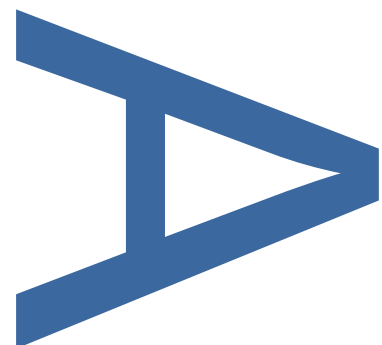
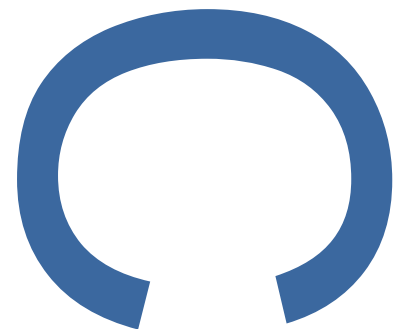


**EDEN PARK HIGH SCHOOL,
BALMORAL AVENUE,
BECKENHAM, LONDON BOROUGH
OF BROMLEY: AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

SITE CODE: EDE18

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY**

MARCH 2018





PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

**EDEN PARK HIGH SCHOOL, BALMORAL AVENUE, BECKENHAM,
LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY:
Type of project**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
Quality Control**

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code		K5127	
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Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved
1 client comments	22.3.18	HH	CM
2 GLAAS comments	9.10.18	HH	CM

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**EDEN PARK HIGH SCHOOL, BALMORAL AVENUE, BECKENHAM, LONDON
BOROUGH OF BROMLEY: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Site Code: EDE18

Central NGR: TQ 36435 68023

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Bromley

Planning Reference: 16/03145

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March 2018

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the result of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Eden Park High School, Balmoral Avenue, Beckenham, in the London Borough of Bromley. The archaeological work was conducted in March 2018 and was completed in accordance with the standards specified by the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists and following the guidelines issued by Historic England.
- 1.2 Fourteen trenches were excavated and archaeologically recorded to the specifications in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2017).
- 1.3 The archaeological evaluation found natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation at a highest level of 38.14m OD in Trench 12, located in the southern part of the site. The lowest level at which the natural was recorded was 35.69m OD in Trench 2.
- 1.4 The site generally consisted of a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil. However, in six of the trenches (Trenches 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, and 13) an additional colluvial deposit was found.
- 1.5 No evidence of any Roman, Saxon or medieval or post-medieval archaeology was found.
- 1.6 20th century activity was recorded in the form of the remains of a bowling green at the north end of site.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 An archaeological evaluation commissioned by CGMS Heritage (part of the RPS Group) was undertaken at Eden Park High School, Balmoral Avenue, Beckenham, in the London Borough of Bromley between 5th and 12th March 2018. The site was unoccupied grassland immediately prior the archaeological evaluation taking place. Under the current proposal the site is to be redeveloped into a publicly-funded secondary school, Eden Park Academy.

2.2 The site comprises an irregular area of land, c. 5.3ha in extent, centred at TQ 36435 68023. It is located to the south-east of Balmoral Avenue and immediately south-west of the adjoining Beckenham RFC sports ground. The site is bounded to the south by the Mid-Kent railway line

2.3 A planning condition (10) was attached to the planning permission for the redevelopment of the site requiring a programme of archaeological trial trenching.

A) No development other than demolition to existing ground level shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological evaluation in respect of any anticipated geotechnical site investigation, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing and a report on that

evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

B) Under Part A, the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) shall implement a programme of archaeological evaluation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation.

C) No development other than demolition to existing ground level shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

D) Under Part A, the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) shall implement a programme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation.

E) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post-investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Parts (A and C), and the provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: Heritage assets of archaeological interest may survive on the site. The planning authority wishes to secure the provision of appropriate archaeological investigation, including the publication of results, in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF.

2.4 The scope of archaeological evaluation trial trenching was agreed between the GLAAS Historic England advisor to London Borough of Bromley and CgMs Heritage. Subsequently the Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by PCA in accordance with the requirements of Condition 10 (Hawkins 2017). The WSI followed the Historic England (Historic England GLAAS 2014) and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidelines (CIFA, 2014). The evaluation was

supervised by Tom Brook and was managed by Helen Hawkins for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA).

- 2.5 The site was given the unique identifier EDE18. The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited within the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey mapping indicates that the site is underlain by the solid geology of the Harwich Formation which are part of the Lambeth Group. The Harwich Formation is comprised of glauconitic silty or sandy clays, silts and fine- to coarse-grained glauconitic sands, some gravelly, varying to flint gravel beds. Thin beds of grey clay occur in some parts.
- 3.2 Made Ground is shown along the length of the railway embankment. London Clay Formation is located approximately 200m west and 300m east of the site.
- 3.3 Geological mapping indicates that alluvium is present approximately 400m north west of the site. Organic alluvial deposits may also be anticipated in the southern part of the site where a stream is recorded on historic mapping
- 3.4 Ordnance Survey mapping indicates that Balmoral Avenue, adjacent to the north-east corner of the site lies at 36m OD, while Upper Elmers End Road, near the south-west corner of the site lies at 38m OD.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment was carried out for the site (MacQuarrie 2015). The following background is summarised from that document.
- 4.2 Evidence of prehistoric occupation within the study area is scarce and relates to early environmental evidence rather than settlement. An alluvial deposit dated to the prehistoric period was recorded at archaeological investigations at Old Bakery and Saville Works site to the west of the site. Additionally, a water channel was recorded at investigations at Croydon Road, to the north-west of the site.
- 4.3 Significance prehistoric sites from the surrounding area include the Neolithic to Bronze Age site at Fox Hill, c 4km to the south-south-east of the site and possible Neolithic features associated with the later Iron Age enclosure at Hayes Park, 3km to the south-east. Evidence of earlier occupation from the wider borough include, for example, the recorded recovery of Neolithic flint implements in Sundridge Park.
- 4.4 The assessment has identified no occupation evidence of Roman date within the 1km study area. The site lies approximately 15km south-south-east of the Roman city of London and is some distance from extensive settlement sites, for example at Orpington, West Wickham or Keston. The Roman road in closest proximity is the route from London to Lewes which passes north-south to the east of the site.
- 4.5 The manor of *Becheham* (Beckenham) is recorded as a pre-Conquest settlement in the Domesday survey of 1086. The name is thought to derive from Old English; Beohha's homestead. Beckenham formed part of the hundred (administrative area during the early medieval and medieval period) of Beckenham and Bromley. The GLHER records no finds or features associated with early medieval activity within the 1km study area.
- 4.6 The manor of Beckenham was given to Odo, the Bishop of Bayeux following conquest by his half-brother William the Conqueror. From the 11th century Beckenham had two manors, that of Beckenham itself which extended on both sides of the Bromley Road, from the parish church to part of Beckenham Palace, approximately 1km to the north of the application site. The Manor of Foxgrove covered an area east of Beckenham from Southend Road to Foxgrove Avenue. The site lies some distance from both these early settlements; significant settlement activity associated with this period is therefore considered unlikely.
- 4.7 The site falls within the Langley Estate which can be dated to the 15th century; Ralph Langley conveyed the estate in 1452 to John Voilett. Notable owners of the estate include Humphrey Style, Sheriff of Kent, knighted in 1544 and *Squire of the body* of Henry VIII; Humphrey Style (1616) a Baronet and Cup Bearer to Charles I; Hugh Raymond, a director of the South Sea Company; and the Burrell family. The Burrell family were the last to hold the estate in its entirety, as it was divided up and sold at auction in 1820.
- 4.8 Post-medieval mapping can be used to illustrate the likely extent of medieval settlement. The 1798 Ordnance Survey map, for example illustrates that the site falls within the western fringes of Eden Park with enclosed fields along Upper Elmers End Road. Settlement is concentrated at Upper Elmers End to the north and Elmers Green to the south.
- 4.9 Records relating to Eden Park Estate, or Eden Farm, date from the 18th century. The main building, a large white building in a classical style of architecture with a portico supported by massive columns, and is described as a residence of handsome and uniform elevation erected in circular form, on a beautiful eminence in the Park, commanding a picturesque and interesting view of the adjacent country, appears Georgian in character. The house, no longer standing, was located to the north-east of the development site, approximately at Eden Park Avenue.
- 4.10 The earliest detailed map of the site dates to the end of the 18th century. The site is located within the western fringes of Eden Park, with the small settlements of Elmers Green to the north and Elmers Green to the south.
- 4.11 In 1820 Eden Farm, along with other lands within the Langley Estates, was advertised for sale. The particulars, which include a map of the estate, include a description of the estate which was owned by Lord Auckland (Governor-General of India). The site lies in the western fringes of the park, in fields named *Willis's Meadow* (101), *Malthouse Field* (100), *Braziers Field* (86), *Part*

- of Braziers Field, now in park (85) and Eden Park and some arable land adjoining (75).* There is no evidence that a malthouse was located on field 100; this may relate to the growing of cereal for the production of malt in this field.
- 4.12 The Beckenham Tithe, 1838, shows little change in the layout of the fields and Eden Park as previously noted in 1820.
- 4.13 Little change to the character of the site and surrounding area is noted in the 1872 Ordnance Survey map, with the exception of a field boundary which is no longer in use. Of note, however, is a feature noted to the north of the site boundary which is oval in shape and has a sluiced or canalised stream at the west end. The Tithe map annotates this feature as a pond, with no addition comment about the water system which it forms part of. The partially canalised watercourse runs south along the eastern edge of Upper Elmers End Road, through Upper Elm End. The water system may have served a water driven Malthouse, as one is indicated to be in the area by the field names within the site boundary. Beckenham Brewery, for example, is located to the south of the site in Upper Elm End (although unlikely to be water driven at this stage). The western limit of the site, which abuts Upper Elmers End Road, may contain sub-surface evidence of this watercourse.
- 4.14 The site is located within an area with a history of use for recreation which spans over a hundred years. The 1909 Ordnance Survey illustrates that the north-eastern part of the site is the Eden Park Polo Ground, which has a Pavilion which falls within the site boundary. A north-west to south-east field boundary runs through the site which has a linear feature running along the northern edge. It has not been possible to find documentary or pictorial sources that illustrate this feature at this stage. By the 1930s the site is annotated generically as a sports ground and has a pavilion in the north-east corner and a tennis court in the north-west. The adjacent sites to the north and east are also used for sports. The 1950s mapping shows infilling of the surrounding areas with sub-urban housing. This remains largely unchanged to the present day, with the exception of the demolition of the previously mentioned pavilion in the north-west corner and the construction of Mountbatten Gardens.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The purpose of the archaeological investigation was to determine the presence or absence of surviving features at the site and, if present, to assist in formulating an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out by Historic England and the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists.
- 5.2 The evaluation aimed to address the following primary objectives in accordance with the research design set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2017):
- To determine the natural topography of the site.
 - To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric activity
 - To establish the presence or absence of Roman and 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.
- 5.3 The archaeological investigation consisted of fourteen trenches which were set out using GPS prior to excavation.
- 5.4 All trenches were CAT scanned by a qualified PCA operative before and during excavation. No services were identified.
- 5.5 The machining was undertaken using a JCB which was sub-contracted by PCA. Trenches were excavated through grass and used a toothless ditching bucket (1.5m wide) to remove undifferentiated deposits under the supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was mounded at least 3m from the edges of the trench.
- 5.6 The trenches were excavated to either the top of the first suspected archaeological horizon or natural ground.
- 5.7 While open, the trenches were fenced with road irons and hazard tape. The perimeter of the site was well secured with 6 to 8-foot-high fencing. During site hours the site access gate on Balmoral Avenue was kept locked.
- 5.8 Machine excavation continued in spits of 100mm at a time until either suspected archaeological strata were found. The deposits were then examined by archaeologists. Once the archaeologists were satisfied that deposits were not archaeological, excavation continued to natural ground levels.
- 5.9 Following machine excavation, relevant faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. The investigation of archaeological levels was carried out by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording in section. Individual trench plans were not deemed necessary due to the paucity of archaeology present. The location of each trench was surveyed in by GPS.
- 5.9.1 The trenches were cleaned using hand tools and a representative section of the stratigraphy was recorded in section at 1:10. A record shot of each excavated trench was taken and a representative photograph of the section was taken.
- 5.9.2 The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those widely used elsewhere in London that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS 1994) and with the PCA Site Manual (Taylor and Brown, 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.
- 5.9.3 A full digital photographic record was made and maintained during the archaeological investigation.
- 5.9.4 The complete archive produced during the evaluation, watching brief and excavation, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with LAARC under site code EDE18.

5.9.5 Three temporary benchmarks (TBM1 to 4) were established using a GPS at the heights of 36.70m OD (TBM1), 37.65m OD (TBM2) and 39.65m OD (TBM3). TBM1 was located beside trench 2 at the northern end. TBM2 was located beside trench 4 to the north-east. TBM 3 was located in the south-east corner of site on a state borehole monitoring station.

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The following text is an overview of the archaeological sequence recorded during the evaluation. Full individual compilation of contexts is provided in Appendix 1.

6.1.2 The archaeological sequence is discussed for each individual trench. Three main phases were identified in most of the trenches: Phase 1 (Natural gravels and sands of the Harwich Formation); Phase 3 (subsoil); Phase 4 (modern or uppermost deposits, generally topsoil and turf). However, in some trenches an additional phase (Phase 2), generally either a clay or colluvium, was identified and was, in each instance, found immediately overlying the natural.

6.1.3 Each of the three main phases were identical in each trench. Thus each of these phases was given a single recurring identifier. Topsoil was [100], subsoil [200], and natural [300].

6.1.4 Trench locations are shown on Figure 2 and all sections are shown on Figure 4. Section locations are shown on Figure 3.

6.2 Trench 1

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	36.58	0.20
200	Subsoil	36.38	0.49
300	Natural	35.89	Unknown

Table 1 Contexts and levels – Trench 1

6.2.1 This trench contained three distinct phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 35.89m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.

6.2.2 A 0.49m thick layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions and some root affection was recorded at a maximum height of 36.38m OD.

6.2.3 Topsoil [100] (Phase 4), thickness 0.20m, was recorded at 35.89m OD and contained frequent root intrusions, owing to the proximity of recently felled trees in the vicinity.

Plate 1 Looking south-west. Trench 1 - showing natural sands and gravels



6.3 Trench 2

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	36.49	0.18
306	Sand	36.31	0.04
307	Levelling layer	36.27	0.10
200	Subsoil	36.17	0.45

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
300	Natural	35.69	Unknown

Table 2 Contexts and levels – Trench 2

- 6.3.1 This trench contained three distinct phases. The earliest deposit, natural sand and gravel of the Harwich Formation (Phase 1) [300], was recorded at 35.69m OD. In some places these gravels included patches of a fine mid blueish grey sand. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.3.2 A 0.45m thick layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 36.17m OD.
- 6.3.3 In this trench, Phase 4 included two thin layers of modern material. Layer [307] was a dark stony material 0.10m thick and was identified at a maximum height of 36.27m OD. Layer [307] was a levelling layer laid down during construction of the bowling green which was at this location. Layer [306] was a light yellow construction sand, maximum height 36.31m OD and would have been laid down to improve drainage of the bowling green. Topsoil and turf [100] 0.18m thick was identified at 36.49m OD.



Plate 2 Looking south-west. Trench 2 - Showing topsoil [100], layers [307] and [306], subsoil [200] and natural gravels [300] after rain.

6.4 Trench 3

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	36.81	0.41
200	Subsoil	36.40	0.31

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
300	Natural	36.09	Unknown

Table 3 Contexts and levels – Trench 3

- 6.4.1 This trench contained three distinct phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 36.09m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.4.2 A 0.31m thick layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions and some root intrusions was recorded at a maximum height of 36.40m OD.
- 6.4.3 Topsoil [100] (Phase 4), thickness 0.41m, was recorded at a maximum height of 36.81m OD.



Plate 3 Looking north-west. Trench 3 - showing section 3.

6.5 Trench 4

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	37.05	0.38
200	Subsoil	36.67	0.22
301	Colluvium	36.45	0.52
300	Natural	35.93	Unknown

Table 4 Contexts and levels – Trench 4

- 6.5.1 This trench contained four phases. The earliest deposit, natural sand and gravel of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 35.93m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.5.2 A layer of colluvium [301] 0.52m thick, consisting of light sands and small gravel (0.01m diameter) was identified at 36.45m OD (Phase 2). This layer may be associated with a flooding event. Why it is present in this trench but no others nearby is not clear.
- 6.5.3 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.22m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 36.67m OD.
- 6.5.4 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.38m, was recorded at a maximum height of 37.05m OD.



Plate 4 Looking south-west. Trench 4 – showing section 4 and three phases. Natural [300] (waterlogged), subsoil [200], topsoil [100].

6.6 Trench 5

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	37.81	0.45
200	Subsoil	37.36	0.60
300	Natural	36.76	Unknown

Table 5 Contexts and levels – Trench 5

- 6.6.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sand and gravel of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 36.76m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench (see Plate 6).
- 6.6.2 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.60m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 37.36m OD. The subsoil contained

highly compacted, very dark gravels (indicating the presence of manganese), probably a mineral conglomeration.

6.6.3 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.45m, was recorded at a maximum height of 37.81m OD.



Plate 5 Looking south-west. Trench 5 showing section 5 and dark mineral conglomeration.



Plate 6 Looking south-east. Trench 5 showing natural gravels and sands

6.7 Trench 6

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	37.65	0.25
200	Subsoil	37.40	0.46
308	Colluvium	36.94	0.29
300	Natural	36.65	Unknown

Table 6 Contexts and levels- Trench 6

- 6.7.1 This trench contained four phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 37.65m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.7.2 A layer of Phase 2 greyish colluvium [308] 0.29m thick, consisting of coarse sands and fine gravel (0.01m diam.) was identified at 36.94m OD.
- 6.7.3 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.46m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 37.40m OD.
- 6.7.4 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.25m, was recorded at a maximum height of 37.65m OD.



Plate 7 Looking north-west. Trench 6 - showing four phases including greyish colluvium [308] overlying gravels [300]

6.8 Trench 7

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	37.70	0.31
200	Subsoil	37.39	0.12
302	Clay	37.27	0.37
300	Natural	36.90	Unknown

Table 7 Contexts and levels – Trench 7

- 6.8.1 This trench contained four phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 36.90m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.8.2 A layer of Phase 2 brownish grey clay [302] 0.37m thick, consisting of coarse sands and fine gravel (0.01m diam.) was identified at 37.27m OD. (See plate 8.)
- 6.8.3 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.12m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 37.39m OD.
- 6.8.4 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.25m, was recorded at a maximum height of 37.70m OD.



Plate 8 Looking south-west. Trench 7 - showing four phases, including substantial grey clay layer [302].



Plate 9 Plate 9 Looking north-west. Trench 7 showing natural sands and gravels [300]

6.9 Trench 8 (see Plate 8 and Figure 8)

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	37.89	0.35

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
200	Subsoil	37.64	0.36
300	Natural	36.28	Unknown

Table 8 Contexts and levels – Trench 8

- 6.9.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 36.28m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.9.2 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.36m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 37.64m OD.
- 6.9.3 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.35m, was recorded at a maximum height of 37.89m OD.



Plate 10 Looking south-east. Trench 8, Section 8

6.10 Trench 9

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	38.27	0.29
200	Subsoil	37.98	0.46
300	Natural	37.52	Unknown

Table 9 Contexts and levels – Trench 9

- 6.10.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 37.52m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.10.2 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.46m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 37.98m OD.
- 6.10.3 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.29m, was recorded at a maximum height of 38.27m OD.



Plate 11 Looking north-east. Trench 9 - showing Section 9

6.11 Trench 10

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	38.39	0.39
200	Subsoil	38.00	0.24
303	Clay	37.76	0.23
300	Natural	37.53	Unknown

Table 10 Contexts and levels – Trench 10

- 6.11.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 37.53m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.11.2 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.24m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 38.00m OD.

6.11.3 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.39m, was recorded at a maximum height of 38.39m OD.



Plate 12 Looking north-west. Trench 10 showing Section 10

6.12 Trench 11

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	38.54	0.37
200	Subsoil	38.17	0.32
300	Natural	37.85	Unknown

Table 11 Contexts and levels – Trench 11

6.12.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 37.85m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.

6.12.2 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.32m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 38.17m OD.

6.12.3 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.37m, was recorded at a maximum height of 38.54m OD.



Plate 13 Looking north-east. Trench 11 showing Section 11



Plate 14 Looking north-west. Trench 11

6.13 Trench 12

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	38.93	0.40
200	Subsoil	38.53	0.21
304	Clay	38.32	0.18
300	Natural	38.14	Unknown

Table 12 Contexts and levels – Trench 12

- 6.13.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 38.14m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.13.2 A layer of yellowish-grey silty clay. 0.18m thick, containing frequent pea gravel was recorded at a maximum height of 38.32m OD.
- 6.13.3 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.21m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 38.53m OD.
- 6.13.4 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.40m, was recorded at a maximum height of 38.93m OD.



Plate 15 Looking north-west. Trench 12 Section 12

6.14 Trench 13

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	38.90	0.33
200	Subsoil	38.57	0.28
305	Colluvium	38.29	0.24
300	Natural	38.05	Unknown

Table 13 Contexts and levels – Trench 13

6.14.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 38.05m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.

6.14.2 A layer of Phase 2 highly laminated light-brownish yellow coarse sands [305], 0.24m thick, was identified at a maximum height of 38.29m OD.

6.14.3 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.46m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 38.57m OD.

6.14.4 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.33m, was recorded at a maximum height of 38.90m OD.



Plate 16: Trench 13 looking north-west

6.15 Trench 14

Context Number	Description	Highest Level (m OD)	Thickness (m)
100	Topsoil	38.81	0.55
200	Subsoil	38.26	0.14
300	Natural	38.12	Unknown

Table 14 Contexts and levels – Trench 14

- 6.15.1 This trench contained three phases. The earliest deposit, natural sands and gravels of the Harwich Formation [300] (Phase 1), was recorded at 38.12m OD. At the maximum depth of the trench, these sands and gravels covered the entire base of the trench.
- 6.15.2 A layer of mid brownish-yellow subsoil [200] (Phase 3) 0.14m thick, consisting of a sandy silt with gravel inclusions was recorded at a maximum height of 38.26m OD.
- 6.15.3 Topsoil (Phase 4), thickness 0.33m, was recorded at a maximum height of 38.81m OD.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION

7.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

7.1.1 Natural sands and gravels [300] were recorded in all evaluation trenches. The highest recorded natural deposit was 38.14m OD in Trench 12 at the southern end of site. The lowest was 35.69m OD in Trench 2 at the north-western end. These values are in-keeping with the general site topography which slopes 2.3m downwards from the south-east to the north-west over an approximate distance of 300m (gradient 0.008%).

7.1.2 The natural deposits were gravels and sands of the Harwich Formation, consistent with those noted in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2017) and the Desk-Based Assessment (MacQuarrie 2015).

7.2 Phase 2: Undated Alluvial and Colluvial Deposits

7.2.1 The archaeological evaluation found evidence of early deposits directly sealing the natural sands and gravels. In Trenches 4, 6 and 13 these were redeposited sands, varying in thickness between 0.24-0.52m, and probably colluvial, formed by flooding or other natural processes. In Trenches 7, 10, and 12, layers of clay, of a thickness between 0.18-0.37m, were found sealing the natural. The clays and colluvial sands were increasingly thick towards the north, with the thinnest clay deposits being in northern Trenches 12 and 13, and the thickest being in northern Trenches 4 and 7.

7.2.2 Phase 3: Subsoil

7.2.3 A yellowish brown, clayey silt subsoil [200] was recorded in every trench. The thickness of the deposit varied between 0.12m and 0.60m. The mean average thickness was 0.33m. The highest recorded height on top of the subsoil was 38.57m OD in Trench 13, and the lowest was 36.17m OD in Trench 2.

7.3 Phase 4: Topsoil and Modern deposits

7.3.1 In the mid-late 20th Century a bowling green was constructed on the site. Layers [306] and [307], recorded in Trench 2, are consistent with its location and probable form.

7.3.2 Topsoil and turf were the uppermost materials [100] and varied in thickness between 0.18m and 0.55m. The mean average thickness was 0.35m. The highest recorded height on top of the topsoil was 38.93m OD in Trench 12, and the lowest was 36.49m OD in Trench 2.

7.4 There was no evidence for archaeological remains of any period on the site.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank CGMS Heritage for commissioning the archaeological work.
- 8.2 The author would also like to thank: Helen Hawkins for project managing and editing this report; Mark Stevenson of Historic England for his monitoring the site on behalf of the London Borough of Bromley; and Mick Steel for the illustrations.
- 8.3 The author would also like to thank: Rick Archer for the surveying; John Joyce for the logistics and Claire Davey for her field work.

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MacQuarrie H, AOC Archaeology, 2015, *Beckenham Academy, Eden Park, Upper Elmers End Road, Beckenham, London Borough of Bromley: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment* unpublished client report

Internet Sources:

CIfA regulations, standards and guidelines:

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GLAAS Guidelines for Archaeological Project in Greater London: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/glaas-standards-for-archaeological-work/>

Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual:

<http://www.thedigsite.co.uk/assets/molasmanual942.pdf>

National Planning Policy Framework

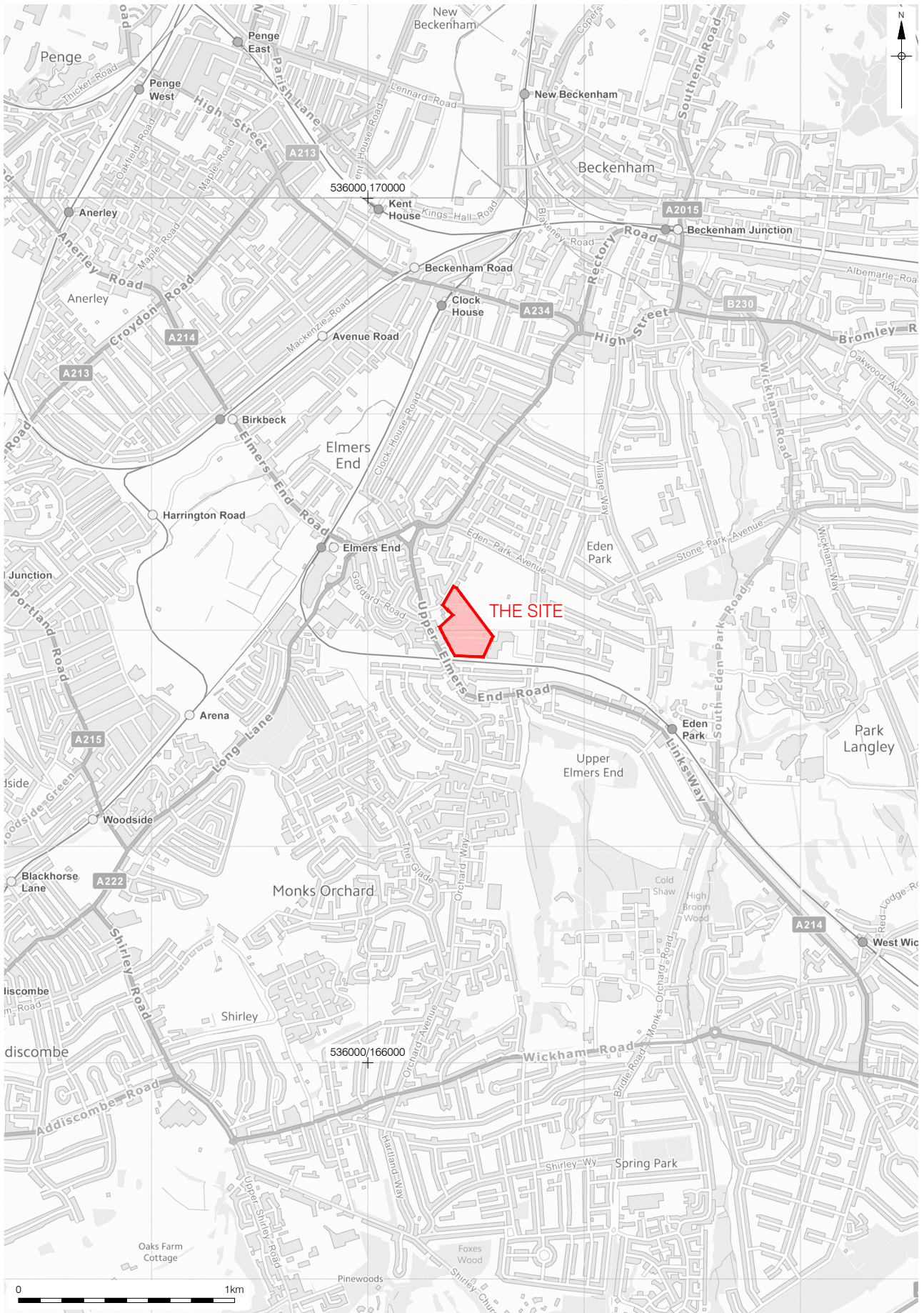
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 15/03/18 MS

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:25,000 at A4



0 100m

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Figure 2
Trench Locations
1:2,500 at A4

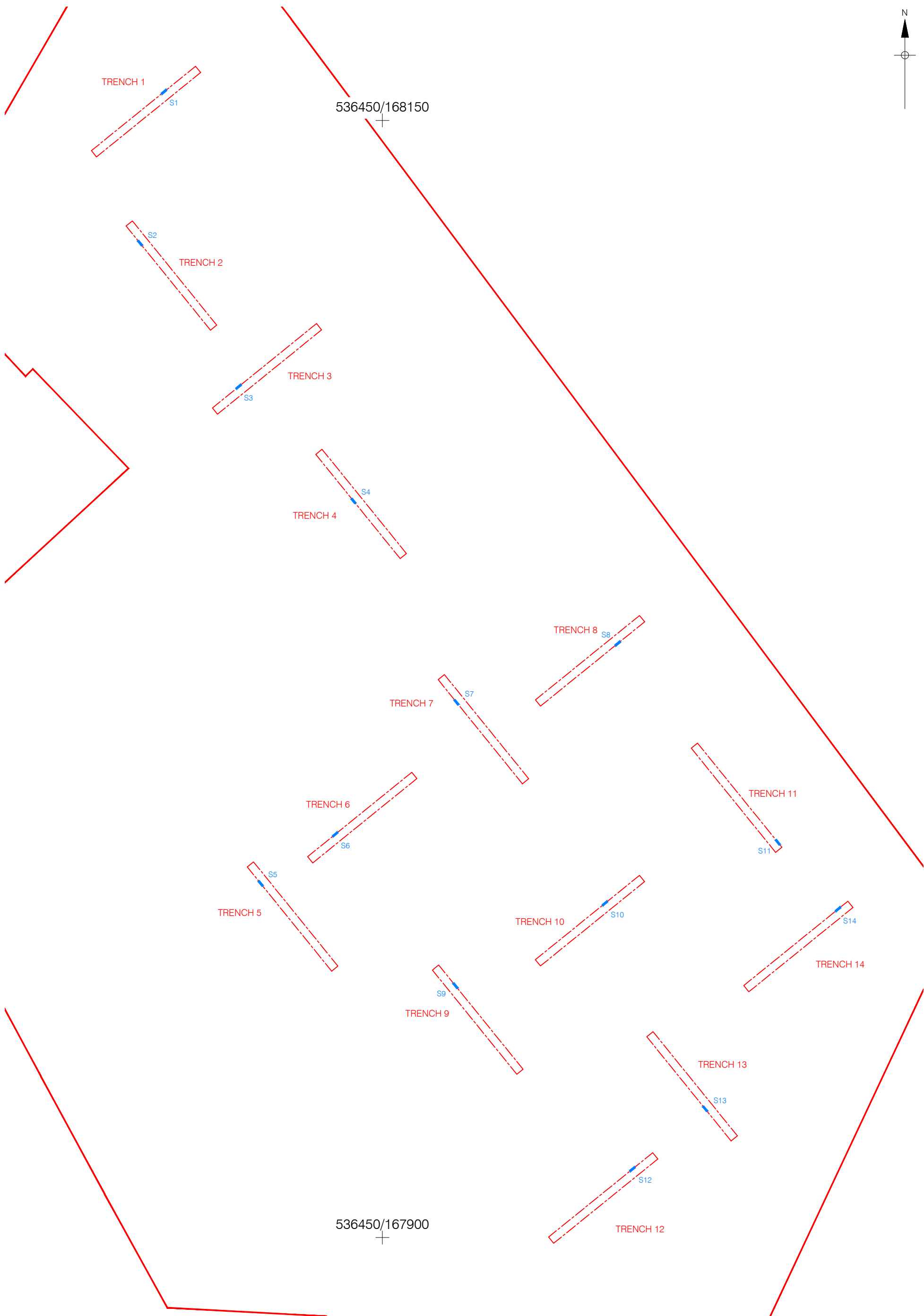
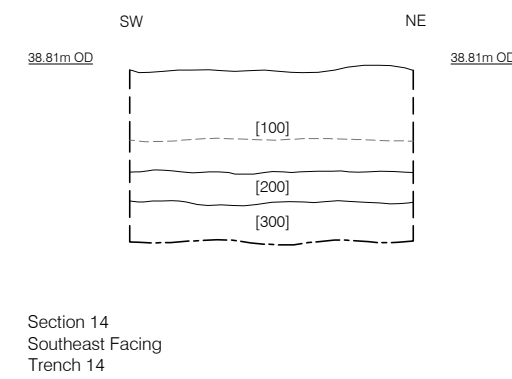
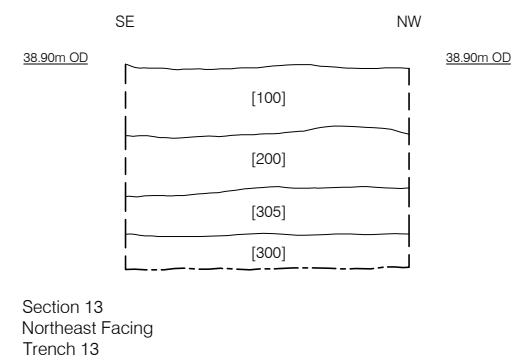
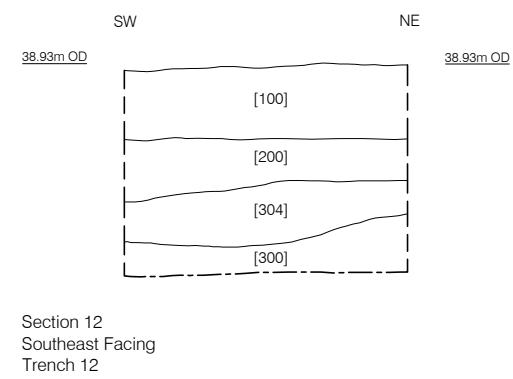
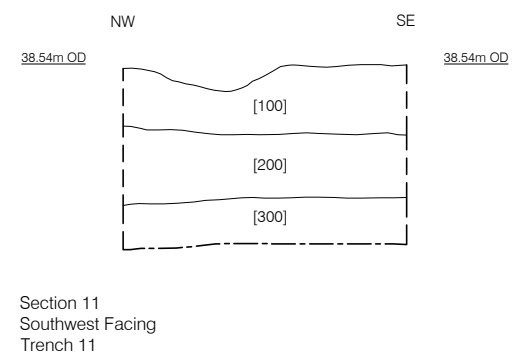
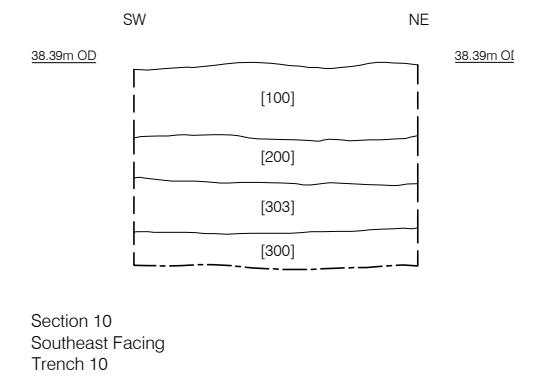
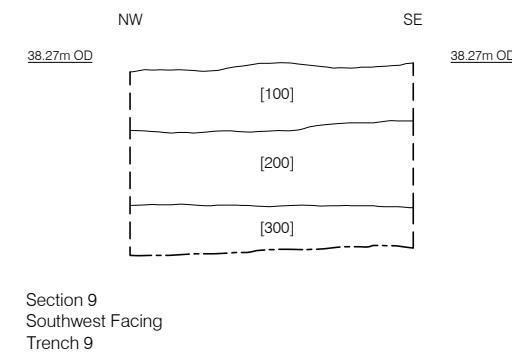
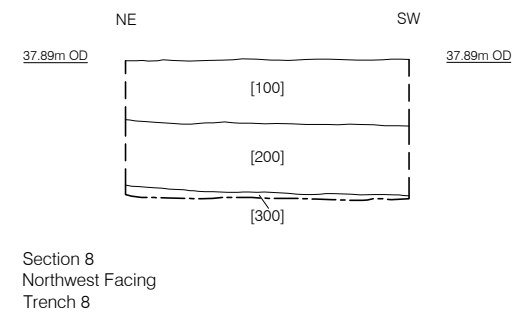
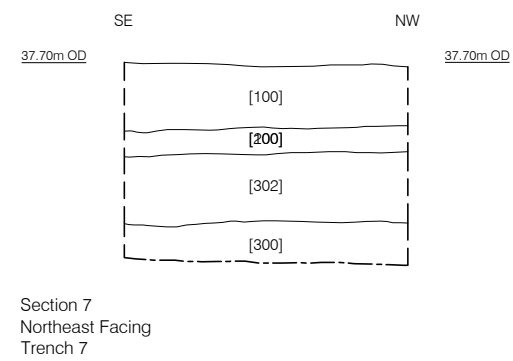
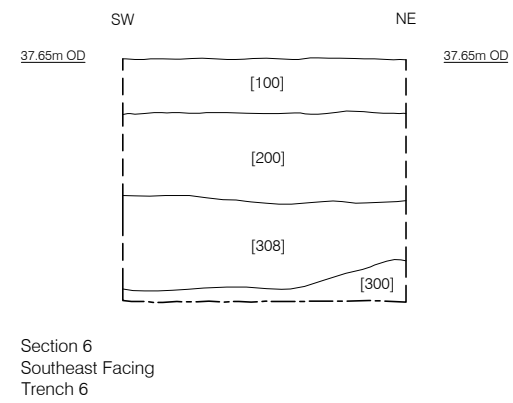
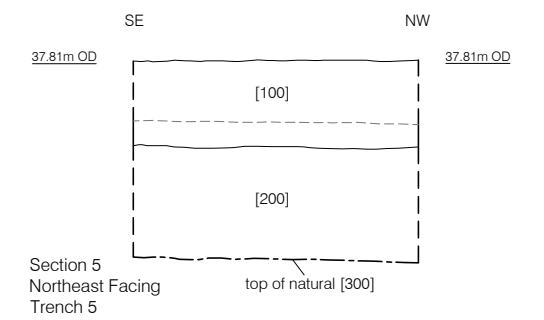
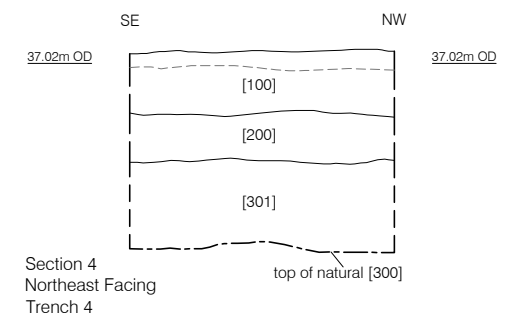
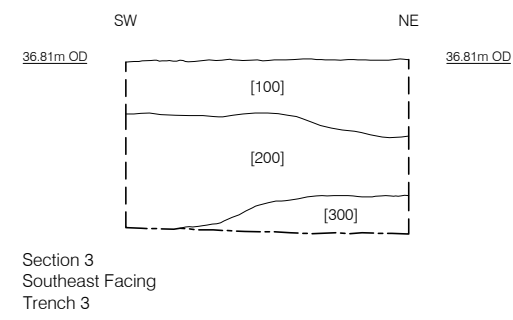
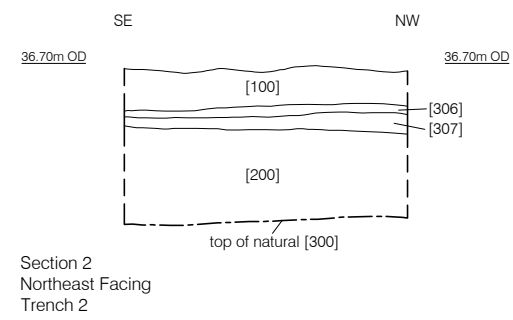
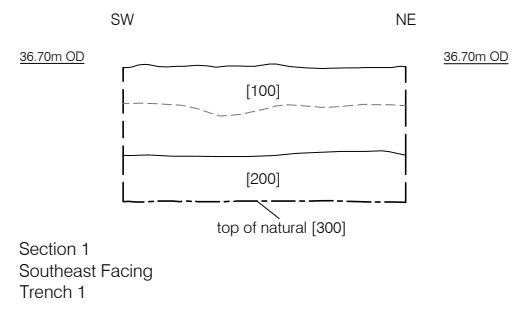


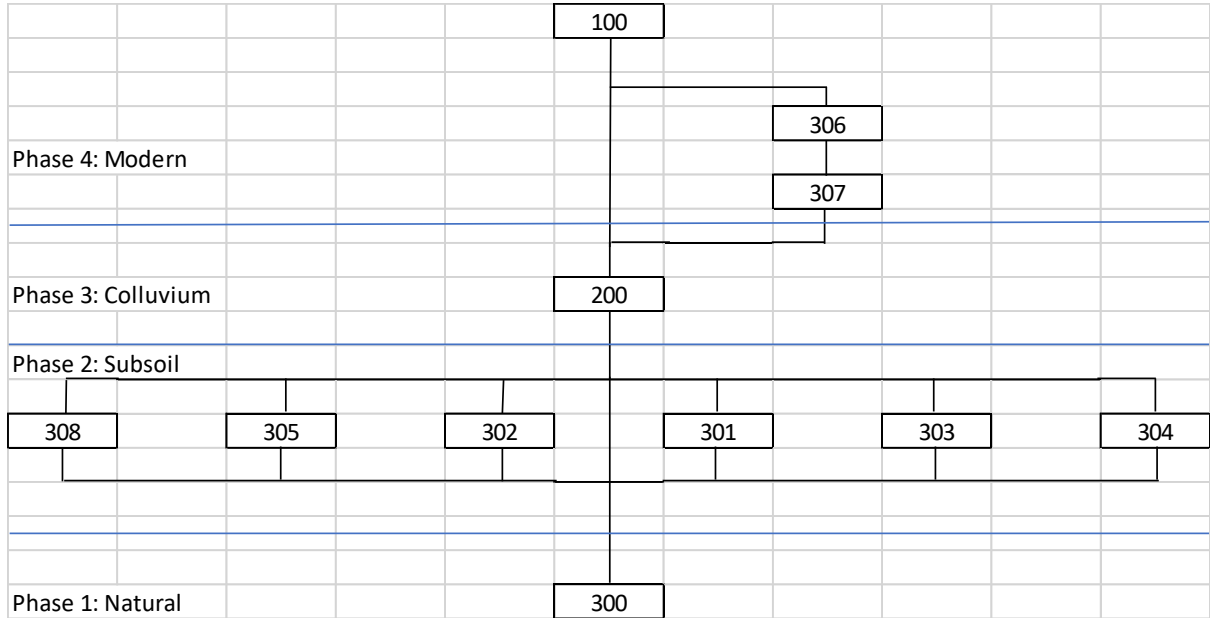
Figure 3
Section Locations
1:800 at A4



APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Context Type	Trench	Comments	Highest Level (m OD)	Lowest Level (m OD)	Phase
100	Layer	All	Topsoil	38.93	36.49	4
200	Layer	All	Subsoil	38.57	36.17	3
300	Layer	All	Natural	38.14	35.69	1
301	Layer	8	Colluvial sands	36.45	35.93	2
302	Layer	8	Mid-greyish brown clay	37.27	36.90	2
303	Layer	8	Clay	37.76	37.53	2
304	Layer	8	Silt clay	38.32	38.14	2
305	Layer	8	Colluvial sands	38.29	38.05	2
306	Layer	8	Modern sand	36.31	36.27	4
307	Layer	8	Levelling deposit	36.27	36.17	4
308	Layer	8	Colluvial sands	36.94	36.65	2

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-311968

Project details

Project name	Eden Park High School
Short description of the project	This report details the working methods on a 14 trench evaluation undertaken at Eden Park High School, Balmoral Avenue, Beckenham, London Borough of Bromley in March 2018. No archaeological features were identified. Natural sands and gravels were reached in every trench.
Project dates	Start: 05-03-2018 End: 12-03-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	EDE18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BROMLEY BECKENHAM Eden Park High School
Postcode	BR3 3TJ
Study area	5.3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 36435 68023 51.394304494451 -0.038697299966 51 23 39 N 000 02 19 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35.59m Max: 38.93m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA
Project brief originator	CgMs RPS Ltd
Project design originator	Suzanne Gailey
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins

Project supervisor	Tom Brook
Type of sponsor/funding body	Charitable Trust
Name of sponsor/funding body	The Multi Academy Trust

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	EDE18
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	EDE18
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Section"

Project bibliography

1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	EDEN PARK HIGH SCHOOL, BALMORAL AVENUE, BECKENHAM, LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brook, T
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	London