

**Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road,
London Borough of Newham**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Mulalley Special Works**

by Andy Taylor

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code LIL 07

September 2007

Summary

Site name: Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham

Grid reference: TQ 432 858

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 11th–18th June and 1st–2nd August 2007

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Andy Taylor

Site code: LIL 07

Area of site: Six separate areas measuring *c.* 0.9 ha in total

Summary of results: All trenches revealed modern made ground overlying alluvium and gravel with some areas of truncation. No archaeological deposits were observed nor artefacts recovered.

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 in due course, with accession code LIL07.

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	Steve Preston ✓ 05.09.07

Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andy Taylor

Report 07/27

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out the Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham (TQ 432 858) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr James Carruthers of Mulalley Special Works, Teresa Gavin House, Woodford Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 8FA.

Planning permission (05/00118/OUT) has been gained from the London Borough of Newham to redevelop the sites for new housing. The consent is subject to a condition requiring a programme of archaeological works prior to development, in this case taking the form, initially, of a field evaluation (trial trenching). On the basis of the results of the evaluation, a scheme can be drawn up to mitigate the effects of development on any archaeological remains that might be present.

This is in accordance with the Department of the Environment's Planning Policy Guidance, *Archaeology and Planning* (PPG16 1990), and the Borough's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr David Divers, Archaeology Adviser with the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Taylor, Steve Ford and James Haygreen between the 11th and 18th June and 1st and 2nd August 2007 and the site code is LIL07. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at the Museum of London in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site consists of six separate locations across the Little Ilford Estate (Fig. 2). All the areas are surrounded by residential housing in the form of flats. All six sites were occupied by concrete hard standing from demolished buildings and garages. The site is located on the western margins of the valley of the River Roding and the underlying geology comprised Taplow Gravel (BGS 1976), which was observed in all trenches, but some with a thin layer of overlying alluvium. The site lies at a height of approximately 4m above Ordnance Datum

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted by a desk-based assessment for the site (Pickard 2005). In summary the site lies in an area of possible archaeological interest on the margins of the River Roding. This is considered to be a topographic location favoured for early occupation sites and a number of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman sites are recorded nearby including a wooden trackway of Bronze Age date preserved by waterlogging on low lying land near to the river (MoLAS 2000).

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 have survived on this site given that parts of the site have been previously developed.

To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.

It was proposed to dig a total of 15 trenches measuring 1.60m wide and either 10m or 20m in length. A contingency was provided for additional trenching if required to clarify the initial results. These were to be dug using a JCB-type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. Where archaeological deposits or possible deposits were present, the trenches were to be cleaned by hand; features were to be planned and sufficient of them excavated to satisfy the aims of the project. All spoilheaps were to be 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

A total of 15 trenches were dug (Fig. 3) measuring 1.60m wide and between 4.80m and 17.50m in length. Some repositioning was required due to the presence of live services and high levels of ground water. This was agreed in discussion with the monitor.

Trench 1

This trench measured 5.40m in length and 1.64m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil overlying brick rubble made ground overlying alluvium. This trench was not bottomed due to the influx of groundwater from

recent flooding and became unstable and so was abandoned. Modern concrete foundations were present at 1m, 3m and 5m. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 2

This trench measured 7.40m in length and 1.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying brick rubble made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium. This overlay further mid brown alluvial clay overlaying sand and gravel natural. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 3

This trench measured 7.60m in length and 1.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying brick rubble made ground overlying gravel natural. Modern disturbance of the natural geology was present at the southern end of the trench and a drain and gutter was present along the west side of the trench towards the northern end . No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 4

This trench measured 9.60m in length and 1.50m deep (Fig. 4). The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. A modern concrete foundation and power cable were present at the southern end of the trench. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 5

This trench measured 9.60m and 1.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground. This overlay greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. A service pipe traversed the whole length of the trench with another pipe trench at the northern end. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 6

This trench measured 9.40m in length and 1.72m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground. This overlay greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 7

This trench was 15.40m long and 2.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying brick rubble made ground. This overlay greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. Large concrete foundations were present at 5-8m and 10-13m from the south end. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 8

This trench measured 17.10m in length and 1.52m deep (Fig. 4). The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground overlying a sandy brick layer. This overlay greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. Large concrete foundations were present at 0.5-2m, 4-7m and 11-13m with a power cable at 3.5m from the south end. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 9

This trench measured 7.20m in length and 1.52m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. A service trench was present at 1m from the western end with another along the whole southern side of the trench. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 10

This trench measured 6.50m in length and 1.52m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying brick rubble made ground. This overlay greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying brickearth natural. A test pit was dug at the south end to a depth of 2m to confirm the stratigraphic sequence. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 11 (Plate 1)

This trench measured 5.70m in length and 1.63m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 12

This trench measured 4.80m in length and 1.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying brick rubble made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 13 (Plate 2)

This trench measured 10.30m in length and 1.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 14

This trench measured 17.50m in length and 1.05m deep. The stratigraphy comprised concrete overlying made ground overlying blueish grey silty clay alluvium. Modern disturbance of the natural geology containing wood fragments was present at the southern end of the trench. This overlay further orange brown clayey alluvium overlying gravel natural. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Trench 15

This trench measured 10.30m in length and 1.10m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of concrete overlying made ground overlying greyish blue silty clay alluvium overlying gravel natural. A modern pit truncating the natural geology containing brick, modern metalwork and glass, and cut from a relatively high level in the sequence was present at the northern end of the trench. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded.

Finds

No finds of any archaeological interest were retrieved during the evaluation.

Conclusion

Despite the potential for archaeology being identified, no finds or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during the evaluation. It therefore seems unlikely that any archaeology will be damaged during the course of the building works.

References

- BGS, 1976, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, 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
- PPG16, 1990, *Archaeology and Planning*, Dept of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance 16, HMSO
- Pickard, C 2005, 'Archaeological Desk-based Assessment of Lawrence Avenue Estate, London Borough of Newham E12', Pre-Construct Archaeology, London

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	5.40	1.80	1.64	0.00m-0.45m topsoil; 0.45m-1.07m made ground; 1.07m-1.64m+ alluvium. Not bottomed. Modern concrete foundations at 1m, 3m and 5m.
2	7.40	1.80	1.51	0.00m-0.39m concrete; 0.39m-0.78m made ground; 0.78m-1.32m grey/blue alluvium; 1.32m-1.51m mid brown alluvium; 1.51m+ gravel natural. 2.99m AOD
3	7.60	1.80	1.45	0.00m-0.33m concrete; 0.33m-1.35m made ground; 1.35m-1.45m+ gravel natural. 2.77m AOD. Modern disturbance at 0-1m and drain and gutter along west side of trench at 6-7.6m
4	9.60	1.80	1.50	0.00m-0.25m concrete; 0.25m-1.00m made ground; 1.00m-1.50m alluvium; 1.50m+ gravel natural. 2.78m AOD. A concrete foundation and power cable were present at 0-2m
5	9.60	1.80	1.35	0.00m-0.22m concrete; 0.22m-0.70m made ground; 0.70m-1.33m alluvium; 1.33m-1.35m+ gravel natural. 2.44m AOD. Service pipe along whole length of trench; another pipe trench at 9m
6	9.40	1.80	1.72	0.00m-0.34m concrete; 0.34m-1.16m made ground; 1.16m-1.70m alluvium; 1.70m-1.72m+ gravel natural. 1.80m AOD
7	15.40	1.80	2.20	0.00m-0.25m concrete; 0.25m-1.24m made ground; 1.24m-2.17m alluvium; 2.17m-2.20m+ gravel natural. 1.33m AOD. Large concrete foundations at 5-8m and 10-13m
8	17.10	1.80	1.52	0.00m-0.27m concrete; 0.27m-0.56m made ground; 0.56m-0.85m sandy brick layer; 0.85m-1.47m alluvium; 1.47m-1.52m+ gravel natural. 2.03m AOD. Large concrete foundations at 0.5-2m, 4-7m and 11-13m; power cable at 3.5m
9	7.20	1.80	1.52	0.00m-0.19m concrete; 0.19m-1.06m made ground; 1.06m-1.49m alluvium; 1.49m-1.52m+ gravel natural. 2.01m AOD. Service trench at 1m and along southern side of trench
10	6.50	1.80	1.52	0.00m-0.15m concrete; 0.15m-0.35m made ground; 0.35m-1.52m alluvium; 1.52m+ gravel natural. 2.08m AOD. Test pit to 2m at 0-2m
11	5.70	1.80	1.63	0.00m-0.22m concrete; 0.22m-0.53m made ground; 0.53m-1.63m alluvium; 1.63m+ gravel natural. 1.97m AOD [Plate 1]
12	4.80	1.80	1.51	0.00m-0.24m concrete; 0.24m-0.58m made ground; 0.58m-1.51m alluvium; 1.51m+ gravel natural. 2.09m AOD
13	10.30	1.80	1.44	0.00m-0.21m concrete; 0.21m-0.55m made ground; 0.55m-1.33m alluvium; 1.33m-1.44m+ gravel natural. 2.27m AOD [Plate 2]
14	17.50	1.80	1.05	0.00m-0.15m concrete; 0.15m-0.50m made ground; 0.50m-0.65m grey/blue alluvium; 0.65m-1.05m orange/brown alluvium; 1.05m+ gravel natural. 2.55m AOD. Modern disturbance at 1m
15	10.30	1.80	1.10	0.00m-0.15m concrete; 0.15m-0.60m made ground; 0.60m-1.10m alluvium; 1.10m+ gravel natural. 2.50m AOD. Modern pit at 10m

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Project details

Project name	Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham
Short description of the project	All treches revealed modern made ground over alluvium, over gravel, with some areas of truncation. No archaeological finds or features were discovered.
Project dates	Start: 11-06-2007 End: 02-08-2007
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LIL07 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LIL07 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	07-27 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	05/00118/OUT - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England
Site location GREATER LONDON NEWHAM EAST HAM Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road
Study area 0.90 Hectares
Site coordinates TQ 432 858 51.5523899656 0.06569186466550 51 33 08 N 000 03 56 E Point
Height OD Min: 1.33m Max: 2.55m

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
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body Mulalley Special Works

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive Exists? No
Paper Archive recipient Museum of London
Paper Archive ID LIL07
Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'
Paper Media available 'Correspondence','Drawing','Manuscript','Microfilm','Miscellaneous Material','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '
Paper Archive notes temporarily with TVAS in Reading pending deposition

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

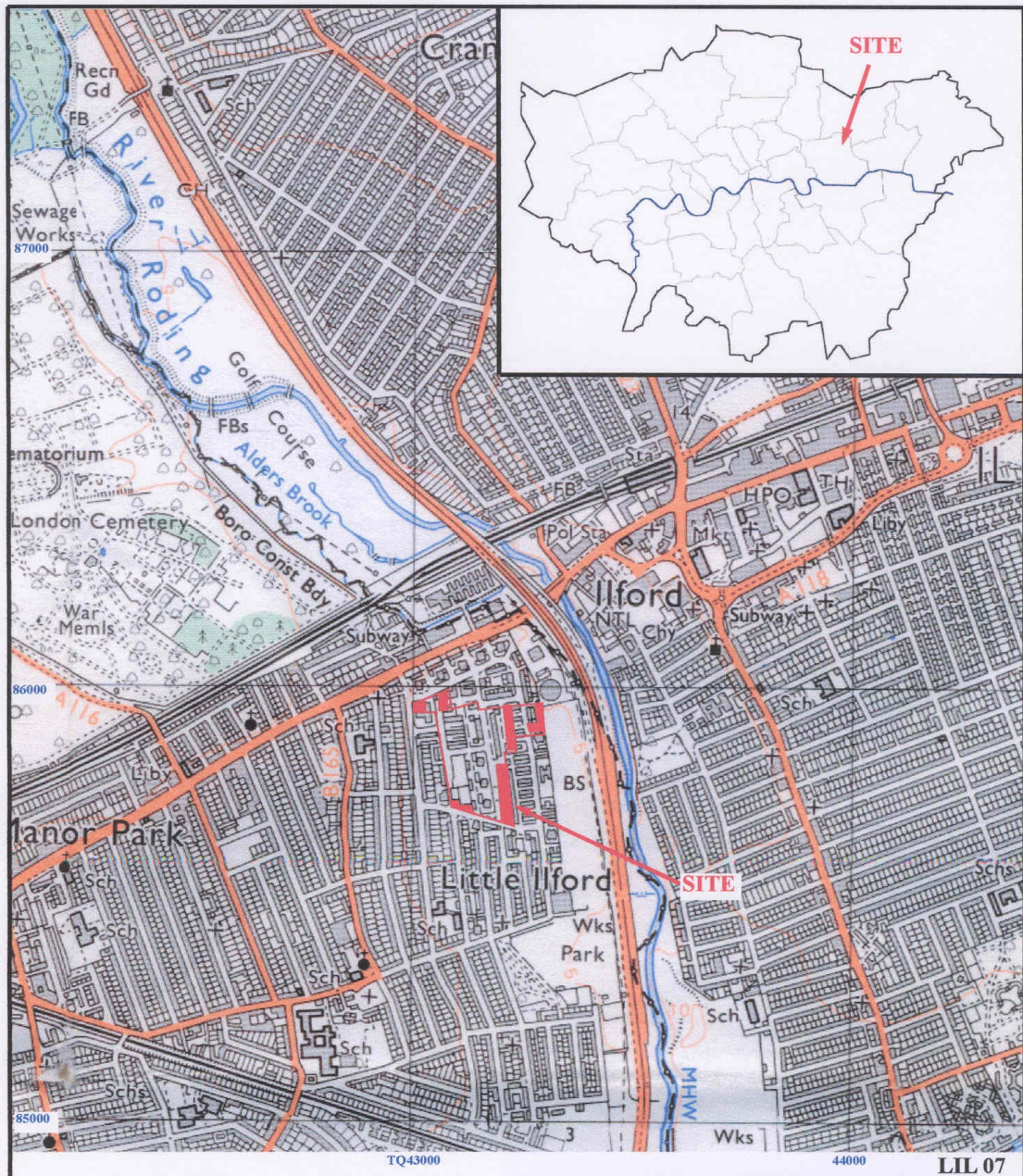
Title	Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham; an archaeological evaluation
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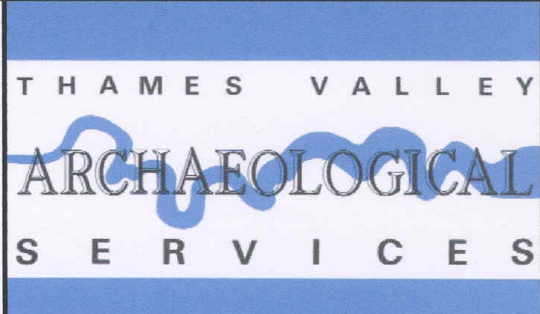
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**Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road,
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Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Little Ilford and Greater London.

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Archaeological evaluation**

Figure 2. Detailed location of site within the Little Ilford Estate.

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Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham

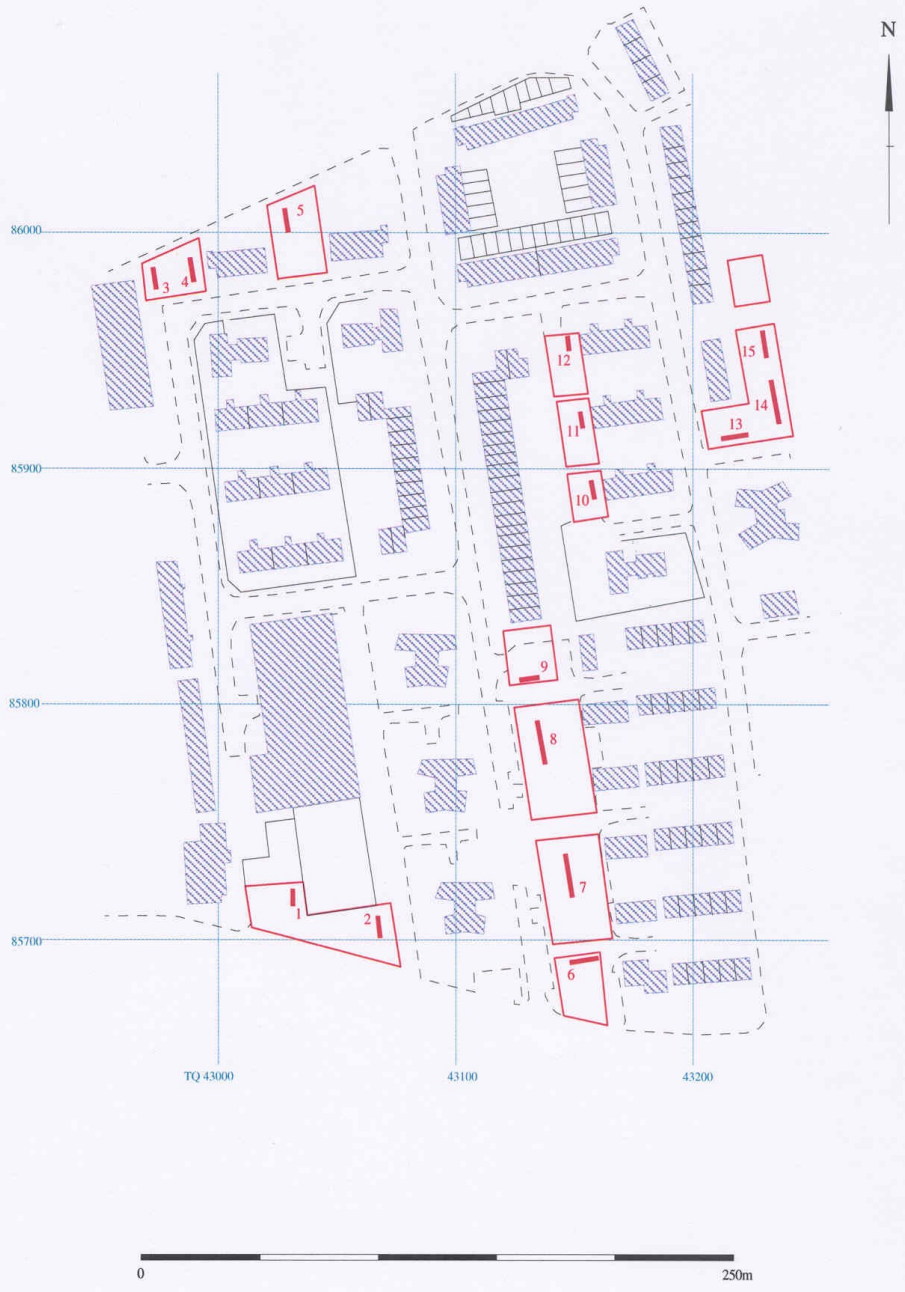


Figure 3: Trench Locations

Little Ilford Estate, Walton Road, London Borough of Newham

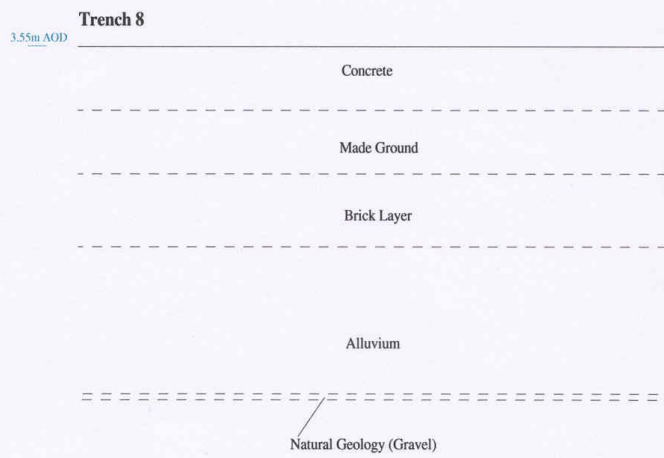
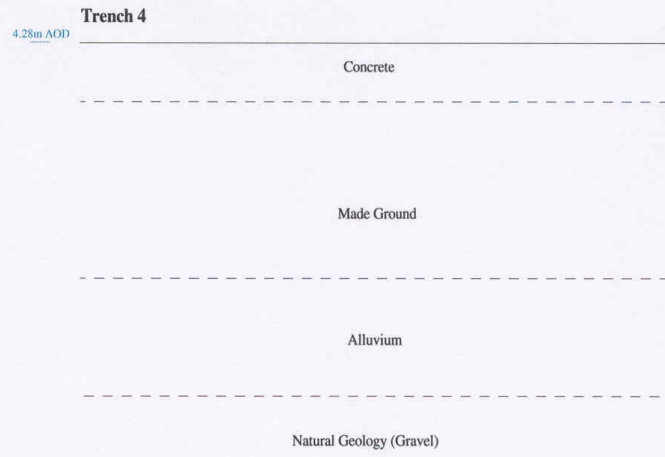


Figure 4: Representative Sections

LIL07



Plate 1. Trench 11 looking south, scales 1m, 2m.



Plate 2. Trench 13 looking east, scales 2m, 1m.