

**LAND TO THE EAST OF BEDDINGTON FARM ROAD &
SOUTH OF STIRLING WAY, CROYDON
LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

September 2003



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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SITE CODE: BFO 03
SITE CENTRE NGR: TQ 30240 66630

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Project 231

Abstract

Archaeological evaluation of a site on the eastern side of Beddington Farm Road, Croydon, LB of Sutton, took place in August 2003. The evaluation was carried out as part of the planning process prior to commercial redevelopment.

This area has potential for a range of archaeological features and finds, notably of prehistoric date. Roman remains are also recorded in the locality, although subsequently the area appears to have remained open.

Seven trial trenches were investigated, each measuring c 2m by 12m in plan. The trenches were concentrated within the eastern and northern parts of the site, within areas of proposed development and ground reduction.

There were no major archaeological features or finds. The sequence of deposits was broadly similar across the site, with recent made ground overlying a later post-medieval reworked soil and a more or less sterile subsoil. Natural River Terrace deposits were encountered at a depth of about 0.6m to 0.9m, although in the southeast corner the underlying London Clay outcropped to within 0.3m of the present surface.

The evaluation did produce some evidence for prehistoric activity, broadly comparable with that from other sites in the area. Two apparently linear features were recorded within the southeast of the site, one over 2m wide and with a primary waterlaid fill. These features and adjacent soil horizons produced a total of ten struck flints, lacking diagnostic tool types but likely to be of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date.

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Fig 1 reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map with the permission of the OS ©Crown Copyright 2001. All rights reserved. (Compass Archaeology Ltd, London SE1 1SG, licence no. AL 100031317)

Figs 2-5 based on a site survey by CSL Surveys, Drawing No. 13803T/1 (April 2003)

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** This report presents a summary of archaeological evaluation of a site on the eastern side of Beddington Farm Road and south of Stirling Way, Croydon, London Borough of Sutton (Fig 1).

The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken by Compass Archaeology between the 23rd and 29th August 2003.

- 1.2** Archaeological assessment was required as part of the planning process, prior to redevelopment of the site (LB Sutton Planning Application Ref: 03/50702/F)).
- 1.3** It was considered that the site had potential for archaeological features and finds, particularly of prehistoric date. Roman remains are also recorded in the locality, although in later periods the site area appears to have lain within open agricultural land.
- 1.4** English Heritage advised that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken as a planning condition, in advance of redevelopment. Following further discussion a programme of seven trial trenches was agreed, the investigation concentrating on the northern and eastern sides of the site.

2. Acknowledgements

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by Mr Paul Symons of Needleman's, on behalf of Croydon Land Limited.

Mark Stevenson (English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service) monitored the project on behalf of the London Borough of Sutton.

The struck flint report was compiled by Jonathan Cotton of the Early Department, Museum of London.

3. Background

3.1 Location and topography

The site is located on level ground at about 35m to 36m OD, some 1.25m to the north of the River Wandle, and is approximately centred at National Grid Reference TQ 30240 66630. The plot itself occupies a more or less square plot of land with sides of about 100m, fronting onto Beddington Farm Road to the west (Fig 1).

The British Geological Survey (BGS 1998) indicates that the site generally overlies a fairly recent River Terrace Deposit, described as gravel, sandy and clayey in part (Hackney Gravel). This forms an extensive deposit in the area, although an outcrop of much older London Clay is shown on or very close to the eastern site boundary.

The Geological Survey is borne out by the findings of a recent soil investigation (RPS Project No: LI10004, May 2003), which generally revealed between 0.4m to 1.0m of made ground overlying sands and gravels. In three areas in the centre/east of the site natural deposits consisted of a more sandy clayey gravel or interleaved clay and gravel, which may reflect the presence of the adjacent clay outcrop.

3.2 Archaeology and history

The area has potential for a range of archaeological features and finds, principally relating to prehistoric activity and land use.

3.2.1 Prehistoric

The site is located within an area of well-documented prehistoric activity following the line of the Wandle Valley. There have been significant finds to the south and east at Valley Park and the Philips Factory site, and at 222 Purley Way (Bazely 1990; Tucker 1991 & 1994). These sites produced evidence of Mesolithic to early Iron Age activity (*c* 7000 BC to 500 BC), including traces of field systems, and all three sites produced later Bronze Age finds. A notable find from Purley Way was a late Neolithic clay-lined cooking pit, up to 0.6m deep and filled with burnt flint.

Of particular relevance are the 1989 investigations on the Valley Park site, the northern part of which immediately adjoins the present evaluation. Much of the site had been truncated but two areas just to the northeast and some 350m to the southeast did produce archaeological remains. These included ditches and pits of late Bronze/ early Iron Age date, plus earlier (late Neolithic/early Bronze Age) finds. The ditches ran primarily north-south, but also east-west and northwest to southeast.

To the southwest investigations at Beddington Roman Villa and Hackbridge have also produced evidence of prehistoric activity, on the former site continuing through to the end of the Iron Age (Adkins & Adkins 1983). To the northwest an evaluation at 684-86 Mitcham Road revealed features which may also be associated with prehistoric agriculture, although not conclusively dated (Thompson 1992).

3.2.2 Roman to medieval

A number of Roman finds have been made in this area. The site lies about 1km to the northeast of the Beddington Roman Villa (Adkins & Adkins 1983). However, there is little evidence for later, Saxon to early post-medieval, activity. The land appears to have remained open, located on the southeastern side of Mitcham Common although possibly in agricultural use.

3.2.3 Post-medieval

Cartographic evidence indicates that the site was open (Rocque 1763; Ordnance Survey 1804-6). Larger scale OS maps from the 1860s also show drainage channels crossing the southern and southeastern parts of the area, and suggest that the land may have been marshy. These channels divided the site area into parts of three separate fields: a map of *c* 1930 gives these the names *Haystack*, *Culvert*, and *Hilly*, respectively to the north, southwest and southeast (Tucker 1991, Fig 6).

There was no significant development on the site until the latter half of the 20th century, as indicated by the still-open area on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1955.

4. Aims and objectives of the evaluation

4.1 Archaeology and planning

The proposed development comprises the erection of three new buildings, including 14 business and storage units plus access and parking facilities (LB Sutton Application Ref: 03/50702/F).

Drawings at 1:200, 1:250 and 1:500 have been supplied by the client to show the existing site layout and the planned redevelopment, including proposed changes of level.

An archaeological evaluation of the site was recommended by English Heritage as part of the planning process, to take place before the commencement of development.

4.2 The archaeological brief

The accepted brief for archaeological evaluation is to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed redevelopment (English Heritage, *Model Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation*). This will provide a basis on which decisions can be taken as to the need for any further archaeological action (eg, preservation *in situ* or further archaeological investigation).

The general methodology is set out in DOE Planning Policy Guidance 'Archaeology and Planning' No.16, November 1990 (PPG16).

4.3 Archaeological research questions

The evaluation presented an opportunity to address the following research questions, defined in the preliminary Specification:

- Is there any evidence for prehistoric activity, and what is the date range? How does this relate to other finds made on the Wandle gravels, in particular on the adjacent Valley Park site?
- Is there any evidence for Roman or Saxon/early medieval activity, and can the nature of this be defined (eg, settlement or agriculture)?
- What evidence is there for later medieval and post-medieval land use/activity, and does this include drainage features?

5. Evaluation methodology

- 5.1 Prior to the fieldwork a *Specification for an Archaeological Field Evaluation* was produced (Compass Archaeology, 21 August 2003). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (in particular, *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork*, 1998) and those of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations*).
- 5.2 At the time of the evaluation the site was occupied and in use for a number of purposes, notably an HGV Test Centre in the southern area. A trench layout was therefore agreed that would make use of the available access, and at the same time give sufficient coverage to provide a meaningful evaluation of the site. A total of seven trial trenches, each measuring c 12m by 2m in plan was proposed by English Heritage, and formed the basis of the evaluation Specification.
- 5.3 The evaluation trenches were located within the site area as shown on Figure 2. This layout closely followed the proposal although one trench, no. 6, was stepped into three sections in order to minimize the impact on the current site occupiers.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator (JCB 3CX) working under archaeological supervision. Recent deposits and undifferentiated overburden were removed, and thereafter the exposed deposits and features were investigated and recorded by the on-site archaeologists, and finds dating evidence recovered.

At the conclusion of the field evaluation the trenches were backfilled by the JCB with removed spoil. The two southeastern trenches (nos. 1 & 2) were backfilled and reinstated to a tarmac surface.

- 5.4 The deposits and features seen in the evaluation were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets [1] to [26] and by drawn plans and sections, supplemented by 35mm photography. Most recent deposits were not separately numbered but are designated [+].

Levels taken during the evaluation were derived from an OSBM located on the eastern side of the entrance to the Mitcham Road Cemetery, value 34.48m OD. The trench positions were located on the 1:200 site survey, excerpts from which form the basis for Figures 3 to 5. These plans were in turn related as a 'best fit' to the Ordnance Survey grid.

The records from the evaluation have been allocated the site code: BFO 03 by the Museum of London Archaeological Archive.

6. The archaeological evaluation

6.1 Outline of the findings (*Figures 3 to 5*)

The evaluation trenches were dug from a fairly level surface, dropping slightly from just below 37m OD in the southeast to *c* 35m OD in the northwest.

Except where truncated the sequence of deposits was broadly similar across the site, with present surfaces overlying recent made ground and thence a reworked soil and/or subsoil. The upper soil horizon (where extant) was of post-medieval date, whilst the lower subsoil was more or less sterile and consequently undated.

Natural River Terrace sands and gravels were encountered at a depth of about 0.6m to 0.9m. The only exception to this occurred in the southeast corner (Trench 1), where the underlying London Clay outcropped to within 0.3m of the present ground surface.

Two adjacent trenches (nos. 2 and 3) revealed linear features of possible prehistoric date, notably a flat-bottomed cut with apparently waterlain fill in Trench 2. These produced a few pieces of struck flint, of probable Mesolithic to Bronze Age, although no clearly diagnostic tools. Several other flints were recovered from the reworked soil and subsoil horizons in Trenches 3 and 4.

6.2 Trench 1 (*Figs 6-8*)

6.2.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Turf + underlying soil	Present surface + imported topsoil	Recent
+	Overlying layers of mid brown to dark grey sandy clay	Made ground	Recent
+	Compacted brick rubble & concrete	Base for HGV Test track	Recent
1	Firm mottled orange to light brown clay	Top of natural London Clay	–

6.2.2 Trench summary

This trench revealed an outcrop of London Clay [1], as indicated by the Geological Survey (3.1 above). However, deposits were also wholly truncated by the construction of the HGV Test track and associated landscaping. This was particularly pronounced in the northern half of the trench, where at least 0.5m of natural clay had been removed.

6.3 Trench 2 (Figs 9-12)

6.3.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Tarmac over layers of gravel in weak mortar & compacted clay	HGV Test track construction	Recent
2	Light grey to brown sandy clay silt	Reworked subsoil	Unknown, prehistoric+
3	Firm brownish clay-silt with occ. flints & one struck flake	Upper surviving fill of [5]	?Prehistoric
4	Homogeneous, fairly light grey silt-sand with occasional gravel & two struck flints	Primary fill of [5], apparently waterlain	?Prehistoric
5	Cut feature obliquely crossing trench. <i>c</i> 2.3m wide by 0.55m deep	Probable ditch cut, running northeast-southwest. Truncated by overlying deposit [2]	?Prehistoric
6	Mid grey-brown sandy clay with scattered pebbles, one potsherd and one CBM frag.	Fill of cut [7]	Recent
7	Deep, near vertically-sided cut feature obliquely crossing trench. <i>c</i> 1.75m wide by at least 2m deep, but not bottomed	Probable service trench, running northeast-southwest. On different alignment but similar to [14] in Trench 3	Recent
8	Clean orange-brown silty sand with occasional pebbles and some gravel lensing. Becomes more clayey with depth, below <i>c</i> 0.65m	Natural River Terrace deposit	—

6.3.2 Matrix to show stratigraphic relationship of contexts

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6.3.3 Trench summary

The lowest deposit was a clean silty sand with some gravel [8], representing the natural River Terrace Deposit (3.1 above).

The natural was cut by one probable prehistoric feature, a broad and apparently linear flat-bottomed cut [5]. This feature was evidently truncated by the overlying reworked deposit [2] but retained two distinct fills, the lower probably waterlain. The fills also produced a few pieces of prehistoric struck flint (7.1 below).

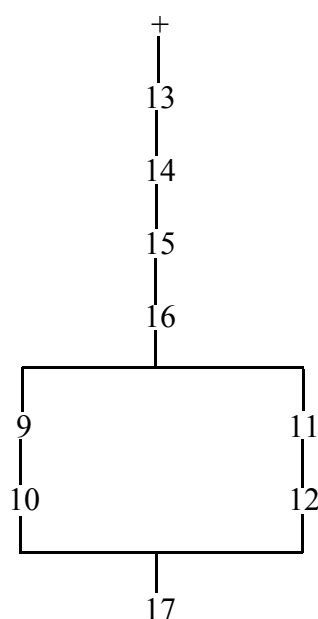
Trench 2 was generally truncated by the construction of the HGV Test track. There was one further substantial feature [7], which although not bottomed is probably a service trench. The fill [6] produced one clearly dateable sherd of modern flowerpot.

6.4 Trench 3 (*Figs 13-15*)

6.4.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Compacted sandy silt with gravel, occasional clay & building rubble	Made ground, forming rough surface of present yard	Recent
9	Mid brown-grey sandy clay with occasional flints	Fill of [10]	Undated
10	Small cut feature, bowl-shaped x-section up to 0.12m deep	Small gully	Undated, could be contemporary with [12]
11	Mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel & one worked flint blade	Fill of [12]	?Prehistoric
12	Linear feature apparently crossing trench, though cut in centre by [14]. c 0.9m wide by 0.3m deep	Possible ditch cut, running approx. east-west. Truncated by modern cut [14] and overlying deposit [16]	?Prehistoric
13	Mixed grey-brown sandy clay with pebbles	Fill of [14]	Recent
14	Deep, steep-sided cut running along line of trench. c 1.2m wide by at least 1m deep, not bottomed	Probable service trench, running north-south. Similar to [7] in Trench 3?	Recent
15	Fairly dark brown sandy silt with pebbles, occasional CBM frags & two residual struck flints	Reworked soil, ?cultivated	Later post-medieval
16	Mid to light grey-brown silty sand with occ. gravel & two struck flints	Reworked subsoil	Unknown, prehistoric+
17	Clean yellow to light brown slightly silty sand with some medium/fine gravel	Natural River Terrace deposit	—

6.4.2 Matrix to show stratigraphic relationship of contexts



6.4.3 Trench summary

Trench 3 revealed a further possible prehistoric feature [12] cutting the natural sand. As in Trench 2 this formed part of an apparently linear cut, though less substantial and producing only one struck flint. Again the feature was truncated at the level of the natural [17] and sealed by a reworked subsoil-type deposit [16].

Trench 3 retained a more complete sequence of deposits than Trench 2 but was heavily disturbed along its length by a modern north-south cut [14]. As in the case of [7] the profile, depth and occasional finds would indicate a modern service trench, although the fill was not bottomed.

6.5 Trench 4 (Figs 16-18)

6.5.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Compacted sandy silt with gravel, clay & building rubble	Made ground, forming surface of present yard	Recent
18	Dark grey-green sandy silt with frequent pebbles/ gravel	Reworked cultivation soil	Later post-medieval
19	Mid grey-green to brown sandy silt with gravel + two flint flakes	Reworked subsoil	Unknown, prehistoric+
20	Light green to brown slightly silty sand with medium/fine gravel	Natural River Terrace	—

6.5.2 Matrix to show stratigraphic relationship of contexts



6.5.3 Trench summary

Trench 4 presented a broadly comparable sequence of made ground, reworked soil and subsoil to Trench 3. However, prehistoric finds were limited to two flint flakes from the subsoil, and there were no potentially related features.

The trench was cut near its eastern end by an obvious continuation of the modern north-south cut [14] which was recorded in Trench 3.

6.6 Trench 5 (Figs 19-21)

6.6.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Compacted building rubble with sandy silt & pebbles	Made ground forming surface of present yard	Recent
21	Dark grey sandy silt with pebbles & occasional CBM flecks, becoming lighter greenish-grey to base	Reworked cultivation soil	Post-medieval
22	Light buff-green to yellow slightly silty sand with occasional gravel	Reworked subsoil	Unknown, prehistoric+

6.6.2 Matrix to show stratigraphic relationship of contexts



6.6.3 Trench summary

The sequence of deposits here was similar to that of Trench 4, although there were no struck flints or any other noteworthy finds. The natural sand and gravel was recorded as a simple extension of context [20].

Once again the trench was cut towards its eastern end by a modern feature, clearly the further continuation of the modern north-south ?service trench [14] which was first recorded in Trench 3.

6.7 Trench 6 (*Figs 22-24*)

6.7.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Reinforced concrete slab	Present surface	Recent
23	Firm dark grey sandy silt with occasional pebbles, CBM frags. & pockets of lighter brown sand	Disturbed/ made ground	Recent
24	Mid grey-green sandy silt with occ. gravel & root staining	Subsoil	Unknown

6.7.2 Trench summary

The natural and subsoil deposits here were similar to those in Trench 5, and in the former case were recorded under the same context number, [20].

However, the overlying context [23] did not have the consistency of the reworked soil seen in Trenches 4 and 5, and may well be made ground or at least heavily disturbed.

6.8 Trench 7 (*Figs 25-27*)

6.8.1 Deposits and features by context

Context no.	Description	Interpretation	Approx. date
+	Reinforced concrete slab	Present surface	Recent
+	Compacted gravel, loose once exposed	Base/ levelling for above	Recent
+	Mainly dark green sandy clay with pebbles & occasional CBM frags.	Made ground	Recent
25	Concrete feature along north side of trench	Base or possibly casing for pipe	Recent
26	Medium/fine gravel in orange-brown silty sand	Natural River Terrace deposit	—

6.8.2 Trench summary

The trench area was wholly truncated by modern activity, to the level of the natural sandy gravel [26]. Moreover, this deposit was itself cut on the north side of the trench by a rough but very solid concrete feature [25].

7. The finds

7.1 The struck flint

Jonathan Cotton

7.1.1 In all, ten struck flints were recovered from a range of contexts across the site. However, no single context produced more than two flints, though contexts [3] and [4] in Trench 2 comprised the upper and lower fills of a single linear feature (context [5]). A further linear feature, context [12] in Trench 3, produced one struck flint from the fill [11]. The remaining contexts in Trenches 3 and 4 represent soil and subsoil layers.

Although there are no diagnostic tool types present, the flintwork is likely to fall within a Mesolithic to Bronze Age date bracket. As such it bears comparison with other small assemblages recovered from sites within the general locality.

7.1.2 Trench 2

Cxt 3: 1 plunging cortical trimming flake, orange-brown flint

Cxt 4: 1 plunging cortical bladelet, orange-brown flint

1 fresh secondary flake, translucent grey-brown flint.

Trench 3

Cxt 11: 1 broad robust cortical blade snapped at distal end, orange-brown flint

Cxt 15: 1 small squat tertiary flake, mottled yellow-brown flint

1 small secondary flake, mottled yellow-brown flint

Cxt 16: 1 plunging cortical bladelet, orange-brown flint

1 squat secondary flake, translucent orange-brown flint.

Trench 4

Cxt 19: 1 small tertiary trimming flake, mottled brown flint

1 small secondary flake, grey-brown flint with milky patination.

7.2 The burnt flint

7.2.1 Four pieces of burnt flint varying considerably in size were recovered from two contexts, the possible prehistoric ditch fill [3] and the subsoil [16]. Both these contexts also produced struck flint (see above 7.1).

Burnt flint can occur naturally (for example through heath fires) but is potentially the result of prehistoric domestic activity, associated with the heating of water and/or cooking. The very small number of pieces found here is not conclusive, although the association with struck material and the large size of two of the flints both suggest deliberate heating.

7.2.2 Summary of burnt flint by context:

Context	Approx. size (mm)	Weight (gm)
3	12-25	6
3	20-35	16
16	26-45	84
16	40-60	136

8. Assessment of the results of the evaluation

The archaeological evaluation has provided an opportunity to address the site-specific objectives which were defined within the Specification (4.3 above). The responses to these are outlined below:

- Is there any evidence for prehistoric activity, and what is the date range? How does this relate to other finds made on the Wandle gravels, in particular on the adjacent Valley Park site?*

There was limited evidence for prehistoric activity on the site, concentrated within the eastern and southeastern trenches 2 and 3. Two apparently linear features were identified, some 0.9m and 2.2m wide and 0.3m to 0.6m deep. These could be contemporary with the features recorded on the Valley Park site, which included a number of ditches variously aligned.

The two linear features and nearby subsoil and reworked soil horizons produced a total of ten struck flints (plus four burnt flints). The flintwork did not include any diagnostic tool types, but is likely to be of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date. As such it is also comparable with other small assemblages recovered in this area.

- Is there any evidence for Roman or Saxon/early medieval activity, and can the nature of this be defined (eg, settlement or agriculture)?*

There was no evidence of any Roman, Saxon or early medieval activity.

- What evidence is there for later medieval and post-medieval land use/ activity, and does this include drainage features?*

The only evidence for land use in this period was a reworked and presumably cultivated soil horizon, recorded within three of the seven trenches. Finds were limited to occasional fragments of ceramic building material, not closely dateable but likely to be of later post-medieval manufacture.

Historically the land may have been fairly marginal, perhaps used for rough grazing or similar. The drainage channels that are recorded on mid 19th century and later maps were not found, but these do suggest that the land may hitherto have been poorly drained or marshy.

9. Conclusions

- 9.1** The archaeological evaluation did not reveal any significant archaeological features or finds. Nevertheless, it did produce some evidence for prehistoric activity on a par with that from other sites in the area. This includes two apparently linear features, one over 2m wide and with a probable waterlain primary fill. A total of ten struck flints were found within the cut features and adjacent soil horizons. The assemblage is broadly of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date, again comparable to the evidence produced by adjacent sites.
- 9.2** The evidence for prehistoric activity is limited, but in so far as it exists is concentrated within the area of two trenches (nos. 2 & 3) within the southeastern part of the site. Other areas were not generally truncated (with the exception of trenches 1 and 7) but produced no finds whatsoever.

Appendix I. GLSMR/RCHME NAR Archaeological Report Form

1) TYPE OF RECORDING

Evaluation

Excavation

Watching brief

2) LOCATION

Borough: Sutton

Site address: Land to the east of Beddington Farm Road & south of Stirling Way, Croydon

Site name: –

Site code: BFO 03

Nat. Grid Refs: approx. centre of site: TQ 30240 66630

Limits of site (trial trench peg coordinates, 'best fit' to nearest metre):

Trench 1	–	(N)	30284 66611	(S)	30286 66599
Trench 2	–	(N)	30272 66620	(S)	30274 66608
Trench 3	–	(N)	30279 66647	(S)	30281 66634
Trench 4	–	(NE)	30275 66666	(SW)	30268 66655
Trench 5	–	(W)	30258 66682	(E)	30271 66685
Trench 6	–	(N)	30241 66681	(S)	30242 66670
Trench 7	–	(W)	30217 66673	(E)	30229 66675

3) ORGANISATION

Name of archaeological unit/company/society: **Compass Archaeology Limited**

Address: 63 Union Street, London SE1 1SG

Site director/ Project Manager: Geoff Potter

Funded by: Croydon Land Limited

4) DURATION

Date fieldwork started: 23-08-03

Date finished: 29-08-03

Fieldwork previously notified? YES/NO

Fieldwork will continue? YES/NO/NOT KNOWN

5) PERIODS REPRESENTED

Palaeolithic

Roman

Mesolithic

Saxon (pre-AD 1066)

Neolithic

Medieval (AD 1066-1485)

Bronze Age

Post-medieval

Iron Age

Unknown

6) PERIOD SUMMARIES Use headings for each period (ROMAN; MEDIEVAL; *etc.*) and additional sheets if necessary.

PREHISTORIC:

There was limited evidence for prehistoric activity, concentrated within the southeastern part of the site. Two apparently linear features were identified, some 0.9m and 2.2m wide and 0.3m to 0.6m deep. The larger of these contained a probable waterlain primary fill.

The two features and adjacent reworked soil and subsoil horizons produced ten struck flints (plus four burnt flints). The assemblage did not include any diagnostic tool types, but is likely to be of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date.

POST- MEDIEVAL:

Several areas revealed a reworked and presumably cultivated soil horizon. Finds were limited to occasional fragments of ceramic building material, likely to be of later post-medieval date.

7) NATURAL (state if not observed; please DO NOT LEAVE BLANK)

Type: River Terrace sands and gravels (Hackney Gravel) OVER ...
London Clay

Height above Ordnance Datum:

Terrace Deposit – c 34.0m to 35.4m (min & max, NW to SE of site)

London Clay – c 36.5m (max. in SE of site; not recorded elsewhere)

8) LOCATION OF ARCHIVES

a) Please provide an estimate of the quantity of material in your possession for the following categories:

Notes: 26 *context sheets* Drawings: *Site plan and trench plans, 7 trench sections*

Photos: Ngatives: — Slides: c 36

Correspondence: *N/A* MScripts (unpub reports, *etc*): *Archive report*

SOil samples: — BULk finds: *1 small box* SMall finds: —

b) The archive will be prepared and stored in accordance with MGC standards and will be deposited in the following location: **MoL Archive**

c) Has a security copy of the archive been made? YES/**NO**

Have you arranged for RCHME microfilming? YES/**NO**

9) BIBLIOGRAPHY

Land to the east of Beddington Farm Road & south of Stirling Way, Croydon, London Borough of Sutton. An Archaeological Evaluation. Compass Archaeology archive report

NAME: Geoff Potter

DATE: September 8, 2003

Appendix II. London Archaeologist summary

Site address:	Land to the east of Beddington Farm Road & south of Stirling Way, Croydon, London Borough of Sutton
Project type:	Evaluation
Dates of fieldwork:	23 rd to 29 th August 2003
Site code:	BFO 03
Supervisor/Project Manager:	Geoff Potter
NGR:	TQ 30240 66630
Funding body:	Croydon Land Limited

There was limited evidence for prehistoric activity within the southeastern part of the site. Two apparently linear features were identified, some 0.9m and 2.2m wide and 0.3m to 0.6m deep. The larger of these contained a probable waterlain primary fill.

The features and adjacent soil horizons produced ten struck flints (plus four burnt flints). The assemblage did not include any diagnostic tool types, but is probably of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date.

Later evidence was limited to a reworked and presumably cultivated soil horizon, of probable later post-medieval date.

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Tucker S, 1994 *14 Progress Way & 222 Purley Way, Croydon, London Borough of Croydon. An Archaeological Excavation*. MoLAS

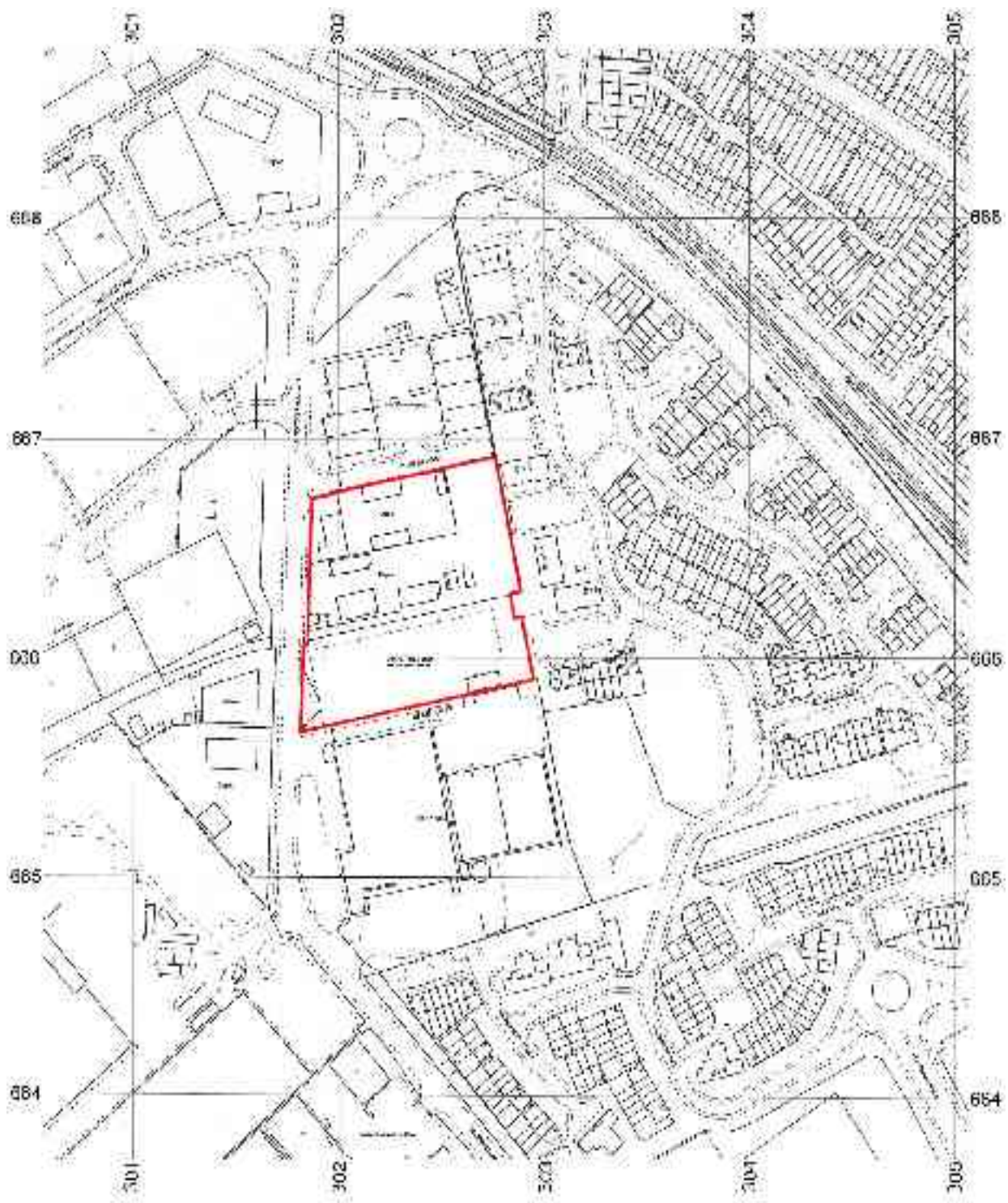


Fig 1 Site location in relation to the current 1:1250 Ordnance Survey map

*Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map ©Crown Copyright 2001. All rights reserved
Compass Archaeology Ltd, London SE1 1SG, licence no. AL 100031317*



Fig 2 Location of the evaluation trenches (1-7) in relation to the current site survey

Based on Drawing No. 13803T/1 by CSL Surveys

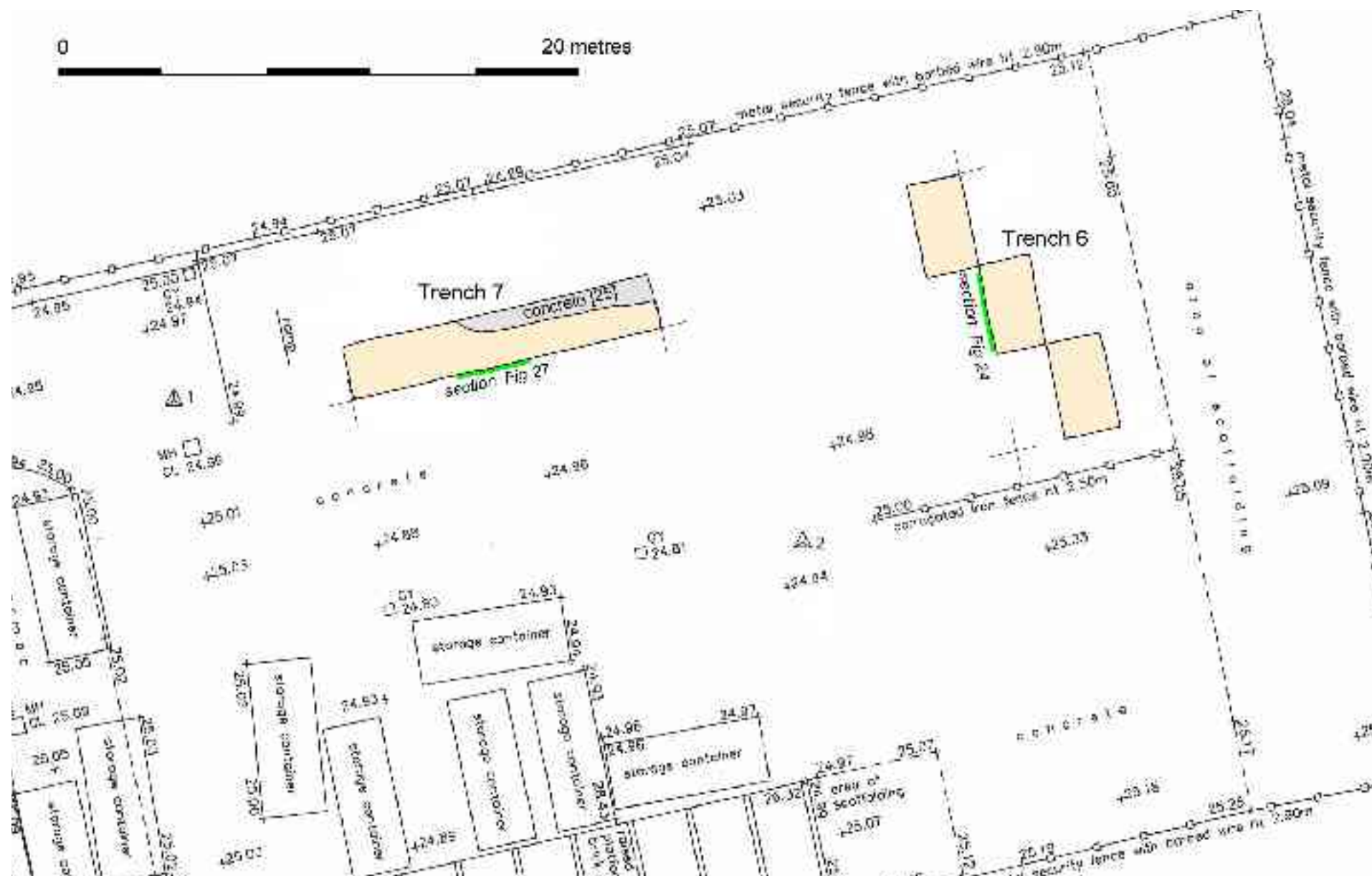


Fig 5 Plan of evaluation trenches 6 and 7, showing the principal features and location of sections



Fig 6 View of evaluation Trench 1 looking north, with natural clay [1] exposed at base
(50cm scale)



Fig 7 View of evaluation Trench 1 looking northeast, showing truncated natural clay [1]

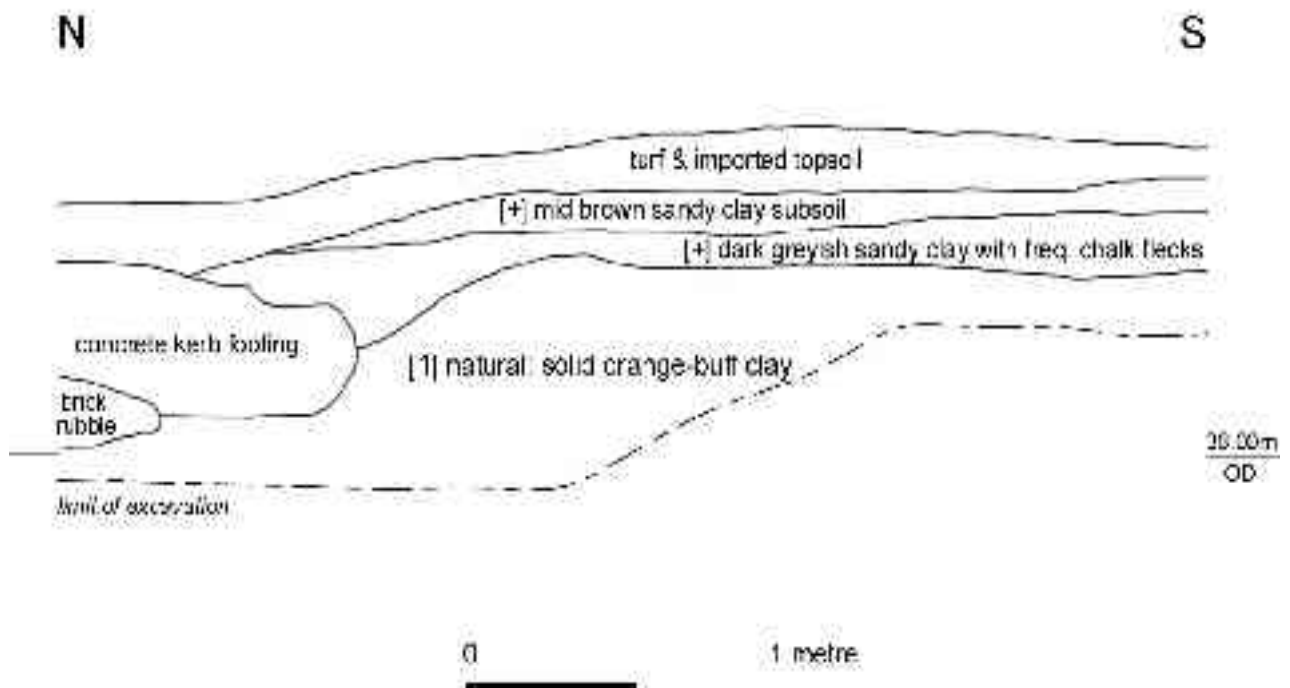


Fig 8 Eastern section of Trench 1, located on Fig 3



Fig 9 View of Trench 2 looking north, with the darker line of the possible prehistoric ditch [5] crossing the trench obliquely in the foreground (*50cm scale*)



Fig 10 View of evaluation Trench 2 looking northeast and showing modern road construction deposits in section



Fig 11 Trench 2: detail of eastern section and partially excavated modern cut [7] (50 cm scale)

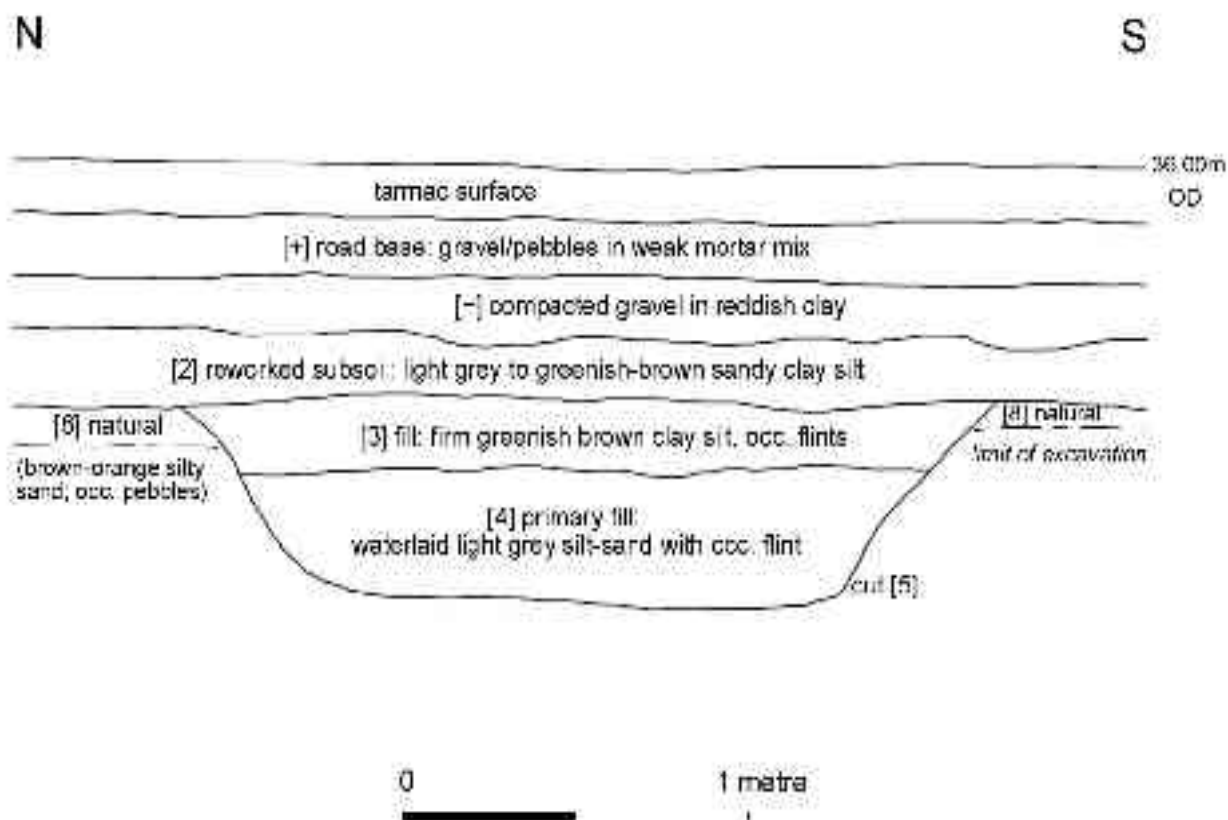


Fig 12 Photograph and section drawing of ?prehistoric ditch [5] and overlying deposits, in the eastern section of Trench 2. *See Fig 3 for location*



Fig 13 View of Trench 3 looking south. Deposits are cut throughout the exposed area by the darker fill of the modern north-south ?service trench [14] *(50cm scale)*



Fig 14 General view of Trench 3 looking southeast

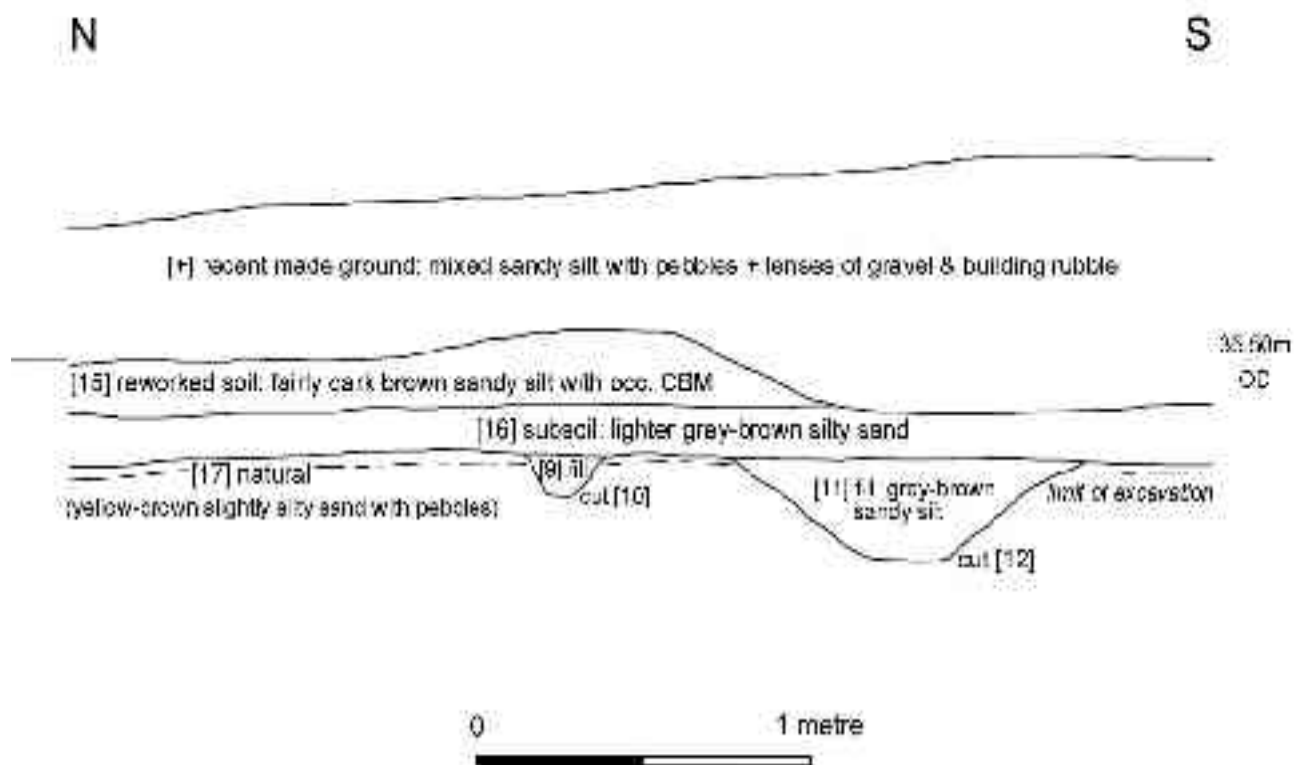


Fig 15 Photograph and section drawing of cuts [9] and [12] and overlying post-medieval deposits, in the eastern section of Trench 3. See Fig 4 for location



Fig 16 View along the line of Trench 4 looking northeast and showing the top of natural sand and gravel deposits [20] (*50cm scale*)



Fig 17 View of Trench 4 looking west. In the foreground the trench is cut obliquely by the continuation of the north-south ?service trench [14]

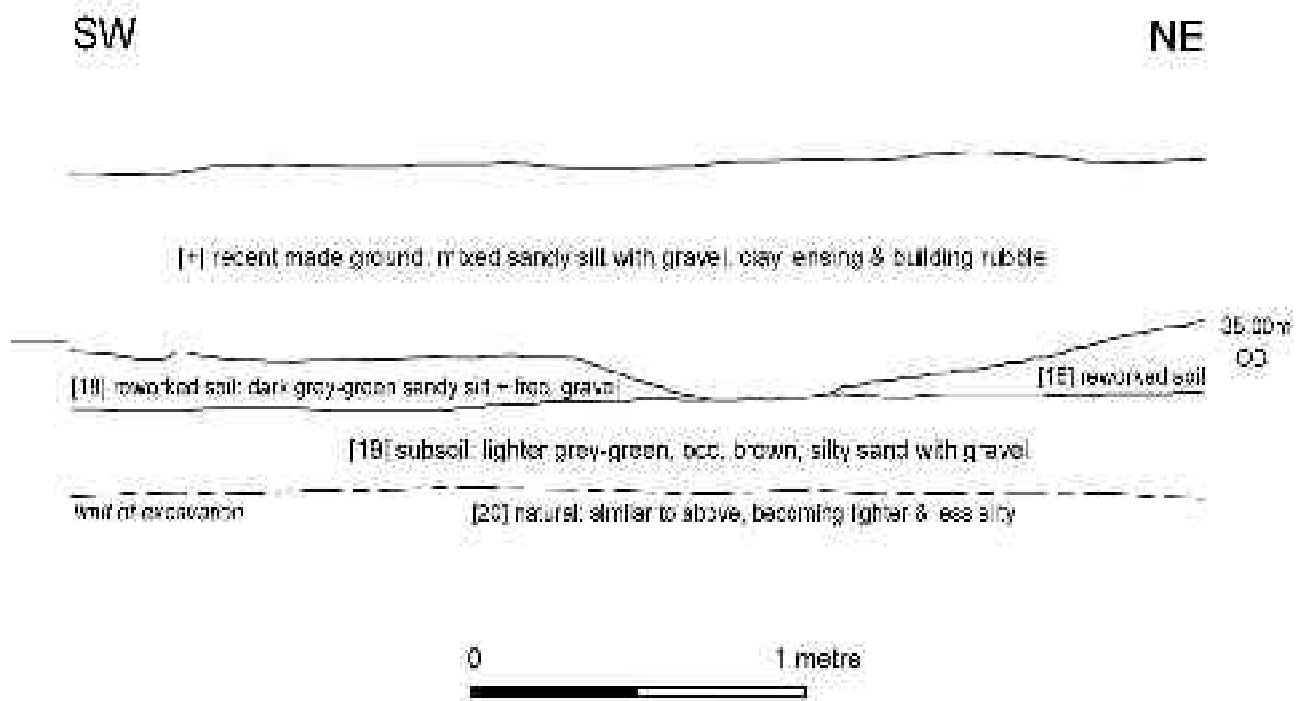


Fig 18 The northwest section of Trench 4, located on Fig 4



Fig 19 View along Trench 5 looking east and showing the top of natural deposits [20].
A small ceramic land drain crosses the trench just behind the 50cm scale



Fig 20 View of Trench 5 looking northwest. Below the scale the natural is cut by the continuation of the north-south ?service trench [14]

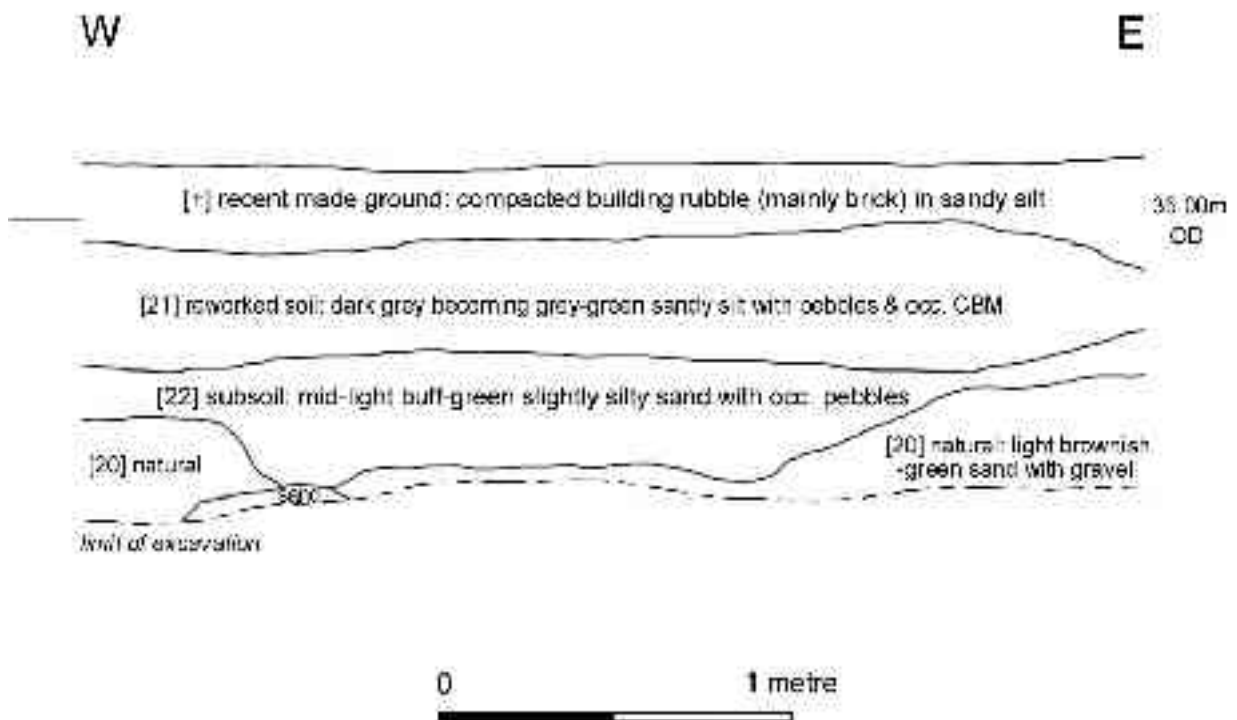


Fig 21 The northern section of Trench 5, located on Fig 4



Fig 22 View of the stepped northern and southern ends of Trench 6, looking southeast. The central part of the trench is yet to be dug



Fig 23 The southern and (below) northern parts of Trench 6, in both cases looking west and showing exposed natural sandy gravel deposits (*50cm scale*)

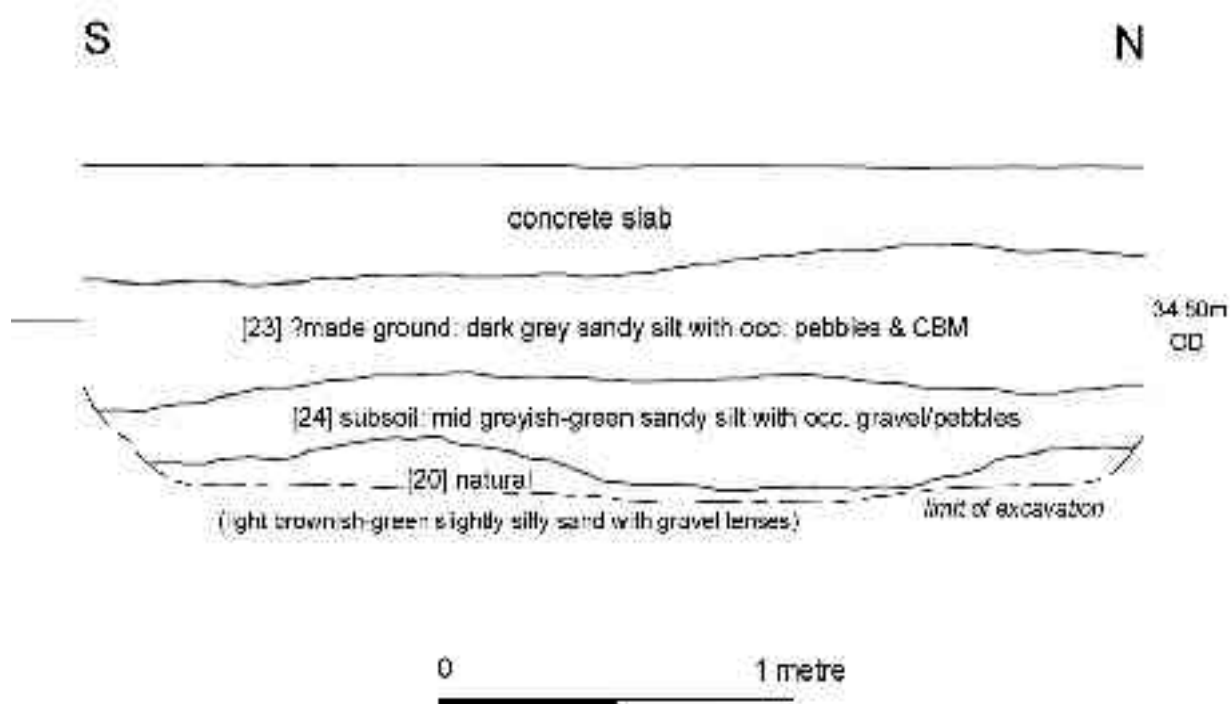


Fig 24 Photograph and drawing of the western section of Trench 6 (central part). *See Fig 5 for location*



Fig 25 View of Trench 7 looking east and showing the top of natural gravel [26]. A concrete base [25] cuts the northern side of the trench to the rear of the 50cm scale



Fig 26 View of Trench 7 looking southeast

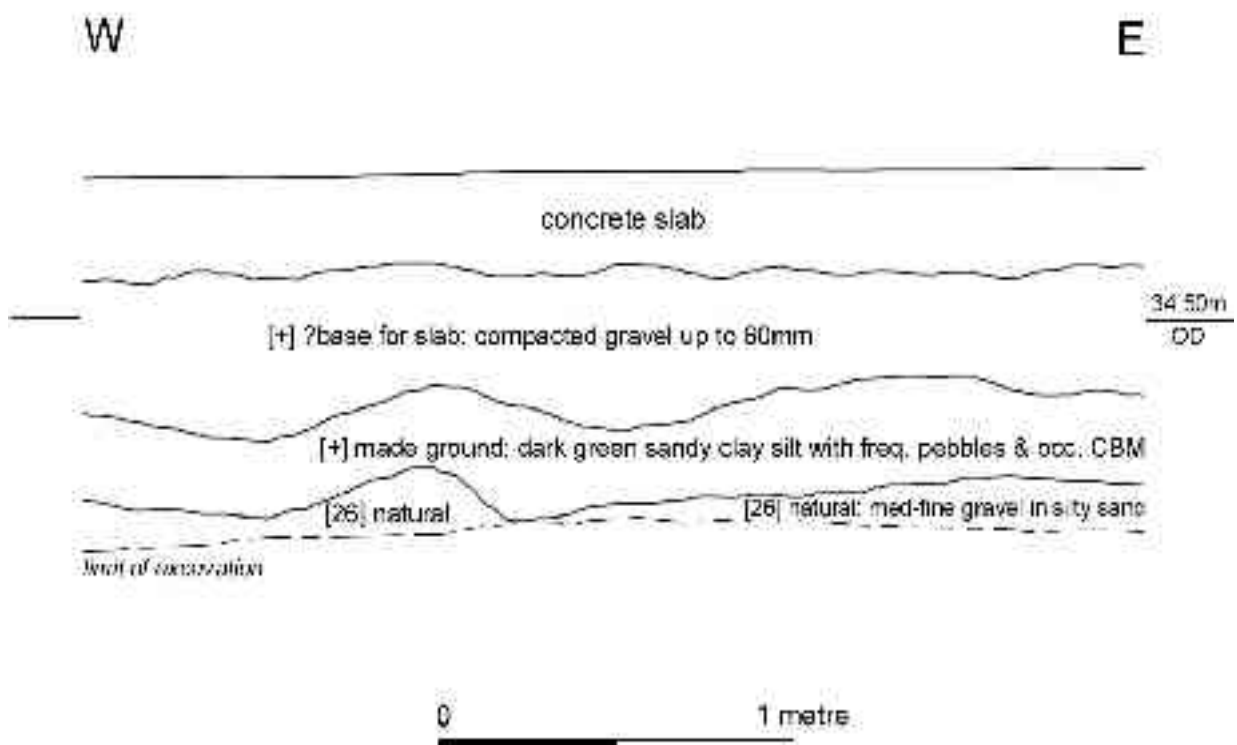


Fig 27 The southern section of Trench 7, located on Fig 5