

RAFU11/002



LAND AT RAF UXBRIDGE, LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

Trial Trenching

for Cuddy Group

585/APP/2009/2752

January 2013

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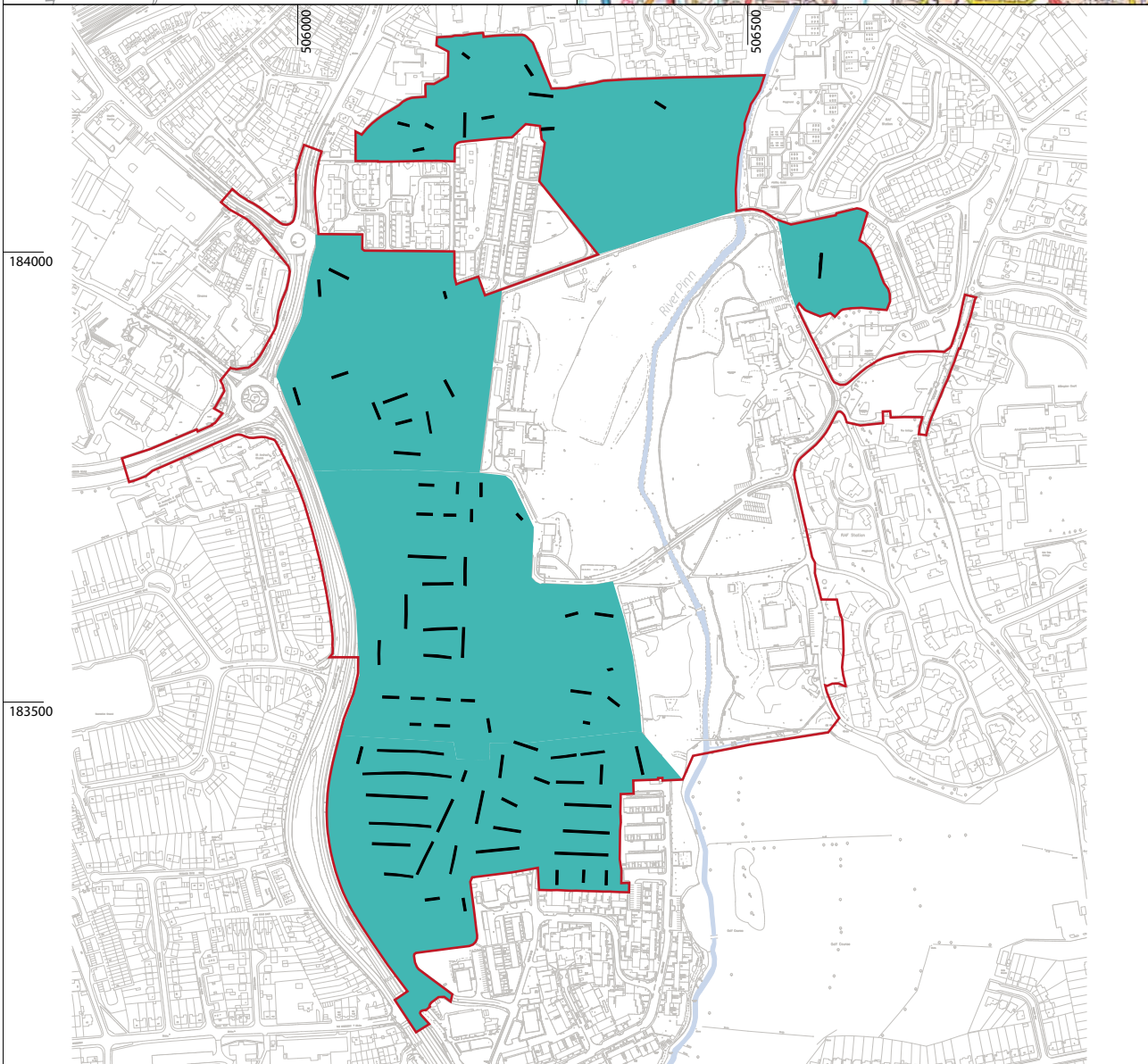
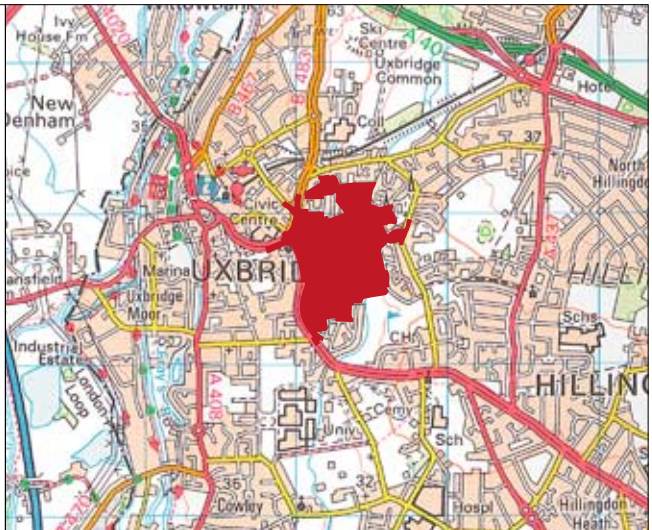
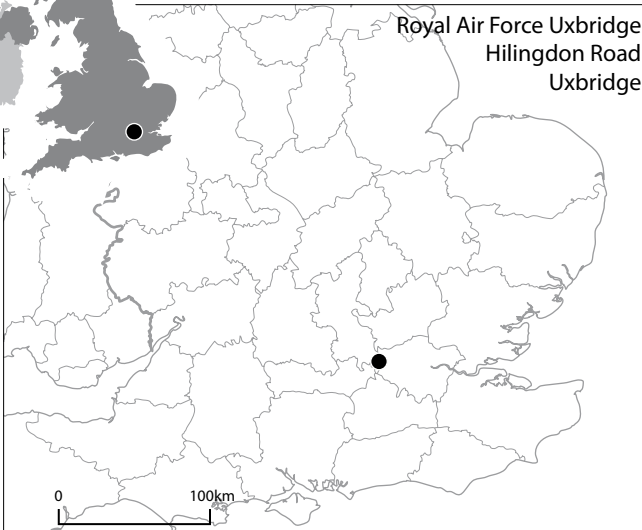
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Illus 1

Site location

LAND AT RAF UXBRIDGE, LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

Trial Trenching

Headland Archaeology conducted an evaluation on land proposed for mixed residential and commercial development at RAF Uxbridge in the London Borough of Hillingdon, in order to provide further information on its archaeological potential. The work was commissioned by Cuddy Group on behalf of their client VSM Estates (Uxbridge) Limited. A total of 46 trenches were excavated within the Proposed Development Area (PDA). No sub-surface remains of archaeological significance were revealed.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning background

VSM Estates (Uxbridge) Limited (the company) is submitting a planning application (Outline Planning Reference 585/APP/2009/2752 and References 585/APP/2012/2163 and 585/APP/2009/2754 pertaining to archaeology) for mixed residential and commercial development on land at RAF Uxbridge, London Borough of Hillingdon; henceforth referred to as the Proposed Development Area (PDA) (*Illus 1*). RAF Uxbridge closed in March 2010 and the PDA comprises approximately 50 hectares of land within the former RAF base, centred on NGR TQ064836. As part of the application process, the company has undertaken an archaeological investigation of the PDA comprising a trial trench evaluation (*Illus 1-2*). The evaluation was carried out to assess the extent, nature and survival of archaeological features within those parts of the site where any intrusive development may take place. The archaeological work was commissioned by Cuddy Group (the client) and managed by Atkins Ltd (Atkins) (Archaeological Consultant) on behalf of VSM Estates (Uxbridge) Limited (the company).

The London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) is advised on archaeological matters by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS). The GLAAS Archaeological Officer (AO) advised that the area covered by the PDA is archaeologically sensitive and that an intrusive trial trench evaluation would be required in advance of any development in order to obtain further information on the sub-surface archaeological potential. These works were requested in accordance with government guidance as set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) and GLAAS guidelines.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation was prepared by Headland Archaeology on behalf of the client for the company. Prior to this Atkins undertook consultation with GLAAS AO on behalf of the company, regarding the requirements for the trial trench evaluation. Headland Archaeology was commissioned

to prepare a WSI for the evaluation, undertake the site works and produce a report (this document) on the results.

Non-intrusive archaeological studies comprising a Desk-based Assessment (DBA) (Halcrow 2007), an updated assessment for the scoping study (GVA Grimley 2009), a cultural heritage statement (Alan Baxter Associates 2009) and a historic landscape report (Alan Pyke Associates 2009) have previously been completed, as detailed in the Environmental Statement (ES) (Atkins 2011). The combined results of the earlier work and intrusive investigations will allow the GLAAS AO to make their recommendations on the requirement for additional (mitigation) works to fulfil the planning condition (Condition 39) pertaining to archaeology.

1.2 Site location and geology

The PDA is located to the southeast of Uxbridge town centre in the London Borough of Hillingdon at RAF Uxbridge. It comprises approximately 50ha of land within the former RAF base and is centred at NGR TQ064836 (*Illus 1*). The PDA is bounded by Hillingdon Road (the A4020) to the west and is generally surrounded by residential development (*Illus 1*). Prior to the PDA's development as an RAF base in the early 20th century it largely comprised open land falling within the former estate associated with Hillingdon House.

The central part of the PDA is occupied by a large area of open space which is bisected by the River Pinn, which flows from north to south. The PDA comprises a range of buildings and infrastructure associated with its recent military use, including administration buildings, accommodation blocks, messes, a medical centre, an armoury, communications facilities, firing ranges, a respirator training facility, a military transport section, sports pitches, gymnasium, parade square, boiler house and an underground bunker (now serving as a museum). It also consists of landscaped features including avenues, lawns and gardens.

The PDA is located within a shallow valley and the ground rises from 32.5m AOD along the river to 52m AOD at the northwest



corner and 52.5m AOD at the east of the PDA (Allen Pyke Associates 2009). The ground slopes either side of an erosion channel associated with the river and the topography of the parkland and area to the west of the river has been altered and terraced to allow for the construction of the sports pitch (Allen Pyke Associates 2009). In general there have been various phases of development and associated terracing and landscaping across the built-up areas of the PDA (GVA Grimley 2009).

British Geological Survey Sheet 225 (Beaconsfield) shows that underlying superficial geology, where present includes Black Park Gravel (a River Terrace Gravel), Alluvium and Head deposits (associated with the River Pinn) and Boyn Hill Gravel (a River Terrace Gravel). The underlying solid geology consists of London Clay and Lambeth Group Formations (British Geological Survey 1974). In addition areas of Made Ground are identified in the northeast of the PDA, in the area of the athletics track, comprising landfill and engineered fill to the east of the track and worked ground derived from excavations including quarries, pits and large cuttings to the west of the track (Halcrow 2011).

Ground investigation works were carried out at the PDA in June 2010 revealing hard-surfacing/Made Ground or topsoil above Made Ground overlying Alluvium, River Terrace deposits and glacial sand and gravels, underlain by London Clay and Lambeth Group Formations (Halcrow 2011).

1.3 Archaeological background

2 The archaeological and historical background of the PDA has been detailed in full in the Desk-based Assessment (DBA) (Halcrow 2007), updated assessment for the scoping study (GVA Grimley 2009), cultural heritage statement (Alan Baxter Associates 2009) and historic landscape report (Alan Pyke Associates 2009) as reproduced in the Environmental Statement (Atkins 2011). The results are summarised below with all due acknowledgement.

There are no designated or non-designated archaeological sites recorded within the PDA however this could in part reflect the lack of any formal archaeological investigation within the RAF base (given the MoD's former Crown immunity to working within the national and local planning framework). There is archaeological evidence for prehistoric to post-medieval activity in wider surrounding area, largely revealed in the area of Uxbridge town.

Evidence for prehistoric activity generally comprises dispersed findspots of flint artefacts but also includes the remains of field enclosures and boundaries. The PDA is located in close proximity to the Colne Valley and Uxbridge, where prehistoric settlement activity has been recorded. Prehistoric communities in the wider Uxbridge and Hillingdon area would have exploited the Pinn Valley for its resources, as well as potentially using it for ritual and funerary activity. In addition the base of the River Pinn valley has the potential for buried palaeochannels (relict water courses), which may include significant palaeoenvironmental material. Any such material would be valuable for informing the local and regional research agendas and providing new data for this area.

There is very limited evidence for Roman activity and a single cremation has been found, truncating an earlier prehistoric ditch. There is no evidence for any early medieval activity in the vicinity of the PDA.

A later medieval bridge is recorded in close proximity to the PDA however no associated evidence has been revealed. In the main evidence for later medieval activity is largely concentrated within the historic core of Uxbridge, along the High Street.

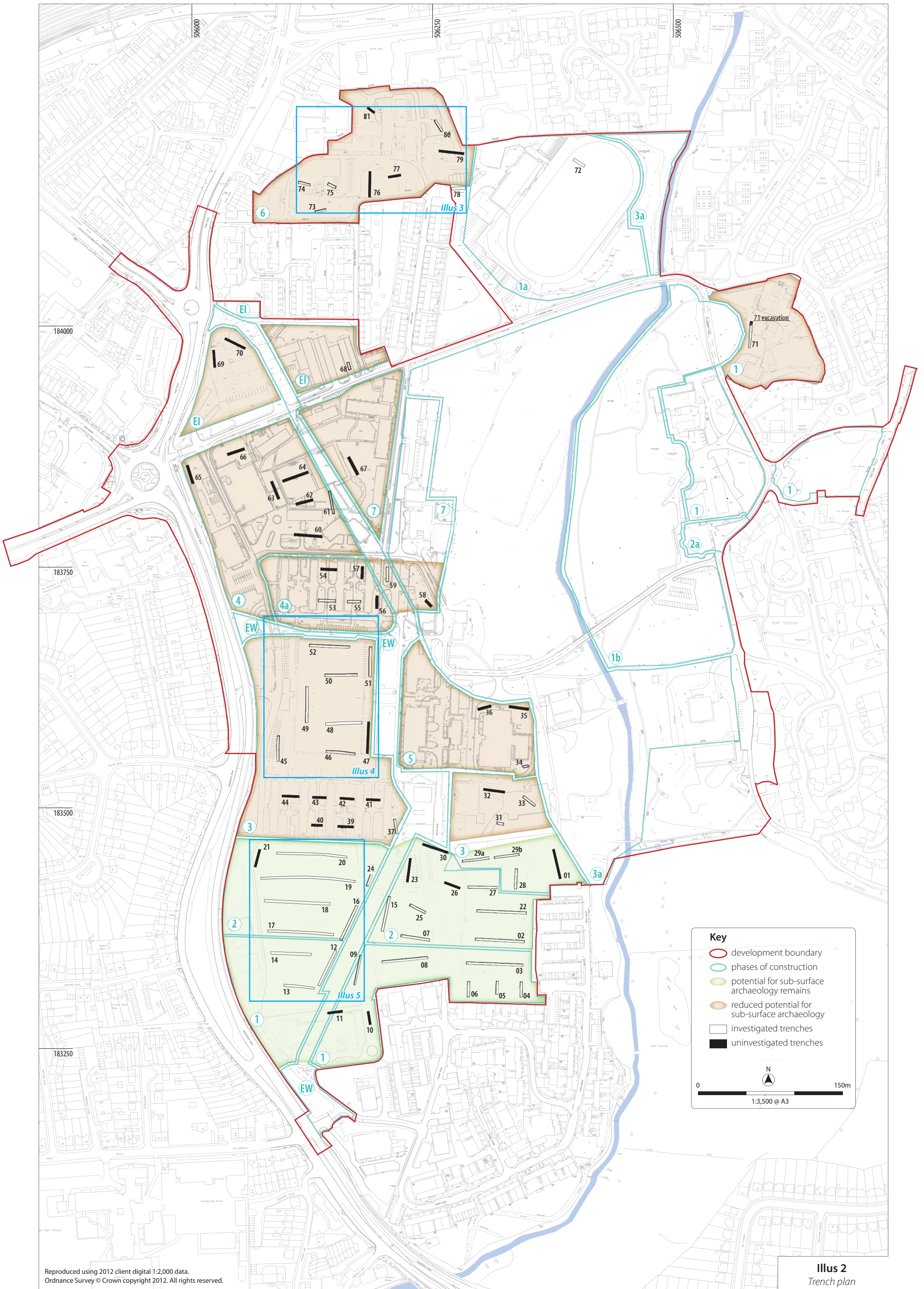
Archaeological evaluation on adjacent land to the east of the PDA revealed evidence for Post-medieval activity comprising a field drain (GLHER MLO63034), a wall foundation (GLHER MLO63035) and pitting (GLHER MLO63032).

The 18th to 20th century history and landscape development of the PDA was detailed in full in the historic landscape report (Allen Pyke Associates 2009) and is summarised here in brief. The historic mapping dating from 1754 to 1914, including Rocque's map of 1754, the Enclosure Award of 1825 and the Ordnance Survey maps dating between 1881 and 1914 largely show the PDA as open land associated with Hillingdon House. In 1717 the Duke of Schomberg built Hillingdon House on the site of a former 17th century hunting lodge. The house and estate was sold to Richard Henry Cox in 1810. Subsequently the house was destroyed by fire in 1844 the current house was built by George Mair. The Cox family sold the estate in 1913 and it was acquired by the British government in 1915, becoming an RAF base. Throughout the First and Second World Wars the PDA comprised RAF Uxbridge and RAF Hillingdon. There was rapid development during the early 1920s and the Air Ministry map of 1926 shows that the PDA had been extensively developed by this date. There was continued development throughout the 20th century as indicated by the Ordnance Survey maps dating between 1960 and 1968.

A high potential was identified for post-medieval features and possible foundations relating to the Hillingdon House estate. The formal gardens and parkland surrounding the house were largely destroyed during the 20th century as a result of the ongoing development of RAF Uxbridge. Buried remains associated with the formal gardens, kitchen garden and parkland surrounding the house including garden features, ditches and building remains were thought likely to exist below ground (although the extent of any such remains and the level of survival was unknown).

A high potential was identified for modern buried remains associated with the former RAF buildings which were cleared during various phases of development, which took place across the base, in particular during the first half of the 20th century. This modern archaeological resource is well documented by historic mapping and photographs and will also be addressed by a separate programme of Historic Building Recording (HBR).

Archaeological evidence from the site and the surrounding area suggested that the PDA had the potential to contain archaeological deposits from the prehistoric period and the post-medieval to modern periods. The above findings were noted prior to trial trenching being undertaken and are considered in the production of this report.



Key

- development boundary
- phases of construction
- potential for sub-surface archaeology remains
- reduced potential for sub-surface archaeology
- investigated trenches
- uninvestigated trenches

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2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Objectives

The objectives of the evaluation were:

- to identify and assess the particular significance of any previously unknown buried archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains that may be affected by the development proposal;
- to determine and understand the nature, function and character of any remains on the PDA, in their cultural and environmental setting;
- to analyse any evidence retrieved in light of objectives contained within the frameworks of local research. In this case they are provided by: A Research Framework for London Archaeology (Museum of London 2002), supported by Exploring Our Past (English Heritage 1991), and English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda (English Heritage 1997);
- to inform any future mitigation strategy as appropriate.

In addition to these general aims, it was hoped the results of the evaluation would provide an opportunity to address the following specific research objectives:

- to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the PDA and to establish the depth and character of archaeologically 'sterile' overburden;
- to identify any evidence of Prehistoric, Roman or medieval activity or settlement associated with the River Pinn;
- to determine the nature, extent, condition, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological features and deposits affected by the proposed development;
- to assess the ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features within the site;
- defining any constraints (eg areas of disturbance, service locations, etc) and any potential constraints for further archaeological fieldwork if required.

2.2 Methodology

The fieldwork took place between the 19th November and 12th December 2012 and was carried out in accordance with the WSI (Headland Archaeology 2012) and GLAAS Standards for Archaeological Works (2009). The proposed trench plan comprised eighty trial trenches, measuring between 10m and 100m in length, totalling 2,242 linear metres (4,037m²). Any alteration to the proposed trench plan was agreed with the GLAAS AO. A total of 46 trenches were excavated (as shown on *Illus 1–2*) amounting to 1436 linear meters at 2m wide. The trenches were specifically targeted within the footprints of the proposed new buildings and structures, and where the ground was thought not to have been significantly disturbed by previous development. A total of 35 proposed trenches were not excavated (*Illus 2*) due to onsite conditions and obstructions including protected trees, reinforced concrete, walled gardens, demolition debris, contaminated ground,

manholes and services (as detailed in full in Appendix 2).

All trenches were set-out using differential GPS. A CAT Scanner was used to scan trenches in advance of opening. The positions of overhead powerlines were noted on site and appropriate stand-off areas were used to ensure that no trenches were excavated in unsuitable locations.

A 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket was used to remove topsoil and deposits of modern make-up in controlled spits under constant archaeological direction. Machine excavation continued until the top of the underlying geological sediments or the first significant archaeological horizon were encountered, whichever was uppermost.

Further excavation required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation was continued by hand. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified features was investigated by hand and all features were recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

2.3 Recording

All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and the GLAAS Standards for Archaeological Work (2009). All trenches and contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on *pro forma* record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

An overall site plan at an appropriate scale and relative to the National Grid was recorded by digital survey using a differential GPS. The site plan was accurately linked to the National Grid. Additional detailed recording of features and sections were hand-drawn on permatrace at an appropriate scale (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections).

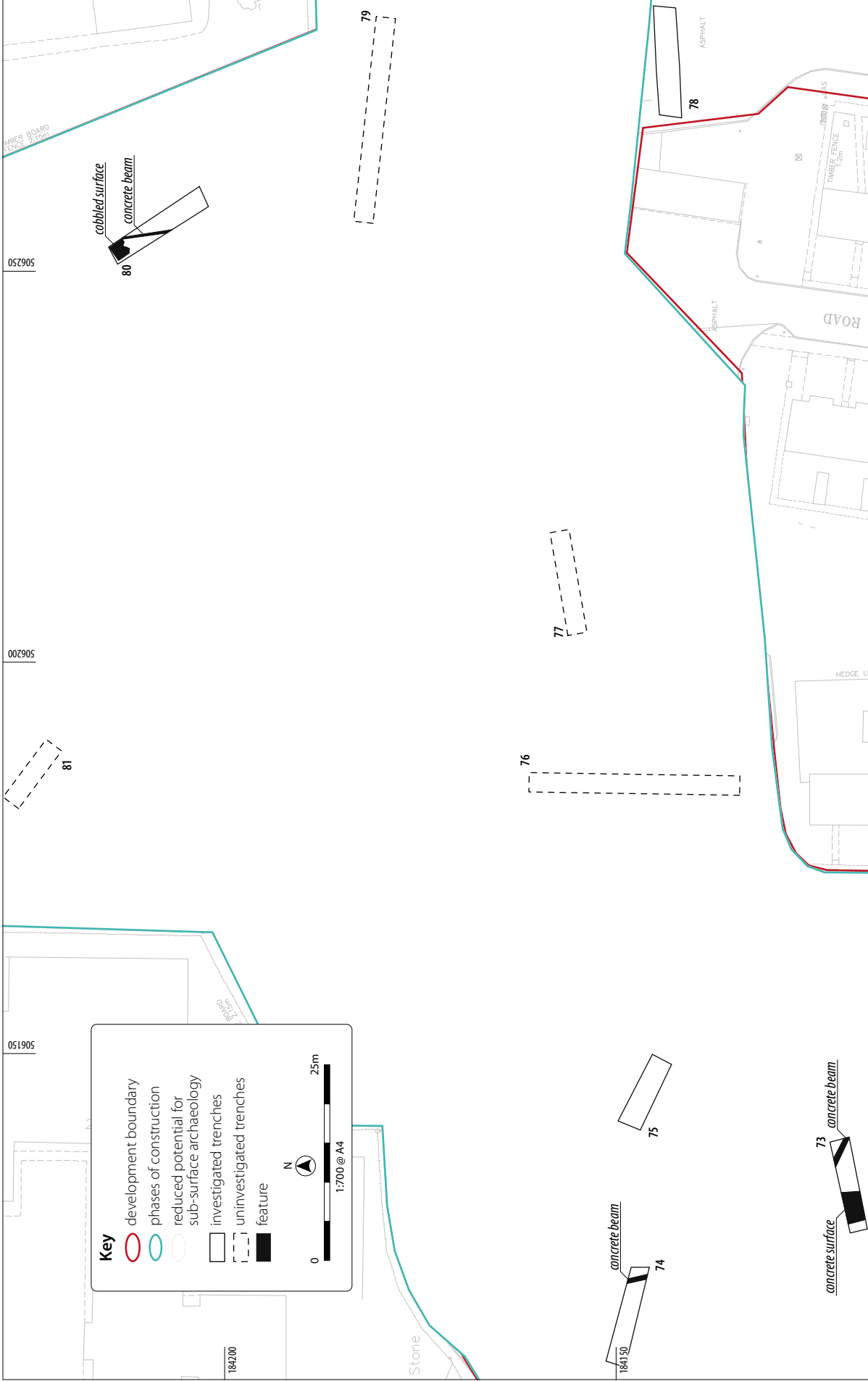
A full photographic record comprising colour slide and black and white print photographs was taken, supplemented with digital photography. A graduated metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

Full trench descriptions, including orientation, length and depth are presented in Appendix 1.1. Technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 1.2. Contexts are numbered by trench number: ie Trench 1 [101], Trench 2 [201]. Cut features are shown as [101] whilst their fills are expressed as (102) for example.

The overburden across the PDA varied significantly, generally comprising mixed Made Ground deposits overlying natural as detailed in full in Appendix 1.



Illus 3
Phase 6 trenching

Headland Archaeology

Topsoil was recorded in twenty-six trenches, varying in thickness from 0.15m (Trenches 6, 7, 12, 13, 24, 59, 61 and 73) to 0.45m (Trench 29). Topsoil was recorded directly overlying natural at a depth of 0.25m below ground level (bgl) in Trenches 6 and 31. Topsoil was observed overlying Made Ground deposits, buried topsoil or re-deposited natural, over natural in twenty-four trenches (Appendix 1). The underlying natural was observed between 0.45m bgl (Trench 5) and 1.40 bgl (Trench 24).

Made ground surfaces comprising Astroturf or Tarmac were recorded in twenty trenches, varying in thickness from 0.15m (Trenches 33, 68 and 80) to 0.60m (Trench 37). Tarmac was recorded directly overlying natural at a depth of 0.60m bgl in Trench 37. Astroturf / Tarmac was observed overlying Made Ground deposits, demolition material and mixed clay deposits over natural in nineteen trenches (Appendix 1). The underlying natural was observed between 0.40m bgl (Trenches 50 and 80) and 1.45m bgl (Trench 71).

The underlying natural geology varied (as detailed in Appendix 1) but generally comprised yellow grey to orange pink clay and yellow and grey to yellow orange clay and gravel. Undisturbed natural was not reached in twelve trenches widely dispersed across the PDA (Trenches 6, 15, 29, 33, 34, 53, 55, 68, 73, 74, 75 and 78) (*Illus 2*). Disturbed/ truncated natural was recorded occurring between 0.35m bgl (Trenches 6 and 15) and 0.85m bgl (Trench 33) (Appendix 1). In particular it was noted that the natural had been previously stripped in various discrete areas across the PDA as revealed by seven trenches (Trenches 15, 33, 53, 55, 74, 75 and 78). The area to the south of the PDA comprising two fields and an Astroturf court had been levelled consisting of three terraces to allow for the construction the playing fields. A layer of re-deposited natural was recorded in a number of the trenches in the southern part of the PDA (Appendix 1) and it was thought likely that this was a result of levelling works. In addition field/ land drains were observed truncating the natural in twenty-five trenches, comprising sixteen trenches at the south of the PDA (to the south of the parade ground), five trenches within the central part of the PDA (in the vicinity of the parade ground) and four trenches at the north of the PDA.

There was limited evidence for any remains of archaeological significance revealed in any of the forty-six trenches. Linear features were recorded in two trenches (Trenches 12 and 17 – *Illus 5*). However, only one abraded sherd of pottery was collected and this was considered likely to be residual. Four (Trench 68 and Trenches 73, 74 and 80 – *Illus 3*) revealed evidence for modern activity and a further four trenches revealed evidence for modern development works and associated truncation (Trenches 46, 48, 50 and 52 – *Illus 4*).

3.2 Undated

Linear features were recorded in two trenches comprising Trenches 12 and 17 (*Illus 5*) at the south of the PDA.

A northwest-southeast aligned linear feature [1201] recorded in Trench 12 at the south of the PDA measured 1.1m wide by 0.25m deep (*Illus 5*). It had gradual sloping sides and a broadly

u-shaped profile. A linear feature [1701] measuring 0.8m wide by 0.15m deep was recorded in Trench 17. It has shallow u shaped profile and ran on a northwest-southeast alignment, similar to linear feature [1201] (*Illus 5*). Linear features [1201] and [1701] were filled by a similar grey gravel clay (1202) and (1702) respectively. It is likely that [1201] and [1701] represent a continuous shallow ditch/gully, possibly a former drainage gully. A single sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered from the fill (1702) of linear feature [1701]; it was not diagnostic of any particular prehistoric period and alone does not provide definitive dating evidence for ditch [1701]. Furthermore, the abraded nature of the sherd suggests that it was residual, accordingly it is considered likely that ditch / gully [1201] and [1701] relates to more recent activity and is probably of post-medieval / modern date.

3.3 Modern

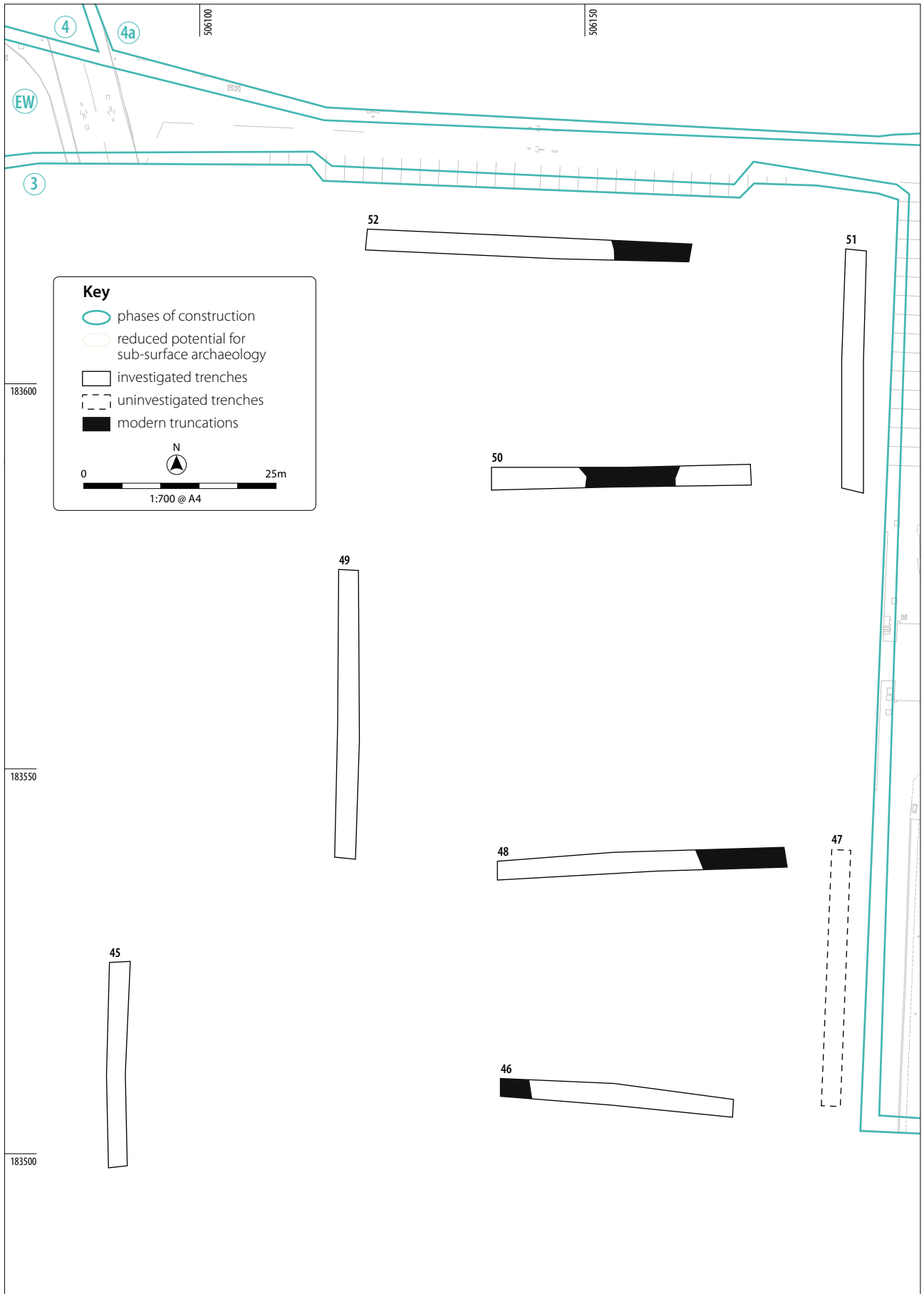
Modern features comprising concrete foundations (Trench 68), concrete beams and surfaces (Trenches 73 and 74 – *Illus 3*) and a cobbled stone surface and concrete beam (Trench 80 – *Illus 3*) were recorded in four trenches dispersed across the northern part of the site (*Illus 2*). Concrete remains were also noted in Trenches 29, 31 and 51 in the southern and central parts of the PDA (*Illus 2*).

The remains of concrete foundations were recorded directly below the Tarmac surface in Trench 68 (*Illus 2*). The Air Ministry map of 1926 indicates buildings present in this part of the PDA, no longer shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1960 and is likely that the foundations relate to modern temporary structures of early 20th century date.

A broadly WNW-ESE aligned concrete beam measuring 0.3m by 0.7m was recorded at the eastern end of Trench 73, to the west of which a concrete surface was revealed at the western end of the trench (*Illus 3*). Further to the northwest of the PDA, a broadly northwest-southeast concrete beam was recorded in Trench 74 (*Illus 3*). It is likely that the remains recorded in Trenches 73 and 74 relate to the same or contemporary structures. The historic mapping, including the Air Ministry map of 1926 do not show any former buildings corresponding with the remains recorded in Trenches 73 and 74 and it is likely that they represent the remains of a modern temporary structure that was not mapped.

A broadly northeast-southwest aligned concrete beam was recorded in Trench 80, to the north of which a brick and cobbled stone surface measuring 0.25m thick was revealed at northern end of the trench (*Illus 3*). The historic mapping including the Air Ministry map of 1926 do not show any former buildings corresponding with the remains recorded in Trench 80 and it is likely that they represent the remains of a modern temporary structure and associated yard surface that was not mapped.

In addition broadly linear cuts were recorded in four trenches positioned centrally within the PDA, in the area of the parade ground (Trenches 46, 48, 50 and 52 – *Illus 2-4*). A broadly north-south aligned linear truncation was recorded in Trench 52 measuring 1.1m deep. Similar north-south aligned linear cuts were recorded in adjacent trenches (Trenches 48 and



Illus 4
Phase 3 trenching

50) to the south (*Illus 4*). The linear cuts recorded in Trenches 48, 50 and 52 were filled by a similar mid brown silty clay containing modern brick fragments. The linear cut recorded in Trenches 48, 50 and 52 was interpreted as a modern machine cut. A similar parallel broadly north-south aligned cut was recorded in Trench 46 to the southwest. It was also filled by a mid brown silty clay containing modern brick fragments and was also considered to be a modern machine cut. The broadly linear cuts recorded in Trenches 46, 48, 50 and 52 possibly relate to the original construction of the parade ground and associated landscaping.

3.4 Description of the significance of the Heritage Assets

The local and regional research contexts are provided by the Museum of London (2002), English Heritage (1991), English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda (English Heritage 1997) outline various gaps in knowledge in the Uxbridge and Hillingdon area. Due to the limited evidence for any activity of archaeological significance revealed by the trial trenching, the site does not allow for detailed comment on these research aims.

Although the trial trenching revealed limited archaeological evidence for past activity of any date the results contribute to our general understanding of the development of RAF Uxbridge in the modern period.

4. FINDS ASSESSMENT

By Julie Franklin

Only one sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered during the evaluation and no other artefacts of any type or date were collected (Table 1). The piece of pottery comprised a rim sherd recovered from ditch / gully fill (1702) in Trench 17. The form of the rim may suggest a large urn or bucket shaped vessel (Julie Lochrie pers. com.). Although it was clearly of prehistoric date it was otherwise largely undiagnostic of any particular prehistoric period. The fingernail nicks and the large quantity of flint inclusions might suggest that it is of middle Bronze Age date (Alex Gibson pers com). However, this does not provide definitive dating evidence for ditch / gully [1701] in which it was found and the abraded nature of the sherd indicates the possibility that it was residual. Overall, the pottery recovered can suggest no more than some sort of activity in the surrounding area at some point during prehistory.

Table 1
Finds catalogue

Trench	Context	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Period
17	1702	1	21	Pottery (PH)	Unidentified coarseware	Small, conjoining, rim and body sherd. Gently intumed, roughly squared rim. Mid brown with orange brown surfaces. Sandy fabric with abundant, moderate to very coarse sub-angular burnt flint. Abraded with some surface loss.	PH

5. DISCUSSION

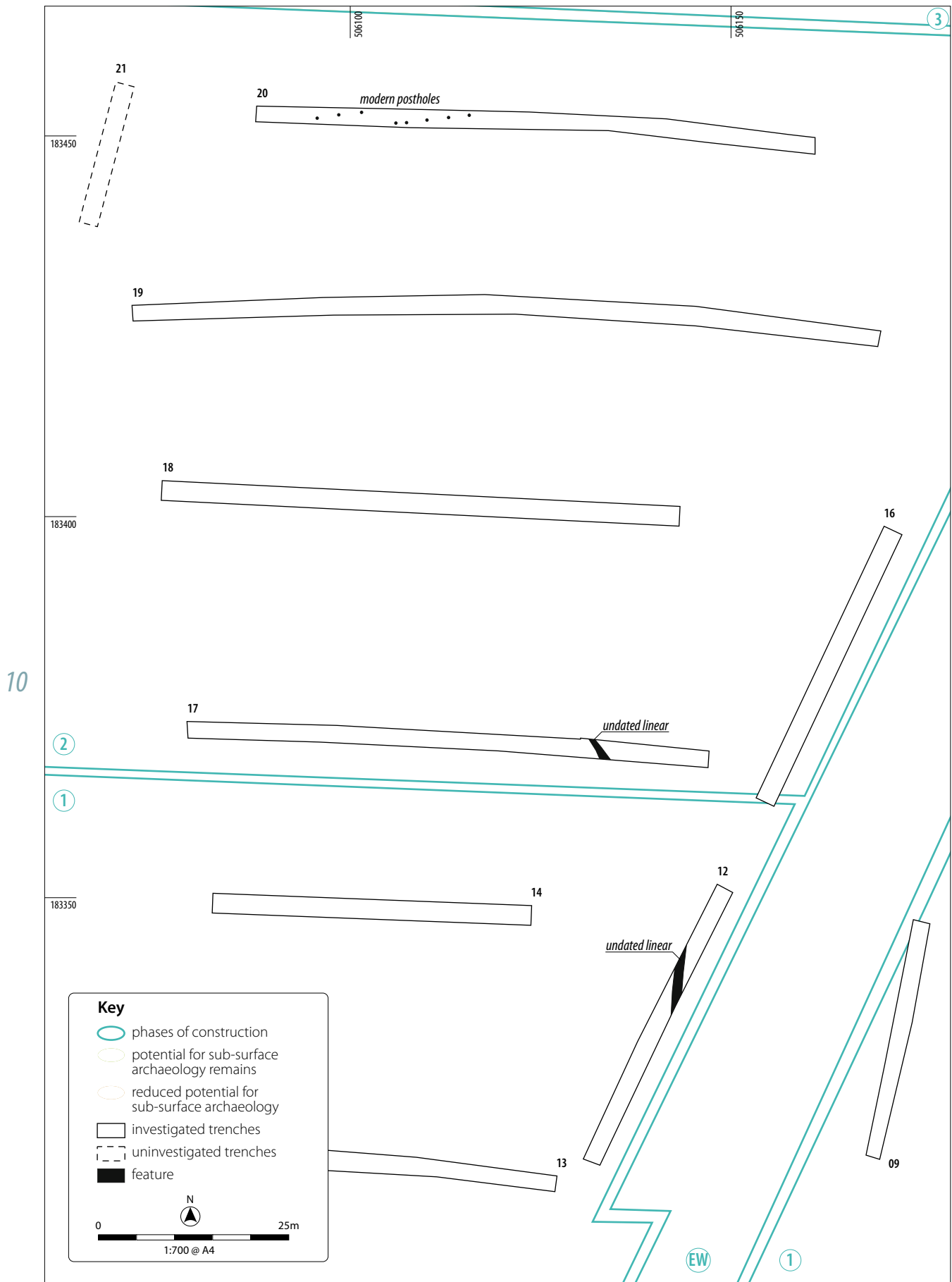
5.1 Discussion

The PDA is situated to the southeast of Uxbridge in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The results of the evaluation did not confirm the presence of any significant archaeological remains of any date within the PDA. However, the evaluation confirmed the presence of remains associated with the early 20th century development of RAF Uxbridge. Overall the evaluation provided evidence for modern activity and the results demonstrate that the PDA has been subject to extensive modern development associated with the original construction and subsequent re-development of the former RAF base.

Whilst a ditch / gully [1201] and [1701] was recorded in Trenches 12 and 17 at the south of the PDA there was no evidence to suggest that this relates to earlier activity. Although ditch / gully [1701] produced a single sherd of prehistoric pottery, this was abraded and was considered likely to be residual. Accordingly there was no evidence for any significant activity pre-dating the modern period. The PDA was subject to extensive development during the early 20th century and it is likely that this and any subsequent development has largely truncated or completely removed any earlier remains once present.

The trial trenching evaluation revealed evidence for modern remains, most likely associated with the initial development of the former RAF base in the early 20th century (*Illus 3-4*). Structural remains were recorded in four trenches dispersed across the northern part of the PDA (Trenches 68, 73, 74 and 80 – *Illus 2-3*). In addition possible structural remains were identified from concrete observed in three trenches (Trenches 29, 31 and 51 – *Illus 2*) at the south and centre of the PDA. Accordingly, the trial trench evaluation confirmed the presence of modern remains associated with the former RAF buildings cleared during various phases of development.

In general the southern part of the PDA was considered likely to have slightly better preservation conditions despite ground terracing for the Astroturf court and playing field and associated leveling. Accordingly, a greater potential for archaeological remains to survive due to the ground conditions was identified (as shown on *Illus 2*). However, extensive evidence for modern disturbance and truncation was recorded across the entire PDA. In particular twelve trenches revealed disturbed/truncated natural (Trenches 6, 15, 29, 33, 34, 53, 55, 68, 73, 74, 75 and 78) (*Illus 2*) and it was variously noted that the natural had been previously stripped as revealed by seven trenches dispersed across the PDA (Trenches 15, 33, 53, 55, 74, 75 and 78). Furthermore, two linear cuts, interpreted as modern machine cuts were recorded in four trenches (Trench 46 and Trenches 48, 59 and 52) positioned centrally within the PDA in the area of the former parade ground (*Illus 4*). In addition field / land drains



Illus 5
Phase 1 & 2 trenching

were observed truncating the natural in twenty-five trenches, further indicating ground disturbance.

Overall the trial trench evaluation revealed limited evidence for past activity of any date, aside from modern remains associated with the former RAF base. It is likely that there has been extensive modern disturbance and truncation within the PDA, as a result of building works and associated infrastructure and development for the former RAF base. Furthermore, landscaping and terracing works are likely to have had a severe negative impact across the entire PDA.

The results of the evaluation have the general potential to contribute to research on the development of RAF Uxbridge and will be supported by the separate Historic Building Recording as a record of the former RAF base .

5.2 Assessment of the impact of development on the significance of Heritage Assets

The change of use in the PDA from former RAF Uxbridge to mixed residential and commercial use will involve destructive groundworks.

Although the evaluation did not confirm the presence of any significant archaeological remains of pre-modern date, the areas investigated were restricted to the footprints of the former RAF base. It is possible that archaeological remains of earlier date survive elsewhere in the wider vicinity of the PDA, beyond the site boundaries of the former RAF Uxbridge (and the area to be impacted on by the proposed development). However, the results of the evaluation indicate that the groundworks required for the proposed development will not impact on any significant heritage assets of pre-modern date.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Site registers

Appendix 1.1 Trench register

Trench	Orientation	Description	Length (m)	Max depth (m)
1	–	Not excavated		
2	E–W	Astroturf and levelling material (0.35m) overlying mid grey brown sandy clay (0.50m), overlying grey sandy clay with rare inclusions of red bricks/stone/metal (0.25m), overlying natural yellow grey clay. The deposits in this trench shallow from E to W and disappear leaving levelling material directly on top of dirty natural.	50	1.25
3	E–W	Astroturf and levelling material (0.35m) overlying mid grey brown sandy clay (0.50m), overlying grey sandy clay with rare inclusions of red bricks/stone/metal (0.25m), overlying natural yellow grey clay. The deposits in this trench shallow from E to W and disappear leaving levelling material directly on top of dirty natural.	60	1.25
4	N–S	Grass topsoil (with rare building debris)(0.25m) overlying re-deposited natural clay (0.30m), over pink brown sandy clay (buried topsoil?) (0.20m), over pale pink brown sandy clay (0.20m), overlying natural pink orange sandy clay.	15	1.25
5	N–S	Grass topsoil (0.25m) overlying mid brown pink sandy clay (0.20m) overlying natural pale orange pink clay.	15	0.90
6	N–S	Grass topsoil (0.25m) overlying natural pale orange pink clay – previously stripped?	15	0.30
7	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.15) overlying re-deposited natural yellow clay and gravel (0.30m), overlying dark grey brown sand clay (0.25m), over natural yellow grey clay.	30	0.95
8	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.15) overlying buried topsoil (0.25m), over mid brown gravel clay (0.25m) overlying natural yellow clays and grey gravels.	50	0.80
9	NE–SW	Grass topsoil (0.15) overlying buried topsoil (0.25m), over mid brown gravel clay (0.25m) overlying natural yellow clays and grey gravels.	30	0.70
10	–	Not excavated.	–	–
11	–	Not excavated.	–	–
12	NE–SW	Grass topsoil (0.15) overlying buried topsoil (0.25m), over mid brown gravel clay (0.25m) overlying natural yellow clays and grey gravels.	40	0.70
13	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.15m) overlying buried topsoil of brown grey sand clay (0.20m), overlying brown gravel sand clay (0.20m) over natural grey yellow gravels and clays.	30	0.65
14	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.20m), overlying re-deposited natural yellow clay (0.15m), over grey brown sand clay (0.20m), over mid grey brown gravel clay (0.20m), overlying natural yellow orange gravels and clays.	40	1.05
15	NE–SW	Grass topsoil (0.25m) overlying natural yellow clay (previously stripped?).	40	0.35
16	NE–SW	Grass topsoil (0.20m) over brown grey sand clay (0.30m), overlying natural pale yellow and grey clays and gravels.	40	0.60
17	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.20m) over buried topsoil of grey sand clay (in some places overlain by black sand deposit) (0.25m) over mid orange brown clay gravel (0.25m), over natural yellow orange gravels and clays.	70	0.80
18	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.30m) over black sand (only visible 0-6m)(0.20m), overlying brown gravel sand clay (0.20m), over natural yellow grey clays and gravels.	70	0.70
19	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.30m) over black sand (not consistent throughout trench)(0.20m max), overlying brown orange sand clay (0.30m), over natural yellow grey clays and gravels.	100	0.65
20	E–W	Grass topsoil (0.30m) over black sand (not consistent throughout trench, shallows from 0.25m from W)(0.15m), overlying brown gravel sand clay (0.25m), over natural yellow grey clays and gravels.	75	0.60
21	–	Not excavated.	–	–
22	E–W	Astroturf and levelling material (0.35m) overlying mid grey brown sandy clay (0.50m), overlying grey sandy clay with rare inclusions of red bricks/stone/metal (0.25m), overlying natural yellow grey clay. The deposits in this trench shallow from E to W and disappear leaving levelling material directly on top of dirty natural.	50	1.20
23	–	Not excavated.	–	–
24	NE–SW	Grass topsoil (0.20m) over buried topsoil of grey sand clay (0.30m) over mid orange brown sandy clay 0.25m), overlying natural yellow clay.	11	0.80

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Trench	Orientation	Description	Length (m)	Max depth (m)
25	NW-SE	Grass topsoil (0.15) overlying re-deposited natural yellow clay and gravel (0.30m), overlying dark grey brown sand clay (0.25m), over natural yellow grey clay.	20	1.0
26	-	Not excavated.	-	-
27	E-W	Astroturf and levelling material (0.35m) overlying mid grey brown sandy clay (0.50m), overlying grey sandy clay with rare inclusions of red bricks/stone/metal (0.25m), overlying natural yellow grey clay. The deposits in this trench shallow from E to W and disappear leaving levelling material directly on top of dirty natural.	25	0.70
28	N-S	Astroturf and levelling material (0.35m) overlying mid grey brown sandy clay (0.50m), overlying grey sandy clay with rare inclusions of red bricks/stone/metal (0.30m), overlying natural yellow grey clay.	20	1.40
29	E-W	Grass topsoil (0.45m) overlying natural yellow sand clay with modern disturbance and rubbish within and on top of it.	60	0.90
30	-	Not excavated.	-	-
31	E-W	Grass topsoil (0.25m) overlying natural orange sand clay.	10	0.60
32	-	Not excavated.	-	-
33	NW-SE	Tarmac and levelling (0.15m) over concrete mix levelling (0.70m) over tarpaulin, over previously stripped natural yellow orange clay.	12	0.95
34	NE-SW	Grass topsoil (0.20m) over made ground of brown sand clay with rare brick fragments (0.45m), over disturbed natural of brown yellow clay.	10	0.75
35	-	Not excavated.	-	-
36	-	Not excavated.	-	-
37	N-S	Tarmac, levelling and demo layer (0.60m) overlying blue grey clay.	10	1.20
38	-	Did not exist.	-	-
39	-	Not excavated.	-	-
40	-	Not excavated.	-	-
41	-	Not excavated.	-	-
42	-	Not excavated.	-	-
43	-	Not excavated.	-	-
44	-	Not excavated.	-	-
45	N-S	Tarmac and levelling (0.30m) over black grey silt clay make up (0.20m) over mid grey gravel clay (0.20m) over natural brown clay gravel which changes to grey and yellow gravel clay to N of trench.	30	0.90
46	E-W	Tarmac and levelling (0.30m) over grey sand clay with rare brick fragments and wood (0.20m) overlying mid to light grey sand clay (0.20m) over natural blue grey clay gravel with pure clay patches and lenses.	30	0.90
47	-	Not excavated.	-	-
48	E-W	Tarmac and levelling (0.50m) over brown grey clay (0.30m) overlying grey clay (0.20m) over natural grey clays and gravels.	38	1.20
49	N-S	Tarmac and levelling (0.30m) over demo layer with mostly red brick (0.40m) over brown orange gravel clay (0.30m) over natural orange clay gravel and grey clay gravel.	38	1.20
50	E-W	Tarmac and levelling (0.30m) over mid grey yellow gravel clay (0.10m) over natural pale yellow grey clay gravel with patches of clay.	35	1.80
51	N-S	Tarmac and make up (0.40m) over grey yellow sand clay (0.25m) over natural pale yellow gravel clay.	32	0.90
52	E-W	Tarmac and make up (0.40m) over grey yellow sand clay (0.30m) over natural pale yellow gravel clay.	42	1.65
53	E-W	Grass topsoil (0.30m) over mid brown sandy clay with debris, pipes etc (0.25m) overlying disturbed natural yellow clay (previously stripped).	18	0.80
54	-	Not excavated.	-	-
55	E-W	Tarmac and levelling (0.30m) overlying disturbed yellow natural clay with demo debris, pipe cuts - probably previously stripped.	15	0.50
56	-	Not excavated.	-	-



Trench	Orientation	Description	Length (m)	Max depth (m)
57	–	Not excavated.	–	–
58	–	Not excavated.	–	–
59	N-S	Grass topsoil (0.15m) over made ground of brown sandy clay with brick and pipe debris (0.45m) over natural orange clay.	15	0.80
60	–	Not excavated.	–	–
61	N-S	Grass topsoil (0.15m) overlying grey sand clay with fragments of metal and red brick debris (0.40m) over natural yellow/orange clay with gravel (dirty natural).	25	0.60
62	–	Not excavated.	–	–
63	–	Not excavated.	–	–
64	–	Not excavated.	–	–
65	–	Not excavated.	–	–
66	–	Not excavated.	–	–
67	–	Not excavated.	–	–
68	N-S	Tarmac and levelling (0.15m) overlying poor quality concrete (0.30m and continuing). Concrete possibly foundations of garages on either side of trench location.	10	0.60
69	–	Not excavated.	–	–
70	–	Not excavated.	–	–
71	N-S	Tarmac and levelling (0.35m) over yellow grey clay (0.50m) over mid grey silty clay (0.60m) over natural yellow gravel clay.	27	1.60
72	NW-SE	Turf topsoil (0.30m) over mid yellow silty clay (0.20m) overlying grey brown silty clay (0.30m) over natural yellow orange clay with rare gravel inclusions.	15	1.15
73	E-W	Grass topsoil (0.25m) over made ground of clay with red brick debris etc (0.40m) over a concrete surface and beam. Small percentage of natural exposed due to pipe cuts and mostly disturbed ground.	13	0.90
74	NW-SE	Grass topsoil (0.15m) overlying made ground of black brown sandy clay with some demo debris (0.30m) over natural yellow grey clay gravel (looks disturbed, possibly previously stripped).	15	0.50
75	NW-SE	Tarmac and levelling (0.40m) overlying blue green clay with gravel patches of yellow clay (previously stripped).	10	0.75
76	–	Not excavated.	–	–
77	–	Not excavated.	–	–
78	E-W	Tarmac and levelling (0.30m) over yellow orange previously stripped natural.	15	0.50
79	–	Not excavated.	–	–
80	N-S	Tarmac and levelling (0.15m) over demo layer with red brick, metal, cobbles etc (0.25m) over natural blue orange clay.	15	0.70
81	–	Not excavated.	–	–

Appendix 1.2 Context register

Context	Area	Description
1201	T12	Cut of Linear
1202	T12	Backfill deposit of [1201]
1701	T17	Cut of linear (same as 1201?)
1702	T17	Backfill deposit of [1701]

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Appendix 1.3 Photographic register

Photo	Direction	Description
001	NW	T71 tarmac removal
002	E	T71 tarmac removal
003	–	Rainy!
004	W	EFS of T71 (south end)
005	N	Trench 71 general shot
006	W	Electric cable exposed in T71
007	NW	Electric cable exposed in T71
008	N	Surface in T71 (and manhole)
009	N	Surface in T71 (and manhole)
010	N	Surface in T71 (and manhole)
011	N	North end of T71
012	NE	North end of T71
013	S	North end of T71
014	SW	NE facing section T72
015	NW	Post-ex T72 (loose spoil)
016	NE	T72 and stadium
017	E	Post-ex T52
018	E	[5201] at east end of T52
019	SE	NFS of [5201]
020	NE	T51 (waterfilled after weekend)
021	E	Post-ex T50 (water filled)
022	W	Post-ex T50 (water filled)
023	E	Post-ex T48
024	S	NFS of west end of T48
025	W	Post-ex T48 (no scale as deep/wet)
026	NW	Modern' cut feature in T48
027	SE	Abandoned T47 (asbestos in demo layer)
028	W	Post-ex T46
029	E	Post-ex T46
030	N	Post-ex T45
031	S	Post-ex T45
032	S	Post-ex T49 (no scale as deep/wet)
033	E	WFS of T49 (north end)
034	SE	General shots of parade ground post-ex
035	NE	General shots of parade ground post-ex
036	E	General shots of parade ground post-ex – what's under the parade?
037	SE	Linear [1701] T17
038	E	Linear [1701] T17

Photo	Direction	Description
039	SE	Linear [1701] T17 NWFS
040	NW	T12 Linear [1201]
041	N	T12 Linear [1201]
042	NW	T12 Linear [1201] SEFS
043	SW	T12 post-ex
044	NE	T12 post-ex
045	W	Post-ex T13
046	W	Water pipe in T13
047	W	Electric cable cover in T13
048	E	Post-ex t13
049	W	Post-ex T14
050	NW	Water pipe in T14 (same as T13)
051	E	Post-ex T14
052	W	Post-ex T17
053	N	Sample section T17
054	E	Post-ex T17
055	E	Post-ex T18
056	W	Post-ex T18
057	W	Post-ex T19
058	W	Post-ex T19
059	E	Post-ex T19
060	W	Post-ex T20
061	W	Post-ex T20
062	E	Post-ex T20
063	SW	Post-ex T24
064	NE	Post-ex T16
065	SW	Post-ex T9
066	NE	Post-ex T9
067	E	Post-ex T8
068	E	Exposed field drain T8
069	W	Post-ex T8
070	W	Post-ex T7
071	E	Post-ex T7
072	NW	Post-ex T25
073	NE	Post-ex T25
074	SW	Post-ex T15
075	SE	Sample section T15
076	SW	Exposed drain in T15
077	NE	Post-ex T15
078	SW	Sunset on the week'



Photo	Direction	Description
079	N	Post-ex T6 (showing pipe/cable cut)
080	E	Post-ex T6 section
081	N	Post-ex T5
082	W	Post-ex T5 section
083	N	Post-ex T4
084	N	Post-ex T4
085	W	Post-ex T4 section
086	NW	Post-ex T4 section
087	NW	Pre-trenching sports court
088	W	Badger set backfilling beside listed wall
089	W	Badger set backfilling beside listed wall
090	W	Badger set backfilling beside listed wall
091	E	Listed wall
092	W	Backfilled badger set
093	N	Post-ex T59
094	E	Post-ex T59 section
095	E	Post-ex T55
096	E	Water pipes exposed T35
097	E	Post-ex T53 (E end)
098	E	Post-ex T53 (W end)
099	W	Post-ex T29
100	W	Post-ex T29
101	W	T29 exposed large water/sewage pipe
102	W	T29 exposed large water/sewage pipe
103	E	Post-ex T29 (E end)
104	N	Post-ex T37
105	SW	Post-ex T37 section
106	E	Post-ex T37 section
107	E	Post-ex T3
108	SE	Drainage revealed in T3
109	E	Drainage revealed in T3
110	SE	Drainage revealed in T3

Photo	Direction	Description
111	W	Post-ex T3
112	N	Section at deepest point in Astro turf T2
113	NW	Section at deepest point in Astro turf T2
114	–	Drainage in T2
115	E	Post-ex T2
116	E	Post-ex T22 (W end)
117	E	Post-ex T22 (E end)
118	E	Post-ex T27
119	W	Post-ex T27
120	N	Post-ex T28
121	W	Post-ex T31
122	NW	Post-ex T33
123	SW	NEFS T33
124	SW	Post-ex T34
125	S	Post-ex T61
126	W	Post-ex T78
127	N	Post-ex T78 SF section
128	N	T80 stone surface
129	N	T80 surface and beam
130	N	Post-ex T80
131	NW	Post-ex T74
132	W	Concrete beam in T74
133	E	Post-ex T73 (with concrete surface)
134	W	Concrete beam T73
135	NW	Post-ex T75
136	NE	SWF section T75
137	SE	RAF Uxbridge on a cold & frosty morning
138	S	RAF Uxbridge on a cold & frosty morning
139	SW	RAF Uxbridge on a cold & frosty morning
140	–	Gunshot/Fire House!
141	N	Post-ex T68

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Appendix 2 Trench completion record

Phase of construction	Trench	Completed	Depth at which natural geology observed (m)	Archaeological features?	Abandoned?	Reason for abandonment	Notes
1 east	71	√	1.50	No	–	–	Over half the trench left unexcavated due to uncovering electric cable/man hole/ water pipes.
1 south	3	√	0.35–1.10	No	–	–	–
	4	√	0.95	No	–	–	–
	5	√	0.45	No	–	–	–
	6	√	0.25	No	–	–	–
	8	√	0.65	No	–	–	–
	9	√	0.55m	No	–	–	–
	10	–	–	–	√	No access due to demolition debris covering the trench area	–
	11	–	–	–	√	No access due to demolition debris covering the trench area	–
	12	√	0.55m	Yes	–	–	One linear feature
	13	√	0.55m	No	–	–	
	14	√	0.75m	No	–	–	
1a	72	√	0.85	No	–	–	
1b	–	–	–	–	–	–	
2	2	√	0.35–1.10	No	–	–	
	7	√	0.65m	No	–	–	
	15	√	0.25m	No	–	–	
	16	√	0.50m	No	–	–	
	17	√	0.70m	Yes	–	–	One linear feature
	18	√	0.50–0.70m	No	–	–	
	19	√	0.55m	No	–	–	
	20	√	0.60m	No	–	–	
	21	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	22	√	0.35–1.10	No	–	–	
	23	–	–	–	√	Contaminated tarmac covering trench area. Not allowed to dig	
	24	√	0.75m	No	–	–	
	25	√	0.70m	No	–	–	
	26	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
27	√	0.35–1.10	No	–	–		
30	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected		
2a	–	–	–	–	–	–	



Phase of construction	Trench	Completed	Depth at which natural geology observed (m)	Archaeological features?	Abandoned?	Reason for abandonment	Notes
3	1	–	–	–	√	No access as trench area beside protected trees	
	28	√	0.35–1.10	No			
	29	√	0.45	No			
	31	√	0.25	No			
	32	–	–	–	√	No access as trench area beside protected trees	
	33	√	0.85	No	–	–	
	37	√	0.60	No	–	–	
	39	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	40	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	41	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	42	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	43	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	44	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	45	√	0.70m	No	–	–	
	46	√	0.70m	No	–	–	Large/deep 'modern' truncation
	47	–	–		√	Asbestos in demo under tarmac levelling	
	48	√	1.0m	No	–	–	Large/deep 'modern' truncation
	49	√	1.0m	No	–	–	
50	√	0.40–0.50m	No	–	–	Large/deep 'modern' truncation	
51	√	0.65m	No	–	–		
52	√	0.70m	No	–	–	Large/deep 'modern' truncation	
3a	–	–	–	–	–	–	
4	60	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	61	√	0.55	No	–	–	Robbed out foundations/drain cuts?
	62	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	63	–	–	–	√	No access for machine as within a walled garden	
	64	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	65	–	–	–	√	No access as trench area beside protected trees	
	66	–	–	–	√	No access for machine as within a walled garden	
4a	53	√	0.55	No	–	–	
	54	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	55	√	0.30	No	–	–	
	56	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	57	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	

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Phase of construction	Trench	Completed	Depth at which natural geology observed (m)	Archaeological features?	Abandoned?	Reason for abandonment	Notes
5	34	√	0.65	No	–	–	
	35	–	–	–	√	Re-inforced concrete surface	
	36	–	–	–	√	Re-inforced concrete surface	
6	73	√	0.65	Yes (mod)	–	–	Concrete surface and beam revealed
	74	√	0.45	Yes (mod)	–	–	Concrete beam revealed
	75	√	0.45	No	–	–	
	76	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	77	–	–	–	√	No access as trench area beside protected trees	
	78	√	0.30	No			
	79	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
	80	√	0.40	Yes (mod)			Stone surface under tarmac
	81	–	–	–	√	No access—in locked courtyard	
7	58	–	–	–	√	No access as trench area beside protected trees	
	67	–	–	–	√	No access as trench area beside protected trees	
EIPh	68	√	Not exposed	No			Natural geology not exposed as concrete foundations exposed
	69	–	–	–	√	Re-inforced concrete surface	
	70	–	–	–	√	Electric cable detected	
EWPh	59	√	0.55	No	–	–	
Phase Completet							



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