

Hinchingbrooke school Cambridgshire



Archaeological Evaluation Report



August 2010

**Client: Cambridgshire County
Council**

OA East Report No: 1200

OASIS No: oxfordar3-81175

NGR: TL 2261 7166

Hinchingsbrooke school, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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Report Date: August 2010

Report Number: 1200
Site Name: Hinchbrooke school, Cambridgeshire
HER Event No: ECB3414
Date of Works: 27-28 July 2010
Client Name: Cambridgeshire County Council
Client Ref: 12102
Planning Ref: No.1000771FUL
Grid Ref: TL 2261 7166
Site Code: STUHS10
Finance Code: STUHS10
Receiving Body: CCC Stores, Landbeach
Accession No: STUHS10
Prepared by: Jonathan House
Position: Supervisor
Date: June 2010
Checked by: James Drummond Murray
Position: Project Manager
Date:
Signed: 

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents

Summary.....5

1 Introduction.....7

 1.1 Location and scope of work.....7

 1.2 Geology and topography.....7

 1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....7

 1.4 Acknowledgements.....7

2 Aims and Methodology.....8

 2.1 Aims.....8

 2.2 Methodology.....8

3 Results.....9

 3.1 Introduction9

 3.2 Test Pits.....9

4 Discussion and Conclusions.....9

 4.1 Discussion.....9

 4.2 Significance.....9

 4.3 Recommendations.....9

Appendix A. Bibliography10

Appendix B. OASIS Report Form11

List of Figures

Fig. 1 Site location map.

Fig. 2 Extract from 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map (1926-7).

Photos

Plate 1 Test Pit 3 Photo.

Plate 2 Site Photo.

Summary

An Evaluation was carried out at Hinchbrooke school, Grid ref TL 2261 7166. The evaluation had intended to consist of four test pits, however excavation of a single test pit and on site factors, showed the proposed development area is likely to have been the site of a backfilled swimming pool with sufficient modern overburden to cover any possible archaeological deposits.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Hinchingsbrooke School, at grid reference TL 2261 7166.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Dan McConnell of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application No. 1000771FUL), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located within the grounds of Hinchingsbrooke school, at grid reference TL 2261 7166, the development area is on very uneven ground, with the height ranging from 20.93m AOD to 21.83m AOD.
- 1.2.2 The site lies on Second Terrace Deposits, with the River Ouse approximately 1km to the south.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The site lies to the south-west of an area of substantial archaeological activity, which has been subjected to excavations by the Archaeological Field Unit (now CAM ARC) of Cambridgeshire County Council between 1997 and 2007. These investigations are known collectively as the Bob's Wood excavations (ECB219) and were undertaken in 2000 and 2003 (Hinman, M. 2000). Additional investigations undertaken within the remit of the Bob's Wood Project include excavations at Hinchingsbrooke Parkway, (Fletcher 2004) and Christie Drive (Howe, 2007). These projects confirmed the presence of significant archaeological remains dating to the later prehistoric and early Roman eras in the area.
- 1.3.2 Furthermore, the site is situated within the bounds of the park associated with Hinchingsbrooke House which dates to the 16th century but is constructed on the site of Hinchingsbrooke Priory (CHER 02707). The development area thus lies within an area of high archaeological potential.
- 1.3.3 A burial of Roman date is known to the south (ECB 02586).

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like thank Cambridgeshire County Council who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by James Drummond-

Murray and the illustrator was Andy Corrigan, with Jonathan House as the on-site staff. The project was monitored by Dan McConnell.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

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

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The Brief required that all archaeological deposits should be investigated, and recorded.

2.2.2 Excavation of the test pit was carried out by an archaeologist using hand excavation tools.

2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by Taleyna Fletcher using a Leica GPS which is located on the ordnance survey grid.

2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.5 No environmental samples were taken from the site, as no appropriate features were identified during the investigations.

2.2.6 The site conditions were dry and sunny, the site conditions did not inhibit the archaeological work.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 One test pit was excavated, the results are presented and described below.

3.2 Test Pits

3.2.1 Only test pit 3 was excavated, a total of four test pits had been planned, however a combination of on site observations, conversations with the staff, and the results of test pit 3, the further test pits were abandoned.

3.2.2 Test pit 3 was excavated to a depth of 0.5m, through very compacted modern building materials, including bricks, breeze blocks, as well as plastics and scrap metal.

3.2.3 Communication with the on site school staff suggested that the site may have been the former location of the house swimming pool, and that the area had in recent years been a significant depression in the ground which had been backfilled and made up over the last decades. (School Caretaker pers. comm.).

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Discussion

4.1.1 It is possible archaeological deposits may survive on the site, however if they are present it is likely there is sufficient coverage from modern deposits. Study of the cartographic evidence (see fig. 1) shows a possible swimming pool structure, however no maps have been seen with the feature labelled.

4.2 Significance

4.2.1 As the proposed development is likely to have a low impact on the ground, it is highly unlikely that deposits other than modern will be impacted.

4.3 Recommendations

4.3.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

APPENDIX A. BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey. 2002. Huntingdon. England and Wales Sheet 187 Drift Edition . 1:50 000. (Keyworth, Nottingham: British Geological Survey).

Drummond-Murray. J.. 2010. Specification For An Archaeological Evaluation: Hinchingsbrooke School.

APPENDIX B. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-81175			
Project Name	Evaluation at Hinchingsbrooke School, Cambridgeshire			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	27-07-2010	Finish	28-07-2010
Previous Work (by OA East)	No		Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	STUHS10	Planning App. No.	No.1000771FUL
HER No.	ECB3414	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5
Development Type	Small Scale (e.g. single house)

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Swimming Pool	Modern 1901 to Present		None
	Select period...		Select period...
	Select period...		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambs	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Hunts	Hinchingsbrooke school Brampton Road Huntingdon PE29 3BN
Parish	The Stukeleys	
HER	Cambridge County Council	
Study Area	175m2	National Grid Reference
		TL 2261 7166

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Dan McConnell
Project Design Originator	James Drummond Murray
Project Manager	James Drummond Murray
Supervisor	Jonathan House

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Landbeach	OA East (Bar HII)	Landbeach
STUHS10	STUHS10	STUHS10

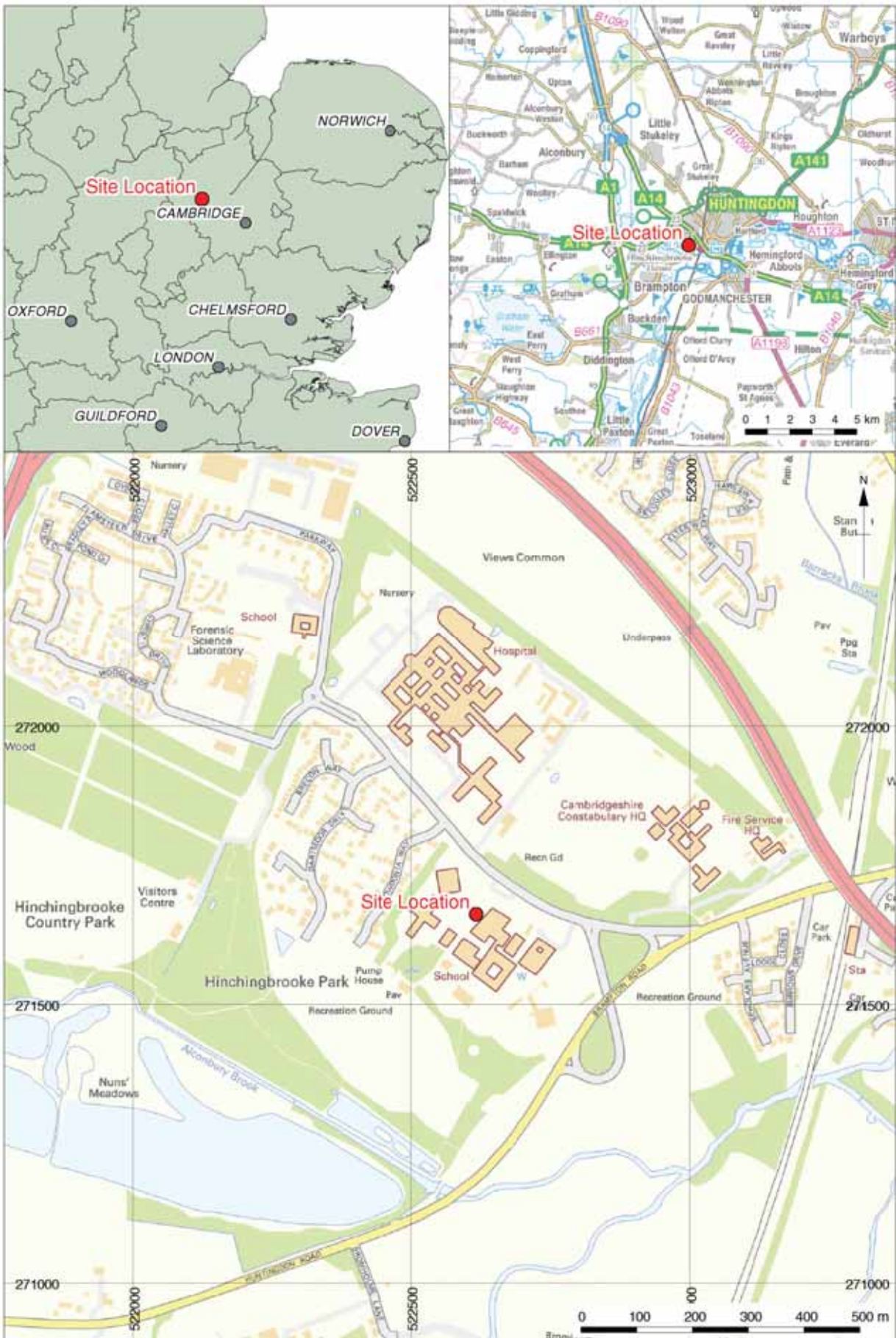
Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:

An Evaluation was carried out at Hinchingsbrook school, Grid ref TL 2261 7166. The evaluation had intended to consist of four test pits, however excavation of a single test pit and on site factors, showed the proposed development area is likely to have been the site of a backfilled swimming pool with sufficient modern overburden to cover any possible archaeological deposits.



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Figure 1: Site location

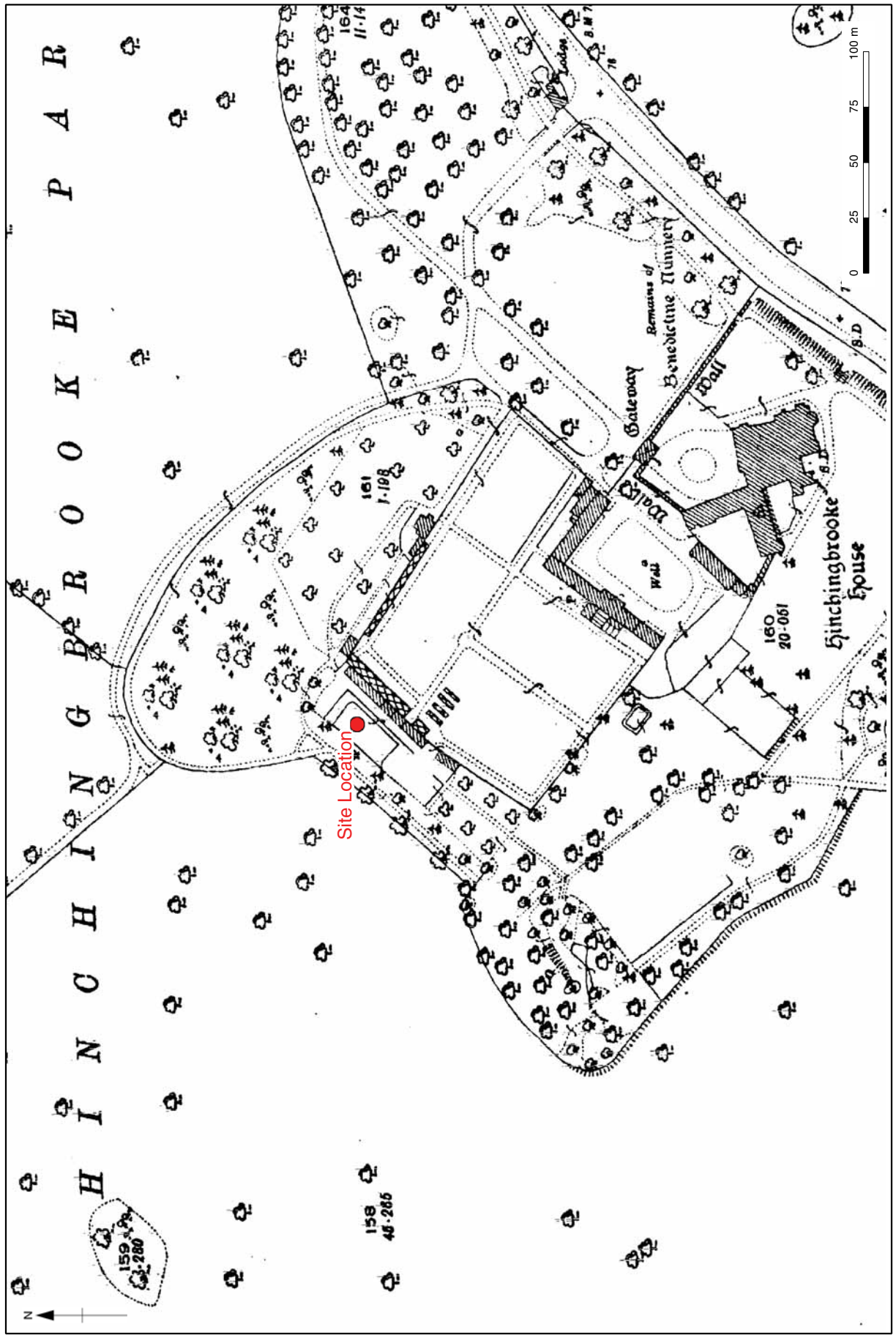


Figure 2: Extract from 3rd edition Ordnance Survey map (1926-7) showing the location of the test pit



Plate 1: Test Pit 3 Photo



Plate 2: Site Photo



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