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**UNIT 3A & 3B GREAT NOTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE,
HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE SG14 1QW**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Hertfordshire HER request No. 168/18

Authors: Keeley-Jade Diggons (Fieldwork and report) Kate Higgs MA (Oxon.) (Background research)	
NGR: 532466 212852	Report No: 5700
District: East Herts	Site Code: AS1962
Approved: Claire Halpin MCIfA	Project No: P7793
	Date: 31 October 2018

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Project name	UNIT 3A & 3B GREAT NOTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE SG14 1QW		
<p><i>In October 2018 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ekins and Co, 3A, Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW (NGR 532466 212852; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a two storey detached building for office use in accordance with user classes B1, B2 and B8 (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/17/0471/FUL), based on the advice of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT).</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, as noted on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), within an area designated as Area of Archaeological Significance No. 62 on the Local Plan. This identifies the extent of the historic core of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval town of Hertford. Early modern historic cartographic sources suggest that the site remained relatively undeveloped despite its proximity to Cowbridge Railway Station and McMullens Brewery. Janelle House is a Grade II listed former furniture showroom, now building contractor's offices built c. 1905 and commonly known as the Great Northern Works.</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed a pit (F1000) and an undated ditch (F1004). The date of the pit was not positively established; it contained a crumb of post-medieval CBM. Of most interest is the large ditch F1002. It was 3.88m wide and 0.72m+ deep, and orientated NE / SW. Its date is uncertain as it contained medieval (late 12th – 14th century) pottery (2; 32g) and post-medieval CBM (267g).</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	October 2018		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	TBC
P. number	P7793	Site code	AS1962
Type of project	Archaeological evaluation		
Site status	Area of Archaeological Significance No. 62 & Grade II listed building		
Current land use	Vacant		
Planned development	Office		
Main features (+dates)	Ditches, pit		
Significant finds (+dates)	Medieval (late 12 th – 14 th C) pottery		
	Hertfordshire	East Herts	Hertford
HER/ SMR for area	Hertfordshire (HER request No. 168/18)		
Post code (if known)	SG14 1QW		
Area of site	380 ^{m2}		
NGR	532466 212852		
Height AOD (min/max)	c. 39m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	Advice. Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT)		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Archaeological Solutions		
Funded by	Great Northern Works Ltd		
Full title	Units 3A & 3B Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW. An Archaeological Evaluation		
Authors	Diggons, K.-J. & Higgs, K.		
Report no.	5700		
Date (of report)	October 2018		

UNIT 3A & 3B GREAT NOTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE SG14 1QW AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In October 2018 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ekins and Co, 3A, Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW (NGR 532466 212852; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a two storey detached building for office use in accordance with user classes B1, B2 and B8 (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/17/0471/FUL), based on the advice of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT).

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, as noted on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), within an area designated as Area of Archaeological Significance No. 62 on the Local Plan. This identifies the extent of the historic core of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval town of Hertford. Early modern historic cartographic sources suggest that the site remained relatively undeveloped despite its proximity to Cowbridge Railway Station and McMullens Brewery. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, which dates to 1898, depicts the site as wholly undeveloped, yet it presumably consisted of a good yard associated with the railway to the immediate north, or the brewery to the immediate east. In contrast, the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map, which dates to 1923, clearly labels the site as a 'Joinery Works' and depicts no less than seven standing structures within the site. The footprints of the structures depicted in 1923 within the site are almost entirely consistent with those present today within the site, particularly the footprint of Janelle House, which stands in the south-eastern corner of the site.

Janelle House is a Grade II listed former furniture showroom, now building contractor's offices built c. 1905 and commonly known as the Great Northern Works. The historic building listing for the Great Northern Works describes the structure as being constructed from brick covered by stucco and artificial stone, with Welsh slated and flat roofs behind a parapet. The exterior is described as having a symmetrical facade, two storeys ends, with long single storey centre, and built in the Italianate style. The historical note also reveals that the structure within the south-eastern corner of the site was built as commercial premises on the approach to the former Cowbridge Railway Station, which was demolished c. 1980, and thus takes its name from the Great Northern Railway which served Hertford from 1858. It became the headquarters of a local building contractor, Ekins & Co shortly after its construction, and remains so.

The evaluation revealed a pit (F1000) and an undated ditch (F1004). The date of the pit was not positively established; it contained a crumb of post-medieval CBM. Of most interest is the large ditch F1002. It was 3.88m wide and 0.72m+ deep, and orientated NE / SW. Its date is uncertain as it contained medieval (late 12th – 14th century) pottery (2; 32g) and post-medieval CBM (267g).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2018 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ekins and Co, 3A, Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW (NGR 532466 212852; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a two storey detached building for office use in accordance with user classes B1, B2 and B8 (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/17/0471/FUL), based on the advice of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT).

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with advice issued by HCC HEAT, and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AS (dated 27th September 2018) and approved by CCC HET. It followed the procedures outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2014). It also adhered to the relevant sections of *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The principal objectives of the evaluation included:

- To determine the location, date, extent, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving remains (and palaeoenvironmental remains) liable to be threatened by the proposed development. It will also be important to understand the level of any previous truncation on the site and also to ascertain whether it will be possible to mitigate the development proposals to accommodate any surviving archaeological remains within the area of proposed redevelopment.
- To provide an adequately detailed project report to place the findings of the project in their local and regional context, with reference to the East Anglian Regional Research Frameworks and through relevant background research.

Planning Policy Context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional

circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site is located to the immediate north of historic core of the county town of Hertford (Figs. 1 & 2). It lies within the area between Hartham Common, the River Beane and Cowbridge. The site is located on the western frontage of Hartham Lane. To the immediate south of the site are properties fronting Cowbridge, while to the north of the site stands are industrial units also fronting Hartham Lane. The western boundary of the site is demarcated by the course of the River Beane which is a tributary of the larger River Lea.

2.2 The site lies within Area of Archaeological Significance No. 62, as identified on the Local Plan. Historic landscape characterisation also describes the site as built upon. The site comprises an irregularly shaped plot of land covering an area of 380m². It is currently occupied by a range of industrial structures and open areas of Ekins Yard, while in the south-eastern corner of the site stands Janelle House, which is a Grade II listed former furniture showroom, now building contractor's offices built c. 1905 and commonly known as the Great Northern Works (List Entry No.: 1268882; Appendix 1).

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The River Lea flows through the settlement of Hertford and the town lies close to the confluence of the River Lea and four of its tributaries; the Ash, Beane, Rib and Mimram rivers. The site lies within the floor of the valley of the Lea and along the eastern bank of the course of the River Beane, which is a tributary of the larger River Lea. Situated at approximately 38m AOD, the site has a relief gently sloping towards the west, which has been subject to previous development and levelling.

3.2 The local geological conditions of the site are therefore characterised by floodplains and river terrace gravels, overlying the glaciofluvial drift geology created by glacial and river action (Kiln & Partridge 1994). The soils of the site comprise those of the Ludford Association, which are described as deep, well drained fine loamy, coarse loamy and sandy soils, which are locally flinty and in places overlie gravel (SSEW 1983). It is also noted that such soils of the Ludford association are at slight risk of water erosion.

3.2 The town of Hertford has been subject to extensive previous archaeological investigation, particularly the Hartham Lane and Cowbridge area in the immediate vicinity of the site. In particular, McMullens Brewery, which is to the immediate east of the site and is now partially occupied by Sainsbury's supermarket, has been subject to a number of previous archaeological investigations (HERs EHT6735, EHT6736, EHT7144, EHT7457, EHT7458 & EHT7498). The latter commonly found recorded the presence of peat and alluvial deposits only in the extreme south-eastern corner of the McMullens site, which was associated with a palaeochannel of the river (HER 30244). Most recently, monitoring retrieved a timber pale of probably late 19th century origin from the river bank. (Pozorski 2012). It also revealed a mid brown, loose, silty sand made ground (0.25 – 0.50m thick) overlying the earlier deposits of made ground. Natural river gravel was present at 0.40 – 2.10m below existing and comprised grey, loose, gravel of probable Devensian or very early post-glacial age (*ibid.*).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 Hertford's strategic position at the confluence and fording point of the Rivers Lea, Beane and Mimram has ensured a long and sustained occupation of the local area (Bryant & Seddon 1999). The lighter gravels and fertile alluvial plains have long attracted settlement, and it is likely that the area was successively cleared and settled permanently from the Mesolithic period onwards. Early remains from the Palaeolithic period are occasionally present in the gravels of the Hertford area (Oakley 1947), yet none are known from the immediate surroundings of the site. Mesolithic scatters, representing the first permanent exploitation of the landscape (Kiln & Partridge 1994), have also been noted in the Hertford area.

4.2 Archaeological material of the Neolithic period is generally confined to the higher ground around the town, reflecting an expansion into the heavier clays. Scattered finds have been recorded on the gravels overlooking the river valley and are augmented by the largest assemblage in the region, from Foxholes Farm. Excavations at Foxholes Farm, located 2km to the south-east of the site, revealed an extensive area of occupation dating from the Mesolithic to the late Iron Age. Regional studies have demonstrated a marked increase in pressure on the Boulder Clay edges during the middle and later Bronze Age, suggesting that the fertile river valleys were being more fully exploited in the first millennium BC.

4.3 During the Bronze Age, the first signs of permanent settlement were recovered at Foxholes Farm, including an early Bronze Age cremation and a Deverel-Rimbury type burial (Partridge 1989), yet no Bronze Age finds are known from proximity of the site. Iron Age occupation at Foxholes Farm comprised an enclosure and roundhouse, which were succeeded by two large rectilinear enclosures and a probable rectilinear post-built structure. Despite the variety of prehistoric remains known from the Hertford area, no prehistoric finds have been recovered from a 250m radius of the site.

Romano-British

4.4 Little evidence of Romano-British settlement had been recovered in Hertford, despite the character of the region as a whole, with a major settlement at Verulamium, lesser nucleated centres and a developed villa economy. The nearby 'town' of Braughing probably originated as a Belgic emporium in the later Iron Age, with a port or daughter settlement eventually evolving at Ware to provide access to the river. Conditions further west at Hertford probably comprised no more than a small rural farmstead. Ware and Braughing probably disappeared by the early 5th century.

4.5 At Foxholes Farm, in contrast, excavation prior to gravel extraction in the 1970s produced an extensive area of Roman occupation and agricultural evidence dating from the 2nd to the later 4th century AD (Partridge 1989). Closer to the site, excavations at Millbridge revealed Roman occupation ploughmarks, a sub-circular ditched enclosure, flint cobbling, and groups of post- and stake-holes, which may represent structures and parts of fence lines, as well as an urned cremation dated c. AD40 - 65 (HER 9881, Zeepvat 1996). Traces of settlement have been discovered in St Andrew's Street spanning the 1st and 2nd centuries, which is supported by Roman pottery from Maidenhead Street (HER 1400).

Anglo-Saxon

4.6 Early historical sources however, mention Hertford as a place of some importance by the later 7th century. The Northumbrian scholar Bede (d. 735) recorded the convening of two church synods at *Herutford* in 673 and *Hæthfelth* in 675 by Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury (d. 690). Historians have naturally linked these places with modern Hertford and Hatfield by virtue of their proximity and later importance, though considerable doubt has been cast on the validity of this identification. During the 9th century, the river Lea became an important boundary between the Danish and West Saxon-controlled areas of England, which was permanently defined following the Treaty of Wedmore in 878. During the subsequent reconquest of the Danelaw by King Edward the Elder (899-925) the nucleus of the modern town may have been founded. Under entries for the years 912 and 914, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records the construction of fortified burhs to the south and north of the river, which regulated navigation and protected the approaches to the crossing.

4.7 Later Anglo-Saxon evidence is attested at sites within Hertford, although most of the material derives from the southern burh (HERs 2121, 6428, 6528, 9886). A section of ditch discovered at Bircherley Green may form a stretch of the original ramparts. At Millbridge, a waterlogged cess pit and a drainage ditch dating to the 10th - 11th century attests to late Saxon occupation to the immediate north-east of the site (HER 9885). Late Saxon and medieval features discovered at Dolphin Yard, c. 220m to the south-east of the site, consisted of pits, ditches and postholes dated to 10th - 14th century (HER 12038). Evidence of an inner moat to a possible Saxon castle has been found at The Wash (HER 12141), yet nothing has been found of the mint believed to have existed in Hertford by the 10th -11th centuries.

Medieval

4.8 After the foundation of Hertford town, its prosperity and success were assured for several centuries by its designation as the administrative centre of the new shire, and the creation of a royal castle as one of many strategic focal points which ringed the capital in the Norman period (HER 2; Heath 1975). The castle was augmented over time with a hall and eventually palatial ranges in the outer bailey, and was often visited by the king and his court in the 13th and 14th centuries. Hertford Castle, located c. 195m to the south-west of the site, is the only Scheduled Ancient Monument within Hertford and within the environs of the site, and was first documented in 1141 (HER 77; SAM No. 20629).

4.9 The town developed apace, and retains a degree of medieval planning in its street morphology (Gover, Mawer & Stenton 1938). In the period before the Black Death of 1349, records suggest that Hertford was a thriving hub, characterised by a wide variety of trades, a prosperous population and some urban expansion (Page 1912). Even after its economic fortunes were affected by plague, the town was deemed sufficiently important to house the captured King of France after the Battle of Crecy during the Hundred Years' War. Archaeological evidence, however, suggests the abandonment of some street tenements as settlement contracted and a degree of economic poverty is recorded in the 15th century.

4.10 Evidence of medieval occupation has been found at various locations within Hertford including from Parliament Square, Railway Street and St Andrew's Street. Located along the course of the River Lea, Barber's Yard revealed two lines of wooden revetments found with quantities of animal bone, oyster shell and pottery dating to the 12th - 14th centuries (HER 12047). The original site of Dicker Mill, 220m to the north-east, was established by at least the late 12th century and was possibly connected with the Benedictine priory of St Mary Monk (HER 9479). The area surrounding the site contained the medieval churches of St Mary the Less, St John's and St Nicholas' (HERs 2998, 2999 & 4000), the latter of which was abandoned by the early 17th century.

Post-medieval & later

4.11 By the middle of the 16th century, Hertford Castle had become strategically redundant and the palace was increasingly used to house royal children or lesser nobles instead of the king himself. Early maps of the town suggest a degree of shrinkage from areas formerly known to contain buildings, although 16th - 17th century buildings surviving in the town reveal that economic viability was maintained to some degree. With the construction of the Lea Navigation in the early 18th century, the town was once again made accessible for transportation, and a number of wharves, maltings and small industries grew up as a result.

4.12 The post-medieval history of Hertford is very much linked to its trades and renowned brewing industry and the town is known to have had its fortunes revived by the Industrial Revolution. In order to serve the working populace and visiting tradesman, a large number of post-medieval public houses were established within the town and were well-documented in a 1621 borough survey. The advantages of the Lea Navigation's construction and the development of the waterways through

Hertford maintained the town's good fortune in the early modern period. Demand for corn and other products from London stimulated the construction of wharves, maltings and small industries throughout the town, including the McMullens Brewery and Malting located along Hartham Lane (HERs 5375 & 5444). During the 19th century, the construction of the railways also had a tremendous impact on the town, particularly the course of the Great Northern Railway (HER 30405) and the site of the former Cowbridge Railway Station to the immediate north of the site (HER 5523).

The site

4.13 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, as noted on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), within an area identified as Area of Archaeological Significance No. 62 on the Local Plan. The Area encompasses the extent of the historic core of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval town of Hertford. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle places the northern burh has between the Mimram, Beane and Lea rivers and it is likely that the northern limit of the burh lay just to the south of the site (Bryant and Seddon 1999). Unlike the southern burh, there is no evidence for the creation of streets or property boundaries within, whilst the exact location of the burh remains unknown. The church of St Mary the Less c. 145m south of the site may have been located on the line of defences of the burh and therefore it may have had Anglo-Saxon origins (MoLAS 2007). The possible site of the royal manor is located c. 100m south of the site (HER 9897).

4.14 The area of the site was likely undeveloped in the medieval period as by the early 17th century Hertford was a town with many empty tenements and vacant plots. The earliest known cartographic evidence of the area (AD 1610) shows the site as open land located beyond the town limits. The Hertford and Welwyn Junction of the Great Northern Railway (HER 30405) opened in 1858 and the site of the former Cowbridge Railway Station lay to the immediate north of the site (HER 5523). The extant, Grade II listed McMullens Brewery to the immediate east of the site was built in 1891 when the business moved from Railway Street. The brewery occupied the western, triangular plot and was designed by William Bradford. The railway was dismantled in 1960s and the station demolished in early 1980s, when it was superseded by the construction of further brewery buildings.

4.15 Early modern historic cartographic sources suggest that the site remained relatively undeveloped despite its proximity to Cowbridge Railway Station and McMullens Brewery. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, which dates to 1898 (Fig.4), depicts the site as wholly undeveloped, likely a goods yard associated with the railway to the immediate north, or the brewery to the immediate east. In contrast, the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1923 (Fig.5), clearly labels the site as a 'Joinery Works' and depicts no less than seven standing structures within the area of the site. The footprints of the structures depicted in 1923 within the site are almost entirely consistent with those present today within the site, particularly the footprint of Janelle House, which stands in the south-eastern corner of the site.

4.16 Janelle House is a Grade II listed former furniture showroom, now building contractor's offices built c. 1905 and commonly known as the Great Northern Works (List Entry No.: 1268882; Appendix 1). The historic building listing for the Great Northern Works describes the structure as being constructed from brick covered by

stucco and artificial stone, with Welsh slated and flat roofs behind a parapet. The exterior is described as having a symmetrical facade, two storeys ends, with long single storey centre, and built in the Italianate style. The historical note also reveals that the structure within the south-eastern corner of the site was built as commercial premises on the approach to the former Cowbridge Railway Station, which was demolished c. 1980, and thus takes its name from the Great Northern Railway which served Hertford from 1858. It became the headquarters of a local building contractor, Ekins & Co shortly after its construction, and remains so.

4.17 Extensive investigations were carried out by AS when part of the adjacent McMullens Brewery to the immediate east was developed for the new Sainsbury supermarket. The majority of the brewery site revealed a high level of fairly modern truncation. The northern part was affected by development of the railway while the area to the west was heavily truncated by the 20th century brewery structures. The eastern area also contained early modern and modern truncation including building foundations, services and an underground tank. No archaeological remains survived and the only area of archaeological and geoarchaeological potential was located along the river within the eastern and south-eastern outskirts of the brewery site. An alluvial deposit in the north-eastern part of the brewery site was recorded during the geoarchaeological investigation. The alluvium was disturbed in upper levels by modern intrusions. A timber pale pulled out during the works at the river bank was likely of late 19th century or later origin and probably was related to industrial development of the site by McMullens Brewery.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The evaluation provided for a sample of the site to be trial trenched and focussed on the new building footprint. One trench of 10m x 1.8m was excavated.

5.2 The archaeological investigation comprised 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. The excavated spoil was checked for finds.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The individual trench description is presented below

Trench 1 Fig. 2 - 3

Sample Section 1.2		
0.00 = 39.56m AOD		
0.00 – 0.36m	M1012	Brick Wall
0.36 – 0.62m	M1006	Concrete base for Brick Wall
0.62 – 1.03m	L1005	Fill of Ditch F1004. Friable, mid to dark yellow grey brown sandy silt with moderate small sub-rounded gravel.
1.03m +	L1011	Natural. Firm to friable, mid brownish yellow silty clay to sandy silt with occasional small – medium sized sub-angular and sub rounded flint and frequent small sub rounded flints.

Sample Section 1.2 0.00 = 39.56m AOD		
0.00 – 0.04m	L1016	Surface. Friable, light brownish grey silt with frequent small pebbles and flint.
0.04 – 0.20m	M1012	Brick Wall
0.20 – 0.55m	L1006	Concrete base for Brick Wall
0.55 – 0.61m	L1009	Subsoil. Friable, mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional small pebbles.
0.61m +	L1011	Natural. As Above.

Sample Section 1.3 0.00 = 39.32m AOD		
0.00 – 0.81m	L1015	Fill of Construction F1014. Friable, dark brown grey sand with frequent medium to large sized sub-rounded flint and mixed rubble.
0.81 – 1.33m	L1003	Fill of Ditch F1002. Friable, mid brownish grey silty sand with frequent small to medium sized pebbles and sub-rectangular flint and moderate large-sized pebbles and sub-rectangular flint.
1.33m +	L1011	Natural. As Above.

Sample Section 1.4 0.00 = 39.56m AOD		
0.00 – 0.04m	L1013	Tarmac.
0.04 – 0.46m	L1010	Made Ground Layer. As above.
0.46 – 1.18m	L1003	Fill of Ditch. As Above.
1.18m +	L1011	Natural. As Above.

Sample Section 2 0.00 = 39.32m AOD		
0.00 – 0.58m	L1010	Made Ground. Friable, dark brownish grey silty sand with frequent small to medium sized sub-rounded and sub-rectangular flint.
0.58 – 0.91m	L1001	Fill of Pit F1000. Friable, mixed mid grey brown/mid brown yellow sandy silt with moderate small sub-rounded flint.
0.91m +	L1011	Natural. As Above.

Description: Trench 1 contained Ditches F1002 and F1004, Pit F1000, Service Cut F1007 and Wall M1012. Ditch F1002 contained two sherds of medieval (late 12th – 14th century) pottery and post-medieval CBM (267g), and Pit F1000 also contained post-medieval CBM.

Large Ditch F1002 was linear in plan (2.00+ x 3.88+ x 0.72m+), orientated NE/SW. It had moderately sloping sides and its base was unseen due to its large size and the constraints of the trench. Its fill, L1003, was a friable, mid brownish grey silty sand with frequent small to medium sized, and frequent large sized, pebbles and sub-rectangular flint. It contained medieval (late 12th – 14th century) pottery (2; 32g) and post-medieval CBM (267g). F1002 was cut by Construction Cut F1014.

Ditch F1004 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 1.70+ x 0.40m), orientated E/W. It had moderate to gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1005, was a friable, mid to dark yellow grey brown sandy silt with moderate small sized rub-rectangular gravel. It contained no finds.

Pit F1000 was sub-circular in plan (0.30+ x 0.80 x 0.33m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1001, was a friable, mixed mid grey brown, mid brown yellow sandy silt with moderate sub-rounded flint. It contained animal bone (10g) and post-medieval CBM (2g).

Service Cut F1007 was linear in plan (1.8m+ x 0.15 x 0.1m+), orientated E/W. It had steep to near vertical sides. Its fill, L1008, was a firm, mid brown grey sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments and small sub-rounded stones. It contained cabling.

Wall M1012 (5.00 x 0.20 x 0.40m) was constructed using red frogged bricks bonded with mid yellow mixed sand and cement mortar, L1017. The wall was laid on Concrete Foundation L1016 and the construction cut was visible, F1014. The fill of the latter, L1015, was a friable, dark brown grey sand with frequent medium to large sub-rounded flint and mixed rubble.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors significantly inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 A surface (L1016), Tarmac (L1013), made ground (L1010) and a concrete base (M1006) overlay a subsoil (L1009, a friable, mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional small pebbles) and the archaeological features.

8.2 At the base of the sequence was the natural, L1011, a firm to friable, mid brownish yellow silty clay to sandy silt with occasional small – medium sized sub-angular and sub rounded flint and frequent small sub rounded flints (0.61 – 1.33m below the present day ground surface).

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

Trench	Context	Description	Spot Date
1	F1000	Pit	Post medieval CBM
	F1002	Ditch	2 Sherds of medieval (late 12 th – 14 th century) pottery and post-medieval CBM
	F1004	Ditch	-
	F1007	Service Cut	Modern
	M1012	Brick Wall	Modern (20 th C)

9.2 The site lies within the historic core of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval town of Hertford. The town grew from the foundation of northern and southern 'burhs' in the early part of the 10th century. The north western burh is believed to have been located in the area of St Andrew Street, Cowbridge and Brewhouse Lane, and the south eastern burh centred on Fore Street and Market Street. The settlement was recorded as of considerable size by the time of Domesday. The current site has the potential to be located on the edge of the northern 'burh'. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle places the northern burh between the Mimram, Beane and Lea rivers and it is likely that the northern limit of the burh lay within the southern part of the site or just to the south (Bryant and Seddon 1999).

9.3 The current proposed development site was believed to have been truncated across much of the site by cellars associated with the previous McMullens Brewery, though the area where the new building is proposed was believed to have been subject to less obvious truncation and this proved to be the case.

9.4 The evaluation revealed a pit (F1000) and an undated ditch (F1004). The date of the pit was not positively established; it contained a crumb of post-medieval CBM. Of most interest is the large ditch F1002. It was 3.88m wide and 0.72m+ deep, and its conjectured orientation is NE / SW. Its date is uncertain as it contained medieval (late 12th – 14th century) pottery (2; 32g) and post-medieval CBM (267g). The approximate location and scale of the ditch, taking into account subsequent truncation, is consistent with that postulated for the northern boundary of the northern burh at Hertford. The low quantities of medieval pottery and other artefacts may be explained by the gradual infill of a significant landscape feature that may have continued to act as a drainage channel within the subsequent medieval period. However the apparent orientation of the ditch (NE / SW) is the opposite of that postulated and expected for the burh ditch, perpendicular between the Rivers Beane and Lea (i.e. NW / SE) (Bryant & Seddon 1999: Figs. 2 & 4). Thus if Ditch F2002 is to be suspected of comprising the burh ditch then perhaps the burgh had a less regular or more rhomboid plan than postulated. The date of the ditch and its association with the burh cannot be conclusively defined without the presence of late Saxon pottery. The site remained a short distance beyond the postulated extent of the medieval and post-medieval towns (until the arrival of the railway), therefore the ditch may have acted as a drainage channel. The specific location of such a feature dictates that there is a high likelihood and potential for the ditch to provide further confirmation of the presence of a boundary for the northern burh.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

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 Great Northern Works Ltd for funding the works.

AS would like to acknowledge the input and advice of Dr Simon Wood of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT).

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APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC BUILDING LISTING

GREAT NORTHERN WORKS

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1268882

Date first listed: 09-Sep-1996

Statutory Address: GREAT NORTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE

Location

Statutory Address: GREAT NORTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE

The building or site itself may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County: Hertfordshire

District: East Hertfordshire (District Authority)

Parish: Hertford

National Grid Reference: TL 32441 12825

Summary

TL3212NW HARTHAM LANE 817-1/16/99 (West side) Great Northern Works

GV II

Former furniture showroom, now building contractor's offices. c1905. Brick covered by stucco and artificial stone, Welsh slated and flat roofs behind parapet. PLAN/EXTERIOR: symmetrical facade, 2 storeys ends, with long single storey centre. Italianate style. End pavilions have rusticated ground floor, plat band, fascia and cornice, and blank parapets concealing Welsh-slated roofs. Centre breaks forward with closely spaced wooden sash windows, with plate glass, ground and first floors. Entrance doors half glazed above two panels, left of windows respectively. Centre has arcade with stucco Tuscan columns forming loggia, 5 bays, with responds left and right, with 1:2:2:1 columns. Entablature with lower fascia, deep upper fascia cornice and parapet. Recessed front with wood pilasters as responds to those of arcade, timber windows, 2 to left of centre triple full length with mullions, transoms and square upper lights with radiating glazing bars around central circle; 2 to right similar, but with late C20 blank lower panels. Twin leaf timber half glazed doors with fanlight above in centre bay. Rear elevations with fletton brickwork, and with basement and excavated area. INTERIOR: not inspected. HISTORICAL NOTE: built as commercial premises on the approach to the former Cowbridge Station (demolished c1980), the building takes its name from the Great Northern Railway which served Hertford from 1858. It became the headquarters of a local building contractor, Ekins & Co shortly after its construction, and remains so.

Listing NGR: TL3244112825

5 ddYbX]l ' &! ' Concordance of Finds

AS1962 - P7793, Units 3A + 3B Northern Works, Hartham Lane Hertford

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
1000	1001		1	Fill of Pit				2	10			
1002	1003		1	Fill of Ditch	Late 12th-Late 14th C	2	32	267				

APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Pottery

Peter Thompson

The archaeological evaluation recovered two body sherds of Hertfordshire grey ware (HGW) weighing 32g from Ditch F1002 (L1003). The sherds date to between the late 12th and late 14th centuries (Blackmore and Pearce 2010, 204-206). The lightly abraded sherds are not conjoining but probably from the same cooking pot; the latter indicated by charcoal residue on the outer surface.

Methodology

The sherds were examined in keeping with the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001). The Fabric code in brackets is taken from the Hertfordshire pottery type series.

Bibliography

Blackmore, L. and Pearce, J. 2010 *A Dated Series of London Medieval Pottery: Part 5 Shelly-Sandy Ware and the Greyware Industries* Museum of London Monograph 49

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J. 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of three fragments (269g) of post-medieval CBM in a poorly-preserved, highly abraded condition. They included two fragments of soft red brick from Ditch F1002 (L1003), which did not preserve any extant dimensions but exhibited a smooth base and slightly rounded arrises. A further small fragment in a comparable fabric from Pit F1000 (L1001) could only be classified as a 'crumb'. The fabric of the CBM is well-fired red-orange brick earth tempered with common medium sand; however no further conclusions could be drawn on technology or chronology due to the limited preservation and quantity of material.

APPENDIX 4 HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	UNIT 3A & 3B GREAT NOTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE SG14 1QW
County: Hertfordshire	District: East Herts
Village/Town:	Parish: Hertford
Planning application reference:	EHDC Planning Ref. 3/17/0471/FUL
Client name/address	Great Northern Works Ltd
Nature of application:	Office
Present land use:	Open ground
Size of application area: 380m ²	Size of area investigated c.20m ²
NGR (8 figures):	532466 212852
Site Code:	AS 1962
Site Organisation:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Archaeological Evaluation
Date of work:	25 th October 2018
Location of Curating museum:	Hertford
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: Medieval
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	None
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p><i>In October 2018 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ekins and Co, 3A, Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW (NGR 532466 212852; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a two storey detached building for office use in accordance with user classes B1, B2 and B8 (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/17/0471/FUL), based on the advice of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT).</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed a pit (F1000) and an undated ditch (F1004). The date of the pit was not positively established; it contained a crumb of post-medieval CBM. Of most interest is the large ditch F1002. It was 3.88m wide and 0.72m+ deep, and orientated NE / SW. Its date is uncertain as it contained medieval (late 12th – 14th century) pottery (2; 32g) and post-medieval CBM (267g).</i></p>
Author of summary: Keeley-Jade Diggons	Date of Summary: October 2018

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OASIS ID: archaeol7-332361

Project details

Project name	UNIT 3A and 3B GREAT NOTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE (TT)
Short description of the project	In October 2018 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ekins and Co, 3A, Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW (NGR 532466 212852; Figs. 1 - 2). The evaluation was undertaken to provide for the initial requirements of a planning condition attached to planning approval for the proposed construction of a two storey detached building for office use in accordance with user classes B1, B2 and B8 (EHDC Planning Ref. 3/17/0471/FUL), based on the advice of Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisory Team (HCC HEAT). The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, as noted on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), within an area designated as Area of Archaeological Significance No. 62 on the Local Plan. This identifies the extent of the historic core of the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval town of Hertford. Early modern historic cartographic sources suggest that the site remained relatively undeveloped despite its proximity to Cowbridge Railway Station and McMullens Brewery. Janelle House is a Grade II listed former furniture showroom, now building contractor's offices built c. 1905 and commonly known as the Great Northern Works. The evaluation revealed a pit (F1000) and an undated ditch (F1004). The date of the pit was not positively established; it contained a crumb of post-medieval CBM. Of most interest is the large ditch F1002. It was 3.88m wide and 0.72m+ deep, and orientated NE / SW. Its date is uncertain as it contained medieval (late 12th - 14th century) pottery (2; 32g) and post-medieval CBM (267g)
Project dates	Start: 01-10-2018 End: 31-10-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	P7793 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	AS1962 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	PITS AND DITCHES Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural commercial
Prompt	Planning condition

Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country England

Site location HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE HERTFORD UNIT 3A and 3B GREAT NOTHERN WORKS, HARTHAM LANE, HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE SG14 1QW

Postcode SG14 1QZ

Study area 380 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 3246 1285 51.798123546913 -0.078876201871 51 47 53 N 000 04 43 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 39m Max: 39m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Solutions Ltd

Project brief originator Hertfordshire County Council County Archaeology Office

Project design originator Jon Murray

Project director/manager Jon Murray

Project supervisor Archaeological Solutions

Type of sponsor/funding body Great Northern Works Ltd

Name of sponsor/funding body Great Northern Works Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Hertford Museum

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Hertford Museum

Digital Contents "Ceramics","Animal Bones"

Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Hertford Museum

Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Units 3A and 3B Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QW. An Archaeological Evaluation

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX (P7793)



1
Trench 1 looking south



2
Trench 1 looking north



3
Pit F1000



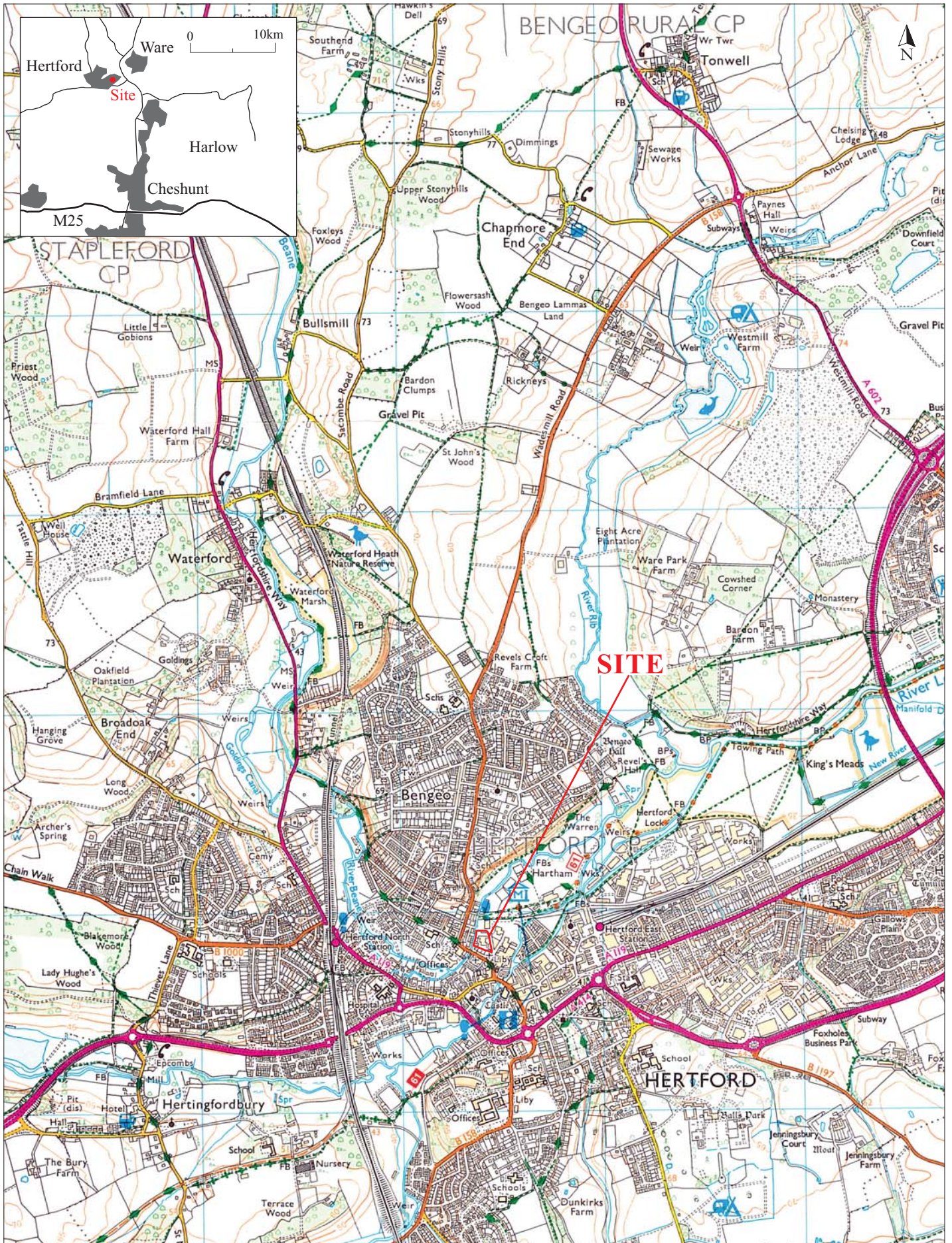
4
Ditch F1002 and Footings F1014



5
Ditch F1004



6
Wall M1012 in east section of trench



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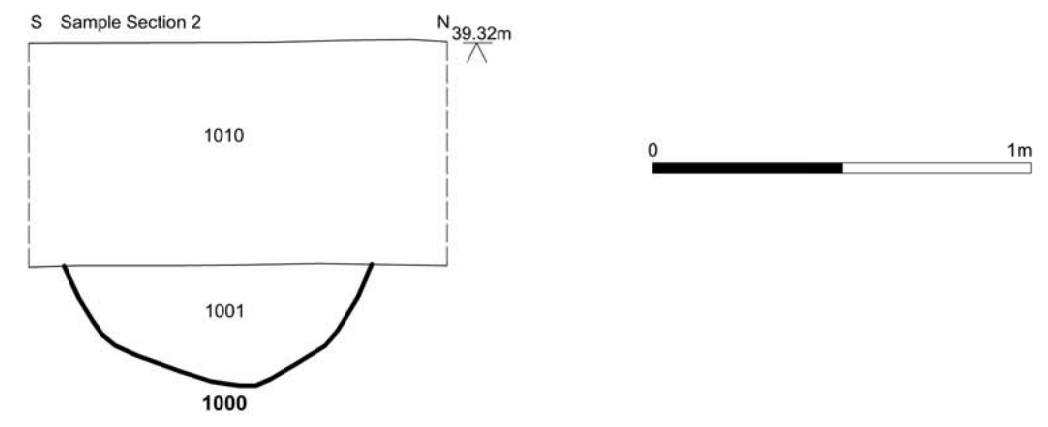
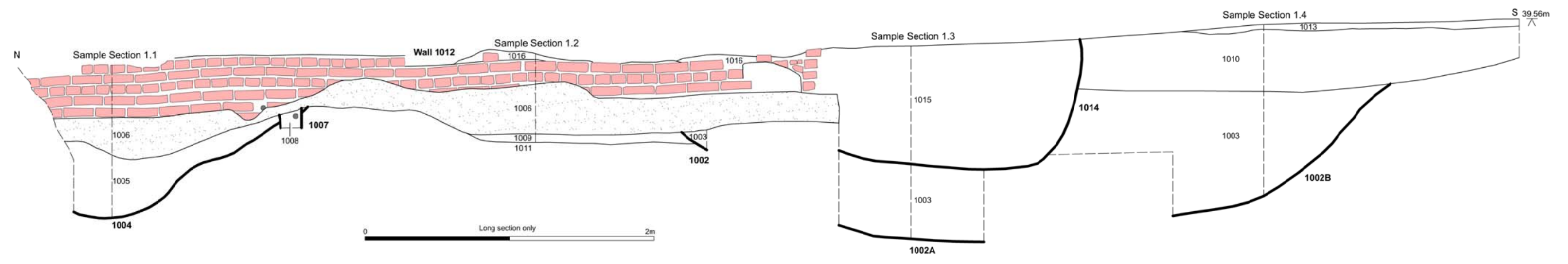
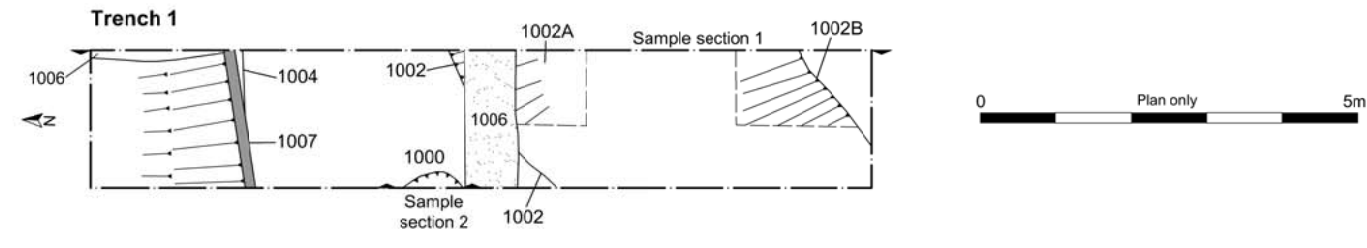
Fig. 1 Site location plan

Scale 1:25,000 at A4

Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford (P7793)

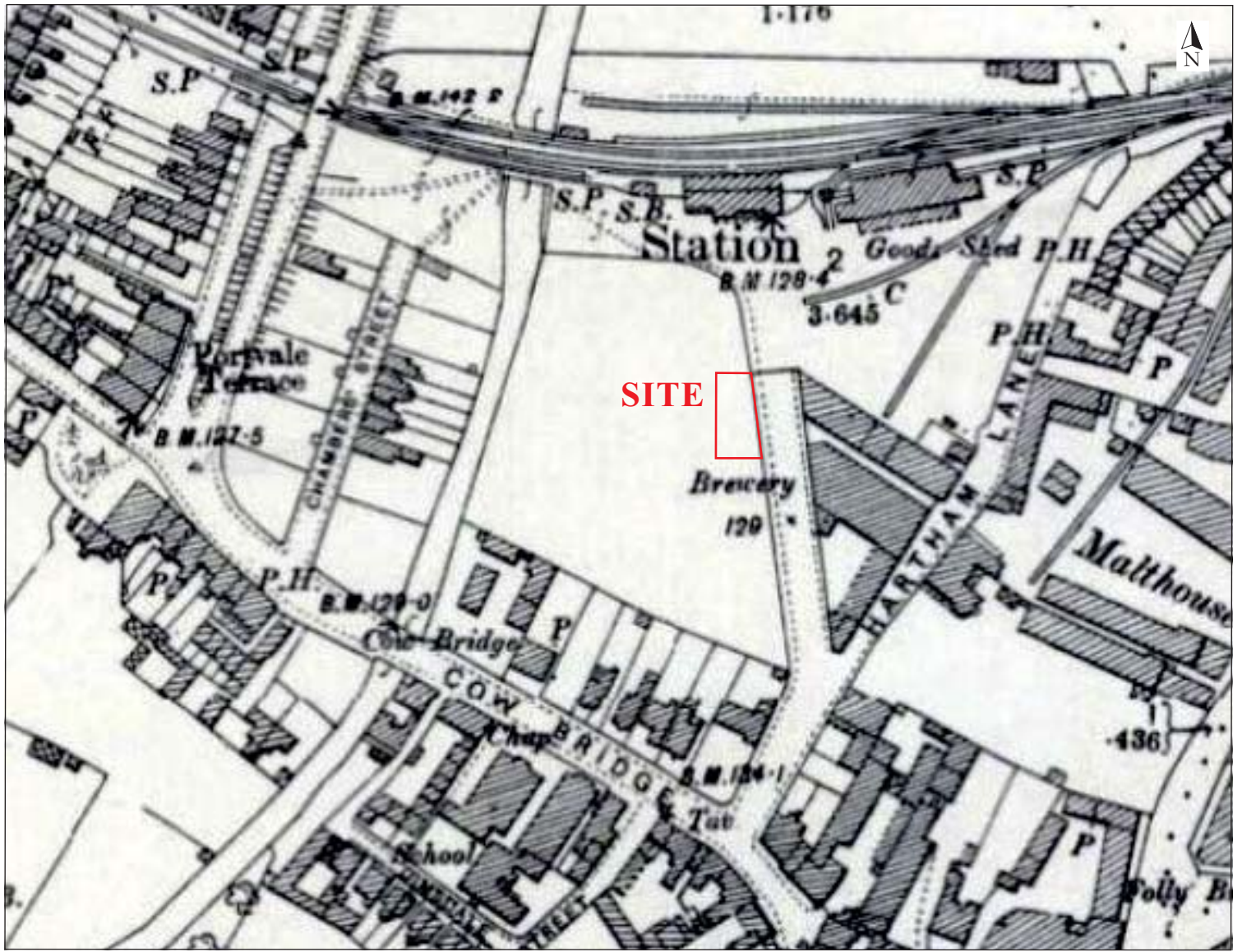


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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:600 at A4
 Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford (P7793)

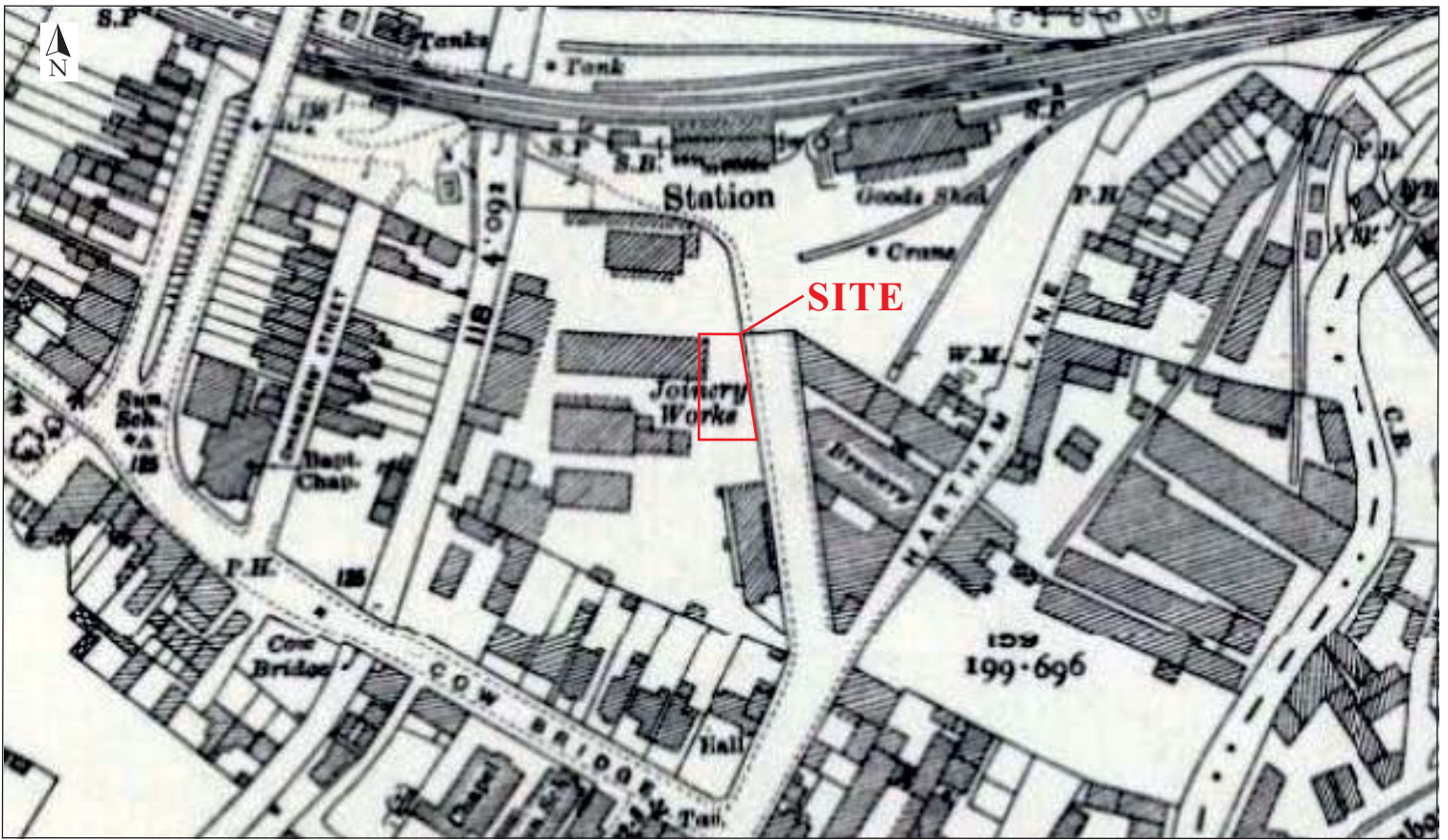


● █ Service pipe

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Fig. 3 Trench plan and sections
 Scale Plan 1:100, long section 1:30, short section 1:20 at A3
 Great Northern Works, Hertford (P7793)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 4 1898 OS map
Not to scale
Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford (P7793)



<i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd</i>
Fig. 5 1923 OS map
Not to scale
Great Northern Works, Hartham Lane, Hertford (P7793)