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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**PLOTS 1 & 2  
ADJACENT TO 50 GREEN END, BRAUGHING,  
HERTFORDSHIRE SG11 2PQ**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

HER Enquiry No: 161/12

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NGR: TL 39395 25555	Report No. 4167	
District: East Hertfordshire	Site Code: AS1538	
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. P5022	
Signed:	Date: October 2012 Revised: 20/05/2013	

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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	<i>Plots 1 &amp; 2, Adjacent To 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire SG11 2PQ. Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		
<p><i>In October 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of Plots 1 &amp; 2, Adjacent to 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire SG11 2PQ (TL 39395 25555). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings with associated access, garages and replacement cart lodge/garage for No. 50 on land adjacent to 50 Green End (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/12/0508/FP).</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation recorded a modern wall (Tr.2 M1005) and two modern post holes (Tr. 4 F1006 and F1008). An unstratified early Neolithic flint scraper was found within the subsoil.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> October 2012</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>TBC</i>
P. number	<i>P5022</i>	Site code	
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>n/a</i>		
Current land use	<i>Residential dwelling &amp; garden</i>		
Planned development	<i>Two new dwellings &amp; garages</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Wall, post holes</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>Unstratified early Neolithic flint scraper</i>		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>East Hertfordshire</i>	<i>Braughing</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Hertfordshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>SG11 2PQ</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 3800m<sup>2</sup></i>		
NGR	<i>TL 39395 25555</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c. 85m AOD</i>		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	<i>Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU)</i>		
PO/Supervisor	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr Jeremy Gredley</i>		
Full Title	<i>Plots 1 &amp; 2, Adjacent To 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire SG11 2PQ. An Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		
Authors	<i>Barlow, G. &amp; Peachey, A.</i>		
Report No.	<i>4167</i>		
Date of report	<i>October 2012 (Revised 16/05/2013)</i>		

# **PLOTS 1 & 2, ADJACENT TO 50 GREEN END, BRAUGHING, HERTFORDSHIRE SG11 2PQ**

## **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

### **SUMMARY**

*In October 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of Plots 1 & 2, Adjacent to 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire SG11 2PQ (TL 39395 25555). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings with associated access, garages and replacement cart lodge/garage for No. 50 on land adjacent to 50 Green End (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/12/0508/FP).*

*The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance N°60 as identified on the EHDC Local Plan. It lies close to the line of the Roman route from Braughing to Great Chesterford and finds of prehistoric and Roman date have been found nearby. Recent investigations at Gravelly Lane to the south revealed medieval roadside activity.*

*In the event the evaluation recorded a modern wall (Tr.2 M1005) and two modern post holes (Tr. 4 F1006 and F1008). An unstratified early Neolithic flint scraper was found with the subsoil.*

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In October 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of Plots 1 & 2, Adjacent to 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire SG11 2PQ (TL 39395 25555; Figs.1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings with associated access, garages and replacement cart lodge/garage for No. 50 on land adjacent to 50 Green End (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/12/0508/FP).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief prepared by Alison Tinniswood of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU; dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012) and approved by HCC HEU. The project adhered to appropriate sections of Gurney (2003) 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England', *East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14*, and the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008).

### 1.3 The principal objectives for the evaluation were:

- To determine the location, date, extent, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it was important to establish the presence or absence of any prehistoric, Roman Saxon or medieval/post-medieval activity associated with the settlement and course of the Roman and medieval roads. It was also important to understand the level of truncation on the site and also to ascertain whether it will be possible to mitigate the development proposals to accommodate any surviving archaeological remains within the area of proposed redevelopment.
- The project report provides for the identification of areas of archaeological potential within the site. It also considers the site within the wider archaeological context. The likely extent, nature, condition and importance of the archaeology is described. The context of the development proposal for the site is examined. The evaluation provides a predictive model of any archaeological remains likely to be present on the site as a whole, and include an assessment of their significance.

#### *Planning context*

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF 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. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

2.1 Braughing is a village situated in the East Hertfordshire District of the county of Hertfordshire. It is situated c.5km south-east of the the town of Buntingford, c.3.5km south-east of the village of Westmill and c.2.5km north of of Standon. The north-south route of the A10 passes to the east of Braughing, with the B1368 branching from this to pass through the village. Green End is situated on the north-west side of Braughing, separated from the nucleus of the village by the River Quin, which converges with the River Rib c.600m south-west of the village.

2.2 The site lies on the eastern side of the B1368 and comprises the existing residential plot of 50 Green End. It is on the northern edge of the village with a disused gravel pit, Braughing Bury and the River Rib to the east, and agricultural fields to the west. The site is a short distance to the north (outside) of the conservation area and archaeological alert area designated for Braughing.

## **3 THE EVIDENCE**

### **3.1 Topography, Geology and soils**

3.1.1 Braughing lies within the narrow valley of the River Quin, which passes c.200m to the east of the site. The site is situated at c.85m AOD on the western slope of the river valley, which crests a short distance to the west before sloping down to the River Rib c.800m to the west. The site slopes down at a moderate degree from west to east.

3.1.2 The solid geology of the site comprises (Cretaceous) Upper Chalk which is overlain on higher ground by pockets of Boulder (London) Clay (BGS 1978). Soils in the parish are mixed between varying degrees of chalky or clayey depending on the underlying geology.

### **3.2 Archaeological and historical background**

#### *Mesolithic – Iron Age*

3.2.1 Prehistoric archaeological remains are scarce in the vicinity of the site but include Neolithic flint work (HER 18179) less than 100m to the south of the site on Gravelly Lane, Bronze Age worked flint at the Old Vicarage to the east (HER 16193), and further worked flint and the cropmark of a ring ditch to the west of Green End (HER 12331). By the Late Iron Age Braughing was characterised by scattered farmsteads that in c.30BC developed into a substantial settlement with extensive continental trading links (Thompson 2002, 3-4). However the extent of this settlement is to the south of the modern village, and c.1.2km to the south of the site and no Iron Age finds have been recorded in the close vicinity.

#### *Romano-British*

3.2.2 Roman Braughing developed into an important 1<sup>st</sup> century AD town from its late Iron Age origins, before becoming an undefended small town on Ermine Street (Thompson 2002, 5). Although the settlement expanded, it remained to the south of the modern village with its projected extent (a Scheduled ancient Monument) approximately 1km to the south of the site. The north-south route of Ermine Street passes c.1km to the west of the site on the opposite side of the River Rib, and Romano-British archaeological remains within the close vicinity are limited to Roman amphora and pottery sherds c.350m to the east (HER 17789 & 16192).

#### *Saxon - Medieval*

3.2.3 The nucleus of Braughing is understood to have its origins in the foundation of a minster church by the early 9<sup>th</sup> century, if not earlier (Thompson 2002, 8). The minster was on the site of the medieval church of St. Mary, c.400m to the south east, which contains elements of Saxon stonework in its construction (HER 4332). The site is just beyond the projected north-eastern extent of the minster precinct (Thompson 2002).

3.2.4 The medieval settlement of Braughing developed around the Saxon minster, with main streets around the precinct (HER 2660), however the northern development of the village was halted by the foundation of a new manor: Braughingbury in the mid 12<sup>th</sup> century, c.150m to the east of the site. Braughingbury (HER 15394) is approached from the village by a tree-lined avenue and has a moat. The presence of the church, manor and medieval nucleus of the village have resulted in the designation of an Area of Archaeological Significance (No. 60) covering much of Braughing, however the site is just beyond the northern extent of this area. Recent work on Gravelly Lane c.100m to the south of the site recorded medieval ditches and pottery (HER 15584), possibly representing a droveway on the edge of the village, while 'strip lynchet' cultivation terraces have also been recorded c.400m to the north (HER 9103)

#### *Post-medieval*

3.2.5 In the post-medieval period the site remained to the north of the nucleus of the village, and the planned farm of Bury Farm or The Granary founded c.200m to the east (HER 11102). Elements of the post-medieval village in the close vicinity of the site included Braughing Bury (HER 12248 & 11103), the Old Vicarage (HER 11467, 11778 & 12230), Pentlows Farm (HER 16235), the Post Office/The Bell Public House (HER 18269) and 19<sup>th</sup> century houses at 36-44 Green End (HER 13141). The peripheral location of the site was highlighted by the presence of a gravel pit (HER 18271), adjacent to the east and north-east of the site, which was exploited between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century a 'Hop Ground' was also situated on land adjacent to the north-east of the site, while houses were added to Green End, to the north of the site, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Thompson 2002, 30).



## 4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Four trial trenches were excavated (Fig.3). Trench 1 could not be excavated as the current outbuilding in this area had not been demolished. Trench 2 was 10m long and amended to an 'L' shape to avoid a large concrete pad. Trenches 3 and 4 were 12m long, and Trench 5 was 14m long. All the trenches were 1.20m wide.

4.2 Undifferentiated overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a 3T tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter, all further investigation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned as appropriate and examined for archaeological features and finds. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed.

## 5 RESULTS

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

### Trench 1

*Description: Trench 1 could not be excavated as the current outbuilding had not been demolished.*

### Trench 2 (Figs. 2-4)

<i>Sample section: South end, east facing.</i>		
<i>0.00 = 85.75m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.06m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, Dark grey brown, organic, clay silt with sparse small sub-rounded flints.
0.06 – 0.25m	L1003	Modern made ground. Firm, mid brownish orange silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded flints and chalk flecks.
0.25 – 0.36	L1010	Buried topsoil. Firm, dark-mid orange brown clay silt with sparse small sub-rounded flints.
0.36 – 0.50m	L1001	Subsoil. Firm, mid orange brown clay silt with sparse small sub-rounded flints.
0.50m+	L1002	Natural deposits. Firm, mid brownish orange clay silt with areas of small and medium sub-rounded flint gravel in mid orange brown sandy silt.

<i>Sample section: Centre, south facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 85.36m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.50m	M1005	Brick retaining wall. Frogged, yellow bricks laid stretcher bond with mid yellow grey mortar bonding.
0.50m+	L1013	Backfill of construction trench. Firm, dark brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small and medium sub-rounded flints.
0.50m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above.

*Description: Trench 2 contained a modern masonry wall (M1005).*

M1005 was a modern masonry wall constructed from frogged yellow bricks (220 x 100 x 60mm) laid stretcher bond and bonded with a mid yellow grey mortar. The remaining wall stood to height of six courses above the level of the natural. The construction cut (F1012) was not excavated to determine the full depth of the footing. This wall, running along the northern edge of the trench appears to be the retaining wall for a substantial raised patio area on the southern side of the building. The brick is dated to the late 18<sup>th</sup> – mid 20<sup>th</sup> century (CBM report below).

F1012 was the construction cut for brick wall M1005. It was linear in plan but was not excavated. Its backfill (L1013) was a firm, dark brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small and medium sub-rounded flints.

### Trench 3 (Figs. 2-3)

<i>Sample section: Southwest end, southeast facing.</i>		
<i>0.00 = 84.30m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 2
0.20 – 0.45m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 2
0.45m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 2

<i>Sample section: North east end, southeast facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 84.13m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 2
0.27 – 0.54m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 2
0.54m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 2

*Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 3.*

Due to the absence of archaeology in Trench 3, no detailed plan of the trench is included in this report.

### Trench 4 (Figs. 2 - 4)

<i>Sample section: West end, south facing.</i>		
<i>0.00 = 83.18m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.15m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 2
0.15 – 0.33m	L1004	Modern made ground. Firm, pale yellow brown silty sand with occasional - moderate small and medium sub-rounded flint and occasional chalk flecks.
0.33 – 0.57m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 2
0.57m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 2

<i>Sample section: East end, south facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 82.42m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1011	Modern made ground. Firm, mixed lenses of dark brownish grey sandy silt, pale orange brown clay silt, and compacted chalk with moderate small and medium rounded and sub-rounded flints.
0.20 – 0.39m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 2
0.39m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 2

*Description: Trench 4 contained two modern post holes (F1006 & F1008).*

F1006 was a circular post hole (0.40 x 0.40 x 0.17m) with vertical sides and a flattish base. Its fill (L1007) was a firm, mid grey brown clay silt with very occasional small sub-rounded flints. It contained a single large fragment of modern CBM.

F1008 was a circular post hole (0.11 x 0.11 x 0.20m) with vertical sides and a rounded base. Its fill (L1009) was a firm, dark grey brown clay silt with very occasional sub-rounded flints. It contained no finds, but the presence of degraded fragments of wood from the post suggests a modern date.

### **Trench 5 (Figs. 2 - 3)**

<i>Sample section: North end, east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 81.98m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 2
0.33 – 0.46m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 2
0.49m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 2

<i>Sample section: South end, east facing</i>		
<i>0.00 = 81.95m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As Trench 2
0.24 – 0.37m	L1001	Subsoil. As Trench 2
0.37m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As Trench 2

*Description: No archaeological features or finds were present in Trench 5.*

Due to the absence of archaeology in Trench 5, no detailed plan of the trench is included in this report.

## **6 CONFIDENCE RATING**

6.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds present.

## **7 DEPOSIT MODEL**

7.1 The deposit model was largely uniform across the site with Topsoil L1000 overlying Subsoil L1001 which in turn overlay the natural deposits (L1002). The exceptions were Trenches 2 and 4 where layers of made ground (L1003, L1004, and L1011) were present.

7.2 Topsoil L1000 was a firm, dark grey brown, organic, clay silt with sparse small sub-rounded flints. It was present to a depth of only 0.06m in Trench 2 in the southwest corner of the site but more generally across the rest of the site between 0.15m and 0.27m.

7.3 Beneath the topsoil, Subsoil L1001 was a firm, dark-mid orange brown clay silt with sparse small sub-rounded flints. This varied in thickness between 0.14m in the west and east, and 0.19 – 0.27m in the middle of the site.

7.4 The natural deposits (L1002) were a firm, mid brownish orange clay silt with areas of small and medium sub-rounded flint gravel in mid orange brown sandy silt, were encountered at depths of between 0.37m in the southeast corner, 0.57m in the centre, and 0.50m in the northwest corner.

7.5 In Trench 2 the topsoil overlay Made Ground L1003, a firm, mid brownish orange silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded flints and chalk flecks (0.19m thick). Beneath L1003 was buried Topsoil L1010 a firm, dark-mid orange brown clay silt with sparse small sub-rounded flints (0.11m thick). Below L1010 was Subsoil L1001 and at the base of the sequence the natural deposits (L1002) lay at a depth of 0.50m.

7.6 In Trench 4 the stratigraphy was different at either end. At the western end a 0.15m thick layer of topsoil overlay Made Ground L1004 a firm, pale yellow brown silty sand with occasional - moderate small and medium sub-rounded flint and occasional chalk flecks (0.18m thick). Below L1004 was Subsoil L1001 with the natural deposits (L1002) encountered at a depth of 0.50m.

7.7 At the eastern end at the top of the sequence Made Ground L1011, comprised mixed lenses of dark brownish grey sandy silt, pale orange brown clay silt, and compacted chalk with moderate small and medium rounded and sub-rounded flints was present to a thickness of 0.20m. L1011 overlay a subsoil with the natural deposits (L1002) encountered at a depth of 0.39m.

## 8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance N°60 as identified on the East Herts District Council Local Plan. It lies close to the line of the Roman route from Braughing to Great Chesterford and finds of prehistoric and Roman date have been found nearby. Recent investigations at Gravelly Lane to the south revealed medieval roadside activity.

8.2 Despite the potential for prehistoric, Roman, and/or medieval remains, with the exception of an unstratified Neolithic scraper (Plate 1) from the subsoil only modern features were present. In the southwest corner of the site a large raised patio area surrounded by a brick wall was present. At the eastern end of the site a large barn had the ground within it reduced to the level of the subsoil and a floor of mixed lenses of dark brownish grey sandy silt, pale orange brown clay silt, and compacted chalk laid. Outside this barn two post holes were revealed (F1006 and F1008 Tr.4). These were also of modern date.

## 9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Hertford Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) would like to thank Mr Jeremy Gredley for funding the works and Mr Ian Hopkins of Accent and Wilkinson for his assistance.

AS would also like to thank Ms Isobel Thompson of Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record and Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies for providing background information.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit.

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[www.ads.ahds.ac.uk](http://www.ads.ahds.ac.uk)

[www.pre-construct.com](http://www.pre-construct.com)

- 'Skeleton Green Re-Visited: Excavations at Mentley Lane, Puckeridge (PCA Ltd 2012)

## APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE (HER)

A search of the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) was carried out for a 500m radius of the site.

HER	NGR TL	Description
18179	TL 39445 25416 (point)	Neolithic Worked Flints, Gravelly Lane, Braughing. 20 worked flints found during excavation of the medieval ditches [15584] at Gravelly Lane were largely Neolithic or later in form. They included flakes, denticulated fragments, and a waste block. One of the flakes had ventral retouch, and some may have come from the same nodule. They were residual in later features, but were apparently knapped close to where they were found, at the given NGR and above the river Quin. One, however, was a post-medieval gunflint.
12331	TL 3891 2564 (point)	Prehistoric Worked Flints And Ring Ditch, Green End, Braughing. Fieldwalking over the western half of a field north of Green End yielded a concentration of prehistoric worked flints over an area of about 300 square metres, around a small south-west facing knoll at the given NGR. The flints consisted of flakes, together with a piece of greenish crystalline stone (part of a larger worked piece, possibly ground) and a single sherd of grit-tempered pottery. At about TL 39119 25682, east of the area of flints, is a ploughed-down ring-bank at the crest of the ridge, recorded in an air photo.
16193	TL 39770 25534 (point)	Bronze Age Worked Flint, Old Vicarage, Braughing. Bronze Age flints, consisting of blades and scrapers, have turned up in the garden of the Old Vicarage. As well as the scatter at the given NGR more were recovered when the pond in the SW corner of the garden was dredged.
<b>Romano-British</b>		
17789	TL 39820 25355 (point)	Roman Amphora Sherds, The Elms, Pelham Road, Braughing. 'Chunks of amphora' have been found in the garden at The Elms.
16192	TL 39715 25453 (point)	Roman & Medieval Pottery, Old Vicarage, Braughing. Some Roman pottery, and large quantities of medieval greyware pottery, were found in the garden of the Old Vicarage when the pond was dredged.
<b>Anglo-Saxon and Medieval</b>		
2660	TL 3950 2515 (point)	Medieval And Later Settlement Of Braughing. In Domesday Book the manor was 'Brachinges'. The medieval settlement grew up around the Saxon minster (for the church see [4332]), and the topography suggests that the main streets run around the boundaries of the minster precinct. In the mid 12th century much of the manor was given to the priory of Holy Trinity in London, and this portion constituted a new manor, Braughingbury. The new farmstead for the Bury disrupted the possible Saxon topography at the north end of the village.
4332	TL 3962 2520 (point)	Church Of St Mary, Braughing. Early 13C chancel (consecrated 1220); early 15C nave, aisles, S porch and W tower. NE mortuary chapel 1638 for Simeon Brograve. Restoration of various parts in 1838, 1852-3, 1855-61, 1866 and 1872-3, with a thorough restoration in 1888. The church was originally a Saxon minster, serving what was probably a royal estate, and appears in records from the earlier 9th century; it was then dedicated to St Andrew.

		Survey work identified a fragment of re-used interlace sculpture in the medieval chancel wall, and at least two phases of work. A will of 1368-9 gives the dedication as SS Peter & Paul; the dedication to St Mary may have taken place in the 15th century, when it was fashionable. Dowsing and probing suggested an earlier south wall inside the south nave (the south aisle is wider than the north aisle), and that a small building may have been attached to the south 'Priests' door'. North and south porches were built in 1786 by Philip Yorke, then owner of Hamels; these were demolished in the late 19th century. An inverted fragment of an Anglo-Saxon arch in long and short work was spotted on the north side of the tower exterior by Prof Tom Williamson in July 2011. The fragment of interlace is also on the exterior.
9103	TL 3970 2590 (point)	Strip Lynchets, Pentlow Hill, Braughing. Earthworks of 'strip lynchet' cultivation terraces on west-facing slope of Pentlow Hill. Total length approx. 500m.
15394	TL 39545 25302 (point)	Site Of Moat, Braughing Bury, Braughing. 'The house (Braughing Bury [12248]) is approached by a fine avenue of trees. A moat to the east of it probably incloses the site of an older house'. The moat is shown on the 1878 OS, enclosing an area of land 100m long and of irregular width, ranging from 6m to 25m. This island is almost divided into two unequal parts. This peculiar shape suggests that it may originally have been a smaller moated site of more conventional form, closer to the house, and was enlarged at some later date. No archaeological remains have been recorded. The moat disappears from OS mapping after 1921, but has not been built on; it lies within trees in the grounds of the house.
15584	TL 39435 25405 (point)	Medieval Ditches, Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing. Evaluation of the field, which slopes down from the Barkway road at Green End towards the river Rib, uncovered three large ditches which may have marked boundaries, and other smaller features which appear to have been a gully and three features which may be pits, or the butt ends of smaller ditches or gullies. Only three potsherds were found, in two of the ditches and the gully. They consisted of two slightly worn Roman sherds and a very worn flint-gritted sherd. All the features were towards the centre-east and south-east of the field. A single prehistoric flaked flint tool was also recovered from the upper fill of one of the ditches, and may be intrusive. In the spoil from geotechnical pits were worked flints (see [18179]), a medieval rim sherd, and a possible piece of worn Roman tile. The date of the ditches was established as medieval in later work. They appear to consist of two substantial ditches running eastwards down the steep slope, possibly making a funnel-shaped driveway to channel livestock onto the pasture in the valley bottom. After these had gone out of use, smaller ditches indicate subdivision into paddocks or closes. All the features dated to the 12th-13th century; in the western (uphill) part of one of the main ditches was a substantial group of pottery dumped in the ditch at the end of the 12th or in the early 13th century, and including much of a cooking pot in a fabric which predates South Herts Greyware. This pottery appears to be domestic rubbish thrown out from somewhere nearby. The ditches also yielded grains and seeds of wheat, oats and barley, a probable pea or bean type, grasses, stinking



		mayweed, a possible apple or pear seed, and part of what appeared to be a hazelnut shell. The few late Iron Age/Roman potsherds were residual. For Neolithic worked flints, see [18179].
12251	TL 39340 25337 (point)	The Gables, 19 Green End, Braughing. A late medieval open hall house with two crosswings. Part of the structure has been dated by dendrochronology to 1453-61; one timber had been felled in 1370. The hall consists of two unequal bays. The south wing was the parlour wing, and the north wing was divided into two service rooms. The upper floor in the hall, and the chimney-stack, were put in during the 17th century, and the north wing was extended westwards by two bays to put in a staircase. At some date, possibly before the mid 17th century, the south wing was more than doubled in length, and c.1700 it was given its own chimney. In the late 18th or 19th century the crosswing jetties and the front wall of the hall were underbuilt, and a lean-to added at the back of the house. From at least 1759 until the 20th century the property was known as Lion Farm. For the farm buildings see [15891].
<b>Post-medieval</b>		
12248	TL 39516 25348 (point)	House And Manor Of Braughing Bury, Braughing. The manor belonged to the Augustinian priory of the Holy Trinity in London until the Dissolution. In 1534 it was granted to Sir Thomas Audley, the chancellor. The manor and possibly the house were probably divided into two during the early 17th century. Certainly by 1758 the manor was divided into two tenements. There were still two farms here in the early 20th century. The house is timber-framed on a red brick sill with red tile roofs and tall octagonal red brick chimneys. The oldest part of the building is in the centre which was an open hall with a crown post roof and a cross passage. Late 16th century beams inserted in the hall indicate a timber-framed predecessor to the 17th century chimney. The house was altered during the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries and also during the 1970s. The owner (on antiquarian advice that part of the house was originally open from the ground to the roof) removed boards from the upper floor of the east wing. For the moat, which may enclose the site of the medieval manor house, see [15394].
11467	TL 3977 2550 (point)	16th Century Vicarage, Old Vicarage Brewhouse, Braughing. A vicarage house is mentioned in documents from the mid 17th century, and in 1714 James Perkins stated that the vicarage consisted of a house, barn, cart house, orchard and close containing three acres. In 1715 the stable, hay house and cart house were burned down and in 1720 Rev. George Smith rebuilt the property, which by 1724 consisted of a house [11778], brewhouse, barn, stable, woodhouse and three acres of land. In 2001 the complex of buildings consisted of the vicarage house, brewhouse, stable and a well preserved 18th century privy which was dismantled for relocation. The brewhouse may be the earlier vicarage, built after the land passed from Holy Trinity into private hands. It was built as a house in the second half of the 16th century, and is a small 2-storey structure (possibly severely truncated), heavily timber-framed on a flint sill, weatherboarded and part plastered, with a steep old red tile roof and a plank door on the south side. Much of the flint sill has been replaced and the frame repaired piecemeal, during many changes of function, but 'the timber framing, where it

		remains in good condition, is of exceptional quality, enhanced by the splendid surviving Tudor chimney stack'. The fireplaces on ground and upper floors are contemporary, with good detailing. An oven of 17C or 18C bricks flanks the ground floor fireplace, with a copper boiler on the other side of the same fireplace. In the 18C a staircase enclosed in weatherboarding was added on the outside SE corner, to give access to the upper floor. These alterations may relate to the building of the new vicarage. Tudor wall footings are visible in rabbit scrapes under the enormous yew tree on the west side of the standing building, at TL 39755 25499.
17414	TL 39581 25166 (point)	The Old Boys' School, 6 Church End, Braughing. 6 Church End was built as a house, in the 16th century or earlier; in 1860 it was renovated to serve as a village school, and in the 20th century was reconverted to part domestic use, and part meeting room with the village hall behind. It was built as a timber-framed hall house with two jettied and gabled crosswings projecting forwards; it has a large external red brick chimney attached to the front wall, and another at the east end. The main entrance is just to one side of the front chimney. The close-studded timber frame is now exposed, with red brick herringbone nogging and the carved date 1574; on the front chimney is a stone shield with the date 1860. The building has been given cusped and pierced bargeboards on the gables, with oriel windows, and decorative banding in the roof tiles. The forecourt wall, linked to the house, is of 19th century red brick and knapped flint. The garden is at a higher level, behind a retaining wall; this is the result of successive deposits of spoil from building works.
5369	TL 3940 2509 (point)	Remains Of Malting, Malting Lane, Braughing. Malting; preserved section is a red brick wall, 4 bays of 12ft with windows bricked up and modern lean-to behind which separates Malting Lane from house garden created on the site of the building. Sale particulars 1891 (HCRO E.1108) give 2 floors, steeps 38qrs, driving kiln, 4 room cottage adjoining. Remains as described by Branch Johnson; maltsters cottages remain.
5665	TL 397 252 (point)	Wellhead Gear, The Square, Braughing. Wellhead gear, handle type. Enclosed in unpainted deal casing without canopy. Casing has been recently replaced, otherwise as at the Johnson Survey.
11102	TL 3949 2540 (point)	Planned Farm, Braughing Bury/The Granary, Braughing. Called Bury Farm or the Granary. Complete loss of one section. Mostly rebuilt, with weatherboarding on a brick sill, imitating the former farm buildings. Cart entrance is now a large window. Converted for residential use.
16235	TL 3977 2533 (point)	Pentlows Farm, Braughing. The farmstead at Pentlows is shown on 1878 OS, the house at the south end of groups of farm buildings ranging north up the lane, on both sides of a rectangular yard divided into three compartments. The house, timber-framed and plastered, dates to at least the 17th century, and was probably originally a three-unit lobby entry house with central chimney, facing south, with a short rear service wing at the NW corner. In the mid 19th century the rear wing was extended, an entrance porch added in the angle on the north side, and new cast iron casement windows put in. Along the lane to the north, the east range of the farm buildings is timber-framed and weatherboarded,

		and was built in or before the 18th century. This is a stable range; all the other post-medieval buildings were replaced in the later 20th century and by 2007 the farm was derelict. As a John de Pentelowe is documented in 1287, with later similar references, the farm may have medieval origins. In 1691 a deed refers to 'two messuages called Pentlows Farm'. In the 18th century it belonged to the Hamels estate.
11103	TL 3956 2546 (point)	The Corner And Granary Barn, Braughing Bury. Called Granary and Corner Barn, once part of Braughing Bury farm [11102]. Entirely converted for residential use. Original exterior wall possibly restored, all rebuilt. Barn has slate roof and has new weatherboarding. Exterior walls are flint and brick. Barn part weatherboarded, mostly constructed of red and blue brick.
11778	TL 3976 2548 (point)	The Old Vicarage, Braughing. For the probable earlier vicarage, and documentation, see [11467]. The house now known as the Old Vicarage is the only pre-19C brick-built house in Braughing, and reflects the post-medieval rise in social status of parish clergy. In essence it was built after a fire destroyed some of the outshouses in 1715; George Smith, vicar 1714-1761, rebuilt the vicarage in 1720, partly with old materials. The external chimney and part of the adjoining west gable are dated to the late 17C, and the unusual plan may derive from an earlier house on the site (although see [11467]). The question of what predates 1720 is unresolved. The main block, of red brick with black headers, is a double-pile house of two and a half storeys over a cellar. In 1795 a new vicar declared the house uninhabitable, and carried out a major renovation. He also added two upper floors to the old brick service wing in 1802; these are timber-framed and plastered. By the late 19C the house stood in landscaped grounds with stables and outbuildings. It was renovated in 1997. A well-preserved 18C privy 'pavilion' was dismantled and relocated in 2001; the later 19C stable block is a good quality plain building of Baltic pine and red brick, with a slate roof. Maps suggest that barns may have stood in the area between the stables and the brewhouse, but observation of footings for a new garage block in 2001 recorded nothing.
12250	TL 39565 25143 (point)	Causeway House, 3 Church End, Braughing. Early 17th century house with three gables. Timber framed and plastered. Altered during the late 17th century and extended in the late 17th/early 18th century. Apparently early 17C, two storeys with attics and cellar, timber-framed, a three-room lobby entry plan with a later and slightly lower bay added at the south end. The original plan was parlour with cellar beneath, hall and kitchen, and the lack of any service room suggests that the added south bay replaces an older service end. There may have been an original timber chimney with two flues. The cellar, which is of brick above some flint, has the base of a corner fireplace. The lower part of the staircase and the turret are also part of the first build. Later, the chimney stack was rebuilt in brick; a second floor and three gables were added to create attic rooms and the stairs heightened, and the date of this appears to be late 17C or early 18C. The new bay at the south end was added c.1700.
18272	TL 39318 25239 (point)	11-13 Green End, Braughing. 11-13 Green End were built in the 17th century as a single house, timber-framed and plastered on a high plinth faced in knapped flint with brick

		<p>dressings. It is 'a picturesque' two-storey building end-on to the road, set back from it on higher ground. It has a large central chimney now shared between the two properties. In the mid 19th century the house was divided into two and given Gothic details, including pierced wavy bargeboards and oriel windows. The cottages are shown on the 1878 OS map with details of the garden and a well. The building was then at the south end of the buildings on the west side of Green End. Its division was presumably to accommodate the rise in population at Braughing when Green End was on the busy coaching route towards Cambridge; this came to an end when coaches were overtaken by railways from 1840.</p>
18269	TL 39342 25161 (point)	<p>Post Office (The Bell Ph), 6 Green End, Braughing. The Post Office at Green End, on the corner of Malting Lane, is shown on the 1878 OS map as 'The Bell PH'. In origin it is a timber-framed house on a stucco plinth, built in the 17th century. It has two storeys, cellar, and attics, and a two-cell plan, under a steep roof of old tile with a large central dormer. In 1874 the front of the pub was Gothicised by the brewers, and given a large gabled open timber porch in Gothic style with cusped opening, benches, and a bell. The pub closed in 1923 and became the Post Office. The two outbuildings shown behind the pub on the 1878 map were still standing when the pub closed; one was later demolished, but the other, at the east end of the plot, survives. The main building has been extended to the rear. Green End became the main through road at Braughing during the coaching era under the Wadesmill Turnpike Trust, and several inns and beer houses opened here. The Bell is named in deeds dated 1809.</p>
17945	TL 39433 25260 (point)	<p>Braughing Chapel, Fleece Lane, Braughing. Braughing Chapel stands in an isolated position 80m north of Fleece Lane, in a small plot behind the properties along the road at Green End. It is an Independent Free Chapel, but was originally a barn standing between Hitchin and Datchworth, used for preaching by John Bunyan (who died in 1688). In 1719 this barn was disassembled and moved to Datchworth by local dissenters. In 1762, the Datchworth congregation having declined, it was re-erected again at Braughing by Samuel Copperwheat, who was minister to the independent meetings at Braughing and Redhill near Buntingford. The meeting at Braughing had recently been turned out of a barn at the Rose &amp; Crown by a new landlord, and the owner of Fleece House offered land in an inconspicuous position at the end of his grounds for the chapel. It is a very plain timber-framed and plastered building with gabled ends and a steep riled roof, with original principal roof timbers. It is known to have had galleries on the east and west sides, with the pulpit on the north side. After a period of decline in the early 19th century the chapel and graveyard were put into trust and the building repaired by the independent minister at Bishop's Stortford. William Barnes, who arrived as minister in 1880, increased the congregation, and in 1885 the 17th century pews, and what was reputed to be the reading desk used by Bunyan, were stripped out to accommodate larger numbers. Only the west gallery remains. The porch and vestry were built in the 20th century.</p>
12330	TL 3970 2543 (point)	<p>Post-Medieval Ornamental Canal, Old Vicarage, Braughing. A pond in the SW corner of the Old Vicarage grounds is a remnant of an 18C garden feature, apparently an</p>

		ornamental canal. It appears to have been derived from the river, and is now smaller than it once was. Recent dredging yielded medieval potsherds and a few flint blades, possibly Bronze Age in date. Residual Roman sherds also turn up.
13277	TL 39363 25254 (point)	The Golden Fleece, 20 Green End, Braughing. In 1818 the inn was 'formerly known by the sign of the White Horse, afterwards the White Lion and now of the Fleece', so it had been an inn for a long time. It was one of the inns at Green End, on the road which when coaching routes developed in the 17th century became a much-used route to Cambridge via Barkway. The building dates to the 17th or early 18th century, timber-framed (now roughcast) on a red brick sill, and partly weatherboarded at the rear. It has two storeys with cellar and attics, in three bays. The plastered and tiled rear extension was added in the 18th century. In the 19th century the house was refronted giving it a symmetrical plan with three gabled dormers, and a central moulded and hooded doorframe. Adjoining were the brewhouse and malting. In 1877 the inn was sold to a firm of brewers in Bishop's Stortford, and eventually to Ind Coope. In the late 20th century it became a free house and then closed. It was not repaired and reopened until 2010.
12253	TL 39581 25212 (point)	The Old Rose And Crown Ph, 13 Church End, Braughing. A mid 16th century continuous-jetty house. It originally consisted of an unheated parlour, hall, cross passage and two service rooms. A two-storey wing with an open bay for cooking was added c.1600. In a rear wing is a smoke bay. The building has panelled pargetting at the front and a steep pitched roof which is now slated. The brick chimney is 17th century. During the 19th century the building became a public house and has been heavily restored in 'recent years'. The Rose & Crown closed in 1902 after a fight between hop pickers (the Hoppits, behind the house, were 'hop pits') and the bellringers; a magistrate who intervened was dumped in the horse trough, and as a result he confiscated the licence and ensured that the deeds stipulate that the building may not be used as a public house.
13141	TL 39371 25361 (point)	36-44 Green End, Braughing. 36-44 Green End form a single block, built c.1800 along what was then a busy coaching route (to Barkway and beyond). They are timber-framed, plastered and standing on a low plinth, and with low pitched slate roofs. They constitute an irregular row, in three parts, with a carriageway through the middle. All the houses are of two storeys, but no.44 at the north end is double-fronted and higher than the others. No.42 extends over the carriageway. 36-40 are deeper and slightly lower again, a pair and a singleton of small houses each with one window on each floor, and door remote from fireplace. Doors and windows survive. Observation of groundworks behind no.44 recorded modern terracing.
18270	TL 39340 25178 (point)	Site Of Smithy, 8a Green End, Braughing. The 1878 OS map shows a rectangular building marked 'Smithy' on the east side of Green End, at the south end of the row of cottages which projected into the roadway. The smithy is still shown on the 1897 and 1921 maps. In the yard behind was a pump. The smithy served the considerable traffic along the highway here.
15891	TL 39313 25344 (point)	Site Of Lion Farm, Green End, Braughing. Lion Farm is shown on 1878 OS as ranges of farm buildings around the late medieval house now called The Gables [12251]. The

		main L-shaped range, west and north-west of the house, was demolished before 1898, and the farm had apparently ceased to function; but to the south a second range of barns at Lion Farm still survives as The Old Barn and its outbuilding. These, two small barns side by side and facing north, date to the 17th century. They are timber-framed and weatherboarded, with thatched roofs. The eastern barn has been converted into a house, and altered into a one and a half storey building with two eyebrow dormers.
18271		Site Of Post-Medieval Gravel Pit, Gravelly Lane, Braughing. A large depression marked 'Old Gravel Pit' is shown here on the 1878 OS map, in the eastern half of a field east of the highway and in the angle of Gravelly Lane. Its maximum dimensions were 80m x 87m. Between 1897 and 1921 a small area of gravel was extracted to the north of the old pit. The pit remained disused until 2000, when it was filled with four new houses.
<b>Unknown</b>		
10323	TL 3957 2590 (point)	Linear Earthworks North Of Braughing. Curvilinear features on the River Quin. Possibly water meadow management. The 1878 OS map shows also that the sudden kink in the river just to the south is the western arm of a subrectangular feature, apparently an artificial watercourse around three sides on the 19th century map (centred on TL 3967 2574).
16237	TL 3968 2533 (point)	Possible House Platform, Pentlows Farm, Braughing. Inspection of the field west of Pentlows Farm buildings noted a flat level area east of a recorded historic boundary which may be the line of the Roman road from Braughing to Great Chesterford. This part of the field is well drained, and unlike part of the field to the west, not subject to flooding.

**APPENDIX 2 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS**

Feature	Context	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	Other
1001			Subsoil				Str. Flint (1) - 24g
1005		2	Masonry Context - Brick Wall			1847g	

## **APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST REPORTS**

### **The Struck Flint**

*Andrew Peachey MifA*

A single struck flint scraper (24g; Plate 1) was recovered from Subsoil L1001 in an un-patinated condition. The end scraper was formed by the application of abrupt retouch to the straight distal end of a flake with blade-like dorsal scars. These characteristics are typical of flint implements produced in the earlier Neolithic period.

### **The Ceramic Building Materials**

*Andrew Peachey MifA*

A brick sampled from Masonry Structure M1005 comprised a partially complete (1847g), yellow London Stock Brick (Ryan 1996, 95) with abroad, slightly irregular frog. This type of brick was produced from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### *References*

Ryan, P. 1996, *Brick in Essex: From the Roman Conquest to the Reformation*, Privately Published, Colchester



## APPENDIX 4      CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

<b>Records</b>	<b>Number</b>
Brief	Y
Specification	Y
Registers	Y
Context Sheets	14
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	2
Site drawings A4	0
Site photographs b/w	12
Site photographs colour slides	12
Digital Photographs	16

## APPENDIX 5 HER SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name and address:</b>	Plots 1 & 2, adjacent to 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire
<b>County:</b> Herts	<b>District:</b> East Herts
<b>Village/Town:</b> Braughing	<b>Parish:</b> Braughing
<b>Planning application reference:</b>	3/12/0508/FP
<b>Client name/address/tel:</b>	Mr J Gredley
<b>Nature of application:</b>	Residential
<b>Present land use:</b>	Garden
<b>Size of application area:</b> c.58m <sup>2</sup>	<b>Size of area investigated</b> c. 3800m <sup>2</sup>
<b>NGR (8 figures):</b>	TL 3939 2555
<b>Site Code:</b>	AS 1538
<b>Site director/Organization:</b>	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
<b>Type of work:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation
<b>Date of work:</b>	16 – 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
<b>Location of finds/Curating museum:</b>	Hertford
<b>Related SMR Nos:</b>	<b>Periods represented:</b>
<b>Relevant previous summaries/reports: -</b>	-
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b>	<p><i>In October 2012 Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) conducted an archaeological evaluation of Plots 1 &amp; 2, Adjacent to 50 Green End, Braughing, Hertfordshire SG11 2PQ (TL 39395 25555). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of two new dwellings with associated access, garages and replacement cart lodge/garage for No. 50 on land adjacent to 50 Green End (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/12/0508/FP).</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation recorded a modern wall (Tr.2 M1005) and two modern post holes (Tr. 4 F1006 and F1008). An unstratified early Neolithic flint scraper was found</i></p>
<b>Author of summary:</b> G Barlow	<b>Date of Summary:</b> October 2012



Plate 1 Early neolithic scraper from Subsoil L1001

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1: General view of the rear of N° 50 Green End Braughing, Herts. Looking north-west.



2: General view of the site. Looking west.



3: General view of the site. Looking east.



4: Outbuilding still standing on proposed location of Trench 1. Looking north-east.



5: Trench 2, post-excavation. Looking west.



6: Trench 2, post-excavation. Looking south.



7: Sample Section 2B, Trench 2. Looking north.



8: Trench 3, post-excavation. Looking north-east.



9: Sample Section 3A, Trench 3. Looking north-west.



10: Trench 4, post-excavation. Looking east.



11: Sample section 4B, Trench 4. Looking north.



12: Posthole F1006, Trench 4. Looking east.



13: Trench 5, post-excavation. Looking north.

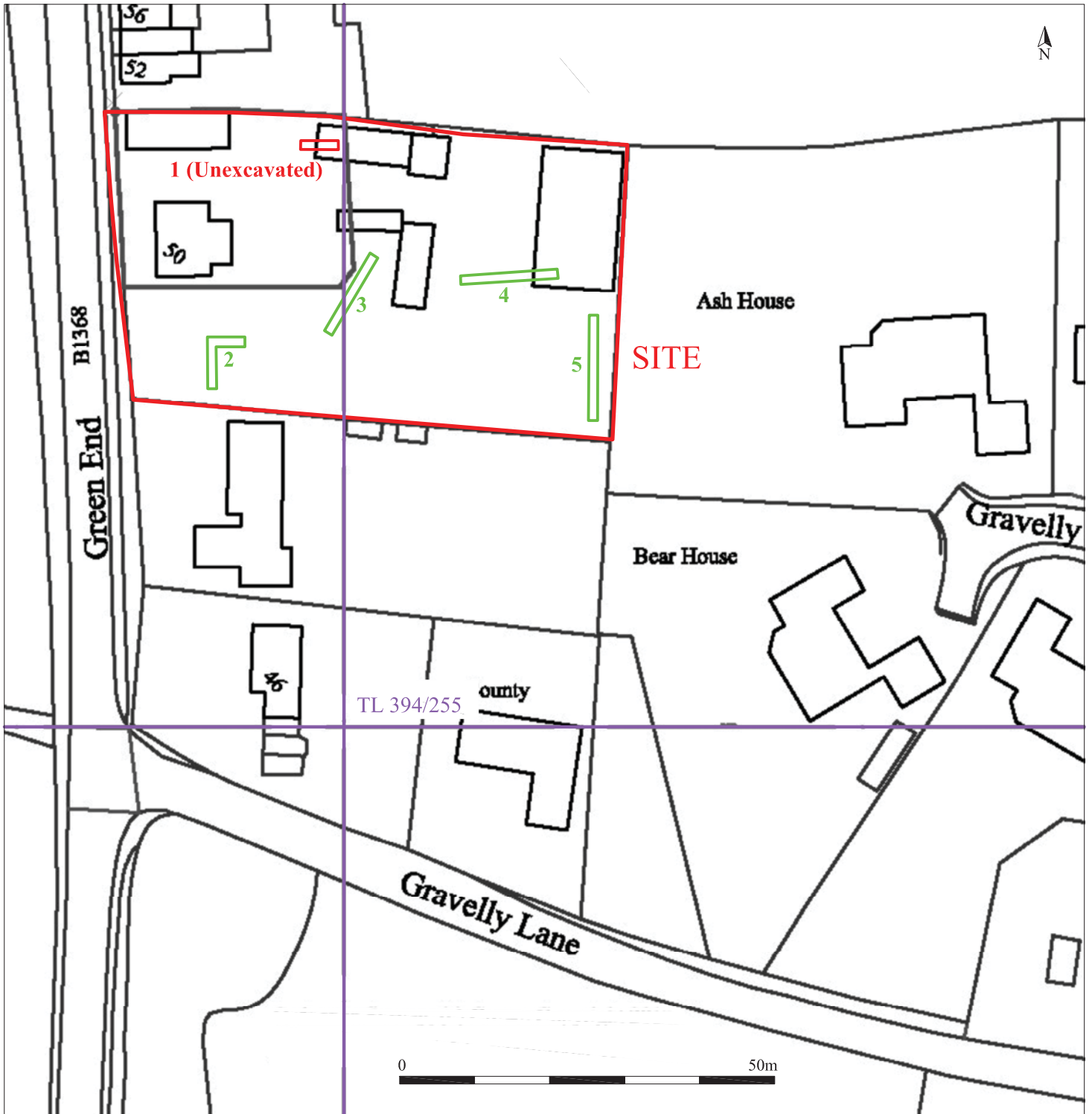


14: Sample section 5A, Trench 5. Looking west.



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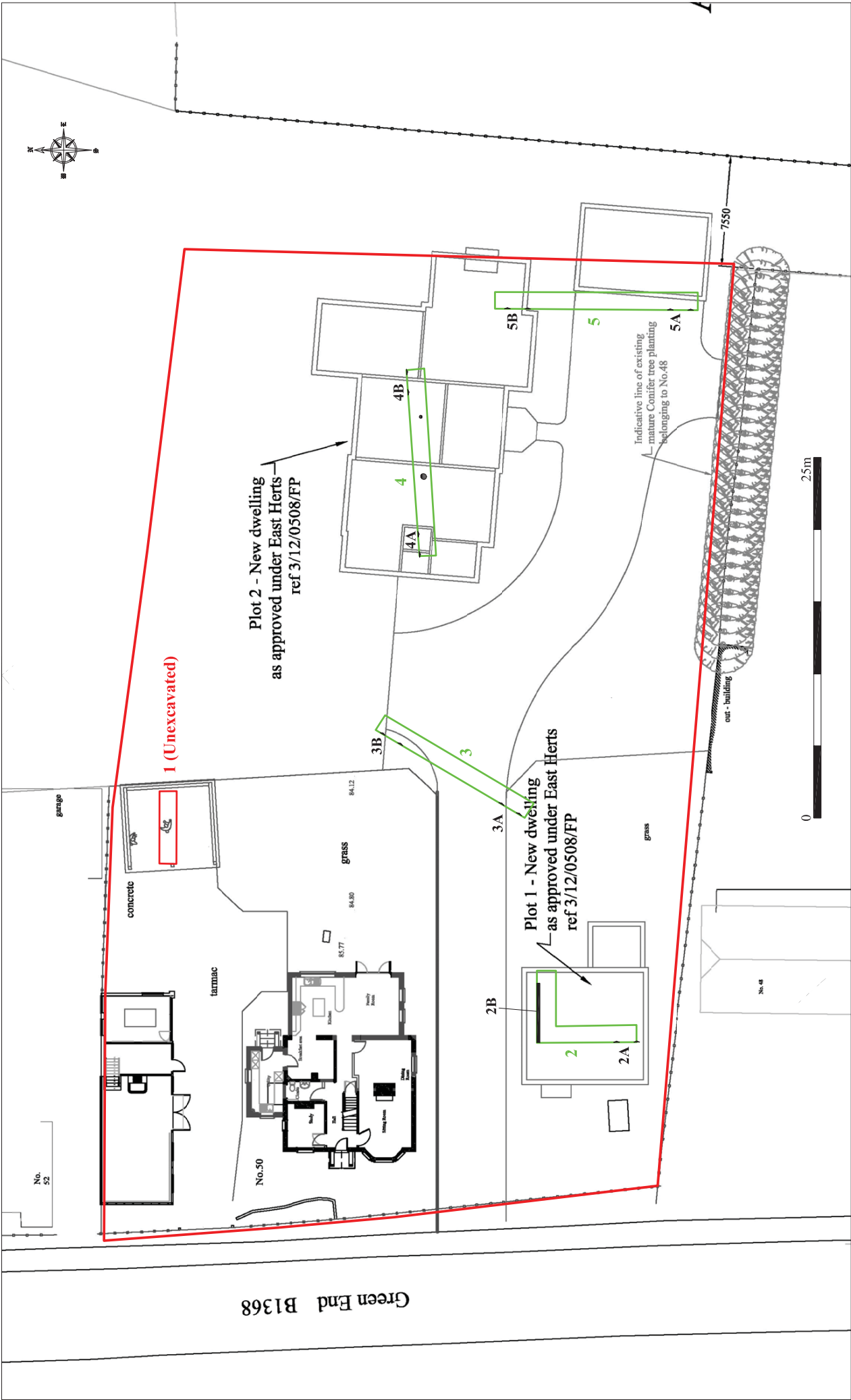
*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*  
**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
 Scale 1:750 at A4





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**Fig. 3 Trench plans**  
 Scale 1:250 at A3

