
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**HODDESDON LODGE FARM,
LORD STREET, HODDESDON,
HERTFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

Author: Rozwadowski, M	
NGR: TL 35591 08409	Report No: 3212
District East Herts	Site Code: AS1175
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: P3235
Signed:	Date: November 2008

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire. Archaeological monitoring and recording.</i>		
Project description			
<p><i>During October 2008 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon Hertfordshire (NGR: TL 35591 08409). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr Brittain of Hoddesdon Lodge Farm in advance of the proposed construction of a new single storey dwelling. Hoddesdon Lodge is listed as being of architectural and historic importance, and dates from mid 17th century. The building proposed for demolition dates to the 19th century but post-medieval farms are frequently found to have medieval origins.</i></p> <p><i>Although the monitoring had the potential to recover medieval and/or post-medieval remains related to previous phases of development of the farm no such remains were present.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	27.10.08		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	P3235	Site code	AS1175
Type of project	<i>Archaeological monitoring and recording</i>		
Site status			
Current land use	<i>Demolished barn</i>		
Planned development	<i>Single storey dwelling</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>No archaeological features located</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>No archaeological finds recovered</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Hertfordshire</i>	<i>Broxbourne</i>	<i>Hoddesdon</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>HCC HEU</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>EN11 8SL</i>		
Area of site	<i>50m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 35591 08409</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>60 -65 m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>HCC HEU</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Rozwadowski M.</i>		
Funded by	<i>Hoddesdon Lodge Farm</i>		
Bibliography			
Full title	<i>Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire. Archaeological monitoring and recording.</i>		
Authors	<i>Rozwadowski, M.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3212</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>November 2008</i>		

HODDESDON LODGE FARM, LORD STREET, HODDESDON, HERTFORDSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

During October 2008 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 35591 08409). The monitoring was commissioned by Mr Brittain of Hoddesdon Lodge Farm in advance of the proposed construction of a new single storey dwelling. Hoddesdon Lodge is listed as being of architectural and historic importance, and dates from mid 17th century. The building proposed for demolition dates to the 19th century but post-medieval farms are frequently found to have medieval origins.

Although the monitoring had the potential to recover medieval and/or post-medieval remains related to previous phases of development of the farm no such were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During October 2008 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon Hertfordshire (NGR TL 35591 08409; Figs. 1-2) The work was commissioned by Mr Brittain of Hoddesdon Lodge Farm in advance of the proposed construction of a new single storey dwelling.

1.2 The monitoring and recording was carried out according to brief from Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Unit (HCC HEU) dated 17 July 2008 and written scheme of investigation prepared by Archaeological Solutions (AS) dated 27th August 2008. The works were required to comply with a planning condition for archaeological investigation required as part of a planning consent (Planning Ref. 7/0398/08). The project followed the procedures outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2001) and also the relevant sections of the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The investigation was undertaken in conjunction with the relevant planning policies, which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage. Of particular relevance was Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16), which is widely applied by local authorities. PPG16 (1994) applies to archaeology and states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, when necessary, the excavation of the site.

1.4 The main project objectives were monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect archaeological remains and to secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme and to secure the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of project archive.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE,

2.1 Hoddesdon Lodge Farm is located *c.* 1.75km to the west of the urbanised Hoddesdon on the east margin of Hoddesdon Park Wood. The site is located on a top of a small ridge sloping down to the Spital Brook to the south and other small brooks to the west and east. The A10 main dual-carriageway road, running from north to south is located *c.* 130m to the east of the site. The site itself comprised land within the grounds of the post-medieval and later farmstead of Hoddesdon Lodge Farm.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies just below the 65m contour on land overlooking the valley of the river Lea to the east. Land to the east of the undulates but generally falls in the direction of the Lea. To the immediate south of the site the land drops fairly steeply in to the valley of the Spital Brook, a tributary of the Lea, lying at *c.* 40m AOD.

3.2 The solid geology of the site is London Clay e.g. grey clay with interbedded silt and silty sand. The site is located on the slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged slightly acid but base-rich loamy over clayey soils of the Beccles 3 Association. To the west lie areas covered by pockets of soils of the Windsor (slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clayey soils mostly with brown subsoils) and Hallsworth 1 (slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clayey soils) Association.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Hoddesdon Lodge Farm is listed as being of architectural and historic importance and dates from the mid 17th century. The building proposed for demolition dates to the 19th century but post-medieval farms are frequently found to have medieval origins.

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. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

5.2 The monitoring and recording was conducted on groundworks associated with the excavation of foundation trenches associated with the construction of the new single storey dwelling (Fig. 3). A site visit was undertaken to monitor these works on 27th October 2008

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 Foundation Trenches

6.1.1 Sample Section 1:

<i>Sample section 1</i> <i>Facing South East</i> <i>0.00 = 63m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.20m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark blackish grey moderately compact clayey silt with moderate pebbles and cobbles.
0.20m+	L1001	Natural. Dark brownish orange compacted clay with occasional pebbles.

6.1.2 Sample Section 2:

<i>Sample section 2</i> <i>Facing South East</i> <i>0.00 = 63m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.15m	L1002	Modern rubble. Mid orangey pinkish red moderately compact clayey silt with frequent CBM.
0.15 – 0.30m	L1003	Made ground. Mid orangey yellow moderately compact sandy silt with moderate amount of pebbles.
0.30 – 0.50m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.50m+	L1001	Natural. As above.

Description: No archaeological features were located in the foundation trenches. No archaeological artefacts were recovered.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

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

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 In the northern part of the site, L1000, a dark blackish grey moderately compact clayey silt with moderate amount of pebbles and cobbles 0.2m thick topsoil overlay L1001, a dark brownish orange compact clay with occasional pebbles natural.

8.2 In the southern part of the site topsoil and natural substrate deposits were overlaid by 0.15m deep L1002, a mid orangey pinkish red moderately compact clayey silt with frequent CBM and L1003, a 0.15m thick mid orangey yellow moderately compact sandy silt with moderate amount of pebbles.

9 DISCUSSION

891 No archaeological remains were located and no archaeological finds were recovered. Although potential to recover post-medieval or medieval remains related to previous phases of development of a farm no such remains were located during works.

ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions Limited would like to thank Mr Brittain for commissioning and funding the programme of archaeological works, and for his kind assistance.

AS would also like to thank Andy Instone of HCC HEU for his advice and input.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14/ALGAO

Institute of Field Archaeologists (revised 2001) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*.

Institute of Field Archaeologists (revised 1999) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*.

APPENDIX 1

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address:	Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street,
County: Hertfordshire	District: Broxbourne
Village/Town: Hoddesdon	Parish: Hoddesdon CP
Planning application reference:	7/0398/08
Client name/address/tel:	Mr Brittain, Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon
Nature of application:	
Present land use:	Agricultural yard
Size of application area:	Size of area investigated: 55 sq m
NGR (8 figures):	TL 3559 0840
Site Code:	AS1175
Site director/Organisation:	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Type of work:	Archaeological monitoring and recording
Date of work:	November 2008
Location of finds/Curating museum:	Lowewood Museum, Hoddesdon
Related SMR Nos:	Periods represented: Early modern, Modern
Relevant previous summaries/reports: -	
Summary of fieldwork results:	<i>During October 2008 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an program of archaeological monitoring and recording at Hoddesdon Lodge Farm, Lord Street, Hoddesdon Hertfordshire The work was commissioned in advance of proposed construction of a new single storey dwelling. Hoddesdon Lodge is listed as being of architectural and historic importance and dates from mid 17th century. The building proposed for demolition dates to the 19th century but post-medieval farms are frequently found to have medieval origins. Although the potential to recover post-medieval or medieval remains related to previous phases of development of the farm existed, no such remains were present.</i>
Author of summary: Michal Rozwadowski	Date of Summary: 10 November 2008

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1
Sample Section 1. View North



DP 2
Sample Section 2. View North-west



DP 3
View across excavated foundations to South-west

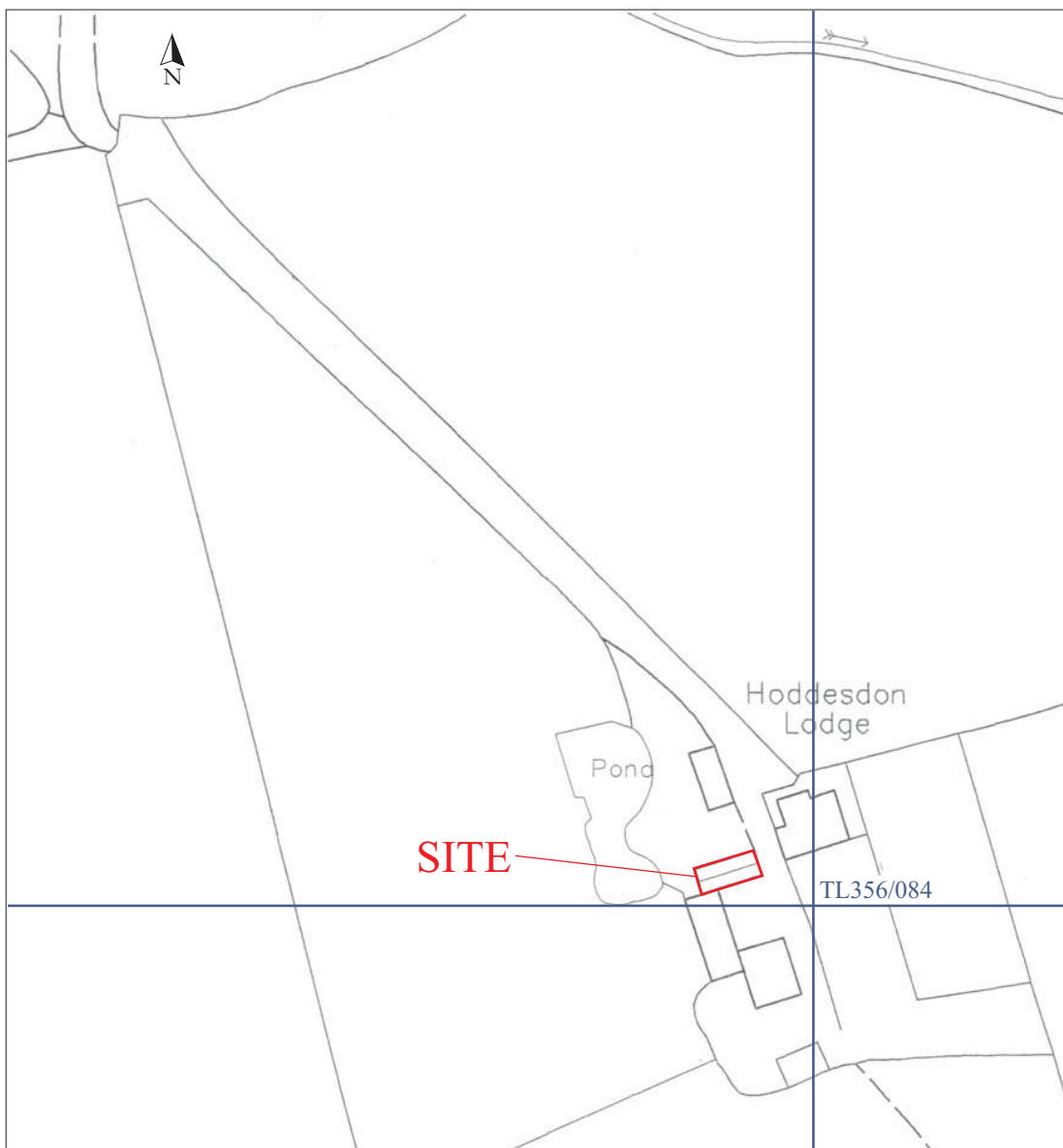


DP 4
Adjacent Hoddesdon Lodge Farm buildings



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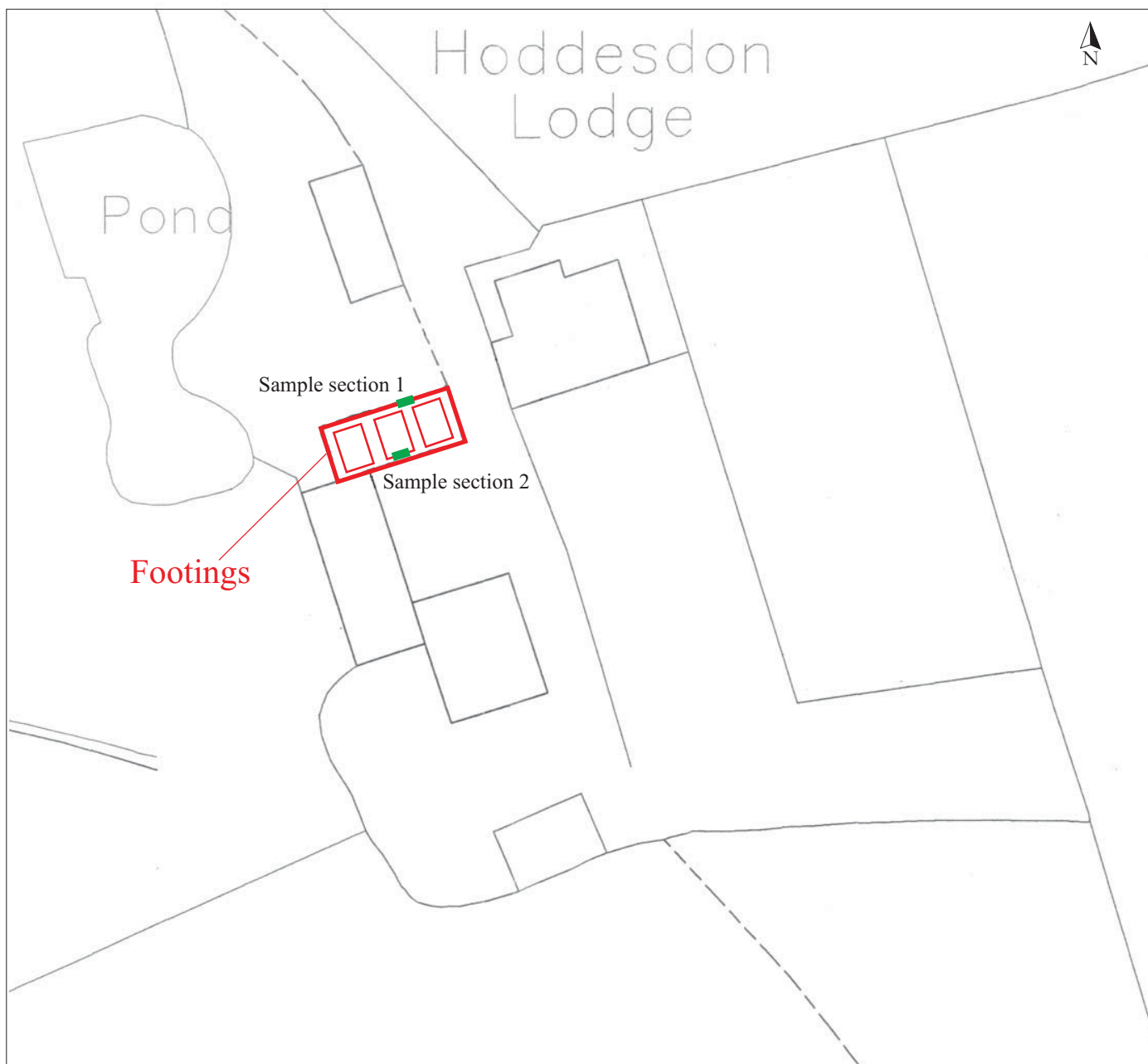
Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Fig. 1 Site location plan
Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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0 100m

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



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Fig. 3 Section location plan
Scale 1:500 at A4

APPENDIX 2: HISTORIC BUILDING ASSESSMENT REPORT

Timber-framed structure at Hoddesdon Lodge Farm

Inspected by Lee Prosser and Tansy Collins, 29 July 2008

This building was examined with a view to assessing any need for further recording, in advance of dismantling, repair and re-erection.

The building is constructed in very poor quality materials, mostly thrown up with hedge timber and other waney, worm-eaten wood, much of it, including studs and rafters no more than tree branches. Its very simplicity and rudimentary nature means that it is now on the verge of collapse, and structurally unsound. Externally, the building is weatherboarded, mostly in modern materials such as spruce, and has a pan-tile roof. Part of the interior is given access through a reused early Victorian kitchen or service door of probable 1830s / 1840s date.

The construction form is very simple; three bays of framed panels, the best timber (though still slender and waney) being reserved for the wall plate and dividing posts, while the in-fill is essentially of simple props, primary-braced after a fashion with planking and other bits of wood. The bay divisions at roof level have become disrupted, probably due to later replacement, so that the tie-beams, which no longer have any structural function, are simply cogged over the wall plates. There is a single purlin in each pitch, clasped by rudimentary boarded collars which have been applied at random, and do not respect the bay divisions. The rafters are of the poorest quality, and the whole roof has needed propping with telephone poles jammed into the apex.

The interior of the barn is divided into rudimentary horse-stalls, using old planking and recycled timbers. It was formerly used as a chicken house.

The building was clearly thrown up using any old timber which happened to be at hand. There is no real structural coherence nor any interesting features worth noting. It can not be dated, as there are no distinct structural characteristics, but given its ephemeral nature, it can not be of any great age. Attempting any further work would be a waste of time as the building is no more than the equivalent of a large garden shed. This description and the photographs taken on the visit should suffice on file to provide a simple record of the building.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1. View of structure, taken from the north-east



2. View of structure, taken from the south-east



3. Internal view of east bay, taken from the north-east



4. Internal view of the west bay, taken from the east



5. Internal view of the east bay, taken from the south-west



6. Internal view of the central bay, taken from the south-west