

56B PARK ROAD Ware, Hertfordshire

HN1301

Report No. 1061

Site name and address:	56b Park Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 0AN		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Ware	Parish:	Ware
Planning reference:	3/15/1745/HH	NGR:	TL 35239 14607
Client name and address:	Mr David Vigus Esq, Westmill Farm, 56B Park Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 0AN		
Nature of development:	Residential development	Previous land use:	Single storey building extension
Site Status:	Area of Archaeological Significance no.117 (AAS117)	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	After determination, as a condition	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c.330m ²	Size of area investigated:	19m ²
HN Ref:	HN1301	HER consultation:	189/16
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.	Monitoring	Archive Recipient:	Ware Museum
Start of work	24/02/2017	Finish of work	24/02/2017
Related HER Nos:	None	Periods represented:	None
Oasis UID:	heritage1-264190	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	None		

Introduction:

In response to a planning condition on the construction of a single storey extension to the rear of 56b Park Road, Ware, Hertfordshire (Figure 1), the Heritage Network was commissioned by the landowner to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring on the development groundworks. Planning permission for the development (3/15/1745/HH) was granted by East Herts District Council (EHDC), subject to a standard archaeological condition issued under the provisions set out in the Department of Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF). A full specification for the work carried out is contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design* dated October 2016.

Narrative:

The site is located in the western half of Ware, 370m to the north of the River Lea Navigation and falls within an *Area of Archaeological Significance* no.117 (AAS117), as identified in the District Local Plan. It lies to the rear of a no.56b, a semi-detached house fronting the northern side of Park Road, centred on NGR TL 35239 14607.

The proposed development entailed the construction of a single storey extension to the rear of the house (Figure 2). The present investigation involved the monitoring of the groundworks associated with the development (Plate 1).

Footing Trenches

Groundworks for the proposed extension involved the excavation of three footing trenches (Figure 2, Plate 2), in a 'u' shape extending north from the rear of the existing building. The excavation was undertaken by a 3-tonne tracked, 360-degree excavator, fitted with a 0.55m toothed bucket. The eastern and western trenches measured 2.6m in length and the northern trench measured 6m in length. All trenches were 0.6m in width and were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.1m.

11 Furnston Court, Icknield Way, Letchworth, SG6 1UJ

Tel: (01462) 685991 Fax: (01462) 685998 Email: enquiries@heritagenetwork.co.uk

The sections in all three trenches revealed the same stratigraphy, consisting of a light greyish brown, loose, silty clay, 0.3m in depth, containing frequent small stones and concrete fragments, interpreted as a make-up layer for the existing patio, which overlay above a dark brown, wet sandy clay, 0.7m thick, containing frequent gravel and very rare tile inclusions (Figure 3, Plate 3). Below this was a subsoil of mid brown wet sandy clay, over 0.1m thick, containing moderate sub-angular flint. The natural substrate was not reached in any of the trenches.

A modern ceramic service pipe was encountered at the southern end of both the eastern and western trenches.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were revealed in the trenches.

Discussion:

The monitoring of the development groundworks at 56b Park Road, Ware, revealed a stratigraphic sequence consisting of a layer of modern made ground below the existing patio, above a thick deposit of sandy clay, containing very rare tile fragments. This directly overlay a buried subsoil.

Cartographic evidence shows that the pair of semi-detached houses had been constructed by 1880, possibly as a single large dwelling for the owner of the malthouse immediately to the east (www.old-maps.co.uk – not illustrated). The grounds of the house extended to the north and west. The modern dwellings to the west were built between 1938 and 1950.

The lack of a topsoil on the site suggests some ground disturbance, probably in the recent past. This may represent the reduction and levelling of the ground prior to the construction of the former patio.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the course of the present investigation and no evidence for activity pre-dating the modern period was noted. No information was gained that could be considered to contribute to the research aims for the project, as defined in the approved Project Design. On this basis, the risk that the proposed development might disturb archaeological remains of any significance may be considered to be *Low* for all periods.

Illustrations:

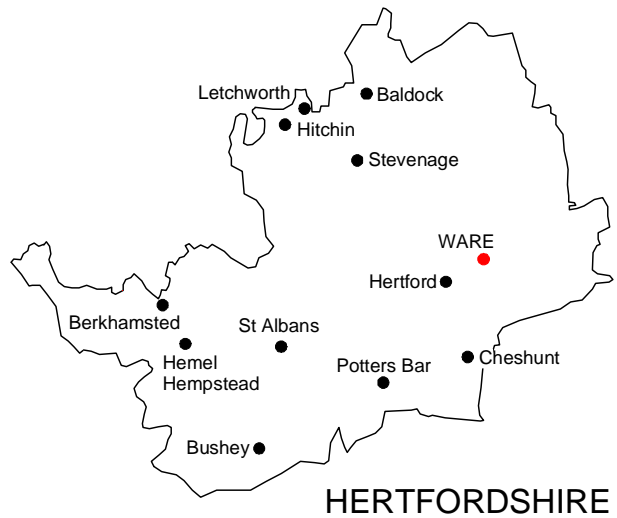
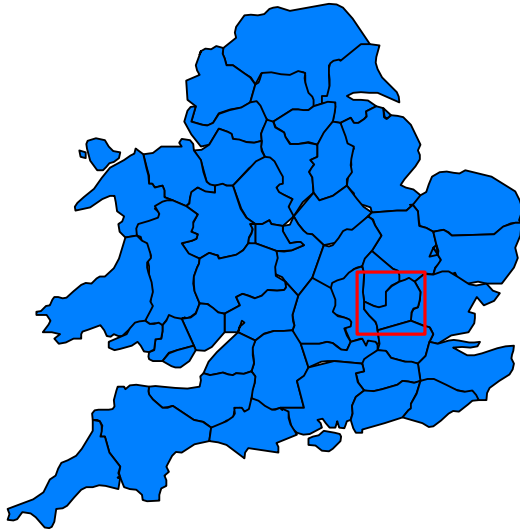
Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Site layout
Figure 3	Indicative section
Plate 1	Development site, looking S
Plate 2	Footing trenches, looking SE
Plate 3	Indicative section, looking N

Daniel Phillips, BA (Hons) ACIfA
March 2017

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

56B Park Road, Ware,
Herts

HN1301

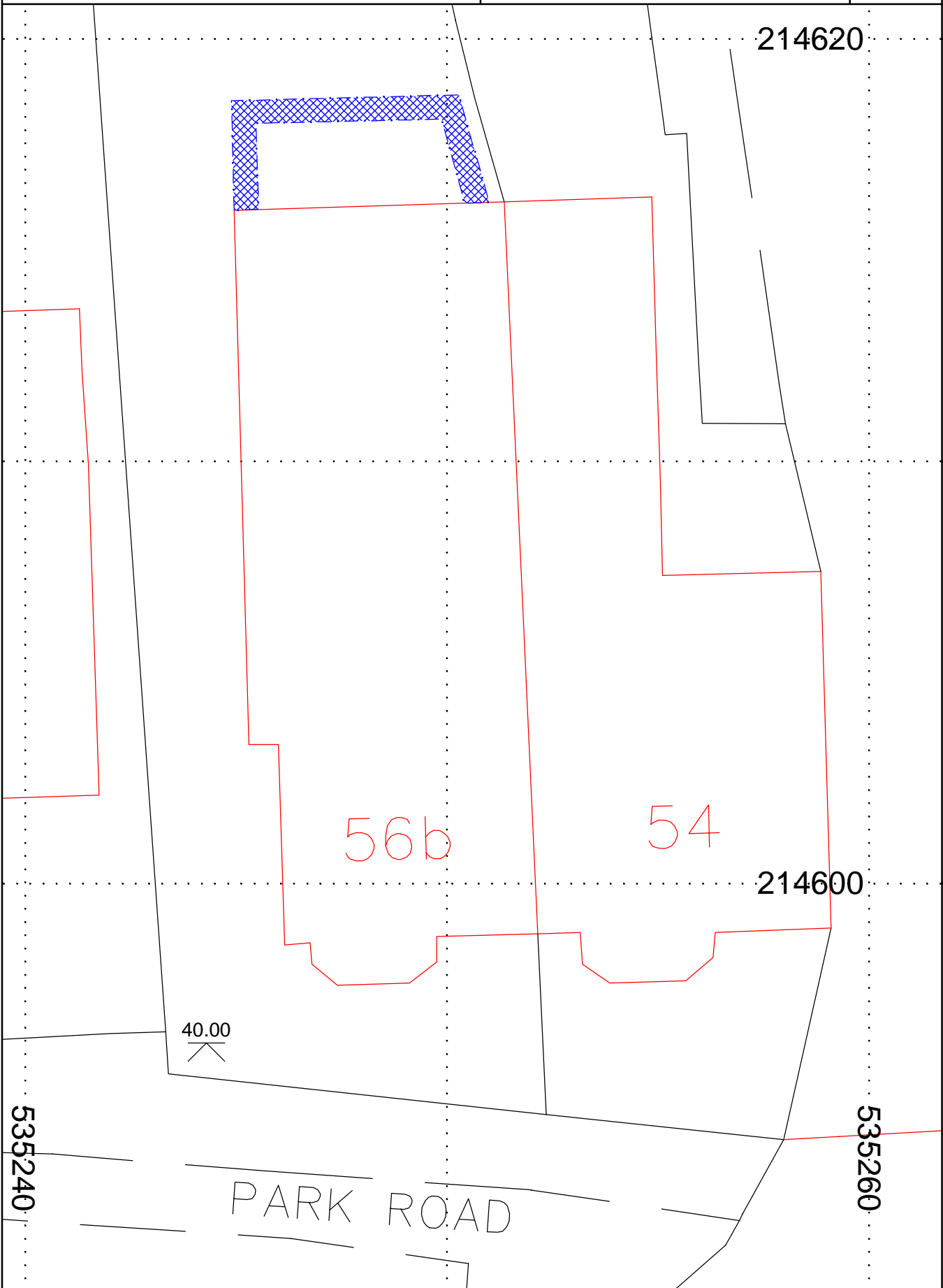


Site Location

Scale 1:5000

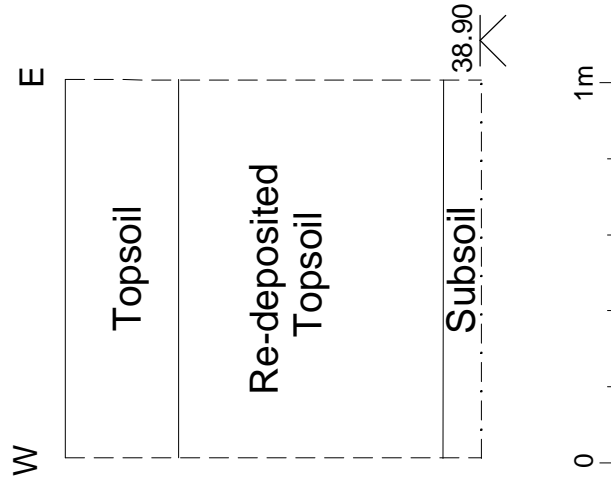
(Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Licence no.100014861)

Figure 1



Site layout

Scale 1:150



Indicative Section



Plate 1: Development site, looking S



Plate 2: Footing trenches, looking SE



Plate 3: Indicative section, looking N

Site Name:	DRP S6B FARM ROAD, WIMBORNE, HANTS	HN ref:	1301
		Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	DRP	Arrive time:	09.00	Return travel:	1hr
Date:	24/2/17	Depart time:	10.45	Total hours:	

Reported to:	DAVID VIGUS	Position:	CLIENT
Purpose of visit:	O/R MONITORING ON FOOTING TRENCHES		

Photograph film no	—
--------------------	---

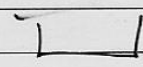
Staff on site:	DRP
----------------	-----

Observations: ARRIVED ON SITE AT 09.00 AS MANAGED TO COME OUT MONITORING ON FOOTING TRENCHES AT S6B FARM ROAD FOR A NEW EXTENSION

- AM
- HAD SITE WALKOVER
 - EXAMINED ARCHITECTURAL REQUIREMENTS TO CLIENT, WHO HAS WORKED WITH ARCHITECTURE BEFORE.
 - DRP EXPLAINED THE SENSITIVE AREA WE ARE IN.
 - DAVID EXPLAINED CIRCUMSTANCES METHODOLOGY.
 - FOOTING TRENCHES HAD BEEN MARKED OUT PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

FOOTING TRENCHES

FOOTINGS WILL BE 0.6m WIDE SO TO ACCOMMODATE A SECONDARY SLOTTING IF NEEDED IN FUTURE

3 FOOTING TRENCHES IN A  SHAPE - SEE PLAN

STRAT: - ~~1~~ MAKE GROUND FOR PAVO: - 0.3m.

 HEAVY MIXED LIGHT CLAYISH
 BROWN, SILTY CLAY, LOOSE WITH
 V. FINE SMALL ROUNDED STONES +
 CONCRETE FRAGS

SEE PLAN SHEET

 * ~~AND~~ OVER BLDG - 0.7m
 * SUBSOIL - 20.1m.

- 3 TRENCHES BROWED BLANK

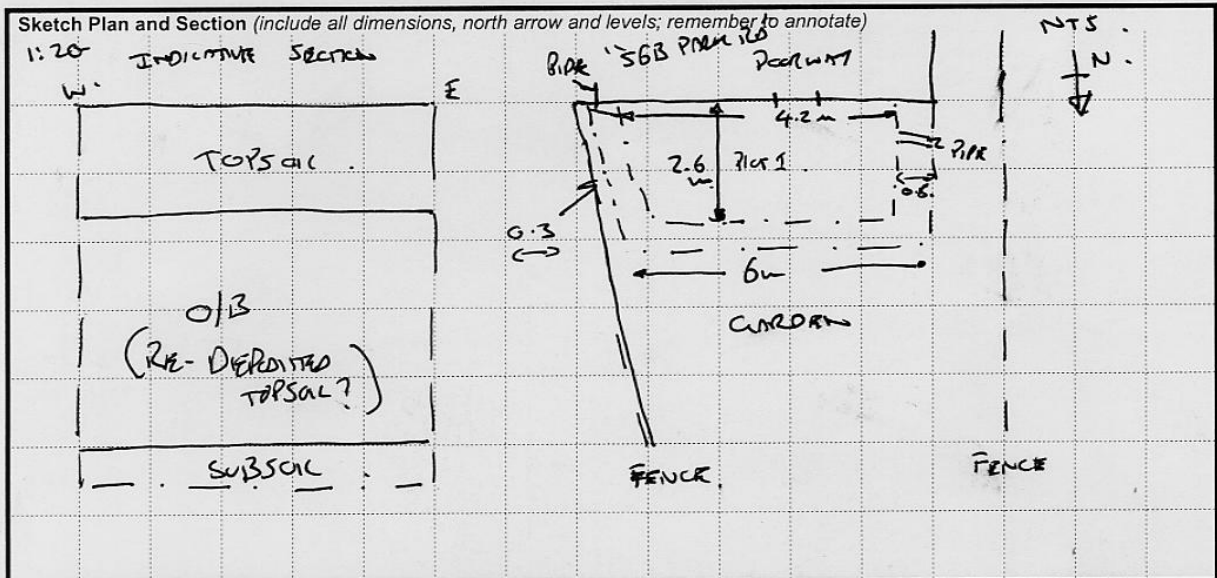
Sheet	1	of	1
Additional records:			
Text sheet(s)			
Sketch sheet(s)			
Context form(s)			
A4 Scale dwng(s)			
A3 Scale dwng(s)			
Photographs			✓

Weather:	DRP + SUNNY
----------	-------------

Site Name / Code SS B PARK ROAD, WIMBORNE, DORSET						
Site	Shot Number	Details	View L.	Date	Time	Initials
HW1301	1	CEREMONY SITE Plot	S	24/2/17	—	DRP
	2		E			
	3		S			
	4		S			
	5		N			
	6		N			
	7	Plot 1 (FOUNDER FRENCHING) ^{CONCRETE} _{SLAB}	S			
	8		S			
	9	SHOWING LOWER LEVEL OF NEIGHBOUR	SW			
	10		SW			
	11		SW			
	12	SHOWING HIGHER LEVEL OF NEIGHBOUR	SE			
	13	Plot 4 - FOOTING TRENCHES				
	14					
	15					
	16					
	17					
	18					
	19					

SITE CODE HN1301	Site Name 56 B PARK ROAD, WARR, HANTS	Sub-division	Map/Plan	PLOT No 1
	Length 2 x 2.6m 1 x 6m	Width 0.6m	Depth 1.1m	
	Machine Type 3 TON TRACKED	Bucket Size 0.55 TONNAGE		

Present land use BACK GARDEN	Visibility (circle)	Poor	Moderate	Good				
Topsoil/Overburden MADE GROUND								
Colour LIGHT GREYISH BROWN	Composition HEAVILY MIXED, LOOSE MASS UP LIME FER PATIO - V. FINE REMAINS STAINED + CONCRETE	Depth 0.3m						
Subsoil O/B								
Colour DARK BROWN	Composition WET SANDY CLAY WITH FINE GRAVEL + V. LARGE TILE	Depth 0.7m						
Natural SUBSOIL								
Colour MID BROWN	Composition WET SANDY SILTY CLAY WITH MODERATE MEDIUM SUB-ANGULAR KINT	Depth 70.1m						
Observations (circle)	Archaeology	Root activity	Structure	Contamination	Unstable	Mod truncation	Other:	
	Bur'd horizon	A. Burrows	Services	Flooding	Blank	Plough mark	Land drain	



Discussion and interpretation

Plot 1 :- 3 FOOTING TRENCHES FOR A NEW SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION - TRENCHES DEMONSTRATED MADE GROUND FOR A PATIO (BACK GARDEN) OVER O/B - 0.7m THICK OVER SUBSOIL. STUDYING THE LANDSCAPE AROUND THE SITE IT IS SUGGESTED EITHER THE LAND AROUND HAD BEEN PRODUCED (TERRACED) OR OUR SITE HAD ~~BEEN~~ BEEN BUILT UP. THE ~~WAS~~ INCLUSION OF TILE WITHIN THIS WOULD SUGGEST THE LATTER. - POSSIBLY RE-DEPOSITED TOPSOIL. NO MUCH WAS SEEN

Contexts	NONE			Signature	DAP
Finds	NONE			Date	24/2/17
Plan no.	ABOVE + ARCHITECTS PLAN	Photo (b/w)	X	Checked	
Section no.	SEE ABOVE	Photo (colour)	✓	Cont.	
Levelled ✓	Located ✓	Samples	X		
Weather conditions	DRY + SMALL				