

# **Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond**

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
for George Wimpey West London Ltd**

By Andy Taylor

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code CJR 06

**November 2006**

## Summary

**Site name:** Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond

**Grid reference:** TQ 1751 7183

**Site activity:** Evaluation

**Date and duration of project:** 8th-9th November 2006

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Andy Taylor

**Site code:** CJR 06

**Area of site:** 0.64 hectares

**Summary of results:** Two gullies and a possible pit all of nineteenth century or later date

**Monuments identified:** Two gullies and a possible pit of nineteenth century date or later date

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

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 22.11.06 Jo Pine ✓ 22.11.06
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# **Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond An Archaeological Evaluation**

by Andy Taylor

**Report 06/101**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond (TQ 1751 7183) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Bill Luck of George Wimpey West London Ltd, Stratfield House, Station Road, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9PQ.

Planning permission (App no: 04/3296/FUL) has been gained from the London Borough of Richmond to redevelop the site for housing. The consent is subject to a condition relating to archaeology.

This is in accordance with the Department of the Environment's Planning Policy Guidance, Archaeology and Planning (PPG16 1990), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Mark Stevenson, Archaeology Adviser with Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, advisers to the Borough on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Taylor and Ben Thorner between the 8th and 9th November 2006 and the site code is CJR 06. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at the Museum of London in due course.

A desk-top study was carried out (Knight 2005), which highlighted the archaeological potential of the site. In summary prehistoric and Saxon remains have been observed within the immediate vicinity of the development area.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located on a parcel of land on the eastern side of Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond. It is bounded to the north by Abbots Mead, Langham House Close to the south and Forbes House to the east (Fig 2). The site is currently a demolition site, with the former Craig House having been demolished prior to the evaluation beginning. The underlying geology comprised 1st River Terrace gravel deposits (BGS 1981), which were observed across the site and the site lies at a height of approximately 7.60m above Ordnance Datum.

## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a desk-based assessment carried out by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (Knight 2005). This noted that prehistoric activity had been recorded close to the site. These comprised mostly lithic artefacts and a single sherd of Iron Age pottery. Also, within the locale of the site archaeological deposits of Saxon date were found further to the west of the site.

## **Objectives and methodology**

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

Specific aims of the project were;

To determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site given that much of the site has been previously developed.

To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present on the site.

To determine if earlier prehistoric occupation is present on the site.

To determine if Saxon occupation is present on the site.

A total of 6 trenches were excavated, measuring between 10.00m and 16.50m in length using a JCB type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. The trenches were located as close as possible to their original intended positions, although the demolition of the former Craig House resulted in piles of crushed concrete being present on site as well as cabins associated with the groundworkers. This also resulted in the slight shortening of some of the trenches. This was in consultation with the monitor. All spoilheaps were monitored for finds.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

## **Results**

### Trench 1

This trench was 16.5m long and 0.77m deep aligned north west- south east. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil overlying subsoil overlying clayey gravel natural. No archaeological deposits were observed.

#### Trench 2 (Plate 1; Figures 4 and 5)

This trench was 13.4m long and 0.82m deep aligned north east- south west. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil overlying subsoil overlying clayey gravel natural. Two gullies (1 and 2) and a possible pit (3) were identified in this trench. None of these were excavated as they were found to contain modern pottery and tile and in the case of the possible pit, plastic.

#### Trench 3

This trench was 14.6m long and 0.85m deep aligned north west- south east. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil overlying subsoil overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits were observed.

#### Trench 4

This trench was 14.0m long and 0.60m deep aligned west- east. The stratigraphy comprised topsoil overlying sandy gravel overlying a mid grey silty clay overlying clayey gravel natural. No archaeological deposits were observed.

#### Trench 5

This trench was 13.2m long and 0.53m deep aligned north west- south east. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil overlying subsoil overlying clayey gravel natural. No archaeological deposits were observed.

#### Trench 6 (Plate 2)

This trench was 10.0m long and 0.56m deep aligned north east- south west. The stratigraphy his trench comprised topsoil overlying subsoil overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits were observed.

### **Finds**

#### *Pottery* by Andy Taylor

Pottery remains identified comprised a large piece of mass produced white earthenware dating to the late 19th early 20th Century alongside four pieces of an orange brown sandy fabric type, most likely flowerpots, from gully 1. Gully 2 produced a single rim sherd of an 18th-19th century sandy fabric. Again, probably from a flowerpot.

## **Conclusion**

Despite the site's close proximity to previously identified archaeological remains the evaluation failed to identify any deposits or finds of an archaeological nature. Much of the site appears to have been highly truncated by the building of the former Craig House and its associated services but where land remained undisturbed no archaeology was encountered.

## **References**

BGS, 1981, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 270, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth  
Knight, H, 2005, Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, TW10, London Borough of Richmond, an archaeological impact assessment, Museum of London Archaeology Service, London  
PPG16, 1990, *Archaeology and Planning*, Dept of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance 16, HMSO

**APPENDIX 1: Trench details**

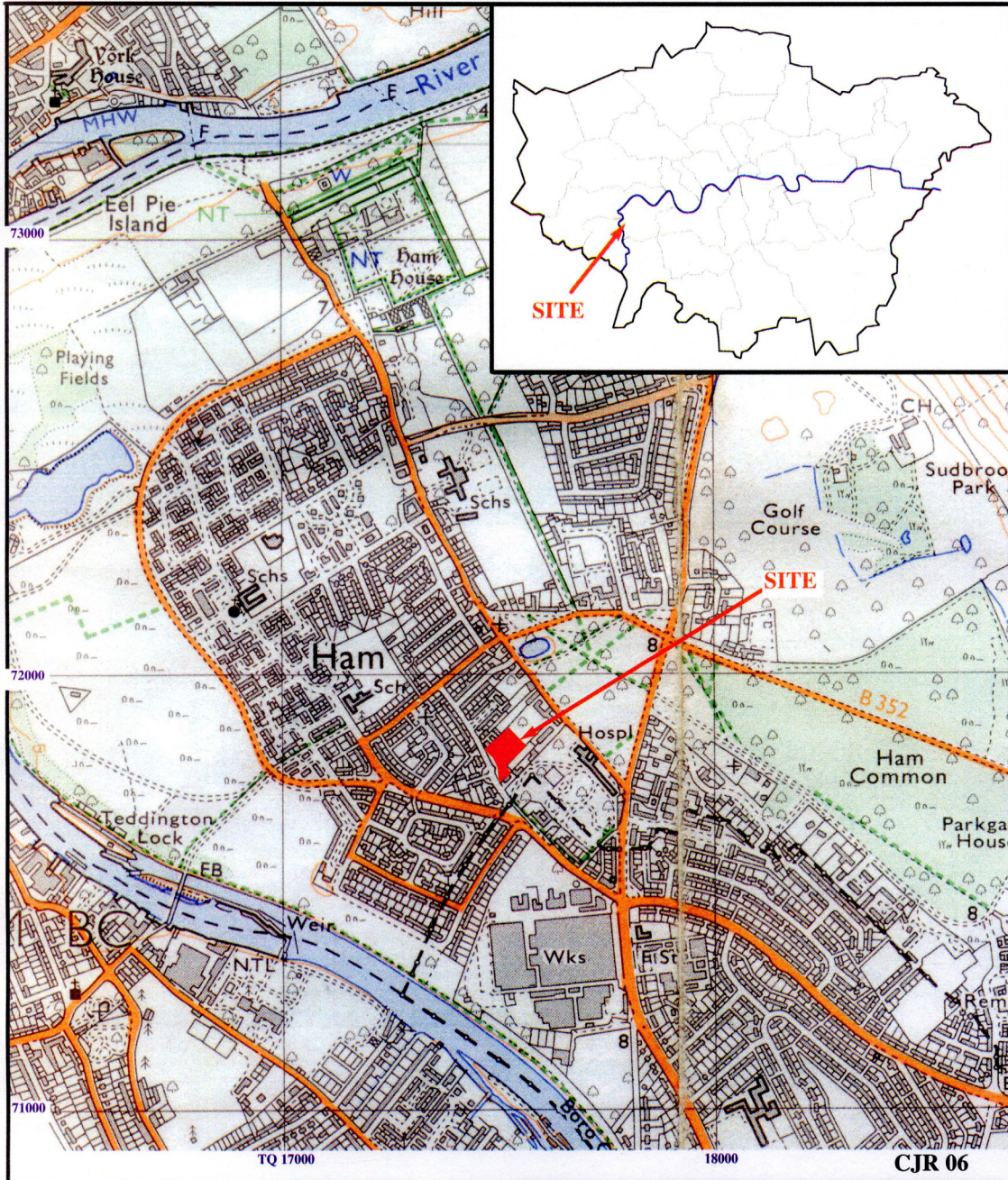
0m at S or W end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	16.50	1.60	0.77	0.00m-0.30m topsoil; 0.30m-0.73m subsoil; 0.73m-0.77m+ clayey gravel natural. Natural at 6.89m AOD.
2	13.40	1.60	0.82	0.00m-0.30m topsoil; 0.30m-0.78m subsoil; 0.78m-0.82m clayey gravel natural. Natural at 6.84m AOD. <b>[Plate 1]</b>
3	14.60	1.60	0.85	0.00m-0.17m topsoil; 0.17m-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m-0.82m mid brown silty clay; 0.82m-0.85m+ gravel natural. Natural at 6.80m AOD.
4	14.00	1.60	0.60	0.00m-0.40m topsoil; 0.10m-0.22m sandy gravel; 0.22m-0.58m mid grey silty clay; 0.58m-0.60m+ clayey gravel natural. Natural at 7.04m AOD.
5	13.20	1.60	0.53	0.00m-0.33m topsoil; 0.33m-0.50m subsoil; 0.50m-0.53m+ clayey gravel natural. Natural at 7.12m AOD.
6	10.00	1.60	0.56	0.00m-0.30m topsoil; 0.30m-0.54m subsoil; 0.54m-0.56m+ gravel natural. Natural at 7.08m AOD. <b>[Plate 2]</b>

**APPENDIX 2:** Feature details

Trench	Cut	Fill (s)	Type	Date	Dating evidence
2	1	50	Gully	19th-20th Century	Pottery
2	2	51	Gully	18th- 19th Century	Pottery
2	3	52	Pit	Modern	Plastic



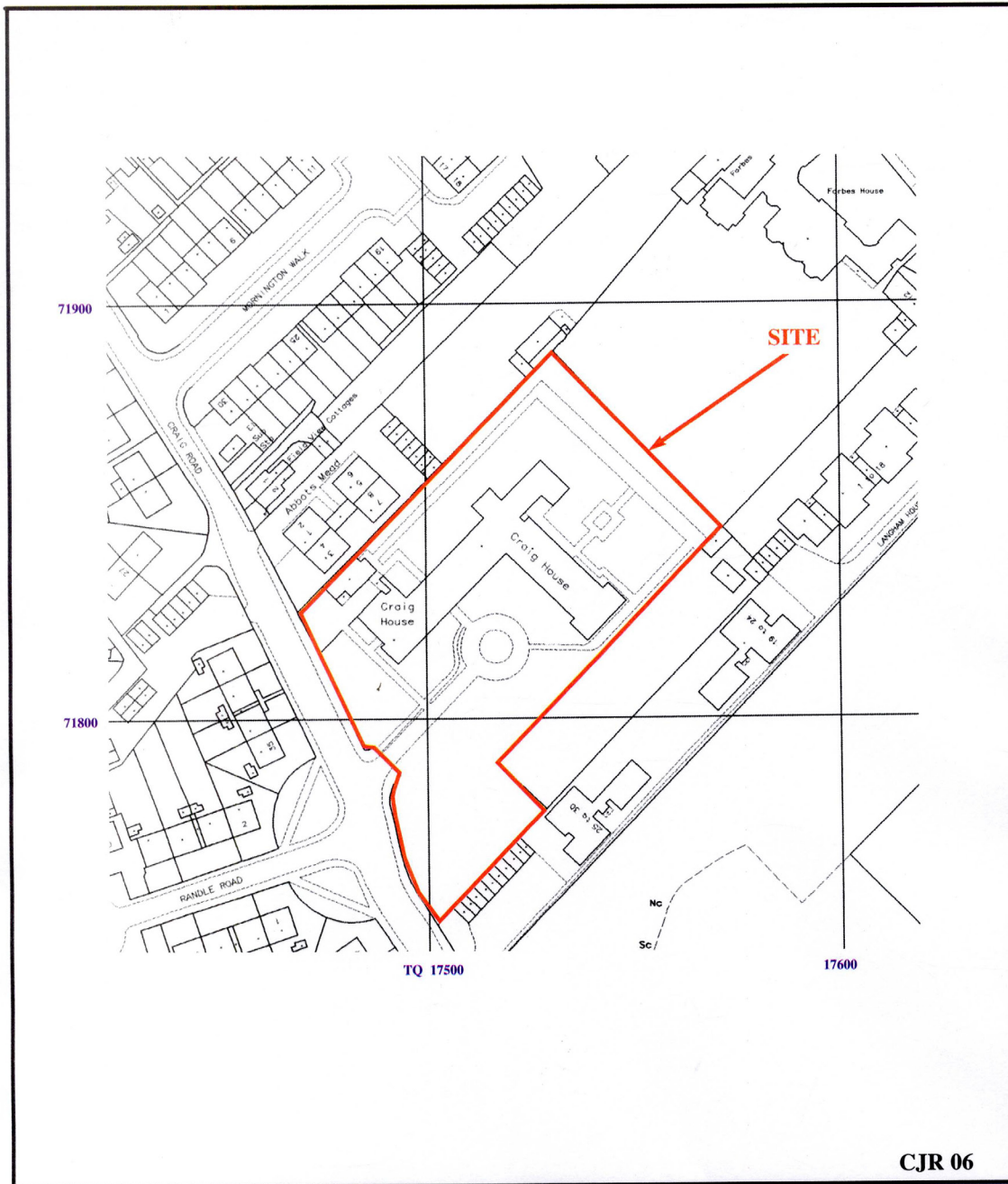


**Craig House, Craig Road, Ham,  
London Borough of Richmond, 2006  
an archaeological evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Ham and Greater London.

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Figure 2. Location of site within Ham.

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Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond, 2006

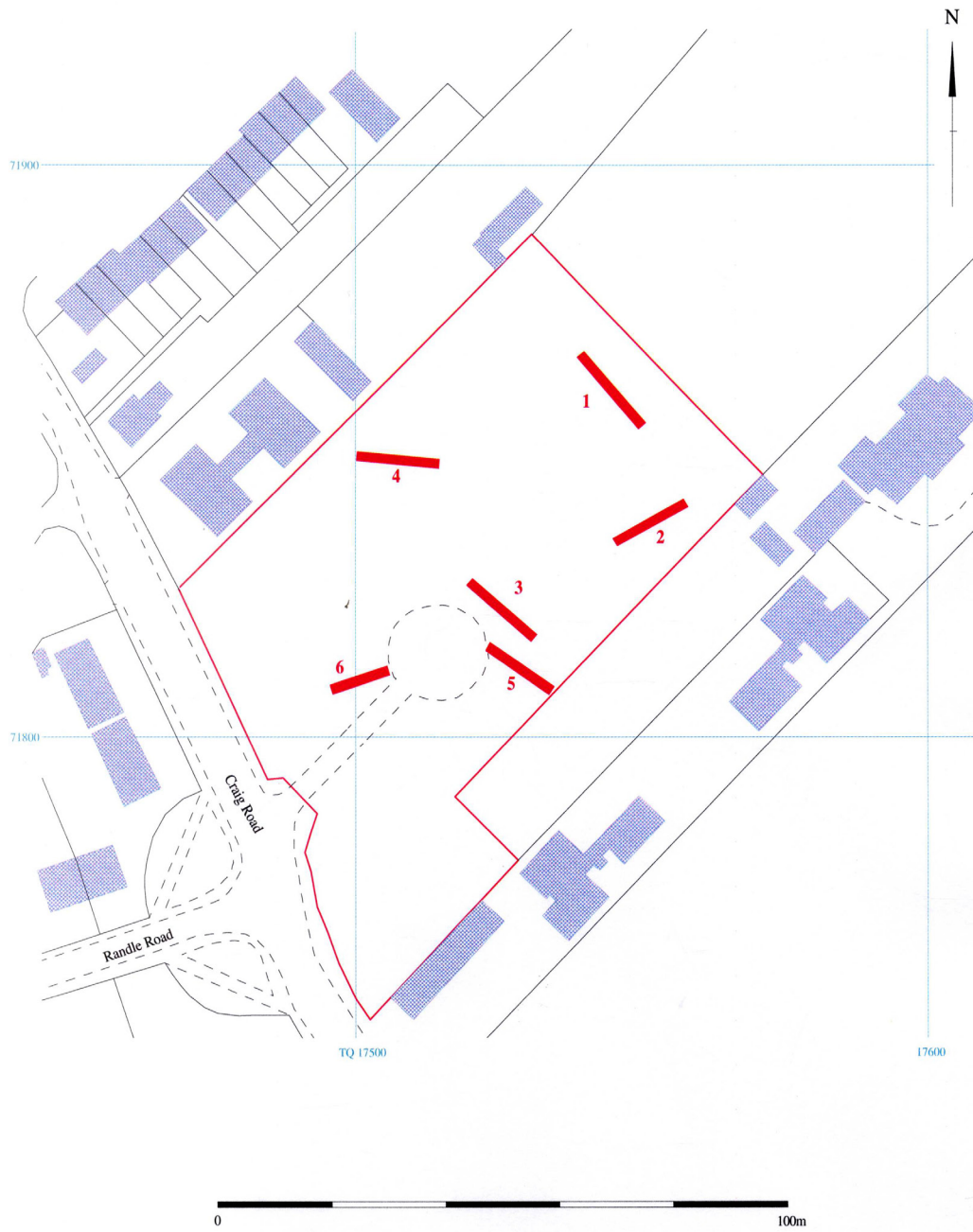


Figure 3: Trench Locations

CJR 06

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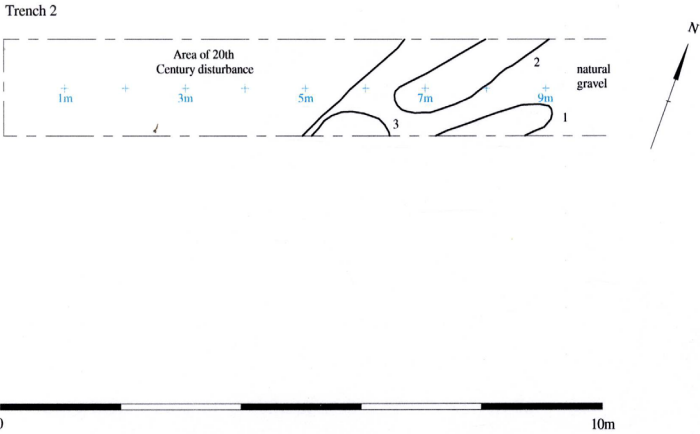


Figure 4: Trench Plan

# Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond, 2006

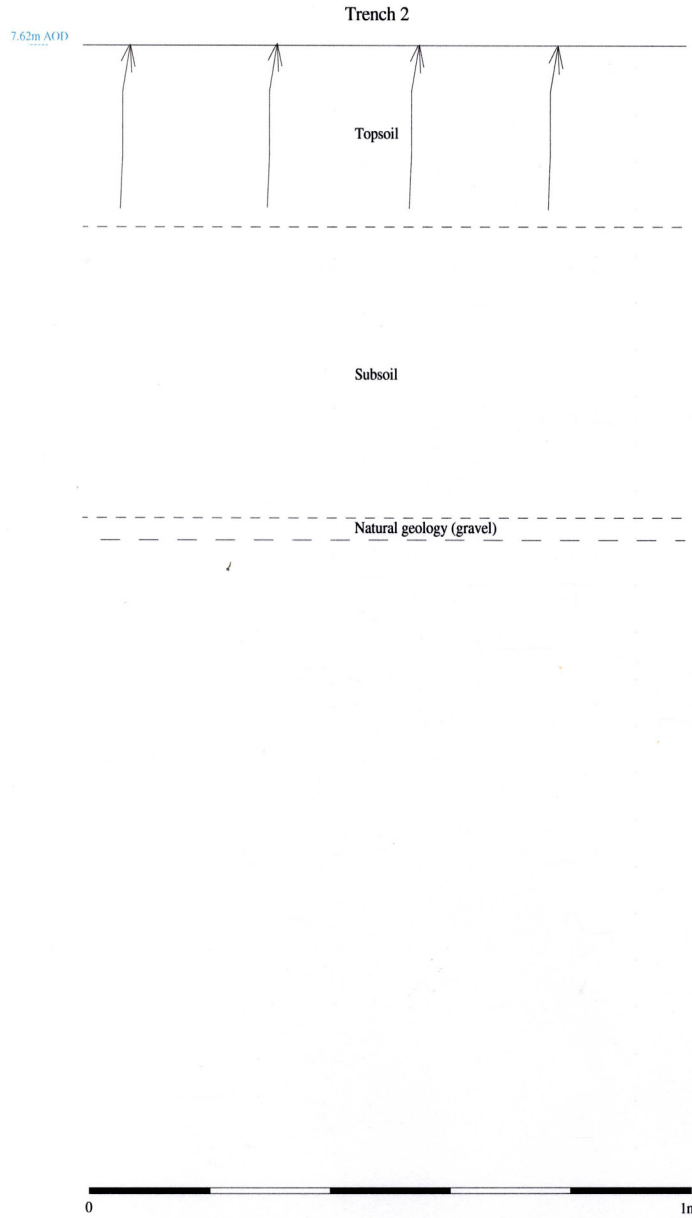


Figure 5: Representative Section



Plate 1. Trench 2 looking south-west, Scales 1m and 2m.



Plate 2. Trench 6 looking east, Scales 1m and 2m.

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## Project details

Project name	Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond
Short description of the project	Six trench evaluation at Craig House, Craig Road, Ham. London Borough of Richmond. No archaeology was located.
Project dates	Start: 08-11-2006 End: 09-11-2006
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	06/101 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	CJR 06 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	04/3296/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	GULLIES Modern
Monument type	PIT Modern
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

## Project location

Country England  
Site location GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND UPON THAMES Craig House, Craig Road, Ham, London Borough of Richmond on Thames  
Study area 0.64 Hectares  
Site coordinates TQ 1751 7183 51.4327687994 -0.309351706745 51 25 57 N 000 18 33 W Point  
Height OD Min: 6.80m Max: 7.12m

**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 Andy Taylor

**Project archives**

Physical Archive Exists? No  
Physical Archive recipient Museum of London  
Digital Archive Exists? No  
Digital Archive recipient Museum of London  
Paper Archive recipient Museum of London  
Paper Contents 'none'  
Paper Media available 'Correspondence','Drawing','Map','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Section','Unpublished Text'

Entered by Andy Taylor (tvas@tvas.co.uk)  
Entered on 22 November 2006

**OASIS:**