

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION ON LAND AT
2 BRUNEL WAY, SLOUGH,
BERKSHIRE, SL1 1XN**



SITE CODE: BBPS15

REPORT NO: R12323

DECEMBER 2015



**PRE-CONSTRUCT
ARCHAEOLOGY**

**An Archaeological Evaluation on land at 2 Brunel Way, Slough,
Berkshire, SL1 1XN**

Site Code: BBPS15

Central National Grid Reference: SU 97726 80040

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December 2015

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Site Name
Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1XN
Type of project
Archaeological Evaluation

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code		K4309	
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Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved
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2	15.1.16	R Smith	P Emery

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CONTENTS

1	ABSTRACT	3
2	INTRODUCTION	4
3	PLANNING BACKGROUND	10
4	GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	13
5	HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	14
6	METHODOLOGY	17
7	THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE	19
8	INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS	29
9	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	31
10	BIBLIOGRAPHY	32

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Context Index	33
Appendix 2: Site Matrix	35
Appendix 3: Pot, CTP and Glass Spot Dating	36
Appendix 4: Building Material Spot Dating	37
Appendix 5: OASIS Data Collection Form	38

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location	5
Figure 2: Trench Location	6
Figure 3: Trench A	7
Figure 4: Section 1	8
Figure 5: Trench overlain on 1 st Edition Ordnance Survey Map.....	9
Plate 1: Stone Wall [3] as it survived from the top (looking ESE)	24
Plate 2: Close-up of remaining section of Wall [3] showing its unusual construction (looking South)..	24

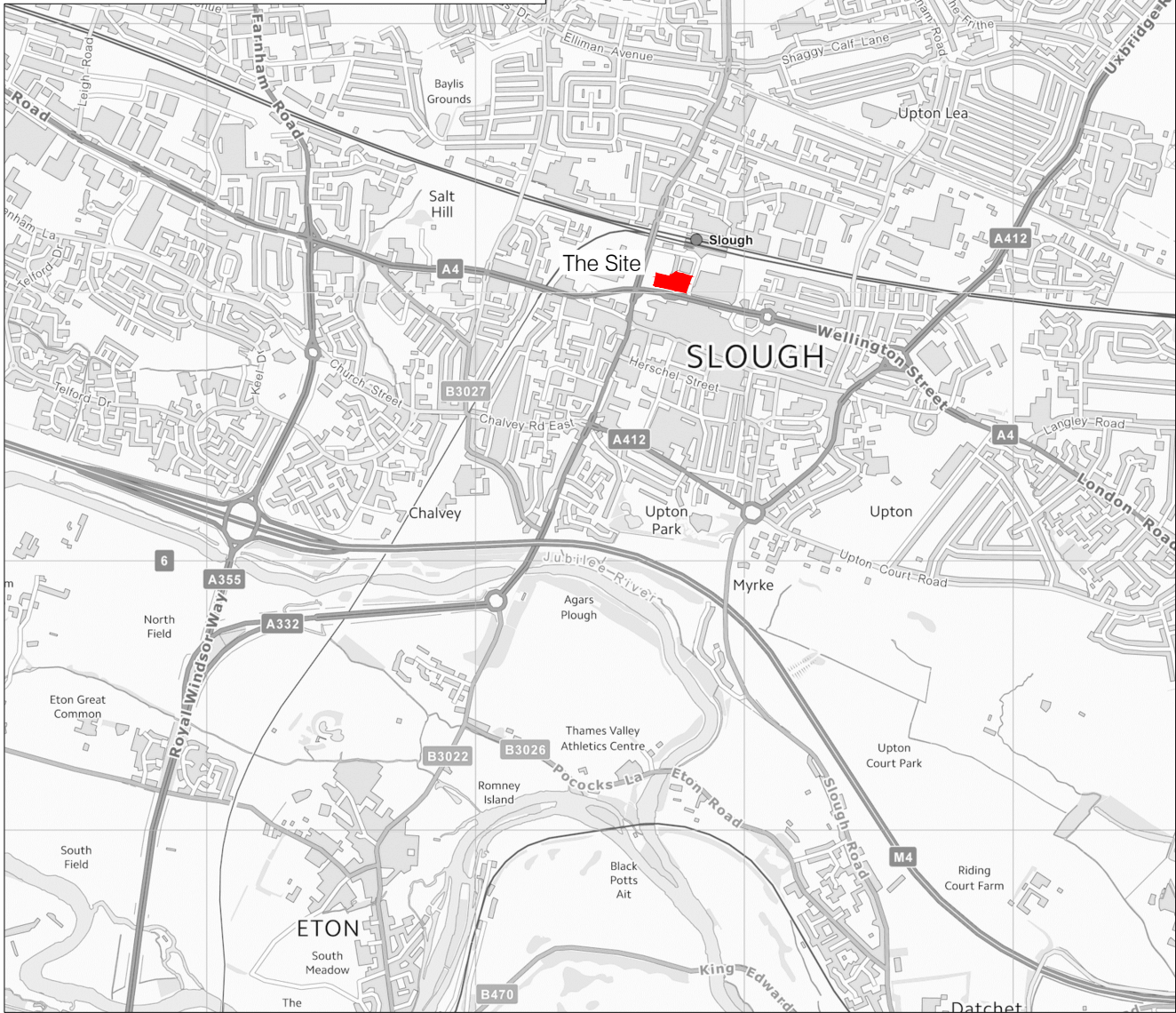
Plate 3: Deep sondage excavated in the west of the Trench which revealed fills of feature [9] still present at a depth of 3.57m below ground level (looking North)	25
Plate 4: Trench A excavated and cleaned (looking East)	25
Plate 5: Western end of Trench A showing backfilled feature [9] running NW-SE and truncating redeposited brickearth [11] (looking West)	26
Plate 6: North-facing section showing feature [9] truncating redeposited brickearth [11] and the tip lines of fills [5]-[8] within the feature	26
Plate 7: Hand-excavated slot through feature [9] at base of stepped Trench (looking SE).....	27
Plate 8: Eastern end of Trench A showing natural deposit [16], overlain by post-medieval dumping and made ground layers [11], [14] and [15] (looking West)	27

1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation that was undertaken on land at 2 Brunel Way, Slough, SL1 1XN (SU 97726 80040).
- 1.2 The aims of the project were to determine the natural topography, the presence, absence, nature and extent of any archaeological structures and deposits within the confines of the site, and to establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 1.3 The evaluation demonstrated that the most recent underlying geology to survive was a friable sandy silt, which can be identified as a type of Langley Silt Member. This is a natural superficial deposit which would have formed across the site up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period and indicates a local environment dominated at the time by wind-blown deposits. The natural deposits surviving on site had been heavily truncated by 19th-20th century activity, as had any cultural remains pre-dating this period which may have originally existed on site.
- 1.4 Thick layers of 19th century dumping and made ground were observable across most of the trench, and represent a building up of the ground level following possible quarrying activities. These layers had been truncated by a large, linear, mid-late 19th century feature in the west which may have had a retaining wooden structure within it, and been water-filled or waterlogged for at least part of its lifetime. Evidence suggests it had already been mostly backfilled by the end of the 19th century. Comparisons to local maps suggest it is the same earthwork as that first identified on the 1876 Ordnance Survey map of the area. The earthwork's function is unknown but most suitable seems to be the interpretation of this earthwork as a terrace, possibly resulting from brickearth quarrying to the south.
- 1.5 The evaluation also uncovered a substantial stone wall which was built at some point in the late 19th century, on top of the nearly completely backfilled earthwork. The wall may have been constructed to complement or reinforce the original function of the earthwork as the latter was gradually infilled. Alternatively, it may represent the remains of a later structure – perhaps industrial - entirely unrelated to the earlier earthwork.
- 1.6 The impact associated with the modern development of Slough bus station, which existed on the site until recently, appears to have had a relatively minor impact upon the survival of earlier remains. It is clear, however, that the heavy, 19th-20th century activity evidenced on site has had a very substantial impact on all earlier buried deposits, both natural and cultural.

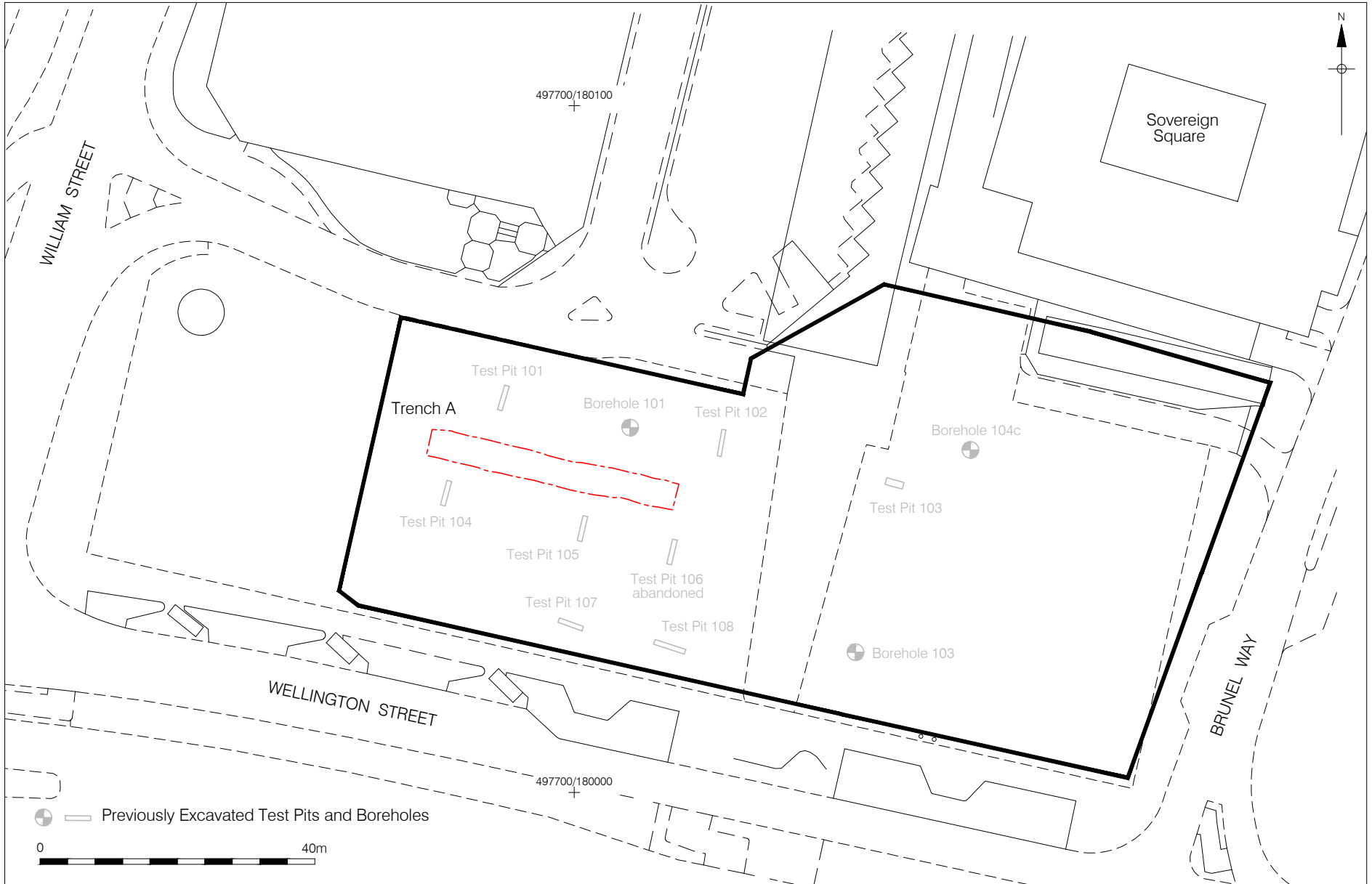
2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report presents the findings of an archaeological evaluation on land at 2 Brunel Way, Slough SL1 1XN (Figure 1). The work was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology prior to, and as a condition for, the land's redevelopment.
- 2.2 The site was centred on National Grid Reference SU 97726 80040. It is bounded to the north by Slough Bus Station, to the east by Brunel Way, to the south by Wellington Street and to the west by William Street/Stoke Road.
- 2.3 The site consisted of a large, irregularly-shaped, concreted plot. One trench (Trench A) was excavated, measuring 37.40 in length and 4.4m in width (Figure 2).
- 2.4 As outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2015), the primary objectives of the exercise were:
- To determine the natural topography 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 presence or absence of post-medieval activity.
 - To establish the nature, date and survival of activity relating to any archaeological periods.
 - To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 2.5 The investigation was conducted between 10th and 16th December 2015. It was supervised by Maria Buczak and was project managed by Helen Hawkins, both of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Roland Smith monitored proceedings as archaeological advisor to Slough Borough Council. The project was commissioned by Ramboll on behalf of Development Securities (Slough) Limited.
- 2.6 Following the completion of the project the site archive will be held at PCA's Brockley Cross offices until such time as a suitable repository is available.



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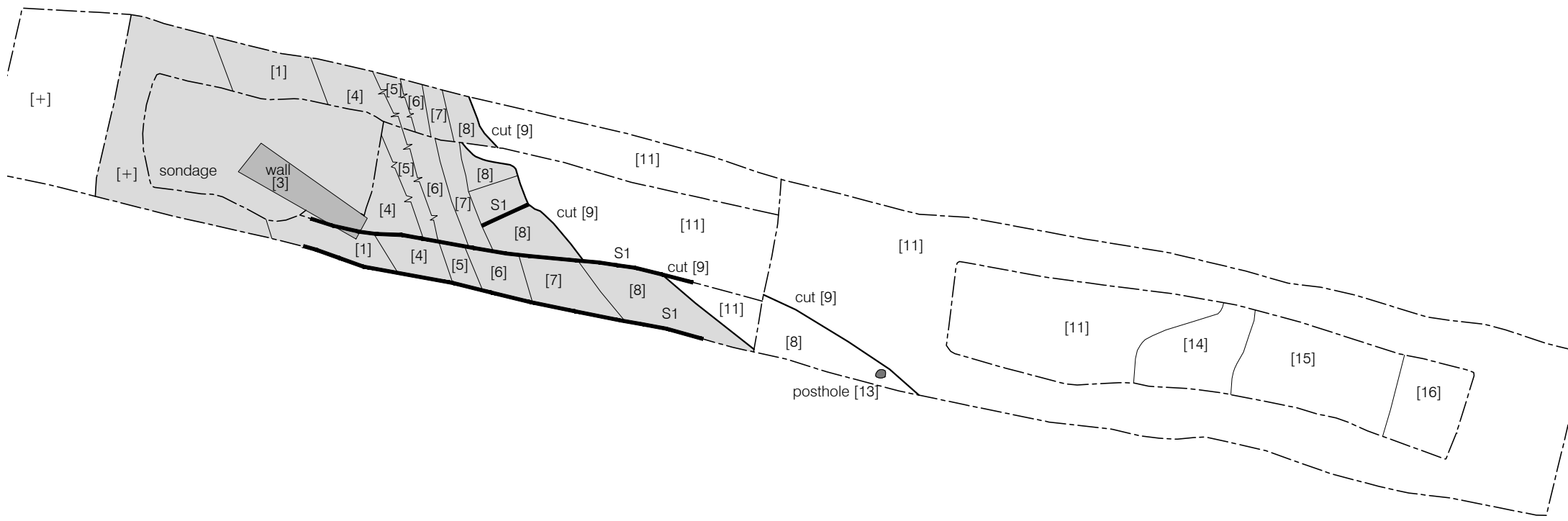
Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000 and 1:25,000 at A4



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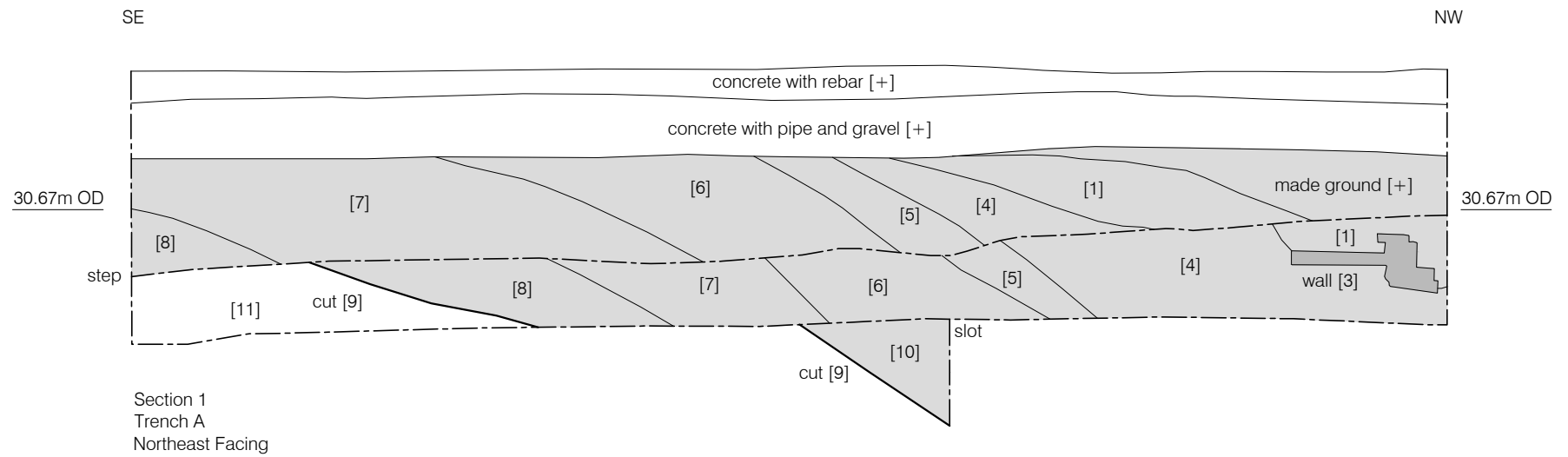
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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:800 at A4



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Figure 3
Plan of Trench A
1:125 at A4



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Figure 4
Section 1
1:50 at A4

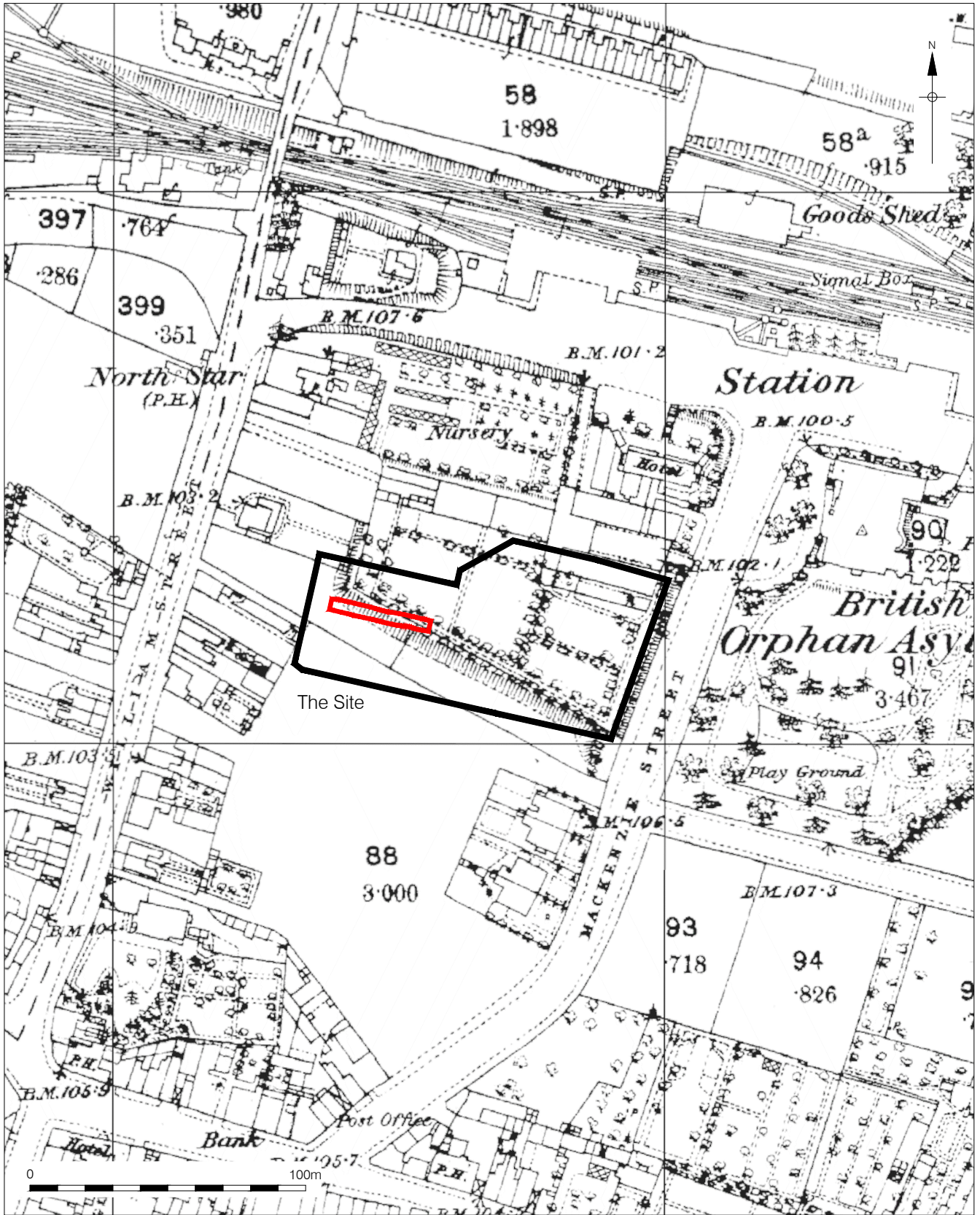


Figure 5
 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, 1876
 1:2,000 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 The following planning policies are relevant to development on the study site.

3.2 National Guidelines

3.2.1 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.

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

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

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

3.2.3 Additionally:

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

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

3.2.5 The NPPF also states that:

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

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

- 3.2.6 The provisions set out in the new guidelines superseded the policy framework set out in previous government guidance namely Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS 5) 'Planning for the Historic Environment'. Planning Policy Statement 5 had itself replaced Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, PPG 16, which was issued in November 1990 by the Department of the Environment.
- 3.2.7 Although the replacement of PPG 16 with PPS 5 gave new guidance the Unitary Development Plans of most local authorities still contain sections dealing with archaeology that are based on the provisions set out in PPG 16.. The key points in PPG16 can be summarised as follows:
- 3.2.8 Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite and non-renewable resource, and in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure that they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly and thoughtlessly destroyed. They can contain irreplaceable information about our past and the potential for an increase in future knowledge. They are part of our sense of national identity and are valuable both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism.
- 3.2.9 Where nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are affected by a proposed development there should be a presumption in their physical preservation.
- 3.2.10 If physical preservation in situ is not feasible, an archaeological excavation for the purposes of 'preservation by record' may be an acceptable alternative. From an archaeological point of view, this should be as a second best option. Agreements should also provide for subsequent publication of the results of any excavation programme.
- 3.2.11 The key to informed and reasonable planning decisions is for consideration to be given early, before formal planning applications are made, to the question of whether archaeological remains are known to exist on a site where development is planned and the implications for the development proposal.
- 3.2.12 Planning authorities, when they propose to allow development which is damaging to archaeological remains, must ensure that the developer has satisfactorily provided for excavation and recording, either through voluntary agreement with archaeologists or, in the absence of agreement, by imposing an appropriate condition on the planning permission.
- 3.3 **The Local Plan for Slough - March 2004**

'Archaeology'

5.68 Archaeological remains provide important evidence about past development and the growth of civilisation. PPG16 - Archaeology and Planning (1990) states that such remains should be treated as a finite and non-renewable resource which in many cases is highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction, and that such remains should not be needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed.

5.69 There are currently two sites in Slough which are designated as Scheduled Monuments of National Importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. These are the Montem Mound at Montem Lane and the Moated Site near Cippenham Court at Wood Lane. In addition to this, the Earthworks at Wexham Court Combined School have been identified as an area of archaeological importance and many other finds have been recorded on the County Council's Sites and Monuments Record.

5.70 PPG16 states that where such nationally important archaeological remains (whether scheduled or not) and their settings are affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation.

5.71 Elsewhere the buried and often invisible nature of archaeological remains means that

the Council will require information from applicants, including the results of evaluation by fieldwork, in order to assess the potential impact of proposed developments upon any archaeological remains. As a result, wherever there is the potential for remains to be present, the developer will be expected to enter into early discussions with the Borough Council and the Council's Archaeological Consultants to agree how a site should be investigated and assessed. The importance of any remains found will dictate the necessary preservation that will be required before any development proceeds. This may involve total preservation "in situ", the modification of the proposal by re-siting, redesign or the use of alternative foundation methods, or the recording of evidence before its destruction.

Policy EN19 (Protection of Archaeological Sites)

There is a presumption in favour of the preservation of the integrity of all scheduled ancient monuments and other archaeological remains of importance and their setting. Development will not be permitted if it fails to preserve the archaeological value and interest of the archaeological remains or their setting.

Policy EN20 (Archaeological Remains)

In areas with archaeological potential, a prospective developer will be required to carry out an archaeological field evaluation before any decision is taken on a planning application. Where archaeological remains will be affected by a development, conditions will be imposed to preserve the remains in situ. Where preservation is not required, appropriate arrangements will be required by condition for the excavation and recording of archaeological sites prior to the commencement of development.

5.72 The positive management, enhancement and interpretation of archaeological sites will be sought and, where appropriate, sites will be made accessible to the public. Conflicts between the preservation of archaeological deposits and other land uses will be resolved, wherever possible, by means of management agreements.'

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.1 The British Geological Map sheet 269 indicates that the site is located on brickearth over Taplow Gravel. The line of Wellington Street marks the edge of the brickearth cap, with Taplow Gravel only to the south (BGS 2015).
- 4.2 The site is located at a level of c. 31.75m (OD) and the area is relatively flat. A small stream is situated to the west of the development area, flowing in a north to south direction, and the River Thames is located c. 1 km to the south. The site is located on a level gravel terrace above the River Thames, with the downwards slope of the terrace commencing c. 0.5km to the south of the development site.
- 4.3 Geotechnical investigations (test pits and boreholes) carried out at various locations across the site, and monitored by PCA, revealed a general sequence of late 19th to 20th century made ground overlying what was believed to be natural brickearth deposits. These late post-medieval to modern levelling layers formed a significant part of the site's make-up, often being between 1.2m and 2m thick. It was not clear from these geotechnical investigations whether the brickearth had been truncated by the later activity or if it survived beneath it, although the absence of any ploughsoil deposits would appear to support the former theory (Bower, 2015).

5 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The historical and archaeological background for this site has been based on a baseline assessment of the site carried out in 2005 (Clough 2005). The assessment actually evaluates a slightly larger area than the development site as identified within this report (Figure 2) however it remains relevant and applicable.

5.2 Introduction

5.2.1 The site is located in an area where little archaeological investigation has taken place. There are a number of spot finds from the area, and the site is located on brickearth above a gravel terrace, which can be a focus for prehistoric settlement activity.

5.3 Statutory Constraints

5.4 There are several Listed Buildings located in the vicinity of the study site. These include the church and presbytery of St Ethelbert, and Slough Railway station (both Grade II listed buildings) and the locally listed Day Centre building, beside St Ethelbert's church. The site does not lie in a Conservation Area or an Archaeological Priority Area. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on the site, and the nearest monument is the Montem Mound, c. 1 km to the west of the site on Salt Hill.

5.5 Palaeolithic and Mesolithic

5.5.1 A number of artefacts from the Palaeolithic period have been found in the vicinity of the development site. A handaxe was located in the back garden of 4 Chalvey Park, Slough, whilst a further unspecified Palaeolithic object is recorded from the High Street. A number of finds of Palaeolithic date are also recorded from Salt Hill and may have been recovered in the gravel pits marked here on 19th century Ordnance Survey maps. These include ten handaxes, five flakes and one roughout. There are no finds recorded in the HER for the Mesolithic period.

5.6 Neolithic

5.6.1 The only evidence for activity in the Neolithic period was the recovery of a flint scraper from Salt Hill.

5.7 Bronze Age

5.7.1 The Montem Mound, c. 1 km to the west of the development site may be of Bronze Age date, and has been variously interpreted as a barrow and a medieval motte. Its true date and function, however, remains unknown.

5.8 Iron Age

5.8.1 At present there is no evidence to suggest activity of Iron Age date in the study area.

5.9 Roman

5.9.1 Only one find of Roman date is noted on the HER, a coin of Maximianus found at Upton Park. There are no Roman roads recorded in Slough and the nearest villas are at Cox Green and Castle Hill. Silchester is the nearest Roman town.

5.10 Early Medieval and Medieval

5.10.1 There are a number of records relating to the early medieval and medieval periods in the HER. These include a small late Saxon/Viking hunting spear which was found in a trench during alterations to the Crown Hotel in the 1930s. Two watermills are also recorded in Slough in the Domesday Book, one attached to Farnham Manor and one in the Manor of Stoches. These mills are still visible on 18th and 19th century maps.

5.10.2 The first mention of Slough in medieval records was in 1196, when it was spelt 'Slo'. Records of 1437 and 1443 name it as 'Le Slowe' and 'Le Slough'. The name may be based on a slough of black mire once present in the town centre.

5.10.3 Upton Court is a Grade II* Listed Building situated c. 1km southeast of the development site. Originally a cell of the Augustinian Abbey of Merton in Surrey, the building was initially built as

an aisled hall with a jettied end cross wing. The hall has a dendrochronological date of c. 1300 and retains a fine 14th century roof but was much altered in the 17th and 19th centuries. Excavations within the hall revealed the medieval fireplace, deposits beneath the Great Hall and earlier hearths. Three skeletons were also found during the investigations and possibly relate to an earlier churchyard, predating the manor house.

- 5.10.4 The medieval church of St Laurence is located to the north of Upton Court. Other medieval material in the area includes eight medieval pottery sherds found at 102 Upton Road and the Bath Road (now the A4), which may have medieval origins.
- 5.10.5 A special brick kiln was set up in Slough in 1442 by order of Henry VI to supply the bricks to build Eton College. Brickmaking continued as a major local industry through to the 19th and 20th century, utilising the area's abundant supply of brickearth.
- 5.11 **Post-medieval-Modern**
- 5.11.1 During the medieval and early post-medieval periods Slough was a small village often classed as part of Chalvey or Upton.
- 5.11.2 Slough's development as a town began with the utilisation of the Bath Road as a major coaching route to the west from 1500 onwards. This led to a number of coaching inns and houses of supply opening in Slough, particularly in the 17th and 18th centuries. Agriculture and brickmaking continued to be the main stays of the local economy throughout this period.
- 5.11.3 The Great Western Railway arrived in Slough in 1840. Its arrival marked the development of Slough into a substantial town, and led to the decline of the coaching trade; the last coach through Slough ran in 1850. The current railway station was built in 1882 to designs by J. E. Danks in the second empire style, and is Listed Grade II.
- 5.11.4 To the southeast of the railway station, to the east of the development site, was the British Orphan Asylum founded in 1827 and now located beneath the Tesco's supermarket development. The abandoned Asylum buildings were taken over by the Licensed Victuallers' School in 1920. The old Asylum buildings were demolished and a new school built which opened in 1938.
- 5.11.5 Other HER references for the post-medieval period include two milestones, one of which is Listed Grade II.
- 5.11.6 The earliest map available for the Slough area is that by John Rocque in 1751. This was part of a proposal for a map of Buckinghamshire, which was never completed, and as such may be somewhat inaccurate. Slough is marked as 'Slow', with a few houses scattered around a crossroads.
- 5.11.7 The first Ordnance Survey map of 1876 shows a remarkable explosion of development in the town centre by this date, probably related to the development of the railway. The development site lies to the southeast of the branch line of the railway, separated from it by an area of terraced houses and some larger detached and semi-detached villas. William Street runs north to south to the west of the development site and forms a crossroads with the High Street further to the south. Mackenzie Street is situated to the east of the development site; whilst to the east of Mackenzie Street is the British Orphan Asylum, with the station to the north.
- 5.11.8 The Ordnance Survey map of 1876 is also the first to depict a large earthwork which runs through the site of the evaluation trench (Figure 5). This map shows that it formed part of a series of earthworks partially delineating a block located between William Street (now Stoke Road) to the west and Mackenzie Street (now Brunel Way) to the east. The map suggests that this feature marked the southern edge of an area of elevated ground, or terrace.
- 5.11.9 The Ordnance Survey map of 1899 reveals further expansion of the town. A new street, Curzon Street, orientated east to west has been constructed and areas which were previously open are becoming infilled by housing. The former earthwork depicted running across the site in 1876 is no longer shown and has presumably been backfilled.

- 5.11.10 By 1932, the area was increasingly built-up with a Roman Catholic Church being constructed to the south of Curzon Street, and schools to the west of William Street. The British Orphans' Asylum has been replaced by the Licensed Victuallers' School.
- 5.11.11 On the 1956 Ordnance Survey map, there is relatively little open ground remaining within the general area. The schools to the west of the site have been replaced by the Slough College of Further Education and the Slough Junior Technical School. Hachures to the west of the development site also imply that some excavation or truncation has taken place in this area, perhaps relating to the railway or to brickmaking. The old Orphanage buildings have been demolished and replaced by the new Licensed Victuallers' School.
- 5.11.12 A full set of the Ordnance Survey maps for the later 20th century was not available, but the layout of the development site changed little throughout this time. The maps for this period are therefore assessed as a group from 1960-1984. The site itself now lies within a large car parking area. A large central roundabout has been constructed just to the north of the site; Wellington Street has been extended to replace Curzon Street and joins the High Street to the west. The Slough College of Technology occupies a large area to the north west of the development site. The area directly south of the station is occupied mostly by a car park, although the Royal Hotel has survived from the 19th century. To the southwest of the site a library has been constructed and the Roman Catholic Church is now positioned to the southwest of the new roundabout.
- 5.11.13 By the time of the present day Ordnance Survey map, a new bus station has been constructed to the north of Wellington Street, and new office buildings have replaced the Royal Hotel and cover the area to the south of the train station. The site itself remains within a large open space that now forms part of the bus station.

5.12 Archaeological Potential and Assessment of Previous Impact

- 5.12.1 Previous impact on the site is likely to have been major. The site has been the focus of intense development since the later 19th century and it is likely that much of the original brickearth cap will have been truncated by later development. It is clear that there is little remaining undisturbed ground on the site and within the general area.
- 5.12.2 However, some areas have been less heavily impacted than others. The area in front of the Station has remained relatively undisturbed under the Station road and drop off point. The area to the north of the university buildings and south of the old Cattle Market is now used as car parking and was previously garden area and therefore will have been disturbed only by the car park construction. The area within the bus station – in which the evaluation trench will be located – is possibly disturbed only by the construction of the floor slab. However, it is located over an area of 19th century development and therefore is likely to be truncated.
- 5.12.3 As such, the potential for archaeological deposits, from any period, to survive was considered **Low**.
- 5.12.4 The archaeological monitoring of geotechnical works carried out by PCA on the site in 2015 confirmed a heavy impact across the site from the late 19th century onwards. This work also confirmed the expected low potential of archaeological survival for most archaeological periods, with the exception of the late post-medieval period itself, whose remains clearly have a **High** potential to survive (Bower, 2015).

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Evaluation Methodology

- 6.1.1 One trench (Trench A) was to be machine excavated under archaeological supervision (Figure 2). In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins, 2015) Trench A was to measure 37.4m x 4.4m at the top to allow one step down to reach a maximum depth of 2.4m. The base of the trench was to measure 35m x 1.8m. The trench was located to avoid areas of deep impacts from previous constructions (*ibid*).
- 6.1.2 If archaeology of import was noted in the trench, it was planned to excavate a further trench (Trench B) to the south of Trench A. Although late post-medieval archaeological remains were encountered within Trench A, the opening of this second trench was ultimately deemed unnecessary by Roland Smith, archaeological advisor to Slough Borough Council. This was based on his evaluation of the findings within Trench A during his visit to monitor the site.
- 6.1.3 Trench A was machine excavated under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological horizon. In places, excavation was continued down to a depth of 2.4m; this occurred either where no significant archaeological remains were present in an attempt to locate the height of natural in those areas, or in an attempt to further explore the nature and date of a very deep, linear feature which was encountered during the excavation.
- 6.1.4 Natural was encountered only at the very eastern end of Trench A. In order to understand its changing survival and nature across the trench, it was however deemed necessary to excavate an additional, deeper sondage at the western end of the trench also. This sondage was immediately backfilled after observation for safety purposes.
- 6.1.5 The machining was undertaken using a 13 ton excavator and driver provided by PCA. It used a breaker and toothed bucket to break the concrete which formed the current ground surface across the trench; once completed a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove modern overburden under the supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was mounded at least 2m from the edges of the trenches.
- 6.1.6 Machine excavation continued in spits of 100mm at a time until the necessary depth was reached. The trench was CAT scanned at every spit through made ground by a trained operator.
- 6.1.7 Following machine excavation, relevant faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Archaeological evaluation required work by 'pick and shovel,' and by trowel on the more fragile finds and complex stratigraphy. On one occasion after cleaning, the machine was also used again to explore an area of archaeology lying at 2.4m below ground level; this was carried out immediately prior to backfilling the trench so it could be backfilled immediately after observation for safety reasons.
- 6.1.8 All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were evaluated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:50 and in section at 1:20 using standard single context recording methods. All features were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets and a full digital photographic record was compiled. The trench was located with a hand held GPS and tied into the Ordnance Survey Grid. Finds, and brick and stone samples, were collected according to standard retrieval methods as outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2015).
- 6.1.9 Levels were obtained from one Temporary Bench Mark with a value of 31.92m in the southern section of the site. They were established by PCA's surveyor through the use of a hand held GPS. Levels on archaeologically relevant structures and strata were taken from this through the use of a dumpy level. The locations of the TBM can be found in the site archive.
- 6.1.10 The completed site archive, comprising written and photographic records, will be held at PCA's Brockley Cross Offices under the site code BBPS15, until such time as a suitable repository in the Slough region is available.

- 6.1.11 As detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2015), the evaluation was undertaken in accordance with guidelines issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA 2014).

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: Natural [16] (Figure 3, Plates 8 & 9)

- 7.1.1 A natural layer of sandy silt [16] was discovered at the base of the sequence in Trench A. The deposit consisted of a mid orange-brown, friable, sandy silt with very frequent chalk flecks. It was encountered across only a small area at the very eastern end of the trench. The top of the deposit was relatively flat and first observed at a height of 29.27m OD.
- 7.1.2 Although it was lighter in colour and contained far less clay than brickearth deposits generally do, this deposit can still be identified as a variant of Langley Silt Member, a superficial geological deposit which would have formed across the site up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. It indicates a local environment dominated at the time by wind-blown deposits (BGS 2015).
- 7.1.3 This natural deposit appeared to disappear towards the west under a layer of post-medieval dumped material [15], however it was initially unclear whether [15] represented the fill of a feature truncating the natural, or simply a layer which sat above natural which itself sloped down towards the west. A machine slot was dug into this area just prior to backfilling in an attempt to ascertain this.
- 7.1.4 The slot revealed a section which clearly showed the post-medieval layer [15] *overlying* the natural. However, it also revealed what appeared to be a post-medieval cut [18] below [15] which *did* truncate the natural. Unfortunately, due to the great depths of these deposits, safety constraints prevented a more detailed examination of this feature, or the retrieval of finds that might provide tighter dating.
- 7.1.5 A sondage excavated in the western-most end of the trench to ascertain the height and nature of the natural at this end did not reveal any natural deposits, despite being excavated to a depth of 28.18m OD (3.57m below ground level). In this end of the trench, natural deposits are believed to have been substantially truncated by a large earthwork feature [9], discussed below.
- 7.1.6 The height at which natural has survived within the middle of the trench, between features [9] and [18], is currently unknown as it was overlain by at least 2.4m of 19th-20th century made ground in this area, and therefore was not observable during the evaluation. No features earlier than, or other than, post-medieval features [9] and [18] were observed to cut into the natural.

7.2 Phase 2: Late Post-Medieval (19th – Early 20th Century)

7.3 Feature of Uncertain Function [18] (Plate 9)

- 7.3.1 As previously discussed, a machine slot in the very east of the trench revealed what appeared to be the edge of a cut feature [18] which, in section, could be seen to truncate natural deposits [16]. Although the depth of this feature made thorough examination impossible, it could be observed as a linear running north-south across the lower step of the trench and, in section, appeared to have a fairly steep, straight side. It was first encountered at a height of approximately 29.20m OD and only excavated to a depth of roughly 0.15m.
- 7.3.2 Feature [18] had been backfilled with a greyish-brown clayey deposit [17] containing much rubble (mostly red brick) which was evaluated to have had a probable early-mid 19th century date.

7.4 Industrial/Demolition Dump Layer [15] (Figure 3, Plates 8 & 9)

- 7.4.1 Immediately overlying feature [18] was a fairly thin layer of soft, mid greyish-orange silty clay [15] with very frequent charcoal flecks and occasional flecks of ceramic building material (CBM). Finds of pot and clay tobacco pipe (CTP) retrieved were able to date this layer to the early-mid 19th century, although the less finely-datable glass from the context gave a more general 19th-20th century date.
- 7.4.2 The large amount of charcoal and occasional pieces of burnt flint within this context suggest it was a dump of material which may have been waste from a process involving heavy burning;

perhaps waste from some kind of industrial and/or demolition process(es). This suggests such activity was occurring at the time within the immediate area of the site, which fits with the pattern of heavy urban and industrial development documented within Slough during these centuries. This dump layer was first encountered at a height of 29.33m OD and was 0.13m thick.

7.5 **Demolition Dump Layer [14]** (Figure 3, Plate 8)

7.5.1 Overlying layer [15] was a further dump layer [14], dated by pot, glass, CBM and CTP to between 1850 and 1940. It appears to be a layer of dumped demolition waste as it was composed almost entirely of loose crushed red brick and brick fragments (although a few yellow London stock brick fragments were also present) with occasional coal fragments and moderate burnt flints. Encountered at a height of 29.38m OD, it had a maximum thickness of 0.20m.

7.6 **Layer of Made Ground [11]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plates 4-8)

7.6.1 Overlying layer [14] was a very thick layer of redeposited brickearth [11] which, based on the dating of finds within it, must have been deposited during the 19th century or later as made ground. Across most of the trench, this layer was the first deposit to survive below modern made ground and was encountered at a highest level of 31.10m OD (just 0.65m below ground level). It had a considerable maximum thickness of 1.72m.

7.6.2 Comprising a firm, dark orange-brown silty clay, it contained very few finds, however occasional rubble and charcoal fragments and even some lenses of darker silt and rubble were observed within it. Observable across most of the excavated trench, it was substantially truncated by earthwork [9] in the west.

7.6.3 It is noteworthy that this *typical* brickearth deposit (i.e. darker and more clayey in composition than natural deposit [16]) was only found in redeposited form within 19th century layers, and not as natural deposits, despite the fact that such brickearth is the expected natural (superficial) geology for the site. This would suggest that much of the original brickearth cap on site has been truncated by later development (along with any earlier features which may have originally been cut into it), and only subsequently redeposited on a large scale during the 19th century or later.

7.6.4 This may not be surprising, especially considering the documented intense use of the area's brickearth to supply the local brickmaking industry throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. The heavy activity on site represented by the apparent removal of much of the natural brickearth cap could thus well indicate the site of such a brickearth quarry; it is possible that feature [18] also had a related function.

7.6.5 The fact that layer [11] is very clean also strongly suggests it represents a deliberate deposition of ground to build the area up, rather than the result of general waste dumping. Its thickness testifies to a rather monumental effort to build up or reclaim a probably lower-lying area, which was potentially originally reduced to such a depth by earlier quarrying activities on the site.

7.7 **Large Earthwork Feature [9]** (Figures 3 - 5, Plates 3-7)

7.7.1 The thick layer of redeposited brickearth [11] was substantially truncated across the west of the trench by an extensive, linear cut feature [9]. Only its north-eastern edge, running north-west to south-east, was observable, its other edges lying beyond the trench boundaries. Sections show the cut had a straight and fairly steep edge with the deposits filling it showing clear tip-lines dropping down from north-east to south-west.

7.7.2 Although the feature was first encountered just below modern made ground at 31.10m OD, the trench was stepped in an attempt to ascertain the feature's full depth and character. It was still present as a very substantial feature at the base of the stepped trench, 2.4m below ground level. A slot was thus hand dug a further 0.77m into it, which revealed more concerning its nature and date, and that it continued to drop steadily down at this depth.

7.7.3 In an attempt to ascertain the base of feature [9], a deep machine slot was finally excavated at the west end of the trench. A total depth of 3.57m below ground level (28.18m OD) was

reached before further digging became impossible. No natural was encountered – only alternating deposits of dark greyish clays and redeposited brickearth which contained occasional red brick fragments and were similar to those fills found higher up within the feature. It can thus be fairly securely supposed that excavation was halted within the fills of this same feature and feature [9] itself is of a still greater depth.

- 7.7.4 It is considered likely that this very substantial feature is part of the large, linear earthwork depicted running through the area of the planned trench on the 1876 Ordnance Survey map of the area (Figure 5). The specific function of this earthwork is uncertain: it may have been for drainage or land delineation or may be the result of extensive brickearth quarrying beyond the limits of properties in continuing use,
- 7.7.5 The date of feature [9]'s construction is difficult to pinpoint considering neither the base of the feature, nor even its primary backfill, was encountered during the evaluation.
- 7.7.6 The evaluation revealed that the feature was backfilled by a great number of different deposits. The latest dated to the 20th century while the lowest, earliest fill accessible for evaluation was dated generally to the mid-late 19th century. This suggests the feature was backfilled over a relatively short period of time, and so probably represents a deliberate attempt to fill the earthwork, rather than a by-product of general waste disposal. This backfilling date fits generally with the date that historic maps suggest the earthwork was backfilled; although the 1881 OS map is not clear enough to determine the state of the feature, by 1899 it is no longer depicted and so must have been at least mostly backfilled by this point.
- 7.7.7 **Waterlogged Backfill [8], [10]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plates 4-7)
- 7.7.8 The lowest and earliest backfill observable and accessible within the trench was a stiff/compact, dark grey, silty sandy clay [8] (and [10], specifically within the hand-dug slot) with many inclusions, including charcoal flecks, coal, (burnt) flint, glass, CTP, CBM and frequent slate roofing tile fragments. The deposit had a lowest level of 29.69m OD and was over 0.80m thick.
- 7.7.9 Finds from the deposit dated the fill to between the mid-late 19th century. A fragment of Belgian brick found within deposit [10] is considered the most interesting of all brick samples recovered from across the site and provides evidence of an early activity along this area.
- 7.7.10 The deposit itself had a composition and smell indicative of a waterlogged or water lain deposit. It is thus reasonable to suggest that this feature may have been partially filled with water for at least some time during its life.
- 7.8 **Post Holes [13]** (Figure 3)
- 7.8.1 A number of post-holes were observed within fill [8]. As it was necessary to step the trench down to explore the feature itself, some of these post-holes were inevitably removed, however one survived on a higher step within the trench to be recorded [13]. [13] was a sub-circular post-hole filled by a partially degraded wooden post (12), and was situated very close to the edge of feature [9] itself.
- 7.8.2 Although no other post-holes appear on the final plan of the excavated trench, two further posts of a very similar nature and size were observed to the north-west of [13], surviving at approximately the same level. Like [13] they were first observed within fill [8] and situated very close to the edge of the cut. It was difficult to ascertain whether the posts truncated fill [8] or whether [8] had accumulated around the posts. Nevertheless, it would appear that a line of wooden posts had been driven into the feature at some point during its lifetime, close to the earthwork's edge.
- 7.8.3 These posts may well represent the line of some kind of wooden fence or construction which was built along the edge of the feature, possibly as a further barrier to access or to help support or shore up the sides.
- 7.9 **Redeposited Brickearth Backfill [7]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plates 4-6)

- 7.9.1 Above fill [8] was a stiff, dark orangey-brown deposit of redeposited brickearth containing occasional fragments of degrading wood and small shingle stones [7]. It contained no finds and was relatively clean.
- 7.9.2 The deposit had a lowest level of 29.73m OD and was approximately 1.15m thick.
- 7.10 **Waterlogged Backfill [6]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plates 4-6)
- 7.10.1 Above fill [7] was a further deposit of stiff/compact, dark grey, silty sandy clay [6], very similar to the aforementioned fill [8]. Finds of pot, glass, CBM and CTP from this fill show it is also of a broadly similar date (mid 19th – early 20th century).
- 7.10.2 The deposit had a lowest level of 29.73m OD and was approximately 1.00m thick.
- 7.11 **Backfill of Industrial/Demolition Waste [5]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plate 6)
- 7.11.1 Above fill [6] was a far less homogenous fill [5] comprised of a number of different thin lenses. These ranged from a lens of compact black cinders to lenses of firm greyish-brown sandy silts and gravels. All appear to represent small, distinct dumps of industrial or demolition waste deposited within the gradually filling feature [9] over a short period of time. Finds retrieved date the deposit to the late 19th to early 20th century.
- 7.11.2 The deposit had a lowest level of 29.73m OD and was approximately 0.20m thick.
- 7.12 **Backfill [4]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plates 2; 4-5)
- 7.12.1 Above fill [5] was a compact, orangey-brown deposit of silty clay [4] containing moderate fragments of frogged and unfrogged red brick, slate roofing tiles, charcoal and occasional glass and pot. These finds dated the deposit to between the mid-19th and mid-20th century. A large wall [3] sits immediately on top of this fill, in which location deposit [4] has been levelled for its construction. This compacted clayey fill may well have even been intentionally deposited to provide a firm base for this wall's construction.
- 7.12.2 This deposit had a lowest level of 29.73m OD and was approximately 0.70m thick.
- 7.13 **Wall [3]** (Figures 3 & 4, Plates 1-2)
- 7.13.1 Wall [3] was a deep and substantial stone wall which was observed running roughly WNW-ESE, on a different but reasonably close alignment to the edge of feature [9]. Constructed from a variety of different shaped and sized yellowish-white Portland stone blocks, it had a strong, sandy bonding material and a very strong, substantial construction. Truncated by subsequent activity at both its north-west and south-east end, only one stretch of wall measuring approximately 0.80m (NE-SW) by 3.10m (NW-SE) remained. The wall survived to a highest level of 31.95m OD and was 2.02m deep.
- 7.13.2 The wall had quite an unusual construction. Flat slab and brick-shaped stones had been laid at its base, but various shapes and sizes of stones, and even some unshaped chunks, had been used within the higher levels. Very common within its construction was the placing of two large triangular blocks, base to base, to form a larger square one, which may have been done for decorative purposes or simply to limit their size to facilitate handling during construction.
- 7.14 Based on the dating of the deposits above and below the wall, and a spot date of the stone itself, one can date its construction to the late 19th century. Its function is unclear, however considering the wall's position within the now nearly completely backfilled feature [9], and its fairly similar alignment to the feature's edge, it is possible that it was a free-standing wall delineating the boundary formerly defined by the linear earthwork.
- 7.15 Alternatively, it may represent the remains of a – perhaps industrial – building unrelated to the earthwork; indeed, a number of structures are depicted within the area on maps from 1899 onwards. Whatever its function, it is certainly a substantial wall of strong construction and appears likely to have been more than a simple house foundation or field boundary.
- 7.16 **Industrial Waste Backfill [1]**

- 7.16.1 Sealing wall [3] was a, probably early, 20th century deposit [1]. A compact, dark greyish-black deposit of silty sandy gravels, it contained occasional red brick and glass fragments, leather, wood and metal debris and even some early concrete fragments. It had a strong smell of hydrocarbons and appears to have been a dump of some kind of industrial waste, perhaps related to work on the nearby railway to the north.
- 7.16.2 The deposit had a lowest level of 30.45m OD and a maximum thickness of 1m.
- 7.17 **Phase 3: Modern (Late 20th-21st Century)**
- 7.18 **Modern Backfill [+]**
- 7.18.1 Lying above fill [1] was a thick deposit of modern, yellowish, sandy gravels which contained occasional finds of modern frogged bricks and pieces of metal rebar. Although clearly quite recent (probably late 20th century), this fill appears to follow the same pattern as those below (i.e. sloping down from north-east to south-west) which seems to suggest that the large earthwork was still present as a (albeit small) depression on the ground at this point, and material was continuing to be deposited to fill it in.
- 7.19 **Modern Made Ground, Service and Concrete [+]**
- 7.19.1 Finally, extending across the whole trench above all other deposits was a horizontal deposit of redeposited brickearth with much modern concrete and rebar mixed into it. Approximately 0.30m thick, it represents a late 20th century layer of made ground, most probably connected to the construction of the bus station which previously stood upon the site. The only other feature within the trench was a modern drain cut which ran along the southern edge of the trench and partially truncated the modern made ground and, to a small extent, the earlier deposits below. The whole area of the trench was capped by a level layer of concrete, approximately 0.22m thick, which would have formed the surface of the modern bus station.

Plate 1: Stone Wall [3] as it survived from the top (looking ESE)



Plate 2: Close-up of remaining section of Wall [3] showing its unusual construction (looking South)



Plate 3: Deep sondage excavated in the west of the Trench which revealed fills of feature [9] still present at a depth of 3.57m below ground level (looking North)



Plate 4: Trench A excavated and cleaned (looking East).



Plate 5: Western end of Trench A showing backfilled feature [9] running NW-SE and truncating redeposited brickearth [11] (looking West).



Plate 6: North-facing section showing feature [9] truncating redeposited brickearth [11] and the tip lines of fills [5]-[8] within the feature.



Plate 7: Hand-excavated slot through feature [9] at base of stepped Trench (looking SE)



Plate 8: Eastern end of Trench A showing natural deposit [16], overlain by post-medieval dumping and made ground layers [11], [14] and [15] (looking West)



Plate 9: Machine slot revealing natural deposit [16] truncated in section by post-medieval feature [18], all overlain by dump layers ([11], [15]) (looking North).



8 INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The results of this evaluation have enabled the research questions that were set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation to be addressed:
- 8.2 To determine the natural topography of the site, and the height at which it survives:
- 8.2.1 The evaluation encountered natural in the form of a deposit of sandy silt, however substantial 19th century activity across the site had seen it heavily truncated, meaning it was only first encountered at a depth of 29.27m OD, 2.48m below the current ground level. Even at this depth, only a small area of the deposit survived in the east of the trench, having been truncated to even greater depths by post-medieval activity to the west.
- 8.2.2 The evaluation encountered no natural deposits of 'typical' brickearth (generally darker and more clayey than the natural deposit that was observed), despite the fact that this comprised the expected superficial geology across the site. This is believed to be due to much of the natural brickearth cap having been removed by heavy 19th century activity, which may have included heavy quarrying for brickearth to supply the local brickmaking industry. 'Typical' brickearth was only identified in redeposited form within 19th century dump deposits.
- 8.3 To establish the presence/absence, survival, nature and date of activity relating to any archaeological period:
- 8.3.1 No archaeological remains pre-dating the 19th century were discovered. If they did once exist, they have since been completely removed by the heavy, late post-medieval activity that is evidenced across the site.
- 8.3.2 A great deal of activity is evidenced on site dating to between the 19th and early 20th centuries. This largely takes the form of dumped layers of demolition and industrial waste, and thick deposits of made ground intentionally deposited to build the ground level up, which may have been previously reduced as part of extensive quarrying works. A feature of unknown function was observed to exist below these layers in the east of the trench which may also be related to potential quarrying activities; however, little of certainty can be concluded about this feature as the unsafe depth at which it survived meant it could not be examined and evaluated in detail.
- 8.3.3 Truncating these 19th century deposits in the west of the trench was an extensive linear feature, only the north-eastern edge of which was observable, running NW-SE through the trench. Comparisons with cartographic sources suggest this extensive earthwork is the same as that depicted running through this area, and along the same orientation, on the 1876 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 5). This map shows that it formed part of a series of earthworks partially delineating a block located between William Street (now Stoke Road) to the west and Mackenzie Street (now Brunel Way) to the east. The map suggests that this feature marked the southern edge of an area of elevated ground, or terrace. It is possible that this terrace is the result of brickearth quarrying
- 8.3.4 The evaluation also concluded that the earthwork probably had some kind of retaining wooden wall or embankment/shoring structure constructed along its north-eastern edge, as shown by the postholes identified along the edge of the feature and that the feature may have contained water or was at least waterlogged during parts of its lifetime. On the basis of cartographic evidence combined, it may be inferred that progressive filling of this earthwork took place from the late 19th century into the 20th century, although seems to have been largely completed by the end of the 19th century when the earthwork becomes absent from maps.
- 8.3.5 Also encountered during the evaluation was a well-built and substantial stone wall which appears to have been constructed upon the partially-backfilled earthwork sometime during the late 19th century. Its similar orientation, and close proximity, to the edge of the earthwork may indicate the two were related: the wall may have been constructed to maintain or reinforce the earthwork's original function as a barrier or demarcation, or to replace it completely, possibly to facilitate maintenance of the boundary. Equally, the wall may represent the remains of a structure unrelated to the earthwork, although its size and construction would favour its

interpretation as a substantial structure rather than a simple boundary wall or house foundation.

- 8.4 The only other activities evidenced on site date to the modern period (late 20th century onwards) and appear to have taken the form of the completed backfilling of what remained of the earthwork, and the laying of services, made ground and concrete in preparation for the construction of the modern bus station.
- 8.5 To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource:
 - 8.5.1 Heavy 19th-20th century activity has had a very substantial impact on both natural deposits, and all earlier cultural deposits that may once have existed on the site. This activity, which largely took the form of the construction and backfilling of a large earthwork and possibly an earlier quarry, have resulted in the removal of much of the site's natural brickearth cap, as well as any earlier cultural features or deposits that may have cut through or existed above it.
 - 8.5.2 Modern activity from the late 20th century onwards – mostly relating to the construction of the recent bus station – has had some impact upon earlier cultural remains, as it truncates the underlying 19th-20th century deposits to a small extent. Its impact upon the site's archaeological resource is, however, very minimal compared to that of the preceding late post-medieval activity.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Phil Emery of Ramboll, which commissioned the project on behalf of Development Securities (Slough) Limited, and Roland Smith of Berkshire Archaeology who monitored the work on behalf of Slough Borough Council.
- 9.2 The author would like to thank Przemyslaw Polakiewicz for his proficient assistance with the excavation and recording, and Helen Hawkins of Pre-Construct Archaeology for her project management and editing. Thanks also to specialists Chris Jarrett for spot dating the pot, CTP and glass, and Kevin Hayward for spot dating the recovered building material.
- 9.3 Finally, the author would like to thank Rik Archer for the site survey, Jenny Simonson for the illustrations, and John Joyce and Wayne Richards for technical and logistical support.

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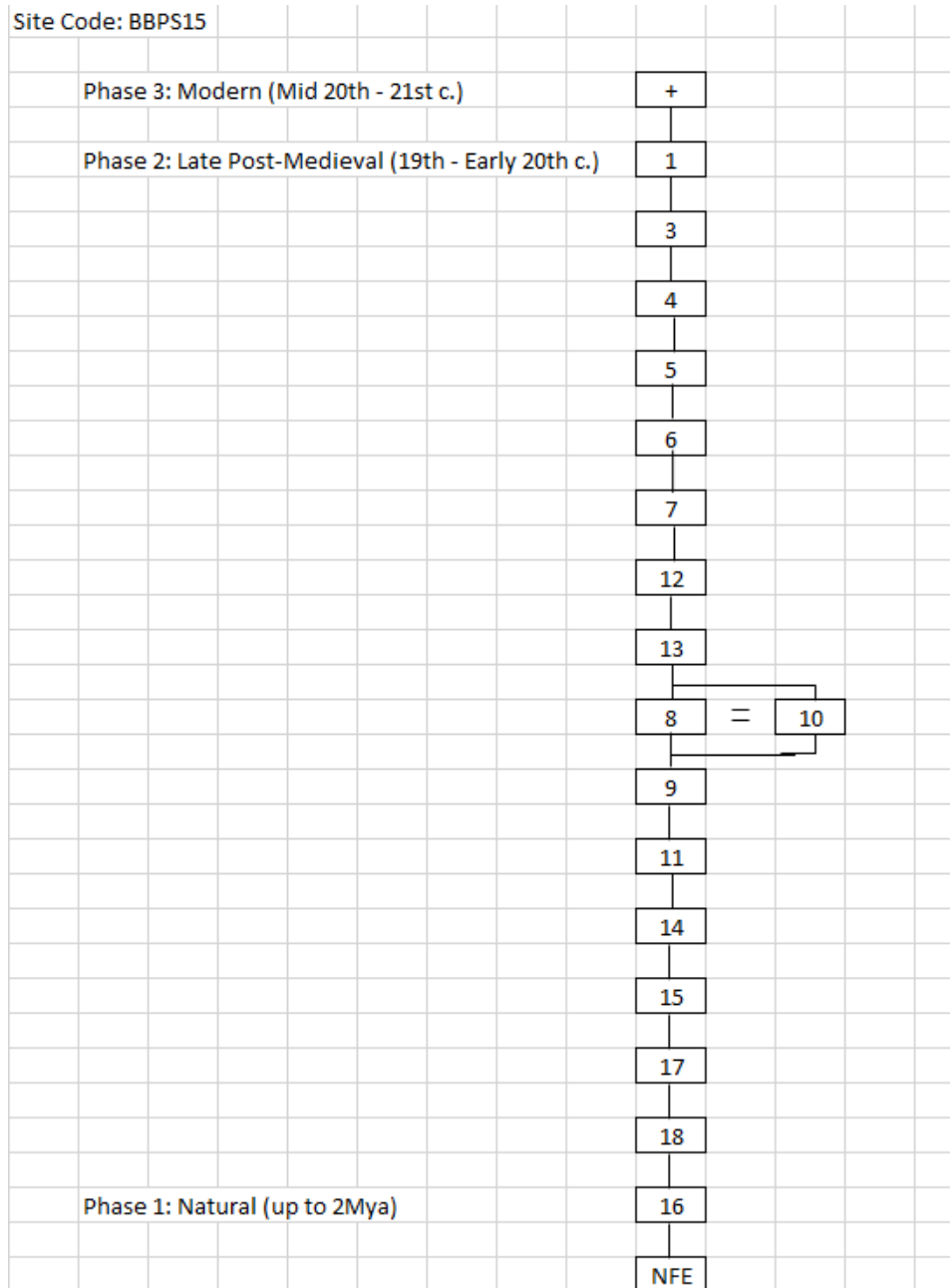
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Appendix 1: Context Index

Context No	Type	Interpretation	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section No.	Levels (m OD)		Dimensions (as recorded within the confines of the trench)			Period	Phase
						Highest	Lowest	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth / Thickness		
1	Fill	Modern Backfill of [9]	A	Tr. 1	1	31.17	30.45	2.50m	4m	1.00m	20 th Century	2
2	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
3	Masonry	Substantial Stone Wall	A	Tr. 1	1	31.95m	29.93	1.20m	0.30m	2.02m	Late 19 th Century	2
4	Fill	Compact Clayey Fill of [9]	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	29.73	2m	4m	0.70m	Mid 19 th – Mid 20 th Century	2
5	Fill	Lensed-Fill of [9]	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	29.73	4m	1.20m	0.20m	Late 19 th – Early 20 th Century	2
6	Fill	Possible Water-Lain Fill of [9]	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	29.73	2.20m	4m	1.00m	Mid 19 th -Early 20 th Century	2
7	Fill	Redeposited Brickearth Fill of [9]	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	29.73	2.20m	4m	1.15m	Mid-Late 19 th Century	2
8	Fill	Possible Water-Lain Fill of [9]	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	29.69	2.10m	4m	0.82m	Mid-Late 19 th Century	2
9	Cut	Cut of Large Linear Earthwork	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	28.18	11.75m	4m	2.92m	Mid-Late 19 th Century	2
10	Fill	Same as Fill [8];	A	Tr. 1	1	29.69	28.92	1m	1m	0.77m	Mid-Late 19 th	2

Context No	Type	Interpretation	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section No.	Levels (m OD)		Dimensions			Period	Phase
								(as recorded within the confines of the trench)				
		that part of it excavated in sondage									Century	
11	Layer	Redeposited Brickearth – Made Ground	A	Tr. 1	1	31.10	28.92	25.75m	4m	1.72m	19 th Century	2
12	Fill	Degraded Wooden Post – Fill of [13]	A	Tr. 1	N/A	30.68	30.68	0.10m	0.10m	N/A	Mid-Late 19 th Century	2
13	Cut	Post Hole Cut into [8]	A	Tr. 1	N/A	30.68	30.68	0.10m	0.10m	N/A	Mid-Late 19 th Century	2
14	Layer	Red Brick Rubble Dump Layer	A	Tr. 1	N/A	29.38	29.38	0.95m	0.98m	0.20m	Mid 19 th - Early 20 th Century	2
15	Layer	Charcoal Rich Dump Layer	A	Tr. 1	N/A	29.33	29.33	1.50m	0.98m	0.13m	Early-Mid 19 th Century	2
16	Layer	Natural sandy silt	A	Tr. 1	N/A	29.27	29.27	0.65m	0.98m	N/A	Up to 2 Mya	1
17	Fill	Rubble Fill of [18]	A	N/A	N/A	29.20	29.05	N/A	N/A	N/A	Early-Mid 19 th Century	2
18	Cut	Feature of Uncertain Function	A	N/A	N/A	29.20	29.05	N/A	N/A	N/A	Early-Mid 19 th century	2

Appendix 2: Site Matrix



Appendix 3: Pot, CTP and Glass Spot Dating

Spot Dating by Chris Jarrett:

Site code	Material	Context	Spot date
BBPS15	pot	4	1830–1900
BBPS15	pot	5	Late 19th-E20th c
BBPS15	pot	6	1850–1900
BBPS15	pot	8	Late 19th
BBPS15	pot	10	1830-1900
BBPS15	pot	11	1810-1900
BBPS15	pot	14	1850-1900
BBPS15	pot	15	1770-1840
BBPS15	glass	1	20th century
BBPS15	glass	4	19th-20th century
BBPS15	glass	5	19th-20th century
BBPS15	glass	6	19th-20th century
BBPS15	glass	8	c. 1850
BBPS15	glass	10	late 19th-20th century
BBPS15	glass	14	19th-20th century
BBPS15	glass	15	19th-20th century
BBPS15	CTP	6	19th century
BBPS15	CTP	8	1730-1910
BBPS15	CTP	10	1730-1910
BBPS15	CTP	11	19th century
BBPS15	CTP	14	1730-1910
BBPS15	CTP	15	early-mid 19th c

Appendix 4: Building Material Spot Dating

Assessment of Building Material, 2 Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1XN (BBPS15)

Dr. Kevin Hayward and Amparo Valcarcel

Central National Grid Reference: SU 97726 80040

BUILDING MATERIALS SPOT DATES

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
1	3038,3064	Incausted blue tin glazed; machine brick	2	1850	1950	1850	1950	1850-1950	No mortar
3	3110	Portland stone paver	1	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	No mortar
4	3046;3032;3261	Red sandy machine brick (one stamped); glazed drain pipe; post great fire brick	5	1450	1950	1800	1950	1850-1950	1870-1950
5	3046;3035;3101 PM	Red sandy machine bricks; London stock brick; gravel mortar	6	1450	1940	1770	1940	1850-1940	1870-1950
6	3102;3046;2276 ;3035	Abraded daub; red sandy machine brick; London stock brick	4	1500B	1950 C	1770	1940	1800-1940	No mortar
10	3102;3046;2276 ;3032;3108	Belgian brick; post med sandy red brick; post medieval unglazed peg tile; post great fire brick; York stone slab paver	5	1500B	1900 C	1666	1900	1800-1900	No mortar
11	3046;3032	Post medieval red sandy brick; post great fire brick	2	1450	1900	1666	1900	1666-1900	No mortar
14	3032;3035	Post great fire and London stock bricks	2	1666	1940	1770	1940	1770-1940	No mortar

Review

The small assemblage (30 fragments, 9.83 kg) consists mainly of small pieces of fragmentary post medieval ceramic building material (red sandy machine and post great fire bricks; peg tiles, tin glazed and stone pavers). A piece of a Belgian brick is the most interesting fragment.

Recommendations

The value of this small assemblage shows an intense activity between the late 19th century and early 20th century. The fragment of a Belgian brick indicates an early activity in this area. No further work recommended.

Appendix 5: OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: preconst1-235642

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation on land at 2 Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1XN
Short description of the project	This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation that was undertaken on land at 2 Brunel Way, Slough, SL1 1XN. The aims of the project were to determine the natural topography, the presence, absence, nature and extent of any archaeological structures and deposits within the confines of the site, and to establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
Project dates	Start: 10-12-2015 End: 16-12-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BBPS15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	EARTHWORK Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	QUARRY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE (SMOKING) Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval

Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Not recorded
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	BERKSHIRE SLOUGH SLOUGH 2 Brunel Way, Slough
Postcode	SL1 1XN
Study area	165 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 49781 17987 50.9586111111111 -1.2911111111111 50 57 31 N 001 17 28 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 29.12m Max: 29.27m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Ramboll
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	Maria Buczak
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding	Ramboll

body

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	PCA
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","Leather","Metal","other"
Digital Archive recipient	PCA
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	PCA
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Map","Matrices","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation on land at 2 Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1XN
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Buczak, M.
Other bibliographic details	R12323
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	London

Description	Unpublished client report
URL	http://www.oasis.ac.uk
Entered by	Maria Buczak (mariabuczak@hotmail.com)
Entered on	24 December 2015

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