

# *Sutton Archaeological Services*

## Evaluation Report

on

Land to the rear of 10 Paradise Road,  
Richmond upon Thames,  
Surrey, TW9.  
DPI 08: (TQ 18005 74885)

for

*Richard Brice*

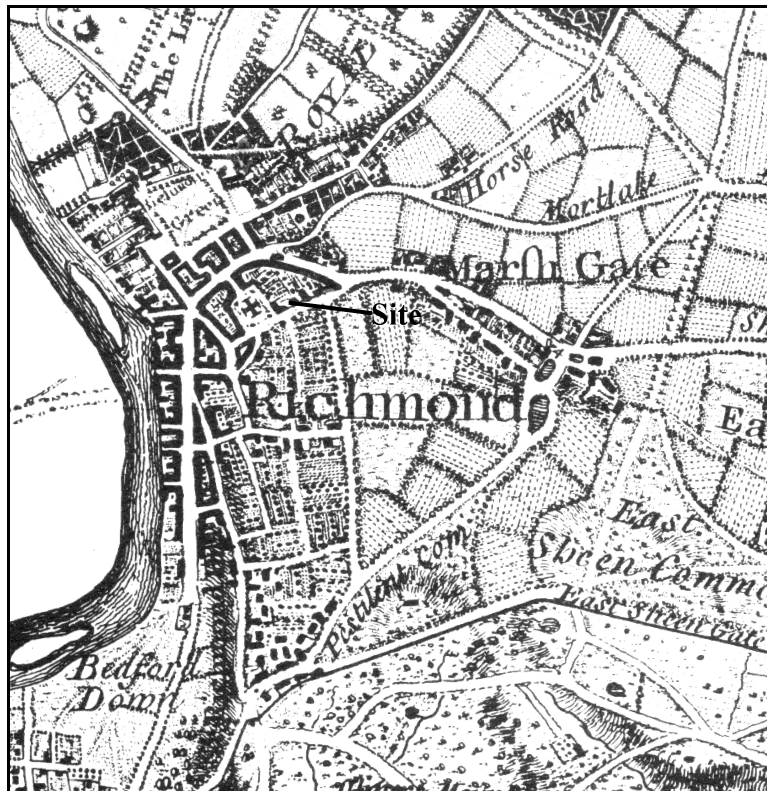


Fig. 1 John Rocque's Map of Surrey 1768

**SAS**

Dir: JEFFREY G. PERRY: BA(Hons), MIFA.

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Land to the rear of 10 Paradise Road,  
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Surrey. TW9  
DPI 08: (TQ 18005 74885)

by

J G PERRY: April 2008

## Summary

Sutton Archaeological Services (SAS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at land to the rear of 10 Paradise Road, Richmond upon Thames, Surrey. TW9 on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2008.

The site lay in an area of archaeological importance as defined in London Borough of Richmond's Unitary Development Plan. Research by Sutton Archaeological Services for the research design indicated that there was Medieval and Post-Medieval archaeology and activity in the surrounding area.

One trench was excavated across the site revealing made ground over the natural sand.

There was no evidence for archaeology, other than modern, in the trench and the only finds were modern CBM.

We suggest that no further archaeological monitoring or intervention is needed and that the archaeological condition in the planning consent has been fulfilled. The decision to discharge the archaeological condition, however, rests with the local planning authority on the advice of the Archaeological Officer at English Heritage

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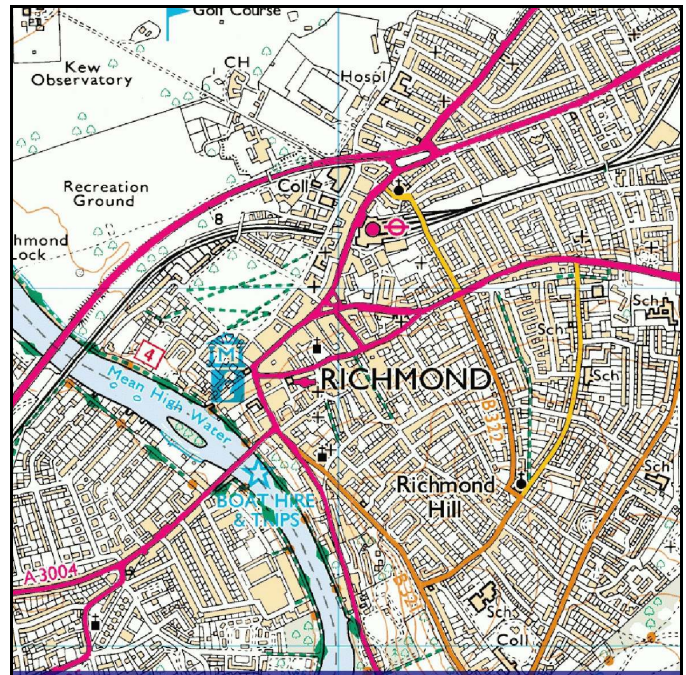
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## Introduction

This report relates to the proposed development at land to the rear of 10 Paradise Road, Richmond upon Thames, Surrey, TW9.

Richard Brice (the Developer) has commissioned Sutton Archaeological Services (SAS) to carry out an evaluation and any subsequent archaeological work that may be necessary.



**Fig. 2** Site Location

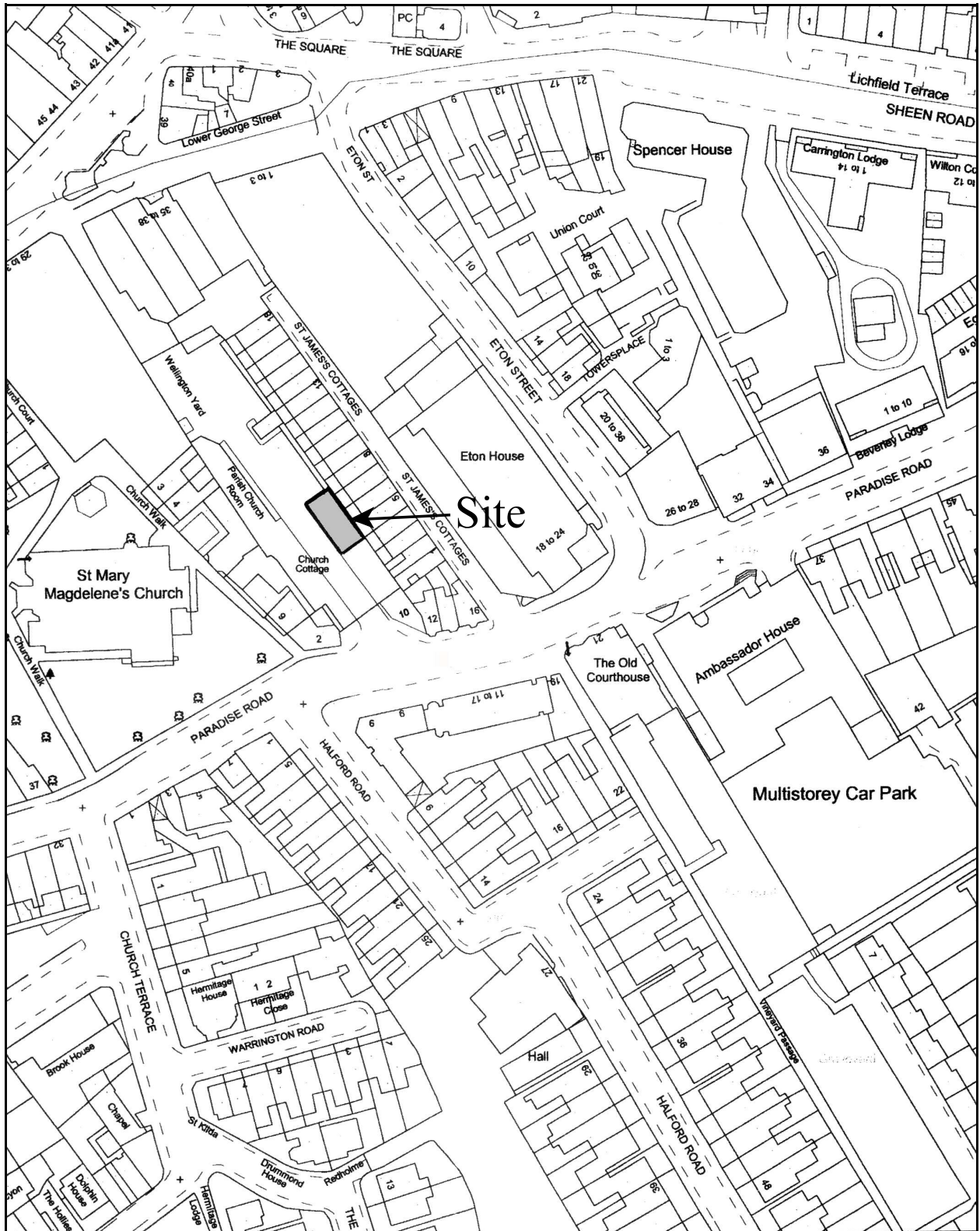
**Location:** The site lies in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, behind the garden to 10 Paradise Road, in an access drive to a Tesco Metro Supermarket. It is in a mixed area of commercial and residential properties. To the north lie the shops fronting onto George Street, to the west is the Church of St. Mary Magdalene's Church with St James's Cottages to the east. Paradise Road lies to the south.

**Topography:** The site lies on the east bank of the Thames valleys. The land slopes from the south-east to north-west with the area of the site at a height of about 14m aOD.

**Geology:** The underlying geology consists of river terrace gravels overlying London Clay, with brickearth in places and possibly alluvial deposits nearer the river.

## Planning background

The site is at present a rough area of the land at the rear entrance to a Tesco Metro Supermarket and it is proposed to build an underground office. The ground surface will then be landscaped as a garden, with just a glass dome to let in natural light and a staircase for access.



**Fig. 3**

Site Location Map (1:1250)

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Planning permission was approved and an archaeological condition under PPG 16<sup>1</sup> was included in planning decision 00/2619/FUL dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 2001:

<sup>1</sup> Department of the Environment: *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning*, HMSO, 1990.

*No development shall take place on the application site until the applicant or their agents 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.*

## **Archaeological and Historical Background**

The evidence as a whole, before the evaluation, the potential for Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon settlement in the area of the site was considered low, though stray finds might turn up. There was a low to medium potential for Medieval and Post-Medieval archaeology and activity in the area of the site.

***Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon:*** There is evidence of Prehistoric and to some extent Saxon activity in the Richmond area, but no Roman sites are known.

Pre-evaluation evidence suggested there was only a low potential for Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon archaeology and activity in the area of the site.

***Medieval and Post-Medieval:*** The main *Medieval and Post-Medieval* evidence in the area immediately around the site shows the two successive Medieval Royal Palaces and a later Tudor one. There may be some 15<sup>th</sup> century buildings may have been in the area, possibly connected with the Church of St. Mary Magdalene's. The cartographic evidence shows that there were some late 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings in the area the site and there is a low to medium risk of them being present on site. The fact that the proposed site lay in gardens or back yards for the last two hundred, infers that any archaeology on site could have remained reasonably intact.

Pre-evaluation evidence suggested there was only a low to medium potential for Medieval and Post-Medieval archaeology and activity in the area of the site.

## **Research objectives**

In November 2007 Sutton Archaeological Services produced its research design. Based on our brief assessment of the evidence, we formed the objectives to look for signs of Medieval occupation and



activity on the site, and if found to determine their extent, date, condition and significance.

The Institute of Field Archaeologists has defined the purpose of a field evaluation as follows.

“The purpose of field evaluation is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:

- the formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource
- the formulation of a strategy to initiate a threat to the archaeological resource
- the formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.”

*Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, IFA, 2001*

### **Archaeological proposals**

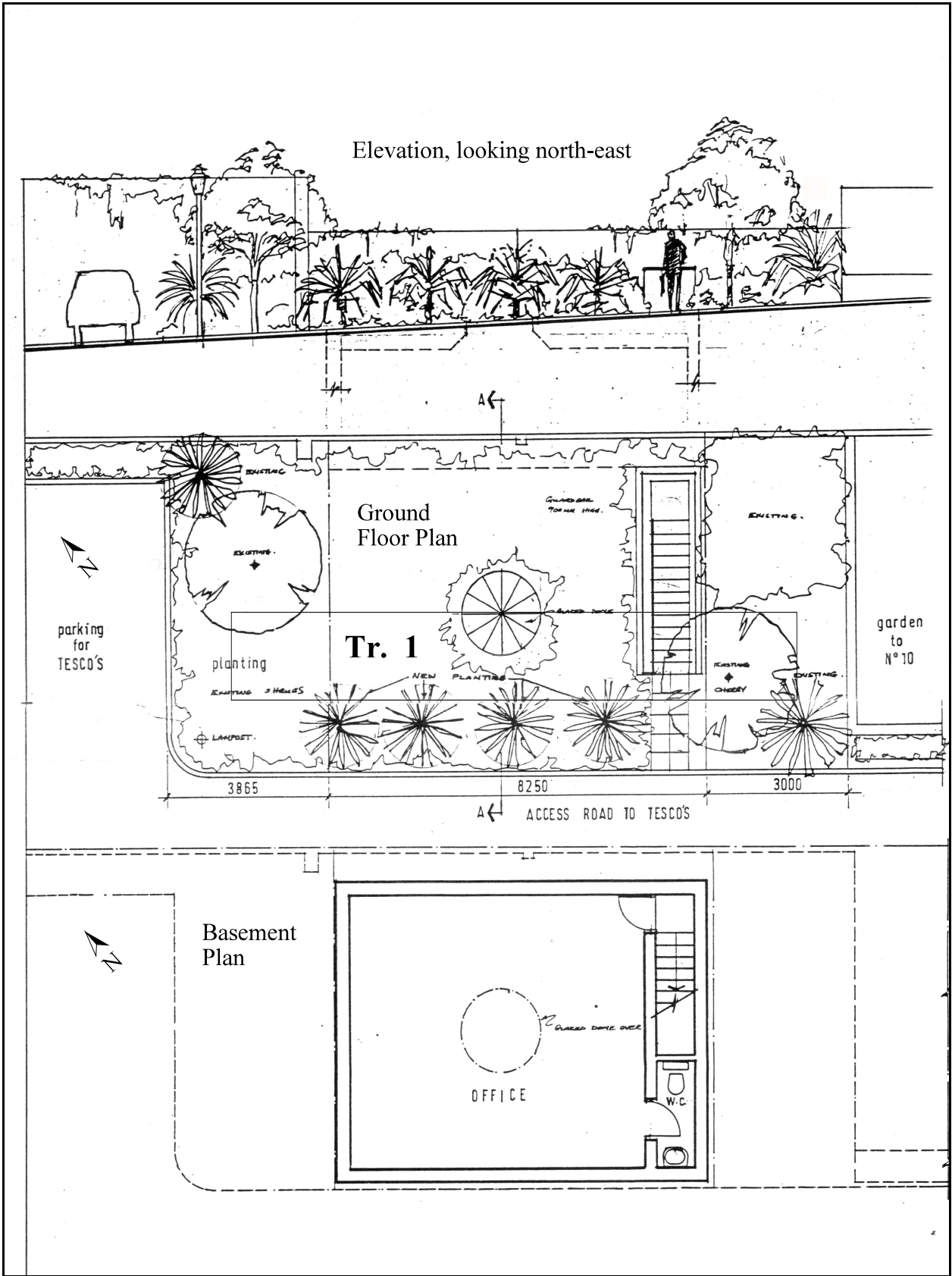
Usually, where development may destroy archaeology, evaluation is undertaken to identify the presence or absence, extent, character, quality and date of any threatened deposits and, where necessary, to develop an appropriate mitigation strategy.

SAS proposes to cut 1 archaeological trenches (10m x 2m) across the positioned in the area of the new building.

### **Archaeological methodology**

**Standards:** SAS carried out the archaeological evaluation in accordance with

- our research design dated April 2007. Due to site constraints the dimensions of the trench were reduced 7m x 2m
- the Institute of Field Archaeologists’ Code of Conduct, Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangement in Field Archaeology, Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluations



**Fig. 4** Development and trench location plan

- the archaeological guidance papers issued by English Heritage.

**Control:** All excavation work was done under the control of the archaeologists on site.

**Trenches:** We dug 1 trench as shown on fig 4.

We broke open the trenches with a mini excavator, using a smooth-edged ditching bucket.

**Non-archaeological deposits:** In each trench we removed by machine, in level spits of no more than 10-15cm, the made ground deposit. Work continued removing all overburden until we reached the first significant archaeological layer (or the natural deposits), at which point all machine work ceased in that trench. (We excavated up to 30cm into the natural to make sure we had reached true natural and not re-deposited material.) In this way we excavated the trench without finding any archaeological deposits.

**Site records:** We recorded all features as we proceeded, by written records, plans, sections and photographs. In all, we recorded 2 contexts - numbered [001] to [002] - in a single context recording system. The site was recorded in accordance with the Fieldwork Methodology in our research design, and using the Museum of London's recording system.

**Levels:** All levels were taken from an OSBM located to the Old court House at 14 Paradise Road value 14.29m aOD.

**Backfilling:** After excavating and recording the trench was backfilled and all spoil left on site.

## **Evaluation results**

### **Trench 1**

Trench 1 measured 7m by 2m and was located in the centre on an south to north alignment. The site was covered with some rough vegetation and other debris which was cleaned away before work began.

The first context was a deposit of made ground. This was a friable, orangish brown coarse sand [001](south: 9.04m aOD to north: 9.00m aOD) containing frequent medium to large bricks and moderate small to large flint pebbles. The context covered the whole trench to a depth of between 0.90m to 1.05m and also contained fragments of glass, metal and several sherds of 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

Below context **001** was the natural, a friable, medium sand coarse sand deposit **[002]**(south: 8.14m aOD to north: 7.93m aOD), containing occasional small to medium flint pebbles. The deposit was excavated to a depth of about 10cm.

### **Assessment and interpretation**

The evidence from the SAS preliminary research indicated that there was Medieval and Post-Medieval archaeology and activity in the surrounding area.

One trench was excavated across the site revealing made ground over the natural sand.

There was no evidence for archaeology, other than modern, in the trench and the only finds were modern CBM.

### **Archaeological potential**

Following the evaluation our revised view is that this site has no potential for archaeological remains of any period.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Our findings set out above lead us to conclude that the proposed development will not threaten to destroy any archaeological remains of national, regional or local importance, deserving further investigation or preservation.

We suggest that no further archaeological monitoring or intervention is needed and that the archaeological condition in the planning consent has been fulfilled. The decision to discharge the archaeological condition, however, rests with the local planning authority on the advice of the Archaeological Officer at English Heritage.

## **Publications and dissemination**

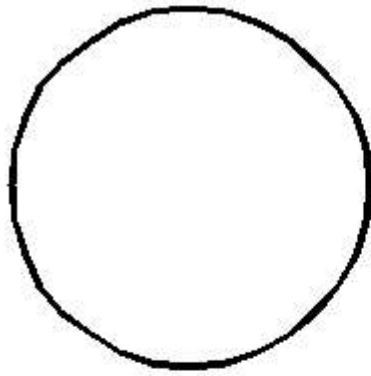
The evidence is not worthy of publication but a note on the evaluation will be placed in the *London Archaeologist's* round-up and a copy of the report lodged in the local library.

## **Archive**

The resulting archive, including all of the finds, will be donated by the developer and deposited with the Museum of London when the final report has been completed.



**Plate 1:** East Section



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