West Barnes Farm – Map Area 12
This zone covers the location of West Barnes Farm, a Medieval, probably moated, ‘Grange’ belonging to Merton Priory.

Settlements: Communication Routes

The importance of communications in facilitating settlements is recognised by a further designation for the principal historic road alignment running through the Borough. The continued importance of water-borne communications should also be noted.

‘Stane Street’ – Map Area 13
The line of an important Roman road, crossing the Borough between Colliers Wood and Pylford Bridge. The route of the road is preserved in part by modern streets (High Street Colliers Wood, and parts of London Road, Morden – both parts of the A24), although it appears to have taken a more direct route across Wandle Valley than the present A24 (which runs to the north through Merton). Part of the road beside High Street Colliers Wood was excavated archaeologically in 1997, confirming its alignment. The road continued to exert an influence on communication after the end of the Roman
period (evidenced by its adoption as the main road from the medieval period onwards). The constraints presented by the establishment of Merton Priory in the 12th Century, and the development of Merton Village to the west may explain the diversion of the medieval and modern road from the Stane Street alignment crossing the River Wandle; further differences between the Roman line and modern road patterns in the south of the Borough, where the line of Stane Street follows parish boundaries rather than the medieval and modern road, may derive from the re-routing of roads in the thirteenth century to avoid crossing land in Morden belonging to the Abbot of Westminster.

The significance of the archaeological resource in this Priority Zone lies not just in the physical evidence for the road, but also in its potential for the survival of settlement evidence and other activities brought about by the road’s existence.

The linear nature of this Priority Zone, and the continued importance of this routeway mean that parts of its alignment are of significance to other themes, and can be cross-referenced to:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area 15</th>
<th>Wandle/Colliers Wood</th>
<th>Riverside Industries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area 5</td>
<td>Morden Park</td>
<td>Prehistoric Landscapes;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area 1</td>
<td>Wandle Valley Alluvium</td>
<td>Alluvial Archaeology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Riverside Industries**

**Wandle/Copper Mill Lane – Map Area 14**

*(Copper Mill Lane – Merton High Street)*

A centre of water-powered and water utilising industry from at least the medieval period onwards, this area included medieval corn mills and an eighteenth century copper mill. The latter was located at the end of Copper Mill Lane and was replaced, in the nineteenth century by a mill for the processing of leather.
The Area is also significant to the theme of Prehistoric Alluvial Archaeology and Nucleated Settlements: important Mesolithic peat sequences have been recorded in the area, and should be cross-referenced to:-

Area 1 Wandle Valley Alluvium  Alluvial Archaeology

Wandle/Colliers Wood – Map Area 15
(Merton High Street – Phipps Bridge)

This area has formed a particular focus for riverside industry from at least the medieval period onwards, with several corn mills being located along this
stretch of the river during the medieval period. These were supplanted in the post-medieval period by textile processing and finishing industries, initially calico bleaching and printing and subsequently the textile printing works of Arthur Liberty and of William Morris. Merton Priory’s Amery Mills, which were used for the grinding corn were located to the south of the present Merton High Street. The mill was later adapted for copper milling and logwood grinding (to produce dyes for textiles), and replaced in the nineteenth century by the New Merton Board Mills which were eventually demolished in the 1980s to make way for the Savacenter Retail Development.

The area is also an important potential medieval settlement area due to the presence during the medieval period of Merton Priory (founded in the twelfth century, an important and wealthy religious centre, dissolved and almost completely demolished in the sixteenth century). The site is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Parts of the monastic church complex have been archaeologically excavated, and some of the buildings foundations are preserved beneath Merantun Way. A section of monastic precinct wall also survives as a visible monument beside the Pickle ditch, south of Merton High Street.

Virtually all major monasteries attracted substantial secular settlement to their gates and Merton Priory, located by the route of the Roman Road Stane Street which crossed the Wandle Valley at this point, which was frequented by the Crown and baronage, is unlikely to have been an exception. Evidence for the road and potentially a roadside settlement survive. It may have been the largest medieval population centre in the Borough.

The Area is also relevant to themes of Prehistoric Alluvial Archaeology and Nucleated Settlements and should be cross referenced to:-

| Area 1 | Wandle Valley Alluvium | Alluvial Archaeology |
| Area 13 | Stane Street | Nucleated Settlements |
|         |                | Communications Routes |

Wandle/Mitcham – Map Area 16
(Ravensbury – Mitcham)

The Wandle Riverside around Mitcham was famed in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries for the market gardening of aromatic and medicinal herbs, watercress and other crops. It was also important in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries for calico bleaching and printing, copper, flour, and snuff milling, leather working and the manufacture of paper, flock and felt.

The Area is also significant to the themes of Prehistoric Alluvial Archaeology and obliquely to Prehistoric Landscapes and should be cross referenced with:-
Mill Corner – Map Area 17

Documentary sources indicate the presence of a water mill on this part of the Beverley Brook in the fifteenth century, and also a series of fishponds. The mill appears to have been demolished sometime before the eighteenth century.

The area is also of relevance to the theme of Prehistoric Alluvial Archaeology, and should be cross-referenced with:-

Area 2 Beverley Brook Alluvium Alluvial Archaeology

Post-Medieval Estates and Gardens

Parts of the post-medieval nucleated settlements identified as Priority Zones above are also relevant to this theme, as these gentrified estates often developed on the edges of existing settlements.

Merton Place – Map Area 18

Built around 1700, between the village of Merton and the River Wandle – possibly on the site of an earlier, medieval, moated structure. The house lay to the south of Merton High Street at the southern end of its grounds. The house is noted as being the only house owned by Admiral Nelson who converted the moat into a garden feature and called it ‘The Nile’. It was demolished by 1823.
The nineteenth-century estate included parts of the medieval Merton Grange lands, and the former site of Merton Priory’s dovehouse.

The house and grounds were completely built over, with the names of new residential streets (eg Hamilton Road, Hardy Road, Victory Road, Trafalgar Road) reflecting the former famous owner.

**Wimbledon Park House – Map Area 19**
The house was originally built in 1588, but was much altered in the 1640s by Inigo Jones. The site of the early House is not known with certainty, but it is thought to lie close to the village church. A third house was built around 1720-1732; with a fourth and final rebuild being carried out in 1798. The house lay within formal gardens and a wider area of park; the park was extended considerably to the north during the eighteenth century and was landscaped by Capability Brown in 1765. The house and gardens are now beneath Arthur Road and Home Park Road; the outer parts of the estate survive as Wimbledon Park.
Morden Hall and Park – Map Area 20

The existing Morden Hall dates from the mid-eighteenth century, replacing an earlier, Tudor Manor House to the south. The Hall is moated and the moat is an eighteenth decorative feature contemporary with the house. The house lies at the northern end of the original park, as shown on historic maps (the park was subsequently extended to the north); there is little evidence for formal gardens within the park from the eighteenth century onwards, but earlier phases of the Hall/Manor may have contained gardens which survive as buried features.
Archaeological remains constitute the principal surviving evidence of our past and are a finite and non-renewable resource which is fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. They contain irreplaceable information about our past and the potential for an increase in future knowledge. They give us a sense of both national and local identity, and are valuable not only for their own sake, but also for their role in education, leisure and tourism.

Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 “Archaeology and Planning”, sets out the Secretary of State’s policy on archaeological remains on land and how they should be preserved or recorded. It also gives advice on the handling of archaeological remains and discoveries under the development plan and control systems.

Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 “Planning & the Historic Environment” sets out Government policy for planning aspects of the conservation of the historic
environment, and also policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, and for the preservation and enhancement of Conservation Areas.

Developers should therefore consult both these guidance notes prior to the commencement of the development process.

Merton’s Unitary Development Plan (UDP) provides the framework for the development of land throughout the Borough. It contains the Council’s planning policies and proposals that will be taken into account when considering planning applications. Developers are, therefore, advised to consult the UDP prior to submitting a planning application, and ensure that the proposed development complies with all the policies and proposals. In relation to archaeology the UDP contains three policies (but all policies in the Plan should nevertheless be considered).

The Strategic Policies in Part I of the UDP set down the Council’s general policies for the development of the Borough, and take into account London-wide Strategic Planning Guidance. Policy ST4 refers to protection of ‘Environmental Capital’ and Policy ST18 refers to the protection and enhancement of Merton’s Heritage:

**POLICY ST4**

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE BOROUGH’S ENVIRONMENTAL CAPITAL.

**POLICY ST18**

THE COUNCIL WILL PROTECT, PRESERVE AND ENHANCE ALL ASPECTS OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING ITS CONSERVATION AREAS, STATUTORY OR LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS, SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS, HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES.

These policies, as broad land use policies, contribute to the strategic planning framework for London, as well as providing a framework for the more detailed policies in Part II of the UDP. In relation to archaeology, Part II policies are shown below.

**POLICY BE.13: ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION**

THE COUNCIL WILL ENCOURAGE EARLY CONSULTATION ON DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS AFFECTING SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE AND THEIR SETTINGS.

(I) THERE WILL BE A GENERAL PRESCRIPTION IN FAVOUR OF THE PERMANENT PHYSICAL PRESERVATION OF ALL SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND OTHER NATIONALLY IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND THEIR SETTINGS. PLANNING PERMISSION WILL NOT BE GRANTED FOR DEVELOPMENT THAT WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT SUCH MONUMENTS AND SITES, INVOLVE SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION TO THEM OR WOULD HAVE A HARMFUL IMPACT ON THEIR SETTINGS.

(II) LOCALLY IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS SHOULD PREFERABLY ALSO BE PRESERVED IN SITU. EXCEPTIONALLY, WHERE REMAINS CANNOT BE PRESERVED IN SITU, THEY WILL BE PRESERVED BY RECORD THROUGH AN APPROPRIATE PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK BY A RECOGNISED ARCHAEOLOGICAL ORGANISATION BEFORE DEVELOPMENT
BEGINS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PROJECT DESIGN APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. SUCH PROVISION SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE SUBSEQUENT PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS.

POLICY BE.14 - ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

BEFORE DEVELOPMENT COMMENCES ON SITE, REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE TO THE COUNCIL’S SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE NOTE ON ARCHAEOLOGY.

WHERE DEVELOPMENT IS PROPOSED WITHIN AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONE, AS SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP, THE COUNCIL MAY REQUIRE A PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE EVALUATION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT BEFORE PROPOSALS ARE CONSIDERED. THIS REQUIREMENT MAY ALSO BE APPLIED TO SITES OUTSIDE THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES ESPECIALLY WHERE THEY ARE OVER 0.6 HA OR WHERE THERE IS PROVEN OR KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL.

POLICY BE.10: BUILDING RECORDING

WHERE APPLICATIONS ARE LIKELY TO INVOLVE DEMOLITION OR ALTERATIONS THAT WOULD IMPACT ON THE SPECIAL INTEREST OF BUILDINGS OF INTRINSIC HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST, ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR RECORDING REMAINS THAT WOULD BE DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN THE COURSE OF THE WORKS. SUCH WORK MUST BE UNDERTAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH A WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL.

DEVELOPING SITES FROM START TO FINISH

Whenever development is proposed which will result in the disturbance or removal of known or even presumed archaeological remains, deposits or features, it is vital for close co-operation between developers, the Local Authority and archaeologists. Developers can help by making sites available for the greatest possible time and by commissioning archaeological investigations. Proper provision needs to be made for off site analysis and the preparation of a publishable report.

Once a site has been chosen for development, the developer should follow these basic guidelines:

CONSULT - ASSESS - EVALUATE - MITIGATE

This process is detailed below, and is shown in the flow diagram overleaf. Although it is always important to discuss proposals with the Council for any type of development anywhere in the Borough, it is vital to make early contact with the Council if a site falls within or near an Archaeological Priority Zone.

CONSULTATION

The first step when considering any development proposal is to consult with the Council in order to ascertain the planning restrictions and opportunities that are applicable to any particular site.
The problem with archaeology, in many cases, is that it is often difficult to ascertain just how important it is in respect of any one particular site. The first step would be to consult the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) to establish whether the site falls within an Archaeological Priority Zone. If it does, then the Council is likely to stipulate that a preliminary archaeological site evaluation be carried out before any proposals, which might damage archaeological remains, are considered. This may also be applied to sites outside these zones, especially where they are over 0.6 Ha and/or have known archaeological potential.

English Heritage advises the London Borough of Merton on the archaeological implications of development on sites and they can therefore give some indication as to the likelihood of discovering archaeological remains. The Council will also consult other relevant bodies if they consider it to be appropriate.

Local Historical and Amenity Societies, as well as the Merton Heritage Centre are also a valuable source of local information, and in the interest of improved public relations, developers should, and will be encouraged to consult these groups. The Planning division has details of all important organisations in the Borough.

### ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

Initial consultations will provide the developer with some idea of the archaeological and/or historic sensitivity of the site. Developers may wish, before an application is determined, to commission an archaeological ‘desktop’ assessment by a professionally qualified archaeological organisation or consultant. In some cases the Council may request the developer to carry out such an assessment. The scope of assessment should include the archaeological, environmental, topographical and historic significance of the site in the context of Merton as well as its local, regional or national context. Such pre-determination assessments may also be required to include an assessment of significant buildings on the site. Desktop assessments will need to involve study of:

- geological maps and data from any available trial pits/boreholes in the vicinity of the site;
- historic maps and documents held in museums, libraries or other archives;
- unpublished research reports and archives;
- survey drawings of basement and ground floors of any buildings on the site: and
- any other relevant information.

Areas of archaeological potential should be assessed for the type, extent, likely date, nature and depth of remains. Details should be provided of how the development can be designed to minimise disturbance of remains and an assessment of the importance of the resource in local regional, national or international terms. Consideration of the academic and research potential of
the remains should also be assessed. The desktop assessment should include plans showing:

- degree of disturbance by previous construction on the site
- areas of archaeological survival distinguished from areas considered to have been destroyed;
- impact of proposed scheme; and
- proposals, where appropriate, for further site evaluation work.

Where archaeological remains are likely to exist the Council may also request the developer to carry out an archaeological field evaluation, working to a brief which has been approved in writing by the Council or its archaeological advisors English Heritage, before any decision is made on the planning application. This is normally a fast and inexpensive operation involving ground surveys and small-scale trial trenching. The evaluation may refer to possible discoveries hidden beneath the ground, as well as to artefacts in existing buildings which are equally as important. In this way it is possible to determine the character and extent of archaeological remains and/or heritage associated with the site, and therefore the weight which ought to be attached to their preservation, and possible ways in which damage can be minimised or avoided.

In cases involving alteration or demolition of significant buildings the Council may require that applicants arrange suitable programmes of recording of the building to be carried out to a brief approved in writing by the Council or its archaeological advisors, English Heritage.

If planning applications are submitted without prior discussion with the Planning Division, then the Council will assess the archaeological implications by consulting English Heritage. Applicants may be asked to provide more information on the scheme, such as the details of the foundations to be used, or they may be asked to carry out an evaluation. This can delay consideration of the application, and thus it is in the developer’s interest that appropriate discussions are undertaken well before this stage.

If developers are not prepared to evaluate the site voluntarily, the planning authority may require the applicant to supply further information under the provisions of Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Applications) Regulations 1988. In some cases permission will be refused if proposals are inadequately documented.

**MITIGATION**

Following initial consultations and investigations, but before a formal decision is made, the next step is to consider the proposal in terms of the often conflicting needs of archaeology and the proposed development and to identify potential options for minimising and avoiding damage to archaeological remains. These needs may be reconciled and the potential for conflict reduced if the developer discusses preliminary plans for development with the Planning Department and archaeologists at an early stage. The initial investigations will give some idea of the archaeological significance of the site,
and detailed designs can then be drawn up, so that they take into account the need for archaeological investigations. This should not be only in terms of physical design, but also in terms of programming and budgeting. It should be remembered that once detailed designs have been prepared and finance lined up, then flexibility is much more difficult and expensive to achieve.

Archaeologists prefer to see remains preserved ‘in situ’, that is undisturbed. If this is not feasible, then the developer should liaise with the Council and English Heritage so that an archaeological excavation may be carried out and the results published. However, this is seen by many archaeologists as a second best option, as excavation results in the total destruction of evidence from which future archaeological techniques could almost certainly extract more information than is currently possible.

Construction techniques may result in direct or indirect disturbance of the ground which is likely to cause an alteration to the physical, chemical or biological environment which can have a significant impact on buried deposits. The role engineers and archaeologists have to play in designing and implementing mitigation strategies, to reduce or remove the impact of engineering techniques on any in situ archaeological remains is critical.

Where important remains are known to exist, or there is a good possibility that they exist, developers should consider using a sympathetic design which avoids disturbing the remains altogether or at least minimises any damage. This could be done, for example, by raising ground levels, or by the careful siting of landscaped or open areas. In addition, by giving particular attention to the design of foundations, piling, underpinning, new slab levels, service trenches etc, damage to archaeological resources can be minimised. There are also techniques available for sealing archaeological remains underneath buildings or landscaping, thereby securing their preservation, even although they may remain inaccessible. Not only can schemes be designed around archaeological remains in order to ensure their preservation, but their presence may even allow for an opportunity to create an interesting heritage feature, a visually attractive scheme and perhaps even an investment.

Thus positive planning and management can be used to resolve potential conflict between development and preservation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANNING PERMISSION</th>
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</table>

Thus through the procedure outlined above, many of the potential problems can be ironed out at an early stage. When determining a planning application, providing the Council has sufficient information, the case for the preservation of archaeological remains will be assessed. This will depend upon the individual merits of each case, and take into account the intrinsic significance of the remains.

Where appropriate, the Council will grant planning permission, but may also impose planning conditions to either secure preservation ‘in situ’, or ‘by record’ involving excavation and the recording and publication of archaeological remains. For example, one of these conditions may read as follows:-

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'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme for investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme pursuant to this condition. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.'

In this case the applicant should therefore submit detailed proposals in the form of an archaeological project design. This design should be in accordance with appropriate English Heritage guidelines.

Alternatively, the Council may make use of a voluntary planning agreement, which is usually statutory by provision of Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

As a last resort, planning permission may not be granted should developers refuse to accommodate significant remains or fail to provide sufficient information for consideration before the planning application is determined. Planning permission may also be refused where the archaeological interests are overriding.

Conditions or agreements may stipulate that the remains be preserved ‘in situ’, requiring a detailed design and method statement for the foundation design and any new groundworks. This must then be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council. Further details on submission requirements are available from the Archaeological Officers at English Heritage.

It may also be stipulated, when granting planning permission, that the applicant makes arrangements for an archaeological ‘watching brief’ to monitor development groundworks and to record any archaeological evidence revealed. These arrangements must also be submitted to, and approved by the Council. The purpose of the ‘watching brief’ is to ensure that any agreed design measures to preserve archaeological remains ‘in situ’ are correctly implemented on site, and also to allow investigation and recording of any additional archaeological evidence that might be revealed during construction works.

Where preservation ‘in situ’ is not feasible, then provision may be made for the excavation and recording of remains. This will therefore need to be worked out before development commences, and is usually undertaken working to a project brief prepared by the Council in liaison with English Heritage.

In these ways, where it is appropriate, the Council can ensure that the developer secures the implementation of necessary investigations on important sites, in advance of development, and undertaken by a professionally qualified archaeological organisation or archaeologist acceptable to the Council. The investigating body may be chosen by the
developer, but must be agreed with by English Heritage and the Council.

**BUILDING CONSTRUCTION**

Archaeology should not just be taken into account prior to the commencement of development. Even if the procedures outlined above are followed, it may still be the case that archaeological remains are found whilst actually constructing the building. If remains are discovered during construction work then the developer MUST immediately inform the Council, who will then decide what action needs to be taken. Developers may therefore wish to consider insuring themselves against the risk of a substantial loss while safeguarding the interests of historic remains unexpectedly discovered on site. In such cases, English Heritage or the British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group may also be able to offer practical advice.

**ARTEFACTS & REPORTS**

All archaeological work connected with a particular site should be recorded in a publication. This should include details of the archaeological investigations and any finds etc. Until such a document is produced, the condition requiring preservation by record cannot be satisfied. It is thus important that all finds are retained for study and publication. Reports should be distributed as widely as possible and all artefacts should, wherever possible, be donated to an approved museum such as the Museum of London or Merton’s Heritage Centre.

**FINANCE & FUNDING**

It is usually the responsibility of the developer to allow time and to provide funds for any matters in this field, including the publishing of details and any excavations. However, in most cases the financial implications involved will be minimal compared with the overall costs of the development.

**LOCAL MUSEUMS**

There are several museums within Merton which are well worth visiting if you are interested in any aspect of our past. The three main museums are detailed below. Further details of addresses and opening times are listed under the “Who to Contact” section of this guidance note.

Merton’s Heritage Centre, located at The Canons, in Mitcham, aims to promote the history of the borough and has the formidable task of preserving and recording the history of Merton for present and future generations.

The Wimbledon Society’s Museum in Wimbledon Village has a considerable amount of information on the Wimbledon area.

The Wandle Industrial Museum, which is a community based organisation, aims to increase awareness of the Wandle Valley, and has a lot of information on the history of the area.
### Archaeological Timescales: Evidence, Identity, and Headlines in the London Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Length of time in centuries</th>
<th>London Area: territorial identity</th>
<th>London Area headlines: geology, environment, archaeology, history</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lower Paleolithic:</strong> 500,000-38,000 BP</td>
<td>4620</td>
<td>None: Britain part of continent</td>
<td>‘Anglian’ Ice Age: glaciers divert Thames into present channel; hunter-gatherer Neanderthals live here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upper Paleolithic:</strong> 38,000-10,000 BP</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>None: Britain part of continent</td>
<td>‘Devensian’ Ice Age; hunter-gatherer Homo Sapiens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mesolithic:</strong> 8,000-4,000 BC</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>None: separation from continent</td>
<td>Hunter-gatherer activities become more intensive and localised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neolithic:</strong> 4,300 – 2,000 BC</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>None known: part of wider cultural region</td>
<td>Early farming and settlement. Some river-based trade develops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bronze Age:</strong> 2,000 – 650 BC</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>Possible general focus within wider cultural region</td>
<td>Communities and territories; use of Thames for ritual and trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Iron Age:</strong> 650 BC – AD 43</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Thames and estuary divide wider coalescing tribal territories</td>
<td>Rural area of farmsteads and villages; use of Thames for trade and European contact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roman:</strong> AD 43 – 410</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>City central focus; rural settlement pattern with part role as city</td>
<td>City and port: imperial provincial capital and administrative centre of Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early Saxon:</strong> AD 410 – 600</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tribal territories and rural settlement pattern with part role as city</td>
<td>Abandonment of city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mid-Late Saxon:</strong> AD 600 - 1100</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Port and settlement; rural settlement pattern with part role as city hinterland</td>
<td>Revival of port and city as royal and religious focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medieval:</strong> AD 1100 – 1500</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>City and medieval suburbs; rural area towns emerge; rural area develops as city hinterland</td>
<td>Royal capital and parliament; port; growing economic influence on England and beyond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Post-Medieval:</strong> AD 1500 – c1800</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>City expands boundaries and increases economic domination of rural area and beyond.</td>
<td>Largest western European capital by 1700; city is trading centre and centre for imperial expansion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>19th century:</strong> AD c1800 – c1900</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>City further expands and coalesces, dominates growing villages and towns of rural area</td>
<td>Industry develops in midlands and north, but port of London continues; imperial capital and business centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20th century:</strong> AD c1900 +</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Emergence of overall planned urban area suburbs, green belt, local government</td>
<td>Declining role as imperial capital; growing role as world city based on communications and business core.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** English Heritage: Capital Archaeology

**Strategies for sustaining the historic legacy of a world city**
WHO TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON

The Planning and Regeneration Divisions at Merton are within the Environment and Regeneration Department. For matters relating to particular sites, or proposed or existing planning applications you should contact the Development Control Section. For policy matters, or information on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas, you should contact the Design and Conservation Team of the Plans and Projects Section.

There are also three main libraries in Merton at Wimbledon, Morden and Mitcham. Each will have information on local history matters. The Council has also recently established the Merton Heritage Centre - See separate heading for more details.

The London Borough of Merton
Civic Centre
London Road
Morden
Surrey SM4 5DX
Tel: 020 8543 3055
Web Site: www.merton.gov.uk

ENGLISH HERITAGE

English Heritage has the role of securing, as far as practicable, the preservation of ancient monuments in England, and in promoting the public’s enjoyment and knowledge of such monuments. They also provide advice and, in some cases, financial assistance in the upkeep of ancient monuments. In London, English Heritage provides planning advice to the London Boroughs. It also maintains and updates the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record which comprises a publicly accessible computerised database of known archaeological sites and listed buildings.

English Heritage
23 Savile Row
London
W1S 2ET
Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service - Tel: 020 7973 3730
Greater London Sites and Monuments Record - Tel: 020 7973 3731
Web Site: www.english-heritage.org.uk

THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport is responsible for the general framework of the planning system and for the protection and preservation of scheduled monuments and archaeological remains of importance.

The Department of the Culture, Media and Sport
Architecture and Historic Environment Division
Queen’s Yard
179a Tottenham Court Road
London W1T 7PA
Tel: 020 7211 2330
Web Site: www.culture.gov.uk
THE BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND DEVELOPERS LIAISON GROUP (BADLG)

The BADLG is a permanent body initiated jointly by the British Property Federation and the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM). It aims to foster voluntary co-operation between developers and archaeologists and encourages good working practices through their Code of Practice, which is available from the following address;

The British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group
c/o British Property Federation
35 Catherine Place
London
SW1E 6DY
Tel: 020 7828 0111
Web Site: www.propertymall.com

COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY (CBA)

The CBA is an educational charity which works to advance the study and care of Britain’s historic environment, and to improve public awareness of Britain’s past. To further this objective the Council has the power to co-ordinate and represent archaeological opinion in Britain.

Council for British Archaeology
Bowes Morrell House
111 Walmgate
York
Y01 2UA
Tel: 01904 671 417
Web Site: www.britarch.ac.uk

THE SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Surrey Archaeological Society is a local publishing society, whose prime interest is in the historic county of Surrey of which Merton is a part.

Surrey Archaeological Society
Castle Arch
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 3SX
Tel: 01483 532454
Web Site: http://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk

THE INSTITUTE OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGISTS (IFA)

The IFA is the UK’s professional institution for archaeology in Britain and is concerned with defining and maintaining proper professional standards and ethics in field archaeology.

The Institute of Field Archaeologists
The University of Reading
2 Early Gate
PO Box 239
Reading
RG6 6AU
Tel: 0118 931 1845
Web Site:www.archaeologists.net
THE NATIONAL TRUST
The National Trust owns and manages Morden Hall Park through which the River Wandle runs. They have information and displays on the Wandle and the park contains a surviving Watermill.

The National Trust
Morden Hall Park
Morden Hall Road
Morden
Surrey
Tel: 020 8545 6850
Web Site: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

MERTON’S HERITAGE CENTRE
Merton’s Heritage Centre has an important role to play in preserving, recording and promoting the history of the Borough for present and future generations. Based at The Canons in Mitcham, it aims to promote our local heritage through a number of changing exhibitions and special events. The centre is currently open between the hours of 10am and 5pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

Merton Heritage Centre
The Canons
Madeira Road
Mitcham
Surrey
Tel: 020 8640 9387

WANDLE HERITAGE LTD
Wandle Heritage Ltd represents a range of local volunteer groups whose aim is to promote interest in, and the interests of, the River Wandle and its heritage. It operates a small museum in the Wheelhouse, a surviving Watermill at the Merton Abbey Mills craft market complex.

The Wheelhouse
Merton Abbey Mills
Watermill Way
London SW19 2RD
Tel: 020 8543 6656

THE WIMBLEDON SOCIETY
The Wimbledon Society’s museum has a considerable amount of information on the Wimbledon area, and is open on Saturdays only between the hours of 2.30pm and 5.00pm.

The Wimbledon Society Museum
26 Lingfield Road
Wimbledon, SW19 4QD
Tel: 020 8296 9914.

MERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The Merton Historical Society is a local history society who have undertaken extensive research and study in Merton. They have also prepared a number of publications.
THE WANDLE INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM

This museum aims to promote the history of the river and increase awareness of its industrial heritage. It is open on the first Sunday of each month between 2.00pm and 5.00pm and every Wednesday between 1.00pm and 4.00pm. Visits by schools and special interest groups can also be made by appointment.

The Wandle Industrial Museum
Vestry Hall
London Road
Morden
Surrey, CR4 3UD
Tel: 020 8648 0127
Web Site: www.wandle.org

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

English Heritage Greater London Sites and Monuments Record

English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service

Surrey Archaeological Society

The Merton Historical Society
FURTHER READING

- BADG Code of Practice, 1991
- DoE, Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, "Archaeology and Planning", November 1990
- DoE, Planning Policy Guidance Note 15, "Planning and the Historic Environment", September 1994
- English Heritage, London Region: Capital Archaeology: Strategies for sustaining the historic legacy of a world city.