

**26 FIELD END ROAD, EASTCOTE
LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

**THE RETREAT, 26 FIELD END ROAD, EASTCOTE
LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

On behalf of
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by

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MOL Site No FIE04

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This report has been prepared by Reuben Thorpe the fieldwork was undertaken by Hilary Valler (Project Officer). The illustrations were prepared by Mark Roughley (Illustrator).

Non-technical Summary

LogicPlough Ltd commissioned Wessex Archaeology (London) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at The Retreat, 26 Field End Road, Eastcote, London Borough of Hillingdon (the Site), centred on NGR 510706/188475.

The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with Planning Consent condition 11 which required the undertaking of archaeological works prior to development.

The site lies immediately south of the dispersed medieval settlement at Eastcote, outside the Area of Archaeological Priority as defined by Hillingdon Council and is situated on a northern slope at about 48m above Ordnance Datum, overlooking the River Pinn.

Three 16th century Grade II listed agricultural buildings lie in close proximity to the site, adjacent on Field End Road.

The evaluation, which consisted of three 15m x 2m trenches and one 5m x 2m trench sampled 2% of the Site. No archaeological features, deposits or structures were encountered during the evaluation.

THE RETREAT, 26 FIELD END ROAD, EASTCOTE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 LogicPlough Ltd commissioned Wessex Archaeology (London) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at the Retreat, 26 Field End Road, Eastcote, London Borough of Hillingdon (the Site) (Figure 1), centred on NGR 510706/188475.

1.2 Planning Background

1.2.1 Planning application (20111/APP/202/876) consent has been granted for the construction of residential accommodation consisting of four, two storey, detached houses.

1.2.2 However, a condition (11) of this consent stipulates that:

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

1.2.3 In accordance with this condition Wessex Archaeology submitted a Written Scheme of Investigation to the AA of GLAAS (Wessex Archaeology 2004: 58510.02) which was approved on 12th November 2004.

1.2.4 The Site lies immediately south of the dispersed medieval settlement at Eastcote, outside the Area of Archaeological Priority as defined by Hillingdon Council.

1.2.5 Three 16th century Grade II listed agricultural buildings lie in close proximity to the Site, adjacent on Field End Road.

1.2.6 The purpose of the evaluation was to help determine the need for mitigation of archaeological deposits in advance of development.

1.2.7 The recommended works were initially to comprise trial trenching of three 15m x 2m and one 10m x 2m trial trenches (Figure 1) totalling some 110m² or just over 2% of the Site. Conditions on the ground however required that Trench 4 be shortened to minimise disturbance to the roots of trees, bounding the access to the Site which are covered by a tree protection order. The area opened for inspection thus totalled some 100m², or 2% of the proposed development area.

1.3 Site Location

- 1.3.1 The Site covers an area of some 0.5Ha centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference 510706/188475.
- 1.3.2 The Site is roughly L shaped, located just to the north of the junction of Farthings close and Field End Road.

1.4 Landform, Geology and Soils

- 1.4.1 The Site lies on a north facing slope, at around 48m (aOD), overlooking the River Pinn to the north.
- 1.4.2 According to the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology consists of London clay over a substrate of mottled clay with sand and pebble beds of the Lambeth Group.

1.5 Archaeological Background

- 1.5.1 As outlined above (1.2.4) the Site lies in close proximity to known, extant, late medieval structures, and is just outside an area highlighted in the Local Development Plan as being archaeologically sensitive.

1.6 Aims and Objectives

- 1.6.1 The aims of the evaluation were to:
- Characterise the nature, date, extent and state of preservation of underlying archaeological deposits.
 - Identify the depth of burial (and thus the depth of sensitivity) of any underlying archaeological deposits or features.

2 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

2.1 Methodological Standards

2.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (1999).

2.2 Health and Safety

2.2.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety regulations 1992. All other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice, in force at the time, were observed and adhered to.

2.2.3 Wessex Archaeology was not made aware by the client of the presence of any underground services in the excavation area. As a precaution, the location of each trench was 'swept' with a Cable Avoidance Tool prior to trench excavation.

2.2.4 Wessex Archaeology prepared an H&S Risk Assessment.

2.3 Fieldwork

2.3.1 The evaluation comprised four machine-excavated trenches, sited within the footprint of the proposed development in locations agreed with the AA (**Figure 1**).

2.3.2 The evaluation trenches were excavated to archaeological/geological levels using a 180-degree wheeled machine, equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

2.3.3 All suspected archaeological features were investigated by hand and recorded on Wessex Archaeology pre-printed recording sheets. A photographic record consisting of digital images was also compiled.

2.3.4 All trenches were measured in with tapes from recognised boundaries and landmarks.

2.3.5 All the trenches were backfilled following agreement from the AA of GLAAS.

3 RESULTS

- 3.1.1 Of the four trenches excavated none revealed archaeological deposits, features, or structures of any kind.
- 3.1.2 A single cut feature, representing a modern field drain, (**301; 302**) was revealed in Trench 4.
- 3.1.3 Summary information of the deposits revealed in all trenches is presented in **Appendix 1**.

4 CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The evaluation revealed the absence of archaeological deposits and structures within the excavated trenches.

5 THE ARCHIVE

- 5.1.1 The project archive is held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology at Old Sarum, Salisbury, under the Wessex project code 57510. Following conclusion of the project it will be deposited at the appropriate museum or storage facility. The Museum of London site code is **FIE04**.

6 APPENDIX 1. TRENCH SUMMARY TABLES

Trench No. 1	Co-ordinates: 510687.1314/188488.5964 510700.8719/188494.6131	Dimensions: 15m x 2m Max.depth: 0.55m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
100	Dark brown, silty sandy clay with roots and occasional small stone inclusions.	0 – 0.3m
101	Mottled grey and orange silty clay.	0.3m – 0.45m
102	Mid orange, sticky, silty clay with medium rounded pebbles included in its matrix.	0.45m – L.O.E

Trench No. 2	Co-ordinates: 510717.0751/188489.8762 510723.0917/188476.1357	Dimensions: 15m x 2m Max.depth: 0.4m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
200	Reddish orange, mixed brick and demolition rubble.	0 – 0.2m
201	Mid brown silty clay	0.2m – 0.35m
202	Mid yellow, silty clay.	0.35m 0 - 0.40m

Trench No. 3	Co-ordinates: 510712.3769/188457.1528 510726.1174/188463.1694	Dimensions: 15m x 2m Max.depth: 0.5m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
300	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of roots, brick rubble and demolition debris.	0 – 0.45m
301	Cut of french drain. Not excavated.	0.45m +
302	Mid reddish brown brick rubble and broken stone, infill of french drain [301]	0.45m +
303	Mid yellow sticky, silty clay with white clay mottling	0.45m – L.O.E

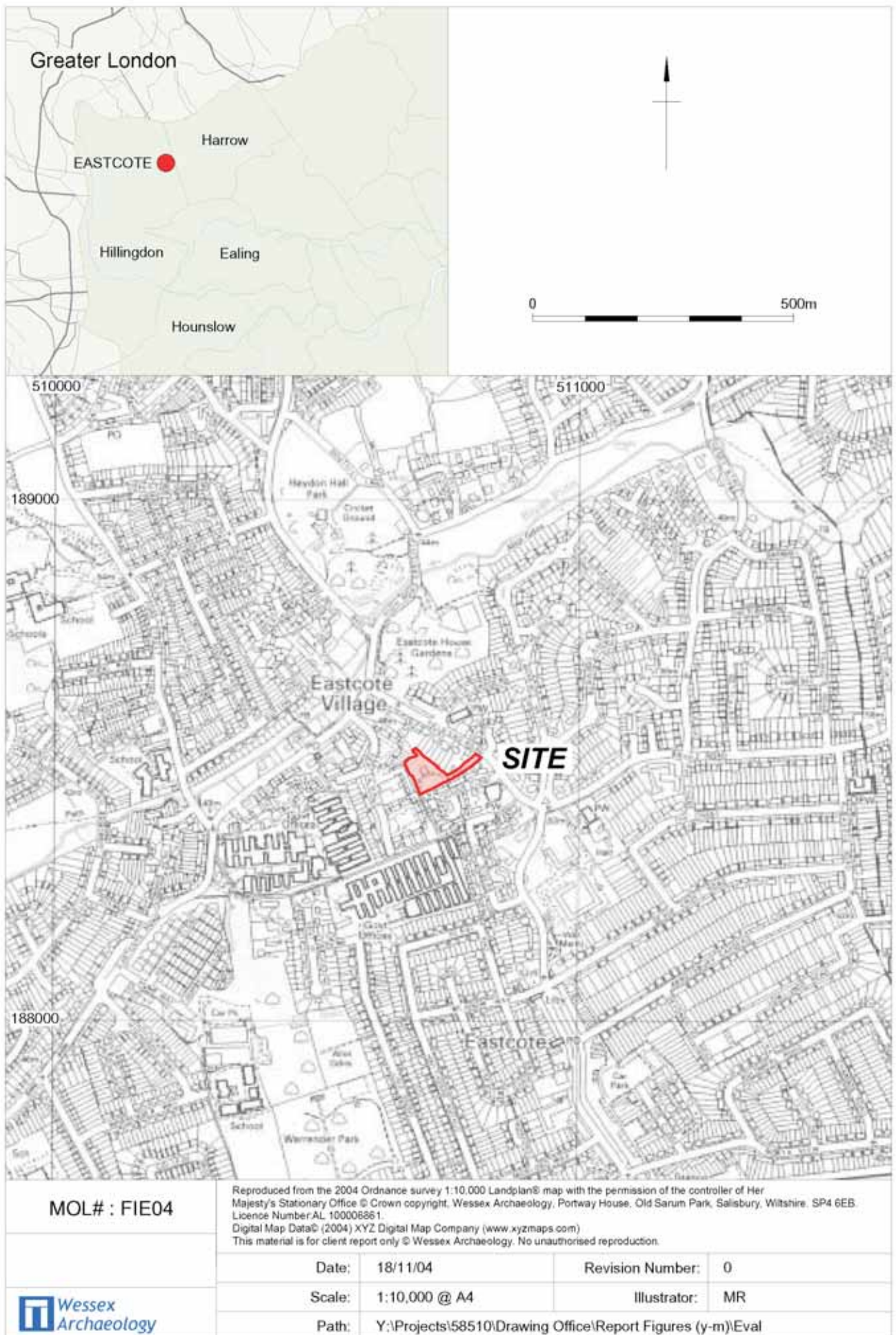
Trench No. 4	Co-ordinates: 510784.2768/188488.1507 510788.2197/188491.2254	Dimensions: 5m x 2m Max.depth: 0.75m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
401	Crushed reddish orange brick rubble and hardcore.	0 – 50mm
402	Asphalt	50mm – 0.15m
403	Broken and crushed reddish orange brick rubble and hardcore	0.15m – 0.45m
404	Mid yellow orange sticky clay	0.45m – 0.75m

All archaeological deposits/features shown in **bold**.

All (+) indicate deposits/features not fully excavated.

'Depth' equals depth from present ground surface.

L.O.E indicates Limit of Excavation



Site location map

Figure 1



Plate 1: General view of Trench 1 taken from west



Plate 2: General view of Trench 2 taken from north



Plate 3: General view of Trench 3 taken from west



Plate 4: General view of Trench 4 taken from east

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