

**Geoarchaeological Watching Brief on Land at  
Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford,  
Kent, DA1 4LX**

**NGR: 552492 174980  
TQ 5249 7498**

**Planning Ref: Pre-application**

**ASE Project No: 180003  
Site Code: MLC18**

**ASE Report No: 2018020  
OASIS id: archaeol6-306606**

**By Matt Pope**

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South East were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a watching brief on five geotechnical test pits on property at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent. The site lay at around 5m AOD immediately to the north of the River Cray. The site is also close (<50m) to the south of the mapped extent of the Crayford Silts, a body of Pleistocene Brickearth overlying the Mucking/Taplow Terrace of the Pleistocene Thames sequence. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century these deposits produced in situ evidence for early Neanderthal Levallois blade production, further in situ Palaeolithic artefacts, isolated Palaeolithic artefacts and abundant large mammal fossils. These finds were broadly derived from a series of former brickearth extraction pits in excess of 300m to the north of the site. The area of the site has never been systematically quarried, consequently it lies in an area for which we have little historical or contemporary records of sediment exposure and artefact collection. The Crayford Silts are themselves not precisely dated but could span any period of the Pleistocene from MIS 8 onwards.*

*The watching brief undertaken at the site determined the presence of a body of Quaternary sediment underlying much, if not all of the site. These sediments appear consistent with the Crayford Silts. However determining the age, palaeoenvironmental potential and archaeological significance of the deposits will require assessment of samples taken during the course of the watching brief.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) were been commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a geoarchaeological watching brief during the excavation of a series geotechnical test pits (GTPs) at Land off Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent (NGR TQ 5249 7498). The location is shown on Figures 1 and 2.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The site is a narrow strip of land alongside the River Cray where the river flows from west to east. The site is situated on the floodplain between c.4.0m AOD, and 7.5m AOD (NB height data is not based on detailed topographic survey).

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying geological strata at the site consist of Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation; Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation overlain by superficial deposits of Taplow Gravel Member sands and gravels (BGS 2018).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 Bellway Homes Thames Gateway Ltd proposes to develop an area of land located at Maiden Lane, Crayford for residential purposes. The proposed development comprises fourteen houses with associated private gardens, and three blocks of flats with associated communal soft landscaping and car parking.

1.3.2 Idom Merebrook Limited (Merebrook) was previously commissioned by Bellway Homes Thames Gateway Ltd to undertake preliminary site investigation works and to advise on the geo-environmental implications of the redevelopment of the site for the proposed end use (IM 2017).

### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 This document is a report on observations made during a geoarchaeological watching brief maintained during geotechnical works undertaken by Idom-Merebrook on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018. It has been prepared in accordance with relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b) and the guidelines set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE; Historic England 2015).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEO-ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Summary**

2.1.1 An archaeological desk based assessment is currently being prepared for the site by CgMs Consulting. What follows is a brief synopsis of the known archaeology in the area.

### **2.2 Geoarchaeological Context**

2.2.1 The BGS (Sheet 271) shows the terrace of the River Cray extending to the waterfront (i.e. no floodplain), but two previous test pits (MTP2 and MTP3) described in the Idom Merebrook Environmental Assessment (IM 2017) identify the presence of alluvium. In addition, the geological site map in Kennard (1944) shows alluvium alongside the river and separating the river from Kennard's Crayford Gravel.

2.2.2 BGS shows the terrace underlain by Taplow Gravel (equivalent to Kennard's Crayford Gravel; BGS 2018). Bridgland (1994) refers the gravel to the Mucking Formation (his term for the Taplow Gravel) but Gibbard (1994) shows it as East Tilbury Marshes Gravel (equivalent to the Kempton Park Gravel of the Middle Thames). Around 25m to the north of the site, the BGS map the southern limit of the Crayford Silt (brickearth) which has produced in situ Levallois artefacts and Middle Pleistocene faunas (see below). The southern limit of the Crayford Silt is close to the northern boundary of the site, especially at its western end, and accuracy of the BGS mapping at distance of <50m should not be presumed.

2.2.3 Boreholes and test pits recorded by Idom Merebrook (IM 2017) indicate bedrock chalk beneath the site at depths of between 1.1m and 4.3m. The chalk is overlain by generally gravelly clays, silts and sands. In several of the logs, the gravel is described as including clasts of chalk. From these borehole/test pit descriptions the deposits at the site overlying the chalk bedrock seem to be too clayey to be in situ river deposits and for the most part they are colluvial material occupying a gently sloping bluff between the floodplain and the low terrace. This is the situation illustrated by Kennard (1944) for ground to the north of the present site.

### **2.3 Prehistoric**

2.3.1 The site lies 1km to the south of one of the most important Early Middle Palaeolithic localities in the British Isles. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century this was a very active area of brickearth extraction leading to the opening of numerous brick fields and clay pits. These included Stoneham's Pit (NGR 551800 175800), Rutter's Pit (NGR 551400 176500), Norris's Pit (NGR 551400 176000), Furners Old Pit (NGR 551900 176800), Furners New Pit (NGR 552001 76600) and Talbots Pit (NGR 552100 176300). Historic mapping shows the nearest of these lay 400m to the north of the site and its environs were not actively exploited for Brickearth.

2.3.2 The brickearth pits recorded above were all documented by Wymer to have produced Palaeolithic artefacts, sometimes associated with mammalian remains. Two sites are of particular interest. At Stonehams Pit F.J.C. Spurrell

located a 'floor' at the base of the brickearths in 1860 (Scott and Shaw 2015). These comprised fresh, refitting pieces from a laminar Levallois reduction sequences producing long, blade like flakes. The brickearths at Stonehams contained other mint condition flint artefacts while the underlying gravels contained rolled handaxes (Wymer 1999). R.H. Chandler found *in situ* material in Rutter's Pit (Chandler 1916). These are amongst the best preserved Early Middle Palaeolithic activity areas in Britain, a period poorly represented in terms of sites. The combination of *in situ*, technologically important stone artefact scatters, a strong landscape context signature, associated palaeoenvironmental evidence and large mammal remains makes the activity areas nationally important. They are, however, poorly understood in terms of exact age and climatic context (Ashton *et al* 2011; Ashton and Scott 2016; Herrisson *et al* 2016; Scott 2009; Scott *et al* 2010).

- 2.3.3 An assemblage of Palaeolithic tools was uncovered on Maxim Road, c.1km west of the site (MLO103211, TQ512746). Several Palaeolithic flints, including eight handaxes, seventeen flakes and one lithic implement were discovered c.1km to the south-west of the site. The area has also produced several animal bones (mammoth, musk ox, deer, woolly rhino and lion), retrieved from the brickearth and considered to be Palaeolithic in date.
- 2.3.4 Palaeolithic remains are very sparsely represented in both the Kempton Park Gravel and the Taplow Gravel, and where they do occur they are invariably derived from earlier contexts. However, the Crayford Silt was a rich source of *in situ* Palaeolithic material. Given the possibly colluvial nature of the deposits it seems unlikely that any significant Palaeolithic remains will be preserved beneath the site. No find spots are recorded at this locality by Wymer (1999) with Spurrells Floor at Stoneham Pit lying some 950m to the north of the site being the closest recorded finds from broadly equivalent altitude.
- 2.3.5 A flint tool of Neolithic origin has been encountered c.1km west of the site and a site at Crayford Town Hall to the southwest produced palaeochannels of an Early Mesolithic to Neolithic date.
- 2.3.6 Work at Iron Mill Lane, c. 500m to the north-west of the site, has uncovered an Iron Age ditch, a posthole and pit. The remains of a Middle to Late Iron Age settlement was also recorded during building work at 103-109 Old Road in the 1930s. This was not archaeologically excavated but several pits and ditches were noted, as well as a large quantity of pottery, loomweights and pot-boilers.

## **2.4 Roman**

- 2.4.1 The main Roman road from London to Dover (Watling Street) is thought to have crossed the River Cray, and forms the modern London Road, which is located c300m south of the site.
- 2.4.2 The foundations of a Roman building were excavated 500m to the west of the site at Swaislands Drive. Roman pottery, brick fragments and beads were recovered from the area around the building, as well as to the north of the River Cray.
- 2.4.3 Roman burials have also been found in the vicinity of the site; at the River Cray a funerary urn was uncovered in 1915 and an inhumation burial was discovered

in 1931 during the construction of New Central School.

## **2.5 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval**

2.5.1 It is thought that a battle was fought between the Saxons and Britons in the Crayford area in AD 457.

2.5.2 Crayford Road and Crayford Station have been the location of various unspecified Saxon objects unearthed in the 19th century. A high status Anglo-Saxon inhumation burial was uncovered on Crayford Road, complete with accompanying horse, buckles and five silver-plated bosses. In areas of Crayford Road Anglo-Saxon archaeology has been preserved beneath a layer of peat.

2.5.3 The Crayford Town Hall site revealed an accumulation of peat, which was overlain by medieval and post medieval dumps.

## **2.6 Post-medieval and Modern**

2.6.1 The Crayford settlement grew throughout the post-medieval period, as demonstrated by the extant post-medieval buildings at its centre.

## **2.7 Project Aims and Objectives**

2.7.1 The aims of the project were as follows:

- The principal aim of the geoarchaeological watching brief was to determine the nature of Quaternary deposits at the site i.e To understand the age, extent and depositional processes at the site and their archaeological, palaeo-environmental potential.
- Specifically the watching brief sought to determine if the Pleistocene Crayford Silts and /or Holocene colluvial deposits were present at the site.
- The watching brief also sought to provide additional information to help in assessing how the deposits will be impacted by the proposed development and in developing a response to any impact on significant deposits.

3.2 Objectives to meet the aims included:

- To make a lithological record of deposits observed during the watching brief
- To recover samples for palaeoenvironmental assessment and/or dating
- To provide recommendations for further work

3.3 The project addresses the following national research aims for the Palaeolithic (Historic England 2008). These relate to both understanding a nationally important Palaeolithic locale in more detail, improving its management in the planning process and enhancing our understanding about Early Neanderthal populations in Britain.



- The use of geomorphological and sedimentological modelling to understand the taphonomic processes that determine the significance of many Palaeolithic remains
- Reduction of the knowledge gap between Palaeolithic specialists and local authority archaeological curators.
- Did a significant population crash occur over Lower Palaeolithic/Middle Pleistocene time?
- Why were the Neanderthals so successful for so long in British latitudes? What particular challenges and opportunities did they face in dealing with the British landscape and climate?

3.4 The project has the potential to address the following regional research aims for the Palaeolithic from the South East Region Research Framework (Wenban-Smith *et al* 2009).

- Pattern of occupation, settlement and cultural change in the region through the Lower/Middle Palaeolithic.
- Mapping and dating of loessic sediments, and modelling of likelihood of any contained Palaeolithic remains
- Identification of areas of colluvial/solifluction deposits that may contain undisturbed or minimally disturbed concentrations of Palaeolithic remains
- Are there levels or geographic/topographic zones that are more likely to be richer in Palaeolithic artefactual remains?

### **3.0 GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

- 3.1.1 All intrusive groundworks (Geotechnical Test Pits 101-105; henceforth GTP's) were subject to a geoarchaeological monitoring (Figure 2). The contractor allowed sufficient time within their programme so that any archaeological features, artefacts or ecofacts could be recorded in line with the preceding WSI (ASE 2018).
- 3.1.2 Owing to the nature of the work (deep-cut, narrow test pits) all recording was undertaken from ground level. Arisings from the excavations were inspected by the geoarchaeologist and, where deemed appropriate, samples were taken. The arising were sifted for any cultural material or large ecofacts.
- 3.1.3 Sections were drawn by hand at a scale of 1:10 on plastic draughting film. Features and deposits were described on standard pro-forma recording sheets used by Archaeology South-East. A photographic record was made digitally.
- 3.1.4 Bulk soil samples were be taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts.

#### **3.2 Fieldwork constraints**

- 3.2.1 The programme of test pit excavation took place without any constraints. As the GTPs were not surveyed in precisely by Idom Mereworth, positions and OD heights are indicative.
- 3.2.2 All work was completed in accordance with the preceding WSI (ASE 2018) as well as the relevant standards and conditions of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b).
- 3.2.3 In the event a sixth GTP was not required by the geotechnical engineers and was therefore not monitored. GTP's were located by the geotechnical engineers in proximate locations to those indicated in the preceding WSI (ASE 2018).

#### **3.3 Archive**

- 3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at a suitable local museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Tables 1 and 2).

Borehole/test pit sheets	5
Section sheets	1
Plans sheets	1
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	22
Sample register	1
Drawing register	1

Watching brief forms	1
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box )	0
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	10
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

## 5.0 RESULTS (Figure 2)

### 5.1 Lithology

5.1.1 The observations shown in Tables 3-7 were made during the monitoring of GTPs 101-105.

5.1.2 Five main lithological units were observed. These are provisionally interpreted as:

- I. Made Ground: Emplaced brick, chalk and concrete rubble.
- II. Colluvium: Silty clay to Sandy Clay with chalk flecks and Tertiary pebbles.
- III. Fine Grained Head: Silty clay to Clay silt, often stone free, with partings of grey to grey brown silt.
- IV. Head Gravels: Angular to sub-angular chalk in a silt clay matrix. Sometimes with large fresh flint nodules.
- V. Fluvial Sands: Greenish Yellow medium sand with clay. Only observed in GTP103.
- VI. Weathered Upper Chalk.

### 5.2 GTP 101

#### 5.2.1

Site Name: Land at Maiden Lane Crayford				Site Code: MLC18	Test Pit: 101
X	52595	Y	75029	Z	4
Method of Excavation:		JCB		Hole Dimensions: 0.5x2m	
Unit	Depth	Elevation	Thickness	Description	Sample
1.1	0	4	0.6	Made ground containing tarmac, chalk rubble.	
1.2	0.6	3.4	0.3	Made ground: clay silt with CBM. Disturbed slope deposits.	
1.3	0.9	3.1	1.9	Head Deposit: Clay with sand Yellowish Brown Stone Free	1.1
1.4	2.8	1.2	0.2	Head Deposit: Silty Clay Light yellow brown 20% angular to sub angular flint gravel 20-40mm 5% Tertiary rounded flint gravel 10-30mm	1.2
	3	1		Base of Hole	

Table 3: GTP 101 including recorded lithological units and samples taken

### 5.3 GTP 102

#### 5.3.1

Site Name: Land at Maiden Lane Crayford				Site Code: MLC18	Test Pit: 102
X	52550	Y	75004	Z	4 Date: 5/1/18
Method of Excavation:			JCB	Hole Dimensions: 0.5x2m	
Unit	Depth	Elevation	Thickness	Description	Sample
2.1	0	4	1.2	Made ground: Concrete rubbles and tarmac	
2.2	1.2	2.8	1	Head Deposit/Colluvium: Clay with sand Yellowish Brown. (Disturbed)	
2.3	2.2	1.8	0.3	Head Deposit: Silty clay Very light yellow Brown Partings of brown silt. Stone Free.	2.2
3	2.5	1.5	0.2	Head Deposit: Silty Clay Light yellow brown 60% angular chalk 20-170mm	
	2.7	1.3		Base of hole	

Table 4: GTP 102 including recorded lithological units and samples taken

### 5.4 GTP 103

#### 5.4.1

Site Name: Land at Maiden Lane Crayford				Site Code: MLC18	Test Pit: 103
X	52525	Y	74989	Z	4 Date: 5/1/18
Method of Excavation:			JCB	Hole Dimensions: 0.5x2m	
Unit	Depth	Elevation	Thickness	Description	Sample
3.1	0	4	0.8	Made Ground: Brick rubble	
3.2	0.8	3.2	0.4	Colluvium: Clay with sand Disturbed. Tertiary flint pebbles noted	
3.3	1.2	2.8	0.8	Head Deposit: Sandy Clay Yellow brown 1% chalk flecks Molluscs noted	3.1
3.4	2	2	0.8	Head Deposit: Sandy Clay Yellow brown Seams of grey silt noted Organic remains noted	3.2
3.5	2.2	1.8	0.2	Head deposit. Silt with Sand.	3.3
3.6	3	1	0.2	Fluival Sand: Medium sand with clay. Greenish yellow Stone Free	
3.7	3.2	0.8	0.3	Solid Geology: Brecciated Upper Chalk	
	3.5	0.5		Base of Hole	

Table 5: GTP 103 including recorded lithological units and samples taken

**5.5 GTP 104**

5.5.1

Site Name: Land at Maiden Lane Crayford				Site Code: MLC18	Test Pit: 104
X	52498	Y	74984	Z	4
Method of Excavation:			JCB	Hole Dimensions: 0.5x2m	
Unit	Depth	Elevation	Thickness	Description	Sample
4.1	0	4	0.8	Made Ground: Brick and rubble	
4.2	0.8	3.2	1.2	Colluvium: Dark brown Silty Sand Occasional Teritay flint	4.1
4.3	2	2	0.2	Head Deposit: Clay silt. Light yellow brown to greenish grey Palaeosols noted	4.2
4.4	2.2	1.8	0.8	Head Deposit: Clay silt. Light yellow borwn Large flint nodules 200-3000mm 60% angular chalk 10-60mm	4.3
4.5	3	1	0.2	Upper Chalk: Weathered putty chalk	
	3.2	0.8		Base of hole	

Table 6: GTP 104 including recorded lithological units and samples taken

**5.6 GTP 105**

5.5.2

Site Name: Land at Maiden Lane Crayford				Site Code: MLC18	Test Pit: 105
X	52442	Y	74976	Z	4
Method of Excavation:			JCB	Hole Dimensions: 0.5x2m	
Unit	Depth	Elevation	Thickness	Description	Sample
5.1	0	4	0.3	Made Ground: Concrete Tarmac	
5.2	0.3	3.7	1	Colluvium: Silty Clay with chalk flecks Disturbed	
5.3	1.3	2.7	1	Upper Chalk: Putty Chalk	
	2.3	1.7		Base of hole	

Table 7: GTP 105 including recorded lithological units and samples taken

## **6.0 THE FINDS AND PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES**

### **5.1 Summary**

- 5.1.1 No cultural material was encountered in deposits below the modern made ground. Nine bulk samples were taken during the course of the watching brief. These are suitable for rapid assessment in terms of particle size, mineralogy, micropalaeontology, molluscs and pollen.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **6.1 Overview of lithological sequence**

- 6.1.1 The watching brief has established the presence of an intact Quaternary sedimentary sequence preserved beneath between 0.30m and 1.20m of made ground. While full interpretation of this sequence would require both purposive geoarchaeological investigation and sediment/palaeoenvironmental analysis, it is possible to make the following statements about the sequence.
- 6.1.2 The test pits seemed to indicate a weathered solid chalk platform at around 3.0m depth rising to around 1.30m depth in the southern part of the site. The chalk platform is immediately overlain by either calcareous head gravel or possible fluvial sands. Taken together they present a picture of fluvial erosion of the chalk valley sides followed by stabilisation of river cliffs or steep slopes under cold conditions.
- 6.1.3 These coarse head deposits are overlain by finer grained deposits comprising silt clay or clay silts with sand. These deposits are variable but appear calcareous, are largely stone-free and contain possible palaeosols, molluscs and, in GTP103, organic material. These deposits could be generally described as brickearths, they may include slope deposits but they are fine-grained and low energy in nature.
- 6.1.4 Overlying these deposits in GTP102, GTP103, GTP104 and GTP105 was a dark yellow brown clay with sand containing Tertiary pebbles. This deposit was disturbed by the overlying made ground to varying degrees across the site but obtained a thickness of 1.0m in GTP102. No cultural material was identified within this deposit in order to date it, but on the basis of stratigraphic position and composition it would be consistent with a Holocene colluvium.

### **6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts**

- 6.2.1 Previous groundworks are likely to have impacted locally on the Quaternary deposition sequence. Emplacement of tarmac has disturbed, truncated and possibly locally removed the possible colluvial deposits. The deeper Pleistocene head sequence, including the brickearths, are likely to have been impacted locally by foundation footings and drainage/sieve runs but are broadly intact across the site.

### **6.3 Discussion of deposits**

- 6.3.1 The site is underlain by a significant body of Pleistocene sedimentation. It is considered highly probable, on the basis of altitude and composition, that the fine grained (brickearth) sediments constitute a southern extension of the Crayford Silts beyond their current mapped boundary. This is a hypothesis which can only be tested through analysis of the sediments.
- 6.3.2 While the sequence recorded at the site differs from that observed within the brick pits to the north (see sections 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 above), being thinner and lacking a clear fluvial gravel at its base, it might be possible that only part of the sequence (e.g. the Upper Brickearths of the Crayford Silts) are represented here.



## **6.4 Potential impact on deposits**

6.4.1 Currently we do not understand the detailed nature of the proposed impacts, however, any deep excavations or piling associated with residential development (c.1-2m bgl), have potential to negatively impact on deposits of geoarchaeological interest. In addition, shallower excavations (0.30m-1.0m bgl) have potential to negatively impact on Holocene colluvium of archaeological interest for its potential to contain evidence of prehistoric and later landscape use.

## **6.5 Consideration of research aims**

6.5.1 The work address the research aims set out above in that it has identified a fine grained Quaternary sequence which might represent a continuation of the Crayford Silts in an area they were previously unmapped. Should they prove to be part of separate sedimentary sequence, they may provide additional information about the landscape evolution of the Cray Valley and themselves contain an archaeological and palaeoenvironmental record.

6.5.2 If these are indeed a continuation of the Crayford Silts they will allow for a modification of the known mapping in an area of the landscape which was not subjected to extensive brick making in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and so lacking any history of collection or sampling. Should the Lower Brickearths of the Crayford Silts be present then a nationally important sedimentary context demonstrated to preserve *in situ* Neanderthal archaeology will be shown to extend across the site. If the Upper Brickearths are present their poorly understood age and archaeological record could be brought under renewed focus.

6.5.3 If deposits immediately below made ground are indeed Holocene colluvium they might provide a local record of prehistoric and later landscape use.

## **6.6 Updated Research Agenda and Recommendations**

6.6.1 The deposits recorded at the site could provide a valuable contribution to our understanding of the Quaternary archaeological record of the Cray Valley. The following research questions and proposals to answer them are suggested.

RQ1: What is the depositional origin and palaeo-environmental potential of the fine-grained sediments recorded at the site.

Recommendation 1: Rapid assessment of 5 bulk samples to determine to particle size, presence and composition of mollusc and microfauna.

RQ2: Does the upper most Quaternary unit represent a Holocene colluvium?

Recommendation 2: Rapid assessment of 1 bulk sample to determine particle size, molluscs and flotation for plant macrofossils.

## **6.7 Conclusions**

6.7.1 The watching brief has determined the presence of a body of Quaternary sediment underlying much, if not all of the site. These sediments appear

consistent with the Crayford Silts which contain, to the north of the site, a nationally important record of early Neanderthal behaviour, and may represent a southern continuation to their currently mapped limits. However, determining further the age, palaeoenvironmental potential and archaeological significance of the deposits will require assessment of samples taken during the course of the watching brief.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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**HER Summary**

<b>HER enquiry no.</b>									
<b>Site code</b>	MLC18								
<b>Project code</b>	180003								
<b>Planning reference</b>	Pre-application								
<b>Site address</b>	Land at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent, DA1 4LX								
<b>District/Borough</b>	Bexley								
<b>NGR (12 figures)</b>	552492 174980								
<b>Geology</b>	Chalk overlain by superficial deposits of Taplow Gravel Member sands and gravels								
<b>Fieldwork type</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">GA WB</td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> </table>			GA WB					
		GA WB							
<b>Date of fieldwork</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2018								
<b>Sponsor/client</b>	CgMs Consulting								
<b>Project manager</b>	Andy Leonard								
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Matt Pope								
<b>Period summary</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> </table>								
<b>Project summary</b>	<i>Archaeology South East were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a watching brief on five geotechnical test pits on property at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent. The watching brief undertaken at the site determined the presence of a body of Quaternary sediment underlying much, if not all of the site. These sediments appear consistent with the Crayford Silts. However determining the age, palaeoenvironmental potential and archaeological significance of the deposits will require assessment of samples taken during the course of the watching brief.</i>								
<b>Museum/Accession No.</b>	TBC								

**Finds summary**

<b>Find type</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
None			

## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-306606**

### Project details

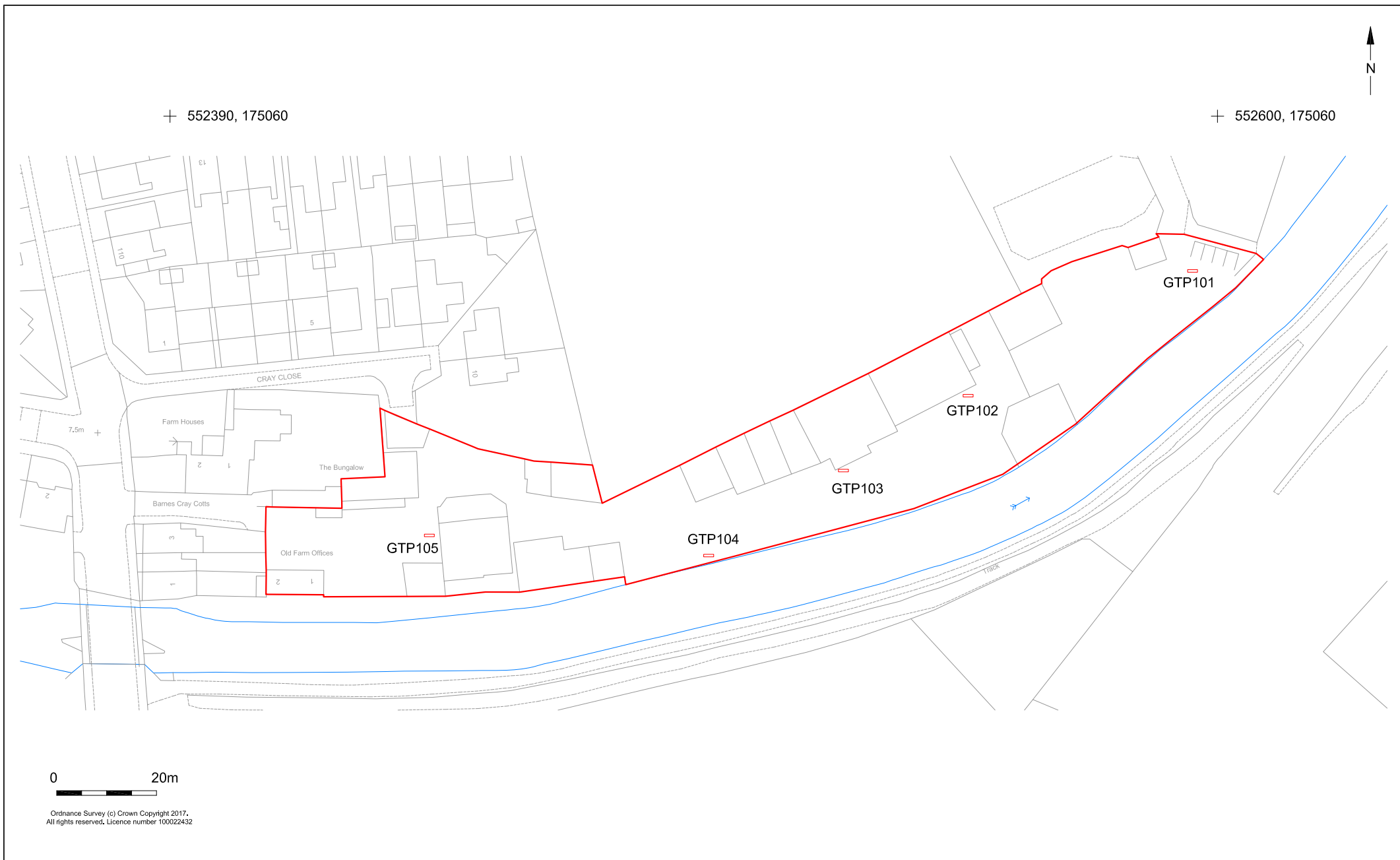
Project name	Geoarchaeological Watching Brief on Land at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent, DA1 4LX
Short description of the project	Archaeology South East were commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a watching brief on five geotechnical test pits on property at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent. The watching brief undertaken at the site determined the presence of a body of Quaternary sediment underlying much, if not all of the site. These sediments appear consistent with the Crayford Silts. However determining the age, palaeoenvironmental potential and archaeological significance of the deposits will require assessment of samples taken during the course of the watching brief.
Project dates	Start: 18-01-2018 End: 19-01-2018
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	MLC18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	DEPOSITS Uncertain
Significant Finds	0 None
Investigation type	"Test-Pit Survey", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BEXLEY CRAYFORD Land at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent, DA1 4LX
Postcode	DA1 4LX
Study area	1 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 552492 174980 50.935426425669 0.209746150626 50 56 07 N 000 12 35 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 4m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Matt Pope
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive Exists?	No
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Geoarchaeological Watching Brief on Land at Maiden Lane, Crayford, Dartford, Kent, DA1 4LX
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pope, M.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No: 2018020
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Description	GA WB Report
Entered by	a.margetts (a.margetts@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	18 January 2018





© Archaeology South-East		Maiden Lane, Crayford, Kent	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 180003	Jan 2018	Site location	
Report No: 2018020	Drawn by: APL		



© Archaeology South-East		Maiden Lane, Crayford, Kent	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 180003	Jan 2018	Location of geotechnical test pits	
Report Ref: 2018020	Drawn by: JLR		

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