

HERITAGE NETWORK



**CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF DOLOURS**  
**Egerton Gardens, Hendon**

(HN467)

*Archaeological Monitoring Report*



# THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

*Registered with the Institute of Field Archaeologists as an Archaeological Organisation*

Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

## OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Egerton Gardens, Hendon.

HN467

### Archaeological Monitoring Report

*Prepared on behalf of Our Lady of Dolours*

by

Geoff Saunders, BA

Report no. 281

April 2005

© *The Heritage Network Ltd*

**11 FURMSTON COURT, ICKNIELD WAY, LETCHWORTH  
SG6 1UJ**

**TEL: (01462) 685991 FAX: (01462) 685998**

## Contents

	Summary.....	Page i
Section 1	Introduction.....	Page 1
Section 2	Fieldwork.....	Page 2
Section 3	Discussion & Conclusions .....	Page 3
Section 4	Schedule of Site Visits .....	Page 3
Section 5	Illustrations.....	<i>following</i> Page 3
Appendix	SMR Report Form.....	Page 4

## Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by David Kaye and Geoff Saunders. The illustrations were prepared by Geoff Saunders, and the report was edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to Stuart Child, Kyle Smart Associates; and Kim Stabler, Archaeology Advisor, Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

## Summary

<b>Site name and address:</b>	The Church of Our Lady of Dolours, Egerton Gardens, Hendon, London NW4		
<b>County:</b>	Greater London	<b>District:</b>	Borough of Barnet
<b>Village/town:</b>	Hendon	<b>Parish:</b>	Hendon
<b>Planning reference:</b>	W0569B/03	<b>NGR:</b>	TQ 2290 8916
<b>Client name and address:</b>	Church of Our Lady of Dolours c/o Kyle Smart Associates, The Barn, Butchers Wick, Sewell, Bedfordshire.		
<b>Nature of work:</b>	New function hall	<b>Previous land use:</b>	Parish hall
<b>Size of affected area:</b>	625m <sup>2</sup>	<b>Size of area investigated:</b>	625m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Site Code:</b>	ODU05	<b>Other reference:</b>	HN467
<b>Organisation:</b>	Heritage Network	<b>Site Director:</b>	David Hillelson
<b>Type of work:</b>	Monitoring & Recording	<b>Finds location/Museum:</b>	Museum of London Archaeological Archive
<b>Start of work</b>	15/10/2004	<b>Finish of work</b>	09/02/2005
<b>Related SMR Nos:</b>	n/a	<b>Periods represented:</b>	Victorian/Modern
<b>Previous summaries/reports:</b>	n/a		

### Synopsis:

As the result of an archaeological condition on the planning permission for a new development at The Church of Our Lady of Dolours, Hendon, London, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the Church to monitor the construction groundworks.

Despite the site's location within an area of known archaeological potential, no significant features, deposits, or artefacts were revealed during the groundworks.

## 1. Introduction

This report has been prepared at the request of *Kyle Smart Associates*, acting on behalf of the Catholic Church of *Our Lady of Dolours*, as part of a programme of archaeological work associated with development at The Church of Our Lady of Dolours, Egerton Gardens, Hendon, London NW4. The planning permission for the development (ref. W0569B/03), granted by the London Borough of Barnet (LBB), has been subject to a standard archaeological condition, in accordance with the provisions of the Department of the Environment's *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16). The scope of the required work follows an advisory letter issued by the *Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service Office* (GLAAS), a department of English Heritage acting as advisers to LBB (ref. LAG/02/282). A full specification of the work was contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design*, dated May 2004.

The study area focuses on the site of the existing parish hall, which lies on the south side of Chapel Walk, centred on NGR TQ 2290 8916. The development proposed the construction of a new function hall with associated car parking.

The site lies in an area of archaeological potential which encompasses an area of high ground, forming the historic core of Hendon. Evidence of Roman occupation is known within 500m of the site, particularly at Church End Farm and Church Terrace to the north-west (HADAS website). The parish church of St Mary is considered to be a probable Saxon foundation and finds of Saxon pottery and Saxon burials are recorded from the vicinity of the church (*ibid*).

On the basis of the known archaeology in the area it was considered that the site may offer the potential to contribute to our understanding of:

- the origins and development of settlement in Hendon;
- the influences on settlement growth and development in Hendon during the Roman period;
- the transition to the Post-Roman period and the development of Hendon in the Saxon and medieval periods.

The aims of the present project have been to identify and record any archaeological features and deposits which were uncovered, and to retrieve artefactual and ecofactual elements to allow the date, character, and significance of the site to be assessed, subject to the limitations of reasonable safety and practicality, in accordance with the current published regional research framework (Nixon *et al*, 2002).

The present report describes the findings of the fieldwork and is intended, together with the deposition of the archive with the *Museum of London Archaeological Archive*, to complete the requirements of the planning condition on the development.

## **2. Fieldwork**

### ***Topography and Geology***

The site lies on a plateau of reasonably level ground overlooking the River Brent to the south and east, between the 80 and 85 metre contours. The plateau forms the historic core of Hendon.

Two distinct stratigraphic sequences were observed on the site. One consisted of a layer of tarmac, 0.20m thick, over a firm, brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay, 0.30m thick, beneath which lay a firm, yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) clay with gravel inclusions, greater than 0.55m in depth. This was recorded in the groundworks outside the area of the former parish hall. The second sequence consisted of a layer of building debris, 0.20m thick, over a layer of crushed CBM, 0.20m thick, beneath which was a layer of made ground consisting of aggregate, mixed silty clay, brick rubble, and concrete, greater than 0.65m in depth. This was recorded in the area covered by the former parish hall.

### ***Ground reduction***

Ground reduction on the site was limited to the removal of existing tarmac to the east and west of the new building. No archaeological features or deposits were revealed during this work.

### ***Footings trenches***

The footings trenches for the new building measured approximately 1.1m wide, with a maximum depth of 1.05m. No archaeology was observed in the footings trenches.

Two small trenches were excavated for new gate posts on either side of the existing access from Egerton Gardens (Figure 2). The trenches measured 0.80m square, with a maximum depth of 0.80m. No features, other than modern services, were observed in the trenches.

### ***Service trenches***

The service trenches were excavated to a maximum width of 0.40m and a maximum depth of approximately 1.0m. They were excavated close to the footings of the new building (Figure 2). No archaeological features or deposits were revealed.

The services for the new building have been linked directly into the surrounding network, so no new soakaways were excavated during the present project.

### ***Finds concordance***

During the monitoring of the groundworks, artefacts, including pottery, ceramic building material (CBM), and fragments of concrete dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, were observed in the overburden. In the context of the present site, these types of artefact have no archaeological significance and, although their presence was noted, they were not collected.

### **3. Discussion & Conclusion**

Despite the location of the site in an area of high archaeological potential, the monitoring of the groundworks associated with the new development revealed no features, other than modern service pipes.

The artefacts observed within the overburden give no indication of any activity on, or in the vicinity of, the site predating the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

***Conclusion***

Despite the proximity of the site to prehistoric, Roman, and medieval remains, the fieldwork revealed no archaeological features, deposits, or artefacts. This appears to indicate either that the present site lies outside the area affected by activity during these periods, or, more probably, that 19<sup>th</sup> century, and later, activity on the site has destroyed any earlier remains.

### **4. Schedule of Site Visits**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Comments</b>
15/10/04	CT	4	Preliminary site visit
03/11/04	GIS	4	Inspect footings trenches
10/01/05	GIS	4	Inspect service trenches and ground reduction
14/01/05	DGK	3	Inspect service trench
09/02/05	GIS	3	Inspect gate post trenches

### **5. Illustrations**

- Figure 1 ..... Site location
- Figure 2 ..... Site layout

## Appendix

### GLSMR/RCHME NMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

- 1) **TYPE OF RECORDING:** Watching brief
- 2) **LOCATION:**  
 Borough: London Borough of Barnet  
 Site Address: Our Lady of Dolours, Chapel Walk, Egerton Gardens, Hendon, NW4  
 Site Name: Our Lady of Dolours, Hendon  
 Site Code: ODU05  
 NGR: TQ 2290 8916
- 3) **ORGANISATION:**  
 Company: The Heritage Network Ltd  
 Address: 11 Furnston Court, Icknield Way, Letchworth, SG6 1UJ  
 Site Director / supervisor: Geoff Saunders  
 Project Manager: David Hillelson  
 Funded by: Catholic Diocese of Westminster
- 4) **DURATION:**  
 Date fieldwork started: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2004  
 Date fieldwork finished: 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2005  
 Fieldwork previously notified? No  
 Fieldwork will continue? No
- 5) **PERIODS REPRESENTED:** Modern

6) **PERIOD SUMMARIES:**

Modern: Despite the fact the present site lay within an area of high archaeological potential, a watching brief maintained on the developer's groundworks revealed only modern services and layers of overburden. These were probably related to the construction and recent demolition of the parish hall which formerly occupied the site. No finds pre-dating the late 19<sup>th</sup> century were observed.

7) **NATURAL:**

Type: Unknown  
 Height: Unknown, below level of development trenches

8) **LOCATION OF ARCHIVES:**

a) Estimate of the quantity of material in the following categories:

Notes: 9 pages  
 Plans: 3 sketch plans  
 Sections: 1 sketch section  
 Negatives: 8  
 Transparencies: 4  
 Correspondence: 3 letters  
 Manuscripts: Project Design, Watching Brief Report  
 Bulk finds: None  
 Small finds: None  
 Soil samples: None  
 Other: None

b) The archive is to be prepared and stored in accordance with MGC standards. It is currently held by the Heritage Network at its offices at 11 Furnston Court, Letchworth, SG6 1UJ, prior to being deposited at the Museum of London Archaeological Archive.

c) No security copy has been made as at 08/04/2005.

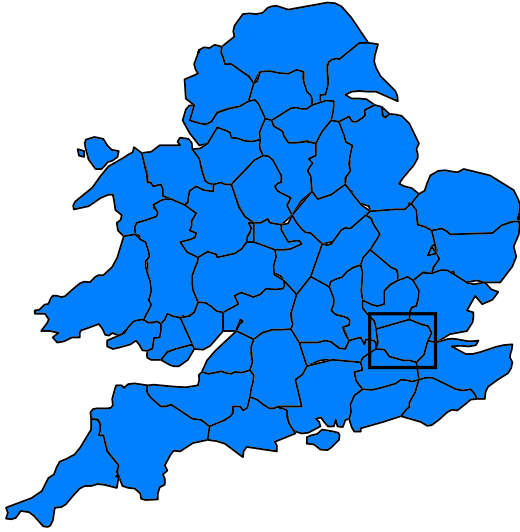
**9) BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Hillelson, D., May 2004, Our Lady of Dolours, Egerton Gardens, Hendon, Project Design. Heritage Network  
Saunders, G., April 2005, Our Lady of Dolours, Egerton Gardens, Hendon, Middlesex. Archaeological Monitoring Report. Heritage Network Report No.281

**REPORTED BY:** HELEN ASHWORTH

**DATE:** 8 April 2005





895



890

TQ

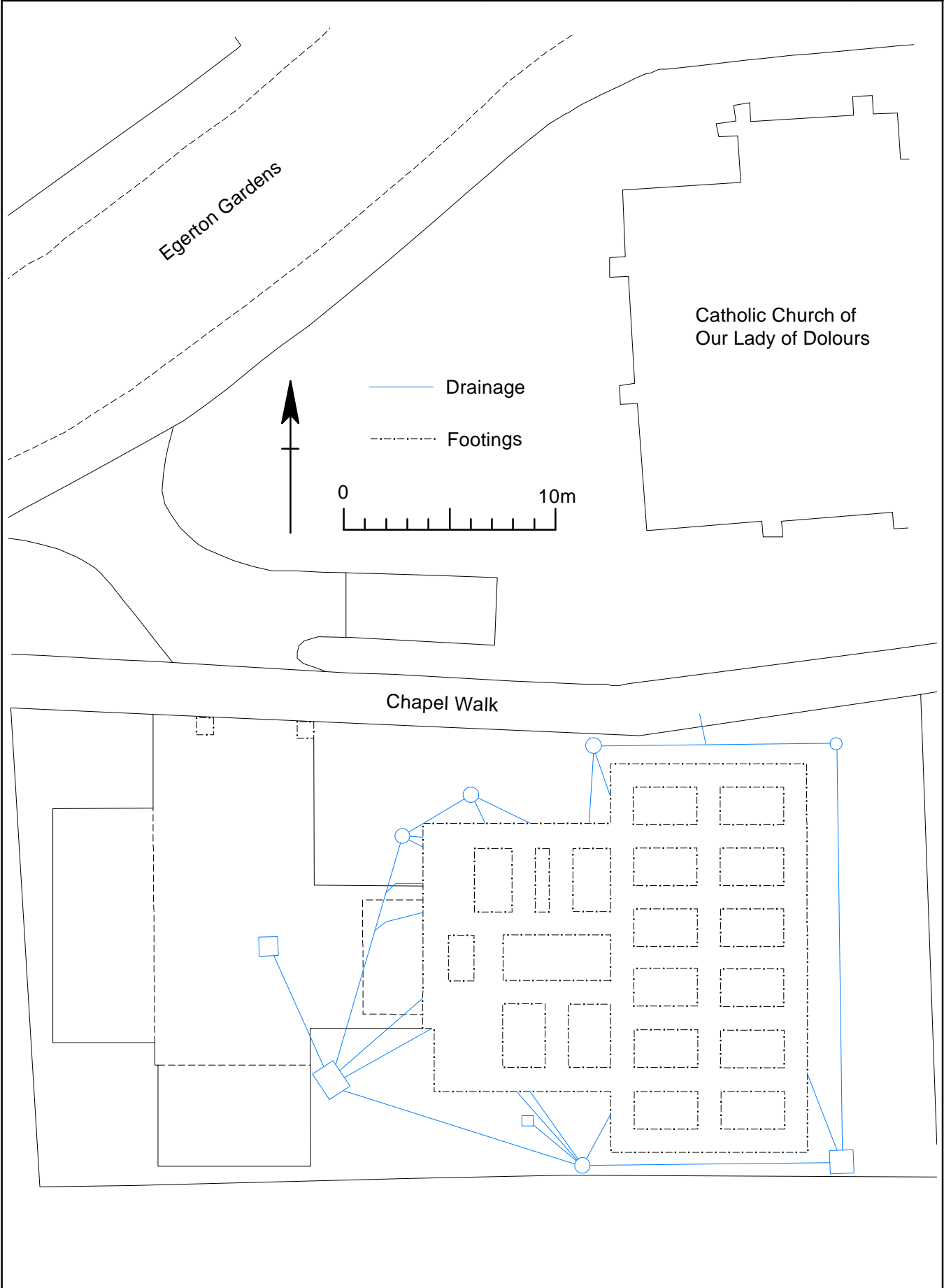
230

Site Location

Scale 1:5000

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Licence no.AL100014861

Figure 1



Site Layout

Scale 1:250

Figure 2