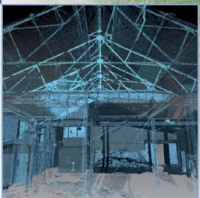
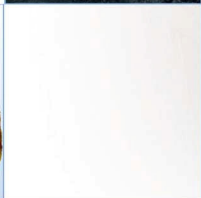
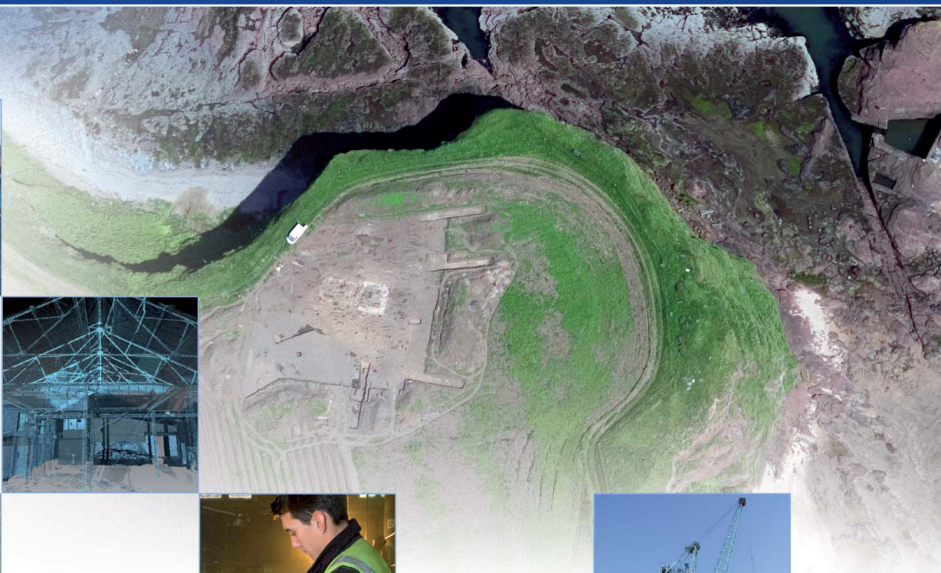
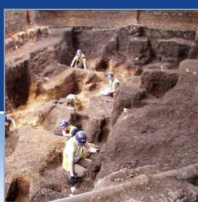


Harper Road, (Symington House), London Borough of Southwark Archaeological Evaluation Report

Planning Application Number: Pre Application
National Grid Reference Number: TQ 3252 7920
Site Code: HPZ10
AOC Project No: 30683
Date: June 2010



Harper Road, Symington House, London Borough of Southwark

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of: RPS
1st Floor West
Cottons Centre
Cottons Lane
London
SE1 2QG

And: Family Mosaic

National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 3252 7920

AOC Project No: 30683

Prepared by: Catherine Edwards

Illustration by: Jonathan Moller

Date of Report: June 2010

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

Author: Catherine Edwards **Date:** June 2010
Approved by: Melissa Melikian **Date:** June 2010
Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft **Date:** June 2010

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Unit 7
St Margarets Business Centre
Moor Mead Road
Twickenham
TW1 1JS

Tel. 020 8843 7380
Fax. 020 8892 0549
e-mail. london@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

Contents

	Page
1 Introduction.....	1
2 Planning Background	1
3. Geology and Topography	1
4. Archaeological and Historical Background	2
5. Aims of the Investigation	2
6. Methodology	3
7. Results	4
8 Finds.....	12
9 Discussion	13
10 Publication	14
11 Archive deposition	14
12 Recommendations	14
13 Bibliography.....	14
Appendix A – Context Register.....	17
Appendix B – Oasis Form.....	21
Appendix C – Specialist Report	25

List of illustrations

- Figure 1 – Site Location
- Figure 2 – Detailed Site/Trench Location Plan
- Figure 3 – Trench 1
- Figure 4 – Trench 2
- Figure 5 – Trench 3
- Figure 6 – Trench 4
- Figure 7 – Trench 5 and 7
- Figure 8 – Trench 6

Non-Technical Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between the 1st and 8th June 2010 at the site of Symington House, Harper Road, London Borough of Southwark. The work was undertaken on behalf of RPS and Family Mosaic. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of development on any surviving archaeological remains.

The evaluation comprised seven machine excavated trenches measuring between 8m x 2m at base and 2m x 2m at base. Three trenches contained Roman remains identified as linear ditches, pits and three graves. The Roman features were overlaid by a thick layer of buried soil, possibly a garden soil into which were cut several post-medieval features which included a wall and a series of wells/soakaways.

It is worth noting that no significant archaeological features were recorded in Trenches 5 and 3 which were located on the underlying sands.

The natural deposits were encountered at 0.43-1.71mOD, the Roman burials at 1.43-1.46mOD, the Roman features at 0.92-1.46mOD, the post-medieval buried soil at 1.13-2.16mOD, the post-medieval features at 1.58-2.13mOD and the current ground surface was at 2.77-2.91mOD.

Overall, there is potential for further Roman remains on the development site. Such remains could be viewed as locally significant due to their potential to inform on the Roman activity in the local area.

Outline discussions regarding the approach to the archaeological remains on the site have been initiated with the Senior Archaeology Officer to the London Borough of Southwark. These will continue throughout the planning process and the archaeological requirements are likely to be secured through an archaeological planning condition on any planning consent.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document details the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken at the proposed development at Harper Road, (Symington House), London Borough of Southwark (Figure 1). The investigation took place from 1st to 8th June 2010 and comprised of the excavation of seven archaeological trenches. All works were undertaken by a team of professional archaeologists.
- 1.2 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 3252 7920. The application site is roughly square (0.49ha in area) and is currently occupied by a vacant two storey block of flats in the centre which is surrounded by grassed amenity areas and a tarmac car park (Figure 2). The development proposals consist of the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a new residential (affordable housing) development of between 3 and 7 storeys.

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The application site is located within the Borough/Bermondsey/Riverside Archaeological Priority Zone (APZ) as defined in the Southwark Plan (2007) and Supplementary Planning Guidance for Archaeology (2002).
- 2.2 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Southwark. Archaeological advice to the local planning authority is provided by Dr Chris Constable, Senior Archaeological Officer to the London Borough of Southwark.
- 2.3 The archaeological evaluation was carried out at the pre-application stage as part of a pre-determination fieldwork requested by Southwark's Senior Archaeology Officer. No brief was provided for this phase of works.
- 2.4 The archaeological evaluation follows an earlier stage of work which involved the production of a desk-based assessment (RPS 2010a). Further to the results of the desk-based assessment a stage of evaluation was requested pre-determination to inform on a suitable mitigation strategy. The works were carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) (RPS 2010b). The WSI was approved by the Southwark's Senior Archaeology Officer prior to the commencement of works.
- 2.5 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation.

3. Geology and Topography

- 3.1 Indications from the British Geological Survey (1998) Solid and Drift Edition, Sheet 270 show the site to be located on the Kempton Park Gravel (River Terrace deposits). The gravels overlie London Clay in this area. The site is thought to lie to the south of the channels which crossed Southwark in prehistory and the Roman period. Peat has been found on sites to the south in a depression known as the Rockingham Anomaly.
- 3.2 The site is generally flat, with the surface lying at about 2.80m AOD and 3.00m AOD. No evidence of the Kempton Gravels was recorded on site. Excavations at sites such as Geoffrey Chaucer School and Trinity Street, immediately south of the application site, had recorded gravels at 1.23m-1.33m AOD and 1.30m - 1.75m AOD respectively (MoLAS 2006a, Killock 2007).

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The archaeological background to the site has been provided in detail in an archaeological desk-based assessment (RPS 2010a) and is summarised below.
- 4.2 Pottery and worked flints dating as far back as the Mesolithic period have been found in North Southwark, including four struck flints at Ralph Street, but there is little evidence for prehistoric settlement nearby.
- 4.3 The site lay in low-lying land between the major roads of Watling Street and Stane Street during the Roman period (Perring & Brigham 2000). This area was to the south of the main Roman settlement in Southwark, the southern extent of which is thought to be around St George's Church. Some evidence for settlement was found at Trinity Street, where pits and postholes as well as a trench-built structure were recorded (Killock 2007). Evidence for agriculture was found at Ralph Street and Old Kent Road.
- 4.4 The main potential for Roman activity on the site is for burial activity. Over 20 cremations were excavated to the west of the site around Deverall Street in the 1830's, recorded as being located around 6ft (1.8m) below the ground surface (MoLAS 2006). More recently, approximately 40 burials were excavated from an extensive cemetery during mitigation works at the Trinity Street site (Chris Constable *pers comm.*), while at 165 Great Dover Street 25 inhumations, five cremations and a possible mausoleum structure were recorded (MacKinder 2000). Directly south of the application site at the Globe Academy (formerly Geoffrey Chaucer School), a single, heavily damaged, Roman cremation urn was found on a baulk between two later post-medieval graves. A Roman ditch was also recorded on the site. Other examples of Roman burials in the area include two inhumations at Ralph Street and a further two at 52-58 Great Dover Street, while grave goods have been recovered from Harper Road/Brockham Street and Old Kent Road.
- 4.5 The site is likely to have lain in open fields during the Saxon and medieval periods, and as such there is limited potential for archaeological remains dating from these periods.
- 4.6 A farmhouse can be seen lying on the northern edge of the Site on Rocque's map of 1746, but the majority of the site lay in open fields until the 19th century when terraced housing was constructed. The present structure and a small library in the southeast corner of the Site were built in the mid-20th century.
- 4.7 Possible truncation of potential remains may have been caused by the 19th century housing, the current structures and the small library in the southeast corner (now demolished).

5. Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1 The general aim of the evaluation was to establish the character, date and function of any archaeological features within areas of development and to establish the need for a programme (or otherwise) of archaeological mitigation.
- 5.2 Specific research aims for the evaluation were as follows;
- Are there any Roman burials/cremations on the site, and if so are they isolated burials or part of a cemetery?
 - Is there any evidence for Roman settlement activity?

- What evidence, if any, is there for the post-medieval building seen in the northwest corner of the site on Rocque's map of 1746?

6. Methodology

- 6.1 The evaluation consisted of archaeological trial trenching (archaeological evaluation). The evaluation involved the machine excavation of seven trenches, excavated under archaeological supervision.
- 6.2 The trenches were located as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation, (RPS 2010). One trench (Trench 6) was shortened from 10m in length to 7m due to its proximity to a large tree and retaining the machine access to the site.
- 6.3 All machining was carried out using a JCB 3CX with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of the archaeological Project Officer.
- 6.4 The accession code HPZ10 was obtained from the Museum of London 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 established on site by the fieldwork team having moved the level from a BM on Bramwell House, opposite the site. The value of the BM was 2.78mOD whilst the TBM on site was valued at 2.82mOD.
- 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): 2-4, *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork* (English Heritage 2009)
 - IfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008).
- 6.8 A continuous unique numbering system was employed. For each 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 (Figure 3)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
101	0.15m	2.91 – 2.76	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.
102	0.20m	2.76 – 2.56	Grey brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Made ground.
103	0.40m	2.56 – 2.16	Grey brown sandy silt with occasional brick and tile. Made ground.
109	0.55m	2.16 – 1.61	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.
116	0.12m	1.61 – 1.49	Mottled dark yellow brown sandy clay. Subsoil.
117	0.12m	1.49 –+	Yellow brown sandy clay. Natural.

- 7.1 Trench 1 measured 8m x 2m at base, 10m x 4m at the top and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast.
- 7.2 The earliest deposit in Trench 1 was (117), a yellow brown sandy clay recorded at a height of 1.49mOD interpreted as the natural deposit. This was overlaid by a discrete possible subsoil or variation in the natural (116), recorded as a 0.12m thick layer of mottled dark yellow brown sandy clay. Layer (116) was only observed and recorded in patches within the trench. Cutting into (116) was linear feature [115] which ran roughly north-south and measured 3.00m x 0.90m x 0.45m deep. The ditch ran into the northwestern and southern baulk and would have continued onwards in both directions. The linear, recorded at a height of 0.92mOD, was filled by (114) a firm mid grey brown silty sand with inclusions of small angular flints. Pottery sherds recovered include a fragment of amphora identified as GAUL1 fabric which dates to AD50-250. Other finds included Roman brick and tile, residual flint flakes, animal bone, a possible nail and a metal fragment. Located within the cut of the linear feature were two small rounded postholes [121] and [119], each measuring 0.10m in diameter. The postholes were located approximately 0.70m apart and were filled with (118) and (120), a mid grey brown silty sand. These were only observed once the fill of linear ditch [115] was removed.
- 7.3 Overlying [115] was layer (109), a 0.55m thick deposit of dark brown clay sandy silt. The layer, which was universal across the trench, has been interpreted as a buried soil, possibly a previous garden soil horizon. This was recorded at 2.16mOD.
- 7.4 Cutting into (109) was [111], a semi circular feature (half of a probable circular feature) measuring 3.20m x 1.60m x 0.85m deep at an upper height of 1.85mOD. The probable pit was filled by (110), a loose grey brown sandy silt with occasional ceramic building material (CBM), animal bone (cow, sheep and deer) and flint and a lower fill (122) of mid brown yellow silty clay with occasional stones and CBM fragments. Datable finds recovered from the pit included pottery dating to 1790-1830 and glass fragments dating to 1850-1930. Located within the eastern baulk of the trench was [113], a small circular feature measuring 0.30m x 0.30m x 0.30m deep recorded at a height of 1.34mOD. The feature was filled by (112), a dark brown clay silty sand with occasional charcoal and building

materials. No datable finds were recovered from the feature however the a post-medieval or modern date is suggested by the stratigraphic location of the pit.

- 7.5 A brick-lined soakaway or well [108] was located within the north-west of the trench. The cut was vertically edged with a flat base and was lined with red bricks (107) forming a one course wide wall. In between the cut edge and the brick lining was (123), a 0.10m wide deposit of mid brown sandy silt which has been interpreted as backfill and packing. The structure measured 1.30m in diameter and 0.81m deep. The feature was backfilled with (106), a loose grey brown sandy silt with inclusions of flint, CBM, pottery and fragments of ceramic tobacco pipes. These have been dated to 1840-1910.
- 7.6 A modern post-hole [125] was recorded cutting into [111]. The posthole, which measured 0.10m in diameter x 0.25m deep, was filled by (124), a dark brown sandy clay silt. It is thought that this posthole is modern in origin.
- 7.7 Overlying the above were two layers of made ground deposit (103) and (102), composed of grey brown sandy silt with very frequent inclusions of brick, tile and glass. Cutting into these was a 19th brick constructed manhole [104] and associated ceramic pipe [105]. These are likely to relate to the 19th century housing which had previously occupied the site.
- 7.8 The trench was overlaid by (101), a 0.15m thick deposit of topsoil recorded at a height of 2.91mOD.

Trench 2 (Figure 4)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
201	0.19m	2.88 – 2.69	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.
202	0.34m	2.69 – 2.35	Light and dark brown gravel with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Made ground
203	0.35m	2.35 – 2.00	Grey brown sandy silt with occasional brick and tile. Made ground.
204	0.55m	2.00 – 1.45	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Buried soil.
215	NFE	1.45+	Light yellow brown sandy clay. Natural

- 7.9 Trench 2 measured 8m x 2m at base, 10m x 4m at the top and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast.
- 7.10 The earliest deposit in Trench 2 was (215), a yellow brown sandy clay recorded at a height of 1.45mOD which was interpreted as the natural deposit. Cutting into (215) was linear feature [206] which ran roughly east-west and measured 1.80m x 0.94m x 0.32m deep. The linear was filled by (205) a firm mid grey brown silty sand with inclusions of small angular flints, cow and horse bone and sherds of Roman pottery dated to 50-400AD. The ditch was recorded at a height of 1.46mOD.
- 7.11 To the north of [206] were three features [210], [212] and [214], which have been identified as graves. The latter grave was investigated revealing fragments of a pelvis and articulated legs. Following the confirmation of articulated human remains the grave was backfilled. The grave cut

[214], was aligned roughly north-south and measured approximately 2.20m x 0.60m at a height of 1.43mOD. The grave was filled by (213), a grey brown silty clay. Directly east of [214] was [212] a north south aligned feature which has been identified as a grave. Bone fragments were observed in the fill but no articulated remains were identified in the investigation. It may be possible that the grave itself has been disturbed. The remains identified in [214] were very close to the surface which might suggest that any remains in [212] may have been significantly disturbed. A fragment of pottery was recovered from (211) which has been identified as a Roman flagon or amphora and dates to 50-160AD and may have been part of a vessel interned within the grave. The grave was filled with an identical fill to [214], a grey brown silty clay, (211). The grave was recorded at a height of 1.43mOD.

- 7.12 Feature [210] was recorded adjacent to [212]. The rectangular shaped feature measured 1.20m x 0.92m x 0.25m deep and was filled by (209), a grey brown silty clay with inclusions of bone fragments and pottery. Human remains, including a skull, three ribs and a finger bone were identified within the fill within the baulk of the trench at an upper height of 146mOD. The remains were not articulated although they were clearly located within the cut. This suggests further disturbance of the graves.
- 7.13 Overlying the Roman graves was a 0.55m deep deposit of buried soil (204) recorded as a dark brown sandy clay silt. The deposit which contained few inclusions is likely to be a garden or agricultural soil possibly relating to a previous phase of back gardens or allotments. This was recorded at a upper height of 2.00mOD.
- 7.14 Cutting into (204) was a later post-medieval feature [208]. The semi-circular feature (half of a probable circular feature) measured 1.70m x 0.57m. The pit was filled with (207), a very dark brown silty clay with patches of grey and ash with inclusions of chalk, brick and tile fragments.
- 7.15 Overlying the trench were two layers of compacted modern made ground (203) and (202) which contained fragments of brick, tile and glass. These deposits may either be an attempt to landscape the ground and create a solid horizon for construction or the deposits are the remains of the local demolition of properties following their partial destruction during the war. This deposit in turn was overlaid by (201) a 0.19m thin layer of topsoil and grass.

Trench 3 (Figure 5)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description
301	0.20m	2.88 – 2.68	Dark brown sandy silt. Topsoil.
302	0.42m	2.68 – 2.26	Grey brown sandy clay with inclusions of brick, tile, mortar and slate. Made ground.
303	0.10m	2.26 – 2.16	Very dark brown sandy clay silt. Buried Soil.
304	0.36m	2.16 – 1.80	Grey brown sandy silt with inclusions of brick, tile and slate. Made ground.
308	0.70m	1.80 – 1.10	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Buried Soil.
313	0.18m	1.10 – 0.92	Dark mottled yellow grey brown silty sand. Natural.
309	0.15m	0.92m+	Yellow brown sandy clay. Natural.
310	0.25m	0.92m+	Lenses of pale grey sand, yellow grey silt clay and brown yellow sand. Natural.

- 7.16 Trench 3 measured 8m x 2m at base, 10m x 4m at the top and was aligned roughly northeast-southwest.
- 7.17 The earliest deposit in Trench 3 was (310), a deposit of pale grey sand mixed with patches of yellow brown sandy clay and yellow grey silt clay recorded at a height of 0.92mOD. This was directly overlaid by (309) and (313), 0.15m and 0.18m thick deposits of yellow brown sandy clay and yellow and brown silty sand, interpreted as a naturally laid deposits.
- 7.18 Cutting into (313) was small circular pit [312], which measured 0.54m in diameter and 0.20m deep. The pit was filled by (311), a grey brown sandy clay silt with no inclusions. The feature has been interpreted as a garden feature, possible a planting pit. Pit [312] is associated with overlying deposit (308), a 0.70m thick deposit of dark brown clay silt with inclusions of brick, tile, pottery (1800-1870) and charcoal. This is representative of the thick agricultural or garden soil observed in the previous trenches. This layer was recorded at a height of 1.80mOD.
- 7.19 Cutting into (308) was [307], a circular brick-lined soakaway/well which measured 1.04m in diameter and 0.57m deep at a height of 1.81mOD. The lining of the structure (306) was formed with red half bricks measuring 105mm x 060mm with no bonding material. The upper courses of the structure had been removed by later horizontal truncation. The structure was backfilled with (305), a loose sandy silt with inclusions of brick and slate, sheep or goat bone and a drop pendant from a chandelier. Datable finds include fragments of pottery dated to 1810-1850 and clay tobacco pipe fragments dating to 1800-1900.
- 7.20 Overlying the trench was a series of made ground and buried soil deposits, (304), (303), and (302). The lowest, (304), measuring 0.36m thick, was composed of grey brown sandy silt with inclusions of brick, tile and slate. This was overlaid by a (303), a 0.10m thick deposit of very dark brown sandy clay silt, interpreted as redeposited soil and (302), a 0.42m thick deposit of grey brown sandy clay with inclusions of brick, tile, mortar and slate.

- 7.21 The trench was covered with (301) a 0.20m thick deposit of topsoil and grass recorded at a height of 2.88mOD.

Trench 4 (Figure 6)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description
401	0.12m	2.77-2.65	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.
402	0.90m	2.65-1.75	Grey brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Made ground
404	0.50m	1.75-1.25	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.
405	0.25m	1.25+	Yellow brown sandy silty clay. Natural.

- 7.22 Trench 4 measured 8m x 2m at base, 10m x 4m at the top and was aligned roughly east-west.
- 7.23 The earliest deposit in Trench 4 was (405), a yellow brown sandy silty clay recorded at a height of 2.77mOD interpreted as the natural deposit. Cutting into (405) at a height of 1.23mOD were two features [408] and [410] which have been dated to the Roman period. Sub-circular pit [408], measured 1.30m x 0.95m x 0.50m whilst [410] measured 1.20m x 1.30m x 0.15m. Both pits contained a dark grey brown sandy silt, (406) and (409), with pit [408] also containing a second fill of a dark brown grey sandy silt (407). The function of the pits remains unclear. Only two sherds of pottery were recovered from pit [408], these were dated to 50-140AD and 150-400AD. Other finds included four fragments of Roman brick, tile and one fragment of pig bone. No finds were recovered from pit [410]. The lack of many inclusions or organic residues suggests that they were not utilised as waste pits and they appear too small for quarrying.
- 7.24 Overlying these features was (404), a 0.50m thick deposit of dark brown clay sandy silt which has been interpreted as a buried soil horizon. Cutting into (404), was [403], a circular brick lined well/soakaway measuring 1.22m in diameter. The well was formed with red bricks and was backfilled with dark brown gritty clay silt with inclusions of 1800-1900 dated pottery sherds, tile, animal bone, a shell and slate. The well/soakaway is likely to relate to the previous 19th century structures associated with the site.
- 7.25 Overlying [403] and (404) was (402), a 0.90m thick deposit of compacted and very hard made ground composed of grey brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Cutting into (402) was [411] a yellow brick lined manhole or inspection chamber relating to modern drainage.
- 7.26 The trench was overlaid by (401), a 0.12m thick deposit of topsoil and grass recorded at a height of 2.77mOD.

Trench 5 (Figure 7)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description
501	0.27m	2.90-2.63	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil
502	1.50m	2.63-1.13	Dark grey brown and light brown clay silt with inclusions of brick and tile. Made ground.
503	0.70m	1.13-0.43	Mid brown clay silty sand. Buried soil.
504	0.17m	0.43+	Very dark brown black clay sand. Natural
505	NFE	0.43+	Light yellow and white natural sand. Natural.

- 7.27 Trench 5 measured 2m x 2m at base and 4m x 4m at the top.
- 7.28 The earliest deposit in Trench 5 was (505), a light yellow and white sand recorded at a height of 0.43mOD which is interpreted as the natural deposit. Overlying (505) was (504) a 0.17m thick deposit of very dark brown black clay sand which has been interpreted as a variation in the naturally lain deposits.
- 7.29 Overlying the natural deposits was (503) a 0.70m thick deposit of mid brown clay sandy silt with inclusions of occasional flint. This buried soil horizon was recorded at a height of 1.13mOD. This was overlain by (502), a 1.50m thick deposit of dark grey brown and light brown clay silt with inclusions of brick and tile. This has been interpreted as a layer of made ground.
- 7.30 The trench was overlaid by (501), a 0.27m thick deposit of topsoil and grass recorded at a height of 2.90mOD.
- 7.31 No archaeological remains or finds were recorded in Trench 5.

Trench 6 (Figure 8)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description
601	0.30m	2.85-2.55	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.
602	0.85m	2.55-1.70	Dark grey brown silty with a high frequency of brick, tile and glass. Madeground
605	0.60m	1.70-1.10	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.
606	NFE	1.10+	Orange yellow and light yellow silty clay and sand. Natural.

- 7.32 Trench 6 was excavated measured 5m x 2m at base, 7m x 3m at the top and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast.

- 7.33 The earliest deposit in Trench 6 was (606); orange yellow and light yellow silty clay and sand recorded at a height of 1.10mOD interpreted as a natural deposit. The natural was overlaid by (605), a 0.60m thick deposit of dark brown clay sandy silt interpreted as a buried soil horizon.
- 7.34 Cutting into (605) was a 0.70m thick post-medieval brick wall, [603], recorded at a height of 2.13mOD. The wall which measured 2.30m x 0.87m, was formed by red and yellow bricks on a concrete base. The bricks measured 220mm x 110mm x 60mm and were mortared with hard grey gritty sand. The wall is likely to relate to the 19th century structures that previously occupied the site.
- 7.35 Overlying [603] was (602), a 0.85m thick deposit of dark grey brown silty with a high frequency of brick, tile and glass. This has been interpreted as made ground. Cutting into (603) was [604], a modern red and yellow brick manhole measuring 1.05m x 0.85m x 1.20m and associated ceramic pipes.
- 7.36 The trench was overlaid by (601), a 0.27m thick deposit of topsoil and grass recorded at a height of 2.90mOD.
- 7.37 No significant archaeological remains or finds were recorded in Trench 6.

Trench 7 (Figure 7)

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description
701	0.07m	2.88-2.81	Tarmac.
702	0.40m	2.81-2.41	Dark grey brown silty with a high frequency of brick, tile and glass. Made ground
713	0.70m	2.41-1.71	Blackish brown sand and silt. Buried soil
718	NFE	1.71+	Mid yellow sandy clay

- 7.36 Trench 7 measured 2m x 2m at base and 4m x 4m at the top.
- 7.37 The earliest deposit in Trench 7 was (718), a mid yellow silty clay sand recorded at a height of 1.71mOD, interpreted as the natural deposit. Cutting into (718) was linear feature [717], which measured 2.00m x 2.10m x 0.40m. The linear was aligned roughly northeast-southwest and was filled by (716) a mid light greyish brown sandy silt with inclusions of charcoal flecks, natural stone and cow bone. The ditch was recorded at a height of 1.13mOD. Although there was no dating evidence recovered from the fill the feature has been interpreted as a Roman ditch as the fill is similar to the known Roman features recorded on site.
- 7.38 Overlying [717] was (713), a 0.70m thick deposit of dark brown clay and sandy silt. This has been interpreted as a layer of buried soil at a max height of 2.41mOD.
- 7.39 Cutting into (713) was [715] a sub-circular feature (half of a probable circular feature), which measured 0.75m x 0.10m x 0.30m, recorded at a upper height of 2.07mOD. The probably pit was

filled by (714), a dark grey sandy silt with inclusions of clay tobacco pipe (1700-1900). The pit dates to the post-medieval period and is likely to be domestic waste dumping.

- 7.40 Also cutting into (713) was [712], a large post-medieval pit measuring 1.70m x 0.60m. The sub-circular pit (half of a probable circular feature), was filled with (711) a soft blackish brown silty sand with inclusions of brick, tile and charcoal. The pit was partially removed by machine and was recorded at a minimum height of 1.13mOD.
- 7.41 Cutting into (713) was a brick constructed culvert [709] which ran roughly northeast-southwest and measured 1.50m x 0.55m. The structure was formed of unfrosted red bricks laid as stretchers. The culvert was circular in cross section. The cut for the culvert [710] was obscured in section and later activity. The culvert did contain a full clay tobacco pipe (1800-1900) and pig and sheep/goat bone.
- 7.42 Also cutting into (713) was [705], a brick lined well or soakaway measuring 1.15m in diameter. The full depth was not established. The brick lining (704), was formed of both red and yellow bricks measuring 200mm x 1000mm x 70mm. They were laid directly onto the cut and were mortared together with a grey sand. The backfill (703), was a loose dark black brown silty sand with inclusions of charcoal, tile, oyster shell, glass, deer bone, pottery (1810-1900) and clay tobacco pipe (1800-1900). One fragment of tobacco pipe was designed with Masonic symbols. The soakaway was recorded at a height of 1.61mOD.
- 7.43 Overlying the trench was (702), a 0.40m thick deposit of grey brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, tile, concrete and glass. This has been interpreted as made ground. Cutting into (702) was [707] a modern manhole formed of a yellow brick structure (706), measuring 0.80m deep. No other measurements were possible as only one corner of the structure was observed in section. The cut [707] was only partially visible due to its location within the section; however the cut was recorded as vertically sided.
- 7.44 The trench was overlaid by (701), a 0.07m thick deposit of tarmac, recorded at a height of 2.88mOD.

8 Finds

- 8.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered from site with the larger amount dating to the post-medieval period. The assemblage consists of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, Ceramic Brick Material, glass, jet bead, struck flint, animal bone and shell.
- 8.2 The Roman pottery consisted of 10 sherds which included examples of amphora from CADIZ and GAUL1 fabrics (407) and (114) and several conjoining sherds from a large flagon/amphora [212]. Other sherds included examples of Nene Valley colour-coated ware, a grey ware sherd (probably an Alice Holt product) and a highly abraded fine oxidised fabric which could be from a white-slipped fabric of North Kent origin. Although each sherd could be dated individually, (see Appendix C), the date range is quite general and does not indicate a specific period.
- 8.3 The post-Roman pottery assemblage is of post-medieval date; the vast majority falling into an early to mid 19th- century date range (perhaps between 1820 and 1860). The assemblage contained various wares which included examples of biscuit-fired tin-glazed ware (TGW BIS), redware (PMR), white salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG), transfer-printed pearlware (PEAR TR), English porcelain and English stoneware (ENGS). Vessels included a jar, plate, mug, plate, dish, bottle and bowl.
- 8.4 The building material dates to both the Roman and post-medieval period. The Roman fragments are thought to date to between AD50 and 160 and consisted of both brick and tile and CBM flakes. These were recovered from contexts (114) and (406 & 407). Residual fragments were also recovered from later contexts. The post-medieval fragments, again of brick and tile, date to 17th to 19th century date.
- 8.5 The glass fragments all date to the 19th to early 20th century and included fragments of a green glass wine/beer bottle neck (110), two wine glass fragments (112), a cylindrical clear glass phial fragment (112), a probable cut chandelier drop pendant (305) and an opaque white vase base (708).
- 8.6 A single fragment of a jet bead was recovered from (708), dated by the pottery to the first half of the 19th century. The bead, probably manufactured in Whitby, consists of a plain, lathe-turned, oval body.
- 8.7 Two pieces of struck flint were recovered from (114). The distal end of one incomplete secondary flake represents a debitage fragment. The second piece consists of a small secondary flake, which, although unretouched, displays signs of having been used and is therefore classified as an implement. The flint is residual.
- 8.8 The animal bone assemblage consists of fragments deriving from cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*), pig (*Sus*), horse (*Equus*) and deer (*Cervus*). Animal bone fragments were recovered from post-medieval contexts (110), (112), (703), (708), (305), and Roman contexts (114), (205), (407).
- 8.9 A single upper valve from an oyster was recovered from (406). The fragment shows some evidence of parasitic activity.
- 8.10 A total of 18 bowls or clay tobacco pipe fragments and 28 stem fragments were recovered. The majority of the clay tobacco pipes date to the latter half of the 19th century. One interesting pipe bowl, from 1820-40 is decorated with Masonic symbols (703). Fragments of pipe were recovered from contexts (106), (110), (112), (305), (308), (703), (708) and (714).
- 8.11 There are three iron objects and a possible other. One object appears to be a part of a tang and blade of a knife [312], two probable nails were recovered from (110 & 114) and one object which will require further work to identify was recovered (114).

9 Discussion

- 9.1 The evaluation identified the natural horizon on site as varying between a white and yellow sand and a light orangey yellow silty clay. The natural was recorded at a height of 0.43mOD (Trench 5) and 1.71mOD (Trench 7).
- 9.2 The archaeological features date to two distinct periods, Roman and post-medieval. It is worth noting that no significant archaeological features were recorded in Trenches 5 and 3 which were located on the underlying sands. This may suggest this area was inhospitable, (perhaps wet) during the Roman period. Three Roman ditches were recorded on site in Trenches 1, 2 and 7. These were recorded at an upper height of between 0.92-1.46mOD. The ditches were all aligned roughly east-west and northeast-southwest and measured approximately 0.32-0.45m deep. All three ditches were filled by the same grey brown sandy silt. No datable finds were recovered from the ditch in Trench 7 but this has been associated with the Roman period due to its similarity in fill with the other Roman features on site. The pottery from the ditches in Trenches 1 and 2 have a long date range and do not identify a specific time date within the Roman period. It is possible that the ditches in Trench 2 and 7 are the same ditch; however there is a substantial gap between the trenches so this cannot be proved at this stage.
- 9.3 Two Roman pits of unknown function were recorded in Trench 4 at a height of 1.05-1.23mOD. The finds indicate a date range of 50-140AD and 150-400AD for the two sherds recovered. The exact nature and function remain unknown. Due to the lack of finds within the fills and the small size of the pits both waste deposition and quarrying have been disregarded.
- 9.4 Three Roman graves were recorded within Trench 2 at heights of 1.43-1.46mOD. The graves appear to be aligned roughly north-south. Limited investigations of the graves established they contained articulated human remains, their alignment and recovered dating evidence if possible present. Two of the graves appeared to have been disturbed by later activity possibly relating to landscaping. Fragments of pottery have been identified as sherds of a flagon or Amphora and date to 50-160AD. The extent of the burial site was not established in the evaluation. The relationship between the linear ditch and the graves is also unclear. It is possible that the ditch acts as a boundary for a small cemetery. They may also be unrelated.
- 9.5 The thick deposit of buried soil was identified across the site, varying in height from 1.13mOD to 2.16mOD. This soil is thought to relate to a period of inactivity on site, possibly at a time when the area was utilised for agricultural purposes. Two pieces of pottery recovered date to 1800-1870 whilst the assemblage of clay tobacco pipe dates from 1700-1900.
- 9.6 Post-medieval remains on site include two pits within Trench 7, a wall in Trench 6 and a general spread of wells/soakaways across the site. The post-medieval archaeological remains varied in height between 1.58mOD and 2.13mOD across the site. These are all likely to relate to 19th century structures that would have occupied the site and the local area.
- 9.7 The archaeological evaluation fulfilled the aims of investigation in identifying both Roman and post-medieval archaeology on site. Roman burials were recorded on site and are likely to indicate the presence of a cemetery. The size of which however remains unclear. There is little evidence of Roman settlement on site, however Roman activity was present in the form of ditches and pits.

- 9.8 There was no evidence observed on site that relates to the post-medieval building as observed on the Rocque's of 1746. However post-medieval remains were recorded on site but are likely to relate to a later period of housing and settlement.

10 Publication

- 10.1 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).

11 Archive deposition

- 11.1 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.

12 Recommendations

- 12.1 Outline discussions regarding the approach to the archaeological remains on the site have been initiated with the Senior Archaeology Officer to the London Borough of Southwark. These will continue throughout the planning process and the archaeological requirements are likely to be secured through an archaeological planning condition on any planning consent.

13 Bibliography

British Geological Society, 1998, 1:50000 Solid and Drift sheet 265, North London

Department of the Environment 1990 Planning Policy Guidance 16, 1990 Archaeology and Planning.

English Heritage, 1991, Management of Archaeological Projects

English Heritage, 2009 Archaeological Guidance Paper 2: Standards and Practices for Written Schemes of Investigation. English Heritage London Region.

English Heritage, 2009, Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork. English Heritage London Region.

English Heritage, 2009, Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Reports. English Heritage London Region.

English Heritage, 2002, Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and Practice of Methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation.

English Heritage, 2009a Archaeological Guidance Paper 2: Standards and Practices for Written Schemes of Investigation (draft for consultation). English Heritage London Region.

English Heritage, 1998b, Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (draft for consultation). English Heritage London Region.

- English Heritage, 1998c, Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Reports (draft for consultation). English Heritage London Region.
- Institute for Archaeologists 2008 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations
Institute for Archaeologists 2009 Code of Conduct.
- Killock, D, 2007, An Archaeological Evaluation at 28-30 Trinity Street, London SE1 4JE, London Borough of Southwark PCA.
- Mackinder, A 2000, A Romano-British cemetery on Watling Street. Excavations at 165 Great Dover Street, Southwark, London. MoLAS Archaeology Studies Series 4.
- MoLAS 2006, Southwark 4 Academy, Harper Road, London, SE1. An Archaeological Watching Brief Report. MoLAS.
- Museum of London 2002 A research framework for London Archaeology
- Perring, D and Brigham, T 2000, 'Londinium and its Hinterland: The Roman Period' in Museum of London/English Heritage 2000, The archaeology of Greater London. An assessment of archaeological evidence for human presence in the area now covered by Greater London, 119-170.
- RPS 2009 Harper Road (Symington) (42P) A Archaeological Desk Based Assessment.
- RPS 2010 Harper Road (Symington) (42P) A Written Scheme of Investigation
- Southwark Borough Council 2002 Draft Southwark Archaeology Policy and Supplementary Guidance
- Southwark Borough Council 2007 The Southwark Plan
- .

HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT



Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:50 000 Landranger map of 1999
with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office,
© Crown Copyright. Licence No. AL 1000 16114



Figure 1: Site Location

HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT



Figure 2: Detailed Site/Trench Location Plan

HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

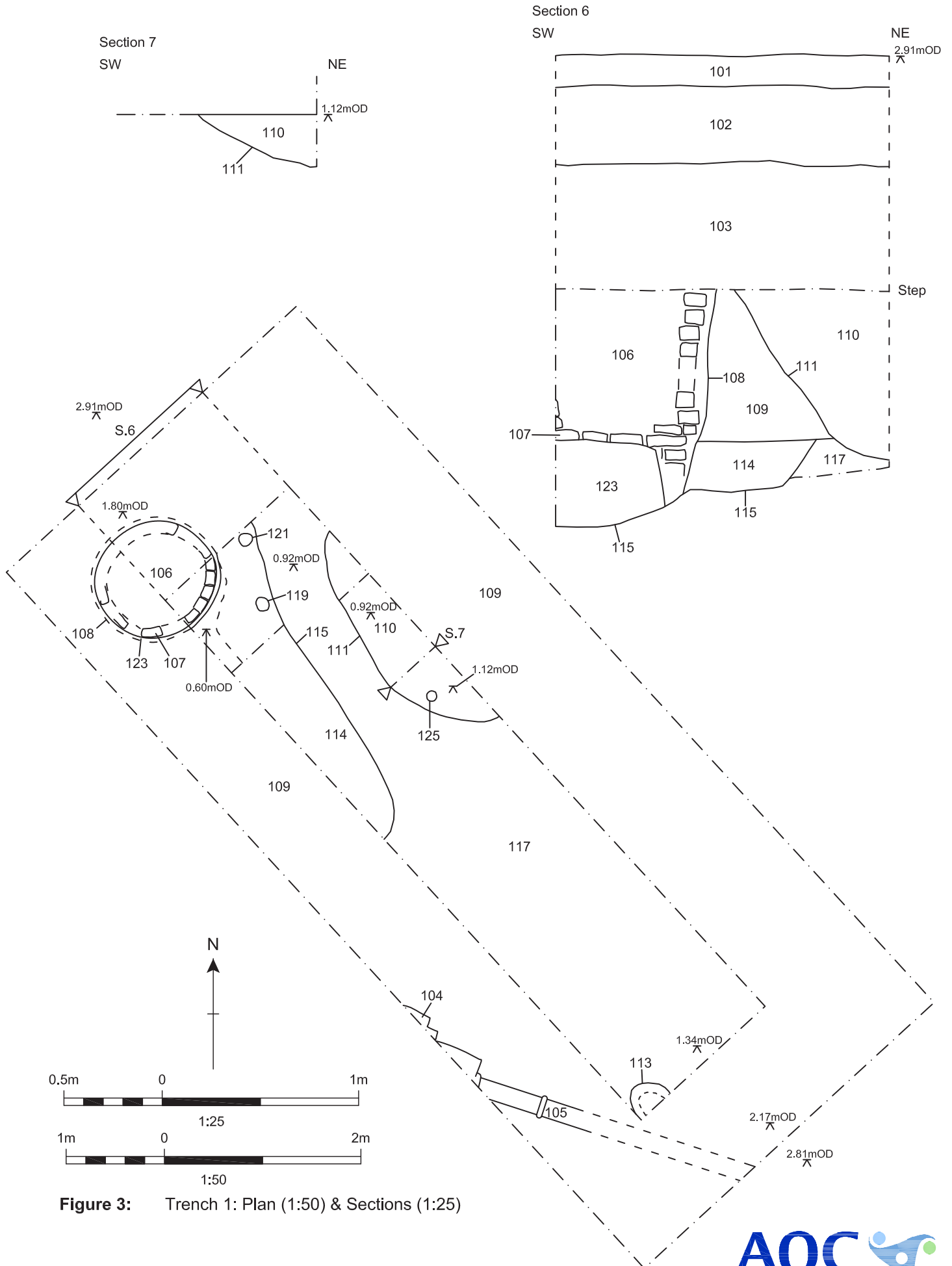


Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan (1:50) & Sections (1:25)

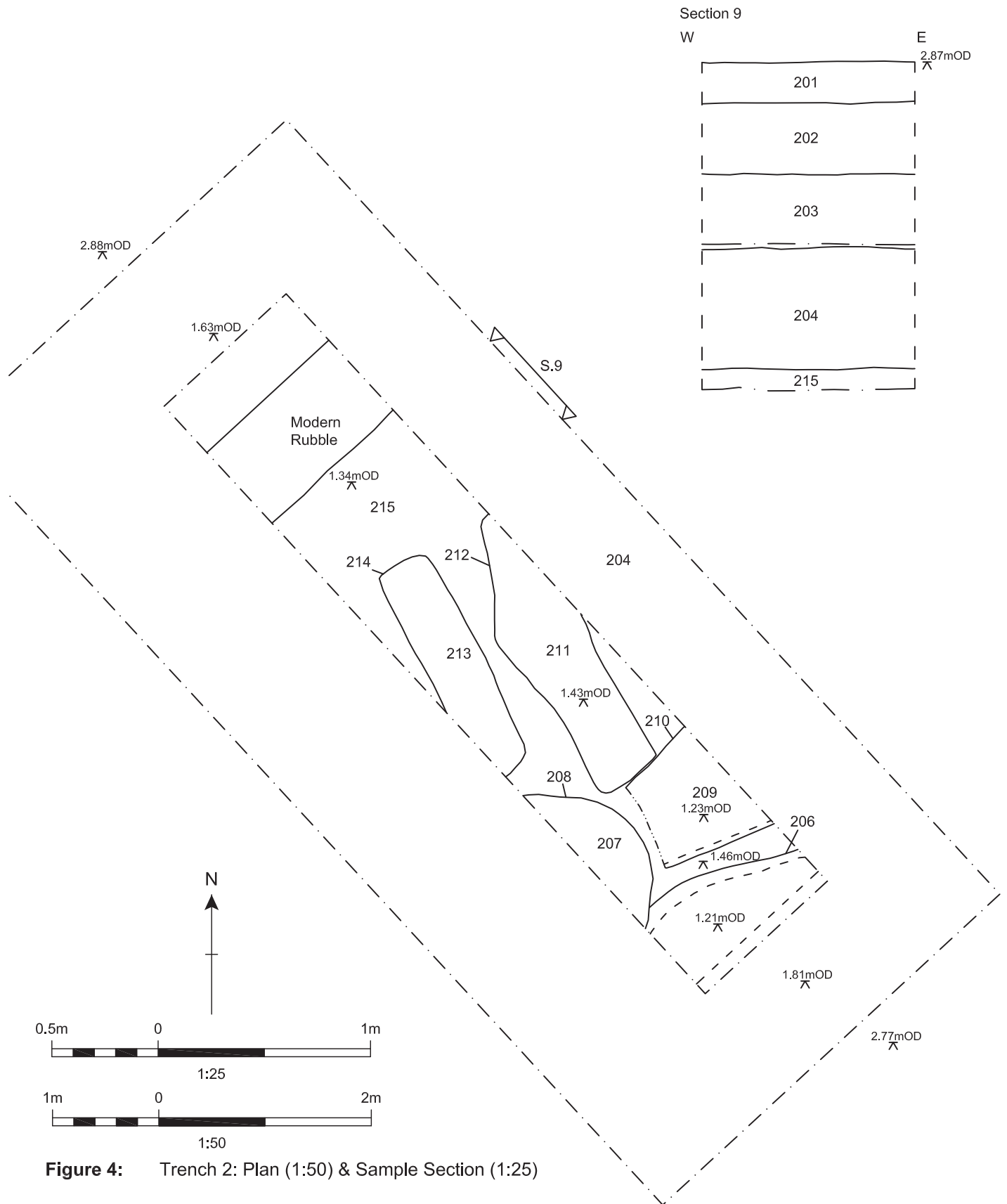


Figure 4: Trench 2: Plan (1:50) & Sample Section (1:25)

HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Section 5

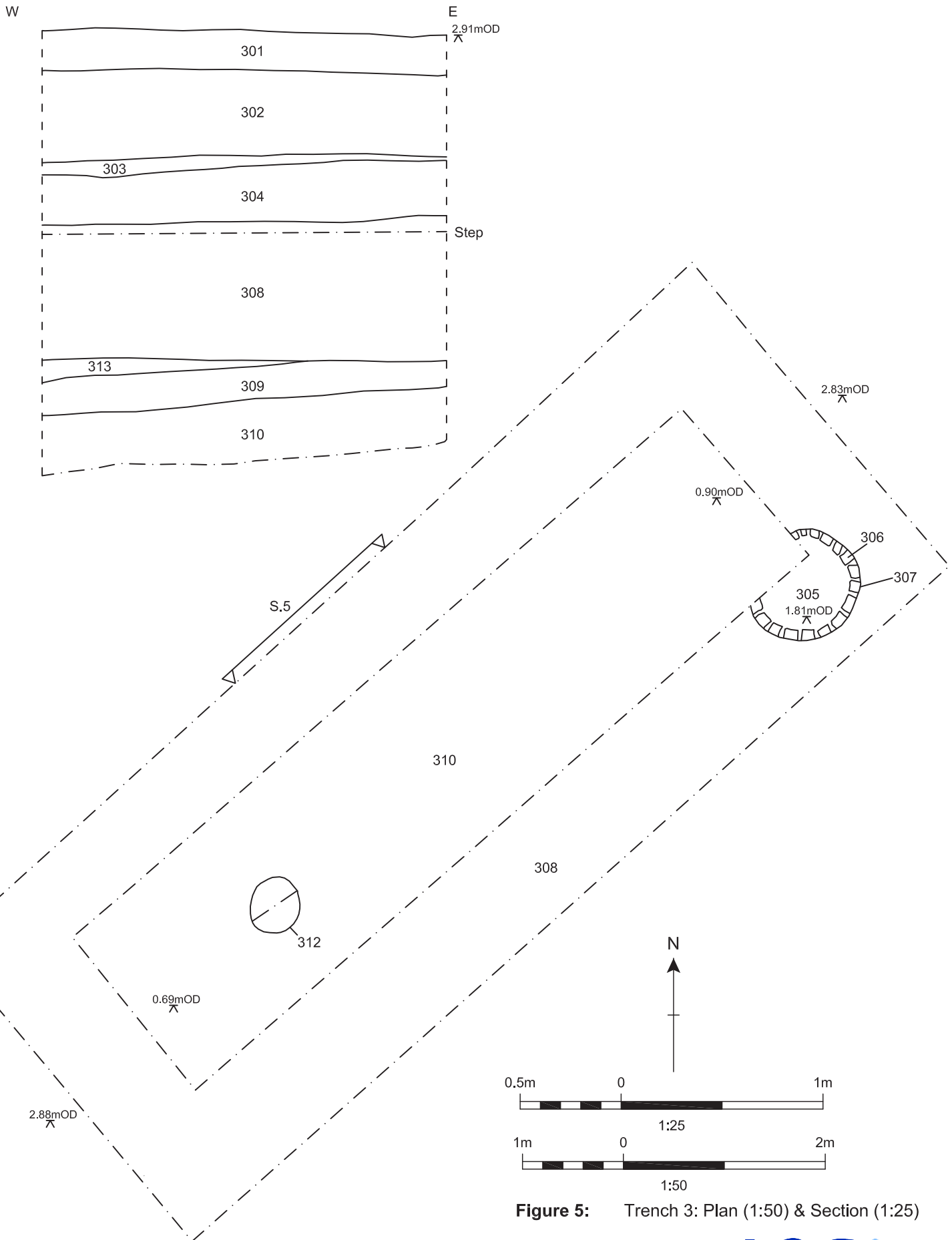


Figure 5: Trench 3: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:25)

HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

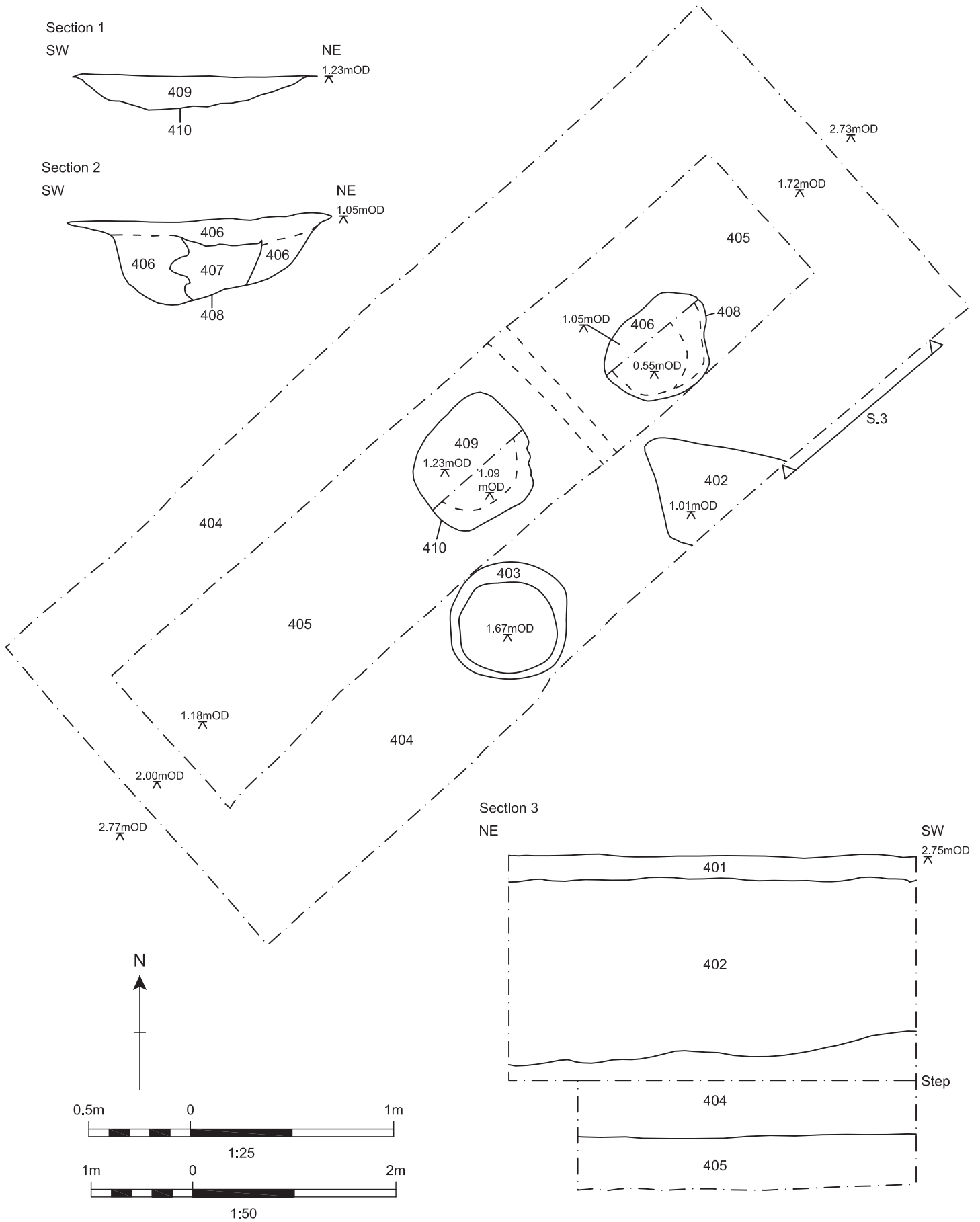
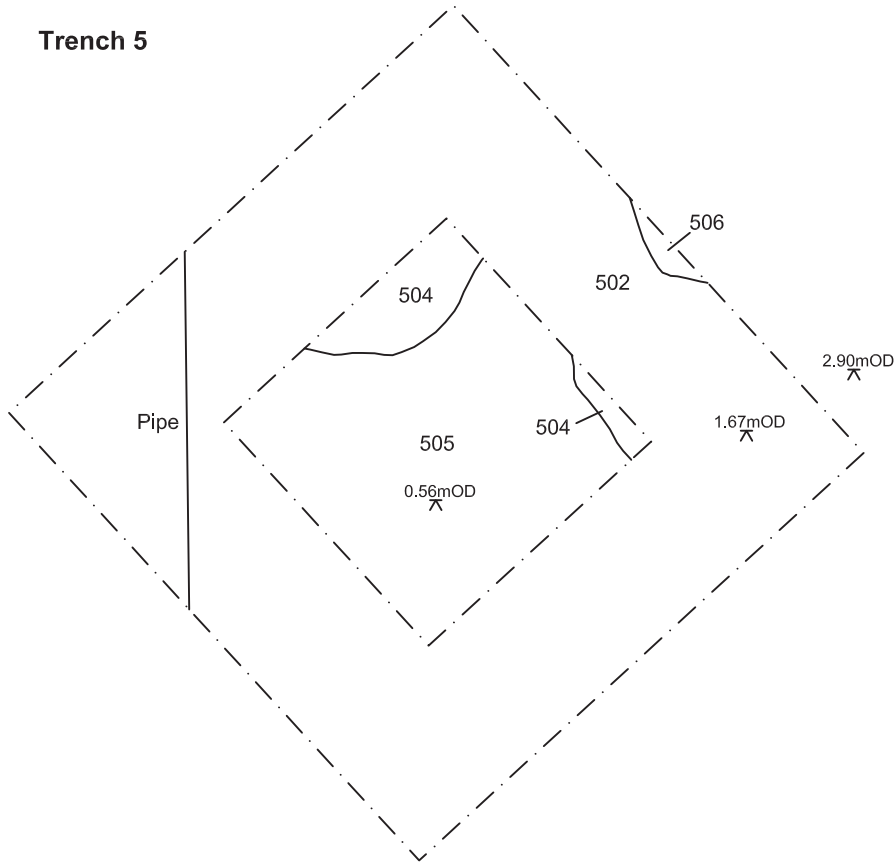


Figure 6: Trench 4: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:25)

Trench 5



Section 8
SW NE

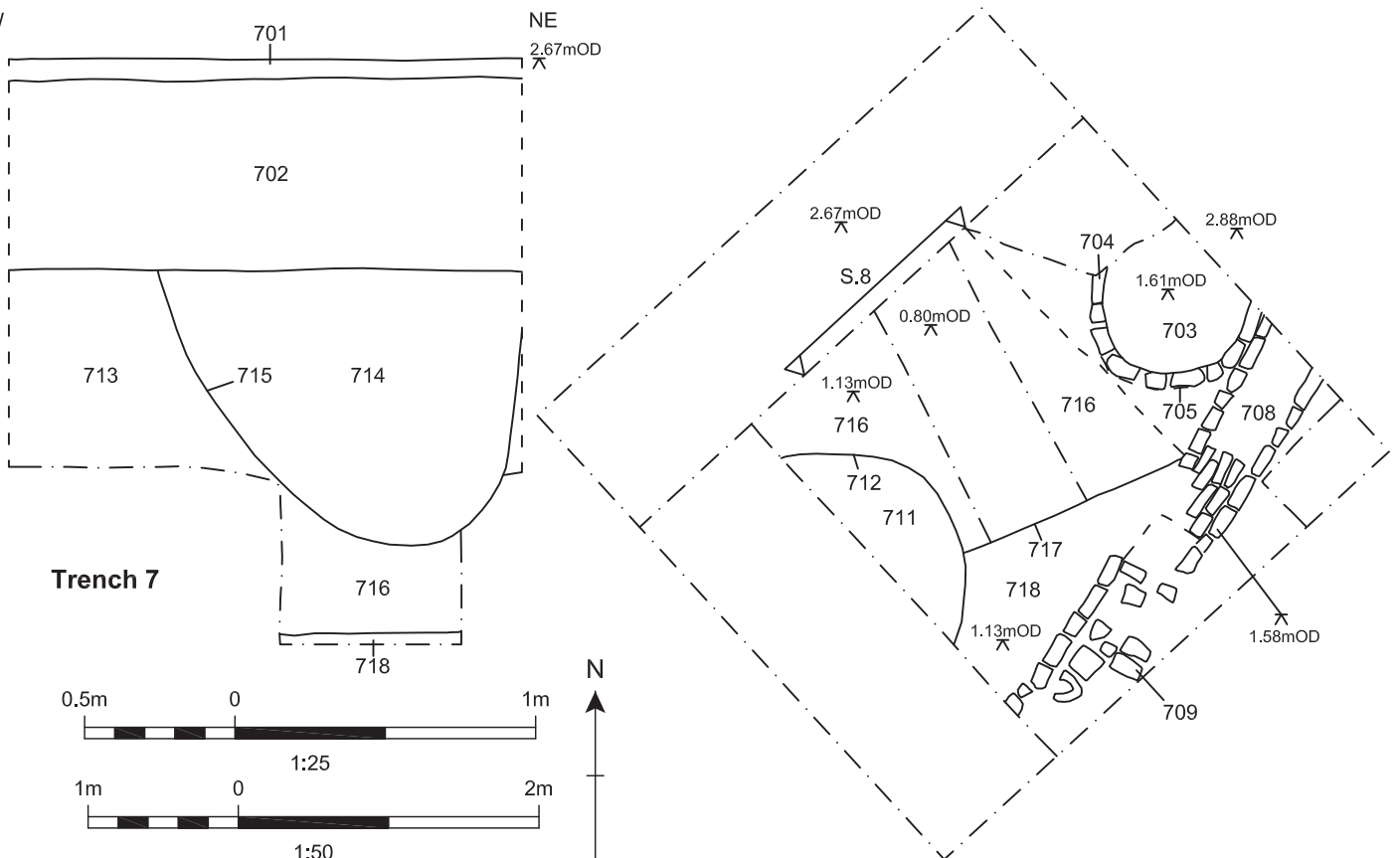


Figure 7: Trenches 5 & 7: Plans (1:50) & Section (1:25)

HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

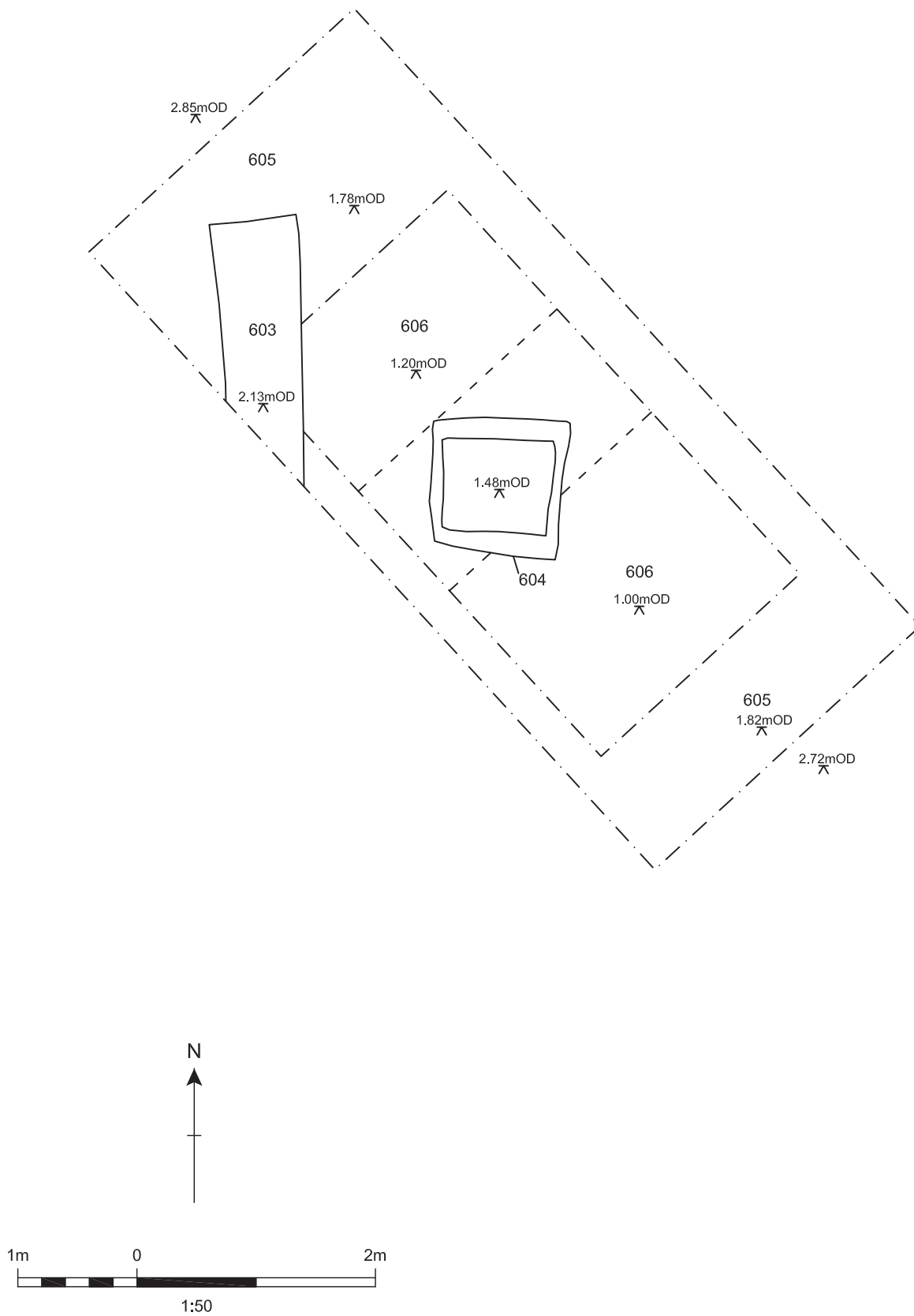


Figure 8: Trench 6: Plan

Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
101	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.	10.00m	4.00m	0.15m
102	Grey brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Made ground	10.00m	4.00m	0.20m
103	Grey brown sandy silt with occasional brick and tile. Made ground.	10.00m	4.00m	0.40m
104	Red and Yellow brick manhole	0.40m	0.20m	0.32m
105	Ceramic drain	3.10m	0.50m	0.25m
106	Loose grey brown sandy silt	1.10m	1.10m	0.15m
107	Brick soakaway	1.30m	1.30m	0.81m
108	Cut of soakaway	1.40m	1.40m	0.81m
109	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.	8.00m	2.00m	0.55m
110	Loose grey brown sandy silt	3.20m	1.60m	0.75m
111	Cut for pit	3.20m	1.60m	0.75m
112	Very dark brown clay silt sand	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
113	Cut of pit	0.30m	0.30m	0.30m
114	Mid grey brown silty sand	3.00m	0.90m	0.45m
115	Roman ditch	3.00m	0.90m	0.45m
116	Mottled dark yellow brown sandy clay. Subsoil.	8.00m	2.00m	0.12m
117	Yellow brown sandy clay. Natural.	8.00m	2.00m	0.12m
118	Mid grey brown silty sand	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m
119	Small post hole	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m
120	Mid grey brown silty sand	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m
121	Small post hole	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m
122	Mid brown yellow silty clay	1.50m	0.60m	0.10m
123	Mid brown sandy silt.	0.10m	0.10m	0.81m
124	Dark brown sandy clay silt	0.10m	0.10m	0.25m

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
125	Post hole	0.10m	0.10m	0.25m
201	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.	10.00m	4.00m	0.19m
202	Light and dark brown gravel with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Made ground	10.00m	4.00m	0.34m
203	Grey brown sandy silt with occasional brick and tile. Made ground.	10.00m	4.00m	0.35m
204	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Buried soil.	8.00m	2.00m	0.55m
205	Light grey brown sandy silt clay	1.80m	0.94m	0.32m
206	Roman Linear ditch	1.80m	0.94m	0.32m
207	Very dark brown with patches of grey and ash	1.70m	0.57m	NFE
208	Post medieval pit	1.70m	0.57m	NFE
209	Grey brown silty clay	1.20m	0.92m	0.25m
210	Roman grave	1.20m	0.92m	0.25m
211	Grey brown silty clay	2.80m	0.90m	0.16m
212	Roman Grave	2.80m	0.90m	0.16m
213	Grey brown silty clay	2.20m	0.60m	NFE
214	Roman Grave	2.20m	0.60m	NFE
215	Light yellow brown sandy clay. Natural	8.00m	2.00m	NFE
301	Dark brown sandy silt. Topsoil.	10.00m	4.00m	0.20m
302	Grey brown sandy clay with inclusions of brick, tile, mortar and slate. Made ground.	10.00m	4.00m	0.42m
303	Very dark brown sandy clay silt. Buried Soil.	10.00m	4.00m	0.10m
304	Grey brown sandy silt with inclusions of brick, tile and slate. Made ground.	10.00m	4.00m	0.36m
308	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Buried Soil.	8.00m	2.00m	0.70m
309	Yellow brown sandy clay. Natural.	8.00m	2.00m	0.15m
310	Lenses of pale grey sand, yellow grey silt clay and brown yellow sand. Natural.	8.00m	2.00m	0.25m

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
311	Greyish brown sandy silt clay	0.54m	0.54m	0.20m
312	Planting cut	0.54m	0.54m	0.20m
313	Dark mottled yellow grey brown silty sand. Natural.	8.00m	2.00m	0.18m
401	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.	10.00m	4.00m	0.12m
402	Grey brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, tile and glass. Madeground	10.00m	4.00m	0.90m
403	Circular well	1.20m	1.20m	NFE
404	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.	8.00m	2.00m	0.50m
405	Yellow brown sandy silty clay. Natural.	8.00m	2.00m	0.25m
406	Dark grey brown sandy silt	1.30m	0.95m	0.50m
407	Dark brown grey sandy silt	1.30m	0.95m	0.50m
408	Roman pit	1.30m	0.95m	0.50m
409	Dark grey brown sandy silt	1.20m	1.30m	0.15m
410	Roman Pit	1.20m	1.30m	0.15m
411	Brick manhole	0.40m	0.40m	0.40m
501	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil	4.00m	4.00m	0.27m
502	Dark grey brown and light brown clay silt with inclusions of brick and tile.	4.00m	4.00m	1.50m
503	Mid brown clay silty sand. Buried soil.	4.00m	4.00m	0.70m
504	Very dark brown black clay sand. Natural	2.00m	2.00m	0.17m
505	Light yellow and white natural sand.	2.00m	2.00m	NFE
601	Dark brown sandy clay silt. Topsoil.	7.00m	3.00m	0.30m
602	Dark grey brown silty with a high frequency of brick, tile and glass. Madeground	7.00m	3.00m	0.85m
603	Red and yellow brick wall	2.30m	0.87m	0.70m

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
604	Modern manhole	1.05m	0.85m	1.20m
605	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.	5.00m	2.00m	0.60m
606	Orange yellow and light yellow silty clay and sand. Natural.	5.00m	2.00m	NFE
701	Tarmac	4.00m	4.00m	0.07m
702	Dark grey brown silty with a high frequency of brick, tile and glass. Madeground	4.00m	4.00m	0.40m
703	Dark brown silty clay	0.90m	0.90m	NFE
704	Brick lining	1.15m	1.15m	NFE
705	Well/soakaway cut	1.15m	1.15m	NFE
706	Modern Manhole	NFE	NFE	0.80m
707	Cut for manhole	NFE	NFE	0.80m
708	Mid orangey yellow sand	1.50m	0.40m	0.30m
709	Brick culvert	1.50m	0.40m	0.30m
710	Cut for culvert	1.50m	0.40m	0.30m
711	Blackish brown silty sand	1.70m	0.60m	NFE
712	Post medieval pit	1.70m	0.60m	NFE
713	Dark brown clay sandy silt. Buried soil.	2.00m	2.00m	0.70m
714	Dark grey sandy silt	0.75m	0.10m	0.30m
715	Post medieval pit	0.75m	0.10m	0.30m
716	Mid light greyish brown sandy silt	2.00m	2.10m	0.40m
717	Roman ditch	2.00m	2.10m	0.40m
718	Mid Yellow sand	2.00m	2.00m	NFE

Appendix B – Oasis Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-79236

Project details

Project name Harper Road

Short description of the project An archaeological evaluation was carried at Harper Road (Symington House) between 1st -8th June. The evaluation involved the machine excavation of seven trenches measuring between 10m x 4m and 4m x4m. The evaluation recorded Roman remains which included three burials, three ditches and two pits. Finds date the activity to the general Roman period. Post medieval activity was also recorded on site in the form of rubbish pits and well/soakaway which are likely to relate to 19th properties that occupied that site.

Project dates Start: 01-06-2010 End: 08-06-2010

Previous/future work No / Yes

Any associated project reference codes HPZ10 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Other 14 - Recreational usage

Monument type DITCHES Roman

Monument type BURIAL Roman

Monument type PIT Roman

Monument type PIT Post Medieval

Monument type WELL/SOAKAWAY Post Medieval

Significant Finds CERAMIC Roman

Significant Finds CERAMIC Post Medieval

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Roman

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval

Significant Finds GLASS Post Medieval

Significant Finds METAL Post Medieval

Significant Finds TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval

Methods & 'Sample Trenches'
techniques

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

Position in the Pre-application
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK Harper Road

Study area 0.46 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 3253 7918 51.4955555556 -0.0905555555560 51 29 44 N 000 05 26 W
Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 0.43m Max: 1.71m

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology
Organisation

Project brief RPS (PTE)
originator

Project design RPS
originator

Project Simon Blatherwick
director/manager

Project supervisor Catherine Edwards

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Type of RPS
sponsor/funding
body

Name of Family Mosaic
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive LAARC
recipient

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Glass', 'Metal'

Digital Archive LAARC

recipient

Digital Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Survey'

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Survey','Text'
available

Paper Archive LAARC
recipient

Paper Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Survey'

Paper Media 'Context
available sheet','Map','Matrices','Microfilm','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey',
'Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title HARPER ROAD, SYMINGTON HOUSE, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Edwards, C

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or publication London

Description A4 Bound report with illustrations

Entered by Catherine Edwards (catherine.edwards@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on 7 July 2010

Appendix C – Specialist Reports

The Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

A small assemblage of 10 sherds, weighing 312g was recovered from 5 evaluation contexts. The assemblage was recorded according to standard MOL codes on pro-forma sheets retained for the archive (Marsh & Tyers 1979; Davies et al 1994). It was quantified by sherd count, weight, Estimated Vessel Number (ENV) and Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE).

Amongst this material were several amphora sherds including examples of CADIZ and GAUL1 fabrics and several conjoining sherds from a large flagon/amphora of similar profile to Pelichet 47, in a North French/South-East English fabric (NFSE). The only other datable sherd is one of Nene Valley colour-coated ware which was produced after AD150. Another greyware sherd is probably an Alice Holt product but it remains uncertain whether this is from the earlier or later part of the industry. A highly abraded fine oxidised fabric could be from a white-slipped fabric of North Kent origin, likely to date to the 1st or 2nd centuries.

Although each of the diagnostic sherds in the assemblage provides a *terminus post quem* for its context, the overall spread of material does not seem to point strongly to activity of any particular date-range within the Roman period. The absence of any larger groups suggests that the main focus of Roman activity may be away the immediate area under evaluation and there is a strong possibility that some of the Roman material may be residual. The assemblage has no potential for further study on its own but should be integrated with any material recovered in the event of further excavation on the site.

The post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

Introduction

The archaeological work at the site produced only 36 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 1,674g, from six individually numbered contexts. The assemblage represents an estimated 23 different vessels. The pottery has been fully listed on pro forma for the archive using Museum of London codes with the data being used to create an excel spreadsheet. Although sherd sizes vary considerable from small (< 20mm across) to large (> 50mm across), the pottery is in good condition with little/no sign of abrasion in most instances, suggesting that the material has not been subjected to repeated reworking.

The whole assemblage is of the post-medieval period, the vast majority falling into an early to mid 19th-century date range (perhaps between 1820 and 1860). Although some earlier material is present, on the whole this appears to be residual in later deposits.

The Assemblages

All contexts produced only small assemblages of pottery. By far the largest group is from context (703), which produced a mere 11 sherds (997g) from five different vessels. All other deposits produced fewer than 10 sherds, often making precise dating and the isolation of residual sherds difficult. As the overall assemblage is so small the context assemblages will be summarized individually for this assessment.

Context (110) produced seven sherds, weighing just under 150g, of slightly ambiguous dating. Included are a bodysherd of biscuit-fired tin-glazed ware (TGW BIS), two sherds from unglazed post-medieval redware (PMR) hollow ware vessels and a small rim sherd from a bowl in white salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG).

These sherds would be in keeping with an 18th- century date, however, the presence of three large conjoining sherds (104g) from a transfer-printed pearlware (PEAR TR) soup plate suggests deposition at the very end of the 18th century or early in the 19th century.

Context (112) produced a shoulder fragment from a thinly iron-washed stoneware mug, possibly a Raeren product of early 16th- century date although the sherd is inconclusive and a later English source cannot be ruled out. The remaining sherds are more typical of an 1820 to 1860 date range and include fragments from a small (140mm rim diameter) carinated yellow ware bowl with blue mocha decoration on a central white band, a late PEAR TR plate with wild rose pattern and a blue transfer-printed (TPW2) plate with floral decoration.

Context (305), dated c. 1820-1860 again, produced a blue willow pattern late PEAR TR plate and a late PEAR TR mug with blue floral decoration. In addition there are three sherds from an English porcelain (ENPO) tea cup with polychrome decoration.

Only two pieces were recovered from (308). One consists of a probable trivet (kiln furniture) from the manufacture of tin-glazed earthenware. The piece (15g), which measures a maximum of 45mm across, has spots of white and blue coloured tin glaze on one surface. The other piece consists of a complete (146g) 19th- century squat ink bottle in English stoneware (ENGS). The bottle measures 52mm tall, with body diameter tapering from 52mm at the shoulder to 49mm at its base.

Although context (703) produced the largest single group (11/997g) the majority of this is composed of fragments from a large EHGS bottle (7/908g). The context also produced the remains of four PEAR TR vessels. These include a plate with wild rose pattern and a rectangular serving dish and two further plates with willow pattern design.

Fragments from three further PEAR/PEAR TR vessels were recovered from (708). These consist of a mug/jug with recessed horizontal banding, a jug with blue Chinese design and a willow pattern plate. There is also a sherd from an ENPO bowl with feint overglaze hand painted design.

Potential of the post-Roman Ceramic Assemblage

The assemblage from the site, although generally unabraded, is very small, both in overall size and particularly by context group. This often makes close dating and the isolation of residual sherds difficult and detailed analysis of the sources of pottery supply and status unreliable. As such the current assemblage is not considered to hold any potential for further detailed analysis beyond that already undertaken for the current assessment.

Methodology of Further Work

No further detailed analysis is proposed for the assemblage. All of the material has already been spot-dated and quantified by fabric/form during the assessment. No separate pottery report is proposed for publication but information from this assessment should be used in the integrated site narrative of the final report. No sherds need be illustrated.

The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

A total of 19 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 711g were recovered from five contexts. The assemblage consists of Roman and post-medieval material (table 1). The Roman material is represented by fabrics in the MoL2815 group, fabrics made of local red firing clay with variable quantities of quartz and generally occurring in London between AD50 and 160. The Roman material is abraded in all contexts and likely to be residual to contexts (110) and [312]. Context (110) contained a fragment of brick in probable MoL3033 fabric, a typical red firing clay with fine quartz inclusions, generally of 15th to 17th century date. Also within context (110) were two peg tile fragments of probable 18th to 19th century date. Peg tile fabric T1 is an orange fabric with moderate coarse voids and redish reduced cores with fine quartz scatter and sparse fine calcareous inclusions. Peg tile fabric T2 is an orange fabric with abundant medium sized quartz inclusions. Context [312] also contained a fragment of MoL3032 brick, a typical post fire purplish red fabric containing ash and general detritus of 17th to 19th century date.

Context	Forms present	Fabrics	Count	Weight
110	Tile (Residual roman), Brick, peg tile (post-medieval)	2815, 3033?, T1, T2	9	203
114	Brick, Tile (Roman)	2815	2	364
312	Brick (post-medieval), Flakes (residual Roman)	3032, 2815	4	76
406	Flakes (Roman)	2815	2	12
407	Tile brick? (Roman)	2815	2	66
		Total	19	711

Table 1: Summary of CBM with context, form and fabric.

Analysis of Potential

The material holds no potential for further work.

Significance of the Data

The assemblage is not of international, national, regional or local significance.

Material for Illustration

No material is recommended for illustration.

Further Work

No further work is required, the assemblage is too small to merit further work. The material should be discarded and the findings of this report incorporated into the main text as required.

The Glass by Elke Raemen

Introduction

A small assemblage of six glass fragments (wt 146g) was recovered from four different contexts. The assemblage is fairly heterogeneous, though all pieces date to the 19th to early 20th century. All fragments have been recorded in full on pro forma sheets for archive.

Overview of the Assemblage

Included is a green glass wine/beer bottle neck fragment of mid 19th- to early 20th-century date, recovered from pit [111] (fill (110)). Other drinking related glasswork includes two wine glass fragments from pit [113] (fill (112)). Represented are two different clear glass vessels, one of which consists of a faceted, cut bowl with collared stem, whereas the second piece consists of a rim fragment only, exhibiting three cut concentric lines beneath the rim. Both glasses dated to the 19th to early 20th century. A cylindrical clear glass phial fragment was recovered from the same context and dates to the 19th century. The latter would have contained medication or toiletries. A probable cut chandelier drop pendant was found in soakaway/well [307] (backfill (305)). The piece, again dating to the 19th to early 20th century, is severely damaged. In addition, an opaque white vase base (di 75mm), of mid 19th- to early 20th-century date, was recovered from (708).

Significance and Potential

The current assemblage is small and fairly modern in date. As such its main value lies in providing additional dating evidence, which can be found in above overview. The assemblage has no potential for further analysis.

Methodology for Further Work

All pieces have been recorded in full on pro forma sheets for archive. No further work is required and any information for the publication narrative can be drawn from the current assessment. However, if any further stages of work are undertaken, any glass should be studied in conjunction with the current assemblage.

Bead by Elke Raemen

A partially surviving (50%) jet bead was recovered from context (708), dated by the pottery to the first half of the 19th century. The bead, probably manufactured in Whitby, consists of a plain, lathe-turned, oval body (L17.6mm, di. 8.15mm). Jet bead strings, often associated with mourning, were highly popular in the 19th century.

Significance and Potential

As the bead represents an isolated find and is fairly late in date, it is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis.

Methodology for Further Work

The bead has been recorded in full on pro forma sheets for archive and does not require further work. However, in the event of future excavations undertaken on the site, the piece should be integrated with any new material.

The Flintwork by Karine Le Hegarat

Work at Harper Road, Southwark produced two struck flints, both of which came from linear feature [115] (fill (114)). The assemblage consists of two unretouched flakes (table 2). The distal end of one incomplete secondary flake represents a debitage fragment. The second piece consists of a small secondary flake, which, although unretouched, displays signs of having been used and is therefore classified as an implement. Two types of raw material were observed: one translucent light yellowish brown with buff cortex flint and one light grey to grey with opaque white mottled patches and buff cortex flint. Both flakes were moderately patinated and displayed light iron-stained specks that appear to be related to post depositional processes. None of the struck flints are diagnostic of a particular period. Pottery from the same feature dates to AD 50-250 and the flint is therefore likely to be residual. As these are isolated finds, they do not have any potential for further study.

Context	Interpretation	Category	Count	Wt (g)
114	Linear feature fill	flake fragment	1	4
114	Linear feature fill	utilised piece	1	2

Table 2: The Flintwork Assemblage

The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

Introduction

The animal bone assemblage has been hand-collected and contains 31 fragments from 9 contexts including pit and linear fills. The majority of the features are dated to the Post-medieval period. The assemblage is in a mixed state of preservation with a small number of fragments displaying signs of root etching and surface erosion.

Methodology

Wherever possible the hand collected bone fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. The bone was identified using Archaeology South-East's in-house reference collection and Schmidt (1972). Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long-bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size. The larger fragments are recorded as cattle-sized and the smaller fragments as sheep-sized. The state of fusion has been noted and each fragment has then been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology. No metrical or tooth wear data has been recorded.

Quantification and Assessment

The assemblage contains bone fragments deriving from cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*), pig (*Sus*), horse (*Equus*) and deer (*Cervus*). The NISP (Number of Identified Specimens) counts are shown in Table 3.

SPECIES	NISP
CATTLE	18
SHEEP/GOAT	6
PIG	3
HORSE	2
DEER	2

Table 3: NISP counts

The majority of the fragments derive from non meat-bearing elements including ribs and vertebrae. Butchery evidence has been recorded on vertebrae which have been sliced in half indicative of dismemberment. One fragment of sheep tibia shaft, recovered from context (112), has had both the proximal and distal end sawn off. No evidence of burning, gnawing or pathology has been noted.

Potential and Significance

This assemblage has no potential for further work due to its size.

Methodology for Further Work

No further work is required

The Shell by Elke Raemen

A single upper valve from an oyster (wt 26g) was recovered from context (406), pottery from which dates to c. 150-400. The fragment shows some evidence of parasitic activity.

Significance and Potential

As the shell valve is a singular find, it does not contribute to the understanding of the site. It does not merit further analysis.

Methodology for Further Work

The fragment has been recorded for archive. No further work is required; however, if shell is recovered during any further work, the current piece should be integrated with this assemblage.

References

Davies, B.J., Richardson, B. and Tomber, R.S. 1994. *A Dated Corpus of Early Roman Pottery from the City of London*. The Archaeology of Roman London Vol 5. CBA Research Report 98.

Marsh, G. and Tyers, P. 1979. *The Roman pottery from Southwark, Southwark Excavations 1972–74*. LAMAS and Surrey Arch reprint.

Schmidt, E. 1972. 'Atlas of Animal Bones- for pre-historians, archaeologists and quaternary geologists.' Amsterdam: Elsevier Publishing Company.

Metal Work Assessment by Andy Heald

Background

There are 3 iron objects, and a possible other, from Harper Road. All are currently corroded and in need of cleaning; provisional identification relies on x-radiography. From a typological point of view the material is undiagnostic of a particular period and could date from the Iron Age through to the post-Medieval period.

Catalogue

Possible knife

One object appears from the x-ray to be a part of a tang and blade of a ?knife (context 312). It was recovered from subsoil, the context [312] indicative of a post-medieval date. Knives were used for a variety of purposes in daily life and the range of types and of size and shape have been discussed by many authorities (e.g. Manning 1985, 108-120; Cowgill, de Neergaard and Griffiths 1987). Conservation is needed to ascertain the true shape and nature of the object.

Possible nails

Two probable nails were recovered from the site (context 110 & 114; from a post-medieval and Roman context respectively), although both need cleaning. Nails are common on many Roman and later sites, related to various structural fittings.

Miscellaneous object

One miscellaneous object was recovered (context 114), from the same Roman pit fill as one of the nails. This should be cleaned for further identification.

Significance of date

The objects from Harper Road are small in number. The probable nails are common finds on Roman and later sites. The possible knife is of interest, although again a common find on many medieval and later sites.

The everyday nature of the material, from what ever period, and their occurrence on other contemporary sites, suggests that assemblage's significance goes no further than the local area.

Recommendations for future work

Cataloguing and wider discussion

Iron

Following conservation, the possible knife to be fully catalogued and measured and placed within a wider regional context.

Conservation

Please refer to Pieta Grieves conservation report

Bibliography

Manning, W H 1985 *Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum*. London.

Cowgill, J, de Neergaard, M & Griffiths, N 1987 *Medieval Finds from Excavations in London: 1. Knives and Scabbards*. London.

An Assessment of the Clay Tobacco Pipes by Les Capon

Introduction

A total of 18 bowls or fragments and 28 stem fragments were collected during the evaluation. Of particular note is the large assemblage from context (106), the fill of a soakaway, suggesting the assemblage was a single dumping episode. The majority of the clay tobacco pipes date to the latter half of the 19th century.

The Bowls

All but one of the bowls were virtually complete. All have been classified and dated, and are listed in the table below using Oswald's general typology (Oswald, 1975, 37-41). The earliest pieces derive from the fill of a large pit (110), and suggest an 18th century date for its fill. The decorated finds have been registered.

One interesting pipe bowl, from 1820-40 is decorated with Masonic symbols (context 703). The symbols include the crossed square and compass, the moon and the Sun, the sword, the plumb line and rule, the two pillars, seven stars, three towers and a ladder and trowel.

The large assemblage from the soakaway fill (106) contains 14 complete bowls of various styles. The assemblage post-dates 1850. The decorated bowls include three type 30 forms, one with a basket-weave pattern and two with snakes against a fish-scale background. All the bowls show signs of heavy use, and are internally scorched

Only one pipe has clear marks on the spur (from 106), the initials JS. Many makers with these initials were working in London in the mid-late 19th century. The nearest to the site is one John Smith, at Green Bank, Wapping, this is north of the Thames.

Context	Type	Quantity	Date	Comments
106	29	1	1840-1880	Eyelet pattern on seam, initials on spur J S <3>
	29	1	1840-1880	Wheat pattern on seam. Scorched
	30	1	1850-1910	Faint milling, slender form.
	30	1	1850-1910	Milling at top of bowl.
	30	1	1850-1910	Raised seams. Flat spur
	30	4	1850-1910	Plain rounded bowl
	30	1	1850-1910	Basket weave pattern, scorched, <4>
	30	2	1850-1910	Fishscale pattern with snake, head facing along stem <5>, <6>
	33	1	1840+	Milling at top of bowl. Scorched.
110	stem	9	1700-1900	fragments, varied bores
	stem	1	1700-1800	Worn, makers mark A? B
	20	1	1680-1710	
	25?	1	1700-70	Spur and short length of bowl. Unclear type
112	stem	1	1800-1900	Fragment, narrow bore
305	stem	1	1800-1900	Fragment, narrow bore
308	25	1	1700-1770	
	stem	2	1700-1800	Fragments, medium bore
703	28	1	1820-40	Masonic symbols
	28	1	1820-40	plain
	stem	1	1800-1900	Fragment, narrow bore
708	stem	1	1800-1900	Long stem, narrow bore
714	stem	2	1700-1900	One long fragment, one small

Conclusions

The fragments of clay pipe are securely dated, with few residual in later features, notably the stems. Of the most interest are pipes from the filled soakaway, which are probably a personal items of an inhabitant of the terraces formerly on the site, rather than deriving from a workshop or public building.

Bibliography

- Atkinson D and Oswald, A (1969): *London Clay Tobacco Pipes.*, Journal of the British Archaeological Association, 3rd series, Volume 32
- Oswald, A. (1975): *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*, Brit Archaeol. Rep 14

Harper Road, HPZ10 Assessment Report for the Conservation of Metal Finds

by Pieta Grieves

Summary

The following assessment of conservation needs for the accessioned and bulk finds from the excavations at Harper Road encompasses the requirements for finds analysis, illustration, analytical conservation and long term curation. Work outlined in this document is needed to produce a stable archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1992) and the Museum of London's Standards for archive preparation (Museum of London 1999).

Conservation support was provided by conservators working for the AOC Archaeology Group. Records of conservation carried out at the fieldwork stage are held in the conservation department of the AOC Archaeology Group Archives.

Methodology

All objects are to be packed in archive quality materials and stored in suitable environmental conditions. Records of all conservation work are prepared on paper and on the Museum of London collections management system (Multi MIMSY) and stored at the Museum of London.

Finds analysis/investigation

The accessioned finds were assessed by visual examination of both the objects and the X-radiographs, closer examination where necessary was carried out using a binocular microscope at high magnification. The accessioned finds were reviewed with reference to the finds assessments by Andy Heald (non-ceramic finds).

A number of metal items requiring conservation, to assist their analysis by the finds specialist, were identified.

X-ray catalogue:

X-Ray No	Volts(KeV)	Time (secs)	Finds no.
1	80	4	313, 114, 110

Bibliography

English Heritage 1992 *Management of Archaeological Projects II*

Museum of London 1999 *General standards for the preparation of archaeological archives to be deposited with the Museum of London*

Appendix D – Summary of archaeological horizons by OD heights

Natural Levels – min 0.43 - max 1.71mOD

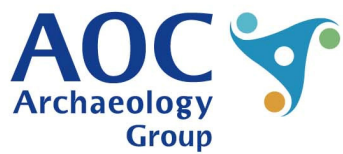
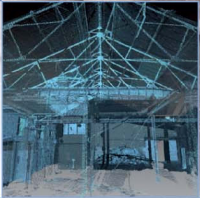
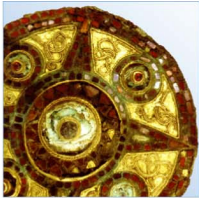
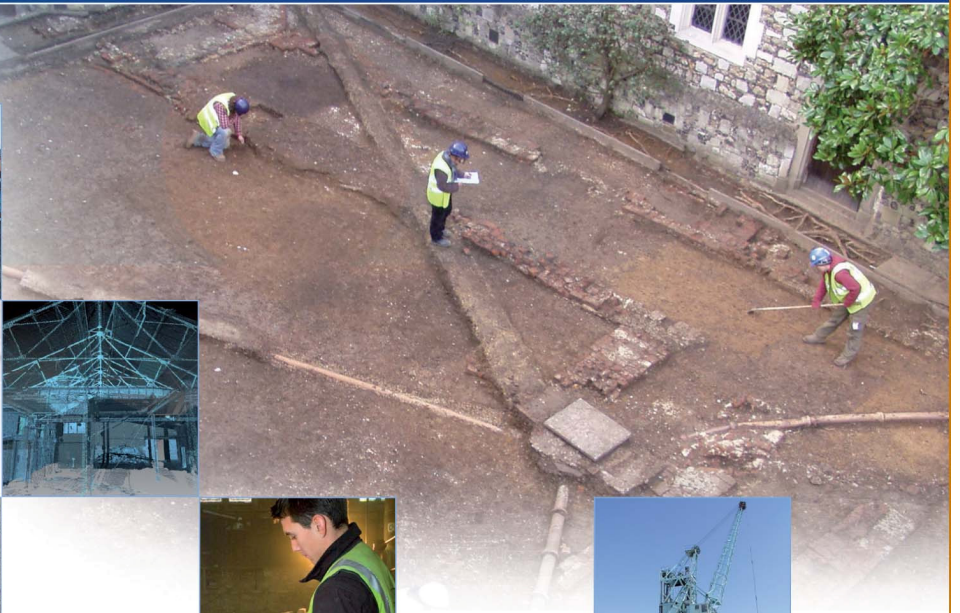
Roman Burials – min 1.43 – max 1.46mOD

Roman Features – min 0.92 - max 1.46mOD

Post medieval Buried Soil – min 1.13 – max 2.16mOD

Post medieval Features – min 1.58 – max 2.13mOD

Current Ground Level – min 2.77 – max 2.91mOD



AOC Archaeology Group, Unit 7, St Margarets Business Centre, Moor Mead Road, Twickenham TW1 1JS
tel: 020 8843 7380 | fax: 020 8892 0549 | e-mail: london@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com