

Henry Thomas
Development Control
North Hertfordshire District Council

Postal Point CHN 108
Hertfordshire County Council
Farnham House, Six Hills Way,
Stevenage, SG1 2FQ

Contact Andy Instone
Tel 01992 555241
My ref P01/26/1207-1
Your ref **26/01207/FP**
historic.environment@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Date: 16 June 2026

Dear Henry,

Re: Erection of nine dwellings with associated hard and soft landscaping, parking, garaging, cycle storage and EV points and private gardens following the part-demolition of the existing grain store and full demolition of existing agricultural barns. | Slip End Farm Royston Road Slip End Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 6SG

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

Thank you for consulting us on the above application.

The applicant has submitted a report of an archaeological trial trench evaluation (*Colchester Archaeological Trust*) with this planning application.

Whilst we are grateful to the applicant for undertaking these investigations, we note the following:

“CAT was commissioned by D Northern & Sons to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (CAT 2026) and to carry out an archaeological evaluation in accordance with the WSI, the report from which is to be included as supporting documentation for a future planning application. Fieldwork was therefore carried out ahead of submission of the planning application and as a result before any determination; as such, there was no involvement from the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Advisor (HCCHEA).” (page 1)

The scope of works was therefore not agreed by this office, nor the suitability of the onsite staff, and consequently we did not have an opportunity to monitor these investigations.

The site abuts a Scheduled Monument. The Summary of the results of the investigations includes the following (my emphasis):

*“The earliest remains identified in the evaluation were three ditches dated to the early/mid 3rd century, with another three undated ditches probably part of this same phase of activity. **At least two of these ditches were associated with linear cropmarks from the adjacent scheduled monument...**”*

In light of the above we will need to review this report in greater detail and contact Colchester Archaeological Trust to discuss the results and ascertain why this office was not consulted regarding the project. We also look forward to considering the comments from Historic England, who are a consultee for this planning application. We will then be able to advise you fully.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Andy Instone
Senior Historic Environment Advisor, Hertfordshire LEADS
Environmental Sustainability

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