

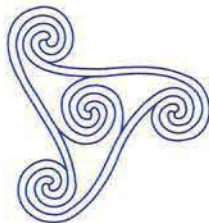
Site H & L, Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge,  
London Borough of Havering

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.:2543/APP/2005/870

TQ 0622 8463

JULY 2008



**National Grid Reference:** TQ 0644 8450

**Site Code:** HFX08

**On behalf of:** Persimmon Homes  
Thames Valley  
Persimmon House  
Vanwell Business Park  
2 Vanwell Road  
Maidenhead  
SL6 4UB

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**Timing:** Evaluation Fieldwork: 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008

Post-excavation and report production: February – July 2008

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## 1 ABSTRACT

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge, London Borough of Havering, on behalf of Persimmon Homes Ltd. 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 five machine excavated trenches measuring 20m x 1.8m at base. Natural London clay was identified at between 54.37mOD and 55.95mOD. Sealing the clay was a deposit of homogenous subsoil underlying disturbed topsoil. This stratigraphic sequence was found throughout the site except within the west of the site where deep deposits of made ground composed of redeposited natural clay, silt and modern building materials were found to extend beyond 1.2m below ground level, completely truncating any possible archaeological remains. Further modern truncation was found in the northeast of the site where a modern building previously stood.*

*Scarce archaeological remains were uncovered within Trench 3 in the centre of the site and Trench 4 in the southeast of the site. A small undated pit and shallow linear gully were excavated in Trench 3 and a silted gully, shallow pit containing hearth material and post-medieval soil horizon were uncovered in Trench 4.*

*Flint and pottery sherds recovered from silting deposits suggest a prehistoric occupancy of the area, whilst buried soil horizons dated to the post-medieval period illustrate the recent deposition of made ground.*

## **2 SITE LOCATION**

- 2.1 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 0644 8450, and is situated at the northern end of Uxbridge College Campus (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The site is roughly rectangular in shape and is bounded by Park Road and the Uxbridge College campus to the west, The Uxbridge College campus to the south, Breams Close to the north and undeveloped land to the east. The area affected by the development covers a total area of approximately 0.4 hectares.

## **3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey map indicates that the base geology at the site is London Clay, comprising clay, silt and sand.
- 3.2 Geotechnical investigations were undertaken at the site in November 2006. These identified glacial deposits of sandy and gravelly clay at approximately 0.50 – 0.70m below ground level (AOC 2007).

## **4 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Hillingdon. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 4.2 Planning permission to undertake the development was granted under the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) (Ref No.: 2543/APP/2005/870), subject to conditions. Condition 21 states that:

*“No development shall take place until the applicant, their agent or successor in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter development shall only take place in accordance with the approved scheme. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.”*

- 4.3 This condition has been required in accordance with *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (PPG 16) issued by the Department of the Environment in 1990 (DoE, 1990), and was recommended by the archaeology advisor to the London Borough of Hillingdon.
- 4.4 This document reports on the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken to identify any archaeological remains that might be threatened by the proposed development.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 The following background information is drawn from the desk-based assessment (AOC 2007). For a complete background please refer to that document.

### **Prehistoric (before c.AD 43)**

- 5.2 The ancient parish of Hillingdon lay approximately seven miles from Windsor on the northwest border of Middlesex. The parish was bordered by the parishes of Hayes and Harlington to the east, West Drayton and Harmondsworth to the south, Harefield and Ickenham to the north and by the River Colne to the west.
- 5.3 Palaeolithic finds from the Hillingdon area suggest early occupation and recent excavations by Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) near the Treaty House have produced evidence of Mesolithic camp sites. Pottery sherds from nearby Yiewsly indicate Bronze Age and Iron Age occupation to the south of Hillingdon.
- 5.4 During an archaeological watching brief undertaken by MoLAS at the High Street, two linear gullies were identified dating to the Middle Bronze Age, probably representing field boundaries. A residual fragment of perforated clay slab was also found and is of the type typically associated with Late Bronze Age settlements.

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

- 5.5 There is possible evidence of a Roman estate in Hillingdon given by a mound that stood on Coney green until about 1840. Additionally a Roman road is thought to have run through the parish from north to south.

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

- 5.6 The name Uxbridge, “a settlement at Oxebridge”, is first mentioned in a charter of 1107. The settlement was known as Wxebruge, derived from the Saxon tribe called the Wixan who built a bridge there across the River Colne. There are no finds from the Saxon period within a 1km search radius of the site.

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

- 5.7 Hillingdon is first referred to in the Domesday Book as the manor of *Hellendone*. The manor was held by Earl Roger and comprised four hides and included a mill weir and a church. The other major settlement in the area at the time was formed by Coleham manor, which held 8 hides. By the 13<sup>th</sup> century Uxbridge had overtaken the two hamlets in growth and economic importance. The town of Uxbridge grew as a market town with its most important industries being flour milling and brewing.

- 5.8 There have been numerous finds from the medieval period within the vicinity of the site. Excavations at 15–17 High Street identified several features including building remains, such as a mortared flint wall foundation, a pitched tile hearth dated to 1310 – 1340 and clay floors. A well, several pits and wide, flat-bottomed gullies which probably demarked burgage plots were also recorded.
- 5.9 The settlement of Uxbridge was probably first situated to the east of the Frays River, near the modern Oxford Road. By 1242 there was a manor of Uxbridge and by the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century Uxbridge had become the major settlement in the parish.
- 5.10 A site at the eastern side of Park Road was the approximate site of Northall Grange. The northern half of Colham Manor was administered from here in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century. The location may also have been at the site of the later Northall Lodge shown on various 17<sup>th</sup> century maps.
- 5.11 Remains of tenements, such as pits, wells and yard surfaces dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, as well as pits, gullies and drains and a reused well dating to the Tudor period were identified at 155–156 High Street. The features would have formed part of a tenement block along the High Street, first dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.12 Other finds and features retrieved along the High Street include pits and wells identified at 12 – 14 High Street, and a number of features including gravel surfaces, rubbish pits and garden soils with finds dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century at 175 – 222 High Street.

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

- 5.13 Hillingdon remained a more rural settlement until recently, when the borders of the parish were blurred by modern housing. The medieval east-west road divided the hamlet into two distinct areas. The area to the south was very fertile and most of the medieval open fields, the manor houses, and many of the later principle residences, were situated here. The area to the north, including the development site, was largely uninhabited and partly uncultivated until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.14 There are a number of SMR entries on buildings and building remains in the vicinity of the site. An 18<sup>th</sup> century building and baker's yard stood at 163 High Street but was demolished in 1936 for a new underground station. Harman's Brewery was founded in 1729 at 265 High Street and functioned until 1964 when it was demolished.
- 5.15 Archaeological investigations at Uxbridge identified a post-medieval field drain and wall foundation which were probably associated with Hillingdon House and its park, gardens and outbuildings.
- 5.16 Major events in the local history of Hillingdon in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century included the arrival of the railway and the purchase of Hillingdon House estate by

the RAF. The railway lines connected Uxbridge with London and ran through Hillingdon along the main east-west road immediately south of the site.

## **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 (including evidence of past environments).
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the nature and extent of existing truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the Archaeology Advisor to make an informed decision on the status of the condition on the planning permission, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
- 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 remains of prehistoric activity or settlement.
- Determine the presence of any remains of Roman date on the site.
- Assess the potential of the site to inform on the medieval development and chronology of Uxbridge.
- Assess the degree and extent of truncation of earlier deposits by the phases of late post-medieval and modern buildings on the site.

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 five machine-excavated trenches measuring 20m x 2m at base. 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, the first natural deposit in the event that no archaeological horizons were present, or to a depth of 1.2m, using a JCB excavator with a 1.8m



- wide toothless ditching bucket. All machining was carried out under direct control of an experienced archaeologist.
- 7.5 Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts.
  - 7.6 All trenches were machine excavated to the underlying natural London Clay or to a depth of 1.2m and the full stratigraphic sequence of overburden was recorded.
  - 7.7 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*.
  - 7.8 After recording, the trenches were backfilled with excavated material.
  - 7.9 A Temporary Bench Mark was set up on the site, transferred from a noted spot height at the opposite end of park road (Figure 2).
  - 7.10 The evaluation work was undertaken in four days by Paul Harris, Project Supervisor, under the overall project management of Andy Leonard, Project Manager.
  - 7.11 Prior to commencing work on site a unique site code was obtained from the Museum of London; HFX08.

## 8 RESULTS

### 8.1 Table of results

#### **Trench 1**

<i>South-west end, South-east facing section</i>	
<b>Height AOD</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>
55.27 to 55.17m OD	(1/009). Tarmac car park surface.
55.17 to 54.87m OD	(1/010). Mid brownish yellow, friable, partially clast supported sandy gravel. Levelling ballast.
54.87 to 54.79m OD	(1/007). Mid – dark greyish brown, loose, sandy clayey silt with frequent building material inclusions. 20 <sup>th</sup> century made ground.
54.79 to 54.51m OD	(1/008). Mid grey, poorly concreted sand and lime cement with frequent rounded pebble inclusions. Concrete floor.
54.51m+ OD	(1/002). Mid greyish yellow, firm, gravelly clay. Veins of gravel found throughout. Natural London clay.

8.2 Trench 1 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site (Figure 2). Trench 1 was re-aligned northeast - southwest due to the presence of a fenced hedge line running north south across the site, projecting from the eastern edge of Brearly Close to the north.

8.3 Natural London Clay (1/002) was observed at between 55.09 and 55.95m OD. No archaeological remains were present overlying or cutting this deposit. The Overburden uncovered consisted of a poorly concreted cement floor (1/008), recorded to a level of 54.79mOD. Overlaying this was a mid - dark greyish brown deposit of made ground (1/007). Sealing it was a friable mid brownish yellow, friable, sandy gravel levelling deposit (1/010) for the present tarmac surface (1/009) at a level of 55.17m OD. This sequence of modern deposition relates to the temporary scout hut and car park previously present at the site.

8.4 No significant archaeological remains were identified in Trench 1.

#### **Trench 2**

<i>North end, west facing section</i>	
<b>Height AOD</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>

56.88 to 55.78m OD	(2/023). Mid brownish grey, lightly compacted sandy clay, with moderate rounded and sub rounded pebble inclusions (<25mm). Disturbed, redeposited topsoil.
55.78 to 55.38m OD	(2/006). Mid yellowish greyish brown, heavily compacted sandy gravel. Levelling Ballast representative of temporary surface.
55.38 to 54.48m+ OD	(2/005). Friable mixture of mid orangey yellow redeposited natural clay and dark blackish brown clayey silt, with frequent modern building material inclusions. Modern made ground.

8.5 Trench 2 was located along the western extent of the site, orientated north-south (Figure 2).

8.6 The sequence of deposition revealed in Trench 2 consisted of a deep deposit of modern made ground (2/005) mainly constituted of redeposited natural clay, underlying a heavily compacted gravel levelling layer (2/006), underneath a shallow redeposition of heavily disturbed topsoil (2/023). The natural London clay was not reached at 1.2m below the surface. It was agreed with Kim Stabler that any archaeological remains would have been destroyed by this modern truncation and that no further excavation was needed within this trench.

8.7 No archaeological remains were identified in Trench 2.

### **Trench 3**

<i>East end, South facing section</i>	
<b>Height AOD</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>
55.72 to 55.52m OD	(3/023). Mid brownish grey, lightly compacted sandy clay, with moderate rounded and sub rounded pebble inclusions (<25mm). Disturbed, redeposited topsoil.
55.52 to 55.16m OD	(3/001). Mid - dark greyish brown, compacted silty clay, with frequent sub rounded and sub angular pebble and flint inclusions (<30mm)
55.16m+ OD	(3/004). Mid – light yellowish grey with reddish brown mottling, lightly compacted sand, with occasional gravel inclusions. Variation of natural.

8.8 Trench 3 was located in the centre of the site (Figure 2) aligned east west.

8.9 The stratigraphic sequence of overburden revealed in Trench 3 consisted of natural clay, gravel and sand deposits (3/002, 3/003, 3/004), beneath a mid – dark greyish brown subsoil (3/001), below a mid brownish grey sandy clay disturbed topsoil (3/023). This was found throughout the length of the trench.

- 8.10 The natural deposits varied within the trench. In the western half of the trench mid greyish yellow, firm gravely London Clays were uncovered, as found throughout the rest of the site. However, at 5m from the eastern edge of the trench the natural diffused to light white, pliable, sandy clayey gravel (3/003). Another 2.5 metres towards the eastern extent of the excavation the natural changed again to a mid – light yellowish grey with reddish brown mottling, lightly compacted sand, with occasional gravel inclusions (3/004). The interface of each change was investigated by hand to reveal a sequence of diffuse changes in the natural.
- 8.11 A shallow linear gully (3/018) was uncovered, running east-west (1.30 x 0.30 x 0.06m) from the western extent of trench 3. It had gently sloping, rounded sides that broke gently from the top and moderately to its rounded base. The feature contained a single deposit (3/019) of mid grey, moderately compacted gravely silty clay, with sub-angular pebble inclusions. A single flint waste flake was recovered from the context (Appendix D), which has been suggested to date from the late Bronze or early Iron Age (Grey, 2008, Appendix D). The high clay content and shallow cut of the gully suggests that deposit 3/1019 is representative of silting and that the flake uncovered within it is residual.
- 8.12 A shallow ovoid pit (3/020) was located 8.9m from the western extent of Trench 3. The pit measured 0.60 x 0.50 x 0.07m. It had gently sloping, rounded sides that broke shallowly to its flat base. Pit 3/1020 contained a single fill (3/021) of mid brownish grey, moderately compacted gravely clay, with frequent sub angular gravel and pebble inclusions (<25mm). No finds were recovered from this context.

#### **Trench 4**

<i>South-west end, north-west facing section</i>	
<b>Height AOD</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>
55.27 to 55.17m OD	(4/023). Mid brownish grey, lightly compacted sandy clay, with moderate rounded and sub rounded pebble inclusions (<25mm). Disturbed, redeposited topsoil.
55.17 to 54.87m OD	(4/001). Mid dark greyish brown, compacted silty clay, with frequent sub rounded and sub angular pebble and flint inclusions (<30mm).
54.87m+ OD	(4/002). Mid greyish yellow, firm, gravely clay. Veins of gravel found throughout. Natural London clay.

- 8.13 Trench 4 was located in the south-east corner of the site. The orientation of the trench was altered from north-south to northeast-southwest to avoid a large tree.
- 8.14 The stratigraphy within the trench consisted of a tri-partite division of natural mid greyish yellow gravely clay natural (4/002), beneath a mid-dark greyish brown

- silty clay subsoil (4/001), below mid brownish grey, compacted sandy clay topsoil (4/023).
- 8.15 In the south-western end of the trench, 1.5 metres from the extent of the excavation was a shallow irregular oval pit (4/022) (1.20 x 0.40 x 0.08m). The cut had gently sloping, undulating sides that broke gently to an undulating base. The feature contained a single fill (4/011) of hearth material, comprising burnt clay within charcoal rich brownish black silt. No dating evidence was recovered from the deposit. The context was sampled to retrieve environmental indicators and datable artefactual remains. Archaeobotanical analysis of the sample revealed small amounts of charred seeds and grasses that could have been used as fuel for the hearth. However, modern botanical remains were also recovered, bringing into question the relevance of the charred material (Roberts, 2008, Appendix E).
- 8.16 A wide, naturally formed, shallow gully (2.10 x 1.80+ x 0.30m) was located 4m from the south-western extent of Trench 4. The cut had gently sloping, undulating sides that broke gradually from the top and steeply to a narrow, tapered base in the centre of the feature. The gully contained 2 identifiable fills. The primary fill (4/013) (1.80+ x 0.50 x 0.11m) comprised of a dark brown, firm, sandy clay with occasional flint and chalk fleck inclusions. No finds were recovered. The secondary fill (4/014) (2.10 x 1.80+ x 0.19m) was mid-dark orangey brown firm clayey silt, with frequent angular and sub angular flint inclusions. Six small, rounded pieces of prehistoric pottery (Appendix C) were recovered from the context, asserting the deposits identification as silting material.
- 8.17 At the north-eastern end of the trench a deposit of light brown silty clay (4/015 and 4/016) was found in two areas between the intersection of the natural clay 4/002 and subsoil 4/001. Two pieces of ceramic building material (CBM), thought to be fragments of post-medieval peg tile (Appendix F) were recovered from the deposits and within (4/015), there was evidence of burning.

## **Trench 5**

<i>West end, north facing section</i>	
<b>Height AOD</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>
56.67 to 55.82m OD	(5/006). Mid yellowish greyish brown, heavily compacted sandy gravel. Levelling Ballast representative of temporary surface.
55.82 to 55.57m OD	(5/005). Friable mixture of mid orangey yellow redeposited natural clay and dark blackish brown clayey silt, with frequent modern building material inclusions. Modern made ground.
55.57m+ OD	(5/002). Mid greyish yellow, firm, gravelly clay. Veins of gravel found throughout. Natural London clay.

<i>East end, north facing section</i>	
<b>Height AOD</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>
56.21 to 55.56m OD	(5/017). Friable mixture of dark brown clay and mid greyish brown silty sandy clay, containing frequent inclusions of modern building materials. Made ground.
55.56m+ OD	(5/002). Mid greyish yellow, firm, gravelly clay. Veins of gravel found throughout. Natural London clay.

- 8.18 Trench 5 was located in the south-west corner of the site, orientated east-west. It was positioned to the north of its planned location so as to avoid a sewer that ran north-south through the centre of the site.
- 8.19 The stratigraphy encountered in Trench 5 varied across its length. Within the east and centre of the trench the natural mid greyish yellow, gravelly London clay (5/002) was found underneath a composite of made ground comprising dark brown clay, mid greyish brown silty sandy clay and modern building materials (5/017). In the west of the trench the deep stratigraphy of made ground uncovered throughout Trench 2 was revealed up to 4m from the western edge of excavation. This comprised mixed, redeposited, natural clay, dark blackish brown clayey silt and building materials (5/005), below a mid yellowish greyish brown, heavily compacted sandy gravel (5/006).
- 8.20 No archaeological remains were identified within Trench 5.

## **9 FINDS**

- 9.1 A limited amount of finds were uncovered during the evaluation at Hillingdon House Farm. The artefacts recovered are suggestive of a prehistoric occupancy of the area and representative of a post-medieval/modern manipulation of the landscape.
- 9.2 The prehistoric finds recovered from the site are residual in nature and therefore allow us to deduce little more than the presence of prehistoric communities within the vicinity of the site. Six small pieces of prehistoric pottery were recovered from silting deposit (4/014) within a naturally formed gulley. They have been identified as being Iron Age (Appendix C). A single flint waste flake was found within a similar silting deposit (3/019), within gulley [3/018], which has been dated to the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age (Appendix D).
- 9.3 A buried soil horizon, comprising of two deposits (4/015 and 4/016), within Trench 4 yielded two fragments of worn CBM, identified as peg tile (Appendix F). Although this type of tile was used in both the medieval and post-medieval period a peg tile industry has been identified in nearby Uxbridge, which operated

during the post medieval period and suggests that the finds were produced at this time (Betts, 2008, Appendix F).

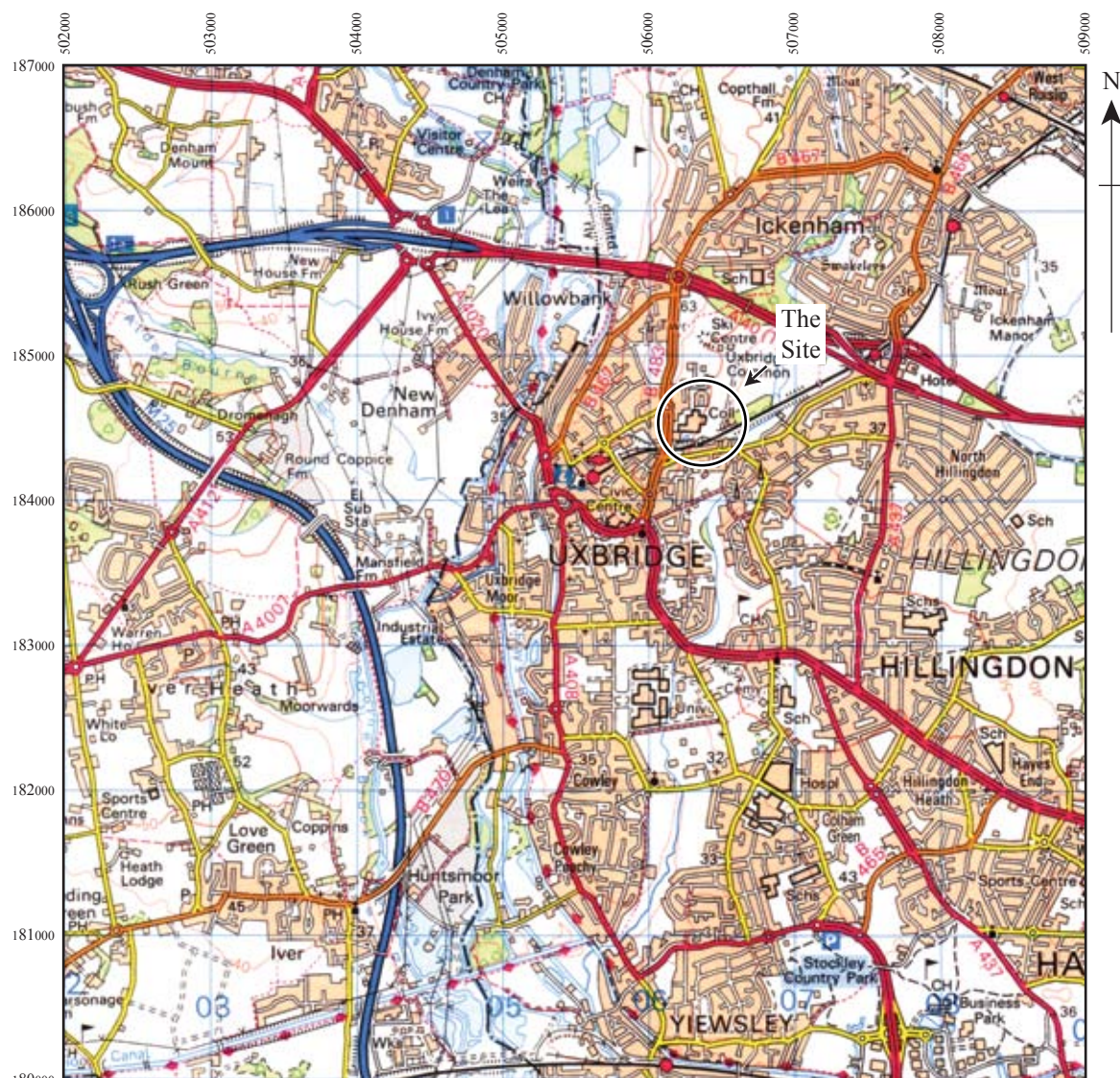
## 10 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Limited evidence of archaeological activity was identified within the centre of the site (Trenches 3 and 4). A scarce amount of prehistoric artefacts were uncovered within residual contexts. A naturally formed, shallow gulley was found in the southeast of the site within Trench 4, containing a deposit of silting material from which six small fragments of residual prehistoric pottery were recovered. A similar gulley within Trench 3 [3/018] was filled with silting material (3/019), which produced a residual flint flake.
- 10.2 The deposition of made ground was found throughout the site, highlighted by the discovery of a buried post medieval soil horizon within Trench 4, which contained two fragmentary peg tiles.
- 10.2 An oval ditch containing hearth material was found within the south-western end of Trench 4. Archaeobotanical analysis of the fill recovered small amounts of charred grass (*Poaceae indet*) stem material and seed remains which could have been used as fuel for the hearth. Modern plant remains were also recovered though, throwing doubt upon the interpretation of the sample. However, the deposit comprised burnt clay within a charcoal rich silt matrix, which in concordance with the analysis may suggest that the burnt clay hearth material was re deposited within a later, modern pit.
- 10.3 An area running along the western extent of the site has been heavily disturbed by modern truncation and the deposition of leveling material probably related to the construction of the University buildings to the west and south. In the north-east of the site a modern building has similarly cut into the natural clay truncating possible archaeological remains.
- 10.4 The evaluation met its primary objective: to establish the presence/absence of any archaeological remains. 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 Havering and its archaeology advisor, Kim Stabler (GLAAS).
- 10.5 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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**Figure 1:** Site Location





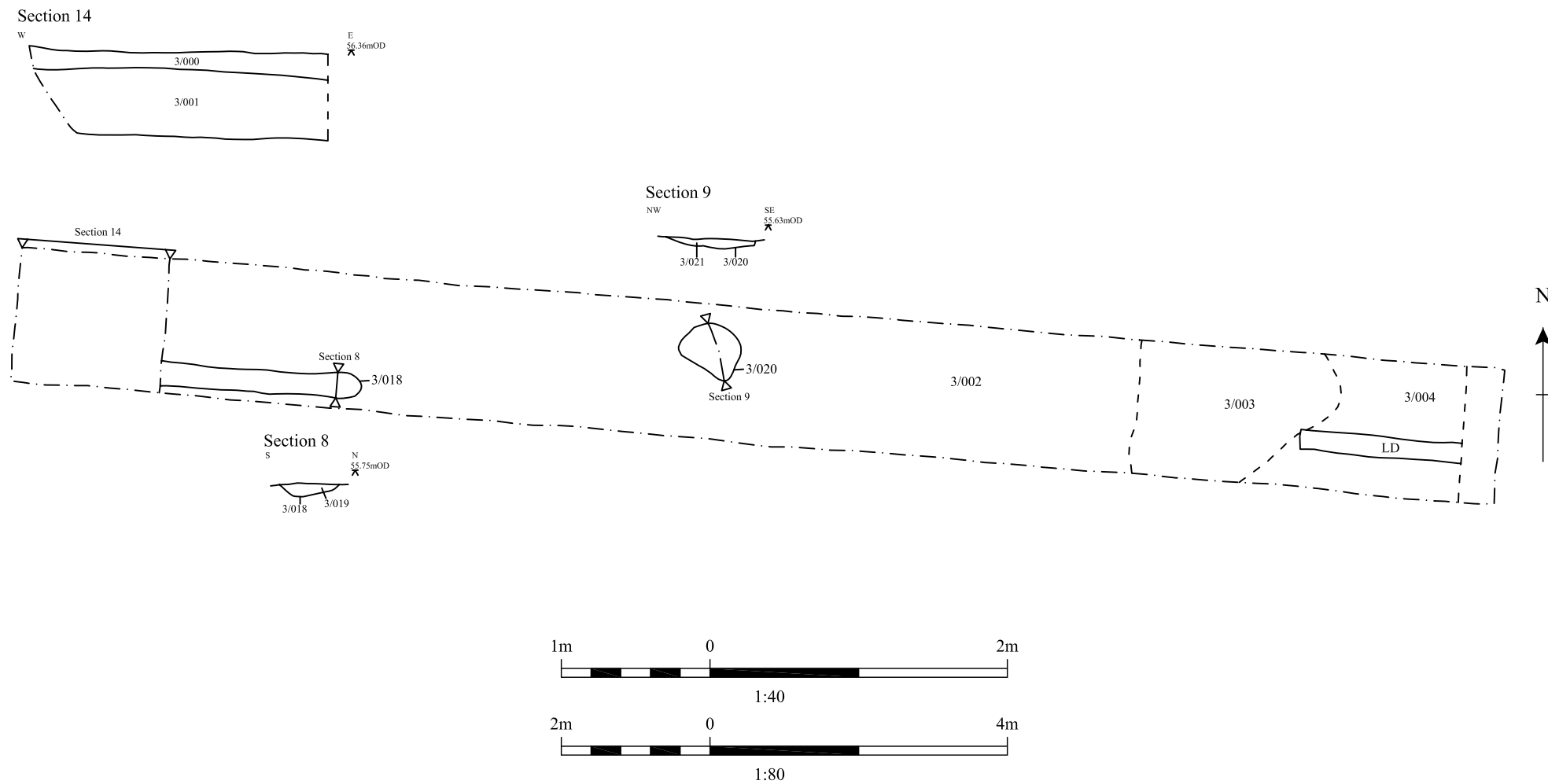
Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:10,000 Historical Map of 2005  
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— Site Outline

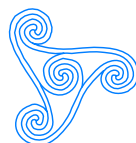
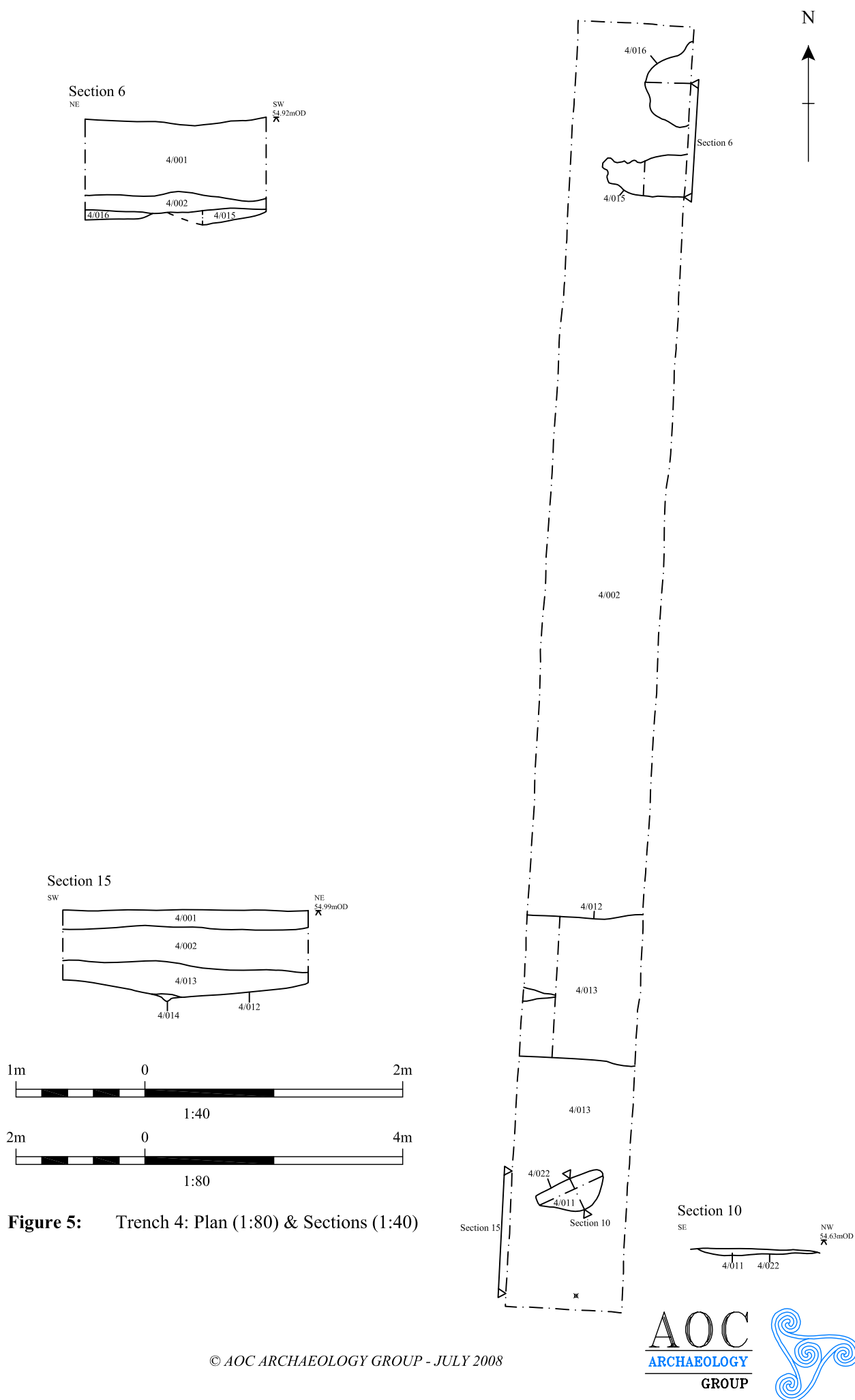


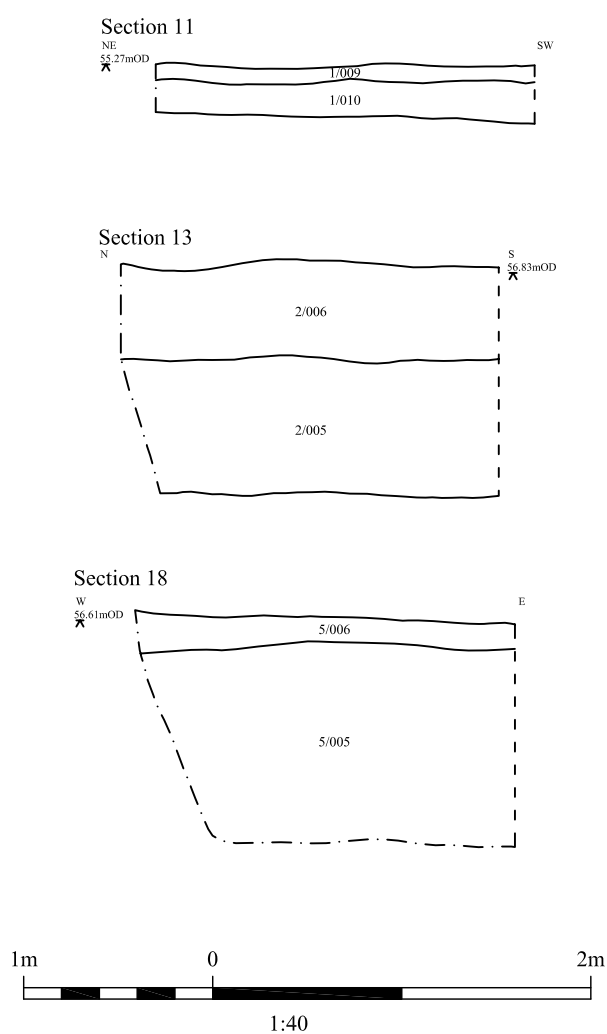
**Figure 2:** Detailed Site Location





**Figure 4:** Trench 3: Plan (1:80) & Sections (1:40)





**Figure 6:** Sample Sections (1:40)

## APPENDIX A – CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
1/009	Tarmac surface	2.50m	1.80m	0.10m
1/010	Ballast levelling layer	2.50m	1.80m	0.30m
1/007	Demolition rubble	20.00m	1.80m	0.08m
1/008	Cement floor	15.00m	1.80m	0.28m
1/002	Natural London clay	20.00m	1.80m	0.00m+
2/023	Disturbed re-deposited topsoil	20.00m	1.80mm	0.10m
2/006	Ballast levelling deposit	20.00m	1.80m	0.40m
2/005	Made ground comprising redeposited natural clay, silt and building material	20.00m	1.80m	0.90m+
3/023	Disturbed topsoil	20.00m	1.80m	0.20m
3/001	Mid-dark grey brown silty clay subsoil	20.00m	1.80m	0.36m
3/002	Natural London clay	15.00m	1.80m	0.00m+
3/003	Sandy clay gravel variable of natural	2.50m	1.80m	0.00m+
3/004	Sand variable of natural	2.50m	1.80m	0.00m+
3/018	Shallow linear gulley	1.30m	0.30m	0.06m
3/019	Fill of shallow linear gulley 3/018	1.30m	0.30m	0.06m
3/020	Shallow ovoid pit	0.60m	0.50m	0.07m
3/012	Fill of pit 3/020	0.60m	0.50m	0.07m
4/023	Disturbed topsoil	20.00m	1.80m	0.14m
4/001	Mid-dark grey brown silty clay subsoil	20.00m	1.80m	0.55m
4/002	Natural London clay	20.00m	1.80m	0.00m+
4/011	Fill of pit 4/022, comprised of burnt clay and charcoal rich silt	0.90m	0.50m	0.08m
4/012	Naturally formed gulley containing silting deposits 4/013 and 4/014	1.80m+	2.30m	0.30m
4/013	Orangey brown clayey silt, silting material	1.80m+	0.50m	0.11m
4/014	Dark brown sandy clay, silting deposit	1.80m+	2.30m	0.19m
4/015	Light brown silty clay soil horizon	0.60m	0.28m	0.10m
4/016	Light brown silty clay soil horizon	0.60m	0.30m	0.08m
4/022	Shallow, ovoid pit containing hearth material 4/011	0.90m	0.50m	0.08m
5/006	Ballast levelling deposit	4.00m	1.80m	0.25m
5/005	Made ground comprising redeposited natural clay, silt and building material	5.20m	1.80m	0.95m+
	Made ground comprising a mixture of disturbed topsoil, subsoil and modern			
5/017	Building material inclusions	14.80m	1.80m	0.65m
5/002	Natural London clay	20.00m	1.80m	0.00m+

## APPENDIX B

### 1.1 OASIS ID: aocarcha1-37219

#### Project details

Project name	Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge, London Borough of Havering
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between 8th and 11th January 2008 at Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge, London Borough of Havering, on behalf of Persimmon Homes Ltd. 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 five machine excavated trenches measuring 20m x 1.8m at base. Natural London clay was identified at between 54.37mOD and 55.95mOD. Sealing the clay was a deposit of homogenous subsoil underlying disturbed topsoil. This stratigraphic sequence was found throughout the site except within the west of the site where deep deposits of made ground composed of redeposited natural clay, silt and modern building materials were found to extend beyond 1.2m below ground level, completely truncating any possible archaeological remains. Further modern truncation was found in the northeast of the site where a modern building previously stood. Scarce archaeological remains were uncovered within Trench 3 in the centre of the site and Trench 4 in the southeast of the site. A small undated pit and shallow linear gully were excavated in Trench 3 and a silted gully, shallow pit containing hearth material and soil horizon were uncovered in Trench 4.
Project dates	Start: 08-01-2008 End: 11-01-2008
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAVERING HAVERING Hillingdon House Farm,



Uxbridge, London Borough of Havering

Study area 0.40 Hectares

Height OD Min: 54.37m Max: 55.95m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project brief originator English Heritage

Project design originator AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Andy Leonard

Project supervisor Paul Harris

Type of sponsor/funding body Persimmon Homes

### Project archives

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Industrial'

Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'

Digital Media available 'Database','Images raster / digital photography','Survey'

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report'

**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge, London Borough of Havering
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Harris, P
Date	2008
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	AOC Archaeology

Entered by	Paul Harris (paul.harris@aocarcgaeology.com)
Entered on	1 February 2008

## APPENDIX C

### The Pottery From Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge (Hfx08)

Museum of London Archaeology Service

MoLAS ref: AOC/HFX08

Date: 21.07.08

*Lyn Blackmore*

#### Introduction

Six very small fragments of prehistoric pottery were found in a wide, naturally formed, shallow gully located 4 metres from the south-western edge of trench 4. The evaluation report states that there were no finds in the primary fill ([4/013]) but that small rounded pieces of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the secondary fill ([4/014]). The report also mentions that sherds of pottery and flint were found at the north-eastern end of the trench in a deposit of light brown silty clay ([4/015] and [4/016]), but these were in fact fragments of building material. The only pottery, therefore, is from [4/013].

#### Description

The pottery fragments are extremely small, the largest being *c* 13mm square. One irregular fragment is *c* 13mm x 5mm, while the others are all less than 10mm across, the smallest being *c* 5mm square. There are no diagnostic rims, bases or decorated sherds, and although three fragments have one surviving surface (probably the inner one), the others are rounded and more abraded. It is, however, possible to say that all pieces have a fine brickearth matrix with rounded iron-rich pellets and nodules, a characteristic feature of the prehistoric and Saxon pottery from this part of Greater London (Grimes and Close-Brooks 1993, 350; Williams 1993, 351; Blackmore in prep). Moderate inclusions of white flint up to 2mm across are present in all sherds and it is very likely that all are from the same vessel.

#### Discussion

Given the small size of both the sample and the fragments themselves dating is problematic. At Heathrow the flint-tempered fabrics were mainly dated to the Late Bronze Age and sandy fabrics to the Middle and late Iron Age. The transition from flint- to sand-tempering in was a gradual one (Rayner 2003, 48–9); Heathrow flint-tempered fabric 5 was dated to the Middle Iron Age or later (Grimes and Close-Brooks 1993, 350–1), and it is clear from other sites that finer flint-tempered fabrics continued in use, albeit less frequently, throughout the first millennium BC and up to the Roman conquest. On

balance, however, it is likely that the present finds belong to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transition.

Late Bronze Age to Iron Age pottery assemblages from the general area include Mayfield Farm (Jefferson 2003, 15), Dollis Hill (Rayner 2003, 48–50), Cranford Lane (Elsden et al in prep) and at the large multifunctional site at Heathrow (Grimes and Close-Brooks 1993). Iron Age domestic pottery has been found at Stockley Park, Dawley (c 550–340 BC; Elsden et al in prep), while other less well dated mid- to late Iron Age sites include Mayfield Farm (continuing into the Roman period), Holloway Lane, Wall Garden Farm and possibly Home Farm and Manor Farm, Harmondsworth (Elsden et al in prep).

### **Bibliography**

Blackmore, L, in prep The pottery, in Cowie, R, and Blackmore, L, in prep *Early and Middle Saxon rural settlement in the London Region*, MoLAS monograph, London  
Elsden, N, et al in prep *West London landscapes: Archaeological excavations on the Thames terraces in the London Borough of Hillingdon, the prehistoric and Roman evidence*, for MoLAS Monogr Ser

Grimes, W F, and Close-Brooks, J, 1993 The excavation of Caesar's Camp, Heathrow, Harmondsworth, Middlesex 1944, *Proc Prehist Soc* 59, 303–60

Jefferson, P, 2003, Excavations at Mafield Farm, East Bedfont, London Borough of Hillingdon, *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 54, 9–22

Rayner, L, 2003 The prehistoric pottery, in Sankey, 48–50

Sankey, D, Excavations at Dollis Hill, Brent, *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 54, 39–58

Williams, D F, 1993, Note on the petrology, in Grimes and Close-Brooks 1993, 351–2

## **APPENDIX D**

### **The prehistoric flint from Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge, Havering.**

Tony Grey

18 June 2008

A single flint waste flake was recovered from the mid-grey silty fill (3/019) of a linear gully [3/018] in Trench 3. This is an irregular flake in orange-grey flint with a small area of buff coloured cortex. This single item may be of Bronze Age origin. The borough is rich in remains of prehistoric settlement and farming activity. Prehistoric remains are attested from the Hillingdon area including Mesolithic camp sites from near Treaty House (MoLAS), two Middle Bronze Age linear gullies (probably field boundaries) and a perforated clay slab fragment from a MoLAS watching brief at the High Street and Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery from nearby Yiewsly. Further material includes Upper Paleolithic/Early Mesolithic flint from Three Ways Wharf, Late Bronze Age/Iron Age ditches at Jewsons Yard (Barclay 1995), Palaeolithic and Mesolithic material from Hayes, a Neolithic leaf shaped arrowhead from Uxbridge, Palaeolithic handaxes, scraper and blades from the MoLAS Hillingdon Hospital site, Late bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditches with pottery at Harlington Road.

## APPENDIX E

### Report On the Plant Remains from Hillingdon House Farm, Uxbridge (HFX07)

Museum of London Specialist Services

**MoLSS ref: 3/2008**

**AOC\HFX07\bot\botrep.doc**

Date 7.7.08

Kate Roberts

#### Summary

The plant remains from one sample from a hearth fill in an undated pit were looked at in this report. This sample may have contained evidence of the plants used as fuel.

#### Methodology

One sample was taken on site and processed by staff at AOC using meshes of 300µm and 1mm for the flot and residue respectively. This produced one flot. The residue was sorted by eye by staff at AOC. The author then received the resultant flot for analysis. This sample was taken from a hearth found within an undated pit. The sample was sorted and any charred remains were extracted, identified and quantified fully, with the exception of charred stem fragments and charred wood. Waterlogged remains were identified in situ in the flots where possible and quantities were estimated using the following scale: '+' < 10 items, '++' < 50 items, '+++ < 250 items. The same scale was used to estimate quantities of charcoal and charred stem material. Plant remains were identified using the MoLAS botanical reference collection and reference manuals, including Cappers *et al* (2006). The results were recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet and a report written.

#### Preservation

Preservation in this sample appeared to be mainly due to charring. There was a single non charred sedge (*Carex* sp.) seed present, however due to the presence of a non-charred rooting material, which may have been modern, it is possible that this non charred material is intrusive, and so it will be ignored in the present discussion. Charred material was scarce and very fragile, mainly due to the size of the material present which was, in the majority of cases, very small.

## Results

### *Sample 1, hearth deposit 4/011*

The most interesting aspect of sample 1 were the tiny fragments of charred stem material and very small grass (Poaceae indet.) seeds. If this feature does turn out to be a hearth then it is possible that this material could have been used as a fuel, however the quantities present were very small and it might be that this material represents sweepings from an accidental or deliberate burning event elsewhere. Other charred material was present in small quantities and this consisted of occasional seeds from plants of waste ground, including goosefoot type (*Chenopodium* spp.) and knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*). These plants are all of a very generic nature, and can be found growing on any disturbed area of land.

## Discussion

It is possible that the material present in this sample could represent fuel used in a hearth, however the quantities are very small, and the presence of possible modern material does throw doubt on the interpretation of any archaeobotanical material in this sample, since it could all be the result of contamination. The remains could result from sweeping or blowing in from elsewhere as easily as from burning in situ.

## Bibliography

Cappers R T J, Bekker R M and Jans J E A *Digitale Zadenatlas van Nederland*. Groningen

## Table

<b>sample number</b>		<b>&lt;1&gt;</b>
<b>context number</b>		<b>[4011]</b>
<b>sample volume (l)</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>flot volume (ml)</b>		<b>10</b>
LATIN NAME	ENGLISH	
<b>Charred plant remains</b>		
<i>Chenopodium</i> spp.	goosefoot type	7
Chenopodiaceae indet.	goosefoot family	1
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	knotgrass	1
<i>Galium</i> spp.	goosegrass type	1
<i>Poa</i> spp.	meadow-grass	1
Poaceae indet.	grasses	9
indeterminate charred stem material		++
indeterminate seed		5
indeterminate charcoal		++
<b>Waterlogged plant remains</b>		

Carex spp.	sedge	+
<b>Non-charred plant remains</b>		
Roots		++++



## APPENDIX F

### REPORT ON THE BUILDING MATERIAL FROM SITE H & L, HILLINGDON HOUSE FARM, UXBRIDGE (HFX08)

Museum of London Archaeological Service

**MoLAS ref: AOC/(HFX08)/bmrep.doc**

Date 29.07.08

#### Building Material

*Ian M. Betts*

Two small fragments of building material were recovered from Trench 4 located in the south-east corner of the site. Both were recovered from a deposit of brown silty clay. One (context [4/016]) comprises a small fragment of roofing tile made with a slightly lumpy sandy clay (a variant of MoL fabric type 2586). The other tile (context [4/015]) has only the sanded base surviving, but is probably also a roofing tile. This is made from clay containing a scatter of very small black inclusions, probably iron oxide (MoL fabric 3090). Both would appear to be post-medieval, although the small fragment size makes precise dating difficult.

It is highly likely the roofing tiles from Trench 4 are peg tiles, which were used in vast quantities during the medieval and post-medieval period in the Greater London area. Large numbers of peg tiles were recovered during excavation along the High Street in Uxbridge (Smith 2004, 51). The post-medieval examples were believed to derive from a local tile industry situated somewhere in the Uxbridge area, which may well be the source of the two Hillingdon House Farm examples.

#### Bibliography

Smith, T P 2004 'Building materials', in Knight, H & Jeffries, N (eds), *Medieval and later urban development at High Street, Uxbridge*, Museum of London Archaeology Service, Archaeological Studies Series, 12, 50-52.

The AOC Archaeology Group provides a wide range of archaeological services, including consultancy, desktop studies, historic building recording, survey, excavation, post-excavation analyses, conservation and publication.

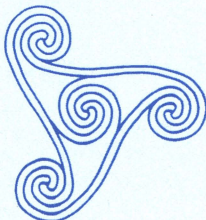
Our management team blends archaeological excellence with financial expertise and many of our highly trained personnel and recognised leaders in their own fields. Consequently, we possess an approach which is both commercially aware and of the very highest professional standard. We aim to provide an efficient and effective service to clients in both the private and public sectors.

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*The logo incorporates a design from  
a lead disc found on Birsay, Orkney,  
dated to the sixth century AD.*