FORMER BOW FIRE STATION, 64 PARNELL ROAD, BOW, LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

PCA REPORT NO: R12174

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AUGUST 2015

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

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FORMER BOW FIRE STATION, 64 PARNELL ROAD, TOWER HAMLETS: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON SITE INVESTIGATIONS

Museum of London Site Code:	**PLB 15**
Local Planning Authority:	**Tower Hamlets**
Central NGR:	**TQ 37005 83524**
Commissioning Client:	**Education Funding Agency (EFA)**
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August 2015

PCA Report No: R12174

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1 ABSTRACT

1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. during geotechnical site investigations carried out at the former Bow Fire Station, 64 Parnell Road, Tower Hamlets, in advance of development.

1.2 The fieldwork was carried out between 29th June and 20th July 2015. This consisted of an archaeological watching brief on three hand dug foundation inspection pits, three machine excavated trial pits and the hand excavated trial pits in borehole locations to check for buried services. The work was commissioned by the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

1.3 The watching brief identified natural river gravels and London Clay within the borehole and trial pit locations. A clay deposit overlying the gravels in one location was also clean of modern material and considered to be natural. The latter was overlain by an undated soil horizon. The majority of the areas investigated illustrated the presence of post-medieval levelling/dump deposits. In the south of the study site, the dump deposits were of a different composition and extended to over 2.8m BGL. These were considered to represent the infilling of a deeper cut feature, of post-medieval date. The depth of these deposits, however, prevented access to the trench, and the presence of multiple deposits of earlier date ranges cannot be ruled out entirely.

1.4 Few modern intrusions, other than the construction for the extant fire station, were noted. However, areas of known services were avoided, and therefore the impact of these features could not be established. The interventions within the back yard of the fire station revealed a consistent sequence of modern overburden comprising demolition debris (relating to the terraced properties pre-dating the fire station) capped by concrete and tarmac. This sequence was recorded to a total depth of around 0.50m BGL. It is also noteworthy that the height of natural gravel within the easterly borehole might suggest that not all of the former Victorian terraces known to have occupied this part of the site were basemented.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) during geotechnical investigations in advance of redevelopment at 64 Parnell Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

2.2 The site is located within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, and centred at National Grid Reference TQ 37005 83524, and comprises a roughly square shaped plot of land currently occupied by a disused fire station. Site investigations were limited to a single pit along the fire station frontage (to the west) with the remainder within the back plot to the east of the extant structure. The site is bound by Parnell Road to the west, Roman Road and a number of properties fronting this to the north and a Sports Court associated with development along Garrison Road/Lefevre Park to the east. The southern boundary is defined by extant properties fronting onto both Parnell Road and Garrison Road.

2.3 PCA was commissioned for the watching brief by the Education Funding Agency in advance of proposed redevelopment. The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the Local Planning Authority's planning policy map. The site does not encompass, nor lie within the immediate vicinity of any Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

2.4 The project was undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2015; Mott MacDonald 2015b).

2.5 Following the completion of the project the site archive will be deposited in its entirety with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) identified by the unique code PLB 15.

2.6 The watching brief was conducted between 29th June and 20th July 2015.

2.7 The project was managed for PCA by Tim Bradley. The watching brief was supervised by the author.

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Geology

3.1.1 The British Geological Survey shows the site to be underlain by the London Clay formation, a clay, silt and sand horizon formed during the Palaeogene Period. These are overlain by superficial deposits of the Taplow Gravel formation of sand and gravel (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

3.2 Topography

3.2.1 The area under investigation lies within the front and back plots of an extant (disused) fire station, both areas of which are relatively level at c.12.11 m OD.

3.2.2 The site lies 0.43km from the River Lea to the east and 0.31km south of the Hertford Union Canal.

3.2.3 Ground level at the crossroads between Roman Road and Parnell Road lies at 12.6m OD falling gently to 11.0m OD outside properties 33-45 Parnell Road c.160m south-east of the subject site.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

4.1 Research into the archaeological and historical background of the site has previously been carried out as part of a desk-based assessment of the site (Mott Macdonald 2015a). This examined the Greater London Historic Environment Record, for all records within a 500m radius of the site boundary. The following represents a summary of the background as presented in that report:

4.2 **Prehistoric**

4.2.1 Archaeological investigations on nearby and adjacent sites (discussed below) have demonstrated evidence of a range of pre-Roman activity in this area. The site is located in the valley of the River Lea (or Lee), which rises in Bedfordshire and joins the Thames to the south. The course of the river has altered over time, with several phases of re-cutting documented. It is possible that settlement may have been focussed on the slightly higher-lying regions of the valley, with the lower-lying ground closer to the river itself (in the vicinity of the area of the proposed development) being utilised more for subsistence and other activities.

4.2.2 A Palaeolithic discoidal knife was recovered on a site adjacent to the north-western boundary of the site (LEK95). Other prehistoric features at this site dated to the Middle or Late Bronze Age. These comprised a ring-shaped enclosure, a number of pits and the remains of a possible substantial post built structure. Pottery and lithics recovered suggested a Bronze Age date.

4.2.3 Other excavations within the immediate vicinity to yield prehistoric material or features were located at Lefevre Walk Electricity Substation (LFV98), 91-93 Parnell Road (PRB95) and at the Bow North Youth Centre (YCP05). These interventions recorded residual flint flakes, cut features (a gully and L-shaped arrangement of post and stake holes), and burnt flint and pottery of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date respectively.

4.2.4 A number of poorly provenanced Late Iron Age coins were recovered to the east of the study site. Further evidence of this period was recorded to the south-west of the site. Excavations (ROB05) recorded a series of undated post-holes and shallow cut features truncating brickearth which were interpreted as prehistoric in date.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 The vast majority of the GLHER data located within a 250m buffer of the area of the proposed development relates to Roman period activity and occupation.

4.3.2 The site is located immediately adjacent to the line of the former London to Colchester Roman Road, which was constructed around AD 50. Evidence of the road has been uncovered at a number of sites on the northern side of the proposed development area, clustered along the B119 Roman Road. The most notable of these was the 1995 archaeological excavation adjacent to the northern boundary of the proposed development area (LEK95). This excavation, which encompassed an area previously occupied by 19th century terraced houses and later structures, as well as part of the B119 road, revealed the well-preserved full width of the Roman period road, which was found to have included a central carriageway with lower auxiliary tracks on either side. There was evidence of repair and resurfacing work to the southern track, as well as of several major phases of development, including the elevation of the auxiliary tracks and transformation into a dual carriageway.

4.3.3 Archaeological excavations, undertaken in advance of a large-scale redevelopment project at F-Block and adjacent land, 271-321 Lefevre Walk Estate, extended across a substantial area. This site was noted above, as also yielding evidence of prehistoric activity. Despite numerous modern intrusions from the previous structures to occupy the site; extensive evidence of Roman period agricultural practice was revealed on either side of the road and a small group of inhumation burials from the second half of the Roman period was found in the northern part of the site. To the south of the Roman road, several features interpreted as quarry pits were identified. These were probably associated with the extraction of sands and gravels for the construction of the road itself, as the material would have been required to form the upper layers of the agger (central section of the road). It is likely that extraction from these vast pits commenced at the outset of groundworks for the Roman period road, as at least one of them appeared to pre-date the southern boundary ditch of the road.

4.3.4 Evidence of Roman period roadside structures from F-Block and adjacent land, 271-321 Lefevre Walk Estate included a short length of the base of a wattle and daub wall and a brickearth floor. It appeared that this building had been destroyed by fire. Numerous contemporary ditches were also encountered on the southern side of the Roman road. It is thought they were cut during the last quarter of the Roman period in order to delineate rectilinear fields or paddocks. These slightly later Roman period features appeared to encroach on the original road zone.

4.3.5 A 2006 archaeological excavation (PNR06) located immediately adjacent to the south-eastern edge of the proposed development area, to the rear of the Overland Children's Centre, identified Roman features as well as the prehistoric ones already noted above. A possible early Roman ploughsoil was observed, in combination with four phases of 3rd and 4th century (Roman period) pitting and ditches. This activity was sealed by medieval and post-medieval agricultural soils. This evidence concurs with the Roman period boundary ditches identified on the southern side of the Roman road, on the other side of the proposed development area.

4.3.6 Archaeological evaluation and excavation undertaken in 2005 at the Bow North Youth Centre (YCP05), approximately 30m to the south-east of the proposed development area also identified Roman period features in addition to the prehistoric ones already noted above. A Roman period ditch, two pits, and two linear cuts were identified. Roman pottery, animal bone and iron slag was collected from the ditch fill. It was observed that some of the pot sherds were coated in soot internally, which it has been suggested might be evidence of iron-working usage. In combination with the slag identified this may indicate a Roman period iron-working site at this location.

4.4 Early Medieval and Medieval

4.4.1 Evidence for activity relating to these periods within the study area is sparse, and suggests only activity of a horticultural or agricultural nature. This concurs with the cartographic evidence, which indicates the area as still largely rural in nature on the much later maps of the mid 19th century. A rural settlement was re-established at Old Ford, however, in the late 11th century. This is not surprising, given that it is likely that both the former Roman road and the Roman crossing of the River Lea at Old Ford would be likely to have remained in use. The river may also have remained navigable at that time and would have been a resource for subsistence and industrial processes, such as for the 13th century fulling mill recorded as located on the river, to the east of the area of the proposed development. In the 12th century the river crossing at Old Ford was deemed too hazardous and was relocated slightly further south to Bow.

4.4.2 Old Ford itself is not featured in the Domesday survey, as the ancient parish of Stratford Bow, including Old Ford, appears to have formed a part of the Manor of Stepney, which extended from the outer edge of London at that time, to the River Lea to the east until at least the 14th century. The Manor of Stepney was held by the Bishop of London until the 16th century.

4.4.3 The GLHER records the discovery of a field boundary and a large early medieval ditch during archaeological evaluation and watching brief works at Ruston Street, north- west of the proposed development area. The field boundary contained material dating to the 11th to 12th century. Also thought to be of early medieval date was a smaller secondary ditch containing an articulated horse leg. The archaeological investigations at this site also recorded possible late medieval or post-medieval rubble-filled pits, one of which contained possible evidence of metal working.

4.4.4 Other sites within the vicinity have yielded medieval or post-medieval horticultural soil (Bow North Youth Centre) and ditches (BOD91).

4.5 Post Medieval

4.5.1 For much of this period the area of the 250m buffer around the proposed development site would have remained largely rural and agricultural in nature. However, towards the end of the period, from the mid 18th century onwards, the area became progressively more urban.

4.5.2 Crosse's 1861 New Plan of London is the earliest map identified to depict buildings within the proposed development area, though the eastern corner appears to have still been undeveloped. By the time of the 1873 Ordnance Survey map, terraced houses and other buildings occupy the western, northern, and eastern edges of the site, with the area in between consisting of their rear gardens. In the period between the 1861 and 1873 maps it appears that the houses fronting onto Parnell Road, initially labelled as Park Terrace, may have been either redeveloped, or had extensions added to the rear. However, rather than a genuine phase of construction or redevelopment at the site; this may be a simplistic feature of the earlier map, in that Park Terrace may have been symbolically represented as a rectangular block, without detailing the precise shapes or features that may have been in existence even at that time.

4.5.3 This cartographic evidence is corroborated by a range of archaeological observations in the area, such as 18th century pot and clay tobacco pipe fragments noted in a ploughsoil during a 1991 archaeological watching brief (ARG91) undertaken at various sites in the area of Hewison Road, south-west of the proposed development area. Other evidence observed indicated post-medieval occupation at these sites.

4.5.4 Late 19th century foundations and demolition debris was also recorded during a 1994 watching brief (ARA94) at 72a Armagh Road, and 91-93 Parnell Road. Horticultural trenches and pits (including quarry pits), some of which were filled with domestic refuse were encountered at the site of the 1995 excavation at 91-93 Parnell Road, west-northwest of the proposed development area. Pits containing post-medieval detritus were also observed during the 1994-5 archaeological watching briefs across the Lefevre Walk Estate area to the north, south, and east of the former fire station. One of the test pits also contained chalk blocks with mortar adhering, although there was no evidence for an in-situ structure at this location.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

5.1 In accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2015; Mott MacDonald 2015b), an archaeological monitoring exercise was undertaken during geotechnical works at 64 Parnell Road, Tower Hamlets, E3. This entailed monitoring three hand excavated foundation inspection pits (TPs 201-203), three machine excavated trial pits (TPs 204-206) and the hand excavation of the upper 1.2m of ground above two borehole locations (BH 101 and BH 102). The dimensions of the trial pits are detailed below:

Pit/Borehole Number	Dimensions (m)		
	North-South	East-West	Depth
BH101	0.25	0.25	15.60
BH102	0.25	0.25	23.50
BH103	0.25	0.25	23.70
TP201	0.40	0.60	1.38
TP202	1.00	1.10	1.55
TP203	0.80	1.70	0.78
TP204	2.20	0.90	2.50
TP205	2.10	0.80	1.10
TP206	0.80	2.00	2.80

5.2 All excavation took place under archaeological supervision, with the machine excavated trenches taking place with a machine fitted with a ditching bucket.

5.3 The pits were, if access was possible, cleaned by hand, recorded and photographed. Recording of the deposits was accomplished using the Single Context Recording Method on proforma context and planning sheets, as presented in PCA's Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009). Contexts were numbered and are shown in this report within squared brackets. Plans and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20.

5.4 The areas monitored were located by means of a Total Station courtesy of RSA Geotechnics.

5.5 The completed archive, comprising all written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the unique Site Code PLB 15.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE (FIGURE 3 AND PLATES 1-4)

6.1 Phase 1: Natural

6.1.1 Silty clay containing sand and shell lenses indicative of the Lambeth Group was encountered within all three boreholes. This was recorded at depths of 15.30m BGL (BH101), 15.10m BGL (BH102) and 16.10m BGL (BH103). These deposits extended to the base of the excavated borehole and were sealed by London Clay.

6.1.2 London Clay [10] was also identified within boreholes 101, 102 and 103 at depths of between 7.8m BGL and 8.30m BGL, or between 4.31m OD and 3.81m OD. This was overlain by river terrace gravels. The latter comprised loose, yellow-brown, coarse sandy gravels [3] and was identified within the boreholes, in addition to trial pits 204, 205 and 206. The gravel extended to a maximum thickness, as seen within BH102, of 7.20m from a depth of 0.90m BGL. Gravels were encountered at higher elevations of 0.80m BGL in northerly trial pit 205, but were generally recorded between 1m and 1.10m BGL (c. 11.01m OD).

6.1.3 Potential horizontal truncation was identified within TP206 and BH103. In TP206 the uppermost gravel horizon was identified at 2.30m BGL, or 9.69m OD and in BH103 the gravel was recorded from 3.80m BGL (c. 8.31m OD) with a thickness of only 4.50m. The greater thicknesses of 'made ground' in these locations may indicate potential archaeological horizons.

6.1.4 Overlying the gravels within TP205 was a deposit of possible brickearth [6]. This extended to an observed thickness of c.0.25m from 0.55m BGL.

6.2 Phase 2: Undated

6.2.1 Overlying the brickearth [6] within TP205 was a 0.25m thick layer of firm, dark brownish black organic rich sandy silt [5]. The layer contained moderate amounts of small to medium sized sub-angular gravels, but was otherwise clean of additional material. As such, this was interpreted as a soil horizon and remains undated. Water ingress within this trench prevented further examination to refine these interpretations.

6.3 Phase 3: Post-medieval

6.3.1 Deposits of loose, sandy silt containing sub-rounded gravels, CBM flecks and occasional fragments of animal bone were identified within a number of the trial pits. These were recorded within TP202 as [7] and extended to a thickness of 1m from 0.55m BGL. Additional dump layers of comparable composition were recorded within BHs 101, 102 and 103. These layers were identified at between 0.55m BGL and 0.65m BGL and were recorded as deposits [2], [9] and [38] respectively with thicknesses of between 0.75m, 0.35m and 3.30m. The latter deposit [38] is likely to represent numerous layers or horizons as opposed to a single dump layer given the method of retrieval and limited exposure which will have masked any more subtle variations in composition.

6.3.2 Layer [4] was identified within southern TP206 only and comprised loose, dark brown, fine sandy silt containing occasional inclusions of glass, animal bone, metal, oyster shell and CBM. The glass recovered dated from the mid 18th century. The deposit was first identified at 0.80m BGL and extended to a thickness of between 1.50m and 2m. It is noteworthy that the layer contained a concentration of chalk fragments including worked chalk blocks at around 1.55m BGL (sized up to 240mm by 330mm by 140mm) and extended beyond the base of the trench at the north-eastern limits. Given the depth of the trench and instability of surrounding deposits, hand examination of the pit was not possible. The layer was therefore interpreted as one of a series of deposits or potential fills of a larger cut feature, explaining the drop in the elevation of natural gravels between the southern and northern limits of the pit. Greenish silty lenses within the deposit might suggest this to be a backfilled cess pit, or boundary ditch. No further interpretation was possible. It should also be noted that the date of the glass may disguise the presence of earlier deposits at the lower levels of the layer.

6.3.3 Sealing layer [4] were the remnants of a concrete foundation [8]. This was only identified in one corner of the pit from 0.70m BGL and followed a roughly north-south alignment. This was considered to represent the foundations for a since removed/demolished wall.

6.4 Phase 4: Modern

6.4.1 Variable amounts of modern overburden sealed the trial pits. Made ground within TP201, layer [1] comprised coarse sandy silt containing brick rubble and slate, and was considered to represent backfill of the construction cut for the extant fire station. This, in turn, was overlain by 0.53m of demolition rubble, overlain by a 0.15m combined thickness of concrete and brick.

6.4.2 The trial pits to the rear of the fire station were consistently overlain by demolition rubble, concrete and tarmac. The tarmac and concrete extended between 0.30m and 0.45m in thickness, with the demolition rubble generally extending to a depth of between 0.80m BGL (TP206) and 1.10m BGL (TP204).

Plate 1: East facing shot of TP201

Plate 2: West facing shot of TP202

Plate 3: View to south-east of TP204

Plate 4: View to south of TP206 with dump layer [4]

7 INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Interpretations:

7.1.1 Natural London Clay was observed only within the deeper borehole investigations, and was overlain by river terrace gravels. The gravels were observed within only the machine excavated pits at depths of largely around 1m BGL. Deeper truncation was implied in the greater thickness of made ground, and corresponding lower elevation of gravel horizons within trial pit 206 and BH103. Other natural deposits identified comprised a possible brickearth horizon overlying the gravels.

7.1.2 An undated soil horizon [5] was identified within a single trench (TP205) in the north of the site, directly below the concrete slab. The deposit was distinctively organic, and clean of modern material. Whether this represents garden soil associated with one of the former Victorian terraces or a much older horizon remains unknown at present.

7.1.3 Numerous deposits considered to represent post-medieval dump layers were encountered across the site. These were observed around 0.50m BGL and generally extended to thicknesses of between 0.60m and 1m. Although these were observed to directly seal natural gravels within the boreholes, it is unclear whether this was also true within the other trial pits. These were believed to represent dump/levelling deposits relating to the layout of properties pre-dating the Fire Station.

7.1.4 A different sequence was observed within the most southerly trial pit (TP206). A more organic deposit of sandy silt [4] extended beyond the base of the pit and extended up to 2m in thickness. It is highly likely that this represents a series of comparable deposits rather than a single event. Furthermore, the inclusion of chalk blocks within the layer may indicate the demolition of earlier properties within the immediate vicinity, or the presence of features pre-dating the post-medieval period. Given, the drop in the underlying gravel towards the north-east of the pit, it is also likely that the deposits observed represent fills of a larger cut feature such as a cess pit or ditch. A similarly sudden drop in the level of gravel was evident within BH103, with the overlying 'made ground' extending to c.3.30m in thickness.

7.1.5 All areas were overlain by varying depths of demolition debris, concrete and tarmac. Demolition debris in the north of the subject site was observed to directly seal natural gravels and may indicate an area of landscaping/horizontal truncation. Other than the foundations for the extant fire station, no other significant areas of modern truncation were noted.

7.2 Research Objectives:

7.2.1 The archaeological investigations sought to address the following research questions:

- Establish the presence and extent of modern truncation or disturbance across the site:

Other than the foundations for the extant fire station, no significant truncations were recorded across the study site. Demolition debris encountered directly over natural gravels in the north of the site, and widespread demolition debris across the remainder of the site, however, may indicate some horizontal truncation. This is likely to relate to clearance of former post-medieval properties pre-dating the fire station. Numerous services, however, were visible across the study site, and it is unclear at present to what depths these extend to or what impact these may have had upon the archaeological resource.
Historic maps illustrated that the eastern limits of the site were formerly occupied by a Victorian terrace until the mid/late 20th century. BH101 was located within the vicinity of these former properties. The recovery of natural gravels from only 1.15m BGL would suggest that not all of these properties were basemented, and therefore truncation in this area may not be as great as previously thought.

- Determine the stratigraphy across the site to establish a likelihood of archaeological remains being present:
  A consistent sequence of modern overburden comprising demolition material overlain by concrete/tarmac was identified across the eastern limits of the site. This suggested that should archaeological horizons survive, these lie around c.0.50m BGL. Exceptions to this appear to be within the area of concrete surrounding the extant drill tower, which encountered potential soil horizon directly below the 0.30m thick concrete slab. This layer sealed a possible layer of brickearth, a horizon which in adjacent excavations Roman/prehistoric features have been shown to be cut into.

  The depth of natural gravels, where not truncated, tended to lie between 0.80m and 1.10m BGL, suggesting a potential archaeological sequence of between 0.30m and 0.60m in thickness within the eastern/central areas of the site. An increase in the potential survival for prehistoric/Roman cut features may be suggested for areas of the site which illustrate gravels at the higher elevations, due to less horizontal truncation/landscaping.

  The sequences in the southern and north-eastern limits however were slightly different to other parts of the site. This revealed a greater thickness of demolition material, which sealed an extensive dump or fill of archaeological interest within the southern trial pit. Natural horizons were also significantly lower in these locations than in other parts of the site, with gravel not observed beyond 2.8m BGL in the north-eastern limits of the pit and at 3.80m BGL within the north-eastern borehole. This might suggest a greater concentration of activity within these areas, with the survival of deeper cut features, and therefore a greater potential for the survival of archaeological features or horizons.

  It should however be noted, that the south-western limits of the site could not be investigated due to extant services. Furthermore, the frontage of the fire station (western limits of the site) was only subjected to a single foundation inspection pit. Therefore, the archaeological potential of these areas remains unknown.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for commissioning the fieldwork. Thanks also go to Josephine Janik and George Newman of Mott MacDonald for monitoring the work on behalf of the EFA. Thanks are also due to Nick Bray of RSA Geotechnics for his assistance on site and the provision of survey data.

8.2 The author would like to thank Tim Bradley for project management and editing, and Ray Murphy or the illustrations.

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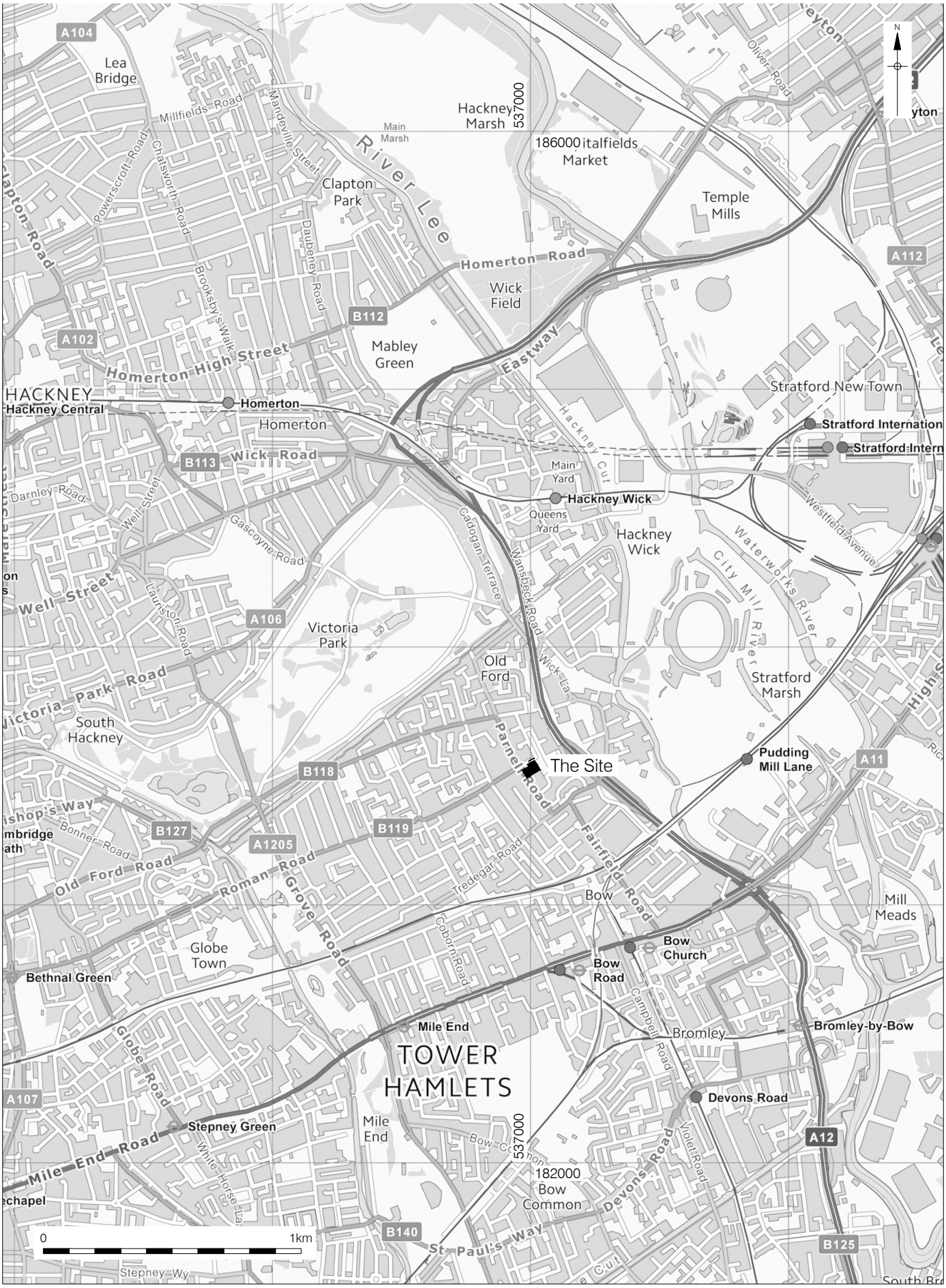

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Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4

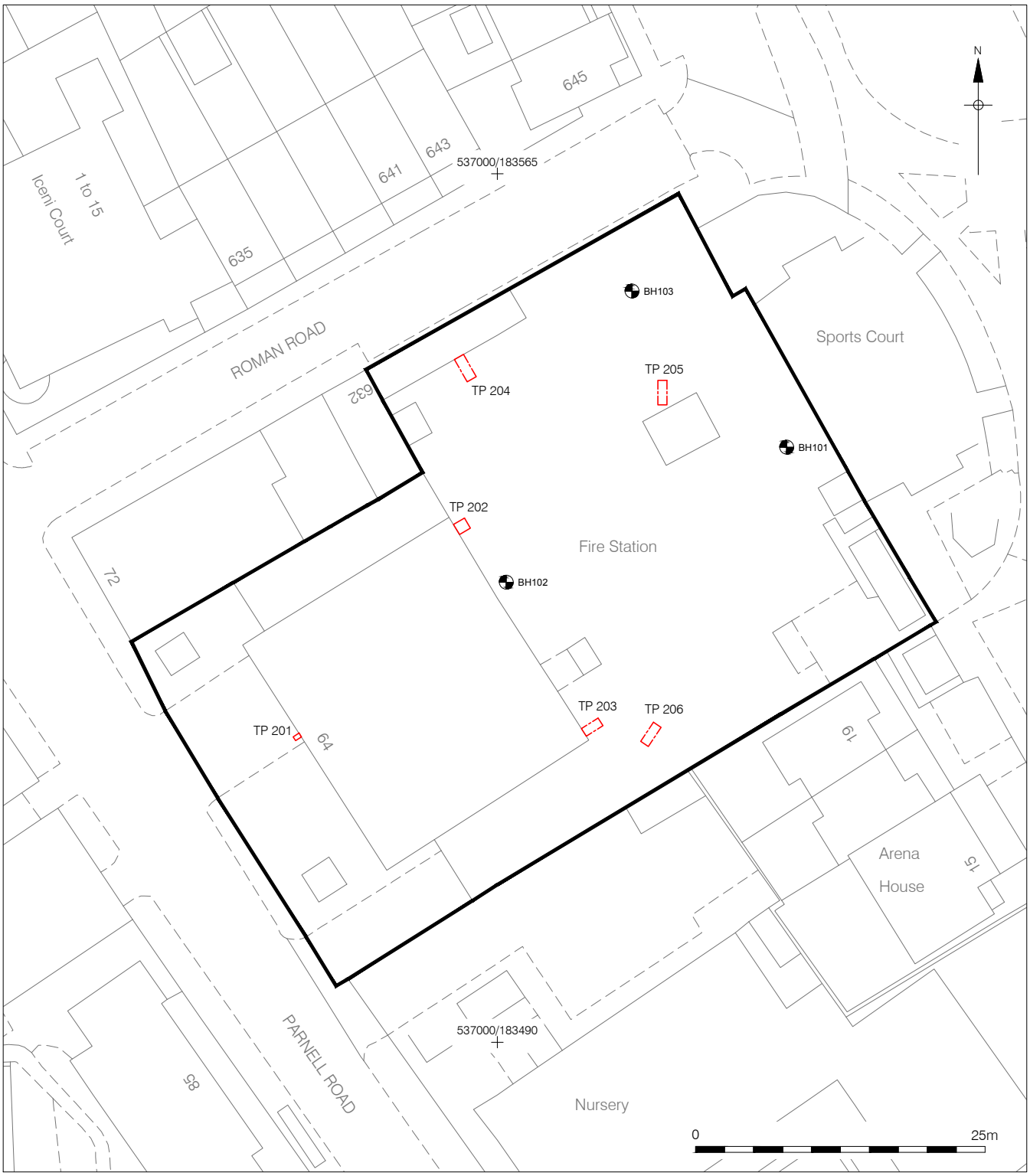

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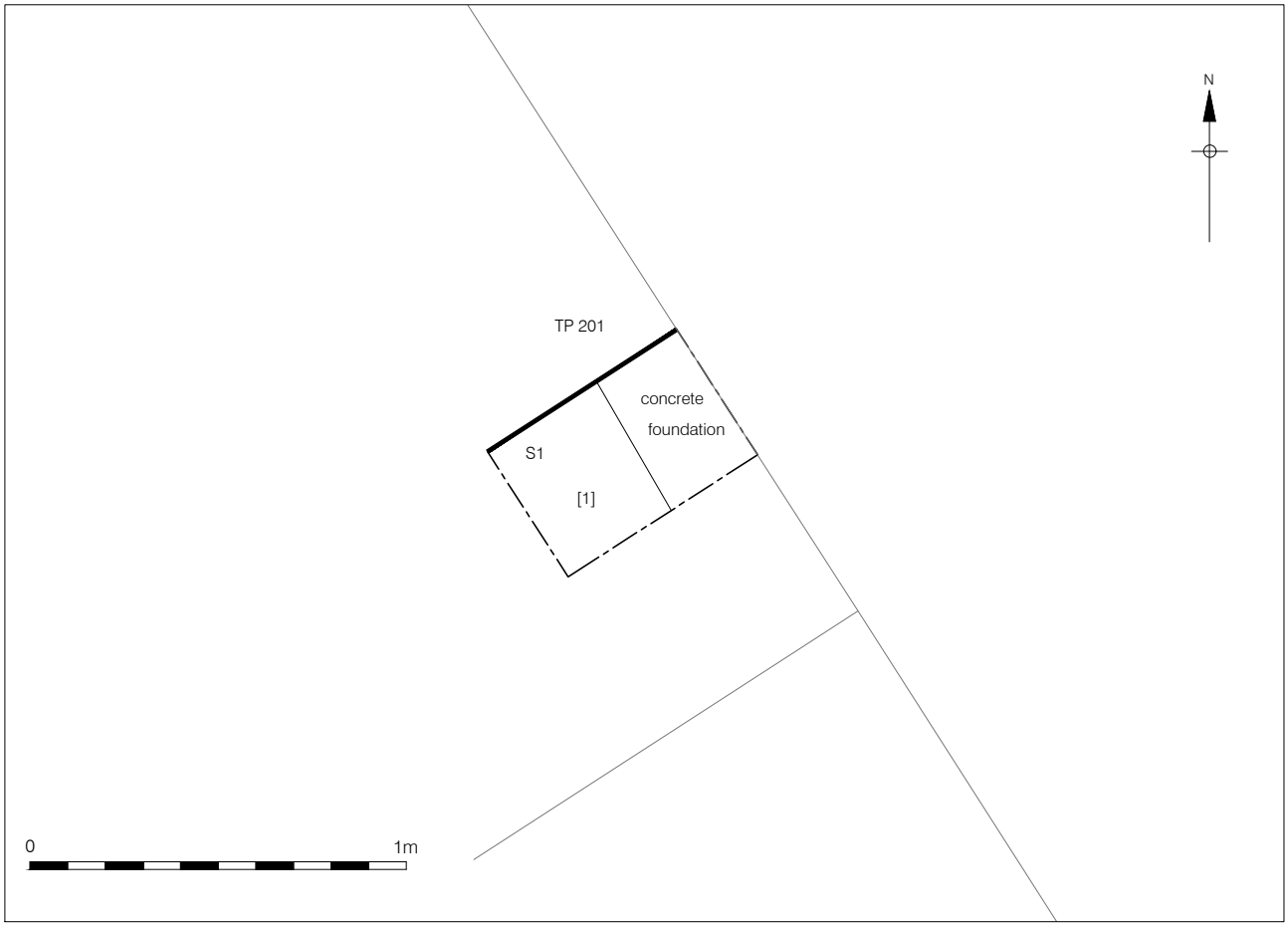
Figure 2
Trench Location
1:500 at A4



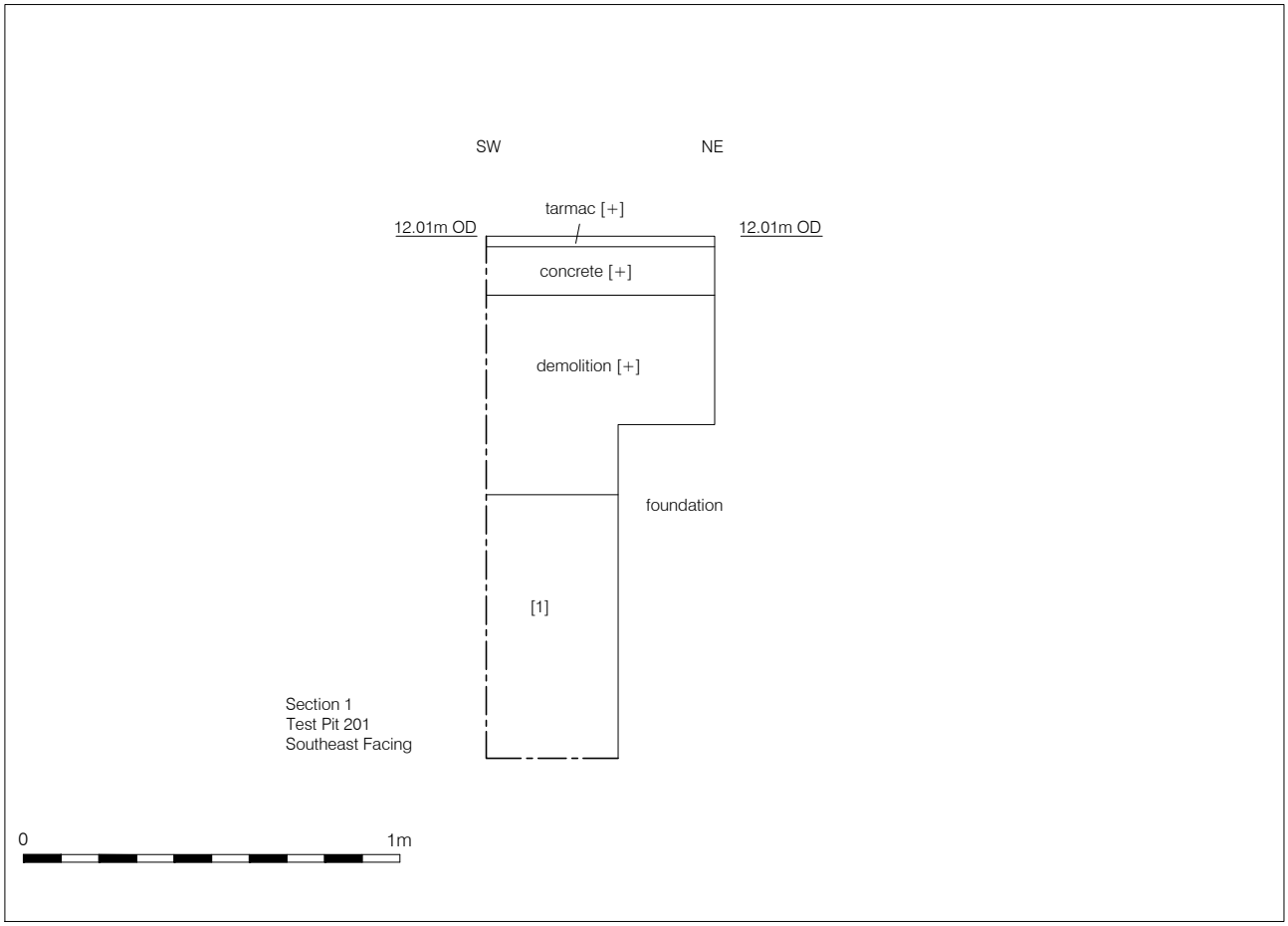


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Figure 3
Plan and section of Test Pit 201
1:20 at A4

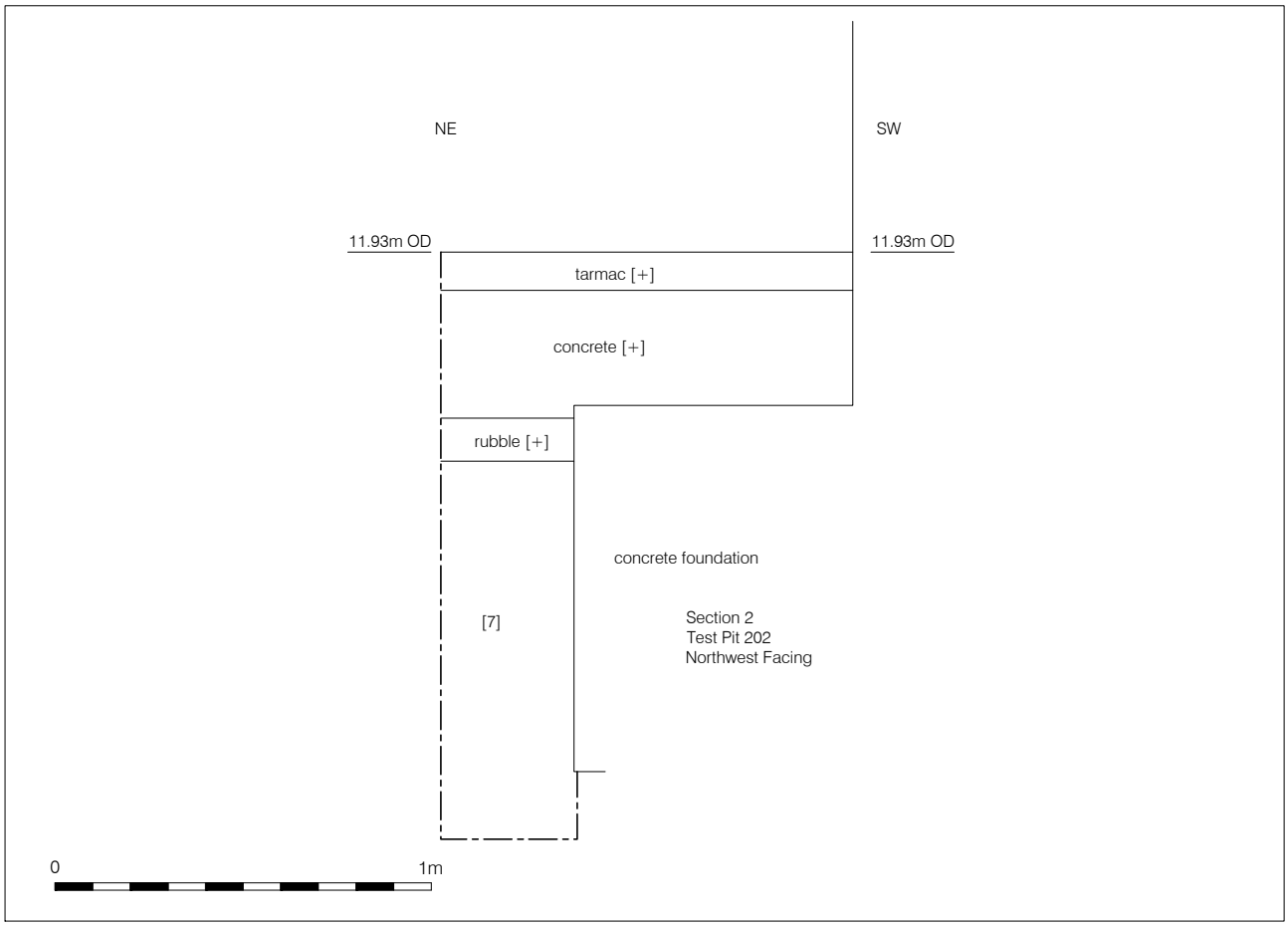

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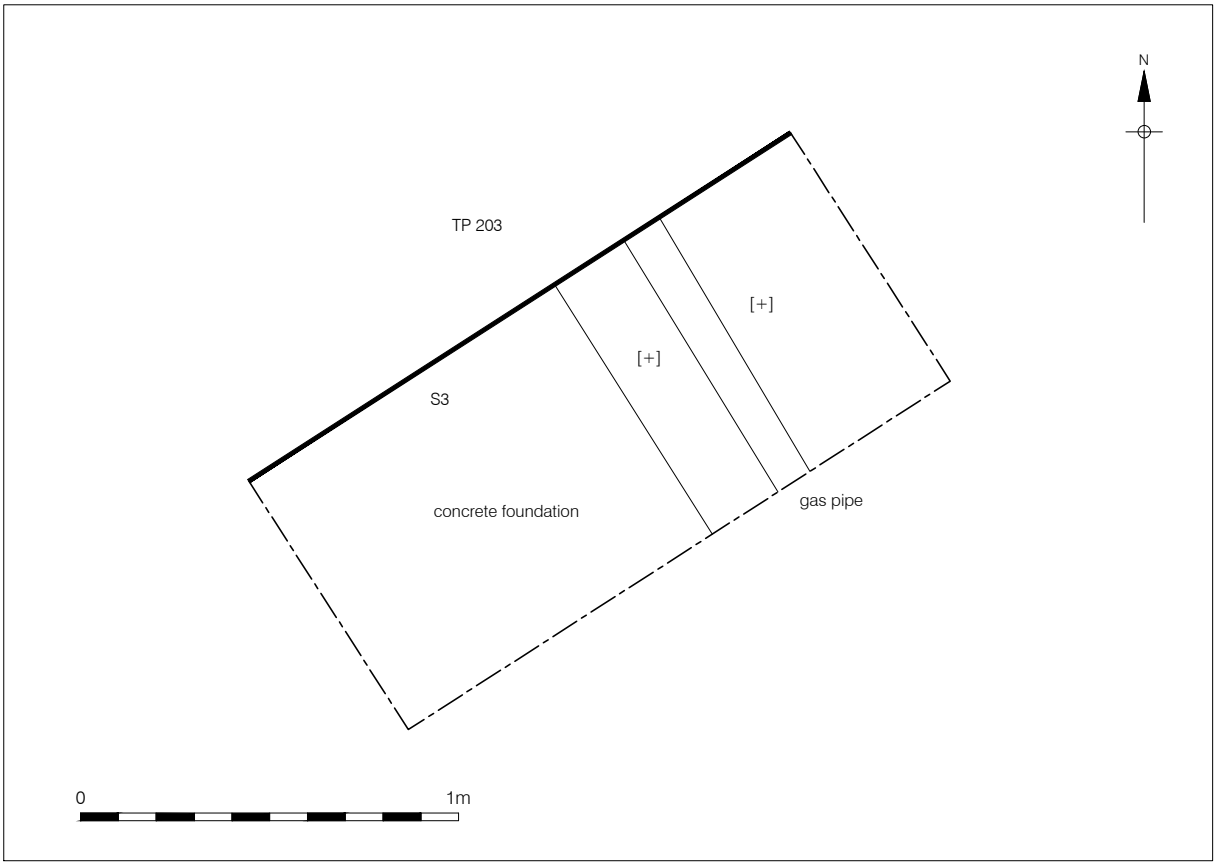
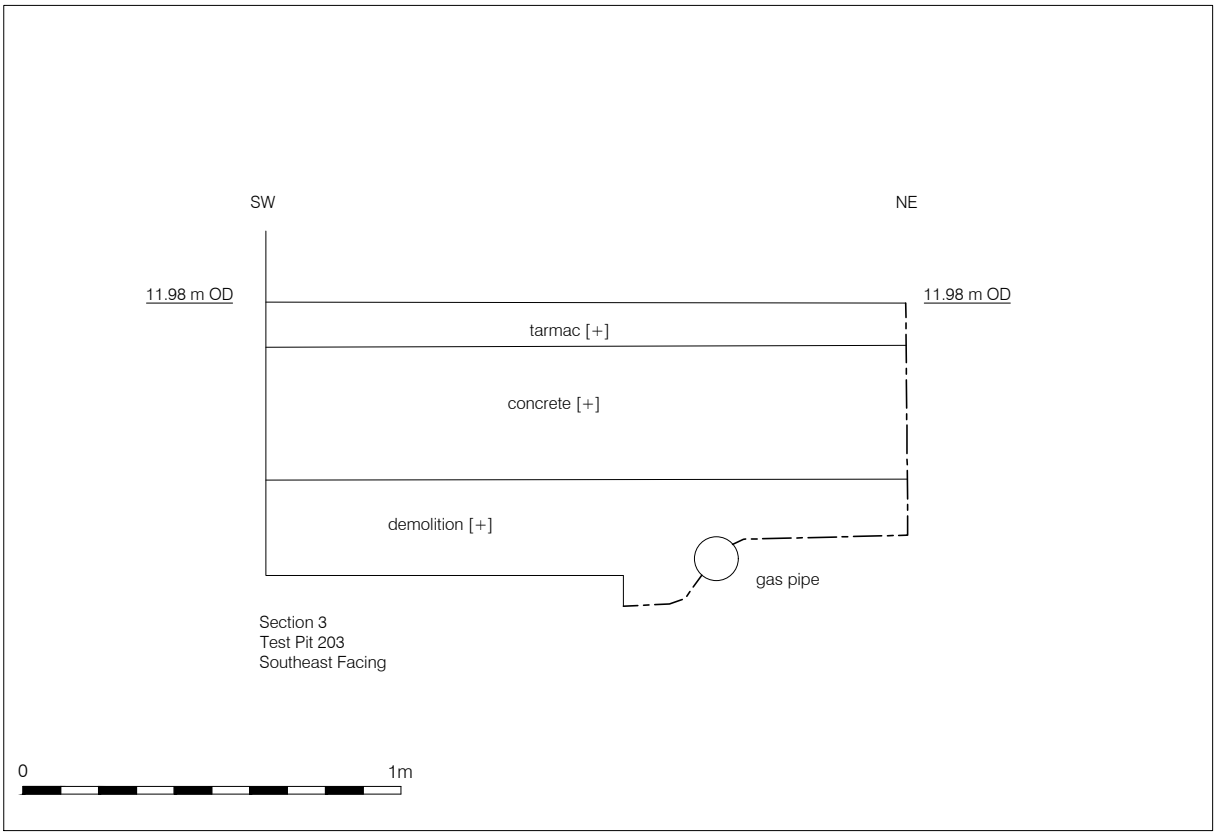
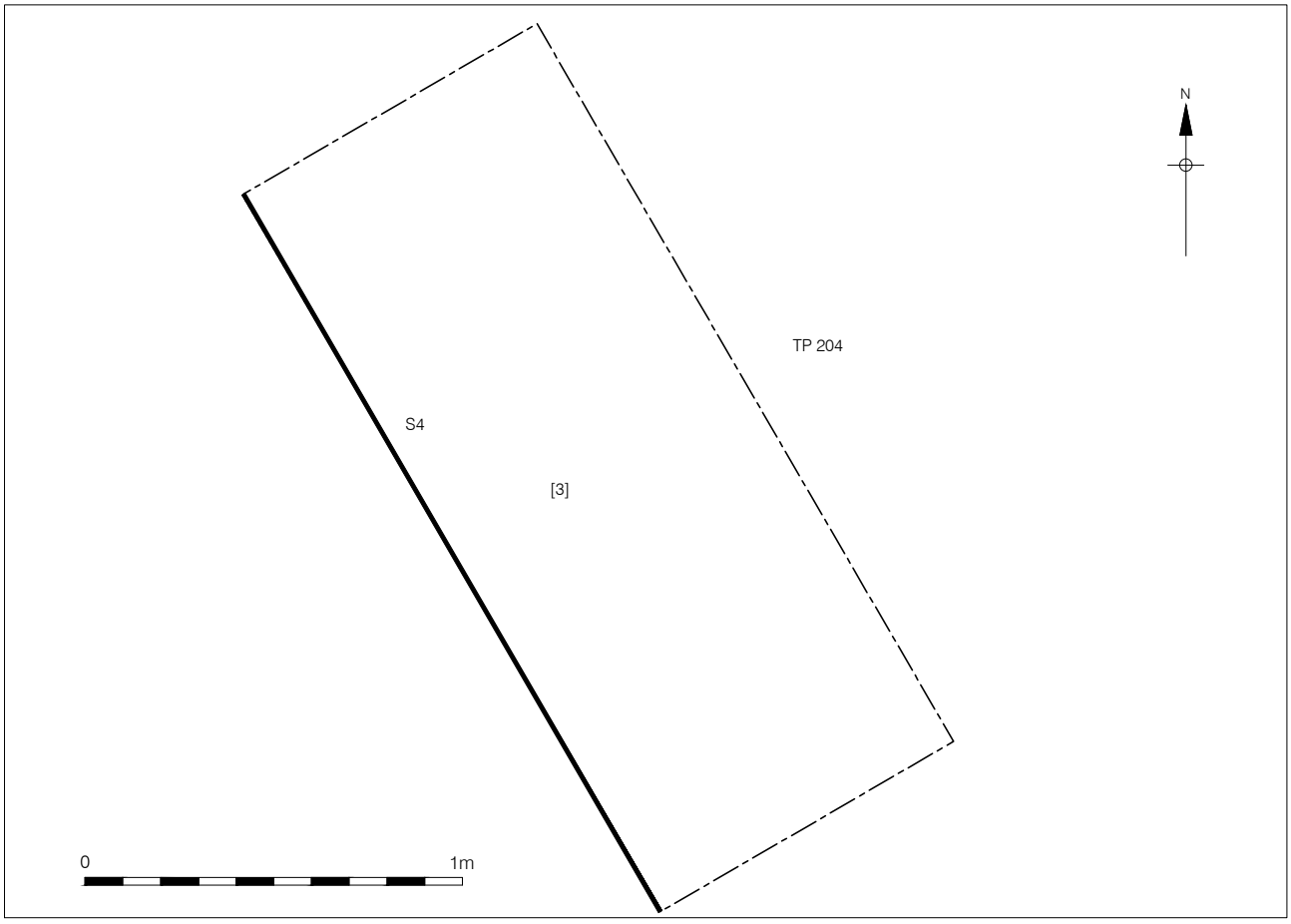
Figure 4
Plan and section of Test Pit 202
1:20 at A4

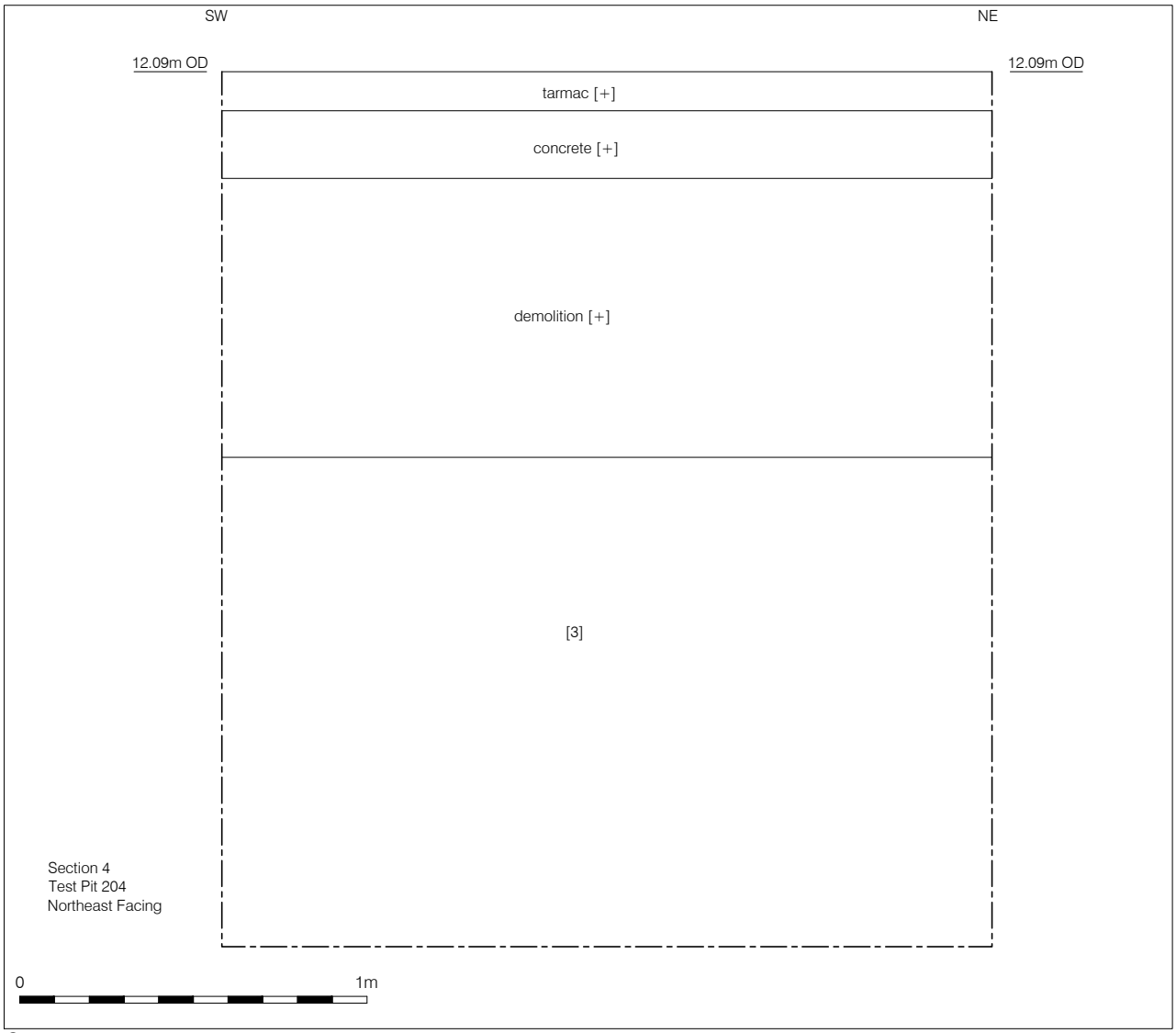




03/08/15 RM

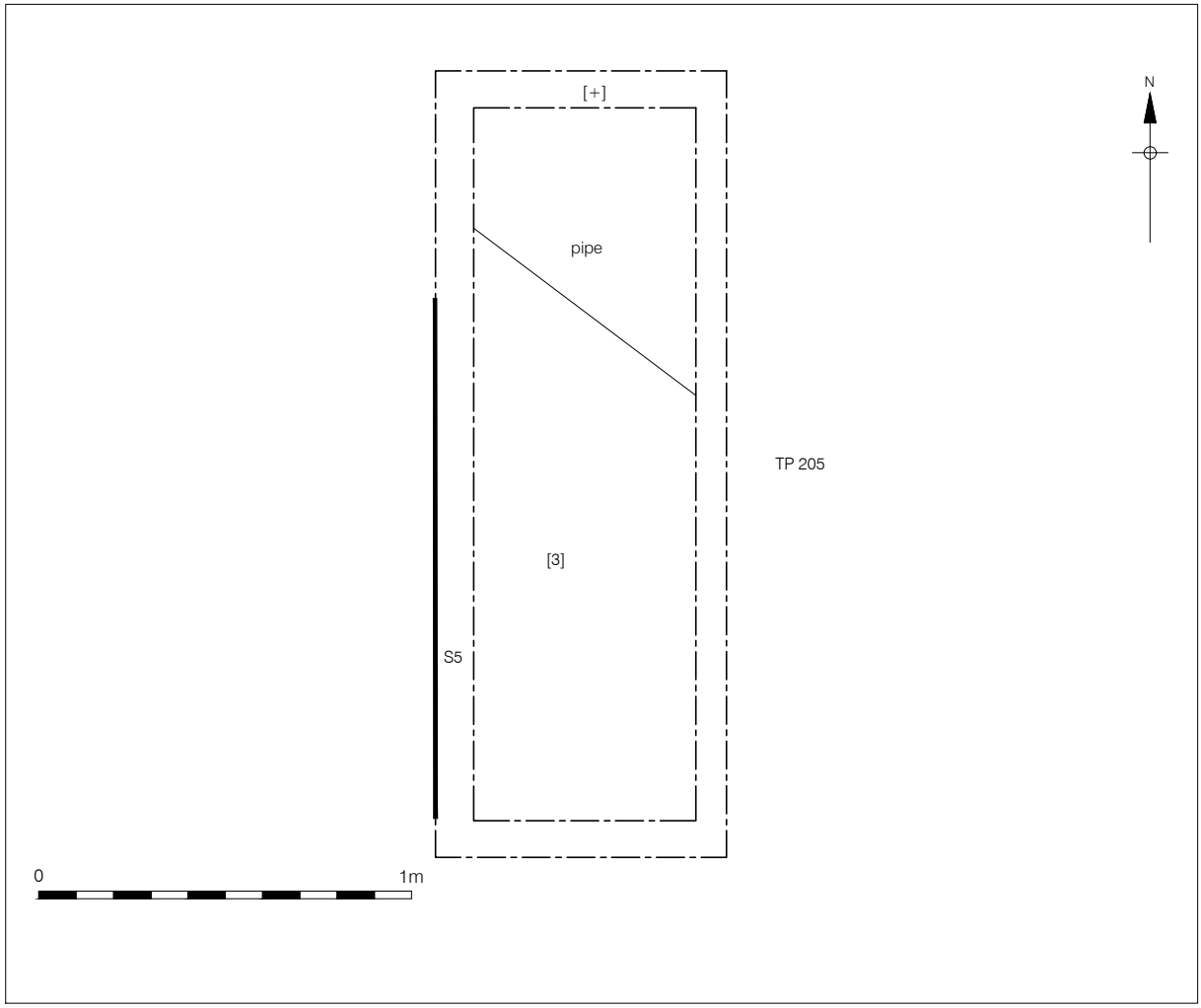
Figure 5
Plan and section of Test Pit 203
1:20 at A4

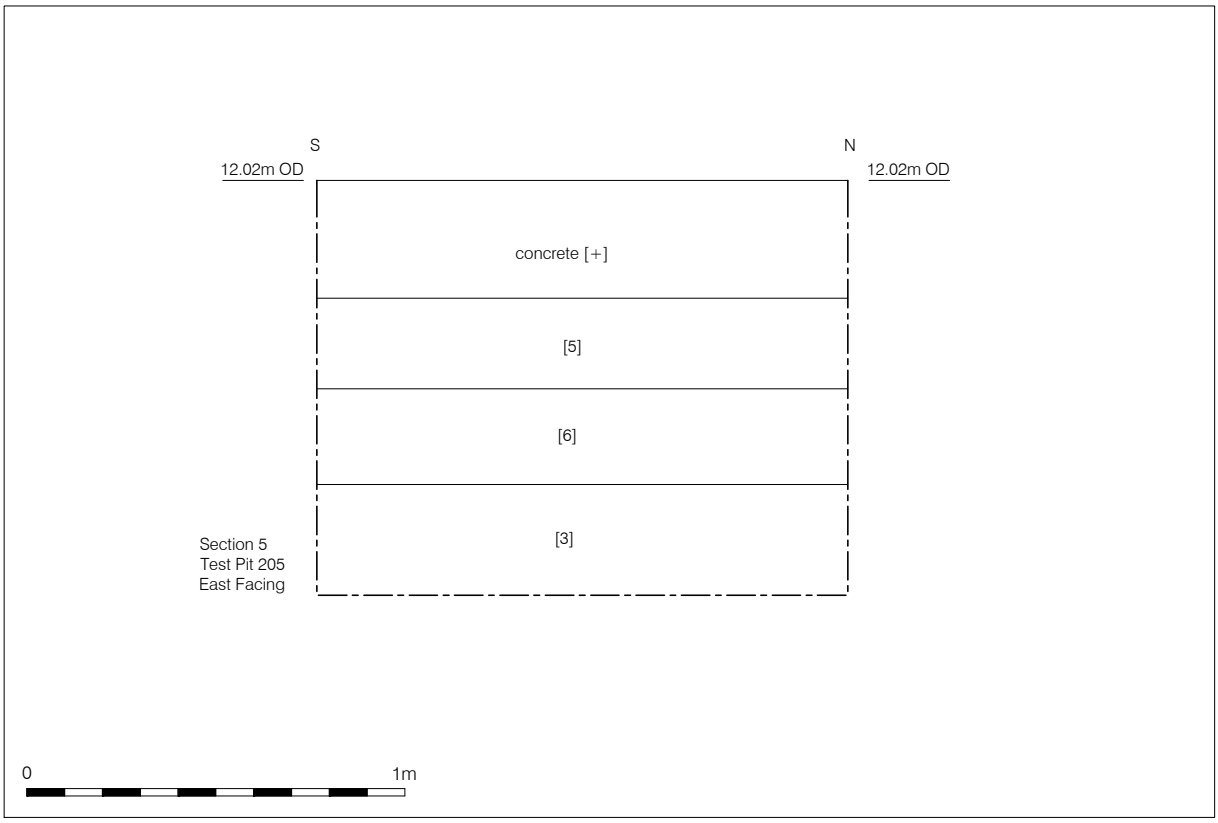




04/08/15 RM

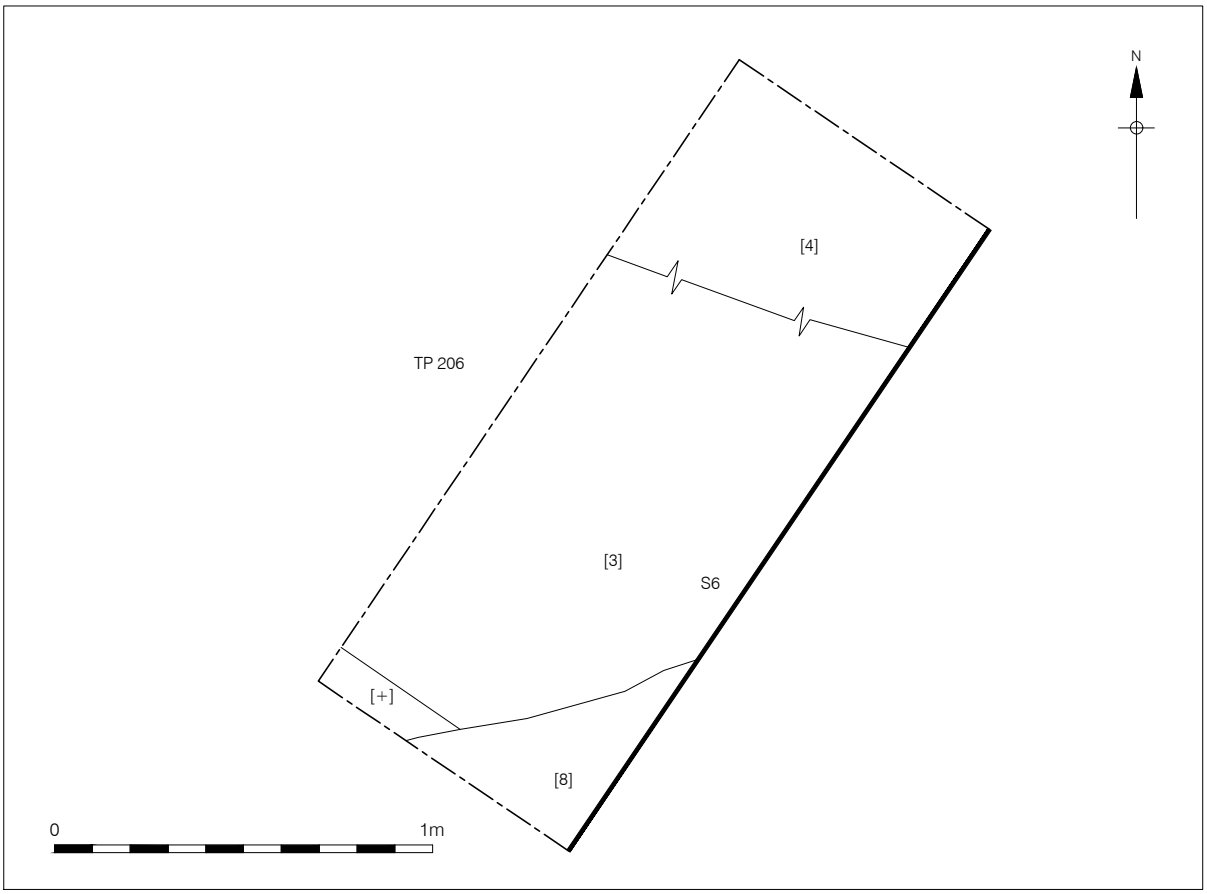
Figure 6
Plan and section of Test Pit 204
1:20 at A4

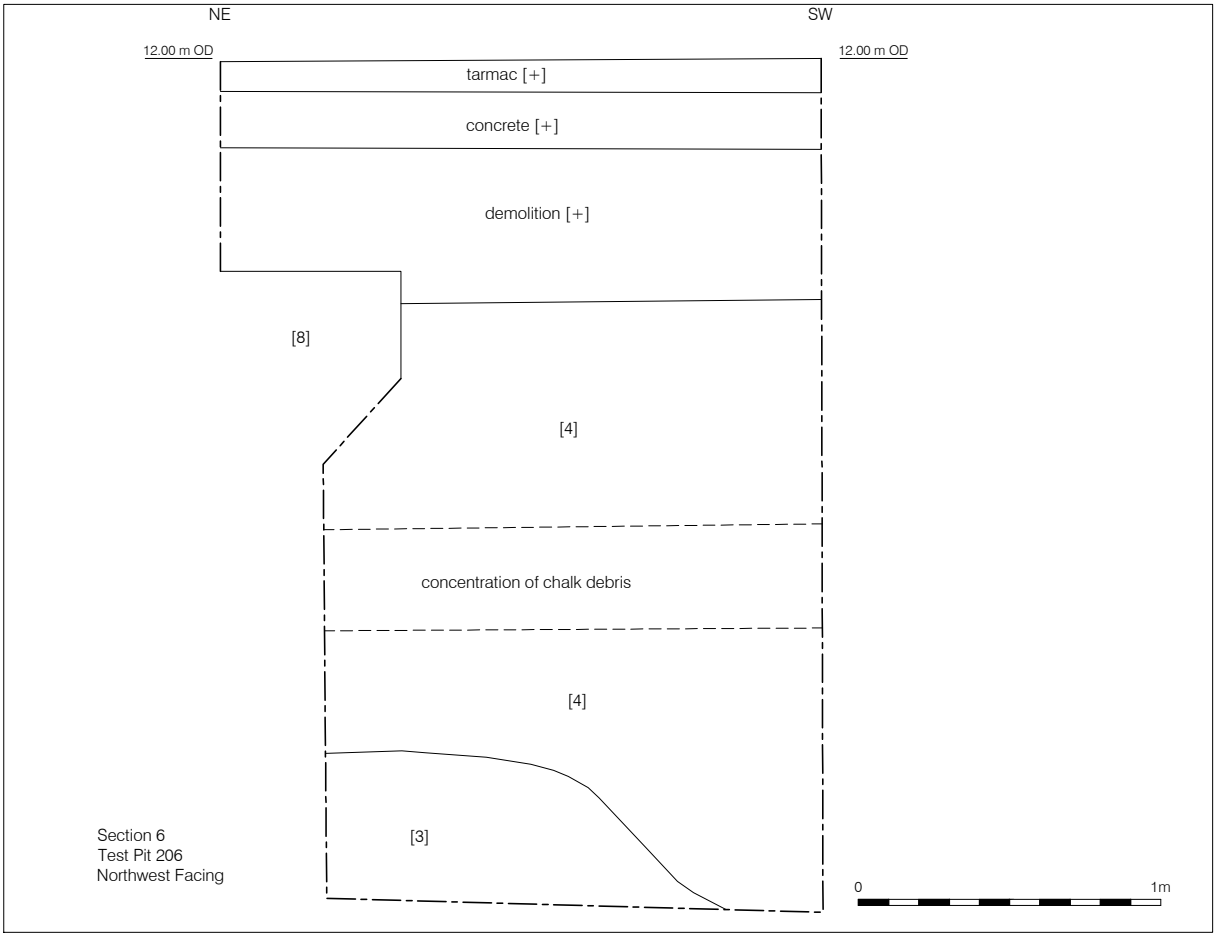




04/08/15 RM

Figure 7
Plan and section of Test Pit 205
1:20 at A4

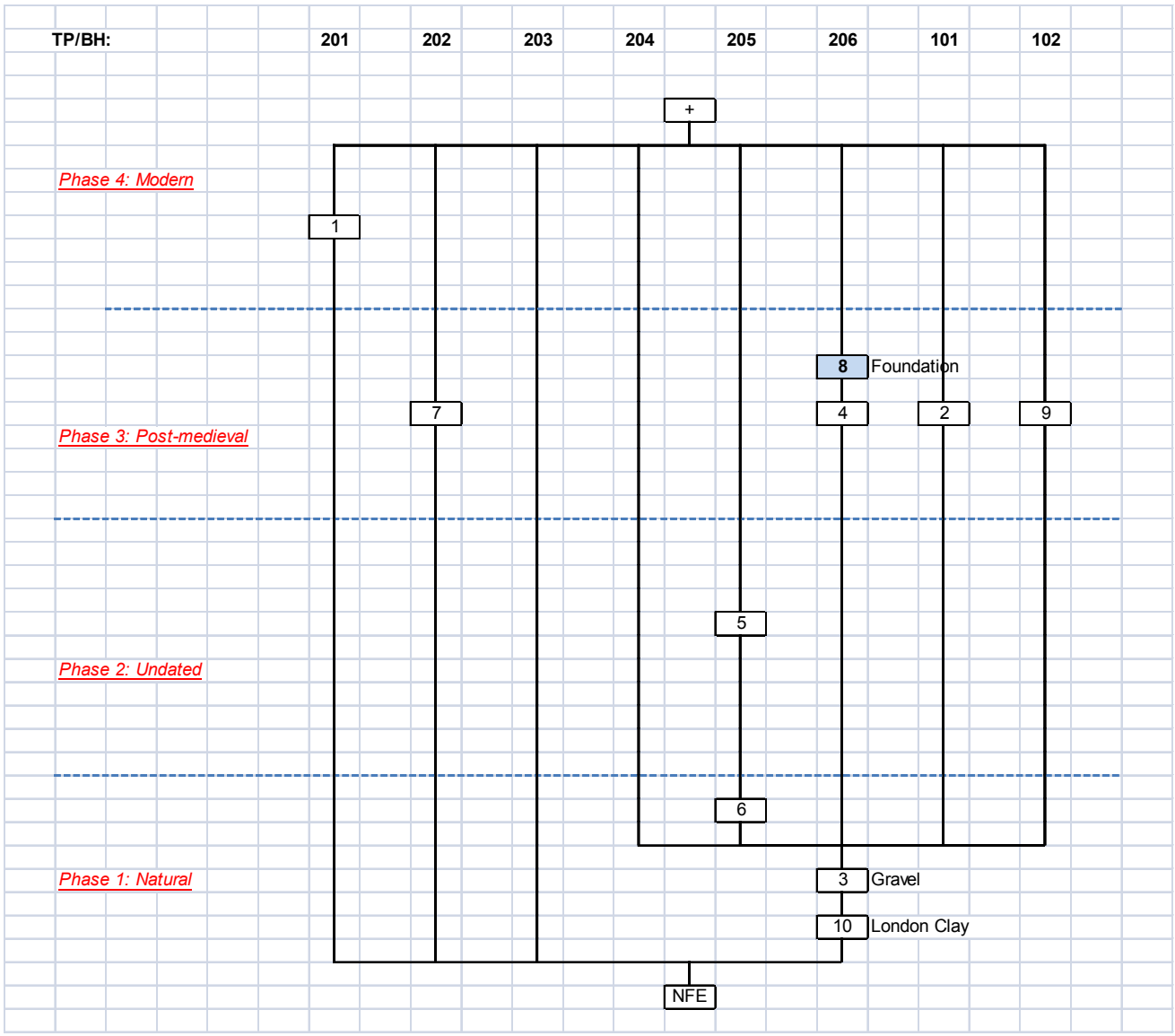




04/08/15 RM

Figure 8
Plan and section of Test Pit 206
Plan 1:20 and section 1:25 at A4

APPENDIX 1: PHASED MATRIX



APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section / Elevation	Type	Description	Date	Phase	Date (Eval)	Phase (Eval)
PLB15	1	TP201	TP201	1	Layer	Levelling/made ground	Modern	4	Modern	5
PLB15	2	BH101	-	-	Layer	Levelling/made ground	Post-medieval	3	Post-medieval	4a
PLB15	3	BH101	TP204, TP205, TP206	4, 5, 6	Layer	Natural Gravel	Natural	1	Natural	1
PLB15	4	TP206	TP206	6	Layer	Dump layer	Post-medieval	3	Post-medieval	4a
PLB15	5	TP205	-	5	Layer	Soil Horizon	Undated	2	Undated	2
PLB15	6	TP205	-	5	Layer	Brickearth	Natural	1	Natural	1
PLB15	7	TP202	TP202	2	Layer	Dump layer	Post-medieval	3	Post-medieval	4a
PLB15	8	TP206	TP206	6	Masonry	Concrete foundation	Post-medieval	3	Post-medieval	4b
PLB15	9	BH102	-	-	Layer	Dump layer	Post-medieval	3	Post-medieval	4a
PLB15	10	BH101/ BH102	-	-	Layer	London Clay	Natural	1	Natural	1
PLB15	38	BH103	-	-	Layer	Loose, mid grey brown sandy silt with CBM and sub-ang gravels: Dump layer	n/a	n/a	Post-medieval	4a

APPENDIX 3: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-216681

Project details

Project name	Former Bow Fire Station, 64 Parnell Road, Tower Hamlets
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was carried out on geotechnical investigations in advance of a proposed development. Six trial pits, including three foundation inspection pits and three machine excavated trial pits, and two boreholes were monitored. A sequence of London Clay overlain by terrace gravels was identified as underlying brickearth and an undated soil horizon, a possible post-medieval cut feature and dump/levelling layers. Modern overburden of demolition material and concrete was observed to seal the areas of investigation.
Project dates	Start: 29-06-2015 End: 01-07-2015
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	PLB15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	LAYER Uncertain
Monument type	LAYER Post Medieval
Investigation type	"""Test-Pit Survey"""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS BOW Former Bow Station, 64 Parnell Road, Tower Hamlets
Postcode	E3 2RU
Site coordinates	TQ 37005 83524 51.5334775875 -0.024500205185 51 32 00 N 000 01 28 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 9.69m Max: 11.24m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Mott MacDonald
Project design originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley
Project supervisor	Amelia Fairman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Education Funding Agency

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	PLB15
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	PLB15
Digital Media available	"Database","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	PLB15
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Map","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Former Bow Fire Station, 64 Parnell Road, Tower Hamlets: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Fairman, A
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	London

Description	A4 folio
Entered by	Amelia Fairman (afairman@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	30 July 2015

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