

## CONTENTS

	Page
1. ABSTRACT	2
2. INTRODUCTION	3
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	4
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY	5
5. DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS	5
6. CONCLUSIONS	6
7. APPENDED INFORMATION	7 - 10
Appendix I   Bibliography	
Appendix II   Sites and Monuments Record Form	
10. ILLUSTRATIONS	
	Follows page
Figure 1      Site Location	3
Figure 2      Site Plan showing Trench Locations	5

### 1. ABSTRACT

An archaeological evaluation took place on the site of Canon Palmer High School, Aldborough Road South, Seven Kings, between 11.6.96 and 13.6.96. Two trenches were excavated revealing natural brickearth and gravel deposits. No archaeological features were present.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

2.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the site of Canon Palmer High School by Newham Museum Service between 11.6.96 and 13.6.96.

2.2 The work was commissioned by Redbridge Borough Council Technical Services on behalf of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brentwood, in advance of development of the site as an additional school building (see fig.1 for site location). The evaluation strategy was outlined in the document “Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation at Canon Palmer Catholic High School Aldborough Road South, Seven Kings, London Borough of Redbridge.” (Pontin, 96.) The work was undertaken to fulfil a condition imposed on planning application no.0150/96.

2.3 The principal aim of the evaluation was to assess the survival of evidence relating to the medieval period on the site (Pontin, 96).

2.4 Newham Museum Service would like to thank Redbridge Borough Council Technical Services, the staff of Canon Palmer High School, Mr L Pontin, English Heritage Planning Advisor (North East London) and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brentwood for funding the site. The author would like to personally thank Mark Turner and Steve Waltho for negotiating and directing the site, and the site staff, Shaun Tamblyn. Work was supervised on site by the author.

### **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

3.1 The first mention of Seven Kings is from an Assize Roll of 1285, where it appears in the form *Sevekyngg(es)*. The name either derives from a local tradition that close by there was a meeting of seven kings or that there was a tribal settlement of a group of peoples, the *Seofecingus*. Aldborough Road South probably relates to

Alborough Hatch to the north, which originates in a manorial name associated with the family of John and Stephen *Alb(o)rg*h in 1456.

The siting of the medieval settlement probably originates from its relationship and proximity to the London to Colchester Roman road, which is believed to run in a straight line between Ilford and Chadwell Heath, through the Seven Kings Railway Station.

3.2 The site lies upon brickearth which is in turn lying upon Taplow Gravels. Water ingress was not recorded in the borehole logs above a depth of 4.50m.

#### **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

4.1 The methodology was based on the archaeological brief and conformed to the standards set out in Guidance Paper no.3 (Standard Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork), no.5 (Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation Reports) and all relevant Health and Safety Regulations.

4.2 An evaluation was deemed necessary as no previous excavations had taken place on the site which lies within an archaeological priority zone.

4.3 Two evaluation trenches measuring 10m x 2m were located as close as possible to the specification outlined in the Guidance Brief. Trench 1 was positioned in the middle of a tarmac surface at the northern end of the proposed building. Trench 2 was positioned in a grassed area at the southern end of the building (see fig.2 Trench Location Plan.)

4.4 The site was scanned using a CAT scan before excavation to ensure no services were located in the vicinity of the trenches.

4.5 Trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator (JCB) under archaeological supervision until archaeological features or natural levels were reached. The trenches were then cleaned by hand and any features examined for datable material and to determine their nature. Both trenches reached natural levels and were recorded on pro-forma trench recording sheets.

4.6 The site was supervised by Paul Thrale, negotiated by Steve Waltho and managed by Mark Turner on behalf of Newham Museum Service.

## **5. DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS**

5.1 Two trenches were excavated. 15 contexts were identified and recorded. In trench 1, a make up layer for the present tarmac surface overlay a 0.30m thick layer of naturally deposited brickearth at 12.30m A.O.D. which in turn overlay a natural gravel layer at 11.99m A.O.D.

In trench 2 two service trenches were recorded truncating modern made ground which overlay a naturally deposited layer of brickearth.

No features of archaeological importance were found and no finds were retrieved.

## **6. CONCLUSIONS**

6.1 As no archaeological features of significant importance were present there is no need for a further investigation of the site.

## **7. APPENDED INFORMATION**

### **7.1 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Waltho, S. C. 1996, "Tender for an Archaeological Evaluation of the Canon Palmer High School."  
Newham Museum Service.
- Pontin, L. 1996, "Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation at Canon Palmer Catholic High School, Aldborough

Road South, Seven Kings, London Borough of Redbridge.”

British Geological Survey 1976, Romford: Drift Edition, Sheet 257

7.2 The site records and archive are currently held at the Archaeology and Local History Centre, 31 Stock Street, Plaistow, London, E13 OBX.

## **GLSMR/RCHME NMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM**

### **1. TYPE OF RECORDING**

Evaluation

Excavation

Watching brief

Other (please specify)

### **2. LOCATION**

Borough: Redbridge





The evaluation revealed services relating to a previous late 20th century school building on the site. No other archaeological features were present.

**7. NATURAL.**

Type: Brickearth

Height above Ordnance Datum: 12.30m. A.O.D.

Type: Gravel

Height above Ordnance Datum: 11.99m. A.O.D.

**8. LOCATION OF ARCHIVES.**

a) Please indicate those categories still in your possession:

Notes	Plans	Photos	Negatives
Slides	Correspondence	Manuscripts	

b) All records have been deposited in the following museum. :  
Archaeology and Local History Centre, 31 Stock Street, Plaistow, London  
E13 OBX.

c) Approximate year of transfer: 1996

d) Location of any copies:

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

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

**9. LOCATION OF FINDS.**

a) In your possession? NONE

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

c) Approximate year of transfer;

**SIGNED:**

**DATE:**

**NAME** (Block capitals):

Please return completed form to The Greater London Sites and Monuments Record,  
English Heritage London Region, 30 Warwick St., London W1R 5RD. Tel. 0171 973  
3731/ 3779 (direct dial).