

Beddington Sewage Treatment Works, Beddington, London Borough of Sutton: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

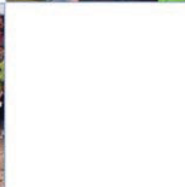
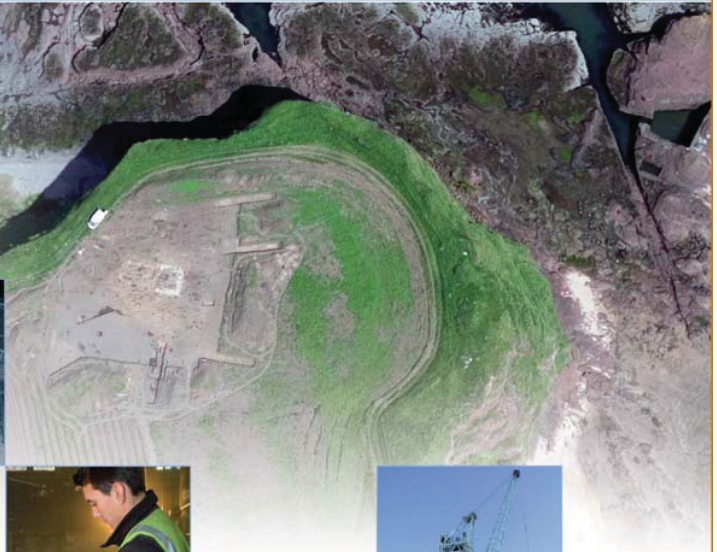
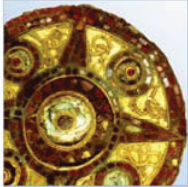
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Site Code: BDS 11

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ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Beddington Sewage Treatment Works, Beddington, London

Borough of Sutton:

An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 29915 65924

AOC Project No: 30923

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Non-Technical Summary

Between the 17th and 26th January 2011 AOC Archaeology Group undertook a watching brief at Beddington Sewage Treatment Works, Beddington, London Borough of Sutton. The watching brief was commissioned by Mott MacDonald on behalf of GBM JV. The work comprised the recording of geotechnical investigation undertaken on site.

Undisturbed deposits were identified in all test pits and boreholes monitored, consisting of an alluvial clay deposit containing shelly inclusions overlain by River Terrace Gravels and gravelly soil horizons, capped by a thin horizon of peat. Made ground and topsoil deposits, suspected to be related to the construction of the treatment works, sealed the undisturbed deposits. The only significant deposit identified was an early peat horizon located between the alluvial clay and River Terrace Gravel deposits. The stratigraphic location of this peat deposit suggests it may be Palaeolithic in date.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The site is located within Beddington Sewage Treatment Works, Beddington, London Borough of Sutton (Figure 1). The site is bounded on three sides by existing sewage works buildings; including a powerhouse, workshops and other control buildings to the east, filter tanks to the west, and a large area of aeration tanks, sedimentation tanks and sludge activation tanks on land to the north. Land further to the west has been subject to sand and gravel quarrying and is now a landfill. To the south and south-west of the site is a Roman villa and bathhouse complex which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM LO 112).
- 1.2 The development will provide a new sludge dewatering and storage plant to enable all site produced digested sludge to be processed into dry sludge cake. The new structures will comprise four belt presses to dewater the digested sludge, a new building housing polymer dosing equipment and MCC controls, a GRP kiosk, a skip loading area, an emergency sludge storage pad (with a 'Dutch Barn' type cover with open sides), a new liquors return system and power, washwater and potable water feeds.
- 1.3 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken on the excavation of a series of geotechnical pits and boreholes.

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 Prior to the submission of a planning application for the proposed development a geoenvironmental investigation was carried out to inform on the archaeological, geological and environmental potential of the site prior to application.
- 2.2 The proposed development site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the Sutton UDP and Proposals Map.
- 2.3 A desk-based assessment was prepared for the site by Mott MacDonald (Mott MacDonald 2010) as part of the initial phase of the project.

3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The solid geology across the majority of the proposed development site is Eocene London Clay, with older Palaeocene clays of the Lambeth Group at the southern edge of the site. The clay is overlain by drift sand and gravel deposits of the Hackney Gravel group. Where the original soils of the locality are still present, they are generally light and loamy.
- 3.2 The site lies at approximately 33m AOD and is relatively flat; the surrounding landscape slopes very gradually downwards to the west towards the River Wandle approximately 1.5km away, and rises to the south, towards the Upper Chalk of the North Downs. The River Fleet, which rises in Hampstead and Kenwood ponds and has now been channelled underground, flows to the east of the site, and roughly follows the line of Farringdon Road. The site lies in an area of rising ground to the north of the River Thames. A shallow gradient is present which travels from south to north following the line of the Fleet river valley.

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The following background material has been summarised from the desk-based assessment undertaken of the site by Motte MacDonald (2010).

Prehistoric

- 4.2 Palaeolithic flints have been recovered from the Mitcham Gravels during quarrying 600m north of the site and during work on a gas main 400m to the south-west. It is possible that these represent secondary deposits removed from their original contexts by glacial and fluvial action rather than in-situ Palaeolithic activity. On the Thames terraces, Palaeolithic remains will often be buried deeply beneath several metres of gravel.
- 4.3 Palaeolithic finds have been recorded in the upper gravels of the River Wangle terrace with covers much of the site. It is possible that alluvial deposits are present below the terrace gravels.
- 4.4 During the Mesolithic period, human activity in the area seems to have been focused on the higher ground to the south. This was probably because of the good-quality workable flint which occurs in the chalk of the North Downs, as well as attraction to the spring-line along which the later settlements at Beddington and Carshalton developed. Evidence for occupation and large-scale flint working has been found at Croham Hurst, Sanderstead (Drewett 1970) and at Orchard Hill in Carshalton (Turner 1966). The gravel terraces in the northern part of Beddington and neighbouring Mitcham appear to have seen only occasional activity, perhaps from groups of hunter-gatherers foraging for specific resources (Howell 2005, 7). A small number of scattered microliths (small flint blades characteristic of Mesolithic flint-working) were found during the 1980s excavations immediately to the south of the proposed development site (Howell 2005, 7). To the east, close to Beddington Farm Road, hollows and former stream channels containing Mesolithic soil layers and associated struck flints have been recorded.
- 4.5 The site and surrounding area lie on light gravel geology close to the River Wandle. Locations with these sorts of easily-cultivable, free-draining soils and access to water have always been favoured for settlement, but were especially attractive to prehistoric farmers with limited agricultural technology. This is particularly true of the Greater London area, where the underlying London Clay and clay-with-flints generally form soils which are heavy and difficult to work (Howell 2005, 48). As a result, Bronze and Iron Age occupation was focused on the gravel terraces of the river Thames and its tributaries, including the river Wandle.
- 4.6 Parts of a late Bronze Age to early Iron Age rectilinear field system with finds suggestive of nearby occupation, and extensive remains of an enclosed late Iron Age settlement, were found during the 1980s excavations at Beddington Roman villa, directly to the south and south-west of the proposed development site (Howell 2005). The Iron Age settlement comprised curvilinear gullies and postholes representing roundhouses, enclosure and field boundary ditches, and storage pits. Plans of the 1980s excavations strongly suggest that some of these features, notably the large enclosure boundary ditches, extend northwards into the current site. The site may have been part of a larger complex of Iron Age settlement as an Iron Age enclosure was excavated in 1922-3 in Beddington Park (Howell 2005, 50). Part of a Neolithic ground flint axe, a late Neolithic to early Bronze Age perforated quartzite pebble hammer and a Neolithic mattock made from red deer antler were also found during the 1980s excavations.
- 4.7 Further significant Bronze Age remains, including droveways, pits and parts of enclosure systems, have been excavated during an archaeological watching brief on land several hundred metres to the west of the site. Due to the low-lying topography in this area and its proximity to the River Wandle, waterlogged remains including preserved timbers were recovered. Middle to late Neolithic pits and ditches have also been identified in this area, approximately 500m west of the site. Around 700m to the east of the site, close to Beddington Farm Road, excavations have revealed burnt mounds (piles of burnt and fire-cracked flint, thought to be associated with cooking and small-scale 'industrial' and craft activities), ditches, pits and buried soil horizons of late Bronze Age date, as well as Iron Age and later ditches. Another area of Bronze Age remains, including parts of field systems, pits

containing pottery, postholes and other features has been identified during archaeological fieldwork around Beddington Cross, 600m north of the site. A Neolithic bowl was found just west of this area in 1912.

Roman

- 4.8 Roman villa complex (Scheduled Ancient Monument LO 112) lies immediately south and south-west of the site. It was first discovered in the late 19th century during early phases of the construction of Beddington Sewage Treatment Works and was subject to partial excavation in 1871 (Addy 1871; Brock 1871). The northern half of the main villa range, immediately west of the site was probably destroyed without record by the construction of deep sewage tanks in the 1930s. Further exploratory excavations took place in 1959, 1960 and 1963, although few records were kept and many of the finds have since been lost. The surviving part of the complex, directly south of the current proposed development site, was extensively excavated by the Surrey Archaeological Society between 1981 and 1987 in advance of gravel extraction (Adkins & Adkins 1982, 1983, 1986; Adkins *et al.* 1986, 1987; Frere *et al.* 1983, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988; Rankov *et al.* 1982; Howell 2005). Despite having been underneath sludge drying beds, cut archaeological features including shallow postholes and gullies, survived intact. Beneath the earth bunds and raised trackways between the sludge beds, preservation was good and positive archaeological features including occupation layers and collapsed walls survived (Rankov *et al.* 1982). The archaeological levels were generally no more than around a metre deep but stratigraphy was complex owing to the long sequence of occupation (Adkins *et al.* 1987). In places, including the bathhouse, walls survived to just over one metre in height (Adkins & Adkins 1983, 327). Plans from the 1980s excavations clearly show archaeological features associated with the villa site extending northwards into the proposed development site. These include early Roman field ditches and the large enclosure ditches surrounding the villa complex.
- 4.9 The villa complex is known to have comprised several buildings, including the main villa range, a bathhouse which underwent at least four phases of construction, timber and clay-walled outbuildings, a sequence of large barns and possibly other additional structures, as well as cobbled yards and other surfaces, a well, ditches, pits and enclosures. Several shallow unaccompanied inhumations of possible late Iron Age or Roman date were also found. Finds from the 1980s excavations, including large quantities of painted wall plaster from a collapsed cob wall, and tesserae from mosaic floors (Adkins & Adkins 1982), suggest high-status occupation, as does a channelled hypocaust (heated floor) in one room (Adkins & Adkins 1983, 327). The surrounding landscape may have been farmland associated with the villa; Roman field ditches have been identified a few hundred metres west of the site.
- 4.10 A range of spot-finds in the wider area, including a coin of Valentinian (reigned AD 364 – 375) found in Beddington Park, a fragment of Roman tile from within the sewage works 300m north of the site and Roman potsherds discovered in excavations near Beddington Place, several hundred metres to the south-west, provide further evidence for Roman activity. Two Roman coffins and a skeleton were found in the churchyard of St Mary the Virgin, Beddington, in the late 19th century and it is possible that they represent part of a larger Roman burial ground.
- 4.11 The gravel slopes above the river Wandle are typical of the sorts of locations usually chosen for Roman villas and estate centres, although there are surprisingly few known and potential villa sites in the Wandle valley. It was suggested by Margary that a Roman road ran from London to Portslade and the south coast via Croydon, along the Sutton/ Croydon borough boundary. Such a route, linking London with the rich grain and iron-producing areas of Sussex, would have made sense in the

context of the Roman road network, but other researchers have expressed doubts about the proposed route. This conjectured road would have run around a mile to the east of the site, linking the villa estate with *Londinium*.

Early Medieval and Medieval

- 4.12 A search of the GLHER revealed two records which date from this period, the first records the in the area of Clerkenwell began to increase to a great extent in the medieval period. The Within 100m of the proposed development site, an early medieval brooch has been found. A silver penny of Aethelstan (reigned AD 924 – 939) was found just to the south of the site during the 1871 excavations at Beddington Roman villa, possibly suggesting late Saxon activity in the vicinity of the villa complex (Brock 1874).
- 4.13 Early Anglo-Saxon urned cremations and furnished inhumations, some possibly associated with barrows (burial mounds), were discovered in the vicinity of the Roman villa in the late 19th century (Addy 1871; Brock 1874; Meaney 1964, 237-8). The features and finds were recorded by antiquarians as being found around '500 yards' to the south of the villa (Addy 1871, Meaney 1964). This purported location should probably be viewed with some caution, although the near-absence of post-Roman finds from the 1980s villa excavations lends some weight to the view that the cemetery does not extend northwards towards the current site. Other early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries are located at Croydon and Mitcham and it has been suggested that these represent groups of mercenaries who were deliberately settled by the remaining 5th-century Romano-British authorities to defend the approaches to London (Morris 1959, 153).
- 4.14 Beddington was two manors at the time of the Domesday survey, one of which had two watermills on the river Wandle. These manors had been united by 1381 under Nicholas Carew; the estate lasted until its break-up in 1859 (Weinreb *et al.* 2008, 52).
- 4.15 A small concentration of medieval structural remains and findspots of medieval material lies around 500m to the south-west of the site, associated with Beddington Place manor house, its outbuildings and grounds. The house was the seat of the Carew family. The present building comprises a late 16th-century Great Hall and two adjoining late 19th-century wings. However, this house was preceded by a moated manor and possibly by earlier buildings. Other medieval remains have been found in the wider area around the sewage treatment works, including the foundations of a possible medieval barn around 650m to the north-east and a medieval ditch and a posthole 500m to the west. Medieval settlement in Beddington was probably focused primarily around the church and manor, with land to the north, closer to the site, being in agricultural use. This is reinforced by frequent finds of medieval pottery discovered during the excavation of Beddington Roman villa, which probably derive from manuring of fields. However, the structural remains to the north-east also indicate some potential for dispersed medieval settlement.

Post-Medieval

- 4.16 The area that now forms the Borough of Sutton was once a collection of rural villages with agricultural land and sheep pastures, intersected with common land and woodland. From the 18th century, the area became popular with wealthy businessmen from London and a large number of country houses were built. Beddington and the surrounding area saw extensive interwar and post-war development, although the 'village' feel still remains to some extent. The River Wandle once carried a larger volume of water and provided motive power for various industries during the early industrial revolution.

- 4.17 There are a number of listed post-medieval buildings to the south and south-west of the site, all several hundred metres away and associated with Beddington Place manor house and Beddington Park. These include the mid-16th-century Great Hall of the house itself, the later 19th-century wings erected after a fire in 1865, the 19th-century timber-framed East Lodge, a Scheduled 18th-century dovecote and a number of walls associated with the 17th and 18th-century gardens and orangery. Excavations around the manor house have revealed phases of renovation and building work in the 15th-16th-century and early 18th century. Evidence of landscaping and remodelling in the gardens has also been uncovered. North of Beddington Park, features and finds of post-medieval date mainly derive from agricultural land use, comprising sherds of pottery found at several locations and remains of field boundary ditches. Historic maps suggest that the site was farmland from at least the late 18th century until it was taken into the sewage works a century later.

5 Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1 The general aim of the investigations was to establish the character, date and function of any archaeological features and deposits.
- 5.2 Although no specific research aims have been formulated for the investigation, information from sites within the vicinity indicated that the main archaeological interest would relate to:
- The presence/absence of prehistoric activity on site.
 - The degree and nature of Roman activity on site and how it relates to the neighbouring villa complex.
 - An assessment of the degree of modern truncation which has occurred on site.
- 5.3 These aims and objectives are consistent with English Heritage/MoL research frameworks for London archaeology (2002).

6 Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief was carried out between 17th and 26th January 2010 and was focused on the monitoring of three test pits and one borehole (Figure 2) excavated by Soil Mechanics Ltd. The boreholes were excavated using an 'A' frame percussion borer; the trial holes were dug by a JCB 3CX wheeled excavator.
- 6.1 The boreholes were monitored by assessing the material as it was removed from the borer and measuring the depth of the borehole to build up a section.
- 6.2 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (3rd Edition) (MoL 1994).
- 6.3 The excavation, recording and reporting conformed to current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:
- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
 - English Heritage – Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (EH 1998).
 - English Heritage – Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (EH 2002).
 - Institute for Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance and Guidelines for Finds Work (IfA 2008).

- Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 2008).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
- Rescue/United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – First Aid for Finds (Second Edition) (CBA 1998).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice (UKIC 1990).

6.4 Archaeological recording consisted of:

- Limited hand cleaning of archaeological sections and surfaces sufficient to establish the stratigraphic sequence exposed.
- The collection of dating evidence from in-situ deposits and spoil scans.
- A scaled photographic recording of representative exposed sections and surfaces, along with sufficient photographs to establish the setting and scale of the groundworks.
- A record of the datum levels of archaeological deposits, where obtainable.

6.5 A unique site code, **BDS 11** was obtained from the Museum of London prior to the commencement of fieldwork. This was used as the site identifier on all records.

6.6 During the course of the works all Ordnance Datum measurements were established based on the main contractor's survey data. To date AOC has not received full location details and Ordnance Datum values for the boreholes and test pits excavated during the course of the programme of site investigation

6.7 The watching brief was undertaken by Stella Bickelmann and Ian Hogg, under the overall direction of Melissa Melikian; Operations Director. The work was monitored by Josh Williams for Mott MacDonald, and by Mark Stevenson on behalf of GLAAS.

7 Results

7.1 Test Pit 1

7.1.1 Surface of Test Pit = 34.35m AOD

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
34.35m-33.90m	0.00m	(101)	Topsoil
33.90m-33.50m	0.45m	(102)	Made Ground
33.50m-33.40m	0.85m	(103)	Peat Horizon
33.40m-33.05m	0.95m	(104)	Soil Horizon
33.05m-31.35m	1.30m	(105)	River Terrace Gravels
31.35m-30.85m (NFE)	3.00m	(106)	Alluvial Clay

7.1.1 Test Pit 1 was located in the central northern area of the site and measured 2m by 0.5m in plan (Figure 2).

- 7.1.2 The earliest deposit recorded in Test Pit 1 was a firm, blue, clay (106) thought to be alluvial in origin and observed at its highest at 31.35m AOD. Alluvial clay (106) was overlain by an undisturbed white, sandy gravel deposit (105) 2.70m thick thought to be River Terrace Gravels. A possible sandy gravel soil horizon (104) was present above gravel deposit (105) which measured up to 0.35m thick. Observations of soil horizon (104) indicate it was a dark grey colour which was potentially contributed to petrochemical contamination. Layer (104) was sealed by a dark, organic, sandy silt, peat deposit (103) which was 0.10m thick.
- 7.1.3 Post-dating the deposition of context (103) was a made ground deposit (102) consisting of redeposited sandy gravel material, recorded reaching a maximum thickness of 0.40m. Two fragments of worked flint were recovered from context (102). The sequence was sealed by a layer of dark brown, silty sand topsoil soil (101) 0.45m thick.

7.2 Test Pit 2

- 7.2.1 Surface of Test Pit = 34.16m AOD

Level (OD)	Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
34.16m-33.86m	0.00m	(201)	Topsoil
33.86m-33.56m	0.30m	(202)	Made Ground
33.56m-33.36m	0.60m	(203)	Made Ground
33.36m-33.26m	0.80m	(204)	Peat Horizon
33.26m-30.96m	0.90m	(205)	River Terrace Gravels
30.96m-30.46m (NFE)	3.20m	(206)	Alluvial Clay

- 7.2.1 Test Pit 2 was located in the central area of the site, and measured 2m by 0.5m in plan (Figure 2).
- 7.2.2 The earliest recorded deposit was a firm, blue, alluvial clay (206) which was observed at a height of 30.96m AOD and contained frequent shelly inclusions. The alluvial clay (206) was overlain by an undisturbed white, sandy River Terrace Gravel deposit (205) measuring up to 2.30m thick. A thin horizon of a possible peaty material (204) overlay gravel deposit (205) measuring up to 0.10m thick.
- 7.2.3 A sequence of made ground deposits sealed possible peat horizon (204), the oldest of which consisted of redeposited yellow Terrace Gravels (203), 0.20m thick, which contained small fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). A further deposit of redeposited Terrace Gravels (202) was recorded above made ground (203), distinguished by its more greyish appearance and more substantial nature, measuring up to 0.30m thick. Six fragments of ceramic tile and one fragment of stone tile was collected from context (202). The sequence was sealed by a layer of dark brown, silty sand topsoil soil (201) 0.30m thick.

7.3 Test Pit 3

Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
0.00m	(301)	Topsoil
0.30m	(302)	Made Ground
0.70m	(303)	Peat Horizon
0.95m	(304)	Soil Horizon

1.05m	(305)	River Terrace Gravels
3.10m	(306)	Alluvial Clay

- 7.3.1 Test Pit 3 is approximately located in the southern area of the site and measured 2m by 0.5m in plan (Figure 2).
- 7.3.2 The earliest deposit encountered in Test Pit 3 was a firm, bluey grey, alluvial clay which contained frequent shelly inclusions (306). Alluvial deposit (306) was overlain by a layer of undisturbed yellow, sandy River Terrace Gravels (305) measuring up to 2.05m thick. Above the gravel (305) was a sandy gravel soil horizon (304) which measured up to 0.10m thick. Layer (304) was sealed by a dark brown, organic, sandy silt, peat deposit (303) which was 0.25m thick.
- 7.3.3 Overlying peat deposit (303) was a made ground deposit (302) consisting of redeposited yellow, sandy gravel material, recorded as 0.40m thick. The sequence was sealed by a layer of dark brown, silty sand topsoil soil (301) 0.30m thick.

7.4 Borehole BH 102

Depth BGL	Context Number	Description/Interpretation
0.00m	(400)	Topsoil
0.20m	(401)	Made ground:
0.80m	(402)	River Terrace Gravels
3.70m	(403)	Peat Deposit
4.20m	(404)	Alluvium

- 7.4.1 Borehole BH 102 was located in the southwest area of the site and measured 0.40m in diameter (Figure 2).
- 7.4.2 The lowest deposit revealed during monitoring was a firm mid grey alluvial clay (404) which contained frequent mollusc shells. The alluvium was sealed by 0.50m of very dark greyish black peat, this deposit had frequent organic inclusions and a column sample was taken from (403). These peat deposits are thought to only be present in the south of the site and are of Palaeolithic date.
- 7.4.3 The peat was overlain by hard orange Wandle terrace gravels (402) 2.90m thick. The gravels were sealed by 0.60m of mottled orangey brown silty gravel made ground (401) and 0.20m of dark sandy silt topsoil (400).

8 Finds and Environmental Samples

- 8.1 A small assemblage of finds were collected during the course of the watching brief. Two fragments of worked flint were recovered from context (102), one of which was a knapped flake, while the other is thought to be a fragment of knapping debitage. Finds were also collected from context (202) in the form of six fragments of ceramic tile and one fragment of stone tile. These tile fragments are generally non-diagnostic, but thought to be post-medieval in date.

9 Conclusions

- 9.1 During the course of the watching brief on site the nature and extent of the archaeological potential was observed, in addition to the associated disturbance of this potential.

- 9.2 Undisturbed deposits was identified in all test pits and boreholes investigated, consisting of an alluvial clay deposit containing shelly inclusions, which was recorded between a height of 30.96m and 31.35m AOD. In the majority of locations examined the alluvial clay was overlain by undisturbed River Terrace Gravels reaching a thickness of between 1.70m to 2.90m. The only significant difference to this pattern was the identification of a peat horizon located between the alluvial clay and River Terrace Gravel deposits. The stratigraphic location of this peat deposit suggests it may be Palaeolithic in date.
- 9.3 The upper sequence of deposits recorded in Test Pits 1 to 3 consistently recorded the presence of a sandy silt soil horizon overlying the River Terrace Gravels. The soil horizon, in turn, was overlain by a horizon of peat. In all geotechnical locations monitored, the undisturbed sequence of deposits capped by the later peat horizon had been sealed by layers of made ground consisting of redeposited River Terrace Gravels in addition to topsoil deposits. This horizon of made ground and topsoil, believed to be modern in date, consistently measured between 0.70m and 0.85m in depth. This degree of consistency indicates the made ground was deliberately deposited over the existing soil profile in order to raise the localised ground level, probably associated with the creation of the treatment works in the late 19th or 20th century.
- 9.4 The only significant deposit encountered during the watching brief was a horizon of peat identified in BH 102 located in the southwest area of site. The stratigraphical position of this peat suggests it may be of Palaeolithic date. Preliminary borehole logs provided by Soil Mechanics also identified a band of peat in BH 103, located in the same position and depth as observed in BH 102. This indicates this potentially Palaeolithic peat horizon extends across the southern area of the site.
- 9.5 No other archaeological features were encountered during the course of the watching brief. The only finds recovered derived from made ground deposits present within the upper made ground horizons, and as such are unlikely to be *in-situ* and so present no immediate significance. The undisturbed sequence of deposits present below the upper made ground horizons, suggest modern truncation has been limited leaving earlier horizons intact. This implies that if archaeological features are present in this area of the site, their potential to survive is high. No evidence immediately relating to prehistoric or Roman activity was identified.

10. Publication and Archive Deposition

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

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BEDDINGTON SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, BEDDINGTON, LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Site Location Within London



Figure 1: Site Location

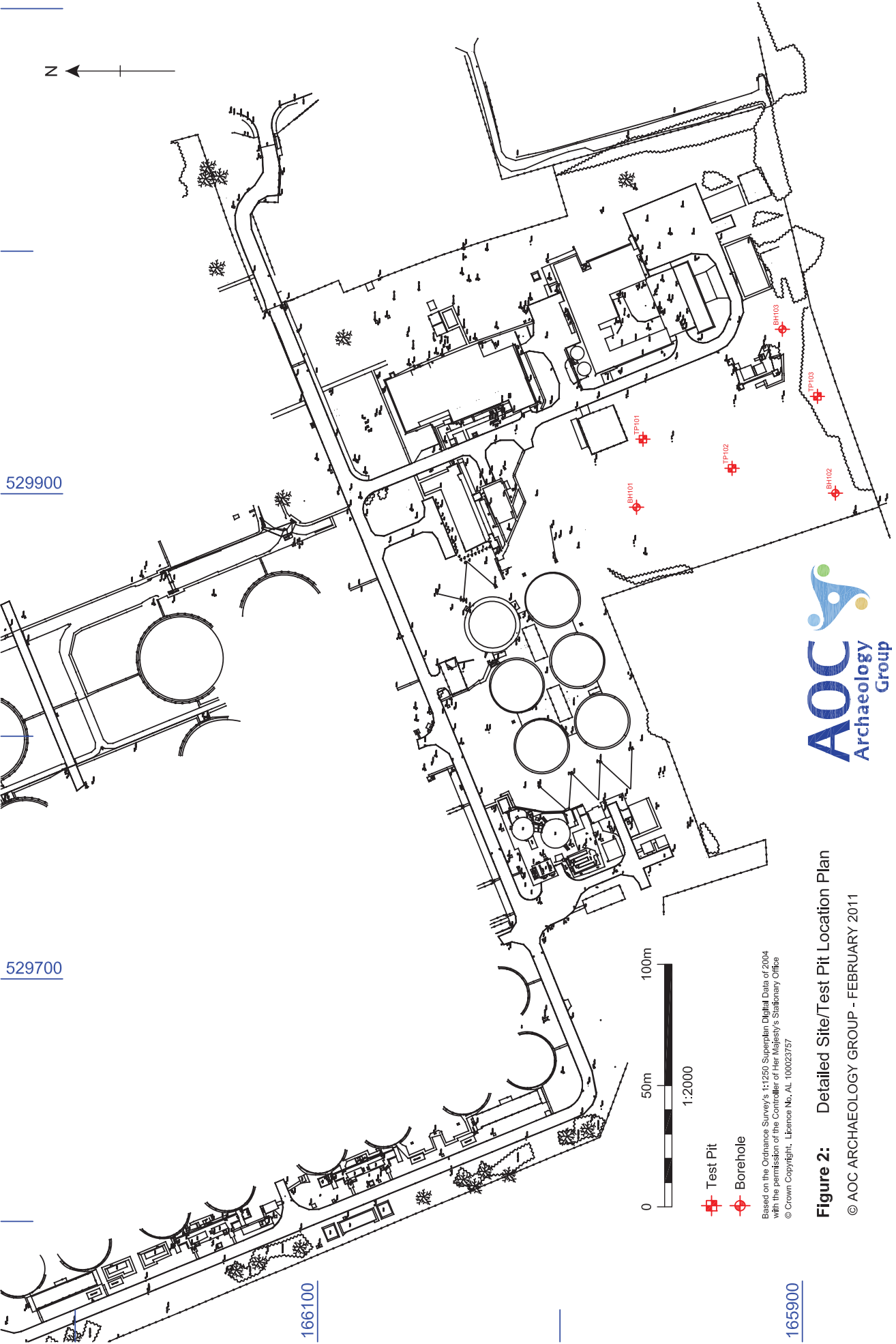


Figure 2: Detailed Site/Test Pit Location Plan

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Test Pit
Borehole

Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:250 Superplan Digital Data of 2004 with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office
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Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
101	Topsoil	2.00m	0.50m	0.45m
102	Made Ground	2.00m	0.50m	0.40m
103	Peat Horizon	2.00m	0.50m	0.10m
104	Soil Horizon	2.00m	0.50m	0.35m
105	River Terrace Gravel	2.00m	0.50m	1.70m
106	Alluvial Clay	2.00m	0.50m	0.10m+
201	Topsoil	2.00m	0.50m	0.30m
202	Made Ground	2.00m	0.50m	0.30m
203	Made Ground	2.00m	0.50m	0.20m
204	Peat Horizon	2.00m	0.50m	0.10m
205	River Terrace Gravel	2.00m	0.50m	2.30m
206	Alluvial Clay	2.00m	0.50m	0.10m+
301	Topsoil	2.00m	0.50m	0.30m
302	Made Ground	2.00m	0.50m	0.40m
303	Peat Horizon	2.00m	0.50m	0.25m
304	Soil Horizon	2.00m	0.50m	0.10m
305	River Terrace Gravel	2.00m	0.50m	2.05m
306	Alluvial Clay	2.00m	0.50m	0.10m+
400	Topsoil	0.40m	0.40m	0.20m
401	Made Ground	0.40m	0.40m	0.60m
402	River Terrace Gravel	0.40m	0.40m	2.90m
403	Peat Horizon	0.40m	0.40m	0.50m
404	Alluvial Clay	0.40m	0.40m	0.10m+

Appendix B – Oasis Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-92746

Project details

Project name Beddington Sewage Treatment Works

Short description of the project AOC Archaeology Group undertook a watching brief at Beddington Sewage Treatment Works, Sutton. The work comprised the recording of geotechnical investigation undertaken on site. Undisturbed deposits were identified in all test pits and boreholes monitored, consisting of an alluvial clay deposit containing shelly inclusions overlain by River Terrace Gravels and gravelly soil horizons, capped by a thin horizon of peat. Made ground and topsoil deposits, suspected to be related to the construction of the treatment works, sealed the undisturbed deposits. The only significant deposit identified was an early peat horizon located between the alluvial clay and River Terrace Gravel deposits. The stratigraphic location of this peat deposit suggests it may be Palaeolithic in date and of great significance.

Project dates Start: 17-01-2011 End: 26-01-2011

Previous/future work Not known / Yes

Any project codes associated reference BDS11 - Sitecode

Any project codes associated reference 30923 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Recording project

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Transport and Utilities 3 - Utilities

Significant Finds FLINT FLAKE Uncertain

Significant Finds TILE Uncertain

Significant Finds WORKED STONE Uncertain

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON SUTTON WALLINGTON AND BEDDINGTON Beddington sewerage treatment plant

Postcode CR0 4TH

Study area 1.40 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 29915 65924 51.3769727547 -0.133137949039 51 22 37 N 000 07 59 W Point

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology Group
Organisation

Project brief Consultant
originator

Project design Mott MacDonald
originator

Project Alan Ford
director/manager

Project supervisor Ian Hogg

Type of Consultancy
sponsor/funding

body

Name of GBM JV
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive Museum of London-LAARC
recipient

Physical Archive ID BDS11

Physical Contents 'Worked stone/lithics'

Physical Archive modern CBM will be discarded
notes

Digital Archive AOC Archaeology Group
recipient

Digital Archive ID BDS11

Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Text'
available

Digital Archive notes digital archive spreadsheets, final report, images

Paper Archive Museum of London-LAARC
recipient

Paper Archive ID BDS11

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic','Worked stone/lithics'

Paper Media 'Context sheet','Microfilm','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General
available Notes','Plan','Report','Unpublished Text'

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Beddington STW sludge dewatering scheme-Desk-Based Assessment

Author(s)/Editor(s) Woolhouse, T.

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher Mott MacDonald on behalf of Thames Water

Place of issue or Cambridge
publication

**Project
bibliography 2**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title BEDDINGTON SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, BEDDINGTON, LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Clarke, C. and Hogg, I.

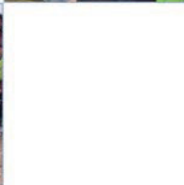
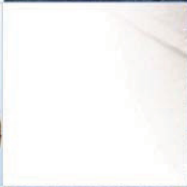
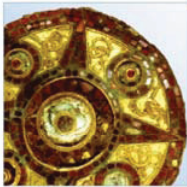
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