
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**BARN ADJACENT TO THE BROWN BEAR P.H.,
THE STREET, BRAUGHING, HERTFORDSHIRE**

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING &
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF TRIAL PITS**

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NGR: TL 39741 25122		Report No: 4719
District: East Hertfordshire		Site Code: AS 1712
Approved: Claire Halpin		Project No: 5940
MifA Signed:		Date: 4 th November 2014

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Barn adjacent to The Brown Bear PH, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire</i>		
<p><i>In October 2014 AS carried out historic building recording alongside archaeological investigation at a barn adjacent to The Brown bear Public House, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire. The work was commissioned as part of a planning condition related to the conversion and extension of the existing barn. The project was carried out after much of the planned works had been carried out.</i></p> <p><i>The earliest element of the building comprises the western bay of a formerly longer range extending east-west that is visible on historic maps. From the fragmentary evidence surviving, a tentative date in the 17th century may be suggested. The principal phase of work was carried out in the 18th century. This appears to include the rebuilding of the bay panels of the original range with studwork, and the construction of the northern unit which consists of a similar system of studwork. Mid-20th century remodelling saw rebuilding on the east side and the addition of a pent-roofed range, probably a garage. More recently, the northern unit has been used as toilets serving the public house, from which the two small windows survive at the north end.</i></p> <p><i>The evidence recorded during the trial pit investigation is consistent with late 19th century activity at the site. The chalk surface (I1004 Test Pit 1) may relate to an earlier building in the vicinity, while the finds of the glass bottles such as the Codd's bottle typical of the 1880s and later probably represents a dumping event or distribution of waste material for levelling.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	06.10.14		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	5490	Site code	AS 1712
Type of project	<i>Historic building recording and archaeological investigation</i>		
Site status	<i>Grade II listed building</i>		
Current land use	<i>Empty, originally stables later converted to toilets to serve public house</i>		
Planned development	<i>Residential conversion and extension</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>18th century building</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	-		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>East Herts</i>	<i>Braughing</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Hertfordshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>SG11 2QF</i>		
Area of site	<i>118m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 39741 25122</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c. 80m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>HCC HEU</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Tansy Collins</i>		
Funded by	<i>Chris Lynch</i>		
Full title	<i>Barn adjacent to The Brown Bear PH, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire</i>		
Authors	<i>Collins, T.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4719</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>November 2014</i>		

BARN ADJACENT TO THE BROWN BEAR, THE STREET, BRAUGHING, HERTFORDSHIRE

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING & ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF TRIAL PITS

SUMMARY

In October 2014 AS carried out historic building recording alongside archaeological investigation at a barn adjacent to The Brown bear Public House, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire. The work was commissioned as part of a planning condition related to the conversion and extension of the existing barn. The project was carried out after much of the planned works had been carried out.

The earliest element of the building comprises the western bay of an originally longer range extending east-west that is visible on historic maps. From the fragmentary evidence surviving, a tentative date in the 17th century may be suggested. The principal phase of work was carried out in the 18th century. This appears to include the rebuilding of the bay panels of the original range with studwork, and the construction of the northern unit which consists of a similar system of studwork. This utilises fairly waney timber in a partially primary-braced system; the use of a single primary-brace per panel when two might be expected may indicate a level of economy from a limited supply of timber.

Early 20th century remodelling saw rebuilding on the east side and the addition of a pent-roofed range, probably a garage. More recently, the northern unit has been used as toilets serving the public house, from which the two small windows survive at the north end.

The evidence recorded during the trial pit investigation is consistent with late 19th century activity at the site. The chalk surface (L1004 Test Pit 1) may relate to an earlier building in the vicinity, while the finds of the glass bottles such as the Codd's bottle typical of the 1880s and later probably represents a dumping event or distribution of waste material for levelling.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2014 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out historic building recording alongside archaeological investigation at a barn adjacent to The Brown bear Public House, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire (NGR TL TL 39741 25122; Figs. 1 & 2). The work was commissioned by Mr Chris Lynch and carried out as part of a planning condition related to the proposed conversion and extension of the existing barn to create a one-bedroom dwelling (East Herts DC Planning Ref. 3/13/1181/FP & 3/13/1182/LB).

1.2 Advice issued by Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU, Alison Tinniswood, dated 1st August 2014) was later revised following a site visit (dated 23rd September 2014). This advice formed an updated brief that, due to the planned works having commenced on site (namely the excavation of foundations and replacement of the barn floor with concrete as well as the stripping out and removal of elements of the timber-frame of the barn), required historic building recording of the barn in its current state and archaeological investigation of the site in the form of two trial pits. The project also followed procedures outlined in a written scheme of investigation produced by AS (dated 24th September 2014), approved by HCC HEU.

1.3 The archaeological investigation was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The historic building recording adhered to the procedures outlined in the English Heritage document *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 structures* (rev. 2008).

1.4 The combined project aimed to produce a comprehensive and high-quality record of the barn in its present form before any further development was completed in order to understand the character and development of the building within its historic context. The second element aimed to determine the location, date, character and condition of any surviving remains within two trial pits located to the rear of the barn. Research was also carried out to provide a review of the local and regional archaeological and historic context of the site.

Planning policy context

1.5 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.

1.6 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 in the rural area of East Hertfordshire situated approximately 1km east of the A10, originally Ermine Street, the Roman Road leading north from London.

2.2 The Brown Bear Public House lies within the historic core of the village, on the east side of The Street and the barn itself lies adjacent to the south. The barn fronts directly onto the road and is divided from the public house by a driveway that crosses a fairly substantial rise in ground level to the rear.

2.3 The historic core of the village is designated as Area of Archaeological Significance 60 on the EHDC Local Plan and encompasses the medieval and later settlement area, with its early 13th century parish church and a number of surviving buildings of medieval and post-medieval date. The public house is Grade II* listed, dates from the early 16th century, and is a former open hall house with an upper storey inserted in the 17th century. The assessment structure is also recognised in its own right and is Grade II listed on the National Heritage List (Appendix 3).

3 METHODOLOGY

Information was sought from a variety of available sources in order to meet the objectives of the assessment.

Archaeological databases

3.1 All known archaeological sites and spot-finds are collated in the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Significant entries within an approximate 500m radius of the site are discussed in Section 4.2 and reproduced as Appendices 1 and 2..

Historical and cartographic sources

3.2 The principal source for records of this type is the Hertfordshire Archives & Local Studies (HALS) as well as AS's own library. Relevant documents are reproduced in Figs 3-8.

Secondary sources

3.3 Secondary sources were researched at the Hertfordshire Local Studies Library and AS's own library. Unpublished sources regarding the assessment area, such as previous field evaluation reports and desk-based assessments, have also been consulted. All sources are listed in the bibliography.

Geological/geotechnical information

3.4 A description of the superficial and solid geology of the local and surrounding area was compiled in order to assess the likely presence and potential condition of any archaeological remains on the site. This information was drawn from appropriate maps published by the Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS 1978) and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983).

Fieldwork - historic building recording

3.5 The site was visited by Tansy Collins on the 6th October 2014 in order to undertake the analysis and recording of the building.

3.6 The photographic recording was carried out using medium format (4.5cm x 6cm) black and white film. This utilised a Zenza Bronica ETRS camera and Ilford HP5 IOS 400 120mm film. Colour photographs were taken using a Canon 60D (18 megapixels) digital camera, duplicating the black and white photography. 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. Selected colour plates have been included to illustrate the text and the digital photographs have been included as a photo index, together with their location plots shown on Fig. 9.

4 DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

4.1 Topography, geology and soils

4.1.1 The village of Braughing is situated within the extensive Boulder Clay landscape that extends throughout much of East Anglia; this landscape is characterised by gentle undulations and small river valleys and streams, with countryside rich in ancient woodland and meadows. Braughing itself is situated within the shallow valley of the River Quin, which flows south-west towards its confluence with the River Rib, c.1km to the south-west, which itself flows roughly southwards towards the Thames basin. The bedrock geology of the site is comprised of the Upper Chalk formation, deposited between 71 and 83 MYA, during the late Cretaceous period, this is overlain by well drained calcareous soils of the Hanslope association.

4.2 Archaeological and historical background

4.2.1 East Hertfordshire would have presented the ideal territory for populations during the earliest prehistoric periods; the Boulder Clay plateau that extends throughout East Anglia becomes heavily punctuated in East Hertfordshire by the valleys of rivers and their tributaries and such a landscape would have been rich in the flora and fauna that sustained hunter-gatherer populations. Indeed, evidence for Mesolithic activity within Braughing is recorded with finds of worked flints on the banks of the River Quin (Thompson, 2002: 2), and a series of Mesolithic pits containing worked flint are known from Pentlows Farm, c.200m north-west of the site (HER 30159). The fertile soils of the Hanslope association would have drawn later prehistoric agricultural societies; investigations in the area have yielded Neolithic worked flints (HER 18179). Evidence for settlement within the Bronze Age is more substantial, with lithic assemblages known within 500m of the site (HERs 16193 & 18722), whilst cropmarks indicate the presence of ring ditches and round barrows within the parish (Thompson, 2002: 2).

4.2.2 Substantial settlement of the area began during the Iron Age, wherein at Gatesbury an earthwork of c.3ha housed populations from as early as the 3rd century B.C. This settlement later expanded westwards towards the River Rib to cover a total of c.100ha (Partridge, 1981: 27). Following the Roman conquest, the area remained a significant population centre, and the early Romano-British period saw the development of major routes including Ermine Street and Stane Street, as well as the Roman road from Braughing to Great Chesterford; the modern settlement at Braughing now lies near the confluence of these roads (HERs 4672 & 30120). Settlement during the Romano-British period was focused west of Gatesbury, on the western side of the River Rib. At this location aerial photography identified significant cropmarks indicative of street systems and buildings, and indeed later fieldwork investigations between 1949 and 1972 (Partridge, 1981: 29 – 31).

4.2.3 Place name evidence implies continuity in the occupation of the area following the Roman period, with the area of the Roman settlement referred to as “Wickham Hill”, a combination of the Latin “*Vicus*” (small settlement), and the Old English “*Ham*” (estate) (Rowe & Williamson, 2013). However, deposits in the town give evidence of excessive waterlogging in areas of the site, implying a failure to maintain the drainage system, suggesting at least some areas of the Roman site were abandoned. It is clear however, that a settlement of some significance endured throughout the Anglo-Saxon period, lending its name to the Hundred of Braughing, as well as being the site of a Minster church, evidence of which can still be seen in the fabric of the extant medieval church (HER 4332). Furthermore, archaeological evidence of Anglo-Saxon occupation has been identified in the area, including numerous pits and a structure, as well as high status pottery (HERs 16237 & 30158).

4.2.4 At Domesday, the manor of Braughing is listed as supporting 29 households, with a value of 5 hides, held by Count Eustace of Bologne. The success of nearby thoroughfare settlements situated on the major highways,

including Puckeridge, on the route of Ermine Street for example, led to a gradual decline in the success of Braughing, which remained largely agricultural in character. The primarily agricultural function of the settlement is reflected in features such as a series of 12th - 13th century ditches c.400m north-west of the site, thought to have been constructed to channel livestock down the slope. This reached a peak during the 14th century which saw a series of poor harvests, cattle disease and the Black Death (Thompson, 2002: 10 – 11). It was not until the 15th century, and the coming of the wool trade, that Braughing began to show signs of recovery; indeed, a number of extant buildings in Braughing's historic environment were constructed during the 15th and 16th centuries (see appendix 2). Furthermore, the influence of the wool trade is still visible in street names in Braughing, including Fleece Lane, and later in the naming of the 17th century coaching house, The Golden Fleece (List no. 161208).

4.2.5 The post-medieval period seems to exhibit economic recovery in Braughing, with a large number of extant inns and taverns being constructed during this period, as well as a substantial number of extant farmsteads (see appendix 2). Indeed, the earliest cartographic sources consulted (including Dury & Andrews Map of 1766, and Bryant's Map of 1822; Figs. 3 & 4) show a fairly substantial settlement at Braughing, although these maps do not depict the area with enough resolution to afford more detailed insight into the site itself.

4.2.6 The earliest documentary evidence relating to the Brown Bear Public House emerges in 1786 with the purchase of the land by John Crabb, a brewer from Hitchin (Thompson, 2002: 18), and this date is thought to be the earliest use of the site as a public house. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1878 (Fig. 5) gives a much clearer representation of the site, showing clearly the layout of the Brown Bear Public House, which differs from its current form with the presence of two outbuildings to the rear which are no longer present, as well as the size of the south-west wing, which had not yet reached its current extent in 1878.

4.2.7 The barn that is subject to assessment is depicted on the 1878 OS map. It appears that the entire length of the current building is depicted fronting west onto the street but here with the south-eastern element extending significantly further. This range also appears contiguous with ranges to the south outside of the assessment site, none of which survive today. A well is shown to the immediate east of the south-east range.

4.2.8 The 1897 2nd Edition and 1921 Ordnance Survey depictions of the site (Figs. 6 & 7) present largely the same picture as in 1878, with the exception of the replacement of two outbuildings to the rear of the public house with a new block, while the barn itself remains the same. From a wider perspective, the OS map of 1921 shows an increase in the density of buildings in Braughing with subdivision of land plots, including some of the relict Burgage tenement plots depicted south of the site.

4.2.9 Subsequent OS maps are largely of a 6" to 1 mile scale and provide little detail. It can be seen, however, that the long east-west range appears to survive into the 1960s and it is not until the 1975 OS map that the footprint changes significantly (Fig. 7). The south-east range visible on the previous map has been truncated, along with the loss of the adjoining buildings to the south. The barn now comprises a single range aligned north-south with a small projection at the south end. This corresponds with the footprint of the building today and also suggests the east side is open-fronted, which reflects the addition of garage doors in this position, see below.

5 THE BUILDING

5.1 The assessment structure comprises a small barn aligned approximately north-south extending along the street frontage. It is timber-framed and weatherboarded over a brick dwarf wall and consists of two distinct elements marked externally by a change in roof height.

5.2 As noted, the planned works were well advanced at the time of the survey. Works already carried out included the rebuilding of the brick dwarf wall and the replacement of the external weatherboarding and roof covering (Plate 1). Internally, the sole-plate has been replaced all round and timber-framing partially removed, particularly the east side and an area on the west. The wall-plates appear to survive, as well as the roof structure. However, a number of photographs taken during the works were provided by the client and along with the surviving historic fabric allowed an adequate understanding of the building and its historic development.

Exterior

5.3 Appendices 6.1 and 6.2 show the external appearance of the building prior to the planned works. The two elements of the building are of similar appearance though differentiated by variation in dwarf wall height as well as roof height. From the west, the southern primary unit is constructed over a high dwarf wall of variable orange brick that appears to be laid in Flemish bond. The wall above is clad in weatherboarding, though this is contiguous with the north range and is presumably part of a later phase of work. Nevertheless, the photograph shows the outline of a former aperture on this side, probably for loading from the street. The roof is pitched and prior to the planned works clad in corrugated iron sheeting. A view from the north-east (App. 6.2) shows that this unit had an attached pent-roofed garage element, also weatherboarded and pierced on the east by what appears to be mid-20th century double boarded doors with upper glazing. Their physical appearance is consistent with the map evidence that indicates that this area was remodelled in the 1960s or 70s.

5.4 The northern unit continues inline from the south but with a slightly lower roof line. This unit was similar in having an orange brick dwarf wall though rising to lower level and marked by a straight joint in the brickwork, and identical continuous weatherboarding as the south unit. The north-west

corner of the dwarf wall had clearly seen some repair in later brick, this perhaps expected as the area most vulnerable to damage by vehicles. The roof is pitched though this element was clad in modern pan-tiles. The north elevation displays (and retains now) two small four-pane casements relating to the buildings use as a toilet block for the public house. Within the weatherboarding above, straight joints outlined a small narrow aperture, probably formerly for ventilation. The opposing north side contained a single split stable door of narrow vertical boards with strap hinges of no apparent great age. The dwarf wall was not visible on this east side.

5.5 Following the planned works, the building is now largely regular and although the different rooflines remain, there is little to indicate the phases of alteration. The dwarf wall is now continuous along the entire length of the two units, while the weatherboarding is similarly regular, unrelieved by straight joints or other evidence of the development of the building.

5.6 The rear east side is largely altered with the removal of the short east extension and construction of a large pitched roof range. The weatherboarding and door on the east side of the north unit has been removed.

Interior

5.7 The interior of the building had been entirely stripped out at the time of recording so that little evidence survives of the buildings most recent function, apart from the two small four-pane windows at the north end. Photographs provided by the client do provide some information regarding the appearance of the interior prior to some of the work carried out, although a substantial portion of the timber-frame removal had been carried out on the east side so that this side cannot be reconstructed with any certainty. In addition, the floors had been removed and replaced with poured concrete.

5.8 However, enough of the framing survives to demonstrate the evolution and form in some areas. The division between the two units is clearly demonstrated within the building by the presence of a structural divide as well as differences in construction detailing (Plate 2). Some information has been lost, for example the loss of the sole-plate all round means that it is not possible to reconstruct the system of jointing at low level, particularly in the south unit where there is more evidence of remodelling.

5.9 The physical evidence indicates there are at least two principal phases of development to the south unit. The original fabric that survives comprises the outline elements of a single bay of a longer range aligned east – west that continued to the east. Three bay posts survive, two on the west and one to the east comprising the southern post of a bay division, though the north post has been lost. These posts are of fairly waney squared oak and having gently swelling jowls. The west truss must have formed the end of the original range situated as it is on the street front and retains a tie-beam with mortices in the soffit for lower studwork. The second truss to the east only partially survives and has been remodelled. As noted the south post survives,

also jowled, but here with a mortice for an inner brace as would be expected on an open truss. The tie-beam lies above though has been repositioned slightly and the east end now rests directly on the wall-plate.

5.10 Wall-plates survive on the north and south, though that on the south largely replaced and scarfed in to the earlier fabric at the west end, and retain mortices in the soffit for original studwork though the existing studwork on the south is later, see below, and the north side is now open with the adjoining unit.

5.11 Further evidence for the original form of the building can be seen in the upper faces of the west tie-beam and lateral wall-plates that are partially visible from within the roof space. Exposed features correlate with the evidence below and the north wall-plate bears notches typical for the housing of rafter feet, while the west tie-beam retains pegged mortices for upper studwork indicating a gable end facing the street. This is also consistent with map evidence that shows this range continuing to the east.

5.12 The second phase of remodelling appears to have been carried out in the 18th century and saw the replacement of the wall panels with a primary-braced system of studwork. The timber used is variable as a number of the original more robust studs from the earlier phase have been reused, with additional members being of more slender character.

5.13 The south wall survives to characterise the form of fairly regularly spaced studs bisected by one fairly slender waney primary-brace (Plate 3). The brace bisects four studs at the east end, with three full-height studs to the west. A small number of horizontal boards are nailed across the studwork as well as a later applied nailed-on brace provides secondary reinforcement. In addition, the remains of what appears, in the working photographs (App. 6.18), to be a framed aperture survives, formerly infilled with a central mullion and vertical battens, and presumably comprising a ventilation aperture/window that original faced outside though now fronts directly onto the north wall of the adjoining house. In addition, sections of what appears to be lath and plaster infill are visible in the working shots.

5.14 The west wall has been largely rebuilt but Appendix 6.9 shows a series of slender studs with horizontal timbers framing a fairly large aperture, this itself a later remodelling. Also of note is that the timber work of this phase appears to exclusively utilise nails to secure members and the presence of pegged mortices is limited to the earlier fabric.

5.15 Within the roof, as elsewhere, there is a portion of reused timber demonstrated by redundant mortices and nail marks for lath and plasterwork on the sides of other members. The roof in its current form is of simple rafter couples that ride over a single purlin in each pitch as well as a ridge purlin at the apex. Slender collars lie at the north and south ends and clasp the purlins, while an intermediate example is simply bird-mouthed and nailed to the purlins. Yoke pieces are nailed at the apex. In addition, there is evidence of an opening at the north end below the collar which may have functioned as

a loading door to a hay loft.

5.16 At ground floor level, the northern unit is now open from the southern unit which bears many hallmarks similar to those of the 18th century remodelling of the south unit and likely comprises a part of this phase of remodelling and extension. As elsewhere the sole-plate has been removed and the dwarf wall rebuilt. What survives includes the west and north walls as well as the east wall-plate, though the studwork below has been rebuilt and so the soffit of the wall-plate is not visible to indicate the pattern of studwork below. It was apparently of similar form to that seen on the west wall with the doorway at the north end in the position of the current aperture. The timber utilised is of varying character and many of the larger timbers such as the wall-plate are simply roughly-squared young trees, all very waney.

5.17 The wall framing follows a pattern of slender, evenly-spaced, though fairly waney, studs with a single primary brace that descends from the south post, crosses three studs and now terminates at the modern sole-plate (Plate 4). To the north there are six further slender full-height studs which have been given secondary reinforcement with a later nailed on brace, much as in the adjoining Area 1. The north wall has similar system with primary-braced studwork though here the brace descends from an intermediate stud rather than a corner post (Plate 5). The studwork has been cut through for the insertion of two small four-pane casement windows. These are 20th century in date and associated with the use of the building as WCs for the public house. The roof structure over this area has seen some replacement and as part of the recent works a system of new ceiling joists has been inserted as well as collars at upper level. Otherwise, the original pattern appears to be of simple rafter couples riding over a single purlin in each pitch to a ridge purlin secured with little yoke pieces.

6 DISCUSSION (HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING)

6.1 The historic building recording was carried out when the planned development works were well advanced. This meant that inspection of some features that would have elucidated the development of the building in detail was not possible. However, the surviving fabric allowed a general sequence of development to be ascertained.

6.2 Braughing was of some note in the earlier Norman and medieval period with a number of surviving inns dating from the 16th century. Despite a date for construction in the early 16th century, the Brown Bear Public House does not constitute part of this group and was originally a domestic residence, only being transformed to a public house in the late 18th century. No documentary evidence was found to indicate whether the barn was originally associated with the house though its proximity suggests this is likely, but that the association temporarily ended and was re-established in the late 19th century.

6.3 The earliest element of the building comprises the western bay of a formerly longer range extending east-west that is visible on historic maps.

From the fragmentary evidence surviving, such as the gently swelling jowls and the spacing of the lost studs, a tentative date in the 17th century may be suggested. The principal phase of work was carried out in the 18th century. This appears to include the rebuilding of the bay panels of the original range with studwork, and the construction of the northern unit which consists of a similar system of studwork. This utilises fairly waney timber in a partially primary-braced system; the use of a single primary-brace per panel when two might be expected may indicate a level of economy from a limited supply of timber.

6.4 In the mid-20th century further remodelling was carried out with the addition of the pent-roofed element on the east side following the removal of the east element of the range visible on historic maps. It is unclear how this correlates with the reorientation of the current roof as this appears consistent with an 18th century date and so indicates there have been repeated phases of alteration prior to the 20th century. More recently, the northern unit has seen use as a toilet block serving the public house, and two small windows survive from this phase.

7 METHODOLOGY (TEST PIT EVALUATION)

7.1 Two test pits trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to the rear of the building (Fig. 2). Each trench measured 2.5m x 2.5m.

7.2 Topsoil 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.

8 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (TEST PIT EVALUATION)

The individual test pits are described below:

Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample section 1</i> 0.00 = 82.15m AOD		
0.00 – 0.11m	L1000	Grey brown, fairly loose, silty loam with occasional rounded pebbles. It contained CBM, clay pipe stems
0.11 – 0.26m	L1001	Yellow brown, friable, sandy silt
0.26 – 0.36m	L1002	Subsoil. Grey brown, silty loam with occasional rounded pebbles
0.36m+	L1003	Natural. Yellow orange, friable, sandy silt with areas of gravel.

<i>Sample section 2</i> <i>0.00 = 82.10m AOD</i>		
0.11 – 0.26m	L1001	Yellow brown, friable, sandy silt
0.26 – 0.28m	L1004	White, very compact, chalk layer
0.28 – 0.36m	L1002	Subsoil. Grey brown, silty loam with occasional rounded pebbles
0.36m+	L1003	Natural. Yellow orange, friable, sandy silt with areas of gravel.

Description: A chalk surface was evident, L1004, and it may relate to an earlier building in the vicinity.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2)

<i>Sample section 3</i> <i>0.00 = 82.20m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.08m	L1005	Turf overlying a dark grey brown, loose, silty loam
0.08 – 0.10m	L1006	Orange silty sand with frequent rounded pebbles
0.10 – 0.19m	L1007	Grey brown silty loam with modern debris (glass bottles etc)
0.19 – 0.35m	L1008	Subsoil. Grey brown, clayey silt with occasional pebbles
0.35m+	L1003	Natural. Yellow orange, friable, sandy silt with areas of gravel.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

9 CONFIDENCE RATING

9.1 Within the confines of the test pits it is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

10 DEPOSIT MODEL

10.1 Uppermost within each test pit were made ground deposits (0.19 – 0.26m thick). Below the made ground in Test Pit 1 was a possible chalk floor, L1004.

10.2 A subsoil, L1002 and L1008, were present within each test pit, and below was the natural geology, L1003, was present at 0.35 – 0.36m below the existing ground level and it comprised a yellow orange, friable, sandy silt with areas of gravel.

11 DISCUSSION

11.1 The evidence recorded during the trial pit investigation is consistent with late 19th century activity at the site. The chalk surface (L1004 Test Pit 1) may relate to an earlier building in the vicinity, while the finds of the glass

bottles such as the Codd bottle typical of the 1880s and later probably represents a dumping event or distribution of waste material for levelling. No evidence was found of the well that is depicted on early maps and it is likely that it was positioned further east.

12 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

12.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the finds from the site at Hertford Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Chris Lynch for commissioning the project and for his assistance, and Hertford Planning Service (HPS) for assistance. AS would also like to thank Mr Chris Lynch for providing the photographs taken during the planned works and HPS for supplying their drawings.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the staff of Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies Library (HALS), based in County Hall, Hertford, and the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record.

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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<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england/>

www.heritagegateway.org.uk

www.historicaldirectories.org

APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA

HER	NGR	DESCRIPTION
<i>Prehistoric</i>		
30159	TL 3965 2530	A group of five or six small pits at Pentlows Farm appeared to be of Mesolithic date, containing struck flints.
18179	TL 3944 2541	Neolithic worked flints, largely residual assemblage recovered during excavation of medieval ditches at gravelly lane.
16193	TL 3977 2553	Bronze Age worked flint recovered from the garden of the Old Vicarage. Consisted of blades and scrapers.
18722	TL 3967 2515	Flint debitage consisting of blades and scrapers findspot.
<i>Romano British</i>		
1703	TL 3930 2488	Considerable quantities of Roman pottery recovered from this area over many years as a result of river erosion; indicating the presence of a cremation cemetery.
4672	TL 4164 2830	Course of the Roman road from Braughing to Great Chesterford
16192	TL 3971 2545	Roman and medieval pottery found on cleaning of a pond at the Old Vicarage.
16187	TL 4012 2483	Roman tile and pottery found south of friars road.
17789	TL 3982 2535	Roman amphora sherds findspot.
30120	TL 3977 2541	Section of Roman road from Braughing to Great Chesterford revealed in the garden of the Old Vicarage.
30141	TL 4001 2516	Roman pottery found at Friars road allotments.
<i>Anglo-Saxon</i>		
4332	TL 2962 2520	Saxon minster and medieval parish church; saxon architectural fragments reused in the medieval masonry.
16237	TL 3965 2531	Pits and structure of a mid-late saxon date and possible earlier, with high status pottery and range of other objects and environmental data.
30158	TL 3974 2529	Group of pits with mid-late saxon pottery south of buildings at Pentlows Farm.
<i>Medieval</i>		
2660	TL 2950 2515	Medieval settlement of "Brachinges", grew up around the Saxon minster church.
15394	TL 3954 2530	Large trapezoidal moat, possibly expanded from the medieval original.
15584	TL 3943 2540	12 th – early 13 th century ditches which may have channeled livestock down the slope, and slightly later paddocks.
18658	TL 3974 2530	Medieval and post-medieval ditches at Pentlows

		Farm.
<i>Post-medieval</i>		
5665	TL 3974 2519	Post-medieval wellhead gear in The Square, Braughing. Dates to the late 18 th or early 19 th century.
11102	TL 3949 2540	The Granary, Braughing Bury. One of two farmsteads with planned layouts at Braughing Bury. Called Bury Farm or the Granary.
11103	TL 3956 2546	19 th century flint and brick farm buildings at Braughing Bury, once part of Braughing Bury Farm.
12330	TL 3970 2543	Remains of an ornamental canal in the grounds of the Old Vicarage. Recent dredging yielded medieval potsherds and flint blades.
12868	TL 3956 2503	1868 and 1874 village school buildings.
13141	TL 3937 2536	Early 19 th century irregular row house on coaching route, built c.1800.
18270	TL 3934 2517	Post-medieval smithy north of The Bell public house. Visible on 1897 and 1921 Ordnance survey maps.
18271	TL 3948 2552	Post-medieval gravel pit, marked "Old Gravel Pit" on 1 st Edition Ordnance Survey (1878)
<i>Unknown</i>		
7572	TL 3990 2553	Cropmarks of rectilinear ditches and enclosures. Complex covers an area about 180m by 120m.
10721	TL 3970 2500	Indeterminate gullies beneath 19 th -20 th century overburden. Three discovered during evaluation for a new school.
12459	TL 3949 2505	Registered common land, small triangular area at the meeting of Ford Street, Malting Lane, and the Causeway.
16725	TL 3996 2495	Complex of buried rectilinear and curvilinear enclosures

APPENDIX 2 LISTED BUILDINGS

LIST NO.	NGR	DESCRIPTION
161194 - 161195	TL 3942 2490	Later medieval farmhouse with complex of post-medieval farm buildings at Ford Street Farm. Farmhouse probably built in the 15 th /16 th centuries with later additions. Grade II listed.
161262	TL 3977 2550	Brewhouse built as a high-quality timber framed house in the 16 th century, probably as the vicarage. Grade II listed.
161261	TL 3976 2548	The Old Vicarage, Braughing. Built in 1720 in brick, probably incorporating an earlier structure. Now the only pre-19 th century brick house in Braughing. Grade II listed.
161214	TL 3951 2534	Braughing Bury, post-medieval open hall house with medieval manorial antecedents. Grade II* listed.
161250 - 161249	TL 3975 2513	The Brown Bear PH. Early 16 th century hall house, beer house since at least 1786. Grade II* listed; outbuildings at No. 14 Grade II listed.
161168	TL 3956 2514	Causeway House. Early 17 th century house with three gables. Altered in the late 17 th century and extended in the 17 th /18 th century. Grade II listed.
161224 - 161223	TL 3934 2533	The Gables. Late medieval open hall house, known as lion farm until the 20 th century. Dated via dendrochronology to 1453-61. The Gables and The Old Barn and outhouse grade II listed.
161252	TL 3977 2518	The Gatehouse. Late medieval house with a hall and two cross wings. Grade II listed.
161179	TL 3958 2521	The Old Rose and Crown; 16 th century house used as a pub in the 19 th century. Grade II* listed.
161208	TL 3936 2525	The Golden Fleece; coaching inn on the route to Cambridge. The building dates to the 17 th /18 th century. Grade II listed.
161255	TL 3975 2513	Robbers Cottage, post-medieval lobby entry house. 17 th century or earlier timber framed house. Grade II listed.
161223	TL 3931 2534	Lion Farm, post-medieval farmstead which fell out of use by the end of the 19 th century. Main ranges demolished in the 19 th century but a range of barns still survives. Grade II listed.
161260	TL 3977 2533	Pentlows Farm, post-medieval farmstead with possible medieval origins. Only the house and an outbuilding survive; outbuilding incorporates timbers from a late medieval open hall house. Grade II listed.
161170	TL 3958 2516	The Old Boys School, 16 th century hall house, used as the village school in the 19 th century.

		Grade II listed.
161193	TL 3943 2526	Barn used for preaching, moved to Braughing from Datchworth in 1762. Grade II listed.
161204	TL 3934 2516	Post office (The Bell Public House). 17 th century timber-framed house which became one of the coaching era inns at Green End, has been the post office since 1923. Grade II listed.
161220	TL 3931 2523	17 th century timber framed house, divided in the 19 th century into 11-13 Green End, Braughing. Grade II listed.
161182	TL 3959 2526	Hoppits, 17 th century or earlier timber framed house. Grade II listed.

APPENDIX 3 NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST ENTRY

List entry Summary

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: OUTBUILDINGS AT NUMBER 14 (10 METRES TO SOUTH WEST OF PUBLIC HOUSE)

List entry Number: 1347527

Location: OUTBUILDINGS AT NUMBER 14 (10 METRES TO SOUTH WEST OF PUBLIC HOUSE), THE STREET

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
Hertfordshire	St. Albans	District Authority	Braughing

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 24-Jan-1984

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: LBS

UID: 161249

List entry Description

Details:

Braughing village TL 3925 BRAUGHING THE STREET (east side)

9/43 Outbuildings at No 14 (IOm to SW of PH) -

GV II

2 stables, now toilets. C17/C18. Timber frames on red brick bases of differing heights, dark weatherboarded with very steep pitched roofs now of corrugated iron. Single-storey buildings facing E into inn yard, and backing onto street. Included for group value.

National	Grid	Reference: TL	39741	25122
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APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Barn adjacent to The Brown Bear PH, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire
County: Herts	District: East Herts
Village/Town:	Parish: <i>Braughing</i>
Planning application reference:	East Herts DC Planning Ref. 3/13/1181/FP & 3/13/1182/LB
Client name/address/tel:	Chris Lynch
Nature of application:	Residential conversion and extension
Present land use:	Empty, outbuilding later converted to toilets to serve public house
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated 118m ²
NGR (8 figures):	TL 39741 25122
Site Code:	AS 1712
Site director/Organization:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Historic building recording and trial pit evaluation
Date of work:	06.10.2014
Location of finds/Curating museum:	Hertford
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: 17 th century and later
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	-
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p><i>In October 2014 AS carried out historic building recording alongside archaeological investigation at a barn adjacent to The Brown bear Public House, The Street, Braughing, Hertfordshire. The work was commissioned as part of a planning condition related to the conversion and extension of the existing barn. The project was carried out after much of the planned works had been carried out.</i></p> <p><i>The earliest element of the building comprises the western bay of an originally longer range extending east-west that is visible on historic maps. From the fragmentary evidence surviving, a tentative date in the 17th century may be suggested. The principal phase of work was carried out in the 18th century. This appears to include the rebuilding of the bay panels of the original range with studwork, and the construction of the northern unit which consists of a similar system of studwork. Early 20th century remodelling saw rebuilding on the east side and the addition of a pent-roofed range, probably a garage. More recently, the northern unit has been used as toilets serving the public house, from which the two small windows survive at the north end.</i></p> <p><i>The evidence recorded during the trial pit investigation is consistent with late 19th century activity at the site. The chalk surface (L1004 Test Pit 1) may relate to an earlier building in the vicinity, while the finds of the glass bottles such as the Codd's bottle typical of the 1880s and later probably represents a dumping event or distribution of waste material for levelling.</i></p>
Author of summary: T Collins	Date of Summary: November 2014

APPENDIX 5 BUILDING RECORDING ARCHIVE FORM

Site Details							
Site Name: Barn adjacent to The Brown Bear PH, The Street, Braughing					NGR: TL 39741 25122		
County: Hertfordshire			Museum		Collecting		Area:
			HALS/Hertford				
Site Code: AS 1712				Project Number: 5940			
Date of Work: October 2014				Related Work:			
Brief/s				Specification/s			
Date		Present		Date		Present	
23 rd	September	Yes		24 th	September	Yes	
2014				2014			
Site Records (Description)							
1 sheets A4 photographic locations							
Site Drawings (Give Details of Formats & Size)							
-							
Architect's Drawings:							
1 sheet A3 plans							
Digital Drawings							
Printouts of Drawings			Printouts of Data			Digital Data	
In report						Digital photographs and drawings on CD	
Reports							
Report No		Report Type				Present	
4719		Historic building recording				Yes	
Site Photographs							
Black & White Contact Prints					Colour Slides		
Film No	Film Type	Negs	Negs Present	Contacts Present	Film No	Negs	Present
1	120mm	9-15	Yes	Yes	1	1-5	Yes
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.							



6.1 View of the west side of the assessment building prior to the start of works. Note the straight joint in the brickwork and varying roof cladding.



6.2 View of the east side of the assessment building prior to the start of works. The early 20th century rebuilding of the east range is visible enclosed by typical double garage doors.



6.3 Detail of the south-west corner of the building. The dwarf wall has been replaced but the original sole-plate is visible.



6.4 Working shot during the planned works. This shows the dwarf wall and sole-plate on the west removed as well as the pent-roofed unit on the east.



6.5 West side of the building. The weatherboarding has been partially removed though the underlying timber-framing is visible above the sole-plate and dwarf wall.



6.6 West side of the assessment building at the junction between the two ranges. The jowled post (right) is clearly visible.



6.7 East side of the building following removal of the pan-tiles as well as the timber-framing on this side.



6.8 East side of the building (south unit) following removal of the early 20th century pent-roofed element and during construction of the extension.



6.9 View into the south unit during planned works.



6.10 West side of the south unit showing surviving sole-plate with the corner below rebuilt in blockwork



6.11 West side of the south unit showing fragment of sole-plate over the early brickwork of the dwarf wall



6.12 Area of the east pent-roofed extension with removed studs



6.13 East side of the building (south unit) following removal of the early 20th century pent-roofed element and during construction of the extension.



6.14 Interior of the building during planned works showing primary-braced studwork on the right with the former apertures visible to the rear.



6.15 Interior of the north unit showing timber-framing of the west and north walls. Note the weatherboarding to the rear on the left.



6.16 West wall of the north unit showing weatherboarding to the rear. The sole-plate is visible as well a small section of the brickwork of the dwarf wall.



6.17 Detail of the west wall of the north units showing studwork with later applied brace.



6.18 South wall of the south unit taken during floor reduction works. The former aperture is visible on the right. What appears to be sections of historic lath and plaster are visible infilling the gaps between the studs.

PLATES



Plate 1 North and west elevations, taken from the north-west (DP 1)



Plate 2 Detail of the junction between the two units showing adjacent posts marking the structural divide, taken from the north-east (DP 14)



Plate 3 View of the south wall with east binding joist/tie-beam visible above (Area 1), taken from the north (DP 21)



Plate 4 West wall of Area 2, taken from the south-east (DP 8)



Plate 5 Timber-framing exposed on the west and north walls (Area 2), taken from the south (DP 6)

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1

North and west elevations, taken from the north-west



DP 2

West elevation showing differing rooflines to each unit, taken from the west



DP 3

General view showing The Brown Bear Public House with assessment structure beyond, taken from the north-west



DP 4

Rear, east side of the assessment building showing removed cladding and timber-framing and new extension, taken from the east



DP 5

View of the assessment building showing new extension, taken from the north-east



DP 6

Timber-framing exposed on the west and north walls (Area 2), taken from the south



DP 7
 Section of the north wall (Area 2) showing casements serving the former WCs, taken from the south-east



DP 8
 West wall of Area 2, taken from the south-east



DP 9
 Detail of a casement on the north wall (Area 2), taken from the south



DP 10
 Detail of the north wall-plate (Area 2) showing redundant mortice for stud removed with the insertion of the casement window, taken from the south



DP 11
 Detail of the north wall (Area 2) showing a hook attached to a stud above tie-beam level, taken from the south



DP 12
 Detail of the timber-framing on the west wall (Area 2: south end), taken from the east



DP 13

South end of Area 2 where this unit is now open with the adjoining Area 1, though now occupied by modern studwork, taken from the north



DP 14

Detail of the junction between the two units showing adjacent posts marking the structural divide, taken from the north-east



DP 15

Detail of the junction between the two units showing empty pegged mortices in the soffit of the south unit wall-plate, taken from the north



DP 16

General view of the roof level at the junction between the two units, taken from the north



DP 17

East side of Area 2 showing wall-plate surviving with rafters above, taken from the west



DP 18

Detail of the north-west corner post of the southern unit, taken from the south-east



DP 19
View of the south wall in the area of the former aperture (Area 1: west end), taken from the north



DP 20
Crude scarf joint in an area of repair on the south wall-plate (Area 1), taken from the north



DP 21
View of the south wall with east binding joist/tie-beam visible above (Area 1), taken from the north



DP 22
View of the south wall showing primary-braced studwork (Area 1), taken from the north



DP 23
Detail of the south-east corner post showing binding joist offset from the position of the bay post, taken from the north-west



DP 24
View of the roof structure over Area 1, taken from the north



DP 25

Detail of the south gable end in the roof space over Area 1, taken from the north



DP 26

Detail of the south gable end in the roof space over Area 1, taken from the north



DP 27

View of the roof structure over Area 1, taken from the south



DP 28

Detail of a nailed-on yoke piece below the ridge purlin in the roof space over Area 1, taken from the south



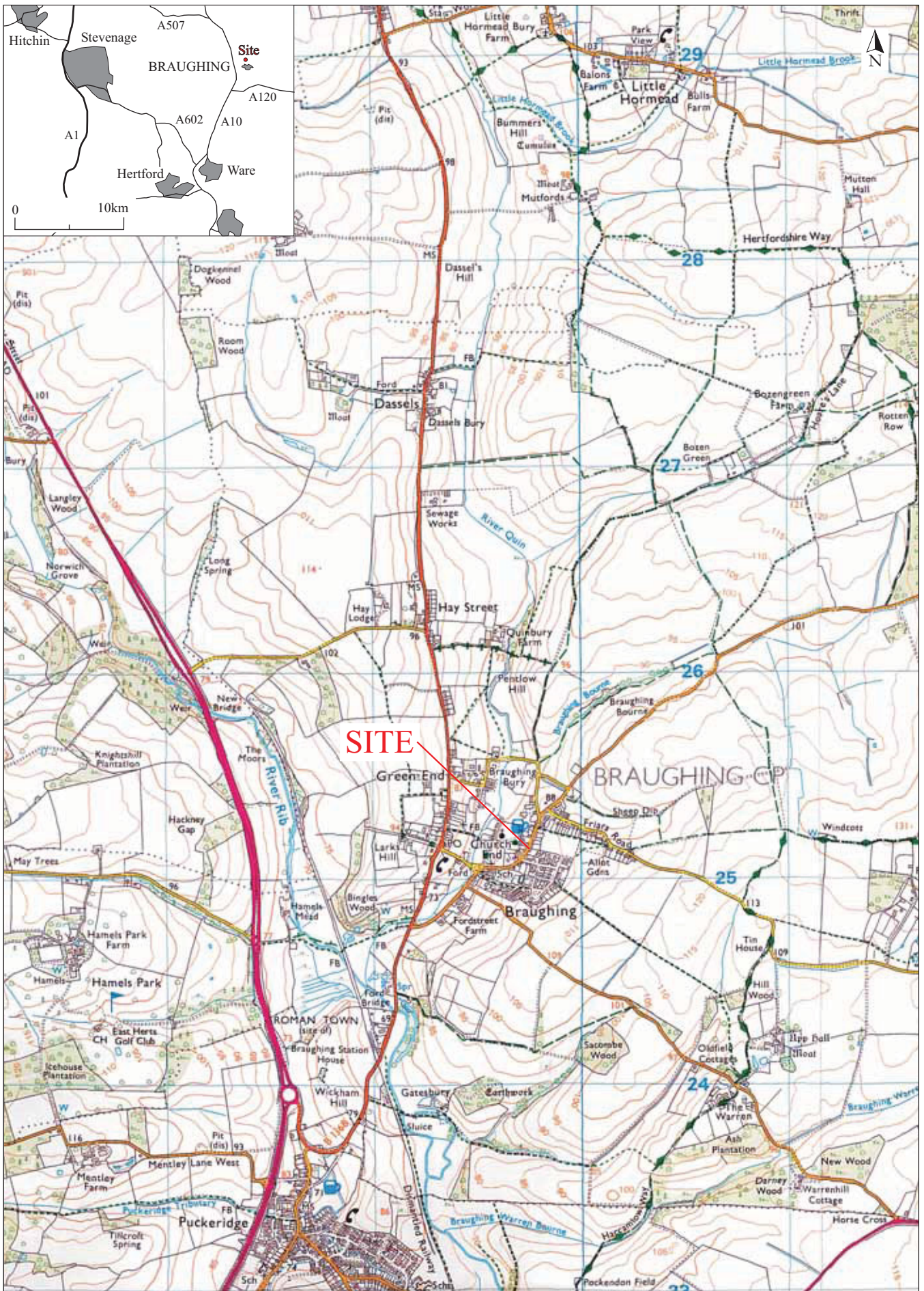
DP 29

Detail showing a reused timber used in the roof structure over Area 1, taken from the west



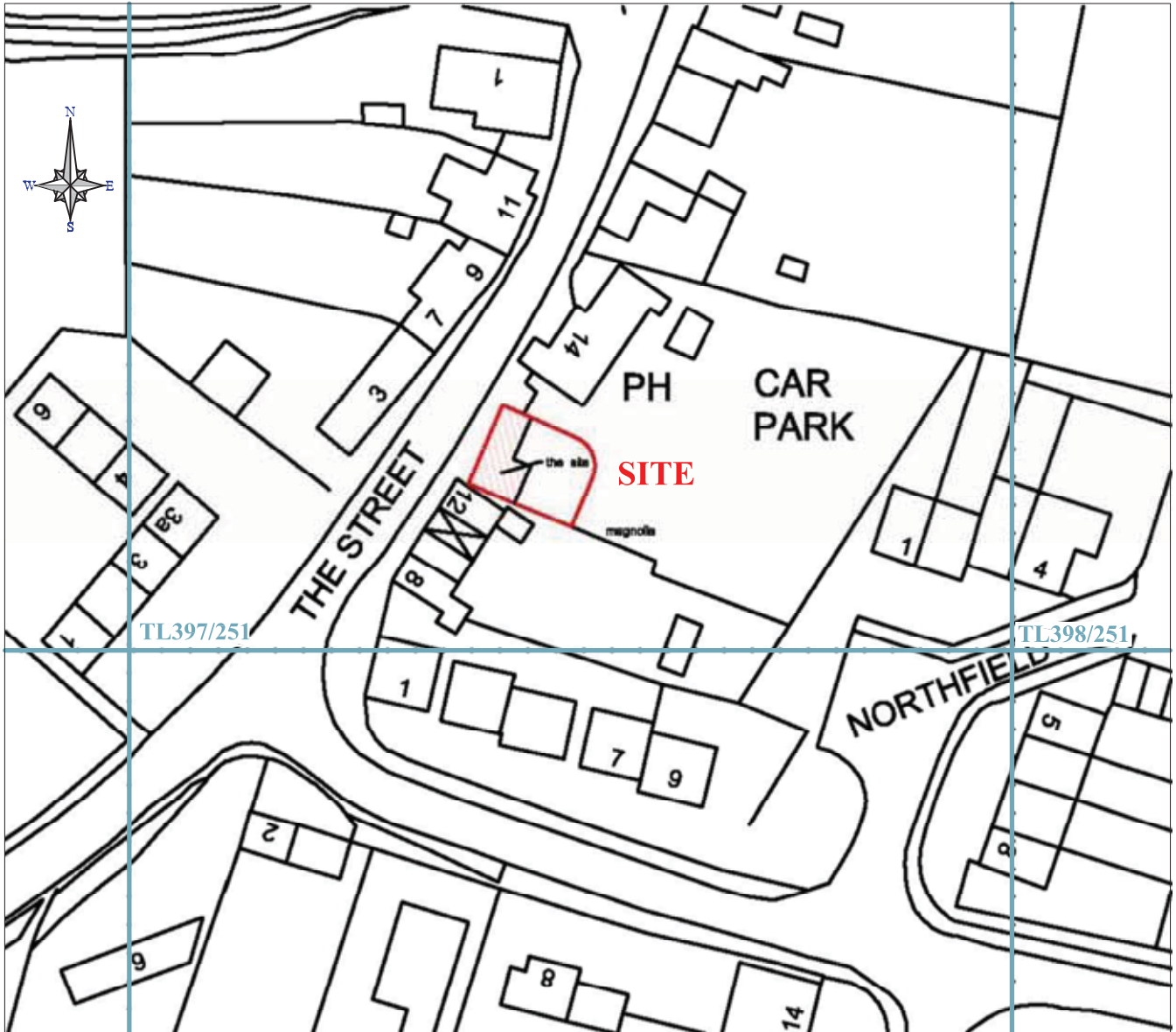
DP 30

View of the west tie-beam (Area 1) showing pegged mortice in the upper face for a lost stud relating to the earlier arrangement, taken from the east



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



0 50m

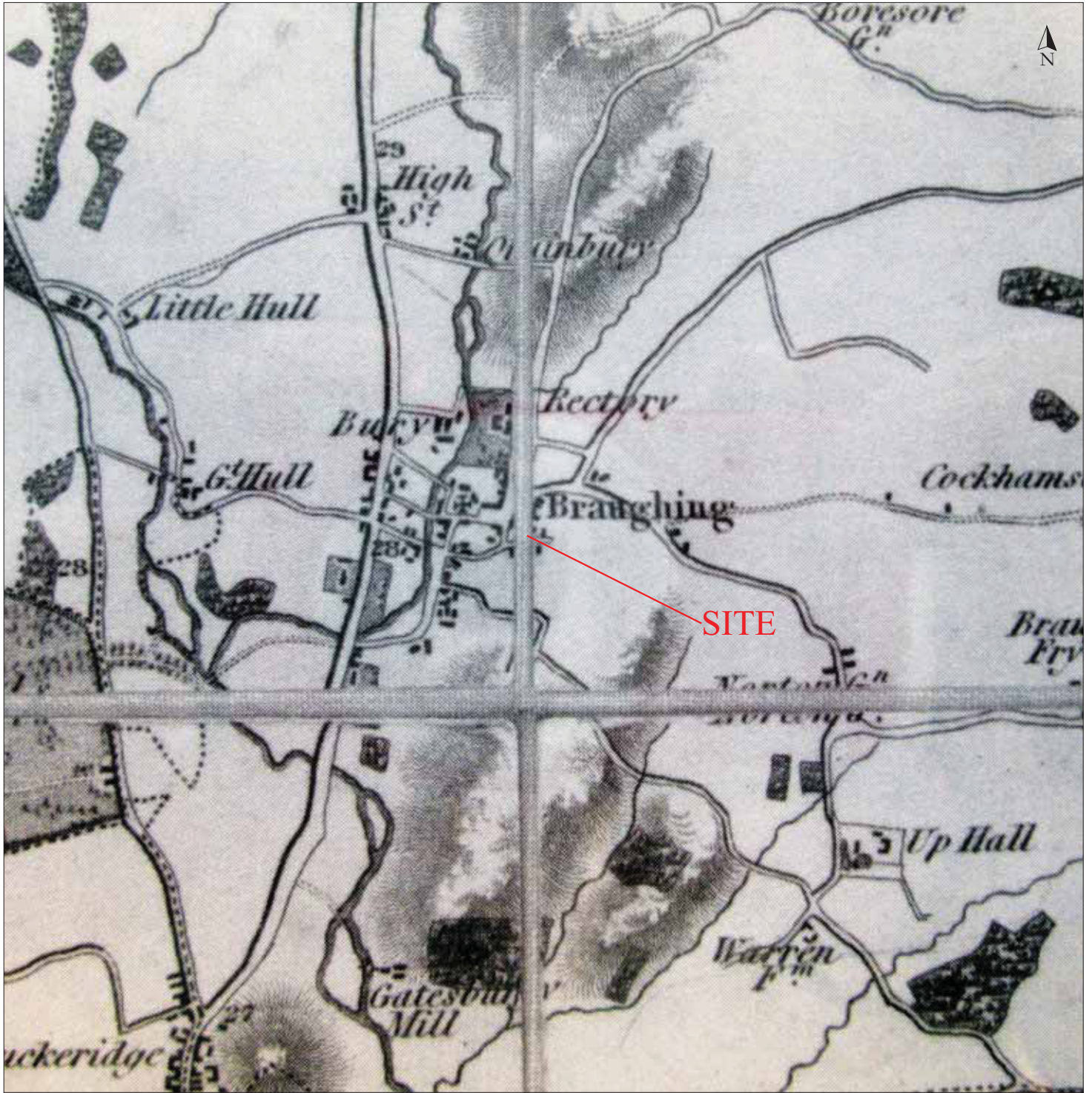
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:750 at A4



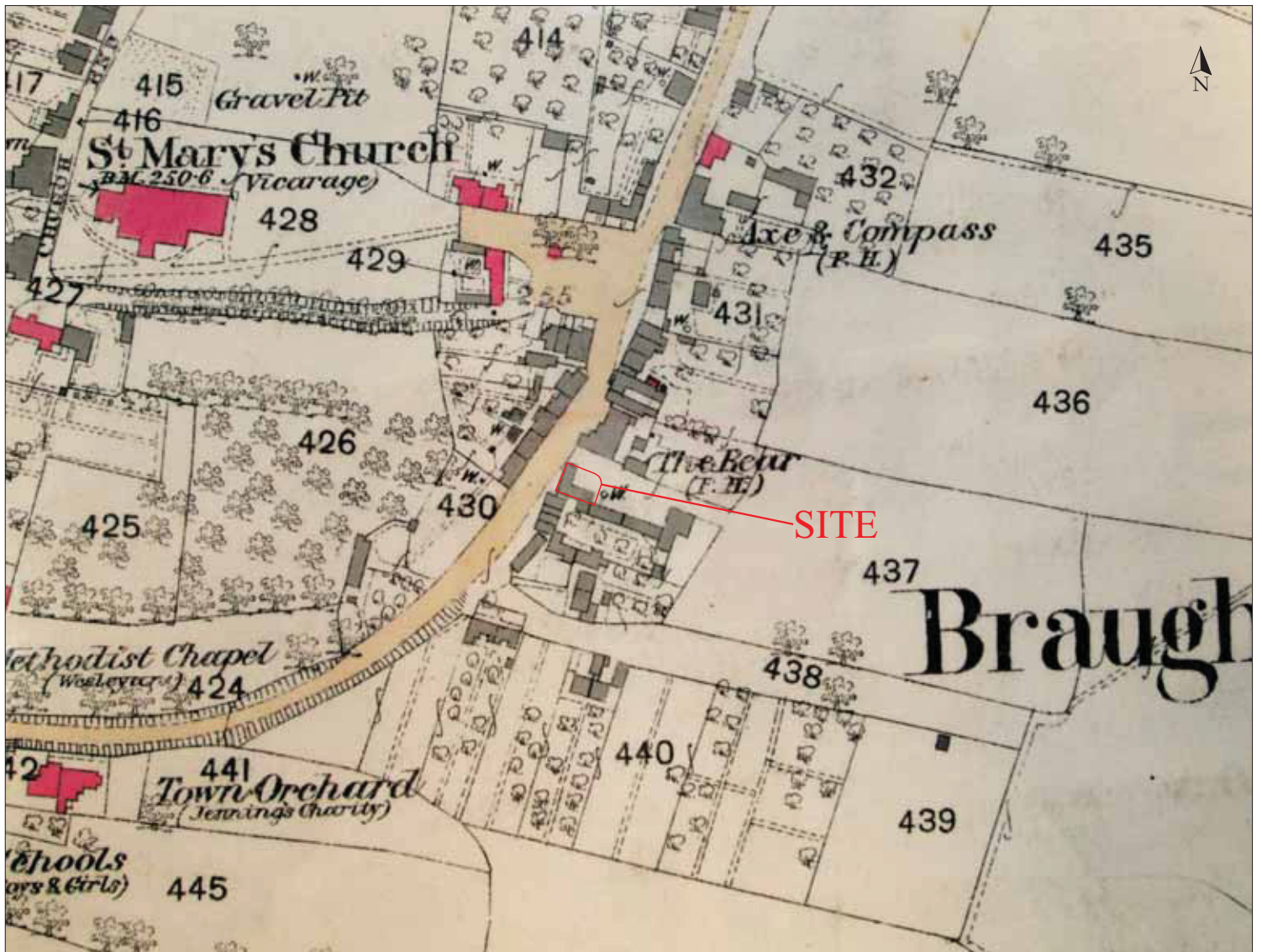
Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Fig. 3 Dury & Andrews' map, 1766

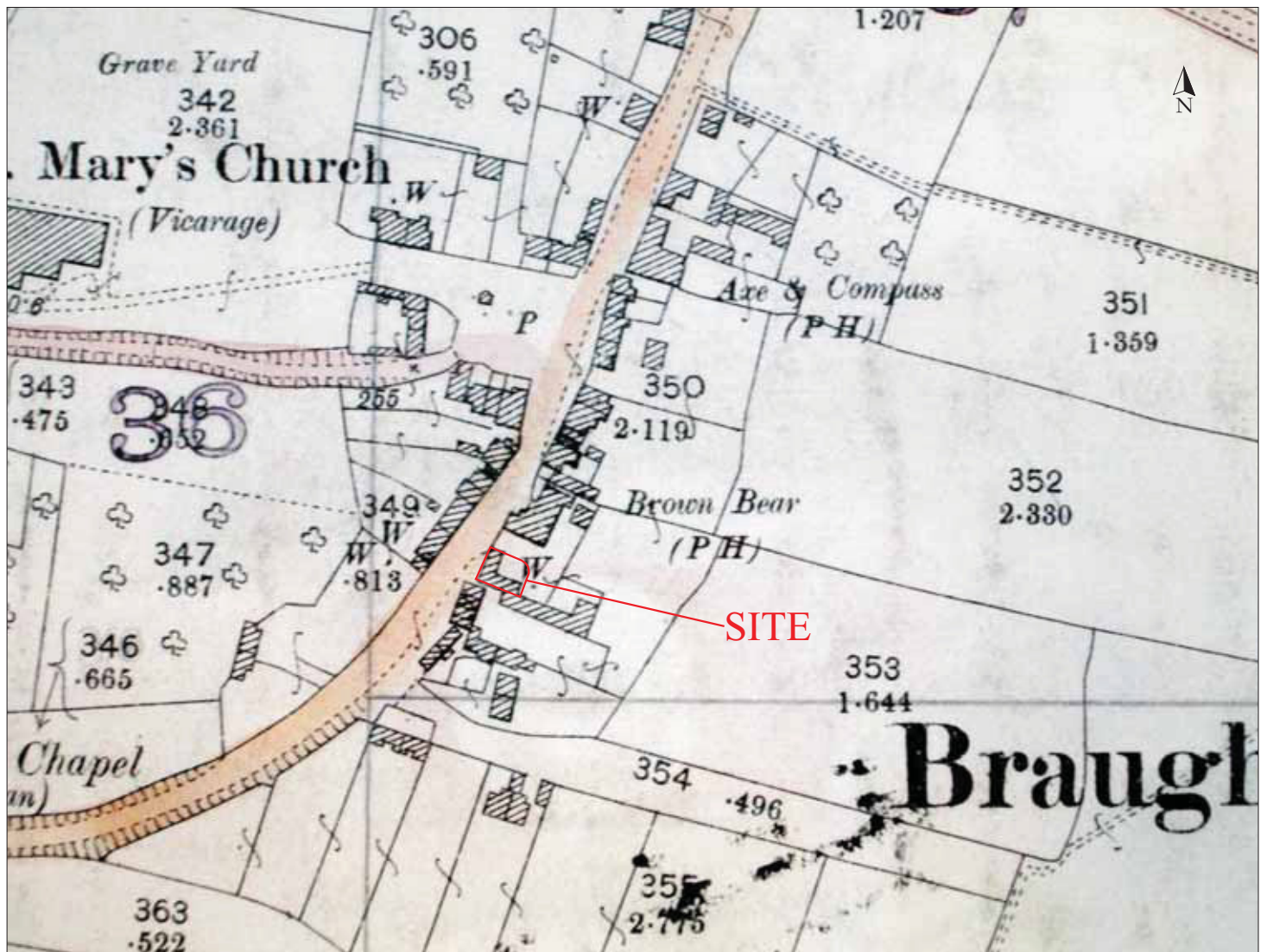
Not to scale



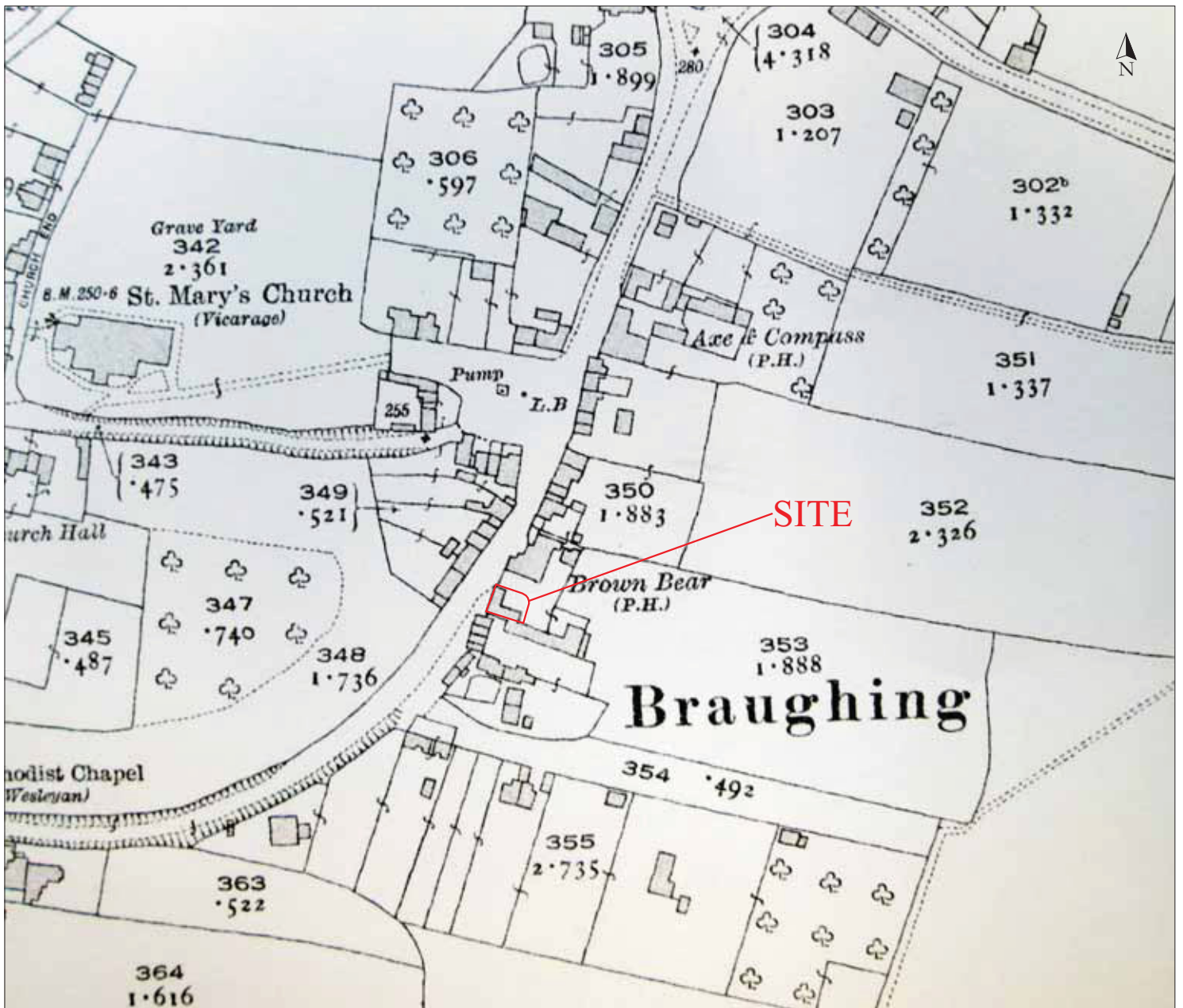
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 4 Bryant's map, 1822
Not to scale



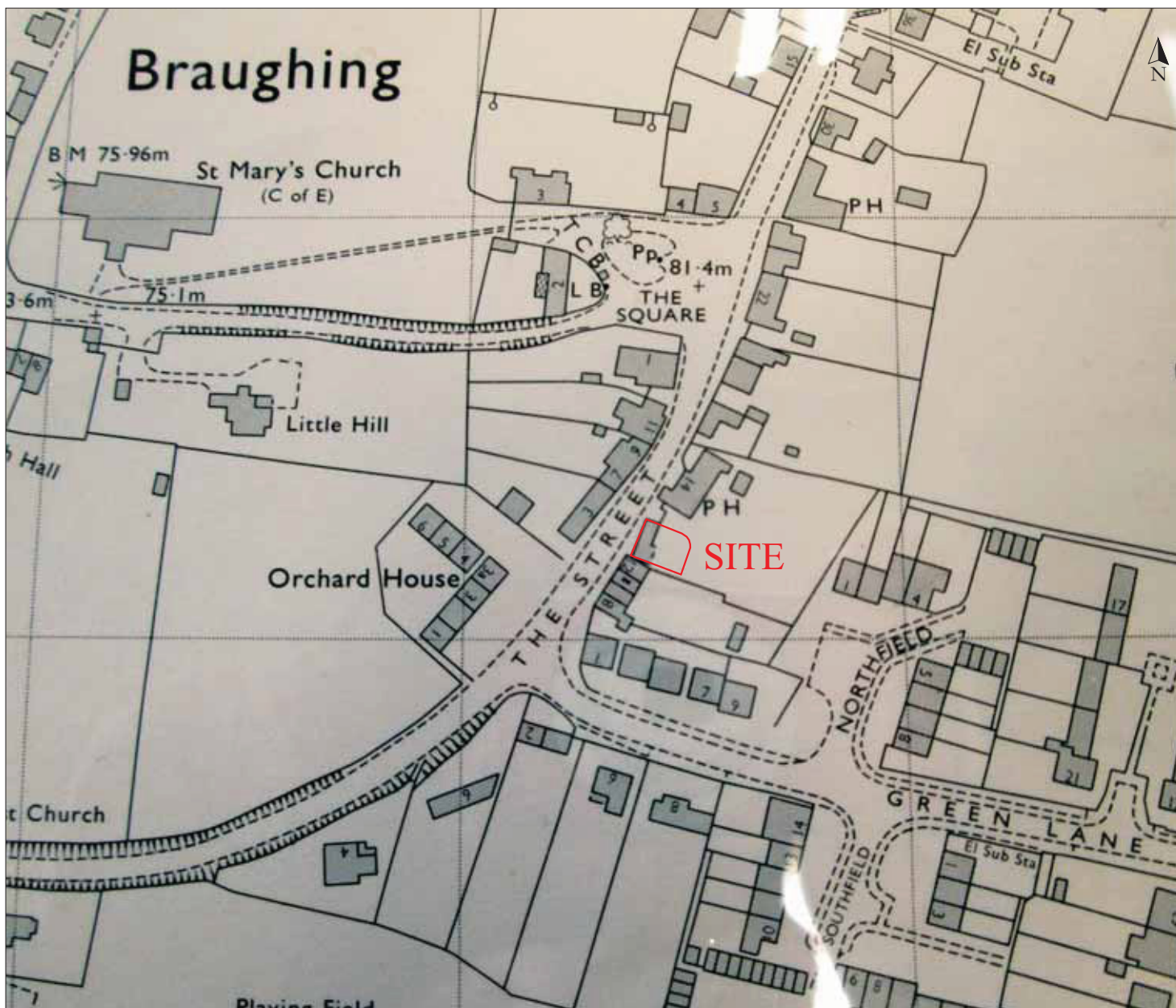
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 5 OS map, 1878
Not to scale



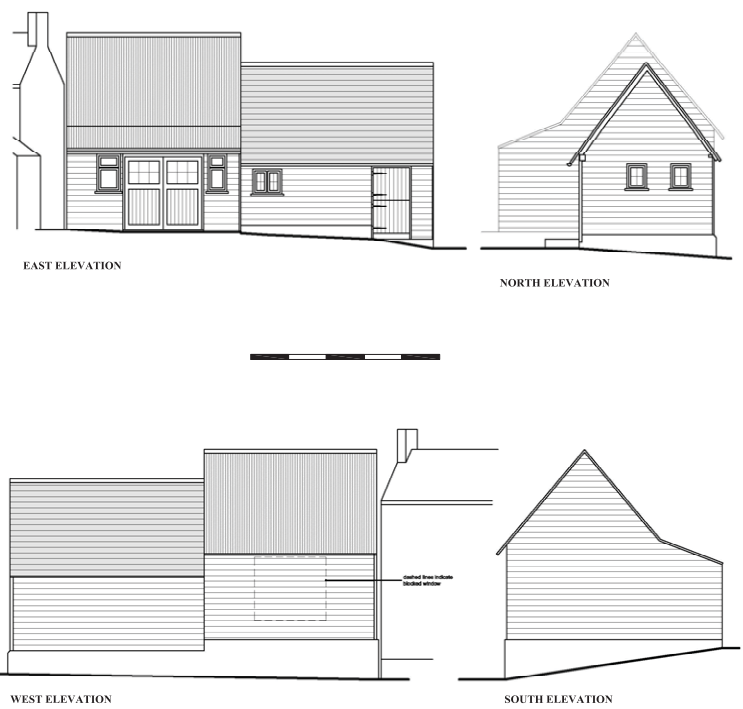
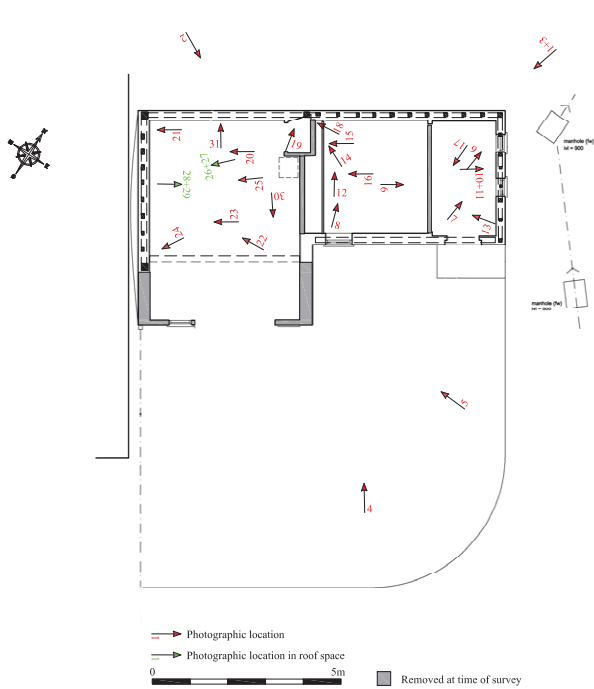
<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 6 OS map, 1897
Not to scale



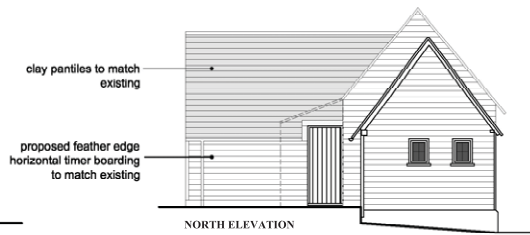
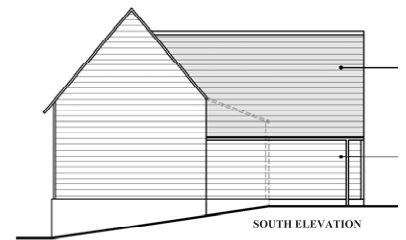
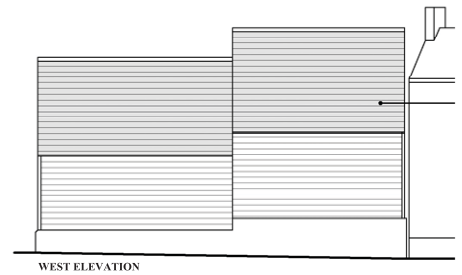
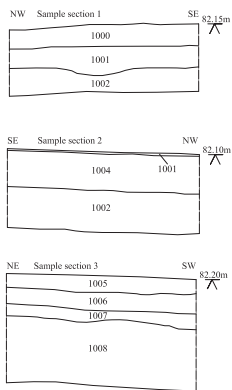
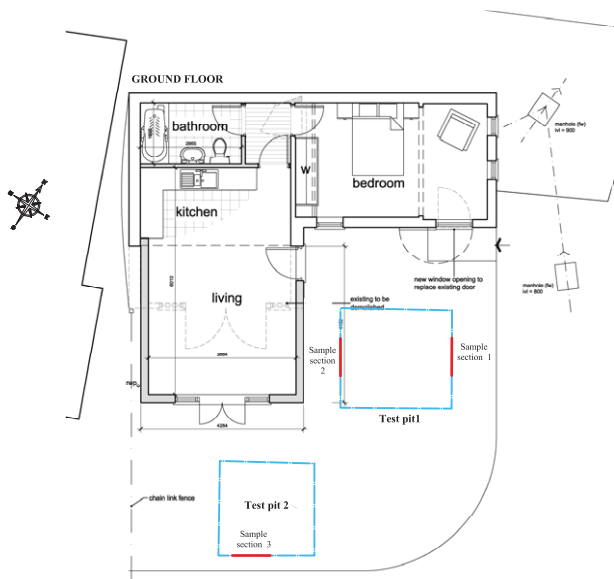
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Fig. 7 OS map, 1921
Not to scale



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Fig. 8 OS map, 1975
Not to scale



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Fig. 9 Plans and elevations
Scale 1:100 at A3



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Fig. 10 Proposed plan & elevations
 Scale 1:100 at A3