RED LION HOUSE, HINDON, WILTSHIRE

(NGR ST 91134 32881)

Project Design for an archaeological monitoring and recording

Wiltshire Council planning reference PL/2023/09182 and PL/2023/09449

Prepared by:
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AC archaeology

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out proposals to undertake archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks associated with a proposed new swimming pool, outbuildings, pedestrian access, and repair works to the boundary wall at Red Lion House, Hindon, Wiltshire (ST 91134 32881). It represents the Written Programme of Archaeological Investigations anticipated to be required by Wiltshire Council as a condition of planning permission PL/2023/09182 and PL/2023/09449, following consultation with the Wiltshire Council Assistant County Archaeologist (hereafter WCACA).

1.2 The archaeological work will be carried out by AC archaeology Ltd. and has been commissioned by the private owners through their agents Baxter Green Architects.

1.3 The site lies in the centre of Hindon and occupies part of the wider garden of Red Lion House (**Fig. 1**). It is situated on generally level ground at approximately 127m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying solid geology comprises Cretaceous chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation; there are no superficial deposits recorded on the site (British Geological Survey 2023).

1.4 The proposed development will comprise the construction of a swimming pool and outbuildings, the creation of a new pedestrian access with gate, and repairs to the boundary wall. The advice of the WCACA provided to Wiltshire Council for planning references PL/2023/09182 and PL/2023/09449 is as follows:

Red Lion House is a Grade II listed, 18th-century house in the medieval small town of Hindon. Hindon is not recorded in the Domesday Book but was founded in the early 13th-century and expanded during the 14th-century, its prosperity helped by its location on an important routeway. The layout of the medieval small town is retained within the current street plan with burgage plots running back from the High Street. Many of the original medieval buildings that would have sat on the High Street frontage were rebuilt in the 18th-century following a fire within the town and many of those buildings are now listed and lie within the Hindon Conservation Area. There has therefore been limited development within the small town, with similarly little opportunity for archaeological investigation to examine the medieval origins and development of the town.

The Design, Access and Heritage Statement (Baxter Green Architects, undated) accompanying this application considers the impact of the proposal on the historic built environment but does not consider the impacts on archaeology. The proposed swimming pool and outbuilding lie within the presumed extent of the medieval small town (Haslam, 1976; McMahon, 2004) in an undeveloped garden area. The proposal therefore represents a significant development within the historic core of Hindon. The location of the proposed swimming pool therefore lies within burgage plots to the rear of

the High Street frontage and has the potential to contain evidence for activities and structures taking place to the rear of medieval properties that would have fronted the High Street.

There is therefore an archaeological interest in the application area and the construction of the swimming pool has the potential to impact on buried archaeological remains of significance. However, this impact can be mitigated by a programme of archaeological work that can be secured by an appropriately worded condition. The following condition is recommended:

No development shall commence within the area indicated by the red line boundary on Baxter Green Architects' 'Existing Site and Location Plan' Drawing No. P-01, dated October 2023 until:

a) A written programme of archaeological investigation, which should include on-site work and off-site work such as the analysis, publishing and archiving of the results, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority; and

b) The approved programme of archaeological work has been carried out in accordance with the approved details.

REASON: In order to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost in a manner proportionate to their importance and to make this evidence and any archive generated publicly accessible in accordance with Paragraph 205 of the NPPF.

The programme of archaeological work should comprise the archaeological monitoring of any ground works that have the potential to impact on buried archaeological remains. The programme of archaeological work will conclude with the preparation of a report on the results commensurate with their significance.

2. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The proposed scheme is located in the garden of Red Lion House, which is Grade II Listed (National Heritage List for England 1146069), with the following description:

9/131 Red Lion House (Formerly known as Croylands) 6.1.66 GV II

House at end of row. Mid C18 and early C19. Rendered brick to front, with chamfered rusticated quoins, English bond to return, tiled hipped roof, brick stacks. Gable end to road. Two storey, 3-window road front has two 12-pane sashes to both floors and moulded stone eaves cornice, to left is early C19 three-storey unit with 12-pane sash to ground and first floor and 9-pane sash to second floor. Right return has 6-panelled door in pilastered porch, two 3-light casements, steel casement and 6-panelled door to right. First floor has 2-light leaded casement with arched lights to left, two 3-light casements and one steel casement to right, brick dentilled eaves cornice. Hipped dormer to attic with 2-light leaded casement. To right is garage with sashes to rear. Rear of main range has 12-pane tripartite sash to early C19 bay, various other sashes and C20 aluminium casements. Interior not accessible at time of survey (December 1985). C18 part of house probably a rebuilding following the fire of 1754. Was the Red Lion Inn in C18, and later the vicarage up to 1932. (N Sheard, The History of Hindon, 1979).

2.2 Red Lion House is located in the historic core of Hindon, which was founded and planned by Bishop Des Roches of Winchester in the early 13th century. By c.1250 there were approximately one hundred and fifty houses, with a population of above that of an average village (Mcmahon 2004). There has been very little archaeological investigation within the town, but those sites identified are all medieval in date, and relate to aspects of the planned town. The town was an important location for markets and fairs, with the first market grant recorded in 1219 and the continuous documentary references indicates this continues without interruption into the 19th century (Mcmohan 2004). Much of the town was destroyed by a fire in 1754; the subsequent rebuilding resulted in the majority of buildings within the medieval core comprising of largely 18th century frontages.

3. AIMS

3.1 The aims of the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording is to preserve by record any archaeological features or deposits exposed during groundworks associated with the scheme. This is with particular reference to the potential for evidence relating to the planned medieval town and subsequent post-medieval rebuilding.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 All works will be carried out in accordance with this Project Design. Attendance by the site archaeologist undertaking the monitoring and recording will be undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for An Archaeological Watching Brief* (published 2020) i.e. present during all (relevant) groundworks.

4.2 The expected works to be monitored will comprise the following:

- The bulk reduction for the swimming pool;
- Footings trenches for the changing room and plant room;
- Service trenches; and,
- The bulk reduction for the new pedestrian access.

4.3 All bulk reduction will be carried out using a machine fitted with a toothless bucket. Footings and service trenches will be excavated using a toothless bucket where possible. The groundwork excavations will be directly supervised by the attending archaeologist, who will have the authority to request the main contractor to halt excavations in the case of archaeological features or deposits being exposed, to enable sufficient time for the area to be cleaned and investigated. The main site contractor will be expected to allow a reasonable time delay for the attending archaeologist to complete the recording of complex or important deposits. In the unlikely event that agreement cannot be reached between the developer and the archaeological contractor, or where a delay of more than 24 hours is requested, the archaeological contractor shall inform and seek the advice of the WCACA.

4.4 If human remains are encountered they will wherever possible be left *in situ*; where this is not possible, their excavation and removal will be undertaken on receipt of the appropriate licence from the Ministry of Justice. The local coroner will also be informed. Any consents or licenses required will be obtained on behalf of the Client by AC archaeology.

4.5 Any object which falls under the definition of treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be reported to the local coroner within the notice period. The object or objects will be removed to a safe place (usually the nearest AC archaeology office) on the day of discovery or excavation. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect finds from theft.

5. RECORDING

5.1 All archaeological features and deposits exposed will be recorded and examined; excavation of deposits which will be left undamaged and in situ by the work will not normally be undertaken. Hand excavation will normally comprise:

- The full excavation of small discrete features;
- Half-sectioning (50% excavation) of larger discrete features;
- Long linear features will be excavated to sample their length – with hand investigations distributed along the exposed length of any such features, specifically targeting any intersections, terminals or overlaps.

Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.

5.2 If, during the course of the monitoring and recording, particularly important archaeological remains are identified, then a site meeting will be arranged between AC archaeology, the WCACA and the Client to determine the most appropriate mitigation.

5.3 All artefacts, structures or deposits revealed will be recorded using the standard AC archaeology *pro forma* recording system, comprising written, graphic, and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2*. Plans will be drawn at a scale of 1:20, or at 1:10 if more detail is needed, and sections of features and baulks at 1:20 or 1:10 and tied into an overall site plan that will be related to georeferenced Ordnance Survey base mapping. All site levels will be related to Ordnance Datum.

5.4 A comprehensive photographic record of all archaeological deposits will be made in both plan and section. This will comprise digital photographs (minimum of 16 mega pixels) only, illustrating in both detail and generally the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. A photographic scale shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. Guidance as set out in Historic England (2015a) *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* will be followed.

6. FINDS AND SAMPLES

6.1 All finds will initially be retained and examined by the AC archaeology Finds Manager in consultation with relevant specialists. Following this initial examination, later post-medieval and modern finds will not be retained except where they are items of intrinsic interest, or their further examination is considered necessary for the dating of specific features or deposits or for the interpretation of a site.

6.2 Necessary conservation work, including any on-site emergency conservation actions, will be undertaken by Wiltshire & Swindon Conservation Service, Chippenham, who regularly provide sub-contract services and conservation advice to AC archaeology.

6.3 All artefacts recovered are to be washed (where the condition of the material allows) and marked. Finds will be bagged, boxed, labelled and stored in accordance with current UKIC guidelines as set out in Guidelines for the treatment of finds from archaeological sites. Appropriate separation will be maintained of bulk finds from those small or delicate objects requiring special treatment or packaging.

6.4 Where deposits of palaeoenvironmental potential are encountered, including carbonised or waterlogged organic deposits, these will be sampled as appropriate in accordance with

English Heritage guidelines Environmental Archaeology – *A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. The Historic England Science Advisor will be consulted as appropriate and may make a visit to discuss sampling on site.

6.5 The following techniques will be used:

- 40/60 litre bulk samples will be taken from any deposits relevant for environmental sampling (waterlogged deposits, peat deposits etc). Bulk samples will be fully processed. Peat or waterlogged contexts will require sequential sampling and discussion with the relevant specialist (see below);
- If it is felt appropriate by the relevant specialist, samples taken (both bulk samples and monolith tin samples) will be examined for pollen, diatoms, insect, plant macrofossils and molluscs.
- Bulk samples will be processed using the standard flotation/sieving methods, with the float collected on a mesh size of 250 microns. Residues will be sieved through mesh sizes of 5.6mm, 2mm and a minimum of 500 microns.
- Monolith tin samples, with tins measuring no more than 500mm in length, will be overlapped in the standard way to allow for a continuous sample of the entire sequence to be taken. Samples will be adequately recorded and labelled. A register of samples will be made and sampling record sheets (Using the standard AC archaeology *pro forma* recording system – see section **5.** above) will be completed for all samples taken and will include the following information: sample type, reason for sampling, sample size, context, sample number, spatial location, date, context description and the approximate percentage of the context sampled. The samples will be recorded on the relevant site section drawing and photographs of the sample locations taken.
- Radiocarbon samples will be taken and dates obtained if required by Historic England and sufficient material from relevant deposits is located. AMS dating can be taken from monolith samples. If early peat deposits are encountered, the Historic England Science Advisor will be consulted to discuss the method of sampling for radiocarbon dating.
- Dr Mike Allen, Allen Environmental Archaeology can be made available to attend site as necessary, in order to assess the geoarchaeological potential of the site and to sample relevant material.
- If surviving animal bone is encountered then the English Heritage (2014) guidance *Animal Bones and Archaeology* will be used Animal Bones and Archaeology - Recovery to archive | Historic England.

7. THE PROJECT ARCHIVE

7.1 Depending on findings a fully integrated site archive will be prepared with reference to the Historic England (2015b) document *Management of Archaeological Projects* (Appendix 3) and Brown, D. H., 2011, *Archaeological Archives A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation*. A digital archive will be compiled, if required, in accordance with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) standards, guidelines and the *AC archaeology Data Management Plan for Digital Archives* (Coles 2018). It will consist of:

- All relevant born-digital data (images, survey data, digital correspondence, site data collected digitally etc.); and,
- Digital copies made of all other relevant written and drawn data produced and/or collected during fieldwork and as part of the subsequent post-excavation analysis phase.

7.2 The digital archive will be deposited with the ADS within three months of acceptance of the final report/publication.

7.3 The finds and paper archive will initially be stored at the offices of AC archaeology in Bradninch, under a temporary accession reference **SBYWM: 2023.47** issued by Salisbury Museum, Salisbury. On completion of all fieldwork the contents of the finds archive will be reviewed by the museum, and if they are considered worthy of retention then they will be transferred under an allocated accession number. As part of the overall commitment to archive costs, the Client, through AC archaeology, will cover the costs of all museum storage boxes. Material not retained by the museum, or the landowner will be discarded three months from acceptance of the final report.

7.4 If the fieldwork does not expose deposits of archaeological interest and yield little or no artefactual material, then no archive will be prepared or deposited. The results of the fieldwork will be held by the Historic Environment Record in the form of the final report and the creation of an OASIS entry and uploading of the report.

8. REPORTING

8.1 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the WCACA on completion of the site work, and an illustrated summary report will be prepared. The report will be produced within six weeks of the completion on site and, if requested, wider publication will be undertaken (see section **8.6**). If the scheme proceeds in a staged manner, a summary report would need to be produced and submitted after a period of three months following the completion of the relevant phase of fieldwork.

8.2 The contents of the summary report will vary depending on the findings, but would normally contain:

- A non-technical summary;
- A description of the investigation methodology;
- Relevant historic maps;
- A description of results including an assessment of any artefact or palaeoenvironmental analysis undertaken;
- A plan showing location of areas investigated;
- Relevant trench plans, sections and photographs;
- A comment on the archaeological importance of the results, with reference to other published archaeological research from the area; and,
- An assessment of potential of the finds and archive for further analysis.

8.3 Should any finds or samples be recovered during the investigations then, the AC archaeology Finds Manager will make a decision, in consultation with the WCACA, on the level of reporting initially required (Levels 1-2), based on the Chartered Institute online guidance Toolkit for Specialist Reporting. The following specialists will contribute to the post-excavation assessment report as necessary and provide recommendations on what and whether further analysis will be undertaken:

- An assessment of any prehistoric ceramics will be provided by Imogen Wood PhD;
- An assessment of Roman pottery will be undertaken by Dr Naomi Payne BA MA PhD MCIfA, FSA, Finds Manager, AC archaeology;

- Other ceramics will be assessed by Dr Naomi Payne BA MA PhD MCIfA, FSA, John Allan MA FSA and sub-consultants, or other regional specialists as required;
- Land snail analysis, environmental, geoarchaeological and radiocarbon sampling will be carried out by Mike Allen PhD MCIfA FLS FSA;
- Pollen analysis will be carried out by Rob Scaife BSc PhD FRGS;
- General plant macrofossils will be assessed by Wendy Carruthers BSc MSc MCIfA;
- An assessment of worked flint will be carried out by Julian Richards BA FSA MCIfA;
- An assessment of any human remains will be carried out by Charlotte Coles BSc MSc MCIfA;
- An assessment of animal bone will be reported on by Charlotte Coles BSc MSc MCIfA;
- An assessment of metal objects including coins will be undertaken by Naomi Payne BA MA PhD MCIfA, FSA; and,
- An assessment of archaeometallurgy finds will be undertaken by Dr Eleanor Blakelock.

Other finds or environmental reports will be prepared by appropriate specialists or in-house staff as required.

8.4 The report will be submitted in digital (.pdf) format to Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environment record.

8.5 Details of the project will be submitted to the OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological investigationS) database, under the reference **521195** along with a digital version of the completed report.

8.6 In the event that significant remains are recorded then the WCACA may require more detailed analysis and publication of the results. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements, including any further analysis that may be necessary, will be confirmed by the WCACA. A final draft, together with confirmation that it has been accepted by the editor of an appropriate journal or publisher, will be submitted to the WCACA within 12 months of the date of the completion of the fieldwork.

9. HEALTH & SAFETY

9.1 Archaeological staff will operate under AC archaeology's Health and Safety Policy and any other additional requirements set out by main site contractor. All works will also be carried out in accordance with current Health and Safety legislation, to include (but not exclusively rely upon) the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992 and the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015.

9.2 In accordance with the provisions of the AC archaeology Health and Safety Policy, the AC archaeology site representative will be responsible for ensuring that operations under their control are carried out in accordance with the procedures outlined in **9.1** and in the site-specific risk assessment.

9.3 Archaeological staff will not work in unsafe or unhealthy conditions, even where not to do so will result in the possible under-recording of the archaeological resource. Safety helmets, high visibility vests and boots are to be used by all site personnel as necessary. Archaeological staff must not enter any area where there is a considered to be a health and safety risk that has not or is not being appropriately mitigated against.

9.4 All site staff carry *Construction Skills Certification Scheme* (CSCS) cards and senior members have up to date first aid qualifications. AC archaeology is registered as an approved contractor under the Worksafe Health and Safety Scheme (SMAS), as recognised by SSIP (Safety Schemes in Procurement).

9.5 The manager responsible for Health and Safety for AC archaeology is Laurence Vinnels. Laurence is accredited under the *Site Manager's Safety Training Scheme* (SMSTS).

10. PERSONNEL AND PROGRAMME

10.1 The project will be coordinated by Laurence Vinnels BSc MRes ACIfA, Project Manager for AC archaeology. Other personnel will be permanent and contract staff members of AC archaeology, all with suitable experience of this type of investigation and adhering to the CIfA Code of Conduct. The attending archaeologist will familiarise themselves with the content of this method statement prior to commencing the work.

10.2 A date for commencement has not yet been established. The WCACA will be given a two week notice period of the start date and be kept updated on progress as well as the completion of the works.

10.3 The project will be monitored by the Wiltshire Council Assistant County Archaeologist. Any variations to this document shall be agreed with them before they are carried out.

11. INSURANCE

11.1 AC archaeology carries Public Liability Insurance cover to £5,000,000, Employers Liability to £10,000,000 and Professional Indemnity cover to £5,000,000.

12. COPYRIGHT

12.1 AC archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the Client for the use of the report by the Client in all matters directly relating to the project. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be freely copied for planning, development control, education and research purposes without recourse to the Copyright owner subject to all due and appropriate acknowledgements being provided.

13. REFERENCES

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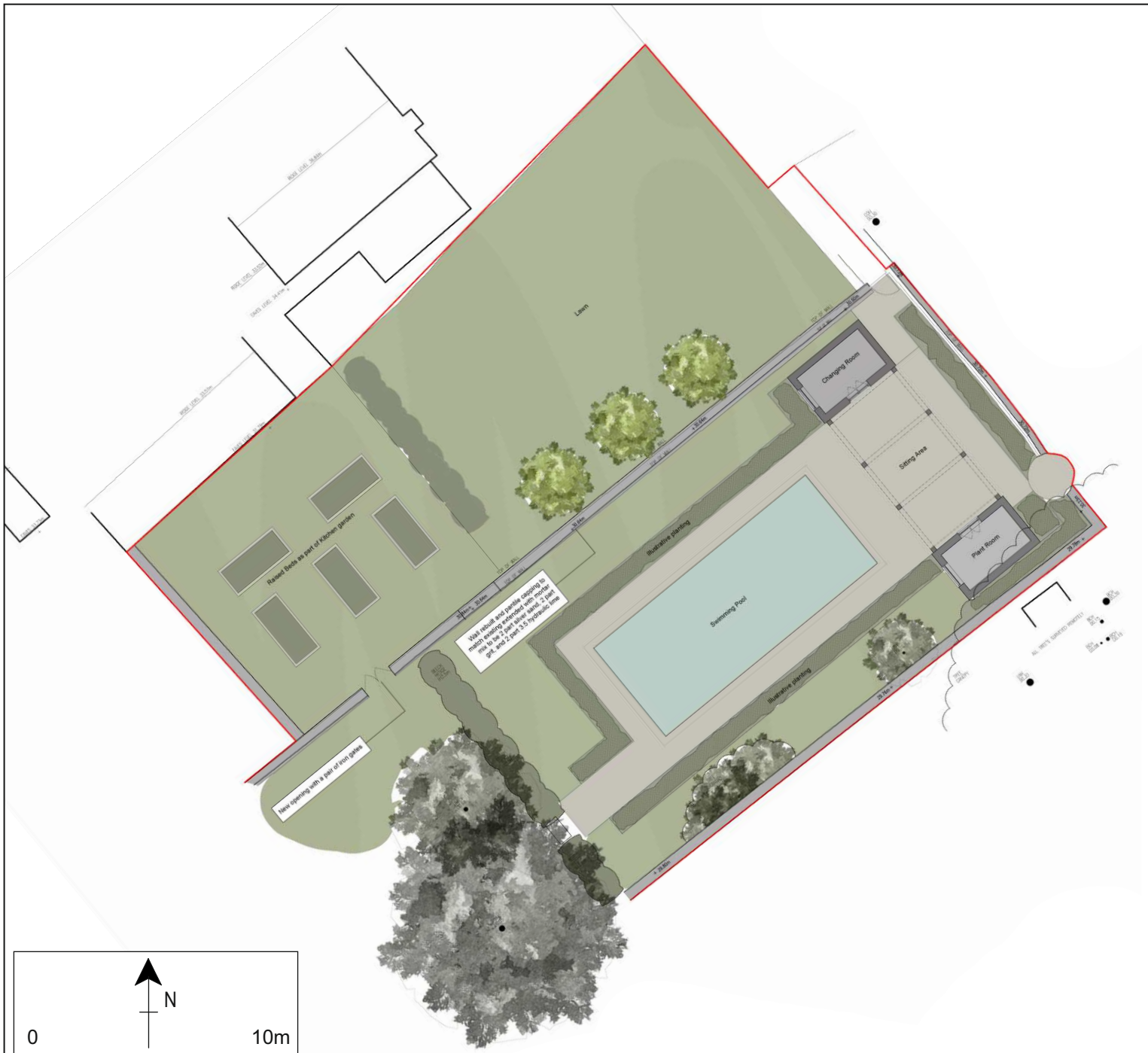
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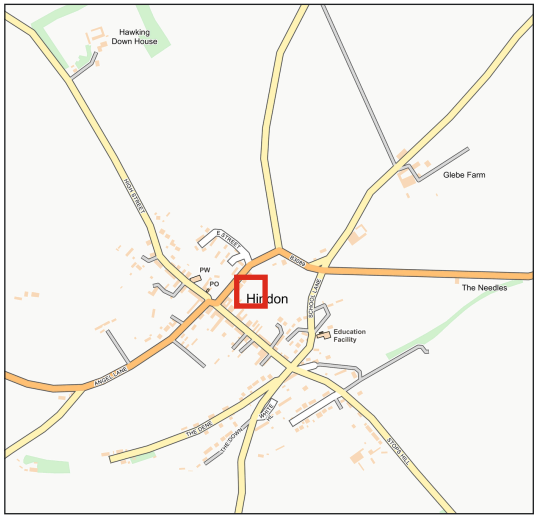
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Version 1
Laurence Vinnels BSc MRes ACIfA
Project Manager
AC archaeology
04 December 2023







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Based on plan prepared by Baxter Green Architects

PROJECT

Red Lion House, Hindon, Wiltshire

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site and proposed development plan

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