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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**THE POND HOUSE, BUGBY'S FARM,  
GREAT MUNDEN, HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL "STRIP, MAP & RECORD"  
INVESTIGATION AND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING**

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski	
NGR: TL 3475 2392	Report No: 4911
District: East Herts	Site Code: AS 1431
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 3692
Signed:	Date: 11 November 2015

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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
<b>Project name</b>	<i>The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire</i>		
<p><i>Between July – November 2014 and April 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological “strip, map &amp; record” investigation and archaeological monitoring and recording at The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3475 2392). The work was commissioned by Mr Charles Morris (Architect) on behalf of Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of an extension and external landscaping works including a free-standing store building and a greenhouse.</i></p> <p><i>The site is located within Area of Archaeological Significance 338 and it had potential for archaeological remains, in particular for medieval and post-medieval archaeology. The farmstead has medieval origins and may have been a moated site. The existing Pond House is a Grade II Listed post-medieval farmhouse.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the investigation revealed an undated gully. It was also revealed the area of the site adjacent to the Pond House was significantly truncated in modern times.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>July – November 2014, April 2015</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>3692</i>	Site code	<i>AS 1431</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological “Strip, Map &amp; Record” Investigation and Archaeological Monitoring &amp; Recording</i>		
Site status	<i>Within Area of Archaeological Significance 338</i>		
Current land use	<i>Side yard of the house</i>		
Planned development	<i>Extensions to the house</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>Undated gully</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>East Herts</i>	<i>Great Munden</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Hertfordshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site	<i>c.3000m<sup>2</sup></i>		
NGR	<i>TL 3475 2392</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c.117m AOD</i>		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	<i>Advice from HCC HEU</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski, Andrew Newton</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley</i>		
Full title	<i>The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire: Archaeological “Strip, Map &amp; Record” Investigation and Archaeological Monitoring &amp; Recording</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z.</i>		
Report no.	<i>4911</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>November 2015</i>		

# **THE POND HOUSE, BUGBY'S FARM, GREAT MUNDEN, HERTFORDSHIRE**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL "STRIP, MAP & RECORD" INVESTIGATION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING**

### **SUMMARY**

*Between July – November 2014 and April 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological "strip, map & record" investigation and archaeological monitoring and recording at The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3475 2392). The work was commissioned by Mr Charles Morris (Architect) on behalf of Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of an extension and external landscaping works including a free-standing store building and a greenhouse.*

*The site is located within Area of Archaeological Significance 338 and it had potential for archaeological remains, in particular for medieval and post-medieval archaeology. The farmstead has medieval origins and may have been a moated site. The existing Pond House is a Grade II Listed post-medieval farmhouse.*

*In the event the investigation recorded an undated gully. It was also revealed that the area of the site adjacent to the Pond House was significantly truncated in modern times.*

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Between July 2014 and April 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological "strip, map & record" investigation and archaeological monitoring and recording at The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3475 2392; Figs. 1 & 2). The work was commissioned by Mr Charles Morris (Architect) on behalf of Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a new extension and external landscaping works including a free-standing store building and a greenhouse (East Herts District Council Planning Ref. 3/13/0607/FP).

1.2 The investigation was undertaken in accordance to advice from Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU), and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 24/04/2014), and approved by HCC HEU. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA, now Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for An Archaeological*

*Watching Brief* (2014), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the project were:

- Archaeological investigation by a programme of 'strip, map & record' of the area of the proposed new development, with the investigation and recording of any archaeology thereby revealed;
- The archaeological monitoring of all other groundworks associated with the scheme likely to have an impact on any remains;
- The analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site in appropriate conditions;
- The provision of an adequately detailed project report that will place the findings of the monitoring and recording of the development programme in their local and regional context, having made reference to the relevant regional research agendas and through cartographic, documentary and other research;
- The full analysis and interpretation of the site archive in order to promote local and regional research, and the appropriate dissemination and publication of the project results.

#### *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 Pond House lies 500m at the end of a track at Bugby's Farm to the south of Wood End Road and to the west of the village of Great Munden. The house is set within a large plot of land with a pond immediately to the west. Modern barns and out-buildings lie at a short distance to the north.

2.2 The property is Grade II Listed and described as having an early 16<sup>th</sup> century east wing and late 16<sup>th</sup>/early 17<sup>th</sup> century hall and cross-wing; alterations were made in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and late 20<sup>th</sup> century. A 17<sup>th</sup> -century barn noted as being attached to the east end of the farmhouse and which had been converted to domestic use had been demolished by the time of the project.

## **3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

3.1 Bugby's Farm is located at approximately 117m AOD on a valley slope above the Dane End Tributary. The local soils are of the Hanslope association described as slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). They overlie chalky till which in turn overlies Upper Cretaceous chalk (British Geological Survey 1978).

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

4.1 The site lies within an Area of Archaeological Significance (338), designated on the East Herts DC Local Plan. The farmstead has medieval origins as the name is associated with the family of William Bokeby, first recorded in 1404. A ditched earthwork forming the south western boundary of the plot may possibly be a remnant of a medieval moated site.

4.2 The farmhouse at Bugby's Farm is known as the Pond House and is Grade II listed dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century with later additions and modifications (LB 161308). The timber framed building is described as comprising three parts; a gabled wing to the west, a hall range, and what was originally an east wing but is now roofed continuously with the hall. The un-jettied east wing is thought to be the oldest part dating to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The hall and west cross wing probably date from the late 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, but were altered in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and late 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. However, it is possible that the cross-wing may also have been constructed independently in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, before the main range. However, the current building is

believed to have lost all interior features pre-dating the 19<sup>th</sup> century (HHER 15809; [www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)).

4.3 Twenty-five metres to the north of Pond House is a timber post and weather boarded cart shed with a shelter abutting its west side, which dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. These buildings are Grade II listed and are in Area of Archaeological Significance 338 (HHER 12942; LB 161309). Approximately 230m north-west of Pond Farm are grass marks of a ditched enclosure, possibly surviving as a degraded earthwork. A triangular pond forms the north-east corner which is shown on an 1878 OS map. Several other linear ditches are visible as grass marks in the same field (HHER 17712).

## 5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological investigation by “strip, map & record” comprised ground reduction to the level of natural deposits within the footprint of the proposed extension to the house and the new forecourt and a second area to the north of the house within the proposed front garden (Figs. 2-3). The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all other associated groundworks including drainage trenches, pits for a septic tank and soakway, emergency drainage trenches excavated when the site had been flooded, and landscape works.

5.2 The investigation comprised 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

Deposits located within area of investigation were recorded in sample sections presented below.

Sample section 1 (DP 6) Strip area for new extension, facing west-north-west 0.00 = 117.28m AOD		
0.00 – 0.16m	L1000	Modern made ground. Dark brown, friable, clayey silt with moderate CBM fragments.
0.16 – 0.29m	L1001	Made ground. ?Re-deposited natural white, loose and friable, chalk.
0.29 – 0.34m	L1002	Subsoil. Mid to dark brownish orange, compact, clayey silt.
0.34m+	L1003	Natural light greenish yellow, compact, clay with frequent chalk.



<i>Sample section 2 (DP 7)</i> <i>Strip area for new extension ,facing west-north-west</i> <i>0.00 = 117.33m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Modern made ground. As above.
0.34m+	L1004	Made ground. Re-deposited white, loose, chalk and mid grey, friable, clayey silt.

<i>Sample section 3 (DP 11)</i> <i>Drainage trench, facing east</i> <i>0.00 = 117.07m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1005	Topsoil. Dark grey, soft to friable, sandy silt.
0.23 – 0.57m	L1002	Subsoil. As above.
0.57m+	L1003	Natural clay. As above.

<i>Sample section 4 (DP 12)</i> <i>Drainage trench, facing west</i> <i>0.00 = 117.40m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.17m	L1005	Topsoil. As above.
0.17 – 0.43m	L1002	Subsoil. As above.
0.43m+	L1003	Natural clay. As above.

<i>Sample section 5 (DP 13)</i> <i>Septic tank pit ,facing south</i> <i>0.00 = 117.33m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.21m	L1005	Topsoil. As above.
0.21 – 0.41m	L1008	Made ground. Light yellowish brown, friable, silty sand.
0.41 – 0.66m	L1009	Made ground. Dark brownish grey, friable, sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments.
0.66 – 0.87m	L1010	Made ground. Light yellowish brown, friable, silty sand with occasional CBM fragments.
0.87 – 0.97m	L1011	Made ground. Dark brown, friable, clayey silt.
0.97m+	L1003	Natural clay. As above.

*Description: Undated Gully F1006 was recorded during the inspection of one of the emergency drainage trenches excavated to the south of the house and its new extension (Figs. 3-4).*

Gully F1006 was linear in plan (0.70+ x 0.83 x 0.30m+; DP 15), orientated west-north-west/east-south-east. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1007, was a mid grey, compact, clayey silt. No finds were present.

A modern (20<sup>th</sup> century) yard surface of c.5m<sup>2</sup> was exposed beneath modern made ground (c.0.25m) to the north of the house. It comprised bricks and stones laid irregularly. Also the modern foundations of a recently demolished extension/building to the immediate east of the existing house were exposed (Fig. 3).

## **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 site to the north and north-east of the house was commonly overlain by modern made ground (L1000; 0.15 – 0.40m), a dark brown, friable, clayey silt with moderate CBM fragments. Elsewhere Topsoil L1005 (0.15 – 0.25m thick) was a dark grey, soft to friable, sandy silt.

8.2 The area to the north of the house where a ground was reduced and levelled (0.20 – 0.40m) for the new garden, only deposits of modern made ground were present and natural geology was not exposed. The principal deposit within this area was L1014, a mixed mid brown and grey, friable, sandy silt and white chalk.

8.3 To the north-east of the house a large area of modern truncation was evident; L1004, re-deposited white, loose, chalk and mid grey, friable, clayey silt (0.60m+ thick).

8.4 The natural clay, L1001, was present at 0.30 – 1.00m below existing ground level and comprised a light greenish yellow, compact, clay with frequent chalk.

## **9 DISCUSSION**

9.1 The site is located within Area of Archaeological Significance 338 with a potential was for medieval and post-medieval archaeology. The farmstead has medieval origins and may have been a moated site. The existing Pond House is a Grade II Listed post-medieval farmhouse.

9.2 In the event only an undated gully (F1006) was recorded to the south of the house. No residual finds were recovered.

## **10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

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

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley for funding the project.

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

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014, *Standard and Guidance for An Archaeological Watching Brief*. IfA Reading.

Prosser, L, & Smith, L., 2014, *The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire. Historic building monitoring and recording of building investigation works (Phases I&2)*. AS report No 4549

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**

<b>Records</b>	<b>Number</b>
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	1 (Context, Drawing Sheet, Drawing, Digital Photo)
Context Sheets	20
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	0
Site drawings A4	3
Site photographs b/w	0
Site photographs colour slides	0
Digital Photographs	71

## APPENDIX 2

## HER SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name and address:</b>	The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire
<b>County:</b> Herts	<b>District:</b> East Herts
<b>Village/Town:</b>	<b>Parish:</b> Great Munden
<b>Planning application reference:</b>	East Herts District Council Planning Ref. 3/13/0607/FP
<b>Client name/address/tel:</b>	Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley
<b>Nature of application:</b>	Construction of a new extension and external landscaping works including free-standing store building and greenhouse.
<b>Present land use:</b>	Side yard
<b>Size of application area:</b> c.3000m2	<b>Size of area investigated</b> 800m2
<b>NGR (8 figures):</b>	TL 3475 2392
<b>Site Code:</b>	AS 1431
<b>Site director/Organization:</b>	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
<b>Type of work:</b>	Archaeological "Strip, Map & Record" Investigation and Archaeological Monitoring & Recording
<b>Date of work:</b>	07-11/2014, 04/2015
<b>Location of finds/Curating museum:</b>	Hertford
<b>Related SMR Nos:</b>	<b>Periods represented:</b> None
<b>Relevant previous summaries/reports: -</b>	Prosser, L, & Smith, L., 2014, <i>The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire. Historic building monitoring and recording of building investigation works (Phases I&amp;2).</i> AS report No 4549
<b>Summary of fieldwork results:</b>	<p><i>Between July – November 2014 and April 2015 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological "strip, map &amp; record" investigation and archaeological monitoring and recording at The Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3475 2392). The work was commissioned by Mr Charles Morris (Architect) on behalf of Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley and undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of an extension and external landscaping works including a free-standing store building and a greenhouse.</i></p> <p><i>The investigation recorded an undated gully. It was also revealed that the area of the site adjacent to the Pond House was significantly truncated in modern times.</i></p>
<b>Author of summary:</b> Z Pozorski	<b>Date of Summary:</b> November 2015



## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. The Pond House. Looking south-west.



DP 2. Removal of concrete slabs to the east and north-east of the house. Looking north-east.



DP 3. Strip area for new house extensions. Looking south-west.



DP 4. Strip area to the north-east of the house (new extension). Looking south-south-west.



DP 5. Strip area to the east of the house (new extension). Looking west.



DP 6. Sample section 1. Looking east-south-east.





DP 7. Sample section 2. Looking east-south-east.



DP 8. Strip area to the east and north-east of new extension. Looking south-west.



DP 9. Strip area to the east and north-east of new extension (new forecourt). Looking north-north-east.



DP 10. Strip area to the east and north-east of new extension (new forecourt). Looking south-south-west.



DP 11. Drainage trench. Sample section 3. Looking west.



DP 12. Drainage trench. Sample section 4. Looking east.





DP 13. Septic tank pit. Sample section 5. Looking north.



DP 14. Emergency drainage trenches to the south of the house. Looking south-west.



DP 15. ?Gully F1006. Looking west-north-west.



DP 16. Removal of slabs to the north of the house. Looking south-south-west.

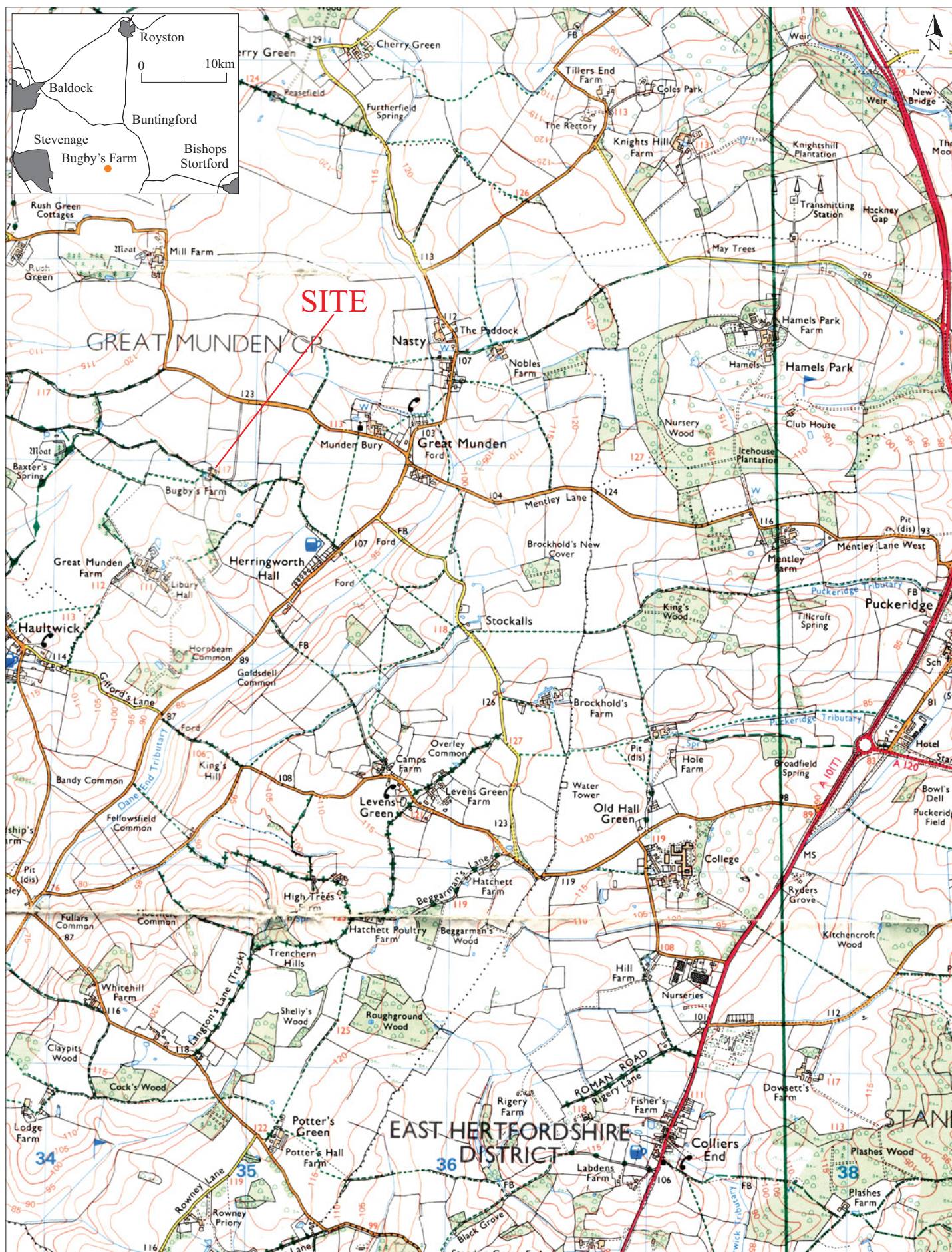


DP 17. Strip area to the north of the house. Looking west-north-west.



DP 18. Strip area to the north of the house. Looking north-north-east.





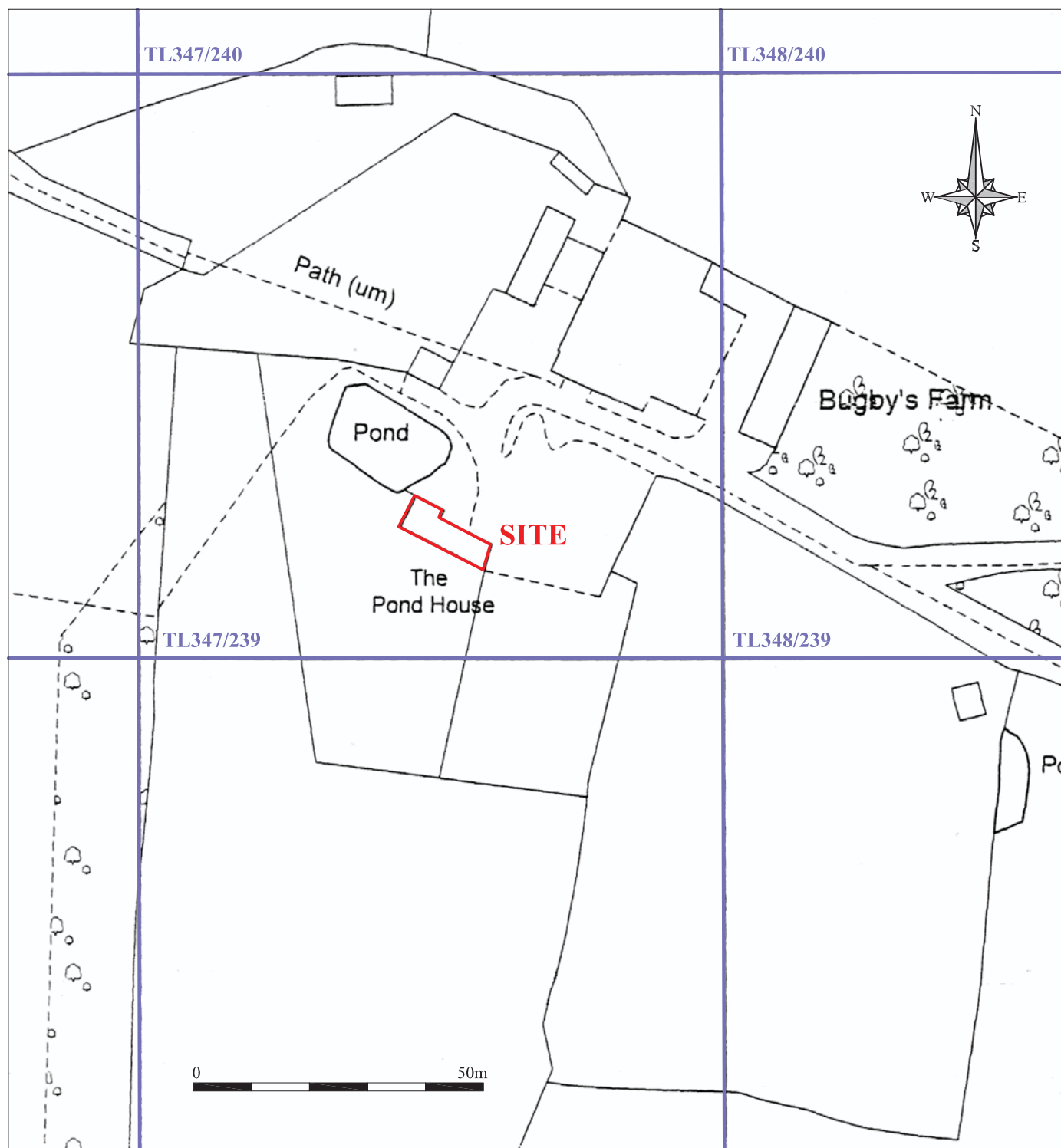
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Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4





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<b>Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan</b>
Scale 1:1000 at A4
Pond House, Bugby's Farm, Great Munden, Herts (P3692)

