ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

LAND ADJACENT TO ST PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, THE COMMON, CHIPPERFIELD, KINGS LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski (fieldwork & report) Kate Higgs (research)		
NGR: TL 0422 0147	Report No: 4762	
District: Dacorum	Site Code: AS 1728	
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 5518	
Signed:	Date: 14 January 2015	

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details	
Project name	Land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common, Chipperfield, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire

In January 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common, Chipperfield, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 0422 0147). The evaluation was commissioned by Chipperfield Project Group and was undertaken in compliance with the requirement of a planning condition imposed by Dacorum Borough Council on approval for the extension of a churchyard on to amenity land.

The site lies within an area that has a potential for prehistoric and medieval archaeological remains. Chipperfield Common dates from the medieval period and is the location of two Bronze Age round barrows and also a possible medieval fishpond. Chipperfield was not a medieval parish but was located on the edge of the common and adjacent to the royal hunting park which served the palace at Kings Langley. The church of St Paul dates to 1837.

In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. It demonstrated that the part of the site closer to The Common was subject to modern truncation and may have been used as a refuse area.

truncation and may have been used as a refuse area.			
06/01/2015			
N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N	
5518	Site code	AS 1728	
An Archaeol	ogical Evaluation		
Registered of	common land		
Common lar	nd		
Extension to	graveyard		
-			
-			
_			
Hertfordshire	e Dacorum	Chipperfield	
Hertfordshire HER			
c. 1000m ²			
TL 0422 014	17		
134/135m			
Height AOD (min/max) 134/135m Project creators			
HCC HEU			
Zbigniew Pozorski			
Chipperfield Project Group			
Land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common,			
		Hertfordshire: An	
Archaeologi	cal Evaluation		
	Higgs, K.		
4762			
January 2015			
	06/01/2015 N 5518 An Archaeol Registered of Common lar Extension to Hertfordshire Hertfordshire C. 1000m² TL 0422 014 134/135m HCC HEU Zbigniew Po Chipperfield Land adjace Chipperfield Archaeologic Pozorski, Z., 4762	N Future work (Y/N/?) 5518 Site code An Archaeological Evaluation Registered common land Common land Extension to graveyard Hertfordshire Dacorum Hertfordshire HER c. 1000m² TL 0422 0147 134/135m HCC HEU Zbigniew Pozorski Chipperfield Project Group Land adjacent to St Paul's Church Chipperfield, Kings Langley, Archaeological Evaluation Pozorski, Z., Higgs, K. 4762	

LAND ADJACENT TO ST PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, THE COMMON, CHIPPERFIELD, KINGS LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In January 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common, Chipperfield, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 0422 0147). The evaluation was commissioned by Chipperfield Project Group and was undertaken in compliance with the requirement of a planning condition imposed by Dacorum Borough Council on approval for the extension of a churchyard on to amenity land.

The site lies within an area that has a potential for prehistoric and medieval archaeological remains. Chipperfield Common dates from the medieval period and is the location of two Bronze Age round barrows and also a possible medieval fishpond. Chipperfield was not a medieval parish but was located on the edge of the common and adjacent to the royal hunting park which served the palace at Kings Langley. The church of St Paul dates to 1837.

In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. It demonstrated that the part of the site closer to The Common was subject to modern truncation and may have been used as a refuse area.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common, Chipperfield, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 0422 0147; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by the Chipperfield Project Group and was undertaken in compliance with a requirement of a planning condition imposed by Dacorum Borough Council on approval for the extension of a churchyard on to amenity land (Dacorum Planning Ref. 4/00001/13/FUL).
- 1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with an advice from Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 11/10/2013) 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 (revised 2008), and the document Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it was important to establish the presence or absence of any archaeology associated with the common and adjacent royal deer park. It was also important to understand the level of any previous truncation on the site and also to ascertain whether it would possible to mitigate the development proposals to accommodate any surviving archaeological remains within the area of proposed redevelopment.

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 is located in the village and parish of Chipperfield, which lies within the district of Dacorum and the county of Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). The settlement of Kings Langley lies 3.2km to the north-east of the site, whilst the town of Abbots Langley is located 4.5km to the east. Junction 20 of the M25 motorway is situated 3.1km to the east of the site, whilst the hamlet of Flaunden lies 2.9km to the west. The site is located in the northern section of Chipperfield Common, which comprises 47 hectares of registered common

land, roughly triangular in shape, located to the south of the hamlet (HER 12439).

2.2 The site comprises a rectangular plot of land covering an area of approximately 1000m² (Fig. 2). It lies on the southern side of The Common, south-west of St Paul's Church and to the immediate west of the existing graveyard brick and flint wall. The northern and eastern boundaries are thus defined by The Common and the churchyard boundary respectively; whilst the site's western and southern boundaries remain undefined. The site currently comprises amenity land with numerous mature trees.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- 3.1 The site is situated in a predominantly rural location within the district of Dacorum (Fig. 1). The area is characterised by a small settlements and small, irregular field interspaced with extant ancient woodland. It is also dominated by registered common land including Chipperfield Common (HER 12439), of which the site forms a small part, and Penman's Green to the south at Sarratt (HER 12531). The surrounding area is also characterised by a gently undulating relief of small, dry valleys. The site is located at *c.* 135m AOD with the surrounding relief sloping noticeably down to the south-east.
- 3.2 The underlying solid geology of the Chipperfield area comprises London Clay (British Geological Survey 1978), overlain by a drift geology of plateau drift and clay with flints. Soils of the area comprise those of the Batcombe Association, which are described as fine silty over clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The Chipperfield area is relatively unique in not containing any events in the HER database or having been subject to any previous archaeological work. It has thus not been possible to provide a comparable local stratigraphy.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The site lies in an area of archaeological potential for prehistoric and medieval remains. Previous archaeological work in the vicinity is very limited. Prehistoric occupation is attested by the discovery of two Neolithic axe found near Chipperfield village and approximately 500m to the north of the site during antiquity (HER 587 & 948). Two round barrows are located on Chipperfield Common and 450m to the east-south-east of the site (HER 4090 & 4261). They consist of funerary monuments dating from the late Neolithic to the late Bronze Age. Until the early 20th century they were regarded as possible archery butts, rather than burial mounds. No Romano-British or Anglo-Saxon remains are recorded in the vicinity of the site.
- 4.2 The site is located in the northern section of Chipperfield Common, which is registered common land dating from the medieval period (HER 12531). The common was owned by the Crown from the 13th 16th centuries

and Edward II is documented as having given Kings Langley Priory permission to coppice wood and take fish from the pond. The 'Apostles Pool' or monastic fishpool on the common is located 600m to the south-east of the site (HER 113). Place-name evidence confirms the importance of Chipperfield Common, as the name Chipperfield appears to derive from the Old English 'Chepervillewode' meaning 'an open-air place where traders met' (Gover, Mawer & Stenton 1938).

- 4.3 Chipperfield was not a medieval parish, but the hamlet lay within the manor of Kings Langley, to the north of Chipperfield Common and to the west of the royal hunting park serving the palace at Kings Langley (HER 17964). The Manor House, which stands 500m to the east of the site, is a timber-framed hall house, originally forming the manor house of Kings Langley (HER 776). A medieval farmstead is recorded at Pale Farm and 300m to the north of the site, which is judged to stand on the boundary of the royal hunting park, with surviving medieval and later buildings (HER 4091). The medieval period is also attested by the discovery of 15 groats and a half-groat coins found approximately 500m to the south-west of the site (HER 24564).
- 4.4 The post-medieval and early modern period is represented by extant structures, the majority of which consist of residential dwellings or agricultural buildings such as Braziers, Baldersley Cottage, Hillmeads Farm, Brambles and the Old Swan House. Further early modern structures comprise a 19th century smock mill on the site of earlier mills on Windmill Hill, The Two Brewers public house and St Paul's Church, which is an 1837 Anglican chapel of ease built on the north end of Chipperfield Common and 110m to the northeast of the site (HER 7306, 30190 & 30191). The modern period is represented by a wooden post lamp box, WWII pillbox and WWI war memorial (HER 5317, 17709 & 30189).
- 4.5 Cartographic sources confirm that the site has formed a small section of Chipperfield Common throughout the early modern and modern periods, and thus from as early as the medieval period. The parish of Kings Langley tithe map, which dates to 1835 (Fig.4), depicts the site at the northern extent of the common and to the west of St Paul's Church and its smaller graveyard (HALS Ref. DSA4/65/2). The tithe award reveals that the site formed part of Chipperfield Common, which then covered 114 acres 2 roods 16 perches (#478; HALS Ref. DSA4/65/1) and whilst the common remained undeveloped, the tithe map appeared to indicate two earthworks, possibly further burial mounds, in the vicinity of the site and the course of The Common, which was not depicted in 1835. In 1873, the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map also depicts the site as undeveloped land forming part of Chipperfield Common, whilst St Paul's Church's graveyard was yet to be extended to the site's eastern boundary (Fig.5).

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 Two trenches were excavated using a mechanical 360° mini-excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2), following the removal of trees within the area proposed for trenching. The trenches measured 16 x 2m and their locations were approved by HCC HEU.
- 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

Trench 1 (Fig. 2, DP 1-4)

Sample section 1A (DP 5): north-east end, north-west facing			
0.00 = 134.60m	0.00 = 134.60m AOD		
0.00 - 0.06m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark grey, soft, loamy silt with frequent roots.	
0.06 – 0.27m	L1001	Subsoil. Light greyish brown, friable, sandy silt with	
		frequent roots.	
0.27m +	L1002	Mid to dark yellow, soft clayey silt with loose stone and	
		flint gravel.	

Sample section 1B (DP 6): south-west end, north-west facing 0.00 = 134.42m AOD		
0.00 - 0.10m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.10 – 0.47m	L1003	Made ground. Redeposited natural gravel and silt with dark grey, friable, sandy silt and chunks of white chalk and occasional debris.
0.47 – 0.70m	L1004	Layer of redeposited natural yellow, friable, clayey silt and gravel.
0.70m +	L1002	Natural silt and gravel. As above.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present. Mid to late 20th century pits/disturbances were evident in the central and southern parts of the trench and contained modern. These refuse pits were overlain by redeposited natural silt and gravel.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2, DP 7-8)

Sample section 2A (DP 9): north-west end, south-west facing 0.00 = 134.19m AOD			
0.00 - 0.15m	L1000 Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.		
0.15 – 0.34m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 1.	
0.34m +	L1002	Natural silt with gravel. As above, Tr. 1.	

Sample section 2B (DP 10): south-east end, south-west facing			
0.00 = 134.12m AOD			
0.00 - 0.16m	- 0.16m L1000 Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.		
0.16 – 0.48m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 1.	
0.48m +	L1002	Natural silt with gravel. As above, Tr. 1.	

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. Although located within dense woodland, the trenches were not significantly affected by tree roots.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

- 8.1 Uppermost was Topsoil L1000, a grey, soft, loamy silt with frequent roots (0.10-0.20m thick). It overlay Subsoil L1001, a light greyish brown, friable, sandy silt with frequent roots (0.10-0.40m thick). The natural geology, L1002, and was present at 0.25-0.50m below existing ground level. It comprised a mid to dark yellow, soft clayey silt with loose stone and flint gravel.
- 8.2 The sequence was disturbed within the central and southern part of Trench 1 where modern intrusions resulted in an accumulation of modern debris and the re-deposition of the natural silt and gravel. L1002 was present c.0.70m below the existing ground surface in that area.

9 DISCUSSION

- 9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for prehistoric and medieval archaeology. Chipperfield Common, where the site is located, dates from the medieval period, and is the site of two Bronze Age round barrows and also a possible medieval fishpond. Few archaeological investigations have taken place locally. The site was formerly covered by dense woodland and appeared not to have been developed in last centuries.
- 9.2 In the event no archaeological features or finds were revealed. Modern (20th century) disturbance was evident within Trench 1, in the area closest to The Common. No residual finds were found.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank the Chipperfield Project Group for commissioning the project, in particular Mr Stuart Cunliffe and Mr Tony Briselden for their assistance.

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

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Gover, J. E. B., Mawer, A. & Stenton, F. M., 1938, *The Place-Names of Hertfordshire*. CUP, Cambridge

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

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

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

APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA (HER)

HER	NGR TL	Description
Prehistoric	1	
587	04 02	A polished Neolithic flint axe was found near Chipperfield village in 1959
948	044 019	A Neolithic reworked, polished axehead found in Chipperfield
4090	0462 0126	One of two round barrows on Chipperfield Common, which are funerary monuments which can date from the late Neolithic to the late Bronze Age
4261	0471 0121	One of two round barrows on Chipperfield Common, which are funerary monuments which can date from the late Neolithic to the late Bronze Age
Medieval		
113	0476 0109	This is supposed to be a monastic fishpool, presumably associated with Kings Langley Priory, which claimed rights over the Common and is known as the 'Apostles Pool'
776	04769 01405	The Manor House is a Timber-framed hall house, later fronted in brick and known as Pinglesgate Farm until 1852; since 1745, the manor house of Kings Langley
4091	0431 0173	Pale Farm is a Medieval farmstead on the boundary of the royal hunting park, with surviving medieval and later buildings
17964	04385 01655	Chipperfield was a medieval hamlet within the royal manor of Kings Langley
24564	04 01	Medieval 15 groats and a half-groat, found in a group at Chipperfield
Post-medieval & la		
5317	036 014	Wooden post lamp box on Dunny Lane
7174	0368 0138	19th century lime kilns at much older chalk pit, known as Chipperfield Dell, on the edge of the Common
7306	03758 01327	19th century smock mill on the site of earlier mills on Windmill Hill; demolished in the late 19th century
13656	03970 02025	Braziers is an 18th century brick house with medieval origins; associated with Sidney Paget
13715	03676 01374	Baldersley Cottage is a late 17th or early 18th century pair of houses built within ancient pit on Chipperfield Common once known as Chipperfield Dell; used as almshouses 1828-88
15233	04128 00726	A number of timber framed post-medieval farm buildings at Hillmeads Farm
15383	03872 01377	Brambles is a cottage ornee built c.1800, possibly incorporating an earlier farmhouse
17709	04117 01808	WWII pillbox guarding the crossroads where Chapel Croft and Dunny Lane meet The Street
30188	03965 01399	Old Swan House is a 17th century timber-framed

		house, the Old Swan pub in the 19th century
30189	04408 01621	War memorial erected c.1919 beside the road at the north end of Chipperfield Common
30190	04355 01641	The Two Brewers Public house associated with 19th century bare-knuckle boxing, in 17th century house; now incorporating buildings on either side
30191	04325 01541	St Paul's Church is an 1837 Anglican chapel of ease, made a parish church in 1848; with 1889 additions
30196	0392 0200	Braziers Farm is a post-medieval farmstead (with medieval origins), of which the 16th century house and timber-framed barn survive
30197	04163 01556	The allotments at the north end of Chipperfield Common are mid 19th century in origin
30198	04318 01599	Mid 19th century school building opposite St Paul's Church
Undated		
12439	0410 0090	Penman's Green at Sarratt is registered common land
12531	0435 0125	Chipperfield Common is registered common land

APPENDIX 2 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

Records	Number
Brief	N
Specification	Υ
Registers	4 (Context, Digital Photo, Drawing
	Sheet, Drawing)
Context Sheets	5
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	0
Site drawings A4	2
Site photographs b/w	0
Site photographs colour slides	0
Digital Photographs	15

APPENDIX 3 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common, Chipperfield,	
	Kings Langley, Hertfordshire	
County: Herts	District: Dacorum	
Village/Town:	Parish: Chipperfield	
Planning application	Dacorum Planning Ref. 4/00001/13/FUL	
reference:		
Client name/address/tel:	Chipperfield Project Group	
Nature of application:	Extension to graveyard	
Present land use:	Amenity land (common land)	
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated	
c.1000m2	64m2	
NGR (8 figures):	TL 0422 0147	
Site Code:	AS 1728	
Site director/Organization:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
Type of work:	Trial trench evaluation	
Date of work:	06/01/2015	
Location of finds/Curating	Dacorum	
museum:		
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: None	
Relevant previous	-	
summaries/reports: - Summary of fieldwork	In January 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an	
Summary of fieldwork results:	archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to St Paul's Churchyard, The Common, Chipperfield, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 0422 0147). The evaluation was commissioned by Chipperfield Project Group and was undertaken in compliance with a requirement of a planning condition imposed by Dacorum Borough Council on approval for the extension of a churchyard onto amenity land. The site lies within an area that has the potential for prehistoric and medieval archaeological remains. Chipperfield Common dates from the medieval period, and has two Bronze Age round barrows and also a possible medieval fishpond. Chipperfield was not a medieval parish, but was located on the edge of the common and adjacent to the royal hunting park serving the palace at Kings Langley. The church of St Paul dates to 1837. In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds although it showed the part of the site closer to The Common was subject to modern truncation and could have been used as a refuse area.	
Author of summary:	Date of Summary:	
Z Pozorski	January 2015	
Z 1 02013KI	January 2015	

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. The site. Looking south-south-east from The Common road.



DP 2. Trench 1. Looking north.



DP 3. Trench 1. Looking west-south-west.



DP 4. Trench 1. Looking south-west.



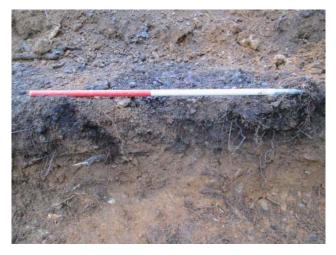
DP 5. Trench 1, north-east end. Sample section 1A. Looking south-east.



DP 6. Trench 1, south-west end. Sample section 1B. Looking south-east.



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



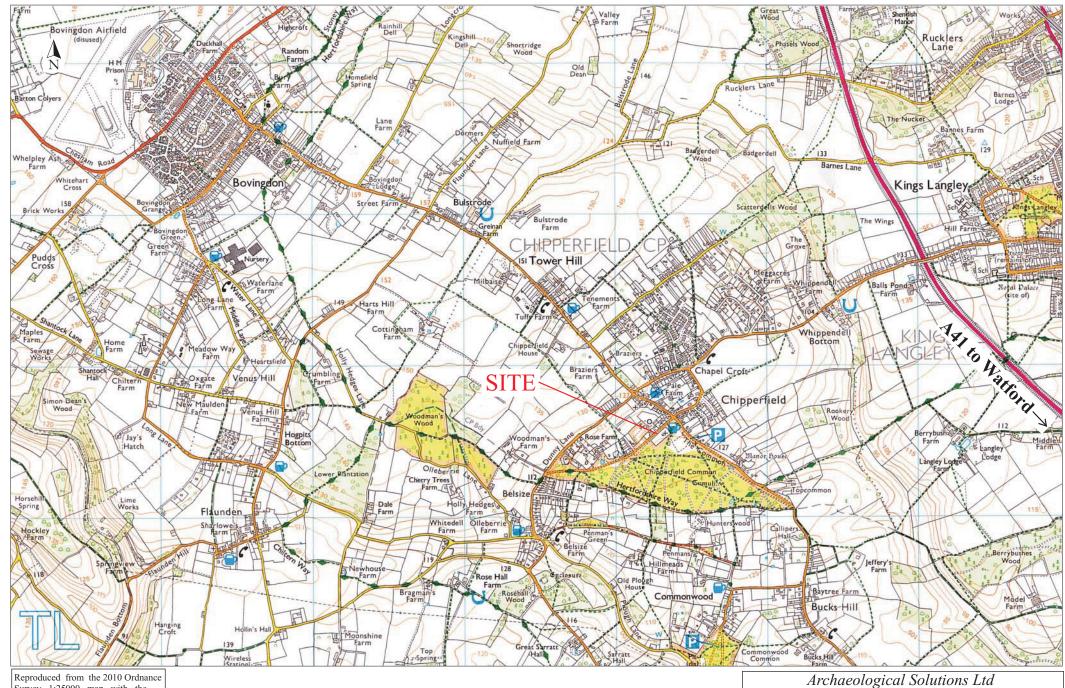
DP 9. Trench 2, north-west end. Sample section 2A. Looking north-east.



DP 8. Trench 2. Looking south-east.

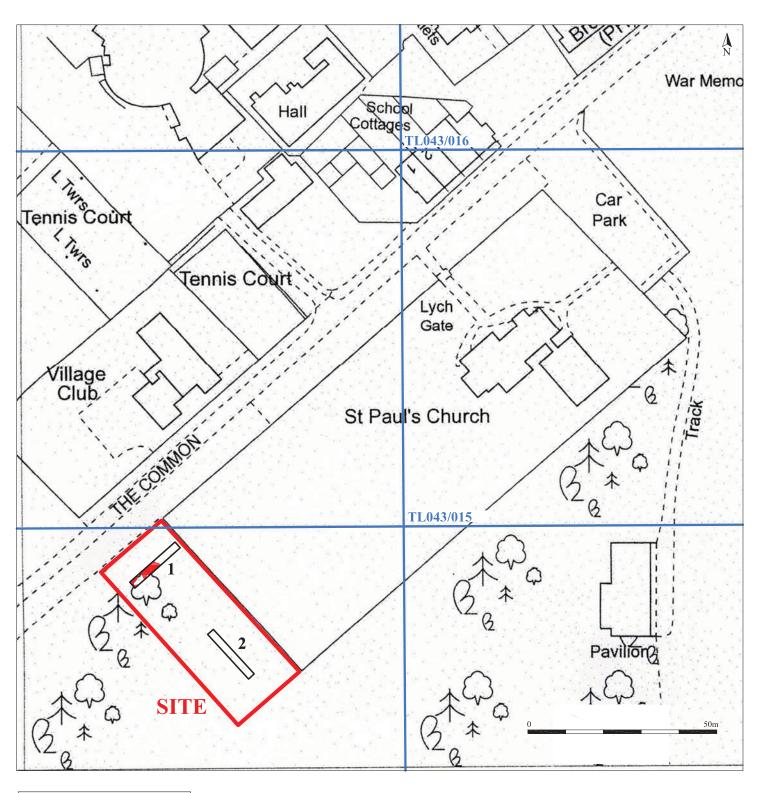


DP 10. Trench 2, south-east end. Sample section 2B. Looking north-east.



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



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:1000 at A4

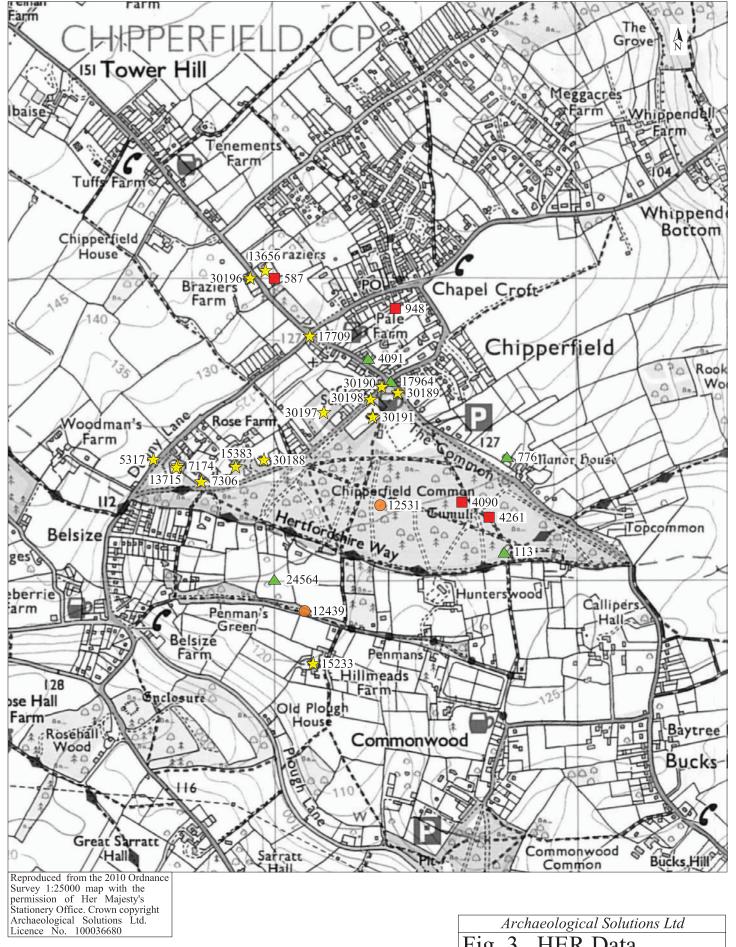
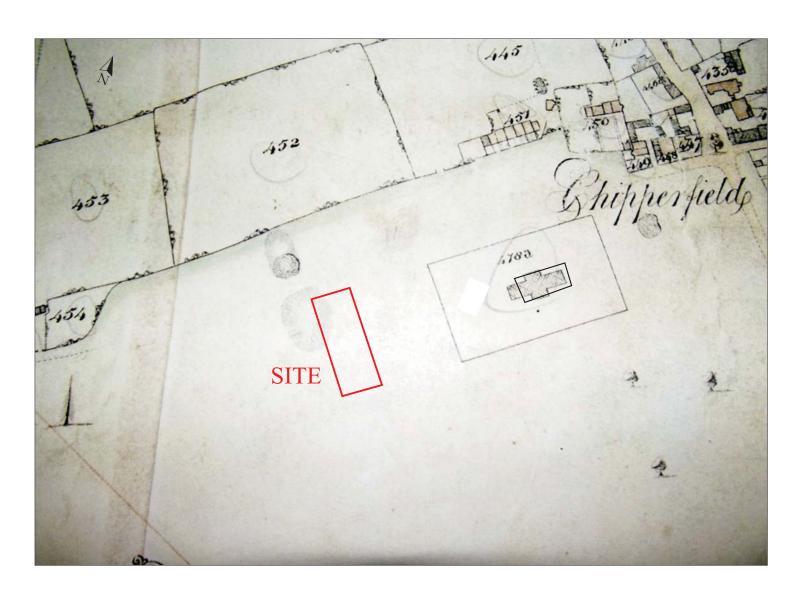
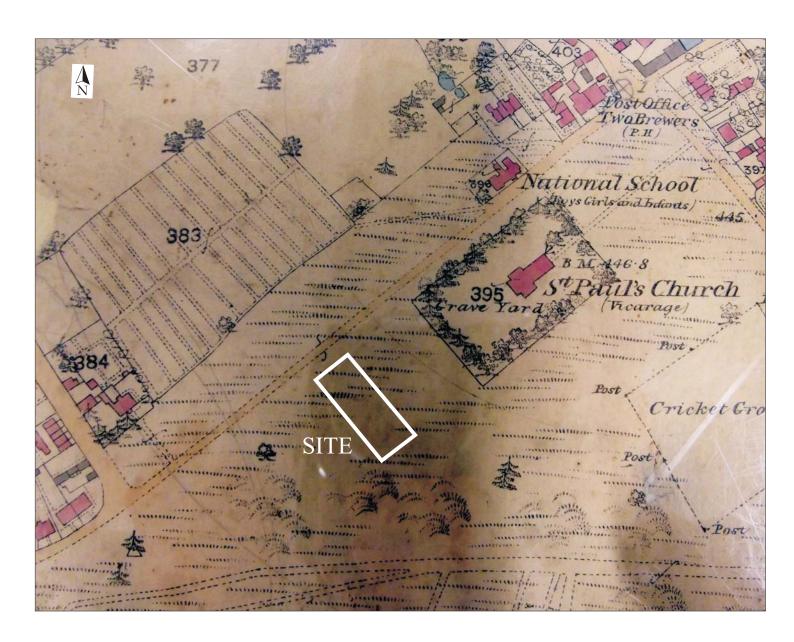


Fig. 3 HER Data
Scale 1:12,500 at A4



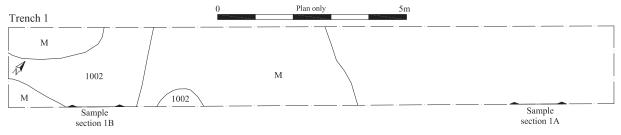
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Fig. 4
Not to scale Tithe map, 1835

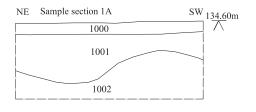


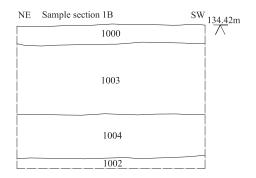
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Fig. 5
Not to scale OS map, 1873

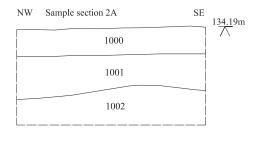


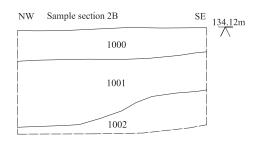
M- Modern rubbish pits or disturbances













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Trench plans and sections

Fig. 6 Trench plans and sections
Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A3