

RED BRICK COTTAGE

The Street, Kelshall, Hertfordshire

HN1353

Report No. 1091

Site name and address:	Red Brick Cottage, The Street, Kelshall, Hertfordshire, SG8 9SQ		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	North Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Kelshall	Parish:	Kelshall
Planning reference:	17/00807/1	NGR:	TL 33250 36240
Client name and address:	Mr & Mrs P Cordell, Red Brick Cottage, The Street, Kelshall, SG8 9SQ		
Nature of development:	Agricultural barn	Previous land use:	Pasture
Site Status:	Archaeological Area 50	Reason for investigation:	Direction of LPA (NPPF)
Position in planning process:	After determination, as a condition	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c.120m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.120m ²
HN Ref:	HN1353	HER consultation:	59/17
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.	Monitoring	Archive Recipient:	North Herts Museums
Start of work	17/08/17	Finish of work	17/08/17
Related HER Nos:	None	Periods represented:	None
Oasis UID:	heritage1-287381	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	None		

Introduction:

In response to a condition on the planning consent for the construction of a new agricultural barn in a field to the rear of Red Brick Cottage, The Street, Kelshall, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owners to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring on the development groundworks. Planning permission for the development (17/00807/1) was granted by North Herts. District Council (NHDC), subject to 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 December 2017.

Narrative:

Red Brick Cottage is located to the south-east of the core of Kelshall village, and on the east side of The Street. The site lies in pasture to the rear of the cottage, centred on NGR TL 33250 36240. It falls within *Archaeological Area 50* (AA50), as designated in the District Local Plan, which notes that Roman funerary activity (HER 1235) was discovered in the late 19th century, close to where the new barn is located. The site also lies within the bounds of the shrunken medieval village of Kelshall (HER 2709).

The new agricultural barn is to be constructed on pad footings. The archaeological work involved the monitoring of a topsoil strip across the footprint of the building, and of the excavation of eight footing pits.

Topsoil Strip

The footprint of the new barn was reduced down to the top of the subsoil, using a 1 tonne tracked mini-digger fitted with a 0.6m wide ditching bucket, or a 0.6m wide toothed bucket where appropriate. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were revealed during this phase of the work (Figure 2, Plates 9 & 10).

Footing pits

Pad footings were excavated in eight places around the perimeter of the building footprint. The pits measured between 0.8m and 1.3m in length, 0.5m in width, and were excavated to a depth of between 0.65m and 0.8m. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during this phase of the work (Figures 2 & 3, Plates 1-8).

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

Discussion:

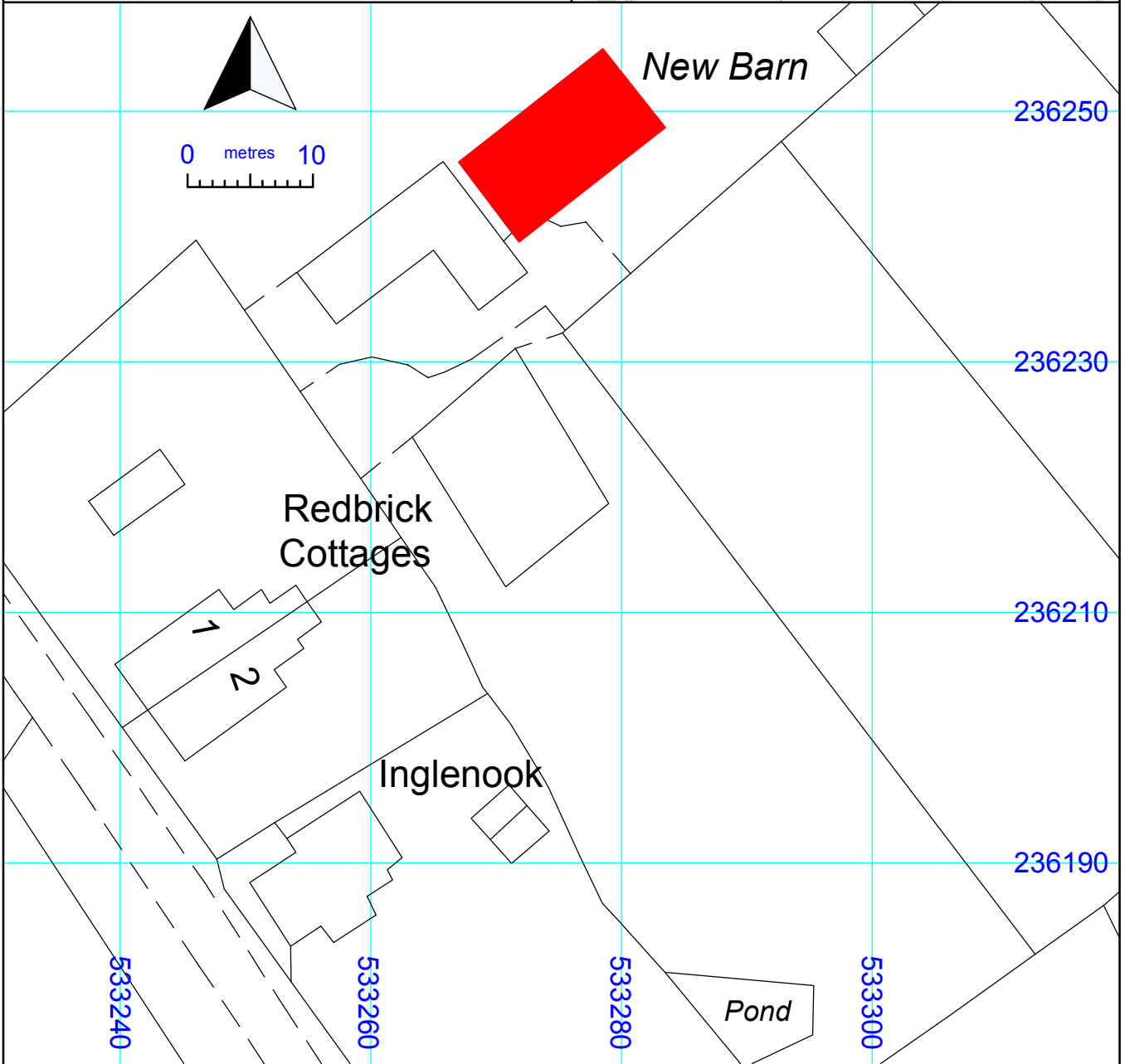
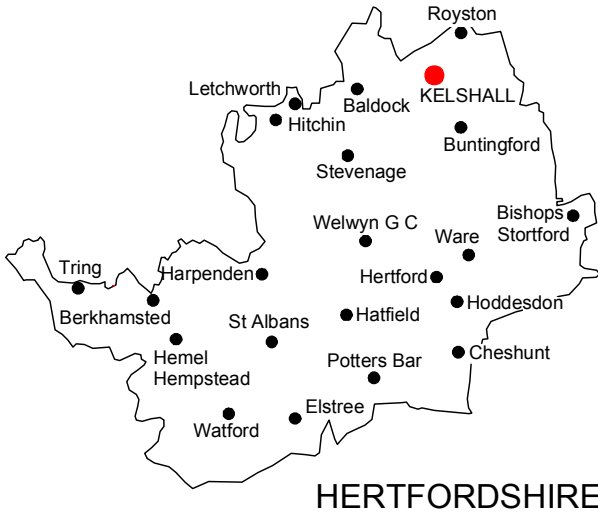
The monitoring of the development groundworks to the rear of Red Brick Cottage, demonstrated a stratigraphic sequence consisting of dark greyish brown, soft silty clay with occasional brick fragments and organic material, between 0.2 and 0.3m in depth, overlying mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay subsoil. Below this was the natural substrate, which consisted of firm white chalk, and patches of light yellowish brown clay with frequent sub-rounded flints (Plates 1-8).

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the investigation, and no evidence for activity pre-dating the post-medieval 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.

Illustrations:

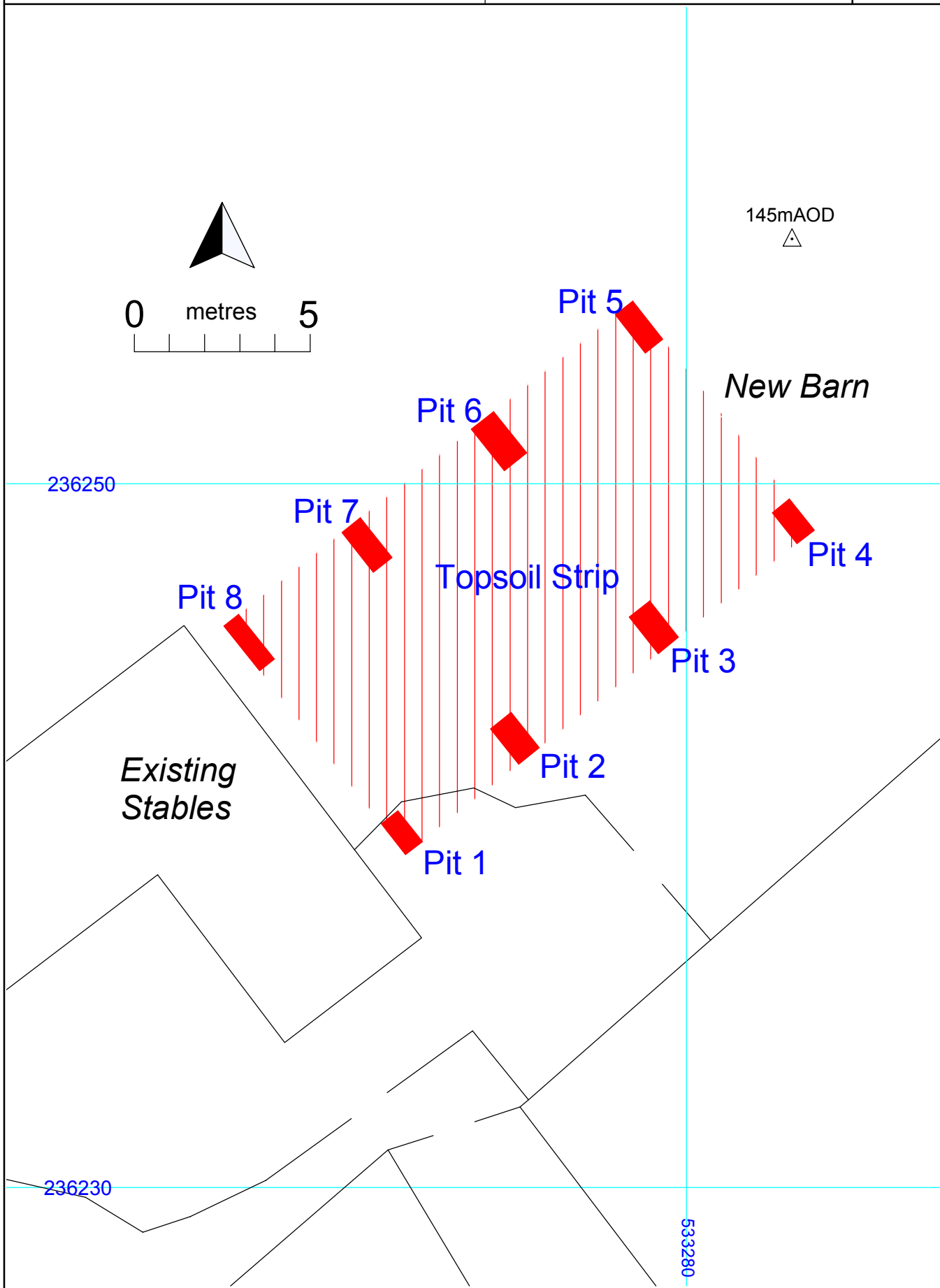
Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Site layout
Figure 3	Foundation pit sections
Plate 1	Pit 1, looking NE
Plate 2	Pit 2, looking SW
Plate 3	Pit 3, looking NE
Plate 4	Pit 4, looking NE
Plate 5	Pit 5, looking SW
Plate 6	Pit 6, looking NE
Plate 7	Pit 7, looking NE
Plate 8	Pit 8, looking NE
Plate 9	Building footprint following topsoil strip, looking SW
Plate 10	Building footprint following topsoil strip, looking NE

Greg Jones, BA (Hons) MA ACIfA
December 2017



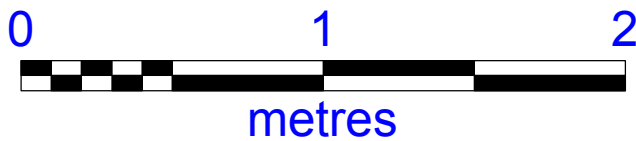
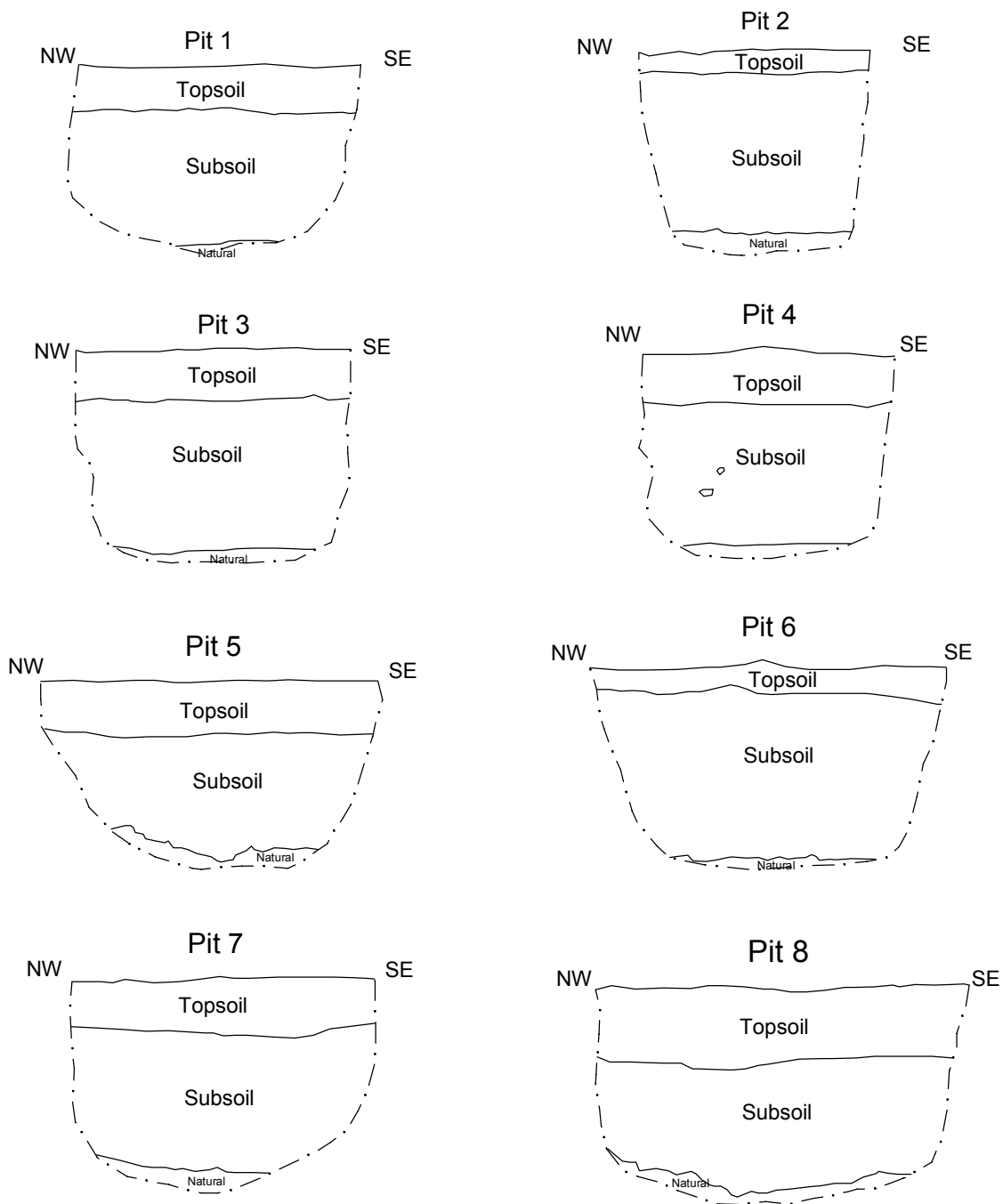
Site location and layout

Scale 1:500



Site layout

Scale 1:150



Surface level = 145mAOD



Plate 1: Pit 1, looking NE



Plate 2: Pit 2, looking SW



Plate 3: Pit 3, looking NE



Plate 4: Pit 4, looking NE



Plate 5: Pit 5, looking SW



Plate 6: Pit 6, looking NE



Plate 7: Pit 7, looking NE



Plate 8: Pit 8, looking NE



Plate 9: Building footprint following topsoil strip, looking SW



Plate 10: Building footprint following topsoil strip, looking NE

Site Name:	Red Brick Cottage, Kelshall, Herts.	HN ref:	HN1353
		Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	GAT	Arrive time:	8:30am	Return travel:	1 W
Date:	17/08/17	Depart time:	13:00pm	Total hours:	5.5 W

Reported to:	Phillip Cordell	Position:	client
Purpose of visit:	O/R on pad foundations.		

Photograph film no	-
Staff on site:	GAT (Andy Instone N.Herts)
Observations:	

Monitored excavation of pad foundations and topsoil strip across footprint of new barn.

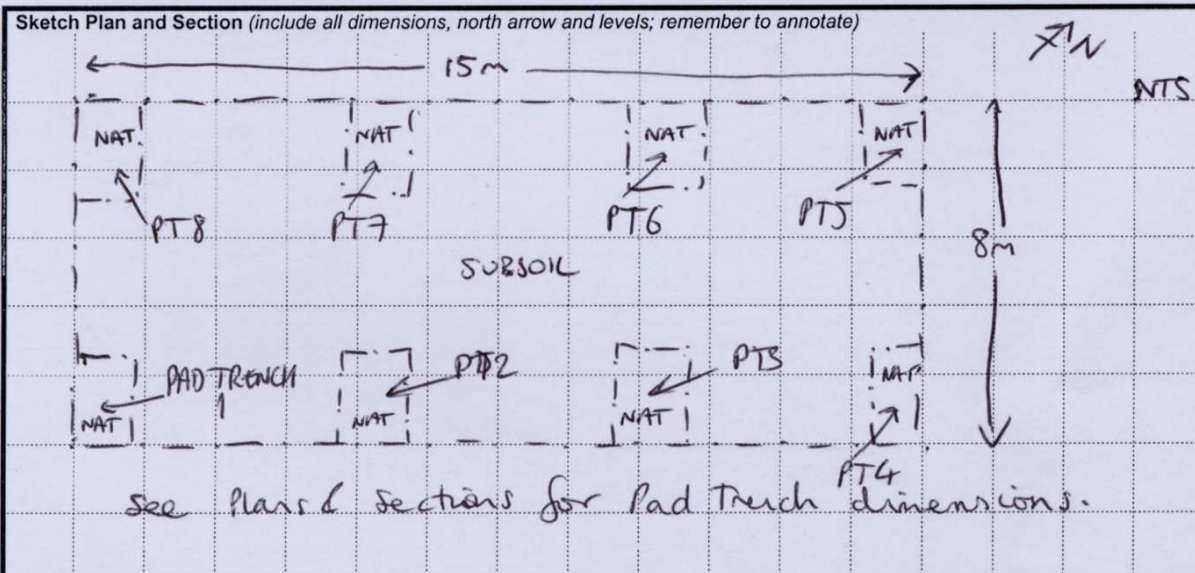
Stratigraphy:-
Topsoil consisted of dark greyish brown soft silty clay with occ brick frags + organic material c. 0.2-0.3m in depth.
 over - Subsoil - Mid Yellowish Brown Plastic slightly silty clay. V. clean. c. 0.5m - 0.6m in depth
 over - NATURAL The natural substrate consisted of mixed white chalk (firm) and patches of light yellowish brown clay with sub-rounded flint (freq).

8 Pad trenches excavated - All blank. Entire footprint of shed/barn also excavated down to top of subsoil. No archaeology present.

Sheet	1	of	7	
Additional records:				
Text sheet(s)	2			
Sketch sheet(s)	4			
Context form(s)				
A4 Scale dwng(s)				
A3 Scale dwng(s)				
Weather:	Rain / overcast		Photographs	1

SITE CODE HN1353	Site Name RED BRICK Cottage KELSHALL, HERTS	Sub-division	Map/Plan	PLOT No 1
	Length 15m	Width 8m	Depth 0.6-0.8m	
	Machine Type Home tracked.	Bucket Size 0.6m		

Present land use	FIELD	Visibility (circle)	Poor	Moderate	Good			
Topsoil/ Overburden								
Colour	Dark Greyish brown	Composition	Soft silty clay with occ. brick frag, small subrounded stones + organic mat.		Depth			
					c. 0.2 - 0.3m			
Subsoil								
Colour	Mid Yellowish Brown	Composition	Plastic/Firm slightly silty clay - Very clean.		Depth			
					c. 0.5 - 0.6m			
Natural								
Colour (MIXED)	LIGHT WHITE/YELLOWISH GREEN	Composition	FIRM CHALK WITH MIXED PATCHES OF CLAY + FLINT IN TRG		Depth			
					> 0.2m			
Observations (circle)	Archaeology	Root activity	Structure	Contamination	Unstable	Mod truncation	Other:
	Bur'd horizon	A. Burrows	Services	Flooding	Blank	Plough mark	Land drain



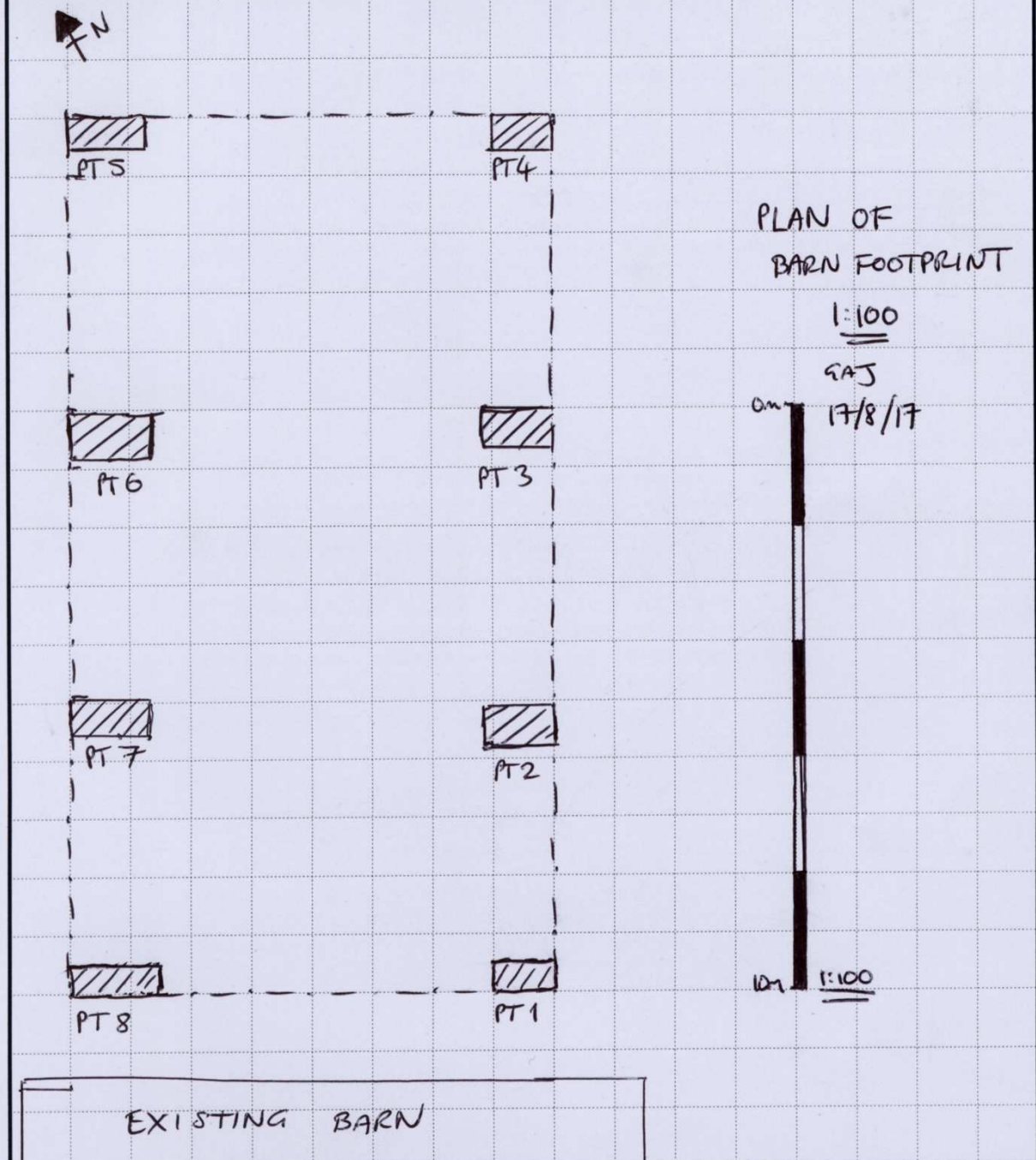
Discussion and interpretation

Monitored excavation of 8 pad trenches - All blank.
 Monitored topsoil strip of barn footprint - No archaeology observed at this level.

Contexts	N/A.		
Finds	NONE		
Plan no.	1-8	Photo (b/w)	N/A
Section no.	1-8	Photo (colour)	✓
Levelled No.	Located ✓	Samples	N/A
Weather conditions	Overcast / Bit wet.		Checked ✓
			Cont.

SITE CODE HN 1353	Site Name RED BRICK COTTAGE KELSHAM	Sub-division BARN FOOTPRINT	CONTEXT N/A.
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Sketch Plan and Section (include all dimensions, north arrow and levels; remember to annotate)



Discussion and interpretation

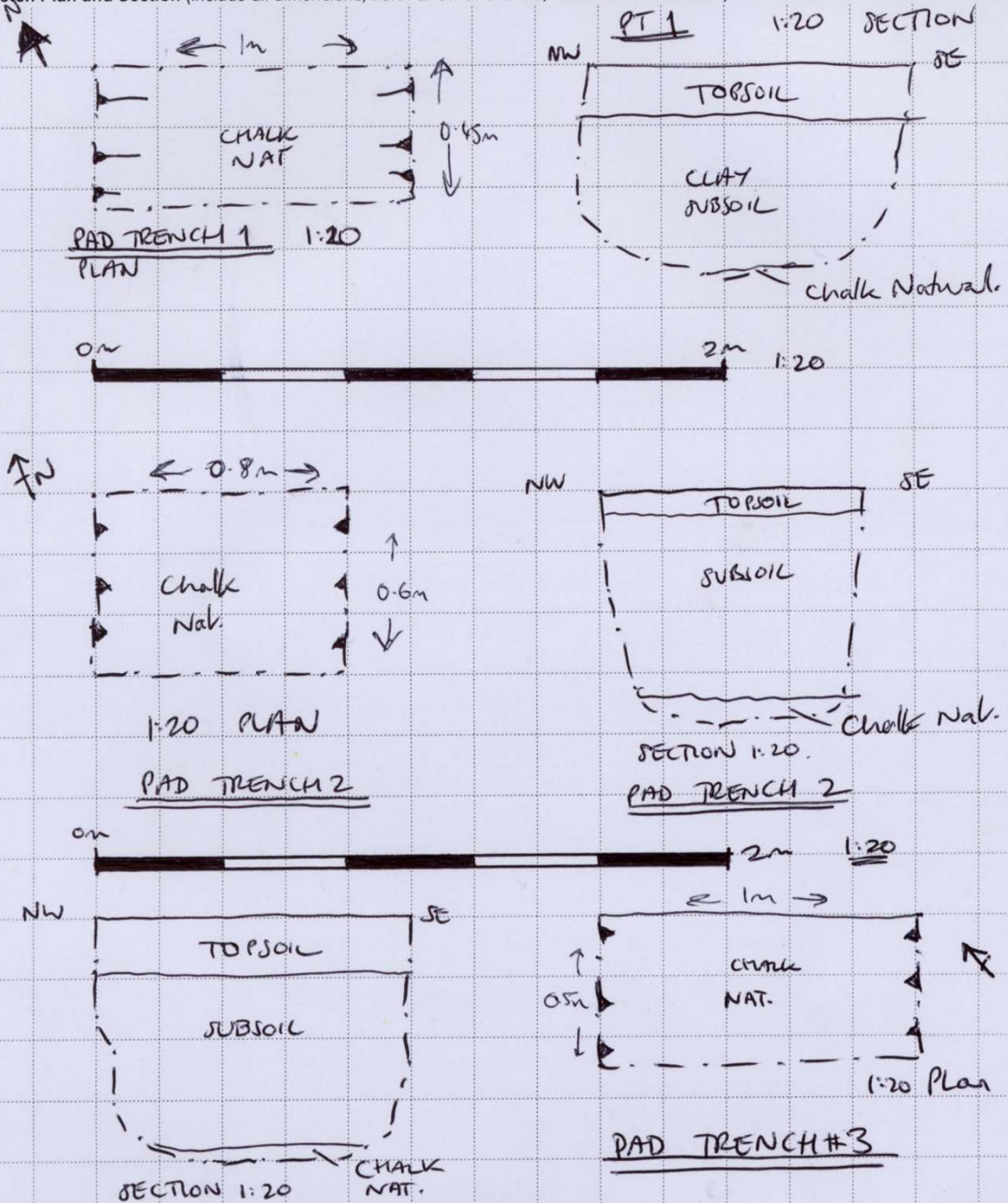
PLAN OF BARN FOOTPRINT, SHOWING TOPSOIL STRIPPED AREA (DOWN TO TOP OF SUBSOIL) & THE LOCATION OF THE PAD FOUNDATIONS TRENCHES.

Scale	1:100
Signature	G.A.J
Date	17/08/17
Checked	✓

Sheet 3 of 7

SITE CODE HN1353	Site Name Redbrick cottage Kelshall.	Sub-division PAD TRENCHES	CONTEXT N/A
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Sketch Plan and Section (include all dimensions, north arrow and levels; remember to annotate)



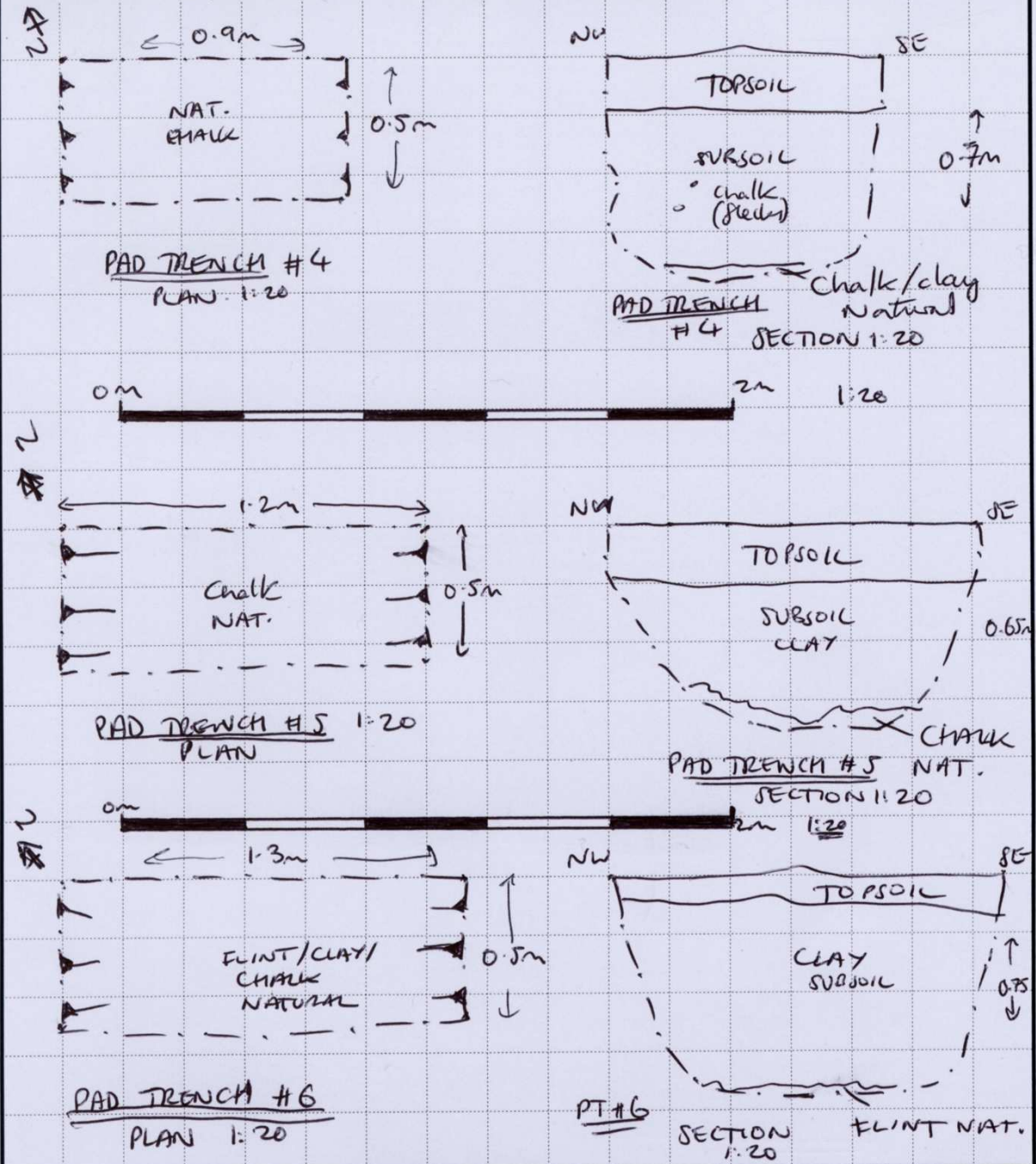
Discussion and interpretation

PLANS & SECTIONS OF PAD TRENCHES 1-3.

Scale	1:20
Signature	GAT
Date	17/08/17
Checked	✓
Sheet	4 of 7

SITE CODE HN 1353	Site Name REDBUCK COTTAGE	Sub-division P. TRENCHES 4-6	CONTEXT N/A
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Sketch Plan and Section (include all dimensions, north arrow and levels; remember to annotate)



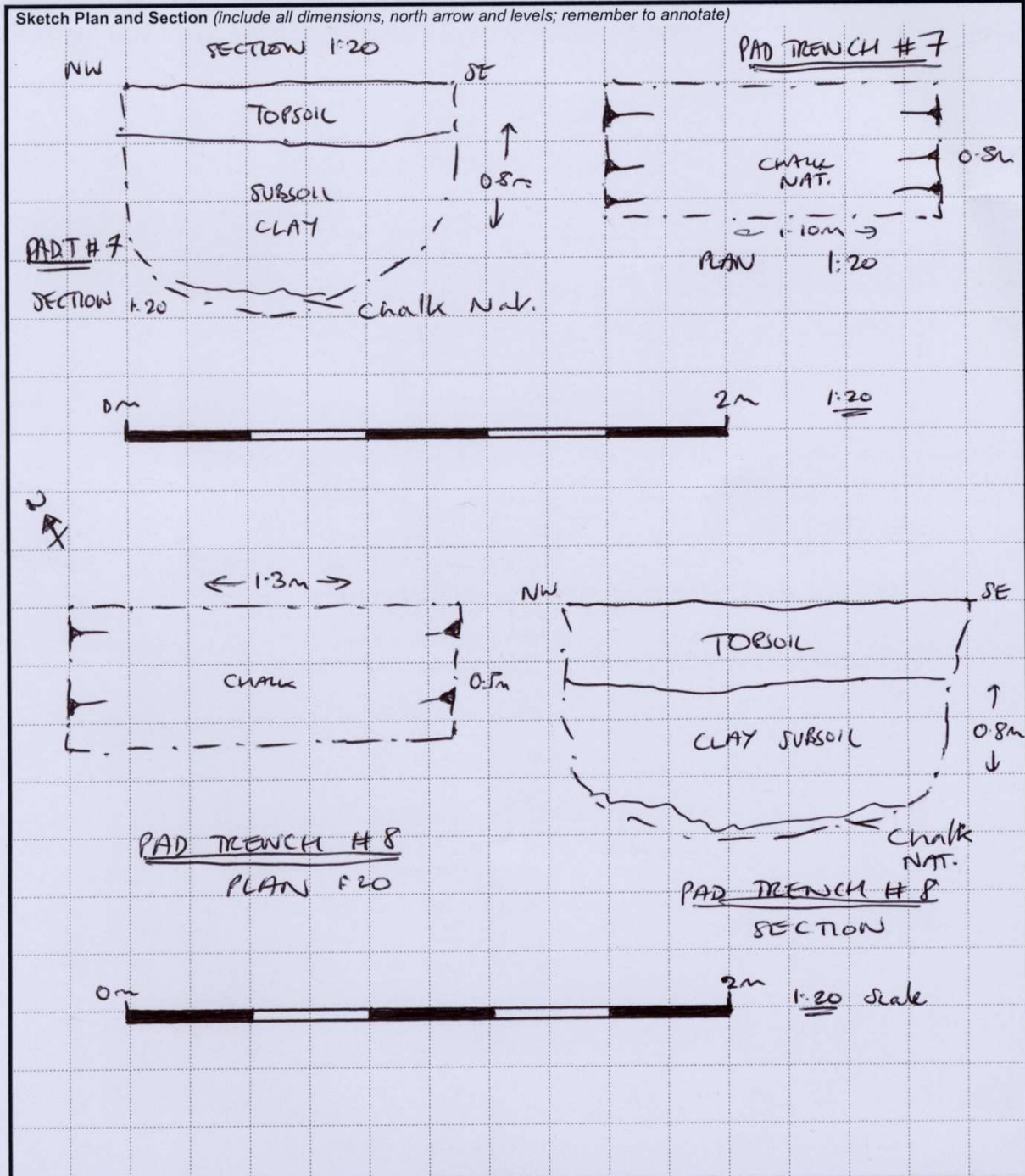
Discussion and interpretation

PLAN & SECTIONS OF PAD TRENCHES 4-6.

Scale	1:20
Signature	GAT
Date	17/8/17
Checked	✓

Sheet 5 of 7

SITE CODE MN1353	Site Name RED BRICK COTTAGE	Sub-division PAD TRENCHES 7-8	CONTEXT N/A
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Discussion and interpretation

PLAN & SECTIONS OF PAD TRENCHES 7-8.

Scale	1:10
Signature	CAJ
Date	17/8/17
Checked	✓
Sheet	6 of 7

Site Name / Code REDBRICK COTTAGE, KELSHALL, HERTS. <i>Online</i> HN1353 (SHEET 7 of 7)						
Site	Shot Number	Details	View	Date	Time	Initials
HN1353	1	Cover shots	LW	17/8/17	-	GAT
	2	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	3	↓	LS	↓	-	↓
	4	PAD TRENCH 1	LNE	↓	-	↓
	5	↓	LSE	↓	-	↓
	6	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	7	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	8	PAD TRENCH 8	LNE	↓	-	↓
	9	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	10	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	11	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	12	PAD TRENCH 7	LNE	↓	-	↓
	13	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	14	PAD TRENCH 6	LNE	↓	-	↓
	15	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	16	PAD TRENCH 5	LNE	↓	-	↓
	17	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	18	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	19	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	20	Cover shot (working shot of topsoil strip)	LW	↓	-	↓
	21	PAD TRENCH 4	LNE	↓	-	↓
	22	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	23	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	24	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	25	PAD TRENCH 3	LNE	↓	-	↓
	26	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	27	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	28	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	29	PAD TRENCH 2	LNE	↓	-	↓
	30	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	31	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	32	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	33	Working shot of topsoil strip	LNNW	↓	-	↓
	34	TOPSOIL STRIP AREA SHOTS	LNE	↓	-	↓
	35	↓	LNE	↓	-	↓
	36	↓	LN	↓	-	↓
✓	37	↓	LSW	↓	-	↓
	38	↓ (Cover shot)	LW	↓	-	↓