
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**7-9 BURY STREET, RUISLIP,
LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON**

**PRO-ACTIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
OBSERVATION & RECORDING**

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski	
NGR: TQ 0890 8760	Report No: 5361
District: LB Hillingdon	Site Code: BYT16
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 6773
MCIfA	Date: 19 April 2017

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon		
<p><i>In March 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out pro-active archaeological observation and recording at 7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon (TQ 0890 8760). The monitoring was commissioned in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning and listed building consent. The building recording is the subject of a separate report.</i></p> <p><i>The site is located within an Archaeology Priority Area which encompasses the historic core of Ruislip, and the site is in the Conservation Area. The property is Grade II listed and dates to the 16th/17th century. Therefore the site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	01-02/03/2017		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	Y	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	6773	Site code	BYT16
Type of project	Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
Site status	Within Archaeology Priority Area and Conservation Area. Listed Building		
Current land use	Residential		
Planned development	Rear and side extensions to existing dwellings		
Main features (+dates)	-		
Significant finds (+dates)	-		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Greater London	LB Hillingdon	Ruislip
HER/ SMR for area	GLHER		
Post code (if known)	HA4 7SX		
Area of site	c.80m ²		
NGR	TQ 0890 8760		
Height AOD (min/max)	c.45m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Requirement of HE GLAAS		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Zbigniew Pozorski, Mark Blagg-Newsome		
Funded by	Mr Terry Silver		
Full title	7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon: Pro-active Archaeological Observation & Recording		
Authors	Pozorski, Z.		
Report no.	5361		
Date (of report)	March 2017		

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON**

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SUMMARY

In March 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out pro-active archaeological observation and recording at 7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon (TQ 0890 8760). The monitoring was commissioned in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning and listed building consent. The building recording is the subject of a separate report.

The site is located within an Archaeology Priority Area which encompasses the historic core of Ruislip, and the site is in the Conservation Area. The property is Grade II listed and dates to the 16th/17th century. Therefore the site had a potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains.

In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March 2017 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out pro-active archaeological observation and recording at 7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon (TQ 0890 8760; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was commissioned by Blackwood Architects on behalf of Mr Silver in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning and listed building consent (LB Hillingdon Council Planning Ref. 34752/APP/2016/447). The historic building recording will be subject to separate report.

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance to requirements of the local planning authority and the Historic England Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (HE GLAAS; advisors to LB Hillingdon). It also adhered to a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 18/07/2016), and approved by HE GLAAS. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard* and the HE GLAAS *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London* (2015), in particular *Part 3: Fieldwork*.

1.3 The principal aims of the project were to identify any evidence of archaeological deposits and/or artefacts (in particular associated with the medieval and post-medieval village of Ruislip), and to determine the nature and extent of those deposits within the limits of the construction groundworks.

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 comprises the buildings and residential plot of 7-9 Bury Street in the core of Ruislip. The site lies on the south western side of Bury Street, close to the Sharps Lane junction and is located within an Archaeology Priority Area. The latter encompasses the historic core of Ruislip and the site is within the Conservation Area. The property is Grade II listed and dates to the 16th/17th century, and is timber framed with brick infill panels plus some brick wall construction and brick chimneys. It is proposed to construct a new single storey rear extension, two storey side extension, new porch to No 9 and associated internal alterations, new roof finishes and new double garage doors.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is situated at c.45m AOD¹, on a land rising very gently to the north. River Pinn flows east to west c.300m to the north of the site. The solid geology of the area is clay of London Clay Formation (British Geological Survey 1978). The soil conditions across much of the area reflect the local geology, comprising mainly soils of the Windsor or Wickham 4 association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). These are difficult, slow-draining soils with limited agricultural potential before the advent of mechanised farming.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Some prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains have been recorded within c.100m of the site, including a Mesolithic flint core (HER MLO9701) and sherds of Roman glass (HER MLO8069); however finds from these periods are sparse in the area, and the archaeology of Ruislip has a strong focus on the medieval period. Soon after the Norman Conquest a motte and bailey castle was erected c.100m to the north-east at Manor Farm (HER MLO10247), with a portion of village enclosure enclosed by a bank to the south (HER MLO68633). In 1097 the castle and manor passed to the Abbey of Bec, who founded a small monastic house on the site. Excavations between the castle and site in 2008 recorded postholes and pits associated with probable medieval structures, although it is unclear if these formed part of the castle, monastery or village. Excavations in the same area, part of Manor Farm close to the north-east of the site in 1997 also recorded the flint foundations of an early/mid 12th century building (HER MLO71406); while pits and postholes recorded on Bury Street c.150m to the north-west were interpreted as part of occupation following the construction of the castle or acquisition of the monastery (HER MLO98487). Other prominent features of the medieval landscape close to the site include the Church of St. Martin, dating to the 13th century, if not earlier (HER MLO85200); the possible sites of a water mill and windmill (HER MLO10631 & MLO68690); and the Great Garn of Manor Farm built in approximately 1300, c.100m to the north (HER MLO81974). A scatter of medieval pottery recorded in Sharps Lane, the Oaks, and Parkers Lane (HER MLO23199, MLO10639 & MLO1710) further supports the presence of a medieval settlement in the immediate environs of the castle, underpinning the designation of an Archaeological priority Area, which includes the site.

4.2 Numerous buildings on the High Street date from the 16th century. They include the Grade II Listed, timber-framed 7 High Street, which occupies the site (HER MLO85026), and adjacent buildings (HER MLO85027, MLO85147 & MLO85251). All have been altered or extended in the late 17th and 19th centuries. The 16th century also saw the construction of buildings to the south

¹ Above Ordnance Datum

and east, including the Almshouses, the Old House and the Swan Inn (HER MLO85242, MLO81976 & MLO85201). In the 17th century, Manor Farm close to the north continued to be enlarged, including an extant small barn (HER MLO85121). Excavations have recorded the foundations and cellars of additional farm buildings (HER MLO71407-8), with cow sheds added in the 18th century (HER MLO85120 & MLO85091). A 17th century timber-framed building was also built at Mill Farm, close to the north-west of the site (HER MLO85123), and may have been associated with farm buildings subsequently depicted on mid 19th century maps (HER MLO98504). Excavations adjacent to the north-west of the site, between it and Mill Farm recorded walls of a 17th century building (HER MLO98486), seeming contemporary with the extant structures on both sites, indicating the plan of the medieval and post-medieval village has yet to be fully characterised.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The principal elements monitored were the mechanically-excavated foundation trenches for the new rear and side extensions and ground reduction within these extensions (Fig. 2).

5.2 The archaeological observation and recording comprised the monitoring of all groundworks, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Archaeological features and deposits were recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the excavated area was scanned by metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 Deposits located within the area of excavation were recorded in sample sections presented below.

<i>Sample section 1 (DP 4)</i>		
<i>Rear extension, south-east foundation trench, facing south-east</i>		
<i>0.00 = 6.45m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.27m	L1000	Topsoil. Mid to dark grey, soft, sandy silt.
0.27 – 0.64m	L1001	Subsoil. Mid grey, friable, clayey silt with occasional small CBM fragments.
0.64m+	L1002	Natural. Mid yellow, compact, clay.

<i>Sample section 2 (DP 6)</i>		
<i>Rear extension, south-west foundation trench, facing north-east</i>		
<i>0.00 = 6.41m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.30 – 0.58m	L1001	Subsoil. As above.
0.58m+	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

<i>Sample section 3 (DP 8)</i>		
<i>Side extension, south-west foundation trench, facing north-east</i>		
<i>0.00 = 6.48m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.30 – 0.43m	L1001	Made ground/Subsoil. As above.
0.43m+	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

<i>Sample section 4 (DP 9)</i>		
<i>Side extension, north-west foundation trench, facing south-east</i>		
<i>0.00 = 6.47m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.34 – 0.55m	L1001	Made ground/Subsoil. As above.
0.55m+	L1002	Natural clay. As above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The parts of the site where new extensions are proposed were commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a dark grey, soft, sandy silt (0.25 – 0.35m thick). L1000 overlay Subsoil L1001, a mid grey, friable, clayey silt with occasional small CBM fragments (0.12 – 0.38m thick).

8.2 The natural clay, L1002, was present at 0.40 – 0.65m below the existing ground level and comprised a mid yellow, compact, clay.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the medieval and post-medieval archaeology. It lies within an Archaeology Priority Area which encompasses the historic core of Ruislip and the site is also located in the Conservation Area. The property is Grade II listed and dates to the 16th/17th centuries.

9.2 In the event no archaeological features or finds were present, and no indication of previous development of the site was apparent.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at London Archaeological Archives and Resource Centre (LAARC). The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Terry Silver for funding the project and Blackwood Architects for their assistance.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Sandy Kidd of Historic England Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service.

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Historic England Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (HE GLAAS), 2015, *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London*.

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

APPENDIX 1 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

Records	Number
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	1 (Context, 2x Digital Photo, Drawing, Drawing Sheet)
Context Sheets	3
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	2
Site drawings A4	0
Site photographs b/w	0
Site photographs colour slides	0
Digital Photographs	21

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Rear of the property. Looking south-east.



DP 2. Rear extension, foundation trenches. Looking east.



DP 3. Rear extension. Foundation trenches and ground reduction. Looking east.



DP 4. Rear extension. Sample section 1. Looking north-west.



DP 5. Rear extension, south-west trench. Looking south-east.



DP 6. Rear extension. Sample section 2. Looking south-west.



DP 7. Side extension. Foundation trenches and ground reduction. Looking east.



DP 8. Side extension. Sample section 3. Looking south-west.



DP 9. Side extension. Sample section 4. Looking north-west.

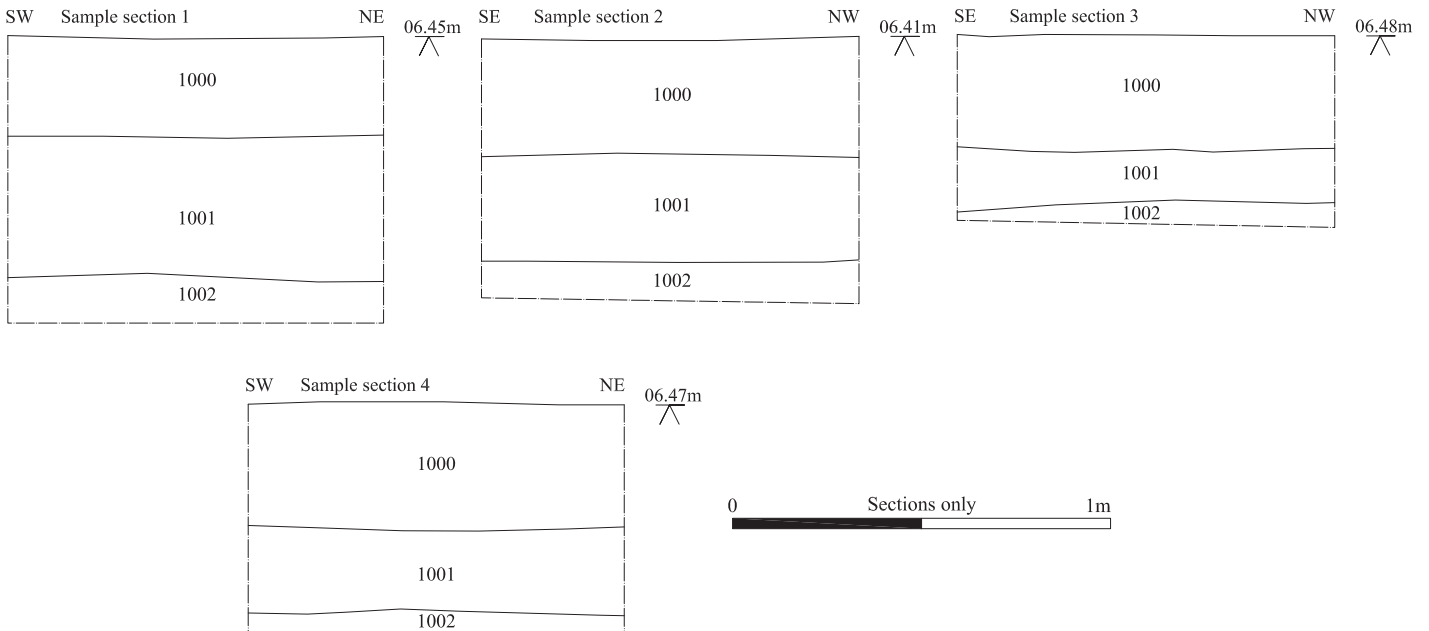
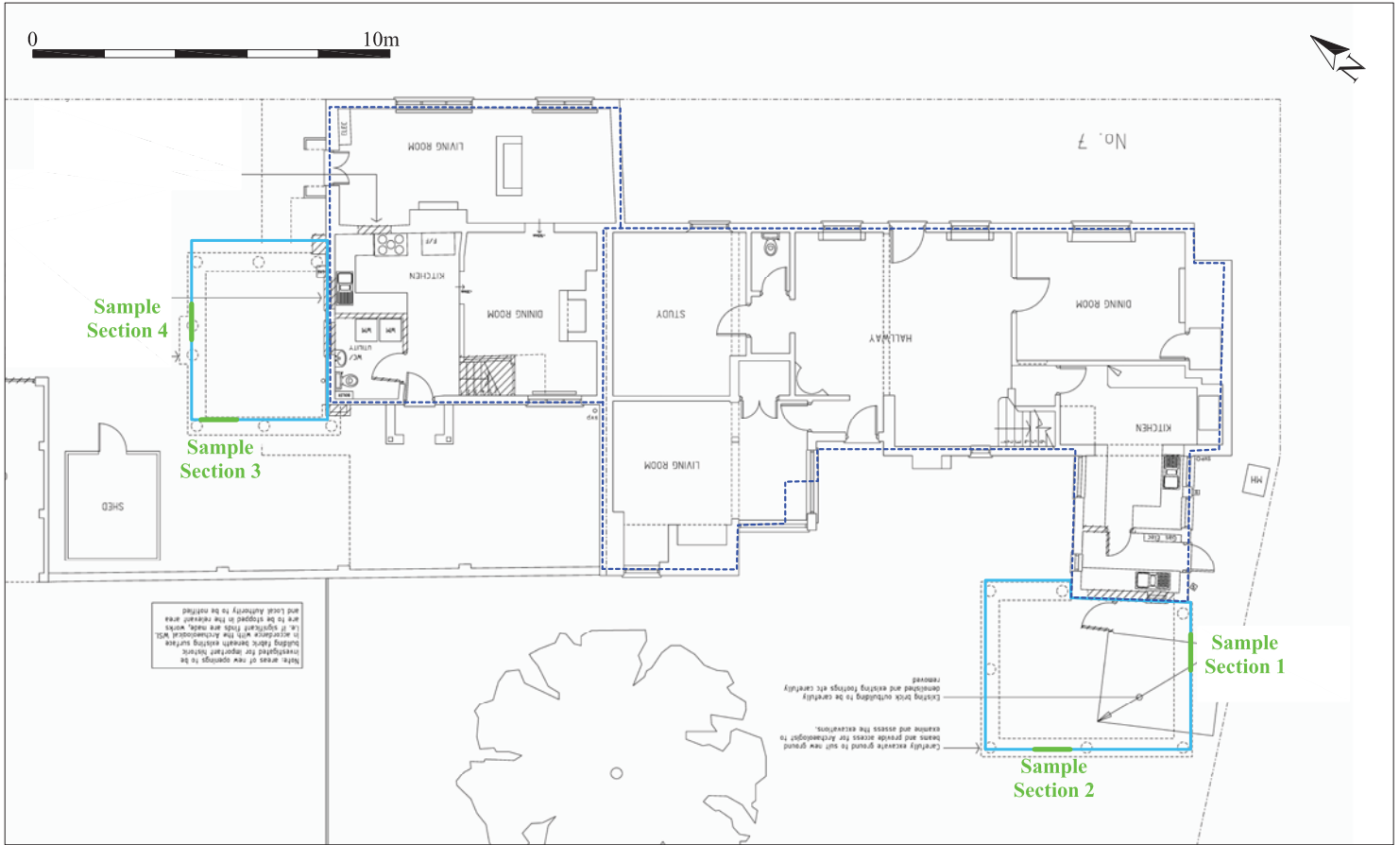


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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London (P6773)



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:1000 at A4
7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London (P6773)



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Fig. 3 Sample sections and location plan

Scale 1:200 and 1:20 at A4
7-9 Bury Street, Ruislip, London (P6773)