



**Archaeology West - Contract No.C254**  
**Archaeological Works at Paddington Eastbourne Terrace**  
 Interim Report on Trench Evaluation  
**Document Number: C254-OXF-T1-RGN-CRG03-50098**

**Document History:**

Revision:	Date:	Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:	Reason for Issue:
2.0	08-11-12	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Acceptance

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Revision:	Date:	Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:	Reason for Issue:
1.0	17-10-12	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Acceptance

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Fig 1: Trench location plan and location of observations of potential pleistocene deposits

## SUMMARY

*In September 2012 Oxford Archaeology/Ramboll (OAR) carried out a field evaluation in Eastbourne terrace, Paddington. The fieldwork was undertaken on behalf of Crossrail during works related to the expansion of the present Paddington station to incorporate a new ticket hall and entrance for the Crossrail line. The evaluation consisting of two trenches identified substantial made ground overlying brick earth and gravel deposits. Sands and tufa rich clay deposit of probable Pleistocene date were identified in one of the trenches. No artefacts or ecofacts were visible in these deposits.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Scope of work

In September 2012 Oxford Archaeology/Ramboll carried out a Trench Evaluation in Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington, Westminster London.

A Site Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (SSWSI) for the work was produced by Crossrail (Document No: C130-SWN-Z-RSI-B071-00001 (VER. 9.0, 05 Sept 11)). In response OAR/Ramboll produced an Archaeology Method Statement (C254-OXF-W-GMS-CRG01-00003 rev 4 – 04/09/12) which was approved by the Crossrail Project Archaeologist and the principle contractor Costain Skanska.

This report is an Interim Statement, rapidly produced following the completion of site works in order to quickly disseminate the outline results of the investigation. The detail of its contents is commensurate with the limited timeframe of its production. A full fieldwork report will be produced for the works in due course.

#### 1.2 Background information to the works

A description of the site, its location, a summary of previous studies, the geology and topography of the area, the archaeological and historical development to the site, the deposit survival model and the results of utility monitoring are contained in the SSWSI C130-SWN-Z-RSI-B071-00001 rev 9 Sections 2.3 – 2.7 and AMS C254-OXF-W-GMS-CRG01-00003 rev 4 Sections 1.2 to 1.4. These are not reproduced here but will be edited for inclusion in the full fieldwork report.

#### 1.3 Methodology

The trenches were machine excavated under archaeological monitoring to a depth of c 5 m below existing ground surface. Deposits were monitored for artefacts and ecofacts and variation from the strata of London Clay overlain by Lynch Hill gravels and Langley Silts. In the absence of artefacts or ecofacts manual access was not carried out and strata profiles were produced from ground level.

#### 1.4 Aims and objectives

Generic aims and objectives are set out in the AMS C254-OXF-W-GMS-CRG01-0003 rev 4 and not reproduced here. Specifically the works aimed to identify the presence or

absence of potential Pleistocene deposits and the presence or absence of artefacts or ecofacts with in any such deposits if present.

## 2. RESULTS

*All levels in this interim report are quoted in metres Above Tunnel Datum (m ATD). Tunnel Datum is calculated as being 100m above Ordnance Datum e.g. 1m OD = 101m ATD*

### 2.1 Trench 1

Trench1 measured 4 x 2m and was excavated to a depth of 5 m below existing ground level.

At the base of excavation (121.77m ATD) Lynch Hill Terrace Gravels were exposed and excavated until the 5m depth limit of the trench. These were overlain by Brick Earth/Langlely Silts to a height of 123.47 m ATD. The upper 3m of strata was modern overburden including redeposited natural and the existing hardstanding deposits.

### 2.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 4 x 2m and was excavated to a depth of 5 m below existing ground level. In Trench 2 the stratigraphic sequence comprised fine sands at the limit of excavation (c 121.45 m ATD) These were overlain by a 0.5 m thick deposit of stiff-brown tufa rich clay which in turn was overlain by 2.7 m of modern made ground/embankment.



### **3. DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS**

Trench 2 revealed probable Pleistocene deposits at 121.95 m ATD to a depth greater than 121.45 m ATD. Further probable Pleistocene and alluvial clay deposits in the Paddington Station area are illustrated on Figure 1. These are:

- MOLA TP 1 - Silty sands and gravels were noted in a MoLA watching brief (Report: Crossrail EWMA Archaeological Monitoring of ground investigations Enabling Works, Departures Road, Paddington Station, PAD-0122 Report on the watching brief. March 2010) at between 120.58 m ATD and 121.58 m ATD
- A clay alluvial deposit was noted in the Departures Road guide wall trench during the ongoing watching brief
- Laminated sands and silty gravels were recorded in the Basement Clash Trench to the west of Macmillan House during the current watching brief.

These deposits may indicate a topographical feature of Pleistocene date underling the south east part of the proposed construction area for the Crossrail Paddington Station. If present this has the potential to contain preserved Pleistocene archaeological remains including humanoid and faunal assemblages, environmental indicators and Palaeolithic artefacts.

### **4. RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER WORK**

It is recommended that a General Watching Brief should be maintained on the bulk extraction works in Eastbourne Terrace. This should be aimed at retrieving an understanding of the alignment and character in plan of the Pleistocene deposits as well as monitoring for the presence of ecofacts and artefacts within the deposits. A mechanism should also be put in place for the upgrading of the General Watching Brief to a Targeted Watching Brief and full excavation should ecofacts or artefacts be identified during extraction. Any such remains will require retrieval and recording of the associated strata

The trenching works and watching brief works to-date seem to indicate the presence of Pleistocene deposits to the east and south of Eastbourne Terrace (at just below 122 m ATD) but has not conclusively proved the absence of such deposits to the north west. Therefore the General Watching Brief should be across the whole extraction area until such time as the limits of the deposits have been identified in plan.

## **APPENDIX SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

**Client name:** Crossrail

**Site name:** Paddington Eastbourne Terrace Trenches

**Site code:** XSD10

**Type of evaluation:** Trench Evaluation

**Date of project:** September 2012

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at Oxford Archaeology, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with LAARC in due course.



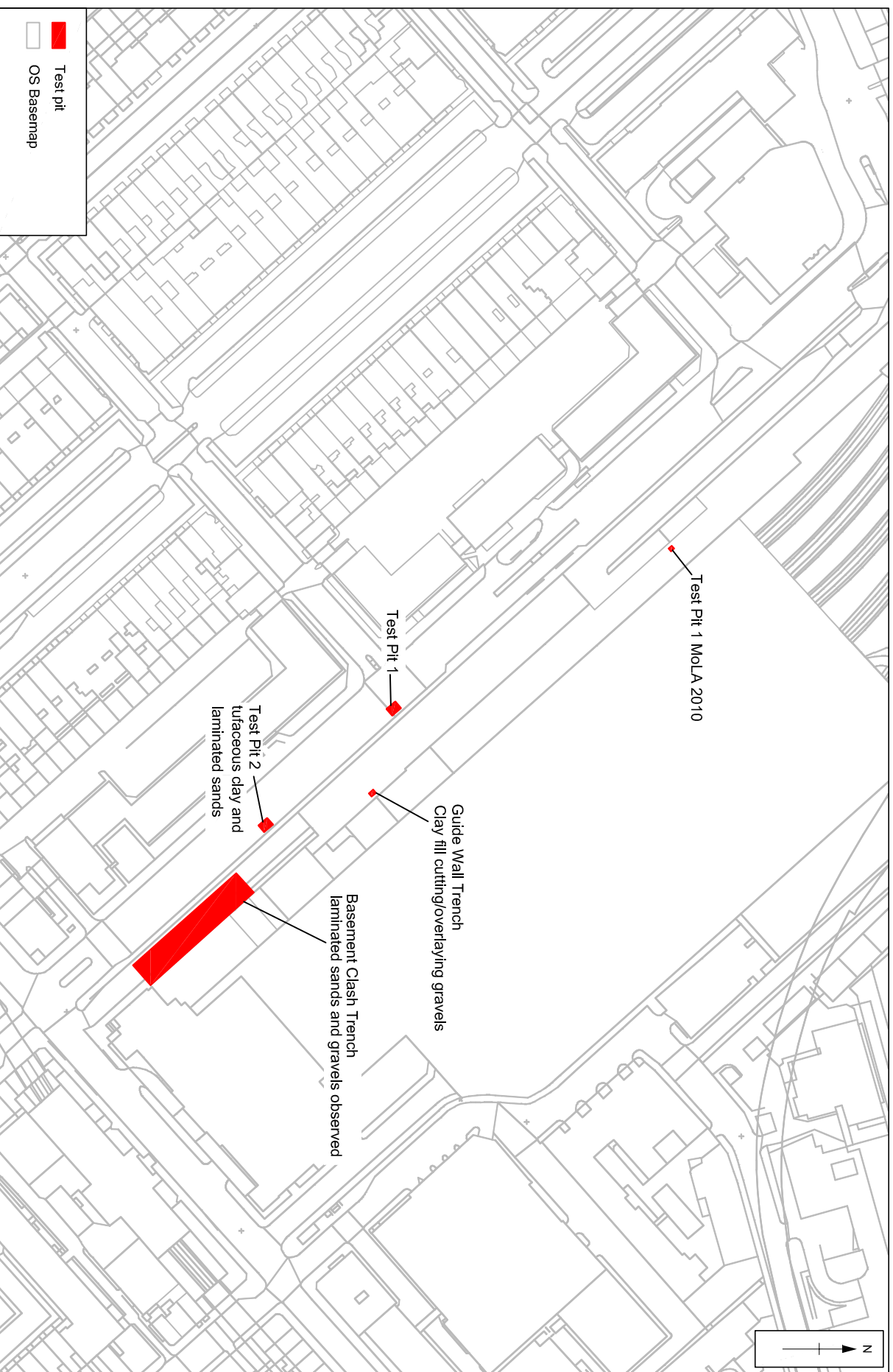


Figure 1: Trench location plan and location of observations of potential pleistocene deposits