

**Land off Gascoyne Way  
Hertford  
Hertfordshire SG14 1LH**

*Programme of Archaeological Monitoring  
(Watching Brief)*



*for*  
The Harris Partnership

*on behalf of*  
Aldi Stores Ltd

CA Project: MK0113  
CA Report: MK0113\_1

January 2020



# Land off Gascoyne Way Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 1LH

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## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Land off Gascoyne Way  
**Location:** Hertford, Hertfordshire  
**NGR:** 532248 212477  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 30 September – 30 October 2019  
**Planning Reference:** (ref: 3/17/1537/FUL)  
**Location of Archive:** East Hertfordshire: Hertford Museum  
**Site Code:** LSGW19

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks in advance of the construction of a new Aldi food store, with accompanying car parking and landscaping at land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire.

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during monitoring of these groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered. The ground level of the site was shown to have been extensively raised and levelled with up to 1.6m of made ground in places. A possible buried topsoil was observed in the southern half of site. No in-situ remains of the post-medieval terracing depicted on the cartographic sources were identified.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2019 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring (watching brief) for The Harris Partnership on behalf of Aldi Stores Ltd on land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire (centred at NGR: 532248 212477; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for *the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of a food store, with associated car parking servicing, landscaping and associated works* (Planning ref: 3/17/1537/FUL).
- 1.2 The scope of the archaeological watching brief was defined during discussions between CA and Hertfordshire County Council's Historical Environment Adviser (HCCHEA; Allison Tinniswood).
- 1.3 The Site lies within an *Area of Archaeological Significance (No.172)*, on which basis recommendations for archaeological monitoring of the site by HCCHEA were provided to East Hertfordshire District Council; as follows:
- *Further to the demolition of the existing building on the site, the archaeological monitoring, via 'strip, map and record', of the removal of floor slab, and foundations, and the monitoring of all ground reduction, together with the investigation and recording of any archaeological remains encountered;*
  - *The archaeological monitoring of other groundworks associated with the development, such as foundations, ring beams, service trenches and landscaping, etc., which may have an impact on archaeological remains;*
  - *A contingency for the preservation or further investigation of any remains encountered;*
  - *The analysis of the results of the archaeological work, with provisions for the subsequent production of a report and an archive, and the publication of the results, as appropriate; and,*
  - *Such other provisions as may be necessary to protect the archaeological interests of the site.*

- 1.4 The above recommendations informed the decision-making process and resulted in Condition 11 of planning consent; as follows:

*No development shall take place within the proposed development site until the applicant, or their agents, or their successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to the planning authority and approved in writing. This condition will only be considered to be discharged when the planning authority has received and approved an archaeological report of all the required archaeological works, and if appropriate, a commitment to publication has been made. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme.*

*REASON: To secure the protection of and proper provision of any archaeological remains in accordance with Policy HA3 of the East Herts District Plan 2018 and the NPPF.*

- 1.5 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2019) and approved by the East Hertfordshire District Council (EHDC; the local planning authority), acting on the advice of Allison Tinniswood. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Allison Tinniswood.

#### **The site**

- 1.6 The development area measures approximately 0.9ha and is situated c.350m to the west of Hertford town centre (NGR: 532248, 212477; Fig. 1). It comprises a single parcel of land previously occupied by a large multi-storeyed building and associated warehouse with areas of hardstanding and car parking in the west, south and north of the site.
- 1.7 The Site lies at approximately 41m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and is bounded to the south by a brook linking the Rivers Lea and Mimram. To the east and north, the site is bounded by Gascoyne Way, which forms part of the main road through Hertford, and to the west by further commercial properties. Mature trees and hedgerows define the southern boundaries of the site, whilst further vegetation is located along the western and eastern boundaries.

- 1.8 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Lewes Nodular Chalk and Seaford Chalk Formations of the Cretaceous Period, overlain by alluvial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel associated with the River Lea (BGS 2019). This programme of works encountered these silts, sands and gravels at an average depth of 1.5m below the present ground level (bpgl).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site lies in *Area of Archaeological Significance No. 172* as identified in the Local Plan. This includes the historic core of the town of Hertford which has its origins in the late Anglo-Saxon period.
- 2.2 The archaeological and historical background for the Site has been detailed in a preceding archaeological desk-based assessment (CA 2017). The following archaeological background provides a summary of that source.

### ***Prehistoric period (Pre-AD 43)***

- 2.3 Evidence of prehistoric activity on and near to the site is limited; however, c.950m south-east of the site evidence of possible Bronze Age settlement and agricultural practices are recorded. An archaeological evaluation c.90m to the north of the site recorded remains that could represent early Roman occupation which potentially originated during the Late Iron Age (Cooper-Reade 1990).

### ***Roman period (AD 43 – AD 410)***

- 2.4 As mentioned above, an archaeological evaluation, approximately 90m to the north, recorded early Roman occupation features comprising wall foundations and cobbled surfaces. Many post and stake holes were recorded; however, it was not possible to identify these as being associated with any specific structure (Cooper-Reade 1990).
- 2.5 The above features are considered to represent the remains of a single small farmstead. A farmstead of this nature would typically have been surrounded by agricultural land, which could suggest the present site then may have formed part of the wider agricultural landscape; perhaps functioning as seasonal grazing for animals between periods of localised flooding, or as cultivated land, drawing on the River Lea for irrigation.

- 2.6 Further evidence of Roman activity is located c.225m to the north-east of the site near to the River Lea at Millbridge. Archaeological investigations recorded evidence of a circular enclosure measuring 15m in diameter, within which was an urned cremation burial and ceramic material dating to the 1st century AD. The Roman activity recorded to the north-east of the site at Millbridge has been suggested to comprise part of a larger Roman period settlement, although its extent remains is unknown.
- 2.7 In the wider landscape, an excavation carried out c.950m to the east of the site has recorded evidence of a Roman period ditch that could potentially be associated with the remains of a Roman cemetery to the north. Evidence recorded from the cemetery included urns and a dish dating to the 4th century (Wotherspoon 2004).
- 2.8 To the south of Hertford is the suggested route of a Roman road leading from Ware, east of Hertford, to St Albans in the west. During the 1960s, a slight embankment was identified on the proposed route; however, this has not been confirmed through any investigation.

***Early medieval period (AD 410 – AD 1066)***

- 2.9 Documentary sources record an order by King Edward to build a fortress settlement (burh) between the Mimram, Beane and Lea rivers in AD 912 and a second fortress on the southern bank of the Lea the following year.
- 2.10 The location of the burhs c.270m from the site suggests that the primary focus of settlement would have been to the east of the rivers on higher ground away from the river flood plains. Given the large size of the settlement recorded at Domesday it is possible that the site would have comprised cultivated land as part of the settlement's hinterland, although no archaeological deposits dating to this period have been recorded in the vicinity of the site.

***Medieval period (AD 1066 – 1539)***

- 2.11 Approximately 170m to the east of the Site lie the remains of Hertford Castle, a motte and bailey castle constructed after the Norman Conquest. In the late 12th century records detail extensive building works, with further renovations and alterations to the complex recorded in the 13th and 14th centuries. The gatehouse was added in the 15th century; none of the earlier structures now remain.



2.12 Some 60m from the site is The Church of Saint Andrew. The church was built in the mid-19th century on the site of an earlier church that dated to the 15th century, from which a doorway is still extant. Despite its close proximity to the church, it is not considered that the site would have formed part of land associated with the church.

2.13 The site is located within the extent of the area of burgage plots identified from later cartographic depictions of Hertford. Archaeological evidence relating to the period in this region is limited to a few sherds of pottery dating to the 10th and 11th centuries (Leasure 2003). Post holes were recorded c.100m to the north of the site; however, their function is not clear (Cooper – Reade 1990).

#### ***Post-medieval period (1540 – 1800)***

2.14 Speed's depiction of Hertford from 1610 and Andrews and Wren's depiction dating to 1766 show a terrace of buildings in the north of the site facing onto a road to the north. Associated gardens can be seen running down to a brook in the south of the site. In the western extent of the site the 1766 map depicts an area of probable meadow adjacent to the brook.

#### ***Modern period (1801 – present day)***

2.15 By 1838 the terrace aligning the street (identified from later Ordnance Survey maps as 'Hertingfordbury Road') in the north of the site had been removed. A new north/south street had been constructed with terrace housing and small plots aligned east/west to the rear of buildings. The 1881 Ordnance Survey map labels this street as 'Kiddills Yard'. The area within the west of the site, previously depicted as rows of gardens, comprises a large open space from 1838, with further alterations to the brook. The 1881 mapping depict this space as formal gardens with a including a fish pond.

2.16 Throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries, further buildings were added to the west and centre of the site. By the 1960s the small channels and fish pond in the west of the site had been removed/culverted, but the main channel of the brook was still present and is identified as a drain. It may be that the remains of a brick / stone arch on the river bank adjacent to the present site boundary could be a survival of the period prior to these alterations and the culverting (Appendix C; Plate 1; pers comm Alison Tinniswood on behalf of Jennifer Owen, Hertfordshire County Council). The formal gardens previously depicted had by then become allotments.

- 2.17 By the late 1970s, all buildings within the site had been removed, except for the row of dwellings along 'Kiddills Yard' and two buildings at the northern extent of the site. At this time the northern and eastern boundaries of the site were formed by the construction of Gascoyne Way, whilst by the late 1970s, the remaining dwellings have been replaced by the structure, which until most recently occupied the site.

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological monitoring were:
- To monitor the demolition to ground level of the existing buildings on the site, the removal of all broken up floor slab and existing foundations, and all subsequent ground reduction, new foundation works, ring beams, service trenches and landscaping works; together with the mapping and recording of any archaeological remains encountered; and,
  - To produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2019). Communication issues, however, at the commencement of the project meant that CA were not on site to monitor the initial removal of the floor slab and foundations of the previous development. An archaeologist was present during all other intrusive groundworks including the excavation of attenuation tanks, the ground reduction for the piling mat, and the drainage works (Fig. 2).
- 4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at its offices in Milton Keynes. The site archive will be deposited with East Hertfordshire: Hertford Museum. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-6)

- 5.1 The natural geological substrate, consisting of mid brown orange to yellow sand and gravels, was revealed at an average depth of 1.5m below present ground level.
- 5.2 Fourteen trenches (areas of groundworks) were monitored, which comprised; , Trenches 1 and 3, groundworks for the attenuation tanks; Trench 2, ground reduction for the piling mat; Trench 4, the replacement of an existing watercourse; Trenches 5 to 13, Drainage works; and Trench 14, the excavations for the piling cap.
- 5.3 No features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

### ***Attenuation Tanks***

- 5.4 Trench 1 was a rectangular trench, measuring approximately 23m by 10m, excavated for the installation of an attenuation tank in the western half of the site. The natural geology (105) was encountered at a depth of 1.4m bpgl across the south-western half of the trench. Evidence for past fluvial activity was observed within the north-eastern end of the trench. Here the mixed brown yellow sand and gravels dipped and were overlain by fluvial deposit (104) comprising mid grey blue sand and gravels, which in turn was overlain a second fluvial deposit (103) comprising mid grey blue silty clay.
- 5.5 The natural sand, gravels and fluvial deposits were sealed by a layer of possible buried topsoil (102) which comprised dark grey brown sandy silt and measured 0.3m thick. This was overlain by a 0.8m thick layer of made ground (101) comprising dark grey blue sandy silt followed by a 0.4m thick layer of brick rubble (100). Both of these are likely levelling for the construction of the recently demolished building.
- 5.6 Trench 3 required the excavation of a rectangular trench for the installation of an attenuation tank in the north-west of site. The natural geology (301) was encountered at a depth of 1.4m in the north-eastern corner of the trench. Overlying this was made ground (300) comprising mixed dark brown grey sandy silt with patches of redeposited natural.

### ***Ground Reduction for the Piling Mat***

- 5.7 Trench 2 required the reduction of the ground level along the northern edge of the site for the installation of the piling mat. Excavations here did not extend below made ground deposits, which comprised mixed mid brown yellow sand and gravel in the east (201), and mixed dark brown grey sandy silt with patches of redeposited natural material in the west (202). These were likely deposited during the construction of Gascoyne Way in the 1970s. An underpass is present immediately outside of the site boundary here with a drop of several metres and it would have been necessary for much of this area to have been excavated for its construction. This made ground deposit was sealed by topsoil (200) measuring 0.25m thick.

### ***Replacement pipe***

- 5.8 Trench 4 required the excavation of an existing pipe connecting the water courses to the north-west and south of the site. This did not extend below the drain backfill (402), comprising mixed mid brown grey clay with frequent stone and rubble, which measured 0.6m deep. This was overlain by a 0.15m thick layer of hardcore for the existing car park (401), which in turn was sealed by a 0.1m thick layer of tarmac carpark surface (400).

### ***Drainage works***

- 5.9 The drainage works monitored in the south of the site comprised four manholes and two connecting pipe trenches (Trenches 5 – 10). The level of the natural gravels deepened across this area from the north-east at 1.35m bpgl, to a maximum depth of 2.1m bpgl in the south-west. Within all the trenches the natural gravels were overlain by a possible buried topsoil comprising dark grey brown sandy silt and measuring on average 0.33m thick. Overlying this buried soil was significant deposits of made ground comprising dark grey blue sandy silt, followed by a mixed mid brown yellow silty sand and dark brown grey sandy silt. These ranged in depth from 0.7m in the northeast to 1.44m in the south-west. A layer of hardcore for the carpark sealed this made ground deposit, which in turn was overlain by the tarmac surface.
- 5.10 Trenches 11, 12 and 13 were part of a 70m long north-west/south-east drainage run across the centre of the site. The natural gravels were encountered at average depth of 1.24m bpgl along the length of these trenches. They were overlain by a c.0.87m thick layer of made ground comprising dark grey/brown sandy silt. This was sealed by a layer made ground comprising brick and concrete rubble measuring c.0.3m thick.

### ***Piling Cap***

- 5.11 Trench 14 monitored part of the excavations for the piling cap. The natural substrate was not encountered in this trench, which was excavated to a depth of 2.1m. The earliest deposit encountered comprised made ground (1402), of dark brown grey sandy silt, measuring over 0.4m thick. This was overlain by a 0.4m thick layer of the brick and concrete rubble (1401), evident at the surface elsewhere on site. This layer was then sealed by a 1.5m thick layer of the concrete crush used for the piling mat (1400).

## **6. DISCUSSION**

- 6.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no evidence of archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks on the site.
- 6.2 The absence of archaeological deposits may indicate that structural remains associated with the Roman period and medieval settlements to the north and north-east of the site did not extend this far. It is likely to be the case that, as stated within the archaeological background, this area was part of the wider agricultural hinterland of these settlements. Therefore, any evidence, where present, would be limited and likely to comprise the remains of shallow, infilled boundary ditches and / or isolated pits perhaps. Any such remains may have long since been removed by subsequent development. Although a possible buried topsoil was recorded within the southern half of the site, this is absent in the north, indicating a certain amount of subsequent truncation. The lack of this buried topsoil deposit in the north of the site could suggest also that any archaeological remains that may also have previously been present within this area could have been removed too by the same process.
- 6.3 There was also no evidence of archaeological remains relating to the post-medieval and modern residential terraces depicted in historic cartographic sources. It is likely therefore, that during the construction of the large office blocks within the site during 1970s these terraces were completely demolished, and the area levelled in preparation for the office and warehouse developments. The levelling layer of broken brick and CBM observed across the site may derive from the demolition of these terraces although no artefactual dating evidence was recovered.

## 7. CA PROJECT TEAM

7.1 The fieldwork was undertaken by Ralph Brown. The report was written by Ralph Brown. The illustrations were prepared by Amy Wright. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Dr Mark Hewson.

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**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

| Trench No | Context | Type  | Context Interpretation | Context Description   | L (m) | W (m) | T (m) |
|-----------|---------|-------|------------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 1         | 100     | Layer | Made ground            | Compact brick and concrete rubble   | >23   | >10   | 0.4   |
| 1         | 101     | Layer | Made ground            | Soft dark grey blue sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions 0.01-0.08m and occasional CBM           | >23   | >10   | 0.8   |
| 1         | 102     | Layer | Buried topsoil         | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >23   | >10   | 0.25  |
| 1         | 103     | Layer | Natural geology        | Fluvial silts comprising tenacious mid grey blue silty clay with moderate subangular stone inclusions | >10   | >10   | 0.3   |
| 1         | 104     | Layer | Natural geology        | Fluvial gravels comprising mid grey blue sand and subangular gravels 0.01-0.08m                       | >10   | >10   | >0.2  |
| 1         | 105     | Layer | Natural geology        | Loose mixed mid grey yellow sand and gravels  | >23   | >10   | >0.45 |
| 2         | 200     | Layer | Topsoil                | Friable mid grey brown sandy loam with moderate stone inclusions                                      | >65   | >14   | 0.25  |
| 2         | 201     | Layer | Made ground            | Firm mid brown yellow sand and gravels with occasional CBM inclusion                                  | >32   | >10   | >0.5  |
| 2         | 202     | Layer | Made ground            | Soft mixed mainly dark brown grey sandy silt with moderate stone and patches of redeposited natural.  | >33   | >14   | >0.1  |
| 3         | 300     | Layer | Made ground            | Soft mixed mainly dark brown grey sandy silt with moderate stone and patches of redeposited natural.  | >13   | >9    | 1.4   |
| 3         | 301     | Layer | Natural geology        | Loose mid brown orange sand and gravels   | >3    | >3    | >0.1  |
| 4         | 400     | Layer | Carpark surface        | Tarmac  | >9.5  | >1.8  | 0.1   |
| 4         | 401     | Layer | Hardcore               | Loose light brown yellow gravel   | >9.5  | >1.8  | 0.15  |



|   |     |       |                 |   |       |       |       |
|---|-----|-------|-----------------|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 4 | 402 | Layer | Drain backfill  | Soft mixed mid brown grey clay with frequent stone and rubble   | >9.5  | >1.8  | 0.6   |
| 5 | 500 | Layer | Carpark surface | Tarmac  | >3    | >2.4  | 0.1   |
| 5 | 501 | Layer | Hardcore        | Loose light brown yellow gravel   | >3    | >2.4  | 0.15  |
| 5 | 502 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft dark grey blue sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions 0.01-0.08m and occasional CBM                               | >3    | >2.4  | 0.7   |
| 5 | 503 | Layer | Buried topsoil  | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >3    | >2.4  | 0.4   |
| 5 | 504 | Layer | Natural geology | Loose mixed mid grey yellow sand and gravels  | >3    | >2.4  | >0.15 |
| 6 | 600 | Layer | Carpark surface | Tarmac  | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.08  |
| 6 | 601 | Layer | Hardcore        | Loose light brown yellow gravel   | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.17  |
| 6 | 602 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mixed mid brown yellow silt sand and dark brown grey sandy silt with frequent rubble and stone inclusions 0.01-0.06m | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.6   |
| 6 | 603 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mid blue grey clay silt with occasional subangular pebbles   | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.5   |
| 6 | 604 | Layer | Buried topsoil  | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.35  |
| 6 | 605 | Layer | Natural geology | Loose mid grey blue sand and gravels with patches of clay silt  | >1.75 | >1.75 | >0.6  |
| 7 | 700 | Layer | Carpark surface | Tarmac  | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.05  |
| 7 | 701 | Layer | Hardcore        | Dark blue grey sand and gravels   | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.21  |

|   |     |       |                 |   |       |       |       |
|---|-----|-------|-----------------|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 7 | 702 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mixed mid brown yellow silt sand and dark brown grey sandy silt with frequent rubble and stone inclusions 0.01-0.06m | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.89  |
| 7 | 703 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mid blue grey clay silt with occasional subangular pebbles   | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.55  |
| 7 | 704 | Layer | Buried topsoil  | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >1.75 | >1.75 | >0.35 |
| 8 | 800 | Layer | Carpark surface | Tarmac  | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.04  |
| 8 | 801 | Layer | Hardcore        | Dark blue grey sand and gravels   | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.16  |
| 8 | 802 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mixed mid brown yellow silt sand and dark brown grey sandy silt with frequent rubble and stone inclusions 0.01-0.06m | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.22  |
| 8 | 803 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mid green brown sandy silt with occasional small subangular stones   | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.43  |
| 8 | 804 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft dark brown grey sandy silt with occasional angular stone 0.01-0.05m  | >1.75 | >1.75 | 0.75  |
| 8 | 805 | Layer | Buried topsoil  | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >1.75 | >1.75 | >0.2  |
| 9 | 900 | Layer | Carpark surface | Tarmac  | >20   | >0.6  | 0.08  |
| 9 | 901 | Layer | Hardcore        | Loose light brown yellow gravel   | >20   | >0.6  | 0.17  |
| 9 | 902 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mixed mid brown yellow silt sand and dark brown grey sandy silt with frequent rubble and stone inclusions 0.01-0.06m | >20   | >0.6  | 0.35  |
| 9 | 903 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mid blue grey clay silt with occasional subangular pebbles   | >20   | >0.6  | 0.55  |
| 9 | 904 | Layer | Buried topsoil  | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >20   | >0.6  | 0.25  |

|    |      |       |                 |   |     |      |       |
|----|------|-------|-----------------|---|-----|------|-------|
| 9  | 905  | Layer | Natural geology | Loose mid grey blue sand and gravels with patches of clay silt  | >20 | >0.6 | >0.35 |
| 10 | 1000 | Layer | Carpark surface | Tarmac  | >11 | >0.6 | 0.08  |
| 10 | 1001 | Layer | Hardcore        | Loose light brown yellow gravel   | >11 | >0.6 | 0.21  |
| 10 | 1002 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mixed mid brown yellow silt sand and dark brown grey sandy silt with frequent rubble and stone inclusions 0.01-0.06m | >11 | >0.6 | 0.35  |
| 10 | 1003 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft mid blue grey clay silt with occasional subangular pebbles   | >11 | >0.6 | 0.55  |
| 10 | 1004 | Layer | Buried topsoil  | Soft dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions  | >11 | >0.6 | 0.3   |
| 10 | 1005 | Layer | Natural geology | Loose mid grey blue sand and gravels with patches of clay silt  | >11 | >0.6 | 0.2   |
| 11 | 1100 | Layer | Made ground     | Compact brick and concrete rubble   | >28 | >0.6 | 0.4   |
| 11 | 1101 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft dark grey blue sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions 0.01-0.08m and occasional CBM                               | >28 | >0.6 | 0.75  |
| 11 | 1103 | Layer | Natural geology | Loose mid grey blue sand and gravels with patches of clay silt  | >28 | >0.6 | >0.3  |
| 12 | 1200 | Layer | Made ground     | Compact brick and concrete rubble   | >15 | >0.6 | 0.2   |
| 12 | 1201 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft dark grey blue sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions 0.01-0.08m and occasional CBM                               | >15 | >0.6 | >0.6  |
| 13 | 1300 | Layer | Made ground     | Compact brick and concrete rubble   | >30 | >0.6 | 0.3   |
| 13 | 1301 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft dark grey blue sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions 0.01-0.08m and occasional CBM                               | >30 | >0.6 | 1     |

|    |      |       |                 |   |     |      |      |
|----|------|-------|-----------------|---|-----|------|------|
| 13 | 1303 | Layer | Natural geology | Loose mid brown yellow sand and gravels                                     | >30 | >0.6 | >0.4 |
| 14 | 1400 | Layer | Piling mat      | Concrete crush  | >35 | >25  | 1.5  |
| 14 | 1401 | Layer | Made ground     | Compact brick and concrete rubble   | >35 | >25  | 0.4  |
| 14 | 1402 | Layer | Made ground     | Soft dark brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions 0.01-0.08m | >35 | >25  | >0.4 |

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

| <b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>  |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Project Name  | Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1LH: Programme of Archaeological Monitoring (Watching Brief)  |   |
| Short description   | <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the erection of an Aldi food store, with associated car parking servicing, landscaping at land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered. The ground level of the site was shown to have been extensively raised and levelled with up to 1.6m of made ground in places. A possible buried topsoil was observed in the southern half of site. No insitu remains of the post-medieval terracing depicted on the cartographic sources were observed.</p> |   |
| Project dates   | 30/09/19 – 30/10/19   |   |
| Project type  | Watching Brief  |   |
| Previous work   | Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2017)   |   |
| Future work   | Unknown   |   |
| <b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>   |   |   |
| Site Location   | Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1LH  |   |
| Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)   | 2.37ha  |   |
| Site co-ordinates   | 532248 212477   |   |
| <b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>   |   |   |
| Name of organisation  | Cotswold Archaeology  |   |
| Project Brief originator  | -   |   |
| Project Design (WSI) originator   | Cotswold Archaeology  |   |
| Project Manager   | Mark Hewson   |   |
| Project Supervisor  | Ralph Brown   |   |
| <b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>  | none  |   |
| <b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>  | none  |   |
| <b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>   |   |   |
|   | Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)   | Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc) |
| Physical  | Hertford Museum   | none                                    |
| Paper   | Hertford Museum   | Trench sheets, Report                   |
| Digital   | Hertford Museum   | Digital photos Report                   |
| <b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>   |   |   |
| <p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 <i>Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1LH: Programme of Archaeological Monitoring (Watching Brief)</i>. CA typescript report <b>MK0113_1</b></p> |   |   |

**APPENDIX C: PLATE 1 (PERS COMM JENNIFER OWEN)**

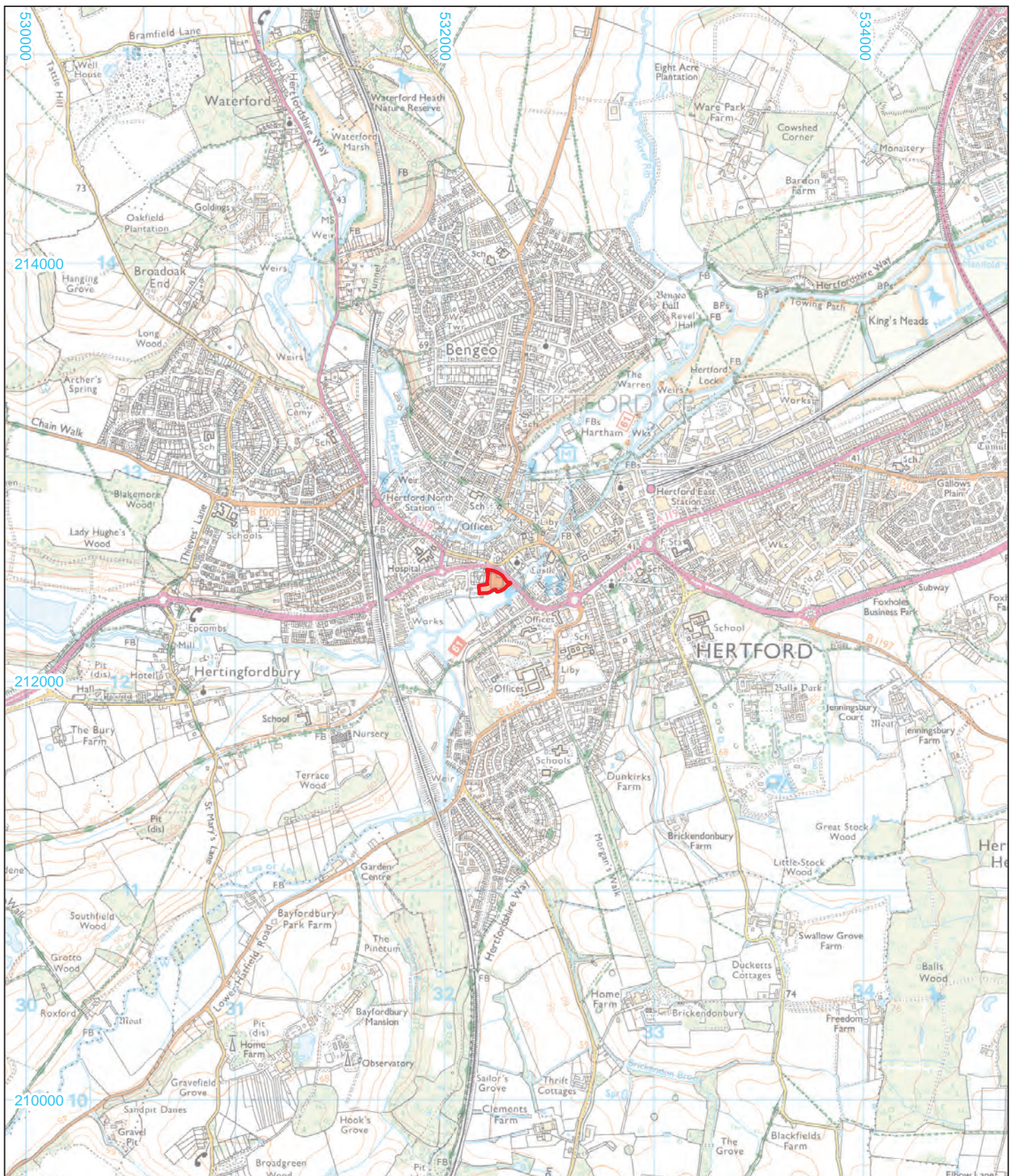


Plate 1: Surviving part of former brick / stone arch

## APPENDIX D: HERTFORDSHIRE HER SUMMARY SHEET



|  |   |                                       |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Site name and address:<br><b>Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 1LH</b>  |   |                                       |
| <b>Programme of Archaeological Monitoring (Watching Brief)</b>   |   |                                       |
| County: Hertfordshire  | District: East Herts District Council       |                                       |
| Village/Town: Hertford   | Parish:                                     |                                       |
| Planning application reference: 3/17/1537/FUL  |   |                                       |
| HER Enquiry reference: 288/16  |   |                                       |
| Nature of application:<br>Development of a new Aldi Foodstore  |   |                                       |
| Present land use: Former car showroom and parking / yard   |   |                                       |
| Size of application area: 0.9ha  | Size of area investigated: 0.9ha            |                                       |
| NGR (to 8 figures minimum): 532248 : 212477  |   |                                       |
| Site code (if applicable): LSGW19  |   |                                       |
| Contractor: Cotswold Archaeology   |   |                                       |
| Type of work A Programme of Archaeological Monitoring (Watching Brief)   |   |                                       |
| Date of work:  | Start: 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019      | Finish: 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2019 |
| Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum:<br><br>East Hertfordshire: Hertford Museum   |   |                                       |
| Related HER Nos:<br>None   | Periods represented:<br>Modern              |                                       |
| Relevant previous summaries/reports<br><br>Cotswold Archaeology (2017) <i>Land at Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment</i> . Report 17044   |   |                                       |
| Summary of fieldwork results:<br><br>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks in advance of the construction of a new Aldi food store, with accompanying car parking and landscaping at land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford, Hertfordshire.<br><br>No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during monitoring of these groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered. The ground level of the site was shown to have been extensively raised and levelled with up to 1.6m of made ground in places. A possible buried topsoil was observed in the southern half of site. No in-situ remains of the post-medieval terracing depicted on the cartographic sources were identified. |   |                                       |
| Author of summary: Mark Hewson   | Date of summary: 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 |                                       |



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land of Gascoyne Way, Hertford,  
 Hertfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

0 1km

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 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

**DRAWN BY** AW     **PROJECT NO.** MK0113  
**CHECKED BY** DJB     **DATE** 10.12.19  
**APPROVED BY** RB     **SCALE** @A4     **1:25,000**

**FIGURE NO.**  
**1**



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench

0 1:500 25m

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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford,  
 Hertfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench plan**

|             |            |             |                 |            |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| DRAWN BY    | <b>AW</b>  | PROJECT NO. | <b>MK0113</b>   | FIGURE NO. |
| CHECKED BY  | <b>DJB</b> | DATE        | <b>10.12.19</b> | <b>2</b>   |
| APPROVED BY | <b>RB</b>  | SCALE@A3    | <b>1:500</b>    |            |



View of site upon arrival, looking north-east



View of site upon arrival, looking south-east



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PROJECT TITLE

Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford,  
 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

**Photographs: general site shots  
 upon arrival**

|             |     |             |          |            |
|-------------|-----|-------------|----------|------------|
| DRAWN BY    | AW  | PROJECT NO. | MK0113   | FIGURE NO. |
| CHECKED BY  | DJB | DATE        | 10.12.19 | <b>3</b>   |
| APPROVED BY | RB  | SCALE@A4    | NA       |            |



Attenuation tank in Trench 1, looking east



Attenuation tank in Trench 3, looking north



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PROJECT TITLE

Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford,  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Photographs: attenuation tank**

|             |     |             |          |            |
|-------------|-----|-------------|----------|------------|
| DRAWN BY    | AW  | PROJECT NO. | MK0113   | FIGURE NO. |
| CHECKED BY  | DJB | DATE        | 10.12.19 |            |
| APPROVED BY | RB  | SCALE@A4    | NA       | <b>4</b>   |



Ground reduction for piling mat: Trench 2, looking south-east



Pipe replacement: Trench 4



Manhole: Trench 6, looking north



Drainage run: Trench 9, looking north


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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford,  
 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Photographs: Trenches 2, 4, 6, and 9**

|             |     |             |          |            |
|-------------|-----|-------------|----------|------------|
| DRAWN BY    | AW  | PROJECT NO. | MK0113   | FIGURE NO. |
| CHECKED BY  | DJB | DATE        | 10.12.19 | 5          |
| APPROVED BY | RB  | SCALE       | @A3 NA   |            |



Trench 13, looking north



Trench 14, looking south-east



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PROJECT TITLE

Land off Gascoyne Way, Hertford,  
 Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

**Photographs: Trenches 13 and 14**

|             |     |             |          |            |
|-------------|-----|-------------|----------|------------|
| DRAWN BY    | AW  | PROJECT NO. | MK0113   | FIGURE NO. |
| CHECKED BY  | DJB | DATE        | 10.12.19 |            |
| APPROVED BY | RB  | SCALE@A4    | NA       | <b>6</b>   |

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