

Appendix B.

A Contingency Trench at Langthorne Hospital, Leyton, E10. London Borough of Waltham Forest.

LE - LH 96

TQ 39058605.

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1. Abstract.

1.1. The evaluation revealed 20th. century make-up wall foundations and cuts, overlying 19th. century deposits and natural brickearth.

2. Introduction.

2.1. Further to work carried out in February 1997, a contingency trench was excavated to further examine archaeological deposits on 24th. March 1997. This trench was located to the north of the area between Trenches 2 and 3, extending 10m. north into the existing car park area. It was designated Trench 4 and located within the building lines of the new development.

2.2. The trench was sited to follow a linear ditch of probable Bronze Age date recorded in the first part of the evaluation, and to determine whether internal features associated with this ditch were present further to the north and east.

3. Summary of Results.

3.1. Machine stripping of the tarmac and gravel car park levels revealed three layers of 20th. century make-up, cut by a stock brick and concrete wall base, and a large linear trench across the southern end of the trench.

3.2. These make-up layers overlay a layer of mid brown sandy clay silt, probably plough soil of 19th. century date. This in turn overlay a layer of mid orange brown silt clay, and a layer of clean brickearth.

3.3. No archaeological features were recorded.

4. Interpretation and Conclusions.

4.1.No archaeological deposits were discovered in Trench 4. It appears likely that Trench 3 was situated on the very edge of the gravel terrace. The presence of brickearth at c. 1.30m. suggests that the interface of gravel and brickearth representing the edge of the gravel terrace falls in the 5m. area between Trenches 3 and 4. It would follow, therefore, that a boundary ditch as postulated after the initial evaluation would follow this interface, and thus not be revealed in Trench 4.

4.2.This would suggest that any settlement on the site is situated to the west of the new development and is unlikely to be affected by construction.