JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

FOR ENFIELD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

ON LAND ADJACENT TO 81 CECIL ROAD,

ENFIELD,

LONDON BOROUGH ENFIELD

NGR TQ 3266 9634

On behalf of

C P L Architects

JULY 2010

REPORT FOR	C P L Architects 33 Darley Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN20 7UT
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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an evaluation at Cecil Road, Enfield on the proposal site for a new evangelical free church. Three trenches were excavated within the proposal area. Quarry pits of a probable Victorian date were observed, although these were undated. Further archaeological remains comprising concrete house footings and rubbish pits indicate a date no earlier than the 20th century.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site location (Figure 1)

The site is located on land adjacent to 81 Cecil Road, Enfield NGR TQ 3266 9634. The site is currently used as a car park. The site lies at *c.* 29.5m AOD. The underlying geology is London Clay (BGS sheet 51N 02W), with gravel terrace deposits forming the drift.

1.2 Planning Background

Planning application number TP/08/2020 submitted to London Borough of Enfield proposed the erection of a replacement church. This application was granted with a condition to implement a programme of archaeological work. The archaeological advisor, Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), was consulted and recommended an archaeological evaluation. A *Written Scheme of Investigation* proposing the methodology by which the archaeological evaluation was to be carried out by John Moore Heritage Services to satisfy the requirements of the Brief and agreed with GLAAS.

1.3 Archaeological Background

The site is identified as being of archaeological potential.

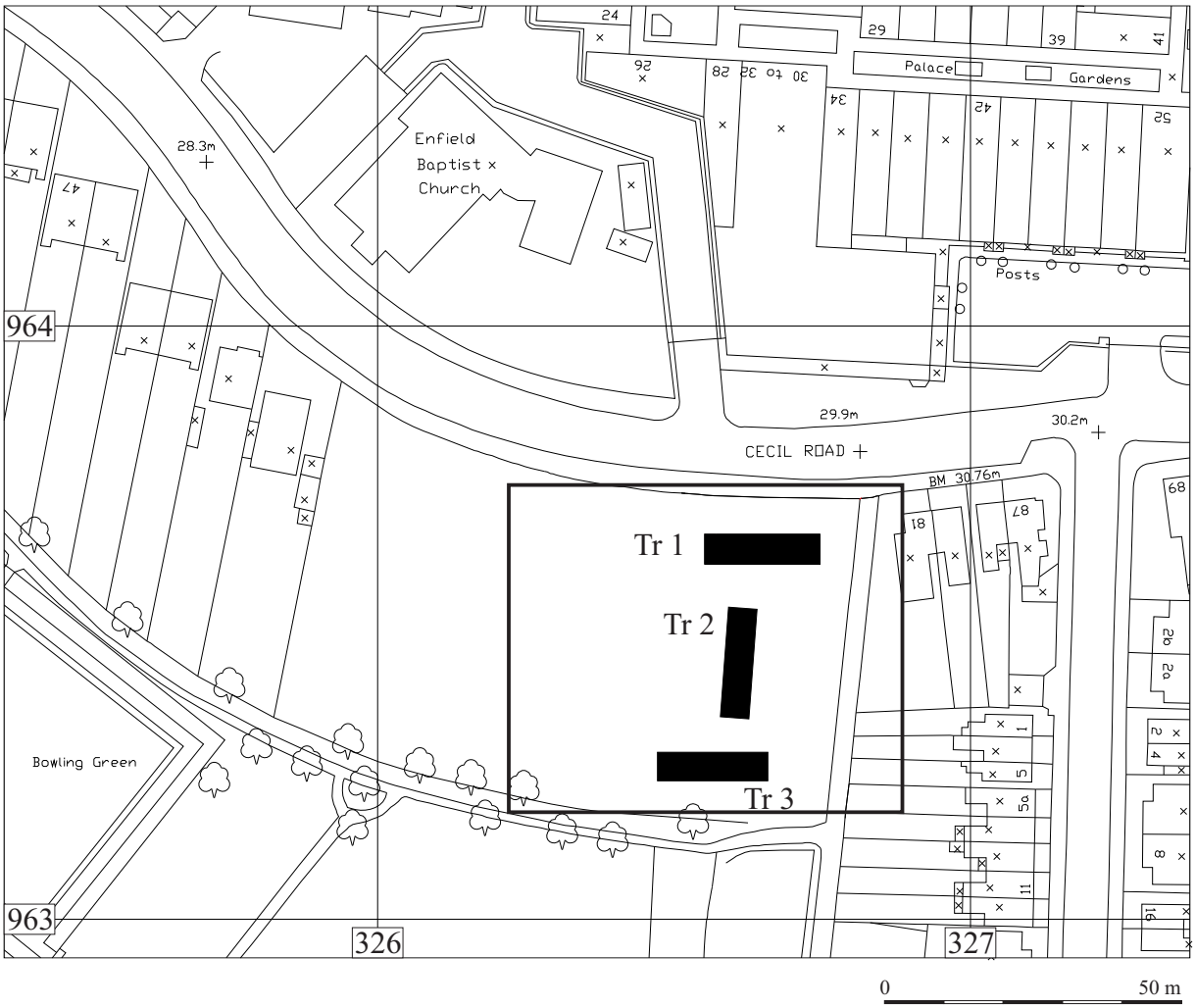
GLAAS has noted that the site retains archaeological potential due to the general prehistoric through to medieval activity recorded in the Enfield Town area. The shopping mall development exposed an early prehistoric site (c. 10,000 – 4,000 BC) and clear evidence of the medieval expansion of the area, which was well established by the 14th century. There is a 15th century building recorded as being on Raleigh Road, opposite the development site.

Most of the above information is taken from the GLAAS's consultation notes.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

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

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site.



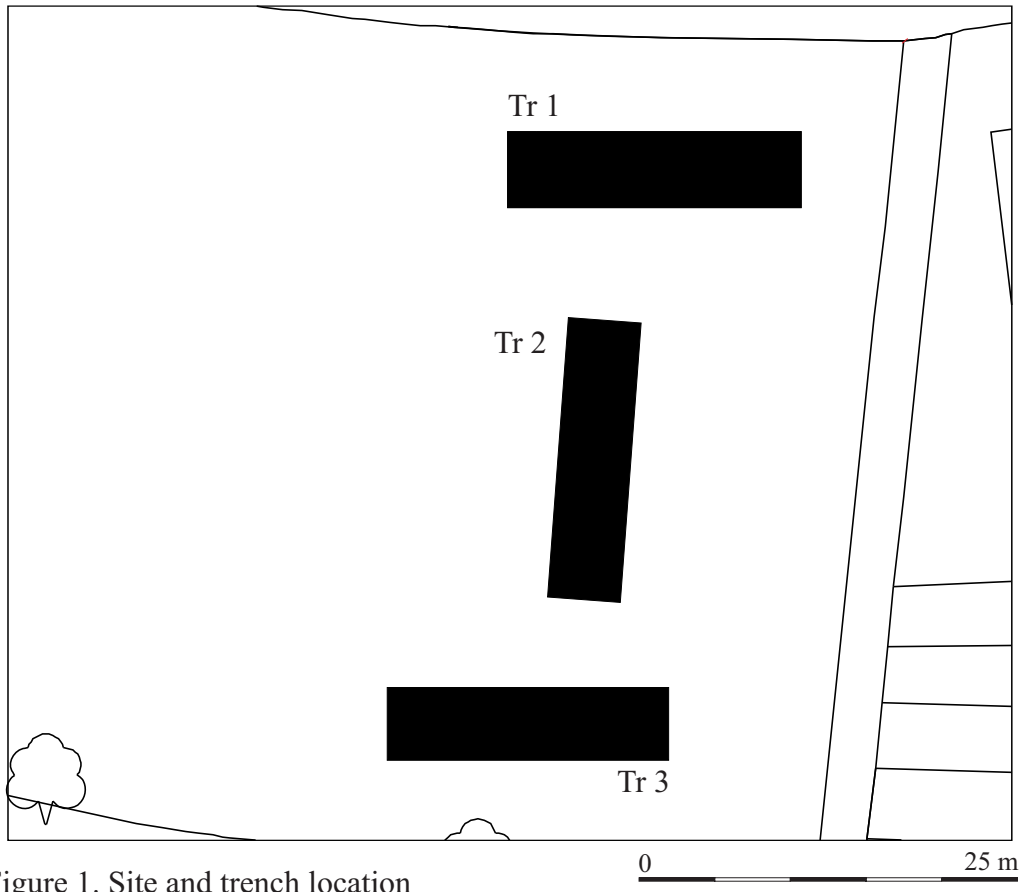


Figure 1. Site and trench location

- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.

- To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.

- To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape.

- To determine the implications of the remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity.

- To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of the archaeological features and deposits. The forms in which such evidence may be present will be determined in accordance with the guidelines set out in English Heritage's *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* and *Geoarchaeology: Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record.*

- To determine the impact of the proposed development on any remains present.

- To inform the need for, and scope of, further phases of work to mitigate the impact of the proposed development. Any further work required is dependent on the nature and significance of results, this will be subject to a subsequent project design (WSI).

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

In response to a Brief issued by GLAAS, JMHS carried out the work, which comprised the excavation of three trenches across the site (Fig. 1).

Site procedures for the investigation and recording of potential archaeological deposits and features were defined in JMHS's *WSI* agreed with GLAAS.

3.2 Methodology

The investigation involved the mechanical excavation of three trenches by a 13-tonne excavator equipped with a ditching bucket, supplemented by hand investigation of the revealed deposits.

The three trenches were 15m in length and a minimum of 2m at the base.

Site procedures carried out followed IfA and GLAAS guidelines. 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 /.

Trench 1 (Fig. 2 & 4)

Trench 1 was 15m long, and located immediately to the south of Cecil Road, oriented east/west.

The trench was machined to the top of the natural terrace gravels (1/04), which were only present *in situ* at the west end of the trench at a height of 29.10m OD. The gravel was overlain by a deposit mid grey brown slightly sandy clay and gravel (1/03), which represents a former cultivation soil horizon. To the east, quarry pit 1/06, which cut through (1/03), extended for at least 8.5m beyond the east edge of excavation. The cut was sharp at the top, at c. 45°, rounding to a flat base. It was filled with moderately compact grey brown sandy clay loam (1/05). No finds were recovered, although comminuted CBM was visible through the fill.

The deposit (1/05) was cut by a large cut 1/02, the form of which was poorly defined, but which was associated with the concrete and brick footings 1/07. The brick was clearly early to mid 20th century. Dark brown redeposited topsoil (1/08) filled the footings trench and the void between the various wall components 1/07. This was sealed by terram, hardcore and a skin of tarmac (1/01).

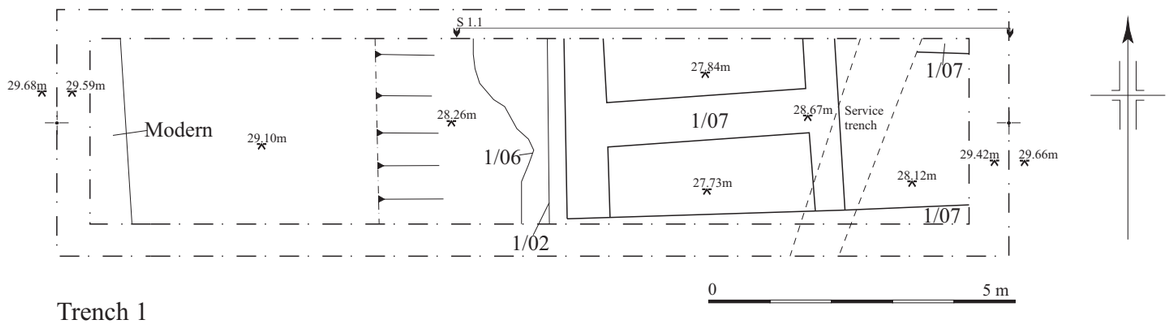
Trench 2 (Figs. 2 & 4)

Trench 2 was 15m long, located south of Trench 1 and oriented north/south.

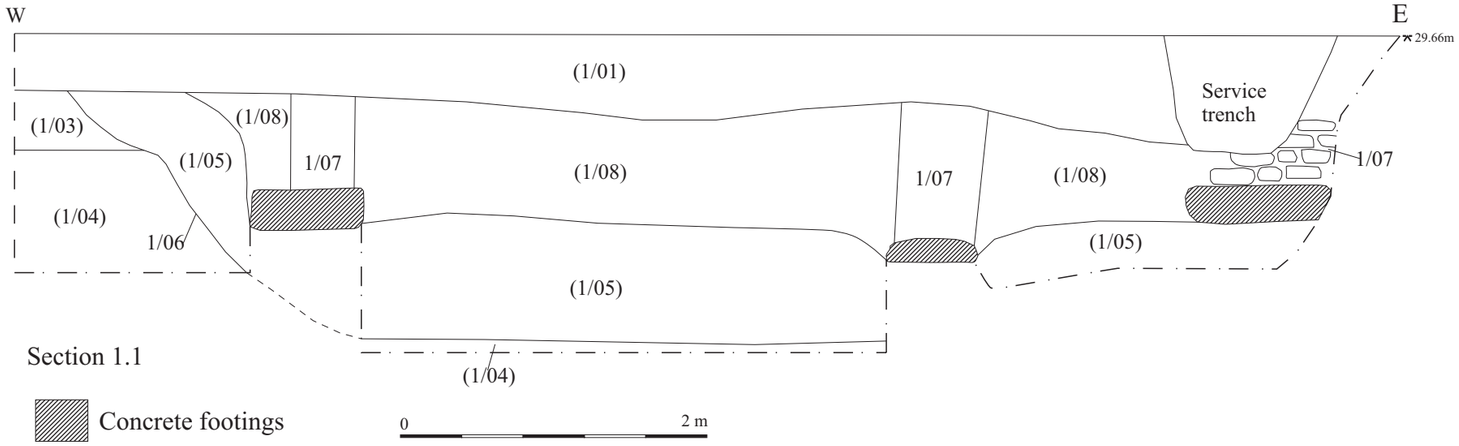
The trench was machined to the top of the terrace gravels (2/03), the same as (1/04). The gravel was cut by two quarry pits, 2/04 and 2/06. The quarry pit 2/04 extended beyond the north, east and west edges of the trench and was filled with moderately compact grey brown sandy clay loam (2/05), which was very similar to (1/05), and may well indicate that this is one and the same feature.

To the south of 2/04 was a second quarry pit 2/06, which extended beyond the south, east and west edges of the trench. The upper part of the quarry pit was truncated by later groundworks (2/02), but the moderately compact grey brown sandy clay loam fill (2/07) survived to a depth of 0.2-0.25m thick. A rounded berm of natural (2/03) was seen in section (Fig. 2, S. 2.1) indicating the strong possibility that only parts of these quarry pits were opened at a time; however due to the similarity of fill, as well as later truncation, it was not possible to define the precise nature of any stratigraphic relations between the quarry pits. To the south (2/07) was overlain by a grey brown deposit (2/10) which was also quarry pit fill.

In the southeast corner of Trench 2 a late pit 2/08, filled with black humic material and modern rubbish (2/09) cut (2/10) and (2/07). The pit 2/08 was sealed by dark grey brown clay, with gravel and comminuted CBM, (2/02), a landscaping layer probably associated with groundworks at the time of demolition of the houses

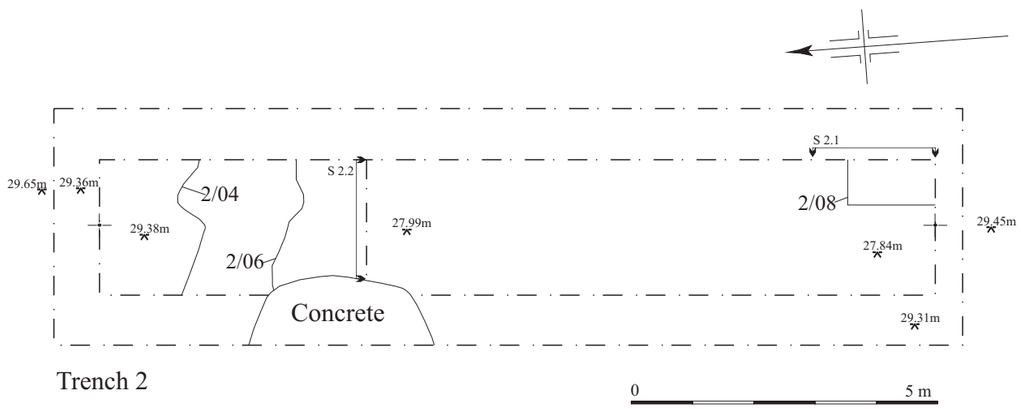


Trench 1

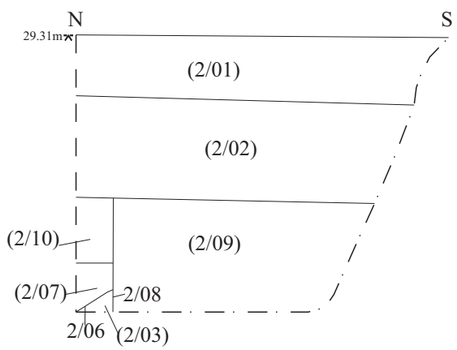


Section 1.1

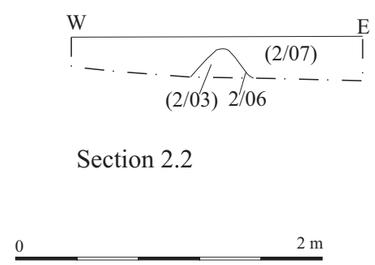
Concrete footings



Trench 2



Section 2.1



Section 2.2

Figure 2. Trenches 1 and 2

formerly fronting onto Cecil Road. Terram, hardcore and tarmac (2/01) sealed all deposits.

Trench 3 (Figs. 3 & 4)
Trench 3 was 15m long, and located south of Trench 2, oriented east/west.

The trench was machined to the top of the sand natural (3/03), which was the same as (1/05) and (2/05). Cut into this deposit were the quarry pit 3/04 and two parallel garden features 3/08 and 3/10. The quarry pit 3/04 was filled with moderately compact grey brown sandy clay loam fill (3/05), the same fill as was present in the other quarry pits. The garden features 3/08 and 3/10 were filled with mid grey brown silty clay with up to 20% stone and roots (3/09) and (3/11), respectively. These were not excavated as they were clearly modern features. Cutting the eastern of the two garden features, 3/08, was a modern rubbish pit 3/06, filled with black silty loam and mixed metal, plastics and glass (3/07). It was not excavated. These were sealed by mid grey brown clay and comminuted CBM (3/02), the same make-up layer as in Trench 2, (2/02). Terram, hardcore and tarmac (3/01) sealed all other deposits.

4.3 Reliability of Techniques and Results

The reliability of results is considered to be good. The archaeological evaluation took place in clement conditions and was monitored by Kim Stabler for GLAAS.

5 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

5.1 Finds
None of the quarry pits yielded finds, as such. Comminuted CBM – probably brick – was present through the fills of the quarry pits, though not in significant quantitites. No pottery was recovered from any features.

5.2 Environmental Remains

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

6 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

Trench 1 evidenced the remains of a house. The 1920 OS map shows the line of Cecil Road having been laid out to meet Church Street to the west end; there are no houses along the stretch of Cecil Road where the evaluation was carried out. By 1935, the OS map shows Cecil Road as now built up. The house footings clearly relate to one of these inter-war buildings – which the presence of concrete at the base of the footings indicated as a strong possibility during the evaluation.

Other features observed comprise extensive quarrying for aggregate, which was seen in all trenches. Planting trenches were also seen in Trench 3. Roots were still present in the fill and these were not examined further. Further features include modern rubbish pits associated either with the houses which formerly lined Cecil Road or with

the demolition works. That the cuts were noticeably straight-sided may well indicate that they were dug with a machine, and therefore post-date the houses and are part of the demolition phase of the site.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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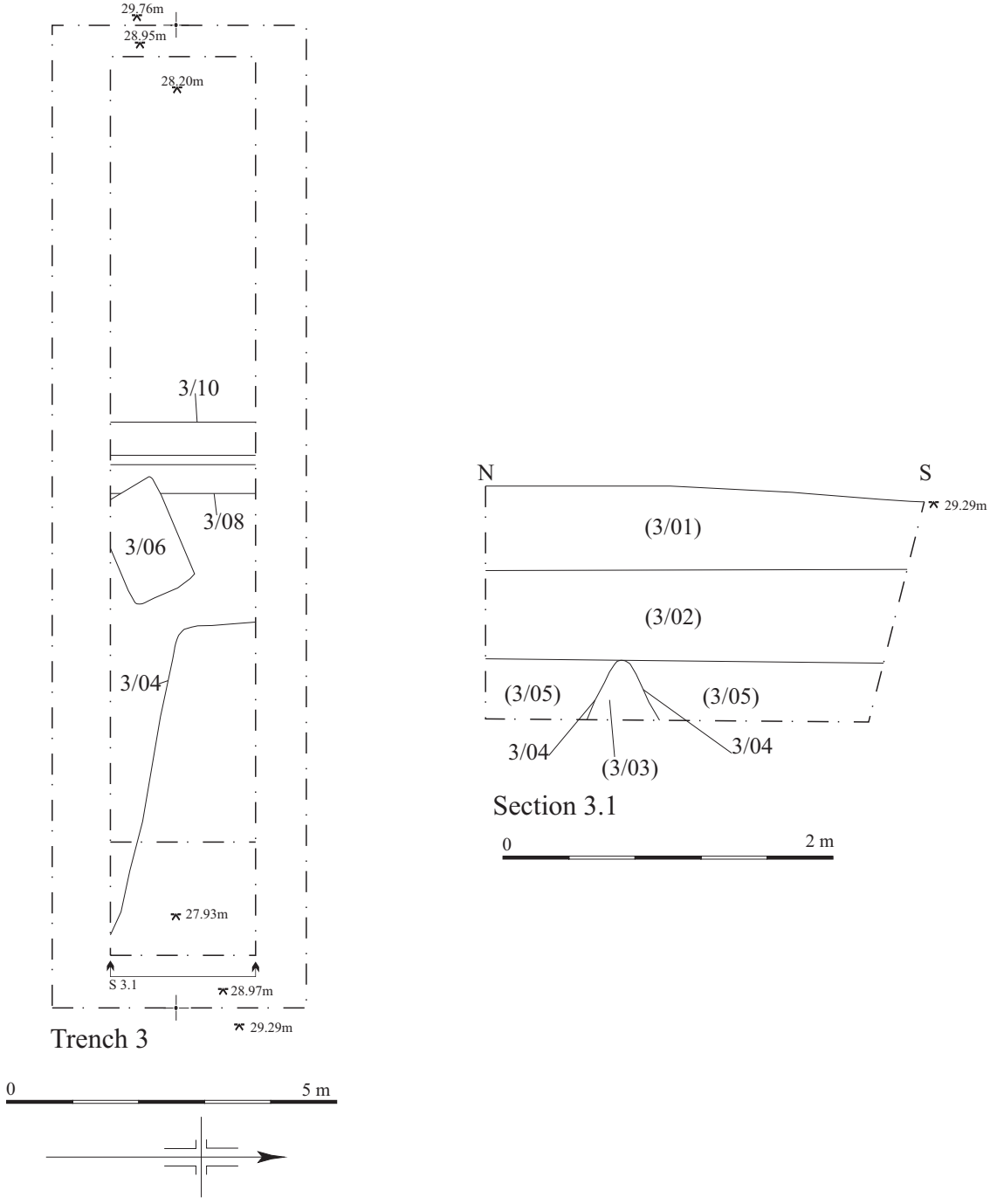

Figure 3. Trench 3

Figure 4. Trench 1.

Figure 5. Trench 2.

Figure 6. Trench 3.

Figure 7. Long section Trench 1.

Appendix 1: Archaeological Context Inventory

Trench	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Date	Interpretation
Trench 1									
	(1/01)	Layer	Tarmac, hardcore and terram	0.32	>4	>15	none	Modern	Car park surface
	1/02	Cut	Unk. form; gradual BoS at top, sharp at base, sides @ 90°, flat base	0.5	>2	>7.5		Early 20th C	Cut for footings
	(1/03)	Layer	Moderately compact, mid grey brown sandy clay and gravel	0.35	>2	>6.2	none	Unk.	Buried cultivation soil
	(1/04)	Layer	Loose, bright yellow orange sandy gravel	Unk.	>2	>15	none		Natural
	(1/05)	Fill	Moderate mid grey brown sandy clay and gravel	1.1	>2	>8.8	none	P-med	Fill of quarry pit
	1/06	Cut	Unk. form, sharp BoS @ top, rounded at base, sides @ 45°, flat base	1.1	>2	>8.8	none	P-med	Quarry pit
	1/07	Walls	Wall footings and concrete	1	>2	>7.5	none	20th C	Footings for interwar housing
	(1/08)	Fill	Loose, dark grey brown clay sand and gravel	1	>2	>7.5	none	20th C	Redeposited topsoil within house void
Trench 2									
	(2/01)	Layer	Tarmac, hardcore and terram	0.32	>4	>15	none	Modern	Car park surface
	(2/02)	Layer	Moderate dark grey brown clay, gravel and CBM	0.9	>2	>15	none	Modern	Make-up associated with demolition
	(2/03)	Layer	Loose, bright yellow orange sandy gravel	Unk.	>2	>15	none		Natural
	2/04	Cut	Irregular unk. form	Unk.	>2	>1.5		Modern	Quarry pit
	(2/05)	Fill	Moderately compact, mid grey brown sandy clay and gravel	Unk.	>2	>1.5	none	Modern	Fill of quarry pit
	2/06	Cut	Irregular unk. form extends to S edge of trench	0.38.	>2	>13		Modern	Quarry pit
	2/07	Fill	Moderately compact, mid grey brown sandy clay and gravel	0.38	>2	>13	none	Modern	Fill of quarry pit
	2/08	Cut	Squared straight-sided	>0.5	>0.7	>1.4		Modern	Rubbish pit
	(2/09)	Fill	Black humic clay	>0.5	>0.7	>1.4		Modern	Fill of rubbish pit
	(2/10)	Layer	Moderate grey brown sandy clay	0.3	>2m	>8		Modern	Fill of quarry pit

Trench	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Date	Interpretation
Trench 3									
	(3/01)	Layer	Tarmac, hardcore and terram	0.32	>4	>15m	none	modern	Car park surface
	(3/02)	Layer	Moderate dark grey brown clay, gravel and CBM	0.6	>2	>15	none	Modern	Make-up associated with demolition
	(3/03)	Layer	Loose, bright yellow orange sandy gravel	Unk.	>2	>15	none		Natural
	3/04	Cut	Rectangular, straight-sided, flat-bottomed	0.55	>2	>5			Quarry pit
	(3/05)	Fill	Moderately compact, mid grey brown sandy clay and gravel	0.55	>2	>5	none	Modern	Fill of quarry pit
	3/06	Cut	Square, straight-sided	Unk.	1	1.5		Modern	Rubbish pit
	3/07	Fill	Loose, black humic clay	Unk.	1	1.5		Modern	Fill of rubbish pit
	3/08	Cut	Linear, shallow rounded base	0.1	0.5	>2		Modern	Planting pit
	(3/09)	Fill	Moderate, mid grey brown silty clay; very rooted	0.1	0.5	>2		Modern	Fill of planting pit
	3/10	Cut	Linear, shallow rounded base	Unk.	0.5	>2		Modern	Planting pit
	3/11	Fill	Moderate, mid grey brown silty clay; very rooted	Unk.	0.5	>2		Modern	Fill of planting pit

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Project details

Project name	Enfield Evangelical Free Church, Cecil Road, Enfield
Short description of the project	John Moore Heritage Services carried out an evaluation at Cecil Road, Enfield on the proposal site for a new evangelical free church. Three trenches were excavated within the proposal area. Quarry pits of a probable Victorian date were observed, although these were undated. Further archaeological remains comprising concrete house footings and rubbish pits indicate a date no earlier than the 20th century.
Project dates	Start: 15-07-2010 End: 16-07-2010
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	2274 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	EFC10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure
Monument type	QUARRY PITS Uncertain
Monument type	HOUSE FOOTINGS Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Modern

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON ENFIELD ENFIELD Enfield Evangelical Free Church, Cecil Road
Study area	90.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3266 9634 51.6496991838 -0.08226758092840 51 38 58 N 000 04 56 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	John Moore Heritage Services
Project brief originator	Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
Project design originator	David Gilbert
Project director/manager	David Gilbert
Project supervisor	Gwilym Williams

Project archives

Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Matrices','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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