

VALENTINES MANSION

VALENTINES PARK

ILFORD

LONDON BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING

BRIEF

SEPTEMBER 2000

CKR00

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at Valentines Mansion, Valentines Park, London
Borough of Redbridge**

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 4330 8792

Site Code: CKR 00

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September 2000**

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited during conservation works to a colonnade and drainage groundworks at Valentines Mansion, London Borough of Redbridge. The site central National Grid Reference is TQ 4330 8792. The watching brief was undertaken on 16/3/00, 17/3/00 and 12/9/00. The work was commissioned by Amy Kaspar of Richard Griffiths Architects on behalf of the London Borough of Redbridge.
- 1.2 The groundworks consisted of the excavation of three column base foundations in a colonnade along the north side of the Dairy wing and the excavation of a drain run south of the Dairy wing. All excavation was by hand. These excavations were monitored in order to assess, record, and in the event of archaeological deposits being encountered, excavate these remains.
- 1.3 Evidence of the method and sequence of construction of the colonnade was revealed in the three column base foundations. Agricultural/horticultural activity was found to have preceded the construction of the dairy's colonnade in the 18th or 19th century.
- 1.4 In the drain run to the south of the Dairy Wing (Trench 4) the west wall foundation of the main house was found to have been cut through a late Medieval to Post-Medieval agricultural soil and the House was confirmed as being later than the easternmost element of the Dairy wing. An 18th century drainage culvert originally fed by a downpipe from the roof was also revealed. The foundations of the present 19th century path were found to be contemporary with a phase of landscaping to raise the ground to the south of the dairy and minimise the risk of flooding.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited from 16th to 17th of March and on 12th September 2000. The site address is Valentines Mansion, Valentines Park, Ilford, London IG1. The site is set within the park to the north east of Emerson Road (see location, Fig. 1).
- 2.2 The largely 18th century Grade II listed building is currently subject to renovation and conservation works. As part of this work three columns of a colonnade on the north side of the Dairy (a single storey wing situated to the north west of the main house) were removed, and were re-founded using more substantial concrete foundations. The first phase of works consisted of a watching brief on the excavation of these three foundation pits, (Trenches 1-3). The second phase of works consisted of the excavation of a shallow external trench (Trench 4) along part of the southern wall of the Dairy wing, for the laying of drainage lines connecting both the wing and a down pipe from the house's roof guttering to the existing drainage system. The locations of the trenches are shown in Figure 2.
- 2.3 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined in the London Borough of Redbridge Unitary Development Plan. An archaeological investigation was a requirement of consent to any ground works to the House.
- 2.3 The work was undertaken in accordance with a method statement prepared by Peter Moore, of Pre-Construct Archaeology¹ and was monitored by Nick Truckle of English Heritage.
- 2.4 The work was commissioned by Amy Kaspar of Richard Griffiths Architects on behalf of the London Borough of Redbridge. The site contractors were Sindall Ltd. The watching brief by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. was undertaken under the supervision of Ken Sabel and the project management of Peter Moore.
- 2.6 The completed archive of written and drawn records will be deposited at the Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN.
- 2.7 The allocated site code is: CKR 00

¹ Moore P, Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Valentines Mansion Ilford, London IG1, unpublished document, PCA Ltd, 14/3/00.



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Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000

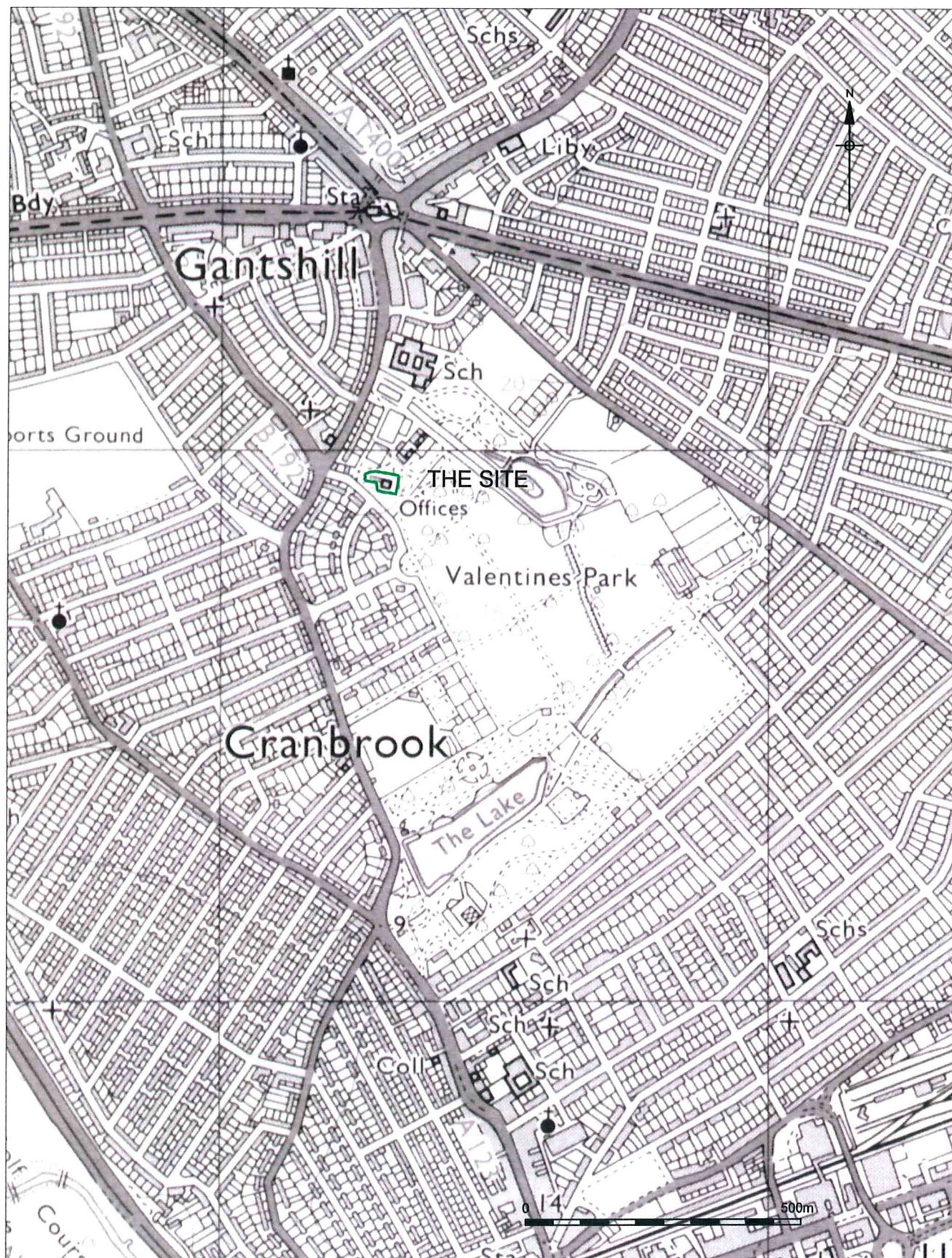


Figure 1
Site location
Scale 1:10,000

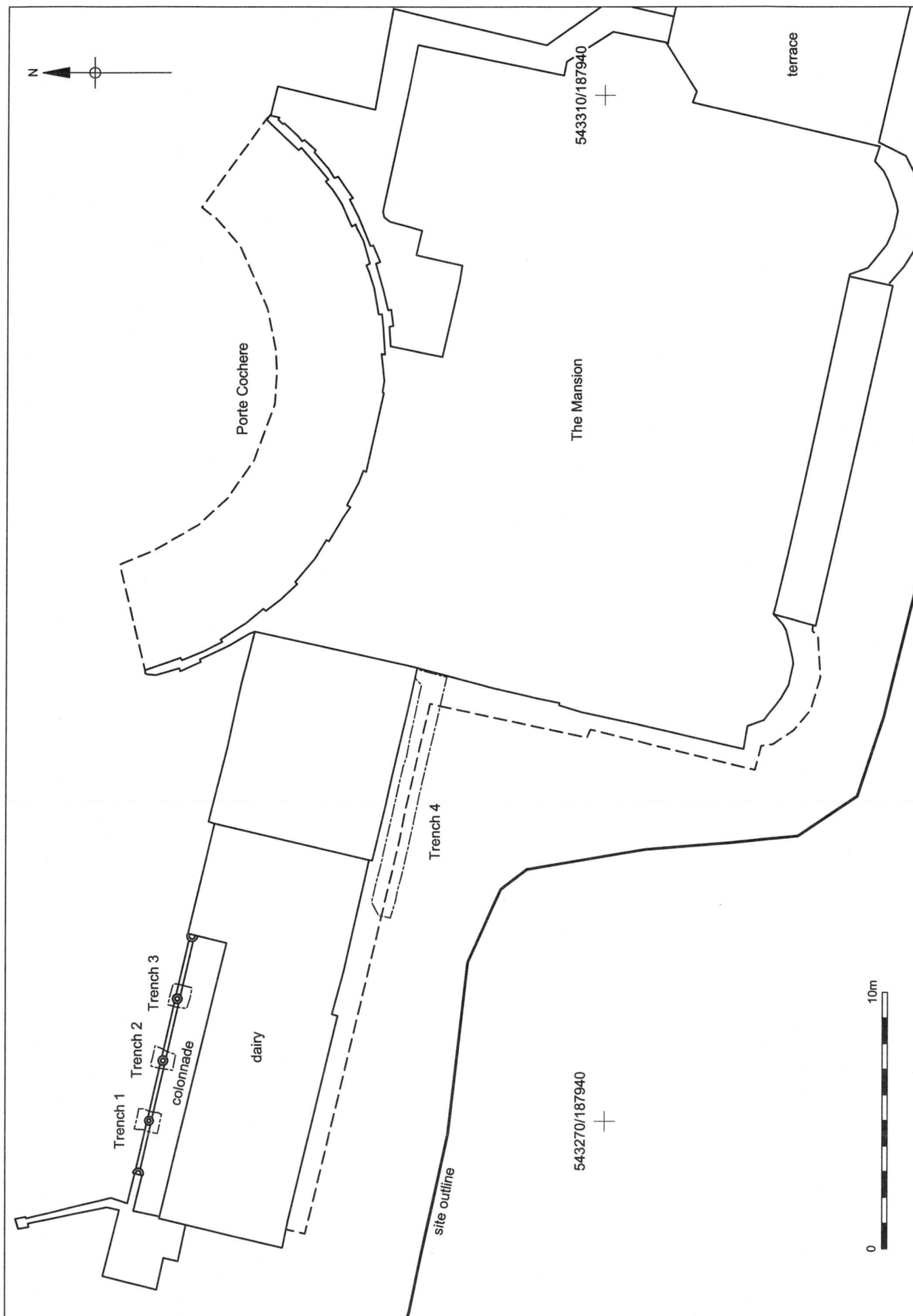


Figure 2
Trench location
Scale 1:200

PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Redbridge's Unitary Development Plan.
- 3.1.2 Valentines Mansion is a Grade II listed building². Three of the archaeological trenches (Trenches 1-3) formed part of the building's foundations, while the fourth abutted the building and fell within its curtilage.
- 3.1.3 Valentines Park is listed in the English Heritage's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Interest.

3.2 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 3.2.1 The general research objectives of the investigation were to determine and record the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains exposed or disturbed by the current works. More specifically, the aims of the investigation were to address the questions of:
- the collection and assessment of artefact groups that occur within archaeological strata and reworked deposits overlying natural subsoils
 - the examination of features cut into any natural deposits, to identify and record prehistoric and later features, in particular to determine date, density and stratigraphic relationships
 - if archaeological remains are present, to consider the potential for defining the environmental context to the activities of early populations and arrange for analysis to determine the influence of these activities on the local environment
 - To determine the archaeological evidence for the early development of Valentines Mansion and its historic development up to the present.

² DOE, *London Borough of Redbridge, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest*, 15th list, 1979, p. 32.

4 GEOLOGICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The underlying drift geology of the site consists of alluvial gravels. The site is located in the north west of Valentines Park to the north east of Emerson Road. The area of the trenches was to the west of the main body of the mansion.
- 4.2 The house is known to date back to the late 17th century. Most of the house, as it survives, was built in the late 18th century. The rainwater head on its western elevation bears the date of 1769, the likely date for the building. The building displays some asymmetry and its ground floor is approximately on the same level as the surrounding garden, both features of country house design that started to become fashionable in the 1760s.
- 4.3 The Dairy wing pre-dates the main body of the house as it survives today, although its western end, including the colonnade on its north side, was built after its eastern end.
- 4.4 Historic finds in the vicinity include a Roman stone sarcophagus found in 1724 and a cremation burial found in 1746 both “in a field behind Valentines”³.

³ Walford E, *Village London – The Story of Greater London, Part 2*, (first published 1883/1884) Alderman Press, London 1985, p. 498.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 All work was undertaken in accordance with the archaeological method statement produced by Peter Moore, of PCA Ltd⁴
- 5.2 The first phase of works consisted of the three pits excavated in the colonnade along the north side of 'the Dairy', as column base foundations on 16/3/00 and 17/3/00. These were excavated by hand and were numbered as Trenches 1-3, from west to east. Trench 1 was 0.8m from east to west, 0.92m from north to south and 0.82m deep. Trench 2 was 0.8m from north to south, 0.62m-0.8m from east to west and 0.88m deep. Trench 3 was 0.86m from east to west, 0.66m from north to south and 0.8m deep.
- 5.3 Archaeology was encountered immediately, as the trenches were excavated through the 19th to early 20th century ceramic tiled floor and stone edging of the colonnade. The column bases of the colonnade were still in-situ when the work commenced. The excavation of the three pits was therefore undertaken archaeologically, in plan. Each archaeological context was recorded on a pro-forma context sheet. Plans of the trenches and each of the major contexts were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and photographs were taken of the salient features. After excavation the western (east facing) section of each trench was drawn at a scale of 1:10 and the trench was photographed. Excavation and recording was hampered, although not prevented by an abundance of large roots permeating the soil layers, attracted by the modern service trenches to the north. The roots obscured some of the stratigraphic relationships.
- 5.4 The second phase of works consisted of the excavation of a pipe trench along the south side of the Dairy wing. This work was delayed until 12/9/00, due to the presence of scaffolding in the vicinity before that date. The trench was numbered as Trench 4 and was 9.6m from east to west, approximately 0.88m from north to south along most of its length (except at its easternmost 0.5m where it was 1.21m from north to south) and up to 0.37m deep. As no archaeology was removed the trench was excavated by hand by the contractors and the exposed archaeology was cleaned, photographed in black and white print and colour slide, planned (at a scale of 1:20) and the individual contexts were recorded on pro forma sheets.

⁴ Moore P, 14/3/00, op. cit.

6 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

6.1 Phase 1: Natural alluvium

- 6.1.1 The natural alluvium was encountered in Trenches 1-3 only. The earliest alluvial deposit consisted of an orange sandy clay with moderate gravel, in Trenches 1 and 2 (contexts [31] and [34]). This was overlain by a layer of compact light yellowish brown gravel in a sandy clay matrix, in Trenches 1-3 (contexts [28], [29] and [33]), which was in turn sealed by a layer of light orange brown slightly sandy silty clay with moderate fine gravel inclusions in Trenches 1 and 2 (contexts [30] and [32]). The upper-most naturally deposited alluvial layer appeared in Trenches 1-3 and consisted of a yellowish brown slightly sandy silty clay with moderate gravel inclusions (deposits [7], [14] and [22]). The top of the alluvium was recorded at a height of 20.28m OD. It was excavated as deep as 19.59m OD.

6.2 Phase 2: Activity pre-dating the 18th century

- 6.1.2 The earliest evidence of human occupation consisted of a layer of mid brown sandy silt with brick and mortar flecks which probably represented a late Medieval or Post-Medieval agricultural or horticultural soil [27] found in Trench 3, which pre-dated the construction of the colonnade in Trench 3.
- 6.1.3 A similar layer [42] was revealed in the extreme south western corner of Trench 4, suggesting that the agricultural or horticultural activity probably occupied an area which included at least Trench 3 and the east end of Trench 4. Its absence from Trenches 1 and 2 suggests a physical western limit to this activity.

6.3 Phase 3: The construction of the easternmost element of the Dairy wing in the late 17th to mid 18th century.

- 6.3.1 The Dairy wing's easternmost element can be seen to have been a relatively free standing building when it was first built. It has purple brick walling, red brick dressings and its own hipped roof. The walls of the dairy element to its west are set back from those of this earlier building. The south wall of the Dairy's easternmost element was recorded as context [50], in Trench 4. It was built with brick of fabric 3032, 210-215x101-105x62-64mm. The quoins were of fabric 3033 211mm long and 61-63mm thick (no complete widths could be measured in this fabric).

6.4 Phase 4a: The late 18th century construction of Valentines Mansion

- 6.4.1 The west wall of the main body of the house [47] was recorded at the east end of Trench 4. Its brickwork cut into the quoin bricks of the dairy [50] and its outer face was found to have been built against its foundation cut. The brickwork was probably built in stages. The bottom two courses revealed were built with fabric 3033 (216x107-110x66-67mm) and were not intended to be seen. The plinth above was constructed with brick of fabric 3032 (220-229x105-9x65-67mm), beneath a course of Portland stone, and the general walling was built with bricks of fabrics 3034 and 3035 with red dressings of fabric 3033, which were too heavily pointed to measure accurately. The top of the two foundation courses built using brick fabric 3033 is at 20.39m OD. The late 18th century ground surface would not have been lower than this.
- 6.4.2 A brick drainage culvert (culvert [41], in cut [48], backfilled with [49]) was built leading from the north west corner of the main house in Trench 4. It was built with

bricks of fabric 3032 (223-235x65-70mm, of unknown width as the culvert was preserved in-situ). The fall of the culvert was downwards towards the south west, bending slightly to the south. Its alignment lies directly under a downpipe, fed by a rainwater head bearing the date '1769', its likely date of construction. The culvert is truncated directly beneath the downpipe and there is likely to have been a delivery pipe connection to the drain at this point, which was probably removed when the downpipe was diverted over the roof of the dairy at a later date.

6.5 Phase 4b: The extension of the Dairy and the construction of the colonnade.

6.5.1 In Trenches 1-3 the colonnade on the north side of the Dairy wing was built during or after the construction of the western elements of the dairy. It offered limited support for part of the northern side of the Dairy's roof, most of the support on this side of the building being provided by the wall plate of the north wall of the dairy, which forms the south wall of the colonnade. In the archaeological trenches the timber columns were founded on three Portland stone column bases (contexts [1], [11] and [19]) set into their partly backfilled foundation cuts (fill [2] in cut [3], fill [12] in cut [13] and fill [20] in cut [21]). Two of the column bases ([19] and [1] in Trenches 1 and 3 respectively) were intact and had mortices on their upper surfaces to take pins from the timber columns above. Column base [19] in Trench 1 bore a mason's mark on its upper surface (see Fig. 4).

6.5.2 The flooring of the colonnade was built after the columns were inserted. An edging to the floor, consisting of blocks of Portland stone 600-610mm long, 90-116mm wide and 215-240mm high (contexts [4/8], [15] and [16]), was set in linear partly backfilled slots (fills [5/9], [17] and [23] and cuts [6/10], [18] and [24]). It was recorded in all three trenches along the colonnade's northern edge. The original floor to the south of the stone edging appears to have been replaced in the late 19th to 20th century, as does the paving to the north of the colonnade.

6.6 Phase 5: The diversion of the rainwater down pipe from the north west corner of the main house.

6.6.1 In the north east corner of Trench 4 drain culvert [41] was truncated to its north east by irregular cut [45] (backfilled with [44]). This truncation probably represents the removal of the rainwater delivery connection from the downpipe at the north west corner of the main house, with the downpipe being diverted onto the roof of the dairy (a route that it followed until the present works to some extent restored the original drainage arrangement). Cut [45] definitely represents the abandonment of drainage culvert [41].

6.7 Phase 6: The 19th to early 20th century landscaping and drainage in Trench 4 and the relaying of the paving in Trenches 1-3

6.7.1 In Trench 4 the ground to the south of the Dairy was raised. A dumped layer of dark grey orange mottled sandy silt with moderate brick and mortar flecks and fragments sealed the backfill of the culvert [41]. Over this was dumped a loose make-up layer [40] of pinkish yellowish brown silty sand, containing abundant crushed and fragmented brick and mortar. This layer was not observed at the eastern end of Trench 4 and its localised nature suggests that this layer was dumped to rectify a downward slope towards the west.

6.7.2 Layer [40] acted as a bedding layer for two two course brick walls, contexts [37] and [36] which were 0.145 to 0.15m high and 0.23m wide. The walls were built approximately 0.41m apart and ran the length of Trench 4. Wall [37] turned south 0.35m from the east end of the trench, while [36] extended to the east end of the

trench and turned south against the west wall of the main house. The north to south orientated arm of [36] was only a brick's header thick (approximately 110mm thick). These walls were built in header bond using frogged and unfrogged bricks of fabric 3032 (219-230x98-105x64-68mm) and Suffolk white bricks (233-235x112x66mm). They were bonded using a Roman Cement based mortar. The use of Roman cement (patented in 1797) suggests a 19th to mid-20th century date for this work. The walls supported a stone pavement [35], composed of fine grained laminated sandstone flags (890-920x580-812x55-76mm) laid side to side, which ran along the south side of the Dairy and turned south along the west wall of the main house. A layer of dumped material [44] filled the gap to the north of wall [36], between the pavement and the south wall of the dairy. The soil to the south of wall [37], layer [51], was identical to [44]. The walls and dumping can be seen to have raised the ground to the south of the dairy and provided a well drained stone path along the outside of the building. There was evidence that the stones had been repeatedly re-laid to accommodate service trenches leading to and from the Dairy inserted in the late 19th to 20th century

- 6.7.3 In Trenches 1-3 is some evidence that the colonnade's current tiled floor, consisting of late 19th to 20th century machine made tiles set into a Portland cement based mortar bedding, over a makeup layer (context 52)], is a replacement of an earlier floor. The backfill of the trench for the stone edging (fill [23]) in Trench 1 survives at a higher level to the north of the colonnade than inside, indicating its possible truncation beneath the tiled floor. Furthermore the fact that the stone edging in Trenches 1-3 (lays partially on the backfill of its cut suggests that the Portland stone floor edging ([4/8], [15] and [16]) may have been lifted and re-laid at a higher level than previously. The soil to the north of the stone floor edging was too disturbed by root action in Trench 2 and 3 to establish its relationship with the surface above. In Trench 1 a layer of 20th century make-up overlay the backfill of the edging, into which was set the current surface of re-used 17th to 18th century Dutch paving brick (fabric 3036), laid on edge (context [53]). A substantial ditch was found running north-south at the eastern edge of Trench 3, over the backfill of which the tiled floor of the colonnade had been re-laid. This possibly indicates the insertion of services leading into the dairy from the north in the 20th century.

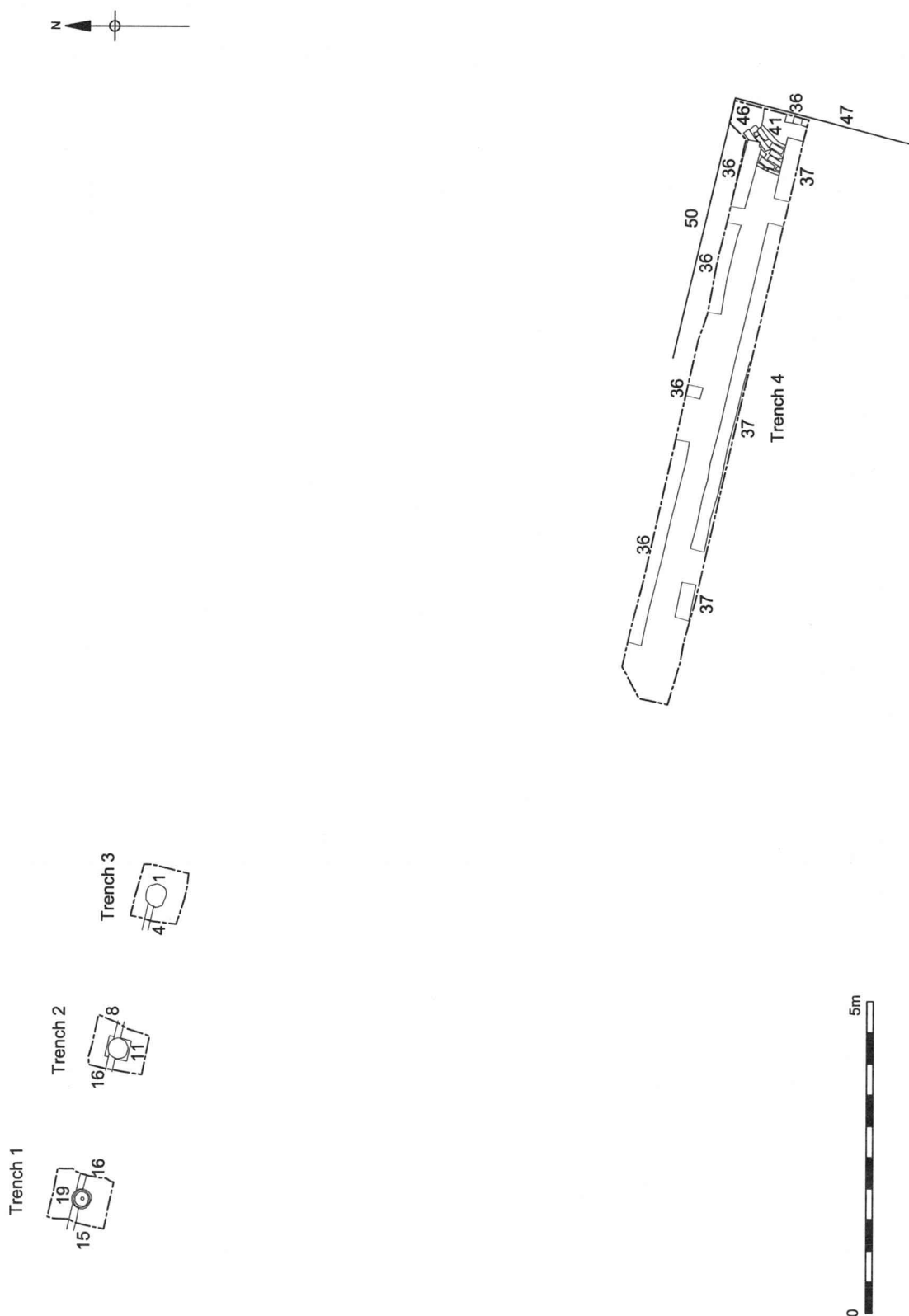
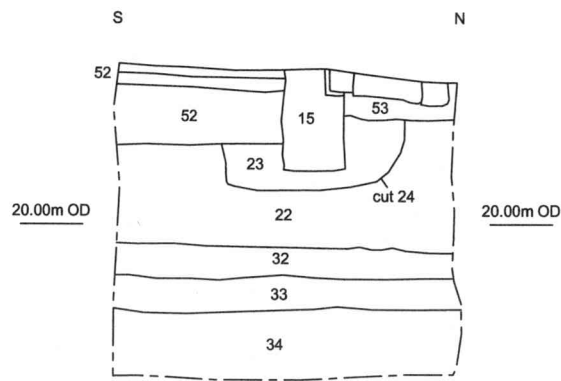
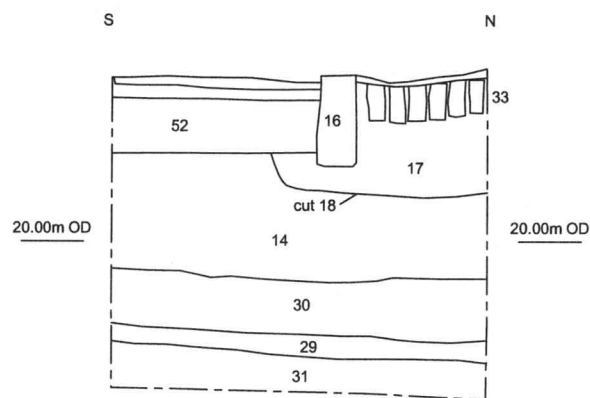


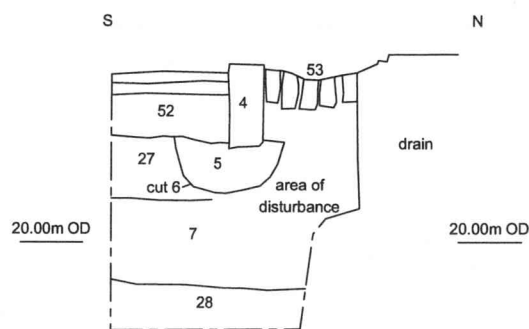
Figure 3
Structural features
Scale 1:100



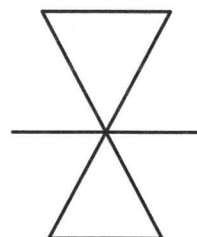
East facing section, Trench 1



East facing section, Trench 2



East facing section, Trench 3



mason's
mark
1:1

Figure 4
Sections at 1:20
Mason's mark at 1:1

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Naturally deposited alluvial gravels and clays were found at the bottom of the sequence in Trenches 1-3. They were not encountered in Trench 4, due to the shallowness of the excavations.
- 7.2 Agriculture/horticulture was the earliest activity represented. The presence of brick fragments and flecks and mortar in the agricultural/horticultural soils in Trenches 3 and 4 suggests that this activity is likely to be late Medieval to Post-Medieval (the local sandy brick generally first appeared in c.1380/1400). The easternmost element of the dairy wing was built from towards the end of the 17th century to the mid 18th century, being constructed of brick of fabric 3032, which was first manufactured in the 1670s. The west wall of the main house was built in the late 18th century, using yellow brick of fabric 3035 (which first appeared in contemporary accounts in about 1770) for the facing brickwork, and truncated the red brick quoins of the earlier Dairy wing. The rainwater drainage culvert was probably contemporary with this and was fed from a downpipe with a rainwater head dated to '1769', a likely date for the construction of the west wall of the house.
- 7.3 The Dairy wing was extended to the west and a colonnade built on its northern side, with timber columns supported on Portland stone bases. The dating of this work is not certain. It post-dated the c.1670 to mid 18th century easternmost element of the Dairy wing, and a fragment of pottery found in the fill beneath the column base in Trench 2 is indicative of an 18th century or later date. The paving in and around the colonnade was re-laid more than once since its construction. This occurred at least once during the late 19th or early 20th century (the date range during which tiles in the flooring of the colonnade were manufactured) and once in the mid-late 20th century, when a service trench was cut in the south of Trench 3 and the Dutch paving brick surface to the north of the colonnade was re-laid.
- 7.4 To the south of the Dairy wing the drainage culvert went out of use when the downpipe that fed into it was diverted over the Dairy's roof, probably during the 19th century. In the 19th to early 20th century a stone path was laid along the south of the Dairy and the west of the main house. The path was raised on top of two brick sleeper walls and the ground around it raised by the dumping of soil. This landscaping provided a well drained path and garden along the side of the building.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank the London Borough of Redbridge for funding the work and especially Nigel Burch of Highways and Amy Kaspar of Richard Griffiths Architects for commissioning it. We would also like to thank the site agent Jim and the staff of Sindall Ltd for their help with the site work. I would also like to thank Peter Moore for his project management and editing and Josephine Brown for the illustrations.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

DOE, *London Borough of Redbridge, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest*, 15th list, 1979.

Moore P, Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Valentines Mansion Ilford, London IG1, unpublished document, PCA Ltd, 14/3/00.

Walford E, *Village London –The Story of Greater London, Part 2*, (first published 1883/1884) Alderman Press, London 1985.

APPENDIX 1

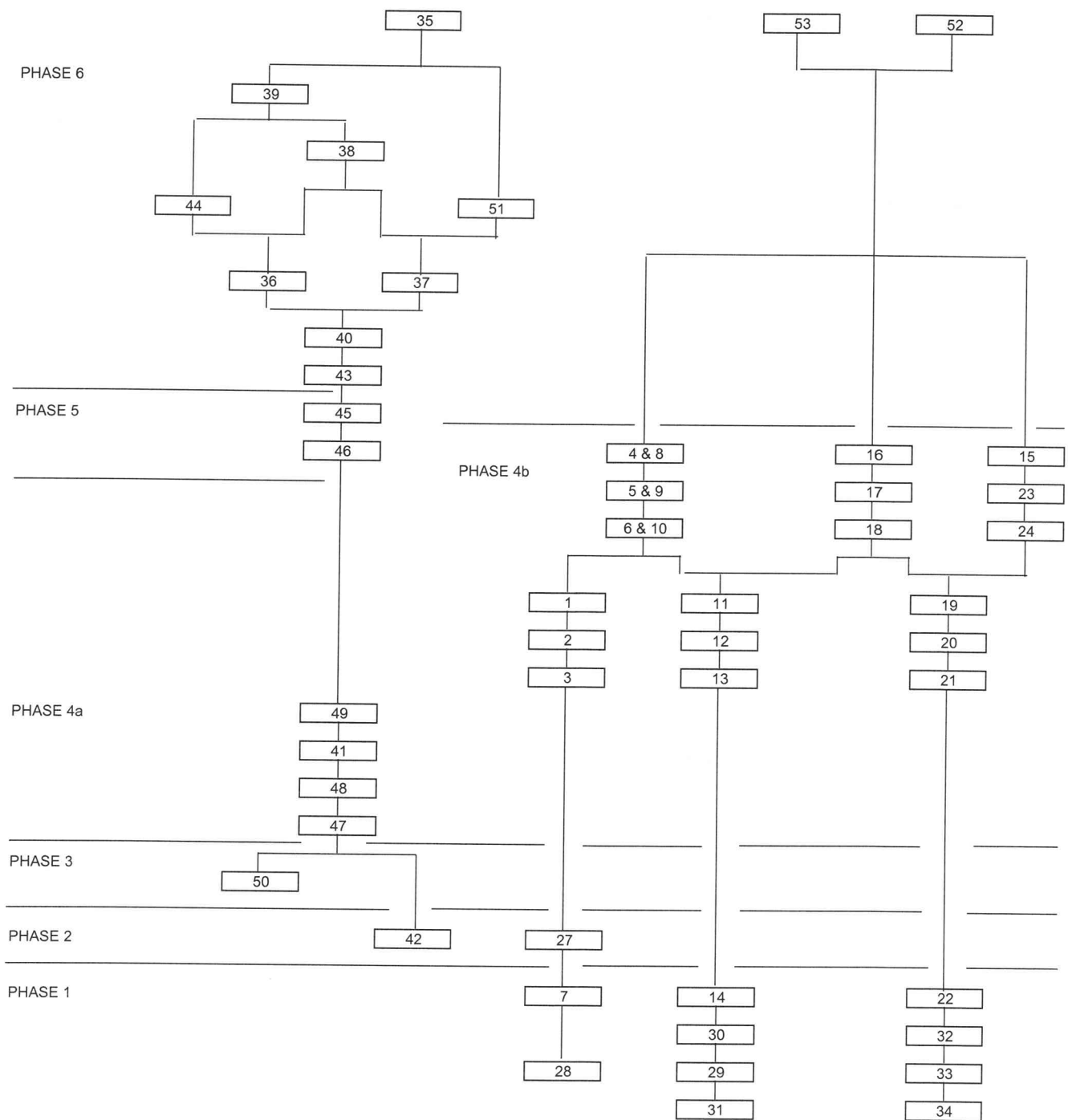
FINDS

Five fragments of pottery were recovered from three of the archaeological deposits. These are listed below by context:

Context	Number of fragments	Description	Date
5	1	Post-Medieval Redware (PMFR)	1580-1700
12	1	London Stoneware (LONS)	1670-1900
52	2	Chinese Porcelain-blue & white (CHPOBW)	1580/1650-1900
	1	Refined White Earthenware (REFW)	1800-2000

No further work on the pottery is recommended.

APPENDIX 2 SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3

DESCRIPTIONS OF CONTEXTS

CONTEXT [1] INTERPRETATION	Portland stone column base, 320mm in diameter, 440mm high. Top: 20.57m OD. Trench 3 Column base of colonnade.
CONTEXT [2] INTERPRETATION	Fill, compact beige sandy lime with slate over dark grey sandy silt. 0.51m N-S, 0.43m E-W, 0.24m deep. Top: 20.21m OD, Trench 3. Pad beneath column base [1]. Fill of [3].
CONTEXT [3] INTERPRETATION	Cut, ovoid, vertical sides, concave base. 0.51m N-S, 0.43m E-W, 0.24m deep, Top: 20.21m, base: 20.01m OD Trench 3. Cut for column base [1].
CONTEXT [4/8] INTERPRETATION	Portland stone, roughly faced stone edging to tiled floor. 2.19m E-W, 0.09m N-S, 0.16-0.22m deep. Individual stones: 600-610mmx90-101mm (wide) x160-220mm (deep), Top: 20.47m OD, Trenches 2 & 3. Portland stone floor edging along north of dairy colonnade, possibly reset.
CONTEXT [5] INTERPRETATION	Fill, moderately compact dark grey sandy silt. 0.22m E-W, 0.11m N-S, 0.13m deep. Top: 20.28m OD, Trench 3. Fill around base of edging to tiled floor of colonnade (same as [9], though recorded separately). Fill of [6].
CONTEXT [6] INTERPRETATION	Cut, Linear, steep sides, change of slope to base: gradual, base: flat. 0.22m E-W, 0.39m N-S, 0.24m deep. Top: 20.28m, base: 20.11m OD, Trench 3 Cut for stone edging to colonnade floor. Filled by [5] & [4].
CONTEXT [7] INTERPRETATION	Layer, friable, yellowish brown slightly sandy silty clay, root disturbance. 1m N-S, 0.8m E-W, 0.24m deep. Top: 20.23m OD, Trench 3. Alluvial layer (same as [14] and [22]).
CONTEXT [8] INTERPRETATION	As [4]. As [4].
CONTEXT [9] INTERPRETATION	Fill, average compaction, dark grey sandy silt. 0.24m E-W, 0.11m N-S, 0.13m deep. Top: 20.28m OD, Trench 2. Fill around base of stone edging along north edge of colonnade. Fill of [10].
CONTEXT [10] INTERPRETATION	Cut, Linear, steep sides, change of slope to base: gradual, base: flat. 0.24m E-W, 0.39m N-S, 0.24m deep. Top: 20.28m, base: 20.11m OD, Trench 3 Cut for stone edging to colonnade floor. Same cut as [6]. Filled by [9] & [8].
CONTEXT [11] INTERPRETATION	Portland stone column base, 380mm in diameter, down to 160mm below top, below which it is rectangular to base, 410mm high. Top: 20.55m OD. Trench 2. Column base of colonnade, damaged historically on top when column was removed.
CONTEXT [12] INTERPRETATION	Fill, compact beige sandy lime mortar over slate over a dark grey sandy silt bedding. 0.45m E-W, 0.35m N-S, 0.05m deep. Top: 20.17m OD, Trench 2. Pad beneath column base. Fill of [13]
CONTEXT [13] INTERPRETATION	Cut, sub-rectangular with curved E and W sides, vertical sides, concave base. 0.45m E-W, 0.35m N-S, 0.12m deep. Top: 20.17m, base 20.12m OD, Trench 2. Cut for column base [11].
CONTEXT [14] INTERPRETATION	Layer, average compaction, yellowish brown slightly sandy silty clay. 1m N-S, 0.82m E-W, 0.34m deep. Top: 20.23m OD, Trench 2. Alluvium contaminated by root action.
CONTEXT [15] INTERPRETATION	Portland stone, roughly faced stone edging to tiled floor. 2.15m E-W, 0.11-0.16m N-S, 0.27m deep. Individual stones: 600-610mmx90-101mm (wide) x160-220mm (deep), Top: 20.41m OD, Trench 1. Portland stone floor edging along north of dairy colonnade, possibly reset.
CONTEXT [16] INTERPRETATION	Portland stone, roughly faced stone edging to tiled floor. 2.25m E-W, 0.1m N-S, 0.24m deep. Individual stones: 600-610mmx90-100mm (wide) x240mm (deep). Top: 20.44m OD, Trenches 2 & 3. Portland stone floor edging along north of dairy colonnade, possibly reset.
CONTEXT [17] INTERPRETATION	Fill, average compaction, dark greyish brown sandy clayey silt, abundant roots. 0.22m E-W, 0.38m N-S, 0.12m deep. Top: 20.24m OD, Trenches 2 & 3. Fill around base of northern edging to colonnade floor. Fill of [18].
CONTEXT [18] INTERPRETATION	Cut, Linear, steep sides, flat base. 0.23m E-W, 0.3m N-S, 0.11m deep. Top: 20.24, base 20.13m OD, Trench 2. Cut for stone north edging to colonnade floor.
CONTEXT [19] INTERPRETATION	Portland Stone column base, with mason's mark on top surface. m diameter, m deep. Top: m OD, Trench 1. Column base of colonnade.

CONTEXT [20]	Fill, average compaction, dark brown sandy silt with a layer of beige mortar and slate on top. 0.4m E-W, 0.46m N-S, 0.08m deep. Top: 20.19m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Pad for column base [19]. Fill of [21].
CONTEXT [21]	Cut, sub rounded, vertical sides, slightly concave base. 0.4m E-W, 0.46m N-S, 0.12m deep. Top: 20.19m, base 20.06m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Cut for column base [19].
CONTEXT [22]	Layer, average compaction, yellowish brown slightly sandy silty clay, frequent roots. 0.90m N-S, 0.8m E-W, 0.08m deep. Top 20.28-20.21m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvium
CONTEXT [23]	Fill, average compaction, dark greyish brown sandy clayey silt. 0.27m E-W, 0.48m N-S, 0.18m deep. Top: 20.28m-20.21m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Fill around base of stone edging of colonnade floor. Fill of [24].
CONTEXT [24]	Cut, linear, steep sides, flat base. 1.86m E-W (only 0.27m visible in trench) 0.48m N-S, 0.18m deep. Top: 20.28m, base 20.095m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Cut for stone north edging to colonnade floor.
CONTEXT [25]	Fill, loose, orange sandy gravel above loose mid brown sandy silt, contains frogged brick of fabric 3034. 0.41m E-W, 0.32m N-S, 0.72+m deep. Top: 20.45m OD, Trench 3.
INTERPRETATION	Fill of probable services cut [26].
CONTEXT [26]	Cut, sub-rectangular, steep sides, base not found. 0.41m E-W, 0.32m N-S, 0.72+m deep. Top: 20.45m, base: 19.68m OD, Trench 3.
INTERPRETATION	Late 19 th -20 th century services cut.
CONTEXT [27]	Layer, friable, mid brown sandy silt. 0.5m E-W, 0.30+m N-S, 0.17m deep. Top: 20.28-20.27m OD, Trench 3.
INTERPRETATION	Dump/agricultural/horticultural layer.
CONTEXT [28]	Layer, compact light yellowish brown fine gravel in a sandy silt matrix. 0.6m N-S, 0.66m E-W, 0.14m deep. Top: 19.9m OD, Trench 3.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvial gravel.
CONTEXT [29]	Layer, compact light yellowish brown fine gravel in a sandy clay matrix. 0.95m N-S, 0.66m E-W, 0.07m deep. Top: 19.84-19.74m OD, Trench 2.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvial gravel.
CONTEXT [30]	Layer, friable, light orange brown sandy silty clay. 0.95m N-S, 0.66m E-W, 0.17m deep. Top: 19.94m-19.9m OD, Trench 2.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvium.
CONTEXT [31]	Layer, average compaction, orange sandy clay. 0.95m N-S, 0.66m E-W, 0.13m deep, Top: 19.735m-19.68m OD, Trench 2.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvium.
CONTEXT [32]	Layer, average compaction, light orange-brown, sandy silty clay. 0.95m N-S, 0.72m E-W, 0.095m deep. Top: 19.95m-19.92m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvium.
CONTEXT [33]	Layer, compact light yellowish brown fine gravel in a sandy clay matrix, 0.95m N-S, 0.66m E-W, 0.095m deep. Top: 19.865-19.850m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvium.
CONTEXT [34]	Layer, average compaction, orange sandy clay. 0.95m N-S, 0.72m E-W, 0.19m deep, Top: 19.775m-19.76m OD, Trench 1.
INTERPRETATION	Alluvium.
CONTEXT [35]	Fine grained laminated sandstone (York stone) flagged path, stones: 890-920x580-812x55-76mm. Dimensions as excavated: 0.89-0.92m N-S, 9.8m E-W, 0.076m deep. Top: 20.51-20.45m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Path, lifted and relaid many times.
CONTEXT [36]	Masonry: brick wall, fabric 3032 219-230x98-105x64-68mm (unfrogged), Suffolk white 233-235x112x66 (frog uncertain). 2 courses in header bond, Roman Cement based mortar. 9.8m E-W, 0.23m N-S, 0.145m high. Top: 20.45m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	19 th -mid 20 th century sleeper wall beneath path to the south of the Dairy wing.
CONTEXT [37]	Masonry: brick wall, fabric 3032 218-231x96-105x64-68mm (unfrogged), Suffolk white 234-235x111-112x66-67 (frog uncertain). 2 courses in header bond, Roman Cement based mortar. 9.8m E-W, 0.23m N-S, 0.15m high. Top: 20.45m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	19 th -mid 20 th century sleeper wall beneath path to the south of the Dairy wing.
CONTEXT [38]	Fill, loose dark greyish brown sandy gritty silt. 9.6m E-W, 0.41m N-S, 0.18m deep. Top: 20.42m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Fill between sleeper walls supporting pavement to south of Dairy wing.
CONTEXT [39]	Masonry: Fletton bricks (215x102x65mm, one course) set over and in coarse gravelly cement, Top 20.47m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	20 th century masonry associated with services from the Kitchen located in the Dairy wing.
CONTEXT [40]	Layer, loose pinkish yellowish brown silty sand with abundant brick & mortar flecks. 7.2m E-W, 0.42m N-S, 0.05m deep. Top: 20.305m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Makeup beneath sleeper walls [36] and [37] to improve drainage.

CONTEXT [41]	Culvert, brick fabric 3032, 223-235x?x65-70mm, arched culvert. 0.68m N-S, 0.50m E-W, exposed to 0.14m deep, Top: 20.28m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Culvert running SW from the junction of the south wall of the Dairy wing and the main house.
CONTEXT [42]	Layer, friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt. 0.39m N-S, 0.38m E-W, 0.03+m deep. Top: 20.26m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Agricultural/horticultural soil in extreme E of Trench 4.
CONTEXT [43]	Layer, friable dark grey sandy silt with orange clay mottling, brick and mortar flecks. General E-W, 0.4m N-S, 0.07m deep. Top: 20.275m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Dump to level ground before construction of the pathway south of the dairy.
CONTEXT [44]	Layer, loose-friable, dark grey sandy silt. 7.36m E-W, 0.32m N-S, 0.2m deep. Top: 20.53m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Linear fill between sleeper wall [36] and the S wall of the Dairy wing.
CONTEXT [45]	Fill, dark grey gritty sandy silt. 0.47m E-W, 0.43m N-S, 0.03+m deep. Top: 20.28m-20.24m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Fill of [46] truncation through north end of drainage culvert [41]
CONTEXT [46]	Cut, irregular, unexcavated. 0.47m E-W, 0.43m N-S, 0.03+m deep. Top: 20.28-20.24m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Truncation of drain which was originally fed from downpipe dating to 1769.
CONTEXT [47]	Masonry: 2 courses of brick fabric 3033 216x107-110x66-67mm, beneath 4 courses of fabrics 3032 220-229x105-109x65-67mm with some 3034 and 3035 (unmeasurable) mixed in, beneath 1 course of thin Portland stone. 1.22m N-S, 0.55m deep. Top: 20.78m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Plinth of W wall of Valentine's House.
CONTEXT [48]	Cut, linear and curved, unexcavated, 0.4m N-S, 0.47m wide, runs N-S and curves to the E. Top: 20.24-20.22m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Cut for culvert [41].
CONTEXT [49]	Fill, loose dark grey slightly clayey sandy silt with orange clay mottling, 0.08m E-W, 0.4m N-S, unexcavated. Top: 20.24-20.22m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Fill of [48]. Backfill of culvert.
CONTEXT [50]	Masonry: Flemish bond, brick fabric 3032 210-215x101-105x62-64mm with quoins of fabric 3033 211x?x61-63mm. Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	S wall of Dairy.
CONTEXT [51]	Layer, friable very dark grey sandy silt. 7.36m E-W, 0.04m N-S (within trench) , 0.08m deep. Top: 20.56m-20.53m OD, Trench 4.
INTERPRETATION	Landscaping dump to south of Trench 4.
CONTEXT [52]	Layer loose pinkish grey crushed and fragmented brick and mortar beneath compact grey sandy cement, beneath machine made red and black tiles laid diagonally to the surrounding building Tiles: 155-156mm square by 21mm thick, right angled sides to their top and bottom surfaces, bases impressed with linear grooves. 4.86m E-W, 0.56m N-S, 0.18-0.21m deep. Top 20.45-20.41m OD, Trenches 1-3.
INTERPRETATION	Tiled floor of the Dairy's colonnade, with its makeup.
CONTEXT [53]	Layer, average compaction, very dark grey sandy silt beneath a layer of loose laid Dutch paving bricks (fabric 3036) on edge. 4.86m E-W, 0.35m N-S, 0.2+m deep. Top: 20.46-20.37m OD, Trenches 1-3.
INTERPRETATION	Makeup and paving of surface to the north of the Dairy's colonnade, 20 th century relaying of late 17 th -18 th century paving bricks.

GLSMR/RCHME SMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

1. TYPE OF RECORDING

Evaluation Excavation Watching brief
Other (please specify)

2. LOCATION

Borough: Redbridge
Site address: Valentines Mansion Valentines Park, Ilford
Site name: Valentines Mansion
Site code: CKR00
Nat. Grid Refs: Centre of site: TQ 4330 8792
Limits of site: a) N & NW: A path through Valentines Park
 b) E & SE: A Water Channel Running NE-SW across the park
 c) S & SW: Emerson Road

3. ORGANISATION

Name of archaeological unit/ company/ society: Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Address: Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Park, 96 Endwell Road, Brockley, SE4 2PD
Site director/ supervisor: Ken Sabel Project manager: Peter Moore
Funded by London Borough of Redbridge

4. DURATION

Date fieldwork started: 16/03/00 Date finished: 12/09/00
Field work previously notified? YES/ NO
Fieldwork will continue? YES/ NO

5. PERIODS REPRESENTED

Palaeolithic	Roman
Mesolithic	Saxon (pre-AD 1066)
Neolithic	Medieval (AD 1066 -1485)
Bronze Age	Post-Medieval 
Iron Age	Unknown

6. PERIOD SUMMARIES. Use headings for each period (Roman; Medieval; etc.), and continue on additional sheets as necessary.

Post-Medieval

Agriculture/horticulture was the earliest activity represented. The easternmost element of the dairy wing was built first from towards the end of the 17th century to the mid 18th century. The west wall of the main house

was built in the late 18th century. A rain/surface water drainage culvert was probably contemporary with this and was fed from a downpipe with a rainwater head dated to '1769'.

The Dairy wing was extended to the west and a colonnade built on its northern side, with timber columns with Portland stone bases. The paving in and around the colonnade was re-laid more than once, at least once during the late 19th century and once in the mid-late 20th century.

To the south of the Dairy wing the colonnade the drainage culvert went out of use when the downpipe that fed it was diverted over the Dairy's roof, probably during the 19th century. In the 19th to early 20th century a stone path was laid along the south of the Dairy and the west of the main house. The path was raised on top of two brick sleeper walls and the ground around raised by the dumping of soil. This landscaping provided a well drained path along the side of the building.

7. NATURAL. (state if not observed; please DO NOT LEAVE BLANK)

Type: Alluvial gravels and clays

Height above Ordnance Datum:

8. LOCATION OF ARCHIVES.

a) Please indicate those categories still in your possession:

Notes ☒

Plans ☒

Photo ☒

Negatives ☒

Slides ☒

Correspondence ☒

Manuscripts (unpub. reports etc.) ☒

b) All/ ~~some~~ records have been/ ~~will be~~ deposited in the following museum/ records office etc.: Museum of London

c) Approximate year of transfer: 2000

d) Location of any copies:

e) Has a security copy of the archive been made? YES/ NO

If not, do you wish RCHME to consider microfilming? YES/NO

9. LOCATION OF FINDS.

a) In your possession? NONE

b) All/ ~~some~~ finds have been/ ~~will be~~ deposited with the following museum/ other body:

c) Approximate year of transfer:

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Sabel K R, 2000; An Archaeological Watching Brief at Valentines Mansion, Valentines Park, London Borough of Redbridge, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, unpublished report.

SIGNED:

DATE: 11/08/00

NAME (Block capitals): K R SABEL

Please return completed form to The Greater London Sites and Monuments Record, GLAAS, English Heritage, 23 Savile Row, London, W1X 1AB. Tel. 0171 973 3731/ 3779 (direct dial).