

Archaeological Evaluation

**Land adjacent to Priory Farm
Hunsdon Road, Widford, Hertfordshire**

TL 42073 15775

Site Code: HUD16

ASE Project No: 160611

ASE Report No: 2016452



November 2016

Archaeological Evaluation
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Hunsdon Road, Widford
Hertfordshire

NGR: 542073 215775
(TL 42073 15775)

ASE Project No: 160611
Site Code: HUD16

ASE Report No: 2016452
OASIS ID: 268481

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs to conduct an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land adjacent to Priory Farm in Widford, Hertfordshire.

The c.900sq m site is in close proximity to Priory Farm, which lies approximately 100m to the North-West. Previous excavations between the current site and Priory Farm revealed a small number of archaeological features dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

A single trench was machine excavated down to the natural deposit, with no archaeological features or finds being located.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to conduct an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land adjacent to Priory Farm in Widford, Hertfordshire.
- 1.1.2 The evaluation was carried out in relation to a planning application for the site.

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 1.2.1 The site consists of a rectangular parcel of land approximately 900sq m in extent, south of Priory Farm, behind the eastern frontage of Hunsdon Road. The site is centred on NGR TL 42073 15775 (Fig. 1), and is bound to the north by a trackway, to the west by an electricity substation and by gardens to the south and east.
- 1.2.2 The site is generally flat.
- 1.2.3 The British Geological Survey indicates the underlying geology of the area is comprised of Thanet Sand Formation overlain by superficial geology of Head deposits comprising clay, sand and silt. To the east the Thanet Sands are overlain by Lowestoft Formation.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 A planning application (3/15/2040/FUL) was submitted to East Hertfordshire District Council for the erection of a two storey house with a double garage, driveway and associated landscaping. Permission was granted subject to the following condition:

3. No development shall take place within the proposed development site until the applicant, or their agents, or their successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to the planning authority and approved in writing. The condition will only be considered to be discharged when the planning authority has received and approved an archaeological report of all the required archaeological works, and if appropriate, a commitment to publication has been made.

Reason

To secure the protection of and proper provision for any archaeological remains in accordance with policies BH2 and BH3 of the Herts Local Plan Second Review April 2007.

- 1.3.2 Discussions with Matthew Adams Historic Environment Officer at Hertfordshire County Council highlighted the potential for medieval remains on the site given its location close to the historic core of Widford and Priory Farm which was historically part of Bermondsey Abbey.

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation was prepared (ASE 2016a) and approved by HCCHEU. This specified that a single trench, measuring 1.8m x 25m, was required to be excavated through the centre of the site.

1.4 Scope of the Report

1.4.1 The report presents the results of a single archaeological evaluation trench excavated on the site on 9th November 2016 (Figure 2). The work followed the methodology laid out in the WSI (ASE, 2016b) and the Risk Assessment Method Statement (ASE 2016b).

1.4.2 The evaluation was carried out by Craig Carvey of ASE, under the fieldwork management of Andy Leonard and the post-excavation management of Mark Atkinson.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This site background utilises information from the HCC Historic Environment Record (HHER), historic mapping and other available sources such as excavation reports.
- 2.1.2 No archaeological investigations had taken place on the site itself prior to the trial trenching. Several small scale excavations have been conducted elsewhere within Widford; only the most pertinent are included here.

2.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 2.2.1 Evaluation and subsequent excavation, both in 2013, at Priory Farm to the northwest, along the opposing side of the access trackway to site (Fig. 1, AS1614), revealed a pit and ditch containing 12th-14th century pottery sherds, two 17th-19th century postholes, and two further linear features and a posthole which were undated (Archaeological Solutions 2014a and b).

2.3 Prehistoric

- 2.3.1 Prehistoric activity has been recorded within the wider area (British History Online 2016) with two undated barrows lying in the north-west of the parish. No prehistoric remains have been recorded within Widford itself.

2.4 Roman

- 2.4.1 No Roman remains have been recorded within Widford or the immediate surrounding area

2.5 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 2.5.1 Prior to the Norman Conquest Widford was held by Edred a thegn of King Edward on behalf of the Bishop of London. The Domesday Book is unclear about the ownership of Widford but by 1118 the land had passed to the Cluniac Abbey of Bermondsey (British History Online 2016).
- 2.5.2 Matthew Adams of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit has made the following comments about the site:

“Priory Farm occupies a substantial site at the southern end of the High Street, in the core of the village. Given its name, it can be suggested that the farmstead formed a productive part of the land of Bermondsey Abbey, which held the manor of Widford from the early 12th century until 1544, and that it has derived its name from this long period of ownership. It is likely, therefore, that there has been a farmstead on the site since medieval period; the present farmhouse dates to the late 17th or early 18th century, but it is suggested that it incorporates an earlier structure (Listed Building Description; Historic Environment Record No. 17564). Recent archaeological works back up this 12th century origin of the farmstead, with an archaeological investigation directly to the current site's north (HER No. 7554) revealing 12th to 14th century features associated with settlement.

The site therefore has the potential to contain archaeological remains (heritage assets), and those of an early/mid medieval date, in particular.”

- 2.5.3 Widford remained in the possession of the abbey until the dissolution when it went to Sir Richard Southwell, one of Henry VIII’s councillors.

2.6 Post-Medieval and Modern

- 2.6.1 For much of the post-medieval period Widford remained a small village of rural character. A number of farmhouses in the area are of 17th century date included Priory Farm to the north of the site. Priory Farm was built around 1692 and may incorporate an older building.

- 2.6.2 Historic mapping shows the site to have possessed its current boundaries/extents by the late 19th century. Perhaps a paddock, it was formerly occupied by a row of trees. Occupying buildings are only shown from the 1960s onwards and were seemingly cleared prior to the end of the 20th century.

2.7 Aims and objectives of the project

- 2.7.1 The initial aim of the evaluation, as described in the WSI (ASE 2016a), was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, and establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological contexts. If encountered these were to be recorded and reported in detail to allow CgMs and Hertfordshire County Archaeologist to make informed decisions on any further action required prior to development.
- 2.7.2 More specifically the objective was to establish if there was any evidence for a continuation of archaeological remains relating to the medieval and post medieval occupation and activities of Priory Farm onto the site, and if so to what degree.
- 2.7.3 Furthermore, with reference to *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, the evaluation sought to contribute data to a future regional studies of the form and function of medieval farms (Medlycott 2011, 70).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation took place on 9th November 2016 and was conducted in accordance with the WSI, Method Statement and the appropriate ClfA guidance and standards (ClfA 2014a and 2014b; ASE 2016).
- 3.1.2 Prior to excavation the ground was scanned using a CAT scanner to detect any possible live cables still connected to the electrical box located at the edge of site.
- 3.1.3 A single 1.8m by 25m trench was to be excavated running NE/SW through the footprint of the proposed building. Due to unexpected building foundations intruding to a depth exceeding the archaeological horizon, the trench was moved, with the consent of the client's consultant and the HCCHEU officer, southwards and to an east/west alignment (Fig. 2).
- 3.1.3 The trench was excavated using an 8 tonne 360 mechanical excavator with a 1.8m toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil were removed under archaeological supervision to the natural geology, ranging in depth from 0.33m in the west to 0.53m in the east. The removed soils were bunded around the edge of the trench to provide a physical barrier while the trench was open.
- 3.1.4 Standard ASE Evaluation Trench Record sheets were used to record depths, descriptions and a sketch plan. The trench position and levels were digitally plotted using a GPS.
- 3.1.6 A digital photographic record was made to document the excavation of the trench. The photographic register included: shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The fieldwork archive is currently held at the offices of ASE in Witham. The contents of the archive are described in Table 1.

Item	Quantity
Number of contexts	3
No. of files/ paper record	1
Plan and Section sheets	0
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	5
Bulk finds	0
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residues	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 General

2.1.1 In the centre of the plot a large mound of earth comprising demolition material and domestic waste covered modern house foundations constructed by the previous land owner (Fig. 3). These foundations were established to intrude to a depth in excess of 1m below ground. As such, the location of the trench was changed to an east/west alignment to avoid the disturbed area (Fig. 2).

4.2 Trench 1

Ground level: 80.16m AOD (west), 79.64m AOD (east)

Natural level: 79.96m AOD (west), 79.28m AOD (east)

Context	Type	Description	Depth/ Thickness
1/001	Topsoil	Firm, dark brown silt, containing occasional modern CBM, slate, tarmac, pebbles, roots and chalk	0.23-0.34m
1/002	Subsoil	Compact, light brown clayey silt	0.00-0.30m
1/003	Natural	Compact, sandy-clayey gravel	n/a

Table 2: Summary of deposits and features in Trench 1

4.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the centre of site along an east/west alignment towards the south of the proposed building's footprint. It measured 25m long by 1.8m wide and ranged between excavated depths of 0.33m in the west to 0.53m in the east.

4.1.2 Topsoil [1/001] ranged in thickness between 0.23-0.34m and consisted of dark brown silt garden soil containing modern discarded materials. Subsoil [1/002] was present within the eastern half of the trench, increasing in thickness eastwards to a maximum of 0.30m. These overburden deposits were removed down to sandy clayey gravel natural [1/003] (Fig. 3, photo).

4.1.3 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were identified to be present during the excavation process.

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

5.1.1 The evaluation uncovered a natural geology of sandy-clayey gravel, above which a layer of clayish silt subsoil began 8.50m from its eastern end and increased to a thickness 0.30m as it continued eastward down a slight slope in the topography. Topsoil, consisting of a dark brown silt garden soil, varied in thickness from 0.23m to 0.34m, and contained modern building debris including CBM, slate and tarmac.

5.1.2 No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts recovered.

5.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

5.2.1 Although no archaeological remains were present, the undisturbed nature of the natural and overlying subsoil suggest that deposit survival is good in parts of the site. However, it has been established that previous building foundations alongside the trench have intruded into the natural deposit and that significant disturbance of deposits can be expected in this area of the site.

5.3 Consideration of research aims

5.3.1 The evaluation has demonstrated that there are no archaeological remains of past activity, either relating to the Priory Farm or any other period, within the proposed construction area. Consequently, the evaluation area and the wider site have no potential to provide any further data for local or regional research studies.

5.4 Conclusions

5.4.1 No archaeological remains have been found by the evaluation within this development site.

5.4.2 The absence of archaeological remains within Trench 1, along with the results of previous excavations undertaken in neighbouring fields, demonstrates a low archaeological presence in this general vicinity.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Ewan Chipping of CgMs for commissioning and facilitating the project on behalf of the client. Alison Tinniswood monitored the project on behalf of the local planning authority.

The fieldwork was supervised by the author, for ASE, and assisted by Sarah Ritchie. Nathalie Gonzalez was responsible for the site survey. The fieldwork was project managed by Andy Leonard and the post-excavation work managed by Mark Atkinson. Illustrations for the report were produced by Andrew Lewsey.

APPENDIX 1:

HERTFORDSHIRE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD
SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address: Land Adjacent to Priory Farm, Hunsdon Road, Widford, Hertfordshire		
County: Hertfordshire	District: East Hertfordshire	
Village/Town: Widford	Parish: Widford	
Planning application reference: 3/15/2040/FUL		
HER Enquiry reference:		
Funding source: Client		
Nature of application: construction of single dwelling		
Present land use: unused domestic plot		
Size of application area: 900sq m	Size of area investigated: 54sq m	
NGR (to 8 figures minimum): TL42073 15775		
Site code (if applicable): HUD16		
Site director/Organization: Craig Carvey, Archaeology South-East		
Type of work Trial trench evaluation		
Date of work:	Start: 9/11/16	Finish: 9/11/16
Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum: ASE Witham office, to go to Ware Museum		
Related HER Nos: n/a	Periods represented: n/a	
Relevant previous summaries/reports Archaeological Solutions. 2014, <i>Priory Farm, High Street, Widford, Hertfordshire, SG12 8RA Archaeological Excavation Report</i> . unpublished report 4475		
Summary of fieldwork results: The site is in close proximity to Priory Farm, which lies approximately 100m to the north-west. Previous excavations between the current site and Priory Farm revealed a small number of archaeological features dated to medieval and post medieval periods. A single evaluation trench was excavated. No archaeological features or finds were located.		
Author of summary: Craig Carvey	Date of summary: 11/11/16	

APPENDIX 2:

OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-268481	
Project details	
Project name	Land adj. to Priory Farm
Short description of the project	A single evaluation trench was excavated. No archaeological features or finds were located.
Project dates	Start: 09-11-2016 End: 09-11-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Associated project reference codes	HUD16 - Sitecode 160611 - Contracting Unit No. 3/15/2040/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE WIDFORD Land adj. to Priory Farm
Postcode	SG12 8SG
Study area	900 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 542073 215775 51.870953480758 0.240182750445 51 52 15 N 000 14 24 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 79.28m Max: 79.96m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Hertfordshire County Council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Craig Carvey

Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Archive ID	HUN16
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Archive ID	HUN16
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Report"
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report Land adjacent to Priory Farm, Hunsdon Road, Widford, Ware, Hertfordshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Carvey, C.
Other bibliographic details	ASE rep. 2016452
Date	2016
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Place of issue or publication	Witham
Description	PDF, approx. 17 pages inc. text, figures and tables.
Entered by	Mark Atkinson (mark.atkinson@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	18 November 2016

Appendix 3: Written Scheme of Investigation

**Written Scheme of Investigation
For an Archaeological Evaluation at
Land adjacent to Priory Farm, Hunsdon Road, Widford, Ware,
Hertfordshire**

**NGR: 542073 215775
(TL 42073 15775)**

Planning Ref: 3/15/2040/FUL

ASE Project no: 160611

August 2016

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**Written Scheme of Investigation
For an Archaeological Evaluation at
Land adjacent to Priory Farm, Hunsdon Road, Widford, Ware,
Hertfordshire**

**NGR: 542073 215775
(TL 42073 15775)**

Planning Ref: 3/15/2040/FUL

ASE Project no: 160611

August 2016

Prepared by:	Ian Hogg	Senior Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Andy Leonard	Project Manager	
Date of Issue:	19 th August 2016		
Revision 1:	4 th October 2016 by Andy Leonard		

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of UCL's Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology, have been commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at land next to Priory Farm, Hunsdon Road, Widford, Ware, Hertfordshire (centred NGR: TL 42073 15775; Fig. 1).

1.2 The site consists of a rectangular parcel of land approximately 900m² in extent, adjacent to Priory farm on the eastern side of Hunsdon Road. The site is centred on NGR TL 42073 15775 (Fig. 1), and is bound to the north by a trackway, to the west by an electricity substation and by gardens to the south and east.

1.3 According to the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology of the site consists of Thanet Sand Formation overlain by superficial geology of Head deposits comprising clay, sand and silt. To the east the Thanet Sands are overlain by Lowestoft Formation.

1.4 A planning application (3/15/2040/FUL) was submitted to East Hertfordshire District Council for the erection of a two storey house with a double garage, driveway and associated landscaping. Permission was granted subject to the following condition:

3. No development shall take place within the proposed development site until the applicant, or their agents, or their successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to the planning authority and approved in writing. The condition will only be considered to be discharged when the planning authority has received and approved an archaeological report of all the required archaeological works, and if appropriate, a commitment to publication has been made.

Reason

To secure the protection of and proper provision for any archaeological remains in accordance with policies BH2 and BH3 of the Herts Local Plan Second Review April 2007.

1.5 Discussions with Matthew Adams Historic Environment Officer at Hertfordshire County Council highlighted the potential for medieval remains on the site given its location close to the historic core of Widford and Priory Farm which was historically part of Bermondsey Abbey.

1.6 This Written Scheme of Investigation outlines the scope of the evaluation work to be undertaken. All work will be carried out in

accordance with this document and/or the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA, 2014).

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The following is a brief background; a full search of the Historic Environment Record (HER) will be undertaken prior to the production of a report.
- 2.2 Prehistoric activity has been recorded within the wider area (British History Online, 2016) with two undated barrows lying in the north-west of the parish. However no prehistoric or Roman remains have been recorded within Widford itself.
- 2.3 Prior to the Norman Conquest Widford was held by Edred a thegn of King Edward on behalf of the Bishop of London. The Domesday Book is unclear about the ownership of Widford but by 1118 the land had passed to the Cluniac Abbey of Bermondsey (British History Online 2016).
- 2.4 Matthew Adams of Hertfordshire CC, who advises East Herts. District Council on its archaeological obligations, made the following comments on the site (Matthew Adams, pers. Comm.):

“Priory Farm occupies a substantial site at the southern end of the High Street, in the core of the village. Given its name, it can be suggested that the farmstead formed a productive part of the land of Bermondsey Abbey, which held the manor of Widford from the early 12th century until 1544, and that it has derived its name from this long period of ownership. It is likely, therefore, that there has been a farmstead on the site since medieval period; the present farmhouse dates to the late 17th or early 18th century, but it is suggested that it incorporates an earlier structure (Listed Building Description; Historic Environment Record No. 17564). Recent archaeological works back up this 12th century origin of the farmstead, with an archaeological investigation directly to the current site’s north (HER No. 7554) revealing 12th to 14th century features associated with settlement.

The site therefore has the potential to contain archaeological remains (heritage assets), and those of an early/mid medieval date, in particular.”

- 2.5 Widford remained in the possession of the abbey until the dissolution when it went to Sir Richard Southwell, one of Henry VIII’s councillors. For much of the post-medieval period Widford remained a small village of rural character. A number of farmhouses in the area are of 17th century date included Priory Farm to the north of the site. Priory Farm was built around 1692 and as mentioned above may incorporate an older building.

3.0 Research Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation are as follows:

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.
- To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeology condition.

3.2 With reference to *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, the evaluation will seek to contribute data to a future regional studies of the form and function of medieval farms (Medlycott 2011, 70).

4.0 Methodology

- 4.1 A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared prior to commencement of the work.
- 4.2 A site code will be created and will be used as the unique site identifier for all records.
- 4.3 One trench measuring 25m x 1.8m at base will be excavated as shown on Figures 2 & 3.
- 4.4 If the trench needs to be excavated beyond a depth of 1.20m then it shall be stepped accordingly. Minor changes to the trench location may need to be made due to unforeseen site constraints. Any such variation will be reviewed and agreed by CgMs and the Archaeological Officer.
- 4.5 Spoil will be banded around the edges of the trench to provide a physical and visible barrier.
- 4.6 The trench will be accurately located using offsets from known positions or a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).
- 4.7 The trench will be scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. It will be mechanically excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision.

- 4.8 Machine excavation will continue to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of natural chalk, whichever is uppermost. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand immediately after machine stripping, if required and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.
- 4.9 The opportunity to have a meeting on site shall be provided once the trench is open with CgMs Consulting Ltd and the County Archaeologist to assess the results.
- 4.10 Backfilling and compaction will be undertaken by the machine on completion of the work, but there will be no reinstatement to existing condition.
- 4.11 Spoil heaps and trench bases will be scanned with a metal detector as will the spoil derived from excavated features. Any finds recovered by this method will be suitably bagged.
- 4.12 An OASIS online record will be compiled for the project.

5.0 Excavation and Recording Techniques

- 5.1 Excavation and recording will be undertaken in accordance with this WSI.
- 5.2 All archaeological features and deposits will be recorded using the standard context record sheets used by Archaeology South-East. All exposed features will be investigated by hand and excavated stratigraphically. Discrete features will be 50% sampled (pits and postholes). Linear features will be 25% sampled, including terminal ends and intercutting relationships and with a minimum slot width of 1m where possible. Cut structural features will be 50% sampled (ring ditches, sill beam slots etc.). Excavation strategy for surviving structures (walls, ovens etc.) will be decided in consultation with the HET but would usually comprise exposure, cleaning and detailed recording. Where possible such remains should be left *in situ* at evaluation stage, however.
- 5.3 Archaeological structures, features and deposits exposed or excavated will be planned in relation to the trench and the trench planned onto a copy of the Ordnance Survey map not smaller than 1:2,500 scale. Trench plans will be maintained at a scale of 1:20 and sections at 1:10 unless circumstances dictate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 5.4 A digital photographic record will be maintained throughout the fieldwork. A photographic register will be maintained and will detail, as a minimum, the feature number, location and direction of shot. Any worthy features will also be photographed on B&W and colour film.
- 5.5 It is anticipated that bulk soil samples will be collected from suitable excavated contexts, including datable buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats and water-logged deposits. It is anticipated that soil samples will be 40 litres where possible, or 100% of the context if smaller.
- 5.6 CgMs and the County Archaeologist will be informed at the earliest opportunity of any archaeological features or deposits worthy of preservation.

6.0 Treatment of Human Remains

- 6.1 If human remains are found, work will cease and all necessary statutory provisions followed. The County Archaeologist and CgMs Consulting Ltd. will also be informed. No burials will be lifted at evaluation stage unless they will be demonstrably damaged by not doing so and in such cases only with a licence from the Ministry of Justice.

7.0 Treatment of Artefacts and Ecofacts other than Human Remains

- 7.1 Pottery, worked flint, metal and other finds of archaeological significance will be retained and treated according to standard Archaeology South-East procedures. Identification of retained finds will be undertaken by staff of, and specialists contracted by, Archaeology South-East as necessary. All pottery, bone and worked flint recovered from the excavations will be washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 7.2 The lithic and ceramic finds will be identified by specialists within Archaeology South-East, and preliminary identification of faunal remains may be undertaken if the nature of the deposits justifies such study. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the receiving museum.
- 7.3 Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Bulk samples will target recovery of plant remains (charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains. Specialist samples may also be taken from dry or waterlogged contexts. Such samples will target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects. Larger samples (80-100 litres) will be extracted wholesale from deposits rich in marine molluscs and large mammal bones. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail in their original location. If removed they will be cleaned, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification. Specimens will either be stored in wet cool conditions or dried if considered appropriate for the material. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.
- 7.4 Any finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, amended 2003, will be excavated and removed to a secure location on the day of discovery. If this is impractical, appropriate security arrangements will be made until the artefacts can be properly excavated and removed. The Finds Liaison Officer shall also be notified. Should the find's status as Treasure be confirmed the Coroner, the client, landowner and the Historic Environment Officer will also be informed. A record shall be provided to the Coroner and to the Historic Environment Officer of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre, and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).

8.0 Post-Excavation Analysis, Reporting and Archive

8.1 Should the investigation not proceed beyond the initial trial trenching then the written report, including plans, digital photographs and drawings, will be completed within 4 weeks of the completion of the on-site fieldwork; this will be dependent on the prompt production of any necessary specialist reports. A draft copy will be sent initially to CgMs Consulting Ltd for comment and approval and then to the County Archaeologist. Once the report has been accepted then two final hard copies and one electronic copy in PDF format will be sent on CD at a minimum resolution of 300dpi to the HER.

8.2 The report will contain:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the trenching
- Location plan of the excavated area and/or other fieldwork in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of each of the trenches shall be given 10 figure grid references.
- Section drawing(s) showing depths of deposits including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale.
- Methodology and detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. Where appropriate the discussion will be completed in consultation with the Eastern Counties Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).
- All specialist reports
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.

8.3 An HER summary sheet will be completed within four weeks. This will be completed in digital form and emailed to the HER Team Officer. This shall include a plan showing the position of the excavation.

8.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork an OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed for the project. A print-out of the form will be included as an appendix to the final report.

8.5 The archive and any finds will be submitted to local museum upon completion of the project. A summary of the contents of the deposited archive will be supplied to the HEM Team at the time of deposition.

8.6 Publication of the results (including any further analysis of the finds from the evaluation stage) at least to summary level (i.e. round up of archaeology in Hertfordshire) shall be undertaken in the year following the archaeological fieldwork.

9.0 Project Management

9.1 The fieldwork will be managed by Andy Leonard and the post-excavation analysis by Jim Stevenson.

10.0 Health and Safety

10.1 Health and Safety must take priority over archaeological requirements. It is essential that all projects be carried out in accordance with safe working practices and under a defined Health and Safety Policy. A Risk Assessment for the project will be prepared prior to the commencement of work and all relevant health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

11.0 Insurance

11.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one occurrence; employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss.

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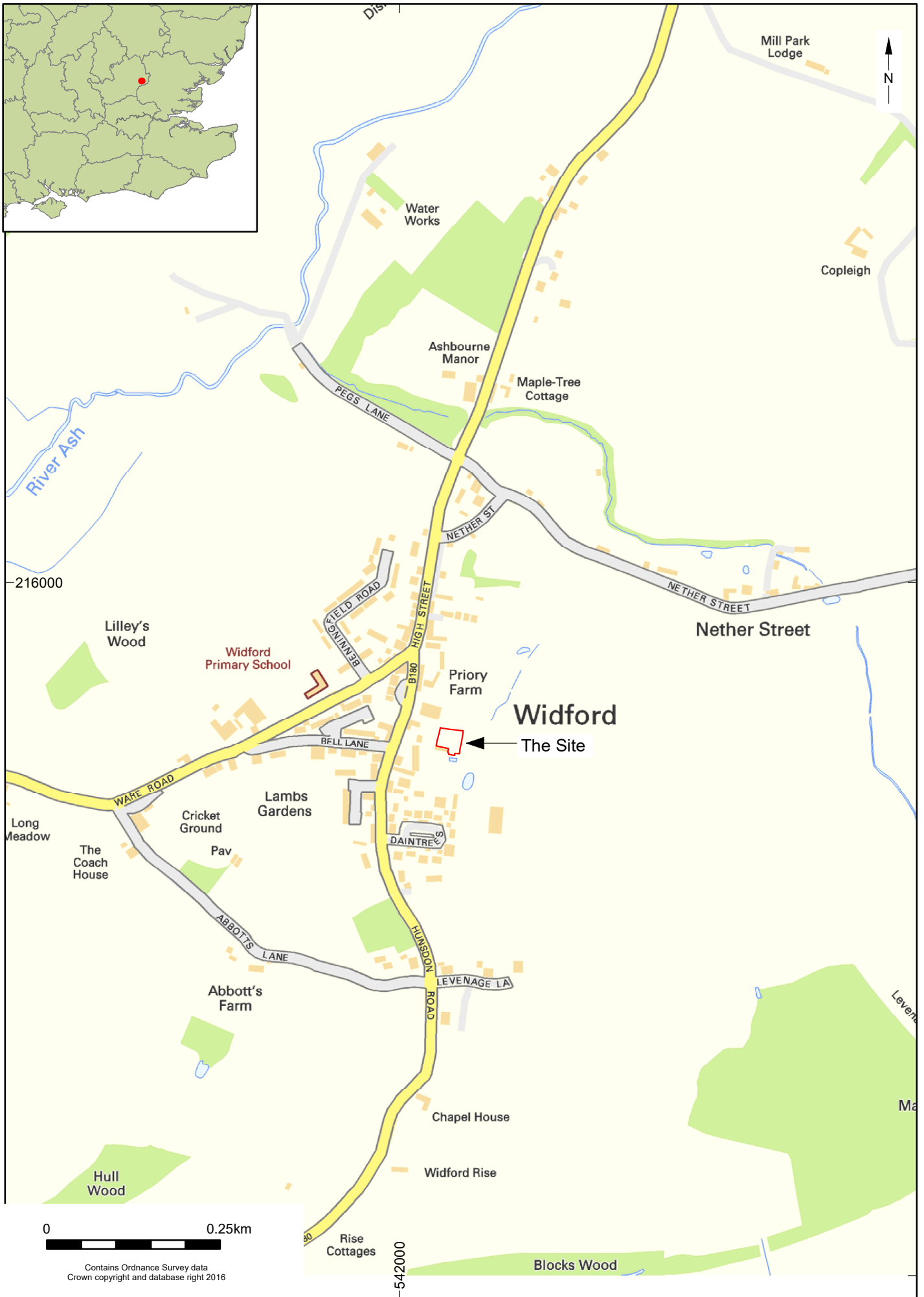
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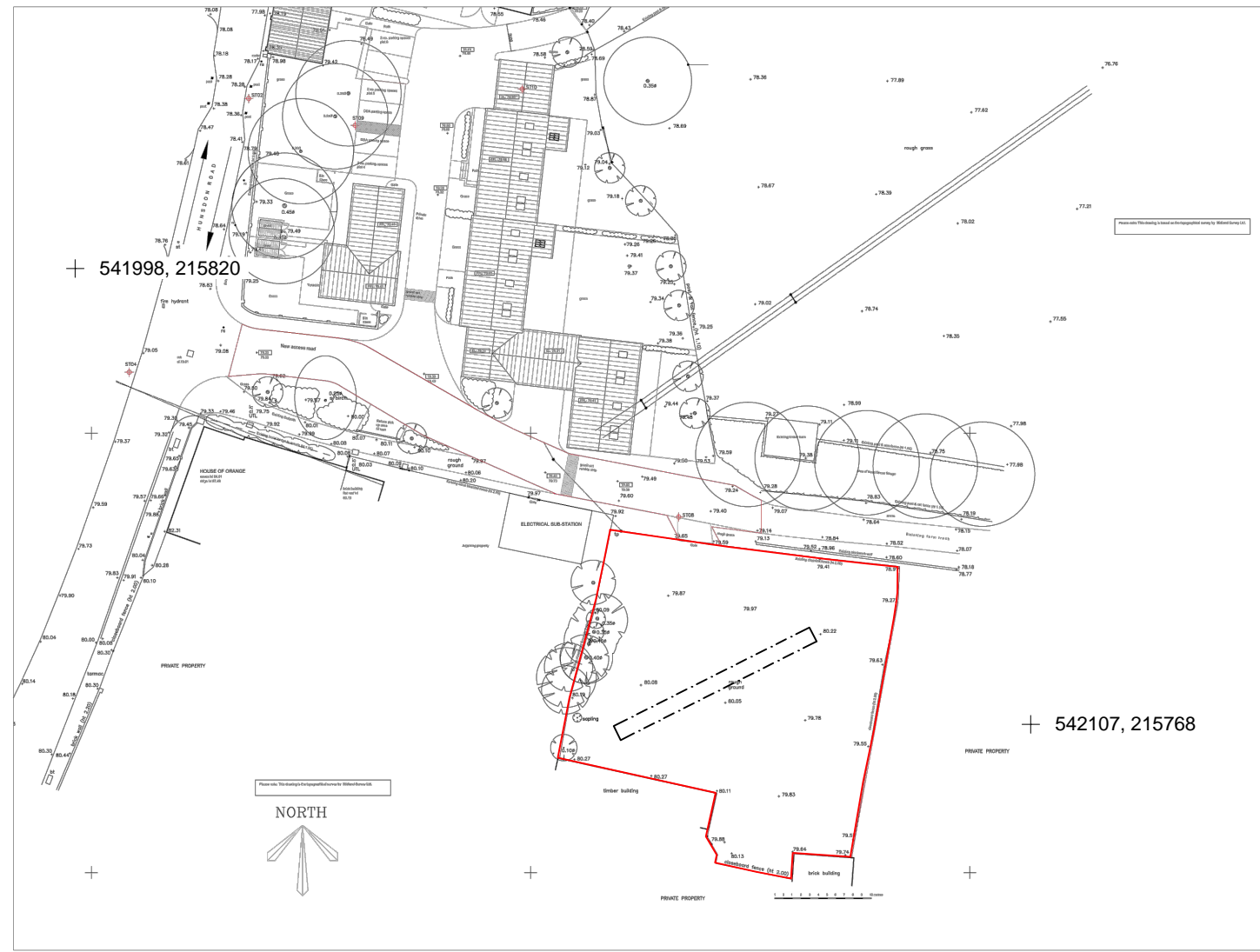
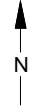
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© Archaeology South-East		Priory Farm, Hudson Road, Ware	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160611	August 2016	Site Location	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: JC		



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 It is the contractor's responsibility to check all dimensions on site, any discrepancy to be reported immediately.
 Details and sizes shown are indicative only and are subject to confirmation by the relevant Specialist Sub-contractor.

Revision	Description	Date

Please refer to Planning Application No. 16/0259/01

541998, 215820

542107, 215768

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Plot adjoining Priry Farm, Hudson Road,
 Wilford, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 8RA.

Drawing Title: Existing Site Plan
 Date: May 2015 Scale: 1:200 @ A1

Drawn By	Checked By	Issue
9361	002	

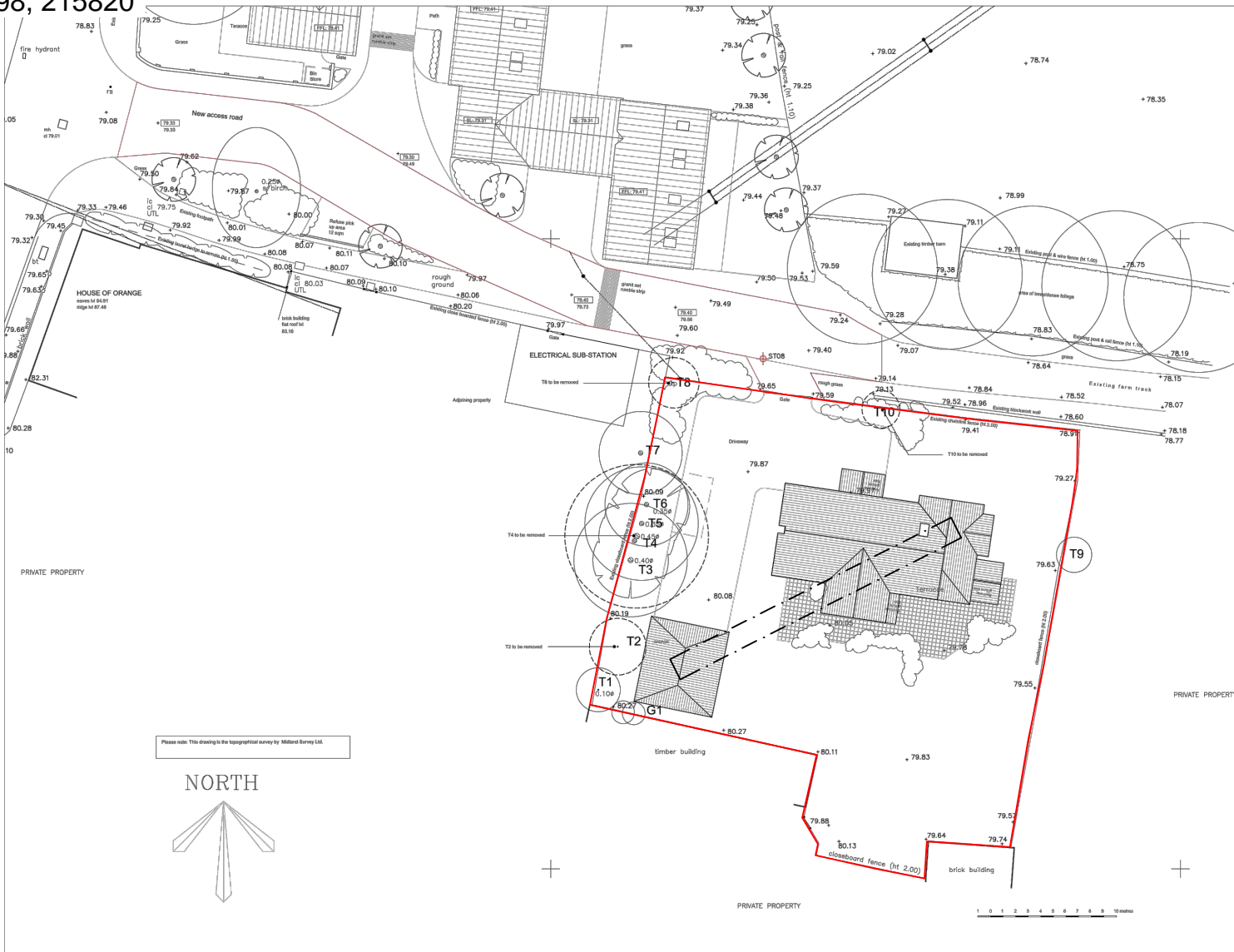
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Revision	Description	Date
A	Orientation of buildings revised	Jan 2015
B	Location of garage revised	Febr 2015



Please note: This drawing is the topographical survey by Millard Survey Ltd.



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Plot adjoining Priory Farm, Hunsdon Road, Widford, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 8RA.

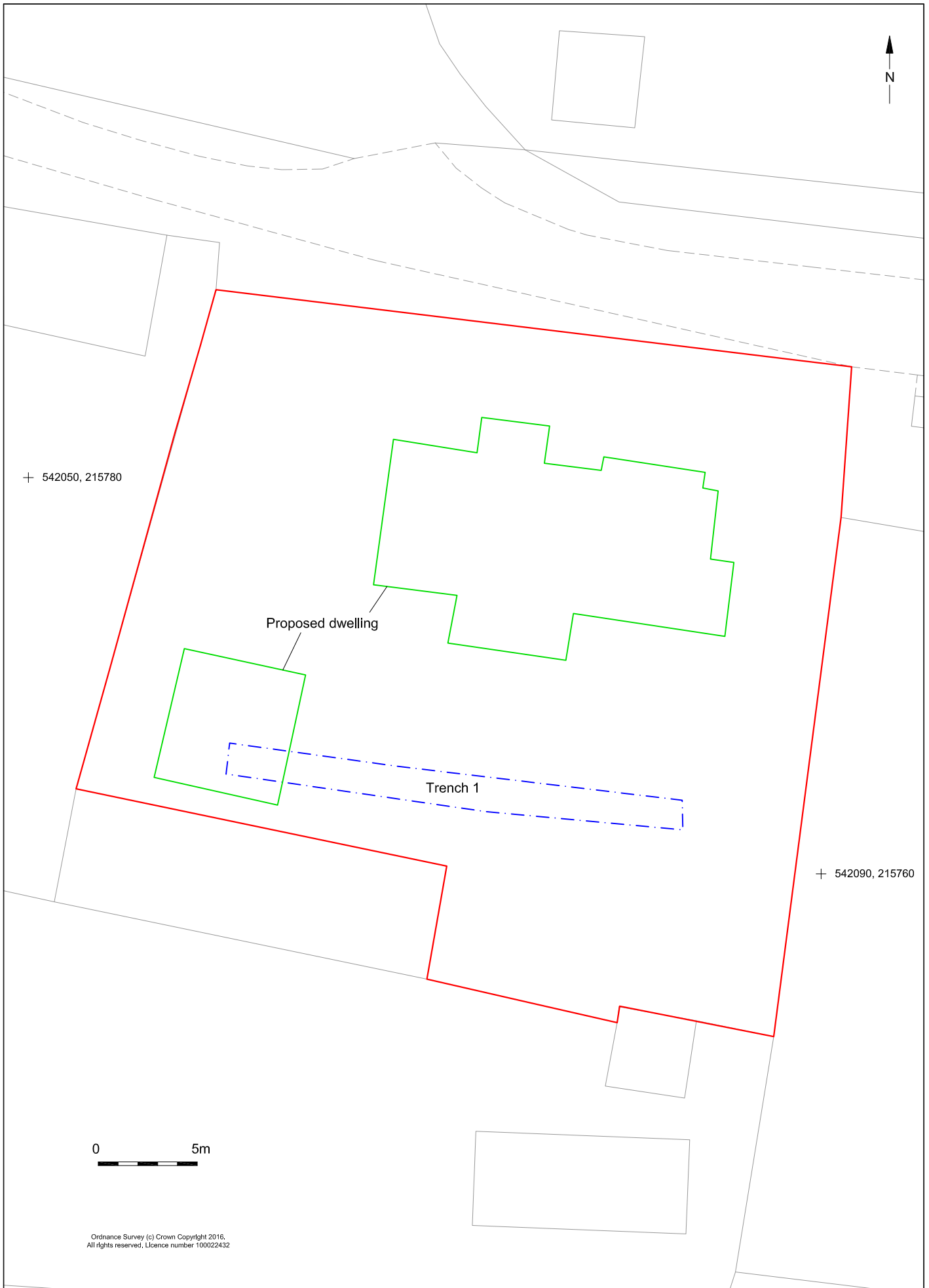
Proposed Site Plan	
Date: May 2015	Scale: 1:200 @ A2
Drawn By: CG	
Job No: 9381	Drawn No: 003

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© Archaeology South-East		Land adjacent to Priory Farm, Widford	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160611	Nov 2016	Site location	
Report No: 2016452	Drawn by: APL		



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© Archaeology South-East		Land adjacent to Priory Farm, Widford	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160611	Nov 2016	Trench Location	
Report Ref: 2016452	Drawn by: APL		



Exposing foundations



Exposing foundations



General view of the site



Trench 1 looking east, 1m scales

© Archaeology South-East		Land adjacent to Priory Farm, Widford	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 160611	Nov 2016	Selected photographs	
Report Ref: 2016452	Drawn by: APL		

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