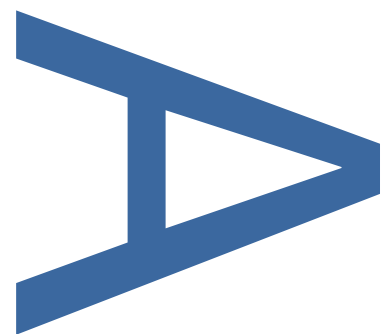
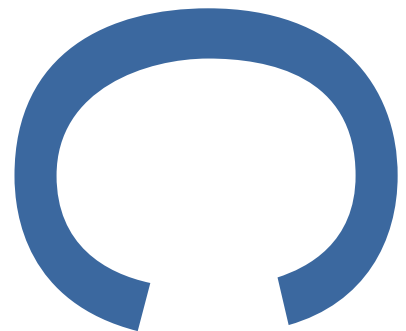


**HENDON SCHOOL,  
GOLDERS RISE,  
HENDON,  
LONDON,  
NW4 2HP**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF**

**SITE CODE: GLI19**

**AUGUST 2019**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

**HENDON SCHOOL, GOLDERS RISE, HENDON,  
LONDON NW4 2HP**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

Quality Control

<b>Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd</b>	
Project Number	K5601
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	Name	Date
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**HENDON SCHOOL, GOLDERS RISE, HENDON, LONDON, NW4 2HP**  
**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

---

**Site Code:** GLI19

**Central NGR:** TQ 23596 89000

**Local Planning Authority:** London Borough of Barnet

**Planning Reference:** 17/7031/FUL

**Commissioning Client:** Archaeology Collective on behalf of the overall client

**Written by:** Wayne Perkins & Tanya Jones  
Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London, NW 4 2HP. The site is located in the London Borough of Barnet and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 23596 89000.
- 1.2 Following a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by PCA (2018), the archaeological investigation was conducted between 27 March and 23 July 2019 and it comprised the archaeological monitoring and recording of landscaping/ground preparation, ground reduction and services runs, related to the construction of the new school studios.
- No archaeological features or finds were revealed within the monitored area.
- 1.3 Natural clay was encountered within the drainage trenches at a level of 62.14m OD and in the Boiler Trench at 60.33m OD.
- 1.4 The watching brief revealed that the natural clay was sealed by modern turf and topsoil. Any previously-existing layers had been removed and truncated by ground levelling and ground reduction operations when the school was constructed. This possibility had been raised in the Desk Based Assessment (Archaeology Collective 2018).

## 2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) on land at Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London, NW 4 2HP (Figure 1). The site is located in the London Borough of Barnet and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 23596 89000.

2.2 Planning permission was granted for the removal of 2 dilapidated temporary buildings and replacement with a new building (London Borough of Barnet Council Planning Ref. 17/7031/FUL).

The archaeological investigation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by PCA (2018) which defined a proactive programme of observation and recording during the groundworks, approved by the Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).

2.3 The fieldwork was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology between 27 March and 23 July 2019. The investigation has taken place within the area of the new building and access road to the north east of the site (Figure 2).

2.4 The watching brief was conducted by PCA under the supervision of Madison Wallander, James Langthorne and Corso Dominici, and the project managed by Zbigniew Pozorski. The archaeological work was commissioned by Dr Anne Johnson of Archaeology Collective on behalf of the overall client.

2.5 The site archive was identified using the unique site code GLI19, issued by the Museum of London. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will, upon completion of the project, be deposited with Museum of London Archaeological Archive (MLAA) under that code.

2.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:

- Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London, NW 4 2HP: Written Scheme of Investigation for An Archaeological Watching Brief (PCA 2018)
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015)
- *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London* (Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service HE GLAAS 2015)
- Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014).
- *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual* (PCA; Taylor, J & Brown, G. 2009, updated 2018)

### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 Planning permission was granted for the removal of 2 dilapidated temporary buildings and replacement with a new building containing two dance and two drama studios and ancillary spaces and provision of a new amphitheatre, terrace and steps from the new building down to the playing field (London Borough of Barnet Council Planning Ref. 17/7031/FUL).

3.2 The planning condition (5) attached to the decision issued on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017 reads as follows:

*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.*

*Reason: To protect archaeological significance within and close to the site, in accordance with policy DM06 of the Adopted Local Plan Development Management Policies DPD (2012).*

3.3 The requirement for the archaeological work, namely a watching brief, was confirmed by Sandy Kidd of Historic England GLAAS, archaeological advisor to the London Borough of Barnet Council.

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **4.1 Geology**

4.2 According to the British Geological Survey of England and Wales (BGS), the bedrock geology consists of the London Clay Formation. The clay is overlain by a drift geology of sand and gravel of the Dolls Hill Gravel Member.

### **4.3 Topology**

4.4 The present ground level of the site lies at an average c. 62m OD, recorded as high as 63.20m OD immediately adjacent to the school and as low as 59.85m OD at the access lane to the east. The site is located on the eastern slope of a plateau centred c. 900m to the north, on land sloping towards the southeast.

4.5 The study site is located c. 400m west of the Dollis Brook and 900m north of the River Brent.

4.6 The site is delimited by the rear garden boundaries of the residential properties fronting Golders Rise to the west, by West Avenue to the south, Green Lane to the east, and Bell Lane to the north. The site covers an area of 0.3 ha within the north-west quadrant of the playing field at the rear (east side) of the main buildings.



## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following archaeological and historical background is taken from the archaeological desk-based assessment prepared for the site by Archaeological Collective (2018):

- 5.1 The archaeological assessment concluded that the application site does not contain any designated archaeological assets such as world heritage sites, scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens, or registered battlefields where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ and against development.
- 5.2 There are no designated archaeological assets within the 1km radius study area whose setting, or appreciation of setting would be affected by the proposed development.
- 5.3 The application site does not lie within or in close proximity to an Archaeological Priority Area.
- 5.4 Archaeological excavations both within the site and on the adjoining playing field have recorded unstratified largely abraded pottery of Roman, and medieval date, both within the application site and beneath the adjacent playing field. One or two Saxon/early medieval sherds have also been found in the archaeological investigations (in 2008). No associated structural evidence has been recorded and it has been suggested that the Roman, Saxon/early medieval and medieval sherds represent material transported either by hillwash from settlement further upslope, or by long-term manuring and plough action. The historic centre of Hendon is located to the north /north-west of the site.
- 5.5 Based on the information within the HER, supplemented by historic mapping from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards, and documentary evidence, the site has been shown to have been open land until it was partially built up in the period 1909-1914 when the school was built, and the land to the east levelled for the construction of the playing field in the late 1920s and subsequently utilised for wartime allotments. Long term ploughing, playing field construction and allotment digging would doubtless have resulted in significant truncation of any underlying archaeological deposits.
- 5.6 Although the site presents a low potential for archaeological deposits to be encountered, it is very likely that any groundworks within the site may unveil deposits containing Roman, Saxon or medieval finds transported to the site from the area to the north.

## **6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 6.1 The proposed methodology for the archaeological work was detailed in the site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2018) and comprised the archaeological monitoring of all groundworks and ground reduction where they extend beyond the footprint of the existing development.
- 6.2 The investigations comprised the monitoring of all groundworks, which included landscaping, ground preparation, ground reduction within the area of the proposed new building and access road and service runs (Figure 2). The foundations for the new building were constructed by screw piling and were not monitored. All other work was undertaken by the contractors under archaeological supervision, and where ground reduction operations were required, they were facilitated by a mechanical excavator using a flat bladed grading bucket. The watching brief concluded upon reaching the natural geology or project 'formation level' whichever arose first.
- 6.3 All recording systems adopted during the investigation were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in the London Borough of Sutton; presented in PCAs Operations Manual 1 (Taylor & Brown 2009, updated 2018). A representative section of each foundation trench was drawn by hand at a scale of 1:10 in order to illustrate the observed stratigraphy, modern disturbance and current ground level. In addition to a series of digital photographs recording the encountered deposits a written record of each deposit was also produced. Location of the section drawing was located by offsetting from the property boundary and plotted onto OS mapping data by CAD.
- 6.4 A photographic record of the archaeological works was made using only digital format.
- 6.5 The completed archive produced during the monitoring exercise, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the Museum of London Archaeological Archive under the allocated site code GLI19.

## 7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

### 7.1 Phase 1: Natural

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered on the site was the drift geology consisting of a firm, yellowish-light brown clay [4] / [6] / [8] / [10] with occasional light grey mottling. It was recorded at 0.21m below ground level (BGL), 62.14m OD in Section 5 (Figure 3, Section 5) and at 0.36m (BGL), 60.33m OD, in Section 9 as layer [10] in the Boiler Trench. The latter, being excavated to a total depth of 1.7m BGL, also revealed an underlying layer of sandy gravel [11] at 59.90m OD and a further layer [12] of firm, pale brown clay with pockets of sand which illustrated the multi-layered nature of the drift geology, recorded at c. 59.50m OD (Figure 3, Section 9; Plate 3).



*Plate 1: Excavation of a drainage trench, view to the south*



*Plate 2: Drainage Trench, Section 5, layers [3] & [4], north-west facing.*



*Plate 3: Boiler Trench, view to the west, scale 0.5m*



*Plate 4: Boiler Trench, Section 9, layers [9-12], view to the north-west, scale 0.5m*

## 7.2 Phase 2: Modern

- 7.2.1 On the access road a thin layer of 'subsoil' was recorded [2] in Sections 1-4 (not illustrated) and in the Boiler Trench as [9]. However, this was modern redeposited soil as fragments of late 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and CBM were recovered from this layer.
- 7.2.2 The study area was overlain by a layer of blackish, dark brown clayey-silt topsoil and turf [1].



*Plate 5: Access Road showing modern, redeposited layer [2], facing west*



*Plate 6: Inserted screw piles, view to the north-west*

## 8 INTERPRETATION & CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The archaeological investigation was designed to determine the presence or absence of surviving deposits and features at the site which may be impacted by the development and, if present, to investigate and record them. The investigation also aimed to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival.
- 8.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2018), highlighted a set of specific objectives to be addressed by the investigation:
- To assess, where appropriate, the ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from within the site.
  - To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site and the extent of modern truncation, if applicable.
  - To evaluate whether there was any evidence for Roman, Saxon and/or medieval remains on the site
  - To report on the results of the watching brief.
- 8.3 No evidence for surviving any archaeological features was found during the watching brief. No archaeological finds were recovered from any of the deposits with an exception of clearly modern pottery and CBM from made ground. The depositional sequence was relatively simple, comprising natural clay beneath made ground/topsoil. The complexity of the drift geology layers [10 – 12] in the Boiler Trench demonstrated that the deposits had been formed of alternate layers of clay with sandy gravel.
- 8.4 The archaeological watching brief demonstrated that no archaeological features or horizons had survived within the study area. The instance of a modern made ground surface sealing the natural drift geology is recognised as being the result of prior truncation due to ground levelling and terracing. This was an operation likely to have been undertaken during the construction of the school. No *in situ* subsoils or interface layers were present.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Dr Anne Johnson of Archaeology Collective for commissioning the work on behalf of the overall client. We also thank Sandy Kidd of Historic England's Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) for his input and advice.
- 9.2 The author would like to thank James Langthorne Aiden Turner, Corso Dominici and Madison Wallander for supervising the work, Zbigniew Pozorski for his project management and editing this report and Ray Murphy for the illustrations.

## **10 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

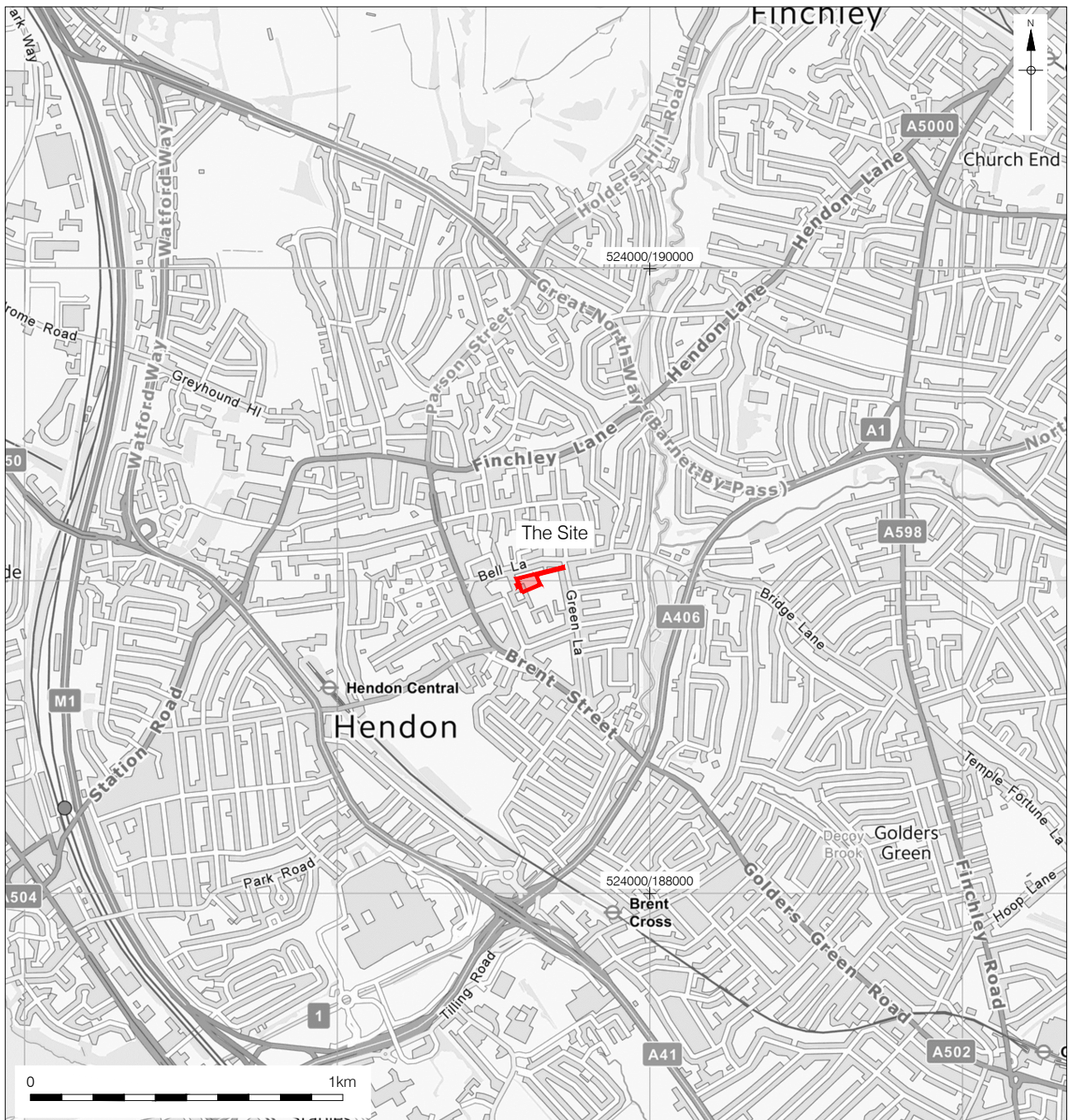
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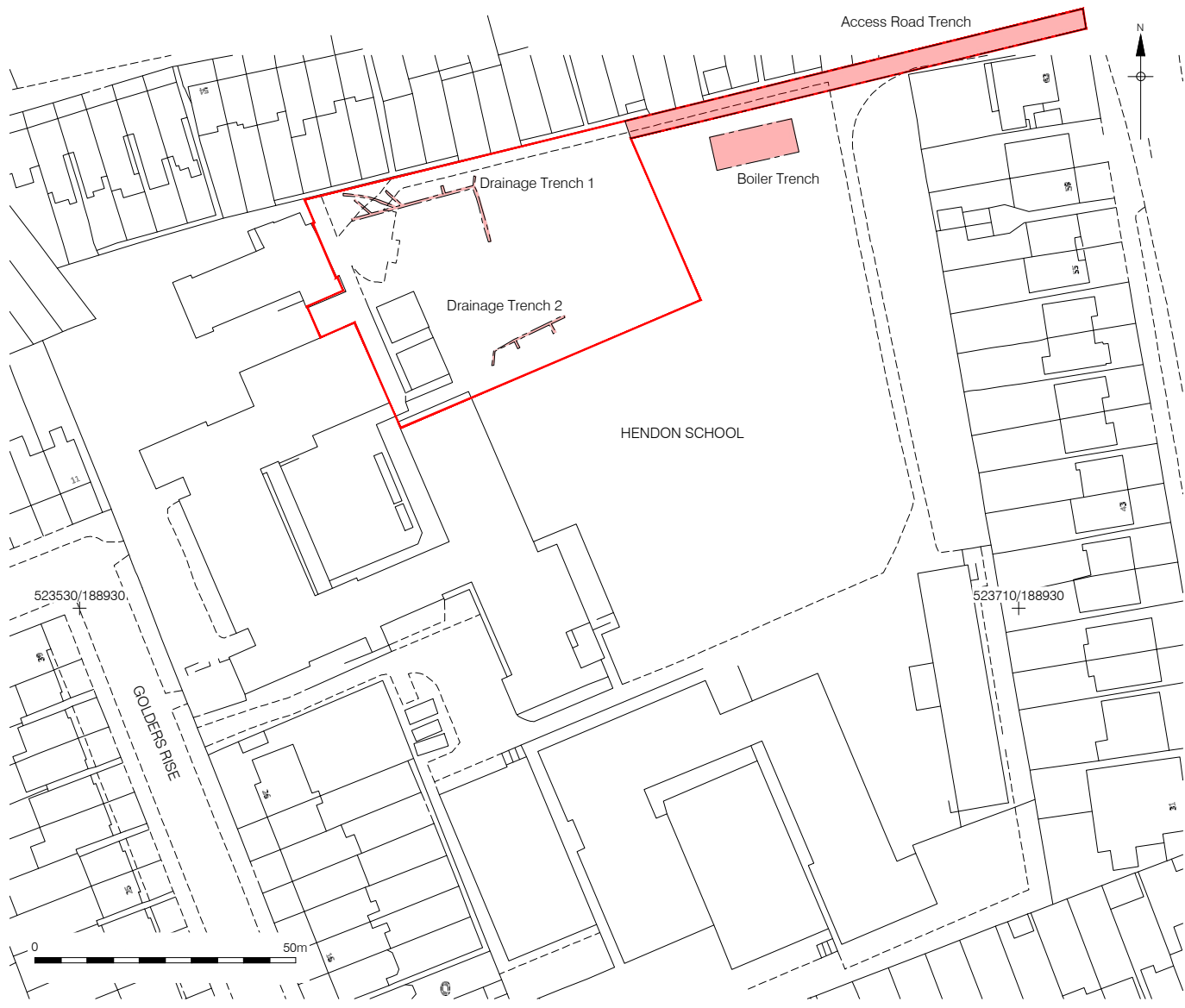
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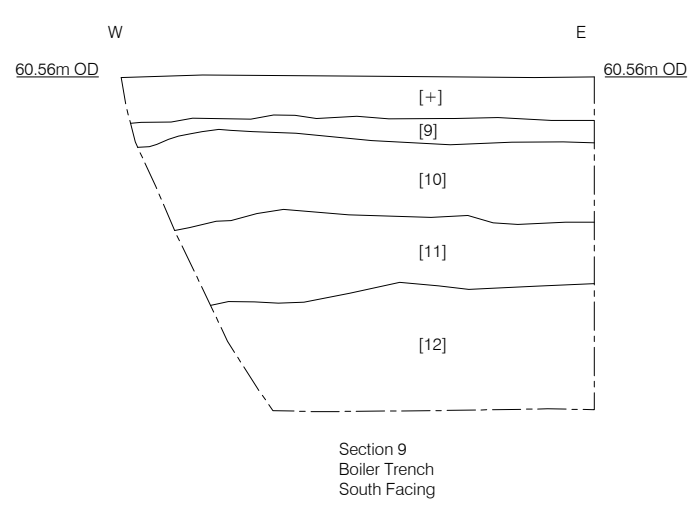
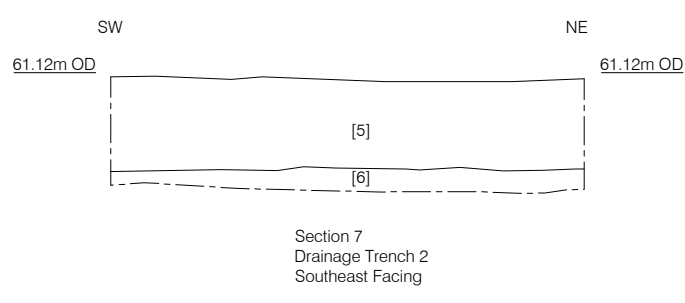
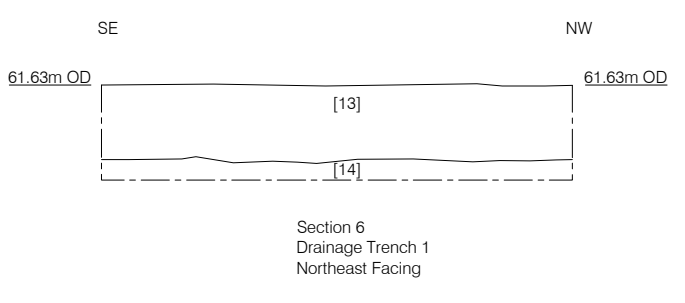
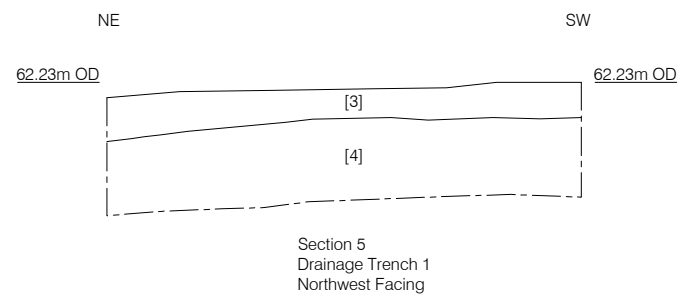
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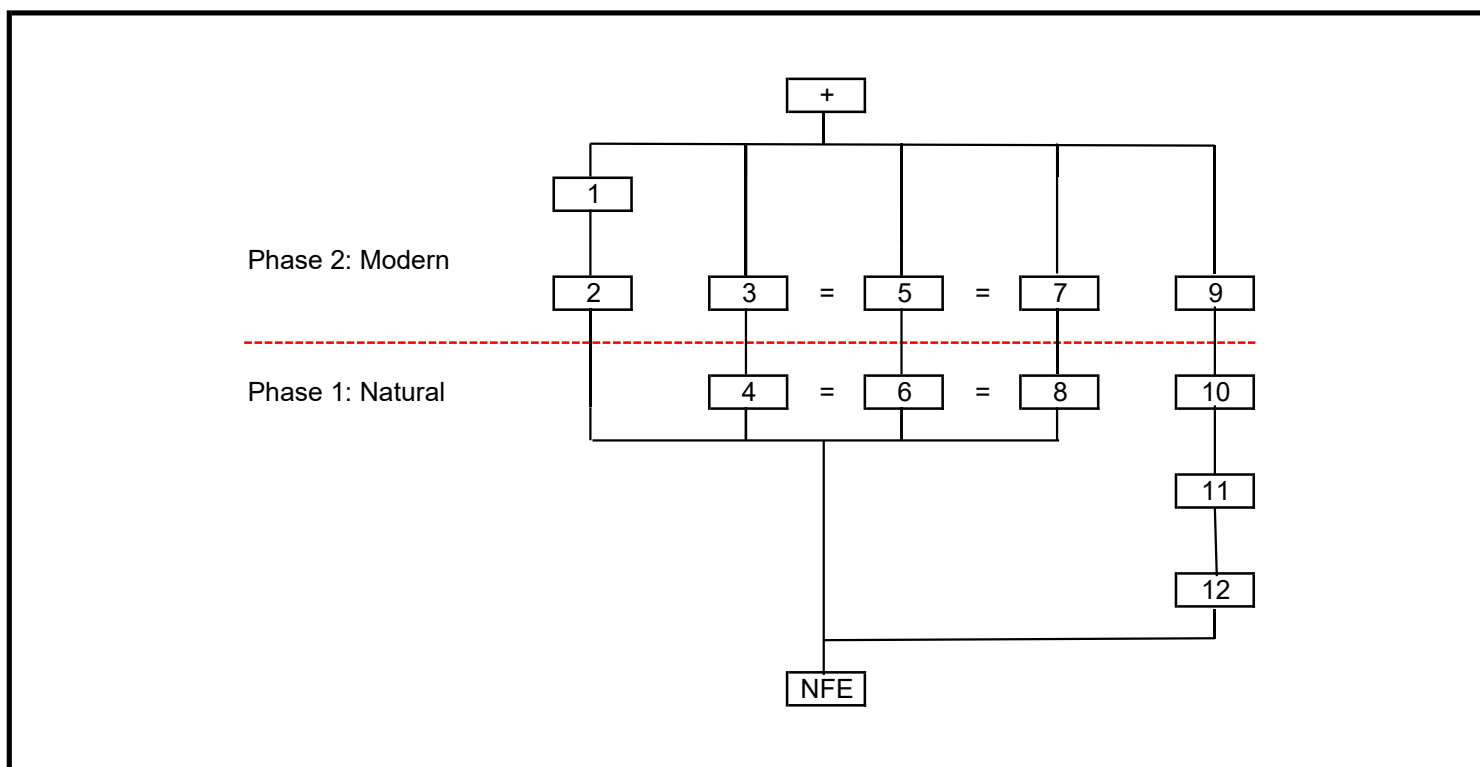




## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Trench No.	Section No.	Phase No.	Type	Description	Thickness (m)	Level (mAOD)
1	Road	1,2,3,4	2	Layer	Topsoil	0.40	N/A
2	Road	1,2,3,4	2	Layer	Subsoil		N/A
3	Drainage 1	5,6	2	Layer	Subsoil/Made Ground	0.40	62.23
4	Drainage 1	5,6	1	Natural	Natural Clay		62.14
5	Drainage 2	7	2	Layer	Subsoil/Made Ground	0.50	61.12
6	Drainage 2	7	1	Natural	Natural Clay		N/A
7	Drainage 3	8	2	Layer	Topsoil	0.25	N/A
8	Drainage 3	8	1	Natural	Natural Clay	0.50	N/A
9	Boiler Trench	9	2	Layer	Subsoil/Made Ground	0.10	N/A
10	Boiler Trench	9	1	Natural	Natural Silt	0.50	60.33
11	Boiler Trench	9	1	Natural	Natural Gravel	0.50	59.90
12	Boiler Trench	9	1	Natural	Natural Clay	0.65	59.50
13	Boiler Trench	6	2	Layer	Topsoil	0.40	N/A
14	Boiler Trench	6	1	Natural	Natural Clay		N/A

## APPENDIX 2: PHASED MATRIX



## APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1 – 356396

### Project details

Project name	Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London NW4 2HP: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land at Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London NW 4 2HP. The investigation comprised the archaeological monitoring of landscaping/ground preparation, ground reduction, foundation trenches, services runs etc. Natural clay was encountered within the drainage trenches. The watching brief revealed the natural clay was sealed by subsoil and overlain by topsoil. No archaeological features or finds were encountered.
Project dates	Start: 27-03-2019 End: 23-07-2019
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	GLI19 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BARNET HENDON Hendon School, Golders Rise, Hendon, London
Postcode	NW4 2HP
Study area	0.3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 23596 89000 51.585797731449 -0.215815357053 51 35 08 N 000 12 56 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Archaeology Collective
Project design originator	Zbigniew Pozorski
Project director/manager	Zbigniew Pozorski
Project supervisor	James Langthorne
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Hendon School

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#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAA
Digital Archive ID	GLI19
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAA
Paper Archive ID	GLI19
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Section", "Unpublished Text"

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#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, T.
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