Your ref: Our ref:

NAU/BAU2438

Andy Rayfield NPS South East Ltd Norwich Office Nautilus House 10 Central Avenue St Andrews Business Park Norwich NR7 0HR

20 August 2010

Dear Andy,

## Enfield Crematorium Cemetery Extension Statement of Archaeological Potential

This letter has been written in response to your request for an assessment of the archaeological potential of the proposed site of an extension to the existing burial ground at Enfield Crematorium (TQ 3502 9853).

The main source for archaeological information pertaining to Greater London is the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER), a database maintained by English Heritage. A search of this database conducted on 10 August 2010 revealed that the mapped extents of only 4 Historic Environment Records fell within a 500m radius of the Crematorium. These records are illustrated in the attached plan and are discussed below.

As stated above, only four HER entries were located within a 500m search radius of Enfield Crematorium, all of these are of a postmedieval date. The first entry is located fairly near to the Crematorium, and is the record of an area of landfill, taken from the British Geological Survey (MLO 72519). This site is listed as likely to be 19th- or 20th- century. Another landfill site, of a similar date has been recorded to the south of the Crematorium (MLO 072520), located near to Maltby Drive.

The remaining two records are those of listed buildings, the first being to the north of the Crematorium, at 138 Turkey Street (MLO 082676). This building is actually a pair of houses, 138 and 140, which are Grade II listed and are of mid 18th-century date. The other building is that of the Bell Inn (MLO 082854), a public house located at 4411 Hertford Road, to the west of the Crematorium. This building is dated to the second quarter of the 19th-century, and is also Grade II listed.



## NPS Property Consultants Limited

NAU Archaeology Scandic House 85 Mountergate Norwich Norfolk NR1 1PY Tel: 01603 756150 Fax: 01603 756190

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Due to the paucity of evidence within a 500m radius that was found on the GLHER, a search was conducted of www.pastscape.org. This website is maintained by English Heritage, and is derived from the National Monuments Record (NMR), a repository for archaeological and historical records of all dates and types. Very close to the Enfield Crematorium site, although outside the 500m radius, an archaeological evaluation was conducted in around 1990, which recorded Mesolithic and Bronze Age "scoops", residual Roman finds and two Early Saxon grubenhaus (Monument No. 1215945, site code AYL 90). This site lies to the north-east of the Crematorium, at Aylands Allotments, Aylands Road. Very close to this, also at Aylands Allotments, Larmans Road, a watching brief recovered a Mesolithic flint implement (Monument No.1218985).

A Roman coin of Constantine the Great (306-337) was found in the brook near Maiden Bridge, Forty Hill in 1885 (Monument No. 405533), this is to the east of the Crematorium, and also outside of the 500m radius. Other entries on Pastscape relate to standing buildings of post-medieval date, including the Hoe Lane Pumping Station (Monument No. 1468114), built in 1880; the Royal Small Arms Factory (Monument No. 545131), probably built in the early to mid 19th-century; an aqueduct built in 1859 as part of the New River scheme (Monument No. 1467822) and the gardens of Myddleton House (Monument No. 1115911).

Some historical maps were also consulted, in order to best assess the development of the Crematorium site. The source utilised for these maps was www.old-maps.co.uk. Prior to the construction of the Crematorium, it appears that the parcel of land, bounded to the north by Turkey Street, to the west by Hertford Road, to the south by Hoe Lane, and to the east by the New River, was open fields. Certainly on an 1881/2 Ordnance Survey map, settlement was clustered around the Hertford Road at Enfield Wash, with the Crematorium site divided into one large, oddly shaped field, and several smaller fields. By the time the 1897-99 map of the area was produced, the railway had cut through the centre of the parcel of land bounded by the roads mentioned above, and ran parallel to the Great Cambridge Road and the New River. The 1920 map of the area showed the growth of settlement along the Hertford Road. There was also an 'Old Gravel Pit' marked immediately to the east of the railway, possibly lying within the area under development. It is not until the 1935-8 maps of the area that the Great Cambridge Road also cuts through the site. The field boundaries seen from the late 1880s continue to modern times, and are still visible on modern maps, although modern housing now lies within the smaller fields.

The information contained within the Greater London Historic Environment Record indicates that very little archaeological evidence has been recorded in the vicinity of the Crematorium. This may be to do with a lack of interventions in the area, rather than a true lack of evidence. Pastscape has a little more evidence, including, intriguingly, some from the Mesolithic period. The evidence from all periods, however, is still scarce. The map evidence shows that there is the possibility of locating the old gravel pit marked on maps from 1898 onwards.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely,

For and on behalf of NPS Property Consultants Ltd

Rebecca Sillwood NAU Archaeology

