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**TARRAS CHURCH END,
LITTLE HADHAM, HERTFORDSHIRE SG11 2DY**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

HER Enquiry No. 102/17

Author: Andy Newton (Fieldwork & report) Kate Higgs (Research)	
NGR: TL 44676 22756	Report No: 5518
District: East Herts	Site Code: AS 1931
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 7185
	Date: 5 February 2018 Revised 18 April 2018

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET			
Project details			
Project name	Tarras Church End, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire SG11 2DY		
<p>In October 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Tarras, Church End, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire, SG11 2DY (NGR TL 44676 22756; Figs. 1 - 2). The monitoring was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of single storey rear and side extensions (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/17/0388/HH), based on the requirements of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory (HCC HEA).</p> <p>The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 278 as identified on the Local Plan. The Area encompasses multi-period archaeological remains which have been found principally to the east of the village. The historic landscape characterisation also defines the site as later enclosures, such as 18th and 19th century field boundary alterations. The site lies on the western frontage of Church End and to the immediate east of the Grade I listed Church of St Cecilia.</p> <p>The monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	24, 25, 26 October 2017		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	N
P. number	7185	Site code	AS 1931
Type of project	Archaeological monitoring & recording		
Site status	Within Area of Archaeological Significance 278		
Current land use	Dwelling		
Planned development	Extensions		
Main features (+dates)	None		
Significant finds (+dates)	None		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Hertfordshire	East Herts	Little Hadham
HER for area	Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER; Enquiry No. 102/17)		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	c. 100m ²		
NGR	TL 44676 22756		
Height AOD (max/ min)	c. 88m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions Ltd		
Funded by	Mr A Standen		
Full title	Tarras Church End, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire SG11 2DY. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Authors	Newton, A.		
Report no.	5518		
Date (of report)	February 2018; revised April 2018		

TARRAS CHURCH END, LITTLE HADHAM, HERTFORDSHIRE SG11 2DY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING

SUMMARY

In October 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Tarras, Church End, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire, SG11 2DY (NGR TL 44676 22756; Figs. 1 - 2). The monitoring was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of single storey rear and side extensions (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/17/0388/HH), based on the requirements of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory (HCC HEA).

The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 278 as identified on the Local Plan. The Area encompasses multi-period archaeological remains which have been found principally to the east of the village. The historic landscape characterisation also defines the site as later enclosures, such as 18th and 19th century field boundary alterations. The site lies on the western frontage of Church End and to the immediate east of the Grade I listed Church of St Cecilia.

The monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trenches revealed layers of modern made ground, but no archaeological features or finds. The made ground deposits were over 0.70m deep and the site stratigraphy appeared to have been disturbed. Archaeological features, if present, would likely have been truncated or removed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2017, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Tarras, Church End, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire, SG11 2DY (NGR TL 44676 22756; Figs. 1 - 2). The monitoring was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of single storey rear and side extensions (EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/17/0388/HH), based on the requirements of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory (HCC HEA).

1.2 The investigation adhered to advice issued by the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA, dated 12th May 2015), and a specification compiled by AS (dated 14th July 2017). It was also undertaken according to the requirements of the document, *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), and the *ClfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2014).

1.3 An historic building recording report is also to be prepared.

1.4 The requirements of the project were:

- Archaeological monitoring 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

1.5 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.

1.6 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 within the hamlet of Church End, which forms part of the settlement of Little Hadham and is situated within the parish of Little Hadham and district of East Hertfordshire. The town of Bishop's Stortford lies 4km to the south-west. The hamlet of Church End is situated 750m to the east-north-east of Little Hadham, which is situated along the course of the A120 Standon Road that follows the route of Roman Stane Street. Church End lies 300m to the north of the A120 Standon Road/Roman Stane Street, and along the course of Church End.

2.2 The site is an irregular plot of land covering an area of c. 500m², and it comprises the residential dwelling of Tarras.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The Little Hadham area is characterised by a relatively rural, rolling landscape of valleys and undulating chalk hills typical of the East Hertfordshire district. The parish of Little Hadham is also situated the valley of the River Ash, which flows through the village 750m to the west of the site. A smaller watercourse also flows 500m to the east of Church End. The site therefore lies on a varied topography and at c.88m AOD.

3.2 The geology of the area comprises Upper Cretaceous chalk (BGS 2015), overlain by glacial deposits of clay and silt clay. Soils of the Little Hadham area comprise those of the Melford Association, which are described as deep well-drained fine loamy over clayey soils (SSEW 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 278 on the Local Plan. The Area identifies multi-period archaeological remains found to the east of the village of Little Hadham, with occupation known from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and medieval periods. The course of the River Ash, which flows to the west of the site, has yielded evidence for early prehistoric exploitation and occupation along the fertile river valley and floodplain, as attested by lithic implements. Away from the river, evidence from the East Hertfordshire Plateau is predominantly related to the later prehistoric period, specifically the Bronze Age onwards.

4.2 Within the vicinity of the site, a Neolithic or Bronze Age pit or ditch terminal containing struck flint blades, and undated features including a possible ring ditch were recorded at Hadham Hall and 450m to the east (HER 30909). An archaeological evaluation to the immediate north and east of the site revealed a

barbed and tanged arrowhead (HER 13150). A late Iron Age enclosure and a rectangular Roman enclosure were excavated at Hadham Hall and 450m to the east (HER 2838), and also two substantial middle Iron Age ditches (HER 30910). Two ditch terminals with prehistoric and Roman pottery; and struck flints were also found north of Church End Farm (HER 10790).

Romano-British

4.3 The site lies 300m to the north of the A120 Standon Road, which follows the route of Roman Stane Street (HER 4680; The Viatores 1964). Stane Street is the course of the Roman highway east from Braughing to Bishop's Stortford into Essex, and ultimately to Colchester. A Roman agricultural landscape undoubtedly developed in the area, as attested by Hadham being well-known as a pottery production centre in the Roman period, with kiln sites. A Roman tile kiln was excavated at Hadham Hall in the 1960s (HER 4046), and was only 85m west of a late Iron Age and early Roman farmstead.

Saxon and medieval

4.4 Evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation in the area is sparse. Church End and nearby Hadham Hall have medieval origins, and the site is adjacent to the Grade I listed Church of St Cecilia, which dates from the 12th century onwards (HER 4345). Domesday Book (Morris 1976) refers to the manorial estate of 'Parva Hadham' (HER 2657). Church End consists of the medieval church and a few houses, typical of the many dispersed hamlets in Hertfordshire named Ends or Greens.

Post-medieval and later

4.5 The post-medieval period in Little Hadham is characterised by its situation at the bridging point of the Roman Stane Street over the River Ash (Page 1908). The hamlet of Church End remained distinct to the east. Extant post-medieval structures are present within Church End including Stonehouse Farm (HERs 11121 & 15001), the Grade II listed Chalk Cottage (HER 15486), Grade II* listed Fiddler's Croft (HER 16370) and the Grade II listed Church End House (HER 31314).

4.6 An 18th century chalk pit was located beside Chalk Cottage (HER 7164), and 18th - 19th century wall footings are present on the site of a post-medieval house which was demolished before 1923 (HER 30978). Church End Farm is a 20th century farmstead (HER 13762). Eastwards Hadham Hall was once a grand late 16th century house but much of the house was demolished and the remainder became a farmhouse (HER 30907).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The foundation trenches were cut using a mechanical excavator (Fig. 2).

5.2 The archaeological investigation comprised the observation of all groundworks likely to affect archaeological remains, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Encountered features and deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The encountered stratigraphy was recorded in sample sections presented below:

<i>Sample section 1</i> <i>0.00 = 88.56m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. Very dark grey to black, firm, clay silt with occasional small stones and modern (19 th century +) CBM.
0.29 – 0.82m	L1001	Made Ground. Dark grey, firm, clay silt with moderate modern (19 th century +) CBM fragments, and occasional small sub-rounded chalk and grit.
0.82m+	L1002	Natural deposits. Mid grey, fading to pale yellow brown, very firm clay.

<i>Sample section 2</i> <i>0.00 = 88.59m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.24m	L1000	Topsoil. As above
0.24 – 0.53m	L1003	Made Ground. Yellow grey, friable, mixed sand, grit, concrete and CBM (19 th century +)
0.53 – 0.92m	L1001	Made Ground. As above
0.92m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above

<i>Sample section 3</i> <i>0.00 = 88.71m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.15m	L1004	Pale grey concrete surface.
0.15 – 0.73m	L1005	Made Ground. Yellow, pinky grey, friable, grit and sand with plaster and CBM rubble.
0.73m+	L1002	Natural deposits. As above

Description: No archaeological finds or features were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors restricted the identification of archaeological features or finds.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 278 as identified on the Local Plan. The Area encompasses multi-period archaeological remains which have been found principally to the east of the village. The historic landscape characterisation also defines the site as later enclosures, such as 18th and 19th century field boundary alterations. The site lies on the western frontage of Church End and to the immediate east of the Grade I listed Church of St Cecilia.

8.2 The monitoring of the excavation of the foundation trenches revealed layers of modern made ground, but no archaeological features or finds. The made ground deposits were over 0.70m deep and the site stratigraphy appeared to have been disturbed. Archaeological features, if present, would likely have been truncated or removed.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at The Forge Museum, Much Hadham. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Andy Standen for funding the archaeological monitoring, and Mr Matthew Barker of ESP Design for assistance.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the staff of the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record, in particular Dr. Isobel Thompson. AS would also like to thank the staff of the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS), based in County Hall, Hertford.

AS would like to acknowledge the input, advice and assistance of Dr Simon Wood, HCC Historic Environment Advisor.

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APPENDIX 1 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

Records	Number
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	Context, photos
Context Sheets	6
Site drawings A1	-
Site drawings A3	-
Site drawings A4	2
Site photographs b/w	-
Site photographs colour slides	-
Digital Photographs	10

APPENDIX 2 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	<i>Tarras Church End, Little Hadham, Hertfordshire SG11 2DY</i>
County: <i>Hertfordshire</i>	District: <i>East Herts</i>
Village/Town:	Parish: <i>Little Hadham</i>
Planning application reference:	<i>EHDC Planning Approval Ref. 3/17/0388/HH</i>
Client name/address/tel:	<i>Mr A Standen, Tarras</i>
Nature of application:	<i>Dwelling</i>
Present land use:	<i>Extensions</i>
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated
NGR (8 figures):	<i>TL 44676 22756</i>
Site Code:	
Site director/Organisation:	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Type of work:	<i>Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>
Date of work:	<i>24, 25, 26 October 2018</i>
Location of finds/Curating museum:	
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: <i>None</i>
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	-
Summary of fieldwork results:	<i>The monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i>
Author of summary: <i>Andy Newton</i>	Date of Summary: <i>February 2018</i>

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1
View of footings looking south-east



2
View of footings looking north-east



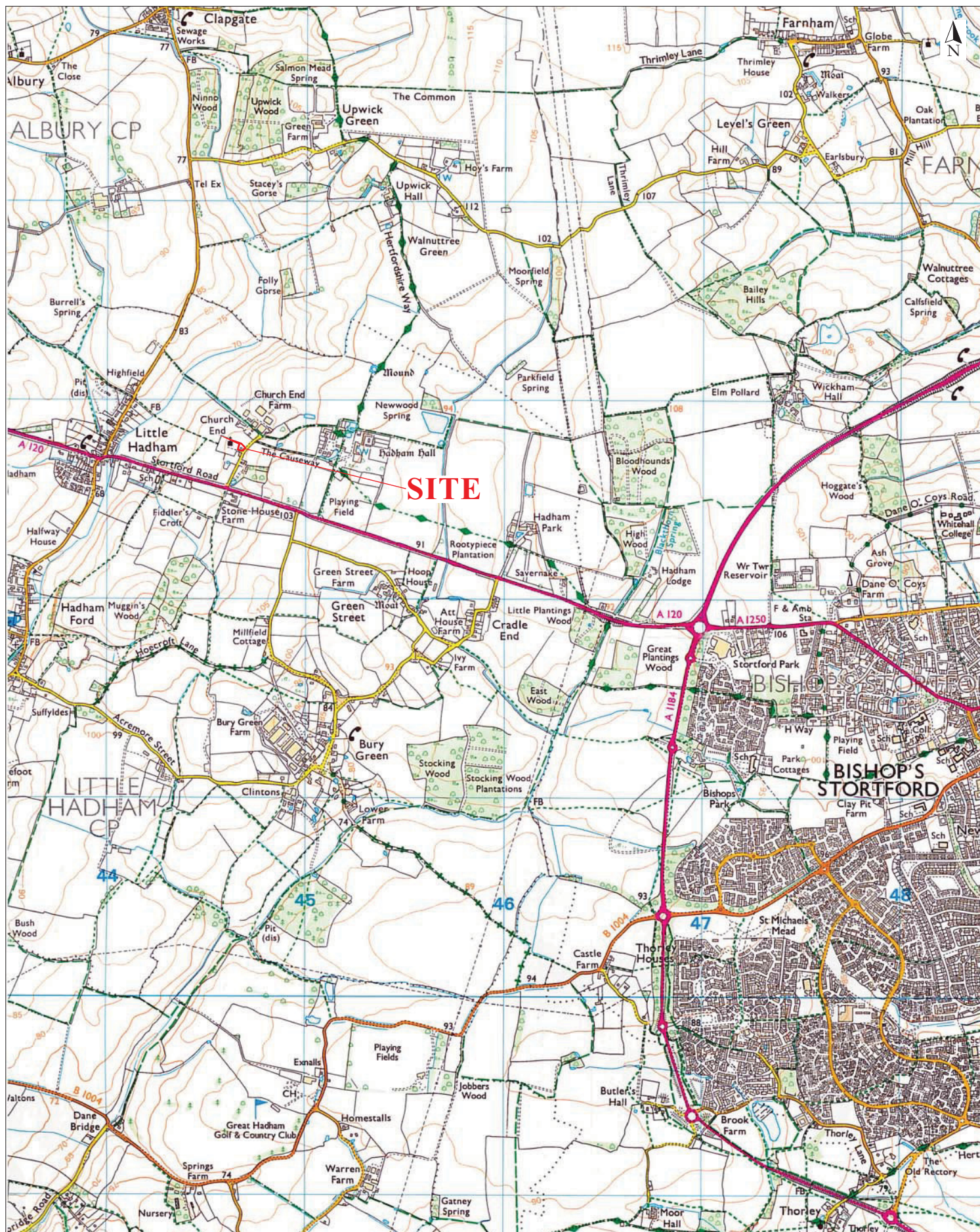
3
Sample section 1



4
Sample section 2

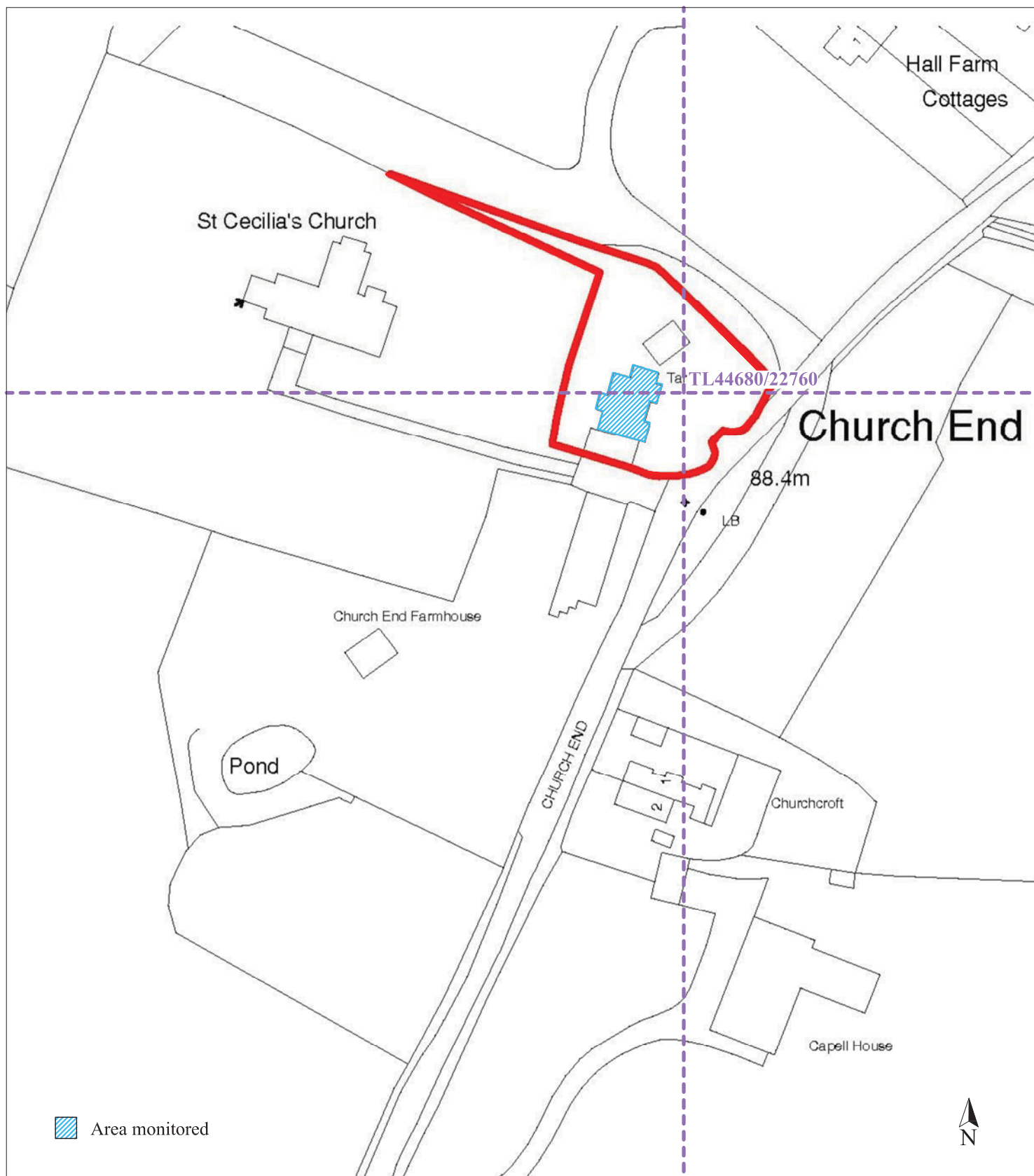


5
Sample section 3

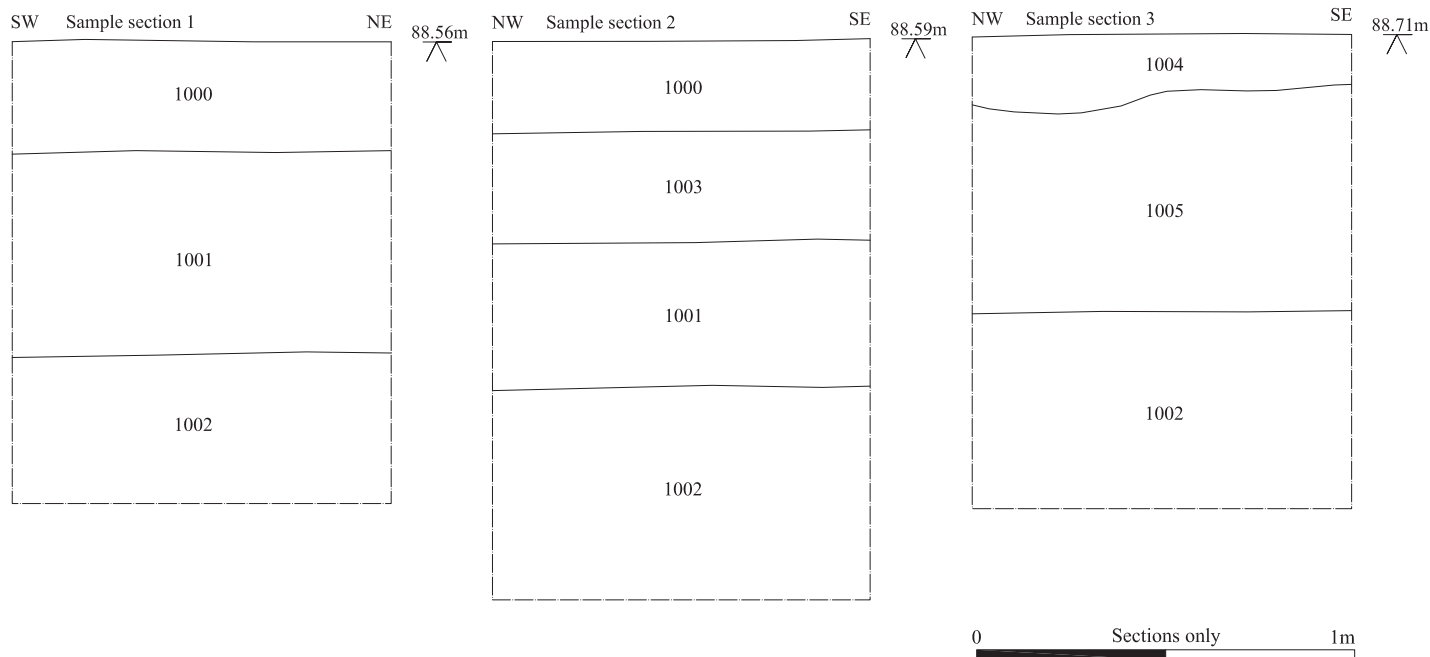
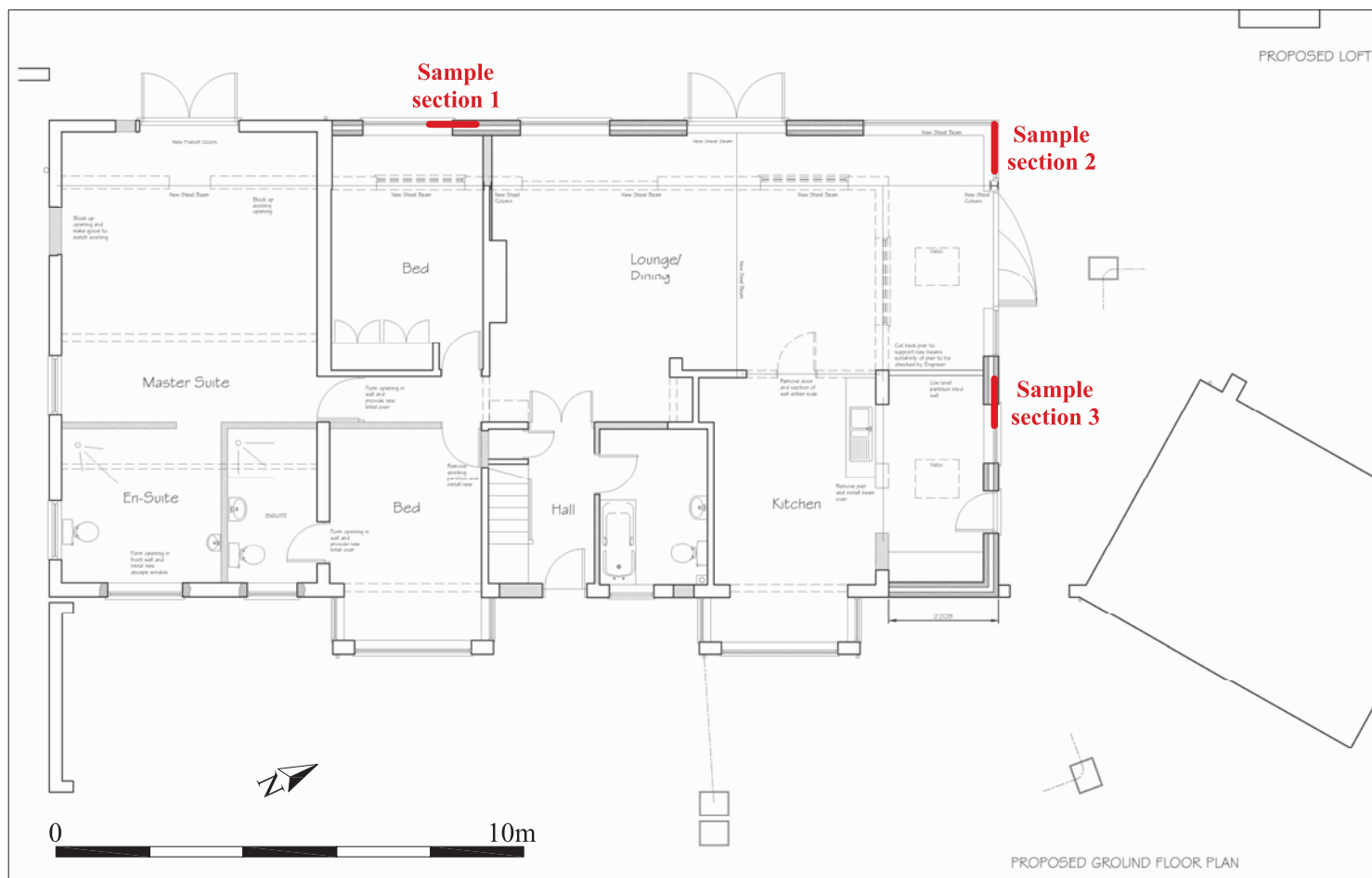


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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 Little Hadham, Hertfordshire (P7185)



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:1000 at A4
Little Hadham, Hertfordshire (P7185)



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Fig. 3 Site plan and sections

Scale 1:150 and 1:50 at A4

Little Hadham, Hertfordshire (P7185)