

**CANNON WHARF BUSINESS
CENTRE,
35 EVELYN STREET,
DEPTFORD SE8 5DG**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF**

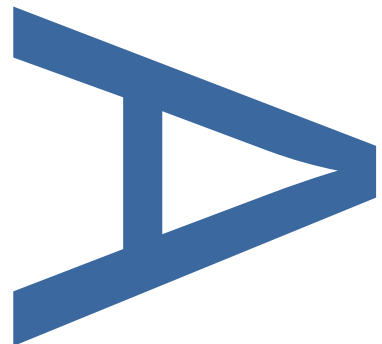
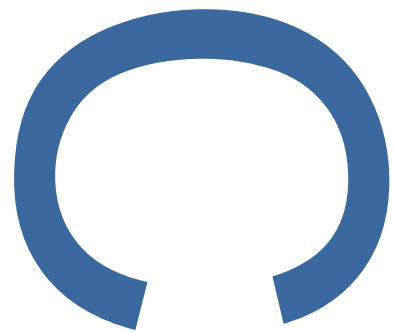
**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:
DC/08/68523**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

SITE CODE: EVN16

PCA REPORT NO: R12553

JULY 2016



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY



DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

**CANNON WHARF BUSINESS CENTRE, 35
EVELYN STREET, DEPTFORD SE8 5DG**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K4488
Report Number	R12553

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An Archaeological Watching Brief

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Lewisham

Planning Application Number: DC/08/68523

Site Code: EVN16

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3621 7868

Written by: Stacey Amanda Harris
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July 2016

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On behalf of: Barratt Homes

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July 2016

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street, Deptford SE8 5DG.
- 1.2 The watching brief consisted of the archaeological recording of a single trench measuring 11.20m by 2.25m trench located within the central southern area of the site, to a depth of approximately 2.3m – below the bulk excavation dig level required for the new scheme.
- 1.3 The work was conducted on 19th May 2016, and was required by a planning condition attached to the permission for development which was granted by the London Borough of Lewisham under application number DC/08/68523. The redevelopment of the site will comprise commercial and residential units with external landscaping and car-parking.
- 1.4 The archaeological observation and recording was undertaken by James Webb and was project managed by Chris Mayo, both of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. Other, occasional monitoring visits to site were completed by the author in advance of the excavation of the trench.
- 1.5 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) were commissioned for the work by CgMs Consulting acting on behalf of the client, Barratt Homes.
- 1.6 The archaeological project was monitored for the local planning authority by Mark Stevenson of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), of Historic England.
- 1.7 The study site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the London Borough of Lewisham within their Unitary Development Plan.
- 1.8 The central National Grid Reference for the site is TQ 3621 7868.
- 1.9 The site was allocated the Museum of London site code EVN16. The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited within the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).

2 METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared for the site by CgMs Consulting (Gailey 2007) to support a planning application for the redevelopment of the site at Cannon Wharf Business Centre.
- 2.2 Planning permission (Planning ref: 08/68523/X) was granted for the redevelopment of the site in 2008 and a schedule of planning conditions was issued, including the following relating to archaeology:
- 27 - Archaeology*
- No development shall take place on the site until the applicant, or any successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, observation and recording which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.*
- 2.3 Following discussions with the Historic England GLAAS officer the following mitigation measures were agreed: the preparation of a heritage report on the industrial history of the site and an archaeological observation and recording exercise, during remediation works in a localised area of archaeological interest in the south of the site. In the event that the remediation works did not reach the natural geology then a single 10mx 1.8m trench was to be excavated instead.
- 2.4 The heritage report on the industrial history of the site was prepared by PCA in 2013 and subsequently approved by the Historic England GLAAS officer (Thompson 2013).
- 2.5 The fieldwork was executed on the 19th May 2016. A trench measuring 11.30m north-south by 2.25m east-west was excavated within the agreed area of archaeological interest, towards the southern edge of the site (Figure 2). The trench was excavated to a depth of approximately 2.30m BGL (a level of 0.0m OD).
- 2.6 The trench was excavated by mechanical plant provided by the Principal Contractor. It used a flat-bladed bucket to grade through soil horizons under close archaeological control until the lower alluvial units were reached.
- 2.7 The trench was inspected from ground level and fully recorded using standard single context recording methods as presented in PCAs *Operations Manual 1* (Taylor, 2009) and as outlined in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Gailey 2016).
- 2.8 The trench was planned and located from known points on site survey drawings, and the south facing section of the trench was drawn at a scale of 1:10. Digital photographs were taken as appropriate.
- 2.9 The site archive was labelled and identified with the unique site code EVN16.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

- 3.1 It is known from geotechnical investigations (Gailey 2007) that the site is underlain by Kempton Park river terrace gravels and Thanet Sands; however these were not seen within the trench as excavation ceased at a height of 0.0m OD.
- 3.2 The lowest layer seen in the trench was a soft, dark brown peat [5] which was at least 0.15m thick from an upper height of +0.15m OD (Figure 3).
- 3.3 A layer of firm, blue grey clay [4] sealed the peat, at an upper height of c. +0.80m OD (Plates 1 and 2). It was around 0.64m thick. No finds were seen within this layer which was clearly a water lain deposit.
- 3.4 At c. +1.30m OD was an approximately 0.55m-thick layer of firm, yellowish grey silt clay [3]. This also contained no artefacts however sub-angular stones were noted.
- 3.5 A 0.32m-thick layer of redeposited peat [2] was found at a height of c. +1.65m OD. This soft, dark brown layer contained charcoal but no datable material.
- 3.6 Modern 20th century made ground was found at a height of c. 1.90m OD, 0.4m below modern ground level. This layer was approximately 0.3m thick and very clearly modern, containing CBM fragments, deeply frogged yellow bricks and charcoal. This layer was most likely a levelling deposit, relating to the reclamation of open pasture to allow the development of the site in the 19th century. The trench was sealed by a modern 0.25m-thick slab of concrete on top of which was a 0.15m-thick layer of tarmac.

4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The single trench executed during the archaeological work was excavated to a depth of approximately 2.3m below ground level, which was below the bulk excavation project level which is required for the new development¹.
- 4.2 Natural superficial geological horizons (terrace sands and gravels) were not encountered within the trench, however from borehole records located near to the trench (see WS1, 3, 4 & 5 in Gailey 2007, Appendix 1) they can be expected to exist at undulating levels beneath the site ranging from 2.8m BGL to over 3.5m BGL). The undulating nature of these deposits is entirely due to the sites' location within the former Thames estuary.
- 4.3 The peat layer may be evidence of the Bronze Age peat marshes which have been recorded on nearby sites such as the evaluation at Grove Street (Gailey 2007) and The Wharves in Deptford, located at TQ 36508 78337 (Hawkins 2015).
- 4.4 No archaeological finds or features were seen during the excavation.
- 4.5 The top 0.70m of the trench comprised 19th century and modern material, deposited as ground levelling. Below this no modern intrusions were seen.
- 4.6 The results of the site investigation will be published by PCA as a summary in the annual 'Round-Up' of *London Archaeologist*.
- 4.7 Upon approval this report and with confirmation that the site work is complete, the archive will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the unique site code EVN16. Until then it will be stored by PCA at its offices in Brockley, SE4.

¹ Pers comm Barratt Homes site management and Cognition Land and Water (site remediation contractors), 19th May 2016

5 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 5.1 Pre-Construct archaeology would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the project, and Barratt Homes for funding it
- 5.2 PCA also thanks Mark Stevenson of GLAAS for monitoring the project on behalf of the London Borough of Lewisham.
- 5.3 The author thanks James Web of PCA for supervising the on-site works
- 5.4 The author would also like to thank to Chris Mayo for his project management of the watching brief, and editing this report. Thanks also to Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations.

6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gailey, S. 2007. 'Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Cannon Wharf Evelyn Street Deptford'. Unpublished report for CgMs Consulting.

Gailey, S. 2016. 'Written Scheme of Investigation for the preparation of a Heritage Report and archaeological mitigation: Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street.' Unpublished report for CgMs Consulting.

Hawkins, H. 2015. 'The Wharves, Evelyn Street/Grove Street, Deptford, London, SE8 3QQ: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation'. Unpublished report for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited.

Taylor, J. with Brown, G. 2009. *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual 1*, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Thompson, G. 2013. 'Heritage Report: Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street, Deptford SE8 5RT'. Unpublished report number R11417 for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

7 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Looking north-west at south east facing section

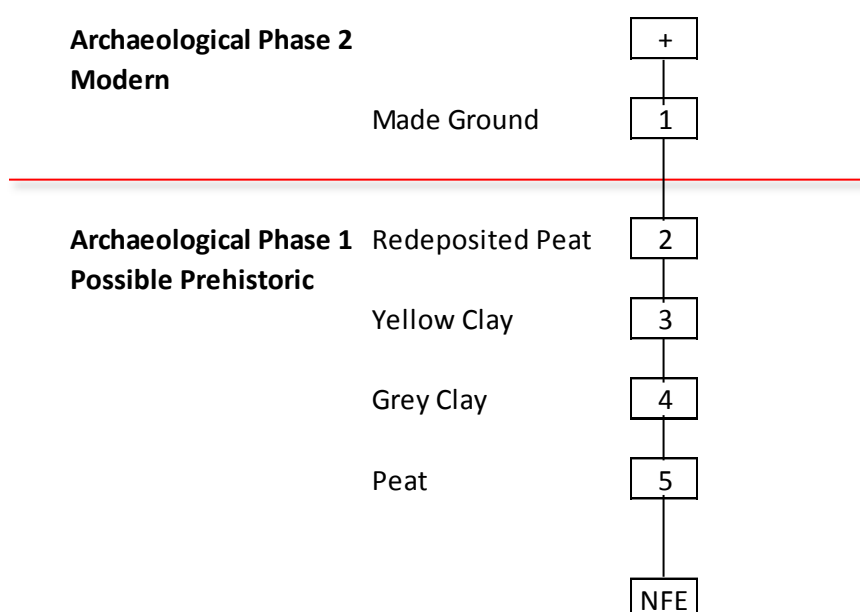


Plate 2: Looking north-east at part of trench

8 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Context Type	Context_Description	Level (m BGL)	Level (m OD)	Phase
1	Layer	Made Ground	0.40	c. 1.90	2
2	Layer	Redeposited Peat	0.72	c. 1.65	1
3	Layer	Yellowish Clay	1.04	c. 1.35	1
4	Layer	Grey Clay	1.59	c. 1.00	1
5	Layer	Peat	2.24	c. 0.30	1

9 APPENDIX 3: MATRIX



10 APPENDIX 4: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-257362

Project details

Project name	Cannon Wharf, Evelyn Street, Deptford SE8 5DG: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at Cannon Wharf, Evelyn Street, Deptford SE8 5DG. The watching brief consisted of the archaeological recording of a 11.20m by 2.25m trench within the central southern area of the site, to a depth of 2.1m. Modern made ground was recorded above redeposited peat above alluvial clays above a peat horizon.
Project dates	Start: 19-05-2016 End: 19-05-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	08/68523/X - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	EVN16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	LAYER Bronze Age
Monument type	MADE GROUND Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted 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 LEWISHAM DEPTFORD AND NEWCROSS Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street, Deptford
Postcode	SE8 5DG
Study area	9000 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3621 7868 51.490136461843 -0.03782805232 51 29 24 N 000 02 16 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	James Webb
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Barratt Homes

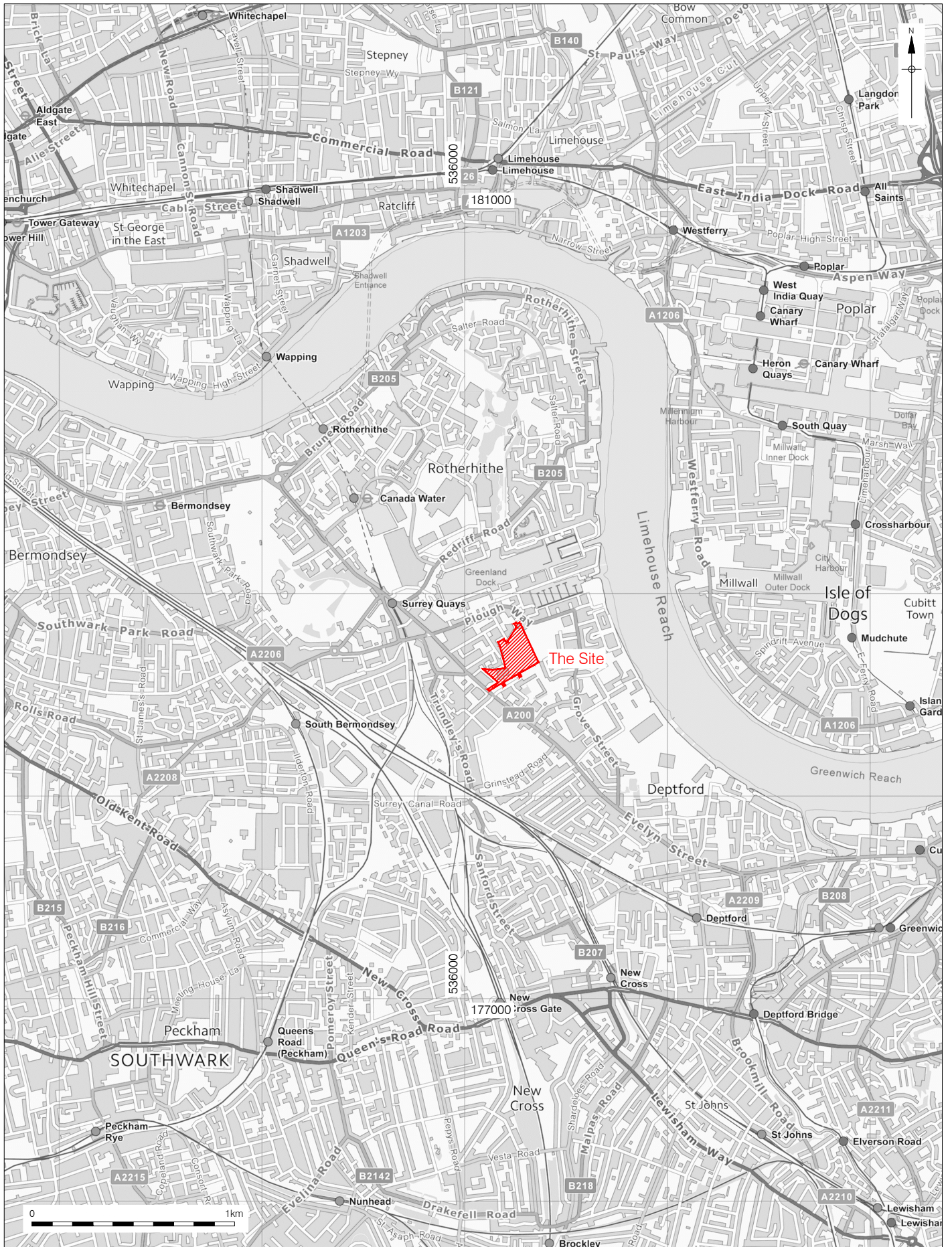
Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	EVN16
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	EVN16
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Cannon Wharf Business Centre, 35 Evelyn Street, Deptford SE8 5DG: An

Author(s)/Editor(s)	Archaeological Watching Brief. Harris, S. A.
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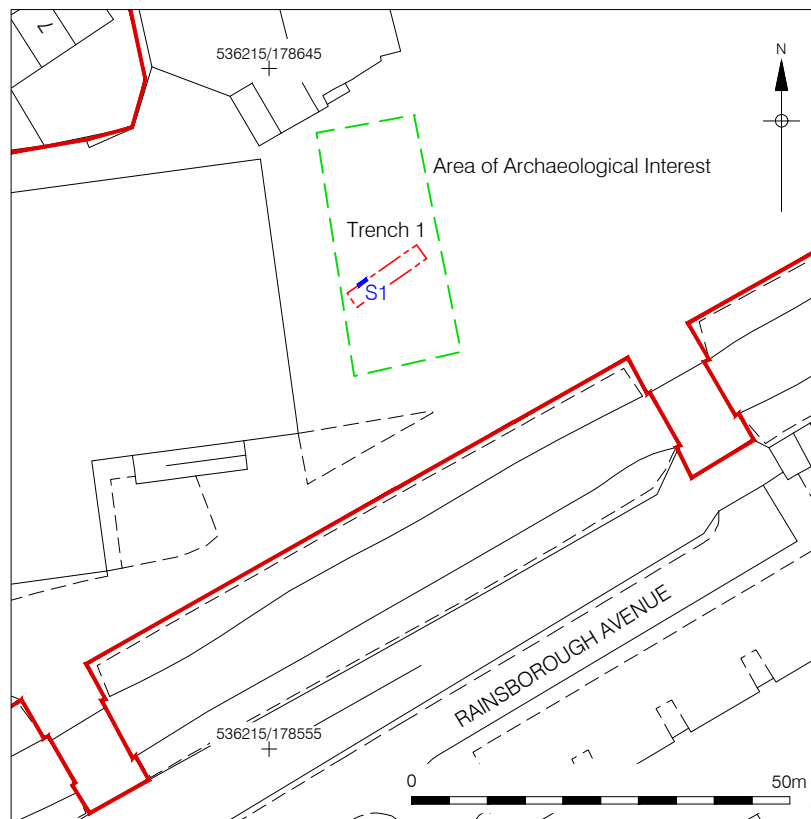
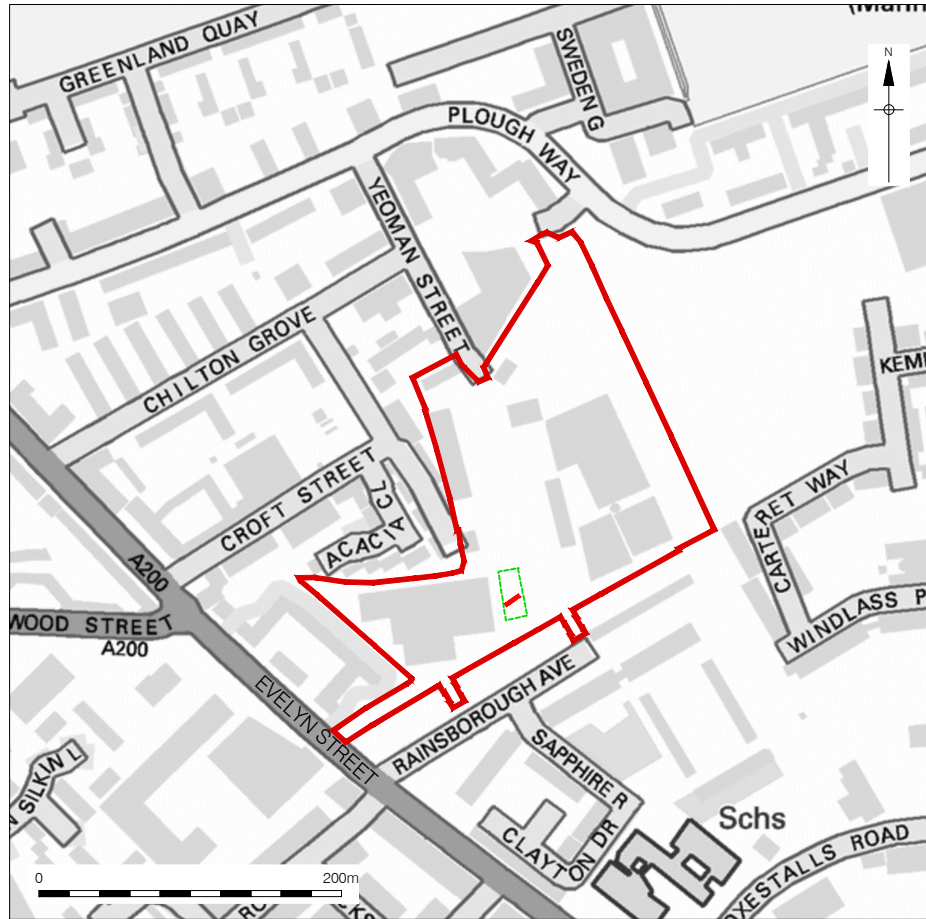


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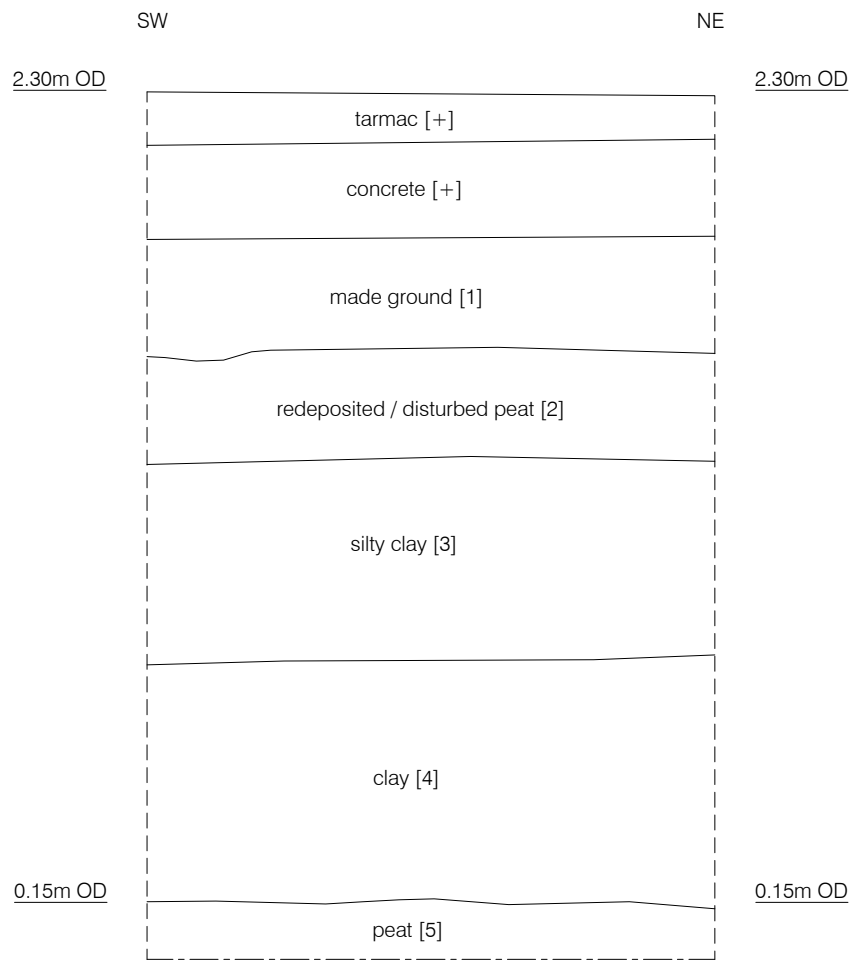
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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:25,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Detailed and Trench Location
 1:5,000 and 1:1,000 at A4



Section 1
Trench 1
Southeast Facing



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Figure 3
Section 1
1:20 at A4

PCA

PCA SOUTH

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