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#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

# GARAGES ADJACENT TO 80 BERKLEY CLOSE, WARE, HERTFORDSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

HER Ref: 165/14

Authors: Gareth Barlow (Fie Peter Thompson MA (Desk-	• /
NGR: TL 3545 1488	Report No: 4830
District: East Hertfordshire	Site Code: AS 1746
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 5975
Signed:	Date: 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2015

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Garages adjacent to 80 Berkley Close, Ware, Herts. An Archaeological Evaluation

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# OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

OASIS SUMMARY SHEE	. I			
Project details				
Project name	0		ey Close, Ware, Hertfordshire	
garages adjacent to 80 Ben evaluation was commission planning condition attached	kley Close, V led by Borras I to planning r one bedrool	Vare, Hertfordshire s Construction and approval for the c	an archaeological evaluation of former (NGR TL 3545 1488; Figs. 1 & 2). The was undertaken in compliance with a demolition of existing garages and the itional parking and landscaping (EHDC	
Saxon date, and two unda During Roman times a sub where the river was crosse shrine were located approx Cannon Maltings was locat 5428). The Roebuck Hotel 18687). In the event the evaluation	ted pits and stantial settle d by Ermine kimately 350 ed 90m to th was origina n revealed W	a pit are located 3 ment was present Street (HHER 908 m south of the site e south-east of the Ily an early 17 <sup>th</sup> o /all M1029, ?Cella	probable Iron Age, but possible Anglo- 30m south of the site (HHER 11796). on either side of the Lea, at the point 80, 9271). A late Roman cemetery and e (HHER 9154, 9158). The site of the site which survived until 1965 (HHER century house at the maltings (HHER r M1016, modern linears (F1018 and	
F1020) and modern pits (F1			service (F1013).	
Project dates (fieldwork)	2 <sup>nd</sup> April 20 <sup>-</sup> N	1	TRO	
Previous work (Y/N/?)		Future work		
P. number	5975     Site code     AS 1746       Archaeological Evaluation     AS 1746			
Type of project	None			
Site status				
Current land use	Garages			
Planned development	2 new dwellings with additional parking and landscaping			
Main features (+dates)	None			
Significant finds (dates)     None       Project location				
County/ District/ Parish	Hertfordshii	70 East Hort	fordshire Ware	
HER/ SMR for area	HertfordshireEast HertfordshireWareHertfordshire HER (HHER)			
Post code (if known)				
Area of site	c.800m2			
NGR	TL 3545 1488			
Height AOD (max/ min)	Approximately 43-45m AOD			
Project creators	γιρριολίπα		·	
Brief issued by	Advice from	n Alison Tinniswo	od (HCC HEU)	
Project supervisor (PO)	Advice from Alison Tinniswood (HCC HEU) Gareth Barlow			
Funded by	Borras Construction			
	201100 00			
Full title		djacent to 80 E	Berkley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire,	
Authors		& Thompson P.		
Report no.	4830	•		
Date (of report)	April 2015			

# GARAGES ADJACENT TO 80 BERKLEY CLOSE, WARE, HERTFORDSHIRE

# AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

#### SUMMARY

In April 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of former garages adjacent to 80 Berkley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3545 1488). The evaluation was commissioned by Borras Construction and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the demolition of existing garages and the construction of 2 two-storey one bedroom houses with additional parking and landscaping (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/13/1469/FP).

A large pit containing animal bone, daub, and pottery of probable Iron Age, but possible Anglo-Saxon date, and two undated pits and a pit are located 330m south of the site (HHER 11796). During Roman times a substantial settlement was present on either side of the Lea, at the point where the river was crossed by Ermine Street (HHER 9080, 9271). A late Roman cemetery and shrine were located approximately 350m south of the site (HHER 9154, 9158). The site of the Cannon Maltings was located 90m to the south-east of the site which survived until 1965 (HHER 5428). The Roebuck Hotel was originally an early 17<sup>th</sup> century house at the maltings (HHER 18687).

In the event the evaluation Wall M1029 of  $19^{th} - 20^{th}$  century date, ?Cellar M1016 of  $19^{th}$  century date, modern linears (F1018 and F1020), modern pits (F1023 and F1025), and a modern service (F1013).

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of former garages adjacent to 80 Berkley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3545 1488; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Borras Construction and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the demolition of existing garages and the construction of 2 two-storey one bedroom houses with additional parking and landscaping (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/13/1469/FP).

1.2 The archaeological evaluation was carried out according to advice issued by Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire County Council's Historic Environment Unit

(HCC, HEU) dated 23/09/2013, and a specification by AS (dated 19/09/2014). It followed the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *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 late Iron Age/Romano-British and medieval periods towards the river, and to 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century maltings to the south.

# 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 nondesignated 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** (Figs. 1 – 2)

2.1 Ware is located 32km north of London and 2km east of the county town of Hertford. The site is adjacent to 80 Berkley Close in the western sector of Ware, 60m west of the A1170.

### 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The river Lea, which is a major tributary of the Thames, flows through Ware in a west/east direction 550m south of the site. The latter is situated at approximately 42-45m AOD. The local soils are of the Melford Association comprising deep well drained fine loamy over clayey, coarse loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils, some with calcareous clayey subsoils. The superficial geology consists of chalky till, and the solid geology is Cretaceous Upper Chalk.

#### 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Mesolithic and Neolithic flint tools and Late Iron Age ditches containing pottery and metalwork have been found in the area demonstrating a prehistoric presence in this part of the Lea Valley. A large sub-circular pit containing animal bone, daub, and pottery of probable Iron Age, but possible Anglo-Saxon date, was located 330m south of the site (HHER 11796). There was also a ditch and two undated pits.

4.2 During Roman times a substantial settlement was present on either side of the Lea, at the point where the river was crossed by Ermine Street which linked York with London (HHER 9080, 9271). A late Roman cemetery and shrine is located adjacent to the Roman Road and settlement, at the modern Glaxosmithkline works, some 350m south of the site (HHER 9154, 9158). During late Saxon and early medieval times the manor of Ware was one of the largest in the country. The building now known as 'Place House' 700m south-east of the site, was the residence of the Lord of the Manor of Ware from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and was also probably the site of the manor from at least the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

4.3 In the late 11<sup>th</sup> century land was granted to build an Alien Priory which probably stood either to the north of St. Mary's Church on the site of the Old Rectory (now called the Manor House), or on the west side of Baldock Street. The current St Mary's Church, located 480m south-west of the site is Grade I listed and dates between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, with some 19<sup>th</sup> century restoration. Archaeological excavations in the graveyard found some evidence of medieval occupation which may have represented part of the remains of the Priory, although this had been disturbed by later burials in the graveyard (Bryant *et al* 1998). A second monastic house was founded at Ware for the Franciscan (Grey) Friars in 1338. Part of the hall, refectory and the south and west ends of the covered walkway or 'cloister' of the Friary survive as part of the building now known confusingly as 'The Priory', just to the south of Priory Street, which is Grade I listed.

4.4 The passing trade from travellers and pilgrims appears to have been an important part of the town's economy from the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century onwards, and by

the 16<sup>th</sup> century there were at least 18 inns in Ware, most of which were situated along the south side of the High Street. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the strategic importance of Ware as an important stopping place on the Old North Road twenty miles north of London was recognised by the Tudor government, and it was made a Post Town for the royal mail of Henry VIII. In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries a number of maltings and religious houses were built in the town, while other important industries were corn mills and barge building. The site of the Cannon Maltings was located 90m to the south-east of the site in Wadesmill Road. It was 'Said to be the oldest maltings in the country', with 17<sup>th</sup> century red brick buildings and 19<sup>th</sup> century additions, which survived until 1965 (HHER 5428). The Roebuck Hotel or The Cannons is an early 17<sup>th</sup> century house at the Cannon Maltings, which was altered in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and turned into a much-extended hotel in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (HHER 18687). In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the railway arrived, greatly improving communications with London.

#### 5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 A trench was excavated using a mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2). The trench was L-shaped to take account of the practical constrictions of the site.

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 trench descriptions is presented below

## Trench 1 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section	1A: south	east, north east facing
0.00 = 42.75m A	AOD	
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Made Ground. Pale orange brown, firm, sandy silt with
		frequent CBM and concrete fragments
0.25 – 0.50m	L1001	Made Ground. Dark grey brown, firm, sandy silt
0.50 – 0.87m	L1002	Made Ground. Mid orange brown, friable, silty sand with
		frequent CBM and concrete rubble
0.87 – 1.10m	L1003	Made Ground. Dark grey brown, firm, sandy silty with
		occasional small and medium sub angular flint.
1.10 – 1.32m	L1004	Made Ground. Dark – mid grey brown, friable, sandy silt
		with frequent medium rounded flint.
1.32 – 1.53m	L1005	Made Ground. Dark red brown, friable, silty sand.
1.53 – 1.61m	L1006	Made Ground. Dark grey brown, friable, silty sand with
		frequent small angular flint.
1.61m+	L1007	Natural. Mid orange brown, firm, sandy silt.

Sample section 0.00 = 42.23m		end, south facing
0.00 – 0.16m	L1008	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional medium round flint and CBM
0.16 – 0.34m	L1000	Made Ground. As above.
0.34 – 0.40m	L1009	Made Ground. Mid orange brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional concrete fragments
0.40 – 0.75m	L1010	Made Ground. Dark grey brown, firm, sandy silty with occasional small and medium sub angular flint.
0.75 – 0.90m	L1011	Made Ground. Dark – mid grey brown, friable, ashy sand with occasional coal.
0.90 – 1.00m	L1012	Made Ground. Mid red brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional sub angular flint and chalk.
1.00m+	L1007	Natural. As above

Description: Within Trench 1 Wall M1029, ?Cellar M1016, modern linears (F1018 and F1020) and modern pits (F1023 and F1025), and a modern service (F1013) were recorded.

Service Trench F1013 was linear (2.00+ x 0.95 x 0.18m), orientated NE/SW. It contained an iron pipe.

Construction Cut F1015 was rectangular (2.00+ x 0.50+ x 0.70m), and was recorded in section. It had vertical sides and a flat base. Wall M1016 was construction of a mixture of pale yellow and red frogged bricks (220 x 100 x 60mm), of llikely 19<sup>th</sup> century date (CBM Report below). F1015 was likely a cellar and its backfill, L1017, was a dark grey brown, firm, sandy silt with frequent modern CBM rubble.

F1018 was linear ( $0.50+ x 0.52 \times 0.33m$ ). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1019, was a mid red brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional subangular flint and chalk. Based on its form and fill the feature was judged to be modern.

F1020 was linear (0.50+  $\times$  0.52  $\times$  0.18m). It had steep sides and a flat base. Its fill, L1021, was a mid red brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional subangular flint and chalk. The feature contained no finds but was directly comparable to F1018 and was judged to be modern.

Pit F1023 was sub square  $(1.35+ \times 0.50+ \times ?)$ . The feature contained modern finds and was not excavated. It cut Pit F1025.

Pit F1025 was ?oval (0.75+ x 0.50+ x ?). Like Pit F1023 the feature contained modern finds and was not excavated. It was cut by Pit F1023.

Construction Cut F1027 was linear (2.40 + x 0.30 + x 0.10m). orientated E/W. It had vertical sides and a flat base. Wall M1029 was construction of handmade unfrogged pale yellow bricks (200 x 100 x 60mm) with a pale yellow grey mortar. F1027 was a construction cut for a  $19^{th} - 20^{th}$  century wall footing (CBM report below) and its backfill, L1028, was a dark red brown, firm, sandy silt with occasional sub angular flint.

# 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 Made ground deposits overlay the natural. The latter was a mid orange brown, firm, sandy silt present at 1.00 – 1.61m below existing ground level.

# 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 A large pit containing animal bone, daub, and pottery of probable Iron Age, but possible Anglo-Saxon date, and two undated pits and a pit are located 330m south of the site (HHER 11796). During Roman times a substantial settlement was present on either side of the Lea, at the point where the river was crossed by Ermine Street (HHER 9080, 9271). A late Roman cemetery and shrine were located approximately 350m south of the site (HHER 9154, 9158). The site of the Cannon Maltings was located 90m to the south-east of the site which survived until 1965 (HHER 5428). The Roebuck Hotel was originally an early 17<sup>th</sup> century house at the maltings (HHER 18687).

9.2 In the event the evaluation revealed Wall M1029 of  $19^{th} - 20^{th}$  century date, ?Cellar M1016 of  $19^{th}$  century date, modern linears (F1018 and F1020), modern pits (F1023 and F1025), and a modern service (F1013).

#### 10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

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

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Borras Construction Ltd for their cooperation and funding of the evaluation.

AS would also like to thank Dr. Isobel Thompson of HCC, HEU for providing the HER information

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

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### 14 WEB SITES

www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk www.soilsworldwide.net

# CONCORDANCE OF FINDS **APPENDIX 1**

# AS1746, P5975, Berkley Close, Ware, Herts Concordance of finds by feature

						A.Bone	
Feature	Context	Feature Context Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	(g)	Other
1000		Made Ground			895		
	1004	Made Ground	Modern	(2) 221g	331		
	1006	Made Ground			264		
	1010	Made Ground			166		Fe.Object (1) - 11g
	1012	Made Ground					Glass (1) - 31g
1016		Cellar Wall	19 <sup>th</sup> C		1984		
	1017	Backfill of Cellar	Modern	(4) 91g	1984		Glass (2) - 74g
							Pudding Stone (2) - 330g
							Slate (1) - 63g
1018	1019	Fill of Linear Feature			<1		Glass (1) - 2g
1023	1024	Fill of Pit					Plastic wire (1) - 16g
							Slate(1) - 13g
							Cu.Alloy (1) - 82g
1029		Wall Footing	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> C		1,981		Mortar (2) - 60g

- n

#### APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

#### Post-medieval Pottery

Peter Thompson

The evaluation recovered three fragments of modern factory made white earthenware from two contexts, including the rim of a Transfer Printed Ware plate. The ceramics are quantified by context below.

#### Key:

TPW Transfer Printed Ware late 18<sup>th</sup>+ RWE Refined factory made white earthenware late 18<sup>th</sup>+

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Made	1004	1x21g TPW	Modern	TPW: Transfer Printed
Ground				Ware (black print), lightly
		1x202g REFW		abraded plate rim REFWE: lightly abraded,
				probably modern sanitary
				ware
Backfill of	1017	1x33g RWE	Modern	REFW: white glazed
cellar				earthenware jar with
				incised rim , lightly
				abraded

#### The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of seven fragments (6960g) of Victorian to early modern CBM, including fragments of Suffolk White-type brick, London Stock brick, pantile and chimney pot.

Suffolk White-type brick is represented by a complete example (1984g) samples from Wall M1016, with two further fragments (2399g) contained in Cellar Fill L1017 and as un-stratified material L1000. These cream to pale brown bricks have dimensions of 230x100x60mm with a broad shallow frog, fairly regular arrises and striations on their upper surface from where they were pressed into a mould. Although production began in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, this type of brick was a common construction material throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

A single complete London Stock brick (1981g) was sampled from Wall Footing M1029. It was manufactured in a very dark red fabric that included high quantities of ash and iron residue typical of 'Spanish soil' added to brick fabrics in the post-medieval period. The brick had dimensions of 200x95x65mm with an

angular frog, and although production began in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, it continued until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, with a later date more likely for this example.

In addition to the bricks, three fragments (596g) of Victorian to early modern CBM were recovered from Made Ground Layers L1004, L1006 and Linear Feature F1018, including un-abraded small fragments of pantile or chimney pot.

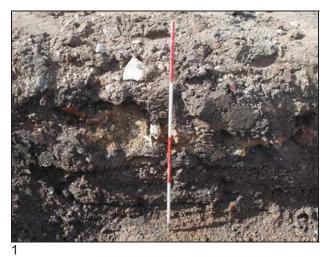
# APPENDIX 3 CONTENTS OF ARCHIVE

Records	Number
Brief	Ν
Specification	Y
Registers	3 (Context, Drawing, Digital Photo)
Context Sheets	30
Site drawings A1	0
Site drawings A3	3
Site drawings A4	0
Site photographs b/w	0
Site photographs colour slides	0
Digital Photographs	42

# APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Garages adjacent to 80 Berkley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire
County: Herts	District: East Herts
Village/Town:	Parish: Ware
Planning application	EHDC Planning Ref. 3/13/1469/FP
reference:	
Client name/address/tel:	Borras Construction
Nature of application:	Residential
Present land use:	Former garages
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated
c.800m2	40m2
NGR (8 figures):	TL 3545 1488
Site Code:	AS 1746
Site director/Organization:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Archaeological Evaluation
Date of work:	2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2015
Location of finds/Curating	Ware
museum:	
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: None
Relevant previous	-
summaries/reports: -	
Summary of fieldwork results:	In April 2015 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of former garages adjacent to 80 Berkley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3545 1488). The evaluation was commissioned by Borras Construction and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the demolition of existing garages and the construction of 2 two-storey one bedroom houses with additional parking and landscaping (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/13/1469/FP). In the event the evaluation Wall M1029 of 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century date, ?Cellar M1016 of 19 <sup>th</sup> century date, modern linears (F1018 and F1020), modern pits (F1023 and F1025), and a modern service (F1013).
Author of summary:	Date of Summary:
Gareth Barlow	April 2015

#### PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



Sample Section 1 looking south-west

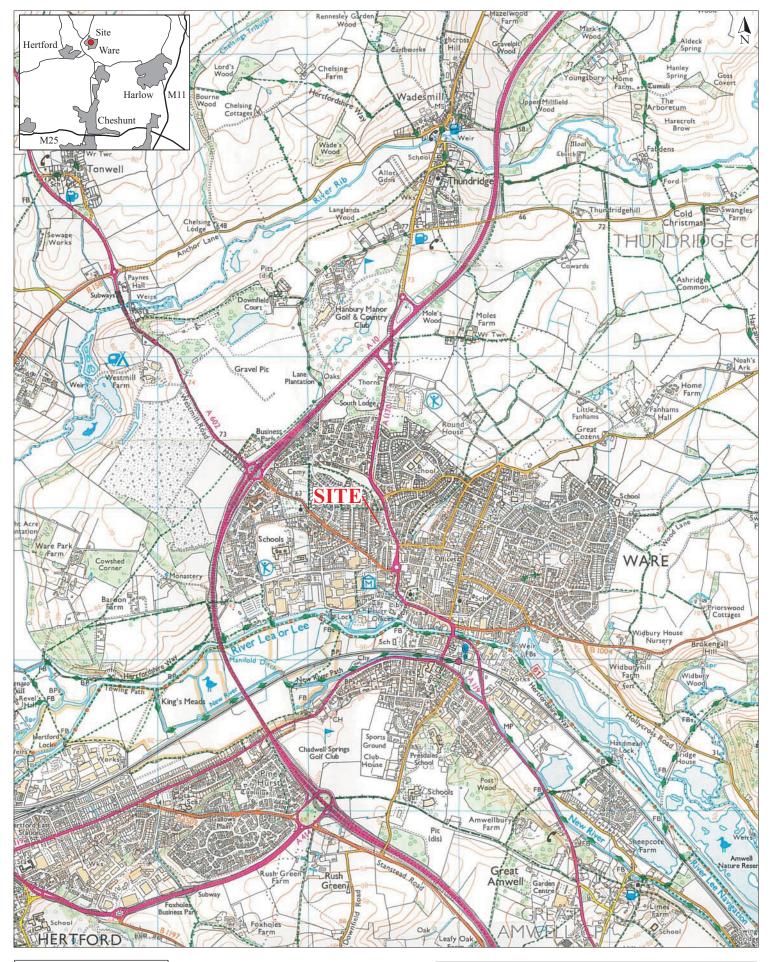


Post excavation view of trench looking south-west





4 F1059 in Trench 10 looking south-east



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 Fig. 1 Site location plan

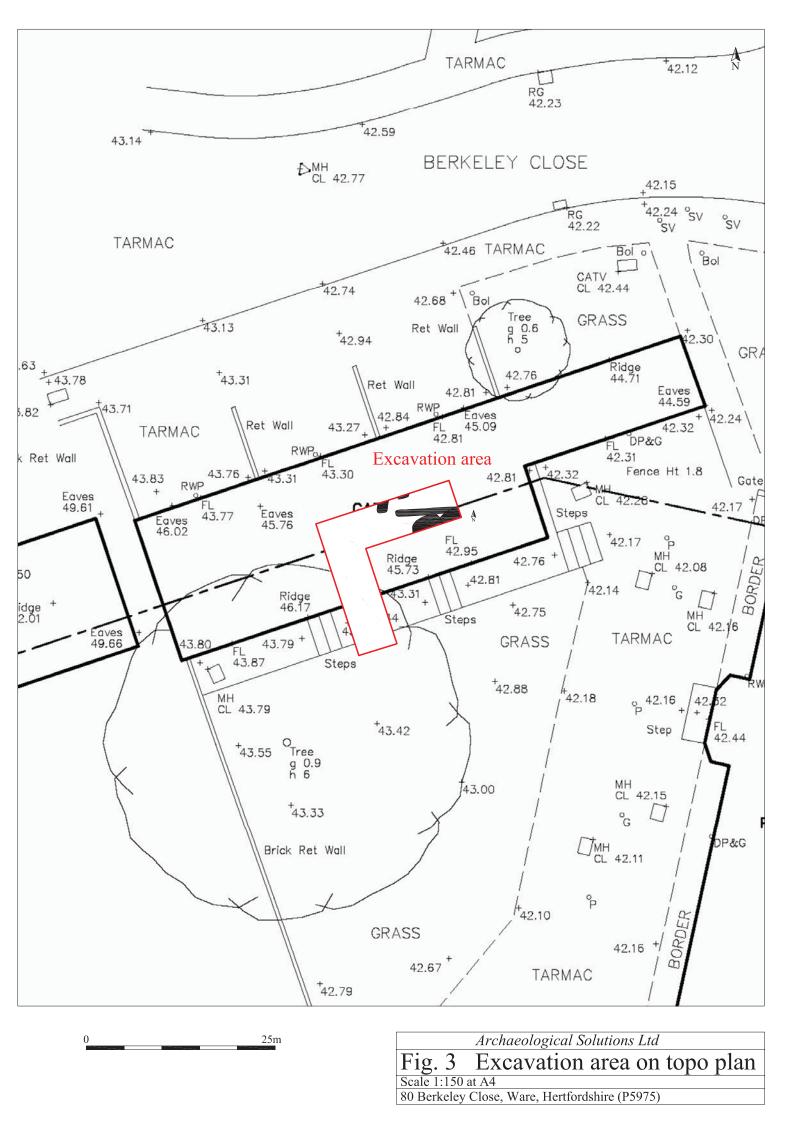
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4

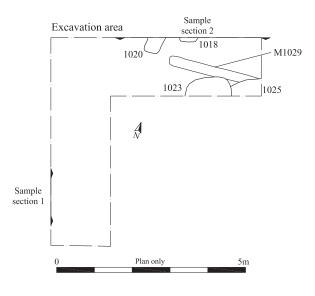
 80 Berkeley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire (P5975)

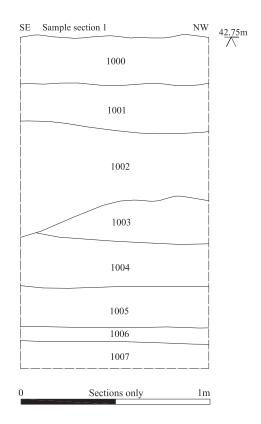


0

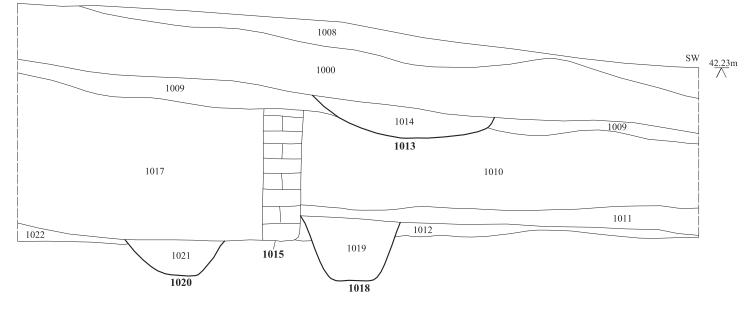
Archaeological Solutions Ltd Fig. 2 Detailed site location Scale 1:500 at A4 80 Berkeley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire (P5975) Detailed site location







#### NE Sample section 2



Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 4 Plan and sections
Scale 1:100 and 1:20 at A4
80 Berkeley Close, Ware, Hertfordshire (P5975)