THE BULL P.H., 1 CHIPPERFIELD ROAD, BOVINGDON, HERTFORDSHIRE

HISTORIC BUILDING ASSESSMENT & ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

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HISTORIC BUILDING ASSESSMENT & ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

HER Request No. 202/11

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NGR: TL 01670 0356	67	Report No. 39	67
District: Dacorum		Site Code: 1448	AS
Approved: Claire Hal	pin MIFA	Project No. 43	59
Signed:		Date: Nov. 20	11

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details	
Project name	The Bull P.H., 1 Chipperfield Road, Bovingdon, Hertfordshire
In November 2011 AS Ltd.	undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and historic
building assessment at The	Bull public house, Bovingdon, Hertfordshire.
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presence of earlier outbuild	tion provided little supporting information, and did not reveal the lings, which appear on historic maps. Recovered features included associated with the construction of the WC block at the north-west

,		,	<i>,</i>	
corner of the	main	building	in the	1950s.

Project dates (fieldwork)	03/11/11 – 1	15/11/11		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	Ν	Future work	-	
P. number	4359	Site code	AS 14	148
Type of project	Historic build	ding assessment of	& archaeologi	ical evaluation.
Site status	-			
Current land use	Public house	θ.		
Planned development	Residential	conversion.		
Main features (+dates)	Late 17 th /	early 18 th centu	ry house wit	h later alterations and
	additions.			
Significant finds (+dates)	-			
Project location				
County/ District/ Parish	Hertfordshire	e Dacorum		Bovingdon
HER/ SMR for area	Herts HER (HER request No.	202/11)	
Post code (if known)	-			
Area of site	c. 750m²			
NGR	TL 01670 03	3567		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c. 145m AO	D		
Project creators				
Brief issued by	HCC HEU			
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Tansy Collin	ns and Tim Schofie	əld	
Funded by	SJB Demoli	tion		
Full title	The Bull P	.H., 1 Chipperfie	ld Road, Bo	vingdon, Hertfordshire:
		ling assessment &		
Authors	Collins, T. S	chofield, T. Higgs	. K.	
Report no.	3967			
Date (of report)	November 2	2011		

THE BULL P.H., 1 CHIPPERFIELD ROAD BOVINGDON, HERTFORDSHIRE

HISTORIC BUILDING ASSESSMENT & ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In November 2011 AS Ltd. undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and historic building assessment at The Bull public house, Bovingdon, Hertfordshire.

The historic building assessment revealed a significantly earlier building than previously thought. A late 19th or early 20th century Arts and Crafts exterior conceals a substantial double-pile house of late 17th or early 18th century date, which may have been re-clad in brick in the early 19th century, before being rendered at a more recent date. While the original plan layout survives, most of the lower, domestic areas have been extensively and repeatedly remodelled, but the garrets remain remarkably intact, with many original features, including dormer windows with original leaded glass, now enclosed beneath a later, protective flat-roof which was installed when the principal stack to the west was removed in the later 20th century. Some original fixtures and fittings survive, including the attic door. A lower, east range is timber-framed, and of broadly contemporary date, and formed a stable with hay-loft. It survives substantially unaltered, though in need of repair.

The archaeological evaluation provided little supporting information, and did not reveal the presence of earlier outbuildings, which appear on historic maps. Recovered features included a soakaway or pit, probably associated with the construction of the WC block at the north-west corner of the main building in the 1950s.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In November 2011, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted a programme of historic building appraisal and archaeological evaluation at The Bull public house, 1 Chipperfield Road, Bovingdon, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 01670 03567; Figs. 1 & 2). The work was commissioned by Briffa Phillips Architects on behalf of SJB Demolition and was carried out in response to a pre-planning requirement of the local authority associated with proposed conversion of the existing public house building to provide apartments, and the redevelopment of the garden and car park for housing.

1.2 The archaeological evaluation and historic building assessment were carried out according to a design brief issued by Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU; Mrs. Kate Batt; dated 13th October 2011). The project was also undertaken according to a specification (Written Scheme of Investigation) issued by AS Ltd (dated 17th October 2011), and

approved by HCC HEU. The work conformed to the procedures outlined in the Institute of Archaeologists' (IfA) *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2008), *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and English Heritage's *Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (2006) as well as the IfA *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or btructures* (IfA 2008).

- 1.3 The principal objectives for the historic building assessment were:
 - to provide an outline record of the standing building, with sufficient analysis and interpretation to indicate their significance, with particular attention paid to establishing phasing of the buildings and where historic fabric is likely to survive
 - to provide a review of the local and regional historic context of the structures, adequately detailed to place the findings in context
 - to provide an appraisal of the development's impact on the structures and recommend whether further mitigation may be required.
- 1.4 The principal objectives of the archaeological evaluation were:
 - to investigate and record any surviving archaeological remains within the area of the new development,
 - to carry out the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual / ecofactual material recovered from the site in appropriate conditions,
 - to provide an adequately detailed report that will place the findings of the monitoring and recording of the development programme in their local and regional context, and;
 - to make provision for the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive.

Planning Context

1.5 Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5: March 2010) provides the planning context. This states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 Bovingdon is a large village close to the south-west border of Hertfordshire in the district of Dacorum (Fig. 1). Nearby settlements include Chipperfield to the south-east and the larger town of Hemel Hempstead to the north-east.

2.2 The site occupies a corner plot of land at the junction of Chipperfield Road, itself an extension of the High Street, and Church Street and is roughly rectangular in plan, covering an area of approximately 750m² (Fig. 2). The Bull stands on the street frontage, with associated car parking and garden area to the north. Old photographs show that the curtilage formerly extended to the east, but this area has been redeveloped with new houses.

2.3 The site also lies within Bovingdon's Conservation Area (CA) and Area of Archaeological Significance No. 48, as identified on the Local Plan, which encompasses the medieval settlement of the village, centred on the nearby church of St Lawrence and Bury Farm.

3 METHOD OF WORK

3.1 Information was sought from a variety of available sources in order to meet the objectives of the historic building assessment / archaeological monitoring and recording.

Archaeological databases

3.2 The Historic Environment Record (HER) for Hertfordshire was consulted in order to identify any local archaeological finds or remains in the area that might be affected by, or relate to the development. Those sites in closest proximity to the site (500m) are listed in Appendix 1 and plotted in Fig 3. Sites beyond the 500m radius are described in the text where relevant.

Historical and cartographic sources

3.3 The principal source for maps and primary documentary sources was the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) based in County Hall, Hertford. Material within the scope of this study was consulted and has been listed in Appendix 1, and where relevant, reproduced as Figs. 5-9.

Secondary sources

3.4 The principal source for secondary material was the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) based in County Hall, Hertford, as well as the library resources at AS. Sources have been referenced appropriately in the bibliography.

The buildings

3.5 The site was visited on the 9th November 2011 in order to undertake the descriptive and photographic work. The historic analysis and photographic recording was carried out by Tansy Collins and Lee Prosser.

3.6 The photographic recording was conducted using medium format (4.5cm x 6cm) black and white film and included all external views and general internal shots. This utilised a Zenza Bronica ETRS camera and Ilford HP5 IOS 400 120mm film. Colour photographs were taken using a Canon 1000D (10 megapixels) digital camera, duplicating the black and white photography. Where necessary, architectural detail was captured using 35mm black and white film and supplementary colour photography used 35mm Ektachrome colour transparency. External lighting and weather conditions were good at the time of the survey. A scale was used wherever possible, and a flash was employed for internal shots. A pictorial index of the digital photography and selected colour plates are included below together with location plots added to plans provided by the client (Figs. 10-11).

The archaeological evaluation

Trench Number	Trench Dimensions
1	10 x 1.80m
2	10 x 1.80m
3	8 x 1.50m
4	2 x 2m

3.7 Four trial trenches were excavated as follows:

Overburden was mechanically removed employing a 5 ton 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth-blade ditching bucket, thereafter all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned and examined for archaeological features and finds, archaeological features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* record sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. A C-Scope 1220R metal detector was employed to scan the spoil heaps and test pits.

4 THE EVIDENCE

4.1 Topography, geology and soils

4.1.1 Bovingdon lies on an extensive plateau overlooking the river Bulbourne, which flows west to east 3km to the north of the site (Fig. 1). The surrounding relief is relatively flat with the site lying at *c*. 148m AOD, but the wider relief is noticeably variable and slopes down to the river Bulbourne to the north and the settlements of Chipperfield and Chesham to the south-east and south-west respectively.

4.1.2 The solid geology of the area comprises Upper Cretaceous chalk (BGS 1978), overlain by drift deposits of clayey silt. This was confirmed by the natural firm, pale-mid brownish orange clay silt with moderate small and medium sub rounded and sub angular flint, and occasional medium and large flint nodules, which was encountered at depths of 0.29 - 0.42m during a recent archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of Nos.16 – 20 Church Street, 80m to the north-east of the site (Barlow 2010), as well as the archaeological evaluation carried out as part of this project. The evaluation also revealed a firm, dark-mid orangey brown clay silt topsoil up to 0.35m thick overlying a range of garden subsoils. The local soils are of the Batcombe Association, which are described as fine silty over clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

4.2 Archaeological and historical background

4.2.1 In comparison with later periods, recorded prehistoric finds from the Bovingdon area are relatively few and none are known from the area surrounding the site. Sparse Mesolithic flint work has been recovered from the Bulbourne and Chess valleys, while important Neolithic sites have been recorded at Apsley and Rucklers Lane in Kings Langley. An Iron Age fort has also been recorded to the west on Whelpley Hill, Buckinghamshire (Brown 2002, 3). However; all these finds were recorded in the river valleys that particularly favoured prehistoric occupation, not on higher ground where heavier soils, and presumably woodland, predominated.

4.2.2 The local late Iron Age tribe, the *Catuvellauni* embraced Roman culture and several substantial Romanised villas have been recorded in the area surrounding Bovingdon, including those at Kings Langley, Gadebridge, Boxmoor, Berkhamstead, Sarrat and Latimer (*ibid.*, 3). The important thoroughfare of Akeman Street also passes the northern boundary of the parish of Bovingdon. Recent archaeological work to the rear of Nos.16 – 20 Church Street revealed a possible Roman ditch (HER 16239; Barlow 2010) and a complete Roman pot was found by a gravedigger in Bovingdon churchyard (HER 17175). Little Anglo-Saxon archaeology has been found in the area, although parts of St. Mary's church nearby have Anglo-Saxon origins (Brown 2002, 5).

4.2.3 Bovingdon is not mentioned as a separate estate in Domesday Book, being a subsidiary of the larger estate at Hemel, but was evidently wellestablished by the late 13th century, having a church by 1235 (HER 936). It may have originated as a small private estate, possibly deriving its name from *Bofa's Down*, as a piece of marginal land given to a minor landowner with an Old English name (Gover, Mawer & Stenton 1938, 29). The medieval settlement of Bovingdon was centred on St. Lawrence's church, located to the north of the site. The Bull lies amid the general focus of medieval settlement, having an open hall house to the immediate north, which was later converted to two houses (HER 15728). It is possible the south-west extent of the medieval settlement was also discovered to the rear of Church Street surviving in the form of a ditch and gully (Barlow 2010).

4.2.4 Most extant architectural elements around Bovingdon are of postmedieval date, and include the 19th century pentagonal well house (HER 5903), a Baptist chapel (HER 15091) and several features at Bury Farm (HERs 763, 7175), while the site of a 19th century smithy is also known (HER 7177).

4.2.5 The earliest documentary sources which records the building in use as a public house are the Victuallers' recognizances for the Dacorum hundred, which record applications for licenses to serve alcohol. Mary Ann Dyer is listed as the licensee in 1800 but between 1817 and 1828, Thomas Austin is noted instead. The national census records note the Austin family as resident at The Bull in 1841, although at this time Tomas Austin is not mentioned and instead his wife Caroline is the head of the household, which was occupied by six members of the family with three apparent visitors or external workers. By 1871, however, the Austin family was no longer resident and was instead occupied by Henry Kay, a widower, and his five offspring.

4.2.6 Cartographic sources confirm the presence of a standing structure in the southern section of the site as early as 1766, although both Dury and Andrews' and Bryant's maps of Hertfordshire were drawn to too small a scale to reveal further information (Figs. 5 & 6). In contrast, the parish of Bovingdon tithe map, which dates to 1838, clearly depicts the site occupying parts of two adjoining plots of land (#376 & 377), with the assessment structure in its southern section (Fig. 7). The tithe map is also significant in that it clearly depicts a small range fronting Church Street to the west, as well as the low east range attached to the main building. By the time of the production of the 1877-88 OS map the building is labelled as the Bull Inn. This and the subsequent 1898 OS maps are not reproduced here but the layout changed little subsequently (Fig. 8). The site is laid out much as shown on the tithe map with the principal building and east range occupying the frontage of the site and a small outbuilding on the western side. The remainder is not developed, though a boundary divides the rear area into two parts; that to the east contiguous with the adjoining land which lies outside the assessment. By 1986, the OS map indicates the principal building had been extended to the rear, while the outbuilding on the west side of the site had been removed and the boundaries reworked (Fig. 9). A number of photographs are on display in the public house, which show the building earlier in the 20th century with two roofs, though by the 1970s the western chimney stack was gone.

5 THE BUILDING

Exterior

5.1 The building rises in two storeys with a steeply pitched, old peg-tile roof, and a lower single-storey, timber-framed range extending to the east (Plate 1). It fronts, as noted, onto Chipperfield Road to the south which forms

an extension of the High Street but stands at the end of the historic street frontages.

5.2 The principal front and side façades are covered in rough-cast render, pierced with a generally symmetrical arrangement of casement windows, which all impart an appearance of the Arts and Crafts style particular to the period around 1890-1910. This impression is reinforced by the proportions of the building, the use of heavy transom and mullion windows with slightly projecting upper casements and moulded aprons for displaying signs. An arched door hood at the centre dominates the building, and is a typical, flamboyant gesture of the period. However, all are mostly cosmetic additions which belie the true origin of the building.

5.3 The central door hood is heavily moulded and supported by simple corbels, all probably much repaired. This encloses adjoining doors to the earlier public bars, of probable 1930s date with flush lower panelling and glazed upper panes with applied lead strips. Flanking windows include a large transom and mullion window to the east and a slender transom window to the west with a similar window wrapping round the south-west corner of the building.

5.4 The upper storey is of slightly taller proportions, divided from the lower floor by a slight lipped string or drip-course, and is symmetrically arranged with a central transom and mullion window flanked by slightly projecting fourlight casements, each light having eight panes. These rest on slightly moulded corbels framing decorative panels for earlier pub signs or advertising. The whole elevation is smothered with rough-cast render and much of the joinery on this side appears repaired with little finesse. As with many public houses the façade is adorned by signs, brackets for hanging baskets, irrigation pipes, lights and other paraphernalia.

5.5 The roof is steeply-pitched and hipped at both ends with deep, overhanging eaves. The roof has been given decorative ridge tiles, perhaps slightly over-expressed to reinforce the Arts and Crafts appearance.

5.6 The lower east range is an outhouse which is partially weatherboarded over timber-framing, with a pitched roof, though at the west end comprises a short section of newer masonry which encloses the men's lavatories. There is some evidence of a former doorway defined in the render. A central modern metal-framed louvred window and flanking WC lights have timber frames. The remaining weatherboarded section has a boarded door at the west end, which is bead-moulded with a little overhanging hood on shaped brackets, probably of 19th century date. Much of the weatherboarding is of softwood smothered in tar, but much of the lower area has decayed, exposing the underlying frame, which is also now suffering.

5.7 The rear, north elevation is of unrendered brick, but has been painted several times with thick masonry paint, obscuring much of the detail (Plate 2). However, various relic features such as repair and blocked window apertures remain visible. The brickwork is laid in an indeterminate bond, though largely

Flemish in places and is now pierced by various doorways and windows. A pair of modern of French doors to the west gives access to the interior, adjoining a low, modern lavatory block. A second doorway to the east leads to the kitchen. The kitchen window is perhaps the only survivor of the original arrangement, though with modern joinery. It preserves its original cambered brick arch. At upper level, a large Crittall-type window lights the stair, with a second metal-framed WC window slightly offset at upper level, though these are all modern insertions. Original window apertures can be discerned by the presence of cambered brick arches. Thus the kitchen window had an upper counterpart, while in the upper west corner, a modern pub sign has been inserted into an earlier window recess. A cambered brick arch survives above the Crittall window, marking the original stair light. As far as can be ascertained, the original window arrangement was fairly symmetrical with larger outer windows and slender staircase lights, together with a probable doorway in the centre. Other notable features include a dentilated eaves on this side, while the roof does not project to the same degree as on the south. The single surviving principal chimney stack rises from the roof at the east end while internal evidence indicates a western companion, which was demolished in the recent past.

5.8 The façade has been extended piecemeal. In addition to the lavatory block noted above, at the east end a slender applied chimney stack was probably constructed as a small adjoining boiler house. Low modern walls extend from this side to enclose a garden terrace.

5.9 The east elevation returns in brick though is mostly obscured by the application of outshuts and the presence of the east range. At lower level an attached pent-roofed outshut of brick and slate incorporates an external WC. Where the east range abuts at higher level, a blind window is partly visible. At eaves level, the pattern of dentilation continues. The north wall of the east range retains its weatherboarding in good condition, with a modern door and blocked window.

5.10 The west elevation fronts onto Church Street and is rendered. Two large blocked windows remain expressed as recesses. The upper floor retains a single six-over-six sash with margin sashes to the north and is set beneath similarly deep overhanging eaves as on the principal façade. A hatch on this side gives external access to the cellar.

Interior

Ground floor

5.11 As with many pub interiors, repeated remodelling is much in evidence, with consolidation of formerly separate rooms. From the current configuration and joisting, the original layout clearly comprised a central corridor to a rear staircase, with flanking front and rear rooms divided by internal chimney stacks, all on the classic double-pile layout common from the later 16th century into the Georgian period. The west stack has been entirely removed within

living memory, but its position is now marked by a robust, boxed-in steel joist, and it appears on old photographs which now decorate the walls of the bar.

5.12 The ground floor is now of little interest, being divided into a large consolidated bar area, separated from the entrance vestibule, and with the stair and kitchen to the rear. The eastern outbuilding is given access to the through the kitchen and pent-roofed addition, currently used as a store.

5.13 The west room (Room GF01) consolidates two earlier rooms, which were formerly divided (according to oral testimony) by a large inglenook fireplace. It is now dressed in 'tea-shop fakery' style with applied cosmetic timberwork (Plate 3). The bar is a good 1950s example with a tapering profile, fluted decorations and veneers. The eastern part of the bar (Room GF02) is similarly plain, but does retain the chimney stack on the north (Plate 4). The fireplace, however, is a 1950s replacement. More fictive timberwork adorns the ceiling, a number of the 'joists' having early 1970s graffiti. The windows throughout are all consistent with a date around 1910 with fairly plain mouldings. The ceilings may be of some age, though that in the central area is set slightly higher perhaps indicating that the western area is suspended.

5.14 To the rear, the private spaces are reached from Room GF01 through an Edwardian door. This gives access to the stair vestibule (Room GF04) leading also to the kitchen and the rear of the bar. The staircase is of 1910 to 1930s date, of open well form, with plain newels, a shaped handrail and solid, panelled balustrade (Plate 5).

5.15 The kitchen (Room GF05) has been entirely modernised, with some inserted boxed-in joisting. A chimney breast is expressed on the south (unlike its counterpart to the south, which is flush), suggesting some distinction in status.

5.16 The little pent-roofed outshut to the east is given access through a good 19th century bead-moulded door, which retains a homemade latch. This has five ledges to the rear with a boxed timber rim-lock. The area is otherwise of little interest. The eastern outbuilding is described separately, below.

First floor

5.17 The first floor is given access from the staircase. At upper level a solid, panelled balustrade has been extended to full-height with modern glass to form a privacy and fire partition. The landing (Room FF01) gives access to bedrooms which mirror the principal lower rooms, differing only in that the north-east room has been subdivided to form a bathroom and WC. An enclosed stair gives access to the attics (Plate 6). This is notable, as it is a typical later 17th or early 18th century plain panelled door with H-L hinges and original latch. The rear face is grained (probably Edwardian), but the original rim-lock and drop handle also survive.

5.18 The remaining doors in the area are of two phases, either four-panel mid-19th century doors or in the 1930s style with a single upper panel and

three long lower panels, all retaining Art Deco style bronze handles. One or two early surrounds survive, noted below. Apart from a single sash window, the windows are largely Edwardian casements with some 1930s replacements and Crittall-style steel windows to the bathrooms.

5.19 The flanking rooms are plain, with little historic interest apart from one or two features such as the windows and a single fireplace. Room FF02 has a sash window of c. 1900-1910 with a 'Brighton' catch and the doorway from the landing retains an early surround. Room FF03 is plain and has few features of note; the window is possibly 1910 though the casements appear later.

5.20 Room FF05 has a wide probable 1930s replacement window, but as with Room FF02 the doorway retains a probable mid-19th century surround. In addition, the fireplace on the north retains a good cast-iron decorative surround with embossed Art Nouveau relief of c.1910 (Plate 7). In the lobby FF06 and the bathroom Room FF07 nothing of note survives except for 1950s fitted cupboards.

Attics

5.21 All the surviving visible sensitivity of the building is contained in the exceptionally well preserved garrets, which are reached from the enclosed landing stair. This has oak treads with tall risers, enclosed on both sides by lath and plaster – much of which is in poor condition. The staircase rises against the east chimney stack which is fairly slender at this point.

5.22 The roof was originally arranged around a narrow, open inner valley which was roofed over in recent times, when the inner pitches were stripped of their tiles. This was drained via a valley gutter, surviving but now stripped of its original lead flashing. The south roof only was used for accommodation and was lit by two dormer windows looking into the inner valley – these have survived, but conspicuously there were never any outward looking windows at this level.

5.23 The garret was once a single room, but is now subdivided by a flimsy boarded partition into two chambers, Rooms SF01 and SF02 (Plate 8 and Plate 9). Plastered ashlar pieces enclose the eaves, while the ceiling is underdrawn at collar level. The original lath and plaster is almost all intact, complete with early paintwork. The floor is laid with wide oak and softwood boarding, measuring 11 inches (279mm) in width. The principal elements of the roof are exposed and include principal rafters-couples with staggered butt-purlins, all of slender scantling.

5.24 The attic is very plain, with little sign of activity or occupation, either in scuff marks in the plaster or sooting from candles or tapers, which might suggest that they were not lived in but used for storage. This is reinforced by the fact that the original dormer windows were all fixed. A few fixtures and fittings also provide some hints including a line of hooks and large nails over

the east window presumably for hanging some object in the light, while an ephemeral timber batten also survives on the south side.

5.25 The dormer windows are exceptional survivals, though have been damaged in recent times. The flat-roof which has served to preserve them so well was probably added with the removal of the west chimney stack. Both dormers retain their original surrounds with little brick-nogged gables, while both retain one of a pair of fixed lights with iron bars and original diamond paned glazing. One light of on the east dormer has been replaced with a Victorian casement, while its counterpart to the west has been kicked out and now lies, badly crushed in the gutter. Externally, both dormers rest on the rafters of the roof structure and preserve original joinery features. They have, for example, little shaped ends to the wall-plates, with some weatherboarding to the side. How they could be given access for repair and maintenance is unknown, suggesting that they are little altered from their original construction (Plate 10).

5.26 The north roof, by contrast has never been used for accommodation and remains open, with the timber structure more clearly expressed. The south, formerly inward pitch has been reworked, but on the north pitch, the common rafters are morticed above and below the purlins, in the 17th century manner.

Cellar

5.27 A cellar occupies the area below the south-west quadrant and entrance lobby. It is given access though a trapdoor in the bar area though a short flight of steps have been renewed in cement. The external hatch retains a timber and iron barrel-roll.

5.28 There is little to see. The walls are constructed of brick on the south and east, with a short return to the west. The north, by contrast is made of flint cobbles, all smothered in paint, and broken only by the base of the lost chimney stack. The ceiling is boarded out in modern materials. The only feature of any interest is a small brick-arched niche to the west of the chimney stack set into the original walling (Plate 11). This is original to the building.

East range

5.29 The interior of the east range has been partially appropriated as a store and gents lavatories, but the remaining areas remain open and little altered.

5.30 The building is of three bays, divided by trusses. The roof and principal members are all of oak. The west truss stands on slightly jowled posts with arched braces to the tie-beam and queen posts to a collar supporting a clasped side-purlin roof (Plate 12). The east truss is similar, but with a slightly splay-cut jowl to the north post and cranked queen struts engaging the purlins and principal rafters (Plate 13). It appears the apex has

been reworked slightly with a ridgeboard and little yoke pieces added at a later date.

5.31 This east truss supports a small mezzanine in the east bay (Bay 1). This comprises a bridging joist with flanking common joists, also of oak. On the north side two trimmer pieces frame two loading apertures, presumably for pitching hay into mangers below.

5.32 The interior is boarded throughout at lower level with vertical boarding, some of which is circular-sawn, with internal weatherboarding at upper level. Together this suggests that the building was used as a stable.

5.33 On the south a boarded and ledged door gives direct access to the street. On the east a blocked window is of simple form, while a second example on the north is a six-pane casement of 19th century date.

5.34 At the west end the junction with the main building reveals the exposed brickwork of the original building. This is constructed of a good quality orange brick consistent with a late 17th or early 18th century date.

6 DISCUSSION OF HISTORIC BUILDING ASSESSMENT

6.1 The historic building assessment was undertaken as required by the local authority in order to provide further information with regard to the impact of conversion proposals to the historic fabric, in particular to assess the form and development of the public house, so that suggestions regarding an earlier historic core could be confirmed or disproved. Despite its superficial late 19th or early 20th century appearance, technical analysis confirms that the core of the building is much earlier. This is supported by the historic map evidence, which depicts a building on the site from at least 1766.

6.2 The building bears all the hallmarks of a double-pile house of the late 17th or early 18th century date. The plan form, and the surviving evidence in the attics confirm this, though at lower level, few clues remain, and it is puzzling why useful earlier features such as the staircase were replaced when the building was remodelled in the Edwardian period. The building was never timber-framed. Its thick masonry walls may conceal a flint core with brick facing. On the east façade, within the roof space of the adjoining range, the brick fabric is exposed, and is of good quality, clearly once attractive.

6.3 Reworking altered the essential character of the building. Its windows were reconfigured, with some apertures being blocked and new examples inserted. Most historic joinery appears to have been removed. Presumably the house once sported panelled rooms and a fine staircase at the rear. Most of the bedroom doors are of mid-19th century date, suggesting an intermediate phase of alteration before the building was given its final, Arts and Crafts look.

6.4 Modern alterations appear piecemeal, with works carried out in the 1950s, and again at a later date. The removal of the western stack was a major intervention, resulting in the loss of masonry walls at upper level.

6.5 Detailed plans were not available for the proposed development but it is understood that, broadly, these consist of converting the main building to apartments, including the upper attic floor of the building as a single residential unit, as well as reworking the east range to garaging. The works involved in conversion will include such elements as the soft-stripping of the interior.

6.6 Soft-stripping of the lower floors may have a limited impact given the level of existing remodelling, though any works should be conducted with some archaeological supervision, particularly if lath and plaster ceilings are affected. Some historic features may remain, while works to the external walls may reveal the original window configuration. Mitigation of the development might be achieved by retaining the double-pile layout, with historic wall partitions, and retaining the position of the existing staircase, thereby limiting any structural alteration which might have an impact on historic floor joisting.

6.7 Any works to the roof or attic spaces would affect a space of high historic sensitivity. The evidence suggests that the attic garret has remained untouched for 300 years, and as such is an exceptional and rare survivor, curiously at odds with the treatment of the lower floors. The dormer windows with their original glass are important, and any proposal should consider their retention, or alternatively careful removal and preservation in a museum context. Conversion of the space, as envisaged would also entail the need for extensive additional structural support, servicing with electricity and plumbing, the introduction of new windows, together with the loss of historic roof timbers. It is doubtful whether any of this could be achieved without fundamentally altering and damaging the historic fabric. By far the most damaging option would be to attempt to create an open-plan space, thereby destroying the one part of the building which retains any meaningful historic integrity. Alteration might perhaps consider a more limited approach, retaining the existing roof arrangement, converting the unused part of the roof, and protecting the historic lath and plaster surfaces by retro-fitting.

6.8 It is proposed to convert the east range into garage space or bicycle sheds. Most of the framing in this area is original, including the mezzanine, and although in places in need to repair, conversion to garages will have a considerable impact into the original timber-framing. However, alternative proposals for use as bicycle accommodation will impact to a lesser degree and can be carried out to retain much of the original framing.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

7.1 Description of results

Trench 1 Figs. 3 & 12. DP 1

Sample Section 0.00m = 145.84		west end, south-east facing.
0.00 – 0.03m	L1003	Tarmac. Dark grey black, tarmac car park surface.
0.03 – 0.11m	L1004	Levelling layer. Light white yellow, friable sand and hardcore rubble.
0.11 – 0.47m	L1001	Made ground layer. Mid grey black, compact clay and silt with hardcore and ceramic building material (CBM).
0.47m+	L1002	Natural drift geology. Mid orange yellow, compact clay with flints.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present within Trial Trench 1.

Trench 2 Figs. 2 & 13, DP 2

Sample Section 0.00m = 146.77		east end, south-west facing.
0.00 – 0.02m	L1003	Tarmac. As above Trench 1.
0.02 – 0.11m	L1004	Levelling layer. As above Trench 1.
0.11 – 0.43m	L1001	Made ground layer. As above Trench 1.
1.01m+	L1002	Natural drift geology. As above Trench 1.

Description: One modern elongated pit and one modern drain (orientated north-west to south-east) were present.

Trench 3 Figs. 2 & 13, DP 3

Sample Section 0.00m = 146.67		west end, north-east facing.
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Garden soil. Dark grey brown, compact sand silt and clay.
0.30 – 0.46m	L1001	Made ground layer. As above Trench 1.
0.46m+	L1002	Natural drift geology. As above Trench 1.

Description: There were no features or finds present within Trial Trench 3.

Sample Section	4. South	-west end, north-east facing.
0.00m = 145.97	m AOD	
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Garden soil. As above Trench 3.
0.31 – 0.65m	L1001	Made ground layer. As above Trench 1.
0.65m+	L1002	Natural drift geology. As above Trench 1.

Trench 4 Figs. 2 & 13, DP 4

Description: One modern pit or soak-away was present in the southern corner of Trial Trench 4.

7.2 Confidence rating

7.2.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features.

7.3 Deposit model

7.3.1 The deposit model changed across site principally due to differing land surfaces. Uppermost in Trenches 1 and 2 was Tarmac Layer L1003, ranging in depth between 0.02 (Trench 1) and 0.03m (Trench 2). Below Tarmac Layer L1003 was Levelling Layer L1004, comprising light white yellow, friable sand and hardcore rubble, 0.11m in depth. This was laid to achieve a level base for the tarmac above and was only present in Trenches 1 and 2.

7.3.2 Uppermost in the area of the beer garden (Trenches 3 and 4) was Garden Soil Layer L1000. This comprised a dark grey brown, compact sand silt and clay to a depth of between 0.30 (Trench 3) to 0.31m (Trench 4).

7.3.3 Below Layers L1004 and L1000 in all trenches was Made Ground Layer L1001, it comprised a mid grey black, compact clay and silt hardcore and CBM rubble. In Trench 4 this layer was also tempered with a lime mortar lens that may have been related to demolition work.

7.3.4 At the base of the stratigraphic sequence is Natural Drift Geology L1002, comprising mid orange yellow, compact clay with flints.

8 DISCUSSION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

8.1 Despite the high potential for prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains, no archaeological features, other than two modern pits and a modern drain were present within the four trenches. The modern pit or soak-away present within Trench 4 may have been infilled with the brick of the chimney stack removed in the 1950's.

9 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

9.1 In conclusion the combined programme of works comprising historic building assessment and an archaeological evaluation produced mixed results, with the evaluation revealing no archaeological remains, while the evidence revealed by the historic building recording is of much interest:

A late 19th or early 20th century Arts and Crafts exterior conceals a substantial double-pile house of late 17th or early 18th century date and although the original plan layout survives, most of the lower, domestic areas have been extensively and repeatedly remodelled. However, the survival of the garrets for 300 years almost entirely untouched is an exceptionally survival and this along with the preservation of a number of original features is of substantial interest.

9.2 The archaeological evaluation provided little further information, and physical evidence for the earlier outbuilding on the west side of the site was not found. Only modern features were present within the trenches, with a modern soakaway or pit probably associated with the construction of the WC block at the north-west corner of the main building.

ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

An archive of all materials produced by the report has been created and listed according to English Heritage (MAP2) and RCHME standards. Archive records will be deposited at Dacorum Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank SJB Demolition of funding the project and for their assistance (in particular Mr Stephen Badcock) and Briffa Phillips Architects for their assistance, in particular Ms Lisa Banim.

Thanks are also due to the staff at the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) based in Hertford. AS would also like to acknowledge the help and advice from Mrs. Isobel Thompson at the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER).

AS is pleased to acknowledge the input, advice and assistance of Mrs Kate Batt of HCC HEU

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Websites

(all consulted 3rd November 2011)

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The National Heritage List for England; http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE (HER)

HER	NGR TL	Description
Romano-Bi	ritish	•
16239	01820 03625	Evaluation of the rear gardens at 16-20 Church Street uncovered medieval and possible Roman features in four trenches comprising two ditches and a gully
17175	0172 0375	A complete Roman pot found by a gravedigger in Bovingdon churchyard
Medieval		
936	0172 0372	Medieval parish church of St Lawrence, largely rebuilt in 1845 but retaining its memorials
15728	01696 03596	Bull Cottages on Church Street comprise an open hall house, possibly late medieval, later converted to two houses
Post-medie	eval& later	
763	01890 03800	Post-medieval farmstead associated with manorial site at Bury Farm
5903	0163 0357	Pentagonal Well House built in 1881, in memory of Granville Ryder of Westbrook Hay
7175	0194 0380	Large post-medieval chalk pit at Bury Farm
7177	01642 03609	Site of a smithy in a yard behind the Bell public house, with its own access from the street
13133	01420 03824	Remnants of a post-medieval farmstead at Newhall Farm, including the late 16 th century wing of an earlier farmhouse used as a butcher's shop
15091	01347 03752	The Baptist Chapel at the rear of a plot along the High Street
16167	01620 03593	The Bell is an early 18th century public house, licensed before 1806
16209	01698 03639	Post-medieval (or earlier) Old Vicarage in the corner of the churchyard
16212	01728 03653	Post-medieval Berry Cottage, once divided into three, at the churchyard gate
16213	01744 03665	7-17 Church Street (Budge Row) at the churchyard gate
16214	01687 03862	Bovingdon Parsonage was built c1835
17665	01796 03455	Small square pound enclosure for stray livestock, used until the late 19th century
17666	01773 03470	Post-medieval roadside smithy on Chipperfield Road
17667	01695 03510	Post-medieval Yew Tree Farm with 17th century lobby-entry farmhouse
17668	01669 03542	Public well, in 19th century shelter; demolished in the mid 20th century
17669	01670 03567	The Bull is shown on the 1877 OS map as the Bull Inn
Undated		
12527	0144 0376	The Common on the High Street is registered common land

APPENDIX 2 CARTOGRAPHIC AND DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Date	Мар	Scale	Fig. No.	Location
1766	Dury & Andrews' map of Hertfordshire	1.95 inches:1 mile	4	AS
1822	Bryant's map of Hertfordshire	7/8 inches:1 mile	5	AS
1838	Parish of Bovingdon tithe map. Ref. DSA4/22/2	-	6	HALS
1924	Hertfordshire sheet XXXVIII.2; 3 rd edition Ordnance Survey map	25":1 mile	7	HALS
1986	Plan TL 0103 - 0204; Ordnance Survey map	1:2,500	8	HALS
1999	Ordnance Survey Explorer sheet 182; site location	1:25,000	1, 3	AS
2011	Detailed site location plan	1:2,500	2	Client

Documents consulted at HALS;

Victuallers' recognizances for the Dacorum hundred Ref. QS/Var/2318 2418

APPENDIX 3HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

	C ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET
Site name and	The Bull P.H., 1 Chipperfield Road, Bovingdon, Hertfordshire
address:	
County: Hertfordshire	District: Dacorum
Village/Town:	Parish: Bovingdon
Bovingdon	
Planning application	N/a
reference:	
Client	SJB Demolition
name/address/tel:	
Nature of application:	Pre-planning application for residential conversion
Present land use:	Public house and associated garden and car parking
Size of application	Size of area investigated:
area: 817m ²	Ū
NGR (8 figures):	TL 01670 03567
Site Code:	AS 1448
Site	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
director/Organisation:	
Type of work:	Historic building assessment & archaeological evaluation
Date of work:	November 2011
Location of	Dacorum Museum
finds/Curating	
museum:	
Related SMR Nos: -	Periods represented: late 17 th to present
Relevant previous	
summaries/reports: -	In November 2011 AS Ltd. undertook a programme of
Summary of fieldwork	In November 2011 AS Ltd. undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and historic building recording at The
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APPENDIX 5 BUILDING RECORDING ARCHIVE FORM

Site Details									
Site Name: The Bull P.H., 1 Chipperfield Road, Bovingdon						NGR: TL 01670 03567			
County: Hertfordshire				Museum Collecting Area: HALs					
Site Code: AS1448				Project Number: 4359					
Date of Work: November 2011				Related Work:					
Brief/s				Specification/s					
Date	Prese	ent		Date			Present		
October 2011	Yes			Octobe	er 201	1	Yes		
Site Records (Description)									
8sheets A4 notes									
Site Drawings (Give Details of Formats & Size)									
-									
Architect's Drawings:									
2 sheets A3 drawings (annotated)									
Digital Drawings									
Printouts of Drawings Printout			s of Data			Digital Data			
In report						Digital photographs			
					and drawings on CD				
Reports									
Report No			rt Type			Present			
		ric building recording				Yes			
Site Photographs									
Black & White Contact Prints				Colour Slid					
	legs	Negs		ontacts	Film	1	legs	Present	
No Type		Present		esent	No				
	9-15	Yes	Ye		1	2	21-27	Yes	
	-15	Yes	Ye						
•	-14	Yes	Ye						
Photographic Location Plans Present? (Give Details) In report and separate printout in archive folder									
Digital Photographs (Give Details):									
Digital photography duplicates black and white photography. Index and									
selected plates printed in report. Separate printout of index included in archive									
folder and digitally on CD.									

COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1

South elevation, taken from the south (1)



Plate 2

East and north elevation, taken from the north-east (5)



Plate 3

South side of Room GF01, taken from the north (9)



Plate 4

View of bar and west side of Room GF02, taken from the south-east (12)



Plate 5 Staircase in Room GF04, taken from the south-east (21)



Plate 6

East side of Room FF01 with surviving original door in the centre, taken from the west (31)





Fireplace on the north side of Room FF05, taken from the south (38)





West side of Room SF01 with original hooks above the dormer window (indicated), taken from the east (45)



Plate 9

North side of Room SF02, taken from the south-east (46)



Plate 10 Original west dormer window, now entombed, taken from the north-east (51)



Plate 11 North-west corner of Room BF showing flint construction and original niche (indicated), taken from the south-east (17)



Plate 12

West truss of Room GF07 (east range), taken from the east (26)



Plate 13 East truss of Room GF07 (east range) also showing mezzanine, taken from the west (25)

HISTORIC BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



South elevation, taken from the south



West and south elevation, taken from the south-west



West elevation, taken from the west



5

East and north elevation, taken from the north-east



North elevation, taken from the north



6

East elevation, taken from the north-east



North elevation of the east range, taken from the north



9

South side of Room GF01, taken from the north



11

Entrance lobby Room GF03, taken from the west



North side of Room GF01, taken from the south



10

View of bar and east side of Room GF01, taken from the west



12

View of bar and west side of Room GF02, taken from the south-east



13

North side of Room GF02, taken from the southwest



14

South side of Room GF02, taken from the northeast



15

East side of Room BF01, taken from the west





West side of Room BF01, taken from the east



17

North-west corner of Room BF showing flint construction and original niche (indicated), taken from the south-east



18

Graffiti on a ceiling joist in Room GF02, taken from the west



19

Graffiti on a ceiling joist in Room GF02, taken from the west



21

Staircase in Room GF04, taken from the south-east



23

Rear face of door in Room GF06, taken from the south-east



20 Graffiti on a ceiling joist in Room GF02, taken from the west



22 Room GF05 (kitchen), taken from the west



24

East bay of Room GF07 (east range), taken from the west



East truss of Room GF07 (east range), taken from the west



North side of the central and east bays of Room GF07 (east range), taken from the south-west



29

Detail of latch on the east door in Room GF05, taken from the west



West truss of Room GF07 (east range), taken from the east



West truss of Room GF07 (east range) with exposed brickwork of the main building to the rear, taken from the east





North side of first floor landing FF01, taken from the south



East side of Room FF01 with surviving original door in the centre, taken from the west



Latch to the original door on the east side of Room FF01, taken from the west



35

South side of Room FF03, taken from the northeast



H-L hinge to the original door on the east side of Room FF01, taken from the west



4

West side of Room FF02, taken from the east





Door in Room FF04, taken from the south



37 South side of Room FF05, taken from the northwest



39 Room FF07, taken from the west



41 Drop handle to the original door in Room FF01, taken from the north



38

Fireplace on the north side of Room FF05, taken from the south





Drop handle and rim-lock to the original door in Room FF01, taken from the north



42 Staircase up to attic level, taken from the west





North side of Room SF01 at the top of the staircase flanking the chimney stack, taken from the south-west



45 West side of Room SF01, taken from the east



47 North side of Room SF02, taken from the east



44 East end of Room SF01, taken from the west



North side of Room SF02, taken from the southeast



48 South side of Room SF02, taken from the northwest



49

Detail of the original dormer window on the north side of Room SF02, taken from the south-west



51

Original west dormer window, now entombed, taken from the north-east



50

Detail of the original surviving fixed light on the north side of Room SF02, taken from the south



52

Detail of original west dormer window, now entombed, taken from the north



53

Lath and plasterwork on the north side of Room SF02 from within the adjoining roof space, taken from the north





Original east dormer window, now entombed, taken from the north-west





View of the altered northern roof, taken from the east



DP 1

Post-excavation shot, Trench 1, looking west.



Post-excavation shot, Trench 3, looking west.



_

Post-excavation shot, Trench 2, looking north.





Post-excavation shot Trench 4, Test Pit 4B in foreground. Looking north-west.



DP 5

Site shot, car park, Trench 1 to the left, looking south-east.



DP 7

Site shot, beer garden, Trench 3 in background, looking south-east.





General site shot, looking south-west.



DP 6

Site shot, car park and beer garden in background, looking south.



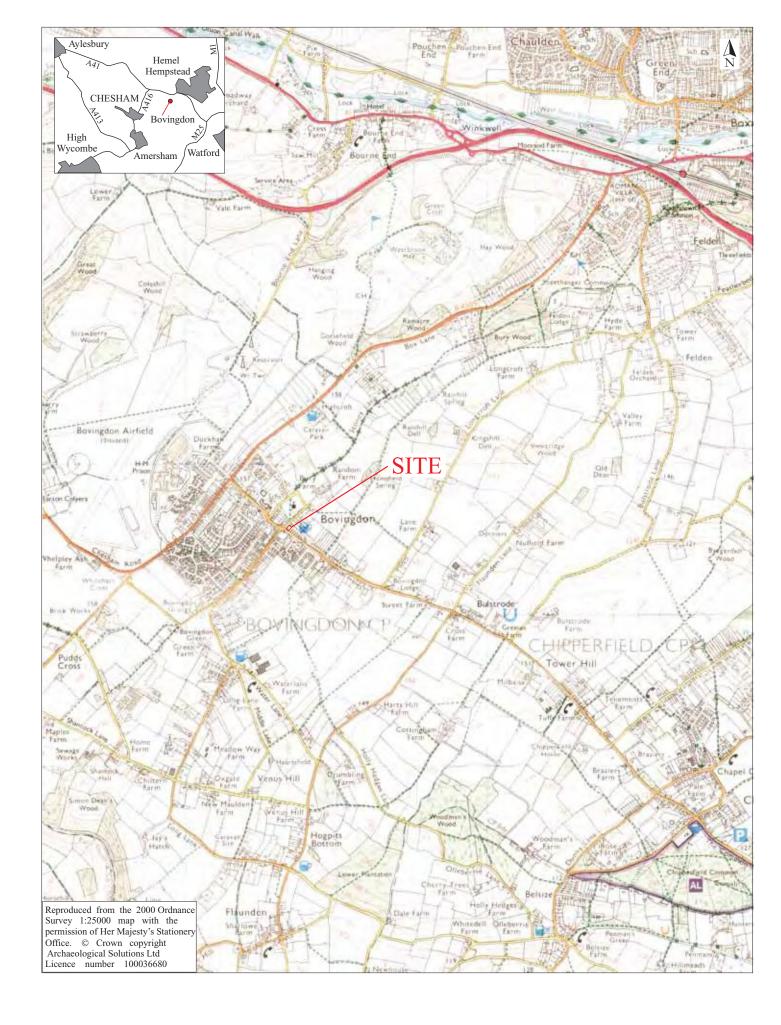


Site shot, beer garden, Trench 4, looking south-east.

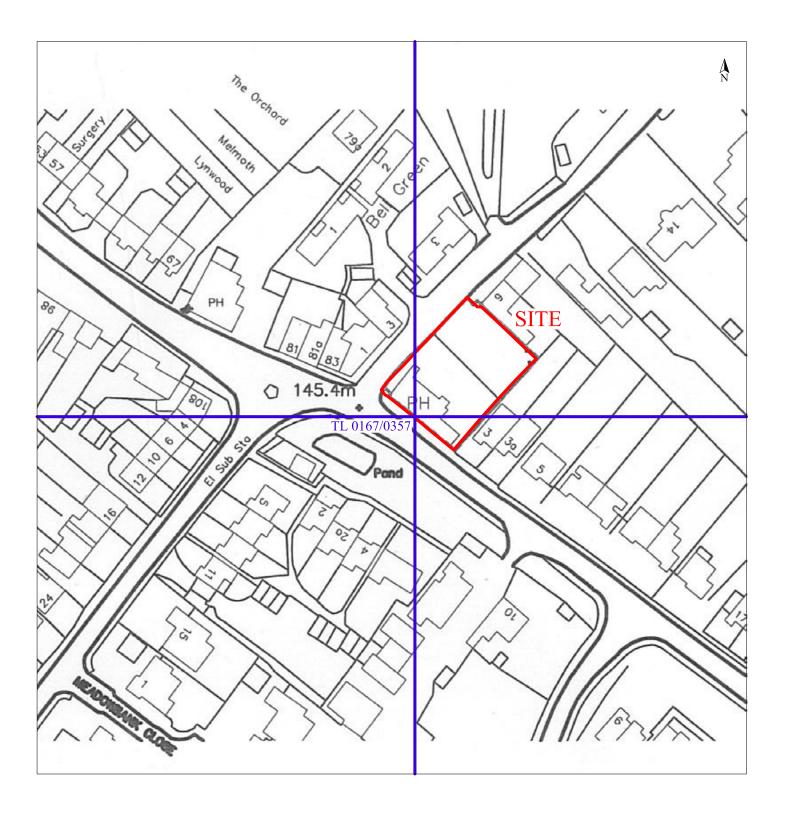




General site shot, looking north-west.

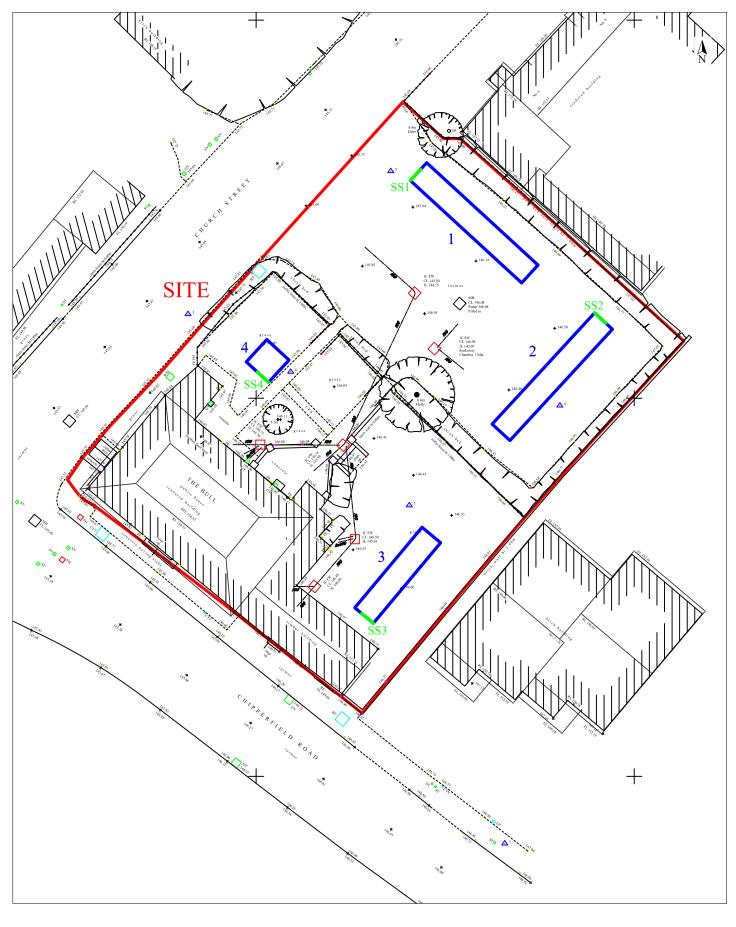


Arch	naeologi	cal Solutions Ltd
		location plan
Scale 1:25,0	000 at A4	



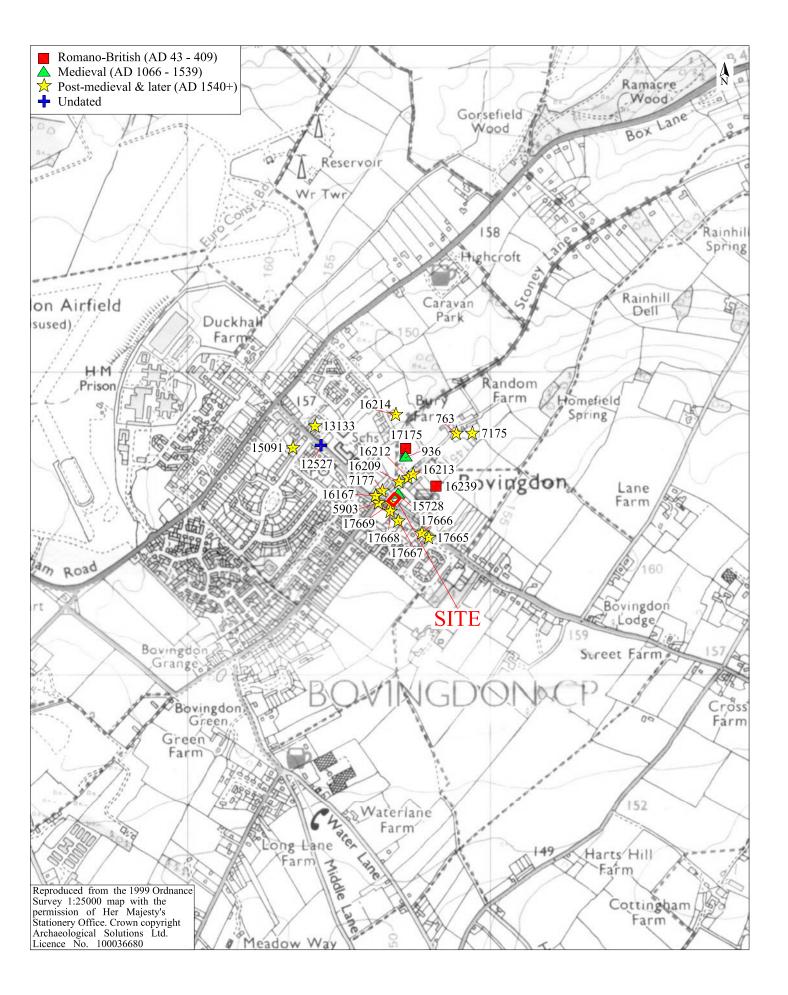
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	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2	Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:250	at A4





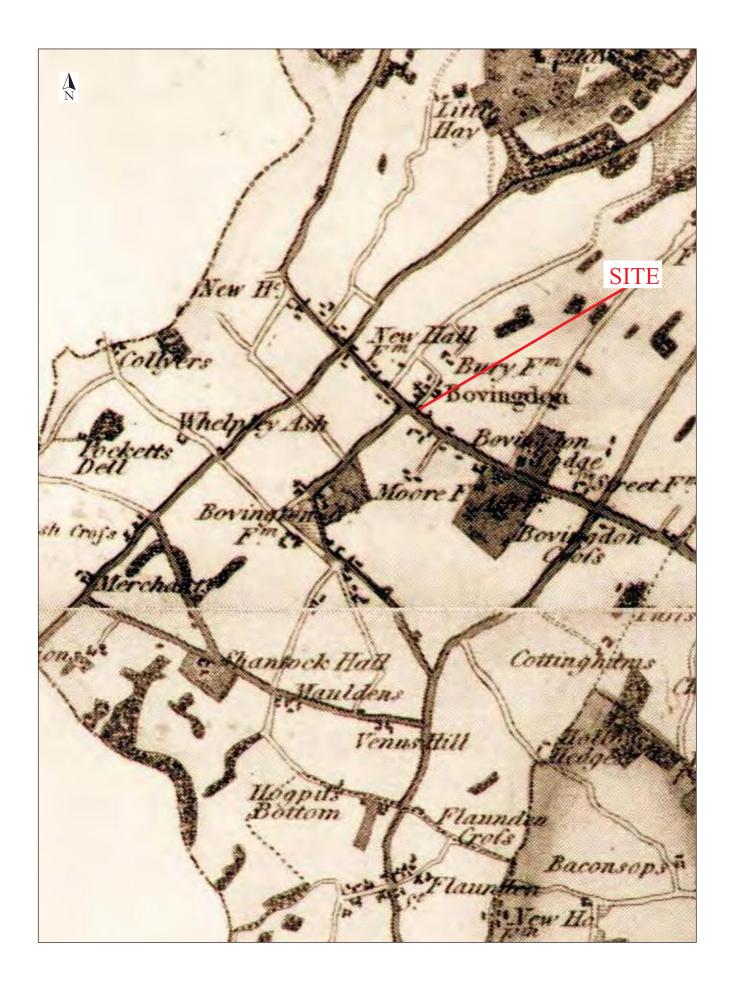
	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
	Trench location plan
Scale 1:250	at A4

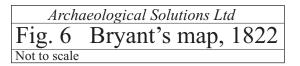


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Fig. 4	HER Data
Scale 1:12,5	00 at A4

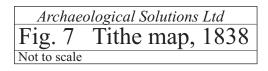


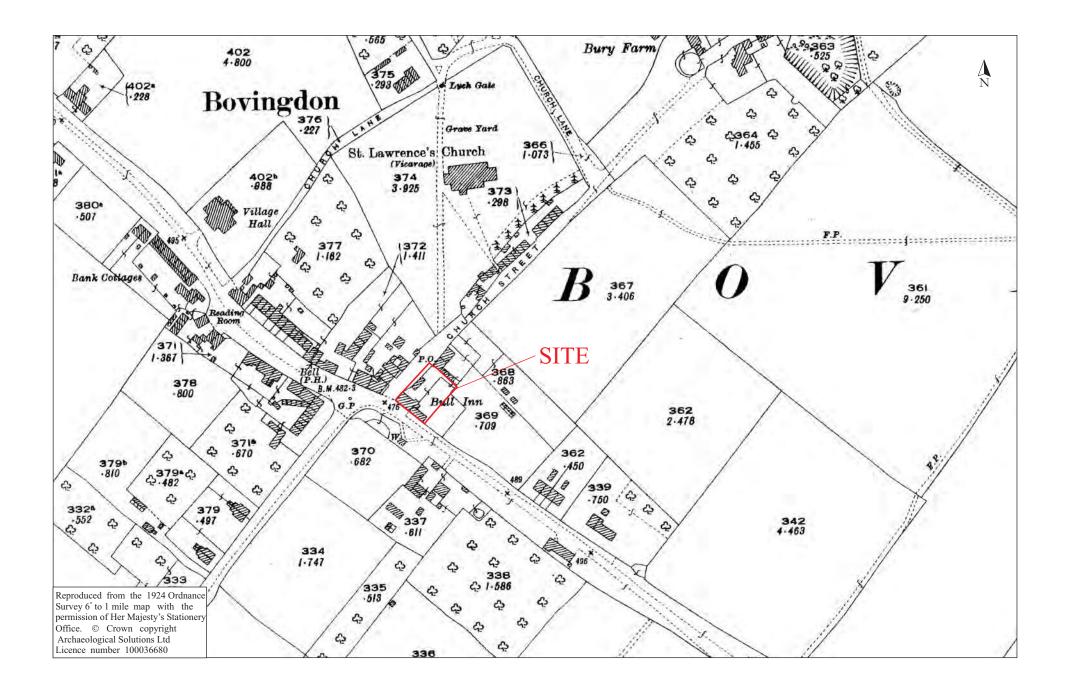
	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
Fig. 5	Dury & Andrews' map, 1766	
Not to scale		



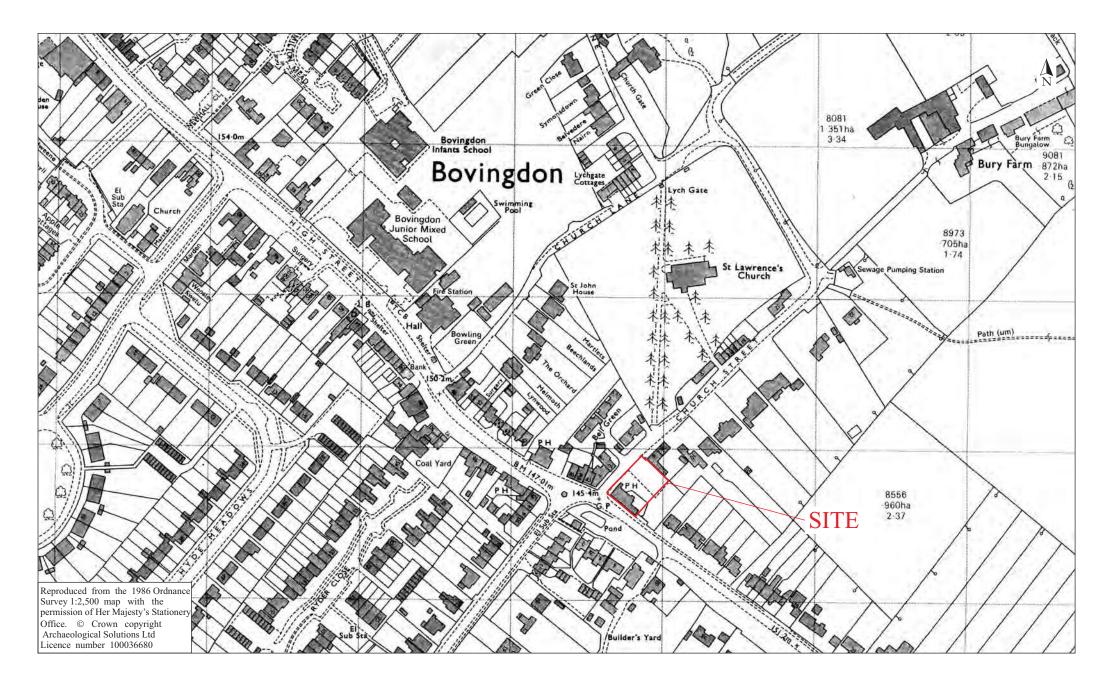


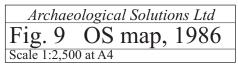




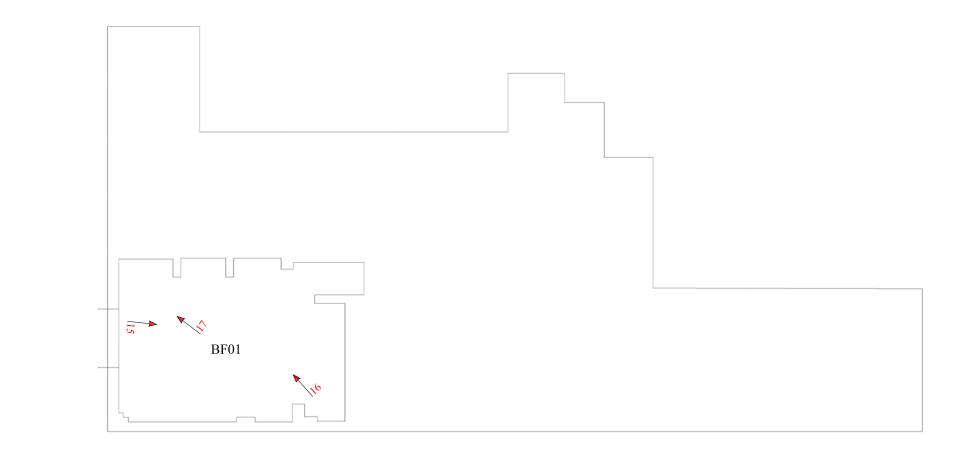




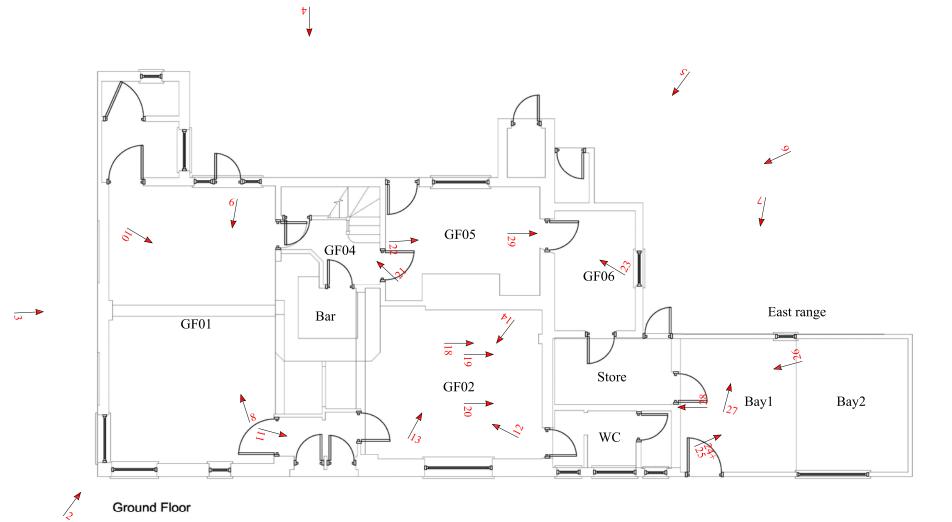






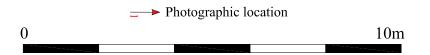


Cellar



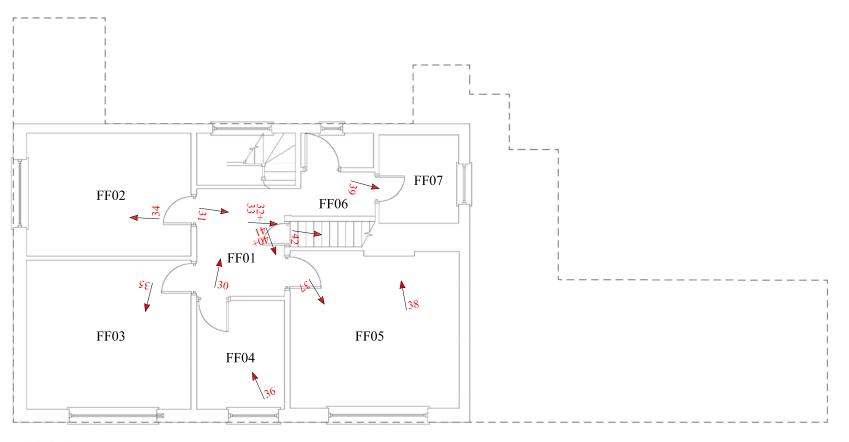
Ground Floor

1

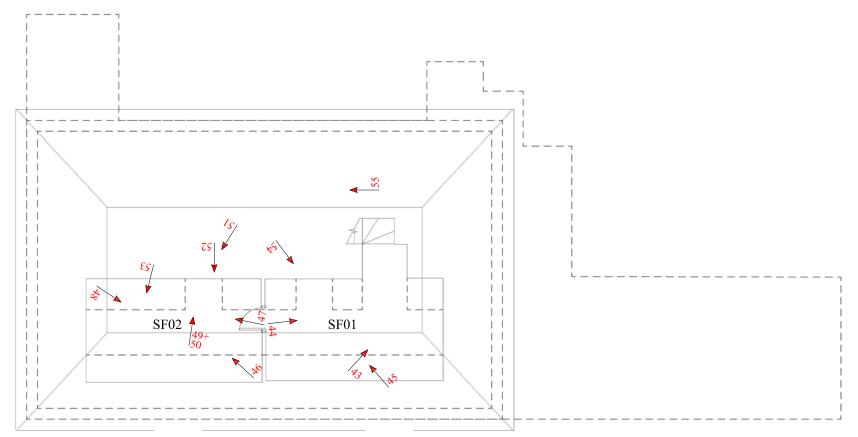


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Fig. 10	Ground floor and cellar plans
Scale 1:100 at A	3

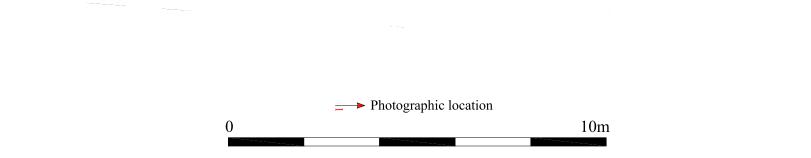




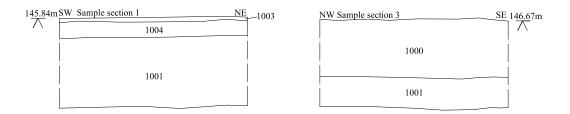
First Floor

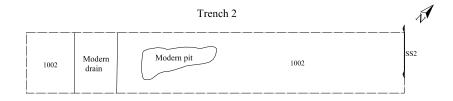


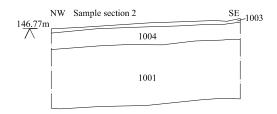
Second Floor

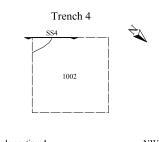


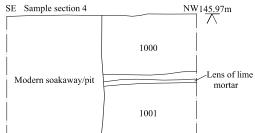
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Fig. 11	First floor and attic plans
Scale 1:100 at A	3













Archaeological Solutions Ltd Fig. 12 Trench plans and sections Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4