IMBER COURT TRADING ESTATE, ORCHARD LANE, EAST MOLESEY, SURREY, KT8 0BY

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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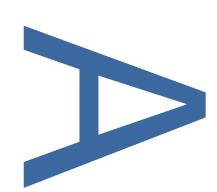
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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Wayne Perkins		March 2016
Graphics Prepared by:	Ray Murphy		March 2016
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown	Josephine Brann	March 2016
Project Manager Sign-off:	Chris Mayo	CN/v	March 2016

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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

Imber Court Trading Estate, Orchard Lane, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0BY

An Archaeological Evaluation

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Written and Researched by:	Wayne Perkins
Written and Researched by.	-
	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited March 2016
	March 2016
Project Manager:	Chris Mayo
Commissioning Client:	CgMs Ltd
on behalf of:	Wates Developments
Contractor:	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
	Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre
	96 Endwell Road, Brockley
	London SE4 2PD
Tel:	020 7732 3925
Femail:	
E-mail: Web:	cmayo@pre-construct.com
WED.	www.pre-construct.com

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited between the 15th and 29th February 2016 at Imber Court Trading Estate, Orchard Lane, East Moseley, Surrey KT8 0BY.
- 1.2 A total of five archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in and around the existing Units, whilst a further proposed trench in Unit G was aborted due to the presence of asbestos in the building. The trenches were so arranged to maximise coverage within the area available whilst utilising the expansion joints in the floors to facilitate the penetration of the reinforced concrete floors to create the trench edges.
- 1.3 The aim of the trenching strategy was to evaluate the potential survival of archaeology of the site, with particular reference to the presence of the former Imber (or Ember) Court and its formal gardens. Trenches to the north of this known structure were located to determine the presence (or absence) of any surviving archaeology and to understand how the proposed works would or would not affect those remains.
- 1.4 Ten boreholes made across the site were also monitored. In brief, they showed that modern made ground and disturbance penetrated to around 1.20m, the underlying layers of alluvial sands were generally 2m thick and the gravel beds were found in excess of 3m below the present ground level.
- 1.5 The evaluation concluded that the late 20th construction of the Trading Estate, in concert with the prior Cement Works, had severely truncated the archaeological horizon down to the natural geology in many areas.
- 1.6 However, to the north of the site several palaeochannels were discovered containing prehistoric burnt and struck flint. This may be evidence of prehistoric hunting activity in and around a former braided river system.
- 1.7 Further south and to the west, close to the imprint of the earlier Ember Court, several planting beds of the formal garden were uncovered.
- 1.8 No trace of the Court nor its outbuildings were found, due to heavy truncation in this part of the site.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited between the 15th and 29th February 2016 at Imber Court Trading Estate, Orchard Road, East Moseley KT8 0BY (Figure 1). The project was designed and managed by Chris Mayo of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and was commissioned by CgMs Ltd on behalf of Wates Developments. The archaeological work was supervised by Wayne Perkins of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited.
- 2.2 The evaluation was conducted prior to the re-development and proposed demolition of the Imber Court Trading Estate.
- 2.3 The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 1469 6714 and lies outside the Area of High Archaeological Potential as defined by the Surrey County Council. No Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Parks & Gardens or Registered Battlefields lie within the study site or its vicinity.
- 2.4 The site comprises a rectangular parcel of land which is bounded to the north by residential housing along Orchard Lane, to the west by a stream or leat of the River Ember and to the south and east by the Metropolitan Police Training School and their grounds (Figure 2). The existing warehouse units are labelled A G. The site measures c. 3.058ha.
- 2.5 The Surrey County Council Archaeological Officer, Nigel Randall, monitored the project on behalf of Elmbridge Borough Council.
- 2.6 PCA formulated a Written Scheme of Investigation which was approved by Surrey County Council on behalf of the Local Authority. The WSI designed a trial trench evaluation to assess the archaeological potential of site and incorporated a Watching Brief to be undertaken during a geotechnical investigation carried out by other contractors. The WSI outlined the methodology by which the evaluation would be undertaken (Mayo 2016).
- 2.7 CgMs Consulting have previously prepared a desk-based assessment for the site (Roberts 2015) which researched the archaeological and historical potential of the site. The site is not located within an Area of High Archaeological Potential as defined by Surrey County Council. The site does not lie within the vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Battlefield, Registered Park or Historic Wreck site.
- 2.8 The primary objective of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains with particular attention to the Tudor period Ember Court located to the southern boundary of the site along with its gardens and ancillary buildings.
- 2.9 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:
 - The Written Scheme of Investigation
 - Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work
 (GLAAS 2014)
 - MoRPHE (English Heritage, 2006).

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The full planning background to the site, and the policies of relevance to it, is set out in the desk-based assessment (Roberts 2015).
- 3.2 The client, Wates Developments, is considering a planning application for the site for redevelopment and accordingly CgMs Consulting were appointed to prepare appropriate documentation and, in turn, commission a pre-application evaluation in accordance with best practise as set out in the NPPF (2012). The evaluation by PCA is therefore intended to be an informative investigation to advise relevant parties of the possible archaeological implications of the proposed strategy for the site.
- 3.3 The evaluation was designed to address the following objectives for the site, as outlined in the approved WSI (Mayo 2016):
 - 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 if present, its nature and (if possible) date.
 - To establish the presence or absence of Roman activity if present, its nature and (if possible) date
 - To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity if present, its nature and (if possible) date
 - To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity at the site.
 - To attempt to ascertain whether remains of the post-medieval mansion survive within the site, particularly within the southern area as suggested by the desk-based assessment.
 - 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.

4 GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The site of Imber Court, Orchard Way, East Moseley KT8 0BY (NGR 514695 167143) is situated on the east bank of a leat fed by the River Ember to the west and is bound to the north by Orchard Way and to the south and east by the Metropolitan Police Training School.
- 4.2 The site is situated immediately to the east of the River Ember. The ground level of the car park in northern area of the site is c.10.19m OD rising to c.10.69m OD at the south of the site outside Unit F to the south.
- 4.3 The British Geological Survey records the solid geology of the area to be London Clay deposits and the superficial deposits to be the Langley Member Clay & Silt characterised as wind-blown rocks depositing silt and sand erosional deposits in the Quaternary period (Roberts 2015).
- 4.4 During the archaeological fieldwork a borehole survey of the site was executed which retrieved a great deal of information about the sequence and deposition of the archaeological and geological layers. The borehole survey concurs with the observations made through evaluation and detailed in the trench descriptions that follow. In particular the boreholes picked up 'made ground' of mixed, re-deposited natural and building materials as being between 0.20m to 1.2m thick below the concrete (or tarmac) surfaces. Furthermore, borehole evidence generally upheld the view that the site was underlain by the Langley Member of clay and silt to a depth of around 3m before reaching underlying gravel beds (*see Appendix 1: Borehole Data*). The work thus tied the relatively small environs of the development area into the larger, regional geological framework as outlined by the BGS (Roberts 2015).
- 4.5 The evaluation revealed brownish mid-orange silty sand deposits at a height between 9.24m OD in Trench 1 at the north of the site and at 9.54m OD in Trench 6 at the south of the site. This was overlain a layer of made ground up to 1.2m thick capped by reinforced concrete slabs c.0.2m thick. The specifics of each layer are discussed in its relevant section below.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site is covered in detail within the DBA (Roberts 2015). In summary of that document:
- 5.2 The Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER) contains no records for the prehistoric periods within the study area. The lack of evidence reflects an almost complete absence of archaeological fieldwork within the study area. Based on the available evidence, the potential of the site for prehistoric remains is uncertain, but considered probably low.
- 5.3 The nearest Roman road, Staines Road, is located approximately 8km to the north. The HER contains no records for the Roman period within the study area; the lack of evidence reflecting the almost total absence of archaeological fieldwork within the study area. The potential of the site for Roman archaeology is uncertain, but considered probably low.
- 5.4 The Domesday Survey of 1086 mentions the Manors of Weston and Thames Ditton in the vicinity of the study site. These are recorded as plough-land, meadow and woodland.
- 5.5 Archives recording the owners and tenants of Imber Court reach back to 1086, although it is not clear from the records when the mansion house recorded in later sources was built.
- 5.6 The archives suggest the possibility that a pre-conquest original mansion house may have been located in or near the study area, and subsequently demolished.
- 5.7 The HER contains no records for the Anglo-Saxon, early medieval and medieval periods within the study area.
- 5.8 Since the late post-medieval mansion lay partly in the southern portion of the study site, is it likely that any pre-conquest original buildings would have been sited adjacent or nearby. The position of any earlier buildings is unclear, but they may have lain in the southern part of the study site.
- 5.9 Based on the available evidence, the potential for Anglo-Saxon, Early and late medieval archaeology in the southern portion of the site is considered moderate/high. The potential for contemporary remains in the remainder of the study site is considered low.
- 5.10 The map regression and written sources demonstrate that the site was the location of Imber House mansion from the Tudor period until its demolition in 1919, after which the study area became the site of a concrete and engineering works.
- 5.10.1 The potential for archaeological remains relating to the post-medieval mansion house is greatest in the southern part of the site, in the area currently occupied by the southernmost trading estate buildings (Units E and F). Several 18th & 19th century outbuildings and landscaped gardens associated with the mansion house fall within the remainder of the study site. The southern portion of the site can therefore be considered to have a moderate/high potential for archaeological remains from the post-medieval period, with a low potential for the remainder of the site.

6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation was conducted according to an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of archaeological remains.
- 6.2 Six trenches were proposed within vacant units. However, due to the discovery of asbestos within Unit G, only five trenches could be achieved. These were opened by mechanical excavator following the breaking out of reinforced concrete floors as appropriate.
- 6.3 After breaking-out, the mechanical excavator switched to a flat-bladed ditching bucket 1.8m wide and continued under archaeological supervision to remove homogenous soils down to the highest archaeological horizon or natural level. Trenches 1, 2 & 3 were 20m long; Trench 4, provisionally to be 20m long, was shortened due to the presence of concrete debris from the Concrete Works found to be at a depth of 1.2m; Trench 5 was aborted due to the presence of asbestos in Unit G; Trench 6 in Unit F was only 10m long due to height and width restrictions within the Unit itself. Where orientations had to be changed to ease excavation, new GPS readings were taken to locate the trenches on the plan.
- 6.4 Following the opening of the trenches the vertical sections were cleaned and all features identified were investigated by hand. Investigation was intended to identify the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence. The deposits, fills, and features were assigned individual context numbers.
- 6.5 All recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in the area; that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual and presented in PCAs Fieldwork *Operations Manual 1* (Taylor 2009). Individual descriptions of all archaeological and geological strata and features excavated and exposed were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on polyester based drawing film, the plans generally being at scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10. The OD heights of all principle strata were calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.
- 6.6 A photographic record of the investigations was made using digital formats.
- 6.7 A Temporary Bench Mark was installed on the site via GPS surveying equipment; this equipment was also used to record the trench location to the OS grid. The TBM was located on the entrance road immediately east of Trench 1 with a value of 10.19m OD whilst a second, located just outside the door of Unit F was 10.78m OD.
- 6.8 Upon the completion of the archaeological work the trenches were backfilled under archaeological supervision.
- 6.9 The site archive was compiled using a site code devised by PCA, **SITC16**.

7 SUMMARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION OF TRENCHES 1-6

7.1 Trench Results

- 7.1.1 The area under evaluation outside of the buildings had a tarmac surface creating a car park just within the entrance to the complex where Trench 1 was located. This proved to be relatively thin and lain upon a gravel bed. Trench 2 was also outside but had to be cut through a reinforced concrete pad directly east of Unit B. Trenches 3 and 4 were inside the main area of Unit B which required the pneumatic breaker to get through the reinforced concrete floor. Trench 5 was aborted due to the presence of asbestos in Unit G. Finally, Trench 6 was excavated in Unit F but was only 10m long due to height and width restrictions within the building.
- 7.1.2 The earliest horizon encountered within the trenches was the natural drift geology, a clayey-sand having the appearance of brick earth [25], [39] & [52]. It was recorded at 8.99m OD, the basal limit of the excavation. This was overlain by an alluvial, mid-orange brownish silty-sand [24] [44], [46], [38] & [42] which had occasional flint inclusions but it was uncertain if they were introduced by water action or by human agency. However, none of the flints found in this context were worked and showed no diagnostic traits.
- 7.1.3 In Trench 1 two palaeochannels [6] and [8] were found containing both burnt and struck flint, and charcoal. A line of stake-holes [11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23] were found to have cut the fills of the palaeochannels and have putatively been dated to the medieval period. The palaeochannels were sealed by a gravel layer [9] that had been laid to serve as a foundation for the iron rails that were used in the 20th century Cement Works. The iron rails [3] were set upon a series of sleepers [4].
- 7.1.4 In Trench 2 further evidence for a palaeochannel [43] was found containing burnt flint
- 7.1.5 In Trench 3 evidence for the formal garden north of Imber Court was found with rectangular planting beds and a ditch (possibly for drainage and/or irrigation).
- 7.1.6 Trench 4 was shortened by the discovery of a series of concrete slabs, kerb stones and reinforced concrete fence posts on a further floor/bed of concrete, relating to the 20th century development of the site
- 7.1.7 No vestiges of Ember Court or its ancillary buildings were found in Trench 6 as truncation and modern made ground was seen to have reached a depth of 1.3m
- 7.1.8 All trenches displayed layers of modern 'made ground' material consisting of both the construction and demolition debris of the early 20th century Cement Works. Further layers under the concrete pads were evidence for ground levelling and make –up related to the construction of Imber Court Trading Estate. These deposits were over 1m thick in many places.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASED SEQUENCE

8.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

- 8.1.1 Two natural deposits of sand were revealed during excavation. They appeared to have a slightly different character (Plate 1): layer [25]/[39]/[42]/[52] was the basal of the two and was described as being a clayey-sand, having the appearance of brick earth and being exposed at the bottom of several cut features. In Trench 6 a sondage was cut with a narrow bucket to 2.5m below the present ground surface, which demonstrated that the sand [42] was at least 1.2m thick with no sign of the underlying gravel beds. It was recorded at 8.99m OD in Trench 1, 9.62m OD in Trench 3 and 9.54m OD in Trench 4 so it appeared to fall slightly towards the north. The deposit encountered accords well with the description of the Langley Member Clay & Silt.
- 8.1.2 The sand was overlain by another similar deposit, a mid-orange brownish silty-sand which contained occasional flint inclusions [24], [44], [46], & [38], the thickness of which was on average c. 0.32m thick (Plate 1). It was into this layer that the later palaeochannels had been formed. The flint inclusions were studied but none were found to be worked and none bore any diagnostic traits. They may have been carried by water action in a 'high energy' environment (such as flooding and inundation) or by human agency. An additional layer of darker, silt-rich sand [45] was recorded in Trench 2.

Plate 1: Trench 2, Section 4: natural silty sands [45] & [46] looking east (scale 1m)



8.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric

Trench 1

8.2.1 In Trench 1 two palaeochannels were discovered, both aligned northeast to southwest and containing both burnt and struck flint (Figure 3). The northern of the two [8] was partially concealed by later layers that were not excavated as a live service conduit was found to run across the trench (Plate 2). The channel was exposed to a width of 1.90m but may have run further under the layers left *in situ*. In plan it was curvilinear and the edges diffuse suggesting a 'water-made cut' as opposed to man-made cut feature. A slot was made into the fill (7) against the west section and it was found to be 0.63m deep. The fill was a soft, mid greenish grey clayey silt suggestive of standing water recorded at 9.17m OD. The fill contained flecks of charcoal.

Plate 2: Trench 1, Section 7: palaeochannel [8] and stake-holes, looking north-west (scale 1m)



8.2.2 At 0.58m to the south of this channel in Trench 1 a second channel, [6] was very slightly curvilinear in plan (again with diffuse edges) with a width of 1.48m and a depth of 0.67m (Plate 3). The fill was very similar to that of [8] but was a light grey-brownish in colour recorded at a height of 9.14m OD.



Plate 3: Trench 1, Section 7: palaeochannel [6] looking north-west (scale 1m)

Trench 2

8.2.3 At the southern limit of Trench 2 another possible palaeochannel [55] was observed in Section 3 (Figure 6) although the main part of the feature had been lost to truncation by modern activity at the east of the trench (Plate 4). It was only seen in section and not in plan. Burnt flint was recovered from fill [43] and its composition was very similar to the two channels recorded in Trench 1 which consisted of a soft, mid grey greenish clayey sand recorded at a height of 9.20m OD. Its alignment may have been approximately east to west.

Plate 4: Trench 2, Section 3: palaeochannel [55], looking north-west (scale 1m)



8.3 Phase 3: Medieval (?)

8.3.1 In Trench 1 a row of stake-holes were seen to cut the fills of the two palaeochannels [6] & [8] (Figure 3, Plate 2). No Roman activity is recorded in the area so it is considered unlikely these the posts originated in that period; however, both the nearby mill leat (fed by the River Ember) and its attendant mills were established in the medieval to late medieval period (Roberts)

2015) whilst the Senex map of 1729 shows 'Iron Wire Mills' north of Ember Court and the leat fed by the River Ember is present. The origins of Ember Court are recorded in the Domedsday Survey of AD 1086 making it a possibly a pre-Conquest building (or re-built upon an earlier structure) (Roberts 2015: 10). Therefore, water management of several types are likely to have been introduced into the area during this or the Saxon period. Stakeholes [11], [13], [15], [17], [19], [21] & [23] may represent a medieval fish or eel trap associated with the manor house or nearby mills. The holes themselves suggest a series of stakes, generally 10cm in diameter and around 20 cm deep.

8.4 Phase 4: Post Medieval

8.4.1 In Trench 3 a series of east-west oriented, parallel planting beds were arranged perpendicularly either side of a north-south ditch [37] which may have been a drainage or irrigation channel (Plate 5, Figure 5). It contained two fills, the latter seemed to be intrusive material and contained animal bone that may date up to the late 18th century (Rielly 2016). The beds, [28], [30], [32] & [34] were a fairly uniform 0.75m wide, 0.11m deep and 6.8m long. They stopped 0.50m short of the north-south oriented ditch which was 1.52m wide, and 0.50m deep with concave sides and a flattened 'U' shaped profile. Finds of fragmentary ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from its fills [35], [36] as well as some burnt flint - but the latter may be residual.

Plate 5: Trench 3: planting beds [28], [30], [32], [34] & [37] looking west (scale 1m)



8.4.2 The above features in Trench 3 were sealed by a thick, extensive layer of well-sorted, organic-rich garden soil [54] which may represent the abandonment of the 'formal' flower beds and the spread of a garden soil layer, perhaps to convert the ground to vegetable production. This layer was also identified in Trench 4 as [49] with the added inclusion of animal bone, possibly as fertilizer. The dimensions of the faunal remains match the size of animals entering the London meat markets in the 18th century, but its date range could be between 1580 and

1900 (Appendix 2). This would accord well with the supposition that there was a post-Tudor change of gardening practices at the manor. Fragments of red-terracotta tile and brick sherds were recovered from this layer of a type whose date range is 1480 – 1900 (Appendix 3). They are likely to represent the building materials employed during the Tudor period of expansion and rebuilding of Ember Court or may indeed represent its demolition and demise.

8.5 Phase 5a: Modern (Early 2^{0th} Century)

- 8.5.1 Ember (now Imber) Court was unoccupied by 1900 and demolished by 1919 (Roberts 2015:13). The Ordnance Survey map of 1932 shows that the mansion had been replaced by the Ember Court Concrete & Engineering Works, save for the walled gardens and glasshouses which are still depicted on the map to the north. It had expanded by 1957 where the O.S. map shows the buildings divided between the Metropolitan Concrete Works in the north and Trianco Engineering Works in the south. Further building and re-building occurred in the mid 1970's (Roberts 2015:13).
- 8.5.2 In the north end of Trench 1 a short length of iron track was uncovered, which lay on a compacted gravel surface [9] (Plate 6, Figure 3). The track was oriented north-south and the rails [3] were spaced 0.58m apart. They had the classic '][' shape in profile set upon regularly spaced sleepers [4] every 0.90m or so. The rails were at 9.38m OD just 0.61m below the present car park surface.

Plate 6: Trench 1: iron track and sleepers [3], [4], looking north (scale 1m)



- 8.5.3 A large concrete pad or floor found in Trench 2 may also have been a vestige of the Concrete Works, recorded at 9.56m OD, 0.96m below the modern concrete car park surface.
- 8.5.4 Trench 4 was abandoned 8.3m from its southern end due to the discovery of copious amounts of discarded concrete objects such as kerbstones, slabs and reinforced concrete fence posts along with thick concrete footings and a live storm drain. The concrete debris must have been associated with the Cement Works.

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8.6 Phase 5b: Modern (Later 20th Century)

8.6.1 In the car park to the north where Trench 1 was located, the current tarmac surface was laid upon compacted gravel and made ground [1], [2], 0.74m thick. The yard to the east of Unit B around Trench 2 had 0.20m of concrete set upon concrete and rubble and made ground [41] up to 1.44m thick. In Trench 3 inside Unit B the interior concrete floor was 0.24m thick laid upon concrete rubble and made ground 0.32m thick. In Trench 4 the concrete pad (or floor) was 0.20m thick laid upon crushed concrete 0.34m thick and a number of make-up layers [47 – 52], 0.69m thick. In Trench 6 in Unit F the concrete floor was again 0.20m thick laid upon concrete rubble and made ground [41], 1.10m thick before the natural was reached.

9 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Original Research Objectives

9.1.1 The following research objectives were put forth in the Written Scheme of Investigation and these can now be addressed

To determine the natural topography and geology of the site, and the height at which it survives.

- 9.1.2 The natural topography of the site appears to have been locally truncated during the construction of the Ember Cement & Engineering Works in the early 20th century. Its subsequent demolition and the levelling and construction work required to create the Imber Court Trading Estate in the later 20th century has also played a part in partially truncating the site.
- 9.1.3 The site is located east of the rivers Mole and Ember, both tributaries of the River Thames situated to the north. It is likely that the site was originally on a flood plain within the rivers' meandering corridor and may have been originally wetlands or a braided river system in the prehistoric period. It would thus have been an ideal resource for fish, fowl and eels. The deposits of silty sand and clayey sand on the site reflects the dynamic nature of a riverine environment and the division between high energy environments (floods, inundations which introduce the silts) and low energy environments (standing water which allows clays to form). At the north of the site in Trench 1 the natural sands were found to be at 9.05m OD and slightly higher in Trench 3 at 9.49m OD. It was highest at the south of the site in Trench 6 at 9.52m OD.

To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric activity.

- 9.1.4 A total of three palaeochannels were discovered, two in the northern part of Trench1 and one in the southern part of Trench 2. In Trench 1, channels [6] & [8] provided finds of burnt and struck flint which suggests hunting activity close to a watercourse. Burnt flint in large quantities is usually indicative of the little understood 'burnt mound' monuments usually associated with the Bronze Age, whilst the struck flint may represent either tools brought to the site or fabricated in the vicinity although no evidence for débitage or *in situ* flint knapping was found.
- 9.1.5 In Trench 2 a possible palaeochannel [55] was recorded and burnt flint also recovered.

To establish the presence or absence of Roman activity

There was no evidence of such activity found in the evaluation

To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.

9.1.6 In Trench 1 a row of stake-holes; [11], [13], [15], [17], [19], [21] & [23] were found to be cutting the palaeochannel fills. A medieval (or later) date is suggested for these remains, which may have been a possible fish or eel trap. Although no finds were made from their fills the presence of known medieval activity in the area presents a better case than a Roman date for the features. Taking into account the nearby leat cut from the River Ember, the mills known to have lined the leat and the possible pre-Conquest origins for Ember Court, the picture emerges of a dynamic medieval landscape - where water management and resource exploitation were well established. However, it must be stipulated that no stakes were found *in situ* or dating material recovered.

To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity at the site.

- 9.1.7 In Trench 3 the formal planting beds [28], [30], [32], [34] and an drainage ditch [37] were uncovered which accorded well with the layout of the gardens associated with Ember Court as seen on the 1867 Ordnance Survey Map. By this stage, the map seems to show the development of a symmetrical garden, tree planting and glasshouses situated to the north of the site in line with what would have been expected to adorn a large manor house whose roots were in the Tudor (and possibly earlier) period. In turn, this more formal garden appears to have been abandoned in favour of a more general purpose garden illustrated by the layer of soil [54] that later sealed the features.
- 9.1.8 No vestiges of the manor house of Ember Court were discovered during the excavation. Trench 6 in Unit F was best placed to investigate walls or structures relating to the northern section of the house which may have lain at the southern side of the site. Trench 6 was relatively short at 10m but here it revealed that truncation by 20th century building and demolition had penetrated to around 1.3m – 1.4m below the present ground surface, to natural ground.

To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

9.1.9 It is apparent from the work of the evaluation that the post-depositional impacts have had a severe but localised effect on the preservation of the archaeology. As has already been outlined above with regards to the survival of the natural topography, 20th century construction and demolition has locally truncated the site down to 1.0 – 1.4m from the present ground level surface with a mixture of concrete floors and service trenches. Impacts are likely to be even deeper around the steel stanchions (or pillars) which no doubt are formed on top of concrete piles - although none of the trenches were close enough to examine their depth or below-ground impact. This said, palaeochannels and implied prehistoric activity was found to the north and east of the site surprisingly close to the surface, and vestiges of the formal garden were uncovered.

9.2 Conclusions

- 9.2.1 The survival of the small-gauge railway in Trench 1 was likely to have been a localised survival as it was away from the main buildings and under the car park to the north of the site. Although relatively modern, it did illustrate archaeological survival just below the car park surface.
- 9.2.2 In Trench 3 it was shown that elements of the formal garden in the form of the planting beds and the drainage ditch illustrated the way in which they had been laid out to the north of Ember Court and could survive even though in heavily truncated form. Further garden features (and possibly ancillary buildings) may also survive in this area of the site where the concrete floors are 'suspended' on low supporting walls.
- 9.2.3 Of more interest was the evidence for prehistoric activity in the form of struck and burnt flints and the existence of the three palaeochannels which must have been part of a larger braided river system within the landscape. Although the evidence is light and may only reflect the traces of seasonal hunting activities in the area it is nonetheless an important potential component to understanding early prehistoric landscapes in the area.
- 9.2.4 No evidence for structural remains of Ember Court was found.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Ltd on behalf of Wates Developments for commissioning the work. We would also like to thank Nigel Randall of Surrey Council for his input and monitoring the project.
- 10.2 The author would like to thank Patric Cavanagh, Corso Dominici and Tanya Jones for their help in the field, Richard Archer for the survey, Wayne Richards for organising the logistics, Kevin Reilly, Chris Jarrett & Amparo Valcarcel for dating the finds, Ray Murphy for the illustrations and Chris Mayo for his project management and editing.

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http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html

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- Roberts, K. 2015 'Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment: Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey', unpublished report for CgMs Consulting, ref KR/JAC20153
- Taylor, J with Brown, G 2009, Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual 1, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited



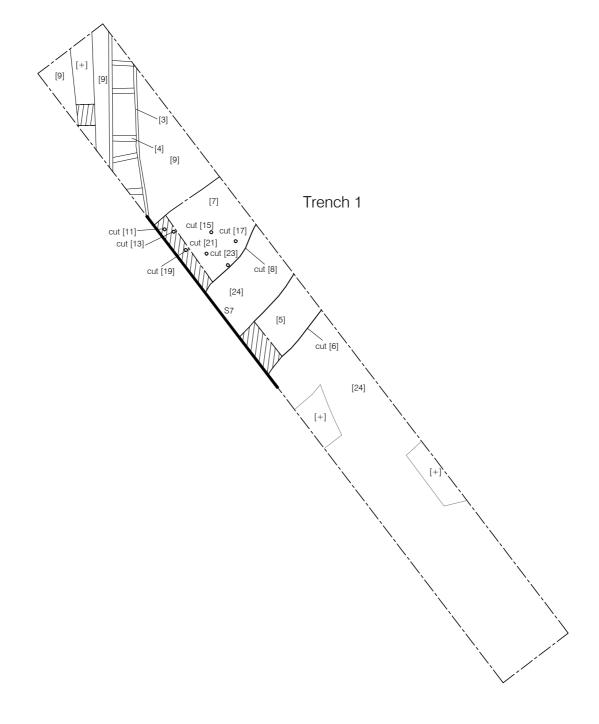
Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2016 © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2016 10/03/16 RM

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



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Figure 2 Trench and Borehole Locations 1:1,250 at A3

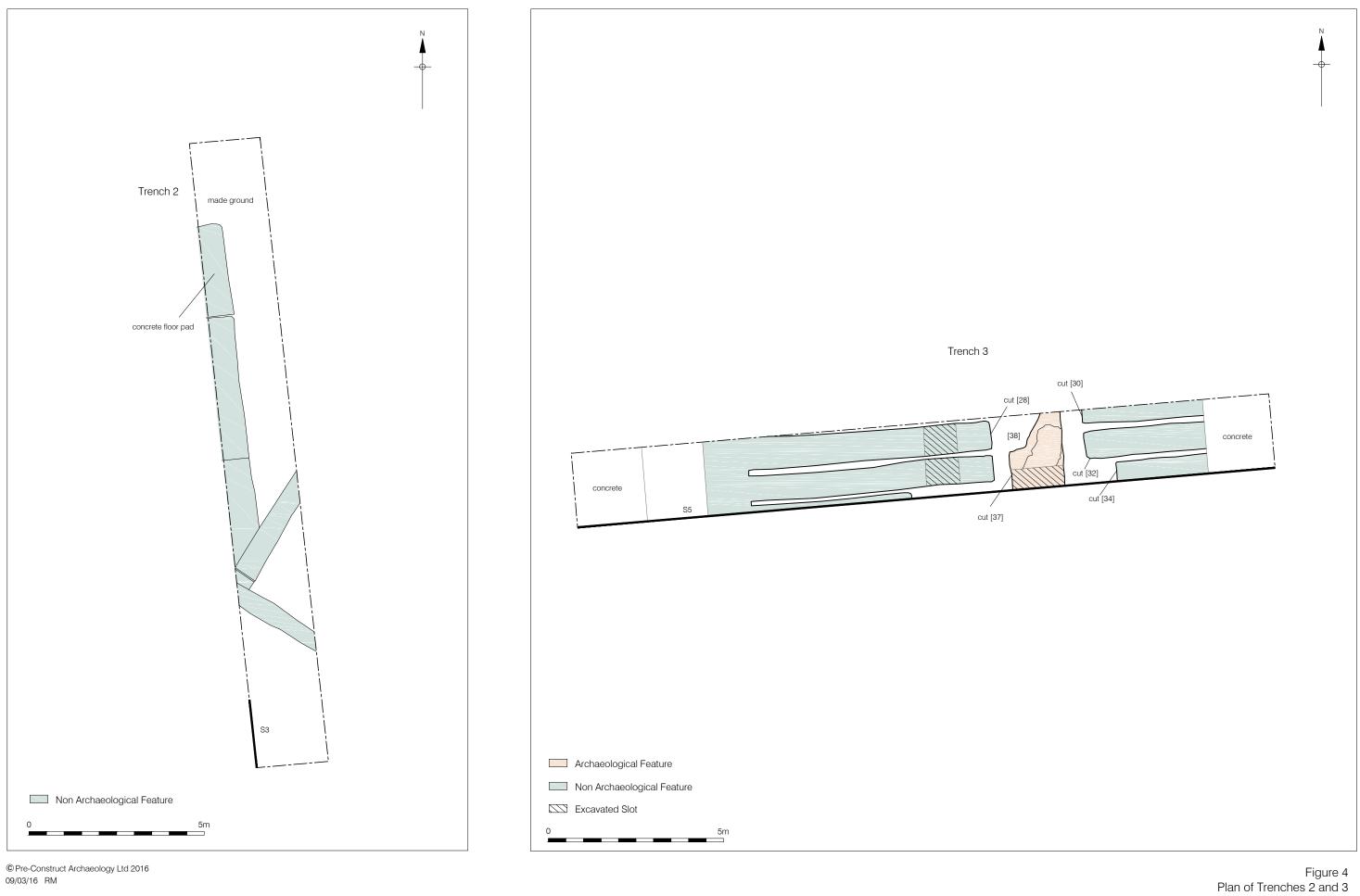


Excavated Slot

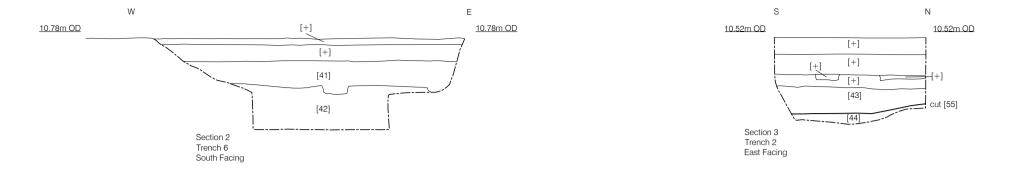
5m 0

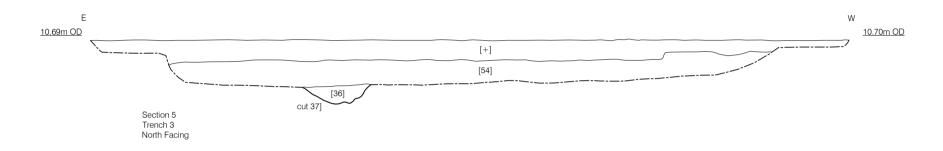
© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2016 18/03/16 CF

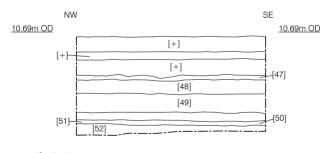
Figure 3 Plan of Trench 1 1:100 at A4



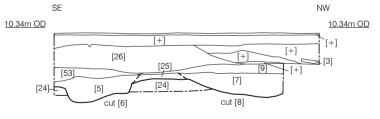
1:100 at A3







Section 6 Trench 4 South West Facing



Section 7 Trench 1 Northeast Facing

0

5m

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Figure 6 Sections 1:100 at A4

12 APPENDIX 1: BOREHOLE DATA

- 12.1 In total, 10 boreholes were excavated on the site (Figure 2) to a depth of 4m each (except BH8 which was abandoned at 3.2m)
- 12.2 The boreholes were monitored and their samples recorded, the following information has been taken from their data –

BOREHOLE	MADE GROUND	NATURAL SANDS	BASAL GRAVELS
1	0 -1m	1m – 3.0m silty sand	3.m – 3.8m gravels
			3.80m - 4m fine sand
2	0 – 1m	1m – 2m brick earth	3m -4m gravel
		2.m – 3m silty sand	deposits
3	0 – 1.20m	1.20m – 2m brick earth	3.76 – 4 gravel *
		2m – 2,30 band of gravel	
		2.30 – 2.77m fine sand	
		2.77 – 3.76 silty sand	
4	0 – 1.20m	1.20 – 1.45 brick earth	3.20 – 4 sand &
		1.45 – 2.20 silty sand	gravels
		2.20 – 2.60 brick earth	
		2.60 – 3.20 silty sand	
5	0 – 1.20m	1.20 – 2m silty sand & gravels	3 – 4m sand & gravel
		2m – 3m sand & gravels	
6	0-1.10m	1.10m – 2m brick earth	No gravels
		2m – 2.50m Fine sand	
		2.50 – 3 Silty sand	
		3-4 Fine silty sand	
7	0 – 1.20m	1.20m – 1.80 clayey silt	No gravels
		1.80 – 2.50 silty sand	
		2.50 – 3m silty sand	
		3-4m silty sand	
8	0 -2m	2m – 2.20m silty sand*	2.20 -3.20m sand &
			gravel
			3.20m Abandoned
9	0 – 1.60m	1.60 – 2.50 brick earth	3-3.25 m gravel
		2.50 – 3m silty sand	3.25m- 4m fine sand
10	0 – 1M	1 – 1.25 gravel & sand	2.75 – 3.50m gravel
		1.25 – 2m brick earth	3.50 – 4m fine sand
		2 – 2.75 sand & gravel	

- 12.3 Although the thickness of the 'made ground' varies it is consistent at penetrating to around 1.20m below the present ground surface.
- 12.4 BH3 may be viewed as an anomaly as it records gravel beds much deeper than elsewhere. Similarly, BH8 appears to have gravel recorded at a level higher than the other readings.
- 12.5 No gravels were found in either BH6 or BH7.
- 12.6 Even where gravel beds are present they vary in thickness and in some cases; BH1, BH9 & BH10 they are underlain by further layers of sand.

- 12.7 Where gravel beds were found (BH1, BH9 & BH10) they varied in thickness between 0.25m and 80m.
- 12.8 Taking all the above into account and allowing for variation in the readings a series of generalisations can be made
 - Modern truncation, in general was found to be at a depth of 1.20m from the present ground surface (except where it reached 1.60m in BH9).Variations are to be expected.
 - Layers or beds of alternating silty sand and brick earth was generally 2m thick (BH8 can be discounted as being too high) but its exact make-up varied between boreholes
 - No gravels were found in BH 6 or BH 7 it may be possible that this represented an eastwest flowing channel that had become filled with sand.

13 APPENDIX 2: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Rielly, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

13.1 Introduction

- 13.1.1 This site is situated about 1km to the south of Hampton Court Palace and just west of Hampton Court Way (A309). There were a total of 5 evaluation trenches, one of the major aims being to establish whether there were any surviving remains associated with Imber Court, a house rebuilt in the Tudor period and which continued in use up to the early 20th century, this formerly located at the southern boundary of the development area. The degree of truncation of the extant buildings unfortunately removed any traces of this earlier structure, however there were remnants of the associated formal garden (in particular in Trench 3) which in turn was overlain with a rather thick soil, perhaps intimating a change in use of this garden, over perhaps to vegetable production. In addition Trench 1 provided evidence for some palaeochannels.
- 13.1.2 Animal bones were confined to just two deposits, one from Trench 3 and the other from Trench 4, both described as soil deposits and probably related to the aforementioned change in garden usage.

13.2 Methodology

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

13.3 Description of faunal assemblage

- 13.3.1 The site provided a total of 6 bones taken from two deposits [35] and [49], providing 4 and 2 fragments respectively. Those from [35] include a cattle pelvis and sacrum from large individuals and two sheep/goat limb bones, a femur and a tibia, the latter with a fused distal articulation and therefore from an adult animal. Each of the cattle bones were heavily butchered, the pelves with a transverse chop through the sacral scar while the sacrum was split axially as well as showing an oblique transverse chop removing most of the left sacral wing. The bones from [49] were identified as a cattle-size rib in rather poor condition and a cattle proximal radius, also from a notably large animal (proximal breadth of 100mm). The radius from the latter deposit as well as the sacrum and pelvis from [35] clearly represent skeletal parts from one or more cattle from an 'improved' breed. Such animals began entering the London meat markets from the latter part of the 18th century (Rixson 2000, 215).
- 13.3.2 [35] and [49] are described as soil layers, the former well dated to the 19th century and the

latter to a somewhat wider date range, covering 1580 to 1900, based on the recovery of flower-pot type sherds.

13.4 Conclusion and recommendations for further work

13.4.1 This small collection would appear to be reasonably well dated, if not by the associated finds then certainly by the late traits, namely the size of the animals represented. It is also well preserved. The quantity of bones is rather small and while there is undoubtedly a potential for the recovery of more bones following further excavation (perhaps concentrating in that part of the site formerly containing Trenches 3 and 4), the total quantity eventually recovered may not be very much larger. It is of interest that the cattle bones represented are from the meat-rich parts of the carcass, perhaps signifying the purchase of meat cuts from the local butcher. The deposition of bone waste within these soil layers may have been intended as garden fertilizer.

13.5 References

Rixson, D, 2000 The History of Meat Trading, Nottingham University Press

14 APPENDIX 3: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIALS SPOT DATES

By Amparo Valcarcel, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

14.1 Quantification and Spot-Dating

Context	Form	Size	Date ra	inge of naterial	Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
27	Local silty peg tile; post med peg tile	2	1480	1900	1480	1900	1480-1900	No mortar
35	Abraded daub; post med peg tile	4	1500 BC	1900	1480	1900	1480- 1900	No mortar
36	Abraded daub; post medieval sandy brick; post med peg tile	4	1500 BC	1900	1480	1900	1480- 1900	No mortar
49	Post med peg tile	6	1480	1900	1480	1900	1480- 1900	No mortar
51	Post med sandy red brick	1	1450	1900	1450	1900	1450- 1900	No mortar

14.2 Review

14.2.1 The small assemblage (17 fragments, 0.98 kg) reflects the later post medieval development of this site and none of the material is of intrinsic interest. Bricks are made by red sandy fabric *3033type* [36] and [51]. This fabric continued to be used outside of the confines of the City of London, where local brickearth was exploited until 1900 (Ken Sabel pers. comm.). Unworked daub suggests the possible presence of a timber-framed wattle and daub construction in the vicinity. These were identified as small lumps from [35] and [36]. No further work is recommended at this stage.

15 APPENDIX 4: POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

15.1 Introduction

15.1.1 The post-Roman pottery assemblage consists of 21 sherds, representing 20 estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weighed 384g. The pottery dates solely to the post-medieval periods. The condition of the pottery is fairly good and comprises sherd material with forms recognisable. The material was probably deposited under secondary depositional circumstances. The post-medieval wares are defined according to the Museum of London Archaeology (2014) as a comprehensive coding system does not exist for pottery of this date for Surrey. The pottery was recovered from four contexts and is presented as a spot dating index.

15.2 Spot dating index

*SC: sherd count

15.2.1 Context [27], spot date: 19th century

Pottery type	Code	Date range	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Form/comments
Surrey-Hampshire border green-glaze whiteware flat-rimmed chamber pot	d BORDG CHP2	1650-1750	1	1	42	Chamber pot
miscellaneous unsourced medieval/post-medieval pottery	MISC	900-1500	1	1	4	Closed form/shoulder. High-fired fine red Industrial fineware with blue-grey slip band decorated with a blue diamond pattern containing foliage and the triangles above contain a dot border
Staffordshire-type combed slipware	STSL	1660-1870	1	1	16	Dish

Total: three sherds/3 ENV/62g

15.2.2 Context [35], spot date: mid 19th century

Pottery type	Code	Date range	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Form/comments
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	6	5	72	Flower pots
Surrey-Hampshire border redware	RBOR	1550-1900	1	1	12	-
Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration	TPW	1780-1900	2	2	24	Tea cup, plate with part of a mid 19th century maker's mark

Total: nine sherds/8 ENV/108g

15.2.3 Context [41], spot date: late 19th – early 20th century

Pottery type	Code	Date range	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Form/comments
Continental porcelain	CONP	1710-1900	1	1	26	Egg cup
Creamware	CREA	1740-1830	1	1	7	plate
English stoneware with Bristol glaze	ENGS BRST	1830-1900	1	1	49	Jar, cylindrical. Late 19th-early 20th century 'jam' jar
Pearlware with transfer-printed	PEAR TR	1770-1840	2	2	22	Plate

Imber Court Trading Estate, Orchard Lane, East Molesey KT8 0BY: An Archaeological Evaluation ©Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. March 2016

Pottery type	Code	Date range	SC E	NV	Wt (g)	Form/comments
decoration						
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	2	2	50	-
Staffordshire-type combed slipware	STSL	1660-1870	1	1	50	Dish
Total: eight sherds/8 ENV/204g						
15.2.4 Context [49], spot date: 1580–1800						

Pottery type	Code	Date range SC	EN	v	Wt (g)Form/comments	
London-area post-medieval redwa	are PMR	1580-1900 2	2	2	50-	

15.3 Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

15.3.1 The pottery has no significance at a local level and it is found as types and forms frequently found in Surrey. Indeed the assemblage has a national ceramic profile as the majority of the non-local pottery types were traded across the British Isles. The material occurs in small groups without much meaning as regards to activities, other than domestic and horticultural functions. The only potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the pottery.

15.4 Reference

Museum of London Archaeology 2013, Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes. <u>http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/Publications/Online-Resources/MOLA-</u> <u>ceramic-codes.htm</u>

16 APPENDIX 5: CLAY TOBACCO PIPE ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

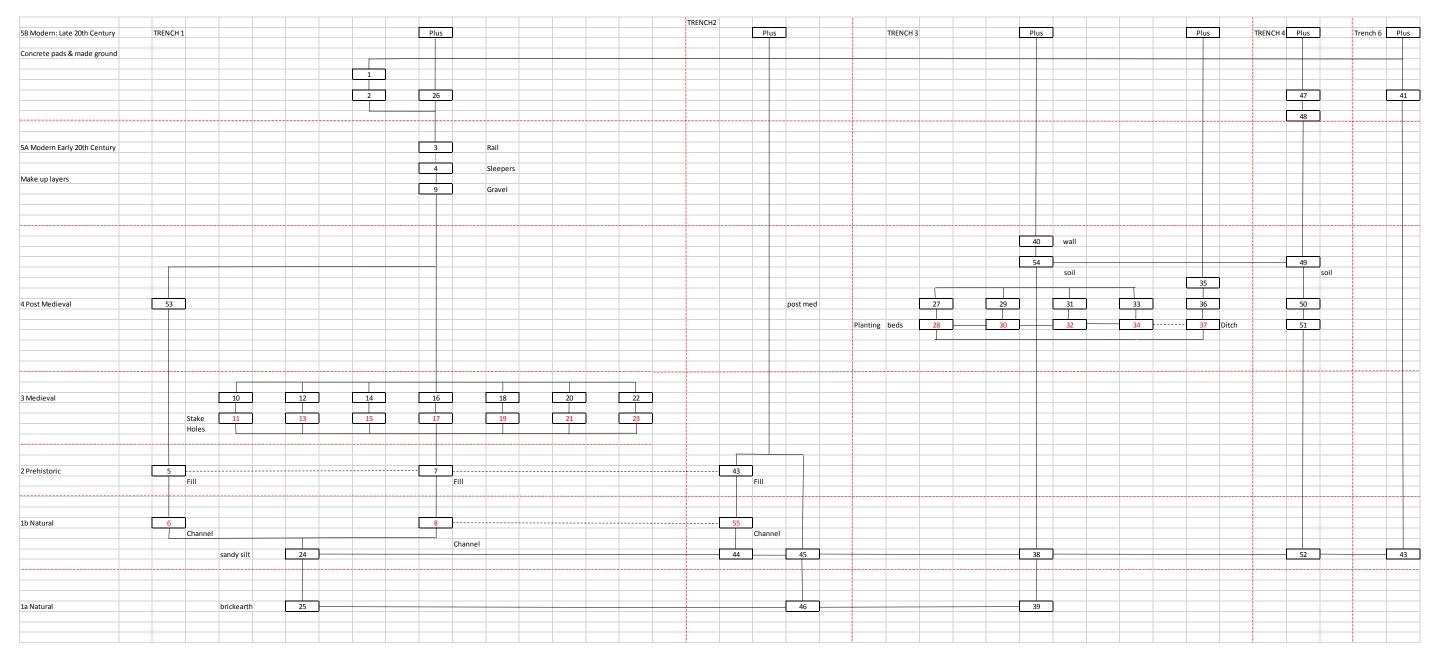
16.1 A single stem was recovered from the archaeological work and it was found in context [35]. The stem is thin and has a fine bore, indicating that it is broadly dated c. 1730–1910. The item has no significance and its only potential is to date the context it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

17 APPENDIX 6: GLASS ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

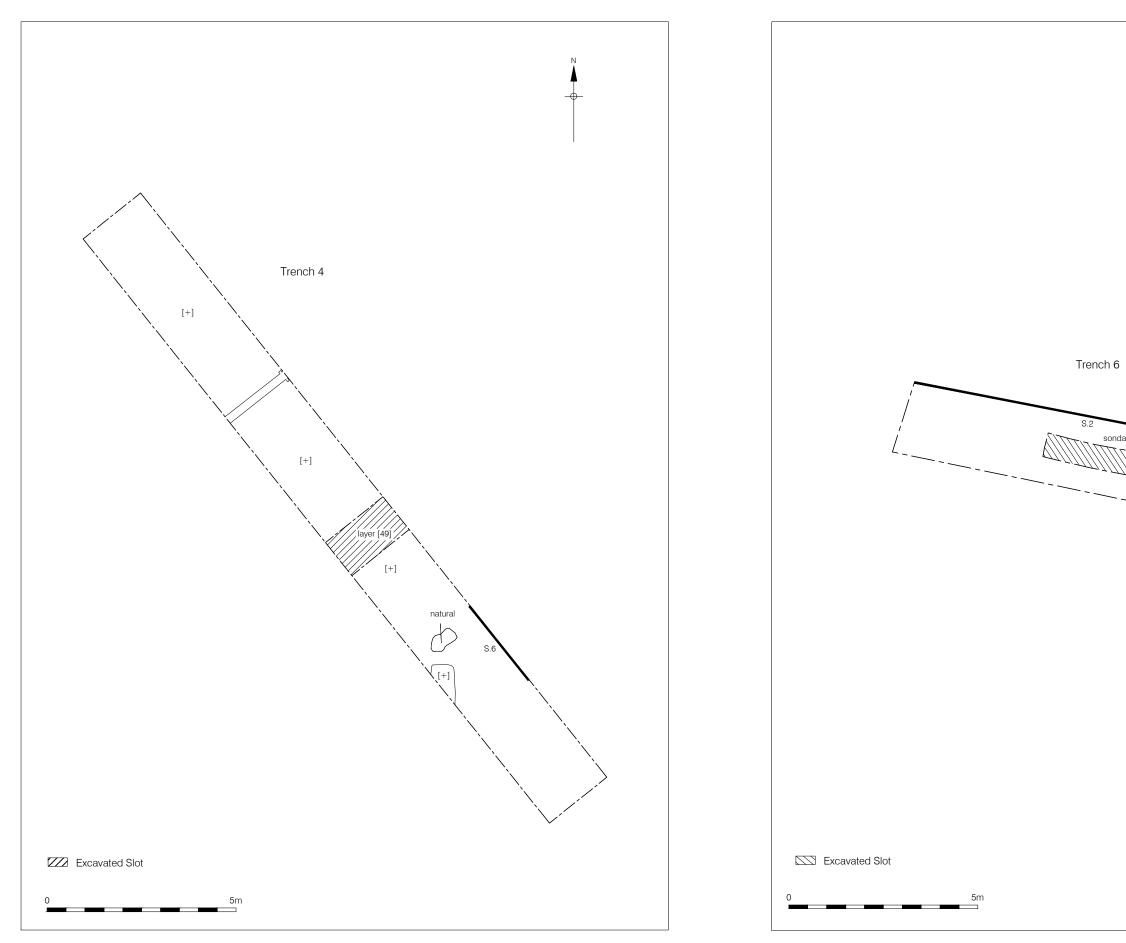
- 17.1 A total of three fragments, three estimated number of vessels and weighing 105g of glass, dating solely to the post-medieval period was recovered from two contexts. The glass is in a good condition and most likely to have been deposited under secondary depositional circumstances. All of the glass is derived from wine bottles. Context [27] produced two fragments of wine bottles, both made in pale olive green natural glass and both in a weathered state. One fragment is a body sherd whilst the other consists of a rim, which is everted and has below it a flat, horizontal flange or cordon, while the neck is conical. This rim finish is dated to the end of the 17th century. The third wine bottle was made in dark olive green high-lime low alkali (HLLA) glass and it was recovered from context [41]. The item consists of a cigar shaped neck and a rim with an applied rounded, moderately deep string finish above a short bevelled cordon and dated c. 1800–10 (Dumbrell 1992, 38). This wine bottle is most likely to be from a post c. 1740 dated cylindrical wine bottle, although it was not possible to determine if it was free blown or mould made.
- 17.2 The glass has little significance as it consists of wine bottles and furthermore as types frequently found in post-medieval archaeological deposits. The only potential of the glass is to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the assemblage.
- 17.3 Reference
 - Dumbrell, R. 1992. *Understanding antique wine bottles*. Antique Collectors' Club: Woodbridge, Suffolk.

18 APPENDIX 7: MATRICES

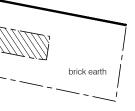


19 APPENDIX 8: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context No	Trench	Plan	Section	Туре	Description	Date	Phase
SITC16	1	TR 1	Tr 1	1	Layer	20th Century building rubble & crush	Modern	5b
SITC16	2	TR 1	TR 1	1	Layer	Re-deposited clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	3	TR 1	TR 1	1,7	Structure	Iron 'T' shaped rail	Modern	5a
SITC16	4	TR 1	TR 1	1,7	Structure	Wooden sleeper	Modern	5a
SITC16	5	TR 1	TR 1	7	Fill	Soft, mid grey brownish clayey silt	Natural	1
SITC16	6	TR 1	TR 1	7	Cut	Palaeochannel	Natural	1
SITC16	7	TR 1	TR 1	7	Fill	Soft, mid grey greenish clayey silt	Natural	1
SITC16	8	TR 1	TR 1	7	Cut	Palaeochannel	natural	1
SITC16	9	TR 1	TR 1	1,7	Layer	Compact, mid grey brownish sandy gravel	Modern	5a
SITC16	10	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	11	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	12	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	13	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	14	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	15	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	16	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	17	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	18	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	19	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	20	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	21	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	22	TR 1	TR 1		Fill	Soft, light grey brownish, sandy silt	Medieval	3
SITC16	23	TR 1	TR 1		Cut	Stake hole	Medieval	3
SITC16	24	TR 1	TR 1	7	Layer	Soft, mid brown yellowish silty sand	Natural	1
SITC16	25	TR 1	TR 1	7	Layer	Brick earth	Natural	1
SITC16	26	TR 1	TR 1	7	Layer	Soft, mid grey brownish, sandy silt	Modern	5b
SITC16	27	TR3	TR3	5	Fill	Soft, dark brown greyish, sandy silt	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	28	TR3	TR 3	5	Cut	Planting Beds	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	29	TR 3	TR 3	5	Fill	Soft, dark brown greyish, sandy silt	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	30	TR 3	TR 3	5	Cut	Planting Beds	Post Medieval	4



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sondage

Figure 5 Plan of Trenches 4 and 6 1:100 at A3

Ν

Site Code	Context No	Trench	Plan	Section	Туре	Description	Date	Phase
SITC16	31	TR 3	TR 3	5	Fill	Soft, dark brown greyish, sandy silt	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	32	TR 3	TR 3	5	Cut	Planting Beds	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	33	TR 3	TR 3	5	Fill	Soft, dark brown greyish, sandy silt	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	34	TR 3	TR 3	5	Cut	Planting Beds	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	35	TR 3	TR 3	5	Fill	Soft, light brown yellowish, silt	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	36	TR 3	TR 3	5	Fill	Soft, light brown, greyish, sandy silt	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	37	TR 3	TR 3	5	Cut	Drainage or irrigation ditch	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	38	TR 3	TR 3	5	Layer	Compact, brick earth	Natural	1
SITC16	39	TR 3	TR 3	5	Layer	Compact, brick earth	Natural	1
SITC16	40	TR 3	TR 3	5	Structure	Post medieval brick wall (un-mortared)	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	41	TR 6	TR 6	2	Layer	Re-deposited dark grey clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	42	TR 6	TR 6	2	Layer	Firm, yellowish- brown, clayey sand	natural	1
SITC16	43	TR 2	TR 2	3	Layer	Friable, mid grey greenish, clayey sand	Natural	1
SITC16	44	TR 2	TR 2	4	Layer	Soft, mid orange yellowish, silty sand	Natural	1
SITC16	45	TR 2	TR 2	4	Layer	Friable, pale grey- brownish, clayey sand	Natural	1
SITC16	46	TR 2	TR 2	4	Layer	Friable, mid orange yellowish, silty sand	Natural	1
SITC16	47	TR 4	TR 4	6	Layer	Friable, dark brown, silty clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	48	TR 4	TR 4	6	Layer	Friable, mid brown yellowish, silty clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	49	TR 4	TR 4	6	Layer	Friable, mid grey brownish, silty clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	50	TR 4	TR 4	6	Layer	Firm, mid grey, sandy clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	51	TR 4	TR 4	6	Layer	Friable, mid grey brownish, silty clay	Modern	5b
SITC16	52	TR 4	TR 4	6	Layer	Friable, mid orange, sandy clay	Natural	1
SITC16	53	TR 1	TR 1	7	Layer	Friable, dark brown clayey sand	Modern	5b
SITC16	54	TR 3	TR 3	5	Layer	Well mixed, organic garden soil	Post Medieval	4
SITC16	55	TR 2	TR 2	3	Cut	Palaeochannel	Natural	1

PHASES

- 1. Natural
- 2. Prehistoric: Neolithic (4000 2000 BC)

- Prefilstone. Neonanic (1900 2000 DC)
 Medieval (AD 1066 1540)
 Post Medieval (AD 1540 1901)
 (a) Modern: Early 20th Century (Ember Court Cement Works) (b) Modern: Late 20th Century (Imber Court Trading Estate)

20 APPENDIX 9: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-244515

Project details	
Project name	Imber Court Trading Estate
Short description of the project	A total of five archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in and around the existing Units. The aim of the trenching strategy was to evaluate the potential survival of archaeology of the site, with particular reference to the presence of the former Imber (or Ember) Court and its formal gardens. Trenches to the north of this known structure were located to determine the presence (or absence) of any surviving archaeology and to understand how the proposed works would or would not affect those remains. Ten boreholes made across the site were also monitored. In brief, they showed that modern made ground and disturbance penetrated to around 1.20m, the underlying layers of alluvial sands were generally 2m thick and the gravel beds were found in excess of 3m below the present ground level. The evaluation concluded that the late 20th construction of the Trading Estate, in concert with the prior Cement Works, had severely truncated the archaeological horizon down to the natural geology in many areas. However, to the north of the site several palaeochannels were discovered containing prehistoric burnt and struck flint. This may be evidence of prehistoric hunting activity in and around a former braided river system. Further south and to the west, close to the imprint of the earlier Ember Court, several planting beds of the formal garden were uncovered. No trace of the Court nor its outbuildings were found, due to heavy truncation in this part of the site.
Project dates	Start: 15-02-2016 End: 29-02-2016
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	SITC16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing
Monument type	CHANNEL Palaeolithic
Monument type	PLANTING PEDS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	STRUCK FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CTP Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SURREY ELMBRIDGE WALTON ON THAMES Imber Court Trading Estate
Postcode	KT8 0BY
Study area	29500 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 14695 67143 51.391215663092 -0.351350060255 51 23 28 N 000 21 04 W

	Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 8.99m Max: 9.54m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Chris Mayo
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Wayne Perkins
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Wates Developments
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Local museum
Physical Archive ID	SITC16
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Archive ID	SITC16
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Archive ID	SITC16
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Section"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Imber Court Trading Estate, Orchard Lane, East Molesey KT8 0BY: An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Perkins, W.
Other bibliographic details	PCA R12413
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Entered by	Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	21 March 2016

PCA

PCA SOUTH

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

PCA NORTH

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

PCA CENTRAL

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

PCA WEST

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

PCA MIDLANDS

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

