

**SITE AT THE END OF WEST LODGE AVENUE  
(PART OF ACTON HIGH SCHOOL SITE)  
GUNNERSBURY LANE, ACTON W3 8EY, LONDON BOROUGH  
OF EALING  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**



March 2010





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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SITE CODE: WLX10

SITE CENTRE NGR: TQ 19225 80030

PLANNING REFERENCE No: P/2004/4096-ST (Condition 17)

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March 2010

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### ***Abstract***

*Archaeological evaluation of a site at the southern end of West Lodge Avenue, between Acton and Ealing Common, took place in February-March 2010. The work was carried out as a condition of planning consent prior to residential development (LB of Ealing Planning Ref: P/2004/4096-ST).*

*The site had some potential for prehistoric, Roman and Saxon remains, previously recorded in the grounds of Acton High School and to the east. Historic maps show that in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the area lay in open agricultural land, prior to residential and railway development. However, the site area itself appears never to have heavily developed.*

*Five trial trenches were excavated within the redevelopment footprint, covering a total area of c 100 square metres. However, there were no significant archaeological remains or finds. Part of a natural feature was recorded in Trench 1, represented by a layer of clean silty clay – at least 600mm deep – within a hollow or possible palaeochannel in the underlying River Terrace.*

*The natural ground surface was exposed in all five trenches, and comprised mixed sands with medium to fine gravels – the sand predominating in most areas. Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century and later activity had substantially truncated any earlier soil horizons. A disturbed /reworked subsoil was noted in a few areas, but in general the natural surface was overlain by recent made ground – much of it probably relating to a short-lived development in the western part of the site in the 1990s. The lower level of natural in the westernmost trench did reflect the topographical slope towards an historic stream (the 'Bollo'), but here too overlying deposits had been heavily truncated.*

*In view of these results it is suggested that no further archaeological measures be undertaken in relation to the proposed redevelopment and planning condition.*

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1** This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation of a proposed redevelopment site at the southern end of West Lodge Avenue, between Acton and Ealing Common. The evaluation took place as part of the planning process for a (LB of Ealing Planning Ref. P/2004/4096-ST).

The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken by Compass Archaeology between the 26<sup>th</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010.

- 1.2** Previous archaeological investigation to the east the site has revealed some evidence for prehistoric, Roman and in particular Saxon activity. Historic maps show that in more recent times the site lay within open agricultural land, prior to residential and railway development in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and earlier 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. However, the immediate site area appears never to have heavily developed.
- 1.3** English Heritage advised that a preliminary archaeological evaluation of the site should be undertaken in response to the condition of planning consent, prior to the start of development.

A subsequent Written Scheme detailed the proposed evaluation. This proposed a total of five trial trenches, located within the development footprint and covering a total area of *c* 100 square metres at the level of potential archaeology or natural.

## **2. Acknowledgements**

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by Peter Wilson, Construction Director, M L Hart Builders Limited. Further assistance was given during the fieldwork by the site agent, Alan Elles.

The fieldwork was monitored by Kim Stabler of English Heritage GLAAS, on behalf of the London Borough of Ealing.

## **3. Background**

### **3.1 Location and topography**

- 3.1.1** The site occupies a roughly triangular plot, measuring about 100m east-west by 25m to 80m north-south and approximately centred at National Grid Reference TQ 19225 80030 (Figure 1). The land is currently open, the former buildings having been demolished. Ground cover comprised mainly rough grass with some scrub and small trees to the west: there are also some mature trees close to the northern boundary and in the southeast corner of the site.
- 3.1.2** The site lies on fairly level ground at about 26.5m to 27.3m OD, rising slightly towards the northeast corner. Historically a small stream flowed on lower ground just to the west and southwest – the *Bollo*, a western tributary of the Stamford Brook and now piped below ground level. This area and up to the present site boundary was heavily developed after 1879 and into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century by construction of the Metropolitan District Railway and subsequent Ealing Common Depot.



Fig 1 The site location in relation to the current Ordnance Survey map

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**3.1.3** The British Geological Survey (*South London. Sheet 270, 1998*) indicates that the site overlies River Terrace Deposits (Lynch Hill Gravel), with London Clay exposed on the lower ground immediately to the west and southwest. This is confirmed by a recent borehole investigation of the site (Chelmer Site Investigations, Dec. 2009). The recorded sequence was quite straightforward, the uppermost level consisting of

some 0.4m to 1.0m of a mixed dark brown gravelly silty sand deposit with some clinker, brick and type 1 inclusions ('made ground'). This overlay a medium to dense brown/orange gravelly silty fine sand, interpreted as the upper level of the River Terrace Deposit. The deeper borehole logged 1.9m of this material, sealing a darker clayey sandy gravel and thereafter London Clay.

## 3.2 Archaeology and history

**3.2.1** There is some evidence for prehistoric to medieval activity in the area, and the name Acton itself appears to be of Anglo-Saxon origin (Weinreb & Hibbert 1983, p 3). Of particular note are the results of an archaeological investigation undertaken within the grounds of Acton High School, to the west of the present site and closer to Gunnersbury Lane (NGR TQ 1940 7995; Site code AHG04). The results of this work are recorded on the LAARC database as follows:

*Natural sand was cut by a possible V-shaped profile ditch, which is undated. A single residual sherd of Roman pottery from the topsoil in the north of the site may suggest the existence of Roman activity in the vicinity. A small pit, containing prehistoric and Saxon pottery, was partially revealed, covered by a substantial layer of redeposited sand, the latter interpreted as the possible remains of an associated earthwork.*

**3.2.2** The more recent history of the site can be summarised from cartographic evidence. Rocque's survey of c 1746 shows the lines of Gunnersbury Lane and to the north Uxbridge Road, but locates the site itself in open agricultural land – the historic centre of Acton lying some 400 to 500m to the northeast. A more detailed but broadly similar picture is given by the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 25-inch map of the 1870s (Figure 2) – the present northern and western boundaries being those of the historic open field.

Despite adjacent development there appears to have been no building within the site itself until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. At some point between the mid 1930s and 1950s a pavilion was constructed in the western part of the site, facing eastwards onto extensive playing fields and with two small ancillary buildings to the rear. Another larger building is shown straddling the eastern boundary of the site on a recent location map (*Sitecheck Assess Report*, Nov. 2009, p 2), although there is no description of this and it does not appear on Ordnance Survey maps up to 1993. The location of these buildings is outlined on Figure 3, although no traces are now visible above ground level on the cleared site.

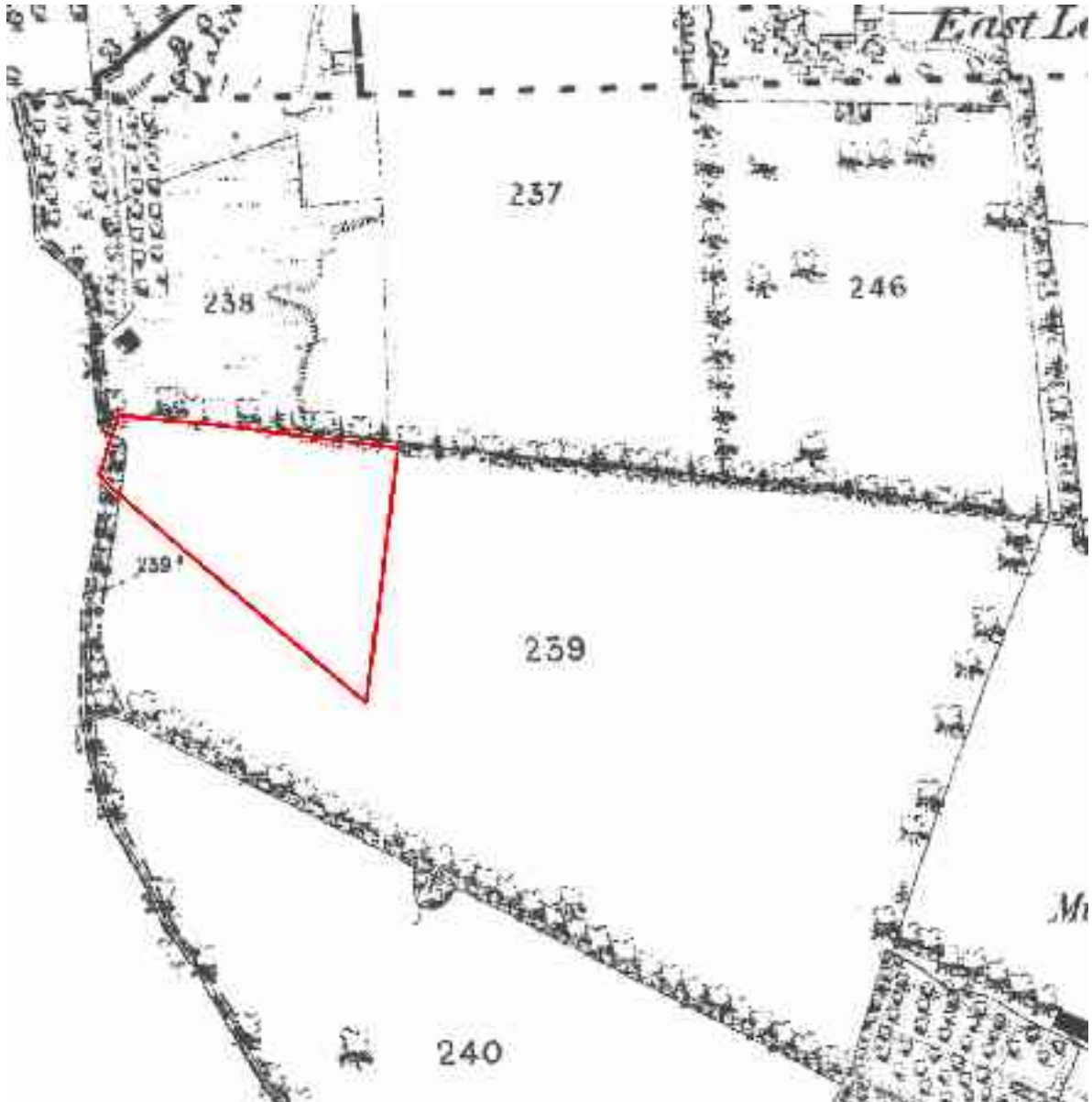


Fig 2 The site located on the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 25-inch map of 1879, surveyed shortly before the construction of the Metropolitan District Railway branch line

#### **4. Aims and objectives of the evaluation**

##### **4.1 Archaeology and planning**

The proposed development comprises the *Erection of thirteen dwelling houses with new access from West Lodge Avenue, parking and amenity space* (LB of Ealing Planning Ref: P/2004/4096-ST). The planning consent includes an archaeological condition (No. 17), in accordance with Council policies.

A preliminary archaeological evaluation of the site was recommended by English Heritage as part of the planning process, further to the condition on planning consent.

## 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), or for no further action.

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

In addition, a site-specific *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation* was produced (Compass Archaeology, February 2010).

## 4.3 Archaeological research questions

The evaluation presented an opportunity to address several research questions, as defined in the preliminary Written Scheme of Investigation:

- Is there any evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity – either *in situ* or redeposited?
- Is there any evidence for Saxon or medieval activity, and can the former be related by date to finds from the nearby Acton High School site?
- Is there any evidence for the nature of historic activity – for example, occupation or agriculture?
- What is the actual nature of the 'made ground' recorded by the recent ground investigation – and does it form a homogeneous deposit across the site?

## 5. Evaluation methodology

**5.1** The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the English Heritage guidelines (including *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork*, 1998) and those of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations*). A Written Scheme was produced and agreed prior to the start of fieldwork.

**5.2** The field evaluation comprised five trial trenches, located as shown on Figure 3 within areas of the proposed building development and (in one case) in the proposed access road. The trenches were spread fairly evenly across the site, although they avoided areas of previous building. Each trench measured *c* 10m by 2m in plan, giving a total area of *c* 100 square metres at the level of potential archaeology or natural.

The trenches were opened by a JCB mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket and working under archaeological supervision. Recent deposits and disturbed or made ground were removed to a depth generally between 0.7m and 0.9m, although the westernmost trench (No. 5) was up to 1.35m deep. Thereafter the exposed surfaces and sections were investigated by hand, recorded, drawn and photographed.

5.3 Deposits and features exposed in the evaluation were recorded on *pro-forma* sheets and by scaled plan and section drawings, supplemented by 35mm and digital photography as appropriate. Levels were derived from an existing site survey, and ultimately from an OSBM located on the park wall opposite No. 365 Uxbridge Road (value 27.69m OD).

The evaluation trench positions were located onto an existing site survey (Figure 4), which was related to the Ordnance Survey grid by resection using OS digital data.

The records from the evaluation have been allocated the site code WLX10 by the Museum of London Archaeological Archive. The site records will be ordered and indexed in line with the MoL *Guidelines* and will be deposited in the Archive.

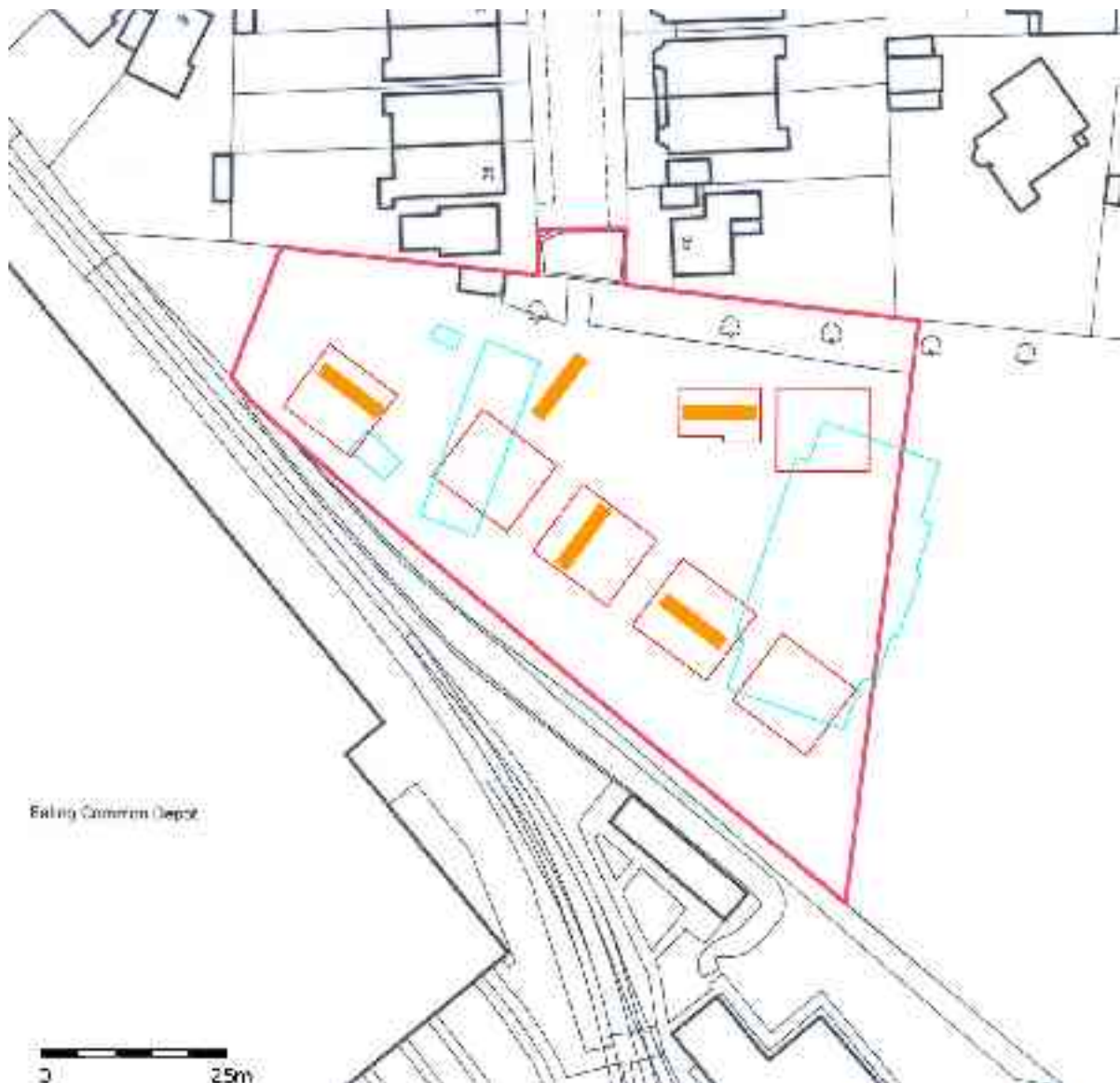


Fig 3 The proposed evaluation trench locations in relation to the outlines of the proposed and former buildings on the site, marked in red and blue respectively

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Fig 4 Plan showing the location of the evaluation trenches (1-5) in relation to the present site, and also the positions of drawn sections in Trenches 3 and 5 (for other trenches see separate plans)

*Based on an Existing Site Plan by Proun Architects, Drawing No.2132 /SS /01*

## 6. The archaeological evaluation

### 6.1 Summary of the findings

The evaluation trenches were dug from a fairly level and uniform surface, at between 26.65m to 27.00m OD. Machine excavation was generally to the top of the clean natural sands and gravels, removing recent made ground and disturbed material, although a few overlying deposits and features were investigated more thoroughly by hand.

The sequence was generally quite straightforward, with relatively modern deposits or heavily reworked material overlying a truncated subsoil or (more commonly) natural surface. There was no evidence for an undisturbed and *in situ* soil profile in any part of the evaluated area.

### 6.2 Trench 1

**6.2.1** Trench 1 was dug by machine on an east to west alignment and was typically 0.65m to 0.80m deep.

**6.2.2** Natural River Terrace sands and gravels were exposed throughout centre and eastern part of the trench, becoming predominantly sandy to the east. The natural surface was cut by two fairly modern trenches, one containing a sectional concrete pipe land drain, the other a somewhat wider cut (*c* 450mm) packed with brick rubble – and also interpreted as a land drain (see Figure 6).



Fig 5 Working shot of Trench 1, looking east towards Acton High School



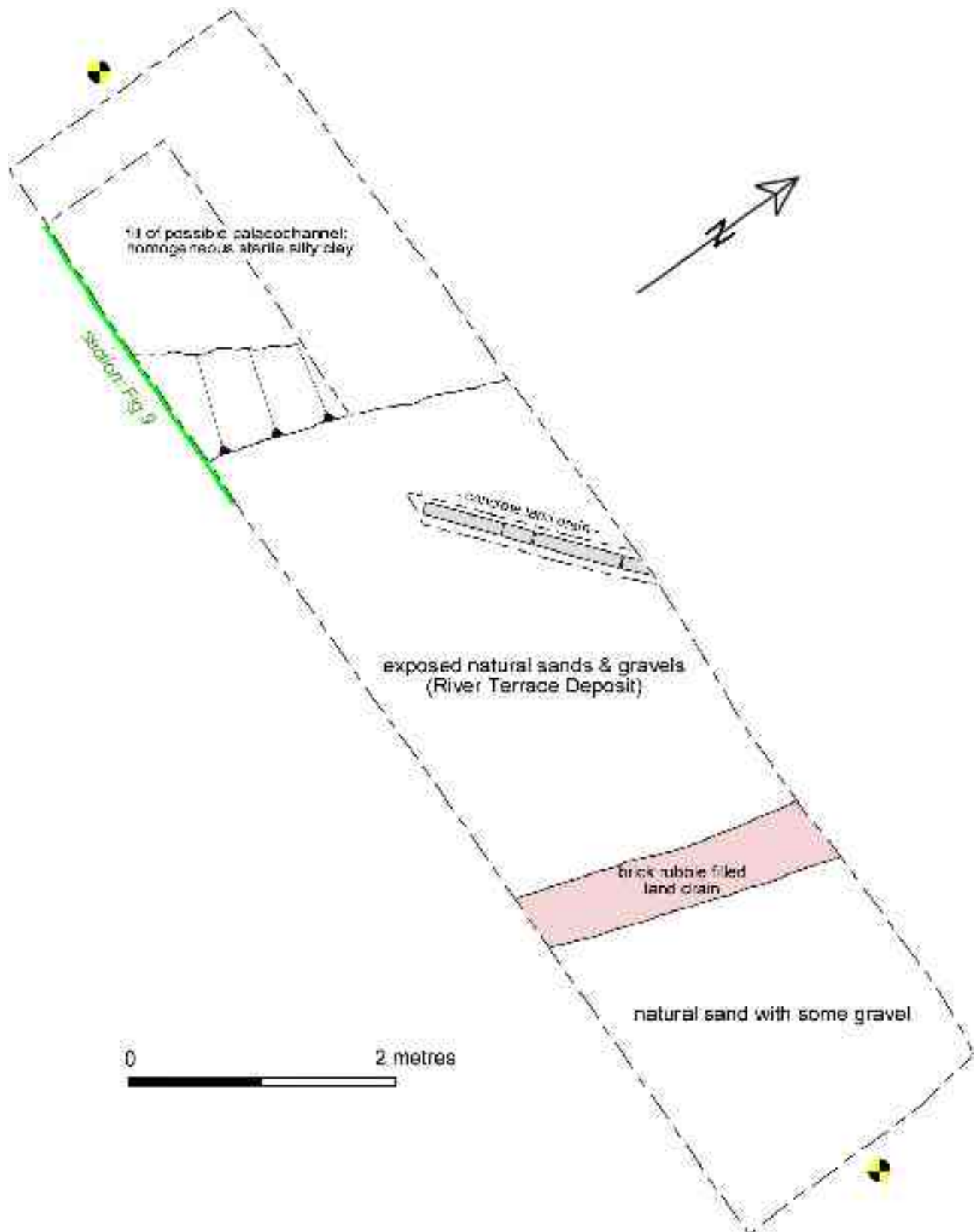


Fig 6 Plan of Trench 1, showing the modern land drains cut into the River Terrace gravels. Also shown is the deepening deposit of silty clay at the western end of the trench, which appears to form the fill of a natural hollow or palaeochannel



Fig 7 Trench 1: general view looking east, with the silty clay deposits infilling a natural hollow or palaeochannel in the foreground (*1.0m scale*)



Fig 8 Trench 1: general view looking west (*1.0m scale*)

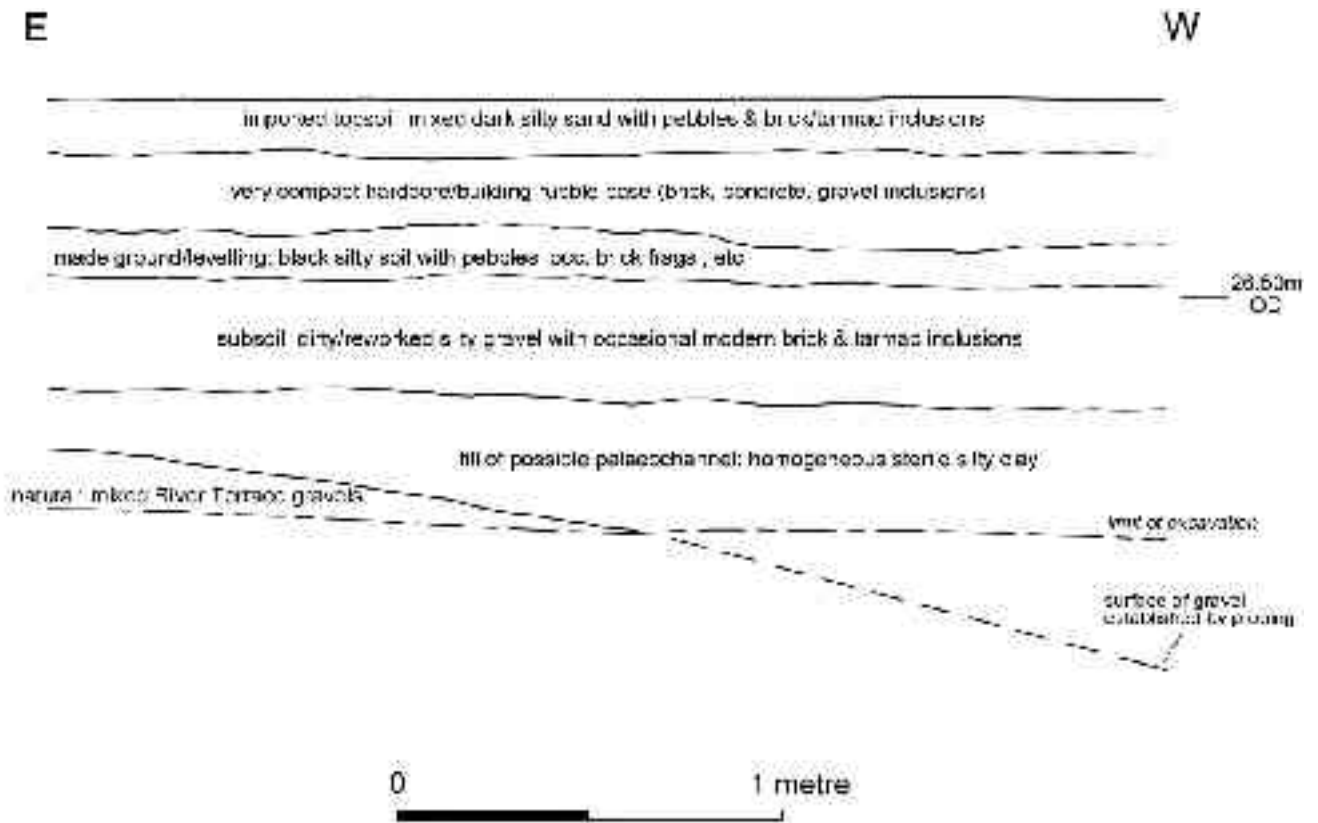


Fig 9 North-facing section at the western end of Trench 1, showing the slope of the natural hollow or palaeochannel and overlying silty clay fill (see Fig 6 for location)



Fig 10 Trench 1: photograph showing the general area of the above section (1m scale)

**6.2.3** Clearance across the western end of Trench 1 exposed a continuous spread of clean silty clay. This came back some 2m to 3m into the trench but clearly thickened to the west, and appears to represent the naturally accumulated fill within a hollow or possible palaeochannel in the underlying River Terrace Gravels (*cf.* Figure 9). A deeper sondage was cut into this deposit on the southern side of the trench but the material appeared to be quite sterile, and no finds or artefacts were recovered. Probing close to the western limit of excavation indicated that the deposit here was over 600mm thick.

**6.2.4** The natural gravels and silts in Trench 1 were overlain in some areas by an apparently reworked and disturbed subsoil – a firm silty deposit with gravel and occasional fragments of recent brick and other building material. Elsewhere the overlying deposit was more obviously made ground, and the whole trench area was then sealed by a layer of concreted building rubble some 200mm thick. This latter was of very recent date – possibly 1990s – and appears to have been laid throughout the centre and eastern of the site as a base for some form of hard standing.

The uppermost layer on Trench 1 (and elsewhere on site) was represented by a poor quality silty soil with varying amounts of fragmentary rubble, which is presumably the deposit left by recent demolition and clearance of the site.

### **6.3 Trench 2**

**6.3.1** Trench 2 was excavated on a northwest to southeast alignment in the southeastern part of the site. The trench was generally between *c* 0.85m to 0.95m deep, although due to water ingress was dug somewhat deeper at the eastern end (up to 1.40m) so as to form a sump.

**6.3.2** The material removed from the trench followed a very similar pattern to Trench 1 – a surface of poor-quality soil overlying a base of very compacted rubble, and thereafter fairly recent made and disturbed ground.

Towards and at the base of the modern sequence two north-south pipes were exposed (Figures 11 & 14). Near the western end of the trench was a sectional ceramic pipe set on concrete base, dropping very slightly – *c* 25mm – between the south and north sections. The pipe at the eastern end of the trench was made of plastic and much more recent, possibly 1990s. It was also set within a fine gravel fill which acted as form of land drain, and resulted in the water ingress referred to above (& seen in Figure 13).

The eastern part of Trench 2 also contained a sectional concrete land drain, on an approximate east-west alignment and cut through by the trench for the plastic drain pipe. This was removed as part of the machine clearance of the trench.

**6.3.3** The base of Trench 2 comprised River Terrace material similar to that in Trench 1, with mixed sands and gravels and some iron panning. The slightly deeper excavation at the eastern end of the trench revealed predominantly sandy lensed deposits.

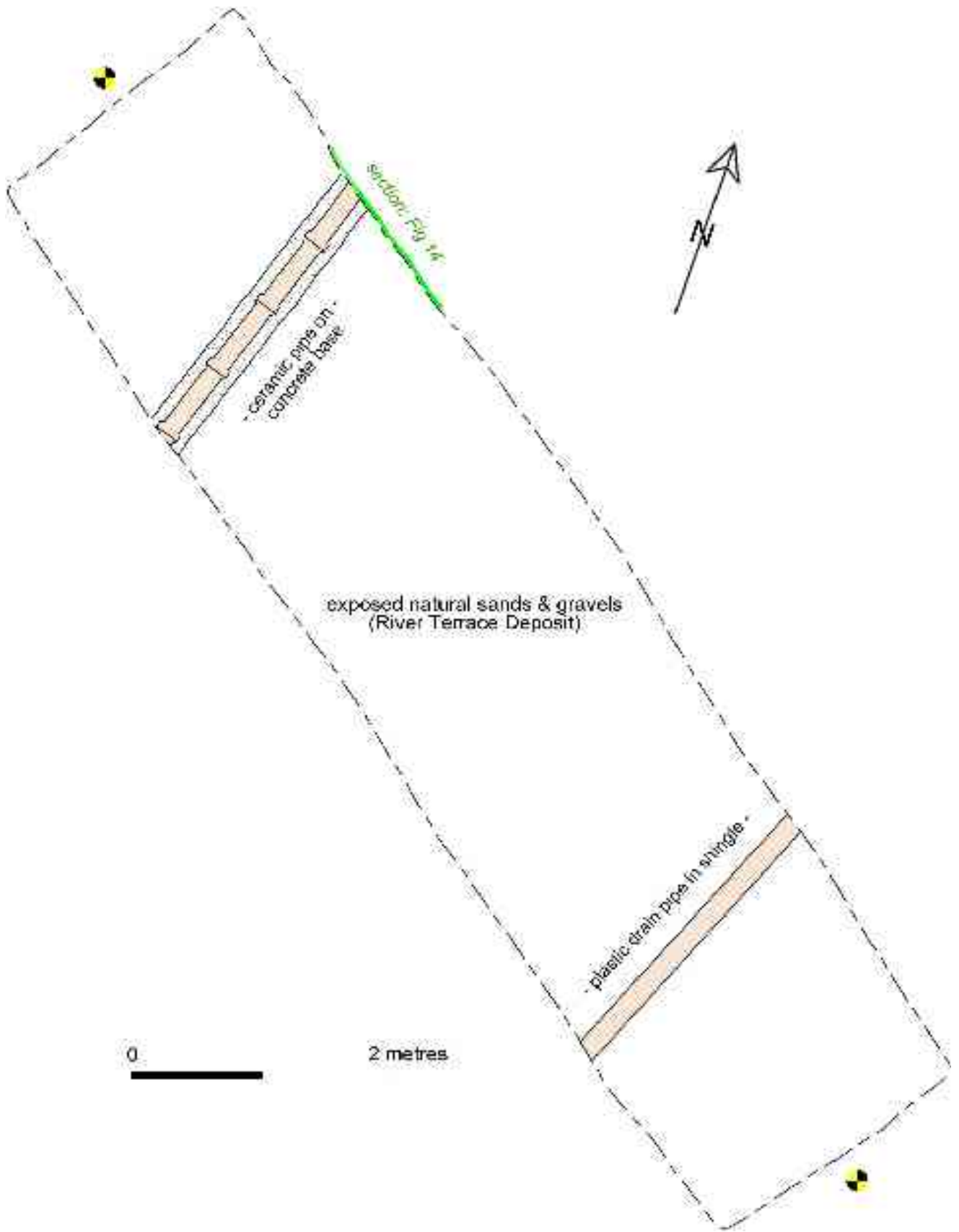


Fig 11 Plan of Trench 2 showing the lines of the two modern pipes.



Fig 12 Trench 2: general view looking southeast towards the School (*1m scale*)



Fig 13 Trench 2: view looking northwest, and showing water ingress from the pipe trench in the foreground (*1m scale*)

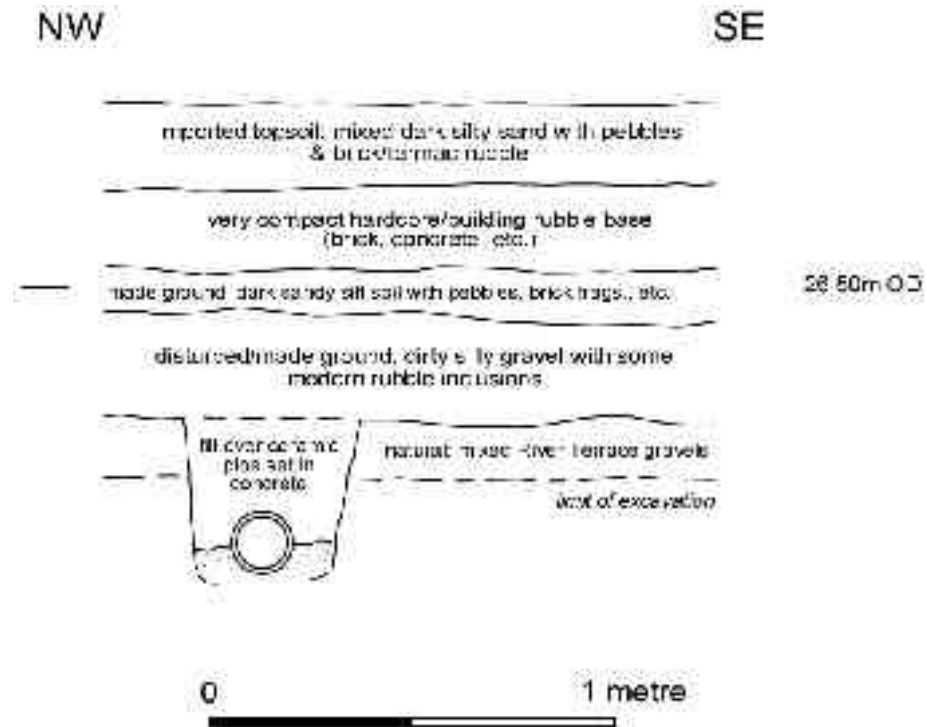


Fig 14 Southwest-facing section near the western end of Trench 2 (see Fig 11 for location)



Fig 15 Trench 2: view of the southwest-facing section, showing the disturbed and made ground deposits overlying the natural River Terrace gravels (1m scale)

## 6.4 Trench 3

6.4.1 Trench 3 was dug on a southwest to northeast alignment, at a fairly consistent depth of 0.8m to 0.9m. The natural sand and gravel deposit was exposed throughout the trench, unbroken by any deeper intrusions or disturbance.



Fig 16 Trench 3: general view looking southwest and showing the exposed natural gravels throughout the trench (*1m scale*)



Fig 17 View of Trench 3 looking northeast (*1.0m scale*)



6.4.2 The overlying sequence was very similar to that in Trenches 1 and 2. The original soil profile had clearly been heavily truncated by modern activity, although there appeared to be remnants of a subsoil horizon over the natural in the southern section – a dark silty gravel with some lighter patches and occasional fragments of ceramic building material. Overlying this were several layers of made ground, including the recent concreted hardcore base that appears to cover the whole central area of the site.

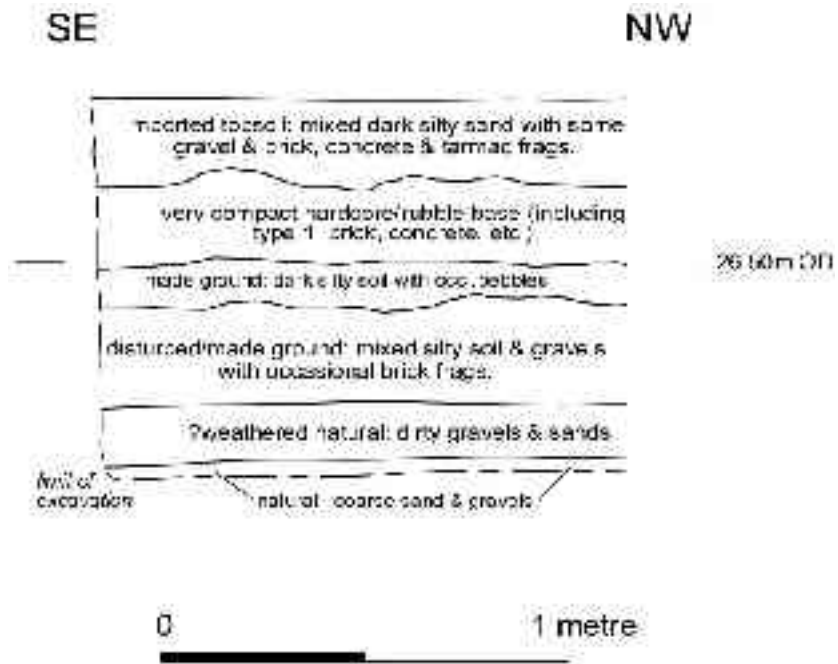


Fig 18 Section at the southern end of Trench 3 (see Fig 4 for location)



Fig 19 Trench 3: recording of the south section, as illustrated in Figure 18

## **6.5 Trench 4**

- 6.5.1** Trench 4 was located close to the site entrance, in the area of the proposed access road. The trench was dug on a southwest to northeast alignment, at an overall depth of about 0.7m to 0.8m.
- 6.5.2** Natural River Terrace deposits – predominantly coarse sands with some gravel – were exposed throughout the trench. The natural surface was truncated with no real evidence for a surviving soil profile, and also cut by a number of modern intrusions as illustrated on Figure 20 overleaf.
- 6.5.3** The most striking modern feature was a large circular concrete drain or soakaway, located on the western side of the trench and fully exposed in plan by machine clearance. The diameter was 1.76m and the structure is assumed to go down to a considerable depth, although only about 0.5m was uncovered in the evaluation. Although quite recent the drain/soakway was infilled with soil and is assumed to be disused.

Natural deposits in the northern part of the trench were also cut by a probable pipe trench (*cf.* also Figure 23). This was not excavated below the general clearance level but almost certainly links up to an inspection chamber/manhole located just to the northwest.

The southern part of the trench contained two land drains, abutting at right angles. Both were constructed from sectional concrete pipes, as also recorded in Trench 1 and noted at the eastern end of Trench 2, and presumably all relate to a single phase of activity – quite possibly contemporary with construction of the pavilion in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.

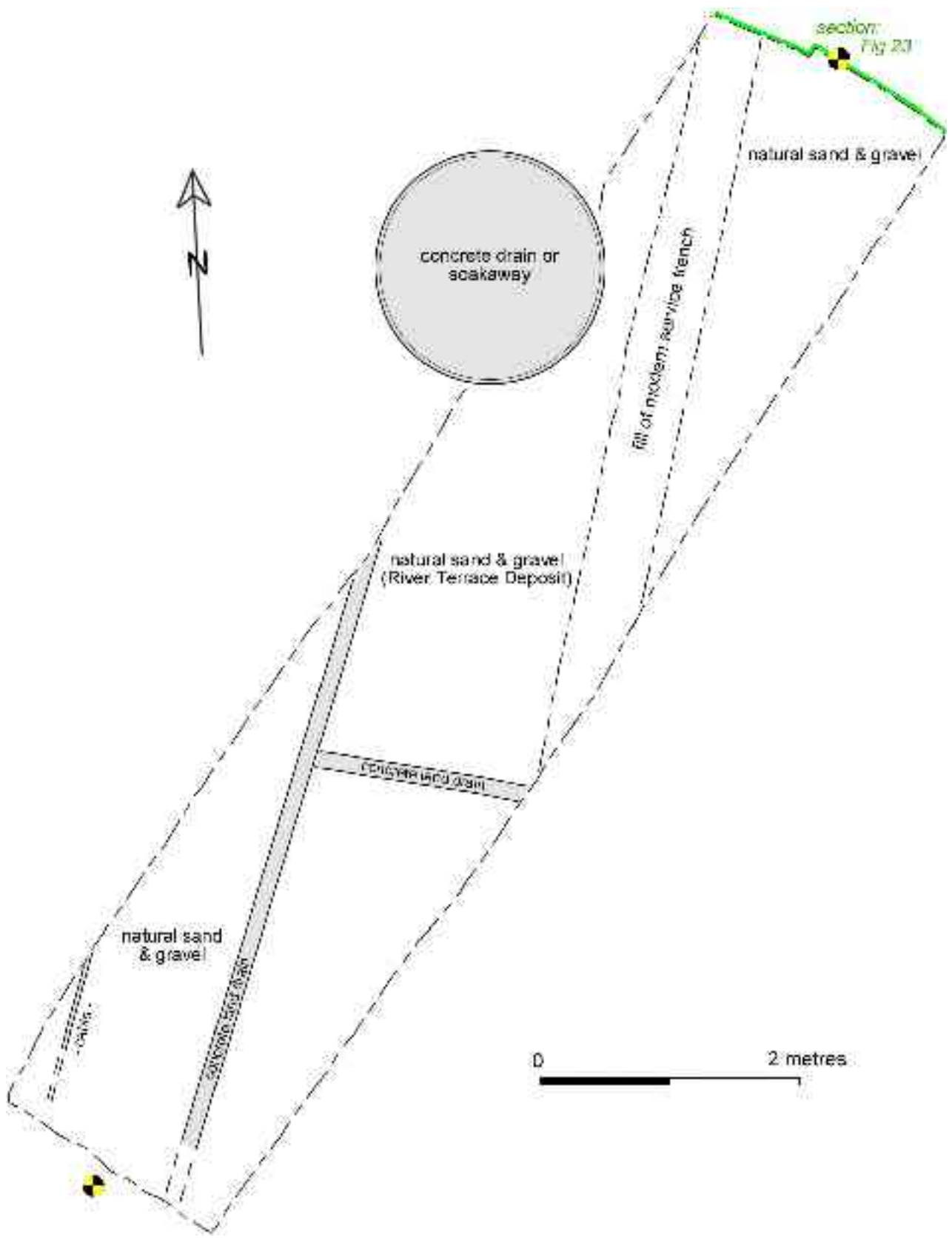


Fig 20 Plan of Trench 4, showing the various modern features and intrusions into the natural River Terrace



Fig 21 Trench 4: general view looking northeast (*1.0m scale*)



Fig 22 Trench 4: general view looking southwest (*1.0m scale*)

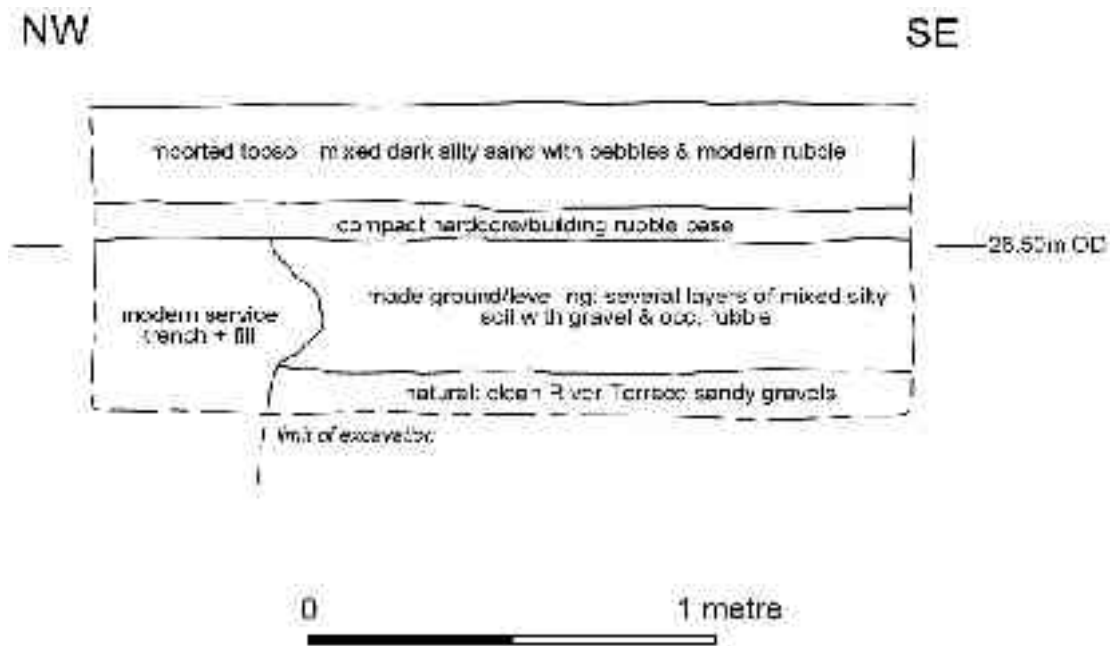


Fig 23 Southwest-facing section across the northern end of Trench 4 (see Fig 20 for location)



Fig 24 Trench 4: recording of the section illustrated above

## 6.6 Trench 5

6.6.1 Trench 5 was located near the western end of the site, and was aligned approximately northwest-southeast. The trench was markedly deeper than any of the others – at least 1m and falling to about 1.35m at the western end. This evidently reflects a levelling of the natural topography, which would have dropped towards the small stream – the *Bollo* - that once flowed to the west and southwest (*cf.* 3.1.2 above).



Fig 25 Trench 5 looking northwest towards the site boundary



Fig 26 Trench 5: oblique view of the southwest-facing section (*1m scale*)

6.6.2 Natural sands and gravels were exposed throughout the base of Trench 5, but the overlying soil profile appeared to have been entirely truncated. The natural was sealed by a fairly shallow mixed soil deposit and thence by some up to *c* 0.8m of made ground containing some very large (>1.5m square) pieces of concrete from demolition. This was sealed by a further imported topsoil horizon.

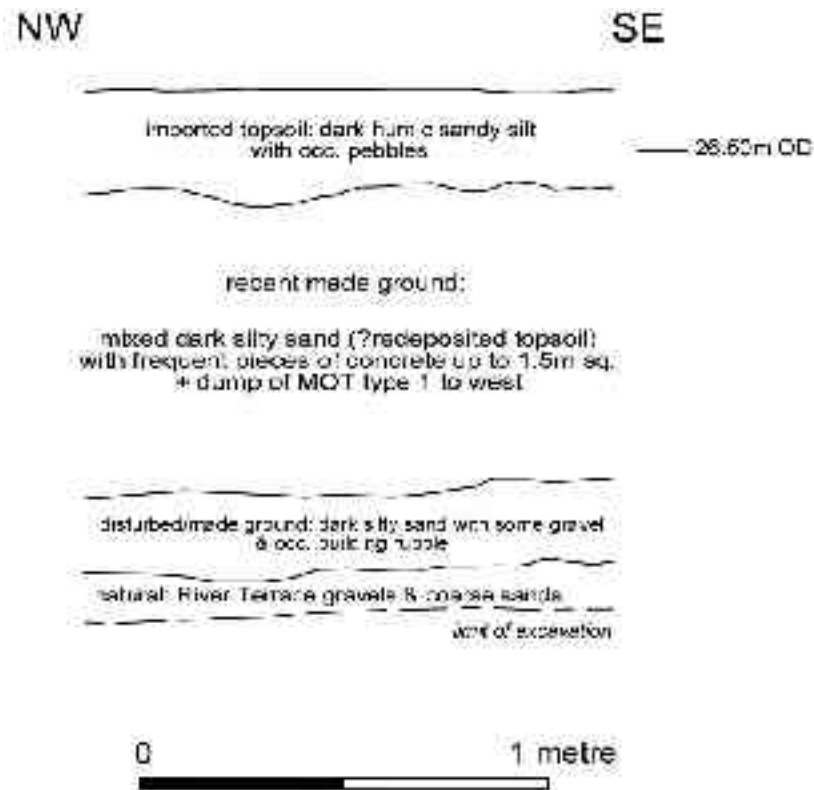


Fig 27 Southwest-facing section at the western end of Trench 5 (see Fig 4 for location)



Fig 28 Trench 5: view of the southwest-facing section, including the area of the drawn section to the left of the frame (1m scale)

## 7. Assessment of the results of the evaluation

The archaeological evaluation has provided an opportunity to address the site-specific questions that were defined within the preliminary *Written Scheme* (4.3 above). The responses to these are outlined below:

- *Is there any evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity – either in situ or redeposited?*

There was no evidence for any prehistoric or Roman activity on the site, nor were any residual artefacts recovered.

The only ancient feature was represented by a deposit of sterile silty clay towards the western end of Trench 1, which evidently forms a natural fill within a hollow or possibly a palaeochannel in the underlying River Terrace Gravels.

- *Is there any evidence for Saxon or medieval activity, and can the former be related by date to finds from the nearby Acton High School site?*

There was no evidence of any Saxon or medieval activity or land use. Later maps suggest that the site area lay well away from any contemporary settlement.

- *Is there any evidence for the nature of historic activity – for example, occupation or agriculture?*

There was no evidence for any post-medieval activity on the site prior to the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, probably contemporary with the construction of the pavilion and development of the playing fields. Later development, possibly in the 1990s, resulted in further significant disturbance and truncation of soil horizons – notably with the construction of a compacted hardcore base in the centre/western parts of the site.

- *What is the actual nature of the ‘made ground’ recorded by the recent ground investigation – and does it form a homogeneous deposit across the site?*

The ‘made ground’ formed a fairly consistent sequence in trenches 1 to 4 and relates to recent development of the site. This may well be associated with the construction of a single large building on the present western boundary, as recorded by the *Sitecheck Assess Report* of November 2009 (*cf.* above 3.2.2).

The deposits in Trench 5 were different and deeper, although equally representing quite recent made ground.



## 8. Conclusions

- 8.1 The archaeological evaluation did not reveal any significant archaeological remains or deposits. Part of a natural feature was recorded in Trench 1, represented by a thickening deposit of clean silty clay within a hollow or possible palaeochannel in the underlying Terrace Gravels.

Elsewhere the natural Terrace deposits were fully exposed, except where cut by deeper modern features. The evaluation only produced evidence for mid 20<sup>th</sup> century and later activity, which also included substantial truncation of any historic soil horizons. A disturbed/reworked subsoil was noted in a few areas, for example the southern end of Trench 3, but generally the natural surface was overlain by recent made ground. The lower level of natural gravels in Trench 5 did give an indication of the historic topography, dropping towards a stream that flowed just to the west and southwest, but here too overlying deposits had been heavily truncated.

- 8.2 In view of these results it is suggested that no further archaeological measures should be undertaken in relation to the proposed redevelopment and associated planning condition.

## 9. References

British Geological Survey, 1998 *England & Wales. Sheet 270. South London. Solid and Drift Geology 1:50 000*

Chelmer Site Investigations, Dec. 2009 *A Factual Report and Geotechnical Interpretative Report....* (Ref: 1854):

Compass Archaeology Feb 2010 Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation. Site at end of West Lodge Avenue (Part of Acton High School Site) Gunnersbury Lane, Acton.... W3 8EY

LAARC Catalogue of archaeological sites

Rocque J, 1746 *An Exact Survey of the City's of London and Westminster.... with the country near 10 miles round.* Repr. Margary H (ed.), 1971

Weinreb B, & Hibbert C, 1983 *The London Encyclopaedia*

## Appendix I. OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: compassa1-74578

### Project details

Project name	Site at the end of West Lodge Avenue (part of Acton High School site)
Short description of the project	Five trenches were investigated but did not reveal any significant remains. Part of a natural feature was recorded in Trench 1, represented by a deposit of clean silty clay within a hollow or possible palaeochannel in the underlying River Terrace. Elsewhere the natural Terrace sands and gravels were fully exposed. The only evidence related to mid 20th century and later activity, including substantial truncation of earlier soil horizons. A disturbed subsoil was present in a few areas, but in general the natural surface was overlain by recent made ground. The lower level of natural to the west did reflect the topographical slope towards an historic stream channel, but here too overlying deposits were truncated.
Project dates	Start: 26-02-2010 End: 02-03-2010
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WLX10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON EALING ACTON Site at the end of West Lodge Avenue (Part of Acton High School site)
Postcode	W3 8EY
Study area	2500.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 19225 80030 51.5061156007 -0.2819224510 51 30 22 N 000 16 54 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 25.45m Max: 26.20m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	English Heritage/Department of Environment
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	M L Hart Builders Limited

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London archive
Digital Archive ID	WLX10
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archive
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic','other'
Paper Media available	'Miscellaneous Material','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Site at the end of West Lodge Avenue (Part of Acton High School site), Gunnersbury Lane, Acton.... An Archaeological Evaluation
Date	2010
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	5-7 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RQ
Description	In-house spiral bound report, 28 pages

## **Appendix II. *London Archaeologist* publication summary**

Site Address:	Site at the end of West Lodge Avenue (Part of Acton High School site), Gunnersbury Lane, Acton W3 8EY
Project type:	Evaluation
Dates of Fieldwork:	26.02.10 to 02.03.10
Site Code:	WLX10
Supervisor:	Geoff Potter
NGR:	TQ 19225 80030
Funding Body:	M L Hart Builders Limited

### **Summary**

Five trenches were investigated but did not reveal any significant remains. Part of a natural feature was recorded in Trench 1, represented by a deposit of clean silty clay within a hollow or possible palaeochannel in the underlying River Terrace.

Elsewhere the natural Terrace sands and gravels were fully exposed. The only evidence related to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century and later activity, including substantial truncation of earlier soil horizons. A disturbed subsoil was present in a few areas, but in general the natural surface was overlain by recent made ground. The lower level of natural to the west did reflect the topographical slope towards an historic stream channel, but here too overlying deposits were truncated.