2–4A Rotherfield Road
Carshalton
London Borough of Sutton

Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

for
Martin Grant Homes

CA Project: 9143
CA Report: 13094

Sept 2013
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Carshalton
London Borough of Sutton

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and
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CA Project: 9143
CA Report: 13094

Author: Simon Carlyle
Approved: Martin Watts
Signed: 

Issue: 02 Date: 13 September 2013

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SUMMARY

Site Name: 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton
Location: London Borough of Sutton
NGR: TQ 2826 6451
Type: Excavation and watching brief
Date: February 2012
Location of archive: Finds assemblage to be retained by the client, flint assemblage to be donated to the local primary school; site archive currently held by Cotswold Archaeology.
Site Code: ROT11

A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February 2012 at the request of Martin Grant Homes at 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton. In compliance with an approved WSI (CA 2012), two areas totalling 400m² were excavated within the development area, and a watching brief was maintained across the remainder of the site during development.

The excavations revealed paired prehistoric ditches in both areas, which probably marked the boundary to a double-ditched enclosure. The only dating evidence recovered from the ditches was an assemblage of over 200 pieces of worked flint, of probable Neolithic or Bronze Age date. Two ditches of probable medieval date were also recorded, as was at least one ditch representing a boundary feature to Carshalton Park, an extensive 18th-century landscaped park of which very little now survives.

This document presents a quantification and assessment of the evidence recovered from the excavation. It considers the evidence collectively in its local, regional and national context, and presents an updated project design for limited further research to bring the results to appropriate publication.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During February 2012 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation and watching brief at 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton (centred on NGR: TQ 2826 6451; Fig. 1). The work was undertaken on behalf of Martin Grant Homes in accordance with a requirement for archaeological mitigation works requested by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), the archaeological advisors to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2012b) and approved by the LPA acting on the advice of GLAAS. The fieldwork also followed the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (IfA 2008a), Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 2008b), the English Heritage procedural documents Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (EH 1991) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager’s Guide (EH 2006) and the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work (GLAAS 2009). Site work was monitored by Diane Abrams (GLAAS).

Location, topography and geology

1.2 The site comprises a roughly trapezoidal block of land of approximately 0.28ha (Fig. 1). Formerly occupied by four recently demolished houses, it is bounded to the north by garages belonging to properties fronting on to High Street, to the east by Rotherfield Road, to the south by All Saints’ Carshalton Church of England Primary School, and to the west by a semi-redundant stream or water channel (Fig. 2). The site had been largely cleared of demolition material, although there were spreads of compacted rubble covering the footprints of the former buildings, and other parts of the site were extensively overgrown with colonising shrubs and weeds. The ground is flat, at c. 39m above Ordnance Datum, although locally there is a general fall to the north, towards the River Wandle.

1.3 The geological substrate is Cretaceous chalk, of the Upper Chalk Formation, overlain by deposits of glacial Head (BGS 2012) Locally this was covered with alluvial deposits of mid grey silty clay, succeeded by mid yellow silty sand containing chalk pebbles and flint nodules. In Area 1, the alluvial deposits were overlain by a naturally formed, loose layer of flint cobbles. These alluvial deposits had a combined thickness of up to 0.7m. Overlying these deposits in the central and western parts of the site was a thick layer of garden soil, in places up to 1m thick.
1.4 The eastern part of the site had been truncated by the foundations of the 19th-century houses that once occupied the street frontage; these had recently been demolished and the rubble in this part of the site was up to 1m thick. The area immediately to the rear of the former buildings was extensively truncated by redundant drains and other services.

**Archaeological background**

1.5 Archaeological interest in the site arose initially from a number of nearby sites noted on the Greater London Historic Environment Record, including finds of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flints, Late Bronze Age features, the remains of a probable Iron Age settlement and Roman pottery all from within 1km of the site. Saxon and later medieval finds are also known from the vicinity of the nearby parish church of All Saints’ Carshalton, which may have been a Saxon foundation (CA 2012b).

1.6 Nineteenth-century maps show that the site was formerly within the grounds of the Carshalton Park House, to the south of which was Carshalton Park, and 18th-century landscaped park that featured a long canal and grotto, which was built into a dry valley purposely cut to tap the water baseflow via culverts stretching back over 20m (60ft) south into the hillside (Sutton Borough Council 2013). Only a fragment of the park survives today, but includes the derelict grotto. Formerly the canal continued northwards as a watercourse that ran through the grounds of Carshalton Park House and past the location of the site to its west and then north.

1.7 Six trial trenches were excavated within the site in December 2011, which identified four ditches containing prehistoric flints in the western half of the site, as well as a small number of post-medieval and modern features (CA 2012a). As a result, further investigations were requested by Diane Abrams (GLAAS), comprising the excavation of two areas centred on the prehistoric features identified in Trenches 1 and 2, and a watching brief over other groundworks within the development area.

### 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The aims of the further investigation were to establish the character, quality, date, significance and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site.

2.2 The objectives of the excavation were laid out in a WSI (CA 2012b) as follows:
• confirm the date and extent of the ditches investigated in Trenches 1 and 2 of the evaluation, in order to determine if they form part of a prehistoric ditch system;
• investigate other remains that may be associated with the ditches, and in conjunction with palaeoenvironmental evidence, establish their former function;
• undertake a sampling strategy, based on advice sought from English Heritage’s Science Advisor, to recover worked flint under controlled conditions;
• undertake further research of historic maps to determine if the ditch passing through Trenches 3 and 4 of the evaluation corresponds with depicted post-medieval/modern boundaries;
• assess the degree of truncation and disturbance in the areas formerly occupied by housing.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Area 1 was 25m by 12m, and was sited to investigate several of the ditches revealed during the evaluation in the north-western part of the site. Area 2 was approximately 10m² and was sited to investigate another ditch revealed during evaluation in the western part of the site. Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation areas by mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision.

3.2 The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. In addition to hand-collected finds, five samples of 40 litres each were taken from ditch fills to enhance the recovery of finds, specifically prehistoric flints. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Excavation Recording Manual (CA 1996). Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential and sampled appropriately in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: The taking of samples for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic analysis from archaeological sites (CA 2003). All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of finds immediately after excavation (CA 1995).
4 RESULTS

Fieldwork summary (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

4.1 The excavated features have been assigned to the following periods based on available dating evidence, and from the similarity of form and fill with other dated features, and from their spatial positioning, as appropriate:

- Period 1: prehistoric
- Period 2: medieval
- Period 3: post-medieval/modern

Period 1: prehistoric

4.2 In Area 1 were two roughly parallel east/west-aligned ditches (1001, 1009/1011), spaced c. 1m apart, both of which turned northwards to the east. They appear to have been contemporary and to have formed the south-east corner of a double-ditched enclosure. Both ditches had been recut at least once and both contained relatively large quantities of worked flint. It is likely that the single sherd of medieval pottery from one of these features was intrusive. The southern ditch 1001 was relatively well defined at c. 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep, and appeared to have been recut twice. The northern ditch 1009/1011 was far less substantial, at c. 1m wide and 0.35m deep.

4.3 The earliest features in Area 2 comprised a pair of intercutting ditches (2019, 2025) that were aligned broadly north/south, but which turned towards the east at their northern terminals. Ditch 2019 was the larger of the two and measured c. 2.4m wide by 0.45m deep; ditch 2025 was approximately half as wide and was 0.32m deep. The alignment of the ditches suggested that they were a continuation of the enclosure ditches recorded in Area 1, although both terminated within Area 2, possibly representing an entrance to the enclosure at this point. A small pit, 2028, adjacent to ditch 2025, had a diameter of 1.1m, a depth of 0.36m, and also contained worked flint.

Period 2: medieval

4.4 In Area 1, prehistoric ditch 1001 was cut along its main length by an east/west-aligned ditch (1007), which terminated c. 3m east of the corner of the prehistoric
enclosure. Ditch 1007 was c. 0.65m wide, 0.18m deep, and also contained worked flint, probably derived from the prehistoric ditch that it cut through.

4.5 The prehistoric ditches were also cut through by a linear ditch (2001) in Area 2, which was aligned north/south, at right angles to ditch 1007 in Area 1. Ditch 2001 was 1.65m wide, 0.35m deep, and also yielded a few flint flakes.

**Period 3: post-medieval/modern**

4.6 A scatter of late pits was recorded across Area 1, most of which were probably 19th-century rubbish pits, some of which contained glass, 19th-century pottery and rusted metal objects. A large, modern ditch truncated earlier features at the western edge of the area, and a soakaway and associated drains were recorded at the eastern edge of the area.

4.7 The western edge of Area 2 featured the foot of a substantial embankment that rises from the site to the channel of the former stream to the west, and comprised dumps of soil containing 19th and 20th-century pottery and glass. In the north-east corner of Area 2, a large modern ditch was also recorded, probably the same ditch continuing from Area 1.

4.8 Numerous other modern ditches and late features were recorded across the site during the evaluation and watching brief (Fig. 2). Most of the ditches appeared to align with the modern site boundaries, however ditch 716, recorded in evaluation trenches 3 and 4 and during the watching brief in the south-east corner of the site, was on a different alignment and was clearly earlier than other ditches recorded in this area. Nineteenth-century maps indicate that this ditch was probably the remains of the 18th-century boundary between the house gardens to the north and the formal park to the south. The feature recorded at the northern end of evaluation trenches 3 and 4, and in several of the house footings, again may have been the large modern trench recorded in Areas 1 and 2.

5 **FACTUAL DATA AND STATEMENTS OF POTENTIAL**

**Stratigraphic Record: factual data**

5.1 Following the completion of the fieldwork an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with specifications presented in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991). A database of all contextual
and artefactual evidence and a site matrix was also compiled and cross-referenced to spot-dating. The fieldwork comprises the following records:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Record Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Context sheets</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plans (1:10, 1:20, 1:100)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sections (1:10, 1:20)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample sheets</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Monochrome Films</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital photographs</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matrices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 The survival and intelligibility of the site stratigraphy was good with archaeological remains having survived as negative features. Despite a relative paucity of stratigraphic relationships, most features have been assigned a preliminary period based on context dates and/or spatial association.

**Stratigraphic record: statement of potential**

5.3 The stratigraphic record forms a complete record of the archaeological features as investigated during excavation. The straightforward nature of the archaeological record, and the relative paucity of artefactual dating evidence, means that there is little potential to develop a greater understanding of the site sequence and recorded features, and therefore there is no recommendation for further analysis of the stratigraphic record, beyond that already undertaken for the purposes of this assessment.

**Artefactual record: factual data and statements of potential**

5.4 All finds collected during the excavation have been cleaned, marked, quantified and catalogued by context. All metalwork has been x-rayed and stabilised where appropriate.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Post-medieval/modern</td>
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<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>94</td>
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<td>Flint</td>
<td>Worked</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>1408</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brick/tile</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>Vessel and Window</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Worked flint**

5.5 A total of 244 pieces (1408g) of worked flint were recovered, mostly from the prehistoric ditches, including 83 pieces (118g) from soil samples. The vast majority are flakes but the assemblage also includes ten blades (including broken pieces) and a single endscraper. Some of the blades may be of Mesolithic date but most of
the flakes are of probable later Neolithic or Bronze Age date. Further analysis is not recommended.

Pottery
5.6 A small group of 10 potsherds was recovered, comprising four medieval sherds (of 12th to 15th-century date) and six post-medieval and later sherds. Further analysis is not recommended.

Ceramic Building Material
5.7 Two small fragments of tile were recovered, probably of Roman date. Further analysis is not recommended.

Glass
5.8 Three fragments of 19th-century or later glass were recovered, two bottle glass and one from a window. Further analysis is not recommended.

Biological record
5.9 No ecofacts were recovered from the excavation.

6 SUMMARY STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

6.1 Excavations at 2–4a Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, revealed evidence for prehistoric activity in the form of a pair of re-cut enclosure ditches and a single pit, all of which are dated by prehistoric flint recovered from their fills. Also revealed were a pair of ditches of probable medieval origin, at right angles to each other and cutting across the earlier prehistoric ditches. Flints recovered for the fills of these ditches are considered to be residual. There was also a number of features exposed relating to the post-medieval landscaping and modern occupation of the site.

6.2 The extent to which the excavation objectives have been addressed is as follows:

- The extent and date of the ditches in Areas 1 and 2 has been established; and the paired ditches appear to have once formed a part of a prehistoric enclosure;
- A pit of probable prehistoric origin was located adjacent to the enclosure ditches in Area 2, but no evidence was recovered to help interpret its former function;
• A sampling strategy was successfully implemented, in consultation with English Heritage, to recovered worked flint from the excavated ditches;

• Analysis of historical maps suggests that at least one the ditches recorded during the watching brief was an 18th-century landscape feature. Further map analysis may help to identify additional features belonging to this stage of the site’s development;

• The degree of truncation in areas formerly occupied by housing was considerable but earlier, deeply cut features such as boundary ditches survived and were recorded during the watching brief.

6.3 All data recovered from the site have been assessed and, apart from some additional analysis of the available historical mapping, none are considered to have potential for further analysis, and no new lines of enquiry have been identified. The academic potential of the site is low, although it is of some local interest, and an appropriate outcome would be a brief summary of the findings published in a local journal such as the London Archaeologist.

7 STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices, Kemble, whilst post-excavation work proceeds. The legal landowners have expressed a desire to retain the artefacts from the site and donate them to a local primary school. CA is currently in negotiation with the London Archaeological Archive and Resource Centre (Museum of London) regarding the remainder of the site archive.

8 UPDATED AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

8.1 To fulfil the potential of the site data, the following updated objectives have been set out to provide a framework for the proposed further analysis:

Objective 1: review local evidence for prehistoric activity

8.2 A prehistoric ditches recorded during excavation probably represent enclosure boundaries. A review of evidence for other prehistoric activity in the vicinity will be
undertaken to help place these prehistoric remains in context. The ditches are dated by worked flint of probably Neolithic to Bronze Age date, though there also appear to be some blades of Mesolithic date.

8.3 Of particular significance will be the Bronze Age enclosure at Queen Mary’s Hospital (Adkins and Needham 1985), though there is no potential to publish the results of these investigations alongside the largely negative results of more recent work undertaken at this site (Alistair Barclay, pers. comm.). Publication of the enclosure ditches will contribute to the London Archaeological Framework objective P5: re-evaluation the core/periphery model proposed for the Thames Valley in the Bronze Age (MoL 2002, 22).

**Objective 2: review historical maps to identify any further landscape features amongst the archaeological record**

8.4 Review of available historical maps should help to confirm ditch 716 as an 18th-century landscape feature, and help to identify any other landscape features amongst the site record. Publication of the landscape features will contribute to the London Archaeological Framework objective L2: contributing to our understanding of the creation of the London suburbs and the meanings and values of domestic as well as public gardens (MoL 2002, 69).

9 PUBLICATION

9.1 The results from the investigations of the 2–4a Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, are of local significance and summary publication. The principal interest is in the prehistoric enclosure ditches and the post-medieval landscape features. It is proposed that a summary report is published in a suitable local journal such as *The London Archaeologist*. 
Synopsis of Proposed Report

A prehistoric enclosure and 18th-century landscape features at Carshalton
Simon Carlyle and Martin Watts report on an excavation at 2–4a Rotherfield Road, 2012

Introduction 250
Archaeological Background 300
Excavation Results 500
The worked flint assemblage 350
Conclusions 400
Acknowledgements 150
Total 1950 words (c. 2.75 pages)

Figures:
Site location plan 0.25 page
Excavation plan 0.5 page
Historic maps 0.5 page
Total 1.25 pages

Total publication estimate c. 4 pages

10 PROJECT TEAM

10.1 The further work proposed will managed by Martin Watts MIfA FSA (Head of Publications: HoP); who will contribute to the discussion as senior author and co-ordinate the work of the following personnel:

Simon Carlyle MIfA (Senior Author: SA):
Further research, draft report preparation

Ed McSloy MIfA (Senior Finds Officer: SFO):
Summary worked flint report

Peter Moore MIfA (Senior Illustrator: ILL):
Production of all site plans, sections and artefact drawings (exc. pottery)
Jon Hart MIfA (Archives Officer: AO)
Completion and deposition of archive

10.2 The final publication report will be edited and refereed internally by CA senior project management.

11 TASK LIST

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12 TIMETABLE

12.1 For a summary journal publication project, CA would normally aim to have completed a publication draft within six months of approval of the updated publication project design.
13 REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2012 ‘Geoindex of geological mapping’
www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex (accessed January 2012)

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2012a ‘2–4a Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton: archaeological evaluation’, CA unpublished report no. 11322

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2012b ‘2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief’, CA unpublished document no. 120140

MoL (Museum of London) 2002 A research framework for London archaeology 2002
London, Museum of London

Sutton Borough Council 2013 ‘A history of Carshalton Park and the Grotto’
APPENDIX 1: FLINT BY E.R. MCSLOY

Worked flint
A total of 244 pieces (1408g) were recovered including 83 pieces (118g) from soil samples.
The lithics were fully recorded, directly to an Ms Access database. Recording has included quantification (count and weight according to broad class), raw material, levels of edge damage/cortication and cortex coverage. The majority of the assemblage (204 pieces/84%) was derived from cut features; including ditches (140 pieces), pits (20 pieces) and indeterminate ‘cuts’ (44 pieces). The remainder comes from layer deposits including topsoil/subsoil horizons.

Condition
Edge damage and breakage was common throughout the assemblage; noted with material from pit 2020 and ditches 1009, 1013, 1021, 2001, 2022 as well as groups from topsoil and subsoil deposits. Only a small proportion (19 pieces) exhibits patination/cortication, resulting in light surface mottling.

Range and variety/dating
Raw material consists of dark grey or grey-brown flint, typically of moderate or good quality (without internal flaws). Where cortex survives this is most often abraded/thinned and suggestive of derivation from river gravels. The range for the assemblage is shown in Table 1. By far the largest element comprises flake-proportioned removals, including ‘chips’ (<10mm long), without secondary working. There are ten blades, including broken pieces. Included from ditch 2019 was a long blade of 65mm.

Assessing the date of the assemblage is made difficult by a virtual absence of tools. Moreover the levels of edge damage suggest that despite the absence of later dateable pottery or other artefacts, in most or all instances, the lithics are re-deposited.

The single tool present, an endscraper from ditch 1031, is not diagnostic of a particular period. The blades are suggestive of some, perhaps transitory, Mesolithic activity. The period(s) to which the bulk of the group relates is uncertain, although characteristics including the squat proportions of most flakes and the absence of evidence for platform preparation, are most suggestive of dating across the later Neolithic or Bronze Age. The dearth of tools may be an indication that the assemblage relates more to procurement/primary reduction of raw material, rather than habitation, though the sample is too small for such a conclusion to be drawn with full confidence.

Statement of potential and recommendations for further analysis

The levels of recording and reporting undertaken as part of this assessment are considered sufficient for the purposes of the archive. No further analysis is recommended, although should a report be required for a publication note, this could be adapted from what is presented here.
Table 1: Worked flint summary by class (quantities as count)

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<th>Feature</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Blade</th>
<th>blade (broken)</th>
<th>blade (used)</th>
<th>flake</th>
<th>Flake (broken)</th>
<th>chip</th>
<th>shatter</th>
<th>Core frag.</th>
<th>burnt</th>
<th>scraper</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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APPENDIX 2: POTTERY BY E.R. MCSLOY

A small pottery group of 10 sherds (94g) and medieval and later date was recovered. Quantities of modern pottery (6 sherds, weighing 38g) came from pit features 1068 and 1073; the remainder from layers, mostly topsoil or subsoil horizons.

Medieval
A total of four sherds (56g) can be attributed to this period. Bodysherds in a handmade shell-tempered fabric from subsoil deposits 1012 and 1064 are sooted. These sherds together with a bodysherd in a handmade gritty reduced-firing fabric also from deposit 1064 probably date across the 12th to 14th centuries. The remaining sherd, from silting layer 1041) is a rim sherd in a wheelthrown hard, gritty grey-firing fabric. It comes from a jar with everted/squared rim, probably in a later medieval reduced ware and as such probably dating to the 14th or 15th centuries.

Modern
Pottery from pits 1068 and 1073 comprises refined whitewares of the the type produced in an industrial scale after c. 1770. Plates or shallow bowls are identifiable from both features and are decorated with transfer printed designs in blue (1074) and green (1070).

Statement of potential and recommendations for further analysis

A single late medieval sherd from silting layer 1041 may provide a terminus post quem for layers and cut features sealed below. This notwithstanding, the small pottery group is of minimal significance and further work is not recommended.
APPENDIX 3: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL BY E.R. MCSLOY

This class of material was recorded from ditch fill 1012 (fill of feature 1011). The two small, fragments (10g) each preserving one flat surface were recovered from soil sample <2> and were the only artefactual material from this feature. Both occur in a fine pale orange-firing fabric with sparse quartz inclusions for which a Roman date is suggested tentatively.

Statement of potential and recommendations for further analysis

The recovered tile fragments are of minimal archaeological significance and warrant no further analysis.

APPENDIX 4: GLASS BY E.R. MCSLOY

A total of three fragments (11 g) of window and vessel glass was recorded from deposits 1069 and 1070 (fills of pit 1068).

Fragments in green and brown glass are identifiable as from bottles of relatively modern, probably 19th century, date. The window glass fragment is clear and thin (c. 2mm); is likely of similar date.

Statement of potential and recommendations for further analysis

The recovered glass is of minimal archaeological significance and warrants no further analysis.
APPENDIX 5: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name | 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton: Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

Short description (250 words maximum) | A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February 2012 at the request of Martin Grant Homes at 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton. In compliance with an approved WSI (CA 2012), two areas totalling 400m² were excavated within the development area, and a watching brief was maintained across the remainder of the site during development. The excavations revealed paired prehistoric ditches in both areas, which probably marked the boundary to a double-ditched enclosure. The only dating evidence recovered from the ditches was an assemblage of over 200 pieces of worked flint, of probable Neolithic or Bronze Age date. Two ditches of probable medieval date were also recorded, as was at least one ditch representing a boundary feature to Carshalton Park, an extensive 18th-century landscaped park of which very little now survives.

This document presents a quantification and assessment of the evidence recovered from the excavation. It considers the evidence collectively in its local, regional and national context, and presents an updated project design for limited further research to bring the results to appropriate publication.

Project dates | February 2012

Project type | Excavation and watching brief

Previous work | Evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology (December 2011; CA report no. 11322)

Future work | Unknown

PROJECT LOCATION

Site Location | 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton

Study area (M²/ha) | 0.28ha

Site co-ordinates (ọ Fig Grid Reference) | TQ 2826 6451

PROJECT CREATORS

Name of organisation | Cotswold Archaeology

Project Brief originator | Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service

Project Design (WSI) originator | Cotswold Archaeology

Project Manager | Simon Carlyle

Project Supervisor | Simon Carlyle

MONUMENT TYPE

Prehistoric enclosure and medieval ditches

SIGNIFICANT FINDS

None

PROJECT ARCHIVES

Intended final location of archive | Physical

Content | Flint to go to local primary school, remainder to go to client (Martin grant Homes)

Pottery, glass, flint, CBM

Paper | LAARC

Context sheets, matrices, photos, drawings, reports

Digital | LAARC

Database, digital photos, reports

BIBLIOGRAPHY

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 2–4A Rotherfield Road, Carshalton, London Borough of Sutton: Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design. CA typescript report 13094
Area 2: excavated features