

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**33 - 37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge,
London Borough of Hillingdon**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Kyle Beaverstock

**Site Code: BRU15/85
(TQ 0558 8432)**

**33 - 37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge,
London Borough of Hillingdon**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Austringer Capital Limited**

by Kyle Beaverstock

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code LMO19

June 2019

Summary

Site name: 33 - 37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge, London Borough of Hillingdon

Grid reference: TQ 0558 8432

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 6th to 11th June 2019

Project coordinator: Danielle Milbank

Site supervisor: Kyle Beaverstock

Site code: LMO19

Area of site: 860 sq m

Summary of results: The trenches were dug as intended and the natural geology was encountered in both trenches beneath modern made ground. One trench had been heavily disturbed by modern concrete foundations, the other less so. No deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were uncovered during the course of the evaluation and 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 with the Museum of London in due course with accession code LMO19.

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www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 26.06.19
	Steve Preston✓ 26.06.19

33 - 37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge, London Borough of Hillingdon An Archaeological Evaluation

by Kyle Beaverstock

Report 15/85b

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at 33 - 37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge, London Borough of Hillingdon (TQ 0558 8432) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Emily Pennell on behalf of Austringer Capital Limited, Dalton House, 9 Dalton Square, Lancaster, LA1 1DW.

Planning permission (45222/APP/2015/4692) has been granted by the London Borough of Hillingdon for the construction of a new block of apartments with ground floor offices on the site. The consent is subject to a condition (9) which requires a programme of archaeological work to be carried out prior to development.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *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 Mr Sandy Kidd, Principal Archaeology Advisor for Historic England, the archaeological adviser to the Borough. The fieldwork was undertaken by Kyle Beaverstock, on the 6th and 11th of June 2019 and the site code is BRU15/85. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with the Museum of London in due course with the accession code LMO19. The TVAS project code is BRU15/85.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located in central Uxbridge, just north of Uxbridge railway station, approximately 0.5km east of Fray's River, with several channels of the River Colne beyond, and 0.9km west of the River Pinn. This square parcel of land which was formally used as a commercial unit sits on the junction between Belmont Road and Redford Way with Belmont Road to the south-east and Redford Way to the south-west. The site is bounded to the north-east by commercial properties and to the north-west by residential buildings. The site is at a height of 45m above Ordnance Datum and the underlying geology is mapped as Lynch Hill Gravel Terrace (BGS 2005).

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a desk-based assessment (Birmingham 2015). In summary this potential stems from its location within the historic core of Uxbridge. Uxbridge is not documented in Domesday Book of 1086 but other historic sources suggest it is likely to have been established by this date. There is little archaeological evidence for this period (MoLAS 2000). Uxbridge did, however, prosper in medieval times. A large excavation within the town centre at Chimes Shopping Centre to the south-east revealed an extensive range of Medieval deposits of 12th century date which reflected the development of the planned town which extended the Saxon settlement. The deposits included domestic structures, boundaries and rubbish disposal along with a pottery kiln. The settlement declined in the 14th century but was revitalized by the 17th century onwards (Knight and Jefferies 2004).

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. The work was to be carried out in such a way as to not to compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits that might warrant preservation *in situ*.

Specific research aims of the project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels are present on the site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine if any deposits relating to the late Saxon or medieval settlement are present; and
- to inform a strategy for mitigation if required.

In total, two trenches were proposed, each to be 10m long and 1.6m wide at the base. These were to be dug using a JCB-type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds. Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present or where the archaeological potential was uncertain, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using hand tools and sufficient of the feature(s) exposed were to be excavated or sampled to satisfy the aims outlined above.

Results

Trench 1 (Figs 3 and 4; Pls 1, 3 and 4)

Trench 1 was aligned east - west and was 10.2m long and 1.2m deep and 1.8m wide. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of mixed demolition rubble above 0.15m of brick and concrete rubble above 0.72m of dark brown sandy clay with fragments of modern tile, brick, etc (made ground). This directly overlay a yellow/grey clayey sand natural geology. The trench contained several substantial concrete foundations cut through the made ground and into the natural geology (Pl. 4) which, as a consequence was heavily disturbed. Further modern truncation was present at the west end (Pl. 3). No deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were revealed.

Trench 2 (Fig. 3; Pl. 2)

Trench 2 was aligned north-east to south-west and was 8.3m long, 1.04m deep and 2m wide. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of mixed demolition rubble above 0.82m of grey/brown silty clay with fragments of modern tile, brick, etc (made ground). This directly overlay a reddish /grey clayey sand natural geology. The north-eastern end of the trench contained an area of modern disturbance along with another wall foundation. No deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were revealed.

Finds

No artefacts of archaeological interest were revealed

Conclusion

The two trenches were dug as intended. One trench revealed extensive disturbance with a cluster of substantial modern concrete foundations. The other trench was less disturbed. Made ground directly overlay the natural geology in both trenches. Neither trench contained deposits of archaeological interest and the site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

References

- BGS, 2005, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet **255**, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Birmingham, N, 2015, '33-37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge, London Borough of Hillingdon, an archaeological desk-based assessment', Thames Valley Archaeological Services unpubl rep **15/85**, Reading
- Knight, H and Jefferies N, 2004, *Medieval and later urban development at High Street, Uxbridge: excavations at the Chimes Shopping Centre, London Borough of Hillingdon*, Museum of London Archaeology, Archaeology Studies Series, **12**, London
- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Government, 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	10.2	1.8	1.2	0–0.3m mixed soil and demolition rubble; 0.3-0.45m brick/concrete rubble; 0.45-1.17m dark brown sandy clay made/ground; 1.17m + pale yellow/grey clayey sand .natural geology at 43.82m aOD. Several concrete foundations and modern truncation at west end [Pls 1, 3 and 4] .
2	8.3	2	1.04	0–0.22m mixed soil and demolition rubble; 0.22-1.04 grey/ brown silty clay made/ground; 1.04m + pale yellow/grey clayey sand .natural geology at 43.94m aOD. One modern wall foundation and an area of disturbance at the NE end [Pl. 2] .

APPENDIX 2: Oasis Form (over)

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: thamesva1-357239

Project details

Project name	33-37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge
Short description of the project	The trenches were dug as intended and the natural geology was encountered in both trenches beneath modern made ground. One trench had been heavily disturbed by modern concrete foundations, the other less so. No deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest were uncovered during the course of the evaluation and the site is considered to have no archaeological potential.
Project dates	Start: 06-06-2019 End: 11-06-2019
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BRU15/85 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	LMO19 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LMO19 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	45222/APP/2015/4692 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
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 HILLINGDON UXBRIDGE 33-37 Belmont Road
Study area	860 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 0558 8432 51.547398338861 -0.477186500719 51 32 50 N 000 28 37 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 43m Max: 44m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Thames Valley Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Historic England
Project design originator	Danielle Milbank

Project director/manager	Danielle Milbank
Project supervisor	Kyle Beaverstock
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Austringer Capital Limited

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Paper Media available	"Microfilm", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

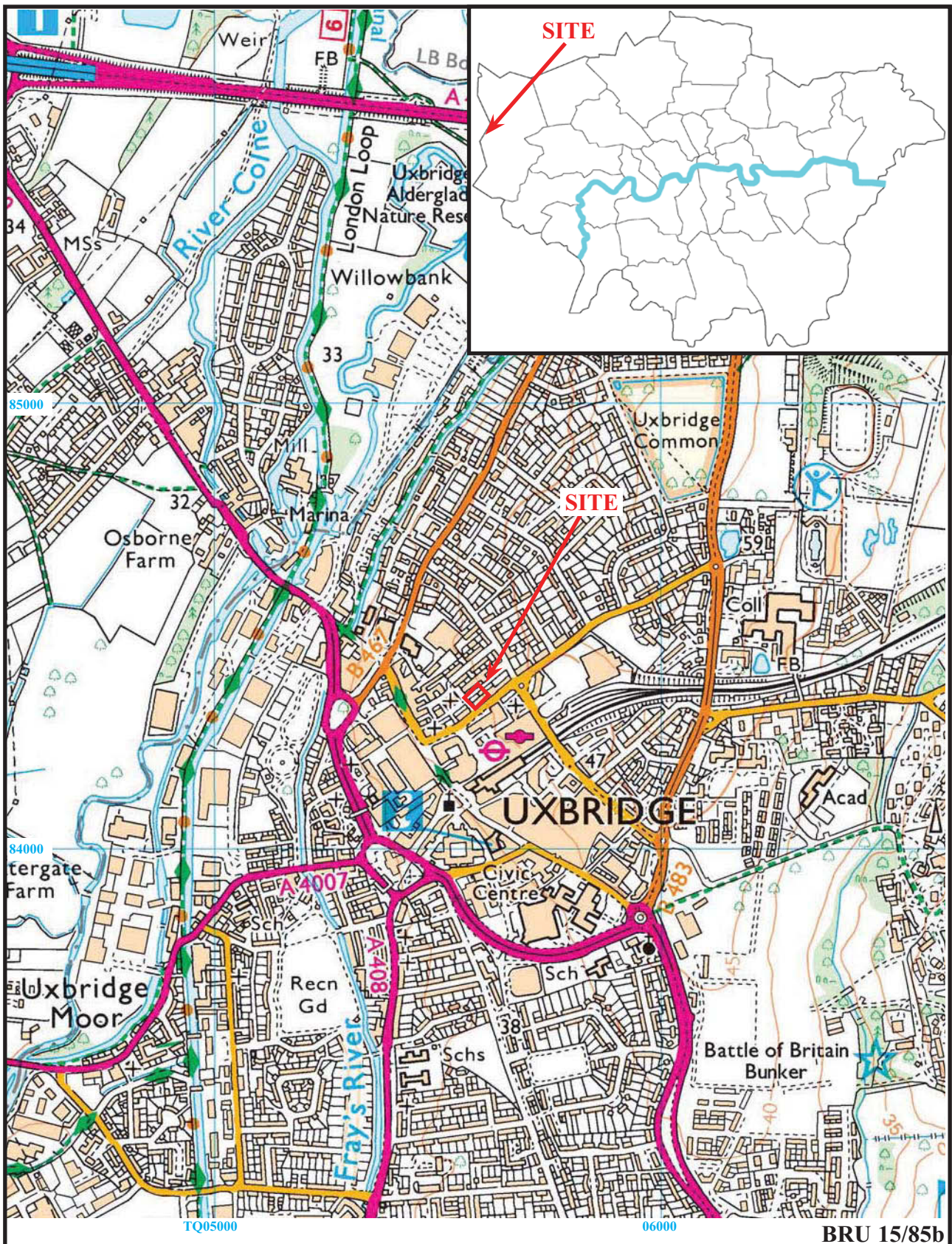
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	33 - 37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge, London Borough of Hillingdon: An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Beaverstock, K
Other bibliographic details	15/85b
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Place of issue or publication	Reading
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Entered on	27 June 2019

OASIS:

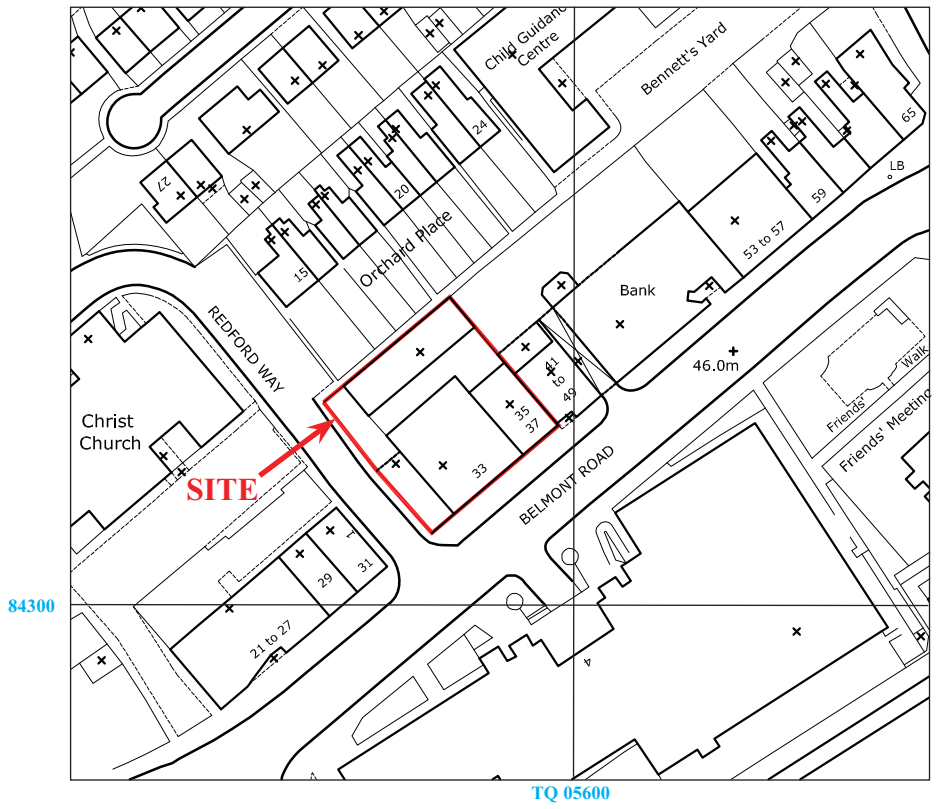
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 London Borough of Hillingdon, 2019
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 Figure 1. Location of site within Uxbridge and
 Greater London.

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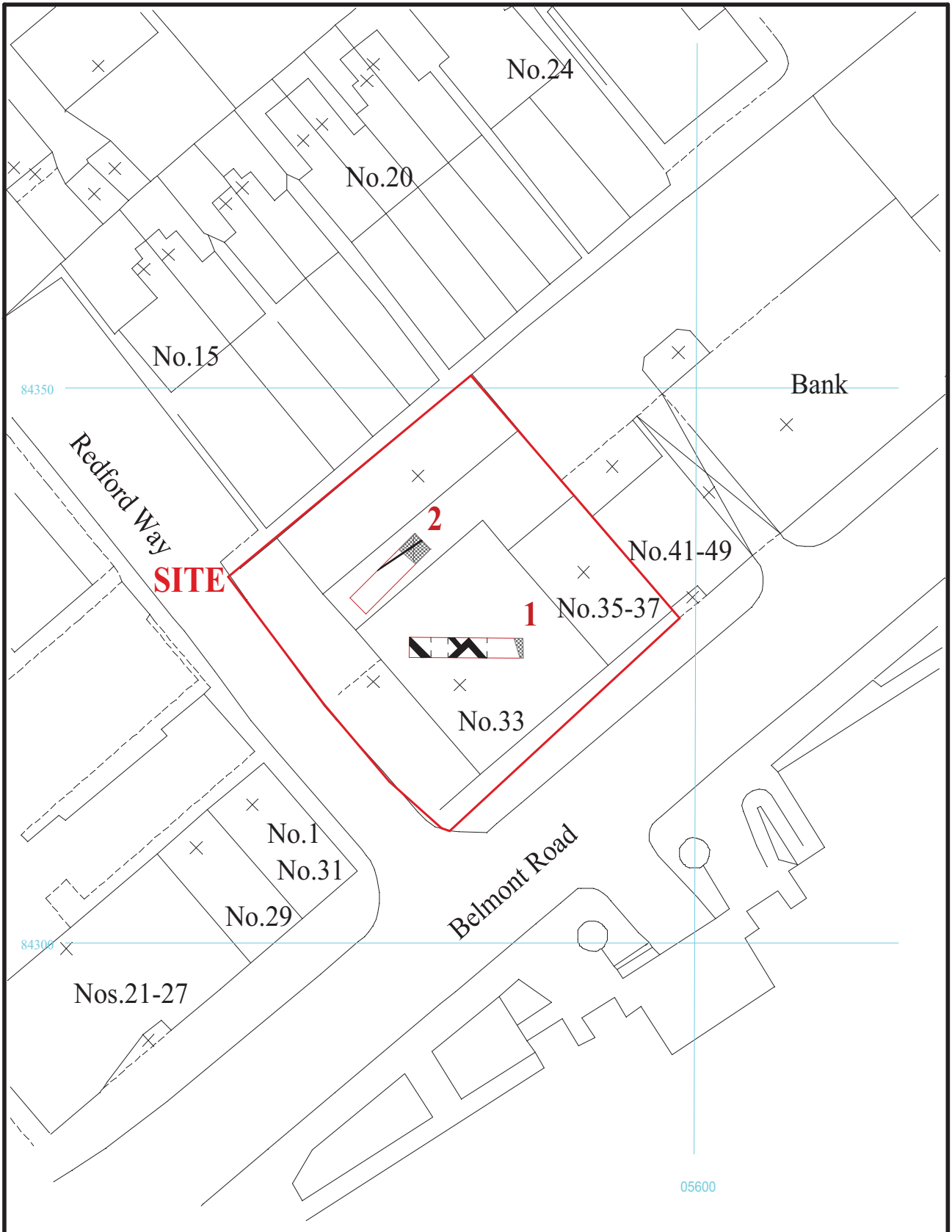
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Belmont Road.

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Figure 3. Location of trenches.



Trench 1

W

E

45m aOD

Loose demolition rubble

Brick and concrete rubble

Dark brown grey sandy clay (made ground)

Pale yellow grey clay sand (natural geology)

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Figure 4. Representative section.



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Plate 1. Trench 1, looking west, Scales: horizontal 1m; vertical 1m.



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

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33-37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge,
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Plates 1 and 2.

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Plate 3. Trench 1, Detail of west end, Scales: 1m.



Plate 4. Trench 1, Detail of trench centre looking west, Scales: 1m.

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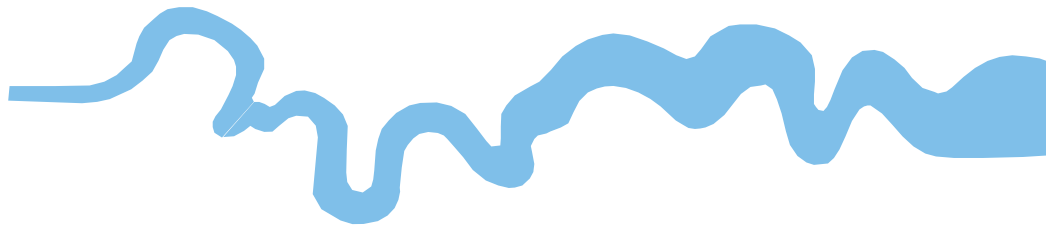
33-37 Belmont Road, Uxbridge,
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Plates 3 and 4.

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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 AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	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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