

Henry Thomas
Development Control
North Hertfordshire District Council

**Postal Point CHN 108
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall, Pegs Lane
HERTFORD SG13 8DN**

Contact Andy Instone
Tel 01992 555241
My ref P01/25/1197-1
Your ref **25/01197/PNQ**
historic.environment@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Date: 9 June 2025

Dear Henry,

Re: Change of use of agricultural buildings to ten (10) dwellinghouses with associated building operations, private gardens and car parking. | Slip End Farm Royston Road Slip End Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6SG

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

Thank you for consulting us on the above application.

The site lies within an Area of Archaeological Significance as identified in the Local Plan. The Historic Environment Record (HER) notes that the site lies adjacent to and partly within the Scheduled Monument (SM) of ring ditches and an enclosure at Slip End (SM100359). The HER contains over twenty records noting cropmarks which are likely to contain heritage assets and a Bronze Age cemetery (HER6192). These cropmarks appear to continue into the application site.

This office has commented on previous proposals to develop the site, for example 1/24/0754. This proposal differs in that it proposes to convert existing farm buildings rather than expanding the site and building new dwellings. Unfortunately, there has not been much information submitted regarding the extent of new ground disturbance such as internal ground disturbance associated with the conversion of the farm buildings and partial reconstruction where appropriate. Nor for other impacts such as landscaping, parking access and services.

Given the proximity to a Scheduled Monument along the northern boundary of the site, it is also not clear that Historic England have been consulted on this proposal.

If the applicant can provide clarification on these points, it is likely that we will recommend archaeological conditions are attached, should you be minded to grant consent. Any archaeological requirements should include provision for preservation of archaeological remains *in situ* if appropriate and/or redesign to accommodate this, as well as archaeological mitigation of development impacts and reporting and publication of the results of these archaeological investigations.

I hope that you will be able to accommodate the above recommendations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Instone
Senior Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS
Environmental Sustainability

Hertfordshire LEADS provides Landscape, Ecology, Archaeology, Design and Sustainability support to planning departments in Hertfordshire.