

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

LIME LODGE, TITE HILL,

ENGLEFIELD GREEN,

SURREY

SU 988 712

On behalf of

CgMS Consulting Ltd

FEBRUARY 2010

REPORT FOR CgMs Consulting Ltd
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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an evaluation at Lime Lodge, Englefield Green. Two trenches revealed a modern boundary ditch parallel with Tite Hill. A further four trenches revealed modern garden features, comprising remains of planting and gullies. One trench evidenced ground reduction associated with the former stable block. No archaeological earlier than the 19th century was present, although a single early prehistoric flint was recovered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site location (Figure 1)

The site is located land at Lime Lodge, Tite Hill, Englefield Green, Surrey. It is bounded by Tite Hill to the north, to the east by houses fronting Rushmere Place, to the south by houses fronting Lodge Close, and houses fronting Spencer Gardens and Tite Hill to the west. The site is centred at SU 998 712, and is c. 1.8 hectares in extent.

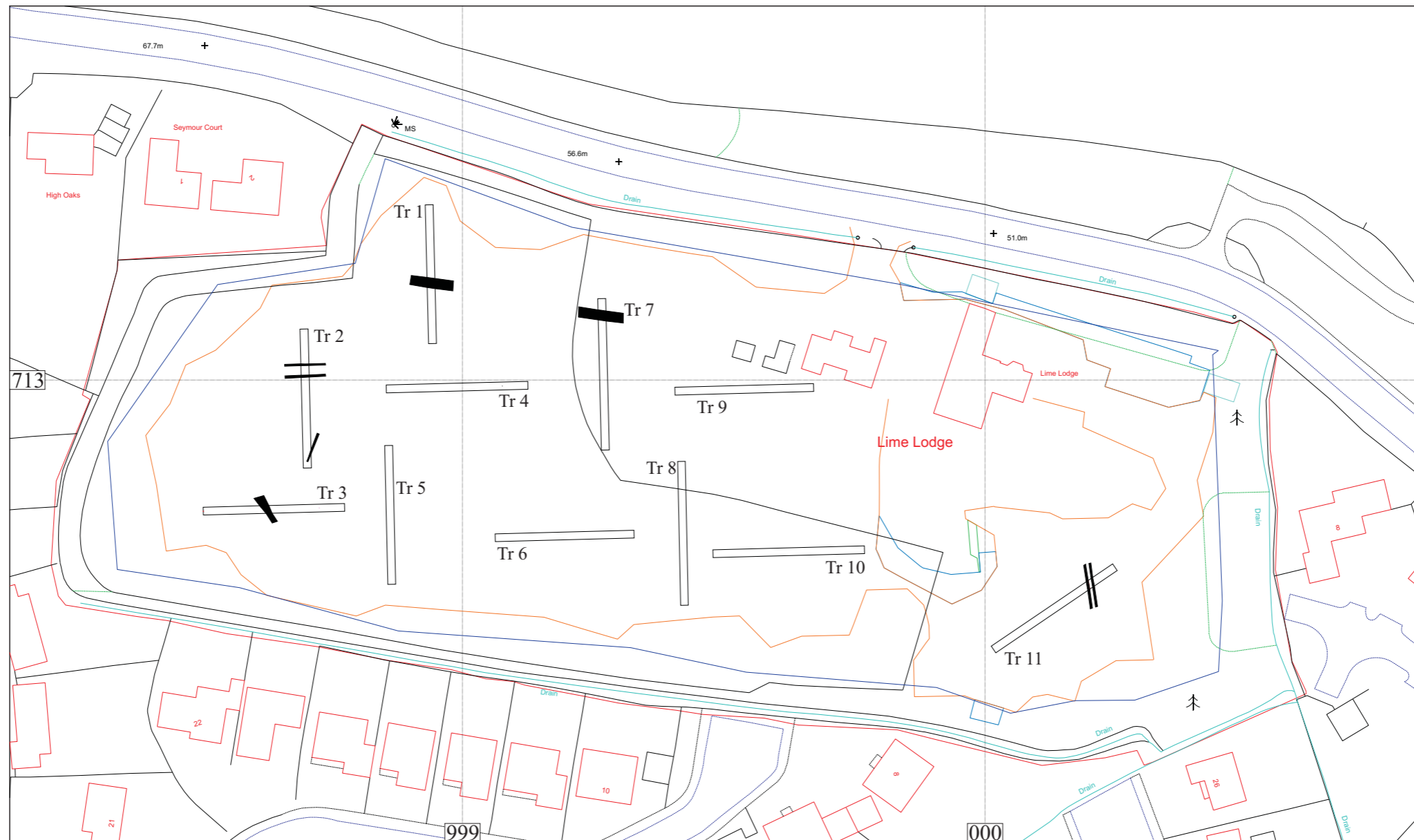
The geology of the site is 6th - 8th Terrace Gravels of the River Thames overlying Bagshot Bed formation in the extreme west of the site, Claygate Member sands, silt and clay in the centre and London Clay in the east of the site. The site lies on the edge of a hill, sloping from c. 62.8m AOD in the northwest down to c. 48.7m AOD in the east of the study site.

1.2 Planning Background

Planning permission has been granted (Ref: RU.09/0418) by Runnymede Borough Council for 18 houses with garages, improvements to existing vehicular access off Tite Hill, internal access road, retention of Lime Lodge and demolition of former stable building and outbuildings. In order to comply with PPG16, and Runnymede Borough Local Plan archaeological policies permission was granted with the following condition (12):

“No development shall take place within the area indicated on Drawing Number 1676-A-1001-A until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.”

A *Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation* was prepared by Rob Bourne of CgMs and agreed with the Planning Archaeologist outlining the method by which the archaeological evaluation was to be carried out to satisfy the requirements of the Brief.. John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a the aforementioned *Specification* and a Method Statement (JMHS 2009) again agreed with the County Archaeological Officer.



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Figure 1. Site location

1.3 Archaeological Background

The site has been considered in detail in an archaeological desk-based assessment by CgMs (2008). In summary, the site was considered to have a low potential for all archaeological periods pre-dating the late post-medieval period due to location of the site within open land on the slope of a hill below a gravel terrace. The potential for the post-medieval period is retained entirely within the standing 18th century Lime Lodge.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were as follows:

- To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
- To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
- To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains.
- To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
- To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.
- To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present.
- To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

In response to a *Specification* designed and issued by CgMs and agreed with Surrey County Council's Archaeological Officer Tony Howe, JMHS carried out the work, which comprised the excavation of eleven trenches across the site (Fig. 1).

Site procedures for the investigation and recording of potential archaeological deposits and features were defined in CgMs's *Specification* and in the Methods Statement submitted by JMHS to Surrey County Council Heritage Conservation Team.

3.2 Methodology

The investigation involved the mechanical excavation of eleven trenches by an 8-tonne excavator equipped with a ditching bucket, supplemented by hand investigation of archaeological deposits.

The eleven trenches were to be 22.2m in length. However, the ditching bucket was only 1.5m wide as opposed to the 1.8m wide ordered. In order to achieve the same square metreage, it was agreed with Rob Bourne that the trenches be extended. As a result greater linear coverage was assured. The trenches were not less than 26.5m long.

Site procedures carried out followed IfA guidelines and the requirements of the CgMs's *Specification*. The work was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994) and the principles of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991).

4 RESULTS

4.1 Field Results

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers without brackets indicate features i.e. pit cuts; while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material. All contexts numbers are preceded by trench number and /.

Trenches 1 & 7 (Figure 2)

Trenches 1 and 7 were located on the north side of the proposal area and were both oriented north/south.

Trench 1 measured 26.8m long. The trench was machined to the top of the natural terrace gravels (1/3). A northwest/southeast aligned land-drain was cut into the natural (1/3) in the northern part of the trench, extending beyond the limits of excavation. An east/west aligned ditch 1/4, measuring c. 1.3m wide and 0.33m deep, cut the natural (1/3) and was filled with light grey-brown clay silt and c. 4% small stone (1/5). Pottery recovered from the ditch-fill yielded a date after 1860. A land-drain was cut into the northern side of the ditch. A subsoil deposit of pale brown-grey sandy clay with c. 5% small gravel (1/2), measuring c. 0.36m sealed the ditch 1/4. The subsoil was sealed by topsoil, a dark grey-brown silty sand loam with up to 10% small stone (1/1) c. 0.6m thick.

Trench 7 was located to the east of Trench 1 and measured 29m long. The trench was machined to the top of the natural terrace gravels (7/3). An east/west aligned ditch 7/4, measuring c. 1m wide and 0.55m deep, cut the natural (7/3) and was filled with mid grey-brown silty clay and c. 10-12% small stone (7/5). Pottery was recovered from the ditch-fill, yielding a 19th-century date. A land-drain was cut into the northern side of the ditch. A subsoil deposit of pale brown-grey sandy clay with c. 5% small gravel (7/2), measuring c. 0.24m sealed the ditch 7/4. The subsoil was sealed by topsoil, a dark grey-brown silty sand loam with up to 10% small stone (7/1), c. 0.6m thick.

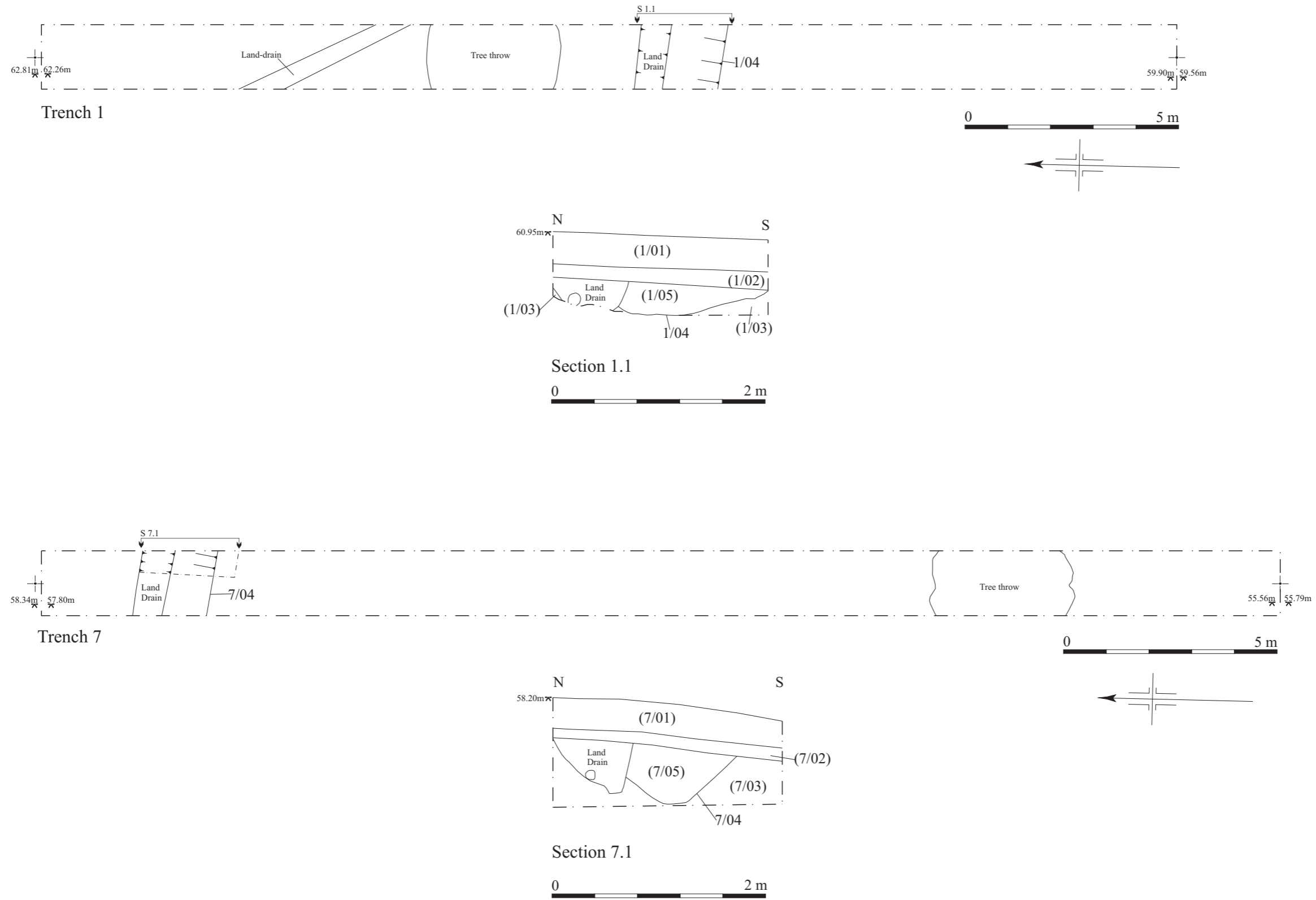


Figure 2. Trenches 1 & 7 Plans and sections

The Egham Enclosure map of 1817, the Tithe Map of 1842 (CgMs 2008; Figs. 3 & 4) and the OS Middlesex 1:10 560 of 1881 show that the northern part of the proposal area was a separate field. The ditch excavated can be identified with the field boundary shown on these earlier maps, which is no longer recorded by 1894 (CgMs 2008; Fig. 6).

Trench 2, 3, 9 & 11 (Figure 3)

Trenches 2, 3 and 11 contained limited evidence of garden features and were located at the west end (Trenches 2 & 3) and east end (Trench 11) of the proposal area.

Trench 2 was oriented north/south on the west side of the proposal area, and measured 26.8m long. The trench was machined to the top of the natural gravel (2/3). Cut into the gravel (2/3) at the north end of the trench were a pair of parallel east/west aligned gullies 2/4 and 2/6. They measured between 0.37m and 0.40m wide and 0.12m and 0.10m deep, respectively. The gullies were approximately 1.8m from one another and both extended beyond the limits of excavation to the east and west. They were filled with pale grey-brown clay with ceramic building material (CBM) flecking (2/5) and (2/7). These gullies may well represent drainage associated with a footpath at the west end of the proposal area.

To the south the terminal of a northeast/southwest aligned gully, 2/8, was excavated. Measuring 0.3m wide, more than 1.5m long and 0.08m deep, it was filled with pale grey-brown sandy silt clay with charcoal flecking (2/9). No finds were recovered. The gully probably represents a drain.

To the south of Trench 2, Trench 3 was oriented east/west, and measured 27.2m long. The trench was machined to the top of the natural gravelly clay (3/3). A northwest/southeast oriented gully, 3/4, measuring 1.9m wide and 0.4m deep, was filled with mid blue-grey clay with c. 60% rounded flints up to 0.15m (3/5). Pottery recovered from the fill yielded a 19th-century date. This feature is a French drain. Sealing the drain was pale brown-grey sandy clay with occasional gravel (3/2), the subsoil present in all trenches, measuring 0.1-0.15m thick. This was sealed by topsoil (3/1), measuring 0.1m thick.

Trench 9 was located on the northern side of the proposal area east of Trench 7, and oriented east/west, and measured 26.6m long. The east end of the trench was heavily truncated, possibly associated with the stable block which previously stood adjacent to the north of the trench, as seen on the Egham Enclosure map of 1817, and on all mapping onwards (CgMs 2008; Fig 1). To the west was pit measuring 2m by 1.4m, filled with broken glass. The bottle dump was not excavated.

At the east side of the proposal area, Trench 11 was oriented northeast/southwest, and measured 28.3m long. The trench was machined to the natural gravelly clay (11/3). Two parallel gullies, 11/04 and 11/06 were present at the north end of the trench. These features were approximately 0.5m apart, oriented north/south, measuring 0.4m and 0.5m wide, respectively, and 0.12m deep. Both cuts were filled with mid grey-brown silty clay containing fragments of CBM, (11/05) and (11/07) and no further finds. The gullies were sealed by the subsoil (11/2), which yielded a single flint flake, probably early prehistoric in date. Topsoil (11/1) sealed the trench.

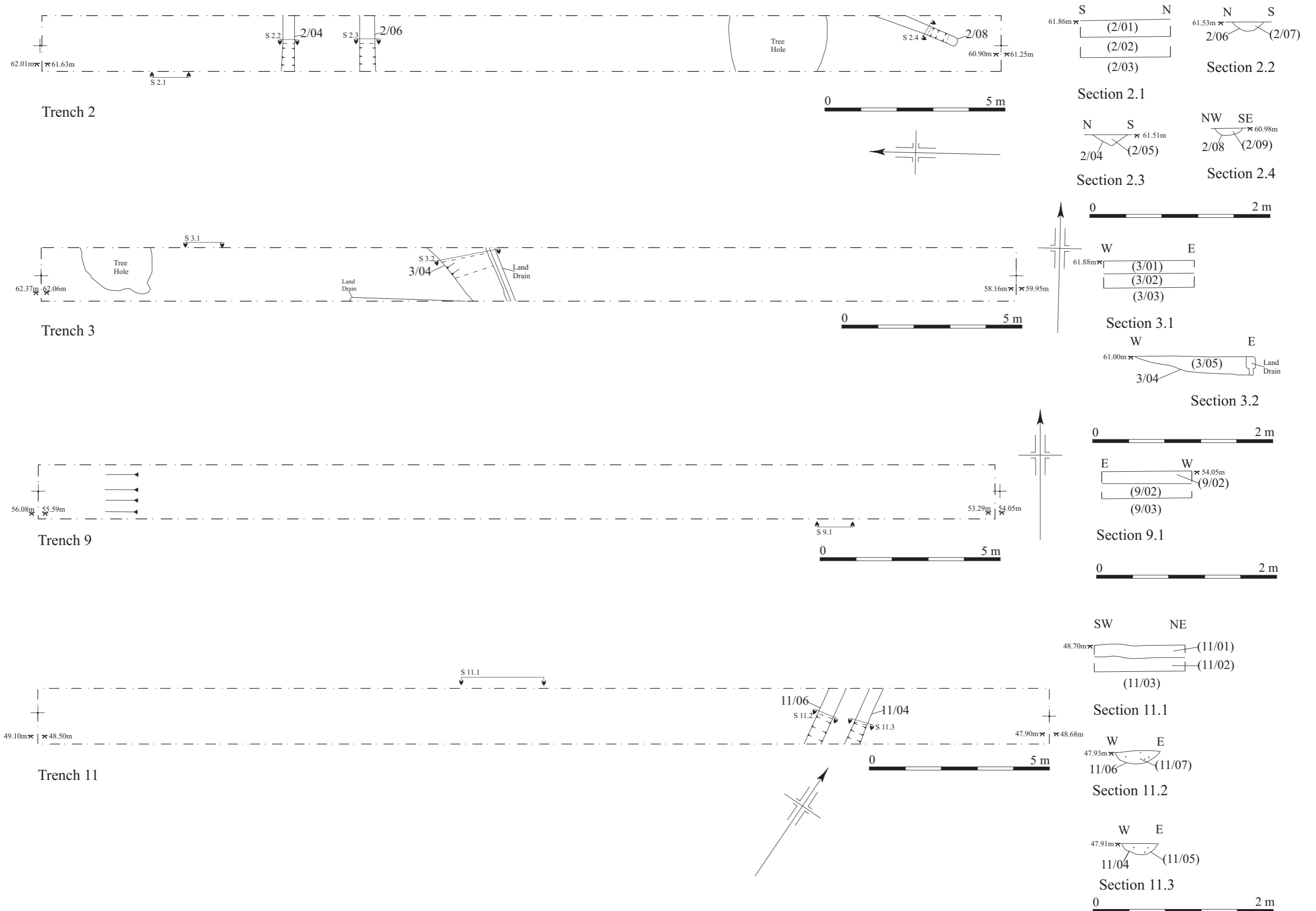


Figure 3. Trenches 2, 3, 9 & 11 Plans and sections

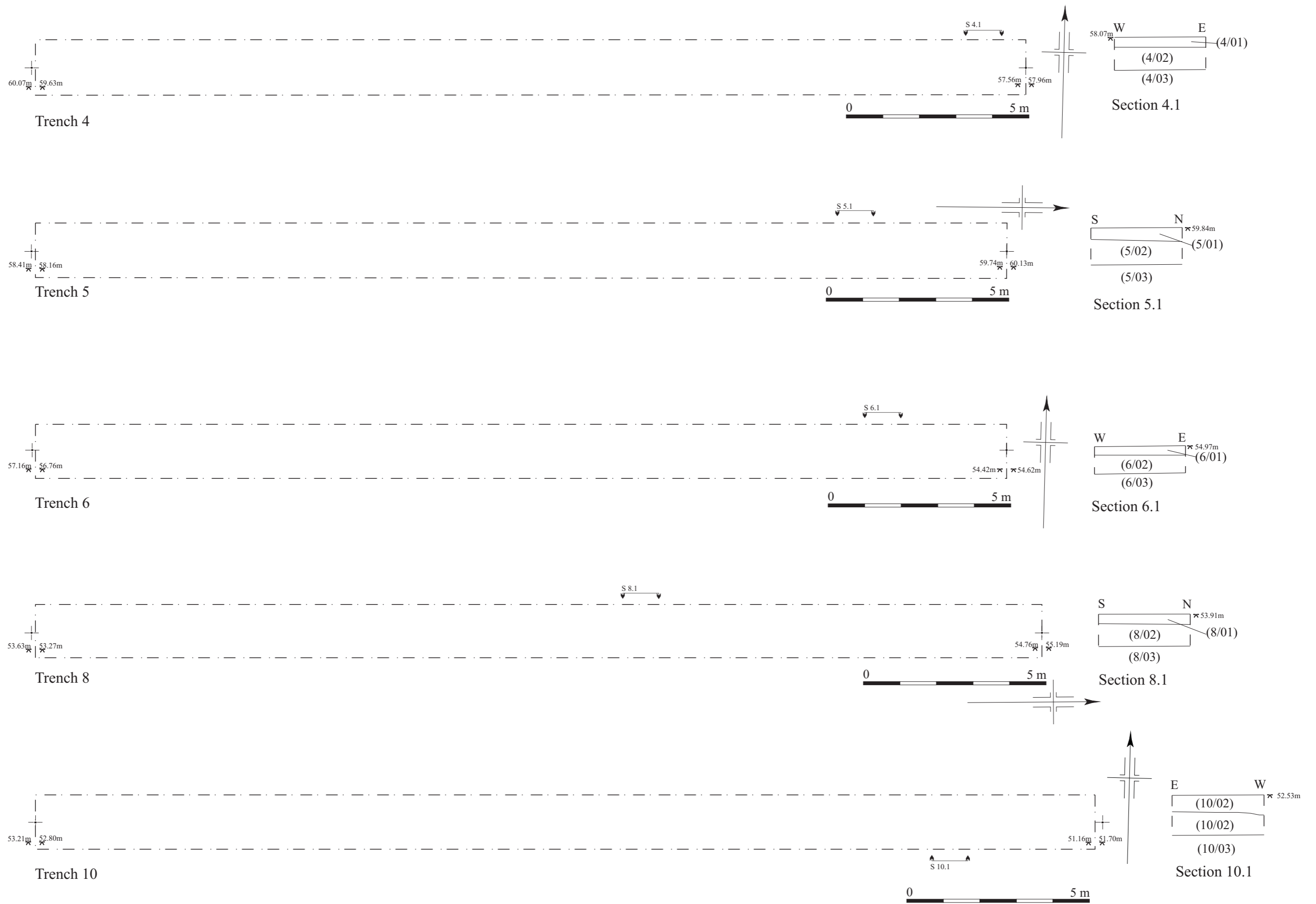


Figure 4. Trenches 4, 5, 6, 8 & 10 Plans and sections

Trenches 4, 5, 6, 8 & 10 (Figure 4)

Trenches 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 contained no remains. The sequence was natural geological deposits, subsoil and topsoil. Trench 10 evidenced rooting from planting, but no cut features were present. The trenches measured 27.3m (Trench 4), 26.7m (Trench 5), 26.7m (Trench 6), 28m (Trench 8), and 29m (Trench 10) long. Details on the context sequence are contained in Appendix 1.

4.2 Reliability of Techniques and Results

The reliability of results is considered to be good. The archaeological evaluation, which took place during frequently wet weather, was monitored by Tony Howe for Surrey Heritage Conservation Team.

Trenches 4, 6, 8 and 10 experienced particularly bad flooding following rain, although the presence of a spring in Trench 8 was an additional cause of flooding in this trench. Nonetheless, this is not felt to compromise the results, as no archaeological remains were observed to be present during machining.

5 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

5.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 10 sherds with a total weight of 858g. It consisted entirely of 19th century mass-produced earthenwares, mainly in domestic forms such as plates and chamber-pots. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The pottery was generally all in good condition, and appears reliably stratified.

A transfer-printed dinner plate from context (1/5) has the mark of Morgan, Wood and Co. printed on the base. This company operated in Burslem, Staffordshire from 1860 – 70.

Tr	Cntxt	No	Wt	Date
1	5	6	728	1860+
3	5	1	5	19thC
7	5	3	125	19thC
Total		10	858	

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

5.2 Environmental Remains

No environmental samples were taken as the potential of the deposits was not felt to be sufficient to warrant sampling.

5.3 Flint by Dave Gilbert

A single tertiary flint flake weighing 8g was recovered from context (11/02). It measured 47mm in length, 16mm in breadth and was 9mm thick. It was chocolate

brown in colour and in good condition, although slight damage was noted at the distal end. It was probably hard hammer struck as the dorsal surface at the proximal end displayed characteristic marks of hammer-stone percussion, possibly occurring during core preparation.

A solitary waste flake such as this is notoriously difficult to accurately date, but it is likely to be of Neolithic origin

6 DISCUSSION

The evaluation undertaken at Lime Lodge revealed evidence of the field boundary visible on the Egham Enclosure Map of 1817, which continued to be shown on mapping until the OS 1:2500 of 1872. By 1894 the field boundary is no longer shown (CgMs 2008; Fig. 6).

Two pairs of gullies were present in Trench 2 and Trench 11. The former may well have functioned as drainage gullies either side of a path within the gardens; however, no evidence for formal gardens exist on the various maps consulted by CgMs (2008), and no archaeological evidence of formal gardens was present during the evaluation. The pair of gullies investigated in Trench 11 were too close together to have functioned as drainage associated with a path, and may relate to kitchen gardens, although the historic map evidence does not indicate the presence of any enclosures or kitchen gardens in the vicinity of the gullies. A single early prehistoric flint was recovered from Trench 11.

The other trenches investigated during the evaluation failed to yield any remains of archaeological significance. Trench 9 evidenced the southeast corner of the former stable block and a bottle dump. Trench 10 evidenced traces of planting, which when excavated proved to be rooting. Trenches 4, 5, 6 and 8 were totally negative.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Appendix 1: Archaeological Context Inventory

Trench	AOD (m)	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Findings	Date
1	N top: 62.81 N base: 62.26								
	S top: 59.90 S base: 59.56								
		1/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.6	>1.5	>26.5	No	
		1/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.36	>1.5	>26.5	No	
		1/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5	>26.5	No	
		1/4	Cut	Linear, gradual break of slope at top and base, S. side at 35°, N truncated by land-drain, flat base, E/W aligned	0.33	1.3	>1.5		
		1/5	Fill	Loose, light-mid grey brown clay silt, 5-8% small stone,	0.33	1.3	>1.5	Pottery	1860+
2	N top: 62.01 N base: 61.63								
	S top: 61.25 S base: 60.90								
		2/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.2	>1.5		No	
		2/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.2	>1.5		No	
		2/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
		2/4	Cut	Linear, flattened V-shaped profile, irregular base, E/W aligned	0.12	0.37	>1.5		
		2/5	Fill	Loose, pale brown silty sandy clay, small fragments CBM	0.12	0.37	>1.5	No	

Trench	AOD	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Findings	Date
		2/6	Cut	Linear, shallow U-shaped profile, irregular base, E/W aligned	0.1	0.4	>1.5		
		2/7	Fill	Loose, pale brown silty sandy clay, small fragments CBM	0.1	0.4	>1.5	No	
		2/8	Cut	Linear, flattened U-shaped profile	0.08	0.3	>1.5		
		2/9	Fill	Loose, pale brown silty sandy clay					
3	W top: 62.37 W base: 62.06								
	E top: 59.95 E base: 59.88								
		3/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.1-0.15	>1.5		No	
		3/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.1	>1.5		No	
		3/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
		3/4	Cut	Linear, flattened U-shaped profile, NW/SE oriented	0.4	1.9	>1.78		
		3/5	Fill	Hard, mid blue grey clay with 60% flint c. 0.15m	0.4	1.9	>1.78	Pottery	19 th C
4	W top: 60.07 W base: 59.63								
	E top: 57.96 E base: 57.56								
		4/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.1-0.15	>1.5		No	
		4/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.25	>1.5		No	
		4/4	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	

Trench	AOD	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Findings	Date
5	N top: 60.13 N base: 59.74								
	S top: 58.41 S base: 58.16								
		5/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.1-0.2	>1.5		No	
		5/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.26	>1.5		No	
		5/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
6	W top: 57.16 W base: 56.76								
	E top: 54.62 E base: 54.42								
		6/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.1	>1.5		No	
		6/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.2	>1.5		No	
		6/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
7	N top: 58.34 N base: 57.80								
	S top: 55.79 S base: 55.46								
		7/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.1	>1.5		No	
		7/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.2-0.3	>1.5		No	
		7/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	

Trench	AOD	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Date
		7/4	Cut	Linear, concave sides, flat base E/W oriented	0.55	0.98	>1.5		
		7/5	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay, 10-12% small stone	0.55	0.98	>1.5	Pottery	19 th C
8	N top: 55.19 N base: 54.76								
	S top: 53.63 S base: 53.27								
		8/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.11	>1.5		No	
		8/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.18	>1.5		No	
		8/8	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
9	W top: 56.08 W base: 55.59								
	E top: 54.05 E base: 53.27								
		9/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone		>1.5		No	
		9/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel		>1.5		No	
		9/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
10	W top: 53.21 W base: 52.80								
	E top: 51.70 E base: 51.16								
		10/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.18	>1.5		No	
		10/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.36	>1.5		No	

Trench	AOD	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Findings	Date
		10/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
11	NE top: 48.68 NE base: 47.9								
	SW top: 49.10 SW base: 48.50								
		11/1	Layer	Loose, dark grey brown silty sand loam, c. 10% small stone	0.15	>1.5		No	
		11/2	Layer	Loose, pale brown grey sandy clay, c. 5% small gravel	0.15-0.25	>1.5		Flint flake	Neolithic? or later
		11/3	Layer	Firm, pale yellow orange sandy clay, patches of gravel	Unk.	>1.5		No	
		11/4	Cut	Linear, concave sides, flat base	0.12	0.4	>1.5		
		11/5	Fill	Moderate, mid grey brown silty clay 8% small gravel	0.12	0.4	>1.5	No	
		11/6	Cut	Linear, concave sides, flat base	0.12	0.5	>1.5		
	11/7	Fill	Moderate, mid grey brown silty clay 5-10% small gravel	0.12	0.5	>1.5	No		