

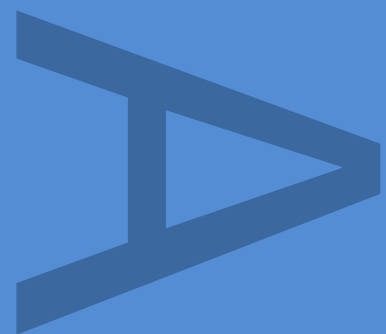
**CASSIOBURY SCHOOL,  
CONINGESBY DRIVE, WATFORD,  
HERTFORDSHIRE WD17 3PE:**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:  
HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**PCA REPORT NO: 11236**

**MAY 2012**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

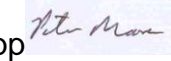
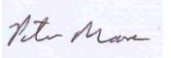
Site Name

CassioBury Primary School, Watford, Hertfordshire

Type of project

Archaeological Evaluation

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code		K2769	
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**An Archaeological Evaluation at Cassiobury School,  
Coningesby Drive, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 3PE**

**Site Code: HCSW 12**

**Central National Grid Reference: TQ 0918 9781**

**HER Enquiry No: 50/12**

**Written and Researched By Alexis Haslam**

**Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, May 2012**

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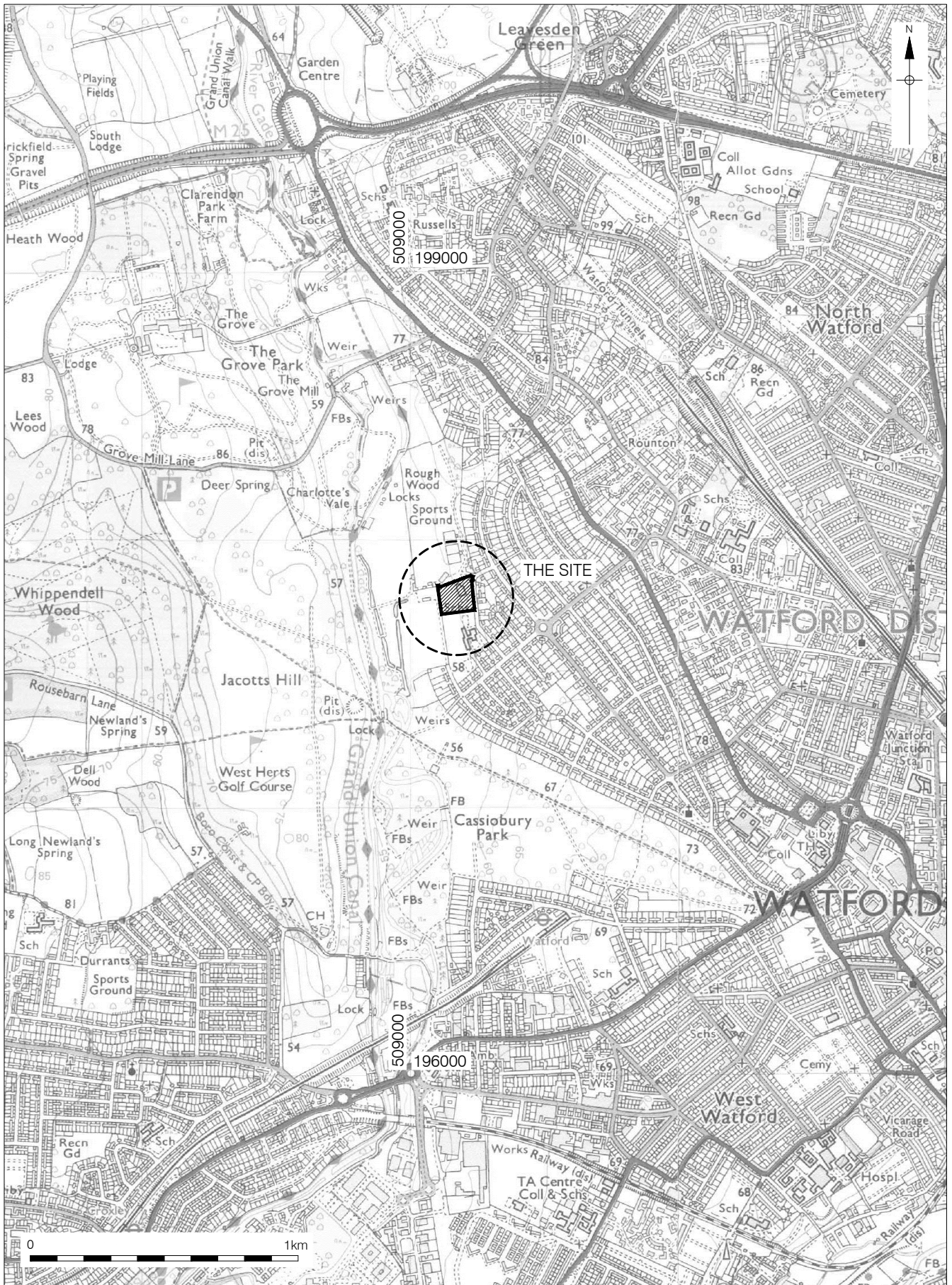
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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1** This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at Cassiobury School, Coningesby Drive, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 3PE. The evaluation was commissioned by Architype on behalf of Morgan Sindall PLC in advance of a proposed development of the land and took place between the 2nd and 4th of May 2012. The development relates to an expansion of the school, with a new building required as a result of an increase in pupil numbers.
- 1.2** An evaluation comprising of six trenches was required by the Hertfordshire County Planning Archaeologist as the site is situated within Historical Character Area 16, a locality with potential for both prehistoric and Saxon remains. Two of the trenches were located within the footprint of the proposed building, with the remainder positioned in areas of potential landscaping.
- 1.3** All of the trenches were sealed by topsoil which generally lay directly above the subsoil. This subsoil lay directly above the natural alluvial stony clay. In Trench 4 a deposit of made ground overlay the subsoil and was sealed by the topsoil, whilst modern features which cut the subsoil were observed in Trenches 2 and 6. As with the made ground horizon these modern features were also sealed by the topsoil.
- 1.4** Only two features were recorded as cutting into the natural, with a rectangular posthole or small pit observed in Trench 6 and a linear feature observed in Trench 5. Both features were sealed by the subsoil. Whilst the linear in Trench 5 contained a sterile fill suggesting that it may have been formed by root disturbance, a flint blade was recovered from the fill of the rectangular feature in Trench 6. This was indicative of prehistoric activity within the immediate vicinity of the study site, although no further associated features were revealed during the evaluation process.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1** This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Cassiobury School, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 3PE. The works took place between the 2nd and 4th of May 2012.
- 2.2** A total of six trenches were excavated on the site with two of these (Trenches 3 and 4) situated within the footprint of the proposed building. A further Trench (Trench 6) was located in an area due to be converted into a pond. As a result of logistical complications Trenches 1 and 2 had to be moved from their original positions and were relocated within the fenced area to the west of the current school buildings to areas of proposed landscaping. Trench 3 was also realigned from its original north-south orientation and instead ran from east to west.
- 2.3** The site was bounded to the north by Odham's Sun Social and Sports Centre, to the east by Cassiobury Infants and Nursery School, to the south by playing fields and to the West by Coningesby Drive.
- 2.4** The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Moore 2012) which was approved by Hertfordshire County Council in advance of the work.
- 2.5** The National Grid Reference of the site is TQ 0918 9781. The HER Enquiry No is 50/12.
- 2.6** The site was given the code HCSW 12.
- 2.7** The project was monitored for the local planning authority by Andy Instone, the Hertfordshire County Planning Archaeologist. The project was managed by Peter Moore and was supervised by the author, Alexis Haslam.



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Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:20,000 at A4

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### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 The proposed development of the site comprises of the erection of a new school building. Several areas are also due to be re-landscaped.

#### 3.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.2.1 In March 2012 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), replacing Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5) 'Planning for the Historic Environment' which itself replaced Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) 'Archaeology and Planning'. It provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of heritage assets.

3.2.2 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance NPPF, by current Unitary Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.

3.3 The relevant Development Plan framework is provided by the East of England Plan adopted in May 2008. This Plan states:

#### **Policy ENV 6 – The Historic Environment**

In their plans, policies, programmes and proposals local planning authorities and other agencies should identify, protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment of the region, its archaeology, historic buildings, places and landscapes, including historic parks and gardens and those features and sites (and their settings) especially significant in the East of England:

- the historic cities of Cambridge and Norwich;
  - an exceptional network of historic market towns;
  - a cohesive hierarchy of smaller settlements ranging from nucleated villages, often marked by architecturally significant medieval parish churches, through to a pattern of dispersed hamlets and isolated farms;
  - the highly distinctive historic environment of the coastal zone including extensive submerged prehistoric landscapes, ancient salt manufacturing and fishing facilities, relict sea walls, grazing marshes, coastal fortifications, ancient ports and traditional seaside resorts;
  - formal planned settlements of the early twentieth century, including the early garden cities, and factory villages;
  - conservation areas and listed buildings, including domestic, industrial and religious buildings, and their settings, and significant designed landscapes;
  - the rural landscapes of the region, which are highly distinctive and of ancient origin;
- and



- the wide variety of archaeological monuments, sites and buried deposits which include many scheduled ancient monuments and other nationally important archaeological assets.

**8.19** National advice on the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, archaeological remains and other elements of the historic environment is set out in PPGs 15, *Planning and the Historic Environment* and 16, *Archaeology and Planning* (NOW NPPF). The Regional Environment Strategy characterises the historic environment of the East of England, identifies issues relating to the erosion of assets, and emphasises the need for more robust policies at regional level. Information on the distribution of listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas can be obtained from 'Heritage Counts', an annual digest published by English Heritage.

**8.20** To conserve the wider historic environment, local authorities and other agencies should afford the highest level of protection to historic and archaeological areas, sites and monuments of international, national and regional importance. Plans and policies should ensure new development preserves or enhances historic buildings and landscapes, conservation areas and important archaeological features and their settings. Policies and programmes should work towards rescuing buildings and monuments at risk, and take an active role in promoting repair and re-use of historic buildings, especially where this would assist urban renaissance and regeneration. The landscape context and setting of buildings and settlements is an essential component of their quality and should be safeguarded in policies relating to historic assets.

**8.21** In areas identified for growth and regeneration, it is important that the impact of new development on the historic environment is properly understood and considered. Historic character and significance, and the opportunities they offer, should be considered at an early stage in the development process, including master plans and planning briefs. Local Development Documents should be based on the identification, assessment, and evaluation of historic assets, their contribution to local character and diversity, and their capacity to absorb change. Policies should be founded on a robust evidence base and reflect a thorough understanding of the historic environment and enhancement opportunities through approaches such as historic environment characterisation.

- 3.4** The relevant Local Plan is provided by the Watford District Plan 2000 which was adopted on the 3rd of December 2003.

---

## **U22 Archaeological Remains**

**The Council will ensure the preservation in situ of important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or unscheduled, and their setting and will refuse consent for any development which is likely to adversely affect them.**

**The Council will require the submission of the results of an archaeological field evaluation before a planning application is determined for any development which is considered likely to have an adverse affect on important archaeological remains. Where the Council considers that archaeological remains do not merit preservation in situ then the Council will seek an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation, recording and publication of the results. This will be achieved either by agreement or by attaching appropriate conditions to the planning permission. Where appropriate, the Council will seek to secure the enhancement of the archaeological remains.**

**Every effort will be made to ensure that these sites, and any finds recovered from them, are available for public viewing.**

Watford's archaeological potential has been assessed by the County Council and is presented in the Extensive Urban Survey Document, which forms part of the Urban Conservation Strategy (Policy U9). The Extensive Urban Survey sets out, in summary form, what is known of the archaeological and historical development of Watford and provides an assessment of the priorities for the management of the archaeological resources in the town. In conjunction with Hertfordshire County Council, Watford Borough Council has prepared an SPG which seeks to define character areas for urban conservation and sets out management priorities for each area - see SPG 28: Historic Environment Character Statement and Guidance Note, Map 6 showing the Historic Environment Character Zones and Table 6, which sets out the summary description of the zones. In addition to these sources of information concerning archaeology in Watford, reference should be made to the Sites and Monuments Register (SMR) maintained by Hertfordshire County Council. This contains a detailed record of the known archaeological sites in Watford (and the County). The County Planning Archaeologist should be consulted by all those considering development proposals which may have an impact on the archaeological resources of the town.

Early appraisal is the key to minimising the impact of development of an archaeological site. The Council may require proposals to be modified or may refuse

to grant planning permission where assessment indicates the existence of important remains.

- 3.5** The site lies within Historical Character Area 16, a zone which comprises of post-war housing. The school grounds and sports grounds have archaeological potential.

## **4 GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 4.1** The bedrock underlying the site comprises undifferentiated chalk belonging to the Seaford Chalk Formation and the Newhaven Chalk Formation. This is overlain by alluvium comprising of clay, silt, sand and gravel. On the higher ground to the east the chalk is sealed by the Westmill Gravel Member which comprises of sand and gravel <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html#>.
- 4.2** Topographically the site slopes downwards from the north-east to the south-west from a high of 60.19m OD as recorded in Trench 4 to a low of 57.78m OD as recorded in Trench 6.

---

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The archaeological potential for the site has previously been outlined in the Archaeology Mini Impact Assessment which stated that the site lay within Historical Character Area 16, a zone of significant archaeological potential (Newton 2011). The information collected and reviewed within this assessment was recovered from the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and covered an area within a 500m radius of the study site. What follows below is a précis of this earlier document.

### Prehistoric

5.2 Proximate prehistoric finds within the locality of the study site comprise of a Neolithic polished axe which was found in 1941 on an allotment near Cassiobury Park between the Langley Way entrance and the bridge over the River Gade (HHER No. 1320). A large irregular mound has also been recorded in the garden of No. 22 Trefusis Walk which the owner claims to be a barrow which was previously excavated in the 19th century (HHER No. 632). There is no evidence to support this interpretation however, and the mound may relate to the footing of a stone obelisk present in James Wootton's 1740 painting of the landscape of Cassiobury. A number of Late Iron Age Ambiani stateres have also been recovered by a metal detectorist operating in Whippendell Woods (HHER No. 15354).

### Saxon

5.3 Cassiobury was an important Saxon manorial site and this is reflected in the archaeological record. Recorded in the 10th century, the estate (or manor) of Cassio was given to St Alban's Abbey before the Norman Conquest and remained within the Abbey's hands until the dissolution. It was sufficiently important to give its name to the Hundred and may in fact be referred to as early as c. 793 in a charter of Offa, when 34 'mansiones' were given to the Abbey in the place called Cassio. In 1545 the estate was subdivided by Henry VIII and a large part was sold to Richard Morrison (HHER No. 903).

5.4 Saxon finds within the vicinity of the study site include a coin hoard of five 10th century coins which were found at Whippendell Woods. Two of these coins were of Edward the Elder and three were of Athelstan. The 'hoard' has been dated to between 915 and 939 (HHER No. 6281). Further Saxon coins have also been discovered by the same metal detectorist who recovered the Late Iron Age stateres. The site of the Old Mill on the River Gade may also have been preceded by one of the four mills recorded at Cassio in 1086 (HHER No. 11685)

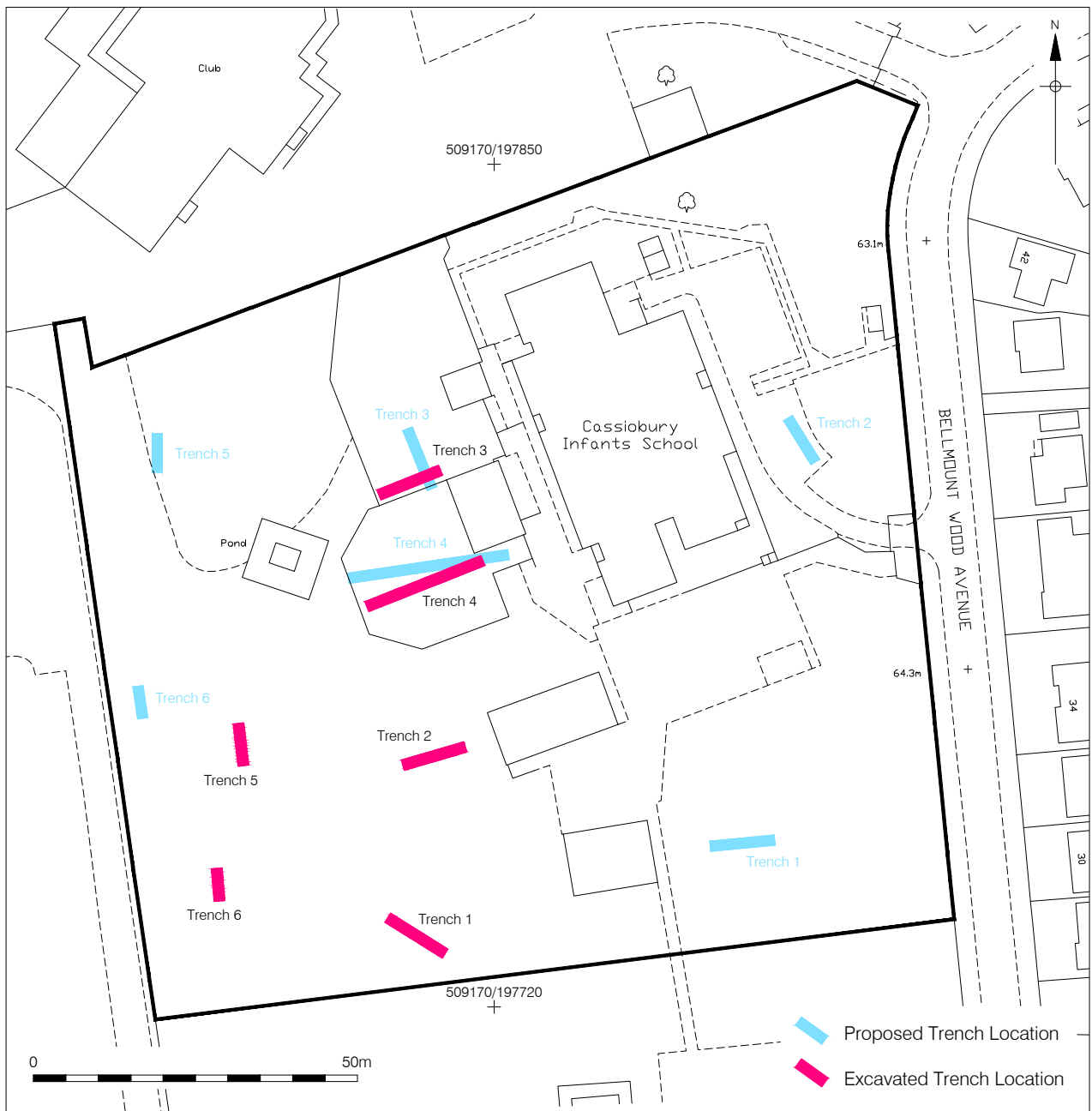
### **Post-Medieval**

- 5.5** Following the acquirement of part of the Cassiobury Estate by Richard Morrison in 1545, he began to build Cassiobury House in 1546 (HHER No. 11686). Completed by his son, Charles, the house was 'H' shaped in plan with 56 rooms. It was rebuilt during the 1670's by Arthur Capel, the 1st Earl of Essex, and was remodelled again by James Wyatt, the 5th Earl. The house remained standing until it was finally demolished in 1927. All that remains of the former buildings are a brick icehouse on Cottage Close (HHER No. 5875) and the stables built between 1805 and 1815 which are located on Richmond Drive (HHER No. 11737).

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## **6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 6.1** In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation six trenches were excavated in order to determine the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- 6.2** All of the trenches were opened up with the use of a 180° JCB type mechanical excavator using a 1.6m wide toothless grading bucket. All machining was monitored under archaeological supervision, with the archaeologist present checking for deposits and features through the topsoil, make-up layers and subsoil and onto the natural geological deposits. All machining was preceded by scanning for live services using a CAT scanner.
- 6.3** Due to logistical constraints several of the trenches had to be moved from their initial proposed positions. Trench 1, originally sited to the south of the Infants School, was moved further to the west. This was due to the fact that this part of the Infants School was in use at the time and the trench therefore had to be excavated in the fenced off area which pupils could not access. Trench 2, originally positioned to the east of the main school building was also moved to the west for the same reasons as Trench 1. Trench 3 was rotated from a north-south alignment onto an east-west axis due to the presence of tarmac in this area of the site which could not be removed by the JCB. Trench 4 was also shortened from its original 25m length as we did not wish to impact upon the roots of a number of trees at the western end of the Trench. Trench 1 was therefore extended in length in order to make up for the percentage loss of Trench 4.
- 6.4** All of the evaluation trenches were hand cleaned, examined and recorded in both plan and section.
- 6.5** The single context recording system, developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, was used throughout the evaluation. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections were drawn at 1:10.
- 6.6** All of the trenches were surveyed in with the use of a GPS system. This equipment was also used to establish a Temporary Bench Mark (TBM) on the site with a value of 60.15m OD. This TBM was subsequently used to establish a second TBM with a value of 58.24m OD.
- 6.7** Digital photographs were taken where relevant. No unusual health and safety issues were encountered during the evaluation.



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Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:1,000 at A4



## **7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 Trench 1**

#### Phase 1 – Natural

- 7.1.1 Trench 1 measured 10.40m in length and 1.6m in width and was located in the south-eastern corner of the evaluation area. The earliest deposit encountered at the base of this trench was the natural [3], which was recorded at between 58.32m OD and 58.72m OD and was described as a stiff deposit of yellow brown stony clay. This deposit is therefore likely to equate with the alluvial deposits present on the geological map.

#### Phase 3 – Subsoil

- 7.1.2 Sealing the natural [3] was subsoil [2], which was described as a stiff to coarse deposit of dark grey brown stony clay. Recorded in section only this deposit measured up to 0.25m in thickness at 58.69m OD.

#### Phase 5 – Topsoil

- 7.1.3 A recent deposit of soft, dark brown loamy clay topsoil [1] sealed the subsoil [2] and measured up to 0.28m in thickness at 58.96m OD. Inclusions within this horizon comprised of occasional small to medium sized sub rounded pebbles, occasional fragments of CBM and occasional modern materials consisting of such items as shuttlecocks and plastic straws.



Fig 3 – Trench 1 looking west

## **7.2 Trench 2**

### Phase 1 – Natural

- 7.2.1 Trench 2 measured 10m in length and 1.6m in width and was situated to the north of Trench 1. The earliest deposit encountered at the base of this trench was the natural [3], which was observed at between 58.71m OD and 59.13m OD.

### Phase 3 – Subsoil

- 7.2.2 Sealing the natural [3] was subsoil [2], which measured up to 0.20m in thickness at 59.33m OD.

### Phase 4 – Modern

- 7.2.3 Cutting through the subsoil at the eastern end of the trench was a north-south aligned linear cut [12] which measured 1.6m in length and 1.28m in width as seen at 59.33m OD. Extending up to 0.62m in depth and recorded with steeply sloping concave edges and a flat base it was filled by [11], a compact deposit of mid orange brown silty clay containing frequent flint cobbles. The precise function of this linear remains uncertain, but in cutting through the subsoil it was likely to have been fairly recent in date and may have functioned in some form of drainage capacity.

### Phase 5 - Topsoil

- 7.2.4 Sealing ditch [12] was topsoil [1] which measured 0.20m in thickness at 59.53m OD.





Figure 4 – Above. Trench 2 looking east



Figure 5 – Cut [12] Trench 2

### **7.3 Trench 3**

#### Phase 1 - Natural

- 7.3.1 Trench 3 was situated at the northern end of the evaluation area and measured 10.20m in length and 1.6m in width. The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the trench was the natural [3], which was observed at between 59.34m OD and 59.63m OD.

#### Phase 3 – Subsoil

- 7.3.2 Sealing [3] was the subsoil [2] which measured 0.05m in thickness at 59.68m OD.

#### Phase 5 - Topsoil

- 7.3.3 Topsoil [1] sealed the subsoil [2] and extended up to 0.40m in thickness at 60.08m OD.

### **7.4 Trench 4**

#### Phase 1 - Natural

- 7.4.1 Trench 4 was located to the south of Trench 3 and measured 1.6m in width and 20.20m in length. The earliest deposit encountered at the base of this trench was the natural [3] which was observed at between 58.91m OD and 59.44m OD.

#### Phase 3 – Subsoil

- 7.4.2 Sealing [3] was the subsoil [2] which measured 0.14m in thickness at 59.10m OD.

#### Phase 4 – Modern

- 7.4.3 Overlying [2] was a layer of loose to coarse light brown yellow sandy gravel [10]. Interpreted as a make-up layer for the tarmac situated between Trenches 3 and 4 this horizon measured up to 0.09m in thickness at 59.19m OD.

#### Phase 5 - Topsoil

- 7.4.4 Sealing [10] was the topsoil [1] which extended up to 0.27m in thickness at 59.46m OD.





Figure 6 – Trench 3 looking east



Figure 7 – Trench 4 looking east

## **7.5 Trench 5**

### Phase 1 - Natural

- 7.5.1 Situated along the western edge of the evaluation area, Trench 5 measured 6.50m in length and 1.6m in width. The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the trench was the natural [3] which was observed at between 57.84m OD and 57.91m OD.

### Phase 2 – Prehistoric?

- 7.5.2 Cutting into the natural at the northern end of the trench was an east-west aligned linear feature [5] which extended into both the eastern and western limits of excavation. Measuring 1.6m in length, 1.9m in width and 0.15m in depth as seen at 57.86m OD it was recorded with shallow to concave sides and a flat base and was filled by [4], a sterile deposit of stiff to coarse mid yellow brown silty clay. The slightly irregular nature of the cut and the clean nature of the fill implied that this feature was in fact most likely to be natural and may well have related to tree root action.

### Phase 3 – Subsoil

- 7.5.3 Sealing [5] was the subsoil [2], which measured 0.10m in thickness at 58.00m OD.

### Phase 5 - Topsoil

- 7.5.4 The topsoil [1] sealed the subsoil [2] and measured up to 0.30m in thickness at 58.30m OD.





Figure 8 – Trench 5 looking north

Figure 9 – Cut [5] Trench 5





## **7.6 Trench 6**

### Phase 1 - Natural

- 7.6.1 Trench 6 was located to the south of Trench 5 and measured 5m in length and 1.6m in width. The earliest deposit encountered at the base of the trench was the natural [3] which was observed at between 57.42m OD and 57.46m OD.

### Phase 2 – Prehistoric?

- 7.6.2 Cutting into the natural at the northern end of the trench was a small rectangular pit or posthole [9] which measured 0.60m from east to west, 0.40m from north to south and 0.15m in depth at 57.47m OD. Recorded with vertical sides and a flat base it was filled by [8], a soft to loose deposit of mid grey to brown sandy silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. A single find was recovered from this deposit in the form of a struck flint blade.

### Phase 3 – Subsoil

- 7.6.3 Sealing [9] was the subsoil [2] which extended up to 0.26m in thickness at 57.72m OD.

### Phase 4 – Modern

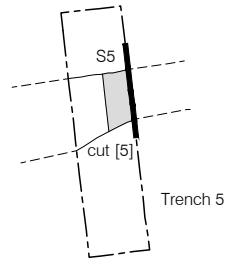
- 7.6.4 Cutting through the subsoil [2] at the southern end of the trench was north-east south-west aligned linear cut [7] which continued into the eastern and southern limits of excavation. Measuring 1.1m in length, 0.70m in width and 0.40m in depth at 57.64m OD, [7] was recorded with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by [6], a loose deposit of mid grey brown loamy clay containing gravel and flint. This feature was modern in date and may well have once functioned as a service trench.

### Phase 5 - Topsoil

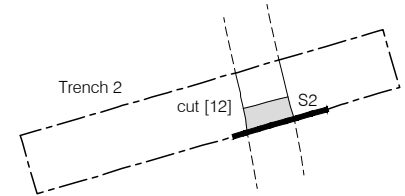
- 7.6.5 Sealing [7] was the topsoil [1], which measured up to 0.25m in thickness at 57.80m OD.



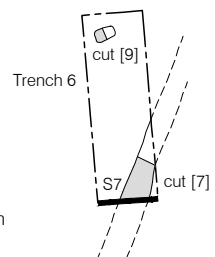
Figure 10 – Trench 6 looking south. Cut [9] in foreground and cut [7] at far end of the trench



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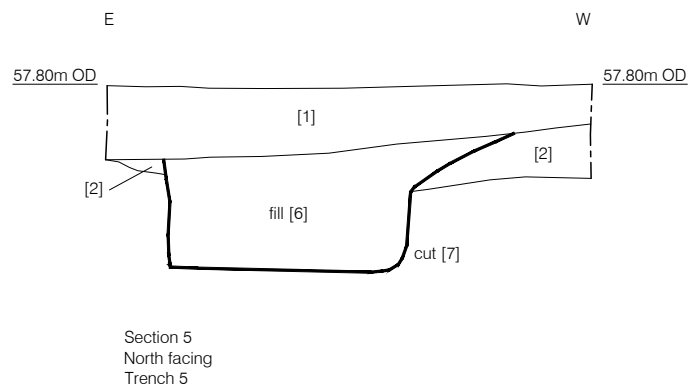
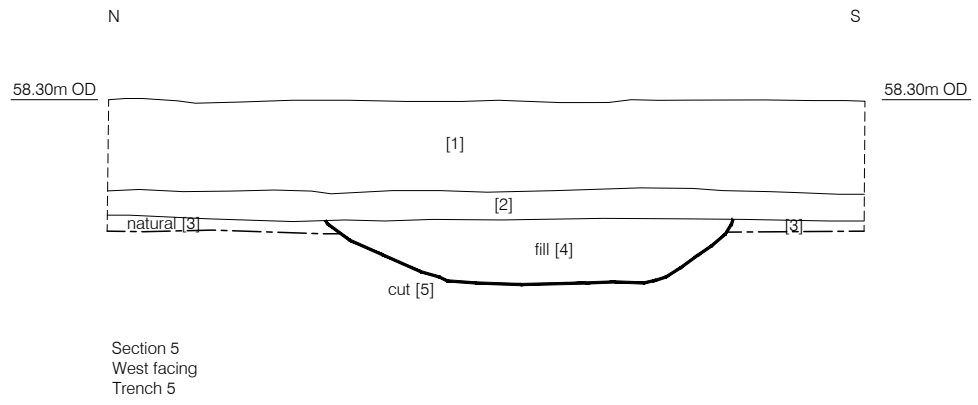
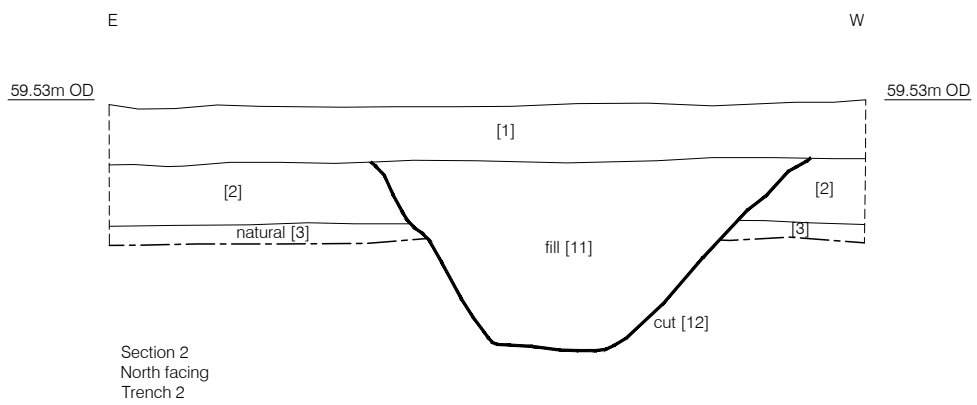
■ excavated slot

0 10m

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HB 16/05/12

Figure 11  
Plan of features in Trenches 2, 5 & 6  
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Figure 12  
Sections 2, 5 & 7  
1:25 at A4

## **8 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1** One of the principal objectives of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological activity of any period. Due to the location of the site within Historical Character Area 16 and the potential on the site for prehistoric and Saxon remains, an evaluation was required.
- 8.2** In total, only two potentially prehistoric features were recorded as cutting the natural at the base of the trench. One of these took the form of a small pit or posthole in Trench 6, and a struck flint blade was recovered from the fill of the feature. The other feature in Trench 5 was less easy to define, and the sterile nature of the fill suggested that this linear may in fact have been created through root action.
- 8.3** Other than features [9] and possibly [5], the evaluation has confirmed that there were no features on the site predating the 20th century.
- 8.3.1 The underlying geology of the site comprised of a stiff deposit of yellow brown stony clay. This deposit equates with the alluvial deposits present in this area of the site on the British Geological Survey map.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1** Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Architype for commissioning the work on behalf of Morgan Sindall PLC. Particular thanks are extended to Mark Abbot of Morgan Sindall PLC for all of his assistance during the evaluation process. Further thanks are also due to Andy Instone, the Hertfordshire County Planning Archaeologist, for monitoring the evaluation on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.
- 9.2** The author would like to thank Dave Jameson for all of his assistance on the site. Thanks also to Richard Archer for the surveying, Chris Cooper for logistical support, Hayley Baxter for the CAD illustrations and Peter Moore for his project management and editing.

## **10 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Moore, P. 2012. 'Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Cassiobury School, Coningesby Drive, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 3PE. *Pre-Construct Archaeology unpublished report.*

Newton, A. 2011. Archaeology Mini Impact Assessment. Cassiobury Infant and Nursery and Cassiobury Junior Schools, Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford WD17 3PE. *Archaeological Solutions Ltd unpublished report.*

## APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Site Code	Context	Phase	Type	Trench No.	Sec. No.	Description
HCSW 12	1	5	Layer	1-6	1-7	Topsoil
HCSW 12	2	3	Layer	1-6	1-7	Subsoil
HCSW 12	3	1	Layer	1-6	1-6	Natural stony clay
HCSW 12	4	2	Fill	5	5	Fill of [5]
HCSW 12	5	2	Cut	5	5	Root disturbance?
HCSW 12	6	4	Fill	6	7	Fill of [7]
HCSW 12	7	4	Cut	6	7	Modern service cut
HCSW 12	8	2	Fill	6	-	Fill of [9]
HCSW 12	9	2	Cut	6	-	Rectangular pit / post hole
HCSW 12	10	4	Layer	4	4	Modern make-up
HCSW 12	11	4	Fill	2	2	Fill of [12]
HCSW 12	12	4	Cut	2	2	Modern drainage cut



## APPENDIX 2

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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**OASIS ID: preconst1-125858**

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#### Project details

Project name	Cassiobury School, Watford
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation comprising of six trenches was undertaken at Cassiobury School, Coningesby Drive, Watford between the 2nd and 4th of May 2012. The only archaeological features encountered comprised of a probable root disturbance in Trench 5 and a small rectangular pit or posthole in Trench 6. Both of these features cut the natural alluvial stony clay and were sealed by a subsoil which was observed in all of the trenches. A flint blade was recovered from the pit/posthole. Two modern service trenches cut the subsoil in Trenches 2 and 6 and were in turn sealed by topsoil. One layer of made ground was also observed in Trench 4 between the subsoil and the topsoil.
Project dates	Start: 02-05-2012 End: 04-05-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	HCSW 12 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	PIT / POSTHOLE Late Prehistoric
Monument type	ROOT DISTURBANCE Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	STRUCK FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	CBM Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'

Development type      Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)

Prompt                      Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the planning process      After full determination (eg. As a condition)

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### Project location

Country                      England

Site location              HERTFORDSHIRE WATFORD WATFORD Cassiobury School, Watford

Postcode                      WD17 3PE

Study area                      8400.00 Square metres

Site coordinates      TQ 0918 9781 51.6679728370 -0.421081543061 51 40 04 N 000 25 15 W Point

Height OD / Depth      Min: 57.42m Max: 59.63m

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### Project creators

Name of Organisation      Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator      Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project design originator      Peter Moore

Project director/manager      Peter Moore

Project supervisor      Alexis Haslam

Type of sponsor/funding body      Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body      Architype Ltd

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### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient      Local museum

Physical Contents      'Worked stone/lithics'

Digital Archive      Local museum

recipient	
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic','Survey','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Media available	'Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic','Survey','Worked stone/lithics'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Map','Matrices','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey','Unpublished Text'

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Cassiobury School, Coningesby Drive, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 3PE
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Haslam, A. )
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Place of issue or publication	Brockley
Description	Unpublished client report

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Entered by	Peter Moore (pmoore@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	30 May 2012

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### APPENDIX 3: HERTFORDSHIRE HER FORM

Site name and address: Cassiobury Primary School, Watford, Hertfordshire.		
County: Hertfordshire		District: Watford
Village/Town: Watford		Parish: Watford
Planning application reference: Direction from Local Planning Authority PPS 5		
Client name, address and tel. No.: Architype Ltd, The Morocco Store, 1B Leathermarket Street, London SE1 3JA, t: 020 7403 2889		
Nature of application: Public		
Present land use: School		
Size of application area: c. 0.38 Ha		Size of area investigated: c.8400 sq m
NGR (to 8 figures): TQ 0918 9781		
Site code: HCSW 12		
Site director/Organisation: Peter Moore/Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited		
Type of work: Archaeological evaluation		
Date of work:	Start: 02-05-12	Finish: 04-05-12
Location of finds/Curating museum: Watford Museum		
Related SMR Nos.: 632, 903, 1320, 5875, 6281, 11685-6, 11737, 15354		Periods represented: Prehistoric
<p>Relevant previous summaries/reports:</p> <p>Newton, A. 2011. Archaeology Mini Impact Assessment. Cassiobury Infant and Nursery and Cassiobury Junior Schools, Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford WD17 3PE. <i>Archaeological Solutions Ltd unpublished report.</i></p>		
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: An evaluation comprising of six trenches was required by the Hertfordshire County Planning Archaeologist as the site is situated within Historical Character Area 16, a locality with potential for both prehistoric and Saxon remains. Two of the trenches were located within the footprint of the proposed building, with the remainder positioned in areas of potential landscaping.</p> <p>All of the trenches were sealed by topsoil which generally lay directly above the subsoil. This subsoil lay directly above the natural alluvial stony clay. In Trench 4 a deposit of made ground overlay the subsoil and was sealed by the topsoil, whilst modern features which cut the subsoil were observed in Trenches 2 and 6. As with the made ground horizon these modern features were also sealed by the topsoil.</p> <p>Only two features were recorded as cutting into the natural, with a rectangular posthole or small pit observed in Trench 6 and a linear feature observed in Trench 5. Both features were sealed by the subsoil. Whilst the linear in Trench 5 contained a sterile fill suggesting that it may have been formed by root disturbance, a flint blade was recovered from the fill of the rectangular feature in Trench 6. This was indicative of prehistoric activity within the immediate vicinity of the study site, although no further associated features were revealed during the evaluation process.</p>		
Author of summary: Peter Moore		Date of summary: 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2012

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