

THAMES WATER MAINS REPLACEMENT

in the park between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane, Seven
Sisters

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY, N15

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



October 2011



COMPASS



ARCHAEOLOGY

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IN THE PARK ADJACENT TO ASHMOUNT ROAD, SEVEN SISTERS
LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY, N15
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SITE CODE: TXR 11

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October 2011

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken between August and September 2011 during water mains replacement works in the park (Page Green Common) between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane in the London Borough of Haringey.

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during contractors groundworks and consisted of the inspection and recording of all open works accessible during monitoring visits. The majority of trenches and trial pits exposed typical sequences of modern topsoil / made ground and service backfill deposits, overlying a truncated subsoil containing fragments of post-medieval pottery (possibly 19th Century). A dump of clay, presumably dumped when Ashmount Road and the associated houses were constructed in the late 19th Century, was also observed in one pit. The 'natural' deposits (a yellow-brown clay) was observed in most of the pits and trenches. No significant archaeological features were discovered.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out during water mains replacement works in the park – known as Page Green Common – between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane near Seven Sisters, Tottenham, in the London Borough of Haringey, N15. A trench was dug west-east following the line of Ashmount Road, within the western part of the Common, and then turning northwards towards Broad Lane. The work was undertaken on behalf of Thames Water Utilities by their main contractor Optimise.



Fig. 1: OS map showing site location.



Fig. 2: Site location.

- 1.2 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during contractors groundworks and formed a response to recommendations for an archaeological watching brief made by Mike Lang Hall, Archaeological Adviser to Optimise. Page Green is mentioned in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) of the London Borough of Haringey as being part of the West Green Village Area of Archaeological Interest:

West Green Village	West Green was mentioned in 1384 as a settlement midway along the land linking the High Road opposite Page Green with Green Lane at Ducketts.
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The site also falls within The Seven Sisters/Page Green Conservation Area, which is part of the Tottenham High Road Historic Corridor of six connected Conservation Areas. This has been defined as follows:

“Tottenham High Road forms the main arterial route into central London from the north across the east of the borough, and has done so for as long as two thousand years. The Roman road known as Ermine Street followed at least parts of the route. Through the Middle Ages, most of the settlement of Tottenham was strung out along the road, which continued to form a major inter city route, evidenced by the cross of mediaeval origin at High Cross.

From the early eighteenth century fashionable grand neo-classical houses, many surviving today, were built along the High Road, less than a day's ride from London. Then with railways and tramways of the nineteenth century, suburbanisation and industry took over. But this only caused the

High Road to increase in importance with grand, significant civic and commercial buildings built to serve the expanding community.

Today Tottenham High Road continues to form both a major arterial route and a thriving commercial, cultural and community centre, coexisting with surviving buildings and street patterns from its long history” (Haringey Council website).

- 1.3** The archaeological monitoring included an on-site photographic and written record. As a minimum a series of trench record sheets were completed for individual excavations or sections of open-cut trench, recording the nature of exposed deposits and details on any archaeological finds and features (including collection of datable finds/samples). Photographs, recording representative trench sections and general site locations, were also taken.

2 Site location and geology

The site roughly lies on a 10m contour line to the west of the Lea Valley. It is located roughly 8.5km north of the River Thames, some 750m west of the River Lee as it runs past the northern tip of Warwick Reservoir East.

According to the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology consists of London Clay. The site is situated on the eastern edge of a large area of London Clay, not far from the drift geology of the Lea Valley (the pale yellow colours on the geological survey).



Fig. 3: Geological map with site location.

3 Archaeological and historical background

This section lists the archaeological discoveries that have been made and investigations that have taken place in a 1 km² around the site, derived from the online HER administered by English Heritage.

3.1 Prehistoric

Monument record	Location (NGR)	Site name	Description	References
MLO98713	TQ 34350 88180	Timberwharf Road, [Oak Wharf], London	Buried soil horizon – early Mesolithic to early Iron Age.	SLO78619 - Pitt K/2007/Oakwharf, Timberwharf Road, Hackney, London N16: an archaeological evaluation report. Museum of London Archaeology Service. Doyle K & O'Brien L/2004/Oakwharf, Timberwharf Road, London N16: an archaeological desk-based assessment/Report No 1698. Archaeological Solutions Ltd.
MLO4204	TQ 330 900	The Avenue	Late Neolithic to Bronze Age dagger	SLO7119 - Article in monograph: Victoria County History. Middelsex p. 39. Vol. 1.
080334/00/00	TQ 330 900	'Tottenham'	Palaeolithic finds.	SLO23240 - Wymer JJ. Lower Palaeolithic Archaeology in Britain, p. 295. SLO23241 - Article in monograph: Smith W. Man, the primeval Savage. p. 188. SLO23242 - Article in monograph: Madge SJ. Early Records of Haringay p. 16.
080256/00/00	TQ 330 900	'Tottenham'	Late Neolithic to Bronze Age leaf-shaped sword.	SLO1483 - Unpublished illustration: Sketch of Sword H (for Herts) 26. SLO1484 - Article in monograph: Title unknown. TBOAG NL no. 5.

Prehistoric finds from the area are summarised in the table above. They span the Palaeolithic to Iron Age. Unfortunately some of the older discoveries – with the site name ‘Tottenham’ in the table – were not located with much precision. There is a tendency for finds of such character to occur on River Terrace Gravels, making it likely that they came from the Lea Valley. The buried soil horizon from Timberwharf Road was certainly located close to the River Lee, not far from Warwick Reservoir. However, the late Neolithic to Bronze Age dagger was reputedly discovered on the clays further to the west.

3.2 Roman

Monument record	Location (NGR)	Site name	Description	References
080270/00/00	TQ 330 895	Philip Lane.	Part of a Roman bowl of the Gaulish period, possibly Samian.	SLO17166 - Unpublished document: Inner London Archaeological Unit. Index. Har Rom 1.

Despite the fact that High Road is supposed to follow the line of the Roman Road known as Ermine Street, a major north-south route that connected London to Lincoln before proceeding further north, very few finds of Roman date have been made in a 1 km² square around the site. The only exception is a partial vessel, possibly Samian ware, that was discovered along Philip Lane to the northwest of the site. The absence of Roman finds probably indicates that there were no Roman settlements nearby, which typically produce a very strong material culture signature, resulting in high levels of residuality in more recent deposits.

3.3 Saxon

No evidence for Saxon activity has been discovered in the area around the site.

3.4 Medieval

Monument record	Location (NGR)	Site name	Description	References
081683/00/00	TQ 328 882	Seven Sisters Road.	Line of Seven Sisters Road, East of Green Lane, marked on Rocque’s map, possibly medieval in origin.	SLO16733 - Article in monograph: Black G. Archaeology of Hackney.

No direct evidence for medieval activity has been found in the area around the site. However, Seven Sisters Road, to the southwest of the current site, is marked on Rocque's map and may be medieval in origin.

3.5 Post-medieval

Monument record	Location (NGR)	Site name	Description	References
MLO77778	TQ 33760 89250	278 High Road.	Possible quarry pits, postholes, gullies and brick walls and surfaces of 16 th - and 17 th -century date, presumably associated with the 17th-century Bull Inn. A sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from a gully near to the High Road, but this is likely to have been residual.	SLO78298 - Ilson P & Williams J/2006/278 High Road, Tottenham, London N15: an archaeological evaluation. Archaeological Solutions Ltd. Report 1964. Newton A. S/2005/278 High Road, Tottenham, London N15: an archaeological impact assessment. Archaeological Solutions Ltd. Report 1944. SLO80870 - Excavation archive: Archaeological Solutions. 2006. Archive for 278 High Road, Tottenham, London, N15: An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation.
MLO97872	TQ 3375 8945	280-296 High Road and 1-3 Tottenham Green East.	A 16 th - to 17 th -century shallow pit, a property boundary and a garden soil, associated with the Bull Inn Public House, and extensive 17th- to mid 18th-century disturbance.	SLO77636 - Williams J/2005/280-296 High Road, Tottenham and 1-3 Tottenham Green East, London N15: an archaeological evaluation/Report No 1802. Archaeological Solutions Ltd . SLO56035 - Excavation archive: Archaeological Solutions. 2005. Archive for 280-296 High Road & 1-3 Tottenham Green East, Tottenham, London, N15.

MLO76868	TQ 337 895	High Road (No 363) [The Swan Public House].	Post medieval drainage features and the foundations of former ancillary buildings of The Swan public house.	SLO64231 - Unpublished document: Pre-Construct Archaeology. 2009. The Swan, 363 High Road, Tottenham, N17 6QN, An Archaeological Evaluation. SLO80869 - Excavation archive: Pre-Construct Archaeology. 2009. Archive for The Swan, 363 High Road, Tottenham, N17 6QN, An Archaeological Evaluation.
081736/00/ 00	TQ 326 892	West Green Road.	1619 Blackhope Lane.	SLO15910 - Article in monograph: Victoria County History. Middlesex p.310. Tottenham c1619 Vol.5.
081734/00/ 00	TQ 326 885	St Anne's Road.	1619 Chisley Lane.	SLO15876 - Article in monograph: Victoria County History. Middlesex p. 310. Tottenham c1619.Vol.5.

The area around the site did produce a number of post-medieval features, largely associated with the Bull Inn and Swan public houses, both situated along the High Road, which may have already existed as travellers' inns in the early post-medieval period. This is unsurprising given the ancient origins and importance of the route that the High Road follows. A single residual Roman pottery sherd was found at 278 High Road as well, representing one additional piece of evidence for Roman activity in the area.

3.6 Modern (19th- and 20th-century)

Monument record	Location (NGR)	Site name	Description	References
LAARC PHP99	TQ 3367 8952	New Bus Garage, Philip Lane.	Late 19th-20th-c demolition and levelling deposits, in-filled cellars, building foundations and three soak-aways or well shafts. The remains of a large 20th-c pit were also found.	Bescoby D/1999/New Bus Garage, Philip Lane, Tottenham: an archaeological watching brief/Report No 521. Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust reports. Vol. 9 sup 2/2000, 48. The London archaeologist.

CWT95	TQ 33770 89560	Colsterworth Road	A large Victorian brick sewer and levelling deposits overlay the natural gravels.	Vol 8/Supplement 1/1996/11 The London archaeologist. Gibson S/1995/Colsterworth Road, Tottenham Green, East London N15. An Archaeological Evaluation. Museum of London Archaeology Service.
[ADS] Depositor ID - 1529357	TQ 34540 89320	Trench shelters, GLS depot, Ferry Lane.	WWII air raid shelter and trench.	Anon/2007/Historic Building Assessment. World War II Trench Shelters, GLS Depot, Ferry Lane, Tottenham. CgMs Consultants.

A limited number of investigations in the area produced only finds of 19th- and 20th-century date. These included demolition layers at the new Bus Garage down Philip Lane, probably relating to the redevelopment of the area during this period, a sewer of 19th-century date at Colsterworth Lane, and a WWII air raid shelter and trench at Ferry Lane.

3.7 Undated

Monument record	Location (NGR)	Site name	Description	References
082354/00/ 00	TQ 336 897	High Road.	Bronze vessel and/or iron pot found at a farm near the Quaker boarding school at High Cross, Tottenham (school not located).	SLO41654 - Museum of London. MOL BAGL. 3768. SLO41655 - DH. Explanation of the plate p. 368. Gent vol. 52 August.

Finally, a single GLHER entry specified the discovery of a bronze vessel and/or iron pot along the High Road, but unfortunately did not specify the date of the artefact.

4. Historic Map Regression:

The existing cartographic evidence depicts this area as an ‘open’ area from the earliest maps (1619, fig. 4). No development is depicted on any of the maps within the actual area of investigation. Broad Lane and the High Road are

originated from, and it is supposed to have been known as such from at least 1732. Furthermore, in the early 17th Century William Bedwell (in his ‘Brief Description of Tottenham’) described the walnut tree, and said that it was popularly associated with the burning of an unknown Protestant. There is also speculation that the walnut tree is ancient, possibly Roman and associated with a pagan place of worship.



Fig. 5: Extract from Rocque's Map, 1746.

This map depicts the area in broadly the same way as Thomas Clay's 1619 Survey Map. Both the High Road and Broad Lane (called 'High Cross Lane' at this date) are depicted, with the area under investigation depicted as an open area at the junction of these roads. Although Ashmount Road itself is not depicted, a line of boundary properties are depicted to the south of the open area, along which Ashmount Road later runs.



Fig. 6: Extract from 1864 25inch OS Map.

This map depicts the area as an open area, called 'Seven Sisters' at this time. The line of the High Road and Broad Lane are far clearer, and there is an access road to the south of the open area, at its western end. This is not, however, the fully developed Ashmount Road.



Fig. 7: Extract from 1894 25inch OS Map.

This map depicts the site in almost exactly the same way as it is today. The area is an 'open' area (now labelled as both 'Page Green Common' and 'Seven Sisters'), bounded by the High Road to the west, Broad Lane to the north, and Ashmount Road to the south. The development of Ashmount Road must, therefore, have taken place between 1864 and 1894, and consisted of the construction of Victorian terraced houses (as stand today). The 'Seven Sisters' (ring of trees) are clearly depicted in a circle in the centre of the Common. This is further to the east than they are depicted on earlier maps, and may be because they had been replanted.

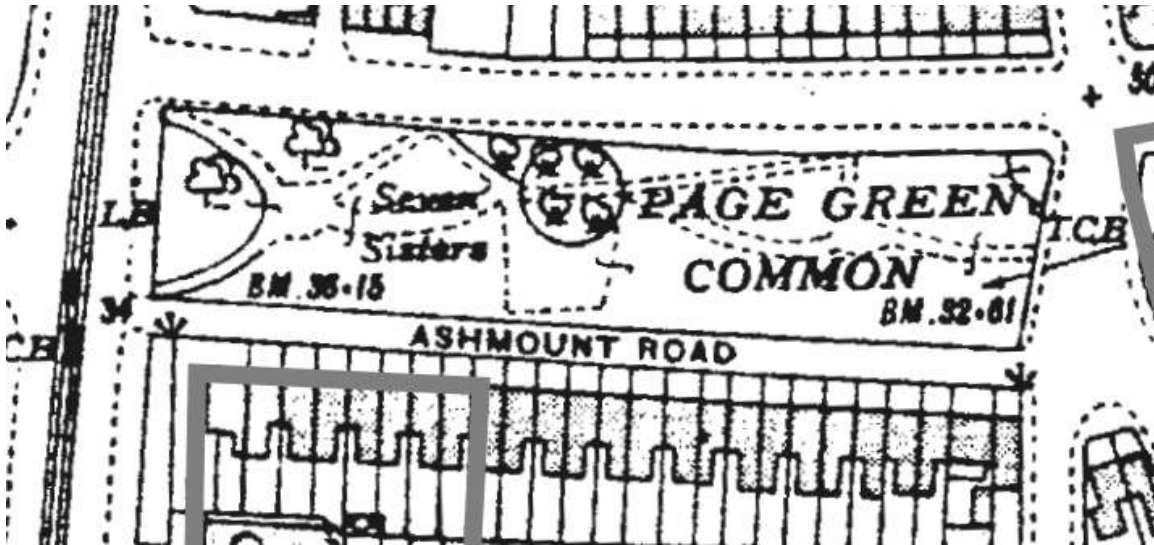


Fig. 8: Extract from the 1935 25inch OS Map.

This map depicts the area in broadly the same way as on the 1894 OS Map, and as it remains today – essentially an open area bounded by roads. There appear to have been some subtle changes within the open area, with the creation of pathways at its eastern end, etc. The ‘Seven Sisters’ are in the same location as on the 1894 Map – the ones standing today were replanted in 1997.

5. Archaeological Research Questions

The research objectives of the archaeological watching brief are as follows:

- Is there any evidence for prehistoric to medieval activity (particularly Roman or medieval, in association with the High Road), and what is the nature of this?
- Is there any evidence for early post-medieval activity, before the date of the earliest maps?
- Is there any evidence for the construction of Ashmount Road and the terraced houses along there in the late 19th Century?
- At what level do archaeological deposits survive across the area?
- Can the watching brief works inform on the research questions of the Museum of London and English Heritage’s ‘A Research Framework for London Archaeology’ publication 2002 R4 and M1 Framework Objectives?

6. The Archaeological Programme

6.1 Standards

The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (in particular, *Standards and Practice in Archaeological Fieldwork, Guidance Paper 3*) and to the standards of the Institute for Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological*

Watching Briefs). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full member of the Institute.

The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement with MoLA the recording and drawing sheets used were directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

6.2 Fieldwork

The archaeological watching brief took place during contractors groundworks, and involved generally one or two archaeologists on site as required monitoring works and investigating and recording any archaeological remains. Close liaison was maintained with the groundworks team to ensure a presence on site as and when necessary.

Where archaeological remains were exposed adequate time was allowed for investigation and recording, although every effort was made not to disrupt the contractor's programme.

The Client and English Heritage were kept advised of the progress of the fieldwork.

6.3 Methodology

Archaeological deposits and features were investigated and recorded in stratigraphic sequence, and where appropriate finds recovered.

Exposed deposits and features were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* context or trench sheets, and/or drawn in plan. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented as appropriate by digital photographic images.

7. Post-excavation Work

The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of this report, and by ordering and deposition of the site archive.

7.1 Finds and samples

Finds and samples were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's '*Standards for the Preparation of Finds to be permanently retained by the Museum of London*'. Finds and artefacts were retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record. Assessment of finds was undertaken by appropriately qualified staff.

7.2 Report Procedure

Copies of this report will be supplied to the Client, Thames Water Utilities, English Heritage, and Haringey local studies library.

A short summary of the fieldwork is appended using the OASIS Data Collection Form, and in paragraph form suitable for publication within the 'excavation round-up' of the *London Archaeologist*.

8. The Site Archive

The records from the archaeological project will be ordered in line with MoL *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives* and will be deposited in the Museum of London Archaeological Archive.

9. The Watching Brief:

The site was visited on five occasions, and different trenches and trial-pits investigated and recorded. A summary and discussion of each of these, in turn, is included below.

Based on the Ordnance Survey Map with the Sanction of the
Controller of H.M. Stationery Office License Number 100019345

Thames Water

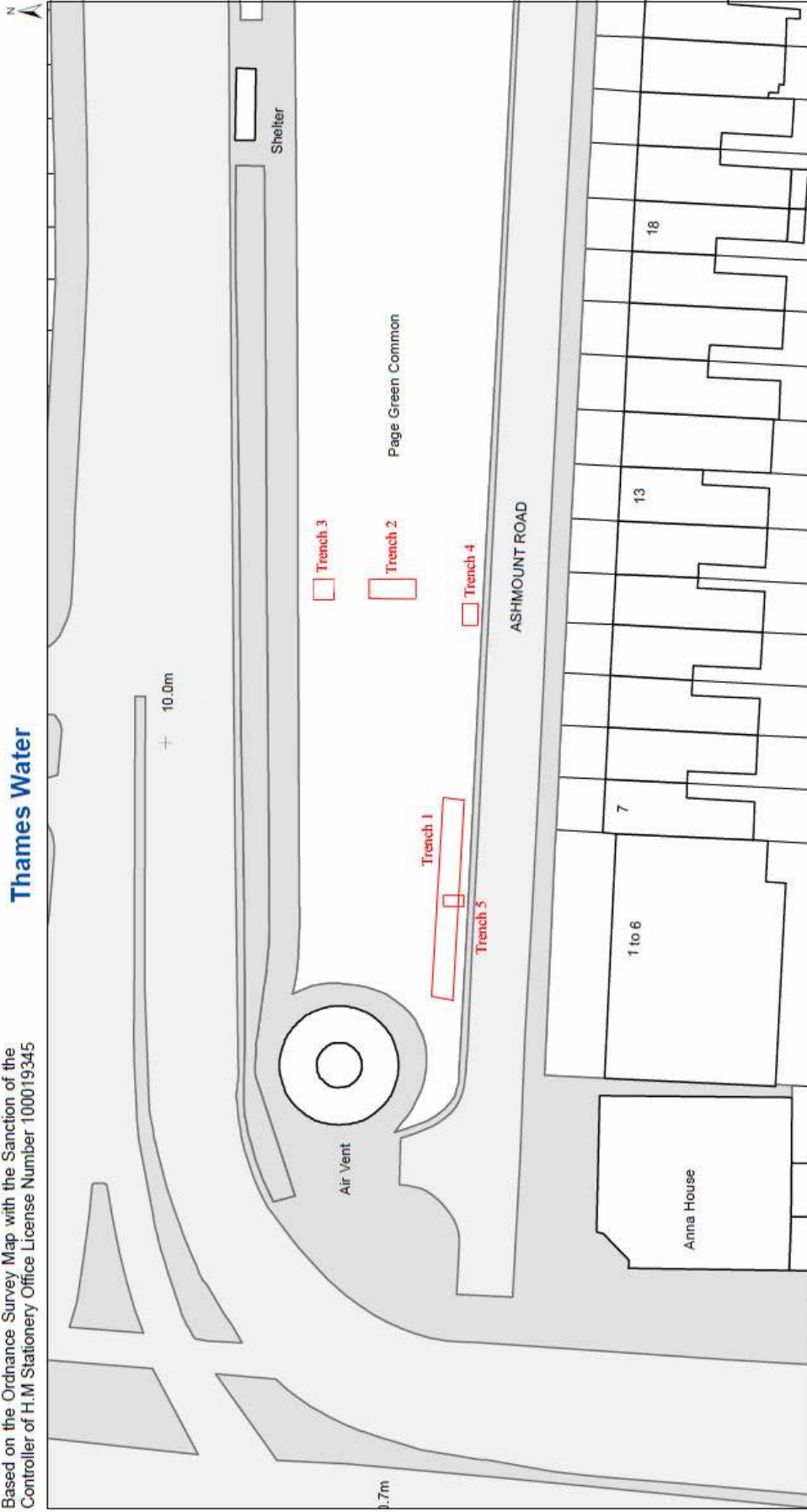


Fig. 9: Plan of trenches and trial pits.

9.1 19m of trenching (trench 1) was observed running east-west along the southern side of Page Green, approximately 0.5m north of Ashmount Road, and running between No. 7 Ashmount Road and Flats 1 – 2b Ashmount Road. This trench was approximately 2.1m in width, and 2m deep.

The topsoil was a dark brown clayey-silt (for a depth of c.0.27m). This overlay a compact mid-brown silty-clay deposit, with occasional ceramic building material fragments, concrete, slate, and gravel. This stretched for c.1.2m in depth, and was probably redeposited service trench backfill. This overlay a cleaner deposit of mid-brown silty-clay (possibly an earlier soil horizon / truncated subsoil, context 4), with occasional ceramic building material fragments and rounded gravel fragments, which was 0.5m in depth (down to the limit of excavation). Three pieces of Ironstone China (19th Century) were recovered from this deposit.

Parts of this trench (particularly either end of it) had been heavily disturbed, such that no natural deposits were observed in these areas. In other parts of it, however, small deposits of natural clay deposits were observed (see discussion of trial pit 5 below).

This trench, therefore, exposed modern topsoil, over service trench backfill, over a mid-brown silty-clay truncated subsoil, dated to the 19th Century, with patches of natural deposits observed in some areas.



Fig. 10: Photograph of southern section of trench 1, clearly showing modern topsoil / service trench backfill; over truncated subsoil.

9.2 Approximately 4.5m of trenching was observed running north-south in the centre of Page Green Common (trench 2). This was approximately opposite Nos.9 + 11 Broad Green, and the northern end was *c.*6.5m south of the footpath at the northern edge of Page Green. The trench measured approximately 1.7m in width (at its base) by 2.8m in depth.

The topsoil (context 3) was a loose mid grey-brown soil, with frequent pebbles and root action, etc (very mixed), for a depth of *c.*1m. Six sherds of Ironstone China (20th Century) were recovered from this context.

Beneath this was *c.*0.12m of light brown clayey-silt, with occasional pebbles; over *c.*0.53m of light-brown-yellow clayey-silt, with occasional pebbles and ceramic building material flecking. These deposits were probably truncated subsoil deposits. This overlay a more compact yellow-brown clay, for *c.*0.15m.

The ‘natural’ compact clean yellow-brown clay was observed at *c.*1.8m beneath the modern ground-surface, stretching down for *c.*1.04m (to the limit of excavation).

This trench therefore exposed topsoil / modern disturbance, over truncated subsoil (clayey-silt deposits) (probably 19th Century?), over the ‘natural’ clay deposits.



Fig. 11: Photographs of eastern section of trench 2, clearly showing modern topsoil and natural yellow-brown clay deposits.

9.3 One trial pit was observed on the northern side of the Green, approximately opposite No.9 Broad Lane (trench 3). This measured *c.*2m X 2.35m, by 2m in depth.

Grass over imported topsoil, for a depth of *c.*0.35m, was observed overlying 'made ground' deposits. This included some backfill for the cables and electrical services running east-west, mixed in amongst tarmac and concrete. This reflects modern disturbance, and stretched for *c.*0.45m.

Beneath this was an earlier truncated subsoil (context 5), for a depth of *c.*0.65m. One pan-tile fragment, dated 1630-1850, was recovered from this deposit. It may date from the later 19th Century development of the area.

The 'natural' firm light orange – brown sandy silt, with scattered pebbles, was observed, for *c.*0.3m. This may have been a reworked natural deposit. This overlay firm yellow-brown clay, which stretched down to the limit of excavation (for 0.30) – a cleaner natural deposit.

This pit therefore exposed topsoil and modern 'made ground' deposits / disturbance (mainly service trench backfill), over a truncated subsoil (19th Century?), over the natural clay deposits.



Fig. 12: Photograph of northern section of pit 3, clearly showing modern deposits, over truncated subsoil, and natural clay deposits.

- 9.4 Another trial pit was observed on the southern side of the green, approximately opposite Nos.10-11 Ashmount Road (trench 4). This measured *c.*2.1m X 1.85m, by 2m in depth.

Modern topsoil (grass over imported topsoil) was observed for a depth of *c.*0.55m. A yellow gas pipe ran east-west through this, and much of this upper deposit was mixed backfill associated with this service.

This overlay a compact yellow clay deposit, for *c.*0.3m. This was probably a dump of some sort, possibly connected with the late 19th Century construction of the houses along Ashmount Road.

This overlay a truncated subsoil (context 1) – essentially a mid-brown silty-sand, with occasional pebbles in, for *c.*0.36m. One piece of post-medieval redware (1580-1900), probably residual because it was abraded, was recovered from this deposit. A pit, possibly a tree-hole, was observed cutting into this (and through the weathered natural deposit below).

A series of natural deposits were then observed. The uppermost of these was a clean yellow-brown clay deposit, presumably a weathered natural deposit, *c.*0.3m in thickness. This overlay a yellow-grey-orange crumbly sandy-clayey-silt (0.34 – 0.4m in thickness); over a line of pebbles (0.15m thick); over a firm yellow-brown clay, stretching to the limit of excavation.

It must be noted that most of this trench had been disturbed by a ceramic drainpipe, observed at the base of the northern section, such that only the backfill to this was observed over most of the pit. The deposits described above were observed in the southern section.

This pit, therefore, exposed modern topsoil / service backfill, over a clay dumped deposit (possibly dumped in the later 19th Century with the construction of Ashmount Road and the houses along there), over a truncated subsoil (19th Century or earlier in date?), over natural deposits (clay at the base). This is the only pit which appeared to have a dumped layer in association with the construction of Ashmount Road and the houses there – possibly because this was closer to Ashmount Road than trenches 2 or 3.



Fig. 13: Photograph of southern section of pit 4, clearly showing modern deposits, dump of clay (to the right of the scale), truncated subsoil, and natural deposits.



Fig. 14: Photograph of southern section of pit 4, with late 19th Century houses along Ashmount Road in the background.

9.5 One further trial pit was investigated on the southern side of the Green, adjacent to Ashmount Road, and approximately opposite Flats 3-4B Ashmount Road (trench 5). This measured approximately 1.9m X 0.9m, by 1.75m in depth.

Turf and imported topsoil (0.15m thick) was observed, overlying a mixed made-ground (for c.0.6m), over a cream sand with scattered pebbles (c.0.25m in thickness). These appear to be relatively modern made ground deposits.

The subsoil observed was a grey-brown silty-sand (0.4m thick), over a line of ceramic building material fragments (0.07m thick). This may have been a truncated subsoil (context 2) – one sherd of post-medieval redware (1580-1900), and an abraded brick flake (1450-1700), were recovered from it. It is, therefore, possible that this deposit is dated to the 18th - 19th Century, or earlier – similar to the other truncated subsoils found across the site.

This overlay the ‘natural’ deposits – firstly a weathered orange-red-grey sandy clay (0.3m thick); over a compact clean yellow-brown clay (0.2m, down to the limit of excavation).

This pit, therefore, exposed modern topsoil over what appeared to be relatively modern made-ground deposits, over a truncated subsoil (possibly 18th - 19th Century in date), over the natural (clay) deposits.



Fig. 15: Photograph of northern section of pit 5, clearly showing modern deposits, over truncated subsoil, over various natural deposits.

10. Summaries and Conclusions:

Archaeological monitoring of the park between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane generally exposed modern topsoil, over modern made-ground deposits / service backfills. This is of no archaeological interest.

This overlay, in one pit closest to Ashmount Road, a clay dump – possibly deposited in the late 19th Century when Ashmount Road and the houses along there were constructed. This was observed approximately 0.55m beneath the modern ground-surface, for a depth of *c.*0.3m.

A probable truncated subsoil (generally a mid-brown silty-clay) was also observed in most of the pits and trenches. This appears to be dated to the 19th Century or earlier. This was generally *c.*0.35-0.4m in thickness, and was observed at varying depths (from 0.5m beneath the modern ground-surface, to 1.47m beneath the modern ground-surface).

Natural deposits were observed in the majority of these trenches. The clean compact natural deposit was a yellow-brown clay. This was observed at *c.*1.7 – 1.8m beneath the modern ground-surface. Some of the trenches and pits had a sequence of different natural deposits – some reworked and weathered, etc. For example, a reworked sandy-clay deposit was observed above the clean clay in pit 5, pit 4 had a weathered natural deposit and a line of pebbles, etc, above the clean clay; and pit 3 had 0.3m of reworked natural over the clean deposit.

No features of archaeological significance or importance were observed in these pits and trenches. No deposits conclusively dating to before the 19th Century were observed, despite the possibility of Roman and / or medieval finds connected to development / settlement associated with the High Road. Instead, the natural deposits, with a probable 19th Century truncated subsoil, and more recent made ground deposits (including a dump associated with the construction of Ashmount Road and associated houses), was observed.

11. Sources Consulted

Department of the Environment 2010, Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment

Haringey Council website.

[http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/housing_and_planning/planning-mainpage/designand conservation/ conservation_areas.htm](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/housing_and_planning/planning-mainpage/designand%20conservation/conservation_areas.htm).

Haringey Unitary Development Plan. Adopted July 2006. Saved Policies Version July 2009. http://www.cartoplus.co.uk/haringey/text/00_cont.htm. Website consulted on 30 September 2011.

Rocque, 1746, *A Plan of the Cities of London, Westminster, and the country ten miles round*

Seven Sisters, London - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seven_Sisters,_London

Various OS Maps – different scales and dates

Weinreb, B, and Hibbert, C, *The London Encyclopaedia* (1983).

Appendix I. OASIS Form:

OASIS ID: compass1-111310

Project details

Project name	Thames Water Mains Replacement in the park between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane, Seven Sisters
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during water mains replacement works in the park adjacent to Ashmount Road in the London Borough of Haringey, between August and September 2011. Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during contractors groundworks and consisted of the inspection and recording of all open works accessible during monitoring visits. The majority of trenches exposed typical sequences of modern topsoil / made ground and service backfill deposits, overlying a truncated subsoil containing fragments of post-medieval pottery (possibly 19th Century). A dump of clay, presumably dumped when Ashmount Road and the associated houses were constructed in the late 19th Century, was also observed in one pit. The 'natural' deposits (a yellow-brown clay) were observed in most of the pits and trenches. No significant archaeological features were discovered.
Project dates	Start: 17-08-2011 End: 20-09-2011
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	DUMP Post Medieval
Monument type	SUBSOIL Post Medieval
Monument type	MADE GROUND Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

Project location

Country England

Site location	GREATER LONDON HARINGEY TOTTENHAM Park adjacent to Ashmount Road and Broad Lane
Postcode	N15
Study area	15.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3372 8898 51.5833017379 -0.06976259928820 51 34 59 N 000 04 11 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Mike Lang Hall, Archaeological Adviser to Optimise
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Emma Jeffery
Type of sponsor/funding body	Water utility/company
Name of sponsor/funding body	Optimise

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London archaeological archive
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London archive
Digital Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archive
Paper Contents	'Ceramics'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Thames Water Mains Replacement in the park between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane, Seven Sisters
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ten Harkel, L, and Jeffery, E
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	5-7 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1RQ
Description	Short report of the watching brief undertaken in mains replacement works in the park between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane, Seven Sisters. Includes a discussion of the historic and archaeological background (including maps), and geology and topography. Also includes discussion of all trenches / pits monitored, with photos, plan of location of trenches / pits, discussion of finds, and conclusions reached.
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Entered by	Emma Jeffery (emma@compassarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	25 October 2011

APPENDIX II: London Archaeologist Summary

Site Address: Page Green Common, between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane, Seven Sisters, N15
Project type: Watching brief
Dates of Fieldwork: 17th August 2011 – 20th September 2011
Site Code: TXR11
Supervisor: Emma Jeffery
NGR: TQ 3372 8898 (centre)
Funding Body: Optimise

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during water mains replacement works in the park adjacent to Ashmount Road in the London Borough of Haringey, between August and September 2011.

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during contractors groundworks and consisted of the inspection and recording of all open works accessible during monitoring visits. The majority of trenches exposed typical sequences of modern topsoil / made ground and service backfill deposits, overlying a truncated subsoil containing fragments of post-medieval pottery (possibly 19th Century). A dump of clay, presumably dumped when Ashmount Road and the associated houses were constructed in the late 19th Century, was also observed in one pit. The ‘natural’ deposits (a yellow-brown clay) were observed in most of the pits and trenches. No significant archaeological features were discovered.

APPENDIX III: Pottery Report

Pottery from Tottenham (Site TXR11)

Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 11 sherds with a total weight of 89g. It was recorded using the fabric codes of the Museum of London post-Roman type-series (Vince 1985), as follows:

CHINA: **'Ironstone' china**, 1800-1900. 9 sherds, 68g.

PMR: **Post-medieval redware**, 1580 – 1900. 2 sherds, 21g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The pottery types are all common finds in London and its hinterland. The sherd of PMR from context (1) is somewhat abraded, and likely to be residual. The rest of the assemblage is in good condition, and appears reliably stratified.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Cntxt	PMR		CHINA		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	
1	1	14			17thC
2	1	7			17thC
3			6	11	20thC
4			3	57	19thC
Total	2	21	9	68	

Bibliography

Vince, AG, 1985 The Saxon and Medieval Pottery of London: A review, *Medieval Archaeology* **29**, 25-93

Appendix IV: Ceramic Building Material Report, Sue Pringle

Context 2 – brick fragment (fabric: 3033); weight = 21g; abraded flake. Dated 1450-1700.

Context 5 - one pan-tile fragment (fabric: 2275); weight = 125g. Dated 1630-1850.