# HEMEL STAGS
# STADIUM DEVELOPMENT
# PENNINE WAY
# HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
# HERTFORDSHIRE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

*For*

**EVANS JONES**

CA PROJECT: 2639
CA REPORT: 08132

JULY 2008

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

# HEMEL STAGS STADIUM DEVELOPMENT
# PENNINE WAY
# HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
# HERTFORDSHIRE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 2639
CA REPORT: 08132

| | |
|---|---|
| prepared by | Alistair Barber, Senior Project Officer |
| date | 8 July 2008 |
| checked by | Cliff Bateman, Project Manager |
| date | 11 July 2008 |
| approved by | Simon Cox, Head of Fieldwork |
| signed |  |
| date | 16 July 2008 |
| issue | 01 |


Building 11, Kemble Enterprise Park, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6BQ
Tel. 01285 771022 Fax. 01285 771033 E-mail: enquiries@cotswoldarch.org.uk

CONTENTS



**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS**

## SUMMARY


| | |
|---|---|
| **Project Name:** | Hemel Stags Stadium Development |
| **Location:** | Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire |
| **NGR:** | TL 06801 08845 |
| **Type:** | Evaluation |
| **Date:** | 30 June - 2 July 2008 |
| **Location of Archive:** | To be deposited with Dacorum Heritage Trust |
| **Site Code:** | HSH 08 |

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June and July 2008, at the request of Evans Jones, at Hemel Stags Rugby League Club, Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. Three evaluation trenches and 30 trial pits were excavated.

No archaeological features or artefacts pre-dating the modern period were encountered. Modern dump deposits, including redeposited natural clays, noted along the southern edge of the site would seemingly confirm anecdotal evidence that a shallow valley was infilled in the mid to late 20th century with landfill generated during construction works within Hemel Hempstead. Evidence that natural ground levels were truncated during construction of the existing clubhouse, pitch and playing field was also identified.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between June and July 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Evans Jones at Hemel Stags Rugby League Club, Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire (centred on NGR: TL 0680 0880; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to accompany a planning application for the construction of a new stadium, associated facilities and multi-purpose sports area.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* (Hertfordshire County Council; dated 7 April 2008) prepared by Kate Batt, Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire County Council, archaeological advisor to Dacorum Borough Council, and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2008) and approved by Kate Batt. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001), the S*tandards for Field Archaeology in the Eastern Region* (ALGAO 2003: East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14), and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

### *The site*

1.3 The site lies towards the north of the town of Hemel Hempstead, and is bordered by Pennine Way to the north, a depot building to the east, Nicky Line (a cycle path on the line of a dismantled railway) to the south and a playing field to the west (Fig. 2). Ground level across the proposed development area varies from approximately 143.5m to 146.5m AOD, dropping away to the south and west. The site had previously incorporated a shallow valley within its southern boundary that had been infilled with landfill generated during construction works within Hemel Hempstead (B. Brown pers comm.).

1.4 The site, approximately 2ha in size, is currently occupied by club buildings and a sports pitch.

1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Upper Chalk of the Cretaceous period, overlain by Quaternary Clay with Flint deposits consisting of firm to stiff brown clays with flints (Institute of Geological Sciences 1977, 1979).

### *Archaeological background*

1.6 The proposed development area lies within an area of archaeological potential. A Scheduled Ancient Monument lies approximately 450m south-east of the site (National Monument 27901: High Street Green Roman Barrow).

1.7 A trial magnetometer survey within the application area in February 2008 by Archaeological Surveys indicated the widespread presence of magnetic debris. These preliminary results suggested that further detailed survey of the whole site would solely map areas of magnetic debris and disturbance rather than the presence of archaeological features. Consequently, following consultation with Kate Batt, the requirement to undertake the full survey was abandoned.

### *Archaeological objectives*

1.8 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist Dacorum Borough Council in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

### *Methodology*

1.9 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of three trenches, each 10m in length and 1.6m in width, within the footprint of the proposed new grandstand, together with 30 trial pits, each measuring 2.5m in length and 1.6m in width, throughout the remainder of the application area. Trial pit positions and dimensions were altered slightly due to machine access requirements and buried services, with the approval of Kate Batt.

1.10 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Archaeological deposits, if encountered, were to be excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).

1.11 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003) but no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).

1.12 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive will be deposited with Dacorum Heritage Trust. 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.

## 2. RESULTS (FIGS 2 & 3)

2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and present ground level, expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (m AOD), are to be found in Appendix A.

2.2 No archaeological features pre-dating the modern period were encountered during the current works.

***Trenches 1 to 3 (Fig. 2)***

2.3 The natural substrate, comprising brown clay with flints, was typically revealed 0.4m below the present ground level (bpgl), overlain by modern subsoil and topsoil. The natural clays were cut by modern east/west-aligned land drains, associated with pitch drainage, in trenches 1 and 3.

***Trial pits 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 16-18 and 27 (Figs 2 & 3)***

2.4 Within ten trial pits located close to the extant clubhouse building, the natural clay with flints was typically identified 0.3m bpgl, overlain by modern subsoil and topsoil horizons. A modern north-west/south-east aligned land drain was noted cutting the natural substrate in trial pit 17.

***Trial pits 1, 2, 5, 8, 11, 13, 15, 19, 25, 26, and 30 (Figs 2 & 4)***

2.5 Natural clay with flints was typically identified 0.4m bpgl, overlain by modern subsoil and topsoil horizons within 11 trial pits sited along the northern and western periphery of the existing rugby pitch. A modern north-east/south-west aligned land drain was noted cutting the natural substrate in trial pit 19.

***Trial pits 12, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30 (Fig. 2)***

2.6 The natural substrate was sealed by redeposited natural clays containing modern brick and plastic fragments, typically measuring between 0.75m and 2.1m in thickness, along the southern edge of the site. This was in turn sealed by thin subsoil and topsoil deposits. Within trial pits 22 to 24, the natural brown clay with flints was identified 0.7m bpgl and was immediately sealed by subsoil and topsoil deposits.

***The Finds and Palaeoenvironmental Evidence***

2.7 A single modern brick fragment and a 1982 two pence coin (not retained) were recovered from dump deposit 2804 and subsoil 302 respectively.

2.8 No deposits were encountered requiring sampling for palaeoenvironmental or palaeoeconomic remains. Four 10 litre bulk samples were, however, taken from natural clays and overlying subsoil deposits within trial pit 16 and trench 2. These four bulk samples are currently being stored by CA at their Kemble offices and the opportunity will be afforded to Archaeological Surveys Ltd to examine them and review the negative results of their magnetometer survey in light of ground conditions.

## 3. DISCUSSION

3.1 No archaeological features pre-dating the modern period were encountered within any of the evaluation trenches or trial pits, and only a small number of modern artefacts were recovered during visual scanning of subsoil and topsoil horizons. The paucity of even post-medieval and modern features and artefacts appears to

correlate with the depiction of the site on cartographic sources from 1878 through to 1982 as open, undeveloped, agricultural land until construction of the current club facilities.

3.2 The stratigraphic sequences identified during the evaluation trenching confirm that the application area has previously been landscaped, in all likelihood to negate the previous sloping topography particularly along the southern boundary. It is noteworthy that modern dump deposits, including redeposited natural clays containing brick and plastic fragments, were identified to depths in excess of 2m along the southern limit of the site. Thin subsoil and topsoil deposits directly overlying natural clays within the trial pits closest to the extant clubhouse suggest that this area has previously been subject to modern truncation, in all likelihood during construction of the existing facilities.

## 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Alistair Barber, assisted by Charlie Jones. The report was written by Alistair Barber. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Alistair Barber, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

## 5. REFERENCES

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *Hemel Stags Stadium Development, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

Herts & Essex Site Investigations 2007 *Site at Hemel Stags Rugby Club, Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 5UD. Phase I Desk Top Study Report*

Herts & Essex Site Investigations 2008 *Site at Hemel Stags Rugby Club, Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 5UD. Phase II Environmental Report*

Institute of Geological Sciences 1977 *Quaternary Map of the United Kingdom, South. 1st edition*

Institute of Geological Sciences 1979 *Geological Map of the United Kingdom, South. 3rd Edition, Solid*

## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1: present ground level 145.85m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10000 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.21m | |
| 10001 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.12m | |
| 10002 | Layer | Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |
| 10003 | Cut | Modern land drain. | | 0.3 | n/k | |
| 10004 | Fill | Fill of land drain 10003. | | 0.3 | n/k | |

Trench 2: present ground level approximately 145.85 – 146.14m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20000 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.19 | |
| 20001 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.29 | |
| 20002 | Layer | Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trench 3: present ground level approximately 145.83m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30000 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.11 | |
| 30001 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.29 | |
| 30002 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 1: present ground level approximately 145.14m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 100 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.12 | |
| 101 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.28 | |
| 102 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 2: present ground level approximately 145.14m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 200 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.19 | |
| 201 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.26 | |
| 202 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 3: present ground level approximately 145.82m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 301 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 302 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | 1982 2 pence coin |
| 303 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 4: present ground level approximately 146.47m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 401 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 402 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 403 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 5: present ground level approximately 146.03m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 501 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 502 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.28 | |
| 503 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 6: present ground level approximately 145.83m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 601 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 602 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 603 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 7: present ground level approximately 146.25m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 701 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 702 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.15 | |
| 703 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 8: present ground level approximately 146.29m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 801 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 802 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.25 | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 803 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 9 : present ground level approximately 145.8m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 901 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 902 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.3 | |
| 903 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 10: present ground level approximately 146.13m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1001 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.12 | |
| 1002 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.07 | |
| 1003 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 11: present ground level approximately 145.19m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1101 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1102 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.25 | |
| 1103 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 12: present ground level approximately 145.88m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.15 | |
| 1202 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 1203 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.2 | |
| 1204 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.2 | |
| 1205 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 13: present ground level approximately 145.88m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.15 | |
| 1302 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 1303 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 14: present ground level approximately 145.72m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1401 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1402 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions | | | 0.2 | |
| 1403 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.5 | |
| 1404 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.4 | |
| 1405 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 15: present ground level approximately 145.1m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1500 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.17 | |
| 1501 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.23 | |
| 1502 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 16 : present ground level approximately 145.87m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1600 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1601 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 1602 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 17: present ground level approximately 145.59m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1701 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1702 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.25 | |
| 1703 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |
| 1704 | Cut | Modern land drain. | | 0.3 | | |
| 1705 | Fill | Fill of land drain 1704. | | 0.3 | | |

Trial Pit 18: present ground level approximately 145.69m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1800 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1801 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.08 | |
| 1802 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 19: present ground level approximately 145.68m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1901 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1902 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.1 | |
| 1903 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.2 | |
| 1904 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.05 | |
| 1905 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |
| 1906 | Cut | Modern land drain. | | 0.25 | | |
| 1907 | Fill | Fill of land drain 1906. | | 0.25 | | |

Trial Pit 20: present ground level approximately 145.64m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2001 | deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 2002 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.15 | |
| 2003 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.2 | |
| 2004 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.3 | |
| 2005 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 21: present ground level approximately 145.74m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2101 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 2102 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 2103 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.1 | |
| 2104 | deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.6 | |
| 2105 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.25 | |
| 2106 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 22: present ground level approximately 145.39m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2200 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.35 | |
| 2201 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions.. | | | 0.37 | |
| 2202 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 23: present ground level approximately 145.05m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2301 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.32 | |
| 2302 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.38 | |
| 2303 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to | | | n/k | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | | |

Trial Pit 24: present ground level approximately 145.26m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2400 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.24 | |
| 2401 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.46 | |
| 2402 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 25: present ground level approximately 145.09m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2500 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.25 | |
| 2501 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.29 | |
| 2502 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 26: present ground level approximately 145.51m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2601 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.12 | |
| 2602 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.23 | |
| 2603 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 27: present ground level approximately 146.04m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2701 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 2702 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.15 | |
| 2703 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 28: present ground level approximately 145.5m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2801 | Deposit | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.2 | |
| 2802 | Deposit | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.2 | |
| 2803 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.5 | |
| 2804 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.15 | C20 |
| 2805 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.45 | |
| 2806 | Deposit | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.6 | |
| 2807 | Layer | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 29: present ground level approximately 145.65m AOD

| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2901 | | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.1 | |
| 2902 | | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.1 | |
| 2903 | | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.5 | |
| 2904 | | Modern dump deposit. | | | 0.2 | |
| 2905 | | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

Trial Pit 30: present ground level approximately 145.1m AOD

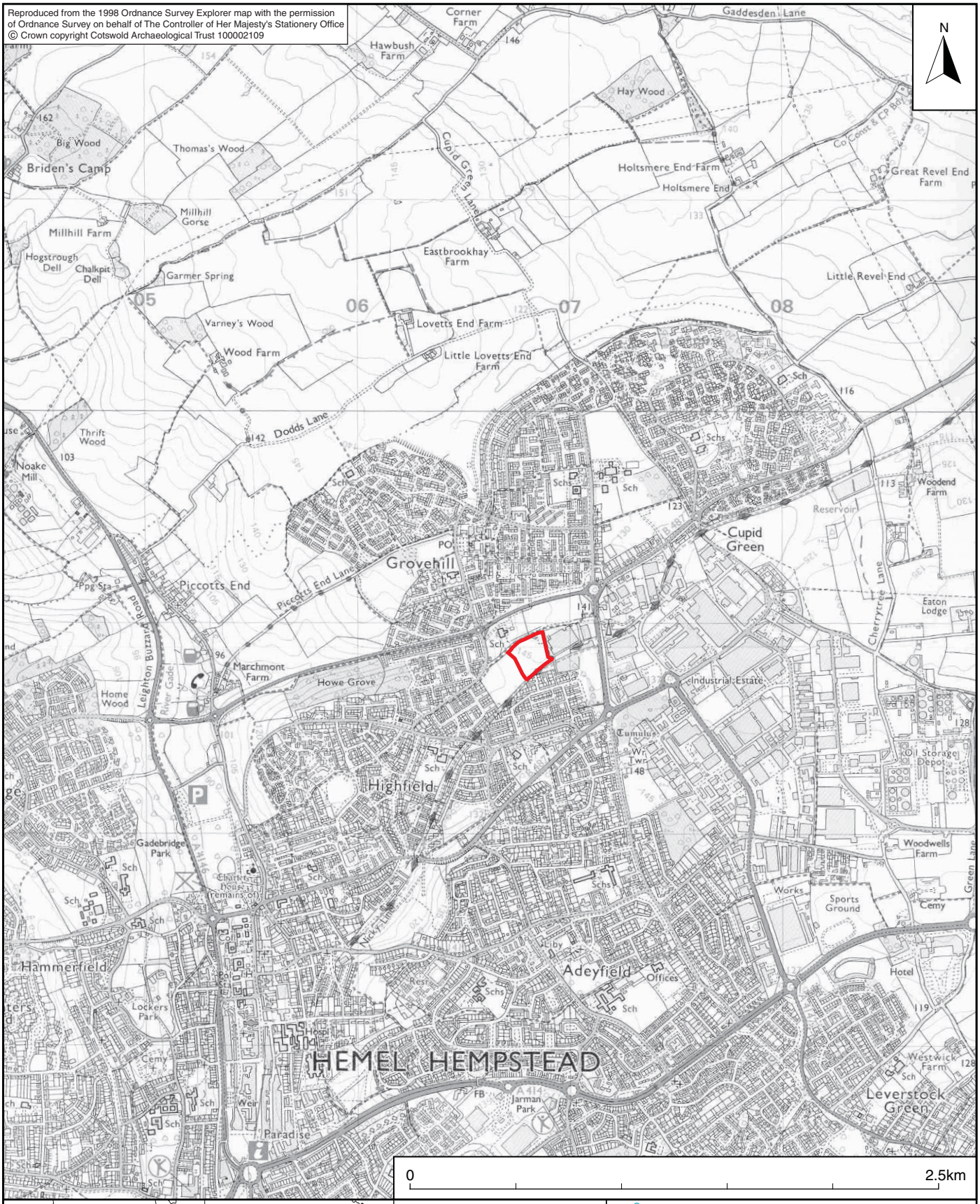
| No. | Type | Description | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3000 | | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown sand-clay. | | | 0.3 | |
| 3001 | | Modern subsoil. Grey-brown sand-clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | 0.15 | |
| 3002 | | Natural geological substrate. Yellow-brown to orange-brown clay with flint pebble inclusions. | | | n/k | |

**APPENDIX B: THE FINDS**

| Context | Artefact type | Count | Weight (g) | Spot-date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 302 | 2 pence coin, dated 1982 (not retained) | 1 | | MOD |
| 2804 | Brick fragment (not retained) | 1 | 10g | MOD |

**APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM**

| **PROJECT DETAILS** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Project Name | Hemel Stags Stadium Development | |
| Short description (250 words maximum) | An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June to July 2008 at the request of Evans Jones at the proposed Hemel Stags Stadium Development, Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. Three evaluation trenches and 30 trial pits were excavated.<br><br>No archaeological features or artefacts predating the modern period were encountered. Modern dump deposits, including redeposited natural clays, noted along the southern edge of the site would seemingly confirm anecdotal evidence that a shallow valley was infilled in the mid to late twentieth century with landfill generated during construction works within Hemel Hempstead. Evidence that natural ground levels were truncated during construction of the existing clubhouse, pitch and playing field was also identified. | |
| Project dates | 30 June to 2 July 2008 | |
| Project type | Archaeological evaluation | |
| Previous work | Geophysical survey | |
| Future work | Unknown | |
| **PROJECT LOCATION** | | |
| Site Location | Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire | |
| Study area ($M^2$/ha) | 2ha | |
| Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference) | TL 0680 0880 | |
| **PROJECT CREATORS** | | |
| Name of organisation | Cotswold Archaeology | |
| Project Brief originator | Hertfordshire County Council | |
| Project Design (WSI) originator | Cotswold Archaeology | |
| Project Manager | Cliff Bateman | |
| Project Supervisor | Alistair Barber | |
| **PROJECT ARCHIVES** | Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.) | Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc) |
| Physical | | None |
| Paper | Dacorum Heritage Trust | Trench Recording Forms, Levels Registers, Photographic Registers |
| Digital | Dacorum Heritage Trust | Digital photos |
| **BIBLIOGRAPHY** | | |
| CA 2008 *Hemel Stags Stadium Development, Pennine Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. Archaeological Evaluation*. CA Typescript Report No. **08132** | | |




COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

*PROJECT TITLE*
Hemel Stags Stadium Development
Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire

*FIGURE TITLE*
**Site location plan**

| *DRAWN BY* | *SCALE* | *PROJECT NO.* | *FIGURE NO.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| LG | 1:25,000@A4 | 2639 | **1** |


site
evaluation trench
trial pit
modern feature

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
Hemel Stags Stadium Development
Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
**Trench location plan**

| DRAWN BY | SCALE | PROJECT NO. | FIGURE NO. |
|---|---|---|---|
| LG | 1:1000@A3 | 2639 | **2** |

3

4

**3** **Trial pit 7, showing thin topsoil/subsoil above natural clays, looking east**

**4** **Trial pit 21, showing modern dump deposits, looking west**

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
Hemel Stags Stadium Development
Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
**Photographs**

| DRAWN BY | SCALE | PROJECT NO. | FIGURE NO. |
|---|---|---|---|
| LG | n/a | 2639 | **3 & 4** |