

**LAND AT SPENCER WORKS,
SPENCER ROAD, RAINHAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF
HAVERING**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION**

SITE CODE: SNC 15

REPORT NO: R12456

APRIL 2016



**PRE-CONSTRUCT
ARCHAEOLOGY**

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**LAND AT SPENCER WORKS, SPENCER ROAD, RAINHAM, ESSEX,
ASSESSMENT OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION**

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Central National Grid Reference: TQ 5094 8293
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological excavation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Spencer Works, Spencer Road, in the London Borough of Havering. Both the excavation, and an earlier evaluation on the site, were commissioned by Peter North and Partners on behalf of Eurotraders Global Limited.
- 1.2 The excavation and evaluation together involved the excavation of one area measuring approximately 18.50m x 12.50m and two smaller trenches to the north and east (Trenches 1 and 3). Natural deposits were noted in all three trenches between 2.50m OD and 2.96m OD and comprised terrace gravels, overlain in places by brickearth. The topography of the site was generally flat but, towards the eastern end of the site, showed a slope down from west to east, probably associated with an ancient watercourse identified to the east of the site during earlier excavations.
- 1.3 Prehistoric pits, post-holes and ard marks were identified in the Excavation Area but were absent entirely from Trenches 1 and 3. Their excavation and analysis suggest they relate to relatively low-level prehistoric activity, possibly associated with agriculture or burning/hearth use and that they may be peripheral to and associated with the more extensive prehistoric activity evidenced at Manser Road c. 30m east of the site.
- 1.4 After a long phase of abandonment, the site witnessed activity once again during the late post-medieval period in the form of agricultural ploughing. Occurring from at least the early 19th - early 20th century this activity may have continued until the construction of Spencer Works during the mid-20th century. Foundations remaining from the demolished Spencer Works (demolished in 2015) were noted in all trenches.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at Spencer Works, Spencer Road, Rainham, Essex, RM13 8HF. The excavation was conducted between 8th and 17th February 2016 and was commissioned by Peter North and Partners on behalf of Eurotraders Global Limited. The work was undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016) and following English Heritage guidelines (GLAAS 2014).
- 2.2 The site comprises a rectangular plot of land measuring approximately 1550m² and bounded by Spencer Road to the west, 1A Spencer Road to the north, Challow House to the south, and sheds fronting onto Manser Road to the east. The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 5094 8293 (Figure 1). The site was formerly occupied by two large 1950s/1960s light industrial structures and an adjacent area of hardstanding fronting onto Spencer Road. Since their demolition in 2015, the site has remained as a vacant plot with a flat ground surface of demolition debris.
- 2.3 The site was subject to an archaeological evaluation in September 2015 which involved the excavation of three trenches within the curtilage of the development site (O'Donoghue 2015). The archaeological excavation of the site in February 2016 comprised the excavation of a larger area (approximately 18.50m x 12.50m), which incorporated the area of evaluation trench 2; trenches 1 and 3 from the previous evaluation have kept their numbering (Figure 2). This report will discuss the results of all previous archaeological works on site.
- 2.4 The site is located within an area of known archaeological interest, as archaeological deposits of prehistoric date have been found directly to the east of the site at Manser Road.
- 2.5 The excavation was supervised by Maria Buczak and Guy Seddon, and was project managed by Helen Hawkins, of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. The work was monitored by John Gould, Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), who is the Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Havering. Jon Butler of Pre-Construct Archaeology managed the post-excavation work.



551000

184000

The Site



551000

181000



Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:400

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Guidance: National Planning Policy Framework

3.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was adopted on March 27 2012, and now supersedes the Planning Policy Statements (PPSs). The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications.

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

3.2 Regional Policy: The London Plan

3.2.1 The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by “The London Plan, Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London Consolidated with Alterations since 2004” (Feb 2008). It includes the following policy relating to archaeology within central London:

Policy 4b.15 Archaeology

The Mayor, in partnership with English Heritage, the Museum of London and Boroughs, will support the identification, protection, interpretation and presentation of London’s archaeological resources. Boroughs in consultation with English Heritage and other relevant statutory organisations should include appropriate policies in their DPDs for protecting Scheduled Ancient Monuments and archaeological assets within their area.

3.3 Local Policy: Archaeology in the London Borough of Havering

3.3.1 The relevant local policy is provided by the London Borough of Havering Core Strategy, which was adopted in 2008. It contains the following policy statement with regards to Archaeology and Ancient Monuments:

DC70 – ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANCIENT MONUMENTS

The Council will ensure that the archaeological significance of sites is taken into account when making planning decisions and will take appropriate measures to safeguard that interest. Planning permission will only be granted where satisfactory provision is made in appropriate cases for preservation and recording of archaeological remains in situ or through excavation. Where nationally important archaeological remains exist there will be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation. Particular care will need to be taken when dealing with applications in archaeological 'hotspots' where there is a greater likelihood of finding remains.

Planning permission will not be granted for development which adversely affects the three Ancient Monuments in the Borough or their settings.

REASONED JUSTIFICATION

1.1 Archaeological sites of interest and their settings and Ancient Monuments are irreplaceable and, therefore, it is important that policy seeks their protection, enhancement and preservation for the benefit of current and future generations. There are three scheduled Ancient Monuments in Havering, the 14th Century Upminster Hall Barn or Tithe Barn in Hall Lane Upminster, the moated site at Dagnam Park and the Roman Road across Romford golf course.

1.2 The archaeological 'hotspots', which are areas that have a greater potential for containing remains, will be shown in the Heritage SPD. They are divided into Archaeological Priority Areas where important archaeology can be expected and Archaeological Priority Zones where there is a potential need for archaeological consideration and consultation with English Heritage. The identification of these areas is as a guide to the existence of or potential for archaeological remains being present and each particular application should be dealt with on a case by case basis.

IMPLEMENTATION

Archaeological hotspots will be defined in Heritage SPD.

3.4 Planning Permission

- 3.4.1 An archaeological condition was attached to the planning permission for the site. The excavation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016) previously approved by John Gould of GLAAS, the archaeological adviser to the London Borough of Havering.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The British Geological Survey online shows the drift geology of the site to be River Terrace sand and gravel (Taplow Gravel) which would have formed up to 2 million years ago within an environment dominated by rivers. These gravels overlie at depth London Clay, a formation laid down 34 to 56 million years ago during the Palaeogene Period and which is indicative of a local environment previously dominated by deep seas (BGS 2016). Former watercourses are located to the east and west of site, running north-south into the former channel of the Thames, directly south of site.

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 The study site lies approximately 700m to the east of the Beam River and is 1.7km to the north of the River Thames. The site is 1.5km west of Ingrebourne River/Rainham Creek.

4.2.2 During the archaeological evaluation of the site, natural deposits were noted in all three of the trenches between 2.90m OD and 2.12m OD. Throughout the site the natural deposits comprised terrace gravels sealed, in two of the three trenches, by brickearth. The topography of the natural deposits on the site sloped down from west to east in the eastern part of the site (O'Donoghue 2015).

4.2.3 The modern ground level is generally flat. At the time of the evaluation of the site modern ground level was at 3.70m OD in the west of the site continuing to 3.68m OD in the east (O'Donoghue 2015). Since the evaluation, some ground reduction must have occurred as the ground level on site was about 0.20m-0.25m lower, ranging between 3.50m OD and 3.43m OD across the site.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 Prehistoric

- 5.1.1 Extensive excavations have been carried out by PCA at the Mardyke Estate/Orchard Village, c. 400m to the west of the site. A wide range of archaeological features were present at the Estate, including Bronze Age and Iron Age pits and ditches. The archaeology was located between 0.40m and 1.00m below current ground level and had a good survival beneath and between the foundations of the 1960s estate. The prehistoric material extended to the south of the site, particularly under Dearsley House, which is 400m west of the site at Spencer Works. The excavations showed that the archaeology extended further west of the Beam River than previously recognised (Beasley 2014).
- 5.1.2 At the junction of Manser Road and New Road, c. 30m to the east of the site, extensive prehistoric remains were discovered by Compass Archaeology in 2004. Significant prehistoric activity was evidenced in the form of cut features and overlying deposits, both containing burnt flint and other evidence of human activity. These remains were sealed by layers of sterile alluvium that extended through to the post-medieval period (Compass Archaeology 2004).
- 5.1.3 Further investigation in this area revealed several large pits and many other smaller features such as stake and postholes, plus substantial quantities of burnt/fire-cracked flint, fired clay and charcoal and occasional struck flint and pottery. Several of these pits exhibited evidence of possible in situ burning and some of the stake/postholes may have supported structures associated with this activity. The backfill within the pits was largely composed of redeposited and partly burnt material, indicating activity over some period of time.
- 5.1.4 Many of these remains were associated and formed what was loosely termed a 'burnt mound' – a series of pits and deposits (particularly of burnt flint) associated with the deliberate heating of water for cooking or other, possibly ritual, purposes. This activity was provisionally ascribed to the mid-late Bronze Age (c. 1600 to 800 BC)
- 5.1.5 Burnt mounds have been noted on a number of sites, usually in proximity to a watercourse. The presence of such a feature in relation to the Manser Road site is clearly indicated by the overlying alluvium, and by an extant ditch or small stream just to the north-east of the site boundary.
- 5.1.6 During the archaeological evaluation on the Spencer Works site, Late Bronze Age- Iron Age deposits were recovered from a pit recorded in Trench 2, one of three trenches evaluated. Probable ard marks containing burnt flint fragments were also encountered within this trench which also point to the prehistoric utilisation of the site. The features encountered were sealed by a subsoil layer with no further activity evidenced on site until the late post-medieval period

(O'Donoghue 2015).

5.2 Roman

5.2.1 A stone Roman coffin was discovered in 1929 at the junction of Manser Road and Frederick Road to the northeast of site, presumably during the construction of the new roads in this area.

5.2.2 The site is located in an area of known archaeological interest. To the west of site the area between the Beam and Wantz streams is the location of extensive prehistoric and Roman occupation, including a Roman cremation cemetery.

5.2.3 The excavations by PCA at the Mardyke Estate/Orchard Village, also revealed a wide range of Roman features, including Roman pottery kilns. Unlike the prehistoric material which extended to the south, the Roman material was concentrated in the north of the site (Fairman 2010; Beasley 2014).

5.3 Medieval, Post-Medieval and Modern

5.3.1 The site was located c. 1.25km northwest of the medieval/post-medieval settlement of Rainham and lay within an area of open and marginal land. The land was on the boundary of Hornchurch Marsh suggesting that the land use at this time was confined to pasture and rough grazing.

5.3.2 The present New Road was constructed by the 1850s. The 1867 Ordnance Survey map shows the site located in open fields to the north of New Road. Open fields are also shown on the 1897 and 1920 Ordnance Survey maps. By 1939 the current street pattern had been established and houses were being constructed. The Spencer Works site was empty at this stage. By 1966 'Works' are marked, and this does not vary on all the later maps. The Spencer Works were demolished just prior to the archaeological evaluation being carried out.

5.3.3 The archaeological evaluation of the site recorded agricultural plough soils across the site which dated from at least the early 19th century to the early 20th century, and perhaps up until the construction of the Spencer Works. Truncating and overlying the plough-soil were features and deposits relating to the construction and demolition of the Spencer Works itself, including walls, concrete surfaces and a demolition/rubble make-up layer (O'Donoghue 2015).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 The excavation was undertaken according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016) which was approved in advance by John Gould GLAAS, Archaeological Adviser to the London Borough of Havering. The aim of the work was to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present, and in particular if there was further evidence for prehistoric (as found within the evaluation) or Roman remains (as found at nearby investigations).

6.2 One area of archaeological excavation was undertaken within the centre of the site and entirely within the curtilage of the proposed development (Figure 2). This area also incorporated the area of the earlier evaluation trench 2. Originally proposed to measure 20m x 18m, the excavated area was ultimately slightly smaller as various modern obstructions prevented machining to the originally proposed size.

6.3 The dimensions and highest and lowest levels of the excavated area are tabulated below:

Length	Width	Highest level	Lowest level
18.62m	12.50m	3.50m OD	2.36m OD

6.4 The trench was located by measuring its extent from a base line which had been laid out with GPS survey equipment.

6.5 The trench was CAT scanned by a trained operator prior to excavation in order to check for buried services which were not marked on the service plan. All machine excavation was supervised by Guy Seddon of PCA and proceeded in 100mm spits using a 360 degree tracked 13 ton excavator with a toothless bucket. A 6 tonne dumper was also on site to transport the excavated soil and spoil it at a safe distance from the trench edge. The area continued to be CAT scanned after each spit of modern ground was removed to check for buried services.

6.6 Machining continued to remove modern overburden and low-grade archaeological deposits until the first significant archaeological horizon was encountered; this horizon was natural sand and gravel, into which various features had been cut. The open trench was fenced with crash barriers which had appropriate hazard signs attached to them. The site itself was securely hoarded by the client.

6.7 Fragments of suspected asbestos tile were identified within the trench subsequent to its

- excavation by machine; both within modern deposits in the section and modern intrusions in the base of the trench. Appropriate PPE and RPE was supplied and subsequently worn by all staff and visitors at all times when entering and working within the excavated area.
- 6.8 All asbestos “hot spots” – i.e. all modern intrusions within the base of the trench - were securely covered with plastic sheeting and individually fenced with road irons and hazard tape. Signage was employed to clearly mark the trench as hazardous and containing asbestos. Modern deposits within the section were regularly sprayed with a mix of water and detergent, more frequently during windy conditions, to prevent the airborne spread of potential asbestos fibres within them.
- 6.9 Following this all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned, and full excavation of all archaeological features and deposits was undertaken. All work subsequent to the machine excavation of the trench was undertaken by hand, and supervised by the author.
- 6.10 All features and deposits, both archaeological and natural, were recorded. Recording was accomplished on proforma context and planning sheets. Contexts were numbered and are shown in this report within squared brackets. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Digital photographs were also taken as appropriate.
- 6.11 Sampling of deposits was undertaken discretionally; whenever such an approach was considered likely to provide further important information about the deposit itself. For instance, samples were taken of deposits in which organic materials were observed, and where processing was considered likely to considerably increase finds retrieval from the deposit. Decisions concerning sample size took into account the frequency with which materials were likely to occur within the deposit.
- 6.12 No further excavation of modern features or deposits was carried out, due to the risk of asbestos being contained within them. Although important archaeological remains were encountered, no structures, features or finds were considered to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 6.13 One Temporary Bench Mark (TBM) was established on the site using GPS survey equipment. TBM2 was established on the concrete surface to the northwest of the excavated area with a value of 3.61m OD.
- 6.14 The site code SNC 15 was obtained from the Museum of London to be used for the excavation on this site.

- 6.15 The excavation work followed IFA guidelines (2014), and the methodologies set out in English Heritage (GLAAS) Guidance Papers (2014) for standards and practices in archaeological fieldwork watching briefs and assessments and evaluation.
- 6.16 The trench was backfilled with the upcast material and compressed by the machine until the surfaces were level, to prevent large spoil heaps containing potential asbestos being left open to the air. The backfilled trench surface was then fenced with road irons, hazard tape and appropriate signage.

7 PHASED ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION

7.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits (Figures 3-4, Plates 1-8)

7.1.1 Natural deposits of sand and gravel were observed across the areas investigated. They were recorded at a maximum height of 2.95-2.96m OD in Evaluation Trench 1 ([13] and [14]) and the Excavation Area ([34] and [87]), where they formed a slightly uneven but generally level surface. The natural topography however did show a slope downwards between the Excavation Area in the west to Trench 3 in the east where natural sand [22] was observed at a maximum height of 2.50m OD.

7.1.2 A layer of clean brickearth was observed capping the natural sands and gravels in both Trenches 1 and 3 (deposits [12] and [21], respectively). Observed at a maximum height of 2.84m OD in Trench 3 and 3.20m OD in Trench 1, the layer had a maximum thickness of 0.30m. No such deposit was observed within the Excavation Area during either the evaluation or excavation phase.

7.1.3 The only other deposit of possible natural origin was a small layer of gravel [35] which was encountered above brickearth across the northwest of Trench 1 at 3.05m OD.

7.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric Activity (Figures 3-4, Plates 2-5 & 7)

7.2.1 Truncating the underlying natural deposits were a considerable number of features provisionally dated to the prehistoric period. A total of 27 features were recorded in the Excavation Area, although prehistoric activity was entirely absent from Trenches 1 and 3.

7.2.2 The features included 22 pits, two postholes ([41] and [58]), one probable ard mark [33], and two irregular features ([31] and [55]) that are likely to represent tree throws or further ard marks. The 22 pits excavated comprised small-medium features and were largely sub-oval in shape, although sub-square, sub-rectangular and sub-circular pits were also observed. The two postholes encountered were found in isolation and do not appear to represent any kind of structures as they were not obviously related to any surrounding features.

7.2.3 The features were generally relatively sparsely distributed, with the exception of the northwest corner in which the pitting was largely concentrated. The features were generally shallow and may have undergone considerable truncation by natural erosion; the deepest feature excavated (pit [37]) was just 0.34m deep, whilst the majority were under 0.20m in depth.

7.2.4 The features encountered had been filled with deposits of loose, light reddish-brown, clayey silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions, deposits which appeared to represent alluvial material, swept in by wind or water action after the features were abandoned.

7.2.5 Although the majority of the features produced no finds, 33 pottery fragments were recovered from five features (pits [29], [39], [45] [74] and posthole [41]). A total of 36 fragments of

moderately-heavily burnt flint were also recovered from three features; pits [29] and [66], and probable ard mark [33]. The vast majority of these finds (28 of the pottery fragments and 34 of the burnt flint fragments) were recovered a single feature, pit [29].

- 7.2.6 The pottery assemblage was prehistoric in date, most probably from the Middle Iron Age, although some of it could be accommodated within Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age post Deverel-Rimbury pottery traditions and some within local Romano-British traditions (see Seager Thomas Appendix 2).
- 7.2.7 Although burnt flint is by itself un-dateable, it is suggestive of a prehistoric date, especially considering its retrieval from some contexts in which prehistoric pot was also present. Those features containing only burnt flint (pits [66] and [33]) can thus also be identified as prehistoric, if only tentatively. The moderate or variable degree that the flint was burnt to is typical of the 'incidental' heating of flint from ground set fires and suggests hearth use at the site.
- 7.2.8 The remainder of the features contained no dating evidence but are considered likely to be of a comparable date as they are generally similar in character to those with dating evidence, and have been cut into and overlain by the same deposits within the archaeological sequence. Whilst it cannot be definitively proven, all 22 features discussed are thus considered likely to date to the same general prehistoric phase.
- 7.2.9 Sampling of the fills of features [29] and [45] found the deposits to be poor in both artefactual and environmental remains. The deposits contained only low levels of charcoal, wood fragments and burnt flint, insect remains and seeds (including heavily burnt grain and seed fragments). Whilst the number of remains was small, burnt remains were comparatively well represented within the recovered material (see Turner Appendix 5). Although taphonomic processes may be partially responsible, sampling would thus appear to indicate that the features were filled with a relatively sterile deposit, suggestive of comparatively minimal human activity within the immediate vicinity.
- 7.2.10 Whilst pitting is relatively dense in certain areas of the site, its complete absence within nearby Trenches 1 and 3 suggest it may have been concentrated within a relatively isolated area. The lack of postholes or obvious structural remains also suggests the area was not the site of settlement; the function of the features recorded may thus rather have been related to some kind of peripheral activity, possibly (considering the ard marks identified) related to agriculture or (considering the burnt flint and other burnt remains identified) to burning/ground set fires.
- 7.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval Activity (Figure 4, Plate 6)

- 7.3.1 Within Trenches 1 and 3, natural deposits were immediately overlain by layers of agricultural plough soil ([11] and [20] respectively) which were approximately 0.30m thick and yielded fragments of pottery, CBM and glass. These artefacts indicated that this soil was formed from at least the early 19th-early 20th century, and possibly up to the construction of Spencer Works in the mid-20th century.
- 7.3.2 Layers of agricultural plough soil (deposits [26] and [83]) were also encountered within the Excavation Area. Artefacts retrieved from these layers provided a date of between 1780 and 1900. Considering their similar dating, character and levels, it is considered that these layers represent the same agricultural soil horizon encountered within Trenches 1 and 3.
- 7.3.3 Below the post-medieval agricultural horizon in the Excavation Area a 0.20-0.30m thick layer of fairly sterile subsoil (deposits [27] and [84], respectively) was observed. A friable layer of mid yellowish-brown sandy silt with gravel inclusions, it was similar to the deposits which filled the earlier prehistoric features. It is thus likely this layer also represents an alluvial deposit and would appear to represent a phase of abandonment of the site, although the lack of artefacts retrieved from it makes it difficult to date.
- 7.4 Phase 4: Modern Activity (Figures 3-4, Plates 1-2 & 6)
- 7.4.1 Truncating and overlying the post-medieval horizon were various features relating to the mid-20th century construction of Spencer Works. Within Trench 1, this included two walls [4] and [7] which were probably the remains of internal dividing walls within a former building of the Works. Within the Excavation Area a considerable number of modern intrusions cutting the natural may also relate to the construction of the Works.
- 7.4.2 Also relating to Spencer Works was a thick demolition/floor make-up layer and overlying concrete surface, encountered at the top of the sequence within each of the three trenches. Although the make-up layer was considerably thicker in Trench 3 (probably to make up for the greater depth of natural ground in this area), the concrete surface remained consistent across all three trenches at 3.69m OD.



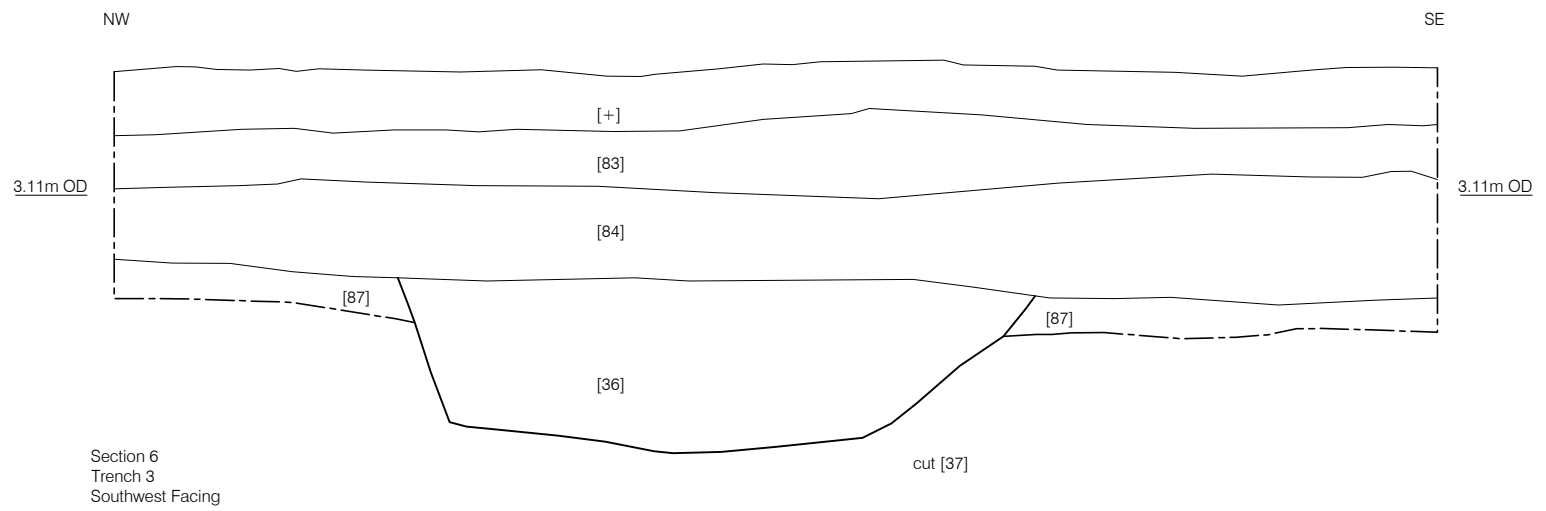


Plate 1: Modern wall [4] and natural deposit [14] in Trench 1, looking west



Plate 2: Modern and prehistoric features truncating natural [87] in the Excavation Area, looking east



Plate 3: Unexcavated prehistoric pit [39] in the Excavation Area, looking west



Plate 4: Excavated prehistoric pit [60] in the Excavation Area, looking west



Plate 5: Deepest prehistoric pit [37] excavated in the Excavation Area, looking south



Plate 6: General sequence exposed within the Excavation Area (south-facing section); natural sand and gravel [87], undated subsoil [82], post-medieval plough soil [83], modern demolition [+].



Plate 7: Dense pitting in north-west corner of the Excavation Area, looking southeast



Plate 8: Natural deposits [22] and [23] in Trench 3, looking north



8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The archaeological work encountered untruncated terrace gravels in Trench 1, Excavation Area and Trench 3 at levels of 2.95m OD, 2.96m OD and 2.50m OD, respectively. Although the natural topography was observed to be generally flat across the extent of the excavated areas, the difference in height suggests a drop in the natural topography between Trench 1 towards Trench 3 in the east. This is most likely associated with the north-south flowing watercourse identified just to the east of the site at Manser Road, which is thought to be a survival of an ancient watercourse that laid down the archaeo-alluvial deposits on that site (Compass Archaeology 2004).
- 8.2 Prehistoric activity was identified on the site in the form of 22 prehistoric and probably prehistoric features, including pits, postholes and ard marks. Although activity appears to have been fairly considerable, with pitting particularly dense across the northwest corner of the Excavation Area, its complete absence from Trenches 1 and 3 may indicate that activity was restricted to within a fairly small area. The absence of obvious structural remains suggests the area did not witness settlement, but rather was the site of some kind of minimal, peripheral activity, possibly associated with agriculture or burning/hearth use.
- 8.3 This activity may be contemporaneous with, and possibly related to, the more extensive prehistoric activity evidenced at Manser Road, just c 30m east of the site and the Mardyke Estate to the northwest (Beasley 2014). At Manser Road there is also evidence of much burning activity (including a burnt mound) which may account for the burnt remains found within samples taken from the Spencer Works site (Compass Archaeology 2004).
- 8.4 Although some pottery fragments retrieved from the aforementioned features could be accommodated within local Romano-British traditions, no definitively Roman artefacts or deposits were encountered.
- 8.5 No medieval deposits or artefacts were encountered.
- 8.6 After an apparently long-lasting abandonment of the site, during which features were heavily eroded and overlain by alluvial deposits, the site once again witnessed use during the late post-medieval period, in the form of agricultural ploughing. Prehistoric activity at Manser Road was also sealed by sterile alluvium that extended through to the post-medieval period and the two sites may have been affected by the same flooding episodes, presumably connected with the ancient watercourse identified at Manser Road. Upon the Spencer Works site, agricultural activity occurred from at least the early 19th - early 20th century and may have continued until the construction of Spencer Works during the mid-20th century.
- 8.7 Foundations remaining from the demolished Spencer Works (demolished in 2015) were noted in all trenches.

9 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES AND REVISED RESEARCH QUESTIONS

9.1 Original Research Aims and Objectives

9.1.1 The original research aims posed for the site were contained within the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016). These were:

- To determine if there is further evidence for prehistoric remains within the site as found in the evaluation.
- To determine if there is further evidence for Roman remains as found at nearby investigations.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.

9.1.2 The results of the excavation confirmed that there was indeed considerable further evidence for prehistoric activity within the site, consisting of 22 pits and 2 postholes most likely dated to the Middle Iron Age, but no definitive evidence for any Roman activity.

9.1.3 The results of the excavation and the evaluation combined also defined the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of all archaeological remains within the excavated areas. These are detailed within Section 7 and summarised in Section 8 Conclusions.

9.2 New Research Questions

9.2.1 Can the dating of the prehistoric activity on site be further refined? The grouping of all cut features on site into the same general prehistoric phase was based primarily on extrapolation from the few features containing dateable artefacts, some of which in any case provided only quite a broad date range. Could a comparison of prehistoric activity on nearby sites at the Mardyke Estate and Manser Road possibly allow a more refined phasing of the prehistoric activity on site and a better idea of when the site was first utilised, and ultimately abandoned?

9.2.2 Can the land use of the site during the prehistoric period be better defined? Although evidence for agricultural and burning activities exists on site, it is minimal; thus the function of the features, and the site in general, remains uncertain. Could further research on similarly dated sites in the vicinity clarify the land use?

9.2.3 Over what extent did the prehistoric activity exist? Archaeological works to date have revealed that activity was absent from Trenches 1 and 3 but relatively substantial within Trench 2. Studying the results of investigations at Manser Road and the Mardyke Estate may help to determine the extent of prehistoric activity in the area.

10 IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULTS, FURTHER WORK AND PUBLICATION PROPOSAL

10.1 Importance of the Results

10.1.1 Overall the results of the excavation are important at a local level as they demonstrate the use of this area during the prehistoric period, at a time when a number of sites in the surrounding area (e.g. Manser Road, Mardyke Estate) were also witnessing development.

10.1.2 The results of the excavation also demonstrate that the site was not developed again until the late post-medieval period when it began to be farmed. In this way, the results can again be seen as important at a local level, as much of the surrounding area is believed to have witnessed only marginal medieval/post-medieval agricultural development before the modern era.

10.2 Further Work

10.2.1 The results of this excavation should be compared to other similarly dated archaeological sites in the vicinity, most notably those at the Mardyke Estate (Beasley 2014) and Manser Road (Compass Archaeology 2004).

10.3 Prehistoric Pottery

10.3.1 In the absence of other dating evidence, the chronological credentials of the features that yielded prehistoric pottery should be treated with caution. In terms of our understanding of local and regional pottery traditions, neither the assemblage as a whole nor the individual sherds comprising it are of much interpretative use. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

10.4 Post-Roman Pottery

10.4.1 The post-Roman pottery has no significance, being fragmentary and consists particularly of very small sherds in a laminated state. This material has no research potential (except to date the deposits it was recovered from) and does not inform upon site activities. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

10.5 Lithics

10.5.1 The lithics assemblage contained 36 fragments of burnt flint but not a single flint that was struck. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

10.6 Environmental Samples

10.6.1 Relative to the initial sample size both residues were found to be generally poor in environmental remains. The majority of the extracted wood charcoal is too small to be identified, and though the larger pieces could be sent to an external specialist for further

analysis the paucity of suitably sized pieces suggests that this would likely not be cost effective when considering the relatively limited information it would yield.

10.7 **Publication Outline**

- 10.7.1 It is recommended that the publication should consist of a short note in the Round-up of the *London Archaeologist*.

11 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

11.1 The Paper Archive

- Context sheets (numbers [1]-[87]) 87
- Plans 4 (c. 18 sheets)
- Sections 6
- Environmental sample sheets 2

11.2 The Finds Archive

- Pottery 1 box
- Burnt flint 1 box
- CBM 2 bags
- Glass 2 bags

11.3 The Photographic Archive

- Digital images 250

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13 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 13.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank Peter North and Partners on behalf of Eurotraders Global Ltd for commissioning and funding this investigation and John Gould of Historic England for their advice and recommendations, and for monitoring the work.
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- 13.3 Special thanks are given to Helen Hawkins for her project management and Jon Butler for supervising the post-excavation work and editing of this report.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Phase	Provisional date
1	Trench 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [2]	3	Late C19th-20th
2	Trench 2	N/A	N/A	Cut	Post-Medieval Pit	3	Late C19th-20th
3	Trench 1	N/A	S.2	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [5]	4	Mid-Late C20th
4	Trench 1	Tr 1	S.2	Masonry	Spencer Works wall	4	Mid-Late C20th
5	Trench 1	N/A	S.2	Cut	Cut for [4]	4	Mid-Late C20th
6	Trench 1	N/A	S.2	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [8]	4	Mid-Late C20th
7	Trench 1	N/A	S.2	Masonry	Spencer Works wall	4	Mid-Late C20th
8	Trench 1	N/A	S.2	Cut	Cut for [7]	4	Mid-Late C20th
9	Trench 1	N/A	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Concrete Ground Level	4	Mid-Late C20th
10	Trench 1	N/A	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Rubble make-up for [9]	4	Mid-Late C20th
11	Trench 1	N/A	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Agricultural Soil	3	C19th- Early C20th
12	Trench 1	N/A	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Brickearth	1	Natural
13	Trench 1	N/A	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Natural Sand	1	Natural
14	Trench 1	Tr 1	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Natural Sandy Gravels	1	Natural
15	Trench 3	N/A	S.3 & S.4	Layer	Concrete Ground Level	4	Mid-Late C20th
16	Trench 3	N/A	S.3 & S.4	Layer	Rubble make-up for [15]	4	Mid-Late C20th
17	Trench 3	N/A	S.3	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [19]	4	Mid-Late C20th
18	Trench 3	Tr 3	S.3	Masonry	Spencer Works wall	4	Mid-Late C20th
19	Trench 3	N/A	S.3	Cut	Cut for [18]	4	Mid-Late C20th
20	Trench 3	N/A	S.3 & S.4	Layer	Agricultural Soil	3	C19th- Early C20th
21	Trench 3	N/A	S.3 & S.4	Layer	Brickearth	1	Natural
22	Trench 3	Tr 3	S.3 & S.4	Layer	Natural Sand	1	Natural
23	Trench 3	Tr 3	S.3 & S.4	Layer	Natural Sandy Gravels	1	Natural
24	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Layer	Concrete Ground Level	4	Mid-Late C20th
25	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Layer	Concrete Hardcore	4	Mid-Late C20th
26	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Layer	Agricultural Soil	3	Post-medieval
27	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Layer	Subsoil	3	Post-medieval

Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Phase	Provisional date
28	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Fill	Fill of [29]	2	Middle Iron Age
29	Trench 2	Tr 2	S.5	Cut	Iron Age Pit	2	Middle Iron Age
30	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Fill	Fill of [31]	2	Prehistoric
31	Trench 2	Tr 2	S.5	Cut	Ard Marks or Tree Bowl	2	Prehistoric
32	Trench 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [33]	2	Prehistoric
33	Trench 2	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Ard Mark	2	Prehistoric
34	Trench 2	Tr 2	S.5	Layer	Natural Sands & Gravels	1	Natural
35	Trench 1	N/A	S.1 & S.2	Layer	Gravels above brickearth [12]	1/2	Natural
36	Excavation Area	N/A	S. 6	Fill	Fill of [37]	2	Prehistoric
37	Excavation Area	Tr 2	S. 6	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
38	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [39]	2	Middle Iron Age or Romano British
39	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Middle Iron Age or Romano British
40	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [41]	2	Middle Iron Age
41	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Overcut post-hole?	2	Middle Iron Age
42	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [43]	2	Prehistoric
43	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
44	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [45]	2	Prehistoric
45	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
46	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [47]	2	Prehistoric
47	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
48	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [49]	2	Prehistoric
49	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-square pit	2	Prehistoric
50	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [51]	2	Prehistoric
51	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-rectangular pit	2	Prehistoric
52	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [53]	2	Prehistoric
53	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-square pit	2	Prehistoric
54	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [55]	2	Prehistoric
55	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Possible tree bowl or ard mark	2	Prehistoric

Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Phase	Provisional date
56	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [58]	2	Prehistoric
57	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Primary fill of [58]	2	Prehistoric
58	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Post-hole	2	Prehistoric
59	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [60]	2	Prehistoric
60	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-square pit	2	Prehistoric
61	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [62]	2	Prehistoric
62	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-rectangular pit	2	Prehistoric
63	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [64]	2	Prehistoric
64	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
65	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [6]]	2	Prehistoric
66	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
67	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [68]	2	Prehistoric
68	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-circular pit	2	Prehistoric
69	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [70]	2	Prehistoric
70	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-square pit	2	Prehistoric
71	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [72]	2	Prehistoric
72	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
73	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [74]	2	Middle Iron Age or Romano British
74	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Middle Iron Age or Romano British
75	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [76]	2	Prehistoric
76	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-oval pit	2	Prehistoric
77	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [78]	2	Prehistoric
78	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-circular pit	2	Prehistoric
79	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [80]	2	Prehistoric
80	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-square pit	2	Prehistoric
81	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [82]	2	Prehistoric
82	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-circular pit	2	Prehistoric
83	Excavation Area	N/A	S. 6	Layer	Plough soil	3	Late C18th-C19th

Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Phase	Provisional date
84	Excavation Area	N/A	S. 6	Layer	Layer of silty sand	3	Post Medieval
85	Excavation Area	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [86]	2	Prehistoric
86	Excavation Area	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Sub-circular pit	2	Prehistoric
87	Excavation Area	Tr 2	S. 6	Layer	Natural sand and gravel	1	Natural

APPENDIX 2: PREHISTORIC POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Mike Seager Thomas

The Spencer Road, Rainham, site yielded 33 prehistoric and possible prehistoric sherds. Seven fabrics are distinguishable within the assemblage (Table 1). Most probably they are of Middle Iron Age date. Burnished sherds from [40] resemble Middle Iron Age saucepan pottery, sherds from [33] and [73], Middle Iron Age S-shaped Wealden jar, and sherds from [28], Middle Iron Age shouldered pottery, such as that from Little Waltham (and other Thames Valley sites). Two fabrics, however, cannot be tied down to a particular prehistoric date (U and FMFC), three (FF, FFQ and FMFSQ) could be accommodated within Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age post Deverel-Rimbury pottery traditions, and both the fabric and, in so far as it can be reconstructed, the form of the 'Wealden' jar sherds can just about be accommodated within local Romano-British traditions. In the absence of other dating evidence, therefore, the chronological credentials of the features that yielded them should be treated with caution, while in terms of our understanding of local and regional pottery traditions, neither the assemblage as a whole nor the individual sherds comprising it are of much interpretative use.

Context	Number of sherds	Fabric	Other diagnostics; comments	Likely date
11	1	U	burnt	ND
28	26	FMFSQ,	thick sherds, pronounced shoulder, rounded rim	MIA
38	1	FQ1	burnished	MIA or RB
38	1	FF	none	too small to date
40	2	FFQ	burnished. Could be saucepan pot	MIA
44	1	FMFC	none	ND
73	1	FQ2	burnished; rounded, out-turned rim, <i>possibly</i> belonging to a Wealden jar	MIA or RB
Total probable prehistoric	33			
Key U = untempered; FMFSQ = decalcified shelly fabric with fine to medium flint and sparse–moderate quartz sand; FQ = fine (quartz) sandy fabric; FF = fine flint-tempered fabric; FFQ = fine sandy fine flint-tempered fabric; FMFC = fine to medium flint-tempered with (superficially) round voids, from grass or chaff.				

Table 1: Prehistoric pottery

APPENDIX 3: POST-ROMAN POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett

Introduction

The post-Roman pottery assemblage consists of eight sherds, representing eight estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weighing 23g. The pottery dates to the post-medieval period and more precisely the 19th century and possibly later. The condition of the pottery is poor and comprises sherd material consisting mostly of very small sherds, very little of which could be assigned to a form type. A number of sherds are laminated or abraded and indicates tertiary redeposition of the material. The pottery was recovered from three contexts and it is discussed as a spot dating index.

Spot dating index

Context [11], spot date: 1805-1900

X1 sherd of refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900, body, 5g

X1 sherd refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900, bowl: rim, simple, 2g

X1 sherd refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900, plate: rim, laminated, 2g

Context [20], spot date: 1820-1900

X1 sherd of dyed-bodied refined earthenware (DYE), 1820-1900, body, laminated, 1g

X1 sherd of miscellaneous unsourced post-medieval pottery (MISC), 1480-1900, redware, body sherd, 1g.

X1 sherd of pearl ware (PEAR), 1770-1840, body, laminated, 1g

X1 sherd refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900, body, Willow pattern, laminated, 1g

X1 sherd refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900, laminated, 1g

Context [83], spot date: 1780-1900

X1 sherd refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900, plate: rim, 10g

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The post-Roman pottery has no significance, being fragmentary and consists particularly of very small sherds in a laminated state. This material has no research potential (except to date the deposits it was recovered from) and does not inform upon site activities. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

APPENDIX 4: LITHIC ASSESSMENT

By Barry Bishop

None of the flint was struck. The burnt flint comprises:

34 fragments of variably burnt flint weighing a total of 535g from context [28]

1 fragment of heavily burnt flint weigh 22g from context [32]

1 fragment of moderately burnt flint from context [65]

The moderate or variable degree that the flint has been burnt to is typical of the 'incidental' heating of flint from ground set fires and suggests hearth use at the site but is, by itself, undateable.

APPENDIX 5: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

By Kate Turner

Introduction

This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of two bulk samples taken during excavation on land at Spencer Works, in Rainham. The first was taken from the fill of a Middle Iron Age pit during the site evaluation phase, and the second taken from the fill of a sub-oval pit also thought to date from the prehistoric period (Table 1).

The aim of this initial assessment is to gauge the environmental potential of these deposits, and to make suggestions as to any additional work that needs to be undertaken.

Methodology

Two bulk samples were processed using the floatation method; sample <1> consisting of 8 litres of unprocessed material, and sample <2> 34 litres. Material was collected using a 300µm mesh, for the light fraction and a 1mm mesh for the heavy residue. These were then air dried and the heavy residue sieved using 1 and 2mm metal sieves. The >2mm fractions were sorted to recover any artefacts or organic material, which were bagged and labelled for further analysis, whilst the fine fraction (<1mm) was discarded as it was deemed sterile. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates the category of material is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates occurrence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of the material type (>100 items), and then entered into the environmental database. The results for this stage of the assessment are shown in Table 2.

After drying the light fraction was scanned using a low-power binocular microscope, in order to quantify any environmental remains such as seeds, charred grains, molluscs, small animal bone and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. The results of this assessment are shown in Table 3.

Results and Discussion

Residues

The residues contained very little in the way of artefacts or environmental evidence, producing only low levels of charcoal and some flint. Sample <1> contained frequent charcoal fragments ranging in size from around 5mm to 20mm in length, whilst a lesser amount were found in sample <2>, in the region of 10 specimens of between 2 and 4mm in length. Some of the larger pieces in samples <1> may be identifiable to species, however the majority from both samples are too small to yield any further diagnostic information and it is not recommended that any additional work be carried out on these.

Both samples <1> and <2> contained pieces of flint, with sample <1> yielding between 20 and 30 fragments of burnt flint of varying size, from around 10 mm to 80 mm in length. The specimens in

sample <2> consist of a single large piece of around 65mm in length, that may show some evidence of industry, along with three small flint chips which could be debitage from the production of larger artefacts.

Flots

The two samples processed produced flots of 44ml, and 21ml respectively. Both of these contained fragments of charcoal, though as before the frequency was lower in sample <2>, and the pieces too small to be of diagnostic value. In contrast, the majority of the light residue for sample <1> was made up of charcoal; mostly small fragments of between 2 and 10mm, but also several large chunks that could be passed onto a specialist for further identification. Several small fragments of unburned wood (<5mm in length) were also found in sample <2>.

Environmental evidence was otherwise relatively sparse; a small amount of insect remains was found in both samples, with a greater frequency in sample <2>, most of which appear to be fly cocoons though a single head casing has been identified. Both samples also contained low concentrations of seeds, with again a higher quantity in sample <2>. Flowering plant taxa, such as *Chemopodium Album* (Fat Hen) and *Veronica Hederifolia* (Ivy-leaved Speedwell) are dominant, however burnt grain fragments were also discovered in sample <1>, the bulk of which are too charred to identify indicating that they have been subject to prolonged high temperature burning. Charred seeds were also found in samples <1> and <2>, though as with the grain, the majority were burned beyond recognition. Full details of the seeds and grains identified in both samples can be found in Table 4.

Aside from the environmental remains, small fragments of coal were also found in both samples. When taking into account the size of these pieces (<4mm) and thus the potential for post depositional re-working these should however be treated with caution if used to inform on industrial activities during the period of deposition.

Recommendations for further work

Relative to the initial sample size both residues were found to be generally poor in environmental remains. The majority of the extracted wood charcoal is too small to be identified, and though the larger chunks could be sent to an external specialist for further analysis the paucity of suitably sized pieces suggests that this would likely not be cost effective when considering the relatively limited information it would yield.

Site Code	Context No.	Location	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Phase	Highest Level	Lowest Level	Enviro Sample	Provisional Date	Findings	Notes
SNC 15	28	Trench 2	N/A	S.5	Fill	Fill of [29]	3	2.92m OD	2.81m OD	1	N/A	Pot & Burnt Flint	EVAL
SNC 15	29	Trench 2	Tr 2	S.5	Cut	Bronze Age Pit	3	2.92m OD	2.81m OD		Bronze Age	N/A	EVAL
SNC 15	44	Trench 1	1		Fill	Fill of [45]		2.65m	2.65 OD	2	N/A	Pot & Struck Flint	
SNC 15	45	Trench 1	1		Cut	Sub-oval pit		2.65m	2.36 OD		Prehistoric	N/A	

Table 1: Context information for environmental samples, SNC15

Sample number	Context number	Feature	Volume (litres)	Residue								
				Charcoal (<2mm)	Charcoal (2-4mm)	Charcoal (>4mm)	Seeds/grain	Shells	Bone	Building material	Artefacts	
1	28	Pit	8	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	Burnt Flint (3)
2	44	Pit	34	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Worked flint (1) Struck Flint (1)

Table 2: Assessment of residues, SNC15

Sample Number	1	2
Uncharred seeds		
<i>Brassica sp.</i>	0	2
<i>Carex sp.</i>	1	4
<i>Chenopodium Album</i>	5	13
<i>Drosera Anglica</i>	0	1
<i>Rubus sp.</i>	1	1
<i>Rumex sp.</i>	0	1
<i>Sinapis Alba</i>	0	1
<i>Spergularia sp.</i>	0	1
<i>Veronica Hederifolia</i>	6	4
Charred Seeds		
<i>Brassicaceae sp.</i>	0	4
<i>Rumex sp.</i>	0	2
Too charred to ID	3	3
Charred Grain		
<i>Triticum sp.</i>	1	0
Too charred to ID	7	0
Other		<i>Nuphar</i> seed cases (x3) Broken seed cases (x4)

Table 3: Assessment of flots, SNC15 ('disc' indicates discarded fraction)

Sample number	Context number	Feature	Volume (litres)	Flot							
				Vol (ml)	Charcoal <3mm	Charcoal >3mm	Seeds (uncharred)	Seeds (charred)	Grains	Mollusca	Other
1	28	Pit	8	44	3 (disc '4')	3 (disc 2)	2	1	1	0	Insect remains (1) Coal (2)
2	44	Pit	34	21	disc (4)	3	2	1	0	0	Insect remains (3 disc 3) unburnt wood frags (2) coal (3)

Table 4: Assessment of seeds, grains and plant remains, SNC15

APPENDIX 6: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM**OASIS ID: preconst1-249413****Project details**

Project name	Land at Spencer Works, Spencer Road, Rainham, Essex: Assessment of an Archaeological Excavation
Short description of the project	This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological excavation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Spencer Works, Spencer Road, in the London Borough of Havering. Both the excavation, and an earlier evaluation on the site, were commissioned by Peter North and Partners on behalf of Eurotraders Global Limited. The excavation and evaluation together involved the excavation of one area measuring approximately 18.50m x 12.50m (Trench 2) and two smaller trenches to the north and east (Trenches 1 and 3). Natural deposits were noted in all three trenches. Prehistoric pits, post-holes and ard marks were identified in Trench 2 but were absent entirely from Trenches 1 and 3. Their excavation and analysis suggest they relate to relatively low-level prehistoric activity, possibly associated with agriculture or burning/hearth use, and that they may be peripheral to and associated with the more extensive prehistoric activity evidenced at Manser Road c 30m east of the site. After a long phase of abandonment, the site witnessed activity once again during the late post-medieval period in the form of agricultural ploughing. Occurring from at least the early 19th - early 20th century this activity may have continued until the construction of Spencer Works during the mid-20th century. Foundations remaining from the demolished Spencer Works (demolished in 2015) were noted in all trenches.
Project dates	Start: 08-02-2016 End: 17-02-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SNC15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Iron Age
Monument type	POST-HOLE Iron Age
Monument type	ARD MARKS Iron Age
Monument type	PLOUGH SOIL Post Medieval
Monument type	INDUSTRIAL BUILDING Modern
Significant Finds	POT Iron Age
Significant Finds	BURNT FLINT Uncertain
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Full Excavation"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAVERING RAINHAM Spencer Works, Spencer Road, Rainham, Essex
Postcode	RM13 8HF
Study area	1550 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 55087 18277 50.9425 0.207777777778 50 56 33 N 000 12 28 E Point
Lat/Long Datum (other)	3.61m OD
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2.5m Max: 2.96m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Peter North and Partners
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	Maria Buczak
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Peter North and Partners

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Contents	"Environmental","Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Plan","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Spencer Works, Spencer Road, Rainham, Essex: Assessment of an

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Author(s)/Editor(s) Buczak, M.
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