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GARDEN HOUSE **Tewin Water, Welwyn, Herts.**

HN1307

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

HERITAGE NETWORK

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Managing Director: David Hillelson, BA MCifA

GARDEN HOUSE Tewin Water, Welwyn, Hertfordshire

Project ref.: HN1307
Planning ref: 3/14/1792/FP
HER enquiry no: 207/16

Archaeological Monitoring Report

Prepared on behalf of Mr & Mrs R Hennis

by

Mark Sycamore, BA

Report no. 1307

December 2016

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The cover photograph shows the site looking south-west

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by Dan Phillips. The report text and illustrations were prepared by Mark Sycamore, and edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to Richard Hennis, and to Alison Tinniswood, Historic Environment Team, Hertfordshire County Council, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

Site name and address:	The Garden House, Tewin Water, Welwyn, AL6 0AB		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Herts
Village/town:	Tewin	Parish:	Tewin
Planning reference:	3/14/1792/FP	NGR:	TL 25575 14655
Client name and address:	Mr & Mrs R Hennis, The Garden House, Tewin Water, Welwyn, AL6 0AB		
Nature of work:	New garage and associated parking	Former land use:	Garden
Site status:	Area of archaeological significance 234 (AAS234)	Reason for investigation:	Direction of Local Planning Authority (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	As a condition (post-determination)	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c.209m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.209m ²
Site Code:	HN1307	HER no.	207/16
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.:	Monitoring	Archive recipient:	Hertford Museum
Start of work	09/12/2016	Finish of work	13/12/2016
Related HER Nos:	None	Periods represented:	None
Oasis UID	heritage1-265853	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Synopsis:

In response to a condition on the planning consent for the construction of a new garage and associated hardstanding at the rear of Garden House, Tewin Water, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owners to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring of the groundworks.

It was considered that the present investigation had the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of the origins and development of Tewin from the prehistoric period onwards, with particular emphasis on evidence for Neolithic/Bronze age activity, as seen in previous work immediately to the south of site.

The works involved the monitoring of tree root removal, ground reduction across the footprint of the development and the excavation of footings trenches. The trench sections revealed topsoil above a clean subsoil, which overlay the natural substratum.

Despite the demonstrated potential of the site, no features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were encountered in the course of this project. This is likely to be due to the limited scale and impact of the development groundworks.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of *Mr & Mrs R Hennis*, to cover a programme of archaeological work carried out as part of a development at Garden House, Tewin Water, Tewin, Hertfordshire.

1.2 Planning permission for the development (ref: 3/14/1729/FP) has been 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 is contained in the Heritage Network's approved Project Design, dated October 2016 (Turner 2016).

1.3 Garden House lies 70m to the north of Tewin Water House (HER 13623), within a registered historic park and garden (HER 7342), centred on NGR TL 25620 14626. The river Mimram runs 137m to the south of the site. Previous archaeological work in the vicinity has encountered a large assemblage of prehistoric flints (HER 9787).

1.4 The proposed development entails the construction of a new garage, conversion of an existing outbuilding, a single storey link building and double storey extension to the rear of the existing building, with associated services and landscaping. Only the new garage and its associated parking and access are the concern of the present project.

1.5 The aims of the present investigation have been to establish the location, depth, extent, date, character and condition of any remains that might have been threatened by the development; to consider the local and regional archaeological and historical context of such remains, and their significance and quality, in relation to current published regional research; and, to ensure that an appropriate strategy for the mitigation of damage or destruction of such remains by the development was adopted.

1.6 It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to an understanding of the origins and development of Tewin Water from the prehistoric period onwards; activity close to the course of the River Mimram from the prehistoric period onwards; the development of the rural settlement in medieval and post-medieval periods and of country parks and gardens during the post-medieval period.

1.7 This report presents the data collected in the course of the archaeological fieldwork, and the conclusions that can be drawn from it. Together with the deposition of the project archive with Hertford Museum, it completes the process described in the approved Project Design and will allow Condition 2 of the planning consent to be discharged, subject to the agreement of the LPA.

2. Fieldwork

SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 The development site lies immediately to the north of the river Mimram, within the grounds of the 18th century house called Tewin Water, centred on NGR TL 25575 14655. The estate has since been sub-divided into individual dwellings and the present site forms part of the garden of one of these. The land slopes gently down from the north-east to the south-west.

2.2 Locally the soils belong to the Ludford Association (571x) and are described as:

'Deep well drained fine loamy, coarse loamy and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel. Slight risk of water erosion' (SSEW 1983).

2.3 The underlying solid geology consists of chalk of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) (British Geological Survey).

METHODOLOGY

2.4 The fieldwork involved a series of site visits to monitor the removal of several trees on the site, ground reduction and the excavation of footing trenches for the new development.

2.5 The excavations were undertaken under close archaeological supervision, using a 1.5 tonne tracked 360° mini-digger, fitted with toothed and toothless ditching buckets, as required.

2.6 Spoil from the various stages of the groundworks was inspected for archaeological artefacts.

2.7 All recording work was carried out in accordance with the approved Project Design, current health and safety legislation, and guidance published by both CIFA and ALGAO.

MONITORING AND RECORDING

2.8 The groundworks for the present project consisted of the removal of existing trees across the footprint of the proposed development, ground reduction across the development area and the excavation of footings trenches for the new garage (Figure 2).

Tree removal

2.9 The trees having been cut down previously, the removal of several tree boles, occupying the footprint of the new garage and its access, was monitored. In places the subsoil was exposed but this was not breached. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed during this phase of work.

Ground reduction

2.10 The footprint of the new garage and its associated area of hardstanding, which measured in total approximately 17m in length by 12.3m in width, was reduced in depth by c.0.2m. This work did not breach the subsoil and no archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed.

Footings trenches

2.11 A 'U' shaped footings trench was excavated by machine along the north, south and western sides of the planned new garage (Figure 2). The trench measured 0.45m in width and 0.75m in depth.

2.12 The stratigraphy revealed in the trench sections comprised a layer of friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay topsoil, with frequent rooting and occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions, 0.2m thick, above a friable strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) silty clay subsoil with moderate small sub-rounded stone inclusions, 0.3m thick. This overlay the natural substratum of compact yellow (10YR 7/8) silty sandy clay, which was encountered at a depth of 0.5m below the existing ground level (Plate 4).

2.13 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed during this phase of work.

3. Discussion

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

3.1 The site lies within an *Area of Archaeological Significance* (AAS 234), as designated in the local plan, incorporating the 18th century country house known as Tewin Water, and the surrounding ornamental gardens and parkland.

3.2 In order to establish the archaeological and historical context for the site, the overview set out below has been drawn from the Hertfordshire *Historic Environment Record* (HER), the Heritage Network's own records and other sources. The study area covers a 750m radius around the site.

- A middle Bronze Age bucket urn burial was found in the gravel pit at Digswell Water, 720m to the west (HER 644). Other prehistoric flints axes and spearheads have also been recovered from the gravel pit (HER 4771).
- An evaluation immediately to the south of the present site, encountered a buried soil horizon which contained a Neolithic/Bronze Age flint assemblage (HER 9787).
- Late Iron Age cemetery remains and pottery are known approximately 530m to the south, the actual location is unclear (HER 162). 600m to the south of the site is the remains of an Iron Age enclosure with pottery with a date range of about AD 1-60 (HER 1142). A Romano-British corn dryer/kiln (HER 4244), was cut into the enclosure, 615m to the south.
- Roman pottery was discovered in the gravel pit at Digswell Water 640m to the west (HER 1569). A Roman wooden stylus was also found in a similar area (HER 1886).
- Cropmarks representing the line of a historic road along the south side of the river Mimram leading to Tewin Water House (HER 4466), lie 170m to the south; the road was diverted by Humphrey Repton during his landscaping of the park in the 1790s.
- The site lies within a late 18th century landscaped park (HER 7342). The associated mansion, Tewin Water House (HER 13623), is also late 18th century and is Grade II listed. It lies at the southern end of the existing range of buildings on site. The house was enlarged towards the end of 19th century and was acquired by a local farmer in 1946, who wrecked the grounds. In 1950 the house was compulsorily purchased and became a school for the deaf, with new buildings added in the 1960s and 1970s. The listing includes the coach house. An ice-house is situated 90m to the north-east (HER 13624).
- 620m to the north-east is an area of undated cropmarks, which may represent pits (HER 18396).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.3 The aims of the present investigation have been to establish the location, depth, extent, date, character and condition of any remains that might have been threatened by the development; to consider the local and regional archaeological and historical context of such remains, and their significance and quality, in relation to current published regional research; and, to ensure that an appropriate strategy for the mitigation of damage or destruction of such remains by the development was adopted.

3.4 It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to an understanding of the origins and development of Tewin Water from the prehistoric period onwards; activity close to the course of the River Mimram from the prehistoric period onwards (particularly evidence of Neolithic/Bronze Age activity as encountered to the immediate south of the site (HER 9787)); the development of the rural settlement in medieval and post-medieval periods and of country parks and gardens during the post-medieval period.

CONCLUSIONS

3.5 Despite the demonstrated potential of the site, no features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were encountered in the course of this project. This is likely to be due to the limited scale and impact of the development groundworks.

Confidence Rating

3.6 Conditions on site were generally acceptable for the identification and recording of any potential archaeological remains, and as such there are no circumstances which would lead to a confidence rating for the work which was less than *High*.

4. Schedule of site visits

Date	Staff	Hours	Comments
09/12/16	DP	5	Monitoring of tree removal and ground reduction
12/12/16	DP	6	Monitoring of footings for Extension
13/12/16	DP	4	Monitoring of footings for Extension

5. Bibliography

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Page, W. 1908. *The Victoria County History: Hertfordshire. Vol 2*. London

Turner, C. 2016 *Garden House, Tewin Water, Welwyn, Hertfordshire: archaeological project design*. Heritage Network

6. Illustrations

Figure 1..... Site location
 Figure 2..... Site layout

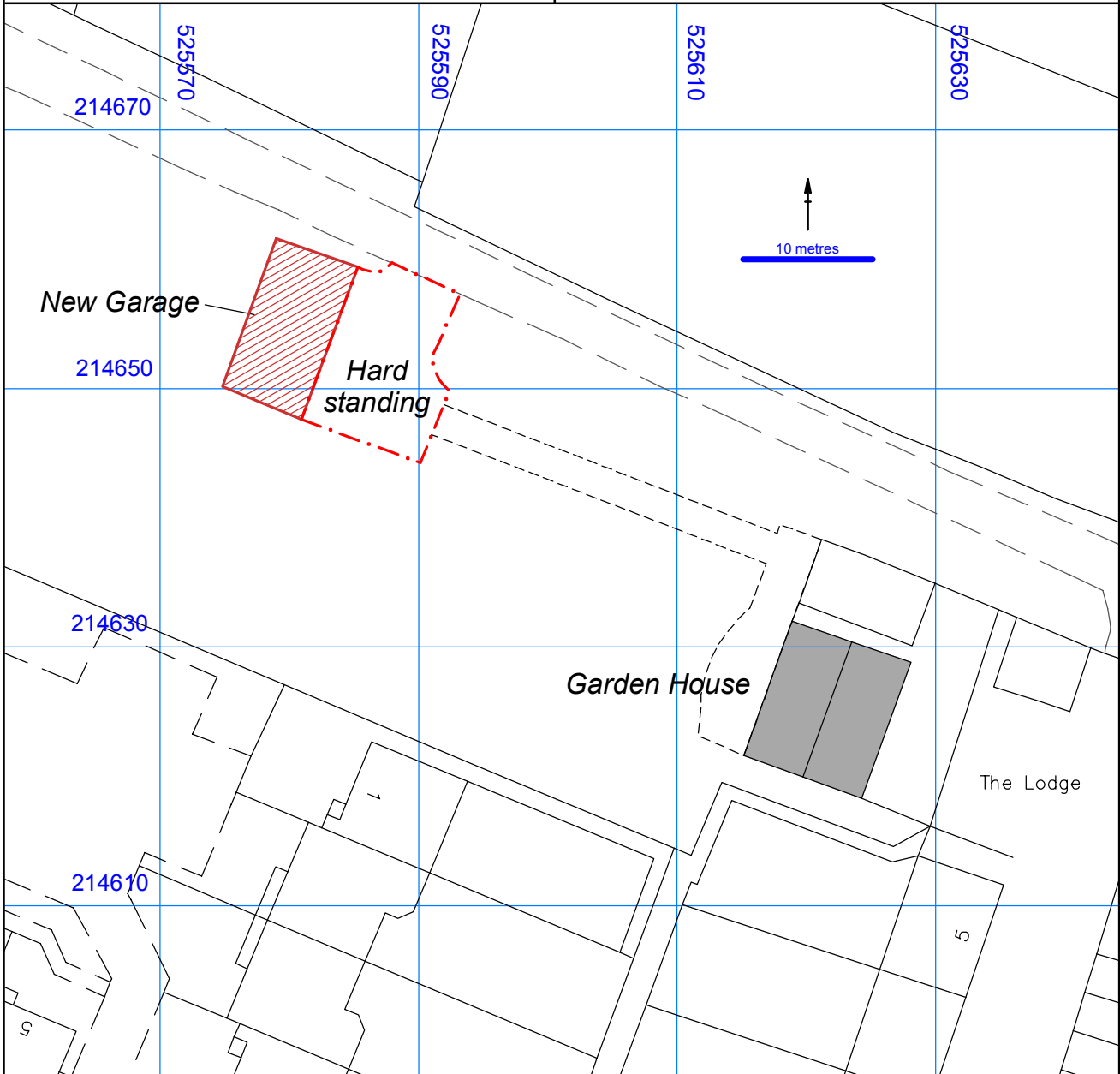
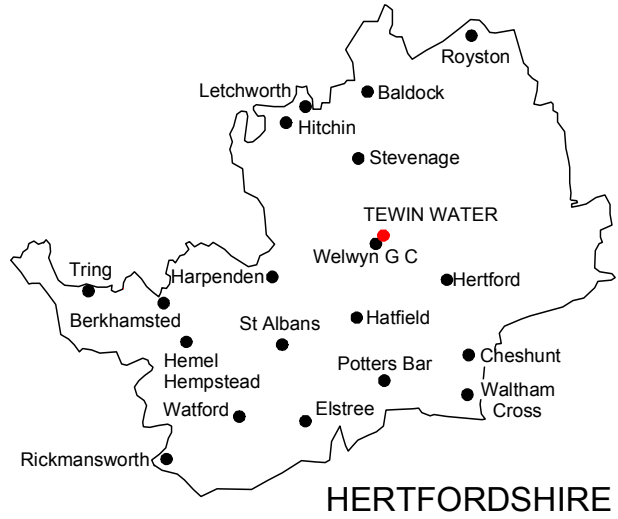
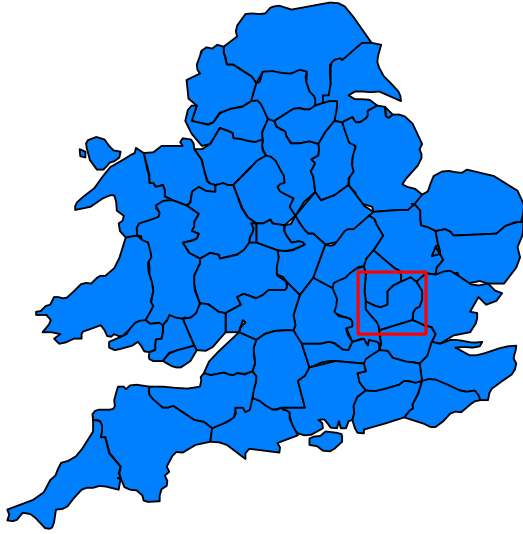
Plate 1 Tree removal, looking south-west
 Plate 2 Ground reduction in NW corner of garage plot, looking east
 Plate 3 Overall ground reduction, looking west
 Plate 4 Stratigraphy in footing trench, looking south

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THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

Garden House, Tewin Water, Herts.

HN1307



Site Location

Scale 1:500

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Figure 1

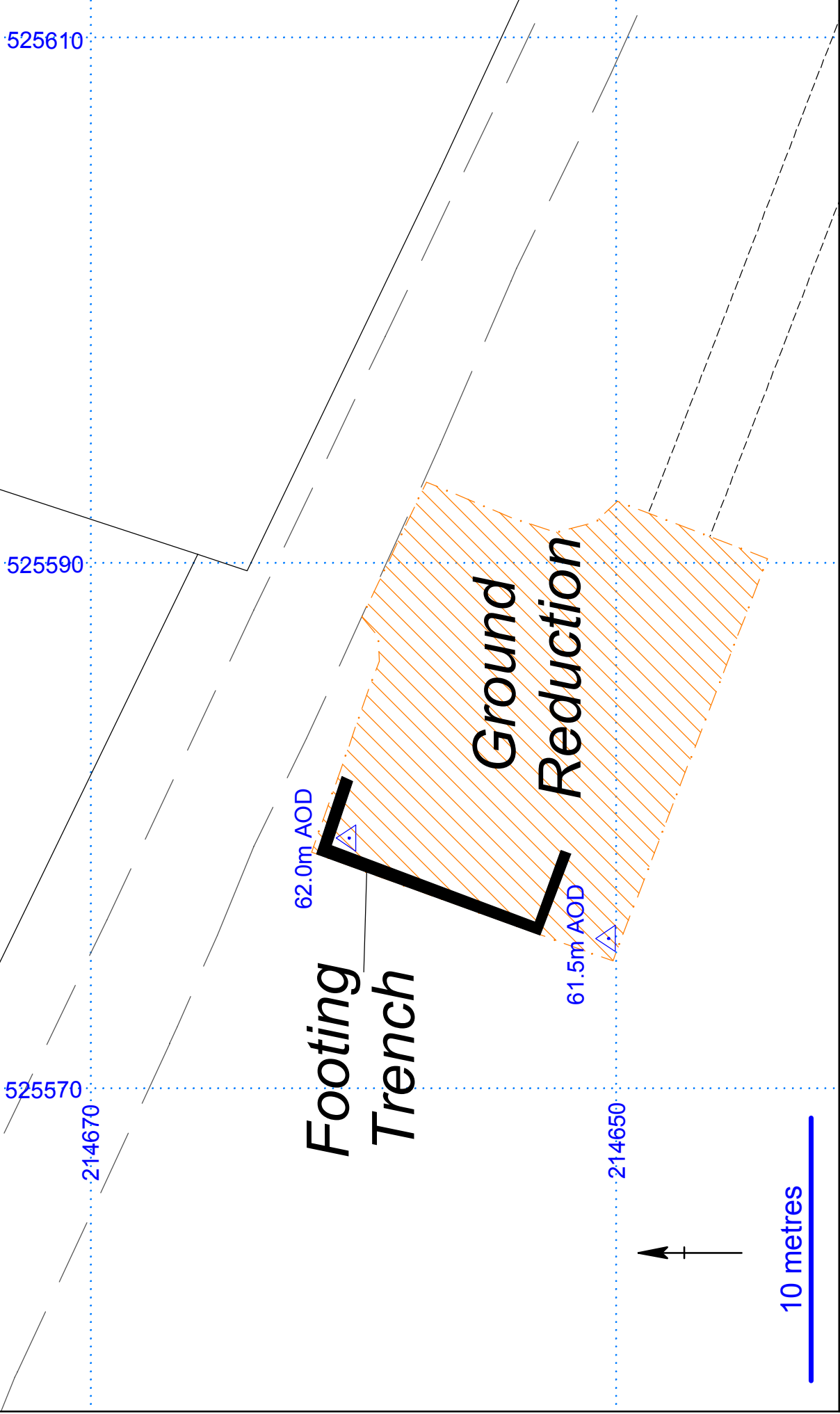




Plate 1: Area of tree removal, looking south-west



Plate 2: Ground reduction in north-west corner of garage plot, looking east



Plate 3: Overall ground reduction, looking west



Plate 4: Stratigraphy in footing trench, looking south

Appendix

OASIS Data form

<i>OASIS ID: heritage1- 265853</i>	
Project details	
Project name	Garden House, Tewin Water, Welwyn, Hertfordshire.
Short description of the project	<p>at the rear of Garden House, Tewin Water, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owners to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring of the groundworks.</p> <p>It was considered that the present investigation had the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of the origins and development of Tewin from the prehistoric period onwards, with particular emphasis on evidence for Neolithic/Bronze age activity, as seen in previous work immediately to the south of site.</p> <p>The works involved the monitoring of tree root removal, ground reduction across the footprint of the development and the excavation of footings trenches. The trench sections revealed topsoil above a clean subsoil, which overlay the natural substratum.</p> <p>Despite the demonstrated potential of the site, no features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were encountered in the course of this project. This is likely to be due to the limited scale and impact of the development groundworks.</p>
Project dates	Start: 09-12-2016 End: 13-12-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	HN1307 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Monitoring
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	None
Significant Finds	None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - NPPF
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE WELWYN, The Garden House, Tewin Water
Postcode	AL6 0AB
Study area	209 Square metres
Site coordinates	NGR - TL 525575 214655 LL - 51.816278 0.17739570 (decimal) LL - 51 52 13 N 000 12 58 E (degrees) Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Heritage Network
Project director	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	Daniel Phillips
Funding body	Landowner

Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	OASIS/ADS
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography" /Report Text
Paper Archive Exisits?	No
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Garden House, Tewin Water, Herts.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Sycamore, M.
Other bibliographic details	Report 1036
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth Garden City
Description	A4 booklet, green cover, comb bound, 10 text pages, 2 figures, 4 plates

Site Name:	CARDON HOUSE, TREVIN WATER, TREVIN. WALES	HN ref:	1307
		Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	DRP	Arrive time:	09.30	Return travel:	1 Hr.
Date:	9/12/16	Depart time:	14.30	Total hours:	

Reported to:	RICHARD HENNIS	Position:	CLIENT
Purpose of visit:	O/R MONITORING ON TRAILE ROOF REMOVE		

Photograph film no	- DRIVER :- COLIN :- 07772 848657.
--------------------	------------------------------------

Staff on site:	DRP.
Observations:	ARRIVED ON SITE AT 09.30 TO BEGIN MONITORING (w/B)

GROUNDWORKS FOR A NEW GARAGE AT CARDON HOUSE, TREVIN WATER.

- AM
- COLIN
- MET MACHINE DRIVER + CLIENT
 - HAD SITE WALK OVER.
 - MACHINE BEGAN REMOVE OF TRAILE ROOF, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEGUN CUT DOWN

- AREA IS A SMALL SQUARE AREA MEASUREMENT :-
- IT IS TO ACCOMMODATE A NEW GARAGE
- GROUNDWORKS TODAY INVOLVED REMOVE OF ROOF + STRIPPING OF TERSOL.

PM

MACHINE REMOVED ALL ROOF REMAINING TERSOL + RT OF SUBSOIL. MACHINE BEGAN STRIPPING THE TERSOL OVER THE PLOT. THIS REVEALED TERSOL OVER SUBSOIL (SEE PLOT RECORD). NO MECHANICAL WMS SEEN. DRP ONLY NOTICED THE INITIAL PART OF THIS AS CRASH STRUCK. WMS NOT IMPACT BELOW SUBSOIL.

	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:	OVERCAST			

NEXT VISIT - MONDAY FOR FOUNDATIONS

Site Name:	CAELORN HALL, PAVAN WATTE, KILPAT	HN ref:	1307
		Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	DRP	Arrive time:	09.30	Return travel:	1 HR
Date:	12/12/15	Depart time:	15.00	Total hours:	

Reported to:	Colin	Position:	MANAGING DIRECTOR
Purpose of visit:	OR WORKING ON FEETING TRENCH		

Photograph film no	-		
Staff on site:	DRP		
Observations:	ARRIVED ON SITE AT 09.30 TO CONTINUE W/ B ON CIRCUMFERENCE AT SITE.		
<u>AM</u>			
- ALL GRASS HAD NOW BEEN STRIPPED ACROSS FOOTING OF CAELORN HALL. DRP PHOTOGRAPHED.			
- FEATURES WERE MARKED OUT AND THEN MEASUREMENTS TAKEN USING A...			
0.45 - TRENCH BEGAN.			
- 3 TRENCHES TO EXCAVATE. 1 x 12m, 2 x 6m.			
- 1 x 12m - TRENCH EXCAVATED AND BLANK.			
<u>PM</u>			
- RECONSIDER 1 x 6m TRENCH AT NORTH END OF PLOT - BLANK			
- DRP RECORD TRENCH			
<u>NEXT VISIT</u>			
RECONSIDER WORKING AT 09.30 TO DO SECTION 1 x 6m TRENCH			
		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:	DRY/CLEAR		

Site Name:	GARDEN HOUSE, TOWN HALL, HURTS	HN ref:	1307
		Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	DRP	Arrive time:	09.00	Return travel:	1 hr
Date:	13/12/16	Depart time:	12.30	Total hours:	

Reported to:	Cam	Position:	General Manager
Purpose of visit:	on maintenance on features		

Photograph film no	-		
Staff on site:	DRP		
Observations:	ARRIVED ON SITE TO CONTINUE + FINISH W/B ON CRONOCHES		
	FOR NEW CONTACT		
	AM		
	- MACHINE BEGAN EXCAVATION ON FINAL FEETING TRENCH		
	- DRP MONITORED + RECORDED		
	- NO ARCHITECTURE		
	- SAME STRAT + MEASUREMENTS AS PREVIOUS TRENCHES		
	- MEMORABLE ON THIS ELEMENT OF CRONOCHES COMPLETE		
		Sheet	1 of 1
		Additional records:	
		Text sheet(s)	
		Sketch sheet(s)	
		Context form(s)	
		A4 Scale dwng(s)	
		A3 Scale dwng(s)	
Weather:	overcast	Photographs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SITE CODE HN1307	Site Name CARDEN MOOR, TOWN VILLAGE, HURLEY	Map/plan reference	Project Phase O/R	PLOT No 1
	Length 12m	Width 6m	Depth 1.2m 0.45m	
	Machine Type 1.5 TON MIN DIGGER	Bucket Size 0.6 - FORMER DIGGING 0.9 - STRIPPING		

Present land use: **CARDEN** Visibility (circle): **Good** Poor Moderate

Topsoil/ Overburden

Colour 10YR 3/2 V. DARK CRUMBY BROWN	Composition VERY DM, LARGE SILTY CLAY W, FINE ROOTING + OCC SMALL PEBBLES	Depth 0.24
---	--	----------------------

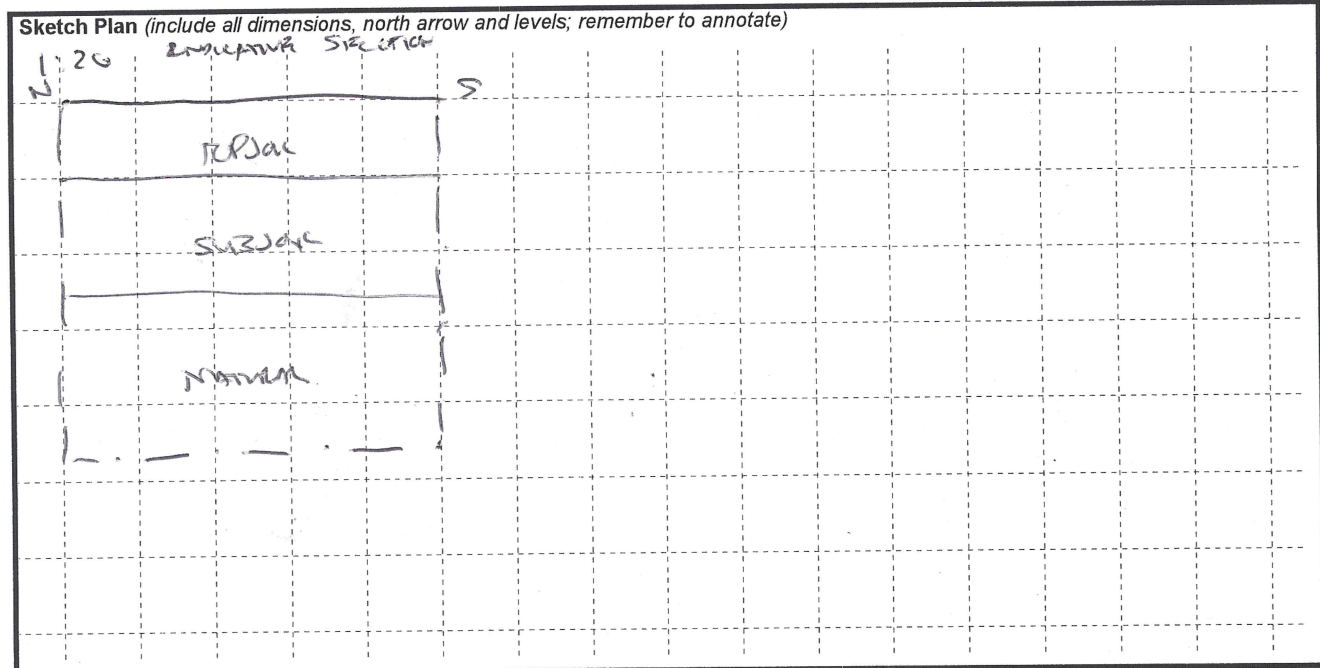
Subsoil

Colour 7.5YR 4/8 STRONG BROWN	Composition MODERATE SILTY CLAY, W/ MODERATE SMALL SUB-ROUND STONES	Depth 0.3
--	--	---------------------

Natural

Colour 10YR 7/8 YELLOW	Composition COMPACT SILTY SANDY CLAY, W, FINE MWD SUB-ROUND STONES	Depth >0.5m
-----------------------------------	---	--------------------------

Observations (circle)	Archaeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Root activity	Structure	Contaminat'n	Unstable	Land-drain	Other:
	Bur'd horizon	Burrows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services	Flooding	Blank	Plough	

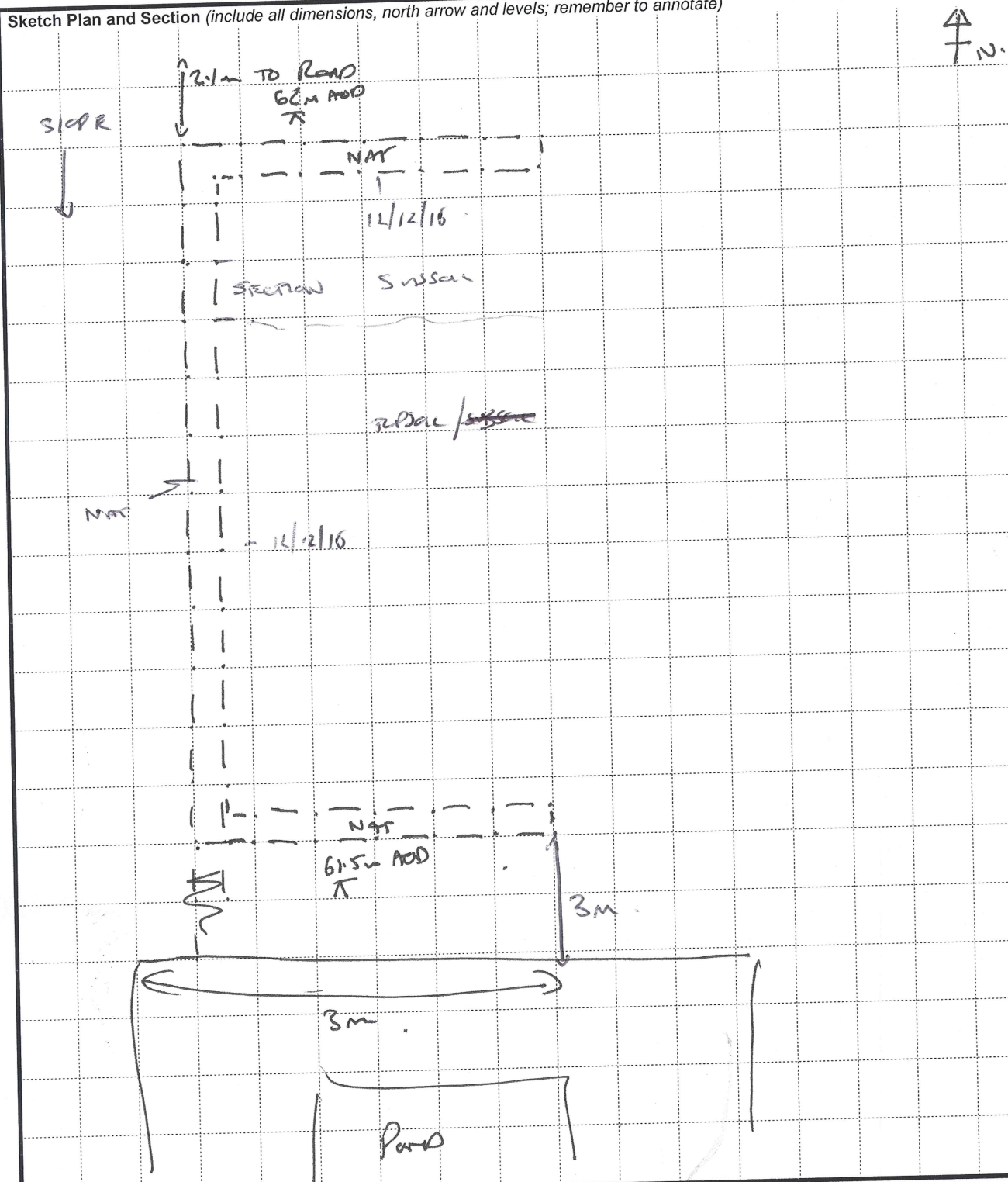


Discussion and interpretation Plot 1 :- is a new CARDEN PLOT :- INCLINED TOWARDS
 REAR REMAINS FEATHERS. THERE REMAINS REMAINS REAR + TOP OF SUBSOIL.
 GROW PRODUCTION REMAINS REAR TO TOP OF SUBSOIL.
 FORMERS REMAINS THIS NATURAL.
 NO ARCHAEOLGY WAS SEEN WITHIN THE FEATHER STRIPES

Contexts	—	Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>
Finds	—	Date	9/12/18
Plan no.	SURFACE PLAN	Section no.	INDICATIVE SECTION ABOVE
Weather conditions	DM.	Checked	
		Cont.	

SITE CODE HN1307	Site Name GARDEN HOUSE, STAMM WATER, HERST	Sub-division Plot 1 (CONCRETE)	CONTEXT
----------------------------	--	--	----------------

Sketch Plan and Section (include all dimensions, north arrow and levels; remember to annotate)



Discussion and interpretation

	Scale	1:100.
	Signature	[Signature]
	Date	12/12/16
Sheet 1 of 1	Checked	

Site Name / Code		ANGLORN HOUSE, TENNIS MOUND, HILERS		HN1307		
Site	Shot Number	Details	View L.	Date	Time	Initials
1307	1	COURT	W	9/12/10	-	DKP
	2		SW			
	3		SE			
	4		S			
	5		NW			
	6		W			
	7		N			
	8		SW			
	9	Plot 1 - showing JURE ROSS	N			
	10		SW			
	11		SE			
	12		-			
	13		-			
	14	Plot 1 - Ground direction to street	E			
	15		E			
	16		NE			
	17		S			
	18		S			
	19		S			
	20	Plot 1 - ground direction	S	12/12/10		
	21		S			
	22		W			
	23		E			
	24		NW			
	25	FOOTING TRENCH	N			
	26	FOOTING TRENCH SECTION	E			
	27	FOOTING TRENCH	E	13/12/10		
	28	FOOTING TRENCH - SECTION	S			
	29	FOOTING TRENCH	E			
	30	FOOTING TRENCH - SECTION	N			