

Written Scheme of Investigation: Archaeological Monitoring

34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT

For:	Whitebrick
On Behalf of:	-
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2 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT

2.1 BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a proposal for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording on 34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT (centred at NGR National Grid TL 15028 31994, Figure 1), hereafter referred to as the application site, the proposals or the 'site'.
- 2.1.2 Joe Abrams BA, FSA, MCIfA, Director at Abrams Archaeology, has prepared this document for Whitebrick (the client).
- 2.1.3 A planning application was submitted on 16 November 2023 and received a Decision Notice from North Hertfordshire Council on 18 January 2024 (23/02622/FPH - 34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT). The development proposals are:

"Project Description

Increase in height to create larger first floor with roof accommodation; two and single storey front, side and rear extensions; front and rear dormer windows; alterations to openings; new gates to side and front of dwelling. Following demolition of the existing double garage".¹

- 2.1.4 The Site location is shown in Figures 1 and 2 and the proposals are shown in Appendix 1.

2.2 REASON FOR WORKS

- 2.2.1 Condition 5 has been placed on the permission and this reads:

"5. No demolition/development shall take place/commence until an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of archaeological significance and research questions; and:

- 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
- 2. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording as required by the evaluation*
- 3. The programme for post investigation assessment*
- 4. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
- 5. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis*

¹ Section 1.1. iCON Building Consultancy. Design and Access Statement. Proposed Extension to Ware Priory Lido Pavilion, Priory Street, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 0DE. On Behalf of: - Ware Town Council.

and records of the site investigation

6. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation

7. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation. Reason: In the interests of archaeology. To comply with Policy HE4 of the Local Plan.”²

2.2.2 This condition was generated without the advice of the Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS, Environmental Sustainability (Historic Environment Advisor). However, the Historic Environment Advisor have been consulted prior to the preparation of this WSI. The first set of discussions took place (16 February 2024) and, at that time, the proposals included a basement, a swimming pool and an associated pool house. At that time, the Historic Environment Advisor, had requested that the WSI set out a methodology for:

- Strip, Map and Sample
- archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording works

2.2.3 The applicant has since reconsidered the proposals and has agreed a non-material amendment to the proposals. This removed the basement, swimming pool and pool house from the proposals. The proposals are shown at Appendix 1 and are described in textual form above (Section 2.2.1).

2.2.4 A second consultation was made to the Historic Environment Advisor (24 Sept 2024) and it was agreed, via email³, that this WSI should, instead, set out the proposed aims, objectives, methods and details for:

- archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording works

2.2.5 This to take place at key points during demolition, construction and associated groundworks.

2.2.6 Archaeological site attendance will be carried out by suitably qualified archaeologists from KDK Archaeology.

2.3 SITE CONDITIONS

2.3.1 The land upon which the extension is to be constructed is currently a residential home and garden (Figure 2).

² Decision Notice. 18 January 2024. 23/02622/FPH 34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT.

³ Email from Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS, Environmental Sustainability (Historic Environment Advisor) to Abrams Archaeology Ltd. Tue, 24 Sept, 10:55.

2.4 GEOLOGY

2.4.1 The British Geological Survey⁴ identifies the underlying solid geology across the PDA as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation - Chalk. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 100.5 and 93.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period. Superficial deposits are not mapped for this area and the GeoIndex Onshore data⁵, from the British Geological Survey, does not provide unrestricted borehole data for land close enough to the Site from which to predict superficial deposits.

2.4.2 However there has been archaeological works relatively close by and these carefully recorded the topsoil and subsoil deposits which overlie the geological deposit/s. Trial trenching on Land Adjacent to Holwell Road, Pirton was subject to archaeological trial trenching. This recorded:

“4.3 Topsoil (context 10) depths were relatively constant across the site generally varying from between 0.30m to 0.35m with the greatest depth of 0.45m recorded in Trench 6.

4.4 Subsoil (context 11) depths were relatively constant across the site generally varying from between 0.20m to 0.30m with the greatest depth of 0.40m recorded at the eastern end of Trench 1”.

2.4.3 This work took place c. 30m east of the Site and, therefore, is in terms of predicting the likely depth of topsoil and subsoil on the Site. Based upon this information and our experience working in this area, we would expect the topsoil and/or subsoil to be in the region of 500-700mm deep. These deposits would, in this area, overlie the upper surface of geological deposits and/or cut archaeological features, the latter being cut into the geological deposits. Therefore, the depth of archaeological sensitivity is likely to be between 500-700mm from the current ground level.

2.4.4 In this instance, we note that parts of the site have already been impacted by the existing house, driveway and associated utilities. Therefore, the topsoil which would previously have existed where the house and driveway are now located has already been removed. The depth to archaeological sensitivity is unlikely to have been changed as the land does not appear to have been ‘made up’ in height or reduced/terraced. The archaeologist attending the groundworks will ascertain the depth of sensitivity during groundworks. They should note that based upon what is known at this time, we expect that to be between 500mm and 700mm.

2.5 TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGY

2.5.1 The topography of the PDA and surrounding land is key to considering both its

⁴ <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> - accessed 05-10-2024

⁵ <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/> - accessed 05-10-2024

function in the past (in terms of land use) and its archaeological potential. The PDA lies at c. 66m OD. The Site is relatively level. The village of Pirton is located on land which is rising to the southwest. This follows a trend in the local landscape as land climbs to the southwest towards the Chiltern Hills. Locally, Deacons Hill lies to the southwest of the village and reaches 172mOD. Land to the northeast is dropping in height towards the gradual valley of the River Hiz. The closest stretch of that river lies at Ickleford, c. 4km to the east. The river also flows through Arlesey, c.4.3km to the northeast.

- 2.5.2 Rivers and associated streams, which drain into them, would have been known to, and used by, local inhabitants across many of the chronological periods referred to in this assessment. The qualities of local soils, determined by geology and topography, would have affected local plant resources and are also relevant for human settlement patterns and land use.

2.6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.6.1 This Section reviews the available archaeological evidence for the Site and the archaeological/historical background of the general area, and, in accordance with NPPF, considers the potential for any as yet to be discovered archaeological evidence on the Site.
- 2.6.2 What follows comprises a review of known archaeological finds/remains within the immediate proximity of the Site (Figures 3-6). This review draws on records held on the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), together with reference to specific historic maps where that is helpful in deepening our understanding of the Site in relation to the historic core of the village, which lies to the southwest of the Site.
- 2.6.3 The Site lies within a specific 'Archaeological Alert Area'. This polygon has been drawn to encompass the village of Pirton which has a well understood history and has been the subject of an unusually high number of archaeological investigations (when compared to surrounding villages). This is partly due to the energy and enthusiasm of the local community, which engaged in the opening of several hundred test pits in conjunction with the University of Cambridge, Higher Education Field Academy (EHT8473, EHT 8474, EHT8475, EHT8476 and EHT1206). There are several highly experienced archaeologists resident in Pirton and this combination of expertise, enthusiasm and a rich archaeological resource have led to a rich data-set for the village.
- 2.6.4 The Pirton Village Character Assessment. Pirton Neighbourhood Development Plan describes the development of the village in detail; it summarises this as follows:

"In simple terms, modern Pirton comprises a large open area in the south-east, known as the Bury and Toot Hill, which was the site of a Medieval motte and bailey castle and an area of streets and houses, now surviving as earthworks, finally abandoned in the eighteenth/ nineteenth centuries. To

the north and west exists a larger area of houses and farms, dating from the Medieval period through to the present day. There is another open area on the hill-spur east of Priors Hill, with Shillington Road and, beyond, Rectory Farm and Manor to the north, while Burge End Lane with its scattered houses and farms forms a northwards extension out of the compact triangular village plan. The arrangement of roads, open spaces and buildings, and the particular way the village has developed down the centuries, gives Pirton a special and unique character".⁶

- 2.6.5 The location and extent of three scheduled monuments (Figure 3 - 1012325, 1434415 and 1009451) in the southwestern part of the village are important elements of that historic core. The density of listed buildings in the centre of the modern village is another indicator and can be viewed on Figure 3. The Pirton Conservation Area encapsulates the Medieval, Post-Medieval and modern core of the village and can be viewed here⁷. The Site is located outside and to the northwest of that conservation area in that part of the village which the Character Assessment describes (above) as being on land which is a *"northwards extension out of the compact triangular village plan"*.
- 2.6.6 Therefore, the Site lies outside the Medieval and Post-Medieval settlement core, based upon what is known. That core lies c. 400m southwest of it. In order to best predict the types of remains likely to occur close to the Site, we turn our attention to the HER records in close proximity in order to understand the remains more likely to occur in the northeastern part of the modern village in which it is located.
- 2.6.7 Figures 4b and 5b show the Monuments and Events in closest proximity to the Site and are useful for the reader at this point as a source of reference. MHT31036 refers to an area of allotment gardens shown on late 19th C mapping. These survived into the 20th C and were often provided so as to enable people to grow a proportion of their own food.
- 2.6.8 MHT31509 records the location at which a Post-Medieval boundary ditch was recorded during archaeological investigations. This was located c. 50m southeast of the Site.
- 2.6.9 MHT31090 records land, c. 100m southeast of the Site, on which traces of ridge and furrow (Medieval to Post-Medieval field systems) were noted.
- 2.6.10 MHT31349 records the location on which an archaeological investigation took place, c. 75m northeast of the Site (EHT6846/EHT8352). The investigations recorded *"Several groups of intercutting pits found south of Holwell Road appeared to have been dug as extraction pits. The largest group was about 6m by 3m overall, containing many intercutting pits and recuts. The NE quadrant had four steps leading down to the centre. Multiple fills in each of these pits*

⁶ The Pirton Village Character Assessment. Pirton Neighbourhood Development Plan. <https://pirtonhistory.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Pirton-Character-Assessment-Final.pdf> - accessed 2024-10-24

⁷ Pirton Conservation Area Map. https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/sites/default/files/pirton_ca.pdf - accessed 2024-10-24

contained coarse and fine ware pottery of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age date and some bone. Two fills sealing the entire group contained a great deal of bone, heated stones and charcoal, and similar pottery. A second group about 30m to the SW was similar but smaller, and without finds in the fills apart from some early or middle Iron Age coarse pottery; the sealing layer contained bone, possible worked flint, and some sandy Iron Age pottery. All the pottery was in poor condition and was highly fragmented” (Appendix 1, MHT31349).

- 2.6.11 MHT18218 records the location, c. 75m northeast of the PDA at which an Iron Age ditch was recorded during investigations (EHT6846/EHT8352).
- 2.6.12 MHT31348 records the location, c. 80m northeast of the Site, at which “seven post holes arranged in an incomplete circle, with two outliers on the east side, found in an evaluation trench south of Holwell Road, appeared to represent a round house. The fills held charcoal and a small amount of pottery, some unidentifiable and some late Bronze Age to early Iron Age. All the pottery was in poor condition and highly fragmented” (Appendix 1, MHT31348).

2.7 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE SITE

- 2.7.1 The Site has not previously been subject to modern archaeological investigation. However, there have been several archaeological investigations relatively close by and these are recorded events on the HER (Figures 4a and 4b).
- 2.7.2 EHT8041 refers to land c. 40m southeast of the Site, upon which “seven trial trenches across the grounds south of the house itself revealed no features or deposits predating the post-medieval period. All but one of the features revealed (in three of the trenches) were either natural, undated, or modern, and there were no finds. Topsoil overlay soft silty clay subsoil, over natural clay” (Appendix 1, EHT8041).
- 2.7.3 EHT1206 refers to one of the locations sampled by test pits during the “Currently Occupied Rural Settlements” project. This particular group of test pits did not reveal significant archaeological remains.
- 2.7.4 EHT6846 refers to the location of a trial trenching evaluation. This revealed a field boundary ditch with fragments of animal bone recovered.
- 2.7.5 EHT8869 refers to a watching brief. The HER records no significant archaeological findings.
- 2.7.6 EHT7979 refers to a geophysical survey which recorded evidence of ridge and furrow (Medieval to Post-Medieval field systems).
- 2.7.7 EHT8016 refers to trial trenching evaluation. This revealed a single area of archaeological activity. An infilled ditch containing artefactual material suggestive of an Iron Age date. Ridge and furrow field systems were also recorded within the trenches.

2.8 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS

- 2.8.1 The nearby investigations and monument records suggest that the Site lies in land outside the core of the Medieval to Post-Medieval village of Pirton. However, settlement patterns prior to the Medieval period are less well understood. There have been several findings of Iron Age period activity within 100m of the Site. These findings were made on land east of the 20th C village, on land now absorbed into the modern village boundaries. The chance of more findings of similar date is possible on this eastern side of Pirton.
- 2.8.2 There have also been investigations which recorded Medieval field systems and Post-Medieval land boundaries. We would expect more such remains to occur on this eastern side of Pirton.

3 AIMS OF INVESTIGATION

3.1 AIMS

3.1.1 The general aims of the archaeological watching brief are:

- to determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains,
- to record the character, date location and preservation of any archaeological remains on site,
- to record the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological deposits or remains on site.

3.2 THE SPECIFIC AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION ARE:

- 3.2.1 to observe and record any archaeological features so as to ascertain their extent, form, function, and where possible, date.
- 3.2.2 to clean the base and representative sections of the trenches and record them in both plan and representative section.

3.3 THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT ARE:

- 3.3.1 to undertake work in accordance with national best practice and guidelines,
- 3.3.2 to archaeologically record any deposits, features or structures of significance,
- 3.3.3 to analyse any remains with reference to the existing documentary evidence for historical development and land use,
- 3.3.4 to produce a written account to include summary; site description; deposit descriptions deposit levels (relative to ordnance datum) conclusions and recommendations for further work,
- 3.3.5 to disseminate the findings of the work in an illustrated report, integrating the findings of the archaeological monitoring to produce as comprehensive a record as possible, and to provide an ordered archive.

3.4 SPECIFIC RESEARCH OBJECTIVES ARE:

- 3.4.1 The following table sets out the likely potential of the Site and the likely significance of remains within it.

3.5 TABLE 1: LIKELY POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE OF NON-DESIGNATED ASSETS

Period/Topic	Likelihood of remains being present (Low, Medium, High)	Importance (Low, Medium, High, Very High – See Table 1)
Early – Middle Prehistoric (Palaeolithic – Mesolithic)	Low	Low
Late Prehistoric (Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age)	Low-Medium	Low-Medium
Roman	Low	Low
Early-Medieval	Low	Low
Medieval	Low-Medium	Low
Post-Medieval	Low-Medium	Low
Modern - General	Low-Medium	Low
Geoarchaeological	-	-

- 3.5.1 The above predictions have informed this WSI. However, the actual results of the archaeological investigation will be considered, following the completion of that investigation, in relation to developing the East of England Research Framework⁸, and their ability to contribute to it.
- 3.5.2 The following topics are suggested on the basis of surrounding HER Data. Should remains be revealed during the works, then these objectives would be re-examined and revised, as appropriate.

3.6 TABLE 2: RESEARCH TOPICS

Source	Location in text	Description of topic
East of England Regional Research Framework	-	There are several Research Topics which may become relevant within this two sections of the Research Framework. However, the level of relevance would be driven by findings on the ground. At this time there is not enough information to specific which topics (if any) would be most relevant. Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age Research Agenda Late Iron Age to Roman https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/research-agenda/ - accessed 2024-10-20
East of England Regional Research Framework	-	There are several Research Topics which may become relevant within this two sections of the Research Framework. However, the level of relevance would be driven by findings on the ground. At this time there is not enough information to specific which topics (if any) would be most relevant.

⁸ <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/> - accessed 6/4/2022

Source	Location in text	Description of topic
		Medieval (Rural) Research Agenda https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/research-agenda/ - accessed 2024-10-20

4 METHODOLOGY - FIELDWORK

4.1 MONITORING

- 4.1.1 All construction related groundworks will be subject to monitoring by an archaeologist. The works needing monitoring consist of:

4.2 DEMOLITION STAGE

- *Breaking out and removal of the existing slab and any associated hardstanding on the site.*
- 4.2.1 The Existing and Proposed drawings (Appendix 1) show that it will be necessary to remove the existing garage so as to enable construction of the two and single storey front and rear extensions. It may be necessary to break areas of slab and to break and remove sections of existing wall/s. We would not expect to literally monitor the breaking up of concrete; the key part is the removal of rubble and the underlying formation layer. This is very often the point at which archaeological remains (if present) are first revealed.
- 4.2.2 Ironically, service trenches and deeper excavations (e.g. new utility trenches) are often cut through/deeper than archaeological remains/deposits and so demolition can be the most opportune stage for archaeological monitoring.

4.3 CONSTRUCTION GROUNDWORKS STAGE

- 4.3.1 This stage of works is that which is often the focus of most attention on such monitoring projects. An archaeologist would only be present for key stages of work. In this case, these are likely to comprise:
- *Ground reduction (Overburden stripping) on the plot of the new extension*
 - *Stripping needed for new floor slab*
 - *Cutting of new footings*
 - *Cutting of drainage runs*
 - *Ground reduction not mentioned above but which may be needed (e.g. creating pathways/entrances or creating hardstanding)*
 - *Other groundworks not specifically mentioned but which have the potential to disturb remains (e.g. soakaway).*

4.4 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTRACTOR (KDK ARCHAEOLOGY)

- 4.4.1 The archaeological contractor will be afforded sufficient time, space and resources to investigate any potential archaeological deposits or features to their satisfaction in order to meet the aims and objectives of this specification.
- 4.4.2 The purpose of a monitoring/watching brief investigation is to record

archaeological remains in a safe way as work progresses on a development. Work may be stopped for short periods while recording is completed, or when access is restricted, recording may be completed from a safe position and artefacts/ecofacts retrieved from spoil generated during groundworks.

- 4.4.3 Where safe, examination and cleaning of all archaeological deposits will be by hand using appropriate hand tools. Any archaeological deposits will be examined and recorded both in plan and section. Any archaeological features revealed will be sufficiently excavated so as to ascertain their extent, form, function and where possible date as practicable within the confines of proposed development.
- 4.4.4 Should significant archaeological deposits be encountered that (particularly where they may be worthy of consideration for preservation in situ), excavation will cease. A meeting attended by the following individuals will be held:
- client/clients agent
 - the archaeological contractor (KDK Archaeology)
 - Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS, Growth and Infrastructure Unit, Hertfordshire County Council
- 4.4.5 At that meeting, the significance of deposits and the proposed development programme will be discussed and a suitable strategy for sampling the remains will be decided. This meeting may be completed using remote methods (photographs/email) or it may be conducted in person.
- 4.4.6 Should the groundworks reveal no significant remains, over the course of several visits. Then this will be communicated to the Historic Environment Advisor. This with a view to reviewing whether the archaeological monitoring should continue or cease. Such a discussion needs to take place only after monitoring works have taken place in several different parts of the Site. In this way, we can begin to understand the preservation and potential of the site in enough detail to make such a discussion useful.
- 4.4.7 All works will be carried out in accordance with the Code of Approved Practice as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists⁹. Accordingly, the project team will abide by the ClfA's code of approved practice.

4.5 COMMUNICATION

- 4.5.1 Close liaison will be maintained between the client, the groundworks team and the archaeological contractor (KDK Archaeology) to ensure that the works are correctly timed in order to gather data at the most appropriate point. Any significant archaeological findings or changes to the programme/methodology will be communicated to the Senior Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS.

⁹ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief - <https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfASGWatchingbrief.pdf>

4.6 ARTEFACTS (FINDS)

- 4.6.1 All identified artefacts (finds), industrial and faunal remains will be collected and retained. Certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is retained. No finds will, however, be discarded without the prior approval of the archaeological adviser to the local authority.
- 4.6.2 Excavated material will be examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts.
- 4.6.3 The finds assemblage will be retained for deposition with the site archive at the appropriate Museum (North Hertfordshire) in due course.
- 4.6.4 Marking of finds will follow the requirements of the local museum.
- 4.6.5 All finds which constitute Treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act for England and Wales will be reported to the coroner by the finder within 14 days of discovery.
- 4.6.6 Any human remains will be left in situ, covered and protected. If removal is essential it can only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice licence. Furthermore, if removal is essential, such removal will be in accordance with the Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains Editors¹⁰.
- 4.6.7 Should finds that require immediate conservation be encountered, they will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.¹¹ Appropriate guidance set out in the Museums and Galleries Commissions "*Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*"¹² and the current Cifa guidelines.¹³ will also be followed. Packaging of all organic finds and metalwork will follow the UKIC/Rescue guidelines, 'First Aid for Finds'¹⁴ Any necessary, conservation and treatment of metalwork will be arranged in conjunction with specialist conservators.

4.7 ECOFACTS – ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

- 4.7.1 Environmental sampling during the evaluation will target a representative range of contexts from each phase. Should significant environmental deposits be encountered, they will be taken and processed in line with Historic England

¹⁰ Cifa 2004. Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains Editors: Piers D Mitchell and Megan Brickley.

¹¹ Cifa 2011. Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.

¹² Museums and Galleries Commission 1992

¹³ Cifa regulations, standards and guidance <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa>

¹⁴ Leigh, Watkinson & Neal 1993. First Aid for Finds.

guidelines¹⁵ and our internal policy. Provision will be made for the requirement of the following samples:

- 4.7.2 Bulk samples of 40-60 litres, or 100% of the context, for process using a floatation tank for the recovery of charred plant remains from the 'flot' and artefacts such as small bones, mineralised plant remains, charcoal and hammer scale from the residues.
- 4.7.3 Samples of 1-5 litres from waterlogged deposits for analysis of waterlogged plant remains. These may be taken as sub-samples from bulk samples.
- 4.7.4 Samples of 5-15 litres from waterlogged deposits for analysis of insect remains and other macroscopic artefacts. These may be taken as sub- samples from bulk samples.
- 4.7.5 Bulk samples of 100 litres for coarse sieving on site for specific artefacts such as animal bone.
- 4.7.6 Samples of 2 litres for mollusc analysis, with associated continuous column samples.
- 4.7.7 Monolith samples which may be sub-sampled for diatom, spore or pollen analysis.
- 4.7.8 Monolith samples for soil micromorphology.
- 4.7.9 All environmental samples will be assessed for potential through summary analyses by an environmental specialist.
- 4.7.10 Bulk samples will be processed as soon as possible or discarded with the agreement of Senior Historic Environment Advisor. Residues will be treated as part of the find's assemblage.

4.8 SCIENTIFIC DATING

- 4.8.1 Where appropriate, samples for scientific dating will be taken.
- 4.8.2 Dendrochronological analysis from timbers.
- 4.8.3 C14 dating from organic material, which may be taken as sub-samples from bulk or monolith samples.
- 4.8.4 Archaeomagnetic dating from hearths or other suitable deposits.

4.9 RECORDING SYSTEM

- 4.9.1 A site code will be allocated ahead of any fieldwork commencing. This code will

¹⁵ Gill Campbell, Lisa Moffett, and Vanessa Straker 2011. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition). Historic England

be used to label all sheets, plans and other drawings; all context and recording sheets; all photographs (but not negatives); all other elements of the documentary archive.

- 4.9.2 The recording system used will follow the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual.¹⁶ Context sheets will include all relevant stratigraphic relationships. If there is any doubt over recording techniques, the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual will be used as a guide.
- 4.9.3 A site location plan at an appropriate scale will be prepared showing investigation area and development site in relation to surrounding locality.
- 4.9.4 This will be supplemented by a detailed plan, also at an appropriate scale, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relation to the overall site boundary.
- 4.9.5 Burials will be drawn at 1:10. Other detailed plans will be drawn at an appropriate scale, usually 1:50 or 1:20.
- 4.9.6 The extent of any visible archaeological deposits will be recorded in plan. Long sections showing layers and any cut features will be drawn at 1:50. Short sections will be drawn at 1:20.
- 4.9.7 Sections containing significant deposits, including half sections, will be drawn at an appropriate scale, usually 1:10 or 1:20. All sections will be related to the Ordnance Datum using spot heights and registers of sections and plans will be kept.
- 4.9.8 Upon completion of each significant feature at least one sample section will be drawn, including a profile of the top of natural deposits (extrapolated from cut features etc. if it has not been fully excavated). The stratigraphy will be recorded, even if no archaeological deposits have been identified.
- 4.9.9 An adequate photographic record will be made of and any significant archaeological remains, including photographs of sections. This will comprise high resolution digital photography, illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate the general nature of the archaeological works. A register of all photographs taken will be kept on standardised forms.

4.10 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 4.10.1 On site staff will be able to answer questions from members of the public regarding the archaeology of the area and potential archaeology of the site as described in publicly available documents.

¹⁶ Spence 1994. Archaeological Site Manual. Museum of London

- 4.10.2 Detailed inquiries from members of the public regarding the results of the works, or sensitive information, will be directed to the client's archaeological representative, Joe Abrams of Abrams Archaeology.
- 4.10.3 Given the nature and scale of the works, information boards, site tours and other community involvement activities are not considered appropriate.

5 REPORTING

5.1 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IF RESULTS ARE OF LOW/LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

5.1.1 Should the project reveal relatively straightforward deposits of local significance, it will be appropriate to complete a single stage of post-excavation reporting. This would comprise a commercial archaeological report. It would cover the results of the archaeological monitoring (watching brief) and would be prepared on completion of the fieldwork. The report will conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance¹⁷ and will include:

- Non-technical summary (abstract)
- Introductory statements and site background
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation
- A description of the nature, extent, date, condition and significance of all archaeological deposits recorded during the investigation, with specialist opinions and parallels from other sites if appropriate
- Illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs as necessary
- A catalogue of finds, including any specialist reports
- A discussion and summary of the results, including a statement of significance
- An index of the contents and location of the archive
- Sources consulted
- A copy of the OASIS record sheet

5.1.2 The report will be submitted in draft form to the Historic Environment Advisor, for comment. Following approval, a digital copy of the report will be sent to the client. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the report will be submitted to the within six months of completion of the report.

5.1.3 Any information deposited in the Historic Environment Record can be freely copied without reference to the originator for research or planning purposes.

5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IF RESULTS ARE OF MEDIUM/REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE (OR ABOVE)

5.2.1 Should the project reveal relatively significant remains of Medium/Regional significance, it would be appropriate to report the results in two stages:

5.2.2 Stage 1 - Assessment and updated project design (UPD). Would quantify the contextual, artefactual, ecofactual remains on the site. It would link these via specialist reports to research aims (period, area) and would make

¹⁷ Cifa 2014. Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief.

recommendations for which classes of remains should be progressed to Stage 2 (analysis and publication)

- 5.2.3 Stage 2 – Analysis and Publication. Would utilise the UPD to guide costs and focus of analytical works and what should be published and where.
- 5.2.4 If this type of post-excavation work were appropriate a meeting would be held with the Historic Environment Advisor, KDK Archaeology and the client. This would decide the appropriate scope of works. A budget would then be agreed to cover such works. The reporting would conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance ¹⁸.

¹⁸ Cifa 2014. Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation.

6 STAFFING AND PROGRAMMING

6.1 STAFFING

- 6.1.1 Archaeological site attendance will be carried out by suitably qualified archaeologists from KDK Archaeology; a Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) registered organisation. Summary staff CVs can be supplied as required.
- 6.1.2 The start date for the commencement of the site works is currently to be confirmed but is likely to take place during 2025. It is expected that demolition work and slab breaking will form one phase of work, followed by a hiatus on site. Then a second phase of construction groundworks will follow.

6.2 PROGRAMMING AND RESOURCES

- 6.2.1 Our client has agreed a fee sufficient to undertake all elements of the work to which these specifications relate.
- 6.2.2 The fieldwork phase of archaeological investigation work is to be undertaken as set out above and programmed as soon as practicably possible following approval of this WSI.
- 6.2.3 Sequencing of the work will be discussed with relevant parties.

6.3 MONITORING

- 6.3.1 The project will be monitored by the Historic Environment Advisor, Heritage Services, Hertfordshire County Council (or her nominated representative). KDK Archaeology will make every effort to allow proper monitoring of the archaeological investigation. Any variations to this specification will be put in writing and approval sought.

6.4 ACCESS AND SAFETY

- 6.4.1 Reasonable access to the site will be arranged for the Local Planning Authority and their archaeological advisor who may wish to make site inspections to ensure that the archaeological investigations are progressing satisfactorily.
- 6.4.2 Before any site work commences, a full risk assessment document will be produced setting out the site specific health and safety policies that will be enforced in order to reduce to an absolute minimum any risks to health and safety. In addition to this risk assessment, the following considerations will also be made:
 - 6.4.3 All relevant health and safety regulations will be followed. Barriers, hoardings and warning notices will be installed as appropriate. Safety helmets and

visibility jackets will be used by all personnel as necessary.

6.4.4 No personnel will work in deep unsupported excavations.

6.4.5 KDK Archaeology have well-developed systems for safe working.

7 ARCHIVING AND DISSEMINATION

7.1 ARCHIVE

- 7.1.1 The site code will be used to mark all plans, drawings, context and recording sheets, photographs and other site material during excavation.
- 7.1.2 The site archive will be organised so as to be compatible with current requirements of the local museum. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. Relevant context, sample and photograph registers and environmental sample sheets will also be used.
- 7.1.3 On completion of the finds analysis, the landowner will be asked to sign a Deed of Transfer, transferring title of the finds to the appropriate local repository.
- 7.1.4 The integrity of the site archive will be maintained. All finds and records will be properly curated (subject to the Deed of Transfer) by the local repository and be available for public consultation. Appropriate guidance set out in the MGC
- 7.1.5 *"Standards in Museum Care of Archaeological Collections"* ¹⁹ and the SMAs draft
- 7.1.6 *"Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections"* ²⁰ will be followed in all circumstances.
- 7.1.7 The minimum acceptable standard for the archival report is defined in Appendix 2 of the *"Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment - The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide"* ²¹. It will include all materials recovered (or the comprehensive record of such materials) and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site matrix, a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.
- 7.1.8 ClfA for the Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials ²² will be followed. With consent of the landowner, arrangements for the curation of the site archive will be agreed with the appropriate local repository (North Hertfordshire Museum).
- 7.1.9 Pursuant to these agreements, the archive will be presented to the appropriate

¹⁹ Museums and Galleries Commission 1992

²⁰ United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1983 Packaging and Storage of Freshly Excavated Artifacts from Archaeological Sites. Conservation Guidelines No. 2. Walker K 1990 Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.

²¹ Historic England 2015

²² ClfA 2014. Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials

local repository within 6 months of the completion of the fieldwork (unless alternative arrangements have been agreed in writing with the LPA). In addition, written confirmation from the client will be provided for the transfer of ownership.

- 7.1.10 The project will be registered and regularly updated as part of the OASIS project.
- 7.1.11 The recipient museum shall be granted licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, as long as such use is non-profit making and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights Regulation 2003.

7.2 DISSEMINATION

- 7.2.1 A fully illustrated report, or Assessment/UPD and (in due course) article proof will be submitted for approval to the Historic Environment Advisor, Heritage Conservation.
- 7.2.2 Following submission and approval of the report:
- 7.2.3 One bound and one digital copy of the report/s will be submitted to the Hertfordshire HER. The report will include the findings of the investigation as detailed above.
- 7.2.4 Copies of the Geographic Information System (GIS) or Computer Added Design (CAD) files (in .dwg, .dxf, or .shp formats) for the project showing the site outline, trench/test pit (or similar) location(s), site code, scale and accuracy of recording will be provided to the Hertfordshire HER.
- 7.2.5 The archive will be prepared as detailed above and will include two bound copies of the report.
- 7.2.6 The (on-line) OASIS form will be completed for the project.

8 APPENDIX 1 – DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS



GENERAL NOTES	
No.	Description
01	Check all dimensions on site

REVISIONS		
Rev.	Date	Description
A	Aug 23	23/00566/PRE amends
B	Oct 23	23/02199/PRE amends
C	Aug 24	Outbuildings omitted



WHITEBRICK

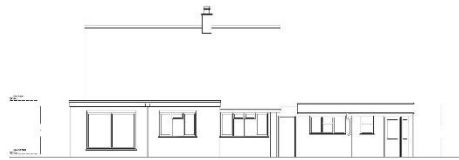
29b Hermitage Road,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 1BY
info@whitebrick.studio

CLIENT
Mr and Mrs Weatherall Morris

PROJECT
Extension and Alterations at
34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, Hitchin,
Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT

DRAWING TITLE
Site Location Plan

INFORMATION	
Job ref	2201
Drawing no.	2201-06C
Scale	1:500/1:1250 @ ISOA3
Date	Feb 23
Drawn	CWM



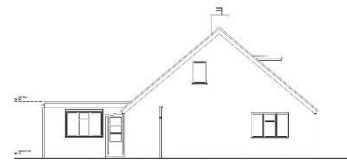
EAST ELEVATION
(as existing)



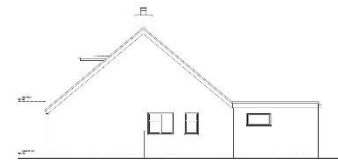
SECTION A-A
(as existing)



WEST ELEVATION
(as existing)



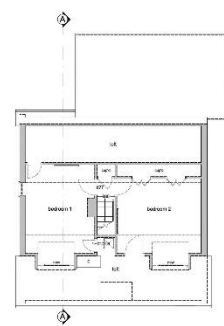
NORTH ELEVATION
(as existing)



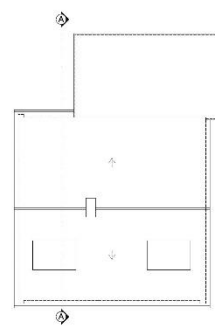
SOUTH ELEVATION
(as existing)



GROUND FLOOR GIA 100 sqm
(as existing)



FIRST FLOOR GIA 39 sqm
(as existing)



ROOF PLAN
(as existing)

0 2 10 METRES

GENERAL NOTES

No.	Description
01	Check all dimensions on site
02	Via is existing
03	Via is removed

REVISIONS

Rev.	Date	Description
A	Jun 23	23/00566/PRE amends
B	Oct 23	23/02199/PRE amends



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CLIENT

Mr and Mrs Weatherall Morris

PROJECT

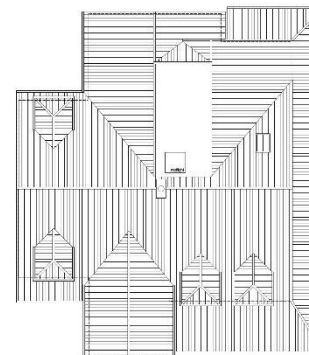
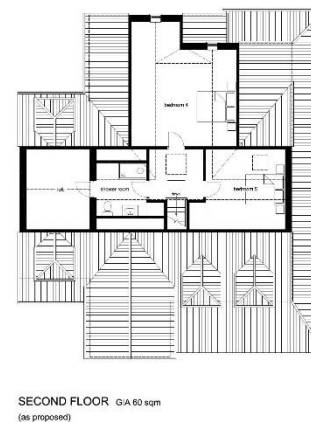
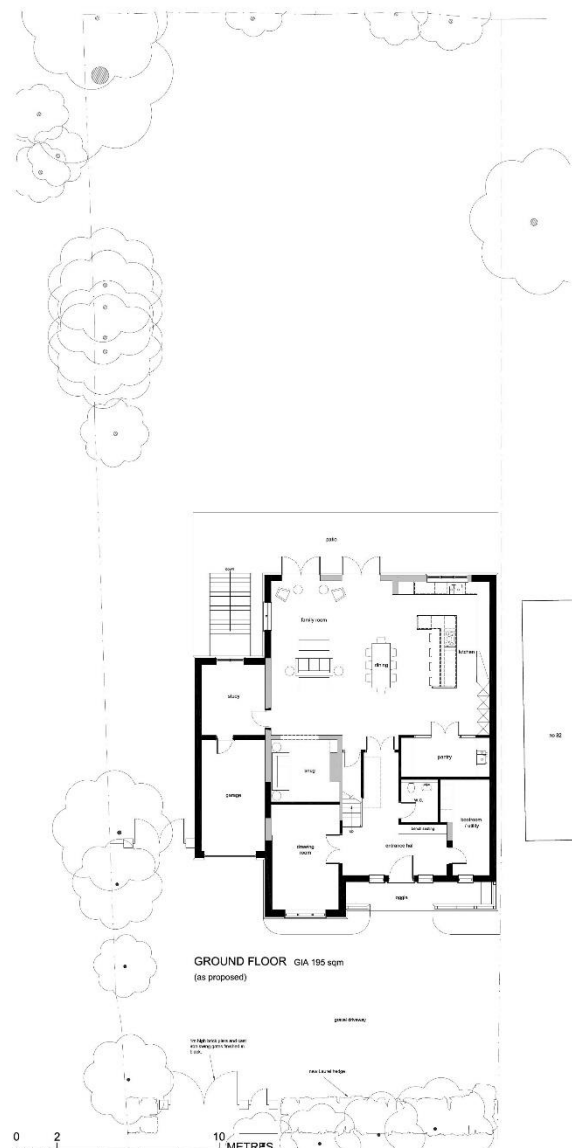
Extension and Alterations at
34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT

DRAWING TITLE

Existing Plans, Elevations
and Section

INFORMATION

Job ref	2201
Drawing no.	2201-01B
Scale	1:100 @ ISOA1
Date	Jan 22
Drawn	CWM



ROOF PLAN
(as proposed)

No.	Description
01	Check all dimensions on site
02	Walls existing
03	Walls proposed

Rev.	Date	Description
A	Jun 23	23/00566/PRE amends
B	Oct 23	23/02199/PRE amends
C	Dec 23	FF window removed
D	Jan 24	Brick piers reduced
E	Aug 24	Outbuildings omitted
F	Sep 24	Basement omitted



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PROJECT

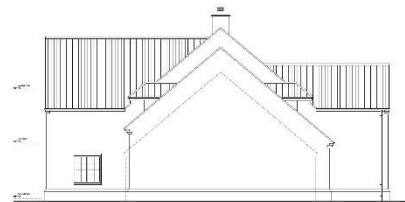
Extension and Alterations at
34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT

DRAWING TITLE

Proposed Plans

INFORMATION

Job ref	2201
Drawing no.	2201-04F
Scale	1:100 @ ISOA1
Date	Feb 23
Drawn	CWM



NORTH ELEVATION
(as proposed)



EAST ELEVATION
(as proposed)



WEST ELEVATION
(as proposed)



SOUTH ELEVATION
(as proposed)

0 2 10 METRES

GENERAL NOTES

No.	Description
01	Check all dimensions on site
02	W is existing
03	W is proposed
04	EXTERNAL MATERIALS
EXTENSION ROOF: Plain clay tile roof and lead flat roof. EXTENSION WALLS: Red facing brickwork. EXTENSION WINDOWS: French grey uPVC timber style windows with flush casements and equal sight lines. EXTENSION DOORS: French grey uPVC timber style doors with flush casements and equal sight lines. ROOFLIGHTS: Powder coated aluminium glazed roof light finished in grey. RAINWATER GOODS: Black aluminium half round gutters and rainwater pipes.	

REVISIONS

Rev.	Date	Description
A	Jun 23	23/00566/PRE amends
B	Oct 23	23/02199/PRE amends
C	Nov 23	Pergola / pool added
D	Dec 23	FF window removed
E	Aug 24	Outbuildings omitted



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PROJECT

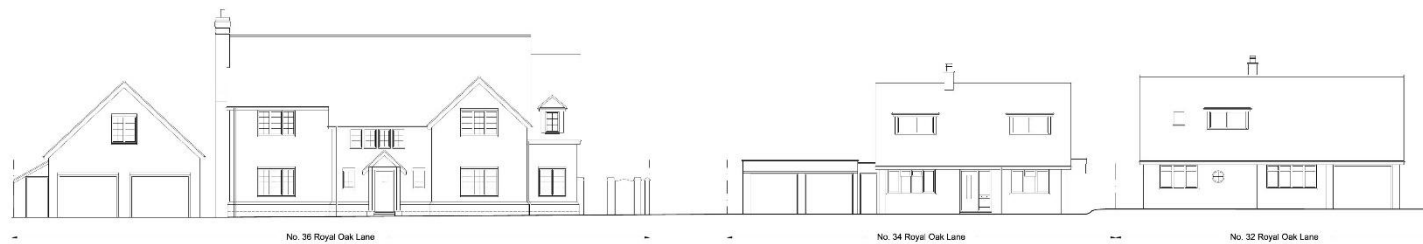
Extension and Alterations at
34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT

DRAWING TITLE

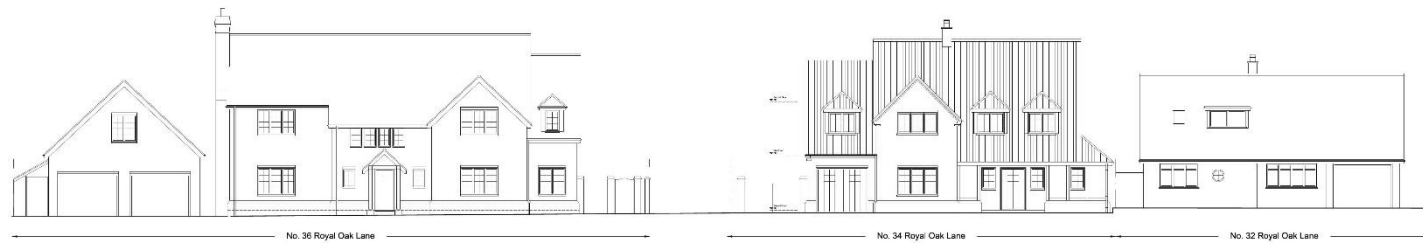
Proposed Elevations

INFORMATION

Job ref	2201
Drawing no.	2201-05E
Scale	1:100 @ ISOA1
Date	Feb 23
Drawn	CWM



EXISTING STREET SCENE



PROPOSED STREET SCENE

0 2 10 METRES

GENERAL NOTES

No.	Description
01	Check all dimensions on site
02	— Wa is existing
03	— Wa is proposed
04	EXTERNAL MATERIALS
	EXTENSION ROOF: Plain clay tile roof and lead flat roof.
	EXTENSION WALLS: Red facing brickwork.
	EXTENSION WINDOWS: French grey uPVC timber style windows with flush casements and equal sight lines
	EXTENSION DOORS: French grey uPVC timber style doors with flush casements and equal sight lines
	ROOFLIGHTS: Powder coated aluminium glazed roof light finished in grey.
	RAINWATER GOODS: Black aluminium half round gutters and rainwater pipes.

REVISIONS

Rev.	Date	Description
A	Jun 23	23/00566/PRE amends
B	Oct 23	23/02199/PRE amends



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CLIENT

Mr and Mrs Weatherall Morris

PROJECT

Extension and Alterations at
34 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3QT

DRAWING TITLE

Existing and Proposed
Street Scene

INFORMATION

Job ref	2201
Drawing no.	2201-07
Scale	1:100 @ ISOA1
Date	Oct 22
Drawn	CWM

9 APPENDIX 2 – HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

9.1 LISTED BUILDINGS WITHIN STUDY AREA

NationalRe	Name	Grade	PrefRef	DesigUID	RecordType
1430264	PIRTON WAR MEMORIAL	II	1430264	DHT11393	LB
1103187	IVY COTTAGE	II	1103187	DHT6984	LB
1103190	SOUTH-EAST BARN AT NO 1 (ELM TREE FARM)	II	1103190	DHT6987	LB
1103191	No name for this Entry	II	1103191	DHT6988	LB
1103192	CROMWELL COTTAGE	II	1103192	DHT6989	LB
1103193	No name for this Entry	II	1103193	DHT6990	LB
1103194	Nos. 19, and 21 ROYAL OAK LANE	II	1103194	DHT6991	LB
1175469	No name for this Entry	II	1175469	DHT7306	LB
1175478	THE FOX INN	II	1175478	DHT7310	LB
1175517	No name for this Entry	II	1175517	DHT7318	LB
1175604	No name for this Entry	II	1175604	DHT7334	LB
1308350	ELM TREE FARMHOUSE	II	1308350	DHT7562	LB
1295337	No name for this Entry	II	1295337	DHT7568	LB
1295373	No name for this Entry	II	1295373	DHT7573	LB
1347076	No name for this Entry	II	1347076	DHT7687	LB
1347077	PRIMROSE COTTAGE	II	1347077	DHT7688	LB
1347097	No name for this Entry	II	1347097	DHT7710	LB
1347109	CRABTREE HOUSE	II	1347109	DHT7716	LB
1347110	CHURCH OF ST MARY (C OF E)	I	1347110	DHT7717	LB
1347112	ORCHARD COTTAGE	II	1347112	DHT7719	LB

9.2 SCHEDULED MONUMENTS WITHIN STUDY AREA

Ref No	Name
1009451	Moated site and associated enclosure at Rectory Farm
1434415	Anglo-Saxon settlement, and probable prehistoric ring ditches, west of Pirton village
1012325	Toot Hill motte and bailey castle and shrunken medieval village at Pirton

9.3 NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS – MONUMENTS

MonUID	Name	Summary	MI_PRINX	PrefRef	RecordType	MonType	Period	Dates
MHT32	TOOT HILL MOTTE AND BAILEY CASTLE, PIRTON	Motte 100m x 6.7m high. Summit mutilated by quarrying giving a false impression of 'breastwork' around the rim. Surrounded by a ditch c.2.5m deep, filled in to NE <1>, wet in south <2>. Trial excavation produced Saxo-Norman bowls <1>. See [1487] for the manor; the castle was put up by Ralph de Limesi or his father. 'The village lies in the middle of the parish, and is of particular interest, as it was at an early date, possibly before the Conquest, fortified by a ditch. The area inclosed, about 10 acres, was utilized later for a mount and bailey castle, the mount or 'motte' standing about 25 ft. high above the bottom of the surrounding ditch in the north-west corner of the inclosure, and the remainder of the area divided into three baileys, the largest stretching along the north side and including the church and the other two on the south. The ditches are well marked, and there is still at times a good deal of water in parts of them. This castle, unfortunately, has no history. It was probably made in the 12th century, perhaps during the anarchy of Stephen's reign, by Alan or Gerard de Limesi. There is little probability that it was ever defended by masonry walls. On the mount probably stood a timber tower, approached by a steep narrow bridge of timber from the bailey below over the ditch or moat which surrounds it. Timber palisades may have defended the surrounding outer banks of the baileys. We can only conjecture that it was dismantled by Henry II as an adulterine or unlicensed castle, hundreds of which he is said to have destroyed. When the site was abandoned by the Limes is the mount was probably used as a look-out and meeting place of the villagers, and so came to be called Toot Hill' <3>. It is interesting that even in 1912 it was acknowledged that the earthworks may have a pre-Norman origin; but see [16620]. The late Saxon topography has been disguised by the Norman motte and bailey; see also [746, 1487, 16620, 12426]. For a different view, see <4>: 'the surviving greens at either end of the castle enclosure - which, to judge from the configuration of building lines and property boundaries, were once significantly larger - are clearly fragments of a once much more extensive common: the lord of the manor would, of necessity, have chosen a piece of open ground as the location for the castle, rather than taking up valuable land already cultivated or occupied by houses'.	22184	32	MON	MOTTE AND BAILEY	Medieval	1066 to 1500
MHT1475	ROMAN POTTERY, SCHOOL PLAYGROUND, PIRTON	Romano-British pottery found in the school playground <1>.	4158	1475	FS	FINDSPOT	Roman	50 to 409
MHT1477	ROMANO- BRITISH POTTERY, TOOT HILL, PIRTON	...6 sherds identified by Wheeler as RB including a scrap of Samian, a 3rd-4th century sherd, and nothing that is definitely not Roman ...' found in the outer bank of the castle at Toot Hill [32] <1>. These finds may be in Hitchin Museum.	4160	1477	FS	FINDSPOT	Roman	50 to 409
MHT4315	ST MARY'S CHURCH, PIRTON	12th century parish church, originally cruciform in plan until the transepts were destroyed by successive collapses of the tower. The S porch, windows, buttresses and chancel roof and fittings date from the 14th century with alterations in the 15th century and a full restoration programme in the 19th century. Features include an early 14th century double piscina, medieval stone corbels carved with heads, fragments of 14th century stained glass and an early 14th century south door <1>. In the 11th century or early 12th century the advowson of Pirton church was given by Ralph de Limesy to St Mary's, Hertford. The standing building is apparently 12th century in origin, a cruciform church; the upper part of the tower collapsed in the 13th century (possibly due to an earth tremor in 1298), destroying the north transept. It was not rebuilt, and by 1850 the south transept was ruinous and the tower in a state of collapse. Renovation and rebuilding in the period 1851-83 included the demolition and reconstruction of the tower. The south transept was rebuilt in 1914 <2>. After bomb damage in 1944 the chancel was repaired. Continued subsidence beneath the north wall of the chancel led to limited investigation in 2003-4, revealing that in the late	22577	4315	BLD	CHURCH	Medieval	1066 to 1500

MonUID	Name	Summary	MI_PRINX	PrefRef	RecordType	MonType	Period	Dates
		19th or mid 20th century a brick foundation and concrete pad had been built around the chancel (and probably the south transept as well) to try to stabilise it. The foundation of the north transept, which did survive, consisted of clunch blocks over cobbles <2>. The stonework of the walls includes some hewn ashlar blocks of Bedfordshire Greensand (Woburn Sands Formation), an unusual material in Herts <3>. It is also notable for the amount of Totternhoe stone in the walls; much of this was quarried locally, from a source at (the significantly named) Glebe Pit which includes giant ammonites and other fossils <3>. See [9677] for a Saxo-Norman and earlier cemetery and possible church nearby.						
MHT6508	POSSIBLE PIT, VICARAGE, CRABTREE LANE, PIRTON	An occupation level or possibly a large pit was observed near the centre of an area of new house footings at the Vicarage. The feature was an apparently rectangular depression c.6m x 4m and 3.1m deep, filled with clay and with a charcoal layer near the base. There were no finds and no evidence of date either in the depression or the spoil. The area was otherwise deeply cultivated <1>.	24865	6508	MON	OCCUPATION SITE?; PIT?	Unknown	Undated
MHT9676	SAXON, MEDIEVAL & POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS, THE FOX, PIRTON	Evaluation in 1993 revealed well-preserved medieval and probable Saxo-Norman occupation. Wall foundations, enclosures, pits and post-holes (some in alignment) were identified; provisional dating of the pottery ranges from c.900 to c.1450 <1>. Subsequent excavation identified considerable evidence of Saxo-Norman and medieval occupation, including a series of buildings orientated E-W and N-S, surrounding a cemetery [9677]. Given its position and alignment, a building to the north of the cemetery may be an early church [9677]. Nine certain and four possible medieval buildings of post-hole and sill-beam construction were located in Areas B and C. Area A, near the street frontage, contained two substantial post-medieval buildings. A number of ditches and post-holes were found across the site. Though many features could not be dated or associated, some pits, post-holes and hearths were closely associated with buildings, and the quantity of domestic rubbish suggests considerable and sustained activity <2>. The occupation here appears both very dense and very well preserved <3, 4>. Reassessment by Paul Blinkhorn of the Saxon pottery has found it to date to the 7th-9th centuries <5>.	27180	9676	MON	OCCUPATION SITE; RUBBISH PIT; BUILDING	Middle Saxon to Post Medieval	550 to 1900
MHT9677	SAXO-NORMAN CEMETERY AND POSSIBLE CHURCH, PIRTON	The cemetery consisted of forty individuals, 26 adults, 4 adolescents, 8 children and one infant, all orientated E-W. Most graves were placed individually but some were in multiple graves indicating family plots. There was evidence for only one coffin, in one of the larger family graves. Few grave goods were present other than iron objects including a possible knife, an unidentified copper object, and a jet bead. The cemetery was well defined, with an alignment of post-holes on the W side, a ditch with two buildings beyond it to the north, and a building to the east. One of the buildings to the north was on a W-E orientation, and is possibly an early church that was replaced by the standing medieval parish church [4315]. An enclosure ditch surrounded the entire cemetery. Both the cemetery and the two buildings nearby may date to the Saxo-Norman period. But see also [9676], associated settlement with pottery dating to the 7th-9th centuries.	27181	9677	MON	CHURCH?; INHUMATION CEMETERY	Late Saxon	870 to 1065
MHT10549	MEDIEVAL FEATURES, 2 DAVIS CRESCENT, PIRTON	A gully and pit, both containing medieval pottery, were found during work on the driveway of 2 Davis Crescent <1>. The context is unclear, but they may represent small-scale occupation or industrial activity at the northern edge of the medieval village <2>.	601	10549	MON	DITCH; PIT	Medieval	1066 to 1500
MHT10894	LATE POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS, 77 HIGH STREET, PIRTON	Redevelopment of the plot on the north side of the High Street revealed the brick floors of two outbuildings, apparently related to a recently demolished later 19th century building shown here at the rear of the plot on the OS maps <2, 3>. A cobbled area on the east side of this building represented the access alley shown on <2>, which ran alongside the smithy on the street frontage. Three pits contained domestic rubbish of the first half of the 19th century, predating the buildings shown on the OS maps. An earlier post-medieval boundary ditch and two other ditches which may represent a timber structure were also present <1>.	963	10894	MON	PIT; DITCH; BUILDING	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT11409	SAXO-NORMAN FEATURES, LITTLE LANE, PIRTON	Two phases of investigation identified four phases of activity: a pit, two ditches and a beamslot dated by Saxo-Norman pottery; late post-medieval; 19th century occupation, when the site was divided into two plots; and 20th century demolition <1, 2>. The early medieval presumably relates to Saxo-Norman occupation 80m to the SW [9676].	1499	11409	MON	PIT; DITCH; BUILDING?	Late Saxon to Medieval	870 to 1500

MonUID	Name	Summary	MI_PRINX	PrefRef	RecordType	MonType	Period	Dates
MHT12426	BLACKSMITH'S POND (COMMON), PIRTON	Registered common land <1>. NGR = approximate centre. The later 19th century OS maps <2, 3> shows the pond extending further south beyond the path to Toot Hill, and marks it 'Moat' in lettering denoting an antiquity. It was then slightly wider at the north end than it is now. It was evidently regarded as part of the outworks of the castle [32], with a detached water-filled portion to the south at TL 14848 31554 which no longer survives, and another at TL 14758 31563, which does (although reduced). These pieces of water appear to have been part of a moat around the Toot Hill bailey, separate from the moat surrounding the motte. <4> shows the complete layout. Groundworks behind 6 Walnut Tree Road (an early 19th century house), just east of the pond, revealed part of the pond's edge as shown on the 1882 map <2, 5>. A deposit of subsoil and oxidised clay may represent consolidation and reshaping of the bank using material scoured from the pond <5>. This appears to have occurred more than once, as this southern end provided access to drinking water for cattle grazing on The Bury. In 2013 the edge of the bank here was restored to the historic line <6>.	2562	12426	MON	COMMON LAND; MOAT	Historic: period uncertain	410 to 1900
MHT12762	UNDATED PIT, 16 BUNYAN CLOSE, PIRTON	The profile of a pit 1.2 m in diameter and 1 m deep was seen in the footings for a house extension. The lower fill comprised humified charcoal and daub suggesting burning of a structure or industrial processing. There were no finds. The location is only 30m from a 16th century Listed Building on Royal Oak Lane. The pit is probably late medieval or early post-medieval, but could be earlier <1>.	2927	12762	MON	PIT	Historic: period uncertain	410 to 1900
MHT12824	MEDIEVAL DITCHES, ELM TREE CLOSE, PIRTON	Evaluation in advance of residential development at Elm Tree Farm uncovered several ditches, of which three contained medieval pottery and building materials. The finds were scanty but include handmade sherds of possible 10th century (or somewhat later) date, and Herts Grey Wares (13th-14th century). The ceramic building materials consisted of tile and a brick, all probably 12th-15th century <1>. Further work found parts of at least two other ditches which may be related, although there was little dating evidence <2>. In the 19th and much of the 20th century this area was within the grounds of Littlegreen Farm [30752], north of Elm Tree Farm <3>.	2995	12824	MON	DITCH	Late Saxon to Medieval	870 to 1500
MHT16304	ELM TREE FARM, HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON	The farmhouse is a 16th century timber-framed house, on a T plan; the south bay of the west crosswing dates to the early 17th century, and the NW wing was added in the later 17th century. This later wing is two storeys with a staircase and second entrance <1>. Most of the farm buildings have gone, but SE of the house, on the road, is a 17th century timber-framed and weatherboarded barn, a tall three-bay structure with a gabled projecting porch in the middle of the north wall, and a dovecote in the upper part of the gable <1>. The farmhouse and the barn are shown on the 1882 OS map <2> separated by a large irregular yard. Examination of the barn before conversion to domestic use included inspection of the brick sill, below ground <4>.	5567	16304	BLD	FARMHOUSE; FARMSTEAD; TIMBER FRAMED BARN; TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; DOVECOTE	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT16620	PIRTON VILLAGE	Pirton has a long history of movement, expansion and contraction. For 5th to 9th century settlement NE of Priors Hill, in a field without later occupation, see [31108]. For 7th-9th century buildings, church and churchyard in the present village centre, see [9676, 9677], and for mid-late Saxon to medieval features between these two areas see [31388]. The standing parish church [4315], in a different position, dates to the 12th century and can be associated with the construction of the 12th century castle [32]. Test pitting across the area of the existing village in 2007, 2008 and 2009 confirmed the overall picture of a dynamic settlement sequence. A sherd of early/middle Saxon pottery, with some Roman pottery, residual in a medieval pit at Walnut Tree Farm [13757], may indicate some continuation from Roman to post-Roman. The test pits yielded nothing more until the later part of the late Saxon period, when settlement evidently became 'widespread across the eastern side of the present village, focused in particular on Burge End Farm, the area south of West Lane and the area north of Walnut Farm' <3>. Gaps in evidence between these areas may suggest polyfocal settlement. Nearly all the 56 2008-9 test pits yielded mid 11th to mid 14th century pottery, indicating a larger and more densely settled village which had become nucleated alongside the construction of the motte and bailey castle. After the 14th century the village contracted, test pits in the centre of the present village NE and SW of the church producing almost no contemporary pottery. It may have shrunk to no more than five clusters of farmsteads or cottages 'within an otherwise largely deserted landscape. Recovery does not seem to have been established until the 17th or even 18th century, and even then the volume of pottery recovered does	5915	16620	PLA	VILLAGE	Sub Roman to Modern	410 to 2050

MonUID	Name	Summary	MI_PRINX	PrefRef	RecordType	MonType	Period	Dates
		not match that of the high medieval period' <3>. Further test pitting in 2010 concentrated at the north end of the village, where there is a notable lack of early to mid Saxon pottery; the later Saxon material suggests scattered farms rather than contiguous settlement here. These farms suffered less from the late medieval contraction than the village itself <6>. Test pitting in 2011 aimed to fill a number of gaps, and confirmed that the part of the settlement west of the motte and bailey 'came into existence at or shortly after the time when the castle was built', and was apparently less affected by the severe later medieval contraction of the rest of the village <7>. This contraction indicates that Pirton was severely affected by the Black Death. In a review of the test pitting programme across East Anglia <9> it became apparent that the drop in population at Pirton was especially severe; in 115 test pits across the village the amount of pottery for this period fell by 75%. The later 19th century OS maps show two greens, Great and Little Green, SW and NE of the castle and the parish church. Great Green [12427] is still lined with 15th to 17th century buildings, some of comparatively high status. Little Green, at the end of what in the 19th century was known as Town Street, is smaller and different in character but also has 16th to 17th century houses scattered around it. These greens are two of the post-medieval focal points of the village, but are relics of its earlier topography. <8> sees them as the remnants at each end of a 'once large tract of common pasture', upon which the Norman castle [32] was built. These remnants were gradually made even smaller by encroachment. A pre-1066 church and cemetery [9677], superseded by the present parish church [4315] within the castle bailey, 'lay to the north, on the edge of the former common'. Saxo-Norman settlement [9676] is also known adjacent to the earlier church.						
MHT16666	HAMMOND'S ALMSHOUSES, 19-21 HIGH STREET, PIRTON	This pair of houses are shown on the later 19th century OS maps <1, 2> as 'Almshouses (Hammond's Charity)'. ' In 1641 John Hammond by his will....devised two cottages, to be occupied by poor families rent free. The charity is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners, 3 May 1904. A premium of £12 10s. is usually paid, and the cottages, rebuilt by the Hanscombe family, are used as almshouses' <3>. For Hammonds Farm, see [4513].	5965	16666	BLD	ALMSHOUSE	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT16667	METHODIST CHAPEL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON	The building between nos.21 and 23 High Street is shown on the later 19th century OS maps <1, 2> as 'Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan)'. It had the common plan of a simple gable-ended building, the narrow gable end facing the street. In 1906 a new Methodist church was built 75m to the south on the other side of the High Street. The chapel is now a private house called, appropriately, Wesley.	5966	16667	BLD	WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT17753	4 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON	An early 18th century house, one and a half storeys tall, timber-framed on a stuccoed sill with heavy exposed framing and plastered panels on the frontage, under a steep-pitched thatched roof. This has a decorative ridge and eyebrow dormers. The house has end chimneys and a plank door is near the centre front <1>. The 1882 OS map <2> shows the house backing onto the ditch surrounding Toot Hill [32], and facing east onto the south end of Little Green. From the map it appears likely that the house was built encroaching onto the green itself. It is also evident that by 1882 the house was divided into three cottages. No.6 [17754] was then two dwellings, making up a row of five. This arrangement was not altered until the 20th century.	7267	17753	BLD	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT17754	BURY COTTAGE, 6 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON	No. 6 was built in the early 19th century against the south end of no.4, an early 18th century house [17753]. They both face east onto the south end of Little Green, and back onto the ditch around Toot Hill [32]. No.6 is a two-storey, two-bay house, now roughcast, with a low-pitched slate roof, central chimney, casement windows, and a door beneath a bracketed hood. At the rear is a single-storey weatherboarded extension <1>. The 1882 OS map <2> shows that in the late 19th century it was divided into two dwellings, making with no.4 [17753] a row of five cottages. This arrangement had not changed by 1898 <3>. Groundworks for new rear extensions in 2012 revealed a ditch or pit which was undated but could have been part of the original rear yard, perhaps part of its boundary <4>. Further west in the small garden only modern overburden lies on the clay natural, on the bank of the Blacksmith's Pond [12426] <5>.	7268	17754	BLD	HOUSE	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT18218	IRON AGE DITCH, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON	A ditch found in a 2011 evaluation <1> running across the field south of Holwell Road near the sharp bend contained nothing other than a fragment of poorly preserved animal bone, possibly a horse metatarsus. The ditch ran NE-SW, in line with the NE continuation of Holwell Road, and parallel with Royal Oak Lane and other boundaries shown on the 1882 OS map <2>. These alignments suggested that the ditch represented a field	7779	18218	MON	DITCH; FIELD BOUNDARY	Earlier Iron Age to Post Medieval	-800 to 1900

MonUID	Name	Summary	MI_PRINX	PrefRef	RecordType	MonType	Period	Dates
		boundary removed before the later 19th century (possibly at enclosure in 1818). However, further investigation in 2015 <2> and 2016 <3> yielded five small fragments of apparently early to middle Iron Age pottery (tempered with flint and quartz sand), and a possible worked flint, near the base of the ditch. An upper fill contained 'three fragments of grog-tempered pottery of indeterminate prehistoric date and emmer wheat grains' <3>. On this basis the ditch is considered to be Iron Age. All the pottery is fragmented and in poor condition, and only two small parts of the ditch were investigated. For possibly related features see [31349].						
MHT18265	THE FOX, 37 HIGH STREET, PIRTON	The Fox was built in the 17th century as a two-storey two-cell house with internal chimney and lobby entry plan, set back from the road. The house is timber-framed, with central entrance and rear outshut. In the early 18th century it was updated with a new front in red and blue brick, and later in the 18th century a lower two-storey wing, slightly set back and in lighter red brick, was added at the east side <1>. It is shown as The Fox PH on the later 19th century OS maps <2, 3>. In the front yard was a pump <3>.	7831	18265	BLD	TIMBER FRAMED HOUSE; LOBBY ENTRY HOUSE; PUBLIC HOUSE	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT30752	SITE OF LITTLEGREEN FARM, ROYAL OAK LANE, PIRTON	Littlegreen Farm is shown on the later 19th century OS maps <1, 2> on the east side of what was then Deadhorse Lane, with a farmhouse and ranges of farm buildings around a trapezoidal yard; the west range ran along the road frontage, and to the east was an orchard. Little Green is at and west of the crossroads just to the south, at the High Street. In the late 20th century the farmstead was encroached upon by Elm Tree Farm [16304] just to the south, and demolished for housing c.2005; see [12824].	21319	30752	MON	FARMSTEAD	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT30753	SITE OF THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON PH, HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON	The Shoulder of Mutton is shown on the 1882 OS map <1> as a public house, and on the 1898 map <2> as merely a beer house. It stood on the north side of Hambridge Way, then the road leading east out of Pirton village towards Ickleford; the main range projected into the roadway, with a rear projection making an L plan, and a long outbuilding and orchard trees in the rest of the plot. In the 1880s there was an open-fronted cartshed as well, forming the north range of a yard, but by 1898 this had been demolished. At some time in the 20th century the buildings were demolished; by 1980 <3> only a single small building stood on the site, which has become part of Elm Tree Farm [16304]. The pub's decline is presumably related to the decline in function of Hambridge Way; buildings are shown here on the 1822 map <4>, which shows the road as the main route between Pirton and Ickleford and giving access to the highway running north from Hitchin. A 1928 photograph <5> shows the building, one storey and attic with possibly a lobby entry plan, and a long single-storey rear extension with a thatched roof. The Shoulder of Mutton was apparently a drovers' beer house, in Shoulder of Mutton Close on the 1818 enclosure award; it 'burnt down in 1928' <5>.	21320	30753	MON	PUBLIC HOUSE; BEER HOUSE	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT31032	PIRTON WAR MEMORIAL, ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD, CRABTREE LANE, PIRTON	Pirton war memorial stands on the north side of the churchyard within a small compound reached from the roadside. It was designed by G Maile & Son, London, and was unveiled in April 1920. It is a square granite obelisk about 3m high, on a plinth above a two-stepped platform. The four sides of the plinth were carved with the names of the 30 men who died in the First World War, but these names are covered over by a set of four cast bronze tablets. Three of these list the 30 original names, and the fourth is inscribed IN MEMORY OF/THE MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES/DURING THE WAR/1939-1945 with six names. New steps, stone borders, gates and wooden fences were added in 2009 <1>.	21603	31032	BLD	WAR MEMORIAL	Twentieth Century	1901 to 2000
MHT31036	SITE OF 19TH CENTURY ALLOTMENTS, WEST LANE, PIRTON	A small area of allotment gardens is shown here on the 1882 OS map <1>, adjacent to a row of cottages. The setting up of allotments was a mid 19th century movement to provide land where the poor, often living in overcrowded cottages, could grow their own food. The plot is not shown as allotments on the 1898 map <2>, but they appear to have survived into the 20th century.	21607	31036	MON	ALLOTMENT	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT31090	REMAINS OF RIDGE & FURROW, NORTH OF HAMBRIDGE WAY, PIRTON	The characteristic traces of ridge & furrow cultivation were recorded by geophysics here, covering much of the centre of a long narrow field east of the village <1>.	21660	31090	MON	RIDGE AND FURROW	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900

MonUID	Name	Summary	MI_PRINX	PrefRef	RecordType	MonType	Period	Dates
MHT31348	LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE ROUND HOUSE, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON	Seven post holes arranged in an incomplete circle, with two outliers on the east side, found in an evaluation trench south of Holwell Road, appeared to represent a round house. The fills held charcoal and a small amount of pottery, some unidentifiable and some late Bronze Age to early Iron Age. All the pottery was in poor condition and highly fragmented. There was no other domestic debris, but see [31349] <1, 2, 3>.	21921	31348	MON	ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC)?	Later Bronze Age to Earlier Iron Age	-1200 to -401
MHT31349	LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE QUARRY PITS, HOLWELL ROAD, PIRTON	Several groups of intercutting pits found south of Holwell Road appeared to have been dug as extraction pits. The largest group was about 6m by 3m overall, containing many intercutting pits and recuts. The NE quadrant had four steps leading down to the centre. Multiple fills in each of these pits contained coarse and fine ware pottery of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age date and some bone. Two fills sealing the entire group contained a great deal of bone, heated stones and charcoal, and similar pottery. A second group about 30m to the SW was similar but smaller, and without finds in the fills apart from some early or middle Iron Age coarse pottery; the sealing layer contained bone, possible worked flint, and some sandy Iron Age pottery. All the pottery was in poor condition and was highly fragmented. A few metres south of the second group of quarry pits were some scattered small pits, two of which contained a great deal of charcoal and cremated human bone <2, 3>. To the east, just beyond a ditch [18218] which appeared to be Iron Age in date, were two more groups of intercutting pits with single fills containing a very small amount of Iron Age pottery, some sand-tempered and some unidentifiable. These pits also contained a few pieces of worked flint (debitage, a damaged blade, and a hammer flake) <3>.	21922	31349	MON	PIT; CREMATION	Later Bronze Age to Earlier Iron Age	-1200 to -401
MHT31388	SAXON & MEDIEVAL FEATURES, PIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, PIRTON	Features excavated at Pirton Primary School in 2017 included a pit containing a sherd of Maxey-type Ware pottery dating to AD 650-850; a ditch containing two sherds of St Neots Ware (AD 900-1150), cut by another ditch containing three sherds of medieval Hertfordshire Grey Ware; a gully containing one sherd of Shelly Coarseware (AD 1100-1400) and which may be part of the same medieval ditch; and undated features (a ditch, two post holes) which appeared likely to be contemporary. There was also some animal bone (cattle and horse), representing butchery and domestic refuse <1>.	21961	31388	MON	PIT; DITCH; DITCH; PIT	Middle Saxon to Medieval	550 to 1500
MHT31509	POST-MEDIEVAL FIELD BOUNDARY, ROYAL OAK LANE, PIRTON	A ditch running east-west, found in two evaluation trenches in here in 2016 <1>, is shown on the 1882 OS map <2> as an extant field boundary running for just over 100m, from the road to the extant eastern property boundary. This boundary 'appears on a pre-enclosure map of c.1800' <1> so must date to the 18th century or earlier. It may have been recut, as part of a very similar ditch was found running alongside it; and it is still extant beneath a line of trees in the pasture.	22083	31509	MON	FIELD BOUNDARY; DITCH	Post Medieval	1501 to 1900
MHT31519	RIDGE & FURROW, HOLWELL LANE, PIRTON	A pattern of ridge and furrow recorded here in a geophysical survey in 2017 ran roughly east-west, and represents medieval and later strip fields. Less dense anomalies in the south end of the same field may also be ridge and furrow, but run roughly north-south. The post-medieval field boundaries shown on the 1882 OS map <2> were also visible in the survey.	22093	31519	MON	RIDGE AND FURROW; FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval to Post Medieval	1066 to 1900
MHT31642	SAXON AND MEDIEVAL FEATURES, 17 WALNUT TREE ROAD, PIRTON	Evaluation revealed four pits and two ditches across the site. All of the features have been dated by pottery finds to the 9th to 12th century AD, except for one of the ditches which had no finds but was close to a small assemblage of prehistoric pottery that may be associated. There was also a possible cobbled surface. <1> RH	28919	MHT31642	MON	DITCH; PIT	Middle Saxon to Medieval	800 to 1199

9.4 NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS – EVENTS

EvUID	MI_PRINX	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref
EHT1206	93	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2007	Five test pits dug on different sites around the village as part of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project; only one had anything useful. This was in one of the rear plots NW of the West Lane/Burge End Lane corner.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/07
EHT1296	186	EVT	Test pits at St Mary's church, Pirton, 2003-4	Two test pits dug against the north wall of the chancel to assess the archaeological impact of works to address subsidence and repairs to cracked wall. An unrecorded modern brick and concrete pad was discovered around the chancel (and presumably the south transept), evidently a previous attempt to stabilise the building. This involved a trench at least 65cm wide around the chancel, destroying any in situ deposits; but the original foundation of the north transept was seen.	Albion Archaeology	
EHT3080	1949	EVP	AIR PHOTO, TOOT HILL, PIRTON	None	Air Photo Services Air Photos	
EHT3081	1950	EVP	AIR PHOTO OF MOTTE AND BAILEY CASTLE, TOOT HILL, PIRTON	Air photograph showing Toot Hill motte and bailey castle. See also [8410 8412 8414].	Air Photo Services Air Photos	
EHT3082	1951	EVP	AIR PHOTO, PIRTON	See also [8410 8412-3]. Record to be completed.	Air Photo Services Air Photos	
EHT4188	2952	EVT	Evaluation of land to the rear of The Fox PH, Pirton, 1993	13 evaluation trenches across a substantial area of land on the north side of the High Street revealed well-preserved medieval archaeology in 11 trenches. The other two, near the NW corner of the area, revealed topsoil over natural.	The Heritage Network	
EHT4203	2967	EVT	Excavation on land to the rear of The Fox PH, Pirton, 1995	Three areas of open excavation following evaluation (EHT4188) confirmed the presence of dense and well-preserved remains. These remains evidently extended well beyond the excavated areas in every direction <2>.	North Hertfordshire District Council Museums Service	
EHT4816	3539	EVT	Monitoring at 77 High Street, Pirton, 1998	Monitoring of groundworks during redevelopment of a plot on the north side of the High Street noted that although the plot had been extensively disturbed and built up, post-medieval remains survived. There were no signs of earlier occupation. Silty clay subsoil overlay decayed chalk marl natural.	The Heritage Network	HN 202
EHT5319	4017	EVT	Excavation on land at Little Lane, Pirton, 2001-2	Three areas were excavated following evaluation, revealing considerable 19th and 20th century disturbance as well as Saxon features and pottery residual in later features. The excavated areas appeared to be part of a larger area of surviving archaeology <2>.	Heritage Network	181
EHT5425	4119	EVT	Evaluation at Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton, 2004	Seven evaluation trenches in the area of the farmyard before the construction of housing. Yard surfaces and made ground overlay mature subsoil above natural clay which here is about 0.65m below ground level. Three trenches contained no archaeology.	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
EHT5581	4262	EVT	Evaluation at Elm Tree Farm, Pirton, 2006	Further work in the area of the former farmyard.	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd	
EHT6846	4484	EVT	Evaluation of land at Holwell Turn, Holwell Road, Pirton, 2011	Six evaluation trenches across a field south of Holwell Road just before the bend revealed a single field boundary ditch and only one find, a fragment of poorly preserved animal bone. Topsoil and subsoil overlay natural clay and chalky till.	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	HHRP11
EHT7102	4680	EVT	Monitoring at 6 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2012	Groundworks for the demolition and replacement of a rear extension included a test pit and new footing trenches. The uniform stratigraphy was of topsoil over a clayey silt subsoil above silty clay natural.	Heritage Network	HN971
EHT7816	5320	EVT	Monitoring of garden works at Bury Cottage, 6 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2013	Works in the garden west of the house included removal of metal shuttering and hardcore inserted against the edge of the pond in 2012, and excavation of a footing trench for a garden wall and a soakaway. Mixed overburden lay above natural grey clay; there were no archaeological finds, features or deposits.	The Heritage Network	HN1070
EHT7979	5476	EVS	Geophysical survey on land adjacent to Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton, 2015	Geophysical survey of the 400m strip of land north from Hambridge Way behind the housing to Holwell Road identified little of archaeological origin other than traces of ridge & furrow, and a few possible cut features (ditches and a possible pit) in the northern part of the area.	Stratascan	J8754

EvUID	MI_PRINX	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref
EHT8016	5511	EVT	Evaluation of land at Holwell Road, Pirton, 2015	15 evaluation trenches to inform an application for a housing development on farmland;	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	HOPH15
EHT8041	5535	EVT	Evaluation of land at 40 Royal Oak Lane, Pirton, 2016	Seven trial trenches across the grounds south of the house itself revealed no features or deposits predating the post-medieval period. All but one of the features revealed (in three of the trenches) were either natural, undated, or modern, and there were no finds. Topsoil overlay soft silty clay subsoil, over natural clay.	Heritage Network	HN1239
EHT8111	5604	EVT	Monitoring at 28 High Street, Pirton, 2016	Groundworks for a rear extension, new porch, and conversion and enlargement of an outbuilding, revealed no archaeological finds, features or deposits. Topsoil overlay patches of modern made ground or levelling, above silty clay subsoil and/or natural clay.	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	AS1858
EHT8352	5833	EVT	Archaeological 'strip and map' excavation at Holwell Road, Pirton, 2016-17	Following evaluation in 2015 (EHT8016) a strip and map excavation was opened out at the north end of the site where features had been identified.	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	HRPM/01
EHT8371	5851	EVT	Archaeological evaluation at Pirton School, High Street, Pirton, 2017	Two evaluation trenches to investigate the area on the east side of the primary school building, in advance of a possible new classroom and hardstanding, both revealed well-preserved features cut into the chalky clay natural beneath the subsoil.	Archaeology South-East	PIR-PS-17
EHT8416	5893	EVS	Geophysical survey of land off Holwell Road, Pirton, 2017	A Bartington Grad 601 fluxgate gradiometer survey found no anomalies indicating archaeological remains, other than old field boundaries and some ridge and furrow.	SUMO Survey	11635
EHT8473	5948	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2008	23 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the second season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/08
EHT8474	5998	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2009	28 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the third season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/09
EHT8475	6005	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2010	27 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the fourth season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project.	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR/10
EHT8476	6031	EVT	Test pits in Pirton village, 2011	16 test pits dug on different sites around the village, the fifth season here of the 'Currently Occupied Rural Settlements' project. (Some of these pits appear to have been organised by locals, in addition to those dug by HEFA.)	University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)	PIR11
EHT8495	6064	EVT	Evaluation at Land off Holwell Road, Pirton	None	AOC Archaeology Group	
EHT8629	7226	EVT	Excavation at Pirton School, High Street, Pirton	None	Archaeology South-East	
EHT8630	6184	EVT	Evaluation at Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road Pirton, 2018	10 evaluation trenches across a field to the rear of 17 Walnut Tree Road revealed features across the site dating to the 9-12th century. Hand sieving of the subsoil resulted in the recovery of numerous sherds of generally abraded pottery. The topsoil, subsoil and natural were all of silty clay.	Heritage Network	
EHT8657	6211	EVT	Archaeological test pits at 11 Royal Oak Lane Pirton, 2018	None	Gil Burleigh	
EHT8869	7413	EVT	Monitoring at Land Adjacent To Elm Tree Farm, Hambridge Way, Pirton 2020	None	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	
EHT8874	7422	EVT	Test pits and strip, map and record at 7 Royal Oak Lane Pirton, 2020	None	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
EHT8884	7436	EVT	Strip and map and monitoring at 11 Royal Oak Lane Pirton 2021	None	Minerva Archaeology Ltd	
EHT8902	7452	EVT	Excavation at Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road Pirton, 2020	None	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	

EvUID	MI_PRINX	RecordType	Name	Description	Organisati	Ref
EHT8932	7486	EVT	Excavation at Land Rear Of 17 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2021	Open area excavation of the footprints of houses in Plots 7 and 8	HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY LTD	
EHT8941	7495	EVT	Evaluation and test pit at 12 Davis Crescent Pirton, 2021	None	Minerva Archaeology Ltd	
EHT8952	7505	EVT	Monitoring at 12 Davis Crescent Pirton, 2021	None	Minerva Archaeology Ltd	
EHT9016	7575	EVT	Monitoring at 33a High Street Pirton, 2019	None	Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
EHT9105	7662	EVT	Monitoring at 17 Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, 2022	None	Minerva Archaeology Ltd	

9.5 HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

HLCUID	MI_PRINX	Name	FullTypeCo	BroadTypeC	HLCTypeCod	HLCTypeDes	YearFrom	YearTo	Summary
HHT1654	729	Pirton	BUM-ba	BUM	ba	BUILT-UP AREAS - URBAN DEVELOPMENT	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: BUILT-UP AREAS - URBAN DEVELOPMENT
HHT3008	2234		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT3009	2235		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT7558	7288		AEF-if	AEF	if	IRREGULAR ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: PRE-18TH CENTURY 'IRREGULAR' ENCLOSURE
HHT7561	7292		TEF-te	TEF	te	"20thC" ENCLOSURE	1950	1950	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950'S ENCLOSURE
HHT7562	7293		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE
HHT7563	7294	Toot Hill	EAR-he	EAR	he	HISTORIC EARTHWORK	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: HISTORIC EARTHWORK
HHT7573	7305		AEF-if	AEF	if	IRREGULAR ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: PRE-18TH CENTURY 'IRREGULAR' ENCLOSURE
HHT7574	7306		HOR-ag	HOR	ag	ALLOTMENTS	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: ALLOTMENTS
HHT7575	7307		PGR-tl	PGR	tl	LEISURE / RECREATION	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: 20TH CENTURY LEISURE
HHT7587	7320		TEF-bl	TEF	bl	BOUNDARY LOSS	2000	2000	Pre-migration HLC type: POST 1950 BOUNDARY LOSS
HHT7588	7321		LEF-pe	LEF	pe	FORMAL STYLE PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE	1880	1880	Pre-migration HLC type: FORMAL 18TH - 18THCENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE

10 APPENDIX 3 – DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN (KDK ARCHAEOLOGY)

10.1 PROJECT DETAILS:

Name 34 Royal Oak Lane Pirton Hertfordshire

Site Code 886/PROL

Accession number PIR/34 ROL '24

Project Type Archaeological Monitoring & Recording

Contact David Kaye BA ACIfA (Project Manager)/ Laura Dodd MSc MCIfA (Archivist)

Introduction: This strategy, which concerns all of the data that is created and the archaeological material recovered during the course of the project, will be agreed between KDK, HHET and the depositing Museum. It is consistent with the projects aims and objectives and local research framework. An identical version of this Appendix will be created and kept up to date as the project progresses. Updates will be agreed with HHET and the museum.

10.2 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Data Collection (*what will be collected and how?*):

Data will be collected in line with the Project Brief and WSI standards and requirements. Data acquisition standards are in line with the ADS guide to Good Practice. Specific data will be:

Excel Spreadsheets will be used on site to collect fieldwork data and registers

Word documents will be used to produce draft reports which will be finalised in pdf format

Digital images will be taken and saved as JPGs

Digital survey data will be presented in an appropriate CAD format and converted to TIFF or PDF as required.

A working project folder will be maintained of all project related data on the company server. Tablets will be used on site and downloaded to the folder on the company server on a daily basis.

Documentation and Metadata:

A summary of all data sources and contributors will be provided as part of the final archive alongside a meta data summary. This will be prepared in line with ADS deposition guidelines.

Ethics and Legal Compliance (*how are any ethical, copyright and IPR issues being managed?*):

KDK have a GDPR compliant privacy policy which underpins the management of personal data.

Personal data is not stored in the project related folders but separately on the company server. Any personal data will be removed from the project archive and permission to use individuals' names in any reporting is gained prior to use.

Copyright of all data created by the team is owned by KDK and permission to include data from external sources is secured on the engagement of that source.

Where formal permission or licence agreements are required for data sharing these will be included in the project documentation.

Storage and Back up (*how will data be stored, accessed and backed up during the project?*):

Organisational IT is managed by an internal IT and data manager who is responsible for the management and verification of daily back-ups and who supports access to security copies as needed. The onsite company server is automatically backed up 5 times a day to a secure off site server through an encryption process.

Sufficient data storage is available on the onsite company server, which includes single factor authentication and permissions-based access. The server is accessible by staff on and off site through a secure log-in.

Off site access to the project files on the server is provided to support back up of raw data while fieldwork is ongoing. Where internet access is not possible, the raw data is backed up to a separate hard drive until direct access to the server can be established.

Only KDK staff can access the server. External specialists and contractors are sent whatever documentation they need via email or WeTransfer, none of which contain sensitive information.

Selection and Preservation (*what will be retained, shared and/or preserved, what's the long-term plan for data preservation, are ADS informed and have costs been considered?*):

The collection and selection strategy, including the data management plan will be reviewed throughout the project and specifically at the end of fieldwork and/or before post excavation work starts and following full analysis. The updated plans will be included in all reporting stages.

Prior to deposition the plans will be updated and finalised in agreement with the planning archaeologist, museum, client and ADS if appropriate.

All versions of data will be retained until report approval. Final versions of digitally born data will be archived on ADS. Paper records will be archived at the museum in line with museum guidance. Duplicate documents will be deleted and the remaining data will be retained in the file structure on the company server.

The full costs of archiving in line with museum guidelines have been included in the project costs.

Data Sharing and Accessibility (how will data be shared and made accessible and are there any restrictions):

The project has been added to the OASIS Index of Archaeological Investigations (**kdkarcha1-528760**) and will be updated as the project progresses. A final version of the approved report will be added to OASIS along with details of the project archive location.

The final version of the report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record when approved by the planning archaeologists. Any further data which they request will be provided directly.

No restrictions to data or data sharing are envisaged at this stage.

Responsibilities (who is responsible for data management):

The project manager is responsible for implementing the data management plan and ensuring it is reviewed at each stage of the project. The data capture, metadata production and data quality is the responsibility of the project team, quality assured by the project manager.

Storage and back up of data in the field is the responsibility of the field team and once data is on the organisational server it is the responsibility of the IT and data manager.

Data archiving is undertaken by the project team in conjunction with the archive officer and the archive officer is responsible for the transfer of the archive to the final repository.

Small and Blank Projects

Where archaeological work results in no finds or features of archaeological significance a single all in one report will be prepared and, if agreed with the CAO and museum, will only be uploaded as the digital archive to ADS.

Materials and Artefacts

The key finds groups and how these will be selected for retention or discard are outlined below:

Find Type	On site selection	Post Excavation selection
Pottery	All pottery sherds will be collected other than obviously post medieval sherds from unstratified contexts unless they appear archaeologically significant	The majority of pottery collected will be retained for archiving. Exceptions may be made for sherds recovered from unstratified contexts or repetitive and undiagnostic sherds. All pottery will be quantified and subject to specialist input. Deselection will be undertaken in discussion with the specialist, HHET and the museum
CBM	All CBM will be collected other than obviously post medieval CBM from unstratified contexts unless they appear archaeologically significant. However, where large quantities are found a further discussion between KDK, HHET and the museum may result in an amended approach ie sampling	All collected CBM will be retained, although unidentifiable fragments from poor or unstratified contexts may be discarded subsequent to full quantification, specialist advice and discussion with HHET and the museum
Worked Stone	All worked stone found will be collected	All worked stone will be retained for archiving, in discussion with the museum. All unworked stone will be discarded following quantification
Animal Bone (including worked bone, antler, horn and ivory)	All animal bone found will be collected	All animal bone will be retained. Disposal may be considered for very fragmented and poorly preserved objects or those which have been recovered from unstratified contexts and that have no further intrinsic interest
Ferrous and non-ferrous metals	All metal will be collected	All precious metals will be retained. Other ferrous or non-ferrous metals will be retained with the exception of unidentifiable fragments and those beyond conservation. Also common bulk finds such as nails may be subject to retention of a sample following discussion with the specialist and museum
Glass	All glass objects will be collected other than obviously post medieval glass from unstratified contexts unless they appear archaeologically significant	All items will be retained although post medieval and modern items may be sampled following discussion with HHET and the museum
Clay Pipes	All clay pipes will be collected	All items will be retained unless fragments are plain or from poor or unstratified contexts
Worked Wood and other plant derived objects	All worked wood or other plant derived objects will be collected	All items will be retained unless items are deemed unsuitable for long term preservation. All items will be checked by a

Find Type	On site selection	Post Excavation selection
		specialist for selection and any discard agreed with HHET and the museum
Leather and Textiles	All leather and textiles will be collected	All items will be retained unless items are deemed unsuitable for long term preservation. All items will be checked by a specialist for selection and any discard agreed with HHET and the museum
Other	All other items found will be collected	All medieval or older items will be retained. Post medieval items will be discussed with HHET and the museum to agree retention strategy
Environmental samples	40l samples will be taken from archaeologically significant features in line with the agreed sampling strategy, see Appendix 3 for details. This means that environmental samples will not be taken routinely from backfilled contexts unless there are archaeologically significant reasons to do so. Environmental sampling will focus on areas of naturally silted fills and where organic matter, charcoal and carbon are more likely to be found The Environmental Specialist will be engaged to discuss more detailed strategies in areas of specific interest if they arise Securely stratified deposits that contain dating evidence will be targeted, particularly corn driers, hearths, kilns, pits and cesspits, of all periods across the site Different parts or layers in kilns /ovens will be sampled to examine function 10 litre samples for insect analysis from waterlogged deposits if present, and additional samples for plant macrofossils may also be taken. Pollen samples will be taken from a representative selection of contexts of different potential time spans 20% of the pre-medieval quarry pits, if present, will be sampled to determine the presence of mineralised material	Tangible artefacts found through the environmental processing will be retained for archiving, this includes the flots from archaeobotanical analysis All other retention from the processing will be discarded

11 APPENDIX 4 – SPECIALISTS SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT (KDK ARCHAEOLOGY)

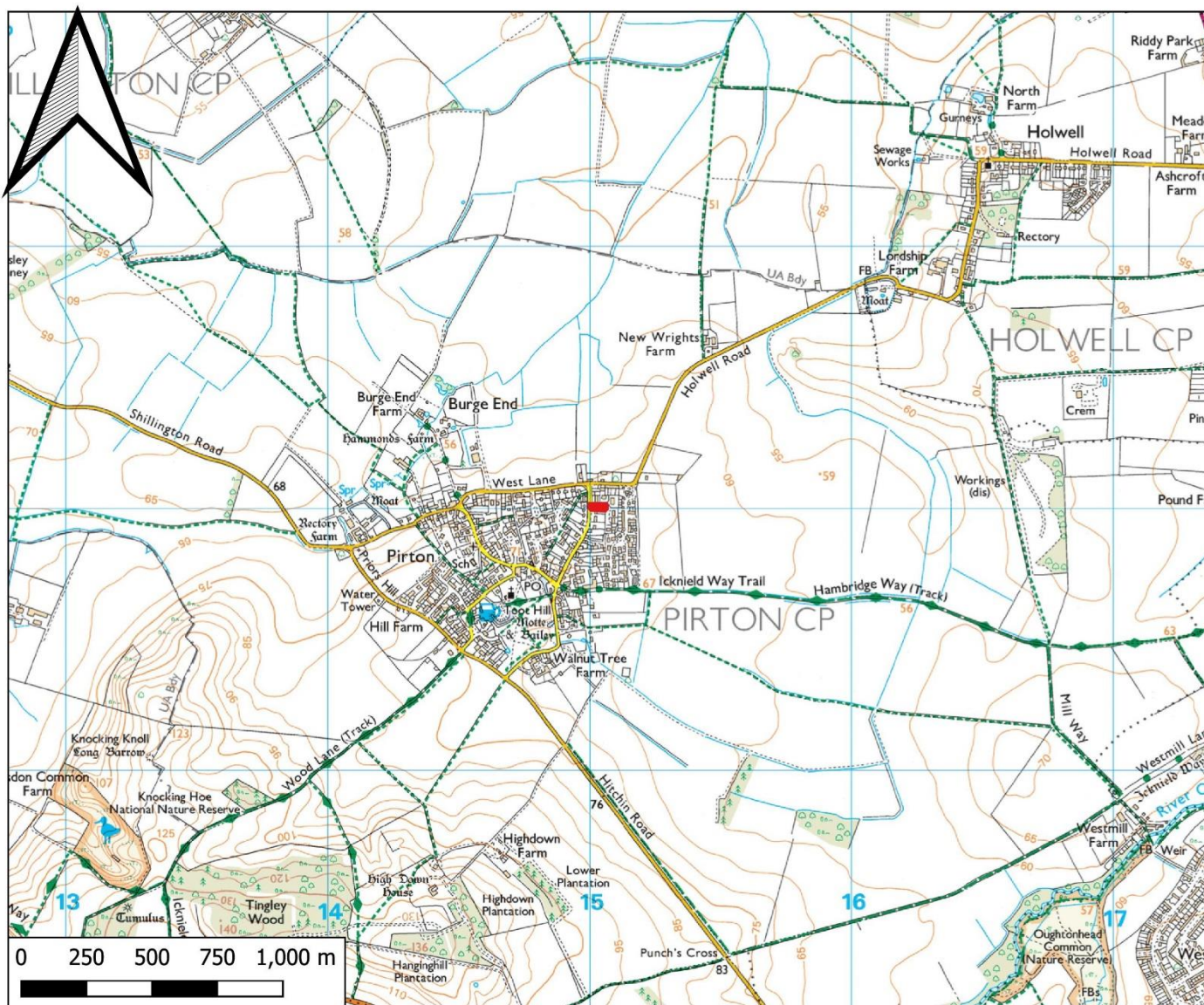
11.1 SPECIALISTS

11.1.1 The following are KDK's preferred specialists:

Subject	Specialist	Organisation
Building materials: Roman	Rob Perrin	Freelance
Building materials: post-Roman	Karin Kaye	KDK Ltd
Ceramics: prehistoric	Sarah Percival	Freelance
Ceramics: Roman	Rob Perrin	Freelance
Ceramics: Post-Roman	Paul Blinkhorn	Freelance
Coins: Roman	Peter Guest	Vianova Archaeology
Coins: Saxon	Anna Gannon	Freelance
Coins: Post-Saxon	Murray Andrews	Freelance
Environmental: seeds	Lisa Gray	Freelance
Environmental: archaeobotanical	Lisa Gray	Freelance
Environmental: mollusca	Mike Allen	Freelance
Environmental: soils	Mike Allen	Freelance
Environmental: animal bone	Derek Watson	KDK Ltd
Environmental: animal bone	Matilda Holmes	Freelance
Environmental: human bone	Laura Dodd	KDK Ltd
Environmental: human teeth	Patrick Mahoney	KORA
Environmental: pollen	Rob Scaife	Freelance
Bone antler & ivory small finds	Ian Riddler	Freelance
Glass	Hilary Cool	Freelance
Lithics	Sarah Bates	Freelance
Lithics	Lyndon Cooper	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Metalwork	Quita Mould	Freelance
Quernstones	Chris Green	Freelance

Subject	Specialist	Organisation
Industrial waste	Lynne Keys	Freelance
Saxon & medieval small finds	Rosie Weetch	Freelance
Timber	Damian Goodburn	Freelance

12 FIGURES

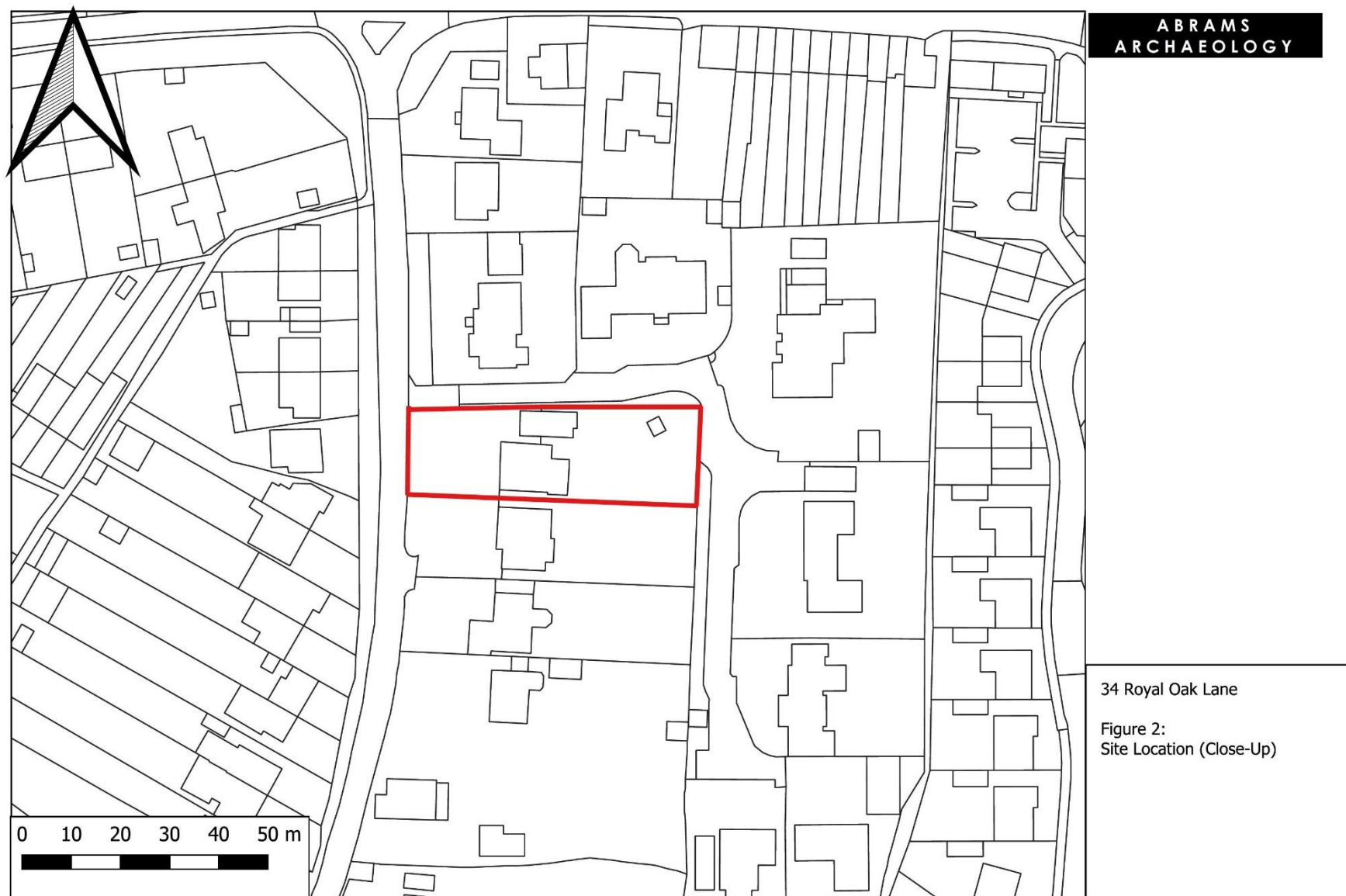


**ABRAMS
ARCHAEOLOGY**

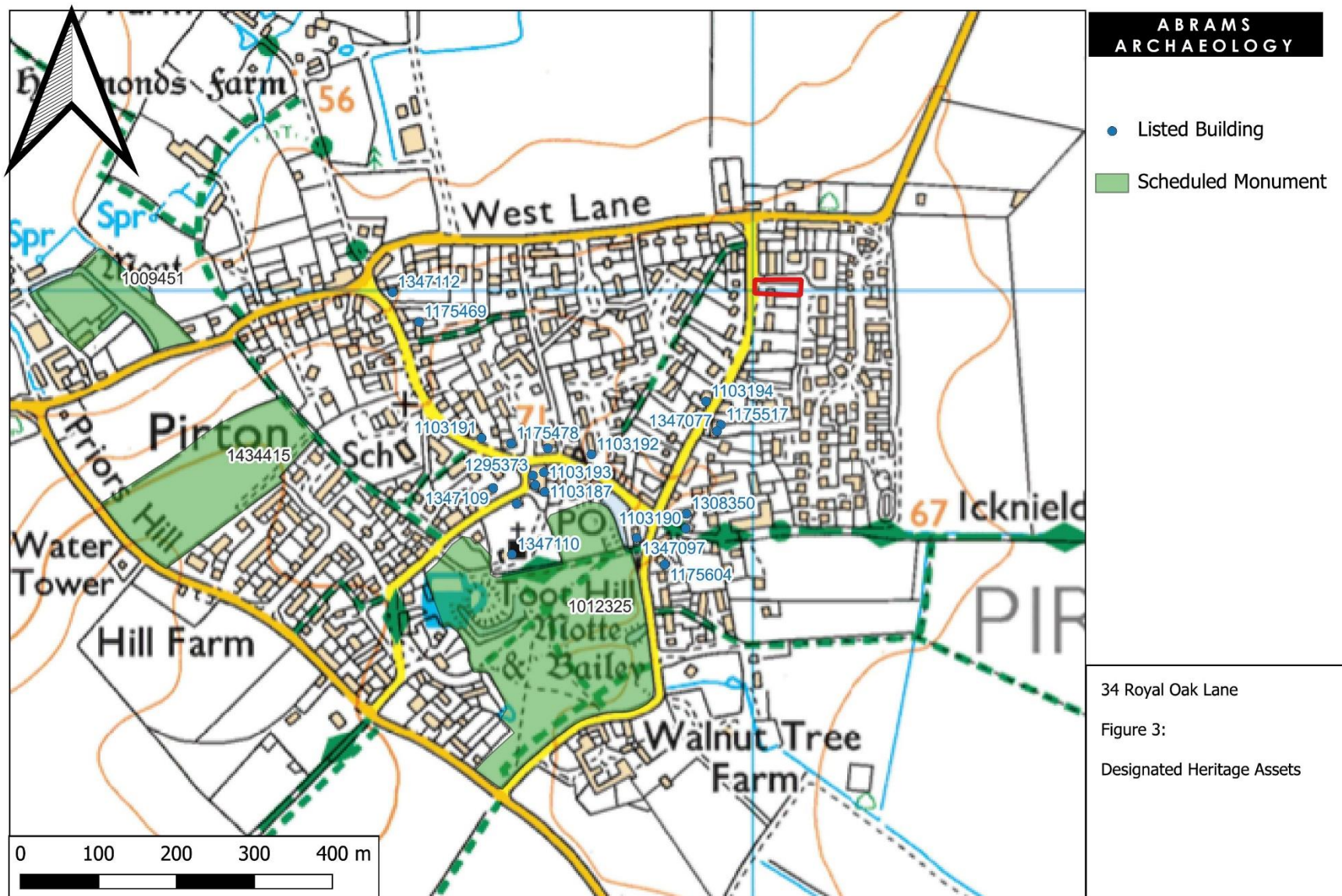
34 Royal Oak Lane

Figure 1:
Site Location

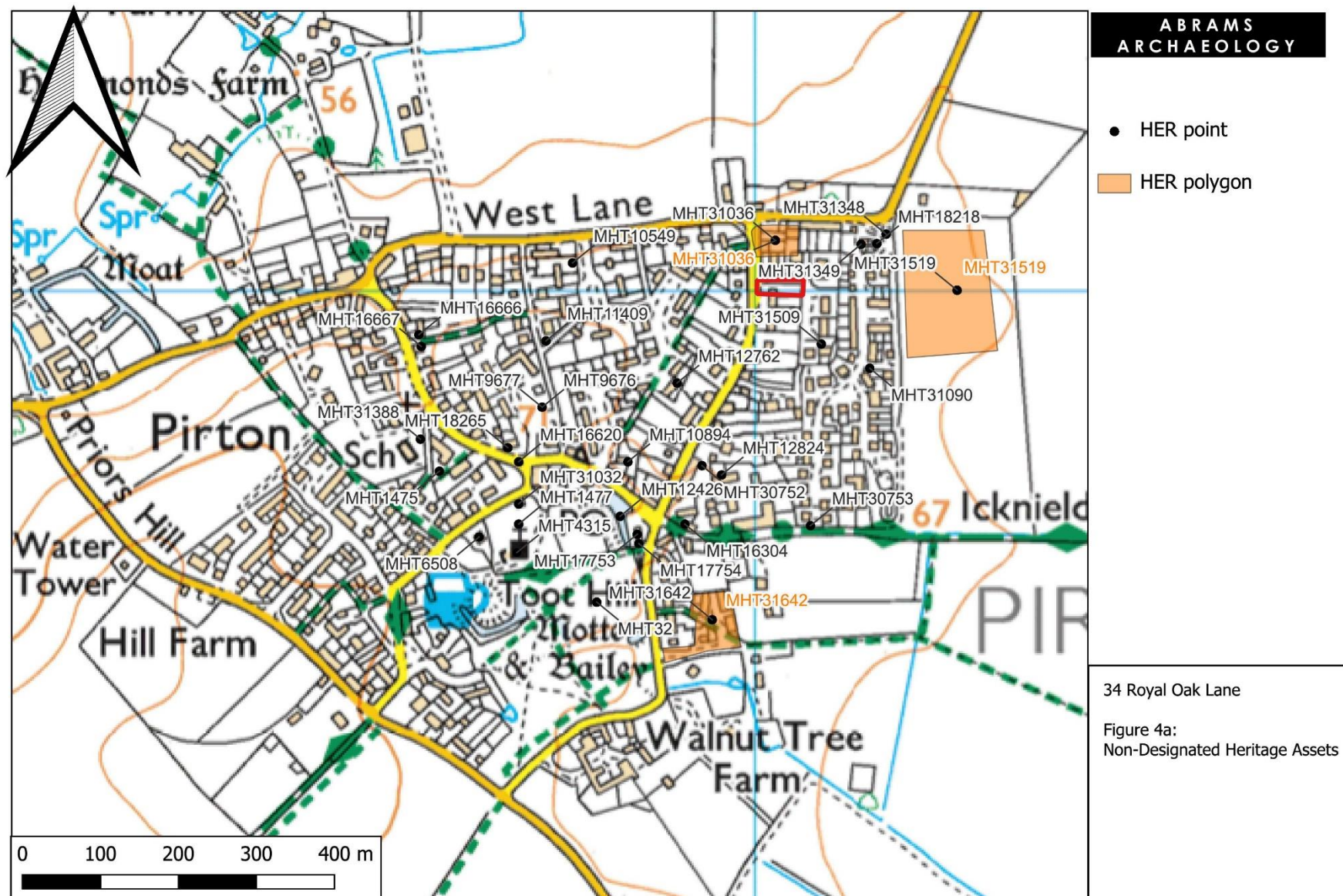
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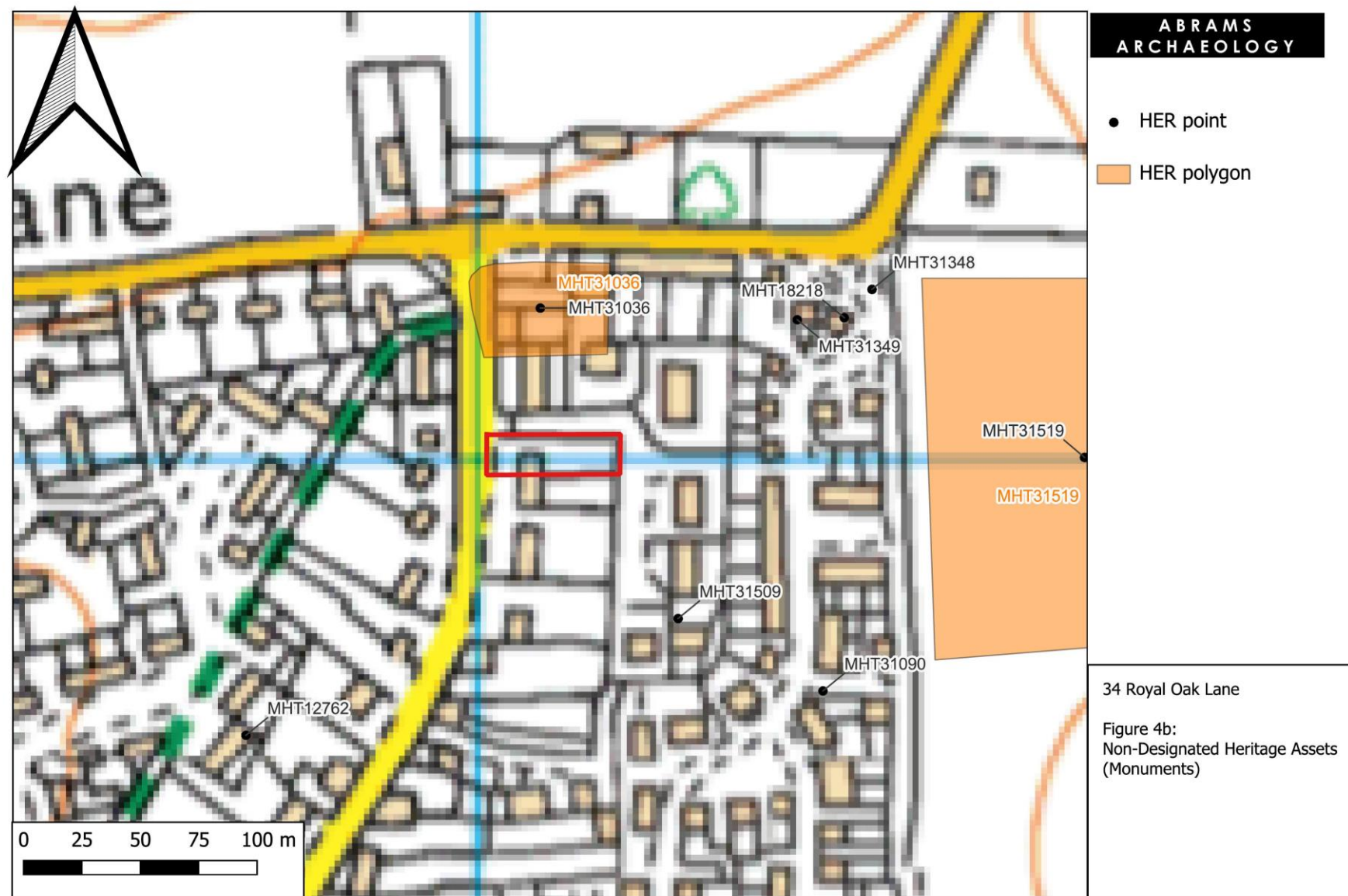
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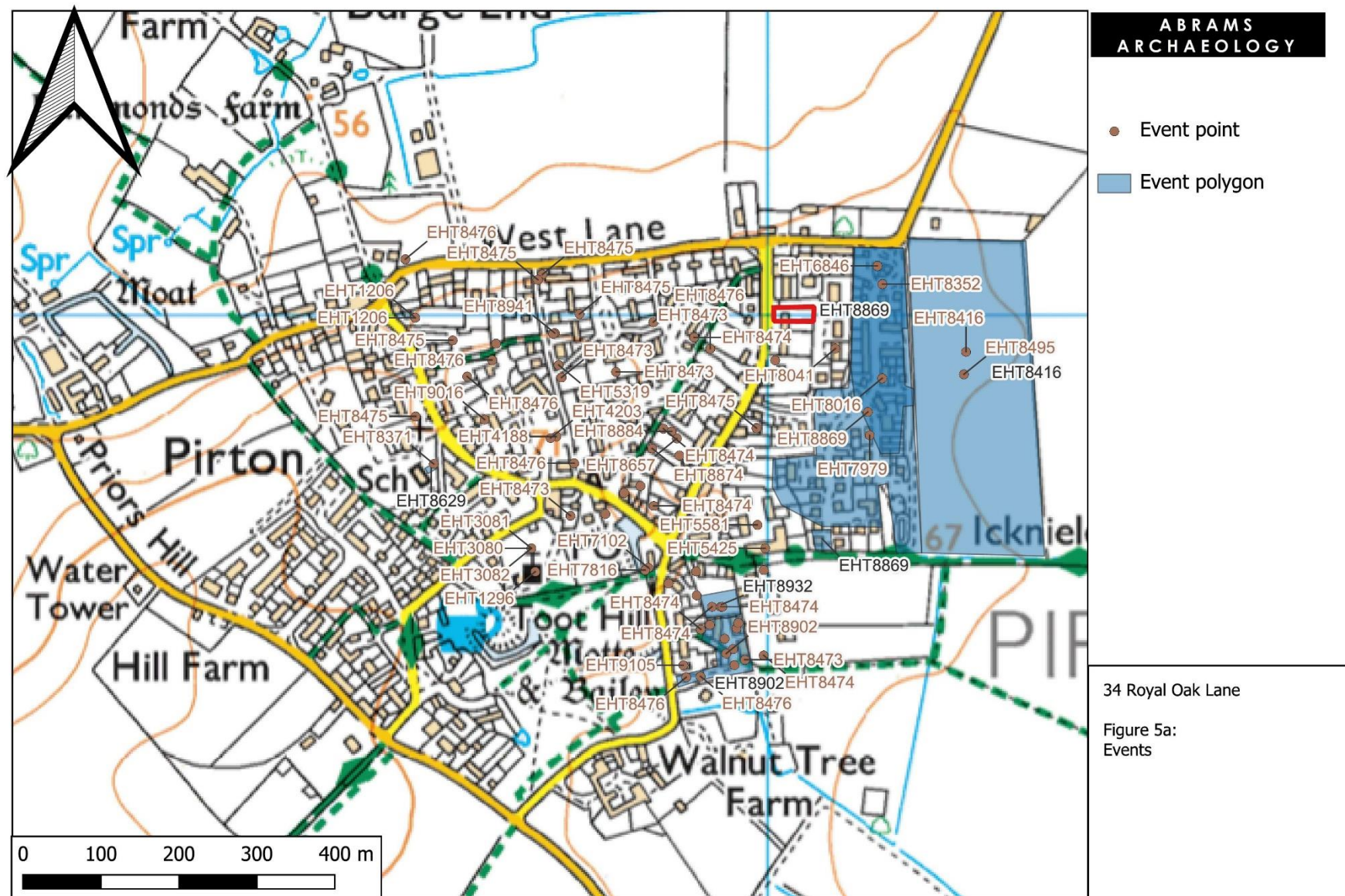
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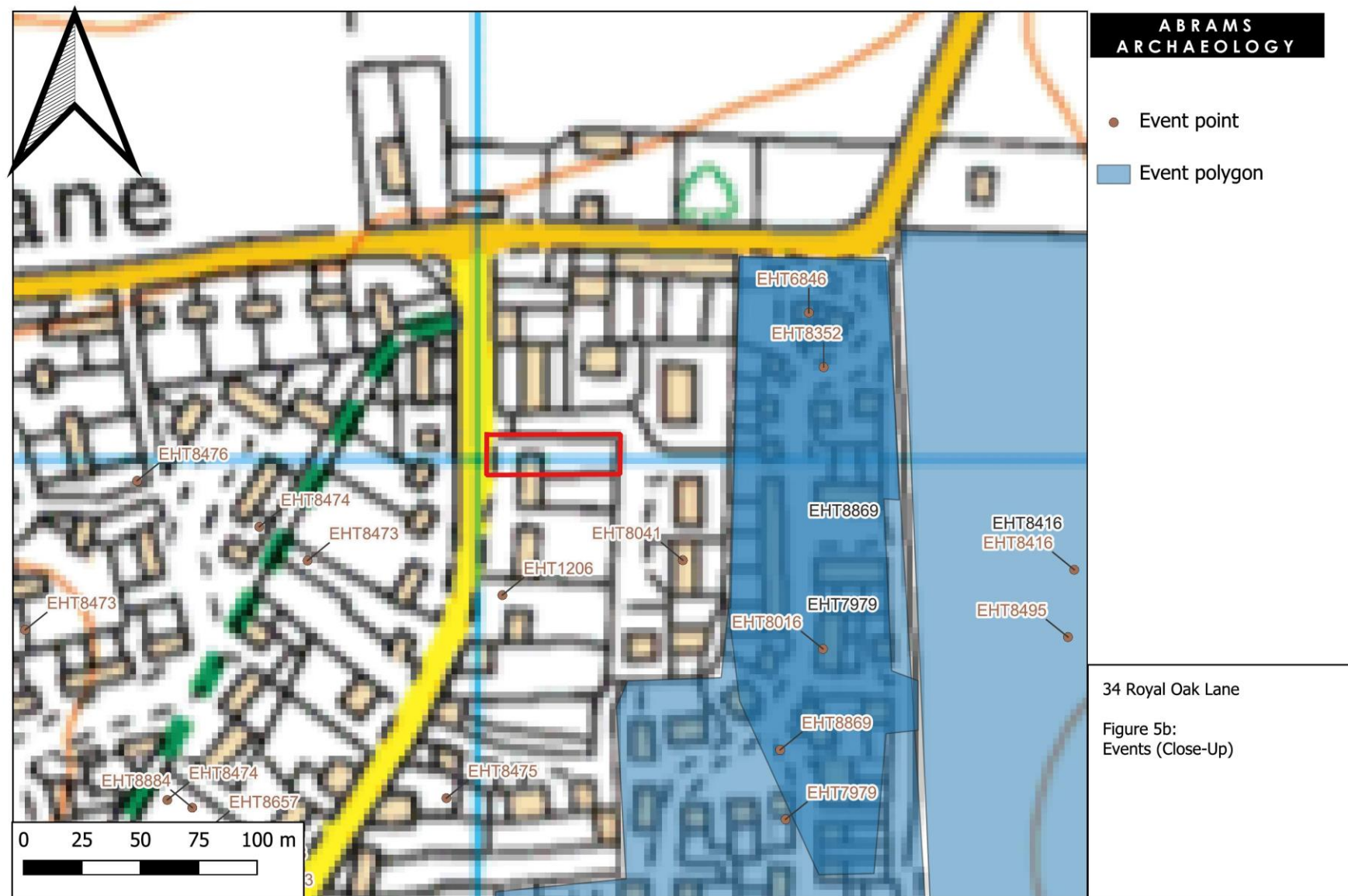
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