ASE

Archaeological Watching Brief Report Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road Dartford, Kent

NGR: 555159 174985

Planning Ref: KCC/DA/15/0514

ASE Project No: 7779 Site Code: THD15

ASE Report No: 2015474



By Ed Blinkhorn

Archaeological Watching Brief Report Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road Dartford, Kent

NGR: 555159 174985

Planning Ref: KCC/DA/15/0514

ASE Project No: 7779 Site Code: THD15

ASE Report No: 2015474 OASIS ID: archaeol6-236737

Prepared by:	Ed Blinkhorn	Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Dan Swift	Project manager	
Date of Issue:	January 2016		
Revision:			

Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR

Tel: 01273 426830 Fax: 01273 420866 Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk

Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out by Archaeology South-East at Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road, Dartford, Kent between 24th August and 29th October 2015. The fieldwork was commissioned by Kier in advance of the construction of classrooms.

Thirty seven foundation pads measuring up to 1m square were monitored. The excavation of a large soakaway trench was undertaken under geoarchaeological conditions. Small quantities of residual worked flint were recovered from the subsoil and a single feature, with fragmentary Roman pottery also identified in the feature. The subsoil was considered to be a possible remnant ploughsoil

Possible Palaeolithic evidence comprised a single flake of identical raw material to a previous example recovered from the site. Its recovery from the possible ploughsoil suggests reworking of Palaeolithic material into Holocene overburden. Depths of up to 1.10m of Pleistocene Boyn Hill gravels were confirmed during works, overlying Thanet Sand and Chalk.

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction
2.0	Archaeological Background
3.0	Archaeological Methodology
4.0	Results
5.0	The Finds
6.0	The Environmental Samples

Discussion and Conclusions

Bibliography Acknowledgements

HER Summary OASIS Form

TABLES

7.0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

Table 2: List of recorded contexts in pad foundations

Table 3: List of recorded contexts in soakaway

Table 4: Sediment log for soakaway

Table 5: Finds quantification
Table 6: Residue quantification
Table 7: Flot quantification

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location Figure 2: Site plan

Figure 3: Area of monitoring

Figure 4: Plan, section and photograph of feature [06]

Figure 5: Photographs of Palaeolithic flint

Figure 6: Deposit model Figure 7: NW-SE transect

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Kier on behalf of Kent County Council (KCC) to undertake an archaeological and geoarchaeological watching brief as part of the development at Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road, Dartford Rd, Kent. (NGR: 555159 174985; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 According to current data from the British Geological Survey (BGS 2015), the site is situated on the Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated), overlain by the Thanet Formation.
- 1.2.2 Superficial geological deposits at the site comprise the Boyn Hill Gravel Member of the Thames Valley Formation.
- 1.2.3 The site is situated at the apex of a small hill after which the site is named, at about 30m OD, and is on roughly level ground. It is bounded to the north by St Edmunds Road, to the east by Temple Hill Baptist Church, to the south by school buildings and to the west by a playground.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 There are proposals for an extension to the north of the eastern block of Temple Hill School comprising 3 classrooms. Further details are set out in planning application KCC/DA/15/0514.
- 1.3.2 On the basis of present archaeological information the Wendy Rogers, Archaeologist (HCGKCC) recommended that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological work in order to clarify the historical and archaeological elements within the site.
- 1.3.3 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by ASE to establish the potential for preservation of Holocene and Pleistocene archaeological deposits (ASE 2015). This work established the survival of undated features, and that Boyn Hill gravels are extant to unknown depths across the site. Possible Palaeolithic flintwork was identified during the evaluation.
- 1.3.4 A specification for the watching brief was produced by KCC (2015a and 2015b).

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The project's primary aim was to monitor works at the site, to record significant archaeological deposits, and to assess their nature, extent, scale and date. The primary targets of the works detailed in this report were Romano-British and Palaeolithic archaeology, although potential for archaeology dating to other periods should be considered a secondary aim. A further aim was to identify whether the development would impact on

archaeological remains and what mitigation measures are appropriate. KCC (2015a) identified the primary objective as:

"to contribute to heritage knowledge and understanding of the site and place it in its local context, through the recording of the archaeological remains exposed as a result of ground works"

1.4.2 To assess the project aims, a phased programme of archaeological work was undertaken, comprising monitoring of the excavation of the majority of the concrete pad foundation pits, followed by the excavation of the soakaway under geoarchaeological conditions.

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details observations made during watching brief at the site.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Overview

2.1.1 The potential of the area was gauged by Kent County Council (KCC 2015c) in relation to the proximity of known archaeological remains.

2.2 Palaeolithic

2.2.1 Boyn Hill Gravels, dating to Marine Isotope Stages 12-10 (ca 425-375 thousand years ago) have demonstrable potential to contain Palaeolithic archaeology, including stone artefacts and faunal remains. Additionally, certain deposits within the Boyn Hill Gravel Member have the potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental evidence.

2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 High potential for Roman remains is suggested by the number of recorded Roman finds from the site itself and from the surrounding area. There is a Romano-British settlement recorded to the east (HER NO: TQ 57 SE 134); Roman artefacts were found during works on the school buildings themselves in 1955 (HER No: TQ 57 SE 18); and some Roman burials have been found to the south (HER No: TQ 57 SE 19).

2.4 Project Aims and Objectives

- 2.4.1 The project's primary aim was to monitor groundworks at the site for unanticipated archaeological deposits, and to assess their nature, extent, scale and date. The primary targets of the works detailed in this report were Romano-British and Palaeolithic archaeology, although potential for archaeology dating to other periods should be considered a secondary aim. A further aim was to satisfactorily identify and examine the geoarchaeological deposit from which Palaeolithic finds had been recovered during the evaluation.
- 2.4.2 To assess the project aims a programme of (geo)archaeological monitoring was undertaken, comprising observing excavation of concrete pad foundations, and the controlled excavation of a soakaway associated with the new development.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 40 out of 53 small pad foundation trenches, the majority less than 1m², were monitored during excavation for archaeological deposits. Excavation of these was undertaken with a mini-excavator fitted with a narrow flat-blade ditching bucket.
- 3.1.2 Excavation of the soakaway trench was undertaken under geoarchaeological conditions. Following breaking of the overlying made ground, sediment was removed by an excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket to the first archaeologically significant horizon. Features were excavated, sampled, and recorded by hand.
- 3.1.3 Excavation of the Boyn Hill Gravels was undertaken with the same machine. Spits of no more than 250mm were removed at a time and geoarchaeological units were excavated separately. Due to space constraints and the possibility of trench collapse, the soakaway was excavated and filled with crates in portions.

3.2 Fieldwork Constraints

- 3.2.1 The small size and relatively shallow depth of the concrete pad foundations reduced archaeological visibility. Following monitoring of 40 of the foundations and after consultation with the Kent County Council Archaeological Officer, it was decided that monitoring would cease at c.75% of the total and that investigations would concentrate on the soakaway.
- 3.2.2 As excavation of the soakaway was undertaken after the construction of the new school building, its location within the site compound and the close proximity of safety fencing left little room to store samples for sieving. The method was therefore adapted on site whereby the contents of buckets were closely monitored by the archaeologist.

3.3 The Site Archive

3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at a local museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below.

Context sheets	8
Section sheets	1
Plan sheets	1
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	39
Context register	1
Drawing register	1
Watching brief forms	7
Trench record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Foundation trenches monitored between 24/08/15 – 01/09/15

(Figure 3)

Area/ Foundation Trench	Context	Туре	Interpretation	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
All	01	Layer	Tarmac	~0.10	30.00
All	02	Layer	Brick Rubble	0.10-0.20	29.90 – 29.80
All	03	Layer	Sandy subsoil	0.00-0.50	29.90 - 29.40
All	04	Layer	Boyn Hill Gravels	0.15+	29.90 – 29.25

Table 2: List of recorded contexts in pad foundations

- 4.1.1 37 of a total of 53 small pad foundations were monitored for significant archaeological deposits during their excavation. Pads I1-I3C and J1-J3C were not monitored. No archaeology was identified in any of the foundations.
- 4.1.2 Some variation was evident in the distribution and thickness of deposits across the site but typically layers were within the ranges specified in Table 2. The only significant spatial anomaly observed was the absence of sandy subsoil [03] from the eastern portion of the site, approximately coinciding with Line G (Figure 3). Along and east of this line, made ground directly overlay river terrace gravels.

4.2 Soakaway monitored between 26/10/15 – 29/10/15

(Figures 3 and 4)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness	Height m AOD
					m	
01	Layer	Tarmac	Trench	Trench	0.10	29.75
02	Layer	Brick Rubble	Trench	Trench	0.15	29.65
03	Layer	Subsoil	Trench	Trench	0.35	29.30
04	Layer	Boyn Hill	Trench	Trench	0.20	29.10
		Gravels				
06	Cut	Pit/Ditch	0.78+	0.98	0.13	29.10
		terminus?				
07	Fill	Charcoal-rich	0.67	0.66	0.04	28.96
		basal fill of [06]				
08	Fill	Secondary fill	0.78	0.98	0.14	29.10
		of [06]				

Table 3: List of recorded contexts in soakaway

- 4.2.1 Excavation for the soakaway revealed a familiar sequence of made ground ([01] and [02]) overlying a subsoil [03], which in turn overlay Boyn Hill Gravels [04].
- 4.2.1 As with features identified during the evaluation, a single possible pit [06],

was cut into the river terrace gravels and filled with a charcoal-rich primary deposit [07] and sandy secondary fill [08]. This was sealed by the sandy subsoil, although the upper portion of the feature is likely to have been truncated in antiquity.

- 4.2.2 Two flints were retained from subsoil [03], including one possible Palaeolithic flake. These are considered in section 5.2 below.
- 4.2.3 Fills [07] and [08] in pit [06] contained only limited palaeoenvironmental evidence and finds (see sections 5 and 6 below), with little archaeological value.

4.3 Soakaway Pleistocene Geoarchaeology

Unit	Sediment description	Depth (m)	Interpretation
1	Tarmac	0.00- 0.10	Made Ground
Sharp)		
2	Brick Rubble	0.10- 0.25	Made Ground
Sharp			
3	Mid grey brown slightly slity slightly clayey fine sand. 5% <50mm subangular to rounded flints; 1% <100mm nodular flint clasts. CBM. Depth of deposit shallows to the east.	0.25- 0.60	Ploughsoil?
Diffus	e		
4	Light yellowish grey slightly gravelly medium sand – slightly loose, rooted. Coarse component comprises 10% <50mm subangular to rounded flints. Fills small ice wedge in northeast corner.	0.60- 0.90	Boyn Hill Gravels
Sharp)		
5	Horizontally bedded brownish- orange/light brownish-grey/brownish- red gravelly coarse sand. Weakly bedded, with very fine gravel bands max. 50mm thick. 10% subangular to rounded <50mm flints. Orangey- yellow at base with <200mm flints.	0.90- 1.75	Boyn Hill Gravels
Diffus	se		
6	Brownish-orange sandy-clayey-gravel. Coarse component 75%, comprises (sub)rounded <50mm pebbles	1.75- 2.00	Thanet Sand?
Sharp		_	
7	Greyish-white Chalk.	2.00+-	Cretaceous Geology

Table 4: Sediment Log for Soakaway

4.3.1 Table 4 shows observations made during the excavation of the soakaway. Following removal of Units 1-3, no further archaeological finds were encountered.

- 4.3.2 A section at least 1.15m deep of Boyn Hill gravel was exposed in the soakaway pit, comprising Units 4 and 5. Unit 6 has been interpreted here as Thanet sand, although it could equally be described as Thanet sand (Figure 4; photograph 1).
- 4.3.3 Numerous shallow solution features were observed at the contact of the chalk with the overlying deposits. Additionally, an ice wedge cast was observed truncating Unit 5, and was filled with Unit 4.

4.4 The Deposit Model

(Figures 6 and 7)

- 4.4.1 To articulate the distribution of Holocene and Pleistocene deposits at the site, data from the evaluation phase (ASE 2015), this (watching brief) phase, and the initial geotechnical works (Ashdown 2014) were manipulated in Rockworks software to create a deposit model.
- 4.4.2 Data from the geotechnical works were interpreted in light of observations made on site. This required reinterpreting lower units identified as Thanet Formation deposits in the geotechnical investigation as Boyn Hill Gravels.
- 4.4.3 Both figures illustrate a fairly consistent depth of river terrace gravels to around 28m AOD, overlying a remnant deposit of Thanet Sand, below which is found bedrock Chalk. The upper horizon of the river terrace gravels contacts with either a yellow sand or a suspected ploughsoil, both of which thicken to the south-west but are found at various thicknesses across site.
- 4.4.4 The model demonstrates that Boyn Hill Gravel, as mapped by the BGS (2015) across Temple Hill can be expected to be found in archaeologically significant densities at the site.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of flint was recovered by hand, washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. These were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 5). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014a). No further conservation is required.

Context	Flint	Burnt Flint	Pottery	Wt (g)
[03] / Soakaway Unit 3	2			26
[08]	3			13
[08]		Χ		302
[08]			2	1

Table 5: Finds Quantification

5.2 Worked Flint by Ed Blinkhorn and Karine Le Hégarat

Context [03] / Soakaway Unit 3

- 5.2.1 A single possible Palaeolithic flake (Figure 5) was recovered from possible ploughsoil [03]/geoarchaeological Unit 3 during excavation works for the soakaway. A further single undiagnostic struck flake was recovered from the same context (not illustrated).
- 5.2.2 The undiagnostic piece is a small (46mm x 27mm x 10mm thick) cortical flake made on river gravel dark grey flint. Both the flake itself and a previous removal on the dorsal surface terminate in a hinge fracture. Some possible use-wear or edge-damage is in evidence along the ventral left edge at the proximal end.
- 5.2.3 The possible Palaeolithic piece is made on banded cherty flint, exhibiting a small translucent unpatinated dark grey flint inclusion almost identical to a flake discovered during the evaluation phase (ASE 2015 and Figure 5), though with less patination and no staining. The piece measures 45mm x 35mm, with a maximum thickness of 11mm.
- 5.2.3 The striking platform is situated on the cortical face though the bulb is flat and diffuse, and the flake exhibits a distal hinge fracture. Two previous removals in evidence on the dorsal surface infer previous striking platforms oriented opposite, and perpendicular, to the extant point of percussion. Both removals terminate in hinge fractures. The flawed strikes exhibited in working this flake could indicate the difficulty encountered in working the raw material.
- 5.2.4 The retrieval of the flints from ploughsoil make an estimation of their age difficult. The undiagnostic piece is likely to be Holocene in date, and the banded flint flake might belong to anything from the Lower Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age. The similarity of the latter to a find from the evaluation phase,

considered to be Palaeolithic, suggests that these are of the same date. As the evaluation find was not retrieved from a secure context, it remains uncertain whether either derive from the Boyn Hill Gravels.

Pit [006]

5.2.5 Sample <01> extracted from the fill [008] of pit / ditch terminus [006] produced three pieces of struck flint weighing 13g and a small amount (302g) of unworked burnt flint. The latter were only slightly burnt to a reddish colour. The three pieces of worked flint are manufactured from a light grey flint. They consist of three flakes. One displays a plain platform with no preparation, but otherwise the flakes are of unspecified date.

5.3 The Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 Two tiny sherds of probable Roman pottery, each weighing less than half a gram, were recovered from the residue of environmental sample <1>, taken from pit fill [008]. The sherds comprise one relatively coarse sandy grey ware and another fine micaceous ware with an unoxidised core and at least one oxidised surface. The sherds cannot be closely dated within the Roman period.

5.4 Discussion

- 5.4.1 Recovery of probable Roman pottery and undiagnostic worked flints from the fill of pit [006] suggests a Roman date for this feature, although far from conclusively.
- 5.4.1 The similarity of the raw material of the possible Palaeolithic piece to that recovered during the evaluation phase is significant. Although recovered from ploughsoil, the watching brief flake hints that the evaluation flake derives from the same disturbed context.
- 5.4.2 Although the pieces do not refit both exhibit mechanical difficulties in creating a predictable flake, probably due to the characteristics of the raw material.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Angela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 During archaeological investigation at the site, one bulk soil sample was taken from the fill of [006] to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of this sample and discusses the contribution that the environmental remains can give with regards to the local vegetation environment, fuel use and selection and the agricultural economy or other plant use.

6.2 Methodology

- 6.2.1 The sample was processed by flotation. The flot and residue were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried. The dried residue was passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 6). Artefacts recovered from the sample were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flot was scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and its contents recorded (Table 7).
- 6.2.2 Charcoal fragments were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch et al. 2004, Schweingruber 1990). Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 1, and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Results

- 6.3.1 The flot was dominated by charcoal fragments of various dimensions. Occasional uncharred vegetative matter, such as rootlets and uncharred seeds, which are normally signs of bioturbation, was recorded. No charred plant remains were seen. The heavy residue contained some charcoal, a low amount of mammal bone, flint, fire cracked flint, pottery and coal.
- 6.3.2 Charcoal was abundant in the sample and 15 fragments were randomly selected for identification. The only identifiable taxon was oak (Quercus sp.), including two incomplete round wood fragments, which could not be measured, and two slightly distorted fragments. The fragments did not display evidence either of sediment encrustation and perculation or vitrification, but were very friable. Oak, as well as being good for timber, is also known to make an excellent fuel wood (Taylor 1981) and it is possible that this tree was specifically selected for fuel because of its characteristics.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 The environmental sample from Dartford Temple Hill School provides no or limited information regarding agrarian economy, vegetation environment and fuel use at the site. However, it has shown the potential for the local deposits for the preservation of charcoal and it is possible that other features in the proximity have preserved charred plant macrofossils. Any future work at the site should continue sampling, targeting primary deposits.

Table 6: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	5	70	40	**	<1	***	8	13 Quercus sp. (2rw), 2 cf. Quercus sp. distorted	*	<1	FCF **/ 302g - flint */ 12g - pottery */ 1g - coal */ <1g

Table 7: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Spit (if relevant eg. cremation)	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm
1	5		17	100	100	10	10	**	**	***	****

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Deposits identified during the watching brief conformed to what was expected from those exposed during the initial investigation.
- 7.2 The single shallow feature may be Roman in date, and as such have bearing on the features identified during the evaluation. Such a date is unsurprising considering the discovery of Roman artefacts at the school itself (HER No: TQ 57 SE 18), Roman burials to the south (HER No: TQ 57 SE 19), and a Romano-British settlement to the east (HER NO: TQ 57 SE 134).
- 7.3 The recovery of a second Palaeolithic flake of the same distinctive raw material, and in close proximity, to that discovered during the evaluation is of some interest. As discussed above, both pieces are in fresh condition and the identification of subsoil [03] as the containing deposit for one of the pieces (during the watching brief) suggests that these have undergone significant but spatially restricted disturbance. A possible scenario whereby such results could have arisen comprises the Romano-British to modern destruction through ploughing of a Boyn Hill river terrace deposit with high preservation potential. Although the number of flints recovered from the watching brief and evaluations at Temple Hill School is very small, the possible identification by proxy of a deposit with high potential for Pleistocene archaeology signifies that similar intact deposits may exist locally.
- 7.4 Deposit modelling has shown a consistent thickness of Boyn Hill river terrace gravel across the site. As such, similar results can be expected elsewhere on Temple Hill.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE 2015 Archaeological evaluation report: Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road, Dartford, Kent. ASE report no. 2015299.

Ashdown Site Investigations Limited 2014. Temple Hill Community Primary School, St Edmunds Road, Dartford, Kent: Combined Geotechnical and Ground Contamination Risk Assessment. Report No. LW25353

Bridgland, D.R. 1994. *Quaternary of the Thames*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee. London: Chapman and Hall.

British Geological Survey 2015 *Geology of Britain viewer*http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html accessed 23rd November 2015

English Heritage 2002. 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

English Heritage 2008. Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation

Gale, R. & Cutler, D. 2000. *Plants in Archaeology*. Otley/London: Westbury/Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Hather, J. G. 2000. The Identification of the Northern European Woods: A Guide for archaeologists and conservators. London: Archetype Publications Ltd.

KCC 2015a. Specification for archaeological watching brief.

KCC 2015b. Specification for geoarchaeological investigation: Appendix 3.

KCC 2015c. Specification for archaeological evaluation of Temple Hill School, Dartford.

MoLAS 1994. Site Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork

Stace, C. 1997. New Flora of the British Isles. Cambridge: University Press.

Schoch, W., Heller, I., Schweingruber, F. H., & Kienast, F. 2004. *Wood anatomy of central European Species*. Online version: www.woodanatomy.ch

Schweingruber, F.H. 1990. *Microscopic Wood Anatomy*. 3rd edition Birmensdorf: Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research

Taylor, M. 1981. Wood in Archaeology. Aylesbury: Shire Publications Ltd.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank Kier for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and Wendy Rogers County Archaeologist Kent County Council for her guidance and monitoring. The watching brief was directed by Ed Blinkhorn and assisted by Jake Wilson. Justin Russell and Antonio Reis produced the figures for this report; Neil Griffin project managed the excavations and Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift project managed the post-excavation process.

HER Summary

HER enquiry no.	N/A	N/A									
Site code	THD15	THD15									
Project code	7779	7779									
Planning reference	KCC/DA/	15/0514									
Site address	Temple H	lill School, S	St Ed	munds	Road	, Dar	tford, Ke	nt			
District/Borough	Dartford										
NGR (12 figures)	555159 1	74985									
Geology	Seaford/N (Superfici		Chalk	; Than	et Bed	s (So	olid) Boyr	n Hill Member			
Fieldwork type	Eval	Excav	WE	3	HBR		Survey	Other			
Date of fieldwork	24/08/15	_ 29/10/15									
Sponsor/client	Kier										
Project manager	Neil Griffi	n									
Project supervisor	Ed Blinkh	orn									
Period summary	Palaeolith	nic Mesolit	hic	Neoli	thic	Bro Age	nze)	Iron Age			
	Roman	Anglo- Saxon		Medic	eval	Pos Med	st- dieval	Other: Prehistoric			
Project summary (100 word max) Museum/Accession No.	School, S and 29th 1m squar trench. Si single fer identified single flat from the	An archaeological watching brief was conducted at Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road, Dartford, Kent, between the 24th August and 29th October 2015. Thirty seven foundation pads measuring up to 1m square were monitored, as was the excavation of a soakaway trench. Small quantities of residual worked flint were recovered from a single feature and subsoil, with fragmentary Roman pottery also identified in the feature. Possible Palaeolithic evidence comprised a single flake of identical raw material to a previous example recovered from the site. Depths of up to 1.10m of Pleistocene Boyn Hill gravels were confirmed during works.									

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Material Period	
Worked flint	Flint	Palaeolithic – Iron Age	5
Pottery	Ceramic	Roman	2
Burnt flint	Flint	Undated	302g

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-236737

Project details

Project name Temple Hill School, Dartford, Kent

> An archaeological watching brief was conducted at Temple Hill School, St Edmunds Road, Dartford, Kent, between the 24th August and 29th October 2015. Thirty seven foundation pads measuring up to 1m square were monitored, as was the excavation of a soakaway trench. Small quantities of residual

Short description of the project

worked flint were recovered from a single feature and subsoil. with fragmentary Roman pottery also identified in the feature. Possible Palaeolithic evidence comprised a single flake of identical raw material to a previous example recovered from the site. Depths of up to 1.10m of Pleistocene Boyn Hill gravels

were confirmed during works.

Start: 24-08-2015 End: 29-10-2015 Project dates

Previous/future

work

Yes / No

Any associated

project reference 7779 - Contracting Unit No.

codes

Any associated

project reference THD15 - Sitecode

codes

Recording project Type of project

Site status None

Current Land use Community Service 1 - Community Buildings

Monument type PIT Uncertain

Significant Finds FLAKE Palaeolithic Investigation type "Watching Brief" **Prompt** Planning condition

Project location

Country England

KENT DARTFORD DARTFORD Temple Hill School, St Site location

Edmunds Rd, Dartford

DA1 5ND Postcode

Study area 0 Square metres

TQ 55156 74999 51.452166431865 0.233272730365 51 27 07 Site coordinates

N 000 13 59 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 27.95m Max: 29.1m

Project creators

Name of Organisation

Archaeology South-East

Project brief Kent County Council

originator

Project design originator

Kent County Council

Project

director/manager

Neil Griffin

Project supervisor Ed Blinkhorn

Type of

sponsor/funding

Kier Construction

body

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient

Local Museum

Physical Contents

"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked

stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient

ve Local Museum

Digital Contents "other"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive

recipient

Local Museum

Paper Contents "other"

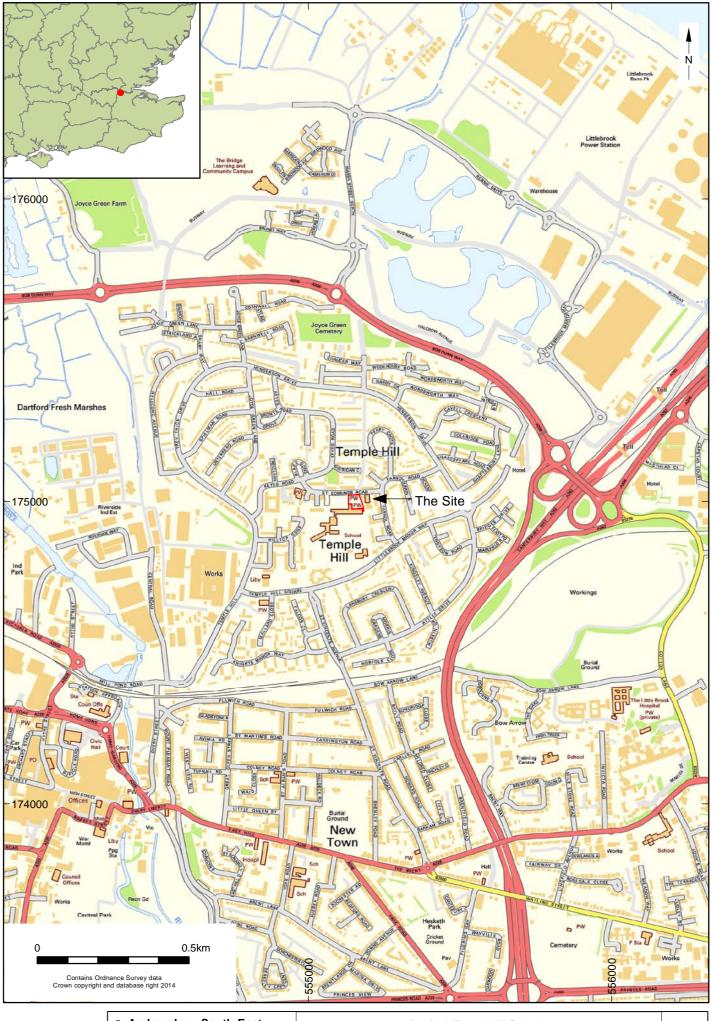
Paper Media

available

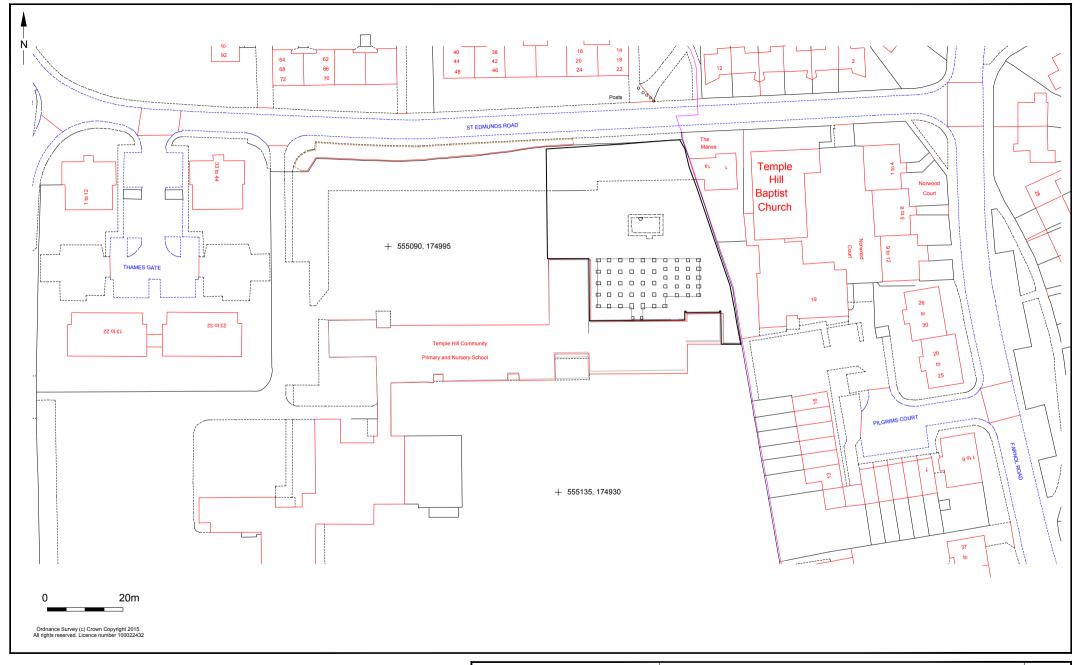
"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material"

Entered by Ed Blinkhorn (e.blinkhorn@ucl.ac.uk)

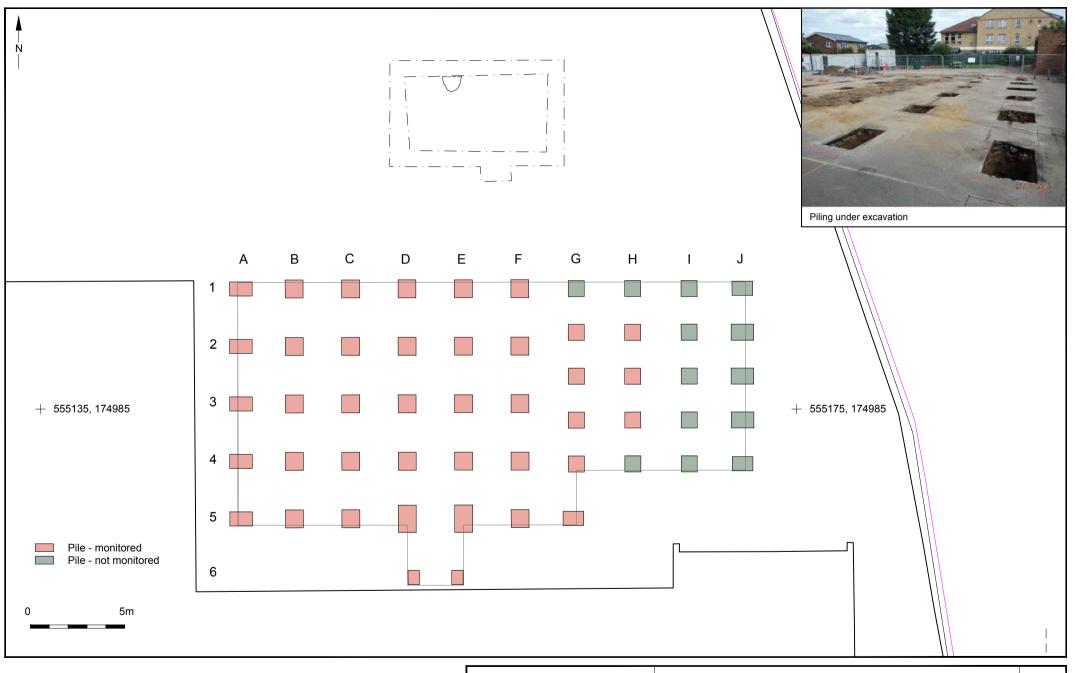
Entered on 7 January 2016



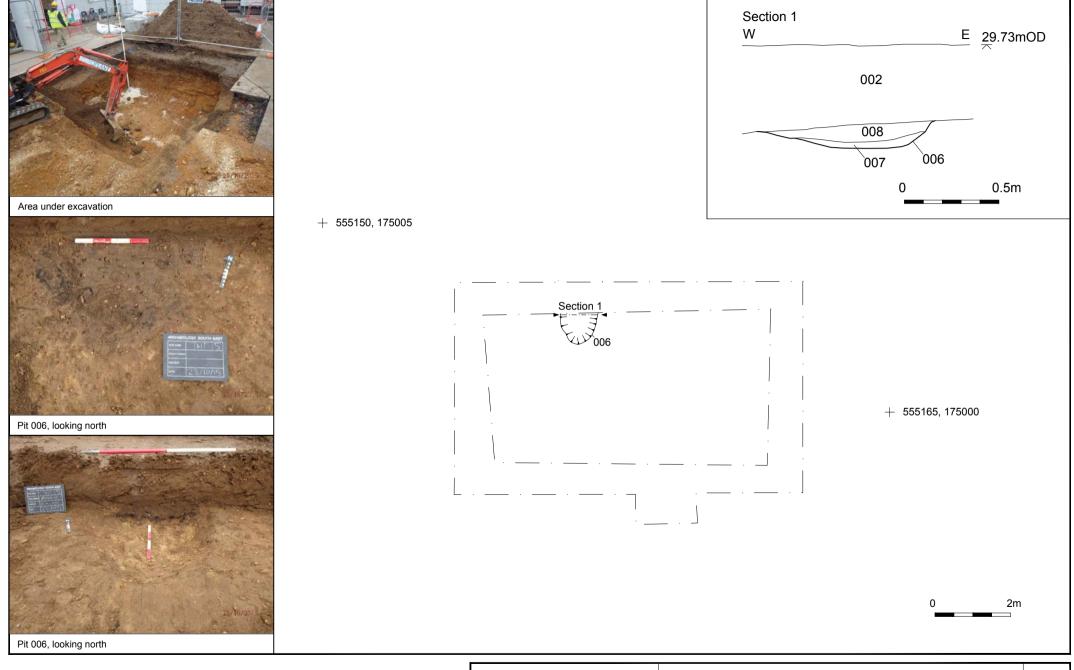
© Archaeology So	outh-East	Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7779	12 - 2015	Site location	i ig. i
Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: NG	Site location	



© Archaeology South-East		Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 7779	12 - 2015	Cita Lacation	1 lg. 2
Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: NG	Site Location	



© Archaeology South-East		Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 7779	12 - 2015	Area of monitoring	1 19. 5
Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: NG	Alea of monitoring	

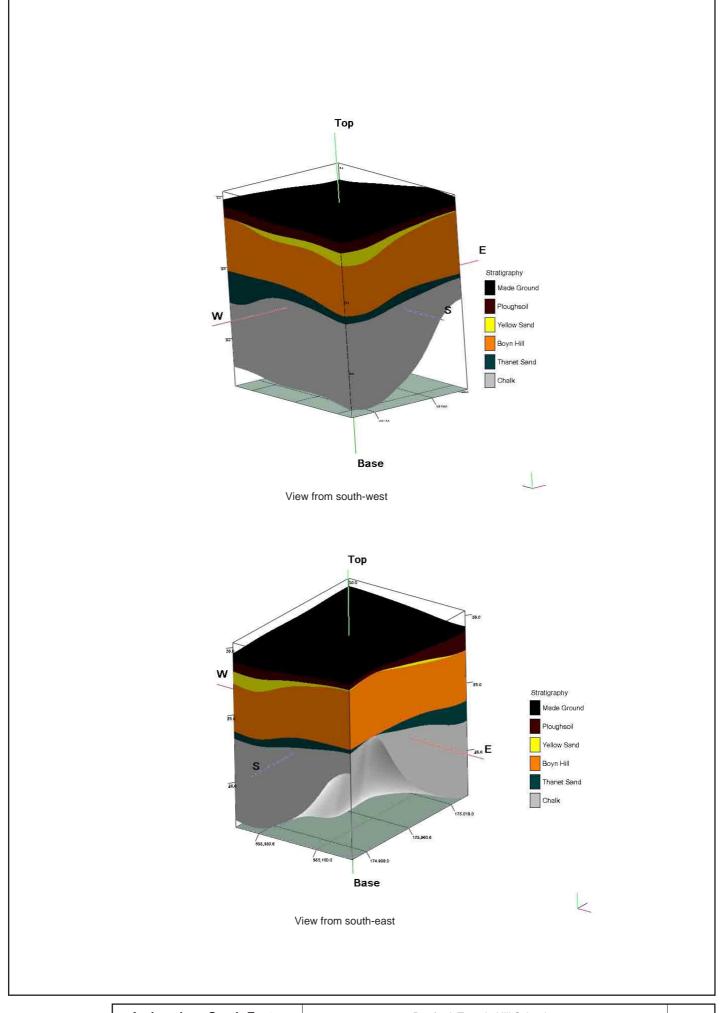


© Archaeology S	outh-East	Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 4	
Project Ref: 7779	Jan 2016	Plan, section and photograph of feature 006	1 lg. 1	l
Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: NG			ı

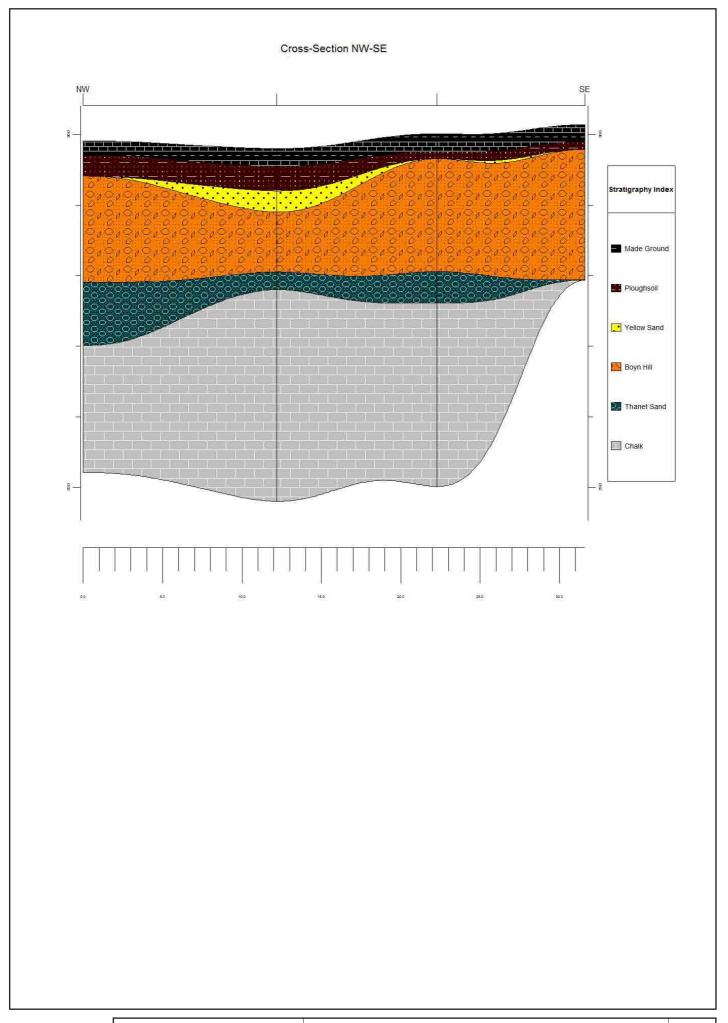




	© Archaeology South-East		Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 5
-	Project Ref: 7779	Jan 2016	Dhotographa of palacalithic flint	i ig. 5
- 1	Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: JLR	Photographs of palaeolithic flint	



- 1	© Archaeology South-East		Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 6
	Project Ref: 7779	Jan 2016	Donosit model	i ig. o
	Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: JLR	Deposit model	



© Archaeology South-East		Dartford, Temple Hill School	Fig. 7	l
Project Ref: 7779	Jan 2016	NIM/ SE transact	rig. 7	ĺ
Report Ref: 2015474	Drawn by: JLR	NW-SE transect		ı

Sussex Office

Units 1 & 2 2 Chapel Place Portslade East Sussex BN41 1DR tel: +44(0)1273 426830 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk www.archaeologyse.co.uk

Essex Office

27 Eastways Witham Essex CM8 3YQ tel: +44(0)1376 331470 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk www.archaeologyse.co.uk

London Office

Centre for Applied Archaeology UCL Institute of Archaeology 31-34 Gordon Square London WC1H 0PY tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

