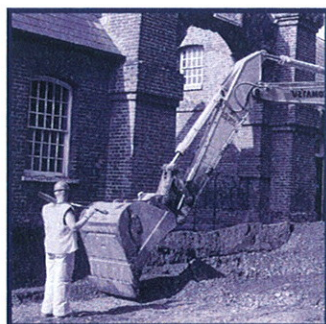


'Lynton'  
26 Hedgerley Lane  
Gerrards Cross  
South Buckinghamshire



**Archaeological Watching Brief**



**Oxford Archaeology**

16th January 2002

**Client Name: I Baxter**

Issue N<sup>o</sup>: 1

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Planning Ref N<sup>o</sup>: 00/01026/FUL

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**“Lynton”, 26 Hedgerley Lane  
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NGR SU 9945 8740

***ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT***

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## SUMMARY

*In the summer of 2001, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at "Lynton", 26 Hedgerley Lane, Gerrards Cross, South Buckinghamshire (NGR SU 9945 8740). The work was commissioned by the property owner in advance of the construction of a new garage. The watching brief revealed the construction site was occupied by a large ?quarry feature in-filled with concrete and brick rubble, of relatively modern date. This feature was covered over prior to the building being erected.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In the summer of 2001 Oxford Archaeology (OA - formerly Oxford Archaeological Unit, OAU) carried out an archaeological watching brief on behalf of the property owner at "Lynton", 26 Hedgerley Lane, Gerrards Cross, South Buckinghamshire (NGR SU 9945 8740).
- 1.1.2 Planning permission had been granted by South Buckinghamshire District Council for the erection of a garage and store building (Planning ref: 00/01026/FUL) at 26 Hedgerley Lane. Due to the potential disturbance of below ground archaeological deposits, a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief was attached to the planning permission, in line with PPG16 and local plan policy.
- 1.1.3 A project brief was set by Julia Wise, County Archaeological Officer for Buckinghamshire, and Oxford Archaeology (OA) prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) detailing how it would implement the requirements of the brief.

### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The development site lies at *c* 70 m OD, to the west of the junction between Windsor Road (B416) and Hedgerley Lane (Fig. 1). The property is directly off Hedgerley Lane on the north side (Fig. 2).
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology is Harefield terrace gravel.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the watching brief was prepared for the WSI for the project (OA 2001), following a visit to the Buckinghamshire Sites and Monuments Record Office in March 2001. This information will be deposited with the site archive and is summarised below.
- 1.3.2 The development site is situated *c* 350 m south of a Roman road, which passes immediately to the south of an Iron Age hillfort (Bulstrode Camp - (CASS 1525). It

is possible that this road follows the course of an earlier road or trackway. The road appears to have connected London to the south Oxfordshire region, and the modern A40 follows its line in places.

- 1.3.3 There is good evidence for Roman pottery production in the area surrounding this development. The Hedgerley Kiln Complex (CASS 1523, 1531, 2145 and 2569) that was excavated in 1935 lies approximately 2 km to the west of the site. Kilns have also been recorded in the immediate vicinity at Springwood (CASS 4618), Fulmer (CASS 0141) and south of Bulstrode Camp.
- 1.3.4 The Hedgerley and Fulmer and Springwood kilns are all interpreted as 2nd century production sites, though the stylistically improved kiln at Springwood is interpreted by some commentators to indicate a later date.

## 2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 To preserve by record any archaeological remains (if present), which the works would remove or damage within the development area.
- 2.1.2 To signal to all parties, in the event that significant archaeological remains are discovered that an archaeological find has been made, for which the resources allocated were not sufficient to support a treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard, and to suitably investigate the remains.
- 2.1.3 To make available the results of the investigation.

### 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 From the earliest site visit at the outset of the construction project, it was clear that owing to the nature of the below ground deposits, there were major complications with undertaking excavations for the footings for the new garage (see below).
- 2.2.2 A site plan was compiled at a scale of 1:100. A general photographic record of the work was made, and recording followed procedures detailed in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992) for watching briefs.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Description of deposits

- 3.1.1 The early stages of the excavation revealed that there was a below ground deposit of brick and concrete rubble that made excavation extremely difficult. In the event a depth of up to 3 m of this deposit was encountered across the whole of the proposed garage site.

3.1.2 Where excavated this material was reinstated and the site levelled up, with the garage finally being constructed over all of this material. Services were cut into the same material. No archaeological features of any antiquity are therefore reported from the site.

### 3.2 Finds

3.2.1 No finds were recovered in the course of the site works; modern finds were not retained.

### 3.3 Palaeo-environmental remains

3.3.1 No samples were taken.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1.1 The presence on the site of up to 3 m depth of modern brick and concrete rubble is unusual, and suggests a deep relatively modern feature on the site here. The function of the feature is unclear, but it could represent a quarry of unknown purpose.

4.1.2 The ?quarry would certainly have truncated any archaeological remains below, and has been preserved *in situ* beneath the new garage.

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Height</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i> Finds</i>
1	Layer	3m	4m	-	Brick and concrete rubble fill - ?quarry fill or deposit unknown	-

## APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

OA 1992 *Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, first edition, August 1992)

OA 2001 "Lynton", 26 Hedgerley Lane, Gerrards Cross. South Buckinghamshire. *Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological watching brief*

## APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**Site name:** 'Lynton', 26 Hedgerley Lane, Gerrards Cross, South Bucks

**Site code:** GCRHL 01

**Grid reference:** SU 9945 8740

**Type of watching brief:** Foundations for new garage

**Date and duration of project:** Summer 2001

**Area of site:** 0.1 ha

**Summary of results:** ?Large quarry of recent date filled with concrete and brick rubble occupied the development site to a depth of 3 m

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Buckinghamshire County Museums Service in due course, under the following accession number: 2001.20



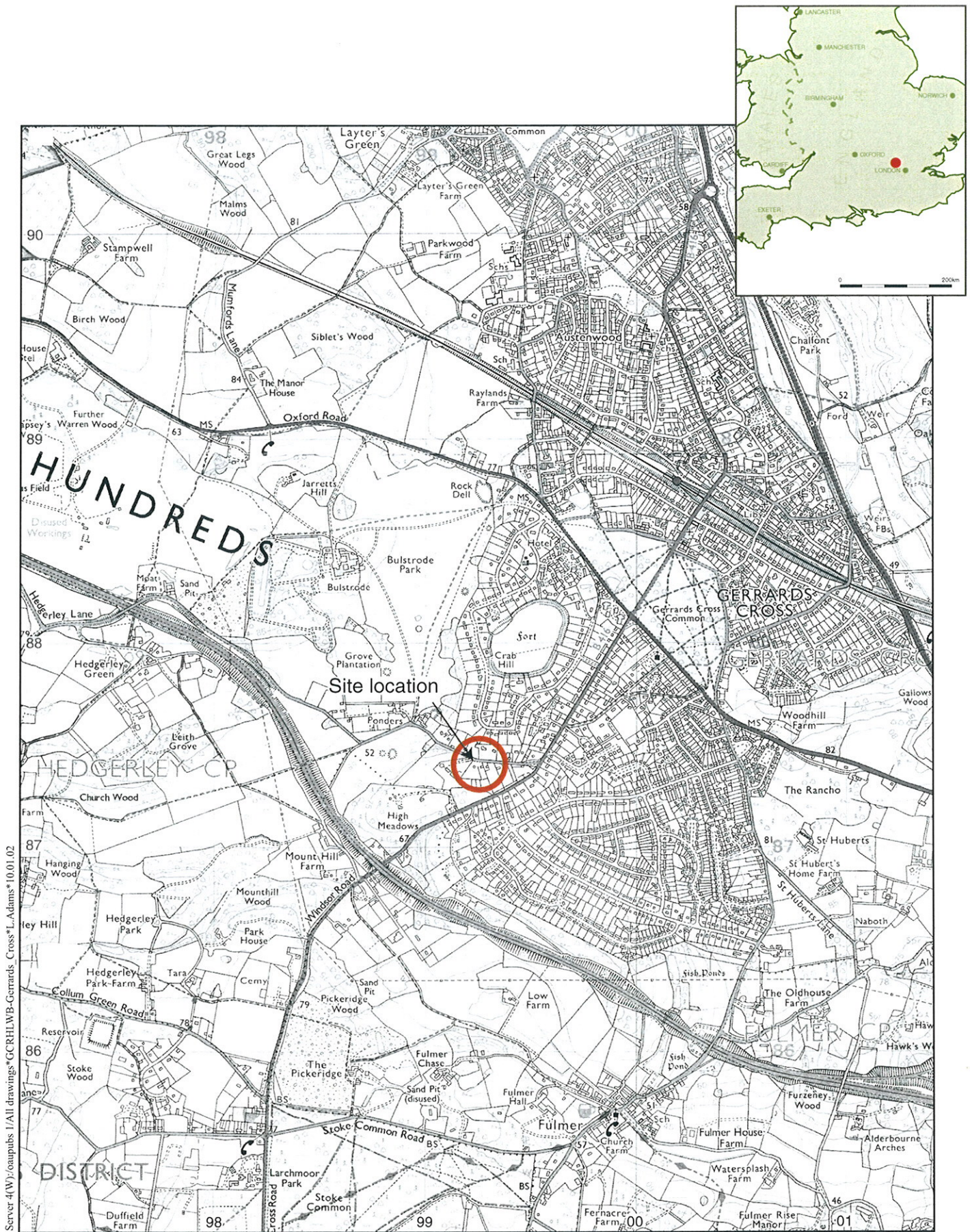


Figure 1: Site location



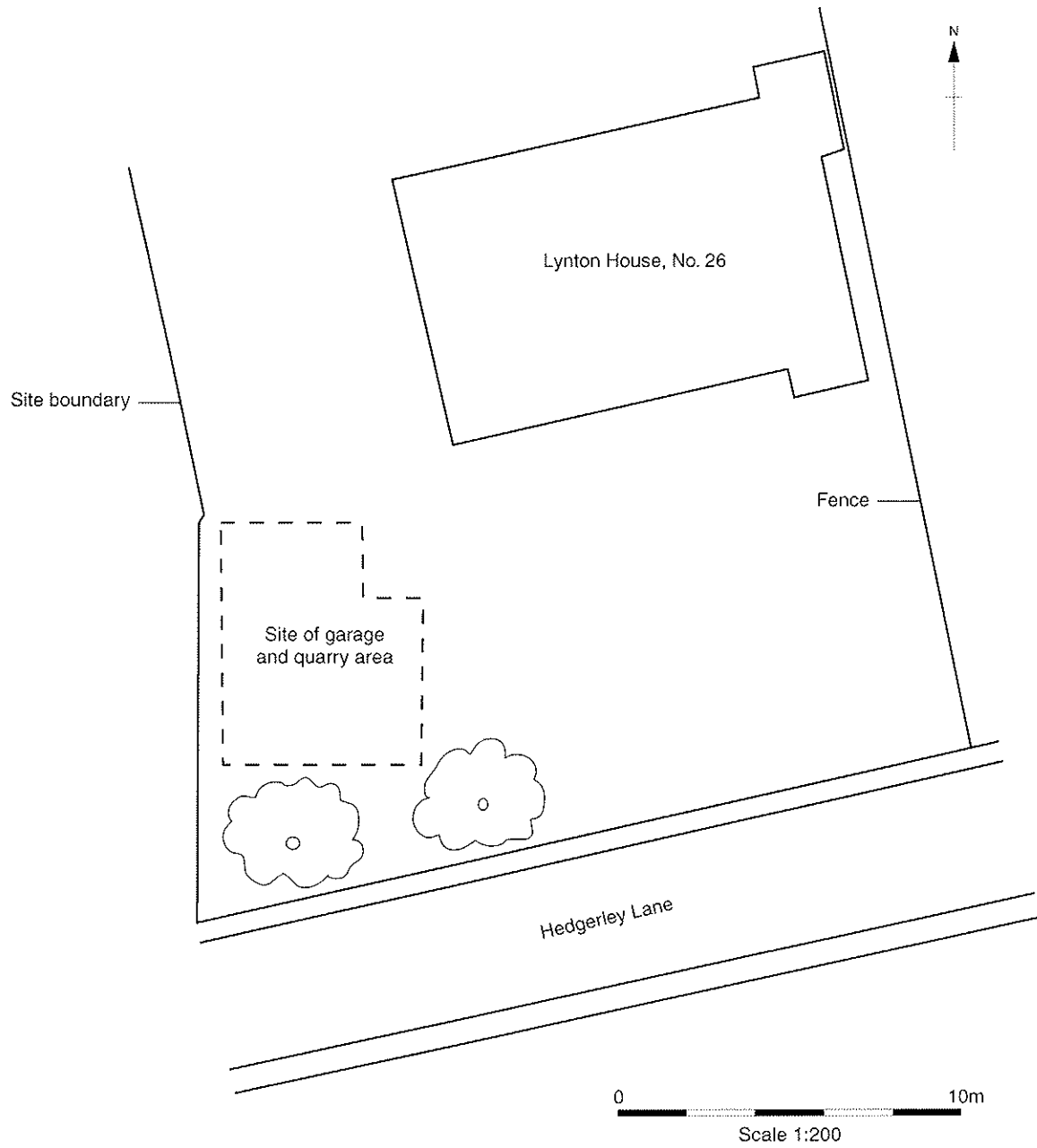


Figure 2: Site plan



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