

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
88-84 HIGH STREET SOUTH
DUNSTABLE
BEDFORDSHIRE**

on behalf of the Integra Group



J Richards BA PIFA

February 2008

ASC: 929/DHS/3

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Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	DHS	<i>ASC Project No:</i>	929
<i>Event No:</i>		<i>Accession No:</i>	2007/88
<i>County:</i>	Bedfordshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Dunstable		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Dunstable		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	TL 0204 2160		
<i>Present use:</i>	Disused Urban		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Demolition of existing building and erection of 3 dwellings		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	06/2333		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	South Bedfordshire District Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	8 th - 19 th November 2007		
<i>Client:</i>	Integra Group Integra House 84-88 High Street South Dunstable Beds LU6 3HP		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Richard A. Macan-Lind (Architect)		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Jenny Richards BA PIFA	<i>Date:</i>	7 th December 2007
<i>Revisions:</i>	Jenny Richards BA PIFA	<i>Date:</i>	7 th February 2008
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

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

Summary

In November 2007 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd (ASC) carried out an archaeological watching brief at land to the rear of 88-84 High Street South, Dunstable, during redevelopment. The excavation of geotechnical pits, footing trenches and a soakaway were monitored. Two cellars of late 19th or early 20th century date were revealed, as was a possible ditch terminus or pit of unknown date, extending to the west of the site.

1 Introduction

1.1 In November 2007 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at land to the rear of 88-84 High Street South, Dunstable (NGR TL 0204 2160: Fig. 1). The project was commissioned by *Integra Group* and was carried out according to a brief (Mather 2007) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *South Bedfordshire District Council*, by their archaeological advisor (AA), *Bedfordshire County Council*, and a project design (McLeish 2007) prepared by ASC. The relevant planning application reference is 06/2333.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief has been required as a planning condition under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), in response to proposals for the demolition of the existing building and erection of three dwellings.

1.3 *Location*

The site is situated in Dunstable in the administrative district of Luton (Fig. 1). It lies close to the town centre on the south side of Friars Walk and is centred on NGR TL 0204 2160. It comprises an approximately rectangular area of land of c. 488 sq m (Fig 2).

1.4 *Description*

Much of the site was previously occupied by a brick building of probable commercial use; the remainder comprised Petropolis House, which is still in use as office space and a car park area and garages between the two buildings.

1.5 *Geology & Topography*

The site is situated in an urban area and the soils in the town centre have not been mapped. If the natural soils survive on the sites they are likely to comprise the *Upton 1 Association*, namely shallow well-drained calcareous soil (Soil Survey 1983, 342a) over Middle Chalk (British Geological Survey 1992, sheet 220). The site is essentially flat and lies at an elevation of c.144m OD.

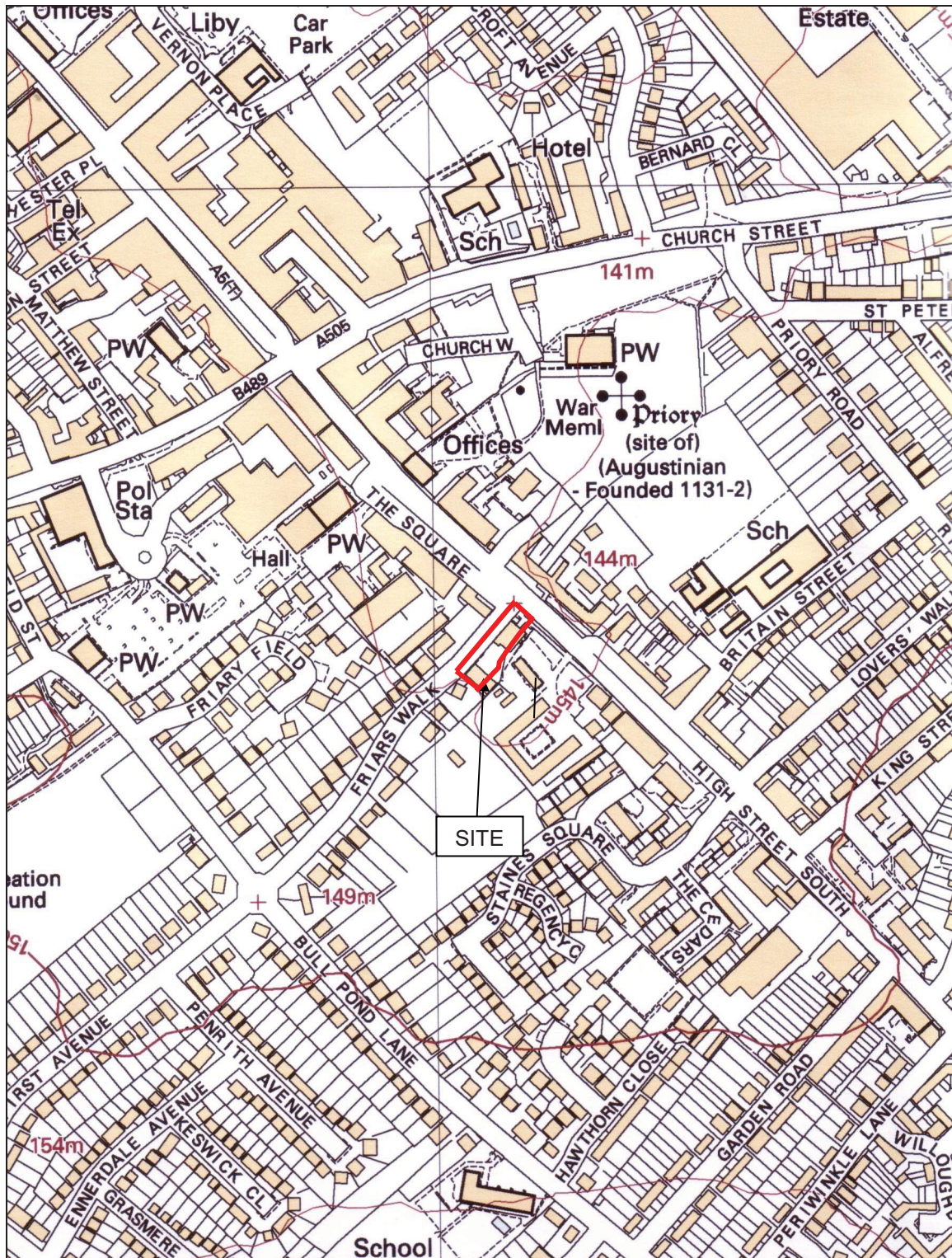


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:5000)

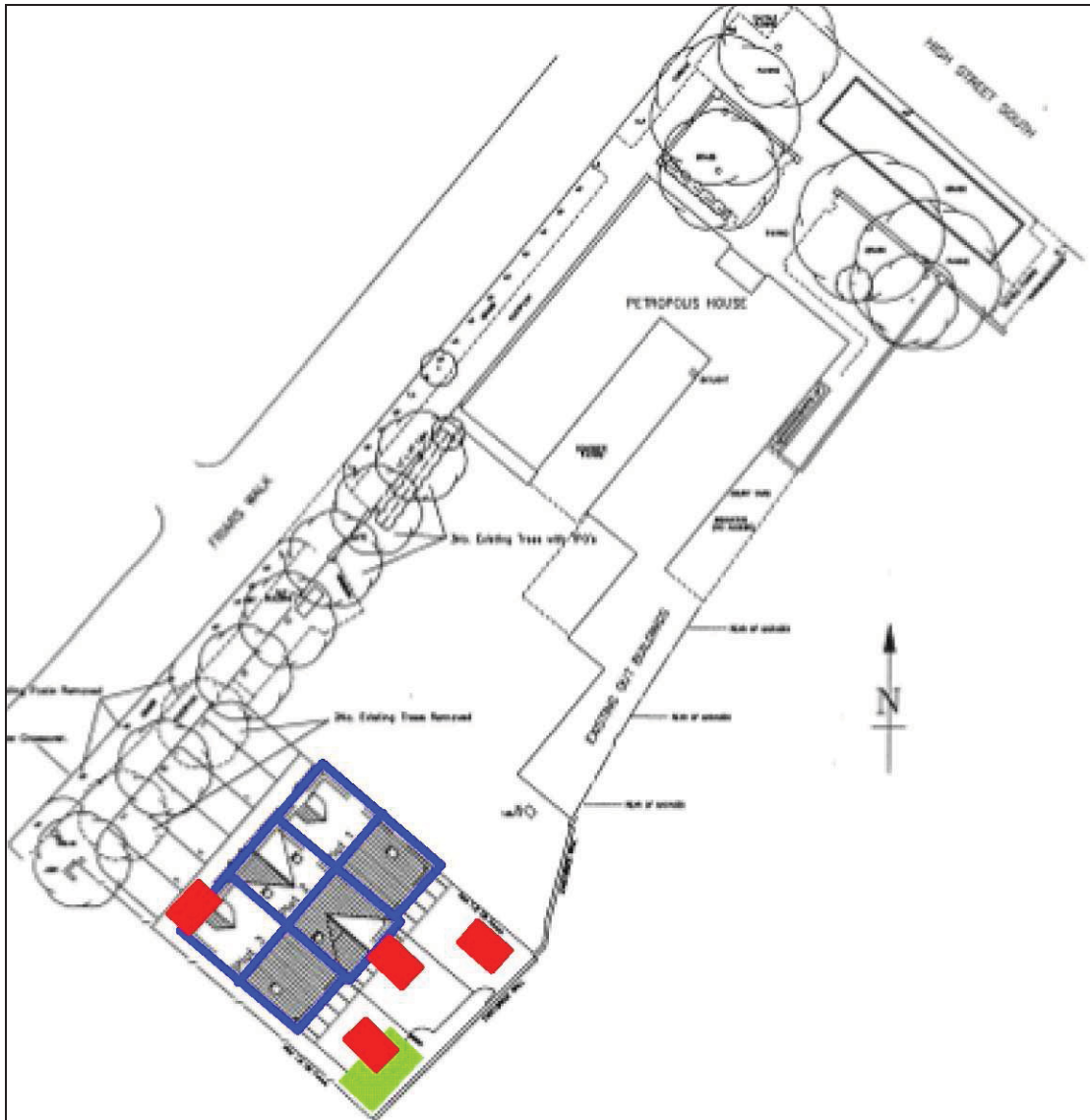


Figure 3: Proposed development showing footings in blue, soak-away in green and geotechnical pits in red (scale 1:250)

2 Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

In line with the requirements of the brief (Section 4) the aims of the watching brief were:

- To determine and understand the nature, function and character of an archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting.
- To establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation in the development site.
- To establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes.
- To recover artefacts to assist in the development of the type series within the region.
- To recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

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), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according to the brief (Section 5), which required:

- A programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording to be undertaken during any development works likely to affect archaeological remains.

Five site visits were made between 8th November and 19th November 2007. The excavation of geotechnical pits and footing trenches as well as a soak-away were monitored.

3 Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 Dunstable is an area of considerable archaeological and historical importance and this has been recognized by the local authority through the production of the *Dunstable Extensive Archaeological Survey* (BCC 2001). The survey indicates that the area has been occupied since the prehistoric periods and that the site lies on the edge of the Roman and medieval town of Dunstable (*ibid*, figs. 3 and 12). The site therefore has the potential to reveal evidence of a variety of periods but the focus of interest lies in the Roman and medieval periods.
- 3.2 Dunstable was an area of considerable importance during the prehistoric periods and a variety of sites and artefacts are known in the area (Matthews 1989). A number of prehistoric sites are known on higher ground of the Chiltern ridge, notably an important group of round barrows (burial mounds) known as the Five Knolls, which lie outside the study area *c.*3km southwest of the site (Dyer 1991). A further significant site, known as Maiden Bower, is situated to the northwest of the town centre and is interpreted as an Iron Age fort overlying an earlier causewayed enclosure (Matthews 1989, 36-41). A number of prehistoric artefacts are known from the town centre (*eg* HER 157), but these are largely as a result of chance finds rather than controlled archaeological excavation. An important prehistoric trackway known as the Icknield Way passed through Dunstable, to the north of the site.
- 3.3 During the Roman period the area was dominated by a major road, now known as *Watling Street* (Simco 1984; OS 1979). The present High Street follows the line of this road, which ran to the west of the proposed site. A small town, known as *Dvrocbrivis*, developed at the junction of *Watling Street* and the *Icknield Way*. Little large scale archaeological work has taken place within the Roman town (Matthews 1989, 68) and the layout of the settlement is not well understood. Part of the Roman period cemetery has been excavated to the west of the site, at Friary Field (Gardner 2004) and a possible defensive ditch has been excavated north of the site (HER 11281; Hagen 1972). The latter may indicate the southern limit of the town and as excavations to the east of the sites at Wellington Terrace (HER 15813; Warren 1992) failed to locate evidence of Roman activity, the sites probably lie to the south of the main area of Roman settlement. The *Extensive Archaeological Survey* shows the southern limit of Roman occupation on the northern edge of the site (BCC 2001, fig. 12).
- 3.4 There is currently little evidence for Saxon occupation in Dunstable, but remains of this period have been excavated at Puddlehill, *c.*3km north of the town centre, and a Saxon cemetery was excavated at Marina Drive, on the north side of the present town.
- 3.5 A new settlement was founded at Dunstable in 1119 by Henry I, who built a new royal residence, which was regularly visited until the 16th century. It has been suggested that this residence was located around Kingsbury Court and Old Palace Lodge, to the northeast of the site.
- 3.6 An Augustinian priory was founded in Dunstable in *c.*1131. The priory, dedicated to St Peter was situated to the north of the site and is a *Scheduled Ancient Monument* (SAM; no. 131).

- 3.7 Little large scale excavation has taken place within the monastery but the west wall of the monastic precinct was recorded at the *Saracens Head* public house to the west of the site (Warren 1984). The *Manshead Archaeological Society* have conducted a number of small scale archaeological projects in the area, but in general, little is known of the archaeology of the priory. An archaeological evaluation has recently been carried out at Montpelier House, but archaeological remains were not revealed in this area (Bolderson 2002).
- 3.8 Religious institutions played an important part in the life of medieval Dunstable and a Dominican friary was founded in 1259 on the west side of High Street South (Clark and Maull 1989; Green & Horne 1991; Gardner 2004). A number of cross-shaped pits, perhaps garden features associated with the friary have recently been recorded (Gardner 2004).
- 3.9 The post medieval period in Dunstable displays a variety of economic and industrial activities, such as the Whiting Works to the north-west and west of the proposed area of development, and a corn windmill to the north-west close to the cricket ground. Also well represented in the 1901 Second Edition map are almshouses and breweries (Godfrey 1992, Bedfordshire Sheet 32.02).

4 Results

- 4.1 Excavation of geotechnical pits revealed that a layer of crushed bricks and other demolition rubble from the previous building overlay the site. This was c.0.30m thick and covered the foundations of the earlier building (Plates 1 and 2). These concrete foundations were cut into the natural chalk. Geotechnical pit 4 revealed a brick built cellar below this earlier building (Fig. 4). This had been cut into the natural chalk and backfilled with bricks and roof slates (Plate 3).
- 4.2 Excavation of the footing trenches revealed a 1m deep and 1.2m wide feature in the east facing section of the western-most trench (Fig. 6). This contained no pottery or other dating evidence. It may represent a ditch terminus, or a pit, as it was not visible in the west facing section. It was filled with a loose, dark brownish-black silty clay with inclusions of flint pebbles and was cut into the natural chalk (Plate 4).
- 4.3 Two further brick built cellars were observed during the excavation of the footing trenches for the new dwellings (Fig. 4). These cellars also cut the natural chalk and were below the floor of the recently demolished building, and had been cut by the footings of this later building in places. The cellars had been backfilled with demolition rubble including bricks and roof tiles and 20th century ceramics (Plates 5 and 6).
- 4.4 The excavation of the soak-away revealed a 0.50m thick layer of crushed chalk, bricks and demolition rubble (Context 101, Fig 5). Cut into this was a service trench [103], and below (101) was another service trench [108], both of which also contained bricks. Further layers of disturbed chalk were observed (Contexts 104, 105, 106 and 109) which overlay the chalk natural strata. The natural strata (Context 110) was excavated to a depth of 1m below existing ground level (Fig. 5, Plate 7).

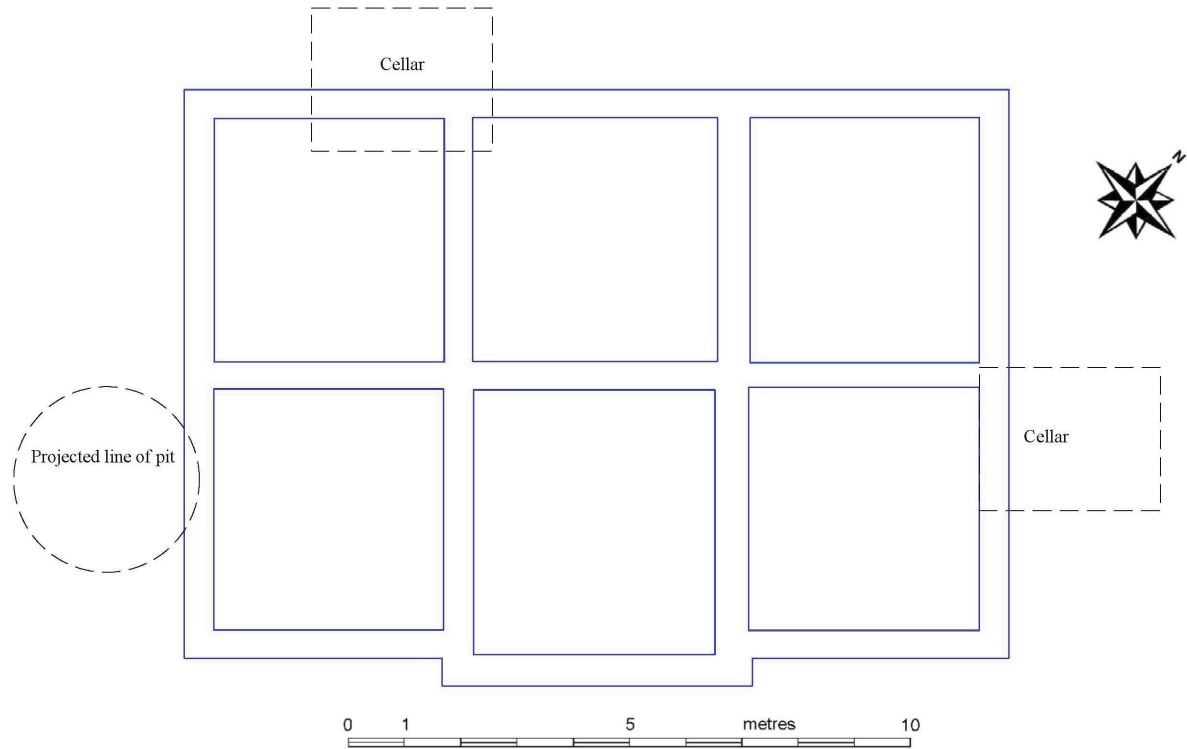


Figure 4: Plan of foundation trenches showing cellars and possible pit (Scale 1:100)

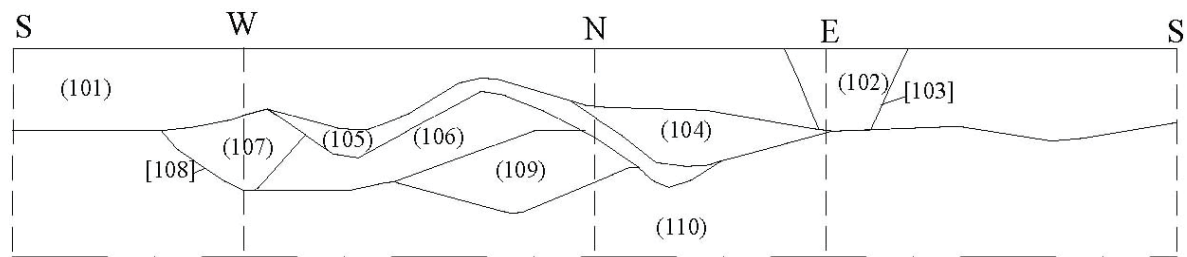


Figure 5: Section of soakaway (Scale 1:50)

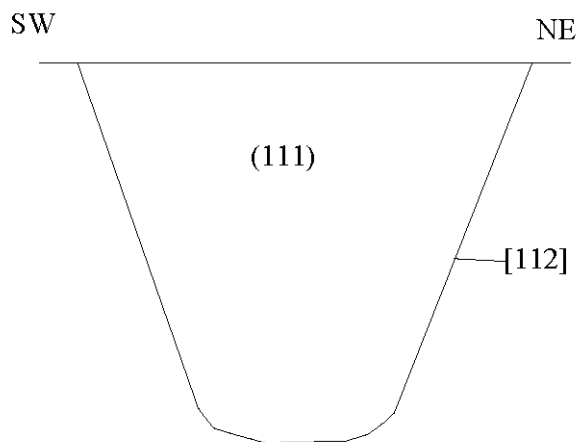


Figure 6: Section of possible ditch terminus or pit (Scale 1:20)



Plate 1: Geotechnical pit 2



Plate 2: Typical footing trench section



Plate 3: Geotechnical pit 4



Plate 4: Possible ditch or pit in section of western footing trench.



Plate 5: Cellar in northern footing trench



Plate 6: Cellars in eastern footing trench



Plate 7: Section of soak-away

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Much of the site appears to have been damaged by the construction of two late 19th century houses with cellars. The construction of the commercial building following the demolition of these houses in the mid 20th century also disturbed the ground on the site. Any archaeological remains that had been present in this area would have been damaged by this previous development on the site.
- 5.2 A 1m wide and 1.2m deep feature was revealed in the westernmost footing trench. This has been interpreted as being a pit or ditch terminus as it was not visible in the opposite section. It contained no finds and is of unknown date. It cut directly into the natural chalk, below a layer of rubble associated with the demolition of the building.
- 5.3 *Confidence Rating*
Full co-operation was received from Integra Construction Ltd and weather conditions were good for the majority of site visits. Confidence in the results of the watching brief as a whole is high, and the impact of the development on archaeological remains is considered to be low.

However, it was raining heavily on the day that the soak-away was excavated and it was not possible to hand clean the sections. Therefore confidence in the interpretation of the remains in this area is slightly lower than that for the rest of the site.

6. Acknowledgements

The writer is grateful to Integra Construction Ltd for commissioning and funding this archaeological watching brief. The assistance of Lesley-Ann Mather (*Bedfordshire County Council*) as curatorial monitor is also acknowledged. Full co-operation was received from the on site contractors.

The watching brief was conducted on behalf of ASC by Jenny Richards BA PIFA, Nigel Wilson HND AIFA, and Jonathan Hunn BA PhD MIFA. The report was prepared by Jenny Richards and edited by David Fell MA MIFA.

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
7. B/W prints & negatives
8. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Luton Museum.

8. 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 2000b Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.

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

Mather L-A 2007 *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation*. Bedfordshire County Council

McLeish, J. 2007 *Project Design for Archaeological Watching Brief at 88-84 High Street South, Dunstable* ASC Ltd

Secondary Sources

BCC 2001 *Bedfordshire Extensive Urban Survey: Dunstable Archaeological Assessment*. Bedfordshire County Council

Bolderson J 2002 *Land adjacent to Montpelier House, High Street South, Dunstable, Beds. An Archaeological Evaluation*. Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd report no. DMH02/2. Clark R & Maul A, 1989 'Dunstable Friary Excavations 1988' *Manshead Magazine* **29**, 26-28

Burnham B C & Wachter J (ed). 1990 *The Small Towns of Roman Britain*. Batsford.

Dyer J., 1991 'The Five Knolls and Associated Barrows at Dunstable, Bedfordshire' in *Bedfordshire Archaeology* **19**, 25-29

Gardner R., 2004. 'Archaeological investigations at 24 Friary Fields, Dunstable, Bedfordshire' *Bedfordshire Archaeology*, **25**, 159-189.

Godfrey 1992 2nd Edition Old Ordnance Survey Maps. Dunstable 1900, Bedfordshire Sheet 32.02.

Green M & Horne B., 1991 'Analysis of the medieval pottery from Friary Field, Dunstable, *Manshead Magazine*, **31**, 1-31

Matthews C L 1989. *Ancient Dunstable*. Manshead Archaeological Society

Simco A, 1984 *Survey of Bedfordshire. The Roman Period*. Bedfordshire County Council/RCHM

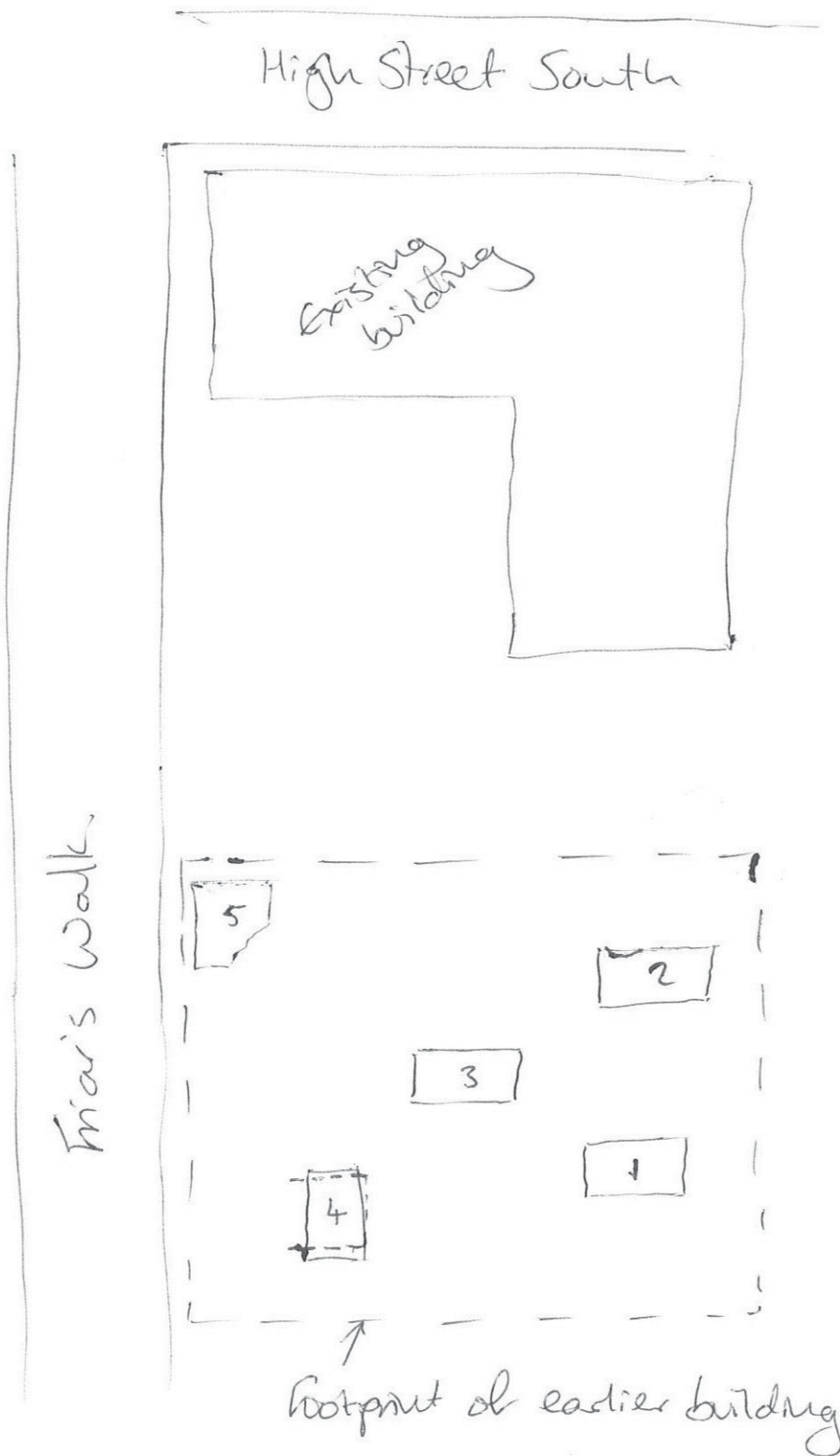
Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).

Appendix 1: Monitoring Sheets

A.S.C. LTD		ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD				
Project: 84-88 High St South		Project No/Code: 929 / DHS		Sheet: 1 of 5		
DUNSTABLE		Date of visit: 8/11/07				
Client/Developer: INTEGRA GROUP.						
Contact: BOB PIERCE			Phone: 07976268160			
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 9:30		Finish: 12:00		
Completed by: JR.						
Development Type:						
<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): GEOTECHNICAL PITS
Site & weather conditions: DISUSED URBAN, DRY, OVERCAST.						
Observations:						
PART OF FOOTINGS TRENCH ALREADY EXCAVATED TO SOUTH WEST OF SITE. PHOTOGRAPHED. BRICK FOOTINGS VISIBLE IN SECTION.						
GEOTECHNICAL PITS EXCAVATED BY '360' WITH TOOTHED BUCKET 1m WIDE. PITS 1m x 1.5m WITHIN FOOTPRINT OF GARAGE BUILDING. EXCAVATED TO A DEPTH OF 2m-3m						
CELLAR VISIBLE IN ONE TEST PIT. FROGGED BRICKS, CONCRETE FLOOR, BACKFILLED WITH FROGGED BRICKS, BLUE SLATES (DEMOLITION RUBBLE FROM BUILDING). EDGE OF POSSIBLE CW FEATURE (NO FINDS) OBSERVED IN PIT 2. NO OTHER ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED.						
Comments:						
LATE VICTORIAN(?) CELLAR OBSERVED. NO OTHER ARCHAEOLOGY. BOB PIERCE WILL GIVE US TWO DAYS NOTICE OF WHEN THEY ARE DIGGING THE FOOTINGS.						

For sketch plan, use reverse

©ASC, 2003





A.S.C. LTD

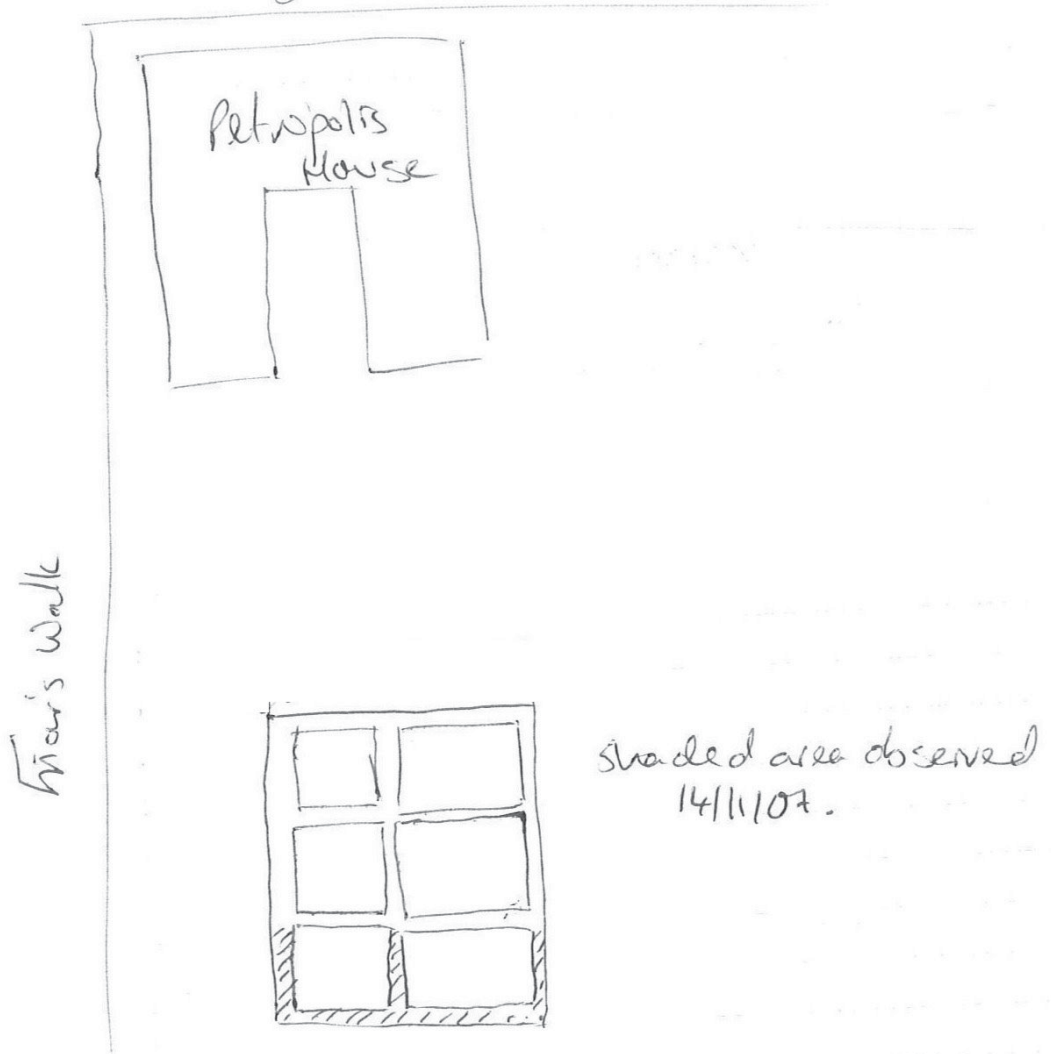
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD


Project: HIGHER ST SOUTH KERRAR'S WALK		Project No/Code: 1		Sheet: 2 of 5		
DUNSTABLE		Date of visit: 14/11/07.				
Client/Developer INTEGRA						
Contact: BOB PIERCE			Phone:			
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 8:00		Finish: 12:00.		
Completed by: JR						
Development Type:						
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: DRY, OVERCAST. DISUSED URBAN.						
Observations: 20% OF FOOTINGS MONITORED. FOOTINGS 0.80m WIDE 1m - 1.50m DEEP. 0.30 - 0.45m of OVERBURDEN (MIDBROWN SILTY CLAY WITH FREQUENT INCLUSIONS OF BRICK FRAGMENTS, OCCASSIONAL INCLUSIONS OF CONCRETE, CHALK AND PLASTICS. LARGE PIT 1.40m ACROSS, 1.20m DEEP VISIBLE IN EAST FACING SECTION OF WESTERN FOOTING TRENCH. NO DATING EVIDENCE. CUT FOR PROBABLE CELLAR VISIBLE IN NORTH FACING SECTION OF NORTHERN FOOTING. BACKFILLED WITH BRICKS, SLATE ROOF TILES, METAL APES ETC. FRAGMENT OF BLUE + WHITE CHINA MUG (RIM FRAG) NOTED IN THIS FILL. FOOTING EXCAVATED TO 2m DEPTH HERE. BASE OF CELLAR NOT OBSERVED. c. 20% OF FOOTINGS MONITORED TODAY.						
Comments: FOOTINGS CONTINUING WEDNESDAY TOMORROW (POSSIBLY ALSO FRIDAY). FURTHER VISITS NEEDED THURSDAY AM/PM. CONCRETING FOOTINGS ALREADY DUE THIS AFTERNOON. WILL BE DICTATING TOMORROW AM AND CONCRETING TOMORROW PM.						

For sketch plan, use reverse

©ASC, 2003

High Street South



 A.S.C. LTD		ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD				
Project: HIGHEST SOUTH / TRIARS WALK		Project No/Code: 1		Sheet: 3 of 5		
DUNSTABLE		Date of visit: 15/11/07				
Client/Developer INTEGRAT						
Contact: BOB PIERCE				Phone: 07976 268160		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 10:40		Finish:		
Completed by: JR						
Development Type:						
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: DRY, SUNNY.						
Observations: OVER 50% OF FOOTINGS NOW DUG. NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED.						
Comments: CONCRETEING AGAIN THIS AFTERNOON. DIGGING REST OF FOOTINGS TOMORROW AM VISIT LATE MORNING (10-12).						

For sketch plan, use reverse

©ASC, 2003



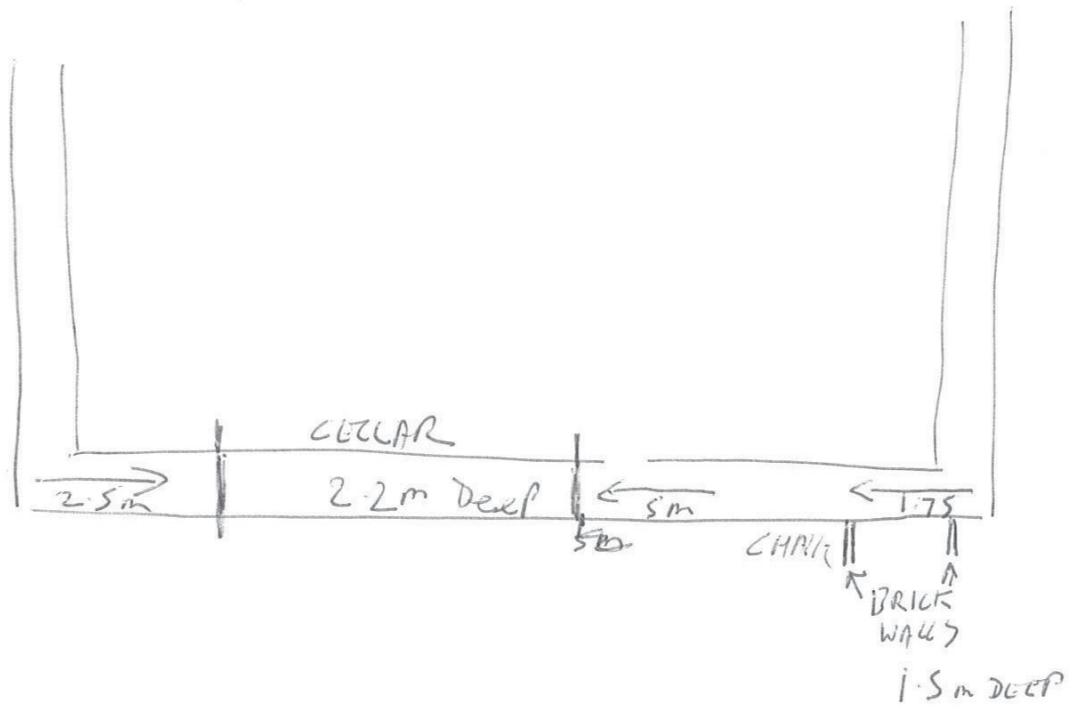
A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: HIGH ST SOUTH/FRIARS WALK DUNSTABLE		Project No/Code: 9291 DHS	Sheet: 4 of 5
Client/Developer INTEGRA		Date of visit: 16/11/07	
Contact: BOB PIERCE		Phone: 07976 268160	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 11.10	Finish: 12.15	
Completed by: NFW			
Development Type:			
<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
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: DRY, SUNNY			
Observations: CORNER WALLS SEE SKETCH REST OF AREA C. 200 mm RUBBLE AT BACK OF SITE 600mm TOWARDS FRONT OF SITE			
Comments: THE SITE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN HIGHLY DISTURBED. THEY WILL BE DIGGING A LARGE HOLE IN THE SW CORNER OF THE SITE MONDAY? BOB PIERCE WILL GIVE A RING.			

For sketch plan, use reverse

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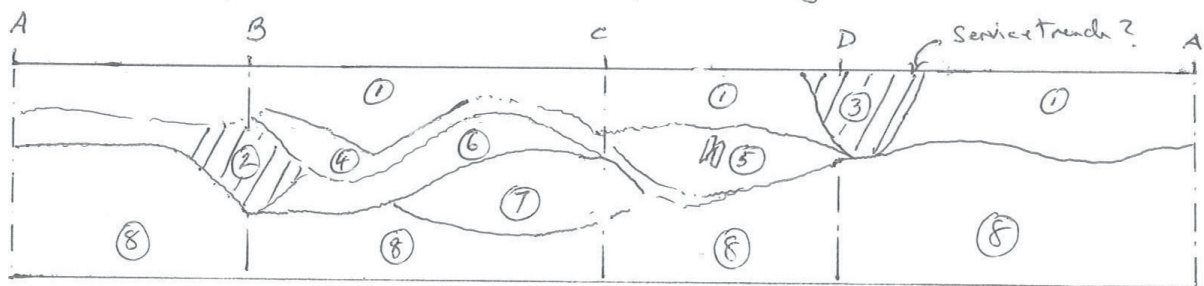
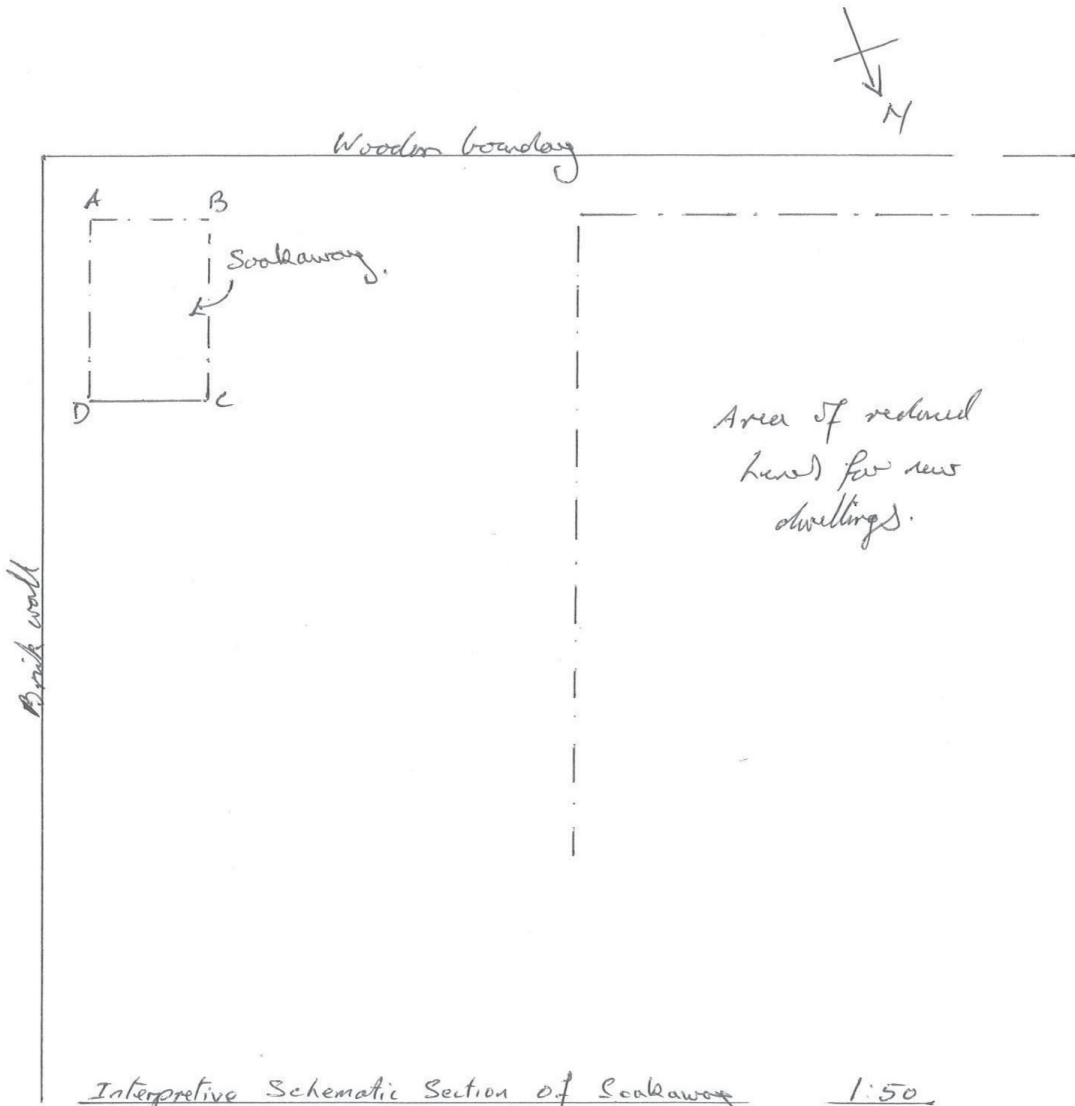
A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: 84-88, High Street South Dunstable, Beds		Project No/Code: 9291 DHS	Sheet: 5 of 5
Client/Developer Integra Construction		Date of visit: 20/11/07	
Contact: Bob Pierce		Phone: 07976-268160	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 12.35	Finish: 2.40	
Completed by: JKR			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services ✓	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify): Soakaway
Site & weather conditions: Dull and wet (6.5c)			
Observations: Outseamed Soakaway which was situated in the South-eastern corner of the site. It lay some 1m from the site boundary and measured approximately 3 x 2m x 1.8m deep. The upper horizon between c. 0.7m and 1.2m consisted of a chalky brown deposit with old service trenches showing in section. To judge by the presence of roots and the colour of the soil (dark) much of this 'overburden' looks organic in character and is probably post-medieval in date. No pre-modern features were identified and no artefacts observed. See digital images A-B, B-C, C-D, D-A.			
Comments: The smaller interconnecting service trenches will be 0.45 wide and about 0.5m deep. Such a trench is unlikely to reveal v. much in the way of stratigraphy. Too wet to clean up.			

For sketch plan, use reverse

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- ① Darker chalky mix.
- ② & ③ Service trenches cont. bricks.
- ④ Darker soil
- ⑤ chalky fill + soil (and bales)
- ⑥ chalky rubble fill
- ⑦ broken chalk
- ⑧ Not. chalk.

Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: 84-88 High Street South, Dunstable			SITE NO/CODE: 929/DHS
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	√	√	Test pit 5
2		√	Site overview
3		√	Site overview
4		√	Site overview
5	√	√	Test pit 1
6	√	√	Test pit 1
7	√	√	Test pit 2
8		√	Working shot
9	√	√	Test pit 3
10	√	√	Test pit 4
11	√	√	Test pit 4
12	√	√	Test pit 4
13	√	√	Test pit 4
14	√	√	Test pit 4
15	√	√	Pit or ditch in western footing trench
16	√	√	Pit or ditch in western footing trench
17	√	√	Western footing trench
18	√	√	Western footing trench
19		√	Site overview
20		√	Working shot
21	√	√	Footing trenches from north west
22	√	√	Northern footing trench
23	√	√	Northern footing trench
24	√	√	Northern footing trench
25	√	√	Northern footing trench
26	√	√	Central footing trench
27	√	√	Central footing trench
28	√	√	Central footing trench
29	√	√	Cellar in northern footing trench
30	√	√	Northern footing trench
31	√	√	Northern footing trench
32	√	√	Northern footing trench
33	√	√	Northern footing trench
34	√	√	Central footing trench
35	√	√	Northern corner of footings
36	√	√	Cellars in eastern footing trench
37	√	√	Cellars in eastern footing trench
38	√	√	Eastern footing trench
39	√	√	Eastern footing trench
40	√	√	Soak-away
41	√	√	Soak-away
42	√	√	Soak-away
43	√	√	Soak-away

Appendix 3: Context Descriptions

Context Number	Type	Description
101	Layer	Mid grey mixed chalk, redeposited natural
102	Fill	Dark blackish brown silty clay with brick inclusions, fill of [103]
103	Cut	Steep sided, concave based service trench, filled by (102)
104	Layer	Mixed chalk and dark brown silty clay soil, inclusions of bricks
105	Layer	Dark brown silty clay soil
106	Layer	Mixed chalk and rubble
107	Fill	Dark blackish brown silty clay with brick inclusions, fill of [108]
108	Cut	Steep sided service trench, filled by (107)
109	Layer	Disturbed chalk layer, no inclusions
110	Layer	White chalk, natural
111	Fill	Dark blackish brown silty clay, occasional inclusions of tile
112	Cut	Steep sided cut of possible ditch terminus or pit

Appendix 4: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:			
Short Description:	In November 2007 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd (ASC) carried out an archaeological watching brief at land to the rear of 88-84 High Street South, Dunstable, during redevelopment. The excavation of geotechnical pits, footing trenches and a soakaway were monitored. Two cellars of late 19 th or early 20 th century date were revealed. No archaeological remains dating to before the mid 19 th century were observed, as was a possible ditch terminus or pit of unknown date, extending to the west of the site.		
Project Type: (indicate all that apply)	Watching Brief		
Site status: (eg. none, SAM, Listed)	None	Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	None
Current land use:	Commercial	Future work: (yes / no / unknown)	No
Monument type:	None	Monument period:	None
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Bedfordshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	TL 0204 2160
District:	Dunstable	Parish:	Dunstable
Site address: (with postcode if known)	R/o 84-88 High Street South, Dunstable		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	488 sq. m.	Height OD: (metres)	144
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Beds CC	Project design originator:	ASC
Project Manager:	D. Fell	Director/Supervisor:	J. Richards
Sponsor / funding body:	Integra Ltd		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	8 th November 2007	End date:	20 th November 2007
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Luton Museum	None	
Paper:	Luton Museum	Site records, report, B&W photographs	
Digital:	Luton Museum	CD with copies of all digital files.	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Watching Brief: 88-84 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire		
Author(s):	J. Richards		
Page nos	29	Date:	7 th December 2007