

34 WATTON ROAD**Ware, Hertfordshire**

HN1369

Report No. 1085

Site name and address:	34 Watton Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 OAD		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Ware	Parish:	Ware
Planning reference:	16/02259/1	NGR:	TL 35353 14740
Client name and address:	Richard Joyce, 34 Watton Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 OAD		
Nature of development:	Side Extension	Previous land use:	Garden
Site Status:	Area of Archaeological Significance no.39 (AAS39)	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.175m ²	Size of area investigated:	c. 22m ²
HN Ref:	HN1369	HER consultation:	150/17
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.	Monitoring	Archive Recipient:	Ware Museum
Start of work	11/09/17	Finish of work	12/09/17
Related HER Nos:	None	Periods represented:	None
Oasis UID:	heritage1-293016	Significant finds:	None
Monument types:	None		
Physical archive:	None		
Previous summaries/reports:	None		

Introduction:

In response to a condition on the planning consent for construction of a side extension at 34 Watton Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owner to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring of the development groundworks. A full specification for the work carried out is contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design*, dated August 2017.

Narrative:

The site is located to the north-west of Ware town centre, approximately 425m to the north of the River Lea (Figure 1). The property fronts the northern side of Watton Road, centred on NGR TL 35353 14740, and is bounded by no.38 Watton Road to the west, by no.9 Canons Road to the north, and by no.32 Watton Road to the east.

The site lies within *Area of Archaeological Significance* no.39 (AAS39), as identified in the District Local Plan, which notes that the site is approximately 40m to the east of the projected line of Ermine Street, the Roman road that runs between London and York (HER 9271). This road, and the associated crossing of the River Lea to the south of the site, has been a focus for activity from the Roman period onwards.

The development entailed a part single storey/part two storey extension to the north-west side of the house (Figure 2). The foundation trenches were excavated by hand.

The exposed stratigraphy was fairly uniform along the length of the trenches and consisted of a dark brownish grey, friable silty clay layer with heavy rooting, 0.5 -0.6m thick (Figure 3, Plates 2 - 4). This overlay a friable layer of mid-greyish brown sandy silty clay with frequent small rounded stones, c.0.4m thick. The natural substrate was not reached during the work.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the project.

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

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Discussion:

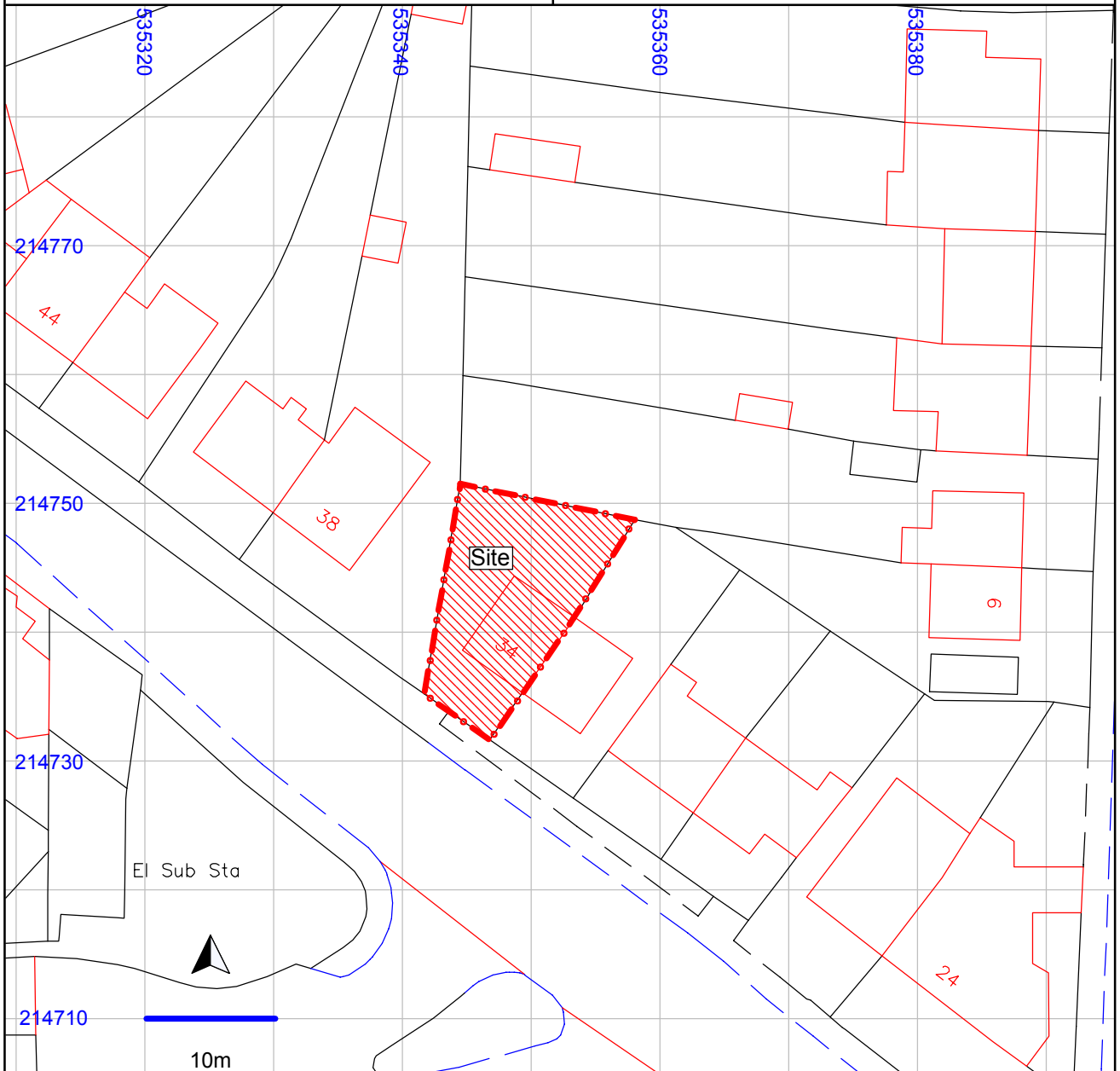
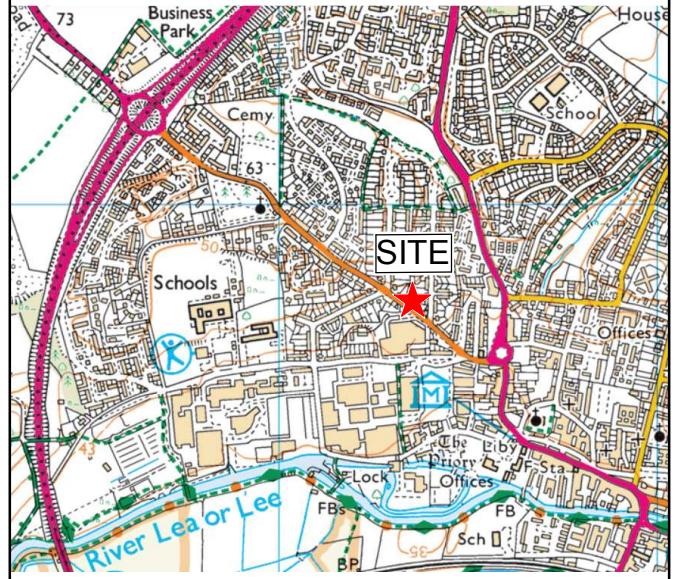
The monitoring of the development groundworks at 34 Watton Road, Ware, demonstrated a stratigraphic sequence consisting of a mixed deposit of apparently made-ground directly overlying subsoil. This upper deposit is likely to have been laid down at the time that the site was first developed, in the 1930s.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the course of the present investigation and no evidence for activity pre-dating the 20th century was noted. No information was gained that could be considered to contribute positively to the research aims for the project, as defined in the approved Project Design.

Illustrations:

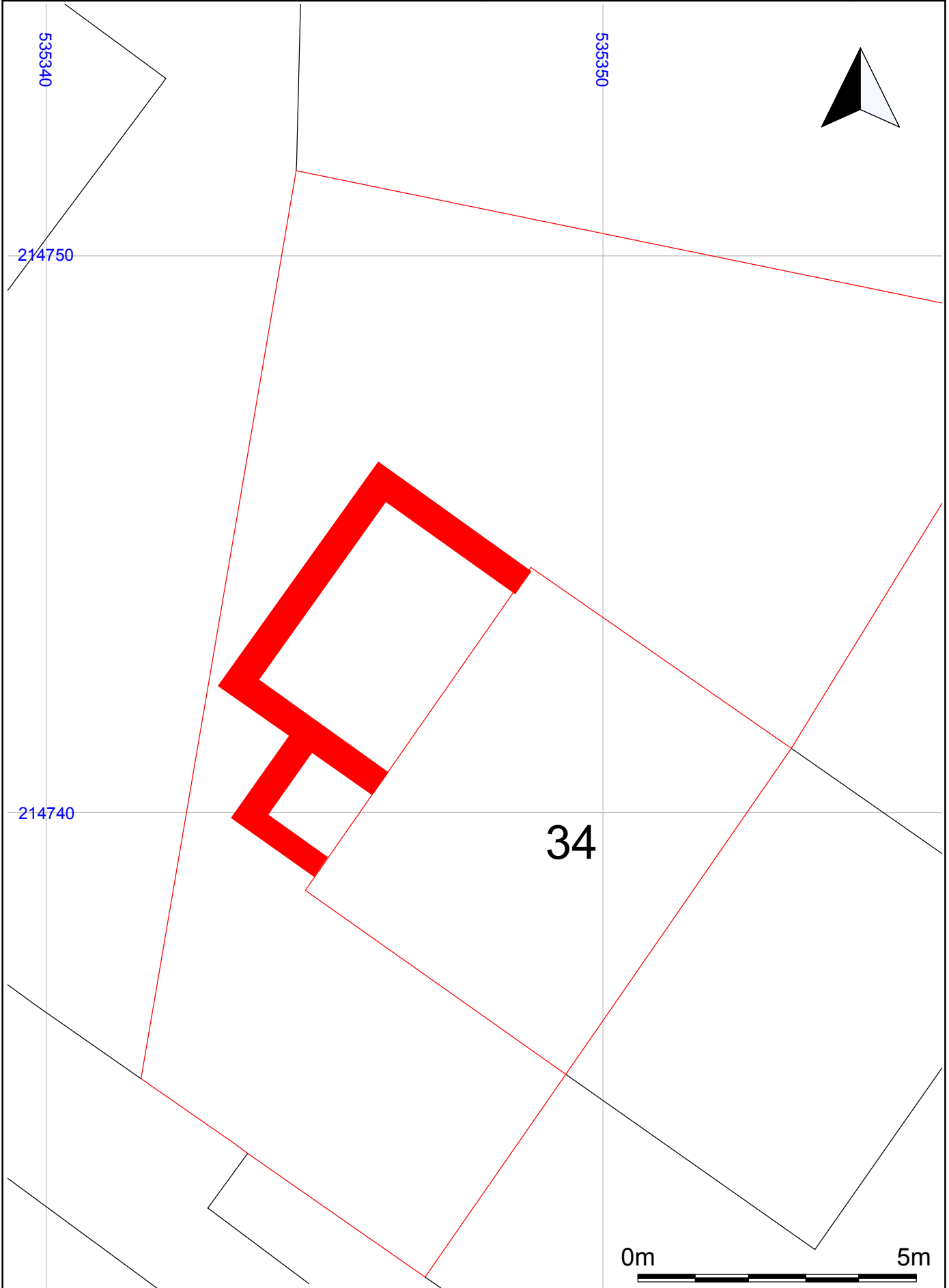
Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Site layout
Figure 3	Foundation trenches – indicative section
Plate 1	Extension footprint, looking S
Plate 2	Foundation trenches, looking SW
Plate 3	Foundation trenches, looking SE
Plate 4	Foundation trench section, looking NW

Greg Jones, BA (Hons) MA ACIfA
October 2017



Site Location

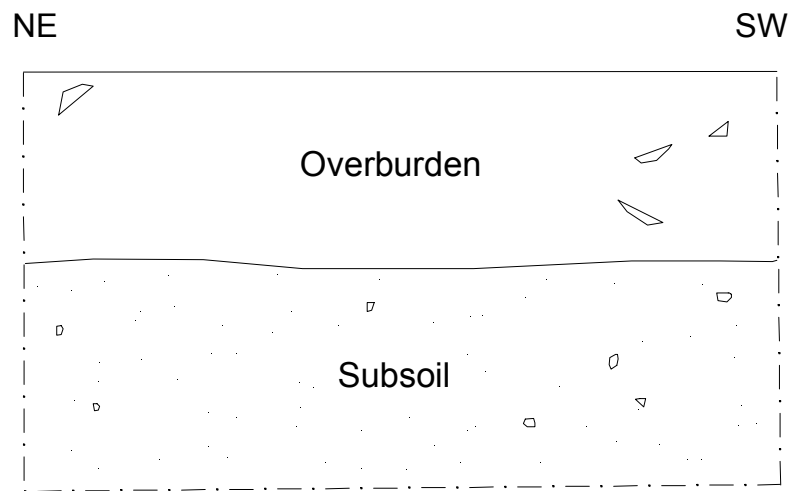
Scale 1:500



Site Layout - Foundation trenches (in solid red)

Scale 1:100

Figure 2



Foundation Trench - Indicative Section

Scale 1:20

Figure 3



Plate 1: Extension footprint, looking S



Plate 2: Foundation trenches looking SW



Plate 3: Foundation trenches, looking SE



Plate 4: Foundation trench section, looking NW

Appendix

OASIS Data form

OASIS ID: heritage1-293016	
Project details	
Project name	34 Watton Road, Ware
Short description of the project	In response to a condition on the planning consent for construction of a side extension at 34 Watton Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the owner to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring of the development groundworks. The foundation trenches were excavated by hand. The monitoring of the development groundworks demonstrated a stratigraphic sequence consisting of a mixed deposit of apparently made-ground directly overlying subsoil. This upper deposit is likely to have been laid down at the time that the site was first developed, in the 1930s. The natural substrate was not reached during the work. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the course of the present investigation and no evidence for activity pre-dating the 20th century was noted.
Project dates	Start: 11-09-2017 End: 12-09-2017
Prev/future work	No / No
Associated project reference codes	HN1369 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Significance no 39 (AAS39)
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	Watching Brief
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE WARE 34 Watton Road
Postcode	SG12 0AD
Study area	22 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 35353 14740 51.814414214189 -0.036205851673 51 48 51 N 000 02 10 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Mark Sycamore
Project director/manager	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	Greg Jones
Name of sponsor/funding body	Client

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

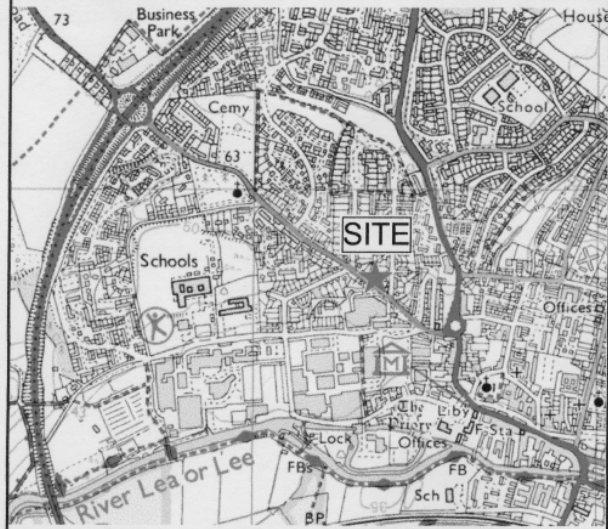
Tel: (01462) 685991 Fax: (01462) 685998 Email: enquiries@heritagenetwork.co.uk

Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Ware Museum
Digital Media available	Images raster / digital photography , Text
Paper Archive recipient	Ware Museum
Paper Media available	Context sheet, Diary, Drawing, Photograph, Report
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	34 Watton Road, Hertfordshire: HN1369: Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, G.
Other bibliographic details	Report no. 1085
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth Garden City
Description	A4 pamphlet: 3 figures: 4 plates

THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

34 Watton Road, Ware, Herts

HN1369



Site Location

Scale 1:500

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Figure 1

Site Name:	34 Watton Road, Ware,	HN ref:	1369
	Herb.	Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	GAS	Arrive time:	8:45am	Return travel:	2hr
Date:	11/9/17	Depart time:	2:45pm	Total hours:	8hr

Reported to:	Andy	Position:	Builder
Purpose of visit:	O/R Hand Excavated footings for extension		

Photograph film no	-			
Staff on site:	GAS			
Observations:	<p>Builder is Andy - 07889499917 (8-8:30 am Spoke with Andy first thing. He said had start). return in the evening afternoon. - Andy said that there would be a further visit (possibly tomorrow) for the toilet extension work.</p> <p>Monitored hand excavation of foundation trenches for house side extension.</p> <p>Overburden c.0.4m thick over subsoil c.0.7m Natural not reached. No archaeological finds, features or artefacts revealed.</p>			
	Sheet	1	of 4	
	Additional records:			
	Text sheet(s)	2		
	Sketch sheet(s)	1		
	Context form(s)			
	A4 Scale dwng(s)			
	A3 Scale dwng(s)			
Weather:	Windy / Rain		Photographs	1

Site Name:	34 Watton Road, Ware, Herts.	HN ref:	1769
		Site Code:	

Recorder(s):	CAJ	Arrive time:	15:30pm	Return travel:	2W
Date:	12/9/17	Depart time:	16:00	Total hours:	2.5hr

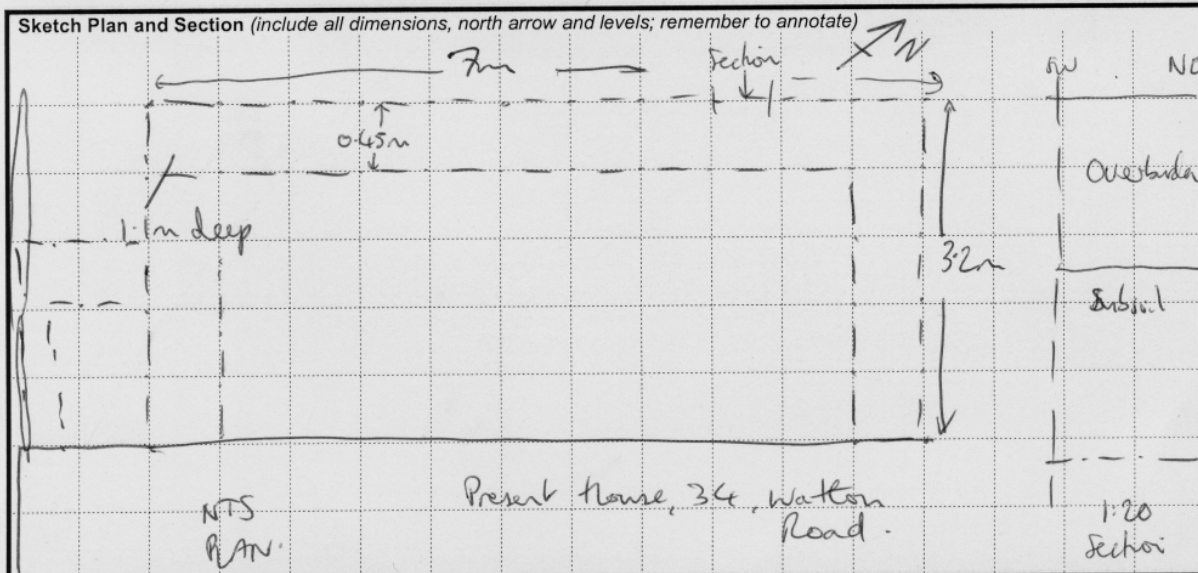
Reported to:	Andy	Position:	Site Foreman
Purpose of visit:	O/R Hand Excavated Foundation Trench Footings.		

Photograph film no	/																																
Staff on site:	CAJ																																
Observations:	<p>Visited site to photograph and record final hand-excavated trench for extension (this time the toilet area). Also blank like yesterday. No archaeological cut features, finds or artefacts and natural way not seen. Andy will telephone me tomorrow* after the building inspector has visited (10:00am). It is unlikely any further work will be required.</p> <p>CAJ telephoned Alison Timmiswood at 16:00 to update her.</p> <p>* Andy telephoned CAJ on Wednesday 13/9/17 at 3:00 o'clock to inform him that the building inspector was happy with the depth of the foundation trenches. Therefore no more monitoring work would be required.</p>																																
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A3 Scale dwng(s)																																	
Photographs																																	
Weather:	overcast																																

Site Name / Code 34 Watton Road, Ware, Herts. TN1369						
Site	Shot Number	Details	View	Date	Time	Initials
1369	7 ✓	Trench section	LSE	11/9/17	-	GAT
	8 2	Foundation trench section 1	LSE		-	
	9 3		LSW		-	
	10 4 ✓		LSW		-	
	11 5 ✓	Foundation trenches	LS		-	
	12 6 ✓		LNW		-	
	13 7		LS		-	
	14 8 ✓		LSW		-	
	15 9 ✓		LE		-	
	16 10		LSE		-	
	17 11 ✓		LSE		-	
	18 12		LSE		-	
	21 13	(Photo arrow wrong)	LNE	12/9/17	-	
	22 14 ✓		LNW		-	
	23 15 ✓		LSW		-	
	24 16		LS		-	
	25 17		LSE		-	
	26 18 ✓		LNE		-	

SITE CODE YN1369	Site Name 34, Watton Road, Ware	Sub-division -	Map/Plan	PLOT No 1
	Length 7m	Width (Trench) 0.45m	Depth c. 1-1m	
	Machine Type Hand Exc-	Bucket Size N/A		

Present land use Garden	Visibility (circle)	Poor	Moderate	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Good				
Topsoil/ Overburden								
Colour Brownish Dark Grey	Composition Silty Clay. Friable. Heavy rooting	Depth c. 0.5-0.6m						
Subsoil								
Colour Mid Greyish Brown	Composition Sandy silty clay. Friable, ^{see} small rounded stones	Depth c. 0.4m						
Natural								
Colour not seen	Composition not seen	Depth -						
Observations (circle)	Archaeology	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Root activity	Structure	Contamination	Unstable	Mod truncation	Other:
	Bur'd horizon	A. Burrows	Services	Flooding	Blank	Plough mark	Land drain

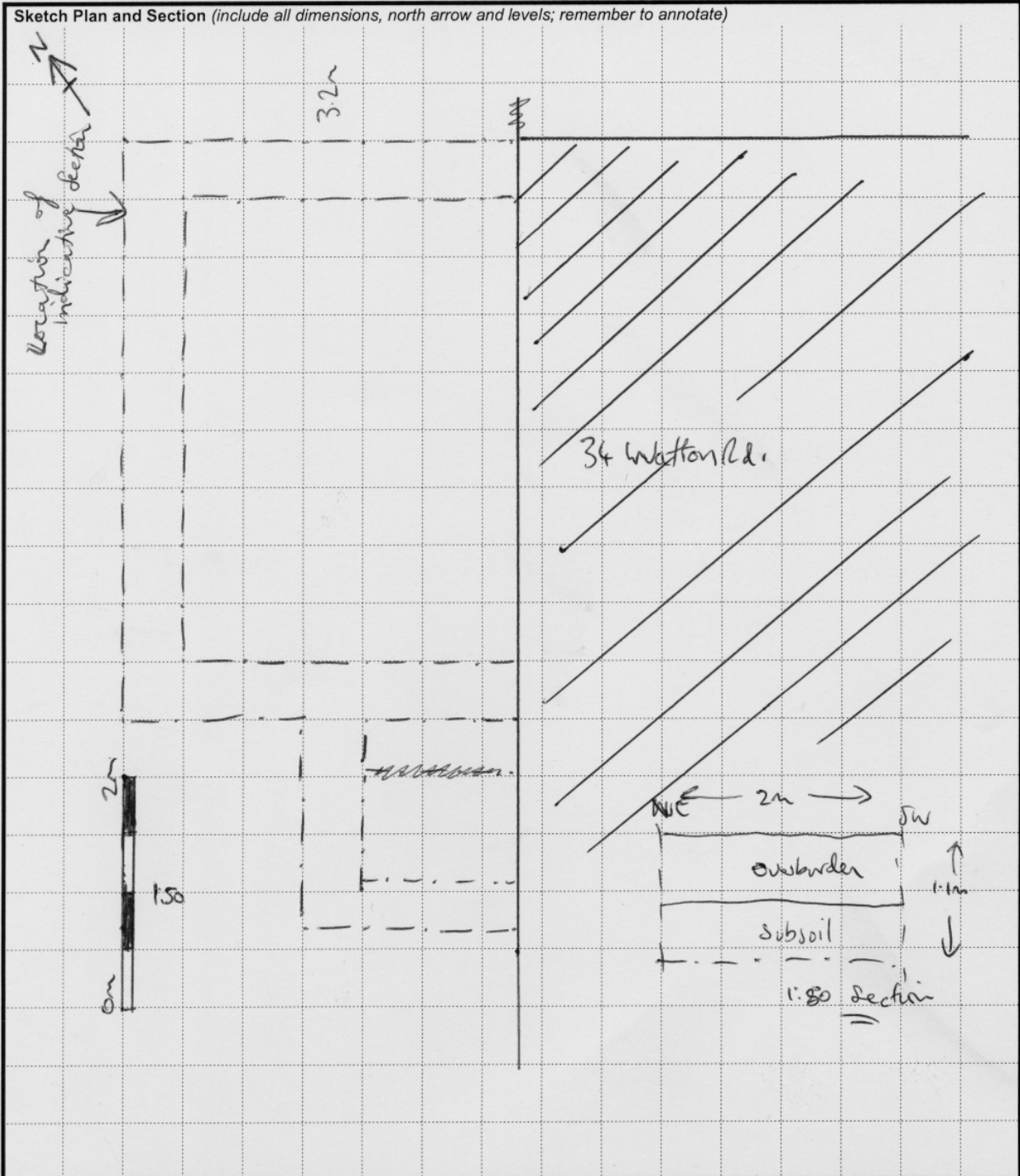


Discussion and interpretation

Overburden contained asbestos sheets and small brick frags. 1U/S port-red tile noted in overburden - Not kept. No cut features, finds or artefacts revealed in subsoil. Natural not reached.

Contexts	N/A			Signature	GAT
Finds	N/A			Date	11/9/17
Plan no.	See sketch		Photo (b/w)	-	
Section no.	see Plot sheet above		Photo (colour)	✓	
Levelled	Located	✓	Samples	N/A	
Weather conditions	rain / wind / o.c.ark			Checked	
					Cont.

SITE CODE HN 136 a	Site Name 34 Watton Rd. Wave, Herts.	Sub-division OR	CONTEXT N/A
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Discussion and interpretation			
PLAN OF FOUNDATION TRENCHES FOR EXTENSION (AND INDICATIVE SECTION OF FOUNDATION TRENCH).			
Scale	1:50 / 1:1m		
Signature	GAS		
Date	11/12 of April		
Sheet		of	Checked