AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE FORMER HENDON FOOTBALL CLUB, CLAREMONT ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET NW2

SITE CODE: CLT 15

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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE FORMER HENDON FOOTBALL CLUB, CLAREMONT ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET NW2

Local Planning Authority: Barnet Borough Council

Planning Ref: H/02747/14

Site Code: CLT15

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 2363 8696

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1 Abstract

1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. conducted an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at the former Hendon Football Club, Claremont Road, London Borough of Barnet between 21st and 26th January 2015. The evaluation comprised the excavation of seven trial trenches measuring up to 20m in length, an eighth proposed trench being abandoned because of its location within a large spoil heap. The seven trenches were located to provide site-wide coverage for the evaluation, the actual trench location plan being targeted on proposed garden areas within a future development. The work was carried out prior to redevelopment of the site for residential purposes, in response to a planning condition placed on the proposed development.

1.2 Natural head deposits comprising mostly clay but with some gravel areas were identified in all trenches and were overlain by a naturally developed subsoil that had been extensively reworked from the late medieval/early post-medieval period onwards. A number of field drains associated with previous agricultural exploitation of the site were identified, cutting into the subsoil, along with a number of later features associated with drainage for the former football pitch. Preparation of the original football pitch included the laying of a bedding deposit over the subsoil across the site, upon which topsoil was deposited, the top of this providing the level pitch surface. A number of more recent land drains associated with the football pitch were also identified.

1.3 No archaeological features pre-dating the land drains were identified, though a small number of finds suggested earlier activity in the area, most likely that associated agricultural exploitation of the surrounding landscape.

2 Introduction

2.1 Between 21st and 26th January 2015 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) carried out an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at the former Hendon Football Club, Claremont Road, London Borough of Barnet (Figures 1 & 2).

2.2 It is proposed to redevelop the site for residential purposes, planning consent for which has already been approved, though a condition of the consent required an archaeological investigation of the site. Consequently archaeological works were commissioned in response to this condition

2.3 The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Fairview New Homes and comprised an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in proposed garden areas within the new development (Figure 2).

2.4 The site was located at National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 2363 8696 and was allocated the site code **CLT15.**

3 Geology and Topography

3.1 The Claremont Road area lies to the north-west of central London within the London Borough of Barnet, and historically within the county of Middlesex. It is south of Brent Cross and the A406 North Circular, and north and west of Cricklewood and the A5 Edgware Road. The former Hendon Football Club site lies adjacent to Claremont Road at the western edge of Clitterhouse Playing Fields, which in turn lie a short distance west of the A41 Hendon Way.

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 56 million years ago. No superficial deposits are recorded overlying the London Clay, this sequence being confirmed in a nearby borehole (Butler 2014, 8). However, recent geotechnical investigations on the site (Key 2014) have revealed Head deposits generally overlying the London Clay across the site, with alluvium overlying the Head deposits to the south of the site.

3.3 The site lies to the east of Claremont Road and at the time of the archaeological investigations was accessed via an entrance at the south-west site corner. The site lies on generally flat ground at an elevation of approximately 59m OD, and whilst the natural topography may have been relatively level in this area, before dropping to the north, the current flat topography is also a result of ground modification to provide a level football playing surface in the early 20th century.

3.4 The site is bounded to the west by Claremont Road and is surrounded on all other sides by Clitterhouse Playing Fields. The nearest watercourse is a stream, some 500m to the east that flows from south to north and into the River Brent, which passes within approximately 900m to the north of the site.

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) of the site was carried out in 2013 and revised in 2014 (Butler 2014). The findings of the DBA are summarised here and references below are to Butler (2014) unless otherwise stated.

4.2 Prehistoric

4.2.1 There are no finds or features recorded within a 1km radius of the study site dating to any of the prehistoric periods. The heavy clays at the site would have provided an unattractive environment, suggesting early woodland clearance and settlement within the area was limited.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 The alignment of Watling Street, the Roman Road from London to St Albans follows the route of the modern Edgware Road, which runs approximately 600m to the west of the study site. Roman activity was often focussed along the routes of roads, though the only record of Roman activity in the vicinity is a flat bottomed ditch and a single post-hole recorded at Cricklewood Bus Garage *c.*800m south-west of the study site

4.4 Early Medieval

4.4.1 The character, extent and location of early medieval settlement in the area is almost completely unknown. Roman Watling Street is recorded in a charter dated AD 957 as 'Wicstrete' suggesting that the road was still in use, although its strategic function had ceased. There is no further evidence for activity of this date in the area.

4.5 Late Medieval and Post-Medieval

4.5.1 During the late medieval and early post-medieval periods, the study site was probably occupied by agricultural and horticultural land, close to the manor house of Clitterhouse, the Manor having been recorded as early as 1321. By 1584 the estate was managed as one farm consisting of 118 acres (*c.* 47 hectares) of arable and pasture land and 80 acres (*c.* 32 hectares) of woodland. In 1715 the farmhouse was shown as a large two-storey timber framed building, with a jettied first storey, though is not apparent on Rocque's map of 1754, which shows the study site as lying within agricultural land. However, the Ordnance Survey drawing of 1807 does show the farm, labelled as Clutterhouse Farm, just to the south of the study site.

4.5.2 By 1838 a replacement farmhouse had been built on the site of Clitterhouse Farm, shown in greater detail on the 1840 Hendon Tithe Map. The study site itself lay in agricultural land to the north of Clitterhouse Farm, described in the accompanying apportionment as 'Arable' land. The 1st edition 25" to 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of 1862-4 shows the site in considerable detail. The entire site is shown as agricultural or horticultural land lying alongside a road and north of the Clitterhouse Farm complex, which in this map is shown with a moat. No significant changes are evident on maps up to 1913 but in 1926 Hendon FC moved to the Claremont Road ground and it is likely that significant ground modification was carried out at this time to provide a level playing surface. A stand was constructed by William Harbrow Ltd. And the 1936 Ordnance Survey edition shows the football ground consisted of a stand on the east and west sides, with terraces around the rest of the pitch. The southern part of the study site was occupied with hard standing and two small buildings.

4.5.3 The Bombsight website (BombSight 2012) shows that a series of bombs were dropped in the Clitterhouse Recreation Ground area, though none on the study site itself. During the 1960s a more substantial club building had been built in the southern part of the study site, though the football pitch and terraces remained largely unchanged.

4.5.4 In 1997 a watching brief monitoring a superficial topsoil strip for a new car park at the football club revealed a general levelling deposit of post-medieval brick and tile but no remains of the medieval farmhouse. The club building had been considerably enlarged by 1999 but Hendon FC left the site in September 2008 and the stands were demolished in 2012.

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 Barnet, 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, in appropriate circumstances seeks 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 Barnet whose Local Development Framework contains the following policy within its Core Strategy document (adopted 2012) which is relevant to cultural heritage:

POLICY CS5: PROTECTING AND ENHANCING BARNET'S CHARACTER TO CREATE HIGH QUALITY PLACES

HERITAGE AND CHARACTER

WE WILL WORK WITH PARTNERS TO PROACTIVELY PROTECT AND ENHANCE BARNET'S HERITAGE INCLUDING CONSERVATION AREAS, LISTED BUILDINGS, LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS, REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS; SCHEDULED MONUMENTS, AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND LONDON'S ONLY BATTLEFIELD SITE.

WE WILL REQUIRE PROPOSALS WITHIN OR AFFECTING THE SETTING OF HERITAGE ASSETS TO PROVIDE A SITE ASSESSMENT WHICH DEMONSTRATES HOW THE PROPOSAL WILL RESPECT AND ENHANCE THE ASSET. POLICY CS13 ADDRESSES THE ADAPTATION OF HERITAGE ASSETS TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS AND ENSURE EFFICIENT USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

WE WILL ENSURE THROUGH OUR PROGRAMME OF CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER APPRAISALS THAT THESE AREAS ARE PROTECTED AND ENHANCED.

WE WILL ENSURE THROUGH OUR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SPD THAT THE KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF BARNET'S LANDSCAPE (BARNET PLATEAU AND FINCHLEY RIDGE) ARE PROTECTED AND ENHANCED.

WE WILL ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE REVIEW OF THE LOCAL LIST OF IMPORTANT LOCAL BUILDINGS.

THE BARNET CHARACTERISATION STUDY FORMS THE BASELINE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF PLACES WITH A CONSISTENT AND COHERENT ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER. WITHIN THE TYPOLOGIES IDENTIFIED IN THE CHARACTERISATION STUDY WE WILL THROUGH OUR DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES DPD AND RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDANCE SPD DEVELOP A FRAMEWORK TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THOSE HIGH QUALITY SUBURBS IN BARNET NOT PROTECTED BY CONSERVATION AREA DESIGNATIONS.

5.5 This Core Strategy policy is expanded within the Development Management Policies (adopted 2012) in the following policy pertinent to cultural heritage:

POLICY DM06: BARNET'S HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION

A. ALL HERITAGE ASSETS WILL BE PROTECTED IN LINE WITH THEIR SIGNIFICANCE. ALL DEVELOPMENT WILL HAVE REGARD TO THE LOCAL HISTORIC CONTEXT.

B. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS MUST PRESERVE OR ENHANCE THE CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF 16 CONSERVATION AREAS IN BARNET.

C. PROPOSALS INVOLVING OR AFFECTING BARNET'S HERITAGE ASSETS SET OUT IN TABLE 7.2 SHOULD DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING:

- **THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSET**
- **THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSET**
- **THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL ON THE SETTING OF THE HERITAGE ASSET**
- **HOW THE SIGNIFICANCE AND/OR SETTING OF A HERITAGE ASSET CAN BE BETTER REVEALED**
- **THE OPPORTUNITIES TO MITIGATE OR ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE**
- **HOW THE BENEFITS OUTWEIGH ANY HARM CAUSED TO THE HERITAGE ASSET.**

D. THERE WILL BE A PRESUMPTION IN FAVOUR OF RETAINING ALL 1,600 LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS IN BARNET AND ANY BUILDINGS WHICH MAKES A POSITIVE

CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF THE 16 CONSERVATION AREAS.

E. ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS WILL BE PROTECTED IN PARTICULAR IN THE 19 IDENTIFIED LOCAL AREAS OF SPECIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND ELSEWHERE IN BARNET. ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT MAY AFFECT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS WILL NEED TO DEMONSTRATE THE LIKELY IMPACT UPON THE REMAINS AND THE PROPOSED MITIGATION TO REDUCE THAT IMPACT.

5.6 The study site is not located within a Conservation Area and none occur within a 500m radius. However, the study site is situated within the Cricklewood Local Area of Special Archaeological Significance. No statutorily listed buildings are present on the site and none occur within 1km. There are also no locally listed buildings on the study site or in the surrounding roads. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on the study site or within the vicinity.

5.7 It is proposed to redevelop the site for the construction of residential accommodation, an application (ref: H/02747/14) having been submitted to Barnet Borough Council on 22nd May 2014. It is proposed to undertake a development of 135 units, comprising 2/3 storey townhouses adjacent to Claremont Road, and 5 storey apartments Clitterhouse Playing Fields. Given the location of the site within a Local Area of Special Archaeological Importance, it was possible that further archaeological mitigation would be required to assess the presence/absence of archaeological remains. Consequently, when the application was approved by the Council on the 23rd of December 2014, it included the following condition:

40 A) No development shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

B) No development or demolition shall take place other that in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (A).

C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (A), and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: To ensure that the development makes appropriate provision for such equipment, so as to not impact adversely on the townscape and character of the area, so that it accords with policies CS5 and DM01 Barnet Local Plan.

5.8 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by PCA (Hawkins 2014) as outlined in the planning condition. The objectives of the archaeological investigations were:

- To determine the natural topography and geology of the site, and the height at which it survives.
- To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric activity, its nature and (if possible) date.
- To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.

- 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 (Hawkins 2014), and all aspects of the work followed national (IFA 2008) and local (GLAAS 2014) guidelines, and according to PCA's own fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009).

6.2 All buildings on the site had previously been demolished and an area to the south of the site had been remediated to remove Japanese knotweed prior to the archaeological investigations, consequently all evaluation trenches were located in the area of the former football pitch.

6.3 It was initially intended that eight evaluation trenches, each 20m in length should be excavated across the former pitch area at proposed future garden locations pre-determined and marked out by the client (Figure 2). However, practical factors determined that it was not possible to excavate Trench 6 and other trenches were shortened, though all excavations were carried out within the marked areas

6.4 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 180° wheeled excavator (JCB) using a toothless bucket, under archaeological supervision. Longitudinal sections and bases of the trenches were then cleaned, and sample sections and base plans recorded. 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 (Figures 2 and 3). A temporary bench mark (TBM) was also established on the site (value 57.35m OD) using the GPS. Following the completion of archaeological work all trenches were backfilled and reinstated using a 13 tonne, 360° tracked excavator.

7 Trench Description and Interpretation of Features

7.1 In this section the stratigraphic sequence in each of the evaluation trenches is described and the sequences interpreted (Figures 3 and 4).

7.2 Trench 1

7.2.1 Trench 1 was located towards the north-west corner of the site and aligned approximately east to west. The basal material exposed was a natural stiff, mid yellowish clay [4] with occasional areas of coarse gravel [5]. The surface of the natural material was recorded at a maximum elevation of 56.82m OD and was overlain by a slightly friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt [3], up to 0.45m thick. This deposit was recorded at an upper elevation of 57.24m OD and interpreted as a naturally formed subsoil, which had undergone significant subsequent modification, artefactual material recovered from the upper levels of the deposit dating to the 19th century. The subsoil was sealed by a thin layer of firm, very dark greyish brown to black, coarse gravelly silt [2], interpreted as a bedding layer for an imported topsoil that was laid across the site. The topsoil [1] overlying the bedding deposit was up to 0.26m thick and recorded at upper elevations varying between 57.12m OD and 57.36m OD, the surface having previously formed the football pitch playing surface.

7.3 Trench 2

7.3.1 Trench 2 was located approximately 10m south of Trench 1 on a perpendicular alignment. The earliest deposit recorded was natural clay [11], similar to the material recorded in Trench 1 and recorded at an upper surface elevation of 56.95m OD. This was directly overlain by up to 0.22m of slightly friable, dark greyish brown, sandy clay [8], recorded at an upper elevation of 57.12m OD, and interpreted as subsoil. Above this was a thin deposit of firm, very dark greyish brown to black, coarse gravelly silt [7], again interpreted as a bedding layer for an imported topsoil. The bedding layer was cut by a north-east to south-west aligned field drain trench [10] that included ceramic field drain segments within a gravelly matrix [9]. The stratigraphic sequence was completed by a layer of topsoil [6], up to 0.42m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 57.29m OD and 57.54m OD. No finds or features of archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

7.4 Trench 3

7.4.1 Trench 3 was located a short distance south-east of Trench 2 and aligned approximately east to west. The earliest deposit exposed was natural clay [23], which was recorded at a maximum surface elevation of 56.92m OD. Overlying the clay was a slightly friable, dark greyish brown, silty clay [22], interpreted as subsoil, the upper levels of which had been extensively reworked and included a number of finds dated to the 19th century. A number of the finds were found in close proximity to a large piece of timber which appeared to be of recent origin. The subsoil was up to 0.22m thick and recorded at an upper elevation of 57.13m OD. It was capped by a thin layer of firm, very dark brownish grey to black, coarse silty gravel [21], which provided a bedding deposit for overlying topsoil. The stratigraphic sequence in the trench was completed by the topsoil [20], up to 0.55m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 57.45m OD and 57.57m OD.

7.5 Trench 4

7.5.1 Trench 4 was aligned approximately parallel with Trench 3 and lay 20m to the south. The earliest deposit was natural clay [15], recorded at an upper elevation of 57.28m OD, which was overlain by up to 0.30m of firm, dark greyish brown, sandy clay silt [14], recorded at an upper elevation of 57.40m OD. The subsoil was cut by an east to west field drain [19] that ran the length of the trench, and was sealed by a thin deposit of firm, dark brownish grey to black sandy silt [13] that provided bedding for the imported topsoil above. The topsoil [12] was up to 0.50m thick and recorded at surface elevations varying between 57.64m OD and 57.79m OD. A field drain [17]

that cut through natural clay was a driven rather than cut feature and of recent origin. Other than the field drains, no features of archaeological interest were recorded.

7.6 Trench 5

7.6.1 Trench 5 was positioned parallel to Trench 4 and lay approximately 6m to the south. The earliest deposit was natural clay [27], recorded at an upper surface elevation of 57.19m OD and overlain by up to 0.21m of firm, mid brownish grey, silty sandy clay subsoil [26], recorded at an upper elevation of 57.46m OD. A fragment of CBM recovered from close to the surface of the deposit has been dated to the 19th century. Towards the western end of the trench the subsoil was truncated by a north-east to south-west aligned field drain [29] and was covered throughout the trench by a thin deposit of firm, very dark brownish grey to black, coarse silty gravel bedding [25]. The bedding was overlain by modern topsoil [24], which was up to 0.40m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 57.66m OD and 57.83m OD.

7.7 Trench 6

7.7.1 It originally been intended that Trench 6 should be excavated some 20m south of Trench 5, on an approximately parallel alignment, however, this area was covered by a large pile of crushed demolition rubble and excavation was not possible so the trench was abandoned.

7.8 Trench 7

7.8.1 Trench 7 was located towards the north-east corner of the site and aligned approximately north to south. Although originally intended as a 20m trench, extensive water ingress prevented excavation of the full trench length and it was also necessary to leave a topsoil baulk towards the centre of the excavated section. The earliest deposit recorded was natural clay [41], similar to material elsewhere and recorded at an upper surface elevation of 56.02m OD. This was directly overlain by up to 0.17m of friable, dark greyish brown, clayey silt [40], recorded at an upper elevation of 56.13m OD, and interpreted as subsoil. Towards the northern end of the trench the subsoil was cut by an east to west aligned field drain trench [45], within which was ceramic field drain [44] of approximately 100mm diameter. A short distance to the south a north-east to south-west aligned field drain trench [43] containing ceramic pipe [42] also truncated the subsoil. Above the subsoil and backfilled field drain trenches was a thin deposit of firm, very dark greyish brown to black, coarse gravelly silt [39], again interpreted as a bedding layer for an imported topsoil. The stratigraphic sequence was completed by a layer of topsoil [38], up to 0.30m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 56.45m OD and 56.56m OD. Other than the field drains, no finds or features of archaeological interest were recorded in this trench.

7.9 Trench 8

7.9.1 Trench 8 was located approximately 37m south of Trench 7 and continued the same alignment. This also had to be shortened slightly because of significant water ingress. The earliest deposit was natural clay [33], recorded at an upper surface elevation of 56.46m OD and overlain by up to 0.18m of friable, dark greyish brown, clayey silt subsoil [32], recorded at an upper elevation of 56.58m OD. Towards the centre of the trench the subsoil was truncated by a north-east to south-west aligned field drain trench [37], which housed a 100mm diameter ceramic drain [36]. A similar feature on an approximately parallel alignment (cut [35], pipe [34]) was also recorded at the southern end of the trench. The backfilled field drains and bedding deposits were covered throughout the trench by a thin deposit of firm, very dark brownish grey to black, coarse silty gravel bedding [31]. The bedding was overlain by modern topsoil [30], which was up to 0.26m thick and recorded at surface elevations between 56.94m OD and 57.09m OD. A fragment of pottery recovered from the deposit has been dated to the 19th century.

8 Phased Archaeological Sequence

8.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

8.1.1 Natural clay with some gravel patches was recorded in all excavated trenches, including those where full excavation was not possible. The maximum surface elevation of the clay varied between 57.28m OD in Trench 4 to 56.02m OD in Trench 7. Contrary to data supplied by the British Geological Survey, which suggests there are no superficial geological deposits overlying London Clay in the study area, but supporting the findings of the recent geotechnical investigations on the site (Key 2014), the natural clays and gravels encountered appear to be head deposits, originating during the last (Devensian) glacial period.

8.2 Phase 2: Post-Medieval

8.2.1 Lying above the natural clay and gravel across the site was a subsoil of variable composition and thickness. This appears to have been a naturally formed deposit but one which had experienced significant reworking by agricultural activity from the medieval period up until the early 20th century. It is not known when the subsoil formed and no finds were recovered from the lower levels of the deposit. However, finds were recovered from the upper levels in some of the trenches, suggesting activity in the later post-medieval period.

8.3 Phase 3: Recent

8.3.1 The subsoil was truncated by a number of field drains, some of which may have been related to later agricultural exploitation of the site. More discernible however, were ground modifications associated with the establishment of the football pitch in the 1920s. It appears that much of the original plough soil was removed from the site and a number of 100mm ceramic field drains were laid in trenches across the area. The field drains and exposed subsoil surface were then covered by an extensive, thin layer of gravelly silt, which effectively provided a bedding layer for imported topsoil that was brought in for the new football pitch.

8.4 Phase 4: Modern

8.4.1 The football pitch was in use from its foundation up to the closure of the ground in 2008. During that time the topsoil will have undergone continual treatment in order to maintain the integrity of the playing surface, the clearest evidence of which was the laying of field drains at various levels through the sedimentary sequences, the more recent of which were plastic pipes in tunnelled rather than cut and filled trenches. Since abandonment of the football ground, the former playing surface has become somewhat unkempt and the turf layer at the time of the archaeological investigations formed a thick and irregular mat across the site.

9 Discussion and Conclusions

9.1 The archaeological evaluation at the former Hendon FC ground has revealed little of archaeological interest, though the general stratigraphic sequence within the site has been clearly exposed.

9.2 The earliest deposits exposed were Head deposits comprising stiff clays and gravels, most likely deposited during periglacial conditions during the last (Devensian) glaciation, a factor supporting the earlier geotechnical investigations on the site and modifying the previous data provided by the British Geological Survey.

9.3 A subsoil formed over the natural clay and gravel, though the exact date of commencement of formation is unknown. However, a former topsoil formed over the subsoil may have been exploited for agricultural purposes from as early as the medieval period, and activity that impacted upon the upper levels of the subsoil was certainly evident from the 19th century, if not before, and may have included some land drainage.

9.4 The development of the football club, which is well documented, was also evident in the archaeological record. Initial drainage features and a bedding layer were installed following removal of some of the original ploughsoil, which was probably too stony and too clayey to provide a suitable football pitch matrix. Topsoil of a more suitable nature was then imported and laid over the bedding deposit and continued to be treated up until Hendon FC left the site in 2008.

9.5 Overall the evaluation has addressed all of the objectives of the research design: It has determined that Head deposits and not London Clay form the upper geological deposits in the area and the surface elevation of these has been clearly defined. The trial trenching provided no evidence of prehistoric exploitation of the site, probably because of the heavy nature of the underlying clay, and although there may have been some medieval activity, this was not visible archaeologically. The only evidence of archaeological activity on the site detected during the evaluation was post-medieval in date and the establishment of the football ground involved ground modification which most likely removed the pre-existing ploughsoil, which may have contained artefactual evidence of earlier exploitation of the site.

10 Acknowledgements

10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work on behalf of Fairview New Homes. O'Connell Plant & Groundworks Ltd. are thanked for providing machinery to excavate and backfill the trenches, in particular the drivers; Pat Byrne and Henry Devlin, who carried out the work. Special thanks are extended to Sandy Kidd of the English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service for monitoring the project.

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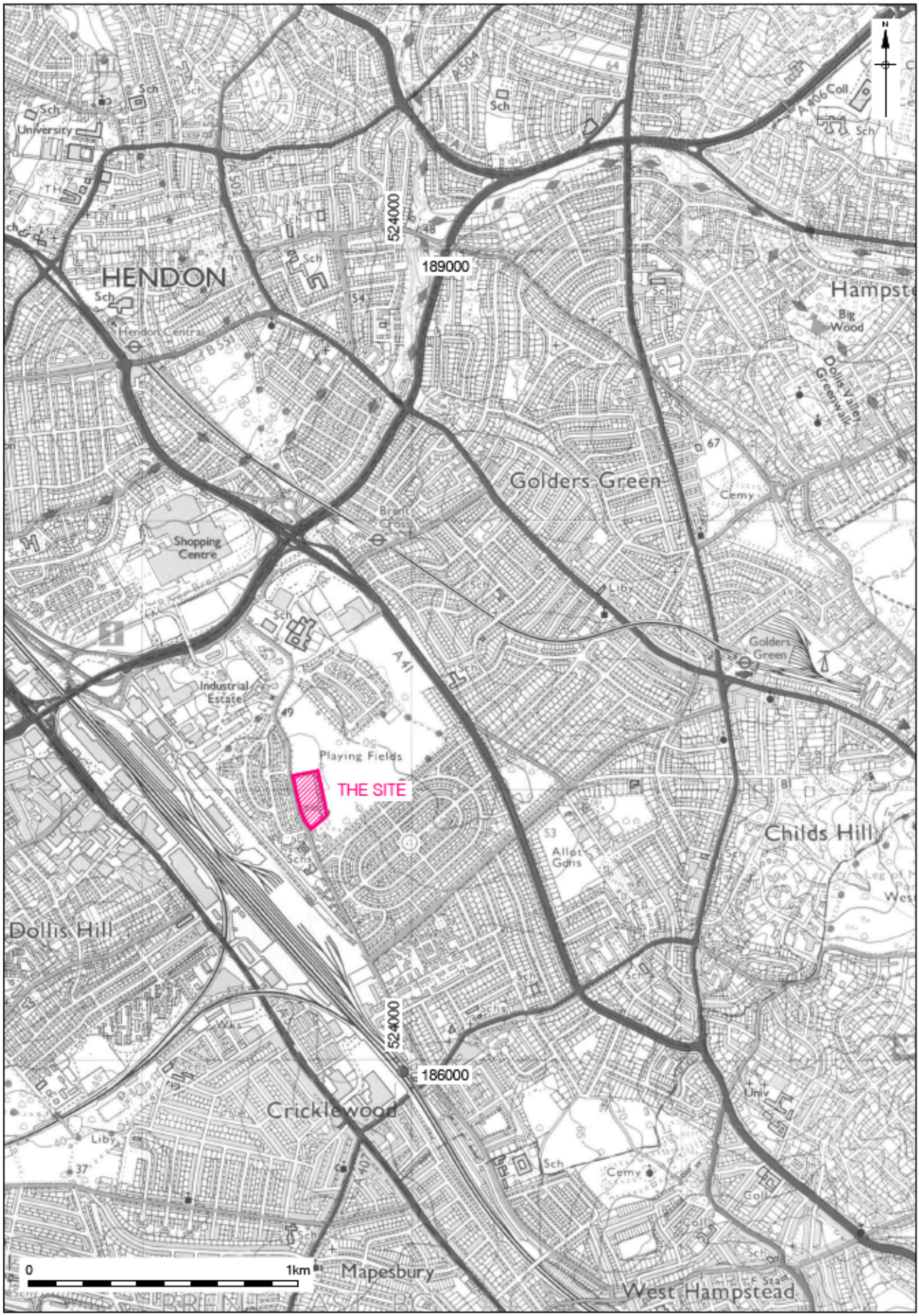
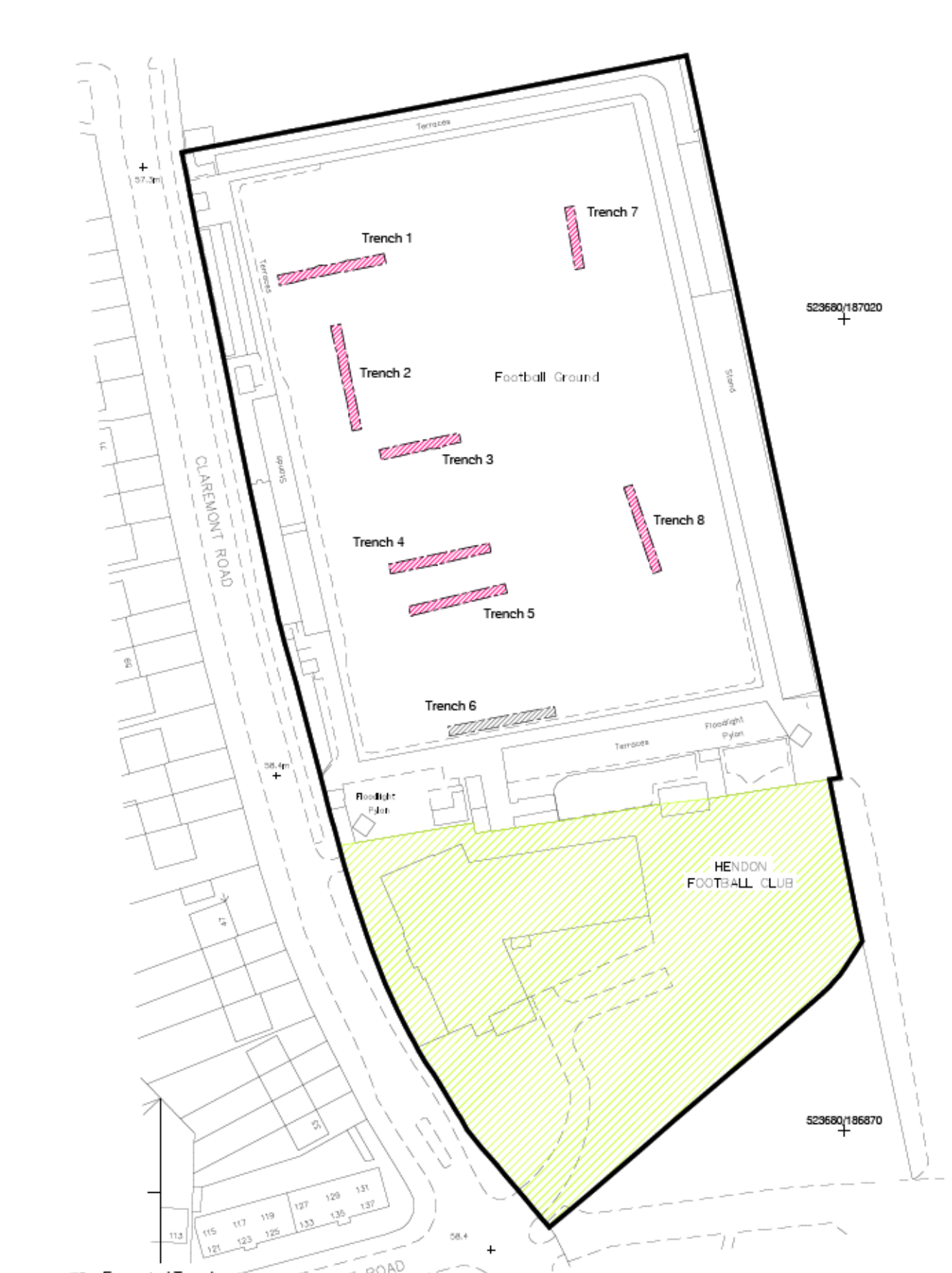


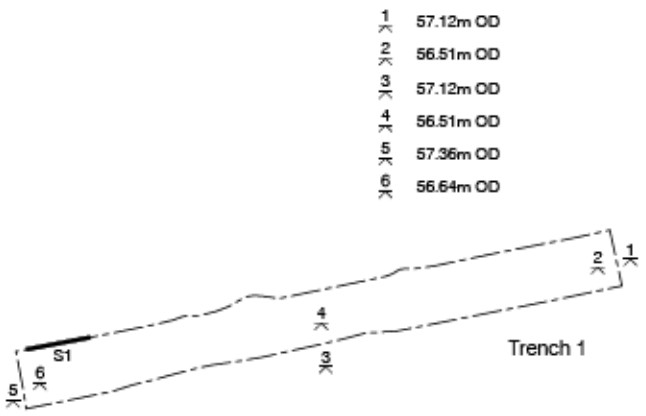
28/01/15 JS

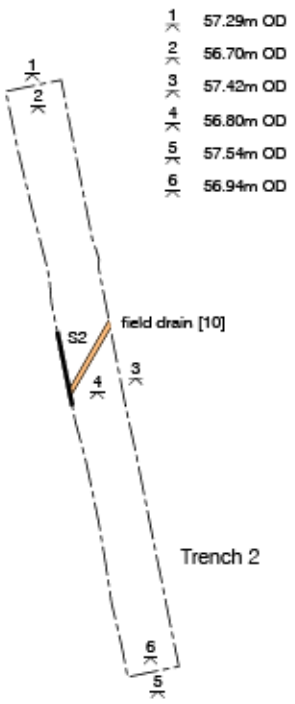
Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4

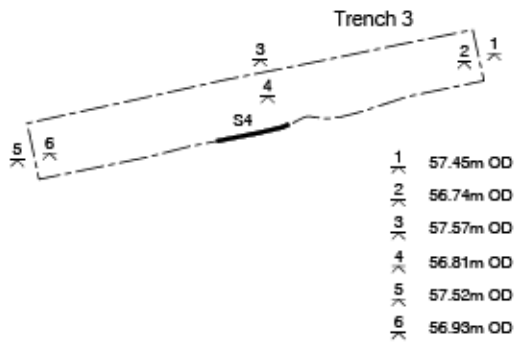


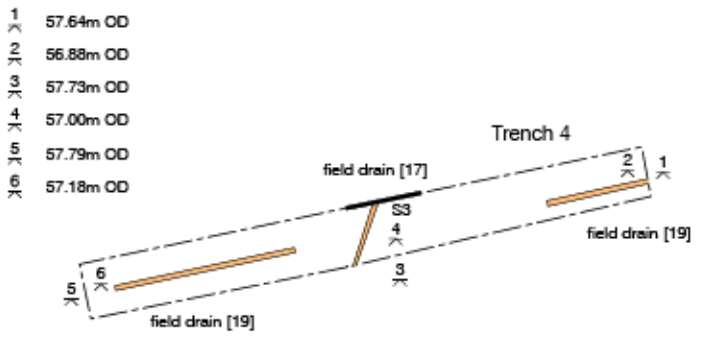
02/02/15 HB

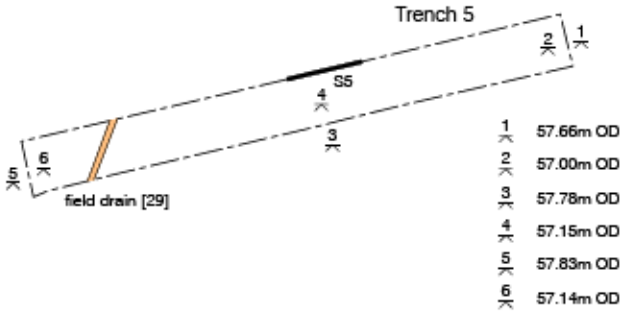
Figure 2
Trench Location
1:1,000 at A4

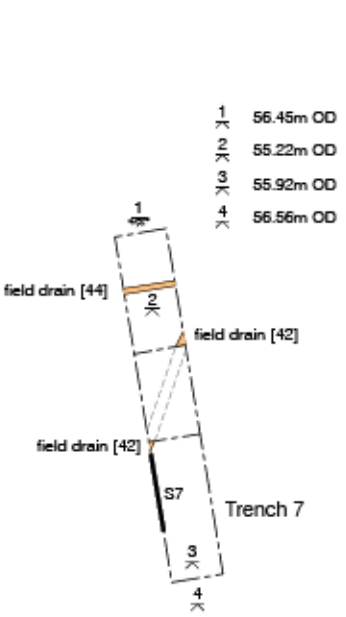












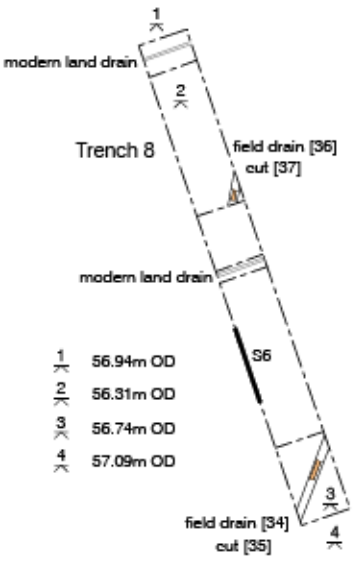


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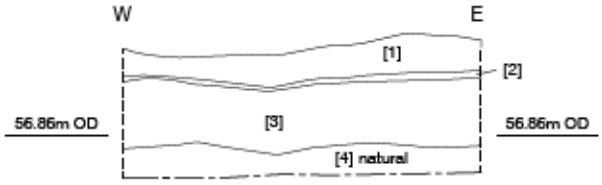
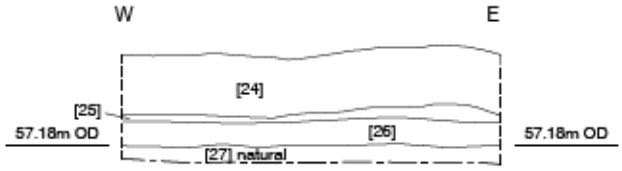
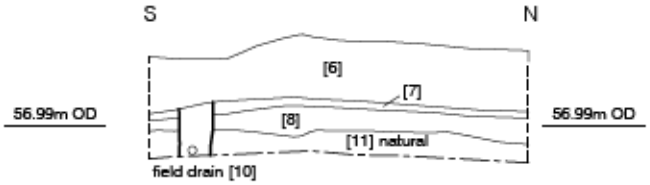
Figure 3
Plan of Trenches
1:250 at A3



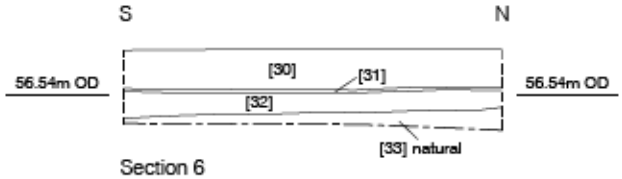
Section 1
Trench 1
South Facing



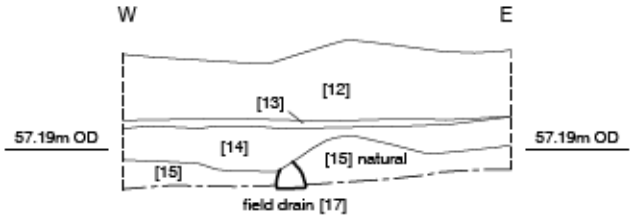
Section 5
Trench 5
South Facing



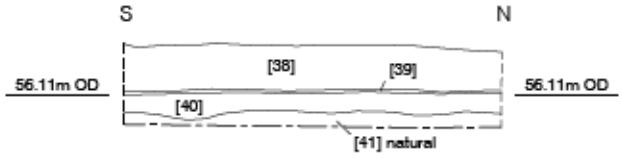
Section 2
Trench 2
East Facing



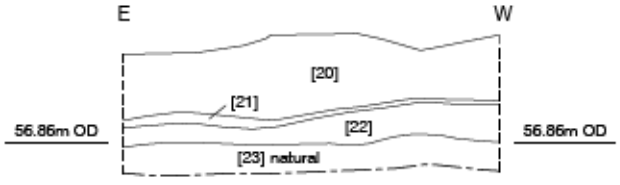
Section 6
Trench 8
East Facing



Section 3
Trench 4
South Facing



Section 7
Trench 7
East Facing



Section 4
Trench 3
North Facing

28/01/15 JS: updated 02/02/15 HB

Figure 4
Sections 1 - 7
1:50 at A4

APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 1, Looking East

Plate 2: Trench 2, Looking North

Plate 3: Trench 3, Looking East

Plate 4: Trench 4, Looking West

Plate 5: Trench 5, Looking East

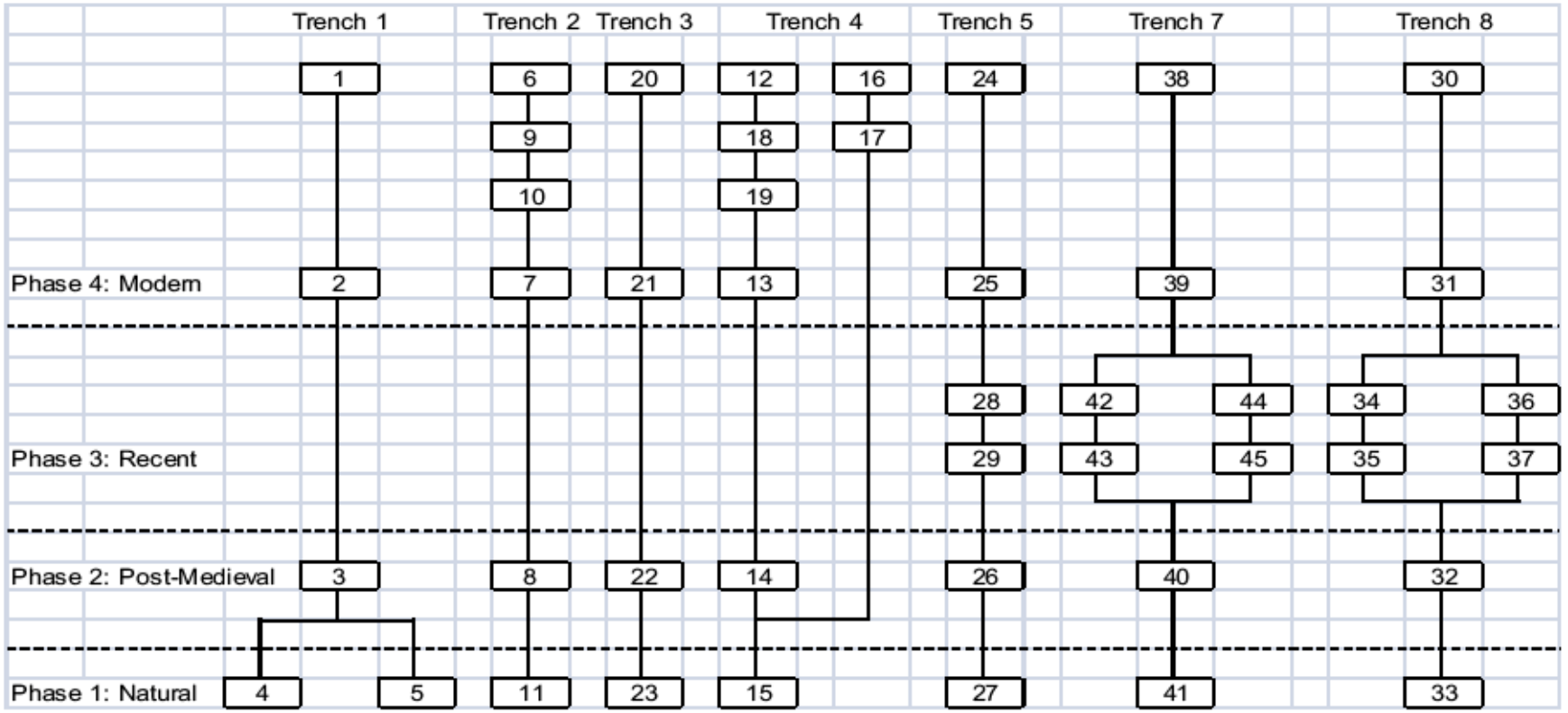
Plate 6: Trench 7, Looking South

Plate 7: Trench 8, Looking North

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context	Type	Trench	Description	Date	Phase
CLT15	1	Layer	Tr 1	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	2	Layer	Tr 1	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	3	Layer	Tr 1	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	4	Layer	Tr 1	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	5	Layer	Tr 1	Natural gravel	Natural	1
CLT15	6	Layer	Tr 2	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	7	Layer	Tr 2	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	8	Layer	Tr 2	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	9	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [10]	Recent	3
CLT15	10	Cut	Tr 2	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	11	Layer	Tr 2	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	12	Layer	Tr 4	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	13	Layer	Tr 4	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	14	Layer	Tr 4	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	15	Layer	Tr 4	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	16	Fill	Tr 4	Fill of [17]	Recent	3
CLT15	17	Cut	Tr 4	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	18	Fill	Tr 4	Fill of [19]	Recent	3
CLT15	19	Cut	Tr 4	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	20	Layer	Tr 3	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	21	Layer	Tr 3	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	22	Layer	Tr 3	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	23	Layer	Tr 3	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	24	Layer	Tr 5	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	25	Layer	Tr 5	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	26	Layer	Tr 5	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	27	Layer	Tr 5	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	28	Fill	Tr 5	Fill of [29]	Recent	3
CLT15	29	Cut	Tr 5	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	30	Layer	Tr 8	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	31	Layer	Tr 8	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	32	Layer	Tr 8	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	33	Layer	Tr 8	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	34	Fill	Tr 8	Fill of [35]	Recent	3
CLT15	35	Cut	Tr 8	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	36	Fill	Tr 8	Fill of [37]	Recent	3
CLT15	37	Cut	Tr 8	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	38	Layer	Tr 7	Topsoil	Modern	4
CLT15	39	Layer	Tr 2	Bedding layer	Recent	3
CLT15	40	Layer	Tr 2	Subsoil	Post-medieval	2
CLT15	41	Layer	Tr 2	Natural clay	Natural	1
CLT15	42	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [43]	Recent	3
CLT15	43	Cut	Tr 2	Field drain cut	Recent	3
CLT15	44	Fill	Tr 2	Fill of [45]	Recent	3
CLT15	45	Cut	Tr 2	Field drain cut	Recent	3

APPENDIX 3: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 4: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIALS SPOT DATES

Kevin Hayward

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
3	3261; 2276	Local early post medieval peg tile abraded Glazed tile coal measure fabric	3	1480	1950	1850	1950	1850-1950	No mortar
12	3047; Gault fabric	Paving brick and curved ribbed roofing element prob machine Gault fabric	2	1690	1950	1850	1950	1850-1950	No mortar
13	2276; 3038; 3033 Modern	Post medieval peg tile, Fletton Brick and Modern Red brick	3	1480	Present Day	1890	Present Day	1900-1950+	No mortar

Review

This small building material assemblage (8 fragments c1.5kg) from Hendon consists almost entirely of Victorian-modern ceramic building material. The exception being just two examples of earlier peg tile. One example from [3] is abraded but shows no sign of glaze – I would date this from 1480-1800.

The modern material has been brought in from a distance – Fletton brick fragments from the Oxford Clay of Peterborough/Bedfordshire as used in LBC bricks were only produced after 1890. Glazed dense tile fragments are likely to be from Upper Carboniferous clays from the Coal Measures; these could have come from Stourbridge (West Midlands) or alternatively North Yorkshire, Northumberland or even Glasgow. A modern ribbed roofing tile is made from a yellow Gault clay or similar deposits. These probably came from Bedfordshire.

Recommendations

The building material assemblage very much reflects the later post medieval development of this site and none of the material is of intrinsic interest – all should be discarded. No further work.

APPENDIX 5: SLAG SPOT DATES

Kevin Hayward

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
5	Pebbly Slag	Pebbly Slag x 3 3kg	3	1700	1950	1700	1950	1800-1950	No mortar
22	Pebbly Slag	Pebbly Slag x 6 1.2kg	6	1700	1950	1700	1950	1800-1950	No mortar

Review

This small group of pebbly slag (8 fragments c3kg) from Hendon consists almost entirely of Victorian-pebbly modern ceramic building material. Industrial in origin.

Recommendations

The slag assemblage very much reflects the later post medieval development of this site and none of the material is of intrinsic interest – all should be discarded. No further work.

APPENDIX 6: POTTERY, GLASS AND CTP ASSESSMENTS

Chris Jarrett

Post-Roman Pottery

INTRODUCTION

A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (one box). The pottery dates solely to the post-medieval period. The pottery is in a fragmentary state, although it is not abraded and the forms can be readily identified, indicating that the assemblage was deposited fairly rapidly after being broken. The pottery was quantified by sherd count, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight. Pottery was recovered from two contexts and the individual deposits produced mostly small (fewer than 30 sherds) sized groups.

All of the pottery (five sherds, 5 ENV, weighing 10g, none of which was unstratified) was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in a database format by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the pottery types is according to the Museum of London Archaeology. The pottery is discussed by its distribution in a spot dating index.

Spot dating index

Context [1], spot date: late 19th-20th century

Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1800-1900+, one sherd, 1 ENV, 19g, form: tea cup, breakfast shape.

Context [22], spot date: late 19th-20th century

Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration (PEAR TR), 1770-1840, one sherd, 1 ENV, 13g, form: plate decorated with the Willow pattern

Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration (PEAR TR), 1770-1840, one sherd, 1 ENV, 12g, form: domed lid with regency period-style floral decoration.

Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed 'flow blue' decoration (TPW FLOW), 1830-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, 18g, form: plate.

Glass

A single fragment (weighing 4g) of aquamarine coloured high-lime low-alkali glass, dated to the late 19th-20th century was found in context [3]. The fragment has no significance and its only potential is to broadly date the context it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on this item.

Clay Tobacco Pipe

A single fragment of a clay tobacco pipe stem with a medium diameter and wide bore, broadly dated *c*. 1580-1730 was recovered from context [3]. The item has no significance, its only

potential is to broadly date the context it was recovered from and there are no recommendations for further work on the stem.

APPENDIX 7: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-201917

Project details

Project name	Former Hendon FC
Short description of the project	Natural head deposits comprising mostly clay but with some gravel areas were identified in all trenches and were overlain by a naturally developed subsoil that had been extensively reworked from the late medieval/early post-medieval period onwards. A number of field drains associated with previous agricultural exploitation of the site were identified, cutting into the subsoil, along with a number of later features associated with drainage for the former football pitch. Preparation of the original football pitch included the laying of a bedding deposit over the subsoil across the site, upon which topsoil was deposited, the top of this providing the level pitch surface. A number of more recent land drains associated with the football pitch were also identified. No archaeological features pre-dating the land drains were identified, though a small number of finds suggested earlier activity in the area, most likely that associated agricultural exploitation of the surrounding landscape.
Project dates	Start: 21-01-2015 End: 26-01-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CLT15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	SUBSOIL Post Medieval
Monument type	TOPSOIL Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BARNET HENDON Former Hendon FC, Claremont Road
Postcode	NW2 1AG
Study area	1.70 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 2363 8696 51.5674547117 -0.216043004966 51 34 02 N 000 12 57 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 56.02m Max: 57.28m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	CGMS Consulting
Project brief originator	Sandy Kidd
Project design originator	Duncan Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	Peter Boyer
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Fairview New Homes
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC

Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Section"

Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE FORMER HENDON FOOTBALL CLUB, CLAREMONT ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET NW2
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Boyer, P.
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Place of issue or publication	Brockley
Description	MAP2/MoRPHE Report

Entered by	Peter Boyer (pboyer@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	29 January 2015

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