Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:
POUND CLOSE
GRAVELLY LANE
BRAUGHING
HERTFORDSHIRE

NGR: TL 39400 25430

on behalf of Croudace Homes Ltd

David Kaye BA PIFA

February 2008

ASC: 1007/BGL/03

Letchworth House
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall,
Milton Keynes MK6 1NE
Tel: 01908 608989 Fax: 01908 605700
Email: office@archaeological-services.co.uk
Website: www.archaeological-services.co.uk

Site Data

ASC project code:	BGL	*ASC project no:*	1007
County:	Hertfordshire		
Village/Town:	Braughing		
Civil Parish:	Braughing CP		
NGR (to 8 figs):	TL 3940 2543		
Extent of site:	1.05ha		
Present use:	Disused pasture		
Planning proposal:	26 dwellings and new road junction		
Planning application ref/date:	Predetermination		
Local Planning Authority:	East Herts District Council		
Date of fieldwork:	28th January – 1st February 2008		
Client:	Croudace Homes Ltd Croudace House Caterham Surrey CR3 6XQ		
Contact name:	Heather Hitchcock (Project Engineer)		

Internal Quality Check

Primary Author:	David Kaye BA PIFA	*Date:*	13th February 2008

Revisions:		*Date:*	

Edited/Checked By:		*Date:*	

CONTENTS

Appendices:

Figures:

Plates:

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

Summary

In January 2008 ASC Ltd conducted an archaeological evaluation at Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, as part of a programme of archaeological works in advance of the proposed construction of twenty-six new houses. Twelve trenches were excavated totalling 330m in length, and representing 5% of the total study area. Archaeological remains were present in four trenches, mainly concentrated in the southeast quadrant of the site. Three large linear features, probably representing boundary ditches, were noted in separate trenches, and a further smaller linear, probably representing a gully, was recorded in two trenches. Three sub-rectangular features, which could either be pits or the end of ditches or gullies were also revealed. Three pottery sherds were recovered from two of the ditches and the gully. They appear to be slightly abraded, and late Iron Age and Roman in date.

1. Introduction

1.1 In January 2008 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out an evaluation at Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by *Croudace Homes Ltd*, and was carried out according to a brief (Tinniswood 2007) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *East Herts District Council*, by their archaeological advisor (AA), the *Historical Environment Unit, Hertfordshire County Council*, and a project design prepared by ASC (Zeepvat 2007).

1.2 ***Planning Background***

This evaluation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), as part of a programme of predetermination work in the planning process, prior to the potential development of the site.

1.3 ***Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd***

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd (ASC) is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Archaeological Organisation* by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 ***Management***

The project was carried out under the overall direction of **Bob Zeepvat** MA MIFA. David is an experienced archaeologist with extensive fieldwork and post-excavation experience, and also of historical research and building recording. David holds a first degree from the University of York, and a master's degree from Birmingham University. He has held a range of supervisory appointments since 1990, including *Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit, Bucks County Archaeology Service, Beds County Archaeology Service, Archaeological Project Services, Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust* and the *Museum of London Archaeology Service.*

1.5 ***The Site***

1.5.1 *Location & Description*

The assessment site is situated at NGR TL 3940 2543 in the Green End area of Braughing in the administrative district of East Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). It is a roughly square paddock, covering an area of 1.05ha, bounded by the old London Road (B1368) to the west, and by Gravelly Lane to the north. The Granary and the garden of Braughing Bury lie to the east and south respectively (Fig. 2).

The paddock has been disused for some time, and comprises rough grass with patches of scrub and hawthorn thickets. The boundaries are marked by post and rail fences, and overgrown hedges.

An underground high voltage electricity cable crosses the north side of the site on an east-west alignment. During the course of the fieldwork a previously unrecorded sewage pipe was encountered on the western side of the side, following a north-south alignment.

1.5.2 *Geology & Topography*

Pound Close lies on the upper slopes of the valley of the river Quin, which flows some 150m to the east. It lies at an altitude of about 85m AOD, and the terrain slopes down some 10m from London Road on its west side. The soils of the area are classified as belonging to the Melford Association, which are derived from Chalky till (Soil Survey 1983, 571o). These are described as '*deep well drained fine loamy over clayey, coarse loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils, some with calcareous clayey subsoils'* (*ibid.*). However, it was noted in the geotechnical survey report for the site (Southern Testing 2007) that the soils '*generally comprised a shallow layer of topsoil over Head deposit over Glacial Clay over weathered chalk.'*

1.5.3 *Proposed Development*

The proposed development of the site comprises the construction of 26 houses with garages, and associated access, parking, services and landscaping (Fig. 3).

1.5.4 *Historical & Archaeological Background*

As the first stage of this evaluation, an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site and surrounding area has been prepared by ASC (Hunn 2007), in line with the requirements of the brief. The results are summarised as follows:

Although the assessment site lies within a landscape containing several significant sites, mainly of prehistoric, Iron Age and Roman date, no archaeological activity has been recorded within its boundaries. However, a cursory inspection of geotechnical test pits on the site during the walkover survey revealed two flint flakes, a medieval rim sherd and a possible eroded fragment of Roman tile. The site also lies within the hypothetical boundary of the Anglo-Saxon minster of Braughing. The archaeological potential of the site is assessed to be low.

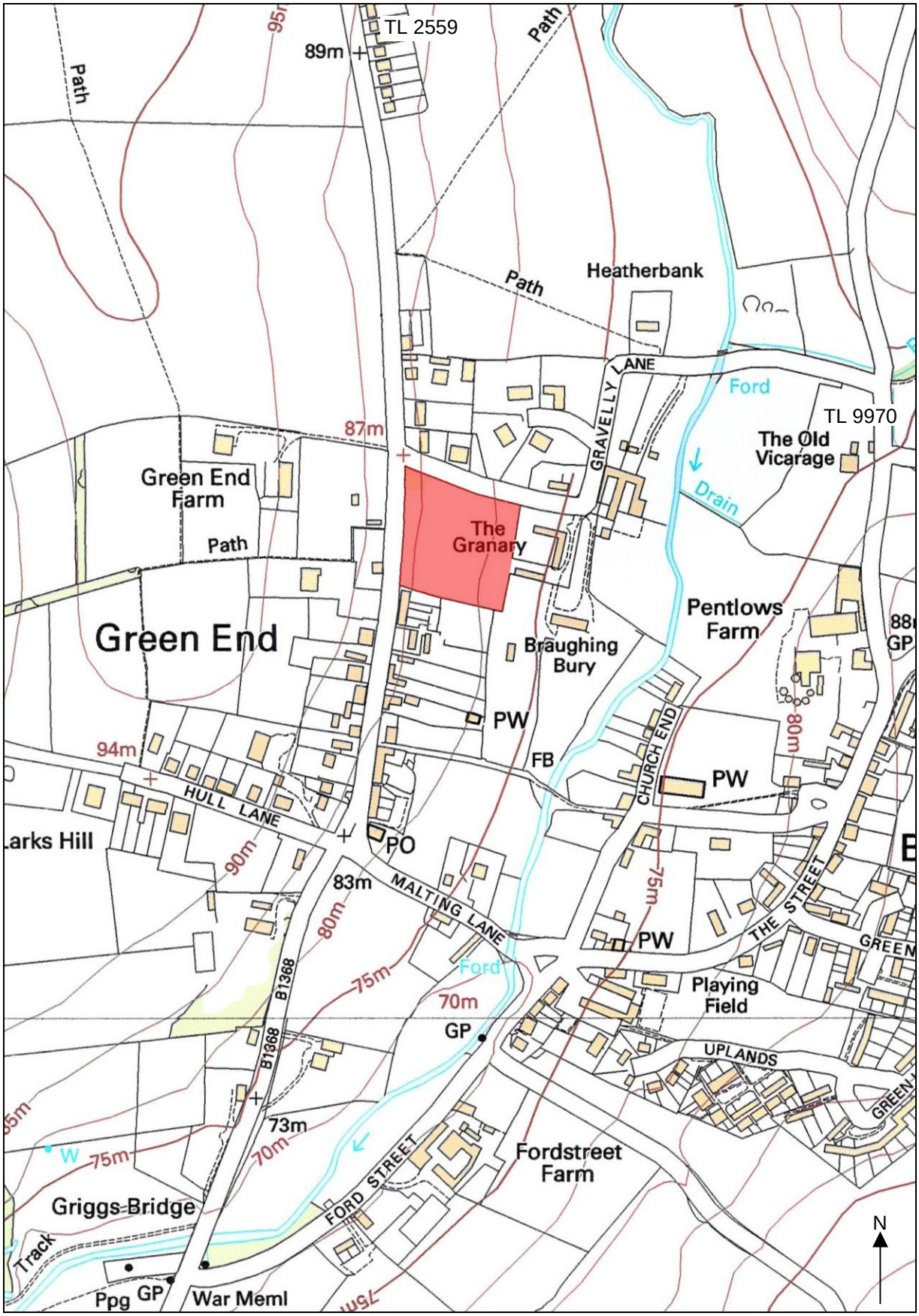

Figure 2: Site plan *(scale 1:1250)*

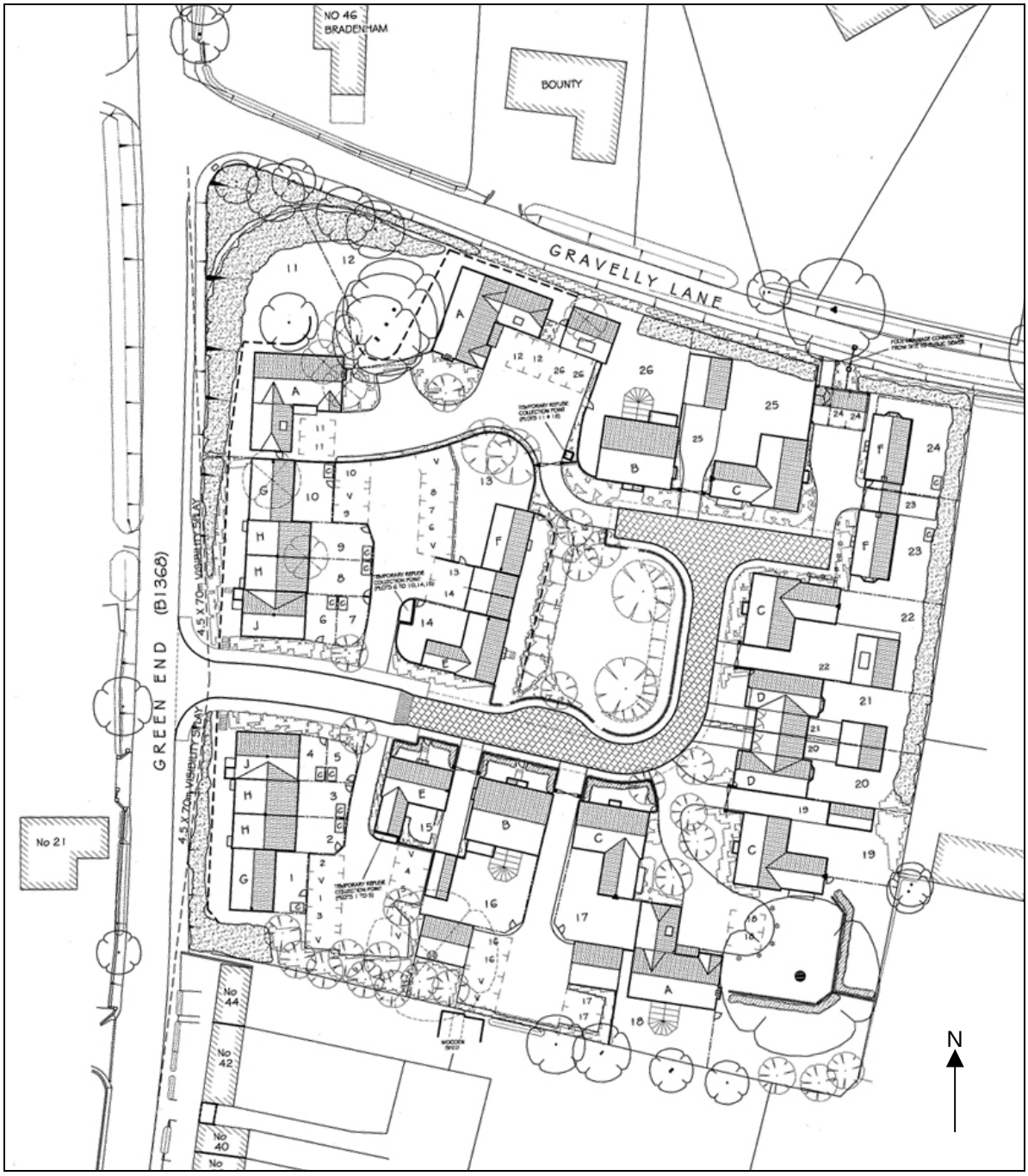

Figure 3: Proposed development *(not to scale)*

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

As described in the brief (Section 3), the aims of the evaluation were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development, in accordance with the sampling strategy outlined in section 4 of the brief.
- To include a comprehensive assessment of the regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests and aim to highlight any research priorities relevant to any further investigation of the site (making particular reference to the appropriate regional research agendas (*East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper* **8,** 2000).
- To provide a predictive model of the archaeological remains likely to be present on the site as a whole, and include an assessment of their significance.

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), to the *Guideleines on Standards and Practices for Archaeological Fieldwork in the Borough of Colchester*, to the *Guidelines on the Preparation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Colchester Museum*, and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the approved project design (Zeepvat 2007), which required:

- The excavation of twelve 1.5m wide trenches totalling 330m in length within the proposed development area. Their locations are shown on Figure 4.

ASC's general methodology is described in detail in Section 2.4 of the Project Design.

2.4 *Constraints*

Due to the presence of a high-voltage electricity cable at the northern end of the site Trench 3 was moved further north and Trench 5 was shortened. Trench 8 was extended to compensate. Trench 2 was relocated due the presence of a hawthorn thicket.

3. Results

3.1 *General*

The trenches were located in a grid pattern across the site, and were of a size sufficient to represent a 5% sample of the total area (Fig. 4). Trenches 1 to 5, 8, 9 and 11 contained no archaeological cut features, layers or deposits, and no unstratified artefacts were recovered from the spoil. Tree boles and root activity were noted in Trenches 1, 2, 8, 9 and 10.

The stratigraphy across the site was fairly uniform, consisting of approximately 0.3m of dark brown, silty clay topsoil, overlying up to 0.35m of yellowish brown subsoil. Beneath the subsoil was a layer of yellowish orange silty clay material with frequent sub-angular flints less than 25mm in diameter. The depth of this layer varied across the site, from 0m at the higher, western side, to 0.5m at the lower eastern side. This layer represents colluvium or 'hill wash'.

The natural geology generally consisted of orange-brown gravel and clay. There were some slight variations in its depth, forming hollows that were filled with either colluvium or subsoil. There were two notable large patches of mid brown clay, present in Trenches 7 and 4.

Detailed information regarding the trial trenches and their contents appears in Appendix 1.

3.2 *Trench 6* (Fig. 4: Plate 1)

Trench 6 was located in the centre of the eastern side of the site, orientated approximately east-west. It was 30m in length and had a maximum depth of 1.2m at the eastern end, of which approximately 0.5m was colluvial deposit.

Four archaeological features were noted in the trench, the most substantial of which was a linear cut [609] (Fig. 5, Plate 2). Of the smaller features, two appeared to be sub-rectangular in plan [603] and [605], and one sub-oval [607] (Plate 3,4 & 5). However, as they cut the southern balk, and their full extent was not ascertained, it is possible that they may represent the terminal end of shallow linears.

The longest of the three smaller features was cut [603], measuring at least 1.38m (Plate 3). It was 0.60m wide, 0.14m deep with a flat base, and contained a single firm, mid brown-orange, silty clay fill (604) (Fig. 6). Occasional sub-angular flint inclusions, less than 40mm in diameter, were also noted.

Cut [605] was located approximately 0.5m to the east of cut [603] (Plate 4). It measured at least 1.2m in length, and was 0.84m wide and 0.39m deep, and had a U-shaped profile (Fig. 6). It contained a single fill (606) of the same type as cut [603].

Cut [607] was 1.24m in length, at least 0.36m wide and 0.32m deep, and was U-shaped in section (Fig. 6, Plate 5). It was located a further 1.25m to the east of cut [605], and contained the same fill type as [603] and [605]. No artefactual dating evidence was recovered from any of the fills in these features.

Linear cut [609] was located close to the western end, orientated north-south. It measured 1.62m wide by 0.38m deep, and contained three fills (Fig. 6, Plate 2). Its profile was broadly U-shaped.

The primary fill (612) consisted of a compact, orange-brown silty clay, 0.1m in depth, with frequent angular and sub-angular flint inclusions, less than 30mm in diameter, that constituted 50% of the matrix. This layer may represent redeposited natural geology, possibly caused through slumpage of the sides of the ditch.

The secondary fill (611) was a firm, orange-brown silty clay, with patches of grey clay mottling, up to 0.16m in depth. It contained infrequent sub-angular flints, less than 30mm in diameter. This layer appears to represent some silting-up of the ditch.

The tertiary fill (610) was a moderately firm, orange-mid brown silty clay, with very infrequent inclusions. It was up to 0.12m in depth and covered the whole of the exposed surface of the feature. This deposit may represent the residual silting-up of the ditch, possible after it had fallen into disuse.

A single piece of worked flint, weighing less than 5g, was recovered from the tertiary fill (Plates 6 & 7). It is greyish blue with occasional white flecks, and measured 35mm by 20mm by 5mm. Six flake scars are present on the dorsal side, four along its length, and two across the right hand side of the isometric striking platform. Some cortex remains on the lower left hand edge, which curves inwards, 28mm from the striking platform, resulting in a rounding of the distal end. The right hand side of the flint is relatively straight. The ventral side is concaved and smooth, with signs of retouching along both edges of the flint. It is probable that this was a small hide scraper.

Flint implements are known to have been used over a broad time span, well into the Bronze Age, and as this was the only artefact recovered from cut [609] it is insufficient to provide secure dating evidence. Its size and location within the feature allow for the possibility that it is intrusive.

3.3 ***Trench 7*** (Fig. 4: Plate 8)

Trench 7 was located at right angles to the western end of Trench 6, orientated approximately north-south. It was 30m in length and 1.0m in depth at the northern end, of which 0.4m was a colluvial deposit.

One linear feature [701] was noted in the trench (Fig. 5). It was located at the northern end, orientated east-west, and measured 1.9m wide by 0.55m deep, and was greater than 1.6m in length (Plate 9). Its profile was slightly shouldered on the southern side, but essentially a steep U-shape. It was cut by a modern geological test pit.

It contained a single fill (702), that consisted of a firm, yellow-orange silty clay, with occasional sub-ovoid flints less than 30mm in diameter (Fig. 6). The nature of the fill has the same characteristics as that of the secondary fill of linear [609], and both are similar in nature to the colluvial. This deposit may represent the silting-up of the feature.

One small fragment of pottery was recovered from the fill, weighing 7g. It appears to be an undiagnostic body sherd made from a flint tempered material, and probably dates to the late Iron Age / Romano-British period. However, it was the only artefact recovered from the feature, it is heavily abraded and the possibility that it is intrusive cannot be dismissed.

3.4 ***Trench 10*** (Fig. 4: Plate 10)

Trench 10 was located in the south-west corner of the site, orientated approximately north-south. It was 30m in length and 0.85m deep, of which 0.35m was a colluvial deposit.

One linear feature [1003] was noted in the trench (Fig. 5). It was located at the southern end, orientated approximately east-west, and measured 0.45m wide by 0.08m deep (Plate 11). It had a shallow U-shaped profile and extended across the full width of the trench (Fig. 6). It contained a single fill (1004) that consisted of a moderately friable, mid grey-brown silty clay and gravel. No artefacts were recovered from this feature.

3.5 ***Trench 12*** (Fig. 4: Plate 12)

Trench 12 was located in the south-east corner of the site, parallel to Trench 10, and orientated approximately north-south. It was 30m in length and up to 0.70m deep, of which 0.30m was a colluvial deposit.

Two linear features were noted in the trench (Fig. 5). Cut [1203] was 0.34m wide and 0.18m deep (Plate 13). It had a U-shaped profile, contained a single fill (1204), and it extended across the full width of the trench (Fig. 6). The fill was identical to that present in [1003], and the two cuts appear to be on the same alignment.

A single sherd of slightly abraded pottery, weighing 12g, was recovered from fill (1204). It is a black coarseware, everted rim sherd from a wheel thrown pot, approximately 152mm in diameter, made of sand tempered clay. It is probably derived from a Roman cooking vessel, dating from the 2nd or 3rd century.

Cut [1210] was 1.56m wide and 0.74m deep (Plate 14). It extended across the full width of the trench and was orientated approximately east-west. It had a steep U-shaped, shouldered profile and contained a single, moderately soft, mid grey-brown silty clay and sand fill (1211) (Fig. 6). It contained a high frequency of sub-angular flint inclusions, <30mm in diameter.

A single sherd of slightly abraded pottery, weighing 33g, was recovered from fill (1212). It is a grey sandy coarseware, everted rim sherd from a pot approximately 152mm in diameter. It is probably derived from a Roman cooking vessel. This type of pottery was widely distributed across England from the 1st to the 4th century.

Whilst both the pottery sherds were located securely within the fill, they are slightly abraded and cannot be regard as reliable dating evidence.

A single unstratified flint was also recovered close to cut [1210]. It is 33mm by 18mm by 2mm. It has a striking platform and two flake scars on the dorsal side. There is no evidence of retouching, and it probably represents a piece of debitage.

Figure 4: Trench location and archaeological features *(scale 1:1000)*

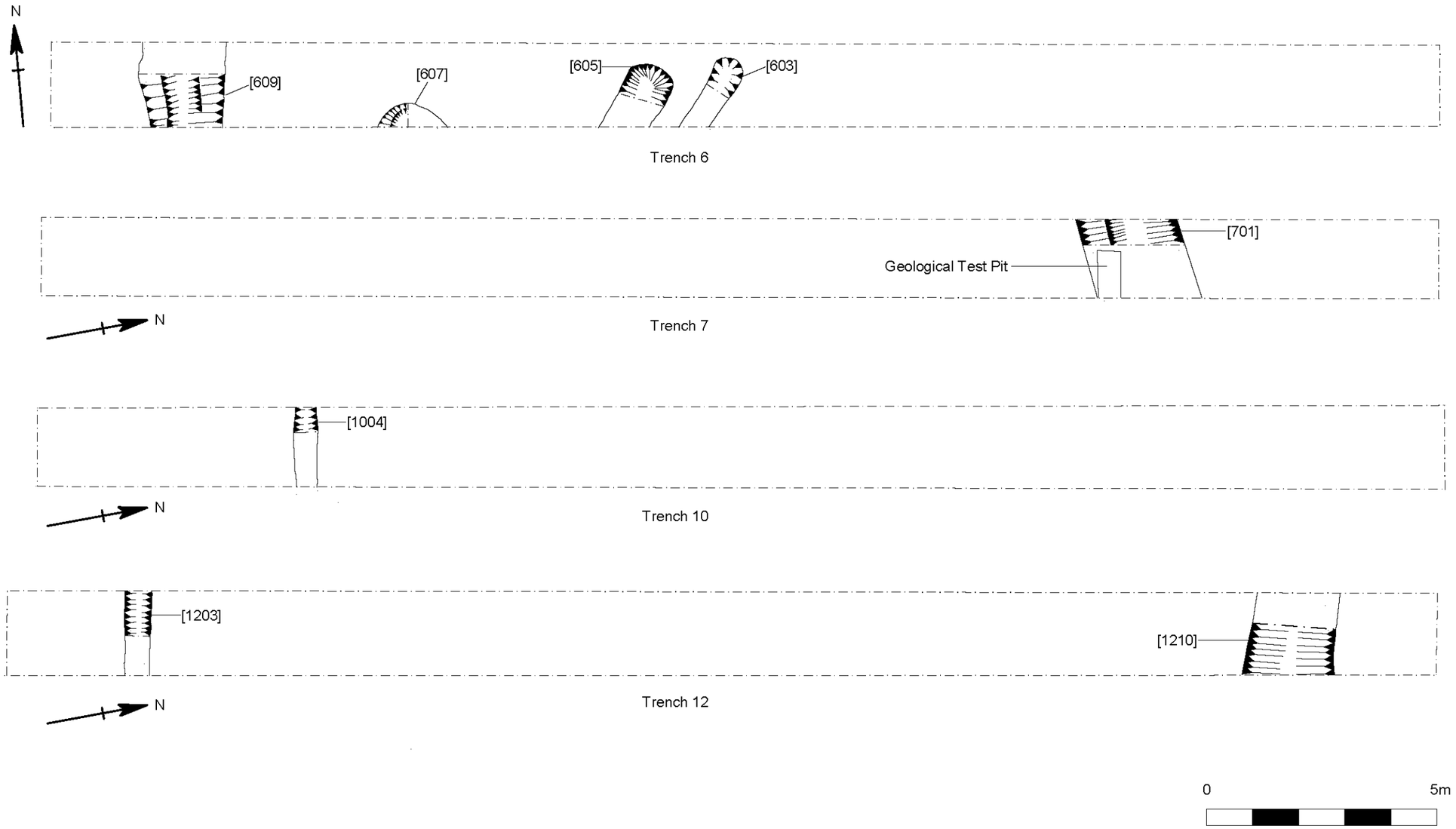

Figure 5: Trench plans *(scale 1:100)*

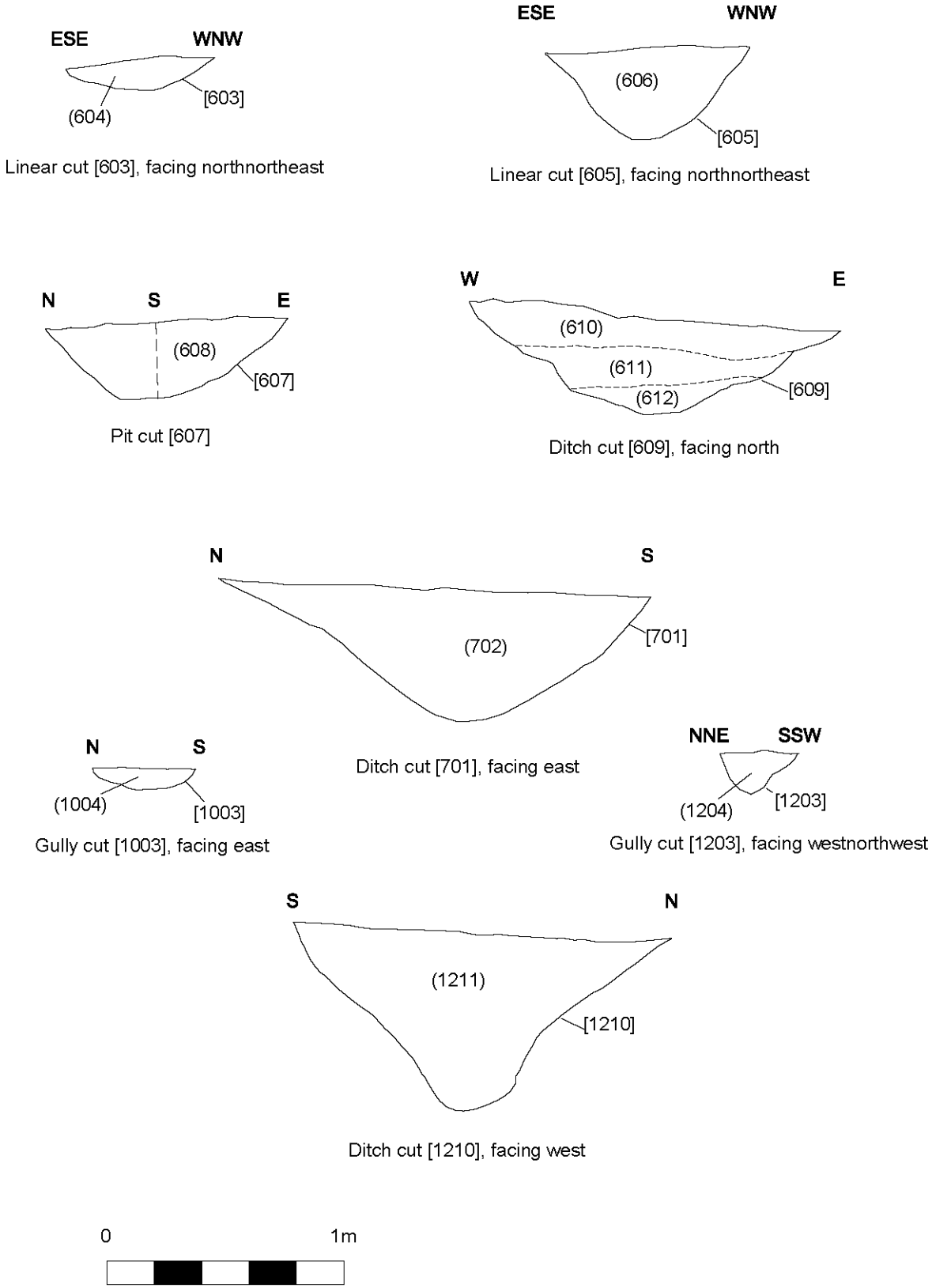

Figure 6: Feature sections *(scale 1:25)*

Plate 1: Trench 6, facing west

Plate 2: Ditch cut [609], facing north

Plate 3: Cut [603], facing southwest

Plate 4: Cut [605], facing southwest

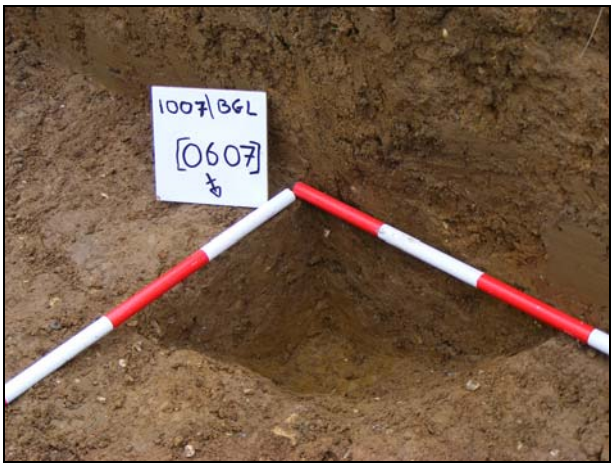

Plate 5: Cut [607], facing south

Plate 6: Flint from fill (610). Dorsal side

Plate 7: Flint from fill (610). Ventral side

Plate 8: Trench 7, facing south

Plate 9: Ditch cut [701], facing west

Plate 10: Trench 10, facing north

Plate 11: Gully cut [1003], facing east

Plate 12: Trench 12, facing north

Plate 12: Trench 12, facing north

Plate 12: Trench 12, facing north

Plate 13: Gully cut [1203], facing west

Plate 14: Ditch cut [1210], facing west

4. Conclusions

4.1 The site lies within an archaeologically rich environment, specifically relating to the prehistoric, Iron Age and Roman periods. However, there had been no previously recorded archaeological activity in the study area, and whilst the site lies within the hypothetical boundary of the Anglo-Saxon minster of Braughing, the desk-based assessment of the site (Hunn 2007) concluded the archaeological potential was low.

4.2 The evaluation demonstrated the presence of several archaeological features, concentrated in the east and southeast of the site. The most prominent of these were Cuts [609], [701] and [1210], which appear to be ditches. The fill of Ditch [701] and the secondary fill of Ditch [609] are very similar, both appearing to be the result of silting up with colluvium, suggesting the possibility that they were either in use simultaneously or that they are part of the same feature. Both ditches had a similar profile with a slight shoulder on one side.

4.3 Cuts [1203] and [1003] are narrow and shallow, probably representing a gully, orientated from the Roman road to the west of the site, eastwards downhill. Their fills were similar that that in Ditch [1210], which was darker, firmer and more gravely than those of Ditches [609] and [701].

4.4 The three small features in Trench 6, [603], [605] and [607], all contained the same fill and none yielded any datable artefacts. They may represent either pits or the terminal ends of linear features. As it was not possible to ascertain their full extent during the evaluation process, an accurate assessment of their significance cannot be made.

4.5 The archaeology observed during the evaluation is concentrated in the east and southeast of the site, and is dominated by linear features. No evidence of structures was encountered, suggesting either the purpose of the features was agricultural, or that the site is on the periphery of settlement.

4.6 Two sherds of Roman pottery was recovered from cuts in Trench 12 and a single sherd of Iron Age / Romano-British pot from ditch cut [701]. However, the paucity of artefacts recovered from the features and the trench spoil makes it impossible to assign a secure date to the observed archaeology. The absence of archaeological artefacts derived from domestic refuse suggests the site may have been located some distance from settlement.

4.7 The geology of the site consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a depth of colluvial build-up varying from none at the uppermost, western side of the site, to 0.5m in the northeastern corner. There is evidence of root activity and tree boles in most of the trenches located on the upper side of the site, suggesting the area has been heavily wooded at some time in the past. It is unclear when the deforestation occurred, but it is likely this had a significant effect on the rate of the colluvial build-up. No archaeology was observed within the colluvium.

4.8 There is no evidence that the gravel quarry, formerly situated to the north of the site, spread into the study area. Some made ground is present in the northeast corner, but this is probably related to the development of The Granary to the east of the site.

4.9 ***Confidence Rating***

Conditions for the observation and excavation of archaeological features were good, and therefore a *High* confidence rating is attached to the results of the present evaluation.

5. Acknowledgements

ASC would like to thank Croudace Homes Ltd for commissioning this report and Alison Tinniswood of HCC Historic Environment Unit for monitoring the project. The writer is grateful to Heather Hitchcock for her assistance.

The project was managed for ASC by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by David Kaye BA PIFA, Martin Cuthbert BA and Ralph Brown BSc. The report was prepared by David Kaye and edited by Bob Zeepvat.

6. Archive

6.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site records
6. Finds records
7. Finds
8. Site record drawings
9. List of photographs
10. B/W prints & negatives
11. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

6.2 The archive will be deposited with Hertford Museum.

7. References

Standards & Specifications

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

EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition.* English Heritage (London).

IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct.*

IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance* documents *(Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds).*

Tinniswood A, 2007 *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation: Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, Hertfordshire* HCC Historic Environment Unit brief.

Zeepvat B 2007 *Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation: Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing Hertfordshire* ASC Report 1007BGL/02

Secondary Sources

BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology.*

Hunn, J.R. 2007 *Desk-Based Assessment: Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, Hertfordshire*. ASC report, ref. 1007/BGL/01.

Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).

Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

Trench 1

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	20.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.5

Levels	
Trench base east	81.92m OD
Trench top east	82.60m OD
Trench base west	83.81m OD
Trench top west	84.50 m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
E	TL 25401 39444	W	TL 25383 39452

Orientation	E-W
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
100	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>20.0	0.25
101	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>20.0	0.23
102	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>20.0	-

Trench 2

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.8

Levels	
Trench base north	78.51m OD
Trench top north	79.30m OD
Trench base south	78.71m OD
Trench top south	79.40m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
N	TL 25394 39438	S	TL 25387 39417

Orientation	N-S
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
201	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.35
202	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.30
203	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>30.0	-

Trench 3

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	20.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.8

Levels	
Trench base east	78.91m OD
Trench top east	79.62m OD
Trench base west	81.45m OD
Trench top west	82.22m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
E	TL 25430 39457	W	TL 25409 39463

Orientation	E-W
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
300	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>20.0	0.35
301	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>20.0	0.45
302	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>20.0	-

Trench 4

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	1.1

Levels	
Trench base east	77.82m OD
Trench top east	78.76m OD
Trench base west	79.80m OD
Trench top west	80.85m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
E	TL 25438 39428	W	TL 25412 39439

Orientation	E-W
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
401	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.30
402	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.35
403	Layer	Gravel and hardcore at southern end. Made ground	>1.50	>4.00	0.20
404	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>20.0	0.40
405	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>20.0	-

Trench 5

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	25.0	Width	1.5	Depth	1.6

Levels	
Trench base north	78.12m OD
Trench top north	79.46m OD
Trench base south	78.44m OD
Trench top south	79.43m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
N	TL 25448 39440	S	TL 25444 39417

Orientation	N-S
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
500	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>25.0	0.35
501	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>25.0	0.35
502	Layer	Gravel and hardcore at southern end. Made ground	>1.50	>20.0	0.20
503	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>25.0	0.50
504	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.60	>9.50	-

Trench 6

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	1.2

Levels	
Trench base east	76.67m OD
Trench top east	77.67m OD
Trench base west	79.53m OD
Trench top west	80.83m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
E	TL 25456 39405	W	TL 25427 39408

Orientation	E-W
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
600	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.30
601	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.35
613	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>30.0	0.40
602	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>30.0	-
603	Cut	Pit or linear cut	0.60	>1.38	0.14

604	Fill	Mid-brown-orange, silty, sandy clay. Sole fill of cut [603]	0.60	>1.38	0.14
605	Cut	Pit or linear cut	0.84	>1.20	0.39
606	Fill	Mid-brown-orange, silty, sandy clay. Sole fill of cut [605]	0.84	>1.20	0.39
607	Cut	Pit or linear cut	>0.30	1.24	0.32
608	Fill	Mid-brown-orange, silty, sandy clay. Sole fill of cut [607]	>0.30	1.24	0.32
609	Cut	Linear cut	1.62	>1.50	0.38
610	Fill	Orange-mid brown, moderately firm silty clay. Tertiary fill of [609]	1.62	>1.50	0.12
611	Fill	Orange-grey, mid brown mottling, compact silty clay. Secondary fill of [609]	1.08	>1.50	0.16
612	Fill	Orange-light grey, brown, compact silty clay and flints. Primary fill of [609]	0.74	>0.35	0.10

Trench 7

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	1.0

Levels	
Trench base north	79.07m OD
Trench top north	79.91m OD
Trench base south	79.17m OD
Trench top south	80.42m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
N	TL 25422 39423	S	TL 25414 39395

Orientation	N-S
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
701	Cut	Linear cut	>1.60	1.90	0.55
702	Fill	Yellow-orange, firm, silty clay. Sole fill of [701]	>1.60	1.90	0.55
703	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.25
704	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.20
705	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>30.0	0.40
706	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>30.0	-

Trench 8

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	35.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.85

Levels	
Trench base east	78.53m OD
Trench top east	79.36m OD
Trench base west	79.63m OD
Trench top west	80.12m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
E	TL 25411 39409	W	TL 25378 39415

Orientation	E-W
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
800	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>35.0	0.30
801	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>35.0	0.20
802	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>35.0	0.25
803	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>35.0	-

Trench 9

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	20.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.9

Levels	
Trench base north	79.47m OD
Trench top north	80.52m OD
Trench base south	81.27m OD
Trench top south	82.03m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
N	TL 25377 39410	S	TL 25375 39390

Orientation	N-S
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
900	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>20.0	0.35
901	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>20.0	0.45
903	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>20.0	-

Trench 10

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.85

Levels	
Trench base north	80.34m OD
Trench top north	81.08m OD
Trench base south	80.88m OD
Trench top south	81.52m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
N	TL 25391 39410	S	TL 25383 39381

Orientation	N-S
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
1000	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.35
1001	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.35
1002	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>30.0	-
1003	Cut	Linear cut	>1.50	0.45	0.08
1004	Fill	Mid grey-brown gravely silty clay. Sole fill of cut [1003]	>1.50	0.45	0.08

Trench 11

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.85

Levels	
Trench base east	78.66m OD
Trench top east	79.36m OD
Trench base west	79.40m OD
Trench top west	80.43m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
E	TL 25422 39389	W	TL 25394 39392

Orientation	E-W
Reason for Trench	Planning condition

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
1100	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.20
1101	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.20
1102	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>30.0	0.35
1103	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>30.0	-

Trench 12

Max Dimensions (m)					
Length	30.0	Width	1.5	Depth	0.80

Levels	
Trench base north	78.02m OD
Trench top north	79.24m OD
Trench base south	79.38m OD
Trench top south	78.68m OD

NGR Co-ordinates			
N	TL 25440 39401	S	TL 25435 39371
Orientation		N-S	
Reason for Trench		Planning condition	

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
1200	Layer	Dark grey-brown, silty clay. Topsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.20
1201	Layer	Mid grey-brown, silty clay. Subsoil	>1.50	>30.0	0.20
1205	Layer	Orange-brown, silty clay with freq flint. Colluvium	>1.50	>30.0	0.40
1202	Layer	Orange-brown, clay and gravel. Natural geology	>1.50	>30.0	-
1203	Cut	Linear cut	>1.50	0.34	0.18
1204	Fill	Mid grey-brown gravely silty clay. Sole fill of cut [1203]	>1.50	0.34	0.18
1210	Cut	Linear cut	>1.50	1.56	0.74
1211	Fill	Mid grey-brown, silty clay and sand, freq flint. Sole fill of cut [1210]	>1.50	1.56	0.74

Appendix 2: Finds Concordance

Context	Pottery		Flint	
	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)
610			1	<5
702	1	7		
1204	1	12		
1211	1	33		
U/S			1	<5

Appendix 3: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: POUND CLOSE, GRAVELLY LANE, BRAUGHING			SITE NO/CODE: 1007/BGL
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1		✓	Trench 1 sondage, facing northeast
2		✓	Trench 5 section, facing west
3	✓	✓	Trench 6, facing west
4		✓	Trench 6 section
5	✓	✓	Trench 7 facing south
6	✓	✓	Trench 8, facing east
7		✓	Trench 8 section, facing north
8	✓	✓	Trench 9, facing south
9		✓	Trench 9 section, facing west
10	✓	✓	Trench 10, facing north
11		✓	Trench 10 section, facing west
12	✓	✓	Trench 1, facing west
13	✓	✓	Trench 11, facing west
14		✓	Trench 11 section, facing south
15	✓	✓	Trench 12, facing north
16		✓	Trench 12 section, facing east
17		✓	Trench 1 section, facing north
18	✓	✓	Trench 2, facing north
19		✓	Trench 2 section, facing west
20	✓	✓	Trench 3, facing east
21	✓	✓	Trench 4, facing east
22		✓	Trench 4 section, facing south
23	✓	✓	Trench 5, facing north
24	✓	✓	Cut [603], facing west
25	✓	✓	Cut [605], facing southwest
26	✓	✓	Cut [607], facing southwest
27	✓	✓	Cut [609], facing north
28	✓	✓	Cut [1203], facing southeast
29	✓	✓	Cut [1210], facing west
30	✓	✓	Cut [1003], facing east
31	✓	✓	Cut [701], facing west
32	✓	✓	Cut [701], facing west

Appendix 4: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, Hertfordshire		
Short Description:	*In January 2008 ASC Ltd conducted an archaeological evaluation at Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, as part of a programme of archaeological works in advance of the proposed construction of twenty-six new houses. Twelve trenches were excavated totalling 330m in length, and representing 5% of the total study area. Archaeological remains were present in four trenches, mainly concentrated in the southeast quadrant of the site. Three large linear features, probably representing boundary ditches, were noted in separate trenches, and a further smaller linear, probably representing a gully, was recorded in two trenches. Three sub-rectangular features, which could either be pits or the end of ditches or gullies were also revealed. Three pottery sherds were recovered from two of the ditches and the gully. They appear to be slightly abraded, and late Iron Age and Roman in date.*		
Project Type:	Trial trenching		
Site status:	None	Previous work:	DBA (Hunn 2007)
Current land use:	Arable	Future work:	Unknown
Monument type:	Ditches, gully, possible pits	Monument period:	Unknown
Significant finds:	Pottery and flint		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Hertfordshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	TL 39400 25430
Site address:	Pound Close, Gravelly Lane, Braughing, Hertfordshire		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	1.05 ha	Height OD: (metres)	77.26-86.19mOD
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Alison Tinniswood	Project design originator:	B Zeepvat
Project Manager:	D Fell	Director/Supervisor:	David Kaye
Sponsor / funding body:	Croudace Homes Ltd		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	28th January 2008	End date:	1st February 2008
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:		Pottery and flint	
Paper:		Report, Field records	
Digital:		Cd	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION: POUND CLOSE, GRAVELLY LANE, BRAUGHING, HERTFORDSHIRE		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1007/BGL/2		
Author(s):	David Kaye BA PIFA		
Page nos	34	Date:	6th January 2008