

**KINGSTON PLAZA,
KINGSTON UPON THAMES,
KT2 7AA**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION: PHASE 1**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON
THAMES**

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:
12/12302/FUL**

PCA REPORT NO: 11792

SITE CODE: STK14

JULY 2014



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY



DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

**KINGSTON PLAZA, KINGSTON UPON THAMES,
KT2 7AA**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION: PHASE 1

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
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	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Richard Humphrey		July 2014
Graphics Prepared by:	Jennifer Simonson		July 2014
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		July 2014
Project Manager Sign-off:	Chris Mayo		July 2014

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved
1: incorporates CgMs comments	22/07/14	C Mayo	S Gailey

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Unit 54
Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
London
SE4 2PD

Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames, KT2 7AA

An Archaeological Evaluation: Phase 1

Local Planning Authority: Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Planning Application Number: 12/12302/FUL

Site Code: STK14

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 1913 6956

Written by: Richard Humphrey

Project Manager: Chris Mayo

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting
on behalf of
Kingston Plaza LLP.

Contractor: Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
Brockley
London SE4 2PD

Tel: 020 7732 3925

Fax: 020 7732 7896

E-mail: cmayo@pre-construct.com

Web: www.pre-construct.com

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PCA Report No: R11792

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on the Phase 1 site at Kingston Plaza, London Borough of Kingston upon Thames, KT2 7AA. The site is located at 180 - 190 London Road, 1-11 Station Road & 7 – 13 Coombe Road, Kingston upon Thames and is collectively referred to as Kingston Plaza. The archaeological investigation was conducted between 7th and 10th July 2014 and was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Kingston Plaza LLP. Gillian King, the English Heritage (GLAAS) archaeological advisor to the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames monitored the work.
- 1.2 The works comprised the excavation of four trenches. Two measured 10m by 1.8m wide, one measured 7m by 1.8m wide and one measured 5m by 1.8m wide.
- 1.3 Naturally-occurring deposits were observed as sandy-gravels that contained lenses of clean, sterile clay. Where not removed in entirety by 19th and 20th century development, an intact brickearth horizon was recorded over much of the site as overlying this layer. This horizon had been subjected to some truncation from the building footings that have recently been demolished across the site. In Trench 3, a late post-medieval property or field boundary ditch was seen extending at ninety-degrees to Station Road.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on the Phase 1 site at Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames (Figure 1). The proposed development, which will see the demolition of existing structures on the site and the construction of student accommodation and associated landscaping¹, has been granted planning permission under the application reference number 12/12302/FUL. The consent for the permitted scheme includes a condition relating to below-ground archaeological works.
- 2.2 The site is bounded to the northwest by London Road, to the northeast and east by Station Road, to the south by Coombe Road and to the west by 174 London Road and Lapidge House. The site is centred at TQ 1913 6956.
- 2.3 The site is not located within an Archaeological Priority Area (APA) as defined by the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames; however the site has a moderate to good potential for evidence of late medieval or early post-medieval remains. It does not contain any listed buildings or Scheduled Monuments, nor is it near to any².
- 2.4 The investigation was conducted between 7th and 10th July 2014, and was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Kingston Plaza LLP. The works were supervised by Richard Humphrey and James Langthorne and managed by Chris Mayo, all of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. The archaeological works were monitored by the archaeological advisor to the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Gillian King of English Heritage. All work was undertaken following the appropriate English Heritage (GLAAS) guidance (2014).
- 2.5 An archaeological desk-based assessment³ concluded that there is low potential for remains of the prehistoric, Roman and Saxon periods to be observed. The site is located to the east of late medieval Kingston and the Manor of Hartington and Manor of Norbiton. Evidence of late medieval or early post-medieval gullies and pits recorded during an evaluation adjacent to the site suggests low level activity of a local significance on the outskirts of the settlement. Further evidence of activity was therefore anticipated within this site. The buildings in the process of being demolished on the site date from the late 19th and 20th centuries.
- 2.6 The work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation⁴ which was approved by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS). The WSI posed the following research objectives:

- To determine the natural topography of the site and the height at which it survives;
- To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric activity, whether settled occupation or artefact scatters;
- To establish the presence or absence of Roman activity;

¹ Gailey, S. (2012) *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames*. CgMs Consulting Ltd, unpublished report

² Bradley, T. (2012) *Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames; Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, unpublished report.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid

- To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity. Does the activity previously recorded on the adjacent site extend into the area of the site?
- To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity;
- To ascertain the date, nature and purpose of the made ground deposits;
- 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.

2.7 The works comprised the excavation of four trenches (Figure 2). Trenches 1 and 2 were repositioned slightly due east of their original location due to on-site constraints; this was approved in advance by GLAAS. Digging was conducted by a tracked machine fitted with a flat bladed grading bucket with further examination of archaeologically relevant deposits completed using hand tools

2.8 The site was allocated the unique site code STK14. The completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will eventually be deposited with LAARC under that code.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Guidance: 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 In considering any planning application for development the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by the NPPF, by current Local Plan policy and by other material considerations.

3.2 Regional Guidance: The London Plan

3.2.1 The proposed development is subject to the considerations of policy 7.8 from The London Plan (2011):

Historic environment and landscapes

Policy 7.8 Heritage assets and Archaeology

Strategic

A London's historic environment, including natural landscapes, conservation areas, heritage assets, World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and memorials should be identified, preserved and restored.

B Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present, the site's archaeology.

Planning decisions

C Development should preserve, refurbish and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D New development in the setting of heritage assets, and conservation areas should be sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources and significant memorials. Where the artefact or memorial cannot be moved from the site without damaging its cultural value, the assets should where possible be made available to the public on-site.

LDF preparation

F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and increase the contribution of built heritage to London's environmental quality and economy while allowing for London to accommodate change and regeneration.

G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying and protecting heritage assets scheduled ancient monuments, archaeological assets, memorials and natural landscape character within their area.

3.3 Local Guidance: Kingston upon Thames Core Strategy (adopted April 2012)

3.3.1 The Borough of Kingston upon Thames has a rich and distinguished history and has maintained a strong connection to its past, thus preserving its sense of place and deeply ingrained character.

3.3.2 Kingston's heritage assets include the following categories:

1. Listed Buildings
2. Scheduled Ancient Monuments
3. Conservation Areas
4. Areas of Archaeological Significance
5. Key Views
6. Strategic Areas of Special Character
7. Local Areas of Special Character
8. Buildings of Townscape Merit (locally listed buildings)
9. Historic Parks and Gardens Policy

DM 12 Development in Conservation Areas and Affecting Heritage Assets

The Council will:

- a. continue to identify, record and designate assets, and periodically review existing designated assets within the Borough that are considered to be of special historic significance in order to ensure that future development will preserve or enhance locally distinctive heritage assets. These records will be maintained in the form of a Historic Environment Record.
- b. preserve or enhance the existing heritage assets of the Borough through the promotion of high quality design and a focus on heritage-led regeneration
- c. allow alterations which preserve or enhance the established character and architectural interest of a heritage asset, its fabric or its setting
- d. ensure that development proposals affecting historic assets will use high quality materials and design features which incorporate or compliment those of the host building or the immediate area
- e. respect features of local importance and special interest through the consideration of form, scale, layout, and detailed designs of a site, area or streetscape
- f. seek the conservation and improvement of the natural and built historic environment which contribute to the character of the Borough's historic riverside setting
- g. where possible, provide access for all to encourage public enjoyment of the historic environment and Kingston's heritage assets

3.3.3 As well as their historic and architectural interest, heritage assets are important and attractive features in the built environment. They attract tourists/visitors and contribute to the local economy, quality of life, health and wellbeing. There will always be a presumption in favour of development which encourages the re-use of or enhancement of heritage assets within the Borough.

3.3.4 Under national guidance, the Council is required to give special regard to the desirability of preserving all designated historic assets, their setting and any features of special architectural or

historic interest which they possess. There is also a statutory duty to designate Conservation Areas and to periodically review the designation of additional areas and to ensure that any new development will preserve or enhance their character and appearance.

3.3.5 The Borough will continue to work in partnership with English Heritage and seek support and professional guidance on the protection and enhancement of its heritage assets. In addition to its statutory duties, the Council will apply similar levels of protection to its locally designated heritage assets to ensure a high standard of design for all new development affecting the character or setting of its built, natural and archaeological historic environment.

3.3.6 New development should use opportunities to mitigate the impacts of climate change wherever possible. The historic environment can adjust to sympathetic changes without incurring significant damage to its fabric or setting. The Council will encourage a balance between the protection of the historic environment and improvement to energy efficiency wherever it is considered to be feasible, and has been weighed against long term harm to a building or area's special or architectural interest.

3.3.7 The Council encourages early discussion where development proposals affect the historic environment, so as to ensure that a positive and pro-active strategy is adopted which would enhance the character and setting of the asset through a focus upon a high quality design and materials.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The underlying geology of the site comprises river gravels overlain by brickearth⁵.

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 The site is situated over 1km to the east of the Thames Channel. There are no other watercourses in close proximity to the site.

4.2.2 Although the site is generally level at c. 11m OD, there are noticeable rises in ground level height to the east and northeast along Coombe Road and Kingston Hill. Also, ground height appears to decrease towards the west, along London Road. This suggests a dropping off in height towards the Thames channel associated with a river valley.

4.2.3 The Kingston to London Waterloo mainline service extends approximately east to west c. 50m north of the study site. Landscaping works associated with this may have potentially affected the natural topography of the area.

4.2.4 On a door step leading into a surviving shed building in the west of the site, a temporary benchmark of value 10.83m OD was obtained using a Global Positioning System (GPS).

4.3 Geotechnical Investigations

4.3.1 At time of writing, no geotechnical investigations are known to have taken place on site.

⁵ British Geological Survey, South London, England and Wales, Sheet 270: Solid and Drift Geology, 1:50'000 Series)

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following is summarized from the Desk Based Assessment⁶:

- 5.1 There are no significant findspots from the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods in close proximity to the site or indeed anywhere in Central Kingston. Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for these periods must be defined as low.
- 5.2 Extensive archaeological interventions within Central Kingston have revealed no significant evidence for Neolithic activity. An isolated greenstone axe was found on Cambridge Road approximately 400m south of the study site.
- 5.3 No evidence of Bronze Age or Iron Age activity has been recorded within 500m of the study site. A relatively dense scatter of pottery of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date, together with a possibly contemporary burial, has been found at Orchard Road/Wheatfield Way approximately 1.2km south west of the study site. Recent archaeological work revealed a Bronze Age ditch at 21-23 Old London Road, containing burnt flint and pot, possibly representing a Bronze Age field system approximately 750m south west of the study site. Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for the later prehistoric periods can probably be defined as low.
- 5.4 No evidence of Roman activity has been recorded within 500m of the study site. Archaeological interventions at Fairfield West in 1967 and Orchard Road in 1995 indicate the existence of a late Iron Age and early Roman activity or settlement site perhaps a farmstead in this area approximately 1.2km south west of the site. During these periods the study site is likely to have lain in open agricultural land. Overall therefore the archaeological potential of the study site for the Roman period is considered to be low although evidence for land division and agricultural activity may be present.
- 5.5 The study site is remote from any likely areas for Anglo Saxon settlement. Overall the archaeological potential of the study site for this period can be defined as low.
- 5.6 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land adjacent to the west of the study site on 164-178 London Road and 1-5 Coombe Road. Three trenches were excavated; one recorded evidence of a pit and gully containing medieval pottery, one recorded evidence of pits and gullies containing late medieval or early post-medieval pottery whilst the third trench produced no evidence of any archaeological activity due to modern disturbance. This does suggest low level activity in the immediate vicinity of the study site. A medieval field boundary was recorded during an evaluation at Gordon Road approximately 200m north west of the study site.
- 5.7 An archaeological evaluation undertaken at the Tiffen Boys School, London Road approximately 500m west of the study site recorded evidence of medieval occupational activity comprising of two pits containing pottery dating to the 11th and 12th centuries.
- 5.8 The Manor House of Hartington (mentioned in documents dating from late 12th century) was located on the north side of London Road at the end of Coombe Road approximately 250m west

⁶ Ibid.

from the study site. The remains of the house were demolished in 1979.

- 5.9 By the post-medieval period Norbiton Street (later London Road) comprised of a linear settlement extending from the centre of Kingston to the west of the study site. Norbiton Hall was reputed to be a manor from the 16th century built on the north side of London Road approximately 300m west from the study site. Norbiton Place was built by the 18th century on land to the south of London Road approximately 250m south west of the study site.
- 5.10 Rocque's map of 1795 shows the location of the study site within agricultural land on the edge of the settlement along Norbiton Street. The archaeological potential of the study site for these periods is therefore considered to be moderate to good for evidence of late medieval or early post medieval activity of a very local significance.
- 5.11 The 1811 Ordnance Survey shows little change to the study site. By 1840 the site lay in part of a meadow. Between 1840 and 1865 the majority of the site had been developed with houses with gardens fronting onto London Road and houses with gardens fronting onto Coombe Road. The remainder of the site comprised of undeveloped land.
- 5.12 Between 1865 and 1895 Station Road had been laid out bounding the east of the study site and the remainder of the site had been developed with residential buildings fronting onto Station Road and a series of rectilinear buildings surrounding a courtyard, fronting onto Coombe Lane.
- 5.13 There was no change to the site by the time of the 1911 Ordnance Survey. Between 1911 and 1954 the 3 buildings in the north west of the site had been demolished and redeveloped as 180-184 London Road. In addition the rectilinear buildings surrounding a courtyard fronting onto Coombe Road had been demolished and redeveloped as 13 Coombe Road.
- 5.14 Between 1954 and 1969 11 Coombe Road was demolished and the open space retained as a car park. Between 1969 and 1989 184 London Road had been redeveloped to form a substantial L-shaped building. There has been no subsequent change to the site.
- 5.15 The heritage potential of the study site for this period lies solely in the extant 19th century buildings which are considered to have a limited local heritage significance.
- 5.16 A watching brief undertaken at the Royal Eye Hospital, Coombe Road approximately 600m south east of the study site recorded no archaeological finds or features. An archaeological evaluation undertaken at 141 London Road approximately 300m south west of the study site recorded no archaeological finds or features.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a methodology set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)⁷. In a deviation from the trench arrangement specified, on site spatial constraints, namely the proximity of demolition works, necessitated moving Trenches 1 and 2 a small distance to the east.

6.2 Four trenches were excavated across the site (Figure 2). The dimensions for each trench are set out below:

Trench Number	Length/m
1	5.0
2	7.0
3	10.0
4	10.0

6.3 Each trench was approximately 1.8m wide- the width of the grading bucket used by the machine, although trenches were occasionally widened to facilitate removal of modern obstructions.

6.4 A mechanical excavator fitted with a flat bladed grading 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. The archaeological deposits were assigned individual context numbers and recorded onto pro-forma sheets and recorded in plan and section as appropriate. Upon completion of the trench excavations, 1:20 scale plan drawings were made as well as 1:10 scale section drawings. Natural and archaeological levels were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets using the Museum of London single context recording system. Heights of deposits in relation to Ordnance Datum were also recorded. A digital photographic record was made.

6.5 In order to test the authenticity of natural levels, it was necessary to excavate deeper test sondages through the brickearth horizon that was presumed to be natural. Where possible, this was done by hand. In Trench 1, removal of modern and archaeologically unproductive layers extended directly on to gravel geology so this was not necessary.

6.6 Trench locations were recorded by a PCA surveyor using a GPS (Global Positioning System) device. A temporary benchmark of 10.83m OD was also provided at the same time.

⁷ Bradley, T. (2012) *Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames; Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, unpublished report.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

The following section details a chronological account of the archaeological features and deposits encountered during the evaluation. Figure 2 shows the trench positions and alignments.

7.1 Phase 1: Natural Sandy-Gravels

7.1.1 Natural, river-deposited sandy-gravels were observed in all four trenches. These were characterised as being yellow-brown to green-brown in colour with occasional darker hues, derived from localised leaching from modern services. The sand component of the horizon was generally coarse and the gravel generally small to medium in size and composed of sub-angular to rounded stones. In Trenches 1 and 4 this horizon was observed in the base of deeper, inaccessible test sondages that prevented closer, *in-situ* examination of the layer.

7.1.2 The heights of this sandy-gravel horizon layer are listed below:

Trench	Context	Highest Level
1	[6]	9.37m OD
2	[8]	9.28m OD
3	[15]	8.70m OD
4	[14]	8.67m OD

7.1.3 In Trench 3, an underlying gravel layer was recorded as [9] at a maximum height of 8.68m OD. This was characteristically similar to sandy-gravels seen elsewhere in the works although was recorded in association with layer [16] – a clean clay lense at the same height (Figures 3 and 4). Although sealed by gravel layer [8], this initially appeared as potentially representative of a feature and so was excavated as such. No finds were recovered and it has been interpreted as a variation in natural geology.

7.1.4 A hand dug test sondage in Trench 4 was excavated to the maximum safe depth permissible before becoming inundated. Excavation continued downward using the machine bucket until sandy-gravels were reached at 8.67m OD. Like Trench 3, natural clay lenses were seen intermingled with the sandy-gravel layer [14].

7.2 Phase 2: Natural Brickearth

7.2.1 Layer [7] in Trench 2, layer [2] in Trench 3 and layer [11] in Trench 4 were all recorded as brickearth deposits overlying natural sandy-gravels. An absence of this layer in Trench1 is likely to have been a result of late post-medieval landscaping works associated with either development fronting the road to the north or potentially the railway line; this might also explain the reduced thickness of the horizon as seen in Trench 2. The brickearth horizon seen was commonly composed of sticky, yellow-brown silty clay with rare to occasional small gravels stones. Mineral panning was observed sporadically and tested as if it might be filling a feature, with it concluded to be a natural occurrence.

7.2.2 The following table states the heights and thicknesses of the brickearth horizons where observed:

Trench	Context no.	Height/m OD	Max thickness/m
2	7	9.68	0.35
3	2	9.85	1.30
4	11	9.88	1.43

7.2.3 The brickearth in Trenches 2, 3, 4 was left to weather overnight. Differential oxidation of deposits filling features, that are initially indiscernible from surrounding material, is often visible following exposure to the atmosphere. No such fills were observed in the trenches.

7.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval Ground Raising / Redeposited Brickearth

7.3.1 Layer [5] in Trench 1 was recorded as a soft dark grey-brown clay layer that measured approximately 1.00m thick at 10.37m OD. This directly overlay natural gravel layer [6] and is suggested to represent the result of post-medieval or modern landscaping works over the area, prior to development that fronted the road to the north. It contained clinker and ceramic building material flecks and had the appearance of being the redeposited brickearth layer that was absent from this trench. Considerable impacts had been made to this layer from concrete building foundations. It was directly overlain by modern levelling deposits.

7.3.2 In Trench 3, layer [1] sealed brickearth [2]. This was composed of dark grey-brown redeposited silty-clay brickearth that contained oyster shell, charcoal lumps and rounded gravel stones. It measured 0.20m thick at a maximum height of 10.05m OD.

7.3.3 Brickearth layer [11] in Trench 4 was overlain by horizon [10]. This was recorded at 10.18m OD and measured 0.20m thick. Like layers [5] and [1], this was a dark grey-brown silty-clay. No dating evidence was retrieved although it is thought to represent underlying brickearth that has been redeposited by post-medieval activity over the area.

7.4 Phase 4: Post-Medieval Ditch

7.4.1 Ditch cut [4] was observed extending 90 degrees to Station Road to the north on an approximate west-southwest to east-southeast alignment in Trench 3 (Figure 3 and 4). The feature extended beyond both sides of the trench, though where seen measured 1.40m wide. It was cut into the top of layer [1]. The top of the ditch was recorded at 9.68m OD and the base at 9.29m OD: the base of the feature was recorded as being concave.

7.4.2 Filling [4] was a singular deposit [3] which was 0.39m thick. This was composed of firm, blue-grey silty-clay. Clay tobacco pipe recovered from this fill has been dated to between 1680 and 1710⁸ whilst ceramic building material dated from 1664-1800⁹. This is suggested to represent a field or boundary ditch.

7.5 Phase 5: 19th Century to Modern

7.5.1 The thick redeposited brickearth layer [5] seen in Trench 1 was directly overlain by later 19th to 20th

⁸ Jarrett, C., *pers. comm*

⁹ Hayward, K. (2014) *Kingston Plaza Ceramic Building Material Finds Assessment*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, unpublished report.

century and modern concrete footings as well as modern levelling layers. This completed the archaeological sequence in this trench.

- 7.5.2 Brickearth horizon [7] in Trench 2 appeared to have been partially truncated by late post-medieval to modern landscaping as it was directly overlain by 0.35m of demolition rubble composed of crushed brick and broken concrete. This was in turn overlain by a 0.20m thick concrete slab.
- 7.5.3 Fill [3] of cut [4] as well as redeposited brickearth layer [1] in Trench 3 were all sealed by approximately 0.50m of modern made ground.
- 7.5.4 A northeast to southwest aligned construction cut, [12], for wall [13] was seen to partially truncate the upper levels of redeposited brickearth layer [10] in Trench 4. This wall represents a surviving foundation of the recently demolished structures that once occupied the site and fronted Station Road. Beyond the extent of this foundation, the archaeological sequence in this trench was completed by 0.50m of garden soil.

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 Naturally deposited levels were comprised of a lower sandy-gravel horizon that contained occasional lenses of clean, archaeologically sterile clay. Heights for this clay ranged from c. 9.37m OD in Trench 1 towards the north of the site and 8.67m OD in Trench 4 to the south. This suggests a palaeotopography exhibiting a noticeable downward slope towards the south
- 8.2 The lower level of sandy-gravels was overlain by a naturally deposited clayey-brickearth horizon. This was recorded at maximum heights of 9.68m OD in the north of the site and 9.88m OD in the south. Towards the south it was much thicker at between 1.30m and 1.43m whilst at the north in Trench 2 it measured 0.35m. The much reduced thickness of brickearth observed in Trench 2 is proposed to be as a result of historical landscaping in the late post-medieval to modern period: it was seen to be directly overlain by modern levels. This would also suggest that pre-truncation, when the brickearth horizon was much thicker, ground height will have been higher towards the north. This horizon was absent from Trench 1 in entirety.
- 8.3 Hand examination of the underlying sandy-gravel horizon and the brickearth horizon was attempted where possible with the intention of looking for prehistoric finds, features and deposits. No archaeological results from this period were observed. Similarly, no Roman or Saxon era archaeology was seen.
- 8.4 Medieval archaeology that was observed to the west of the site at Coombe Road and London Road was not seen to extend into this site from the trenches excavated as part of these works.
- 8.5 The brickearth horizon was overlain by a redeposited brickearth layer that is thought to have been the product of post-medieval agricultural activity over the area. This was seen to contain residual finds in the guise of oyster shells and ceramic building material and charcoal. This was seen in Trenches 3 and 4 towards the centre and south of the site but was absent in Trench 2 where late post-medieval to modern levelling had removed it completely. This layer was seen to directly overlie natural gravel levels in Trench 1.
- 8.6 A field or boundary ditch was seen extending at 90 degrees to Station Road in Trench 3 that contained 17th to 18th century ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe. This potentially relates to either Norbiton Hall or the later Norbiton Place that were built 250m-300m west of the study site.
- 8.7 Substantial past post-depositional impacts on archaeological layers were more towards the north of the site with landscaping likely as a precursor to development along London Road. Ground height is thought to have been higher here so more stratigraphy was graded down to create level building surfaces. Concrete footings and modern service runs were also seen extending across Trenches 1, 2 and 4. Trenches 3 and 4 towards the centre and south appeared as less impacted upon.
- 8.8 Once this project is deemed complete, the completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will eventually be deposited with LAARC under site code STK14.

9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the works on behalf of Kingston Plaza LLP, and Gillian King of English Heritage for monitoring the project. We would also like to thank Troy of General Demolition for facilitating the site work.
- 9.2 The author thanks Patric Kavanagh and Rick Archer for their assistance on the project, Josephine Brown for the figures and to Chris Mayo for editing this report. Thanks also to Chris Jarrett and Kevin Hayward for dating the finds.

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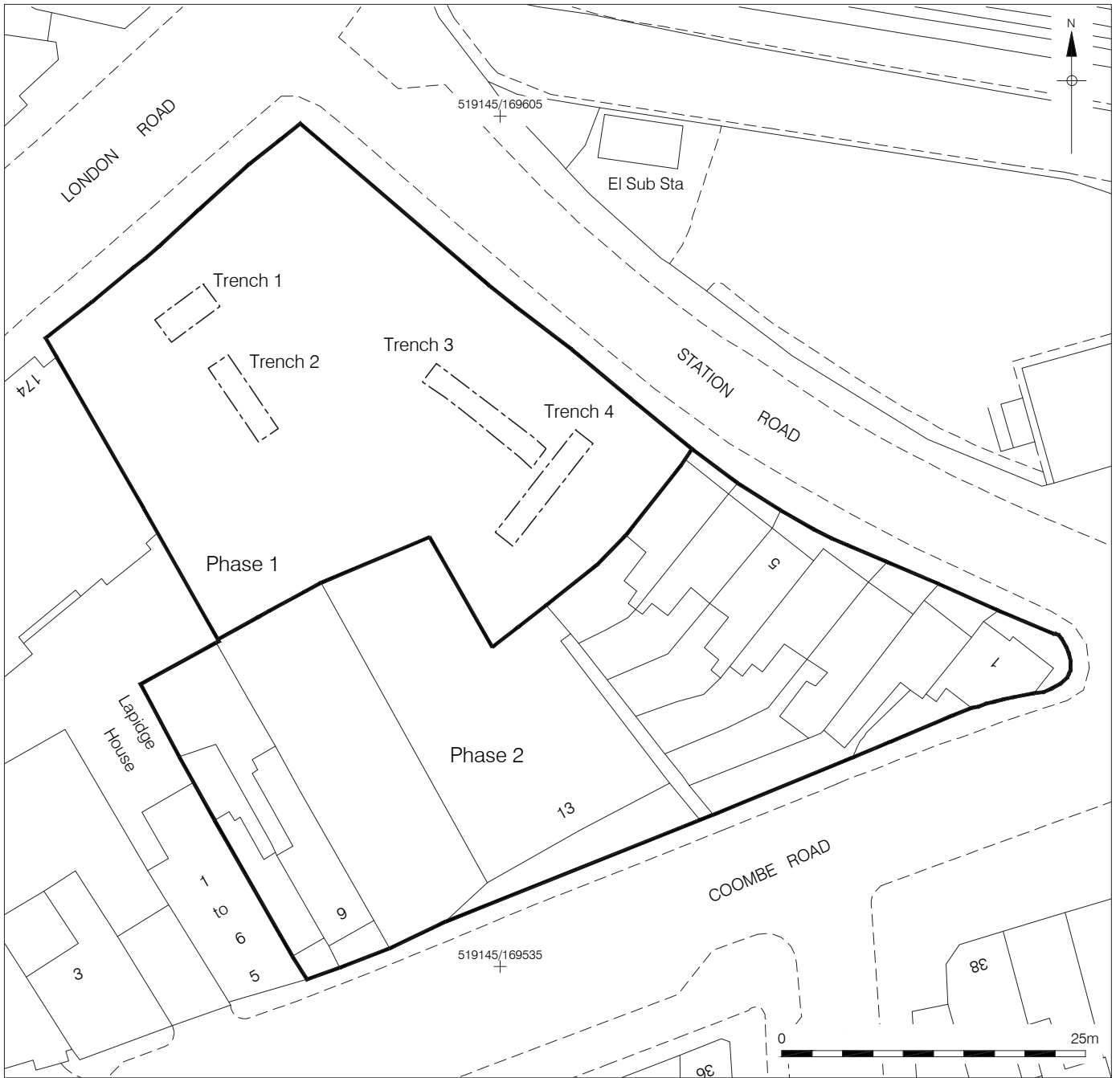


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Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:500 at A4

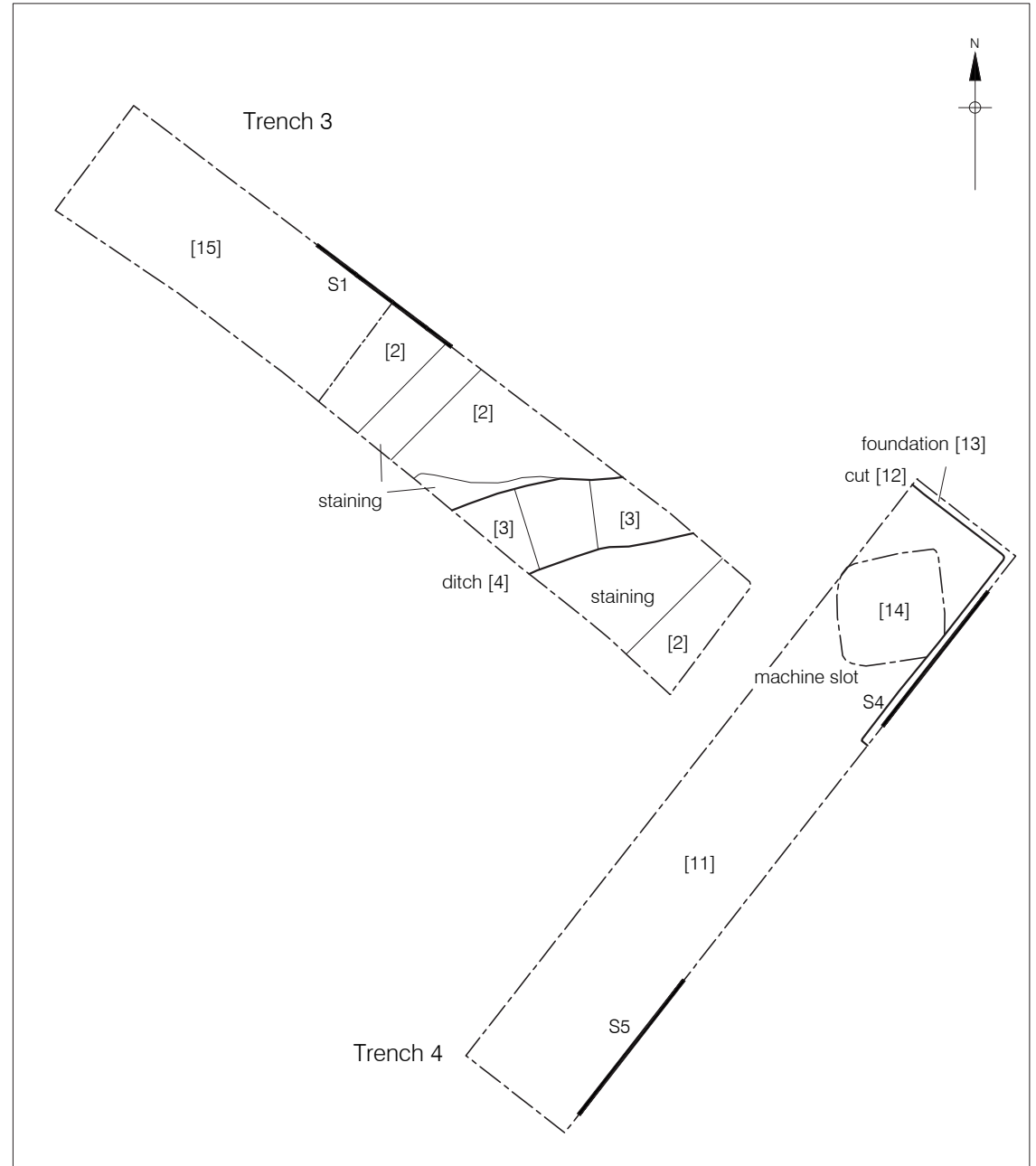
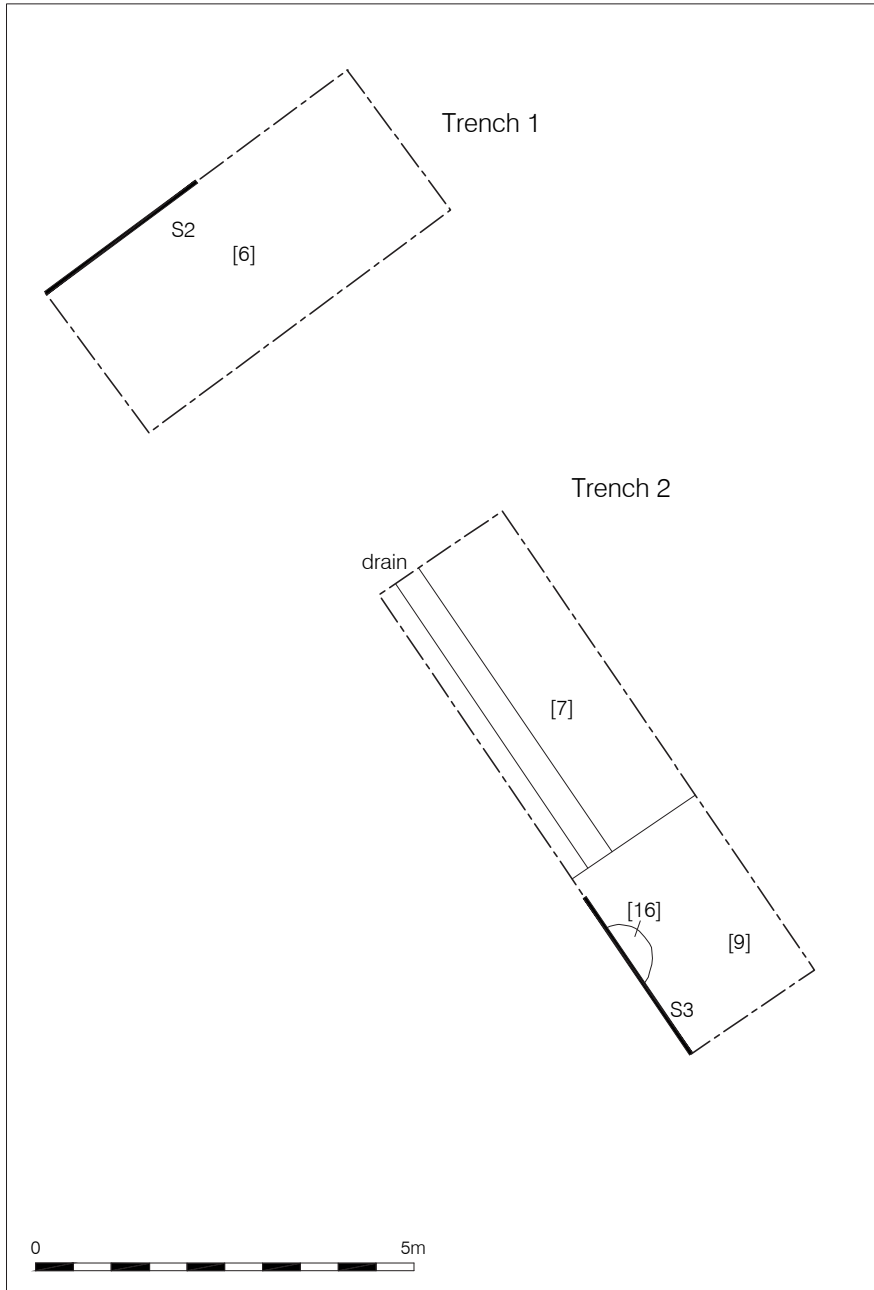
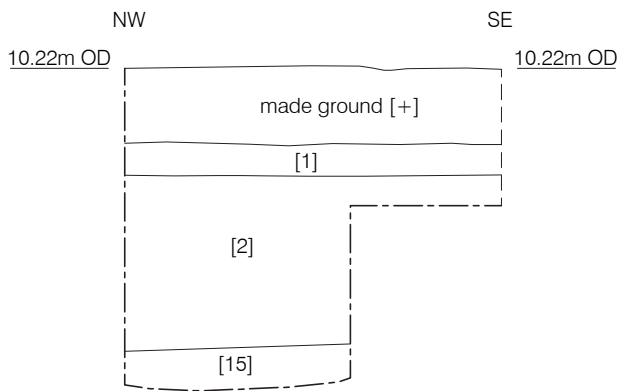
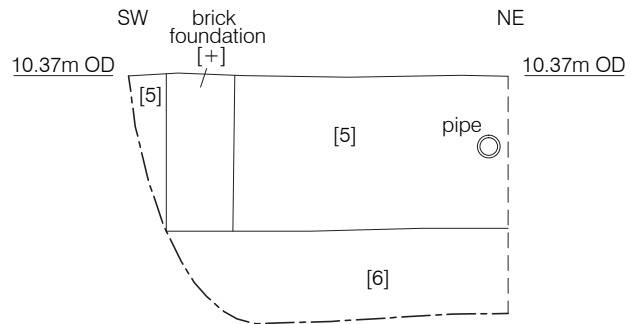


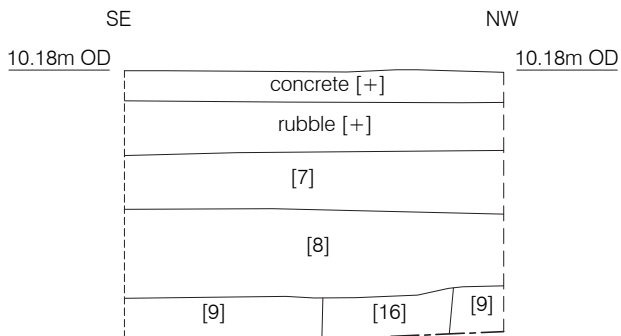
Figure 3
Trench Plans
1:100 at A4



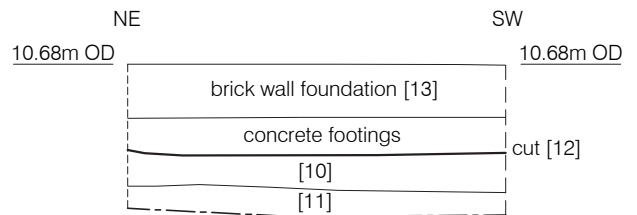
Section 1
Trench 3
Southwest Facing



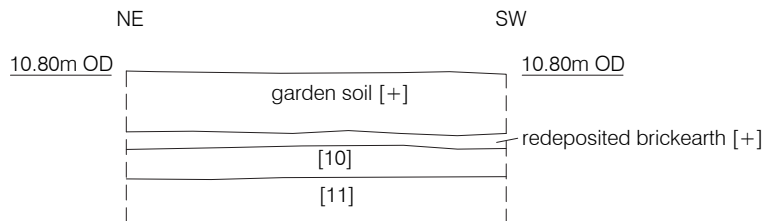
Section 2
Trench 1
Southeast Facing



Section 3
Trench 2
Northeast Facing



Section 4
Trench 4
Northwest Facing



Section 5
Trench 4
Northwest Facing



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Figure 4
Sections 1 - 5
1:50 at A4

Plate 1: South-facing Section in Trench 1 showing [5] and [6]



Plate 2: North-facing Shot of Trench 2 with 2m scale showing brickearth [7], gravels [9] and clay lense [16]



Plate 3: Southeast-facing view in Trench 3 with 1m scale showing ditch cut [4] and fill [3]



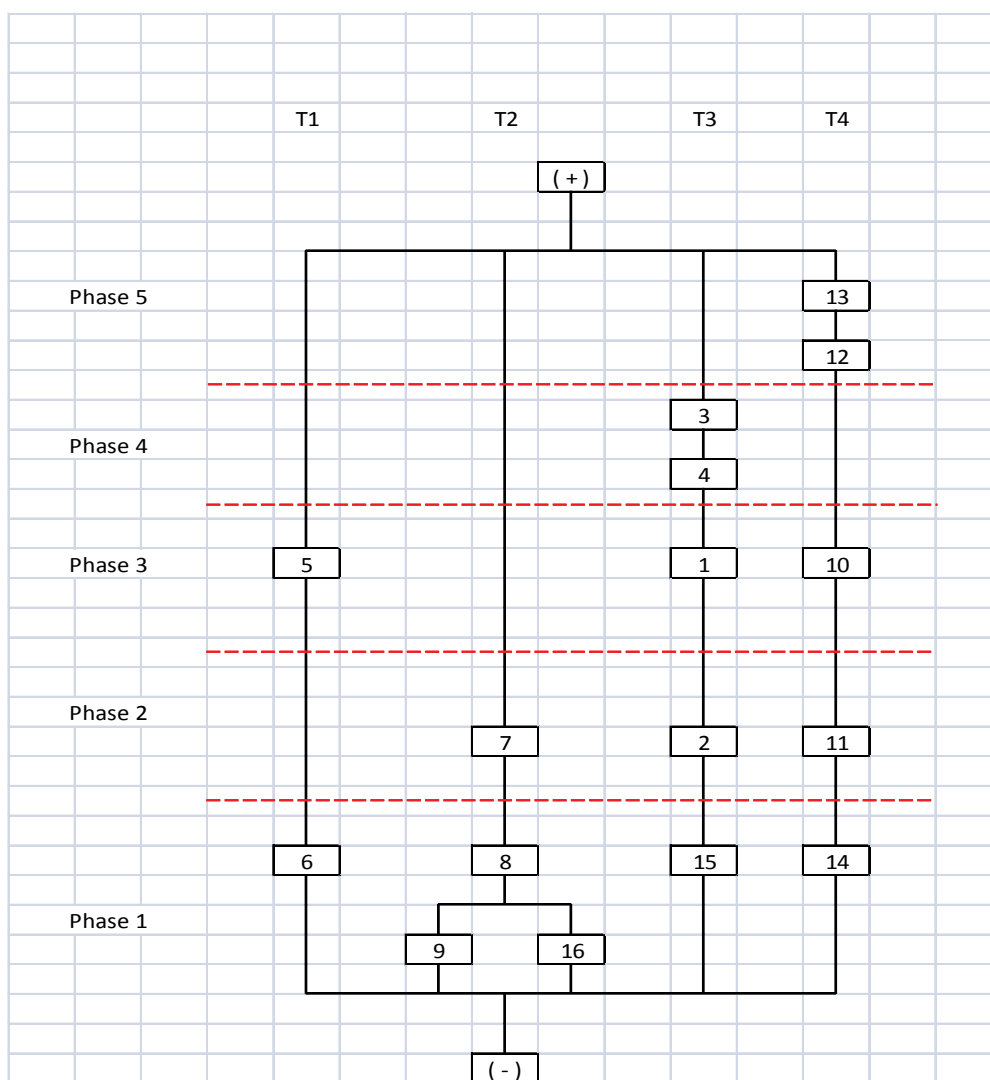
Plate 4: South-facing view in Trench 4 with 1m scale showing brickearth [11], layer [10] and wall foundation [13]



APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Type	Trench	Phase	Description
1	Layer	3	3	Redeposited brickearth
2	Layer	3	2	Natural brickearth
3	Fill	3	4	Fill of [4]
4	Cut	3	4	Ditch cut
5	Layer	1	3	Dark silt/sand/clay deposit
6	Layer	1	1	Sandy gravels
7	Layer	2	2	Brown-grey silty-clay
8	Layer	2	1	Blue-dark brown silty-clay
9	Layer	2	1	Natural sandy gravels
10	Layer	4	3	Grey-brown silty-clay
11	Layer	4	2	Brickearth
12	Cut	4	5	Cut for wall foundation
13	Masonry	4	5	Wall foundation
14	Layer	4	1	Natural sandy-gravel
15	Layer	3	1	Natural sandy-gravel
16	Layer	2	1	Lense of natural clay

APPENDIX 2: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: OASIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-184810

Project details

Project name	Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames, KT2 7AA
Short description of the project	The works comprised the excavation of four trenches. Naturally-occurring deposits were observed as sandy-gravels that contained lenses of clean, sterile clay. Where not removed in entirety by 19th and 20th century development, an intact brickearth horizon was recorded over much of the site as overlying this layer. This horizon had been subjected to some truncation from the building footings that have recently been demolished across the site. In Trench 3, a late post-medieval property or field boundary ditch was seen extending at ninety-degrees to Station Road.
Project dates	Start: 07-07-2014 End: 10-07-2014
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	STK14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches", "Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON KINGSTON UPON THAMES KINGSTON UPON THAMES Kingston Plaza: Phase 1
Postcode	KT2 7AA
Study area	750.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 1913 6956 51.4120257835 -0.286818718137 51 24 43 N 000 17 12 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 8.67m Max: 9.88m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Tim Bradley
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo

Project supervisor	Richard Humphrey
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Kingston Plaza LLP

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	STK14
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	STK14
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	STK14
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Kingston Plaza, Kingston upon Thames. An Archaeological Evaluation: Phase 1
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Humphrey, R.
Other bibliographic details	PCA R11792
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Pre Construct Archeaology Limited
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	A4 client document with blue PCA covers

Entered by	Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	22 July 2014

PCA

PCA SOUTH

UNIT 54
BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD
BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091
FAX: 020 7639 9588
EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PCA NORTH

UNIT 19A
TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
DURHAM DH6 5PG
TEL: 0191 377 1111
FAX: 0191 377 0101
EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

PCA CENTRAL

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
TEL: 01223 845 522
FAX: 01223 845 522
EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

PCA WEST

BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB
TEL: 01962 849 549
EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

PCA MIDLANDS

17-19 KETTERING RD
LITTLE BOWDEN
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN
TEL: 01858 468 333
EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com

