Former Bus Depot, Fishponds Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Client: Hill Partnerships Ltd

OA East Report No: 1429
OASIS No: oxfordar3-139020
NGR: TL 18520 29719

December 2012
Post-Medieval Remains at Fishponds Road
An Archaeological Monitoring and Evaluation on the site of the Former Bus Garage,
Fishponds Road, Hitchin

By James Fairbairn

With contributions by

Carole Fletcher BA AIFA, Chris Faine MA Msc AlfA

and Anthony Haskins Msc Bsc PlfA

Editor: Stephen Macaulay BA MPhil MIfA

Illustrator: Stuart Ladd MA

Report Date: December 2012
Report Number: 1429
Site Name: Former Bus Depot, Fishponds Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire

HER Event No:
Date of Works: October/November 2012
Client Name: Hill Partnerships Ltd
Client Ref: 14232
Planning Ref: 10/02811/10
Grid Ref: TL 18520 29719
Site Code: XHTHFP12
Finance Code: XHTHFP12
Receiving Body: Hertfordshire museums

Accession No:
Prepared by: James Fairbairn
Position: Supervisor
Date: December 2012
Checking:
Checked by: Stephen Macaulay
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: December 2012
Signed:

Disclaimer
This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other purpose without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology East,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast

© Oxford Archaeology East 2011
Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No. 285627
Table of Contents

Summary ................................................................................................................................................... 6

1 Introduction ........................................................................................................................................ 7
   1.1 Location and scope of work ......................................................................................................... 7
   1.2 Geology and topography ............................................................................................................. 7
   1.3 Archaeological and historical background .................................................................................. 7
   1.4 Acknowledgements ..................................................................................................................... 8

2 Aims and Methodology ......................................................................................................................... 9
   2.1 Aims ............................................................................................................................................... 9
   2.2 Methodology .................................................................................................................................. 9

3 Results ................................................................................................................................................. 10
   3.1 Introduction .................................................................................................................................. 10
   3.2 Soil investigation work ................................................................................................................. 10
   3.3 Trench 1 (see fig 2 & plate 1) ....................................................................................................... 10
   3.4 Trench 2 (see fig 2 & plate 2) ....................................................................................................... 10
   3.5 Trench 3 (see fig 2 & plate 3) ....................................................................................................... 10
   3.6 Trench 4 (see fig 2 & plate 4) ....................................................................................................... 11
   3.7 Trench 5 (see fig 2 & plate 5) ....................................................................................................... 11
   3.8 Finds Summary ............................................................................................................................. 11

4 Discussion and Conclusions ................................................................................................................. 12
   4.1 Conclusion ...................................................................................................................................... 12
   4.2 Significance .................................................................................................................................... 12
   4.3 Recommendations ......................................................................................................................... 12

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory ........................................................................ 13

Appendix B. Pottery ................................................................................................................................... 14

Appendix C. Faunal Remains ................................................................................................................... 16

Appendix D. Lithics .................................................................................................................................... 16
   D.1 Flint ................................................................................................................................................ 16
List of Figures

Fig. 1 Site location map
Fig. 2 Soil investigation and trench locations
Fig. 3 Trench 4 plan and sections
Fig. 4 Trench 5 plan and sections
Fig. 5 Historic map showing site and trench locations

List of Plates

Plate 1 Trench 1
Plate 2 Trench 2
Plate 3 Trench 3
Plate 4 Trench 4
Plate 5 Trench 5
Summary

Between the 15th of September 2012 and the 20th of November 2012 Oxford Archaeology East was commissioned by Hill Partnerships Ltd to carry out archaeological monitoring of the soil investigation and remedial works taking place on the site of the former bus garage at Fishponds Road Hitchin, Hertfordshire. This was then followed by an archaeological trial trench evaluation that found evidence of post-medieval settlement parallel to Fishponds road, in the form of shallow ditches a buried soil horizon and brick built cesspit.
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at the Former Bus Depot, Fishponds Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire. TL 18520 29719. The work was carried out on behalf of Hill Partnerships Ltd.

1.1.2 This archaeological monitoring and evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Instone of the Historic Environment unit of Hertfordshire County Council (CHEU), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.

1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by Hertfordshire County Council on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The underlying Geology of the site comprises of chalk with superficial deposits of Lowestoft formation till with outwash sands and gravels (www.mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain). The site lies at 64m OD and is flat (due to concrete/tarmac surfaces).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The site lies adjacent to an area of known archaeological significance at No.142. as identified in the North Herts District Local plan. This notes that the mediaeval town of Hitchin has the considerable possibility that mediaeval and earlier archaeology could remain. In addition, the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) notes that a Roman road runs close to the site (HER4605) and mediaeval and post mediaeval occupation, including pottery kilns existed along the rear of Bancroft (HER10383, 10891, 12805).

1.3.2 A large ditch dating to the Anglo Saxon period has been found in Hitchin (HER12584). Its size suggests part of a major boundary, or has a defensive function and maybe part of a Burgh (a Saxon defended settlement). Archaeological remains from this period are extremely rare in Hertfordshire and has the potential to be of national importance. The circuit has not yet been defined and the course of the ditch may run through this area of the town. The geotechnical report prepared by Chelmer Site Investigations for application 08/01356/1 include borehole data which is indicative of significant archaeological features, such as large pits or ditches. The bus depot is shown on OS mapping from the mid 20th century.

1.3.3 The historical history of the bus garage itself is dealt with in a separate historic buildings survey report (Former Bus Depot, Fishponds Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire. Fletcher. T 2011. Report No. 1385).
1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank Nick Brown and the staff of Hill Partnerships for commissioning and funding the work. Also thanks goes to Birgit Schoer and Albert Prince of Geo-Environmental Investigations Ltd for the advice on the ground and geological conditions. Andy Instone of Hertfordshire County Council wrote the brief for the evaluation and Steve Macaulay managed the project. James Fairbairn directed the on site evaluation with the help of Andrew Green.
2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims
2.1.1 The objective of this archaeological monitoring and evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Methodology
2.2.1 The Brief required that five trenches totalling 75m would be excavated in the footprint of the proposed building development.
2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a Track JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
2.2.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
2.2.5 Conditions on site were generally wet during the soil investigation works and the flooding of trenches was a common occurrence. The evaluation was carried out during two days of wet weather and again water was a problem during the excavation.
3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction
3.1.1 The soil re-mediation and investigation work is discussed first followed by the evaluation in trenches in numerical order.

3.2 Soil investigation work
3.2.1 Soil investigation work was carried out by Geo-Environmental Investigations Ltd. and two main areas were covered by this and the archaeological monitoring (see fig 2). Area A which surrounded two large diesel tanks buried beneath ground level and area B (see fig 2) which was located on and around inspection pits used for vehicular maintenance.

3.2.2 Trenches were dug under archaeological supervision around these two areas. The areas themselves were heavily truncated by the construction of the curtain wall of the diesel tanks in area A and the construction of the inspection pits in area B. The purpose of the soil investigation was to establish the extent if any of hydrocarbons leeching into the soil surrounding the tanks and pits. The investigation established that very little had actually contaminated the surrounding ground.

3.2.3 The trenches were dug to a depth of between 1m and 2.5m and to a with of 2.5m. No archaeology was recorded within any of the areas investigated but it was noted the the state of preservation was good mainly due to the fact that the ground was built up rather than removed during the construction of the bus garage.

3.3 Trench 1 (see fig 2 & plate 1)
3.3.1 Trench 1 was located along the eastern boundary of the development site and in the footprint of the proposed building. The trench was orientated north-south and measured 28m x 2.10m and was dug to a maximum depth of 0.75m. No archaeology was recorded in trench 1. A mid orangey sandy and clay natural geology was overlain by a light to mid brown silty sandy clay subsoil (102) that existed to a maximum depth of 0.50m. This was capped by a modern hardcore and rubble surface (101) with a depth of 0.25m this would have been laid down at the time of bus garage's construction.

3.4 Trench 2 (see fig 2 & plate 2)
3.4.1 Trench two was located off of trench 1 in an east west direction. It measured 5m x 2.10m and was dug to a maximum depth of 0.60m. Beyond 5m the trench truncated an area filled by purged water. An orangey sandy clay natural geology was overlain by a light to mid brown silty sandy clay subsoil (202) with a depth of 0.40m. A hardcore and rubble layer (201) with a depth of 0.20m capped the area. No archaeology was found within trench 2.

3.5 Trench 3 (see fig 2 & plate 3)
3.5.1 Trench 3 was located to the east of the development site and ran in a SE-NW direction. Again it was situated in the footprint of proposed buildings. Trench three measured 7m x 2.10m and was dug to a maximum depth of 0.60m. The area of this trench was truncated by a backfilled pit containing a mixture of modern brick and concrete. The sides of the trench were continually collapsing and it was considered best to discontinue excavation due to health and safety concerns.
3.6 Trench 4 (see fig 2 & plate 4)

3.6.1 Trench 4 was positioned parallel to Fishponds Road and west of the site entrance on an east-west orientation. It measured 11m x 2.10m and was dug to a maximum depth of 0.80m. A small shallow linear ditch 401 was noted running from the eastern end of the trench, this same feature was present in trench 5 where a small piece of post medieval pottery was found in the upper part of the fill. The single fill of 401 consisted of a mid-brown sandy silty clay that contained small stones but no finds. The ditch was sealed by a mid brown silty sandy subsoil layer (406) with a depth of 0.45m. This layer contained a single undated flint flake. Animal bones identified as horse and dating to the post-medieval period were recovered. A small pit 403 was cut into the subsoil layer. This pit contained a single fill and no finds. This grey material continued towards the west of trench 5 and a further intervention was taken to try and ascertain the nature of the spread and a small amount of pottery and bone were collected again of a post mediaeval date. Due to flooding of trench 4 a further 3m was dug in southerly direction a small modern brick foundation 407 was uncovered. It was constructed of London bricks and heavily truncated by the concrete car park in front of the garage. A layer of modern rubble and hardcore sealed trench 4.

3.7 Trench 5 (see fig 2 & plate 5)

3.7.1 Trench 5 was located due east of trench four again parallel to to Fishponds Road. It measured 9m x2.10m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.2m. A small shallow sided ditch 506 was recorded at the western end of the trench, this contained a single fill of mid brown silty sand clay (505) one small piece of post medieval pottery was found in the upper part of the fill. The same feature was recorded in trench 4 and could relate to a track side ditch seen in the first edition ordnance survey map of 1881 (see fig 4).

3.7.2 Most of trench 5 was covered by a mixture of dark to mid brown silty garden type soil (502) with a depth of 0.60m. this layer was of a different consistency to that noted in trench 4. It maybe that this layer is related to the cottages that stood close to this spot in the 19th Century. Finds of domestic post mediaeval wares give weight to this supposition. A brick structure 503 most likely to have been a cesspit was cut into this material. It had a diameter at the top of 0.50m. Three courses of red bricks were exposed and cleaned (see plate 5) also at the top and a brown salt glazed pipe had been inserted at the southern side probably to give a secondary use as a foul water soakaway. The structure had been backfilled with stones and pebbles (503). Within this backfill a small amount of 19th century pottery was recorded along with an oyster shell and clay pipe stem. The whole of trench 5 was sealed by a mixture of small stones and brick rubble (501) capped by a hardcore and concrete layer used as a car park. Truncation by live services, gas and telecommunications were noted at the western end of the evaluation trench.

3.8 Finds Summary

3.8.1 Artefactual evidence indicates post-medieval occupation towards the front of the proposed development and parallel with Fishponds Road. Pottery was from a domestic assemblage and and spanned a relatively broad date range from the 16th to 19th centuries, interestingly the sherds from panceoons used in milk processing found give a link to the dairy that stood on the plot. The brick built cesspit war probably to the rear or the side of the cottages that show on the first addition ordnance survey map of 1881. a small residual flint flake was discovered within the subsoil layer 401. This has been described in Appendix B. Although residual and a singular find it does allude to prehistoric activity close to the area.
4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Conclusion

4.1.1 The archaeological monitoring and evaluation on the site of the former bus garage at Fishponds road Hitchin has shown in more detail the areas of earlier occupation fronting Fishponds road. Although two small cottages seem to be present on early ordnance survey maps what was found at Fishponds road is physical proof that a building did exist close to the location of trench 5. The find of the cesspit and the nature of the pottery suggest that this building would have been of a domestic nature and could well have had connections to the dairy that stood on the site of the Bus Garage in the 19th century.

4.2 Significance

4.2.1 The results of the evaluation at Fishponds road does add to what is known about this area in the post-medieval period and pre the construction of Hitchin Bus Garage and gives some evidence that the buildings seen on the early ordnance survey maps may indeed be related to the dairy that occupied the site in the 19th century.

4.3 Recommendations

4.3.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.
## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

### Trench 1

**General description**

Trench 1 was located along the eastern boundary of the site and was found to be devoid of archaeology, it consisted of layers of hardcore, rubble and subsoil overlying a natural geology of clay and sand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>Avg. depth (m)</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Length (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trench 1</td>
<td>N-S</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contexts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>context no</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Depth (m)</th>
<th>comment</th>
<th>finds</th>
<th>date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>Hardcore and rubble</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Subsoil</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Natural</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trench 2

**General description**

Trench 2 was located off of trench 1 an an east-west direction and was found to be devoid of archaeology, it consisted of layers of hardcore, rubble and subsoil overlying a natural geology of clay and sand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>Avg. depth (m)</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Length (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trench 2</td>
<td>E-W</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contexts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>context no</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Depth (m)</th>
<th>comment</th>
<th>finds</th>
<th>date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hardcore and rubble</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subsoil</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>203</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>Natural</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trench 3

**General description**

Trench three was located to the east of the development area. The area was found to be completely truncated by a large brick and concrete backfilled pit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>Avg. depth (m)</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Length (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trench 3</td>
<td>SW-NE</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contexts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>context no</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Depth (m)</th>
<th>comment</th>
<th>finds</th>
<th>date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>301</td>
<td>Layer</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rubble and concrete</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Trench 4

**General description**

Trench four was located parallel to Fishponds road and east of the site entrance. A small brick foundation a small ditch and a spread of grey silty material were noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>Avg. depth (m)</th>
<th>Width (m)</th>
<th>Length (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trench 4</td>
<td>E-W</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contexts**
APPENDIX B. POTTERY

Introduction

B.1.1 Archaeological evaluation produced a pottery assemblage of eight sherds, weighing 0.610kg.

B.1.2 The assemblage spans the 16th to the late 19th century, although the largest group within this broad date range is 16th to the end of the 18th century. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the mean sherd weight is large at approximately 76g.

Methodology


B.1.4 Recording was carried out using OA East’s in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted,
classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The assemblage is recorded in the summary catalogue. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

**Sampling Bias**
B.1.5 Excavation was carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling strategies. There are not expected to be any inherent biases.

**The Assemblage**
B.1.6 There was no pottery dating to earlier than the 16th century recovered from the excavation. The post-medieval assemblage is represented by a number of large sherds of Post-medieval Redware, including rim sherds from large bowls or pancheons often used in milk processing. Two sherds of 18th-19th century English stoneware and a single sherd of late 18th-late 19th century Refined White Earthenware form the remainder of the assemblage.

**Trench Assemblage**
B.1.7 Trench 5: two contexts in this trench produced the total assemblage of eight sherds of pottery. From the garden-type soil 502 were recovered a single sherd of Refined White Earthenware alongside three sherds of Post-medieval Redware, including a rim sherd from a cylindrical jar and a bowl rim sherd with a cross join to a sherd recovered from context 503. The majority of the sherds (by weight) were recovered from the fill of a brick-built structure, possibly a cess pit. These include a large base sherd from a Post-medieval Redware bowl, and unabraded sherds of English Stoneware from two separate vessels.

**Discussion**
B.1.8 The unabraded to moderately abraded nature of the majority of the assemblage is not uncommon where there is a significant post-medieval element within the assemblage, since the sherds of 18th and 19th century pottery have suffered little reworking.

B.1.9 A broad date range can be assigned to the whole assemblage with all material being domestic in nature. The post-medieval sherds originated from occupation close to the area of excavation and suggest occupation or rubbish deposition during the late 18th and 19th century.

**Bibliography**


Full Pottery Summary by Context for the evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Fabric</th>
<th>Basic Form</th>
<th>Sherd Count</th>
<th>Sherd Weight (kg)</th>
<th>Spot dating Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>502</td>
<td>Post-medieval Redware</td>
<td>Bowl</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.091</td>
<td>Late 18th-late 19th century</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C. FAUNAL REMAINS

By Chris Faine

C.1.1 1.07Kg of animal bone were recovered from the evaluation consisting of 12 fragments. All fragments were recovered from context 406 and took the form of a partial adult horse humerus, femur and tibia. The humerus fragment showed evidence of butchery in the form of midshaft chop marks. The remainder consisted of unidentifiable mammal long bone fragments.

References


APPENDIX D. LITHICS

D.1 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

D.1.1 A single struck flake was recovered from the subsoil (406) from an evaluation carried out at the former Bus garage at Fishponds road, Hitchin

D.1.2 The raw material is a light yellowish brown flint with a chalky context.

D.1.3 The single flake terminates with a hinge fracture and was poorly struck. Due to the rounded nature of the edges it is likely to be residual material.

D.1.4 The struck flint has no datable characteristics.
APPENDIX E. BIBLIOGRAPHY

www.mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain).

*Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation. Former Bus Depot, Fishponds Road, Hitchin. Historic Environment unit Herts County Council. 2012*
APPENDIX F. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

**Project Details**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OASIS Number</td>
<td>oxfordar3-139020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
<td>Evaluation and monitoring at the site of Hitchin Bus Garage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous Work (by OA East)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Work</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Reference Codes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Code</td>
<td>XHTHFP12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning App. No.</td>
<td>10/02811/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HER No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related HER/OASIS No.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of Project/Techniques Used**

**Prompt**

Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

**Development Type**

Urban Residential

**Please select all techniques used:**

- Aerial Photography - interpretation
- Aerial Photography - new
- Annotated Sketch
- Augering
- Dendrochronological Survey
- Documentary Search
- Environmental Sampling
- Fieldwalking
- Geophysical Survey
- Grab-Sampling
- Gravity-Core
- Laser Scanning
- Measured Survey
- Metal Detectors
- Photophotographic Survey
- Photometric Survey
- Rectified Photography
- Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
- Sample Trenches
- Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
- Targeted Trenches
- Test Pits
- Topographic Survey
- Vibro-core
- Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)

**Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods**

List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state “none”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monument</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Object</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ditch</td>
<td>Post Medieval 1540 to 1901</td>
<td>Flint Flake</td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select period...</td>
<td>Pottery</td>
<td>Post Medieval 1540 to 1901</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Location**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>Hertfordshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Hitchin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish</td>
<td>Hitchin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HER</td>
<td>Hertford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Area</td>
<td>65sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Address</td>
<td>Hitchin Bus Garage, Fishponds Road, Hitchin, Herts SG51NN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Grid Reference</td>
<td>TL 18520 29719</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Project Originators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>OA EAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Brief Originator</td>
<td>Historic Environment Unit of Herts CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Design Originator</td>
<td>OA East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Steve Macaulay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>James Fairbairn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Project Archives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Archive</th>
<th>Digital Archive</th>
<th>Paper Archive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OA East</td>
<td>OA East</td>
<td>OA East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XHTHFP12</td>
<td>XHTHFP12</td>
<td>XHTHFP12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Archive Contents/Media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Physical Contents</th>
<th>Digital Contents</th>
<th>Paper Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Bones</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceramics</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Bones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stratigraphic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked Bone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked Stone/Lithic</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Digital Media

- Database
- GIS
- Geophysics
- Images
- Illustrations
- Moving Image
- Spreadsheets
- Survey
- Text
- Virtual Reality

### Paper Media

- Aerial Photos
- Context Sheet
- Correspondence
- Diary
- Drawing
- Manuscript
- Map
- Matrices
- Microfilm
- Misc.
- Research/Notes
- Photos
- Plans
- Report
- Sections
- Survey

### Notes:

null
Figure 2: Soil investigation and trench locations

Evaluation Trench
Soil Investigation
Figure 3: Trench 4 plan and sections
Figure 4: Trench 5 plan and sections
Figure 5: First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1881, 25" to 1 mile, showing approximate location of development area (red outline), soil investigation (blue outline) and evaluation trenches (red shading).
Plate 3: Trench 3, looking east

Plate 4: Trench 4, looking west
Plate 5: Trench 5, looking west