

Report 2488



nau archaeology

**An Archaeological Evaluation with Historic Building
Recording at Dunraven School, Leigham Court Road,
Lambeth, London**

DNV 10



Prepared for
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Location:	Dunraven School, Leigham Court Road
District:	Lambeth
Grid Ref.:	TQ 3079 7211
HER No.:	DNV 10
OASIS Ref.:	86310
Client:	Engage Lambeth Ltd
Dates of Fieldwork:	25 - 29 October 2010

Summary

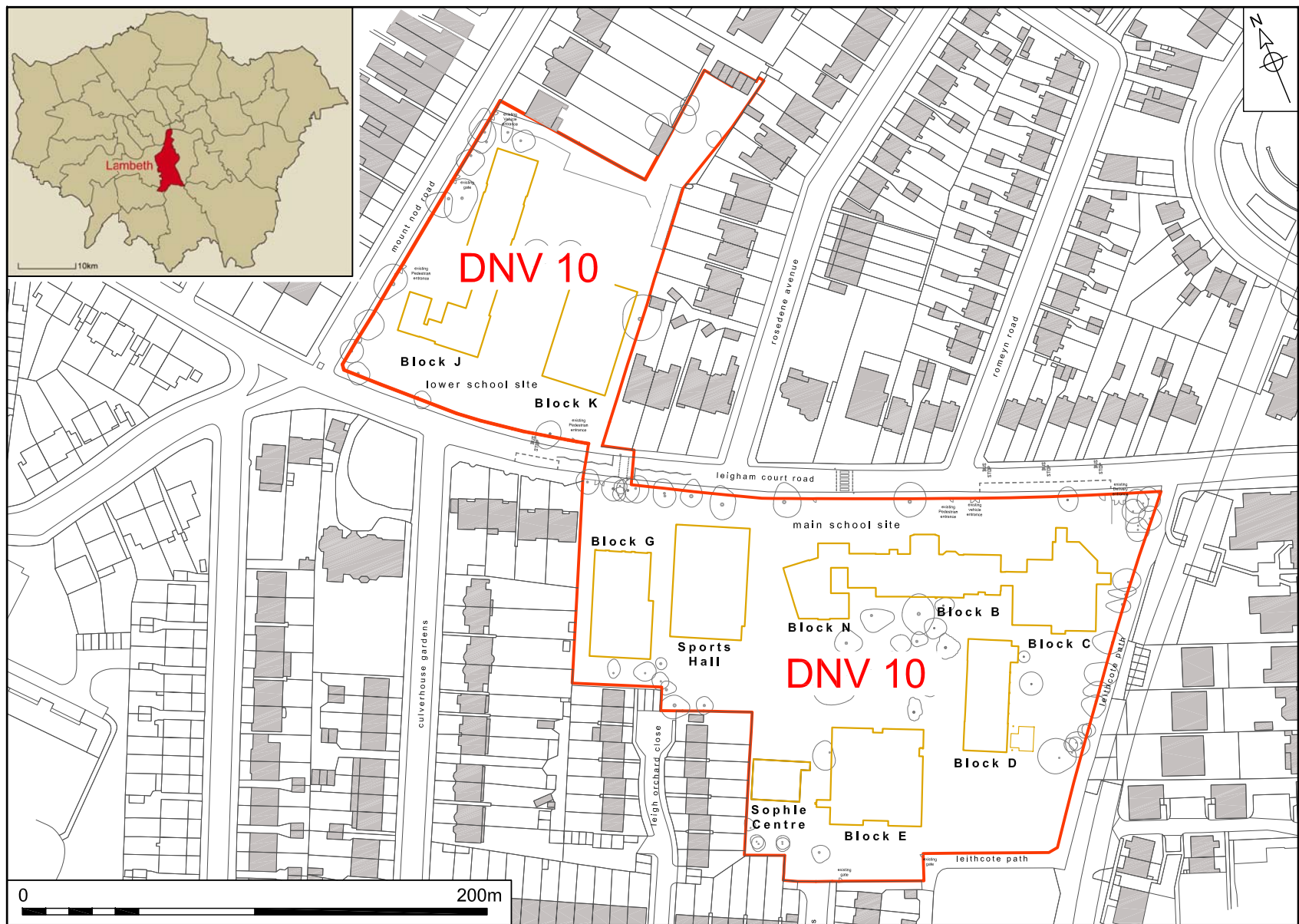
An archaeological evaluation was conducted for Engage Lambeth Ltd ahead of a programme of refurbishment and development at Dunraven School, Leigham Court Road, Lambeth. An Historic Building Recording project was also undertaken as part of the archaeological works due to the considerable changes that were to occur to the school buildings as part of the redevelopment.

Three trenches (NAU 2, 4 and 5) and two test pits (NAU 1 and 3) were excavated as part of the project. Traces of an external surface within Trench NAU 5 probably represented a driveway associated with one of the Victorian town houses that had originally lined Leigham Court Road. Sherds of Victorian pottery indicated the type of general household wares in use at that time. Several areas had been subjected to large scale dumping of earth, during the lifetime of the school as preparatory work prior to the creation of new school buildings. In particular the deposits within Trench NAU 4 contained building material derived from the demolished accommodation block of a teacher training college that occupied part of the site at an earlier date.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

(Fig. 1)

Dunraven School is located on both sides of Leigham Court Road in Lambeth. The Main School site is situated on the south side of the road and the Lower School occupies a block of land between Mount nod Road and Rosedene Avenue on the north side. The School is being developed as part of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. The School superstructure is largely still that of a teacher training college and adult education centre – the initial purpose of the buildings. As part of the programme of redevelopment some parts of the school have been re-designed including the prefabricated classrooms on the Lower School site and the single storey teaching block and old Gym at the Main (Upper) School. Due to the quality of the build some elements of the school such as the staircase in Library Block are to be retained and refurbished. The re-design aims to minimise the number of students crossing the Leigham Court Road, to make the school more environmentally friendly and to improve the quality of the outdoor spaces. Many of the large trees around the site have Tree Protection Orders on them in order to maintain the green environment. It is also envisaged that the availability of the school for use by the local community will be enhanced (<http://www.dunraven.org.uk/page>).



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Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:2500

This work was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition set by The London Borough of Lambeth (Ref. 10/01335/RG3) in accordance with guidance issued by The Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service. The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NAU Archaeology (Ref. NAU/BAU2488/NP). This project was commissioned and funded by Engage Lambeth Ltd.

This programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, following the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority about the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by NAU Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER), following the relevant policies on archiving standards. A microfilmed version of the archive will also be deposited with the National Monuments Record.

2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site is situated on London Clay (Kendall 2000, British Geological Survey) and is located on a low hill, the topography of which may have been exaggerated through terracing associated with building works at the school. The River Thames runs through Lambeth district around 2km to the north of the school site. The only other watercourse nearby, the River Graveney, runs through the parish of Streatham and forms a tributary of the Wandle which flows into the Thames at Wandsworth.

All of the upper soils encountered on the site were heavily modified, the result of imported garden soil associated with localised landscaping. There were also large areas which contained material that had been dumped in the 20th century.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A search of the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) was undertaken and the most relevant entries recorded below. Supplementary information was added from 'The Archaeology of Greater London' (Kendall 2000), the 'History of the County of Surrey' on the British History Online website and the Designation of the Leigham Court Road Conservation Area document of Lambeth Planning both accessed online.

Prehistoric to Roman

Within the Lambeth area some flint tools have been found, though in London generally they are far more finds of this period associated with the river gravels in the immediate vicinity of the Thames to the north. The site is situated on heavy London clay which has discouraged activity through much of history.

There are two Palaeolithic findspots reasonably close to the site. They include a flint biface axe found on Abbotswood Road (GLSMR 090003) and a flint assemblage found at Rookery Road (GLSMR 090057). All traces of the Mesolithic and Neolithic period within the Lambeth area (which are few in number) are to be found closer to the River Thames with its exploited gravels. There are no GLHER

entries for these periods close to the site. Within the Bronze Age, again most of the discoveries have been found adjacent to the Thames, such as the pits, pottery and flintwork found in Lambeth Palace kitchen gardens (GLSMR 090692) and the flints of Neolithic and Bronze Age found at the Albert Embankment (GLSMR 091261). The only find of this date near to the site was a palstave (GLSMR 090097) found near Streatham Common. For the Iron Age a single pit has been recorded in Lambeth, close to the Thames at South Lambeth Road (GLSMR 091252).

In the Roman period, coins and building remains were found at St Leonard's Church reasonably close to the site (GLSMR 090068). This church is thought to be located close to the line of the Roman Road which heads through Lambeth southwards towards Croydon. The Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society has undertaken fieldwork to try and locate the course of the Roman roads in the area and it is posited that after Clapham North, the main road diverges and the Roman road is thought to follow the course of the modern A24. The Roman Road was known as Stane Street in later periods. (A History of the County of Surrey, British History Online)

Saxon to medieval

The majority of the Saxon remains in London are observed to lie close to the River Thames, although an Early Saxon settlement was found at Tulse Hill School, just 1km north-east of the site. The heavy clay lands appeared to have been largely avoided for settlement purposes during this period also.

In the medieval period hamlets and villages developed in many areas including Streatham, Balham and Brixton within the overall area of the modern Borough of Lambeth (A History of the County of Surrey, British History Online) Medieval manor houses were also prominent in the area such as those located at Upper Tulse Hill (GLSMR 090134) and at Albert Carr Gardens (GLSMR 090065). Mount Nod Farm was Streatham's largest farming estate occupying an area of some 260 acres and with origins dating back to 1340 when it was owned by the monks of Bermondsey Abbey. It is thought that the farmhouse probably stood close to the junction of Leigham Avenue and Conifer Gardens. Most of the area of Dunraven School probably lay within the bounds of the farm (Designation of the Leigham Court Road Conservation Area, Lambeth Planning).

The estate of Leigham first gets a mention in the Domesday Survey of 1086. It may originally have been the estate which a certain Edwin had held in the reign of Edward the Confessor. At Domesday it is recorded as belonging to the Bishop of Bayeux and presumably fell to the Crown on his death. Later it came into the possession of the Mandeville lords of Clapham and Balham and may have been the holding in Streatham granted to Bermondsey Priory by Ralph de Mandeville, probably in the first half of the 12th century. In 1165 Henry II gave the Vill at Leigham to the monks of Bermondsey. From the beginning of the 14th until the 16th century various leases of the whole or part of the manor were made to citizens such as Thomas Romain, Piers Swift, Ralph Leigh, Robert Hawkins, and Henry Knight (who obtained a lease, apparently of the whole manor, from the abbot in 1534). In 1544 after the Dissolution, Henry VIII granted the manor to Henry Dowes (A History of the County of Surrey, British History Online).

The site of Mount Nod farm is recorded in the GLHER as MLO4071. There are also two possible locations of medieval roads close to the site. At MLO8094, in Leigham Avenue, is evidence that a medieval road here may have led to Leigham Court. At Leigham Lane a thick metalling layer thought to be part of a road is recorded. The site of three possible medieval houses known until 1892 is recorded at MLO4101. There is reference to a well at MLO13569 and a 'holiwell' is mentioned in 1312, thought to be located at either Leigham Common or near the other well site at Wellfield Road.

Post-medieval to modern

Streatham, the nearest settlement focus to the school, was a small dispersed settlement about a mile in length by the close of the 17th century and was already popular as a country residence for the gentry and citizens of London. Its mixed rural and suburban character continued for more than a century afterwards. Most of the land was still arable, and as late as 1831 nearly one fifth of the families living here were occupied in agriculture. The centre of Streatham was the church of St Leonard a short distance east of Tooting Bec Common. In 1660 the Streatham Spa Well was discovered and was used by the poorer folk in the neighbourhood. The area seems to have become a centre of Spa treatments and a series of establishments devoted to care existed in the area at this time. The Royal Asylum of St. Anne's Society was relocated to Streatham Hill in 1829 and enlarged in 1855. The Magdalen Hospital is in the north of the parish to the south of Leigham Court Road, and the Surrey Female Lunatic Asylum is on the south side of Tooting Bec Common. At the top of Streatham Common there was also the British Home for Incurables. An open-air swimming bath on Tooting Bec Common, one of the largest in England, was contributed by the London County Council in 1905–6 (A History of the County of Surrey, British History Online).

Leigham Court Road itself was laid out in 1839 by Beriah Drew, a rich solicitor originally from Bermondsey, who had moved to Streatham. He saw the development possibilities of the area and in 1838 purchased Mount Nod Farm from the estate of Lord Thurlow, the late Lord of the Manor of Leigham. Beriah Drew built Leigham Lodge and Mount Nod Farmhouse which stood until the 1850s when it was replaced by a large mansion known as Leigham House. Leigham House was in turn demolished in the 1920s. There was little development after the building of the two houses until the opening of Streatham Hill Station in 1856 and Streatham Station in 1868 which made the area accessible to those who worked in the City. Development of the area began in earnest and during this time the family firm of George Trollope and Sons constructed seventeen or more houses along Leigham Court Road. In the later 19th century large houses with valuable grounds came under mounting pressure to be developed and during this time many were demolished and the sites sold off for building. The expansion continued into the 20th century when the leafy avenues and open spaces, made this particular part of Streatham highly desirable. Until 1902 the northern end of Leigham Court Road towards Streatham Common was known as St Julian's Road. Leigham Avenue is one of Streatham's earliest roads (Designation of the Leigham Court Road Conservation Area, Lambeth Planning).

Two famous individuals are linked with the parish; Dr. Johnson who lived chiefly at Streatham from 1766 to 1782 as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Thrle and the pre-Raphaelite painter William Dyce who was buried in 1864 in St. Leonard's church

which had been enlarged from his own designs (A History of the County of Surrey, British History Online).

There are two inns recorded close to the site. One had existed in Prentis Road, said to have been re-built in 1812 and is shown as the Lion in 1852 (MLO6258). On Streatham High Road the Halfway House Coaching Inn was re-built and re-named The Horse and Groom (MLO4185).

There are several wells and springs recorded in the vicinity in the GLHER. In Streatham High Road there is a mention in 1736 of a spring with an associated cottage known as The Pump House, which by 1801 was being described as a 'Public Pump' (MLO4105). A spa was recorded at Wellfield Road (MLO13570) and a second spring was located in Valley Road where a Georgian Well House was providing supplies of water until the 1940s and the tea gardens remained in use until the 1860s (MLO40120).

A Tithe barn was recorded at MLO7611 in Tooting Bec Gardens where it stood close by to the parsonage there.

As the settlement developed there are several listed buildings recorded close to the site such as Leigham Lodge (MLO88951) which dated to the 18th and 19th century and the Congregational Chapel (MLO88891). One of the most recent listed buildings is the former ABC Cinema situated on Streatham High Street. (MLO90076)

Archaeological Interventions

There have been several archaeological interventions around the site in this part of Lambeth. On the whole they presented natural topography or evidence of Victorian and/or later dumping and made ground.

Evaluations with negative results have been undertaken at 120 Leigham Court Road (MLO63211), 2 to 8 Gracefield Gardens (MLO77899), 130 to 132 Knolly's Road (MLO63209), 15 to 17 Leigham Avenue (MLO63156), 6 Knolly's Close (MLO63173) and 170 Streatham High Road (MLO63251).

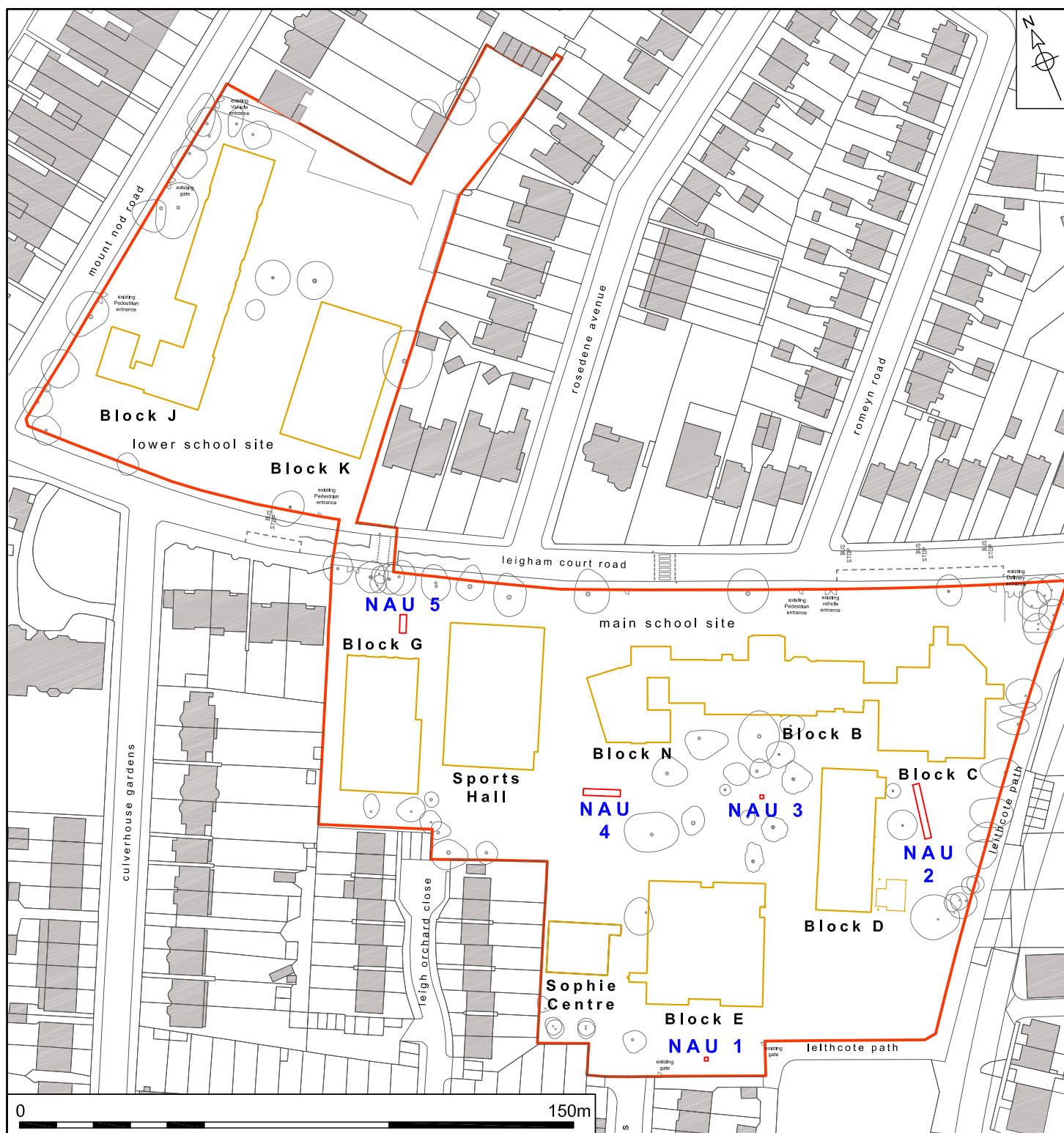
Work undertaken at 142 Harborough Road in 1973 recovered two prehistoric flint flakes (MLO4155). In Wiltshire Road an evaluation in 1991 found just three residual Roman pottery sherds. (MLO58376)

4.0 METHODOLOGY

(Fig. 2)

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

The Brief required that a series of trenches and test pits be excavated across the site. These were to be concentrated in areas of new building. Lambeth Planning desired that the amount of trenching be kept to a minimum to avoid disruption to the running of the school in subsequent weeks, and this meant that less than 5% of the development area was trial trenched. The work was undertaken in one week during half-term.



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Figure 2. Trench location. Scale 1:1500

Five areas were sample excavated (NAU 1-5). Machine excavation of NAU 2, 4 and 5 was carried out with a wheeled JCB-type excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket and operated under constant archaeological supervision. The machine and operator were supplied by Ryans Building and Civil Engineering Ltd. Trenches NAU 1 and 3 were 1m by 1m test pits which were hand excavated. Following the trenching, backfilling and reinstatement was undertaken by operatives of Ryans Building and Civil Engineering Ltd.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those which were obviously modern were retained for inspection.

Due to the relatively recent age and disturbed character of the soils encountered on the site no environmental samples were taken during the project.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NAU Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Colour, monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.

The temporary benchmark used during the course of this work was transferred from a known Ordnance Survey height with a value of 64m OD, located on the intersection of Leigham Vale and Knolly's Road. A temporary benchmark with a value of 66.55m was created at the main gate of the school.

Site conditions were good with the work taking place in generally seasonally warm fine weather.

5.0 RESULTS

NAU 1

(Fig. 3 and Plates 1 and 2)

Test pit NAU 1 was located to the south of the open air theatre, on the south side of the school complex. It measured 1m by 1m, and was hand excavated onto natural substratum ([23]) to a depth of 0.73m.

The earliest observed archaeological deposit consisted of a mid brown silty clay which contained occasional chalk, charcoal, clay pipe, pottery, tile and bone fragments ([20]). The layer contained dumped deposits, though its thickness also suggested that it consisted of naturally deposited elements. The layer was 0.37m thick.

Above deposit [20] was a relatively thin lens (0.05m) of dumped pottery held in a matrix of mid brown silty clay ([22]). At the same relative position within the developmental sequence there was a 0.20m thick layer of large brick masonry fragments held in a matrix of mid brown silty clay ([19]). The fragments appeared to have originated from the same structure and contained bricks with a heavy green glaze which dated to the later 19th century.

A layer of friable mid yellowish brown clayey silt which contained occasional gravel, chalk and rubble fragments ([21]) was next in the sequence. It was 0.20m thick and appeared to be of mostly natural accumulation, though it contained some evidence of dumped deposits.

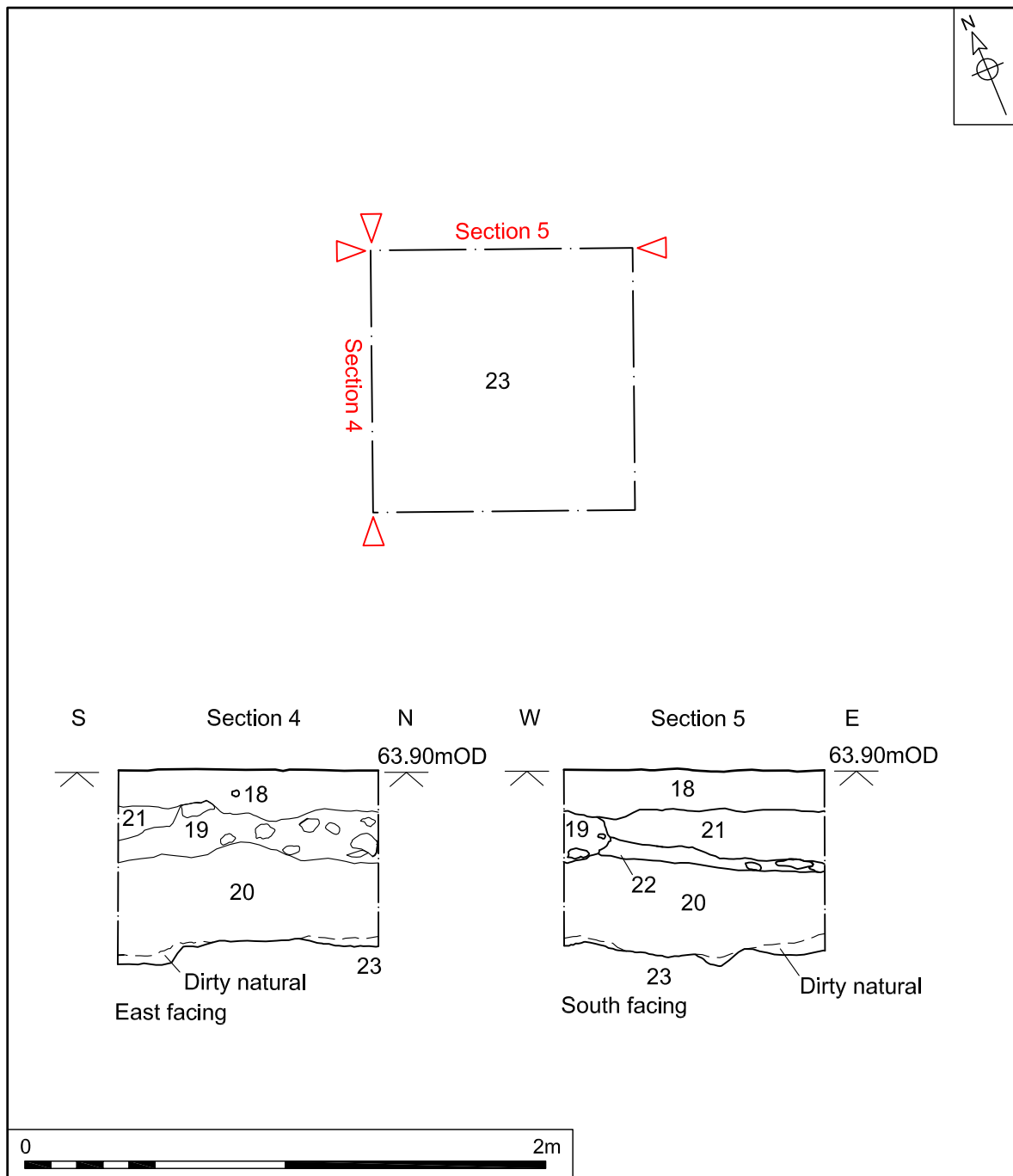


Figure 3. Test Pit NAU 1, plan and sections. Scale 1:25

The uppermost deposit observed in Test pit NAU 1 was a friable mid brown clayey silt topsoil ([18]). It contained some rusty metal fragments and broken tiles. It may have been brought to the site during a relatively recent landscaping exercise and had a maximum thickness of 0.18m.



Plate 1. Test Pit NAU 1 looking west



Plate 2. Test Pit NAU 2, looking north

NAU 2

(Fig. 4 and Plates 3, 4 and 5)

Trench NAU 2 was 15m long by 1.80m wide and was located in the garden to the south of Block C and to the east of Block D. It was excavated by machine to a depth of 0.90m onto the natural clay substratum. At the northern end, the presence of large fragments of concrete meant that some of deposit [12] (a rubble layer) had to be left *in-situ*. Similarly at the southern end of the trench the presence of a large ceramic drain and a metal pipe, which were probably still live, meant that the natural substratum was unobserved. The trench was orientated on a roughly north to south axis.



Plate 3. Trench NAU 2, looking north

The natural substratum consisted of a firm bright yellowish brown clay ([17]). Several patches of 19th/20th-century dumped material intruded into the natural clay at this point and consisted of the lower elements of layer [13] situated above.

Layer [13] consisted of a mix of re-deposited brown clay with large patches of gritty and sandy clinker and crushed rubble fragments and was similar in appearance to layer [12] above. It was 0.11m thick and extended for the full length of the trench.

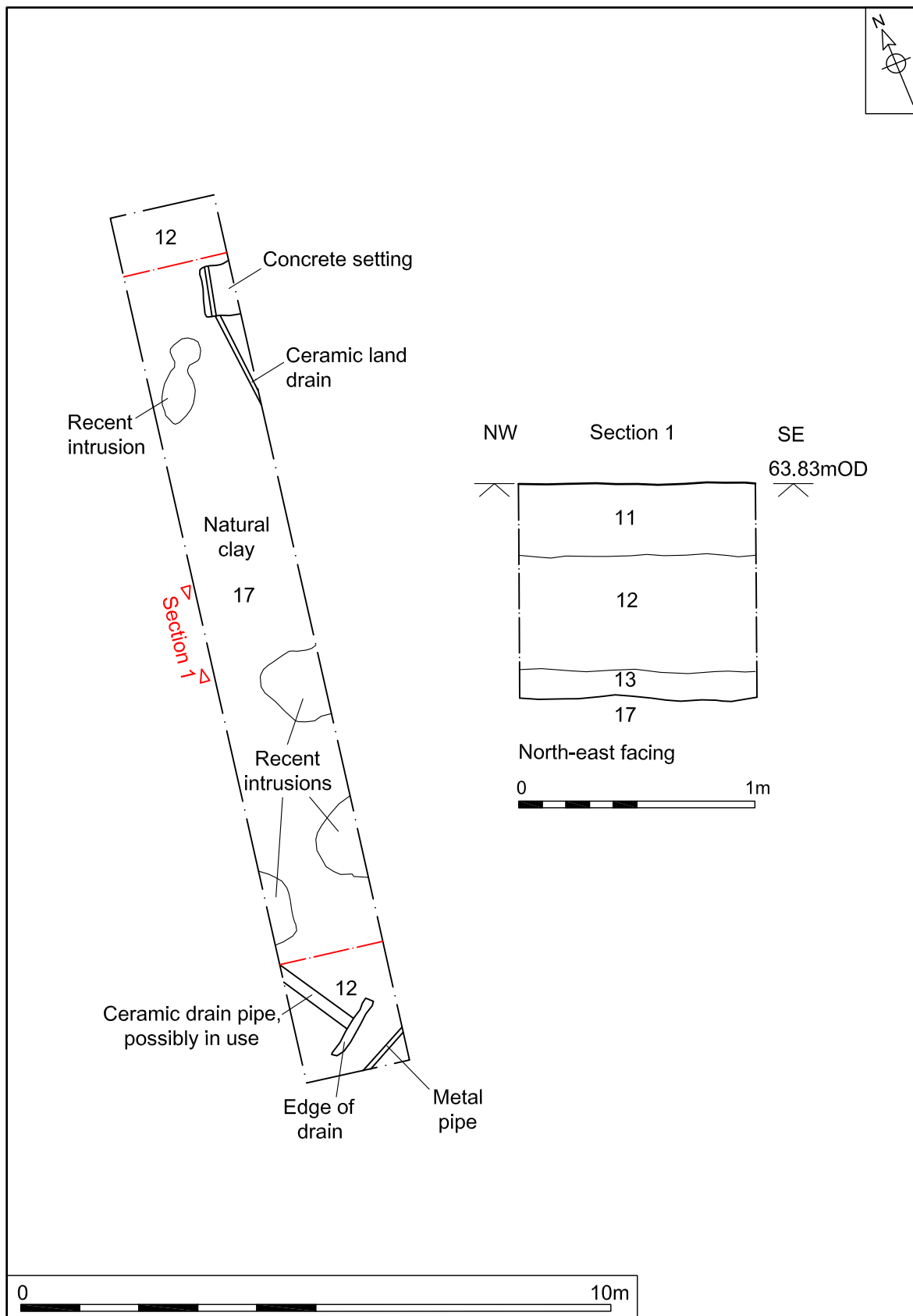


Figure 4. Trench NAU 2, plan and section. Scale 1:100 and 1:25

A very thick layer of dumped deposits ([12]) occupied the central part of the sequence. It consisted of a 'dirty' and gritty re-deposited clay which contained moderate amounts of inclusions including broken concrete, mortar, clinker, slate fragments, fragments of crushed yellow brick and fragments of rusty metal including a fairly recent steel support. At the northern end of the trench there were larger fragments of concrete which were not fully excavated.

A friable dark brown clayey silt ([11]) was situated at the top of the sequence. It was 0.30m deep and essentially formed a garden soil which had possibly been imported when the lawn was laid.



Plate 4. Trench NAU 2, looking south



Plate 5. Trench NAU 2, sample section, looking west

NAU 3

(Fig. 5 and Plate 6)

Test pit NAU 3 was located in the open area to the south of Block B. It was surrounded by a series of large trees, some of which were subject to Tree Preservation Orders. The test pit measured 1m by 1m and was hand excavated to 0.54m below the surface onto probable natural clay.

The natural clay ([24]) was a firm mid yellowish brown in character and contained charcoal fragments in its top 50mm which had probably been mixed in through root action. The clay was tested using an augur for a further 0.50m and found to be clear of obstructions or inclusions.

Above the clay was a 0.30m thick make-up layer formed from small crushed fragments and small lumps of red fired clay ([9]). They resembled small rounded pieces of fired clay, often 10 to 20mm in size, rather than crushed ceramic building material.

Next in the sequence was a 0.15m thick layer of crushed black clinker ([8]). It was generally well-graded which suggested it had been deliberately introduced as a layer of make-up. It supported a thin layer of red crushed brick or fired clay ([25]) which was almost certainly an older yard surface, or temporary surface of some kind. This layer was 20mm thick.

At the top of the sequence was a deposit of mid greyish brown clayey silt ([7]) which was 0.08m thick. The layer was reasonably clear of larger inclusions and appeared to have been deliberately laid, probably prior to the creation of the lawn in this area of the school, although at this point the original turf had worn away.

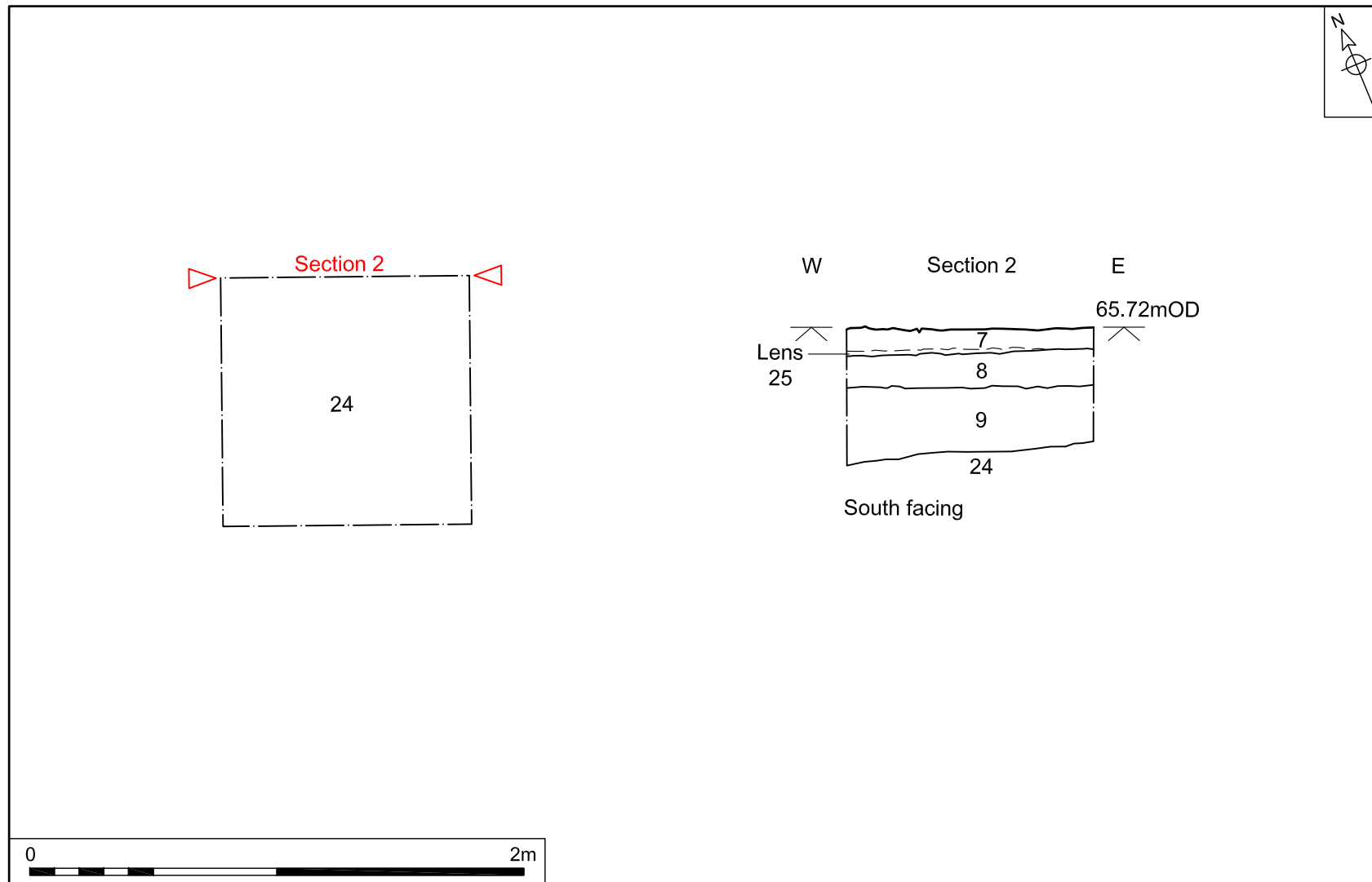


Figure 5. Test Pit NAU 3, plan and section. Scale 1:25



Plate 6. Test pit NAU 3, looking west

NAU 4

(Fig. 6 and Plates 7 and 8)

Trench NAU 4 was situated to the south of Block N and to the south-east of the Sports Hall. It was orientated east to west and was machine excavated to a depth of 1.20m. Prior to backfilling the trench, a small machine-excavated sondage was dug to find the top of the natural clay. It was located a further 0.30m below the base of the trench at a depth of 1.50m from the ground surface.

The lower 0.60m of the sequence recorded in the main body of the trench consisted of various lenses of gritty crushed building material held in a matrix of re-deposited tenacious light brown clay ([16]). The layer contained some very large fragments of broken concrete slab and fragmentary yellow bricks. There were also some large metal bars present in the deposit. The layer was almost certainly the result of landscaping using a mechanical excavator, probably prior to the creation of Block N. Some of the building material present within the deposit had probably been derived from the old West Wing of the teacher training college which had been located in the vicinity.

Above layer [16] was a 0.40m thick layer of graded and crushed building material held in an overall sandy and gritty deposit ([15]). There were also occasional large fragments of concrete and brick. The layer was a more finely crushed form of made ground.

It supported a 0.20m thick layer of imported friable mid brown clayey silt which held a layer of turf ([14]).

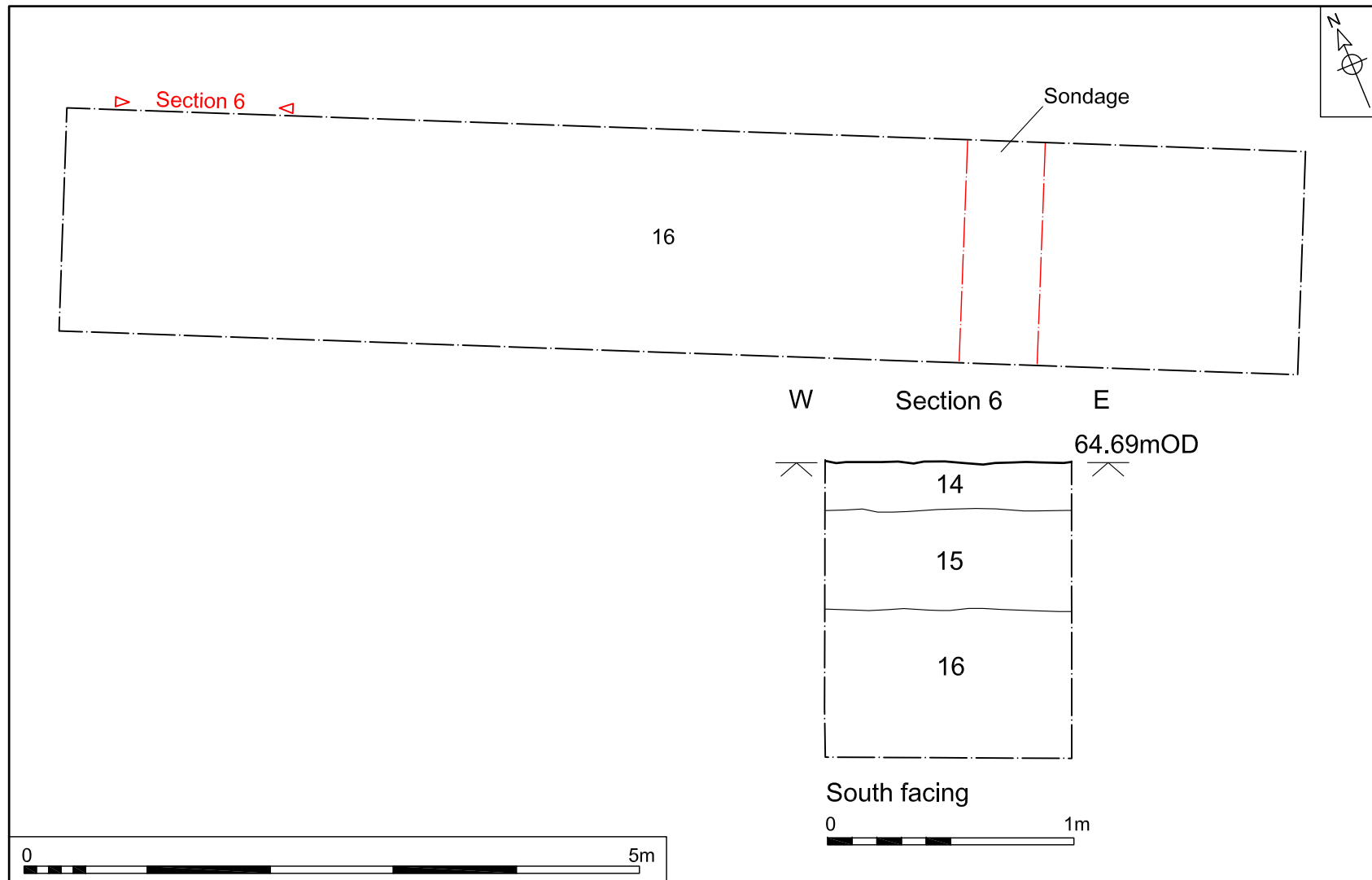


Figure 6. Trench NAU 4, plan and section. Scale 1:50 and 1:25



Plate 7. Trench NAU 4, looking east



Plate 8. Trench NAU 4, sample section, looking north

NAU 5

(Fig. 7 and Plates 9 and 10)

Trench NAU 5 was located in a small lawn to the north of Block G and just to the south of Leigham Court Road. It was orientated north to south and was machine excavated down to a depth of 0.50m until mortar surface [4] was observed. A slot was hand dug at the northern end of the trench for a further depth of 0.50m until natural clay was encountered. Immediately prior to backfilling a machine excavated sondage was excavated at the centre of the trench to examine the character of the natural clay.



Plate 9. Trench NAU 5, looking north

The natural clay ([25]) was a firm light yellowish brown clay.

Above it was a yellowish brown clay with iron pan staining ([6]). It was 0.25m thick. The layer was similar to the natural clay, although it appeared to have been disturbed.

It supported a very firm and flinty dark greyish brown slightly silty clay ([5]). The layer was 0.20m thick and probably represented a made ground, laid prior to the creation of the thin mortar surface.

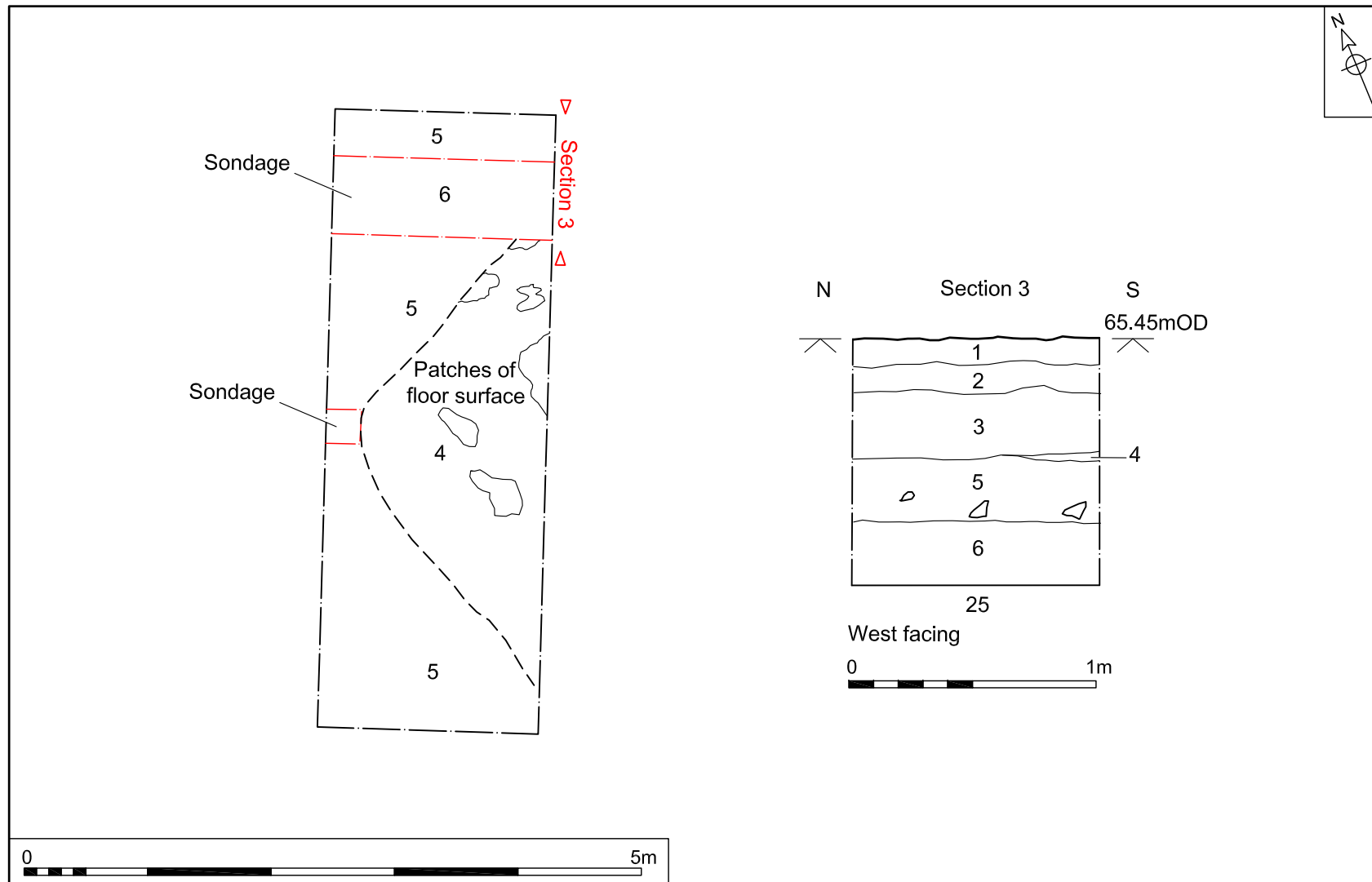


Figure 7. Trench NAU 5, plan and section. Scale 1:50 and 1:25

A thin layer of cream coloured mortar ([4]) was next in the sequence. It was patchy and where it existed was only 20mm thick. During the excavation of the trench, the layer of dumped material ([3]) located above it lifted off very easily and cleanly which lent weight to it having been a mortar surface.



Plate 10. Trench NAU 5, sample section, looking south -east

6.0 THE FINDS

A table showing all the finds and the context from which they derive is presented as Appendix 2a. A more detailed description of the finds by material can be found below.

6.1 Pottery

A total of 75 sherds of pottery weighing 2,056g were collected from eight contexts (Appendix 3). The assemblage contains a range of domestic pottery of 18th- to 20th-century date.

Most numerous within the assemblage are unglazed earthenwares almost certainly from flower pots or similar horticultural vessels. A total of 24 sherds weighing 387g were recovered. Two abraded sherds of glazed red earthenware were also found.

Also well represented are stoneware vessels. Nineteen sherds of stoneware were recovered including two complete or semi-complete vessels. A complete stoneware jar stamped 'Stephen Green & Co, Lambeth' was found in layer [3]. The jar was made by Stephen Green's Imperial Pottery which operated from 54 Prince's Street, Lambeth between 1831 and 1858 (Tyler 2004, 127). A second miniature jug complete except for the handle was found in layer [2]. A large sherd from a foot warmer, a stoneware forerunner of a hot-water bottle, was found in layer [20]. The remainder of the assemblage comprised the fragmentary remains of jars or bottles.

Fine whitewares and transfer printed wares include sherds from domestic flat wares and hollow wares associated with food serving and preparation particularly making and serving tea. A total of twenty five sherds were found weighing 114g were recovered from a minimum of twelve vessels including a blue and white transfer printed platter with willow pattern design, a large sherd from a Pearlware saucer with scalloped edge and the base of a transfer printed egg cup, all from layers [20] and [22]. Five sherds from a Staffordshire brown-glazed teapot came from layer [22].

The pottery compares well with the large assemblage recovered from a 19th-century cesspit excavated at 12 -18 Albert Embankment, Lambeth (Tyler 2004). This pottery comprised a range of vessels derived from nearby low-status tenements and is closely dated to a period spanning 1851-1860 (Whittingham 2004, 130). A similar provenance and date range is suggested for the Dunraven School assemblage.

6.2 Ceramic Building Material

Ceramic building material from the site includes four pieces of post medieval brick, twelve pieces of roof tile, of which nine are from pan tiles and three from flat tiles and a range of glazed wall tiles. A large dense heat-fused brick was found in rubble layer [21]. The brick has dark brown glaze which has a distinctive vitrified surface suggesting that it has been subjected to intense heat. Fragments from a decorative barley twist garden border edging were also found along with three fragments of glazed sewerage pipe.

The highly fragmentary and dispersed nature of the ceramic building material assemblage suggests that it represents demolition debris derived from the clearance of nearby 19th-century dwellings.

6.3 Glass

Three pieces of vessel glass from nineteenth century bottles in clear green and brown glass were recovered from layer (22).

6.4 Architectural stone

A piece of decorative moulding, made of a synthetic composite stone was found in layer (2). A piece of roofing slate came from context (22).

6.5 Clay Pipe

A total of seven pieces of un-decorated clay tobacco pipe stem weighing 19g were collected. The clay pipe is not closely datable.

6.6 Worked stone

An incomplete hone or whet stone made of cream to white granular stone was found in layer (2).

6.7 Iron

A corroded iron fitting weighing 94g was found in deposit (3).

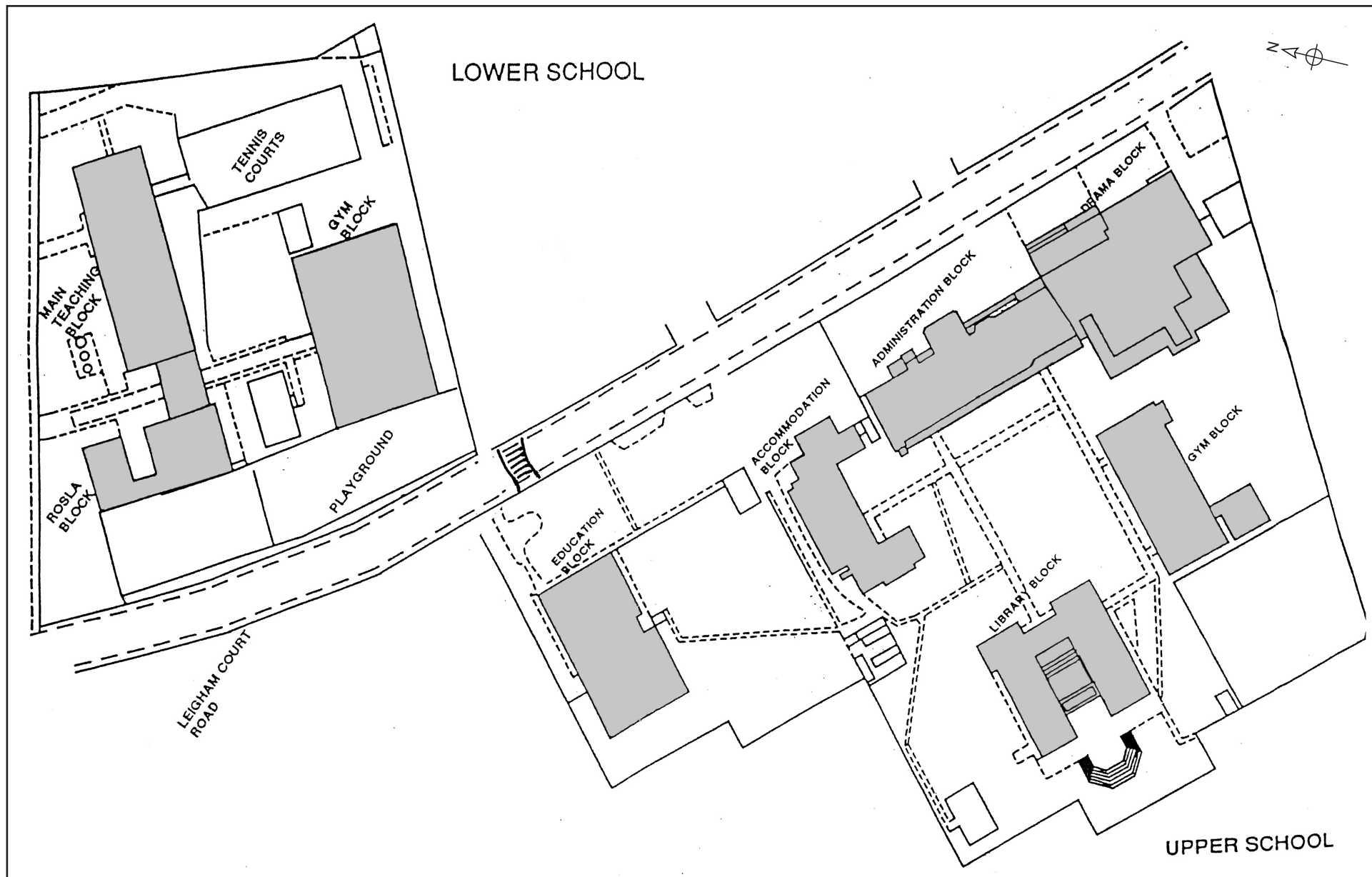


Figure 8. Original layout of Dunraven School. Not to scale

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

The 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map of the area shows that along the Leigham Court Road, prior to the construction of the teacher training college, which later became Dunraven School, there were several large Victorian town houses. The present work revealed a few elements of that mid to late 19th-century presence.

The mortar surface and its bedding (layers [4] and [5]) found in Trench NAU 5 were highly likely to be part of one of the large external driveways situated at the front of one of those plots, visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. Some of the waste items of the lives lived in those large townhouses was also recovered. Test pit NAU 1 in particular produced a large number of pottery sherds which were largely from the easily-obtainable wares used in day-to-day living rather than the imported and expensive wares. This may indicate that they were the fragments of vessels in daily use and for food preparation and storage or which might have belonged to the servants of the house. The complete stoneware jar made in Lambeth added a nice local flourish to the recovered assemblage and is perhaps not surprising as Lambeth was the English home of stoneware manufacture. The layers visible within Test pit NAU 1 generally represent naturally accumulated soils influenced by episodes of 19th-century dumping. The absence of any thick layers of 20th-century material is probably due to the test pit being situated at the southern extremity of the school and away from the larger, newer school blocks which required large-scale preparatory works. The project did indicate that the least amount of disruption and dumping occurred closer to the street frontage and at the southern edge of the site.

Some of the trenches presented evidence of large scale re-deposition of rubble and clay often containing large fragments of concrete. This had probably occurred using mechanical excavators during the life of the school and into recent times. The heavy re-deposited clays [15] and [16] within Trench NAU 4 are examples of this, and were probably deposited prior to the building of Block N. The layers also contained fragments of building material possibly from the demolished old residential west wing of the teacher training college (Fig 8). Similarly the two layers of dumping visible within Trench NAU 2 ([13] and [12]) were probably part of a large scale landscaping scheme, in this case probably taking place prior to the building of Block D. The layers in Test Pit NAU 3 were finer and well-graded and may represent a surface and preparations from the time of the teacher training college.

The project revealed no evidence for pre-19th-century historic settlement in the vicinity of the school. The largely negative results tie in with many of the other archaeological evaluations undertaken in the area. The natural heavy clay substratum and presumably original upper clayey soils (since removed by urban development) may have acted as a deterrent to people settling in the area until relatively recent times. Information from the Greater London Historic Environment Record suggests that the area started to be exploited from the medieval period onwards when the pressure on land resources became greater. This accelerated in the later post medieval period with improved farming practices and then finally with the coming of the railway, the area was fully opened up.

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service.

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The illustrations for the report were prepared by David Dobson after initial digitising by the author. The finds were processed and analysed by Sarah Percival. The report was edited by Jayne Bown.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Description	Period
1	Deposit	Dark grey brown clayey silt	Modern
2	Deposit	Dark grey brown mixed dump layer	Modern
3	Deposit	Light yellow brown plastic clay	Modern
4	Deposit	Mortar lens/probable floor surface	Post-medieval/Victorian
5	Deposit	Dark greyish brown flinty clay	Post-medieval/Victorian
6	Deposit	yellowish brown clay with iron staining	Post-medieval/Victorian
7	Deposit	Mixed grey brown clayey silt	Post-medieval/Victorian
8	Deposit	Black clinker and ash layer	Post-medieval/Victorian
9	Deposit	Crushed red fired-clay layer	Post-medieval/Victorian
10	Deposit	Re-deposited toffee clay layer	Post-medieval/Victorian
11	Deposit	Garden soil	Modern
12	Deposit	Rubble layer	Modern
13	Deposit	Gritty and rubble	Post-medieval/Victorian
14	Deposit	Garden soil	Modern
15	Deposit	Crushed building material	Modern
16	Deposit	Clay and building material	Modern
17	Deposit	Natural clay in Trench 2	Unknown
18	Deposit	Topsoil	Modern
19	Deposit	Fragments of disrupted wall	Post-medieval/Victorian
20	Deposit	Mid pale brown silt	Post-medieval/Victorian
21	Deposit	Rubble fill	Post-medieval/Victorian
22	Deposit	Silt with lots of pot	Post-medieval/Victorian
23	Deposit	Natural Clay	Unknown
24	Deposit	Natural Clay	Unknown
25	Deposit	Natural Clay	Unknown

Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Material	Total
Post-medieval	Surface	1

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Kept?	Notes
2	Architectural stone	1	37g	Unknown	Discarded	Composite material
2	Pottery	1	67g	Modern	Yes	Stoneware miniature jug
2	Worked stone	1	81g	Unknown	Yes	Whetstone
3	Ceramic Building Material	3	61g	Modern	Discarded	Roof tile (pantile)
3	Iron	1	94g	Modern	Discarded	Fixing
3	Pottery	1	11g	Post-medieval	Yes	GRE
3	Pottery	1	597 g	Post-medieval	Yes	Stoneware
6	Ceramic Building Material	3	122 g	Post-medieval	Discarded	roof tile (flat tile)
9	Ceramic Building Material	2	971 g	Post-medieval	Discarded	Brick
9	Clay Pipe	1	4g	Post-medieval	Yes	Stem
18	Ceramic Building Material	4	171 g	Modern	Discarded	Roof tile
18	Ceramic Building Material	1	6g	Modern	Discarded	Wall tile
18	Pottery	2	38g	Post-medieval	Yes	LPME
20	Animal Bone	5	31g	Unknown	Yes	
20	Ceramic Building Material	1	100 g	Modern	Discarded	Roof tile (pantile)
20	Clay Pipe	5	13g	Post-medieval	Yes	Stem
20	Pottery	3	215 g	Post-medieval	Yes	GRE, ESW
20	Pottery	11	113 g	Modern	Yes	LPME, TPE, REFW
21	Animal Bone	4	40g	Unknown	Yes	
21	Ceramic Building Material	2	542 g	Modern	Discarded	Brick
21	Ceramic Building Material	1	7g	Modern	Discarded	Wall tile
21	Ceramic Building Material	1	84g	Modern	Discarded	Roof tile
21	Ceramic Building Material	1	93g	Modern	Discarded	Sewerage pipe
21	Ceramic Building Material	1		Modern	Discarded	Large fused glazed brick
21	Pottery	3	44g	Modern	Yes	LPME
22	Ceramic Building Material	2	178 g	Modern	Discarded	Sewerage pipe
22	Ceramic Building Material	9	576 g	Modern	Discarded	Decorative barley twist path lining

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Kept?	Notes
22	Ceramic Building Material	6	491 g	Modern	Discarded	Glazed tile
22	Ceramic Building Material	22	418 g	Modern	Discarded	Glazed wall tile
22	Clay Pipe	1	2g	Modern	Yes	
22	Glass	3	17g	Modern	Yes	Vessel glass
22	Pottery	53	971 g	Modern	Yes	
22	Architectural stone	1	148 g	Unknown	Discarded	Slate

Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	5
	Clay Pipe	6
	Pottery	7
Modern	Ceramic Building Material	54
	Clay Pipe	1
	Glass	3
	Iron	1
	Pottery	68
Unknown	Animal Bone	9
	Architectural stone	1
	Stone	1
	Worked stone	1

Appendix 3: Pottery

Context	Fabric	Description	Form	Qty	Wt	Period	Spotdate
2	ESWL	English Stoneware London Type	Miniature jug	1	67g	Modern	M17th - E20th c.
3	ESWL	English Stoneware London Type	Jug	1	597g	Post-medieval	M17th - E20th c.
3	GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware	Uncertain	1	11g	Post-medieval	16th - 18th c.
18	LPME	Late Post Medieval Unglazed Earthenware	Flower pot	2	38g	Post-medieval	18th - 20th c
20	ESW	English Stoneware London Type	Foot warmer/ hot water bottle	2	209g	Post-medieval	M17th - E20th c.
20	GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware	Uncertain	1	6g	Post-medieval	16th - 18th c.
20	LPME	Late Post Medieval Unglazed Earthenware	Flower pot	4	24g	Modern	18th - 20th c
20	TPE, REFW	Transfer Printed Earthenware; Refined White Earthenware	Domestic flatware	7	89g	Modern	18th - 20th c
21	LPME	Late Post Medieval Unglazed Earthenware	Flower pot	3	44g	Modern	18th - 20th c
22	ESW	English Stoneware	Jar	15	287g	Modern	E20th c.
22	INDS	Industrial Slipware	Teapot	5	113g	Modern	L18th -20th c
22	LPME	Late Post Medieval Unglazed Earthenware	Flower pot	15	291g	Modern	18th - 20th c
22	TPE	Transfer Printed Earthenware	Domestic flatware	18	280g	Modern	18th - 20th c

Appendix 4: Historic Building Photographic Survey

An Historic Building Recording project was undertaken at Dunraven School by Andy Phelps and consisted of a Photographic Survey following the guidelines set down in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good practice* (English Heritage 2006).

The photographic record included Monochrome 35mm film and digital shots. The monochrome negatives will be included in the project archive and a selection of the most informative digital shots are presented in this report. Photographs were taken showing general views of the buildings in their wider setting with a combination of oblique angles and direct views. Shots were also taken of the interiors and classrooms where access was possible along with any internal detail (structural or decorative) relevant to the building's design, development or use. Particular attention was paid to parts of the existing school to be demolished.

No relevant inscriptions or graffiti were visible.

Appendix 4: Historic Building Photographic Survey



Plate 1. Sports hall, facing south-west



Plate 2. Block G, facing south-west



Plate 3. Block G, facing north-west



Plate 4. Block N, facing north-east



Plate 5. Block G, facing north



Plate 6. Block G, facing north-east



Plate 7. Block G, facing south



Plate 8. Sophie Centre, facing south



Plate 9. Block E, facing south



Plate 10. Block G, facing north-west



Plate 11. Blocks D and E, facing north



Plate 12. Block D, facing north-east



Plate 13. Block E amphitheatre, facing south



Plate 14. Block E, facing north-west



Plate 15. Block D facing north-east from Block E gantry



Plate 16. Block D, facing north-west



Plate 17. Block E , facing west



Plate 18. Block D, facing south-west



Plate 19. Block D, facing north-west



Plate 20. Block C, facing south-west



Plate 21. Upper school sign



Plate 22. Block D, facing south



Plate 23. Block D, facing west



Plate 24. Mosaic on north elevation of Block D



Plate 25. Block B, facing north-west



Plate 26. Block D, facing south-east



Plate 27. Walkway to west of Block D, facing south



Plate 28. Looking south-east across Upper School courtyard



Plate 29. Sports Hall, facing north-west



Plate 30. Sophie Centre, facing west, from above



Plate 31. Sophie Centre, facing north-west, from above



Plate 32. Block N, facing north-east



Plate 33. Blocks N and B, facing south-east



Plate 34. Block B, facing south-east



Plate 35. Block B, facing south



Plate 36. Blocks B and N, facing south-west



Plate 37. Blocks C, B and N, facing south-west



Plate 38. Block B, facing south-east



Plate 39. Block B, facing south-west



Plate 40. Block E, central staircase



Plate 41. Block E, ground floor south-east corner classroom



Plate 42. Block E, ground floor central classroom



Plate 43. Block E, rear ground floor central classroom



Plate 44. Block E, staircase first floor



Plate 45. Block E, copy room, first floor rear



Plate 46. Block E, Library, facing north



Plate 47. Block E, basement corridor



Plate 48. Block C, central lobby, facing south



Plate 49. Block C, ground floor, facing south-east



Plate 50. Block C, ground floor, facing east



Plate 51. Block C, first floor, facing east



Plate 52. Block C, looking down southern stair turret



Plate 53. Block B, first floor, looking east



Plate 54. Block B, entrance lobby, looking south-east



Plate 55. Block B, ground floor, looking north-east



Plate 56. Block B, first floor, looking north



Plate 57. Block B, second floor corridor,
looking east



Plate 58. Block B, first floor lockers,
looking west



Plate 59. Block J, ground floor corridor,
facing south



Plate 60. Block B, first floor, looking north



Plate 61. Block J, main entrance lobby, facing south



Plate 62. Block J, ground floor classroom, facing south



Plate 63. Block J, first floor classroom F8, facing south-east



Plate 64. Block J, first floor fire alarm, north stairwell



Plate 65. Block J, second floor classroom S1, facing north-east



Plate 66. Block J, second floor corridor, looking north



Plate 67. Block J, room T15, looking north



Plate 68. Block J, first floor room F7, looking south-west



Plate 69. Block J, facing south-west



Plate 70. Block J, facing south



Plate 71. Block K, facing south-east



Plate 72. Block K, facing south



Plate 73. Block J, facing west



Plate 74. Block K, facing north



Plate 75. Block J, facing north-west



Plate 76. Block J, facing south-west



Plate 77. Block J, facing south



Plate 78. Courtyard building, facing south



Plate 79. Block J, main entrance, looking east



Plate 80. Block J, south end facing south



Plate 81. Lower School entrance sign



Plate 82. Lower School from Mount Nod Road, facing north-east



Plate 83. Block G, corridor, facing south



Plate 84. Block G, classroom facing north-east



Plate 85. Block G, entrance hall, facing south



Plate 86. Block G, facing south-west



Plate 87. Block G, facing west