

1a Bynes Road, South Croydon, CR2 OPY

(NGR 532660 163333)

**Archaeological Evaluation
Report**

Planning Ref: 11/01111/P

Prepared by

James Vessey BA (Hons), MA, AIFA

September 2011

PRO Archaeology Services

40 Chapel Street, Bicester, OX26 6BD

www.archaeologypro.com

info@archaeologypro.com

REPORT FOR:

Kishore Derodra
C/O Richard Blundell
Howard : Fairbairn : MHK
439 London Road
Croydon
Surrey
CR0 3PF

CLIENT REF NUMBER:

DOCUMENT TITLE: An Archaeological Evaluation at 1a Bynes Road, South Croydon, Greater London

DOCUMENT TYPE: Evaluation Report

ISSUE NUMBER: 1

PLANNING REF: 1/011111/P

PAS JOB NUMBER: 1150010

PREPARED BY: James Vessey BA AIFA
DATE: 05/09/2011

ILLUSTRATION BY: Paul Riccoboni BA AIFA

EDITED BY: Paul Riccoboni BA AIFA
DATE: 05/09/2011

OASIS REF NUMBER: proarcha1-109133

©PRO ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICES 2011

Contents

Abstract

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Introduction | 1 |
| 2. Site Location | 2 |
| 3. Planning Background | 2 |
| 4. Aims and Objectives | 2 |
| 5. Archaeological and Historical Background | 3 |
| 6. Methodology | 3 |
| 7. Results | 4 |
| 8. Discussion | 5 |
| 9. Acknowledgements | 5 |
| 10. Bibliography | 7 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Appendix 1: Context list | 8 |
| Appendix 2: OASIS Summary | 9 |

Figures

| | |
|---|----|
| Figure 1: Site Location Plan 1:25 000 scale | 10 |
| Figure 2: Trench Location Plan | 11 |
| Figure 3: Trench plan and sections | 12 |

Plates

| | |
|---|---|
| Plate 1: Trench shot looking South | 6 |
| Plate 2: General shot of Stratigraphic sequence | 7 |

Abstract

An archaeological evaluation involving the supervised mechanical excavation of a single trial trench was carried out by PRO Archaeology Services in advance of the construction of a two storey building comprising four two bedroom flats, vehicular access and associated parking (Planning Ref: 11/011111/P) at 1a Bynes Road, Croyden, CR2 OPY (NGR 532660 163333).

The evaluation trench revealed a stratigraphic sequence of natural geology overlaid by leached clay silt, buried topsoil and made ground deposits. A single 20th century wall footing was identified at the southern end of the trench. No archaeological deposits or features were identified within the evaluation trench.

1. Introduction

PRO Archaeology Services was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to the erection of a two storey building comprising four two bedroom flats, vehicular access and associated parking at 1a Bynes Road, Croyden, CR2 OPY (Planning Ref: 11/011111/P) The site is centred at NGR 532660 163333 and located on Hackney gravels associated with course of the Wandle Valley over Upper Chalk deposits.

The Local Planning Authority placed the following condition on the planning consent:

No development including excavations for drainage and foundation work shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only be carried out in accordance with the agreed programme.

Reason: To safeguard the heritage of the Borough by providing an adequate opportunity to investigate and excavate archaeological remains on the site before development is carried out, in accordance with Policy UC11 of the Croydon Replacement Unitary Development Plan (The Croydon Plan)

This report documents the results of the archaeological evaluation of a 10m x 1.6m trench. The work was conducted in accordance to the Specification prepared by PRO Archaeology Services and approved by the LPA's Greater London Archaeological Advisor (South East) Robert Whytehead and Mark Stevenson, which complied with the principles established in *PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide* (Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2010). In conducting the

archaeological evaluation, PRO Archaeology Services adhered to the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (IFA, 1999) & *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)* (English Heritage, 1991).

2. Site Location and Description

The site is on a residential street typical of the South Croydon area. It is bounded to the north by gardens, and beyond by further residential properties fronting onto Napier Road. There are residential and commercial properties fronting Bynes Road on either side of the development plot (See Figure 1, site location plan). At the time of the evaluation all structures on the site had been demolished and the site was vacant.

According to the maps of the British Geological Survey Sheet 270 (South London 1998) 1:50 000 the underlying geology is Hackney Gravels associated with the course of the Wandle Valley over Upper Chalk. The site is a level area at approximately 59m AOD

3. Planning Background

The site has planning permission (11/01111/P attached to planning condition: Ref:08/03001/P) for the Demolition of existing building; erection of two storey building with accommodation in roof space comprising 4 two bedroom flats; formation of vehicular access and provision of associated parking.

4. Aims and Objectives

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains. This would allow informed decisions to be taken regarding potential mitigation works for any identified archaeological resource within the areas affected by the proposed development; in accordance with the research frameworks set out in the *framework for London Archaeology* (Molas 2003)

Specific aims of the evaluation were:

To clarify the nature of deposits and assess the potential for prehistoric remains from the Palaeolithic to the end of the prehistoric period.

To establish whether any human remains exist at the site connected to the site of the gallows on the corner of Bynes Road and Brighton Road.

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

A Desk Based Study of the site was conducted by CgMs Consulting Ltd which assessed the archaeological potential of the site and concluded the site had low to moderate potential for prehistoric and Roman periods and low potential for all other periods (CgMs Ltd 2009)

Following the Desk Based Study the archaeological potential was set out in a letter dated 12th July 2011 (Ref: LAG/8/745-3) from Greater London Archaeological Advisor Mark Stevenson to the client in which it was stated that:

The land at the corner of Bynes Road and the Brighton Road was the site of a former gallows. Being convicted criminals it is likely that the bodies would have been buried in close proximity rather than on consecrated ground.

The early OS maps show Bynes road was instated by 1895 and has changed little from its original design until modern times. By 1913 two outbuildings had been built on the study site to the rear of the middle property fronting Brighton Road. By 1933 public lavatories had been built to the south of the site.

Between 1942 and 1955 the former outbuildings had been cleared and a Z- shaped building was instated which was subsequently redeveloped in the 1970's. Between 1972 and 2009 the 1970's building was demolished and cleared.

6. Methodology

The archaeological evaluation was carried out at the proposed development site on 24th August 2011 by PRO Archaeology Services The work at the proposed development site was undertaken by James Vessey (BA Hons, MA, AIFA). The programme of work involved the excavation of a single trial trench measuring 10m x 1.6m (Fig 2).

The evaluation trench was located on a north-south axis through the centre of the site as illustrated on Figure 2.

The modern overburden was carefully removed by a mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The mechanical excavator was used to remove the non-archaeologically significant material in controlled spits of 100mm in order to reveal and limit impact upon the archaeology.

Where appropriate surfaces were inspected, hand cleaned, examined and recorded. Deposits were recorded on standard pro-forma context recording

sheets. All plans and sections were drawn on polyester based drafting film and clearly labelled. A full black and white, colour (35mm transparency) and digital photographic record of the work was taken and will form part of the site archive.

All recording points were accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the site plan. All levels were tied in to Ordnance Datum.

The site archive will include all project records and cultural material produced by the project. The archive will be prepared in accordance with Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990). On completion of the project PRO Archaeology Services will arrange for the archive to be deposited with the Museum of London Archaeological Archive in conjunction with the general standards for archive preparation and deposited with the Museum of London (MOLAS 2009b) within a reasonable time frame (usually three months of completion of the project).

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Number of Contexts | 6 |
| No. of files/paper record | 4 |
| Plan and sections sheets | 1 |
| Bulk Samples | 0 |
| Photographs | 6 digital 4 B&W & 4 Colour Slide |
| Bulk finds | 0 |
| Registered finds | 0 |
| Environmental flots/residue | 0 |

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

The Results

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers in [] indicate features i.e. pit cuts; while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material. Numbers in <> represent masonry features i.e. walls.

A trench measuring 10m in length and 1.6m in width was excavated to a depth of 0.94m (58.13m AOD). The deposit sequence was recorded within the western facing trench section.

The earliest recorded layer across the base of the trench was the mid orange course natural gravel of the Hackney sequence (103). The natural was overlain by (105), a leached brown/grey silt c. 0.22m thick. This was in turn overlain by dark brown humic layer (104), probably a relict topsoil c. 0.32m thick. At the southern end of the trench a brick wall footing was identified <106>, which cut through layers (104, 105 and 103). This wall was of mid 20th century origin, and can probably be related to the building identified within the site in the 1950's. The stratigraphic sequence on the south side of this wall comprised the natural gravel (103), which was overlain by a layer of made ground (102) c. 0.54m thick. The latest layer comprised a modern demolition spread (101) c 0.30m thick which sealed both (102) and (104).

8. Discussion

The results of the archaeological evaluation were successful in establishing the aims and objectives set out at the start of the project in the WSI (Riccoboni 2011).

No archaeological finds or features were identified within the trench. Later deposits recorded within the stratigraphic sequence relate to more modern structures which occupied the site in the mid 20th century AD.

9. Acknowledgements

PRO Archaeology Services would like to thank the client for their assistance during the course of this project.

PLATE 1: General shot of the trench looking south



PLATE 2: General Shot of the Trench Stratigraphy



10. Bibliography

English Heritage 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects*
Greater London Advisory Service 2009; Standards for Archaeological Work,
London region English Heritage external consultation draft

Institute of Field Archaeologists 2008 *Standard and Guidance for an
Archaeological Evaluation*

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999 *Code of Conduct*

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999a *Code of Approved Practice for the
Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*

MOLAS 2009 General Standards for the preparation of archaeological archives
deposited with the Museum of London, MOLAS 2009.

Nixon, McAdam, Tomber & Swain 2003 *A Research Framework for London
Archaeology*. Published by MOLAS 2003

United Kingdom Institute of Conservation 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*
Ref

APPENDIX 1: Context list

| Context No | Trench/Area | Type/deposit/ cut/masonry | Description | Depth (m) | Provisional date |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------|
| 101 | Trench 1 | Demolition layer | Mixed brick and rubble | 0.3 | modern |
| 102 | Trench 1 | Made ground | Hardcore | 0.54 | modern |
| 103 | Trench 1 | Natural gravel | Mid orange course gravel | 0.1 | |
| 104 | Trench 1 | Deposit | Dark brown humic clay silt | 0.32 | |
| 105 | Trench 1 | Deposit | Leached mid brown/grey clay silt | 0.22 | |
| 106 | Trench 1 | Structure | Brick footing of 20 th century origin | - | |

APPENDIX 2: OASIS SUBMISSION SUMMARY

OASIS ID: proarcha1-109133

Project details

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name | Archaeological Evaluation at 1a Bynes Road, South Croydon |
| Short description of the project | An archaeological evaluation involving the supervised mechanical excavation of a single trial trench was carried out by PRO Archaeology Services in advance of the construction of a two storey building comprising four two bedroom flats, vehicular access and associated parking (Planning Ref: 11/01111/P) at 1a Bynes Road, Croydon, CR2 OPY (NGR 532660 163333). The evaluation trench revealed a stratigraphic sequence of natural geology overlaid by leached clay silt, buried topsoil and made ground deposits. A single 20th century wall footing was identified at the southern end of the trench. No archaeological deposits or features were identified within the evaluation trench. |
| Project dates | Start: 24-08-2011 End: 05-09-2011 |
| Previous/future work | No / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 1/0111/P - Planning Application No. |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | None |
| Current Land use | Other 13 - Waste ground |
| Methods & techniques | 'Sample Trenches' |
| Development type | Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.) |
| Prompt | Planning condition |
| Position in the planning process | After full determination (eg. As a condition) |

Project location

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Country | England |
| Site location | GREATER LONDON CROYDON CROYDON 1a Bynes Road, South Croydon |
| Postcode | CR2 OPY |
| Study area | 10.00 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | TQ 326 633 51.3527668525 -0.09555628552880 51 21 09 N 000 05 44 W Point |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 57.50m Max: 58.00m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | PRO Archaeology Services |
| Project brief originator | PRO Archaeology Services |
| Project design originator | PRO Archaeology Services |
| Project director/manager | Paul Riccoboni |
| Project supervisor | James Vessey |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Landowner |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Kishore Dedorda |

Project archives

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Physical Contents | 'Animal Bones' |
| Digital Contents | 'Animal Bones' |

Digital Media
available 'Text'

Paper Media
available 'Context sheet', 'Diary', 'Photograph', 'Report', 'Section', 'Unpublished Text'

Entered by Paul Riccoboni (info@archaeologypro.com)

Entered on 5 September 2011

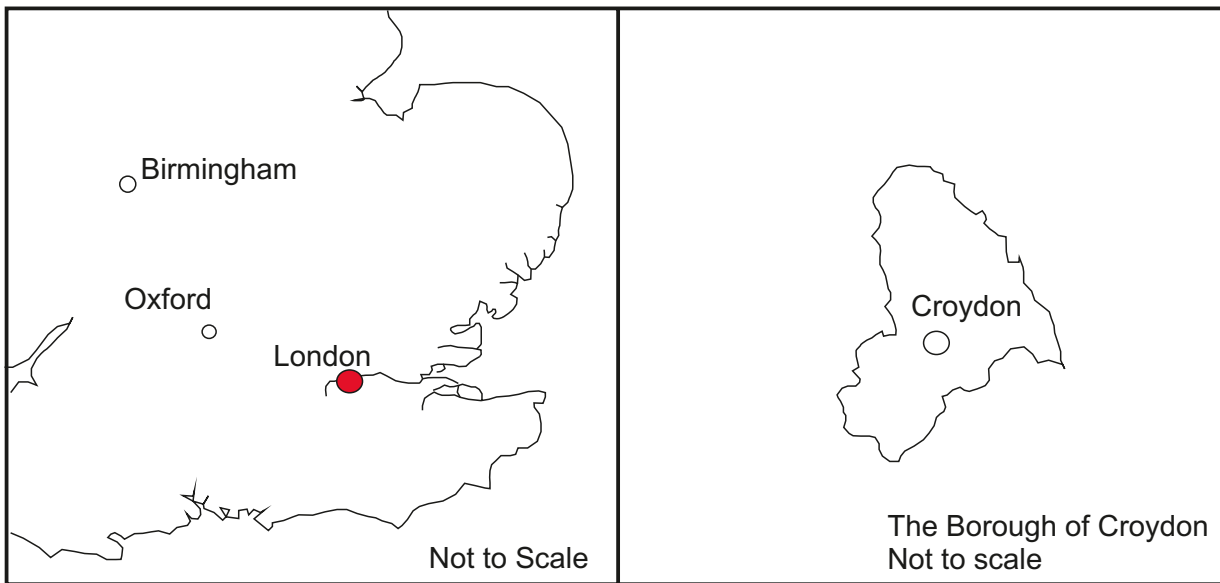


Figure 1: OS map showing location of site 1:25 000 (OS copyright Number : 100048723)



Figure 2: Site Location Plan: Reproduced with kind permission from Howard Fairbairn Architects at an original scale of 1: 500

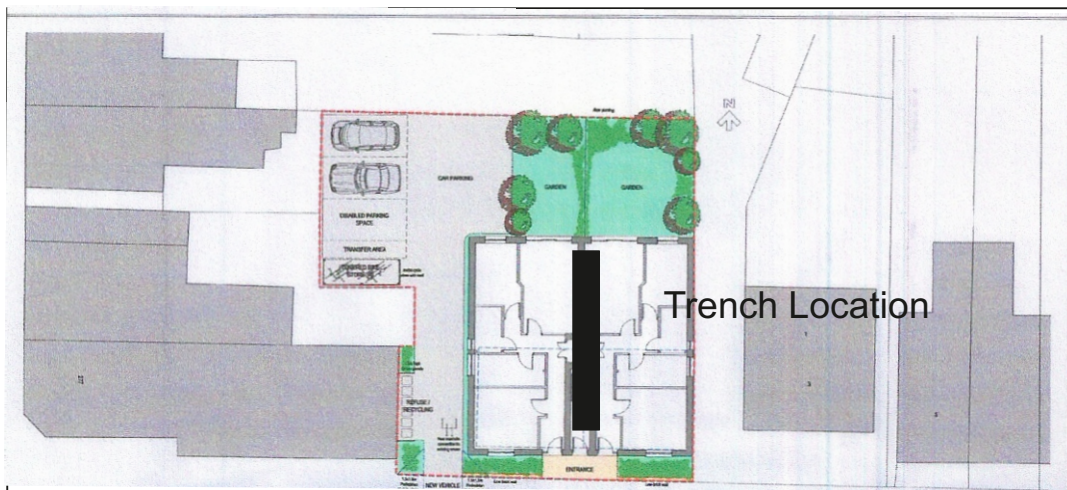


Figure 3: Trench location over new development plan at a scale of 1:500 reproduced from Howard Fairbairn Architects obtained from online planning register.

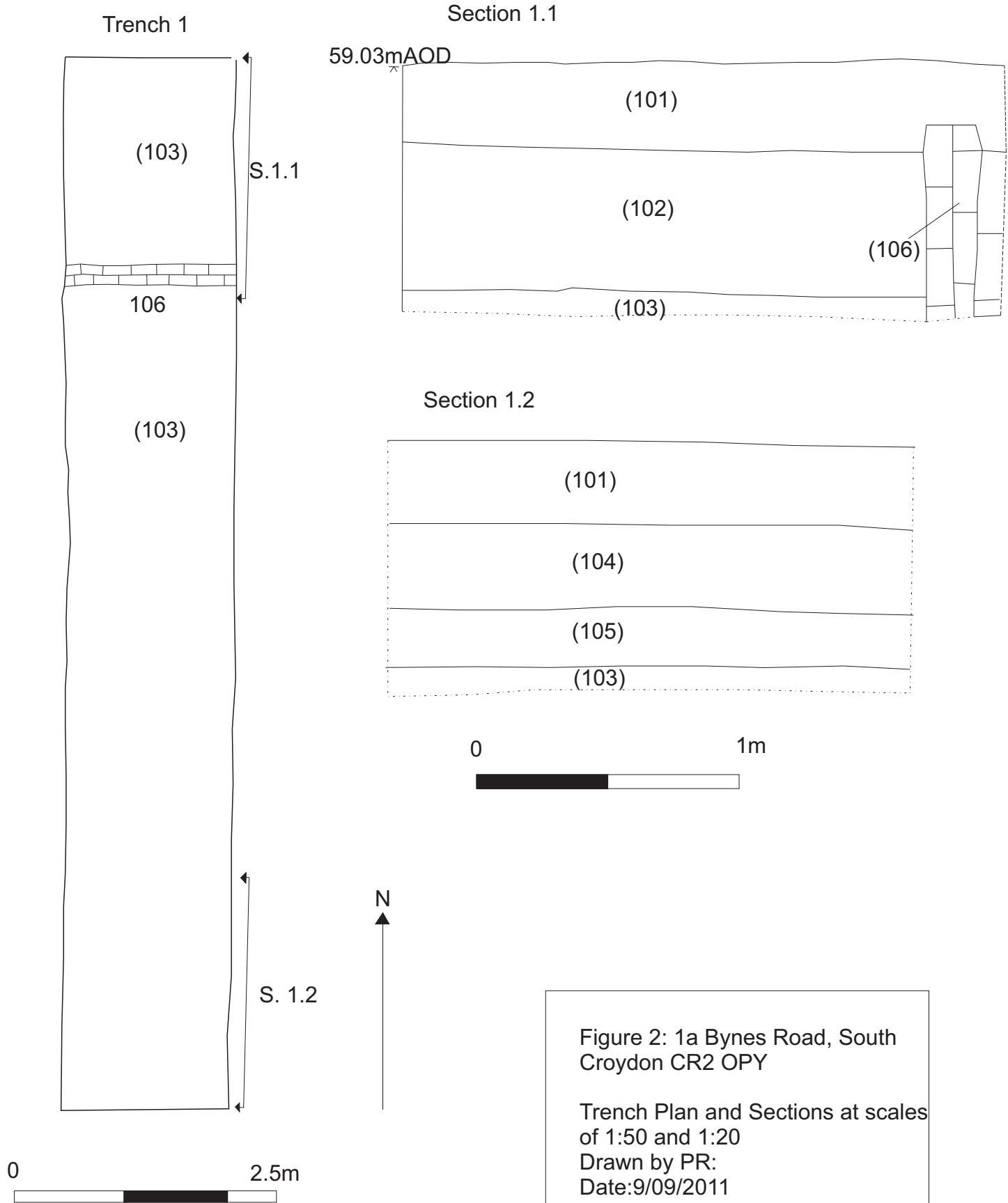


Figure 2: 1a Bynes Road, South Croydon CR2 OPY

Trench Plan and Sections at scales of 1:50 and 1:20

Drawn by PR:

Date:9/09/2011

Copyright: PAS