

**T H A M E S      V A L L E Y**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

**S E R V I C E S**

**182-200 High Street, Hornchurch,  
London Borough of Havering**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**by Aiji Castle**

**Site Code: HGS13**

**(TQ 5415 8702)**

**182-200 High Street,  
Hornchurch, Essex**

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
for Western Investments Limited**

by Aiji Castle

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code HGS13

**June 2013**

## Summary

**Site name:** 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch, London Borough of Havering

**Grid reference:** TQ 5415 8702

**Site activity:** Archaeological Evaluation

**Date and duration of project:** 12th June 2013

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Aiji Castle

**Site code:** HGS13

**Area of site:** c. 750sq m.

**Summary of results:** No deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were found. The site is considered to have no archaeological potential

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at the Museum of London with accession code HGS13.

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[www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp](http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp).*

Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 17.06.13 Steve Preston ✓ 13.06.13
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# 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch, London Borough of Havering An Archaeological Evaluation

by Aiji Castle

Report 13/92

## Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at the rear of the properties at 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch, Essex TQ 54150 87020 (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr David Brandon of Dovetail Architects on behalf of Western Investments Limited, 431 High Street North, Manor Park, London E12 6TJ.

Planning permission (App no: P1290.12) has been gained from the London Borough of Havering to re-develop parts of the site and extend and refurbish certain existing buildings. The consent is subject to a condition relating to archaeology. The results of a field evaluation are required in order to provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site so as to mitigate the effects of development.

This was as set out in *National Planning Policy Framework*, (NPPF 2012) and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Havering Borough Council as advised by Mr Adam Single, Archaeological Officer for Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service, and was undertaken by Aiji Castle and Christopher Crabb on 12th June 2013. The TVAS project code is 200HGS13/92 and the site code is HGS13. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at the Museum of London with accession number HGS13 in due course.

## Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the south side of the High Street, Hornchurch, historically in Essex and now part of Greater London. It lies at the rear of several properties (Fig. 2) with access from the High Street. It comprises an irregular concrete yard of *c.* 750 sq m occupied by a large garage block, a row of small office buildings and an electricity sub-station. The site gently slopes from east to west but lies generally at a height of *c.* 26m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying geology is a mix of Boyn Hill Gravel, Brickearth and London Clay (BGS 1976) but with a silt clay and sand encountered in the trenches



## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location within the historic centre of Hornchurch. Hornchurch is of medieval origin and is not mentioned in Domesday Book of 1086 (Williams and Martin 2002). The parish church to the east of the site has 12th century origins and there are a number of sites and finds recorded in the Greater London Historic Environment Record of medieval date in surrounding areas (MoLAS 2000).

## **Objectives and methodology**

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of preservation of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development.

The specific research aims of the project were:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels had survived on the site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period were present; and
- to determine if any deposits of medieval or early post-medieval date were present.

It was proposed to dig two trenches, 10m long and 1.6m wide targeted at the areas of proposed new building. A contingency of 10m of trench was included within the proposal, should it have been required to clarify findings made by the initial trenches. Initial excavation on site was to be carried out by a JCB-type machine with a breaker fitted to remove the concrete surface. Thereafter, excavation of the trenches was to be undertaken with a toothless ditching bucket to expose archaeologically sensitive layers, under archaeological supervision. The trenches were to be dug to expose the full depth of deposits above the natural geology.

## **Results**

Due to the position of a garage building, Trench 1 was moved approximately 10m to the west of its intended location and re-aligned east-west. Trench 2 was therefore adjusted accordingly and moved approximately 3m to the west but excavated on its original orientation (Fig. 3).. The width of each trench was 1.60m. A list of the trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

### Trench 1 (Fig 4; Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was aligned E –W and was 11.0m long and 0.70m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of reinforced concrete overlying 0.25m of modern made ground. This consisted of brick, gravel, clinker and ballast

in a grey silty clay matrix. Under this lay mid red-yellow silty clay natural geology that was heavily stained by the made ground for a further 0.30m. Clean geology consisting of mid red-yellow silty clay with sand banding was reached at a depth of 0.70m. No archaeological features or finds were observed or recovered from this trench.

#### Trench 2 (Fig 4; Pl. 2)

Trench 2 was aligned NE-SW and was 10.0m in length and 0.75m in depth. Reinforced concrete of depth 0.25m overlay 0.35m of modern made ground consisting of mixed brick, gravel, tarmac and ballast in a grey silty clay matrix. The natural geology of mid yellow-red silty sand with occasional flint inclusions was reached at 0.60m although this again was stained by the made ground. Further excavation to a depth of 0.75m revealed clean geology without staining. No archaeological features or finds were recovered from this trench.

### **Conclusion**

With the exception of the repositioning of Trench 1, the evaluation was carried out as intended. No archaeological deposits or finds were revealed. On the basis of these results this site has negligible archaeological potential.

### **References**

- BGS, 1976, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 257, Drift Edition, Keyworth
- MoLAS, 2000, *The archaeology of Greater London; an assessment of archaeological evidence for human presence in the area now covered by Greater London*, Museum of London Archaeology Service Monogr, London
- NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department of Communities and Local Government, London (TSO)
- William and Martin, 2002, *Domesday Book, A complete translation*, London

## APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	11.0m	1.60m	0.70m	0-0.15m reinforced concrete; 0.15-0.40m modern made ground (brick, gravel, clinker and ballast in grey silty-clay matrix); 0.40m+ stained red-yellow silty clay natural geology <b>[Pl. 1]</b>
2	10.0m	1.60m	0.75m	0-0.25m reinforced concrete; 0.25-0.6m modern made ground (brick, gravel, tarmac and ballast in grey silty-clay matrix); 0.6m+ stained yellow-red silty sand; <b>[Pl. 2]</b>

APPENDIX 2: OASIS form

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: thamesva1-152776**

### Project details

Project name	182-200 High Street, Hornchurch
Short description of the project	No archaeological features or finds present
Project dates	Start: 12-06-2013 End: 12-06-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	200HSG13/92 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	HGS13 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	P1290.12 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	HGS13 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAVERING HORNCHURCH 182-200 High Street
Study area	750.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 5415 8702 51 0 51 33 37 N 000 13 26 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 25.00m Max: 26.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Thames Valley Archaeological Services

Project brief originator English Heritage/Department of Environment

Project design originator Steve Ford

Project director/manager Steve Ford

Project supervisor Aiji Castle

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Western Investments Ltd

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Museum of London

Digital Archive ID HGS13

Digital Contents "other"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"

Digital Archive notes Temporarily with TVAS, pending deposition

Paper Archive recipient Museum of London

Paper Archive ID HGS13

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic", "Survey"

Paper Media available "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Manuscript", "Microfilm", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey"

Paper Archive notes Temporarily with TVAS, pending deposition

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch, Essex

Author(s)/Editor(s) Castle, A

Other bibliographic details 13/92

Date 2013

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Entered on	13 June 2013

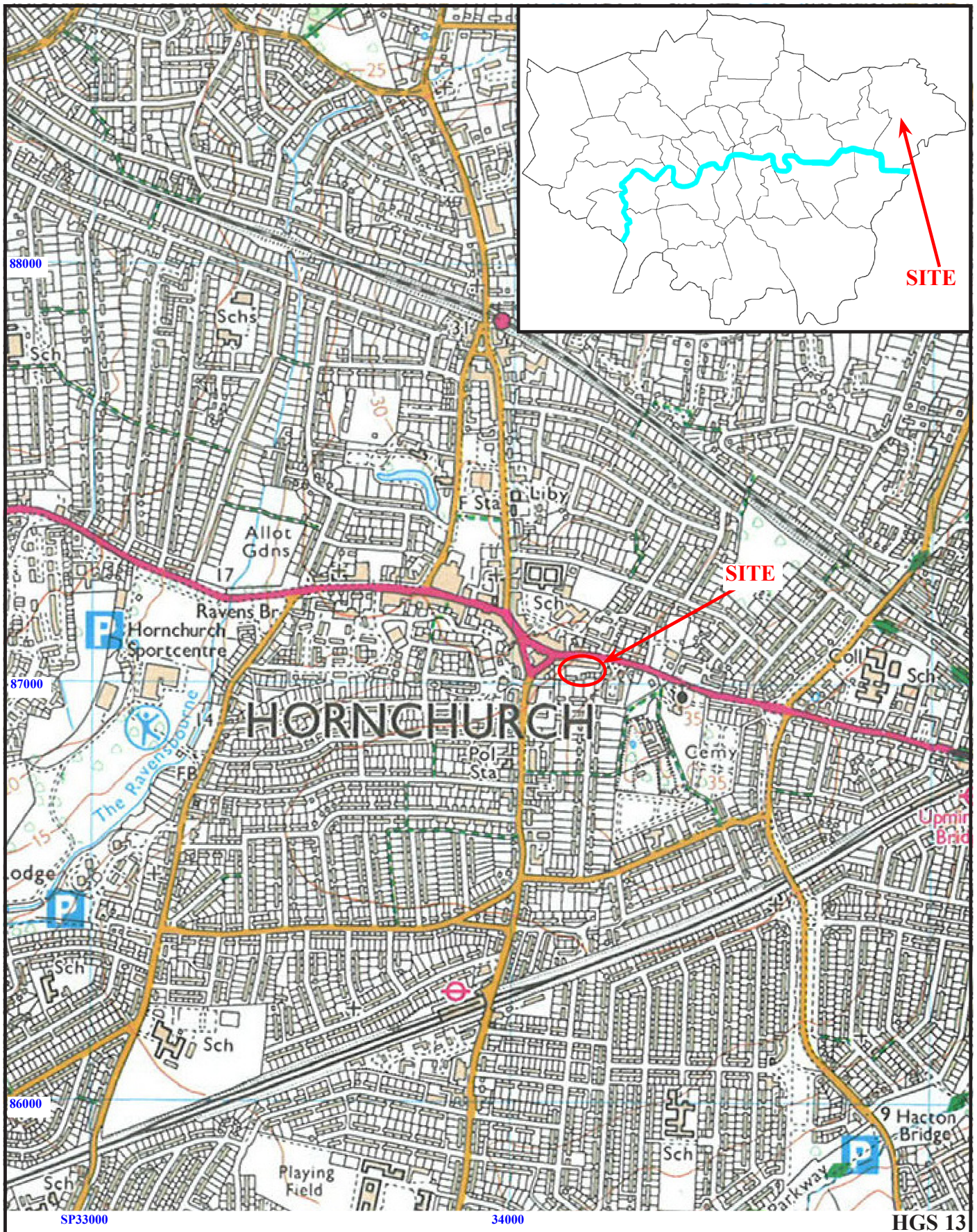
## OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

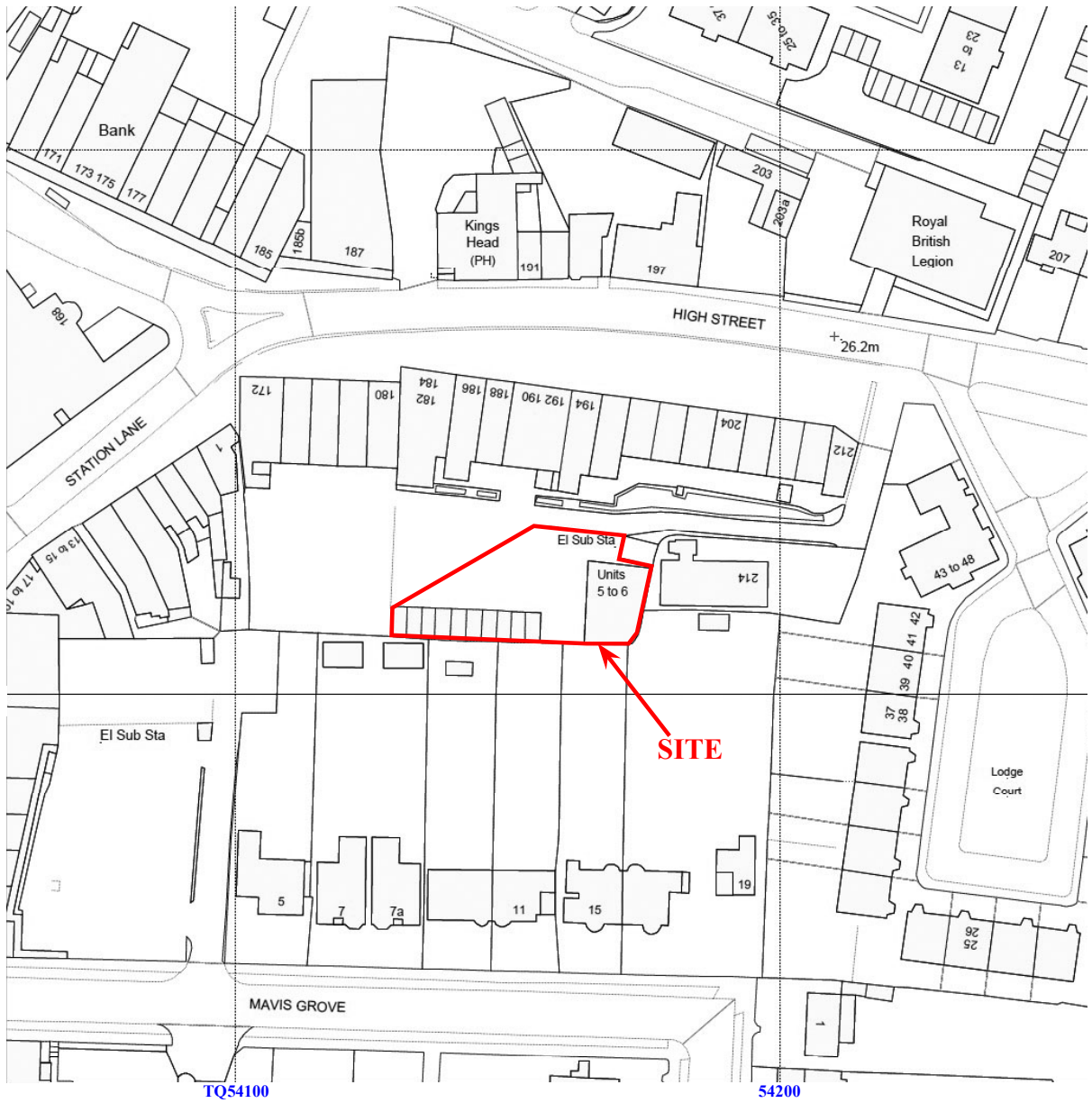




**Rear of 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch,  
London Borough of Havering, 2013  
Archaeological Evaluation**  
Figure 1. Location of site within Hornchurch and  
Greater London.

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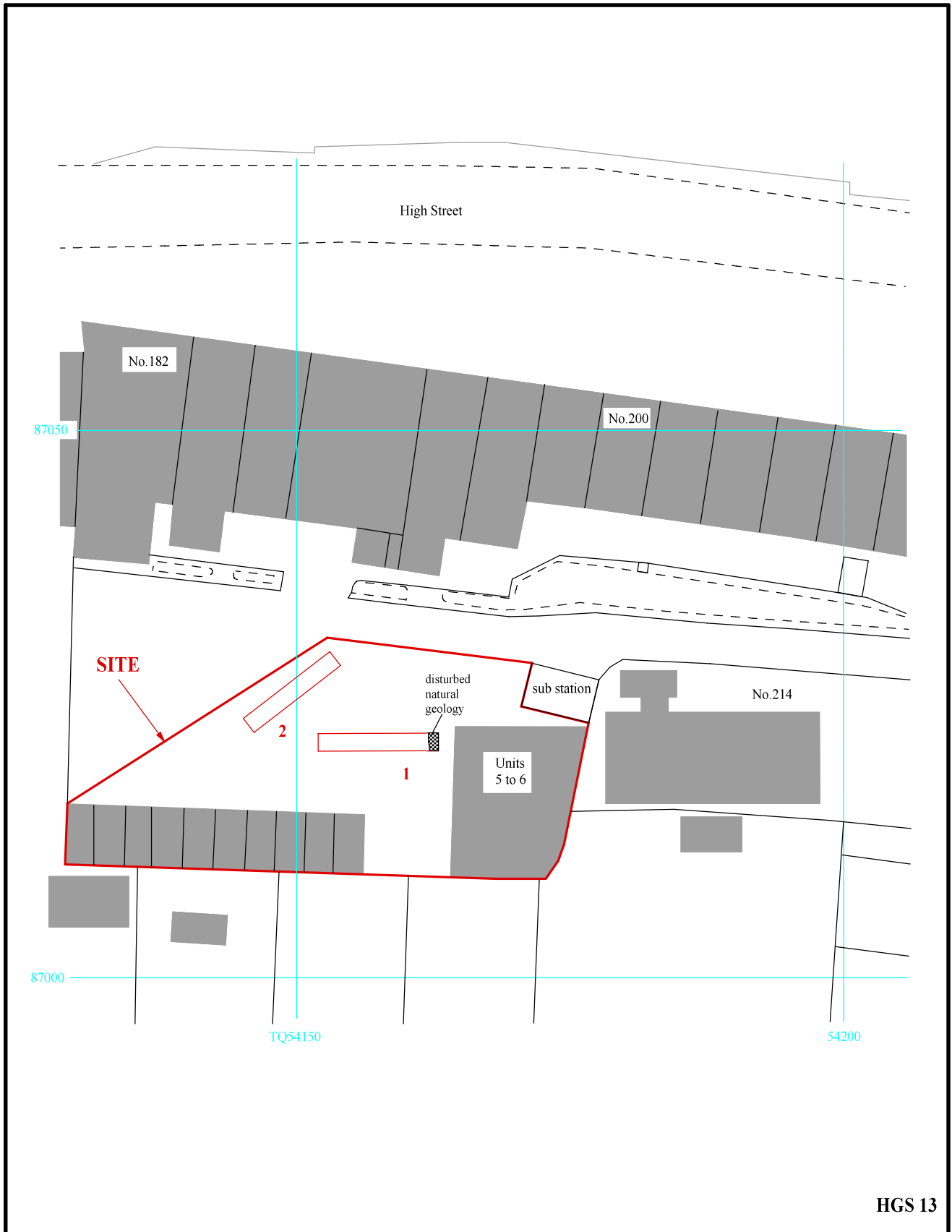


**Rear of 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch,  
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off the High Street.

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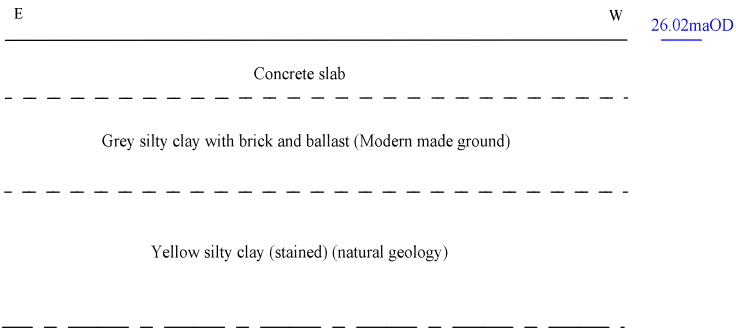


**Rear of 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch,  
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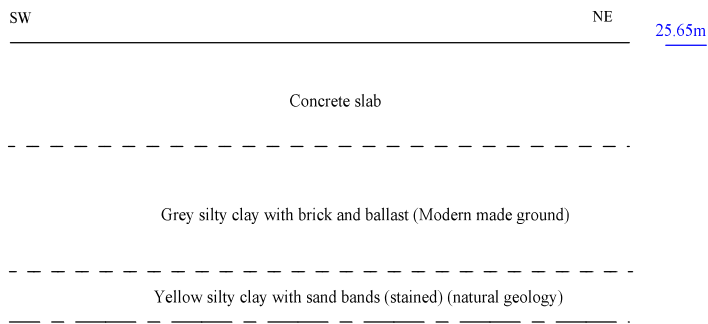
Figure 3. Location of trenches.



Trench 1



Trench 2



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Rear of 182-200 High Street, Hornchurch,  
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Figure 4. Representative section.



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Plate 1. Trench 1, looking east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 2, looking south west, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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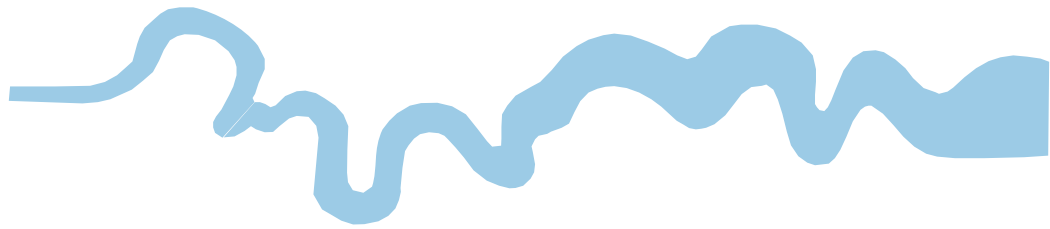
Plates 1 and 2.

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## TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late .....	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early .....	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late .....	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early .....	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper .....	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle .....	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower .....	2,000,000 BC





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