



Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:
ROEBUCK PRIMARY SCHOOL
ST MARGARETS
STEVENAGE
HERTFORDSHIRE**

NGR: TL 2466 2252

on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council



Gareth Shane BSc

July 2010

ASC: 1310/SRS/2



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Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	SRS	<i>ASC project no:</i>	1310
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	Archaeol2 79185	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	
<i>County:</i>	Hertfordshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Stevenage		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Stevenage		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	TL 2466 2252		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	2.4ha		
<i>Present use:</i>	School and grounds		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Construction of new school building		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	Not known		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Stevenage Borough Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	June 2010		
<i>Client:</i>	Hertfordshire County Council Herts Property County Hall Hertford SG13 8DN		
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Internal Quality Check

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<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>	Bob Zeepvat [signed]	<i>Date:</i>	6th July 2010

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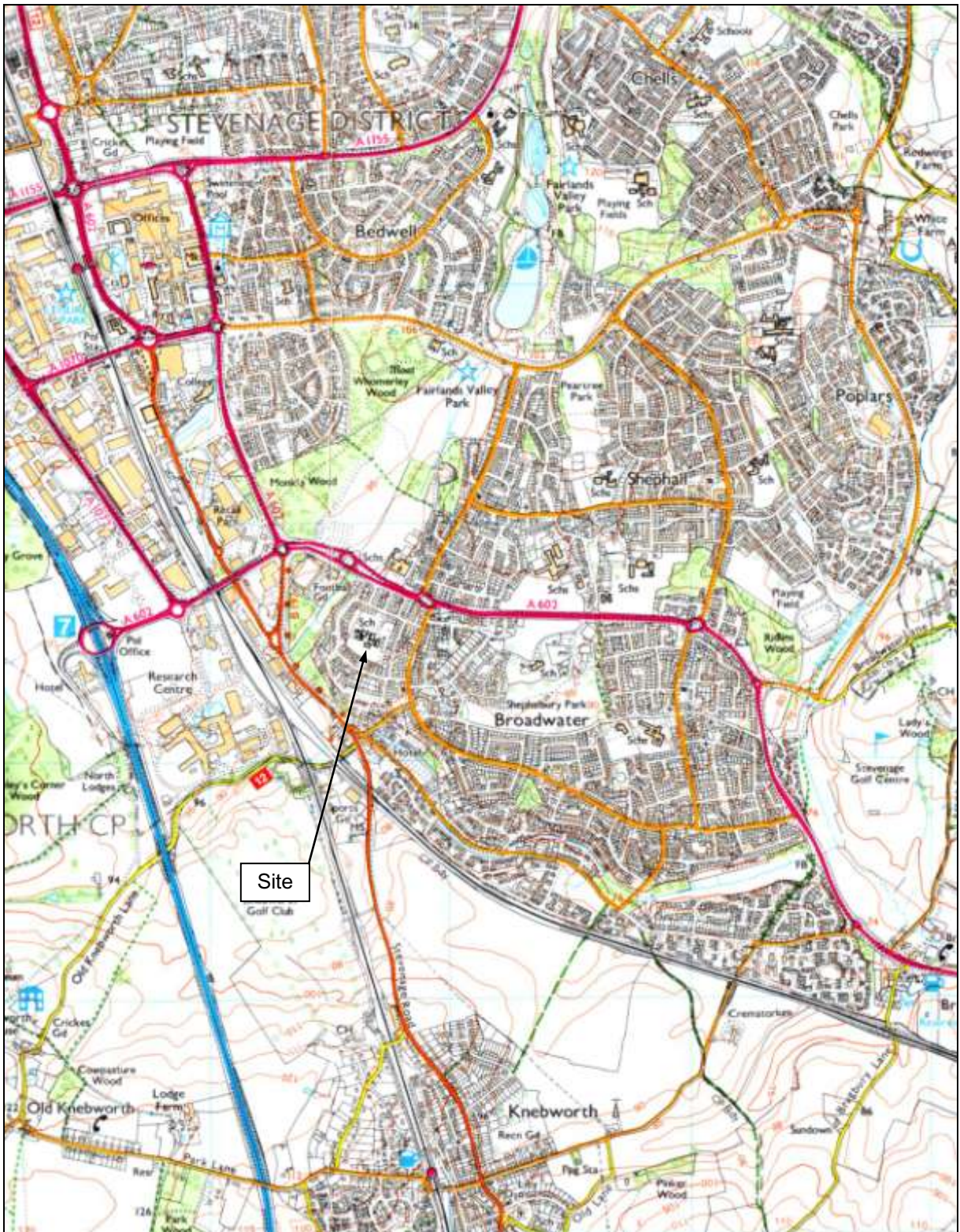


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In June 2010 an evaluation was undertaken at Roebuck School, St Margarets, Stevenage in advance of construction of new school buildings. Two evaluation trenches were excavated and archaeology was found to be present. The trench revealed one small pit, within which were found pottery sherds from at least four Late Bronze Age vessels. In addition to this, one other feature that contained no dating evidence was present in the same trench.

1. Introduction

1.1 In June 2010 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out an evaluation at Roebuck Primary School, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), Stevenage Borough Council, by their archaeological advisor (AA), Stevenage Museum, and a project design prepared by ASC Ltd (Zeepvat 2010). The relevant planning application reference is not known.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *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 Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists and is also accredited ISO 9001, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *The Site*

1.4.1 *Location & Description*

Roebuck Primary School is located in the Broadwater district of Stevenage new town, centred on Ordnance Survey Grid Reference TL 2466 2252 (Fig. 1). The school site occupies a roughly square area of c.2.4 hectares, bounded on all sides by modern residential development. The school buildings are located in the centre of the site, with a tarmac area to the north-east. The rest of the site is under grass, with a few mature trees. Access is from St Margarets, to the north (Fig. 2)

1.4.2 *Geology & Topography*

The site is located on more or less level ground, at an elevation of c.90m AOD. As the site is within an urban area, soils have not been mapped. However, they are likely to belong to the *Hornbeam 2* or *Hornbeam 3 Association*, both described as ‘*deep fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging*’ (Soil Survey 1983, 582c or 582d). The underlying geology is Middle Chalk (BGS 221, Hitchin).

1.4.3 *Proposed Development*

The proposed development comprises demolition of the present school buildings, and construction of a new school to the immediate north, along with new access and parking arrangements (Fig. 3).

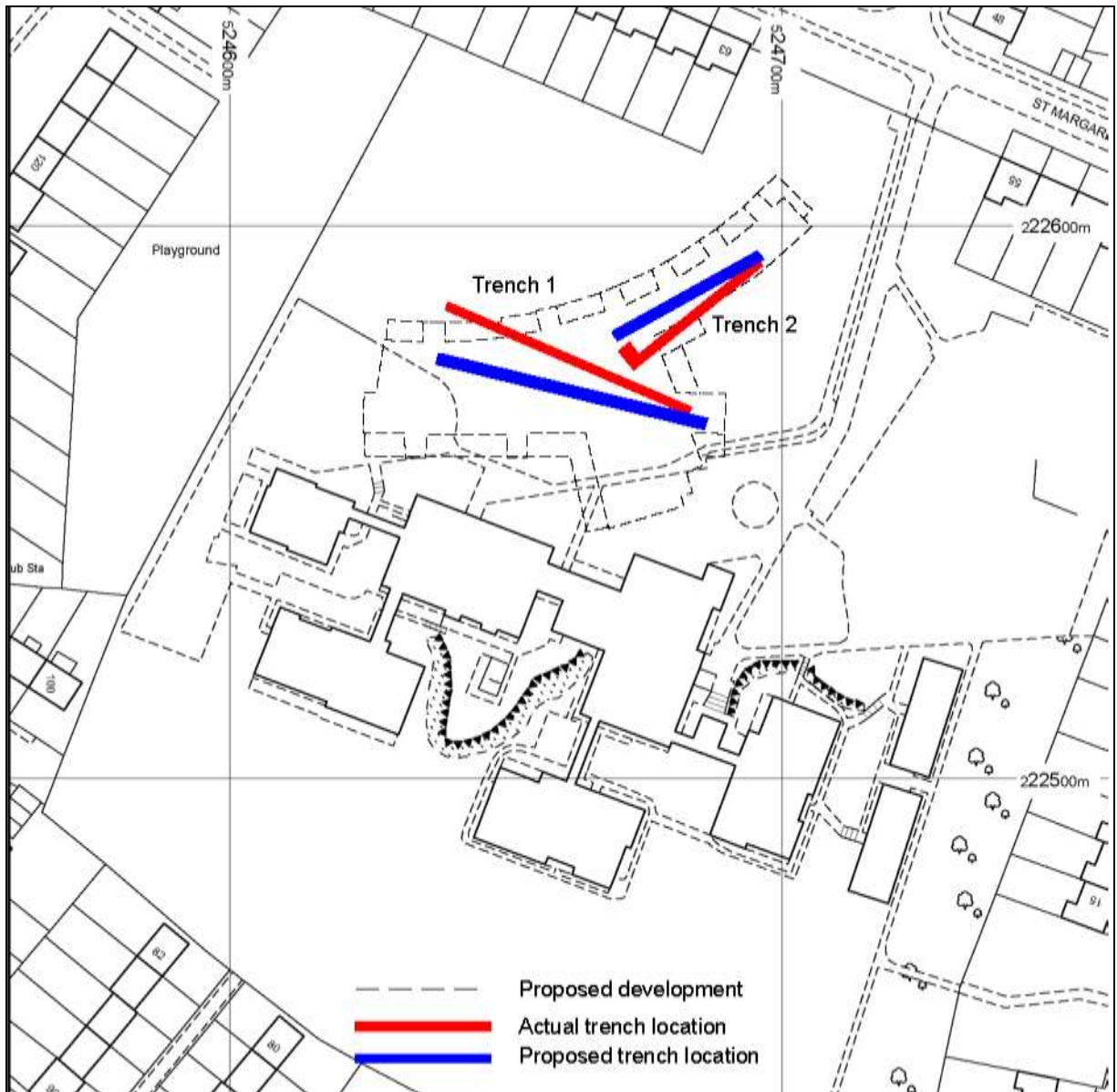


Figure 2: Site plan, showing proposed and actual trench locations (*scale 1:1250*)

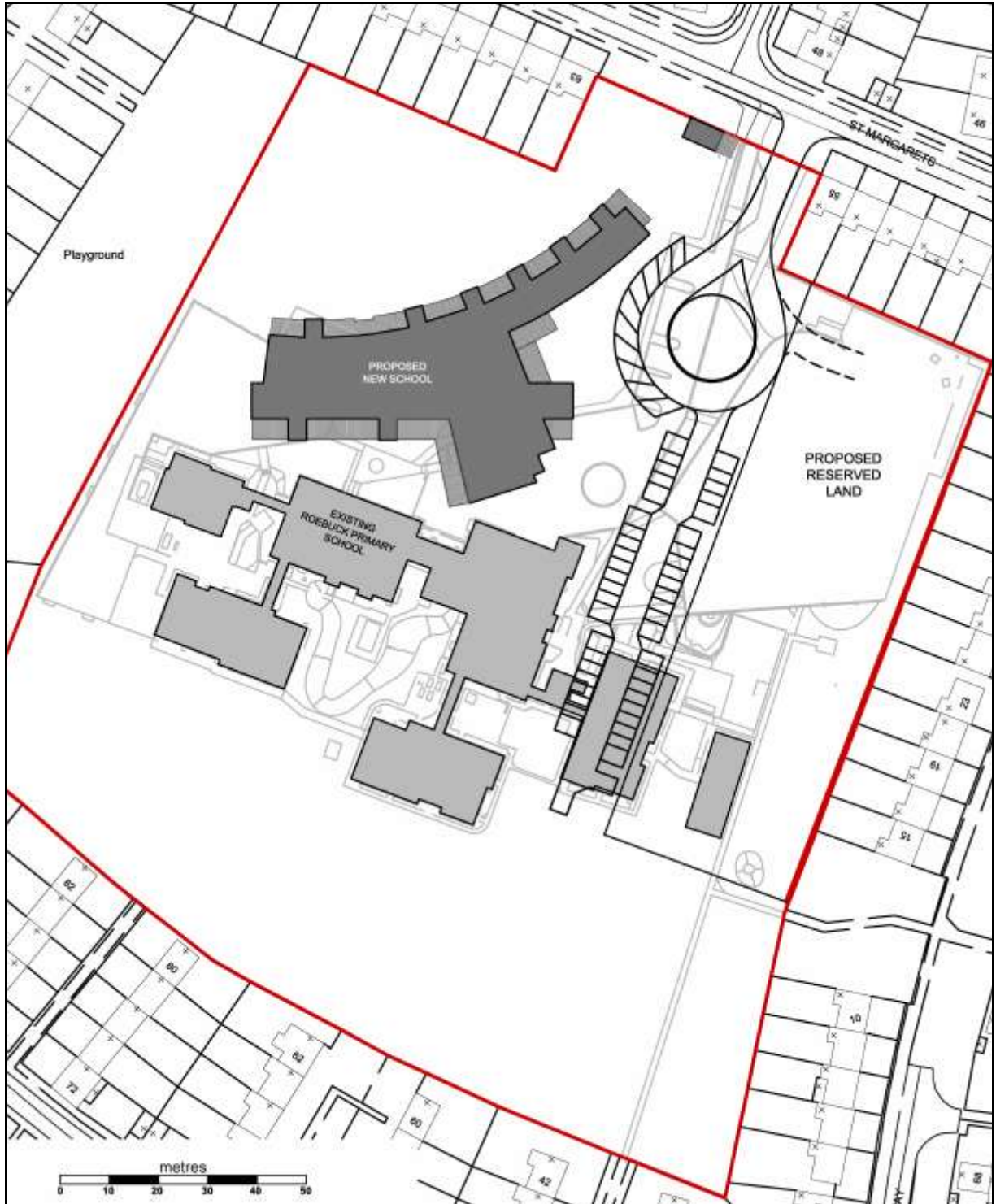


Figure 3: Proposed development (scale 1:1250)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

As described in the project design (Section 2.1) the aims of the evaluation were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, nature, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed on site.
- To include a comprehensive assessment of the regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests, and to highlight any research priorities relevant to any further investigation of the site.

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000a) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to current English Heritage guidelines (EH 1991; EH 2006), 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 project design (Section 2.4), which required:

- Excavation of a 5% sample of the area of the new building, comprising two trial trenches

2.4 *Constraints*

Due to the location of the car park it was necessary to shift the proposed location of Trench 1 several metres to the north, whilst maintaining a position within the footprint of the proposed development. Trench 2 was extended by 2.5m to the NE at the SW end; this was to allow further exposure of a feature partially obscured by the limits of excavation (Fig. 2). No further changes were made to those outlined in the project design.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.

This section has been compiled with information from the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), and ASC's reference collection.

3.2 *Prehistoric* (before 600BC)

Evidence for this period is poorly represented in the Stevenage area. Only two finds, both Neolithic stone axes, are known from the area. One was recovered from Barnwell School, Shephall (HER0424) and the other was found south of Ridlins Wood (HER0611). The only major prehistoric site identified in the area is at Bragbury End some 2.5km south east of the Roebuck School, where fieldwalking and an evaluation revealed quantities of struck flint, Beaker and Bronze Age pottery, and gullies, pits and postholes suggesting occupation in the late Beaker and Bronze Age periods (Murray 1994).

3.3 *Iron Age* (600BC-AD43)

The archaeological evidence for this period is generally of settlement sites dating from the later part of the Iron Age. The closest site is at Shephalbury Manor, c.800m east of the school (HER11604). This consisted of what is almost certainly part of a late Iron Age enclosure (Grant & Hounsell 2003).

3.4 *Roman* (AD43-c.450)

During this period, the Stevenage area formed part of the tribal canton or *civitas* of the *Catuevallauni*, the capital of which was at *Verlamium* (St Albans). A possible Roman road linking Welwyn and Baldock (HER4637: Viatores 1964) is said to follow the line of the B197, passing 0.5km west of the site. Apart from two Roman coins (HER0440, HER0452) the only finds of this period recorded in the HER in the vicinity of the site consist of Roman brick and tile and a coin of Constantine, recovered from a building site at the east end of Broadwater Crescent (HER0444). Occupation sites are known at New Farm and at Great Collens Wood. Shephalbury Manor is also recorded as having produced 2nd-century material (Grant & Hounsell 2003).

3.5 *Saxon* (c.450-1066)

The only site belonging to this period lay at the east end of Broadwater Crescent, where traces of Anglo-Saxon settlement (HER0455) were recorded on the Roman site mentioned above (HER0444). The settlement evidence consisted of a rectangular sunken-featured building, with possible post-holes placed centrally at either end. Shephall village (HER2626) is of probable Anglo-Saxon origin, since its landholdings prior to the Conquest are recorded in the Domesday survey.

3.6 **Medieval** (1066-1500)

The Domesday Survey of 1086 records that Shephall (*Escephale*) was divided into two parts. One, of three hides, was held by the abbot of St Albans as part of the abbey demesne. The other, containing two hides, was held by Anschitil Ros of Lanfranc archbishop of Canterbury (Morris 1976, sections 2.3 and 10.8). Anschitil's lands had belonged to the Abbey demesne in the time of Edward the Confessor, and could not be sold or alienated from the church.

3.7 **Post-Medieval** (1500-1900)

The Abbey's tenure of Shephall was terminated during the Dissolution, when in 1542 the manor, with a pension of five shillings from the Rectory, was granted by Henry VIII to George Nodes, serjeant of the royal Buckhounds. Nodes had previously been lessee of the manor. In 1564 Nodes obtained licence to grant the manor to his nephew Charles Nodes and his heirs.

3.8 **Modern** (1900-present)

The manor of Shephall remained in the possession of various branches of the Nodes family until 1939, when it was sold to William Harrison Moss (Ballin 1967). In 1957 the estate and manorial rights were purchased by Stevenage Development Corporation, and Roebuck Infants School was built in the early 1960s as part of the development of the new town. The AA has made the following observations regarding the site:

Much of Stevenage was built without archaeological intervention, but where archaeological investigations have taken place archaeological remains have often been found. For example in north eastern Stevenage a Late Iron Age and Roman settlement was excavated at Boxfield Farm, Chells (HER4506: Going & Hunn 1999) and a possible cremation cemetery nearby (HER7368). Another Iron Age and Roman settlement was found further to the north at Lob's Hole (HER9222: Hunn 1997). The site is situated close to *Area of Archaeological Significance* 15, as identified in the Local Plan. This notes that the hamlet of Broadwater is recorded as early as 1221. It is probably the meeting place of the old Anglo-Saxon Hundred of Broadwater recorded in the Domesday Book. The Roebuck Hotel dates from the 15th century. London Road is likely to follow the course of a Roman road.

The school buildings are shown on OS mapping from the 1950s. The post war programme of school building in Hertfordshire is described by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) as "world class architecture with a uniquely British flavour" (Elwall 2000, 7) and which the noted International Modernist architect Walter Gropius acclaimed in 1952 as the most advanced in the world (*ibid*, 30). A recently published guide to the refurbishment of school buildings by English Heritage includes a case study of Hertfordshire schools. Seven are listed out of a post-war total of thirty-eight listings throughout the country (English Heritage 2010, 5). The Design and Access Statement (para. 4.16) however states that the school buildings are in poor structural condition.

4 Results

4.1 Introduction

This section provides a summary of the results of the evaluation. Full descriptions, in tabulated form, are provided in Appendix 1.

Two trenches were excavated within the footprint of the proposed development (Fig. 3) using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.5m wide toothless bucket operating under continuous archaeological supervision. Following excavation each trench was cleaned sufficiently to determine if archaeological remains were present. Basic trench information was recorded on trench record sheets and a photographic record was made. The spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector.

4.2 Trench 1 (Plates 1 and 4)

Trench 1 was located on a WNW- ESE alignment and just north of the existing school building and car park. The soil sequence in this trench consisted of

- 000-100mm Topsoil and turf (100) a mid brown silty loam,
- 100-400mm made ground (101), consisted of light brown, friable silty, sandy clay
- 400-700mm Natural (103) varying from coarse orange sand and flint at the eastern end of the trench to light brown orange firm clay with flints at the western end.

None of the original topsoil or subsoil remained due to levelling of the land. No archaeological features were observed in Trench 1.

4.3 Trench 2 (Figs 3 and 4; Plates 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7)

Trench 2 was located to the north of Trench 1 on a NE-SW alignment. The soil sequence was found to be similar to that in Trench 1 and was as follows:

- 000-100mm topsoil and turf (200) dark grey brown friable sandy silt
- 100-240mm made ground (201), consisting of light brown silty sandy clay, friable in texture.
- 240-600mm underlying subsoil (202) comprising mid brown-orange silty sand and flint.
- 600-780mm natural substratum (206) comprised brownish-orange, soft sandy clay, friable in texture.

Two archaeological features were found cut into the natural substratum:

Feature [207] was 0.5m from the SW end of the trench and partially obscured by the baulk. To allow fuller investigation of this feature the trench was extended to the NE. This revealed the full extent of a small discrete sub-circular feature, which was subsequently half-sectioned. This feature appeared in section to be a shallow pit with irregular sides and a single fill (208) consisting of dark brown- grey friable silt-clay with a maximum depth of 270mm. The fill was found to contain pottery sherds of at least four different vessels probably dating to the late Bronze Age as well as a quantity of fired clay. After the pottery was recovered the feature was fully excavated and an environmental sample was taken. The sample was subsequently dry sieved and further

pottery sherds and fired clay fragments were recovered. No significant environmental information was recovered from the sample. During excavation of the second half of the pit a spindle whorl was also recovered. An edited version of the pottery report can be found in Appendix 4.

Feature [203] was detected 12m from the SW end of the trench projecting from the SE baulk resulting in its full extent being obscured. What could be seen of the feature was subsequently excavated in section against the baulk. The feature was found to contain two fills, neither offered any dating evidence. The upper fill (205) comprised a mid grey-orange, soft, sandy silt with a maximum thickness of 150mm. The lower fill (204) comprised a mid yellowish- grey, soft, sandy silt with areas of iron staining and a maximum thickness of 290mm. The profile of the feature was found to be quite shallow with asymmetrical sides.



Plate 1: Trench 2 SW end Prior to hand excavation. Feature [207] in foreground



Plate 2: Trench 2 soil stratigraphic profile



Plate 3: Trench 1 Soil stratigraphic profile



Plate 4 Trench 2 Feature [207] NW facing section through late Bronze Age pit.



Plate 5: Trench 2 Feature [203] SE section

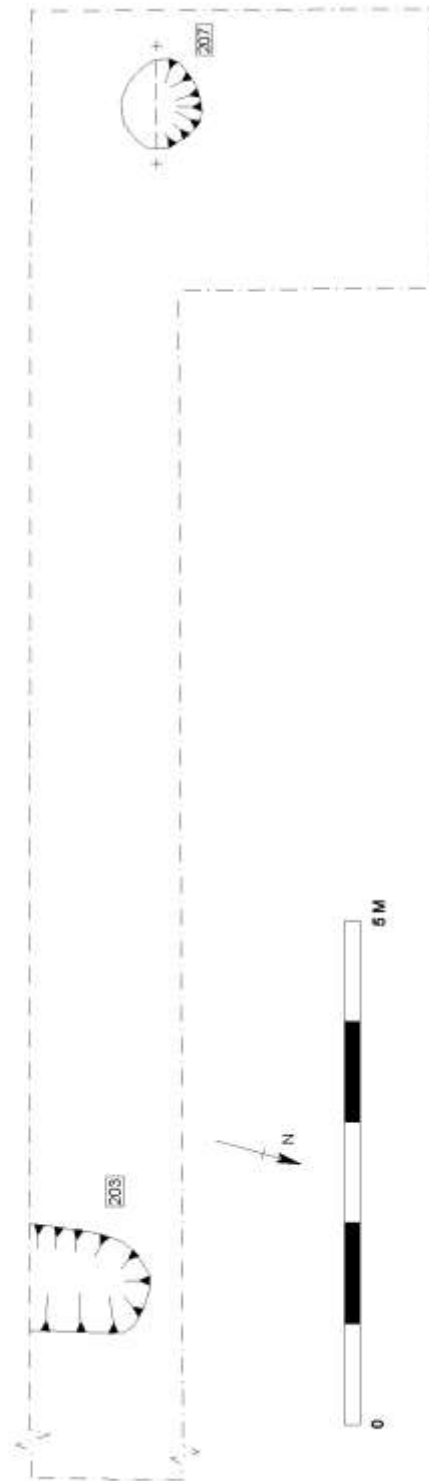


Figure 4: Plan of trench 2. (Scale 1:50.)

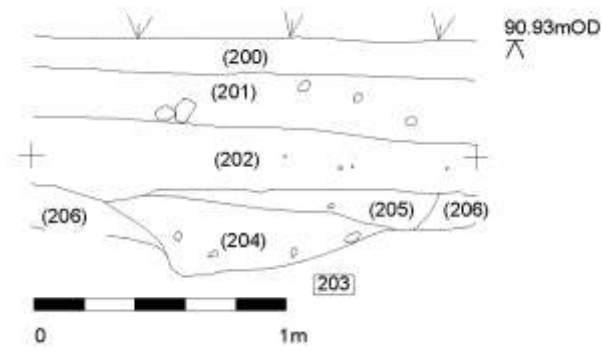


Figure 5: NW facing Baulk section through pit [203]. (Scale 1:20)

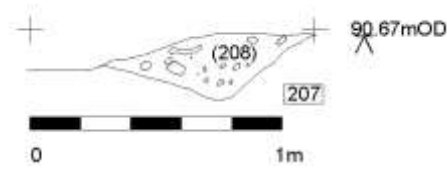


Figure 6: NE facing section through pit [207]. (Scale 1:20)

5. Conclusions

5.1 Two archaeological trial trenches were excavated within the development site, targeting the footprint of the proposed development. Archaeology was found to be present in Trench 2, no archaeology was observed in Trench 1.

5.2 This evaluation uncovered evidence of Late Bronze Age human activity, a period poorly represented in Stevenage (para. 3.2, above). Late Bronze sites are relatively rare and although only a single pit was uncovered it is likely to have been on the margins of settlement. The presence of such a large quantity of pottery in a single feature may suggest ritual associations (Appendix 4). The only major prehistoric site identified in the area is at Bragbury End some 2.5km south east of Roebuck School, where fieldwalking and an evaluation revealed quantities of struck flint, Beaker and Bronze Age pottery, and gullies, pits and postholes suggesting occupation in the late Beaker and Bronze Age periods (Murray 1994).

5.4 *Confidence Rating*

The work was undertaken in dry, hot and sunny weather conditions and full co-operation was received from the client and machining contractor. Accordingly, a high confidence rating is attached to the results of the evaluation.

6. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned by Bob Chapman of Hertfordshire Properties, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). The project was monitored by Andy Instone of HCC Historic Environment Unit. Thanks are also due to Anna Slowikowski of Albion Archaeology for pottery analysis and Peter Wilson for plant hire.

The project was managed for ASC by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Martin Cuthbert BA PIFA and Gareth Shane BSc. The report was prepared by Gareth Shane and edited by Bob Zeepvat.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

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

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Stevenage 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).
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Viatores, The 1964: *Roman roads in the South East midlands*. Victor Gollancz (London).

Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

Trench 1							
	Max Dimensions (m)						
	Length	48m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.8m	
	Levels						
	Trench top ESE			91.37m OD			
	Trench base ESE			90.65m OD			
	Trench top WNW			90.92m OD			
	Trench base WNW			91.39m OD			
	NGR Co-ordinates						
	WNW*	SP. 24639.22590		ESE*	SP.24682.22571		
	Orientation			WNW-ESE			
Reason for Trench			Evaluation				
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation			Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
100	Layer	Mid brown silty loam Topsoil				100	
101	Layer	Light brown silty sandy clay, friable, frequent sub-angular flint and pebbles, occasional inclusions. Made ground				300	100
102	Layer	Mid brown- orange silty sand, only at Eastern end of trench. Sub- Soil				300	400
103	Layer	Orange sand (coarse) and flint at Eastern end. Orange – light brown clay and flint at Western end				100	700

Trench 2								
			Max Dimensions (m)					
			Length	30	Width	1.5	Depth	0.8
			Trench top NE		90.54m OD			
			Trench base NE		90.99m OD			
			Trench top SW		91.29m OD			
			Trench base SW		90.60m OD			
			NGR Co-ordinates					
			*NE	SP.24697.22588		*SW	SP.24672.22579	
Orientation:			NE-SW					
Reason for Trench:			Evaluation					
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)			
200	Layer	Dark brown-grey, friable sandy silt. Topsoil		100				
201	Layer	Mid light brown silty sandy clay, friable, frequent sub-angular flint and pebbles, occasional small brick fragment inclusions. Made ground		140	100			
202	Layer	Mid- brown-orange silty sand and flint. Subsoil		360	460			
203	Cut	Shallow feature emanating from the SE baulk. Concave and asymmetrical sides with a flat base full extent beyond (LOE). A pit.	1340	340	580			
204	Fill	Mid yellow-grey sandy silt, soft, occasional small and medium angular and rounded stones. Lower fill of pit	1180	290	580			
205	Fill	Mid grey-orange, sandy silt, soft with rare small angular stones. Upper fill of pit	1180	150	620			
206	Layer	Soft, sandy clay, brownish orange, clay content increases towards NE end of the trench		180	640			
207	Cut	Discrete, sub- oval, shallow, asymmetrical feature with concave sides and a rounded base. A pit	800	270	620			
208	Fill	Dark, brown-grey, silt clay, friable, moderate small rounded stones, occasional medium angular stones. Sole fill of small pit.	800	270	890			

Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: Roebuck Primary School				SITE NO/CODE: 1310/SRS
Shot	Neg	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	35	✓	✓	SW view pre ex shot of trench 2 2x1m scales
2	34	✓	✓	NE view pre ex shot of trench 2 2x1m scales
3	33	✓	✓	SE view soil stratigraphic profile trench 2 2x1m scales
4	32	✓	✓	NW view pit [203] and baulk section trench 2 2x1m scales
5	31	✓	✓	WNW view general shot trench 1 2x1m scales
6	30	✓	✓	ESE view general shot trench 1 2x1m scales
7	29	✓	✓	SSW view soil stratigraphic profile trench 1 2x1m scales
8	28	✓	✓	SSE view, NNW facing section through pit [207] trench 2 1x1m scale
9			✓	General shot machining of trench 1
10			✓	SW view pre ex shot of trench 2 2x1m scales
11			✓	SW view pre ex shot of trench 2 2x1m scales
12			✓	NW view pit [203] and baulk section trench 2 2x1m scales
13			✓	WNW view general shot trench 1 2x1m scales
14			✓	ESE view general shot trench 1 2x1m scales
15			✓	SSW view soil stratigraphic profile trench 1 2x1m scales
16			✓	SSE view, NNW facing section through pit [207] trench 2 1x1m scale
17			✓	Back filling of trenches general shot
18			✓	Back filling of trenches general shot
19			✓	Back filling of trenches general shot

Appendix 3: Finds Concordance

Context	Pottery		Bone		Flint (no)	Shell (g)	Stone (no)	Other Finds	
	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)				Type	(no)
208	175	3356						Fired clay	15
208								Spindle whorl	1

Appendix 4: Pottery Report

A.M.Slowikowski

Introduction

A total of 175 ceramic sherds, weighing 3.356 kg was recovered from the fill (208) of a single pit. The sherds make up a minimum of four individual vessels, although there could be up to eight vessels represented (table 1). Included in the ceramic assemblage are fifteen fragments of fired clay weighing 135g and a single ceramic spindle whorl.

The pottery is of one fabric and it has been quantified by sherd count and weight. A vessel count was also recorded because of the relatively intact nature of the assemblage.

The pottery has been recorded following the guidelines of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001) and the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (1992).

Table 1: The pottery quantified by vessel, sherd and weight.

Vessel no	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Comments
1	Jar	63	1982	Round-shouldered; spalled on one side and over-fired on the other; neatly drilled hole post-firing below rim; rough horizontal tooling on neck and shoulder, rough vertical tooling on body
2	Jar	54	565	Carinated; heavily spalled on exterior; rough fingering on exterior surface but no sign of tooling
3	Jar/bowl	29	422	Carinated; base missing so possibly a bowl? Fabric is a mixture of coarse and fine flint
4	Jar/bowl	3	62	Small jar or bowl; fabric is particularly coarse; base is slightly footed
5		10	122	Body sherds only; possibly belonging to other vessels
6		14	164	Body and base; badly spalled flakes possibly belong to other vessels
7		1	9	Body sherd; very coarse large flint inclusions unlike other vessels
8		1	30	Possible base sherd; reduced black throughout unlike other vessels

The fill (208) of the single pit contained the sherds of 4 diagnostic vessels, and possibly four more comprising un-diagnostic body sherds. All are broken but still with large fragments surviving. None was complete, but all survived to between 25-50%, although in pieces.

All the vessels are in one fabric, a coarse flint tempered ware. The forms are all different and there are slight variations in the fabric of each pot due to differences in the grading of the flint and the firing of the pots enabling the individual vessels to be distinguished.

Most of the vessels appear to be jars, although two could be either small jars or bowls. The largest jar has a neatly drilled hole, post-firing, just below the rim. This could have a ritual significance or it could be for attaching a lid or a repair hole.

Coarse flint fabrics appear to have been in use from the middle Bronze Age to the early Iron Age but are particularly characteristic of late Bronze Age/earliest Iron Age assemblages in the region (Bryant 1995, 17). The coarse flint-tempered vessels from the Roebuck Primary School site are probably late Bronze Age in date based on their forms, which are tall, straight-sided 'situlate' jars.

The function of these vessels and the reason for their deposition in this pit is likely to have been of ritual significance. Too much of the pottery survives for it to be regarded as 'domestic rubbish'. Recognition of these types of structured deposit has become more frequent, and they are often explained by reference to feasting rituals as forms of display (McOmish 1996, 74-5). There is no sign of sooting or burning on the vessels and, if associated with feasting, the coarse jars were probably used for the storage or preparation of food rather than its cooking or service. This pit is likely to have been on the edges of settlement as no evidence of domestic activity or settlement was recovered. In the late Bronze Age, settlements and their margins become the focus of ritual activity, associated with fertility (Pollard 2002, 29). This may have been the case here.

Fired Clay

Fifteen fragments of fired clay were recovered from the same pit. The fired clay is in a soft, powdery fabric, reduced to dark grey with oxidised surfaces. Inclusions are largely absent although there is frequent organic matter which has fired out leaving elongated voids.

The origin of this fired clay is uncertain although the fabric suggests the mixing of dung with the raw clay for use as daub. No wattle impressions are visible and it may have been used for structures other than buildings, such as boundary walls or ovens.

Spindle Whorl

A single complete spindle whorl was found in the pit. It is dome-shaped with a funnel-shaped perforation at the centre. The fabric is a finer version of the coarse flint-tempered pottery and the whorl is totally reduced to black throughout.

Potential for Further Analysis

This assemblage is in particularly good condition and warrants full publication. Late Bronze Age sites are relatively rare and although this is only a single pit, it is likely that the domestic settlement from which the pottery originated is nearby. The pit was likely to have been on the margins of settlement. It is important because of its possible ritual significance.

It is recommended that the diagnostic assemblage be illustrated for publication and that a fuller description of the vessels is made. Further analysis should place the assemblage in its regional and national context.

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Appendix 5: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Roebuck primary school	OASIS reference:	Archaeol2 78865
Short Description:	In June 2010 an evaluation was undertaken at Roebuck School, St Margarets, Stevenage in advance of construction of new school buildings. Two evaluation trenches were excavated and archaeology was found to be present. The trench revealed one small pit, within which were found pottery sherds from at least four Late Bronze Age vessels. In addition to this, revealed one other feature that contained no dating evidence was present in the same trench.		
Project Type:	Evaluation		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	none	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	none
Current land use:	Playing field	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	unknown
Monument type:	none	Monument period:	none
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	One pit containing 175 pottery sherds dating to the Late Bronze Age.		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Hertfordshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	TL 2466 2252
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	Roebuck Primary School, St Margarets, Stevenage, Hertfordshire		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	117sq m	Height OD: (metres)	93.02mOD
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	none	Project design originator:	Bob Zeepvat
Project Manager:	Bob Zeepvat	Director/Supervisor:	Bob Zeepvat
Sponsor / funding body:	Hertfordshire County Council		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	02/06/2010	End date:	03/06/2010
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Stevenage Museum	Pottery	
Paper:	Stevenage Museum	Project design, project report, clients plans etc.	
Digital:	Stevenage Museum	CD with all digital files	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Archaeological Evaluation, Roebuck Primary school, St Margarets, Stevenage		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1310/SRS/2		
Author(s):	Gareth Shane		
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