



**KIDBROOKE VILLAGE  
(Phase 2)  
Kidbrooke Park Road  
London SE3**

London Borough of Greenwich

A report on the archaeological  
watching brief



October 2014

**KIDBROOKE VILLAGE (Phase 2),  
Kidbrooke Park Road  
London SE3**

Site Code KBV10

A report on the archaeological watching brief

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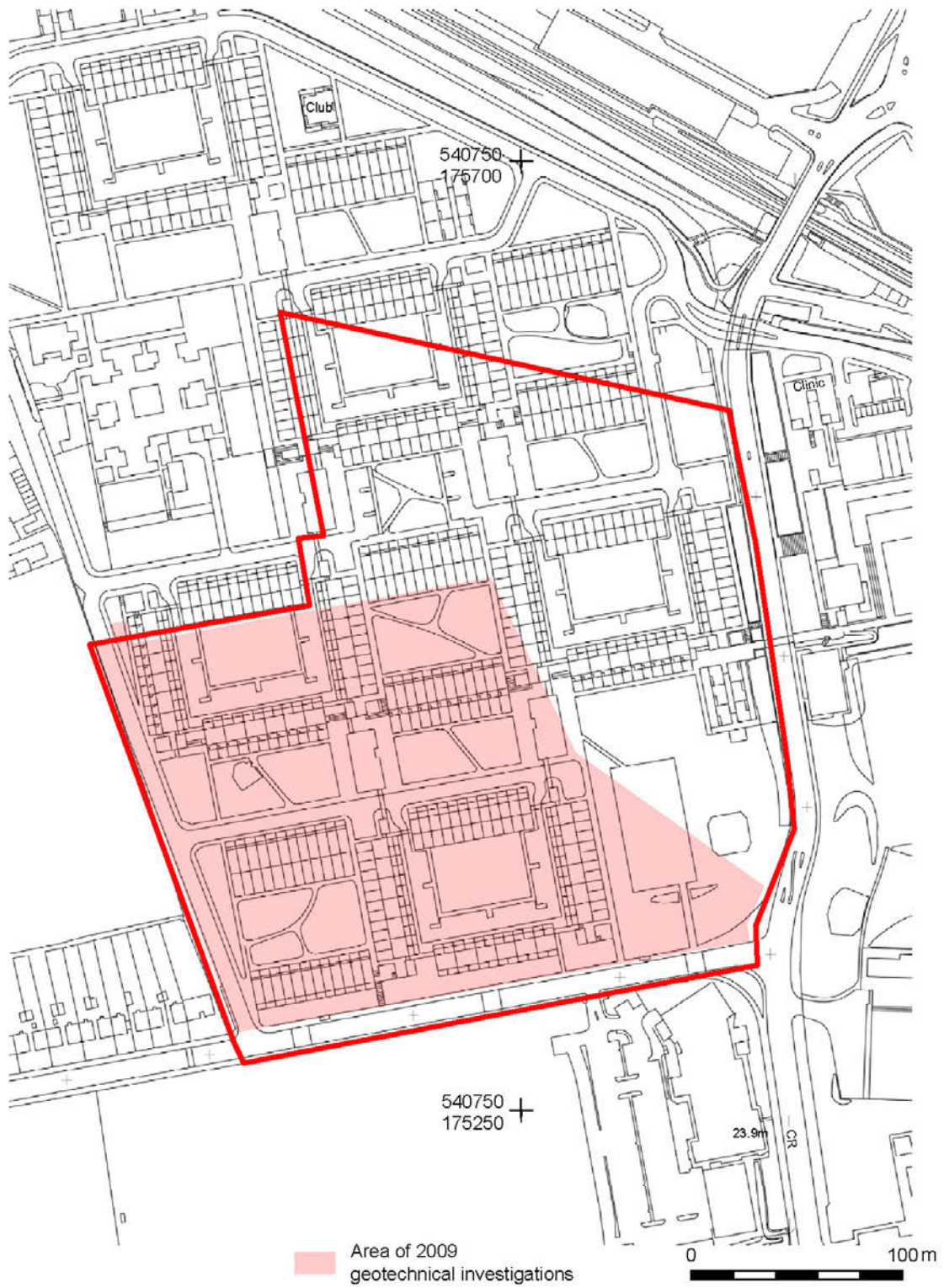
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Fig 1 Site location showing areas of investigation



**\_\_\_\_\_ = Area of investigation**

**Fig 1 Site location**

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Site background

The watching brief took place on the site of Kidbrooke Village Phase 2 Kidbrooke Park Road, London SE3, hereafter called 'the site'. The site comprises parts of Gallus Square and properties on Ebdon Way to the north, is bounded by Kidbrooke Park to the east, by a golf driving range on Weigall Road to the south and by open land and houses on Moorhead Way. The centre of the site is at OS National Grid Reference 540720 175475. Modern ground level on Weigall Road is 21.60m OD. The site code is KVB10 (Fig 1).

The site forms part of the larger Kidbrooke Village development, which was the subject of an 'Archaeology and Cultural Heritage' chapter (Chapter 8) in the Environmental Statement submitted as part of a planning application (Berkeley Homes, 2008). A method statement for a watching brief on the Kidbrooke Village Phase 2a site, some 200m to the west of the Phase 2 site was prepared in March 2010 (Nielsen, 2010).

The works involved monitoring ground reduction foundation excavations, infrastructure groundworks (access and drainage) and site remediation in association with the construction of 595 residential units.

### 1.2 Planning background

The planning and legislative background to the site has been summarised in the previous Environmental Statement chapter (Berkeley Homes, 2008, Chapter 8, section 8.2).

Outline planning consent for the development was granted by the London Borough of Greenwich in June 2009 (Application no. 08/2782/O). An archaeological condition (Condition 42) was applied to the planning consent. The condition states that:

*No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work for the relevant part of the development in accordance with a written scheme for investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority (or such other date or stage in development as may be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority). The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme pursuant to this condition. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.*

### 1.3 Origin and scope of the report

This report was commissioned by Berkeley Homes and produced by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA). The report has been prepared within the terms of the relevant Standard specified by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA, 2001).

The purpose of the watching brief was to determine whether archaeological remains or features were present on the site and, if so, to record the nature and extent of such remains. A number of more site-specific research aims and objectives were established in the preceding *Method Statement* (MoLA 2010) and are outlined in the following section.

The purpose of the present report is to analyse the results of the excavation against the original research aims, and to suggest what further work, including analysis or publication (if any), should now take place.

#### **1.4 Aims and objectives**

The following research aims and objectives were established in the *Method Statement* for the watching brief (Section 2.2):

What was the level of natural topography?

What are the earliest deposits identified?

What are the latest deposits identified?

All research is undertaken within the priorities established in the Museum of London's *A research framework for London Archaeology, 2002*

## **2 Topographical and historical background**

A description of the archaeology and history of the site was provided in the previous Environmental Statement chapter (Berkeley Homes, 2008, Chapter 8, section 8.3). In brief, the environmental impact assessment described in the chapter found that there have been no finds of archaeological material made within the Site boundary. It stated that, records within the study area (the whole Kidbrooke Regeneration area) indicate that the Site lay in an area of arable and pasture land until the construction of buildings for RFC/RAF stores in the early/mid part of the 20th century. These buildings were cleared in the 1960s and the Ferrier Estate constructed. It concluded that the highest archaeological potential related to the survival of medieval and Post-Medieval agricultural features such as field boundaries and drainage ditches but that the survival of archaeological features within the footprint of the Site is likely to be limited because of subsequent phases of site clearance, demolition and finally the construction of the housing estate. Areas of open space, however, such as the recreation ground and Harrow Meadow, or areas which had not been subject to intensive ground disturbance e.g. areas of hard standing, were likely to have the highest potential for the survival of archaeological remains as they have been the least disturbed. Overall, the baseline data indicate that the Site has limited archaeological potential.

### **3 The watching brief**

#### **3.1 Methodology**

All archaeological excavation and recording during the watching brief was done in accordance with the *Method Statement* (MOLA, June 2010) and the *Archaeological Site Manual* (MoLAS, 1994).

The ground was cleared by contractors under MOLA supervision. Trenches were excavated by machine by the contractors, and monitored by a member of staff from MOLA.

The heights of observations and/or archaeological remains were recorded relative to Ordnance Datum supplied by the contractors.

The site has produced: 1 location plan, 1 site diary.

The site records can be found under the site code KBV10 in the MoL archive.

#### **3.2 Results of the watching brief**

Observations carried out during, ground reduction, and the excavation of foundation and drainage trenches revealed natural clay was recorded below modern rubble and ranged in height from 20.60m OD. No archaeological features or finds were observed.



#### **4 Publication and archiving**

Information on the results of the excavation will be made publicly available by means of a database in digital form, to permit inclusion of the site data in any future academic researches into the development of London.

The site archive containing original records and finds will be stored in accordance with the terms of the *Method Statement* (MOLA, 2010) with the Museum of London within 12 months of the end of the excavation.

In view of the limited potential of the material and the relatively limited significance of the data it is suggested that a short note on the results of the watching brief should appear in the annual round up of the *London Archaeologist*.

## 5 Conclusions

No archaeological remains were identified on the site. The earliest deposits identified dated to the 20th century, consisting of redeposited post 2nd World War demolition material.

## 6 Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Berkeley Home Limited for funding the investigations; Barry Martin, Technical Co-Ordinator; Tahir Abdullah, Construction Manager and Jason Denby, Site Manager following for their contributions and help in producing this report:

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## 8 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

### 8.1 OASIS ID: molas1-116883

#### Project details

Project name	Kidbrooke Village
Short description of the project	A watching brief was carried out during topsoil strip, ground reduction, and the excavation of foundation and drainage trenches revealed natural clay was recorded and ranged from 20.60m (truncated) to 26.75 - 27.10m OD across the site. Above the clay demolition rubble was present in the service trenches, whilst in Sections 1 -5 layers of sand, gravel, clinker and fine rubble was present. The fragments of ceramics observed indicated a date of no earlier than the 19th century for their deposition. .
Project dates	Start: 18-02-2011 End: 24-04-2011
Any associated project reference codes	KBV10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Methods & techniques	'Visual Inspection'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON GREENWICH ELTHAM Kidbrooke Village

Postcode	SE3
Study area	50.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 41 75 51.4558877988 0.02965975500240 51 27 21 N 000 01 46 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 20.75m Max: 27.10m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	MoL Archaeology
Project brief originator	MOLA project manager
Project design originator	MoL Archaeology
Project director/manager	Robin Nielsen
Project supervisor	Portia Askew
Type of sponsor/funding body	Berkely Homes (South East London) Ltd
Name of sponsor/funding body	Berkeley Homes Limited

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Contents	'none'

Paper Media available 'Diary','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Plan','Unpublished Text'

Entered by Portia Askew (paskew@museumoflondon.org.uk)

Entered on 9 January 2012