LAND BETWEEN PERRY
STREET AND MANOR ROAD
CRAYFORD
LONDON BOROUGH OF
BEXLEY



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



PEO10 SEPTEMBER 2010



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

PERRY STREET/MANOR ROAD, CRAYFORD LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

Pre-Co	K2351		
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Sarah	Sarah Septe	
	Barrowman		
Graphics	Jennifer		September 2010
Prepared by:	Simonson		
Graphics	Josephine Brown		September 2010
Checked by:			
Project Manager	Tim Bradley		September 2010
Sign-off:			

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd Unit 54 Brockley Cross Business Centre 96 Endwell Road London SE4 2PD An Archaeological Evaluation of Land Between Perry Street and Manor Road, Crayford, London Borough of Bexley

Site Code: PEO 10

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 511 752 Planning Application Number: 07/08321/FUL

Written and Researched by Sarah Barrowman

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, September 2010

Project Manager: Tim Bradley

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting on behalf of Fairview New Homes

Limited

Contractor:

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre

96 Endwell Road London SE4 2PD

Tel: 020 7732 3925 Fax: 020 7732 7896

E-mail: tbradley@pre-construct.com

Web: www.pre-construct.com

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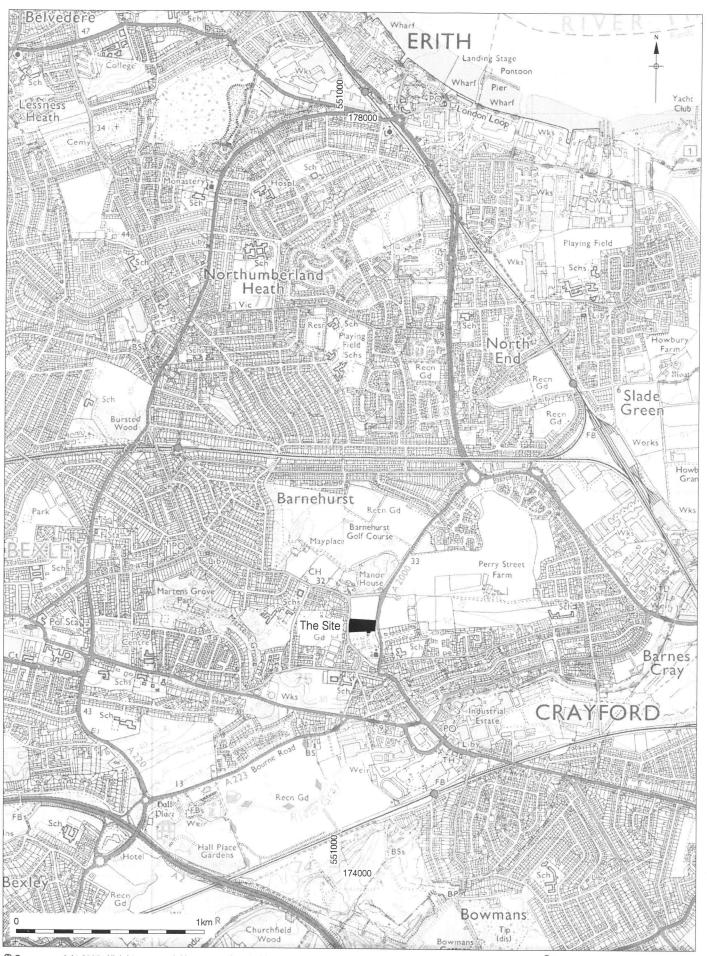
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land between Perry Street and Manor Road, Crayford, Kent (Figure 1). The central National Grid Reference for this site is TQ 364 773. The evaluation was undertaken between 13th and 17th of September 2010. The commissioning client was CgMs Consulting on behalf of Fairview New Homes Limited.
- 1.2 The archaeological programme consisted of eight evaluation trenches (Figure 2). The evaluation aimed to determine as far as reasonably possible the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of any surviving archaeological remain, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development. It was also intended to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbances and intrusions, and assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance (Meager 2010 b).
- 1.3 The work was monitored on behalf of the London Borough of Bexley by Mark Stevenson of English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 1.4 Lambeth Group deposits were observed within all eight trenches, and represent the earliest deposits observed during the evaluation. The natural topography of the site was observed to have a high point to the south of the site, with the landscape falling northwards to form a valley to the north of the site.
- 1.5 A large north-south aligned ditch that contained medieval pottery was observed within the three trenches on the western side of the site, with a small pit with comparable pottery also in the southern most of these trenches.
- 1.6 A number of other possible small pits were examined in the south central and southeast trenches, along with a small linear feature in the northwest trench. However no dating evidence was recovered from these features.
- 1.7 There were numerous natural features across the site, such as tree bowls and colluvial layers, and whilst some of these did contain diagnostic pottery, this is likely to have been redeposited.
- 1.8 Additionally there were features observed in several of the trenches that most likely related to the latter phases of the site's history as agricultural land followed by allotments.
- 1.9 All of the trenches contained deposits of subsoil, and were sealed by homogenous topsoil that formed the existing surface level of the site.

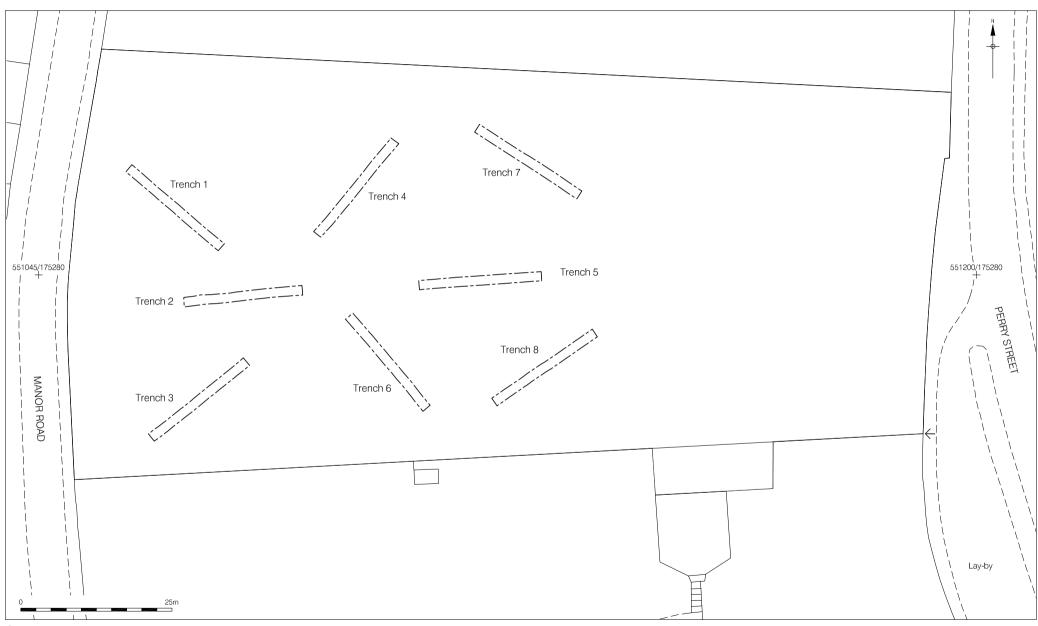
2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological site investigation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd in advance of redevelopment of land between Perry Street and Manor Road, Crayford, Kent. The evaluated area of the study site covers 5710.41 square metres. The archaeological evaluation involved the excavation and recording of eight trial trenches which were undertaken to determine the archaeological potential of the site (Figure 2).
- 2.2 The site has most recently been occupied by allotment gardens, prior to which it was open fields.
- 2.3 The evaluation revealed natural strata directly beneath subsoil deposits which were sealed by topsoil, though colluvial deposits underlay the subsoil in two trenches. Archaeological features were observed to be cutting the natural strata, or the subsoil in the case of post-medieval features.
- 2.4 The commissioning client was CgMs Consulting. The evaluation was supervised by Sarah Barrowman of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. The project was managed for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd by Tim Bradley and Chris Mayo, and was monitored by Mark Stevenson of English Heritage GLAAS.
- 2.5 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the Museum of London LAARC under the unique site code PEO10.



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Figure 2 Trench Location 1:625 at A4

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 Bexley

- 3.2.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Bexley, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians. The Borough's *Unitary Development Plan*, adopted 2004, contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.
- 3.2.2 The proposed development is subject to the Council's Archaeology Policy:

Archæology

5.76 The archæological remains below the ground represent a storehouse of historic information including evidence of the evolution of development and settlements in this area. This applies to remains of domestic, industrial and agricultural origins. All remains are unique and represent a finite and non-renewable resource. As such, there will always be a presumption to protect such remains. Recent thinking suggests that it is best to preserve as many remains as possible in situ since future analytical techniques may enable far more information to be gleaned from the sites. Excavation can result in the destruction of material, levels, etc. leaving only rescued artifacts and any records made during excavation. This is considered to be second best. However, the potential archæological interest must be weighed against the needs of development. Where development of necessity disturbs the sub-soil levels on sites of archaeological interest, adequate investigations and excavation will be expected and policies have been formulated on this basis. Government advice in PPG16, "Archæology and Planning", reinforces the need for developers to give early consideration to archaeological issues, normally before planning applications are made.

Policy ENV56

In Areas of Archæological Search and other areas where finds are likely to occur and in certain historic standing buildings where development proposals may affect archaeological remains or historical evidence, the Council will expect applicants to have properly assessed and planned for the archaeological implications. The Council may require a preliminary archaeological site evaluation before proposals are considered.

5.77 The Proposals Map identifies the most important known archæological areas, indicated as Areas of Archæological Search, prepared by representatives of the Museum of London. This indicates approximate areas where there could be interesting remains, but the boundaries should not be taken as being definitive, and finds may occur outside these areas. Historical evidence may also be revealed during alterations to standing buildings, and it is important that such evidence is properly recorded. In areas where finds are most likely to occur, the Council may require preliminary site investigation, so that the possible extent of interest can be established in advance. Such an assessment will involve a field evaluation carried out by a recognised archæological organisation or suitably qualified individuals to a specification set by the Local Planning Authority. In certain cases, applications may not be considered before such an evaluation is completed. This will benefit developers in that they will be fully aware of any implications before works begin on site, since later changes of design to accommodate archæological remains can prove expensive. Developers are invited to discuss implications and the need for evaluations at the earliest possible stage.

Policy ENV57

Where sites of archæological significance or potential are discovered the Council will seek to ensure that:

- 1. the most important archæological remains and their settings are preserved in situ (if appropriate for public access and display) and that where appropriate they are given statutory protection; and
- 2. sites not requiring preservation in situ shall be made available for an appropriate level of archaeological investigation and excavation by a recognised archaeological organisation before development begins.
- 5.78 Archæological sites can be damaged or destroyed by even modest developments. The most important remains should be preserved wherever possible because of their historic interest. Where sites are to be developed, and archæological remains are not to be preserved in situ, arrangements should be made, including planning agreements as necessary, for the proper investigation, excavation and recording of remains. A specification of work for any investigation will need to be agreed beforehand. There should also be provision for the subsequent analysis, interpretation and presentation to the public of the archæological results and findings. Developers will be expected to co-operate in archæological investigations and, if not prepared to do so voluntarily, the Council will consider whether it would be appropriate to direct an applicant to supply further information under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Applications) Regulations 1988. This is in accordance with the Government's advice in PPG16. A code of practice has been agreed by developers and archæologists (the British Archæologists' and Developers' Code of Practice) and the use of this will be encouraged. The Council appreciates the need to minimise

the impact on development proposals and in conjunction with the Museum of London and English Heritage will offer advice to help minimise any possible delays or alterations to developments and to guide design around sensitive locations.

Policy ENV58

There will be a presumption against any development, which would adversely affect any scheduled Ancient Monument or other nationally important archaeological sites and monuments and their settings.

- 5.79 The designation of certain monuments as scheduled Ancient Monuments is a recognition of their special national importance. Their rarity means that special action will be taken to protect them from unsuitable development or uses which may damage the remains or adversely affect their setting. The sites currently scheduled as Ancient Monuments are listed at Appendix D3.
- 5.80 The Council has a range of means at its disposal to secure the protection of archæological remains. In general, the preference is to use voluntary agreements freely entered into by all parties concerned. However, where necessary, the Council will consider using its statutory powers or seeking action by others such as English Heritage and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.
- 3.2.3 The site lies within the northern most edge of an Archaeological Priority Zone, as defined in the London Borough of Bexley's Unitary Development Plan Proposals Map. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Listed Buildings on the site.

3.3 Development Planning Permission

3.3.1 Planning permission has been granted for the layout of a cemetery and Remembrance Garden at the site (Planning Ref: 07/08321/FUL) which included the following archaeological condition:

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: to ensure that adequate archaeological records can be made in respect of the site and in the interests of the heritage of the area.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 British Geological Survey Sheet 271, Dartford 1998, shows the underlying geology of the study site to comprise the sand and clay of the Lambeth Group (Woolwich and Reading Beds) (Meager 2010a).
- 4.1.2 Geotechnical information derived from the study site in March 2010 revealed made ground/topsoil 0.3-0.4m thick above sandy-gravelly-clay. The borehole logs and location plan are reproduced in Appendix 1 of the Desk-Based Assessment (Meager 2010 a).

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 The topography of the site is moderately sloped from a high point to the south, upon which the church is situated, downwards towards a valley in the north. The visible topography was seen to reflect that which occurred naturally in the area. Spot heights taken across the site during the evaluation indicate a highest level of 30.88m OD in the southwest area of the site, falling to 28.51m OD in the northwest area.
- 4.2.2 No watercourses or naturally occurring bodies of water are known within the vicinity of the study site.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The archaeological and historical background for the area of Crayford that the site lies within is laid out in full in the Desk-Based Assessment (Meager 2010a). The following is a summary of the relevant parts of this document.

5.2 Prehistoric

- 5.2.1 A Palaeolithic working site has been identified in a chalk pit at Crayford to the east of the study site. Flakes, cores, hammerstones and woolly rhino bones, the latter with some flakes adhering, were all retrieved. Palaeolithic flintwork has been identified in a quarry pit to the north of the study site, while quantities of flintwork have been identified in the general Crayford area, including 8 handaxes, 17 flakes, 96 Levallois flakes, and two flints associated with lion bones. Acheulian flintwork was found at Hall Place, southwest of the study site.
- 5.2.2 Within a one kilometre radius of the site, residual Mesolithic flintwork has been identified on the bank of the River Cray to the southwestwhile tranchet axes have been found elsewhere to the southwest.
- 5.2.3 Finds of Neolithic and Bronze Age date within a one kilometre radius of the study include a Neolithic flint implement to the southeast of the study site, together with a Neolithic/Bronze Age scraper. Excavations at Perry Street to the north of the study site revealed a Bronze Age collared urn.
- 5.2.4 A number of locations within the vicinity of the site have produced evidence of settlement activity from the Iron Age.

5.3 Roman

A number of sites in the area have uncovered evidence dating from the Roman period, although it is apparent that the site lay to the north of the centre of Roman activity and settlement, concentrated on Watling Street and the River Cray.

5.4 Anglo Saxon & Medieval

5.4.1 A settlement at Crayford was certainly in existence in the late Saxon period, as attested by Domesday. As with the Roman period, the core of historic settlement is thought to have lain to south of the church.

5.4.2 The church of St Paulinus, south of the site, has been dated to c.1200 AD with fourteenth century windows and a tower of 1406.

5.5 Post Medieval and Modern

- 5.5.1 Later eighteenth century maps show the site in open land to the north of the church, and the Crayford Tithe Map and the associated Award shows the site lying in pasture land.
- 5.5.2 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (1865) shows the site lying within open land bounded to the east and west by roads, north of St Paulinus Church and the centre of historic Crayford, south of the Manor House.
- 5.5.3 No subsequent changes are shown to the site until the 1938 Revised Edition Ordnance Survey, which shows the site in use as allotments, with a path running through the centre on an east-west axis.
- 5.5.4 A photo taken from the tower of St Paulinus Church in 1955 shows the western part of the site in use as allotments, and the 1975 Ordnance Survey shows the site remaining in use as allotments.
- 5.5.5 The 2010 Ordnance Survey and a 2006 aerial photograph both show the site as an open field; the photo shows the former allotment strips running north-south across the site.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The methodology for the excavation of the trenches and test pits was outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation. Eight evaluation trenches were proposed for the western and central areas of the site, in order to cover the areas to be used as a graveyard. It is proposed that the eastern area that is to be the Remembrance Garden will be subject to a Watching Brief during the layout of the garden where groundwork extends 0.30m or more below the existing ground level (Meager 2010b).
- 6.2 Trenches were positioned to provide an adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened so as to allow them to be studied, with attention given to sites and remains of all periods (inclusive of evidence of past environments).
- 6.3 The evaluation and watching brief aimed to determine, as far as was reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development. The evaluation also aimed to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- 6.4 The trenches were excavated with a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket in spits of between 100mm and 200mm, under the supervision of an archaeologist.
- 6.5 All deposits were recorded on pro forma context sheets. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at 1:10. A photographic record was also kept of all the trenches in black and white and colour slide and digital format. Bulk samples were taken from relevant contexts. Artefacts encountered in features and horizons were collected.
- A temporary benchmark, established by a PCA surveyor using GPS, was used for levelling within the trenches. This benchmark was at a height of 29.55m OD.

7 TRENCH SUMMARY

Phase 1: Natural

Phase 2: Prehistoric

Phase 3: Uncertain Date

Phase 4: Roman/Medieval

Phase 5: Medieval

Phase 6: Post-Medieval to Modern

7.1 Trench 1 (Figures 3 and 5)

Phase 1

7.1.1 The earliest deposit observed in Trench 1 was loosely compacted mid brownish-orange silty-sand [22], with gravel inclusions, that formed part of the natural geological horizon of the site.

This was encountered from 28.74m OD.

Phase 3

7.1.2 An undated small linear feature [23] was observed to be cutting the natural deposits of the trench. This was aligned northeast to southwest, being 0.40m wide, 1.96m long up to the limits of excavation, and 0.08m deep, with the possible southwest terminus being evident. The sides were observed to have a very shallow slope with a concave profile, and a concave base. The feature was filled by a loose mid orange-brown silty-sand [24], and was encountered from 28.31m OD.

Phase 5

7.1.3 Cutting through the geological deposit at the base of Trench 1 was a section of northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch [59], dated in Trench 3 to the medieval period. This was 1.60m wide, and 1.50m in observable length, which extended beyond the limits of excavation. It was filled with a concreted deposit of light greyish-yellowish-brown sandy-clayey-silt [58] with frequent chalk flecks and occasional small to medium round to sub-rounded gravels and animal bone fragments. This was encountered from 28.54m OD and extended beyond the north and south limits of excavation.

Phase 6

7.1.4 A subsoil horizon [21] was observed to sealing both [24] and [58]. This was composed of loosely compacted mid orange-brown silty-sand, containing frequent rounded and angular pebbles, moderate chalk fragments, and sherds of medieval and early post-medieval pottery. This layer was observed across the entire trench, with a thickness of 0.21m, and was encountered from 28.53m OD.

- 7.1.5 The subsoil horizon was cut by a northeast to southwest orientated linear feature [25]. This had observable dimensions of 3.40m north-south by 1.50m east-west, with a depth of 0.21m. It contained a singular fill [26] composed of loose dark greyish-brown silty-sand with frequent pebbles, moderate amounts of chalk fragments, and late post-medieval pottery. This feature was encountered from 28.48m OD, and is likely to represent activity associated with the former allotment land usage.
- 7.1.6 The trench was sealed by a layer of topsoil [20] that formed the existent ground level of the site, from a height of 29.23m OD.

7.2 Trench 2 (Figures 3 and 5)

Phase 1

7.2.1 The earliest deposit encountered Trench 2 was the natural geological deposit of the area, which was composed of a moderately compacted mid brownish-orange clayey-gravelly-sand [42], encountered at between 29.32m OD and 29.19m OD.

Phase 3

7.2.2 In the western end of the trench a tree throw [44] was observed to be cutting the natural. This was irregular in shape, with dimensions of 2.14m east-west by 1.08m north-south to the limits of excavation and a depth of 0.07m. This was filled by a deposit of friable mid orangey-brown clayey-gravelly-sand [43], which contained CBM. This feature was encountered from 29.24m OD.

Phase 5

7.2.3 A section of north-south aligned ditch [61] was observed to be cutting through natural deposit [42] within the trench. This was observed to be 1.98m wide with an observable length of 1.56m that extended beyond the limits of excavation. This was filled by moderately compacted mid orange-brown silty-clayey-sand with gravels [60], and was encountered from 29.09m OD, though the depth was not exposed in this trench.

Phase 6

- 7.2.4 The tree throw and ditch were sealed by a layer of friable mid yellowish-brown sub-soil with occasional chalk flecks [41] that was observed across the entire trenched. This was 0.13m thick and encountered from 29.36m OD. This was overlain by a placed layer of loose dark bluish-grey cinder crush [40], which was observed across the dimensions of the trench, with a thickness of 0.07m from a height of 29.42m OD.
- 7.2.5 The cinder layer was sealed by the layer of topsoil [1] which covered the area of the site, being encountered in this location between 29.61m OD and 29.51m OD.

7.3 Trench **3** (Figures 3 and 5)

7.3.1 **Phase 1**

7.3.2 The natural geological layer [19] was the earliest deposit encountered in this trench. This was composed of loose to moderately compacted mid orangey-brown to brownish-orange sandy-gravels, which became more clayey-gravelly-sand as the trench sloped downwards towards the northeast.

Phase 2

7.3.3 A probable small tree bowl [18] was observed to be cutting the natural. It was sub-ovoid in shape with sides that varied from gradual to steeply sloped and an irregular base, and was filled by friable mid yellowish-brown clayey-silty-sand [17] that contained frequent round to sub-rounded medium gravels, and a sherd of late Bronze to Iron Age pottery. This had dimensions of 0.43m by 0.36m, a depth of 0.17m, and was encountered from 29.85m OD.

Phase 3

7.3.4 A feature of unknown date [12] was encountered within Trench 3, being the likely result of tree activity. It was sub-circular in shape with varied but predominately moderately sloped sides, and a flat though irregular shaped base which broke gradually from the sides. This had dimensions of 1.56m by 0.75m to the limit of excavation, with a depth of 0.26m. It contained a fill composed of friable light yellowish-brown sandy-silt [11] with frequent round to sub-rounded small to medium gravels, and was encountered from 30.38m OD.

Phase 5

- 7.3.5 A section of the north-south aligned medieval ditch [16] was observed to be cutting the natural deposits of this trench. A slot excavated through it revealed moderately sloped sides which had a moderate break of slope to a flat base which tapered further downwards on the eastern side. This was observed to be 2.00m wide, with a length of 1.90m that extended beyond the limits of excavation, a depth of 0.46m, and was encountered from 30.01m OD. This was filled by loose mid greyish-brown clayey-gravelly-silt [15] that contained occasional pieces of pot (including a medieval sandy coarseware rim sherd dating to AD 1125 1400), burnt flint and bone.
- 7.3.6 A probable small pit [14] was additionally observed to be cutting the natural in this trench, with an observed semi-circular shape, with moderately sloped sides which broke gradually to a flat base. This contained a single fill of friable mid reddish-brown clayey-silt [13] with occasional pot of the same fabric as the ditch and dating AD 1125 1400, and had dimensions of 0.95m by 0.42m (to the limit of excavation), a depth of 0.28m, and was encountered from 30.34m OD.

Phase 6

- 7.3.7 All of the features in this trench were sealed by a loose layer of sub-soil [10] that was composed of mid greyish-brown gravelly-silt, within which evidence of allotment use in the form of the head of a garden fork was recovered. This extended across the trench, having been encountered from 30.58m OD with a thickness of 0.22m.
- 7.3.8 The trench was sealed by a layer of topsoil [1] which was observed across the entire site, forming a ground level of between 30.88m OD to 30.13m OD in this location.

7.4 Trench 4 (Figures 4 and 5)

Phase 1

7.4.1 The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was a natural geological deposit of moderately compacted mid brownish-orange sandy-clay with frequent gravels [57]. This was seen across the entire base of the trench, being encountered from 28.67m OD to 28.12m OD.

Phase 3

7.4.2 The natural geological horizon was overlain by a colluvial deposit of unknown date [56], which was composed of firm mid greyish-brown silty-sandy-clay with frequent sub-rounded to round pebbles, and was 0.10m and encountered from 28.33m OD.

Phase 6

7.4.3 Colluvium layer [56] was covered by a sub-soil deposit of firm dark brownish-grey sandy-silt [55], which contained frequent small to medium round to sub-rounded pebbles, plus occasional chalk and charcoal flecks. This was 0.23m thick and was encountered from 28.52m OD. This was sealed by topsoil deposit [1] that covered the evaluation site, which in this area gave the ground level a height of 29.01m OD to 28.56m OD.

7.5 Trench **5** (Figures 4 and 5)

Phase 1

7.5.1 The earliest of the deposits encountered in Trench 5 was composed of firm mid reddish-brown to light greyish-yellowish-brown gravelly-clayey-sand [39], which represented the underlying geological deposit of the site. It was encountered in this trench between 29.05m OD to 28.78m OD.

Phase 3

- 7.5.2 Several undated features were observed to be cutting the natural within Trench 5. A small irregular sub-ovoid cut [28] was seen in the western end of the trench, with moderate to steeply sloped sides and a flat base. This had dimensions of 0.48m by 0.34m, with a depth of 0.10m, and was encountered from 28.99m OD. This was filled by loose mid greyish-brown silty-sand [27] that contained occasional small to medium round to sub-rounded pebbles, though no cultural evidence. This feature may represent a shallow post hole or possibly natural activity such as a tree/plant bowl.
- 7.5.3 To the east of the above feature was a north-south aligned linear cut [36], measuring 0.30m in width, 0.76m in length, and 0.10m in depth, with moderately sloped sides, and a flat base that sloped downwards to the north. This contained a singular fill composed of loose mid greyish-brown silty-clayey-sand [35], with the feature being encountered from 29.00m OD.
- 7.5.4 The linear feature [36] was observed to be cut by an irregular shaped feature [34] with moderate to steeply sloped sides and an uneven base. It contained a fill composed of loose mid greyish-brown silty-clayey-sand [33], and had dimensions of 0.60m (to the limit of excavation) by 0.80m, and was encountered from 29.05m OD, with a depth of 0.20m.

Phase 4

7.5.5 A layer of colluvium [32] sealed the cut features in Trench 5. This was composed of firm mid greyish-brown silty-sandy-clay, with frequent sub-rounded and rounded pebbles and occasional chalk flecks, plus a redeposited sherd of highly abraded possibly Roman or Medieval pottery. This deposit was recorded from 29.12m OD as being 0.20m thick.

Phase 6

- 7.5.6 A 0.30m thick lens of firm dark brownish-grey sandy-silt subsoil [31] was observed to be overlying the colluvium from a height of 29.27m OD.
- 7.5.7 A 0.05m thick layer of loose cinder crush [30] was observed to have been lain upon the subsoil from a height of 29.31m OD.
- 7.5.8 In the eastern end of the trench the subsoil was truncated by a rectangular garden bed [38]. This measured 4.40m east-west by 1.00m north to south (extending beyond the northern limit of excavation), was observed to be 0.50m deep, and encountered from 28.79m OD. This was filled by a loose mid brownish-grey sandy-silt [37] observed to contain frequent small to medium subrounded and rounded pebbles, and occasional chalk flecks.
- 7.5.9 Overlying the path and garden bed was a layer of topsoil that was observed to cover the entire site [29], which in this location was seen to lie between 29.50m OD and 29.10m OD.

7.6 Trench 6 (Figures 4 and 5)

Phase 1

7.6.1 The earliest of the deposit observed within Trench 6 was the loose to moderately compacted mid brownish-orange sandy-gravels of the site's underlying natural geology [65], which varied to become more of a gravelly-clayey-sand in composition as the trench sloped downwards to the north-east. The surface of this horizon was encountered between 30.22m OD and 29.30m OD.

Phase 3

7.6.2 The natural horizon was cut by a possible small pit [64] in the southern end of the trench. This was sub-rectangular in shape, with moderately sloped sides, and a flat base which broke gradually from the sides. Dimensions of 0.65m north-south by 0.44m east-west (to the limit of excavation) with a depth of 0.24m were observed. This was filled by a loose mid orangey-brown clayey-sand [63] with frequent gravels, with the feature being encountered from 30.13m OD.

Phase 6

7.6.3 A subsoil horizon overlay the feature [64] and the natural [65] across the entire trench. This was composed of loose mid greyish-brown gravelly-silt that was 0.25m thick and encountered from 30.37m OD. The trench was then sealed by the topsoil layer that covered the site [1], recorded in this location as falling between 30.64m OD and 29.74m OD.

7.7 Trench 7 (Figures 4 and 5)

Phase 1

7.7.1 The earliest of the deposits observed in Trench 7 was a layer of firm mid yellowish-brown sandy-clay [9], with frequent rounded and sub-rounded gravels, which represented the natural geology. This was observed as falling between 28.26m OD and 28.18m OD.

Phase 3

7.7.2 A tree throw [4] of uncertain date was observed to be cutting through the natural horizon. This contained a single fill of loose mid greyish-brown sandy-silt [3], with moderate amounts of small to medium rounded to sub-rounded pebbles and possibly struck flint. The feature was irregular in shape, with moderately sloped sides and an irregular base. The observable dimensions within the trench measured 1.10m by 3.06m, with a depth of 0.18m, and the feature was encountered from 28.18m OD.

Phase 6

- 7.7.3 Two furrows were observed in the southeast end of the trench. Both were linear and aligned east-west, with moderately sloped sides. Furrow [6] had an uneven, though near flat base, was 0.40m wide, 2.60m long to the limit of excavation, 0.05m deep, and observed from 28.26m OD. The second furrow [8] had a flat base, was 0.64m wide, 0.40m in length up to the limit of excavation, 0.05m deep, and was encountered at 28.26m OD. Both of the furrows were filled by loose mid to dark greyish-brown sandy-silt with frequent small to medium round and sub-rounded pebbles and post-medieval CBM fragments, defined as fills [5] and [7] respectively.
- 7.7.4 All of the cut features in the trench were sealed by a layer of sub-soil [2] that was composed of loose mid brownish-grey sandy-silty-clay containing frequent small to medium round to sub-round pebbles and chalk flecks. This was observed to be 0.10m thick and encountered from 28.33m OD. This in turn was overlain by topsoil [1] that sealed the trench and formed the existing ground level of the site at a height of 28.65m OD to 28.60m OD.

7.8 Trench **8** (Figures 4 and 5)

Phase 1

7.8.1 The earliest deposit observed within Trench 8 was composed of loose mid brownish-orange sandy-gravel [47] which became more of a gravelly-sand towards the northern end of the trench. This was the natural geological horizon and was observed as lying between 30.08m OD and 29.42m OD.

Phase 3

- 7.8.2 Three features of uncertain date were observed to be cut into the natural horizon in the western half of the trench. In the western-most end of the trench was observed an ovoid feature [48], measuring 0.80m north-south by 0.29m east-west, with a depth of 0.12m. This had moderately sloped concave sides, a concave base, and a singular fill composed of loose mid orangey-brown sandy-gravels [49], with the feature being encountered from 30.07m OD.
- 7.8.3 A second oval shaped cut [53] was also observed, with moderately steep concave sides and an irregular base. This was encountered from 29.93m OD, with dimensions of 0.58m OD north-south by 0.44m OD east-west, and a depth of 0.08m. A single fill [54] was contained within the cut, being composed of loose mid orangey- brown silty-sand with a moderate amount of pebbles as inclusions.

7.8.4 The third feature [50] was irregular in shape, with irregular sides that varied between being steeply and moderately sloped, and a flat base. This had dimensions of 0.84m (to the limit of excavation) by 0.70m, a depth of 0.34m, and was encountered from 30.13m OD. Two fills were observed. The primary fill was composed of loose mid orangey-brown sandy-gravels [51], contained burnt flint, was 0.19m thick, and was encountered from 30.13m OD. The secondary fill [52] was composed of loose mid brown silty-sand with occasional rounded gravels, and was 0.30m thick and encountered from 30.13m OD.

Phase 6

7.8.5 The features in this trench were sealed by a layer of subsoil [46], which was encountered from 30.30m OD and was 0.13m thick, and composed of loose mid orangey-brown silty-sand with very frequent pebbles and occasional chalk fragments. This was overlain by a 0.28m thick layer of topsoil [45] which sealed the trench and formed the existing surface horizon of the trench, observed from 30.61m OD to 29.78m OD.

8 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

8.1 Phase 1: Natural

8.1.1 Lambeth Group deposits of the site's underlying geology were exposed in all eight of the trenches excavated during the evaluation (referred to as [22], [42], [19], [57], [39], [65], [9], and [47]). The proportional composition of this geology varied across the site, with a significantly higher proportion of gravels observed in the three southernmost trenches which were positioned on the highest area of the site.

8.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric

8.2.1 A small probable tree bowl was the only feature encountered on the site which contained evidence of prehistoric activity, with a single small piece of flint-tempered pottery that probably dates to the late Bronze Age to the Iron Age being recovered from the fill [17]. However, as this sherd was quite small, abraded, and within a natural feature it can be assumed that it is redeposited, though indicative of activity from this period within the vicinity.

8.3 Phase 3: Uncertain Date

- 8.3.1 The majority of the features examined during the excavation failed to yield any dating evidence.

 Many of these features are likely to represent natural activity, such as the tree bowls observed in

 Trenches 2, 3, 5, 7, and also the colluvial layer observed within Trench 4.
- 8.3.2 There were also a number of features encountered that may have been produced by human activity, with possible pits observed in Trenches 6 and 8, and the linear features in Trenches 1 and 6. However, the lack of anthropogenic evidence in these features makes dating impossible, and in cases also makes a definitive interpretation difficult, such as with the possible pits.

8.4 Phase 4: Roman/Medieval

8.4.1 Colluvial layer [32] in Trench 5 contained two sherds of sandy oxidised ware that are likely to date to either the Roman or medieval period. This was the only deposit in which pottery from this period was exclusively found. However the small and abraded condition of the material, and its presence in a colluvial deposit, indicates that it is clearly redeposited.

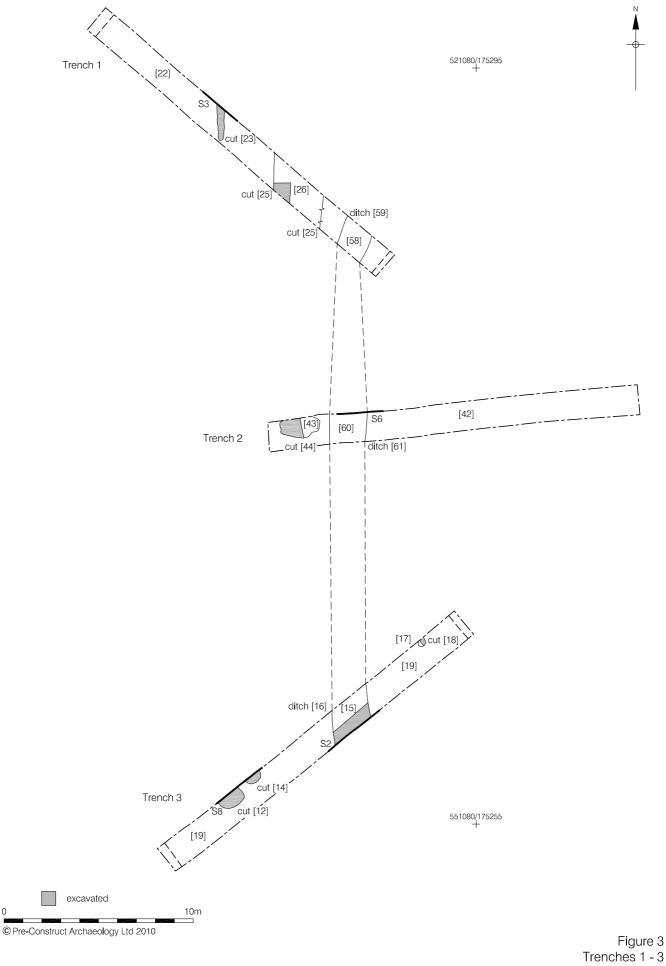
8.5 Phase 5: Medieval

8.5.1 The evaluation encountered two features that contained medieval evidence. A large north-south aligned ditch was identified in Trenches 1, 2, and 3, and recorded as [59], [61] and [16] respectively. Four sherds of sandy coarseware, dating to 1125-1400, were recovered from within the fill [15] in Trench 3, and the un-abraded nature of these sherds suggests that they may be contemporary with the ditch.

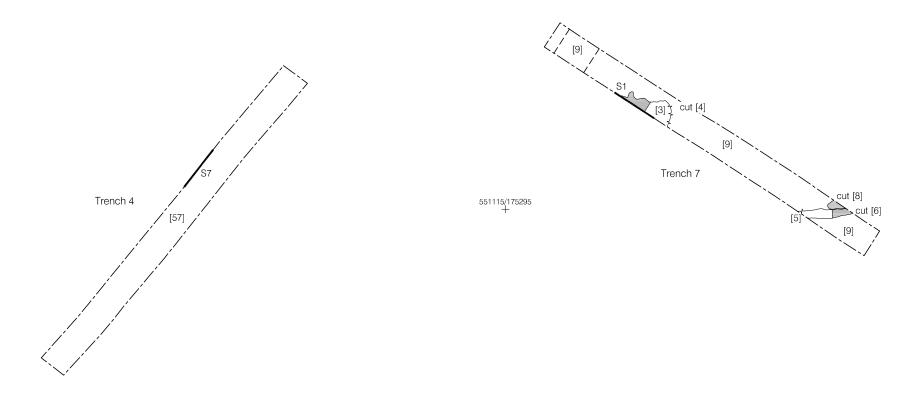
8.5.2 Also in Trench 3 a small pit [14] contained a further single sherd of the same medieval coarseware as recovered from the above mentioned ditch.

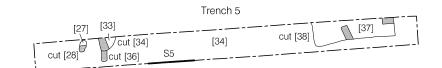
8.6 Phase 6: Post-Medieval to Modern

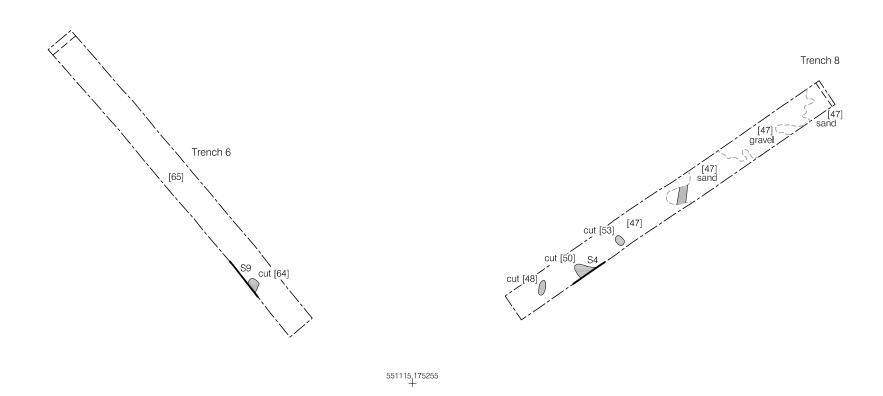
- 8.6.1 During the post-medieval period the site is known from cartographic evidence to have been part of agricultural land, followed by allotments. The features seen across from this period reflect these forms of land usage, with evidence of a likely allotment bed [38] in Trench 5, furrows [6] and [8] in Trench 7, and a further feature [25] likely to have been associated with allotment activity seen in Trench 1, possibly another bed.
- 8.6.2 A layer of crushed cinder was observed in both Trenches 2 and 5, recorded as [40] and [30] respectively. It is likely that this also relates to the site's use as an allotment, with it probably having been laid to form a path of sorts.
- 8.6.3 Subsoil deposits are also known to date from this period, and were observed in all of the trenches. Two such deposits contained dating material. In Trench 1 subsoil [21] contained a further sherd of medieval coarseware, and also a fragment of tin glazed ware dated to 1570-1800. In Trench 8 the subsoil [46] contained a possible sherd of Roman colour-coat pottery, yet another sherd of medieval coarseware, and piece of post-medieval whiteware dish rim dated to 1550-1800. This evidence indicates that the subsoil deposits across the site date to post 1800.
- 8.6.4 The same horizon of topsoil was observed to be sealing the entire site.



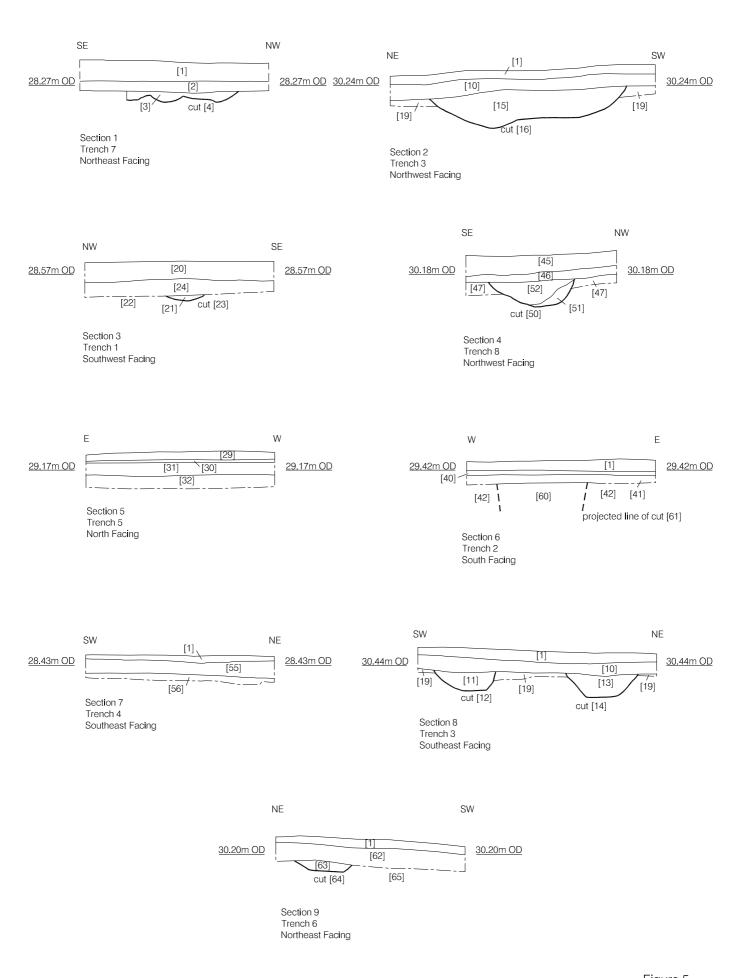












9 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 The evaluation revealed the natural topography of the study site to be one of its key features. The landscape can be observed as having the highest point to the south of the site, upon which the church is situated, and the land then slopes downwards towards the north, where it forms the southern side of a valley just outside of the site's northern boundary.
- 9.2 Each of the trenches excavated upon the study site revealed the underlying geology of the site.

 The composition of the natural geology was shown to be a reflection of the topography of the site itself, with a higher concentration of gravels observed in the southernmost trenches that were positioned at the highest point of the site's natural gradient.
- 9.3 The most notable archaeological evidence observed during the evaluation was the large north-south aligned ditch that was recorded in Trenches 1, 2, and 3 which were positioned in the western area of the site. Pottery contained within its fill in Trench 3 dated to the 12th-14th centuries, which is in line with the date of the establishment of the church of St Paulinus to the south of the site in *c* 1200, suggesting that it may be linked to land usage activity of the era. A small pit was also observed to the west of the ditch in Trench 3 with a comparable piece of pottery suggesting the same date.
- 9.4 Further possible features were observed including possible small pits in Trenches 6 and 8, and a small linear feature in Trench 1, though none of these produced any datable evidence.
- 9.5 A number of natural features, such as tree bowls and colluvial layers, were also recorded. Whilst some of these did contain datable pottery, all such sherds were likely to have been redeposited.
- 9.6 All of the observed evidence from the post-medieval period was seen to be consistent with that expected to be produced from the agricultural and allotment land usage during this period, with furrows and likely allotment beds being seen.
- 9.7 It is of particular note that all of the possible pre-allotment non-linear and potentially cultural features were observed to be in the southernmost trenches and therefore on the highest areas of somewhat flatter land, as opposed to being positioned on the slope or towards the valley. This suggests that the main focal point for any potential land usage and settlement activity across any prehistoric and historic periods is likely to have been on the highest point of ground to the south of the site where St Paulinus is situated. The occurrence of redeposited pottery sherds across the site also supports the notion that settlement activity may have been focused to the south of the site, with such sherds having been 'washed' down the hill slope.

10 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank CgMs for commissioning the work on behalf of Fairview New Homes Limited, particularly Richard Meager. We also would like to thank Mark Stevenson of English Heritage for monitoring the work. Gratitude is extended to Russell Stoneham for granting access to the land to the south of the study site.
- 10.2 The author would like to thank Tim Bradley and Chris Mayo for their project management, Jenny Simonson for the illustrations, Sophie White for logistics, and Berni Sudds for the pottery spot dates. Thanks are also extended to Jim Heathcote and John Payne for their on-site work and assistance.

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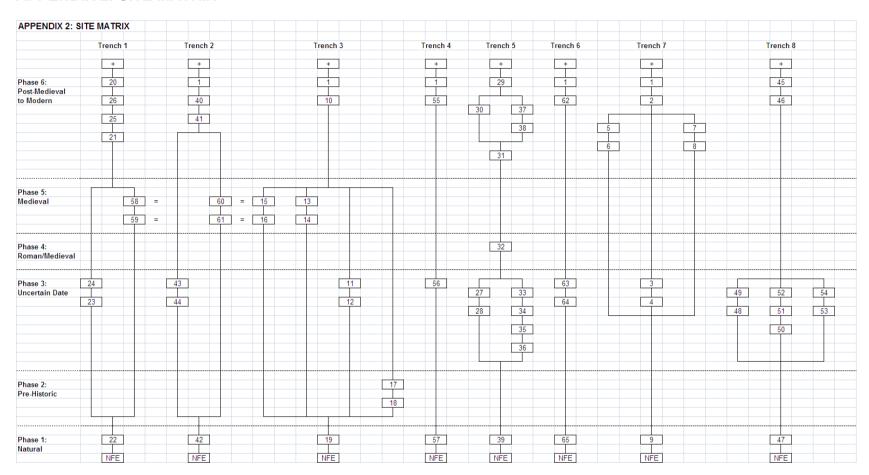
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Plan	Section / Elevation	Туре	Description	Date	Phase
1	-	1	Layer	Existent Top Soil	Post-Medieval	6
		2 6				
		7				
		8				
		9				
2	-	1	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
3	Tr 7	1	Fill	Fill Of Tree Thrown [4]	Uncertain	3
4	Tr 7	1	Cut	Tree Throw	Uncertain	3
5	Tr 7	-	Fill	Fill Of Plough Furrow [6]	Post-Medieval	6
6	Tr 7	-	Cut	Plough Furrow	Post-Medieval	6
7	-	-	Fill	Fill Of Plough Furrow [8]	Post-Medieval	6
8	Tr 7	-	Cut	Plough Furrow	Post-Medieval	6
9	Tr 7	-	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	Dood Modicand	1
10	-	2 8	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
11	-	8	Fill	Fill Of Tree Throw [12]	Uncertain	3
12	Tr 3	8	Cut	Tree Throw	Uncertain	3
13	-	6	Fill	Fill Of Pit [14]	Medieval	5
14	Tr 3	8	Cut	Small Pit	Medieval	5
15	Tr 3	2	Fill	Fill Of Ditch [16]	Medieval	5
16	Tr 3	2	Cut	North-South Aligned Ditch	Medieval	5
17	Tr 3	-	Fill	Fill Of [18]	Pre-Historic	2
18	Tr 3	-	Cut	Small Tree/Plant Bowl	Pre-Historic	2
19	Tr 3	2 8	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1
20	-	3	Layer	Existent Top Soil	Post-Medieval	6
21	-	3	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
22	Tr 1	3	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1
23	Tr 1	3	Cut	North-South Aligned Linear	Uncertain	3
24	-	3	Fill	Fill Of [23]	Uncertain	3
25	Tr 1	-	Cut	Possible Allotment Feature	Post-Medieval	6
26	Tr 1	-	Fill	Fill Of [25]	Post-Medieval	6
27	Tr 5	-	Fill	Fill Of [28]	Uncertain	3
28	Tr 5	-	Cut	Possible Small Tree Bowl	Uncertain	3
29	-	5	Layer	Top Soil	Post-Medieval	6
30	- T	5	Layer	Cinder Path	Post-Medieval	6
31	Tr 5	5	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
32	- T., E	5	Layer	Colluvial Deposit	Roman/Medieval	4
33	Tr 5	-	Fill	Fill Of [34]	Uncertain	3
34	Tr 5	-	Cut	Possible Tree Bowl	Uncertain	3
35	- Tr 5	-	Fill	Fill Of [36]	Uncertain	3
36	Tr 5	-	Cut	North-South Aligned Linear	Uncertain	
37	- T= 5	-	Fill	Soil Within Allotment Bed [38]	Post-Medieval	6
38	Tr 5	-	Cut	Allotment Bed	Post-Medieval	6

An Archaeological Evaluation on Land Between Perry Street and Manor Road, Crayford, Kent. ©Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, September 2010

39	Tr 5	-	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1
40	-	6	Layer	Cinder Path	Post-Medieval	6
41	-	6	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
42	Tr 2	6	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1
43	Tr 2	-	Fill	Fill Of Tree Throw [44]	Uncertain	3
44	Tr 2	-	Cut	Tree Throw	Uncertain	3
45	-	4	Layer	Top Soil	Post-Medieval	6
46	-	4	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
47	Tr 8	4	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1
48	Tr 8	-	Cut	Ovoid Feature	Uncertain	3
49	-	-	Fill	Fill Of [48]	Uncertain	3
50	Tr 8	4	Cut	NW-SE Aligned Linear	Uncertain	3
51	-	4	Fill	Primary Fill Of [50]	Uncertain	3
52	-	4	Fill	Secondary Fill Of [50]	Uncertain	3
53	Tr 8	-	Cut	Shallow Oval Feature	Uncertain	3
54	-	-	Fill	Fill Of [53]	Uncertain	3
55	-	7	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
56	-	7	Layer	Colluvial Deposit	Uncertain	3
57	Tr 4	-	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1
58	Tr 1	-	Fill	Fill Of [59]	Medieval	5
59	Tr 1	-	Cut	Medieval Ditch	Medieval	5
60	Tr 2	-	Fill	Fill Of [61]	Medieval	5
61	Tr 2	-	Cut	N-S Aligned Medieval Ditch	Medieval	5
62	-	9	Layer	Sub Soil	Post-Medieval	6
63	-	9	Fill	Fill Of [64]	Uncertain	3
64	Tr 6	9	Cut	Possible Small Pit	Uncertain	3
65	Tr 6	9	Layer	Natural Geological Horizon	-	1

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: FINDS ASSESSMENT

Pottery spot date (PEO 10)

By Berni Sudds

The pottery recovered from Perry Street/ Manor Road includes material of prehistoric and potentially Roman date but the majority of the small assemblage dates to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The pottery types and dates are listed below by context along with a provisional date of deposition.

A single sherd of flint-tempered pottery was retrieved from fill [17] that is fairly small and abraded but probably dates to the late Bronze Age to Iron Age. The Roman assemblage includes a residual colour-coated sherd from fill [46] and possibly two oxidised sherds from fill [32]. The latter are very small and abraded, however, and may be later in date but are evidently re-deposited in this context. Further fabric analysis may provide a more definitive date.

The medieval assemblage is comprised of local sandy coarsewares including a diagnostic jar from fill [15] dating from the 12th to 14th century. Most of the sherds are fairly small and abraded but the jar rim and body sherds from [15] are quite fresh. It is possible the two oxidised sherds from fill [32] may also be of medieval date but it is difficult to be certain in the absence of further fabric analysis and comparison.

The post-medieval pottery includes a post-medieval whiteware dish rim similar to the Surrey-Hampshire Border wares but possibly of more local origin, a tin-glazed vessel and a transfer-printed ware bowl or dish rim.

Context	Pottery type	Date range	No.	Provisional dating
13	Medieval sandy coarseware	1125 – 1400	1	1125 – 1400
15	Medieval sandy coarseware (including jar with flat-topped rim)	1125 – 1400	4	1125 – 1400
17	Flint-tempered	Late Bronze Age – Iron Age	1	Late Bronze Age – Iron Age
21	Medieval sandy coarseware (fresh break)	1125 – 1400	1	1570 – 1800
	Tin-glazed ware	1570 – 1800	1	
26	Transfer-printed ware	1780 – 1900	1	1780 – 1900
32	Sandy oxidised ware	?Roman/ medieval	2	Roman or medieval (re-deposited)
46	?Roman colour-coat	?Roman	1	1550 - 1800
	Medieval sandy coarseware	1125 – 1400	1	
	Post-medieval whiteware dish rim	1550 – 1700/1800	1	

Table 1: Dating table.

APPENDIX 4: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-83179

Project details

Project name Land Between Perry St and Manor Road, Crayford

Short description of the project

An archaeological evaluation of 8 trenches was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd in advance of redevelopment of land between Perry Street and Manor Road, Crayford, Kent. A large north-south aligned ditch that contained medieval pottery was observed within the three trenches on the western side of the site, with a small pit with comparable pottery also in the southern most of these trenches. A number of other possible small pits were examined in the south central and southeast trenches, along with a small linear in the northwest trench. However no dating evidence was able to be recovered from these. There were numerous natural features across the site, such as tree bowls and colluvial layers, and whilst some of these did contain diagnostic pottery this would have been redeposited. Additionally there were features observed in several of the trenches that are most likely related to the latter phases of the site's history as agricultural land followed by allotments.

Project dates Start: 13-09-2010 End: 17-09-2010

Previous/future

work

No / Yes

Any associated project reference codes

PEO 10 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Other 1 - Allotment

Monument type DITCH Medieval

Monument type PITS Uncertain

Monument type GARDEN Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds **POTTERY Late Prehistoric**

Methods & techniques 'Sample Trenches'

Development type Large/ medium scale extensions to existing structures (e.g. church, school,

hospitals, law courts, etc.)

Development type **Graveyard Extension**

Planning condition Prompt

Position in the

After full determination (eg. As a condition) planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON BEXLEY CRAYFORD Land Between Manor Rd and

Perry St, Crayford

Postcode DA 14

Study area 5710.41 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 511 752 51.4550727072 0.175023435996 51 27 18 N 000 10 30 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 28.12m Max: 30.36m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator

CgMs Consulting

Project design originator

Richard Meager

Project

director/manager

Tim Bradley / Chris Mayo

Project supervisor Sarah Barrowman Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Fairview New Homes Ltd.

Name of sponsor/funding

body

Fairview New Homes Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive

PEO 10

ID

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Worked stone/lithics'

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PCA

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED

UNIT 54

BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE

96 ENDWELL ROAD

BROCKLEY

LONDON SE4 2PD

TEL: 020 7732 3925 020 7639 9091

FAX: 020 7639 9588

EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED (NORTHERN OFFICE)

UNIT 19A

TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK

DURHAM DH6 5PG

TEL: 0191 377 1111

FAX: 0191 377 0101

EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

