

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT ORCHARD HOUSE
12 TOTTERIDGE VILLAGE, LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET, N20 8JP**

Site Code: TTD16

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Barnet

Planning Application Number: 15/05972/FUL

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 25098 93951

Written By: Aidan Turner
Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, June 2016

Project Manager: Tim Bradley

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting

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

Tel: 020 7732 3925

Fax: 020 7732 7896

E-mail: tbradley@pre-construct.com

Web: www.pre-construct.com

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PCA Report Number: R12530

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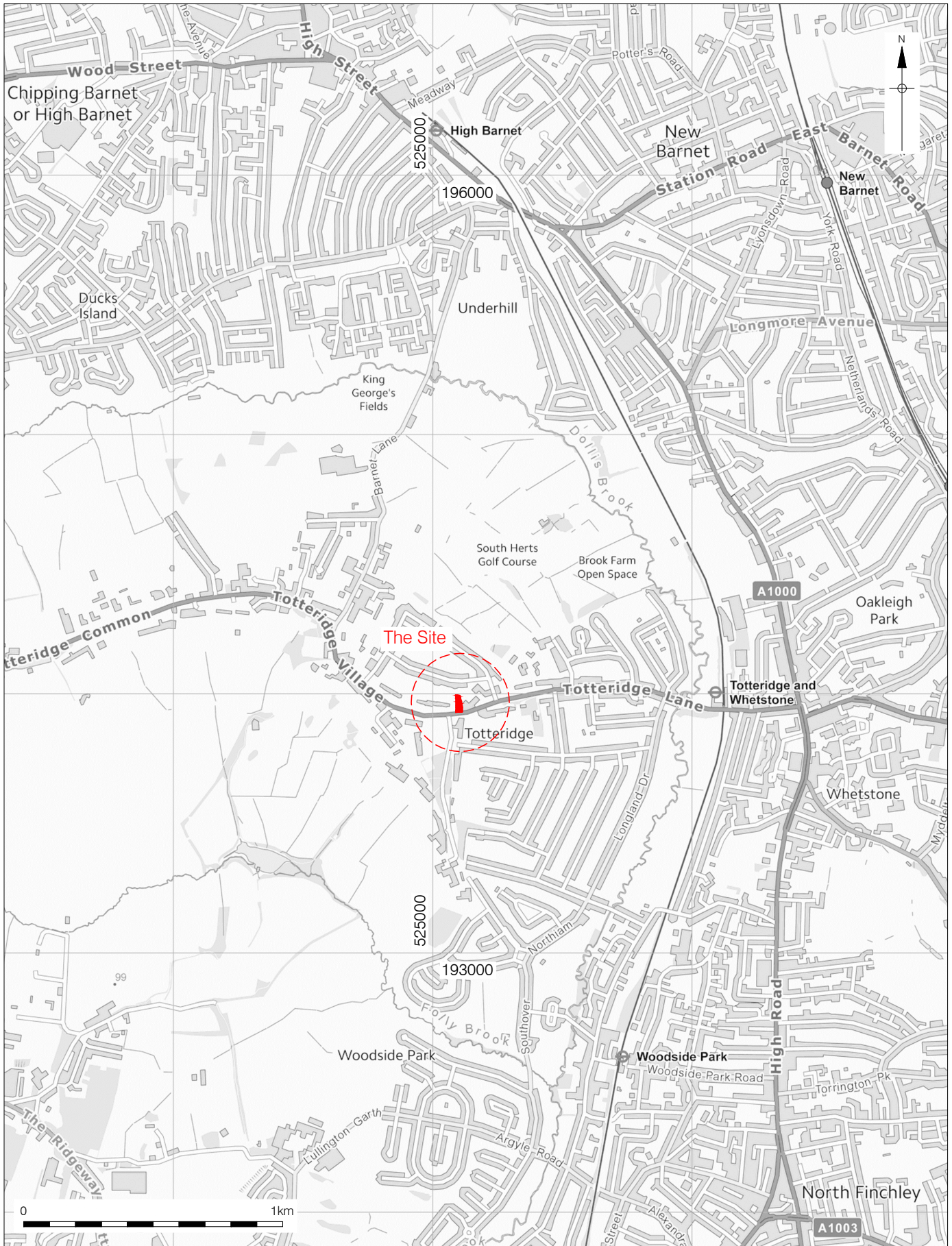
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Orchard House, 12 Totteridge Village, London Borough of Barnet, N20 8JP (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken from 8th June 2016 until 10th June 2016, following site visits in January. A single area of re-development comprising the entire basement footprint of the new dwelling was observed.
- 1.1.3 Deposits of late post-medieval and modern made ground were recorded, along with their relationship with a standing garden wall, which is preserved as a listed structure. These features overlay a geological sequence forming the sequence of drift geology in the locale.
- 1.1.4 No archaeological deposits pre-dating the later post-medieval period were recorded during the watching brief.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) on land at Orchard House, 12 Totteridge Village, London Borough of Barnet (Figure 1).
- 2.1.2 The site was subject to a planning application (Application 15/05972/FUL) for a new replacement dwelling comprising of basement, ground, and first floor, with roof space accommodation.
- 2.1.3 The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting. The field investigation was supervised by the author, Aidan Turner. The archaeological project manager was Tim Bradley of PCA.
- 2.1.4 The work was undertaken following an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2016, and the site works were monitored by Laura O’Gorman of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), on behalf of the London Borough of Barnet.
- 2.1.5 Following initial site visits in January, the excavation works were observed from 8th June 2016 until 10th June 2016. This work was conducted under the supervision of Aidan Turner of PCA.
- 2.1.6 The site is located within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Barnet in their Unitary Development Plan. This Archaeological Priority Area is associated with the area’s likely Saxon and medieval origins.
- 2.1.7 During the watching brief deposits of late post-medieval and modern made ground were recorded, along with their relationship with a standing garden wall, which is preserved as a listed structure. These features were found to overlie an ancient alluvial sequence, forming the sequence of drift geology in the locale.
- 2.1.8 The site records will be archived at the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the site code TTD16.

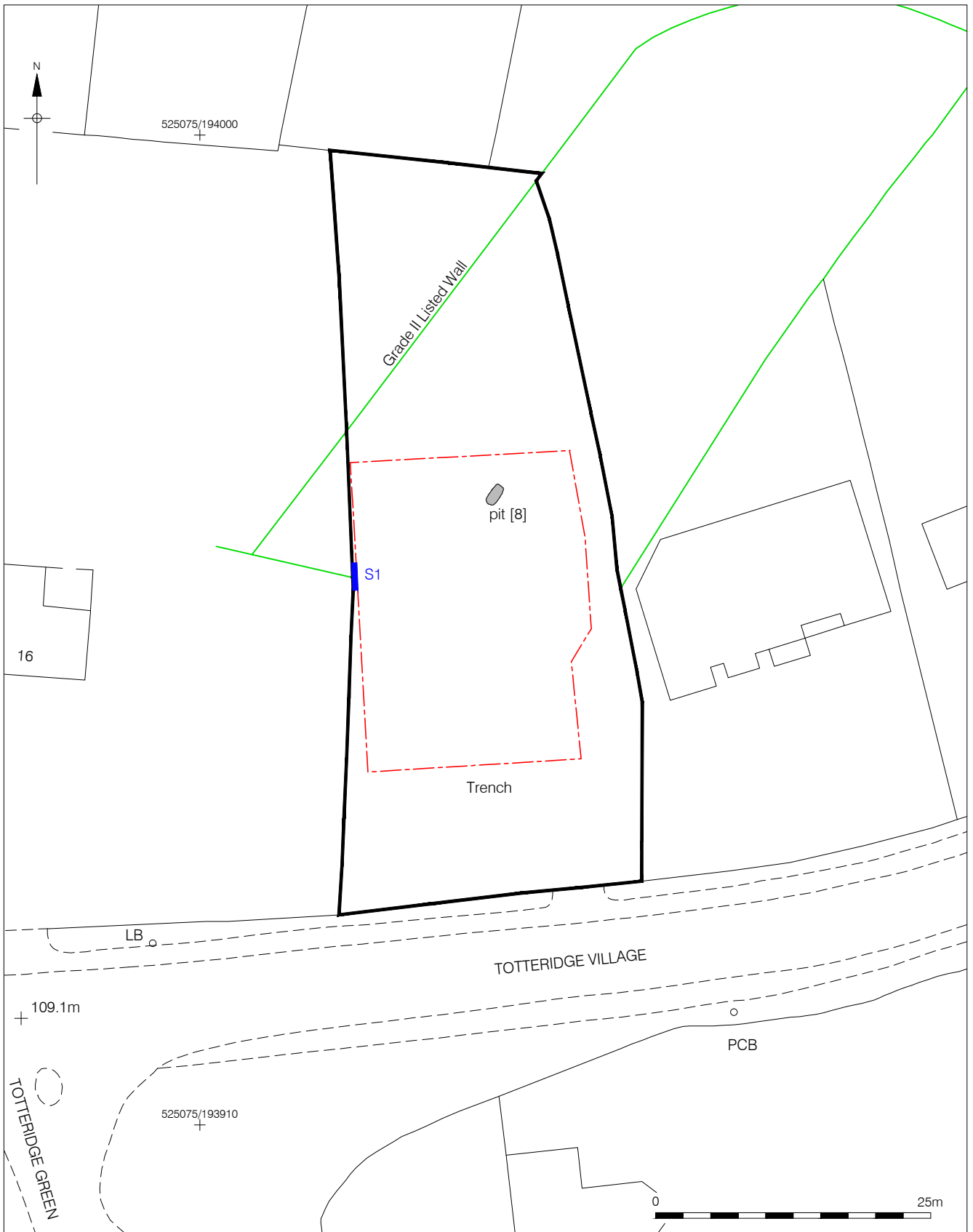


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23/06/16 JS

Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:500 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1.1 A planning application was submitted (Application 15/05972/FUL) for a new replacement dwelling comprising of basement, ground, and first floor with roof space accommodation.

3.1.2 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the London Borough of Barnet, associated with the area's likely Saxon and medieval origins. In accordance with national, regional and local policies, the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) therefore recommended to the London Borough of Barnet that the following planning condition should be attached to planning permission:

Condition - No demolition or development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition or development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include the statement of significance and research objectives, and: -

A. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works.

B. The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.

Informative -The written scheme of investigation will need to be prepared and implemented by a suitably professionally accredited archaeological practice in accordance with Historic England's Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London. This condition is exempt from deemed discharge under schedule 6 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

3.1.3 In accordance with the above condition, PCA was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation to detail the methodology by which archaeological works would be undertaken at the site.

3.1.4 This report details the results of the archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the approved WSI.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.1.1 The site lies close to the boundary of the Claygate Member and London Clay formations – clay, silt and sand sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas. No drift geology is recorded as being present on site. Despite this, during the watching brief a sequence of natural clays and gravels was recorded which are more suggestive of drift river terrace-type deposition than London Clay (see Section 7).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1.1 The following archaeological and historical background is taken from the Written Scheme of Investigation for the site.

- 5.1.2 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the London Borough of Barnet:

A) *Totteridge*

The area probably originated in the Saxon period, based on its name, which can be denoted as Tata's ridge (drier land ridge). Copped Hall was first mentioned in the 16th century and it has been suggested that it was the manor house for the Totteridge area. St Andrews Church is dated to the medieval period (1066-1539 AD).

- 5.1.3 A Greater London Historic Environment Record Search has been commissioned for a 750m radius around the site as part of the preparation of this WSI. No prehistoric, Roman or medieval finds have been recorded within the search area, and the results of the search generally reflect the rural nature of the area throughout the historic period, with a number of listed 17th and 18th century timber framed barns and farm houses being recorded within the search area. Of note within the search area is Copped Hall, a country house first mentioned as being held by John Copwood, who died in 1543, which may have been the original manor of Totteridge. This was located some 500m to the west of the site, opposite St Andrew's Church (now occupied by 33 Totteridge Village).

- 5.1.4 Equally the site is likely to have been located within the former grounds of Pointer's Grove which is known to have been in existence by the mid-17th century and is probably of an earlier date. It was the home of Sir Richard Gurney, the Lord Mayor of London who died in the Tower of London in 1647.

- 5.1.5 A listed structure, in the form of a rather imposing late 17th to early 18th century garden wall bisects the development site from east to west in a north easterly direction. This is part of a pair of parallel walls which once formed the boundary of a walled garden, or orchard, attached to Pointers Hall. This is described in the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record as a: -

'...U-shaped wall approximately 170 yds. long to rear of Nos 8, 10, 12 and 16. Probably late 17thC. 9 ft. plum and red brick wall partly capped with 3 ft. addition of 18thC. Originally forming walled garden to Poynters Hall.'

5.1.6 Pointer's Grove is still shown extant on the Ordnance survey of 1868 and is shown surrounded on three sides by an area of cultivated land which corresponds to the location of the walled garden.

5.1.7 The house and gardens were apparently still standing in 1926 as they were captured in a series of sketches of the house and surrounds by S.M. Litten, drawn for Cecil Harmsworth. These may have been drawn shortly before its demolition (Cecil Harmsworth King, 20 February 1901 – 17 April 1987, was chairman of Daily Mirror Newspapers, Sunday Pictorial Newspapers and the International Publishing Corporation (1963–68), and a director at the Bank of England (1965–68)., who was born and resided there).

6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1.1 In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2016), the excavation works were arranged in order to fully investigate the underlying drift geology and the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains.
- 6.1.2 The watching brief comprised the observation of excavation works undertaken during preparatory works for the construction of a basement and swimming pool sub-basement, as part of the re-development of Orchard House.
- 6.1.3 Under the supervision of the attending archaeologist, a 13 tonne excavator, equipped with a flat-bladed bucket, was used to reduce the ground surface. Excavation progressed through modern material until the top of the natural geology was discernible. Natural gravel deposits were exposed across the extent of the excavations.
- 6.1.4 All recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in London, that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, later re-published by Museum of London Archaeology (MoLAS 1994). Individual descriptions of all archaeological and geological strata, along with features excavated and exposed, were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on polyester based drawing film, the plans being at scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:20. The OD heights of all principle strata were calculated from an engineer's datum, previously established on the site, and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. A photographic record was also kept during the watching brief.
- 6.1.5 On site recording and survey was conducted using hand tape methods. Records were tied into developers site plans in order to establish the locations of features of interest.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

The character of this site consisted of a sequence of modern garden soils, late post-medieval features and natural deposits.

Phase 1 – Quaternary Deposits

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposit observed during the watching brief consisted of a homogeneous mid-yellowish brown silty clay layer. This was seen at a depth of 1.72m below a previously installed pile cap beam in the north western corner of the site. The deposit was seen to rise somewhat to the east, across the area of excavation, to a maximum of one metre higher in the centre of the site.
- 7.1.2 This deposit was given the designation context [6] and was recorded at heights of between 106m and 104.92m OD.
- 7.1.3 Although the British Geological Survey of the area shows the area of the site to be underlain by the Claygate Member of the London Clay Formation, with no superficial deposits recorded, it is likely that these deposits are part of a later geological sequence, rather than being part of the older Paleogene marine deposit.
- 7.1.4 Overlying the clay deposits was a 1.7m thick layer of loose yellow gravelly coarse sand. This deposit contained frequent well rounded, sub spherical to elongated flint gravels some 30 to 70mm in diameter.
- 7.1.5 This deposit was given the designation context [5] and was found at a height of 107.60 m AOD.
- 7.1.6 As the British Geological Survey of the area does not record superficial deposits in the location of the site, it cannot be ascertained with great accuracy which geological sequence these gravels are assigned to. It is, however, most likely that they belong to river terrace type deposits, perhaps laid down during the Quaternary period, approximately 2 – 3 million years ago.



Plate 1. North facing shot of excavations showing recently exposed natural sands and gravels



Plate 2. West facing shot of excavations, showing basement pile wall, sands & gravels and underlying clays. Scale 0.5m in length.

Phase 2- Holocene to Post Medieval Period

Modified Subsoil

7.1.7 An extensive deposit was observed just below a modern piling mat recently installed on the site. This deposit, recorded as context [4], was compact in nature, mid brown and had a clay silt sand matrix. It contained frequent well rounded gravels with occasional flecks of brick and tile, mortar and charcoal flecks. This was interpreted as being a modified subsoil deposit.

7.1.8 The deposit was approximately 0.25m thick and was recorded at an approximate height of 107.m AOD.

Phase 3- Post Medieval Activity

Waste Pit and Fill

7.1.9 A sub –rectangular pit was observed at the northern area of the excavations, apparently cut into the modified sub soil. On examination this proved to have very steeply sloping straight sides with a slightly concave base.

7.1.10 This feature was given the designation context [8] and was observed at a height of 107.85m AOD. It was 1.98m long, 1.00m wide and around 0.90m in depth.

7.1.11 The pit had been backfilled with a compact deposit of light grey clayey silt sand [7], which contained frequent well rounded flint gravels, along with moderate amounts of ceramic building material, pottery, mortar and clay tobacco pipe fragments. It is assumed this represents the fill of a late post-medieval waste pit, perhaps associated with Pointers House and its gardens. The finds recovered only provide a broad date range for the feature of between the late 17th and mid-19th centuries.



Plate 3. South facing shot of post-med. waste pit, exposed during excavation of new basement.

Garden Wall

- 7.1.12 A listed structure, in the form of a late 17th to early 18th century garden wall, bisects the development site from east to west in a north easterly direction. This is part of a pair of parallel walls which once formed the boundary of a walled garden attached to Pointers Hall.
- 7.1.13 This is described in the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record as a: -
'...U-shaped wall approximately 170 yds. long to rear of Nos 8, 10, 12 and 16. Probably late 17thC. 9 ft. plum and red brick wall partly capped with 3 ft. addition of 18thC. Originally forming walled garden to Poynters Hall.'
- 7.1.14 Although the main body of this structure is not in any way affected by the development as it passes through the site someway to the north, a smaller return to this wall abuts the development on the western boundary of the site. The terminus of this wall had been exposed in section during enabling works prior to the construction of a contiguous pile wall, on this side of the site.
- 7.1.15 The lower section of this wall was recorded in section, along with later deposits built up against it.
- 7.1.16 The wall was constructed of unfroged red stock brick, with occasional sand face, laid in Flemish Bond. The bricks were recorded as having the dimensions 225x100x50mm and had been bonded with white lime mortar, containing chalk flecks. It reached a total observed height of 2.05, 1.3m of which was above current ground level. The wall was 0.36m in width,

increasing a little towards the base to form a footing 0.4m wide.

- 7.1.17 The garden wall was given the designation context [3] and was found at a height of 110.3m AOD.



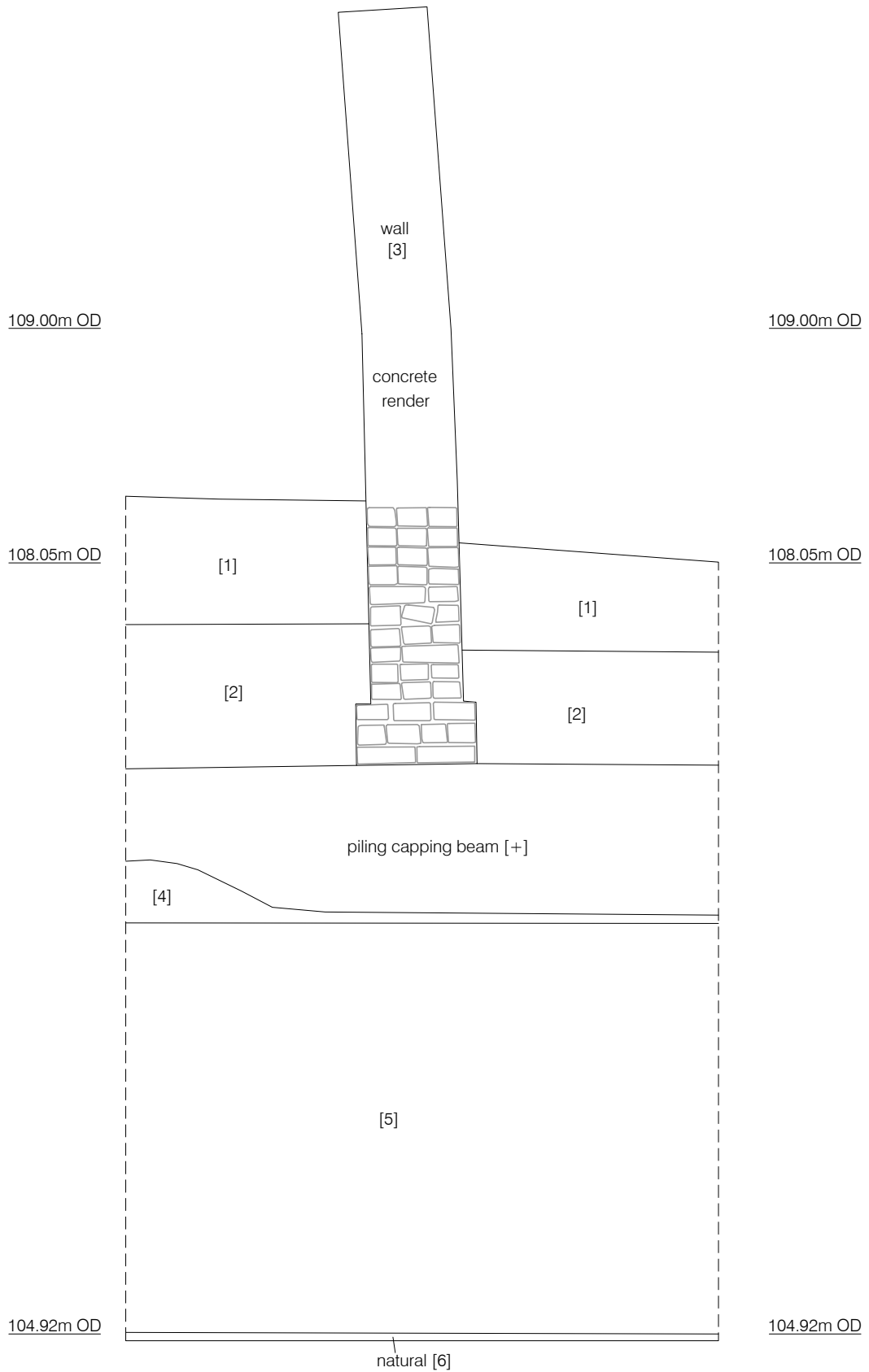
Plate 4. North West facing shot of listed structure bisecting both the site and the neighbouring property.



Plate 5. West facing shot of listed structure on neighbouring property, abutting the edge of the development. Scale 0.5m

S

N



Section 1
East Facing

Phase 4- Modern Developments

Modified Subsoil

- 7.1.18 This deposit was recorded in exposed on the western edge of site, during enabling works for the contiguous pile wall. Although the pile cap beam partially obscured full observation of the sedimentary sequence here, it was apparent that this layer had built up over time against the garden wall (recorded as context [3]). The deposit was recorded in Section 1 as being compact in nature, light grey and having a clay silt sand matrix. It contained frequent well rounded gravels with occasional flecks of brick and tile, mortar and charcoal flecks. This was interpreted as being a modified subsoil deposit.
- 7.1.19 The deposit was 0.56m to 0.44m thick and where recorded was found at a heights of between 107.8m AOD and 107.7m AOD.

Garden Topsoil

- 7.1.20 The subsoil deposit was covered by a 0.38m to 0.52m thick layer of garden topsoil. This was formed of a friable, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand, which contained frequent well rounded flints and plant roots, interspersed with occasional fragments of ceramic building material and charcoal flecks.
- 7.1.21 The deposit was found at a height of between 108.1m AOD 108.35m AOD.

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1.1 The site investigation recorded some evidence for the development of the upper parts of the drift (superficial) geology of the area.
- 8.1.2 Although the site lies within an Archaeology Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Barnet, which was established due to the potential for the presence of archaeological finds and features from the medieval period, no evidence was found dating from this or any earlier periods. However, the presence of intact subsoil sealing the natural deposits suggests that this was due to an absence of such features, rather than later truncation of the potential archaeological horizon.
- 8.1.3 A post-medieval waste pit was recorded at the northern end of the developed area and records were produced showing aspects of the retained listed structure of the garden wall. These features appear to relate to the former use of the site as an area of walled garden attached to the historic 'Pointers Grove' which lay a small way to the south west of the site of investigation.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1.1 PCA would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning this project and Laura O'Gorman of Historic England GLAAS for monitoring the fieldwork.
- 9.1.2 We also thank Kevin Quinn, of Quinn Construction and his workforce for their assistance on site.
- 9.1.3 The author would like to thank Chris Jarrett for dating the finds, the CAD office for the illustrations and Tim Bradley for project management and editing.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

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Bradley, T. 2016 Land Orchard House, 12 Totteridge Village, London Borough Of Barnet, N20 8JP; Written Scheme Of Investigation For An Archaeological Watching Brief, PCA unpublished report

APPENDIX 1: OASIS

Project details

Project name	Orchard House, 12 Totteridge Village, Barnet
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Orchard House, 12 Totteridge Village, London Borough of Barnet, N20 8JP. The work was undertaken from the 8th of June 2016 until 10th June 2016. A single area of re-development was observed. Deposits of late post-medieval and modern made ground were recorded, along with their relationship with a standing garden wall, which is preserved as a listed monument. These features overlay a geological sequence forming the sequence of drift geology in the locale. No archaeological features pre-dating the post-medieval period were recorded during the watching brief.
Project dates	Start: 06-06-2016 End: 08-06-2016
Previous/future work	Not known / No
Any associated project reference codes	TTD 16 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	15/05972/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	GARDEN WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BARNET BARNET Orchard House, 12 Totteridge Village
Postcode	N20 8JP
Study area	600 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 25098 93951 51.629964502352 -0.192377659107 51 37 47 N 000 11 32 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 107.6m Max: 107.6m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Project brief originator	Tim Bradley
Project design originator	Tim Bradley
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley

Project supervisor	Aidan Turner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Private Client
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Section"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT ORCHARD HOUSE 12 TOTTERIDGE VILLAGE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET N20 8JP
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Turner, A.
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Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
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Entered by	Tim Bradley (tbradley@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	15 June 2016

APPENDIX 2: CERAMIC FINDS ASSESSMENT

This assessment was produced following personal communication with ceramic materials specialist Chris Jarrett of PCA (London Office).

Introduction

A small sized assemblage of ceramic materials was recovered from the site (two items). This consisted of one fragment of clay tobacco pipe and a sherd of pottery, both recovered from fill [7] of pit [8].

Clay Tobacco Pipe

The tobacco pipe stem fragment recovered dates to the post-medieval period and more so the period 1580 to 1740.

Pottery Sherd

The pottery dates to the post-medieval period from between the mid-17th C and mid-19th century. It consisted of a single sherd of fine red earthenware of local production. There is no official fabric type for this material.

The classification of the pottery types follows that of the Museum of London Archaeology (Museum of London Archaeology 2012) typology (form and fabric series).

APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context No.	Type	Description	Plan No.	Section / Elevation	Dimensions N-S (m)	Dimensions E-W (m)	Depth / Thickness (m)	Highest Level (m AOD)	Lowest Level (m AOD)	Phase
TTD 15	1	Layer	Friable, dark bluish grey, clay silt sand, freq. well rounded flints & roots occa. CBM & charcoal, dirty topsoil	n/a	1	28.5	21	0.52 to 0.38	108.35	108.1	4
TTD 15	2	Layer	Compact, light grey, clay silt sand, freq. well rounded gravels occa. CBM, mortar & charcoal, modified subsoil	n/a	1	28.5	21	0.56 to 0.44	107.8	107.7	4
TTD 15	3	Masonry	Red stock brick, frogless, occa. sand face, 225x100x50mm, white lime mortar with chalk flecks, garden wall	n/a	1	0.36	n/a	2.05	110.3	110.3	3
TTD 15	4	Layer	Compact, mid brown, clay silt sand, freq. well rounded gravels very occa. CBM, mortar & charcoal, modified subsoil	n/a	1	28.5	21	0.25	107.85	107	2
TTD 15	5	Layer	Compact, yellow, gravelly coarse sand, freq. well rounded flint gravels, probably alluvial deposit	n/a	1	28.5	21	1.68	107.6	107.6	1
TTD 15	6	Layer	Firm, mid brown, silt clay, very homogeneous deposit, probably alluvial deposit	n/a	1	28.5	21	not known	116	104.9	1
TTD 15	7	Fill	Compact, light grey, clay silt sand, freq. well rounded gravels mod. CBM, mortar & CTP, post-medieval pit fill	8	n/a	1.98	1	0.9	107	107	3
TTD 15	8	Cut	Sub-rectangular, very steeply sloping straight sides, slightly concave base, post-medieval waste pit	8	n/a	1.98	1	0.0	107	106.0	3

APPENDIX 4: SITE MATRIX

