
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**GREAT BARN AND OUTBUILDINGS,
CASTLE HILL FARM, CASTLE HILL,
BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,
INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING**

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NGR: SP 9904 0880	Report No. 3135
Parish: Berkhamsted	Site Code: AS 1003
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 2634
Signed:	Date: July 2008

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CONTENTS

	OASIS SUMMARY SHEET
	SUMMARY
1	INTRODUCTION
2	SITE DESCRIPTION
3	TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY & SOILS
4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND
5	METHODOLOGY
6	RESULTS
7	CONFIDENCE RATING
8	DEPOSIT MODEL
9	DISCUSSION
	DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
	BIBLIOGRAPHY
APPENDIX 1	HER SUMMARY FORM

OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Great Barn and Outbuildings, Castle Hill Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Observation, Investigation and Recording</i>		
Project description (250 words)			
<i>Between September 2006 and July 2007, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook archaeological monitoring and recording of land at Castle Hill Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (NGR SP 9904 0880). The monitoring was undertaken in advance of conversion and refurbishment of the great barn and associated outbuildings for residential use.</i>			
<i>The programme of monitoring and recording was undertaken within the existing buildings and on the surrounding land. No archaeological finds or features earlier than modern date were present.</i>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>27th September 2006 – 10th July 2007</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>Y</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>2634</i>	Site code	<i>AS1003</i>
Type of project	<i>Archaeological watching brief</i>		
Site status	<i>Area of Archaeological Significance 21. Barn - listed grade II*</i>		
Current land use	<i>Agricultural barn and outbuildings</i>		
Planned development	<i>Conversion and refurbishment for residential use</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>Dacorum</i>	<i>Berkhamsted</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Hertfordshire HER</i>		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site	<i>c. 3500m²</i>		
NGR	<i>SP 9904 0880</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>c. 148m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>HCC CAO</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Archaeological Solutions</i>		
Funded by	<i>Thameside Homes Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Great Barn and Outbuildings, Castle Hill Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Observation, Investigation and Recording</i>		
Authors	<i>Williamson, I., Adams, M., Smith, L.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3135</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>July 2008</i>		

GREAT BARN, CASTLE HILL FARM, CASTLE HILL, BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

SUMMARY

Between September 2006 and July 2007, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook archaeological monitoring and recording of land at Castle Hill Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (NGR SP 9904 0880). The monitoring was undertaken in advance of conversion and refurbishment of the great barn and associated outbuildings for residential use.

The programme of monitoring and recording was undertaken within the existing buildings and on the surrounding land. No archaeological finds or features earlier than modern date were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between September 2006 and July 2007, Archaeological Solutions Limited (AS) carried out a programme of detailed archaeological monitoring and recording at land at Castle Hill Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (NGR SP 9904 0880) (Figs.1-2). The work was commissioned by Thameside Homes Ltd to be undertaken during groundworks associated with the conversion and refurbishment of the great barn and outbuildings for residential use (Planning Refs. 4/02097/03/FUL & 4/02152/04/FUL). The site was also the subject of a previous programme of historic building recording, carried out by AS in 2006, centred on the Great Barn, the results of which are presented as a separate report (Prosser *et al* 2006).

1.2 The archaeological monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with a written scheme of investigation compiled by AS (dated 10/04/2006) and a design brief issued by Hertfordshire County Council County Archaeology Office (HCC CAO, dated 10/04/2006). The works were required to satisfy a planning condition for archaeology on planning approval 4/02097/03/FUL & 4/02152/04/FUL. It also complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (1994, revised 1999), in addition to the relevant sections of the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The principal objective of the project was to recover a record of any archaeological deposits that might be damaged or removed by the development. In order to achieve this aim, the project involved:

- Monitoring of ground reduction and excavation of service trenches;
- Mitigation by a programme of archaeological excavation and recording, if archaeological remains were present.

1.4 All of the above stages and operations were carried out in accordance with MAP2 (EH 1991).

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Castle Hill Farm lies to the north of the historic core of the town of Berkhamsted, which is located in the west of the county of Hertfordshire, within the district of Dacorum (Fig. 1). The settlement of Berkhamsted is situated approximately 6km to the south-east of Tring, *c.* 5km north-west of Hemel Hempstead, and *c.* 7km north-east of Chesham. The site lies to the north-west of the castle at Berkhamsted, on high ground above the valley of the River Bulbourne, which lies *c.* 630m to the south. Directly northwards of the site lies Berkhamsted Common, whilst barely 40m to the south lie the reduced remains of Berkhamsted Place.

2.2 The site at Castle Hill Farm comprises an irregularly shaped plot of land which contains a substantial grade II* listed timber framed barn and associated outbuildings, most of which are arranged around several yards (Fig. 2). The outbuildings include cattle sheds, stables, hen house, cart shed and Dutch barn.

2.3 The site lies within an area designated on the Dacorum BC Local Plan as Area of Archaeological Significance 21. This incorporates the medieval and post-medieval core of the town. Extensive prehistoric and Romano-British remains are also known from the same area of the town.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY & SOILS

3.1 The site lies on high ground above the valley of the river Bulbourne, which lies *c.* 630m to the south, and flows directly through the town (Fig. 1). The Bulbourne was once by far the most important natural water course in the western region of Hertfordshire, but is now overshadowed and diminished by the presence of the 18th century Grand Union Canal, 635m to the south of the site.

3.2 The site is located at a height of *c.* 148m AOD, on ground sloping up away from the castle and town to the south. The site is situated upon the relatively steep Castle Hill, which gives the farm its name, and reaches its highest point of *c.* 180m approximately 1.2km to the north-west. The urban land to the south of the site declines significantly in a southerly and easterly direction forming the Bulbourne valley along which the settlement of Berkhamsted is located. Beyond the town, the local relief is also varied and gently sloping, since the area forms part of the Chiltern Hills.

3.3 The area surrounding both the site and the settlement of Berkhamsted is underlain by geology of Upper Chalk plateau drift (GBS 1979). That is capped locally by deposits of clay-with-flints; a flinty and chalky silty clay drift over the chalk bedrock. Close to the floor of the Bulbourne valley to the south of the site lies the occasional chalky and gravelly river alluvium deposited relatively recently by the river Bulbourne.

3.4 The site is located on the cusp between two different soil associations. The area to the south of the site which includes the majority of Berkhamsted, is located on soils of the Charity 2 association, which are described as well drained flinty fine silty soils in valley bottoms (SSEW 1983). Such Charity 2 association soils also include calcareous fine silty soils over chalk or chalk rubble on valley sides, where they are sometimes shallow. Charity 2 association soils are used in agriculture for cereals, cereal and grassland rotations, permanent

grassland, and some deciduous woodland on steep valley sides.

3.5 The area to the north of Castle Hill Farm is situated on soil of the Batcombe association, which is described as fine silty over clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils. Such soils may also consist of slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging, with some well-drained clayey soils over chalk. Soils of the Batcombe association are suitable agriculturally for cereals, permanent grassland and deciduous woodland (SSEW 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 The settlement of Berkhamsted lies in the Bulbourne river valley, where early activity is known through work on the route of the A41 Berkhamsted bypass. In particular, the area seems to have attracted settlement from the late Bronze Age and Iron Age, with the construction of Grim's Ditch, a bank and ditch construction located to the south of the town that runs along the length of the Bulbourne Valley.

Romano-British

4.2 The route of Akeman Street, connecting St Albans to Alcester passes through Berkhamsted, and it is thought to follow the alignment of the modern High Street. At least two Romano-British villas have been identified within this part of the Bulbourne valley, including one at Northchurch. A second villa is located at Boxmoor, whilst a possible third may be on Berkhamsted Common. Roman buildings have been identified close to Berkhamsted Castle.

Anglo-Saxon

4.3 The district and Hundred of Dacorum, in which the site lies, derived its name from the Saxon period term 'hundred of the Danes or Dacians' in reference to its purported inhabitants originating in Dacia (Gover *et al* 1938). The settlement of Berkhamsted, however, first appeared as *Beorhðanstædæ*, or 'birch-grown homestead', in 966 – 984. The Domesday Book of 1086 documented that the Count of Mortain held the manor of *Berchamsted*, which comprised 13 hides and land for 26 ploughs (Morris 1976).

Medieval

4.4 Berkhamsted's motte and bailey castle, surrounded by a double ditch, was probably built soon after 1066 for the Count of Mortain, William's half brother, close to the bottom of Castle Hill (HER 39). The castle was in the King's control by the early 12th century, and excavations have revealed 13th century occupation. It appears, however, that the existence of a castle at Berkhamsted has surprisingly very little influence on the topography of the medieval town. It is thought that Berkhamsted developed during the 12th and 13th centuries as an undefended settlement or trading centre on an arterial road, rather than a fortified town tied to the Castle (Doggett & Hunn 1985).

4.5 The manor of Berkhamsted remained an important centre throughout the medieval

period. Merchant activity can be traced in some detail from the 12th century, where a number of trades and industries are recorded.

4.6 A two-bay timber framed medieval building at No. 173 lies end-on to the High Street (HER 11610). The date range for the felling of the timbers is 1277-1297, and this date is 'integral with what remains of the crown-post roof'. On first inspection in 2002 it was suspected that the building was an early example of a shop, but more detailed examination has revealed it to have been the service end of a larger house, whilst the medieval house at 207 – 209 High Street dates from the late 15th/early 16th century (HER 9287).

Post-Medieval

4.7 Even by the post-medieval period, were there still several spelling variants for the settlement name of Berkhamsted. In the 16th century, the names *Barkhamsted* and *Barkhamsteed St Peter al.* and *Great Barkhamsteed* were in use, whilst only 200 years ago the names *Berkstead oth.* *Berkampsted* were still commonly used. By the 16th century, archaeological evidence generally confirms the extent of the medieval character of the High Street's fortunes had diminished considerably and the castle lost much of its importance after the death of its last owner, Cicily, Duchess of York and the mother of King Edward IV in 1495. There are signs of continuing local prosperity, however, and many surviving 16th and 17th century buildings in the High Street attest the town's wealth.

4.8 By the mid 18th century both Northchurch and Berkhamsted extended along the High Street and the main industries were lace making and straw plaiting, along with maltings and breweries (HERs 7089 & 7080), a sheep dip manufactory, milling (HERs 5773 & 7087) and wood turning. Nursery gardens and watercress beds (HER 12194) established in the boggy margins of the Bulbourne also sprang up. Observation during development has revealed evidence for a small pond, with 18th/19th century backfill (HER 6378), and the 1877 Ordnance Survey map shows a wharf on the northern side of the Grand Union Canal, in what was then an isolated position (HER 12055).

Modern

4.9 The settlement of Berkhamsted in the modern period remains an important focus for education on account of its Grammar School and Ashlyn School, which both developed out of charitable foundations. Furthermore, given the town's proximity to London, the recently built A41 King's Langley and Berkhamsted by-pass and the direct railway links, Berkhamsted has increasingly become attractive to commuters working in the capital city.

4.10 Berkhamsted's Town Hall was built in 1859 in the Gothic style with features including a three pointed arch entrance and an octagonal turret with spire (HER 9291). Crabtree Cottage at Gossam's End is a semi-detached house considered to have been built prior to World War II, although it does not appear to be on a 1925 Ordnance Survey map and there is no evidence that the site was developed before the 1930s (HER 11800).

Previous Phase of Building Recording

4.11 In July 2006 AS conducted a programme of historic building recording of the Great Barn and associated outbuildings (Prosser *et al* 2006). The Great Barn and its associated farm buildings form a part of the historic curtilage of Berkhamsted Place, a Tudor mansion

built by Sir Edward Carey and his wife in the late 16th century, and which survived nearby in fragmentary form until its demolition in the mid-1960s. The barn is an impressive, if truncated and much-modified structure which has been reduced from its original eight bays to six, but was constructed on the scale of a tithe barn for the processing of crops and storage of produce from the estate. In most respects, the structure is typically late 16th to mid- 17th century in date, of box-framed construction with a clasped side-purlin roof rising in several flights, with aisles, but is unusual for the presence of double-bridled scarf joints and elbowed struts of queen-post form which rise from the tie-beams to the collars, suggesting a faint influence of the cruck tradition, which penetrated into this part of Hertfordshire in the late Middle Ages.

4.12 The farm complex grew considerably in the early Victorian period, conceived on the model estate form for efficiency and use of technological advances during the so-called ‘Age of High Farming’. A certain degree of planning and processing logic can be seen in the layout of the new buildings which were largely concerned with the rearing of cattle, though the complex also includes a hen house, cart sheds and stables. These buildings were arranged around yards which offered livestock more shelter from the elements and enabled greater efficiency of labour. It also allowed efficient manure production which was recognised as important for improving crop yields. The farm later concentrated on milk production, and was modified accordingly to reflect new sanitary concerns and regulations.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were recorded by means of *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Site visit 27/09/06

Stable Block Ground Reduction

The initial site visit involved the monitoring and recording of the breaking out of present floor slabs and ground reduction within animal shelter and stable block no. 6 (Fig 3). After the removal of the floor slabs, a layer of made ground was encountered consisting of a mid white/ grey chalk and mortar with inclusion of CBM. No archaeology was present in this trench.

Boundary Fence Trench

A foundation trench was excavated to the north of the main building complex and measured 1.0m x 0.50m and was up to 0.58m in depth.

The stratigraphy revealed by the excavation of the boundary fence trench is shown in the table below:

Boundary Fence Trench; Sample Section 19 ; west facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=148.22m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.22m	L1000. Topsoil. Mid dark brown, silty clay, with frequent sub angular flint gravel clasts and moderate CBM inclusions (<200mm)
0.22 – 0.58m	L1002. Natural Clay drift. Mid brownish orange firm compacted clay with frequent sub angular flint clasts and nodules (<200mm) and moderate chalk clasts (<50mm).
0.58m+	L1003. Natural Upper Chalk. Pale off white compacted chalk

6.2 Site visit 05/02/07

The site visit undertaken on the 5th February monitored and recorded the reduction of the internal floor levels by hand within stable block no. 8 (Fig.3), the hand excavation of 2 Test Pits to locate services running through the site and the machine excavation of a foundation trench for the boundary wall.

Stable Block Ground Reduction

The reduction works within Stable Block No. 8 revealed a 3 course deep stepped brick foundation, made from mid purplish red, coarse sandy bricks (224 x 102 x 63mm) with occasional sub angular flint inclusions, lain in a stretcher bond. The same bricks comprised the standing barn wall above, but were set in 5 courses of Flemish bond capped with a single course of header bonded bricks below 19th century weather boarding. The foundations for the wall was sunk directly into the mid brownish orange, firm natural clay L1002, which contained frequent sub angular flint clasts and nodules (<200mm) and modern chalk clasts (<50mm) (DP 1).

Test Pit 1

Test Pit 1; Sample Section 17 ; north facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=147.67mAOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.2m	L1002. Natural Clay drift. Mid brownish orange firm compacted clay with frequent sub angular flint clasts and nodules (<200mm) and moderate chalk clasts (<50mm).
0.20m+	L1003. Natural Upper Chalk. Pale off white compacted chalk.

Test Pit 2

Test Pit 2; Sample Section 16 ; south facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=149.02mAOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.40m	L1001. Made ground. Dark blackish grey, cohesive, silty clay, with frequent sun angular flint and CBM inclusions (<200mm)

Foundation Trench for Boundary Wall

The stratigraphy revealed by the excavation of Trench for Boundary Wall is shown in the table below:

Foundation Trench for Boundary Wall; Sample Section 18 ; west facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=148.29mAOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.15m	L1000. Topsoil. Mid dark brown, silty clay, with frequent sub angular flint gravel clasts and moderate CBM inclusions (<200mm)
0.15m+	L1002. Natural Clay drift. Mid brownish orange firm compacted clay with frequent sub angular flint clasts and nodules (<200mm) and moderate chalk clasts (<50mm).

6.3 Site visit 06/02/07

This site visit monitored and recorded the excavation of a water pipe trench (DP 2) by a 360° mini digger fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The trench measured 20m in length, was 0.8m wide and between 0.8m and 1m deep. Two sample sections were recorded of the stratigraphy revealed by the excavation, these are shown in the table below;

Sample Section 1 ; North-east end of trench; south-west facing section (Fig. 3) <i>0=144.45mAOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.05m	L1004. Dark black friable, tarmac.
0.05 – 0.15m	L1005. Pale off white, chalk, levelling layer.
0.15 – 0.38m	L1002. As above.
0.38 +	L1003. As above.

Sample Section 2 ; South-east end of trench; west facing section (Fig. 3) <i>0=144.43mAOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.05m	L1004. As above.
0.05 – 0.30m	L1005. As above.
0.30 – 0.80	L1002. As above.
0.80 +	L1003. As above.

6.4 Site visit 16/02/07

This site visit monitored and recorded the excavation of a service trench by a 360° mini excavator. 26m of excavation was viewed (DP2). Four sample sections were recorded of the stratigraphy revealed by the excavation, these are shown in the table below.

Sample Section 3 ; South-east end of trench; west facing section (Fig 3; DP 3) <i>0=144.67m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1005. As above.
0.10 – 0.25m	L1001. As above.
0.25 – 0.75m	L1002. As above.
0.75 – 0.77m	Upper part of broken early modern drainage pipe.
0.77 – 0.87m	L1006. Dark grey silt deposit within early modern drainage pipe.
0.87m +	L1003. As above.

Sample Section 4 ; 12m from south-west end of trench; west facing section (Fig 3; DP4) <i>0=144.89m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1001. As above
0.10m +	L1003. As above

Sample Section 5 ; 17m from south–west end of trench; west facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=145.01m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.20m	L1007. Grey silty gravel levelling layer.
0.20 – 0.25m	L1005. As above.
0.25 – 1.00m	L1002. As above.
1.00m +	L1003. As above.

Sample Section 6 ; Northern end of trench; west-facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=145.13m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.05m	L1007. As above.
0.05m +	L1003. As above.

6.5 Site visit 23/02/07

This site visit was conducted to monitor the excavation of a soakaway (2.70m wide x 3.50m long x 2.30m deep) by mechanical 360° excavator (DP 3 and 4). No archaeological features or finds were present. Four sample sections of the revealed stratigraphy were recorded and the results are tabulated below:

Sample Section 7 ; South-west wall; north-east facing (Fig 3) <i>0=144.43m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.06m	L1004. As above.
0.06 – 2.30m +	L1001. As above.

Sample Section 8 ; South-east wall; north-west facing (Fig 3; DP 5) <i>0=144.43m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.38m	L1004. As above.
0.38 – 1.80m +	L1001. As above.

Sample Section 9 ; North-east wall; south-west facing (Fig 3; DP 6) <i>0=144.42m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.34m	L1004. As above.
0.34 – 1.85m +	L1001. As above.

Sample Section 10 ; North-west wall; south-east facing (Fig 3) <i>0= 144.43m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.26m	L1004. As above.
0.26 – 1.80m +	L1001. As above.

6.6 Site visit 18/04/07

The fifth site visit monitored and recorded ground reduction on a roughly rectangular parcel of land measuring 7.20 m long x 5.90m wide, in anticipation of the construction of a car park. The work was carried out by a 360° mechanical excavator. A brick wall, M1008 was observed, a narrow band of tiles, L1009, and three sample sections of the revealed stratigraphy were also recorded and all results are described and tabulated below:

Sample Section 11; East facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=148.57m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.20m	L1007. As above.
0.20 – 0.70m	L1002. As above.
0.70 – 1.20m	L1003. As above.

Sample Section 12; West facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=146.57m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1009. Narrow band of redeposited tiles.
0.10 – 1.00m	L1002. As above.
1.00 – 1.20m+	L1003. As above.

Sample Section 13; North facing section (Fig 3; DPs 7 & 8) <i>0=148.54m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.40m	M1008. Red brick masonry wall.
0.40 – 1.20m +	L1002. As above.

Wall M1008, was a linear red brick wall observed in section (2.40m long x unknown width x 0.40m deep). It ran parallel to the area being reduced and appeared only in the south-east section. The bricks were unfrosted, abraded and irregular sized measuring on average 0.20m long x 0.10m wide x 0.05m deep. Five courses of unidentified bond remained standing 0.40m high. The wall can be roughly dated of pre to mid 19th century.

Layer, L1009, was a narrow band of tile observed in Sample Section 13 (1.00m+ long x 0.30m wide x 0.10m deep). Three courses remained measuring 0.10m in depth and appearing generally irregular as if dumped or placed in hurry. The tile appears to have been redeposited rather than occurring in situ.

6.7 Site Visit 09/07/07

The sixth site visit monitored the excavation of footings by mechanical 360° mini-digger. No archaeological features or finds were present. Two sample section was recorded and is tabulated below:

Sample Section 14; North-eastern trench; south-west facing section (Fig 3) <i>0=147.86m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.25m	L1001. As above
0.25 – 1.20m+	L1003. As above.

6.8 Site Visit 10/07/07

The seventh and final visit monitored the excavation of the remaining foundation trench to the north-west of the barn. The work was carried out by mechanical 360 mini-digger with a toothed bucket. No archaeological finds or features were observed, however the construction cut for the extant stables was clearly visible. A sample section of revealed stratigraphy was recorded and is tabulated below:

Sample Section 15; South-western trench; north-east facing section (Fig 3)	
<i>0=147.84m AOD</i>	
0.00 – 0.23m	L1001. As above.
0.23 – 0.53m	L1002. As above.
0.53m+	L1003. As above.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of monitoring and recording.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The natural stratigraphic model as displayed within Sample Section 2, located in the eastern corner of the site, consisted of a mid-dark blackish brown, friable silty sand topsoil (L1000), overlying a light yellowish brown, friable sandy silt subsoil (L1001), located above the natural substrate of light yellowish orange, friable sandy silt with frequent gravel and flint inclusions (L1002). Topsoil L1000 was present in sample sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

8.2 Deposits of made ground, levelling layers and modern tarmac and concrete surfaces were present in the central and south-western end of the site. The stratigraphy of Sample Sections 9 and 11 at the south-western end of the site consisted of a modern tarmac surface L1010, overlying a levelling layer (L1011) of white, compact chalk and mortar, overlying a levelling layer of mid greyish brown sand (L1012) located above a deposit of light orange grey sandy silt made ground (L1006). In Sample Section 9 a deposit of made ground (L1007) comprised of mid-dark orange silty sand was found beneath L1006.

8.3 Made ground deposits L1006 and L1007 continued to the north, below a concrete and tarmac surface L1014 in Sample Section 10, a mid dark greyish brown silty sand levelling layer (L1013) in Sample Section 8, a deposit of dark brownish black, silt made ground (L1008) in Sample Section 7, a deposit of light yellowish grey silty sand made ground (L1005) in Sample Sections 3 and 5, and topsoil L1000 in sample sections 4 and 6.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Two Modern walls were encountered during this series of investigations. No other archaeological features or finds were present. These walls may be considered to be contemporary with the extant buildings present at the site.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

The archive will be deposited with Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS). The archive will be adequately catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guideline No. 2* and other relevant reference documents. Archive records, with an inventory are to be deposited at HALS in accordance with their requirements. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

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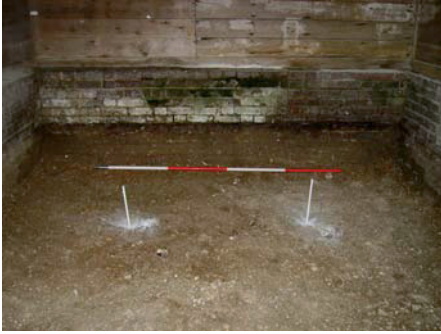
Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, *Sheet 6: Soils of South-East England*. (Scale 1:250 000), Harpenden

Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales*. Harpenden

APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Great Barn, Castle Hill Farm, Castle Hill, Berkhamsted, Herts
County: Hertfordshire	District: Dacorum
Village/Town: Berkhamsted	Parish: Berkhamsted
Planning application reference:	4/02097/03/FUL & 4/02152/04/FUL
Client name/address/tel:	Thameside Homes Ltd
Nature of application:	Conversion and refurbishment of buildings for residential use
Present land use:	Agricultural outbuildings
Size of application area: c. 3500m ²	Size of area investigated:
NGR (8 figures):	SP 9904 0880
Site Code:	AS 1003
Site director/Organisation:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording
Date of work:	September 2006 to July 2007
Location of finds/Curating museum:	HALS
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: -
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	-
Summary of fieldwork results:	<p>Between September 2006 and July 2007, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook archaeological monitoring and recording of land at Castle Hill Farm, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (NGR SP 9904 0880). The monitoring was undertaken in advance of conversion and refurbishment of the great barn and associated outbuildings for residential use.</p> <p>The programme of monitoring and recording was undertaken within the existing buildings and on the surrounding land. No archaeological finds or features earlier than modern date were present.</p>
Author of summary: Newton, A A S	Date of Summary: July 2008

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1 Ground reduction, building 8



DP 2 Service trench excavated 17/02/07, view north



DP 3 Sample Section 3, view east



DP4 Sample Section 4, view east



DP 5 Sample Section 8 (Soakaway), view south-east



DP 6 Sample Section 9 (Soakaway), view north-east



DP 7 Sample Section 13, view south showing M1008

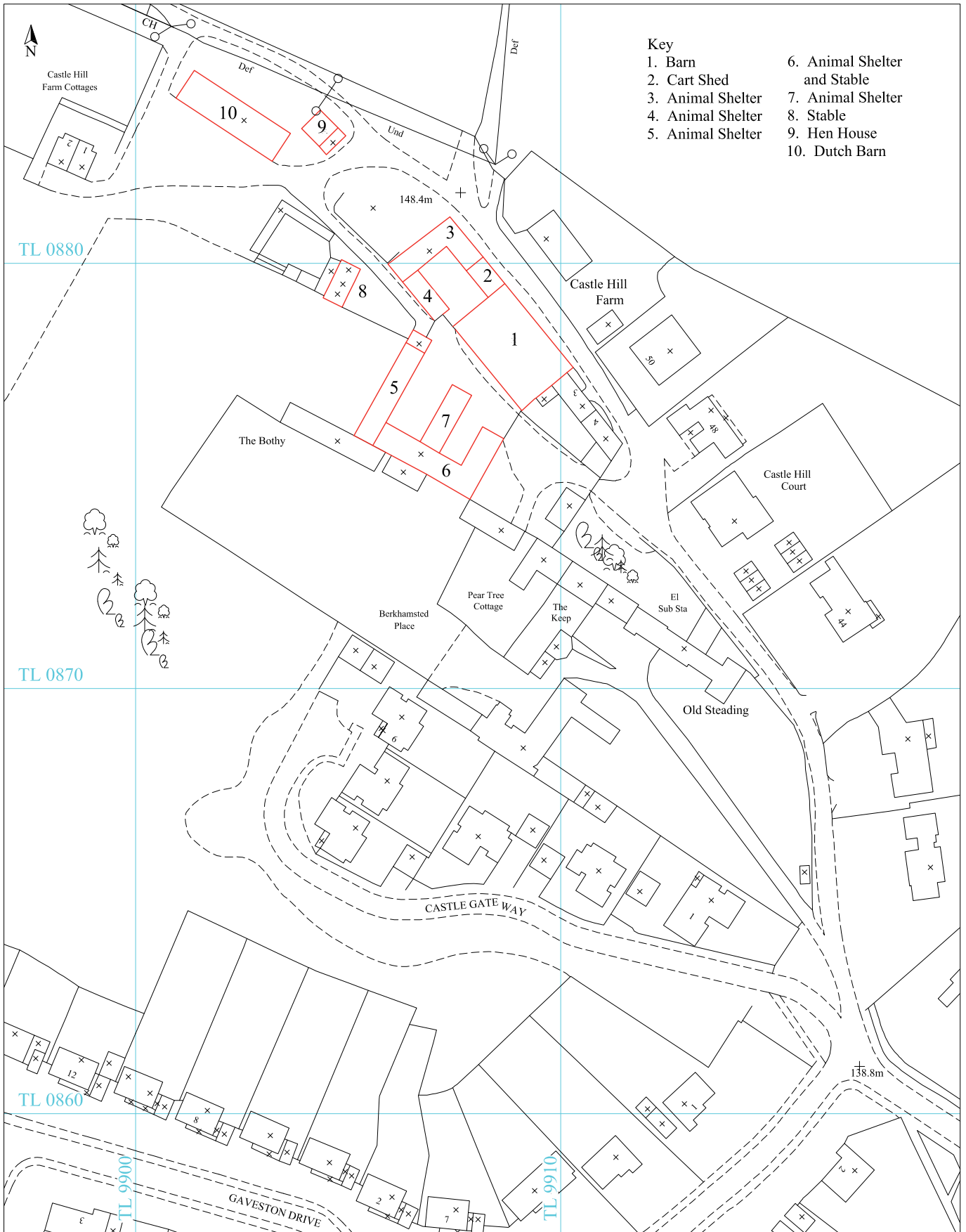


DP 8 Excavation of garden/car park area, view south-west



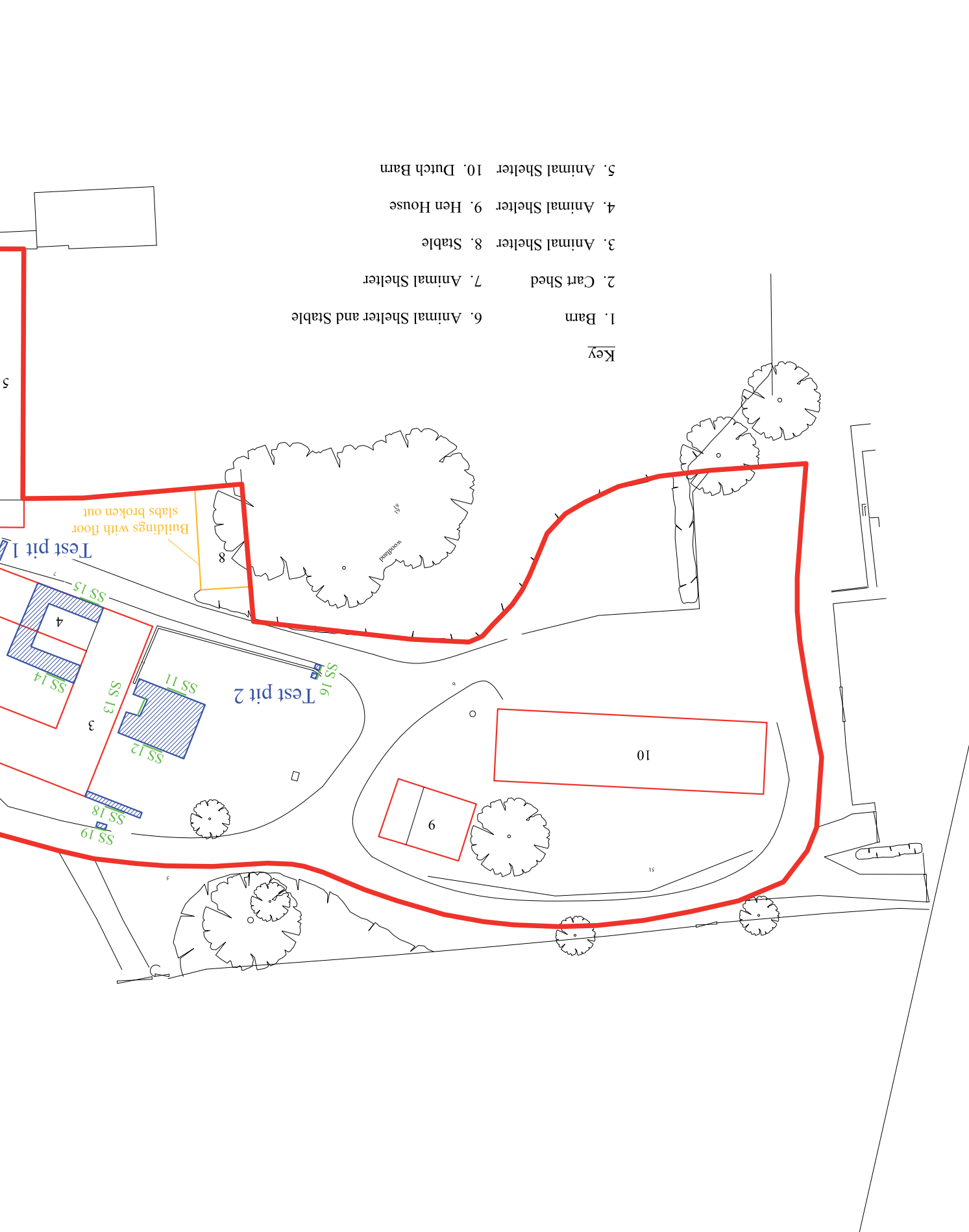
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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Fig. 2 Detailed site plan
 Scale 1:1250 at A4



- Key
- 1. Barn
 - 2. Cart Shed
 - 3. Animal Shelter
 - 4. Animal Shelter
 - 5. Animal Shelter
 - 6. Animal Shelter and Stable
 - 7. Animal Shelter
 - 8. Stable
 - 9. Hen House
 - 10. Dutch Barn

Buildings with floor slabs broken out

Test pit 1

Test pit 2

SS 15

SS 16

SS 14

SS 13

SS 12

SS 18

SS 19

4

3

9

10

5

5

5