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Mapping West Ruislip's past

Our archaeology team is exploring the local area, and has found exciting evidence and fascinating insights about how our community has lived throughout the ages.

Explore this map using the facts on the back to discover the history here at West Ruislip Golf Course.



Places of historical and archaeological interest



Key local locations

Footpath



HS2 SCS JV Area West construction site



Pathway - Clacks Lane to Hill Lane



Pathway - Celandine route following the River Pinn

Hello, I'm Dr Emma Tetlow



I am Principal Archaeologist at SCS JV and I am very excited to explore the history of the local area with you; we've got lots to discover!

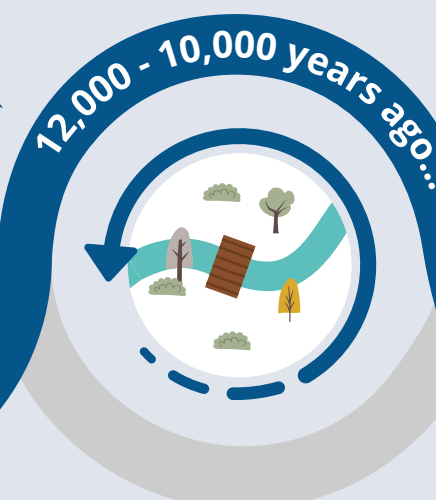
I have been working in this area for nearly five years, digging deep into Ruislip's past and unravelling the story of this area from as far back as 45,000 years ago. Excavations at West Ruislip Golf Course have made an important contribution to what we know about the area and its varied history.

Our tour takes us back through time to the earliest evidence of activity. Scan the QR code below to get our tour started.



Stone Age Ruislip

Whilst the climate was cooling ahead of the last glaciation, the earliest evidence for activity was recorded just south of Bayhurst Woods. A possible stone tool has been recovered from this area.



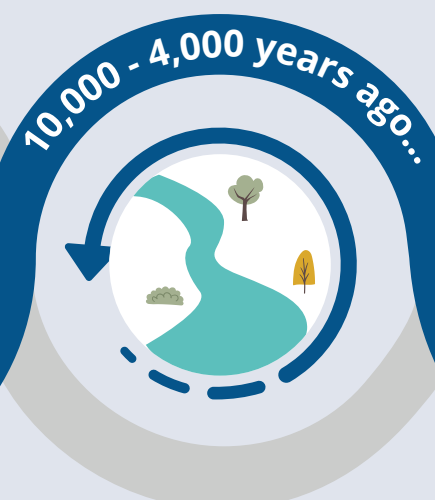
Ice Age Ruislip

The River Pinn and the River Colne flow into the River Thames, all have been subject to much change over the past 12,000 years. The rivers have deposited gravel terraces which are ideal for human habitation.



Mesolithic Ruislip

After the last Ice Age, humans returned to the area after an absence of almost 40,000 years. Humans and reindeer occupied the banks of the River Colne and River Pinn. Stone tools were made from flint, some of which have been discovered during our archaeological digs.



River Pinn terrace edge

The gravel terraces were ideal for human habitation and for exploiting the rich resources the rivers have to offer. This included fish and fowl, as well as attracting larger animals such as deer to the bank-side vegetation, and the water source the river provides.



Neolithic

Neolithic evidence from the area is limited – but it is during this time that we start to see the first signs of farming. West Ruislip appears to have been richly wooded for much of its history.



Bronze and Iron Age Ruislip

Evidence of Bronze Age, round house and cremation burials have been found at West Ruislip Golf Course. This suggests we've discovered a small settlement of people that once lived here. The amazing Iron Age 'Hillingdon Hoard' was also found in nearby fields.



Medieval field systems

West Ruislip Golf Course provides evidence of medieval field systems including former field boundaries lined with earthworks and mature oak trees. We also found evidence associated with medieval ploughing known as 'ridge and furrow'.



The lost settlement of Kings End

Early maps show a hamlet or small settlement to the south of Ruislip known as Kings End. A tile kiln from the 12th to 17th century has been found at West Ruislip Golf Course. Evidence suggests a small industry was situated at the edge of this settlement.



Medieval Clacks Lane

Clacks Lane is a possible former medieval 'holloway' which ran to the south of Kings End. The 'hollow' was formed by the movement of medieval 'traffic' along the path. The trees and plants along the path provide a window into how the path looked around 500 years ago.



Beetons Wood Farm

Beetons Wood Farm is found on Rocque's County Map of 1754 and may have been in existence much earlier. The farm was demolished in 1934 but earthworks and trees which may have been part of the boundaries of the farm are still visible today.