

Olympic Cinema Site, 117 Church Road, Barnes, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames: An Archaeological Investigation Report

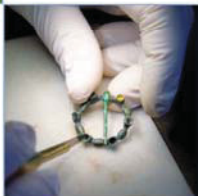
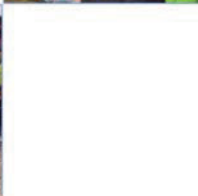
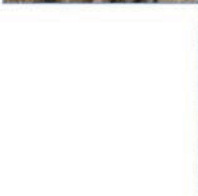
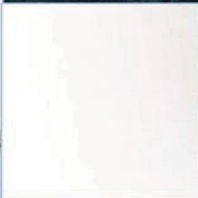
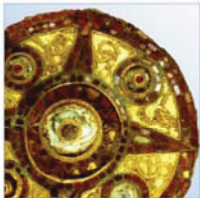
Planning Application Number 11/0229/F

National Grid Reference: TQ 5222 1766

AOC Project No: 32194

Site Code: OLP 12

July 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

**Olympic Cinema Site, 117 Church Road, Barnes,
London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames
An Archaeological Investigation Report**

On Behalf of: Barnes Cinema Ltd
117 Church Road
Barnes
Richmond
SW13 9HL

National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 5222 1766

AOC Project No: 32194

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

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Non-Technical Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between the 2nd and 3rd July 2012 at the site of Olympic Cinema, 117 Church Road, Barnes, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames. The work was undertaken on behalf of Barnes Cinema Ltd. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of development on any surviving archaeological remains.

The evaluation comprised of three trenches measuring 5.00 and 4.50m x 1.80m. All trenches contained a series of made ground deposits overlying the natural horizon. A single large pit was recorded cutting into a lower made ground deposit. The pit contained pottery and glass bottles dated to 1750 - 1780. The natural deposits were recorded in all trenches as orange brown sandy clay and gravel.

A watching brief was carried out on the removal of a tennis court surface in the north of the site; an undisturbed sequence of subsoil and topsoil overlay the natural gravels; the topsoil was overlain by the formation layer of the tennis court and the asphalt court surface.

Due to the lack of significant archaeological remains and the probable truncation of deposits on site, no further archaeological work is recommended.

Publication of the evaluation and watching brief findings will be carried out through a short summary of the fieldwork submitted to the local fieldwork roundup. An OASIS form has also been completed and an electronic copy of the watching brief report will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The site archive will be prepared in accordance with local and national guidance and will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document presents the results of a programme of Historic Building Recording carried out at land immediately west of the Olympic Recording Studio, at 117 Church Road, Barnes, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames.
- 1.2 The site is located on the northern side of Church Road, Barnes, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 5222 1766, which lies in the centre of Barnes, immediately west of the junction of Church Road and Byfeld Gardens (Figures 1 & 2). The site is roughly L-shaped, covering an area of approximately 1944sqm and is bound to the south by Church Road, to the east by Byfeld Gardens and the rear of residential properties, to the north by King Edward Mews and on the west by the adjacent residential property known as 'The Homestead'.
- 1.3 The archaeological work comprised a three trench evaluation and a watching brief on the removal of a tennis court surface.

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Diane Abrams, Archaeological Advisor for the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS). As the Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames, and having a purview over all archaeological works undertaken in the borough, this document will be submitted to GLAAS for approval.
- 2.2 No previously recorded archaeological heritage assets have been identified within the bounds of the proposed development site; however, the site does lie within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the Local Planning Authority. The Archaeological Priority Area (APA) relates to the extent and surrounding vicinity of the potential early medieval, medieval and early post-medieval settlement of Barnes.
- 2.3 There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Battlefields or Registered Parks & Gardens within 500m of the site. The site lies within Barnes Green Conservation Area, as designated by the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames. Two further Conservation Areas lie within 500m, comprising Castlenau Conservation Area, c. 90m to the northeast of the site and Barnes Common Conservation Area, c. 300m to the south.
- 2.4 A total of seven Listed buildings (as recorded on the GLHER) have been identified nearby. The wall that bounds the western part of the site is Listed (see below),
- 2.5 A Planning Application was submitted for development of the land west of the studios, as well as for refurbishment (Planning Application No. 11/0229/F). In the first instant, a desk-based assessment of the archaeological potential of the site and the impact of development was produced (AOC 2011). This was approved by GLAAS.
- 2.6 In response to the planning application, two conditions were placed regarding the archaeological and historical value of the site. Condition U46347 relates to the archaeology of the building: *No development shall take place within the application site until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological recording of the standing historic building(s), in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: The historic building(s) is/are of intrinsic archaeological interest and any alteration or demolition of the historic structure(s) should be recorded before it/they are damaged or destroyed by the development hereby permitted.*

- 2.7 Condition U46348 relates to potential below-ground archaeology: *No development shall take place on the application site until the applicant or their agent or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Following approval of the written scheme of investigation any subsequent fieldwork and assessment report required shall be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. No development shall be carried out until such a report has been approved [unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority]. Reason: To safeguard any archaeological interest of the site.*
- 2.8 The new development is primarily on land at 117 Church Road, west of the recording studios, while the studios themselves will be refurbished. The wall bounding the western half of the site is Grade II Listed. This was summarised in a desk-based assessment (AOC 2011) as follows: Garden Walls to land adjoining "Homestead: Walls, currently undated, but likely to be contemporary with No 113 Church Road (The Homestead). Thought to be part of the Homestead's garden walls. The Listed sections of the wall have not been individually mapped, but were originally Listed as the curtilage of the Homestead in 1951 and subsequently separately Listed in 1976. As such, any parts of the wall which were considered part of the Homesteads curtilage in 1951 should be considered as Grade II Listed today. This includes the eastern section of the wall with the pedestrian gate and the short section of wall which physically adjoins the western façade of the Olympic Studios building itself.
- 2.9 The next stage in the planning process was creation of a Written Scheme of Investigation, detailing the methodology for recording, and including some background history of the site (AOC 2012). This methodology was approved by Diane Abrams and all works were carried out in line with the WSI.

3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey Map (BGS 1981) indicates that the solid geology underlying the proposed development site likely comprises bedrock of London Clay, overlain by a superficial geology of Kempton Park Gravel formation. A wide expanse of alluvium, relating to the Beverley Brook is shown to the south / southeast of the site.
- 3.2 The site lies approximately level at 5.50m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), with a fall towards the centre up to 0.20m deep where the tennis courts are situated.
- 3.3 No known geotechnical investigations have been undertaken on site

4 Archaeological And Historical Background

- 4.1 The following background information is derived from the 2011 desk-based assessment (AOC 2011).
- The Prehistoric Period (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43) and**
- 4.2 There has been limited finds relating to the wide span of prehistory in the vicinity of the site. These comprise a small assemblage of prehistoric flints from the Sorting Office on Station Road, c. 400m to the south-west of the site, and a number of flint implements from Barnes Common, c. 450m to the south of the site. These have been provisionally dated to the Mesolithic period but have not been positively identified as worked (or manufactured). Several flint flakes were also found.
- 4.3 Later prehistoric evidence includes an Iron Age pit and postholes at Barnes Elms, 300m to the southeast, evidence that indicates direct settlement in the area prior to the Roman period. In the wider area, there is evidence for a prehistoric settlement at Chiswick House, c. 1.7km northwest of the site, plus numerous finds of prehistoric artefacts.

The Roman Period (c.AD 43 – 410)

- 4.4 There are few finds of Roman date near to the site. The nearest evidence is a single sherd of Romano-British pottery, recovered from allotments at Barnes Common, c. 400m southwest of the site. This is likely to represent residual evidence or stray find that may even have been imported into the area with topsoil.
- 4.5 In the wider area, a cremation burial found at Mill Hill, Barnes, c. 600m to the south of the site, is thought to be of Roman origin and a Roman figurine has been recovered from Barnes Common.
- 4.6 The Archaeology Data Service database records numerous artefact findspots (coins, tiles fragments, pot sherds etc.) scattered across the region, attesting to Roman activity in the wider area. More significant evidence of occupation has also been recorded, including: the site of a Roman baths at Sutton Court c. 2.3km to the northwest of the site; and a settlement at The Platt, Putney, c. 2.1km to the southeast.

Early Medieval (c.AD 410 – 1066) and Medieval (c.AD 1066 – 1540)

- 4.7 The name 'Barnes' is derived from the Saxon word '*Berne*', which literally means 'a barn' indicating the rural, unsettled agricultural character of the area at the time. Documentary sources record that Barnes was bestowed upon the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's by King Athelstan in AD 925. It was held by St Paul's throughout the medieval period, although certain dues were payable to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord of the Manor of nearby Mortlake (Barnes and Mortlake History Society 2011; Weinreb & Hibbert 1995).
- 4.8 The manor of Barnes is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 as having sufficient land for six ploughs. A medieval manor house was located at Barn Elms, and it is thought to have comprised a moated manor house, although it is not known what it looked like or when it was built, only that it was demolished (and replaced) in 1694 (Barnes and Mortlake History Society 2011).
- 4.9 Barn Elms was held by St Paul's until 1504 when it was leased to Henry Wyatt. It was forfeited to the Crown following the execution of his grandson Thomas Wyatt for rebellion against Mary I (Weinreb & Hibbert 1995). In 1579, Queen Elizabeth bought the lease for Sir Francis Walsingham, as a reward for good services rendered to the Crown and made three visits to Barn-Elms herself (Barnes and Mortlake History Society 2011).
- 4.10 The Grade II* Listed Church of St Mary lies 30m to the west of the proposed development site, and was built in the 13th century with the west tower added in the 16th century. It was enlarged during the 18th century and again in 1852 and 1907.
- 4.11 Archaeological investigations at St. Mary's Church during the 1970s revealed evidence for an earlier flint structure built around 1100 and 1150 with additions dated c.1200. An early-medieval cemetery was revealed to the west of the early structure, below the later additions.
- 4.12 The site is located in close proximity to the church and may be within an area where associated activities (e.g. burial) may have taken place. The proximity to the church may also suggest a potential for early medieval and medieval settlement activity nearby; although to date there has been no evidence of such.
- 4.13 Barnes Common covers an area of approximately 120 acres and was utilised by both Putney and Barnes prior to the 16th century. Following a dispute between the two townships in 1589, the men of Barnes refused to allow the inhabitants of Putney use of the common. The common comprised marshland throughout the medieval period and post-medieval period until it was drained in the later 19th century (Weinreb & Hibbert 1995).

Post-Medieval (c.AD 1570 – 1900) and Modern Periods (AD 1900 – Present)

- 4.14 The land near the river in Barnes was described in the 18th century as 'very rich meadow land' and by the 18th century the parish covered some nine hundred acres, comprising nearly two-thirds arable land, including garden ground (Lysons 1792).
- 4.15 By the early 17th century, Barnes still existed as a small fairly isolated settlement, with an estimated population of 150 to 200 people (Brown 1997, 17). It is this semi-isolated character of Barnes, associated with the increasing proximity and wealth of London, which started to make the village an attractive and fashionable place for the richer members of London society to live. From the late 17th century, through into the 18th century, a large number of large houses were built in and around the village, with one group built along Church Road, focused in the area of St. Mary's Church (Brown 1997, 17). This group of houses includes Hillersdon House, Priory Lodge, Merton Lodge, Elm Grove and Byfeld House.
- 4.16 Byfeld House is the most significant of this group since it was formerly located at 117 Church Road. Byfeld House was constructed in the 1690s as one of two adjacent buildings. The name of the house probably relates to Edward Byfeld (1689-1774), who was Appointed Governor of St. Helena by the East India Company in 1727, and lived at Merton Lodge, which was located immediately to the east of Byfeld House (Barnes and Mortlake History Society 2011).
- 4.17 The main house itself is described as being a large yet simple three storey square building with two bay windows flanking a main doorway with columned porch and stone stairs leading to the garden to the northern elevation. The remaining storeys contained simple fenestration of sash windows. Not as much detail survives on the adjacent structure, which appears to be a smaller two-storey rectangular building. Both buildings were joined between 1798 and 1800 to form a single property. By 1828, Byfeld House had been converted into a boys' school, and by 1902 it had been demolished.
- 4.18 During the same period as the construction of numerous large houses in Barnes, other structures were also being developed. The closest in relation to the proposed development site are Strawberry House and The Homestead and are contemporary. The Homestead lies immediately west of the site, incorporating contemporary brick boundary walls and railings, and were built in approximately 1720. Strawberry House lies c. 50m further to the west, and was formerly the Rectory to St. Mary's Church, and also believed to have been constructed at a similar time as The Homestead. Both buildings (including the boundary walls of The Homestead) are Grade II Listed.
- 4.19 Three other 18th century Grade II Listed buildings survive along Church Road to the west of the proposed development site which represent different roles within the local community. These consist of The Sun Inn Public House, the domestic property of The Grange and the religious institution of the Convent of the Sacred Heart.
- 4.20 Archaeological evidence for the post-medieval development of Barnes was uncovered during the excavation at the Sorting Office site, located c. 400m to the southeast. The evidence showed 17th or 18th century boundary ditches with contemporary small timber structures, which made ground above.
- 4.21 During the first half of the 19th century the size of Barnes grew at a slow but steady rate, with the population increasing from 860 in 1801, up to 1,879 in 1851 (Page 1905, 448). With improved road communications and the arrival of the railway in the second half of the 19th century, the population of Barnes rose to 10,047 by 1901 vastly increasing the size of the settlement (*ibid*, 448).
- 4.22 Following the demolition of Byfeld House in 1902, the property was replaced by Byfeld Hall, a purpose built entertainment centre, opened in 1906. The hall was licensed to perform plays and

musical productions, in addition to hosting dance events, catering for a maximum audience of 500. Part of the hall was adapted in 1910 to incorporate a cinema with the installation of a projection room. Under various titles the hall continued to operate as a cinema until 1925 when it was renamed the Barnes Theatre, and for the next five years was well known for its production of Russian plays.

- 4.23 Following its use as a theatre, the hall reverted back to a cinema, and frequently changed name. During this period it was predominately known as either the Ranelagh or the Plaza. In 1966 the hall was converted into music studios, known as the Olympic (Music) Studio (The Theatres Trust 2011). From 1966, through to its closure in 2009, some of the most significant acts of 20th century western rock and pop culture recorded at the Olympic Studios, which include The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, Hawkwind, and Eric Clapton (The Independent Online 2011)
- 4.24 The other cultural asset of note within proximity to the proposed development site is a K6 type red telephone box, which is located immediately to the front of the property on the Church Road frontage. This style of phone box was designed in 1935, and was probably erected within a year or two of this date.

5 Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1 The aims of investigation were defined as being:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains in the southern part of the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To map any archaeological remains encountered and sample excavate the features.
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of excavated archaeological features and deposits.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
 - To enable the archaeology advisor to make an informed decision to satisfy the conditions.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.
- 5.2 The specific aims of the archaeological work were:
- To gather evidence of the site's prehistoric character if present.
 - To gather evidence for agricultural regimes practiced within the site over time.
 - To establish whether medieval remains are present on the site.
 - To determine the presence of remains of Byfeld House, or any other development along Church Road.
 - To contribute to the regional research agenda set out in the relevant frameworks documents (MoL/EH 2002).
- 5.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6 Methodology

- 6.1 The evaluation consisted of the machine excavation of three trenches, excavated under archaeological supervision.
- 6.2 The trenches were located as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2012). Due to the presence of an upstanding gazebo and foliage, the trenches were adjusted to allow full excavation.

Trench 2 was adjusted during its excavation due to presence of a live electric cable whilst Trench 3 was shortened due to the presence of a live water pipe.

- 6.3 The watching brief focused on the monitoring of the removal of most of a former tennis court; a single test pit was excavated to ascertain the depth of stratigraphy.
- 6.3 All machining was carried out using a 3 tonne tracked machine with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of the archaeological Project Officer.
- 6.4 The accession code OLP 12 was obtained from the LAARC for the project, and was used for all fieldwork.
- 6.5 All evaluation trenches were accurately located to the National Grid and their levels calculated using a temporary benchmark (TBM) established on site by the fieldwork team having moved the level from a known height on the driveway adjacent to the site. The value of the known height was 5.46mOD whilst the TBM on site was valued at 5.39mOD.
- 6.6 All recording was in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Museum of London's *Archaeological Field Manual* (MoL 3rd edition 1994).
- 6.7 All of the work was carried out in line with:
- Archaeological Guidance Papers (AGP): 3-4, Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (English Heritage 2009a & b)
 - IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008).
- 6.8 A continuous unique numbering system was employed. For the single trench, a block of numbers in a continuous sequence was allocated. In this report the archaeological fills and layers are represented in curved brackets i.e. (), whilst the cut numbers are represented in square brackets i.e. [].
- 6.9 Written descriptions, comprising both factual data and interpretative elements, were recorded on standardised sheets.

7 Results

Trench 1

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
100	0.10m	5.46m – 5.36m	Dark black brown clay silt. Topsoil.
101	0.70m	5.36m – 4.66m	Dark black brown clay silt with brick and gravel. Made ground.
102	0.40m	4.66m – 4.26m	Mid orange brown clay slit with brick and late post medieval pottery. Made ground.
105	0.20m	4.26m – 4.06m	Light grey yellow clay with brick inclusions. Redeposited natural horizon.
106	0.10m+	4.06m +	Orange brown clay sand and gravel. Natural horizon.

- 7.1 Trench 1 measured 5m x 1.80m and was aligned roughly northeast-southwest (Figures 2 and 3).

- 7.2 The lowest deposit recorded within Trench 2 was (106), a 0.10m+ thick layer of orange brown clay sand and gravel interpreted as natural. Above this deposit was (105), a 0.20m thick layer of light grey yellow clay with brick inclusions, interpreted as a layer of redeposited disturbed natural.
- 7.3 Cutting into (105) was [104], a large possibly sub-circular shaped pit measuring 1.45m x 2.00m x 0.10m+ thick. The pit was filled by (103), a fine dark black brown silt with very frequent inclusions of pottery and complete glass bottles. The finds have been identified as table wares and a wine bottle dated to the late 18th or 19th centuries.



Plate 1 – Trench 1 showing pit [104]

- 7.4 Overlying the pit were two layers of made ground deposits recorded as (102) and (101). The lower layer, (102) was a 0.40m thick layer of mid orange brown clay silt with brick and late post-medieval pottery inclusions, whilst (101), was a 0.70m thick layer of dark black brown clay silt with brick and gravel.
- 7.5 Overlying Trench 1 was (100), a 0.10m thick layer of topsoil and grass.
- 7.6 No significant archaeological remains were recorded in Trench 1.

Trench 2

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
200	0.10m	5.49m – 5.39m	Dark black brown clay silt. Topsoil
201	0.95m	5.39m – 4.44m	Dark black brown clay silt with inclusions of brick and post-medieval pottery. Made ground.
202	0.27m	4.44m – 4.17m	Light grey yellow clay with brick and animal bone. Made ground.
203	0.38m	4.17m – 3.79m	Light brown clay silt with frequent brick and tile. Made ground.
204	0.20m+	3.79m+	Orange brown clay sand and gravel. Natural horizon.

- 7.7 Trench 2 measured 5.00m x 1.80m and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast (Figures 2 and 3).

- 7.8 The earliest deposit was recorded as (204), a 0.20m+ thick layer of orange brown clay sand and gravel interpreted as the natural horizon. Overlying the natural horizon was (203); a 0.38m thick layer of light brown clay silt with frequent brick and tile interpreted as made ground.
- 7.9 Above (203) was a further two layers of made ground recorded as (202) and (201). These were recorded as a light grey yellow clay with brick and animal bone and a dark black brown clay silt with inclusions of brick and post-medieval pottery.



Plate 2 – Trench 2, showing layer (203) in sondage section.

- 7.10 Overlying the trench was (200), a 0.10m thick layer of topsoil and grass.
- 7.11 No significant archaeological remains were recorded in Trench 2.

Trench 3

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
300	0.10m	5.50m – 5.40m	Dark black brown clay silt. Topsoil
301	0.60m	5.40m – 4.80m	Dark brown clay silt with modern brick inclusions. Made ground.
302	0.20m	4.80m – 4.60m	Light grey yellow clay sand with modern brick inclusions. Redeposited natural or made ground.
303	0.30	4.60m+	Orange brown sandy gravel with light yellow orange sand. Natural horizon.

- 7.12 Trench 3 measured 4.50m x 1.80m and was aligned roughly northeast-southwest (Figures 2 and 3).
- 7.13 The lowest deposit recorded in Trench 3 was (303), a 0.30m+ thick layer of orange brown sandy gravel with light yellow orange sand. Overlying the natural horizon were two layers of made ground recorded as (302), a 0.20m thick light grey yellow clay sand with modern brick inclusions and (301), a 0.60m thick layer of dark brown clay silt with modern brick inclusions.



Plate 3 - Trench 3

- 7.14 Overlying the trench was (300), a 0.10m thick layer of topsoil and grass.
7.15 No significant archaeological remains were recorded in Trench 3.

Watching Brief

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
400	0.05m	5.32m – 5.22m	Asphalt surface.
401	0.10m	5.27m – 4.17m	Orange stone bedding layer
402	0.40m	4.07m	Dark grey black sandy silt. Topsoil
403	0.30m	4.67m	Mid brown gravelly sand. Subsoil
404	NFE	4.37m	Grey orange sand and gravel. Natural horizon.

- 7.16 The monitored area measured 20.00m x 12.00m and was located in the north of the site in the area of a former tennis court.
7.17 Natural greyish orange Kempton Park Gravels (404) were observed at 4.37m AOD. They were sealed by 0.30m of firm, mid brown gravelly sand subsoil (403); this was overlain by topsoil deposit (402), a firm dark, greyish black sandy silt, 0.40m thick. The orange stone formation deposit for the tennis court (401) had been laid directly onto the topsoil, it measured 0.10m in thickness and was sealed by the thin asphalt tennis court surface (400), 0.05m thick. No archaeology was observed during the watching brief.

8 Finds

- 8.1 Finds were retrieved only from pit fill (103); they comprised pottery and glass. The pottery assemblage consisted of nine sherds (560g), mainly of table ware.

- 8.2 A complete tin glazed drug jar, probably from London, can be dated to 1570-1846. Three other shards of blue and white table ware can be dated to the late 18th or 19th centuries; one of these sherds had a potter's mark on the base. A similar date is likely for two shreds of cream ware plate rim, and a sherd of transfer printed pearlware plate. A black basalt ware handle can also be assigned to this date range. A large body sherd of a stoneware jar was dated to between 1700 and 1900.
- 8.3 A complete green glass wine bottle was dated to 1770 – 1800.

9 Discussion

- 9.1 The archaeological evaluation established the presence of natural deposits on site overlain by made ground deposits. A single feature was recorded during the evaluation, in the form of a large pit filled with nine sherds of pottery and a complete green glass bottle; these can be dated to the late 18th or 19th centuries and may be associated with activity at Byfeld House.
- 9.2 The layer of redeposited clay with frequent brick and tile located within Trench 2 may indicate an attempt to solidify the ground, prior to the redevelopment of the site. The depth of the made ground on site may also be an indication of large scale landscaping, perhaps to raise the ground higher above the water table.
- 9.3 The watching brief recorded natural deposits overlain by an undisturbed sequence of subsoil and topsoil. The tennis court had been built directly on top of the topsoil, with a formation level of stone overlain by a thin asphalt surface.
- 9.4 No significant archaeological remains were recorded during the evaluation.

9 Recommendations

- 10.1 Due to the lack of significant archaeological remains on site, it is recommended that no further work is required. The final decision rests with Diane Abrams, Archaeology Advisor to LB Richmond-Upon-Thames.

11 Publication

- 11.1 Due to the nature of the project, initial publication is expected to be limited to a summary in the London Archaeologist Round-up and publication via the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) (Appendix B).

12 Archive deposition

- 12.1 On completion of the project, the archive, consisting of paper records, drawings, and digital photographs, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Resource Centre.

13 Bibliography

- AOC Archaeology (2011). *Church Road, Barnes, London Borough of Richmond-Upon-Thames: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*
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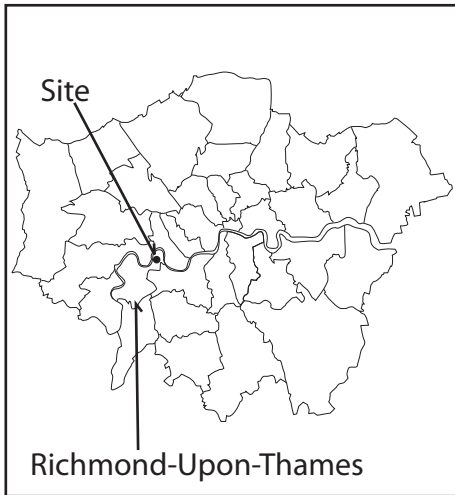
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OLYMPIC CINEMA SITE, 117, CHURCH ROAD, BARNES, LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND-UPON-THAMES:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

Site Location Within London



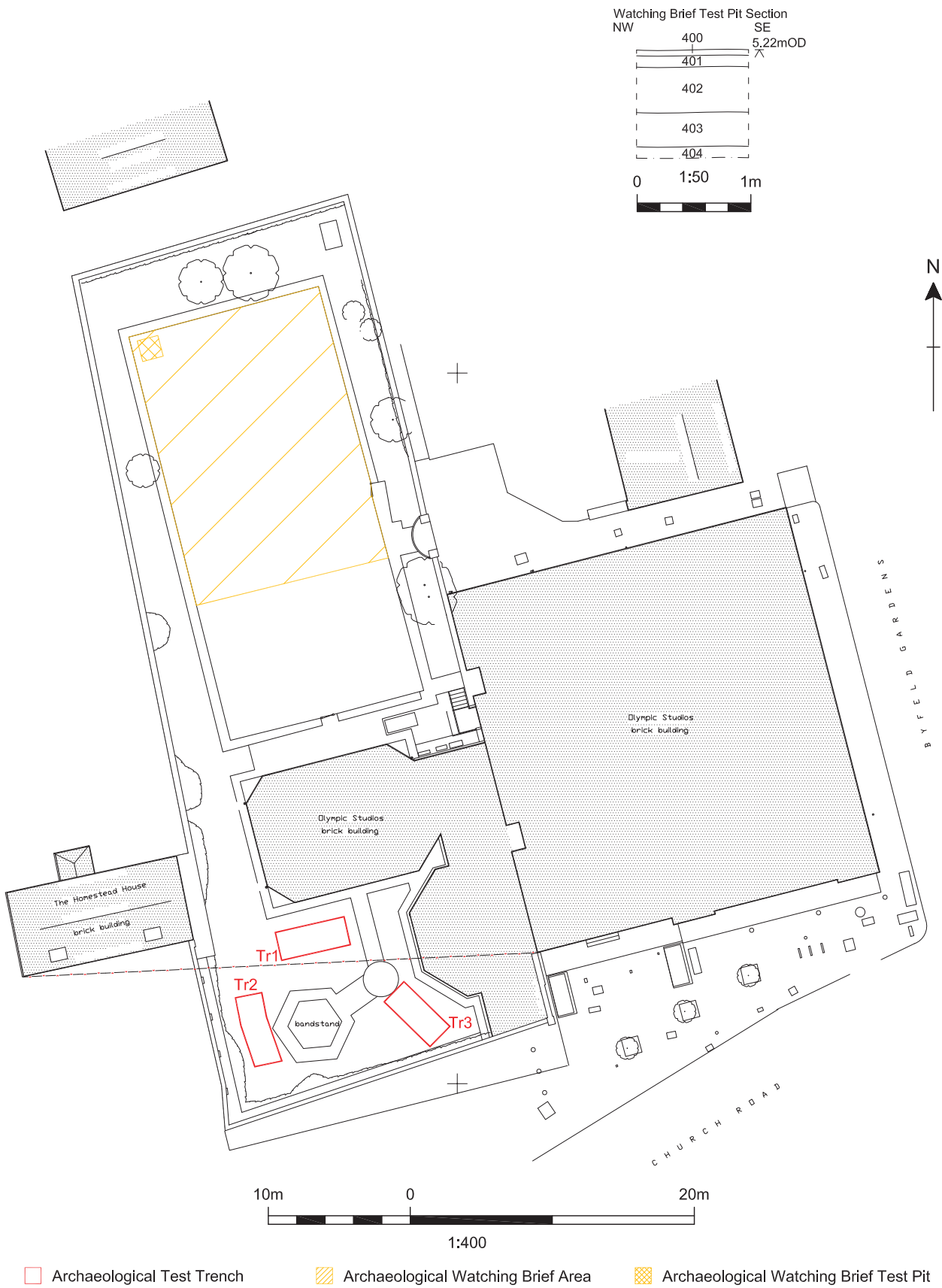
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1:50 000

Figure 1: Site Location

OLYMPIC CINEMA SITE, 117, CHURCH ROAD, BARNES, LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND-UPON-THAMES:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION REPORT



- Archaeological Test Trench
- Archaeological Watching Brief Area
- Archaeological Watching Brief Test Pit

Based on the Plan Produced by CPB Surveys

Figure 2: Detailed Site / Watching Brief Location Plan

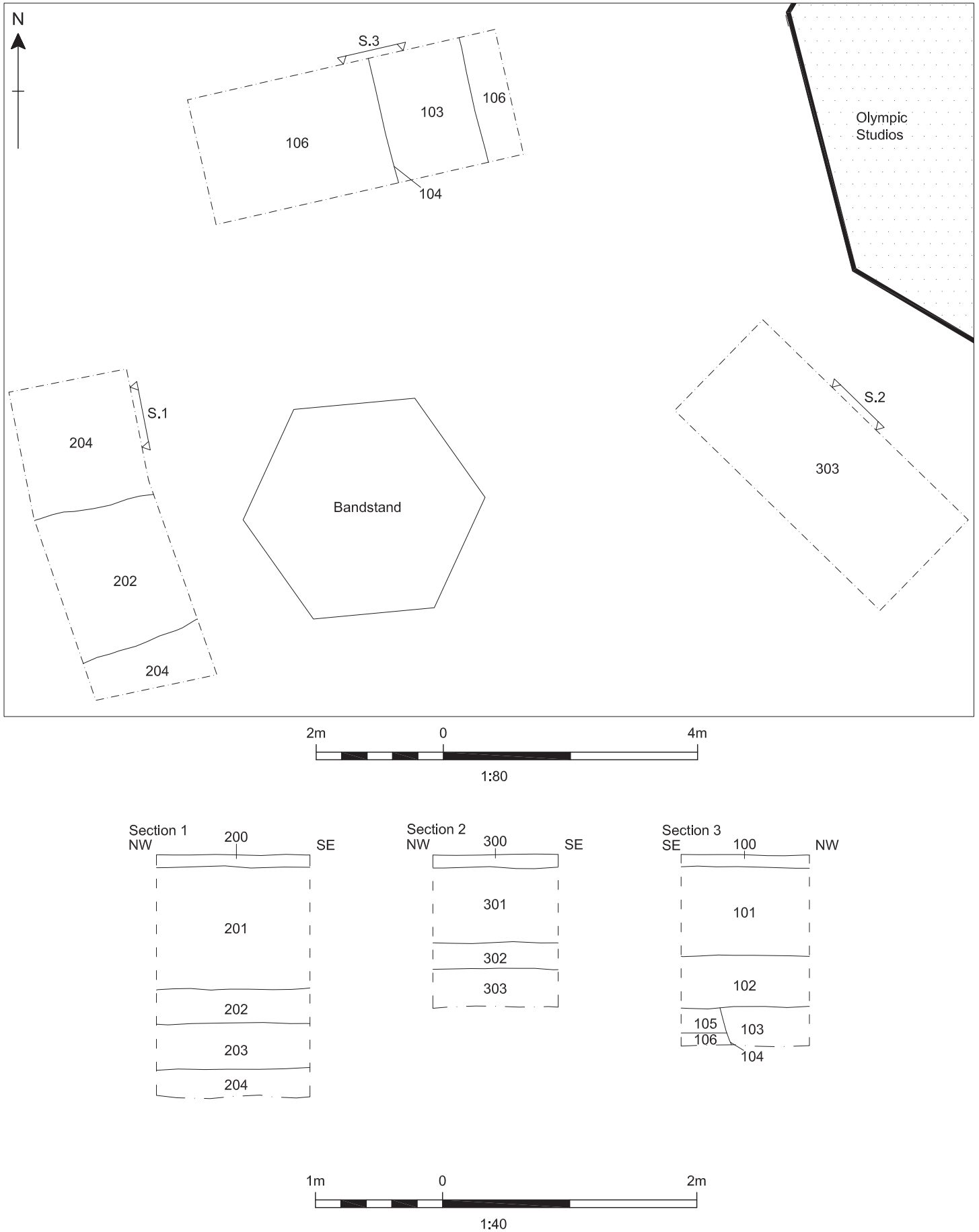


Figure 3: Trench Plans (1:80) and Sample Sections (1:40)

Appendices

Appendix A- Context Register

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth
100	Topsoil	5.00m	2.00m	0.10m
101	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.70m
102	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.40m
103	Pit fill	2.00m	1.75m	NFE
104	Pit cut	2.00m	1.75m	NFE
105	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.20m
106	Natural	5.00m	2.00m	0.10m
200	Topsoil	5.00m	2.00m	0.10m
201	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.95m
202	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.27m
203	Made ground	5.00m	2.00m	0.38m
204	Natural	5.00m	2.00m	0.20m
300	Topsoil	4.50m	2.00m	0.10m
301	Made ground	4.50m	2.00m	0.60m
302	Made ground	4.50m	2.00m	0.20m
303	Natural	4.50m	2.00m	0.30m
400	Asphalt Surface	20.00m	12.00m	0.05m
401	Bedding Layer	20.00m	12.00m	0.10m
402	Topsoil	20.00m	12.00m	0.40m
403	Subsoil	1.50m	1.50m	0.30m
404	Natural	1.50m	1.50m	0.10m +

Appendix B - Finds Assessment

An assessment of finds from archaeological works at the former Olympic recording studios, Barnes

Site code: OLP12

Paul Fitz
AOC Archaeology

Summary

A small, predominately ceramic assemblage from a rubbish pit fill (**103**) was recovered during evaluation works. Although small in size the pottery has good quality eighteenth - nineteenth century table wares with little abrasion, suggesting they originated from Byfield House, which once stood on the site.

All finds are summarised below with suggested spot dates. <>

Pottery

Nine ceramic vessel pieces, weighing 560 grams were retrieved from this context, one being complete.

Complete pale blue tin glazed drug jar (151 grams). Minor chipping around rim, but of good preservation overall. 54mm in height, 64mm base diameter and 69mm diameter of slight lipped rim.

If this is a London factory production then it will date to 1570-1846.

A black basalt ware handle (21 g). Probably from a small jug or vase <1770-1900>.

Blue & white transfer printed (Chinese landscape pattern) small, quality china shallow dish (100 g) with the potters mark on base ('S†') in red. <1770-1900>.

Transfer printed pearlware plate sherd (15g) (blue and white Chinese landscape pattern) <1770-1850>.

Blue & white transfer print (floral) cup sherd (26g) <1780-1900>.

Small blue & white transfer print cup sherd (11g) with handle trace <1780-1900>.

Large (192g) bulbous body part of London (Fulham?), brown salt glazed stoneware bottle <1700-1900>.

Cream ware plate rim (23g) fragment with feathered effect. <1740-1880>.

Cream ware plate rim (21g) with brown and yellow transfer printed rim decoration <1780-1880>.

Glass

A complete green wine bottle, (714 grams). It is 279 mm (11 inches) in height with an 86mm slight flared base diameter. It has a deep pontil (punt) with the scar being smoothed. Its weight and its form is suggestive of a 1770 -1800 date.

Discussion/Recommendations

The finds assemblage is small in size and has little significance on a local or national level. However, the good preservation of the pottery would suggest the sherds had not travelled far from their original destruction site, presumably the now demolished Byfield house, to the rubbish pit fill around 1770-1800. The complete, small tin glazed drug jar is a bonus find considering that little flaking of the glaze has occurred. It may be worth registering.

Material for illustration

None

Analysis of potential

The ceramic provides spot dating evidence for the features in which they occur.

Significance of the data

International and national

The assemblage is not of international or national significance.

Regional and local

The assemblage is of limited regional / local significance.

Further work required

To mark, bag and catalogue to Museum of London/LAARC guidelines

Preparation for deposition in the archive and conservation

Register the small tin glazed jar

References

Museum of London glass vessel catalogue (online)

Museum of London Specialist Services pottery codes

Appendix C - OASIS Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-128200

Project details

Project name Olympic Cinema Site

A level 2 Historic Building Recording of a boundary wall, was conducted on the 3rd July 2012 on behalf of Barnes Cinema Limited. The investigations concluded that the earliest part of the wall appears to be the lower sections of the eastern wall. The size of the bricks is typically late 17th century and would be consistent with the wall being built in association with Byfeld House. A short section of this wall with angled stretchers may reflect the original form of the whole eastern wall. The use of lime mortar also proves its historic date. The western wall is likely to be slightly later, constructed in association with 'The Homestead'. This wall is characterised by buttresses every 2.2m (7'3)

Short description of the project The evaluation comprised of three trenches. All trenches contained a series of made ground deposits overlying the natural horizon. A single large pit was record cutting into a lower made ground deposit. The pit contained pottery and glass bottles dated to 1750 - 1780. The natural deposits were recorded in all trenches as orange brown sandy clay and gravel. A watching brief was carried out on the removal of a tennis court surface in the north of the site; an undisturbed sequence of subsoil and topsoil overlay the natural gravels; the topsoil was overlain by the formation layer of the tennis court and the asphalt court surface. Due to the lack of significant archaeological remains and the probable truncation of deposits on site, no further archaeological work is recommended.

Project dates Start: 03-07-2012 End: 24-07-2012

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference 30918 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Any associated project reference 32194 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Any associated project reference OLP 12 - Sitecode codes

Type of project Recording project

Site status Listed Building

Current Land use Other 14 - Recreational usage

Monument type WALL Post Medieval

Monument type PIT Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds GLASS BOTTLE Post Medieval

Investigation type "Part Excavation", "Watching Brief"

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES BARNES 117 Church Road

Postcode SW13 9HL

Study area 1944.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 5222 1766 50 0 50 56 15 N 000 10 00 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 3.79m Max: 4.60m

Project creators

Name of
Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project brief
originator EH GLAAS

Project design originator AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Paul Mason

Project supervisor Les Capon

Project supervisor Catherine Edwards

Project supervisor Ian Hogg

Type of sponsor/funding developer body

Name of sponsor/funding body Barnes Cinema Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC

Physical Archive ID OLP12

Physical Contents "Ceramics","Glass"

Physical Archive notes complete tin glazed small drug jar, chinaware+ pottery and complete wine bottle from c 1770-1800

Digital Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Archive ID OLP12

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","Survey"

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"

available

Digital notes Archive digital photos and archive required tables, registers, text and final reports

Paper recipient Archive LAARC

Paper Archive ID OLP12

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic", "Survey"

Paper available Media "Context sheet", "Microfilm", "Photograph", "Plan", "Section", "Unpublished Text"

Paper notes Archive HBR and fieldwork archive

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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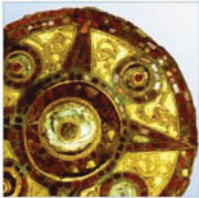
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