
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**FORMER GARAGE SITE,
LAND ADJACENT TO 99 RAMNEY DRIVE,
ENFIELD EN3 6DU**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND RECORDING**

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski MA (Fieldwork & report) Andrew Peachey AIFA (Research)	
NGR: TQ 3649 9900	Report No. 3491
District: London Borough of Enfield	Site Code:
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3829
Signed:	Date: February 2010

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Former Garage Site, Land Adjacent to 99 Ramney Drive, Enfield EN3 6DU</i>		
<p><i>In February 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 99 Ramney Drive, Enfield EN3 6DX (TQ 3649 9900). The monitoring was commissioned by Indecon Building Ltd, in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a pair of two-storey, 3-bedroom semi-detached residential dwellings on the site.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, within the Lea Valley, which has revealed evidence of human activity and palaeoenvironmental evidence from the prehistoric period onwards. In particular, the site had potential for Bronze Age and medieval archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>24th February 2010</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>3829</i>	Site code	
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Site status	<i>-</i>		
Current land use	<i>Former garages/car park</i>		
Planned development	<i>Two new semi-detached dwellings</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Greater London</i>	<i>LB Enfield</i>	<i>Enfield</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>GLSMR</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>EN3 6DU</i>		
Area of site	<i>410m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TQ 3649 9900</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>18/17.40m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Advice from EH GLAAS</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
Funded by	<i>Indecon Building Ltd</i>		
Full title	<i>Former Garage Site, Land Adjacent to 99 Ramney Drive, Enfield EN3 6DU. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z., Peachey, A.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3491</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>February 2010</i>		

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SUMMARY

In February 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 99 Ramney Drive, Enfield EN3 6DX (TQ 3649 9900). The monitoring was commissioned by Indecon Building Ltd, in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a pair of two-storey, 3-bedroom semi-detached residential dwellings.

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, within the Lea Valley, which has revealed evidence of human activity and palaeoenvironmental evidence from the prehistoric period onwards. In particular, the site had potential for Bronze Age and medieval archaeological remains.

In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2010 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording on land adjacent to 99 Ramney Drive, Enfield EN3 6DU (TQ 3649 9900; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was commissioned by Indecon Building Ltd, in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of a pair of two-storey, 3-bedroom semi-detached residential dwellings (London Borough of Enfield Planning Ref. TP/06/1554). The monitoring was carried out during the remaining groundworks for the foundations of the new dwellings. Foundations for one of the pair of semi-detached dwellings, along with ground reduction to the rear, had been carried out prior to the watching brief taking place.

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance to an advice from English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (EH GLAAS), and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 23/02/2010), and approved by EH GLAAS. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2001).

1.3 The objectives of the project of archaeological monitoring and recording were:

- to ensure the archaeological excavation and monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;

- to secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- to secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the appropriate publication of the project results, if required; and
- to secure the analysis, long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

Planning policy context

1.4 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.5 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.6 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site is located within an area of residential housing in the northern part of Enfield Lock in London Borough of Enfield. It lies to c. 200m to the north of Ordnance Road and c. 1km south of M25 Motorway. The river Lea is located to the east.

2.2 The site is bounded to the north and to the south by dwellings fronting Ramney Drive. The property is situated to the immediate east of a railway aligned north/south. The site is a former car park and is not occupied by any standing structures.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies on relatively flat land, at c. 17.50m AOD. The solid geology of the environs is clay of Eocene Thames Group. Soils on the site have not been surveyed; however, the soils to the west and north-east are of the

Windsor association, described as clayey soils mostly with brown subsoils over clay (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Artefactual and environmental evidence for Palaeolithic and Mesolithic occupation has been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site. The artefactual evidence includes a mammoth tusk and flint implements (GLSMR MLO12167) that were recovered from a well, the precise location of which is unknown, but whose location is given as on the site. Mammoth teeth have also been recorded c. 200m to the south (GLSMR MLO12159), while Palaeolithic and Mesolithic sediments and gravels have been sampled during test pit investigations c. 200-400m to the north (GLSMR MLO78160 and MLO75929).

4.2 Extensive evidence for a Bronze Age settlement has been recorded during archaeological investigations on land within a c. 500m radius to the east of the site on the modern Innova Park (GLSMR MLO75111 and MLO75924) and Ramney Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works (GLSMR MLO72114-7, MLO74431-2). This landscape appears to have included four post-built structures and a wattle fence line, pit alignments, ditches and banks probably associated with pastoral farming and water management, all dated by Bronze Age pottery and flint work (probably mid to late Bronze Age).

4.3 The land to the east of the site appears to have been subject to limited agricultural exploitation during the Roman period, as evidenced by ditches recorded c. 400m to the east (GLSMR MLO72118 and MLO 75931).

4.4 The moated site of a medieval manor house (GLSMR MLO20714), once held by the Elsynge family under Edward III, is located c. 200m to the south east of the site and isolated medieval pits in the vicinity (GLSMR MLO20714 and MLO76768) suggest that the area was occupied and exploited probably as part of this manorial estate.

4.5 The area appears to have been lightly exploited during the post-medieval period with archaeological investigations in the area recording evidence for agricultural activity only, in the form of plough marks, field drains and dump deposits (GLSMR MLO 72119-20, MLO76770).

4.6 In the 20th century the Royal Gunpowder Factory and Royal Small Arms Factory were located at Waltham Abbey and Enfield, and as a result in the Second World War 'Light Anti-Aircraft Guns' were placed in the area to protect these installations. One such artillery placement (GLSMR MLO68243) is recorded as near Tysoe Avenue, with the approximate grid reference locating it within the site, although this location is general and not precise.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1. The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Archaeological features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the excavated area was scanned by metal detector.

5.2 The principal elements monitored were mechanically-excavated remaining foundation trenches for the northernmost of the pair of new semi-detached dwellings (Fig. 3). The foundations for the southernmost dwelling has been completed prior the watching brief commencing. The groundworks had also comprised ground reduction within the western part of the site, which was recorded during the watching brief and the excavation of trenches for new sewage and drainage.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 Two sample sections were recorded:

<i>N foundation trench, Sample section 1, facing S (DP 5)</i>		
<i>0.00 = 17.51 m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.25m	L1000	Made ground. Dark grey, compact, silty clay with CBM
0.25m+	L1002	Natural. Greyish yellow, compact, clay.

<i>N/central foundation trench, sample section 2, facing W (DP 6)</i>		
<i>0.00 = 17.64m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.37m	L1000	Made ground. As above.
0.37m+	L1001	Natural clay. As above.

Description The monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.

7 DEPOSIT MODEL

7.1 The site was overlain by Made Ground L1000, a layer of dark grey, compact, silty clay with modern CBM fragments. It overlay the natural clay, L1001.

7.2 The natural clay, L1001, was a slightly greyish yellow, compact, clay. In the north-western part of the site the clay contained lenses of grey, loose, gravel. It was present at 0.25 – 0.40m below the present ground level.

8 CONFIDENCE RATING

8.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the archaeological monitoring and recording, other than the fact that prior to the monitoring taking place some of the groundworks had already completed including the ground reduction in the western part of the site, and the services and foundations in the southern part of the site.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for Bronze Age and medieval remains. Such remains have been recorded locally and within the Lea Valley.

9.2 In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archives and Resource Centre (LAARC). The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Indecon Building Ltd for funding this project (in particular Mr Dave Tumbridge and Mr Andy Manston for their assistance). AS would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Chris Evelyn-Rahr of Baily Garner LLP. AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Ms Kim Stabler of English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

British Geological Survey (BGS), 1978, *Legend for the 1:625,000 Geological map of the United Kingdom (solid geology)*: London. Mansfield

Institute of Field Archaeologists (now Institute for Archaeologists), 1994 (revised 2001), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*. IfA Reading.

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW), 1983, *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales*. SSEW, Harpenden

APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA

The following sites are those that lie within a 500m radius of the assessment site. The table has been compiled from data held by the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER). The locations of the sites are shown in Fig. 3. Their significance, where relevant, is discussed in Section 4.2.

HER	NGR SP	Description
Prehistoric		
MLO78160	Centroid TQ 367 986	Enfield Lock. Marls and organic muds sampled for environmental evidence including pollen (Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC)
MLO75929	TQ 36550 99250 (point)	Innova Park. Two test pits were excavated by mechanical excavator to a depth sufficient to fully expose the sequence of Pleistocene and Holocene deposits in the area. Modern made ground extended down to the top of the Pleistocene gravels. This suggests that much of the archaeology, if present, was destroyed. The basal gravel deposits can be assumed to be older than 10000 BP. Consequently they correspond with the Palaeolithic period. Gravels were coarse and indicative of high energy deposition.
MLO12159	Centroid TQ 3650 9880	300 Ordnance Rd. Mammoth Teeth (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 10001 BC)
MLO12167	Centroid TQ 3650 9900	Enfield Lock. Levallois Flake, Handaxe & Mammoth Tusk Found In A Well At Moxeys Nursery(Unlocated) (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 10001 BC)
MLO75924	TQ 36900 98950 (point)	Innova Park. The excavation area covered approximately 6,270m square of land and was located close to the southern boundary of the former sewage works, west of the fishing lake. The excavation revealed Bronze Age features consisting of a total of four ditches. Associated features included 61 pits that formed three identifiable groups in a linear south alignment.
MLO75111	Centroid TQ 3690 9895	Innova Park. Evaluation undertaken by Dave Godden for WA, February 2000; site code RMA97. A bronze age ditch and bank constrained the W side of the Little River Lea. The bank sealed a small area of prehistoric land surface. A smaller ditch was sealed by a layer containing prehistoric finds and tree throw pits. Remains of the former sewage treatment plant are evident across the site. See also SMR references 084268-74 and 084844-5 for further phases of work at this site.
MLO72114	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Rammey Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. Eight ditches were recorded of late bronze age date. They are most likely to be drainage or boundary ditches associated with pastoral farming. The bronze age features contained worked and burnt flint, bone and pottery. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO72115	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Rammey Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. A small pit of late bronze age date was recorded. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO72116	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Rammey Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. 18 postholes of late bronze age date were recorded, including two possible post-built structures (SMR ref: 084270). Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO72117	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Rammey Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. Two possible post-built structures of late bronze age date were recorded. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO74431	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Rammey Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Nov 1999; site code RMA97. Shallow relict north-south water channel, approx 5m wide, recorded. Nature of deposits within and alongside channel indicates it was a slow flowing low-energy watercourse. Bank deposits of relict channel sealed by fine silts and gravel deposits which produced bone, worked and burnt flint and Mid/Late Bronze Age pottery. Finds probably derived from nearby occupation. River bank activity deposits covered width of some 15m adjacent to channel. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71) (084845), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO74432	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Rammey Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Nov 1999; site code RMA97. Within a shallow pit/depression (084269), located on the western bank of the channel (084844), a layer of inter-leaved withies and several worked timbers, including a single in-situ upright post (084270) were recorded and interpreted as structural, possibly a fallen wattle fence of Bronze Age date. Periods

		recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), (084844), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO64632	Centroid TQ 3640 9860	19-67 Bradley Rd. Evaluation by D. Seeley for Museum of London Archaeology Service, July 1995; site code BEK95. Two unstratified prehistoric flint flakes were recovered from one of the trenches. Periods recorded under same site code: mediaeval (083288).
Roman		
MLO75931	TQ 3690 98950 (point)	Innova Park. The on site recording action consisted of four trenches. three of these were former evaluation trenches (63, 64 and 74) that for engineering purposes were re-excavated and had geo-textile laid over the archaeological deposits prior to being backfilled with compacted material. A shallow ditch of Romano-British date (containing residual Bronze Age pottery) and waterbourne deposits previously recorded as being Bronze Age deposits within a palaeochannel.
MLO72118	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Ramney Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. A ditch containing large fragments of C1st AD pottery, possibly very late iron age or early Roman was recorded. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
Medieval		
MLO76768	Centroid TQ 3690 9895	Innova Science Park. Roman/Saxon features were recorded, including two sub-rounded/circular shallow pitwith rirregular sides containing Saxon pottery and Roman CBM.
MLO64633	Centroid TQ 3640 9860	19-67 Bradley Rd. Evaluation by D. Seeley for Museum of London Archaeology Service, July 1995; site code BEK95. One small mediaeval pit was found. This produced several sherds of mediaeval pottery. Periods recorded under same site code: prehistoric (083287).
MLO20714	Centroid TQ 3661 9887	Ordnance Rd. Site Of A Quadrangular Moat With Bridges On S & E Sides. A House Of Wood &Plaster Was Demolished C 1787 & Another Erected. The Moat Is Shown Completeon The Enclosure Map Of 1803, One Arm Was Filled In Before 1937 & The Restwas Filled In & The Site Developed During The Early 1960's. (Os Card)The Manor Was Held By The Elsyng Family Under Edward Iii & By J Norrys In1455 (Tboag). Has Also Been Known As Norrys Or North Farm. Possibly The Siteof Elsyng Manor House (Whitaker, Lysons)
Post-medieval		
MLO76770	Centroid TQ 3690 9895	Innova Science Park. Several post-medieval features were recorded including two plough marks.
MLO72119	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Ramney Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. Post-medieval field drains were recorded in all trenches. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
MLO72120	Centroid TQ 3680 9930	Ramney Marsh Former Sewage Treatment Works. Evaluation undertaken by Kevin Ritchie for WA, Jan'98; site code RMA97. Post-medieval dumped deposits were recorded in all trenches. Periods recorded under this site code: Late Bronze Age (084268-71), Roman (084272), post-medieval (084273-4).
19th Century-Modern		
MLO68243	Centroid TQ 3650 9900	Tysoe Ave (Near). Site of Light Anti-Aircraft guns, positioned to defend Vulnerable Point no. 100, the Royal Gunpowder Factory and the Royal Small arms Factory at Waltham Abbey & Enfield. LAA guns sited at same general NGR defended the RSAF at VP no. 108, Enfield Lock. Site recorded for the Defence of Britain Project. MGR [L] 8117.
Undated		
MLO75127	Centroid TQ 3655 9915	Tysoe Ave Land Off. Evaluation undertaken by M. John Saunders for TVAS, October 2000; site code TYE00. No archaeological deposits were observed or finds recovered. Made ground overlay alluvium which in turn overlay gravel. No further periods recorded under this site code.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Land adjacent to 99 Ramney Drive, Enfield EN3 6DX. View SW.



DP 2. The site. View SE.



DP 3. W foundation trench. View S.



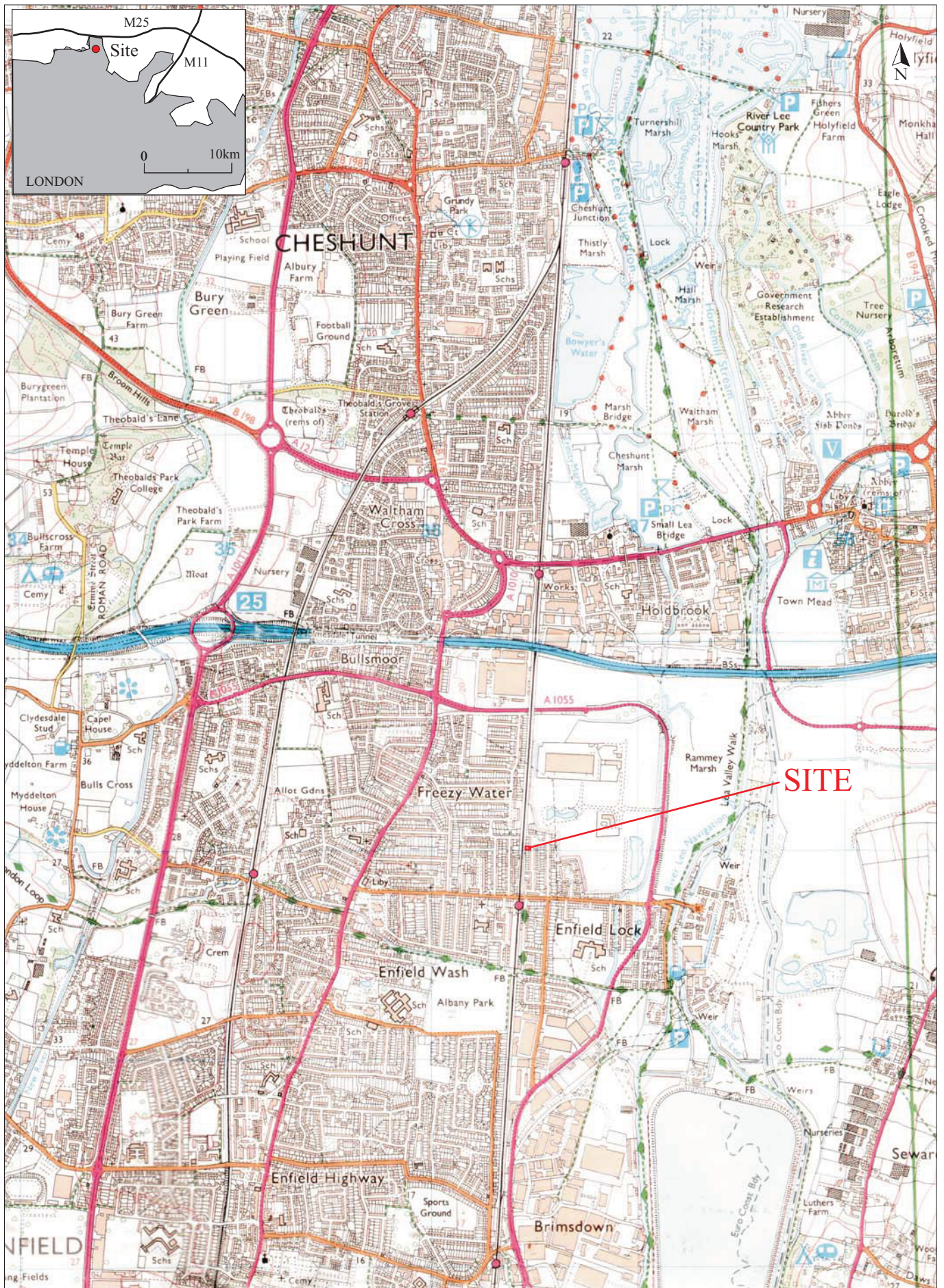
DP 4. Central foundation trench. View E.



DP 5. N foundation trench, sample section 1. View N.

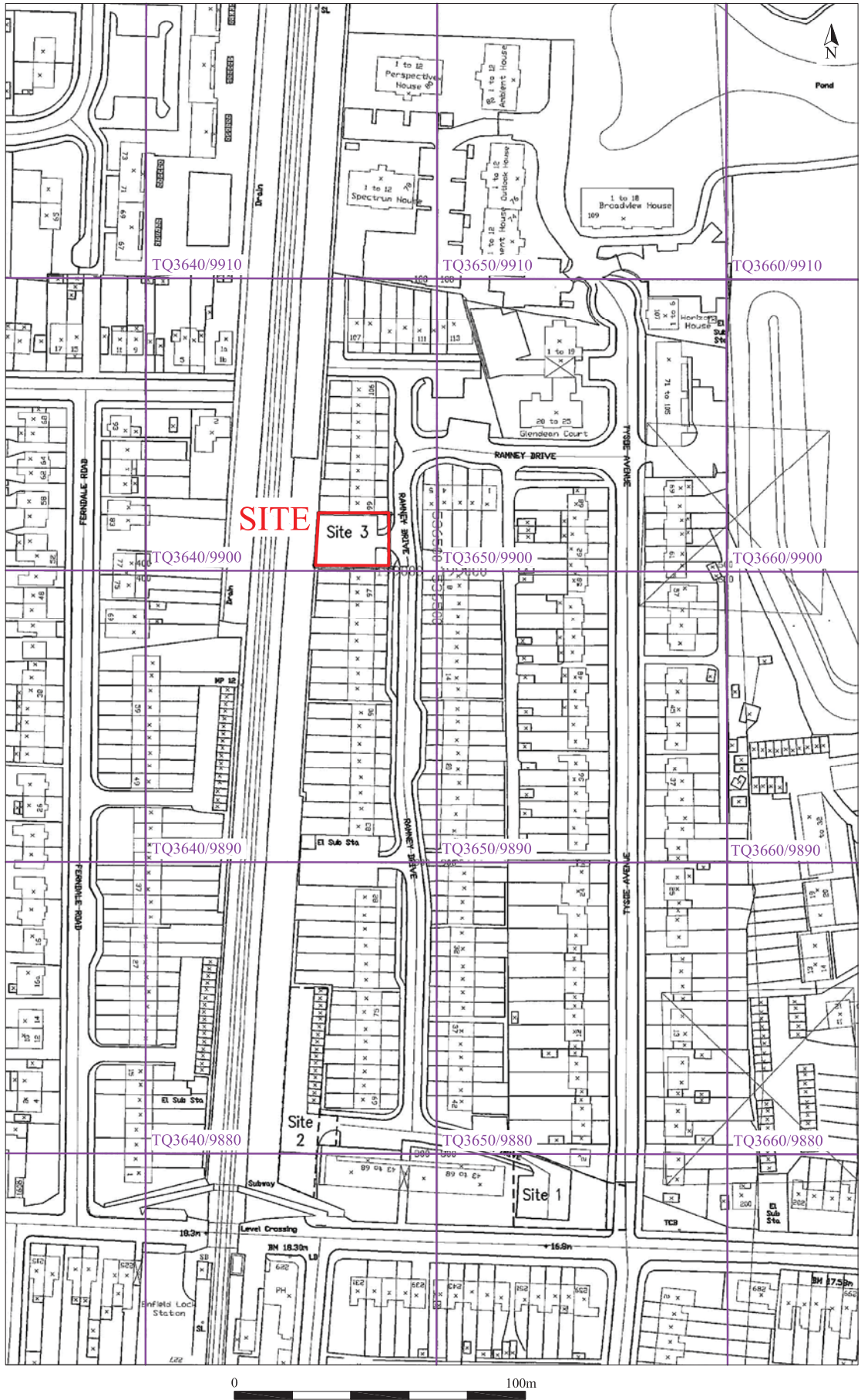


DP 6. N/central foundation trench. View E.



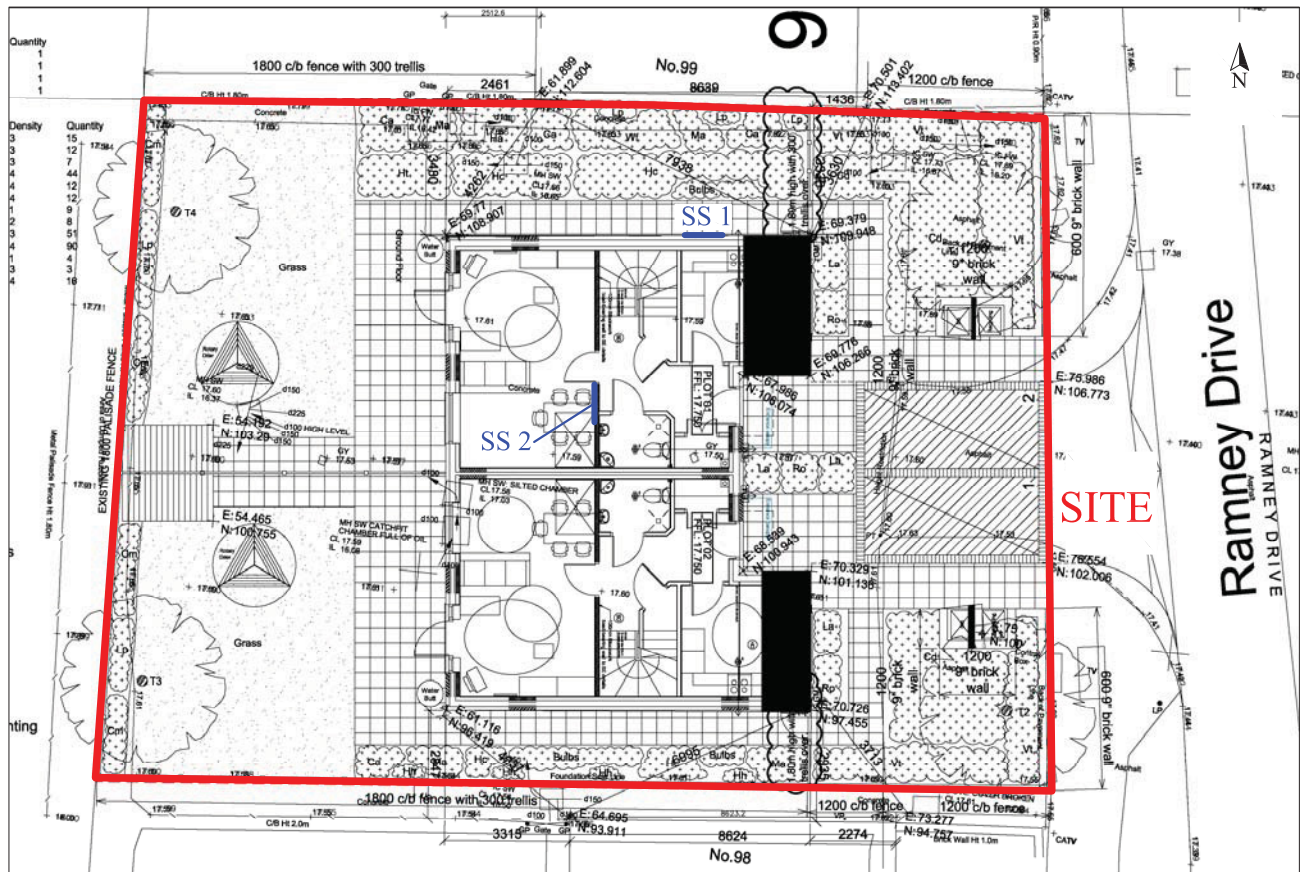
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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



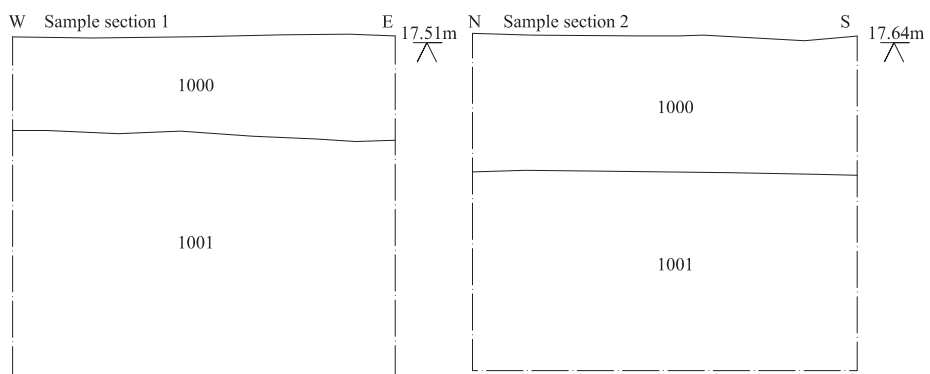
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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:2000 at A4



SS = Sample section

0 Plans 10m



0 Sample sections 2m

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Fig. 3 Area of watching brief & sample sections

Scale 1:1250 at A4