

**CROYDON GATEWAY – PHASE 2, LONDON BOROUGH  
OF CROYDON:**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**Planning Application No. 04/04777/P & 04/04778/P**

**NGR: TQ 3276 6584**

**DECEMBER 2006**

**National Grid Reference:** TQ 3276 6584

**Site Code:** GTY 06

**On behalf of:** Mace Ltd  
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**Timing:** Evaluation Fieldwork: 31<sup>st</sup> October – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2006  
Post-excavation and report production: December 2006

## 1 ABSTRACT

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between 31<sup>st</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2006 at Croydon Gateway, London Borough of Croydon on behalf of Croydon Gateway Limited Partnership. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains.*

*The evaluation comprised the excavation of eleven machine excavated trenches of varying sizes. Natural gravels were observed in all but one of the trenches. In most trenches the natural brickearth had been truncated by 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century activity, demonstrating that any potentially earlier archaeology would have already been destroyed.*

*No archaeological remains predating the 19<sup>th</sup> century were identified in any of the trenches.*

## **2 SITE LOCATION**

- 2.1 The site is located adjacent to East Croydon Station in the London Borough of Croydon. The proposed development is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 3276 6584 (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The site is roughly triangular in shape and is bounded by railway lines to the east, George Street to the south, Dingwall Road to the west and Landsdowne Road to the north. The area affected by the development covers a total area of approximately 2.8 hectares.

## **3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey map (BGS Sheet 270) indicates that the site is situated upon drift geology comprising Unclassified Terraces. These were formerly known as Boyn Hill Terrace gravels and overly London Clay.
- 3.2 The ground level on the site is at its highest at 59.30m OD in the southern area, with a gentle gradient sloping down to between 56.14m and 56.70m OD in the northern area of site.

## **4 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Local Planning Authority is the London Borough of Croydon. Archaeological advice to the borough is provided by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 4.2 A planning application (Application No.: 04/04777/P & 04/04778/P) has been submitted to develop the site. The proposed scheme is for a mixed residential and commercial development involving the construction of offices, residential, ancillary retail and health club facilities on the site. In addition to this a one level below ground car park is also proposed. This will result in a considerable proportion of the ground profile being disturbed.
- 4.3 GLAAS recommended that an archaeological condition be placed on any planning permission to secure a programme of archaeological work.
- 4.4 The first stage in the Archaeological Investigation was the production of a Desk-Based Assessment (AOC 2003a). Further to the results of this it was decided to undertake a pre-determination archaeological evaluation (AOC 2004). This identified extensive truncation to the north end of the site but, although no archaeological features were identified at the south end of the site, truncation was less significant. Accordingly a further stage of archaeological evaluation trenching was required as a condition of the planning permission.
- 4.5 A Written Scheme of Investigation for Phase 2 trenching was submitted to, and approved by, English Heritage and the London Borough of Croydon.
- 4.6 This document reports on the results of the Phase 2 archaeological evaluation.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 Previous archaeological investigations undertaken on the site involved archaeological trial trenching and a watching brief carried out during the excavation of geotechnical test pits in the northern and southern areas of the site. The following summary of results has been drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2006).

### Results of Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 5.2 In the northern and western part of the site, 19th century make up deposits extend at least 3.5m below the modern land surface. In places the make up deposits were extremely soft. The lower parts of these deposits were thought to be the backfill of gravel extraction workings dating to the early 19th century.
- 5.3 In the central eastern part of the site the edge of the possible gravel extraction pit was identified in three places. The deposits to the south of this area were much shallower but still of 19th century date and directly overlay natural sediments. The lack of any buried horizon combined with the lack of archaeological features strongly suggests that this area had been truncated.
- 5.4 In the southern part of the site a well preserved area of periglacial features was exposed with some undated subsoil above. No archaeological features were exposed but this area appears not to have been truncated.
- 5.5 In summary no archaeological features were identified in any of the trenches. The northern and central areas were heavily truncated and archaeological features will not survive here. The southern part of the site had not been truncated so there is the possibility that archaeological features could survive here although none were identified during the evaluation.
- 5.6 The following background information is drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (AOC 2003a).

### Prehistoric (before c.AD 43)

- 5.7 Artefacts from the Palaeolithic period (c.50,000-10,000 BC) have been found within the vicinity of the site, such as an hand axe from the Town Hall site and the remains of a prehistoric elephant discovered during works near to East Croydon station. Further prehistoric finds of Mesolithic or Neolithic date (c.8,000-2,500 BC) are represented by a number of flint tools and weapons found in the vicinity.
- 5.8 Evidence for prehistoric settlement dates from the Late Bronze and Iron Age (c.1300 BC - AD 43). Finds of flints, pottery, animal bones and metalwork at Park Hill, Beddington and Waddon to the west of the town attest to the location of small scattered settlements along the edge of the valley. Bronze and Iron Age features have also been found in Rectory Grove and at 15-17 Brighton Road, from where a copper alloy razor was recovered. Closer to the site, prehistoric material and features from the Bronze Age and Late Iron Age

are known to have been uncovered in the vicinity of Park Street and Park Lane.

### **Roman (c. AD 43 - 450)**

- 5.9 Croydon lies on the line of a Roman road, known as the London-Portslade Way. There have been several suggested routes that it might have followed, the main theory placing the road along the line of the present day Brighton and Southbridge Roads.
- 5.10 Other areas of evidence for Roman activity include the Scheduled Villa complex at Beddington, which is thought to have been built during the mid to late 2nd Century AD, with ancillary structures being added later. Other features adjacent to the villa, such as various pits and ditches, date to the mid 1st or early 2nd century.
- 5.11 A local history of the area suggests that Croydon may have originated as a posting station or *mutatio*. Despite this possible origin, however, the evidence for Roman activity in Croydon itself is not fully understood and as yet the size and type of the settlement has not been firmly defined. There is substantial evidence for Roman activity in both central Croydon (in the area of George and Surrey Streets) and to the south of the town centre on Brighton Road.
- 5.12 Specific evidence for Roman occupation has been found within the area around the site. This includes the discovery of several coins of 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD pottery and a possible boundary ditch c.300m to the southwest of East Croydon station. Further pottery and tile finds have come from the High Street area approximately 600m to the southwest. A number of Roman burials have also been recorded in proximity to the proposed development site, approximately 600m to the west. The discovery of these burials has occurred in locations such as George Street, Crown Hill and close to the Whitgift Almshouses.

### **Anglo-Saxon (c.451-1065)**

- 5.13 There is abundant evidence of early Saxon activity in central Croydon, with part of a major 5th-6th century cemetery being discovered during the construction of Edridge Road in 1893/4. Further burials from presumably the same cemetery were found during works at 82-86 Park Lane some distance to the south of the development site. However, the only Saxon material recovered from the vicinity of this site is one possible Merovingian trientes coin which dates from the early medieval period.
- 5.14 The name Croydon originated in the Saxon period and may have derived from *Crocus Sativus*, a saffron which was grown locally for dyeing and pharmaceutical purposes. The earliest documentary references to Croydon date from the 9th century, when the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose predecessors may have been lords of the manor of Croydon from as early as the 7th century, held a synod there in AD 809. This would imply that the location was rather more than merely an Archbishop's residence: it may indeed have been a centre of some religious importance with, perhaps, a minster church.

### **Medieval (c.1066 - 1485)**

- 5.15 By the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 the settlement was firmly established and centred on the Archbishop's palace, the 14th century chapel and the c.15<sup>th</sup> century great hall, part of which survives as part of the Old Palace School for Girls.
- 5.16 The Archbishop's palace is likely to have been constructed around this time on the site of the earlier Saxon manor house and probably grew in importance as its setting, amidst clear trout streams and woodlands with a deer park nearby, provided a most attractive rural retreat for the archbishops.
- 5.17 Initially the settlement remained fairly small. However, in 1273 Archbishop Kilwardby obtained a grant for a market to be held every Wednesday (originally called 'fleshemarkett' ), and in 1276 a second grant was issued for a nine-day fair each May. Further grants were made in 1314 and 1343, thus establishing the town as a trading centre of some importance and thereby encouraging its expansion in the late-medieval period beyond its original focus of church and Palace.
- 5.18 The presence of the medieval settlement at Croydon is further attested through the quantity of both archaeological and standing remains of structures in the vicinity of the site. One of the earliest recorded structures dates to 1464. Documents note the existence of the Swan Inn, which is known to have survived c.500m away on North End until its demolition in 1889. A few hundred metres to the south of the Swan Inn, in the garden of the Chequers Inn, further structural remains of medieval fireplaces and outhouses were excavated. The focus of known medieval activity appears to occur along the line of the current High Street and North End.

### **Post-medieval (c.1485 - modern)**

- 5.19 Croydon was a long-established market town by the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Its proximity to London and involvement in the charcoal burning and corn trades increased its importance throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. By this time the site itself was covered by fields, with the local road system already laid out.
- 5.20 Archaeological evidence confirms this expansion of the medieval settlement with excavations finding typical examples of Post-medieval urban life such as stone lined wells, cess pits, remnants of structures, and other spreads of occupation debris, dating to between 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. This has occurred in several locations to the south of the main shopping centre on Surrey Street, Park Street and Mint Walk.
- 5.21 Steam railways arrived with the opening of the London & Croydon in 1839 and the London & Brighton in 1841. The town's two railway stations were in place by 1847. With such good communications, the second half of the 19th century saw even greater and more rapid expansion of the town.

5.22 Development on the site had started by 1800 with buildings in the southern part of it. By 1869 further development had occurred across the site, both of a residential and industrial nature. At some stage during the next 26 years, the clay pit was backfilled and more structures built along Lansdowne Road and Dingwall Road.

## **6 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

6.1 The aims of the Evaluation were:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the London Borough of Croydon and GLASS to make an informed decision on the status of the planning application, and any possible conditions for further work required if the application is approved.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.

6.2 The specific objectives of the Evaluation were to:

- Determine the presence of any prehistoric remains on site, with special focus on determining the potential survival of Palaeolithic remains through the assessment of the depositional banding within the gravel.
- Assess the potential of the site to inform on the extent, development and chronology of the Roman settlement thought to be focused on Croydon.

6.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

## **7 METHODOLOGY**

7.1 The evaluation consisted of eleven machine-excavated trenches. Before excavation the entire site was visually inspected and all trenches were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to check for live services.

7.2 All overburden was removed down to the top of the first recognizable archaeological horizon, or the natural deposit in the event that no archaeological horizons were present, using a 20 tonne tracked excavator with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket.



- 7.3 In trenches where the natural terrace gravels were uncovered, sondages were excavated at the end of the trench to examine whether there was any banding within the naturally accumulated gravel.
- 7.4 Trenches 22, 23, 24 and 25 contained either services, reinforced concrete slabs or had suffered deep truncation which led to the trench being moved or being excavated in segments or achieve the correct length, see Figure 2.
- 7.5 All machining was carried out under direct control of an experienced archaeologist.
- 7.6 Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts.
- 7.7 On completion of machine excavation, all faces of trenches that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools.
- 7.8 All trenches were excavated to the underlying natural terraced gravels. Where trench depths exceeded 1.2m no personnel entered them. All trenches that exceeded 1.2m depth had been truncated by modern activity. Provision was made to step the trenches, should access have been necessary to record archaeological features. Although no archaeological remains were identified, the full stratigraphic sequence was recorded.
- 7.9 All excavation was undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appeared to be demonstrably worthy of preservation *in situ*.
- 7.10 After recording, the trenches were backfilled with excavated material.
- 7.11 A Temporary Bench Mark was set up on site, traversed from a Bench Mark measuring on the Alms Houses at the junction of George Street and North End.
- 7.12 The evaluation work was undertaken in four days by Catherine Edwards, Project Supervisor, under the overall project management of Ron Humphrey, Project Manager.

## 8 RESULTS

8.1 As the evaluation is part of an ongoing programme of works, the trenches excavated in Phase 2 commenced at number 17.

8.2 Table of results

### Trench 17 (Figure 2).

Ground Level: 56.78mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.20m	(17/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.20 – 0.30m	(17/002). Firmly compacted crushed building material. 20 <sup>th</sup> century bedding layer for (17/001).
0.30 – 0.60m	(17/003). Moderately compacted grey clayey silt with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions.
0.60 – 0.70m	(17/004). Loosely compacted red/brown sand. 20 <sup>th</sup> century builders sand.
0.70 – 0.90m	(17/005). Moderately compacted dark grey silt with frequent stone inclusions.
0.90 – 1.00m+	(17/006). Firmly compacted red/brown sandy gravels. Natural terrace gravels.

8.2 Trench 17 measured 30m x 2m. Natural terrace gravels (17/006) were present 0.90m below ground level. They were truncated at the north end of the trench by cut [17/007], measuring 2m x 6m to the limits of excavation imposed by the trench dimensions. The fill (17/008) was a loosely compacted dark brown sand deposit containing inclusions of brick and stone dating it to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was not clear what the function of this feature was but it is likely to be associated with the modern industrial character of the site.

8.3 Feature [17/007] was sealed by three layers of deliberate 20<sup>th</sup> century deposition (17/005 – 17/003), probably put down to raise the ground level. They were sealed by a bedding layer of crushed building material (17/002) for the tarmac ground slab.

8.4 No significant archaeological remains were identified in Trench 17.

### Trench 18 (Figure 2).

Ground Level: 56.78mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.05m	(18/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.05 – 0.35m	(18/002). Grey silt layer. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
0.35 – 0.45m	(18/003). Layer of crushed building material. Moderate flint and clay inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century dump layer.

- |               |                                                                   |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.45 – 0.70m  | (18/004). Grey silt layer. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.  |
| 0.70 – 1.10m  | (18/005). Firmly compacted red/brown natural terrace gravels.     |
| 1.10 – 1.44m  | (18/006). Grey and brown natural gravel                           |
| 1.44 – 1.64m+ | (18/007). Red and brown silty clay brickearth and natural gravel. |
- 8.5 Trench 18 measured 21m x 2m. A machine excavated sondage at the northeast end of the trench demonstrated the natural gravels continued to a depth 1.70m below ground level. Three distinct banding layers were recorded within the sondage, (18/007), (18/006) and (18/005) which varied in compaction and colour. No finds were recovered from the gravel deposits.
- 8.6 Part of a red brick room [18/008] truncated the gravels in the centre of the trench. It measured 5m x 2m to the limit of excavation and contained a dark clayey silt (18/009) with frequent 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery inclusions. Although it is not certain, its build and size suggest it had a domestic function and is probably the remains of one the residences dating to earlier than 1869.
- 8.7 Sealing deposit (18/005) were three deposits of made ground (18/004 – 18/002) overlain by the tarmac ground surface (18/001).
- 8.8 No earlier archaeological remains were identified in Trench 18.

### **Trench 19 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 58.36mOD      Context No. & Description

- |               |                                                                                                   |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.00 – 0.25m  | (19/001). Tarmac ground slab.                                                                     |
| 0.25 – 0.31m  | (19/002). Moderately compacted dark brown clayey silt with frequent industrial debris inclusions. |
| 0.31 – 0.45m  | (19/003). Dark brown dump deposit.                                                                |
| 0.45 – 0.95m  | (19/004). Loosely compacted light sandy clayey silt with frequent building material inclusions.   |
| 0.95 – 2.95m+ | (19/005). Moderately compacted dark brown silt with frequent building material inclusions.        |
- 8.9 The earliest deposit present in Trench 19 was a moderately compacted silt (19/005) with frequent late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century building material inclusions. This was recorded in a machine excavated sondage at the east end of the trench to a depth 2.95m below ground surface.
- 8.10 Layer (19/005) was overlain at the west end of the trench by a yellow brick foundation (19/006). It measured 1m x 4m to the limit of excavation and probably also relates to the development of the site in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was sealed by three deposits (19/004 – 19/002) containing frequent amounts of building material debris, indicating they were dumped

deposits to build up the ground level. Sealing the entire trench was a tarmac ground slab (19/001).

- 8.11 No earlier archaeological remains were identified in Trench 19.

### **Trench 20 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 58.74mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.25m	(20/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.25 – 0.60m	(20/002). Dark brown, firmly compacted sandy silt with brick inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
0.60 – 1.60m	(20/003). Dark brown, moderately compacted silt with brick inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
1.60 – 2.80m+	(20/004). Loosely compacted light brown sand. No inclusions. Made ground.

- 8.12 Trench 20 measured 25m x 2m at base. The earliest deposits present in the trench was three large concrete bases (20/005) measuring approx 2.50m long by 0.50m+ wide, their depth was not fully established. These concrete slabs bases belonged to a basemented building which had previously occupied the site.

- 8.13 Overlying the most northerly base was a loosely compacted sand deposit (20/004) with no inclusions. This deposit has been interpreted as builders sand, probably relating to the construction of the concrete base. This deposit was sealed by two similar deposits of brown silt layers (20/003 & 20/002) with 20<sup>th</sup> century brick inclusions. Sealing the entire trench was a 0.25m thick tarmac slab (20/001) which was previously used as a car park.

- 8.14 No significant archaeological remains were identified in Trench 20.

### **Trench 21 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 58.41mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.15m	(21/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.15 – 0.70m	(21/002). Loosely compacted light brown clayey sand with frequent brick inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
0.70 – 0.82m	(21/003). Dark brown clayey silt with building material inclusions. Made ground.
0.82 – 1.02m	(21/004). Loosely compacted light brown clayey sand with frequent brick inclusions. Made ground.
1.02 – 1.60m	(21/005). Loose red and brown silty clay natural brickearth.

1.60 – 2.20m	(21/006). Compacted natural orangey brown sandy gravels.
2.20 – 2.50m	(21/007). Black/dark brown natural gravel.

- 8.15 Trench 21 measured 24m x 2m. The earliest deposit present in the trench was the naturally deposited terrace gravel (21/007). This was excavated in a machine-cut sondage to a depth 2.50m below ground level. Overlying this was another layer of gravel (21/006) which was a lighter orangey brown colour and contained a high quantity of sand. Sealing the natural gravels was a 0.58m deep thick deposit of natural brickearth (21/005). Above the brickearth were three layers of made ground (21/004 – 21/002) dating to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The trench was sealed with a tarmac ground slab (21/001).
- 8.16 No archaeological remains were present in Trench 21.

### **Trench 22 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 56.99mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.08m	(22/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.08 – 0.93m	(22/002). Firmly compacted chalk, building material, redeposited gravel in a grey/brown silt matrix. Bedding layer for (22/001).
0.93 – 1.13m	(22/006). Firmly compacted natural sandy gravels.

- 8.17 Trench 22 measured 30m x 2m. The earliest deposit present was the natural terrace gravels (22/006) at a depth 0.93m below ground level. At the southern end of the trench was a red brick wall (22/007) dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and probably representing the remains of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century residences, although not enough survived to establish what the function of the feature was. It measured 2.20m long and 1.30m deep. The width was not observed due to the limit of excavation.
- 8.18 Three sub-square 20<sup>th</sup> century features (22/005) measuring 0.80m x 0.70m were located in the centre of the trench and all contained a dark brown sandy clay with frequent gravel inclusions (22/008).
- 8.19 A large linear cut [22/004] measured 6.30m x 2.0m to the limit of excavation. It had steep sides, a flat base and was filled with a mottled dark brown sandy clay (22/003) with occasional gravel inclusions. It probably resulted from the removal of 19<sup>th</sup> century basement structures.
- 8.20 Sealing all the late post-medieval features and the terraced gravels was a bedding layer of firmly compacted chalk, building material and gravel in a dark grey matrix (22/002). It was firmly compacted to provide a suitable base for the tarmac car park surface (22/001).
- 8.21 No significant archaeological remains were present in Trench 22.

**Trench 23 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 56.83mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.10m	(23/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.10 – 0.30m	(23/002). Firmly compacted grey silt with frequent stone inclusions. Bedding layer for (23/001).
0.30 – 0.55m	(23/003). Moderately compact red/brown clay layer with frequent flint, brick and stone inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
0.55 – 0.85m	(23/004). Moderately compact dark brown silt with frequent stone inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
0.85 – 1.30m	(23/005). Red/orangey brown natural brickearth
1.30 – 1.90m	(23/006). Firmly compacted red/brown natural sandy gravel.

8.22 Trench 23 measured 30m x 2m. The earliest deposits were the firmly compacted red/brown natural sandy gravel, (23/006) which was overlaid by (23/005) a 0.30m thick deposit of brickearth. This was sealed by two layers of 20<sup>th</sup> century made ground (23/004 – 23/003), which were in turn overlain by a bedding layer (23/002) of compact grey silt with frequent stone inclusions for the tarmac ground slab (23/001).

8.23 No archaeological remains were present in Trench 23.

**Trench 24a (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 57.74mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.05m	(24a/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.05 – 0.60m	(24a/002). Firmly compacted dark grey silt with frequent stone inclusions. Bedding layer for (24a/001).
0.60 – 0.80m	(24a/003). Moderately compact white chalk layer. No inclusions. Made ground.
0.80 – 1.55m	(24a/004). Firmly compact light brown clay with occasional flecks of chalk. Made ground.
1.55 – 2.30m	(24a/005). Friable orangey brown silty clay. Natural brickearth
2.30 – 2.40m+	(24a/006). Firmly compact red/brown natural sandy gravels.

8.24 Trench 24 measured 3.5m x 2m. The earliest deposit was the natural sandy gravels (24a/006), 2.30m below ground level which was overlain by (24a/005) a 0.75m thick deposit of brickearth. These natural deposits were overlain by two layers of made ground (24a/004 – 24a/003) of probable 20<sup>th</sup> century date, although no inclusions were present to demonstrate this. These made ground deposits were truncated by (24a/007) a 1.30m deep wall footing which

supported a reinforced concrete slab. Embedded into the surface of the slab were cast iron tracks which are likely to have supported coal or goods trains. Overlying both the made ground and the concrete slab were sealed by a bedding layer (24a/002) for the present tarmac ground slab (24a/001).

### Trench 24b (Figure 2).

Ground Level: 57.48mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.05m	(24b/001). Tarmac ground slab.
0.05 – 0.60m	(24b/002). Firmly compacted dark grey silt with frequent stone inclusions. Bedding layer for (24b/001).
0.60 – 0.80m	(24b/003). Moderately compact white chalk layer. No inclusions. Made ground.
0.80 – 1.30m	(24b/004). Friable orangey brown silty clay. Natural brickearth
1.30 – 1.90m	(24b/005). Firmly compact red/brown natural sandy gravels.

8.25 Trench 24 measured 10m x 2m. The earliest deposits within Trench 24 was the natural sandy gravel (24b/005), 1.30m below ground level which was overlain by (24b/004) a 0.60m thick deposit of brickearth. These natural deposits were overlain by made ground (24b/003) of probable 20<sup>th</sup> century date which in turn was truncated by (24b/006) a 1.30m deep wall footing which supported a reinforced concrete slab. This is the eastern limit of the concrete slab (24a/007) described in 8.24 above. Overlying the concrete slab and the remainder of the trench were bedding layer (24b/002) and tarmac ground slab (24b/001).

8.26 No archaeological remains were identified in Trench 24.

### Trench 25 (Figure 2).

Ground Level: 57.84mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.10m	(25/001). Concrete ground slab.
0.10 – 0.20m	(25/002). Crushed brick bedding layer for (25/001).
0.20 – 0.80m	(25/003). Loosely compacted light brown stoney silt. Made ground.
0.80 – 1.00m	(25/004). Loosely compacted light brown sand. No inclusions. Made ground.
1.00 – 1.10m+	(25/005). Firmly compacted red/brown sandy, clayey gravel. Natural terrace gravels.

8.27 Trench 25 measured 30.5m x 2m. The earliest deposit present was a firmly compacted natural clayey gravel (25/005). It was overlain by two deposits of made ground (25/004 – 25/003) which were in turn sealed by a bedding layer (25/002) of crushed brick for the concrete ground slab (25/001).

8.28 No archaeological remains were identified in Trench 25.

**Trench 26 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 57.75mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.20m	(26/001). Concrete ground slab.
0.20 – 0.60m	(26/002). Moderately compact light brown sand, clay and gravel. Natural brickearth.
0.60 – 1.20m+	(26/004). Firmly compacted sandy gravels. Natural terraced gravels.

8.29 Trench 26 measured 25m x 2m. The earliest deposit was the natural sandy terraced gravels (26/004) which were recorded in the sondage at the northern end of the trench. These were directly overlain by a layer of natural brickearth (26/002). Cutting into the brickearth deposit were several periglacial features (26/003) which were filled with a light grey blue orange sandy clay. Overlying these natural features was concrete slab (26/001).

8.30 No archaeological remains were present in Trench 26.

**Trench 27 (Figure 2).**

Ground Level: 58.02mOD	Context No. & Description
0.00 – 0.15m	(27/001). Concrete ground slab.
0.15 – 0.70m	(27/002). Moderately compact light brown sand, clay and gravel. Natural brickearth.
0.70 – 1.30m+	(27/003). Firmly compacted sandy gravels. Natural terraced gravels.

8.31 Trench 27 measured 25m x 2m. The earliest deposit was the natural sandy terraced gravels (27/003). These were directly overlain by a layer of natural brickearth (27/002) which was in turn sealed by the present concrete slab (27/001).

8.32 No archaeological features were present in Trench 27.

## 9 FINDS

9.1 No finds, *in situ* or residual, were retrieved from any of the trenches.

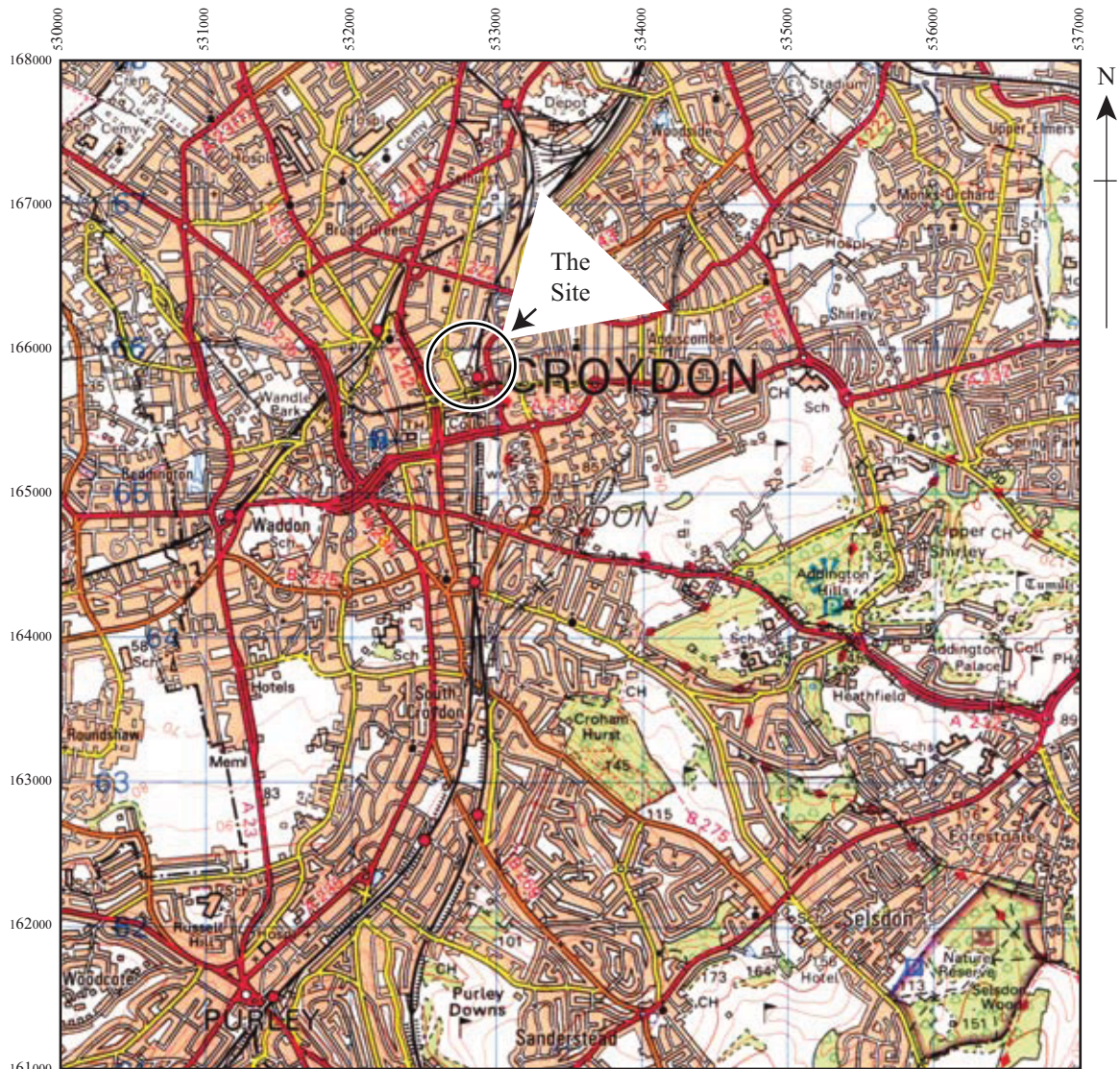


## 10 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Evidence for archaeological activity was present in Trenches 17, 18, 19 and 22. This was in the form of brick structures dating to the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. They all appeared to be of domestic function rather than industrial, based on their build and size.
- 10.2 No archaeological features, finds or deposits predating the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were identified in any of the trenches. Given the relatively shallow depth of the natural deposits in Trenches 26 and 27, with brickearth at a depth not exceeding 0.15m below ground level, it is likely that any potential archaeology across most of the investigation area would have been truncated by activity associated with either the 19<sup>th</sup> century development of the site, or more recent activities.
- 10.3 The evaluation met its primary objective: to establish the presence/absence of any archaeological remains. The 19<sup>th</sup> century structural remains were the earliest archaeological remains and do not merit further investigation. It is therefore recommended that no further archaeological fieldwork is required to satisfy the archaeological planning condition on this site. However, the final decision regarding any further work will rest with the London Borough of Croydon and its archaeology advisor, Mark Stevenson (GLAAS).
- 10.4 Publication of the results will be through the ADS OASIS form (Appendix B) with a short summary submitted to the London Archaeologist fieldwork round-up.

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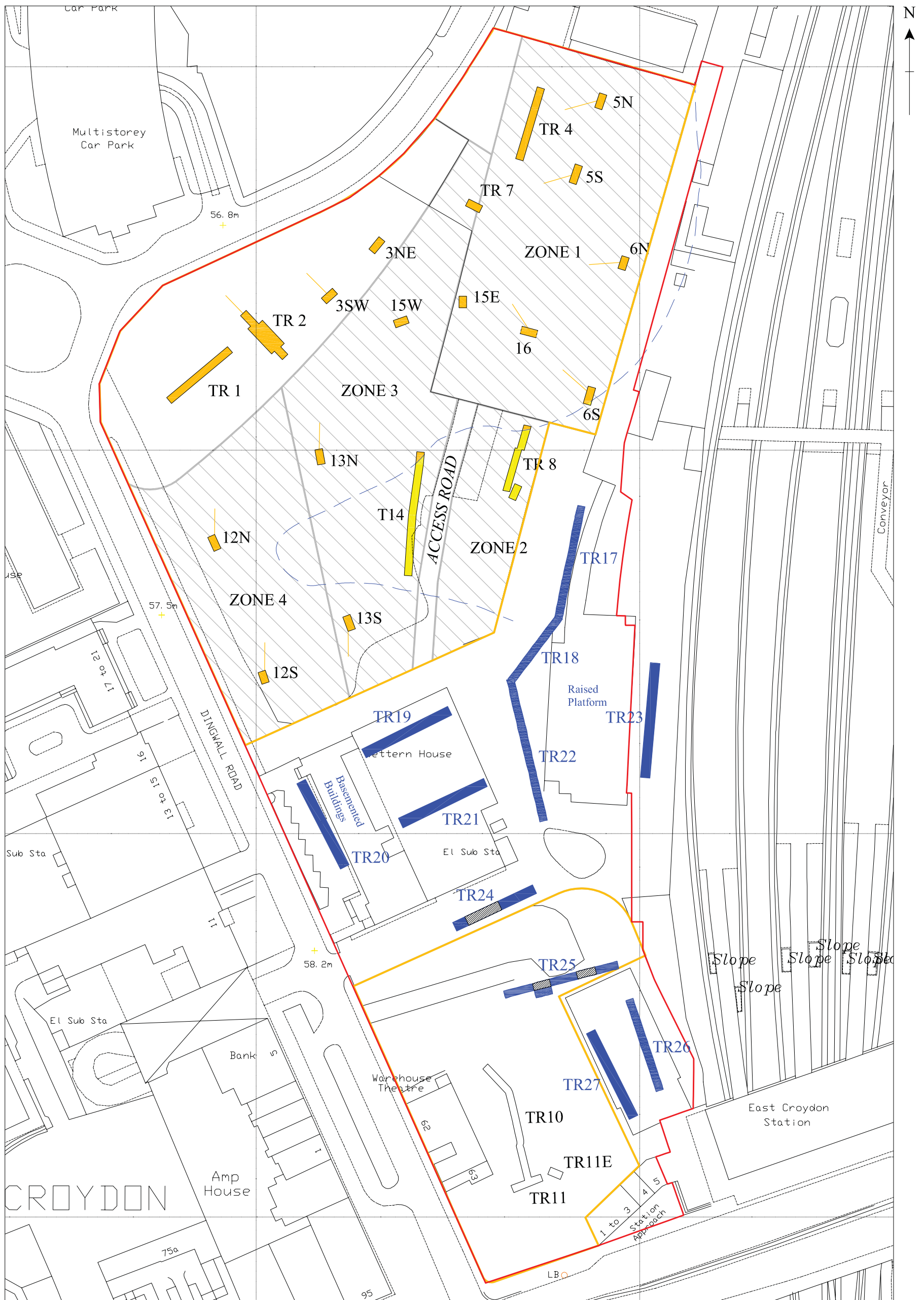


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**Figure 1:** Site Location

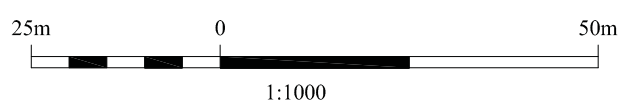




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**Figure 2:** Trench Location Plan

- Phase 1 Trenches : Natural
- Phase 1 Trenches : Over 3m of 19th Century Deposits
- Phase 1: Suggested limit of gravel extraction pit
- Phase 2 Trenches
- Reinforced Concrete Platform or Live Services



## APPENDIX A – CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
17/001	Tarmac Ground Slab	Trench	Trench	0.20m
17/002	Bedding layer	Trench	Trench	0.10m
17/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.30m
17/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.10m
17/005	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.20m
17/006	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.10m+
17/007	20th century cut	1.14m	0.90m	0.70m
17/008	Fill of 17/007	1.14m	0.90m	0.70m
18/001	Tarmac Ground Slab	Trench	Trench	0.05m
18/002	Bedding layer	Trench	Trench	0.30m
18/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.10m
18/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.25m
18/005	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.40m
18/006	Grey and dark brown natural gravel	Trench	Trench	0.34m
18/007	Red orange brickearth	Trench	Trench	0.20m
18/008	19th century brick room	5.00m	2.00m	0.75m
18/009	19th century backfill	5.00m	2.00m	0.75m
19/001	Tarmac Ground Slab	Trench	Trench	0.25m
19/002	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.60m
19/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.14m
19/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.50m
19/005	Made ground	6.00m	2.00m	2.00m
19/006	Yellow brick footing	4.00m	1.00m	1.00m+
20/001	Concrete ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.25m
20/002	Bedding layer	Trench	Trench	0.35m
20/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	1.00m
20/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	1.20m+
20/005	Concrete bases	2.50m	0.50m+	NFE
21/001	Tarmac Ground Slab	Trench	Trench	0.15m
21/002	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.55m
21/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.12m
21/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.20m

<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Context Description</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
21/005	Red orange brickearth	Trench	Trench	0.58m
21/006	Natural terraced gravels	4.0m	2.0m	0.60m
21/007	Natural terraced gravels	4.0m	2.0m	0.30m
22/001	Tarmac Ground Slab	Trench	Trench	0.08m
22/002	Bedding layer	Trench	Trench	0.75m
22/003	Fill of 22/004	6.30m	2.00m	NFE
22/004	Linear cut	6.30m	2.00m	NFE
22/005	Modern intrusions	0.80m	0.70m	NFE
22/006	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	NFE
22/007	Brick wall	2.20m	LOE	1.30m
22/008	Fill of 22/005	0.80m	0.70m	NFE
23/001	Tarmac ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.10m
23/002	Bedding layer	Trench	Trench	0.20m
23/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.25m
23/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.30m
23/005	Red and orange brickearth	Trench	Trench	0.45m
23/006	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.60m
24a/001	Tarmac ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.05m
24a/002	Bedding Layer	Trench	Trench	0.55m
24a/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.20m
24a/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.75m
24a/005	Red orange brickearth	Trench	Trench	0.75m
24a/006	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.10m
24a/007	Reinforced concrete slab and brick wall footing. Same as 24b/006.	7.0m	Trench	1.30m
24b/001	Tarmac ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.05m
24b/002	Bedding Layer	Trench	Trench	0.55m
24b/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.20m
24b/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.75m
24b/005	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.10m+
24b/006	Reinforced concrete slab and brick wall footing. Same as 24a/007.	7.0m	Trench	1.30m
25/001	Concrete ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.10m
25/002	Bedding layer	Trench	Trench	0.10m
25/003	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.60m

<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Context Description</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
25/004	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.20m
25/005	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.10m+
26/001	Concrete ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.20m
26/002	Natural brickearth	Trench	Trench	0.40m
26/003	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.60m+
27/001	Concrete ground slab	Trench	Trench	0.15m
27/002	Natural brickearth	Trench	Trench	0.55m
27/003	Natural terraced gravels	Trench	Trench	0.60m+

**APPENDIX B – OASIS FORM**

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-21006

**Project details**

Project name	Croydon Gateway
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between 31st October and 3rd November 2006 at Croydon Gateway, London Borough of Croydon. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains. The evaluation comprised the excavation of eleven machine excavated trenches of varying sizes. Natural gravels were observed in all but one of the trenches. However, in most trenches the natural brickearth had been truncated by 19th or 20th century activity, demonstrating that any potential earlier archaeology would have already been destroyed. No archaeological remains predating the 19th century were identified in any of the trenches.
Project dates	Start: 31-10-2006 End: 03-11-2006
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	GTY 06 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status (other)	Archaeological Priority Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the	After full determination (eg. As a condition)



planning process

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CROYDON CROYDON Croydon Gateway
Postcode	CR0 5XX
Study area	2.80 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 3276 6584 51.3755582030 -0.09231110996160 51 22 32 N 000 05 32 W Point
Height OD	Min: 55.88m Max: 57.39m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology Group
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	AOC Archaeology Group
Project director/manager	Ron Humphrey
Project supervisor	Catherine Edwards
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	MACE LIMITED

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London
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Physical Archive ID	GTY 06
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Physical Archive notes	Museum of London-LAARC. hopefully deposit in 2007
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London
Digital Archive ID	GTY 06
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Digital Media available	'Database','Images vector','Spreadsheets','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London
Paper Archive ID	GTY 06
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Map','Matrices','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive notes	Museum of london LAARC sometime in 2007

### **Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	CROYDON GATEWAY – PHASE 2, LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT
Author(s)/Editor(s)	'Leonard, A.'
Date	2006

Issuer or publisher      AOC Archaeology

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Description      A4 report with illustrations

Entered by      catherine edwards (catherinedwards@aocarchaeology.co.uk)

Entered on      18 December 2006