

**ONE OAK, ORANGE TREE HILL,  
HAVERING-ATTE-BOWER, ROMFORD**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION,  
'STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE' INVESTIGATION  
AND MONITORING & RECORDING**

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NGR: TQ 51020 93000	Report No. 3534
Borough: Havering	Site Code: OOO 10
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3904
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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
<b>Project name</b>	<i>One Oak, Orange Tree Hill, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford</i>		
<p><i>In April 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried an archaeological evaluation, 'strip, map &amp; sample' investigation and monitoring and recording at land at One Oak, Orange Tree Hill, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford (NGR TQ 51020 93000). The programme was commissioned by Stephenson Associates on behalf of Barker Homes Construction Ltd, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the demolition of the existing building and construction of new two-storey dwelling with associated garage and covered swimming pool.</i></p> <p><i>The site is located in the centre of small village of Havering-atte-Bower, 1km north-east of Collier Row in London Borough of Havering. It lies within an area of significant archaeological potential, in vicinity of the Saxon and medieval palace of Havering. The site also had a potential for Romano-British archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the investigation revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i></p>			
<b>Project dates (fieldwork)</b>	<i>27<sup>th</sup> April 2010</i>		
<b>Previous work (Y/N/?)</b>	<i>N</i>	<b>Future work (Y/N/?)</b>	<i>N</i>
<b>P. number</b>	<i>3904</i>	<b>Site code</b>	<i>OOO 10</i>
<b>Type of project</b>	<i>Archaeological Evaluation, Strip, Map &amp; Sample' Investigation and Monitoring &amp; Recording</i>		
<b>Site status</b>	<i>-</i>		
<b>Current land use</b>	<i>Residential property with garden</i>		
<b>Planned development</b>	<i>Single two-storey dwelling with garage and covered swimming pool</i>		
<b>Main features (+dates)</b>	<i>-</i>		
<b>Significant finds (+dates)</b>	<i>-</i>		
<b>Project location</b>			
<b>County/ District/ Parish</b>	<i>Greater London</i>	<i>London Borough of Havering</i>	<i>Havering-atte-Bower</i>
<b>HER/ SMR for area</b>	<i>GLSMR</i>		
<b>Post code (if known)</b>	<i>RM4 1PB</i>		
<b>Area of site</b>	<i>c. 2800 m<sup>2</sup></i>		
<b>NGR</b>	<i>TQ 51020 93000</i>		
<b>Height AOD (min/max)</b>	<i>99.00/100.30m</i>		
<b>Project creators</b>			
<b>Brief issued by</b>	<i>Advice from EH GLAAS</i>		
<b>Project supervisor/s (PO)</b>	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
<b>Funded by</b>	<i>Barker Homes Construction Ltd</i>		
<b>Full title</b>	<i>One Oak, Orange Tree Hill, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford. Archaeological Evaluation, 'Strip, Map &amp; Sample' Investigation and Monitoring &amp; Recording</i>		
<b>Authors</b>	<i>Pozorski, Z.</i>		
<b>Report no.</b>	<i>3534</i>		
<b>Date (of report)</b>	<i>April 2010</i>		

# **ONE OAK, ORANGE TREE HILL, HAVERING-ATTE-BOWER, ROMFORD**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 'STRIP, MAP & SAMPLE' INVESTIGATION AND MONITORING & RECORDING**

### **SUMMARY**

*In April 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried an archaeological evaluation, 'strip, map & sample' investigation and monitoring and recording at land at One Oak, Orange Tree Hill, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford (NGR TQ 51020 93000). The programme was commissioned by Stephenson Associates and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the demolition of the existing building and construction of new two-storey dwelling with associated garage and covered swimming pool.*

*The site is located in the centre of small village of Havering-atte-Bower, 1km north-east of Collier Row in London Borough of Havering. It lies within an area of significant archaeological potential, in vicinity of the Saxon and medieval palace of Havering. The site also had a potential for Romano-British archaeological remains.*

*In the event the investigation revealed no archaeological features or finds.*

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In April 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried an archaeological evaluation, 'strip, map & sample' investigation and monitoring and recording at land at One Oak, Orange Tree Hill, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford (NGR TQ 51020 93000; Figs. 1 & 2). The programme was commissioned by Stephenson Associates on behalf of Barker Homes Construction Ltd, and was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the demolition of the existing building and construction of new two-storey dwelling with associated garage and covered swimming pool (London Borough of Havering Planning Ref. P/2181/07). Initial construction works (principally foundation excavation) has been undertaken prior to the implementation of the programme of archaeological work, and the archaeological requirements were then agreed on site with EH GLAAS and the client.

1.2 The work was undertaken in accordance with on-site advice from English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (EH GLAAS, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2010) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 28/04/10). The project adhered to EH GLAAS

*Archaeological Guidance Papers* (AGPs, revised 1998), in particular *AGP No 3; Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London* and *No 5: Evaluations*. The project also conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (revised 2008), and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2008).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. It also aimed to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and surviving structures of archaeological significance. It was particularly important to identify any evidence of Saxon, medieval and/or post-medieval activity.

#### *Planning policy context*

1.4 PPG16 (1990), the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology and PPG15 (1994) the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment (by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible) have been replaced by Planning Policy Statement 5 (2010), the national Planning Policy Statement that applies to the historic environment

1.5 PPS5 states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement 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. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

2.1 The site is located in the centre of small village of Havering-atte-Bower, c. 1km north-east of Collier Row in London Borough of Havering (Fig. 1). The site comprises rectangular plot of c. 2800m<sup>2</sup> situated to the west of the B175 Orange Tree Hill road. The proposed new building is located in the east/central part of the site (Fig. 2). The site is surrounded by side and back gardens of residential properties to the north and south and by area of green and wood to the north-west.

### 3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is situated on 100m AOD contour with a land gently sloping towards the south-west. The site lies in close proximity of the church which is located at the highest point of the village, at c. 102m AOD.

3.2 The solid geology of the environs is Eocene sand, silt and clay of Bracklesham Group and Barton Group (British Geological Survey 1978). Soils on the site are those of the Bursledon association, described as defined as deep fine loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).

### 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Roman and medieval pottery has been recovered during 'works at the Church', possibly in the graveyard (GLSMR 060063). A gold Roman finger ring of 4th or 5th-century date has been found at an unknown location in the parish (GLSMR 060063).

4.2 The village is recorded in the Domesday Book as *Haueringas*, meaning 'People of Haefer'. The suffix 'atte Bower' was added to distinguish it from Hornchurch (GLSMR 60992). A chapel dedicated to St Mary and dating to 1201 or earlier formerly stood on the west side of the present church (GLSMR 06014101). The chapel was licensed for burials in 1410. The font from this chapel is still in use in the present Church of St John. A second chapel, dedicated to St Edward the Confessor, was also sited in the churchyard, and was probably built on the site of an earlier chapel (GLSMR 06014102). The church of St Edward is described as the smaller of the two chapels of the Palace.

4.3 The site is located in vicinity of the Saxon and medieval royal palace of Havering (GLSMR 060141). The later palace buildings are thought to lie to the immediate north of the development site, although the site of the original Saxon palace and medieval and later ancillary buildings are not known. The palace is traditionally linked with Edward the Confessor, and later passed to William the Conqueror. The palace, originally comprising a 'great chamber, two chapels and outbuildings', was reported to be in ruins in 1650. James I used it as a hunting lodge. Although it may have been enlarged in 1662-78, it was again in ruins in 1719, and by 1816 it had 'completely vanished'. The parish church overlies the larger of the chapels, rebuilt in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century.

4.4 Three manors are recorded in the parish, in addition to the Royal Palace. The tenement of Earls was established in the early 13th century and was referred to in 1452 as a manor: the site is located to the south-east of the village. A large and elaborate manor house to the north of Havering was built at Pyrgo in 1538: this manor was taken over by Henry VIII and was used as an annex of Havering Palace (GLSMR 060144). A third manor house is located to the south of Havering Park and was first recorded in the 16th

century, when it was held by the keeper of the south gate of Havering Park (GLSMR 060147). Havering Park (1312 acres) was established by the early 12th century: the current park was developed in 1850.

4.5 The village green, c. 150m west of the site, was the scene of a riot in 1670, when the decaying stocks and whipping post were replaced, and were subsequently destroyed by an angry mob. The stocks and whipping post were replaced again in 1966, this time without misadventure. In 1724 a Church of England free school was built on the green (GLSMR 060377). The building was demolished in 1818.

## 5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The agreed work comprised excavation of one trial trench (20 x 2m) within area of the proposed new house, 'strip, map and sample' investigation of an area of the western part of the proposed new building and inspection/recording of previously excavated foundation trenches (Fig. 2). The trench and 'strip, map and sample' locations were approved by EH GLAAS. The evaluation and 'strip, map and sample' excavation were completed using a mechanical 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision.

5.2 Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

## 6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

### Trench 1 (Fig. 2, DP 3-4)

<i>Sample section 1, N end, facing E (DP 5)</i>		
<i>0.00 = 100.08m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.70m	L1000	Made ground. Light brown, compact, sandy silt with gravel.
0.70m +	L1004	Natural dark yellow, compact, sandy clay with sand and gravel.

<i>Sample section 2, S end, facing E (DP 6)</i> <i>0.00 = 99.84m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.28m	L1001	Modern made ground. Mixed yellow, loose, sand and grey, loose, sandy silt with CBM.
0.28 – 0.48m	L1002	Topsoil. Brownish light grey, friable, sandy silt.
0.48 – 0.60m	L1003	Subsoil. Dark yellow, compact, clayey silt with gravel.
0.60m +	L1004	Natural clay. As above.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present.

### **'Strip, map & sample' area (Fig. 2, DP 7-9)**

<i>Sample section 3, N side, facing S (DP 10)</i> <i>0.00 = 100.10m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1002	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.25 – 0.65m	L1003	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.65m +	L1004	Natural clay. As above, Tr. 1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present.

### **Foundation trenches (Fig. 2, DP 11-12)**

<i>N foundation trench. Sample section 4, facing S (DP 13)</i> <i>0.00 = 100.12m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.50m	L1001	Modern made ground. As above, Tr. 1.
0.50 – 0.72m	L1002	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.72 – 1.00m	L1003	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
1.00m +	L1004	Natural clay. As above, Tr. 1.

<i>S foundation trench. Sample section 5, facing S (DP 14)</i> <i>0.00 = 99.80 AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.72m	L1001	Modern made ground. As above, Tr. 1.
0.72m +	L1004	Natural clay. As above, Tr. 1.

*Description:* No archaeological features or finds were present.

## **7 CONFIDENCE RATING**

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

## **8 DEPOSIT MODEL**

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1002, a brownish light grey, friable, sandy silt (0.20 – 0.25m thick). In the central part of the site it was overlain by deposits of made ground, L1000 and L1001. The latter related to current development on the site. The topsoil overlay Subsoil L1002, a dark yellow, compact, clayey silt with gravel (0.10 – 0.40m thick).

8.2 The natural clay, L1004, was present at 0.60 – 0.70m below existing ground level and comprised a dark yellow, compact, sandy clay with sand and gravel.

## **9 DISCUSSION**

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval archaeology associated with royal palace of Havering. It also had a potential for Romano-British remains.

9.2 In the event no archaeological features or finds were revealed. No indication of any previous development of the site was identified except modern drainage. Little evidence of previous truncation appeared to have taken place suggesting that the site may have been in use as a garden or green area surrounding the palace. No residual finds were recovered.

## **10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at London Archaeological Archives and Resource Centre (LAARC). The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Barker Homes Construction Ltd for funding the project, and their agents, Stephenson Associates for their assistance (in particular Mr Ian Stephenson).

AS would also like to acknowledge the assistance, input and on-site advice of Mr David Divers of English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service.

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DP 1. One Oak, Orange Tree Hill, Havering-atte-Bower. View W.



DP 2. The site. View W.



DP 3. Trench 1. View SSE.



DP 4. Trench 1. View S.



DP 5. Trench 1, N end. Sample section. View W.



DP 6. Trench 1, S end. Sample section. View W.



DP 7. W part of the site, 'strip, map & sample' area. View SE.



DP 8. 'Strip, map & sample' area. View NW.



DP 9. 'Strip, map & sample' area. View S.



DP 10. 'Strip, map & sample' area, N side. Sample section. View SE.



DP 11. N foundations for a new house. View E.



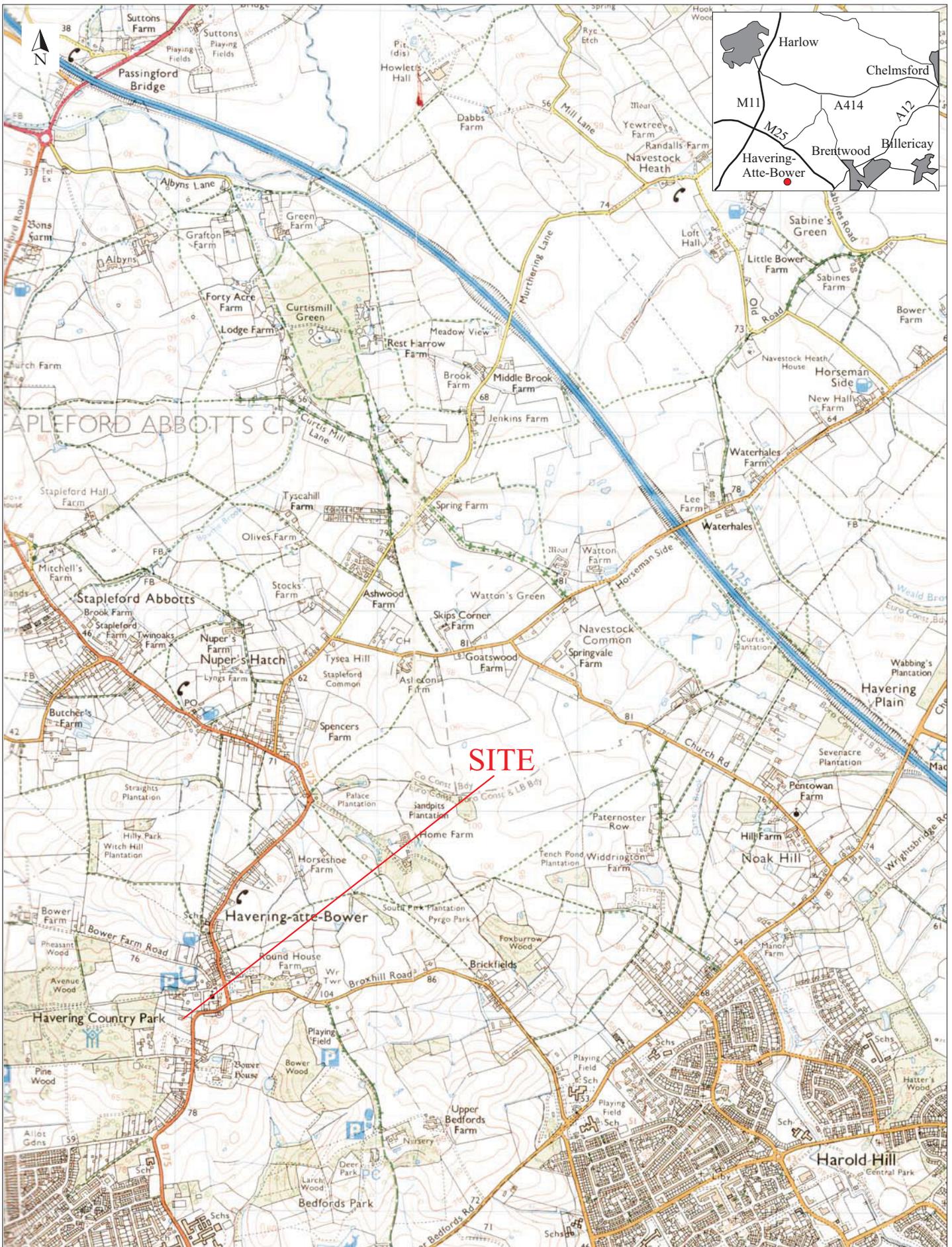
DP 12. S foundations for a new house. View W.



DP 13. N foundation trench. Sample section.  
View N.

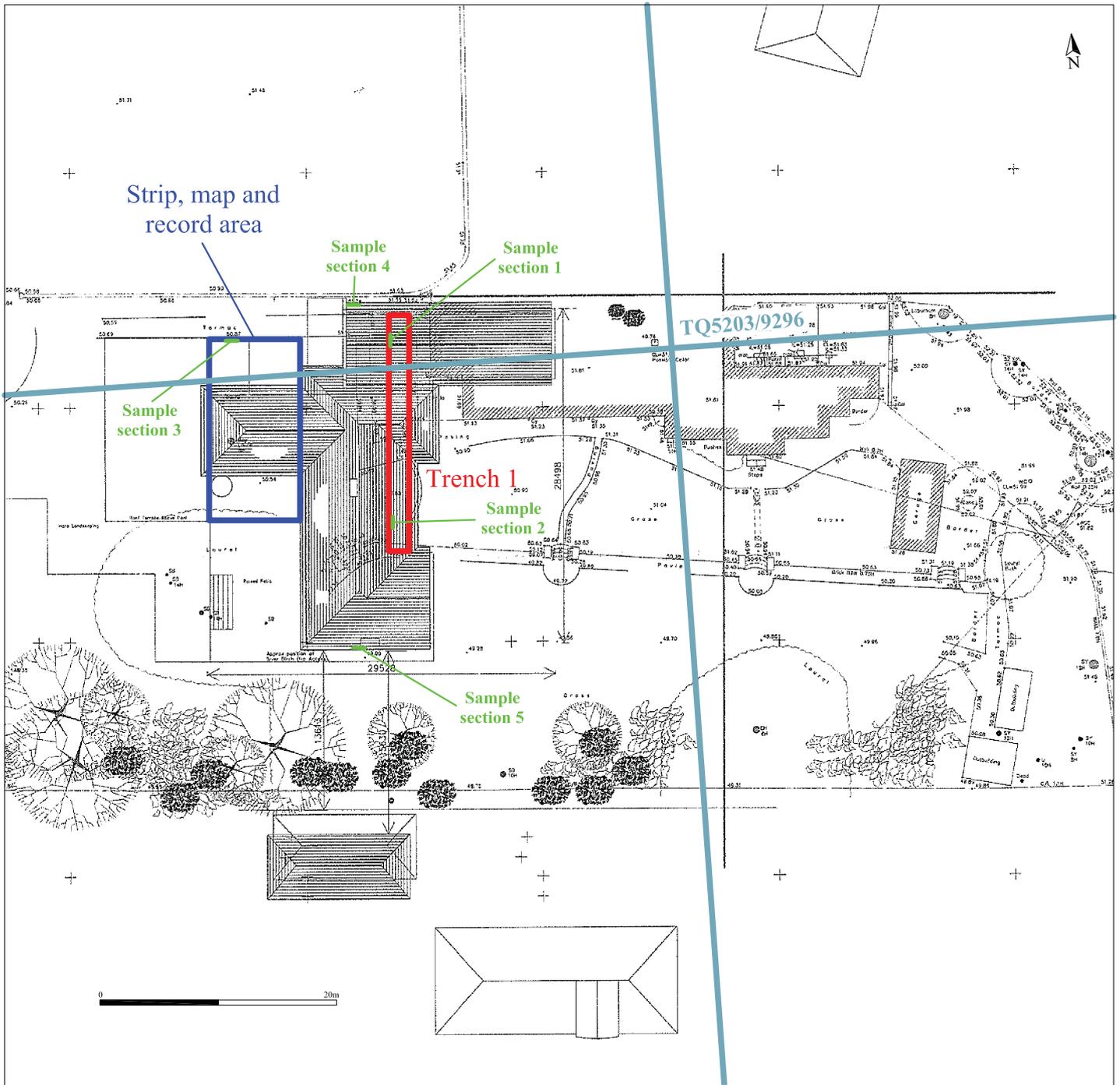


DP 14. S foundation trench. Sample section.  
View N.

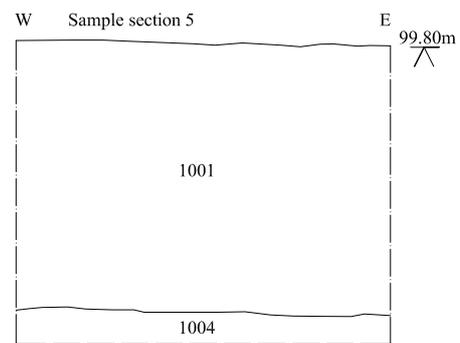
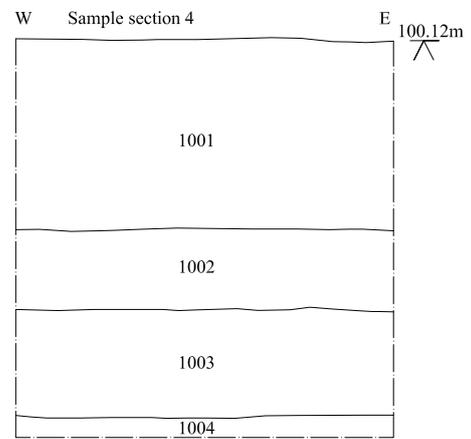
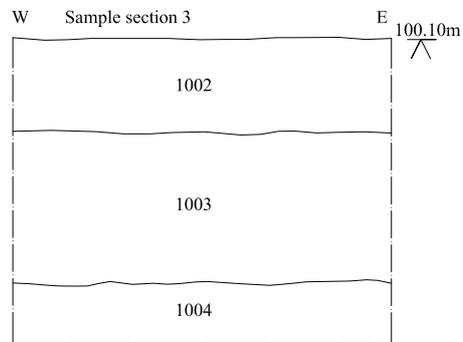
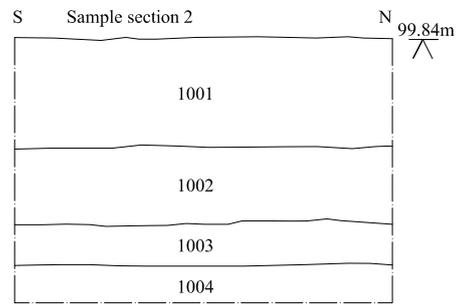
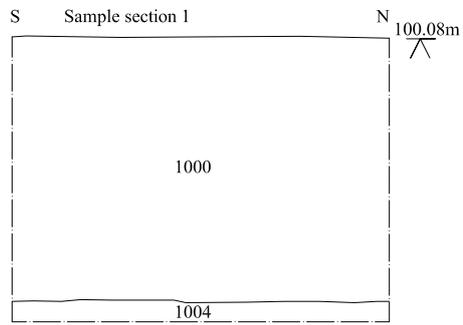


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*Archaeological Solutions Ltd*  
**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
 Scale 1:500 at A4



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**Fig. 3 Sample sections**  
 Scale 1:20 at A4