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Front cover

Folding knife from a fourth-century Roman burial. The knife was accompanied by glass vessels, a key and bone inlay from a casket or box, and was excavated at Lant Street, Southwark. The knife is probably imported and its ivory handle, in the form of a panther, is stylistically best paralleled by an example from a cemetery in Carthage. Possible African ancestry for the teenager buried with these grave goods is supported by isotopic work, which forms part of a series of analyses suggesting a strong mediterranean bias to the population. The 83 predominantly late Roman inhumations and two cremation burials excavated at the site, demonstrate a range of burial practices and add to a growing body of cemetery evidence from across the suburb.

A monograph detailing the excavations is due to be published by Pre-Construct Archaeology this autumn: Leary, K, Sudds, B and Ridgeway, V, forthcoming, *Roman Burials in Southwark: Excavations at 52–56 Lant Street and 56 Southwark Bridge Road*.

Also look out for the Spring 2014 edition of *London Archaeologist*, which will focus on archaeology in Southwark.

Photo: Strephon Duckering
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