

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION ON LAND TO
THE REAR OF 54
SHERNHALL STREET,
WALTHAMSTOW, LONDON
BOROUGH OF WALTHAM
FOREST, E17 9HP**

SITE CODE: SRN16

REPORT NO: R12403

MARCH 2016



**PRE-CONSTRUCT
ARCHAEOLOGY**

An Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the Rear of 54 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London Borough of Waltham Forest, E17 9HP

Site Code: SRN16
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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

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E17 9HP**

**Type of project
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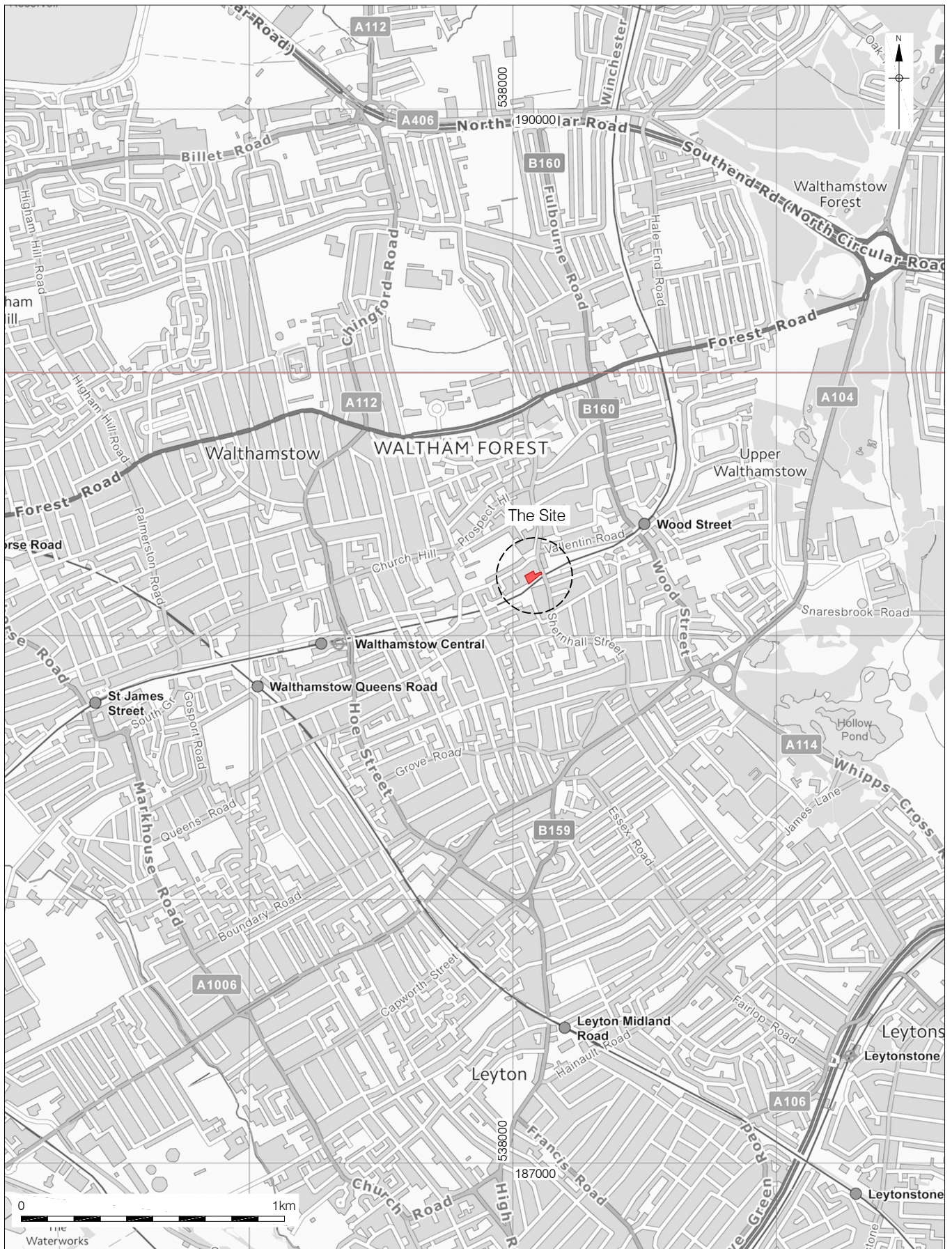
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation that was undertaken on land to the rear of 54 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London Borough of Waltham Forest, E17 9HP (TQ 38099 89238).
- 1.2 The aims of the project were to determine the natural topography and the height at which it survives, 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 consisted of interleaving deposits of sands, gravels and brickearth. The sands and gravels belong to the Boyn Hill Gravel Member which would have formed up to 2 million years ago and are indicative of a local environment dominated by rivers. The brickearth deposits indicate that periodic deposition of wind-blown silt was also occurring across the site during this period. Natural deposits were found to slope down across the evaluated area from 33.27m OD in the east to 32.64m OD in the west.
 - 1.3.1 No evidence for prehistoric or medieval activity was encountered during the evaluation.
- 1.4 Residual Roman pottery was found within two features on site which attests to Roman activity on the site or in the near vicinity, even if no in situ Roman deposits were encountered during the evaluation. This is supported by the discovery of Roman settlement activity during a 2009 evaluation just 150m northwest of the site. In situ Roman remains may once have existed on the site itself, but, if they did, are likely to have been subsequently completely removed by the heavy late post-medieval activity recorded across the evaluated site.
- 1.5 Late Post-Medieval (specifically mid 18th to 20th century) activity dominated the archaeological record with the vast majority of remains on site dating to within this period. The activity is almost entirely associated with horticulture and the use of the site as a garden, with recovered features and deposits including thick layers of garden soil, probable drainage and/or demarcation ditches, garden waste or planting pits and a number of probable tree throws. This late post-medieval horticultural function fits with cartographic evidence, which identifies the site as lying within the garden of a large house from the mid-18th century, and remaining as mostly open land until the 20th century. The impact of late post-medieval activity on site has clearly been very substantial and is considered likely to have removed all earlier potential remains across the entire site.
- 1.6 Modern activity on site was limited to the construction of a number of workshop buildings during the early-mid 20th century. These have been recently demolished and were revealed within the evaluation to have had only a relatively minor impact upon earlier buried remains across the site.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report presents the findings of an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 54 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, Waltham Forest, E17 9HP (Figure 1). The work was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology as part of an archaeological condition to planning consent being granted for the development of the site. The work was carried out from 29th February – 2nd March 2016.
- 2.2 The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 38099 89238. The site is bounded to the north and northeast by residential gardens, to the east by Shernhall Street, to the south by a railway embankment and to the west by an access road.
- 2.3 The site comprises an irregular shaped plot, covering approximately 930m². Prior to its archaeological evaluation, all buildings on the site were demolished, leaving the site as a vacant area. Five trenches (Trenches 1-5) were excavated; each measured approximately 5m in length and 1.8m in width (Figure 2).
- 2.4 As outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016), 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 and Roman 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 at the site.
 - To establish the nature, date and survival of activity relating to any archaeological periods at the site.
 - To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 2.5 The investigation was conducted between 29th February and 2nd March 2016. It was supervised by Maria Buczak and was project managed by Helen Hawkins, both of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. The project was commissioned by Matthew Eyles Architects.
- 2.6 Following the completion of the project the site archive will be deposited with the LAARC.

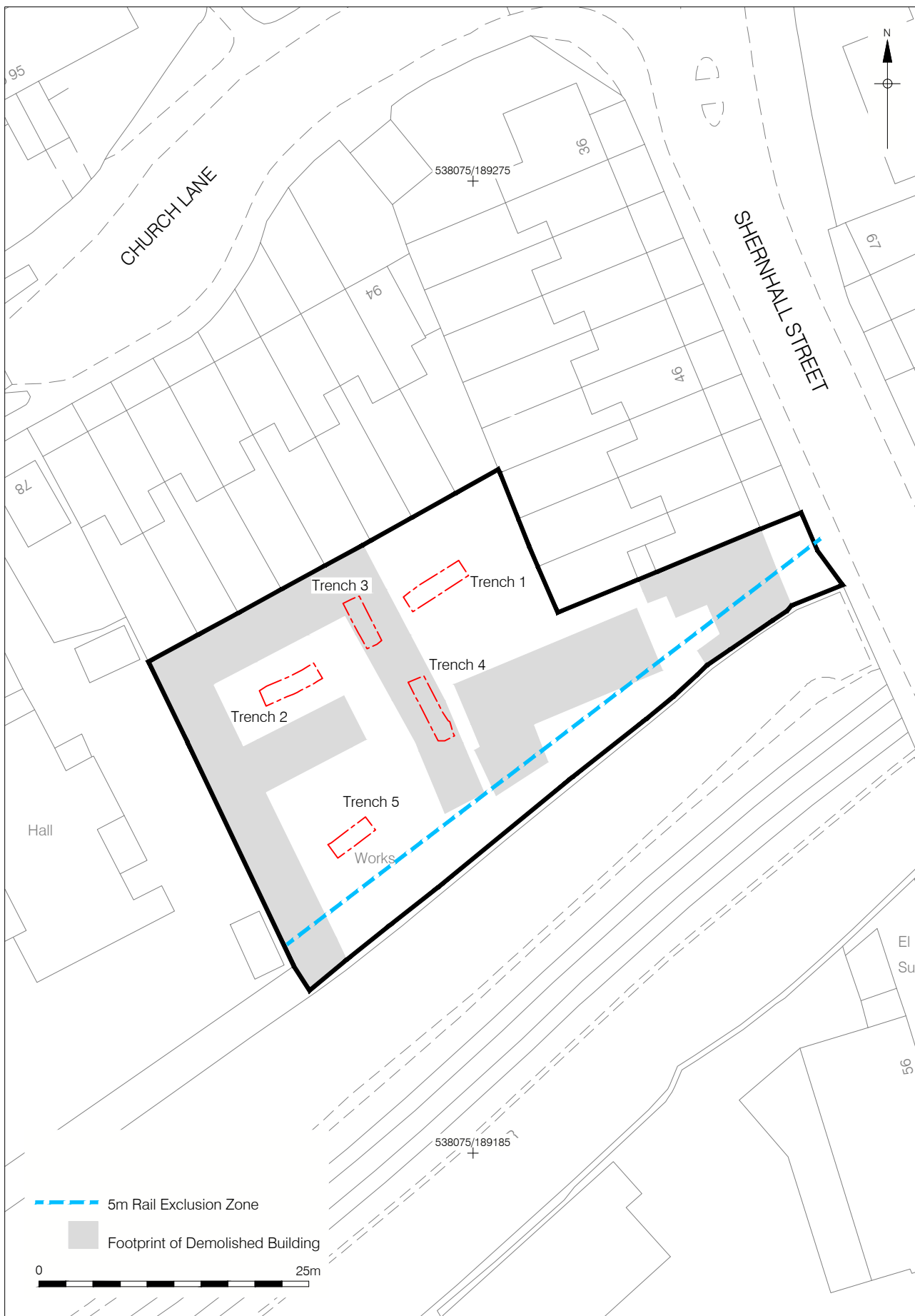


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Figure 1
Site Location
1:25,000 at A4



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Figure 1
Trench Location Plan
1:500 at A4

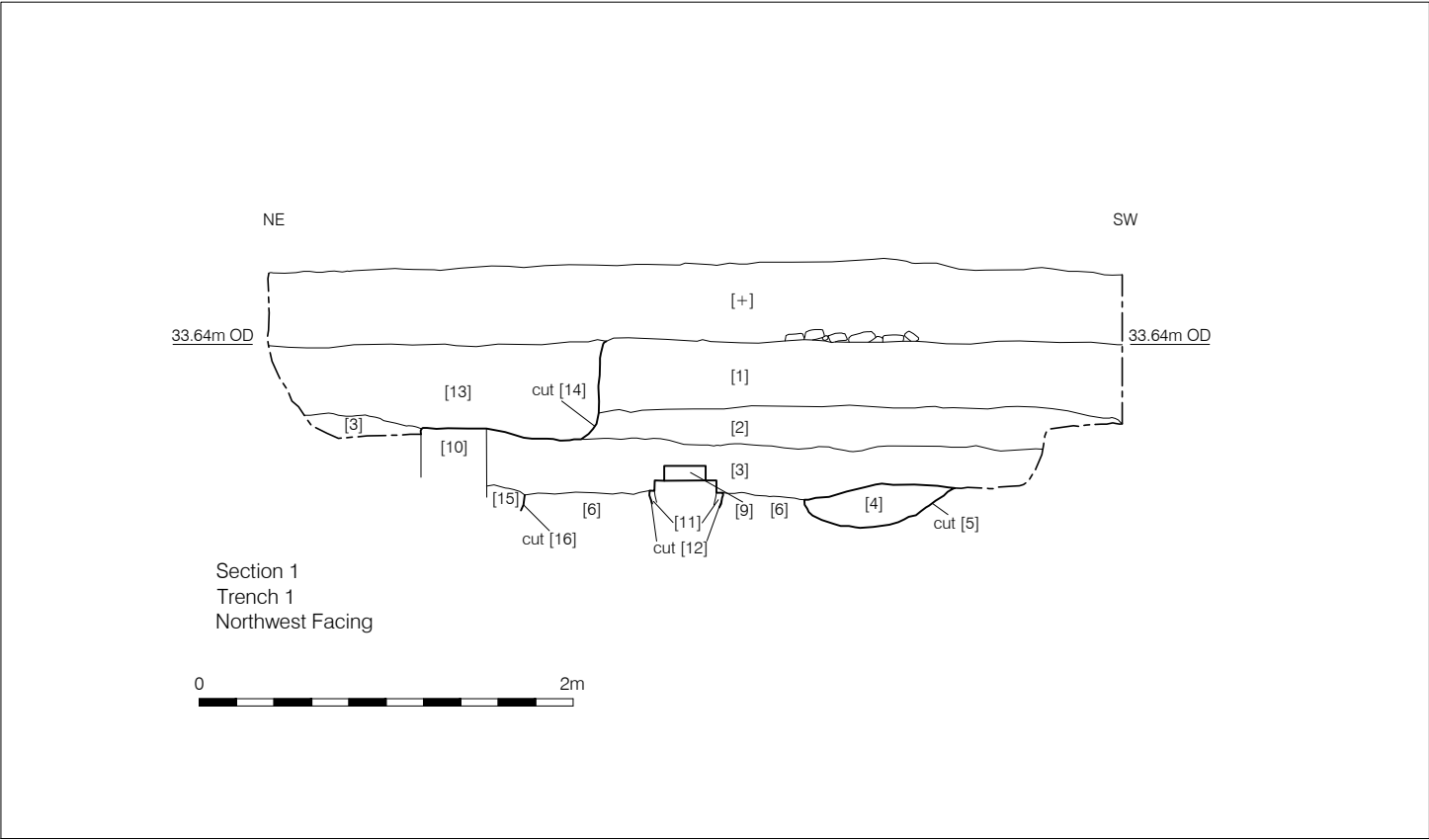
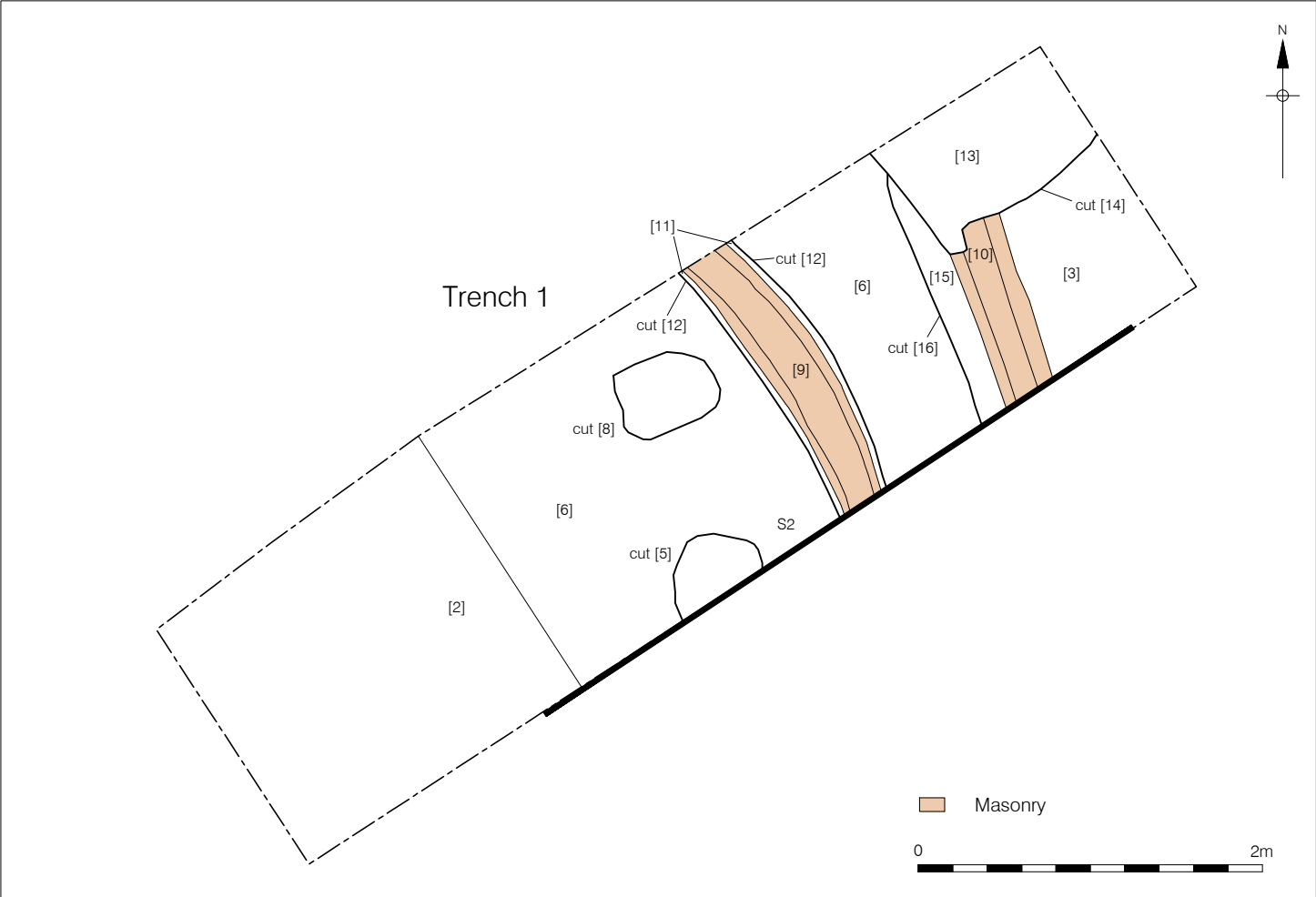


Figure 3
 Plan and Section of Trench 1
 1:40 at A4

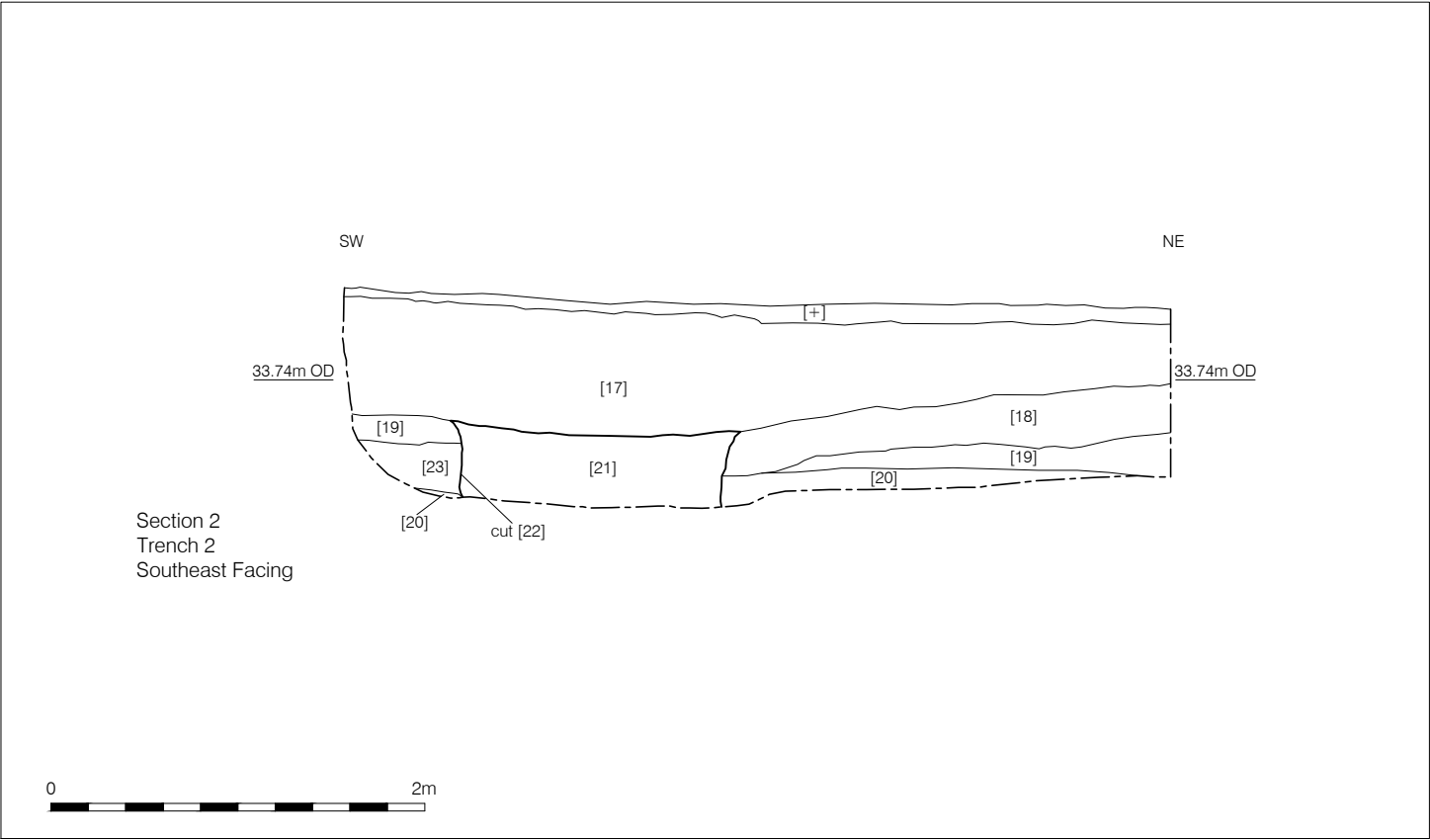
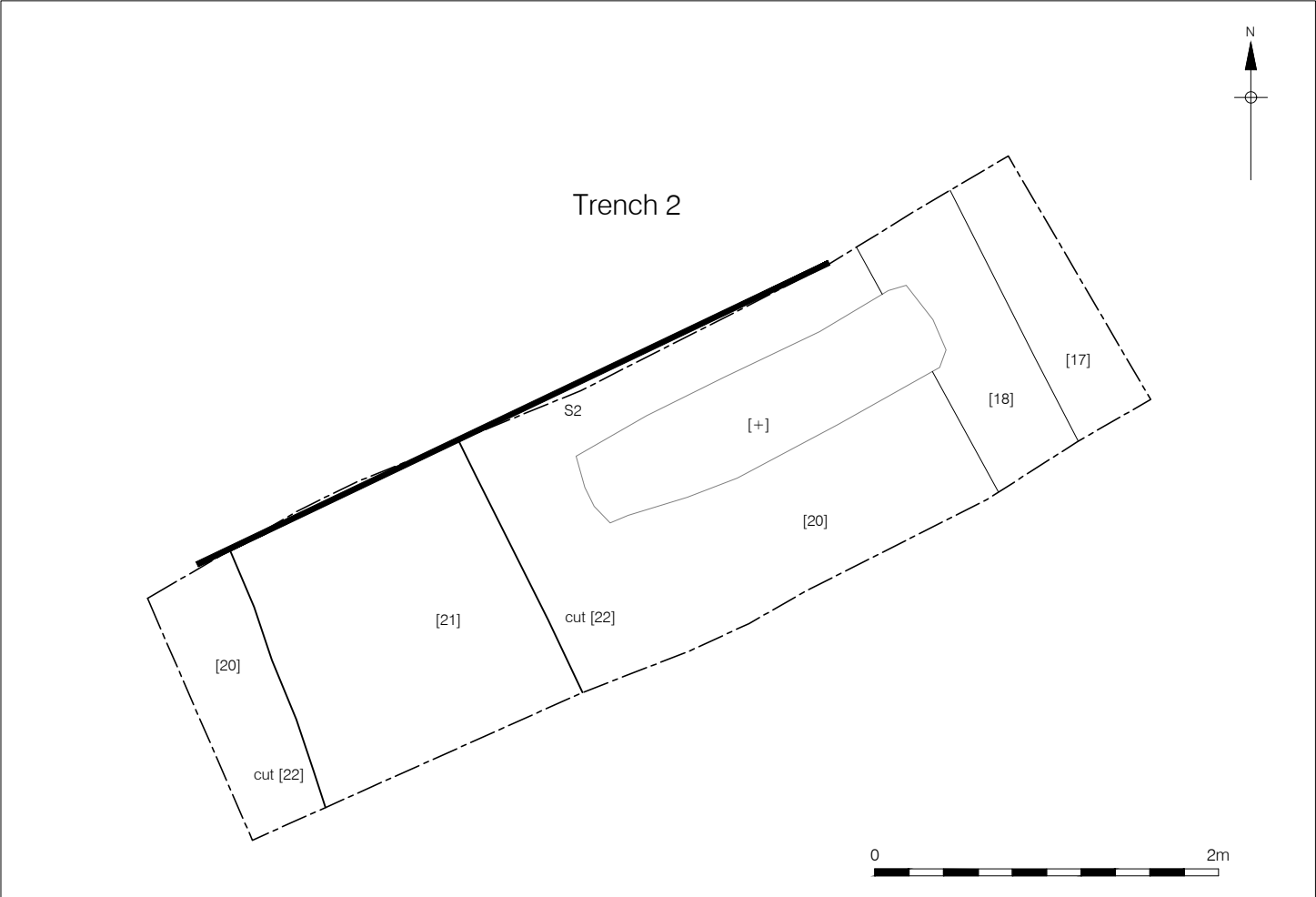


Figure 4
Plan and Section of Trench 2
1:40 at A4

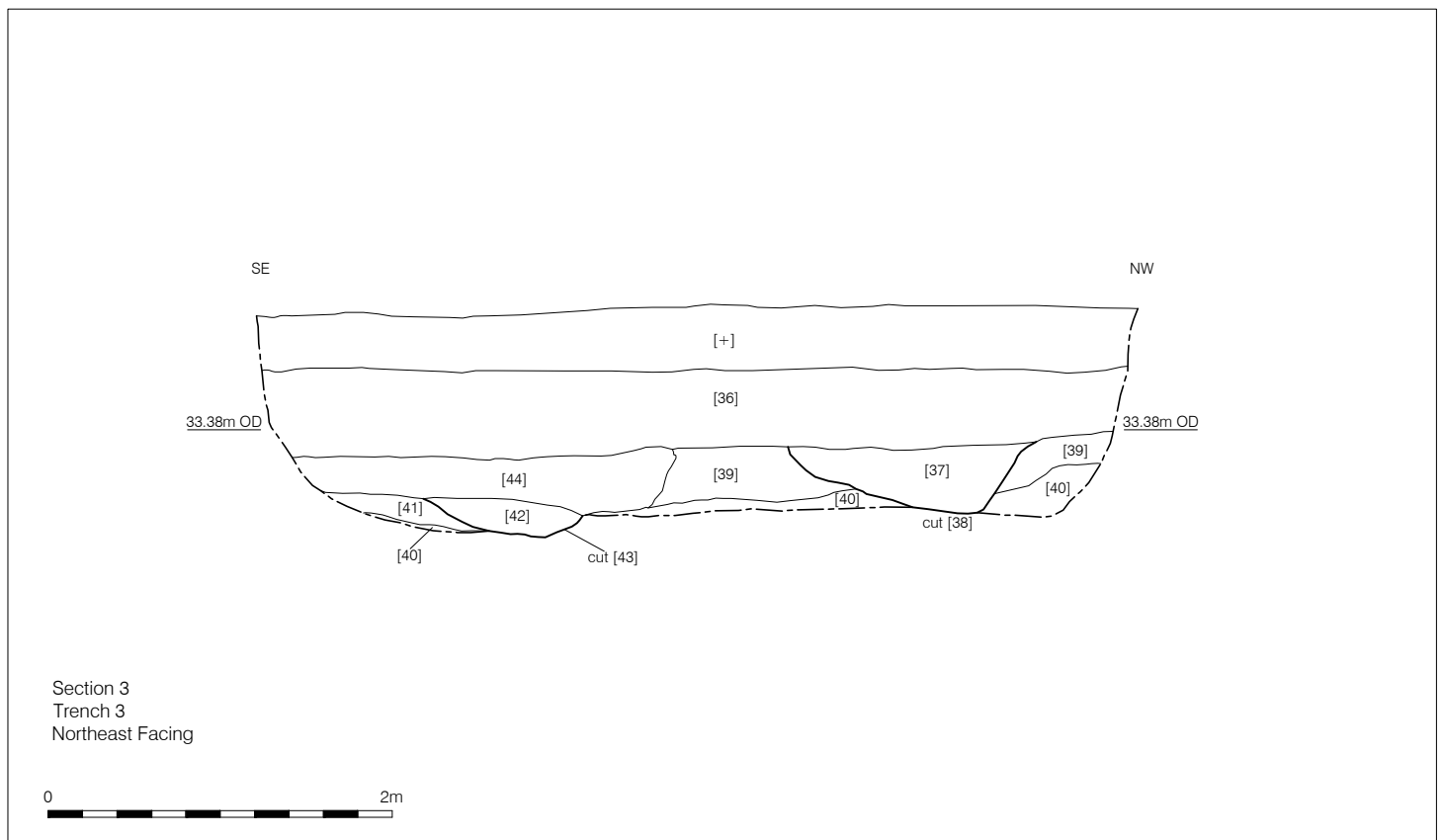
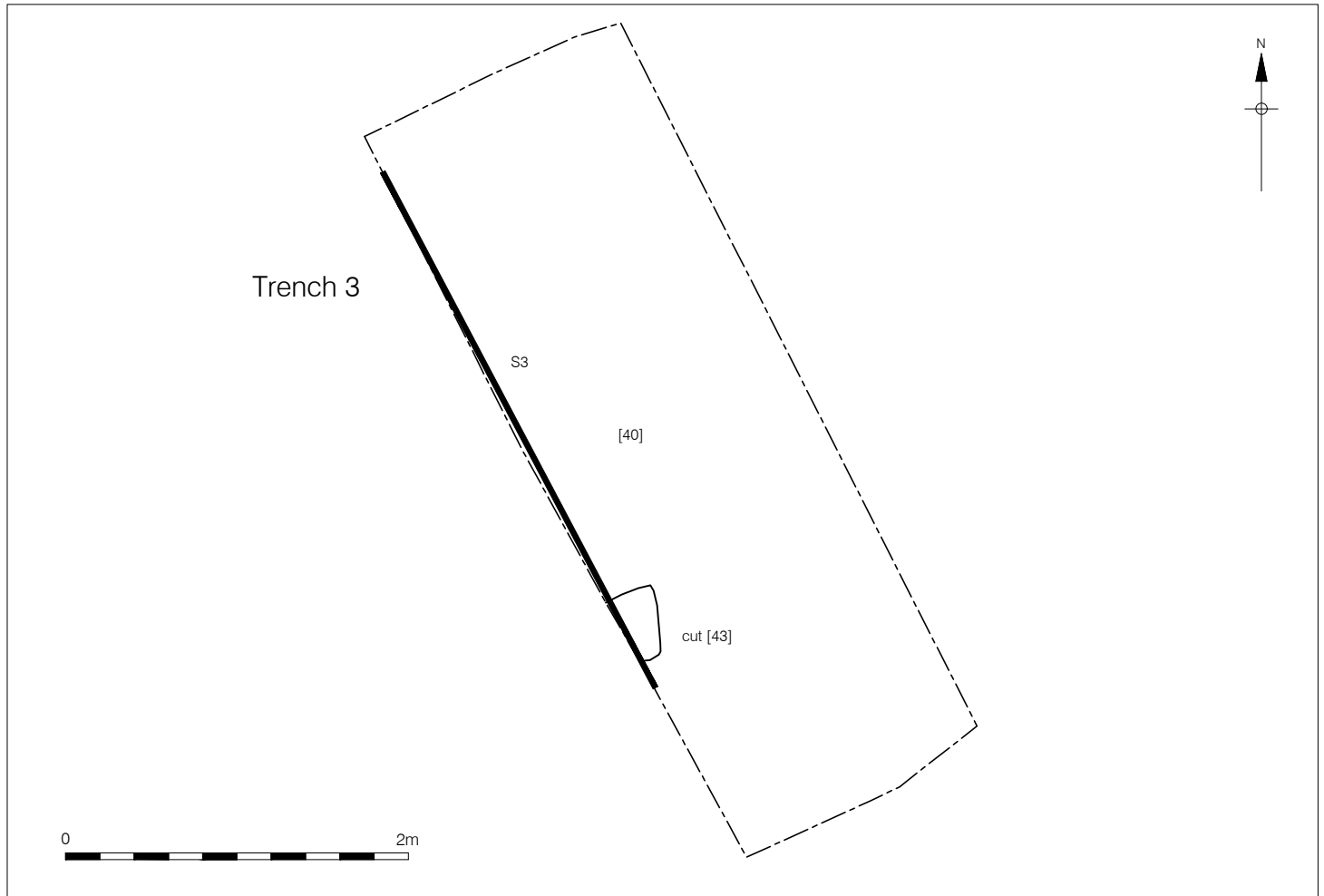


Figure 5
Plan and Section of Trench 3
1:40 at A4

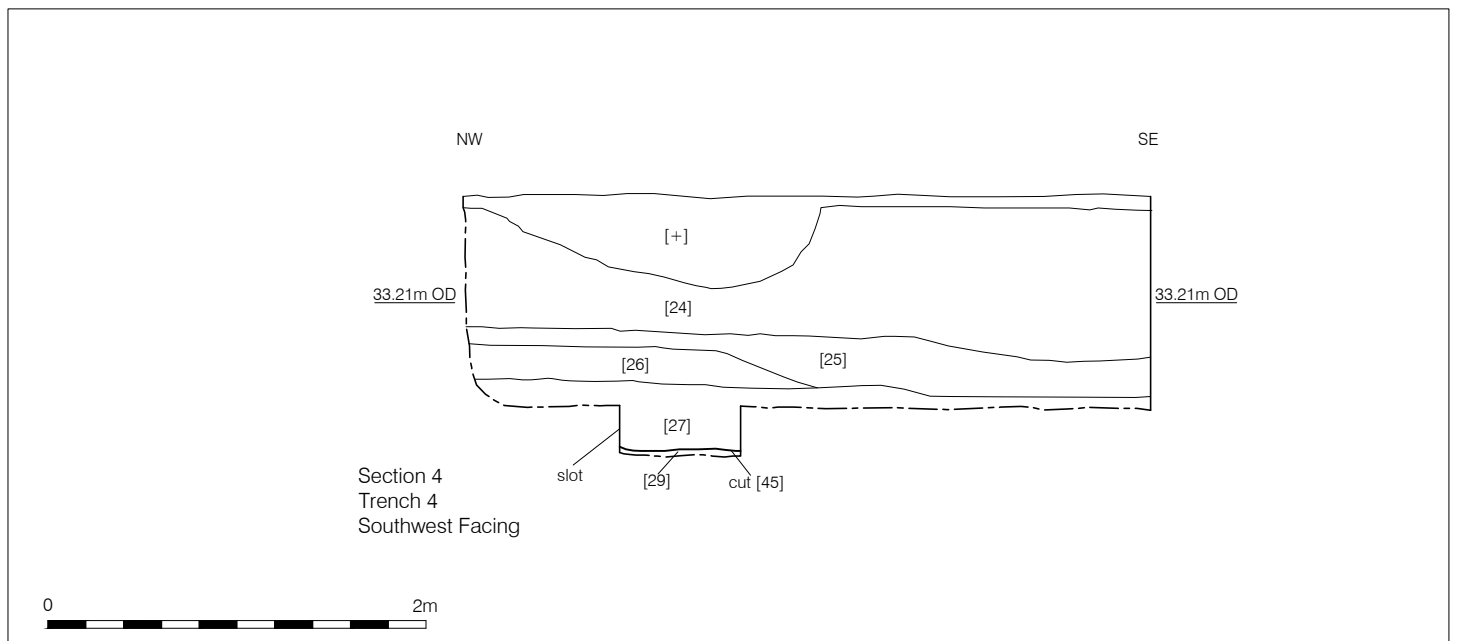
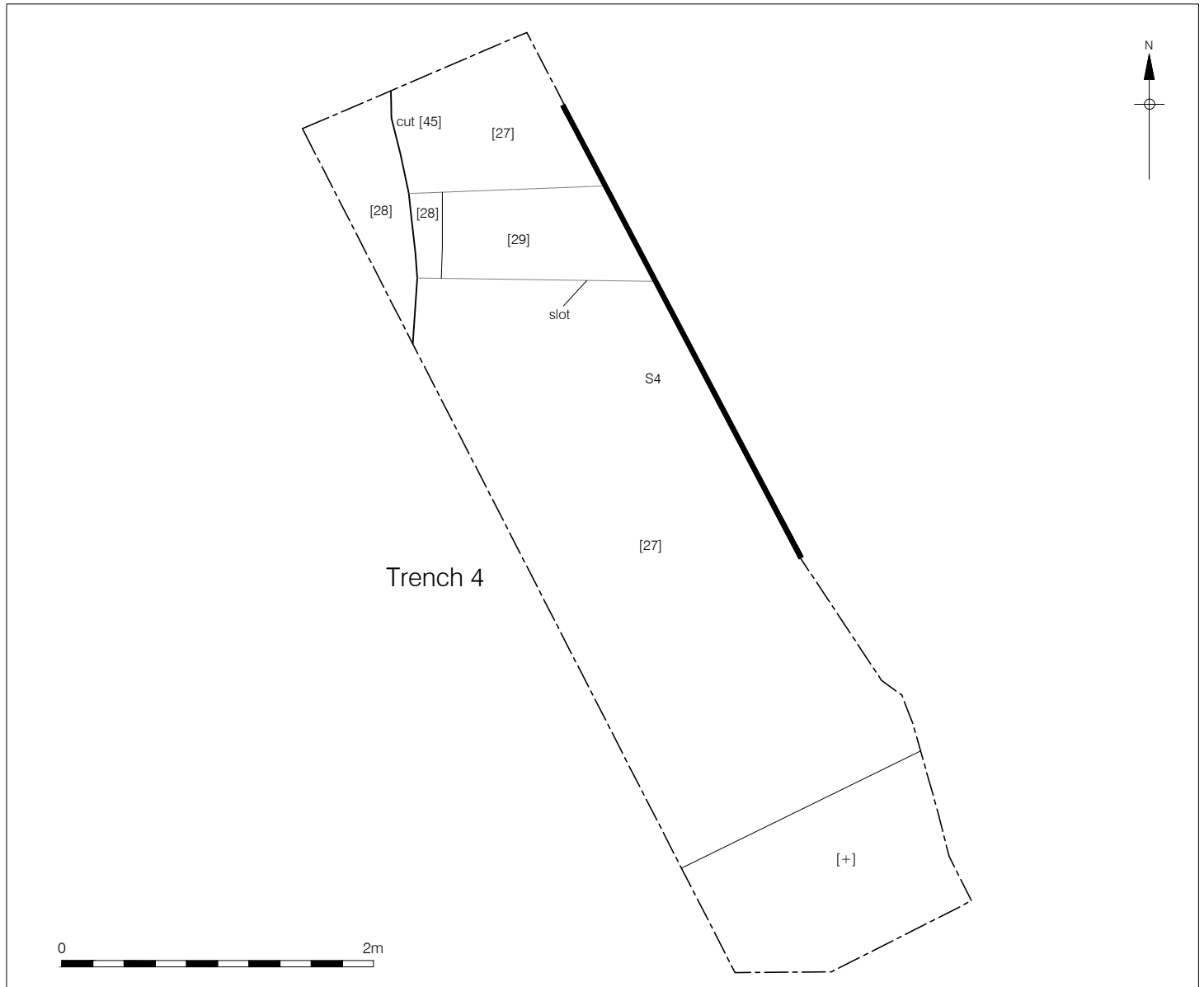


Figure 6
Plan and Section of Trench 4
1:40 at A4

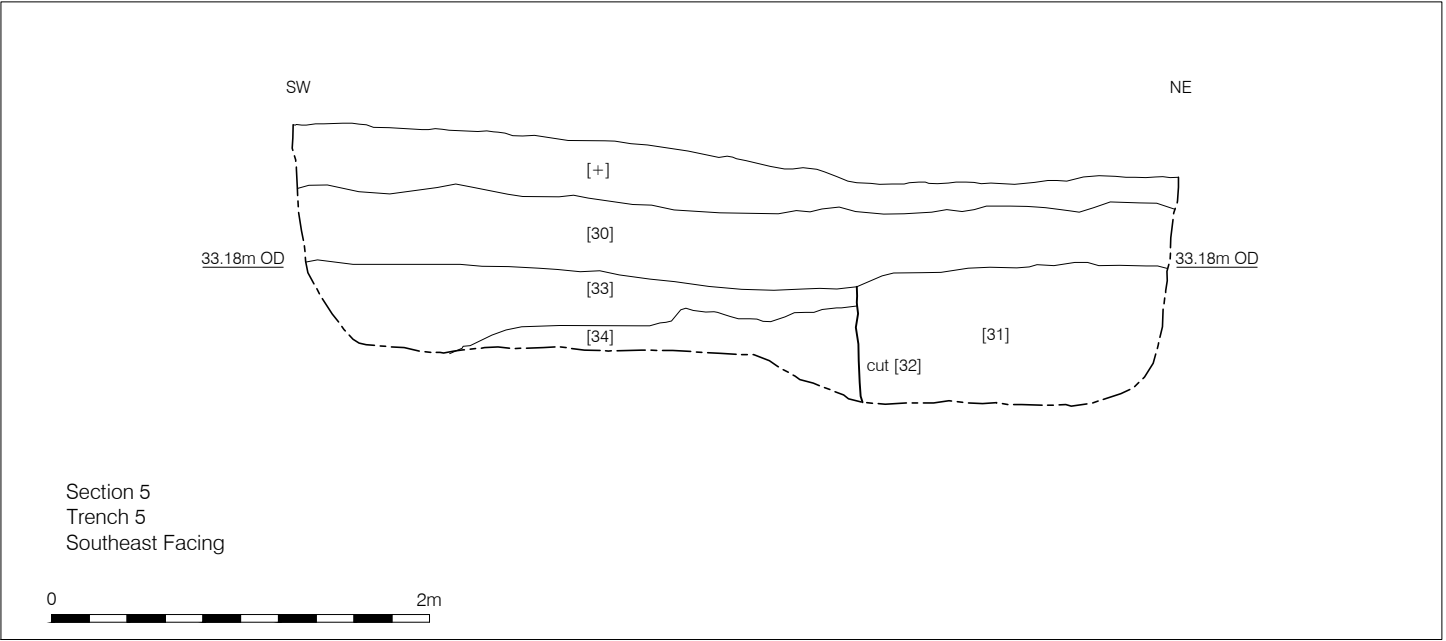
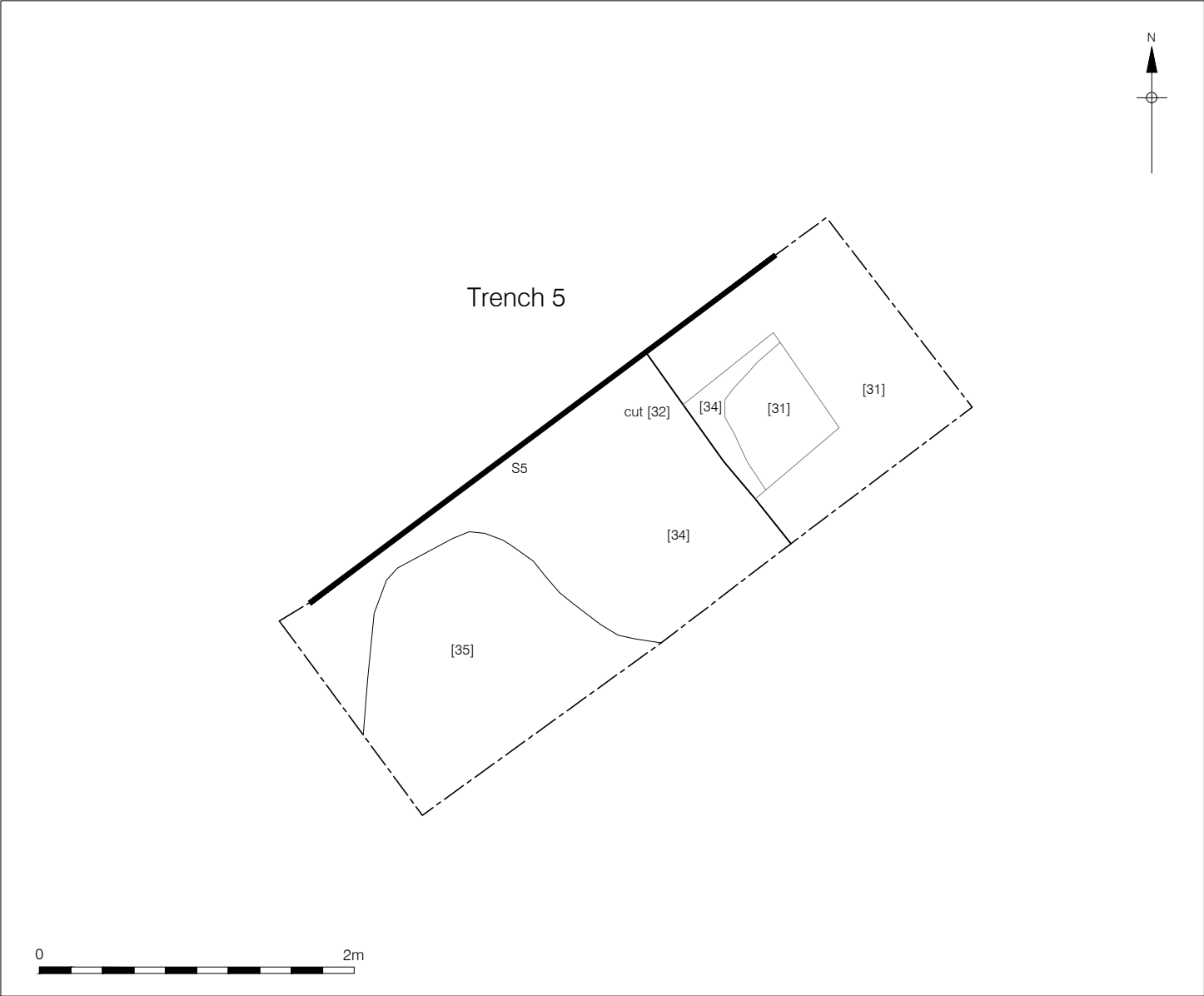


Figure 7
Plan and Section of Trench 5
1:40 at A4

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 **Regional Guidance: The London Plan**
The over-arching strategies and policies for the whole of the Greater London area are contained within the Greater London Authority's London Plan (revised 2015) which includes the following statement relating to archaeology:

Policy 7.8

Heritage assets and archaeology

Strategic

A London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

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

Planning decisions

C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

LDF preparation

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

G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

3.4 Local Planning Policy

- 3.4.1 The Local Plan for the London Borough of Waltham Forest includes the following policy relating to archaeology and its protection.

Policy CS12 – Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

In managing growth and change, the Council will promote the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the Borough's heritage assets and their settings such as conservation areas, listed buildings, parks and gardens of local historic interest, archaeological priority zones and other buildings and spaces of local historic value by:

A) keeping under review heritage designations and designating additional areas, buildings and spaces for protection where justified by evidence;

B) carrying out, reviewing and implementing Conservation Area Appraisals and management plans;

C) promoting heritage-led regeneration and seeking appropriate beneficial uses and improvements to historic buildings, spaces and areas;

D) ensuring improved access to historic assets and improved understanding of the Borough's history.

3.5 Site Specific

- 3.5.1 The Site does not contain any listed buildings or Scheduled Monuments, however it is located within the Walthamstow Village Archaeological Priority Area (APA).
- 3.5.2 The Archaeology Advisor to the London Borough of Waltham Forest recommended that the planning consent for the site's development should include an archaeological condition, and that in the first instance this should take the form of an archaeological trial trench evaluation.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The Geological Survey of Great Britain, North London, Sheet 256, shows that most of the site lies on Boyn Hill Gravel, which is made up of sand and gravel, overlying London Clay. However, the easternmost part of the site lies solely on London Clay.
- 4.1.2 An evaluation at land at Holy Family Technology College, Wiseman Site, c 150m northwest of the site, encountered a layer of natural sandy gravel at a height of between 34.90m and 35.39m OD. Above this deposit was a layer of natural brickearth, seen at between 34.69m and 36.11m OD. In the westernmost trench, an additional layer of brickearth overlaid the first and was encountered at 36.22m OD.

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 The site currently lies as vacant land on ground that slopes gently to the south. Just outside of the site to the south, the ground has been excavated into an embankment for the railway line. The site is located at an elevation of between 33.46m OD in the south and 34.12m OD in the north.
- 4.2.2 The nearest watercourse is the now covered over River Fillebrook, or Phillebrook, which runs north to south just to the east of Shernhall Street.

5 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The full archaeological and historical background is given in the Desk Based Assessment (Bates 2012) and summarised below
- 5.2 Prehistoric
 - 5.2.1 There is evidence for prehistoric settlement from the Walthamstow area, most of which comes from the marshes along the eastern banks of the River Lea. Excavations in this area have given evidence of Bronze Age and Iron Age settlements, including Bronze Age pile dwellings. As the site itself is located on Boyn Hill Gravel, next to the banks of a river, it would have made an ideal location for prehistoric settlement. A collection of prehistoric flint tools, including two hand-axes, has come from the same Fillebrook river valley, although further to the south in Leytonstone.
 - 5.2.2 The GLHER records two instances of prehistoric evidence from within a 500m radius of the study site. The first is a findspot of two sherds of prehistoric pottery of uncertain date and a broken flint blade, c 200m southwest of the site.
 - 5.2.3 Additional evidence for prehistoric activity in the area comes from only c 150m northwest of the site. An evaluation in 2009 found a posthole truncating the natural brickearth, which contained a sherd of pottery that dated to the Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age. As well, a layer overlying the brickearth also contained a sherd of Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age date
- 5.3 Roman
 - 5.3.1 The marshes along the banks of the River Lea continued to be a favoured spot for settlement in the Roman period. Roman material that has been recovered from the Lea channels suggests that traffic was at least passing through this area and a Roman road is also thought to have run through Leyton, further south of the study area.
 - 5.3.2 The GLHER records only one entry for the Roman period from within a 500m radius of the site. It references the chance findspot of a contorniate medal with a depiction of a chariot race and the inscription "Dius Neva Traianus", which was found during unspecified works in Vallentin Road in 1931.
 - 5.3.3 Despite this seeming lack of Roman activity from the study area, a 2009 evaluation only 150m northwest of the site uncovered evidence of Roman settlement in the area. Of the four trenches that made up the evaluation, three trenches showed evidence for Roman activity. Early Roman evidence was found in the southernmost trench, where a posthole, an irregular pit or tree-throw and an east to west aligned ditch were found cutting the natural brickearth. They all contained pottery which was dated to 50 AD.
 - 5.3.4 Later Roman activity took the form of a series of ditches, pits and postholes. Taken together, this evidence suggests the presence of a possible structure. Pottery from these features spanned 50 AD to 400 AD. The author concluded that "the features observed and the material recovered would suggest the presence of a late Roman period structure or structures.
- 5.4 Saxon and Medieval
 - 5.4.1 During the Saxon period, Walthamstow was largely wooded, with marshes to the east of the River Lea. However, a large part of the forest was cleared for a field system, shared by a network of small settlements in the area.
 - 5.4.2 The settlement at Church End is thought to have been located close to the junction of the present day Church Lane and Shernhall Street, and the parish church of St Mary's. It has been suggested that this church, first known from the medieval period, could have also existed during the Saxon period, as a wooden structure.
 - 5.4.3 Shernhall Street may also have existed in the Saxon period, as it is thought to have Old English origins. It means 'filth stream', in reference to the Fillebrook River, which runs just to the east of it. It has also been known as Shernewell Street and Shannal Street.

- 5.4.4 During the medieval period Church End was still a small settlement located next to the parish church of St Mary the Virgin. The Church Common, also known as Buryfield, is known from documentary evidence from as early as 1369. It was a part of the large communal agricultural fields that are thought to have been located south of St Mary's Church, between Shernhall Street and Orford Road, as well as between Orford Road and Hoe Street. The Church Common was a prominent part of the Church End settlement and was only enclosed in 1850.
- 5.4.5 Outside of documentary evidence and listed buildings, a scattering of archaeological evidence also sheds light on the medieval settlement at Church End. A medieval millstone was recovered from building works at Temple Farm in 1957. As well, a 16th century lead token was found alongside a late 13th or early 14th century cooking pot and additional medieval and post-medieval sherds during rebuilding works at Monoux Almshouse in 1955. Another findspot of a red earthenware sherd dating between 1480 and 1600 was also found on the site of the Vestry House Museum
- 5.5 Post-Medieval
 - 5.5.1 Walthamstow did not change much during the early part of the post-medieval period, remaining a small agricultural settlement located near to St Mary's church.
 - 5.5.2 Wealthier residents also began to move to the area in the 16th and 17th centuries and large residences that sat within extensive grounds, such as Shern Hall, were constructed along Shernhall Street in the 17th and 18th centuries.
 - 5.5.3 On the maps of 1756 and 1777 the site is shown as lying the grounds of a large house. The land was later divided into three plots. The railway line on the east of the site was constructed in the mid-later 19th century and brought with it an expansion of Walthamstow. The site itself remained mostly open land until the construction of workshop buildings in the early-mid 20th century. By 1962 the site was fully occupied by metal workshops.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Evaluation Methodology

- 6.1.1 Five trenches (Trenches 1-5; Figure 2) were machine excavated under archaeological supervision. In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins, 2016) each trench was to measure 5m in length and 1.8m in width. Due to the need for steps in certain trenches and various below-ground obstructions in others, the actual dimensions of the trenches varied from this slightly, and are summarised in the table below.

Trench	Length	Width
1	6.14m	1.72m
2	5.68m	1.70m
3	4.70m	1.56m
4	6.30m	1.80m
5	4.38m	1.52m

- 6.1.2 Each trench was machine excavated under archaeological supervision to the surface of the first significant archaeological horizon. In Trench 1, the first archaeological horizon was relatively late in date; as masonry remains from this horizon survived only in the eastern half of the trench, the western half was thus further reduced to reveal an earlier horizon below. No trenches were machine excavated further than 1.2m below ground level.
- 6.1.3 The machining was undertaken using a JCB excavator and driver contracted by PCA. A breaker was used to break the concrete which formed the ground surface across Trenches 2, 3 and 4; once completed, a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove modern overburden and low grade archaeological deposits under the supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was mounded at least 2m from the edges of the trenches.
- 6.1.4 Machine excavation continued in spits of 100mm at a time until the necessary depth was reached. Each trench was CAT scanned before excavation by a trained operator, and at regular intervals during machining through made ground, as deemed sensible and necessary by the scanner operator.
- 6.1.5 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.
- 6.1.6 All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were evaluated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 and in section at 1:10 using standard recording methods. All features were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets and a full digital photographic record was compiled. The trenches were planned off baselines which were located, along with the boundaries of the trenches themselves, with a hand held GPS and tied into the Ordnance Survey Grid. Finds and brick samples were collected according to standard retrieval methods as outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016).
- 6.1.7 Levels were obtained from one Temporary Bench Mark with a value of 34.34 in the north-west of the site. This was 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.
- 6.1.8 Prior to backfilling, deposits in three trenches were further investigated by supervision of machine slots into them, their great depth having prevented a comprehensive investigation by

hand digging. For safety reasons, no archaeologist entered the trench after this machining at depth, and each trench was backfilled immediately afterwards.

- 6.1.9 Natural deposits were encountered, at varying depths, in all five of the excavated trenches.
- 6.1.10 Large amounts of asbestos fragments, in tile form, were observed across the surface of the site, presumably a result of the demolition of the previous buildings which had occupied the site. Appropriate health and safety measures were therefore implemented. No asbestos was observed buried within any of the below-ground deposits.
- 6.1.11 The completed site archive, comprising written and photographic records, will be deposited at the LAARC under the site code SRN16.
- 6.1.12 As detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016), the evaluation was undertaken in accordance with guidelines issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA 2014).

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Trench 1

7.2 Phase 1: Natural

7.3 Natural Deposit [46] (Figure 3)

- 7.3.1 Natural deposit [46] was encountered at the base of the sequence in Trench 1 when, immediately prior to backfilling, a machine slot was excavated through the base of the recorded trench. Comprising a layer of compact gravels, alternating with patches of light brownish-yellow brickearth, it was first encountered at a height of 32.64m OD. The deposit indicated a local environment dominated at the time by rivers, with wind-blown deposits also being periodically deposited.

7.4 Phase 2: Deposits of Uncertain Date

7.5 Layer [6] (Figure 3; Plates 1, 2 & 4)

- 7.5.1 The aforementioned slot was excavated in the trench due to uncertainty concerning the nature of the layer above it (deposit [6]). A soft, mid yellowish-brown sandy silt, this deposit was initially interpreted as a natural layer until a very minimal amount of charcoal flecking was discovered within it (although this may have been introduced by rooting). Even if [6] is not a natural deposit, it appears that the deposit was still largely produced through natural processes, and any human presence its inclusions may point to is in any case likely to have been only very minimal.

- 7.5.2 The surface of this deposit was relatively flat and observed at a highest level of 32.86m OD.

7.6 Small Pits/Tree Throws [5] & [8] (Figure 3; Plates 1 & 4)

- 7.6.1 Truncating layer [6] were two small features ([5] and [8]). Generally fairly similar, they were both roughly sub-square in plan and very shallow, being 0.23m and 0.10m deep respectively. Both were also filled with the same deposit of firm, light brownish-grey silty gravelly clay (deposit [4] in feature [5], and [7] in feature [8]) which was sometimes difficult to distinguish from the surrounding deposit [6]. These deposits also contained no (deposit [7]) or very few (deposit [4]) cultural inclusions, and may well have been naturally created by wind/water action.

- 7.6.2 The only dateable find from these features was a single flanged bowl rim sherd of abraded Roman pottery, dated to AD 50-400, and found within fill [4] of feature [5]. The degree of abrasion of this pot, however, suggests that this artefact was not discovered in situ within its original context, but rather as a redeposited artefact within a later, secondary context. For this reason, these features remain of uncertain date, but are unlikely to be Roman and may even date to the same general era as the post-medieval masonry remains to the east (see 7.7 - 7.8).

- 7.6.3 The function of these small features is also uncertain. However, given their fairly irregular shapes in plan and profile, and the documented long-term use of the site as a garden, the most likely interpretation may be that they represent natural tree throws, rather than cultural features.

7.7 Phase 3: Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)

- 7.7.1 Truncating layer [6] were also the remains of two masonry constructions and their associated construction cuts.

7.8 Masonry Drain [9] (Figure 3; Plates 1 & 2)

- 7.8.1 Masonry feature [9] was a curvilinear drain of simple construction. Built using slightly frogged red bricks and a hard, light whitish-grey chalky mortar, it was dated to between 1800-1900 AD.

- 7.8.2 The top of the structure was level at a height of 32.96m OD. The full depth of the drain was not uncovered but it had an observed depth of at least 0.16m.

- 7.8.3 Drain [9] lay just 0.80m west of a substantial masonry wall [10], suggesting that it may well represent the underground drainage for the probable structure represented by this wall. Although the course of the drain did curve away from wall [10] towards the north, both lie along a broadly similar alignment, which also supports an association between them.
- 7.8.4 Drain [9] had been constructed within a narrow curvilinear cut [12] which had been backfilled with a soft greyish-brown deposit of silty clay (11). Whilst neither cut nor fill were substantially excavated, a number of peg tile fragments from (11) were retrieved which reinforced a late post-medieval date for the feature's construction.
- 7.9 **Building Wall [10]** (Figure 3, Plate 1)
- 7.9.1 Masonry wall [10] was a far more substantial construction; a relatively thick wall of strong construction, it had been built from unfrogged yellow and red bricks bonded together with a hard, light yellowish white mortar containing moderate chalk flecks. The bonding was generally English bond with a few minor deviations to the rule. The wall has been dated by samples to between 1750-1900 AD.
- 7.9.2 The top of the structure was level at a height of 33.19m OD. The full depth of the wall was not uncovered but it could be observed to have at least four courses, which had a depth of 0.38m. The wall had been heavily truncated to the north, and somewhat from above, by a later pit [14].
- 7.9.3 The relatively substantial size and construction of this wall suggest it may have been part of some kind of building or large structure. Maps from the 18th century show the entire site as lying within the grounds of a large house (although not on the site of the house itself), with no subsequent construction recorded until the 20th century. The wall is therefore more likely to represent some kind of outbuilding, or possibly even internal division wall, within the grounds, rather than a dwelling itself.
- 7.9.4 Wall [10] had been constructed within a relatively wide linear cut, only the western edge of which was visible where excavation had reached a greater depth. This cut had been backfilled with a friable, greyish-brown deposit of silty sand. Neither cut nor fill were substantially excavated and no dateable finds were retrieved from them.
- 7.10 **Made Ground [3]** (Figure 3, Plates 1-2)
- 7.10.1 Overlying the various features in Trench 1 was a 0.30m thick layer of soft, light greyish-brown sandy clayey silt [3]. Containing very frequent flint gravel and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions, the surface of this deposit sloped gently down from 33.26m OD in the west to 33.09m OD in the east. Retrieved artefacts from this layer included well-preserved bones from cattle and geese, and post-medieval brick and peg tile fragments which provided a spot date of 1750-1900 AD. This deposit would appear to represent a layer of made ground, perhaps deliberately built up as part of garden landscaping works.
- 7.11 **Garden Soil [1] & [2]** (Figure 3, Plate 2)
- 7.11.1 Overlying layer [3] were thick layers of garden soil [2] and [1], which clearly reflect the site's long-term horticultural use during the late post-medieval period. Both layers comprised deposits of sandy silt (with frequent flint gravel and other inclusions including CBM, charcoal and chalk flecks) and formed fairly level layers, encountered first at 33.31m OD (deposit [2]) and 33.67m OD (deposit [1]). Although no dateable evidence was recovered from these deposits, dating of the deposits stratigraphically above and below them again place deposits [1] and [2] within the date range 1750-1900 AD.
- 7.12 **Possible Rubbish Pit [14]** (Figure 3, Plate 1)
- 7.12.1 Truncating layer [1] was a deep feature [14] observed mostly in section. Occupying the north-east corner of the trench, it was over 0.80m deep with concave sides and had completely truncated wall [10] across the north of the trench. Possibly a pit for rubbish or garden waste, it had been backfilled by a soft, mid brownish grey clayey silty sand [13] – similar to garden soil deposits [1] and [2] – from which various dateable brick and pot fragments were retrieved. These included fragments of post-medieval redware flower pot, Sunderland-type coarseware and London tin-glazed ware which together dated the deposit to between 1800-1900 AD.

7.12.2 **Phase 4: Modern (20th-21st Century)**

7.12.3 **Garden Path and Soil [1]** (Figure 4; Plates 2-3)

7.12.4 Also sitting upon layer [1] was a decorative late Victorian or early modern garden path feature made of stones and tiles with glazed tile decoration. This feature was sealed by a further 0.45m thick layer of modern garden soil.

7.13 **Trench 2**

7.14 **Phase 1: Natural**

7.15 **Natural Deposits [20] & [23]** (Figure 4; Plates 5-6)

7.15.1 Natural deposit [20] was also encountered at the base of the sequence in Trench 2 where it comprised compact, mid yellowish-brown gravel. Unlike the natural encountered in Trench 1, this gravels was uninterrupted by patches of brickearth. The surface of the deposit was generally flat and encountered at a highest level of 33.27m OD.

7.15.2 Lying above the natural gravels was a deposit of natural brickearth [23], soft in consistency and a mid yellowish-brown in colour. Encountered covering just a small extent in the very west of the trench, it was recorded in section at a highest level of 33.42m OD.

7.16 **Phase 3: Late Post Medieval (1750-1900 AD)**

7.17 **Made Ground [19]** (Figure 4; Plate 6)

7.17.1 Sealing the natural layers in Trench 2 was a fairly uneven deposit of soft, light greyish-brown clayey sandy silt [19] with very frequent small subrounded flints and occasional charcoal flecks. A fairly sterile deposit of made ground, it did not produce any dateable artefacts. Nevertheless, its similarity to layer [3] in Trench 1 (a late post-medieval layer of made ground) suggest it may date to a similar period, and also be associated with garden landscaping activities. Deposit [19] was first observed at a level of 33.46m OD.

7.18 **Garden Soil [18]** (Figure 4; Plate 6)

7.18.1 Above layer [19] was a layer of friable, dark brown garden soil of clayey silty sand [18] with frequent flint gravel and occasional CBM fragments. The deposit sloped gently up from 33.47m in the west to 33.72m in the east, and was heavily truncated in the west of the trench by feature [22]. Whilst undated, one may nevertheless again tentatively assume a late post-medieval date, due to its strong similarity to deposits of garden soil in other trenches (e.g. deposits [1], [2], [36]) and the similar heights at which they were encountered.

7.19 **Ditch [22]** (Figure 4; Plates 5-6)

7.19.1 Feature [22] was a large and deep linear ditch with near vertical sides. Measuring 1.62m in width, it ran north-south across the entire trench and – from a machine slot excavated into it prior to backfilling – was 0.79m deep. It had been backfilled with a friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt [21] which was very similar to the layers of garden soil stratigraphically above [17] and below it [18]. Finds from its fill included fragments of various types of CBM and pot (including redware flower pot) which provided a spot date for the backfilling of the ditch between 1820 and 1900 AD.

7.19.2 The function of the ditch is not overtly clear. However, considering its location in a probable garden area, it is likely to have been some kind of garden landscape feature (perhaps subdividing or demarcating an internal division within the garden), very possibly with an equally important drainage function; the deposit it truncates does after all show a general slope from the east down towards the ditch in the west. The feature's depth and steep sides may alternatively suggest some kind of garden boundary marker or barrier, designed to keep animals and/or the general public out; such features were certainly common within large, stately gardens of this age.

7.20 **Garden Soil [17]** (Figure 4; Plate 6)

7.20.1 Sealing the backfilled ditch [22] was a further, very thick layer of friable mid greyish-black garden soil [17], dated to between the late 19th to early 20th century by various fragments of

brick, peg tile and pot. The pottery assemblage comprised fragments of post-medieval redware flower pot, Sunderland-type coarseware and a near complete, highly decorated Lustware teapot. Encountered at a highest level of 34.18m OD, the deposit was 0.65m thick.

7.21 Phase 4: Modern (20th-21st Century)

7.22 Concrete [+] (Figure 4)

7.22.1 A 0.10m thick layer of modern concrete overlay deposit [17] across the entire extent of the trench.

7.23 Trench 3

7.24 Phase 1: Natural

7.25 Natural Deposits [40] & [41] (Figure 5; Plates 7-8)

7.25.1 Natural deposits [40] and [41] were encountered at the base of the sequence in Trench 3. Together these deposits consisted of interleaving layers of very clean brickearth (deposit [41]), gravel, and mixed gravel and brickearth (deposit [40]). The surface of the natural deposits was generally relatively flat and observed at an average level of 32.98m OD.

7.26 Phase 2: Deposits of Uncertain Date

7.27 Small Pit/Tree Throw [43] (Figure 5: Plates 7-8)

7.27.1 Truncating the natural deposits was a small, shallow feature of unknown date and function [43]. Sub square in plan with straight, shallow sides and a flat base, this feature extended beyond the western edge of the trench and was just 0.10m deep. The feature was filled with a compact, light brownish-grey deposit of clayey gravel [42] containing no cultural inclusions, and which may well have accumulated through natural processes. Strongly resembling the similarly uncertain features in Trench 1 (features [5] and [8]), its function is also unclear and may also currently be best interpreted as a tree throw.

7.28 Phase 3: Late Post Medieval (1750-1900 AD)

7.29 Made Ground (Figure 5; Plate 8)

7.29.1 Sealing the natural horizon within the trench were various layers of made ground ([39] and [44]). Similar in character (both were soft, light greyish-brown silty clays with gravel, CBM and charcoal inclusions), [44] was dated by finds of brick, peg tile and pottery (redware flower pot and willow patterned pearlware) to between 1770-1900 AD. Deposits [39] and [44] were observed to slope down gently from 33.37m in the north to 33.20m OD in the south and probably represent ground deposited as part of garden landscaping activities.

7.30 Small Rubbish/Planting Pit [38] (Figure 5)

7.30.1 In section, a further feature [38] was observed, truncating deposit [39]. A small feature with fairly irregular sides and a slightly sloping base, it was filled with a very soft, light greyish-brown clayey silt [37], similar to garden soil [36] which sealed it above. The feature is once again most likely to have a function related to the long-standing horticultural nature of the area; perhaps a small garden waste pit, or planting pit.

7.30.2 Garden Soil [36] (Figure 5; Plate 8)

7.30.3 Sealing all earlier deposits was a thick (0.50m) layer of garden soil [36], similar and no doubt equal to those dumps of garden soil recorded in Trench 1 (deposits [1] and [2]) and Trench 2 (deposits [17] and [18]). A soft, light brownish-grey clayey silt with gravel, charcoal, CBM, chalk and slate inclusions, it was substantially permeated by rooting and formed a roughly level surface at 33.73m OD. Finds recovered from it included a fragment of industrial floor tile, a rim sherd of a willow pattern plate and a sherd of post-medieval redware flower pot. Together, they provided a spot date of 1800-1900 AD for the deposit.

7.31 Phase 4: Modern (20th-21st Century)

7.32 Concrete [+] (Figure 5)

7.32.1 Sealing deposit [36] was a 0.30m - 0.38m thick layer of modern concrete.

7.33 Trench 4

7.34 Phase 1: Natural

7.35 Natural Deposits [29] & [28] (Figure 6, Plates 9-11)

7.35.1 Heavily truncated natural deposits were encountered at the base of the sequence in Trench 4 where they were observed to comprise a layer of compact gravelly sand [29], overlain by a 0.13m thick layer of soft, light greyish brown brickearth [28]. Both deposits, but especially the higher brickearth layer [28], had been substantially truncated by feature [45]. Layers [28] and [29] survived at highest levels of 32.64m OD and 32.44m OD, respectively.

7.36 Phase 3: Late Post Medieval (1750-1900 AD)

7.37 Large Ditch [45] (Figure 6; Plates 9-11)

7.37.1 Feature [45] was a substantial feature, truncating as it did natural deposits across almost the entire extent of Trench 4. Only part of one edge of the feature was visible within the trench, however a slot dug into the feature revealed that it was a wide, linear ditch, orientated north-east by south-west. The ditch had straight, shallow sides and a small, concave base, and was 0.53m deep. It was filled with a deposit of compact, light greyish-brown, silty gravelly clay [27] (not dissimilar to that which filled features [5] and [8] in Trench 1) which contained very few finds or cultural inclusions and may represent a predominantly natural deposition within the abandoned channel.

7.37.2 The few finds that were retrieved from fill [27] comprised one sherd of post-medieval redware flower pot, and an abraded rim sherd of a Roman jar (dated to 50-400 AD). The deposit as a whole has been dated to between the 19th and 20th centuries on the basis of the entire assemblage. Whilst the Roman pot thus indicates Roman activity on the site or in the near vicinity, it is again not to be found in-situ within an original Roman deposit.

7.37.3 Ditch [45] had shallow sides and was itself relatively shallow (although it may well have been truncated by later landscaping activity). Its purpose is therefore unlikely to have been as a defensive barrier, but perhaps rather for drainage or possibly demarcation within a garden environment. Although it was certainly backfilled during the late post-medieval period, it seems likely that it represents a slightly earlier phase of garden landscaping/activity than ditch [22] in Trench 2, as it has been cut from lower within the site's general stratigraphic sequence.

7.38 Made Ground [25] & [26] (Figure 6)

7.38.1 Sealing backfilled ditch [45] were various layers of made ground [25] and [26]. Similar in character, they comprised deposits of friable-soft, light yellowish brown, clayey silt with gravel, charcoal and CBM inclusions. CBM and pottery fragments have been used to date layers [25] and [26] to between 1580-1900 AD, and 1666-1900 AD, respectively. However, given the 19th-20th date of the deposit stratigraphically below these deposits, it can be deduced that these later layers must also date to the latter two centuries of their respective date ranges.

7.38.2 Forming slightly uneven surfaces, layers [25] and [26] were first encountered at heights of 33.09m OD and 33.00m OD, respectively.

7.39 Garden Soil [24] (Figure 6)

7.39.1 These deposits were sealed by a 0.65m thick layer of garden soil [24], which reflect once again the long-term use of the site for horticultural activities. A soft, mid brown sandy silt with gravel inclusions, this deposit lay immediately below modern concrete at a highest level of 3.72m OD.

7.40 Phase 4: Modern (20th-21st Century)

7.41 Concrete, Pits and Basement Structures [+] (Figure 6)

- 7.41.1 Layer [24] was substantially truncated in various places across the trench by various modern intrusions, notably pits and shallow basement structures, no doubt related to the 20th century workshop buildings which were only recently demolished across the site. Layer [24] was also overlain across the entire extent of the trench by a 0.08m thick layer of modern concrete.
- 7.42 **Trench 5**
- 7.43 **Phase 1: Natural**
- 7.44 **Natural Deposits [34] & [35]** (Figure 7; Plates 12-13)
- 7.44.1 Natural deposits were encountered at the base of the sequence in Trench 5 where they were observed to comprise interleaving deposits of compact, light greyish-brown gravels [34] and soft, mid yellowish-brown brickearth [35]. Natural deposits sloped gently down from 32.99m OD in the east to 32.78m OD in the west.
- 7.45 **Phase 3: Late Post Medieval (1750-1900 AD)**
- 7.46 **Made Ground [33]** (Figure 7; Plate 13)
- 7.46.1 Sealing natural was a mixed layer of compact, mid yellowish-brown silty clay layer which contained frequent gravel and grey silty patches. Encountered at a highest level of 33.22m OD, it produced no dateable evidence but, due to its similar character and levels to late post-medieval made ground layers in the other trenches (e.g. deposits [3], [19], [39], [25]), it is most likely to date from the same time. With its fairly flat surface, it may well have been deposited to create a level surface above the sloping natural below.
- 7.47 **Garden Rubbish/Storage Pit [32]** (Figure 7; Plate 12-13)
- 7.47.1 In the east of the trench, both layer [33] and the natural deposits below were very heavily truncated by a large steep-sided cut feature [32] which extended beyond the edge of the trench to the east. With an observable extent of 1.65m (north-south) by 1.50m (east-west) at the top of the cut, the sides of the pit tapered steeply down to a smaller base. The cut was first observed at a depth of 33.09m and had a total depth of 0.80m.
- 7.47.2 Pit [32] had been deliberately backfilled with mixed garden soil deposits [31] generally comprising soft, mid greyish-brown sandy silts with gravel and CBM inclusions. Finds retrieved from it included fragments of peg tile, daub, the inevitable redware flower pot and a glass wine bottle fragment which together date the deposit securely to the 19th-20th century. The feature itself is again likely to relate to the area's long-term use as a garden and may be best interpreted as some kind of rubbish pit for garden waste, or perhaps a horticultural storage pit that was backfilled after it fell out of use.
- 7.48 **Garden Soil [30]** (Figure 7; Plate 13)
- 7.48.1 Sealing pit [32] was a 0.40m thick layer of garden soil [30], similar to those deposits of garden soil found near the top of the sequence in all of the other excavated trenches on site. Recorded at a highest level of 33.63m OD, it has been dated from finds of machine brick and willow patterned whiteware to a very recent date of between 1850-1900 AD.
- 7.49 **Phase 4: Modern (20th-21st Century)**
- 7.50 **Garden Soil [+]** (Figure 7; plate 13)
- 7.50.1 Sealing layer [30] was a 0.38m thick layer of modern garden soil.

Plate 1: Wall [10], Drain [9] and Features [5] and [8] within Trench 1 (looking East)



Plate 2: North-Facing Section showing General Archaeological Sequence within Trench 1



Plate 3: Late Victorian/Early Modern Garden Path Feature in Trench 1 (looking South-West)



Plate 4: Excavated Tree Bowl/Shallow Pit [8] in Trench 1 (looking West)



Plate 5: 19th Century Ditch [22] Truncating Natural Gravels [20] in Trench 2 (looking East)



Plate 6: South-Facing Section showing Ditch [22] Truncating Natural Deposits [20] and [23]



Plate 7: Natural Deposits [40] in Trench 3, Truncated by Pit/Tree Throw [43] (looking North)



Plate 8: East-Facing Section showing Feature [43] Truncating Natural [40] and [41] at Base of Sequence



Plate 9: Natural [28] heavily truncated by Ditch [45] in Trench 4 (looking North)



Plate 10: Slot excavated into Ditch [45] in Trench 4 (looking South-East)



Plate 11: North-East facing Section of Ditch [45]



Plate 12: 19th-20th C Pit [32] truncating Natural [34] & [35] in Trench 5 (looking West)



Plate 13: South-Facing Section showing Pit [32] Truncating Earlier Deposits



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 a number of forms; as gravels, brickearth, gravelly sand, and mixed gravel and brickearth deposits. The natural sand and gravel deposits encountered can be identified as belonging to the Boyn Hill Gravel Member, which would have formed up to 2 million years ago and is indicative of a local environment dominated by rivers at the time. The brickearth deposits found interleaving with the sands and gravels indicate that periodic deposition of wind-blown silt was also occurring across the site during this period.
 - 8.2.2 By comparing the varying levels at which natural deposits were discovered in each trench, it is clear that the natural topography slopes down from 33.27m OD in the east to 32.64m OD in the west.
- 8.3 To establish the nature, date and survival of activity relating to any archaeological periods (prehistoric, Roman, medieval or post-medieval) at the site.
 - 8.3.1 No definitive evidence for prehistoric or medieval activity was encountered within any of the trenches on the site.
 - 8.3.2 Roman pottery (dated to between 50-400 AD) was found within two features on site – one in a small pit or tree throw [5] in Trench 1, and the other within a large ditch [45] in Trench 4. The abraded pot sherd within the latter feature was certainly residual as the remainder of finds from this ditch dated to between the 19th and 20th centuries.
 - 8.3.3 Although the pot sherd found within feature [5] was the only artefact recovered from this feature, it is still considered unlikely that [5] represents activity from the Roman period. The pot sherd was very abraded, strongly suggesting it was not recovered from its original, primary context. The fact that feature [5] was most probably a tree bowl rather than a cultural feature would also suggest the pottery was not placed within it intentionally but rather swept in by wind/water action, and thus also supports this hypothesis.
 - 8.3.4 Although the evaluation encountered no definitively Roman deposits or features within the trenches, the presence of the aforementioned Roman pottery does at least attest to Roman activity in the near vicinity, or perhaps even on unevaluated parts of the site itself. This is also supported by the discovery of Roman settlement during a 2009 evaluation just 150m northwest of the site. It is very possible that in-situ Roman evidence did once exist on the site but has been subsequently completely removed by the substantial impact that post-medieval activity has been observed to have had across the evaluated area.
 - 8.3.5 A very large amount of post-medieval activity is evidenced in each of the five evaluated trenches on site, although dating evidence recovered suggests it is limited to the later post-medieval period, with all datable deposits having been dated to between the mid-18th to 20th centuries.
 - 8.3.6 The activity evidenced appears to be almost entirely associated with horticulture and the use of the site as a garden, with recovered features including probable drainage and/or demarcation/barrier ditches, garden waste and/or planting pits, and a number of possible tree bowls. All other cultural deposits within the trenches comprised layers of made ground or, for the most part, thick layers of dumped garden soil, that were presumably deposited as part of garden landscaping works. This late post-medieval horticultural function fits with cartographic evidence, which identifies the site as lying within the garden of a large house from the mid-18th century, and remaining as mostly open land until the 20th century.
 - 8.3.7 Further evidence for a predominantly horticultural function comes from a study of the artefact assemblage recovered from the evaluated site. Whilst finds of unworked daub attest to the presence of a timber framed wattle and daub construction in the vicinity, and frequent tiles attest to extensive red roofing tile development in the area, the predominantly fragmentary

nature of these finds suggest they have been redeposited at a reasonable distance from their original place of use. The fact that some of the pottery shows evidence for lamination also indicates that it was deposited under tertiary conditions. Finally, the high occurrence of flower pot fragments within the assemblage infers the main activity on site was horticulture.

- 8.3.8 The remains of a fairly substantial building wall, and possibly associated masonry drain, close to the eastern boundary of the site are likely to represent some kind of garden structure – e.g. a substantial shed or small workshop – or possibly even a house built close to the edge of the site, later in the site's life and after it fell from use as a garden.
- 8.3.9 Maps record that the site was first substantially built upon in the early-mid 20th century when a number of workshop buildings (later to become metal workshops) were constructed. Whilst these buildings were demolished prior to the archaeological works, the evaluation revealed minimal below-ground deposits that probably related to them. These included a minimal amount of landscaping (through re-deposition/moving of garden soil), some shallow below-ground storage/waste pits/features, and the instatement of relatively thin layers of surface concrete, on which the workshops were presumably built.
- 8.4 To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 8.4.1 As discussed above, the impact of the modern, 20th century development of the site as a workshop area appears to have been relatively low, with only minimal truncation of earlier deposits by shallow cut features, the laying of surface concrete and minor landscaping works.
- 8.4.2 On the other hand, the impact of late post-medieval activity on site has clearly been very substantial. All trenches uncovered a similar general sequence involving thick layers of 19th-20th century garden soil overlying mid-17th to 20th century layers of fairly sterile made ground. Apart from a few features and layers of uncertain date, in all trenches natural was immediately overlain by late post-medieval deposits/features. It would thus appear that the site underwent considerable change between 1750 and 1900 AD, which would have had a major impact upon earlier archaeological remains that may have once existed on the site.

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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	Layer	Garden Soil	1	1	1	33.67	33.64	6.14m	1.72m	0.42m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
2	Layer	Garden Soil	1	1	1	33.31	33.22	6.14m	1.72m	0.23m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
3	Layer	Made Ground	1	1	1	33.19	33.08	6.14m	1.72m	0.30m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
4	Fill	Fill of [5]	1	N/A	1	32.79	32.79	0.57m	0.35m	0.23m	Unknown	2
5	Cut	Small Tree Throw/Pit	1	1	1	32.79	32.64	0.57m	0.35m	0.23m	Unknown	2
6	Layer	Possible naturally deposited layer	1	1	1	32.86	32.84	3m	1.72m	0.15m	Unknown	2
7	Fill	Fill of [8]	1	N/A	N/A	32.79	32.79	0.62m	0.44m	0.10m	Unknown	2
8	Cut	Small Tree Throw/Pit	1	1	N/A	32.79	32.69	0.62m	0.44m	0.10m	Unknown	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)				
9	Masonry	Brick Drain	1	1	1	32.96	32.80	1.55m	0.40m	0.16m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
10	Masonry	Brick Wall	1	1	1	33.19	32.81	1.00m	0.40m	0.35m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
11	Fill	Fill of [12]	1	1	1	32.80	32.80	1.55m	0.44m	N/A	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
12	Cut	Construction Cut for [9]	1	1	1	32.80	32.80	1.55m	0.44m	N/A	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
13	Fill	Fill of [14]	1	1	1	33.64	33.64	1.60m	1.55m	0.80m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
14	Cut	Late Post Medieval Feature	1	1	N/A	33.64	32.80	1.60m	1.55m	0.80m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
15	Fill	Fill of [16]	1	1	1	32.81	32.81	1.50m	0.20m	N/A	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3

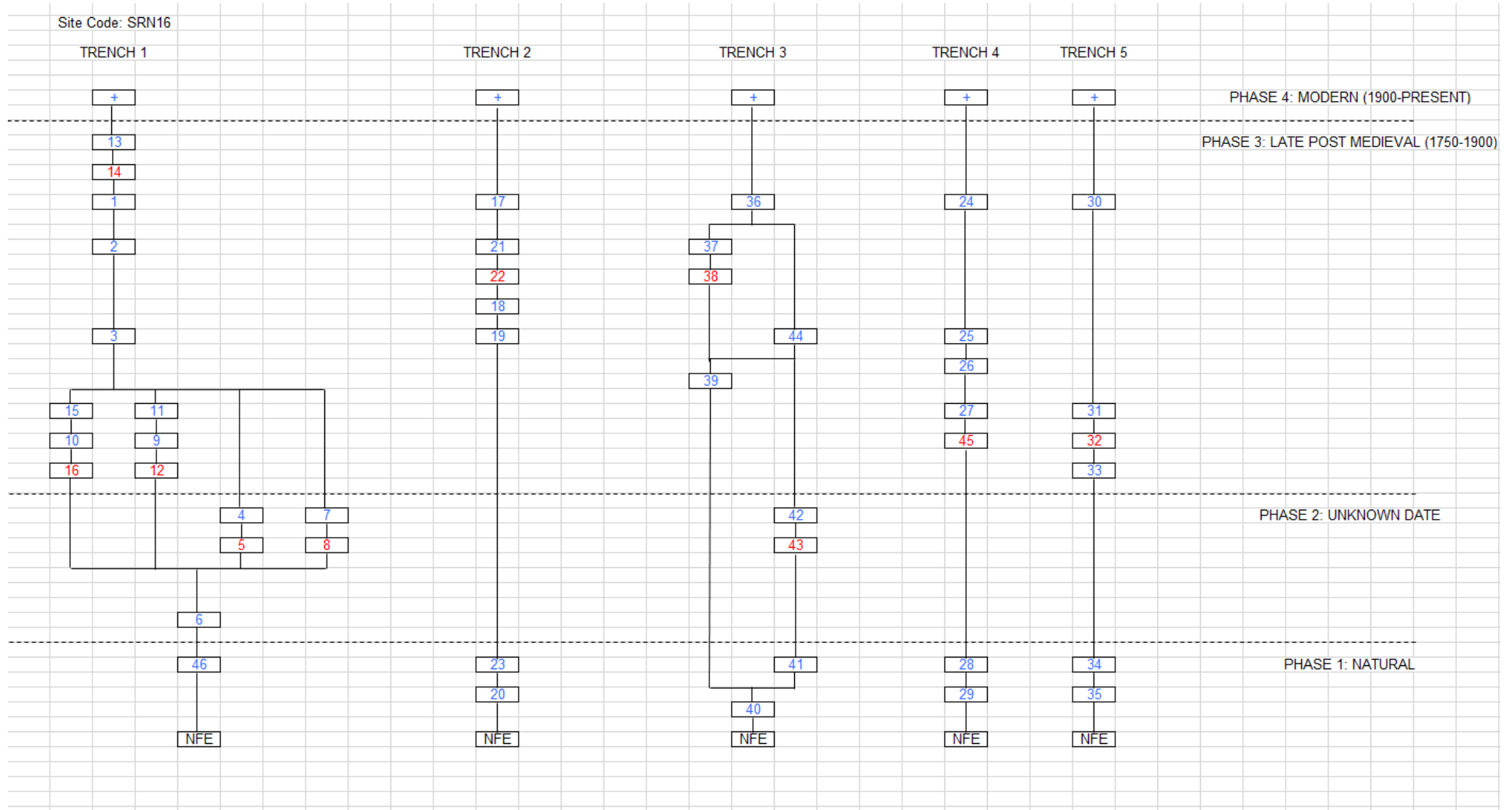
Context No	Type	Interpretation	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section No.	Levels (m OD)		Dimensions <small>(as recorded within the confines of the trench)</small>			Period	Phase
16	Cut	Construction Cut for [10]	1	1	1	32.81	32.81	1.50m	0.20m	N/A	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
17	Layer	Garden Soil	2	2	2	34.18	34.04	5.68m	1.70m	0.65m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
18	Layer	Garden Soil	2	2	2	33.72	33.47	5.25m	1.70m	0.40m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
19	Layer	Made Ground	2	N/A	2	33.46	33.23	4.70m	1.70m	0.24m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
20	Layer	Natural Gravel	2	2	2	33.27	32.74	4.70m	1.70m	0.50m	Up to 2Mya	1
21	Fill	Fill of [22]	2	2	2	33.53	33.47	1.70m	1.62m	0.79m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
22	Cut	Post Medieval Ditch	2	2	2	33.53	32.74	1.70m	1.62m	0.79m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
23	Layer	Natural Brickearth	2	N/A	2	33.42	33.40	0.55m	N/A	0.27m	Up to 2Mya	1

Context No	Type	Interpretation	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section No.	Levels (m OD)		Dimensions			Period	Phase
								(as recorded within the confines of the trench)				
24	Layer	Garden Soil	4	N/A	4	33.72	33.29	6.30m	1.80m	0.80m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
25	Layer	Made Ground	4	N/A	4	32.99	32.76	6.30m	1.80m	0.28m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
26	Layer	Made Ground	4	N/A	4	33.00	32.94	2.95m	1.80m	0.18m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
27	Fill	Fill of [45]	4	4	4	32.81	32.76	6.30m	1.80m	0.53m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
28	Layer	Natural Brickearth	4	4	N/A	32.64	32.51	1.60m	0.62m	0.13m	Up to 2Mya	1
29	Layer	Natural Sand and Gravel	4	4	4	32.44	32.28	1.00m	0.40m	0.16m	Up to 2Mya	1
30	Layer	Garden Soil	5	N/A	5	33.63	33.48	4.38m	1.52m	0.40m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
31	Fill	Fill of [32]	5	5	5	33.22	33.09	1.60m	1.52m	1.13m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3

Context No	Type	Interpretation	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section No.	Levels (m OD)		Dimensions <small>(as recorded within the confines of the trench)</small>			Period	Phase
32	Cut	Planting/ Rubbish Pit	5	5	5	33.22	32.06	1.60m	1.52m	1.13m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
33	Layer	Made Ground	5	N/A	5	33.23	33.08	2.72m	1.52m	0.43m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
34	Layer	Natural Gravel	5	N/A	5	32.98	32.78	1.87m	1.52m	0.88m	Up to 2Mya	1
35	Layer	Natural Brickearth	5	5	N/A	32.77	32.77	1.90m	1.35m	N/A	Up to 2Mya	1
36	Layer	Garden Soil	3	N/A	3	33.73	33.73	4.70m	1.56m	0.45m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
37	Fill	Fill of [38]	3	N/A	3	33.31	33.26	1.45m	N/A	0.41m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
38	Cut	Small Rubbish/ Planting Pit	3	N/A	3	33.31	32.90	1.45m	N/A	0.41m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
39	Layer	Made Ground	3	N/A	3	33.37	33.28	3.20m	1.56m	0.30m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3

Context No	Type	Interpretation	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section No.	Levels (m OD)		Dimensions			Period	Phase
								(as recorded within the confines of the trench)				
40	Layer	Natural Brickearth and Gravel	3	N/A	3	33.18	32.90	4.70m	1.56m	0.25m	Up to 2Mya	1
41	Layer	Natural Brickearth	3	N/A	3	33.10	32.98	1.20m	1.56m	0.15m	Up to 2Mya	1
42	Fill	Fill of [43]	3	N/A	3	32.98	32.89	0.40m	0.25m	0.23m	Unknown	2
42	Cut	Small Tree Throw/Pit	3	3	3	32.98	32.75	0.40m	0.25m	0.23m	Unknown	2
44	Layer	Made Ground	3	N/A	3	33.28	33.21	2.40m	1.56m	0.35m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
45	Cut	Post-Medieval Ditch	4	4	4	32.81	32.28	6.30m	1.80m	0.53m	Late Post-Medieval (1750-1900 AD)	3
46	Layer	Natural Sand and Gravel	1	N/A	N/A	32.64	32.64	N/A	N/A	N/A	Up to 2Mya	1

Appendix 2: Site Matrix



Appendix 3: Animal Bone Assessment

Kevin Rielly, March 2016

Methodology

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

Description of faunal assemblage

The site provided a total of 2 bones, both derived from deposit [3], including a cattle-size lumbar vertebrae, which had been axially split and a goose pelvis from an adult bird. This small collection is well preserved

Conclusion and recommendations for further work

No datable evidence was evident from context [3], however, adjoining deposits provided a generally late post-medieval date, principally demonstrating a 19th century usage of this site. However, a single Roman potsherd was found, this perhaps following the evidence for Late Roman activity shown by the nearby Wiseman site, also on Shernhall Street (Maher 2009). This provided a similarly small collection of bones, including a cattle scapula from a late post-medieval deposit and two cattle maxillary teeth from a proposed Roman level.

It can be proposed, if only due to the good preservation of the bones, that further excavation will provide more faunal material. Yet it is unlikely that a sufficient quantity will be found to warrant any detailed analysis.

References

Maher, S. 2009. *Land at Holy Family Technology College, Wiseman Site, Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London Borough of Waltham Forest, an Archaeological Evaluation*, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd unpublished report.

Appendix 4: Ceramic Building Material Spot Dating

Amparo Valcarcel

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
3	3033; 2276;3032	Post med sandy bricks; post med peg tile; post great fire brick	8	1450	1900	1666	1900	1780-1900	1750-1900
9	3032R	Post great fire frogged bricks	2	1666	1900	1666	1900	1780-1900	1800-1900
10	3032	Post great fire unfrogged bricks	2	1666	1900	1666	1900	1780-1900	1750-1900
11	2276	Post med peg tile	1	1480	1900	1480	1900	1480-1900	No mortar
13	3032R	Post great fire brick	1	1666	1900	1666	1900	1666-1900	No mortar
17	3033; 2276;3032R	Post med sandy brick; post med peg tile; post great fire stamped brick	3	1450	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	No mortar
21	3046; 3032	Post med sandy paver; post great fire brick	2	1450	1900	1666	1900	1666-1900	No mortar
26	3032	Post great fire brick (abraded)	1	1666	1900	1666	1900	1666-1900	No mortar
27	3102;3032R	Abraded daub; post great fire paver	2	1500B C	1900	1666	1900	1666-1900	No mortar
30	3102;3038	Abraded daub; modern machine brick	2	1500B C	1950	1850	1950	1850-1900	No mortar
31	3102;2276	Abraded daub; post med peg tile	3	1500B C	1900	1480	1900	1480-1900	No mortar
36	3064	Industrial floor tile	1	1800	1900	1800	1900	1800-1900	No mortar
44	3046;2276	Post med sandy brick; post med peg tile	2	1450	1900	1480	1900	1480-1900	No mortar

Review

The assemblage (30 fragments, 4.34 kg) consists mainly of small pieces of fragmentary post medieval ceramic building material.

Unworked daub attests to the presence of a timber framed wattle and daub construction in the vicinity. These were identified as small lumps from [27] [30] and [31].

Two different sandy red brick fabrics were identified; the fine sandy 3033 and the very sandy red 3046 from [3] [17] [21] [44].. All were manufactured for city using local London brick clay between 1450 and 1700.

The bricks are mainly made by post great fire fabric 3032 [3] [9] [10] [13] [17] [21] [26] and [27]. One of the bricks from [30] is made from fabric 3038.

Rectangular shaped roofing tiles with two nail holes at one end made from the London sandy fabric 2276 are the most common fabric from the site, attesting to extensive later post medieval red roofing tile development in this area.

The building material assemblage reflects the later post medieval development of this site and none of the material is of intrinsic interest.

Recommendations

The value of this small assemblage lies in dating structures and features dating from between the 19th and early 20th century. No further work recommended.

Appendix 5: Glass Spot Dating

Chris Jarrett

A single fragment of glass (6g) was recovered from the archaeological work and this was recovered found in context [31]. The item consists of a high-lime low-alkali (HLLA) pale olive green fragment and was probably derived from a cylindrical wine bottle dating to the 19th or 20th century. The glass 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.

Appendix 6: Pottery Spot Dating

INTRODUCTION

A total of 38 stratified sherds, representing 35 estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weighing 1.509kg of pottery were recovered from the archaeological investigation. The pottery dates to the Roman period (three sherds/3 ENV/91g) and the later post-medieval period (35 sherds/32 ENV/1.418kg) and was found in ten contexts. The material is generally in a good condition, although a few sherds, including all of the Roman material, is abraded, while some of the post-medieval material shows evidence for lamination, indicating that it was probably recovered from mostly garden soils and deposited under tertiary conditions. The assemblage consists of mostly sherd material with identifiable forms present, except for a nearly intact teapot (context [17]). The pottery was quantified by sherd count, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight and was classified according to the Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA 2014). The assemblage is discussed by context as an index.

POTTERY INDEX

Context [4], spot date: 50–400

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
Unsourced fine oxidised fabric	OXIDF	50–400	Bowl, rounded	1	1	49	Rim sherd, flanged with a down-turned wide flange, abraded

Context [13], spot date: 1800–1900

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580–1900	Flower pot	1	1	4	Body sherd
Sunderland-type coarseware	SUND	1800–1900	Bowl	1	1	15	Body sherd
London tin-glazed ware with pale blue glaze and dark blue	TGWH	1680–1800	Plate	1	1	3	Body sherd, top surface laminated

Pottery type decoration	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
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Context [17], spot date: Late 19th-early 20th century

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
Lustreware	LUST	1805–1900	Teapot	1	1	746	Complete profile, nearly intact. Internal lid-seated rim, rounded shoulder, deep straight-sided wall, rounded wall to base, foot ring. Handle missing. Gold lustre on the short rim, cream band on the shoulder with gold lustre floral sprays, sandwiched by dark blue wavy borders with gold outlines and diagonal lines, dark green body. Green lustre on the footring and spout
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580–1900	Flower pot	3	3	64	Rim sherd, thickened and simple, body sherd
Sunderland-type coarseware	SUND	1800–1900	Bowl	1	1	1	Body sherd, internal slip, internal and external glaze

Context [21], spot date: 1820–1900

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
English brown salt-glazed stoneware	ENGs	1700–1900	Bottle or jar	1	1	38	Body sherd
Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration	PEAR TR	1770–1840	Plate	1	1	6	Flat base, floral pattern, laminated interior.
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580–1900	Flower pot	3	3	31	Rim sherd, simple, body sherds
Dipped white salt-glazed stoneware	SWSL	1710–1760		1	1	4	Base
Yellow ware with slip decoration	YELL SLIP	1820–1900		1	1	2	Body sherd, white band with blue and brown lines laminated exterior

Context [25], spot date: c. 1660–1760

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	Flower pot	3	3	238	Rim sherd, rounded, bevelled and under cut, body sherd, early flower pot: base, thick walled, with a side drainage hole, reduced

Context [27], spot date: 19th-20th century

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
Unsourced fine oxidised fabric	OXIDF	50-400	Jar	2	2	42	Rim sherd, everted and rounded, neck and shoulder, abraded
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	Flower pot	2	2	34	Rim sherd, rounded thickening

Context [30], spot date: 1789-1900

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration	TPW	1780-1900	Plate	1	1	4	Rim sherd, Willow pattern

Context [31], spot date: 19th-20th century

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	Flower pot	9	6	202	Rim sherd, collared, body sherds, base

Context [36], spot date: 1789-1840

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration	PEAR TR	1770-1840	Plate	1	1	4	Rim sherd, Willow pattern
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	Flower pot	2	2	21	Base, body sherd

Context [44], spot date: 1789–1840

Pottery type	Code	Date range	Form	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments
Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration	PEAR TR	1770-1840	Plate	1	1	4	Rim sherd, Willow pattern
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	Flower pot	2	2	25	Rim sherd, narrow, rounded, bevelled and under cut

SIGNIFICANCE AND POTENTIAL OF THE ASSEMBLAGE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

The assemblage has some significance at a local level and the pottery types present fit the ceramic profile for London and all of the pottery types are frequently encountered in Roman and post-medieval excavations in the region. The occurrence of the Roman pottery, albeit in an abraded state, indicates activity for this period on the site or in the near vicinity. The post-medieval pottery indicates 18th and particularly 19th century occupation on the site and the high occurrence of flower pots infers the main activity was horticulture. The highly decorative lustre ware teapot is an interesting find and although probably derived from a lower socio-economic status household, it would make a useful item to be included in a synthetic study of this form recovered from archaeological excavations. The main potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work at this stage, although should further archaeological work be carried out on the site then its importance should be reviewed with the retrieval of new pottery finds.

Reference

MOLA, 2014. Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes. Accessed January 12th, 2016.
<<http://www.mola.org.uk/resources/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes>>.

Appendix 6: Oasis Form

OASIS ID: preconst1-245928

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the Rear of 54 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London Borough of Waltham Forest,
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation that was undertaken on land to the rear of 54 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London Borough of Waltham Forest, E17 9HP (TQ 38099 89238). The evaluation demonstrated that the most recent underlying geology consisted of interleaving deposits of sands, gravels and brickearth. Residual Roman pottery was found within two features on site which attests to Roman activity on the site or in the near vicinity, even if no in situ Roman deposits were encountered during the evaluation. Late Post-Medieval (specifically mid 18th to 20th century) activity dominated the archaeological record with the vast majority of remains on site dating to within this period. The activity is almost entirely associated with horticulture and the use of the site as a garden, with recovered features and deposits including thick layers of garden soil, probable drainage and/or demarcation ditches, garden waste or planting pits and a number of probable tree throws. This late post-medieval horticultural function fits with cartographic evidence, which identifies the site as lying within the garden of a large house from the mid-18th century, and remaining as mostly open land until the 20th century. Modern activity on site was limited to the construction of a number of workshop buildings during the early-mid 20th century. These have been recently demolished and were revealed within the evaluation to have had only a relatively minor impact upon earlier buried remains across the site.
Project dates	Start: 29-02-2016 End: 02-03-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SRN16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land	Other 3 - Built over

use

Monument type PIT Post Medieval

Monument type MASONRY Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches"

Development type Housing estate

Prompt Planning condition

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

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON WALTHAM FOREST WALTHAMSTOW 54
Shernhall Street, Walthamstow

Postcode E17 9HP

Study area 5000 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 38099 89238 51.584561884079 -0.006491080492 51 35 04 N 000
00 23 W Point

Height OD / Min: 32.64m Max: 33.27m

Depth

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	Maria Buczak
Type of sponsor/funding body	Architectural Practice
Name of sponsor/funding body	Matthew Eyles Architects

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	SRN16
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC

Digital Archive ID	SRN16
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	SRN16
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Map", "Matrices", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the Rear of 54 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London Borough of Waltham Forest, E17 9HP
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Buczak, M
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	London

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