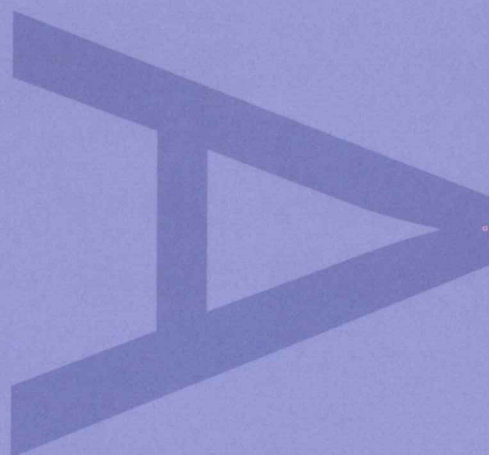
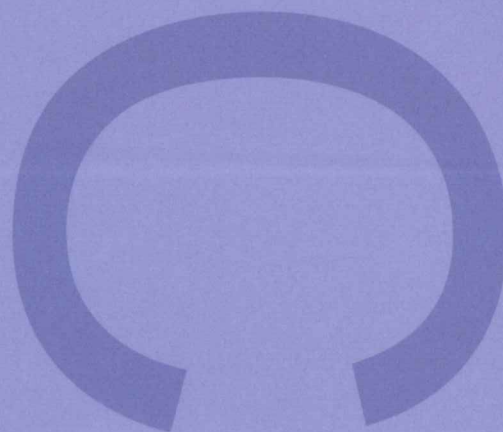
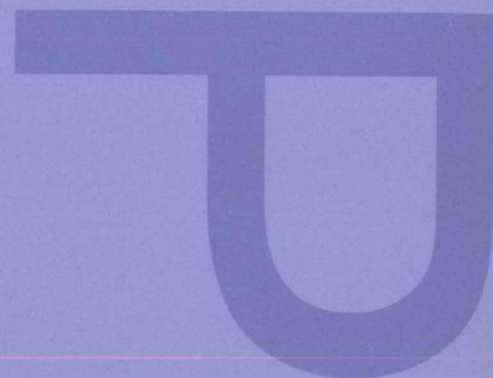


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION OF LAND AT
THE FORMER DUKE'S
HEAD PUBLIC HOUSE,
HEPWORTH WAY, WALTON-
ON-THAMES, SURREY
KT12**

MAY 2008



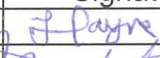
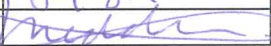

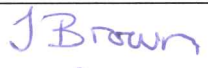
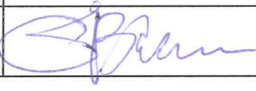
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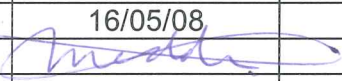
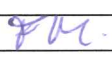
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**An Archaeological Evaluation at the former Duke's Head Public House,
Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12**

**Site Code: SHWW08
Central National Grid Reference: TQ 0990 6642**

**Written by John Payne
Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, May 2008**

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd of land at the former Dukes Head public house, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12. The evaluation was conducted between 6th and 9th of May 2008, in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The work was commissioned by Tide End Development.

- 1.2 The evaluation consisted of two trial trenches, located within the western half of the site, avoiding the footprint of the previous development. This revealed a sequence of natural deposits consisting of sandy clays and sand overlain by a subsoil and a partly truncated topsoil. Occasional obtrusive features were recorded in both trenches. A modern levelling deposit sealed this topsoil.

2 INTRODUCTION

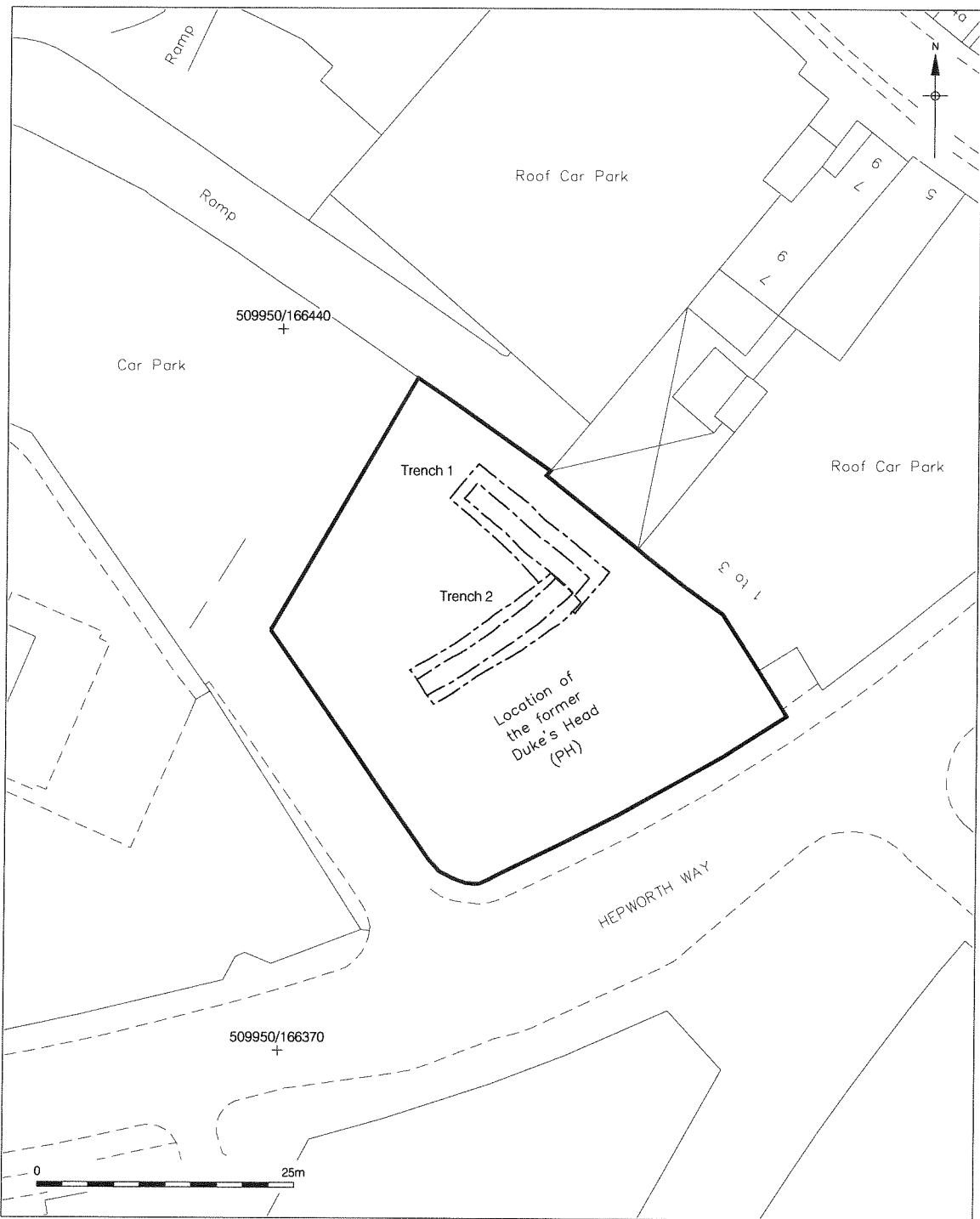
- 2.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at the former Dukes Head Public House, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12. (see location map, Fig. 1). The evaluation was commissioned by Tide End Development in advance of the redevelopment of the site.
- 2.2 The evaluation covers an area of land centred on National Grid Reference TQ 0990 6642. The land was previously Occupied by the Dukes Head Public House and is bounded to the northwest by the rear of the properties which front Bridge street, to the southeast by Hepworth Way, to the southwest by an unnamed access road leading to Drewitts Court Car Park and to the northwest by the Drewitts court Car Park. The archaeological evaluation involved the excavation and recording of two trial trenches, targeted to avoid the footprint of previous development on the east side of the site (see trench location map, Fig. 2). The trenches measured approximately 15m x 2m at the base.
- 2.3 The evaluation was conducted between 6th and the 9th of may 2008 and followed a written specification prepared by Gary Brown. The fieldwork was supervised by the author, John Payne, under the Project Management of Gary Brown. The site was monitored by Gary Jackson and Tony Howe of Surrey County Council.
- 2.4 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited at the Elmbridge Museum, Surrey.
- 2.5 The site was allocated the site code SHWW08.



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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
Detailed Site Location
1:625 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGY IN SURREY AND THE UDP

3.1.1 In November 1990 the Department of the Environment issued Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) "Archaeology and Planning", providing guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the preservation and investigation of archaeological remains.

3.1.2 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance PPG16, by current Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.

3.2 The Surrey Structure Plan 2004 was approved by the County Council on 19 October 2004 and adopted on 4 December when it came into operation. The plan contains the following policy relevant to archaeological issues:

POLICY SE5

PROTECTING THE HERITAGE

SURREY'S VALUABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF BUILDINGS, SITES AND LANDSCAPES WILL BE CONSERVED AND ENHANCED. HERITAGE RESOURCES ARE IRREPLACEABLE AND DEVELOPMENT AFFECTING THEM WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED WHERE IT HAS BEEN CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT THERE IS AN OVERRIDING NEED FOR THE PROPOSAL WHICH OUTWEIGHS THE NEED TO PROTECT THE HERITAGE INTEREST, AND THAT NO ALTERNATIVE IS POSSIBLE. PRIOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, AND IF NECESSARY EVALUATION, WILL BE REQUIRED ON ALL DEVELOPMENT SITES OVER 0.4 HECTARES OR WITHIN AREAS OF HIGH ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL. WHERE IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS ARE FOUND, THERE WILL BE A PREFERENCE FOR THEIR PRESERVATION IN SITU. A RECORD WILL BE REQUIRED OF ANY FEATURES DISCOVERED, REMOVED OR ALTERED.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 The Geological Survey of Great Britain 1:50 000 scale map of the area (Sheet 269, 'Windsor') shows that the site is underlain by Quaternary Taplow River Terrace Gravels deposited during the Wolstonian glaciation of c. 120,000 BP (Wymer, 1991: 6). In turn these overlie fine-grained sands of the Eocene Bagshot Beds and clays of the London Clay formation.

4.2 Borehole investigations carried out by Soils Limited on land at nos. 10-12 Bridge Street, approximately 90m to the northeast of the site, located underlying Taplow Gravels, confirming the model proposed by the Geological Survey data (Hoad, 2007).

4.3 The nearest watercourse to the site is the River Thames, which runs south-west to north-east approximately 440m to the north-west of the application site.

4.4 No geotechnical ground investigations are understood to have taken place at the site.

4.5 A site survey undertaken by CSL Surveys Ltd (2005) indicates that the application site is relatively flat. Levels across the site range from 17.30m OD in the southern corner to 16.80m OD at northeastern corner. An OSBM of 16.67m OD is located at the northwest corner of 8 High Street, approximately 70m from the southeastern corner of the application site. The site lies on a broad flat plain, the nearest high ground to which is located at St George's Hill (74m OD), approximately 4km to the southwest.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 Prehistoric (500,000 BC – 43 AD)

- 5.1.1 The Thames gravel terraces west of London have revealed plentiful archaeological indications of early prehistoric activity, with recent discoveries including a significant Upper Palaeolithic (c. 13,000 BP) assemblage of flint tools and animal bones found at Church Lammas, Staines (Cotton, 2004: 23). Although a number of sites dating to the period have been identified in flood plain or low river valley terrace settings elsewhere in southern Britain, no archaeological evidence of Palaeolithic activity has been discovered in the study area.
- 5.1.2 Following the climatic amelioration that accompanied the end of the last glaciation around 10,000 BP, nomadic groups of settlers began to colonise the deciduous forests of the future southeast corner of Britain. These Mesolithic hunter-gatherers established seasonally occupied habitation sites on the margins of lakes, marshes and rivers, leaving traces of their presence at a number of locations in Surrey. An archaeological evaluation conducted at the former Town Hall site on the south side of New Zealand Way (approximately 250m south of the application site) discovered an assemblage of five worked, but apparently unused flint tools, possibly indicative of a chipping floor, suggesting that the area may have been subject to seasonal occupation by nomadic Mesolithic hunters (HER 5605; Figure 5: 2).
- 5.1.3 Further evidence of Mesolithic activity in the environs of the study area includes a microlithic scraper (HER 3185; Figure 5: 1), found in a Walton garden (HER 3185; Figure 5: 1), and a Late Mesolithic Thames pick discovered just beyond the study area at Walton Bridge (HER 545).
- 5.1.4 The Neolithic period heralded the emergence of the earliest settled farming societies, the arrival of which was accompanied by localised clearance of vegetation cover in the Thames Valley (Cotton, 2004: 25). An early Neolithic causewayed enclosure has been identified at Staines, whilst possible 'house' structures were located on the Thames floodplain at Runnymede (*ibid*). Archaeological evidence of activity dating to the period within the 500m radius of the study area is comparatively scant, consisting of a single early Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead found on the Ashley Road Primary School playing fields, suggesting that seasonal hunting activity may have persisted in the study area during the period (HER 222; Figure 5: 3).

- 5.1.5 Further Neolithic finds have been identified within a 1 km radius of the site, including a number of stone axes retrieved from the Thames (HER 545 and HER 2991), an axe found in a garden in Linden Grove (HER 2988) and a number of flints excavated from the grounds of a house in Oatlands Drive, Weybridge (HER 4266).
- 5.1.6 Archaeological evidence of Early Bronze Age activity in Surrey is generally scarce, and a cremation burial excavated from a ploughed-out bell barrow at Hurst Park, East Molesey (approximately 4.5 km north-east of the site) comprises one of only a handful of sites of the period in the Thames valley in Surrey (Cotton, 2004: 27, 34). No sites or finds dating to the period have been found in the study area.
- 5.1.7 During the Middle and Late Bronze Age an incompletely understood process of social change led to an extended period of agricultural intensification in southern Britain, which was manifested in the proliferation of new co-axial field systems along the valleys of the Thames and its major tributaries. A variety of enclosed and unenclosed settlement types emerged within the fieldscape, and a number of settlement sites in the Thames valley in Surrey, including those at Egham and Runnymede have been found to contain substantial post-built roundhouses (Cotton, 2004: 28-29).
- 5.1.8 The Middle and Late Bronze Age also heralded an upsurge in the 'ritual' deposition of high status bronze metalwork in the Thames and other bodies of water. A number of such items have been recovered from the Thames at Walton, including two swords from Coway Stakes, approximately 1 km to the south-west of the application site (HER 556 and HER 2050), whilst a dagger (HER 567), a spearhead and a javelin (HER 573) were dredged from the river near Sunbury, about 1 km to the north-east.
- 5.1.9 Comparatively little Bronze Age material has been recovered from the vicinity of the Duke's Head, though the relatively short stretch of river within the 500m radius of the study area may account for much of the apparent shortfall. A struck flint discovered in the subsoil of the Walton Conservative Club in Manor Road, approximately 310m north-east of the site was discovered during an archaeological evaluation (HER 5814; Figure 5: 4). Although this find reveals little about the nature of activity in the study area during the period, it is worth noting that no evidence indicative of settlement has been found in the vicinity.
- 5.1.10 The Early Iron Age is poorly represented in Surrey, as it is elsewhere in southern Britain. Some evidence of continuity of use of Late Bronze Age field systems has been found in the Thames valley, and a number of later Iron Age farmsteads have been discovered in the Wey valley (Poulton, 2004: 54). The most substantial Iron Age site in the vicinity is the hillfort at St.

George's Hill, which overlooks the Wey valley. The hillfort extends over approximately 14 acres, although minimal evidence of Iron Age settlement has been found behind its massive ramparts, suggesting that whatever its intended functions, permanent habitation was not amongst them (*ibid*).

5.1.11 The sole Iron Age find discovered within 1 km of the application site was a Late Pre-Roman Iron Age gold coin (an Atrebatian Remic AV stater of the mid-first century BC), dredged from the Thames near Walton (HER 226). It is possible that the find represents a continuation of the practice of riverine ritual deposition of high status metal artefacts. No Iron Age sites or finds have been identified within the study area.

5.1.12 It has not been possible to ascribe a date to a small number of probable prehistoric finds that have been located in the vicinity of the site. These include a quantity of unstratified struck and burnt flints revealed during an archaeological evaluation at Thamesmead in Walton (HER 5816), and a scatter of worked flints discovered during an excavation at 31 Church Street, approximately 200m north-east of the site (HER 4369; Figure 5: 5).

5.2 Roman (43 – 410 AD)

5.2.1 Between the 16th and 19th centuries it was customary for antiquarians to claim that Julius Caesar's expeditionary force crossed the Thames at Walton during the invasion of 54BC. Authorities such as William Camden and William Stukeley identified the Coway Stakes near Otlands as Caesar's crossing point, citing the ancient timber stakes driven into the river bed as evidence of native British defences (Ellis, 2002: 1; Lewis, 1848: 453). Although these claims proved somewhat fanciful, evidence of Roman activity in the wider area has given some indication of the nature of agriculture on the gravel terraces of the Thames valley during the period.

5.2.2 The lack of identified villa sites on the Thames gravels suggests that local geology had a decisive influence upon the type of rural landscape that developed during the period, which archaeological evidence suggests consisted mainly of scattered farmsteads which maintained (and on occasion improved) established Iron Age field systems (Bird, 2004: 69). The Romano-British farms discovered at Wey Manor Farm and Brooklands (approximately 6 km south-west of the site) reveal both continuity of settlement and cultivation between the Iron Age and Roman periods and evidence of long-term occupation throughout the latter period (*ibid*: 69-70).

5.2.3 Archaeological evidence of Roman activity in the Walton area is negligible. A cremation burial contained within an Alice Holt plain jar of the late second or third century date was found approximately 700m to the north-east of the application site (HER 5815). No Roman

period sites or finds have been identified within the 500m radius of the study area, suggesting that it may have been used as pasture for grazing.

5.3 Saxon (410 – 1066 AD)

- 5.3.1 A number of place-names in Surrey hint at the survival of native British communities amidst the turbulence of the Early Saxon period. These include straightforwardly 'Celtic' place-names such as Leatherhead, and ethnically specific names such as '*Wealh tun*', meaning 'settlement of the Welsh', the collective name given by Germanic settlers to the native population (Hines, 2004: 98). By the 11th century '*Wealh tun*' was known as '*Waletone*', whilst the suffix 'on-Thames' had entered common usage by the 15th century (Malden, 1911: 467).
- 5.3.2 Despite the Saxon derivation of the name Walton, archaeological evidence of settlement or cultivation between the fifth and the eleventh centuries in the area is limited. A number of Early Saxon barrows once stood near Walton Bridge, and an account by the antiquarian the Rev. James Douglas maintains that high-status grave goods were recovered from them during the construction of the bridge during the 18th century (HER 2046). A decorated pot (HER 561) found during the 1920s on the raised ground west of Walton Bridge may have also originated from this barrow cemetery. It is possible that the barrows were associated with an Early or Middle Saxon territorial boundary marked by a ditch known as the *Fullingadic* that ran southwards from the Thames across St George's Hill, which was itself reoccupied during the Early Saxon period (Blair, 1991: 14, 19).
- 5.3.3 Further traces of pagan Early Saxon funerary activity in the wider area were discovered at Walton Green, Shepperton, where a cremation urn containing burnt bone, a glass bead and a fragment of a bronze ornament was discovered in the 1860s (HER 555), whilst a short Saxon sword was found at Coway Stakes in the 1920s (HER 2046).
- 5.3.4 Despite the absence of Saxon sites or finds from the study area itself, it is apparent that Walton had become a place of some local significance by the end of the period. At the eve of the Conquest, Walton was a large parish in the Hundred of Elmbridge, divided between two manors, owned respectively by Earding and Azur, two of the largest landowners in Surrey (Bird, 1991: 115; Williams & Martin, 2002: 82, 86). Included amongst Earding's holding was the earliest church in Walton, which had probably been founded as an estate church, possibly as early as the eighth or ninth century (Ellis, 2002: 23-24). At some point Walton church acquired quasi-minster status as the mother church to the chapels at West Molesey and Stoke d'Abernon, the only other places of worship in Elmbridge Hundred during the period (Bird, 1991: 113).

- 5.3.5 It is likely that the Norman church of St Mary was built on the site of its Late Saxon predecessor, approximately 250m north-east of the application site. Settlement is likely to have nucleated in the vicinity of the church by the end of the period, suggesting that the site lay beyond the boundaries of the built-up area, possibly in an area of waste land used for grazing livestock.
- 5.3.6 The Domesday entries for Walton suggest that both arable cultivation and livestock husbandry were practised in the late Saxon manor (Williams & Martin, 2002: *ibid*). By 1086 there was also woodland for 50 pigs to forage, and a mill and fishery on the Thames (Williams & Martin, 2002: *ibid*).

5.4 Medieval (1066 – 1539)

- 5.4.1 By 1086 Azur's pre-Conquest manor had been granted to Edward of Salisbury, whilst Earding's manor had become part of the vast estates of Richard of Tonbridge, second cousin to the Conqueror and landlord of much of Surrey (Brandon, 1990: 29; Williams & Martin, 2002: *ibid*). Whilst Edward's manor descended through the Bohun family, Earls of Hereford until it became property of the Crown in the 15th century, Richard's manor passed through the hands of various branches of the Clare family, acquiring the name Walton Leigh during the 13th century, after the family that tenanted it until the reign of Henry VIII (Malden, 1911: 470).
- 5.4.2 The manor of Walton was administered from a complex located approximately 450 m to the north-east of the application site. The central element of the manorial complex was the 14th century timber-framed manor house, which has survived in much-modified form to the present (HER 7125; Figure 5: 15). The manor house is situated at the northern extent of Manor Road, which forms a loop extending from the medieval village of Walton to the detached manor house close to the Thames.
- 5.4.3 The focal point of the medieval village of Walton appears to have been the parish church of St Mary, approximately 250m north-east of the application site. No trace remains of the pre-Conquest place of worship on the site of the present church of St Mary, and the oldest elements of the present building date to c.1150, when the north aisle was added to the earlier nave. A south aisle was added and a new chancel was built in the 14th century, whilst the present west tower was added the following century (HER 217; Figure 5: 14; Malden, 1911: 472).
- 5.4.4 The village itself appears to have developed alongside the present Church Street, and archaeological evidence of the probable south-western periphery of the built-up area has been discovered in the same street, approximately 100m north-east of the application site (HER 3273; Figure 5: 6). The discovery of this boundary area strongly suggests that the site

lay beyond the limits of the medieval village, possibly in an area of manorial waste used as common grazing land. The three open fields of medieval Walton (Church, Sandy and Thames Fields) were located to the south–east and north of the village (Ellis, 2002: 2; also see Figure 7).

5.5 Post-Medieval and Modern (1539 to present)

- 5.5.1 By the early 16th century Walton had begun to exhibit signs of increasing prosperity. St Mary's church was partially rebuilt at the end of the 15th century, whilst a new cross-wing was added to the manor house during the 16th. In 1516 Henry VIII granted a licence to the inhabitants of Walton to hold annual cattle fairs in Easter week and in early October (Lewis, 1848: 453; Malden, 1911: 467), indicating that the village had acquired a new role as a centre of local trade.
- 5.5.2 The manorial rights and titles of both Walton and Walton Leigh had passed to the Crown during the 15th century, and in 1537 Henry VIII ordered that the entire parish, together with East and West Molesey, Weybridge and parts of Esher and Cobham be enclosed as part of the new royal hunting park of Hampton Court Chase (Thurley, 2004: 156). Although the Chase was dismantled following Henry's death in 1547, the palace and park that he established at Oatlands near the western boundary of the park outlasted their creator. Despite the demolition of the palace during the 1650s, elements of this elite landscape have survived to the present (Ellis, 2002: 3).
- 5.5.3 Walton's prosperity continued into the 17th century, thanks in large part to increased river trade along the Thames. Trade received a further boost when the Wey Navigation opened in the 1650s, and a ferry link to Halliford commenced in 1676 (Ellis, 2002: 4). The commercial centre of the village was clustered around the junctions of Church Street, the High Street and the later Bridge Street, an area that appears to have undergone a phase of rebuilding during the second half of the century, almost certainly as a consequence of the buoyant economy. Houses and shops built during the period that have survived to the present include Henry Ireton's House on the High Street (HER 7162; Figure 5: 16); houses at 13 to 17, 21 and 23 to 27 Church Street (HER 7403, HER 7430 and HER 7191; Figure 5: 17, 23 and 24); houses and shops at 17, 17A and 45 Bridge Street (HER 7214 and HER 7240; Figure 5: 20 and 21) and Thames Cottage on Thames Street (HER 7361; Figure 5: 22). Archaeological evidence of 17th century Walton includes a probable property boundary identified in Church Street (HER 4770; Figure 5: 7), whilst a pit discovered during archaeological excavations on the same street in 1989 had been dug to extract clay and subsequently infilled with 18th and 19th century rubbish, suggesting the nearby presence of a kiln (HER 4368 Figure 5: 8).

- 5.5.4 Members of the county's landed elite had established residences in the Walton area since the Middle Ages, and some post-medieval estates such as Apps Court had their origins in the pre-Conquest manorial system (Ellis, 2002: 33). Both Apps Court and the nearby house known as The Parsonage (later Walton Grove) are depicted on John Senex's County map of 1729 (Figure 6).
- 5.5.5 Ashley Park was a local estate that had emerged during the medieval period and acquired a substantial house and grounds during the 16th century, both of which underwent considerable expansion during the 18th century, and subsequent remodelling during the 19th. Although Ashley Park house survived until 1929 (Ellis, 2002: 41), little archaeological evidence remains of the garden, once renowned for "the size and beauty of its trees" (Malden, 1911: 472; HER 13604; Figure 5: 11).
- 5.5.6 Great house building continued in the area during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Some of the new houses, such as Mount Felix, were built on the site of earlier less substantial gentry houses, whilst others were built at the edge of the village, such as Elm Grove, which stood at the southern end of the High Street. Mount Felix was built on Coway Hill amidst extensive grounds during the 1840s, and was used as a military hospital and convalescent home by soldiers of the New Zealand Army during the First World War. The house was largely destroyed by fire in the 1960s, and little of it or its gardens survive to the present (HER 15247 and HER 1895; Figure 5: 9, 10).
- 5.5.7 Thames traffic ensured that Walton continued to prosper during the 18th century, and the profits of trade enabled a prominent local businessman named Samuel Dicker to finance the construction of a wooden bridge across the river, which opened in c.1750 (Lewis, 1848: 453). As communications improved and trade increased, new inns were opened to cater for the needs of travellers and traders, and the Duke's Head was established on Bridge Street during the second half of the century (Ellis, 2002: 4). New premises were built at the same location (where Woolworths presently stands) at the beginning of the 1790s from which the Duke's Head Hotel traded until it closed down in 1966 (White, 1997: 47).
- 5.5.8 The mid-18th century village is depicted on John Rocque's map of Surrey, posthumously published in 1768/70 (Figure 7). In addition to showing the road layout that dominated the town until the 1960s, Rocque's map illustrates the increasing density of settlement along Bridge Street and Church Street. New buildings developed during the period included the terrace of three shops at nos. 14, 14A and 16 Church Street (HER 7192; Figure 8:18) and Park House, at no. 34 Bridge Street (HER 7213; Figure 5: 19). The growth of settlement along the south side of Bridge Street took the built-up area to the eastern boundary of the application site, though the latter remained devoid of development.

- 5.5.9 In 1799 several local landowners combined to petition Parliament for the right to enclose the old common fields of Walton, and enclosure was granted by Act of Parliament the following year (Ellis, 2002: 50). Enclosure enabled landowners to consolidate and enlarge their estates, to lay out new farms and to improve a number of the roads in the district. New roads developed in the wake of the Act included Terrace Road (later Kingston Road), Ashley Road (later Weybridge Road) and Seven Hills Road (later Common Road).
- 5.5.10 Despite the continuing importance of Thames trade and the benefits that accrued from the improvements made to the road network during the first half of the 19th century, Walton was still a village when the Tithe Apportionment map was surveyed in 1843 (Figure 8). The transition from village to town began in earnest following the arrival of the railway in 1838, when Walton Station was opened on the London and South Western Railway (LSWR) Nine Elms to Woking Common line. Rail traffic continued to increase following the extension of the line to Southampton in 1840, and particularly after the opening of the new LSWR London terminal at Waterloo in 1848 (Ellis, 2002: 52).
- 5.5.11 By 1851 the population of Walton had doubled over the preceding 50 years, and was to double again by 1871, by which time the number of new houses had soared as the old estates were broken up for residential development (*ibid*: 55). The sustained population growth of the 19th century placed great strains upon existing local services. Efforts were made to address both the spiritual and temporal needs of the growing population, the former in terms of the creation of new parishes (Hersham in 1851) and the opening of new missions and places of worship. These included the Methodist Chapel which was first opened in 1845 on the north side of Back Street (later Manor Street) and which had to move to new premises in the late 1880s after the opening of Walton's gasworks in the 1870s (Ellis, 2002: 55, 72; Malden, 1911: 468).
- 5.5.12 A number of new public houses were opened in the mid-19th century, including the Builders' Arms on the High Street and the George on Bridge Street. By the 1860s the centre of the built-up area was becoming increasingly urban in character, a process captured in the First Edition of the Ordnance Survey, surveyed between 1865 and 1868 (Figure 9). The junction of Bridge and Church Streets was the centre of the town, and infilling had begun to take place in to the rear of the medieval and post-medieval plots that lined both sides of Church Street. Amongst the industrial premises that sprang up behind the street frontages were the Star and Ashley Breweries, situated to the rear of Church Street and the High Street respectively.
- 5.5.13 The presence of Ashley Park to the south of Bridge Street inhibited south-westward expansion, and the application site remained an undeveloped plot of wooded pasture on the fringe of the built-up area at the end of the 1860s. Immediately north-east of the site, to the south of the Bridge Street frontage, stood a range of light industrial buildings surrounding a

rectangular courtyard later known as Drewitts Court. This group contained one of a number of smithies in Walton, and it is possible that this example was established during the 18th century to serve the commercial traders and travellers who used the town's inns, such as the Duke's Head, which stood approximately 50m north-east of the site.

- 5.5.14 By the time that the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map was published in 1896 (Figure 10) Walton had acquired Urban District Council (UDC) status (in 1895) and new residential development had begun to encroach upon the town centre along the north side of Thames Street and the south-east side of Vicarage Walk (later Mayo Road). Church Street had become the town's principal shopping thoroughfare, though the Duke's Head remained at the heart of the town, surrounded on either side by a clockmaker, a shipping agency and a music shop (Barker, 1994: 12; Ellis, 2002: 59).
- 5.5.15 Between 1896 and 1914 the process of development accelerated in the Walton area, and there were nearly 10,000 people resident in the parish by 1911 (Ellis, 2002: 71). The 1914 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 11) shows residential development on the north side of Vicarage Walk, whilst the area south of Bridge Street continued to be dominated by the gardens of Ashley Park.
- 5.5.16 One development that had taken place to the south of Bridge Street before 1914 was the construction of Hurst Grove, a cul-de-sac that branched off the western stretch of Bridge Street, lined on both sides with substantial semi-detached residences (lower left-hand side of Figure 11). It was from premises on Hurst Grove that Cecil Hepworth began making motion pictures in 1899, over 30 years before rival studios opened at Shepperton (Ellis, 2002: 77-82). Although the Hurst Grove Studios were badly damaged by fire in 1907, Hepworth expanded his business and continued making films throughout the first and second decades of the new century, until he was declared bankrupt in 1924 (*ibid*). That year the studios were sold to Archibald Nettlefold, who established a business producing 'quota films', the British-made 'B' films that were shown as supporting features following the 1927 Films Act.
- 5.5.17 Shortly after he acquired the studios, Nettlefold sold Hepworth's electricity generator building, which was converted into the Playhouse Theatre the following year (Ellis, 2002: 84). During the 1930s Nettlefold Studios embarked upon a programme of expansion, the results of which can be seen on the 1937 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 12). The map also shows the recently laid-out New Zealand Avenue (opened 1935) cutting across the grounds of Ashley Park, which had been demolished eight years earlier.
- 5.5.18 Filming was suspended at Nettlefold Studios at the outbreak of the Second World War, and the studios were converted into an aircraft wing assembly plant after the bombing of the Vickers factory at Weybridge in September 1940 (Ellis, 2002: 85). Walton experienced a

succession of air raids between August and December 1940, whilst a V1 Flying Bomb hit Drewitts Court in June 1944 (*ibid*: 96).

- 5.5.19 Following the cessation of hostilities filming resumed at Nettlefold Studios, where a pair of assembly hangars built by Vickers was pressed into use as film stages. Although the studios experienced a creative heyday in the early post-war years, they began to lose business to the larger and increasingly competitive studios at Shepperton and Pinewood. Despite a successful foray into television during the mid-1950s, the studios closed in March 1961 and were sold to Walton and Weybridge UDC (Ellis, 2002: 85-93).
- 5.5.20 The 1959 and 1964 Ordnance Survey maps (Figure 13) show Walton town centre at the start of a decade-long period of transition. The council had acquired a site south of New Zealand Avenue as early as 1938 in order to build a new town hall, though the Second World War forced the process of redevelopment to be suspended until the 1960s. In addition to a new civic centre, the council determined to circumvent the bottleneck at the south end of Bridge Street, which affected traffic travelling between Walton Bridge and the retail district on Church Street and The High Street. To this end Nettlefold Studios were demolished, the land cleared in order to permit the construction of a new road that would bypass the congested junction of Bridge Street and Church Street. Figure 13 also shows the early post-war redevelopment of Drewitts Court at no. 9 Bridge Street.
- 5.5.21 In 1965 Hepworth Way was opened between the old Church Street Junction and the western stretch of Bridge Street (Figure 14). A new civic core, designed by Richard Seifert and Partners was constructed to the south of Hepworth Way (imaginatively named 'The Centre'), whilst the new Duke's Head Public House opened in 1966 (Barker, 1994: 12). The old Duke's Head Hotel closed in December that year, the building demolished in 1970 in order to make way for the Woolworths store that still occupies the site (White, 1997: 47). Redevelopment continued into the early 1970s, when Drewitts Court was demolished and replaced by a new superstore and rooftop car park on Bridge Street.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 The excavation of two trenches was outlined in the specification. The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains, which may require further investigation.

6.2 Both trenches were machine excavated with a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, under the supervision of an archaeologist. Because of the expected depth of the trenches both were stepped to allow for easier access and safer working conditions. The dimensions of the base of the trenches are shown in Table 1. Once archaeologically sensitive deposits or features were encountered, machining was stopped to allow archaeologists to clean with hand tools as necessary and record the remains. Where no archaeology was observed additional machining was undertaken so as to reveal more of the natural geological sequence.

Trench Number	Max Dimensions (m)	Max height (m OD)
1	14.00m x 2.00m	17.24m
2	17.00m x 2.00m	17.21m

Table 1: Trench Dimensions

6.3 Because of the relatively simple archaeological sequence observed trench planning was undertaken using the multi-context planning method supplemented by sections through features and along trench edges to record the stratigraphic sequence in greater detail. 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 taken.

6.4 A temporary benchmark, of 17.25m OD, was located in the northeast corner of the site, the OD value of which was supplied by the site manager Gregg Wilcock.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1 – Natural Geological Sequence

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered was partly revealed in both trenches within areas of deeper excavation, these were located at the western end of Trench 1 and at the southern end of Trench 2. Context [6] at the western end of Trench 1 appeared as a mixed dark greyish brown sandy clay which contained frequent matrix supported angular and sub-angular gravels. The surface was between 15.41 and 15.39m OD and was excavated to a depth of 0.26m. Context [15] was seen in the southern end of Trench 2 and here appeared as a mixed mid to dark greyish brown sandy clay with only occasional angular and sub-angular gravels. The surface was between 15.38 to 15.33m OD. The deposit was excavated to a depth of 0.22m. The formation process for both these deposits is clearly natural with the lack of sediment sorting and variable inclusion size seeming to indicate high or variable depositional processes. Likely to be late or immediately post glacial drift geology.
- 7.1.2 Context [14] was only seen in the southern end of Trench 2 and appeared as a mid orangey brown clayey sand. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.20m and the surface was between 15.50 to 15.52m OD. The formation process for this deposit is also clearly natural with the lack of variable inclusions suggesting a fairly consistent depositional process. This deposit is likely to be some localised event within the drift geology.
- 7.1.3 The next deposits encountered were partly revealed in both trenches within areas of deeper excavation, these were located at the western end of Trench 1 and within the central 9 metres of trench 2. Context [5] appeared as a mid orangey brown sandy clay which contained occasional small lenses of green clay. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.24m and the surface level was between 15.68 and 15.63m OD. Context [13], which was revealed in plan within the central area of trench 2 was also a mid orangey brown sandy clay containing the same occasional small lenses of green clay. The deposit within this trench was not fully excavated, the surface level was between 15.78 and 15.68m OD. The formation process for both these deposits is clearly natural, probably also fairly consistent depositional processes. Likely to be late or immediately post glacial drift geology.
- 7.1.4 Overlying this was a further phase of naturally derived deposits that were also seen in both trenches. Within Trench 1 context [4] was revealed in plan for around 10 metres and appeared as a light brownish yellow sand which contained moderate amounts of mineralisation nodules. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.38m and the surface level was between 16.01 and 15.91m OD. Context [12] was seen throughout the whole length of Trench 2 where it was represented as a light brownish yellow sand although here the mineralization nodules appeared more frequent. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.15m and a surface level was between 15.98 and 15.82m OD. The formation process for both these deposits is clearly natural, with the mineralisation nodules forming post depositionally, probably through chemical

precipitation indicating free draining soil. Again likely to be late or immediately post glacial drift geology. (Figure 4, Sections 1 & 3).

7.2 Phase 2 – East-West aligned linear cut

7.2.1 A linear intrusion [7] was located roughly centrally within Trench 1 cutting sand deposit [4]. It was aligned east-west and measured 3.94m E-W x 0.56m N-S and had a maximum depth of 0.20m. The levels for the top of the cut were between 15.87 and 15.77m OD whilst the base was 15.65m OD at its deepest. Both the eastern and western extent of this cut was defined by a clear terminus, rather than truncation. A single fill deposit [8] that is likely to have formed through gradual erosional processes filled the cut, and was composed of a light brownish grey silty sand with occasional angular and sub-angular pebbles. The function of this cut is uncertain although its alignment did appear to respect the existing northwestern property boundary, which from map evidence has existed at least from 1865. The cut contained only two small fragments of bird bone (species unidentified) but no datable artefacts. (Figure 3 and Figure 4, Section 2).

7.3 Phase 3 – Natural soil formation

7.3.1 Overlying cut [7] was a naturally derived deposit that was also seen in Trench 2. Within Trench 1 context [3] appeared as a mid yellowish brown silty sand which contained frequent amounts of mineralisation nodules. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.22m and the surface level was between 16.11 and 16.12m OD. Context [11] was seen throughout the whole length of trench 2 and consisted of the same mid yellowish brown silty sand also containing frequent mineralisation nodules. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.38m and a surface level was between 16.22 and 16.19m OD. The formation process for both of these deposits is clearly natural and they probably represent a subsoil deposit formed by bioturbation of the underlying natural sands. Again the mineralisation nodules are likely to have formed post depositionally, probably through chemical precipitation possibly indicating free draining soil. (Figure 4, Sections 1 & 2).

7.4 Phase 4 – Irregular cut

7.4.1 Cut [16] was located at the northern end of Trench 2 cutting subsoil deposit [11]. It was only partly revealed within the trench and appeared to have an irregular south-eastern edge but a fairly straight north-western edge. The break of slope was gradual whilst the side profile was irregular as was the base. Both the northeast and southwest edges lay beyond the excavation limits. The levels for the top of the cut were between 16.03 and 15.97m OD whilst the base was 15.25m OD at its deepest. The cut contained two fills, the initial fill was deposit [18] which consisted of a mottled mid orange, light greenish yellow and mid greyish brown sand with frequent dark grey root channels, this deposit was located mainly on the south-eastern side of the cut and had a surface level of between 16.12 and 15.80m OD. The formation process for this deposit is likely to be natural and probably represents heavily bioturbated natural sand. Overlying this deposit was context [17] which consisted of a mottled mid brown and mid orange sand again containing frequent dark grey root channels. This deposit was located mainly on the northwestern side of the cut and had a surface level of between 16.02 and 16.00m OD. The formation process for this deposit is also likely to be natural and probably represents gradual erosional processes. The irregular nature of this cut and mixed bioturbated soils within suggest that this feature is non-anthropogenic, possibly caused by tree growth or a tree throw pit. The only artefacts recovered from the excavation of this feature were three fragments of burnt flint plus a single piece of struck flint, which is believed to be prehistoric in date. (Figure 3 and Figure 4, Section 4 and Plate 2).

7.5 Phase 5 - Post-medieval topsoil

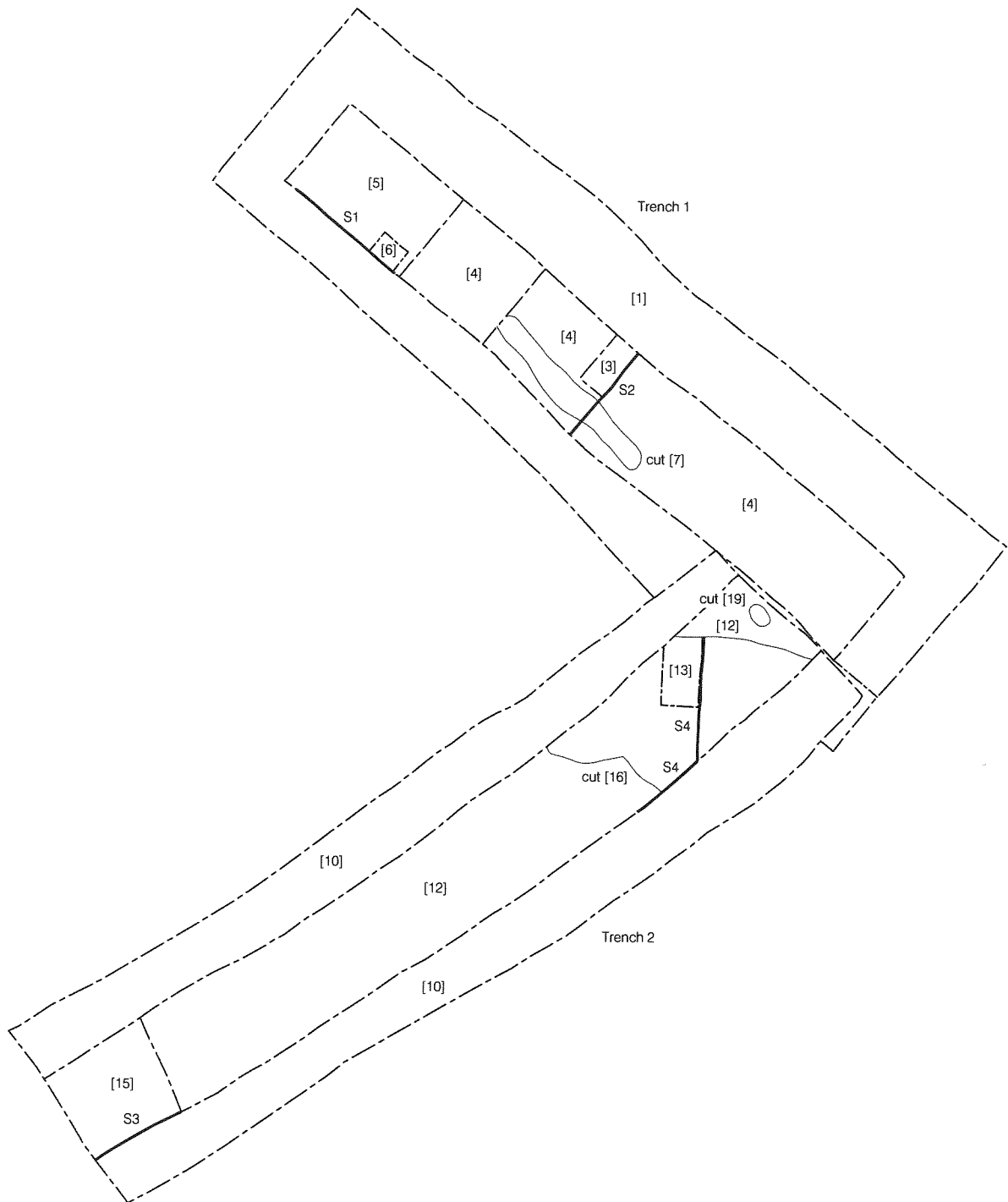
7.5.1 Overlying cut [16] was a naturally derived deposit also seen in Trench 1. Within Trench 1 context [2] appeared as a dark yellowish brown silty sand which contained occasional Ceramic Building Material (CBM) fragments. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.11m and the surface level was between 16.21 and 16.25m OD. Context [10] was seen throughout the whole length of Trench 2 and consisted of the same dark yellowish brown silty sand containing frequent CBM fragments, occasional pottery fragments plus some clay pipe. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.20m and a surface level was between 16.34 and 16.29m OD. Both these deposits are thought to represent a post-medieval topsoil although within Trench 1 it is thought to have been partly truncated. (Figure 4, Sections 1&3). The ceramics are red border ware, bowls or dishes with a date range of 1550 to 1900, whilst the clay pipe was of 18th to 19th century date.

7.6 Phase 6 - post-medieval pit

- 7.6.1** Cut [19] was located at the northern end of Trench 2 cutting topsoil deposit [10]. It appeared ovoid in plan and measured 0.48m E-w x 0.30m N-S x 0.08m deep. The side profile was shallow and both the sides and base were concave. The level for the top of the cut was 16.04 whilst base level was 15.96m OD. The cut contained a single fill [20], which consisted of a dark grey sand with occasional small flint pebbles. The formation process for this deposit is likely to be natural and probably represents redeposited topsoil. The function of this cut is unclear although it is certainly of recent date (Figure 3).

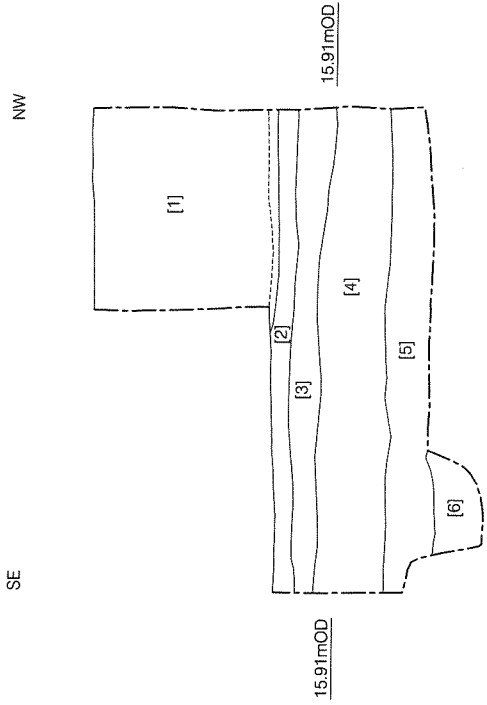
7.7 Phase 7 – Modern Levelling

- 7.7.1** The final fill in the stratigraphic sequence was seen across the entire site, it consisted of a loosely compacted mass of modern demolition debris, which included brick, concrete and metal, plus some brownish grey sandy gravel. The thickness was fairly consistent at around 1.00m. The surface level as recorded on the trench edges was between 17.24 and 17.17m OD. This deposit, which clearly represents a deliberate levelling deposit of recent date, was contexted as [1] in Trench 1 and as [9] in Trench 2. (Figure 4, Sections 1 & 3).

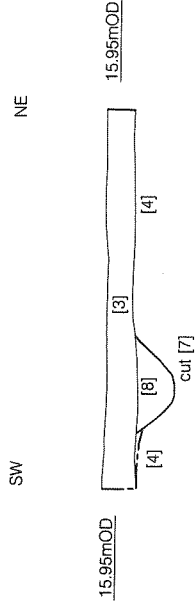


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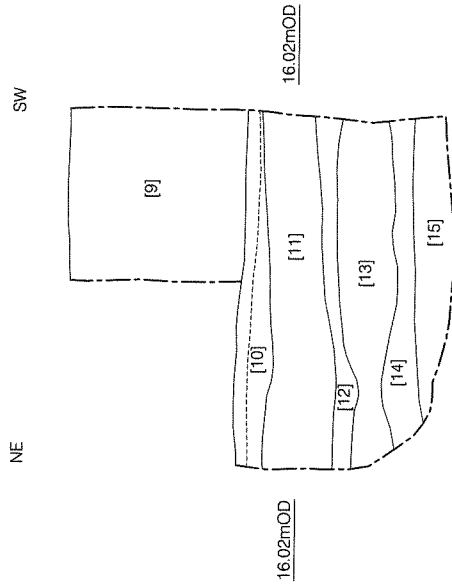
Figure 3
Trenches 1 & 2
1:125 at A4



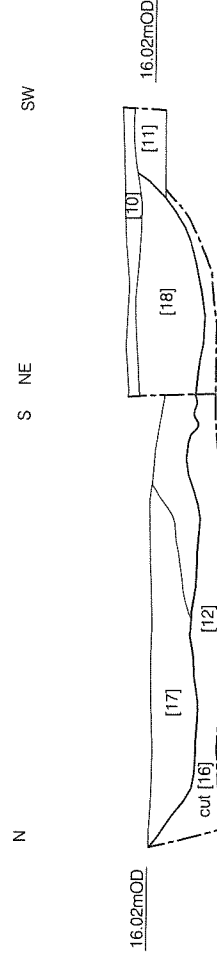
Section 1
North East facing
Trench 1



Section 2
South East facing
Trench 1



Section 3
North West facing
Trench 2



Section 4
West and North West facing
Trench 2



8 TRENCH SUMMARY

8.1 TRENCH 1

8.1.1 Trench 1 revealed a sequence of natural deposits commencing with a sandy clay and gravel and ending in natural sand. This natural sand was cut by a small east-west aligned linear cut of uncertain function, sealed by the existing subsoil which was overlain by a thin layer of topsoil that has probably been partly truncated. The final phase was the deposition of a demolition and levelling deposit of recent date.

8.2 Trench 2

8.2.1 Trench 2 revealed a very similar sequence of natural deposits as those revealed in Trench 1. It commenced with a sandy clay and gravel and ended in a natural sand deposit that was sealed by the existing subsoil. A large irregular feature that was only partly revealed within the trench cut this subsoil. Overlying this was a topsoil deposit containing post-medieval material. A shallow pit cut this topsoil. The final deposit was the demolition and levelling deposit of recent date.

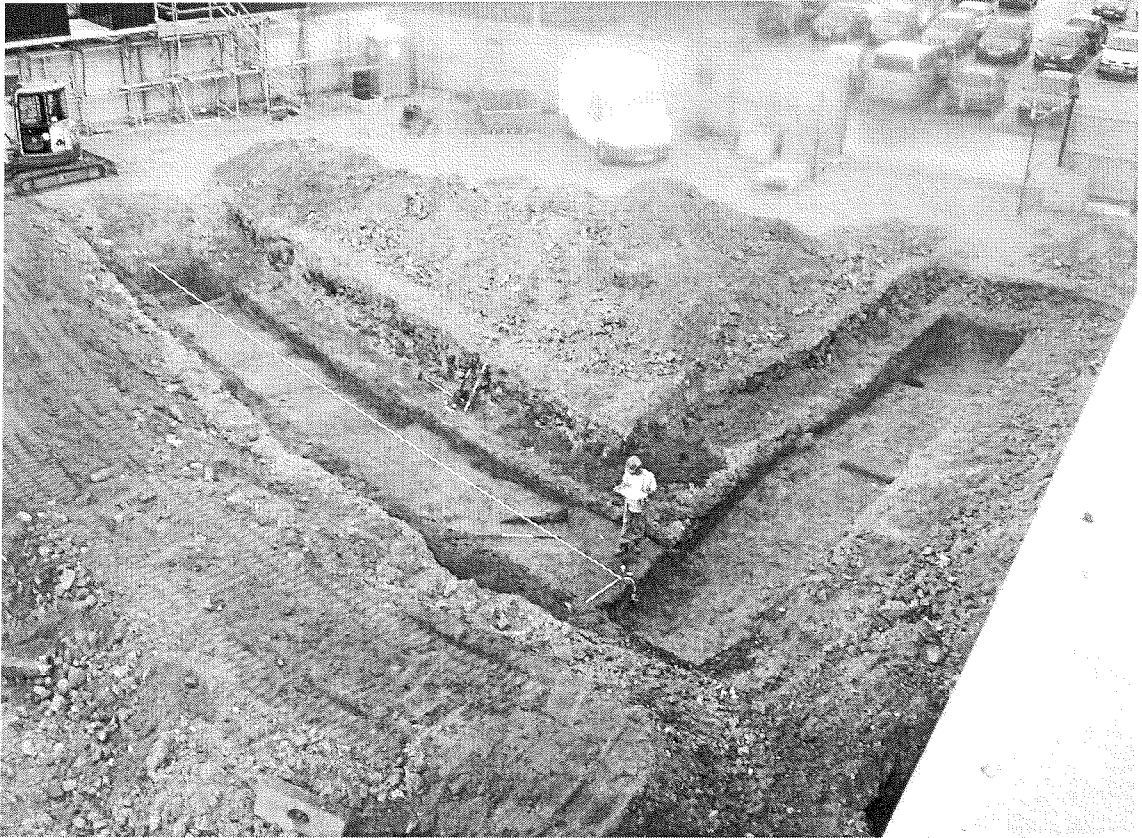
9 CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1.1 The evaluation revealed natural deposits in both trenches consistent with the Taplow River Terrace gravels.
- 9.1.2 Other than the clearly post-medieval deposits observed the only other evidence for human activity was seen in the form of the undated east-west linear encountered in trench 1 and the single struck and three burnt flints recovered from the large irregular feature seen in Trench 2.
- 9.1.2 The paucity of archaeological features encountered during the evaluation complies with the overall archaeological potential of the site. The archaeological potential within a 1km radius of site was low to moderate, highlighted by a few prehistoric findspots from the SMR. This all attests to the lack of activity within the localised area until the mid 19th century.
- 9.1.3 The profile of the natural topography appeared consistent with the topography of the current ground level.
- 9.1.4 It is recommended that no further archaeological work is necessary at this location.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

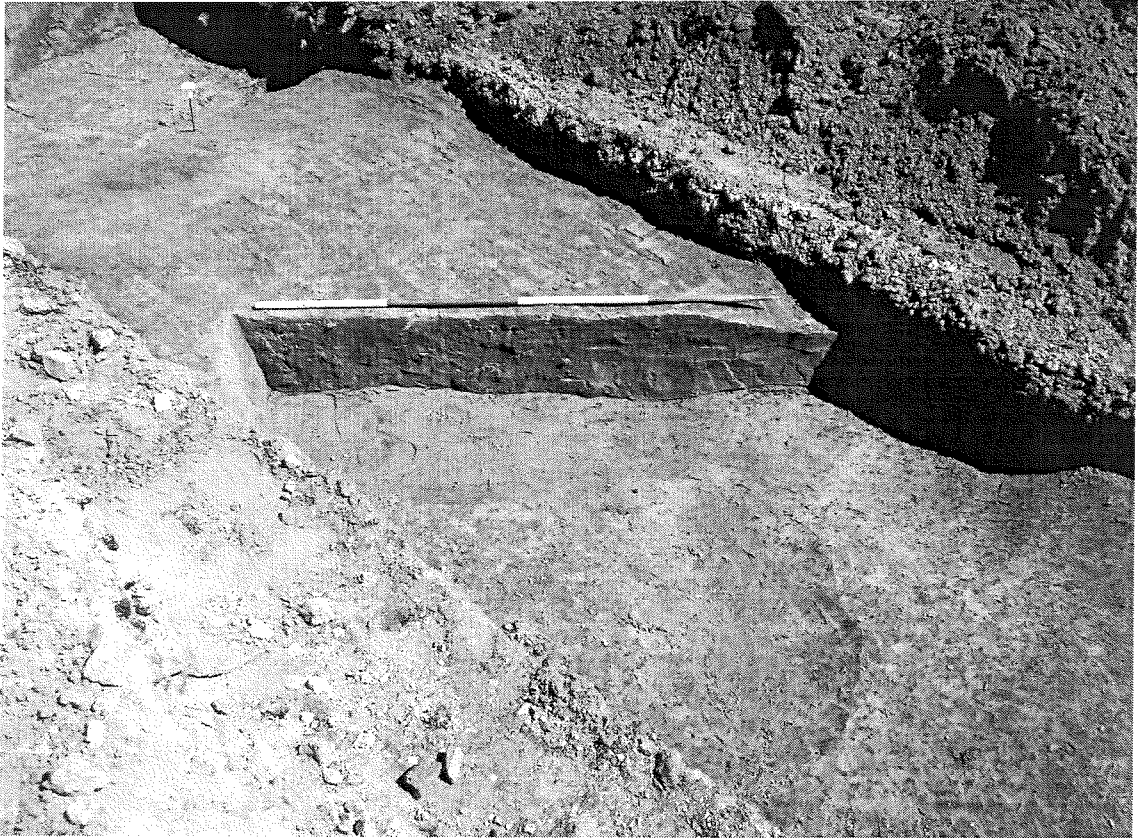
- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Tide End Development for commissioning the work, with particular thanks to Murray Laird, Charlie Crowther and Gregg Wilcock.
- 10.2 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would also like to thank Gary Jackson of Surrey County Council for monitoring the work.
- 10.3 The author would also like to thank Paul Morrison who assisted with the fieldwork , Haley Baxter for the illustrations, Jem Rogers for the surveying, Lisa Lonsdale for the logistics and Gary Brown for his project management and editing.

PLATE 1



Trenches 1 and 2 viewed from the northeast.

PLATE 2



Trench 2, section 4 through irregular shaped cut [16]

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY

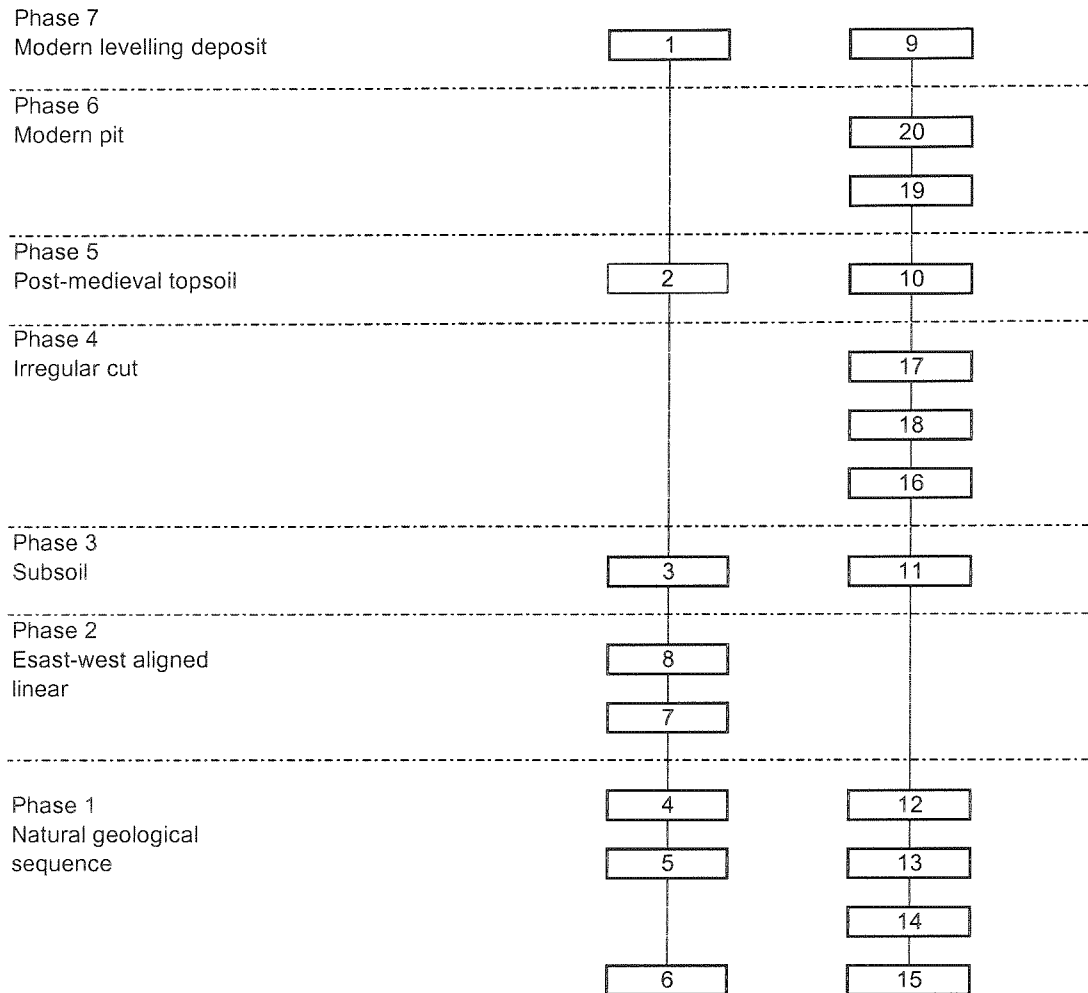
Brown G 2007: 'Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological field evaluation at the former Dukes Head Public House, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey'. Unpublished document.

Thompson G 2007: Archaeological desk-Based Assessment of the former Duke's Head Public House, Hepworth Way Walton-on Thames, Surrey KT12

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Type	Trench	Phase	Description
1	Layer	1		Modern levelling deposit, same as [9].
2	Layer	1		Partly truncated post-medieval topsoil, same as [10].
3	Layer	1		Subsoil, same as [11].
4	Layer	1		Natural sand, same as [12].
5	Layer	1		Natural sandy clay, same as [13]
6	Layer	1		Natural sandy clay with gravel, similar to [15].
7	Cut	1		East-west aligned linear cut.
8	Fill	1		Fill of cut [7]
9	Layer	2		Modern levelling deposit, same as [1].
10	Layer	2		Post-medieval topsoil, same as [2].
11	Layer	2		Subsoil, same as [3]
12	Layer	2		Natural sand, same as [4].
13	Layer	2		Natural sandy clay, same as [5].
14	Layer	2		Natural clayey sand.
15	Layer	2		Natural Sandy clay, similar to [6].
16	Cut	2		Irregular shaped cut, non-anthropogenic.
17	Fill	2		Initial fill of [16].
18	Fill	2		Final fill of [16].
19	Fill	2		Pit cut
20	Cut	2		Fill of [19].

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3

SHWW-08: finds spot dating index

Chris Jarrett

Context	Material	No. of fragments	Spot date	Comments
[8]	Bone	1		Bird bone, further species identification not possible
[8]	Slag	1	Undated	
[10]	CBM	1	1600-1900	Post-medieval peg tile
[10]	Clay tobacco pipe	1	18th/19th century	Stem, medium thin
[10]	Pottery	3	1550-1900	Red Border ware, bowls or dishes
[17]	Burnt flint	4	Prehistoric	
[17]	Flint	1	Prehistoric	Blade
[17]	Flint	1		Unworked

The small quantity of finds (1 box) from SHWW-08 shows evidence for prehistoric and post-medieval activity between c.1550-1900.

APPENDIX 4: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-42471

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at the former Duke's Head Public House, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd of land at the former Dukes Head public house, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12. The evaluation was conducted between 6th and 9th of May 2008, in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The work was commissioned by Tide End Developments. The evaluation consisted of two trial trenches, located within the western half of the site, avoiding the footprint of the previous development. This revealed a sequence of natural deposits consisting of sandy clays and sand. A shallow linear cut was observed at this level but was undated. This was overlain by a subsoil which was truncated by an irregular feature containing a single struck flint. Overlying this cut was a partly truncated topsoil. A modern levelling deposit sealed this topsoil.
Project dates	Start: 06-05-2008 End: 09-05-2008
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	SHWW08 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SURREY ELMBRIDGE WALTON ON THAMES Dukes Head Public House, Hepworth Way, Walton-on Thames, Surrey
Postcode	KT12

Site coordinates	TQ 0990 6642 51.3856669887 -0.420469503665 51 23 08 N 000 25 13 W Point
Height OD	Min: 15.82m Max: 15.92m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	English Heritage
Project design originator	Gary Brown
Project director/manager	Gary Brown
Project supervisor	John Payne
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Tide End Development
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Elmbridge Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','other'
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological desk based assessment of land at the former Dukes head public house, Hepworth way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

Author(s)/Editor(s) Brown, G

Date 2008

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology

Place of issue or publication London

Project bibliography 2

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title WSI for an archaeological evaluation at the former Dukes Head public house, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

Author(s)/Editor(s) Mayo, C

Date 2008

Issuer or publisher Pre-construct Archaeology

Place of issue or publication London

Entered by J Payne (jpayne@pre-construct.com)

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