

# The Druries and The Grove Harrow on the Hill Greater London

*Archaeological Watching Brief*



for  
CgMs Consulting

CA Project: 660831  
CA Report: 17019

January 2017



# The Druries and The Grove Harrow on the Hill Greater London

## Archaeological Watching Brief

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	The Druries and The Grove, Harrow on the Hill
<b>Location:</b>	Harrow, Greater London
<b>NGR:</b>	NGR: TQ 1525 8730 and TQ1536 8751 respectively
<b>Type:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>Date:</b>	12 to 16 December 2016 & 13 January 2017
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre
<b>Site Code:</b>	The Druries: HHA16; The Grove: CCI 16

Between December 2016 and January 2017, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with redevelopment proposals for the Druries and the Grove accommodation blocks at Harrow school, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Greater London Borough of Harrow.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between December 2016 and January 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at the Druries and the Grove, Harrow on the Hill, Greater London (centred on NGR: TQ 1525 8730 and TQ1536 8751 respectively; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken during geotechnical works and commissioned by CgMs Consulting.
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016) and approved by the London Borough of Harrow (LBH) acting on advice from the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014) and the *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London* (GLA 2015).

### **The site**

- 1.3 The Druries site is located in the London Borough of Harrow, and occupies the southern slope of Harrow Hill between approximately 115m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north-east of the site and 95m aOD in the west (Figs 1, 2 & 3). The Grove site occupies the northern slope of Harrow Hill between approximately 120m aOD in the south and 105m aOD in the north-east of the site. Harrow Hill itself is largely surrounded by relatively flat lowlands (Figs 1, 2 & 4).
- 1.4 The underlying geology of the sites is mapped as London Clay Formation, clay, silt and sand of the Palaeogene period, overlain by Claygate Member, clay, silt and sand and Bagshot Formation sand. No superficial deposits are recorded within either site (BGS 2016).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the sites has been presented in two archaeological desk-based assessments (CgMs 2016a and 2016b). The following section is summarised from these sources. Greater London Historic Environment Record numbers are shown in parenthesis. Where two distances from the sites are given, the first distance is from the Druries site and the second distance is from The Grove site, unless otherwise stated.

**Prehistoric (pre AD 43)**

- 2.2 A single entry on the GLHER identifies a Palaeolithic findspot c. 360m/c. 570m south-west of the site (MLO15600 at TQ 1500 8700).
- 2.3 A Neolithic flint scraper was found within the vicinity of Church Hill, to the east of the sites (MLO15666 at TQ 1530 8730).
- 2.4 A prehistoric flint scraper of uncertain date was found c. 410m east of the sites (MLO15605 at TQ 1573 8739).

**Iron Age and Roman (700BC to AD 410)**

- 2.5 Late Iron Age/Roman pottery sherds were found on playing fields c. 480m/c. 440m east of the site (MLO23398 at TQ 1580 8730).
- 2.6 Four sherds of Roman tile were also found on playing fields c. 670m/c. 470m north-east of the site (MLO14324 at TQ 1580 8780).

**Early medieval and medieval (AD 410 to 1539)**

- 2.7 The name Harrow is derived from the Saxon word *hergae*, which translates as temple or shrine, and the earliest documented reference to Harrow dates to AD 767 (Weinreb & Hibbert 2008: 386). The reference to a temple/shrine is thought to indicate the presence of a Saxon temple, which may have existed at the summit of Harrow Hill.
- 2.8 Early settlement is likely to have focused along the High Street south of the church (MLO16101 at TQ 1516 8704).
- 2.9 The only archaeological evidence of the Anglo-Saxon/Early medieval period recorded within the wider environs of the sites is a ditch containing much abraded possible Saxon pottery sherds, excavated in 1990 c. 220m/c. 100m north of the site (MLO7987 at TQ 1520 8755).
- 2.10 Harrow is recorded in the 1086 Domesday Survey as a very large settlement with 177 households (Open Domesday 2016). A priest is mentioned in the survey which suggests the presence of a church, though one is not listed.

- 2.11 St Mary's Church, consecrated in 1094, was located on the summit of Harrow Hill (NHL: 1079742 at TQ 1531 8745).
- 2.12 A medieval vicarage was granted in 1233-40 and located south of the church's burial ground to the east of the site (MLO15646 at TQ 1530 8730).
- 2.13 The Grove, located c. 190m north-east of The Druries, was the site of a medieval rectory manor in 1233-40 and later incorporated into Harrow School (MLO13000 at TQ 1540 8750).
- 2.14 Medieval stew ponds (MLO23409) and a leat (MLO42731) located to the north-east of the The Grove (at TQ 1540 8760) are likely associated with the rectory manor, providing fish and water. These now survive as banks and three pond-like depressions c. 280m north-east of the Druries site.
- 2.15 Crown Street (previously Hog Lane) and Middle Road were the location for a market and fair from the 13th to 16th centuries (Weinreb and Hibbert 2008: 386), with the focus of the settlement centred on High Street, West Street and Crown Street (Bowl 2000).
- 2.16 A deserted medieval hamlet identified through c. 1300 documentary evidence was located approximately 370m south-west of the sites (MLO73213 at TQ 1500 8700).
- 2.17 A medieval rectory manor was sited at Lowlands Road c. 480m north of the sites (MLO68499 at TQ 1540 8780), with a possible carriageway leading to the manor surviving as very slight earthworks to the west (MLO15664 at TQ 1530 8780).
- 2.18 A double bank earthwork in Church Fields located c. 290m north-west of the sites is interpreted as possible medieval cultivation strips (MLO15665 at TQ 1510 8760). A small ditch and pit containing medieval pottery and post-medieval finds was excavated in 1990 to the east of this earthwork (MLO7988 at TQ 1520 8755).
- 2.19 A small stretch of a medieval lane is located c. 130m north-west of the sites (MLO15667 at TQ 1510 8740).
- 2.20 A farmhouse and sub-manor house (MLO16094 at TQ 1525 8715) associated with the Flambard family since the 14th century, and later identified in 1664 as the largest

house in Harrow on the Hill, was located c. 120m south of the site within what is now Harrow Park (NHL:1001424).

- 2.21 A medieval windmill, thought to be near the site of a manorial mill near the 'Flambards' is identified c. 280m south of the sites (MLO15652 at TQ 1520 8700).
- 2.22 The Hermitage of St Edmund & St Catherine at Sudbury Hill is thought to have been sited c. 590m south of the sites prior to the Dissolution of the monasteries in 1529. It was later replaced by a large house belonging to the Flambards in the 17th century (MLO20565 at TQ 1545 8670).
- 2.23 The sites of two medieval/post-medieval farmsteads are identified on the GLHER to the north-west of the sites: Roxborough Farm (MLO15663 at TQ 1500 8790) c. 610m north-west, and Honeybun's Farm (MLO15678 at TQ 1480 8780) c. 620m north-west of sites.
- 2.24 Fieldwalking in 1973 found four sherds of 13th-century pottery c. 770m north-east of the sites (MLO68478 at TQ 1600 8770).
- 2.25 Two listed buildings, containing partial medieval components provide evidence for the medieval development of Harrow. These are a 16th-century timber-framed house at No. 13 West Street (NHL: 1079663 at TQ 1523 8724) and the Old Pye House probably built in the 15th century (NHL: 1358651 at TQ 1506 8728).
- 2.26 The sites lay within the core of the medieval settlement at Harrow on the Hill, to the south of St Marys Church, which sits on the summit of the hill and provided a focal point.

### ***Post-medieval and modern (1539 to present)***

- 2.27 Harrow School was founded by John Lyon in 1572. The original school building, completed in 1615, comprises what is now the west wing of the Old School c. 20m north/120m south of the sites (MLO6548; Weinreb et al 2008: 387; Cockburn et al 1969).
- 2.28 The development of Harrow on the Hill was dominated by the presence and growth of Harrow School, with the High Street continuing to provide local shopping and



amenities (including a post office, police station and fire station) to the surrounding population (Bowlit 2000).

- 2.29 The GLHER records Harrow Park (NHL: 1001424), a small 18th-century park, previously agricultural land surrounding the Flambards house, which was landscaped by Lancelot Brown (between 1768 and 1771). The gardens around the house were later remodelled in the 19th century.
- 2.30 John Rocque's 1754 Map of Middlesex shows the Druries site is located within the northern area of settlement at Harrow-on-the-Hill, on the west side of the High Street. The eastern part of the site is occupied by building/s fronting the High Street, whilst the western part of the site remains undeveloped. The settlement is surrounded by undeveloped agricultural land.
- 2.31 The same map shows the Grove site as located to the north of settlement at Harrow-on-the-Hill, on the western side of the Church Hill. The Rectory manor occupies the east-central part of the site and is set within a relatively large garden. The site and settlement at Harrow on the Hill is surrounded by undeveloped agricultural land.
- 2.32 A 1759 Estate Map shows the Grove site in more detail. The Rectory manor was surrounded by gardens in the west and woods/orchard in the north. St Mary's Church is clearly identified to the south of the site, and additional linear buildings fronting Church Hill border the eastern site boundary.
- 2.33 The 1817 Harrow Enclosure Map shows increased development on the eastern half of the Druries site with the construction of a number of small buildings. The western part of the site remains undeveloped and divided into three plots of land.
- 2.34 In 1820 the Rectory manor was bought by S.E. Batten who called it 'The Grove' and established it as a boarding house. The house burnt down in 1833 and was rebuilt in 1836. The front façade and some of the cellars survived (Harrow School online).
- 2.35 The 1864 Ordnance Survey shows the Druries site in more detail. The eastern site boundary is occupied by buildings fronting the High Street. To the rear of these buildings sits the Druries (NHL: 1358631), a large irregular shaped building built in 1865 to provide accommodation to the students. A plan of the Druries shows a

detailed layout of the building at this time. The rest of the site to the west was laid out as formal gardens, and planted in part with trees.

- 2.36 By 1935 all of the buildings fronting the High Street were demolished and incorporated into the grounds of the Druries being replaced by a pathway and steps leading to the Old School building to the north. The Druries was extended to the north, and a small addition was also made to the south.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The general objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

- 3.2 The specific research aims of the project were;

- a) To determine if archaeologically significant levels have survived on these sites.
- b) To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.

- 3.3 The potential and significance such deposits was assessed according to the research priorities as set out in the *English Heritage Research Agenda* (EH 2005) and more local and thematic research priorities, however, the limited findings of this project are not considered to contribute to any of these research agenda.

- 3.4 The information gathered will enable GLAAS, the archaeological advisors to the London Borough of Harrow (LBH), to assess the significance of the potential heritage resource within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance, and avoid or minimise any conflict between heritage resource conservation and the proposed development, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012, Section 12) and the London Plan (GLA 2015, Policy 7.8).



## 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2016). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising seven test pits and five boreholes (Fig. 2).
- 4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. CA will make arrangements with LAARC for the deposition of the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-11)

### ***The Druries and the Grove Boreholes***

- 5.1 Boreholes on both sites were drilled from ground level, without reception/starter pits and extracted as a sheathed core. As a result no observation of potential archaeological deposits could be made.

### ***The Druries***

#### ***Test Pit 1 (Figs 2 & 5)***

- 5.2 Test pit 1 measured 0.2m by 0.4m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.9m below present ground level (bpgl). The earliest encountered deposit (102) comprised brown grey silty clay, containing modern brick fragments (Fig. 5; section AA). This was overlain by grey brown redeposited clay (101), which contained occasional brick fragments and frequent small sub-angular stone fragments. It measured 0.6m thick. This was in turn sealed by concrete slab 100, forming part of an area of modern paving.

#### ***Test Pit 2 (Figs 2 & 6)***

- 5.3 Test pit 2 measured 0.2m by 0.4m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.93m bpgl. The earliest encountered deposit (202) consisting of brown clay, with frequent modern brick fragments. This was overlain by grey brown redeposited clay

(201), containing modern brick fragments. It measured 0.7m thick. This was in turn sealed by concrete slab 100, forming part of an area of modern paving.

#### ***Test Pit 3 (Figs 2 & 7)***

- 5.4 Test pit 3 measured 0.6m by 0.6m. The excavation encountered a void at 1.3m bpgl. Overlying this void was a mixed deposit of construction sand, rubble and redeposited clay (301), 1.2m thick. This was directly overlain by concrete slab 300, forming part of an area of modern paving.

#### ***The Grove***

##### ***Test Pit 1100 (Figs 2 & 8)***

- 5.5 Test pit 1100 measured 0.85m by 0.4m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m bpgl. The earliest encountered deposit (1102) comprised loose pink grey sandy clay, containing frequent brick, tile and slate fragments. This was overlain by compact sand (1101), which formed a bedding layer for overlying paving slab 1100.

##### ***Test Pit 1200 (Figs 2 & 9)***

- 5.6 Test pit 1200 measured 0.2m by 0.4m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.85m below present ground level (bpgl). The earliest encountered deposit (1203) comprised grey brown sandy clay, containing pebbles. This was overlain by dark grey brown silty clay (1202), which contained occasional modern brick fragments. This was in turn overlain by yellow grey sandy clay with frequent modern construction/demolition rubble (1201). Sealing all these deposits was tarmac layer 1200 forming part of an area of modern hardstanding.

##### ***Test Pit 1300 (Figs 2 & 10)***

- 5.7 Test pit 1300 measured 0.2m by 0.4m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.96m bpgl. The earliest encountered deposit (1302) consisting of dark orange grey sandy clay, with occasional modern brick fragments. This was overlain by mid orange grey sandy clay, with occasional modern brick fragments (1301). It measured 0.9m thick. This was in turn sealed by gravel in a silty matrix (1300).

##### ***Test Pit 1400 (Figs 2 & 11)***

- 5.8 Test pit 1400 measured 0.2m by 0.4m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.05m bpgl. This excavation did not penetrate through the level of the topsoil (1400) and was abandoned due to the presence of live services.

## **6. DISCUSSION**

- 6.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the observed test pits and no artefacts pre-dating the modern period were recovered. The absence of archaeological deposits within the test pits may be attributable to their locations within areas disturbed by the construction footprints of the Druries and Grove buildings.

## **7. CA PROJECT TEAM**

- 7.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Timothy Lewis, assisted by Andrew Whelan. The report was written by Timothy Lewis. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Stuart Joyce.



## 8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

## The Druries

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
1	100	Layer	Concrete	Concrete slab	0.55+	0.37+	0.1
1	101	Layer	Deposit	Mid greyish brown clay, little friability, occasional brick fragments and frequent small sub-angular stone	0.55+	0.37+	0.6
1	102	Layer	Deposit	Mid brownish grey silty clay, frequent small brick fragments	0.55+	0.37+	0.69+
2	200	Layer	Concrete	Concrete slab	0.6+	0.6+	0.04
2	201	Layer	Deposit	Dark brownish grey silty clay, occasional brick fragments	0.6+	0.6+	0.70
2	202	Layer	Deposit	mid grey sandy clay and brick rubble	0.6+	0.6+	0.19+
3	300	Layer	Concrete	Concrete slab	0.46+	0.35+	0.1
3	301	Layer	Deposit	Mixed deposit of construction sand, rubble and redeposited clay	0.46+	0.35+	1.2+

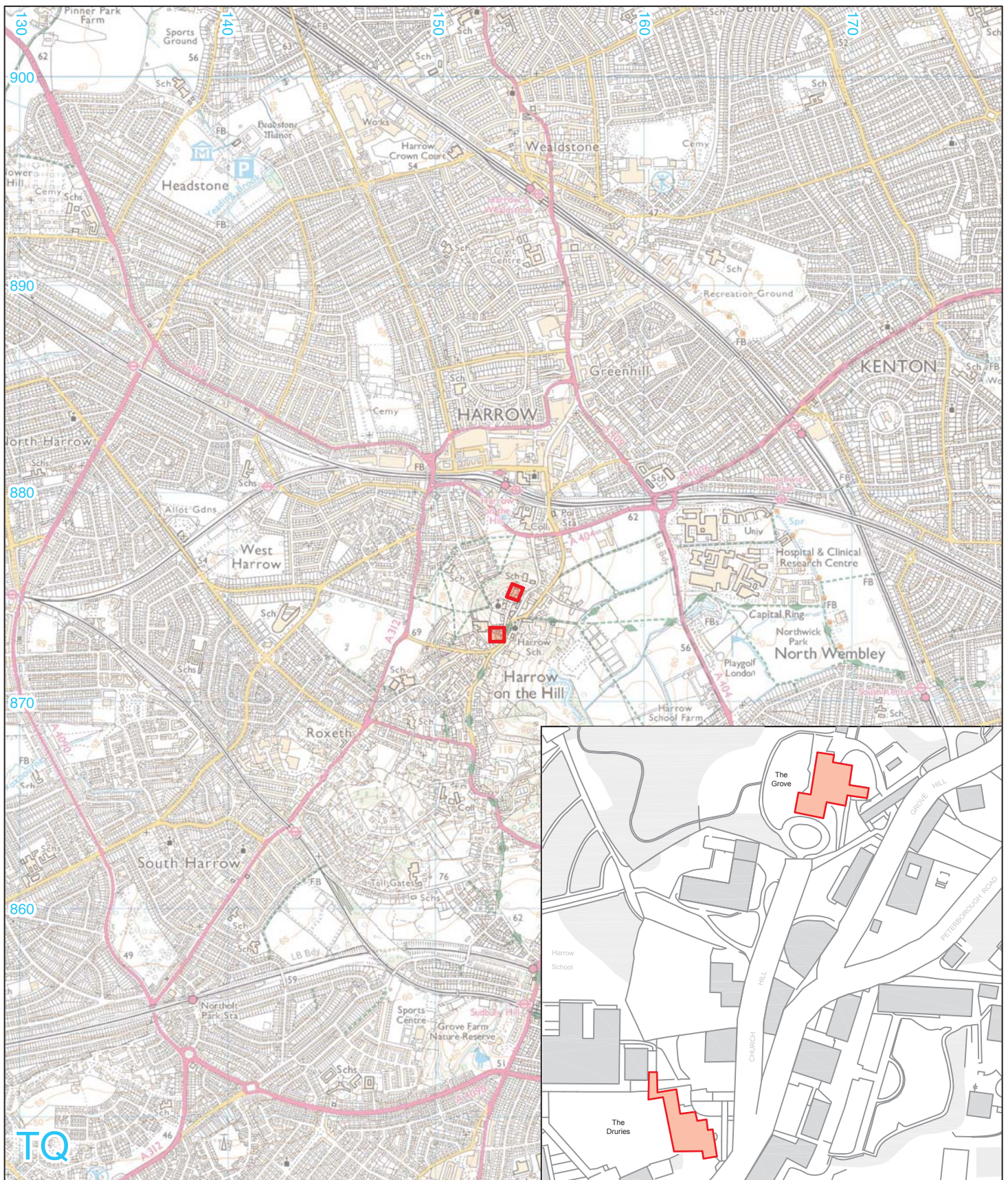
## The Grove

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
1100	1100	Layer	Concrete	Paving slab	0.45	0.6	0.05
1100	1101	Layer	Deposit	Course grained yellow sand (construction bedding)	0.45	0.6	0.05
1100	1102	Layer	Deposit	Very loose pinkish grey marginally silty sandy clay. Frequent frogged bricks and brick fragments with occasional tile and slate fragments also	0.45	0.6	0.45+
1200	1200	Layer	Tarmacadam	Tarmacadam paving	0.6+	0.36+	0.12
1200	1201	Layer	Deposit	Yellowy grey sandy clay, frequent construction rubble and modern debris	0.6+	0.36+	0.48
1200	1202	Layer	Deposit	Dark grey brown granular silty clay. Frequent medium sized pebbles and occasional brick and pipe fragments	0.6+	0.36+	0.1
1200	1203	Layer	Deposit	Pale grey brown, very sandy clay. Frequent medium sized pebbles	0.6+	0.36+	0.15+
1300	1300	Layer	Topsoil	Loose silty dark brown silty deposit with a thin gravel spread to the surface	0.6+	0.4+	0.3
1300	1301	Layer	Deposit	Orangey grey sandy clay, occasional large flint nodules and occasional brick fragments	0.6+	0.4+	0.9
1300	1302	Layer	Deposit	Orangey grey sandy clay with silty dark grey streaks, occasional large flint nodules and rare brick fragments	0.6+	0.4+	0.3+
1400	1400	Layer	Topsoil	Dark grey silty clay	0.2+	0.4+	0.05

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	The Druries and The Grove, Harrow on the Hill	
Short description	<p>Between December 2016 and January 2017, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with redevelopment proposals for the Druries and the Grove accommodation blocks at Harrow school, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Greater London Borough of Harrow.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	12 to 16 December 2016 & 13 January 2017	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	The Druries & The Grove, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Harrow, London	
Site co-ordinates	The Druries – TQ 1525 8730 The Grove – TQ 1536 8751	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)		
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	CgMs Consulting	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Stuart Joyce	
Project Supervisor	Timothy Lewis & Andrew Whelan	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>		
	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>		
	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	n/a	none
Paper	London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre	pro-forma recording sheets, registers, WSI and drawings
Digital	London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre	Database, digital photographs, digital survey data
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>The Druries and The Grove, Harrow on the Hill, Greater London: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>17019</b>		





N

0 1km

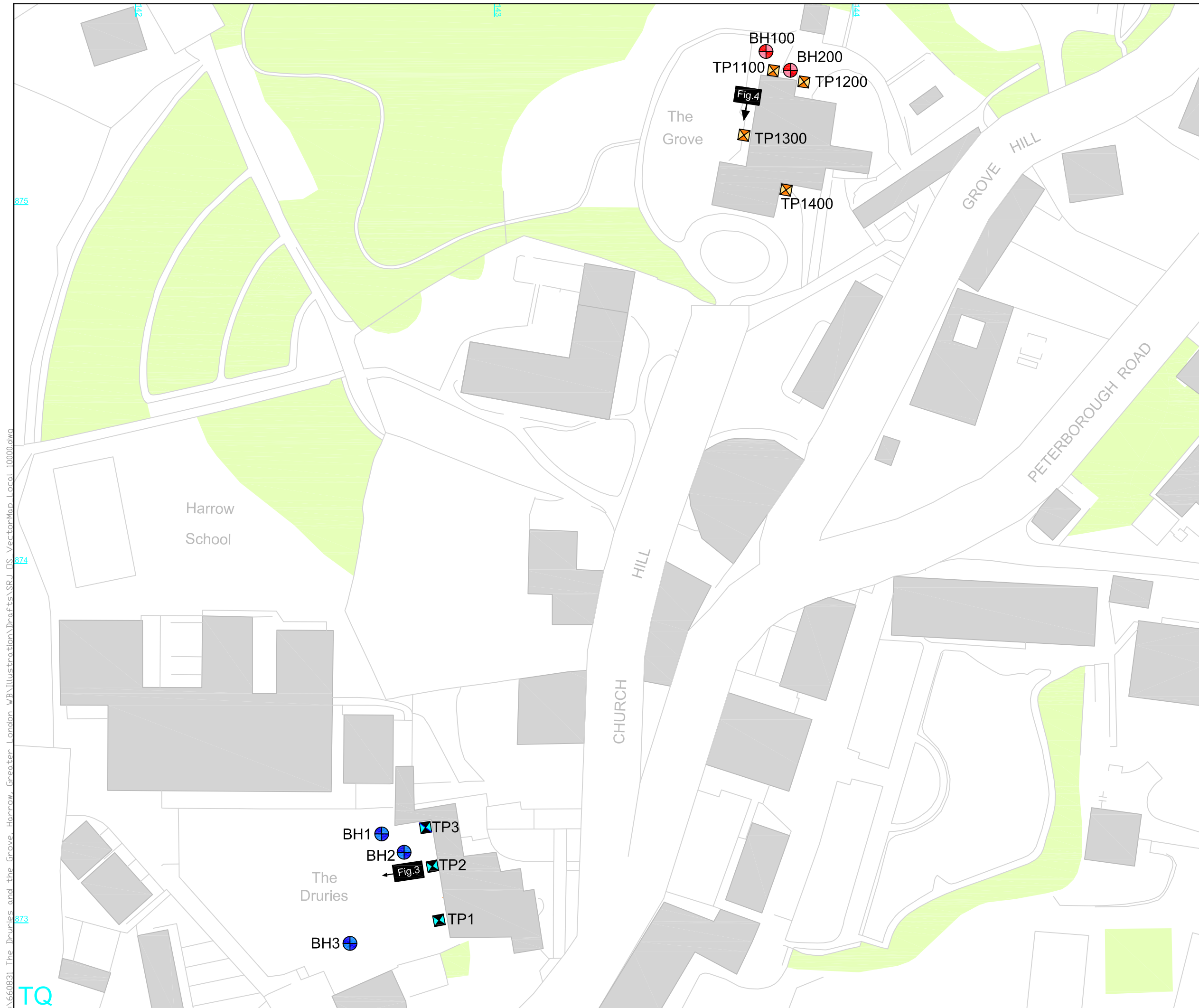
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 The Druries and the Grove  
 Harrow on the Hill, Greater London



**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

**DRAWN BY** EE      **PROJECT NO.** 660831      **FIGURE NO.**  
**CHECKED BY** DJB      **DATE** 12/01/2017      **1**  
**APPROVED BY** SJ      **SCALE@A4** 1:25,000








**The Druries:**


-  Test Pit
-  Borehole

**The Grove:**


-  Test Pit
-  Borehole

 **Fig.3** Direction of photographs

0 50m



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
The Druries and the Grove,  
Harrow on the Hill, Greater London

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**FIGURE TITLE**  
**The site, showing location of  
groundworks**

DRAWN BY EE	PROJECT NO. 660831	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 13/01/2017	<b>2</b>
APPROVED BY SJ	SCALE@A3 1:1000	

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TQ



3



4

3 The Druries, looking west

4 The Grove, looking south-west



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PROJECT TITLE

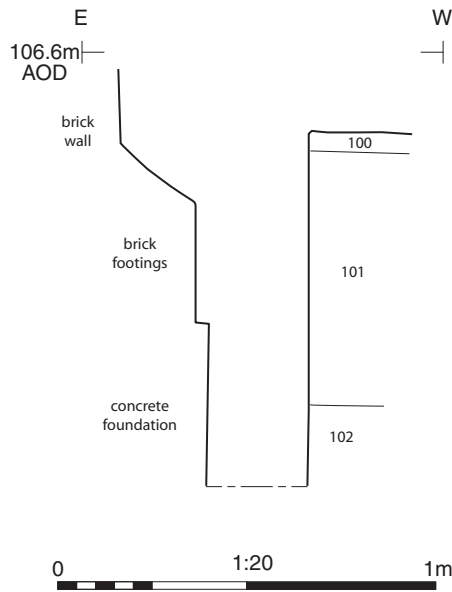
The Druries and the Grove,  
 Harrow on the Hill, Greater London

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	660831	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	13/01/2017	<b>3 &amp; 4</b>
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Section AA



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[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

PROJECT TITLE

The Druries and the Grove  
Harrow on the Hill, Greater London

FIGURE TITLE

The Druries, test pit 1: section

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	660831	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	13/01/2017	
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A4	1:20	<b>5</b>



6



7

**The Druries:**

**6 Test pit 2, looking south (no scale)**

**7 Test pit 3, looking east (1m scale)**



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*PROJECT TITLE*

The Druries and the Grove  
 Harrow on the Hill, Greater London

*FIGURE TITLE*

**Photographs**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	660831	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	13/01/2017	<b>6 &amp; 7</b>
APPROVED BY	SJ	SCALE@A4	N/A	



8



9



10



11

**The Grove:**

- 8 Test pit 1100, looking east (0.2m scale)
- 9 Test pit 1200, looking south (0.2m scale)
- 10 Test pit 1300, looking north (0.2m scale)
- 11 Test pit 1400, looking south (0.15m scale)

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