

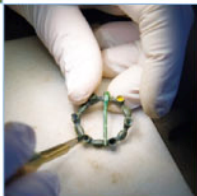
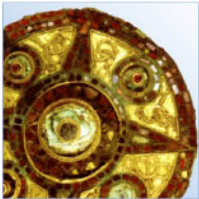
Land Off Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon An Archaeological Evaluation Report

Planning Application Number: Pre-application
National Grid Reference Number: TQ 0880 8770

AOC Project no: 30078

Site Code: BYU08

Date: July 2008



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Land Off Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of: Sens-Tech Ltd.
Bury Street,
Ruislip,
Middlesex
HA4 7TA,
UK

National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 088 877

AOC Project No: 30078

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

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Non-Technical Summary

An Archaeological evaluation was undertaken between 13th and 17th March 2008 at 25 Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon. The work was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of Sens-Tech Limited. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of any new development on any surviving archaeological remains within the site. In particular the evaluation sought, to establish if the leat (water supply ditch) of a medieval moat (Scheduled Ancient Monument 29) ran through the northern corner of the site and to establish if any of the structures previously noted on an 1896 OS map were present in the eastern corner of the site.

The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of three trenches measuring 16m x 2m, 8.5m x 2m and 7m x 2m at base. The trenches were positioned within an Area of Archaeological Sensitivity, as specified within the brief. Natural London clay deposits were identified at between 40.73mOD and 41.39mOD. Sealing the clay were late Post medieval and modern deposits of made ground, layers of hardcore leveling material, and buried tarmac and concrete surfaces.

Within the northern corner of the site a series of post holes denoting the layout of a possible medieval structure, and a pit were uncovered. The pit contained 69 sherds of early medieval pottery, and three further similar sherds were recovered from the postholes. A small quantity of animal bone was also recovered. The artefacts are interpreted as being domestic in nature, and the features probably represent a timber building and a rubbish pit. The pottery dates to AD 1050-1150, and it is therefore likely that these remains are from occupation of the site following either the construction of the motte and bailey castle by Ernulf de Hesdin after the Norman Conquest, or the acquisition of the manor by the Abbey of Bec after 1097, and the replacement of the castle with a religious house on the site.

The moat and leat were not found during the investigations. Within the eastern corner of the site the brick foundations of a 17th century building's exterior wall, orientated northwest – southeast were uncovered. The foundations were heavily truncated by a 20th century concreted storage tank to the northwest and by Bury Street itself to the northeast. Two Roman artefacts were found in later features, indicating the presence of a Roman building in the vicinity.

1 Introduction

1.1.1 This document presents the results of an archaeological evaluation at Bury Street, Ruislip. The archaeological sequence is described, and the requirements for further work indicated, dependent on development proposals.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 0880 8770, on the west side of Bury Street behind No.25. The north western boundary is formed by a youth centre; the western limit of the site lies adjacent to an open grass area. The southern boundary is formed by the rear of houses fronting Sharps Lane. The north eastern limit of the site was formed by 25 Bury Street, a Grade II Listed 16-17th century Building.

1.2.2 The site is irregular in shape and measures approximately 1.19 hectares, (Figure 2).

1.3 Development Proposal

1.3.1 The proposed development is in the pre-planning stage, and no decision will be confirmed regarding its extent and character until the archaeological investigations have been completed.

1.4 Planning Background

1.4.1 The site lies within Ruislip Conservation Area and is within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by Hillingdon Unitary development Plan (adopted 1998). In accordance with Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) issued by the Department of the Environment in 1990 (DoE, 1990) and the recommendations of Kim Stabler (Archaeology Advisor to Hillingdon Borough Council), it was deemed that an archaeological investigation must be carried out as a requirement before planning consent was granted.

1.4.2 The first stage in the Archaeological Investigation was the production of a Desk Based Assessment (AOC 2007), which was produced prior to the evaluation. On the basis of the results of that document it was decided that a programme of evaluation trenching be undertaken as a predetermination requirement.

1.4.3 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared (AOC 2008). This was submitted to, and approved by, the archaeology advisor to the London Borough of Hillingdon prior to the evaluation fieldwork. This document reports on the results of the archaeological field evaluation.

1.5 Methodology

1.5.1 The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of 3 trenches, measuring 18m x 2m, 7m x 2m and 8.7m x 2m at base (Trenches 1, 2a and 2b). These were aligned north-west – south-east, and were parallel to Bury Street, located within an area of allotted archaeological sensitivity to the north and east of the site's existing buildings.

1.5.2 Before excavation the entire site was visually inspected and all trenches were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to check for live services. The proposed trench plan was amended to avoid the sites service cables that ran across the entrance, geotechnical boreholes that were being

excavated during the evaluation and a concrete storage tank (15 x 10m), which resulted in Trench 2 being split into Trench 2a to the northwest of the tank and Trench 2b to the southeast of the tank.

- 1.5.3 All overburden was removed down to the top of the first recognizable archaeological horizon or the uppermost natural deposit in the event that no archaeological horizons were present, using a JCB 3CX excavator with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. All machining was carried out under direct control of an experienced archaeologist.
- 1.5.4 On completion of machine excavation, all faces of trenches that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools and the full stratigraphic sequence was recorded. Any archaeological remains revealed were excavated by hand with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appeared to be demonstrably worthy of preservation *in situ*.
- 1.5.5 All the pits, post holes and stake holes present were half-sectioned and then recorded. For selected post holes and stake holes it was deemed necessary that the remaining fill was excavated to aid the recovery of dating evidence.
- 1.5.6 The site code **BYU 08** was obtained for the project, and used for all fieldwork.
- 1.5.7 All recording was undertaken in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Archaeological Field Manual (Museum of London Archaeology Service 3rd edition 1994). And the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 1.5.8 A Temporary Bench Mark was set up on the site, transferred from a previously surveyed point on the road bridge to the north and west of the site (Figure 2) and levels were recorded for each deposit.
- 1.5.9 After recording, the trenches were backfilled with excavated material.
- 1.5.10 The evaluation work was undertaken in three days by Paul Harris, Project Supervisor, under the overall project management of Catherine Edwards, Project Officer and Andy Leonard, Project Manager.

1.6 Aims and Objectives

1.6.1 The aims of the Evaluation were defined as being:

- 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 Kim Stabler to make an informed decision on the status of the planning application, and any possible requirement for further work if the application is approved.
- To inform other interested parties about the potential for archaeological remains on the site, as part of the planning process.

1.6.2 The specific objectives of the Evaluation were:

- Determine the presence of any remains of Prehistoric date.
- Determine the presence of any remains of Saxon date on the site.
- Assess the potential of the site to inform on the medieval development and chronology of Ruislip.
- Assess the degree and extent of truncation of earlier deposits by the phases of late post-medieval and modern buildings on the site.

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

1.7 Topography and Geology

1.7.1 The British Geological Survey map (BGS Sheet 286) indicates that the underlying geology of the site is part Lambeth Group (clay, silt and sand) of Palaeocene Age in the north, overlain by London Clay Formation (clay, silt and sand) of the Eocene Age in the south. The superficial drift geology is not recorded in the British geological Survey map of the area, although a band of alluvium (clay, silt, sand and gravel) runs to the north of the site respecting the River Pinn. This deposit is Quaternary in age.

1.7.2 No geotechnical investigations were conducted prior to the evaluation within the proposed development area.

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 No previous archaeological investigations have occurred on the site and little in the way of archaeological excavation has occurred in the area. There are a number of entries in the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record (GLSMR) for archaeological features or chance finds within 500m of the site. The following background information is drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (AOC 2007).

2.2 Prehistoric (before c.AD43)

2.2.1 Archaeological evidence is relatively limited in terms of prehistoric settlement activity in the vicinity of Ruislip, although flint flakes, scrapers, arrow heads and knives dating from the Mesolithic, Neolithic and the Bronze Age periods have been found along the valley of the River Pinn, This indicates that the River Pinn was likely to have formed a focus of the prehistoric activity in this area.

2.2.2 During the Iron Age Middlesex was occupied by the *Catuvellauni*. It is suggested that during this period the area was heavily forested and largely uninhabited, save hill top settlement and along river valleys (Braun, 1933: 103).

2.2.3 Although there is little evidence within the GLSMR to suggest Iron Age activity within the study area, recent archaeological evaluation at Bishops Ramsey School, 1.5km to the east of the site, (AOC 2007) revealed a small assemblage of abraded Late Middle/late Iron Age pottery, domestic in nature.

2.3 Roman (c.AD43 - 450)

2.3.1 The bulk of the evidence within the Ruislip area for Roman activity relates to spot finds and residual finds re-used in later architecture. For example, Roman brick and tile incorporated into the walls of a medieval church. Roman pottery, glass and brick have been found within the area, which supports the theory that a Roman building was located in the vicinity of Manor Farm and the motte and bailey (Braun, 1933: 103). However, the exact location of such a building has not been identified.

2.3.2 Bury Street is believed to have Roman origins and earthworks were recorded during excavations in the 1970's. The earthworks comprise two banks and an intervallate ditch, part medieval and part Roman in date. The full extent of these earthworks has not been identified, however based on a section recorded during the 1970s excavation the ditch respects the eastern limit of Bury Street, which was extended in the 1920s. It is argued by Braun that the line of the road, respects the enclosed, "Park for Woodland Beasts" recorded to the north of the site, although without more concrete archaeological dating it is not possible to determine which feature came first.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon, (c.451-1065)

2.4.1 The settlement of Ruislip came into being during the early Medieval/Saxon period, although the documentary and archaeological evidence for this period is fairly limited. The settlement was located within the Saxon Hundred of Elthorne, the Lord of which was Wlward Wit, who held land in 11 counties, including estates in Somerset and Buckinghamshire (Bowl, E.M. (1989): p40). In Middlesex he held Ruislip, Kempton, Kinsbury and part of Ickingham.

2.4.2 It is generally held that during this period a large hunting park was constructed. The earthwork

enclosed an area which extended from the junction of Bury Street, Eastcote Road and the High Street north to Park Wood. Part of this earth work, Park Pale, survives within Park Pale to the north and is scheduled. The Park is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, referred to as a “park for Woodland Beasts”. Although an exact date for this feature has not been established, it is held to have been established by the Manor of Wlward Wit at the time of Edward the Confessor, and to be associated with an Anglo-Saxon manor which was possibly on the site of the later motte and bailey (Department for Culture, Media and Sport Batch Number: 11573).

2.5 Medieval (c.1066-1540)

- 2.5.1 Shortly after the Norman Conquest a motte and bailey castle was constructed by Ernulf de Hesdin. After 1097 the manor passed into the hands of the Abbey of Bec, who founded a small house on the site of the castle; this was dissolved in 1446. Later a farm house was built on the site (Manor Farm). No evidence remains of the early medieval castle, although it is believed to be located to the south of the current Manor Farm. The bailey ditches were filled in at the end of 18th century and excavated in 1978-9 by RNHS.
- 2.5.2 As part of the curtilage of the motte and bailey discussed above, a village enclosure survives extant to the east of Bury Street. Based on the surviving section this would have formed a circular enclosure with the crossroads of Bury Street, Eastcote Road and the High Street in the centre. Based on the sections surviving of the surrounding village enclosure, it consisted of a bank some 1½m high with a ditch to south.
- 2.5.3 Ruislip remained in the hands of the Benedictine Abbey of Bec in Normandy through the next three hundred years, with a priory at the site of modern day Manor Farm. To the east of the motte and bailey was a system of banks and ditches possibly ponds, which no longer survive. By the 13th century this priory was the administrative centre of the Abbey’s Balliwick of Ogbourne, and was probably the seat of the Proctor-General (Bowlit, 1989).
- 2.5.4 Within the parish of Ruislip there were two other manorial estates; St. Catherine’s Manor, situated to the west of Park Wood, which was passed to the Abbey of Holy Trinity by Ernulf de Hesdin sometime before 1087, and Southcote, to the north of manor farm. St Catherine’s manor was recognized in a charter of c.1087, confirming Ernulf of Hesdin’s gift of the manor of Ruislip to the Abbey of Bec. In 1391 the manor was sold by the Abbey of Holy Trinity to William Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester; forming part of the endowment of Winchester College. Harmondsworth and the manor of St Catherine remained the property of the college until 1543 when they were surrendered to Henry VIII (Bowlit, E.M. (1989): p40). The history and descent of these two manors are partly confused with each other, but by 1719, they were both in the hands of the same person. There is also noted a manorial grange at Northwood in 1248, and Eastcote appears as a hamlet by 1323.
- 2.5.5 The series of conflicts with France in the late 14th century led to the Manor being sequestrated several times by the Crown, and in 1404 it was confiscated from the Abbey of Bec and granted to the Duke of Bedford. By 1451 Ruislip Manor, and its lands, were granted outright to King’s College, Cambridge, whose hands it stayed in till the 1920s.
- 2.5.6 Documentary sources suggest that there was also a medieval watermill and a windmill on Windmill Hill. A medieval leat has also been recorded running from the River Pinn near Bury Street to the River Pinn near Fore Street Eastcote.

- 2.5.7 In terms of the extent of medieval Ruislip, remains of the medieval vicarage have been recorded during excavation to the north of the site, and the Great Barn to the west of Manor Farm survives to the east of the site. This structure is Grade II* Listed. The Church of St Martin is Grade B Listed and is located to the south east of the site. These structures have 13th century origins.
- 2.5.8 The Church of St Martin was expanded in the 15th century. Structures of a similar age are the Old House, the Manor Farmhouse, 2-6 High Street, The Swan Inn and the Ruislip Almshouse.

2.6 Post-Medieval (c.1540-modern)

- 2.6.1 Post medieval Ruislip retained much of its size and character from the medieval origins, with only slight changes in its topography and little development. Historical records concerning population shows how Ruislip grew slowly from 53 people in Domesday, 120 people in a mid-13th century custumal list, between 105 -130 tenants in early 15th Century rental agreements, to 480 communicants in the parish in 1547. Then from little over 1,000 parish inhabitants in 1790 population only grew to 1, 413 by 1841, but between 1891 and 1901 population increased from 1, 836 to 3,566.
- 2.6.2 Two major surveys were undertaken on behalf of King's College in 1565 and 1750. The 1565 Terrier (Land Roll) covered the whole of the manor of Ruislip and provides us for the first time with a full description of the demesne lands. Evidence of early post medieval expansion is represented in the study area by the Grade II Listed Hailey's Shop & Village Shop, the small barn to the south of Manor Yard Farm and adjacent to the site itself is the 16th century Mill House.
- 2.6.3 Ruislip increased in size considerably in the 20th century, encouraged by the development of the railways (stations at Northwood in 1887, Ruislip in 1904 and Eastcote 1906) and the general population shift of the early 20th century from inner city areas to the new 'metropolitan' suburban areas, and other 20th century developments such as Northolt Airfield that was London's primary airport during the war and until London Heathrow was built.
- 2.6.4 Ruislip suffered some bomb damage during WWII; a study of the WWII Ruislip bomb map, illustrates that there was bomb damage in 1940 to the west of the site and further damage to the north of the site in the same year. Records show that there was no bomb damage within the site itself.

3 Results

3.1 Trench 1

3.1.1 Trench 1 (16.00 x 2.00 x 1.37m) was excavated to the north and west of the site entrance, within the northern corner of the area of allotted archaeological sensitivity. It was orientated northwest – southeast, running parallel with the site boundary (Bury St).

Northwest end, Southeast facing section

Height (OD)	Description
41.86 to 41.69m	(1/001). White concrete car park surface, with pea grit inclusions.
41.69 to 41.29m	(1/002). Brick rubble, crushed tarmac and concrete rubble. Levelling deposit.
41.29 to 40.93m	(1/003). Mid – light, firm brownish yellowish silty clay, with frequent inclusions of late post medieval brick, CBM and metal. Made ground predominantly comprised of re-deposited natural clay.
40.93 to 40.67m	(1/004). Mid – dark greyish brown, firm, silty clay, with frequent CBM and fragmental modern brick inclusions. Buried topsoil.
40.67 to 40.66m+	(1/005). Orange and blue mottled, firm clay. Natural deposit.

Southeast end, Southeast facing section

Height (OD)	Description
42.12 to 41.94mOD	(1/001). White concrete car park surface, with pea grit inclusions.
41.94 to 41.63mOD	(1/002). Brick rubble, crushed tarmac and concrete rubble. Levelling deposit.
41.63 to 41.14mOD	(1/003). Mid – light, firm brownish yellowish silty clay, with frequent inclusions of late post medieval brick, CBM and metal. Made ground predominantly comprised of re-deposited natural clay.
41.14 to 40.78mOD	(1/004). Mid greyish brown, firm, silty clay, with frequent CBM and fragmental modern brick inclusions. Buried topsoil.
40.78 to 40.75m+OD	(1/005). Orange and blue mottled, firm clay. Natural deposit.

3.1.2 Natural deposits of London Clay were reached at 40.78mOD in the south-eastern end of the trench and 40.67mOD in the north-western end of the trench. The deposit consisted of mid orange clay, which was mottled blue in places, with rooting disturbance throughout (1/005).

3.1.3 Overlying the natural clays was a deposit of buried topsoil (1/004) 0.42m deep, situated below a deposit of greyish brown, silty clay made ground 0.29m thick (1/003) that contained frequent modern CBM and fragmentary brick inclusions. Above this was a deposit of brick rubble, crushed tarmac and concrete rubble levelling (1/002) below the current concreted car park surface (1/001), a total of 0.52m thick.

3.1.4 A pit was revealed approximately 3.6m from the south-eastern extent of the trench, [1/006]. The pit was cut into the natural clay (1/005). It was irregularly oval in shape (2.00 x 1.20 x 0.20m), with moderately rounded, steep sloping sides that broke sharply from horizontal and moderately to its undulating base. It contained a single fill (1/007) of mid-dark brownish grey, moderately compacted silty clay, with frequent inclusions of organic material, charcoal, burnt clay and decomposed pottery. A 40 litre bulk sample of the fill was taken (Sample 1), and has been processed to recover artefacts, bone, and plant remains.

- 3.1.5 Sixty-nine sherds of robust domestic early medieval pottery were recovered from pit [1/006] (Appendix B below). Many of the sherds came from two cooking pots, one large and the other smaller.
- 3.1.6 A fragment of Roman tile and a sherd of Verulamium whiteware dating to AD 50–160 were present in pit [1/006] (Appendices C and B respectively). These are clearly residual, but suggest the presence of a Roman building in the area.
- 3.1.7 About 400 small fragments of daub were present in the sample from pit [1/006], a few of which have semi-circular marks probably from wooden wattle impressions, so the daub came from a structure (Appendix C). This is not readily datable, but can be assumed to be contemporary with the pottery.
- 3.1.8 All the animal bone from the site was from pit [1/006] (Appendix D). A cow's tooth was hand collected, and 14 other fragments came from bulk Sample 1. This included fragments of burnt 'sheep-sized' longbone and one toe basal joint from an unidentified bird. This is consistent with it being a medieval context, but the assemblage is too small to provide further information about the site or its occupants.
- 3.1.9 Charred plant remains from bulk Sample 1 (Appendix E) consist of cereal grains, probably barley and free-threshing wheat, a number of wild plant seeds (stinking mayweed, nipplewort, grass) and a fragment of a sloe stone. Waterlogged plant remains from this sample are likely to be modern contaminants. The charred assemblage is typical of what would be expected from a medieval context, but again it is too small to provide more specific information about the local environment or agriculture.



Plate 1 – Pit [1/006], southwest facing section.

- 3.1.10 Situated to the northwest of the pit [1/006] was a line of three post holes [1/022], [1/020] and [1/018] orientated north – south, all of which had straight sides indicating vertically set posts. The fills of the post holes were identical suggesting that they were contemporary, and part of the same structure. Post hole [1/022] was located close to the south-western limit of excavation, and was 0.16m in diameter and 0.12m deep. Near-vertical sides tapered to a flat base. The post hole contained a

single fill (1/023) of mid brownish grey moderately compacted sandy clay, with occasional charcoal inclusions. No finds were recovered from the context.

- 3.1.11 North of this was a second post hole [1/020]. It was circular in plan, with a diameter of 0.25m and just 0.10m deep. This had a concave base. The single fill (1/021) was mid yellowish brown, moderately compacted sandy clay, with moderate charcoal inclusions. No finds were recovered from the deposit.



Plate 2. Post holes and stake holes of Trench 1, prior to excavation

- 3.1.12 The third post hole [1/018] was 0.20m in diameter and only 0.07m deep, and had a slightly concave base. The fill was mid yellowish brown, moderately compacted clayey silt, with occasional charcoal inclusions (1/019). No finds were recovered.
- 3.1.13 Located to the northwest of the line of post holes was a larger post hole [1/010] with three stake holes [1/012], [1/014] and [1/016] in close association. The post hole [1/010] was the largest revealed during the evaluation, 0.30m in diameter, and 0.12m deep. The base was slightly concave, the sides near-vertical. The fill was mid greyish brown firm silty sand with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions (1/011). Two sherds of early medieval domestic pottery, contemporary with the finds from the large pit to the southeast, were recovered from the deposit.
- 3.1.14 One stake hole lay south of the large post hole and seemed to be set vertically [1/012]. It was only 0.04m deep. The fill (1/013) was mid grey, compacted silty sand, with occasional charcoal flecks. No artefactual remains were recovered. A smaller stake hole southeast of this had a diameter of 0.08m [1/014] and was 0.08m deep. The fill (1015) was similar to the first, and again, no finds were present. The southernmost stake hole [1/016] was circular in plan (diameter 0.15 and 0.10m deep) with a flat base. It contained a single fill (1/017) of mid greyish orange, firm silty sand, with occasional inclusions of charcoal flecks and re-deposited natural clay. No finds were recovered from the context.
- 3.1.15 A fifth, small, post hole [1/008] was located in the centre of the trench, 7 metres from its north-western end. It was circular in plan (diameter 0.17 and 0.14m deep) with steep sloping, gently rounded sides, which broke sharply from horizontal and to it undulating base. It contained a single fill

(1/009) of mid grey, compacted silty clay, with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions. A single sherd of early medieval, domestic pottery, similar to the pieces recovered from post hole [1/010] and pit [1/006] to the southeast was recovered from the fill.

- 3.1.16 A sixth post hole [1/024] was situated 3 metres from the north western end of Trench 1. It was circular in shape (diameter 0.22 and 0.12m deep) with moderately sloping, rounded sides, which broke moderately from horizontal and had a flat base. The posthole contained a single fill (1/025) of mid yellowish brown, friable clayey silt, with occasional charcoal inclusions. No finds were recovered from the context.
- 3.1.17 The early medieval pottery from Trench 1 dates to the late 11th century to the early 12th century, but it is more likely to be early 12th century than late 11th century (Appendix B). The bulk of it is in early South Hertfordshire greyware fabric (ESHER), which was probably produced over a wide area and was the precursor of South Hertfordshire greyware (SHER). All of these sherds are from handmade cooking pots with wheel-finished, everted, sharply finished, rims. A tool was used to finish the rims, and one sherd has incised wavy line decoration (possibly combing). Other fabrics present are early Surrey ware, sand-tempered ware, and chalk-tempered ware.

3.2 Trench 2a

- 3.2.1 Trench 2a (7.00 x 2.00 x 0.82m) was excavated to the west of a concrete tank, in the eastern half of the allotted area of archaeological sensitivity, aligned northwest – southeast, running parallel with the site boundary (Bury Street).

Height (OD)	Description
42.11 to 41.95m	(2/010). White concrete car park surface, with pea grit inclusions.
41.95 to 41.85m	(2/011). Black tarmac. Buried surface.
41.85 to 41.73m	(2/012). Light grey concrete. Buried surface.
41.73 to 41.53m	(2/013). Mid greyish brown, firm, silty clay, with frequent CBM and fragmental modern brick inclusions. Made ground.
41.53 to 41.36m	(2/014). Crushed red bricks and concrete rubble. Hardcore levelling deposit.
41.36 to 41.26m+	(2/015). Orange and blue mottled, firm clay. Natural deposit.

- 3.2.2 Natural deposits of London clay were reached at 41.37mOD in the south-eastern end of the trench and 41.34mOD in the north-western end of the trench. The deposit consisted of mid orange clay, which was mottled blue in places, with patches of rooting disturbance throughout (2/015).
- 3.2.3 Overlying the natural clays was a levelling layer 0.17m deep of crushed brick and concrete rubble hardcore across the whole trench (2/014). Made ground above this was greyish brown, silty clay (2/013) with frequent modern CBM and fragmentary brick inclusions and was 0.20m thick. This provided bedding for a concrete surface (2/012) 0.12m thick, and this was topped by a layer of tarmac that formed the most recent carpark surface on the site.
- 3.2.4 No archaeological features were revealed and no artefacts recovered from the excavation of Trench 2a.

3.3 Trench 2b

3.3.1 Evaluation trench 2b (8.50 x 2.00 x 0.90) was situated to the south and east of the concreted tank within the south-east of the site. It was orientated northwest – southeast.

Height (OD)	Description
41.30 to 41.10m	(2/001). White concrete car park surface, with pea grit inclusions.
41.10 to 41.07m	(2/002). Black tarmac. Buried surface.
41.07 to 40.91m	(2/003). Light grey concrete. Buried surface.
40.91 to 40.51m	(2/004). Mid greyish brown, firm, silty clay, with frequent CBM and fragmental modern brick inclusions. Made ground.
40.51 to 40.36m	(2/005). Dark brownish grey silt. Buried Topsoil.
40.36 to 40.26m	(2/009). Orange and blue mottled, firm clay. Natural deposit.

3.3.2 A natural deposit (8.50 x 2.00 x 0.10m+) of mottled blue and orange clay (2/009), which contained patches of fine sandy gravels, was reached at 41.26mOD at the south-east end of the trench and 41.39mOD at the northwest end of the trench. This was cut by two features.



Plate 3. Brick building foundation [2/006].

3.3.3 The larger of the two features was a brick foundation of probable 17th century date (2/006) running northwest – southeast. The structure was founded upon a layer of large nodular flints (<200mm diameter) within a gravel matrix (2/016) (0.16m deep). These were topped by a single layer of flat tiles, each measuring 190 x 100 x 20mm, and these provided bedding for two courses of header-bonded hand made red bricks (each measuring 230 x 100 x 60mm). A third brick course was stretcher-bonded. The bonding material was pale white lime mortar, consistent with a 17th century date. The bricks sampled from this wall have indented borders and fairly sharp corners, also suggesting the wall is 17th century (Appendix C). On top of these well-laid courses was a fragmentary layer of brick and mortar, which may represent a later build upon the earlier foundations, although none of the brick fragments were complete enough to allow for dating.

3.3.4 The second feature was an isolated posthole (2/008). It had a diameter of 0.24m and was 0.13m deep. The fill was mid grey, firm silty clay, with poorly sorted gravel inclusions (2/007). No finds were recovered. The fill was of the character of the post holes recorded in trench 1.

- 3.3.5 These two features were sealed by a layer of topsoil 0.15m deep. This was dark brownish grey firm silt with frequent CBM, brick and flint inclusions (2/005), and had been buried by a sequence of made ground. This made ground lay across the whole of the trench (2/004), mid greyish brown, firm silty clay deposit of 19th or 20th century date. Frequent moderately sorted pebbles and occasional CBM and brick inclusions were present. This made ground was sealed by a layer of concrete and then topped by tarmac, with a secondary layer of concrete above (2/003, 2/002 and 2/001).
- 3.3.6 This sequence of concrete-based surfaces had truncated the early wall foundation, and it seems likely that any associated occupation horizon has also been removed.

3.4 Finds

- 3.4.1 Seventy two sherds of early medieval pottery, from cooking pots dating to the 11th – 12th century, were recovered from postholes [1/010] and [1/008], and pit [1/006] excavated within Trench 1. A single cows tooth and fragmented bone were also recovered from the pit's fill. Residual Roman finds also present in the pit consisted of a fragment of tile and a pottery sherd dated to AD 50–160.

4 Conclusions and Interpretation

4.1 Conclusions

- 4.1.1 The evaluation revealed archaeological remains from the early medieval and post medieval periods. Within the eastern corner of the Area of Archaeological Sensitivity (Trench 2b) the brick built foundations of a 17th century building were uncovered. This appeared to be an exterior wall, and was orientated northwest – southeast. The surviving remnant of the building suggests that it once have continued further to the northwest, where the large concreted storage tank now lies and possibly have projected and returned to the northeast, where the low-lying Bury Street, adjacent footpath and bank now are. Accordingly it is unlikely that much more of the structure survives. The dating of the bricks sampled from the remains makes the structure roughly contemporary with the Grade II Listed building, 25 Bury Street, which borders the site and a number of other standing structures within a close proximity to the site. It is likely that the foundations uncovered relate to a rectangular structure noted on the 1896 OS map of the area (Figure 2).
- 4.1.2 An oval pit and a series of postholes and stakeholes were revealed within Trench 1, situated in the northern corner of the Area of Archaeological Sensitivity. The pit contained 69 sherds of early medieval cooking pots, a single fragment of residual Roman tile, a Roman pottery sherd, 3 fragments of CBM, a single animal tooth, and small animal bone fragments. This pit fill also had frequent charcoal and burnt clay inclusions. The material has a domestic character, although with a relatively high quantity of pottery and a low quantity of bone for a domestic group. Three more sherds of early medieval cooking pots were recovered from the other features in Trench 1.
- 4.1.3 The post holes uncovered within Trench 1 do not form any clearly identifiable structural layout within the narrow excavation area, although it is likely that post holes [1/018], [1/020], and [1/022] to the northwest of pit [1/006], which were aligned north-south and have identical fills, were part of the same structure. Similarly, a large post hole [1/010] that contained medieval pottery, surrounded by a cluster of 3 stakeholes in the centre of the trench appear contemporary from the similar fills they contained. It is likely that the features uncovered within Trench 1 represent the partial remains of a medieval post built structure and adjacent waste pit. The date range given by the pottery is from the late 11th century to the early 12th century, but it is more likely to be early 12th century than late 11th century.
- 4.1.4 The medieval remains found within the site show that occupation was taking place within close proximity to the moat of Manor farm, which is situated to the north of the site and its extension or leat system, which is thought to run close to the northwest of the site (Scheduled Ancient Monument 29). The occupation of this area appears to have followed either the construction of the motte and bailey castle by Ernulf de Hesdin after the Norman Conquest, or the acquisition of the manor by the Abbey of Bec after 1097, and the replacement of the castle with a religious house on the site.

4.2 Recommendations

- 4.2.1 The evaluation met its primary objective: to establish the presence/absence of any archaeological remains. The leat system for the Manor Farm Moat (SAM 29) that was previously thought to run across the north-western end of the Area of Archaeological Significance was not found. However, significant medieval and post medieval occupation evidence was uncovered. The decision regarding any further work rests with Kim Stabler (GLAAS).
- 4.2.2 Publication of the results will be through the ADS OASIS form (Appendix C).

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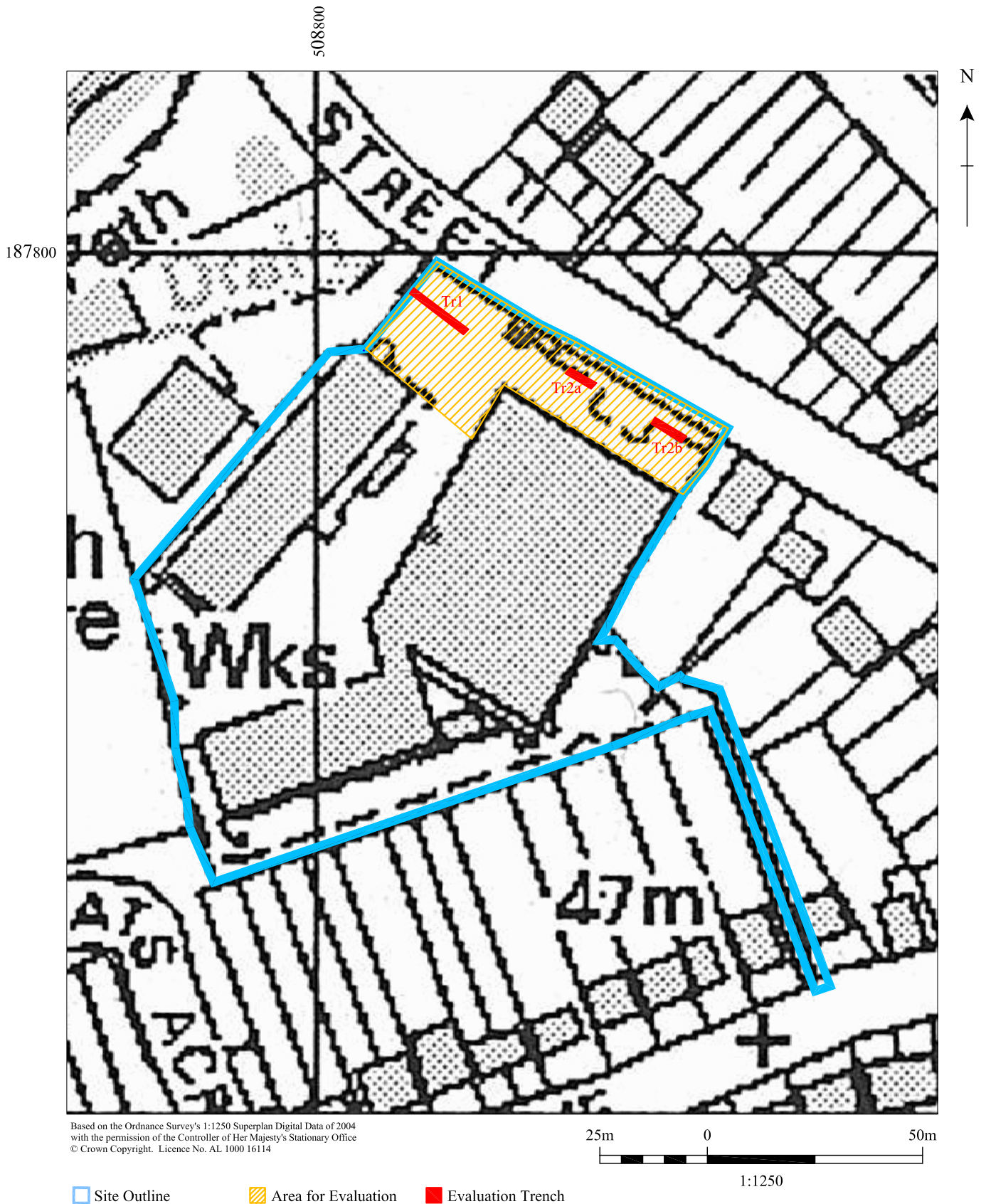
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Figure 1: Site Location



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Figure 2: Detailed Site & Trench Location Plan

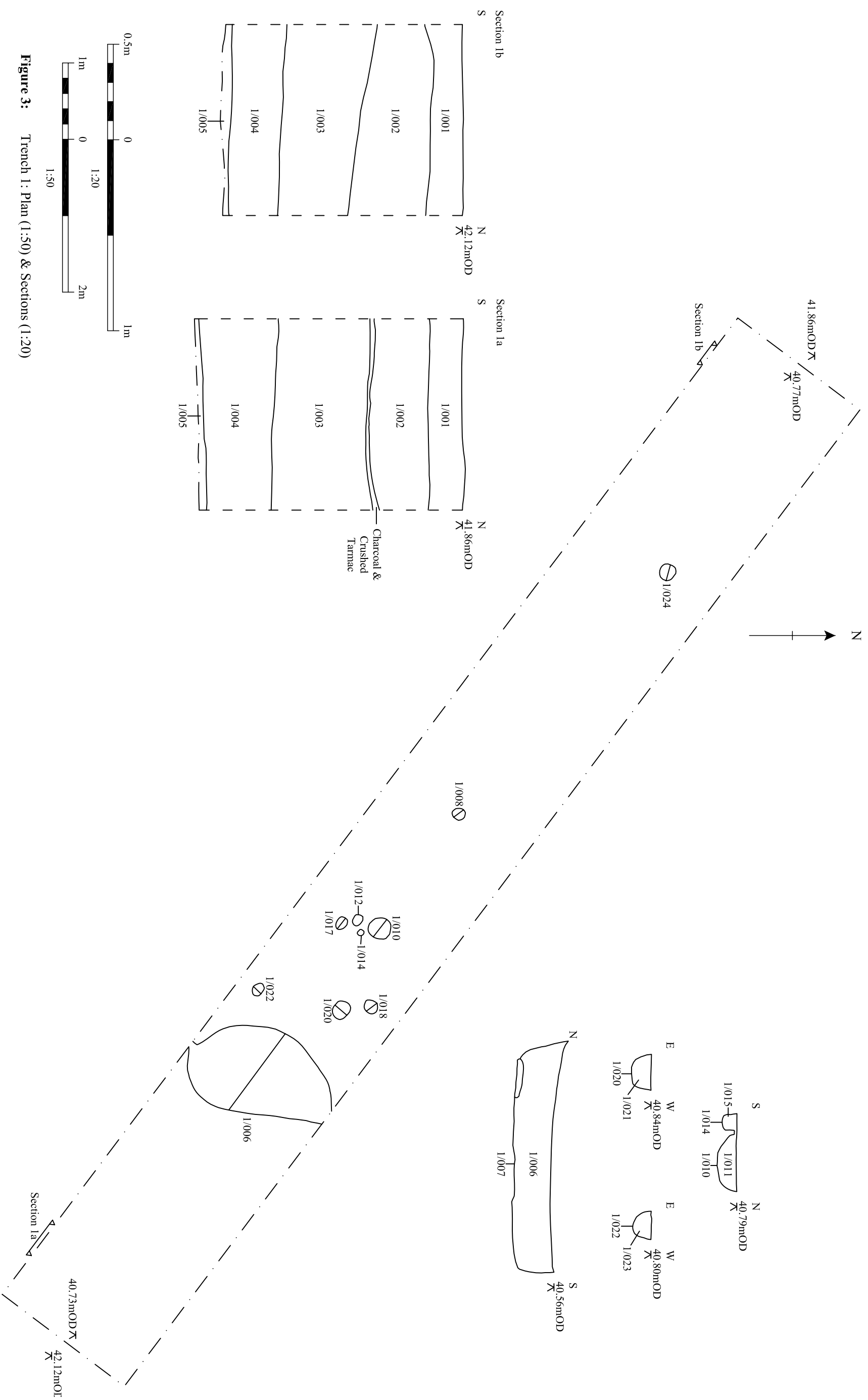


Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan (1:50) & Sections (1:20)

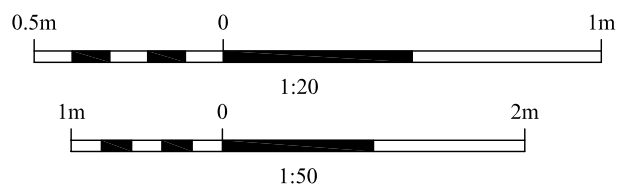
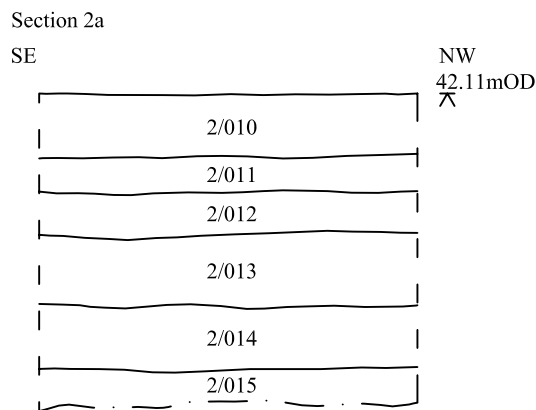
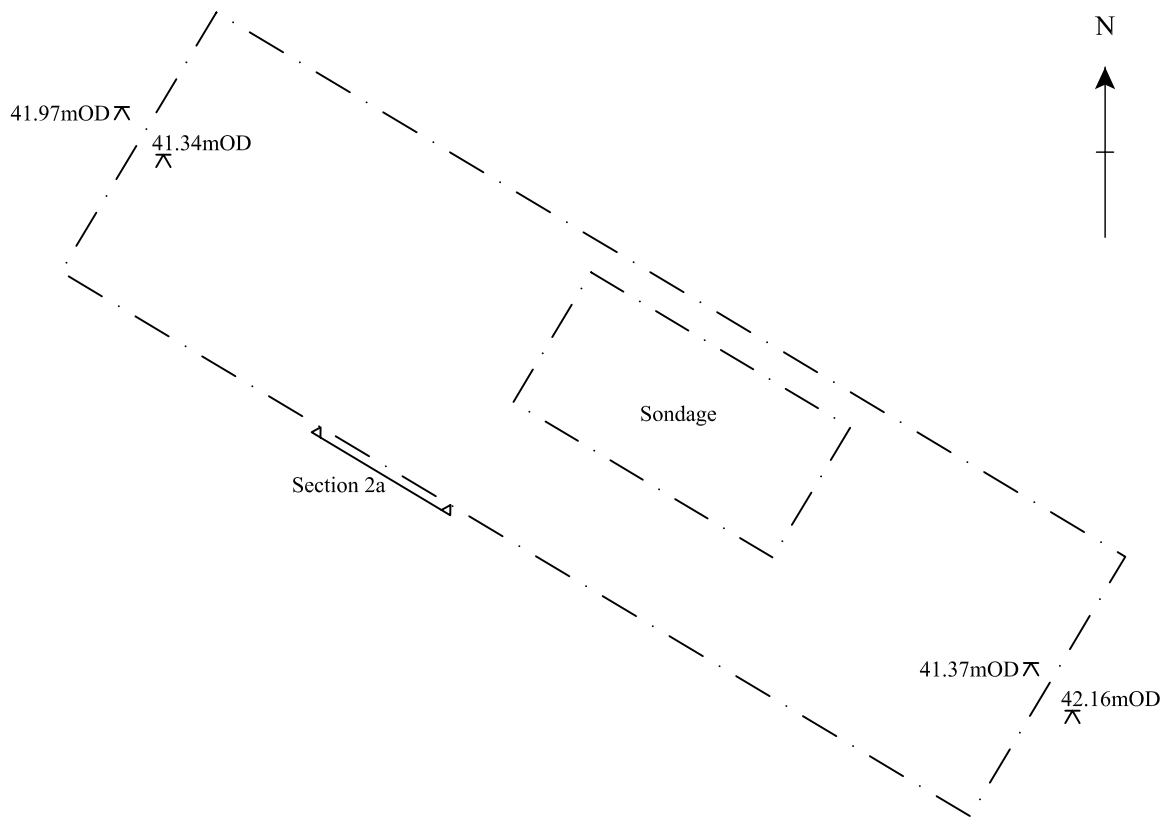


Figure 4: Trench 2a: Plan (1:50) & Sample Section (1:20)

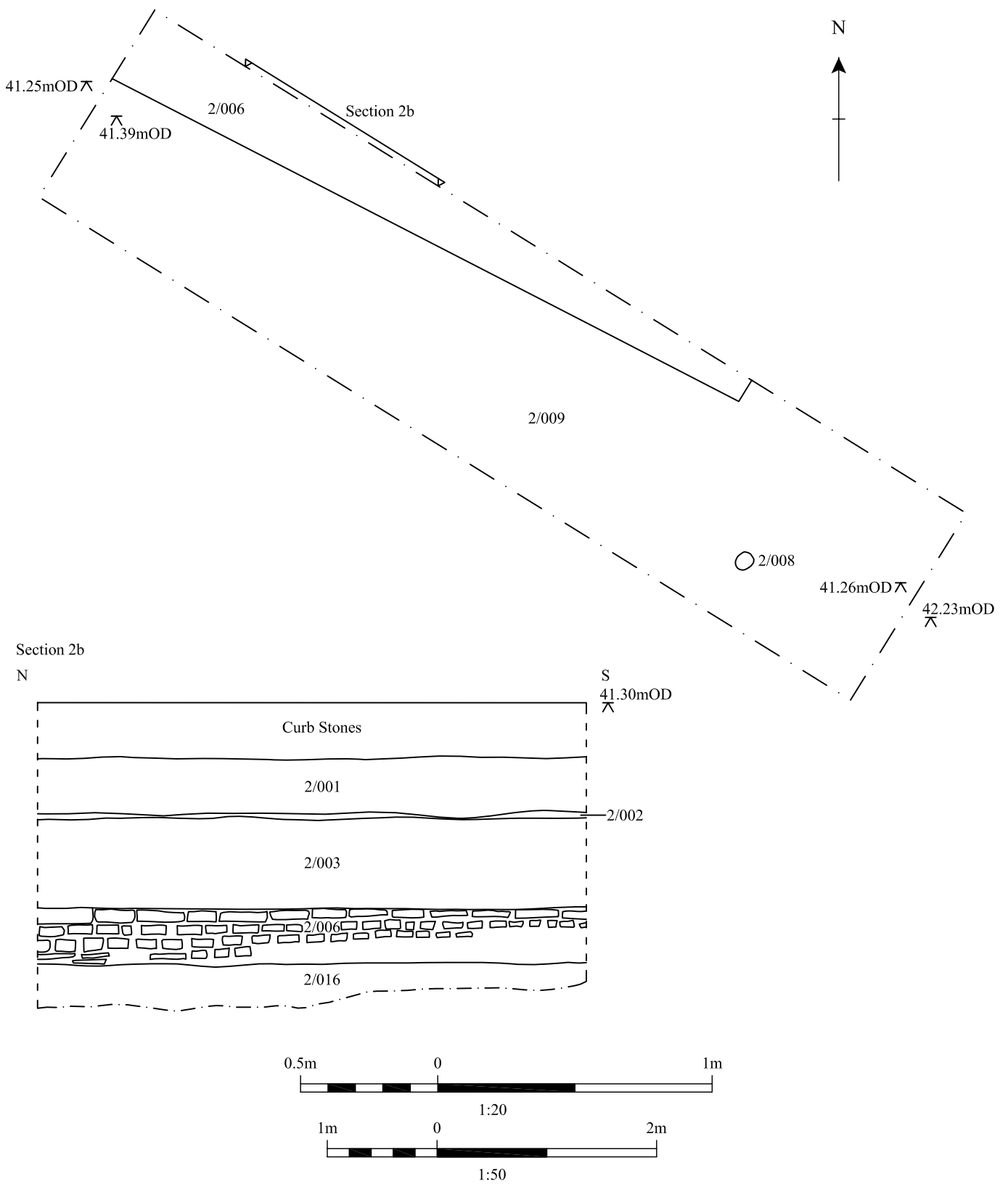


Figure 5: Trench 2b: Plan (1:50) & Sample Section (1:20)

Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
1/001	Tarmac car park surface	16.00m	2.00m	0.20m
1/002	Brick and concrete rubble leveling layer	16.00m	2.00m	0.31m
1/003	Mid brownish yellow, silty clay made ground	16.00m	2.00m	0.29m
1/004	Dark greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil	16.00m	2.00m	0.42m
1/005	Natural clay	16.00m	2.00m	0.05m+
1/006	Large ovoid pit	2.00m	1.20m	0.20m
1/007	Mid brownish grey silty clay fill of [1/006]	2.00m	1.20m	0.20m
1/008	Post hole	0.17m	0.17m	0.14m
1/009	Mid grey, silty clay fill of [1/008]	0.17m	0.17m	0.14m
1/010	Post hole	0.30m	0.30m	0.12m
1/011	Mid greyish brown, silty clay fill of [1/010]	0.30m	0.30m	0.12m
1/012	Stake hole	0.10m	0.10m	0.04m
1/013	Mid grey, silty sand fill of [1/012]	0.10m	0.10m	0.04m
1/014	Stake hole	0.08m	0.08m	0.08m
1/015	Mid greyish brown, silty sand fill of [1/014]	0.08m	0.08m	0.08m
1/016	Stake hole	0.15m	0.15m	0.10m
1/017	Mid greyish orange, silty sand fill of [1/016]	0.15m	0.15m	0.10m
1/018	Post hole	0.20m	0.20m	0.07m
1/019	Mid yellowish brown, clayey silt fill of [1/018]	0.20m	0.20m	0.07m
1/020	Post hole	0.25m	0.25m	0.10m
1/021	Mid yellowish brown, sandy clay fill of [1/020]	0.25m	0.25m	0.10m
1/022	Post hole	0.16m	0.16m	0.12m
1/023	Mid brownish grey, sandy clay fill of [1/022]	0.16m	0.16m	0.12m
1/024	Post hole	0.22m	0.22m	0.12m
1/025	Mid yellowish brown, clayey silt fill of [1/024]	0.22m	0.22m	0.12m
2/001	Concrete car park surface	8.50m	2.00m	0.20m
2/002	Buried tarmac surface	8.50m	2.00m	0.03m
2/003	Buried concrete surface	8.50m	2.00m	0.16m
2/004	Mid greyish brown, silty clay made ground	8.50m	2.00m	0.40m
2/005	Dark brownish grey, silty buried topsoil	8.50m	2.00m	0.15m
2/006	17 th century red brick and flint wall foundations	6.40m+	0.30m+	0.30m
2/007	Mid grey, silt clay fill of post hole [2/008]	0.24m	0.24m	0.13m
2/008	Post hole	0.24m	0.24m	0.13m
2/009	Natural clay	8.50m	2.00m	0.10m+
2/010	Concrete car park surface	7.00m	2.00m	0.16m
2/011	Tarmac chippings	7.00m	2.00m	0.10m

2/012	Buried concrete surface	7.00m	2.00m	0.12m
2/013	Mid greyish brown, silty clay made ground	7.00m	2.00m	0.20m
2/014	Crushed red brick hardcore layer	7.00m	2.00m	0.17m
2/015	Natural clay	7.00m	2.00m	0.10m+
2/016	Flint and gravel basal foundation deposit for brick structure 2/006	6.40m+	0.30m+	0.16m

Appendix B – Pottery Assessment

The pottery

Lyn Blackmore

Quantification

Summary/Introduction

A small assemblage of 73 sherds (21 ENV, 1023 gm) was recovered from three contexts in trench 1; of these, 42 are from sieved sample <1>. The sherds range from small to average in size and from poor to good condition; several are abraded.

Methodology

All the pottery was examined macroscopically and using a binocular microscope (x20). Sherds from each different vessel were then recorded (for the most part individually) by sherd count and minimum vessel count (ENV) and weight on an Excel spreadsheet using Museum of London fabric and form codes (for expansions see Tables 3, 4 and 5). Where sherds from the sieved sample were found to be from a hand-collected vessel they were placed in a small bag within the larger bag. The finds were briefly considered in relation to the stratigraphy and with reference to other sites in the general area.

Roman fabrics and forms

One small residual sherd of Verulamium whiteware dating to AD 50–160 was found in [1/007].

Medieval fabric and forms

The bulk of the assemblage (59 sherds) is in a highly fired reddish-brown sand- and flint-tempered fabric that is part of the early South Hertfordshire greyware tradition (ESHER; Knight and Jeffries 2004, 43; Pearce in prep). First known as M40 ware and later as Denham ware (Farley and Leach 1988; Pearce 1993; Pearce in prep), this type pottery was probably produced over a wide area and was the precursor of South Hertfordshire greyware (SHER; Pearce in prep). All are from handmade cooking pots with wheel-finished rims; the two examples present are both everted and sharply finished, showing that a tool was used in the process. Jars with everted rims were produced at Rush Green, Denham (Farley and Leach 1988, 74, fig 17, nos.1–3), but necked jars are more common. One sherd in the present collection has incised wavy line decoration (possibly combing) but none are the vertical scoring that is typical of the early medieval Denham-type wares.

Also present are seven sherds of early Surrey ware, including one rim, and one sand-tempered ware, recorded for convenience as EMS, but different from the equivalent fabric found in London and almost certainly a local product. The remaining sherds contain calcareous inclusions; four sherds with a fine sandy matrix and abundant rounded voids, both in section and in the surfaces, were recorded as a local equivalent of the chalk-tempered ware ([1/007], [1/010], while a single sherd with an inclusion-free matrix and abundant inclusions of tufa was recorded as EMCALC ([1/009]).

Discussion

The pottery was found in the north-east corner of the site, where there may have been a timber building. Most was from fill [1/007] of pit [1/006], which contained 70 sherds of varying size, with numerous sherds from two cooking pots, one large, the other smaller. One sherd was found in fill [1/009] of posthole [1/008]

and in posthole [1/010]. The residual Roman sherd was food with early medieval pottery in [1/007]; given the presence of Roman tile of similar date in the same feature, its presence is not surprising.

Early Surrey ware dates to c 1050–1150, while fabric ESHER spans the period 1050–1200; at the beginning of the period pottery was handmade while at the end it was fully wheel-made and developed into the South Hertfordshire greyware tradition. The forms represented here combine both techniques, but rim forms suggest a date in the first half of this range. They are similar to vessels from Northolt Manor, only c 4 miles to the south-east which were assigned to the broad early medieval category of fabric h, which is relatively thick-walled with red to black surfaces and was dated to AD 1050–1150 (Hurst 1961, 259–61, fig 66, nos 23, 25, 26). Similar handmade vessels with everted rims were also found at the kiln site of Rush Green, Denham, where three 13th-century kilns were excavated (kiln 3 was archaeomagnetically dated). The everted rims comprised 16% of the assemblage and were thought to represent an earlier stage of the industry, possibly dating to the 12th century (Farley and Leach 1988, 75–6). The Ruislip pottery is also earlier than that from the production site at Uxbridge, which was dated to the late 12th century (Knight and Jeffries 2004, 13–14, 16, 41–7).

Analysis of Potential

No prehistoric or Saxon pottery was found, but there is one residual sherd of early Roman date. The early medieval pottery has the potential to date at least one structure found on the site to the late 11th or, more probably, the earlier 12th century, and suggests that it represents development of the area following the construction of the castle by Ernulf de Hesdin. The present assemblage can be compared with those from broadly contemporary sites in the area, such as Northolt manor, Uxbridge and Harmondsworth and Stanwell (Hurst 1961; Knight and Jeffries 2004, 47–8) and with others in the wider area such as Staines (Jones 1982; 1984; 1992). Scientific analysis of the pottery would allow the flint-tempered fabric to be compared with data on finds from numerous production sites in the Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire (Pearce in prep; Vince 2000; Vince in prep), which should help to narrow down the possible sources of the ware. In this way the pottery can inform on the local economy. Three vessels merit illustration (all from [1/007]).

The pottery assemblage as it currently stands shows that there is a good chance of recovering further early medieval material should further excavation be carried out on the site, and it is possible that later pottery will also be present; both would enhance the potential of the existing finds for further work.

Significance of data

The pottery is of primarily of local significance, but of regional interest in the context of trade and pottery distribution.

Revised Research Aims

The following questions can be asked of the pottery:

Can the source of the flint-tempered pottery be determined?

How does the flint-tempered fabric compare with that of Denham ware and early South Hertfordshire greyware?

How do the calcareous wares compare with finds from Staines and other sites in the area?

Method Statements

The following is based on the present collection only; should further excavation be carried out a new assessment will be required, which will take all finds into consideration.

1. Send samples of the two cooking pots with everted rims for thin section and ICPS analysis by Alan Vince): cost £100
2. Write fabric and form descriptions based on the results of the above: 0.5 day
3. Write general discussion of the pottery, placing it in the local context: 1 day
4. Check illustrations: 0.25 day
5. Editorial: 0.25 day

Time: 2 days plus £100

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Appendix C – Building Material Assessment

Ian M. Betts

Quantification

Summary/Introduction

The building material assemblage from BYU08 comprised 5.4 kg of tile, brick and daub from two contexts ([1/007] and [2/006]). Most of the building material would appear to be Roman and post-medieval date.

Methodology

All the building material has been recorded using the standard recording forms used by the Museum of London. This has involved fabric analysis undertaken with a x10 binocular microscope. The information on the recording forms has been added to an Excel database (bmdata.xls).

Pit fill (Context 1/007)

This contained a fragment of Roman brick measuring 32-33 mm in thickness. This suggests it is either a bessalis, pedalis or lydion sized brick (Brodrigg 1987, 3). The brick is in fabric group 2815 (individual type 3006), which would indicate a 1st- mid 2nd century date.

Found in the same fill was a large number (*circa* 400 fragments) of very small pieces of highly abraded orangey-brown coloured daub (sample <1>). It is difficult to determine its date or function, although there are a few fragments with semi-circular marks – which are probably wooden wattle impressions. This would suggest the daub derives from some sort of highly fragmented clay and timber structure.

A small fragment of hard fired red tile with a smoothed top and bottom surface and a straight edge is almost certainly 19th or 20th century. Presumably this represents later contamination.

Brick foundation (Context 2/006)

Two brick samples were retained from the brick wall foundation (sample <2>). One brick is in slightly sandy fabric 3046 and measures 213 x 103 x 50-55 mm in size. This has fairly sharp edges and a sunken margin along one edge. The other brick is made from a sandier clay (fabric 3065) and measures 220 x 105 x 52-53 mm in size. This has an abraded/weathered stretcher face and slightly more rounded edges.

The similarity in size indicates they are probably roughly contemporary, although the differences in the clay used suggest they may represent different batches from the same brickyard.

As to date, it is unwise to rely on their size and fabric alone. Also, the dating evidence used for items such as sunken margins in central London may not necessarily hold true for brickyards situated further from the capital. The indented borders do, however, suggest a 17th or earlier date, whilst the fairly sharp corners would suggest that the bricks are probably post 16th century. The dating evidence, although tenuous, does support the initial 17th century date given for the brick foundations.

Analysis of Potential

The excavation produced building material of both Roman and post-medieval date.

Significance of data

The small assemblage size means the building material is of only local significance. The presence of Roman tile is of interest, it may represent some kind of Roman building activity in the area; alternatively it could have arrived on the site as building rubble in the post-Roman period.

The daub associated with the Roman tile cannot be dated (it is presumably Roman, Saxon or medieval in date), but it does hint at the presence of some sort of clay and timber structure – although not necessarily a building.

The brick samples would seem to confirm that the brick foundations are probably 17th century in date.

Method Statements

Task 1: The bricks should be compared with other bricks/brick structures in the same area (if available) in order to more firmly establish their date = 0.5 (half) Day

Task 2: Write publication report = 0.5 (half) Day

Total time required = 1 Day

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Appendix D – Animal Bone Assessment

Alan Pipe

Quantification

Summary/Introduction

This report quantifies, describes and interprets the assemblages of animal bone recovered by hand-collection and wet-sieving from BYU08. It then assesses these groups in terms of their potential value for further study, and specifies the time resources required for such work.

Table 1: Archaeozoological archive/general summary

Animal bone (hand-collected)	0.020 kg, one fragment in one archive quality 'shoebox'
Animal bone (wet-sieved)	0.005 kg, 14 fragments, boxed in one archive quality 'shoebox' with the hand-collected fragment

Table 2 (not reproduced here) gives a summary of the hand-collected animal bone context group and wet-sieved sample group in terms of weight (kg), estimated fragment count, fragmentation, preservation, faunal composition, and the recovery of evidence for ageing and stature.

Table 3 (not reproduced here) gives a detailed summary of the hand-collected animal bone context group and wet-sieved sample group in terms of faunal composition, carcass-part, modification and the recovery of sub-adult age groups.

A total of 0.025 kg, 15 fragments, of moderately-preserved animal bone were recovered from [1/007] and [1/007] {1}. The hand-collected group totalled 0.020 kg, one *Bos taurus* mandibular (lower jaw) tooth; the wet-sieved group totalled 0.005 kg, approximately 14 fragments, of moderately-preserved animal bone. Fragment size was generally smaller than 25mm.

The total assemblage derived from one adult ox *Bos taurus* lower third molar with fragments of burnt 'sheep-sized' longbone and a single calcined first phalange (toe basal joint) of an unidentified bird. There was no recovery of fish, amphibians, scavengers or 'game' species; no human bones were identified.

There was no recovery of foetal, neonate or infant birds or mammals.

The hand-collected and wet-sieved assemblage included only a single bone, the ox third molar, of use for study of age at death, with no mandibular tooth rows and no epiphyses; there were no measurable bones or complete longbones.

There was no evidence of butchery, gnawing, working, pathological change or any other modification.

Methodology

Hand-collected and wet-sieved animal bone fragments from fill [1/007] were recorded directly onto Excel spreadsheets. Each context and sample group was described in terms of weight (kg), estimated fragment count, species, carcass-part, fragmentation, preservation, modification, and the recovery of epiphyses, mandibular tooth rows, measurable bones, complete long bones, and sub-adult age groups. The assemblage was not recorded as individual fragments or identified to skeletal element. All identifications

referred to the MoLAS reference collection. Fragments not identifiable to species or genus level were generally allocated to an approximate category; unidentified bird or 'sheep-sized' mammal, as appropriate. The bone assemblages were then grouped with available dating and feature description.

Analysis of Potential

The animal bone assemblage has only slight potential for further study, with reference to interpretation of the age at death of the ox and the combustion conditions of the burnt 'sheep-sized' longbone fragments and unidentified bird phalange. There is no potential for study of carcass-part, age at death, butchery or stature.

The absence of amphibians, passerine birds and small mammals effectively precludes interpretation of local environmental conditions and there is no potential for this.

Significance of data

Post-assessment study of the unidentified bird, 'sheep-sized' and ox bone will produce data of some significance in terms of local diet and patterns of waste disposal. The sample size is insufficient to allow study of *intra-site* distribution, or comparison with other London sites.

Revised Research Aims

RRA01 What is the approximate age at death indicated by wear on the ox tooth?

RRA02 What combustion temperatures are indicated by the unidentified bird and 'sheep-sized' fragments?

Method Statements

The animal bone assemblage should be quantified and described, as individual bones, directly onto the MoLAS Access animal bone database for external sites, in terms of all standard parameters recorded at post-assessment level by the MoLAS faunal analyst. The data set will be interpreted as a discrete assemblage with reference to available stratigraphic data and in terms of the implications for meat diet and waste disposal.

Resource requirements are-

Task 1: Recording of animal bones onto database 0.25 pday

Task 2: Analysis of data/preparation of report/edit 0.25 pday

TOTAL 0.50 pday

Appendix E – Plant Remains Assessment

Anne Davis

Quantification

Summary/Introduction

The flot from a single, 40 litre, sample was submitted for assessment, from the evaluation and excavation at Bury Street, Ruislip. The sample came from the fill 1/007 of pit 1/006, and has been dated from pottery inclusions to the early medieval period.

The aim of this evaluation was to assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of the sample.

Methodology

Sample processing was completed by AOC staff, and the flot was dried and presented to the author for assessment, along with several large seeds sorted from the sample residue.

The flot was briefly scanned using a low powered binocular microscope, and the item frequency, species diversity, method of preservation and general nature of the plant macrofossils and any faunal remains was recorded. Table 1 summarises the botanical data. Abundance and diversity of remains were estimated using the following scale:

Abundance: 1 = occasional (c.1 – 10 items); 2 = moderate (c.10-50); 3 = abundant (> c.50)

Diversity: 1 = low (1 – 5 taxa); 2 = medium (c.5 – 10); 3 = high (> c.10)

Analysis of Potential

Charred plant remains

Small fragments and flecks of wood charcoal were seen in the flot, but are thought to be too small for species identification and/or C14 dating. Three charred cereal grains, in poor condition, were present, two of which are thought to be from barley (cf. *Hordeum vulgare*) and one from free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum/durum*). A small number of charred seeds of wild plants included five seeds of stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), one of nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*), a large grass seed (Poaceae) and a fragment of a sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) stone.

Waterlogged plant remains

Uncharred rootlets of recent origin made up the bulk of the sample flot. Seeds of wild plants, including birch (*Betula* sp.), sedge (*Carex* sp.), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and unidentified Brassicaceae were moderately abundant, but are also most likely to be modern contaminants.

Significance of data

The small assemblage of charred cereal grains and arable weed seeds recovered from the sample was typical of early medieval assemblages, but was not sufficiently large to provide any significant information about diet or other cereal-related activities in early medieval Ruislip.

Method Statements

It is unlikely that any further work on this sample will contribute significantly to the understanding of the site. However it does indicate the presence of charred remains in early medieval deposits, and comprehensive sampling of any further excavations in the area is recommended.

				chd grains	chd seeds	chd wood	unchd seeds	wlg misc	comments
context	sample	sample vol (l)	flot vol (ml)	A D	A D	A D	A D	A D	
1/007	1	40	25	1 1	1 1	2 1	3 2	3 1	Few chd barley & wheat grains, arable weeds. Many unchd rootlets & seeds - prob modern.

Table 1: Summary of botanical assessment data

A: abundance, D: diversity (1 = occasional, 2 = moderate, 3 = abundant)

Appendix F – Oasis Summary Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-39819

Project details

Project name	LAND OFF BURY ST, RUISLIP, LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON
Short description of the project	The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of three trenches measuring 16m x 2m, 8.5m x 2m and 7m x 2m at base. The trenches were positioned within an Area of Archaeological Sensitivity, as specified within the brief. Natural London clay deposits were identified at between 40.73mOD and 41.39mOD. Sealing the clay were late Post medieval and modern deposits of made ground, layers of hardcore leveling material, and buried tarmac and concrete surfaces. Within the northern corner of the site a series of post holes denoting the layout of a possible medieval structure, and a pit were uncovered. The pit contained 69 sherds of early medieval pottery, and three further similar sherds were recovered from the postholes. A small quantity of animal bone was also recovered. The artefacts are interpreted as being domestic in nature, and the features probably represent a timber building and a rubbish pit. The pottery dates to AD 1050-1150, and it is therefore likely that these remains are from occupation of the site following either the construction of the motte and bailey castle by Ernulf de Hesdin after the Norman Conquest, or the acquisition of the manor by the Abbey of Bec after 1097, and the replacement of the castle with a religious house on the site. The moat and leat were not found during the investigations. Within the eastern corner of the site the brick foundations of a 17th century building's exterior wall, orientated northwest - southeast were uncovered. The foundations were heavily truncated by a 20th century concreted storage tank to the northwest and by Bury Street itself to the northeast. Two Roman artefacts were found in later features, indicating the presence of a Roman building in the vicinity.
Project dates	Start: 13-03-2008 End: 17-03-2008
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any project codes associated with reference codes	BYU08 - Sitecode
Any project codes associated with reference codes	30078 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	POSTHOLES Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE(RESIDUAL) Roman
Methods	& 'Targeted Trenches'

techniques

Development type Pipelines/cables (e.g. gas, electric, telephone, TV cable, water, sewage, drainage etc.)

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON HILLINGDON RUISLIP Land off Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon

Postcode HA4 7

Study area 1.19 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 088 877 51.5771686396 -0.429715513271 51 34 37 N 000 25 46 W Point

Height OD Min: 40.73m Max: 41.39m

Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project brief originator EH GLAAS

Project design originator AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Catherine Edwards

Project supervisor Paul Harris

Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner

Name of sponsor/funding body Cunnane Town Planning

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Museum of London

Physical Archive ID BYU 08

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics'

Digital Archive recipient Museum of London

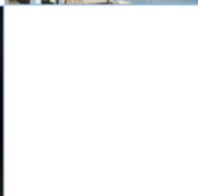
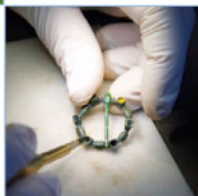
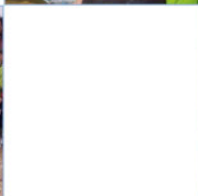
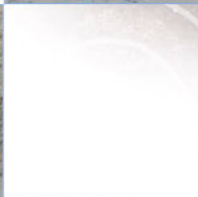
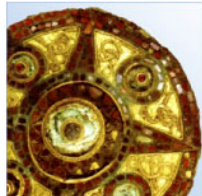
Digital Archive ID BYU 08

Digital Contents		'Stratigraphic'
Digital available	Media	'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Text'
Digital notes	Archive	LAARC archive metadata files, inc report text and graphics
Paper recipient	Archive	Museum of London
Paper Archive ID		BYU 08
Paper Contents		'Stratigraphic'
Paper available	Media	'Context sheet','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '

Project bibliography 1

Publication type		Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title		Land Off Bury Street, Ruislip, London Borough of Hillingdon; An Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)		Harris, P. Leonard, A.
Date		2008
Issuer or publisher		AOC Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	or	AOC Archaeology Twickenham
Description		28 page A4 text and graphics

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