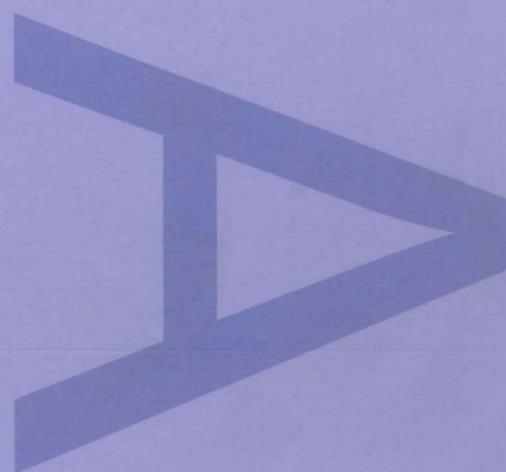
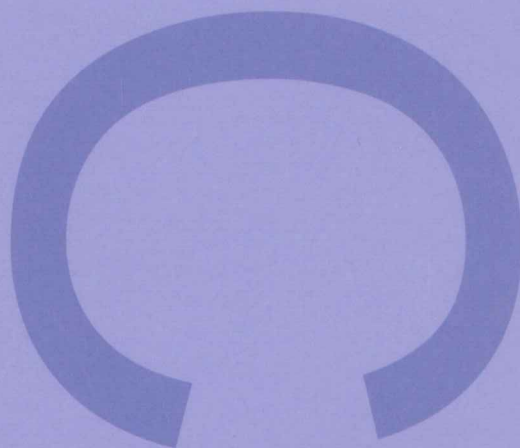
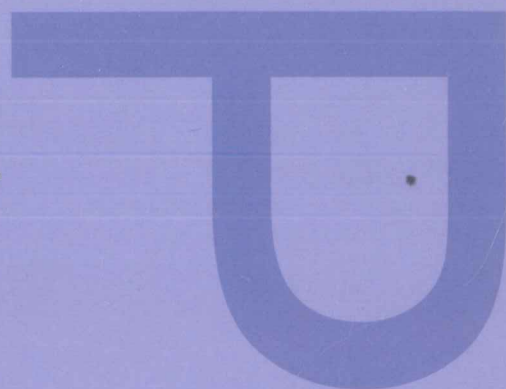


**VICARAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL
VICARAGE LANE
EAST HAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF
NEWHAM**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

MARCH 2011

VIC 11



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION



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Type of project

Archaeological Evaluation

Quality Control

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An Archaeological Evaluation at Vicarage Primary School, Vicarage Lane,
Newham, E6 6AD

Site Code: VIC11

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 4280 8280

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March 2011

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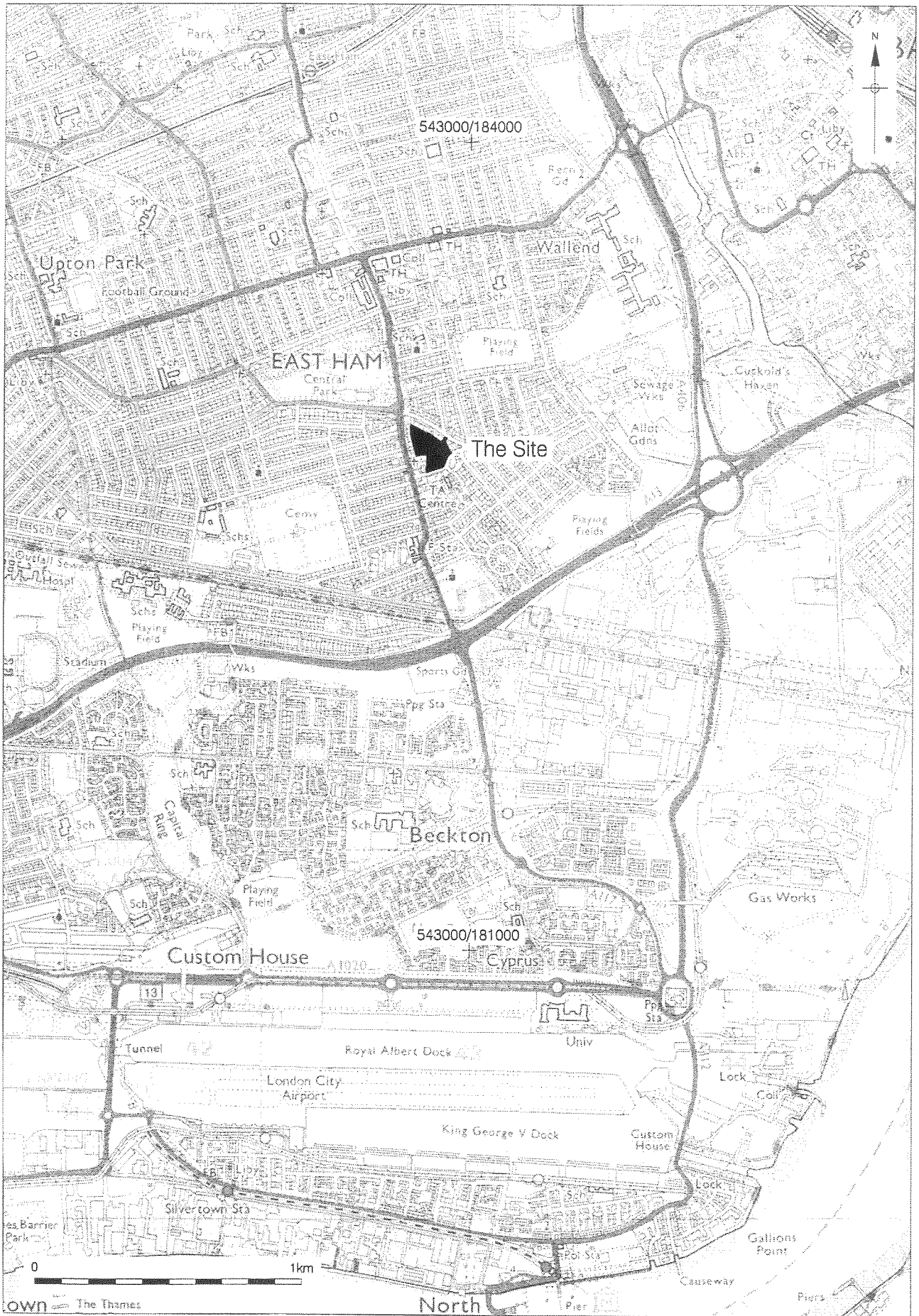
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken at Vicarage Primary School, Vicarage Lane, Newham, E6 6AD. The work was carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd from the 21st to the 25th February. It was project managed by Gary Brown of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and supervised by the author.
- 1.2 Three trenches were excavated during the evaluation, two in the playground area close to Vicarage Lane (Trenches 1 and 2) with a third (Trench 3) in a grassed area towards the north west corner of the site.
- 1.3 The earliest deposit encountered consisted of a layer of natural terrace gravel sealed by a layer of brickearth. These naturally derived sediments were covered by a potential agricultural soil in Trenches 2 and 3 and by a thick deposit of post-medieval made ground in Trench 1. A brick culvert of late post-medieval date was also unearthed in Trench 1, along with the foundations of one or more brick buildings of a similar date. These walls may form part of the vicarage or an associated outbuilding that records indicate was built on the site in 1831. At least one wall post-dating 1831 was found, suggesting that the structure was modified or rebuilt at a later date. A post-medieval ditch was observed in Trench 2, which truncated the subsoil, and a potential posthole was also recorded in Trench 3.

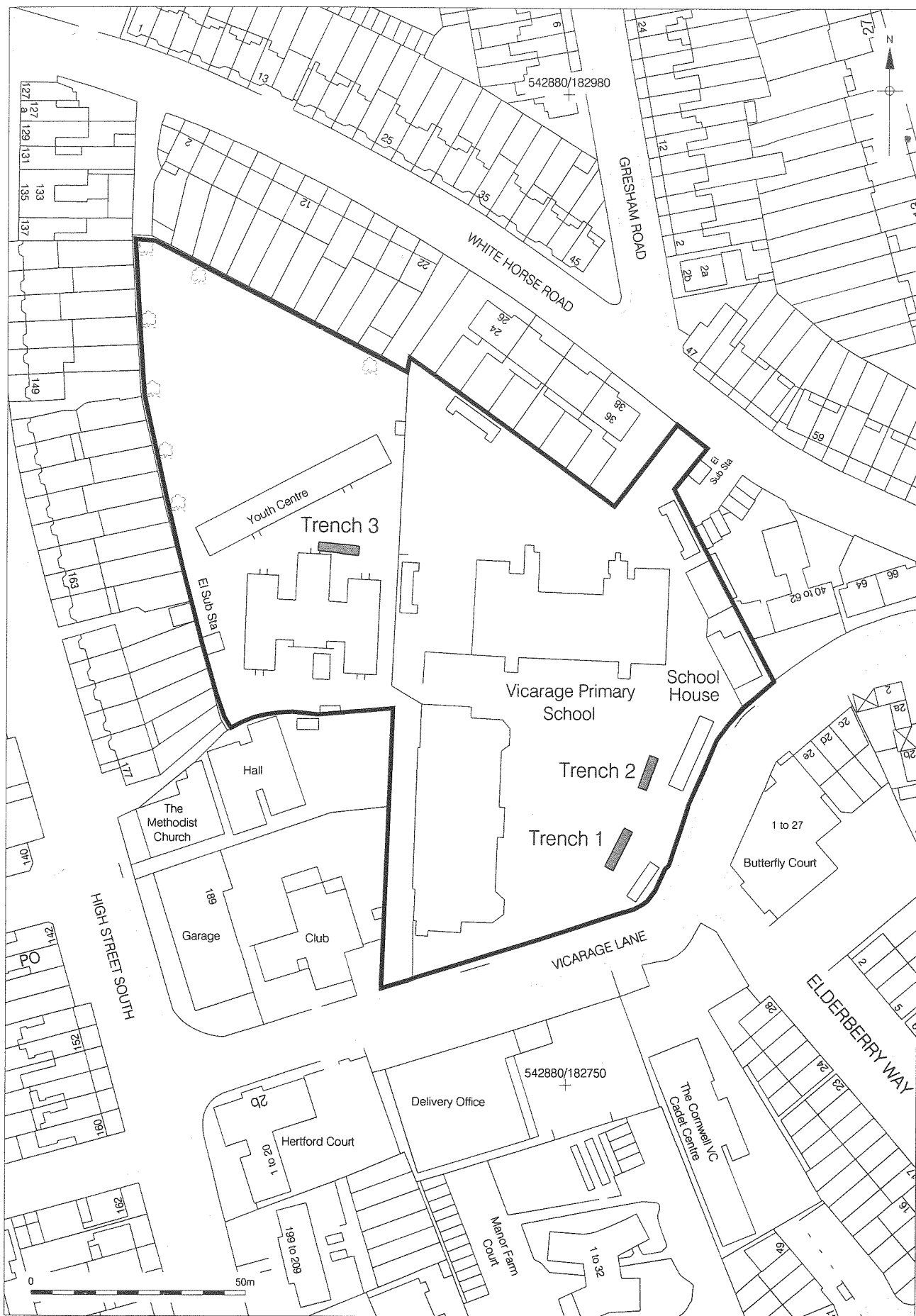
2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. on land at Vicarage Primary School, Vicarage Lane, London Borough of Newham, E6 6AD, in advance of a proposed extension to the school (Figure 1). The evaluation was conducted between 21st and 25th February and was commissioned by Laing O'Rourke.
- 2.2 The site is bounded to the north and east by residential properties fronting White Horse Road, bounded to the west by residential properties along High Street South, bounded to the southwest by a number of public buildings including a Hall, Club House and Methodist Chapel and bounded to the south by Vicarage Lane (Figure 2).
- 2.3 The National Grid Reference of the site is TQ.4280 8280
- 2.4 The project was monitored by Dr Jane Siddel of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), project managed by Gary Brown and supervised by the author.



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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:1,250 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In March 2010 the Department of the Environment issued Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5) "Planning for the Historic Environment", providing guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the preservation and investigation of archaeological remains (<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1514132.pdf>).
- 3.2 In short, government policies provide a framework which:
- Protect Scheduled Ancient Monuments;
 - Protect the settings of these sites;
 - Protect nationally important un-scheduled ancient monuments;
 - Has a presumption in favour of *in situ* preservation;
 - In appropriate circumstances, requires adequate information (from field evaluation) to enable informed decisions; and
 - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not important enough to merit *in situ* preservation
- 3.3 In considering any proposal for development, the local planning authority will be mindful of the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance PPS5, of existing development plan policy and of other material considerations.
- 3.4 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. These objectives are summarised in the Borough's draft "Unitary Development Plan" (2001), which states:

Archaeology: Investigation, Excavation and Protection

Para. 3.114

"Archaeological remains often provide the only evidence of the Borough's past. These are a finite and fragile resource very vulnerable to modern development and land use. The archaeology of the Borough is a community asset which should be preserved and the needs of the development balanced and assessed against this. Early considerations of and consultation on archaeological issues will maximise preservation in accordance with 'PPG 16 Archaeology and Planning'. The destruction of such remains should be avoided if possible and either left in situ if the remains are of national, or particular local interest, or excavated and recorded prior to development where remains are of lesser importance. Site layouts designed to retain archaeological features intact will be considered favourably by the Council."

Para. 3.115

"The Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS-part of English Heritage) provide impartial advice to Newham Council. Sites of potential archaeological importance, to which this policy relates, can be defined as any site within and Archaeological Priority Area (APA). APAs are defined by GLAAS as areas having particular interest or value (please refer to Map EQ6), or as

sites where it can be reasonably shown from existing sources of information (most notably the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record) that some remains of archaeological importance may survive. For further information please refer to the SPG Note No. 19 'Archaeological Code of Practice'. An archaeological assessment (either a desktop or a primary field investigation) will normally be required for any development involving a site more than 0.4 acres within an APA. The Council will also require such an assessment for smaller sites within the APAs, and sites outside the APAs, where this is clearly justified by the archaeological sensitivity of the site. Developers should undertake early consultation with the Council, and recognised archaeological organisations, to avoid uncertainty and later delays."

POLICY EQ43:

THE COUNCIL WILL PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE OF THE BOROUGH. DEVELOPERS OF SITES OF POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE A WRITTEN REPORT, AS PART OF THE APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION, ON THE RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OR FIELD EVALUATION CARRIED OUT BY A SUITABLY QUALIFIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTRACTOR; AND WHEN REMAINS OF IMPORTANCE ARE IDENTIFIED, THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK PRESERVATION OF THE REMAINS IN SITU. ON OTHER IMPORTANT SITES, WHERE THE BALANCE OF OTHER FACTORS IS IN FAVOUR OF GRANTING PLANNING PERMISSION BY MEANS OF THE IMPOSITION OF CONDITIONS ON THE GRANT OF PLANNING PERMISSION, AND POSSIBLY BY LEGAL AGREEMENTS, THE COUNCIL WILL ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE PROVISION IS MADE FOR THE PROTECTION, EXCAVATION AND RECORDING OF REMAINS, AND THE SUBSEQUENT PUBLICATION OF THE RECORDS OF EXCAVATION, PROVIDING A WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION, INCLUDING RECORDS OF FINDS.

Para. 3.116

The council will promote co-operation between land owners, developers and archaeological organisations in accordance with the British Archaeologists' and Developers' Liaison Group Code.

- 3.5 The site is located within an 'Archaeological Priority Area' as defined by the London Borough of Newham, associated with the historic road High Street South. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the development area.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The site is situated on Taplow Gravels overlying London Clay (British Geological Survey of England & Wales, Sheet 257, 1998). These gravels are Quaternary in date and were deposited by fluvial action during the Upper Palaeolithic (c.1200-9500 BC).

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 The site is situated on low lying ground close to the River Roding, which is located approximately 950m to the east of the site. The River Thames can be found 1.2km to the south.
- 4.2.2 The site is relatively flat with a very gentle downward slope from north to south. Little topographic variation was observed from east to west. Modern ground level varied between a maximum of 2.95m OD to the immediate east of the northern-most trench (Trench 3) and a minimum of 2.54m OD at the southern end of the southern-most trench (Trench 1).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The following archaeological and historic background is taken from the "Archaeological and Historical Background" section of "*An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment of Vicarage Primary School, Vicarage Lane, London Borough of Newham, E6 6AD*" (Fairman 2010, p.13-19).
- 5.2 **Palaeolithic**
- 5.2.1 Several unstratified Palaeolithic flint artefacts were found in the vicinity of the site in the late 19th century. Although their exact provenance is unknown, they were almost certainly originally stratified within the Taplow Terrace gravel and therefore represent chance finds that have been moved from their primary depositional contexts by fluvial action.
- 5.3 **Early Holocene (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age)**
- 5.3.1 The terrace gravels and the overlying silts, clays and peats of the Rivers Thames and Roding represent a series of palaeoenvironments that possessed considerable biodiversity, capable of providing rich resources to past populations. Characterised by relatively dry gravel eyots interspersed with channels and marshes, this environment provided areas of dry land suitable for settlement in close proximity to the bountiful plant and animal life that could be found in the adjacent wet areas. This ecosystem was not static, as the sedimentary record demonstrates that repeated transgressions and regressions caused by fluxing water levels took place throughout the early Holocene. The archaeological record suggests that this environment was extensively exploited by man throughout prehistory.
- 5.3.2 A number of unstratified Bronze and Iron Age artefacts were unearthed at Old Barn, approximately 400m to the northwest of the site. These included a "Bronze Celt", a Ptolemaic bronze coin and an early Iron Age currency bar. In the churchyard of St Mary Magdalene, under 500m to the south of the site, several fragments of late Iron Age pottery were discovered in the throw of a fallen tree that was blown over in the hurricane of 1987.
- 5.3.3 An excavation previously undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology at the subject site revealed a drainage ditch, aligned east-west, which had been revetted with a line of stakeholes along its northern and southern edges. A retouched scraper and some daub, typologically dated to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age, were redeposited within this feature. It was cut into a deposit of brickearth, suggesting that the area occupied by the site was reasonably dry and suitable for human habitation in the early Holocene.
- 5.3.4 A number of excavations at the Iron Age hillfort of Uphall Camp have been undertaken from 1960 onwards. Eleven round houses, "granaries" and a number of ditches and enclosures were recorded, along with a fragmentary Middle Iron Age burial. However, Uphall Camp is situated in Ilford, several kilometers from the evaluation site at Vicarage School.

5.3.5 Numerous other excavations have been undertaken in the wider environs, which provide evidence of widespread prehistoric occupation and exploitation of the gravel eyots and marshland environments that could once be found in this area. Timber and brushwood trackways were found at Bridge Road in Rainham, Highbridge Road in Barking and Beckton Evelyn Dennington Road Development in Beckton. At Fort Street, Silvertown, a potential timber track way was unearthed, which ran along the interface of an eyot and the marsh. Investigations at the junction between Woolwich Manor Way and the A13 Newham Way revealed an *in situ* early Neolithic artefact scatter and a Bronze Age timber structure.

5.4 Roman

5.4.1 A major Roman road linking London and Colchester has been located several kilometres to the north of the site, on the approximate course of Romford Road. It has been hypothesised that subsidiary roads may have followed the courses of Green Street and East Ham High Street to the northwest and west of Vicarage School, linking this road with the Thames.

5.4.2 Late 19th century building work undertaken during the construction of the Northern Outfall Sewer and situated 0.8km to the west of St Mary Magdalene Church, revealed a number of Roman burials. Grave digging in the church of St Mary Magdalene also unearthed fragments of Roman pottery and tile. This suggests that a Roman settlement may have existed in the vicinity of the church, to the south of the site.

5.4.3 On Vicarage Lane itself, a short distance to the southeast of the site, an evaluation undertaken of the Cadet Unit led to the recovery of one sherd of residual Roman pottery that had been pressed into the top of the natural brickearth.

5.5 Saxo-Norman

5.5.1 The first documentary reference to the settlement of "Hamme" was made in 958AD when King Edgar granted a tract of land to Ealdorman Athelston of East Anglia. No division appears to have been made between East and West Ham at this time.

5.5.2 The *Domesday* survey of 1085 records three manors called Ham, which means as "low-lying pasture". One of these, which consisted of two hides owned by Westminster Abbey, was almost certainly situated in the location of modern East Ham. The *Domesday* survey suggests that the main focus of the settlement lay to the south of the site at this time, mirroring the pattern of Roman occupation. Although there was a great deal of forest clearance after the Norman Conquest, the area occupied by Vicarage School was most probably wooded.

5.6 Medieval

5.6.1 Records suggest that, whilst the settlement of West Ham gradually grew, increasing in importance throughout the medieval period, East Ham fell into decline. Records concerning the "great flood" of 1236 allude to the destruction of a settlement just outside East Ham, and it is possible that repeated inundations occurred throughout the medieval period, culminating in the deluges of the 14th and 15th centuries. Repeated flooding of the low lying land upon which East Ham was built may therefore have dissuaded any further development of the area at this time.

- 5.6.2 The site is thought to lie near the boundary of the Manor of East Ham Hall with the Manor of East Ham Burnells and West Ham Burnells. It is probably situated within the former, although the pattern of medieval settlement and land division in the area is not well understood.
- 5.6.3 The earliest historical reference to the Manor of East Ham Hall dates to 1267. By the early 14th century, it was owned by Langthorne Abbey. The manor house is believed to have been situated approximately 300m to the south of Vicarage Lane, on the site of a later two storey replacement (constructed in the 19th century and demolished in the 1930s).
- 5.6.4 In 1311 the adjacent Manor of East Ham Burnells and West Ham Burnells, otherwise known as "Burnells Free", was the property of the Haudlo family before being enlarged by the Hungerford family. Although East Ham Burnells and West Ham Burnells remained under the same ownership, they were viewed as two separate manors from the 16th century onwards. The manor house of the Burnells Free estate is thought to have been situated roughly 250m to the north of the site, although its exact position is not known. Its approximate location has been inferred from field names such as "Burnells Down".
- 5.6.5 An excavation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology at Vicarage School unearthed a drainage ditch, several gullies, postholes and intercutting pits, which yielded a large quantity of material that is thought to date to 950 AD to 1150 AD. The large ditch was aligned northwest-southeast and was situated in the southeast corner of the excavation area. No contemporary finds or features were found to the north of this boundary, suggesting that it could represent a land or property division that remained in use during later periods. A series of post holes around one of the gullies led to a potential interpretation as a sluice mechanism. The latest phase of medieval activity found during this excavation consisted of a series of probable 15th century rubbish pits.
- 5.6.6 The Church of St. Mary Magdalene, located approximately 450m to the south of the study site, is a listed building. Whilst the earliest phase of the existing structure was probably constructed in the 12th century, a church and burial ground may have been situated here as early as the 10th century.

5.7 Early to Mid Post Medieval

- 5.7.1 After the reformation and dissolution of the monasteries, the King awarded the manor of East Ham Hall to Richard Breame, whose family retained ownership for several centuries. One notable descendant, Giles Breame, died in 1621 leaving most of his estate to be sold for the building and endowment of Almshouses. Two of these were constructed approximately 150m to the west of the site, fronting the western side of East Ham Manor Road (now known as High Street South).
- 5.7.2 In the late 17th century, only 79 houses were listed within the parish. Two of these were the Almshouses described above, which suggests that the site was close to, but not necessarily in, an area of habitation. The site most likely consisted of agricultural land or pasture at this time.

5.8 18th and 19th Centuries

- 5.8.1 Agriculture remained an important industry in the East Ham area until the 19th century. Market gardens produced potatoes, turnips and other garden produce on a commercial scale from at least the late 18th century. In 1756, turnip production was deemed lucrative enough to be the subject of a special tithe agreement between the Vestry and the Vicar.
- 5.8.2 Archaeological evidence for land use suggests that the site and the surrounding area were primarily used for agricultural purposes in the 18th and early 19th centuries. On the site itself, excavations undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology in 2002 revealed a northwest-southeast aligned agricultural drainage ditch that contained 19th century artefacts. It was replaced after its disuse by a field drain constructed of roofing tiles following the same alignment. Numerous pits and stake holes of probable late post-medieval date were also identified, along with a 19th century agricultural soil. Interventions located less than 100m from the site's southern and western boundaries unearthed a buried soil horizon and two phases of cultivation soil. A nearby watching brief on a Thames Water pipeline situated approximately 350m to the south of the site, also revealed a similar sequence cultivation soil. Archaeological excavations at the Methodist Church, to the immediate west, revealed a land drain. A large 18th century pit was also found, which may represent a gravel quarry.
- 5.8.3 By the 19th century, the manor of East Ham Hall had passed to the Draper family, before being broken up and sold as part of a residential development in the mid 19th century. By 1810, the manors of East Ham Burnells and West Ham Burnells had been incorporated within the Pelly Estate. They were sold in 1850 before being subjected to residential and industrial development. This episode of building saw the number of residences in the parish rise from a total of 94 in the late 18th century to 1,165 by 1801. By 1901, following the annexation of Ilford, the population had reached 96, 018. The maps consulted during a desk based assessment of the site suggest that the area surrounding the site was not extensively developed until the late 19th to early 20th century, at some point between 1897 and 1920.
- 5.8.4 Jean Rocque's map of 1746 suggests that the site itself was occupied by at least two properties, one fronting Vicarage Lane. The roads of Vicarage Lane and Church Street, later to become High Street South, are shown, demonstrating that they had been established by this time, along with a small ribbon development appearing along both sides of the Church Street.
- 5.8.5 Chapman and Andre's map of 1777 suggests that the site was occupied by two or more rectangular properties fronting the east side of High Street South along with two or more rectangular building in the southeast corner, which appears to have been labelled "The Vicarage". Historical records suggest that the vicarage house had seven rooms and had been constructed on the northern side of Vicarage Lane by 1610. It needed to be repaired constantly and, as a result, several vicars chose not to live there during the early 18th century.
- 5.8.6 The vicarage was rebuilt in 1832 at a cost of £2,000 and remained in use until 1900. The Ordnance Survey map of 1871 shows this rebuild; it suggests that the new vicarage consisted of two large rectangular buildings, one of which fronted Vicarage Lane. These were surrounded by grassed or wooded gardens with a network of footpaths and several small outhouses. The eastern and northern parts of the site appear to have been part of an open field termed 'Glebe'. The maps consulted suggest that little development occurred in the wider area of East Ham between 1777 and 1871.

5.8.7 The Ordnance Survey map of 1891 suggests that the two vicarage buildings remained unchanged, whilst the surrounding Glebe was subdivided. A small structure to the south of the site is now denoted as a 'Sunday School' and the 'Methodist Chapel' is shown for the first time. A couple of small buildings are shown in the east of the site and a new road flanked with terrace houses, termed Mountfield Road, has been constructed at a right angle to the north side of Vicarage Lane. The wider area otherwise appears relatively unchanged.

5.9 **Modern**

5.9.1 The 1920 Ordnance Survey map shows that the area surrounding the site had been extensively developed by this time. On the site itself, the Vicarage had been demolished and replaced with two large buildings that still form part of Vicarage School; founder plaques in their gables indicate a construction date of 1910. The Ordnance Survey map of 1960 indicates that two additional school buildings had been constructed in the western side of the site by this time. No significant changes were made until 2002, when these later buildings were demolished.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Brown, 2010), three trenches were arranged in order to fully investigate the underlying drift geology and the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains. Three trenches were excavated during the evaluation.
- 6.2 The evaluation trenches were 10m long and 2m wide and were termed Trenches 1 to 3. Trenches 1 and 2 were orientated north-south and were situated in a tarmac playground. Trench 3 was orientated east-west and was positioned in a grassed play area.
- 6.3 The hard standing in Trenches 1 and 2 was removed using a mechanical, JCB type excavator fitted with an hydraulic breaker. All three trenches were excavated by the same machine, fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket. Excavation was undertaken in spits until significant archaeological horizons or natural geology was reached.
- 6.4 The sides and bases of the trenches were hand cleaned prior to recording.
- 6.5 All recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in London, that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA 1994). Individual descriptions of all archaeological and geological strata and features excavated and exposed were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on polyester based drawing film, the plans being at scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10. The OD heights of all principle strata were calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. A full photographic record of the investigations was also prepared, including digital and black and white prints and colour transparencies on 35mm film.
- 6.6 Levels were taken from two Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs) that were established using the Global Positioning System (GPS). TBM1 was located on the northwest corner of Trench 1 and had a value of 2.55m OD, whilst TBM 2 was located on a concrete slab in the southeast corner of the grassed playing field and had a value of 2.95m OD.
- 6.7 The trenches were located using the Global Positioning System (GPS) and were tied into the Ordnance Survey grid.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION

7.1 References to the typologies and dates of the artefacts detailed in the ensuing text were obtained from the following experts: the pottery and clay pipe was identified and dated by Chris Jarrett and the masonry and mortar typologies were provided by Kevin Hayward, both of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

7.2 Phase 1: Natural

7.2.1 Layer [10], a deposit of mid brownish orange, silty sandy gravel was observed in the base of Trench 1, the top being at a maximum height of 0.70m OD. The layer probably forms part of the Taplow Terrace sequence and underlies the entire site (Plate 1).

7.2.2 A layer of mid reddish yellow to mid yellowish orange silty clay was observed in the base of Trenches 2 and 3, termed [15] and [17] respectively (Plate 1). A similar deposit, [9], was also observed overlying the Taplow Terrace Gravel in Trench 1 (Plate 1). The top of the layer was found to be at a level of 2.17m OD in Trench 3, 1.61m OD in Trench 2 and 0.80m OD in Trench 1. It was over 0.35m thick in Trenches 2 and 3, where the base of the layer was not reached, and 0.10m thick in the northern end of Trench 1. The deposit was interpreted as a layer of natural brickearth that probably underlies the entire site. It appears to slope gradually from north to south, mirroring the modern topography. Whilst it does not seem to have been impacted upon in Trenches 2 and 3, its thin, low-lying nature in Trench 1 indicates later horizontal truncation.

7.2.3 The lack of alluvial deposits of any kind suggests that the site was situated on dry land in the early Holocene.

7.3 Phase 2: 17th to 19th Century

7.3.1 In Trenches 2 and 3, the brickearth described above was sealed by a layer of mid greyish brown clayey silt, termed [12] / [16] respectively. The deposit was between 0.47m and 0.50m thick, the top being at a maximum height of 2.07m OD in Trench 2 and 2.42m OD in Trench 3, suggesting that it sloped gradually towards the south, mirroring the contours of the underlying brickearth and the modern ground surface. Several fragments of Metropolitan Slipware (1630 to 1700 AD), a clay pipe stem (1580 to 1900 AD) and a small fragment of an ornamental Reigate column (1400 to 1800 AD) were recovered from the layer, which was interpreted as a 17th to 19th century pedogenic horizon. As outlined in the "Archaeological and Historical Background" section of this document, much of the East Ham area was used for farming from at least the 18th century, and it is therefore possible that the deposit represents an agricultural soil. This interpretation is supported by historic maps, which suggest that the area occupied by Trenches 2 and 3 comprised open fields until the late 19th century in the case of Trench 2 and the early 20th century in the case of Trench 3. The deposit was not found in Trench 1, perhaps due to the fact that this area was occupied by buildings that were termed "the Vicarage" on late 18th and 19th century maps.

- 7.3.2 A ditch, [14], was unearthed in the central section of Trench 2 (Figure 4 & Figure 6, Sections 2 & 4, and Plate 1). It was 1.33m wide, 0.91m deep and was orientated northwest-southeast, continuing beyond the eastern and western edges of the trench. It truncated the subsoil and had been infilled with [13], a deposit of light orange grey silty clay. This contained several pottery sherds and a brick fragment that suggests the feature fell out of use and was backfilled between 1770 and 1900 AD. The feature may therefore have functioned as a land boundary from at least the 18th century, falling out of use at some point in the late 18th or 19th centuries. A potential land boundary in the approximate position of the feature is shown on the earliest cartographic depiction of the area, the 1777 Chapman and Andre map, although it remains possible that the ditch is somewhat older than this. It may have separated the Vicarage and its garden from the agricultural land to the north, which may explain the lack of an agricultural soil in Trench 1 to the south.
- 7.3.3 A mid greyish, greenish brown to mid brownish grey sandy silty clay, [7] / [8], sealed the brickearth in Trench 1 (Plate 1). The layer was a maximum of 1.18m thick in the northern end of the trench, lensing out to a minimum thickness of 0.60m in the southern end, the top being at a maximum level of 1.80m OD. The true horizontal extent remains unknown as the deposit continued beyond the limits of the evaluation trench. A large fragment of pottery that formed part of a chafing dish was recovered from it, which was probably manufactured between 1580 and 1700 AD. The deposit may represent a ground raising or levelling deposit, dumped in order to create a flat surface prior to the construction of the vicarage and its grounds in the early 17th century. As the underlying brickearth in Trench 1 was extremely thin and low-lying, it seems likely that some form of truncation took place prior to the deposition of the dump layer. One possibility is that quarrying occurred, perhaps in order to mine clay for the production of bricks for the buildings that would subsequently be constructed on and around the site. Pits of this nature would have been filled in before building work could begin, hence the presence of a levelling layer. Due to the small size of the trench, this interpretation remains speculative and at least one other interpretation is equally probable (outlined in the subsequent paragraph).
- 7.3.4 The layer described above was either dumped against the foundations of wall [2] (described subsequently), or truncated by its construction cut. If the latter statement is correct, the wall must have been tightly built against the sides of its construction trench as no backfill delineating the presence of a cut was present. If the former statement is true, dump layer [7] / [8] must post-date wall [2], which was typologically dated to 1750 to 1900 AD. This would mean that dump layer [7] / [8] represents a levelling episode associated with a phase of building work that was undertaken after 1750 AD and is not contemporary with the construction of the 17th Century vicarage.
- 7.3.5 A small, ovoid cut feature, [20], truncated the post-medieval subsoil in Trench 3 (Figure 5). It was 0.33m north-south by 0.33m east-west and was 0.10m deep. It had been infilled with [19], a deposit of mid brownish grey clayey silt that contained an abraded fragment of peg tile dating between 1180 and 1800 AD. The feature was interpreted as a posthole of probable 17th or 18th century date, the purpose of which remains unknown.

Plate 1: Trenches 2 & 3



Above Left: Taplow Terrace gravel [10] in the northern end of Trench 1, sealed by a thin layer of brickearth, [9] and dump layer [7] / [8]. **Above Right:** Ditch [14] in Trench 2, truncating subsoil [12] (visible in section) and brickearth [15] in the base. **Below:** Brickearth [17] in the base of Trench 3 (mattock testing demonstrated that the blue staining is due to modern disturbance presumably by modern tree roots).



7.4 Phase 3: Late 18th to 19th Century

- 7.4.1 A linear, arched brick structure, [3], was observed in the northern end of Trench 1 (Figure 3 & Figure 6, Section 1). It was orientated east-west, was 0.54m wide and 0.44m tall, continuing beyond the eastern and western edges of the evaluation trench, the top being at a height of 1.72m OD. Reddish orange, fabric type 3032 unfrosted bricks and yellow, fabric type 3035 unfrosted bricks held together with soft, sandy silty mortar had been used to build the structure. These were predominantly arranged in stretcher bond, and formed two impostes capped by an arch that was one course thick. The structure had been built within a construction cut, [4], which truncated dump layer [7] and had been backfilled with [5], a deposit of mid greyish brown sandy silty clay. The structure almost certainly represents an arched culvert used to channel waste water from the vicarage or a nearby building. The bricks and mortar used suggest a construction date of 1780 to 1900.
- 7.4.2 A 0.43m thick layer of mid greyish brown sandy silty clay, [6], was observed in the west facing section of the trench at a height of 2.25m OD (Figure 6, Section 1 & 5). The deposit sealed the construction cut for culvert [3] and was interpreted as a levelling layer deposited before the Vicarage was rebuilt in 1831.
- 7.4.3 After layer [6] had been deposited, wall foundations [11] and [21] were erected in the southern end of Trench 1 (Figure 3 & Figure 6, Section 5). Wall foundation [11] (Plate 2) consisted of an "L" shaped block of masonry, the southern section of which ran northwest-southeast from the western edge of Trench 1 for 0.40m before turning at a right-angle and running back towards the edge of the trench for a further 0.40m. Both sections continued to the west beyond the limit of the excavation. The wall was 0.22m wide and 0.45m deep, the top being at a level of 2.26m OD. It consisted of irregularly bonded, fabric type 3032 bricks held together with shelly clinker mortar, suggesting a construction date between 1750 and 1900. The wall foundation had been built within construction cut [26], which was 0.30m deep and 1.45m wide as seen. Backfill [27], a mid greyish brown sandy silty clay, was dumped against the outer face of the wall.
- 7.4.4 After the wall had been constructed, a deposit of mid sandy silty clay, [28], was dumped against its internal faces. A tile floor, [23], was found above this, the top of which was found to be at a height of 2.05m OD (Figure 6, Section 5, and Plate 2). Rectangular paving bricks of fabric type 3047, dating between 1750 and 1900 AD, had been used in its construction. The tiles probably form an internal floor bounded by wall [11], which represents the corner of a building, the main body of which is situated to the west of Trench 1.
- 7.4.5 Wall [21] was constructed in an identical style using the same materials to wall [11] (Figure 3 & Figure 5, Section 5). It had been heavily truncated in modern times, the surviving section being 0.43m tall, 0.30m long and 0.11m wide, continuing beyond the eastern edge of the trench. The wall was observed within construction cut [24], which was 0.62m wide and had been backfilled with [25], a deposit of mid grey brown silty clay. It most likely ran parallel with the northeast-southwest section of wall [11], forming part of the same building or an adjacent, contemporary building on the same alignment.

- 7.4.6 Wall foundation [2] was also situated in the southern end of Trench 1 (Figure 3, Plate 2). It was "L" shaped in plan and its dimensions as observed within the confines of the trench were 0.66m northeast-southwest by 1.40m northwest-southeast, the top being at a height of 1.61m OD. It was between one and two course wide, nine courses deep and consisted of alternating rows of header and stretcher bonded bricks which were typologically dated to 1750 to 1900 AD. The wall was 0.54m deep and had been constructed with reddish orange, unfrogged bricks of type 3032 that were pointed with a soft, mid yellowish grey, silty sandy mortar with red shelly clinker inclusions.
- 7.4.7 The walls described above do not form part of the earliest phase of the vicarage, (which was built in 1610) as the bricks used are too recent in date. Furthermore, the Chapman and Andre map of Essex, compiled in 1777, suggests that the main buildings on the site were situated to the north and east of Trench 1 at this time. The brick dates suggest a construction date between 1750 and 1900 and it is therefore possible that the walls formed part of the new vicarage, which historical records suggest was rebuilt in the approximate position of Trench 1 in 1831. Alternatively they could form part of one or more associated outhouses.

7.5 Phase 4: Late 19th Century

- 7.5.1 A third wall foundation, [22], was unearthed in Trench 1 (Figure 3, Plate 2). It butted and ran at a right-angle to the northeast-southwest section of wall [2]. Seven courses were present, standing 0.43m tall, the top being at a maximum height of 1.26m OD. The observable portion was 0.45m long and was orientated northwest-southeast, continuing beyond the eastern and western sides of the trench. Its width remains unknown as it was obscured by a later rebuild that was in turn sealed by a modern drain that could not be disturbed. Type 3032 bricks with a machine stamped frog held together with soft gravel rich mortar were used in its construction, suggesting that the wall was built between 1870 and 1900 AD. These bricks formed three stepped foundations, capped by rebuild [1] (described subsequently). They were neatly pointed, suggesting the lower reaches could be accessed easily and were not trench built. The foundation could form part of an external wall as no further masonry was observed to the north.
- 7.5.2 A deposit of mid grey silty sandy clay, [18], was dumped over and against earlier wall [2] and the stepped foundations of wall [22]. The deposit was most probably dumped into the construction cut for [22], termed [29], which truncated the brickearth, its southern side being flush with the northern face of wall [2].
- 7.5.3 At some point after [18] was deposited, rebuild [1] was built on top of wall [22] (Figure 3, Plate 2). The masonry probably belongs to a later rebuild as the bricks and mortar used were strikingly different to context [22], consisting of type 3032 and 3035 unfrogged bricks bonded with indurated mortar (dating between 1780 and 1900 AD). Furthermore, rebuild [1] was most-likely built within a construction cut that truncated layer [18], which post-dates wall [22]. Although no cut was visible, the terrible condition of the pointing suggests that the face of the wall could not be accessed easily, unlike the neatly finished coursing of the underlying, earlier context (Plate 2). This strongly suggests that [1] was trench built within a construction cut.
- 7.5.4 Masonry wall [22] may form an addition to the 1831 vicarage building or an associated outbuilding. The form of the bricks used suggests that this addition was made between 1870 and 1900. A repair or rebuild may have taken place at some time after this, hence the presence of [1].

Plate 2: Masonry in Trench 1



Above: Wall [11] and tile floor [23] in section. **Below left:** Wall [2] in the foreground (truncated to the west by a machine sondage) and stepped foundation [22] sealed by rebuild [1] in the background. **Below right:** Detail of stepped foundation [22] sealed by later rebuild [1]. Note the poor quality of the pointing undertaken in the construction of [1], suggesting it may be trench built within a construction cut.



7.6 Modern

- 7.6.1 Trenches 1 and 2 were sealed with a 0.30m thick deposit of modern made ground capped by tarmac that that formed part of the extant school playground. Trench 3 was sealed by modern topsoil and grass. Numerous greyish blue patches of discolouration were observed in the natural brickearth in Trench 3 (Plate 1), which were mattock tested and found to contain frequent rootlets, degraded wood and rare fragments of modern glass and brick. They were therefore interpreted as being the product of bioturbation by tree roots in recent times.

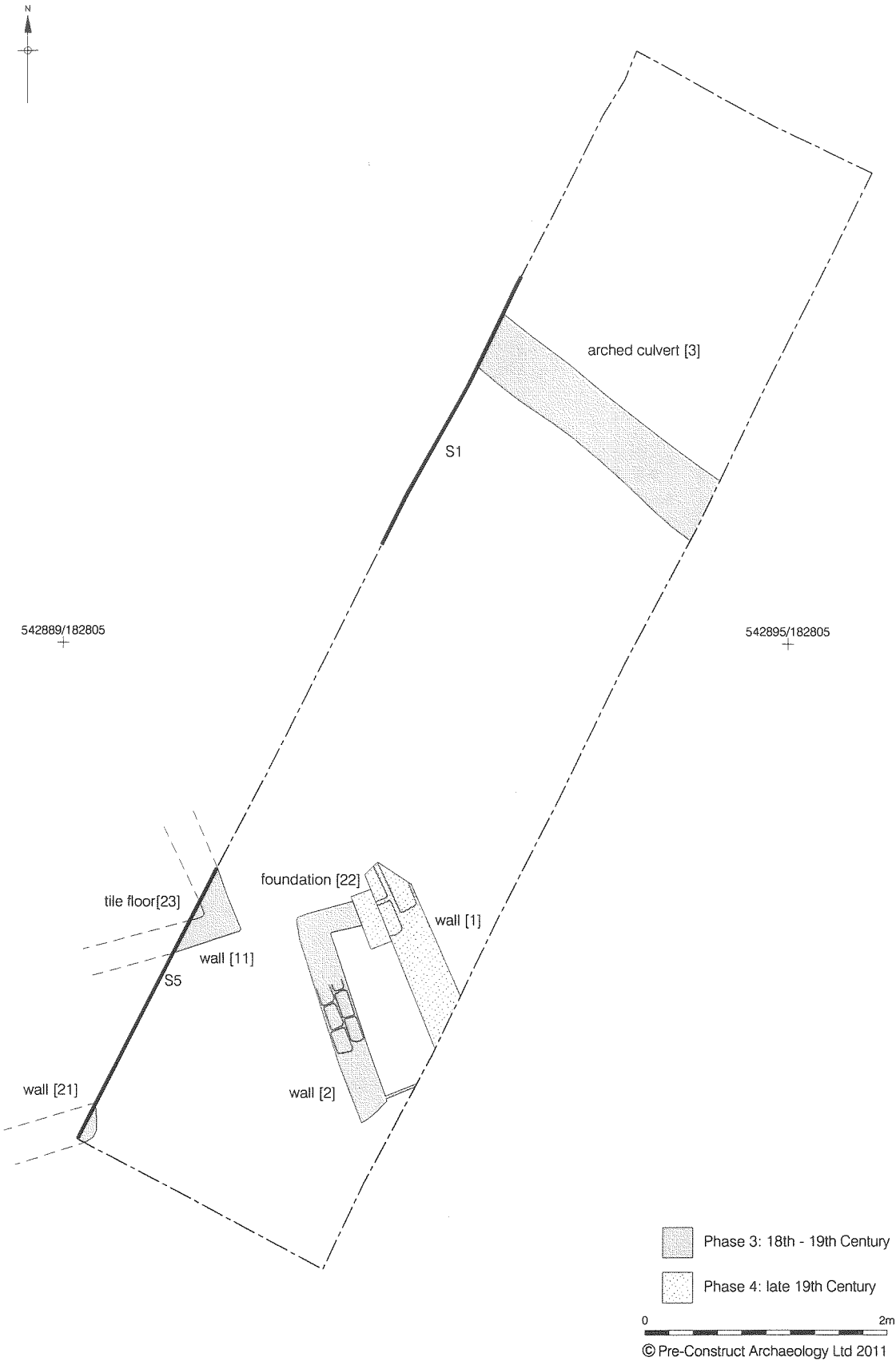


Figure 3
Trench 1
1:50 at A4



542896/182822
+

542902/182822
+

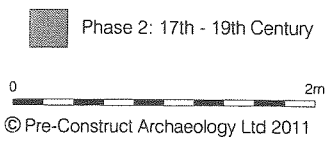
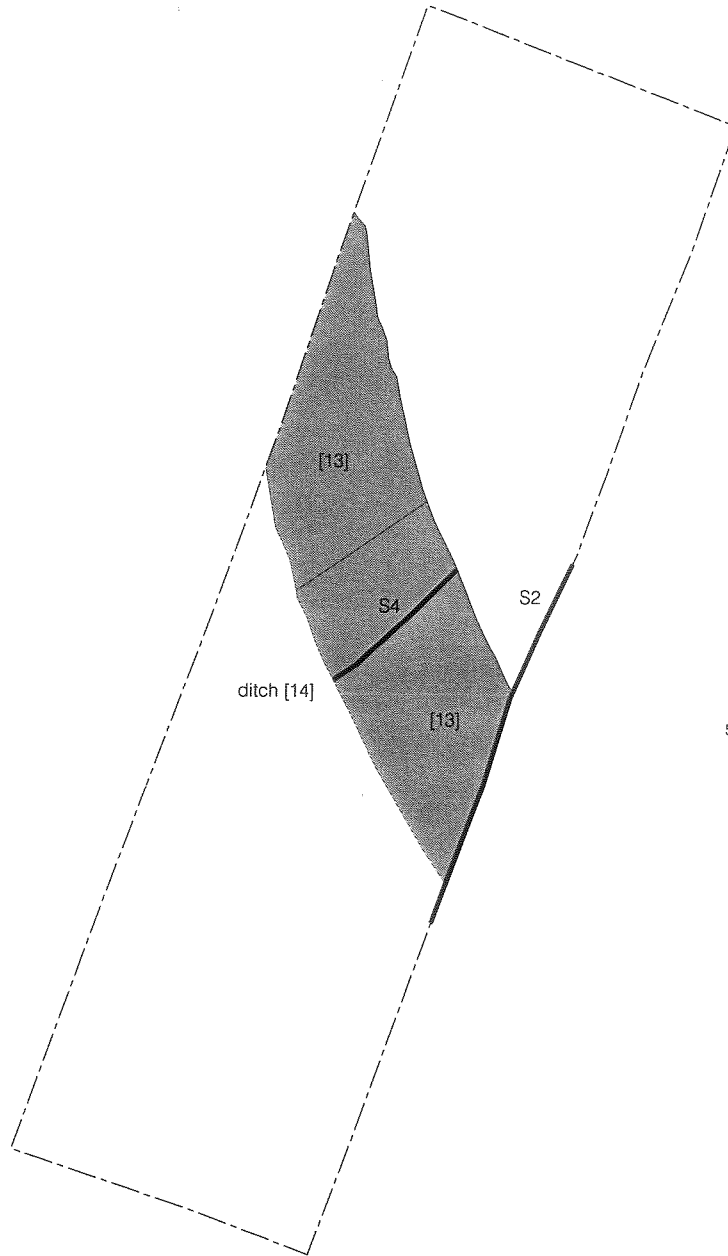
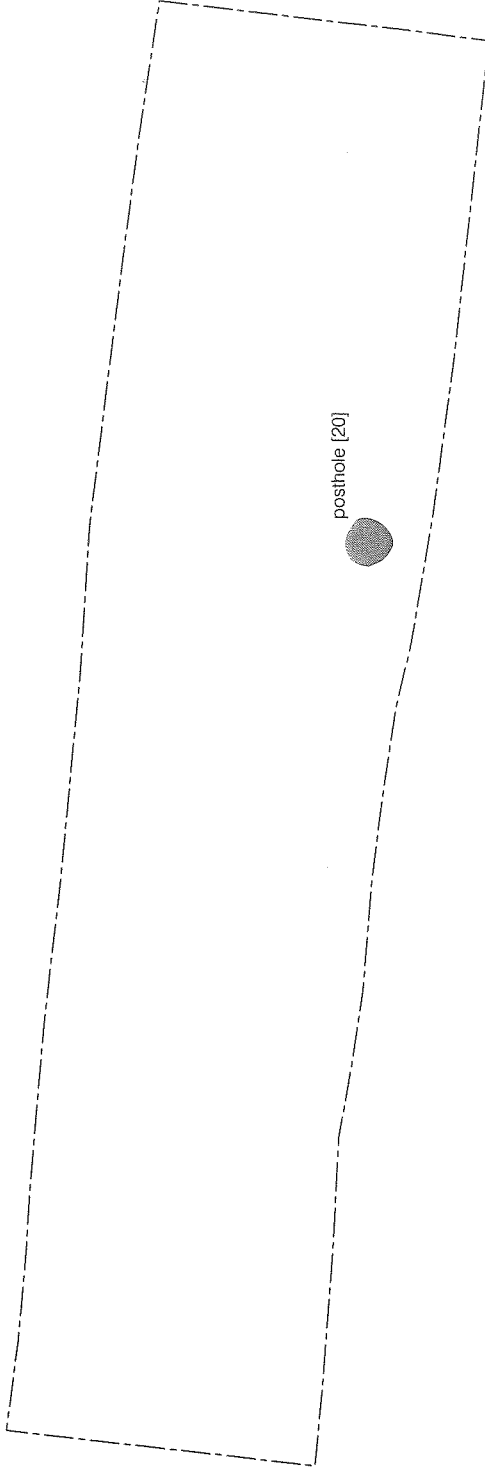


Figure 4
Trench 2
1:50 at A4



542826/182877



posthole [20]

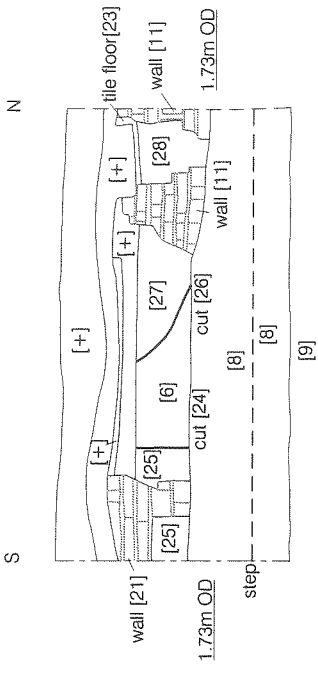
542826/182871

Phase 2: 17th - 19th Century

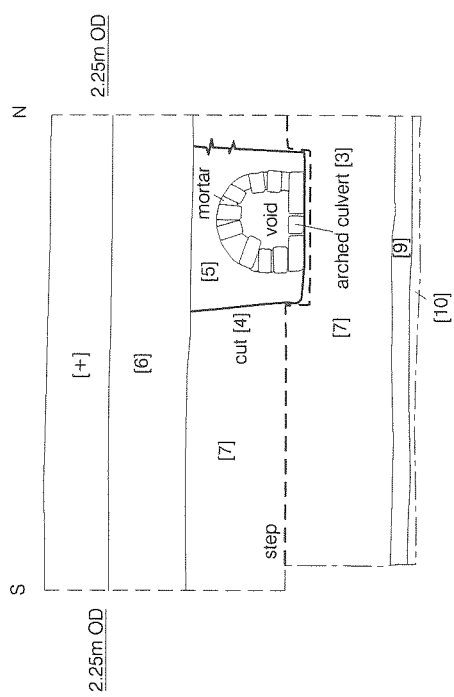


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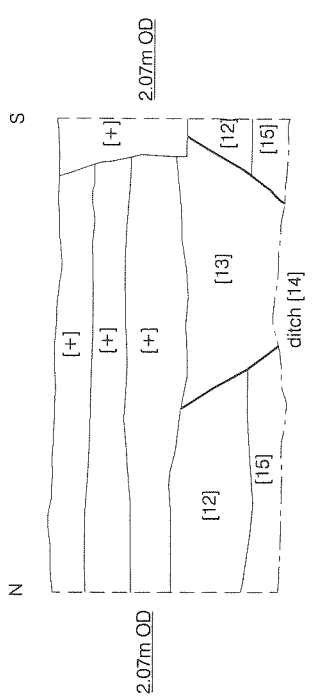
Figure 5
Trench 3
1:50 at A4



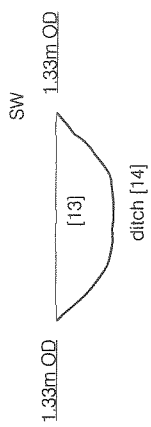
Section 5
Trench 1
East Facing



Section 1
Trench 1
East Facing



Section 2
Trench 2
West Facing



Section 4
Trench 2
Northwest Facing



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8 INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The principle objectives of the archaeological evaluation were to assess the nature of the underlying geology and to determine the presence or absence of archaeological activity of any period. These objectives were achieved and the results are summarised below:
- 8.2 Pleistocene terrace gravel deposited by fluvial action was found at the base of the stratigraphic sequence, which probably forms part of the Taplow Terrace bed. This was sealed by brickearth, which suggests that the site was located on dry land during the early Holocene.
- 8.3 A potential pedogenic horizon was unearthed in Trenches 2 and 3, which may represent a 17th to 19th century agricultural soil. This was truncated by a posthole in Trench 3 and a boundary ditch in Trench 2, which could form a boundary between the vicarage complex and the agricultural land to the north. A mid to late post-medieval layer was identified in Trench 1, which may represent a ground levelling deposit dumped before building work began. Masonry walls and an arched culvert, perhaps associated with the 1831 vicarage rebuild, were also found in the same trench, along with a late 19th century addition.
- 8.4 No archaeological features pre-dating the mid to late post-medieval period were identified during the archaeological evaluation.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank Laing O'Rourke for commissioning the work, and to Leanne Evans and David walker in particular, and to Dr Jane Sidell for monitoring the evaluation on behalf of the London Borough of Newham. Thanks are also extended to the Vicarage Lane Primary School and to the caretaker in particular for help provided.

- 9.2 The author would like to thank Gary Brown for his project management and editing, Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations, Alison Tigg for the surveying, Sophie White for technical and logistical support and Andrew Lythe and Ashley Pooley for their assistance with the fieldwork.

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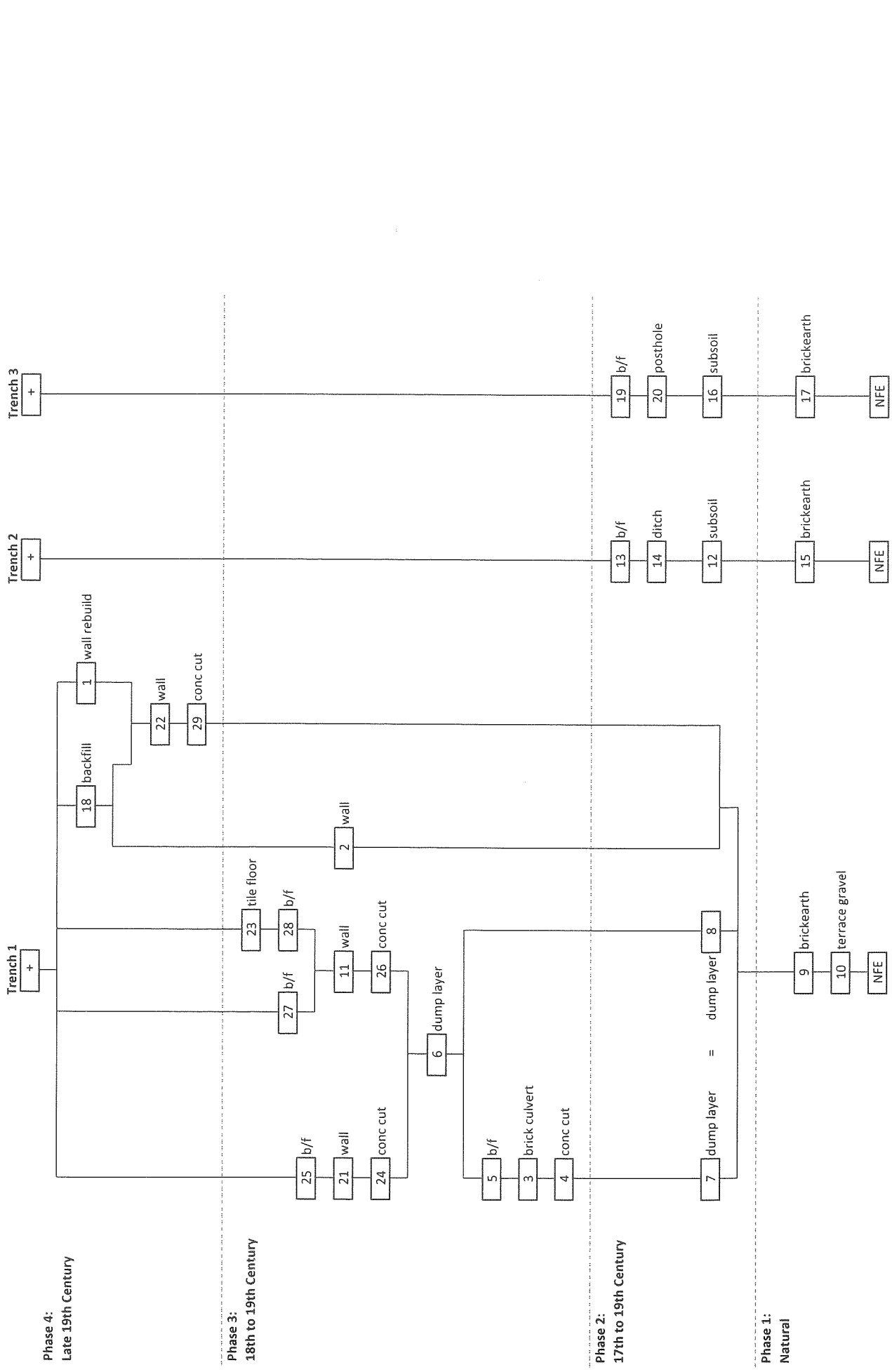
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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Type	Description	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section / Elevation	Dimensions N-S (m)	Dimensions E-W (m)	Dimensions Depth / Thickness (m)	Highest Level (mOD)	Lowest Level (mOD)	Phase	Photos (Yes / No)
1	Masonry	Late Post-Med wall, probably forming part of a building	1	1a	N/A	0.38	3.1	0.78	2.13	2.13	4	Y
2	Masonry	Earlier Post-Med "L" shaped wall, perhaps forming part of an earlier building	1	1a, 1b	N/A	0.66	1.4	0.54	1.61	1.61	3	Y
3	Masonry	Arched culvert	1	1a	1	0.54	2.1	0.44	1.72	1.3	3	Y
4	Cut	Construction Cut	1	1a	1	0.88	2.1	0.6	1.8	1.2	3	Y
5	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [4] around culvert [3]	1	1a	1	0.88	2.1	0.6	1.8	1.8	3	Y
6	Layer	Late Post-Med dump layer	1	N/A	1	10	2	0.43	2.25	2.25	3	Y
7	Layer	Post-Med dump layer	1	1a	1	4.95	2	1.18	1.8	1.8	2	Y
8	Layer	Post-Med dump layer	1	1a	1	2.65	2	0.6	1.52	1.52	2	Y
9	Layer	Natural brickearth	1	N/A	1	9	1.8	0.1	0.8	0.8	1	Y
10	Layer	Natural terrace gravel	1	1b	1	9	1.8	0.1	0.7	0.68	1	Y
11	Masonry	Late post medieval wall, perhaps forming the corner of a building	1	1a, 1b	4	0.4	0.4	0.45	2.26	2.13	3	Y
12	Layer	Subsoil, perhaps ploughsoil	2	N/A	2	10	2	0.47	2.07	1.89	2	Y
13	Fill	Fill of ditch [14]	2	2	2	1.33	2.1	0.91	1.95	1.9	2	Y

Context No.	Type	Description	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section / Elevation	Dimensions N-S (m)	Dimensions E-W (m)	Dimensions Depth / Thickness (m)	Highest Level (mOD)	Lowest Level (mOD)	Phase	Photos (Yes / No)
14	Cut	Post-Med ditch	2	2	2	1.33	2.1	0.91	1.95	1.01	2	Y
15	Layer	Natural brickearth	2	2	2	8.06	2.04	N/A	1.61	1.54	1	Y
16	Layer	Layer of buried soil	3	N/A	3	2	10	0.5	2.42	2.38	2	Y
17	Layer	Natural brickearth	3	3	3	2	10	N/A	2.17	2.13	1	Y
18	Layer	Dump layer deposited between and over walls [2] and [22]	1	1a, 1b	N/A	1.18	0.42	0.45	2.74	2.74	4	Y
19	Fill	Backfill of posthole [20]	3	N/A	N/A	0.33	0.3	0.1	2.07	2.07	2	Y
20	Cut	Post-Med posthole	3	3	N/A	0.33	0.3	0.1	2.07	1.97	2	Y
21	Masonry	Post-Med wall fragment	1	1a, 1b	5	0.3	0.11	0.43	2.29	2.13	3	Y
22	Masonry	Earlier wall foundation sealed by rebuild [1]	1	1b	N/A	0.45	0.24	0.43	1.26	0.96	4	Y
23	Masonry	Tile floor	1	1a, 1b	5	0.03	0.152	0.048	2.05	2.05	3	Y
24	Cut	Construction cut for [21]	1	N/A	5	0.62	N/A	0.29	2.15	1.86	3	Y
25	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [24] surrounding masonry [21]	1	N/A	5	0.45	N/A	0.29	2.15	2.15	3	Y
26	Cut	Construction cut for [11]	1	N/A	5	1.45	N/A	0.39	2.14	1.76	3	Y
27	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [26] around masonry wall [11]	1	N/A	5	0.72	N/A	0.28	2.14	2.14	3	Y
28	Fill	Backfill of construction cut [26] around	1	N/A	5	0.34	N/A	0.38	2.14	2.14	3	Y

Context No.	Type	Description	Trench No.	Plan No.	Section / Elevation	Dimensions N-S (m)	Dimensions E-W (m)	Dimensions Depth / Thickness (m)	Highest Level (mOD)	Lowest Level (mOD)	Phase	Photos (Yes / No)
29	Cut	masonry wall [11] Construction cut for [22]	1	1a	N/A	0.42m	1.52m	0.43	1.26	0.83	4	Y



Phase 4:
Late 19th Century

Phase 3:
18th to 19th Century

Phase 2:
17th to 19th Century

Phase 1:
Natural

Trench 3
+

Trench 2
+

Trench 1
+

1 wall rebuild

18 backfill

22 wall

29 conc cut

23 tile floor

27 b/f

28 b/f

11 wall

26 conc cut

25 b/f

21 wall

24 conc cut

6 dump layer

5 b/f

3 brick culvert

4 conc cut

7 dump layer

=

8 dump layer

9 brickearth

10 terrace gravel

NFE

13 b/f

14 ditch

12 subsoil

15 brickearth

NFE

19 b/f

20 posthole

16 subsoil

17 brickearth

NFE

APPENDIX 3: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-95160

Project details

Project name An evaluation on land at Vicarage Primary School, Vicarage Lane, Newham, E6 6AD

Short description of the project An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Vicarage Primary School, Vicarage Lane, Newham, E6 6AD. The work was carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd from the 21st to the 25th February. It was project managed by Gary Brown of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and supervised by the author. Three trenches were excavated during the evaluation. The earliest deposit encountered consisted of a layer of natural terrace gravel sealed by a layer of brickearth. These naturally derived sediments were covered by a potential subsoil in Trenches 2 and 3 and by a thick deposit of post-medieval made ground in Trench 1. A brick culvert of late post-medieval date was also unearthed in Trench 1, along with the foundations of one or more brick buildings of a similar date. These walls may form part of the vicarage or an associated outbuilding that historic records indicate was built on the site in 1831. At least one wall post-dating 1831 was found, suggesting that the structure was modified at a later date. A post-medieval ditch was observed in Trench 2, which truncated the subsoil, and a potential posthole was also recorded in Trench 3.

Project dates Start: 21-02-2011 End: 25-02-2011

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes VIC11 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes VEL02 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Community Service 1 - Community Buildings

Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE (SMOKING) Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLOOR TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CHAFING DISH Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON NEWHAM EAST HAM Vicarage School, East Ham
Postcode	E6 6AD
Study area	7200.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 4280 8280 Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.80m Max: 2.13m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator GLAAS

Project design originator Gary Brown

Project director/manager Gary Brown

Project supervisor Rebecca Haslam

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Laing O'Rourke

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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Author(s)/Editor(s) Haslam, R

Date 2011

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