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**HILL COTTAGE, ROYSTON ROAD, BALDOCK,
HERTFORDSHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

HER Request No 117/15

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski	
NGR: TL 24819 34259	Report No: 4923
District: North Hertfordshire	Site Code: AS 1761
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 3646
Signed:	Date: 14 August 2015

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire</i>		
<p><i>In August 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 24819 34259). The evaluation was commissioned by Mint Construction (Bedford) Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of two new dwellings with associated works.</i></p> <p><i>The site is situated within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 96 which records the presence of Bronze/Iron Age, Roman and medieval archaeological remains. The Iron Age and Roman settlements are of national importance and much of the Roman settlement at Baldock is scheduled as an Ancient Monument. This settlement was centred to the south and south-west of the Clothall Common housing estate and Clothall Road to the south-west of the site. The Roman settlement has extensive known cemeteries on its periphery, and burials are known from the immediate area to the west of the site. The latter is located just off the route of prehistoric Icknield Way. The site had a potential for prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the evaluation revealed a modern soakaway with associated drains and a 20th century wall of an outbuilding.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>06/08/2015</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>5879</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1761</i>
Type of project	<i>An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>Within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 96</i>		
Current land use	<i>Detached house with garden and 2 outbuildings</i>		
Planned development	<i>Construction of two new dwellings</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Modern soakaway, 19th C. wall</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>North Hertfordshire</i>	<i>Baldock</i>
HER/ HER for area	<i>Hertfordshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>SG7 6NT</i>		
Area of site	<i>c.500m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 24819 34259</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>67.80/68.50m</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>HCC HEU</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mint Construction Bedford Limited</i>		
Full title	<i>Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4923</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>August 2015</i>		

HILL COTTAGE, ROYSTON ROAD, BALDOCK, HERTFORDSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In August 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 24819 34259). The evaluation was commissioned by Mint Construction (Bedford) Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of two new dwellings with associated works.

The site is situated within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 96 which records the presence of Bronze/Iron Age, Roman and medieval archaeological remains. The Iron Age and Roman settlements are of national importance and much of the Roman settlement at Baldock is scheduled as an Ancient Monument. This settlement was centred to the south and south-west of the Clothall Common housing estate and Clothall Road to the south-west of the site. The Roman settlement has extensive known cemeteries on its periphery, and burials are known from the immediate area to the west of the site. The latter is located just off the route of prehistoric Icknield Way. The site had a potential for prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains.

In the event the evaluation revealed a modern soakaway with associated drains and a 20th century wall of an outbuilding.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In August 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 24819 34259; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Mint Construction (Bedford) Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of two new dwellings with associated works (North Herts DC Planning Ref. 13/02138/1, 13/02139/1).

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance to requirements of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 17/06/2015) and approved by HCC HEU. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014), and 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 prehistoric and Roman occupation. It was also important to understand the level of truncation on the site.

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 site lies on the northern side of Royston Road, on the eastern outskirts of Baldock, immediately adjacent to its junction with Icknield Way East. Access to the site is obtained from Icknield Way East. The site comprises the existing dwelling, two outbuildings (barns) and the garden plot of Hill Cottage. It is proposed to retain and extend Hill Cottage, and build two new detached dwellings within the plot.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 Baldock is set at the very far north-eastern extent of the Chiltern Hills and the Weston Hills lie 1.2km to the south-east. The site is situated on Upper Cretaceous Middle Chalk characteristic of the Chiltern Hills (British Geological Survey 1978). The site lies on a land gently sloping towards the west and south-west at a height of c.68m AOD.

3.2 The soils on the site are undefined as it lies within the urban area of Baldock (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). However, soils present within the site are likely to comprise those of the Upton 1 association, which are based on chalk, and are described as shallow well drained calcareous silty soils over chalk. Other soils in the area are of the Swaffham Prior association and are comprised of well drained calcareous coarse and fine loamy soils over chalk rubble.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 Baldock is situated on the Icknield Way, which is generally accepted to have been an important prehistoric routeway and later a major Anglo-Saxon route between Wessex and East Anglia. Despite this position, few prehistoric finds have been recorded in Baldock compared with finds from the Romano-British and later periods. A Palaeolithic struck flint tool was recovered during excavations at Walls Field (HER 217) and a Neolithic flint tool assemblage including an arrow head, knife and scraper was recovered from the line of the Icknield Way (HER 358). Bronze Age activity in the area is indicated by the presence of three barrows to the immediate north-east of Baldock along the line of the Icknield Way (HER 2386, 2430 & 2431). Recent excavations prompted by the construction of the Baldock bypass in 2003 – 2004 revealed a cluster of seven Bronze Age barrows and a round house; the barrows appearing to have been re-used during the late Iron Age and the early Romano-British periods (Phillips *et al* 2009). A Bronze Age cremation was also found during ground works for the Tesco store c.750m to the south of the site (HER 10077).

4.2 Significant activity from the later Iron Age is recorded across the central and southern section of the town, coinciding with the later location of Romano-British occupation. The majority of the late Iron Age discoveries comprise burials, in many cases cremations with assemblages of pottery grave goods (HER 0482, 0483, 4280). A less common form of burial in the Iron Age was a high status grave often described as a 'Chieftain's burial', an example of which was recorded to the east of the High Street (HER 1868). This comprised a cremation with extensive grave goods including a bronze cauldron, a pair of fire dogs, bronze dishes, wooden buckets, an amphora and pig bones, and dated to c.50 BC (Stead & Rigby 1986). Late Iron Age pits and ditch were found c.75m south of the site (HER 30309).

4.3 A Late Iron Age burial enclosure was found c.40m west of the site (HER 13194). More than 17 cremations were discovered, probably within a ditched enclosure, dated to c.25 BC - AD 75. Past discoveries of burials, late Iron Age and early Roman vessels during the construction of 5a Icknield Way East in 1927, and traces of shallow ditches and 17 cremations during redevelopment in 1988, suggest a late Iron Age ditched enclosure which continued in use into the early Roman period. Twelve of these were inside pottery vessels. A cremation burial with at least one late Iron Age vessel was found in the garden of No.5a Royston Road (the same property) in 1933.

Romano-British

4.4 Extensive excavation has occurred in and around Baldock, focussed on the areas of Walls Field and Clothall Road and has produced evidence of a substantial Roman settlement of over 30 ha (Burleigh 1982; Burleigh & Fitzpatrick-Matthew 2008; HER 0008). The settlement was well established by the mid 1st century AD, but was probably initially occupied from about 100BC (HER 0106, 1081 & 1843). The Romano-British settlement lay at the crossroads of two important Roman roads and the prehistoric Icknield Way (HER 4626 & 4685) which gave direct communication with the towns of Durocubris (Dunstable) to the south-west, Verulamium (St Albans) to the south, Braughing to the south-east, and Durovigutum (Godmanchester) to the north (The Viatores, 1964). Interestingly, excavations of the Roman town have revealed an exceptionally large number of burials including 21 separate formal cemeteries (Burleigh & Fitzpatrick-Matthew 2008). Zoning and migration of activity has been identified within the town, with burials generally occurring only outside the settlement area (HER 0481, 0485, 1066, 1067, 1080, 4270 & 6082).

4.5 A late Roman cemetery was found just 40m west of the site at Icknield Way East (HER 12879). It was a mixed-rite then an inhumation cemetery, dating to AD 175-450. Thirty six burials from the late cemetery have been recorded; 29 were inhumations (in rows), six were urned cremations and one an unurned cremation. The easternmost burial was that of a year-old infant, buried in a wooden coffin with a 2nd-century pipeclay Dea Nutrix figurine from central Gaul and up to three wood caskets, the whole possibly under a superstructure. The extent of this cemetery is unknown; it (and its predecessor) is the only known Baldock cemetery on the north side of the contemporary Icknield Way.

4.6 Other Romano-British finds from the area date from the 1st century through to the 4th century. The number of coins recovered indicates the Roman town's status as an important market for the region (HER 0447, 0487, 0529, 0622, 1055-60, 1062-5, 1079 & 1256). Further evidence of extensive Romano-British settlement within Baldock includes the Romano-Celtic temple and associated buildings noted to the south of the site at Baker's Close (HER 770). In the immediate vicinity of the site Romano-British remains have been recorded, including some later Iron Age or early Roman burial vessels recorded along the route of Icknield Way, including two Gallo-Belgic platters, one campanulate cup (both dating from 10-65 AD) and a bowl with cordons

(probably Claudian in date) (HER 483). To the east of the site an area of Roman occupation was recorded in Orchard Road, including a series of truncated ditches, several pits and three wells (HER 10986). Two burials were also recorded; a burial of probable late Roman date which was contained within the upper fill of a sub-circular well (HER 10987) and an assemblage of a skull and 'further' bones which were recorded within the fill of a large pit (HER 12002).

Anglo-Saxon

4.7 There is little archaeological evidence from the Anglo-Saxon period in Baldock, although it is now thought that sub-Roman activity continued within the Roman town until as late as the 6th century (Burleigh & Fitzpatrick-Matthews 2008). The lack of an Anglo-Saxon presence, however, is not unexpected as many small Roman towns or even large settlements exhibit evidence of discontinuous habitation after the 4th century and often abandonment by the 5th century. Consistent with the theory of decline and abandonment, there are no known Anglo-Saxon find-spots from the area surrounding the site.

Medieval

4.8 At the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, Baldock formed part of the manor of Weston, which was assessed as a relatively large holding comprising approximately 1,200 acres of arable land (Page 1912). While the manor of Weston was relatively populous with 300 – 400 inhabitants, there is no evidence to show that Baldock existed as a separate entity in the 11th century. It is thought that the town came into existence in c.1140 when the Knights Templar were granted land here (Williamson 2000). The name Baldock is believed to be a corruption of *Baghadad*, referring to the crusading orders links with the Middle East. The medieval settlement was established at the junction of the Icknield Way and the Great North Road, the latter of which was altered slightly with a dog-leg to form the High Street (Crellin 1995), however the site remained to the north of the probable extent of the medieval settlement (Thompson 2002).

4.9 In a survey of the possessions of the Knights Templar undertaken in 1185, the 12th century town was estimated to cover a total area of c.150 acres (Page 1912; Crellin 1995). In 1189 Richard I confirmed a grant to the Templars giving the right to hold a weekly market and an annual fair. To this end a double market place was designated along High Street and Whitehorse Street, accounting for the exceptional width of these streets today (HER 10871). Few archaeological features of medieval date have been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site. St Mary's Church is of 13th century origin and lies to the south of the site (HER 4062). Archaeological evaluations to the north and east of the site have revealed medieval activity including medieval pits and possible medieval boundary ditches (HER 11423, 11821, 12704, 13167).

Post-medieval & later

4.10 In the 16th century, the town of Baldock was described as being in a state of decay, in common with many settlements at this time (Crellin 1996). However, Baldock flourished with the introduction of coach travel in the 17th century during which the Great North Road from London, to the east of the site, became an important route (HER 11197). The town remained as a relatively small, nucleated settlement, with open or garden land located immediately to the rear of properties fronting the High Street (HER 10872). Extant post-medieval structures include Wynne's Almshouses on the High Street, which were built for six tenants in 1621 (HER 11198), the Manor House/Brewery House at No. 21 High Street (HER 12866), and the house at No. 14A High Street (HER 13672).

4.11 Passing trade declined and the coaching houses suffered a recession following the opening of the Royston & Hitchin Railway through Baldock railway station in the 1850s (Thompson 2002; Rider 1982, 22). The site of the 19th century railway crossing (HER 17148) lies just to the north of the site. Baldock did not suffer wholesale decline in the early modern period, however, as the brewing and malting industries of late 18th century proved to be of great resilience and continued working into the 20th century (HERs 5339, 5340, 5343 & 5442), long after the loss of the industry in many nearby towns. A new Garden City at Letchworth was founded in 1903, offering many opportunities for work nearby, whilst the Kayser-Bondor factory, c.750m to the south, was established in 1924 originally for Kosmos, a photographic materials manufacturer (HER 9910).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Two trenches were excavated using a mechanical tracked 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 5). The trenches were located within the footprints of the proposed two new dwellings. Each of the trenches measured 7.50 x 1.80m

5.2 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.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

The individual trenches are described below

Trench 1 (Fig. 5, DP 1-2)

<i>Sample section 1A (DP 3): north-west end, south-west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 68.26m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1000	Made ground. Dark grey, loose, silty sand with moderate CBM fragments.
0.18 – 0.48m	L1001	Made ground. Mid brown, compact, silty sand with occasional CBM fragments and chalk chunks.
0.48m +	L1002	Natural white, compact, chalk with light brown and brownish yellow sandy patches.

<i>Sample section 1B (DP 4): south-east end, north-east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 67.90m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000	Made ground. As above.
0.09 – 0.49m	L1001	Made ground. As above but containing more chalk.
0.49m +	L1002	Natural chalk. As above.

Description: The remains of a 20th century wall (M1003) were present, and also a modern cable.

M1003 (1.80+ x 0.20+ 0.31m) was present within entire north-west section (end) of the trench (Fig. 3; DP 5). It was aligned north-east/south west and was parallel to the north wall of barn to the west (being demolished). M1003 was present just below L1000 (c.0.10m thick) and above L1001. It was constructed of yellow and red bricks (0.230 x 0.105 x 0.065m) and four courses of bricks were present. They were bonded with light brownish sandy mortar and arranged in pattern of the English bond (with irregularities in the top course). A ledge of 0.05m was present between 2nd and 3rd courses. The brick sample from the wall is 20th century (CBM Report below).

Trench 2 (Fig. 5, DP 6-7)

<i>Sample section 2A (DP 8): north-east end, south-east facing</i> <i>0.00 = 68.15m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1004	Topsoil. Mid to dark grey, friable, sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments.
0.23 – 0.56m	L1005	Made ground. Mixed, compacted, grey sand, white chalk and yellow sand with occasional CBM fragments.
0.56m +	L1002	Natural chalk. As above, Tr. 1.

<i>Sample section 2B (DP 9): south-west end, north-west facing</i> <i>0.00 = 68.12m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.18m	L1004	Topsoil. As above.
0.18 – 0.41m	L1005	Made ground. As above.
0.41m +	L1002	Natural chalk. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: A soakaway (M1009) with two associated drain ditches (F1011 and F1013), all of modern date, were present within the trench.

M1009 (1.51 x 1.46 x 0.22m; DP 10–12) was a circular ring of bricks over a pit. The ring consisted of three courses of red bricks (0.220 x 0.105 x 0.065m) bonded with light grey thin mortar. The interior of the ring was hollow and below the ring the feature was filled with (L1010) modern materials which collapsed inside during excavation of the trench. The construction cut for the feature (F1007) was roughly circular and was backfilled by L1008, a mid grey, friable, silty sand with occasional CBM fragments. The brick sample from the wall is 19th century (CBM Report below).

Two linear drains, F1011 and F1013, were linked to the soakaway. F1011 (2.80+ x 0.65 x 0.40m+) to the north of M1009, and F1013 (3.50+ x 0.60 x 0.40m+) to the south. Both had steep sides and contained similar fills, L1012 and L1014 respectively, consisting of light to mid grey, compact, silty sand. Numerous roof tiles fragments and modern (19th - 20th century) pottery were present in the fills.

Layer 1005 present above the natural chalk also contained modern pottery and CBM.

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 west part of the site (Trench 1) was commonly overlain by Made Ground L1000 (0.08 – 0.20m). L1000 overlay Made Ground L1001 (0.30 – 0.40m thick). These layers contained modern finds and were the only deposits present above natural chalk. In contrast, the north-eastern part of the site (Trench 2) contained garden topsoil (L1004; 0.18 – 0.25m thick) overlying modern Made Ground L1005 (0.30 – 0.35m thick) and in the northern part of Trench 2, L1006 was a light brown, compact, sandy silt (0.12m thick).

8.2 The natural chalk, L1002, was present at 0.40 – 0.5m below existing ground level and comprised a white, compact, chalk with light brown and brownish yellow sandy patches.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval archaeology, being located along the Icknield Way, within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 96 which records the presence of Bronze/Iron Age, Roman and medieval remains. The site lies in the vicinity of the Iron Age and Roman settlements and close to the edge of the medieval

town core, and Iron Age and Roman burials have been found in close proximity to the site.

9.2 In the event the evaluation revealed modern remains. The soakaway dates from the 19th century and was probably in use until recently. The wall, M1003, recorded in the western part of the site was of 20th century date and may be associated with an outbuilding. The 1898 (Fig.3) and 1937 (Fig.4) OS maps depict small buildings on the site but none are obviously co-incident with M1003.

9.3 Although located in an area which has produced extensive evidence of Iron Age and Roman date, in particular cemeteries, no remains other than modern material was recorded. Ground disturbance had clearly occurred in the 19th and 20th centuries. The western part of the site appeared to have been more affected with possible levelling works undertaken for the construction of the barn and other outbuildings. The north-east part of the site, occupied by the garden, was less disturbed.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mint Construction (Bedford) Limited for funding the project and for assistance (in particular Mr Russell Lee and Ms Hayley Anderson).

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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
Iron Age / Roman (800 BC – AD 410)		
483	243 341	Late Iron Age Vessels, Icknield Way, Baldock; Burial vessels comprising two Gallo-Belgic platters (10-65AD), one campanulate cup (10-65AD) and one bowl with cordons (probably Claudian)
1066	248 342	A skeleton in a chalk grave pit; no grave goods; probably late 3rd century; found 3ft below the surface in a garden in California. 'In the garden of a house at California a skeleton-burial was discovered.... There were no associated finds to date the burial, but in 1932 the late surveyor of Baldock, Mr G H W Widger, found in the same garden what was apparently a dry Roman well'
1078	245 342	'Building foundations of Roman character' found by Mr C M Crickmer, the Letchworth architect
1080	245 339	Roman-British Occupation, High Street; Three small urns, one beaker and a ditch found during construction of a house in the High Street, in November 1934. The ditch measured 8ft 6in in width, 3ft 6in in depth and 5ft at the base. Fill was black earth with chalk nodules, bones, oyster shells and pottery sherds
10986	2445 3402	Roman Occupation, 2-24 Orchard Road; A series of truncated ditches, several pits, and three wells; the pottery dated from the 2nd to the 4th century A. The pits and wells, close to the linear ditches, appear to have occupied the rear of enclosed properties occupied in the 2nd-3rd centuries. Two of the wells contained human remains in their fills, with late Roman pottery; this possibly indicates that this part of the settlement was largely abandoned by the 4th century.
10987	2445 3402	A burial of probable late Roman date contained in the upper fill of a sub-circular well that formed part of Roman occupation on the periphery of the settlement at Baldock. It was orientated NE/SW with head to NE, and lay in a supine position with the left arm flexed across the pelvis and the right arm laid across the chest. The bone was well preserved and a corroded iron object was found by the individual's chest. Other finds from the upper fill of the well included mainly 2nd-4th cent.
11423	2454 3407	Roman & Medieval Occupation, 33 Whitehorse Street; Evaluation identified Roman and medieval pits, and post-medieval activity including a 19C wall foundation, 4 pits and a posthole. About 30 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered and post-medieval finds (tile, bricks, clay pipe and pottery). Excavation in January 2000 investigated features identified during the evaluation, notably F1017, a large medieval pit, and F1067, a late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch. Further features were also identified, including pits of possible Romano-British and medieval date, and several undated post holes
12002	2445 3403	Skull and 'further' bones were observed within the fill of a large pit. No evidence of a grave cut was visible.
12704	2446 3414	Evaluation on north side of Football Close revealed two Roman ditches containing large amounts of pottery and animal bone, two pits, another pit or ditch, and a possible well. The pottery was relatively unabraded. Further work uncovered deep pits and a ditch, consistently 3rd-4th century, as well as pits and two ditches which were 12th to 15 th century
12759	2432 3424	Fieldwalking along the north side of the railway line, between the sewage pumping station and North Road, recovered two areas of

		Romano-British pottery, with some medieval sherds. All were heavily abraded. Post-medieval material was found across the whole survey area but may have arrived when the area was used as allotments
12879	24750 34255	Late Roman cemetery, Icknield Way East. Mixed-rite then inhumation cemetery, c. AD 175-450; including infant burial with Dea Nutrix figurine. The first burials in the late cemetery were deposited shortly before AD 200; the latest were almost certainly 5th century (and possibly as late as the second half of the 5th century, or even later). 36 burials from the late cemetery have been recorded; 29 were inhumations, in rows, six were urned cremations and one an urned cremation. The easternmost burial was that of a year-old infant, buried in a wooden coffin with a 2nd century pipeclay Dea Nutrix figurine from central Gaul and up to three wood caskets, the whole possibly under a superstructure. The date of this burial was apparently early 4th century. In the grave and coffin fills were redeposited sherds ranging from late Neolithic Grooved Ware to late Iron Age and 1st to 3rd century Roman. The extent of this cemetery is unknown; it (with its predecessor) is the only known Baldock cemetery on the north side of the contemporary Icknield Way.
13194	24739 34257	Late Iron Age-Roman burial enclosure. More than 17 cremations, probably in a ditched enclosure, c.25 BC - AD 75. Past discoveries of burials, late Iron Age and early Roman vessels during the construction of 5a Icknield Way East in 1927, and traces of shallow ditches and 17 cremations during redevelopment in 1988, suggest a late Iron Age ditched enclosure which continued in use into the early Roman period. Twelve of these were inside pots. A cremation burial with at least one late Iron Age pot was found in the garden of no.5a Royston Road (the same property) in 1933.
13444	24548 33920	Evaluation found part of a ditch on an area of land behind High Street & Whitehorse Street, Baldock. It had been recut along much the same line. In the primary fill of the recut were three small abraded sherds of Roman pottery and a burnt fragment of Roman brick. The ditch and its recut appear to be 'boundary ditches located away from the centre of domestic activity in Baldock during this period'. A single posthole, undated, was also seen.
13476	24500 34075	Monitoring of a trench recorded a feature beneath the subsoil; this was a pit or ditch cut into the natural chalk, and yielded a Roman copper alloy and silver brooch.
15295	24535 34115	Evaluation of open land at the east end of Orchard Road uncovered features and finds from the late Iron Age to the end of the Roman period: a substantial ditch, first dug in the late Iron Age and kept clean until the 2nd century; several minor ditches and pits; a probable wall foundation; a buried Roman land surface; and a robbed-out wall over a late Roman ditch. The large ditch may possibly be a roadside ditch, or one side of an enclosure; the earlier wall foundation may represent a large Roman building by the road leading NW out of the Roman town, and the pits also suggest domestic occupation. The finds ranged from the 1st century BC to the end of the Roman period.
30309	24838 34249	Late Iron Age pits and ditch. A scatter of pits and a ditch were found in three evaluation trenches behind and east of no.12 Royston Road in 2013. Each pit was in a different trench. One pit contained no finds; the second contained nothing in its lower fill and late Iron Age sherds in the upper fill. The third pit contained fragments of a pot in an early Roman sandy fabric, burnt daub, and some animal bone (probably sheep/goat). Near this third pit was a narrow ditch containing late Iron Age pottery. The late Iron Age pottery was all grog-tempered, largely from domestic storage jars
Medieval (AD 1066 – 1539)		
4062	243 339	St Mary's Church, Baldock; Church with 13th century origins,14th

		century nave, aisles, north and south chapel, West tower and south porch and 15th century turret, windows and nave clerestorey. The north porch was added in 1836; the spire is 19th century. Features include a 13th century double piscina in the chancel, a 14th century piscina and sedilia in the south chapel, octagonal 13th century font and fine 18th and 19th century wall tablets
11423	2454 3407	Roman & Medieval Occupation, 33 Whitehorse Street; Evaluation identified Roman and medieval pits, and post-medieval activity including a 19 th century wall foundation, 4 pits and a posthole. About 30 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered and post-medieval finds (tile, bricks, clay pipe and pottery). Excavation in January 2000 investigated features identified during the evaluation, notably F1017, a large medieval pit, and F1067, a late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch. Further features were also identified, including pits of possible Romano-British and medieval date, and several undated post holes
11821	2450 3404	Monitoring and recording of groundworks during redevelopment recorded archaeological features in the western half of the site; much of the rest was covered by disturbed modern overburden. The features comprised a ditch of probable late medieval date which contained three sherds of late medieval pottery, tile, animal bone and oyster, and undated pits and postholes.
12704	2446 3414	Evaluation on the north side of Football Close revealed two Roman ditches containing large amounts of pottery and animal bone, two pits, another pit or ditch, and a possible well. The pottery was relatively unabraded. Further work uncovered deep pits and a ditch, consistently 3rd-4th century, as well as pits and two ditches which were 12th to 15 th century
13167	24331 34088	Monitoring of groundworks on the site of Darton Coachworks, on the east side of Church Street, uncovered a length of ditch running parallel with the Icknield Way. There were no finds, but it may represent a medieval boundary between the Church Street properties. The only other feature was a pit containing a few sherds of 18th-19 th century pottery, and worn roof tile fragments which may be late medieval
Post-medieval onwards (AD 1540-present)		
5441	2433 3399	Site of former brewery possibly dated to c.1840/50. The main building of yellow brick, three floors with fourth floor in the roof, red brick arcade arches and window heads. Wing has 2 floors 2 large arcaded bays and 2 large windows on 1st floor. The roof is of slate. Engine house also yellow brick, single floor, yellow brick square chimney. A third building, also yellow brick, arcaded to 1st floor with red brick buttresses and window heads, also slate roof. Site has been totally demolished, now occupied by flats and houses
5622	2450 3426	Railway bridge with brick piers and iron girder through, height 14ft 6in; rebuilt in 1923. Remains in good condition.
6336	24 33	Cage or lock-up, built by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor in 1787 'on a piece of ground in Middle Row' bought for the purpose. It measured 8' 9" by 9', and was sold by the churchwardens and overseers to William Dear, victualler. The plot is shown on the 1850 tithe map.
10886	2457 3410	The Old White Horse lies close to the core of the medieval town of Baldock, and stands on the site of an earlier White Horse inn. The earliest reference is in a deed dated 1635 referring to a messuage called the Crowne, which abutted the White Horse. Evaluation of an area NW of the existing pub buildings in 1997 established that post-medieval levelling deposits covered all the western half of the site, to at least 1.2m depth. In the eastern half the footprint of the new building was excavated, and again, any earlier activity was truncated by works carried out in the 18th century. These appear to be predominantly due to the construction of extensive drainage systems for the inn, and involved a total reduction of the rear of the site. This probably took

		place after the fire of 1720, and formed part of a major renovation and modernizing of the inn. Structural elements of the timber framed barn on the development site were also photographed prior to its demolition.
10926	243 340	Part of Parish Workhouse, Butlers Yard, Orchard Road, Baldock; A mid-17 th century building, two surviving 19 century cottages. Building 1 has substantial 17 th century roof surviving and is related to the street frontages and townscape of Whitehorse Street. This was part of the parish workhouse's property in Womack's Yard, but was probably not the main building.
11199	2444 3390	George and Dragon Inn, 2 Hitchin Street; The present building has an early 19C front of red brick with slightly projecting 3-storey centre between 2-storey wings, roof parapets and a hipped tiled roof; a dummy window in the centre of each floor. The additional wing on the left is 20 th century. The earliest record dates to 1591; from 1692 rent was paid to the rector for ground taken from the churchyard to increase stabling. It was visited by George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, in 1655 and thereafter it was favoured by travelling Quakers. It was bought by John Pryor, the Baldock brewer, in 1777; it was not the leading coaching inn of Baldock until after the closure of the White Horse in the 1860s. The George & Dragon was closed and boarded up early in 1998 and an attempt made to sell it for housing, but after local protest it was renovated and reopened in August 1999. Before the present churchyard gate was put up c1870 the inn stables ran along the street frontage here.
11820	2448 3405	Four structures, comprising a mid-17 th century timber-framed building (Building 1), two Victorian terraced cottages (Building 2, the surviving part of a row of six), and two 20 th century industrial structures (Buildings 3 & 4) were recorded prior to re-development (only Building 1 to be retained). In the mid 19 th century Building 1 was included in a property listed as being part of four houses owned by the Trustees of the Alms Houses Charities, and earlier records indicate that the property was leased by the Trustees to establish Baldock Workhouse in April 1759. However, given its structure the building is unlikely to have been used as the workhouse. The two storey structure has a steep pitched tiled roof with gable ends and a carriageway through at ground floor level, a brick lower storey and rendered upper storey. Only the upper storey has windows, and therefore may have been inhabited while the lower may have been used for storage or industrial purposes. The roof is well-preserved, of butt-purlin construction with secondary joists. It seems to have been originally timber-framed, but below the first floor the evidence is obscured by external brickwork of 18C or 19C date, and internal partitioning. Original beams are present in the void over the carriageway.
11989	2445 3397	Site of Oliver's Brewery; The Baldock Brewery may have originated in a brewhouse and malthouse attached to the Sun inn, and owned in the 1730s by William Noy. By c.1800 it was owned by the Penn family. No. 13 Whitehorse Street was the brewery house. The brewery was rebuilt during the 1840s by George Oliver, expanding to include the grounds of no 13 which was still shown as a farm on the 1850 tithe map. From 1875-1881 it was known as the Baldock Brewery. It remained in use until 1881 when it was auctioned off and not used for brewing again. Remains of walls, cobble and brick floors and cellars survive. Possible related remains have been noted behind 7-9 Sun Street.
11996	2447 3397	Brewers House; A smart town house with an 18th or early 19th century brick front concealing an earlier structure, the brewers' house belonging to Oliver's or Baldock Brewery
12003	2445 3401	19 th century garden features; The remains of walls which appear to be too slight to bear significant loads and have shallow foundation trenches were uncovered. Also a semi circular brick feature and an 'arc' of bricks. No finds were reported and the features are interpreted

		as 19 th century gardening or landscaping activity
12004	2448 3400	Wesleyan Methodist Chapel; The church opened in 1853 replacing the original premises, a house in Park Street. It was extended in 1864 to accommodate a Sunday School. The building is red brick dressed with stucco in Tudor style with a gabled front and an octagonal tower at each end, capped with small cupolas. There was no burial ground. An evaluation trench uncovered part of the original north west wall of the chapel
12006	2446 3400	Post-Medieval Farmyard; A group of features interpreted as the remnants of a farmyard were found below the north west wall of the Methodist chapel. These consisted of a crushed tile floor, robbed out walls, postholes and a metalled surface which was possibly a pathway for the farm. The suggested date of the site is the 17th-18 th century, although no dating evidence was recovered. The 'farmyard' was one of two behind Orchard Road, and may have been connected with the Baldock Brewery [
12007	2446 3402	19 th century outhouses and soakaway; Evidence of 19 th century development possibly relating to the brewery or a line of cottages along Orchard Road. The remains of footings and pipe trenches for outhouses appeared to drain into a brick built soakaway by a ceramic pipe. Also building debris (tiles, bricks and mortar) and remains of drains
13167	24331 34088	Monitoring of groundworks on the site of Darton Coachworks, on the east side of Church Street, uncovered a length of ditch running parallel with the Icknield Way. There were no finds, but it may represent a medieval boundary between the Church Street properties. The only other feature was a pit containing a few sherds of 18th-19 th century pottery, and worn roof tile fragments which may be late medieval
13474	24450 33950	Post-Medieval occupation behind 5-7 Sun Street; Monitoring of footings for extensions in the yard behind 7-9 Sun Street noted only post-medieval levels over chalk natural; much of the yard had been occupied by a series of barns, possibly part of the brewery to the NE. A cobbled surface, two wells (at least one of which predated the cobbled surface), apparent brick footings, and a possible hearth built of peg tile were recorded but not closely dated
15749	24374 33961	A 16th century or earlier house. It dates to the 15th century; a timber-framed and plastered house, three-storey front range and a long low brick wing, one storey above the gateway. The stair is in a short west wing, jettied; the chimney stack is a later insertion.
15750	24371 33978	3 Church Street; A 17th century house, altered in the 18th century. It was renovated in the 20th century in Queen Anne style.
15751	24515 33869	Holford House was built c.1720-30; about a hundred years later it was enlarged to the north by building over a side entrance; c1936 additions and alterations were made by the architects Richardson and Gill. In 1971 it was converted to offices and the original staircase sold. The original three-storey elevation was of five bays and of brick, the remaining walls being timber-framed
15755	24441 33873	A row of houses at the corner of Hitchin Street (Nos 1-5) and Bell Lane, jettied towards both streets; built in the 17th century. Further examination suggests they are probably 16th century
15756	24419 33858	Listed as an 18th century house, judging from the brick front, this is a timber-framed house built c1500; it was originally jettied. A chimney-stack at the west end also serves a jettied south wing; both are probably of the early 17th century. In the front range a staircase and chimney-stack were inserted in the middle and E bay respectively in the early 18th century. Either then or in the early 19th century, when it received ground-floor bay windows, the house was refronted and the jetty underbuilt
15759	24443 33940	3-5 Sun Street; Listed as a 19th century timber-framed house with a red brick front (no.3), and a 17th-century timber-framed house (no.5),

		these two were originally the open hall (no.3) and the crosswing (no.5) of a 15th century house
15760	24546 33988	Listed as a late 18th century house of chequered blue and red brick with red brick dressings, with an inserted 19th century shop front, Oak House consists of three parts: a possible early 16th century Wealden house (central open hall and two storey bays, jettied at first floor level) at the rearmost; a late 16th century block (possibly a parlour); and the front, which was rebuilt in the early 18th century.
16221	24365 34065	Friends Meeting House; Early Quaker meeting house now in commercial use; with its own burial ground. Despite raids and arrests of Baldock Quakers in 1660, Pepys recorded the presence of many Quakers in the town in the 1670s. The Meeting House off Church Street survives, in commercial use. It dates to the late 17th or early 18th century, and so may have been built soon after the Toleration Act was passed in 1689. It is single-storey, timber-framed under a tiled roof, with colour-washed plaster and pargetting. Between the building and Church Street was its burial ground; in 1908 the oldest date on the gravestones was recorded as 1816 (older burials would not have had gravestones). The Burial Ground is shown on surrounded by trees. The building was used as the Meeting House until after 1945, but was eventually sold to S G Street, printers. The burial ground is now used for parking.
16248	24300 34113	Foundations and a well, shown on 19th century maps
17148	24793 34300	Site of 19 th C. railway crossing, Icknield Way East

APPENDIX 2 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

AS1761 - P5879, Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Herts

Concordance of finds by feature

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	1003		1	Wall				2807				
	1005		2	Made Ground	Late 18th- early 20th	1	21	119				
	1009		2	Soakaway				2627				
1011	1012		2	Fill of drain ditch	19th-early 20th	4	62	230		Clay Pipe	1	5
1013	1014		2	Fill of drain ditch	19th-mid 20th	1	39	877				

APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

Introduction

The evaluation recovered 6 early modern to modern sherds weighing 122g, all in good condition to lightly abraded, from three contexts.

Methodology

The sherds were examined visually and partially under x35 binocular microscope and recorded in keeping with the Post-Roman Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski 2001, Table 1). Fabric codes and dating are those used by the Museum of London.

The Pottery

Made Ground L1005 contained a rim sherd of flower pot. Drainage Ditch F1011 (L1012) contained two sherds of English stoneware jar used as a food or drink container. Also present was a bowl rim in refined white earthenware and a cup or fine dish rim in English porcelain. Drainage Ditch F1013 (L1014) contained a rim sherd from a stoneware jar, probably for containing preserves. These finds are all from a date range of the late 18th-early 20th centuries, and probably all fit within a mid 19th to early 20th centuries date.

Key:

Code; ware name; date range

PMRE; Post-medieval red earthenware late 16th century+

ENGS: English stoneware 18th century+

ENPO: English porcelain mid 18th century+

RWE: Refined factory made white earthenware late 18th century+

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Made ground	1005	1x21g PMRE	Late 18 th - early 20 th	Flower pot rim, lightly abraded
Drain ditch 1011	1012	2x53g ENGS 1x2g ENPO 1x7g RWE	19 th -early 20 th	ENGS: probably jar for food/drink storage ENPO: fine cup or jar rim RWE: bowl rim All lightly abraded
Drain ditch 1013	1014	1x39g ENGS	19 th -mid 20 th	Preserve jar rim, good condition

Bibliography

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J., 2001, Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics, *Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2*.

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The evaluation recovered a total of 9 fragments (6660g) of 19th century to early modern CBM, including two complete bricks sampled from extant structures (Table 2). The remaining CBM comprised roof tile in a slightly to moderately fragmented, but un-abraded condition.

The assemblage was quantified by fragment count and weight per context, with fabric, dimensions and other diagnostic characteristics also recorded. All data was entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive.

CBM type	Frequency	Weight (g)
19 th century gault brick	1	2807
Early-mid 20 th century red brick	1	2627
18 th -19 th century peg tile	6	1178
19 th -20 th century pantile	1	48
Total	9	6660

Table 2: Quantification of CBM form types

The brick sampled from Soakaway M1009 is an off-white gault brick (dimensions: 230x110x68mm), manufactured in a mould with a flat base, very regular faces and sharp edges. It is notable for conforming to the imperial size standard, suggesting a date in the 19th century, although the size has continued in production since. In contrast, the brick sampled from Wall M1003 comprised a red brick (dimensions: 215x115x65mm) with a flat base and regular faces/arrises, thus conforming to the metric size standard formally adopted in the mid 20th century, although in production slightly earlier.

The roof tile appears primarily to comprise 19th century to Victorian peg tile, manufactured in a very highly-fired red sandy fabric. The most substantial fragments (dimensions: ?x150x12mm), in Drainage Ditch F1013 were between 50-75% complete, with further fragments contained in Made Ground L1005 and Drainage Ditch F1011. The peg tile has a sanded base, circular peg holes and faint striations on the upper surfaces. In contrast, a single fragment of early modern pantile, with a slightly curving, shallow s-shape profile was also contained in Made Ground L1005.

APPENDIX 4 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

Records	Number
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	4 (Context, Photo, Digital Photo, Drawing)
Context Sheets	15
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	1
Site drawings A4	0
Site photographs b/w	8
Site photographs colour slides	8
Digital Photographs	17

APPENDIX 5 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	8a Salisbury Road, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire
County: Herts	District: North Herts
Village/Town:	Parish: Baldock
Planning application reference:	North Herts DC Planning Ref. 13/02138/1, 13/02139/1
Client name/address/tel:	Mint Construction Bedford Limited
Nature of application:	Construction of 2 dwellings
Present land use:	Single house with outbuildings and garden
Size of application area: c.500m ²	Size of area investigated 14m ²
NGR (8 figures):	TL 24819 34259
Site Code:	AS 1761
Site director/Organization:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Trial trench evaluation
Date of work:	06/08/2015
Location of finds/Curating museum:	North Herts
Related HER Nos:	Periods represented: 19 th – 20 th C.
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	-
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p><i>In August 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Hill Cottage, Royston Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 24819 34259). The evaluation was commissioned by Mint Construction (Bedford) Ltd and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of two new dwellings with associated works.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the evaluation revealed a modern soakaway with associated drains and a 20th century wall of an outbuilding.</i></p>
Author of summary: Z Pozorski	Date of Summary: August 2015

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. West part of the site, Trench 1. Looking south.



DP 2. Trench 1. Looking north-west.



DP 3. Trench 1, north-west end. Sample section 1A. Looking north-east.



DP 4. Trench 1, south-east end. Sample section 1B. Looking south-west.



DP 5. Trench 1, north-west end. Wall M1003. Looking north-west.



DP 6. East part of the site, Trench 2. Looking west.



DP 7. Trench 2. Looking north-east.



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



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



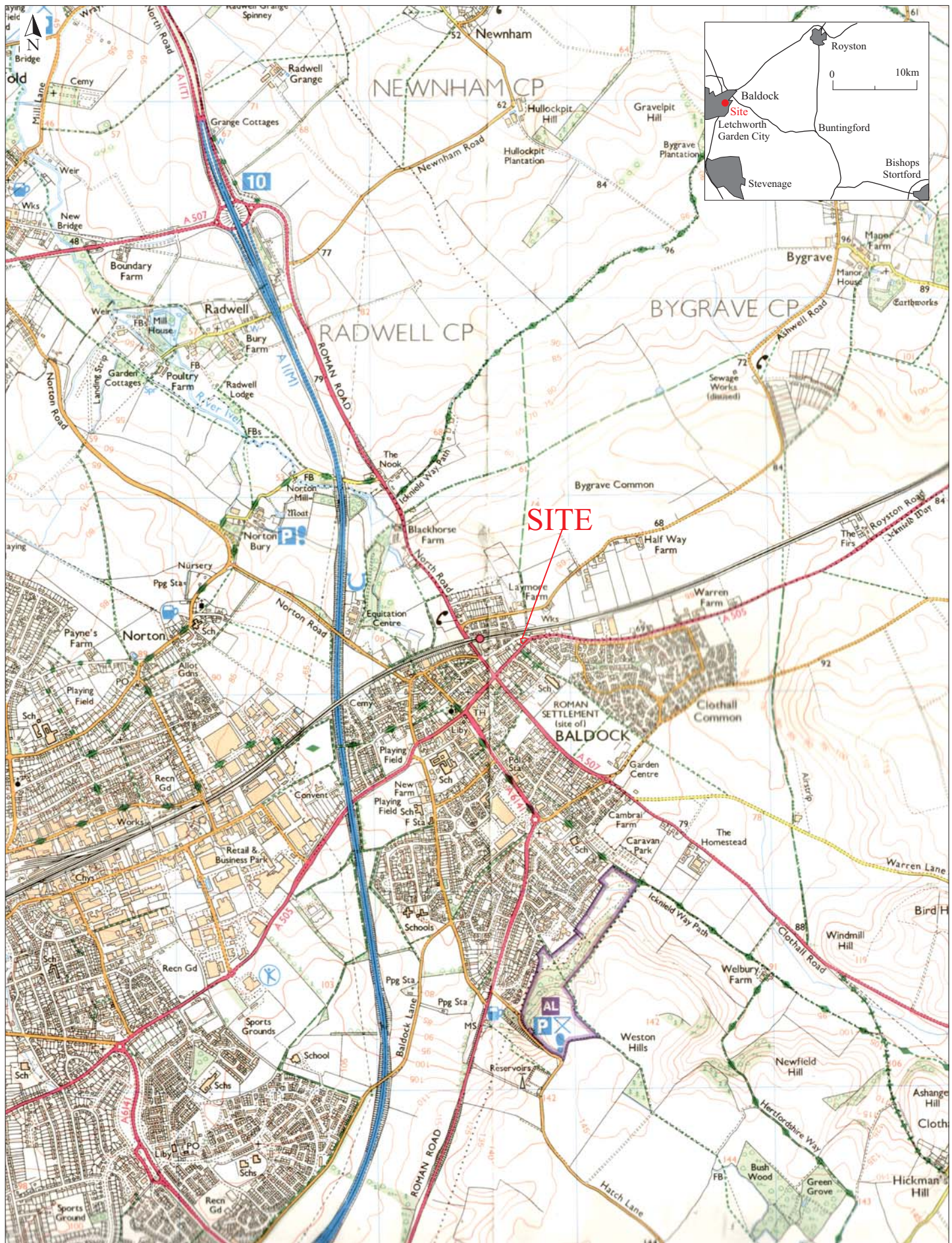
DP 10. Soakway M1009 with Drains F1011 and F1013. Looking south.



DP 11. Soakway M1009. Looking north-east.



DP 12. Soakway M1009. Looking north-west.



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Hill Cottage, Baldock, Hertfordshire (P5879)

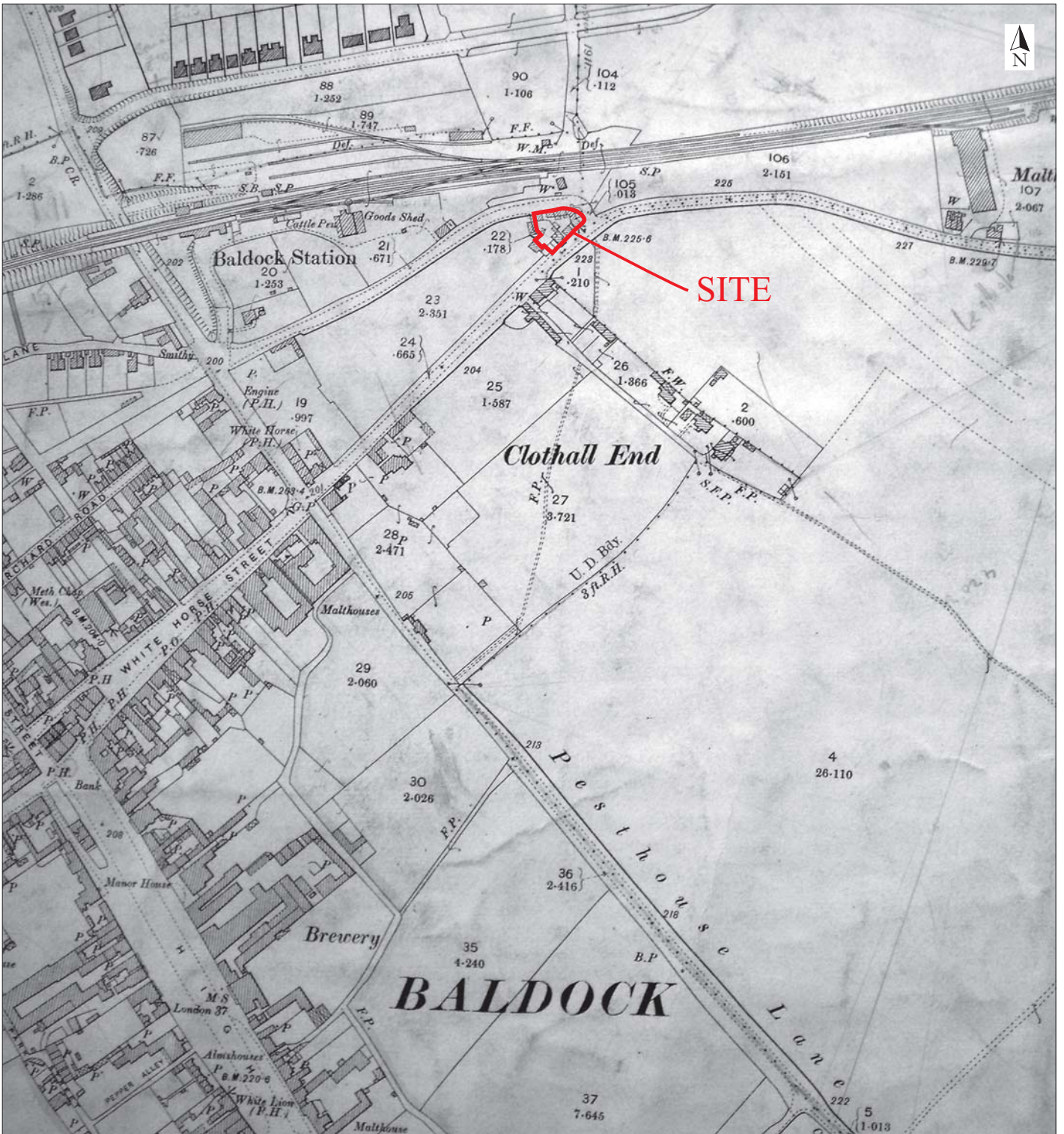


Archaeological Solutions Ltd

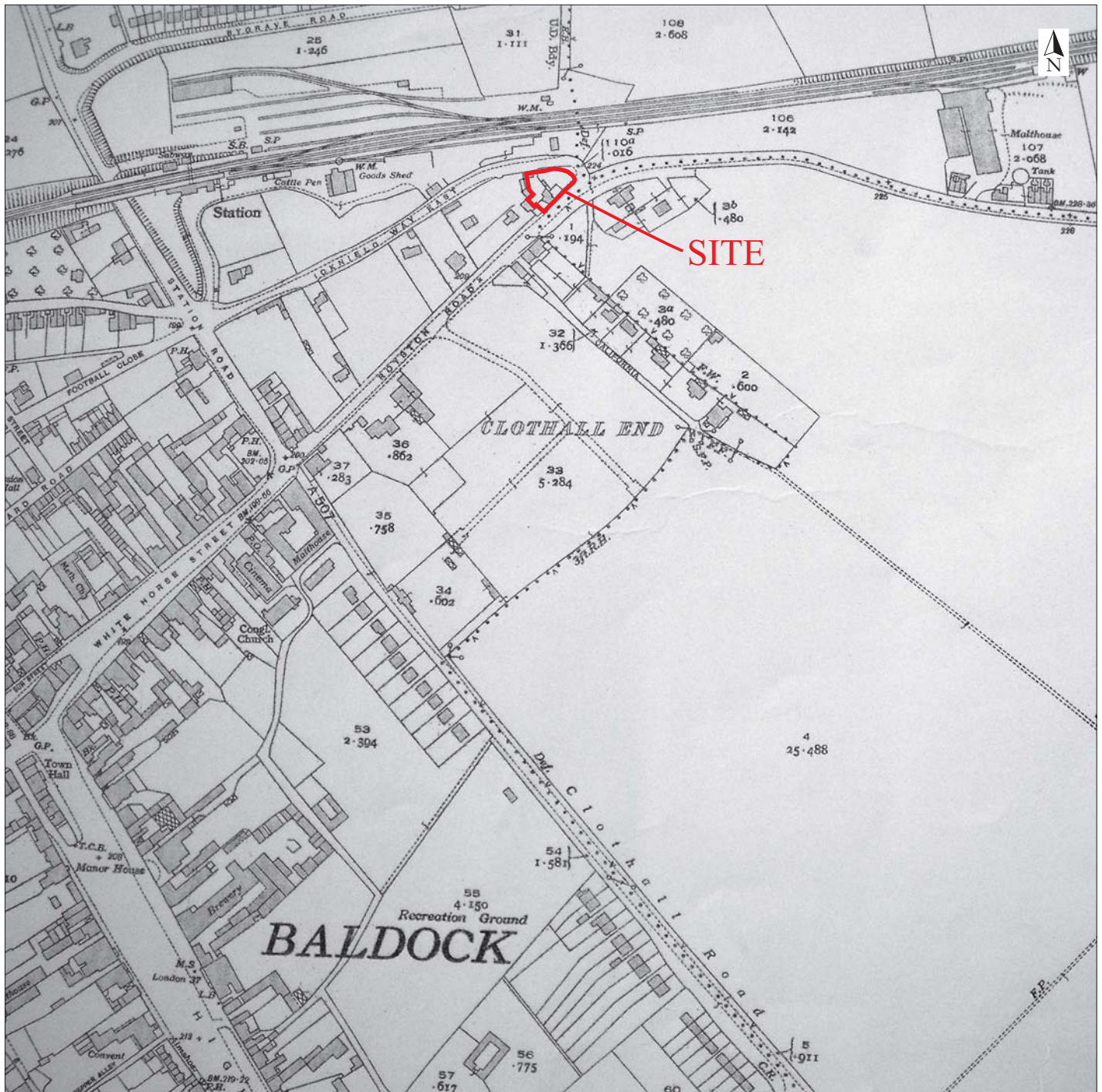
Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan

Scale 1:5000 at A4

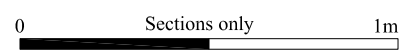
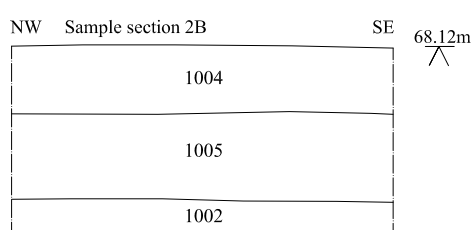
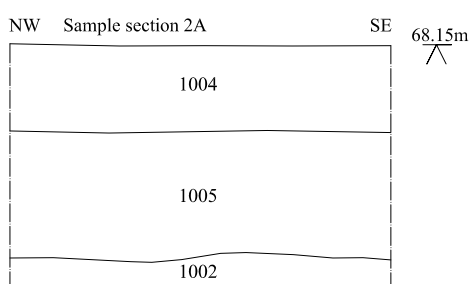
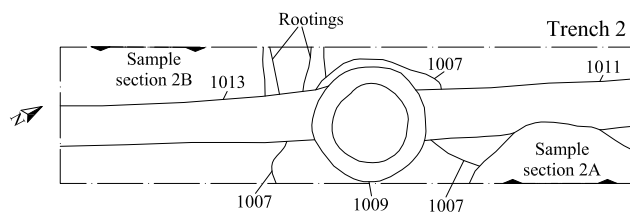
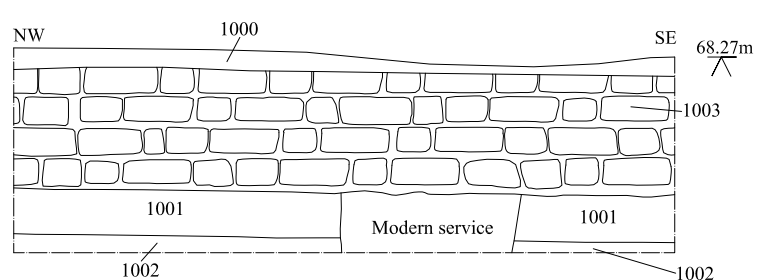
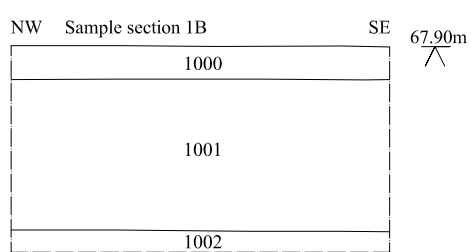
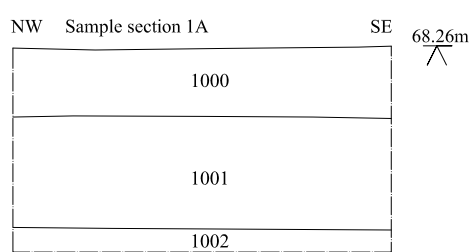
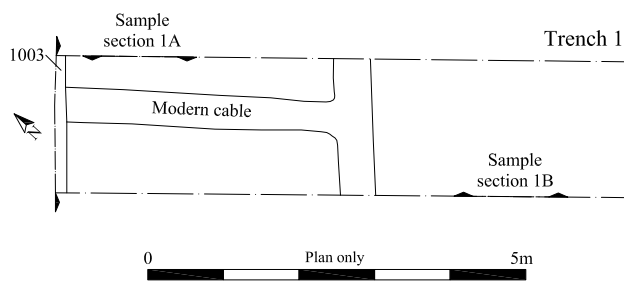
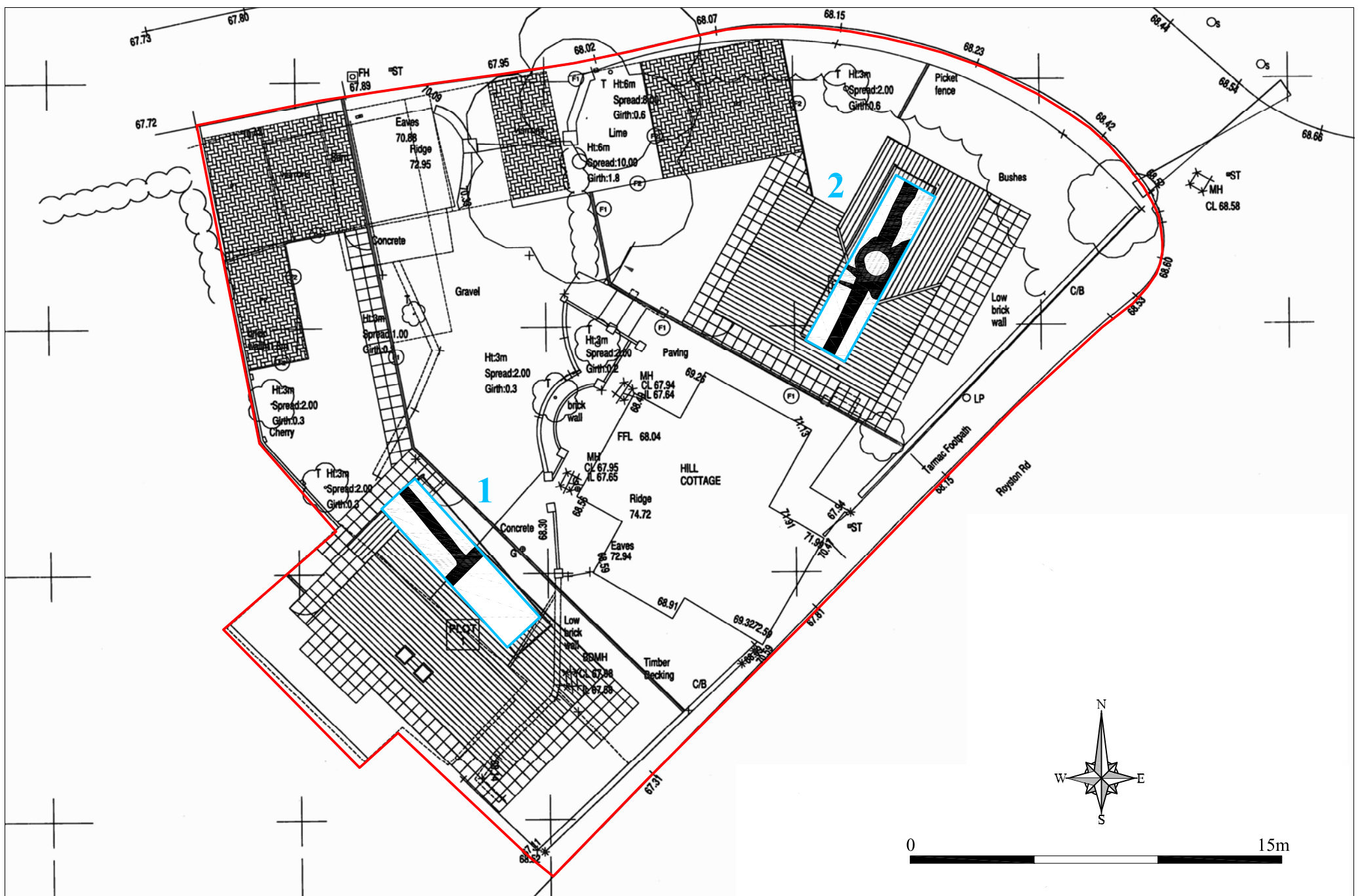
Hill Cottage, Baldock, Hertfordshire (P5879)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 3 OS map, 1898
Not to scale
Hill Cottage, Baldock, Hertfordshire (P5879)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 4 OS map, 1937
Not to scale
Hill Cottage, Baldock, Hertfordshire (P5879)



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Fig. 5 Site plans and sections
 Scale 1:200, 1:100 and 1:20 at A3
 Hill Cottage, Baldock, Hertfordshire (P5879)