

Proposed Pinn River SEND School, Fore Street, Ruislip: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

Planning Application Number: 2145/APP/2022/3534

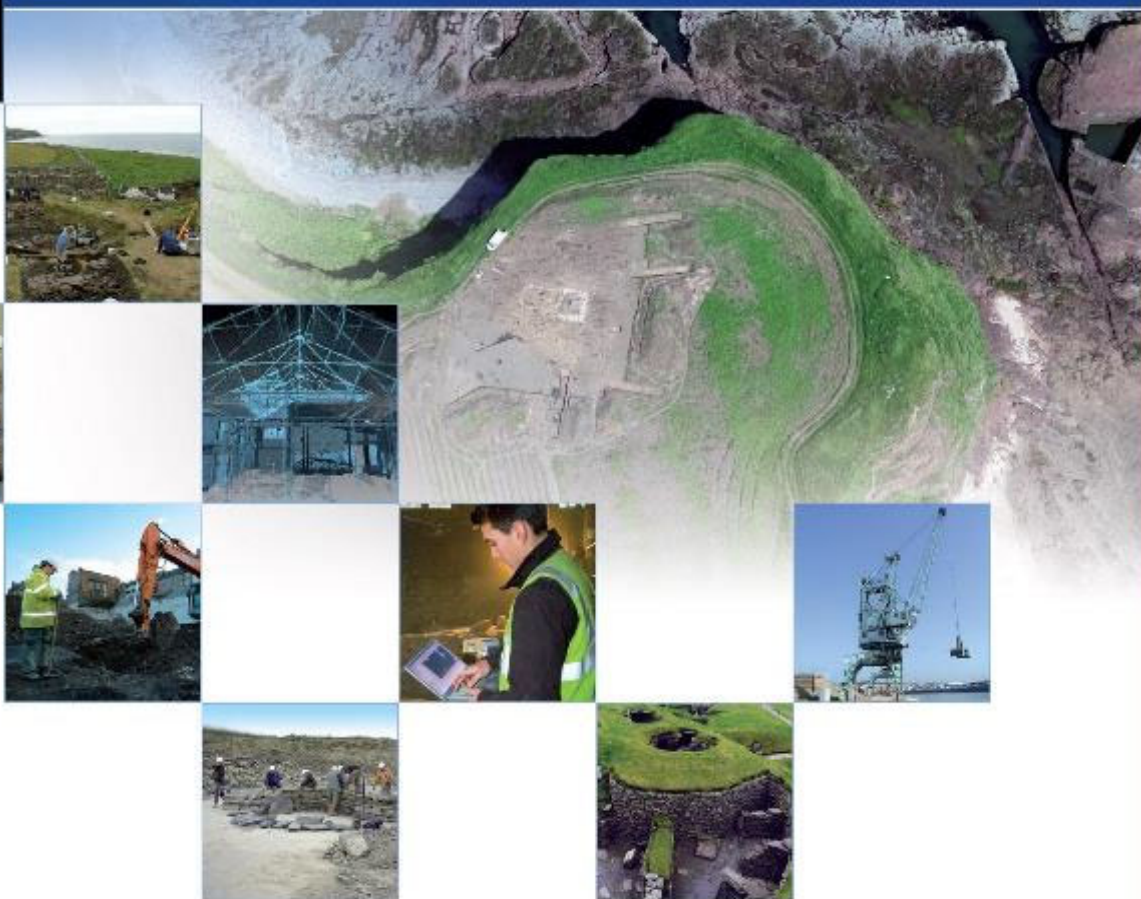
National Grid Reference: TQ 509988 188840

Site Code: PVR23

AOC Project: 34807

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-519360

Date: September 2023



Proposed Pinn River SEND School, Fore Street, Ruislip: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of:	Iceni Projects Da Vinci House, 44 Saffron Hill, London, EC1N 8FH
National Grid Reference (NGR):	TQ 509988 188840
Planning Application No:	2145/APP/2022/3534
AOC Project No:	34807
OASIS ID:	aocarcha1-519360
Site Code:	PVR23
Prepared by:	Gemma Ward
Illustration by:	Sam O'Leary
Date:	September 2023

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

Author: Gemma Ward	Date: September 2023
Approved by: Les Capon	Date: September 2023
Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft	Date: September 2023

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Unit 7
St Margaret's Business Centre
Moor Mead Road
Twickenham
TW1 1JS

Tel. 020 8843 7380
Fax. 020 8892 0549
E-mail. london@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

CONTENTS

Non-Technical Summary	
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. PLANNING BACKGROUND	1
3. The GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	2
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	2
5. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION	4
6. SCOPE OF WORKS AND STRATEGY	4
7. METHODOLOGY	6
8. RESULTS	6
9. FINDS	14
10. CONCLUSIONS	14
11. ARCHIVING AND PUBLICATION	15
12. BIBLIOGRAPHY	16
FIGURES	17
APPENDICES Appendix A: Context Register	21
Appendix B: OASIS Form	23

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site Location	18
Figure 2: Trench Location Plan	19
Figure 3: Representative Sections	20

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 1 representative section facing South	7
Plate 2: Trench 1 facing West	8
Plate 3: Representative section of Trench 2 facing East.....	9
Plate 4: Trench 2 facing North.....	9
Plate 5: Representative section of Trench 3 facing East.....	10
Plate 6: Trench 3 facing South	11
Plate 7: Representative section of Trench 4 facing Northwest	12
Plate 8: Trench 4 facing Northeast.....	12
Plate 9: Representative section of Trench 5 facing South.....	13
Plate 10: Trench 5 facing East	14

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This report provides the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken at the site of the proposed Pinn River SEND School, Fore Street, Ruislip, HA5 2JQ by AOC Archaeology in August 2023. The work was commissioned by Icen Projects Limited on behalf of Kier Construction (the Client) in advance of development work.

The investigation was composed of five trenches, three measured 12m long by 1.80m wide, and two 16m by 1.80m. The trenches were situated on land at c.55.08 to 57.36 Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The trenches contained no archaeological features.

The evaluation confirmed the presence of London Clay recorded at a varying height of 55.03m OD to 56.60m OD. No Subsoil was present indicating that the natural sequence of deposits and most likely the natural horizon itself had suffered horizontal truncations during the development of the site. A series of modern levelling layers likely linked to the most recent phase of development on the site were noted. The lowest of these being composed of redeposited clay with modern building materials, levels of which ranged from 56.12m OD to 56.14m OD. Also revealed were layers of Type 1, heights varying from 55.32m OD to 56.33m OD, and finally a tarmac or rubberised playground surface recorded at 55.38m OD to 56.72m OD.

An OASIS form (aocarcha1-519360) has been compiled and an electronic copy of all reports will be deposited within the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The site archive will be prepared in accordance with local and national guidance and will be deposited at the end of the project.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. AOC Archaeology was commissioned by Kier Construction (the “client”) on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) via Kier Construction Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the site of the proposed Pinn River SEND School, Fore Street, Ruislip, HA5 2JQ , National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 09988 88840 (Figure 1), in advance of development work on the site.
- 1.2. The site is currently occupied by buildings of the present Grangewood School, with associated driveways and landscaping. The centre of the site lies at National Grid Reference TQ 09988 88840 and ground level in the vicinity of the Site is 53.9m OD on Fore Street, to the east of the Site.
- 1.3. The site is bounded to the east by Fore Street, to the south-east by residential properties fronting onto Grangewood Close, to the south by Coteford Junior School, and to the west and north by woodland (Park Wood, part of Ruislip Woods Nature Reserve).
- 1.4. The site is currently occupied by buildings of the present Grangewood School, and associated driveways and landscaping.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Hillingdon (LBH) who take archaeological advice from the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 2.2 A planning application (Planning Application 2145/APP/2022/3534) for the demolition of existing school building and construction of part one storey, part two storey Special Education Needs and Disability School (SEND) (Use Class F), together with associated landscaping, play space, access, refuse and recycling storage, car and cycle parking and associated works has been approved, with conditions.
- 2.3 Condition 4 addressed the archaeological potential of the site:

(A) Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved (including demolition), a Stage 1 Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by the local planning authority, in consultation with the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS). For land included within the WSI, no demolition of development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, and the programme and methodology of site evaluation and the nomination of a competent persons(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works.

(B) If heritage assets of archaeological interest are identified by stage 1 then for those parts of the site which have archaeological interest a stage 2 WSI shall be submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority, in consultation with GLAAS. For land included within the stage 2 WSI, no demolition of development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed stage 2 WSI, which shall include:

(i) The statement of significance and research objectives, the programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person or organisation to undertake the agreed works.

(ii) Where appropriate, details of a programme for delivering related positive benefits.

(iii) The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication, dissemination and deposition of resulting material.

- 2.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Icen Projects Limited (2023), which set out the detailed methodology to be employed during the archaeological evaluation. Icen Projects limited also produced an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the site (Icen 2022)

3. THE GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1. The British Geological Survey (BGS, 2023) records show the site to be underlain by bedrock of the London Clay Formation. Bedrock of the underlying Lambeth Group is mapped immediately to the south and east of the Site. No superficial deposits are mapped on the Site, although a thin east-west band of Holocene alluvium is mapped approximately 300m south of the Site, associated with the River Pinn.
- 3.2. Recent ground investigations within the site have demonstrated that the sediment sequence comprises modern Made Ground (maximum depth 0.85m below ground level (bgl)) and/or topsoil (maximum depth 0.20m bgl) overlying London Clay Formation Bedrock, with the underlying Lambeth Group also recorded in deeper interventions below 4.50-5.50m bgl (HSP Consulting, 2021, Curtins, 2022). This geology was confirmed during the evaluation as London Clay was present in the base of all trenches and recorded at a varying height of between 55.03m OD to 56.60m OD.
- 3.3. The site is located on a south-facing slope leading downhill to the River Pinn. Ground level in the vicinity of the site is recorded at 53.9m OD on Fore Street, to the east of the Site. Ground level within the site itself slopes gradually from approximately 56.7m OD in the north-west of the Site, down to 53.6m OD in the south-east.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1. A thorough description of the geology, archaeology, and history of the Site was provided in the earlier Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Icen, 2022). For a full archaeological and historical background of the Site, this document should be read in conjunction with the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment. A succinct summary is provided below, utilising a Study Area of 1.25km.

Previous Archaeological Work

- 4.2. No previous archaeological work has been undertaken within the site.

Prehistoric Periods (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 4.3. Overall, evidence for prehistoric activity within 1.25km of the site is limited. Whilst a small number of findspots and isolated features indicate some level of background activity in parts of the Study Area from the Neolithic period onwards, there is little evidence for any significant concentrations of prehistoric settlement or activity. Throughout the prehistoric period the Study Area is likely to have been largely unoccupied land away from the main areas of settlement, probably with areas of woodland that may have persisted until the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 4.4. Evidence for the Neolithic period within 1.25km of the site is restricted to two findspots: a Middle Neolithic plano-convex knife found 370m south-west of the Site, and a flint flake, possibly a damaged leaf-shaped arrowhead, found 1,090m north-west of the Site on Haste Hill.
- 4.5. Evidence from the Bronze Age is restricted to a single site. Shallow scoops/pits containing Late Bronze Age domestic refuse and pottery were recorded following the discovery of a socketed spearhead by a metal detectorist at Park Wood, 850m north-west of the Site.

- 4.6. Evidence for activity within 1.25m of the site during the Iron Age is limited and ambiguous, potentially comprising evidence for linear boundaries (banks and ditches), suggesting the Study Area was located away from the main foci of settlement at this time.

Roman Period

- 4.7. The only Roman evidence recorded on the GLHER within the Study Area consists of two isolated findspots: a fragment of a soft redware screw-necked flagon found 1,070m south of the Site, and a 1st century bronze brooch 950m north-west of the Site.

Saxon/Early Medieval & Medieval Period

- 4.8. It has been suggested that the settlement of Ruislip originated during the Saxon period, although there is currently little or no archaeological evidence to confirm this. Nevertheless, a reasonable-size settlement at Ruislip and a park for 'wild beasts' (an unusually early example of a deer park) is mentioned in Domesday in 1086, and the motte and bailey castle at Ruislip is thought to have been built soon after 1066, lending weight to the notion that settlement in the area may have already existed at the time of the Norman Conquest.
- 4.9. The park pale is known to have been repaled, i.e. re-fenced, in 1436 by the then-owners King's College. The heavily truncated remains of a possible medieval boundary ditch, thought to be a continuation of the boundary of Park Wood, were recorded in a 2002 evaluation at St Vincent's Hospital Residential Site, 800m north of the Site. Further archaeological evidence relating to the Park within the Study Area includes a small rectangular enclosure, possibly originally a tenement or the parker's lodgings, recorded 750m southwest of the Site.
- 4.10. During the medieval period, the centre and western half of Study Area comprised an area of managed woodland, Ruislip Park, with the main focus of settlement in the east, around the village of Eastcote. The site was located within the Park Pale, surviving as an earthwork (and Scheduled Monument) immediately to the north of the Site.

Post-Medieval and Modern Periods

- 4.11. Ruislip Woods, adjacent to the north and west of the Site, and the wider Ruislip Park remained a working and hunting landscape well into the 19th century. Rocque's map of 1757 appears to show Ruislip Park ('Ruislip Park') extending up to what is now Fore Street, with market gardens and buildings fronting Fore Street shown immediately south of the site. This is also shown on the 1807 Ordnance Survey map that appears to show the site within the easternmost corner of the Park, and more clearly on the County Series map of 1865 where the site is depicted within an area of woodland extending as far east as Fore Street (known at this time as 'Frog Lane'), with buildings fronting onto Fore Street immediately southeast of the site. By 1896, however, the site is shown as an open field, with the edge of the woodland now marked 120m north and 150m to the west.
- 4.12. The earthworks of the Park Pale are first clearly depicted on the National Grid map of 1959- 62, where they are shown continuing beyond the current Scheduled Monument running across the eastern end of the Site, parallel with Fore Street, ending just beyond the southeastern corner of the Site. By this time the building in the east of the Site is no longer shown. The remainder of the Site is depicted as scattered areas of open woodland. The area East of Fore Street is by this time covered by residential properties, with the modern street plan already evident.
- 4.13. By 1991-92, the existing school buildings currently occupying the Site are shown. The earthworks of the Park Pale continue to be depicted extending across the eastern end of the Site but are now shown

interrupted by an access road joining Fore Street in the very south-easternmost corner of the Site. No significant changes are depicted within the Site on the 2003 map, which shows the Site having attained its present configuration.

5. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

5.1. The general aims of the investigation were defined as being:

- Identification of the earliest archaeological deposits
- Identification of the latest archaeological deposits
- The nature and character of archaeological deposits encountered
- The extent of modern disturbance

Site Specific Objectives

5.2 Taking into account the archaeological and historical background of the site, and the overarching aims of the Research Framework for London (MoLAS, 2002), the following site specific objectives of the evaluation were:

- Are prehistoric features or isolated finds present?
- Are any chance Roman finds present?
- Is there evidence for medieval, pre-Norman, activity or settlement?
- Is there evidence for features relating to the deer park? What is their nature and form?
- Is there evidence of late 19th century agricultural activity?

6. SCOPE OF WORKS AND STRATEGY

6.1. The archaeological evaluation comprised of the machine excavation of three trenches measuring 12m long by 1.8m wide, and two measuring 16m long by 1.8m wide: five trenches in total as shown on Figure 2. Service plans were consulted prior to commencement of excavation, and the entire site was scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool 4+. Due to the presence of live services on the site, minor realignments were made to some of the evaluation trenches. Kier and Iceni Projects were made aware of any changes to the scope.

6.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of five trenches, positioned to target the area of impact posed by the redevelopment of the site.

6.2 The results of the archaeological evaluation are collated into this evaluation report, which will enable the Archaeological Advisor to come to a decision as to the requirement for further work (stage 2) at the site ahead of development works.

6.3 The fieldwork was carried out according to best archaeological practice and to local and national standards and guidelines:

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA 2020).
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (CIfA 2014a).
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives (CIfA 2014b).

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (CIfA 2021).
- Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) 2015, Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London.
- Historic England – Management of Archaeological Projects (HE 2015a).
- Historic England – Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (2015c).
- Historic England – Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Reports (2015d).
- Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHLG) – National Planning Policy Framework (Updated 2023).
- Museum of London – Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).
- Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS), 2000, Archaeology of Greater London.
- Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS), 2002, A Research Framework for London Archaeology.
- Museum of London, 2015, A Strategy for Researching the Historic Environment of Greater London.
- Society of Museum Archaeologists – Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections: Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (1993).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).

- 6.4 The archaeological investigation was undertaken by Gemma Ward (Project Supervisor) under the overall direction of AOC Project Manager Catherine Edwards (AOC) and Stephen McLeod of Icen Projects Ltd.
- 6.5 The archaeological works were monitored on behalf of GLAAS by Sandy Kidd, Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Hillingdon.
- 6.6 Sandy Kidd was advised of the start of the works and monitored the works before the backfilling of the trenches.
- 6.7 A site code was allocated for the works, PVR23.

7 METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 The full methodology is laid out in the WSI (Iceni Projects Limited, 2023). Current service plans were consulted, and the entire site was visually inspected prior to the commencement of any machine excavation. Trench locations were CAT scanned before excavation.
- 7.2 The archaeological evaluation consisted of the excavation of five trenches, the locations of which are shown on Figure 2.
- 7.3 Actual trench locations on site varied slightly due to unforeseen obstructions, logistical/practical reasons, or health and safety issues. Reasonable judgement was used by the supervising archaeologist where the trenches needed to be relocated. And all movements were cleared with the LPA and Iceni Projects Ltd. If any area was lost, additional meterage was added in order to achieve the same total coverage.
- 7.4 Hand excavation was undertaken once the archaeological horizon was exposed, with excavation, sampling and recording following the methodology set out in the WSI.

8 RESULTS

- 8.1 No archaeological features were identified in the excavated trenches.
- 8.2 The natural horizon comprised firm, slightly silty clay, typically a pale, blueish grey, weathering out to a mid-yellowish brown after being exposed for 24 hours or more, tallying with the London Clay formation recorded by the BGS. This was overlain by modern levelling layers, variously formed of grey, silty sands with crushed concrete and brick with frequent inclusions of modern debris, and dark sandy silts with lots of brick and modern material. The stratigraphic sequence was capped by a thin layer of tarmac, and in the playground a softer surface comprised of rubberized wood chips.
- 8.3 The upper height of the uppermost modern levelling layer varied between 56.43mOD to 57.36mOD. The thickness of the various levelling layers varied between 0.08m to 0.38m.
- 8.4 The trenches are discussed below in turn. Heights of deposits are provided in the stratigraphic table at the centre of the trench. Archaeological deposits are defined within (curved brackets) and archaeological cuts are defined within [square brackets]. The full context inventory is supplied in Appendix A.

Trench 1

Table of stratigraphic sequence

Context No.	Thickness (max)	Height above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	Description	Interpretation
(101)	0.06m	56.39m	Tarmac, thin layer in playground	Tarmac
(102)	0.19m	56.33m	Pink type 1, a levelling material comprised of small, subangular gravels, with a pale pinkish hue	Hardcore
(103)	0.37m	56.14m	Levelling layer - Dark brown silty clay with modern bricks and concrete	Levelling layer
(104)	0.05m+	55.77m	Reddish-brown slightly silty clay with occasional mid greyish-blue patches	Natural

- 8.5 Trench 1 measured 15m by 1.8m and was orientated east to west (Plates 1 and 2). It was moved slightly north to avoid fencing for the playground and a live service running into the existing school building.
- 8.6 London clay (104) was exposed across the whole trench at 55.72mOD to 56.64mOD, dropping down from the east to the west. This was overlain by a levelling layer 0.37m deep, composed of reddish dark brown silty clay with inclusions of brick fragments (CBM) and fragmented medium sized stones (103). This levelling layer (103) was overlain by a second levelling layer 0.19m deep, comprised of pink type 1, a levelling material comprised of small gravel (102). Overlying this and sealing the sequence was a thin layer of tarmac (101). At the western 4m of the trench on the south side, was a thin layer of greyish brown clayey silt (105), with occasional small to medium sub-angular stones and grass above.
- 8.7 No archaeological deposits or features were present in the trench.



Plate 1: Trench 1 representative section facing South



Plate 2: Trench 1 facing West

Trench 2

Table of stratigraphic sequence

Context No.	Thickness (max)	Height above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	Description	Interpretation
(201)	0.05m	56.26m	Tarmac	Tarmac
(202)	0.10m	56.21m	levelling material comprised of small, subangular gravels, with a pale pinkish hue	Type 1 Levelling layer
(203)	0.22m	56.11m	Levelling layer – Redeposited natural, Dark brown silty clay with modern bricks and concrete	Levelling layer
(204)	>0.05m	55.89m	Firm, mid yellowish brown with occasional rooting, and manganese staining	Natural

- 8.8 Trench 2 measured 15.2m by 1.80m and was orientated north-south (Plates 3 and 4). Exposed across the base of the whole trench, at 55.80mOD to 55.86mOD, was (204), a yellowish brown clay with occasional rooting, and manganese staining observed as London clay. The London clay (204) was

overlain by two levelling layers, the lowest of which was (203), a 0.22m deep redeposited natural clay with frequent fragments of modern bricks and concrete. This in turn was overlain by (202), a 0.11m depth of pink hued small, Type 1 subangular gravels. This was sealed by a thin layer of tarmac (201) which lay generally level at 56.26mOD.

8.9 No archaeological features or deposits were present in the trench.



Plate 3: Representative section of Trench 2 facing East



Plate 4: Trench 2 facing North

Trench 3

Table of stratigraphic sequence

Context No.	Thickness (max)	Height above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	Description	Interpretation
(306)	0.10m	56.60m	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, with occasional small subangular stones.	Topsoil
(301)	0.04m	56.36m	Rubberised Wood chips	Playground surface
(302)	0.08m	56.32m	Tarmac	Tarmac
(303)	0.12m	56.24m	Yellow type 1, a modern material comprised of small, subangular gravels	Levelling layer
(304)	0.38m	56.12m	Redeposited natural with frequent cbm, bm and small to medium subangular stones.	Levelling layer
(307)	>0.05m	55.74m	Firm slightly silty clay, mid reddish-brown w/patches mid greyish blue and yellowish brown, with occasional manganese staining.	Natural

- 8.10 Trench 3 measured 11m by 1.80m and was orientated roughly north to south (Plates 5 and 6). The trench was relocated slightly to avoid a large drainage system leading from the primary school toilets.



Plate 5: Representative section of Trench 3 facing East

- 8.11 London clay (307) was exposed across the base of the whole trench, lying at 55.97mOD in the north, and in the south to 55.79mOD. This was partially cut at the edge of the playground by a service trench [305]. The natural (307), was overlain by two levelling layers recorded as (304) and (303). The lowest (304) composed of 0.38m depth of redeposited London clay, with frequent modern bricks and stones.

This was followed by a 0.12m thick modern levelling layer of yellow type 1, comprised of small, subangular gravels (303), which in turn was overlain by a 0.08m deep layer of tarmac (302). This sequence was sealed by the modern playground surface, a thin layer of rubberized wood chips (301). This lay at 56.77mOD in the north, falling to 56.48mOD in the south. At the northernmost part of the trench, the ground had been raised with a friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, with occasional small subangular stones, topsoil (306) with turf.

- 8.12 No archaeological deposits or features were present in the trench.



Plate 6: Trench 3 facing South

Trench 4

Table of stratigraphic sequence

Context No.	Thickness (max)	Height above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	Description	Interpretation
(401)	0.06m	56.72m	Tarmac	Tarmac
(402)	0.18m	56.66m	Sand and concrete rubble mix, small to medium sized fragments.	Levelling layer
(403)	0.01m	56.48m	Black, fibre, Geotech material.	Terram
(404)	>0.12m	56.47m	Firm, Brown orange clay with frequent rooting.	Natural

- 8.13 Trench 4 measured 12m by 1.80m and was orientated northwest-southeast (Plates 7 and 8).
- 8.14 The natural London clay, a mid-brownish orange with very frequent rooting, and degraded vegetation, (404) was exposed across the whole trench at 56.83mOD to 56.38mOD.
- 8.15 The London clay (404) was overlain by a thin Geotech fibre material designed to suppress the vegetation previously cleared for the car park, (403). This was followed by a levelling layer of sand and concrete

rubble (402) averaging 0.18m thick. This was sealed by a thin layer of tarmac (401), lying roughly level at 56.72mOD

- 8.16 No archaeological deposits or features were present in the trench.



Plate 7: Representative section of Trench 4 facing Northwest



Plate 8: Trench 4 facing Northeast

Trench 5

Table of stratigraphic sequence

Context No.	Thickness (max)	Height above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	Description	Interpretation
(501)	0.06m	55.38m	Tarmac	Tarmac
(502)	0.14m	55.32m	levelling material comprised of small, subangular gravels, with a pale pinkish hue	Type 1 Levelling layer
(503)	0.15m	55.18m	Black type 1, small, subangular gravels	Levelling layer
(504)	>0.05m	55.03m	Firm, Light greyish yellow slightly silty clay with occasional blueish grey patches	Natural

- 8.17 Trench 5 measured 14m by 1.80m, having been extended to compensate for the small meterage losses to trenches 1, 2 and 3. It was orientated east-west (Plate 3 and 4).
- 8.18 London clay, light greyish yellow with occasional blueish grey patches, occasional rooting, and manganese staining, (504) was exposed across the whole trench falling eastwards from 55.22mOD to 54.73mOD. The London clay, (504), was overlain by two levelling layers, the lowest recorded as a 0.15m thick dark black variant of type 1 composed of small subangular gravels, (503). This was overlain by a 0.14m deep yellow hued small subangular gravel layer, again a variation of Type 1 (502). This was sealed by a thin layer of tarmac (501), that showed a similar downward slope eastward, from 55.52mOD to 55.12mOD.
- 8.19 No archaeological deposits or features were present in the trench.



Plate 9: Representative section of Trench 5 facing South



Plate 10: Trench 5 facing East

9 FINDS

- 9.1 No finds were recovered from the site. Modern brick and concrete were present within the modern levelling layer used to landscape the area prior to its use, but these were not retained.

10 CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 This investigation was composed of five trenches which uncovered no archaeological remains.
- 10.2 The trenches all confirmed the presence of London Clay as noted by the HSP Consulting investigations in 2021, referenced in the earlier geology section. The natural was recorded at a varying height of 55.03m OD to 56.60m OD.
- 10.3 No Subsoil was present indicating that the natural sequence of deposits and most likely the natural horizon itself had suffered horizontal truncations during the development of the site.
- 10.4 Overlying the natural was a series of modern levelling layers deposited in order to establish a level ground, likely for the most recent phase of development on the site. The lowest of these being composed of redeposited clay with modern building materials, ranging from 56.12m OD to 56.14m OD. In all but Trench 4, this was overlain by one or two layers of Type 1, heights varying from 55.32m OD to 56.33m OD, and finally a tarmac or rubberised playground surface recorded at 55.38m OD to 56.72m OD.

Realisation of Aims

- 10.5 Each of the research aims set out in Section 5.1 have been realised and detailed below:

The general aims of the investigation were defined as being:

- Identification of the earliest archaeological deposits

No such evidence was identified.

- Identification of the latest archaeological deposits

No such evidence was identified.

- The nature and character of archaeological deposits encountered

No such evidence was identified.

- The extent of modern disturbance

The stratigraphy of modern works was recorded thoroughly.

Site Specific Objectives

Taking into account the archaeological and historical background of the site, and the overarching aims of the Research Framework for London (MoLAS, 2002), the following site specific objectives of the evaluation were:

- Are prehistoric features or isolated finds present?

No such evidence was identified.

- Are any chance Roman finds present?

No such evidence was identified.

- Is there evidence for medieval, pre-Norman, activity or settlement?

No such evidence was identified.

- Is there evidence for features relating to the deer park? What is their nature and form?

No such evidence was identified.

- Is there evidence of late 19th century agricultural activity?

No such evidence was identified.

- To collect enough information for a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised, with this information being presented in an updated WSI, if required.

The site works were remotely monitored by Sandy Kidd of GLAAS, and a decision on the requirements for further work will be made upon his receipt of this report.

11 ARCHIVING AND PUBLICATION

- 11.1 Copies of the final evaluation report will be issued to the client, to Sandy Kidd (GLAAS), to the Local Planning Authority and ultimately to the Local Studies Library, on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time. A digital copy of the report will also be submitted to the HER and the ADS. An OASIS form has been completed for the works (Appendix B). A short summary of the results will be submitted to the Greater London Archaeological round-up..
- 11.2 The site archive will comprise all written and drawn records. It is to be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records collated and ordered as a permanent record. The archive will be prepared in accordance with guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage, as well as the requirements of the accessioning museum (UKIC 1990) and (Brown & AAF 2007).

12 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ADS (2011). *Guides to Good Practice*, <http://guides.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/g2gp/Main>
- BGS. (2022). *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Available: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (Accessed 10/10/2022).
- Brown, D.H. (2011). *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Second Edition).
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014a). *Standards and Guidance and Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014b). *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2020). *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation* [revised edition].
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2021). *Code of Conduct*. [revised edition].
- Historic England (English Heritage 2006). *Management of Recording Projects in the Historic Environment: MORPHE*.
- Historic England (2015a). *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London*.
- Historic England (2015c). *Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork*.
- Historic England (2015d). *Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Reports*.
- Iceni Projects Ltd (2022), *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Proposed Pinn River SEND School, Fore Street, Ruislip HA5 2JQ*
- Iceni Projects Ltd (2023), *A Written Scheme of Investigation Archaeological Evaluation: Proposed Pinn River SEND School, Fore Street, Ruislip*.
- Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHLG) (Updated 2019). *National Planning Policy Framework*.
- Museum of London (1994). *Archaeological Site Manual* (3rd edition).
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (1993) *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections: Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*.
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1983). *Conservation Guidelines No 2*.
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1990). *Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice*.

FIGURES