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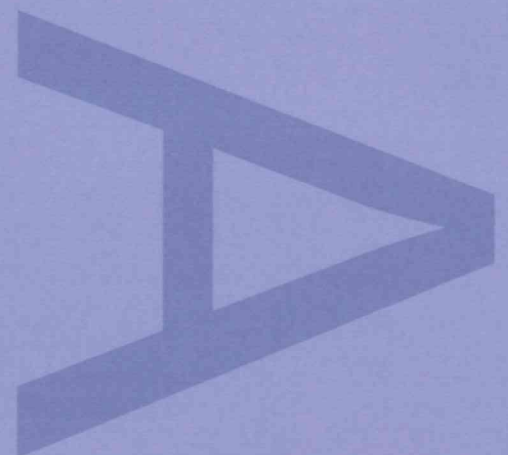
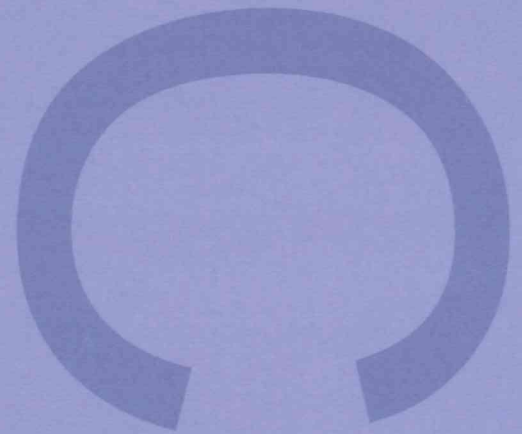
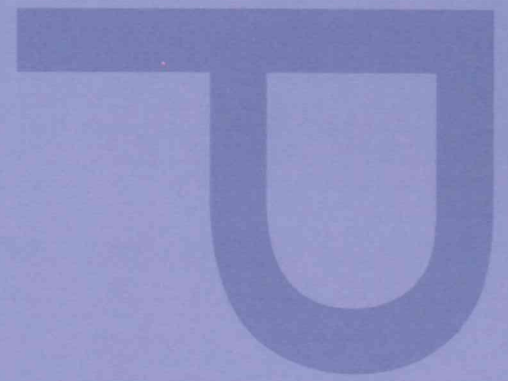
**ROMFORD**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

**MRK 07**

**JANUARY 2008**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

MARKS LODGE  
 MARKS ROAD  
 ROMFORD  
 LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING  
  
 EVALUATION

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**An Assessment of an Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation at  
Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, London Borough of Havering**

**Site Code: MRK07**

**Central National Grid Reference: TQ 507 886**

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January 2008**

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# 1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. at Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, London Borough of Havering. The investigation took place between the between 29<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007, prior to the commencement of a residential development project. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Bellway Homes Thames Gateway North.
- 1.2 The evaluation consisted of six trenches, three being approximately 10m long by 2m wide and three being approximately 20m long by 2m wide. Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5 only yielded evidence of modern human activity, Trench 6 yielded some residual sherds of pot and CBM. In the south of Trench 1, a late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch, aligned northeast to southwest, was found. An urned sheep cremation was observed within the ditch. It was therefore decided following consultation with English Heritage GLAAS to open an area approximately 10m by 10m to further investigate the ditch.
- 1.3 The evaluation demonstrated that although archaeological deposits were present in the west and northwest of site, no deposits of archaeological interest survived in the south. A late Iron Age/ Early Roman boundary ditch aligned northeast to southwest was observed in the west of site in Trench 1. However, following the opening up of a larger mitigation area no further archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

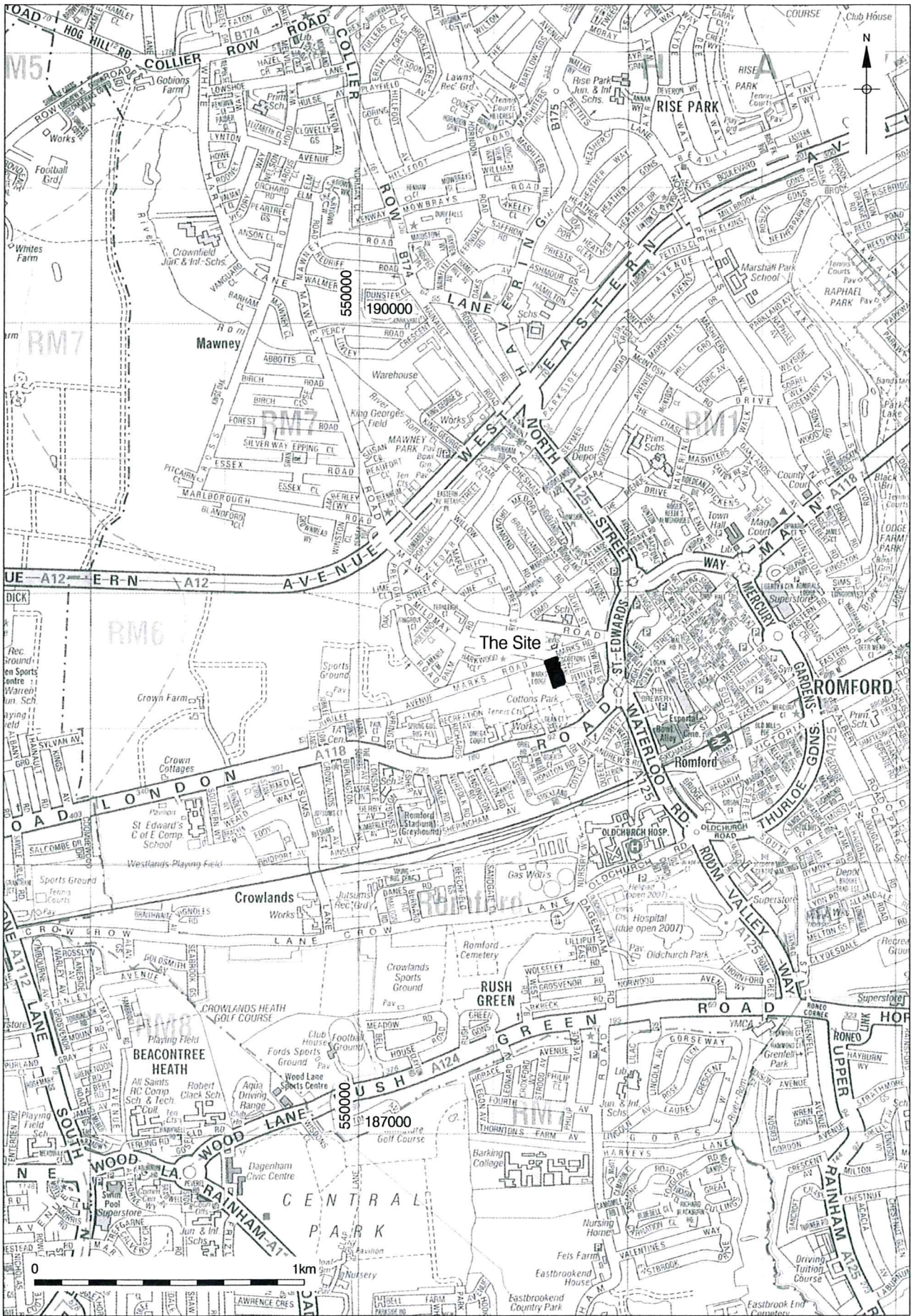
## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. on land at Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, London Borough of Havering, prior to residential redevelopment. The evaluation and excavation was undertaken between 29<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Bellway Homes Thames Gateway North CgMs Consulting commissioned the work on behalf of Bellway Homes Thames Gateway North, who funded the archaeological investigation.
- 2.2 The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 507 886 (Fig.1). The site formerly occupied by Marks Lodge Residential Care Home, is approximately 0.58 hectares and lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the London Borough of Havering. Cottons Park forms the site boundary to the south and west, with Marks Road to the north and Cottons approach to the east. The site slopes gently from c. 15m OD in the south of site down to c. 14.2m OD in the northeast of site. The site was assigned code MRK07.
- 2.3 A geotechnical investigation had previously been undertaken in March 2007 by Merebrook Science and Environment Ltd.<sup>1</sup> The geotechnical investigation revealed a sequence of topsoil overlying made ground, above sandy clay and clayey sand.
- 2.4 The site had previously been the subject of an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment<sup>2</sup> which indicated that the site was identified as having a moderate to good potential for remains of Roman date and a limited potential for all other periods.
- 2.5 The evaluation was supervised by Shane Maher. Tim Bradley project managed the evaluation for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. David Divers of the English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) monitored developments on site on behalf of the London Borough of Havering.
- 2.6 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material from the excavation will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) under the site code MRK07.

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<sup>1</sup> Merebrook Science and Environment Ltd. April 2007 Marks Lodge, Cottons Approach, Romford

<sup>2</sup> Darton, L., Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, Archaeological Desk Based Assessment September 2007, CgMs unpublished report



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Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:20,000 at A4

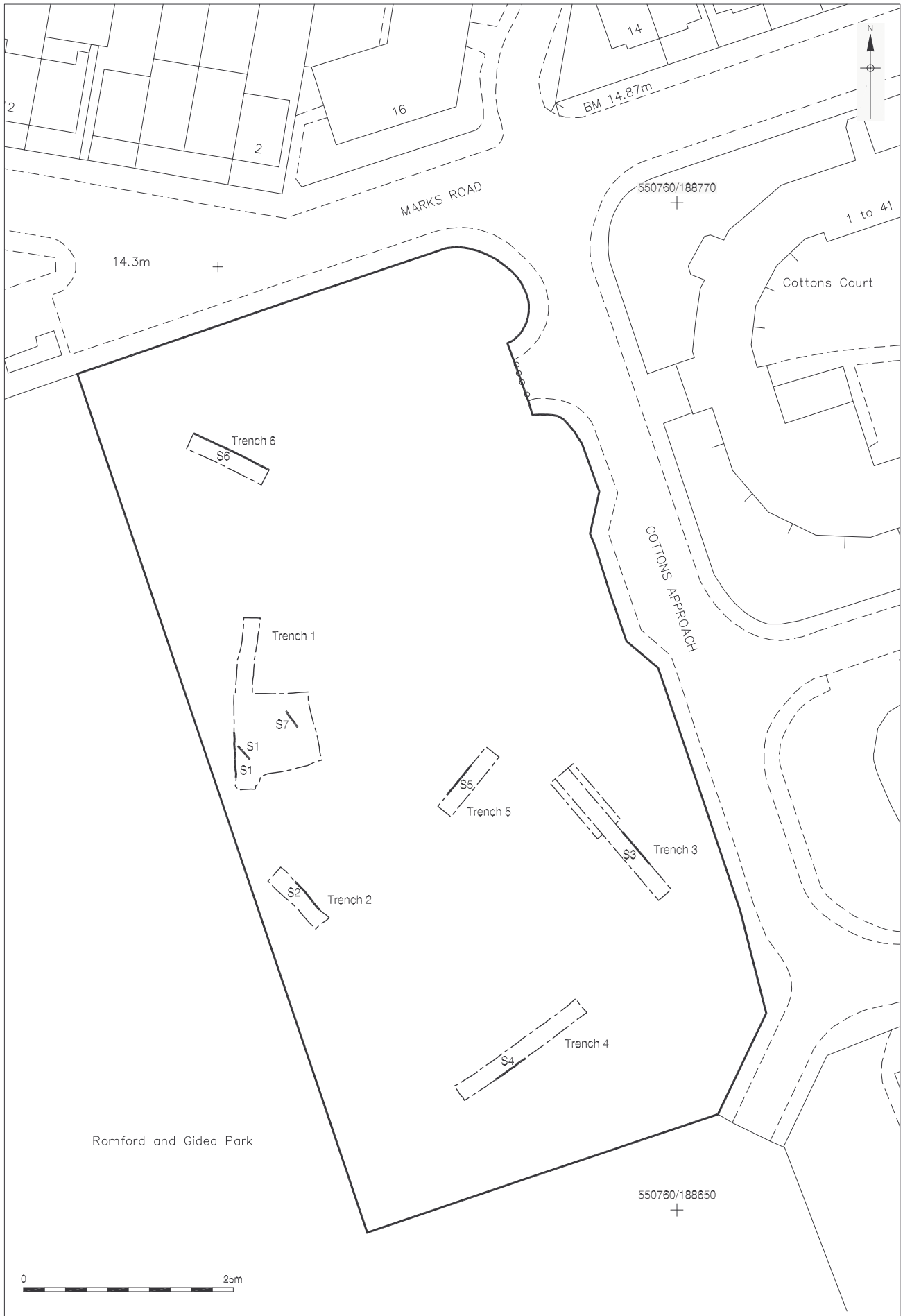


Figure 2  
Trench Location  
1:625 at A4



### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The site is located within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the London Borough of Havering. The English Heritage Officer for Havering has therefore recommended that proper provision be made for the archaeological implications of any proposal to develop the site.
- 3.2 In November 1990 the Department of the Environment issued Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG 16) "Archaeology and Planning", providing guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the preservation and investigation of archaeological remains.
- 3.3 In short, government guidance provides a framework which:
- Protects Scheduled Ancient Monuments
  - Protects the settings of these sites
  - Protects nationally important un-scheduled ancient monuments
  - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from field evaluation) to enable informed decisions
  - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not important enough to merit in-situ preservation.
- 3.4 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority is bound by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance PPG16, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material consideration.
- 3.5 The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by the London Plan, published on 10 February 2004. It includes the following policy relating to archaeology in London Boroughs:

#### **POLICY 4B.14 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 UDPS FOR PROTECTING SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSETS WITHIN THEIR AREA.**

- 3.6 The relevant Development Plan Framework is provided by the Havering Unitary Development Plan (UDP) adopted in March 1993. Although the UDP is currently being replaced by the Local Development Framework the policies contained in the UDP remain in force. The Plan contains

the following policy, which provides a framework for the consideration of development proposals affecting archaeological and heritage features:

**POLICY ENV14**

**WHEN ANY DEVELOPMENT IS PROPOSED THE COUNCIL WILL ENSURE THAT ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITE IS EXAMINED AND EVALUATED. PLANNING PERMISSION WILL NOT BE GIVEN WITHOUT ADEQUATE ASSESSMENT OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS. PLANNING PERMISSION WILL ONLY BE GRANTED WHERE SATISFACTORY PROVISION IS MADE IN APPROPRIATE CASES FOR THE PRESERVATION IN SITU, WHERE POSSIBLE, OR THE EXCAVATION AND RECORDING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS. THE COUNCIL MAY REFUSE PLANNING PERMISSION FOR DEVELOPMENT ON SITES OF OUTSTANDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **4.1 Geology**

- 4.1.1 The solid geology of the study site is shown by the Institute of Geological Sciences (IGS 1979) as London Clay deposits forming the London Basin.
- 4.1.2 British Geological Survey Sheet 257 (Romford: 1996) shows that the study site is underlain by Hackney Gravels, defined as 'Post-diversionary Thames River Terrace Deposits: gravel, sandy and clayey in part', above the London Clay.
- 4.1.3 A geotechnical investigation<sup>3</sup> was undertaken at the study site in March 2007 and comprised six window sample holes (MWS1-MWS6). The geotechnical investigation and archaeological evaluation revealed a sequence of topsoil overlying made ground, above brickearth.
- 4.1.4 Modern made ground was observed between 14.41m OD and 13.67m OD sealing Brickearth, observed at a maximum height of 14.0m OD and at a minimum height of 13.19m OD.

### **4.2 Topography**

- 4.2.1 The site slopes gently from c. 15m OD in the south of site to c. 14.2m OD in the northeast of the site.
- 4.2.2 The River Rom flows c. 200m northeast of the study site.

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **5.1 Prehistoric: Palaeolithic & Mesolithic**

5.1.1 No finds of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic date are known from within a 500m radius of the study site. Interglacial sea level fluctuations during the Lower and Upper Palaeolithic caused episodes of river deposition and erosion, which formed a series of terraces along the Thames and its tributary valleys. Flint implements dated to these periods have been recovered from interglacial sediments, terrace gravel and Brickearth at a number of locations in the region including sites at South Woodford and Upminster (Wymer 1996). However, the flint implements recovered from the Hackney Terrace are derived from earlier deposits and so are generally heavily rolled and in a derived context. As a result, a low potential for evidence of this period was identified.

5.1.2 In this section of the Thames Valley, Mesolithic flint material occurs within multi-period assemblages recovered by field walking, in sediments exposed at inter-tidal level and in the infill of later pits and ditches (Jacobi 1996). Here, as elsewhere in lowland Britain, sites tend to occur close to rivers or other water sources. Generally, Mesolithic material is spread sparsely across the landscape and, as a result, a low potential for evidence of this period is identified on the study site.

### **5.2 Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age**

5.2.1 By the Bronze Age the area of the study site would probably have lain in a partially cleared landscape, with the landscape divided between arable, pasture and woodland and interspersed with enclosed settlements, ritual enclosures and burial monuments.

5.2.2 Work at the rear of 32 Linden Street, northeast of the study site, revealed a flint arrowhead and a flint flake, dated to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (MLO26056, TQ5094 8902), and three residual Bronze Age potsherds were found at 71-99 Mildmay Road, west of the study site (MLO58989, TQ5028 8879).

### **5.3 Roman**

5.3.1 Roman finds from Romford include a replica As of Caligula found southeast of the study site (MLO4152, TQ512 882). East of the study site, Brass coins were found c. 1.3m below ground

level in the cellar of the Woolpack on Romford High Street (MLO4168, TQ5104 8877), and in the demolition of the old Romford Bridge in 1906 revealed a copper coin of Vespasian (MLO4186, TQ5110 8881).

- 5.3.2 The study site lies on the projected alignment of the Roman road from London to Colchester. White marks noted in fields at Cottons Recreation Ground, to the south of the study site, suggest the alignment for a possible Roman road, on the alignment of London Road.
- 5.3.3 A Roman cemetery was identified, c. 100m southwest of the study site, in the 1930s, but was only reported in the 1980s (MLO14415, TQ5063 8860). The cemetery comprised a cremation group dating to the late 1<sup>st</sup>/early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, and included an urn containing burnt bone, together with other pots and samian ware vessels (MLO67573, TQ509 888).
- 5.3.4 The laying of water pipes through South Street, c. 300m south east of the study site revealed possible Roman timber, nails and a key (MLO26051, TQ5177 8850).
- 5.3.5 The small Roman town of Durolitum, identified on the Antonine Itinerary, is thought to lie in the vicinity of Romford town centre, although its exact location is not known (MLO26658, TQ5100 8900).

#### **5.4 Anglo Saxon and Medieval**

- 5.4.1 Residual single sherds of Anglo Saxon and medieval pottery were found at 71-99 Mildmay Road, c. 500m northwest of the study site (MLO58992, MLO58993, TQ5028 8879)
- 5.4.2 The Manor of Mawney originated c.1220 and was held by the Mawney family until 1489. It passed through various owners until being finally sold by the Newman family in 1883 for building land. The manor house, known as Mawneys or Great Mawneys, originally moated, was noted as of considerable size in 1618, was partially rebuilt in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and finally demolished in 1935. It lay c. 200m to the northeast of the study site (MLO26408, MLO503642, TQ5093 8887).

#### **5.5 Post Medieval**

- 5.5.1 The Chapman & Andre Map of 1777 shows the study site lying in open land west of 'Rumford' and north of the High Street. The study site remained in open fields within the manor of Mawney until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.5.2 The First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1871 shows the study site lying within two empty fields, west of Romford town centre. A field boundary with a water filled ditch is shown crossing the northern part of site.
- 5.5.3 As noted above, the manor of Mawneys was sold for building land in 1883. The Second Edition Ordnance Survey in 1896 shows houses with rear gardens, fronting Marks Road along the northern boundary of the study site. The rear gardens appear to be bounded by the water filled ditch to the south. The Third Edition Ordnance Survey in 1920 shows no apparent change to the study site at this time.
- 5.5.4 By 1939 the Revised Ordnance Survey shows the establishment of the Cotton's Recreation Ground in the south of the study site. A path was laid through the centre of site. Between 1939 and 1972 there was no change to the study site. By 1979 Cottons Court and Cottons Approach were built to the east of the study site. By 1984 Marks Lodge, a residential care home, was built on the study site. Between 1992 and 2007 a small building in the north of the site was demolished.

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation followed the methodology outlined in the Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation<sup>4</sup>. The evaluation consisted of six trenches (Fig. 2). Trenches 1, 3 and 4 measured approximately 20m by 2m and Trenches 2, 5 and 6 measured approximately 10m by 2m.
- 6.2 The evaluation strategy was designed to sample a representative portion of the area threatened by severe impact from redevelopment, and to demonstrate the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or features on the site. The evaluation demonstrated that in the southern part of the site (Trenches, 2, 3, 4 and 5) no archaeological deposits survived. Deposits of Late Iron Age/Early Roman survived in the west and northwest of site.
- 6.3 Following consultation with David Divers of English Heritage GLAAS and The Client it was decided to extend Trench 1 to further investigate the presence of a possible urned cremation [14] within a large cut feature [39]. It was decided that an area measuring approximately 10m by 10m was to be excavated in the south of Trench 1 (Fig.3).
- 6.4 A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision, removed all undifferentiated topsoil and modern overburden in successive spits until significant archaeological deposits were reached.
- 6.5 Following the machining, all trenches were cleaned by hand. A large cut feature in Trench 1 was investigated by hand, excavating two sondages across it to ascertain the presence, or lack, of further cremations and to recover dating evidence.
- 6.6 All features and deposits observed were planned and recorded onto pro-forma context record sheets. Contexts were numbered sequentially and are shown in this report within square brackets. Plans and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. A general photographic survey of the site and working conditions was undertaken.
- 6.7 An engineer's spot height at 14.49m OD, located on the footpath to the north of site, was used to establish two temporary benchmarks (TBM 1 at 14.36m OD and TBM 2 at 14.40m OD).
- 6.8 Archaeological features and deposits were recorded dating from the Late Iron Age/Early Roman Period.

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<sup>4</sup> Darton, L., Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation, Marks Lodge, Cottons Approach, Romford, 2007 CgMs unpublished report

## 7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE AND INTERPRETATIONS

### 7.1 Trench 1 and Mitigation

- 7.1.1 Natural brickearth was observed at 13.48m OD.
- 7.1.2 This was truncated by an enclosure/boundary ditch [39] (Figs. 3 and 4) measuring 11m northeast to southwest and 2.4m wide, observed between 13.51m OD and 13.38m OD. Two sondages were excavated across the ditch, the western sondage revealed ditch [18], observed between 13.48m OD and 12.95m OD, to be 0.9m wide, 0.53m deep and filled by a sandy clay [17]. This was recut by ditch [16], observed between 13.46m OD and 12.75m OD, and measuring 1.32m wide by 0.83m deep. A clay deposit [15] filled the ditch and was found to contain a complete pottery vessel [14]. This comprised a South Essex shell-tempered (SESH) jar dated to Late Iron Age-AD 50/60 containing calcined sheep remains, probably the remains of a single forelimb, suggesting a ritual deposit. Pottery recovered from these features suggests a date between AD 43 and AD 80 for the back filling of the original ditch and a slightly later date of AD 70-100 for the recut (see Appendix 3).
- 7.1.3 The eastern sondage revealed ditch [26], observed between 13.40m OD and 12.85m OD and measuring 1.10m wide by 0.56m deep, to be filled by a sandy clay [25]. This was recut by ditch [24], observed between 13.46m OD and 12.79m OD and measuring 1.2m wide by 0.68m deep to be filled by [23]. The pottery recovered from the original ditch was dated to between AD 100 and AD 150 with the recut dating to AD 70-120. This would suggest that enclosure/boundary ditch [39] underwent a complex period of recutting between AD43-100/150<sup>5</sup> and that the eastern section of ditch had been recut and backfilled at a slightly later date.
- 7.1.4 Sandy clay fills [19] and [22], observed between 13.50m OD and 13.39m OD, represented the final stage of infilling of the enclosure ditch.
- 7.1.5 An alluvial flood deposit [38] was observed between 13.76m OD and 13.64m OD sealing ditch [39]. This suggests that the area surrounding the ditch was subject to flooding sometime after the ditch fell out of use.
- 7.1.6 Sealing this a deposit of modern made ground [21] was observed with a maximum height of 14.18m OD. The sequence was sealed by a deposit of topsoil [40] with a maximum height of 14.44m OD.

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<sup>5</sup>Ibid



## **7.2 Trench 2**

7.2.1 The earliest deposit encountered was natural clay brickearth [32] recorded at a height of 13.81m OD.

7.2.2 Sealing the brickearth a silty sand deposit [31] was observed at 13.84m OD.

7.2.3 The brickearth was truncated by a large modern pit [30], filled by silty clay [29], at 13.89m OD. This was sealed by an old topsoil deposit [28], observed at 14.0m OD. A deposit of silty gravels [27] was observed sealing this at 14.15m OD. The sequence were sealed by topsoil [42] with a highest level of 14.59m OD.

## **7.3 Trench 3**

7.3.1 The earliest deposit encountered was naturally deposited clay brickearth [8], recorded at a height of 13.53m OD. Sealing this a sandy gravel deposit [6] was observed at 13.70m OD. This was sealed by natural clay silt deposits [5] and [7] observed at 13.77m OD.

7.3.2 The sequence was sealed by a modern deposit of clay silt [4] with a maximum height of 14.02m OD.

## **7.4 Trench 4**

7.4.1 The earliest deposit encountered was naturally occurring brickearth [37] and gravel [36] at heights of 14.00m OD and 13.91m OD.

7.4.2 Sealing the gravels a sandy clay layer [35] was observed at 14.06m OD.

7.4.3 Above this modern deposits [33] and [34] were observed at heights of 14.41m OD and 14.15m OD respectively. The sequence was sealed by topsoil [33] with a maximum height of 14.60m OD.

## **7.5 Trench 5**

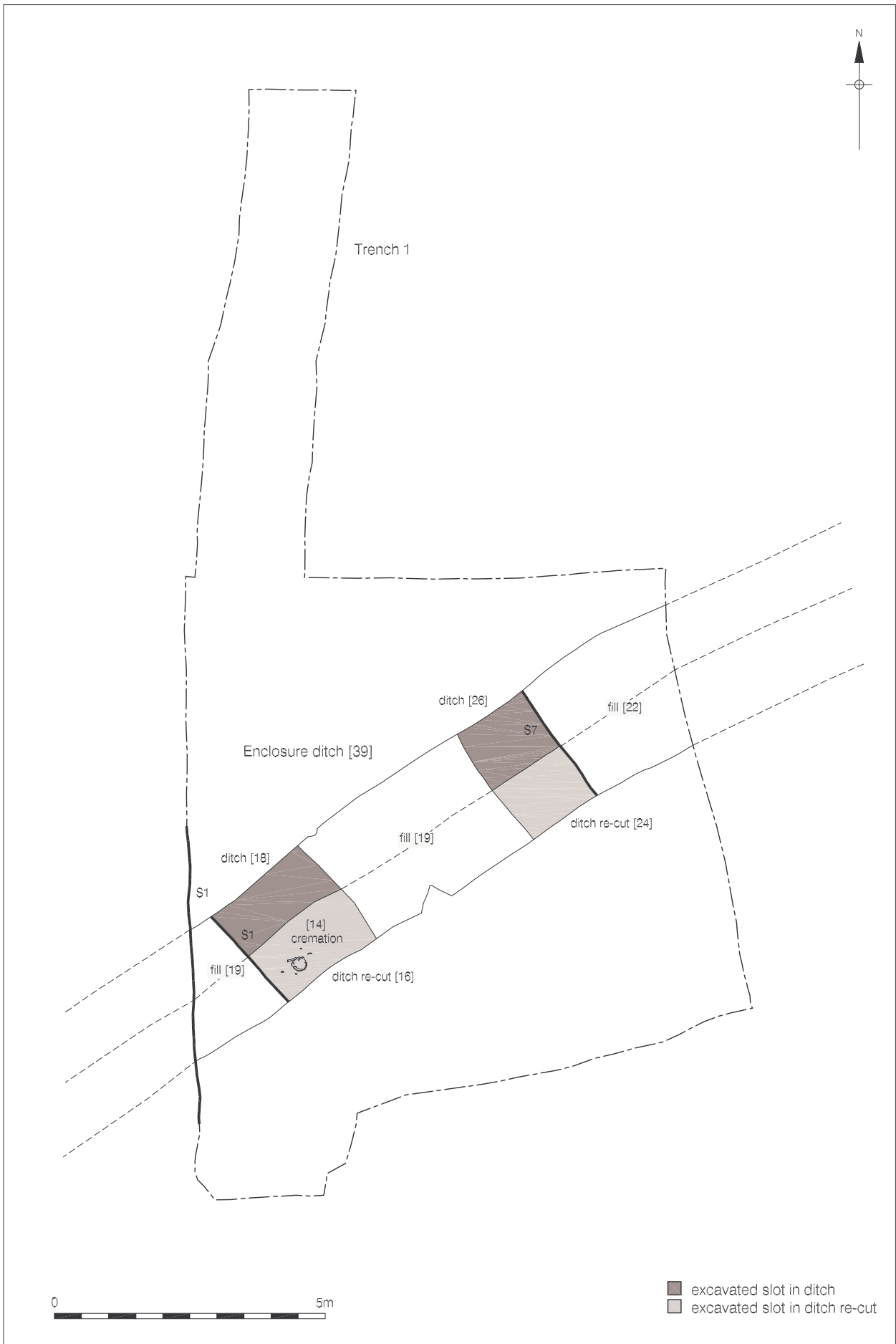
7.5.1 The earliest deposit encountered was a natural clay brickearth [13] at 13.29m OD.

7.5.2 Sealing this a deposit of sandy clay [9] was observed at 13.58m OD. This had been badly disturbed by root action.

7.5.3 This was sealed by a modern sand clay [10] deposit observed at 13.93m OD. Modern pit [11], filled by [12], was observed at 13.88m OD truncating this. The sequence was sealed by recent demolition material with a maximum height of 14.52m OD.

## **7.6 Trench 6**

- 7.6.1 The earliest deposit encountered was a natural clay brickearth [3] at 13.77m OD.
- 7.6.2 Sealing this, a layer of postmedieval ploughsoil [2], observed at 13.99m OD was found to contain residual Roman pot, a fragment of Roman tegula and a fragment of post-medieval CBM.
- 7.6.3 A modern gravelly silt deposit [1] was observed at 14.16m OD sealing the ploughsoil. The sequence was sealed by recent demolition rubble with a maximum height of 14.47m OD.



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Figure 3  
 Trench 1  
 Plan of Enclosure ditch and cremation  
 1:100 at A4

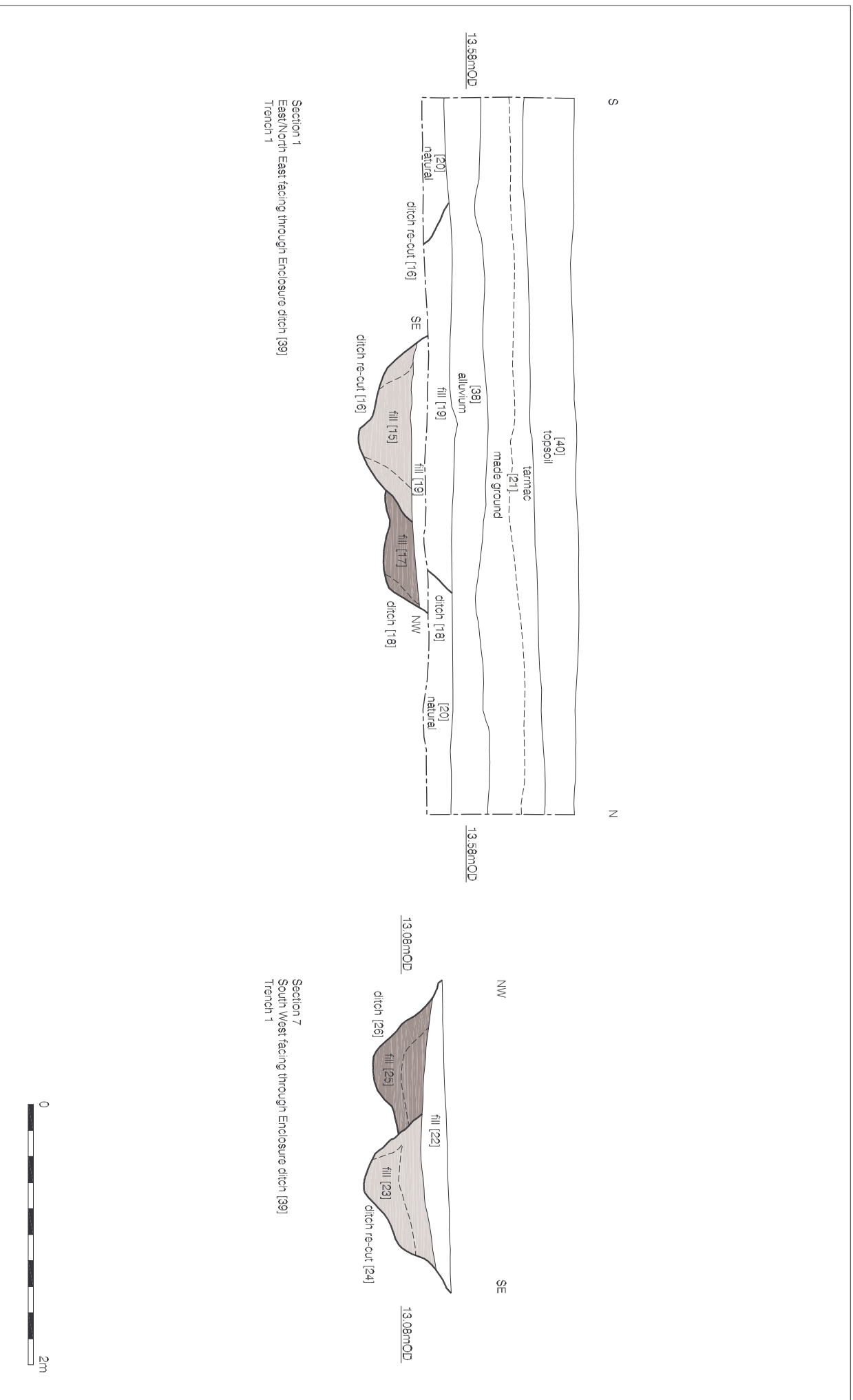
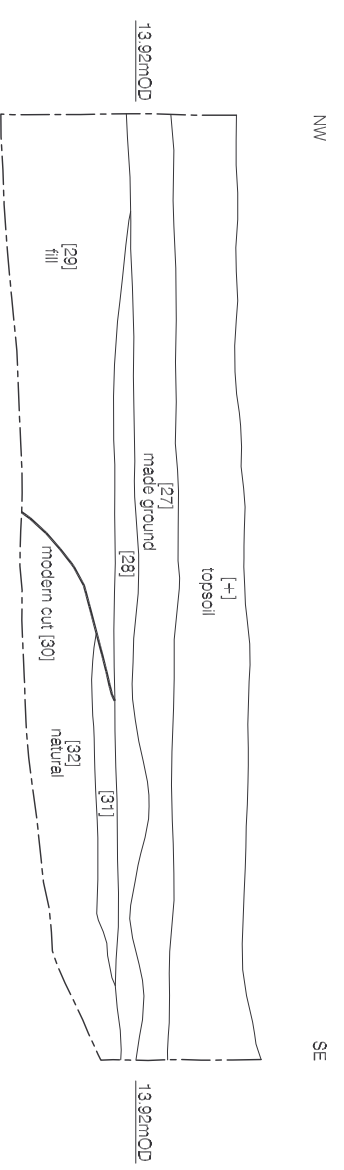
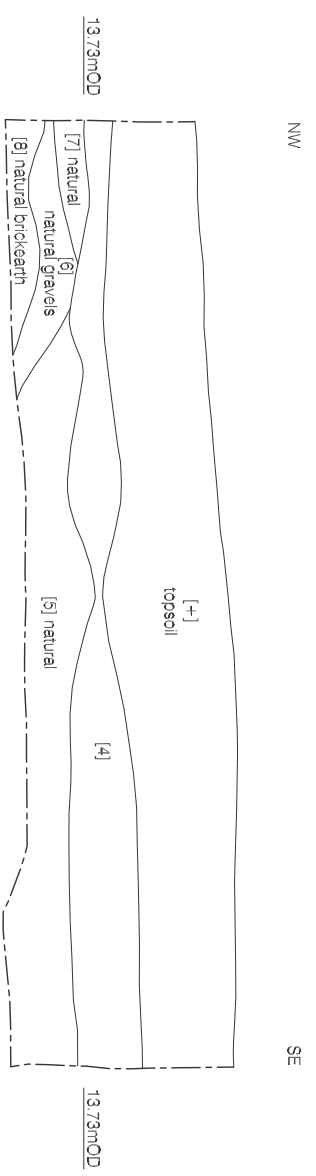


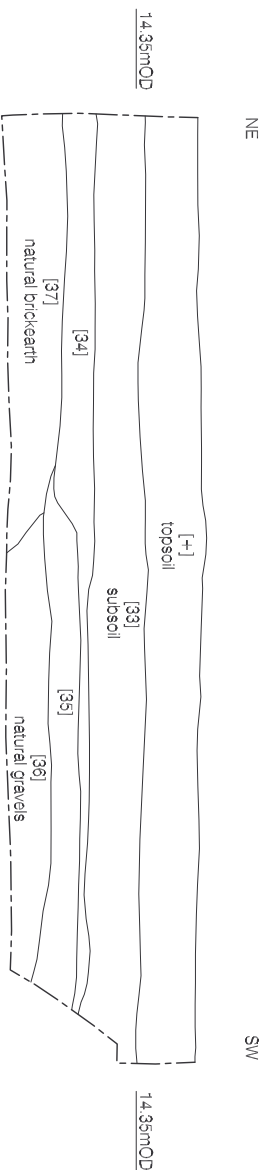
Figure 4  
Sections through Enclosure ditch [39] in Trench 1  
1:40 at A4



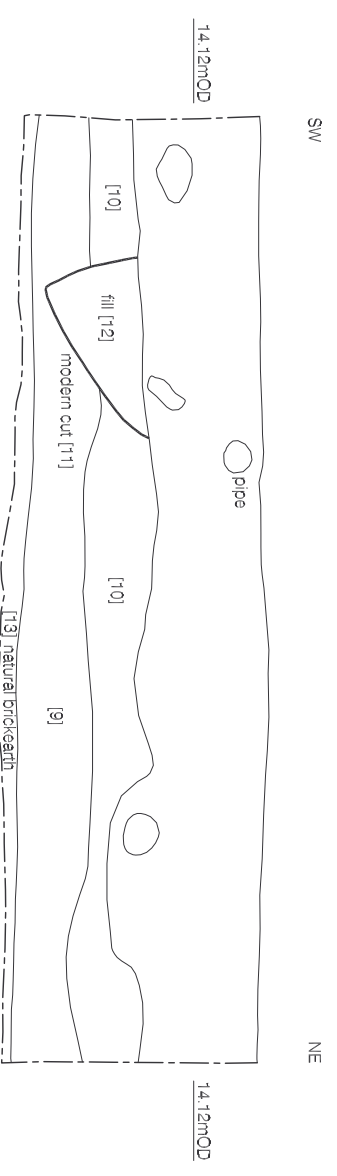
Section 2  
South West facing  
Trench 2



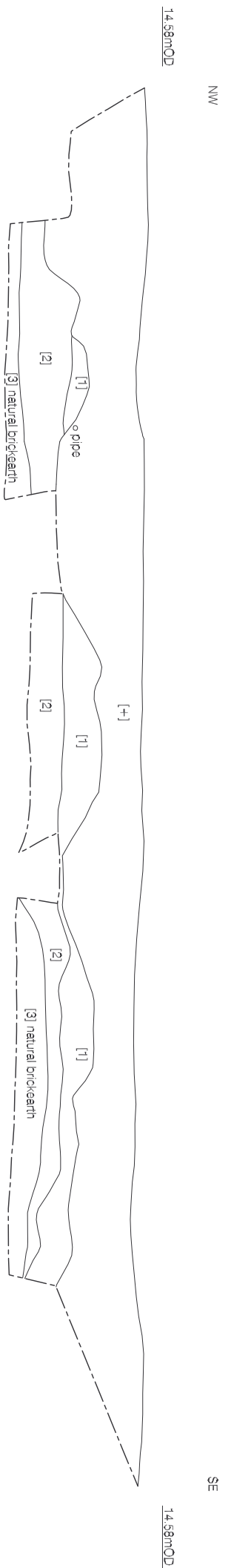
Section 3  
South West facing  
Trench 3



Section 4  
North West facing  
Trench 4



Section 5  
South East facing  
Trench 5



Section 6  
South East facing  
Trench 6



## **8 ORIGINAL AND ADDITIONAL RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

### **8.1 Original research objectives**

The original research objectives of the excavation are listed below, along with an evaluation of the archaeological evidence recovered from the site in order to assess whether it could potentially be used to answer these questions.

#### **8.1.1 Establish the presence or otherwise of archaeological activity and define the date and nature of such activity.**

Evidence of Late Iron Age/Early Roman activity was observed in the west of site. This took the form of a, northeast to southwest aligned, double enclosure/boundary ditch. Spot dating from the pottery suggests activity in the date range AD 43 to AD150. Bone recovered from the fills shows that adult horse, cattle, sheep and dog were present in the locality. The presence of cremated sheep forelimb, in a complete jar, within a ditch fill would suggest ritual activity.

#### **8.1.2 Establish the environmental context of any archaeological activity.**

The presence of alluvium sealing the enclosure/boundary ditch deposits suggests that at least part of the site was subject to a period of flooding when the ditch had been infilled.

Environmental samples were taken from the boundary ditch and its recut. However, no charred or waterlogged seeds were present which could have provided an environmental context for the archaeological remains.

#### **8.1.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development.**

The lack of any archaeological deposits in the north and south of site suggest that the construction of a row of terrace houses, now demolished, on the northern edge of site and the construction and landscaping of Mark's Lodge has impacted heavily on the land.

### **8.2 Revised research objectives**

Initial analysis of the archaeological evidence from the site and assessment of the artefactual remains has generated additional research objectives, detailed below.

#### **8.2.1 How does the enclosure/boundary ditch relate to activity in other sites in the vicinity?**

A review of artefactual remains from sites in the area to see if there is evidence of contemporary activity and how this would relate to this site.

**8.2.2 What evidence is there for Late Iron Age/Early Roman ritual activity in the area and how does this compare to the evidence found at the site?**

The possible ritual assemblages obtained from the site will be reviewed in light of what is known about any other possible Roman ritual sites in the area.

**8.2.3 What was the Late Iron Age/Early Roman landscape of the area like?**

The enclosure/boundary ditch will be reviewed in light of what is understood about Late Iron Age/Roman landscape and topography of the area.

## **9 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE**

### **9.1 PAPER RECORDS**

Contexts	1-42
Plans	7 (26 sheets)
Sections	7 (16 sheets)
Photographs:	
Colour slide (35mm)	16 frames
Digital	34 frames

### **9.2 THE FINDS**

Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery	12 bags
CBM	1 bag
Animal bone	11 bags
Burnt bone	1 bag
Mortar	1 bag
Slag	1 bag



## **10 IMPORTANCE OF RESULTS AND PUBLICATION OUTLINE**

- 10.1 Evidence for Late Iron Age/Early Roman activity in this area is of importance in understanding how the landscape evolved throughout these periods. The evidence obtained from the site will further understanding of how settlement and other activities changed, particularly throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century. The evidence can be compared with previous excavations and will add to the overall picture of how the Iron Age / Roman settlement developed in Romford.
- 10.2 The Late Iron Age/Early Roman sequence will be described and illustrated with finds material, pottery, CBM, animal bone, and compared with the archaeological sequence revealed at the sites in the vicinity.
- 10.3 It is proposed that the publication shall consist of a short note in Essex Archaeology and History.

## **11 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

- 11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Lorraine Darton of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work on behalf of Bellway Homes Thames Gateway North who funded the project and providing on site accommodation.
- 11.2 The author would like to thank Tim Bradley for his project management, Jon Butler for his post-excavation management and editing and David Divers of GLAAS for his advice and assistance. Thanks are also due site staff Mark Bagwell, Rachel Simmons and Graham Macarthur for their assistance on site, Jeremy Rodgers for his surveying skills and Lisa Lonsdale for providing logistical support. Thanks are also due to Hayley Baxter for preparing the AutoCAD drawings, James Gerrard for his Roman pottery analysis, Kevin Rielly for his analysis of the animal bone assemblage, Archaeoscape for the environmental report and Kevin Hayward for his building material assessment.

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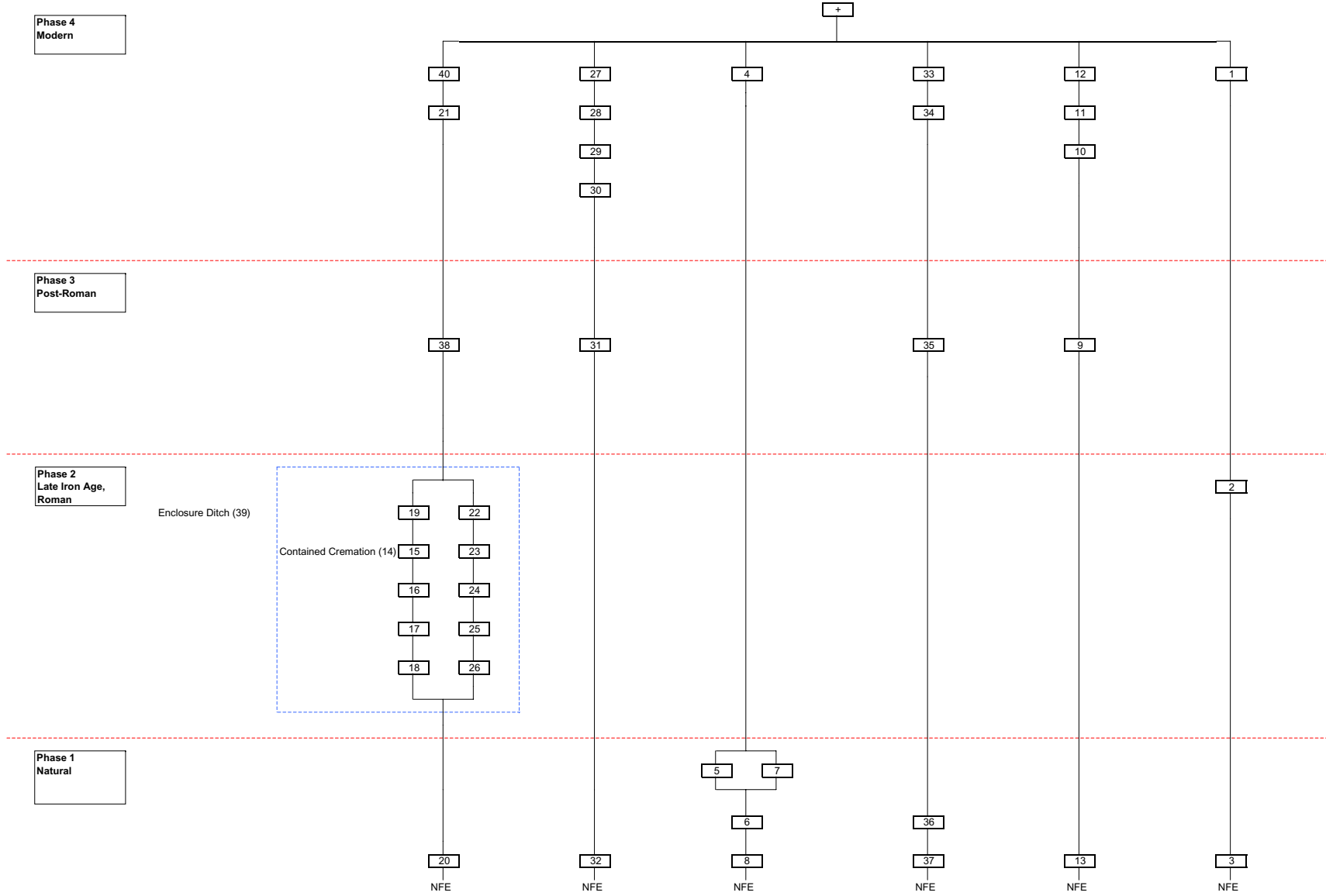
## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context No.	Plan	Section / Elevation	Type	Description	Date	Phase
MRK07	1	N/A	S6	Layer	Gravel Silt Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	2	TR 6	S6	Layer	Clayey Silty Sand Layer	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	3	TR 6	S6	Layer	Clay Brickearth Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	4	N/A	S3	Layer	Clay Silt Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	5	N/A	S3	Layer	Clay Silt Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	6	N/A	S3	Layer	Silty Gravel Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	7	N/A	S3	Layer	Clay Silt Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	8	TR3	S3	Layer	Clay Brickearth Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	9	N/A	S5	Layer	Sand Clay Layer	Post-Roman	3
MRK07	10	N/A	S5	Layer	Sand Clay Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	11	N/A	S5	Cut	Cut	Modern	4
MRK07	12	N/A	S5	Fill	Fill of [11]	Modern	4
MRK07	13	TR5	S5	Layer	Clay Brickearth Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	14	14	N/A	Cremation	Cremation	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	15	N/A	S1	Fill	Fill of [16] = (23)	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	16	TR1 + Extension	S1	Cut	Ditch = [24] part of [39]	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	17	N/A	S1	Fill	Fill of [18] = (25)	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	18	TR1 + Extension	S1	Cut	Ditch = [26] part of [39]	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	19	N/A	S1	Fill	Fill of [39] = (22)	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	20	TR1 + Extension	S1	Layer	Clay Brickearth Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	21	N/A	S1	Layer	Sandy Clay Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	22	TR1 + Extension	S7	Fill	Fill of [39] = (19)	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	23	N/A	S7	Fill	Fill of [24] = (15)	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	24	TR1 + Extension	S7	Cut	Ditch = [16] part of [39]	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	25	N/A	S7	Fill	Fill of [26] = [17]	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	26	TR1 + Extension	S7	Cut	Ditch = [18] part of [39]	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	27	TR2	S2	Layer	Silty Gravel Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	28	N/A	S2	Layer	Sand Silt Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	29	TR2	S2	Fill	Fill of [30]	Modern	4

MRK07	30	TR2	S2	Cut	Modern Intrusion	Modern	4
MRK07	31	N/A	S2	Layer	Silt Sand Layer	Post-Roman	3
MRK07	32	TR2	S2	Layer	Clay Brickearth Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	33	TR4	S4	Layer	Sand Silt Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	34	N/A	S4	Layer	Sand Silt Layer	Modern	4
MRK07	35	N/A	S4	Layer	Sand Clay Layer	Post-Roman	3
MRK07	36	TR4	S4	Layer	Sand Gravel Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	37	TR4	S4	Layer	Clay Brickearth Layer	Natural	1
MRK07	38	N/A	S1	Layer	Alluvium	Post-Roman	3
MRK07	39	TR1 + Extension	S1, S7	Structure	Enclosure Ditch	Late Iron Age / Roman	2
MRK07	40	N/A	S1	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	4

**APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX**

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



## APPENDIX 3: POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By James Gerrard

The excavations recovered 537 sherds (5,938g) of pottery (including a single briquetage sherd) in a Late Iron Age / Early Romano-British tradition. The pottery was mainly deposited in the fills of enclosure ditch [39], the exception to this were a few sherds found residually in layer [2], alongside post-medieval material.

The vast bulk of the pottery is produced in an extremely heterogeneous variety of handmade local fabrics (Table 1). Non-local material includes products of the Verulamium Region industries (VER WH, Tomber and Dore 1998), Highgate Wood C (although this is probably a ?Hadham imitation, Going 1987, 8), La Graufesenque samian (LGF SA, Tomber and Dore 1998) and unsourced amphora. There are also sandy Thameside wares.

In general terms the pottery from ditch [18], recut [16] appears a little earlier than that from ditch [26], recut [24] suggesting that enclosure [39] had a complex sequence of re-cutting during the period AD43-100/150. The presence of a largely complete, though fragmentary, SESH jar [14] associated with fragments of burnt animal bone in [16] suggests ritual activity in the vicinity.

### Recommendations

The pottery can be written up in one or two paragraphs without recourse to illustration. The exception to this is the SESH jar [14].

### References

Davies, B., Richardson, B. and Tomber, B. 1994 *A Dated Corpus of Early Roman Pottery from the City of London*. London, The Archaeology of London 5

Going, C. 1987 *The Mansio and other sites in the south-eastern sector of Caesaromagus: the Roman pottery*. London, CBA Research Report 62

Tomber, R. and Dore, J. 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: a handbook*. London, MoLAS Monograph 2

Fabric	Description
P1	Soft, handmade, variably fired, sand and sparse shell
P2	Soft, handmade, variably fired, grog and sparse sand
P3	Soft, handmade, variably fired, grog and sparse organics



P4	Soft, handmade, variably fired, grog and sparse shell
P5	Soft, handmade, variably fired, shell, sand, grog and calcareous
P6	Hard, wheel turned with sparse quartz and 'silt'
SESH	South Essex Shell Tempered Davies <i>et al.</i> 1994, 102-105

Table 1, Locally produced fabrics and descriptions

**Appendix: spot dates**

Context	Number of sherds	Weight (g)	Early Date	Late Date	Comments
2	13	111	AD43	AD200	Residual
14	121	912	AD43	AD70	Inc. SESH jar LIA-AD50/60
15	70	509	AD70	AD100	
17	55	532	AD43	AD80	
19	128	960	AD43	AD80	Inc. one frag briquetage
22	46	357	AD70	AD100	
23	69	467	AD70	AD120	
25	35	270	AD100	AD150	

## **APPENDIX 4: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL ASSESSMENT**

**By Kevin Hayward**

- Introduction and Aims
- Methodology
- Ceramic Building Material – Fabric and Form
- Stone - Geological Description and Source
- Summary

### **Introduction and Aims**

Three examples of building material were retained from an evaluation of the Multi-Period (Late Iron Age - Modern) site of Marks Lane, Romford.

This material was assessed in order to:

- Identify (under binocular microscope) the Roman ceramic building material fabric and form and stone type at Marks Lane, Romford.
- Date ceramic building material on fabric and forms and how it may relate to the occupation phases at Marks Lane.

### **Methodology**

The building material was examined using the London system of classification with a fabric number allocated to each object. The application of a 1kg mason's hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10).

### **Ceramic Building Material Form and Fabric**

An overview of the ceramic building material from Marks Lane, Romford by fabric and form serves to provide valuable dating evidence in the phase summary at the end of this review.

### **Roman Ceramic Building Material**

Fabric 2459c

Excluding stone, a large fragment of tegulae is the sum total of the Roman Ceramic Building Material at Marks Lane. This chaff-tempered, orange sandy fabric with a reduced core (511g) consists of part of the narrow flange and upper cutaway. This is type 31. The fragment is in good condition with no sign of abrasion or reuse. This material had been used as roofing material. This sandy fabric is common in the Greater London area with one production area (Epping Forest) close by. Fabric 2459c can be dated to mid Roman period AD140-250.

## Post-Medieval Ceramic Building Material

Fabric 2279

A fragment of drain (247g) is of a thickness and fabric that is comparable with post-medieval drains.

## Stone – Geological Description and Source

1 example

## Fabrics and Forms

**Flint 3117**, Upper Chalk, Upper Cretaceous, rubble.

A small nodule of flint [2] 30g coated with mortar provides evidence for walling material in a Roman context at Marks Lane.

Flint occurs in nodules from the nearby Upper Chalk, which is widespread in Hertfordshire and Essex and no doubt this material was worked from a local source. It was used along with Kentish Ragstone in London and the south-east as walling material in vast quantities.

## Summary

Little can be added to the detail above other than to mention

- The two fragments of Roman building material from [2] are consistent with the Late Iron Age/Roman date (Phase 2) of this context and the abundant pottery of Roman date at this site.
- This context is not associated with the Roman cremation from the enclosure ditch [39]
- Both the flint nodule and the sandy tegulae fabric were local. Flint occurs within along the Chalk escarpment close by in Hertfordshire. The sandy fabric 2459c is common in the Greater London area with one production area (Epping Forest) nearby.
- It is possible that the walling rubble may represent the staging post (possible *mansio* or bath-house?) of *Durolitum* mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century Antonine Itinerary or another nearby staging post. This site was aligned along the Colchester and London road.

## Dating table

<b>Context</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date range of material</b>		<b>Latest dated material</b>	
2	1	140	250	140	250

Table 1: Dating table

## APPENDIX 5: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Rielly

### Introduction

This evaluation provided a single ditch, recut by a later ditch and sealed by an alluvial deposit in Trench 1 and various archaeological layers in Trenches 2, 4 and 5 (out of a total of 6 trenches). Animal bones were limited to the Trench 1 ditch, which contained a succession of late Iron Age/early Roman fills. Of particular interest was the recovery of burnt animal bones within a pot [14], this found in one of the upper fills. Roman activity in this general area is marked by the nearby staging post of Durolitum near Romford, which was on the Roman road between London and Colchester.

### Methodology

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

### Description of faunal assemblage by phase

The bones were highly fragmented, all showing new breakage, while a large proportion exhibited mild root etching. Bones were refitted where possible, allowing for a total number of 63 bones to be recorded. All of these were taken from various fills, generally dated to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (probably up to AD150) within ditch [39] in Trench 1. The species representation from each of those fills with bones is shown in Table 1.

<b>Context:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Species/Animal size class</b>							
Cattle ( <i>Bos taurus</i> )			1	8	5		1
Horse ( <i>Equus caballus</i> )		2		3	3		
Red deer ( <i>Cervus elaphus</i> )		1					
Cattle-size					1	4	
Sheep/Goat ( <i>Ovis aries/Capra hircus</i> )	5	2					
Sheep-size	24						
Dog ( <i>Canis familiaris</i> )		1		1			1
Grand Total	29	6	1	12	9	4	2

Table 1: Counts of animal bone in each context

### Phase 2: Late Iron Age/Roman

There appear to be three infillings of ditch [39], the lowest including contexts [17] and [25], followed by [14]/[15] and [23], and finally by [19] and [22]. The lower deposits provided just three bones, a cattle

maxilla and femur, and a dog pelvis, all from adult individuals. The middle levels contained some unidentifiable cattle-size pieces as well as two horse bones, a distal radius and a complete metatarsus, probably from the same adult animal; plus a sheep radius and distal tibia, and a small fragment of red deer antler. The calcined remains of an adult sheep, possibly of a complete foreleg (comprising fragments of scapula, humerus, radius, a single carpal and a second phalange) were recovered from one of the fills [14] of a pot contained within one of these levels ([15]). The topmost fills provided the greatest concentration of bones with the relatively complete remains of the anterior half of a skull (both maxillae and one mandible) as well as a variety of other parts, all possibly belonging to the same adult cattle; as well as three or possibly two horse bones (two mandible fragments probably from the same individual) and a metatarsus, and one dog mandible fragment.

The ageing evidence points to a majority of adult individuals, while the build of the various bones suggests the presence of typically small Iron Age/Roman cattle, sheep and horse. One of the horse bones was complete, which provided a lateral length of 200.1mm from which a shoulder height of 1066.5mm, about 10 hands, could be calculated (using Boessneck and von den Driesch 1974). In addition, some of the horse teeth could be more accurately aged, using the crown height system devised by Levine (1982), as follows: - the mandible from [19] aged 8 to 9 years, and the maxilla from [22] aged 7 to 8 years. The dog bones were from moderately sized animals, probably 40 to 50cm at the shoulder, of which there are numerous examples in Roman Britain (Harcourt 1974). Finally, there was just one bone with butchery marks, a cattle femur shaft piece from [19] showing a series of knife cuts, probably a result of defleshing. The red deer antler fragment was not obviously modified, but could nevertheless represent antler-working waste.

### **Conclusion and recommendations for further work**

The potential value of this assemblage is limited by its small size, the lack of sieving and the noted high level of fragmentation. It can certainly be assumed that there is a bias towards the larger species, with the probable exception of the pot contents [14]. While the preservation of the bones is good, little more can be suggested of this assemblage other than adult cattle, sheep and horse were used in the locality of this ditch during the late Iron Age/early Roman period, and that these animals were rather typical of the period in terms of stature. Of particular interest, however, was the recovery of the 'urned' calcined sheep remains. The evidence does appear to suggest a ritual rather than a mundane explanation for this find. While it is possible that the burnt bones may actually represent hearth waste, this does not seem very likely. The calcined nature of these bones suggests they were produced in a long firing at a high temperature, which would be consistent with a cremation (Lee Lyman 1994). In addition, it is difficult to imagine the scenario where ordinary food waste would be tipped into a pot and buried. There is also the consideration that these bones probably represent the remains of a single forelimb. Thus it can be suggested that this represented a deliberate burial of a 'cremated offering' perhaps marking the demise of this feature, a so-called 'termination deposit'. There are a number of examples of burnt animal bones within human cremations both from the Iron Age and Roman periods, where, at least in the latter period, sheep tend to be the offering of choice (Sidell and Rielly 1998, 95

and 97). Unaccompanied burnt sheep remains, which can be interpreted as 'ritual' in nature, are less common. Two examples have been found in the London area, from Summerton Way, Thamesmead (Rielly 1998) and from Throgmorton Avenue in the City (Rielly 2001), the first dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century and the latter to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century. Both include the partial remains of a cremated sheep, with no other faunal evidence, and each was found in a small pit. The absence of burning around these features clearly shows that the carcasses/bones had been burnt elsewhere and then deposited into these pits.

Any further work on these bones should concentrate on the probable 'ritual' deposit, with an emphasis on determining the significance of these remains, which will involve a thorough search for comparable evidence.

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## **APPENDIX 6: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

By D. Young and N.P. Branch, *ArchaeoScape*,

### **INTRODUCTION**

This report summarises the findings arising out of the rapid bioarchaeological assessment undertaken by *ArchaeoScape*, in collaboration with Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, of three bulk samples (<1>, <2> and <3>) recovered from a possible enclosure ditch and cremation at Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, London Borough of Havering (Site code: MRK07; National Grid Reference: TQ 507 886). The aim of the assessment was to evaluate their potential for further, more detailed, environmental archaeological investigation. In particular, the samples were obtained to assess their potential for dating, for elucidating the nature of human activities (economy and diet), and for reconstructing the general environmental context.

### **METHODS**

#### ***Field investigations***

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd opened six trenches (1 to 6) as part of the archaeological evaluation. Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5 yielded no evidence of past human activity or suitable deposits for environmental archaeological investigation. In the south of Trench 1, a possible enclosure ditch [39] (context (23); sample <1>) was found to contain a cremation [14] (context (14); samples <2> and <3>) and various pottery sherds. Spot dates for the pottery sherds recovered from this feature suggested late Iron Age/ Roman activity (Phase 2).

#### **Plant macrofossil assessment**

Three bulk samples were processed for the plant macrofossil assessment by flotation by Pre-Construct Archaeology. The residues were scanned using a low power zoom-stereo microscope. Identifications were made with reference to the modern seed collection at Royal Holloway University London, and Berggren (1981) and Anderberg (1994). Plant nomenclature follows Stace (1997) (Table 1).

### **RESULTS OF THE BIOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**

The results of the bioarchaeological assessment indicate that charred and waterlogged seeds are not present in samples <1>, <2> or <3>. Charcoal is present in samples <1> and <2>, but in low concentrations (1-25 specimens). Charred animal bone, although not fish bone, is present in medium to low concentrations in samples <1> (1-25 specimens), <2> (51-75 specimens) and <3> (26-50 specimens), but is poorly preserved in all samples and few specimens are identifiable.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Due to the absence of charred and waterlogged seeds, and the relatively poor concentration of charcoal in the samples examined, no further analysis of the samples is recommended. For contexts



where radiometric or AMS radiocarbon dating is required, the remaining material from the bulk samples should be processed by flotation, and the suitability of the plant material or bone assessed prior to submission for radiocarbon dating.

## **REFERENCES**

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Stace, C. (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Table 1: Bioarchaeological assessment, Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, London Borough of Havering (Site code: MRK07)**

Sample number	Context number	Phase	Description	Volume processed (litres)	Charred		Waterlogged		Monocotyledonous plant remains	Bone	Mineral matter	Main taxa
					Wood	Seeds	Seeds	Wood				
<1>	23	2	Ditch [39]	0.6	1	-	-	-	3	1	5	n/a
<2>	14	2	Cremation [14]	3.0	1	-	-	-	-	3 (charred)	-	n/a
<3>	14	2	Cremation [14]	6.0	-	-	-	-	3	2 (charred)	-	n/a

Key	Individuals
1 =	1 to 25
2 =	26 to 50
3 =	51 to 75
4 =	76 to 100
5 =	101+

## APPENDIX 7: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-35751

### Project details

Project name	Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation revealed a Late Iron Age/Early Roman enclosure ditch which had been recut on at least one occasion. It containing pottery and an urned cremation, of a sheep forelimb. Sealing this a Post Roman alluvial flood deposit was observed and sealed by modern deposits.
Project dates	Start: 29-10-2007 End: 06-11-2007
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	MRK07 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CREMATION Roman

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAVERING ROMFORD Marks Lodge
Postcode	RM7 7AN
Study area	0.58 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 507 886 51.5755918839 0.175000000143 51 34 32 N 000 10

30 E Point

Height OD Min: 13.19m Max: 15.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator CgMs Consulting

Project design originator Lorraine Darton

Project director/manager Tim Bradley

Project supervisor Shane Maher

Type of sponsor/funding body Bellway Homes

### Project archives

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','other'

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An archaeological evaluation at Marks Lodge, Marks Road, Romford, London Borough of Havering, RM7 7AN

Author(s)/Editor(s) Maher S

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology

Place of issue or publication Brockley

Description A4 bound document



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