

# United Dairies Depot Site, 2 Baring Road, Lee London Borough of Lewisham: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

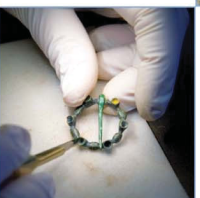
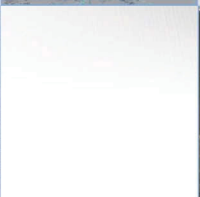
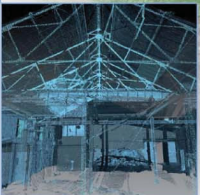
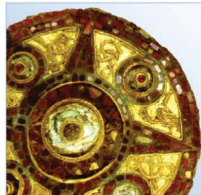
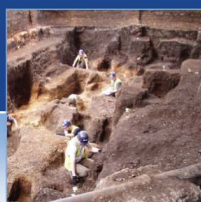
Planning Application: DC/11/76836/X

National Grid Reference: TQ 4001 7375

AOC Project No: 32014

Site Code: UDY 12

Date: January 2012



# United Dairies Depot Site, 2 Baring Road, Lee, London Borough of Lewisham: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

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<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>TQ 4001 7375</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>32014</b>
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<b>Date of Fieldwork;</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> January 2012</b>
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<b>Date:</b>	<b>January 2012</b>

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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<b>Draft Report Stage:</b>	<b>Date: January 2012</b>

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## Summary

*A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken on a site formerly occupied by a farm and dairy. The dairy buildings that once occupied the site were demolished in 2001.*

*Much of the site had been truncated during the construction and subsequent demolition of the dairy buildings and associated yard. However, towards the north of the site, an area of untruncated land survives and contains a series of features of medieval date. This is the first time that remains of 12<sup>th</sup> century date have been found in Lee and their presence on Burnt Ash Hill, which was thought to be mainly undeveloped until the 18<sup>th</sup> century, indicates that people were living or utilising the area before this. The name of Burnt Ash Hill suggests charcoal manufacture, but the area is not named until the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when the word 'spring' indicates coppicing, so this evidence could push back the beginnings of local industry to some 400 years earlier. The archaeological features are ditches forming a boundary, and were re-established throughout the 13<sup>th</sup> century, possibly indicating that occupation of the site was a seasonal event.*

*The trenches contained no residual finds that hinted at any use in any periods preceding the medieval period. In the light of the presence of Saxon and medieval remains, it is recommended that a limited area in the north east portion of the site, be stripped and sample excavated*

*A pond was revealed during the works, that was finally filled in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This very soft ground had been sealed with layers of compact made ground. Any stripping of the site for development may encounter this soft ground, so if it is to be impacted by groundworks sampling may be required.*

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document presents the results of a programme of archaeological evaluation at land formerly occupied by United Dairies at 2, Baring Road, Lee, in the London Borough of Lewisham. It is proposed to develop the site in order to provide four blocks of housing, with green space and parking facilities. The archaeological works comprised of the excavation of five trenches, each measuring 30m length x 2.0m width, targeted to give a regular coverage of the site.
- 1.2 The application site occupies a parcel of land on the southwestern corner of the junction of Baring Road with St Mildred's Road (part of the A205). The site occupies c. 0.47ha, and is bound to the south by properties on Linchmore Road and to the west by the gardens of properties on St Mildred's Road and Linchmore Road. Historically, the area was known as Burnt Ash Hill.

## 2. Development Proposal and Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Lewisham. Archaeological advice to the borough is provided by Mark Stevenson of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 2.2 The site is not located within an area defined as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, and does not fall within an area of Archaeological Importance as defined on the Unitary Development Plan for the London Borough of Lewisham (Lewisham Council 2004). There are no Listed Buildings within the site boundary and the site neither contains nor lies within the area of any defined World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Areas of Historic Woodland.
- 2.3 The proposed development (Planning Application Ref No: DC/11/76836/X) regards the erection of four residential blocks, 2-4 storeys in height with amenity space, associated landscaping, highway works, boundary treatment, bin/recycling stores, parking spaces and vehicular access from Baring Road.
- 2.4 Evaluation trenching was required as a condition on the granting of the Planning Application for the site. Condition 17 reads:

*No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme for investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme pursuant to this condition. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.*

- 2.5 The next stage in the archaeological process was the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation, detailing the methodology that would be used for the archaeological evaluation and including some background history of the site (AOC 2012). This document was approved by Mark Stevenson of GLAAS, and was designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:
  - English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
  - Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
  - Institute of Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2009)
  - English Heritage - Archaeological Guidance Papers 3-4 London Region (EH 1998a-b)

- DoCLG – Planning Policy Statement (PPS5): Planning for the Historic Environment (DoCLG 2010)

### **3. Geology and Topography**

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey mapping (BGS Sheet 271) of this area indicates that the solid geology underlying the site and surrounding area is the London Clay formation. This is an Eocene marine deposit, laid down c. 55 million years ago. There is superficial, drift geology overlying the London Clay recorded immediately west of the site, in the location of St Mildred's Church; here head deposits of sand and clay with variable gravel content have been recorded.
- 3.2 The site is located approximately 5.2km from the current southern bank of the River Thames, and around 2km east of the confluence of the Ravensbourne and Quaggy Rivers. It lies generally flat, at around 34mOD.

### **4. Archaeological And Historical Background**

#### **4.1 Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)**

- 4.1.1 The site is not located close to any finds of Palaeolithic date, the nearest being 4.5km to the northeast. Two artefacts from the Mesolithic period have been collected nearer to the site: a scraper from Handen Road, near to Lee station, just 1km to the north and a second tool from Thornwood Road, 1.5km to the northeast. The nearest Neolithic findspot is almost 4km distant, at Sydenham.
- 4.1.2 Three large axes of Bronze Age date were found in the Ravensbourne valley, but their exact location is unknown (Museum of London 2000). No other evidence for this period has been found close to the site. The Iron Age is not represented at all in the archaeological record within 2km of the site.

#### **4.2 Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)**

- 4.2.1 Southwark is the main centre of Roman activity south of the River Thames, and the only recorded Roman activity in the Borough of Lewisham is a Roman Road passing to the west of the Ravensbourne, 3km distant.

#### **4.3 Early Medieval (AD 410 – AD 1066)**

- 4.3.1 There are no archaeological records listed for Lewisham, but it seems likely that some settlement at Lee had already been established, since it is listed on the Domesday survey.

#### **4.4 Medieval (AD 1066 – AD 1536)**

- 4.4.1 The Manor of Lee was historically part of the Blackheath Hundred and derives its name from the Old English '*Leah*' meaning 'the clearing in the wood'. Lee was a separate parish, much smaller than its neighbour Lewisham. In 1086, it had about 70 inhabitants. The village probably lay along the line of Lee High Road, with a side road (Brandram Road) leading to the church. Lee Green was a separate hamlet. South of Lee Green was agricultural land and woodland. As well as farms, there were plant nurseries in Lee, and watercress was grown along the banks of the River Quaggy.
- 4.4.2 Burnt Ash derives its name from the coppicing of the woods for the manufacture of charcoal for sale in London. The wood was first mentioned in a list of Assize Rents in 1384 and more clearly defined in a description of Lee Farm, dated 1607, in which 'A wood called Crabland Spring - four acres' is mentioned as one item among about 80 acres of woodland and 110 acres of grazing and arable



land. This was purchased by Henry Howard, the First Earl of Northampton (Lewisham Council 2011a).

- 4.4.3 A wood known as Crabland Spring covered the crest of Burnt Ash Hill. The word 'spring' in the name of the wood is indicative of coppice management, which would be consistent with charcoal manufacture (Lewisham Council 20011b).

#### **4.5 Post-Medieval and Modern Periods (AD 1536 – Present)**

- 4.5.1 By 1723 the woodland that covered the area of the site, and much of the land south of Lee, had disappeared, and become farmland. There is a record cited on Lewisham Council's website (Lewisham Council 2011) of the land being owned by one Thomas Butler, owner of Burnt Ash Farm. The loss of the woodland is confirmed by Rocque's map of 1741-45, which shows the area as farmland, with two farms, one of which is Burnt Ash Farm. Burnt Ash Farm was located on the development site, and is depicted on all historic Ordnance Survey Plans from 1870 to 2009. It is recorded that, in 1823 (Hart 1882), Mr William Wiggins, a farmer, grubbed up the woods near where St Mildred's Church now stands, and burnt charcoal: this is to the west of the site. Census and directory records give additional information throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries about the inhabitants of the farm. These include John Seal and Sally Butcher. John was a dairyman who was born in Hever in 1791 and produced six children at the farm, later living at 25 Church St. Lee by the 1870s. There is also one William Winn recorded, who married Jane Best and had 13 children. He passed away on 25 Mar 1863 in Burnt Ash. Melville's Directory of Kent (Melville 1858) records another inhabitant at the farm, one Henry Owen, recorded as a gentleman he was probably the owner.
- 4.5.2 Lee and the area around the site appear to have remained of rural character until the 1830s. During the mid-nineteenth century, much of the land was dug up for earth to make bricks, and large luxury houses began to be built. The area of the site and of Lee in general continued with little more than a rural settlement until the 1830s. During the next twenty years, large houses were built outside of the centre of Lee, and expansion continued after Lee station was opened in 1866, which meant that people who worked in central London could live in Lee and travel by train. During the later 19<sup>th</sup> century houses were, therefore built on what had been the farmland; most of the area was built up by 1914 with development along Burnt Ash Hill (Ideal Homes 2011).
- 4.5.3 The Manor of Lee is historically part of the Blackheath Hundred, and in 1899 it was merged with the parish of Lewisham to create the Metropolitan Borough of Lewisham. Modern Lee has a focus around the railway station 1km to the north of the site, located on Burnt Ash Hill, a major route north-south through the area. The old parish was centred around Lee High Road over 2km to the north.
- 4.5.4 Burnt Ash Farm closed in the 1920s and was later taken over by the Milk Marketing Board, a government agency established in 1933 to control milk production and distribution in the United Kingdom. The depot started in the 1950s (RPS 2010), and was initially operated by United Dairies. In 1963, United Dairies merged with Cow & Gate, forming Unigate. After 1989, Dairy Crest, the processing arm of the Milk Marketing Board acquired the site until it closed in September 2000.
- 4.5.5 The running of the depot has been researched by RPS (RPS 2000). This shows that the depot typically opened at 3am, and all milk floats were out on their rounds by 6:30, to return by 2pm. The depot ran up to 54 rounds, but by 2000, when the depot closed, only 25 rounds were being run. Bread deliveries took place daily at 1am, and delivery of eggs and potatoes took place three times per week at 10am. The depot served an area from Waterloo Bridge in the North West down to Forest Hill and Sydenham across to Bromley and up to Woolwich.



- 4.5.6 As well as the depot on the site, there was a shop, known as 2, Baring Road. The shop was let for 5 years to Burt & Travica for the sale of antiques, from 1995 to 1999. The warehouse on the site at the west of the site had a car park area, and was let for 1980 to 1995 to McCarthy's Ltd as a warehouse and ancillary office for a wholesale chemist. It was afterwards let to Burt & Travica.
- 4.5.7 The buildings across the site were demolished in 2001.

## **5. Strategy**

### **5.1 Aims of the Investigation**

5.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation were as follows:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the archaeology advisor to the London Borough of Lewisham to make an informed decision on the status of the condition, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.

5.1.2 The specific aims of the evaluation were as follows:

- Determine the presence of any prehistoric to medieval activity on site.
- Assess the potential of the site to inform on the post-medieval development and chronology of Lee.
- Determine the date of the Burnt Ash Farm buildings by examination of any foundations uncovered.
- Assess the degree and extent of truncation during the demolition of Burnt Ash Farm and construction and subsequent demolition of the former dairy buildings.
- To provide suitable information concerning the preservation in situ of archaeological deposits so as to inform further mitigation through foundation design or archaeological mitigation.

5.1.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

### **5.2 Methodology**

- 5.2.1 Site procedures were defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2012). All work was carried out in accordance with local and national guidelines (see Section 2.8).
- 5.2.2 Five trenches, numbered 1-5, were excavated (Figure 2) across the site. Prior to commencing work, a unique site code (UDY 12) for the project was agreed in consultation with the Museum of London (LAARC), and used for all site records.
- 5.2.4 The evaluation was carried out over four days between 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> January 2012.
- 5.2.5 Levels for each context were established from a temporary benchmark provided on a survey from the client; this was confirmed with use of a GPS.

- 5.2.6 The site work was supervised by Les Capon under the overall management of Alan Ford. The site was monitored by Mark Stevenson of GLAAS on behalf of the London Borough of Lewisham.

## 6. Results of Archaeological Evaluation

### 6.1 Trench 1

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of deposit
100	Topsoil	0.40m max	34.26m to 35.20m
101	Made ground	0.18m	33.90m to 34.41m
122	Late clinker surface	0.03m	34.94m
118	Gravel surface	0.27m	34.66m
112	Agricultural soil	0.15m	33.91m to 34.19m
103	Archaeological ditch fill	0.15m	33.80m to 33.86m
105	Archaeological ditch fill	0.15m	33.76m to 33.80m
108	Archaeological ditch fill	0.20m	33.81m to 34.01m
109	Archaeological ditch fill	0.32m	33.91m
102	Subsoil	0.33m	34.01m to 34.20m
107	Yellowish brown clay	NFE	34.20m to 33.76m

- 6.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the northeast of the site and was oriented north-south. The trench measured 30m by 2.8m (Figure 3).
- 6.1.2 Naturally-lain yellowish brown clay (107) was the lowest deposit revealed, sloping down northwards from 34.20m to 33.76m, and truncated to 34.02m at the southern end. This naturally-lain clay was sealed, where untruncated, by a layer of pale greyish/ yellowish brown silty clay (102) that was up to 0.33m thick. The earliest features identified on the site cut this subsoil (Plates 1 and 2).
- 6.1.3 The earliest feature was a shallow ditch [106], oriented northeast-southwest and located near to the northern end of the trench. The ditch was 1.5m wide, had a rounded base and survived for a depth of 0.16m. The ditch was filled with friable mottled pale brownish grey sandy clay (105). There were occasional small stones and flint fragments in the fill, but of most significance was a small assemblage of pottery dating from 1175 to 1250AD. Most of these sherds came from a cooking pot of Limpsfield ware which indicates the possibility of domestic activity nearby. This ditch was cut into by a second feature [110] that only extended for 0.6m into the trench, and is either a shallow pit, or a re-cutting of ditch 105 after it had silted up. The northern edge of this secondary cut aligns with the edge of the earlier part. The part of this recut that was visible survives for 0.32m and was cut to the same depth as 105 (33.52mOD). The fill of 110 was silty sandy clay (109) that was mottled light bluish yellowish brown in colour. There were occasional inclusions of stone, charcoal and flint, and pottery dating to the period 1225-1300AD, slightly later than the filled in ditch 105 below.
- 6.1.4 This first boundary was cut by a second, oriented northwest-southeast, with a rounded northwest terminus [104]. This ditch was at least 1.20m wide; it was later recut, removing the northeastern side. The ditch was 0.20m deep, and had a flat base. The fill was greyish brown sandy clay (108), and is dated by pottery to 1250-1350AD. This shows a continuation of occupation from the 12th century and possibly that some reorganisation of the site was being carried out. Fill 108 was cut by another ditch [111], on the same alignment, which may again, be a re-establishment of the boundary after it had silted up. This secondary ditch [111] was just 0.85m wide, aligned along the northern edge of that beneath. The fill was soft mottled pale bluish orange silty clay (103). The fill can be dated by its pottery to the 13<sup>th</sup> century and was mostly manufactured in Limpsfield, showing common, continuing links with the nearer parts of Surrey.

- 6.1.5 This group of medieval features was sealed by an accumulation of mid brown sandy clay (112) that was up to 0.15m deep, lying within the general hollow created by the meeting of the ditches, and probably the result of natural silting. However, it may represent reworking of the underlying deposits through root action (such as a hedge) or agricultural activity. Finds from this layer included medieval pottery dating to the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries, and one piece of iron slag.



Plate 1: Trench 1, Part Excavation of Ditch 106 Looking East



Plate 2: Trench 1, Sequence of Ditches 106, 110, 104 and 111

- 6.1.6 To the south of the ditches was a 3.6m wide cut [113]. To the east is an inspection chamber for a drain that was 4m deep and had a ceramic drainpipe at its base that runs towards, and through, this cut. The sequence of fills of this feature finished with a road surface that is depicted on the 1896 Ordnance Survey Map. The lowest fill of the feature that was encountered was stiff, sticky yellowish brown clay with occasional inclusions of brick and mortar fragments (114). This was clearly redeposited material upcast from excavations for the deep drain. Above this clay was a dump of compact brown clay and gravel (115). This was sealed by a layer of mixed roof tile and animal bone, the bones largely being cattle limbs (116). This lay in a strip 2.3m wide and 0.18m deep at the



centre, with the bones being laid in no particular alignment. The layer was truncated on its southern side. Over the bone and tile dump was a layer of compact chalk (117) that was up to 0.15m thick, lensing out over the tiles. The northern edge of the chalk was sealed by a thick layer of compact yellowish brown sandy clay with a high proportion of gravel (118), and the top of this was flat, forming a road surface (Plate 3). This had a camber on the northern side that was sealed by a layer of mixed greyish brown sandy clay (101) with inclusions of brick and tile; this may have formed a topsoil or ground surface at 34.46mOD contemporary with the gravel, which lay higher at 34.66mOD. The southern side of the gravel surface was made up with grey clay and flint gravel (123), and had a very straight edge. One posthole within the trench limits the extent of the gravel [125], suggesting that some form of boarding or formwork may have been used in its construction. The post had rotted and the posthole was mostly void, except for loose, mixed lenses of brown, grey and yellow silty clay (124). The posthole was round and 0.25m in diameter.

- 6.1.7 A second sequence of layers of hardcore mark modifications or repairs to the gravel surface. These comprise a thin layer of black, coarse grit (119), a layer of clinker (120), a layer of crushed brick, (121); the sequence finishing with a layer of loose dark greyish black clinker (122). These layers raised the final road surface to 34.94mOD. On the north side of the road, made ground had been added (100), raising the ground level to the same height of the road, before dropping away northwards to 34.26mOD.



Plate 3: Trench 1, Section Through Gravel Surface 118 Looking East

- 6.1.8 At the southern end of the trench was an extensive cut into the natural clay [130] that was up to 0.6m deep, cutting to 24.09mOD. This may represent the northwestern extent of a pond-like feature recorded in Trench 4. The northern edge of the cut ran roughly northeast-southwest and was filled with a series of dumped deposits. The lowest was a layer of loosely compacted dark yellowish brown silty clay (128) 0.28m deep, with inclusions of gravel, tile and brick, along with late 19<sup>th</sup> century household waste, including pottery. Above this was a similar darker brown layer (127) which again containing household debris. A patch of yellowish brown clay and gravel (129) above this may represent a dump added to consolidate the ground.
- 6.1.9 No other finds or features of archaeological significance were present. The late 19<sup>th</sup> century dump and the southern side of the road surface was sealed by a layer of mixed brown silty clay, with a high proportion of brick rubble (126) that was up to 0.30m deep with its surface at 35.20m and lying generally level across the southern end of the trench.

## 6.2 Trench 2

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of deposit
204	Modern Fill	>0.45m	35.24m to 35.81m
200	Modern surface	0.10m	35.24m
205	Yellowish brown clay	NFE	34.76m to 35.17m

- 6.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the east of the site and was oriented north-south to the south of Trench 1. The trench measured 30m by 2.0m.
- 6.2.2 The lowest deposit uncovered during the works was naturally-lain yellowish brown clay (205). This lay at 35.17mOD at the southern end of the trench, dropping to 34.76mOD in the north: this represents a fall of less than 1 in 100. The southern end of the trench had suffered some truncation. A small area of modern made ground with a surface survived in the northern end of the trench, for a length of 7.5m, the rest was lost to truncation probably associated with the 2001 demolition undertaken on site.
- 6.2.3 The made ground was all associated with the surface. There was no subsoil present, as if the area had been stripped in the past. There were intrusions into the natural clay noted typical of those caused by a toothed bucket on a machine excavator. The lowest layer of made ground was a mix of compact clay and gravel with chalk inclusions, up to 0.18m thick (202). This was sealed by a compacted spread of chalk (203). Above the chalk was a layer of dark blackish brown fine clinker (206), which may have been a surface. This lay at 35.04mOD (Figure 6).
- 6.2.4 The clinker layer was directly sealed by a thin layer of crushed brick (201), and a second layer of dark blackish brown fine clinker (200) overlay this, at 35.24mOD.
- 6.2.5 At 7.5m south from the northern end of the trench, the clinker surface was cut by a large truncation [207], which occupied the rest of the trench. This probably represented the demolition of the dairy buildings in 2001. The truncation was filled with a mixed deposit of loosely compacted light greyish brown sand, gravel and clay (204).
- 6.2.6 No finds or features of archaeological significance were present.

## 6.3 Trench 3

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of deposit
300	Modern fill of truncation	1.20m	34.75m to 34.81m
302	Gravel surface	0.06m	34.12mOD
305	Wall footing	0.21m	34.03m
316	Brick Culvert	0.40m	33.92m
319	Yellowish brown clay	NFE	33.66m to 33.92m

- 6.3.1 Trench 3 was located in the west of the site, parallel to the boundary wall with the adjacent property. The trench was oriented north south and measured 30m by 2m in plan (Figure 4).
- 6.3.2 Naturally-lain yellowish brown clay (319) was the lowest deposit revealed, lying at 33.92mOD in the centre of the trench, dropping to the north to 33.66m OD, and truncated to the south by a modern intrusion [301]. All the features identified in the trench cut this natural deposit. In the centre of the trench was a linear trench, orientated approximately east - west [318]. This was 0.73m wide and

0.40m deep, with a circular brick culvert [316] built within it (Plate 4). The culvert was constructed of a mixture of yellow and red bricks, each 220mm by 110mm by 65mm, and bonded with soft lime mortar. The bricks were laid lengthways along the culvert, which had an internal diameter of 0.20m. The construction cut was backfilled with yellowish brown clay (317). The culvert was filled to within 60mm of its top with a dark brown clayey silt (320), which had a notable quantity of rounded gravel, as well as fragments of brick and bone. This fill does not represent the flow of light washes, but marks a significant flow of heavy materials. A patchy layer of dark brown silty clay with occasional gravel content overlay the culvert (304).



Plate 4: Culvert 304, Looking East

- 6.3.3 1.4m north of the culvert was the deeply truncated remains of a red brick footing with lime mortar [321]. This was only present in the edge of the trench, and its exact function could not be determined. The bricks measured 220mm by 110mm by 65mm, and are probably contemporary with the culvert.
- 6.3.4 Two postholes [314 and 315] were exposed in the trench. Both were 0.15m in diameter, and still contained the poorly preserved remains of posts (312 and 313). The two posts were 2.15m apart, with pointed bases. The posts survived to 0.15m below the level of truncation and neither had any packing; both were driven into the clay.
- 6.3.5 Towards the north of the trench was a large, deep cut [308] that was 3.2m wide. This was not fully excavated, since it had the same characteristics as the gravel surface over a deep drainpipe in trench 1. The cut was filled with yellowish brown clay (311), above which was spread a scatter of



brick and tile rubble with bones (probably cattle) within it (309). Above the rubble was a spread of compact chalk up to 0.6m deep (307), which was in turn sealed by a dump of made ground resembling the natural clay (322). Next in the sequence was a layer of sandy clay with a high proportion of brick rubble (303). This was the bedding for a layer of yellowish brown sandy clay with 60% rounded gravel content (302) surviving to 34.1mOD. This was truncated in the horizontal plane and its south side was also cut by a large modern intrusion [301]. On the north side of the gravel surface, the ground was made up with a layer of dark brown sandy clay with c10% gravel content, and occasional brick fragments (323). At the western end of the gravel surface was a collapsed brick chamber [310], 0.49m square, constructed of red bricks. This is assumed to have contact with the main drain below.

- 6.3.6 The make up of the truncated surface was cut into by a trench with a wall footing within it [306]. The wall footing was a mixture of brick rubble and peg tile, with lime mortar used as its bonding material [305]. The mortar spread up to the edges of the cut, filling it entirely. There was no coursing, nor any complete pieces of building material. The footing lies on the same line as the stub of a standing wall, which runs from the west edge of site towards the northeast. Any higher remains of the wall were truncated by the 2001 demolition event.
- 6.3.7 All structures and other features were truncated by a deep modern intrusion [301], which cut to 34.03mOD in the north of the trench, to 33.92mOD in the middle of the trench, and considerably deeper to the south. This intrusion was backfilled with 1.20m depth of mixed brown and dark brown sandy clay (300), with inclusions of gravel, building materials and plastic, and clearly part of the 2001 demolition event. The surface of this lay roughly level, at 34.88mOD.

## 6.4 Trench 4

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of deposit
400	Modern overburden	>1.20m	35.00m to 35.20m
406	Cobbled stone surface	0.25m	34.66m
408	Top fill of Pond	0.08m	34.60m
419	Pond	1.84m	32.76m to 34.60m
418	Yellowish brown clay	NFE	34.29m to 34.25m

- 6.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the centre of the site and was oriented southwest-northeast. The trench measured 30m by 2m in plan (Figure 5).
- 6.4.2 Naturally-lain yellowish brown clay (418) was the lowest deposit revealed, at around 34.27mOD and variously cut by a series of features and modern intrusions. The naturally-lain clay was first cut by a pond [419], which may have its origins as a naturally formed feature such as the result of a perched water table in the clay. Ground water entered the site at 33.77mOD, so the lowest levels were examined with an auger. Clean yellowish brown clay was encountered at 32.76mOD. Above this was a similar deposit, being mid yellowish brown clay (436), with occasional rounded gravel inclusions. This was 0.70m deep, and had no cultural inclusions. Above this was a layer of brownish yellow silty clay (435) that was 0.3m deep. To the northern end of the trench, this was sealed by a spread of mid brown clayey silt with c.60% brick and tile fragments and small rounded stones (425). This appeared to be a dumped deposit, but whether it was dumped in order to fill the pond, or whether this material was added to the pond fill to give the base some solidity is unclear. The next layer within the pond was pale brownish grey clayey silt (414) with notable organic inclusions, principally sticks and woody plant material. The organic content contrasted notably with the underlying layers of the pond, and may indicate that the lower fills represent water-saturated natural deposits rather than open water. The top of this layer lay at 34.06mOD.

- 6.4.3 The edge of the pond was cut into by a scoop [434] into the natural clay, formed in advance of laying down compacted layers of ground on the western margin of the pond. These comprise a layer of brown silty clay with no inclusions (416) and a compact later of mid brown silty clay with coarse components of brick and gravel (416) above it. This was then cut by a foundation trench [417] for a cobbled surface and associated stone foundation course. The foundation trench was filled with a series of bedding layers with varied course components, in preparation for the final surface. The lowest of these layers was mid brown clayey silt (426) with frequent inclusions of brick rubble. Above this was a second layer of brown clay, characterised by frequent coarse components of gravel (427). The sequence continued with a third layer of brown clay (415) containing 90% brick fragments. The presence of slate and fragments of mortar suggests that the rubble derives from a demolition event. This rubble was sealed by a layer of compact chalk that was 0.11m thick (428). The chalk was sealed by another layer of brown clay with gravel and brick inclusions (429), and then another layer of chalk was laid down (430). The sequence continued with a thin layer of brick rubble with occasional fragments of mortar (431) that also represents demolition material. Over this was a layer of yellowish brown sandy clay with high gravel content (432), followed by a dump of greenish brown sandy, gravelly clay (433), which was bedding for the surface that finished the sequence. These compact layers of gravel, rubble and clay built up the ground by 0.36m, and suggest that the surface may have been expected to carry significant weight. The surface (406) was oriented northwest-southeast, and was formed of rounded blocks of stone up to 0.41m by 0.26m, but there were also rectangular pieces laid in rows (Plate 5). The spaces in between the stones were filled with small rounded stones which appeared to have been carefully laid. The surface stood at 34.66mOD, and survived for a width of 1.42m, oriented southeast-northwest. Along the northeastern edge was a course of squared stone blocks (407) that formed a separate building event. These were mortared together, and probably represent the base of a wall bounding the surface. The southwestern side of the cobble area was cut by a modern intrusion [401].



Plate 5: Cobbled Surface, Looking Southeast





Plate 6: Section Through Pond [419], with Made Ground Above, Looking East

- 6.4.4 After the cobbled surface was made up, made ground was added to the northeast side (410), which slumped over the partially filled pond. This formed the ground surface between the cobbled surface and the still watery pond, at 34.60mOD. Thereafter, the pond continued in use, gradually filling with an organic layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt (413), and a very silty layer 0.33m deep that contained organic remains (412), including a couple of leather items and sticks and twigs. Above this was very dark brown silty clay (411), which had a diffuse boundary with the final fill of the pond, a blackish grey silty clay (408) suggestive of stagnation with high gravel content. The gravel may represent a post-use consolidation coarse layer pressed in to the top of the filled pond, but not distinguishable as separate from the upper fill (Plate 6).
- 6.4.5 The filled pond had another layer of made ground laid over it, consolidating the soft ground below. This was a layer of brown clay and gravel (405) that was 0.1m deep. This layer overlies the foundation course of the wall next to the cobbled surface, indicating that whatever structure was present, it had been demolished, perhaps after the pond was full. The surviving cobbled surface and consolidation layer were sealed by a thin layer of coarse black, sooty, clinker-rich gravel (404), that seems to have formed a yard surface or sub-surface across the whole trench. Above the black layer was a layer of crushed brick (402), in turn covered by a spread of brownish yellow clay and gravel (403). This layer only contained c. 30% gravel, so does not represent a surface, but may represent upcast material during a demolition event or similar.
- 6.4.6 At the southwestern end of the trench, two shallow parallel trenches survived 0.10m deep beneath modern truncation [422 and 424]. The function of these trenches was unclear. Both were 0.6m wide, with shallow, curved bases. The fills were identical: both were filled with mid brown silty clay with coarse components of post-medieval brick and roof tile (421 and 423). They may be the remains of planting trenches, but are of low archaeological significance and were truncated to 34.25mOD, 0.4m lower than the cobbled surface to the northeast. Both trenches were cut by a modern shallow drain intrusion (420), which contained a partially surviving brick drain chamber.

- 6.4.7 Modern demolition cuts into the southern end of the trench [401] and is filled with a mixed sandy clay fill with CBM and BM (400) spread generally across the trench, lying at 35.00m OD at the southwest end of the trench, rising slightly to 35.14mOD at the northeast end.

## 6.5 Trench 5

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of deposit
500	Made ground	1.10m	35.00m to 35.12m
501	Yellowish brown clay (Geology)	1.10m	34.96m to 33.65m

- 6.5.1 Trench 5 was located in the southwest corner of the site, in an area noticeably higher than the adjacent gardens to the west, which drop away westwards and northwards. The lowest deposit recorded was naturally lain yellowish brown clay (501), lying at 34.96m OD in the east of the trench, dropping to 34.48mOD in the middle, then more steeply to 33.65m OD at the western end. Although this was clearly a naturally-lain deposit, occasional fragments of brick and other building materials were present. This is thought to be the result of demolition materials becoming pressed into the surface, dating to the removal of the dairy buildings in 2001. The naturally lain clay was sealed by up to 1.1m depth of made ground comprising loose, dark brown mixed sandy clay with inclusions of building material and modern debris, from drinks cans to plastic (500) (Figure 6).
- 6.5.2 No finds or features of archaeological significance were present.

## 7 Finds

- 7.1 The finds assemblage comprises pottery, building materials, glass, metal and animal bones. All objects have been assessed and reported on, giving an understanding of the material culture of the site in the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 7.2 The pottery assemblage comprises pottery from the medieval and post medieval periods, with the earliest being domestic pottery dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (Context 103, 105, 108, 109 and 112). Most of the medieval pottery is typical of Limpsfield ware, manufactured in Surrey; the sherds represent typical domestic forms such as cooking pots, jugs and bowls. Occasional London-ware is also present. There is then a hiatus in the pottery assemblage until the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, suggesting that the site had fallen from use until the construction of the farm in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, following woodland clearance. The post-medieval assemblage is typical of the period, comprising china from table services, storage bottles and jars (Contexts 116, 128, 304, 404, 410, 411, 412, 415 and 500). All of the assemblage comes from tightly-dated contexts, enabling dating of most features .
- 7.3 The brick and tile from the features is all of post-medieval date, and appears to post date 1700 (contexts 317, 411 and 415). This all comes from layers of consolidation or made ground. One piece of building material has a circular motif with an incised cross. This appears to have been moulded, and is of post-medieval date. It may be a decorative element of a chimneybreast or window (Context 412).
- 7.4 The glass is of limited value, being bottle glass post-dating 1700. Notably, no milk bottles were uncovered, despite the site's use as a dairy.
- 7.5 The biggest metal find is a horseshoe, appearing to come from a large horse (304). One other metal find is a window latch, likely to have come from a building on the site (128).

- 7.6 The animal bone assemblage largely derives from a single event, a layer of cattle bones used as hardcore or drainage underneath a 19<sup>th</sup> century gravel roadway. The bones are most probably from adult cattle; the assemblage is dominated by leg bones (Context 116).
- 7.7 Further analysis of the finds will be merited, and these shall be reassessed after the proposed further works. Most of the analysis will focus on the medieval finds.

## 8 Conclusions and Interpretation

- 8.1 During the course of the archaeological evaluation, a full sequence of deposits from natural geology through to the modern ground surface was recorded.
- 8.2 Naturally lain clay was identified across the evaluated area and was seen to be subject to various truncations, most relating to construction and demolition events for the buildings of the farm and dairy depot. . Beyond the truncations, the original topography of the site could be determined. The natural clay drops from a high point of 35.17m in the southeast of the site, dropping gently towards the middle of the site to 34.30m OD, before diving more sharply to 33.6mOD at the northern and western limits of the site. Much of the subsoil of the site has also been truncated, but where present, comprises 0.25m depth of yellowish brown silty clay.
- 8.3 The earliest datable feature on the site was located at the north end of Trench 1; this was the shallow remains of a ditch some 1.1m wide and surviving for up to 0.25m depth. This is probably part of a land or field boundary and is dated by pottery accumulated in its fill to the medieval period, from 1175-1250 AD. The boundary was re-established on what appears to be the same line later in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. This indicates that whatever activities were being carried out, they probably continued for more than one season. The presence of cooking vessels, though broken, indicate that cooking and consumption of food was probably being carried out in close proximity to the ditches. Whether this was in a simple shelter or a more permanent building is not known.
- 8.4 The infilled ditch was cut into by another ditch of 13<sup>th</sup> century date, post-dating the first by anything from 10 years to 100 years. Like the first ditch, this was kept open by recutting it, after it had filled up. This ditch is also dated by the presence of domestic pottery.
- 8.5 The presence of domestic pottery could indicate the presence of a nearby farm, or something little more than a seasonal/temporary charcoal worker's cottage. Most of the pottery from the medieval features is Limpsfield ware, manufactured in Surrey, which would have been easily traded and carried to South London. This evidence for people living, or at least utilising the area uphill from Lee Green in the 12<sup>th</sup> century is a first for Lee (and indeed this part of South London as a whole) and therefore merits further investigation.
- 8.6 There is a hiatus in the archaeological record until the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when Burnt Ash Farm was known to be on the site. The records synthesized by Lewisham Council (Lewisham Council 2011) state that the site had been cleared of woodland by 1723, and the farm established. This suggests that there had been a break in habitation of the site after the medieval period, although the historic use of the area is recognised by the name 'Burnt Ash, indicative of coppicing and charcoal burning.
- 8.7 One of the biggest features on the site is a large pond in trench 4, the northern side of which may have been picked up at the south end of trench 1. The pond was not bottomed mechanically, so dating evidence for its primary filling up and silting could not be gathered. However, the primary fills are sealed by made ground associated with construction of a cobbled surface, probably an external yard area. The made ground beneath the surface was very compact, and had dating evidence proving a post-medieval, probably late 18<sup>th</sup> century date. Two other structures of broadly similar date

revealed are a brick culvert and a fragmentary footing. All of these features had suffered truncation in the recent past. The fragmentary foundation is of uncertain function, while the brick culvert with its fill of stones, building materials etc. is probably a storm drain. A second wall footing was heavily truncated.

- 8.8 One of the best-represented features was a gravel pathway or road, which is depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps since 1897 and noted in Trenches 1 and 3. The pathway overlies a deep construction cut for a stoneware drain, and dates to around 1850, but may be earlier. After the cut for the drain was filled, layers of made ground were laid down, effectively hardcore bedding for the gravel surface. Most of the layers were chalk or rubble or gravel, but one was a mixture of cattle bones and roof tile. The bones probably serve the dual function as drainage at the base of the surface as well as being a bulk material for make up. Many of the bones appear to come from aged animals (probably cattle), but a few show butchery marks.
- 8.9 The gravel surface, patchy cobbled area, culvert and two wall footings are all that remain from Burnt Ash Farm and later dairy, following widespread, deep removal of buildings and their foundations in 2001. This demolition work appears to have removed any evidence for dating the foundation of the farm. The lack of any residual finds spanning the years 1300-1700 suggest, however, that the farm, as represented on historic mapping, does not pre-date the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

## 9 Further Work and Publication

- 9.1 Given the presence of archaeological features at the northern end of Trench 1, it is recommended that a further programme of archaeological work be undertaken in and around this area. The work would consist of an archaeologically supervised strip of an area measuring around 20m by 18m, the ground being reduced to subsoil under archaeological supervision (Figure 7). Any archaeological features revealed in the area would be mapped, and then sample excavated. The findings of the archaeological evaluation showed that the site was occupied during the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, and physical evidence from this period is very rare in Lee, and Lewisham generally.
- 9.2 The archaeological evaluation revealed a pond-like feature in the area of Trench 4.. Should this central area require consolidation in order to firm the ground ahead of creation of a car park, then there may be a requirement for archaeological monitoring in the area of the pond during such work and the recovery of a deposit sequence for palaeoenvironmental sampling and potentially dating.
- 9.3 Given the absence of significant archaeological features in the rest of the site, it is recommended that no further archaeological is required in other areas of the site before it is developed..
- 9.4 However, the final decision on any necessity for further works lies with Mark Stevenson of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 9.5 A short summary of the results will be submitted to the local archaeological round-up.
- 9.6 This report will be added to the grey literature available on the online ADS OASIS project (Appendix C).

## 10 Archive Deposition

- 10.1 On completion of the project, the developer/landowner will discuss arrangements for the archive to be deposited with the Museum of London. Following completion of the full extent of the fieldwork, the site archive will be prepared in the format agreed with the receiving museum. The excavation archive will be security copied and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (NAR) before post-excavation analysis begins or as soon after as can be arranged.



- 10.2 The site archive will comprise all artefacts, environmental samples and written and drawn records. It is to be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records and finds collated and ordered as a permanent record. The archive will be prepared in accordance with guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990) and (Brown 2011).

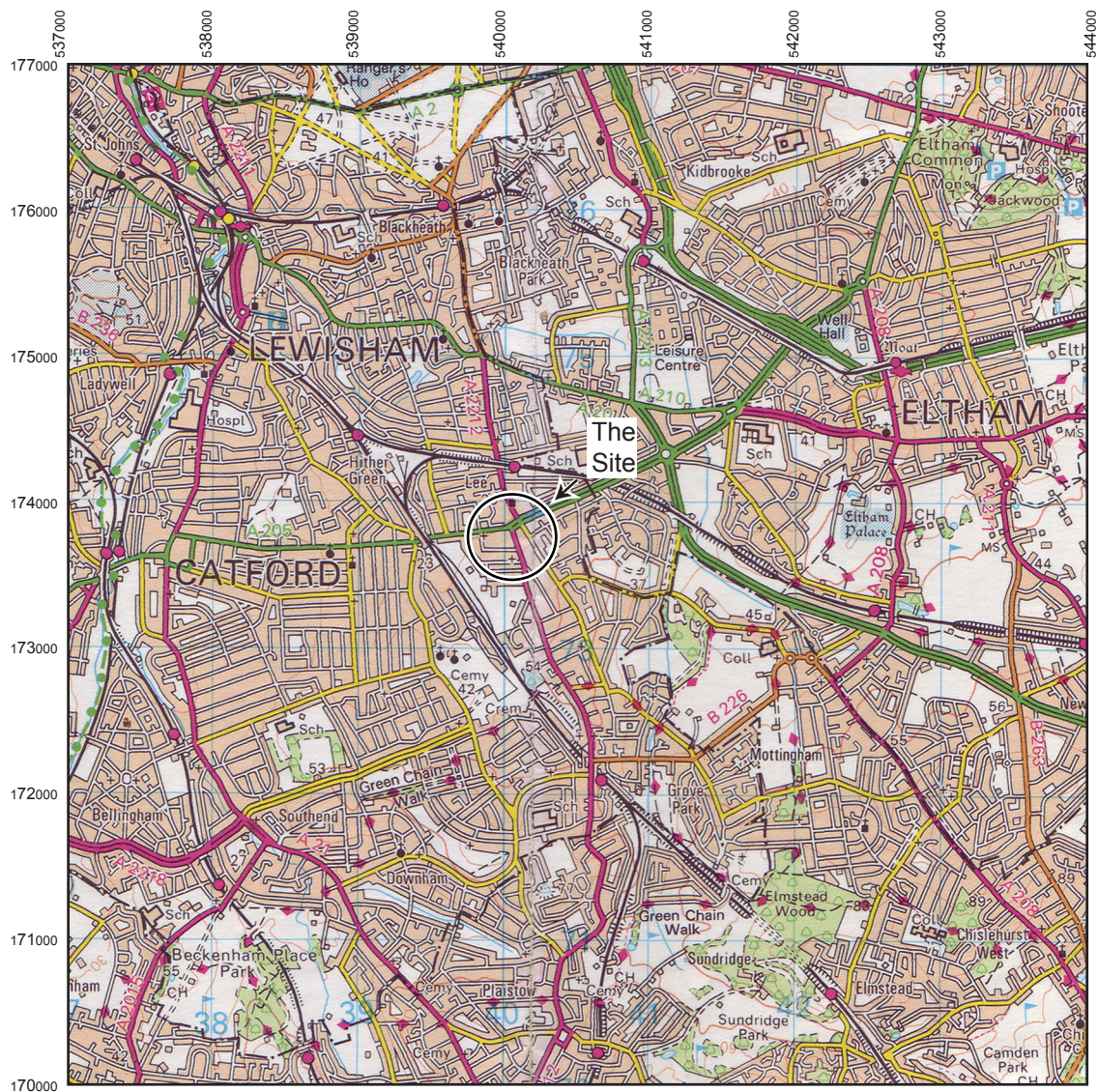
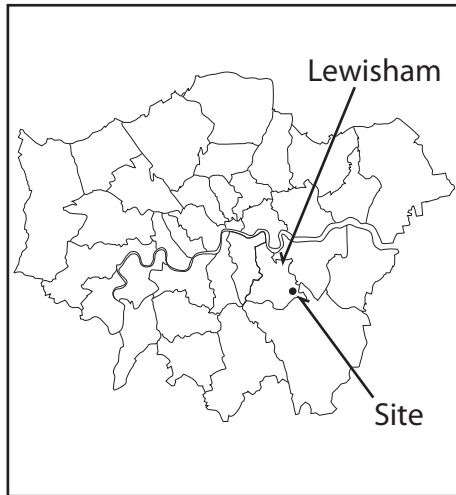
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UNITED DAIRIES DEPOT SITE, BARING ROAD, LEE, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Site Location Within London



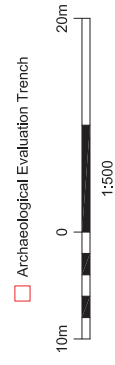
Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:50 000 Landranger map of 2003  
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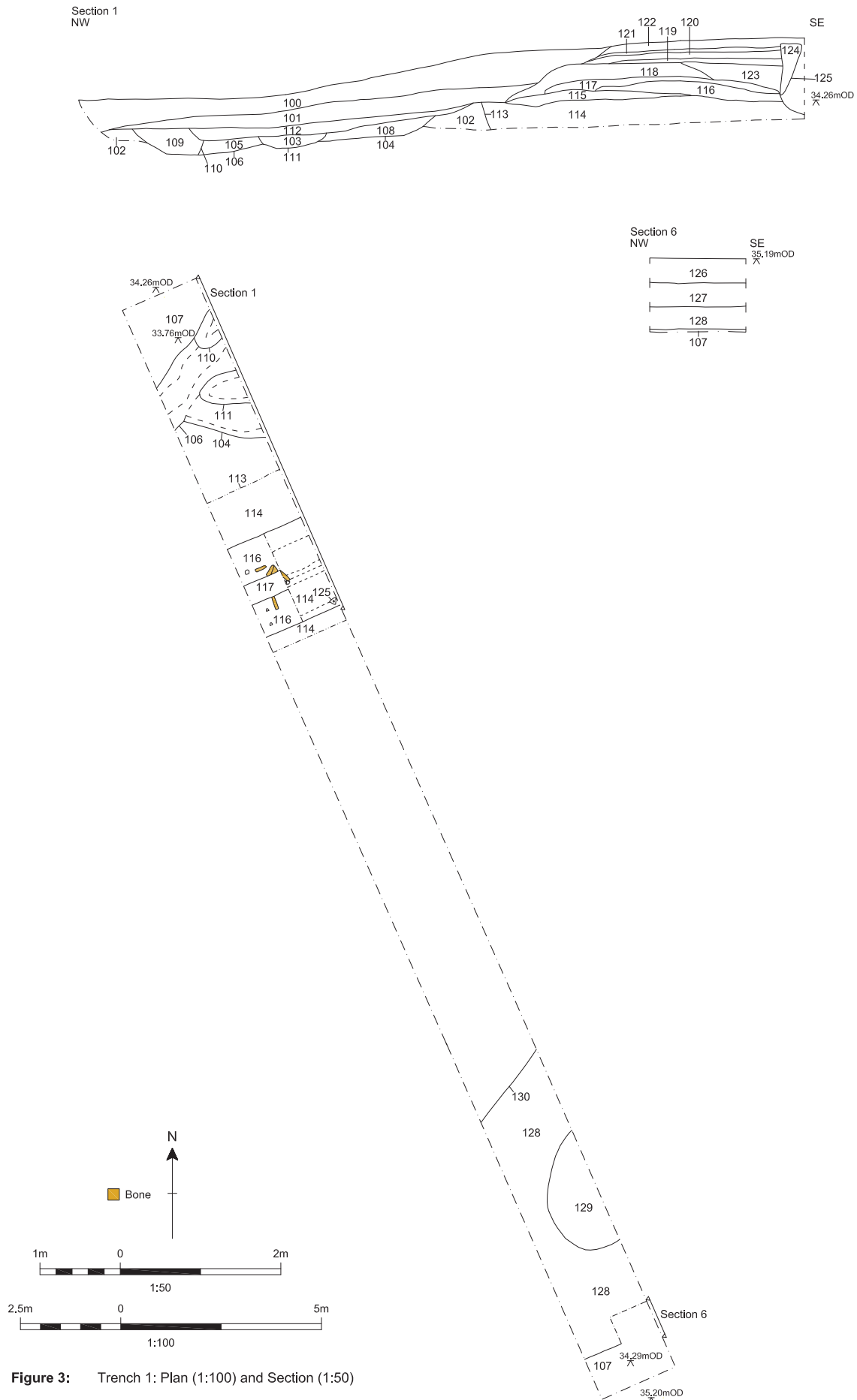
**Figure 1:** Site Location





Based on the Plan Produced by aM Geomatics

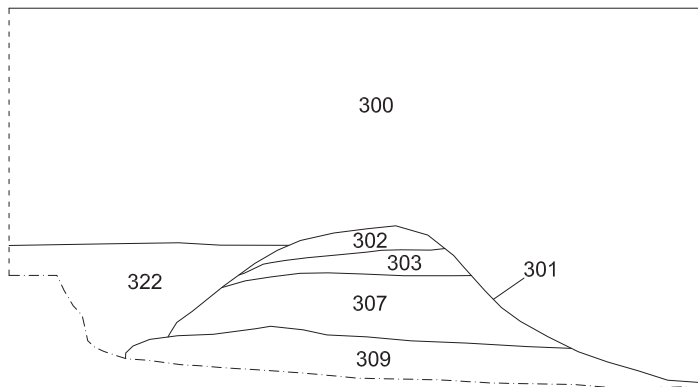
**Figure 2:** Detailed Site / Trench Location Plan



**Figure 3:** Trench 1: Plan (1:100) and Section (1:50)

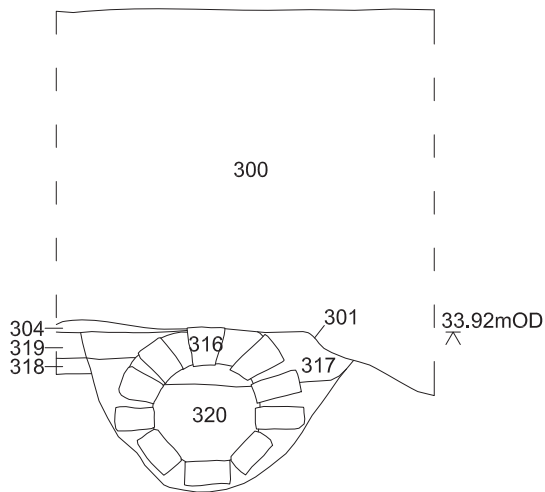
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Section 4  
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34.88mOD

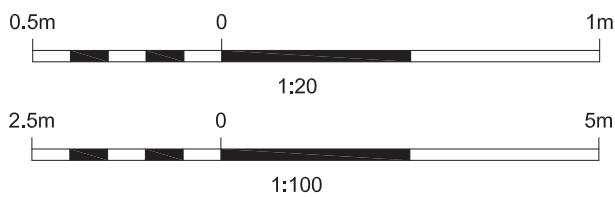
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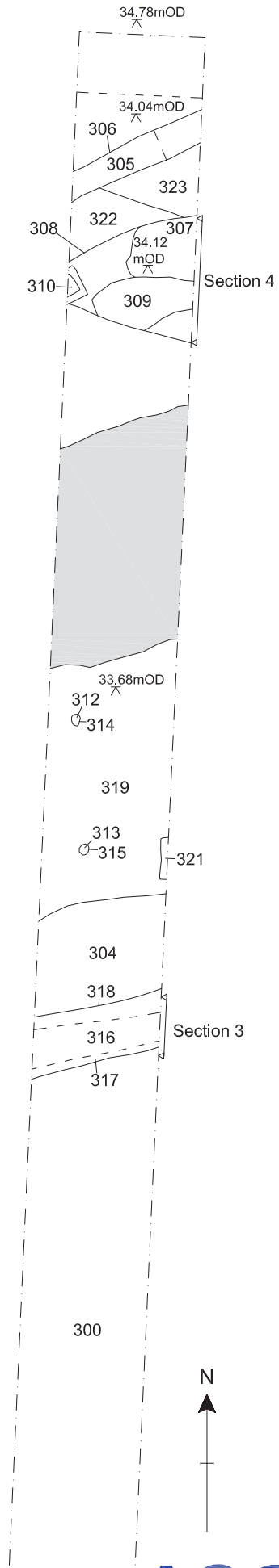
33.92mOD

Services

Portion of Trench 3 Shown



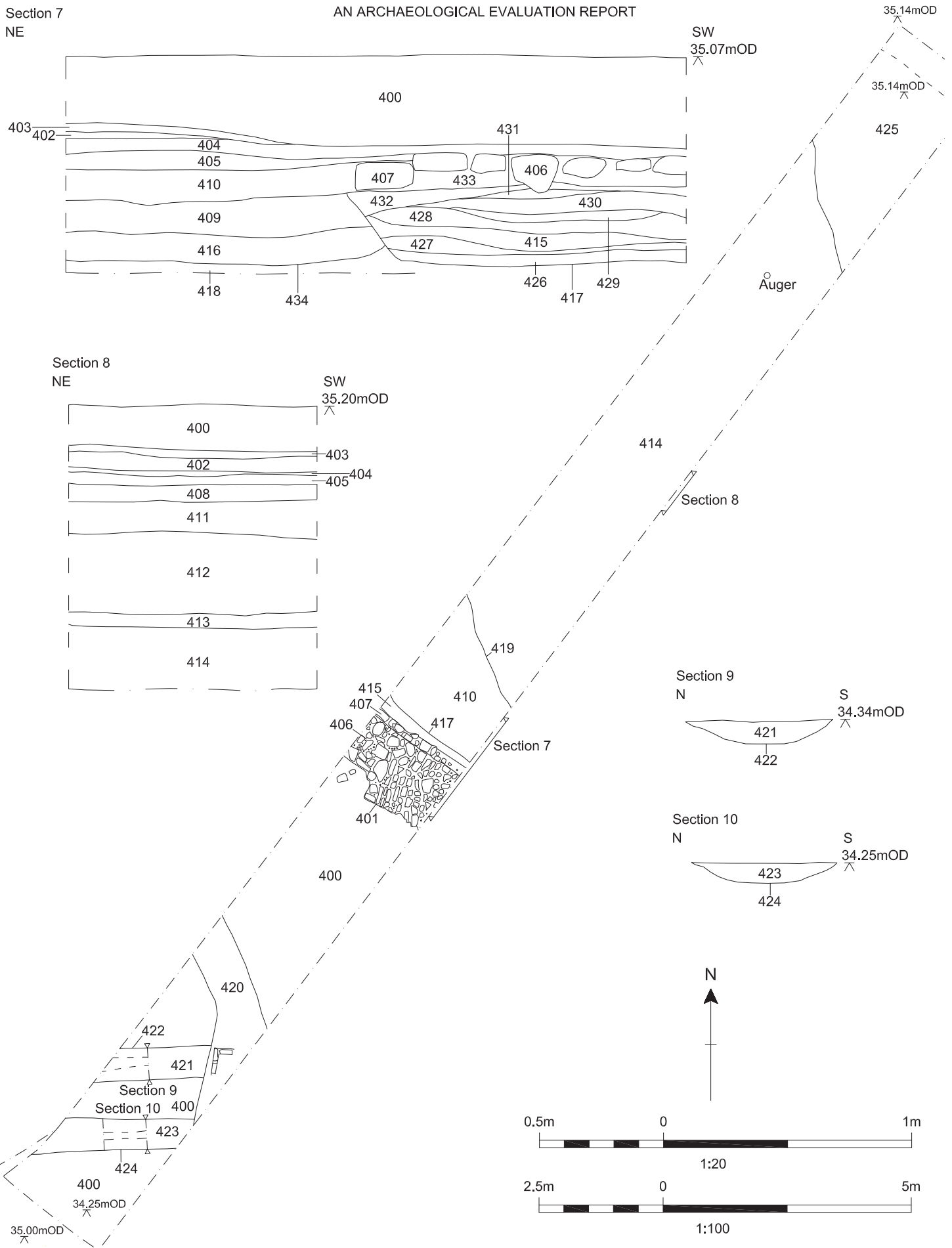
**Figure 4:** Trench 3: Plan (1:100) and Section (1:20)





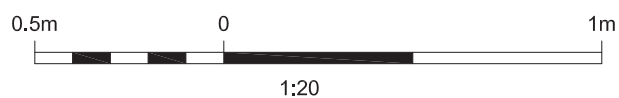
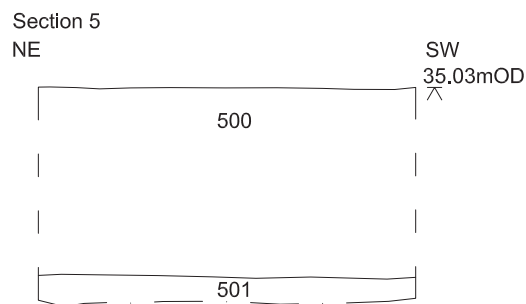
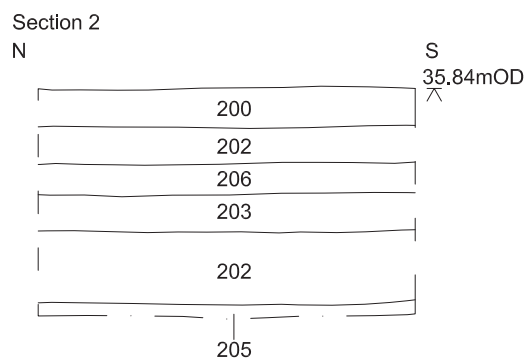
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Section 7  
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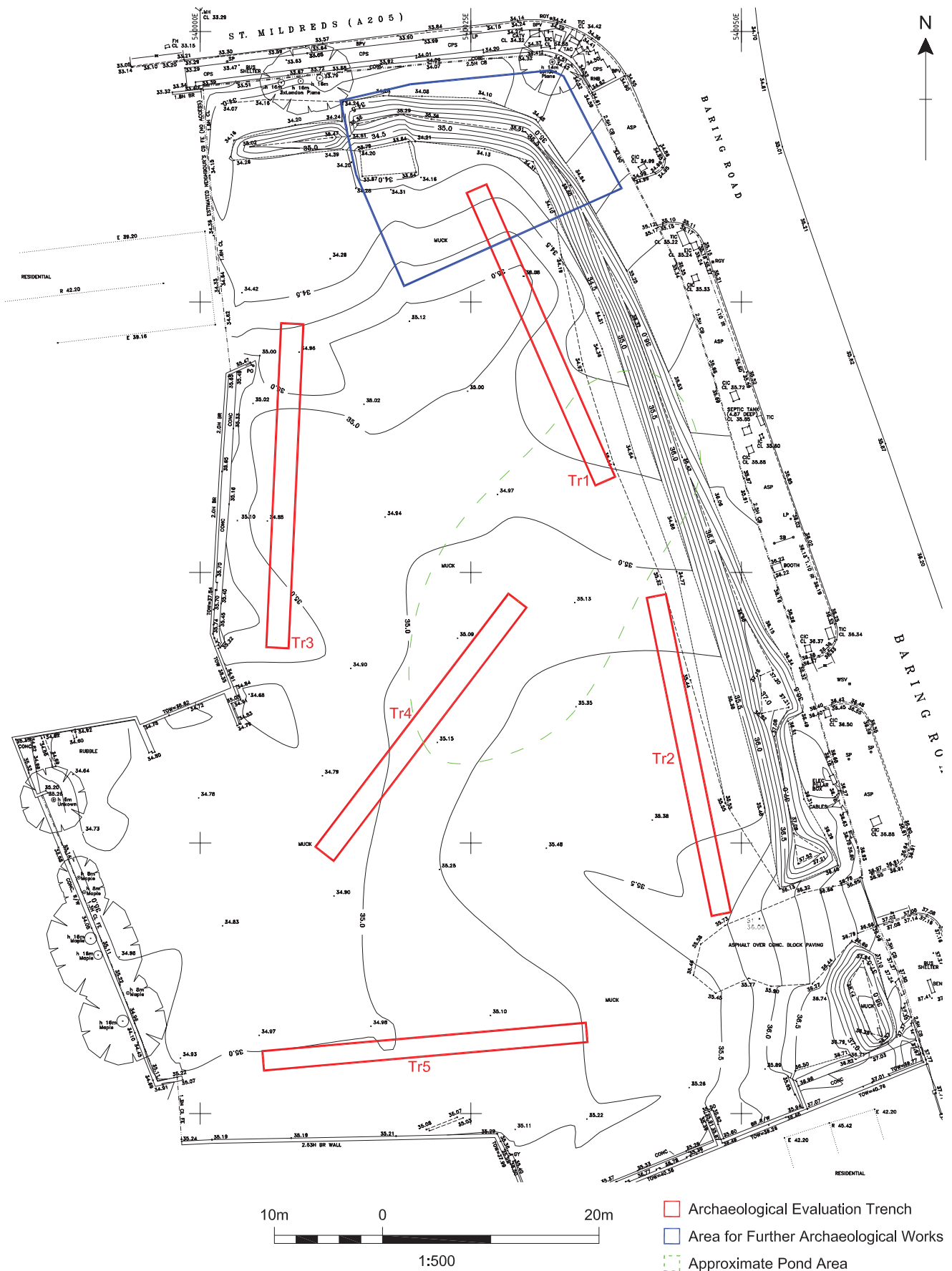
**Figure 5:** Trench 4: Plan (1:100) and Section (1:20)

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**Figure 6:** Trenches 2 & 5: Sample Sections

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Based on the Plan Produced by abM Geomatics

**Figure 7:** Plan Showing the Proposed Area for Further Archaeological Works

## Appendices

## Appendix A - Context Register

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Finds
100	Topsoil	6.64m	2.00m	0.20m	
101	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.18m	
102	Subsoil	0.75m	2.00m	0.33m	
103	Fill of 111	1.00m	0.85m	0.15m	
104	Ditch	1.20m	1.00m	0.15m	
105	Fill of 106	2.00m	0.74m	0.16m	
106	Ditch	2.00m	0.74m	0.16m	
107	Yellowish brown clay	27.00m	2.00m	NFE	
108	Fill of 104	1.20m	1.00m	0.20m	
109	Fill of 110	2.00m	1.10m	0.32m	
110	Ditch	2.00m	1.10m	0.32m	
111	Ditch	1.00m	0.85m	0.15m	
112	Agricultural soil?	3.50m	2.00m	0.15m	
113	Cut for service	3.00m	2.00m	NFE	
114	Fill of 113	3.00m	2.00m	NFE	
115	Consolidation layer	2.25m	2.00m	0.12m	
116	Hardcore layer	2.30m	2.00m	0.18m	
117	Compact chalk layer	2.95m	2.00m	0.15m	
118	Gravel surface	2.60m	2.00m	0.27m	
119	Clinker	2.05m	2.00m	0.06m	
120	Clinker layer	2.45m	2.00m	0.08m	
121	Hardcore	2.30m	2.00m	0.03m	
122	Clinker	2.30m	2.00m	0.12m	
123	Gravel hardcore	1.30m	2.00m	0.30m	
124	Fill of 125	0.25m	0.25m	0.64m	
125	Post-hole	0.25m	0.25m	0.64m	
126	Modern dump	3.00m	2.00m	0.30m	
127	Late C19 <sup>th</sup> dump	3.00m	2.00m	0.30m	
128	C19 <sup>th</sup> dump	8.00m	2.00m	0.28m	
129	Made ground	3.00m	2.00m	NFE	
130	Cut, filled by 127, 128 and 129	8.80m	2.00m	0.60m	
200	Modern surface	7.50m	2.00m	0.10m	
201	Hard standing	7.50m	2.00m	0.10m	
202	Hard standing	7.50m	2.00m	0.18m	
203	Chalk	7.50m	2.00m	0.10m	
204	Fill of 207	22.5m	2.00m	>0.45m	
205	Yellowish brown clay	7.50m	2.00m	NFE	
206	Modern hard standing	7.50m	2.00m	0.08m	
207	Modern truncation	22.5m	2.00m	>0.45m	
300	Overburden, filling 301	30.00m	2.00m	>1.20m	
301	Modern truncation	30.00m	2.00m	>1.20m	
302	Gravel surface	1.00m	1.00m	0.06m	
303	Brick rubble hardcore	1.00m	1.00m	0.06m	
304	Possible topsoil remnant	1.00m	0.80m	0.04m	
305	Brick and mortar wall footing	2.20m	0.38m	0.21m	

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Finds
306	Cut for 305	2.20m	0.38m	0.21m	
307	Compacted chalk deposit	1.00m	0.60m	0.15m	
308	Cut containing 307 et al	2.20m	1.40m	0.15m	
309	Rubble dumped within 308	1.40m	1.00m	0.12m	
310	Drain chamber	0.50m	0.20m	0.40m	
311	Deep fill of 307	2.20m	2.00m	>2m	
312	Wooden post	0.15m	0.15m	0.31m	
313	Wooden post	0.15m	0.15m	0.32m	
314	Post-hole	0.15m	0.15m	0.31m	
315	Post hole	0.15m	0.15m	0.32m	
316	Brick culvert	2.20m	0.40m	0.40m	
317	Fill of 318	0.70m	2.00m	0.40m	
318	Cut for culvert	2.00m	0.70m	0.40m	
319	Yellowish brown clay	18.00m	2.00m	NFE	
320	Fill of 316	2.20m	0.27m	0.21m	
321	Truncated footing	1.00m	0.01m	0.21m	
322	Fill of 308	2.20m	1.40m	0.20m	
323	Made ground	2.20m	1.40m	0.10m	
400	Modern overburden	30.00m	2.00m	>1.20m	
401	Modern intrusion	30.00m	2.00m	>1.20m	
402	Crushed CBM layer	16.00m	2.00m	0.10m	
403	Gravel dump	15.00m	2.00m	0.10m	
404	Cinders	18.00m	2.00m	0.08m	
405	Gravel dump	13.00m	2.00m	0.10m	
406	Cobbled stone surface	1.50m	2.00m	0.25m	
407	Wall footing	2.00m	0.25m	0.20m	
408	Top fill of 419	15.00m	2.00m	0.08m	
409	Made ground with CBM	1.50m	2.00m	0.17m	
410	Dump of gravelly made ground	1.40m	2.00m	0.15m	
411	Silty clay fill of 419	15.00m	2.00m	0.14m	
412	Silty clay fill of 419	15.00m	2.00m	0.33m	
413	Organic-rich layer in 419	15.00m	2.00m	0.07m	
414	Silty clay fill of 419	15.00m	2.00m	>0.25m	
415	Rubble layer	2.00m	2.00m	0.14m	
416	Reworked subsoil	2.00m	1.60m	0.11m	
417	Cut for 415	2.00m	2.00m	0.28m	
418	Yellowish brown clay	4.00m	2.00m	NFE	
419	Pond	15.00m	2.00m	0.75m	
420	Modern service intrusion	2.50m	0.50m	NFE	
421	Fill of 422	2.50m	0.60m	0.10m	
422	Planting trench	2.50m	0.60m	0.10m	
423	Fill of 424	2.50m	0.60m	0.08m	
424	Planting trench	2.50m	0.60m	0.08m	
425	CBM and gravel fill of 419	4.00m	2.00m	0.10m	
426	Brick rubble	1.78m	2.00m	0.08m	
427	Rubble and gravel hardcore	1.50m	2.00m	0.12m	
428	Chalk	1.80m	2.00m	0.11m	



Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Finds
429	Rubble and gravel hardcore	1.01m	2.00m	0.05m	
430	Chalk	1.60m	2.00m	0.12m	
431	Rubble and gravel hardcore	0.50m	0.40m	0.05m	
432	Gravel hardcore	2.00m	2.00m	0.11m	
433	Bedding for 406	2.00m	1.54m	0.12m	
434	Cut for made ground	2.00m	1.60m	0.50m	
435	Clayey silt fill of 419	0.2m	0.2m	0.30m	
436	Silty clay fill of 419	0.2m	0.2m	0.70m	
500	Made ground	30.0m	1.8m	1.10m	
501	Yellowish brown clay	30.00m	1.8m	NFE	

## Appendix B – Finds Report

by Paul Fitz, Luke Barber and Trista Clifford

### The Post-Roman Pottery

#### Spot Dates

Context	Date
103	c. 1275-1375
105	c. 1175-1250
108	c. 1250-1350
109	c. 1225-1300
112	c. 1200-1350
116	c. 1700-1825

The evaluation recovered a small assemblage of pottery from six individually numbered contexts. The vast majority of the assemblage is composed of High Medieval material with a few Early Medieval sherds. Overall a chronological range for activity between c. 1175/1200 and 1350 is likely. The medieval pottery is characterised by small sherds (up to 55mm across) most of which show signs of slight to moderate abrasion as well as chemical weathering from a slightly acidic subsoil. Although each context only produced a few sherds, enough are present to be fairly confident regarding the general date ranges though more material could revise these slightly.

The earliest assemblage was recovered from [105] where 10 of the 14 sherds are from a single reduced cooking pot with squared club rim in sand and sparse/moderate shell tempered ware (SSW) (74g). The other sherds in this context consist of two reduced greyware body sherds (7g) and two oxidised body sherds (9g) in ill-sorted quartz tempered fabrics typical of coarse Limpsfield ware (LIMP). Taken as a group, a c. 1175 to 1250 date range is probable.

Context [109] was dominated by these coarse Limpsfield-type wares, producing four sherds of the reduced grey type (15g) and one (1g) of the oxidised type. These sherds are less abraded/slightly finer than those from [105]. In addition there is a single sherd (4g) from an oxidised fine sand tempered jug with the slight traces of an external green glaze. The vessel is not dissimilar to later London ware (LON) though other sources cannot be ruled out. A date range between c. 1225 and 1300 is suggested for the group.

Context [108] was also dominated by ill-sorted quartz greyware Limpsfield-type sherds (4/12g) though these are the finest, best-sorted, from the site. One of these sherds has an applied thumbled strip. A single thin flat-topped club rim of developed type in a well fired fine/medium sandy ware is also present (8g), suggesting a c. 1250/75 to 1350 date range.

Context [103] may contain the latest medieval assemblage from the site. Although the majority of the group consists of the ill-sorted quartz tempered Limpsfield-type cooking pot sherds, including the finer, better-sorted type (11/70g) and a single (6g) fine/medium sandy bodysherd, there is also an oxidised jug rim in fine sand tempered ware (5g). The vessel is similar to the jug sherd noted in [109] but is less abraded so still has its internal white slip and external green glaze. Notable in this context are five sherds from at least three vessels in Kingston-type whiteware (KING), including a squared club rim from a cooking pot. A date range between c. 1275 and 1350/75 is suggested.

The final context producing medieval pottery was layer [112]. This contained five sherds (31g) from a medium-fired cooking pot with club rim in an abundant medium sand tempered fabric. Without other fabrics this vessel can only be given a wide c. 1200 to 1350 date range.

### **Medieval Building Material**

Two conjoining fragments of peg tile were recovered from context [103], which also contained pottery of High Medieval date. The tile is likely to be of a similar date. The fabric is oxidised moderate sand tempered with organic voids on the outer surfaces.

### **Post-Medieval Finds**

#### **Introduction**

A moderate assemblage of finds, dominated by ceramics and animal bone was retrieved from various trench contexts during the evaluation at the former Dairy Farm site at Baring Road. Most of these date to the Victorian period, but there are several earlier and several later pieces.

#### **The Post-medieval Pottery**

Context [116] produced a quite fine sand tempered unglazed earthenware bodysherd (PMR type) with thin internal white slip from a relatively heavy vessel (58g). This could be from a sugar-loaf mould or, perhaps less likely, a horticultural vessel. The fabric would suggest a date from 1700-1825. The same deposit produced a 231g fragment in hard-fired fine unglazed earthenware from the apparent foot-ring base of a large, thick-walled vessel. The form is similar to syrup jar bases though the current example, at c. 200mm diameter, is at the larger end of the range for these vessels.

Additionally, 76 sherds of pot (weighing 4,780 grams) were retrieved from nine contexts, all appearing to post-date 1800.

Nine sherds came from (116). Five of these are from at least two unidentified heavy-duty highly fired redware vessels. They are possibly sherds of mixing mortars, though they may be fragments of ornamental structural furniture such as chimneypots. Two redware pot sherds with internal faint brushed white slip decoration and one each of an orange and a dark brown glaze redware were also present.

The sherds can be broadly dated from 1580-1900 and two of the sherds have been sent for further identification which should hopefully tighten up the spot date range.

Twelve sherds were recovered from context (128). These include a complete stoneware blacking bottle <registered find 3> (1800-1900+), 130 mm in height with a dark brown glaze.

A small 'pork pie' stoneware ink pot with damaged neck is also of a contemporary date.

A complete, plain white glazed paste/powder jar lid, 76 mm in diameter and a slightly damaged paste/powder jar, 103mm base diameter and 43mm high, usually date from 1850+

Also present were small sherds of black & white and blue & white transfer printed wares, one small sherd of white china, three white glazed earthenwares a 'cabbage' glazed creamware and a stoneware demijohn(?) body sherd. The assemblage as a whole has a date range of 1780-1900+

Context (304) has two small sherds; a white glazed earthenware and a blue & white transfer printed ware <1780-1900+>

Context (404) has two sherds from a blue & white transfer printed bowl <1780-1900+> and three white glazed earthenwares (one piece a complete handle) and a blue banded white earthenware cup rim.

Context (410) has a complete light grey stoneware 'pork pie' inkpot<registered find 2>, a complete brown stoneware ginger beer bottle<1> embossed with a picture of Dick Whittington sitting by a London mile stone with 'R.PYLE' added to it. This is likely to be the distributor R. Pyle from Islington who traded c. 1870-1900.

Three pieces of almost vitreous fired flower pot were also recovered. Strangely, this has a shallow spout on one side.

Context (411) has 26 sherds. 10 are blue/purple & white transfer printed wares <1780-1900>, a small pearl ware saucer/plate rim piece <1770-1850>, nine sherds of white glazed earthenware from assorted vessels, plus a rim from a yellow and white glazed mixing bowl. Three white earthenware sherds have a dull black hand painted decorative band, applied before the final firing.

Also present is a base and lower body piece from a stoneware jar or bottle with ' \_ \_ \_SONS, \_ (Lo)ndon' embossed on it and a transfer printed powder/paste jar lid with "(A)T ANY CHEMIST THROU(GH) ..... , Recomme(ended)" likely to date to around <1850-1900>

Context (412) has three post medieval red wares with internal reddish-brown glaze <1580-1900+> and two terracotta sherds from a large flowerpot.

From context (415) four sherds were recovered; two blue & white transfer printed wares<1780-1900+>, a plain white china and a yellow & white glazed mixing bowl piece. <The yellow/white type being popular 1901-1950>.

Context (500) has three sherds of blue & white transfer printed wares <1780-1900+>.

### **Tobacco Pipe**

Surprisingly only one tobacco pipe piece was recovered from the evaluation (context 304) and it is almost certainly residual. It is a complete, undecorated, bowl and flat foot of the Atkins & Oswald type 21, which had a popular date range from only 1680-1710.

### **Building Material**

Three incomplete flat peg tiles were recovered from (317) all have a thickness of 12mm.

(411) has two pieces of cambered peg tile. The combined weight of the tile is 560 grams.

From context (415), there are four incomplete brick fragments (580 grams), a peg tile and a piece of roofing slate.

A mould- cast decorative rosette (135 grams) with an incised cruciform decoration of uncertain material was recovered in pond fill (412). It is likely to be of 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century date

### **Glass**

Eight pieces of glass were retrieved from three contexts. Context (116) has four wine bottle sherds; a complete base punt, a complete neck and collar, and two punted base fragments. This dates to around 1800-1825.

Context (128) has two dark blue vessel sherds.



Context (411) has a punted base of a wine or port bottle (75mm diameter with a 28mm sunken punt) and a body sherd from a different vessel. This dates to around 1800-1820.

### **Animal Bone**

Fifty-five pieces of animal bone, including ten teeth, were retrieved from just three contexts of which 52 (8,480 grams) were from a post medieval made ground deposit (116) beneath a road surface. Of these, a jaw piece and 10 teeth were amongst a predominately large mature limb bone assemblage of bovine origin (some pieces may be from horse).

Two small mammal bones (40 grams) were also collected from context (128) and a large horse (?) leg end (420 grams) from deposit (304).

### **Other Materials**

**Iron;** a post medieval iron horseshoe (304) and a possible window/door latch catch <registered find 4> from context (128). The horseshoe is for an adult horse (174mm total length x 155mm total width).

The latch is 170mm in length with a bowed, rectangular shaft with ornamental flattened plate with two small fixing holes at one end. This context is unlikely to predate AD1850.

### **Slag**

A small piece of ferrous? slag weighing 10 grams was collected from context (112), a layer immediately sealing the medieval features.

## **DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

The post medieval ceramic assemblage appears typical of a Victorian era farmhouse. Context (116) being the only possible earlier post medieval context. The horseshoe is of no surprise giving the history of the site.

The bone assemblage from (116) appears to be used as a form of hardcore ground consolidation for a gravelled track/ path. These bones surprisingly show little, if any, sign of butchery and although seemingly an unconventional use as hardcore, are very solid bones. It is presumed they originate from a local dairy herd.

### ***Analysis of potential***

If further work is to be conducted then the complete assemblage should be kept, as some materials may be re-assessed as part of a larger assemblage.

### **Significance of the data**

#### ***International and national***

The assemblage is not of international or national significance.

#### ***Regional and local***

The assemblage of some regional or local significance, specifically the medieval material, which has no local comparison.

***Further work required***

*No further work is required.*

***Preparation for deposition in the archive and conservation***

In accordance with museum of London LAARC guidelines finds of interest have already been accessioned. Dependant on any further work the post medieval brick and tile will be discarded.

## Appendix C - OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: aocarcha1-112267**

### Project details

Project name Former Dairy site, Baring Road, Lee

Short description of the project A five-trench evaluation showed that most of the site had suffered truncation following demolition of dairy buildings in 2001. However, two recut ditches of medieval date survived in the northern end of the site.

Project dates Start: 16-01-2012 End: 19-01-2012

Previous/future work No / Yes

Any associated project reference codes UDY12 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 30214 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Monument type FIELD BOUNDARY Early Medieval

Monument type FIELD BOUNDARY Medieval

Significant Finds BOWL Early Medieval

Significant Finds BOWL Medieval

Methods & techniques 'Sample Trenches'

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

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

### Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON LEWISHAM LEWISHAM AND BLACKHEATH 2 Baring Road

Postcode SE12 0UN

Study area 0.50 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 4005 7375 51.4448904442 0.01549897036720 51 26 41 N 000 00 55 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 33.65m Max: 35.17m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project brief originator EH GLAAS

Project design originator AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Alan Ford

Project supervisor Les Capon

Type of developer sponsor/funding body

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Museum of London-LAARC



Physical Archive ID	UDY 12
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Environmental', 'Glass', 'Metal', 'other'
Physical Archive notes	held at AOC until transfer
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London-LAARC
Digital Archive ID	UDY 12
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Environmental', 'Glass', 'Metal', 'Stratigraphic', 'other'
Digital Media available	'Database', 'Images raster / digital photography', 'Images vector', 'Survey'
Digital Archive notes	held at AOC until transfer
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London-LAARC
Paper Archive ID	UDY 12
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Environmental', 'Glass', 'Metal', 'Stratigraphic', 'Survey', 'other'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet', 'Matrices', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section', 'Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive notes	held at AOC until transfer

#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Former United Dairies site, " Baring Road, Lee, London Borough of Lewisham: An Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Capon, L.
Date	2012

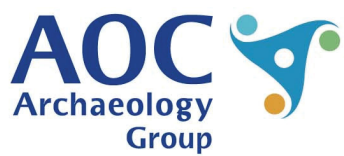
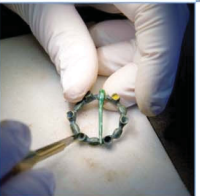
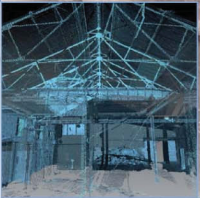
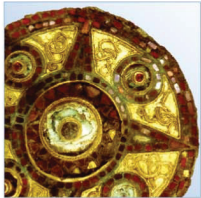
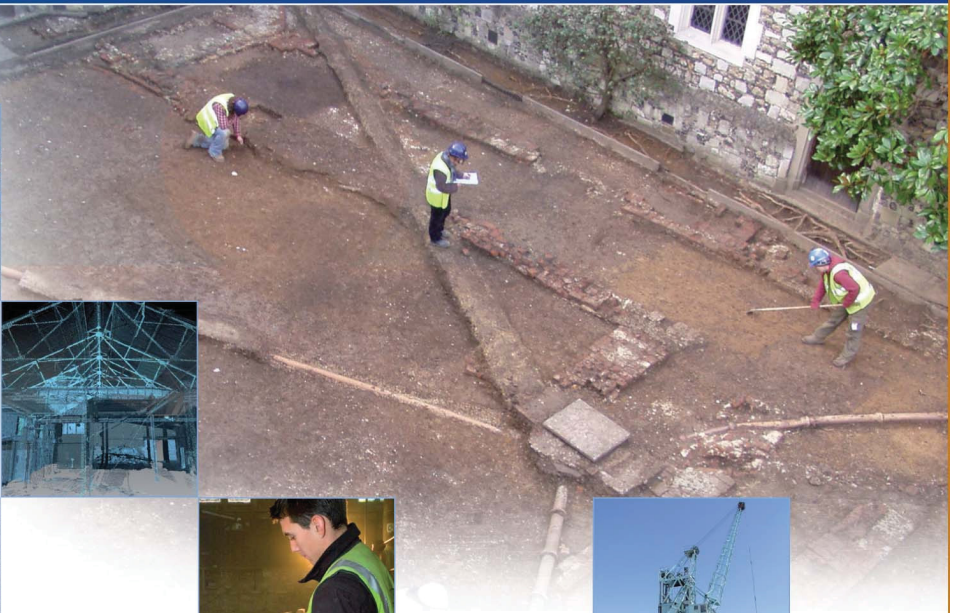
Issuer or publisher      AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or London  
publication

Description              37 pages, A4, 7 figures, 4 plates

Entered by                les capon (les.capon@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on                24 January 2012



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