

Park Hill Park, Water Tower Hill, South Croydon, London Borough of Croydon: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

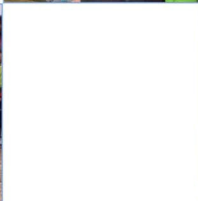
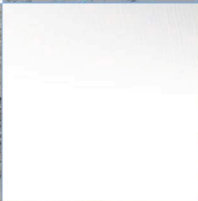
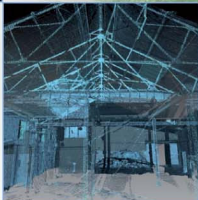
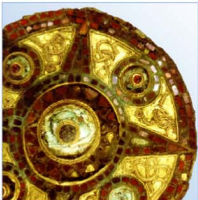
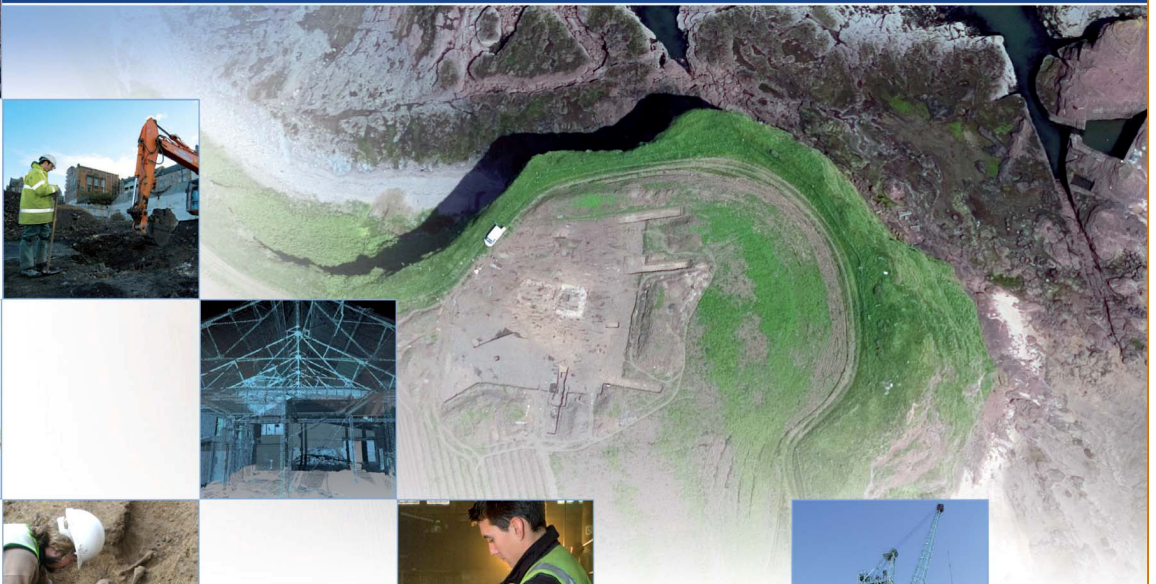
Planning Reference: N/A

National Grid Reference Number: TQ 3305 6500

AOC Project No: 32004

Site Code: PRK 12

Date: August 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Park Hill Park, Water Tower Hill, South Croydon, London Borough of Croydon:

An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

On Behalf of:	Mott MacDonald Demeter House Station Road Cambridge CB1 2RS
National Grid Reference (NGR):	TQ 3305 6500
AOC Project No:	32004
Prepared by:	Ian Hogg
Illustration by:	Jonathan Moller
Date of Fieldwork:	7th February – 15th August 2012
Date of Report:	August 2012

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

Author: Ian Hogg

Date: August 2012

Approved by: Paul Mason

Date: August 2012

Draft/Final Report Stage: Final

Date: September 2012

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Unit 7
St Margarets Business Centre
Moor Mead Road
Twickenham
TW1 1JS

Tel. 020 8843 7380
Fax. 020 8892 0549
e-mail. london@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

Contents

	Page
1 Introduction.....	3
2 Planning Background	3
3 Geology and Topography	3
4 Archaeological and Historical Background	3
5 Aims of the Investigation.....	5
6 Methodology	5
7 Results	6
8 Finds and Environmental Samples	12
9 Conclusions.....	12
10 Publication and Archive Deposition	12
11 Bibliography.....	12
Appendix A – Context Register.....	20
Appendix B – Oasis Form.....	22

List of Illustrations

Figure 1 - Site Location

Figure 2 - Detailed Site/Watching Brief Test Pit Location Plan

Figure 3 - Test Pit 6: Plan and Section

Figure 4 - Test Pits 8 and 11: Plans and Sections

Figure 5 - Sample Sections

List of PLates

Plate 1 - Test Pit 6, looking southeast

Plate 2 - Inspection chamber [207], looking north

Non-Technical Summary

Between the 7th February and 15th August 2012 AOC Archaeology Group undertook a watching brief at Park Hill Park, South Croydon, London Borough of Croydon. The watching brief was commissioned by Mott MacDonald on behalf of Thames Water. The work comprised the recording of test pits excavated in advance of the relining of an existing water pipe.

Natural deposits were identified in all but one of the test pits. Whilst most test pits revealed undisturbed stratigraphy except for the water pipe trenches, the test pits at the southern end of the park contained features related to the water tower and underground reservoir nearby. The features included the foundations of the probable pumping house for the water tower and a drain and inspection pit possibly to disperse excess water in the reservoir. No other features were recorded on the site.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The site is located within Park Hill Park in South Croydon, London Borough of Croydon (Figure 1). The site is bounded to the west by railway lines, to the north by the A232 Fairfield Road, to the northeast by residential properties and to the south by Coombe Cliff Education Centre and Water Tower Hill.
- 1.2 The works involved the re-lining of an existing water pipe; the monitoring was focused on the excavation of seven targeted trial pits, a reception pit, an intermediate shaft and a drive shaft pit (Figure 2).
- 1.3 This report details the results of the archaeological watching brief.

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The nature of the works did not require planning permission; however, the site is situated within an archaeological priority zone and consultation between Mott MacDonald and EH GLAAS agreed on the implementation of a programme of monitoring in light to the sensitive location of the site.
- 2.2 The site lies to the east of the historic centre of Croydon, in an area rich in heritage assets.
- 2.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared for the site by Mott MacDonald (Mott MacDonald 2012) as part of the initial phase of the project.

3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The underlying geology of much of the site is Harwich formation sands and gravels; in the west of Park Hill the geology consists of Lambeth group clays, silts and sands. In the east of the site London clay is the underlying geology. No superficial deposits have been recorded (BGS 2012).

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The following background material has been summarised from the desk-based assessment undertaken of the site by Mott MacDonald (2012).

Prehistoric

- 4.2 The site is located within an area containing a relatively large quantity of evidence related to sporadic prehistoric activity ranging from the Palaeolithic to the Iron Age. A Palaeolithic hand axe was found in the Town Hall gardens on Park Lane, to the west of the site (GLHER 020006/00/00). Mesolithic flint flakes were found on Friends Road, to the northwest of the site (GLHER 020042/00/00) and on Coombe Road to the south of the site (GLHER 021291/00/00). Early Mesolithic to Late Neolithic flints were found during archaeological investigations at Park Lane to the west of the site (GLHER 021443/00/00) and a Mesolithic flint core was identified during archaeological monitoring to the northwest of the site (GLHER MLO75699). An archaeological evaluation at Park Lane revealed probable prehistoric pits sealed beneath a layer of colluvium (GLHER 021692/00/00), two Neolithic or Bronze Age pits (GLHER 022297/00/00) and a Neolithic/Bronze Age ditch (GLHER 022299/00/00). Neolithic flint implements and potboilers were found during groundworks at Stanhope Road, to the north of the site (GLHER 020302/00/00). Prehistoric flint cores and tools were also found on Park Lane to the west of the site (GLHER 020331/00/00).

- 4.3 Prehistoric evidence post-dating the Neolithic reduces in frequency but Bronze Age flint blades were found in a medieval ploughsoil to the west of the site (GLHER 021661/00/00) and Bronze Age pottery has been identified on Coombe Road, to the south of the site (GLHER 021292/00/00).

Roman

- 4.4 Little Iron Age activity has been recorded within the vicinity of the site but the Roman road from London to Brighton (Margary 1973) or Portslade (Weinreb *et al* 2008) is known to have run through the historic centre of Croydon and there is a higher frequency of recorded Roman finds within 1km of the site. Early Iron Age and Roman pottery and a possible 1st century AD brooch have been identified just to the north of the site at Redcourt, Stanhope Road (GLHER MLO78097 and 020299/00/00). Undated finds also discovered at this site comprised a short length of a clay and flint wall and a flint cobble area, pits and ditches beneath black silt. A mid-2nd century Roman coin hoard was identified roughly 700m to the southwest of the site (GLHER 020269/00/00). A further collection of coins was discovered to the northwest of the water tower (GLHER 020273/00/00). A 2nd century Roman brass coin was discovered to the southwest of the site (GLHER 020258/00/00). Two Roman ditches were identified at 113-121 High Street (GLHER 021164/00/00) and a Late Roman/early post-Roman burial were identified at Park Lane (GLHER MLO76749).

Early Medieval and Medieval

- 4.5 Though few sites with Anglo-Saxon finds have been identified within 1km of the site a significant early Anglo-Saxon cremation cemetery was identified during groundworks between Eldridge Road and Park Lane, c 500m to the west of the site (GLHER MLO24037) with later Saxon pits cutting through features associated with the earlier cemetery (GLHER MLO58851). The presence of a large cemetery of this date indicates a significant local early Anglo-Saxon population at Croydon. The Domesday Survey of 1086 recorded a church and mill at Croydon indicating an established settlement at the end of the Anglo-Saxon period.
- 4.6 Evidence related to the medieval settlement at Croydon has been identified at Surrey Street (GLHER 020361/00/00) to the northwest of the site. A 14th-15th century possible fuller's workshop was revealed at 113-121 High Street, to the west of the site (GLHER 021165/00/00). Medieval field systems have been identified to the west of the site at Woodstock Road (GLHER MLO98032) and between the High Street and Park Lane (GLHER 020396/00/00). The site was part of a deer park for the Croydon Palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury during the medieval period (GLHER 020300/00/00), and archaeological investigations have identified the presence of farming activity prior to its use as a deer park (GLHER 020371/00/00). Further to the west, the evidence for Eldridge Road indicates that this area was open fields in the medieval period, but during the 15th century the northern part was divided into burgage plots, however an archaeological excavation found little evidence to support this (GLHER 020634/00/00).

Post-Medieval

- 4.7 A 15th-19th century ditch and pit were excavated to the west of the site (GLHER MLO76751) and 16th to 19th century pits were discovered to the northwest of the site at Mint Walk (GLHER 021411/00/00). 19th century pits were found to the west of Park Hill Park and might represent gravel extraction (GLHER MLO99512). Further evidence of quarrying was identified at Park Lane, also to the west of the site (GLHER 021694/00/00). Evidence of 17th to 19th century clay pipe manufacture was identified at Mint Walk, to the southwest (GLHER 021160/00/00).

- 4.8 A possible 18th century cobbled flint surface and well were also found at 1131-121 High Street (GLHER 021166/00/00). A further well, chalk and tile wall, boundary wall and a pit were found to the west of the site at Park Lane and date to the post-medieval period. Late 19th century landscaping and dumping evidence was found further to the northwest (GLHER MLO75699). A cross marking the southern limits of the town was present on the corner of Lower Coombe Street and the High Street during the post-medieval period (GLHER 025485/00/000). The wall of a post-medieval farm building and an area of cultivation were found during an excavation off Park Hill Road, on the site of the former Park Hill Farm (GLHER 020373/00/00).
- 4.9 The Grade II listed, brick-built water tower was constructed in 1867 and is located on the site of a former Victorian conservatory, which is now housed in the Horniman Museum (GLHER MLO82424). A covered reservoir is shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1869, in the location of the mound now shown on modern maps to the south of the Water Tower and an Engine House is shown to the west of the Water Tower. Coombecliff House is identified to the southwest of the Water Tower, in the location of the modern Education Centre. Quarrying is identified with the large Chalk Pit identified to the south-east of the Water Tower. The remainder of the land comprises arable fields. The chalk pit is disused by the end of the 19th century and the land to the northwest is identified as 'Park Hill Recreation Ground'. The site is now dissected by a road called Water Tower Hill which leads up to the covered reservoir. By 1935 the covered reservoir is no longer depicted on the maps and only an air shaft is identified in its place. Croydon Corporation Water Works is now identified to the south of the Water Tower and an annotation claiming that 'British and Roman Pottery and one Roman Coin' were found to the north of the Water Tower in 1910. A small building development has been constructed to the west of the site. By 1955 the area surrounding the site is almost entirely developed, with the exception of the Park Hill Recreation Ground to the north.

5 Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1 The general aim of the watching brief was to record the presence/absence of archaeological remains on the site and to establish the character, date and function of any archaeological features or deposits encountered.
- 5.2 The specific aim of the watching brief is to establish whether the site has been used for anything other than agriculture/parkland until the late 19th century.

6 Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief was carried out from the 7th February 2012 to the 15th August 2012 and focused on the monitoring of the excavation of a series of 10 targeted pits, including a drive shaft, reception pit and intermediate shaft (Figure 2). The pits were excavated by a 14 tonne tracked 360 excavator under the constant supervision of an archaeologist.
- 6.2 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (3rd Edition) (MoL 1994) and the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
- 6.3 The excavation, recording and reporting conformed to current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:
- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
 - English Heritage – Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (EH 1998).
 - Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 2008).

- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice (UKIC 1990).

6.4 Archaeological recording consisted of:

- Limited hand cleaning of sections and surfaces sufficient to establish the stratigraphic sequence exposed.
- A scan for dating evidence from in-situ deposits and spoil.
- Photographic recording of representative exposed sections and surfaces, along with sufficient photographs to establish the setting and scale of the groundworks.
- Written records on pro-forma sheets.
- Plans/Section drawings at suitable scales.
- A record of the datum levels of archaeological deposits, where obtainable.

6.5 A unique site code, PRK 12, was obtained from the Museum of London prior to the commencement of fieldwork. This was used as the site identifier on all records.

6.6 The investigation pit was accurately located to the National Grid.

6.7 The watching brief was undertaken by Ian Hogg, under the overall direction of Paul Mason, Project Manager. The work was monitored by Philippa Adams for Mott MacDonald, and by Mark Stevenson on behalf of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS).

7 Results

7.1 Test Pit 1

7.1.1 Surface of Test Pit = 78.75m AOD

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
78.75m	0.00m	(100)	Topsoil
78.45m	0.30m	(101)	Service Trench Backfill

7.1.1 Test Pit 1 was in the south of the site at the gate to Water Tower Hill; it measured 3.00m x 2.00m (Figure 2).

7.1.2 The earliest deposit recorded in Test Pit 1 was firm yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent inclusions of chalk and wood (101), this deposit was at least 3.20m deep and has been interpreted as service trench backfill; it was observed at a height of 78.45m AOD. The backfill was overlain by a modern tarmac road surface (100), it was 0.30m thick.

7.2 Test Pit 2

7.2.1 Surface of Test Pit = 66.11m AOD

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
66.11m	0.00m	(200)	Topsoil
65.86m	0.25m	(203)	Natural Clay

7.2.1 Test Pit 2 was located in the north of the site, close to the Fairfield Road entrance and measured 5.00m x 3.00m in plan (Figures 2 and 5).

7.2.2 Natural orange-yellow clay (203) was observed at a height of 65.86m AOD. The natural clay was cut by two water service trenches [202] and [207]; service trench [202] measured 5.00m in length, 0.50m in width and 2.40m deep; it was linear with very steep sides and a flat base and was aligned north-south. The trench contained a cast iron, bitumin coated water pipe (204), 5.00m long and 0.45m in diameter. The trench backfill (201) consisted of soft orange-yellow clay, 2.40m thick.

7.2.3 Service trench [207] was also aligned north-south, it had vertical sides, a flat base and it measured 5.00m in length, 0.40m in width and 1.50m in depth. The water pipe (206) was again cast iron and was 0.30m in diameter. The pipe trench backfill (205) consisted of soft orange-yellow clay, 1.50m thick. The services were overlain by topsoil deposit (200), which consisted of dark brown clay-silt 0.25m thick.

7.3 Test Pit 3

7.3.1 Surface of Test Pit = 69.90m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
69.90m	0.00m	(301)	Topsoil
69.60m	0.30m	(305)	Made ground
69.20m	0.70m	(303)	Natural Clay

7.3.2 Test Pit 3 was located in the centre of the park (Figure 2); it measured 3.00m x 3.00m.

7.3.3 Natural yellow clay (303) was observed at a height of 69.20m AOD; it was cut by service trench [302], this cut was linear, aligned northnorthwest-southsoutheast and had vertical sides with a flat base. It measured 3.00m in length, 0.50m in width and was 1.50m deep. The water pipe (304) was again cast iron and bitumin coated, measuring 3.00m in length and was 0.45m in diameter. The pipe was overlain by the service trench backfill (301) which consisted of orange-yellow clay, 1.50m thick. The backfill was overlain by topsoil deposit (300), a dark brown clay-silt, 0.25m thick.

7.3.4 Overlying the clay (303) was a made ground deposit (305) consisting of redeposited yellow, sandy gravel material, 0.40m thick. The sequence was sealed by a layer of dark brown, silty sand topsoil soil (301), 0.30m thick.

7.4 Test Pit 4

7.4.1 Surface of Test Pit = 69.62m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
69.62m	0.00m	(400)	Topsoil
69.37m	0.25m	(403)	Natural Clay

7.4.2 Test Pit 4 was located immediately to the west of Test Pit 3 (Figure 2); it measured 2.00m x 2.00m.

7.4.3 Natural orange-yellow clay (403) was observed at 69.37m AOD. The natural deposit was cut by service trench [402] which measured 2.00m in length, 0.40m in width and 1.20m in depth; it was linear with vertical sides and a flat base and was aligned northnorthwest-southsoutheast. The water pipe (404) was again cast iron, with a diameter of 0.30m. The pipe trench backfill (401) consisted of soft, orange-yellow clay, 1.20m thick. The backfill was sealed by dark brown clay-silt topsoil deposit (400), which was 0.25m thick.

7.5 Test Pit 5

7.5.1 Surface of Test Pit = 66.45m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
66.45m	0.00m	(500)	Topsoil
66.15m	0.30m	(504)	Subsoil
65.85m	0.60m	(505)	Natural Clay

7.5.2 Test Pit 5 was located in the north of the site, south of Test Pit 2; it measured 2.00m x 2.00m.

7.5.3 Natural yellow clay (505) was observed at a height of 65.85m AOD. It was overlain by subsoil deposit (504), a firm, mid orangey brown clay-sand, 0.30m thick. The subsoil was cut by service trench [503]; it was linear with vertical sides and a flat base and measured 2.00m in length, 0.40m in width and 1.00m in depth. The water pipe (502) was cast iron and 0.30m in diameter. The pipe trench backfill (501) consisted of soft orange sand 1.00m thick. The trench backfill was overlain by topsoil deposit (500), this consisted of dark brown clay-silt, 0.30m thick.

7.6 Test Pit 6

7.6.1 Surface of Test Pit 83.55m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
83.55m	0.00m	(500)	Topsoil
83.25m	0.30m	(504)	Subsoil
82.95m	0.60m	(505)	Natural Clay

7.6.2 Test Pit 6 was located in the south of the site (Figures 2 and 3), north of Test Pit 8; it measured 3.80m x 3.00m. Natural firm, yellow clay (609) was observed in the west of the trench, at a height of 82.95m AOD. The earliest features recorded in the eastern portion of the trench comprised a series of brick structures, probably associated with the engine house for the nearby water tower. A pair of arched features [607] and [608] were visible in the eastern section of the trench. [607] was aligned northwest-southeast, and was constructed from red bricks measuring 215mm x 110mm x 65mm in rough English pattern, bonded with sandy cement mortar; it measured 1.10m in length, at least 0.50m in width and at least 0.70m in height. Feature [608] was constructed in the same manner; it was perpendicular to [607], being aligned southwest-northeast. It measured 0.60m in visible length, 0.50m in width and at least 0.70m in height. A brick wall [606] sat directly upon [607], it was again

constructed from red bricks and sandy cement mortar in stretcher bond; it was aligned east-west and measured 0.10m in length, 0.30m in width and 0.80m in height.



Plate 1. Test Pit 6, looking southeast.

7.6.3 The brick features were overlain by made ground deposit (605), a firm, mid yellow-brown sandy clay, with occasional CBM inclusions; it was 1.50m thick. The made ground was cut by water pipe trench [604], this was aligned north-south; it was a linear with vertical sides, the base was not observed. It measured 3.80m in length, 0.80m in width and 2.10m in depth. The water pipe (603) was cast iron and measured 3.80m in length and 0.50m in diameter. The pipe trench fill (602) consisted of loose greyish yellow sandy clay. The pipe trench was overlain by made ground deposit (601), a loose grey silt with frequent CBM inclusions; this deposit was 0.30m thick. The made ground was sealed by 0.50m of loose dark grey sand-silt topsoil (600).

7.7 Test Pit 7

7.7.1 Surface of Test Pit = 86.68m AOD

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
86.68m	0.00m	(700)	Topsoil
86.18m	0.50m	(701)	Subsoil
85.58m	1.10m	(702)	Natural Clay

7.7.2 Test Pit 7 was located in the south of the site; it measured 6.00m x 3.00m (Figure 2). The natural orange-yellow clay (702) was observed at a height of 85.58m AOD; it was overlain by subsoil (701) which consisted of mid brown gravelled silt 0.60m thick. The subsoil was cut by water pipe trench [703], which was aligned north-south, it was linear with vertical sides and measured 6.00m in length, 0.80m in width and at least 0.80m in depth; neither the base of the cut or the water pipe were observed. The pipe trench fill (703) consisted of loose, yellow-grey sandy clay. The service trench was sealed by a 0.50m of tarmac surface (700).

7.8 Test Pit 8

7.8.1 Surface of Test Pit = 86.77m AOD

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
86.77m	0.00m	(800)	Topsoil
86.47m	0.30m	(801)	Tarmac path
85.97m	0.80m	(802)	Made ground
85.47m	1.30m	(809)	Made ground
85.47m	1.30m	(810)	Subsoil
85.29m	1.48m	(811)	Natural Clay

- 7.8.2 Test Pit 8 (Figures 2 and 4) was located in the south of the site, north of Test Pit 7 and was intended to be the intermediate pit, but the water pipe proved to be too deep for access. It measured 5.00m x 4.50m. The natural deposit (811) was observed at a height of 85.29m AOD and consisted of mid brownish orange silt-clay, it was overlain by subsoil (810) which consisted of mid brown clay-silt, 0.30m thick. A deposit of made ground (809) was visible in the eastern face of the pit; it consisted of firm chalk blocks and was 1.40m thick, this deposit is probably associated with the landscaping undertaken for the construction of the water tower or reservoir. The made ground and subsoil were cut by the water pipe trench [805]; this was linear, with vertical sides and was aligned north-south. It measured 3.00m in length, 0.80m in width and 4.15m in depth; the base of the trench was not seen. The pipe trench fill (803) consisted of soft grey-yellow sandy clay.
- 7.8.3 An inspection chamber [807] was found in the west of the pit; it was constructed from yellow stock bricks measuring 215mm x 110mm x 65mm, bonded with cement mortar, in stretcher pattern. The chamber was square, measured 1.00m in diameter and was 5.60m deep with an arched drain at the base. The inspection chamber cap [806] was a circular collar of yellow stock bricks bonded with cement mortar in stretcher pattern, 1.40m in diameter and 0.30m high, with an iron grate set into the centre.



Plate 2. Inspection chamber [207], looking north

7.8.4 A small water pipe (808) was also found in the north of the trench, it was made from iron piping and measured 5.00m in length and 0.03m in diameter; it was aligned northeast-southwest. The inspection chamber and pipe were overlain by a made ground deposit (802) which consisted of soft, mid brown silty clay with occasional brick inclusions, 0.50m thick. The made ground was overlain by a disused tarmac path (801) which ran north-south; it was 4.50m in length, 1.00m wide and 0.50m thick. The path was sealed by 0.30m of dark grey sandy silt topsoil (800).

7.9 Test Pit 9

7.9.1 Surface of Test Pit = 69.75m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
69.75m	0.00m	(900)	Topsoil
69.45m	0.30m	(904)	Natural Clay

7.9.2 Test Pit 9 (Figures 2 and 5) was located in the centre of the site, approximately 2m south of Test Pit 3; it measured 4.00m x 3.00m. Natural orangey-yellow clays (904) was observed at a height of 69.45m AOD. The natural deposit was cut by pipe trench [903]; which was linear, with vertical sides and a flat base and was aligned northwest-southeast. It measured 4.00m in length, 0.80m in width and was 1.50m deep. The pipe (902) measured 0.45m in diameter and was constructed from cast iron; the pipe trench fill (901) consisted of soft, orange-yellow sandy-clay with occasional CBM inclusions. The trench fill was overlain by topsoil (900), a deposit of dark brown clay-silt, 0.30m thick.

7.10 Test Pit 10

7.10.1 Surface of Test Pit = 69.70m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
69.70m	0.00m	(1000)	Topsoil
69.40m	0.30m	(1001)	Natural Clay

7.10.2 Test Pit 10 (Figure 2) was located in the centre of the site, approximately 2m south of Test Pit; it measured 4.00m x 3.00m. Natural orangey-yellow clays (1001) was observed at a height of 69.40m AOD. The natural deposit was cut by pipe trench [1004]; it was linear, with vertical sides and a flat base and was aligned northwest-southeast; it measured 4.00m in length, 0.50m in width and was 1.30m deep. The pipe (1003) measured 0.40m in diameter and was constructed from cast iron; the pipe trench fill (1002) consisted of soft, orange-yellow sandy-clay with occasional CBM inclusions. The trench fill was overlain by topsoil (1000), a deposit of dark brown clay-silt, 0.36m thick.

7.11 Test Pit 11

7.11.1 Surface of Test Pit = 86.70m AOD.

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
86.70m	0.00m	(1100)	Topsoil
86.40m	0.30m	(1101)	Made ground
85.80m	0.90m	(1102)	Subsoil
85.65m	1.05m	(1103)	Natural

7.11.2 Test Pit 11 (Figures 2 and 4) was in the south of the site, to the north of, and partially overlapping Test Pit 8; it measured 5.00m x 2.00m. Natural orangey yellow clay (1103) were observed at a

height of 85.65m AOD, they were overlain by a thin subsoil deposit (1102) which consisted of mid orangey brown silty sand which was 0.15m thick. The subsoil was truncated by the cut for the inspection chamber seen in Test Pit 8 as [807]. This cut [1107] was only seen in the southern section of Test Pit 11; it was 1.10m in width and at least 2.50m in depth with vertical sides. The inspection chamber itself [1106], has been previously described as [807]. The fill of the inspection chamber cut (1104) consisted of loose dark grey sandy silt, 2.50m thick.

- 7.11.3 The inspection chamber fill was sealed by made ground deposit (1101), a pale orangey grey clay, 0.60m thick; this was sealed by dark brown clayey silt topsoil deposit (1100), 0.30m thick.

8 Finds and Environmental Samples

- 8.1 No finds were retrieved from the investigation pit and no environmental samples were taken.

9 Conclusions

- 9.1 During the course of the watching brief the nature and extent of the archaeological potential was assessed, in addition to the associated disturbance of this potential.
- 9.2 Natural clays were identified in all test pits except for Test Pit 1 where only modern made ground was identified. In all of the northern and central test pits the natural deposits were overlain by an undisturbed sequence except for the targeted water pipes and their associated trenches.
- 9.3 In the southern portion of the park more disturbance was noted; foundations likely to be associated with the engine house for the nearby water tower were found in Test Pit 6, while a large brick drain and inspection chamber were identified in Test Pits 8 and 11. This drain is likely to have been related to the Victorian water system incorporating the water tower and reservoir and may have drained excess water. The brick features were overlain by significant levels of made ground, probably associated with a phase of park landscaping once the features went out of use.

10. Publication and Archive Deposition

- 10.1 Due to the nature of the project, publication will be restricted to a summary of results in the London Archaeological Round Up, and via the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) (Appendix B).
- 10.2 The archive, consisting of paper records, drawings, photographs, finds and digital records will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).

11 Bibliography

English Heritage (1991). *Management of Archaeological Projects*.

English Heritage (1998). *Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork*. (English Heritage London Region).

Institute for Archaeologists (2008). *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*.

Institute for Archaeologists (2010). *Code of Conduct*.

Margary, I. (1973). *Roman Roads in Britain* Third Edition, John Baker: London

Mott MacDonald (2012). *Park Hill, Water Tower Hill. Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation*.

Museum of London (1994). *Archaeological Site Manual* (3rd ed).

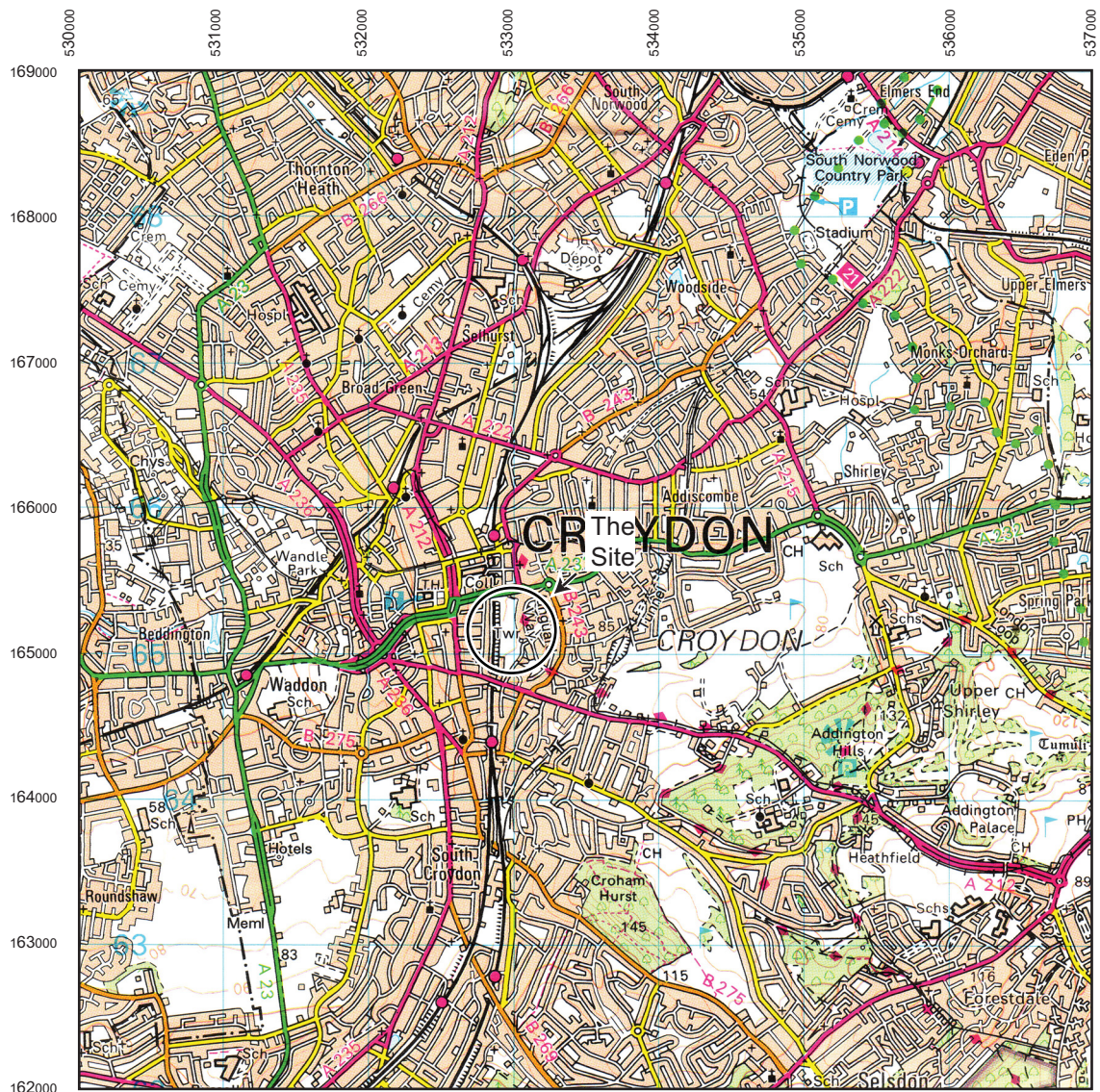
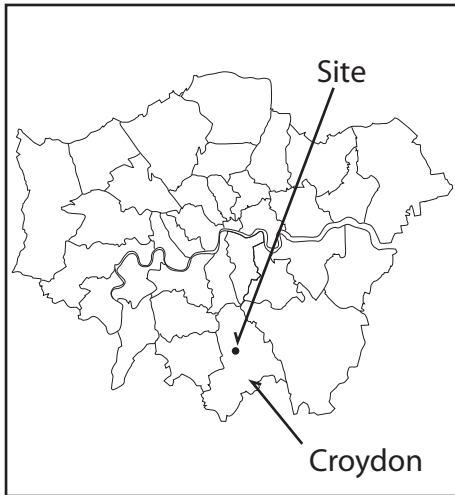
United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1983). *Conservation Guidelines No 2*.

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1990). *Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice*.

Weinreb, B. & Hibbert. C. (1995). *The London Encyclopaedia*. Macmillan: London

PARK HILL PARK, WATER TOWER HILL, SOUTH CROYDON, LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Site Location Within London

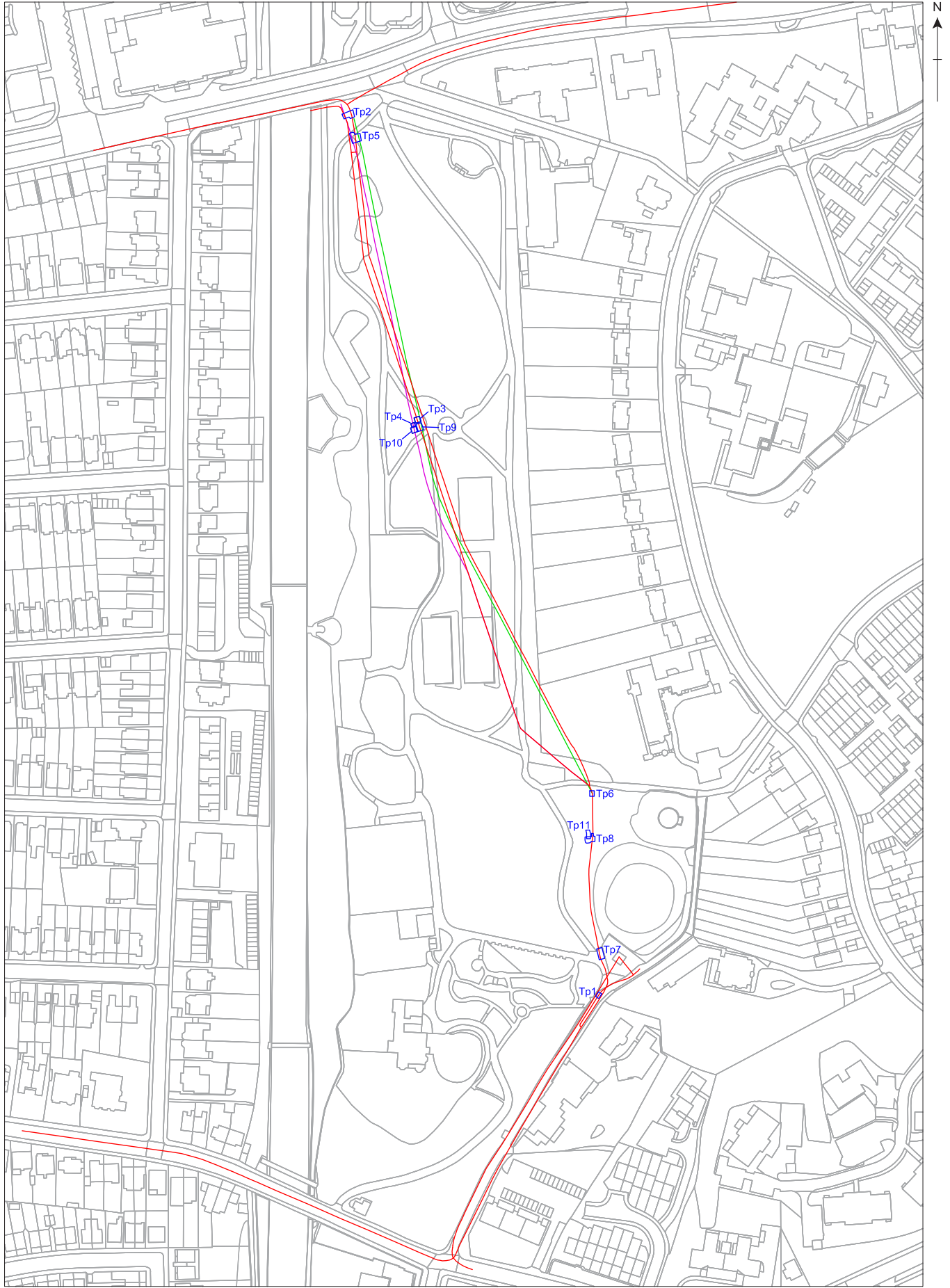


Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:50 000 Landranger map of 2003
with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office,
© Crown Copyright. Licence No. WL1005645

500m 0 2 km

1:50 000

Figure 1: Site Location



Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:250 Supermap Digital Data of 2010 with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Licence No. AL 100023757

— Trunk Main — 12" Trunk Main — 18" Trunk Main □ Watching Brief Test Pits

50m 0 100m

1:2000

Figure 2: Detailed Site / Watching Brief Test Pit Location Plan

PARK HILL PARK, WATER TOWER HILL, SOUTH CROYDON, LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

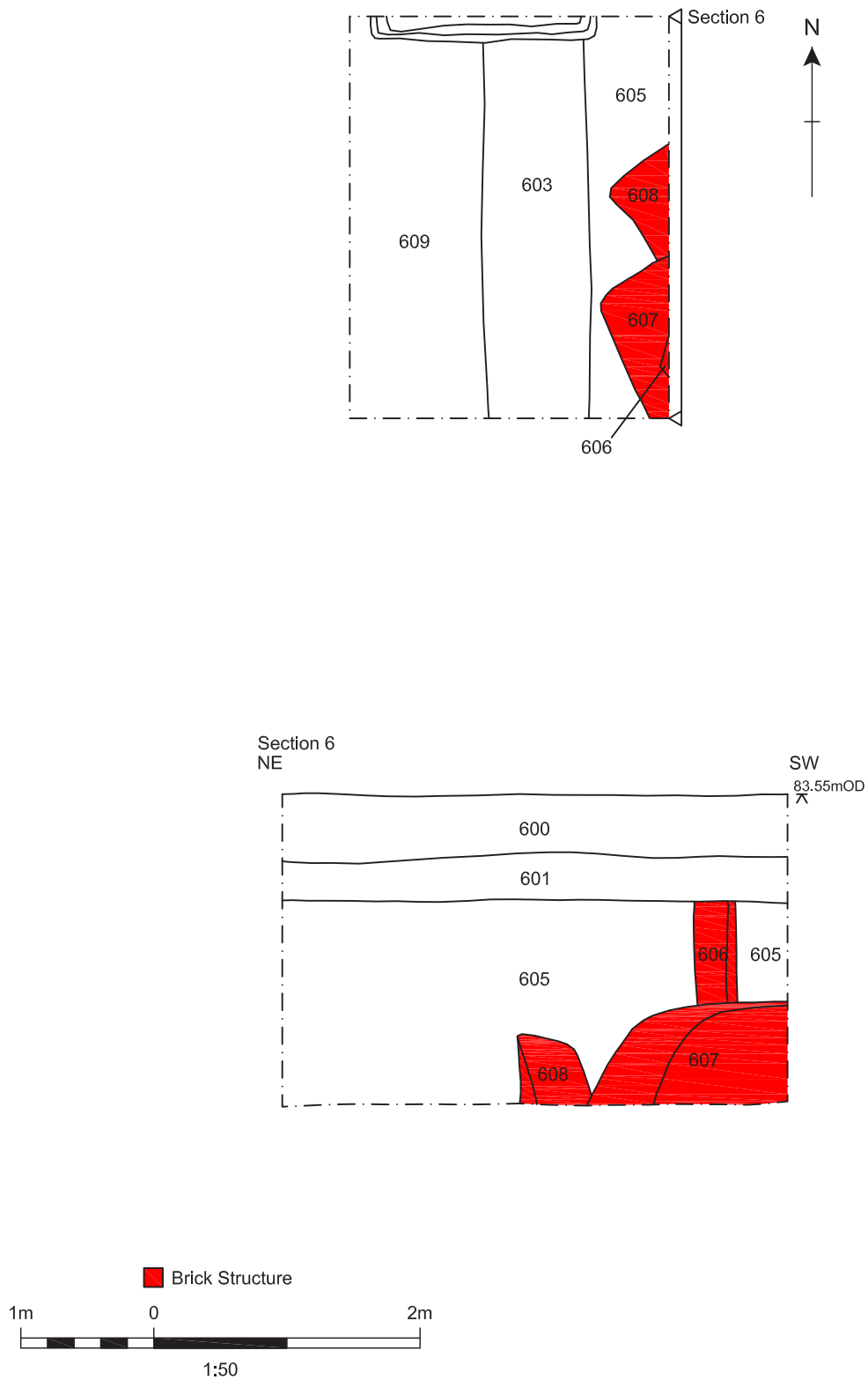


Figure 3: Trench 6: Plan and Section

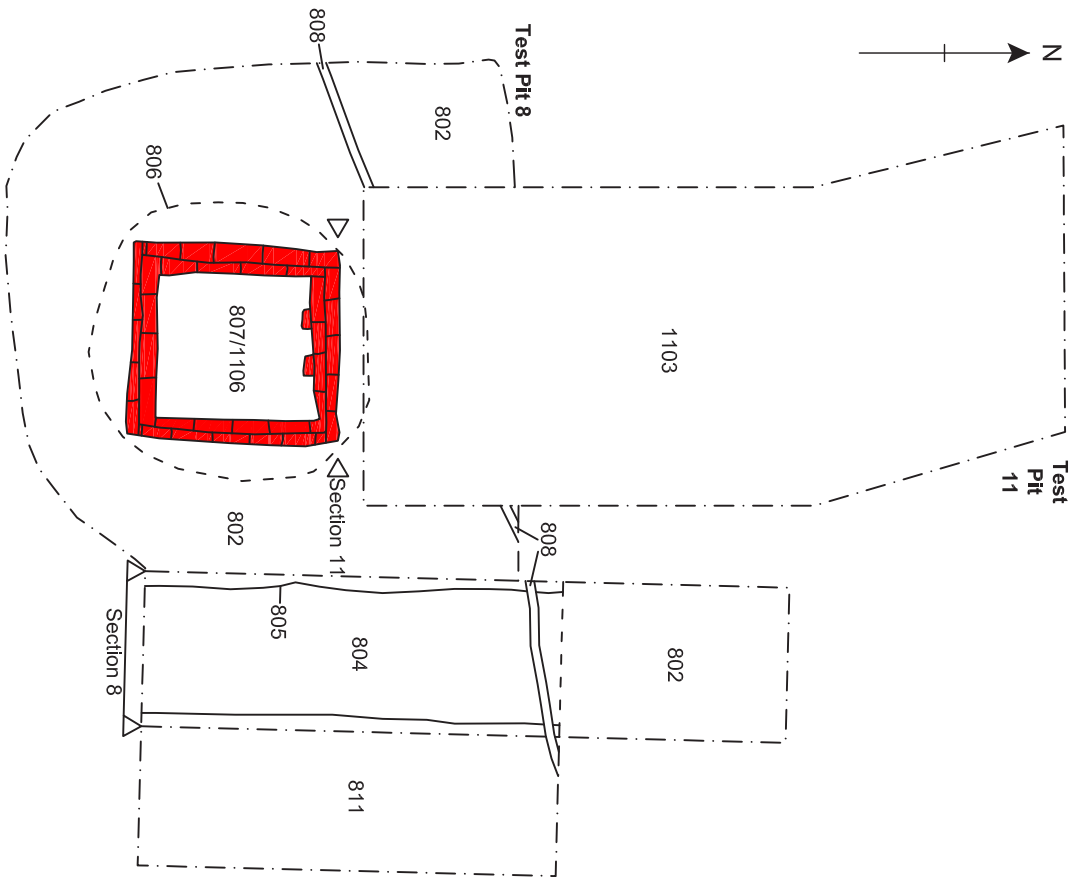
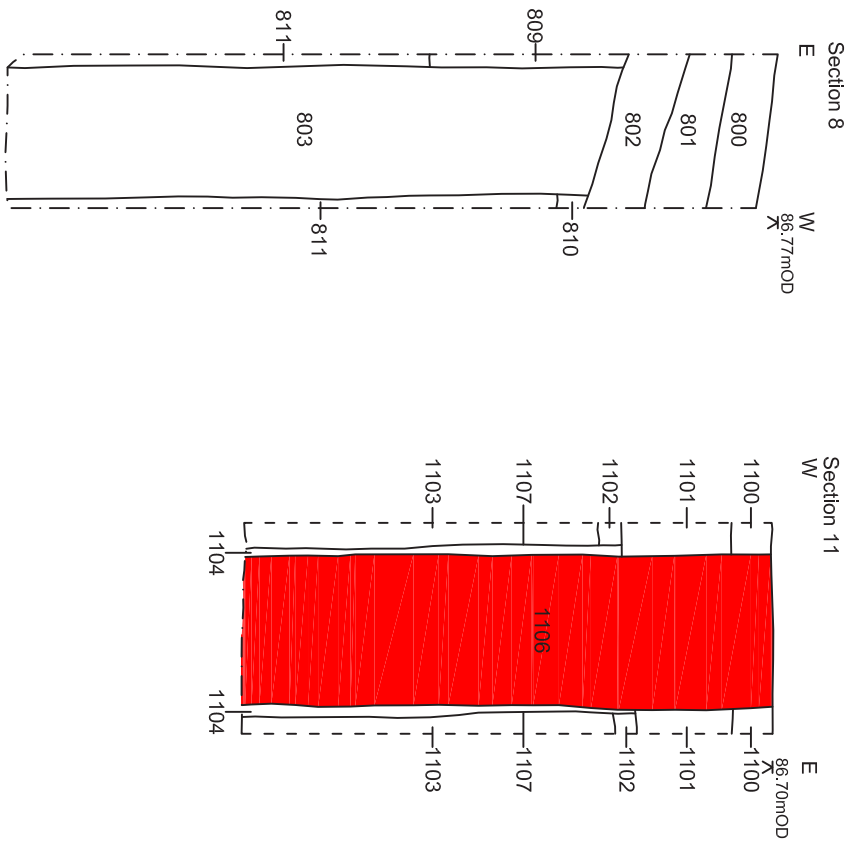


Figure 4: Test Pits 8 and 11: Plans and Sections



■ Brick Structure



© AOC ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP - AUGUST 2012

PARK HILL PARK, WATER TOWER HILL, SOUTH CROYDON, LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

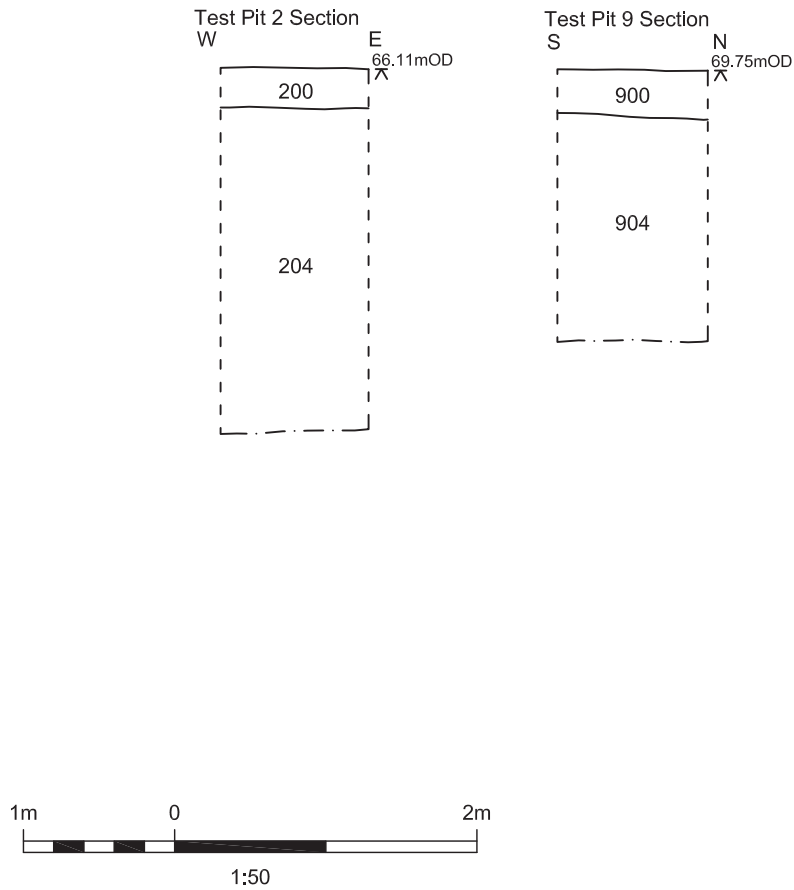


Figure 5: Sample Sections



Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
100	Topsoil	3.00m	2.00m	0.30m
101	Natural	3.00m	2.00m	3.20m
200	Topsoil	5.00m	3.00m	0.25m
201	Backfill	4.50m	0.70m	2.40m
202	Pipe Trench	4.50m	0.70m	2.40m
203	Water Pipe	4.50m	0.45m	0.45m
204	Natural	5.00m	3.00m	2.20m
205	Backfill	3.00m	0.40m	2.00m
206	Water Pipe	3.00m	0.30m	0.30m
207	Pipe Trench	3.00m	0.40m	2.00m
300	Topsoil	3.00m	3.00m	0.25m
301	Backfill	3.00m	1.50m	1.50m
302	Pipe Trench	3.00m	1.50m	1.50m
303	Natural	3.00m	3.00m	1.50m
304	Water Pipe	3.00m	0.60m	0.60m
400	Topsoil	2.00m	2.00m	0.25m
401	Backfill	2.00m	0.40m	1.20m
402	Pipe Trench	2.00m	0.40m	1.20m
403	Natural	2.00m	2.00m	1.20m
404	Water Pipe	2.00m	0.30m	0.30m
500	Topsoil	2.00m	2.00m	0.30m
501	Backfill	2.00m	0.40m	1.00m
502	Water Pipe	2.00m	0.30m	0.30m
503	Pipe Trench	2.00m	0.40m	1.00m
504	Subsoil	2.00m	2.00m	0.30m
505	Natural	2.00m	2.00m	0.40m
600	Topsoil	3.80m	3.00m	0.50m
601	Made Ground	3.80m	3.00m	0.30m
602	Backfill	3.80m	1.00m	2.10m
603	Water Pipe	3.80m	0.45m	0.45m
604	Pipe Trench	3.80m	1.00m	2.10m
605	Made Ground	3.80m	3.00m	1.50m
606	Wall	0.10m	0.30m	0.80m
607	Foundation	1.10m	0.50m	0.70m
608	Foundation	0.60m	0.50m	0.70m
609	Natural	3.80m	3.00m	0.10m
700	Road Surface	6.00m	3.00m	0.50m
701	Subsoil	6.00m	3.00m	0.60m
702	Natural	6.00m	3.00m	0.20m
703	Backfill	6.00m	0.50m	0.80m
704	Pipe trench	6.00m	0.50m	0.80m

800	Topsoil	5.00m	4.50m	0.30m
801	Path	4.50m	1.00m	0.50m
802	Made Ground	5.00m	4.50m	0.50m
803	Backfill	3.00m	0.80m	4.00m
805	Pipe Trench	3.00m	0.80m	4.00m
806	Inspection Chamber Top	1.40m	1.40m	0.30m
807	Inspection Chamber	1.00m	1.00m	5.60m
808	Pipe	5.00m	0.03m	0.03m
809	Made ground	3.00m	0.10m	1.40m
810	Subsoil	3.00m	2.00m	0.30m
811	Natural	3.00m	2.00m	0.30m
900	Topsoil	4.00m	3.00m	0.30m
901	Backfill	4.00m	0.80m	1.50m
902	Water Pipe	4.00m	0.45m	0.45m
903	Pipe Trench	4.00m	0.80m	1.50m
904	Natural	4.00m	3.00m	1.50m
1000	Topsoil	4.00m	3.00m	0.36m
1001	Natural	4.00m	3.00m	0.90m
1002	Backfill	4.00m	0.50m	1.30m
1003	Water Pipe	4.00m	0.40m	0.40m
1004	Pipe Trench	4.00m	0.50m	1.30m
1100	Topsoil	5.00m	2.00m	0.30m
1101	Made Ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.60m
1102	Subsoil	5.00m	2.00m	0.15m
1103	Natural	5.00m	2.00m	2.45m
1104	Fill	0.10m	1.10m	2.50m
1106	Inspection Chamber	0.05m	1.00m	3.50m
1107	Chamber Cut	0.10m	1.10m	2.50m

Appendix B – Oasis Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-132999

Project details

Project name Park Hill, Croydon

Short description of the project
The work comprised the recording of test pits excavated in advance of the relining of an existing water pipe. Natural deposits were identified in all but one of the test pits; while most test pits revealed undisturbed stratigraphy except for the pipe trenches; the test pits at the southern end of the park contained features related to the water tower and underground reservoir nearby. The features included the foundations of the probable pumping house for the water tower and a drain and inspection pit possibly to disperse excess water in the reservoir. No other features were recorded on the site.

Project dates Start: 07-02-2012 End: 15-08-2012

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project codes reference 32004 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project codes reference PRK 12 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Woodland 6 - Parkland

Monument type FOUNDATIONS Post Medieval

Monument type DRAIN Post Medieval

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON CROYDON CROYDON Park Hill, Croydon

Postcode CR0 5SP

Study area 3.00 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 3305 6500 51 0 51 22 04 N 000 05 18 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 65.85m Max: 85.58m

Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project originator brief EH GLAAS

Project originator design Mott MacDonald

Project director/manager Paul Mason

Project supervisor Ian Hogg

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Thames Water

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive LAARC
recipient

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
available

Paper Archive LAARC
recipient

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"

Paper Media "Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"
available

Entered by Ian Hogg (ian.hogg@aocarchaeology.com)

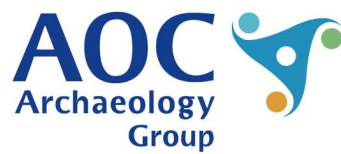
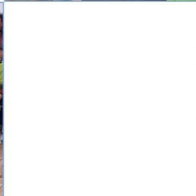
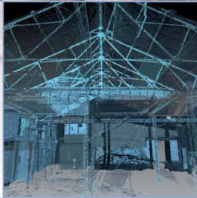
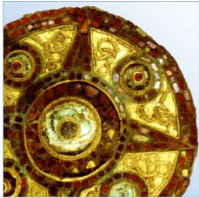
Entered on 29 August 2012

OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email](#) Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page



AOC Archaeology Group, Unit 7, St Margarets Business Centre, Moor Mead Road, Twickenham TW1 1JS
tel: 020 8843 7380 | fax: 020 8892 0549 | e-mail: london@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com