

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queens Wharf
Crisp Road
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham**

NGR: TQ 2312 7811

Planning Consent Ref. 2013/03799/FUL

**ASE Project No: 6624
Site Code: CRP 14**

**ASE Report No: 2014124
OASIS ID: archaeol6-176749**

By Ian Hogg

April 2014

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf, Crisp Road London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

The work comprised the monitoring of geotechnical test pits and window sample slots. Natural gravels were recorded sloping from east to west, towards the River Thames, they were overlain by modern made ground deposits which were thicker in the west to provide a terrace overlooking the Thames. No archaeology was recorded.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological watching brief during site investigation works at Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf, Crisp Road, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (NGR TQ 2312 7811; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to the latest data from the British Geological Survey (BGS 2013), the underlying geology of the site comprises Kempton Park Gravel Formation over London Clay Formation.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted by the Hammersmith and Fulham Council (Ref. 2013/03799/FUL) for the demolition of the current buildings and the construction of a mixed use development including 165 residential units, a new studio and restaurants.

1.3.2 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was submitted as a supporting document to the application (CgMs 2013); this document identified the potential for Saxon and medieval remains as well as prehistoric and palaeoenvironmental remains close to the Thames. However, it also highlighted the potentially severe truncation on site.

1.3.3 The archaeological conditions attached to the planning consent stated:

Condition 10

'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works across the site in accordance with a written scheme for investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the council. The scheme shall make provision for:

- a) A programme of excavation and trial trenching;*
- b) the assessment of the results from all investigations, and proposals for their publication;*
- c) The publication of results; and*
- d) The deposition of the site archive.*

The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body acceptable to the Council in accordance with the approved details'

'Reason: Heritage Assets of archaeological interest may survive on site.

The planning authority wishes to secure the provision of archaeological investigation and subsequent recording of remains prior to development, in accordance with recommendations given by the borough and in NPPF. Chapter 12 in accordance with Policy 7.8 of the London Plan (2011 with 2013 Alterations), Policy BE1 of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Core Strategy (2011) and policy DM G7 of the DM Local Plan (2013).'

Condition 11

'No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition 10 until the excavation and trial trenching have taken place.'

'Reason: Heritage Assets of archaeological interest may survive on site. The planning authority wishes to secure the provision of archaeological investigation and subsequent recording of remains prior to development, in accordance with recommendations given by the borough and in NPPF. Chapter 12 in accordance with Policy 7.8 of the London Plan (2011 with 2013 Alterations), Policy BE1 of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Core Strategy (2011) and policy DM G7 of the DM Local Plan (2013).'

- 1.3.4 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared (CgMs 2014) and approved by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) in its capacity as advisor to the local council on archaeological matters. All work was undertaken in accordance with this document and with the relevant standard and guidance documents of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2009) GLAAS Archaeological Guidance Papers No's 3 – 5 (GLAAS 1998a, 1998b and 1998c).

1.4 Aims and Objectives

- 1.4.1 The general objective of the archaeological work was to ensure that any features, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest exposed during the proposed landscaping works and affected by the excavations associated with the planning and listed building consents (ASE 2012) are recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.
- 1.4.2 The watching brief also aimed to record the geological profile through the site, in particular the depth of made ground and the height of the naturally occurring gravels, together with any archaeological remains likely to be present.

1.5 Scope of Report

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological watching brief carried out on the site between the 17th March 2014 and the 2nd April 2014 and has been prepared in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2014). The work was carried out by Ian Hogg (Archaeologist), Dylan Hopkinson (Archaeologist) and Antonio Reis (Archaeologist).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 The following information is summarised from the Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs 2013).
- 2.1.2 The majority of prehistoric and Roman activity in the area derives from residual finds from the Thames although the Thames river terrace does have the potential for paleoenvironmental remains.
- 2.1.3 The site lies close to the core of Anglo-Saxon Hammersmith which is believed to have been at the confluence of Hammersmith Creek and the Thames.
- 2.1.4 Hammersmith continued develop in the medieval period with the site still lying close to the settlement core on Queen Caroline Street. Fish traps and jetties have been recorded on the foreshore nearby the site as well as settlement activity further from the river.
- 2.1.5 Cartographic evidence suggests much of the site remained open until the mid-19th century when Chancellor's Wharf (later Queen's Wharf) was constructed as well as Kensington Wharf. The wharf's continued to be developed with the BBC purchasing Riverside Studios in 1954.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The work comprised mechanical and hand excavation of geotechnical test pits and window sample slots across the site.
- 3.2 Spoil was visually scanned for finds.
- 3.3 All deposits were recorded using standard ASE recording sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only.
- 3.4 A digital photographic record was taken of the work.
- 3.5 ASE informed the local museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated. The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will with the LAARC in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	29
No. of files/paper record	1
Photographs	42

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Nine geotechnical test pits (TP's 1-9) were monitored, however, TP1 was abandoned due to the thickness of concrete. Three of the test pits (TP's 7-9), located on the foreshore were monitored in addition to those stated in the WSI (CgMs 2014). Furthermore, three window samples were monitored (WS's 1, 6 and 7). No archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed in any of the monitored works.

4.2 Test Pits 2 and 3 (Monitored on 28-03-2014)

Test pit	Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
2	001	Masonry	Concrete slab	0.35	0.35	0.33
2	002	Layer	Natural	0.35	0.35	-
3	001	Layer	Concrete slab	0.35	0.35	0.37
3	002	Layer	Natural	0.35	0.35	-

Table 2: Test Pits 2, and 3 List of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Test Pits 2, and 3 were located within the basement in the north-east of the site and displayed the same stratigraphic sequence. Each test pit measured 0.35m x 0.35m in plan.

4.2.2 Natural Kempton Park Terrace Gravels [002] were directly overlain by the concrete basement slab [001] between 0.33m and 0.37m thick. No archaeology was encountered in these pits.

4.3 Test Pits 4 and 5 (Monitored between 21-3-2014 and 28-3-2014)

Test pit	Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
4	001	Masonry	Concrete slab	2.00	1.20	0.30
4	002	Layer	Made ground	2.00	1.20	3.20
4	003	Masonry	Concrete beam	2.00	0.50	1.50
5	001	Masonry	Concrete slab	0.35	0.35	0.30
5	002	Layer	Made ground	0.35	0.35	0.60
5	003	Masonry	Concrete beam	0.35	0.15	0.90

Table 2: Test Pits 4, and 5 List of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Test Pits 2, and 3 were located within the Queen's Wharf in the north-west of the site and displayed the same stratigraphic sequence. Test Pit 4 measured 2.00m x 1.20m, Test Pit 5 measured 0.35m x 0.35m in plan.

4.3.2 Natural deposits were not encountered in these test pits which displayed a sequence modern rubble made ground [002] at least 3.20m thick, overlain by concrete beams between 0.90m and 1.50m thick [003] and the concrete floor slab [001] 0.30m thick. No archaeology was encountered in these pits.

4.4 Test Pit 6 (Observed between 17-3-2014 and 18-3-2014)

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
6/001	Masonry	Brick floor	1.60	1.20	0.06
6/002	Masonry	Asphalt	1.60	1.20	0.12
6/003	Masonry	Concrete slab	1.60	1.20	0.13
6/004	Layer	Made ground	1.60	1.20	0.94
6/005	Layer	Made ground	1.60	1.20	0.75
6/006	Masonry	Supporting wall	1.60	0.25	1.07
6/007	Masonry	Retaining wall	1.20	1.50	0.75

Table 4: Test Pit 6 List of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Test Pit 6 was located on the terrace overlooking the Thames in the west of the site, it measured 2.60m x 1.20m in plan.

4.4.2 The earliest features recorded in Test Pit 6 were concrete retaining river wall [6/007] and a supporting red brick wall [6/006], both of modern date. The retaining wall [6/007] was aligned north to south and was at least 0.75m high. It was abutted by the east to west aligned supporting wall [6/006] which was constructed from frogged red bricks measuring 233mm x 111mm x 72mm in size. Laid in stretcher pattern and bonded with cement mortar. The supporting wall measured at least 1.60m in length, 0.25m in width and 1.07m in height.

4.4.3 The masonry was overlain by mid greyish brown clay made ground [6/004] 0.75m thick, this was sealed by loose grey rubble silt made ground [6/003] 0.94m thick. The made ground deposits were sealed by a concrete slab [6/002] 0.13m thick, asphalt [6/002] 0.12m thick and a brick floor [6/001] 0.06m thick.

4.4.4 No archaeology was recorded in this pit.

4.5 Test Pits 7, 8 and 9 (Monitored between 31-3-2014 and 1-4-2014)

Test pit	Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
7	001	Layer	Made ground	0.90	0.70	0.60
8	001	Layer	Made ground	0.90	0.70	0.0
9	001	Layer	Made ground	0.90	0.70	0.60

Table 5: Test Pits 7, 8 and 9 List of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Test Pits 7, 8, and 9 were located on the foreshore abutting the wall foundations of Queen's Wharf in the north-west of the site. They measured 0.90m x 0.70m in plan and were 0.60m deep.

4.5.2 The only deposit encountered in all three test pits was soft grey silt made ground with frequent concrete and CBM inclusions, this deposit was at least 0.60m thick.

4.5.3 No archaeology was recorded in this pit.

4.6 Window Samples 1, 6 and 7 (Monitored between 17-03-2014 and 20-03-2014)

Window Sample	Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
1	001	Masonry	Concrete slab	0.10	0.10	0.30
1	002	Layer	Made ground	0.10	0.10	3.20
1	003	Layer	Natural	0.10	0.10	-
6	001	Masonry	Concrete slab	0.10	0.10	0.30
6	002	Layer	Made ground	0.10	0.10	0.90
6	003	Layer	Natural	0.10	0.10	-
7	001	Masonry	Concrete slab	0.10	0.10	0.30
7	002	Layer	Made ground	0.10	0.10	2.50
7	003	Layer	Natural	0.10	0.10	-

Table 6: Window Samples 1, 6 and 7 List of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Window Samples 1, 6 and 7 were located in the north and west of the site. They were excavated using a window sampling rig producing a 0.10m width window.

4.6.2 Natural Kempton Park Terrace Gravels [003] were overlain by made ground deposits [002] between 0.90m thick in WS6 in the east of Queen's Wharf and 3.20m thick in WS1 in the west of Queen's Wharf. The made ground was overlain by concrete slabs [001] 0.30m thick. The variation in the thickness of the made ground deposits illustrates the landscaping which has occurred on site with natural gravels recorded at a far shallower depth than in the west.

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed, the site seemingly having undergone horizontal truncation with no extant soils encountered on site. No alluvial or fluvial deposits were encountered.
- 5.2 Natural Kempton Park Gravels were across much of the site. The site has been landscaped with natural gravels recorded at between 0.30m and 1.20m below ground level in the east and centre of the site and at between 2.50m and 3.50m along the western perimeter of site. Modern made ground overlay the natural.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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HER Summary

Site Code	CRP 14				
Identification Name and Address	Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf, Crisp Road,				
County, District &/or Borough	Hammersmith and Fulham				
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 2312 7811				
Geology	Kempton Park Gravels				
Arch. South-East Project Number	6624				
Type of Fieldwork			Watching Brief✓		
Type of Site			Deep Urban✓		
Dates of Fieldwork			WB. 17-03-14 to 01-04-14		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting				
Project Manager	Andy Leonard				
Project Supervisor	Ian Hogg				
Period Summary					
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf, Crisp Road London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.</i></p> <p><i>The work comprised the monitoring of geotechnical test pits and window sample slots. Natural gravels were recorded sloping from east to west, towards the River Thames, they were overlain by modern made ground deposits which were thicker in the west to provide a terrace overlooking the Thames. No archaeology was recorded.</i></p>					

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeo16-176749

Project details

Project name	Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf, Crisp Road London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The work comprised the monitoring of geotechnical test pits and window sample slots. Natural gravels were recorded sloping from east to west, towards the River Thames, they were overlain by modern made ground deposits which were thicker in the west to provide a terrace overlooking the Thames. No archaeology was recorded.
Project dates	Start: 17-03-2014 End: 01-04-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CRP 14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	6624 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM HAMMERSMITH Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queen's Wharf, Crisp Road
Postcode	W6 9RL
Study area	0 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 2312 7811 51.4880215358 -0.226492549753 51 29 16 N
000 13 35 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project brief originator GLAAS

Project design originator CgMs Consulting

Project director/manager Andy Leonard/Jim Stevenson

Project supervisor Ian Hogg

Project supervisor Antonio Reis

Project supervisor Dylan Hopkinson

Type of sponsor/funding body CgMs Consulting

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic"

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

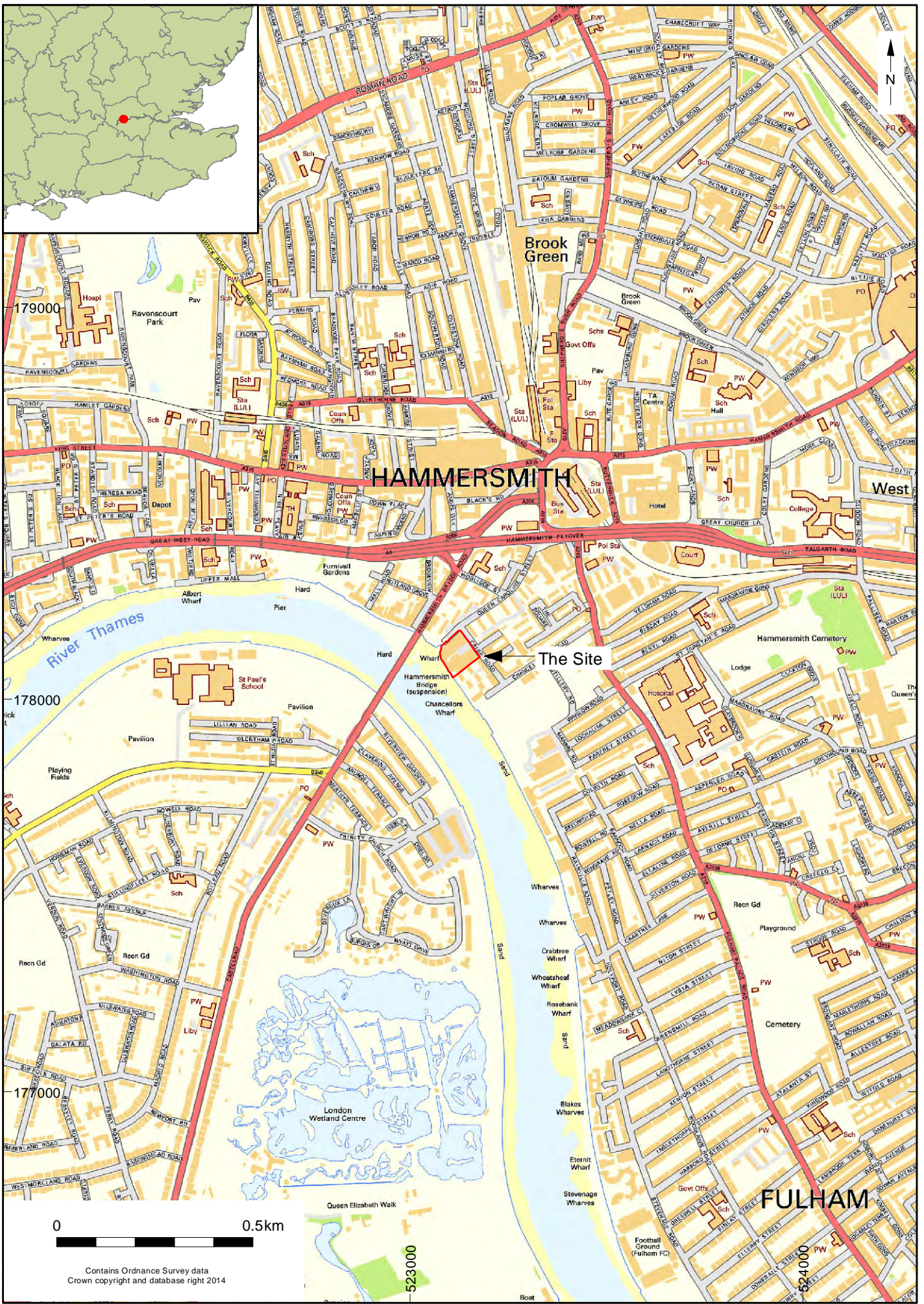
Paper Archive recipient LAARC

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Report","Survey "

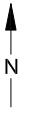
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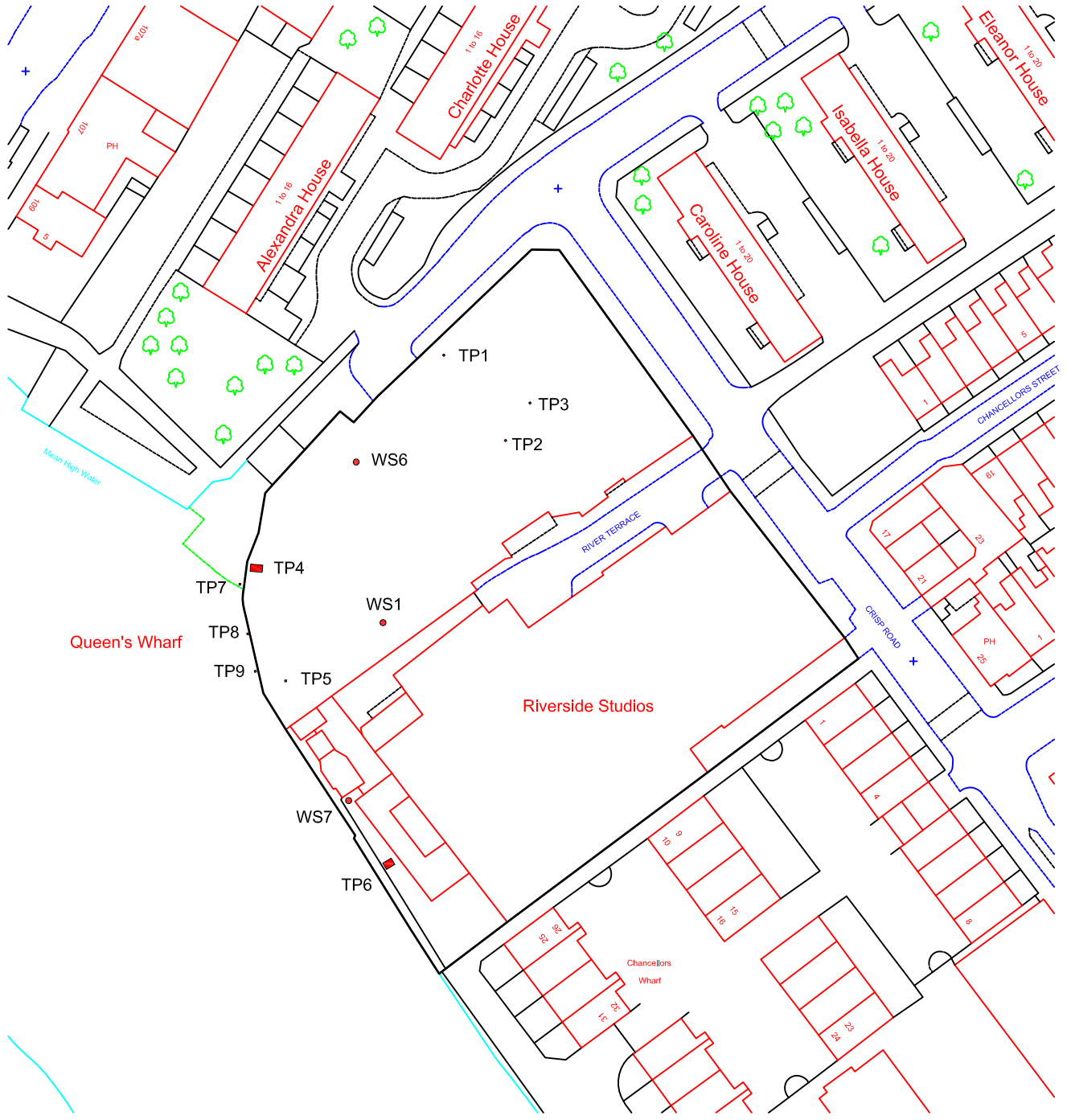


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Project Ref: 6624	April 2014	Site location		
Report Ref: 2014124	Drawn by: JLR			



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© Archaeology South-East		Hammersmith Riverside Studios and Queens's Wharf		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 6624	April 2014	Location of monitored areas		
Report Ref: 2014124	Drawn by: JLR			



Test Pit 1, looking south east



Test Pit 3, looking south east



Test Pit 4, looking west



Test Pit 5a, looking south



Test Pit 6, looking west



Test pits 7-9, under excavation



Test Pit 9, looking east

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