ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

BEESON'S YARD, 72 RAILWAY STREET, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

HER Ref. 294/12

| Authors: | Zbigniew Pozorski (Fieldwork and report) | |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| | Antony Mustchin | (Editor) |
| Illustrations: | Charlotte Davies | |
| NGR: TL 32845 12770 | | Report No: 4268 |
| District: East Hertfordshire | | Site Code: AS 1566 |
| Approved: Claire Halpin | | Project No: 5078 |
| Signed: | | Date: February 2013 |
| | | Revised: 14/06/2013 |

This report is confidential to the client. Archaeological Solutions Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

Archaeological Solutions is an independent archaeological contractor providing the services which satisfy all archaeological requirements of planning applications, including:

Desk-based assessments and environmental impact assessments
Historic building recording and appraisals
Trial trench evaluations
Geophysical surveys
Archaeological monitoring and recording
Archaeological excavations
Post excavation analysis
Promotion and outreach
Specialist analysis

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

98-100 Fore Street, Hertford SG14 1AB Tel 01992 558170

Unit 6, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way, Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AJ Tel 01284 765210

e-mail info@ascontracts.co.uk www.archaeologicalsolutions.co.uk





twitter.com/ArchaeologicalS



www.facebook.com/ArchaeologicalSolutions











CONTENTS

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE
- 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS
- 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND
- 5 METHODOLOGY
- 6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS
- 7 CONFIDENCE RATING
- 8 DEPOSIT MODEL
- 9 DISCUSSION
- 10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDICES

- 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA (HER)
- **2** CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE
- 3 HER SUMMARY SHEET

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

| Project details | |
|-----------------|---|
| Project name | Beeson's Yard, 72 Railway Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire |
| | |

In February 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beeson's Yard, 72 Railway Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 32845 12770). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the proposed submission of a planning application for residential development of nine flats and associated parking. The evaluation was undertaken in order to provide further information to enable a decision on any planning application with regard to the historic environment.

The site is situated within Area of Archaeological Significance No.172, which encompasses the extent of the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement of the town of Hertford. It lies on the eastern periphery of the medieval core of Hertford and close to the location of the 12th century Benedictine Priory. The remains of the Priory as well as a burial ground were found in close vicinity. Therefore, the site had a potential for the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval remains.

Excavations approximately 20m north of the site indicated that the area was lagely open ground during the medieval period. Further work revealed groups of disturbed medieval and post-medieval pits and the remains of medieval houses. The 19th century Priory Maltings was located just to the north which now serves as a home for the elderly.

In the event the earliest deposit recorded during the evaluation was likely of 17th – early 19th century origin.

| | T | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Project dates (fieldwork) | 13-14/02/201 | 3 | |
| Previous work (Y/N/?) | N | Future work (Y/N/?) | TBA |
| P. number | 5078 | Site code | AS 1566 |
| Type of project | An Archaeolo | gical Evaluation | |
| Site status | Within Area o | of Archaeological Signific | cance No.172 |
| Current land use | Disused offic | es with garages | |
| Planned development | Residential d | evelopment of 9 flats an | d parking |
| Main features (+dates) | - | | |
| Significant finds (+dates) | - | | |
| Project location | | | |
| County/ District/ Parish | Hertfordshire | East Hertfordshire | Hertford |
| HER/ SMR for area | Hertfordshire | HER | |
| Post code (if known) | SG14 1BA | | |
| Area of site | c. 250m ² | | |
| NGR | TL 32845 12 | 770 | |
| Height AOD (min/max) | 39.70/40.20n | 1 | |
| Project creators | | | |
| Brief issued by | HCC HEU | | |
| Project supervisor/s (PO) | Zbigniew Poz | zorski | |
| Funded by | St Cross Dev | relopments | |
| Full title | Beeson's Ya | rd, 72 Railway Street, | Hertford, Hertfordshire. |
| | An Archaeolo | gical Evaluation | |
| Authors | Pozorski, Z. | | |
| Report no. | 4268 | | |
| Date (of report) | February 201 | 3 (Revised 14/06/2013) | |

BEESON'S YARD, 72 RAILWAY STREET, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In February 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beeson's Yard, 72 Railway Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 32845 12770). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the proposed submission of a planning application for residential development of nine flats and associated parking. The evaluation was undertaken in order to provide further information to enable a decision on any planning application with regard to the historic environment.

The site is situated within Area of Archaeological Significance No.172, which encompasses the extent of the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement of the town of Hertford. It lies on the eastern periphery of the medieval core of Hertford and close to the location of the 12th century Benedictine Priory. The remains of the Priory as well as a burial ground were found in close vicinity. Therefore, the site had a potential for the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval remains.

Excavations approximately 20m north of the site indicated that the area was largely open ground during the medieval period. Further work revealed groups of disturbed medieval and post-medieval pits and the remains of medieval houses. The 19th century Priory Maltings was located just to the north which now serves as a home for the elderly.

In the event the earliest deposit recorded during the evaluation was likely of 17th – early 19th century origin.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In February 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beeson's Yard, 72 Railway Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 32845 12770; Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr David Kirby on behalf of his client, St Cross Developments, and was undertaken in advance of the proposed submission of a planning application for residential development of nine flats and associated parking. The evaluation was undertaken in order to provide further information to enable a decision on any planning application with regard to the historic environment.
- 1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a requirement of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 31/10/2012) and approved by HCC HEU. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (revised 2008), as well as the document Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it aimed to establish the presence or absence of any remains relating to the area of medieval priory and burial ground located to the north and east of the site. The evaluation was required as the first phase of archaeological work. If significant remains were present and the development received planning permission, HCC HEU would require further archaeological mitigation.

Planning policy 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 The lies in the eastern part of the town centre of Hertford, on the corner of Railway Street adjacent to the north east of its roundabout junction with South Street (Fig. 1). It is bounded to the east by Priory Street, and comprises a small open concrete-surfaced yard with an open garage block with buildings above and former workshops/offices around its periphery.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- 3.1 The River Lea runs through the settlement of Hertford and the town lies close to the confluence of the River Lea and four of its tributaries; the Ash, Beane, Rib and Mimram Rivers (Fig. 1). Hertford was probably also the first natural ford established across the Lea in the prehistoric period. The site lies within the floor of the valley of the Lea and only 200m to the south of its current course between Millbridge and Folly Bridge. The site is situated at c. 40m AOD, with land rising to the south and having been subject to previous development and levelling. The site is thus characterised by its overwhelmingly urban character, in an area dominated by commercial and residential properties.
- 3.2 Local geological conditions of the site are therefore characterised by floodplains and river terrace gravels, overlying the glaciofluvial drift geology created by glacial and river action (British Geological Survey 1978; Kiln and Partridge 1994). The soils of the site are dominated by those of the Ludford association, which are described as deep, well drained fine loamy, coarse loamy and sandy soils, which are locally flinty and in places over gravel (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). It is also noted that such soils of the Ludford association are at slight risk of water erosion.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 Hertford's strategic position at the confluence and fording point of the Rivers Lea, Beane and Mimram has ensured a long and sustained occupation of the local area. The lighter gravels and fertile alluvial plains have long attracted settlement, and it is likely that the area was successively cleared and settled permanently from the Mesolithic period onwards. The HER database reveals that prehistoric abraded chipped flints found near the Great Eastern Railway station (HER 4108), whilst bronze sword blade fragments were found at an unspecified location during dredging of the River Lea (HER 271).

Romano-British

4.2 Hertfordshire is generally characterised as a wealthy and populous area during the Romano-British period, with a major settlement at Ware, 3.5km to the north-east of the site. Until more recent excavations in the town, little evidence had been recovered closer at hand, but traces of settlement have been discovered in St Andrew's Street spanning the 1st and 2nd centuries, which is supported by Roman pottery from Maidenhead Street. Much of the Romano-British evidence for the region may be seen in the context of a major town at Ware, which has been partially excavated over a number of years, revealing a prosperous, extensive settlement (Zeepvat 1995).

Anglo-Saxon

4.3 The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No.172, designated on the Local Plan, which identifies the extent of the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement of the town of Hertford. Hertford emerges into the historical Anglo-Saxon record at an early date. The Northumbrian historian Bede, for example, recorded the convening of two important church synods at *Herutford* in 673 and *Hæthfelth* in 675 by Archbishop Theodore (Higham 1994). The River Lea became the dividing boundary between the Danish and West Saxon-controlled areas of England in the 9th century. The foundation of the town was secured when King Edward the Elder established two defended *burhs* at the southern and northern approaches to the river crossing in 912 AD and 914 AD. Although Anglo-Saxon evidence in Hertfordshire on the whole is poorly known, a probable sunken-featured middle Saxon building has been identified in Mill Road 150m to the north-east of the site (HER 13123).

Medieval

- The site lies close to the site of the medieval parish church of St John (HER 4.4 2999) and the Benedictine Priory of St Mary Monk (St Mary the Virgin; HER 2994). The latter was excavated by HAT (now AS) in 1989 - 90, revealing evidence of the church and part of its associated cemetery, from which the remains of at least 247 individuals were excavated (HER 9783; Zeepvat 1996). The burials dated to between the 12th and 19th centuries. The excavations also revealed the nave of the medieval church which served the Parish of St John and St Mary's Priory, constructed in the 12th century. Further evidence of the Priory complex, and its successor, the Priory Farm, have been excavated in the vicinity of the current site, including evidence relating to the demolition of the priory or Church of St John during a 2003 evaluation, which, along with subsequent monitoring of the adjacent former Council Deport site (Riviere site) in 2005, revealed two medieval timber-framed buildings, a potential Anglo-Saxon structure and numerous other archaeological features (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2006). The boundaries of the Priory and churchyard are not well-understood – Priory Street and St John's Street were laid out when the priory estate was finally broken up in 1853 (Zeepvat 1996) - but early cartographic sources show a boundary ditch which may demarcate its western side, possibly including the current site before turning east/north-east, to the east of the current property boundaries of 73-83 Railway Street, where several burials have been recorded, the nearest being 25m to the north-east. The archaeological evaluation carried out by AS at the Hertford East site, c. 100m to the north-east revealed a layer of rubble with numerous medieval dressed limestone blocks likely to be a demolition material from the Priory (Pozorski 2010).
- 4.5 Excavations and a watching brief in 1977-8 approximately 20m north of the site indicated that the site of Botsford's Yard in Priory Street was open ground during the medieval period. Saxo-Norman pottery was present in 'field' soils. Further work in 1980 revealed several large disturbed groups of medieval and post-medieval pits and the remains of medieval houses (HHER 9893).

Post-medieval and later

- By the middle of the 16th century, Hertford Castle had become strategically redundant and the palace was increasingly used to house royal children or lesser nobles instead of the king himself. Early maps of the town suggest a degree of shrinkage from areas formerly known to contain buildings, although a number of 16th and 17th century buildings surviving in the town reveal that economic viability was maintained to some degree. With the construction of the Lea Navigation in the early 18th century, the town was once again made accessible for transportation, and a number of wharves, maltings and small industries grew up as a result. The postmedieval history of Hertford is very much linked to its trades and renowned brewing industry and the town is known to have had its fortunes revived by the Industrial Revolution. Further development occurred in the early modern period following the construction of Hertford East Railway Station, which stands c. 200m to the north-east of the site, in 1888 (HER 5533). Works at the Hertford East site to the north-east revealed 12 pits aligned in two, or possibly three, parallel lines which may have formed part of the same complex of structures known from the area to the immediate north of that site (Pozorski 2010).
- 4.7 The property immediately to the north of the site was a malting, named Priory Maltings, built in 1875 for Benjamin Young comprising a large kiln and a malt store at right angles to the main line of buildings. The maltings were first converted in 1965 into Housing Dept Store by Hertford Corporation (HHER 5379). In 1987 the buildings, of yellow stock brick, were completely remodelled internally during conversion works into 23 retirement flats, and again in 1990 into a rest home for the elderly. The main maltings were of 6 bays and 4 floors which were reduced to 3 storeys and attics during conversion. The kiln house was of 3 by 2 bays and was divided by brick buttresses with offsets. The kiln furnaces were removed during conversion of the site. The Malt store, weatherboarded with 2 storeys and attics, appears to be largely a 20th century reconstruction.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 Two trenches were excavated using a mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2). The trench locations were approved by HCC HEU and both trenches measured 12 x 1.60m.
- 5.2 Concrete surface and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Trench 1 (Fig. 2, DP 2-3)

| Sample section 1A (DP 4): north-west end, south-west facing | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|--|
| 0.00 = 39.93m A | 0.00 = 39.93m AOD | | |
| 0.00 – 0.13m | L1000 | Surface of the yard. Light grey, compact, concrete. | |
| 0.13 – 0.18m | L1001 | Dark yellow, loose, sand. | |
| 0.18 - 0.46m | L1002 | Dark greyish brown, loose, silty sand with CBM rubble. | |
| 0.46 - 0.52m | L1003 | White, friable, chalk with moderate CBM fragments. | |
| 0.52 – 0.94m | L1004 | Made ground. Mid to dark brownish grey, friable, silty sand | |
| | | with frequent CBM fragments. | |
| 0.94 – 1.40m | L1005 | Made ground. Mid greyish brown, friable, silty sand with | |
| | | moderate CBM fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. | |
| 1.40m + | L1006 | Natural mid to dark yellow, loose, sandy gravel. | |

| Sample section 1B (DP 5): south-east end, south-west facing | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|--|
| 0.00 = 40.09m A0 | 0.00 = 40.09m AOD | | |
| 0.00 - 0.15m | L1000 | Concrete. As above. | |
| 0.15 – 0.21m | L1001 | As above. | |
| 0.21 – 0.30m | L1002 | As above. | |
| 0.30 - 0.33m | L1003 | As above. | |
| 0.33 – 0.46m | L1007 | Made ground. Light greyish brown, friable, sand with frequent | |
| | | CBM fragments, flints and stones. | |
| 0.46 – 0.61m | L1005 | Made ground. As above. | |
| 0.61m + | L1006 | Natural gravel. As above. | |

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2, DP 6-7)

| Sample section 2A (DP 8): north end, east-north-east facing | | |
|---|-------|--|
| 0.00 = 39.72m AOD | | |
| 0.00 – 0.13m | L1000 | Concrete. As above, Tr. 1. |
| 0.13 – 0.18m | L1008 | Light grey, loose, sand. |
| 0.18 – 0.22m | L1009 | Mid grey, compact, silty sand. |
| 0.22 – 0.28m | L1010 | Dark yellow, compacted, sand with frequent small stones. |
| 0.28 - 0.33m | L1011 | Light grey, friable, clayey silt. |
| 0.33 - 0.52m | L1012 | ?Former yard surface. Dark grey, compact, silty sand with |
| | | gravel. |
| 0.52 – 0.59m | L1013 | Light to mid yellow, compacted, sandy gravel. |
| 0.59 – 0.62m | L1014 | Mid grey, friable, clayey silt. |
| 0.62 - 0.66m | L1015 | Dark yellow, compacted, sandy gravel. |
| 0.66 - 0.68m | L1016 | Dark bluish grey, compact, sandy silt. |
| 0.68 – 0.74m | L1017 | Mid grey, friable, silty sand with small stones. |
| 0.74 – 0.87m | L1018 | Mid to dark yellow, compacted, sandy gravel. |
| 0.87 – 1.70m | L1019 | Made ground. Dark grey, compact, clayey silt with occasional |
| | | CBM fragments. |
| 1.70m + | L1006 | Natural gravel. As above, Tr. 1. |

| Sample section 2B (DP 9): south end, east-north-east facing | | |
|---|-------|--|
| 0.00 = 39.75m AOD | | |
| 0.00 - 0.15m | L1000 | Concrete. As above, Tr. 1. |
| 0.15 – 0.19m | L1008 | As above. |
| 0.19 – 0.26m | L1020 | Dark yellow, compacted, sand. |
| 0.26 - 0.37m | L1011 | As above. |
| 0.37 – 0.46m | L1012 | ?Former yard surface. As above. |
| 0.46 - 0.53m | L1013 | As above. |
| 0.53 - 0.56m | L1014 | As above. |
| 0.56 - 0.65m | L1021 | White, friable, chalk with moderate CBM fragments. |
| 0.65 – 0.74m | L1018 | As above. |
| 0.74 – 1.25m | L1019 | Made ground. As above. |
| 1.25m + | L1006 | Natural gravel. As above, Tr. 1. |

Description: No archaeological features were present. Layer L1012 contained small numbers of stones (0.15 x 0.12 x 0.10m) present in the northern end of the trench. Made Ground L1019 contained 17^{th} – early 19^{th} century pottery, clay pipe and CBM fragments including a single fragment (58g) of post-medieval (17^{th} – 19^{th} century) peg tile. The slightly warped flat tile was manufactured in a red-orange, sand-tempered fabric with a sanded base. All finds identifications were made on-site by the excavator (no material was retained for further analysis).

Digital photographs of the four sample sections (DPs 4, 5, 8 and 9) were taken from the opposite trench edge in all instances. However, the depth and width of the trenches resulted in the 'foreshortening' of contexts on the digital photographs, particularly in the case of DPs 4, 8 and 9.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

- 8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Concrete L1000 (0.12-0.15m thick). Below were numerous layers comprising levelling layers, former surfaces and made ground. The majority of these deposits were of modern origin and they were more substantially accumulated in the northern part of the site reflecting the ground levelling over a natural slope.
- 8.2 The natural geology, L1006, was present at 0.60 1.70m below existing ground level and comprised a mid to dark yellow, loose, sandy gravel.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval archaeology. The site is located in the area of

the late Saxon defended settlements, Saxon and medieval town of Hertford and its royal castle. It lies close to or partially within the precinct of the late 12th century Benedictine Priory of St Mary and adjacent to the burial ground.

9.2 In the event no archaeological features were revealed. The 17th – early 19th century finds recovered from a basal deposit L1019 suggest the site have been intensively developed in the post-medieval period. This could have resulted in removal of the earlier deposits and archaeological features potentially present on the site. The stratigraphy reflected numerous efforts undertaken to level the ground which in naturally gently slopes towards the north. Layer L1012 may have been a former paved yard surface as some cobbles were present within the layer. The eastern part of the site with Trench 1 seems to be largely affected by the 20th century development.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 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 would like to thank St Cross Developments for funding the project and the architect Mr David Kirby for his assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit, and Dr. Isobel Thompson for providing the HER information (ref: 294/12).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey (BGS), 1978, Legend for the 1:625,000 Geological map of the United Kingdom (solid geology); London. Mansfield

Crank, N. A. and Grant, J., 2003, *The Dolphin Public House, Mill Road and Railway Street, Hertford. An Archaeological Evaluation*. AS unpublished Report No. 1437

Gover, J. E. B., Mawer, A., and Stenton, F. M., 1938, *The Place Names of Hertfordshire*. English Place-Names Society Vol. XV (reprinted 1970)

Gurney, D., 2003, Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14/ALGAO

Heath, C., 1975, *The Book of Hertford: the story of the town*. Barracuda Books Ltd, Chesham

Institute of Field Archaeologists (now Institute for Archaeologists), 1994, (revised 2008), Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation. IfA, Reading

Medlycott, M and Brown, N, 2008 (<u>www.eaareports.org.uk/algao</u>)

Page, W (ed.), 1912 (rep. 1971), The Victoria History of the Counties of England; Hertfordshire, Vol III

Pre-Construct Archaeology, 2006, An Assessment of an Archaeological Watching Brief and Excavation at the Former Council Depot, Mill Road, Hertford

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW), 1983, Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales. SSEW, Harpenden

Zeepvat, R. J., 1995, Roman Settlement, Glaxo, Ware; archive assessment and publication proposals. HAT (now AS) unpublished Report No. 1131

Zeepvat, R. J., 1996, 'Excavations at the site of St Mary's Priory and St John's Church, Hertford', in; *Hertfordshire Archaeology* Vol. 12, 1994-96

APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA (HER)

The following sites are those that lie within a 1km radius of the assessment site. The table has been compiled from data held by the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER).

| HER | NGR TL | Description | |
|-------------|------------------------|--|--|
| Prehistorio | Prehistoric (to AD 43) | | |
| 271 | 33 13 | Bronze sword blade fragments and probably found during dredging of the river | |
| 4108 | 3300 1300 | Abraded chipped flints found near the Great Eastern Railway station | |
| Anglo-Sax | on (AD 410 – 106 | 66) | |
| 13123 | 32912 12955 | Probable sunken-featured middle Saxon building comprising a small six-post structure found on Mill Road, and apparently associated with early-mid Saxon pottery | |
| Medieval (A | AD 1066 – 1500) | | |
| 2994 | 3282 1298 | The Benedictine Priory of St Mary Monk (or St Mary the Virgin) on Priory Street is said to have been founded between 1086 and 1093 by Ralph de Limesy as a cell of St Albans Abbey | |
| 2999 | 3284 1286 | Medieval parish church of St John the Evangelist on Priory Street, apparently the parochial part of St Mary's Priory | |
| 9479 | 327 128 | The original site of Dicker Mill was established by at least the late 12 th century; it may have been connected with the Benedictine priory of St Mary Monk, which was endowed with a mill upon its foundation in the late 11 th century | |
| 9783 | 3283 1287 | The cemetery of St Mary's Priory and St John's church yielded 247 burials when partly excavated in 1989-90; the main use of the cemetery was from the 12 th – 18 th century, being the only one of its kind in Hertford | |
| 9893 | 32818 12799 | Excavations and watching brief indicated that the site of Botsford's Yard in Priory Street was open ground during the medieval period | |
| 12693 | 3295 1292 | Evaluation of the former car park on the north side of the Dolphin public house found four pits and a gully cut into natural gravel and sealed by subsoil | |
| 13124 | 32910 12975 | More than 50 large postholes arranged in 16 rows, and extending beyond the excavated area, suggest a large building on timber piles close to the bank of the mill leat along Mill Road | |
| | eval (AD 1500 – 1 | . , | |
| 2990 | 3281 1270 | The earliest known purpose-built Friends' meeting house, built in 1670 | |
| 7253 | 3287 1308 | Large barge basin on Mill Road with brick walls, still in use by pleasure craft on the River Lea Navigation | |
| 7256 | 3291 1308 | Road bridge over the River Lea Navigation comprising Mill Road | |

| 9915 | 3295 1278 | The Bluecoat School/Christ's Hospital dates to 1690 and was |
|------------|-------------------|---|
| | | a branch of the Royal Foundation of Christ's Hospital in London set up in Hertford 'for the receipt of those children |
| | | which they could not maintain {in London} for want of room, |
| | | andfor the recovery of their health by the benefit of the air' |
| 10020 | 3288 1271 | A brewhouse is known to have been on the South Road site |
| 10020 | 0200 127 1 | from as early as 1719, and became Young's Brewery in 1754 |
| 10121 | 3277 1270 | Little is known of the Borough prison, although it is known to |
| | | have been located in Back Street (Railway Street) |
| 13070 | 32845 12940 | Priory Farm on St John's Street was a farmstead east of the |
| | | Priory, a house which succeeded the medieval St Mary's |
| | | Priory and is shown on maps from at least 1733 until after |
| | | 1830, but disappeared during mid 19C development of |
| 10071 | 22000 42025 | Hertford |
| 13071 | 32800 12935 | A map of Lord Townshend's estate of c1733 shows Priory House on the bank of the mill stream south of the east end of |
| | | Folly Island and along Priory Street |
| Early mode | ern and later (AD | 0 1750 – present) |
| 5379 | 3280 1279 | Priory Malting built 1875 for Benjamin Young on Priory Street |
| 5381 | 3275 1273 | Malting of four yellow brick buildings arranged around a yard |
| | | on Railway Street/Bircherley Street |
| 5533 | 3298 1292 | Hertford East Railway Station comprises the 1888 Great |
| 5000 | 0000 4040 | Eastern Railway branch terminus |
| 5888 | 3302 1312 | Former electricity power station on Spencer Street, commissioned by NORTHMET in 1901, closed in 1926 |
| 9921 | 3287 1269 | The first known reference to The Blue Coat Boy at 117 Fore |
| | | Street dates to 1808, when it functioned as a brewery tap to |
| 9937 | 3284 1292 | the adjoining Youngs Brewery RC Church of the Immaculate Conception (and St Joseph) |
| 9931 | 3204 1292 | was built in 1860 on part of the site of St Mary's |
| 9946 | 3295 1289 | The Dolphin public house at 91 Railway Street comprises a |
| 3340 | 0230 1203 | station hotel, built in the late 1880s and comprising a 3 bay |
| | | facade to Railway Street and a 2 bay Dutch gable facing |
| | | Hertford East Station |
| 10023 | 3279 1291 | Site of wharf, identified from 1898 map, likely to have been |
| | | associated with the timber yard and saw mill (latterly Jewsons) |
| | | which occupied the Priory site |
| 12033 | 3282 1284 | A two storey L-shaped red brick building comprising Norris |
| | | Workshops on Priory Street, which was constructed around |
| 12909 | 32896 12695 | The Red House at 110 Fere Street comprises a fairly grand |
| 12909 | 32030 12033 | The Red House at 119 Fore Street comprises a fairly grand mid 18 th century town house in red brick laid in tuck-pointed |
| | | Flemish bond, three storeys with central entrance and side |
| | | pavilions |
| 13166 | 32860 12678 | 113 - 15 Fore Street comprises an early 20 th century corner |
| | | building on site of post-medieval houses |
| 15541 | 32762 12812 | Building behind the Ragged School off Bircherley Street at |
| | | Bircherley Court revealed two walls of 'shallow frogged, red |
| | | bricks' with cement mortar dating to the 19 th or early 20 th |
| | | century |

APPENDIX 2 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

| Records | Number |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Brief | N |
| Specification | Υ |
| Registers | 4 (Context, Drawing Sheet, Drawing, |
| | Photo, Digital Photo) |
| Context Sheets | 22 |
| Site drawings A1 | 0 |
| Site drawings A3 | 1 |
| Site drawings A4 | 0 |
| Site photographs b/w | 6 |
| Site photographs colour slides | 6 |
| Digital Photographs | 9 |

APPENDIX 3 HER SUMMARY SHEET

| 0.1 | D |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Site name and address: | Beeson's Yard, 72 Railway Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire |
| County: Herts | District: East Hertfordshire |
| Village/Town: | Parish: Hertford |
| Planning application | TBA |
| reference: | |
| Client name/address/tel: | St Cross Developments |
| Nature of application: | Residential development of nine flats and associated parking |
| Present land use: | Disused offices with garages |
| Size of application area: | Size of area investigated |
| c. 250m2 | 38m ² |
| NGR (8 figures): | TL 32845 12770 |
| Site Code: | AS 1566 |
| Site director/Organization: | Archaeological Solutions Ltd |
| Type of work: | Trial trench evaluation |
| Date of work: | 13-14/02/2013 |
| Location of finds/Curating | Hertford |
| museum: | |
| Related SMR Nos: | Periods represented: 17 th – early 19 th century |
| Relevant previous | - |
| summaries/reports: - | |
| Summary of fieldwork results: | In February 2013 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Beeson's Yard, 72 Railway Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 32845 12770). In the event, the earliest deposit encountered during the evaluation was of (probable) $17^{th} - 19^{th}$ century date, in line with previous findings from the immediate area. |
| Author of summary: | Date of Summary: |
| Z Pozorski | February 2013 (Revised 14/06/2013) |

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Beesons Yard, Railway Street, Hertford. Looking north-west.



DP 3. Trench 1. Looking north-west.



DP 5. Trench 1, south-east end. Sample section 1B. Looking north-east.



DP 2. Trench 1. Looking east-south-east.



DP 4. Trench 1, north-west end. Sample section 1A. Looking north-east.



DP 6. Trench 2. Looking south.



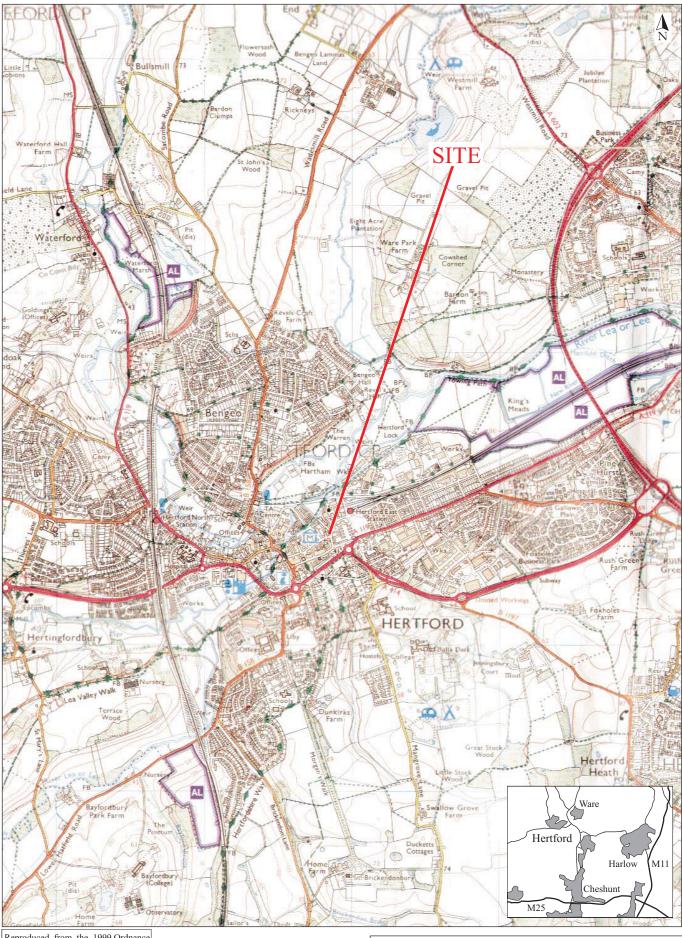
DP 7. Trench 2. Looking north-north-west.



DP 9. Trench 2, south end. Sample section 2B. Looking west-south-west.

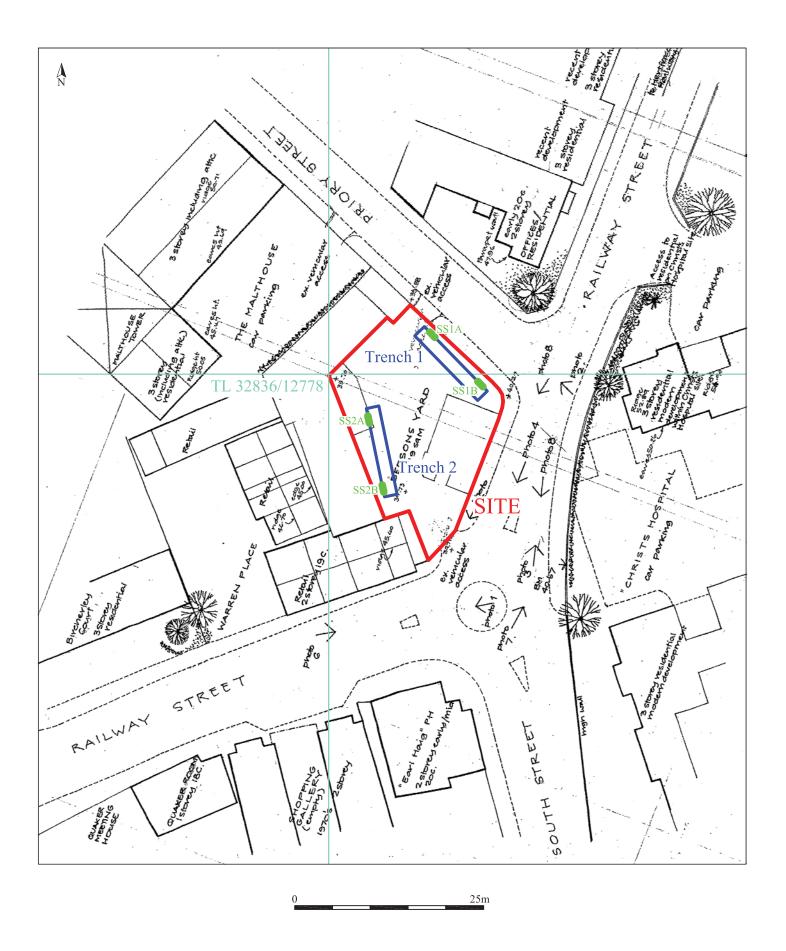


DP 8. Trench 2, north end. Sample section 2A. Looking west-south-west.



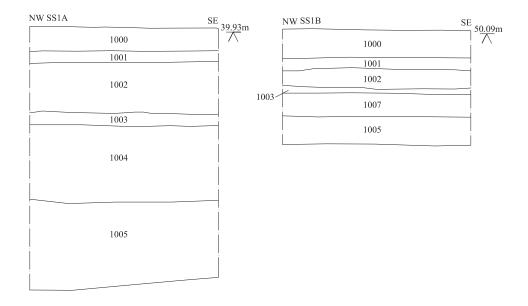
Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Archaeological Solutions Ltd Licence number 100036680

Fig. 1 Site location plan
Scale 1:25,000 at A4



Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 2 De Scale 1:500 at A4 Detailed site location plan



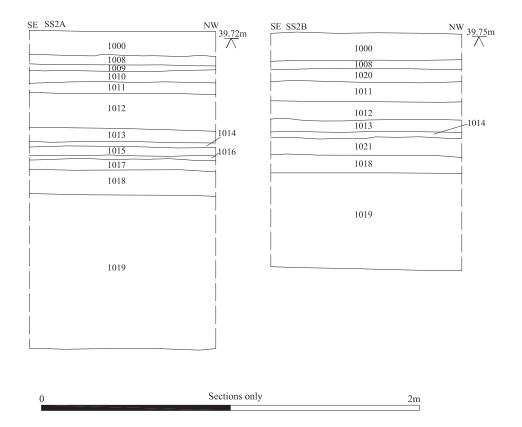


Fig. 3 Sample sections
Scale 1:20 at A4