Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton, Borough of Enfield, Phase 1

An Archaeological Evaluation

for Kennet Properties Ltd

by Jo Pine

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code PLK01

June 2001
Summary

Site name: Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton, London Borough of Enfield

Grid reference: TQ 3580 9310

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 29th May–7th June 2001

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Jo Pine

Site code: PLK01

Area of site: 16.5 ha

Summary of results: No archaeological remains were recorded in this preliminary phase of evaluation. The evaluation has provided information to indicate that the archaeologically relevant levels have survived across the site despite the presence of slurry lagoons. The evaluation has also indicated the presence of deposits with high palaeoenvironmental potential in the form of peat deposits and waterlogged organic remains

Monuments identified: None

Location and reference of archive: The site archive is presently held by Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd, 47–49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5NR. It is anticipated that the archive will be deposited with the Museum of London in due course.

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Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford 18.06.01
                      Steve Preston 18.06.01
Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton, London Borough of Enfield (TQ 3580 9310) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Robert Gist of Ridge Management, Beaumont House, 59 High Street, Theale, Reading, RG7, on behalf of Kennet Properties. Outline planning permission has been granted (TP/93/0244) for the construction of commercial units although the final layout has not yet been decided. In accordance with the Department of the Environment’s Policy and Planning Guidance Note, *Archaeology and Planning* (PPG 16 1990), a first phase of field investigation was requested to provide preliminary information about the broad distribution of relevant archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits across the site and to locate areas of the site which will require further detailed examination. This was requested, and the project specification recommended for approval, by Mr R Whytehead, of Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Enfield. The fieldwork was supervised by Jo Pine who was assisted by Lisa Hardy, Paul Lambert and Andy Taylor between the 29th of May and the 7th of June 2001. The site code is PLK01.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on a 16.5 ha parcel of land within the Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, off Ardra Road, Edmonton, to the south of the main sewage works complex (Fig. 1). The site is now disused but contains sludge stacking areas, emptied sludge lagoons, open grassland areas and numerous ancillary buildings. The site topography has been extensively modified with the construction of the sewage works. At the time of the evaluation the northern areas of the site lay between 11m and 12m above Ordnance Datum, the southern sludge lagoons at a height of between 9.5m and 10m, and the area in which Trench 3 was located (Fig. 2) at a height of approximately 9m above Ordnance Datum. The site lies on the floor of the valley of the river Lea, which is a major tributary of the Thames. The British Geological Survey shows the underlying geology comprising Kempton Park Gravels, which are buried beneath alluvium (silts and clays) on the eastern part of the site (BGS 1994).
**Archaeological background**

A desktop study for the environs of the site was carried out in 1995 (Lewis 1995). This study concluded that the site of Deephams lies in an area of high archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential.

For the earlier prehistoric periods, relatively few finds are recorded for the environs of the site. Finds of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic date only comprise sporadic flint and stone tools, though other parts of the Lea valley have produced more, and better-provenanced, finds and occupation sites.

Bronze Age finds are more frequent with the most distinctive finds comprising bronze metalwork. One of these pieces (a palstave) may be a utilitarian tool lost by accident, but finds of a rapier, spearhead and shield may reflect ceremonial or ritual deposition in a ‘watery place’. Occupation deposits are not recorded but a cremation burial and a wooden pile structure probably reflect some form of occupation. Recent and on-going fieldwork in the valley several kilometres to the north of the site, at Rammey Marsh has revealed evidence for a complex of occupation and land division of Bronze Age date (WA 1997).

For the Iron Age, several finds of prestigious metalwork are again likely to reflect ritual deposition in sacred watery places, but finds of pottery and late Iron Age coins represent some occupation in the area.

The Roman period is well represented within the study area with an emphasis along the corridor of the Roman road from London to Lincoln, which lies to the west of the site. Finds of pottery, coins and metalwork are present elsewhere, indicating widespread use of the landscape at this time.

For the Saxon period, finds from the environs of the site are not well represented but there are settlements at Edmonton and Lower Hall Lane. This pattern contrasts with the medieval period when a large number of finds and sites are known. The site of Deephams Manor house lay just to the north of proposal site beneath the retained area of the sewage works.

The desktop study included an examination of the large number of boreholes both on the site and in neighbouring areas which allowed the topography underlying the made ground to be mapped and assessed. This study revealed the presence of probable gravel ‘islands’ in the area, including the proposal site here, with deeper areas of alluvium and peat. The gravel ‘islands’ are a significant topographic feature of low-lying land as they are relatively dry when adjacent areas are flooded. In the fenlands of eastern England, large ‘gravel islands’ occupying tens of hectares have been preferentially occupied in both prehistoric and historic times (Hall 1987). For the Lea Valley, smaller areas of gravel islands, perhaps even gravel ‘bars’ would be anticipated. Low-lying, riparian locations were preferentially settled and utilized in Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic times (e.g., Clark 1976) and on a local basis, areas of slightly higher ground would be selected for occupation and task-specific activities such as butchery.
The borehole study also indicated that alluvium above the gravel bedrock was present over most areas of the site. Much alluvium deposited during episodes of overbank flooding within the Thames basin is relatively late in date (Iron Age and later) and relates to various factors affecting drainage such as a rising sea level and increased run off due to deforestation (Lambrick and Robinson 1984). As such, most deposits of archaeological interest lie beneath such alluvium. However, the early deposition of alluvium is attested at many sites (e.g., Lewis 1989; Lewis et al. 1992) with archaeological deposits both beneath, within, and on top of this alluvium.

**Watching brief**

A watching brief took place between January and March 2001 during the process of emptying the sludge lagoons on the southern third of the site. During this watching brief no finds earlier than the 19th century were noted, with 20th-century pottery, clay pipe and glass fragments being observed. Apart from one small area in the eastern lagoon, which had been disturbed, the remainder of the gravel had retained its cover of alluvium.

**Objectives and methodology**

The purpose of the phase 1 evaluation was to provide preliminary information about the broad distribution of relevant archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits across the site and to determine the date, nature, extent and state of preservation of these deposits. This information was to inform a mitigation strategy when details of the location and foundation of proposed new structures were available. It is intended that areas of potential highlighted by this first phase of work will then be targeted by a further evaluation.

The specific research aims of the phase 1 evaluation were;

a) To determine if archaeologically relevant layers have survived on site given that parts of the site have been heavily developed.

b) To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present.

c) To determine if deposits have survived on the site which may be a valuable source for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction.

d) To determine the depth at which archaeological deposits are present and whether these can be preserved *in situ* by a foundation design solution.

The agreed scheme was to comprise the excavation of seven trenches, 40m long and 3m wide at their base. The provisional trench locations were influenced by a combination of the following factors:
a) To target those areas of the site where the model of the predicted subsurface contours (Lewis 1995) indicated
the presence of infilled channels and adjacent areas of higher ground which may have been preferentially settled;
b) To provide spatial coverage of the site as a whole as deposits of archaeological interest may be present
throughout the landscape.
c) To avoid known areas where deep truncation of the relevant underlying strata has occurred in recent times and
to avoid areas of contamination.

In the event, due to the presence of live services, buried concrete and contamination, eleven trenches were excavated
5.3–54.20m long and 2–3.60m wide. These were excavated using a 360° machine fitted with a toothless ditching
bucket. The alluvial deposits were removed in spits not exceeding 0.30m and the surface of each spit was examined
for finds and cut features. This work was conducted under direct and continuous archaeological supervision and the
spoilheaps were monitored for finds. Archaeological and potential archaeological deposits were hand cleaned. A
complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in
Appendix 1.

Results

Trench 1
This was located in the north-western part of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned approximately north-south and was 15m
long, 3m wide and 1.20m deep. Concrete and made ground 0.45m deep overlay mottled grey/brown clay 0.60m
deep. This layer, in the middle segment of the trench, was truncated by modern service runs. The clay was removed
at the northern and southern ends of the trench to reveal a light grey sandy clay layer 0.15m deep, which in turn
overlay iron stained gravels and sands, encountered at 10.06m above OD.

Trench 2
This was located within the western former sludge lagoon and was aligned approximately east–west. This was dug in
segments in order to control water ingress and was 13.20m long, 3.60m wide and between 1m and 1.80m deep. Mid
orange/brown clay between 0.20m and 0.50m deep overlay a mid grey/brown clay 0.50m deep. This sealed an
organic clay layer with twig fragments between 0.10m and 0.30m deep, onto a thin layer of peat 0.25–0.35m deep,
onto gravel. The gravel sloped gently down from 8.28m OD at the eastern end of the trench to 7.44m OD at the
western end of the trench.
Trench 3 (Plate 1)

This was located in the north-western part of the site and was aligned approximately NE–SW. Due to the problems of access and the presence of a stream, this trench was 21m in length, 2.30m wide and between 1.50m and 1.90m deep. A turf line 0.10m deep overlay made ground 1.15m deep. This overlay a thin layer of decaying grass/organic material which appeared to be a buried recent land surface. This was 0.05m deep and overlay a mid grey silty clay layer which was 0.20m deep. This, at the northern end of the trench, overlay gravels, which were exposed at depth of 7.31m OD. At the southern part of the trench a thin layer of yellow sand 0.10m deep overlay gravel which was exposed at 7.29m above OD.

Trench 4

This was aligned approximately east–west and was 40m long, 3m wide and 2m deep. Tarmac and made ground 0.45m deep were removed to reveal buried concrete. This was 0.10m deep and overlay another layer of made ground 0.35m deep. This in turn overlay a blue/orange clay 0.80m deep in which a number of live service pipes were observed. Beneath the clays gravel was exposed at 9.65m above OD.

Trench 5

This was located within the western former sludge lagoon and was aligned approximately north–south. This trench was dug in segments to control water ingress but in total was 54m long, 3.60m wide and between 0.70m and 1.25m deep. The sequence of deposits varied along the trench.

At the southern end of the trench from 0–16.20m the stratigraphy comprised a greyish brown clay 0.20m deep which overlay orange brown clay 0.25m deep, which sealed a layer of light grey clay 0.05m deep. This overlay a thin peat layer 0.30m deep (maximum) onto a thin grey clay layer, 0.10m deep onto gravel and sand at 8.40m above OD. To the north of this segment the peat layer thinned out and the gravels rose gently to 8.90m above OD at 16.20m.

At 18m to 25m grey clay 0.70m deep lay directly over gravel exposed at 8.90m above OD. Between 25m and 40.20m alluvial clays 0.60–0.70m deep overlay a peaty clay layer between 0.15m and 0.25m deep above gravel. This gravel was revealed at 8.50m above OD.

Between 40.20m and 45m from the southern end of the trench the sequence of layers was orange clay 0.20m deep onto light brown silty clay 0.25m deep over dark brown silty sand 0.20m deep. This overlay a light yellow/brown sand layer with shell fragments, 0.30m deep, onto a peat layer 0.15–0.20m deep. This was not consistent in depth within this section of trench but infilled a hollow in the grey sandy silt layer below, which was 0.20m deep and sealed the gravel. These gravels were exposed at approximately 8.10m above OD beneath the peat and sands.
The far northern segment of the trench showed a slightly different sequence of deposits. A mid grey/brown clay 0.25m deep overlay yellow clay 0.10m deep. This sealed a yellow/brown sandy clay 0.20m deep, which sealed a peat deposit, which again was not uniform in depth but filled a hollow in the underlying gravels revealed at 8.10m above OD.

**Trench 6 (Plate 2)**

This was located in the eastern sludge lagoon and was aligned approximately NW–SE. This was also dug in segments to control water ingress and was 38.40m in length, 3m wide and between 0.85m and 1.40m deep. Bands of clays between 0.80m and 1.00m deep were removed to reveal a peat layer sloping down from the north-west and south-east to a maximum depth of 0.45m deep onto gravel and sand. The underlying gravels thus sloped from 8.70m above OD at the north-western and south-eastern ends of the trench to a depth of 8.10m above OD in the middle of the trench.

**Trench 7**

This was located in the eastern part of the site and was aligned approximately north-south due to the presence of a large service pipe and access. This trench was 6m long, 2.50m wide and 1.30m deep. Decayed concrete and made ground 0.30m deep were removed to expose a dark grey clay 0.30m deep, which overlay a light orange/brown clay 0.45m deep. This in turn sealed a light grey/brown clay 0.20m deep, which sealed a very thin band of peat 0.10m to 0.15m deep, which overlay gravel. The gravel was exposed at 8.80m above OD.

**Trench 8**

This was located within the western former sludge lagoon and was aligned approximately east–west. It was 20.50m long, 3.60m wide and between 0.20m and 1.20m deep. At the eastern end of the trench sealed by a thin layer of made ground was a modern pit cutting alluvial clay. This pit contained modern glass and china. At the far western part of the trench, again cutting the surface of the clay, was a linear feature. This appeared to be edged by wood and infilled with a lime-based substance and again contained 20th-century pottery. In the remainder of the trench orange/brown clay 0.60m deep overlay a dark grey clay with peaty fragments within which was 0.20m deep. This in turn overlay a thin band of grey clayey sand 0.15m deep onto gravel and sand. The gravel/sand was revealed at 8.30–8.40m OD.

**Trench 9**

This was aligned north–south and was aborted after 6m due to the presence of buried services. The section revealed layers of made ground 0.70m deep overlying a mottled light orange/brown clay, 0.42m deep, which in turn overlay a dark grey/brown clay layer which was 0.15m deep. This layer sealed a dark grey/brown sandy clay layer 0.15m deep which overlay sand and gravel at a depth of 8.82m above OD.
Trench 10
This was located slightly to the north of Trench 9 and was also aligned north–south but was foreshortened due to the proximity of contaminated land to the north. This trench was 5.35m long, 2m wide and 1.80m deep. Made ground 0.60m deep sealed a mottled light orange/brown clay 0.60m deep over a dark brown clay 0.20m deep. This layer overlay a dark grey/brown sandy clay which was 0.22m deep which sealed sands and gravels, seen at a depth of 8.42m above OD.

Trench 11
This was located close to Trench 7 and aligned east–west. Concrete and made ground, 0.25m–0.30 m deep, overlay dark brown/grey clay 0.60m deep. At the eastern end of the trench this sealed a linear feature (1), filled with thick grey clay 0.20m deep, which appeared to cut a thin orange sandy clay layer. On reflection, this now appears to have been a natural feature caused by fluvial action. Below the orange sandy clay layer, 0.20m deep, was a layer of mottled grey/brown clayey sand which had numerous shell fragments within it and small fragments of tufa and peat lenses. At a distance of 6m from the western end of this trench, lying within this clayey sand layer, was a tree hole containing a well-preserved tree root of Birch (see below).

At the western end of the trench, below the dark brown/grey clay, a thin band of peat was observed, 0.30m deep, which in turn overlay a yellow sandy clay layer, 0.20m in depth. This sealed the gravels, which were approximately 8.30m above OD.

Finds
No finds pre-dating the late 19th century were observed.

Palaeoenvironmental assessment
A sample column was taken from Trench 5 through the strata that included both peat and alluvial deposits. The sediments have been briefly examined by Dr Michael Keith-Lucas of Reading University Department of Plant Science, who has provided provisional comments pending more detailed examination (Table 1).

Table 1: Provisional examination of column from Trench 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement from 8.09m above OD to 9.13m above OD</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pollen zones and climatic periods</th>
<th>Approximate date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top of gravels 8.09m OD 0–0.23m</td>
<td>Brown sandy silt</td>
<td>Pre-Boreal</td>
<td>9000BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.23m–0.43m</td>
<td>Black peat with wood</td>
<td>Boreal</td>
<td>8000BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.42–0.85m</td>
<td>Orange brown sand with black sand streaks</td>
<td>0.42–0.63Atlantic/late Boreal 0.63–0.85 Atlantic</td>
<td>7000BC 6000BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.85m–1.04m</td>
<td>Grey brown silty clay/alluvium</td>
<td>Sub Boreal</td>
<td>5000BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.04m+</td>
<td>Alluvium (truncated)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4000BC+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample of root from tree hole in Trench 11

A sample of tree trunk taken from the tree hole found on the surface of the gravels in Trench 11 was examined microscopically. It was identified as Birch (*Betula* sp.) due to the presence of diffuse porous, scalariform end plates, uniseriate and biseriate rays and homogeneous rays.

**Conclusion**

No archaeological features or finds were recovered during this first phase of evaluation. It has to be highlighted that the extent of the site area examined (c. 0.43%) and the small number of points sampled (due to the use of large, wide trenches) would not normally be sufficient to state with reasonable confidence that no deposits of archaeological significance were present. The deposition of the alluvium and peat growth for the lowest levels of the site are likely to have taken place early in the post-glacial period. Our knowledge of prehistoric sites for that period, limited though it is, shows that they are most often represented by dense clusters of struck flints which are of restricted spatial extent. This type of site is difficult to locate with a low sample fraction especially if it also consists of a small number of sample points.

However, the evaluation has achieved one important objective, which was to provide information on the nature, depth and survival and distribution of deposits of archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential on the site. The evaluation has shown that, although the site has been heavily developed, the relevant archaeological and palaeoenvironmental strata have, by and large, survived over large parts of the site. Alluvial coverage of the gravel appears to be present across the whole site and at least for the former slurry lagoon areas the initial watching brief indicated the presence of such alluvium *in situ* across the whole area. Peat deposits were encountered in Trenches 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11 and these deposits have high potential for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction, primarily using pollen analysis. There is a strong probability that this peat formed in the Boreal conditions of the Mesolithic period.

The evaluation trenches have revealed variations in the absolute heights of the gravel and sand across the site, which may indicate the presence of gravel islands. Gravel in the north-western portion of the site (Trench 1) was recorded at 10.06m AOD, whereas for Trench 3, about 100m to the south, gravel was recorded at about 7.3m AOD. A height of about 9.6m AOD was recorded in Trench 4. However, the height variations are, for most of the area, not marked and there is height variation within some trenches which is greater than that found between adjacent trenches. For example, in Trench 6 the height varied between 8.1m and 8.7m AOD, which is about the same range as that between Trenches 7 and 11 where gravel was recorded at 8.3m and 8.8m AOD respectively. This suggests that the
height differences observed have revealed either gravel islands of small vertical and spatial extent, or that the gravel on the site should be regarded as one undulating gravel surface rather than more marked areas of high gravel adjacent to low-lying channels. Yet the presence of some areas containing peat deposits or organic muds does indicate some areas where lower, wetter land is present with, presumably, higher, drier land nearby.

The deposits of peat and alluvium revealed in the first phase of evaluation here are clearly an area where an early, buried riparian landscape is present, and one which could very well have been exploited in early post-glacial times. A recent review of archaeology in Greater London (MoLAS 2000, 56) has again highlighted our lack of knowledge of the period spanning the Upper Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic transition, but has pointed out the high potential for the buried landscapes of this general period within the valley of the Thames and its tributaries such as the Lea. The location and excavation of deposits representing occupation or task-specific sites of these early periods, combined with potential organic preservation and sources for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction, are important national research objectives (EH 1991; 1997, 46).

References

Hall, D, 1987, Fenland Project 2, Cambridgeshire Survey, Peterborough to March, E Anglian Archaeol 35
PPG 16, 1990, Archaeology and Planning, Department of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, HMSO
### APPENDIX 1: Trench details

**0m at S or W end**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trench</th>
<th>Length (m)</th>
<th>Breadth (m)</th>
<th>Depth (m)</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.90–1.20</td>
<td>Concrete and made ground 0.45m deep overlay mottled grey brown clay 0.60m deep. The clay was removed at the northern and southern ends of the trench to reveal a light grey sandy clay layer 0.15m deep which in turn overlay stained gravels and sands, encountered at 10.06m above OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>13.20</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>1.00–1.70</td>
<td>Alluvial clays between 0.60m and 0.90m overlay a organic clay layer with twig fragments between 0.10m and 0.30m deep onto a thin layer of peat 0.25–0.35m deep onto gravel. The gravel sloped gently down from 8.28m OD at the eastern end of the trench to 7.44m OD at the western end of the trench.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>1.50–1.90</td>
<td>A turf line 0.10m deep overlay made ground 1.15m deep. This overlay a thin layer of decaying grass/organic material, 0.05m deep. This overlay a mid grey silty clay layer which was 0.20m deep. This at the northern end of the trench overlay gravels which were exposed at depth of 7.31m OD. At the southern part of the trench a thin layer of yellow sand 0.10m deep overlay gravel which was exposed at 7.29m above OD. [Plate 1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>Tarmac and made ground 0.45m deep was removed to reveal buried concrete. This was 0.10m deep and overlay another layer of made ground 0.35m deep. This in turn overlay a bluish orange clay 0.80m deep in which a number of live service pipes were observed. Beneath the clays gravel was exposed at a depth of 9.65m above OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>54.20</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>0.70–1.20</td>
<td>At the southern end of the trench; 0m-16.20m; greyish brown clay 0.20m deep overlay orange brown clay 0.25m deep which sealed a layer of light grey clay 0.05m deep onto a thin peat layer 0.30m deep (max) onto a thin grey clay layer 0.10m deep onto gravel and sand at 8.40m OD. At 18m to 25m alluvial clay 0.70m deep lay directly onto gravel exposed at 8.90m above OD. Between 25m to 40.20m alluvial clays 0.60–0.70m deep overlay a peaty clay layer between 0.15m and 0.25m deep onto gravel. This gravel was revealed at 8.50m above OD. Between 40.20m and 45m from the southern end of the trench the sequence of layers was orange clay 0.20m deep onto light brown sandy clay 0.25m deep over dark brown blackish silty sand 0.20m deep. This overlay a light yellow brown sand layer with shell fragments which was 0.30m deep which in turn overlay a peat layer 0.15–0.20m deep which was not consistent in depth within this section of trench but infilled a hollow in the gravels below. These gravels were exposed at 8.00m above OD beneath the peat and sands. The far northern segment of trench showed a slightly different sequence of deposits. A mid grey brown clay 0.25m deep overlay yellow clay 0.10m deep which in turn sealed a yellowish brown sandy clay 0.20m deep which sealed a peat deposit which again was not uniform in depth but filled a hollow in the underlying gravels which were revealed at 8.10m above OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>38.40</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.80–1.40</td>
<td>Alluvial clays between 0.80m and 1.00m deep onto a peat layer which sloped down from the north-west and south-east to a maximum depth of 0.45m deep onto gravel and sand. The underlying gravels thus sloped from 8.70m above OD at the north-western and south-eastern ends of the trench to a depth of 8.10m above OD in the middle of the trench. [Plate 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>Decayed concrete and made ground 0.30m deep onto dark grey clay 0.30m deep which overlay a light orange brown clay 0.45 m deep. This in turn sealed a light grey brown clay 0.20m deep which sealed a very thin band of peat 0.10m to 0.15m deep which overlay gravel. The gravel was exposed at 8.80m above OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>20.50</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>0.20–1.30</td>
<td>Made ground 0.20m sealed two modern pits and a orange brown clay 0.60m deep. This overlay a dark grey clay with peaty fragments in it which was 0.20 m deep, onto a thin band of grey clayey sand 0.15m deep onto gravel and sand. The gravel/sand was revealed at 8.30–8.40m OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>Made ground 0.70m deep overlaying a mottled light orange brown clay, 0.42m deep, which in turn overlay a dark grey brown clay layer which was 0.15m deep. This layer sealed a dark grey brown sandy clay layer 0.15m deep which overlay sand and gravel which was at a depth of 8.82m above OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>5.35</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>Made ground 0.60m deep sealed a mottled light orange brown clay 0.60m deep over a dark brown clay 0.20m deep. This layer overlay a dark grey brown sandy clay which was 0.22m deep which sealed sands and gravels, seen at a depth of 8.42m above OD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>1.25–1.70</td>
<td>Concrete and made ground 0.25–0.30 m deep overlay dark brown grey clay 0.60m deep. Below the orange sandy clay layer,0.20m deep, was a layer of a mottled grey/brown clayey sand which had numerous shell fragments within it and small fragments of tufa and peat lens. Six metres from the western end of this trench lying within this clayey sand layer was a tree hole containing a well preserved tree root of Birch. At the western end of the trench below the dark brown grey clay, a thin band of peat was observed, 0.30m deep, which in turn overlay a yellow sandy clay layer which was 0.20m in depth. This sealed the gravels which were approximately 8.30m above OD.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX 2: GLSMR/RCHME NAR Archaeological Report Form

1. TYPE OF RECORDING
Evaluation phase 2

2. LOCATION
Borough: Enfield
Address: Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton
Name: Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton
Site Code: PLK01
National Grid Refs: TQ 3600 9300  Centre of site: TQ 3600 9300

3. ORGANISATION
Name of archaeological unit: Thames Valley Archaeological Services
Address: 47-49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5NR
Site director/supervisor: Jo Pine
Project manager: S Ford
Funded by: Kennet Properties

4. DURATION
Date fieldwork started: 29/05/2001
Date finished: 7/6/2001
Fieldwork previously notified? y/n: Yes
Fieldwork will continue? y/n/ not known: N/A

5. PERIODS REPRESENTED
Palaeolithic: - Possible Landscape  Roman: -
Mesolithic: - Possible Landscape  Saxon (pre-AD 1066): -
Neolithic:  Medieval(1066-1485): -
Bronze Age:  Post-Medieval: - Yes
Iron Age: -  Unknown: -

6. PERIOD SUMMARY (use headings for each period (ROMAN;MEDIEVAL; ETC.) and additional sheets if necessary).
Gravel Surfaces sealed by probable Mesolithic peat.
7. **NATURAL** -

Type: Kempton Park Gravel

**Height above Ordnance Datum:** 8.5m-10.5m

8. **LOCATION OF ARCHIVES**

a) Please tick those categories still in your possession:

- **Notes Yes**
- **Plans Yes**
- **Photos Yes**
- **Negatives Yes**
- **Slides Yes**
- **Correspondence Yes**
- **MScripts (unpublished reports, etc.) All**

b) All records will be deposited in the following museum, record office, etc. Museum of London

c) **Approximate year of transfer:** unknown

d) **Location of any copies:** Microfiche copy to be deposited with RCHME, and one to be kept by TVAS

e) **Has a security copy of the archive been made? y/n:** No, but will be microfiched in due course

If not, do you wish RCHME to consider microfilming? y/n: no

9. **LOCATION OF FINDS:**

a) In your possession (All/Some/None):

b) All finds will be deposited with the following museum: Museum of London

c) **Approximate, year of transfer:** unknown

10. **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

**SIGNED:**

**DATE:** 19th June 2001
Figure 1. Location of site within Enfield and Greater London.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Pathfinder 1140 TQ2039 1:25000
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Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton, London Borough of Enfield, 2001

Figure 2: Trench Location plans. Levels are for height of ground above Ordnance Datum.
Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Ardra Road, Edmonton, London Borough of Enfield, 2001

**Trench 2**
- Orange/brown clay
- Mid grey/brown clay
- Light brown organic clay
- Peaty silty clay
- Gravel

**Trench 5**
- Orange/brown clay
- Dark brown silty clay
- Peat
- Gravel

**Trench 6**
- Orange/brown clay
- Mid grey/brown clay
- Dark black/brown clay
- Yellow/brown clay
- Peat
- Gravel

**Trench 8**
- Made ground
- Orange/brown clay
- Peaty clay
- Grey clay/sandy

**Trench 9**
- Made ground
- Orange/brown clay
- Grey brown clay
- Brown sandy clay
- Sand

**Trench 11**
- Made ground
- Dark grey/brown clay
- Medium grey clay
- Peat
- Yellow sandy clay

Figure 3. Selected sections.