

# Case Study

**Client** Bellway Homes & David Wilson Homes  
Duston, Northants

**Project date** 2002 – present  
**Area** 27 hectares

**Case Study date** March 09  
**Budget** £900 K fees

**Project: reclamation of former engineering factory for future residential/ commercial use.**

**Services provided:** Environmental Consultants; Civil Engineering Consultants; Highway Engineering Consultants; Geotechnical Consultants; Health and Safety Consultants; Project Management Consultants; Site Supervision Consultants (Resident Engineers/ Clerk of Works); Mechanical and Electrical Consultants; Hydrology and Hydrogeology Consultants.

**Project description:** The site is a former engineering facility which was used for approximately 50 years for the production of wheel bearings. The processes operated included forging, shaping and heat treatment of steel parts. The factory caused significant contamination of the soil and groundwater including lubricating/ cutting oils and chlorinated solvents.

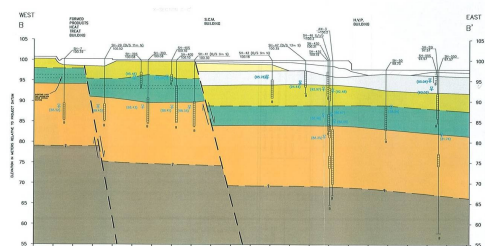


The site stands on areas of major aquifer in complex geology, and previous investigations by consultants for the vendor had demonstrated that plumes of dissolved contamination may have moved some distance beyond the boundary of the site.

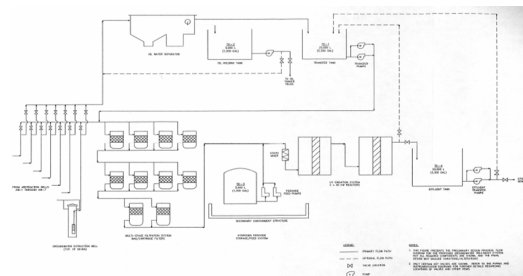
Merebrook advised the purchasers in respect of the sale and purchase terms and undertook further and better site investigations and risk assessments to allow the scope of remedial action to be decided.



After purchase, Merebrook specified a site remediation plan and obtained agreement from regulatory authorities. A contract was let and Merebrook supervised the remediation.



To address the legacy of diffuse groundwater pollution, a scheme of hydraulic containment was selected. Merebrook undertook design development before letting a contract to design, build and operate a hydraulic containment system for the site. The system is now constructed and Merebrook are undertaking site parameter trials.



Merebrook undertook full 3 D modelling of the site to plan the development levels and designed spine roads and major drainage infrastructure. Merebrook is currently supervising plot by plot installation of gas protection measures.