG11 1LT.

Planning permission for the building of a conservatory and open porch to the main house, and extension to an outbuilding (ref: 3/14/2224/FP), was granted by East Hertfordshire District Council (EHDC) subject to an archaeological condition issued in line with the Department of Communities and Local Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The site is situated on the eastern side of the junction of Stortford Road and the High Street, near the centre of Standon and centred on NGR TL 39670 22500 (Figure 1). The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance no.96, which includes the medieval settlement of Standon (a medieval borough), the parish church of St Mary (Historic Environment Record no.4366), and numerous later medieval and early post-medieval buildings.

The study area comprises a Grade II listed building, the former Falcon public house, its outbuildings and grounds. The Falcon is first documented in a will from 1686 and its location in the historic core of Standon would suggest that it is occupying a site that has been used since at least the medieval period.

The clients have decided not to build the proposed conservatory at the present time, and the proposed porch required no groundworks. Accordingly, the groundworks consisted of a single U-shaped trench (Figure 2) excavated using a 0.8 tonne tracked 360-degree excavator. The trench was 0.6m wide, between 1.1m and 1.5m deep and had a total length of 11.55m. No archaeological features were seen in the trench. A late 19th century or early 20th century red brick service chamber was encountered in the south-eastern arm of the trench along with a 20th drain and concrete building footings.

The stratigraphy observed in the trench consisted of a very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty sand topsoil, up to 0.2m in thickness. This overlay a deposit of made ground, a brown (10YR 5/3) silty sand, up to 0.9m in thickness. The natural, where seen, was a mixed deposit of white chalk (10YR 8/1) and strong brown (10YR 4/6) sandy

clay. Cut into the topsoil along most of the length of the trench were modern block pavers bedded on layers of sand and crushed stone.

Discussion:

Although the present site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance no.96, no archaeological features or deposits were identified, and no significant artefacts observed or collected in the course of the present works.

The site of the new extension has clearly been disturbed previously, as demonstrated by the made ground, and the excavated footings have had no impact upon any archaeological remains. Should they be present, any such remains would be preserved in situ.

Construction of the proposed conservatory has been put on hold indefinitely, but further archaeological monitoring would be required if it should go ahead in the future.

Illustrations:

Figure 1 Site Location
Figure 2 Site Layout
Figure 3 Sections

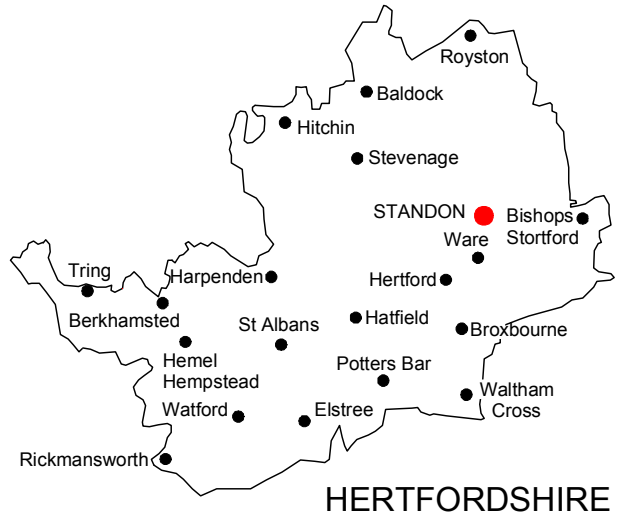
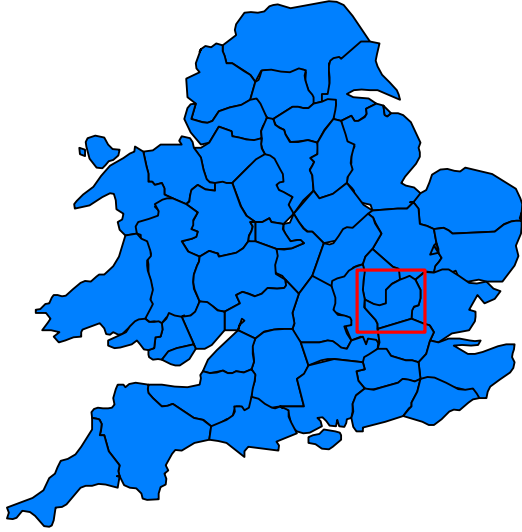
Plate 1 View of site, looking north-west
Plate 2 View of trench, looking north-west
Plate 3 Section 1, looking east
Plate 4 Section 2, looking north

Mark Sycamore BA
July 2015

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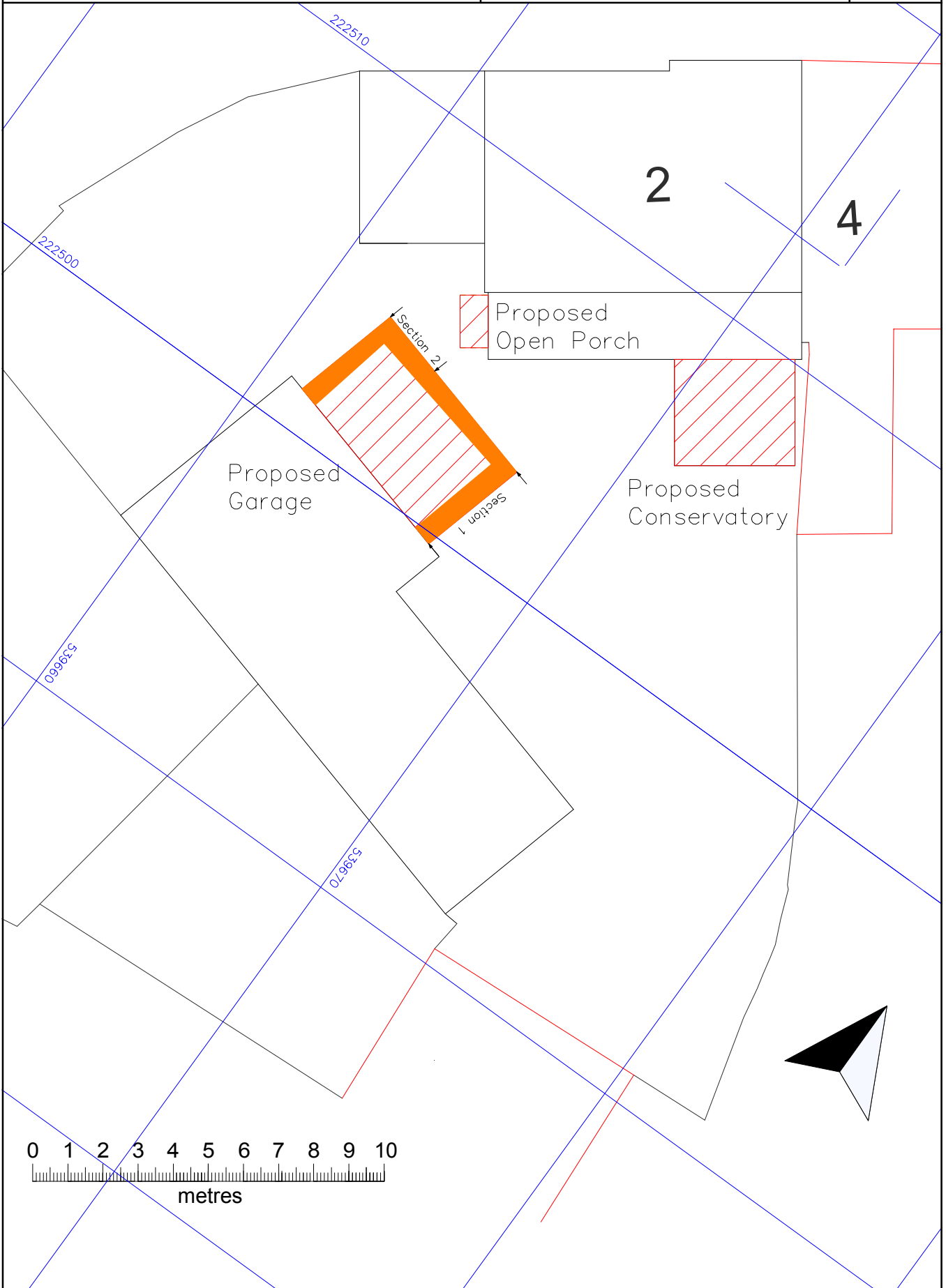


Site Location

Scale 1:5000

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Figure 1



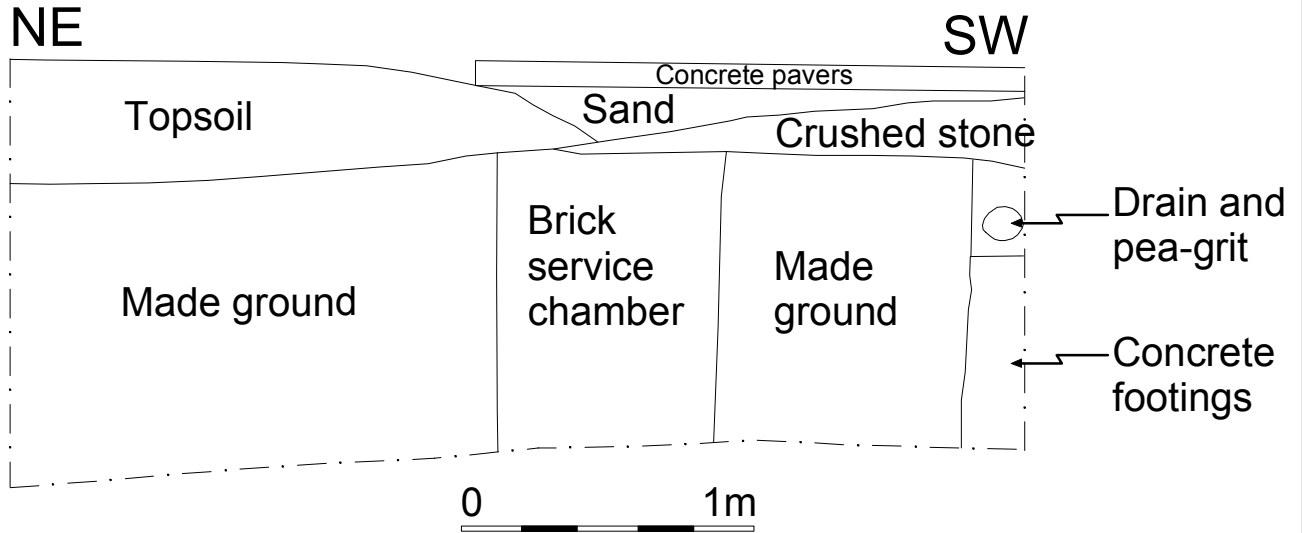
Site layout

(Courtesy Martin Bridge Ltd)

Scale 1:150

Figure 2

Section 1



Section 2

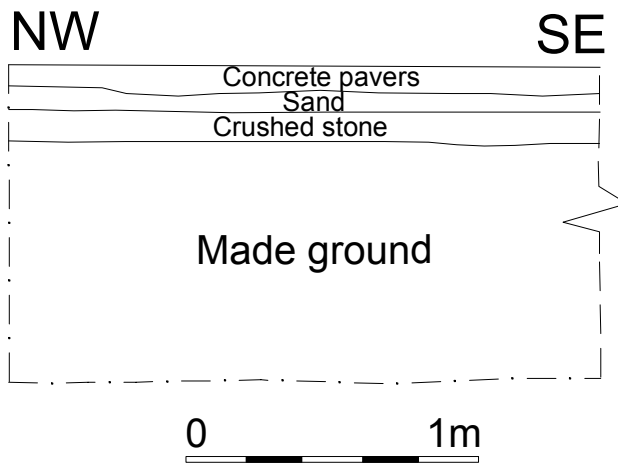




Plate 1: View of site, looking north west



Plate 2: View of trench, looking north west



Plate 3: Section 1, looking east



Plate 4: Section 2, looking north