



Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:  
91-92 AKEMAN STREET  
TRING  
HERTFORDSHIRE**

*on behalf of Try Homes*



Jonathan R Hunn BA PhD MIFA

**February 2006**

**ASC: 755/TAS/02**

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## Site Data

<i>ASC site code:</i>	TAS	<i>Project no:</i>	755
<i>County:</i>	Hertfordshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Tring		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Tring		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 924 113		
<i>Present land use:</i>	Commercial building		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Residential development		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Dacorum		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	4/01878/05/04		
<i>Client:</i>	Try Homes Cowley Business Park High Street Cowley Uxbridge UB8 2AL		
<i>Contact name:</i>	David Fisher		
<i>Telephone</i>		<i>Fax:</i>	

## Internal Quality Check

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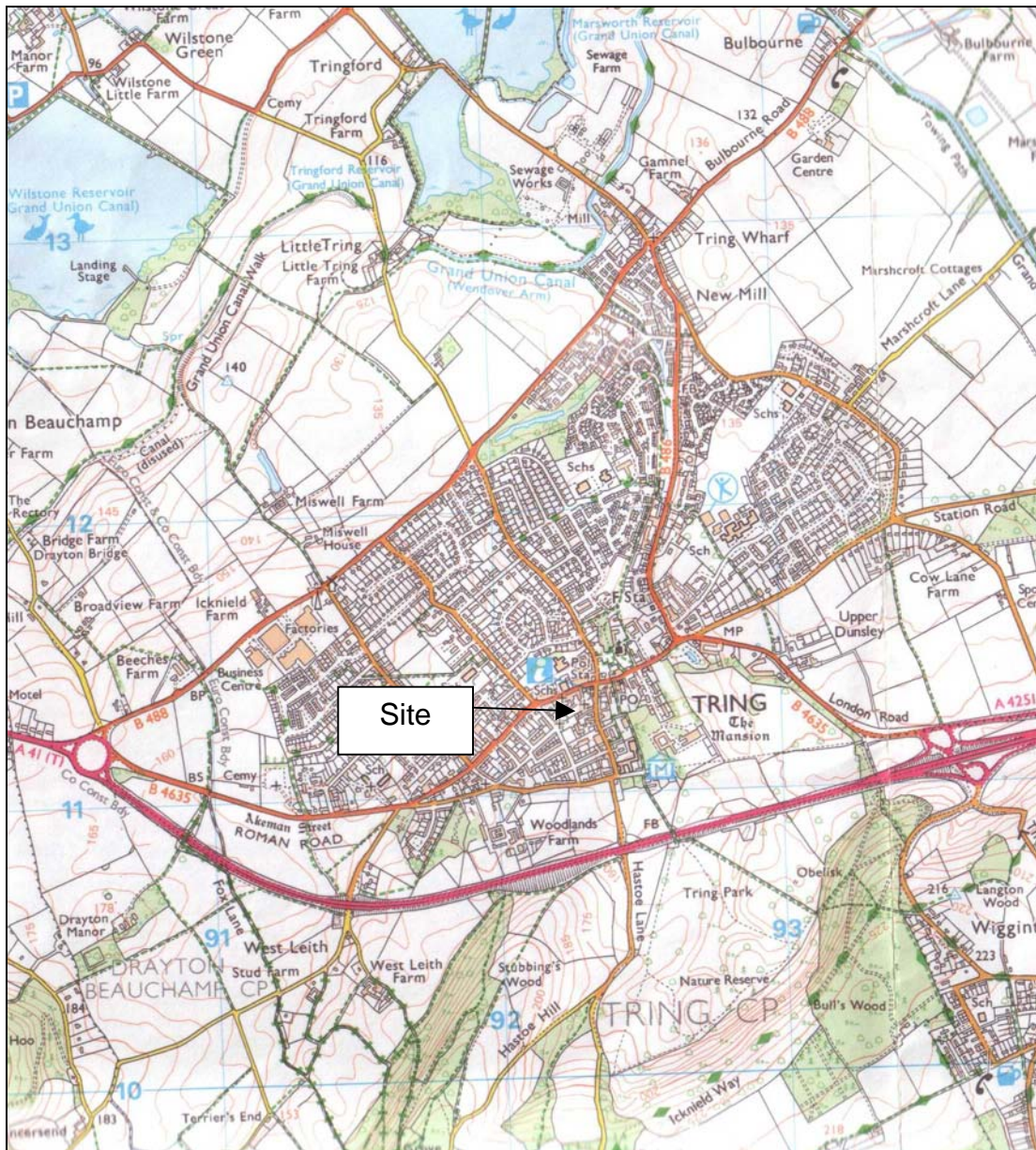


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

## Summary

*Early in 2006, Archaeological Services & Consultancy undertook a programme of monitoring and recording at 91-92 Akeman Street, formally known as Harrow Yard, Tring, Hertfordshire. The work was undertaken on behalf of Try Homes in order to fulfil a planning condition on an area which lies within the historic core of the town. Apart from some 20<sup>th</sup> century pits and an undated foundation trench the area was devoid of pre-modern activity. Much this can be ascribed to the impact of developments during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

## 1 Introduction

1.1 During late January to late February 2006 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief on a site at 91-92 Akeman Street, Tring (NGR SP 924-113: Fig. 1). The project was commissioned by David Fisher on behalf of *Try Homes Ltd*, and was carried out according to a brief prepared by the archaeological advisor (AA) for the local planning authority (Dacorum District Council), and a written scheme of investigation prepared by ASC (ASC: 755/TAS/01).

### 1.2 Reason for Work

The site lies within the historic core of Tring and the eastern end beneath an ancient building (the Old Harrow public house), now demolished. The site therefore had the potential to throw light on this part of town's development.

### 1.3 Setting

1.3.1 The site is situated on the western side of Akeman Street, Tring in a more or less central position within the town. The plot is linear in shape, measuring 80m E-W and varying between 16 and 20m wide N-S. The northern boundary is mainly brick but there are occasional panels of rubble and some flint walling; the western boundary is part wooden fencing and iron railings on a brick base; the southern boundary is composed of buildings and a brick wall, the east side is open

1.3.2 The site slopes up from Akeman Street with a difference of about 8m; the eastern side of the site lies at 135m AOD. The soils have all been modified by human agency and rest on chalk.

1.3.3 The site was occupied by several warehouses prior to the commencement of the monitoring phase of the project. Access was obtained from the eastern end of the site, off Akeman Street. There is a gate at the western end of the site but this remained locked.

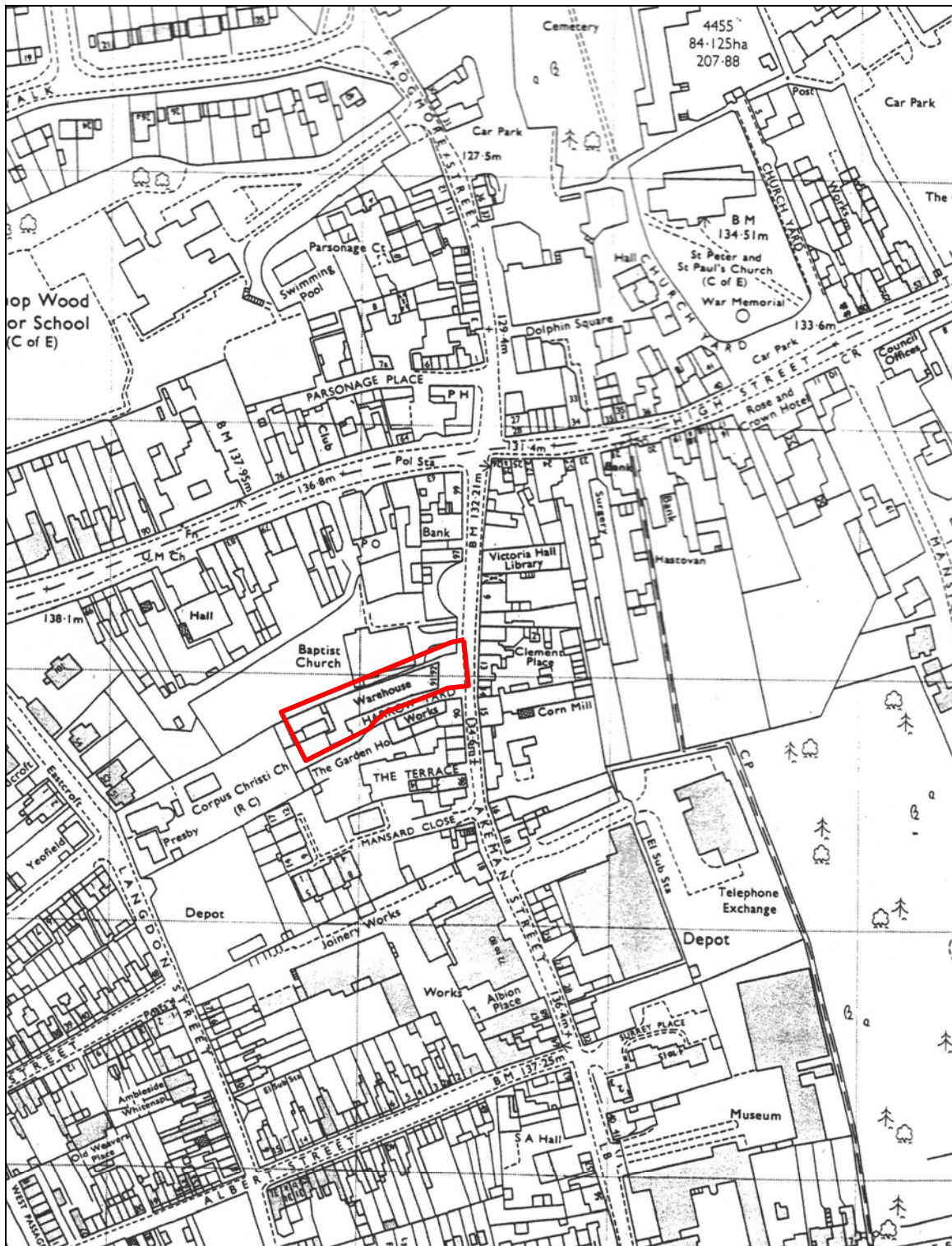


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:2500)



**Fig 3:** Development plan of the site (not to scale)

## 2 Aims & Methods

### 2.1 Aims

As described in the brief , the aims of the watching brief were:

- To ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect archaeological remains
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme
- To secure the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site

Particular attention will be paid to medieval remains from the core historic settlement and remains of the late medieval/early post-medieval Harrow public house

### 2.2 Methods

The work was carried out according to the brief , which required:

- Soil and overburden stripping under archaeological supervision
- Inspection of sub-soil for archaeological features
- Rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features/deposits
- Subsoil-stripping under archaeological supervision
- Examination of any service and foundation trenches and subsequent recording of any exposed archaeological deposits
- Examination of spoil heaps for archaeological material
- A programme of post-fieldwork analysis, archiving and publication

### 2.3 Standards

The work conforms to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000a), to current English Heritage guidelines (EH 1991), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.



### 3 Archaeological & Historical Background

#### 3.1 Prehistoric (before 600BC)

Very little is known about the prehistoric period in the immediate vicinity of Tring. However, in the general vicinity there is evidence from the Palaeolithic period onwards for human activity. A Palaeolithic handaxe has been found near Hastoe (SMR 1765). In the area of the former Grove Estate, to the north east of the site, a Beaker burial was discovered in the 18<sup>th</sup> century (SMR 0620). Other finds include a stone bracer (SMR 1766) and late Bronze Age pottery, also from the Grove Estate area (Alex Thompson *pers. comm.*).

#### 3.2 Iron Age (600BC-AD43)

There are a variety of cropmarks and enclosures in the area to suggest that Tring was most probably subdivided into farmstead units of varying size (SMR 1954, 1977, 2545, 2557) The existence of Grim's Ditch to the south of Tring may or may not be significant (SMR 0050). There are other disparate fragments of data such as the two shaft furnaces from Duckmore Lane (SMR 6069) and gold coins found near Tring (SMR 0153). This hardly amounts to a coherent pattern. Nevertheless, the results of work in the Bulbourne valley, Ashridge estate and the A41 bypass suggests that there are areas of significant settlement concentration and activity in this part of the Chilterns (Morris and Wainwright 1995; McDonald 1995).

#### 3.3 Roman (AD43-c.450)

The Roman road *Akeman Street* apparently ran through part of the town (SMR 4590), along what is now Park Street and on through the grounds of The Mansion. If this was so it is interesting that the development of the town effectively ignored the pre-existing thoroughfare. The nearest known Roman sites are those at Folly Bridge, where there was an inhumation cemetery (SMR 1526) and an occupation site (SMR6060). There was another site at Tringford Reservoir which has yielded pottery (SMR 4880) and querns (SMR 1523). From Grove Road School has come a Roman coin (SMR 6072) and from the Grove Estate another coin (SMR 6379).

#### 3.4 Saxon (c.450-1066)

There is no Anglo-Saxon material from the town, though documentary and latterly excavations on the western side of Tring suggest a continuity from the early post-Roman period onwards. There is place name evidence such as *Betlow* from 'Bet(t)a's mound or hill,' (Gover *et al* 1970, 51) which refers to pagan burials. In the late Anglo-Saxon period the manor of Tring was held by Engelric and two sokemen who each held a hide (Page 1908, 282). In the Domesday survey of 1086 Tring was composed of what would appear to be distinctive township units for taxation purposes. However, the list of names should be used with caution since it omits both Bettlow, Wilstone and Long Marston, which apart from the latter, appear in the medieval taxation lists as distinctive units. How many villas were included in what later became the parish of Tring is not certain but it can certainly be categorised as a multi-township unit.

#### 3.5 Medieval (1066-1500)

In the late 11<sup>th</sup> century Tring was held by Count Eustace of Boulogne but by the early 12<sup>th</sup> century it had been granted to the abbey of St Saviour's, Faversham (Page 1908, 282-3). In 1340 Tring was exchanged for livings in Kent and came into the possession

of the archbishop of Canterbury (Richards 1974, 19). In the estate documents of the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century it would appear that ‘Tything-men were appointed to represent the various settlements at the ‘View of Frankpledge’ (Richards 1974, 20). This was an Anglo-Saxon institution for maintaining law and order. The places mentioned were as follows: Tring; Little Tring & Forde cum Mussewell; Wilstone cum Basset; Grove cum Dunsley & Pendley; Westlyth cum Hastoe; Marsh cum Gubblecot; Marston; Wigginton; Betlow; and the tithing of the Rectory (*ibid.*). At the time of the Dissolution the manor came into the hands of the Crown (Page 1908, 283).

### 3.6 Post-Medieval (1500-1900)

In the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century the manor of Tring was granted to Henry Peckham, but it reverted to the Crown in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century (Page 1908, 283). It ceased to be crown property in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, when it was granted to William Gore (*ibid.*). It was conveyed to Drummond Smith in 1786 who died without issue and it was conveyed to William Kay in 1823 (*ibid.*). In 1872 his widow conveyed it to Baron Lionel Nathan de Rothschild, in whose hands it remained until the late 1930’s (*ibid.*).

It is not certain what changes, if any, occurred to the street layout of Tring in this period. It is likely that the road system remained the same from the medieval period onwards. In 1711 Sir Willam Gore had Akeman Street diverted so as to avoid going through his new park (Richards 1974, 25). According to the Dury and Andrews map of 1766, and confirmed by the Ordnance Survey draft dated 1812 (B. Lib OSD 154), the oldest areas of settlement appear to be based on the following thoroughfares: High Street, Brook Street, Frogmore Sreet and Akeman Street. The use of the suffix ‘street’ accords with the identification of such elements as indicating an early date for their use. The modern *street* comes from Old English *stret* (*Stræet*), itself borrowed from Latin *strata*, and meaning ‘paved road’ (Cameron 1961, 154). However, there is a need to be cautious in ascribing all uses of the term ‘street’ as automatically indicating long usage (Taylor 1979, 93-94). It is worth pointing out that although the name Akeman Street is of undoubted antiquity (Cameron 1961, 155; Mawer and Stenton 1926, 1-2) the current name actually applies to a road that joins the ancient alignment of this thoroughfare (Park Street) to the south. According to the Drury and Andrews survey, part of the middle section of Western Road (*i.e* the one that continues the line of the High Street) had not yet been built (Fig. 4). This disjuncture was still evident by 1812 when the Ordnance Survey was drawing up its preliminary drafts (B.Lib OSD 154). By the time of Bryant’s survey of 1822 the present layout of Western Road (the old A 41) was complete.

The site of the present development first appears in the historical record when the earliest known building there, probably belonging to the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, century was used as a coaching inn (Hunns 2000, 12). From off Akeman Street there ran several ‘yards’ where the poorest inhabitants of the town lived. In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century census nine families amounting to 65 individuals were recorded (Goose 1996, 328-9). There were 2 journeyman brick makers, an umbrella maker, 5 agricultural labourers, 3 silk winders a cordwainer, a labourer, a brick layer, a charwoman a shepherd, a silk cleaner and 5 scholars (*ibid.*). What was later to become a public house, ‘The Old Harrow’ was described as a ‘Beer shop’ and was entered under Akeman Street rather than Harrow Yard. The yard is first depicted on the 1<sup>st</sup> series Ordnance Survey 25 inch scale map of 1877. By 1898 a smithy was situated towards the western end of the site

(Fig. 5). At the end of the century many of the tenements in Harrow Yard still survived.



Fig 4: Extract from Drury & Andrews survey of 1766

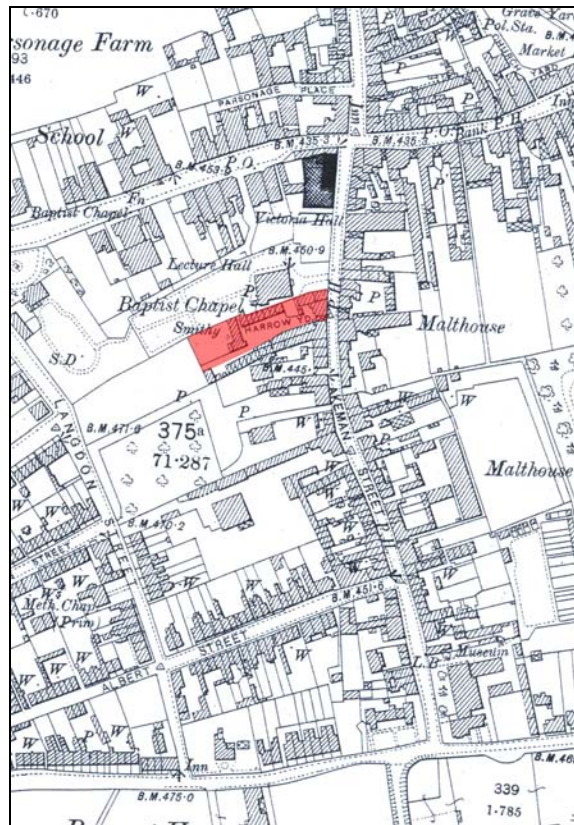


Fig 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey 25 inch scale map of 1898

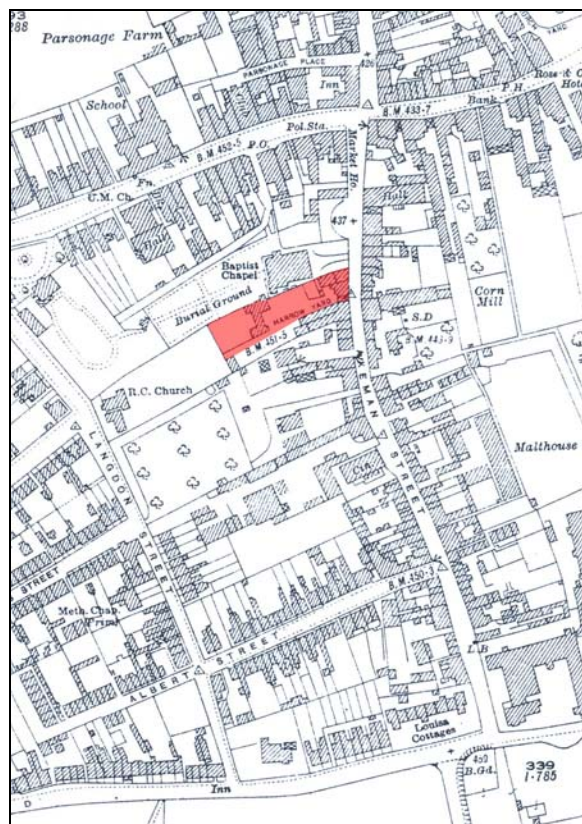


Fig 6: Extract from Ordnance Survey 25 inch scale map of 1924



## 4 Results

- 4.1 At the time of the commencement of the monitoring programme the site of Harrow Yard had been cleared of all its standing buildings. This meant that much of the pre-development land surface had been disturbed by the demolition phase and the grubbing up of old foundations. Nevertheless, subsequent observations were able to confirm the following character of the site.
- 4.2 The foundations of Plot 1 (the most westerly plot) were approximately 0.65m wide and 1.3m deep (Plate 1; monitoring sheet Jan 26<sup>th</sup>). The upper 0.5 to 0.7m of ground was made up of a variety of 20<sup>th</sup> century deposits containing varying degrees of organic matter. Below the overburden the ground consisted of semi-dissolved natural chalk (Plates 2-5). Apart from a relatively modern soakaway (Plate 6) there were no pre-modern features or artefacts observed.
- 4.3 The foundations of Plot 2 were deeper, varying between 1.5 and 2.2m deep (Plate 7). The depth of overburden was more uniform at about 0.3m deep, consisting of a very dark flinty clay followed by 0.2m of brown subsoil (Plates 8-10).
- 4.4 The foundations of Plot 3 were also deep, being at an average depth of about 2m (Plate 11; monitoring sheet Jan 30<sup>th</sup>). The overburden appeared to be getting shallower and consisted of building rubble and drains (Plates 12, 16-17). A T-shaped extension to the north of plot 3 was observed (8m E-W and 6m N-S x 1.75m deep x 0.8m wide). The overburden consists of pebbly brown soil and building debris and occasional old service runs. Below this the ground consisted of semi dissolved natural chalk. Apart from a single oyster shell, no pre-modern artefacts or features were observed.
- 4.5 The ground level between plots 2 and 3 were reduced and in so doing revealed a N-S feature. It was over 5m in length by 0.4m wide and contained greyish chalk, or possibly clunch blocks none of which exceeded 0.15m in diameter. It was situated 22m from the western boundary of the site (Plates 13-14). There was no indication as to its date.
- 4.6 On the south west corner of the site opposite Plots 1 & a 2 a 22m length of an E-W service trench (c. 0.8m wide and 0.9m deep) was observed. The overburden was about 0.4m deep and consisted of dark, gravely clay (Plate 15; monitoring sheet Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>).
- 4.7 On the northern side of the middle section of the site a 12m segment was observed (monitoring sheet Feb 14<sup>th</sup>). The depth of the foundations was 1.3m (Plate 18) and the overburden some 0.4m deep. A couple of pits were noted but these were almost certainly modern as they were filled with loose bricks amidst chalky earth.
- 4.8 At the eastern extremity of the site, adjacent to Akeman Street the area was terraced (monitoring sheets Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>). The area was approximately 10m x 20m and exposed pure chalk. The foundations were about 1.3m deep and there were no signs of any underlying features (Plates 19-22).

- 4.9 The foundations underpinning the boundary on the north side of the site were observed (monitoring sheets 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>). Successive segments were dug to varying widths, though the average depth was 1m. The ground was almost entirely natural chalk with little other material being present (Plates 23-24).



**Plate 1:** General view of plot 1 looking NW



**Plate 2:** Detail of footings of plot 1 looking east



**Plate 3:** Detail of footings of plot looking west



**Plate 4:** Detail of footings of plot 1 looking SW



**Plate 5:** Detail of footings of plot 1 looking north



**Plate 6:** Detail of old soakaway





**Plate 7:** General of view plot 2 looking NE



**Plate 8:** Detail of foundations looking south



**Plate 9:** Detail of foundations looking south



**Plate 10:** Detail of foundations looking east



**Plate 11:** General view of plot 3 looking SW



**Plate 12:** Detail of foundation trench looking north



**Plate 13:** Location of old N-S foundation



**Plate 14:** Detail of N-S foundation looking south



**Plate 15:** Service trench looking west



**Plate 16:** Foundation trench on the east side of 3<sup>rd</sup> plot



**Plate 17:** Detail of foundations on north side of 3<sup>rd</sup> plot



**Plate 18:** Detail of foundations on north side of 3<sup>rd</sup> plot



**Plate 19:** Easternmost N-S foundation by Akeman Street



**Plate 20:** Foundations below footprint of Old Harrow



**Plate 21:** Footings on east side of site



**Plate 22:** Footings on east side of site



**Plate 23:** View north across boundary foundations by Baptist chapel



**Plate 24:** Underpinning of northern boundary wall

## 5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Detailed observations carried out between January 23<sup>rd</sup> and February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2006 were able to establish that the site had been substantially remodelled prior to the start of the ground work phase of the development. The only ground that had survived relatively undisturbed lay at the higher western end of the site, on the higher ground away from the Akeman Street frontage. However, the ground in this area was not ancient and judging from the character of the bricks and other debris present could not have predated the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.2 The lack any deposits or artefacts beneath and adjacent to the footprint of the old timber building (Old Harrow) was surprising. However, that a building like The Old Harrow should leave no signs of any foundations was not surprising in that timber framed buildings often were constructed on dwarf footings that would be no more than one brick or so deep, especially if they rested on the natural chalk. In the case of the post-1958 development, it is highly probable that what little survived was probably destroyed during the initial clearance of the site. This would have been further compounded by the recent clearance of the site.
- 5.3 Another curious element of this site was the absence of any latrine pits or wells. No wells are recorded on the Ordnance Survey maps of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Akeman Street was served with one of the earliest sewers and piped water was first brought to the Dancer's End pumping station by 1867 (Richards 1974, 50). It is perhaps hardly surprising that outbreaks of typhoid were a feature of the crowded tenements in and around Akeman Street in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Woodhouse 1996, xiii).

## 6. Acknowledgements

The writer is grateful to David Fisher of *Try Homes* for commissioning this project and to David Sheriden (Coinfords) the site agent for his cooperation. Thanks are also due to Kate Batt (Historic Environment Section, HCC) for her advice. Finally, my thanks to Bob Zeepvat for editing this report.

## 7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:


1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site Monitoring Sheets
6. List of photographs/slides
7. Colour slides
8. B/W prints & negatives
9. Original specialist reports and supporting information
10. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with the Dacorum Heritage Trust.

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# Appendix 1: Monitoring Sheets

 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>			
Project: <b>91-92, Akeman Street</b> <b>TRING, Herts</b>		Project No/Code: <b>7551TAS</b>		Sheet: <b>1 of 7</b>	
Client/Developer: <b>Trig Home</b>		Date of visit: <b>23/1/06</b>			
Contact: <b>Daniel Skirrow</b>		Phone: <b>07865-294546</b>			
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: <b>9.10</b>		Finish: <b>10.35</b>	
Completed by: <b>SJH</b>					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: <b>Dull and dry.</b>					
Observations:					
<p><i>All the buildings on the site have now been removed. What remains are spreader of building debris, floors etc. Several test pits have been dug and backfilled. These look as though they have been cut into natural ground.</i></p>					
Comments:					
<p><i>Maching not due to arrive until Tuesday.</i></p>					

For sketch plan, use reverse

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD**

Project: 91-92, Akeman Street Tring, Herts		Project No/Code: 7551 TAS	Sheet: 2 of 17
Client/Developer Tring Home		Date of visit: 24/1/06	
Contact: Daniel Sheehan - Cowford	Phone: 07865-294546		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 1.45 pm	Finish: 2.30 pm	
Completed by: JAM			
<b>Development Type:</b>			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: Cold & dry + snow.			
Observations: As previously.			
Comments: Working out but owned ed excavating machine absent. Brief visit.			

For sketch plan, use reverse

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 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>				
Project: <i>91-92 Akeman Street</i> <i>Tring, Herts</i>		Project No/Code: <i>755 1 TAS</i>		Sheet: <i>3</i> of <i>17</i>		
Client/Developer: <i>Tring Homes</i>		Date of visit: <i>25/1/06</i>				
Contact: <i>D. Sheridan (coinfords)</i>		Phone: <i>07865-294546</i>				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: <i>11.20</i>		Finish: <i>12.35</i>		
Completed by: <i>JRH</i>						
Development Type:						
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <i>Dry + w/b</i>						
Observations: <i>Looked at the western end which had been levelled. There were at least 50% of patches of natural gravelly clay. No foundations art.</i>						
Comments: <i>Redressing tomorrow.</i>						

For sketch plan, use reverse

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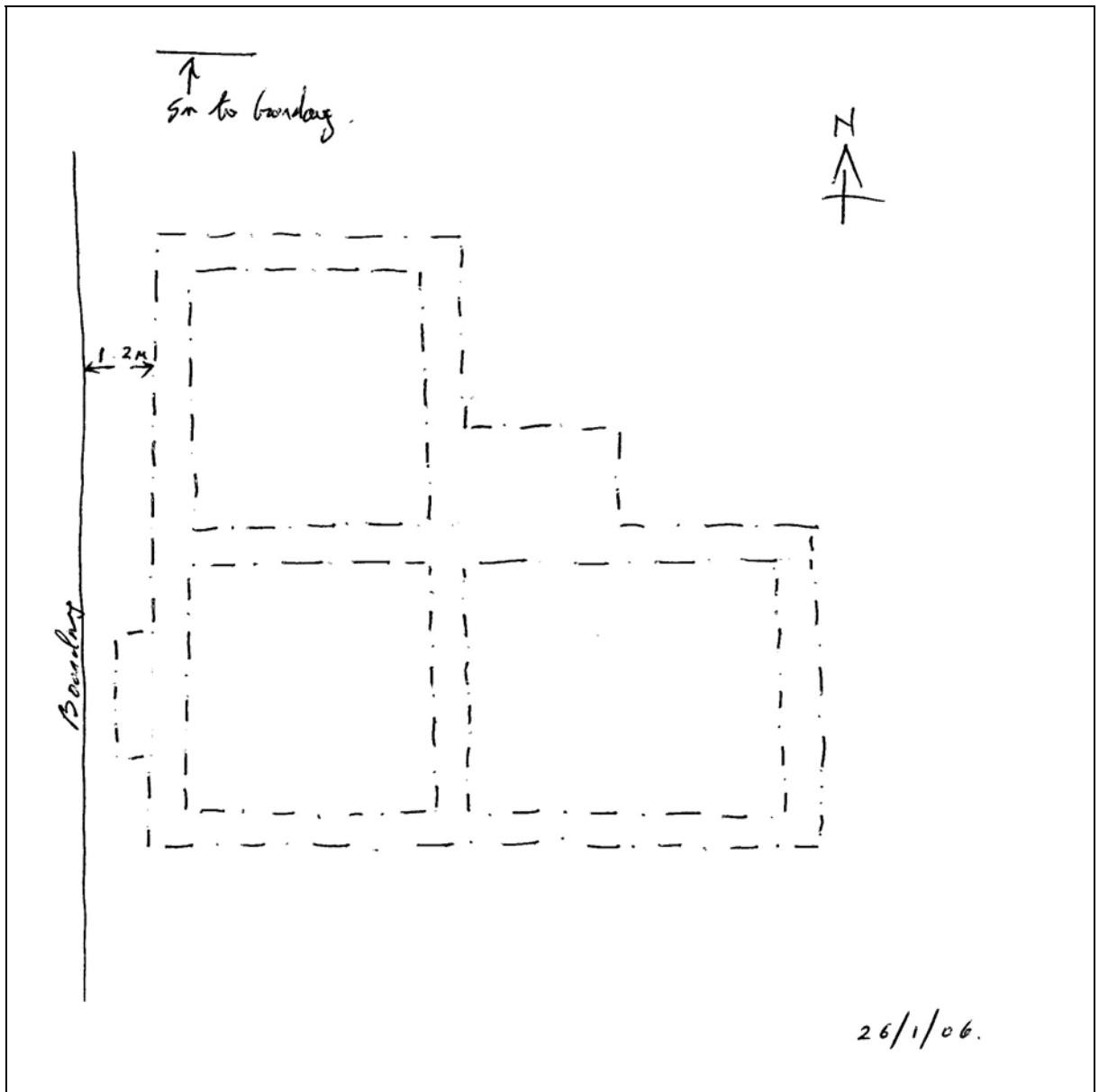
**A.S.C. LTD**


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD**

Project: 91-92, Akeman St Tring, Herts		Project No/Code: 755 1 TAS	Sheet: 4 of 17
Client/Developer: Tring Homes		Date of visit: 26/1/06	
Contact: David Shevlin (Company)		Phone: 07865-294546	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 10.45	Finish:	
Completed by: SRA			
Development Type:			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: v. cold, drizzle & over Sun.			
Observations: Observed the most westerly pit. The foundations are on average 0.65m wide, though 0.8m at top, and 1.30m deep. The foundations go down into the same dissolved natural strata. The made up ground occurs between 0.5m - 0.7m. Most of the overburden / disturbance looks 20C associated with the industrial site. There are occasional patches of topsoil. See over for sketches.			
Comments: No artefacts or pre-modern features observed.			

For sketch plan, use reverse


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 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>	
Project: <i>91-92 Akeman Street</i> <i>Tring</i>		Project No/Code: <i>755 1 TAS</i>	Sheet: <i>5 of 17</i>
Client/Developer: <i>Tring Horans</i>		Date of visit: <i>27/1/06</i>	
Contact: <i>D. Skiridun</i>		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <i>11.15</i>	Finish:	
Completed by: <i>JAA</i>			
<b>Development Type:</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Footings	<input type="checkbox"/> Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Roads	<input type="checkbox"/> Levelling
			<input type="checkbox"/> Quarrying
			<input type="checkbox"/> Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <i>cold &amp; dry, dull.</i>			
Observations:			
<i>Observed the level plot. Footings deeper 1.5 to 2.2m</i>			
<i>The over-burden more uniform - typically 0.3m v. dark flinty clay</i>			
<i>followed by 0.2m of brown silty sand then remains</i>			
<i>of silty sand c. 0.5m &amp; then pure chalk (no rock chalk)</i>			
Comments:			
<i>No pre-medieval features or artefacts noted.</i>			

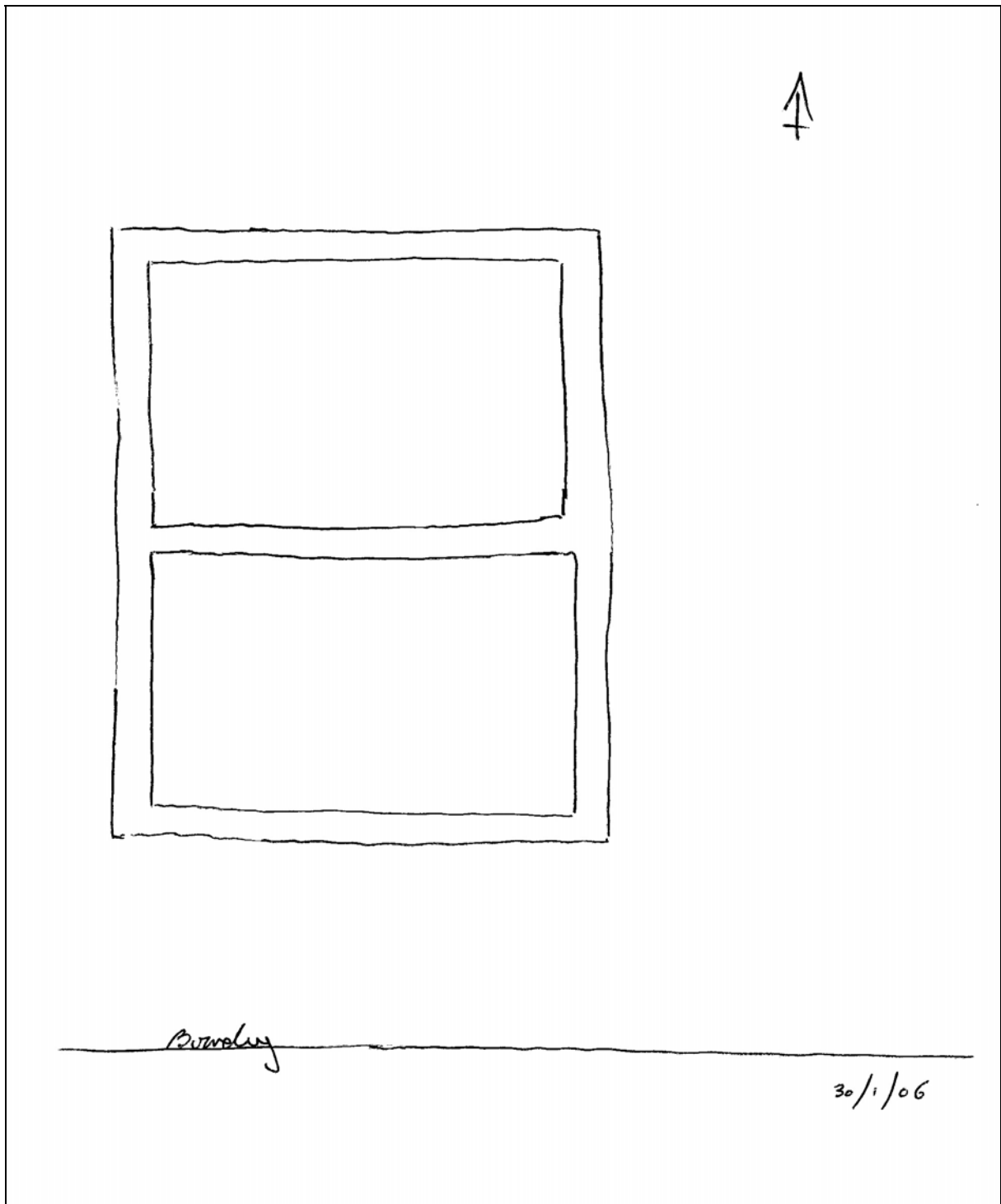
For sketch plan, use reverse

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 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>				
Project: <i>91-92, Akeman Street</i> <i>Tring</i>		Project No/Code: <i>7551TAS</i>	Sheet: <i>6</i> of <i>17</i>			
Client/Developer: <i>Tring Homes</i>		Date of visit: <i>30/1/06</i>				
Contact: <i>David Sherman - Conford</i>		Phone: <i>07865-294546</i>				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <i>11. am.</i>	Finish:				
Completed by: <i>JRA</i>						
Development Type:						
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <i>Dull &amp; dry.</i>						
Observations: <i>Outrigger the third pit. Foundation about 2m deep (max.) The overburden is much shallower being not more than 0.4m in most places. Consists of banking rubble in densest. Material is all chalk.</i>						
Comments: <i>No pre-modern features or artefacts noted.</i>						

For sketch plan, use reverse

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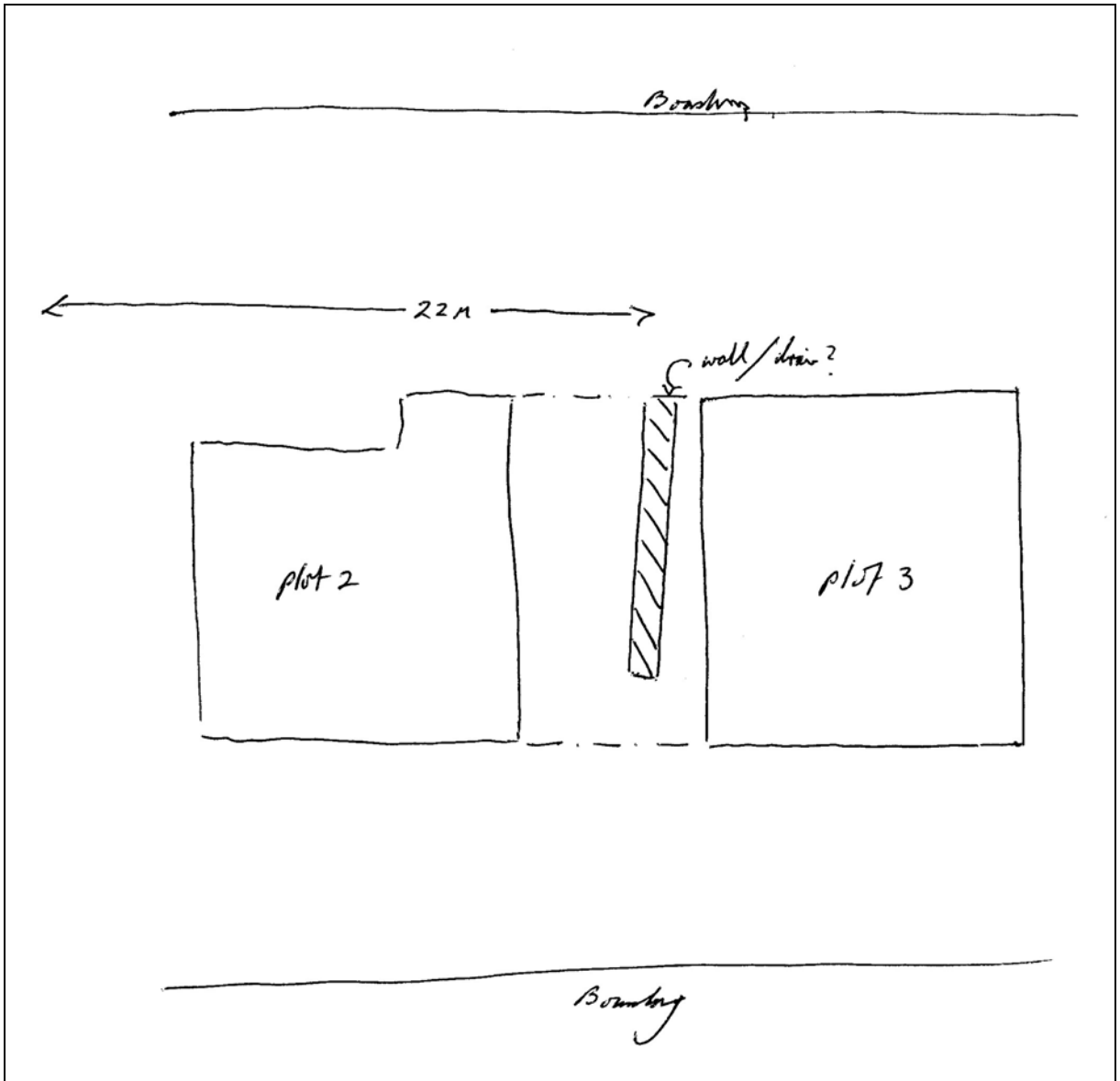
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD**


Project: 91-92, Akeman Street, Tring		Project No/Code: 755 1 TAS	Sheet: 7 of 17
Client/Developer: Tring Homes		Date of visit: 1/2/06	
Contact: D. Sheridan - Coxford		Phone: 07865-294246	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 10.55 pm	Finish:	
Completed by: SRA			
<b>Development Type:</b>			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: Dull and dry.			
Observations: The ground between plots 2 and 3 had been reduced by c. 0.6m. This revealed the following feature: It was over 5m in length x 0.4m wide and orientated N-S. Its fill consisted of greyish chalk/clunch blocks no more than 0.15m dia. Could be wall foundation or wall. It was situated 2.2m from the western boundary of the site.			
Comments: Feature not dated.			

For sketch plan, use reverse

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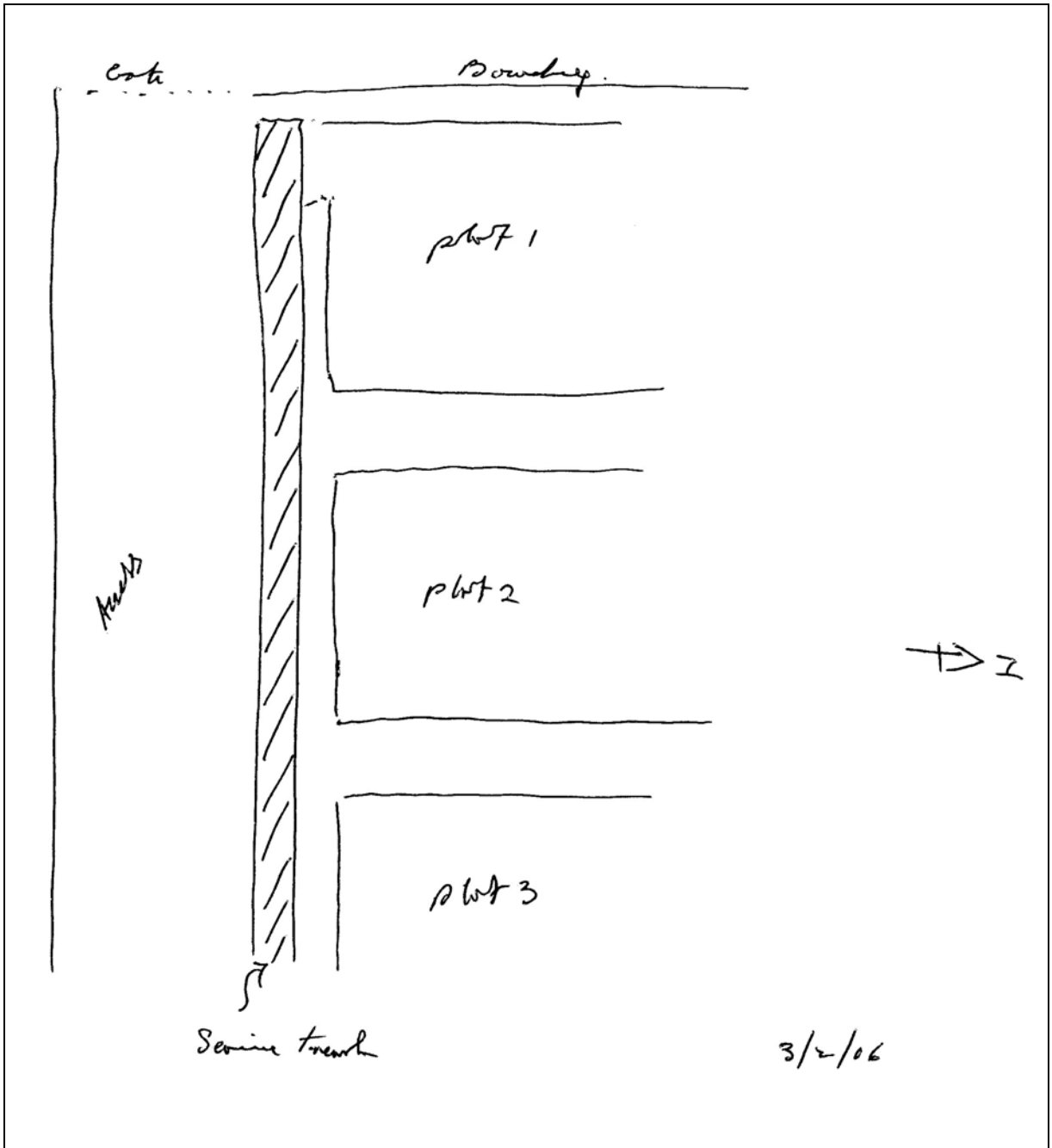




 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>	
Project: <b>91-92, Akeman Street</b> <b>Tring</b>		Project No/Code: <b>755 1TAS</b>	Sheet: <b>8 of 17</b>
Client/Developer: <b>Tring Homes</b>		Date of visit: <b>3/2/06</b>	
Contact: <b>D. Sheridan</b>		Phone: <b>07865 294546</b>	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <b>1.20pm</b>	Finish: <b>2.50pm</b>	
Completed by: <b>SRA</b>			
Development Type:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Footings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Roads	<input type="checkbox"/> Levelling
		<input type="checkbox"/> Quarrying	<input type="checkbox"/> Pipelines
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):	
Site & weather conditions: <b>Dull &amp; v. cold.</b>			
Observations: <p><b>0.6m x 2.2m of Service trench (c. 0.8m wide x 0.9m deep) located to South of plots 1 to 3. Orientated E-W down the slope, 40% -&gt; trench had pipes + ground in it. Orientation was a dark granular clay which was fairly clean.</b></p>			
Comments: <b>No features or artefacts observed.</b>			

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: 91-92 Akeman Street		Project No/Code: 755 1 TAS	Sheet: 10 of 17
Tring		Date of visit: 7/2/06	
Client/Developer: Tughones			
Contact: David Sheridan		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 12.45 pm	Finish: 2.00 pm	
Completed by: LIZZIE GILL			
Development Type:			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: Dry + overcast			
Observations: Trenches. Original Wallfootings (already observed by Jonathan Hunt) re-excavated to increase width. Sections examined - nothing of note visible - Tomorrow (3/2/06) excavation of new footings towards the wall of the chapel. Observation of footings suggests that the site has been levelled off at some stage. Best time to visit - 12.30 pm ish before concrete is poured.			
Comments: Requires visit 8/2/06 to observe next bit of wall footing trenches - no later than 1 pm ish as concrete may be poured.			

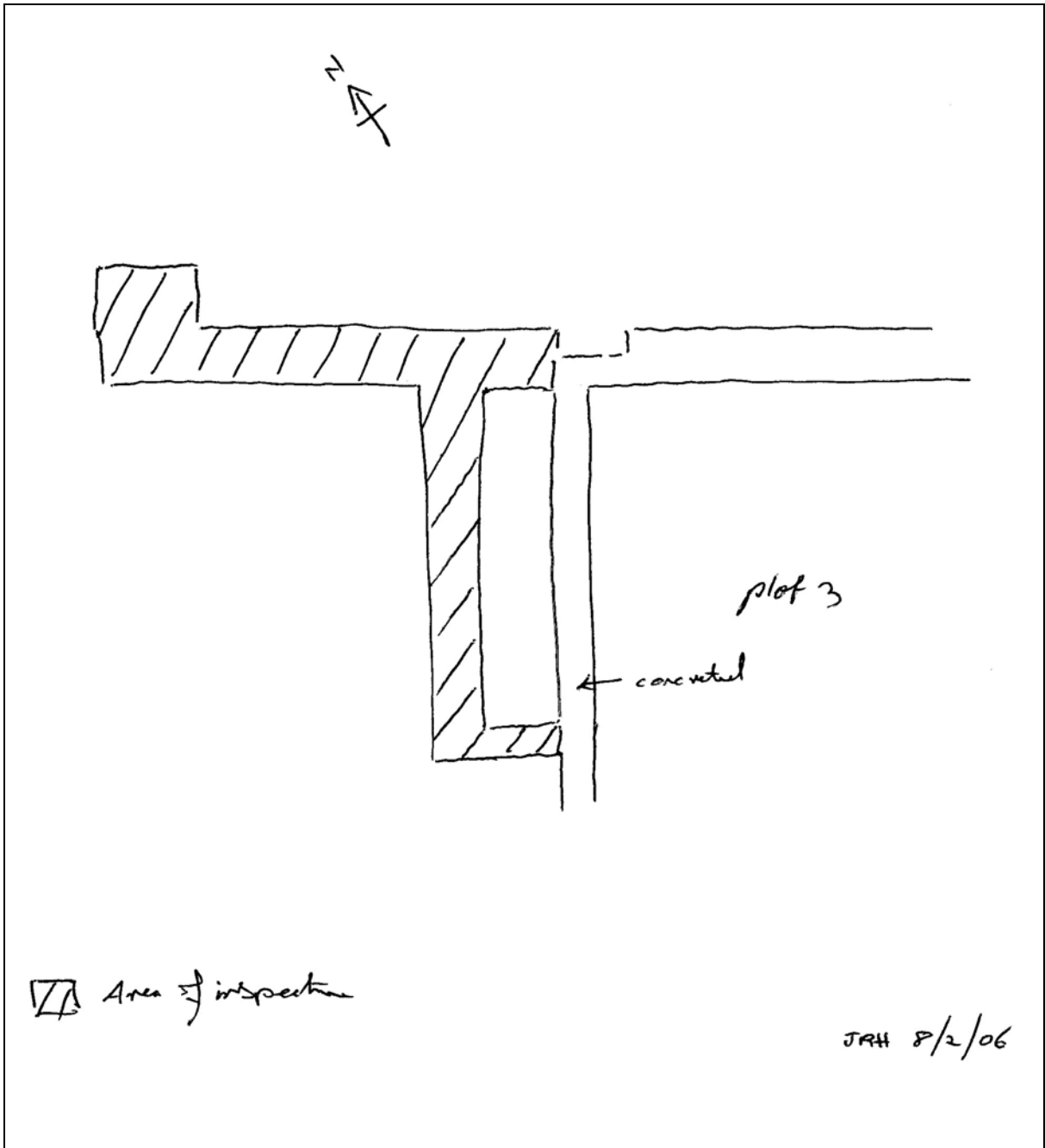
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 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>	
Project: <b>91-92, Akeman Street</b> <b>Tring</b>		Project No/Code: <b>755 1 TAS</b>	Sheet: <b>11 of 17</b>
Client/Developer: <b>Tring Homes</b>		Date of visit: <b>8/2/06</b>	
Contact: <b>David Sherden</b>		Phone: <b>07865-294546</b>	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <b>12.05pm</b>	Finish: <b>1.55pm</b>	
Completed by: <b>SRLA</b>			
<b>Development Type:</b>			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dry &amp; cool.</b></p>			
Observations: <p>                     Observed T-shaped enclosure to the west of plot 3. Approx 3m - E-W and 6m N-S. 1.75m deep x 0.8m wide. Overburden consists of partly brown soil and building debris + one serving run about 0.25m. Below this is the semi-dissolved natural chalk.                      Apart from single oyster shell no finds noted or features of pre-modern era.                 </p>			
Comments:			

For sketch plan, use reverse

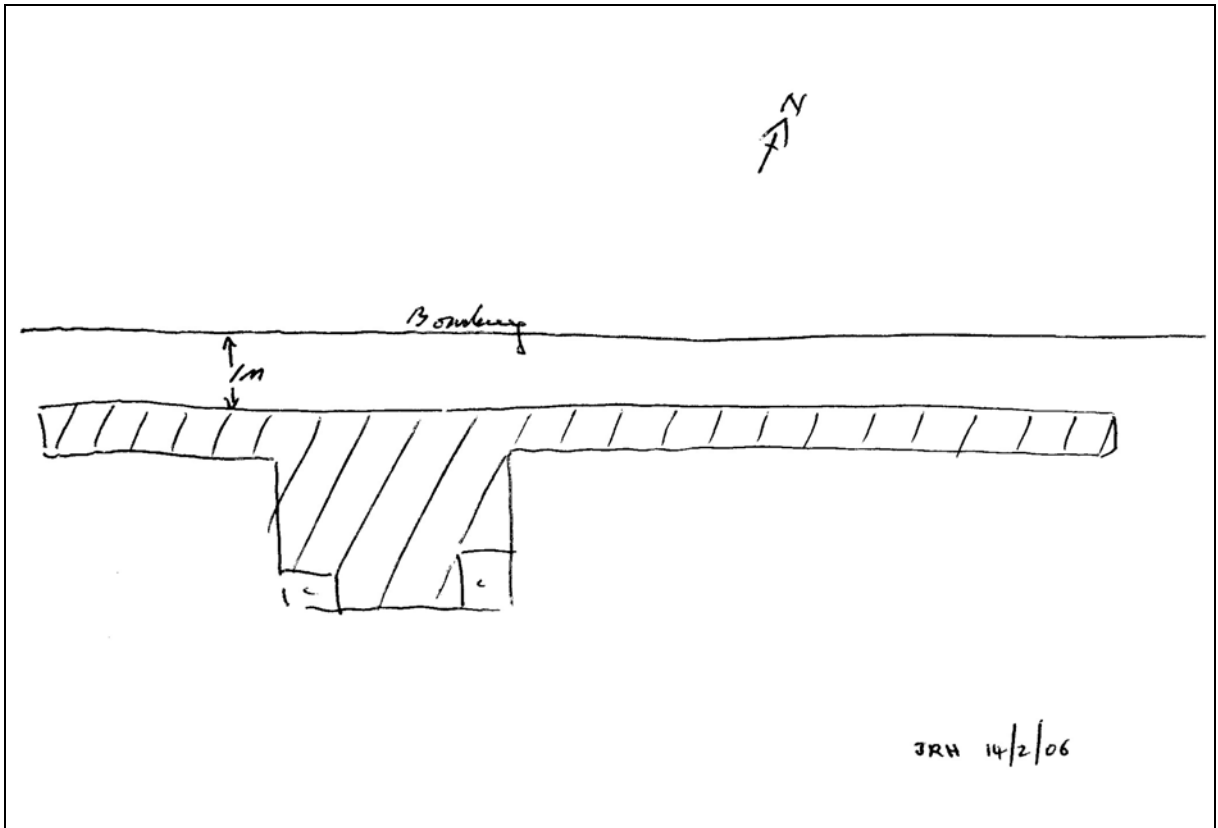
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Project: <b>91-92, Akeman Street</b> <i>Tring</i>		Project No/Code: <b>755 1 TAS</b>	Sheet: <b>12 of 17</b>
Client/Developer: <b>Tring Homes</b>		Date of visit: <b>14/2/06</b>	
Contact: <b>David Sheehan</b>		Phone: <b>07865-29454-6</b>	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <b>9.35am</b>	Finish:	
Completed by: <b>JRH</b>			
<b>Development Type:</b>			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <b>Dry, Sunny but damp underneath.</b>			
Observations: <b>Observed 12m length - E-W on the north side of the site, more or less middle section. Depth about 1.3m with overbank of c.0.4m composed of dark soil and broken tiles. A couple of pits were noted but these were almost certainly modern being filled with loose modern bricks amongst cherty earth.</b>			
Comments: <b>No pre-modern material present.</b>			

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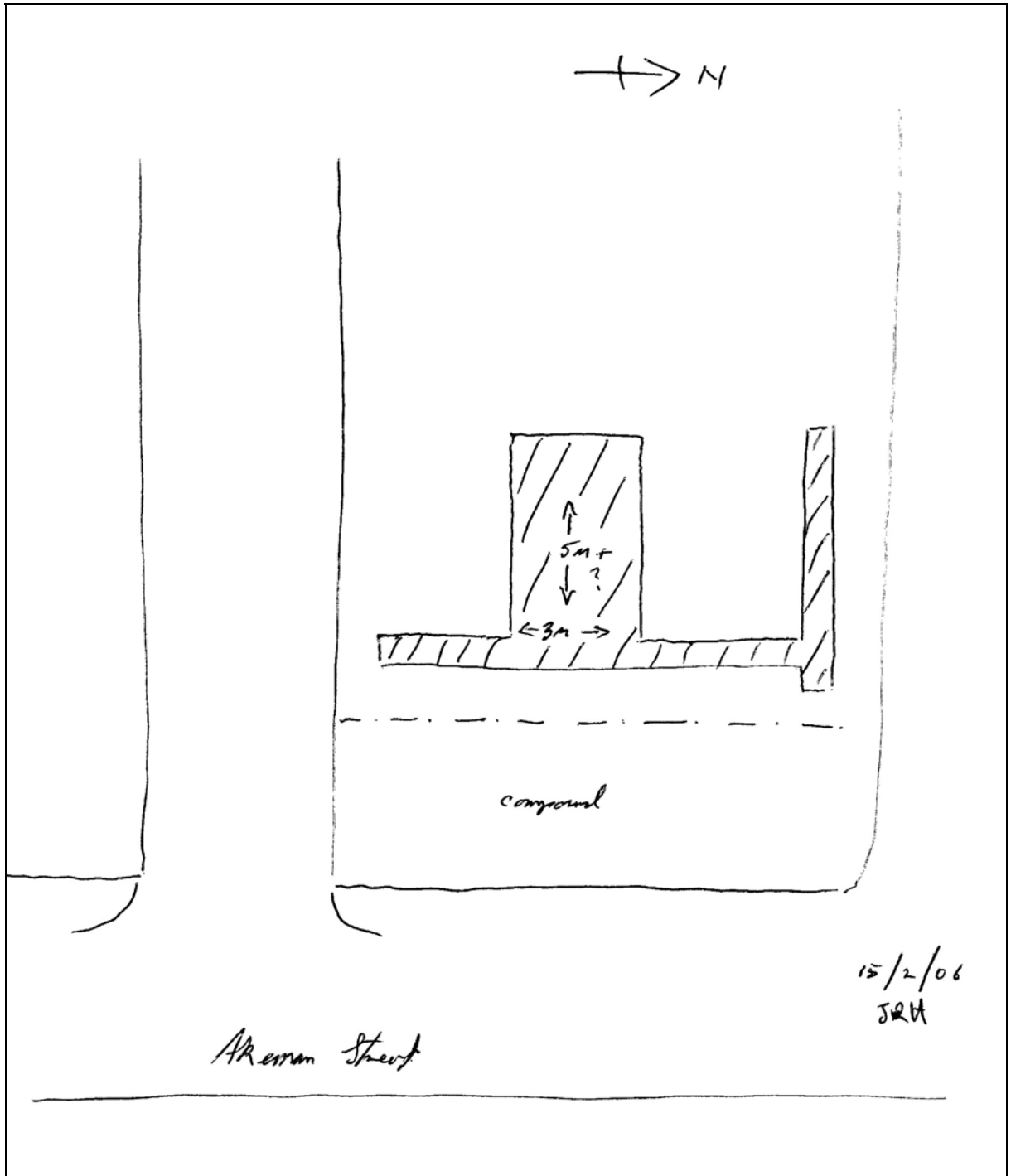
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD**

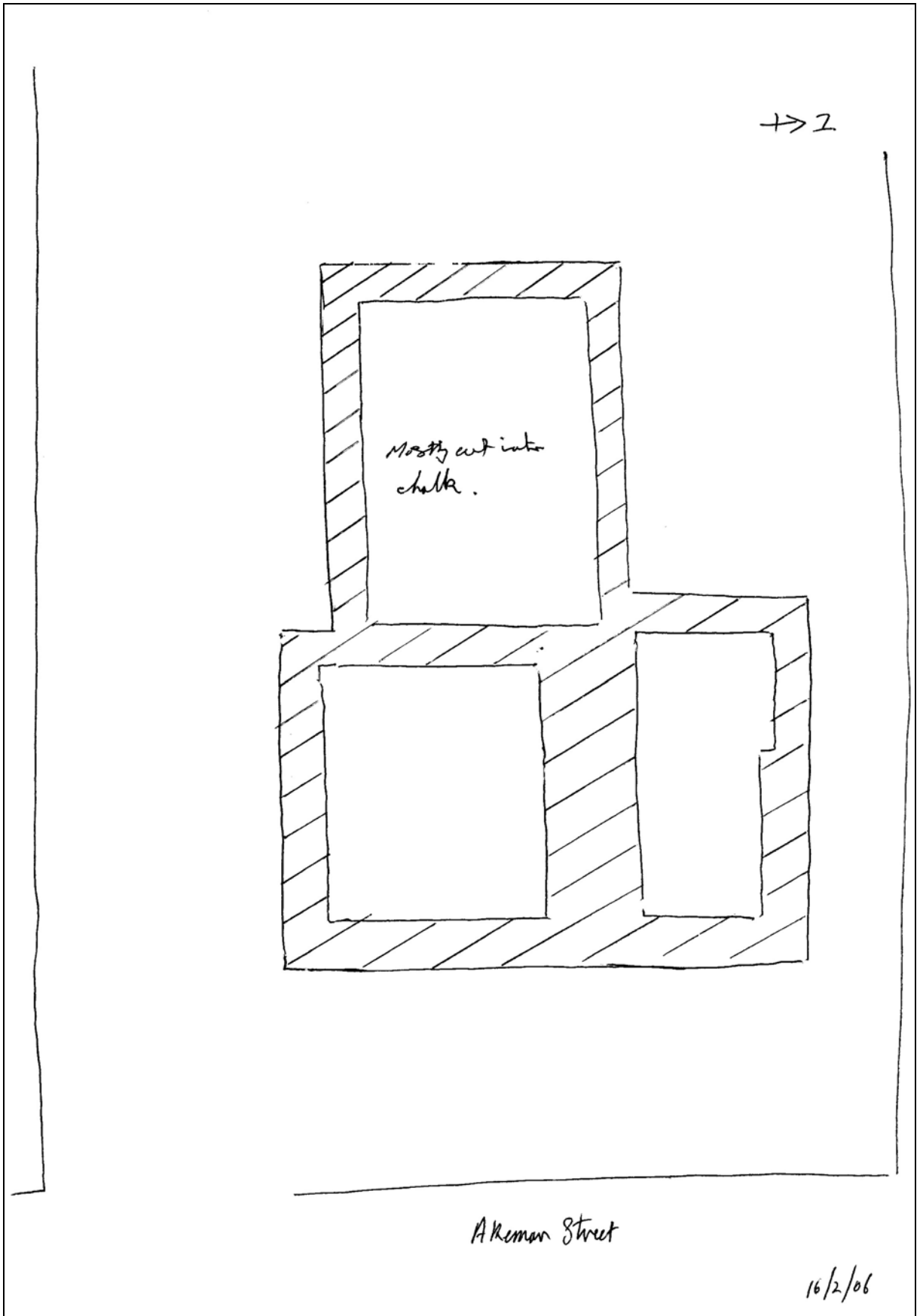
Project: <b>91-92, Akeman St Tring</b>		Project No/Code: <b>755 1 TAS</b>	Sheet: <b>13 of 17</b>
Client/Developer: <b>Tring Homes</b>		Date of visit: <b>15/2/06</b>	
Contact: <b>D. Shardon - Coventry</b>		Phone: <b>07865-294546</b>	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <b>9.30</b>	Finish: <b>11.45</b>	
Completed by: <b>SRA</b>			
Development Type:			
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <b>Day &amp; Sunny but wet at site</b>			
Observations: <b>Terracing embankment on the eastern side of the site, adjacent to Akeman Street. Area stripped c. 10m x 15m. The ground is almost pure chalk. The first footings all confirm this. There is no sign of any pre-modern of 9 levels or debris pre-dating c. 19. Foundation depth c. 1.3m.</b>			
Comments: <b>No pre-modern features or artefacts observed beneath footings of the original Harrow pub.</b>			

For sketch plan, use reverse


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 <b>A.S.C. LTD</b>		<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD</b>				
Project: 91-92 Akeman Street Tring		Project No/Code: 7551 TAS		Sheet: 17 of 17		
Client/Developer: Tring Homes		Date of visit: 22/02/06				
Contact: David Shenden - Gifford		Phone: 07865-294546				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 1150am		Finish: 12.30pm		
Completed by: [Signature]						
Development Type:						
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify): in landscaping
Site & weather conditions: Dull, wet and cold						
Observations: Continued to observe the excavation of the footings for the underpinning of northern boundary wall. Again the same pattern reported with loose wall built more or less directly on the natural chalk. There were no signs of pre-existing features or artefacts.						
Comments: No further observations required.						

For sketch plan, use reverse

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## Appendix 2: SMR Summary Sheet

Site name and address: 91-92, Akeman Street Tring,		
County: Hertfordshire		District: Dacorum
Village/Town: Tring		Parish: St Peter and St Paul
Planning application reference: 4/01878/05/04		
Client name, address, & tel. no: Try Homes Cowley Busdiness Park High Street Cowley, Uxbridge, UB8 2AL		
Nature of application: construction of 7 dwellings		
Present land use: warehouses		
Size of application area: n/a		Size of area investigated: n/a
NGR (to 8 figures): SP 9245-1130		Site code: 755/TAS
Site director/Organization: Jonathan Hunn / ASC Ltd		
Type of work: Monitoring & Recording		
Date of work:	Start: 23/1/06	Finish: 22/2/06
Curating museum:		
Related SMR nos: 10400		Periods represented: Undated & 20 <sup>th</sup> century
Relevant previous summaries/reports n/a		
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p><i>Early in 2006, Archaeological Services &amp; Consultancy undertook a programme of monitoring and recording at 91-92 Akeman Street, formally known as Harrow Yard, Tring in Hertfordshire. The work was undertaken on behalf of Try Homes in order to fulfil a planning condition on an area which lies within the historic core of the town. Apart from some 20<sup>th</sup> century pits and an undated foundation trench the area was devoid of pre-modern activity. Much this can be ascribed to the impact of developments during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.</i></p>		
Author: J.R. Hunn		Date: 27/2/06