

**70 STATION ROAD, WEST DRAYTON
LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON**



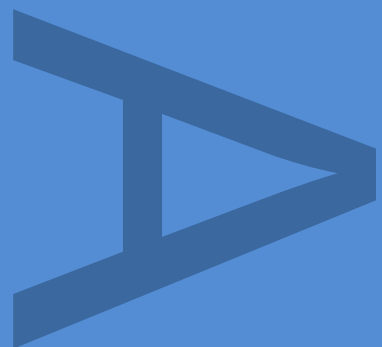
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AND EVALUATION**



PCA REPORT NO: R11409

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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

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70 STATION ROAD, WEST DRAYTON
LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF &
EVALUATION

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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AND EVALUATION ON LAND
AT 70 STATION ROAD, WEST DRAYTON, LONDON BOROUGH OF
HILLINGDON**

Local Planning Authority: Hillingdon Borough Council

Planning Ref: 2954/APP/2011/2723

Site Code: SNR13

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 06146 79797

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PCA Report No: R11409

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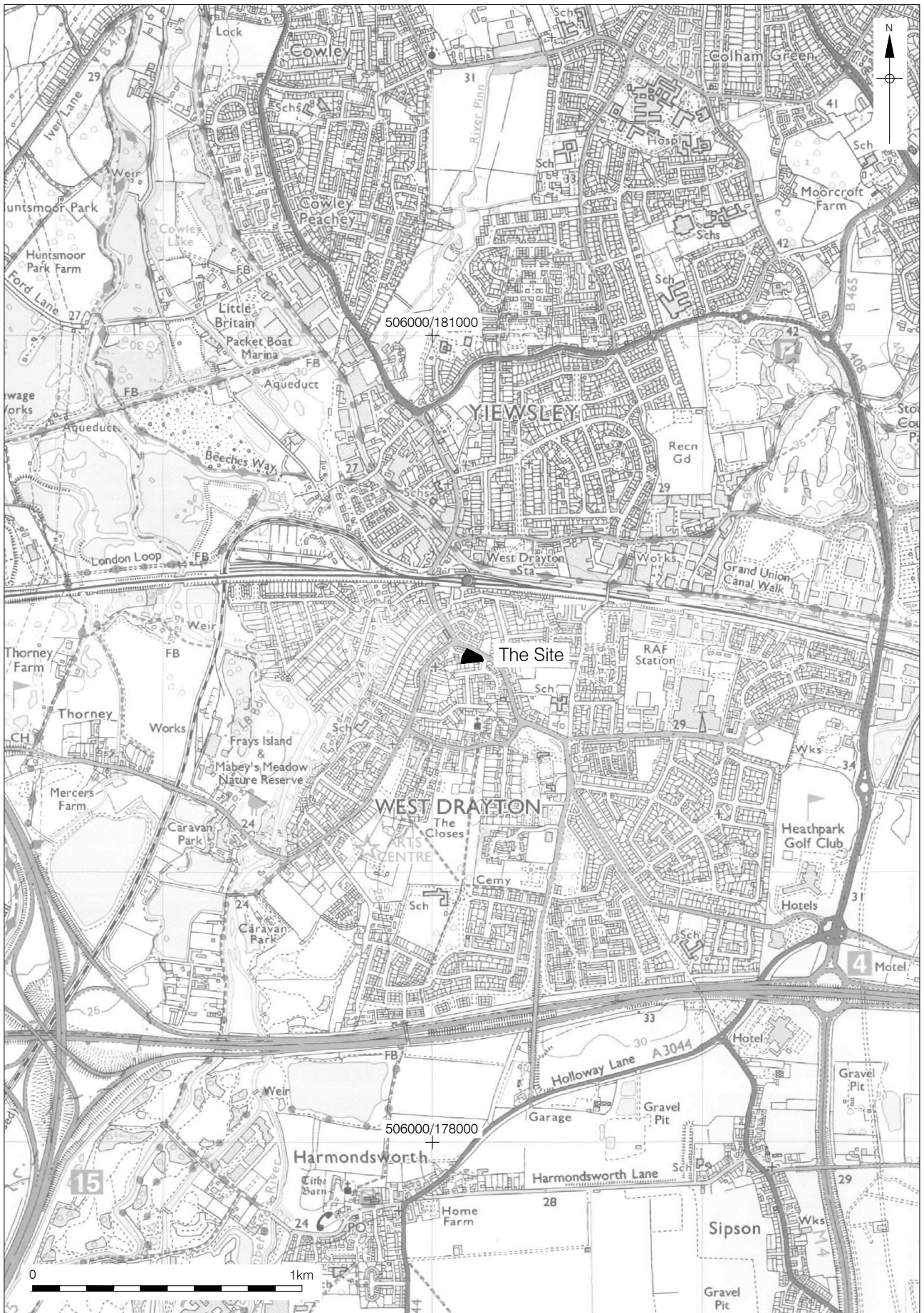
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1 Abstract

- 1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. conducted an archaeological watching brief of foundations removal and a targeted evaluation by trial trenching at 70 Station Road, West Drayton, London Borough of Hillingdon between 21st January and 15th February 2013. The watching brief monitored the removal of footings and underground fuel tanks associated with buildings that formerly occupied the site. The evaluation comprised the excavation of six trial trenches measuring c. 4m x 4m, a seventh proposed trench being abandoned because of its proposed location being covered with stockpiled crushed concrete. The six trenches were located to provide site-wide coverage for the evaluation, the trench location plan prepared by Ramboll being adapted as an iterative result of the findings of the watching brief. The work was carried out prior to redevelopment of the site for residential purposes.
- 1.2 On the basis of the observations made during the watching brief it became clear that the excavation of foundation trenches had had a significant but localised impact on underlying deposits, whereas excavation for the tanks to the north of the site had had a widespread and severe impact on earlier layers. There also appeared to be deep truncation by possible basements towards the north-west of the site. Neither archaeological features nor deposits were observed in any of the areas monitored.
- 1.3 Although no archaeological remains were observed during the watching brief, and two evaluation trenches close to the northern site boundary were equally unproductive, earlier deposits were extant in the other four trenches. The earliest feature was a small gully in Trench 5 located towards the centre of the site, which produced a quantity of 11th-century pottery. This was truncated by two later medieval pits and further medieval features were present in Trench 7, a short distance to the south, and Trench 3 towards the eastern edge of the site. Evidence of post-medieval activity, probably associated with the farm that previously occupied the site, was recorded in Trench 5 and in Trench 4 to the west.
- 1.4 Although no features pre-dating the Late Saxon/early medieval period were identified, quantities of struck flint were recovered from later features, particularly in Trench 5, suggesting that in addition to flint being used in construction in the local area during the medieval and post-medieval periods, there had also been some prehistoric activity either on the site or in the very near vicinity. Overall the evaluation revealed at least three distinct phases of occupation with activity on the site potentially spanning a number of millennia.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 Between the 21st January and 15th February 2013 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) carried out an archaeological watching brief and evaluation by trial trenching at 70 Station Road, West Drayton, London Borough of Hillingdon (Figures 1 & 2).
- 2.2 It is proposed that the site is redeveloped for residential purposes, and planning permission for redevelopment has been granted. One of the conditions of planning permission was that a programme of archaeological mitigation work be undertaken in advance of redevelopment. The work reported here forms the first part of that mitigation.
- 2.3 The work was commissioned by Ramboll UK on behalf of Jasper Properties Ltd and comprised the archaeological monitoring of foundation and sub-surface fuel tank removal, followed by a targeted trial trench evaluation which was partly informed by the observations made during the watching brief (Figure 2).
- 2.4 The site is located at National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 06146 79797 and has been allocated the site code **SNR13**.

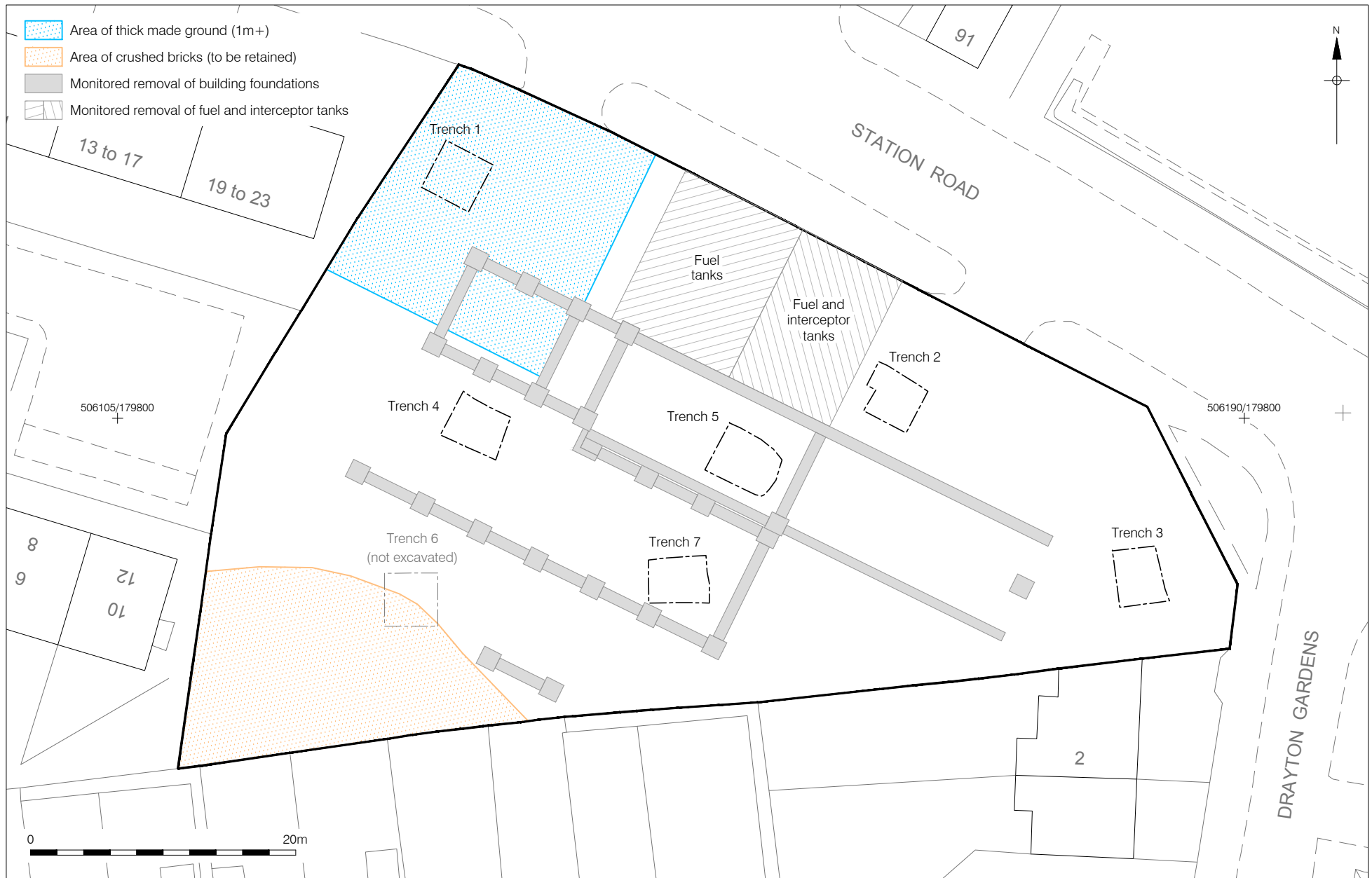


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Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Detailed Site and Trench Location
 1:500 at A4

3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 West Drayton lies to the west of central London within the London Borough of Hillingdon, and historically within the county of Middlesex. It is located north of the M4 motorway and immediately south of the settlement at Yiewsley, with the village of Harmondsworth some distance to the south. The Station Road site lies north of the centre of West Drayton and close to Yiewsley High Street.
- 3.2 According to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 256; North London), the underlying geology of the site comprises sand silt and clay of the Palaeogene London Clay formation, deposited between c. 34 and 55 million years ago. This is overlain by Pleistocene Lynch Hill Terrace gravels, which are capped by clay and silt brickearth of the Langley Silt Member.
- 3.3 The site lies to the south of Station Road and is accessed from the north directly from that road. The site is generally flat, though it may have been artificially levelled in the past.
- 3.4 The site is bounded to the west by Classon Close, to the north by Station Road, to the east by Drayton Gardens and to the south by residential properties fronting onto Drayton Gardens. It is located some 300m south of the Grand Union Canal and approximately 800m east of the south-flowing River Colne.

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 There is a moderate amount of information available concerning the archaeology and history of the West Drayton and Yiewsley areas, and this shows the earlier prehistoric and medieval periods to be being particularly important periods in the area. The archaeological and historical background summarised here concentrates on an area within a 500m radius of the site, though important findings from more distant locations are also discussed.

4.2 Prehistoric

4.2.1 The West London/Middlesex Terrace gravels have been an important source for Palaeolithic artefacts in the past, with many sites being identified during gravel extraction during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The Lynch Hill and later Taplow Terrace Gravels of the Yiewsley and West Drayton area have been a particularly rich source for implements of the Middle Palaeolithic Levalloisian flint industry (Wymer 1968, 255-9). Boyer's Pit, Clayton's Little Wonder Pit and Eastwood's Pit for example, at Yiewsley, some distance north-east of the study site have all produced important assemblages, the latter site alone producing in excess of 4000 artefacts, half of them handaxes (Hopkins 2009, 4). The Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) also lists a find of seven Lower Palaeolithic handaxes at another site in Yiewsley, possibly within 500m of the study site (GLHER ref: 050130/00/00)

4.2.2 Evidence of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic activity is largely absent in the vicinity of the study site but nationally important occupation sites of these periods are recorded at Three Ways Wharf, Uxbridge, little more than 5km to the north-west (Lewis 1991; 2011). The Neolithic period is a little better represented in the vicinity of the study site. A Neolithic pit including worked flint and pottery sherds was found during excavations at the former Gatehouse Nurseries site at Beaudesert Mews to the south of the site (Cotton 1981), a flint scraper and polished axe were found in a garden at 57 Money Lane, south-west of the site (GLHER ref: 050184/00/00) and another small polished axe was recovered in the Yiewsley area, north-east of the site (GLHER ref: 050468/00/00).

4.2.3 Evidence of activity during the Bronze Age is also recorded from a small number of locations within the vicinity of the study site. An Early Bronze Age flanged axe was found at Warwick Road, north of the site (GLHER ref: 050196) and an archaeological evaluation at Colham Mill Road to the north-west exposed part of a trackway or hurdle of possible Bronze Age date (Knight 1996a). In addition to the Neolithic and Bronze Age sites and finds, more generally dated prehistoric artefacts have been recovered from a number of sites, including a quantity of struck and burnt flint from investigations at St Martin's Hall, Kingston Lane (Bennell 1995; Masefield 1996) and

a single struck flint recovered during work at Warwick Road/Furzenham Road (GLHER ref: MLO62820).

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 Evidence of activity in the Roman period is somewhat restricted in the vicinity of the study site and is mostly limited to residual finds recovered from later contexts during archaeological investigations. A watching brief at St Martin's Vicarage, 191 Station Road, south-east of the site recovered a small assemblage of Roman pottery sherds, though no features of any date were recorded (Hunn 2001), and the investigations at Beaudesert Mews also recovered residual Roman pottery sherds (Cotton 1981), as did those at St Martin's Hall (Bennell 1995; Masefield 1996).

4.4 Anglo-Saxon

4.4.1 A settlement was probably established in the West Drayton area during the Middle to Late Saxon period, the name 'Drayton' being interpreted as meaning variably 'a farmstead at or near a portage' or 'farmstead where drays or sledges are used' (Mills 1998). By AD 1000 West Drayton was in the possession of St Pauls, Westminster (Hopkins 2009, 6). There is little evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity recorded in the vicinity of the study site though residual sherds of vegetable-tempered Saxon pottery are reported from investigations in the Beaudesert Mews area and further investigations at Colham Mill Road revealed features below peat including wattle-lined pits and a possible fenceline. Radiocarbon dating gave a broad age range of AD 680-970 to AD 880-1160 ((Knight 1996b) and pottery of 10th-/11th-century date was recovered from the peat.

4.5 Medieval

4.5.1 The manor of West Drayton is recorded in Domesday Book, where it is assessed at 10 hides with enough arable land for 6 ploughs. The population numbered just 17 taxpayers, there was a mill, a small amount of meadow, a fish weir and overall it was valued at six pounds. The original village of West Drayton was probably focussed on the Church Road area to the south of the study site (GLHER ref: 052960/00/00) and although the earliest documentary evidence of settlement dates to the 16th century, enclosures are known from the 13th century, when the layout of the settlement was probably established. To the north of the study site the settlement of Colham, in the area of the current Yiewsley High Street, was in existence by AD 1086 and is recorded as a village in a document dated AD 1316, though was in decline by the end of the 14th century as the settlement at Uxbridge prospered to the north (GLHER ref: 052940/00/00). Another small hamlet at West Drayton Green, to the west of the study site, also had medieval origins and developed into the post-medieval period (GLHER ref: 052961/00/00).

4.5.2 A manor house was in existence by AD 1245 in the Swan Road area a short distance to the west of the study site. It was rebuilt in 1521 and known as 'The Burroughs' though was subsequently renamed Drayton House (GLHER ref: 050712/00/00). It is likely that the study site lay within lands controlled from this manor house. First recorded in AD 1461, Drayton Manor was owned by the crown and extended across parts of Hillingdon and West Drayton parishes, whereas West Drayton Manor, contained entirely within West Drayton parish, was owned by the Church until the Dissolution (Hopkins 2009, 7).

4.5.3 Activity during the medieval period within the vicinity of the study site has been evidenced from a number of formal archaeological investigations, supplemented by a handful of chance finds. Probably the most extensive excavations in the area were those at Beaudesert Mews during 1979 and 1980, where a range of features suggested that the site was located within a medieval manorial complex (Cotton 1981). Medieval material was also recovered during the investigations at St Martin's Hall (Bennell 1995; Masefield 1996), whilst medieval pottery was found during investigations at Warwick Road/Furzenham Road and a lead steelyard of medieval date was found in an area of West Drayton to the south of the study site (GLHER ref: 050839/00/00).

4.6 **Post-Medieval**

4.6.1 Following the Dissolution Henry VIII granted the manor of West Drayton to William Paget in 1546. He built a new manor house with stables, dovecote and outbuildings between the church and the village. This was completed by 1549 and a new graveyard was provided in the grounds of Drayton Manor house in 1550. The population of West Drayton, which had been recorded as 130 in 1547 increased during the 16th and 17th centuries and 64 households were recorded in the village by 1664 (Hopkins 2009, 7).

4.6.2 Evidence of early post-medieval development in the area has been recorded during a small number of archaeological investigations. The excavations at Beaudesert Mews recorded elements of a Tudor manor house (Cotton 1981) and the brick foundations of a Tudor building were also exposed at 28 Church Road (Richardson 1982, 164), whilst elements of a 15th- to 16th-century stable block have been recorded in the rear garden of 30 Church Road (Richardson 1985, 52). The wall of a post-medieval brew yard dating to approximately 1550 was also recorded during a watching brief at St Martin's Church (Partridge 1996).

4.6.3 A number of early maps include the area of the study site, though these are generally not in sufficient detail to determine the actual site layout. Christopher Saxton's Map of Middlesex dated 1575 shows 'W. Draton' but gives no layout detail and John Speed's map of Middlesex of 1610 is no more detailed. Ogilby's map of Middlesex of 1672

provides some more detail and a church is shown west of a road junction with the name Drayton to the east, though it is difficult to equate this with the current road layout. Yiewsley is shown to the north as Wewesley. Further detail is provided in Warburton's map of Middlesex of 1749 though again it is difficult to compare the road network with that of today. Wewesley has also become Weavesley on this map.

- 4.6.4 Drayton House was demolished by 1774 and in 1798 the Grand Junction Canal had been constructed and was leading to increased traffic and trade through the parish. This is reflected in the first census, in 1801, which records 98 occupied houses and 515 residents in the parish (Hopkins 2009, 7). A wharf had been established on the south bank of the Drayton stretch of the canal by 1824 and brick-making soon became established as an important local industry, exploiting the extensive deposits of brickearth in the area. The parish rates of 1846 give the first indication of the importance of the industry.
- 4.6.5 The Great Western Railway main line from London to Bristol was established during the 1830s and passes a short distance north of the study site, the original West Drayton Station having opened in 1838 and later moved to its present site (*ibid.*).
- 4.6.6 In 1872 Samuel Pocock extended a branch of the Grand Junction Canal to serve the brickfields and undertook to expand the industry. The population continued to rise and the number of households doubled between 1801 and 1881. Four years later it was calculated that 10% of the local population worked in the brick fields (*ibid.*).
- 4.6.7 Archaeological investigations in the area have also exposed evidence of activity relating to more recent periods. A watching brief at 42 Church Road revealed an 18th-century wall along with a number of post-medieval layers (Knight 2002), an evaluation at Porters Way to the east of the study site revealed a number of post-medieval and undated features (Hoad 1993), whilst 19th- and 20th-century features were recorded at 54-60 Money Lane to the west (GLHER ref: MLO59548).
- 4.6.8 The earlier editions of the Ordnance Survey Map of the later 19th century show the general road layout in the area including the current Station Road. The study site is clearly shown as occupied by buildings of Rooks Farm, whilst Swaines Farm lies a short distance to the west. The area to the south appears to be extensively covered by orchards, whilst there are further orchards and open land to the north. Early 20th-century Ordnance Survey editions up to the inter-war period still show the site in relatively open land though with urban encroachment a little further afield, indicative of the population increase in the area at this time. The local authority began constructing public housing by 1923.
- 4.6.9 By the mid 1930s there was extensive slum clearance in the area and intensive redevelopment, the last brick field closing down in 1935. The Ordnance Survey maps at this time show that much of the land around the study site has been swallowed up

by urban development though Swaines Farm has become a large open development called Swains, whilst Rooks Farm appears to have remained intact, though clearly there is no longer any nearby farmland to exploit.

4.6.10 Post-war maps of the area still show Swains and the study site as relatively open but a single large building now occupies the centre of the study site. It is believed that this building was an early post-war fuel filling station. Maps from the late 1960s onwards show further developments on the site, probably associated with the change from filling station to car showroom, with structures occupying almost half of the site area, though the area covered had declined by the time the showroom closed.

5 Planning Background and Research Objectives

- 5.1 The development of the site is subject to planning guidance and policies contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), The London Plan and policies of The London Borough of Hillingdon, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which it is the custodian.
- 5.2 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which replaced existing national policy relating to heritage and archaeology (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment). In summary, current national policy provides a framework which protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets and their settings, seeks in appropriate circumstances adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions regarding the historic environment and provides for the investigation by intrusive or non-intrusive means of sites not significant enough to merit *in-situ* preservation.
- 5.3 It is Government policy to phase out current regional planning policies and replace these with the NPPF and revised local planning strategies. However, until the revised planning system is implemented the policies contained within the regional plans are still relevant. The London Plan, published July 2011, includes the following policy regarding the historic environment in central London:

POLICY 7.8 HERITAGE ASSETS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Strategic

- A London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.
- B Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site's archaeology.

Planning decisions

- C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.
- D Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.
- E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

LDF preparation

- F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.

- 5.4 The local planning authority responsible for the study site is the London Borough of Hillingdon whose Unitary Development Plan (UDP), adopted in 1998 with policies saved in September 2007, is currently being redrawn in preparation of the new Local Development Framework (LDF). Saved policies include those relating to the historic environment and the most pertinent to the current project are as follows:

5.4 The archaeological heritage of the Borough has been incorporated in a Sites and Monuments Record, and summarised on an Archaeological Constraints Map prepared by the Museum of London and maintained by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission. In addition to Scheduled Ancient Monuments, the Constraints Map identifies a number of 'Archaeological Priority Areas', which are shown on Fig. 4 and also the Proposals Map. These are areas in which protection of the archaeological resource will be regarded by the Local Planning Authority as a primary consideration in determining planning applications, and applicants will be required to submit a preliminary archaeological site evaluation before proposals are considered.

BE1 ONLY IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY ALLOW DEVELOPMENT TO TAKE PLACE IF IT WOULD DISTURB REMAINS OF IMPORTANCE WITHIN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS.

BE2 SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND THEIR SETTING WILL BE PRESERVED.

5.5 The Constraints Map identifies further archaeological sites and findspots, and areas of geology and topography especially attractive for early settlement. These include areas of unexcavated gravels, policies for which are set out in Chapter 13. Where development may affect areas of archaeological significance or potential, both within Archaeological Priority Areas and elsewhere, the Local Planning Authority will expect applicants to have properly assessed and planned for the archaeological implications of their proposals. If the buried heritage does not require permanent preservation and is likely to be damaged or destroyed by proposed development the Local Planning Authority will seek to ensure that sites are properly investigated by a recognised archaeological organisation before development takes place.

BE3 THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY WILL ENSURE WHENEVER PRACTICABLE THAT SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST ARE INVESTIGATED AND RECORDED EITHER BEFORE ANY NEW BUILDINGS, REDEVELOPMENT, SITE WORKS, GOLF COURSE OR GRAVEL EXTRACTION ARE STARTED, OR DURING EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION. DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD DESTROY IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

5.6 The Local Planning Authority consults the Museum of London and the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission on proposals affecting other sites of archaeological interest, and in appropriate cases will attach conditions to planning permissions or seek to enter into legal agreements to ensure proper investigation of sites. It will promote co-operation between landowners, developers and archaeological organisations in accordance with PPG15, PPG16 and RPG3 (1996).

- 5.5 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the development site, though the site lies within the vicinity of an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Hillingdon; APA7 – West Drayton, which has been highlighted for its potential for Saxon and medieval remains.
- 5.6 It is now proposed to redevelop the site for the construction of residential accommodation, to include an underground car-park, associated services and landscaping. The planning application was submitted to Hillingdon Borough Council on 6th December 2011 and permission has been received. The nature and scale of the proposed development, and the relatively sensitive location of the site suggested to English Heritage's Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), the

archaeological advisors to the London Borough of Hillingdon, that surviving archaeological deposits might be impacted upon by the development process. Consequently, GLAAS recommended that the following condition be attached to planning permission:

Condition: 'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.'

Informative: 'The development of this site is likely to damage archaeological remains. The applicant should therefore submit detailed proposals in the form of an archaeological project design. This design should be in accordance with the appropriate English Heritage guidelines.'

5.7 The application to develop the site was approved by Hillingdon Borough Council on 4th February 2013 and was subject to a number of conditions, one of which followed the GLAAS advice and is worded as follows:

17 No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON

To ensure that the proposed development does not disturb archaeological remains of importance in accordance with Policy BE1 of the Hillingdon Unitary Development Plan Saved Policies.

5.8 Ramboll sought confirmation from GLAAS of the nature of the archaeological works they thought appropriate for the site, and it was agreed through this consultation that works should commence with an archaeological evaluation of the site. Ramboll submitted to GLAAS, and duly had approved, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, Bradley 2013) to cover these works. In order to most accurately position archaeological trial trenches in areas outside of 20th-century impact, work commenced with an archaeological watching brief during obstruction removal on the site. The results of the watching brief led to a refinement of the trench location drawing, as shown on Fig.2.

5.9 The objectives of the archaeological investigations were:

- To determine the natural topography of the site.
- To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric activity, whether indicated by settled occupation or artefact scatters.
- To establish the presence or absence of Roman activity on the site.
- To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity on the site.
- To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity on the site.

- To establish the nature, date and survival of activity relating to any archaeological periods at the site.
- To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

6 Archaeological Methodology

- 6.1 The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the WSI (Bradley 2013), and all aspects of the work followed national (IFA 2008) and local (GLAAS 1998) guidelines, and complied with PCA's own fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009).
- 6.2 The site had previously been occupied by a broadly 'L-shaped' car sales showroom surrounded by hard-standing forecourt areas. Prior to the archaeological monitoring, all structures on the site had been demolished and a site-wide concrete slab had been removed.
- 6.3 Following the demolition of the buildings and the removal of the concrete slab, it was necessary to remove the foundations of the buildings, buried structures and associated service runs, in order to complete the demolition phase of the project. As discussed above, these works were subject to archaeological monitoring and recording (watching brief).
- 6.4 The site was initially cleaned using a 20-tonne 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 2m wide, flat-bladed ditching bucket, in order to expose and define the foundations and other buried structural remains. Following the exposure of the foundations, their removal proceeded using the same machine, fitted with a large toothed bucket. In order to minimise the disturbance of deposits adjacent to the foundations, removal began at the end of each footing and progressed along its length, removing sections in piecemeal fashion rather than removal from the side. During the course of foundation removal a number of concrete-encased service runs, mostly drains, were encountered and these were excavated in the same way. In addition to the foundations of the main building complex, further footings to the south were also removed.
- 6.5 To the north of the main building, approximately mid way along the northern site boundary, a series of six, large buried fuel tanks was located, each sitting on a buried concrete slab and surrounded by brick walling. The western four tanks were also encased in sand and all tanks had been emptied and filled with concrete. Given the size of the tanks it was necessary to excavate along the eastern and northern edge of the complex in order to facilitate their removal. A series of interceptor tanks to the north of the fuel tanks was also removed as were six large concrete stanchion bases in the same area, which had previously supported a canopy that extended north of the main building complex. The stanchion bases had also cut into the infilled fuel tanks. Further concrete-encased service runs were also removed from this area. The various buried structures here occupied an area measuring approximately 18m north-west to south-east by 12m north-east to south-west and up to 3m deep (Figure 2).
- 6.6 The initial trial trenching WSI proposed the excavation of seven archaeological trial trenches, each measuring 4m x 4m and located across the site. However, the

watching brief demonstrated that one of these locations was occupied by a large pile of crushed masonry, whilst other proposed locations lay too close to foundation trenches or a protected tree at the south of the site.

- 6.7 On the basis of the observations and records made during the watching brief a slightly revised trench plan which avoided trees, foundation trenches and the crushed masonry pile was issued to GLAAS. The revised trench plan (Figure 2) also proposed the excavation of seven trenches, each measuring 4m x 4m, although Trench 6, the location of which had already been moved away from the area of crushed masonry, was abandoned as the size of the heap had been increased by the time of the evaluation.
- 6.8 Trench 1 was located towards the north-west corner of the site, in an area of possible basements, Trench 2 was located towards the northern edge of the site, a short distance east of the fuel tanks and Trench 3 was located towards the eastern end of the site, beyond any known former buildings. Trench 4 was located south of Trench 1, avoiding foundation trenches in this area, whilst Trenches 5 and 7 were located more centrally, again avoiding foundation trenches.
- 6.9 All trenches were machine excavated in spits to the surface of identifiable archaeological deposits or to the surface of natural deposits if identifiable archaeological remains were not present. All machining was undertaken by a 360° tracked excavator using a toothless bucket, under archaeological supervision. Longitudinal sections and bases of the trenches were then cleaned, and sample sections and base plans recorded. All features were sample or fully excavated by hand and exposed sections and spoil heaps were also checked in order to collect any dateable evidence and assess the extent of residual finds preservation. A written, drawn, surveyed and photographic record of each trench was made, and the location of each trench was recorded and tied into local and national grids using geographical positioning system (GPS) equipment (Figure 2). A temporary bench mark (TBM) was also established on the site using GPS.

7 Watching Brief Observations, Trench Description and Interpretation of Features

7.1 In this section the observations made during the watching brief are initially described, followed by a description of the stratigraphic sequence in each of the evaluation trenches (Figures 3 – 6).

7.2 Watching Brief

7.2.1 As intended, the foundation removal methodology had little lateral impact on adjacent deposits, which across the entire building footprint comprised mixed made ground deposits of recent origin [1] at the surface, generally extending to a depth of between 0.2m and 0.5m, though in the north-west corner of the structural complex and apparently extending north of this, in excess of 1m of made ground was recorded, suggesting this area may have been basemented.

7.2.2 The strip footings generally extended to between 0.7m and 1m below the current surface, whereas the stanchion bases extended at least 1.2m into the ground. The foundations therefore extended below the level of made ground into underlying deposits, which in all areas comprised natural brickearth [2], no archaeological features or deposits being observed cutting into or overlying this material.

7.2.3 The removal of the tanks at the north of the site revealed that this area had been extensively truncated by excavation for the fuel tanks, receptor tanks and service runs. Narrow columns of earlier made ground did survive, which again were seen to directly overlie natural brickearth. No archaeological features or deposits were observed and even if they had been present, their integrity would have been significantly compromised by the extensive disturbance.

7.3 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

7.3.1 This was located in an area where the depth of recent deposits exposed during the watching brief suggested the possible presence of basements. Excavation of the trench revealed large masonry structures that appeared to have housed further fuel tanks, the fluid from which was still extant within the trench. The masonry structures were overlain by very loose and unstable made ground and because of the contamination and instability of the trench it was rapidly recorded and backfilled without any further work being possible.

7.4 Trench 2 (Figure 3)

7.4.1 Trench 2 was located towards the northern edge of the site, a short distance east of the area of extensive truncation caused by the fuel tanks. The earliest deposit recorded was natural brickearth [4], the surface of which lay at elevations between 28.52m OD and 28.73m OD. This was directly overlain by up to 0.33m of modern

made ground [3] (Figure 6, Section 1)], which included building rubble along with other waste materials including plastics and metal cables. It was recorded at surface elevations between 28.87m OD and 29.10m OD. No finds or features of archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

7.5 Trench 3 (Figure 3)

7.5.1 Trench 3 was located towards the eastern edge of the site. The earliest deposit exposed was natural brickearth [27], which was recorded at a maximum surface elevation of 28.87m OD. Cut into the brickearth in the south-east corner of the trench and extending well beyond the limits of excavation was a sub-circular pit [24], which had fairly steeply-sloping sides and an apparently concave base. It measured at least 1.45m north to south by at least 0.89m east to west and was up to 0.94m deep, the base being recorded at 27.78m OD. It had been backfilled with a single deposit of firm to friable, mid greyish brown silty clay with reddish mottling [23]. A small quantity of animal bone and ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from the fill, the latter suggesting a late medieval to early post-medieval date. The function of the pit was unclear but may originally have been utilised for brickearth extraction before being subsequently used for rubbish deposition.

7.5.2 To the north a smaller pit [26] was observed in the eastern edge of the trench, also cutting into the brickearth. The form of this was not clear as it was only visible in section (Figure 6, Section 4) but it measured at least 1.16m across and was up to 0.36m deep, the base being recorded at 28.52m OD. It was backfilled with a single deposit of firm to friable, light greyish brown clayey silt [25] but the only artefactual evidence recovered was a single fragment of burnt flint. The dating was therefore unclear but the feature has been provisionally dated as medieval. Both features were sealed by a layer of modern made ground [22] up to 0.58m thick and recorded at a surface elevation of between 29.15m OD and 29.23m OD.

7.6 Trench 4 (Figure 4)

7.6.1 Trench 4 was located further to the west, approximately midway between the northern and southern site boundaries and south of the area of deep, recent truncation. The earliest deposit was reworked natural brickearth [33], recorded at a surface elevation between 28.42m OD and 28.49m OD. A large sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered from the surface of this deposit. On the eastern side of the trench the brickearth was directly overlain by two patches [31] and [32] of a rough yard surface comprised of cobbles and CBM fragments and recorded at surface elevations of 28.43m OD and 28.53m OD respectively. The two patches of cobbled surface were overlain by an apparent floor [30], constructed from mortared red bricks and recorded at an upper surface elevation of 28.80m OD (Figure 6, Section 5). A further fragment of mortared red brick floor [29] was also recorded in the south-facing section of the

trench. All of the apparent floor surfaces may have been associated with the farm that occupied the site prior to it being redeveloped as a garage, two phases of yard surfacing probably being represented. The stratigraphic sequence in the trench was completed by a layer of modern made ground [28], up to 0.61m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 29.06m OD and 29.10m OD.

7.7 Trench 5 (Figure 5)

7.7.1 Trench 5 was located in a central location within the site, between the foundation trenches of the former garage building. The earliest deposit was natural brickearth [14], recorded at an upper elevation of 28.38m OD. Cut into the brickearth in the western half of the trench was an apparent east to west aligned linear or curvilinear gully [12], though its exact form was masked by extensive truncation by a later feature to the south and east. The gully was up to 0.70m wide and 0.40m deep, being cut to a basal elevation of 28.01m OD. It exhibited an asymmetric profile, with the northern side sloping at c. 45° whilst the southern side was steeper, sloping at c. 60°. It was filled with a single deposit of moderately compacted, mid greyish brown silty clay [11] that produced a quantity of pottery along with fragments of burnt and struck flint. The pottery has been dated to the late 11th century making this the earliest dateable feature on the site, though given its heavy truncation, determination of its function is unclear.

7.7.2 The gully was heavily truncated to the south and east by a large pit [8] that measured at least 3.36m across and extended beyond the southern edge of the trench. It was at least 0.37m deep, the base not being exposed within the trench and exhibited very steeply sloping sides. It was filled with a firm, mid greyish brown clayey silt [13] that yielded a quantity of struck flint along with fragments of CBM and sherds of medieval pottery. The feature was interpreted by the excavator as a possible quarry pit, presumably for brickearth, though it may also have cut through earlier archaeological deposits.

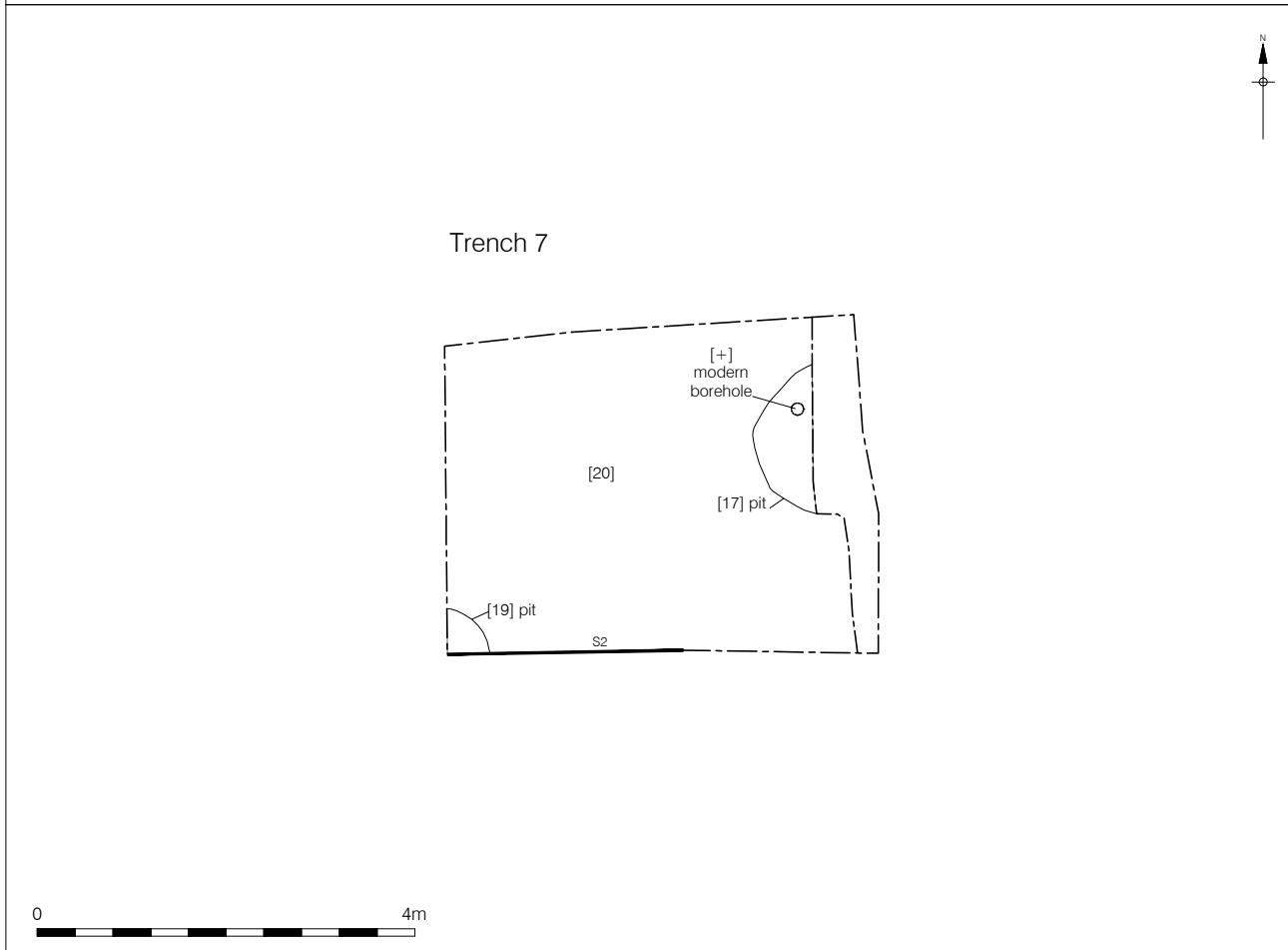
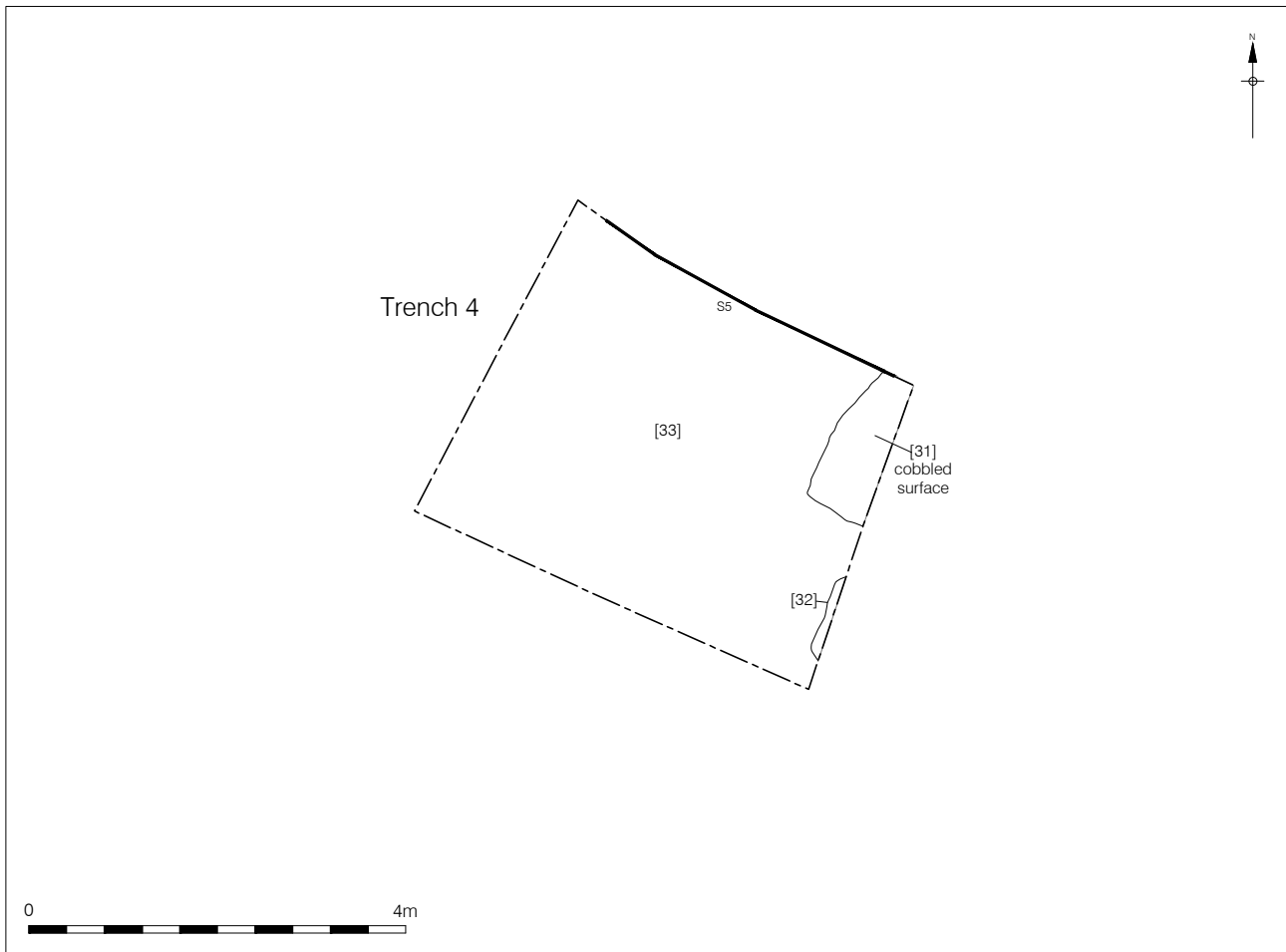
7.7.3 Gully [12] was also slightly truncated to the north-west by another pit [10], only a small part of which was present within the trench but which appeared to extend extensively to the west. The pit exhibited sides sloping at c. 45° and was at least 0.32m deep. It was backfilled with firm, dark greyish brown silty clay [9], which produced small quantities of burnt flint and earlier medieval pottery. Although the function of the feature was unclear this may also have been associated with brickearth quarrying.

7.7.4 In the north-west corner of the trench was a rectangular structure [6], the construction cut for which [7], truncated pit [10]. The structure was built from frogged red and yellow bricks (dated to the mid 18th to 19th century) bonded with a coarse, pale yellow mortar. It measured at least 1.92m north to south by 1.50m east to west, extending

beyond the northern edge of the trench. It stood to a height of 0.32m, the top being recorded at 28.88m OD and was probably associated with a later phase of activity in the former farmyard. Cut into the top of fill [9] of pit [10] was a modern, east to west aligned trench [35] for a drainage pipe [34] (Figure 6, Section 3). The stratigraphic sequence in the trench was completed by a layer of modern made ground [5], recorded at a surface elevation of 29.11m OD, from which a quantity of finds dating from the 10th to 19th centuries was recovered.

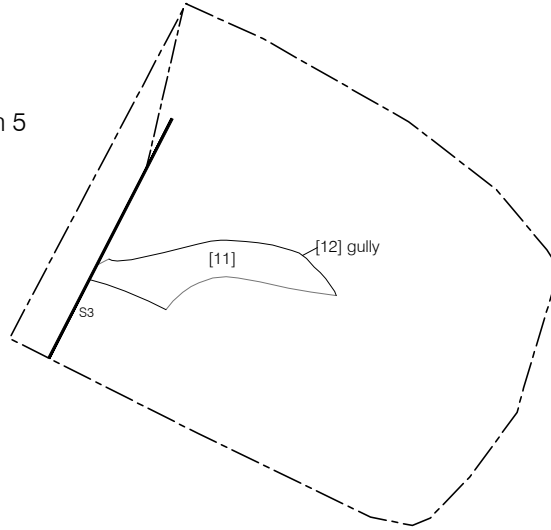
7.8 Trench 7 (Figure 4)

7.8.1 Trench 7 was also located in the central area of the site, a short distance south of Trench 5. The earliest deposit was natural brickearth [20], recorded at an upper surface elevation of 28.76m OD and cut by two features: Pit [19] was located in the south-west corner of the trench and extended beyond its western and southern edges. It appeared to be sub-circular in plan, measuring well in excess of 0.55m across and 0.27m deep, having been cut to a basal level of 28.48m OD. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a firm, mid greyish brown silty clay [18] though this produced no dateable finds. Pit [17] was located at the eastern edge of the trench and extended further to the east. This too was sub-circular, measuring 1.38m north to south by at least 0.66m east to west, but was just 0.13m deep, probably as a result of horizontal truncation in the area. It had steeply sloping sides and a flattish base. It was filled with a firm, light to mid grey silty clay with reddish brown mottling [16], which produced a small quantity of late medieval to early post-medieval CBM and pottery, though a sherd of post-medieval redware is likely to have been intrusive and derived from a modern borehole. The function of neither pit was clear; they did not appear to have been extensive enough for brickearth quarry pits but may have been associated with medieval domestic activity. Both features were sealed by modern made ground [15], which was up to 0.38m deep (Figure 6, Section 2) and recorded at surface elevations between 29.08m OD and 29.14m OD.



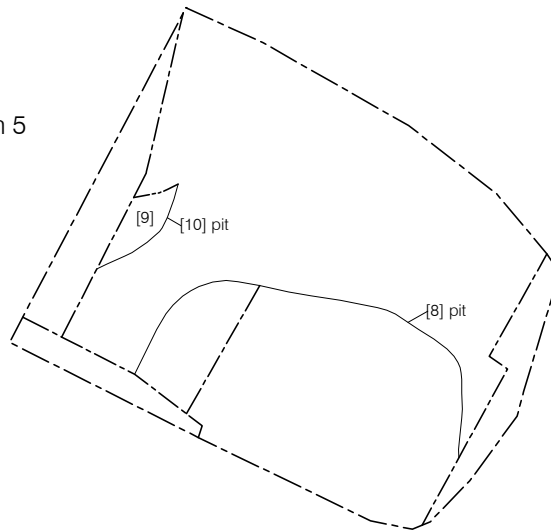
Early Medieval

Trench 5



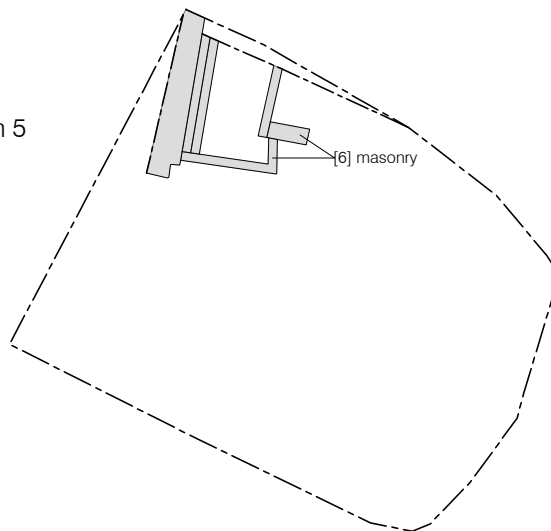
Late Medieval

Trench 5



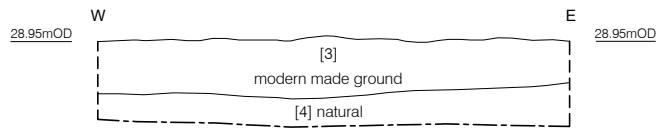
Post-medieval

Trench 5

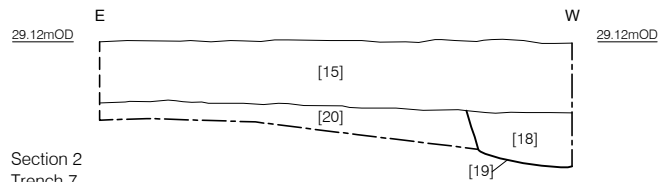


Walls 

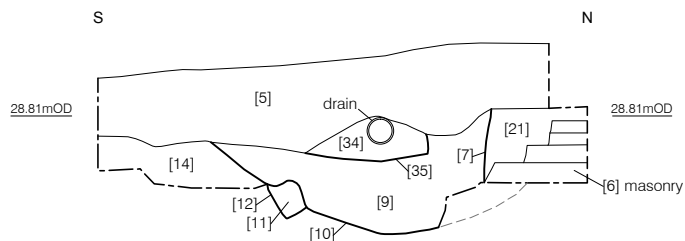
0  4m



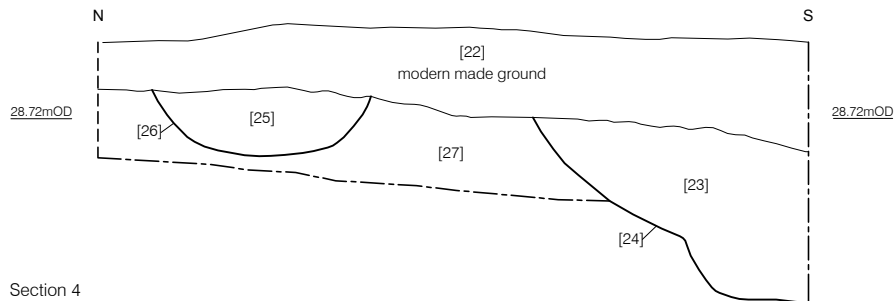
Section 1
Trench 2
South facing



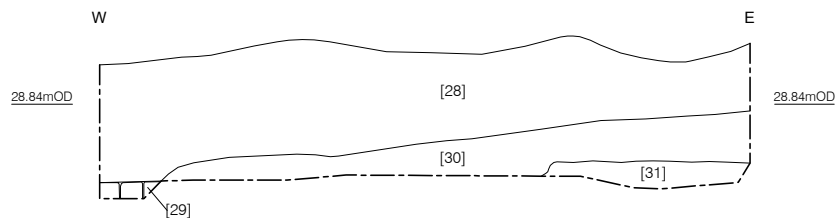
Section 2
Trench 7
North facing



Section 3
Trench 5
East facing



Section 4
Trench 3
West facing



Section 5
Trench 4
South facing



Figure 6
Sections 1 to 5
1:40 at A4

8 Phased Archaeological Sequence

8.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

8.1.1 Natural brickearth was recorded in all excavated trenches except Trench 1, which did not penetrate modern materials and was abandoned for health and safety reasons. The maximum surface elevation of the brickearth varied between 28.87m OD in Trench 3 to 28.38m OD in Trench 5 and although there may have been a slight natural slope in the top of the deposit from south-east to north-west, the different elevations recorded are more likely a result of variable levels of horizontal truncation across the site. The brickearth was not fully penetrated by any of the features excavated during the evaluation and observation during the removal of the fuel tanks during the watching brief revealed that towards the northern edge of the site it was at least 1.8m thick. There was no reason to believe that it was any less extensive elsewhere.

8.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric

8.2.1 No features of prehistoric date were positively identified during the evaluation, though undated pits in Trenches 3 and 7 could conceivably have been prehistoric in origin. However, a quantity of struck flint was recovered from the site, particularly from the large medieval quarry pit in Trench 5. This material appeared to be quite 'fresh' and mostly probably derived from medieval construction activities, though some of the material may be of prehistoric origin. A large sherd of prehistoric pottery was also recovered from the surface of disturbed brickearth in Trench 4. For these reasons it is suggested that there was at least one prehistoric phase of occupation on the site, though further work would be necessary to quantify and date the nature of this.

8.3 Phase 3: Early Medieval

8.3.1 The earliest dateable feature on the site was the small gully [12] excavated in Trench 5 and although this had been heavily truncated it was possible to partly define its form. It is possible that it could have been a simple field boundary or drainage ditch but the quantity and condition of large sherds of pottery recovered from its fill suggest that it lay close to an area of domestic occupation. The dating of the pottery is also significant as it was most likely to have been manufactured in the 11th century and suggests there was activity on the site in the years immediately prior to and/or subsequent to the Norman Conquest.

8.4 Phase 4: Medieval

8.4.1 The majority of excavated features on the site have been broadly assigned to the medieval period, though two undated features in Trenches 3 and 7 ([26] and [19])

could conceivably be earlier. The two pits truncating the earlier gully in Trench 5 ([8] and [10]) have produced finds suggesting a medieval date of deposition and it is likely that both are indicative of brickearth quarrying in the medieval period. The two undated features in Trenches 3 and 7 have also been provisionally dated as medieval, though these appear to have been too shallow to have functioned as quarry pits so it is likely that they were utilised in some other way, possibly associated with domestic activity. Other features in Trenches 3 and 7 ([24] and [17]) have been dated to the later medieval or possibly even early post-medieval period and may have provided evidence of later brickearth quarrying, though both were apparently re-used for rubbish deposition.

8.5 **Phase 5: Post-Medieval**

8.5.1 Evidence of post-medieval activity pre-dating the use of the site for garage services was observed in Trenches 5 and 7. The earliest activity was most likely that recorded in Trench 7, where two phases of yard surfacing were evident and probably associated with the farm that previously occupied the site. The brick and mortar structure in Trench 5 appeared to be more recent but was probably also associated with a later phase of activity associated with the farm, though its exact function was unclear.

8.6 **Phase 6: Modern**

8.6.1 The watching brief recorded the extent of foundations associated with the garage buildings that were demolished prior to the commencement of archaeological work, as well as those of previously demolished structures that were associated with the earlier fuel filling station. The watching brief also demonstrated that much of the northern part of the site had been occupied by underground fuel tanks associated with the filling station and the excavation of evaluation Trench 1 revealed that further tanks had been located towards the north-west corner of the site. Both phases of archaeological work revealed extensive deposits of made ground across the site, this being associated with the demolition of the farm, the construction of the garage complex and subsequent demolition of the latter.

9 Discussion and Conclusions

- 9.1 The watching brief and trial trench evaluation revealed a number of phases of activity on the site which started with the accumulation of natural deposits and ended with modern construction and demolition activities.
- 9.2 The Langley Silt brickearth exposed in most trenches is derived from wind-blown material, deposited during the later Devensian cold stage and covers large areas of the Pleistocene gravel terraces of the Thames Valley. Surfaces formed on it and features cut into it tend to be of post-glacial age. None of the features of the site were demonstrably prehistoric in date though two undated pits cut into the brickearth may have been prehistoric and some of the struck flint from features in Trench 5 together with a sherd of pottery from the surface of brickearth in Trench 4 suggest a presence in the area during the later prehistoric period. This adds to the body of evidence for prehistoric activity in the area discussed in Section 4.2 (above)
- 9.3 At other sites on the west London Terrace Gravels important evidence of earlier prehistoric activity has been recorded at the interface between the Langley Silt and the underlying gravel, though finds are more commonly reported from the later Taplow Gravel Terrace (e.g. Cotton 1984; Hoad and Elsdon 1994, 14). Whilst such locations lie well below any levels exposed close to the Station Road site surface, the excavation for the proposed underground car park may potentially expose features and finds at the interface level or below.
- 9.4 The earliest dateable feature on the site was a small ditch or gully in Trench 5, which appears to date to either side of the Norman Conquest. The quantity of 'fresh' sherds of pottery recovered suggests a significant level of activity in the very near vicinity at this time. Although the later medieval chronology of the West Drayton area is reasonably well known (see below) and was a major factor in the placing of an archaeological condition on the proposed development, Late Saxon occupation in the area is little understood, being limited to a small number of features and finds (see Section 4.4, above). As such this feature is potentially important in increasing the dataset concerning this period in this area. Given the concentration of finds in such a small area it is likely that investigation of a wider area would expose further contemporary remains.
- 9.5 Medieval activity on the site was represented by dateable features in Trenches 3, 5 and 7 and possibly by two further features in the former and latter trenches. The activities alluded to include potential brickearth extraction during earlier and later sub-phases and possibly also domestic occupation. Medieval activity has previously been recorded in the vicinity and there were manorial estates in the West Drayton area (see Section 4.3, above). The manor house known as Burroughs (later Drayton Hall), for example, was located west of the site and it is possible that the farm that occupied

the site prior to the garage originated at an early date and may have been associated with this manor. It is quite conceivable that the later medieval features at least, were directly associated with activity on this farm.

- 9.6 Evidence for post-medieval exploitation of the site prior to the development of the garage complex in the second half of the 20th century was indicated by a small number of features associated with the earlier farm. Two phases of apparent surfacing exposed in Trench 7 most likely related to the farmyard area external the farm buildings, whilst a brick structure in Trench 5 probably dated to a later phase of activity on the farm.
- 9.7 The watching brief provided a valuable overview of the extent of recent development and the level of truncation of earlier deposits, both by the excavation of building foundations and the excavation of pits to house fuel storage tanks. The findings were subsequently used to inform a slightly more targeted approach to the evaluation phase of work. This latter phase of work has shown that the site was probably occupied to some extent during one or more prehistoric phases, with more intensive occupation commencing in the Late Saxon period. It continued to be exploited during the medieval period, with a farm being established here possibly as early as the late medieval or early post-medieval period. The farm remained here until it was demolished and replaced by the garage complex in the mid 20th century. The archaeological investigations have therefore made an important addition to the understanding of the development of this part of West Drayton.

10 Acknowledgements

- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Andy Shelley of Ramboll UK Ltd. for commissioning the work on behalf of Jasper Properties Ltd. Special thanks are extended to Kim Stabler of English Heritage's Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service for monitoring the project.
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12 APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

| Site Code | Context | Type | Trench | Description | Date | Phase |
|-----------|---------|---------|--------|----------------------------|---------------|-------|
| SNR13 | 1 | Layer | WB | Made ground | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 2 | Layer | WB | Natural brickearth | Natural | 1 |
| SNR13 | 3 | Layer | Tr 2 | Made ground | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 4 | Layer | Tr 2 | Natural brickearth | Natural | 1 |
| SNR13 | 5 | Layer | Tr 5 | Made ground | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 6 | Masonry | Tr 5 | Brick structure | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 7 | Cut | Tr 5 | Construction cut for (6) | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 8 | Cut | Tr 5 | Quarry pit | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 9 | Fill | Tr 5 | Fill of pit [10] | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 10 | Cut | Tr 5 | Small pit | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 11 | Fill | Tr 5 | Fill of gully [12] | Saxon | 3 |
| SNR13 | 12 | Cut | Tr 5 | Shallow gully | Saxon | 3 |
| SNR13 | 13 | Fill | Tr 5 | Fill of quarry pit [8] | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 14 | Layer | Tr 7 | Natural brickearth | Natural | 1 |
| SNR13 | 15 | Layer | Tr 7 | Made ground | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 16 | Fill | Tr 7 | Fill of pit [17] | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 17 | Cut | Tr 7 | Shallow pit | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 18 | Fill | Tr 7 | Fill of pit [19] | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 19 | Cut | Tr 7 | Small pit | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 20 | Layer | Tr 7 | Natural brickearth | Natural | 1 |
| SNR13 | 21 | Fill | Tr 5 | Fill of cut [7] | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 22 | Layer | Tr 3 | Made ground | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 23 | Fill | Tr 3 | Fill of pit [24] | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 24 | Cut | Tr 3 | Small pit | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 25 | Fill | Tr 3 | Fill of pit [26] | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 26 | Cut | Tr 3 | Small pit | Medieval | 4 |
| SNR13 | 27 | Layer | Tr 3 | Natural brickearth | Natural | 1 |
| SNR13 | 28 | Layer | Tr 4 | Made ground | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 29 | Masonry | Tr 4 | Brick floor fragment | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 30 | Masonry | Tr 4 | Brick floor fragment | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 31 | Masonry | Tr 4 | Possible 'cobbled' surface | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 32 | Masonry | Tr 4 | Possible 'cobbled' surface | Post-medieval | 5 |
| SNR13 | 33 | Layer | Tr 4 | Natural brickearth | Natural | 1 |
| SNR13 | 34 | Fill | Tr 5 | Fill of trench [35] | Modern | 6 |
| SNR13 | 35 | Cut | Tr 5 | Drainage trench | Modern | 6 |

14 APPENDIX 3: LITHIC ASSESSMENT

Frank Meddens

INTRODUCTION

An archaeological evaluation at the above site resulted in the recovery of a small quantity of struck flint and unworked burnt stone. This report follows the methodology and objectives encapsulated in both MAP2 and MoRPHE (English Heritage 1991; 2006). Its aims are to quantify and describe the material, assess its significance and to recommend any further work required for the material to achieve its full research potential. All metrical information follows the methodology established by Saville (1980).

BURNT STONE

A total of 12 pieces of burnt stone were recovered from 4 separate contexts representing 4 different features. The stone predominantly comprised flint which included Tertiary pebbles, alluvial pebbles and thermally shattered nodules. All probably have their origin in the terrace gravels or glacial deposits as can be found in the area (Gibbard 1986). The stone had been burnt to varying degrees, suggesting that it had been caused through incidental incorporation into hearths rather than deliberately. It was present mostly in small quantities most consistent with 'background waste' from general hearth use.

STRUCK FLINT

In total 46 struck flints were recovered, comprising predominantly flakes from roughing out work. They were recovered from 7 contexts and 5 separate features. Of these context [5], a layer of modern made ground from Trench 5, produced 17 pieces (weight 476 gr) of dark grey un-weathered flint with varying, but generally high, proportions of 'swirly' grey or white cherty inclusions and numerous pieces with clean white chalky cortex with frequent thermal scars, likely originating from the North Downs. Of these 14 were large to moderate size rough hard hammer produced flakes and of the remaining three smaller flakes one is a small blade with a little retouch on the distal end which may represent a re-deposited prehistoric struck flint (BA/IA tradition). Context [9] was the fill of a pit feature [10], possibly a quarry pit, also from Trench 5 and associated with medieval pottery. There were two small fragments (weight 16 gr) of highly burnt grey to red flint representing background waste from general hearth use. Five burnt flints and five struck flints (weight 88 gr) came from the single fill [11] of a gully [12] also from Trench 5 which was associated with a group of pottery of late 11th century date. The small group of burnt flint is similar to the other material from the site. The five struck flints are moderate in size dark grey brown and un-weathered with 'swirly' grey or white cherty inclusions with frequent thermal scars without cortex, probably from the North Downs. These pieces are waste flakes from hard hammer working without any retouch.

There are 23 flakes (weight 887gr) from context [13] the fill of a probable quarry pit [8], again in Trench 5, which cut the earlier gully [12]. This material is mid to dark grey and un-weathered with frequent 'swirly' grey or white cherty inclusions and thermal scars and clean white chalky cortex comprising "bullhead" flint being found at the junction of the cretaceous Upper Chalk and overlying Tertiary deposits throughout Kent, Essex and East Anglia (Shepherd 1972) likely from the North Downs. All the material is hard hammer worked and the group includes one single moderate sized discoid shaped mid grey flint flake with a little retouch. From context [14] the natural basal brickearth in Trench 5, there is a small to moderate size trapezoid flint flake (weight 8 gr) (a possible scraper of BA tradition) with retouch at the proximal end.

Context [25], the single fill of a small pit feature in Trench 3, produced a single small piece of grey burnt flint (weight 15 gr) while context [33], the reworked natural brickearth at the base of Trench 4, produced a further 4 pieces (weight 90 gr) of mid grey burnt flint, all likely general background material associated with hearth activity. There were a total of 58 burnt and struck flints with a combined weight of 1,104 gr.

The condition of the pieces is good suggesting that they have experienced only minor post-depositional movement and are likely to have been recovered from close to where originally deposited.

SIGNIFICANCE

The small number of moderate sized retouched flakes and burnt flint reflect background Bronze Age / Iron Age activity in the vicinity of the site.

The larger component of the struck flint assemblage comprises predominantly large primary flakes with clean thick white cortex adhering. This material gives the appearance of being result of the roughing out of flint cobbles for use as building material. The underlying geology of the site is clearly not the source for its raw material. St Martin's Church of 12th century origin is located only 300m to the south of the site and the dominant building material of its external walls comprises flint. It seems likely therefore that the majority of this flint assemblage derives from activities associated with the construction of flint walling either connected with the medieval church to the south of the site or perhaps linked with nearby medieval farm buildings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No further analytical work is warranted but a brief description of the material should be included in any published account of the excavation.

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15 APPENDIX 4: POTTERY AND CBM

Berni Sudds & Chris Jarrett

The pottery and ceramic building material are listed below by context in Table 1. Both were examined using the London system of classification. A fabric number is allocated to each object, specifying its composition, form, method of manufacture and approximate date range. Examples of the fabrics can be found in the archives of PCA and/or the Museum of London. Date ranges for the individual fabrics are given, in addition to a suggested spot date for deposition.

| Context | Type | Description | Sherd count | Weight | Date range of the pottery | Context spot date |
|--|---------|---|-------------|--------|---|---|
| 5 | CBM | Unfrogged thin floor brick, fabric 3047, sanded to all sides (max 40mm thick), worn to one face | 1 | 2016 | 1680 - 1900 | 1680 - 1900 |
| | | Late medieval/ transitional and early post-medieval peg tile (fabrics 2586;2587; 3090) | 8 | 1247 | 1400 - 1800 | |
| | Pottery | Early medieval flint-tempered ware (EMFL)? | 1 | 4 | 970 - 1100 | |
| | | Early Surrey ware jars (ESUR) | 7 | 149 | 1050 - 1150 | |
| | | Early south Hertfordshire-type greyware (ESHER) | 2 | 16 | 1050 - 1200 | |
| | | Coarse London-type ware jug (LCOAR) | 1 | 5 | 1080 - 1200 | |
| | | Coarse Surrey-Hampshire border ware jug and jar sherds (CBW) | 3 | 18 | 1270 - 1500 | |
| | | Miscellaneous unsourced medieval coarseware jar rim (MISC) | 1 | 12 | 900 - 1500 | |
| | | Cheam redware (CHEAR)? | 1 | 23 | 1480 - 1550 | |
| Transitional/ early post-medieval redware (MISC) | 2 | 16 | 1400 - 1700 | | | |
| 6 | CBM | Frogged brick (shallow frog to sanded side), 68mm thick, local red brick | 1 | 3506 | Mid 18 th - 19 th century | Late 18 th - 19 th century. |
| 9 | Pottery | Early medieval flint-tempered ware (EMFL)? | 1 | 7 | 970 - 1100 | 1050 - 1100 |
| | | Early Surrey ware jars (ESUR) | 1 | 3 | 1050 - 1150 | |
| | | Early south Hertfordshire-type greyware (ESHER) | 1 | 19 | 1050 - 1200 | |
| 11 | Pottery | Early medieval sandy ware (EMS) jars. Simple and slightly thickened rims. | 6 | 228 | 970 - 1100 | 1050 - 1100 |
| | | Early medieval sandy ware with calcareous inclusions (EMCALC). Jar rim and | 2 | 14 | 1000 - 1150 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---------|---|----|------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| | | base sherd. | | | | | |
| | | Early Surrey ware (ESUR). Jar forms, sooted. Simple and slightly thickened rims, sagging bases. | 43 | 1072 | 1050 1150 | – | |
| 13 | CBM | Late medieval/ transitional and early post-medieval peg tile (fabrics 2586;2587; 3090) | 8 | 750 | 1300 1800 | – | 1300 1500 |
| | Pottery | Coarse Surrey-Hampshire border ware jug sherds (CBW) | 4 | 47 | 1270 1500 | – | |
| 16 | CBM | Brick fragment (fabric 3033) | 1 | 123 | 1450 1700 | – | 1580 1800 |
| | | Late medieval/ transitional and early post-medieval peg tile (fabrics 2586) | 9 | 411 | 1300 1800 | – | |
| | Pottery | Early medieval sandy ware (EMS) strap handle? | 1 | 24 | 970 1100 | – | |
| | | Post-medieval redware, local. | 1 | 4 | 1580 1900 | – | |
| 23 | CBM | Brick fragments (fabric 3033) | 4 | 394 | 1450 1700 | – | 1450 1800 |
| | | Late medieval/ transitional and early post-medieval peg tile (fabrics 2586) | 9 | 1173 | 1300 1800 | – | |
| 33 | Pottery | Pre-historic flint tempered base sherd | 1 | 54 | Late Bronze Age / Iron Age? | | Late Bronze Age / Iron Age? |

Table 1: The pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) by context.

In general both the ceramic building material and pottery assemblages can be well-paralleled in the Greater London region in terms of fabric composition and form. Prehistoric and post-medieval material is present but the majority recovered is of medieval date. The dominance of Early Surrey ware and Coarse Surrey/ Hampshire border ware is typical in this particular area of London. The group of pottery from context [11] is in very good condition and can be dated to the late 11th century. Three sherds of pottery were not readily paralleled in the London corpus; one medieval coarseware and two fine redwares of transitional and post-medieval date, possibly of local production.

16 APPENDIX 5: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

Kevin Rielly

INTRODUCTION

The excavations at this site provided some evidence for early and late medieval and post-medieval activity, all found within four of the 6 evaluation trenches. These comprised an early medieval gully in Trench 5, situated in the central part of the site, later medieval pits and some contemporary features just to the south within Trenches 3 and 7 and then remains probably associated with the farm that previously occupied the site in Trench 5 and also in Trench 4, somewhat to the west. Animal bones, limited to just 8 fragments (all hand recovered) were confined to the early medieval gully and one of the later medieval pits (in Trench 3). All of these bones were well preserved and sufficiently large to suggest that they had not been subject to heavy fragmentation pressures.

METHODOLOGY

The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered.

DESCRIPTION OF FAUNAL ASSEMBLAGE BY PHASE

Phase 3 (Early Medieval)

The three bones recovered from the gully [12] included fragments of skull, mandible and scapula, all of which were clearly taken from adult moderately sized animals. A knife mark was noticed on the lateral surface of the scapula close to the spine which can be interpreted as a defleshing mark.

| Phase: | 3 (E Med) | 4 (L Med) |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Feature: | Gully [12] | Pit [24] |
| Species | | |
| Cattle | 3 | 3 |
| Sheep/Goat | | 1 |
| Sheep-size | | 1 |
| Grand Total | 3 | 5 |

Table 1: Counts of hand collected animal bone in each occupation phase.

Phase 4 (Later Medieval)

This phase provided a slightly larger collection (see Table 1), with cattle represented by a skull fragment, a loose maxillary tooth and a scapula; sheep/goat by a full maxillary tooththrow

and sheep-size by a rib fragment. There is again a plethora of adult individuals represented with the exception of the cattle scapula which was taken from a juvenile, possibly a veal calf. The cattle skull piece has been butchered, possibly showing the method used to remove the horn with a chop mark just anterior to this part of the skull.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

This rather small assemblage does at least suggest that further work at this site should reveal more bones. The small quantity and wide dispersal could suggest redeposition, although this is clearly not confirmed by the condition of the bones, which are essentially well preserved and minimally fragmented. A low concentration may indicate a minor usage of meat within the local community. However, this interpretation will obviously depend on further excavation. It can be seen that the site has provided and hopefully will provide further evidence for meat usage dating to the Saxon and medieval occupation of this area.

17 APPENDIX 6: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-144204

Project details

Project name 70 Station Road, West Drayton

Short description of the project An archaeological watching brief and targeted evaluation were carried out prior to redevelopment of the site for residential purposes. The watching brief showed that the excavation of foundation trenches had a significant but localised impact on underlying deposits, whereas excavation for fuel tanks to the north had a widespread and severe impact on earlier layers. There was also deep truncation towards the north-west of the site. Archaeological remains were recorded in four of the evaluation trenches. The earliest feature was a small gully in Trench 5 located towards the centre of the site, which produced 11th-century pottery. This was truncated by two later medieval pits and further medieval features were present in Trench 7 a short distance to the south and Trench 3 towards the eastern edge of the site. Evidence of post-medieval activity, probably associated with the farm that previously occupied the site, was recorded in Trenches 5 and 4. Although no features pre-dating the Late Saxon/early medieval period were identified, quantities of struck flint were recovered from later features, particularly in Trench 5, suggesting that there had been some prehistoric activity either on the site or in the very near vicinity.

Project dates Start: 21-01-2013 End: 15-02-2013

Previous/future work No / Yes

Any associated project reference codes SNR13 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Other 13 - Waste ground

Monument type PIT Medieval

Monument type GULLY Early Medieval

Monument type FLOOR Post Medieval

Monument type FUEL TANK Modern

Significant Finds POTTERY Early Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Significant Finds FLINT Late Prehistoric

Significant Finds BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval

Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches"

Development type Housing estate

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

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

planning process

Project location

Country England
Site location GREATER LONDON HILLINGDON YIEWSLEY AND WEST DRAYTON 70 Station Road
Study area 0.26 Hectares
Site coordinates TQ 06146 79797 51 0 51 30 23 N 000 28 13 W Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 28.38m Max: 28.87m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
Project design originator Andy Shelley
Project director/manager Tim Bradley
Project supervisor Peter Boyer
Project supervisor James Langthorne

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Winston Group

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC
Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient LAARC
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient LAARC
Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AND EVALUATION ON LAND AT 70 STATION ROAD, WEST DRAYTON, LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON
Author(s)/Editor(s) Boyer, P

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