

ARCHERY ROAD

ELTHAM

LONDON BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

ECA 05

OCTOBER 2005

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCH

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

ARCHERY ROAD
ELTHAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

EVALUATION

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An Archaeological Evaluation at Archery Road, Eltham, London Borough of Greenwich

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 4308 7451

Site Code: ECA 05

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October 2005**

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1 ABSTRACT

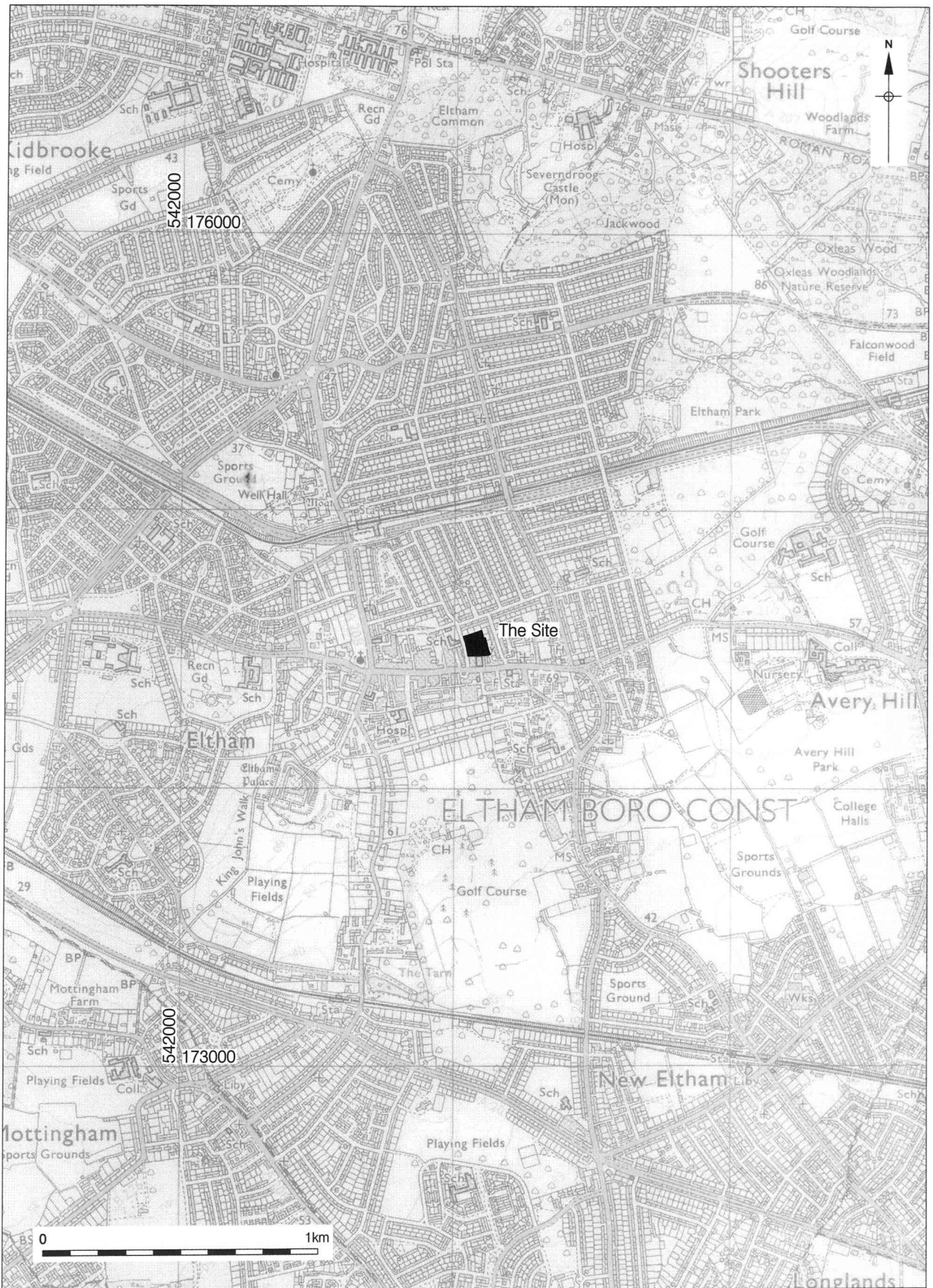
1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited for the London Borough of Greenwich on land at the Eltham Centre, Archery Road, Eltham, London Borough of Greenwich (Fig. 1). The evaluation took place between 10th and 12th October 2005. The evaluation comprised the observation and recording of ten trial trenches (Fig 2). This work was in advance of a proposal to construct a new swimming pool and leisure centre. This report also incorporates the results of a watching brief on several trial pits.

1.2 Natural sand was observed across the site at a top height of 66.40m OD to the east of the site sloping down to 64.48m OD to the west. Sealing the natural in Trenches 1 to 10 was a layer of disturbed subsoil that was in places up to 0.20m thick, this in turn was sealed by modern made ground. No features or cultural material earlier than the 19th/20th century were recorded.

2 INTRODUCTION

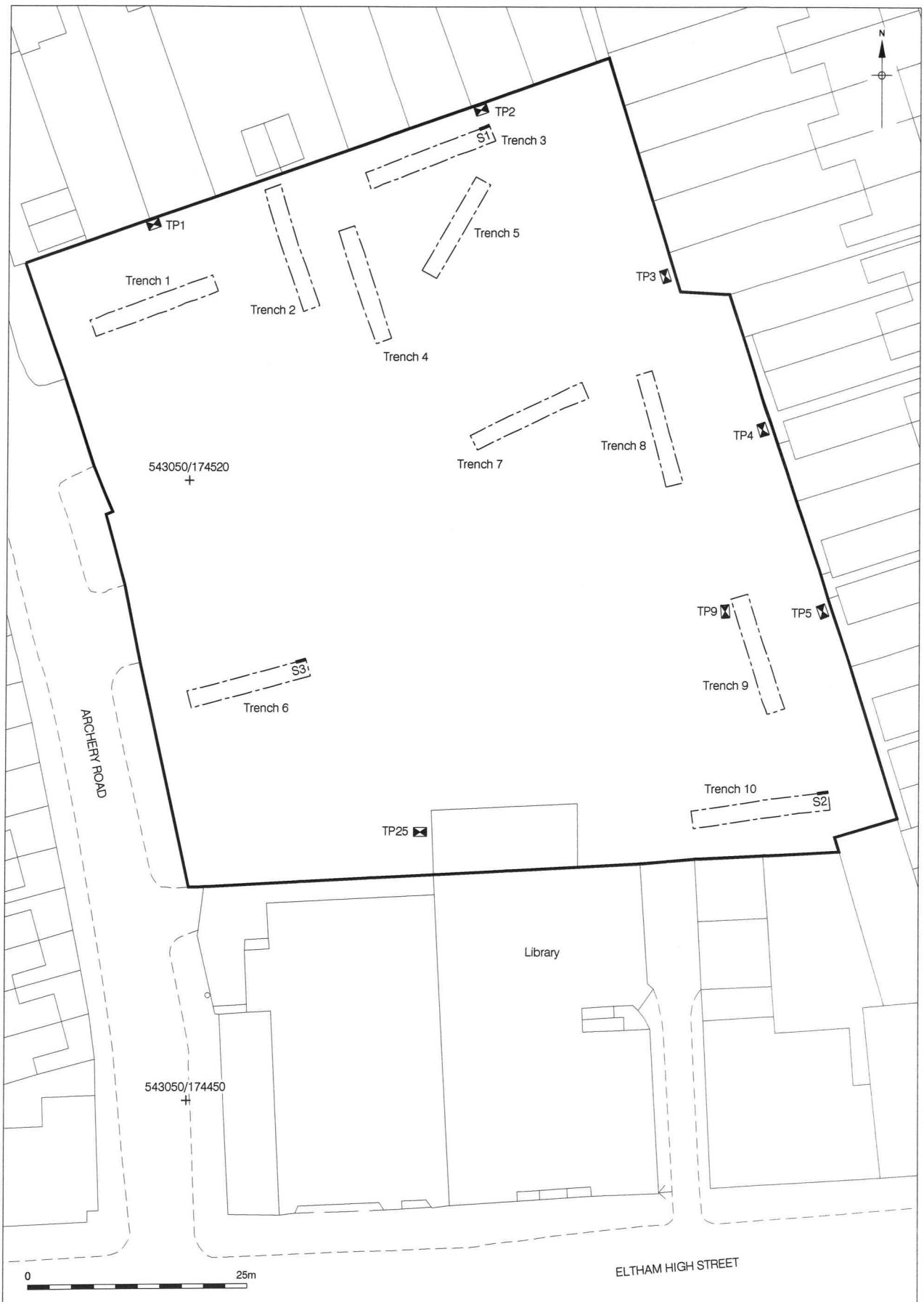
- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd between 10th and 12th October at Archery Road, Eltham, London Borough of Greenwich (Fig. 1) this followed on from a watching brief on test pits. The site is centred on national grid Reference TQ 4308 7451. The site is bordered to the north by residential buildings and gardens facing onto Gourcock Road, to the east by residential buildings and gardens fronting onto Blunts Road, to the south by the library and other buildings fronting onto Eltham High Street and to the west by Archery Road.
- 2.2 In accordance with PPG 16 and local policies, the archaeological work was undertaken to assess the nature, extent and date of any surviving archaeological remains.
- 2.3 The site had previously been the subject of an archaeological desk top assessment¹, which indicated that the site had a very low potential for prehistoric remains, a low to moderate potential for Roman remains, and a moderate potential for Saxon and medieval remains. There is a high potential for 18th/19th century garden features, and other post-medieval features.
- 2.4 An archaeological watching brief on the excavation of geotechnical trial pits was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd between the 4th and 8th of August 2005.
- 2.5 The evaluation was commissioned by the London Borough of Greenwich. The project was managed by Jon Butler for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and the archaeological evaluation itself was supervised by the author.
- 2.6 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited at the London Archaeological Archive and Resource Centre (LAARC) under the site code ECA 05.

¹ Hawkins, N., 2005



Reproduced from Ordnance Survey 1:25,000. Crown Copyright 1993.

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:20,000



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309

Figure 2
Trench and Trial Pit Location
1:625

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 Archaeology in Greenwich and the UDP

3.1.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Greenwich, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians. The Borough's deposited draft 'Unitary Development Plan' 2002 contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.

3.1.2 The proposed development of the site will be subject to the Council's Archaeology Policy:

'Archaeology

6.48 D29A

At identified sites of known archaeological remains of national importance, including scheduled monuments, there will be a presumption in favour of the physical preservation of the remains in situ and to allow for public access and display. For sites of lesser importance the Council will seek to preserve the remains in situ, but where this is not feasible the remains should be either be investigated, excavated and removed from the site, or investigated, excavated and recorded before destruction. Appropriate conditions/legal agreements may be used to ensure this is satisfied.

D29B

The Council will expect applicants to properly assess and plan for the impact of proposed developments on archaeological remains where they fall within 'Areas of Archaeological Potential' as defined on the constraints Map 10. In certain instances preliminary archaeological site investigations may be required before proposals are considered. The Council will seek to secure the co-operation of developers in the excavation, recording and publication of archaeological finds before development takes place by use of planning conditions/legal agreements as appropriate.

Reason

6.49 PPG16 gives guidance on how archaeological remains should be preserved or recorded. It recommends that UDPs should include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings, as well as a map defining where these policies apply. The Borough's archaeological heritage represents a local community asset, which is desirable to preserve and utilise both as an educational and recreational resource. The objectives of new development can often conflict with the need to preserve, or to remove and record such remains. Potential developers should be alerted early on in the planning process of likely remains so as to secure their preservation. The support of local archaeological groups is essential to this process. The

potential for discovery of significant remains in large areas of the Borough is high, whilst the opportunity to record and preserve such finite resources is usually restricted to none occasion.

6.50 The Council will also:

- i. Pursue land use policies which are sensitive to the potential threat development can pose to archaeological remains and adopt a flexible approach to the design of new development in areas where the preservation of archaeological remains is paramount.
- ii. Encourage co-operation amongst landowners, developers and archaeological groups by promoting the principles laid down in the British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group Code of Practice.
- iii. Encourage developers to allow an appropriate level of archaeological investigation where significant remains are unexpectedly discovered during construction, and if applicable make provision for the preservation or recording of such finds by a recognised archaeological organisation.'

3.1.3 The Greenwich UDP mirrors advice contained in the Department of Environment document 'Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16)'. This document identifies the need for early consultation in the planning process to determine the impact of the construction schemes upon buried archaeological strata. The results of the Desktop Assessment indicated that follow-up trial work was necessary, an informed decision was subsequently made on the necessity of a watching brief and evaluation to be undertaken taken.

3.1.4 The Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) of Eltham Palace lies approximately 700m south-west of the study site (SAM 26336, Fig.5, no.5). The site lies within an Area of High Archaeological Potential, associated with Eltham town centre and Eltham Palace, as designated by the London Borough of Greenwich.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.1 The British Geological Survey indicates that the site is situated on Harwich Formation, sand with black flint pebbles, locally shelly². Just to the south of the study site lies an area of Lambeth Group (Woolwich and Reading beds), sand and clay, locally shelly, and flint pebble beds. To the north of the study site lies an area of London Clay.
- 4.2 The ground level falls by 1.5m from east to west across the site, with an average height of 66.00m OD.
- 4.3 During the archaeological evaluation natural sand was observed across the site at a top height of 66.40m OD to the east of the site sloping down to 64.48m OD to the west.

² British Geological Survey England and Wales Sheet 271 *Dartford* 1998

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The following archaeological and historical background is a summary of the findings from the Desk based assessment³.

5.2 Prehistoric

5.2.1 No entries of prehistoric date were encountered on the GLSMR within the 600m search area of the study site. However, there is limited evidence for some prehistoric activity in the wider area. Neolithic flint artefacts have been found in Mottingham, Welling, East Wickham and Blackheath. Bronze Age artefacts have been found in Woolwich, Erith and Bexleyheath. As yet nothing from these early periods has been identified in Eltham⁴.

5.3 Roman

5.3.1 The GLSMR entries for the Roman period in the vicinity of the study site comprise a Roman coin of Hadrian (SMR LO2945, Fig.5, no.1) and the remains of a 'definite hut floor' (SMR LO2094, Fig.5, no.2). This 'hut floor' was found during an excavation in 1916 by F.C. Elliston Erwood on Archery Road approximately 150m north-west of the study site. The 'hut floor' may be part of a larger settlement site. Occupation debris including coarse and fine samian pottery and a bronze pin were recovered⁵. The site was subsequently identified as a smallholding⁶.

5.3.2 Approximately 700m east of the Archery Road site part of a cremation cemetery site was found in 1913 on Glenesk Road. A number of vessels, including some broken pots and two complete urns were found by workmen. The two urns contained cremations and were accompanied by a smaller ceramic bottle. The group dates to the second half of the second century⁷.

5.3.3 The nearest Roman Road is Watling Street running east-west approximately 2km north of the study site. This was a major road artery running from *Londinium* via Rochester to Richborough⁸.

5.4 Saxon

5.4.1 The name Eltham is usually taken to mean 'Elta's Homestead' and is probably Saxon in origin. However, the town of Eltham is not mentioned by name until the Domesday Book of 1086 and little Saxon evidence is present in the vicinity of the study site. Neighbouring communities are known to

³ Hawkins, N., 2005

⁴ Simmons et al. 2000, p.7

⁵ Brown, 2002, p.313

⁶ Rigden, 1974

⁷ ibid

⁸ Brown, 2002, p.298

have existed pre-1086; Erith appears in 695, Bexley in 765, Lewisham, Bromley and Mottingham in 862 and Woolwich and Greenwich in 918⁹.

- 5.4.2 The parish church of St. John is the latest in a sequence of churches on the same site dating back to the Saxon period¹⁰.

5.5 Medieval

5.5.1 The Domesday Book of 1086 contains the following reference to Eltham, "Hamo the sheriff holds Eltham from the Bishop. It answers for one and a half sulongs. Land for 12 ploughs. 42 villagers with 12 small holders have 11 ploughs. 9 slaves. Meadow 22 acres. Woodland 50 pigs. Value before 1066 £16, when acquired £12, now £20. Alfwold held it from the King"¹¹. The Domesday Book also refers to the estate of Eltham, from Shooters Hill in the north, to Chislehurst in the south, Blackfen in the east and to Lee in the west, not only the High Street area. The Bishop mentioned was Odo, Bishop of Bayeaux, the half brother of William the Conqueror. Hamo originated from Evreux in northern France and was a distant relative of William. Alfwold had the right to hold a court in Eltham and owned the estate, it is unknown whether he was a resident landlord or had other estates. The sulong mentioned is a term found only in Kent, it being a measure of arable land¹².

5.5.2 Despite the suggestion that the church of St. John the Baptist is of Saxon origin no mention of it exists in the Domesday book. The current church is Victorian but its predecessor stood on almost the same site from at least the early 12th century. A document of c.1115, the 'Textus Roffensis', in the possession of Rochester Cathedral, lists the churches in the Diocese of Rochester, to which Eltham then belonged, mentions the church at Eltham. The first known priest was Adam de Bromleigh in 1160¹³.

5.5.3 On Hamo's death his lands were inherited by his niece, Matilda, who was married to an illegitimate son of Henry I, Robert, Earl of Gloucester. These estates, including Eltham, passed by marriage to the De Clare family of Tonbridge, Kent, who then took the title, Earl of Gloucester. In 1166 the then Earl of Gloucester presented Eltham Church to Keynsham Abbey near Bristol, with who it remained until the Dissolution¹⁴.

5.5.4 By 1263 the manor of Eltham had been sub-divided into two parts, one portion held by the Gloucester family and the other by the Mandevilles. Gilbert de Clare, 8th Earl of Gloucester, granted his part of Eltham to John de Vesci, who settled it upon his illegitimate son, William, and appointed Anthony Bek, Bishop of Durham to hold the estate in trust until the boy came of age. Bishop Bek occupied the estate and began building himself a residence where Eltham Palace now stands. The

⁹ Simmons et al. 2000, p.10

¹⁰ Weinreb, B. & Hibbert, C., 1982

¹¹ *ibid*, p.13

¹² *ibid*, p.13

¹³ *ibid*, p.15

¹⁴ *ibid*, p.15

moat and the lower portions of the moat walls from his manor house survive and can still be seen. Excavations in 1975-79 revealed the lower courses of his great hall with a fine tiled floor still in situ¹⁵. A market charter was granted to Eltham in 1285 allowing a weekly market and a yearly fair to be held on the eve of the Feast of the Holy Trinity and lasted three days. The charter was renewed in 1439. The market was said to have long since discontinued by the 18th century¹⁶.

- 5.5.5 In the 14th and 15th centuries the creation of the royal residence made a considerable impact on the area and village of Eltham. In the early 14th century farmland was enclosed to form the Royal Deer Park. The Great Park was enclosed around 1315 and Horn Park was enclosed in 1465. This infringed on local farm and pasturelands and the local population received a limited compensation for its effect¹⁷.
- 5.5.6 Approximately 700m south-west of the area of the study site, can be seen the buildings and gardens of Eltham Palace, including the Great Hall (built 1479-1482) with its magnificent hammer-beam roof. This is the main survivor of a great complex of buildings, which dominated Eltham's skyline throughout the 16th century. Edward II bought the moated manor house which Anthony Bek established in 1305 and created a royal residence. Three and four storey Royal Apartments were later built on the orders of Henry VII overlooking the western part of the moat and with distant views of the City of London. The Great Court, inside the wide moat, and the Green Court outside it, formed irregular quadrangles of clustered buildings¹⁸. Henry VII and his Queen spent much time at Eltham, Henry VIII grew up here and his builders worked for much of 1500 constructing a new bridge and repairing the bakery and lodges¹⁹.
- 5.5.7 Eltham Palace's usage as a royal residence continued through the Tudor period. Henry VIII kept Christmas at Eltham Palace in 1515 and 1525. A large new chapel was built for him in 1520. He was again in residence in the summer of 1532 and in 1534, accompanied by Queen Anne Boleyn and the infant Princess Elizabeth. Mary Tudor came in 1556, Elizabeth I came briefly in 1559, 1560, 1568, 1569, 1576, 1581, 1596, 1597, 1598, 1601 and 1602²⁰. After the English Civil War the palace fell into decline for over two hundred years and the Great Hall took on a new role as a barn.
- 5.5.8 Approximately 800m north-west of the subject site lies another medieval moated manor house, Well Hall. The beginnings of Well Hall go back to the Norman Conquest and possibly earlier though no written record survives. A complete list of the owners of Well Hall from the 12th to the 15th centuries exists, the most important of which was John de Pulteney, c.1346, four times Lord Mayor of London. He was the owner of various lands throughout Woolwich and Plumstead and founded churches in London and a Franciscan Friary in Coventry²¹.

¹⁵ *ibid*, p.16

¹⁶ *ibid*, p.17

¹⁷ *ibid*, p.18

¹⁸ *ibid*, p.23

¹⁹ *ibid*, p.24

²⁰ *ibid*, p.24

5.5.9 Evidence of the medieval period is represented on the GLSMR; including chalk and mortar wall foundations, part of the north-west range of the Eltham Palace courtyard buildings, and a heavily truncated tile floor which were found during an archaeological watching brief at 32 Courtyard, Eltham Palace. A dene hole and well found in Eltham Park in 1878 were thought to be c.14th century. Five bricks, possibly from an oven or chimney, found on Eltham High Street also date to the medieval period.

5.6 Post-Medieval

5.6.1 In the late 15th century Well Hall came into the possession of the Roper family of Kent. William Roper, who was married to the daughter of Sir Thomas More, Margaret, and become Sir Thomas More's biographer, lived here in an Elizabethan Manor house. William Roper was responsible for the building of the misnamed 'Tudor Barn', which survives today along with the moat and gardens walls but the original house is gone. The house remained in the Roper family until 1733 when Sir Gregory Page bought it. He demolished the earlier building and built his own in its place. From 1899 to 1922 the house was occupied by Hubert Bland and Edith Nesbit. The house and grounds featured in some of her childrens' books. In 1930 Well Hall, and the surrounding park, was bought by Woolwich Borough Council and was demolished the following year. The barn was converted into an art gallery and restaurant²².

5.6.2 In 1600 the estimated population of Eltham was 600. The population had more than doubled since the early Middle Ages but, due to the enclosure of the parks, the area under cultivation had been halved since those times²³. A survey in 1605 shows the Eltham area to have 1000 acres of woodland, 1300 acres were park or pastureland and about 700 acres were under cultivation²⁴. By 1700 new farms were established where there had been royal deer parks. Eltham's royal links were severed by the time of the Civil War and it became just one more village on the road into Kent²⁵.

5.6.3 After 1700 Eltham was seen to be becoming a semi-urban area populated by retired members of the leisured classes, lawyers, merchants and officers from the Army and Navy. Daniel Defoe in 1726 said, "It is now a pleasant town, very handsomely built, full of good houses and many families of rich citizens inhabit here. So it is here they bring a great deal of good company with them. Also, an abundance of ladies of very good fortunes dwell here."²⁶. The main street of Eltham, the High Street, saw a variety of buildings, from townhouses (such as Queenscroft (146 Eltham Hill) and Cliefden (97 High Street), both still surviving today, the latter somewhat disguised as shops and offices) to cottages, almshouses, the obligatory workhouse and several inns²⁷.

²¹ Elliston-Erwood, 1936, p.6

²² Weinreb & Hibbert, 1982, p.962

²³ Symmons et al, 2000, p.31

²⁴ *ibid*, p.33

²⁵ *ibid*, p.47

²⁶ *ibid*, p.47

²⁷ *ibid*, p.47

- 5.6.4 In 1760 a stage coach service existed which passed along Eltham's main street as part of the Maidstone to London Road. It conveyed a variety of goods including, wool, cattle, sheep, hops and continental imports such as silks and toys²⁸. These services grew and improved and in 1768 the Maidstone and Malling Stage Coach went to London and back twice weekly via Eltham. In 1786 a weekly winter service and more frequent summer service called at Eltham. Wilke's Directory of 1793 shows Eltham as having two coaches daily to the Golden Cross Inn at Charing Cross and one daily to the Spread Eagle Inn in Gracechurch Street in the City²⁹. There were advantages and disadvantages for Eltham being so close to London. Prosperous people retired to Eltham and benefited the community by their wider interests and the occasional charity endowed. Poorer people 'landed on the doorstep' due to the two main roads through town and had to be provided for by the parish. The prosperous benefited from the healthier environment and could still keep up their London connections. The parish looked after the poor, particularly after the workhouse was built³⁰.
- 5.6.5 The first Census of 1801 recorded the population of Eltham as 1,702. This increased to 2,578 in the 1851 Census. In 1851 about a quarter of the population of Eltham lived in the High Street area with the rest of the people living in farms or hamlets scattered around the parish³¹. By this time the great medieval hall at Eltham Palace now served as a barn³².
- 5.6.6 The first Eltham railway station, now Mottingham station, was opened on the 1st September 1866. On the 1st May 1895 the Bexley Heath Railway Company had opened the Bexleyheath line with a local station at Well Hall. The coming of the railway, together with the Loop Line running through New Eltham and Mottingham, was the main impetus towards new house building and suburbanisation of the district³³.
- 5.6.7 The GLSMR has a number of finds for the post-medieval period. The majority of entries are listed buildings, some located within Eltham Palace and many of which are along Eltham High Street.
- 5.6.8 Cartographic evidence shows the development of the site in detail. Rocque's Map of 1741-45 indicates the study site to be open land directly north of the gardens of houses fronting onto what is now Eltham High Street, it is these houses that form the 18th century village of Eltham which is concentrated along this stretch of the main road. Directly west of the area of the study site can be seen a small road or lane running north from Eltham High Street. Well Hall, labelled Wale Hall on this map, can be seen to the north-west of the area of the site. The rest of the surrounding area is made up of fields and open land.
- 5.6.9 Andrews, Dury and Herbert's Map of Kent, 1769 shows the southern most area of the study site to partially cover the gardens of houses which front onto Eltham High Street. The same small lane

²⁸ *ibid*, p.48

²⁹ *ibid*, p.49

³⁰ *ibid*, p.55

³¹ *ibid*, p.57

³² *ibid*, p.58

³³ *ibid*, p.77

previously identified runs directly to the west of the site. To the south of Eltham High Street can be seen the estate of Eltham Palace. The growth of the village of Eltham can be seen to the south-east, east and north-east of the study site with various new buildings, estates and gardens now established which were not present on the previous map.

- 5.6.10 On the Tithe Map of 1840 the exact usage, owner and occupier of the land can be determined. The following land plots are located on the study site: Land plot 248 was a garden, occupied by George Smith, the landowner being Sir Gregory Page Turner, Baronet. Plot 250 was a garden, also occupied by George Smith and the land owned by Sir Gregory Page Turner, Baronet. Plot 236 was a garden, occupied by John Serves, the landowner being the Board of Ordnance. Plots 234, 235 and 249 are unidentified although plot 235 has a small building located within it. Plots 246 and 247, which continued outside of the area of the study site to the south and west are a farmhouse, barnyard and buildings and a rickyard respectively. George Smith occupied both and Sir Gregory Page Turner, Baronet, owned the land. Plots 251 and 344 which continue outside the area of the site to the north are unidentified. What appears to be a small path or lane however, runs east west through these plots in the northern half of the area of the site.
- 5.6.11 On the first Ordnance Survey map of 1869 the area of the study site remains virtually the same as the previous map. Two small buildings still exist on the study site with a third now existing to the east. In the southern area of the study site some smaller buildings associated with others fronting onto Eltham High Street now exist. The area around the study site can be seen to have grown and developed with many more buildings and gardens to the south and east of the study site. Directly to the south a 'smithy' is now labelled, which fronts onto Eltham High Street.
- 5.6.12 On the Ordnance Survey map of 1897 a small collection of buildings has been built on the eastern side of the study site. The rest of the study site remains the same as the previous map. The small path or lane, which runs through the northern half of the site from east to west, is still visible. The surrounding area continues to develop as illustrated by new houses around the High Street.
- 5.6.13 On the Ordnance Survey map of 1916 the area of the study site has completely changed. No buildings exist on site now with all the previously existing buildings being demolished. This coincides with all the buildings directly south of the study site being demolished and replaced with a library and other smaller buildings. The majority of the area of the study site is now labelled as 'allotment gardens' and appears to be open ground. The small path or lane in the northern half of the site no longer exists. Directly to the east of the site a row of terraced houses now exists, fronting onto the newly built Blunts Road. The road directly to the west of the site has also been widened and continues further northwards.
- 5.6.14 The Ordnance Survey map of 1930 shows another major change on the site. The area of the study site has virtually been covered with various buildings, the most central of which is a large building labelled as 'Woolwich Boro Council Depot'. Other smaller buildings to the east, west and north flank it. Another larger building exists in the northern area of the study site and is labelled 'garage', this

also has associated smaller buildings. This increased building can also be seen directly to the south of the study site with large buildings now fronting onto the High Street next to the library and to the north with a series of terraced houses fronting onto Gourrock Road.

- 5.6.15 On the Ordnance Survey map of 1967 the area of the study site remains relatively unchanged from the 1930s layout. The Borough Council Depot still exists, as does the garage and now the existing buildings next to the garage are labelled as 'Engineering Works'. The library to the south of the study site has been extended and now slightly encroaches within the area of the study site.

6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 Ten trial trenches, measuring 15m x 2m, were excavated in areas targeted where past development appears to have been limited (Fig.2). All ten evaluation trenches were opened under archaeological supervision by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine operatives were certified to industry standards (CITB or equivalent) and along with all site staff wore appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times whilst working. Spoil was stored to the side of the trench for reinstatement.
- 6.2 Mechanical excavation continued through undifferentiated deposits in spits of no greater than 200mm until either significant archaeological, or natural, deposits were encountered. Excavation was carried out using appropriate hand tools, in accordance with the methodologies set out in the Method Statement³⁴.
- 6.3 Following fill clearance, all faces of the trench that required examination were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. All investigation of archaeological deposits was by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and section.
- 6.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with the GLAAS Archaeological Guidance Paper 3 Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London; Archaeological Guidance Paper 5 Evaluation (GLAAS, 1998) and Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1990).
- 6.5 Recording on site was undertaken using the single context recording system as specified in the Museum of London Site Manual. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20, and full or representative sections at a scale of 1:10. Contexts were numbered sequentially and recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets.
- 6.6 The site was given the code ECA 05.
- 6.7 Reinstatement used the excavated spoil from the trenches that was compacted with the machine bucket and finished level with the existing ground surface.
- 6.8 The geotechnical trial pits were monitored by an archaeologist. Sections were recorded in each trial pit.

³⁴ Butler 2005

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 The sequence across the site was formed of natural sand [01] overlain by a subsoil layer [02] of varying thickness up to a maximum 0.20m thick sealed by made ground [03] of 20th century date (Fig.3). The sand was punctuated in places by services and modern truncations associated with the Woolwich Borough Council Depot and its associated buildings and garages. The same sequence was recorded in the trial pits.

7.2 Phase 1: Natural

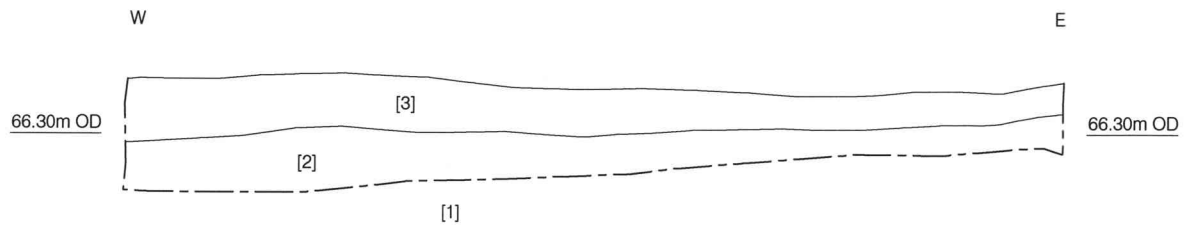
7.2.1 The upper reaches of the natural sequence were recorded in each of the evaluation trenches and trial pits. This consisted of a mottled yellowish white and/or orange brown sand [01] with occasional pockets of gravel. In Trench 1 the natural sand was located at a maximum height of 64.95m OD, in Trench 2 at 65.46m OD, Trench 3 at 66.40m OD, Trench 4 at 65.66m OD, Trench 5 at 66.29m OD, Trench 6 at 64.76m OD, Trench 7 at 65.70m OD, Trench 8 at 66.72m OD, Trench 9 at 66.26m OD and Trench 10 at 66.46m OD.

7.3 Phase 2: Post-medieval

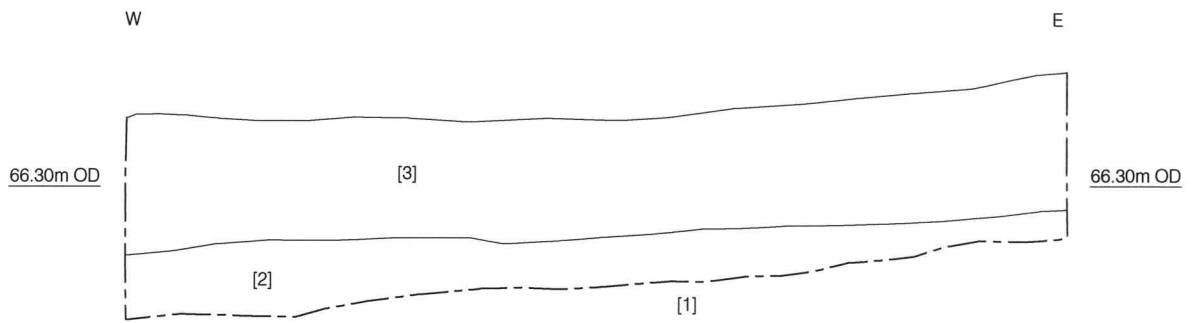
7.3.1 A layer of plough soils/sub soil [02] comprising a mid brown silty sand was located in all of the Trenches 1 to 10. The subsoil layer varied in thickness being a maximum 0.20m thick in Trench 6.

7.4 Phase 3: Modern

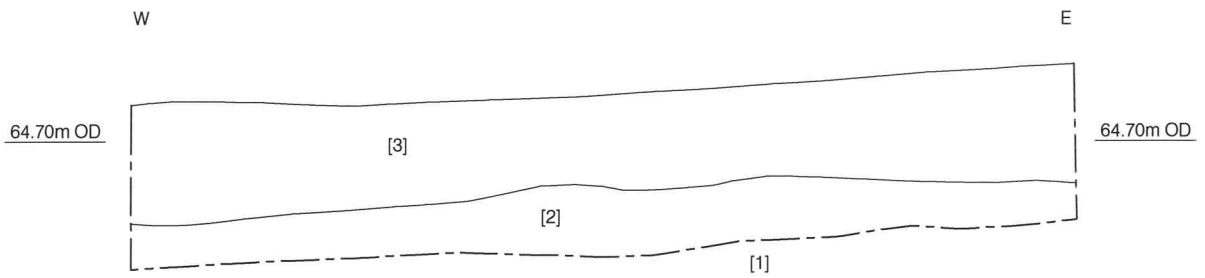
7.4.1 Sealing the layer of plough soils/sub soil [02] across the site was a layer of modern made ground that comprised a reworked subsoil layer [03] mixed with 20th century material.



Section 1
South Facing
Trench 3



Section 2
South Facing
Trench 10



Section 3
Trench 6
South Facing



Figure 3
Sections 1, 2 & 3
1:20

8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The archaeological evaluation indicates that the site does not hold any deposits of archaeological significance. The trenches excavated revealed only evidence of modern services, an undated plough soil/subsoil layer and natural sands.

- 8.2 Taking into account the absence of any archaeologically significant features or residual material in later deposits, it is highly unlikely that further work on the site would reveal any evidence to enhance the archaeological understanding of the area and therefore no further work is required.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank the London Borough of Greenwich for generously funding this project and Scott Barson for his help during the project. The author would like to thank Tony Baxter for his work on site, Hayley Baxter for the illustrations and Jon Butler for his project management and editing.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| Context | Type | Trench | Phase | Description |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 01 | Layer | 1 to 10 | 1 | Natural sand |
| 02 | Layer | 1 to 10 | 2 | Undated plough/subsoil |
| 03 | Layer | 1 to 10 | 3 | 20 th C made ground |

APPENDIX 2 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-10715

Project details

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Project name | Evaluation at Archery Road Eltham |
| Short description of the project | Evaluation at Archery Road Eltham located natural sand and no features or material earlier than 20th century |
| Project dates | Start: 10-10-2005 End: 12-10-2005 |
| Previous/future work | No / No |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Current Land use | Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed |
| Project location | |
| Country | England |
| Site location | GREATER LONDON GREENWICH ELTHAM Archery Road |
| Study area | 5000.00 Square metres |
| National grid reference | TQ 4308 7451 Point |
| Height OD | Min: 64.48m Max: 66.40m |
| Project creators | |
| Name of Organisation | Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd |
| Project brief originator | Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist) |
| Project design originator | Jon Butler |
| Project director/manager | Jon Butler |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Project supervisor | Chris Pickard |
| Project archives | |
| Physical Archive Exists? | No |
| Digital Contents | 'Stratigraphic','Survey' |
| Digital Media available | 'Survey','Text' |
| Paper Contents | 'Stratigraphic' |
| Paper Media available | 'Context sheet','Section','Survey ','Unpublished Text' |
| Project bibliography 1 | |
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | An Archaeological Evaluation at Archery Road, Eltham, London Borough of Greenwich |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Pickard,C.G |
| Date | 2005 |
| Issuer or publisher | Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd |
| Place of issue or publication | London |
| Entered by | C Pickard (cpickard@pre-construct.com) |
| Entered on | 13 October 2005 |