

48 MOORBRIDGE ROAD Maidenhead

Royal County of Berkshire

An archaeological evaluation report

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Maidenhead

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National Grid Reference: 489302 181256

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Summary (non-technical)

This report, commissioned by Wates Construction Ltd. from MoLAS, presents the results of an archaeological evaluation and watching brief carried out on the site of 48 Moorbridge Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 8AF.

Work was monitored between 23 August 2006 and 08 March 2007 during redevelopment of the existing Waitrose store. The proposed development consisted of a car park area to the east and southeast of the existing store with a new access road, a loading bay area adjacent to the east wall of the building and a new building extension to the west. .

Following the recommendations of the Principal Archaeologist for Berkshire Archaeology a monitoring exercise was undertaken on ground reduction in the area of the proposed car park. An archaeological evaluation was also undertaken in the areas of the proposed extensions to the west and east of the existing building, which comprised of two evaluation trenches.

Observations made during the groundworks revealed little evidence of archaeological features or artefacts. Truncated brickearth was found at 23.55m OD (Service Trench 1), which in places was overlain by natural sand at c. 24.10m OD (Evaluation Trench 2). Archaeological deposits survived at c. 24.10m OD, which comprised of late post-medieval or modern walls, drains and pits. Artefacts recovered from site comprised mainly of residual/redeposited glass, pottery and flint.

In the light of the revised understanding of the archaeological potential of the site this report concludes that there is low potential for the survival of archaeological remains.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

The archaeological investigation took place at the premises of the existing Waitrose store, at 48 Moorbridge Road in Maidenhead, Berkshire, hereafter called 'the site'. It is bounded by Forlease Road to the west, Moorbridge Road to the north and a drainage channel to the east. The OS National Grid Reference for the centre of site is 489302 181256.

The level of the surface slab on site varied between 24.50m OD and 24.77m OD. The datum level of the slab immediately adjacent to the store was obtained from the site engineer. Other site levels were obtained by a traverse from a bench mark with a value of 25.13m OD, located at 90 Moorbridge Road. Modern street level immediately adjacent to the site is at 24.35m OD (Moorbridge Road). The archaeological site code for this project is BR-MBM 06.

A desk-top *Method Statement for an archaeological evaluation and watching brief* was previously prepared (MoLAS 2006) prior to the start of the archaeological investigation, and was formally approved by Berkshire Archaeology on behalf of the local planning authority. This document should be referred to for information on the natural geology, archaeological and historical background of the site, and the initial interpretation of its archaeological potential.

On the recommendation Berkshire Archaeology an archaeological field evaluation and watching brief was carried out on the site between August 2006 and March 2007.

1.2 Planning and legislative framework

The legislative and planning framework in which the archaeological exercise took place was summarised in the *Method Statement for an archaeological evaluation and watching brief*, (MoLAS 2006), which formed the project design for the investigation (see Section 1.2 in MoLAS 2006).

1.3 Planning background

The archaeological investigation was carried out in response to an archaeological planning condition placed on the site.

1.4 Origin and scope of the report

This report was commissioned by Wates Construction Ltd., and produced by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS). The report has been prepared within the terms of the relevant Standard specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA, 2001).

Field evaluation, and the *Evaluation report* which comments on the results of that exercise, are defined in the most recent English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage, 1998) as intended to provide information about the archaeological resource in order to contribute to the:

- formulation of a strategy for the preservation or management of those remains; and/or
- formulation of an appropriate response or mitigation strategy to planning applications or other proposals which may adversely affect such archaeological remains, or enhance them; and/or
- formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigations within a programme of research

1.5 Aims and objectives

The IFA Standards and Guidelines defines an archaeological field evaluation as

a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines of the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

The purpose of field evaluation, as further defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists is

to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:

- *The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource;*
- *The formulation of a strategy to initiate a threat to the archaeological resource*
- *The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.*

It will therefore

Determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the nature of the archaeological resource within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct, Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology, and other relevant by-laws of the IFA.

As the project also involved a watching brief exercise, it is essential to define the character and purpose of such activity.

A watching brief is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists as:

a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is the possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

In all cases, a watching brief will be intended:

- *to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.*
- *to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.*

A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of a watching brief will be intended to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.

The Standard also notes that a watching brief may be the appropriate archaeological response outside the planning process (egg ecclesiastical development, coastal erosion, agriculture, forestry, and countryside management, works by public utilities and statutory undertakers).

Because of the nature of the proposed works, the archaeological evaluation makes it unreasonable to establish any specific archaeological research objectives. The archaeological brief and evaluation is essentially limited to establishing the levels and nature of surviving archaeological deposits, and to ensure that the digging of

evaluation trenches does not involve unnecessary destruction of these. Nevertheless, a few broad research questions can be outlined:

- What is the nature and level of natural topography?
- What are the earliest deposits identified?
- What are the latest deposits identified?
- What is the nature and significance of the surviving (if any) archaeological remains?

The above research aims and objectives were established in the *Method Statement* (Section 2).

The results of observations obtained by the watching brief and evaluation exercise in Section 3 will be used to gauge the extent and eventual importance of archaeological survival. This information will be used in future stages of building design and construction programming.

2 Topographical and historical background

2.1 Topography

The site lies in an area of alluvial deposits, between island of Taplow Terrace gravel to the west and Shepperton terrace gravels to the east.

The highest natural sediments are Eocene deposits of Bagshot sands, dated from about 100 million years ago. These are overlain in places by recent glacial deposits (Plateau Gravels). Underlying this is chalk, laid down in Cretaceous seas, which is capping Jurassic sediment of Oxford Clay, laid down about 150 million years ago. The said deposit is the earliest one below the site. The highest level on which natural sand appears is 24.10m OD.

The site is fairly even, sloping away gradually to the south. To the east the present ground level is slightly higher (up to 0.5 m) than the surrounding areas.

2.2 Prehistoric

Artefacts of prehistoric date have been recovered from the area. These include animal bones, especially within alluvial areas, such as mammoth molars, deer and horse bones as well as human skulls. It is possible that these finds were of residual origin, being recovered mostly from the river bed of the Thames to the east.

Large numbers of flint tools and flakes have also been recovered in this area. These were mainly residual and/or redeposited.

However, no evidence of settlements has been found in the immediate vicinity. This area was under the influence of the Atrebatic tribe, whose focal point was Calleva (Silchester) to the west. An excavation in 1998 at Whitehall Farm, to the southwest, uncovered a Late Iron Age iron-working site, which produced quantities of iron slag.

In the area extending from Maidenhead Castle Hill to the Taplow Hills, and near the Maidenhead Thicket a number of “pit dwellings” and “stake dwellings” have been found.

2.3 Roman

Within a decade of their arrival in AD 43 the Romans had established towns in many places in southern England. By the end of the 1st century most of what are now England and Wales was settled and at peace. The fortunes of both rural areas, where life was in many senses little changed from the preceding ages, and urban areas, varied considerably over the next few centuries. Urban life, and the infrastructure which held together most of the rural hinterland, collapsed following the Roman withdrawal from Britain in the early 5th century.

The area around Wokingham in the Roman period is not well known. There is evidence from the 1998 excavation at Whitehall Farm, southwest of the site, of a minor farmstead/ iron works, which continued from the Late Iron Age until the middle of the 4th century.

Also at Maidenhead Bridge several iron swords were found, but whether these were Roman, it is hard to establish.

The only evidence of Roman settlement comprises a couple of rural villas. One of these on Castle Hill was extensively excavated in the 19th century, but better known is that at Cox Green uncovered on the town's southern edge in the early 1960s.

Also there were assumptions made about a possible Roman Road running not far from the site. However, archaeological research in the area of Kidwells Park did not confirm this.

2.4 Saxon

The area in the Saxon period is not well known. No evidence of any settlement or even any isolated finds has been found in the vicinity.

2.5 Medieval

In the 9th century the Danes were said to have disembarked from their longboats at Maidenhead and fought their way through to Reading, which they subsequently made their base of operations.

Elentone was a hamlet about one mile north of present-day Maidenhead and had around 50 inhabitants at the time of the Domesday survey (1086). A Norman knight called Giles de Pinkney held the hamlet.

During the early thirteenth century a village grew half way between Cookham and Bray and south of Elentone called South Aylington (which obviously derives from the sound of "South Elentone"). It is thought the village was situated some three-quarters of a mile away from the river Thames to avoid flooding.

Maidenhead is known as Maydehuth in the Charter Rolls of Henry III (18 August 1248). Some time before 1255 a wooden bridge was built across the Thames at this point, when Henry III issued a road widening order. This bridge was on the road between London and Bristol, later to be called the Bath Road - now the A4. A timber wharf was built alongside the bridge and it is from this New Wharf or Maiden Hythe that Maidenhead probably takes its name.]

The medieval chapel at the end of the bridge in Maidenhead was built on the border of Bray and Cookham parishes (near the Bear Hotel) in 1269. It stood empty for fifty years until the Bishop finally allowed it to be used. Allegedly a hermit who lived there collected the tolls for maintaining the Bridge.

2.6 Post-medieval

There are a number of historic maps for the area around the site in the post-medieval period, from which the area of the site can be seen to be agricultural land up to the 1930s.

"Maydenheth" was granted its first charter, breaking ties with Cookham and Bray, by Queen Elizabeth I in 1582. Travellers coming through the town over the bridge had to be fed and watered and this led to a dramatic economic growth. Stabling, vets, blacksmiths and coaching inns like The Orkney Arms were required because at the time Maidenhead was one day's journey from London. Maidenhead had four breweries at this time.

The next change for Maidenhead came with the arrival of the Great Western Railway in 1838. Brunel spanned the Thames with a brick built bridge, which still stands. Initially the town declined as the railway took away the road traffic that had been such an important source of income. The town's population increased and new shops and businesses grew to serve the middle-class workers that commuted to London. In the late 1800s many new streets appeared in the town centre along with both elegant and working-men's houses on the outskirts.

As for the site area in the post-medieval period, little is known about the occupants and possible mansions. A map regression exercise (see *Fig 11 – Fig 16*) indicates existence of a manor (?) called "The Cedars", which consisted of several cottages.

In the 20th century a bus station and garage was erected on the spot, which was replaced by the Waitrose store.

3 The evaluation

3.1 Methodology

All archaeological excavation and monitoring during the evaluation was carried out in accordance with the preceding *Method Statement* (MoLAS, 2006), and the MoLAS *Archaeological Site Manual* (MoLAS, 1994).

In the areas of the proposed extensions to the west and east, two evaluation trenches were excavated; two service trenches were monitored as part of the watching brief. Also, a total of 21 piling position pits were observed and recorded.

The watching brief exercise included two areas marked as Watching Brief Area 1 and 2 (Fig 8).

In all cases the slab was broken out and cleared by contractors under MoLAS supervision. Trenches were excavated by machine by the contractors, and monitored by a member of staff from MoLAS.

The site TBM was surveyed from the benchmark located on a nearby building wall (90 Moorbridge Road)-value: 25.13m OD. Where it was not possible to observe the levels, these were provided by the site engineer.

Locations of the evaluation trenches were recorded by MoLAS offsetting from adjacent standing walls and plotted on to a Basement Survey. This information was then plotted onto the OS grid.

A written and drawn record of all archaeological deposits encountered was made in accordance with the principles set out in the MoLAS site recording manual (MoLAS, 1994).

The site has produced: 1 trench location plan; 3 trench records; 2 section drawings at 1:20, and a number of photographs. In addition 4 bags of finds were recovered from the site.

The site finds and records can be currently found under the site code BR-MBM 06 in the MoL archive. These will be transferred to the appropriate archive deposit store on completion of the project.

3.2 Results of the evaluation

In total, 25 separate interventions were monitored for the purposes of both evaluation and watching brief. These comprised 4 trenches and 21 piling position pits. Also, two general shallow ground reductions took place and were monitored in two areas (WB Area1 and 2-see Fig 8) as part of the watching brief.

In order to provide as much information as possible within such a limited form, the observed groundworks will be described below as follows: evaluation trenches, contractor's service trenches and watching brief areas.

<i>Evaluation Trench 1</i>	
Location	West wing of the existing store
Dimensions	13m by 1.8m
Reduced ground level (top of trench)	24.24m OD
Base of trench	23.04 to 22.74m OD
Level of archaeological deposits seen	23.74m OD (buried topsoil)
Level of base of deposits observed	N/A
Natural observed	22.74m OD (gravel)

Trench 1 (see *Fig 2 – Fig 5*) was situated in the west wing area of the existing store building, 6.5m west of the wall. Orientated on an east-west alignment, it measured 13m long, 1.8m wide and 1.20-1.50m deep.

The earliest observed deposit was natural gravel, at a depth of 22.74m OD. It consisted of subangular and subrounded stones of variable sizes and was mixed with dark yellow coarse sand, containing occasional natural flint. This was overlain by possibly redeposited, slightly dirty brick earth layer, c. 0.30-0.50 m thick, thinning towards the east.

Cutting this was a large (3m in diameter) round structure, located in the middle area of the trench. Observed at 23.24m OD, the structure appeared to be an old brick drain/well. It was backfilled with broken bricks, concrete blocks and iron rods.

Overlying brick earth in the eastern part of the trench a deposit of buried soil (1) was observed, at a depth of c. 23.04m OD. It was 3m long (E-W), dipping to the west. This was identified as a levelling dump of old “garden soil”, mixed with fragments of red brick, chalk and charcoal. Within this layer pottery dating from 1830-1840 was recovered (see 9.1.1). Also noted in this trench was another deposit (2), with no visible cut edges. This was filled with broken pottery and glass bottles of post-medieval origin (see 9.4).

Sealing these deposits was a layer of buried topsoil, consisting of clean black silty sand with grass roots, observed at 24.04m OD. This was covered with modern building rubble, used as a make-up layer, recorded at 24.24m OD, which in turn was overlain by a concrete slab. The level of concrete slab was 24.77m OD.

<i>Evaluation Trench 2</i>	
Location	Loading bay area, east of the store
Dimensions	13.5m by 1.20m
Reduced ground level	24.60m OD
Base of trench	24-24.10m OD
Level of archaeological deposits seen	24.10m OD
Level of base of deposits observed	N/A
Natural observed	24.10m OD (brickearth)

Evaluation Trench 2 was located in the “east wing” area of the existing loading bay. Running north-south, it measured 13.5 m long, 1.20m wide and 0.50-0.60m deep (*Fig 3*). The earliest deposit observed was clean, natural brickearth, revealed at the base of the trench at 24.10m OD. This was cut by several features. The earliest of these comprised a cut of uncertain function containing a grey, moderately loose, silty-sandy deposit with small brick and chalk fragments, along with a few lenses of light grey “ashy” sand. Revealed at 24.10m OD, this deposit extended 1.50m N-S, c. 3.20m from the southern edge of the trench. It was cut to the north by a similar feature which contained less intrusions and more clean sand (3). This was also more compact and only 1.50m long. Both of these features were observed at the same level, c. 24.10m OD.

South to these features, situated slightly diagonally across the width of the trench, c. 0.40m from its’ southern edge was a possible chalk wall foundation (1). Revealed at c. 24.15m OD, it was 0.70m wide, and apparently trench-built. The fill consisted not only of chalk fragments (c. 80%), but also broken brick, shattered flint and gravel as well as coarse yellow sand. Also plant roots and bits of charcoal were recorded in the backfill.

Cutting features (2) and (3) was a circular brick structure, interpreted as a well. Its’ diameter was c. 1.20m, and it was only partially visible from the eastern side of the trench, as the remainder extended beyond the limits of excavation. The well was backfilled with deposits similar to (2) and (3), but had more chalk intrusions. The well was built with large bright red brick, which had a jointing mortar that was light greyish yellow with significant amount of coarse sand and tiny bits of chalk. The average width of a joint was c. 10-15mm.

The well was recorded at c. 24.15m OD, and was truncated along with the other features by a series of modern drainage cuts, filled with clean gravel. These cuts contained live drains, which prevented further excavation.

Overlying these features was a thick layer of modern made-up ground, at 24.60m OD, sealed by a concrete slab (24.77m OD).

<i>Service Trench 1</i>	
Location	Main car park and watching brief Area 1
Dimensions	67m by 1.20m-2m
Slab level/reduced ground level	24.50-24.55m OD/24.07m OD
Base of trench	22.55m OD in S end, 22.87m OD in N part (Area 1)
Level of archaeological deposits seen	24.05m-23.98mOD (buried topsoil)
Level of base of deposits observed	23.55m-23.03m OD
Natural observed	23.55mOD (sand)

Service Trench 1 was excavated both in the Watching Brief Area 1 (former temporary car park east to the store) and in the main car park area (*Fig 2*). Running north-south, it was 67m long, 1.20-2m wide and 1.20-2m deep (becoming wider and shallower towards the north).

The earliest natural deposit observed at 23.55m OD was clean brickearth with a large amount of loose sand, especially to the south. It was overlain by a layer of compacted chalk (6), c. 0.4m thick. Uncovered at a depth of 23.67m OD (see section of Service Trench 1, *Fig 4*) this layer was severely disturbed by a series of modern drainage cuts, obscuring its original length and width.

Overlying this was a layer (5) of firm brown-grey silt, recorded at 23.73m OD. This was sealed by a deposit of buried topsoil comprising brown sand with plant roots and brick flecks (4), found at 23.95m OD.

In the southern part of the trench (see *Fig 6*), natural sand was covered directly by the buried topsoil deposit (4), and overlain by modern levelling dumps.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to trace the entire extent of deposits (5) and (6), due to modern truncations and disturbances.

The thickness of the modern ground levelling deposits was on average 0.50m, and the top of the surface level varied between 24.07 and 24.55m OD.

<i>Service Trench 2</i>	
Location	Watching Brief Area 2
Dimensions	5m by 1.60m;
Reduced ground level	24.56m OD
Base of trench	23.06m OD
Level of archaeological deposits seen	23.16m OD (buried topsoil)
Level of base of deposits observed	22.86m OD
Natural observed	22.85m OD (brickearth)

Service Trench 2 was situated in Watching Brief Area 2 (see *Fig 2*). It measured 5m long and 1.6m wide, extending in east-west direction. The earliest visible deposit was natural brickearth with occasional gravel inclusions. It was recorded at 22.85m OD

and was overlain by a layer or buried sandy topsoil, recorded at 23.16m OD. Sealing this was modern made ground, at 24.56m OD.

Watching Brief Area 1 (Fig 8)

This area comprised of the previous temporary car park ground in the part of the proposed new access road and the northeast part of the new car park. In this area ground reduction was carried out in order to remove concrete foundations and lay new service drains. The concrete slab was broken by the contractors and removed. The underlying ground was then checked for obstructions; its top level was at 24.07m OD.

Service Trench 1 was excavated across this area, providing a section of the underlying deposits, as discussed in the previous section. The finds recovered from this area of site came from the surface during ground reduction processes. These include examples of post medieval pottery (see 9.1).

Watching Brief Area 2 (Fig 9)

This area was located adjacent to the eastern wall of the existing store, which comprised the previous loading bay area. Excavation of Service Trench 2, Evaluation Trench 2 (see above), and 21 pile position pits was carried out in Watching Brief Area 2. Also a number of draining pits and trenches was located there and excavated in the latest phase of the project.

After the concrete slab had been removed from the area, the ground underneath was levelled to c. 24.77m OD.

Further ground reduction in south east part of this area revealed brick foundations and possibly floors of what could be the 1930s bus station/garage remnants and/or structures preceding it (see Fig 2).

The actual dimensions and exact limits of the brickwork were not possible to establish because of the limited extent of works and the level of earlier truncation. The structures were recorded but not excavated, as they were subject to no further disturbance and remain in-situ. A small number of finds was recovered from the area (see 9.4).

The 21 pile pits were positioned and excavated in Watching Brief Area 2, in its south east quarter. Their average dimensions were: 1.5 x 1.8m, with a depth of approximately 1-1.5m (see Fig 2). Some of the pits were located in areas where brick structures were noted. The deposits were very similar to the stratigraphy found in Service Trench 1 (excavated not far away to the east) with high amount of brick and concrete rubble, and with remnants of the earlier walls evident in some of the pits.

In the area situated to the front of the loading bay, where Evaluation Trench 2 was located a series of service ditches and trenches was excavated during the last phase of the watching brief and evaluation exercise.

Their depth and dimensions varied, but because the area had been previously monitored during the ground reduction and excavation of Evaluation Trench 2, no further significant features were observed.

4 Archaeological potential

4.1 Realisation of original research aims

The limited nature of the proposed works and the archaeological evaluation made it unreasonable to establish many specific archaeological research objectives. The archaeological brief is essentially limited to establishing the levels and nature of surviving archaeological deposits, and to ensure that the digging of construction features does not involve unnecessary destruction of such deposits. Nevertheless, in addition, a few broad research questions were outlined:

1. What is the nature and level of natural topography?

The natural geology consists of Jurassic sediment of Oxford Clay, laid down about 150 million years ago, and covered by deposits of Bagshot sands, dated from about 100 million years ago. The highest level on which natural sand appears is 24.10m OD.

2. What are the earliest deposits identified?

The earliest man made deposit comprises buried topsoil/garden soil visible across the site. No secure dating evidence was retrieved, but it is unlikely that these deposits were earlier than 19th century.

3. What are the latest deposits identified?

The latest identified deposits consist of modern concrete slab and rubble used to level the ground; these are found directly under the top slab.

4. What is the nature and significance of the surviving archaeological remains?

The surviving archaeological remains comprise truncated buried topsoil layers (possibly occupational layers), containing small amount of late post medieval pottery, glass and building material. These layers were identified in all excavated trenches. Building remains (walls and wells) from previous structures were also found in Watching Brief Area 2. These deposits are of relatively modern date, not older than 19th century, and have been tied in to earlier historical maps of the site.

4.2 General discussion of potential

The evaluation has shown that the potential for survival of ancient ground surfaces (horizontal archaeological stratification) on the site is very low. There is potential for the survival of deeply cut features, but such survival is likely to be extremely limited due to truncation by extensive late post-medieval/modern construction activity.

The potential for prehistoric finds to be present on the proposed development site is low. There is no evidence in the immediate vicinity of the site for activity of this date, although prehistoric artefacts have been found on the Taplow gravels elsewhere. The potential for remains of Roman, Saxon and medieval date are also low.

The greatest potential for archaeological remains is likely to be from the post-medieval period and later. These are likely to relate to agricultural activity and early buildings, especially those associated with the phase of “The Cedars” cottages. A map regression exercise undertaken on the site (see Fig 11 – Fig 16) shows that the brick structure noted in trench 1 and interpreted as a well probably relates to properties fronting onto Forlease Road. The well noted in trench 2 is thought to relate to The Cedars and may be part of a garden feature. To the south of the well the fragmentary remains of a chalk structure survived, which crossed the trench at a slight angle. Interpreted as a wall this feature, may well be part of a boundary wall of the driveway associated with The Cedars.

Finds collected during ground reduction undertaken during the groundwork’s on the site indicate the possibility of survival of occupational layers from the period predating the 1930s bus garage.

4.3 Significance

Whilst the archaeological remains may be of local significance there is nothing to suggest that they are of regional or national importance.

5 Proposed development impact and recommendations

The proposed redevelopment at on the site of 48 Moorbridge Road, Maidenhead involves the extension to the west and east of the Waitrose store along with the refurbishment of the adjacent car park.

Although archaeological deposits are present on the site to a considerable extent they seem to represent mainly 'low grade' dumping and make-up layers and have little scope to add to our knowledge of the period, layout and development of the previously existing structures. Based on the results of the field investigation it is felt that further work at this late stage of the project would not be required.

However, the decision on the appropriate archaeological response to the deposits revealed within rests with the Local Planning Authority and their designated archaeological advisor.

6 Acknowledgements

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8 Gazetteer of known archaeological sites and points of interest.

The two tables below represent known archaeological interventions and listed buildings within the 1000m radius study area around the site. This gazetteer should be read in the conjunction with Fig 10.

8.1.1 Table of known archaeological interventions.

Event No.	Description	Event ID-external reference
1	Archaeological Intervention / Excavation / Test Pit and Trial Trench Ten trenches excavated in a 1.41 ha field revealed the former edge of a watercourse cutting into the gravel terrace, but no archaeological deposits were revealed. Conclusion: the previously wet nature of the site and the constant heavy flooding probably prevented settlement on the gravel terrace. Oxford Archaeology, 20/04/1988 – 23/04/1988, Green Lane	ERW47
2	Archaeological Intervention / Evaluation: Evaluation of a single trench (10m x 4m) prior to a housing development. Two post-medieval contexts were revealed beneath modern ground surface. No archaeological features or finds were recovered Archaeological Solutions, 50-70 Moorbridge Road, 01/07/2000 – 15/07/2000	ERW89-729
3	Archaeological Intervention / Evaluation: Two layers of soil containing post medieval finds were overlain by a modern ground surface and were cut by a modern brick soakaway and drain Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust, 50-70 Moorbridge Road, 01/07/2000 – 31/07/2000	ERW104
4	Archaeological Interpretation/Desk Based Assessment: The site lies at the edge of a gravel terrace, beside an area of alluvium associated with the River Thames floodplain. The late 20th century redevelopments have probably removed almost all early deposits. A continuous watching brief will reveal any remaining archaeology Lindsey Archaeological Services, Market Street/Providence Place, 01/09/2001 - 01/03/2002.	ERW126
5	Archaeological Interpretation/Desk Based Assessment Cartographic evidence shows that the site was in open field arable land throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. During the early 20th century the site is occupied by marshland and allotments and later a few tanks and filter beds associated with the nearby sewage works were established on site and the site was relatively unchanged until the construction of the industrial estate that marks the current land use. Archaeological deposits therefore may have suffered some previous impact in the area where the current buildings foundations were built and in other localized areas . Pre-Construct Archaeology 2, Stafferton Way Industrial Estate, 01/09/2003 - 30/09/2003.	ERW184
6	Archaeological Intervention / Watching Brief: A watching brief was undertaken to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the new construction work for a new path. This involved the examination of areas of topsoil stripping, landscaping and ground reduction. Monitoring of the new route of the footpath consisted of the removal of topsoil onto subsoil along the area of the path closest to the projected course of the Roman road and traversing the earthwork aligned north south. The stratigraphy exposed consisted of topsoil onto a gravelly layer containing modern china, glass, brick and tile above a clayey sand subsoil. No finds of an archaeological nature were retrieved. It was considered that the case for the presence of a possible Roman road here has not been proven. Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Kidwells Park, 25/02/2005.	ERM409- KPM 05/13
7	Archaeological Intervention / Watching Brief A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks to demolish an existing house and erect a new block of apartments on the site. This involved examination of areas of topsoil stripping and digging of trenches for foundations, a lift shaft and services. Despite the archaeological potential of this area in general, the watching brief did not revealed any archaeological features in the area occupied by the footings for the new building. Similarly no finds of archaeological interest were recovered.	ERM460-KSM05/89

	Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Knowle Croft, Shoppenhangers Road, 27/10/2005 - 01/11/2005.	
8	<p>Archaeological Intervention / Watching Brief</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was carried out to observe groundworks during the erection of two single storey extensions and new drainage works to the rear of 3 High Street. The site lies on the fringes of what was thought to be the medieval extent of the town and within a zone developed in early post-medieval times. The archaeological work involved examination of areas of ground reduction and the digging of trenches for foundations and services. In addition to the pottery finds from the site, animal bone, tile, shell wood and two clay pipe stems were also recovered. The archaeology encountered suggests occupation on the site from the early medieval period to the present day and has highlighted the archaeological potential of this area of Maidenhead. The presence of late medieval/early post-medieval pits indicates the site was an occupation zone from at least this period.</p> <p>Thames Valley Archaeological Services, 3 High Street, 11/07/2005 - 18/07/2005.</p>	ERM472-3HSM05/21
9	<p>Archaeological Interpretation/Desk Based Assessment</p> <p>A desk-based assessment was carried out on this site following planning permission to redevelop the site for residential and light industrial units. There are a number of reported prehistoric finds in the study area, most of which were recovered from the River Thames and struck flint was found to the north-east of the site. There are no finds of Roman or Saxon date recorded within the study area. A range of medieval sites and finds are recorded, including the original timber Maidenhead Bridge, built c. 1280 and the Chapel Arches. A late medieval building now a public house is recorded to the west of the site on Moorbridge Road. Post-medieval monuments include the Grade II* listed Smyths almshouses built c.1660 and the railway and Brunel's Grade II* listed railway bridge. The report concludes that the site is located within a topographic zone favoured for early occupation. It is also located on the periphery of the historic town of Maidenhead adjacent to the main medieval road from the town to the bridge.</p> <p>Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Bridge Road, 01/06/2004 - 09/06/2004.</p>	ERM475-BRM04/56
10	<p>Archaeological Intervention / Evaluation</p> <p>Phase 1 evaluation comprised the area of the proposed residential development which occupies the northern portion of the site. A previous desk-top survey highlighted the archaeological potential of the site, as it lies on the periphery of what is thought to be the historic medieval core of Maidenhead but is adjacent to the main (medieval and later) road from the major bridge crossing the Thames. Overall, the evaluation did not reveal any deposits or finds of an archaeological nature on the site. Some of the site had already been severely truncated by previous building development and services which had already removed any archaeology that may have been present.</p> <p>Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Bridge Road, Maidenhead, 18/01/2006 - 25/01/2006.</p>	ERM491- BRM 04/56
11	<p>Archaeological Intervention / Watching Brief</p> <p>A watching brief was undertaken because the refurbishment layout was considered to affect a possible Roman road whose projected line crosses the park/ during refurbishment work. The possible course of the road is indicated on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1899 and repeated in a map by Silver drawn in 1907 purporting to represent the town in 1830. The structure shows as a broad linear earthwork in the park aligned roughly north-south. the presence of a Roman road here is not considered by the leading authorities on the subject and an examination of historic maps shows that the projected course of this route is across undefined arable land in the 18th century. It appears to correspond with field boundaries by the late 19th century and this suggests that this is an over-enthusiastic interpretation of the historic landscape on the part of the Ordnance Survey surveyors at that time. The case for the presence of a Roman road has not been proven.</p> <p>Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Kidwells Park, 02/03/2006.</p>	ERM504-KPM06/10
12	<p>Archaeological Intervention / Evaluation</p> <p>An archaeological field evaluation was carried out at 10 Longworth Drive following a planning application for the construction of apartments and associated parking, landscaping and access following demolition of the existing late 20th century house. The evaluation comprised of a total of six trenches. Overall, the evaluation did not reveal any finds or deposits of archaeological interest in any of the trenches. Some parts of the site had been disturbed by deep truncations made in late post-medieval and modern times and it is clear that a previous building formerly occupied the site. In all areas examined, made ground, presumably from the demolition of the previous building directly overlay the natural gravel.</p> <p>Thames Valley Archaeological Services, 10 Longworth Drive, 17/07/2006 - 25/07/2006.</p>	ERM611-LDM06/40
13	<p>Archaeological Intervention / Evaluation</p> <p>An archaeological field evaluation was carried out following planning permission for the construction of a new restaurant and apartments. The evaluation comprised of two machine dug trenches. Few datable finds were recovered, comprising of a single sherd of early post-medieval pottery and a few fragments of brick/tile. No dating evidence was recovered for the revetment, although a medieval or post-medieval date seems likely.</p> <p>Thames Valley Archaeological Services, 1 High Street, 17/11/2006 - 21/11/2006.</p>	ERM653-1HSM06/110

8.1.2 *Table of listed historical buildings.*

Des. No.	DesigUID	Type and Name	Description
1	DRM813	Listed Building, 3 and 5 KING STREET	.Multi-storey brewery stables. Circa 1870. Red brick. Slate roof with gabled ends. L-shaped on plan around a small courtyard; with stables and tack room on the first floor approached by external stairs on the west side to a covered landing in the angle and with a hay loft on the second floor. 3 storeys.
2	DRM851	Listed Building, BEAR HOTEL	Early C19, 3 storeys. Painted stucco with parapet and molded cornice coping. Slate roof.
3	DRM939	Listed Building, BRICK WALL TO SMYTHES ALMHOUSES NUMBERS 79 TO 85	C17 dwarf brick wall contemporary with Almshouses, stone coping and control gateway with short length of wall six feet high at RH end and short return right angles.
4	DRM554	Listed Building, No 160 (Bridgwater Lodge)	Late C18, 2 storey and basement, red brick with projecting basement, parapet and coping, hipped slate roof
5	DRM557	Listed Building, CHURCH OF ST JOSEPH	1884-1913. L Stokes, architect. Decorated gothic style. Built of flint and red brick with stone dressings and a tile roof. Nave, south-west porch, south tower, chancel. Tower has 2 two-light bell opening and a battlemented parapet.
6	DRM311	Listed Building, CHURCH OF ST LUKE	1866-70 G R Clarke. Spire 1894 J O Scott. Squared coursed rubble walls with dressed quoins, slate roof. Six bay nave, aisles, chancel, square tower with broach spire set asymmetrically on south side. Windows simplified middle pointed decorated with roll drip mould and carved heads or leaves at springing. Projecting south porch with recessed orders and two-centered arch. Interior: alternating octagonal and round columns with carved stone capitals of flowers and leaves. Delicate iron rood screen, wall painting over chancel arch. Painted and carved wood screen to choir and Lady Chapel. Stained glass by O'Connor.
7	DRM352	Listed Building, FOOTBRIDGE 50 METRES SOUTH OF OLDFIELD TO GUARDS CLUB ISLAND	Late C19 cast iron and timber footbridge. Four shallow arches with gothic cusped tracery in spandrels. Wrought iron scroll and leaf brackets to each timber pier. Set above water level on timber supports reached by simple flight of stone steps on either side. Simple tubular iron handrails in twisted cast balusters, each span has cast plaque with iron rampart crest in centre. Recently restored
8	DRM563	Listed Building, FORECOURT WALL, RAILINGS AND GATE PIERS TO BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF ART	Low stone-coped brick wall supports wrought iron railings with decorative panels. Tall patterned iron piers support ornamental double and single gates
9	DRM309	Listed Building, GARDENERS ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE	1.Ham house, now offices. Early to mid C15 altered and extended C19, mid C20 and late C20. Part timber frame, part rendered brick; old tile gabled roof. L-plan with additional extension at rear. Front range of 4 framed bays with former cross passage in second bay and former solar at west end. 2 storeys. South front, facing road. Four casement windows with horizontal glazing bars on first floor. Ground floor has 2 sash windows with

			<p>marginal glazing on either side of C20 entrance door. Other C20 entrance door on left.</p> <p>Interior: redundant crown post roof with clasped purlins and long arched wind braces at west end over solar. Some timbers are sooted. There are traces of wall paintings remaining in the solar.</p> <p>2. . Late C16 four bay timber frames altered. Two storey, old tile roof. Walls rendered and colourwashed. Four C19 timber casement windows with horizontal glazing bar 1st floor. Ground floor, two double hung sashes set flush with wall, face, cills and marginal glazing on either side of modern entrance door. Other modern entrance door to LH. L-shape on plan with C17 rear two-bay timber framed extension, part of roof framing visible on north gable behind modern chimney.</p> <p>Interior:- some original timbers visible. Simple coupled roof with side purlins and large wind braces.</p>
10	DRM310	Listed Building, GREEN DRAGON PUBLIC HOUSE	<p>Late C18. 2 storeys, red brick hipped old tile roof. Re-built chimney on ridge to LH, brick dentil eaves. 1st floor, six bays double hung sash windows with glazing bars and moulded architrave surrounds, stone cills. Ground floor five similar windows but under flat brick arches. Later half glazed doors one on LH other on RH under plain flat hood. T-shape on plan with small half hipped projection at rear. Other C19 extension at rear.</p>
11	DRM943	Listed Building, LODGE ADJOINING AND SOUTH OF OLDFIELD	<p>Late C19-early C20. Stock brick 1½ storeys, Gothick style with tall gabled roof, decorative tiling gabled dormers with decorative bargeboards. River front, one gable with cusped pierced bargeboard and slender cross braces, and 3 light timber window with slender pointed panels. Tall four sided turret to RH with small dormers. Stone panel inscribed JBH 1895 on entrance front.</p>
12	DRM346	Listed Building, MAIDENHEAD BRIDGE	<p>Opened to traffic in 1777. Built by John Townsend of Oxford to the design of and under supervision of Sir Robert Taylor. Portland stone. 5 arches over river with four diminishing arches in the approaches, stone projecting vermiculated voussoirs, moulded cornice and balustrade</p>
13	DRM560	Listed Building, MAIDENHEAD VIADUCT 130 METRES SOUTH OF OLDFIELD	<p>Built by I K Brunel in 1837-8 red brick 2 wide arches spanning river. Each arch is formed by pilasters with a roll cornice over the whole. Original width of 30 ft increased to 60 ft in 1891 on the south side. Was originally and probably remains the flattest brick arch ever built. Each span is of 128 ft with a rise of only 24 ft 6 ins. Towpath arches and small flood arches either side</p>
14	DRM944	Listed Building, MAIN BUILDING AND TWO SIDE WINGS OF BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF ART	<p>1895 by E J Shrewsbury, built as a Technical School. Red brick with terra cotta dressings. Welsh slate roofs. Symmetrical composition in Flemish Renaissance style. Main block of two storeys and basement, 4:3:4 windows. Taller projecting central three-bay section</p>

			<p>surmounted by raised attic with scrolled flanks and decorative pediment.</p> <p>Round-arched entrance in projecting porch with carved balcony over, having central pedimented name panel. Eaves cornices and window detailing in terra cotta. Fancy glazed sash windows. Tall conjoined chimney shafts. One storey side wings have shaped gables with ball finials over lesenes</p>
15	DRM963	Listed Building, MILESTONE ADJACENT TO WESTERN END OF ROAD BRIDGE PARAPET	<p>C18 stone, re-set. Incised Roman lettering reads on east face: - To Reading 13 miles Bath 82 Henley 9 Oxford 32 on west face:- To Hyde Park Corner 26 miles Colnbrook 9 On front at base: -Cookham Parish</p>
16	DRM348	Listed Building, NOS 16 AND 18 CASTLE HILL	<p>Pair early-mid C19 stock brick houses, 2 storeys slate roof, central chimneys. Symmetrical, with central pedimented front, recessed between small pedimented towers with parapet wall returning along side. Central name tablet recessed in tympanum. Recessed panels in towers with continuous string course below. 1st floor recessed double hung sash windows with glazing bars, rubbed flat brick arches and wood cills. Ground floor, four centered brick arch to entrance porch on either sides at ends. 6-panelled doors with glazed fanlights over. Part glazed pent canopy on decorated timber supports over central recessed part, shallow segmental bay window on LH</p>
17	DRM940	Listed Building, NOS 25 AND 27 BROADWAY	<p>C18 plain rendered colour-washed front on older building 4 bays. 2 storey and parapet, old tile roof and gable end, flanking chimneys. Double hung sashes with glazing bars in reveals, stone cills. 2 storey segmental bay to LH. Later square closed entrance porch with cornice and parapet. Modern single storey extension on RH. Interior has C18 richly moulded plaster ceiling to front ground floor room on LH.</p>
18	DRM555	Listed Building, NOS 32 AND 34 CASTLE HILL	<p>Pair mid C19 villas. 2 storey with pyramidal slate roof, central chimneys offset from ridge, wide overhanging eaves, decorative lead trimming to fascia. Stuccoed and colourwashed. Full height pilasters at centre and each end with panels 1st floor and segmental arched frieze. Flat band. 2 double hung sash windows at 1st floor in reveals with flat architraves and paneled stone cills. Ground floor 2 frenches casements with wood mullions, transoms and marginal glazing. Pent roof canopy over full width with decorative ironwork. Square closed entrance porch either side, set back with 1 bay 2-storey wings behind, double hung sash windows with glazing bars and cills.</p>
19	DRM351	Listed Building, NOS 52 AND 54 COOKHAM ROAD	<p>Pair early-mid C19 houses, 2 storeys rendered lined out and painted. Hipped slate roof, overhanging eaves, central chimney and LH flank chimney. First floor six double hung windows with glazing bars in reveals, stone cills. Ground floor has four central windows extending to ground level. No 52 has original delicate fanlight over door on south side elevation</p>

20	DRM558	Listed Building, OLDFIELD	Late C19 - early C20. Former Guards Club. Large irregular idiosyncratic building, 2 storeys and attic, plain tile roofs with gables, hips, half hips and octagonal turret. River front, octagonal turret with belvedere to RH 1st floor mock Tudor alternating timber and plaster panels. At river front, a boathouse contemporary with Oldfield, timber framed, gables and pitched roof of corrugated iron. Partly supported on yellow stock brick wall extending from Lodge. Interior has large stairs hall with imposing staircase with carved balusters.
21	DRM347	Listed Building, OLDFIELD LODGE	Late C18 built for Count de Crecy 1790. 3 storeys yellow stock brick, moulded stone cornice, parapet with moulded stone coping and balustrade panels over windows, hipped slate roof and flanking chimneys. Three windows with glazing bars and red brick arches on 2nd floor the one on RH blocked and painted in. On first floor the principal floor, two Parradian windows in arched recesses with radiating fan ornament in tympanum, that on RH blocked and painted in. Central six-panelled door with side lights and radiating fanlight in similar surround approached by flight of moulded stone steps with central landing and plain tailings. Entrance hall has pilasters with acanthus caps, plaster frieze and delicate cornice with double scrolled brackets and semi-circular fans. Staircase hall with an elegant elliptical stair, plain balusters and wreathed handrail, similar frieze and cornice to entrance. Reception rooms, decorative frieze and cornices, simple marble fire surrounds. Simple reeded columns in bedrooms.
22	DRM313	Listed Building, RAY LODGE	Mid C18 3 storeys, and basement. Red brick with parapet and painted dentil cornice. Hipped slate roof and flanking chimneys. Two flanking 2 storey Pavilions, brick with moulded wood cornice, each 3 windows and central chimney, and linked across front by a talluscan colonnade of nine bays. Slender wood columns on moulded plinths carried up to height of basement and ground floors. Centre breaks forward to form a portico with 2 columns widely spaced in front and 3 at sides. There are 3 columns on either side of portico and pilasters against the Pavilions. Interior: some internal shutters remain and decorative plaster ceilings and cornices Ionic columns in former ground floor reception room and Doric columns supporting 3 arches in original stair hall now altered. The whole has been converted into flats and main rooms divided by modern partitions.
23	DRM553	Listed Building, SMYTHES ALMSHOUSES	Endowed and built by James Smyth, Citizen and Salter of London 1659. 2 storeys, brick on projecting plinth, string at 1st floor level, moulded brick eaves broken in centre with coat of arms and inscription. 1st floor windows in brick gables with parapet extensions. Old tile roof lain to pattern. 2 groups of diamond-shafted chimneys. 6 gables on 1st floor, each with 3-light casement window, the two centre

			gables joined by a brick pediment on curved brick bracketed cornice over central panel. The LH window has a stone sundial over. 6 taller casement windows ground floor. All windows have early C19 hexagonal paned lights. 2-panelled central door with moulded frame, flat hood on cut brackets. Return ends double gabled with central chimney stacks.
24	DRM349	Listed Building, SPRING LODGE	. Mid C19. 2 storey, hipped slate roof, flanking chimneys. 4 bays symmetrical. Bracketed eaves cast iron ogee gutters, decorative cut, cast iron fascia. First floor double hung sashes in reveals, semi-circular heads with moulded arises, stone cills. Front stuccoed, lined out and painted. Ground floor 4 french casements with square fanlights, concave canopy over full width with paired timber columns. To LH side set back, a square closed porch with Tuscan Doric pilasters, cornice entablature and blocking course, semi-circular arched opening with impost blocks and decorated keystone. On RH a contemporary elegant conservatory of 4 bays, semi-circular arched headed glazed panels with french casements beneath. Glazed small pane roof.
25	DRM966	Listed Building, THE CLOCKTOWER	1897, by E J Shrewsbury brick with stone dressings, square plan with square projections on angle at each corner. Stone crenellated parapet, stone "pepper pots" on each corner, whole surmounted by timber framed cupola containing bell, with octagonal copper domed roof and ornate iron finial. Cornice below parapet with mythical beasts at each corner. Clock face in stone surround with quatrefoil ornament on each side gothic stone arcading below and stone string above single Lancet window with shallow cusped head. Base with stone plinth and two-centred arched opening beneath ogee drip mould, tracery in spandrels. One side has entrance door, the other drinking fountain, one window and one commemorative stone plaque to Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee 1897.
26	DRM965	Listed Building, THE HYDE	Early C19, originally one house now divided into three. Two storeys rendered and colourwashed. Hipped slate roof, overhanging eaves, chimneys with mostly original pots. West elevation has three bays, double hung sash windows with glazing bars in reveals, stone cills and blind boxes on 1st floor. Ground floor, french casements, and segmental bay with similar to RH returning on south elevation, full width verandah with fluted wood columns. Interior: - has original doors, door and window cases and door furniture.
27	DRM942	Listed Building, THE WILDERNESS	Plain early C19 house with later additions. Red brick with stone or stucco dressings including parapet coping cornice first floor bands and window cills. 2 storeys and basement (with blocked windows) 4 windows double hung sashes with glazing bars under gauged brick arches. Right end chimney. Lower windows on rear elevation altered. Lower right wing with fairly high pitched roof probably C18. Stucco, similar windows. From this a

			slightly later C19 service wing runs back. In rear elevation beyond service wing is one window with Gothic interlaced glazing.
28	DRM319	Listed Building, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH	1785 on date panel. Entrance front considerably altered in the mid/late C19. Red brick, slate roof. South front, gabled with parapet, full height recessed arched opening, stone coping and dentils to parapet. Three tall windows, centre with rounded head all with glazing bars forming circular patterns. Full height coupled Corinthian pilasters with stone capitals supporting arch. Barrel vault under arch with soffite rendered and lined. Flanked by pavilions with hipped slate roofs, brick dentil cornice, stone flat band at first floor and ground floor carried up at ground floor in semi-circular arched openings with keystones over door openings. Door to RH with six moulded panels, semi-circular glazed fanlight over, similar on LH but with panels glazed. Circular windows with glazing bars forming 4 circles, above doors. North end well restored in modern times. Interior:- double height with balustraded gallery on slender cast iron fluted Doric columns on three sides. Plaster cornice. North wall has central paneled pulpit with stairs on either side and ornate wood balusters in front of tall semi-circular arched niche, flanked by six-paneled doors in moulded architraves.
29	DRM321	Listed Building, WEST COURT	Large house by the River Thames. 1899 by William West Nev for himself. Brick, past painted roughcast, part decorative tile hanging. Old tile hipped roof. Rectangular plan with belvedere projecting from south-east corner. 2 storeys and attics. Several chimneys with offset heads and clay pots. Casement windows and mullioned and transomed windows, all with square leading Belvedere on left on 3 floor; the top floor on open balcony with wooden balustrading, under a steeply pitched octagonal roof surmounted by a weathervane. Centre section with 2 dormers, the one on the left has a flat roof and 6-light window; the one on the right has 2 gables, glazed door to balcony, flanked by 4- and 3-light windows. Below this a 2-storey square bay window of 6-lights on each level, divided by an apron of false timbering in herring-bone pattern. A recessed balcony on first floor to the right of the bay window over a projecting window and garden door with lean-to roof. On the left of the bay window are 2 bays of large mullioned transomed windows separated by a brick panel with balconies and wrought iron tailings above. 2 pairs of glazed doors and flanking casement windows give access to balconies. On the left of this is a small covered terrace with wooden balustradingInterior: mostly intact, with elaborate carved panelling and chimney piece in dining room.This building was listed in error under the parish of Bray-List No. 21 dated 2nd May 1989

30	DRM353	Listed Building, WILTON MEAD AND COMPANY ESTATE AGENTS	C18, 3 storeys, red brick. Parapet with stone coping and hipped slate roof. L-shaped block. Wing to LH has segmental bay front with 2 double hung sashes in reveals with glazing bars and stone cills on each floor, the right hand part has 2 double hung sashes in reveals with glazing bars and stone cills. On upper floors, one similar window on ground floor to left of 6-panel entrance door to left of centre, rectangular fanlight of narrow side glazing and central wreath of oak leaves flanked by ovals. Doorcase of oval reeded engaged columns with pair of cut brackets over supporting cornice hood, fluted frieze between brackets.
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9 Finds assessment

9.1 Post-Medieval Pottery

by Lucy Whittingham

9.1.1 Summary

An assemblage of 69 sherds, weighing 3460 grams, were collected from the upper surface [+] and context [1] in Trenches 1 and 2. The majority of the assemblage is post-medieval with a small collection of medieval sherds collected from (+) in Trench 1.

The assemblage from Trench 1 context [1] is relatively well-preserved with multiple joins between vessels. This suggests that the material has not been redeposited or disturbed much since its original disposal.

The small medieval assemblage from context [+] in Trench 1 contains eight abraded sherds from as many vessels, all in Surrey whiteware fabrics. Three vessels in Surrey-Hampshire coarse borderware are from the bases of a jug and cooking pot. One sherd with red-painted slip decoration is likely to be from a Kingston-type ware jug and a small abraded sherd of Cheam whiteware may be from a bowl or porringer. All of these date from between 1350–1400, but are residual in this context which is dated by the early post-medieval material present.

A small assemblage of 13 early post-medieval sherds, dating from between 1630–1700, were collected from context [+] in Trench 1. These are all typical domestic forms for this period, for example jars and chamber pots, in a coarse post-medieval red earthenware and a fine post-medieval red earthenware and Surrey-Hampshire border redware. The likely source of the post-medieval red earthenwares may be from the south Chiltern industries near to Great Missenden (1978) or those centred on Nettlebed in Oxfordshire.

The largest assemblage of pottery was retrieved from context [1], Trench 1 and dates from between 1830–1840. These vessels are typical late 18th to early 19th-century industrial finewares including Creamware plates, bowls and a jug, transfer-printed Pearlware plates, cups, dishes, saucers and teabowls and transfer printed whiteware cups, saucers, jugs and plates and bowls and cups in blue, green, black and ‘flow blue’ colours. Refined whiteware cylindrical jars, plates and cups occur in plain white but also with blue sponged decoration and with mocha decoration on a tankard with blue background. A small number of coloured earthenwares include single example of a brown earthenware teapot with moulded relief decoration around the body and yellow ware jars with brown decorative bands. English brown stoneware vessels include a dwarf ink bottle and small storage jar.

9.1.2 Significance and potential of the data.

This assemblage is of little significance to the archaeology of Maidenhead. The bulk of the material is late post-medieval and therefore produced in known industrial manufacturers which flooded the English ceramic market on the late 18th to early 19th-centuries. There is, therefore, no particular significance to these wares being found in Maidenhead. The medieval assemblage, comprised entirely of Surrey whitewares, is also typical of the ceramic trading patterns found within the Thames

valley. These wares are also found, for example, in medieval Reading (Underwood 1997) and Windsor (Mephram 1993).

As the pottery assemblage has been collected from the upper levels of the archaeological investigation it is of little potential other than acting as a dating tool. There is little potential for further research in this assemblage and publication is not recommended.

9.2 Struck flint

by Tony Grey

9.2.1 Assessment

Four pieces of flint were submitted from BR-MBM06 and were recorded according to MoLAS guidelines. Two pieces were not struck flint and regarded as field flint and two were flakes. All were unstratified from Area 1. One flake is small in orange-grey flint from a gravel pebble and the other is a scraper blank, a secondary oval-shaped piece with flat faces and cortex around the edges in dark grey flint that was not retouched for use. They are residual and undiagnostic not readily datable though the blank might be Neolithic in character.

9.3 Clay tobacco pipes

by Tony Grey

9.3.1 Introduction

The clay tobacco pipes from BR-MBM06 were recorded in accordance with current MoLAS practice and entered onto the Oracle database. The pipe bowls were classified and dated according to the Chronology of London Bowl Types (Atkinson and Oswald 1969), (Oswald 1975). Quantification and recording follow guidelines set out by Higgins and Davey (1994; Davey 1997).

A total of two fragments were submitted, an unstratified stem fragment (Area 1) and a pipe bowl from context [1] <2>.

9.3.2 Forms

The form identified for the bowl is type OS10 dated *c* 1700-1740. The unstratified stem is not diagnostic and can only be assigned to the broad date range of *c* 1580-1910. The bowl <2> is marked **TM** moulded in relief on the sides of the heel. The maker is not known.

9.3.3 Discussion

The pipe may be of London manufacture. These two pieces are of little significance beyond providing a possible pipe date for context [1] of the earlier 18th century and no further research would be suggested.

9.4 Accessioned Finds and Bulk Glass

by Nicola Powell

9.4.1 Introduction/methodology

The accessioned find and bulk glass were recovered during the excavation at Waitrose, Maidenhead, Berkshire (BR-MBM06). The finds have been processed in accordance with Museum of London (MoL) standards and the records have been entered onto the Oracle relational database. The finds have been examined briefly for the assessment and the initial identifications confirmed or revised. The finds have also been examined in the light of the available stratigraphic and dating evidence. All have been listed in the registered finds catalogue (BR-MBM06regcat). A summary of the material is given below, and its significance and potential discussed in terms of understanding the function and development of the site itself.

9.4.2 Categories by dating and materials

9.4.2.1 Post medieval

An interesting button made of shell and copper alloy <1> was recovered from an unstratified context. Made of at least three parts, the button is complete and comprises a flat shell disc with a cross with equal arm decoration carved into the top. A copper alloy fitting and rivet fits through forming a featured dot in the centre of the cross and a wire loop below for attachment. It is likely to date to the 18th to 20th century.

9.4.2.2 Bulk glass

A small amount of glass was submitted for assessment. Two almost complete medicine or pharmacy bottles were found in an unstratified context. 115mm and 143mm in height respectively, both are colourless and have sub rectangular bases. Both are late 19th to 20th century in date. The remaining sherds come from context [1] and consist of bottle sherds and a single piece of window glass. The bottle assemblage includes medicine and chemist's bottles that would have held cure-alls and elixirs, fragments of sauce and food bottles and some sherds of drinks bottles (brown beer bottles). All are late post medieval and likely to be 19th to 20th century in date.

9.4.3 Analysis of potential

The assemblage has little potential for dating the site or suggesting what the site may have been used for. The registered find and bulk glass are in keeping with material culture that has entered the archaeological record having been discarded as refuse. All are relatively modern in date. However, the button <1> is an intrinsically interesting find and it would be interesting to see what type of clothing this fancy button would

have been attached to. None of the bulk glass finds have any markings that may attribute them to a local manufacturer, chemist or brewery.

9.4.4 Significance of the data

The accessioned finds and bulk glass are of local significance only in terms of the site itself.

10 NMR OASIS archaeological report form

OASIS ID: molas1-26111

Project details

Project name 48 Moorbridge Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 8AF

Short description of the project An evaluation and watching brief carried out on Waitrose premises in Maidenhead, Berkshire, to provide archaeological estimate of the area during the shop extension. 4 trenches and 21 piling pits were excavated along with observation of the ground reduction in two large areas.

Project dates Start: 23-08-2006 End: 08-03-2007

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes BR-BMB06 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing

Monument type HOUSE Post Medieval

Monument type BUS STATION BUILDING Modern

Methods & techniques 'Documentary Search','Photographic Survey','Targeted Trenches','Visual Inspection'

Development type Building refurbishment/repairs/restoration

Development type Car park (flat)

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country England

Site location BERKSHIRE WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD MAIDENHEAD 48 Moorbridge Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 8AF

Postcode SL6 8AF

Study area 11000.00 Square metres

Site coordinates SU 89302 81256 51.5226672736 -0.712677037155 51 31 21 N 000 42 45 W Point

Height OD Min: 22.74m Max: 24.10m

Project creators

Name of Organisation MoLAS

Project brief originator Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)

Project design originator MoLAS

Project director/manager Stewart Hoader

Project supervisor Alex Cetera

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Wates Construction Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Reading Museum

Digital Archive recipient Reading Museum

Paper Archive recipient Reading Museum

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 48 Moorbridge Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 8AF. A report on the evaluation and watching brief

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

Date 2007

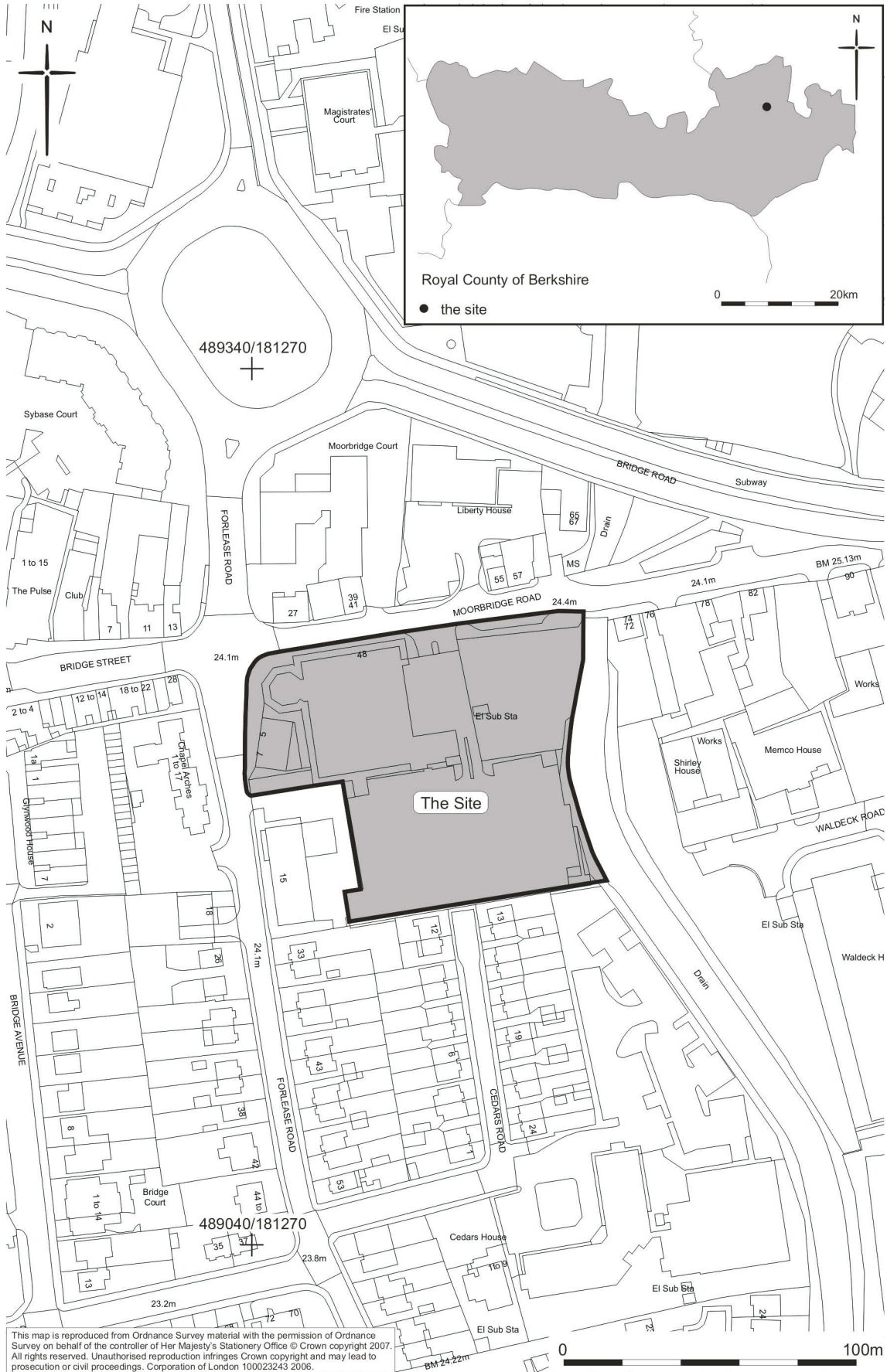
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Description Bound developer report

Entered by Karen Thomas (kthomas@molas.org.uk)

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Fig 1 Site location

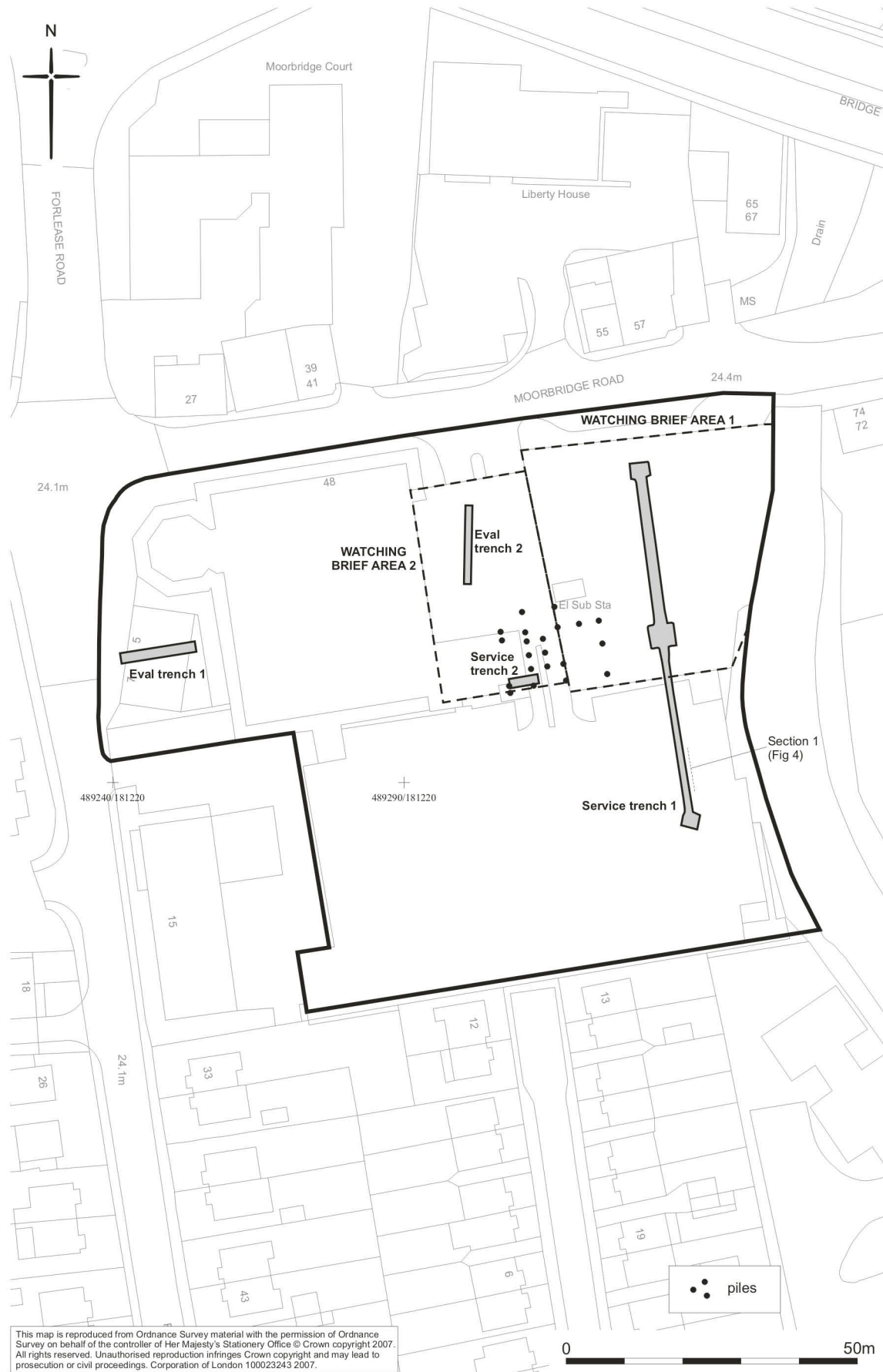


Fig 2 Trench and area locations

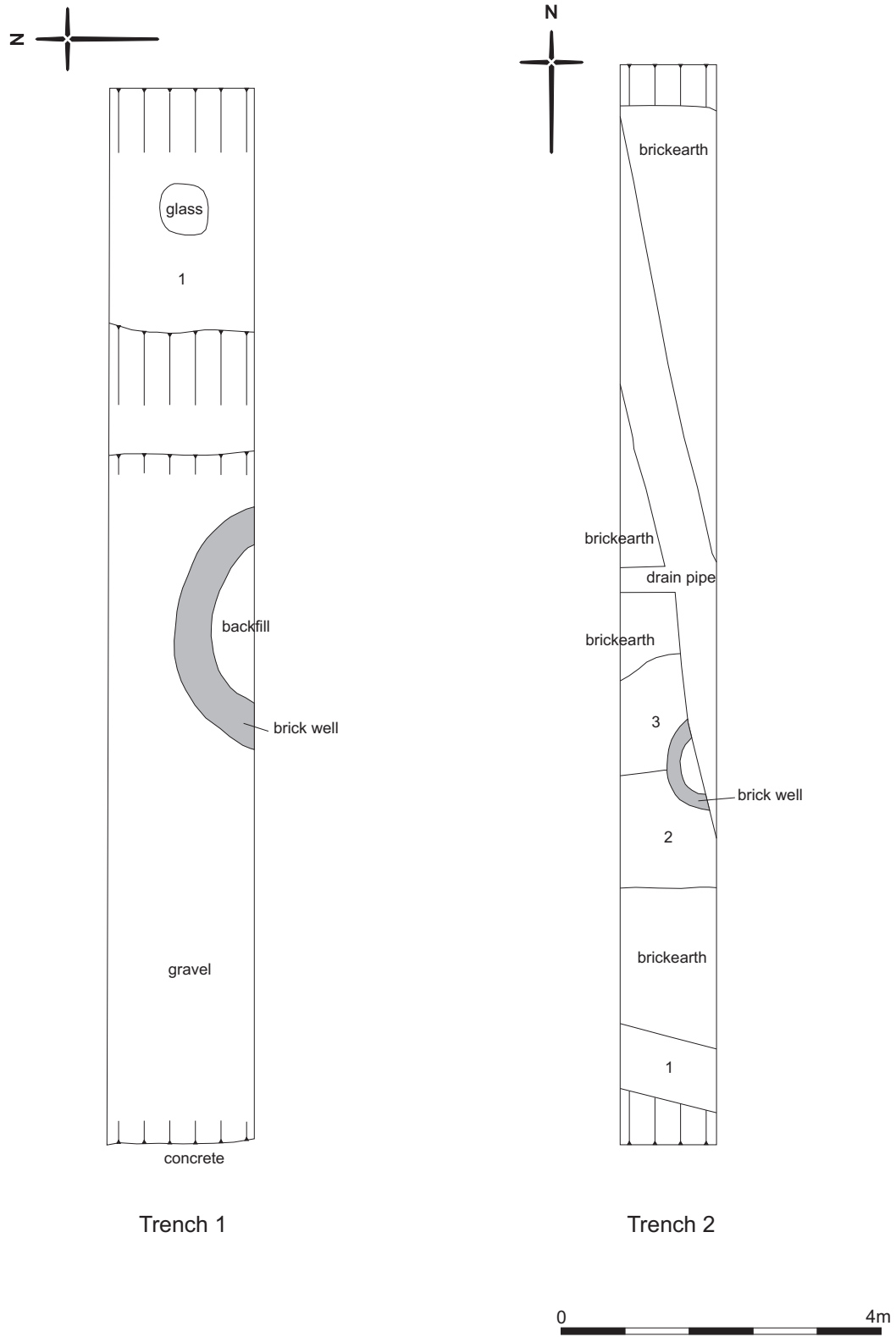


Fig 3 Plan of evaluation trench 1 and trench 2

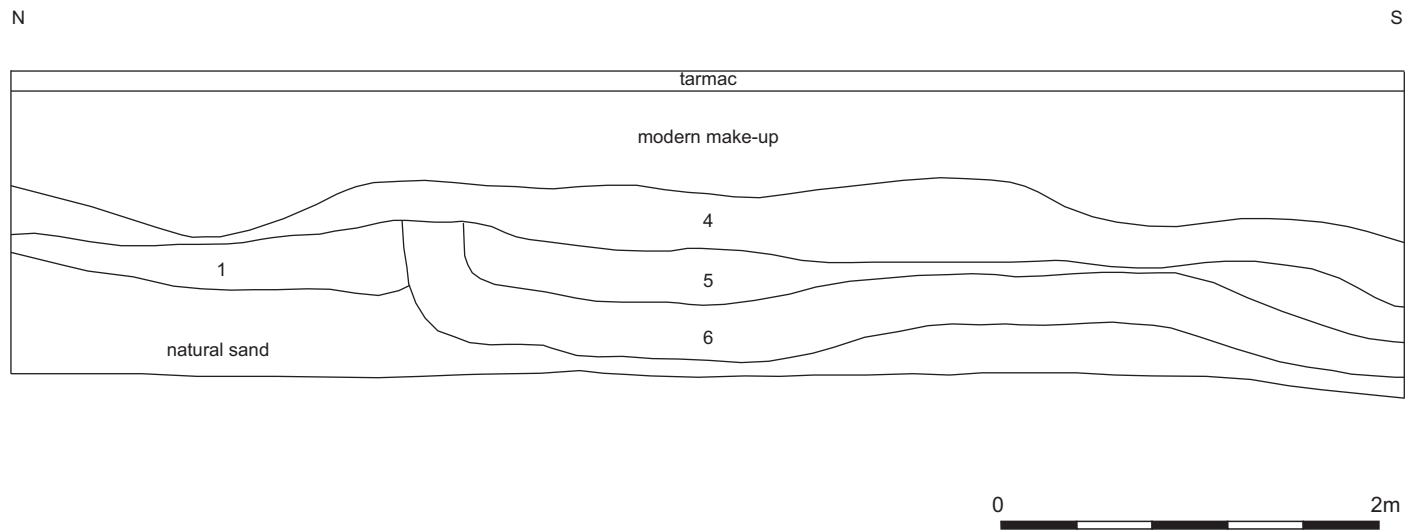


Fig 4 Section of service trench 1



a

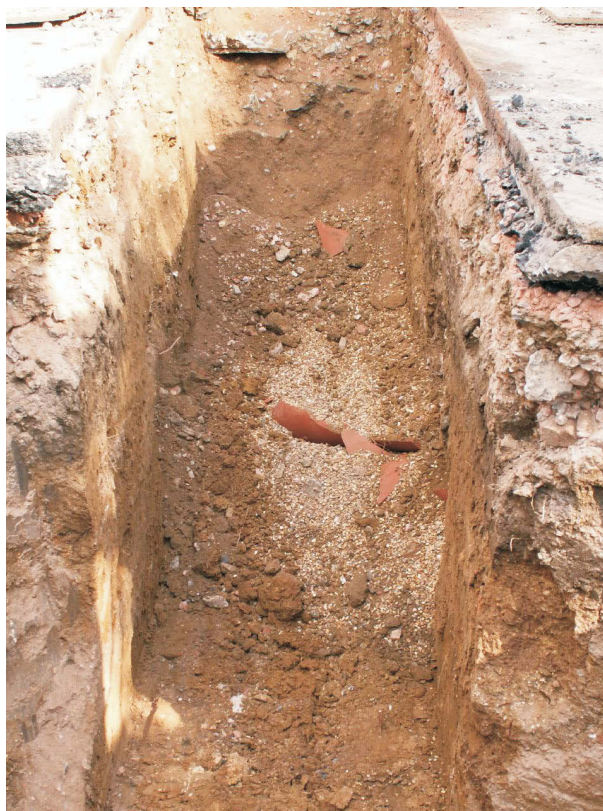


b

Fig 5 Evaluation trench 1 (a) and natural gravel (b)



a



b

Fig 6 Service trench 1 (a) and view of southern part (b)



a



b

Fig 7 Evaluation trench 2 (a) and view of central part (b)



a



b

Fig 8 Watching brief area 1 (a) watching brief area 2 (b)



a



b

Fig 9 Pile pit (a) and pile trench (b) in watching brief area 2

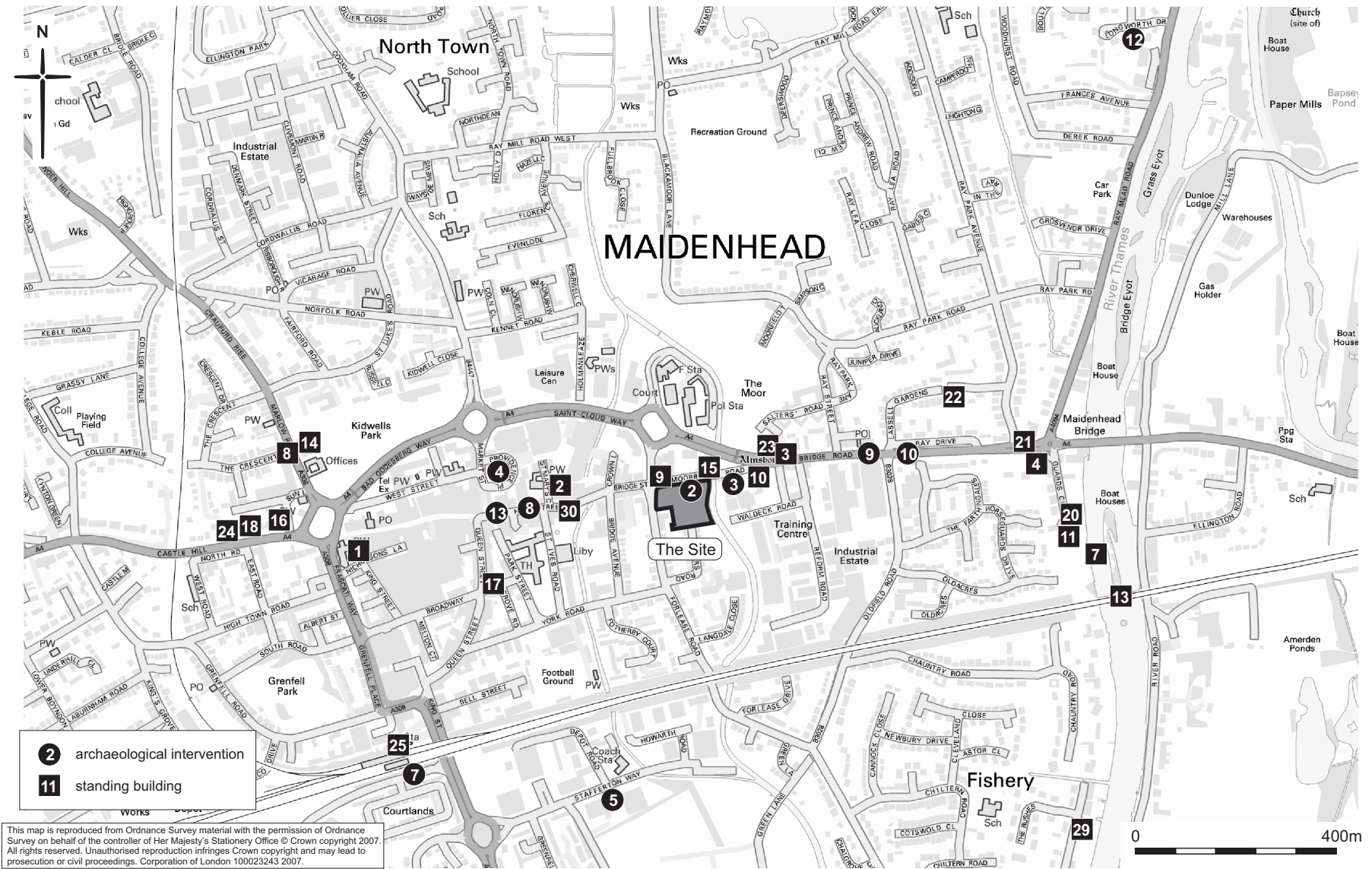


Fig 10 Archaeological interventions and standing buildings within vicinity of the site

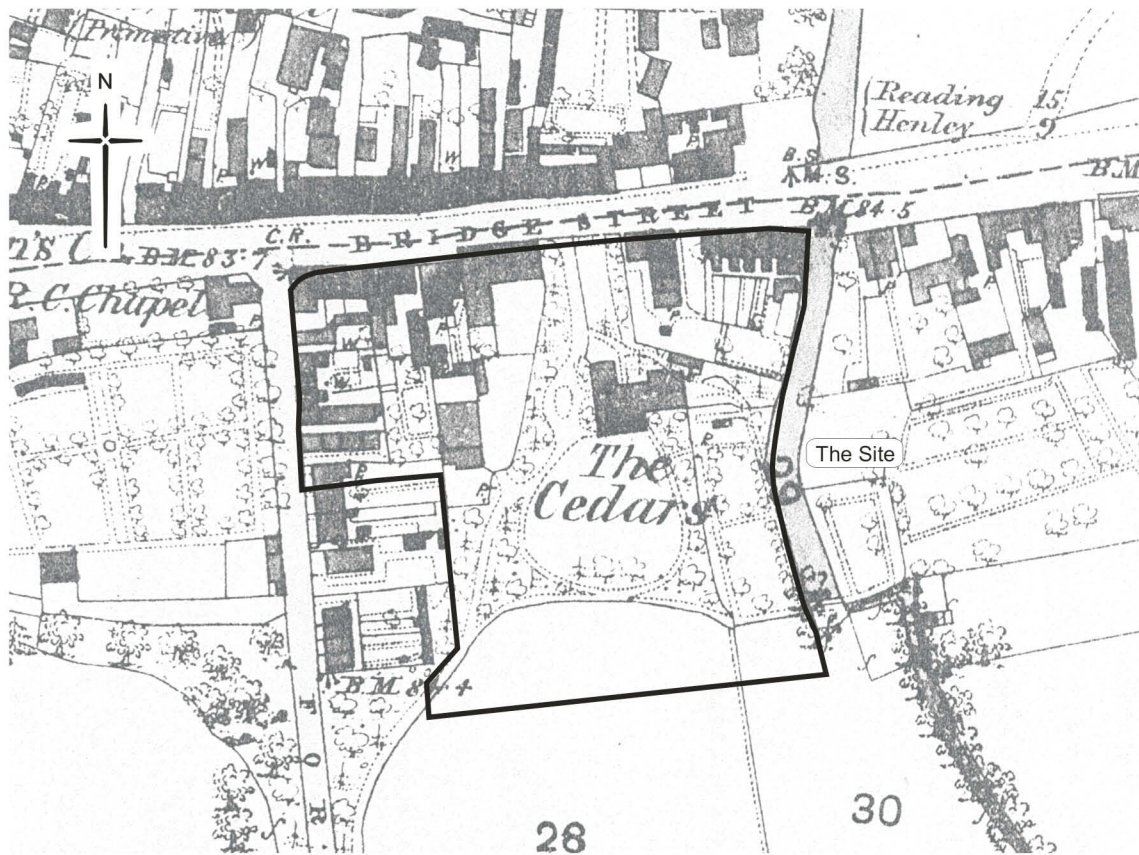


Fig 11 Ordnance Survey map 1875

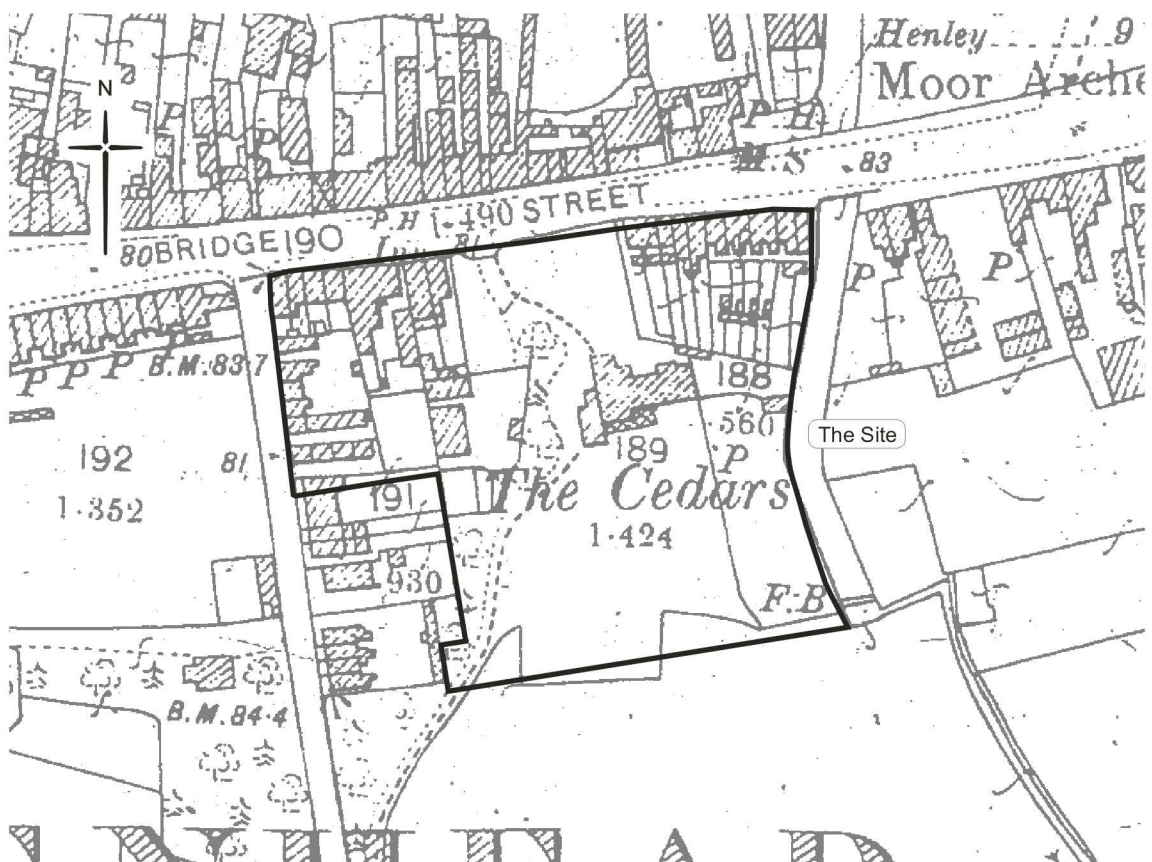


Fig 12 Ordnance Survey map 1899

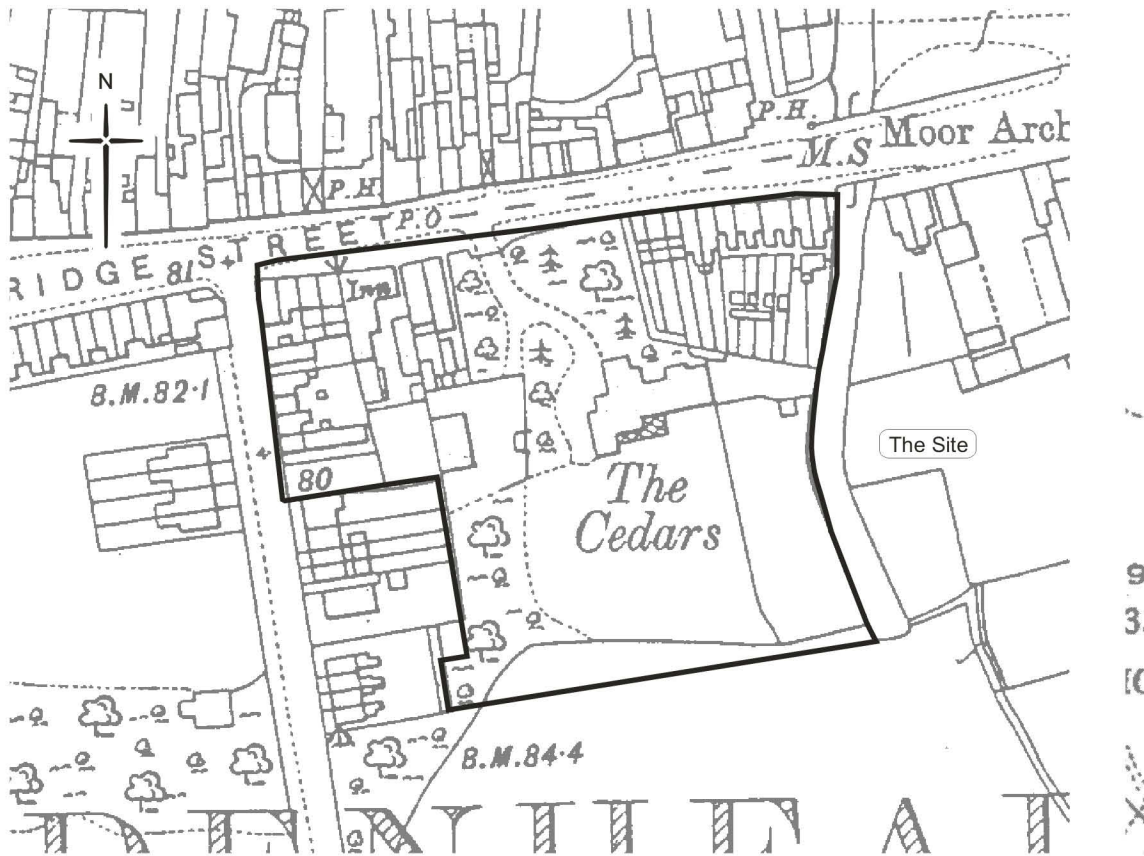


Fig 13 Ordnance Survey map 1912



Fig 14 Ordnance Survey map 1913



Fig 15 Ordnance Survey map 1925

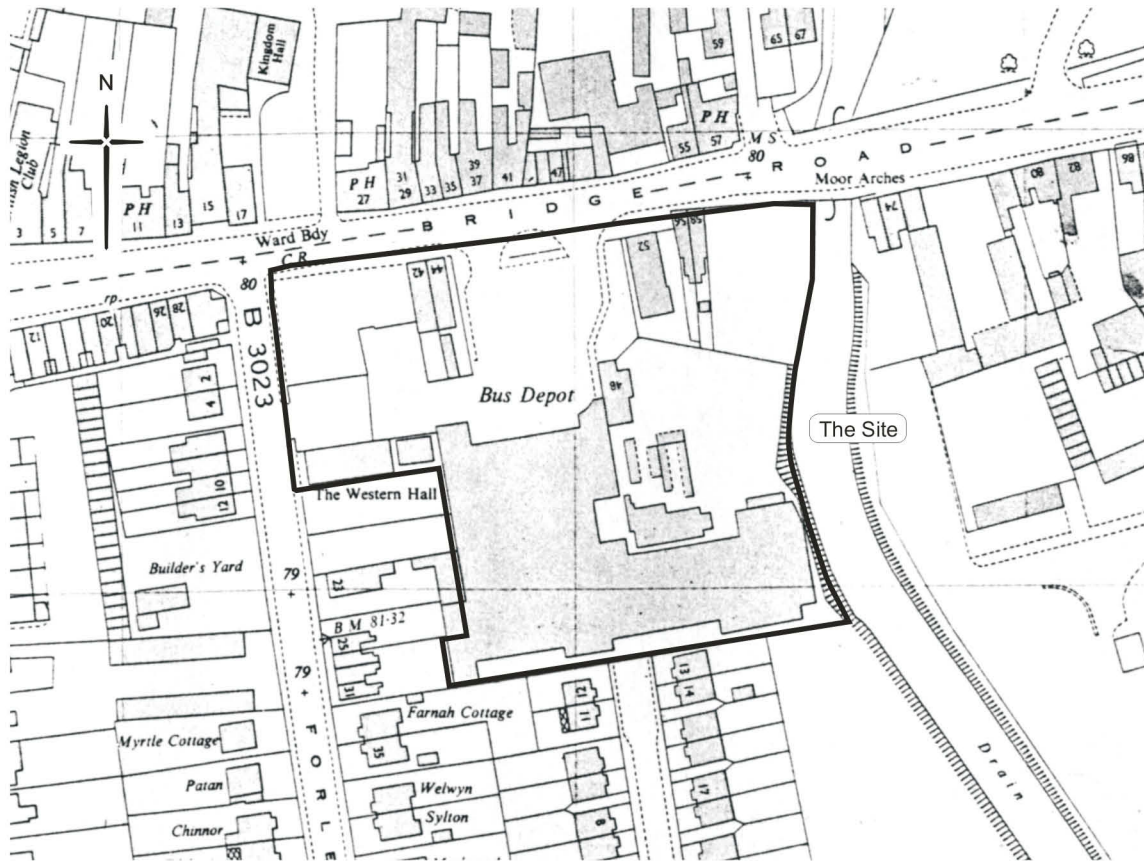


Fig 16 Ordnance Survey map 1970