LAND AT BREAM STREET AT THE JUNCTION OF STOUR ROAD & DACE ROAD, FISH ISLAND, LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

JANUARY 2018

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

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LAND AT BREAM STREET AT THE JUNCTION OF STOUR ROAD & DACE ROAD, FISH ISLAND, LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Site Code:	**BMT17**
Central NGR:	**537300,184035 (TQ 37300 84035)**
Local Planning Authority:	**London Borough of Tower Hamlets**
Planning Reference:	**15/00278/FUL**
Commissioning Client:	**Orion Heritage Limited on behalf of Quadrant Construction**
Written/Researched by:	**Tanya Jones** **Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited**
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1 ABSTRACT

1.1 This report details the result and working methods of an archaeological evaluation conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on Land at Bream Street at the junction of Stour Road and Dace Road, Fish Island, London. The site was located within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and was centred at TQ 37300 84035.

1.2 In accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2017) an archaeological evaluation was carried out between 9th and 15th January 2018 and completed in accordance with the standards specified by the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists and following the guidelines issued by Historic England.

1.3 Natural Kempton Park River Terrace Gravels were identified from 2.6m OD to 1.97m OD with some natural variation across the site.

1.4 The natural gravels were sealed by natural alluvial deposits.

1.5 A north-south aligned ditch, which had been cut into the lower alluvium, was noted in Trench 2. This ditch was investigated at further points across the site as part of a mitigation exercise, and proved to continue beyond the northern and southern extremities of the site. The ditch was of 19th century date and was lined with a felt or plant-based mat pegged in place with wooden stakes. It may have represented an industrial feature or be part of the water management of the area that took place in the 18th and 19th century.

1.6 There was no evidence for the leats shown on the site on the first edition Ordnance Survey map, although extensive truncation had taken place in the upper levels of the site which might have affected the survival of these features.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Bream Street, Fish Island, London Borough of Hackney E3 2NG between 9th and 15th January 2018. The work was commissioned by Orion Heritage Limited on behalf of Quadrant Construction.

2.2 The site was bordered by the River Lea Navigation (Hackney Cut) to the east, Dace Road to the South, Bream Street to the west and Stour Road and buildings associated with H. Foreman and Sons to the North. The site was irregular in shape.

2.3 The Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2017) detailed the methodology by which the evaluation was to be undertaken. The WSI followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidelines (CIFA 2017). The evaluation was supervised by Tanya Jones and the project was managed by Helen Hawkins for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

2.4 The site was given a unique site-code BMT17. The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited at LAARC.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 An application to redevelop the site was made to the LLDC in May 2015 under number 15/00278/FUL. The application was for:

> *Demolition of existing building, existing structures, removal of existing trees and associated site clearance to enable a mixed use development of 7 buildings and basement to provide up to 24,989m2 of floorspace (GIA) comprising employment (Use Classes B1-B8), residential (Use Class C3) (up to 204 units), retail (Use Classes A1 and A3) and exhibition/leisure uses (Use Class D1/D2), parking and servicing space, hard and soft landscaping, public realm, creation of new vehicular access and other associated works.*

3.2 Planning permission was granted, subject to a number of conditions. Condition 15 states:

> *A) No development other than demolition to existing ground level shall take place until (i) a programme of archaeological evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing (ii) the approved archaeological evaluation programme has been implemented and (iii) a report on that evaluation has been submitted to the Local Planning Authority.*
>
> *B) If heritage assets of archaeological interest are identified by the evaluation under Part A, then before development, other than demolition to existing ground level, commences (i) a Written Scheme of Investigation shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.*
>
> *C) No development or demolition other than demolition to existing ground level shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (B) and archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.*
>
> *D) The development shall not be occupied until a site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (B), and the provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured.*

3.3 Consultation between John Gould, formerly of GLAAS, and Orion Heritage Limited led to a requirement for a trial-trench evaluation to ascertain the site's archaeological and geoarchaeological potential. It was agreed the evaluation could be carried out after the made ground on the site had been removed, due to the thickness and extensive contamination present in the made ground

3.4 The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken to meet part A of the condition.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 The underlying geology of the site comprised clay, silt and sand of the Lambeth Group, overlain by Quaternary alluvial deposits comprising silty, peaty and sandy clay. Kempton Park River Terrace Gravels are recorded just to the west. The site was located at an elevation of approximately 5m OD (Sulikowska 2015).

4.2 Nearby site investigations at the Crown Works to the south revealed a sequence of approximately 1.9m of made ground and levelling layers, overlying a number of alluvial deposits (at c 2.6m OD) which were approximately 1-1.2m thick. The alluvium overlay the gravel geology, encountered at an elevation between 1m and 1.7m OD. Test pits excavated in Stour Wharf to the north revealed a similar stratigraphic sequence: made ground (c1.0m thick) over alluvium (c 3.9m thick) above natural gravel deposits, which were encountered at around 1m-1.6m OD) (Sulikowska 2015)

4.3 Geotechnical investigations on the site (Card Geotechnics 2014) found between 2.0m and 4.8m thickness of made ground throughout the investigations. The made ground was thicker towards the Lea Navigation, indicating ground raising in this area to consolidate the site. A layer of alluvium was encountered in all but one of the investigations. The alluvium was between 0.20 and 1.00m thick in all except WS2 where it was 2.2m thick. WS 3, in the north-east of the site, encountered a layer of peat 0.20m thick below the made ground. Kempton Park Gravel was present in all the interventions.

4.4 The archaeological investigation found the natural gravels to be reasonably flat across site with a natural variation between 1.97m OD and 2.6m OD.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The archaeological and historical background is summarised from the desk-based assessment (Sulikowska 2015), which considered a study area within 300m of the site.

5.2 Prehistoric

5.2.1 During the prehistoric period, the drier and higher ground overlooking the River Lea valley would have provided land suitable for settlement. The marshland located in the valley bottom, however, is unlikely to have been permanently settled, but the river environment would have provided varied resources and would have been utilised for hunting, fishing, stock grazing, with clay used for pottery manufacture and reeds for basketry etc.

5.2.2 There is evidence for Mesolithic activity in the wider area from worked flints recovered from the Olympic Park. Within 300m of the site an archaeological evaluation carried out in Crown Road, to the north, revealed peat dated to the Mesolithic period. The peat samples, which had not been previously been encountered for this area, were identified as being part of a prehistoric watercourse. Another former watercourse has been identified c. 180m to the south of the site, which now flows below ground; however it may have formed part of the River Lea valley landscape in the prehistoric period.

5.2.3 There is no evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age activity within 300m of the site but such evidence was revealed during the Olympic Park investigations to the east.

5.2.4 The Lea Valley was settled during the Bronze Age and the Iron Age and well-preserved timber structures and track ways have been found in the valley, providing the local communities with access to and across the low-lying marshland. During the investigations to the east of the site within Olympic Planning Delivery Zone 3, a possible field boundary or drainage ditch of Late Iron Age or Romano-British origin was revealed. Further afield, the Olympic Park investigations revealed Iron Age settlements with roundhouses, pits and associated structures.

5.3 Roman

5.3.1 There are no recorded Romano-British remains within the site, but in the wider vicinity there is extensive archaeological evidence for Romano-British activity.

5.3.2 The study area is crossed by two postulated lines of the Roman Road from London to Chelmsford, located approximately 110m and 240m to the south-east of the site, respectively. A third Roman Road, from Holborn to the crossing at the River Lea is thought to have been located approximately 230m to the south of the site. Archaeological investigations in Wick Lane revealed a metalled surface, which has been interpreted as the remains of the later of these roads.

5.3.3 The rural surroundings of the Roman town would have comprised small settlements and larger villa estates alongside the major roads, with cemeteries also alongside the roads and there is evidence for settlement and funerary activity within the study area.

5.3.4 The archaeological investigations at Wick Lane, close to the Roman road and in proximity to the presumed Lea crossing, revealed the remains of a large Roman building. This building, which appears to have been in use in from the 1st to the 3rd century AD, is thought to represent a probable mansion or stopping house, associated with the crossing of the River Lea.

5.3.5 During the Romano-British period, the rural settlement within the valley of the River Lea would have supplied Londinium with agricultural produce, as the valley would have been utilised as farmland for arable cultivation or marshland, providing grazing areas for animals.

5.3.6 Evidence for Romano-British activity alongside the river was revealed during the recent investigations at Crown Wharf Ironworks, immediately to the south of the site. Within a number of trenches, deposits were recorded which appear to have been laid in order to consolidate the alluvial material below and are thought to represent several phases of activity throughout the 3rd to 4th century AD. These deposits were recorded at a depth of approximately 2.5m below ground level (1.75m OD). During the fieldwork, approximately 40 timber piles and two substantial timber posts set on plank base plates were recorded. These remains were sealed by the abovementioned layers and were also dated to the Romano-British period; they may have comprised a bridge or jetty or a similar structure associated with the management and utilisation of the riverside.

5.4 Saxon and Medieval

5.4.1 The River Lea is thought to have been navigable in the early medieval period as Danish raids are mentioned in a late 9th century AD Chronicle. In order to draw the water away from the main river, and thus prevent further Danish excursions inland, King Alfred is believed to have commanded the excavation of a number of channels running from the River Lea, however, these may have been originally constructed as millstreams rather than as a defence measure (AOC Archaeology Group 2009). These channels, known as Bow Back Rivers, are located c. 150m east of the site.

5.4.2 There is evidence of Saxon activity at Old Ford, which is first recorded in the 13th century as Oldeford. Old Ford and the crossing would have been associated in the medieval period with a road linking the village to Bethnal Green. The ford would have provided the main crossing place until the early 12th century when Bow Bridge, was built about half a mile downstream.

5.4.3 The bottom of the river valley to the north of Old Ford would have comprised a marshy flood plain, which is likely to have been utilised as little more than seasonal pastures but with some localised water management such as the timber revetment structures found at the Olympic Park.

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5.6 Post Medieval and Modern

5.6.1 Throughout the post-medieval period, the bottom of the River Lea valley continued to be occupied by the marshy floodplain. Historic maps of the site and wider area from the 18th century show marshy pastures, divided by numerous drainage channels.

5.6.2 The development of the study area in the late post-medieval period and in the 19th century was facilitated by the improvement works carried out to the Lea Navigation from the late 18th century onwards. The canals cut in the late 18th century to improve the navigation include the Hackney Cut, opened in 1769, which marks the eastern boundary of the site. The canal lock on the Hackney Cut, known as the Old Ford Locks (immediately to the east of the site), was built c. 1865 as a pair of locks allowing two-way working.

5.6.3 By the time of the 1894-1896 Ordnance Survey maps the part of Fish Island between the Hertford Union Canal to the north and the Hackney Cut to the east appears to have been developed. This included the construction of terraced housing to the north of this area and industrial works. Investigations carried out within the study area revealed remains associated with post-medieval and 19th-century riverside activities.

5.6.4 The investigations at Crown Wharf Ironworks just to the south of the site revealed a sequence of alluvial deposits from the post-Roman to the post-medieval period, providing evidence that this area of landscape comprised a marshy floodplain. A number of post-medieval timber conduits and tanks were investigated, perhaps part of a waste management scheme; they were encountered at a depth of c. 1.75m below the ground level (2.65m OD).

5.6.5 Ordnance Survey maps of 1867-1870 show the site to be devoid of any structures although a number of drainage ditches likely to have been associated with the management of the marshland may have extended into the western part of the site. By the time of the 1894-1896 Ordnance Survey maps, Dace Road and Stour Road to the south and north of the site, respectively, appear to have already been laid out. However, Bream Street marking the western edge of the site is not depicted on the map and the only evidence for development within the site itself is a small canal-side building at the wharf associated with the Old Ford Lock.

5.6.6 Industrial development within the site commences in 1898 with the construction of factory buildings for Barrett and Elers Limited. The building constructed in 1898 was a two-storey gas purification building, the factory structure of which was located in the central part of the site with the building demolished only recently. Brick footings are visible across the site and some of these could be associated with the late 19th-century structure.

5.6.7 Subsequent Ordnance Survey maps (1916 and 1937 and 1948-1951) show in detail the development within the site during the first half of the 20th century, including the laying out of Bream Street and the construction by 1916 of terraced housing fronting onto Bream Street and Stour Road. The houses within the site appear to have survived the Second World War bombings until their demolition c. 1970.

5.6.8 The gas purification company prospered in the early 20th century and the works expanded following the construction of a building for the production of ebonite screw stoppers c. 1924. This plain and simple single storey building was located along the Hackney Cut and was characterised by tall windows facing the waterside. Another building for the production of gas from magnesium was constructed c. 1933 within the works, which are labelled as Carbonic Acid Gas Works on the 1937 Ordnance Survey map.

5.6.9 The factory buildings, as shown on the 1948-1951 Ordnance Survey map, comprised the abovementioned buildings and a number of associated smaller structures scattered within the site. In the later 20th century, the buildings became amalgamated, with the majority of the site built-up and the existing building at the corner of Dace Road and Bream Street constructed.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY AND OBJECTIVES

6.1 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of surviving archaeological features at the site and, if present, to assist in formulating an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2017).

6.2 The level of ground contamination necessitated substantial ground remediation as part of the development. The execution of standard evaluation trenches through such material was considered to present a significant and disproportionate risk to the safety of archaeological staff.

6.3 Initially there was a watching brief during the ground reduction necessary for the site remediation, in the location of the evaluation trenches. The watching brief established the level at which the contractors would stop in order to commence archaeological trenches.

6.4 The evaluation trenches were excavated from the formation level achieved by the remediation, allowing for the investigation of the lower potential of the site, where palaeo-environmental, prehistoric and Roman remains might have been present. Trenches 1 and 3 were also targeted on a mill leat shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map running along the western side of the site.

6.5 Three trenches were excavated, each measuring 25m by 1.8m each at the base, stepped once to safely reach the top of the natural gravel.

6.6 All excavation of the low-grade overlying deposits was undertaken using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of a qualified archaeologist.

6.7 Machine excavation continued in spits of 100mm at a time until archaeological features or natural ground was exposed.

6.8 Following machine excavation, relevant faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. The majority of the investigation of archaeological levels was by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and in section.

6.9 All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cut, fills, structures) were evaluated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard single context recording methods.

6.10 The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS, 1994) and with the PCA Site Manual (Taylor and Brown, 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.

6.11 A full photographic record was made during the archaeological investigation consisting of a digital photographic archive that was maintained during the course of the archaeological investigation.

6.12 The completed archive produced during the evaluation, comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefacts, will be deposited with LAARC, identified by site code BMT17.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Trench 1

Context	Description	Max. Height	Max Thickness
16	Clay alluvium	3.22mOD	1.18m
17	Dirty gravel	2.17mOD	0.2m
18	Natural gravel	1.97Mod	0.10m+

7.1.1 Trench 1 measured 25m x 1.80m and was machine dug to a depth of approximately 1.30m, at which point the natural gravel [18] was revealed, consisting of mid brownish yellow gravels. The top of the gravel deposit [17] had been stained a mid-greyish blue from the alluvium which sealed the gravel deposit. The gravel was sealed by a naturally deposited light greyish blue clay alluvium [16]. No archaeological finds or features were encountered in Trench 1.

7.2 Trench 2 and Test Pits

Context	Description	Max. Height	Max. Thickness
1 = 5	Silty Clay Alluvium	3.40mOD	0.42m
2 = 7	Blueish Grey Clay	3.15mOD	0.46m
3 = 10	Gravel	2.60mOD	0.17m+
4	Made Ground	3.54mOD	0.72m
5 =1	Clay Alluvium	3.11mOD	0.50m
6 = 8	Fill of [9]	2.64mOD	0.10m
7 = 2	Clay Alluvium	2.64mOD	0.30m
8 = 6	Fill of [9]	2.44mOD	0.15m
9	Cut of Ditch	2.54mOD	0.40m
10 = 3	Gravel	2.14mOD	0.10m+
15	Fill of [9]	2.34mOD	0.24m

Context	Description	Max. Height	Max. Thickness
19	Fill of [9]	2.97mOD	0.50m

7.2.1 Trench 2 measured 25m x 1.8m and was machine dug to a depth of approximately 1.20m at which point natural gravel [3]/[10] was revealed. The natural gravel was overlain by naturally deposited layer [2]/[7] consisting of mid greyish blue clay, which appeared to be water deposited. This layer represented the earlier alluvium seen on the site.

7.2.2 Truncating this layer was a linear ditch [9] which appeared to have a felt or organic reed type lining that had been held in place with wooden stakes. The ditch was 2.00m wide and 0.50m deep and was aligned north-south. The primary fill [8]/[6] of the ditch consisted of a firm dark greyish brown clay with sandy and organic inclusions including fragments of wood and shell. The pottery found within the fill dated to 1805-1900 (pers comm Chris Jarrett, PCA). The top of the ditch was at 2.54m OD, and it appeared to be located within the alluvial layer, suggesting that there were two layers of alluvium, the horizon between which could not be differentiated in section. The ditch was likely part of the land management that took place before the site was developed, due to the marshy nature of the site during the 19th century. It is possible that the ditch also had some sort of industrial function, given its deliberate lining and the stakes which were present.

7.2.3 The secondary deposit of the ditch [15] appeared to be an accumulation fill, consisting of firm mottled light bluish brown clay, which had likely naturally filled up the ditch as the ditch fell out of use. This fill was 0.24m thick.

7.2.4 A site meeting was held with the archaeological adviser, and he requested that the extent of the ditch be investigated through the rest of the site. The ditch was therefore further investigated with four test pits along the alignment that could be seen in the trench, making it possible to confirm that the ditch survived and continued to the north and south at the same level (Figures 3 and 5). There was a variation in the fill as at some points, the upper most layers appeared to include a deposit of gravel [19].

7.2.5 The ditch was sealed by firm bluish brown clay [1]/[5], perhaps indicating a later flooding episode, or redeposited clay from the construction of the canal. This layer was 0.50m thick and represented the later alluvium. The layer was sealed by modern made ground.

7.3 Trench 3

Context	Description	Max. Height	Max. Thickness
11	Greyish brown clay	3.04mOD	0.25m

Context	Description	Max. Height	Max. Thickness
12	Brownish yellow sandy clay	2.76mOD	0.49m
13	Yellowish brown clay	2.26mOD	0.20m
14	Natural gravel	2.20mOD	0.10m+

7.3.1 Trench 3 measured 25m x 1.80m and was machine dug to a depth of approximately 1.60m at which point the natural gravel [14] was revealed, consisting of a mid brownish yellow gravel. The top of the gravel had been stained a mid greyish blue by the deposit of alluvium above. The gravels were sealed by a naturally deposited alluvium [13] consisting of dark greyish brown clay. This was sealed by layer [12] consisting of a light brownish yellow sandy clay. This layer was overlain by a naturally deposited alluvium [11] consisting of a light greyish blue clay. There was a rubble made ground [+] overlaying this area which was likely part of the later development of the site.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION

8.1 Phase 1: Natural

8.1.1 The natural gravels were observed in all of the trenches, at a lowest level of 1.97m OD in Trench 2 on the east side of site, and at a highest level of 2.20m OD on Trench 3 on the south side of site, with some variation across the site. The gravels were sealed by a clay layer that was seen across site.

8.2 Phase 2: Post Medieval

8.2.1 One ditch was identified, cut into the lower alluvium on site and sealed by a later alluvium. The ditch was dated to 1805-1900 and may have related to the land management of the site that occurred from the 18th through to the 19th century, until the site was more widely developed. Given that it was lined with a felt or organic type material, pinned into place with wooden stakes, it may also have had an industrial function. The ditch was observed at about 2.54m OD in Trench 2 and was approximately 0.40m in depth. It ran north-south throughout the site area, for at least 50m to the site boundaries.

8.3 Phase 3: Modern

8.3.1 The alluvial clay and the ditch were sealed by an alluvial clay layer that may represent a later flooding episode or which might represent the upcast from the construction of the canal and be redeposited. The horizon between the earlier alluvium and the later alluvium was not seen in Trenches 1 and 3 and was only identified due to the presence of the ditch in Trench 2. Otherwise the two deposits were identical in nature, and sterile of finds or inclusions other than gravel lenses. The later alluvium was overlaid by a large deposit of modern rubble with inclusions of concrete.

9 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

9.1 Primary Objectives

9.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2017) prepared prior to the commencement of archaeological work at Bream Street, highlighted a set of specific objectives to be addressed by the investigation:

9.2 To establish the presence or absence of palaeo-environmental remains and, if present, assess their potential to contain yield information about the former environment of the site and/or human activity in the vicinity; to allow the design of a suitable mitigation strategy if appropriate.

9.2.1 No evidence of palaeo-environmental remains was witnessed during the evaluation.

9.3 To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric and Roman activity, and allow the design of a suitable mitigation strategy if appropriate;

9.3.1 No evidence of prehistoric or Roman remains was witnessed during the evaluation.

9.4 To establish the presence or absence of evidence relating to medieval and post-medieval water management, and record it as appropriate if present;

9.4.1 There was evidence of one ditch which was likely to be part of the post-medieval water management of the site or have an industrial function. The ditch appeared to run on a roughly north-south alignment and had been lined with a material. It dated to the 19th century. There were no medieval remains witnessed on site.

9.5 To establish the presence or absence of evidence relating to late post-medieval and modern industrial activity, and record it as appropriate if present;

9.5.1 There was a large deposit of late post-medieval and modern made ground as well as a number of substantial concrete inclusions which were likely part of the industrial development of the site in the late 19th and early 20th century.

9.6 To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

9.6.1 The east and south side of site had been heavily developed with a large amount of deposited made ground and a number of substantial concrete inclusions, which would have heavily impacted on the upper horizons of the archaeological resource. It is likely that this truncation had removed any evidence for the 19th century leats shown in Figure 5.

10 CONCLUSIONS

10.1 The results of the evaluation showed that there was no evidence for archaeological deposits or features predating the 19th century.

10.2 There was one ditch found in Trench 2 which was investigated by a hand dug slot and also machining test pits at intervals along it in order to investigate its extent. This may represent an industrial feature or be part of the land management system that was in place in the area during the 18th and 19th century. The ditch extended throughout the investigation area and continued beyond the extents of the site boundary.

10.3 Much of the site had been developed in the late 19th and early 20th century which had disturbed the upper archaeological horizons.

11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Orion Heritage Limited for commissioning the archaeological work on behalf of their clients Quadrant Construction. Thanks also to Rhys Davies and Paul Williams from Celtic Ltd for their assistance on site.

11.2 Thanks also to John Gould and Adam Single of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) at Historic England for monitoring the site on behalf of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

11.3 The author would also like to thank: Helen Hawkins for project managing and editing this report; Anna Tonelli for the illustrations, and Armi Utriainen and Rosie Banens for their work on site.

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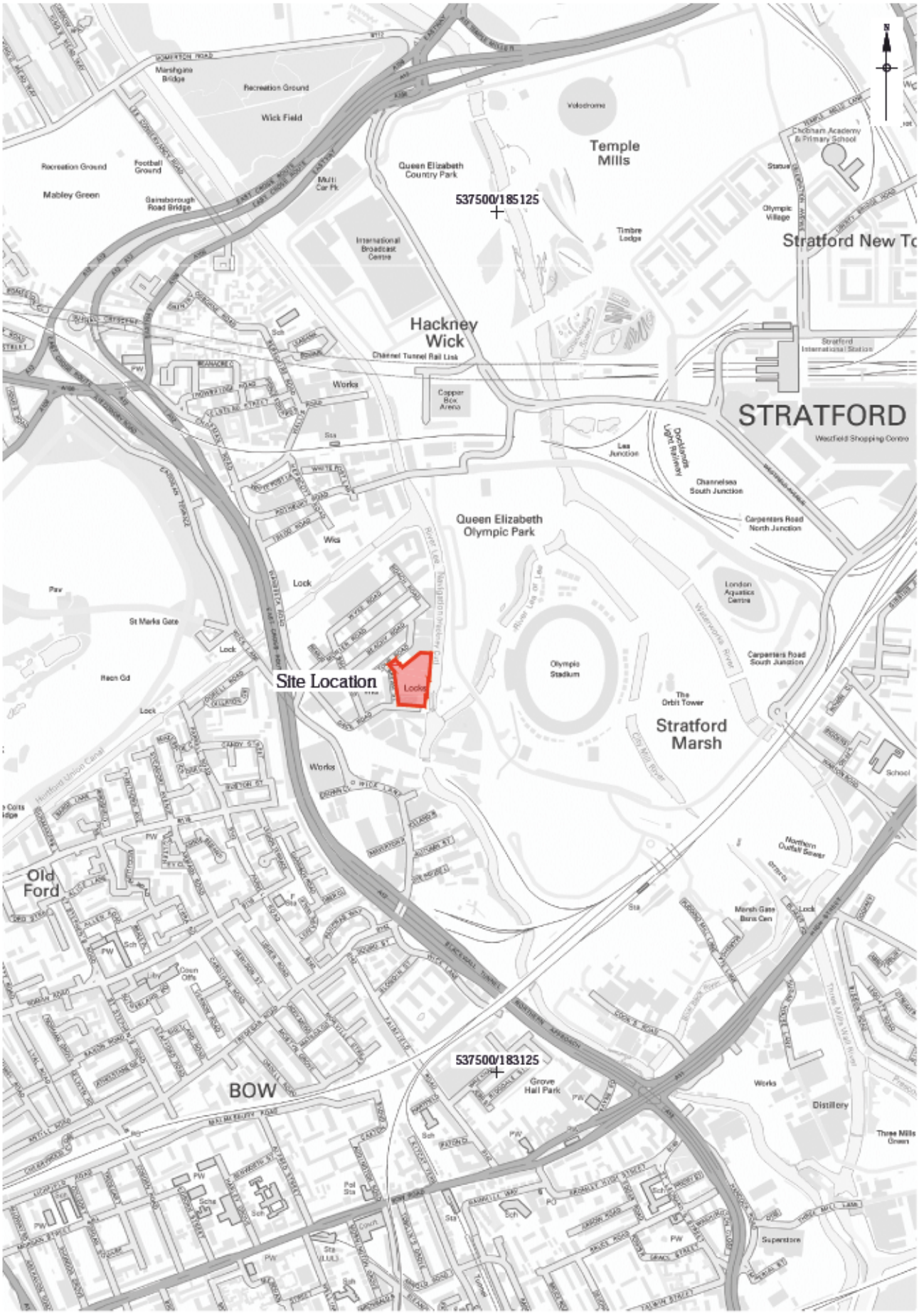

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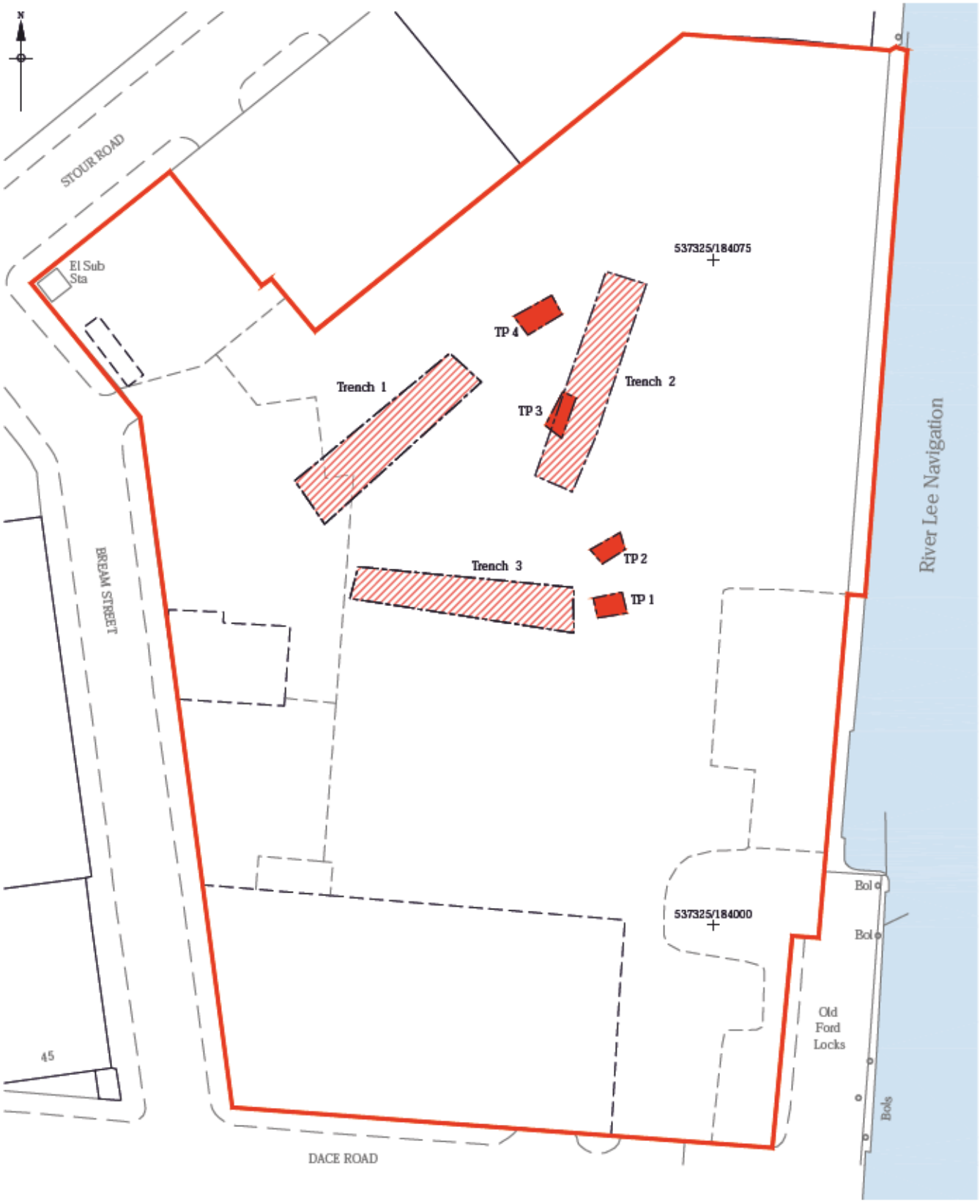
29/01/18 AT

Figure 1
Site Location
1:12,500 at A4



Evaluation Trench

Test Pit

0 25m

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Figure 2
Trench and Test Pit Location Plan
1:625 at A4

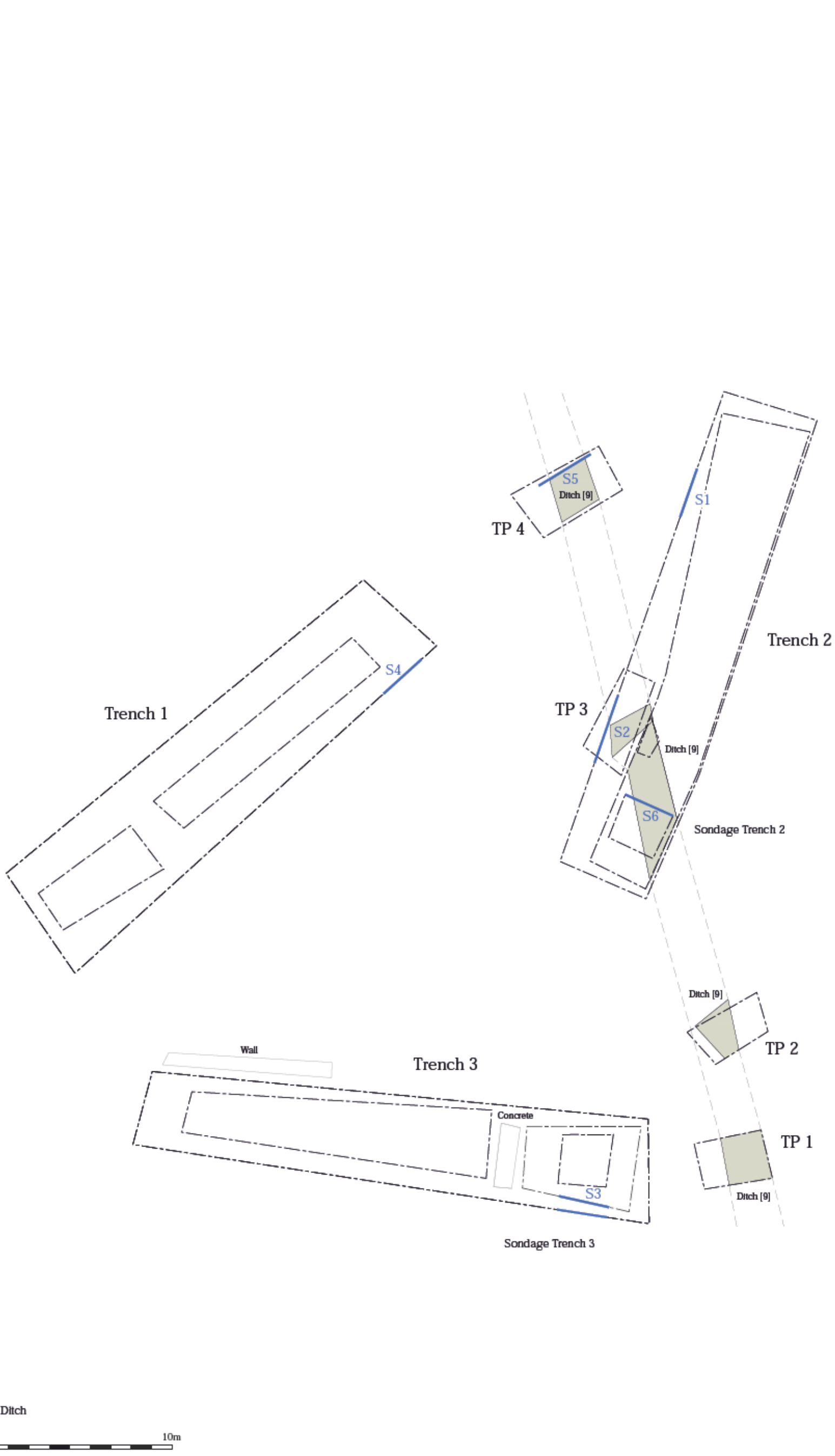

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Figure 3
Plan of Trenches showing Ditch [9]
1:200 at A3

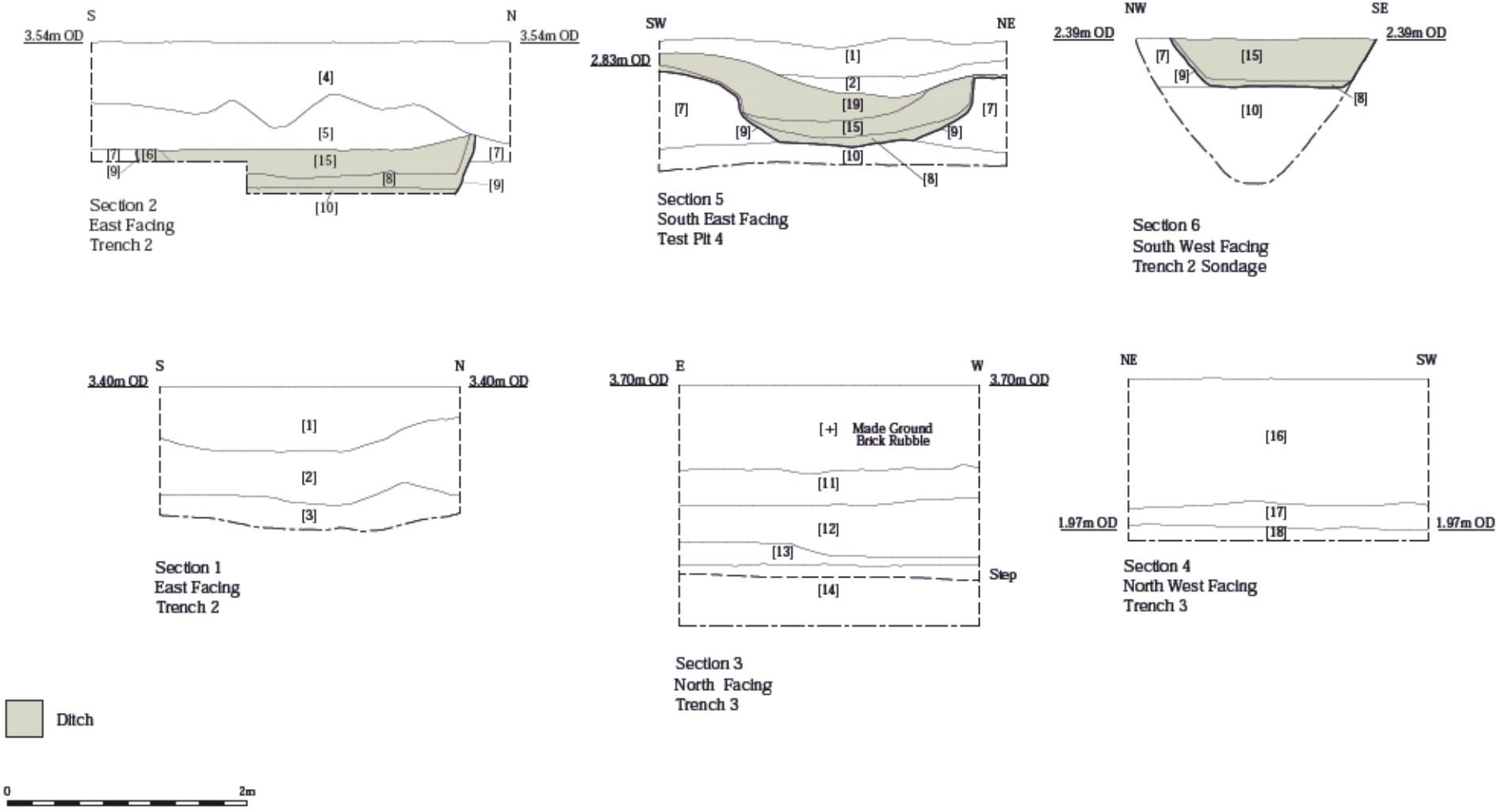

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Figure 4
Sections 1-6
1:50 at A4

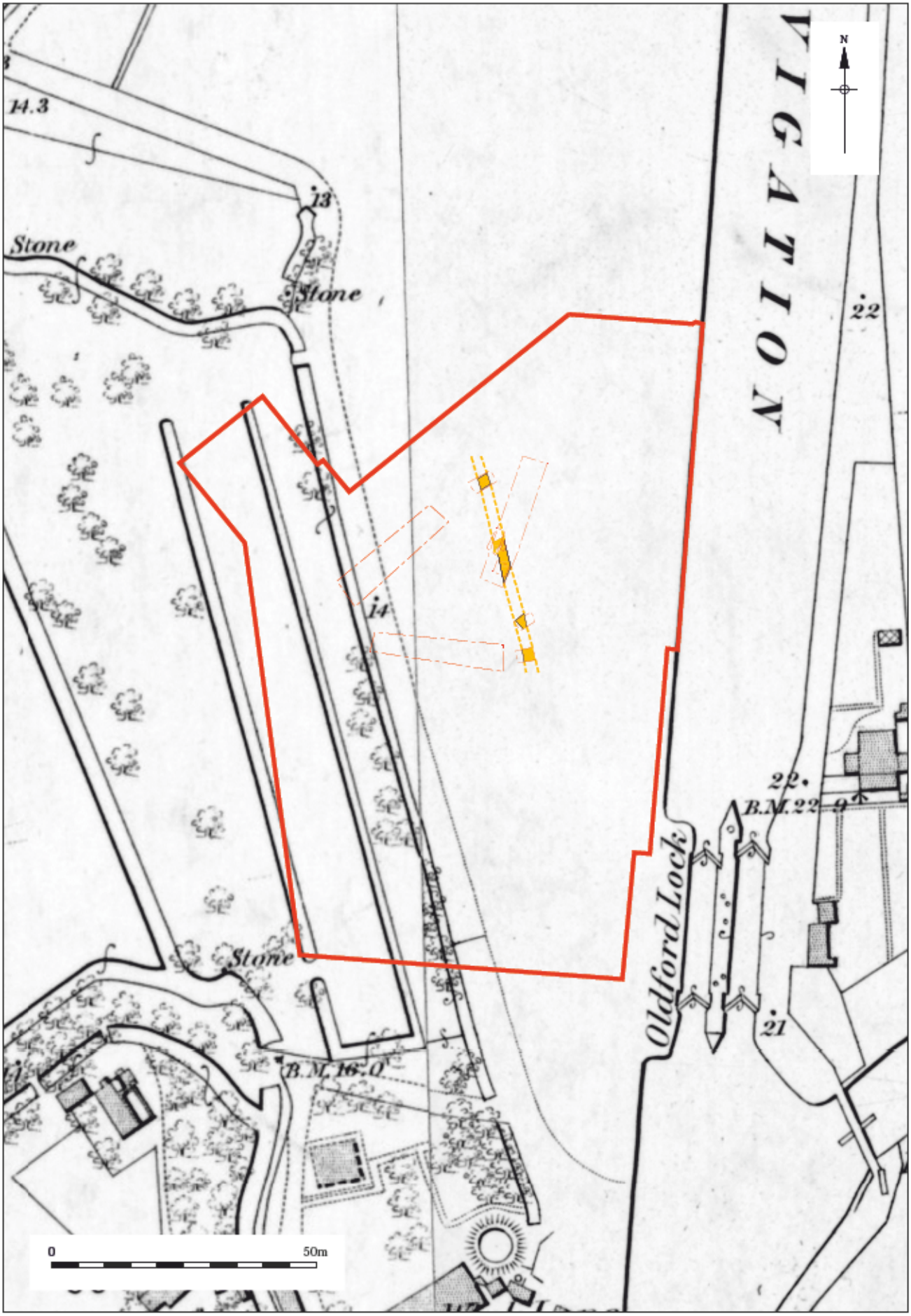

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Figure 5
Plan of Trenches showing Ditch [9]
overlain onto 1873 OS
1:1,000 at A4

PLATES

Plate 1: south-east facing section test pit 4 showing Ditch [9]

Plate 2: Ditch [9] excavated slot in Trench 2, facing north. Post and remains of lining visible on the right and base

Plate 3: Trench 3 facing north, eastern end showing gravel below lower alluvium

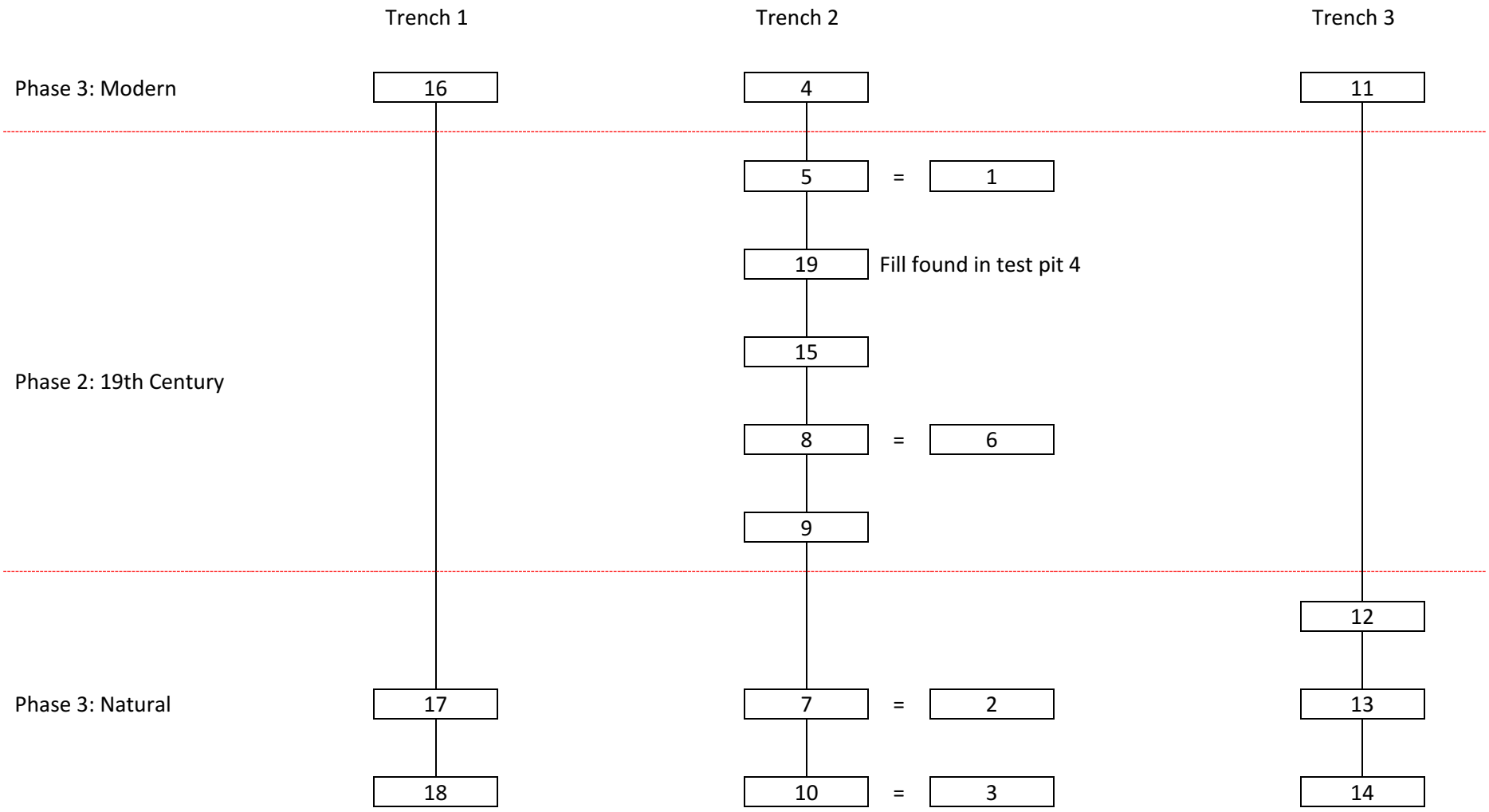
Plate 4: Trench 1 facing south west

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Site_id	Site_Code	Context	CTX_Type	Fill_of	CTX_equal to	Area	Trench	CTX_Interpretation	CTX_Category	CTX_Length	CTX_Width	CTX_Depth	CTX_Levels_high
1	BMT17	1	Layer		5		2	Light greyish brown silty clay	Levelling	25	2.5	0.42	3.4
1	BMT17	2	Natural		7		2	Mid blueish grey clay	Alluvial	25	2.5	0.46	3.15
1	BMT17	3	Natural		10		2	Light brown gravel	Natural	25	2.5	0.17	2.6
1	BMT17	4	Layer				2	Made Ground	Make-up	25	2.5	0.72	3.54
1	BMT17	5	Layer		1		2	Light brown clay	Levelling	25	2.5	0.5	3.11
1	BMT17	6	Fill	9	8		2	Fill of cut [9]	Natural Silting	2.5	0.27	0.1	2.64
1	BMT17	7	Layer		2		2	Blueish grey clay	Alluvial	25	2.5	0.3	2.64
1	BMT17	8	Fill	9	6		2	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Accumulation	1.82	2	0.15	2.44
1	BMT17	9	Cut				2	Cut of Ditch	Ditch	2.5	2.82	0.4	2.54
1	BMT17	10	Natural				2	Natural gravel	Natural	25	2.5	0.1	2.14
1	BMT17	11	Layer				3	Light brownish grey clay	Levelling	25	2.5	0.32	3.04
1	BMT17	12	Layer				3	Orangish yellow sandy clay	Natural	25	2.5	0.49	2.76
1	BMT17	13	Layer				3	Dark greyish brown clay	Alluvial	25	2.5	0.2	2.26
1	BMT17	14	Natural				3	Natural gravel	Natural	25	2.5	0.1	2.2
1	BMT17	15	Fill	9			2	Fill of ditch [9]	Accumulation	2.55	3	2.4	2.34
1	BMT17	16	Layer				1	Light grey clay	Levelling	25	2.5	1.8	3.22

Site_id	Site_Code	Context	CTX_Type	Fill_of	CTX_equal to	Area	Trench	CTX_Interpretation	CTX_Category	CTX_Length	CTX_Width	CTX_Depth	CTX_Levels_high
1	BMT17	17	Natural				1	Dirty Gravel	Natural	25	2.5	0.2	2.17
1	BMT17	18	Natural				1	Natural gravel	Natural	25	2.5	0.1	1.97
1	BMT17	19	Layer	9			TP2	clayey gravel	Accumulation		2.25	0.5	2.97

APPENDIX 2: PHASED MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-307439

Project details

Project name LAND AT BREAM STREET AT THE JUNCTION OF STOUR ROAD and DACE ROAD, FISH ISLAND, LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL

Short description of the project PCA carried out an archaeological evaluation at Bream Street at the junction of Stour Road and Dace Road, Fish Island, London. The site was located within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and was centred at TQ 37300 84035. Natural Kempton Park River Terrace Gravels were identified from 2.6m OD to 1.97m OD with some natural variation across the site. The natural gravels were sealed by natural alluvial deposits. A north-south aligned ditch, which had been cut into the lower alluvium, was noted in Trench 2. This ditch was investigated at further points across the site as part of a mitigation exercise, and proved to continue beyond the northern and southern extremities of the site. The ditch was of 19th century date and was lined with a felt or plant-based mat pegged in place with wooden stakes. It may have represented an industrial feature or be part of the water management of the area that took place in the 18th and 19th century. There was no evidence for the leats shown on the site on the first edition Ordnance Survey map, although extensive truncation had taken place in the upper levels of the site which might have affected the survival of these features.

Project dates Start: 09-01-2018 End: 15-01-2018

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes BMT17 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial

Monument type DITCH Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"

Development type Housing estate

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS TOWER HAMLETS Bream Street, Fish Island

Postcode E3 2NG

Study area 100 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 37300 84035 51.537998141337 -0.020049955537 51 32 16 N 000 01 12 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 1.97m Max: 2.6m

Project creators

Name of Organisation PCA

Project brief originator Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service

Project design originator Helen Hawkins

Project director/manager Helen Hawkins

Project supervisor Tanya Jones

Type of sponsor/funding body House builder

Name of sponsor/funding body Orion Heritage

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC

Physical Archive ID BMT17

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Archive ID BMT17

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient LAARC

Paper Archive ID BMT17

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Plan","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title LAND AT BREAM STREET AT THE JUNCTION OF STOUR ROAD and DACE ROAD, FISH ISLAND, LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Author(s)/Editor(s) Jones, T

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