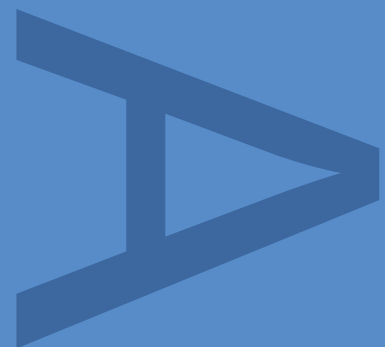


**LAND TO THE EAST OF
ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH
MICKLEHAM, SURREY RH5 6DX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: MOLE
VALLEY DISTRICT COUCIL**

NOVEMBER 2012



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY



DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

LAND TO THE EAST OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH
MICKLEHAM, SURREY RH5 6DX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

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Land to the East of St. Michael's Church, Mickleham, Surrey RH5 6DX
An Archaeological Evaluation

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 1718 5341

Local Planning Authority: Mole Valley District Council

Planning Application Number: MO/2012/0960/CU

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1 ABSTRACT

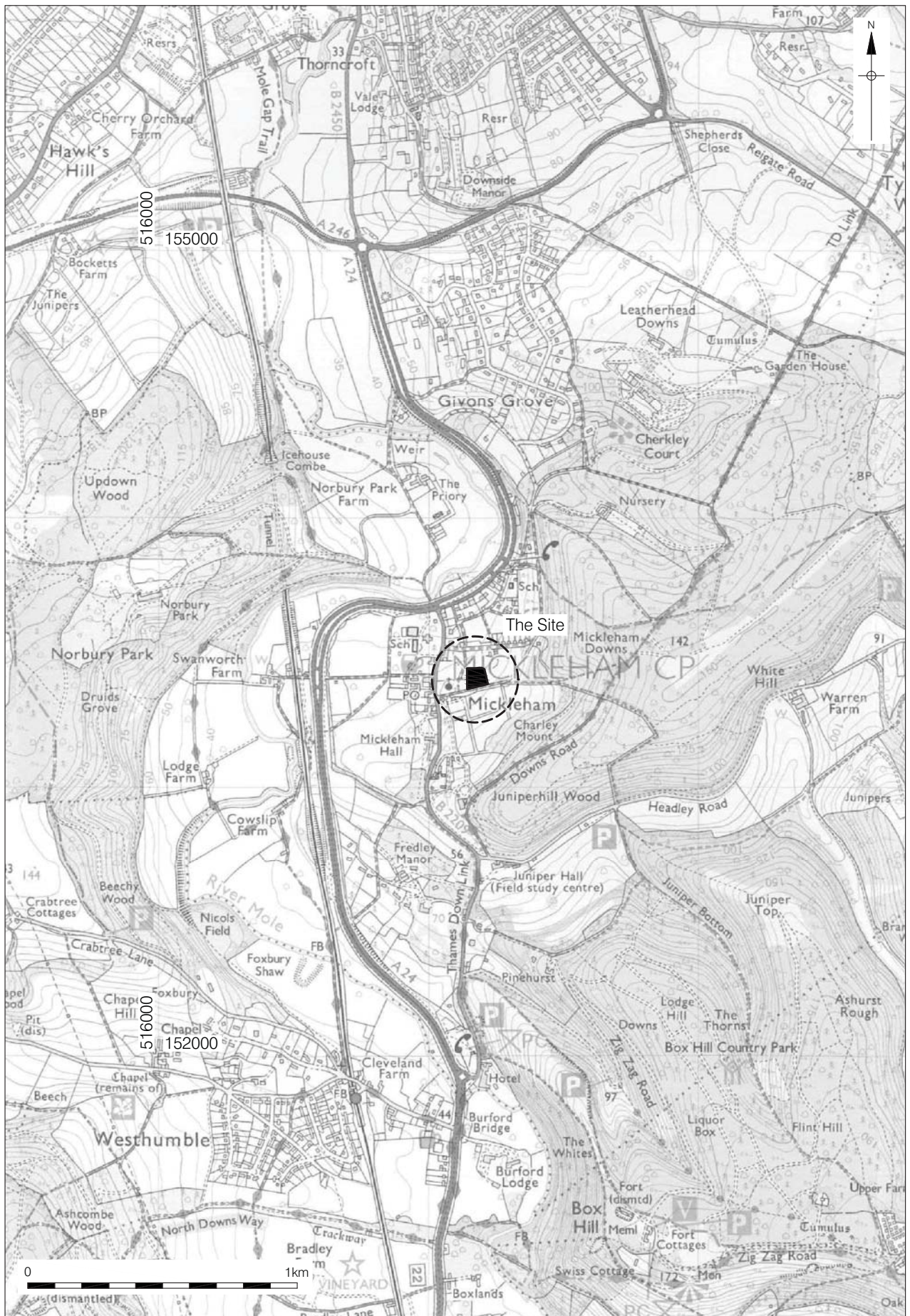
- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land to the east of St Michael's Church, Mickleham, Surrey, within the administrative area of Mole Valley District Council. The archaeological evaluation was conducted in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site as an extension to the existing Church of England burial ground, and was undertaken between the 5th and 9th November 2012.
- 1.1.2 A total of seven evaluation trenches were excavated over the site representing 5% of the development area. Un-truncated natural deposits of river terrace sands and gravels were encountered in the base of six of the evaluation trenches, while in one trench the upper levels of the natural deposit had been horizontally truncated, probably by post-medieval quarrying.
- 1.1.3 Four of the trenches yielded archaeological features and these include a possible Roman boundary ditch and several undated but possibly associated post-holes. Late medieval/early post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material was recovered from a sub-soil layer.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted between the 5th and 9th November 2012 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land to the east of St. Michael's Church Mickleham, Surrey, RH5 6DX, within the administrative area of Mole Valley District Council. The National Grid Reference of the site is TQ1718 5341.
- 2.1.2 The evaluation was commissioned by Mickleham Parochial Church Council and Mr and Mrs Hobbs of Eastfield Cottage, Mickleham, and was monitored for the Local Planning Authority by Mr Gary Jackson, Archaeological Officer for Surrey County Council. The field evaluation was supervised by Stuart Watson and project managed by Tim Bradley for PCA. All work was undertaken following the appropriate English Heritage (GLAAS) (1998) and IFA (2008) guidelines.
- 2.1.3 The evaluation was undertaken in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission (planning ref: MO/2012/0960/CU) granted for development of the site as a Church of England burial ground as an extension to the existing graveyard attached to the parish Church.
- 2.1.4 The study site is a rhomboid shaped plot, covering approximately 0.5 hectares and is set in a rural location in the village of Mickleham in Surrey. The site is located adjacent to the eastern boundary of the existing parish church graveyard and is bounded to the north by a wire fence forming the boundary to an adjacent field, to the south by a metal fence separating the site from the driveway to Eastfield Cottage. The western boundary is calculated to be marked by a single mature Oak tree.
- 2.1.5 The archaeological evaluation followed the methodology set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared for the site (Bradley 2012) which proposed that a total of seven trial trenches were to be excavated across the site, representing 5% of the external area.
- 2.1.6 The evaluation aimed to address the primary objectives which were set out in the WSI, as follows:
- To record the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological remains affected by the investigation.
 - To assess where appropriate the eco-factual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from the site.
 - To report the results of this investigation.
- In addition the following research questions were posed:
- To set the site and its potential archaeological remains into the wider context of the landscape
 - To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric remains.
 - To determine the presence or absence of Roman remains- is there any evidence to elucidate the presence of Roman finds in the adjacent church yard.

- To establish the presence or absence of Saxon activity.
- To establish the presence or absence of medieval and post-medieval activity.

2.1.7 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material will be deposited at Guildford Museum under the site code **SSMC12**.



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HB 20/11/12

Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4

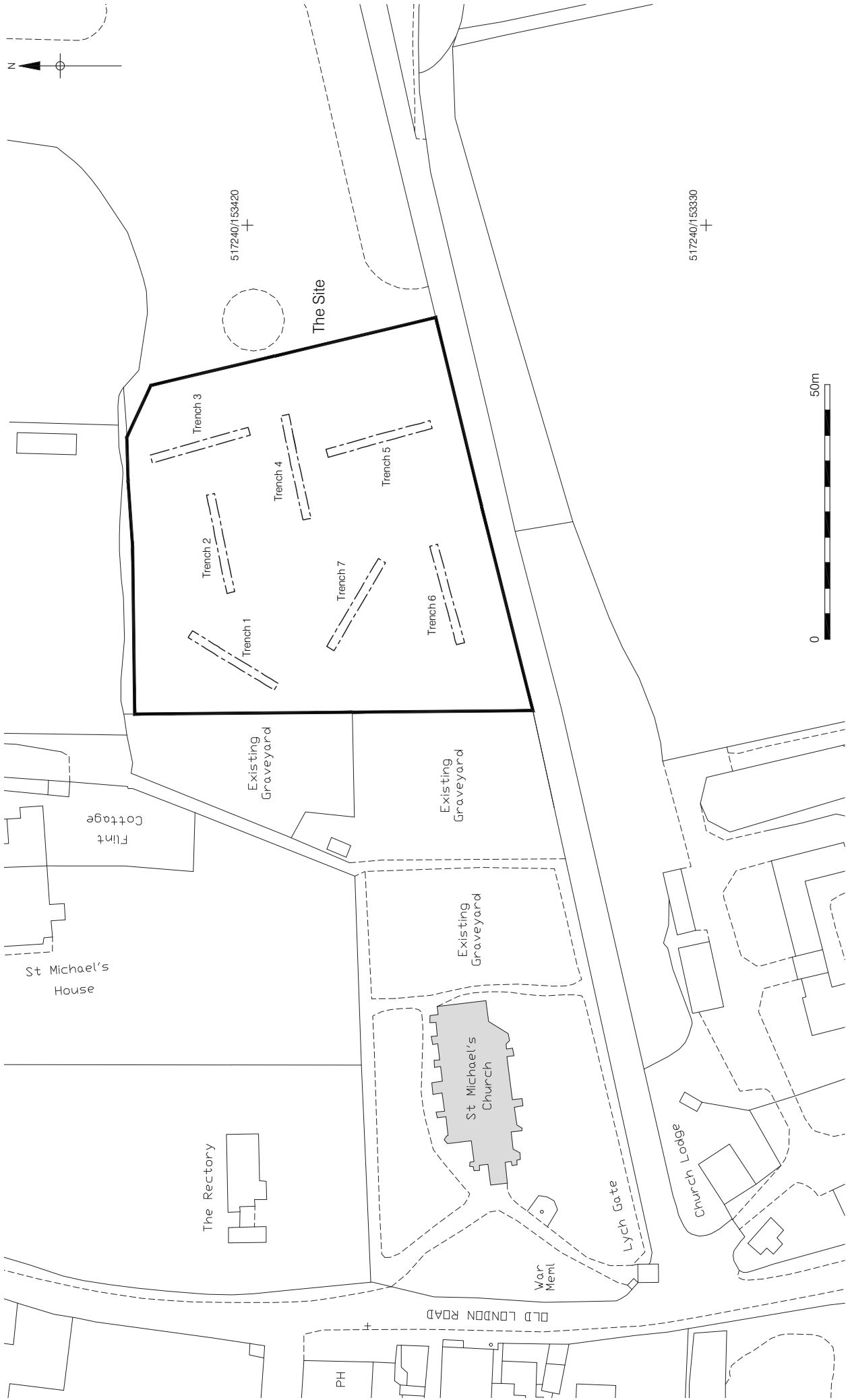


Figure 2
Trench Location Plan
1:1,000 at A4



Figure 3
 All Features Plan
 1:500 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was adopted on March 27 2012, and now supersedes the Planning Policy Statements (PPSs). The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications.

3.1.2 Chapter 12 of the NPPF concerns the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment, with the following statements being particularly relevant to the proposed development:

128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

Additionally:

141. Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.

3.1.3 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will now be guided by the policy framework set by the NPPF.

3.1.4 The NPPF also states that:

214. For 12 months from the day of publication, decision-takers may continue to give full weight to relevant policies adopted since 2004 even if there is a limited degree of conflict with this Framework.

215. In other cases and following this 12-month period, due weight should be given to relevant policies in existing plans according to their degree of consistency with this framework (the closer the policies in the plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).

3.1.5 As such the local planning authority will continue to also be guided by the existent Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.

3.1.6 Regional Policy:

3.1.7 On 6 May 2009 the Secretary of State published the final approved Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the South East (The South East Plan). The RSS replaces the Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (RPG9), together with the relevant Count Structure Plans. The South-East Plan holds the following policy with regard to the historic environment:

POLICY BE6: MANAGEMENT OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT.

WHEN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING PLANS AND STRATEGIES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND OTHER BODIES WILL ADOPT POLICIES AND SUPPORT PROPOSALS WHICH PROTECT, CONSERVE AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, ENHANCE THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND THE CONTRIBUTION IT MAKES TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS AND SENSE OF PLACE. THE REGION'S INTERNATIONALLY AND NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS SHOULD RECEIVE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PROTECTION. PROPOSALS THAT MAKE SENSITIVE USE OF HISTORIC ASSETS THROUGH REGENERATION, PARTICULARLY WHERE THESE BRING REDUNDANT OR UNDER-USED BUILDINGS AND AREAS INTO APPROPRIATE USE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

3.1.8 Local policy core strategy DPD, adopted 2009.

3.1.9 The Core Strategy sets out a vision, objectives, spatial strategy and overarching planning policies that guide new development in the District up until 2026. This is the starting point in the determination of planning applications in the district alongside the 'saved' policies within the Mole Valley Local Plan.

The Historic Environment (Extract)

6.4.10 Finally it is considered that guidance through Planning Policy Guidance / Statements, National / European Legislation (e.g European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage) and the South East Plan (Policy BE6) provides sufficient protection of the historic environment and archaeology at the strategic level, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Historic Parks and Gardens. However, it should be recognised that that this is not limited to the built environment and archaeological sites, but includes historic landscapes. Mole Valley contains a number of the regionally significant historic features identified in the South East Plan, including:

An historic countryside of varying character

An outstanding archaeological heritage including Roman, Saxon and medieval development

Historic market towns and villages with medieval churches and other historic buildings

Stately homes and historic parks and gardens.

6.4.11 In total there are 27 Scheduled Monuments, 7 County Sites of Archaeological Importance, Areas of high Archaeological Potential in the District, together with 5 gardens on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest and just over 1,000 listed buildings.

6.4.12 These are an asset to the District and the Region and are irreplaceable.

Site Constraints

- 3.1.10 The site lies approximately 57m east of St Michael and All Angels' Church, Mickleham, a Grade II* listed building.
- 3.1.11 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by Mole Valley the District Council.
- 3.1.12 No Scheduled Ancient Monuments lay within the 750m radius of the study site.
- 3.1.13 Planning permission was granted for the development (Ref: MO/2012/0960/CU) with the addition of an archaeological condition in accordance with Mole Valley Local Plan policy ENV50 and policy CS14 of the Mole Valley Core Strategy.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Geology

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey digital mapping (internet source 1) indicates that the underlying superficial geology at the site consists of a narrow band of River Terrace Deposits (Undifferentiated) - Sand And Gravel; Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. The local environment was previously dominated by rivers, in this instance the River Mole.
- 4.1.2 During this investigation an un-truncated natural stratum was encountered at an approximate depth of 0.50m below ground level at 49.97mOD. The deposit was recorded as 'Sandy Gravel' which equates with the British Geological Survey description of the area. In Trench 3 the natural horizon had been horizontally truncated to a depth of approximately 1m below current ground level.

Topography

- 4.1.3 The site is a rural location and is currently an open field given over to pasture. The grass is rough and formed into small tussocks in places. The land, while generally flattish, does slope gradually down from south to north. A single mature Oak tree marks the eastern limit of the development. The western boundary, where it adjoins the existing graveyard, is marked by dense hedge-row that includes mature Yew trees. The northern boundary is currently marked by a wire fence which sits atop a sharp break of slope that probably marks an ancient field boundary. In the north-east corner of the site there is large depression in the ground which is believed to be the site is an old quarry pit, now overgrown. The ground level at the study site is at its highest at the south of the site at 51.88mOD before sloping gradually down to 48.20mOD at the north of the site.
- 4.1.4 The River Mole flows approximately 400 m north of the study site.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section is a summary of the archaeological and historical background taken from the Desk Based Assessment prepared for the site (Watson 2012) which presents a comprehensive version of this section.

Prehistoric

- 5.1.2 There is a limited amount of evidence for Prehistoric activity taking place within the 750m radius of the study site. Prehistoric activity appears to be concentrated on the high ground on top of Mickleham Downs approximately 500m south-east of the study site.

Roman

- 5.1.3 Evidence of Roman activity within the radius of the study area, while limited, is intriguing. The Roman road Stane Street (Margary road no.15), deviates from the obvious straight line route between *Londinium* (London) and *Noviomagus Regnorum* (Chichester) to cross the top of Mickleham Downs, confirmed by excavations in the 1950s (SHER 2009).
- 5.1.4 A hoard of 24 coins of Crispus and Constantine I were found close to the line of Stane Street on Mickleham Downs in 1971, with a metal detector (SHER199.).
- 5.1.5 A Roman heavy cast bronze stud (20mm long by a diameter of 14mm) is listed on the SHER as being found 'in Mickleham', (SHER6013.).
- 5.1.6 Evidence exists for Roman settlement in the wider area. A possible Villa, on land occupied by offices of Friends Provident Insurance Company, is located where Old London Road joins the A24 at the base of Box Hill on the River Mole (c.2.75km south of the study site). At Bagden Farm, c.2.50km south-west of the study site, a Roman coin hoard was reported to have been unearthed by ploughing in 1715 (Watson 2012).
- 5.1.7 Further evidence of Roman activity comes from an archaeological investigation conducted in October 2009 (Watson 2009. Site code SSMM09). A number of post-medieval inhumations were encountered in six trenches along with a small amount of residual Roman pottery and ceramic building material. The pottery was identified as Alice Holt / Farnham Ware (AHFA) dated to between AD250-400. Several fragments of Roman ceramic building material were recovered, with two examples of roller stamp die tiles (Lowther Type 1). The die pattern dates to the post Hadrianic period (AD120+). There were also two examples of wavy comb tiles as well as Box-Flue tiles that have been dated to the 2nd century. There is also a small amount of Roman brick, *tegulae* and fragments of *opus signinum*. The CBM assemblage dates to no later than AD140-230 (Watson 2009, 2012).

Saxon

- 5.1.8 Mickleham's origins as a village date to the Saxon period, as does the Church itself
-

(SHER172.) The Saxon church, which consisted of a nave and chancel only, is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1080-1086). Traces of the Saxon church still survive in the fabric of the building, principally the west doorway.

- 5.1.9 Two burials and a spearhead, probably Anglo-Saxon was found in 1780, when Juniper Hall was being built (SHER174.).

Medieval

- 5.1.10 Mickleham appears in the Domesday Book as *Michelham* and *Micleham*.
- 5.1.11 Mickleham Parish Church is dedicated to St Michael and All Angels (SHER 172, 9155). While traces of its 10th century origin still exist in places, the most numerous survivals are medieval. It retains its late 12th century nave, south aisle, chancel and west tower. It has a side-chapel dated to c.1300 and a 15th century west porch. However, the church underwent substantial remodelling in the mid 19th century (see below).

Post-Medieval

- 5.1.12 Mickleham as a settlement has remained largely unchanged since the late medieval- early post-medieval periods, retaining its village qualities to this day. During the post-medieval period a number of houses both large and small were built in the village, a number of which are now listed
- 5.1.13 The parish church underwent significant alterations in the 19th century. The nave and part of the tower was re-built in 1823. Further alterations to the church were carried out in 1872 with the addition of the north aisle and the rebuilding of the original north wall and doorway. In 1951 the vestry was altered by lowering the roof to allow light into the previously obscured 12th century lancet windows. In 2009 the vestry was partly demolished and rebuilt.
- 5.1.14 The A24, which bypasses Mickleham just to the north, was opened by June 1939 and is believed to be the first dual-carriageway bypass to be built in Britain (Watson 2012).

Cartographic Evidence

- 5.1.15 The cartographic evidence presented in the DBA for this site (Watson 2012), but not included in this report, suggests that the study site has remained as open land, given over to pasture, from at least the 18th century, and probably for considerably longer.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1.1 The evaluation was conducted according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by PCA (Bradley 2012) prior to the commencement of works. The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains, which may require further investigation.
- 6.1.2 The WSI for this archaeological evaluation stipulated that seven trenches were to be located on the study site measuring 20m long by 1.60m wide at base. This equated to c. 5% of the development area. The depth of the natural horizon necessitated all but one of the trenches to be approximately 0.50m deep.
- 6.1.3 The trenches were located prior to excavation using GPS survey equipment and planned from baseline points also established by GPS. Trench 5 was positioned to target a possible linear feature identified during the Aerial Photograph Assessment included within the WSI.
- 6.1.4 A wheeled JCB backhoe excavator fitted with a flat ditching bucket was used under archaeological supervision to remove overburden down to the highest archaeological or natural horizon. The features and deposits identified within the trenches were then cleaned and investigated by hand. Investigation was limited to identifying the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence.
- 6.1.5 The archaeological deposits were assigned individual context numbers and recorded onto pro-forma sheets and recorded in plan and section as appropriate.
- 6.1.6 A comprehensive photographic record was made of each trench post-excavation and detailed shots taken of any discrete features within each trench, using 35mm colour and monochrome film and high-resolution (12.5MP) digital photography.
- 6.1.7 A temporary bench mark (TBM) was established on the southern boundary of the site, the value of which, 51.88mOD, was obtained using GPS survey equipment.
- 6.1.8 All finds were removed from site and transported to PCA's offices in Brockley for cleaning and analysis (see Appendix 2).
- 6.1.9 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material will be deposited at Guildford Museum under the site code **SSMC12**.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1.1 The following description of the stratigraphy details the main characteristics of each context and its position within the phased stratigraphic matrix, as encountered during the archaeological evaluation. More details of the archaeological sequence can be found in Appendix 1.

Phase 1: Natural

7.1.2 Untruncated natural deposits were observed in the base of six of the seven evaluation trenches (TR's 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 7). Recorded as context number [2] throughout the area of investigation, the natural was noted to be friable light yellowish brown sandy gravel with some clay and chalk fragments, with moderate inclusions of medium sized flint nodules. The natural deposit was encountered at its shallowest at 0.35m below ground level in TR 7 but more commonly at 0.50m below ground level in TR's 1, 4, 5, & 6. The levels were recorded at between 48.61mOD in TR3 to 50.03 in TR6.

7.1.3 The exception was within Trench 3 where the natural [2] had been horizontally truncated to a depth of c. 1m below ground level at 48.71m OD.

7.1.4 In Trench 6 a possible linear feature [11] aligned E-W was, on excavation, revealed to be a naturally formed root bole with its base being ridged and undulating. It was filled by [12], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles. The level at the top was recorded at 49.84m OD and at the base 49.75mOD. It measured 2m long W-E by between 0.20m-0.30m wide N-S and was at its maximum 0.09m deep.

Phase 2a: Roman

7.1.5 Cutting into the natural [2] in the base of Trenches 4, 5, 6 & 7 were a number of discrete features dated to the Roman period.

7.1.6 In Trenches 4 and 5 a north-south aligned linear feature was observed cut into the natural [2]. In Trench 5 this feature was given the cut number [9] fill number [8]. As exposed the cut [9] measured 6m long N-S by 1.31m wide E-W. The level at the top of the cut was recorded at 49.68m OD. CBM fragments recovered from the fill [8] included a distinctive curved Roman roof imbrex fragment dated to AD50-160 and a fragment of medieval peg tile dated to 1180-1450 (thought to be intrusive).

7.1.7 In Trench 4 the same linear feature was observed cut into the natural sandy gravel [2]. Here it was given the cut number [4], primary fill [6] and secondary fill [5]. In this instance the trench was aligned transversely over the feature and thus only 1.60m length N-S was exposed - its width was 1.72-1.78m E-W. A slot was excavated across the southern side of the feature to expose the profile of the cut [4]. The sides formed a 'v'-shape with a shallow vertical sided channel in the base (described as an 'ankle breaker'). The feature was 1.76m wide E-W at the top of the cut sloping down to 0.40m wide at the base - it was

- 0.80m deep. The top of the cut lay 0.43m below ground level at 49.73m OD whilst the base of the cut was recorded at 48.96m OD.
- 7.1.8 The primary fill of [4] was described as a 0.29m thick layer of mid brownish yellow sandy silt mixed with humic soil containing frequent inclusions of chalk fragments. The pottery was a slightly abraded fragment of the rim of a local Roman grey-ware jar (probably Alice Holt/ Farnham ware) and has been dated to the 1st - 4th century AD. The top of fill [6] was recorded at 49.25m OD. Overlying [6] was a loose mid brown sandy silt [5], the secondary fill of cut [4]. A fragment of medieval peg tile recorded from this deposit was considered to be possibly residual, considering both that it was recovered from the upper level of the secondary fill and that the material from which it was recovered was relatively loose with the potential for vertical transportation of larger inclusions.

Phase 2b: Undated but possibly Roman

- 7.1.9 In Trench 6 a series of post-holes were recorded cutting into the natural sandy gravel [2], these are identified by their cut numbers; [13], [15], [17], [19], [21] and [23] and are individually described below. No dateable material was found in any of the post-holes and therefore they have been ascribed to this sub-phase by the balance of probability (see discussion in conclusion). It is possible, however, that these features may conceivably form part of a later lightweight agricultural structure or fence-line. All the post-holes in TR6 had identical fills.
- 7.1.10 Cut [13] was a small circular post-hole with a diameter of 0.20m and a depth of 0.17m. The sides were vertical and the base rounded. The level at the top was recorded at 49.79mOD and at the base 49.62m OD. It was filled with [14], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles.
- 7.1.11 Cut [15] was a large sub-circular post-hole with a diameter of 0.60m and a depth of 0.21m. The sides were vertical and the base flat. The level at the top was recorded at 49.78mOD and at the base 49.57m OD. It was filled with [16], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles.
- 7.1.12 Cut [17] was a small ovoid post-hole measuring 0.24m NW-SE by 0.14m NE-SW and a depth of 0.12m. The southern side was vertical while the northern side had a gradual concave slope, the base was rounded. The level at the top was recorded at 49.79mOD and at the base 49.67m OD. It was filled with [18], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles.
- 7.1.13 Cut [19] was a large circular post-hole with a diameter of 0.62m and a depth of 0.25m. The sides were shallow concave sloped and the base flat. The level at the top was recorded at 49.76mOD and at the base 49.51m OD. It was filled with [20], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles.
- 7.1.14 Cut [21] was a small ovoid post-hole measuring 0.32m N-S by 0.27m E-W and a depth of

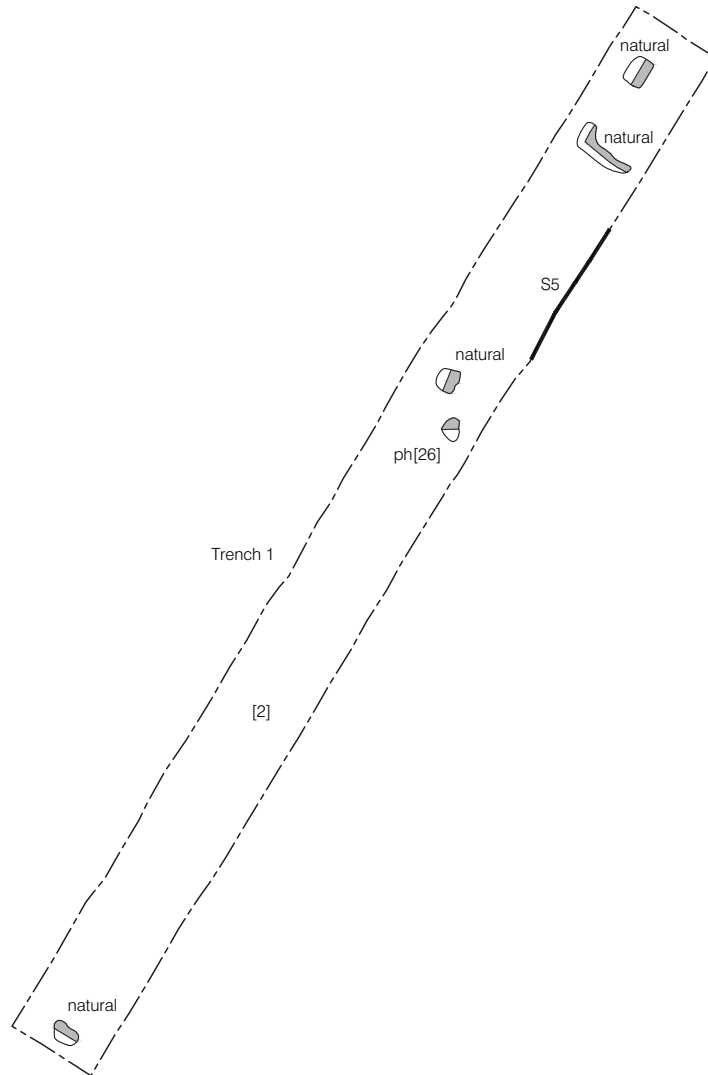
- 0.18m. The western side had a gradual concave slope while the eastern side was vertical, the base was rounded. The level at the top was recorded at 49.64m OD and at the base 49.46m OD. It was filled with [22], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles.
- 7.1.15 Cut [23] was a small ovoid post-hole measuring 0.34m NE-SW by 0.24m NW-SE and a depth of 0.15m. The sides had a gradual concave slope, the base was rounded. The level at the top was recorded at 49.67m OD and at the base 49.59m OD. It was filled with [24], a mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint pebbles.
- 7.1.16 In Trench 1 a number of circular features were also revealed cut into the natural [2] and were suspected of being post-holes, but after excavation only one post-hole was confirmed. Given the cut number [26], this feature was a medium sized sub-circular post-hole with a diameter of 0.28m and a depth of 0.31m. The sides were straight and angled inwards, the base was flat. The level at the top was recorded at 48.13m OD and at the base 47.82m OD. It was filled with [27], a mid grey brown silty sand with occasional small sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Phase 3: Late medieval/ early post-medieval

- 7.1.17 All of the above features, in all of the evaluation trenches, were overlain by a 0.20m to 0.50m thick sub-soil layer. This sub-soil was recorded across the site as follows: [25] in TR1, [28] in TR2, [30] in TR3, [7] in TR 4, [10] in TR5, [1] in TR6 and [31] in TR7. The layer was described as a firm mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional small angular flint pebbles, flecks of chalk and very occasional fragments of pottery and CBM. On average the sub-soil layer was encountered at c. 0.20m below ground level at heights ranging from 48.67m OD as [25] in TR1 to 50.32m OD as [1] in TR6.
- 7.1.18 In Trench 3 the natural sandy gravel [2] was overlain by [29], a 0.25 to 0.40m thick layer of dark yellow brown clayey silt with lens of medium sized flint nodules. This was interpreted as a re-deposited layer backfilling the truncated natural. The top lay at 0.70m below ground level at 49.01mOD. This layer was not observed in any of the other trenches and is presumed to be associated with quarrying activity that took place just to the north of the trench.
- 7.1.19 Finds of pottery and CBM fragments were recovered from context [1] in TR6 and are dated to 1805-1900 AD. The CBM is dated to 1200-1700 AD. The CBM from [25] in TR1 is dated to 1200-1700AD (see Appendix 2).

Phase 4: Modern (+)

- 7.1.20 All of the above layers lay below modern topsoil which on average was c. 0.20m thick. The top formed the current ground level at between 51.88m OD in the south of the site sloping down to 48.20m OD in the north of the site.

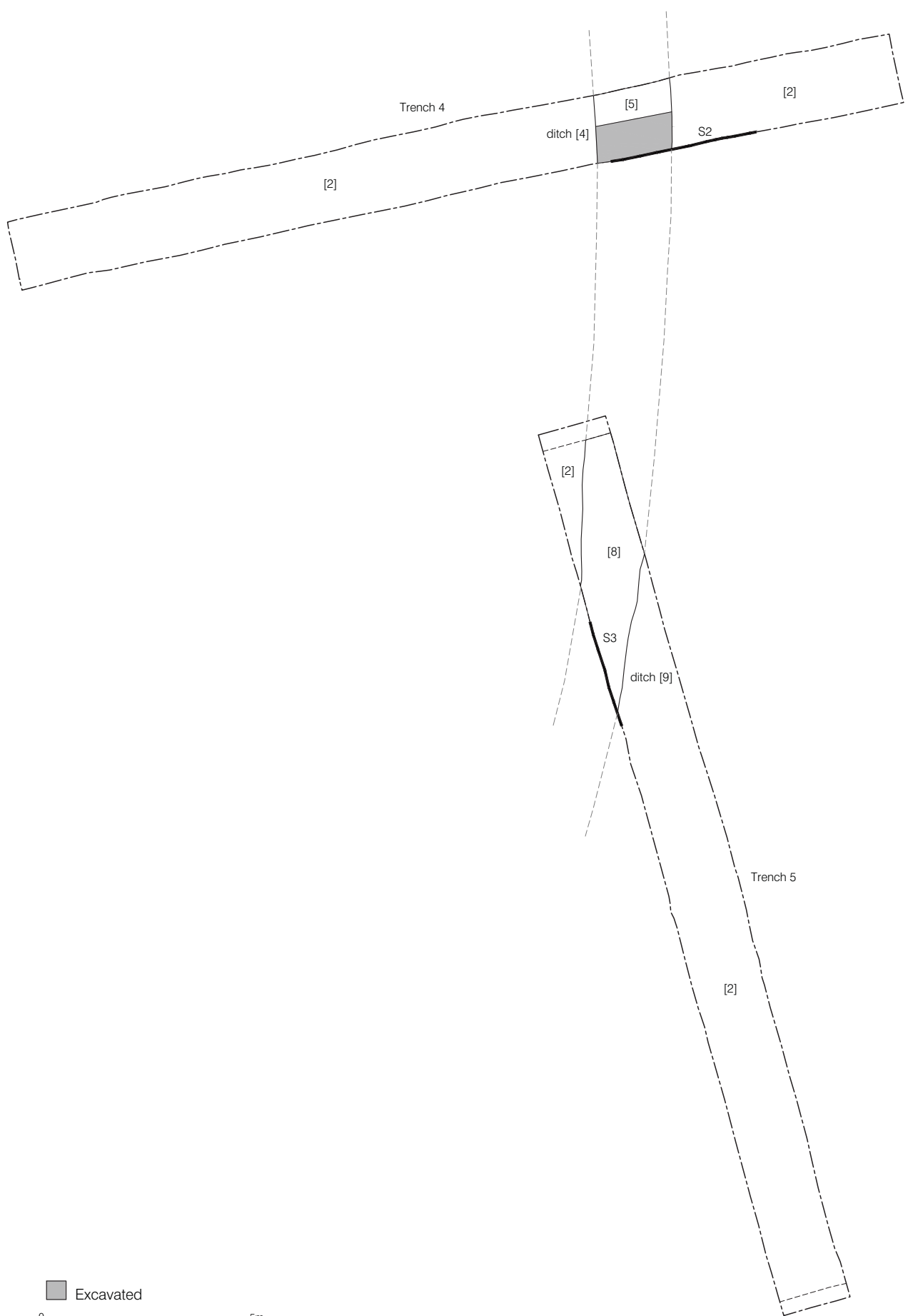


■ Excavated

0 5m

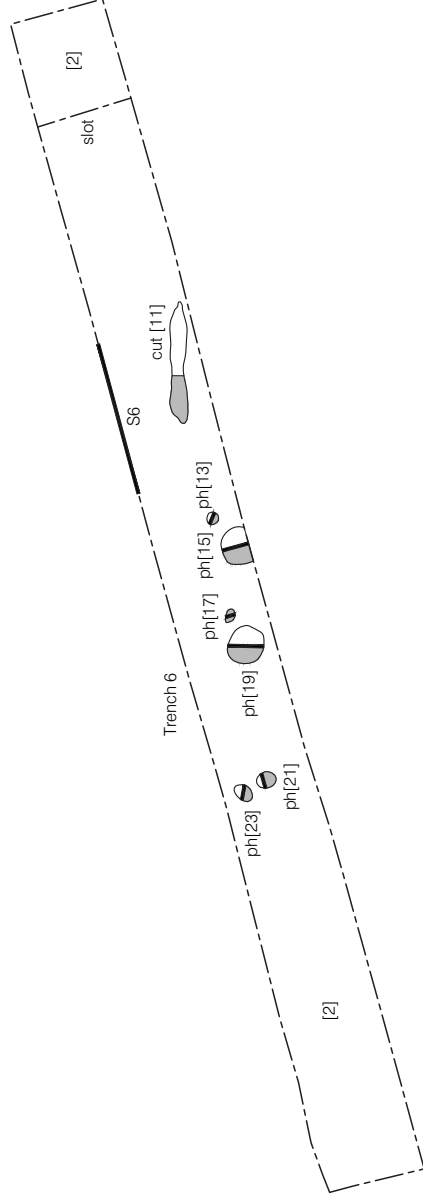
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Figure 4
Plan of Trench 1
1:125 at A4



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HB 19/11/12

Figure 5
Plan of Trenches 4 & 5
1:125 at A4

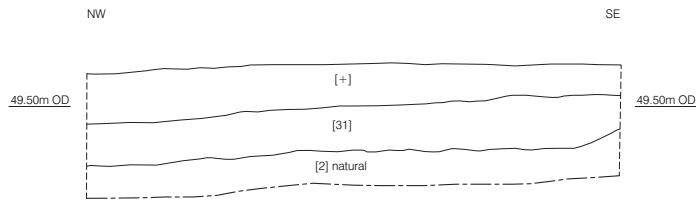


Excavated

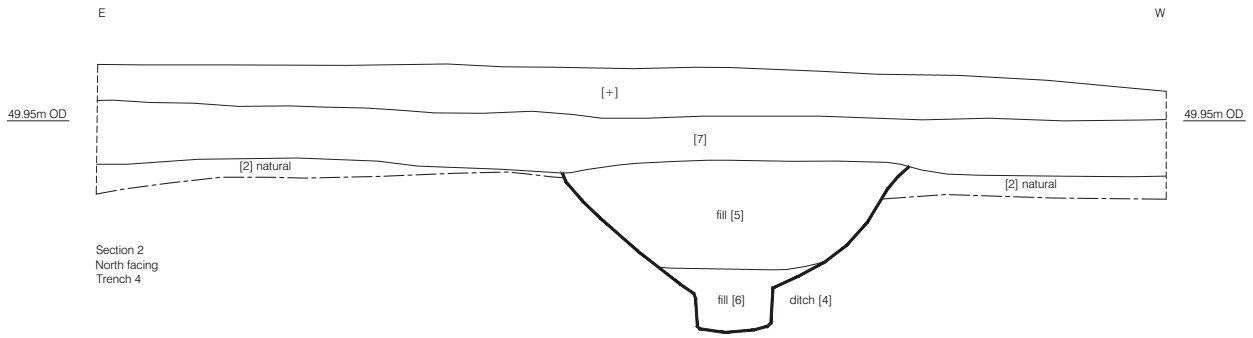


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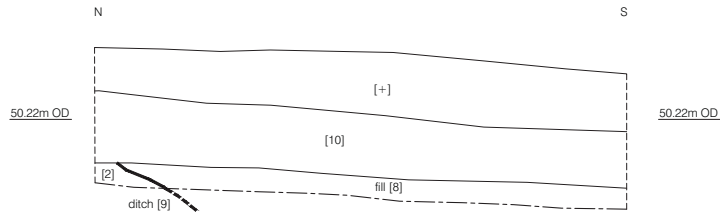
Figure 6
Plan of Trench 6
1:125 at A4



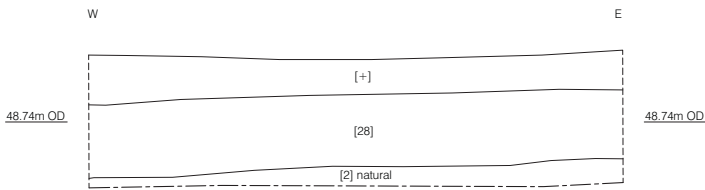
Section 1
South East facing
Trench 7



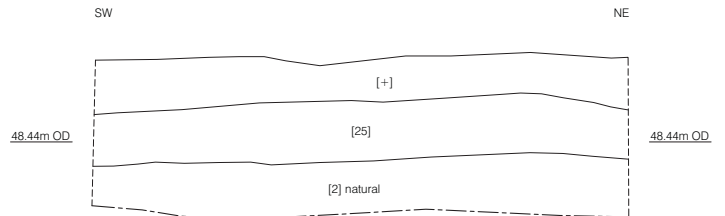
Section 2
North facing
Trench 4



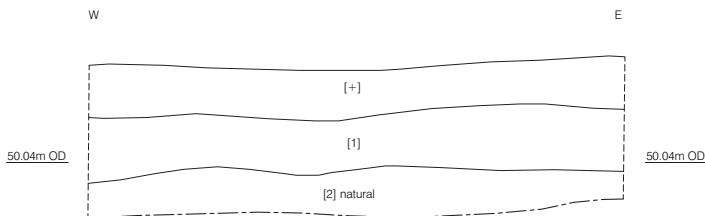
Section 3
East facing
Trench 5



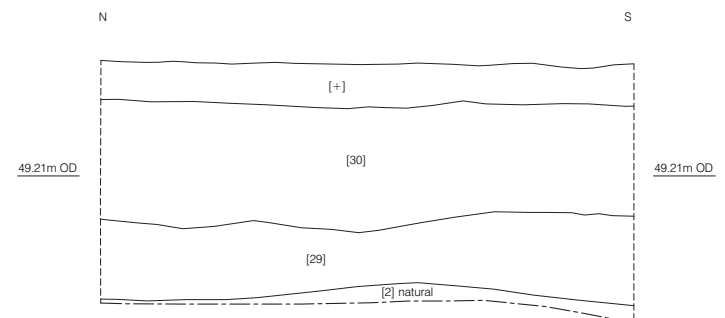
Section 4
South facing
Trench 2



Section 5
North West facing
Trench 1



Section 6
South facing
Trench 6



Section 7
West facing
Trench 3



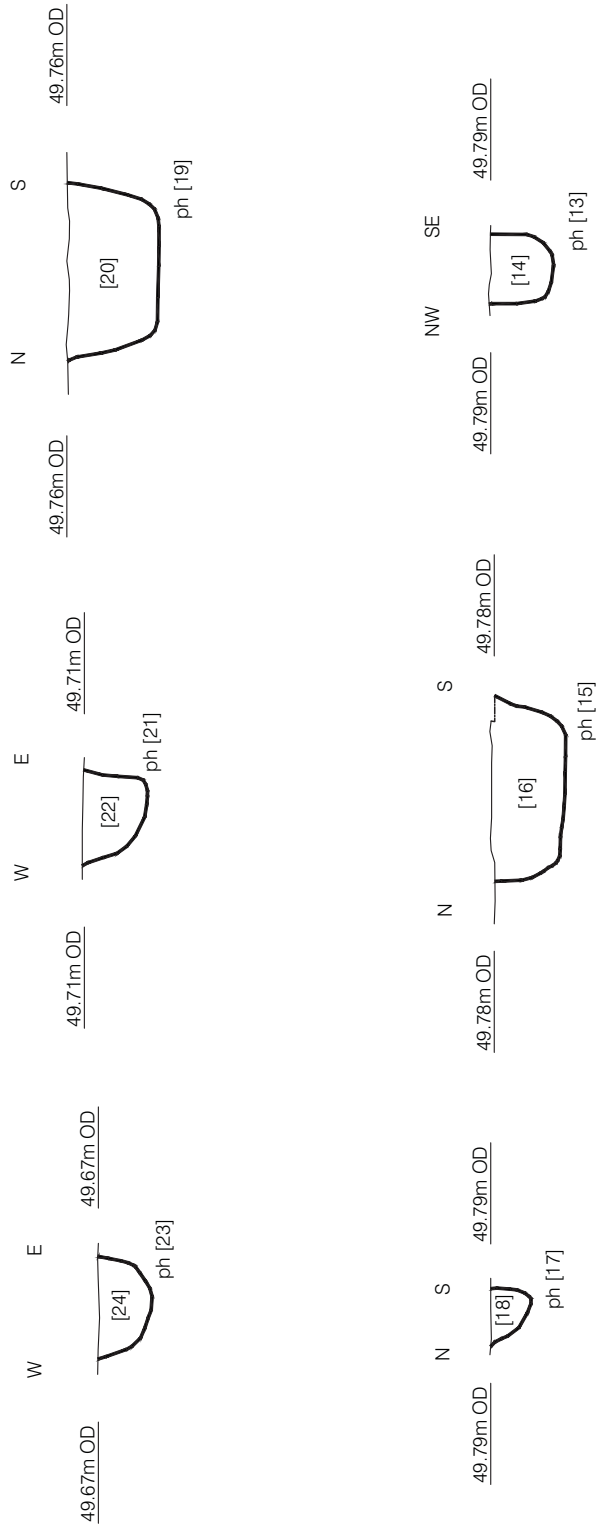


Figure 8
 Profiles of Postholes in Trench 6
 1:25 at A4

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1.1 The evaluation undertaken on land to the east of St. Michael's Church Mickleham, Surrey, RH5 6DX, revealed the presence of natural River Terrace Deposits of sand and gravel. This superficial deposit was typically a light yellow brown sandy gravel with lenses of clay, weathered chalk fragments and flint nodules. The un-truncated natural horizon survived in the base of six of the seven evaluation trenches; the exception was Trench 3. Here the natural appeared to have been truncated to a depth of c. 1m below ground level. It is surmised that this may be the result of quarrying activity. A small quarry pit is known to have been in operation in the later post-medieval period and this lay just to the north of this trench. Cartographic evidence (Watson 2012; Figs 6-8) indicated that the pit was contained to a specific area, but it may have encroached marginally onto the study site and into the area defined by Trench 3.
- 8.1.2 No archaeological evidence relating to the prehistoric or Saxon periods was uncovered during this investigation. However some evidence of the Roman, late medieval and early post-medieval periods was recorded.
- 8.1.3 Trench 5 was deliberately sited to target faint linear marks identified on aerial photographs of the area (Bradley 2012; Appendix 1, Plates 2 & 3). During the excavation of Trench 5 a linear feature was indeed recorded (see para 8.1.4), although it was aligned N-S, while the feature visible on the aerial photographs was aligned NE-SW. No evidence of any feature matching the aerial photograph was identified during the evaluation.
- 8.1.4 In Trenches 4 and 5 the N-S aligned linear feature referred to above was exposed, which after excavation was revealed to be a ditch. The dating evidence recovered from this feature ([4] in TR4 and [9] in TR5) consisted of a sherd of pottery and fragment of CBM. The pottery was identified as Roman greyware dated to between the 1st and 4th centuries AD, possibly Alice Holt/Farnham ware, and the CBM as part of a Roman roof tile imbricated dated to AD50-160. The pottery finds are consistent with those recovered during the watching brief conducted at the Mickleham Church vestry site in 2009 (Watson 2009. 10.10) which also recovered several sherds of Alice Holt/Farnham ware. While the Roman finds are admittedly sparse, the profile of the ditch cut is also suggestive of a Roman date; 'v' shaped with a squared off channel in the base, an 'ankle breaker', is a typical profile of Roman ditches. Taking this evidence along with earlier evidence of Roman activity from the church vestry site (Watson 2009) and the evidence of Roman activity in the wider landscape (Watson 2012) this feature is interpreted as dating to the Roman period, possibly representing a Roman boundary ditch defining the extent of a small rural villa/farmstead, possibly located on the site of Mickleham Church (see discussion in Watson 2009).
- 8.1.5 Given the course of the above boundary ditch recorded in Trenches 4 and 5, its alignment would suggest that it should have been identified in Trench 3. However, no evidence of the

- ditch was uncovered and it may be that in this location it had been truncated along with the upper layers of the natural horizon [2], probably by the quarrying previously mentioned.
- 8.1.6 The group of post-holes in TR6 [13], [15], [17], [19] [21] & [23] appear to lie on an WNW-ESE alignment, which places them at right angles to the ditch [4]/[9]. It is surmised that the smaller post-holes [13] and [17] may have acted as additional support to the larger post-holes [15] and [19]. Unfortunately no dating evidence was recovered from any of the post-holes and they have been tentatively dated to the Roman era, principally by association. A probable Roman ditch lies to their east and known Roman finds (noted during the Vestry investigation) to the west. For the same reason, the single post-hole [26] in TR1 has been tentatively dated to the same period
- 8.1.7 The evaluation has demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains at the study site. While some dateable material was obtained from the features, the chronology is far from clear across the site. The ditch is probably Roman, but the post-holes are merely suspected of being Roman, and may conceivably represent a later lightweight agricultural structure or fence-line. In general the distribution of features appears to be focussed to the south and west of the site, with nothing revealed in the north east of the site. Within the south west of the site the evaluation trenches suggest the concentration of features is moderate.

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10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

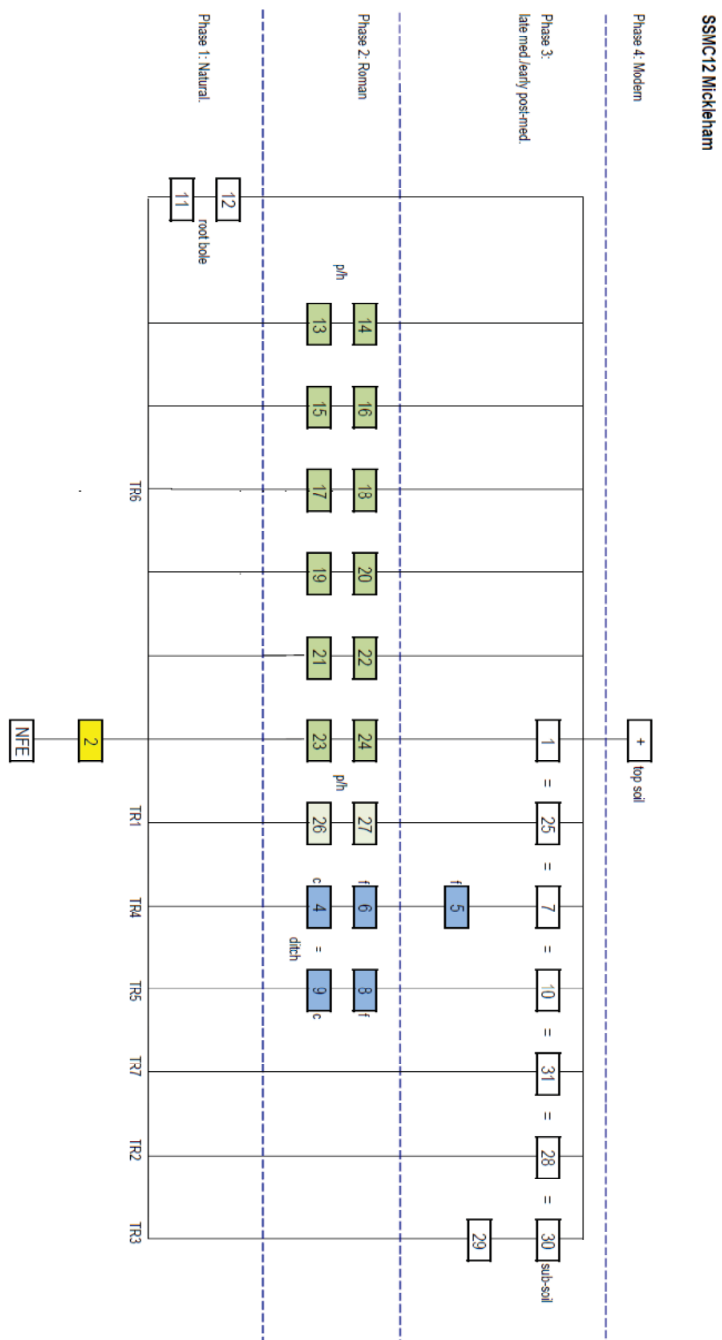
- 10.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Mr Mark Day of Mickleham Parochial Church Council and Mr and Mrs Hobbs of Eastfield Cottage, Mickleham for commissioning this report.
- 10.1.2 The author would like to thank to the machine driver from Tara plant hire for his work. Thanks are also extended to the archaeological team of Lee Harvey and Paw Jorgensen (site work), Chris Cooper (logistics) and Rick Archer (GPS survey). The author would also like to thank PCA CAD department for the illustrations and Tim Bradley who edited this report.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Date	Phase
1	n/a	6	Layer	Sub-soil layer =[3], [7], [10], [25], [28], [30]	Late med./early post-med	3
2	TR1 to TR7	1,2,3,4,5,6 & 7	Natural	Sandy gravel natural deposit	Natural	1
3				VOID (number doubled up)		
4	TR4	2	Cut	Cut of N/S ditch	Roman	2a
5	n/a	2	Fill	Secondary B/ fill of [4]	Late med./early post-med	3
6	n/a	2	Fill	Primary fill of [4]	Roman	2a
7	n/a	2	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late med./early post-med	3
8	TR5	3	Fill	Fill of [9] = [6]	Roman	2a
9	TR5	3	Cut	Cut of N/S ditch = [4]	Roman	2a
10	TR5	3	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late med./early post-med	3
11	TR6a		Cut	Cut of root bole	Natural	1
12	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [11]	Natural	1
13	TR6a		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
14	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [13]	? Roman	2b
15	TR6a		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
16	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [15]	? Roman	2b
17	TR6a		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
18	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [17]	? Roman	2b
19	TR6a		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
20	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [19]	? Roman	2b
21	TR6a		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
22	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [21]	? Roman	2b
23	TR6a		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
24	TR6a		Fill	Fill of [23]	? Roman	2b
25	TR1	5	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late	3

					med./early post-med	
Context	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Date	Phase
26	TR1		Cut	Cut of post-hole	? Roman	2b
27	TR1		Fill	Fill of [26]	? Roman	2b
28	n/a	2	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late med./early post-med	3
29	n/a	7	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late med./early post-med	3
30	n/a	7	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late med./early post-med	3
31	n/a	1	Layer	Sub-soil = [1]	Late med./early post-med	3

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: SPECIALISTS ASSESSMENTS (POTTERY, CBM & ANIMAL BONE)

Pottery assessment (SSMC12)

By Chris Jarrett

A total of eight sherds of pottery were recovered from the excavation. Most sherds are in a good condition and so were deposited soon after breakage. The pottery dates to the Roman and 19th century. A catalogue of the pottery follows.

Catalogue of the pottery

Context	Number	Description	Spot date
1	x1	base sherd of a post-medieval sandy red-ware flower pot	1580-1900
	x2	rim sherds of a refined white-ware ('Ironstone'/china) plate	1805-1900
	x5	rim and base sherds of a transfer-printed ware plate with the Willow Pattern design	post 1789
6	x1	small rim sherd of a local Roman grey ware jar (?Alice Holt), slightly abraded	1 st -4 th c. AD.

Context [1], spot date: 1805-1900, the post-medieval period.

Context [6], spot date: 1st-4th Century AD, the Roman era.

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The pottery has no significance at a local level, its only potential is to date the contexts it was found in and there are no recommendations for further work.

The Ceramic Building Material (CBM) assessment (SSMC12)

By Dr. Kevin Hayward

Context	Fabric code	Description	No.	Date	Suggested spot date
1	Locsilt1 2271	Peg tile fragments no glaze but with coarse moulding sand	2	1180-1800	1200-1700
5	2586 Locsilt1	Peg tile fragments no glaze but with coarse moulding sand	2	1180-1800	1200-1700
8	3006v	Roman imbrex in local variant of common sandy London 3006;	1	50-160AD	50-160AD
	2271	medieval peg tile thick reduced core no glaze	1	1180-1450	1180-1450
25	2271 early; 2271 later; Locsil1 Locsil2	Early thin abraded medieval peg tile; later medieval sandy peg tile; Local sometimes very thick silty peg tiles with a medieval brown sandy mortar	7	1180-1800	1200-1700

Table 1: Spot Dates

This small assemblage is dominated by medieval to early post medieval peg tiles, characterised by coarse moulding sand; undulating profile and brown sandy mortar typical of the medieval period.

The exception is a distinctive curved roofed Roman imbrex fragment that has a very coarse but silty (local) fabric similar to those produced in the fabric 3006 in London (AD50-160)

ANIMAL BONE CATALOGUE

Dr Kevin Riley

Context	Species	Comments
5	Cattle	Right mandible anterior end with incisor row
		Cattle metatarsal proximal fragment in poor condition
		Left humerus distal
		Right mandible anterior end with incisor row
	Pig	Anterior mandible, incisors to fourth adult premolar (male)
		Left skull fragment – posterior (juvenile)
		Right skull fragment, temporal condyle (juvenile)
8	Sheep/Goat	Right mandible with well worn teeth
	Pig	A juvenile Left pig tibia
	Chicken	Femur shaft fragment
	Sheep-sized remains	Rib fragment

PLATES 1-8.



Plate 1: D1.12. Trench 6. Post-holes in base of trench. Scales 2m, 1m and 0.5m looking E.



Plate 2: D1. 16. Trench 4. Roman ditch [4] pre-excitation. Scales 2m, 1m, 0.5 looking SW



Plate 3: D1.20. Trench 5. Roman ditch [9]. Continues in TR4 as [4]. Scales 1m, 0.5m. Looking N.



Plate 4: D1.23. Trench 4. Roman ditch [4] post-excitation Scales 1m, 0.5m. Looking SE.



Plate 5: D1.36. Trench 6. Post-holes [19] and [17] in foreground, [15] and [19] in background. Scales 0.5m and 10cm. Looking E.



Plate 6. D2.3. Trench 6. Post holes [21] and [23] in foreground, [19] and [18] mid shot. [15] and [13] background. Root bole [11] in far distance. Scale 0.5m looking E.



Plate 7: D2.4. Trench 1. Post-hole [26]. Scale 0.5m looking SE.



Plate 8: D1.30. Trench 3. Natural [2] truncated to depth of 1m. The trees on right of shot mark site of post-medieval quarry pit. Scales 2m, 1m. Looking N.

APPENDIX 4: OASIS FORM

Project details

Project name Land to the East of St. Michael's Church, Mickleham, Surrey RH5 6DX.
An Archaeological Evaluation

Short description of the project An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land to the east of St Michael's Church, Mickleham, Surrey. The archaeological investigation was conducted in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site as an extension to the existing Church of England burial ground. A total of seven evaluation trenches were excavated over the site representing 5% of the development area. Un-truncated natural deposits of river terrace sands and gravels were encountered in the base of six of the evaluation trenches, while in one trench the upper levels of the natural deposit had been horizontal truncated away probably by post-medieval quarrying. Four of the trenches yielded significant archaeological features and these include a possible Roman boundary ditch and several possible Roman era post-holes. Late medieval/ early post-medieval pottery and CBM was recovered from a sub-soil layer.

Project dates Start: 05-11-2012 End: 09-11-2012

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes SSMC12 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation

Monument type DITCH Roman

Monument type POST HOLES Uncertain

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds CBM Roman

Significant Finds CBM Medieval

Significant Finds CBM Post Medieval

Methods & "Targeted Trenches"
techniques

Development type Extension of graveyard

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

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

Project location

Country England

Site location SURREY MOLE VALLEY MICKLEHAM Land to east of Mickleham
Church, Surrey

Postcode RH5 6DX

Study area 0.50 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 1718 5341 51 0 51 16 02 N 000 19 12 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 48.61m Max: 50.03m

Project creators

Name of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Organisation

Project brief Surrey County Council
originator

Project design Tim Bradley
originator

Project director/manager Tim Bradley

Project supervisor Stuart Watson

Type of Parochial Church Council sponsor/funding body

Name of Mickleham Parochial Church Council sponsor/funding body

Project archives

Physical Archive Guildford Museum recipient

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Digital Archive Guildford Museum recipient

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography","Survey" available

Paper Archive Guildford Museum recipient

Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Paper Media "Aerial Photograph","Context sheet","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey","Unpublished Text" available

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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