6-8 OLIVER ROAD
LEYTON

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



OLU10 JUNE 2010

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

6-8 OLIVER ROAD, LEYTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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An Archaeological Evaluation on land at 6-8 Oliver Road, Leyton, London Borough of Waltham Forest, E10 5JY

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3750 8670

Site Code: OLU10

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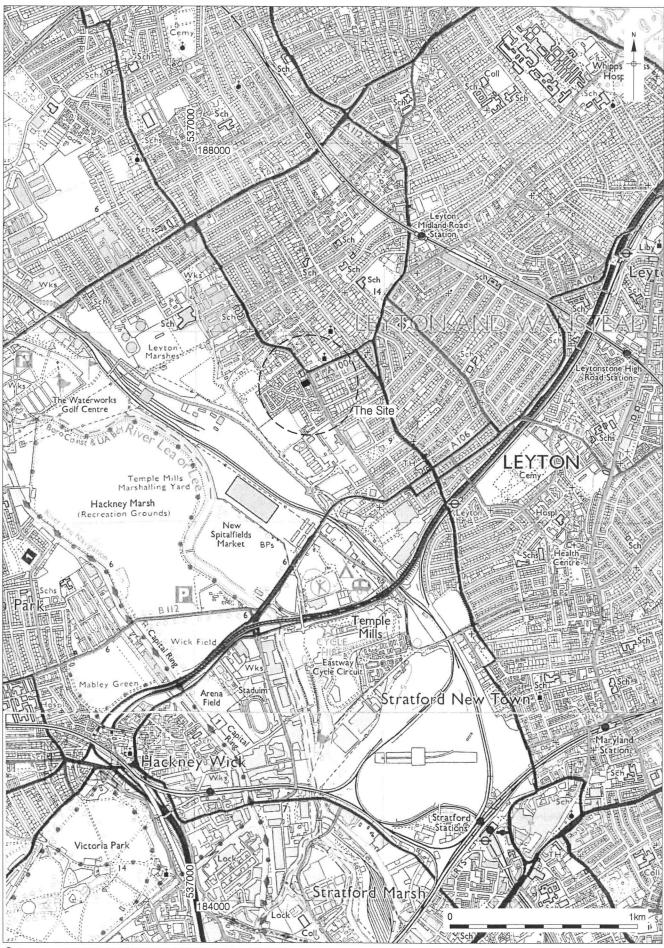
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at 6-8 Oliver Road, Leyton, London Borough of Waltham Forest. The field evaluation was undertaken between 14^{th-} 17th June 2010. The commissioning client was Lakehouse.
- 1.2 The archaeological programme for the evaluation consisted of five trenches, which were to determine the presence and character of any archaeological remains, particularly relating to the prehistoric period, and assess their significance and additionally to clarify the extent and nature of existing disturbance and intrusions and establish the natural topography of the site.
- 1.3 Due to the presence of extensive electrical and other services within the site, two of the trenches had to be abandoned prior to archaeological deposits being encountered.
- 1.4 The earliest deposits encountered in the remaining trenches were natural Taplow terrace gravels which were sealed beneath a layer of slightly clayey silty sand subsoil and capped by later post-medieval/modern made ground and modern dumped deposits and levelling layers. Several modern features, such as wall foundations and a pipe trench, were seen to truncate the sequence in two of the three trenches.
- 1.5 The only archaeological feature encountered in any of the trenches was a posthole, probably of prehistoric date, which was cut into the natural gravel in Trench 2.

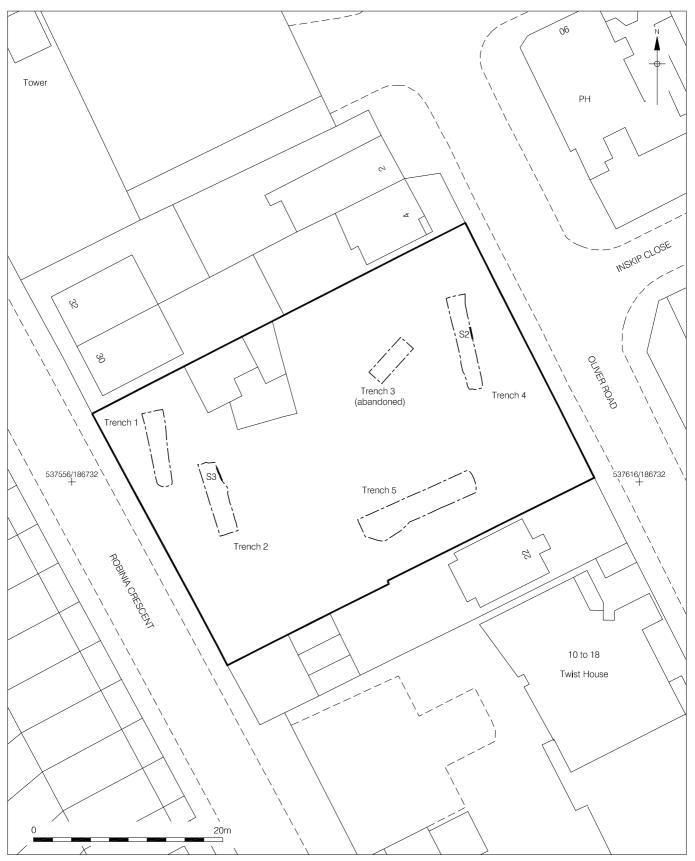
2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological site investigation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd between 14th-17th June 2010, in advance of redevelopment of land at 6-8 Oliver Road, Leyton, London Borough of Waltham Forest, E10 5JY (Fig. 1). The central National Grid Reference for this site is TQ 3750 8670. The site covers an area of approximately 1107 square metres. All buildings that previously occupied the site have now been demolished, the only exception being a substation/ boiler house in the north-western part of the site. The previous building foundations or tarmac covered all buried deposits.
- 2.2 The archaeological evaluation consisted of five trenches (Fig .2: Tranches 1-5) which were to satisfy the following objectives:
 - To determine the natural topography of the site.
 - To determine if evidence for prehistoric occupation and exploitation of the wider landscape continues over the site
 - To establish the presence or absence of any other archaeological remains or periods.
 - To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 2.3 The commissioning client was Lakehouse with the archaeological evaluation being undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd under the supervision of James Langthorne and the project management of Tim Bradley. The evaluation was monitored by David Divers, English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, for the London Borough of Waltham Forest.
- 2.4 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the Museum of London LAARC.
- 2.5 The site was allocated the site code: OLU10.



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3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Policy: Planning Policy Statement (PPS 5)

- 3.1.1 In March 2010 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5), which provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation 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 PPS5, by current Unitary Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.

3.2 Archaeology in the London Borough of Waltham Forest

- 3.2.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Newham, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians. The Borough's deposited draft 'Unitary Development Plan 2006' contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.
- 3.2.2 The proposed development of the site will be subject to the Council's Archaeology Policies, outlined in Chapter 8 of the UDP:

POLICY BHE17 ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE

THE COUNCIL WILL ENSURE THE PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND WHERE POSSIBLE THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF THE BOROUGH.

THE HISTORY OF WALTHAM FOREST DATES FROM THE TIME OF THE EARLIEST SETTLEMENTS IN THE FOREST. ARCHAEOLOGY IS AN IMPORTANT WAY IN WHICH GREATER KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE BOROUGH CAN BE DISCOVERED. HOWEVER, THE OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY OUT ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS USUALLY ONLY ARISES DURING THE COURSE OF NEW DEVELOPMENT WHEN FOUNDATIONS ARE EXPOSED.

THE GREATER LONDON ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY SERVICE HAS DEFINED A NUMBER OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES (APZS) WHICH HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS HAVING PARTICULAR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST. SOME OF THE APZS ARE EXTENSIVE AND INCLUDE THE WHOLE OF THE LEE VALLEY, THE VALLEYS OF THE CHING AND THE FILLEBROOK RIVERS AND AREAS AROUND FORMER SAXON AND MEDIAEVAL SETTLEMENTS SUCH AS CHINGFORD, WALTHAMSTOW, LEYTON, HIGHAMS PARK AND LEYTONSTONE.

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO ENCOURAGE THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF THE BOROUGH. WHEN ANY DEVELOPMENT INVOLVING A SITE OF 0.16 HECTARES OR MORE IS

PROPOSED WITHIN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES (AS SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP AND SCHEDULE 36), OR FOR ANY SITE IDENTIFI ED BY A RECOGNISED ARCHAEOLOGICAL AUTHORITY, THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFI CANCE OF THE SITE WILL BE CONSIDERED. THE COUNCIL MAY REQUIRE A PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE EVALUATION BEFORE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS ARE CONSIDERED.

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO ENSURE THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AND THEIR SETTINGS ARE PERMANENTLY PRESERVED IN SITU, AND IF NECESSARY, ARE MADE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING. SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFI CANCE OR POTENTIAL NOT REQUIRING PRESERVATION IN SITU SHALL HAVE PROVISION MADE FOR PRESERVATION BY RECORD THROUGH AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND EXCAVATION TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY A PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANT OR SPECIALIST ARCHAEOLOGICAL ORGANISATION BEFORE AND DURING THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT. SUCH PROVISION SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE SUBSEQUENT ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND IN APPROPRIATE CASES, PRESENTATION TO THE PUBLIC OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS AND FINDS.

THERE ARE ALSO A NUMBER OF LESS EXTENSIVE APZS. FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS INVOLVING A SITE OF 0.16 HECTARES OR MORE WITHIN THE APZS, THE COUNCIL WILL LIAISE WITH THE GREATER LONDON ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY SERVICE IN ORDER TO ASSESS THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITE. WHERE APPROPRIATE, A PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE EVALUATION OR DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE COUNCIL BEFORE SUCH PROPOSALS ARE CONSIDERED.

THE MOST IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AND THEIR SETTING SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY PRESERVED. DEVELOPERS CAN HELP TO ACHIEVE THIS BY, FOR EXAMPLE, PREPARING SYMPATHETIC DESIGNS AND USING FOUNDATIONS WHICH AVOID DISTURBING REMAINS ALTOGETHER. IF THE PHYSICAL PRESERVATION OF REMAINS IS NOT FEASIBLE, AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF "PRESERVATION BY RECORD" MAY BE AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE.

THE COUNCIL WILL PROMOTE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LANDOWNERS, DEVELOPERS, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ORGANISATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND DEVELOPERS LIAISON GROUP CODE OF PRACTICE WHICH IT RECOGNISES AND ENDORSES.

3.2.3 The site lies inside an Archaeological Priority Zone, as defined in the London Borough of Waltham Forest UDP. However there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Listed Buildings on the site.

3.3 The Proposed Development

3.3.1 The development has full planning permission (application number 2009/1452) which includes the following archaeological condition:

No development shall take place until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Council as Local Planning Authority. The work shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme approved pursuant to this condition. The archaeological work shall only be carried out by a suitably qualified investigative body approved by the Local Planning Authority

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The solid geology of the study site as indicated on British Geological Survey Sheet 256 shows the study site to lie in an area of the Taplow Gravels, defined as being part of the post-diversionary Thames river terrace deposits.
- 4.1.2 The Taplow gravels were observed in Trenches 1, 2 and 4 during the evaluation at heights of between 12.33m OD in Trench 1, 12.32m OD in Trench 2 and 12.57m OD in Trench 4.

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 Topographically the site is situated above the flood plain of the lower River Lee, approximately 0.75 km east of the present course of the river.
- 4.2.2 The site lies on flat ground at an approximate height of 13.30m OD.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following section is a brief summary of the archaeological and historical background of the area in which the Oliver Road site is located. It highlights the general trends and opportunities for archaeology in the area but should not be taken as being a comprehensive analysis.

5,2 **Prehistoric**

- 5.2.1. The London Borough of Waltham Forest is rich in prehistoric sites and features ranging from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age.
- 5.2.2 To the west of the Oliver Road site the gravel continues to rise before forming a small promontory and then descending rapidly into the valley of the river Lee; a prime area for exploitation during the prehistoric period.
- 5.2.3 Archaeological investigations at the Oliver Close Estate, a short distance to the south and west of 6-8 Oliver Road, during 2001, 2002 and 2005 revealed a number of phases of human activity. This activity included struck flints from the Mesolithic or early Neolithic and pottery sherds tentatively identified as dating from the Neolithic, both of which were indicative of seasonal or temporary use of the site. However a major period of occupation, represented by a large 'aggrandised'/'Springfield style' ditched enclosure and associated features, was encountered and dated to the late Bronze Age. All of these features were sealed beneath a layer of soil which formed following the settlement's abandonment¹.
- 5.2.4 A recent excavation at 55 Oliver Road revealed a layer of sandy silt subsoil sealing natural Taplow gravels but no trace of prehistoric activity².

5.3 Roman

5.3.1 Archaeological investigations in Leyton over the past twenty years have added greatly to our knowledge of Roman occupation and land use in the area. Excavations at Oliver

¹ Bishop & Boyer 2010 ² Frickers 2010

Close Estate to the southwest of the site found evidence for late Roman activity and Roman ditches were excavated at Church Road, Leyton³. Excavations at Livingstone College Tower revealed Roman deposits and cut features including northeast-southwest orientated ditches⁴, whilst cremations, inhumations and a rectangular double banked enclosure, of possible Roman date, were excavated south of the site at Ruckholts.

- 5.3.2 Evidence for Roman masonry has been found during excavations in the vicinity of Knotts Green and antiquarians recorded the discovery of Roman masonry structures during landscaping works at Grange Park Estate in the 18th century.
- 5.3.3 It has been noted in the past that the Roman finds spots in the Leyton area form a discreet line on a northeast-southwest axis, with excavations away from this axis producing no evidence for Roman activity. As a result it has been postulated that this line represents the line of a Roman road, most likely the southern continuation of the Dunmow to London road, crossing the river at Temple Mills. A mixture of forest exploitation, farming, small ribbon settlements and cemetery activity could represent Roman activity along this road⁵. In the first phase of the evaluation at Beaumont Road Estate, a metalled surface was exposed in the northwest of the site, with a north-south orientated ditch situated on each side. The style of construction together with the location strongly suggests that this feature was part of the Roman Road⁶.

5.4 Medieval

5.4.1 The area in which the site falls appears to have been used solely for agriculture throughout the medieval period with the only archaeological evidence being a ditch, approximately 500m to the east of Oliver Road, containing late 15th / early 16th century pottery, suggesting nearby settlement⁷. The core of the settlement is thought to be the Church of St Mary the Virgin, which pre-dates 1200 and whose tithes were split between Stratford Langthorne Abbey and Haliwell Priory⁸.

³ Moore 2004

⁴ Moore & Sable 2004

⁵ ihid

⁶ Taylor 2004a & 2004b

⁷ Holden 2003

⁸ Frickers 2010

5.5 **Post-Medieval**

The roads established in Leyton during the medieval period became a focus of ribbon 5.5.1 settlements during the post-medieval period through to the 19th century. Farming was commonplace in the area and utilised the areas of land that were not used for occupation. Post-medieval houses and cultural material have been recorded at a number of excavations in the area including those at Leyton Baths, 789 High Road Leyton and Church Road⁹ and Langthorne Hospital¹⁰.

⁹ Moore 2004 ¹⁰ Holden 2003

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The excavation of the five trenches was outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)¹¹. The aims of the evaluation were to address the following objectives:
 - To determine the natural topography of the site.
 - To determine if evidence for prehistoric occupation and exploitation of the wider landscape continues over the site
 - To establish the presence or absence of any other archaeological remains or periods.
 - To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 6.2 Trenches 3 and 5 had to be completely abandoned following initial excavation due to the proximity of live electrical cables. Despite full CAT and Genny investigation and study of service plans, no alterative locations could be identified for these trenches. The position of Trench 2 was slightly altered from that proposed in the WSI, again due to the positions of services.
- 6.3 Ground level surfaces (concrete and tarmac) were broken out by a 13 tonne mechanical excavator. After breaking out had been accomplished all of the trenches were excavated by the mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket in spits of between 150mm and 200mm through undifferentiated deposits. Both breaking out and excavation were supervised by an archaeologist. The relative dimensions of each trench are listed below:

Trench Number	Length at top (m)	Width at top (m)	Max. Depth (m)
1	7.50	1.80	1.18
2	7.90	2.06	1.52
3	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	10.00	1.80 1.08	
5	N/A	N/A	N/A

6.4 Following fill clearance, all faces of the trench that required examination were cleaned and excavation undertaken on extant discrete archaeological features using appropriate

-

¹¹ Bradley 2010

hand tools. All deposits were then recorded on pro forma context sheets. Trench plans were drawn at scales of 1:20 and 1:50, depending on which scale was more appropriate, and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. The locations of the trenches were surveyed by hand from surrounding map detail. A photographic record was also kept of all the trenches in black and white, colour slide and digital formats.

6.5 A temporary benchmark, with a value of 13.19m OD, was established on site for levelling purposes. It was derived from an Ordnance Survey benchmark, at a height of 14.21m OD, on the north-west side of St Mary's Church, Church Road.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1 - Natural

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposits encountered in all three trenches were fairly loose, mid orange grey/brown gravels: [5], [21] and [13] in Trenches 1, 2 and 4 respectively. This layer varied in height between 12.33m OD in Trench 1 and 12.32m OD in Trench 2 on the western side of the site and 12.57m OD in Trench 4 in the eastern part of the site.
- 7.1.2 These deposits of Taplow gravels indicate that the natural topography of the site may have gradually sloped to the west.

7.2 Phase 2 – Prehistoric

- 7.2.1 Cut into the natural gravels [21] in Trench 2 was a probable posthole [23], representing the only discrete archaeological feature encountered during the investigation. The large sub-oval posthole measured 0.49m north-south by 0.42m east-west, was 0.35m deep and was encountered at a height of 12.32m OD. It was filled with a fairly firm, mid orange-grey/brown silty sand [22] with occasional small sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles.
- 7.2.2 Sealing both posthole [23] in Trench 2 and the natural gravels, [5] and [13], in Trenches 1 and 4 was a layer of subsoil composed of fairly firm but friable, mid orange-grey/brown slightly sandy clay silt with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles, recorded as [20], [4] and [12]. No datable material was recovered either from the posthole or the subsoil. However, due to the sterility of the subsoil it is postulated that it represents a continuation of the soil formation layer that built up following the abandonment of the late Bronze Age settlement excavated by PCA at the Oliver Close Estate to the southwest¹².

7.3 Phase 3 – Late Post-Medieval/Modern

7.3.1 The layers of subsoil in every trench were sealed beneath a layer of soft but friable, dark blackish grey/brown slightly sandy clay silt with frequent ash, moderate small subrounded pebbles and iron staining, occasional CBM, pottery and glass fragments and very occasional oyster shells. This deposit of very late post-medieval/early modern

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¹² Chapter 5: 5.2.3

made ground, [3], [19] and [11], varied between 0.20m thick in Trench 4 and 0.77m thick in Trench 2.

7.4 Phase 4 – Modern

- 7.4.1 Within Trench 1 made ground [3] was overlain by a 0.15m thick levelling layer of fairly compact mixed light orange-brown and mid grey-brown clay silt with occasional pebble and modern CBM fragments [2] which was in turn sealed by a 0.25m thick layer of loose light yellow sand with occasional modern fragments of CBM and flint pebbles [1]. These deposits of modern made ground were subsequently capped by two successive layers of levelling material and tarmac [+].
- 7.4.2 Trenches 2 and 4 had suffered far more extensive truncation than Trench 1: Trench 2 lay in the footprint of one of the recently demolished buildings on site and wall foundations from this building were still extant running along the western and southern faces of the trench as well as across the approximate mid-point of the trench [+]. The foundations truncated all of the deposits within the trench including the natural gravel, and continued below the limit of excavation.
- 7.4.3 Similar modern intrusions were recorded in Trench 4 including a cut for a modern ceramic pipe [15], whilst at the southern end of the excavation all of the deposits within the trench were truncated by construction cut [18] for modern brick wall [17]. The wall was capped with modern concrete and was backfilled with sand [16].
- 7.4.4 All deposits in Trenches 1 and 4 were sealed by loose modern made ground and the current tarmac surface of the site, whereas deposits within Trench 2 where sealed by loose, modern made ground and rubble and sealed beneath the concrete slab floor of a recently demolished building.

8 TRENCH SUMMARY

8.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

- 8.1.1 The base of Trench 1 revealed natural gravel [5] which was sealed by a layer of subsoil [2]. The subsoil was in turn overlain by late post-medieval/modern ashy made ground [3] which was in turn sealed by a modern levelling layer [2] and a succeeding layer of made ground [1]. This final layer of made ground was capped by a levelling layer and a disused tarmac surface which was later sealed by a further levelling layer and the current tarmac surface [+].
- 8.1.2 No discrete archaeological deposits were encountered in Trench 1.

8.2 Trench 2 (Figs. 2, 3 & 4 and Image 1)

- 8.2.1 Trench 2 revealed natural gravel [21] which was cut by a probable posthole [23]. The posthole was filled with silty sand [23] and sealed by subsoil [20]. The subsoil was overlain by late post-medieval/modern ashy made ground [19] which was in turn sealed by modern made ground that contained a great deal of rubble [+]. The modern made ground was truncated by the wall foundations of a recently demolished building and sealed by the building's concrete floor slab [+].
- 8.2.2 The only discrete archaeological deposit in Trench 2 was the potentially prehistoric posthole [23] which truncated the natural gravel at the base of the trench.

8.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 2)

8.3.1 Trench 3 was abandoned prior to excavation due to CAT scan detection of several services within the vicinity of its proposed position. For the same reasons it proved impossible to reposition the trench elsewhere on site.

8.4 Trench 4 (Figs. 2 & 4 and Image 2)

8.4.1 Trench 4 revealed natural gravel [13] which was overlain by a layer of subsoil [12] and in turn by a layer of late post-medieval/modern ashy made ground. These earlier deposits were then sealed by a large number of modern deposits including two successive levelling layers [10] and [9] followed by a potential gravel surface [8] which was in turn overlain by a further levelling layer [7] and made ground [6]. Made ground [6] was truncated by cut [15] which served as a trench for a modern ceramic pipe and

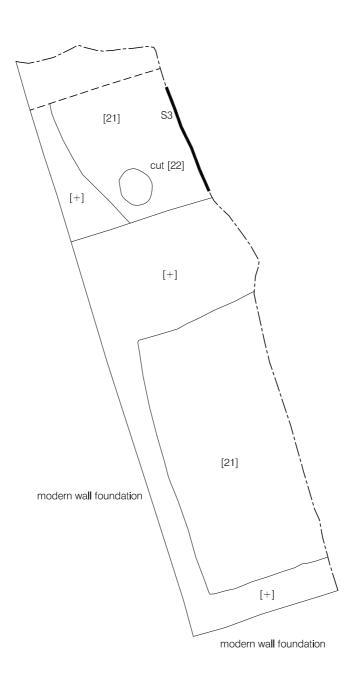
was backfilled with sandy silt and gravel [14]. The pipe trench was subsequently truncated at the southern end of the trench by construction cut [18] which contained a yellow brick wall foundation capped with concrete [17] and was backfilled by sand [16]. All deposits were sealed beneath a layer of made ground and the current tarmac surface of the site [+].

8.4.2 No archaeological deposits were encountered in Trench 4.

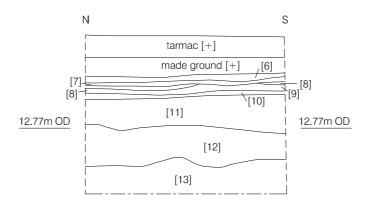
8.5 Trench 5 (Fig. 2)

8.5.1 Trench 5 was abandoned due to several electrical service cables being revealed during the initial stages of excavation. As with Trench 3 it was not possible to reposition the trench and so it was backfilled for health and safety reasons.

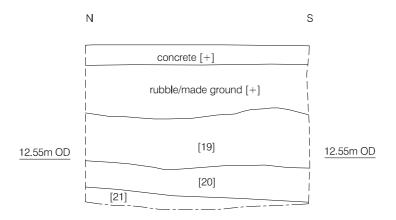








Section 2 Trench 4 West Facing



Section 3 Trench 2 West Facing

Image 1 – South facing view of Trench 2



Image 2 – West facing section in Trench 4



9 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Interpretation

The WSI¹³ prepared before archaeological work commenced at 6-8 Oliver Road 9.1.1 highlighted four specific research objectives to be addressed by the evaluation:

9.2 To determine the natural topography of the site

- 9.2.1 Naturally deposited Taplow gravels were recorded in all three of the fully excavated trenches (Trenches 1, 2 and 4). The gravel varied in height between 12.33m OD in Trench 1 and 12.32m OD in Trench 2 on the western side of the site and 12.57m OD in Trench 4 in the eastern part of the site which was indicative of a gradual slope to the west.
- This data is comparable with sites at the Oliver Close Estate¹⁴, which was situated a 9.2.2 short distance to the south and west of 6-8 Oliver Road, and 55 Oliver Road¹⁵, to the south-east of the study site. At 55 Oliver Road the Taplow gravels were recorded at a height of 12.20m OD and at the Oliver Close estate they were recorded between 11.74m OD in the southern part of the site and 12.80m OD in the north of the site.
- 9.2.3 This would suggest that 6-8 Oliver Road is situated at within an area that generally slopes downhill towards the south and west, although the lower height indicated in the southern part of the Oliver Close Estate site may well indicate that the northerly uphill trend is not without undulations.
- 9.3 To determine if evidence for prehistoric occupation and exploitation of the wider landscape continues over the site.
- 9.3.1 The only feature recorded in any of the trenches on site was a probable posthole cutting the natural gravels and sealed by a layer of subsoil in Trench 2. While no datable evidence was recovered from the posthole it was considered to be potentially prehistoric as it was sealed by a subsoil layer which is comparable with a similar subsoil layer which formed following the abandonment of the late Bronze Age settlement at the Oliver Close Estate site 16.

¹³ Bradley 2010 ¹⁴ Bishop 2006

¹⁵ Frickers 2010

- 9.3.2 This would indicate that despite the severe post depositional impacts on the site that the prehistoric activity recorded in the vicinity may originally have extended into this area.
- 9.4 To establish the presence or absence of any other archaeological remains or periods.
- 9.4.1 Some fragments of late post-medieval pottery were found within the ashy subsoil layer that sealed the subsoil in all three trenches, however due to the presence of modern material within this layer the post-medieval pottery was assumed to be residual.
- 9.4.2 No discrete features relating to any period later than the prehistoric or earlier than the modern period were encountered during the archaeological evaluation of the site.
- 9.5 To establish the extent of all past post depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 9.5.1 Severe post depositional impacts were recorded in Trenches 2 and 4 and were the reason for the abandonment of both Trenches 3 and 5. The wall foundations of a recently demolished building were seen to truncate all natural and later layers in Trench 2 as did a wall foundation in the southern part of Trench 4 and a north-south running pipe in the same trench. Electrical services were revealed in Trenches 3 and 5 by CAT scanning and limited excavation respectively.
- 9.5.2 However despite these modern intrusions it was clear that small 'islands' of relatively undisturbed strata survived in Trenches 1, 2 and 4, with a posthole recorded in Trench 2 and the survival of the subsoil in observed Trenches 1, 2 and 4. However the presence of a late post-medieval/modern made ground sealing the subsoil in all three trenches does indicate that any potential archaeological deposits that post-date the prehistoric are likely to have been truncated by modern groundworks.

9.2 Conclusions

9.2.1 The archaeological evaluation has clearly shown that the site has been exposed to severe modern impacts both from the construction of the recently demolished buildings and extensive associated services. However, the recording of a probable prehistoric posthole does suggest that prehistoric activity previously recorded to the south and west may have extended, at least marginally, into the area of the site.

¹⁶ Bishop 2006

10 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Lakehouse for commissioning the work, and David Divers of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service for monitoring the site.
- 10.2 The author would like to thank Tim Bradley for project managing the site and editing this report, Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations, Lisa Lonsdale for Logistics and Phil Frickers for his work on site.

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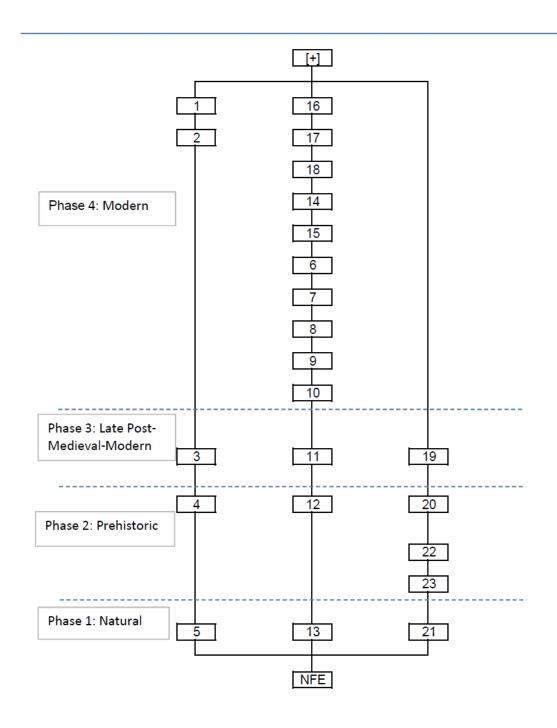
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APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT INDEX

Site	Context	.	Section /	_	5		
Code	No.	Plan	Elevation	Туре	Description	Date	Phase
OLU10	1	N/A	S1	Layer	Made Ground	Modern	4
OLU10	2	N/A	S1	Layer	Levelling Layer	Modern	4
						Late Post-	
011140		N1/A	0.4			Medieval-	
OLU10	3	N/A	S1	Layer	Made Ground	Modern	3
OLU10	4	N/A	S1	Layer	Subsoil	Prehistoric	2
OLU10	5	Tr 1	S1	Layer	Taplow Gravels	Natural	1
OLU10	6	N/A	S2	Layer	Made Ground	Modern	4
OLU10	7	N/A	S2	Layer	Levelling Layer	Modern	4
OLU10	8	N/A	S2	Layer	Gravel	Modern	4
OLU10	9	N/A	S2	Layer	Levelling Layer	Modern	4
OLU10	10	N/A	S2	Layer	Levelling Layer	Modern	4
						Late Post-	
						Medieval-	
OLU10	11	N/A	S2	Layer	Made Ground	Modern	3
OLU10	12	N/A	S2	Layer	Subsoil	Prehistoric	2
OLU10	13	Tr 4	S2	Layer	Taplow Gravels	Natural	1
OLU10	14	Tr 4	N/A	Fill	Fill of [15]	Modern	4
OLU10	15	Tr 4	N/A	Cut	Pipe Trench	Modern	4
OLU10	16	Tr 4	N/A	Fill	Backfill of [18]	Modern	4
OLU10	17	Tr 4	N/A	Masonry	Wall/Manhole foundation	Modern	4
OLU10	18	Tr 4	N/A	Cut	Cut for foundation [17]	Modern	4
					- 1	Late Post-	
						Medieval-	
OLU10	19	N/A	S3	Layer	Made Ground	Modern	3
OLU10	20	N/A	S3	Layer	Subsoil	Prehistoric	2
OLU10	21	Tr 2	S3	Layer	Taplow Gravels	Natural	1
OLU10	22	N/A	N/A	Fill	Fill of [23]	Prehistoric	2
OLU10	23	Tr 2	N/A	Cut	Posthole	Prehistoric	2

APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT INDEX



APPENDIX 3 – OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-78675

Project details

Archaeological Evaluation on land at 6-8 Oliver Road, Leyton, London Project name

Borough of Waltham Forest.

the project

Short description of An archaeological evaluation originally consisting of five trenches. However due to the density of services on site two trenches had to be abandoned. The earliest deposits encountered in the three remaining trenches were natural gravels which were sealed beneath a post Bronze Age subsoil and capped by later post-medieval/modern made ground and modern dumped deposits. Several modern features, such as wall foundations and a pipe trench, were seen to truncate the post depositional sequence in two of the three trenches. The only

archaeological feature encountered was a large, possibly prehistoric

post hole that cut the natural gravel.

Start: 14-06-2010 End: 14-06-2010 Project dates

Previous/future

work

No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes

OLU10 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Monument type POSTHOLE Late Prehistoric

Monument type SUBSOIL Late Prehistoric

Significant Finds **NONE None**

Methods & techniques 'Sample Trenches'

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country **England**

GREATER LONDON WALTHAM FOREST LEYTON 6-8 Oliver Road Site location

Postcode E10 5JY

An Archaeological Evaluation at 6-8 Oliver Road, Leyton, London Borough of Waltham Forest ©Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, June 2010

Study area 1107.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 3750 8670 51.5618997523 -0.01612582389920 51 33 42 N 000

00 58 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 12.32m Max: 12.57m

Project creators

Name of Organisation

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator

PCA

Project design originator

Tim Bradley

Project

Tim Bradley

director/manager

Project supervisor James Langthorne

Type of sponsor/funding

na

Lakehouse

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient

LAARC

body

Physical Archive ID OLU10

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Metal'

Digital Archive recipient

LAARC

Digital Archive ID C

OLU10

Digital Contents

'none'

Digital Media available

'Images raster / digital photography'

Paper Archive recipient

LAARC

Paper Archive ID

OLU10

Paper Contents

'none'

Paper Media available

'Context sheet','Diary','Photograph','Plan','Section','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

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