26 NORTH ROAD, HIGHGATE, N6 4BE

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

March 2011

COMPASS ARCHAEOLOGY

26 NORTH ROAD, HIGHGATE

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SITE CODE: NOR 11

SITE CENTRE NGR: TQ 2834 8760

PLANNING REFERENCE No: HGY/2010/1888

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation of a site on the eastern side of North Road, just to the north and east of the Garner Building (Highgate School), took place in February 2011. The work was carried out as a condition of planning consent prior to the construction of a new building for the use of Highgate School (LB of Haringey Planning Ref: HGY/2010/1888).

The site had some potential for prehistoric, Roman and Saxon remains, with some remains and historical references from these periods existing in the Highgate area. Furthermore, the Bishop of London's hunting park, which existed from at least the 12th – 13th Century, was located just to the west of the site, with the site possibly lying on the eastern boundary itself. The medieval centre of Highgate was also focused around this area, such that evidence for medieval and early post-medieval activity might be uncovered. Historic maps show that the site itself was developed by at least the mid-18th Century (Rocque's map depicts a line of buildings), and continued to be occupied by various residential and commercial buildings from this date.

Three trial trenches were excavated within the redevelopment footprint, covering a total area of c.*10 square metres. All three of these trenches contained significant archaeological remains.*

A late 17th – early 18th Century pit or ditch feature was observed in trench 1. This appeared 'L'-shaped in plan, and was cut through clay and sand deposits. Finds from this feature were dated to the early 18th Century. This is therefore evidence for some form of 'backyard-activity' - acting as evidence for activity (commercial or residential) on the site from before the earliest cartographic evidence (in the mid-18th Century.

A series of in situ burnt deposits, including burnt bricks, were observed in trench 2. These are evidence for a brick clamp, most probably dating from the 16th Century. It could be postulated, furthermore, that this clamp was producing bricks for the construction of the original school and chapel, which documentary evidence dates to 1576. Trenches 1 and 3 (to the south and north of trench 2) revealed a probable associated surface, with scattered brick/burnt debris which is assumed to have come from the clamp.

'Made-ground' deposits were observed in all three trenches, with a few sherds of 15th Century pottery in trench 1. These may indicate the existence of some deep feature, with the 'made-ground' deposits possibly infilling such a feature. It is possible that this may be the infilling of the eastern boundary ditch of the Bishop of London's hunting park. Alternatively, it may represent the levelling or landscaping of an earlier bank (which may have been part of the hunting park boundary).

In view of these results it has been agreed that further archaeological measures should 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 26 North Road (the eastern side of North Road, just north and east of the Garner Building). The evaluation took place as part of the planning process for the construction of a classroom-building to be used by Highgate School (LB of Haringey Planning Ref. HGY/2010/1888).

The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken by Compass Archaeology between the 14th – 17h February 2011.

1.2 One or two finds and documentary references refer to possible prehistoric, Roman and Saxon activity in the area. Furthermore, the Bishop of London's hunting park (in existence from at least the 12th – 13th Century) was located just to the west of the site, with the site itself possibly lying on its eastern boundary. The medieval settlement of Highgate was also concentrated around this area, and historic maps (from the mid-18th Century) depict development from at least that date. The site itself appears to have consisted of various residential and commercial properties since then, with the western side (fronting North Road) generally consisting of buildings, and the eastern side consisting of back yards and gardens.

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 three trial trenches, located within the development footprint and covering a total area of *c.*10 square metres at the level of potential archaeology or natural.

2. Acknowledgements

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by Gwyn Jones, Senior Capital Project Manager for Highgate School.

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

Compass Archaeology are also grateful to the following for information provided: Simon Martini and Gwyn Jones (Highgate School), Mike Hammerson (Highgate Society).

On-site work was undertaken with the assistance of GL General Building Ltd.

3. Background

3.1 Location and topography

3.1.1 The site occupies a roughly 'L'-shaped plot, measuring about 30m in length (north-south) and 17m in width (east-west) and approximately centred at National Grid Reference TQ 2834 8760 (Figure 1). Two buildings (No. 26 and 24 North Road) are currently located on the western side of this plot (fronting onto North Road), with the north-eastern part of the site being a raised garden area, and the south-eastern part an open paved area of Highgate School.

3.1.2 The site is on Highgate Hill, with the ground-level of different parts of the site varying because of this. Generally, the ground slopes down towards the east, such that there is a huge difference between the ground-level in North Road and Southwood Lane. This means that the present basements of the site emerge almost at ground-level at the rear (eastern) side of the site, and yet are below ground on North Road, because of the difference in ground-level between North Road (128.034m OD) and the courtyard to the east of the site (126.563m OD). The ground also generally slopes down to the north.

3.1.3 There is also a degree of smaller variation in ground-levels around the site. At the rear, the ground-level in the northern part of the site (the garden area) is significantly higher than in the central and south-eastern corner. The ground-level at the furthest eastern part of the site is also higher than that slightly to the west, immediately adjacent to the rear of the buildings.

3.1.4 The geological survey (British Geological Survey, North London, Sheet No. 256, 1998) indicates that the site lies on the solid geology of the Bagshot Formation from the Eocene Era, which consists mainly of sand. This overlies the Claygate member of the London Clay Formation, with outcrops of this clay appearing downslope about 100m to the east and 200m to the west.

3.1.5 A soil report was undertaken by Ground Engineering in May 2010. This confirmed the conclusions reached concerning the geology of the underlying region. It revealed a thick surface layer of made ground (to depths of 1.05m – 3.35m) consisting of a sandy-gravel clay fill with bits of flint, bricks, concrete, mortar, tile, slate, glass, bone, coal and ash. The thickness of this suggests that the land must have been significantly built up at some point. This rested on a thin Head Deposit (0.25m – 1.3m thick) consisting of an orange-brown and light-grey gravely-sandy-clay with flint, gravel and sand. This overlay the Bagshot Formation (1m – 1.55m thick), which was light-orange brown clayey-silty-sand. This overlay London Clay, approximately 14m beneath ground-surface.

Figure 1: Site location plan, with site outlined

3.2 Archaeology and history

3.2.1 There is some evidence for prehistoric to Saxon activity in the area – including some prehistoric and Roman archaeological finds, and the suggestion that there was a pre-Norman manor in the Highgate area. This is because there is a 1294 reference to Highgate as lying on the edge of the manor of Haringey or Hornsey, held by the Bishop of London from time *immemorial.*

3.2.2 There is significantly more evidence for medieval activity around the general site area. The Bishop of London's hunting park was located just to the west of the site from at least the 12th – 13th Century, with the site possibly lying on the eastern boundary of the park itself. This appears to have continued in use until

the 14th Century, when travellers were allowed across the park. At this point, a tollgate was erected at the southern point of North Road (just south of the site) to allow access into the park, and continued to be used until the mid-19th Century. A small settlement also grew up around this gate, including a 14th Century chapel dedicated to St Michael and a hermitage. North Road itself was constructed in *c.*1284, as a new toll-road across the hunting park.

3.2.3 Highgate expanded hugely in the early post-medieval period. Highgate School was founded in 1565, with the original buildings being focused at the southern point of North Road. Cartographic evidence shows that the site was developed from at least the mid-18th Century (the earliest map – Rocque, 1746) when a row of buildings were depicted along the North Road frontage with gardens or yards behind them. The site was continuously occupied from this date by a mixture of residential and commercial buildings – with a mid-1880s trade directory stating that a Mrs Atkins lived at No.26, and it being a motor-engineering shop by 1930. The present buildings were constructed in 1957, when it was a car showroom.

Figure 2: Rocque's Map, 1746, with approximate site location marked

Figure 3: Photo of site from North Road, c.1880

Figure 4: Photo of site by Alan Withington, 25.6.1957

4. Aims and objectives of the evaluation

4.1 Archaeology and planning

The proposed development comprises the demolition of the existing building, and its replacement by a four-storey (basemented, at approximately 3.5m below pavement level) extension of the Garner Building, to include classrooms and other associated school facilities (such as staff rooms, science laboratories, and toilets) (LB of Haringey Planning Ref: HGY/2010/1888). The planning consent includes an archaeological condition, 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 (e.g. preservation *in situ* or further archaeological investigation), or for no further action.

The general methodology is set out in DOE Planning Policy Statement 5 *'Planning for the Historic Environment'* March 2010 (PPS5).

In addition, a site-specific *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation* was produced (Compass Archaeology, January 2011).

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 in the site-area?
- Is there any evidence relating to the medieval Bishop of London's Hunting Park, particularly its possible boundary, possibly in the form of ditch fills?
- Is there any evidence for features relating to the early *(c.*16th Century) development around the site-area?
- What evidence is there for post-medieval activity, particularly 'backyard activity', and can this be related to the cartographic evidence/known uses of the site?

- Is there any evidence for historical terracing/build-up of land?

- At what levels do any archaeological or geological deposits survive across the area?

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 three trial trenches, located as shown on Figure 6 within areas of the proposed building development. The trenches were spread fairly evenly across the rear (eastern) part of the site, avoiding the front (western) area where buildings still stood. The trenches each measured an average of 1m X 3m in plan, giving a total area of *c.*10 square metres at the level of potential archaeology or natural.

The trenches were opened by a Tracked mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket and working under archaeological supervision. Recent deposits and disturbed or made ground were removed (by machine and hand) to the highest depth at which archaeology was encountered (generally *c.*1m beneath modern ground-surface), at which depth the trench could be entered. The exposed surfaces and sections at this depth were investigated by hand, recorded, drawn and photographed.

Deeper excavation took place by machine in trench 3, to a depth of *c.*1.85m, at which point a trench-box was inserted and the trench could be entered to examine and record the sections. Deeper excavation also took place by machine in trenches 1 and 2, to depths of *c.*2.2m, although no trench boxes were inserted so it was not possible, due to health and safety restrictions, to enter the trenches. Each bucket-load removed was, however, closely examined by trowel.

5.3 Deposits and features exposed in the evaluation were recorded on *pro-forma* sheets and by scaled plan and section drawings, supplemented by digital photography as appropriate. Levels were derived from an OSBM located on the western side of North Road, just opposite Castle Yard (value 126.6m OD).

The evaluation trench positions were located onto an existing site survey (Figure 6), which was in turn related to the Ordnance Survey grid.

The records from the evaluation have been allocated the site code NOR11 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 following the further proposed work.

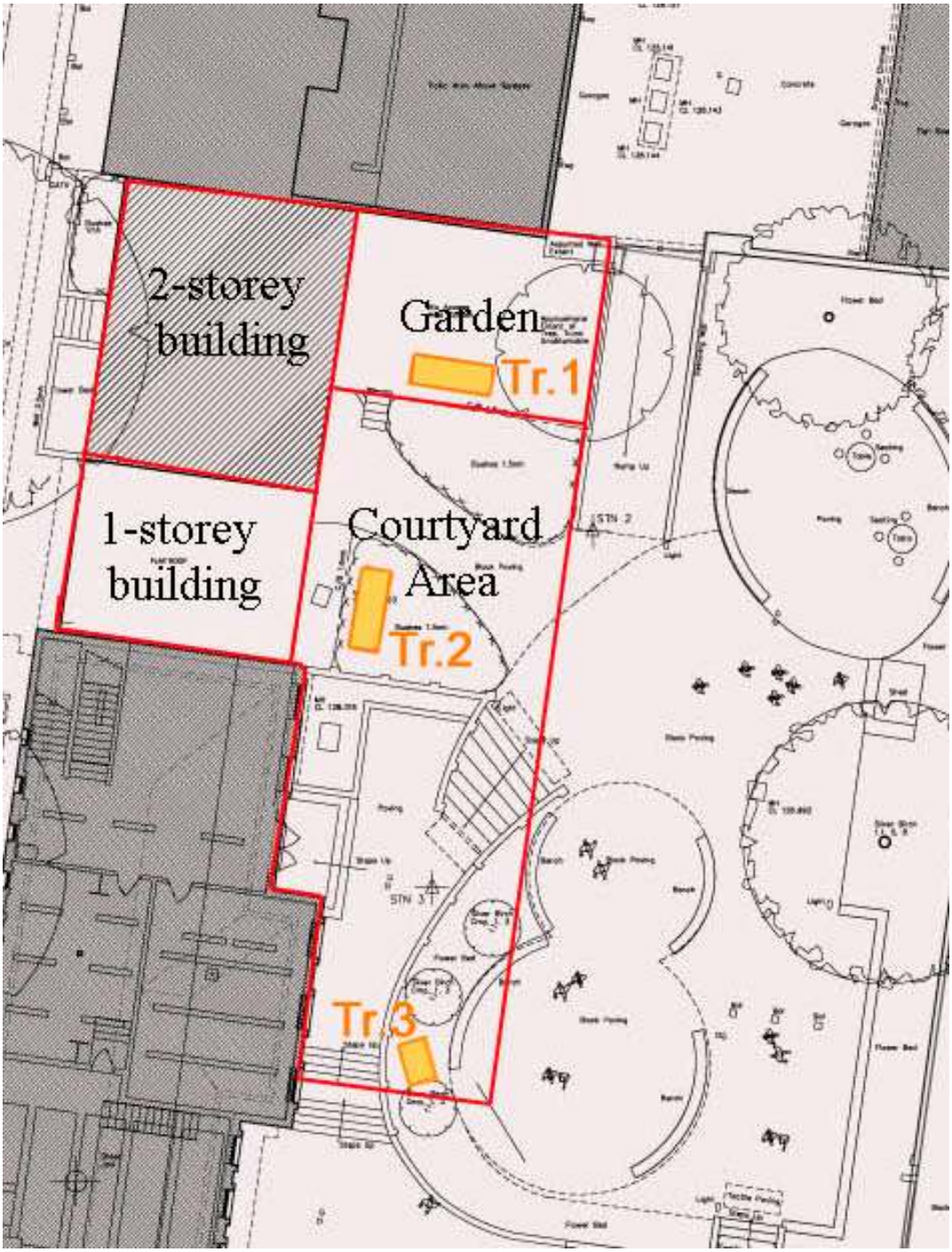

Figure 5: Map showing the proposed location of the three evaluation trenches (in orange) within the proposed development (in red)

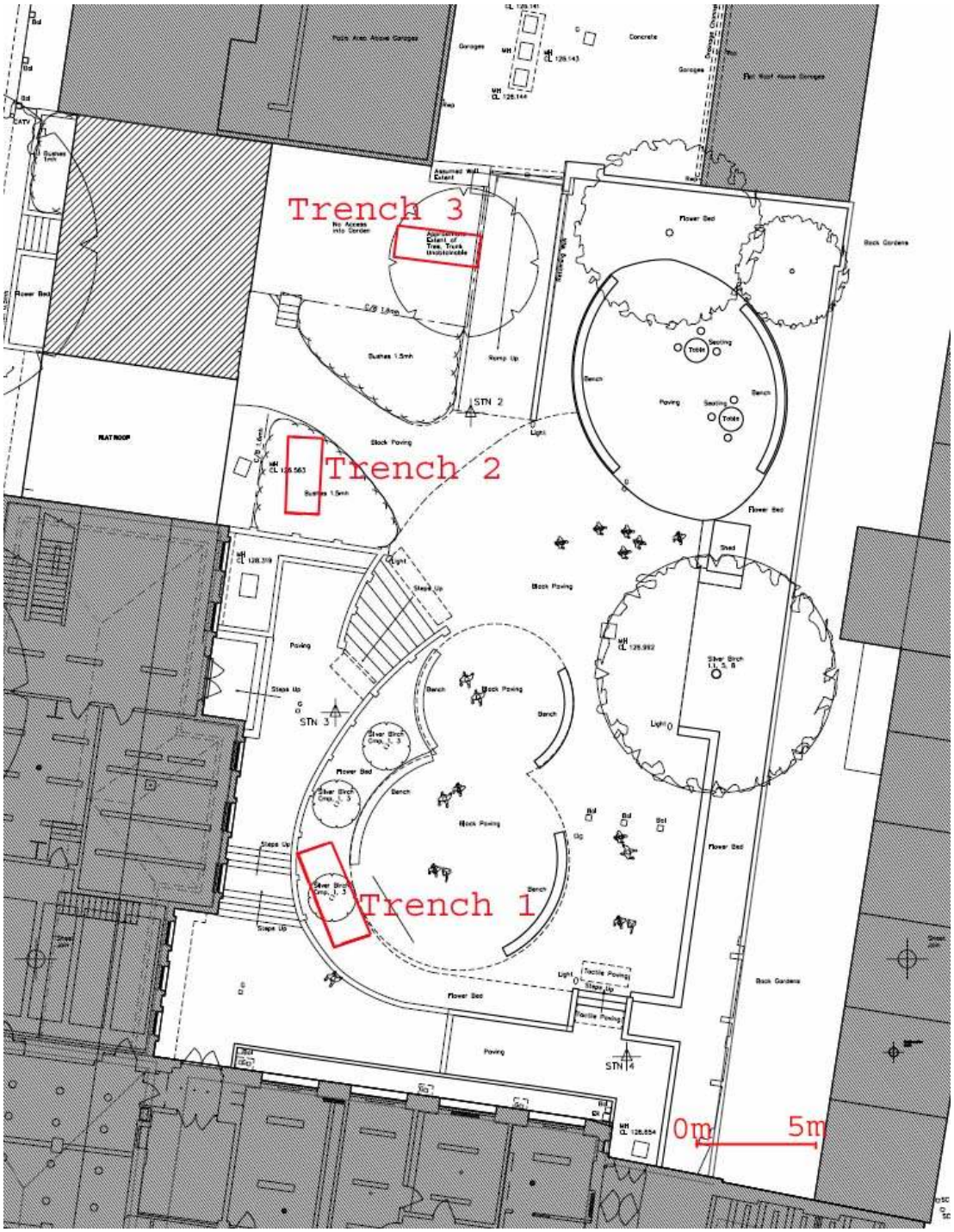

Figure 6: Map showing actual location of three evaluation trenches

6. The archaeological evaluation

6.1 Summary of the findings

The evaluation trenches were dug from a fairly level and uniform surface, at between *c.*126.1mOD and *c.*127.1mOD. Machine excavation was generally to the top of the first possible archaeological feature or deposit encountered.

Early post-medieval features and deposits were recorded at a fairly high level in two of the trenches, with deeper deposits of 'made-ground' being observed and recorded in all of the trenches.

6.2 Trench 1:

6.2.1 Part 1 (Trench 1)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
11	Loose grey-brown sandy-clay, with frequent CBM inclusions (tile and brick). Measures 1.4m north-south (although probably continues under the trench edge), 0.7m east-west (although probably continues under the garden wall to the west), and 0.4m in depth (seen in section). Finds included clay pipe, pot, CBM, and bone.	Probably the fill of a pit. Probably 17th - early 18th Century (dating of finds). Probably the same as [17].
12	Cut of pit [11]. Probably truncated by landscaping for the modern garden landscaping. Only one corner of the feature seen - continues to the west under the garden wall and to the south beyond the limit of excavation.	Cut of pit [11]. Probably the same as / a continuation of cut [18].
13	Light brown-yellow firm clay, with occasional CBM fragments. Covers the whole of the trench, but not where it is cut by [12] and [18]. 0.28m deep (seen in section).	Dumped layer of clay, probably truncated by modern landscaping.
14	Friable mid-orange sand and clay, with frequent CBM fragments. Measures 1.7m north-south, 1.1m east-west, and 0.3m deep.	Dumped layer of sand and clay.

17	Loose grey-brown sandy clay, with frequent CBM inclusions (tile and brick). Measures 1.5m east-west, 0.5m north-south, and 0.7m deep (at eastern end, shallower to the west). Lots of finds including clay pipe, pot, bone, CBM, and glass.	Fill of a ditch. Probably 17th – early 18th Century (dating of finds). Probably the same as [11].
18	Cut of ditch [17]. Probably truncated by modern landscaping.	Cut of ditch [18]. Probably the same as / a continuation of cut [12].

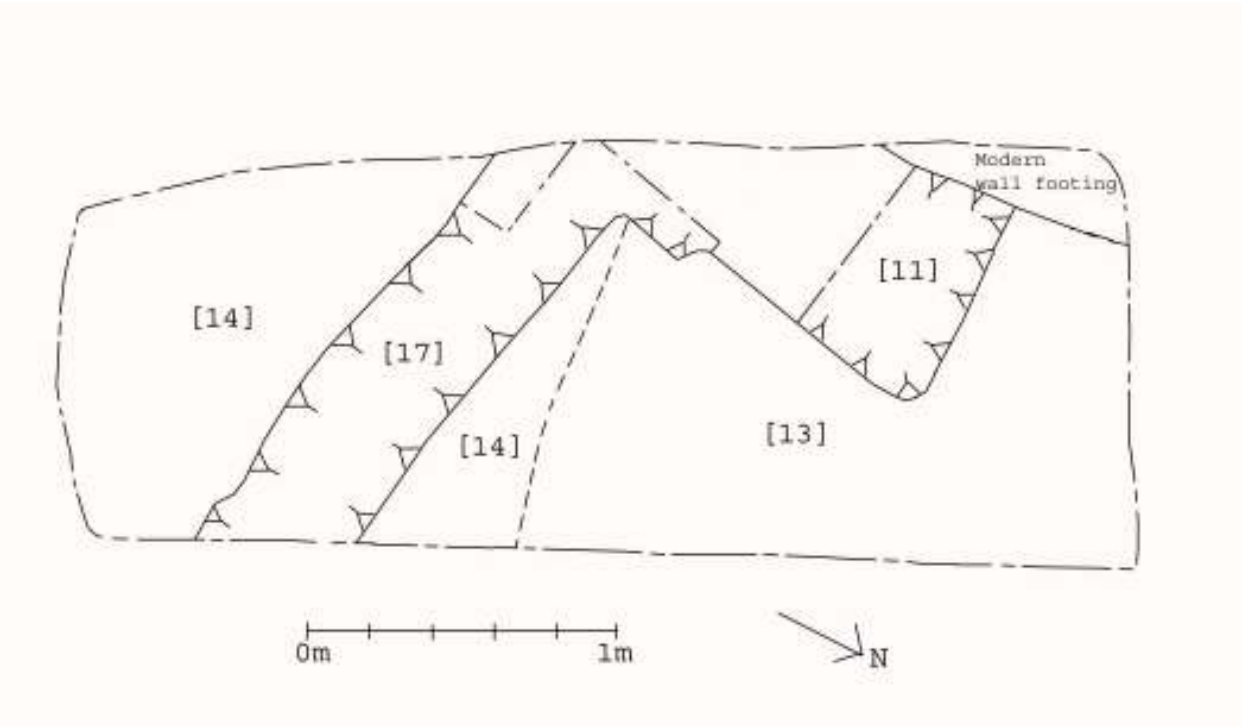

Figure 7: Plan of first stage of excavation of trench 1

6.2.1.1 The first part of the excavation of trench 1 reduced the area to a height of approximately 126mOD (*c.*1m beneath the modern ground-surface).

6.2.1.2 At this depth, pit/ditch-type features were uncovered (cuts [12] and [18]; fills [11] and [17]). It was originally thought that these formed two distinct features, however the similarities of the base level, fills and finds in each of these suggest they were the same feature. Further investigation in the south-western part of the trench (at the junction of the features) revealed that these two features were connected.

6.2.1.3 This feature appears 'L'-shaped in plan and certainly has a length of linear ditch of gully [17] running east-west. However, it continues beyond the south-western limit of excavation, beyond the north-eastern limit of excavation, and is truncated by the modern wall footing to the west. The only 'real' corner is that at the northern end of feature [11]/[12]. It is therefore possible that the feature was an entirely different shape from how it appears. For example, there could have been a far larger pit (square-shaped, T-shaped, or any other

shape) to the south-east of the trench, of which feature [11]/[12] was part of, and into which feature [17]/[18] ran into. There could also have been another type of pit or feature to the east of the trench.

6.2.1.4 The feature was clearly cut through the clay ([14]) (approximately 0.6-0.7m beneath modern ground-level). The layer directly above this, however, was a mid-brown/grey gravelly-silty-sand with modern finds, which was observed across the whole section. It is likely that this was a modern deposit associated with the levelling and construction of the Garner Building in the 1980s. The feature could, therefore, have been cut from a higher level. The base of the feature was clearly observed in a sondage dug in the northern part of feature [11]/[12], at a height of 125.98mOD. The total observed depth of the feature was therefore approximately 0.45m (assuming the highest point at 126.43mOD (0.6m beneath ground-level).

6.2.1.5 The pottery recovered from context [11] was dated to the early 18th Century. This included a substantial quantity of post-medieval redware and English tin-glazed ware. The pottery from context [17] was dated to the mid-17th Century, and included an almost complete Chinese Porcelain Bowl and a large fragment of a Staffordshire slipware posset-cup. This pottery therefore suggests that the feature containing [11] and [17] dated from approximately the mid-17th to early-18th Century.

6.2.1.6 A substantial quantity of clay pipe (both stems and bowls) was recovered from contexts [11] and [17]. The clay-pipe bowl from context [11] was dated to the late 16th – early 17th Century, and the bowl from context [17] was dated to the mid-18th Century. This therefore acts as further evidence to date this feature to the 17th – 18th Century. Other finds from context [17] include animal bone, glass, and small pieces of metal, and point to further post-medieval activity in this area. Furthermore, the tile from context [17] was dated *c.*1500-1800 (see brick report).

Figure 8: Delftware fragment, from clearance of trench 1

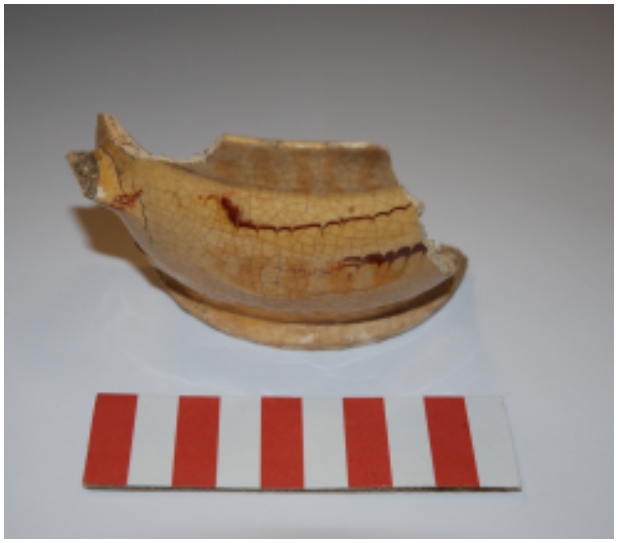

Figure 9: Pottery fragment (Staffordshire slipware) from context 17 (ditch fill)

Figure 10: Pottery fragment (Staffordshire slipware)from context 17 (ditch fill)

Figure 11: Piece of Chinese Porcelain from context 17 (ditch fill)

6.2.1.7 The precise function or role of the feature is unknown. It is possible that the feature [17]/[18] is some form of drainage ditch or gully leading into or out of feature [11]/[12] (which may have been far larger than it appeared in plan). Alternatively, [12] may have been a rubbish pit or something similar.

6.2.1.8 The other deposits in this trench ([13] and [14]) – although distinctly different in appearance – are both dumped deposits. These are earlier in date than the feature (i.e. earlier than the mid-17th Century), as the feature is cut through them. It seems likely that these dumped deposits were 'made ground' layers or deposits used to deliberately build-up the land.

6.2.1.9 The probable dating of this feature to the 17th Century – 18th Century places it before the earliest map evidence for the area (Rocque, 1746). At this date (1746) there was a row of houses lining the eastern side of North Road, with gardens behind them. Trench 1 would therefore have fallen within a 'garden'-area.

6.2.1.10 The nature of finds and dating of the feature, however, suggests that occupation in this area pre-dated the mid-18th Century. This may have been similar houses and gardens to those depicted on Rocque's map. The feature itself may have been some type of 'backyard-activity' associated with these houses.

6.2.1.11 The suggestion that houses and activity dating from the 17th Century existed on the eastern side of North Road (and that the feature in trench 1 is evidence for this) is supported by the fact that there are a few listed 17th Century buildings on the western side of North Road, and by the fact that North Road itself existed from 1284. Furthermore, the earliest settlement of Highgate developed just to the south of the site – around the gate at the southern point of North Road in the 14th Century, with the foundation of St Michael's Chapel. It therefore seems likely that the feature uncovered in trench 1 was some type of backyard activity, indicative of the activity (probably houses) that existed in the 17th Century along North Road.

6.2.1.12 The main later activity in this area refers to the construction of the Garner Building (opened in 1983) and the associated landscaping of the area. This presumably accounts for the deposits found above the clay deposits ([13] and [14]), which look modern, and which were observed across the whole section. The construction of this building presumably truncated any other archaeological evidence relating to the later development of the site.

Figure 12: Photo of first stage of excavation of trench 1, from the south-east

Figure 13: Photo of the first stage of excavation of trench 1, from the east

Figure 14: Photo of partial excavation of fill [11]

Figure 15: Photo of partial excavation of fill [17]

6.2.2 Part 2 (Trench 1)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
26	Brick rubble layer. Firm crushed red brick rubble and grey-yellow clay patches, with occasional whole and half bricks. Does not reach the southern end of trench. Under [14].	A dumped layer of brick rubble set in yellow clay. Possibly related to brick rubble / burnt brick deposits seen in trenches 2 and 3.

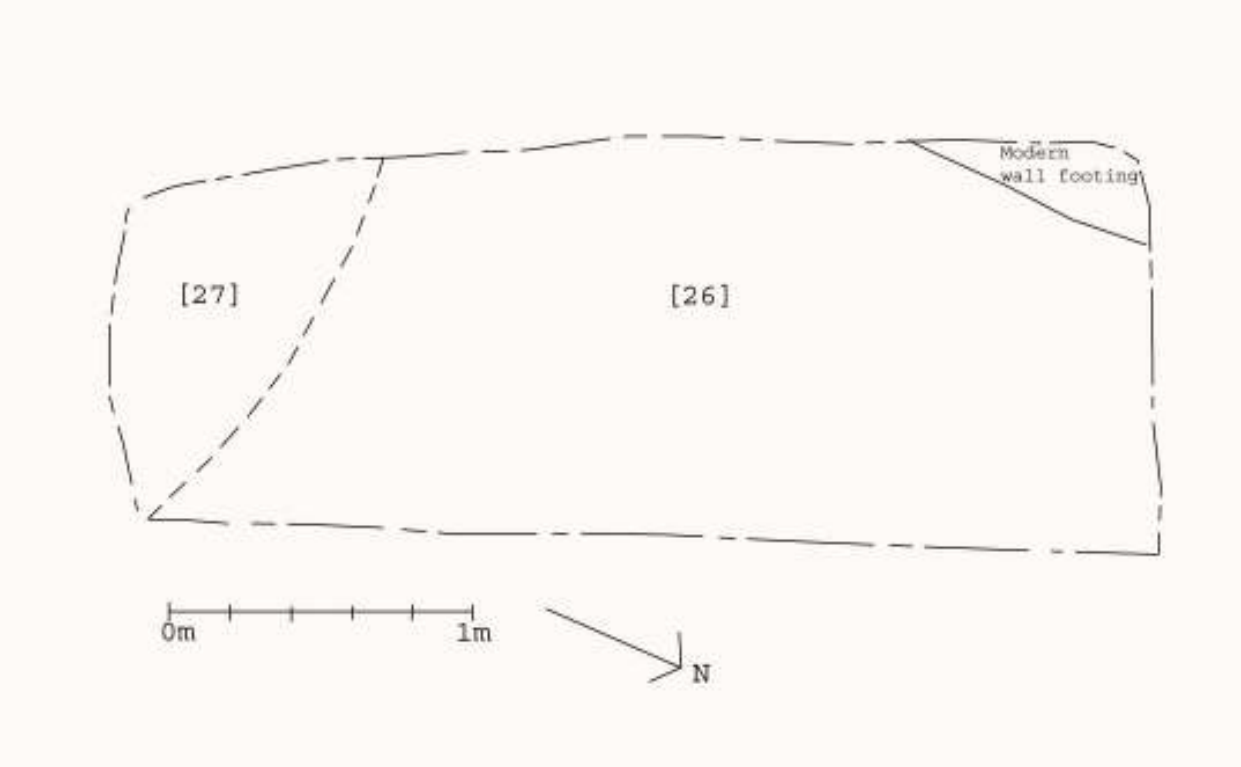

Figure 16: Plan of second stage of excavation of trench 1

6.2.2.1 A further stage of machine excavation reduced the trench to a height of approximately 125.85 – 125.9mOD.

6.2.2.2 This revealed a fairly uniform red brick rubble deposit, across the northern half of the trench. Occasional whole and half bricks were observed within this deposit.

6.2.2.3 The fact that this underlay the 17th Century features observed in part 1 of the excavation ([11]/[12]; [17]/[18]) suggests that they are earlier in date than the mid-17th Century. Furthermore, the bricks recovered from this context were dated 1450-1700 (see brick report).

6.2.2.4 This deposit is similar to the thin layer of brick rubble uncovered in trench 3 ([9]) and the many layers of brick rubble and burnt brick deposits in trench 2 ([2] etc). These were all uncovered at similar heights – *c.*125.9m in trench 1;

uppermost layer ([2]) at *c.*126.04mOD in trench 2; *c.*125.82m in trench 3 – so within 0.22m of each-other. This suggests that they may have been a contiguous deposit found across the whole excavation area and that the deposits in trenches 1 and 3 may have been related to the brick clamp which appears to have been operating in the area in the 16th Century (see trench 2 discussion).

6.2.2.5 Interestingly, however, this deposit was not observed across the whole trench. A loose light grey-yellow-orange sand and gravel layer – a 'made ground' deposit - was uncovered in the most southern part of the trench ([27]). It is possible that this is because this was the most southern extent of the brick clamp process. Alternatively, the deposit [26] may have just been truncated or cut away at a later date.

Figure 17: Photo of second stage of excavation of trench 1, from the north-west

Figure 18: Photo of south-western section of trench 1

6.2.3 Part 3 (Trench 1)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
27	Loose light grey-yellow-orange sand and gravel layer. Occasional finds (pot and tile) found to a depth of *c.*2m beneath modern ground-surface.	Re-deposited sand and gravel / 'made ground'. Although it looks 'natural', the finds (pot and tile) show that it cannot be 'natural'. This is therefore a relatively large depth of 'made ground' (similar to that found in trenches 2 and 3). Beneath 2.6m it looked cleaner with no obvious finds. It is therefore possible that this is 'natural', although this cannot be definitely ascertained.

6.2.3.1 Further machine excavation was then carried out to a depth of *c.*2.6m beneath the modern ground-surface (*c.*124.45mOD). It was not possible to gain access to the trench at this depth due to health and safety restrictions, however each bucket-load removed was carefully examined.

6.2.3.2 Context [27] refers to a huge sand and gravel 'made-ground' deposit, uncovered beneath the probable 16th Century brick rubble deposit [26]. It therefore pre-dates this.

6.2.3.3 This deposit appeared 'natural' on first observation. However, careful inspection uncovered pot and tile – too large to have been simply carried down

through root action or wormholes. This is therefore a large 'made-ground' deposit.

6.2.3.4 Three sherds of Midlands purple-ware were recovered from this deposit, probably from the same vessel, and dated to the 15th Century.

Figure 19: Photo of pottery from c.2m beneath modern ground-surface (context [27])

6.2.3.5 The fact that this deposit looked so uniform suggests that it was probably the result of one activity at one time (i.e. it was all deposited at one point).

6.2.3.6 Beneath *c.*2m beneath the modern ground-surface (*c.*125.05mOD), the deposit had no obvious finds. Beneath *c.*2.6m beneath the modern ground-surface (*c.*124.45mOD) the deposit appeared far cleaner and less disturbed. It is therefore possible that this was 'natural', and that the 'made-ground' deposit stretched to *c.*2.6m beneath the modern ground-surface (i.e. 1.25m thick)

6.2.3.7 A similar deposit of 'made-ground' was uncovered in trenches 2 and 3. In trench 2, 'made-ground' deposits were uncovered to a height of 125.33-38mOD. In trench 3, a definite 'made-ground' deposit ([10]) was observed to a depth of *c.*125.4mOD. Beneath this 'natural' was observed ([16]).

6.2.3.8 These large deposits of 'made-ground' are supported by the results from the soil investigations carried out by Ground Engineering in May 2010. This recorded depths of made-ground across the site of between 1.05m and 3.35m (125.55mOD – 123.6mOD (levels according to Ground Engineering report)). Window-sample 2 (located just to the south of trench 1) recorded a depth of 'made-ground' to 2.3m beneath the modern ground-surface (very similar to that observed in the archaeological investigation).

6.2.3.9 The existence of a deep uniform deposit of 'made-ground' hints at the existence of some form of large feature – which the 'made-ground' is either part of, or filled in.

6.2.3.10 One suggestion is that this large deposit of 'made-ground' represents the 'filling-in' of the eastern boundary ditch of the Bishop of London's hunting

park. Documentary evidence for this park exists from the 12th and 13th Century, and it appears to have continued in use for hunting until the 14th Century, when the park was opened up to travellers. It is possible that the boundary ditch was infilled after this date. This would fit with the rest of the archaeology in this trench – as the 'made-ground' deposit must clearly have been deposited before the 16th Century brick clamp was in use, and the pottery was dated to the 15th Century.

6.2.3.11 Alternatively, it is possible that this 'made ground' deposit represents the infilling of a different form of landscaping of the slope. The natural slope may have been cut away to form a steeper bank, and the 'made ground' deposit may have infilled this at a later date. This landscaping may have been associated with the hunting park boundary, if the bank was created to act as the boundary.

6.2.3.12 The exact location of this eastern boundary is unknown. 19th Century OS maps depict long stretches of unbroken hedges, which may have represented the line of the park. Furthermore, the construction of North Road in 1284 as a toll-road across the hunting park suggests that North Road itself was within the park. It seems sensible that this would have run close to the boundary of the park – so that it interfered as little as possible with hunting within the park. Furthermore, Stokes (1984 article) suggests that the eastern boundary of the park ran very close to the site.

6.2.3.13 It is therefore possible that the depths of 'made-ground' deposits uncovered in the trenches (including trench 1 – [27]) may represent the infilling of the eastern boundary ditch of the bishop of London's hunting park, or at least some landscaping of the slope associated with this park boundary.

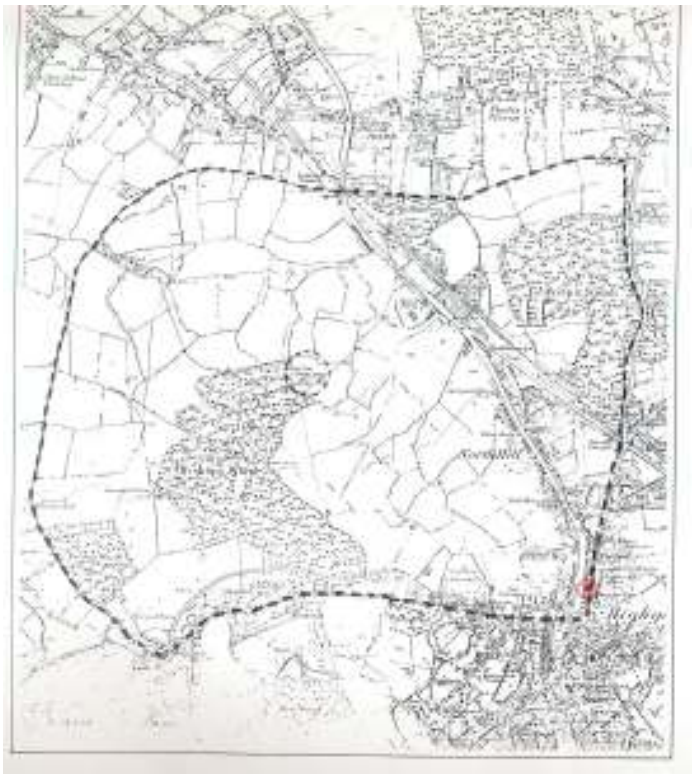

Figure 20: 1873 Map with medieval hunting park boundary traced on (from Stokes, 'Highgate Hunting Ground'), with approximate site location marked

6.3 Trench 2

6.3.1 Part 1 (Trench 2)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
1	Compact laminated mid-brown – yellow clay. 40% of this deposit is burnt tile and brick (although not burnt in situ). Extends across whole of trench 2. Seals the lower burnt layers [2] etc.	Contemporary with, and seals, the general burnt brick clamp deposits – contains burnt material in it, although it is not burnt itself. Some kind of trample or raked-over deposit over the burnt layers.
2	Compact crushed orange-red burnt CBM debris. Contains large chunks of brick and peg tiles. Extends across whole of trench 2, for thickness of *c.*0.1m. Under [1].	Uppermost layer of burnt brick deposits. Represents the existence of a brick clamp in this area.
21	Compacted fine grey-green lens of sand with burnt flint and brick. Found in patches over whole trench, for a depth of *c.*0.05m. Under [2].	
22	Compact white-grey ash. Extends across whole of trench 2, for a maximum thickness of 0.02m. Under [21], and related to [21].	Fine dusting layer possibly representing settled material from burning horizons above.
19	Compact dark black ash or soot (70%) in a sandy-silt matrix (30%). Completely calcined flints (extremely burnt). Extends across whole of trench 2, for a maximum of 0.1m depth. Under [22].	Burnt residue from brick clamp.
23	Compact orange-red burnt brick dust and rubble (90% - with broken fragments of burnt brick and tile) within a sandy-silt matrix (10%), with calcined pebbles. Across whole of trench 2, for a depth of *c.*0.08m. Under [19].	Second distinct layer of burnt brick dust.
20	Compact sooty ash deposit within a silty-matrix, containing burnt brick fragments and completely calcined pebbles. Dark black becoming browner and sandier with depth. Extends across whole of trench 2, for a maximum depth of *c.*0.1m. Under [23]. Becomes [24] at depth.	Burnt layer from brick clamp.

24	Looser red-brown brick-rubble (25%), pebbles (50%), and sandy-clay (25%), with large fragments of over-fired brick and burnt flints. Across whole of trench 2, for a depth of *c.*0.1m.	Lower part of [20]. It is the ash and brick from [20] burning through and staining the pebbles and clay layer below.

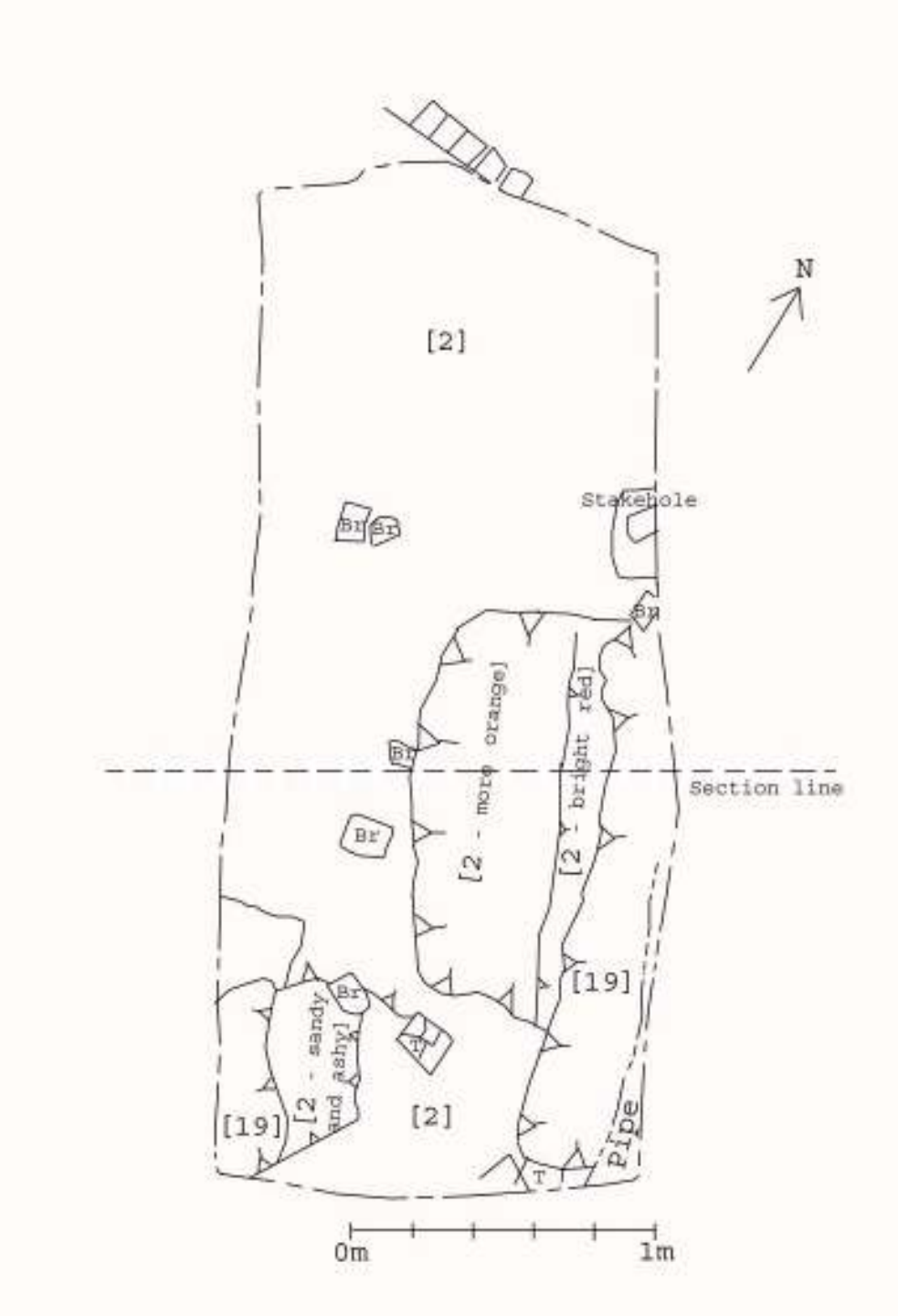

Figure 21: Plan of first stage of excavation of trench 2

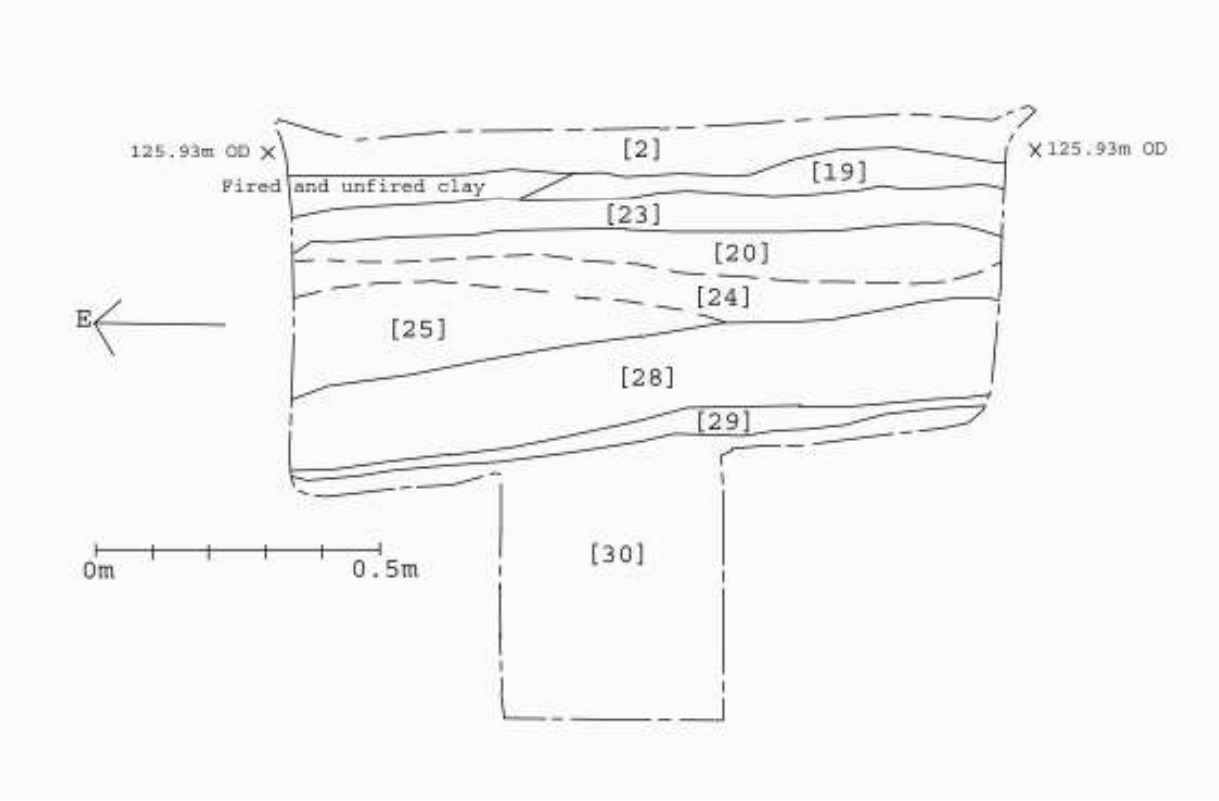

Figure 22: North-west facing section in trench 2 (see also figs. 25-26)

6.3.1.1 The first part of the excavation of trench 2 reduced the area to a height of *c.*126mOD (*c.*0.8m beneath the modern ground-surface).

6.3.1.2 The upper layer of this area was a brown-yellow clay [1]. This was found across the whole trench, and peeled off to the lower *in situ* burnt layers. It also contained burnt tile (peg tile) and brick, however was not burnt itself. Instead, it appears to seal the burnt layers. The bricks were dated 1450-1700, and the tile 1500-1900. This deposit seems similar to the clay observed in trench 1 ([13]), which was dated to before the later 17th Century. This therefore means that the burnt brick layers, which underlay this clay, must also be of this date or earlier.

6.3.1.3 The uppermost *in situ* burnt layer was exposed and cleaned (figs. 23 and 24). A slot was then hand-dug across the trench, to a depth of *c.*125mOD (fig. 22).

6.3.1.4 The next 7 layers ([2], [21], [22], [19], [23], [20], and [24]) are all burnt layers. They vary between burnt CBM/brick debris layers (such as [2], [21], [23], and [24]), and ashy deposits ([21], [22], and [20]). Furthermore, incredibly burnt and vitrified bricks and very burnt flint were also recovered from these layers.

6.3.1.5 The bricks uncovered in these deposits (brick samples taken from [2], [19] and [23]) were dated by a brick specialist to the period 1450-1700. They are mainly a local variant of the 3039 brick family (see brick report). Many of these, were badly burnt and poorly fired.

6.3.1.6 Tiles were also recovered from contexts [2] and [19]. These included peg-tiles, dated 1500+. It is possible that these were used as a levelling course within the furnace, or to construct a firmer surface, rather than being a product of the clamp as such.

6.3.1.7 These burnt layers indicate the existence of a brick clamp. A clamp was a temporary structure of unfired or green bricks – which was often constructed near the source of the clay, and which was often fairly short-lived. They were typically constructed on flat ground, with a base made of burnt bricks. Channels were often made in the floor and filled with fuel. Three or four green bricks were placed on edge above this, and then another layer of fuel added. The bricks were then closely packed together, and burnt. Some of these clamps could be huge – containing 150,000 bricks, for example, and taking ten – twelve weeks to burn out.

6.3.1.8 The varying layers of burnt brick and ash layers may therefore represent the different episodes of burning which took place. For example, context [23] probably refers to one period of burning, and context [2] another. The layers of ash between and below these layers are probably associated with these different episodes of burning.

6.3.1.9 As mentioned above, the brick clamp probably dates to the 16th Century. This is before the existence of any cartographic evidence for the area, but at a time when activity is known to have been taking place in this area. It could even be postulated that the brick clamp may have been temporarily constructed and used to provide bricks for the construction of the original schoolhouse and chapel, built in 1576-78. This is a reasonable suggestion, as only two obvious episodes of burning were observed in trench 2 – this amount of burning would have provided enough bricks for the construction of the school and chapel.

6.3.1.10 A receipt, dated to January 1576, exists in the original Governors' Minutes from the Bishop of London for money received for wood to burn the bricks for the new buildings. It is therefore possible that bricks were being made on site or the original construction of the school, and that this brick clamp was uncovered in trench 2.

6.3.1.11 Quarries (to obtain clay) are sometimes found close to brick clamps. Nothing of this type was, however, uncovered during this evaluation. It is possible that they may be found during further archaeological work, or that the clay was brought in from elsewhere (possibly further down Highgate Hill where outcrops of clay are found). The clamp may therefore have been located in this area because of its close proximity to the school (i.e. the possible final destination of the bricks), rather than because of its close proximity to the clay.

6.3.1.12 The layers of brick debris observed in trenches 1 ([26]) and 3 ([9]) may be associated with this brick clamp, although outside the areas of direct firing. They were observed at similar levels (*c.*125.9m in trench 1; uppermost layer ([2]) at *c.*126.04mOD in trench 2; *c.*125.82m in trench 3) which strengthens this suggestion. It is therefore possible that the brick debris layers in trenches

1 and 3 represent the further geographical extents of the brick clamp. This would suggest that the central point of the clamp where there was concentrated burning was in the general trench 2 area, but that the outskirts of the clamp were in trenches 1 and 3 (as represented by the brick debris layer).

Figure 23: Photo of first stage of excavation of trench 2, from the south-east

Figure 24: Photo of first stage of excavation of trench 2, from the north-west

Figure 25: Photo of slot dug to reveal layers of burning, looking south-east

Figure 26: Close-up photo of slot, looking south-east

6.3.2 Part 2 (Trench 2)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
25	Soft mid-yellow clay with fine sand. Flecks of brick, burnt flint, and ash.	A redeposited natural fine sandy-clay.
28	Loose mid-brown-green silty-sand with some pebbles. Seen across whole of southern section, for a depth of *c.*0.2m.	Redeposited natural.
29	Compact thin clean band of yellow clay, with no visible inclusions. Seen across whole of southern section, for a thickness of *c.*0.05-0.08m.	Redeposited natural.
30	Gravelly yellow-grey silty-sand. Sondage dug to a depth of 124.93mOD (thickness of *c.*0.5 revealed). Machine excavation then continued down to a depth of *c.*3m beneath modern ground-level (height of *c.*123.73mOD), and revealed a similar deposit.	Probably redeposited natural. It is possible that it is actual 'natural', as no obvious finds recovered from this deposit – except for one very small piece of CBM.

6.3.2.1 Further hand excavation reduced the area of trench 2 to a depth of *c.*1.8m beneath the modern ground-surface (height of *c.*124.93mOD). Machine excavation then reduced the area to a depth of *c.*3m beneath modern ground-level (height of *c.*123.73mOD). It was not possible to enter the trench at this depth, however each bucket-load was carefully examined by trowel.

6.3.2.2 A series of layers of redeposited 'natural' ([25], [28], [29]) were uncovered. Some of these were clay based ([25] and [29]), however others were silty-sand ([28]).

6.3.2.3 The natural geology of this area consists of the Bagshot Formation (sand) overlying London Clay. The soil report undertaken by Ground Engineering in May 2010, however, uncovered a 'Head' deposit (gravelly-sandy-clay), overlying the Bagshot Formation (clayey-silty-sand), over London Clay.

6.3.2.4 The layers of redeposited 'natural' therefore fit with the overall geology of the area – consisting of clayey-silty-sand with pebbles.

6.3.2.5 Context [30], however, is a far more 'natural' deposit. This is described as a gravelly-silty-sand. It is possible that this could be the uppermost 'Head' deposit described in the soil report, as no obvious finds were recovered from it. The only find recovered from it was a very small piece of CBM, recovered at a depth of *c.*2m. It is, however, possible that this reached this depth through root action or wormholes, rather than being *in situ*.

6.3.2.6 If [30] is a 'natural' deposit, as seems most likely, then a shallower deposit of 'made-ground' was observed in this trench (*c.*1.35 – 1.4m beneath the modern ground surface; height of *c.*125.33-125.38mOD; thickness of *c.*0.25m), in comparison with deeper 'made-ground' deposits in trench 1 (*c.*1.25m thick) and trench 3 (*c.*0.35m thick).

6.4 Trench 3

6.4.1 Part 1 (Trench 3)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
3	Cut for the two probable modern pit-features. Found just beneath the topsoil, and cut into [6] (therefore later in date than [6]).	Cut for two pits. Thought to be modern as very close to the surface, so probably tree-pits or something similar.
4	Loose mid-light brown silt-sand and gravel deposits in two pit-type features directly beneath the topsoil. Both measure approximately 0.8m in section (east-west) and *c.*0.2m in depth.	Fill of two probably contemporary modern pits.
5	Loose orange sand with few visible inclusions at base of two small pits. Under [4], and for a depth of *c.*0.15m.	Bottom part of the fill of two probably contemporary modern pits.
6	Loose light-brown clayey-silt deposit with pebbles underlying the topsoil (*c.*0.35m beneath the modern ground-surface). Seen in the northern section and spread across the whole length of the trench, for approximately 0.3m in depth.	'Made-ground' deposits built up over the buried soil [7].
7	Compact mid-brown clayey-silt with few visible inclusions. Seen in the northern section across the whole length of the trench. Approximately 0.7m beneath the modern ground-surface, for a depth of *c.*0.2m.	Probably a buried soil horizon.
8	Compact light-brown silty-clay deposit. Seen in the northern section across the whole length of the trench. Approximately 0.85-1m beneath the modern ground-surface for a depth of *c.*0.25m.	One of a series of 'made-ground' deposits.

9	Thin layer of red brick debris seen running along the northern section. *c.*1.15m beneath the modern ground-surface, for a thickness of *c.*0.05m.	Possibly related to the brick debris layer uncovered in trench 1 [26], and the layers of brick rubble / brick dust / burnt brick in trench 2 (i.e. related to the brick clamp activity).

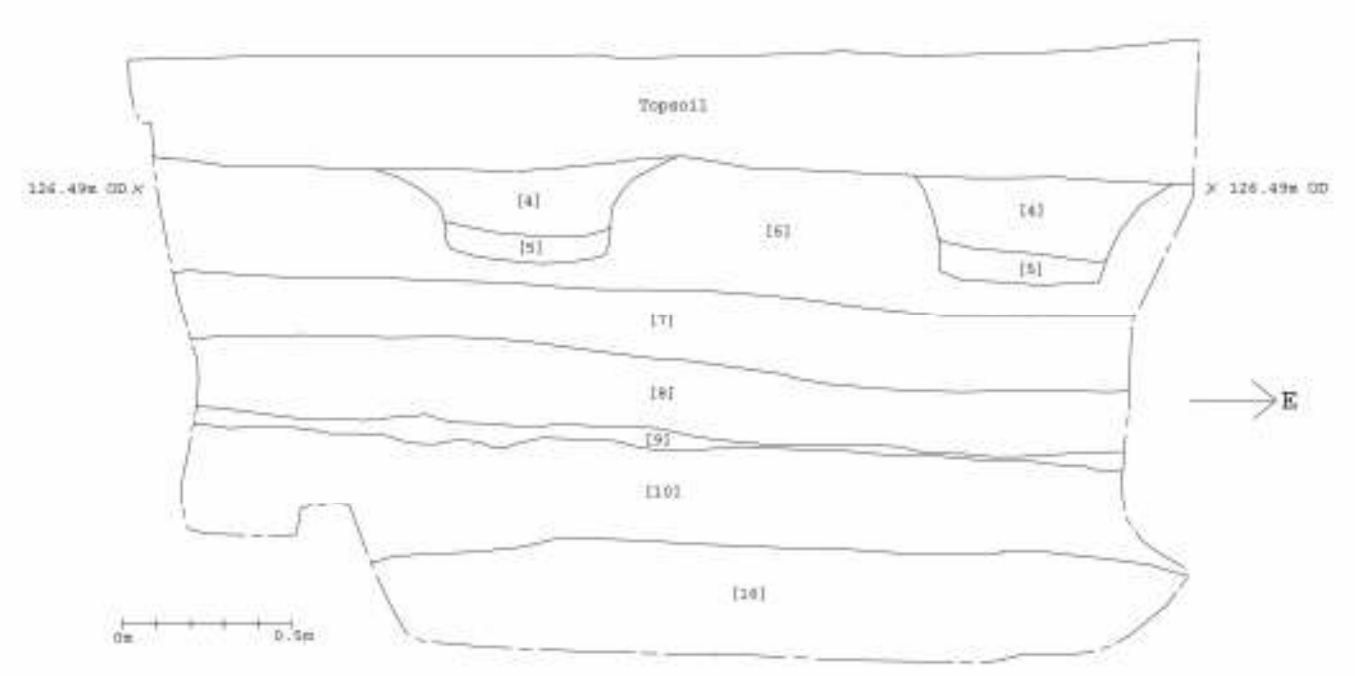

Figure 27: Northern section in trench 3

6.4.1.1 The first stage of excavation of trench 3 reduced the area to a height of *c.*125.64mOD (approximately 1.25m beneath the modern ground-surface).

6.4.1.2 The uppermost deposits in this trench included two contemporary, and probably relatively modern, pits – which included two different types of fills. These were observed directly beneath the topsoil, and were therefore probably modern. The shape and size of them suggests that they could have been tree pits.

6.4.1.3 A 'made-ground' deposit ([6]) was observed beneath this (at a height of *c.*126.59mOD). This appeared to be of little archaeological interest. A buried soil horizon was observed ([7]) at *c.*126.19mOD. This overlay another 'made-ground' deposit ([8]) at a height of *c.*125.99mOD. Deposit [8] is broadly similar to - and may be part of the same general layer as – contexts [13] and [1] in trenches 1 and 2.

6.4.1.4 A thin layer of red brick debris ([9]) was observed at a height of *c.*125.82mOD. This was very thin – only *c.*0.05m. This deposit is similar to the thin layer of brick rubble uncovered in trench 1 ([26]) and the many layers of brick rubble and burnt brick deposits in trench 2 ([2] etc) – and discussed in

relation to trench 1. It may have been related to the brick clamp, which appears to have been operating in the area in the 16th Century (see trench 2).

Figure 28: Photo of northern section in trench 3

6.4.2 Part 2 (Trench 3)

Context Number	Description	Interpretation
10	Light brown silty-clay deposit seen in northern section. *c.*1.2m beneath the modern ground-surface, and for a thickness of *c.*0.3m. Odd chunks of brick rubble.	Although it looks 'natural' (compact, clay, very few visible inclusions) – the chunks of brick rubble are too large to have been simply carried down by root action or wormholes. It is therefore 'made ground'. It looks very uniform, so was therefore probably dumped at the same time. This is interesting as it is a very thick deposit of 'made ground' which stretches to a very deep level.

15	Compact light grey silty-sand with no visible inclusions, seen in the northern and western section at a depth of *c.*1.48m beneath the ground-surface, for a thickness of *c.*0.02m. Separates the 'natural' [16] from the 'made-ground' [10].	Unclear purpose. Possibly the base of a ditch (represented by the infilling [10]), or a thin deposit put down before the huge deposit of 'made-ground' was deposited on top of it.
16	Natural soil seen in the northern section and exposed at a depth of *c.*1.5m beneath the modern ground-surface and in the base of the trench. Yellow-brown silty-clay, with no finds or CBM. Possibly the same as [30] in trench 2.	Natural soil uncovered at a very deep depth, indicating the existence of some large feature above it (i.e. a ditch represented by [10]).

6.4.2.1 Further machine excavation reduced this area to a depth of *c.*1.85m beneath the modern ground-surface (*c.*125.09mOD). A trench box was placed in the trench which enabled the sections to be archaeologically monitored.

6.4.2.2 A deep deposit of 'made-ground' ([10]), similar to that in trench 1, was also observed in this trench – to a depth of *c.*1.5m beneath the modern ground-surface (*c.*125.4mOD; thickness of *c.*0.35m). This deposit also looked 'natural' in some respects (i.e. it was very compact, was a clay deposit, and had few visible inclusions), however it also contained chunks of brick rubble and tile which were clearly too large to have been carried down through root action or wormholes. These were generally dated to 1450-1700 (see brick report). It was therefore a 'made-ground' deposit. The uniformity of it, in a similar way to that in trench 1, suggests that it was deposited in one single event, at some point after 1450. It is therefore possible that this is further evidence for the infilling of the eastern boundary ditch of the Bishop of London's hunting park or another type of landscaping of the slope (see discussion in relation to trench 1).

6.4.2.3 Beneath this was a thin (*c.*0.02m) layer of grey silty-sand ([15]) – clearly visible in the western section. This was clearly visible and distinct between contexts [10] and [16], and separates the 'made-ground' deposit from the 'natural'. It therefore presumably had some form of definitive function. It is possible that if the 'made-ground' deposit was the infilling of the boundary ditch of the Bishop of London's hunting park, this deposit may have been the base of this ditch whilst it was in use. Alternatively, it is possible that some other landscaping was taking place and that this was part of an earlier/truncated land surface.

6.4.2.4 Beneath this was the 'natural' ([16]), observed at a height of *c.*125.4mOD (1.5m beneath ground-surface). This was a clean silty-clay deposit. It is noticeable that the 'natural' was definitely observed in this trench – whereas it was not so definitely observed in the other trenches. This is probably because it was possible to enter this trench, because of the trench-box, whereas it was only possible to monitor the bucket-loads from the other two trenches.

Nonetheless, 'natural' was possibly observed at 124.45mOD in trench 1, and 125.33-38mOD in trench 2 – however these two figures should not be definitely trusted.

Figure 29: Photo of eastern section in trench 3, showing contexts [10], [15], and [16]

Figure 30: Photo of eastern section in trench 3

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. The responses to these are outlined below:

- *Is there any evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity in the site-area?*

  No evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity was found within the site-area.

  It is possible that any stray or small bits of evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity may have been at a relatively deep level (i.e. just above the natural) – at which depth it was impossible to examine the deposits in huge detail. Alternatively, it seems more possible that any evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity would have been truncated by the landscaping/construction of the possible boundary ditch for the Bishop of London's Hunting Park, which would have cut through any earlier deposits.

- *Is there any evidence relating to the medieval Bishop of London's Hunting Park, particularly its possible boundary, possibly in the form of ditch fills?*

  Possible evidence relating to the eastern boundary of the Bishop of London's Hunting Park was found in all trenches, and was particularly noticeable in trenches 1 and 3.

  This is through the depth of 'made-ground' deposits encountered in these trenches (at least 0.25m-0.65m thick), which must be evidence for the infilling of the boundary ditch or major landscaping. These deposits underlay 16th and 17th Century features, so must pre-date these, and may therefore relate to the infilling of the ditch or landscaping, possibly in the 15th Century (based on the pottery from trench 1).

- *Is there any evidence for features relating to the early (c.16th Century) development around the site-area?*

  Evidence for early (16th Century, before the earliest maps) activity and development around the site-area was clearly observed in trench 2, in the form of a brick clamp. This may even have produced bricks for the original construction of Highgate School in the 1570s. This acts as proof for such early activity.

- *What evidence is there for post-medieval activity, particularly 'backyard activity', and can this be related to the cartographic evidence/known uses of the site?*

  Trench 1 produced evidence for early post-medieval activity, which would have been 'backyard activity' because of its location. This took the form of a pit or ditch feature ('L'-shaped in plan), with 17th – early 18th Century

finds in it. Although it is difficult to ascertain what the precise function of this feature was, it is clearly evidence for 'backyard activity' from the later 17th Century.

This dates from before the earliest cartographic evidence (Rocque's map, 1746), and cannot, therefore, be related to any known uses of the site.

No further evidence was encountered concerning later post-medieval uses of the site. This means that no evidence can be related to the cartographic evidence or known uses of the site. This is probably partly because of the most modern development, such as the construction of No.26 North Road in the 1950s and the Garner Building in the 1980s which clearly truncated everything later than the 17th Century in trench 1 (and probably in trench 2).

- *Is there any evidence for historical terracing/build-up of land?*

  It is difficult from this evaluation to gain an understanding of the possible historical terracing and/or build-up of land in this area.

  The layers of crushed brick rubble found in trenches 1 and 3 were at broadly the same level, and broadly coincided with the level of the uppermost burnt brick layer in trench 2. This suggests that the possible brick clamp was functioning on a relatively even and level surface at this point.

  These deposits overlay a fairly clean/sterile clayey deposit which was at least 0.25-0.7m thick. This appeared to be a contiguous layer, representing some form of infilling or landscaping after the park boundary went out of use in the later medieval period.

  The depth of the probable clean surface overlying the brick rubble layers varied slightly between trenches, with approximately 0.8m over the uppermost burnt brick layer in trench 2, 1.1m over the brick layer in trench 3, and 1.2m in trench 1. Much of this was recent made ground, truncating the earlier deposits.

  This suggests that there has been some form of build-up/chopping and changing of land surfaces over time.

- *At what levels do any archaeological or geological deposits survive across the area?*

  Archaeological deposits were found at an uppermost level of 0.6-0.7m below the modern ground-surface (the cut for the ditch/pit feature in trench 1) (125.37mOD – 125.51mOD). The burnt brick deposit in trench 2 was found at approximately 0.7-0.8m below the modern ground-surface (125.92mOD – 126.07mOD).

It seems likely, however, that archaeological deposits would have been found closer to the surface, but that these have been truncated by later development, particularly the 1950s development and the construction of the Garner Building in the 1980s.

It is difficult to definitively ascertain the level of geological deposits across the area. However, 'natural' was possibly encountered *c.*2.6m (124.45mOD) beneath ground-level in trench 1, between 125.35 and 123.73mOD in trench 2 (1.6m+ beneath ground-level), and *c.*125.4-125.45mOD (1.5m beneath ground-level) in trench 3.

8. Conclusions

8.1 The evaluation revealed significant archaeological remains or deposits. These were from numerous different periods and related to different activities or features.

Archaeological evidence was uncovered for 17th – early 18th Century activity within the site area – in the form of the 17th – 18th Century pit or ditch feature in trench 1.

Archaeological evidence was uncovered for the existence of a probable later 16th Century brick clamp – in the form of the burnt layers/deposits in trench 2.

Underlying 'made-ground' deposits were observed in all three trenches. It is possible that these may have been the landscaping or infilling of the eastern boundary ditch of the Bishop of London's Hunting Park in the 15th Century.

8.2 In view of these results it has been agreed that further archaeological measures should be undertaken in relation to the proposed redevelopment and associated planning condition. This will probably take the form of an investigation undertaken when the bulk excavation takes place (at the start of the development). This has been discussed with English Heritage and the client, and a detailed WSI will be prepared before the start of fieldwork.

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Appendix I: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: compassa1-97049

Project details

Project name	26 North Road Evaluation (Highgate School)
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation of a site on the eastern side of North Road, just to the north of the Garner Building (Highgate School), took place in February 2011. The work was carried out as a condition of planning consent prior to the construction of a new building for the use of Highgate School (LB of Haringey Planning Ref: HGY/2010/1888). Three trial trenches were excavated within the redevelopment footprint, covering a total area of c.10 square metres. All three of these trenches contained significant archaeological remains. Deep 'made-ground' deposits were observed in all three trenches. These clearly show the existence of some deep feature or landscaping. It is possible that this may be the infilling of the eastern boundary ditch of the Bishop of London's hunting park. A 17th – early 18th Century pit or ditch feature was observed in trench 1. This appeared 'L'-shaped in plan, and was cut through clay and sand deposits. This is therefore evidence for some form of 'backyard-activity' from the 17th Century - acting as evidence for activity (commercial or residential) on the site from before the earliest cartographic evidence (the mid-18th Century). A series of burnt deposits, including burnt bricks, were observed in trench 2. These are probably evidence for a brick clamp - dating from the 16th Century. It could be postulated, furthermore, that this brick clamp was producing bricks for the construction of the original school and chapel. In view of these results it has been agreed that further archaeological measures should be undertaken in relation to the proposed redevelopment and planning condition.
Project dates	Start: 14-02-2011 End: 17-02-2011
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	BRICK CLAMP Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COIN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval

Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HARINGEY HIGHGATE AND MUSWELL HILL 26 North Road
Postcode	N6 4BE
Study area	10.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 2834 8760 51.5721523757 -0.147882287415 51 34 19 N 000 08 52 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Compass Archaeology
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Emma Jeffery
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Highgate School

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London archaeological archive
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Glass','Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London archive
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archive
Paper Media available	'Correspondence','Map','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes' 'Photograph' 'Plan' 'Report' 'Section' 'Survey

','Unpublished Text','Context sheet'

Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	26 North Road, Highgate - An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jeffery, E
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	5-7 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1RQ
Description	Brief report of the evaluation, including historical and archaeological background, topography and geology, and methodology. Also includes plans and sections of trenches, photographs, description of trenches, analysis of finds, and discussion of whole evaluation.
Entered by	Emma Jeffery (emma.elizabeth.jeffery@gmail.com)
Entered on	23 March 2011

Appendix II: London Archaeologist Summary

Site Address:	26 North Road, Highgate, N6 4BE
Project type:	Evaluation
Dates of Fieldwork:	21.02.2011 – 24.02.2011
Site Code:	NOR11
Supervisor:	Emma Jeffery
NGR:	TQ 2834 8760
Funding Body:	Highgate School

Summary

Three trial trenches were excavated within the redevelopment footprint, covering a total area of *c.*10 square metres. All three of these trenches contained significant archaeological remains.

Possible 15th Century 'made-ground' deposits were observed in all three trenches. These may show the existence of some deep feature, with the 'made-ground' deposits possibly infilling such a deep feature, or some other form of landscaping. This may be associated with the eastern boundary of the Bishop of London's hunting park.

A 17th – 18th Century pit or ditch feature was observed in trench 1. This appeared 'L'-shaped in plan, and is evidence for some form of 'backyard-activity' from the 17th Century –activity (commercial or residential) on the site from before the earliest cartographic evidence (the mid-18th Century).

A series of burnt deposits, including burnt bricks, were observed in trench 2. These are probably evidence for a brick clamp – dating from the 16th Century. It could be postulated, furthermore, that this brick clamp was producing bricks for the construction of the original school and chapel, *c.*1576.

Natural deposits comprised a silty clay-silty sand (Bagshot Formation or Head).

Appendix III: Pottery Report

Pottery from Highgate School, North Road, London (Site NOR11)

Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 68 sherds with a total weight of 2468g. It was recorded utilizing the fabric codes of the Museum of London post-Roman type-series (Vince 1985), as follows:

BORDY: Yellow-glazed Border ware, 1550-1700. 7 sherds, 114g.
CHPO: Chinese porcelain,1580 -1900. 1 sherd, 173g.
CREA: Creamware, 1740-1880. 2 sherds, 53g.
ENGS: English stoneware, 1700-1900. 3 sherds, 26g.
FREC: Frechen Stoneware, 1550 – 1700. 3 sherds, 16g.
MPUR: Midlands purple ware, 1400-1500. 3 sherds, 78g.
PMBL: Post-medieval black-glazed ware, 1580-1700. 1 sherd, 26g.
PMR: Post-medieval redware, 1580 – 1900. 19 sherds, 1599g.
STSL: Staffordshire slipware,1650 – 1800. 6 sherds, 144g.
SWSG: Staffordshire white salt-glazed stoneware, 1720-1780. 3 sherds, 4g.
TGW: English tin-glazed ware, 1600-1800. 20 sherds, 235g.

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 range of fabric types is typical of sites of the period in London.

The majority of the pottery in of 17th – early 18th century date, although a single context, [27], produced only medieval wares, in the form of three sherds of MPUR, probably from the same vessel. The sherds are fresh and entirely unworn, and appear reliably stratified. Some of the pottery was very well-preserved. A largely complete Chinese Porcelain bowl occurred in context [17], and a large fragment of a STSL posset-cup was present in the same context. Overall, the assemblage seems typical of a reasonably wealthy household of the period.

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

	MPUR		BORDY		PMR		FREC		TGW		STSL		CHPO		ENGS		PMBL		SWSG		CREA		
Cntxt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
U/S Tr1					3	185			3	70					1	5			1	1	2	53	U/S
U/S Tr3									1	2									1	2			U/S
11			3	32	11	1356			9	101					2	21			1	1			E18thC
17			4	82	5	58	3	16	7	62	6	144	1	173			1	26					M17thC
27	3	78																					15thC
Total	3	78	7	114	19	1599	3	16	20	235	6	144	1	173	3	26	1	26	3	4	2	53	

Bibliography

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

Appendix IV: Brick Report, compiled in consultation by John Brown

ID	**Context**	*Fabric*	*Period*	*Form*	*Weight (in grams)*	*Dimensions (in mm)*	*Date*	*Other comments*
1	26	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	956	108 (width) X 55 (depth)	1450-1700	Well sorted with lots of inclusions; firing fabric
2	26	3039 (variant	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	660		1450-1700	Over-fired, mis-shapen, waster
3	10	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick	236		1450-1700	Flint inclusions and silky streaks
4	10	2276	Post-Medieval	Tile	32		1500-1900	Probably a similar clay source to the bricks
5	10	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick	266		1450-1700	
6	10	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (two pieces)	932	108 (width) X 56 (depth)	1450-1700	Over-fired
7	10	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (four pieces)	214		1450-1700	Over-fired
8	10	2276	Post-Medieval	Peg Tile	238	15 (depth)	1500-1900	
9	10	2276	Post-Medieval	Tile (four pieces)	100	15 (depth)	1500-1700	
10	10	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (four pieces)	1278	108 (width) X 57 (depth)	1450-1700	
11	23	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (six pieces)	1278	98 (width) X 50 (depth)	1450-1700	Over-fired

12	23	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	1336	110 (width) X 60 (depth)	1450-1700	
13	23	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	650	60 (depth)	1450-1700	
14	2	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	1468	110 (width) X 59 (depth)	1450-1700	Over-fired
15	2	2276	Post-Medieval	Peg tile (two pieces)	136	13 (depth)	1500-1900	Heat-affected
16	2	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (seven pieces)	3960	104 (width) X 60 (depth)	1450-1700	Vitrified to glassy surface, waster
17	2	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks (nine pieces)	340		1450-1700	Vitrified
18	2	Flint	Post-Medieval	Seven pieces of flint	122			Fire-cracked
19	2	2276	Post-Medieval	Peg tile	54		1500-1900	Heat-affected
20	27	2276	Post-Medieval	Peg tile (eleven pieces)	1482	15 (depth)	1500-1900	
21	27	2276	Post-Medieval	Curved tile	104	17 (depth)	1500-1900	Probable ridge
22	27	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (seven pieces)	2180		1450-1700	Vitrified fragments
23	26	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	964	110 (width) X 58 (depth)	1450-1700	Vitrified fabrics
24	26	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	1084	105 (width) X 58 (depth)	1450-1700	
25	19	Flint	Post-Medieval	Four pieces of flint	514			Fire-cracked
26	19	3039	Post-	Unfrogged brick	806	100 (width) X 55	1450-1700	Vitrified

		(variant)	Medieval			(depth)		
27	19	2276	Post-Medieval	Peg tile	112	14 (depth)	1500-1700	
28	1	2276	Post-Medieval	Peg tile (six pieces)	364	14 (depth)	1500-1900	
29	1	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged bricks with sunken margins (two pieces)	1026	100 (width) X 55 (depth)	1450-1700	Vitrified
30	30	3039 (variant)	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick with sunken margins	4		1450-1700	Small fragment
31	17	2276	Post-Medieval	Ridged tile (two pieces)	500	14 (depth)	1500-1700	
32	17	2275	Post-Medieval	Pan Tile fragment	168		1620-1800	

Bricks are apparently all of one fabric. This is a local variant of fabric 3039, part of the 'London Clay' 3033 family. Silt, oxide, and occasionally mica are the main inclusions. Several examples contain large unaltered flint pebbles, which often contribute to the failure of bricks in clamp firing as breaks can occur at these points, and suggests poor quality control of clay preparation for brick-making (clay possibly not properly weathered).

Also present in the assemblage are tiles of 2276 fabric, although mica is present in more quantities than is usual – potentially using the same local clay source as bricks. The tiles are generally well-fired, and some are heat-affected, but no wasters occur. This suggests that the tiles were not intended products of the clamp, but probably used for spacers/levelling layers, to ensure the good standing-up of bricks and fuel in the clamp.

The brick fabrics are the same across all contexts, suggesting one firing episode of related material. Overall, the suspected firing date, based on fabrics and forms present, is suggested to be 1500-1620 (approximately).

Appendix V: Clay Pipe Report

[+] (trench 1): 3 stems
3 bowls
- *c.*1580-1610 (Type 3)
- *c.*1640-1660 (Type 5)
- *c.*1730-1780 (Type 12)

[11]: 2 stems
1 bowl – *c.*1580-1610 (Type 3)

[17]: 11 stems
2 bowls/part-bowls
- *c.*1730-1780 (Type 12)
- part-bowl cannot really be identified

All of the above identifications are based on A. Oswald, 'Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist', BAR14, 1975

Appendix VI: Other Finds

[17] – a small quantity of animal bone was recovered
[17] – a metal ring of some form and a heavily corroded coin were recovered using the metal-detector
[17] – individual sherds of glass and parts of glass bottles were recovered