

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**37 BUCKS AVENUE, WATFORD,
HERTFORDSHIRE WD19 4AR**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

HER Enquiry No. 221 / 17

Author: Thomas Muir (Fieldwork and report)	
NGR: TQ 12300 94600	Report No: 5479
District: Hertsmere	Site Code: AS 1914
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: 7191
	Date: 10 November 2017 Revised 2 October 2018

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**Project details**

Project name | 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire WD19 4AR

In October 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford WD19 4AR (NGR TQ 12300 94600; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a development of 24 new dwellings and associated works, following demolition of the existing 37 Bucks Avenue and equestrian facility and buildings currently on the site (Hertsmere Planning Ref. 16/2272/FUL). The evaluation was required based on the advice of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA).

In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Modern building remains were present, consistent with the cartographic evidence, and the site had been truncated. The site stratigraphy was preserved in the northern and north-eastern sector of the site (Trenches 3 and 10 - 12). No residual finds were found.

Project dates (fieldwork) | 25 – 27 October 2017

Previous work (Y/N/?)| N | Future work | TBC

P. number | 7191 | Site code | AS 1914

Type of project | Archaeological trial trench evaluation

Site status | None

Current land use | Former equestrian centre

Planned development | Residential

Main features (+dates) | Modern building remains

Significant finds (+dates) | None

Project location

County/ District/ Parish | Hertfordshire | Hertsmere | Watford

HER for area | Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record

Post code (if known) | WD19 4AR

Area of site | 1.65ha.

NGR | TQ 12300 94600

Height AOD (max/ min) | c.72m AOD

Project creators

Brief issued by | Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team

Project supervisor/s (PO) | Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Funded by | Shanly Homes

Full title | 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire WD19 4AR. An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Authors | Muir, T.

Report no. | 5479

Date (of report) | November 2017; revised October 2018

**37 BUCKS AVENUE, WATFORD,
HERTFORDSHIRE WD19 4AR**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In October 2017, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford WD19 4AR (NGR TQ 12300 94600; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a development of 24 new dwellings and associated works, following demolition of the existing 37 Bucks Avenue and equestrian facility and buildings currently on the site (Hertsmere Planning Ref. 16/2272/FUL). The evaluation was required based on the advice of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA).

The Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) notes the archaeological significance of the area. The valley of the River Colne is rich in archaeological finds and settlement from the earlier prehistoric period. Roman finds are also known from the Bushey area, and the course of Roman Akeman Street is believed to lead from the pottery production centre at Brockley Hill, up along closed to Bushey High Street to Watford before running up the Bulbourne valley. The site occupies an area that would have been heathland in the medieval period. Evidence of earthworks of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, along with ancient field boundaries that are shown on the 1840 Tithe map, were recorded at Attenborough Fields nearby during survey in the 1990s (HER 10377). Watford Heath is also recorded on the HER (HER 12478).

In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Modern building remains were present, consistent with the cartographic evidence, and the site had been truncated. The site stratigraphy was preserved in the northern and north-eastern sector of the site (Trenches 3 and 10 – 12) where modern construction had not taken place (Fig. 7). No residual finds were found.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford WD19 4AR (NGR TQ 12300 94600 ; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a development of 24 new dwellings and associated works, following demolition of the existing 37 Bucks Avenue and equestrian facility and buildings currently on the site (Hertsmere Planning Ref. 16/2272/FUL).

The evaluation was required based on the advice of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance the advice of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 25th May 2017) and approved by HCC HEA and the LPA. It conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation* (2014), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition significance and quality of any archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

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 lies on the south western edge of Bushey north of Carpenders Park, at Watford Heath. It lies at the south eastern end of Bucks Avenue and north east of properties fronting Lawson Grove. The site is occupied by a house and former equestrian buildings and facilities, all to be demolished, with the area of proposed development extending to some 1.65ha.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is located at approximately 70m AOD on the southern side of the Colne valley with the river almost 1km to the north. A north-east to south-west flowing stream is located 200m to the south-east, and another south-east to north-west running stream is some 800m to the south-west of the site. The local soils are slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged loamy and clayey soils. These overly drift geology of mainly sand and gravel, which in turn are above the London Clay Formation.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The valley of the River Colne is prolific in the occurrence of archaeological finds and settlement from the earlier prehistoric period. Roman finds are also known from the Bushey area, and the course of Roman Akeman Street is believed to lead from the pottery production centre at Brockley Hill, westwards along or close to Bushey High Street to Watford, before passing up the Bulbourne valley.

4.2 The site occupies an area that would have been heathland in the medieval period. Watford Heath to the west of the site was an isolated hamlet around common land, which has survived unchanged in suburban Watford (HER MHT 12478). Traces of medieval strip fields, and historic field boundaries are visible in fields centred on 450m north-east of the site (HER MHT 10377), and north-west of Grade II listed Haydon Hill House (HER MHT 4791). An ancient green lane running for 340m along a field boundary SSW from Merry Hill Road is located some 750m to the south-east (HER MHT 2582).

4.3 A late Victorian reservoir lies at the highest point in Oxhey, at Field End Close 200m north of the site (HER MHT13314). Oxhey Grange to the south-west of the site, and also south of Pinner Road, is a Grade II listed mansion. It was designed in 1876 by W. Young for W. T. Eley, in High Victorian Gothic style, and was extended and altered in 1908 (HER MHT 13653).

4.4 A large pit marked 'The Clays Brick Works' and some buildings, are shown on the 1897-99 6 inch OS map, on the east side of Oxhey Lane. They are sited just south of a property called The Clays (now called

Brickfield Farm), and are approximately 300m south of the site. The pit itself is now occupied by a building marked 'Factory' (HER MHT 12734). 'Paddock Brick Works' appears on the 1899 OS map encompassing the whole area on the east side of Lower Paddock Road, and reaches to within 300m north of the site. It covers what is now the recreation ground and extends as far as the present Field Road. A pair of buildings is shown close to Haydon Hill parkland, in what is now the open land of the recreation ground (HER MHT13077).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The HCC HEA required trial trenches to be excavated across the site. Ten trenches of 40m x 1.8m and one trench of 20m x 1.8m were excavated, comprising a c.5% sample of the c.1.65ha site (Fig. 3). For practical reasons Trench 8 was relocated.

5.2 The topsoil, subsoil and 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

6.1 The individual trench description is presented below:

Trench 1 Figs. 3 - 4

Sample section 1A 0.0 – 71.79m AOD		
0.00 - 0.14m	L1000	Topsoil. Firm, dark grey brown, silty clay.
0.14 – 0.24m	L1011	Concrete
0.24 – 0.32m	L1012	Made Ground. Firm, dark grey brown silty clay
0.32 – 0.55m	L1013	Made Ground. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay
0.55m+	L1005	Natural. Firm, mid blue grey silty clay with occasional small sub rounded flint. Discoloured by seepage from modern disturbance.

Sample section 1B 0.00 – 71.43m AOD		
0.00-0.02m	L1003	Tarmac
0.02 – 0.15m	L1014	Made Ground. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with frequent CBM
0.15 – 0.24	L1015	Made Ground. Firm, dark grey brown silty clay
0.24 – 0.38m	L1016	Made Ground. Firm, mid reddish brown silty clay
0.38 – 0.46m	L1017	Base for concrete
0.46 – 0.58m	L1018	Tarmac

0.58 – 0.65m	L1019	Made Ground. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay
0.65m+	L1002	Natural. Firm, yellow orange silty clay with occasional small sub rounded flint

Description: Trench 1 contained no archaeological features or finds. An area of concrete and building rubble, and CBM rubble (L1020) traversed the trench. L1020 contained late 18th – 19th century CBM. The natural (L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance.

Trench 2 Figs. 3 - 4

Sample section 2A 0.00 – 71.85m AOD		
0.00-0.17m	L1003	Tarmac
0.17m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 2B 0.00 – 71.79m AOD		
0.00-0.18m	L1003	Tarmac
0.18m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 2 contained no archaeological features or finds. An area of building rubble was revealed which incorporated modern CBM (CBM report below). Like Trench 1, the natural (L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance.

Trench 3 Figs. 3 - 4

Sample section 3A 0.00 – 71.10m AOD		
0.00-0.10m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.10-0.24m	L1001	Subsoil. Firm, pale yellowish brown silty clay with occasional sub rounded flint.
0.24m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 3B 0.00 – 71.04m AOD		
0.00-0.09m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.09-0.29m	L1001	Subsoil. As above
0.29m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 3 contained no archaeological features or finds. In the central area of the trench the natural (L1004 and L1005) was stained a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance. L1004 was distinguished from L1005 as it was darker. A

disturbance associated with tree roots was evident at the western end of the trench.

Trench 4 Figs. 3 - 4

Sample section 4A 0.00 – 71.82m AOD		
0.00 - 0.14m	L1007	Tarmac
0.14 – 0.41m	L1003	Tarmac
0.41m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 4B 0.00 – 71.86m AOD		
0.00 - 0.13m	L1007	Tarmac
0.13 – 0.17m	L1010	Made Ground
0.17 – 0.26m	L1003	Tarmac
0.26m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 4 contained no archaeological features or finds. Modern services traversed the trench. The natural (L1005) was discoloured a blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance.

Trench 5 Figs. 3 - 4

Sample section 5A 0.00 – 72.05m AOD		
0.00-0.28m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.28 – 0.32m	L1006	Layer. Firm, mid yellow brown silty clay
0.32 -0.52m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.52m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 5B 0.00 – 72.01m AOD		
0.09 – 0.03m	L1000	Topsoil
0.03 - 0.33m	L1009	Made Ground
0.33 –0.47m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.47m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 5 contained no archaeological features or finds. Former building remains of recent date and a water pipe were evident at the northern end of the trench.

Trench 6 Figs. 3 & 5

Sample section 6A 0.00 – 72.01m AOD		
0.09 – 0.19m	L1003	Tarmac
0.19 - 0.42m	L1009	Hardcore
0.42m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1.

Sample section 6B 0.00 – 71.79m AOD		
0.00-0.11m	L1003	Tarmac
0.11 – 0.19m	L1022	Made Ground
0.19 – 0.25m	L1023	Made Ground
0.25 – 0.39m	L1009	Hardcore
0.39m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 6 contained no archaeological features or finds. The natural (L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance. Plastic water pipes and a modern drain truncated the natural.

Trench 7 Figs. 3 & 5

Sample section 7A 0.00 – 71.93m AOD		
0.00-0.14m	L1003	Tarmac
0.14 -0 33m	L1008	Hardcore
0.33 – 0.39m	L1009	Hardcore
0.39m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 7B 0.00 – 71.89m AOD		
0.00 - 0.12m	L1007	Tarmac
0.12 – 0.45m	L1003	Tarmac
0.45m+	L1002	Natural

Description: Trench 7 contained no archaeological features or finds. The natural (L1004 and L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance. L1004 was distinguished from L1005 as it was darker. The natural was test pitted. Modern post holes truncated the natural.

Trench 8 Figs. 3 & 5

Sample section 8A 0.00 – 71.93m AOD		
0.00-0.08m	L1024	Concrete

0.08 -0.27m	L1025	Made Ground
0.27 – 0.44m	L1026	Made Ground
0.44m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 8B 0.00 – 71.89m AOD		
0.00 - 0.25m	L1003	Tarmac
0.25 – 0.49m	L1006	Made Ground
0.49m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 8 contained no archaeological features or finds. A modern concrete block was present in the west end of the trench, and the natural (L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance.

Trench 9 Figs. 3 & 5

Sample section 9A 0.00 – 71.93m AOD		
0.00-0.30m	L1003	Tarmac
0.30 -0.78m	L1006	Layer. As above, Trench 5
0.78m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 9B 0.00 – 71.89m AOD		
0.00 - 0.14m	L1007	Tarmac
0.14 – 0.54m	L1003	Tarmac
0.54m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 9 contained no archaeological features or finds. A modern brick wall and associated building rubble traversed the trench. The brick was modern (CBM report below). The natural (L1004 and L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance. L1004 was distinguished from L1005 as it was darker.

Trench 10 Figs. 3 & 5

Sample section 10A 0.00 – 71.93m AOD		
0.00-0.03m	L1003	Tarmac
0.03 -0.27m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.27m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Sample section 10B 0.00 – 71.89m AOD		
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0.00 - 0.29m	L1003	Tarmac
0.29m+	L1004	Natural.

Description: Trench 10 contained no archaeological features or finds. The natural (L1004 and L1005) was discoloured a mid blue grey derived from seepage associated with the modern disturbance. L1004 was distinguished from L1005 as it was darker.

Trench 11 Fig. 3

Sample section 11A 0.00 – 71.93m AOD		
0.00-0.09m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.09 -0.30m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.30m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1
Sample section 11B 0.00 – 71.89m AOD		
0.00 – 0.19m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.19 – 0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.36m+	L1005	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 11 contained no archaeological features or finds. A modern disturbance was present at the north-eastern end of the trench.

Trench 12 Fig. 3

Sample section 12A 0.00 – 71.93m AOD		
0.00-0.10m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.10 -0.36m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.36m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1
Sample section 12B 0.00 – 71.89m AOD		
0.00 – 0.09m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Trench 1
0.09 – 0.26m	L1001	Subsoil. As above, Trench 3
0.26m+	L1002	Natural. As above, Trench 1

Description: Trench 12 contained no archaeological features or finds. The trench revealed no modern disturbance.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 Despite presence of modern features it is not felt that any factors significantly inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 Modern disturbances were present and site stratigraphy comprises concrete, Tarmac and made ground deposits (0.17 – 0.65m thick) directly overlying the natural in Trenches 1 – 2, 4 and 6 – 10).

8.2 A subsoil, L1001, a firm, pale yellowish brown silty clay with occasional sub rounded flint, was preserved in Trenches 3, 5 and 10 – 12).

8.3 At the base of the sequence the natural, L1002, was a mid yellowish orange silty clay with occasional sub rounded flint. It was discoloured (L1005) by seepage from the modern disturbance. The natural was 0.17 - 0.65m below the present day ground surface).

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The valley of the River Colne is prolific in the occurrence of archaeological finds and settlement from the earlier prehistoric period. Roman finds are also known from the Bushey area, and the course of Roman Akeman Street is believed to lead from the pottery production centre at Brockley Hill, up along closed to Bushey High Street to Watford before passing up the Bulbourne valley. The site occupies an area that would have been heathland in the medieval period. Evidence of earthworks of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, and ancient field boundaries that are shown on the 1840 Tithe map, were recorded at Attenborough Fields nearby during survey in the 1990s (HER 10377). Watford Heath is also recorded on the HER (HER 12478).

9.2 The earliest OS maps show that the site remained an open field adjacent to the bend in Bucks Lane until the 1938 OS map (Fig. 6), when the area to the north and west began to be developed. At this time three buildings appear on the north-west corner of the site, which remain present throughout the map sequence. By 1940 the area immediately to the north and west of the site became fully developed, as it is today. The 1960 OS map shows more buildings in the vicinity of the first three buildings on the site. These are probably part of the equestrian centre, and certainly are by the 1967 OS map, when they are labelled as the Riding School (Fig. 7).

9.3 In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Modern building remains were present, consistent with the cartographic evidence, and the site had been truncated. The site stratigraphy was preserved in the northern and north-eastern sector of the site (Trenches 3 and 10 – 12) where modern construction had not taken place (Fig. 7). No residual finds were found.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with Bushey Museum, and the archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Shanly Homes for funding the archaeological trial trench evaluation, in particular Mr Graham Fielding for his 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 is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Dr Simon Wood, Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor.

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A. Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
	1020		1		Late 18 th to 19 th C			1332				
			2	CBM Rubble	Modern			4372				
			9	CBM Rubble	Modern			2142				

APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of six fragments (7846g) of early modern to modern bricks in a moderately fragmented and abraded condition.

Layer L1020 contained two fragments (1332g) of late 18th to 19th century brick, manufactured in a dark red fabric with common clinker and black iron oxide inclusions. These bricks had partial dimensions of ?x100x65mm with a broad shallow frog,

The remaining four brick fragments (6514g) were recovered from Trenches 2 and 9. They include Fletton bricks with angular frogs stamped 'LBC PHORPRES' (or 'four-pressed'), and cream perforated engineering bricks, suggesting they are derived from structures unlikely to pre-date the 1960s.

APPENDIX 3 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

Records	Number
Brief	N
Specification	Y
Registers	Context, Photo, Digital Photo, Drawing
Context Sheets	28
Site drawings A1	-
Site drawings A3	3
Site drawings A4	-
Site photographs b/w	-
Site photographs colour slides	-
Digital Photographs	43

APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	<i>37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire WD19 4AR</i>
County: Herts	<i>District: Hertsmere</i>
Village/Town: Hertford	<i>Parish: Watford</i>
Planning application reference:	<i>Hertsmere Planning Ref. 16/2272/FUL</i>
Client name/address/tel:	<i>Shanly Homes</i>
Nature of application:	<i>Residential</i>
Present land use:	<i>Vacant</i>
Size of application area: 1.65ha.	<i>Size of area investigated</i> <i>750m²</i>
NGR (8 figures):	<i>TQ 12300 94600</i>
Site Code:	<i>AS 1914</i>
Organization	<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Type of work:	<i>Trial trench evaluation</i>
Date of work:	<i>25 – 27 October 2017</i>
Location of finds/Curating museum:	<i>Bushey</i>
Related HER Nos:	<i>Periods represented: Modern</i>
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	<i>-</i>
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p><i>In October 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford WD19 4AR (NGR TQ 12300 94600; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a development of 24 new dwellings and associated works, following demolition of the existing 37 Bucks Avenue and equestrian facility and buildings currently on the site (Hertsmere Planning Ref. 16/2272/FUL). The evaluation was required based on the advice of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA).</i></p> <p><i>In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Modern building remains were present, consistent with the cartographic evidence, and the site had been truncated. The site stratigraphy was preserved in the northern and north-eastern sector of the site (Trenches 3 and 10 – 12) where modern construction had not taken place (Fig. 7). No residual finds were found.</i></p>
Author of summary: Thomas Muir	<i>Date of Summary:</i> <i>November 2017</i>

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: archaeol7-330863

Project details

Project name	37 BUCKS AVENUE, WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE WD19 4AR
Short description of the project	In October 2017 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford WD19 4AR (NGR TQ 12300 94600; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed construction of a development of 24 new dwellings and associated works, following demolition of the existing 37 Bucks Avenue and equestrian facility and buildings currently on the site (Hertsmere Planning Ref. 16/2272/FUL). The evaluation was required based on the advice of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCC HEA). In the event the evaluation revealed no archaeological features or finds. Modern building remains were present, consistent with the cartographic evidence, and the site had been truncated. The site stratigraphy was preserved in the northern and north-eastern sector of the site (Trenches 3 and 10 - 12). No residual finds were found.
Project dates	Start: 25-10-2017 End: 27-10-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P7191 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	AS 1914 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	BUILDING REAMAINS Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE WATFORD WATFORD 37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire WD19 4AR.

Postcode WD19 4AR
 Study area 1.65 Hectares
 Site coordinates TQ 12300 94600 51.638503324897 -0.377011665689 51 38 18 N 000 22 37 W Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 72m Max: 72m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Solutions Ltd
 Project brief originator Hertfordshire County Council
 Project design originator Jon Murray
 Project director/manager Jon Murray
 Project supervisor Archaeological Solutions
 Type of sponsor/funding body Shanly Homes
 Name of sponsor/funding body Shanly Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Bushey Museum
 Physical Contents "Ceramics"
 Digital Archive recipient Bushey Museum
 Digital Contents "Ceramics"
 Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Bushey Museum
 Paper Contents "Ceramics"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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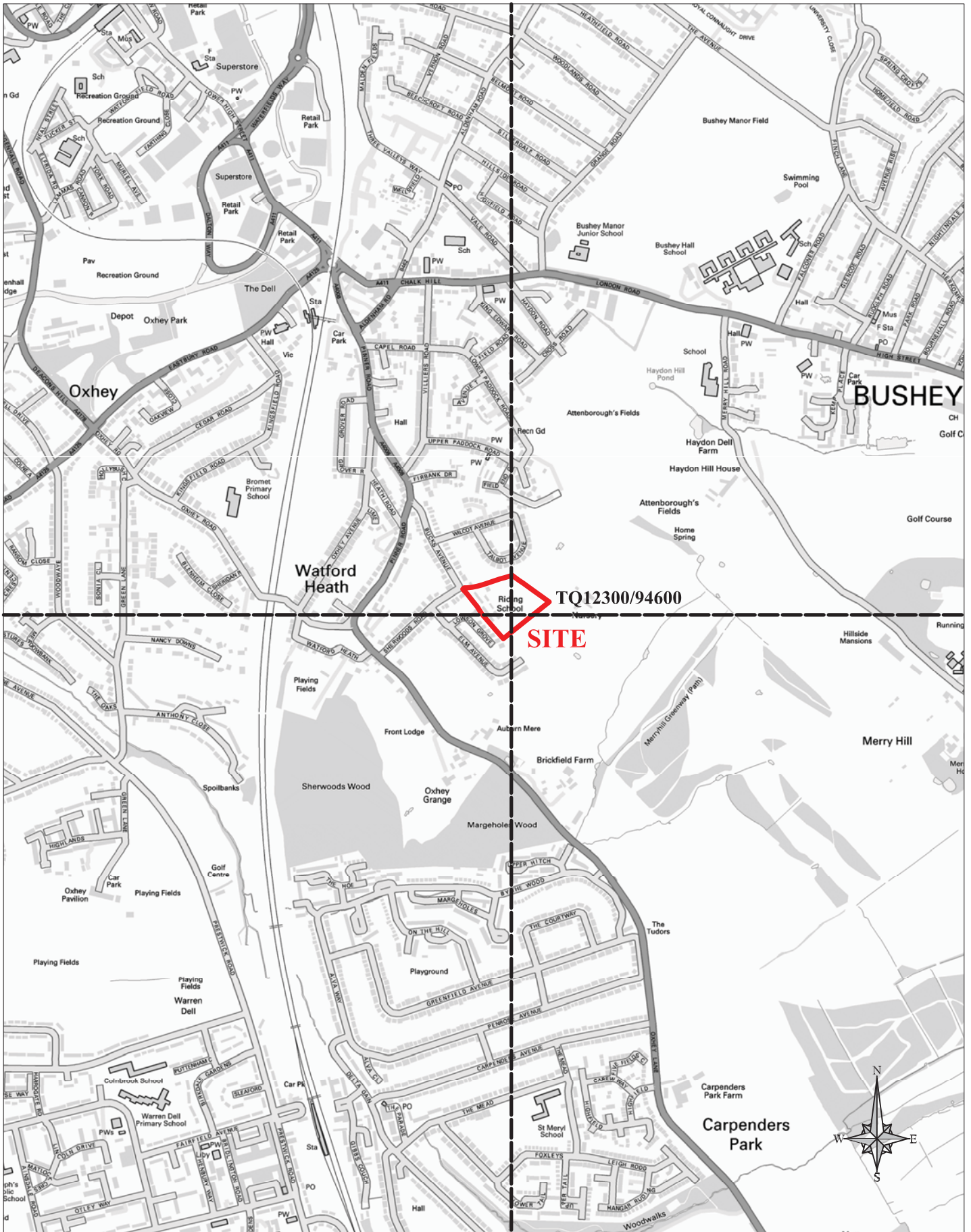


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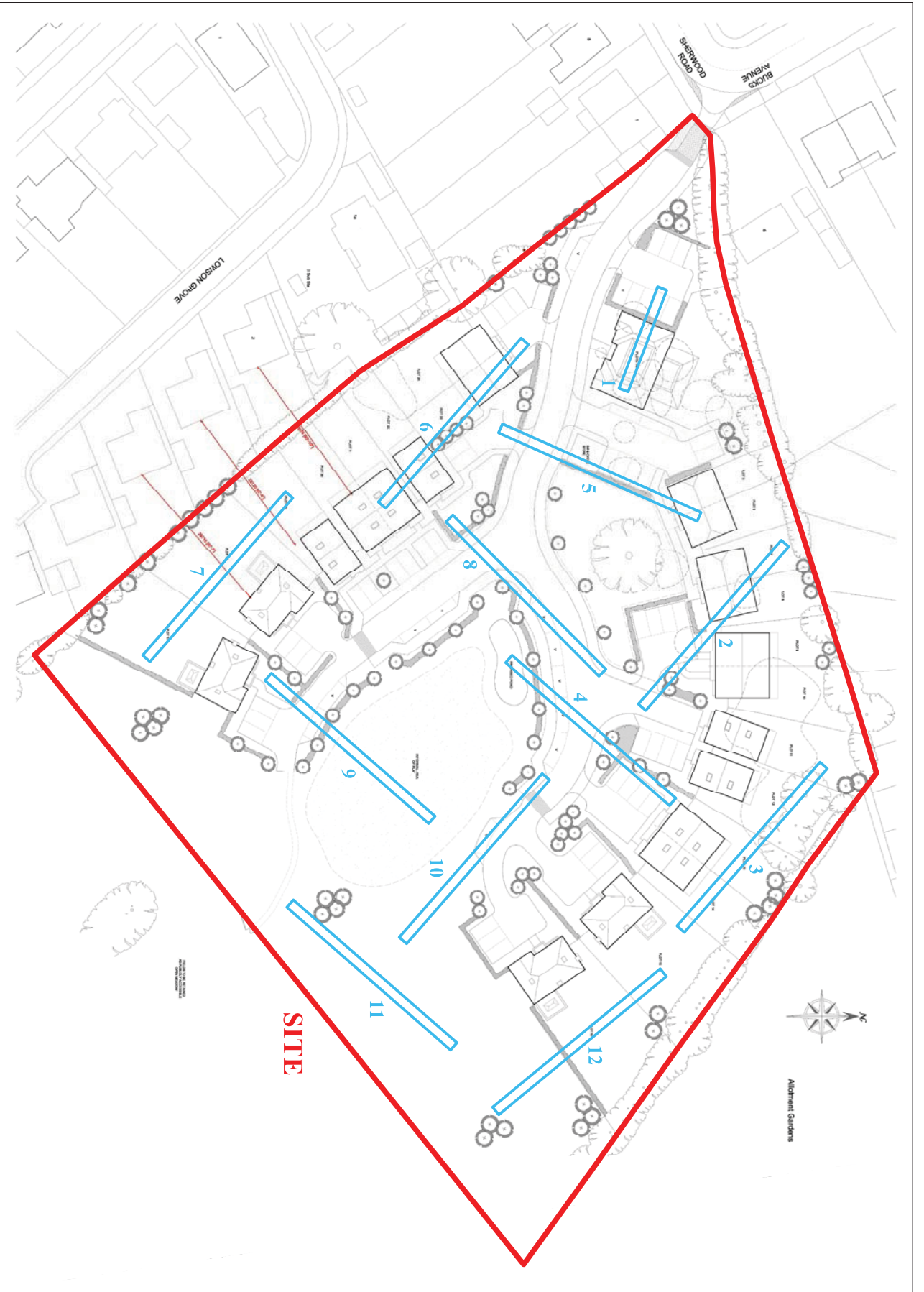
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 37 Bucks Ave, Watford, Hertfordshire (P7191)



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:12,500 at A4
37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire (P7191)

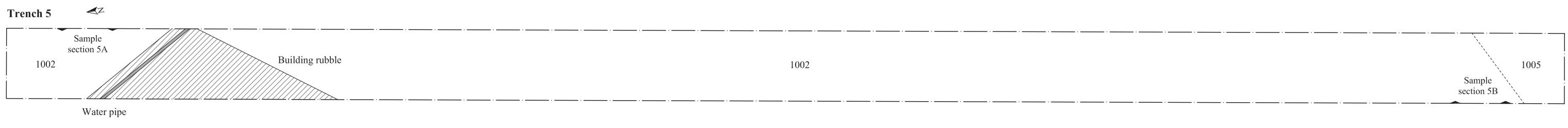
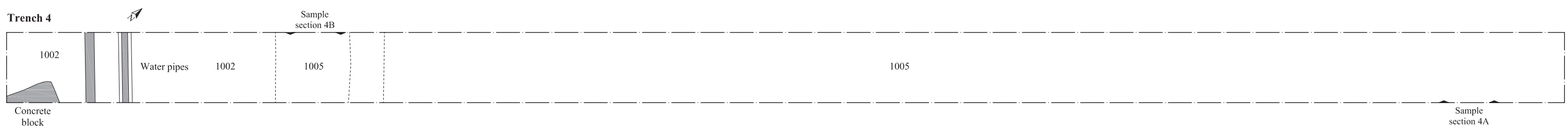
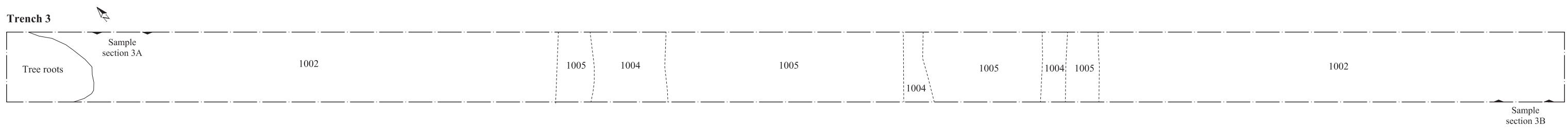
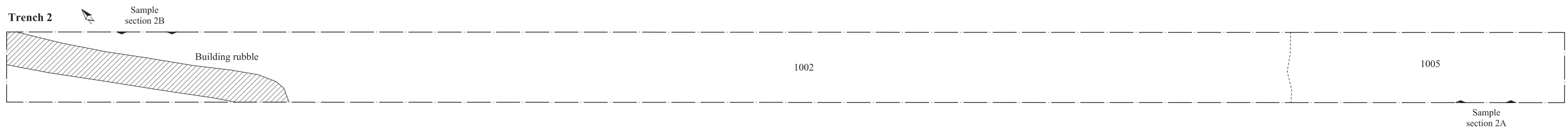
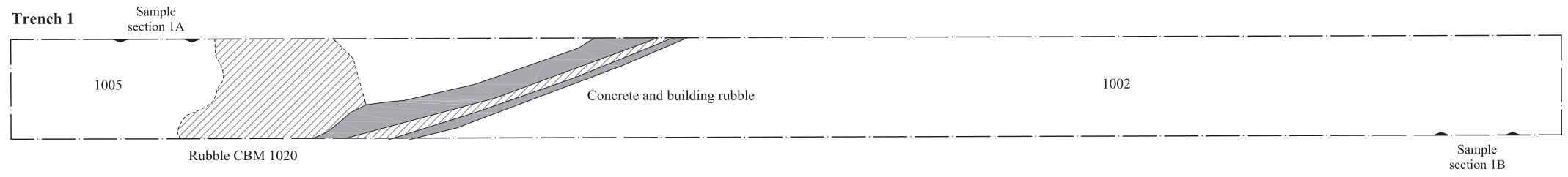


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Fig. 3 Proposed development plan

Scale 1:1000 at A4

37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire (P7191)

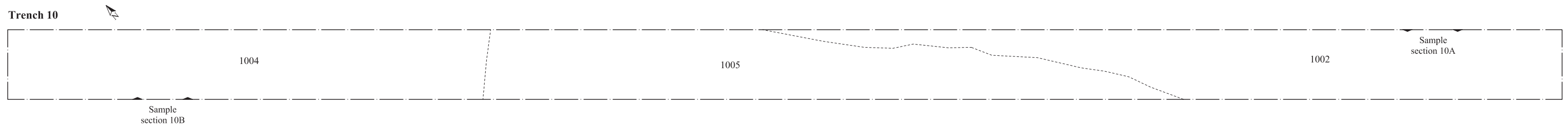
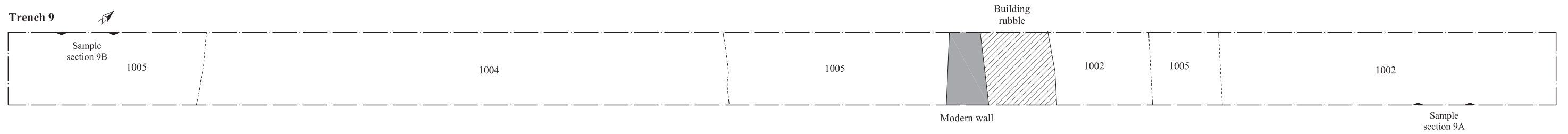
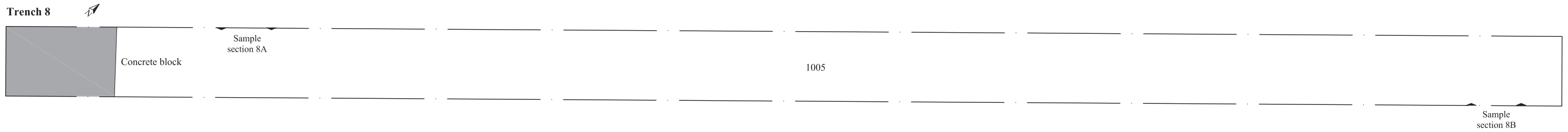
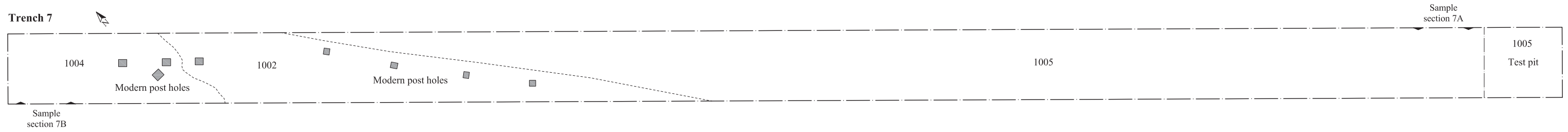
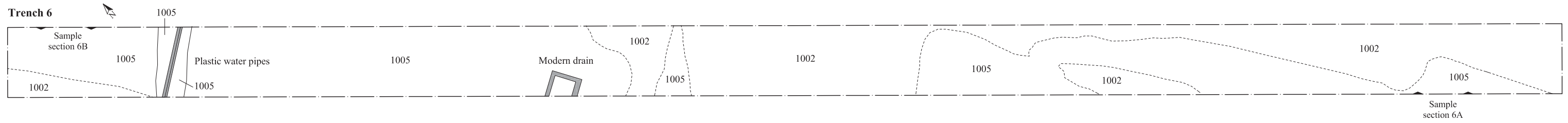


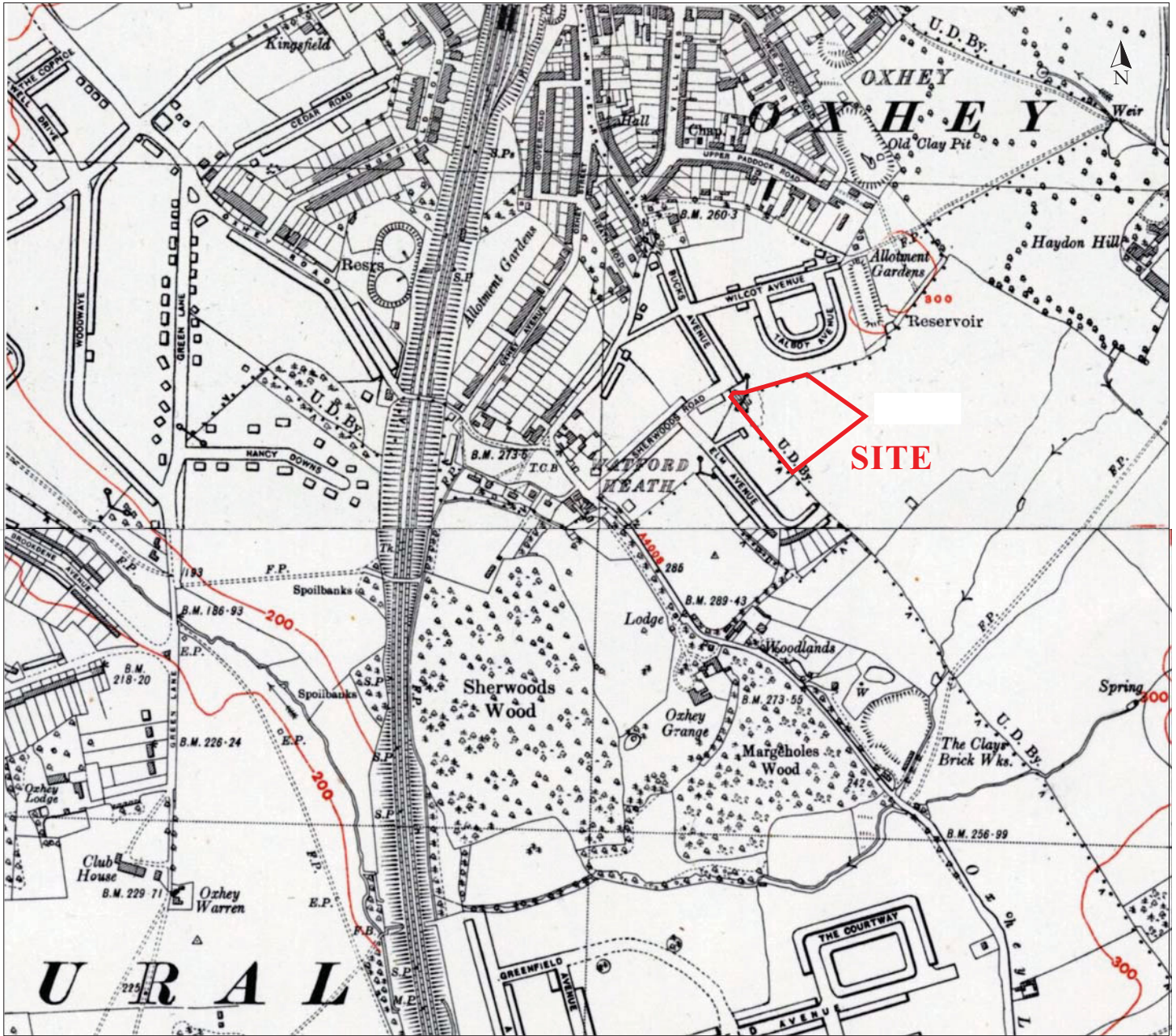
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Fig. 4 Trench plans

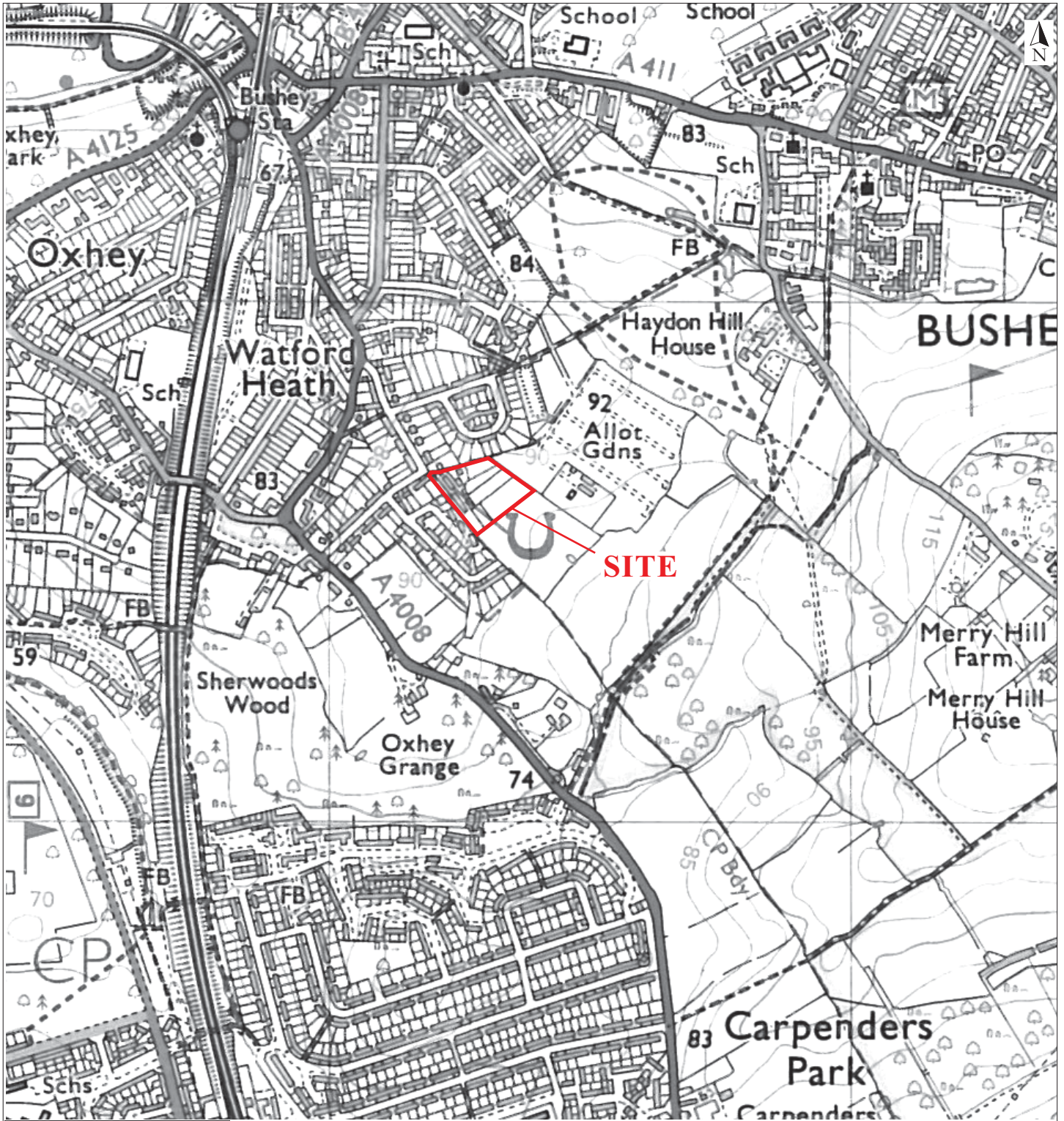
Scale 1:100 at A3

37 Bucks Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire (P7191)





<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i></p> <p>Fig. 6 OS map, 1938</p> <p>Not to scale</p> <p>37 Bucks Ave, Watford, Hertfordshire (P7191)</p>



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Fig. 7 Detail of local area
 Not to scale
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