

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Mulberry House
3 Putney Park Avenue
London Borough of Wandsworth
London SW15 5QR**

**NGR: 522276 175361
(TQ 22276 75361)**

**Planning Ref: 13/3253
ASE Project No: 7424
Site Code: PPA15
ASE Report No: 2015359
OASIS id: archaeol6-225251**



By Sarah Ritchie, MA ACIfA



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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Deline Construction to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue, Wandsworth, SW15 5QR, in advance of development of the site. The site work was carried out on the 30th September 2015. The modern ground level lies at c. 11.80m OD, and the site is currently an enclosed garden.

Two archaeological trenches were excavated on the site and revealed a sequence of post-medieval/modern garden soil overlying a grey silt subsoil. Natural Head deposits consisting of sands and gravels were observed within both trenches, these sloped North to South from 11.31m OD to 11.01m OD in the south.

No archaeological remains were observed within the site.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Deline Construction to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue, Wandsworth, SW15 5QR (NGR: TQ 22276 75361; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS, 2015) shows the bedrock geology to be London Clay Formation: a sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. This is overlain by superficial Head deposits consisting of sand and gravel, formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period.

1.2.2 The site is located in the west of the London Borough of Wandsworth, c. 250m south of Barnes Common, situated on the western side of Putney Park Avenue; National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 22276 75361. The proposed development site is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 1,300sqm in size. The site is bound by Putney Park Avenue on the east, Daylesford Avenue on the west, and residential properties on the north and south. The site lies at a height of c. 11.80m OD.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Planning permission was granted in July 2013 (Ref: 13/3253) for the erection of two, two-storey semi-detached houses with accommodation at roof level fronting onto Daylesford Avenue. As part of the planning permission, an archaeological condition was placed on the site, which states:

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

Informative: The development of this site is likely to damage archaeological remains. The applicant should therefore submit detailed proposals in the form of an archaeological project design. The design should be in accordance with appropriate English Heritage guidelines.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological investigation carried out on the site on the 30th September 2015. This report has been prepared in accordance with the required Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2015).

1.4.2 The site work was carried out by Sarah Ritchie, and was managed by Andy Leonard (fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (post-excavation).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The site lies within two designated areas and an Archaeological Priority Area. The following information is drawn from a Desk Based Assessment for the site (AOC 2013).

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 A review of the GLHER data from within the 750m study area indicates that there are numerous find spots recorded which relate to the discovery of prehistoric tools within the vicinity of the proposed development site.

2.2.2 The earliest artefact listed was a Palaeolithic hand axe found on Dover House Road in 1977, approximately 650m south of the proposed development. Later, Mesolithic tools including cores, flakes, microliths and micro burins, have been discovered on Barnes Common c. 700m to the north.

2.2.3 The greatest number of prehistoric artefacts recovered from the immediate vicinity of the site derive from the Neolithic period, which consist of: several flint arrowheads found on Barnes Common Playing Fields located c 475m to the northeast; a flint arrowhead, flake, blade, saw and scraper tool found on Barnes Common c 450m to the northwest; a lithic implement and flint axe located c 800m to the northwest; a polished flint axe found on Lower Putney Common, c 600m to the northeast; a flint axe found on Huntingfield Road, located c 400m to the south.

2.2.4 More general evidence for prehistoric activity has also been recorded within the site's vicinity, consisting of a possible prehistoric ditch on Upper Richmond Road approximately 550m to the east of the proposed development, and an additional small assemblage of flint tools also recovered from Barnes Common to the north.

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 The main focus of Roman activity in this region was located to the northeast, within and close to the modern extent of the City of London, which was occupied from AD 43 through to the Roman withdrawal from Britain in AD 410, and beyond.

2.3.2 Roman activity in close proximity to the proposed development site includes the route of a possible Roman road. Archaeological investigations on Upper Richmond Road, approximately 650m to the east, found compacted gravel surfaces and a roadside ditch which appeared to be Roman in character, but no dating evidence was found in association. The course of the Roman road is believed to closely follow that of the modern Upper Richmond Road, but no further archaeological evidence has been identified to support this interpretation.

2.3.3 The remaining GLHER records which relate to Roman activity within the study area are represented by a series of isolated find spots, which consist of: a cremation burial and urn found on Mill Hill Road located c 700m to the north; a Roman coin was found adjacent to Upper Richmond Road, c 300m to the east; a bronze figurine of Atys was found on open ground, c 550m to the southwest (this is likely to have been redeposited); another Roman coin was found at Roehampton Close c 350m to the southwest; fragments of Roman pottery were collected from Dyers Lane, located c 600m to the northeast; and a third Roman coin, a Denarius, was found at The Briars, c 500m to the east.

2.4 Medieval

2.4.1 The nearest settlement recorded in the Domesday survey of AD 1086 is at Putney, first identified as Putelej, lying within the manor of Mortlake owned by the Archbishop of Canterbury. This historical entry implies that a settlement at Putney had been established prior to the Norman Conquest. During this period there is a strong likelihood that the area of the proposed development would have been located on marginal open ground, either as pasture or heathland, some distance from the core of the settlement.

2.4.2 By the 13th century, the area occupied by Putney Park Avenue appears to have been located within a large manorial park that covered an area of approximately 248 hectares, known as Putney Park, first recorded in 1273-4. The purpose of the park was to supply the Archbishop with venison and other produce. The boundary of the park is thought to be delineated by the modern line of Upper Richmond Road to the north, Larpent Avenue to the east, Putney Heath to the south, and Huntingfield Road to the west. Based on this information, the proposed development could lie in close proximity to the western boundary of the park.

2.4.3 No GLHER records exist for early or late medieval find spots in the vicinity of site.

2.5 Post-medieval

2.5.1 Putney Park ceased to be a deer park in 1636 and was turned over to agricultural use. It remained as such until the mid-19th century when the first detailed depiction of the site comes from the Putney Tithe Map of 1849. The area of the proposed developed is clearly marked, demarcated by the same boundary which is currently present. The current property of 3 Putney Park Avenue fronts onto the Avenue, with the garden to the rear.

2.6 Project Aims and Objectives

2.6.1 The over-riding objective of this phase of work was to demonstrate the presence or absence of any archaeological remains within the footprint of the proposed development.

2.6.2 Further to the above, the aims of the evaluation were:

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains and deposits with paleo-environmental potential within the footprint of the proposed development
- To determine the survival, extent and minimum depth below modern ground level of any such remains
- To determine the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits
- To enable the archaeology advisor at GLAAS to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further archaeological work at the site in order to fulfil the archaeology planning condition

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of two Archaeological trenches measuring 10m x 1.8m (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 The trench areas were CAT scanned prior to excavation.
- 3.1.3 The trenches were excavated using a tracked machine and a toothless ditching bucket. The turf was removed and the trenches excavated in 250mm spits until the first archaeological horizon or natural geology was reached.
- 3.1.4 The spoil was stored by the side of the trenches, at least 0.5m away from the edge.
- 3.1.5 All deposits were recorded using ASE standard context sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only.
- 3.1.6 Trenches were located and levelled using a GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey.
- 3.1.7 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned by eye, for unstratified artefacts.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 ASE informed the LAARC prior to the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated and were given a site code of PPA 15. The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the LAARC in due course.

Number of Contexts	6
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Digital photos	13
Permatrace sheets	1
Trench Record Forms	2

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
1/001	Layer	Garden soil	10m	1.8m	0.52m	11.82
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	10m	1.8m	0.17m	11.30
1/003	Layer	Natural	10m	1.8m	NFE	11.13

Table 2: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

- 4.1.1 Trench 1 was orientated East-West and located within the centre of the proposed development area (Figures 2 & 3).
- 4.1.2 Trench 1 revealed mixed orange-grey natural sands and gravels [1/003] across the trench at 11.13m OD. Overlying this was a mid-greyish-brown silt subsoil c. 0.17m thick with occasional charcoal flecks and pebbles [1/002].
- 4.1.3 Overlying subsoil [1/002] was a dark blackish-brown silt garden soil [1/001] with occasional fragments of late post-medieval/modern flower pot. This layer measured 0.52m thick, and was located at 11.82m OD.
- 4.1.4 All three layers were heavily disturbed by root action. No archaeological remains were observed within the trench.

4.2 Trench 2

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m	Height m AOD
2/001	Layer	Garden soil	10m	1.8m	0.53m	11.84
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	6.04m	1.8m	0.19m	11.41
2/003	Layer	Natural	10m	1.8m	NFE	11.31

Table 3: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 2 was orientated North-South and located over the back wall of the proposed development (Figures 2 & 4).
- 4.1.2 Trench 2 revealed mixed orange-grey natural sands and gravels [2/003] which slope from 11.31m OD in the north down to 11.01m OD in the south. Overlying these was a light brownish-grey silt subsoil c. 0.19m thick with occasional pebble inclusions [2/002]. The subsoil spanned the southern-most 6.04m of the trench, potentially having been horizontally truncated within the northern 3.96m of the trench where the natural sand and gravel [2/003] starts to rise.
- 4.1.3 Sealing subsoil [2/002] was a dark blackish-brown silt garden soil [2/001] with occasional fragments of late post-medieval CBM. This layer measured 0.53m thick, and was located at 11.84m OD.

4.1.4 All three layers were heavily disturbed by root action. No archaeological remains were observed within the trench.

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 5.1.1 The evaluation trenches revealed a consistent sequence of natural sands and gravels overlain by subsoil and post-medieval/modern garden soil. The natural sands and gravels observed sloped from 11.31m OD in the north down to 11.01m OD in the south.
- 5.1.2 The sequence was heavily disturbed by rooting from modern trees, No archaeological remains were observed within the trenches.
- 5.1.3 The results from the two trenches provided the same sequence of garden soil overlying subsoil and natural sand and gravels, suggesting that there can be a high degree of confidence in the results and interpretation of this evaluation.

5.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 5.2.1 The DBA (AOC 2013) established that the site has not been impacted upon by any previous groundworks, as it has been in use as open land since at least 1273, first within Putney Park, and subsequently as agricultural land and then as an enclosed garden.

5.3 Consideration of research aims

- *To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains and deposits with paleo-environmental potential within the footprint of the proposed development*

No archaeological remains or deposits with paleo-environmental potential were observed within the footprint of the proposed development

- *To determine the survival, extent and minimum depth below modern ground level of any such remains*

No archaeological remains were observed within the site

- *To determine the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits*

No archaeological remains were observed within the site

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HER Summary

Site Code	PPA 15					
Identification Name and Address	Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue, Wandsworth, SW15 5QR					
County, District &/or Borough	Wandsworth					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 22276 75361					
Geology	Head deposits over London Clay					
Arch. South-East Project Number	7424					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval					
Type of Site		Shallow Urban				
Dates of Fieldwork	30/9/15					
Sponsor/Client	Deline Construction					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Sarah Ritchie					
Period Summary						
			PM	Modern		
Summary	<p>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Deline Construction to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue, Wandsworth, SW15 5QR, in advance of development of the site. The site work was carried out on the 30th September 2015. The modern ground level lies at c. 11.80m OD, and the site is currently an enclosed garden.</p> <p>Two machine-excavated trenches revealed a sequence of post-medieval/modern garden soil overlying grey silt subsoil. Natural head deposits consisting of sands and gravels were observed within both trenches, these sloped North to South from 11.31m OD to 11.01m OD in the south.</p> <p>No archaeological deposits, features or finds were observed within the site.</p>					

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-225251

Project details

Project name	Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue, SW15 5QR
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Deline Construction to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue, Wandsworth, SW15 5QR, in advance of development of the site. The site work was carried out on the 30th September 2015. The modern ground level lies at c. 11.80m OD, and the site is currently an enclosed garden. Two machine-excavated trenches revealed a sequence of post-medieval/modern garden soil overlying grey silt subsoil. Natural head deposits consisting of sands and gravels were observed within both trenches, these sloped North to South from 11.31m OD to 11.01m OD in the south. No archaeological deposits, features or finds were observed within the site.
Project dates	Start: 30-09-2015 End: 30-09-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	PPA15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - Direction 4
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON WANDSWORTH WANDSWORTH Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue,
Postcode	SW15 5QR
Study area	1300 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 22276 75361 51.463496235085 -0.239595597448 51 27 48 N 000 14 22 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.01m Max: 11.31m

Project creators

Name of	Archaeology South-East
---------	------------------------

Organisation

Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Sarah Ritchie
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Deline Construction

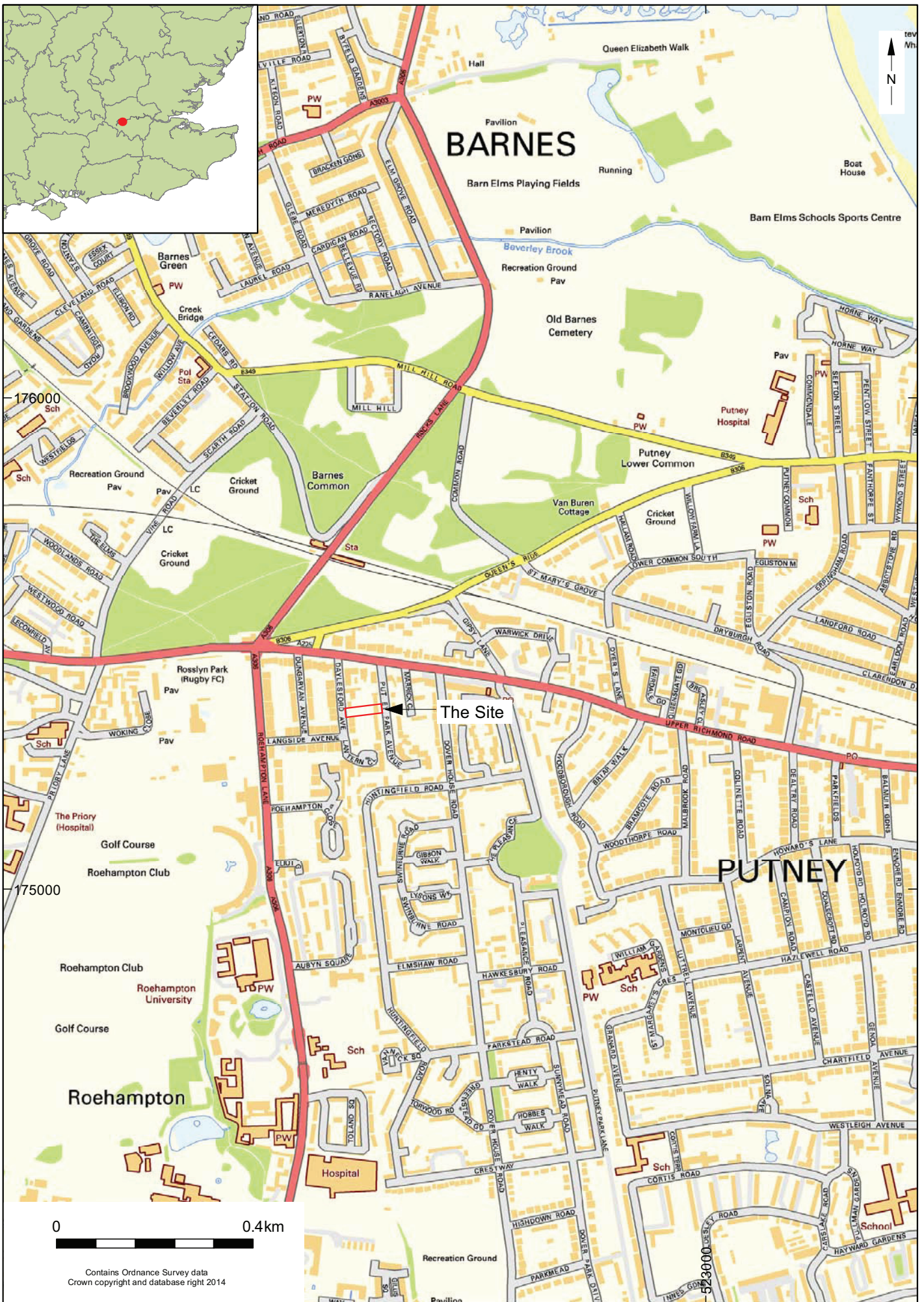
Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	PPA 15
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	PPA 15
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	PPA 15

Project bibliography 1

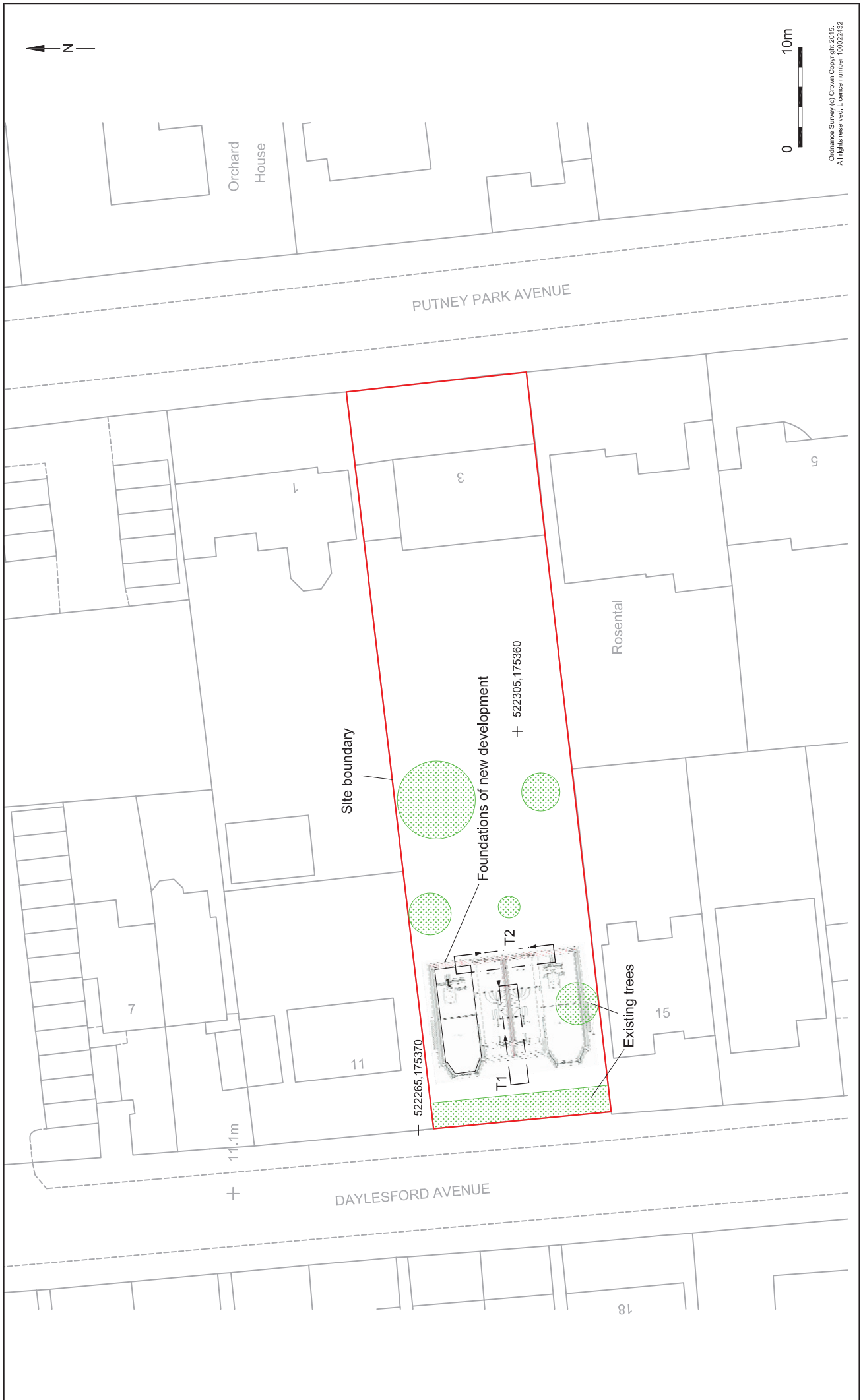
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Place of issue or publication	London

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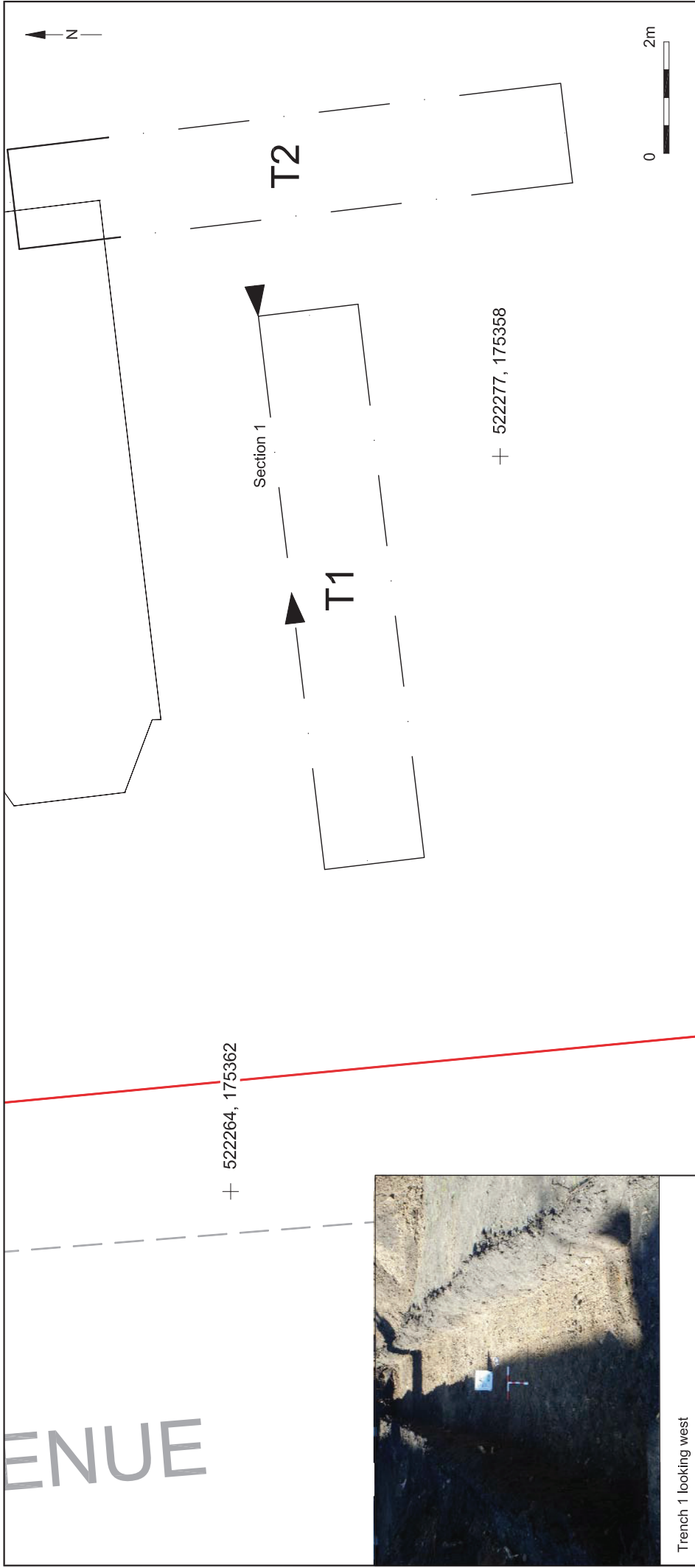
Contains Ordnance Survey data
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© Archaeology South-East		Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7424	Oct 2015	Site location		
Report Ref: 2015359	Drawn by: LG			

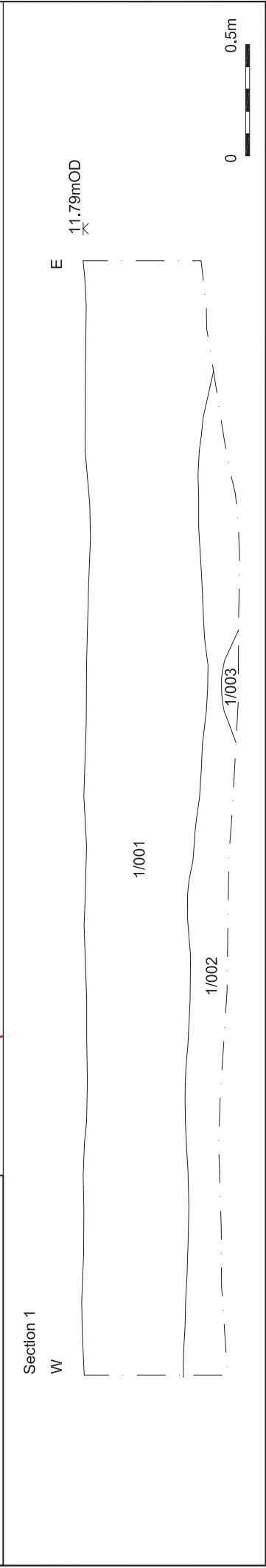


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Project Ref: 7424	Oct 2015	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2015359	Drawn by: LG		

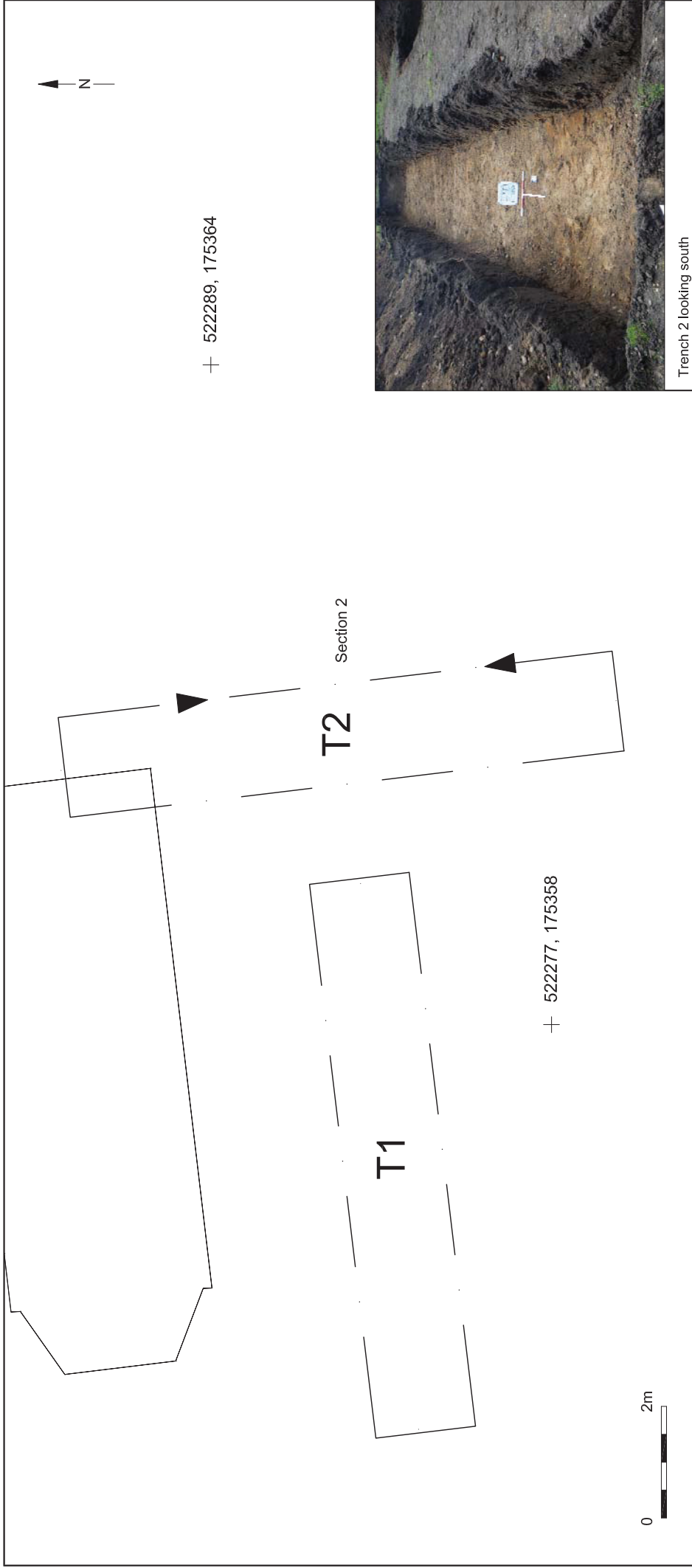
Fig.2



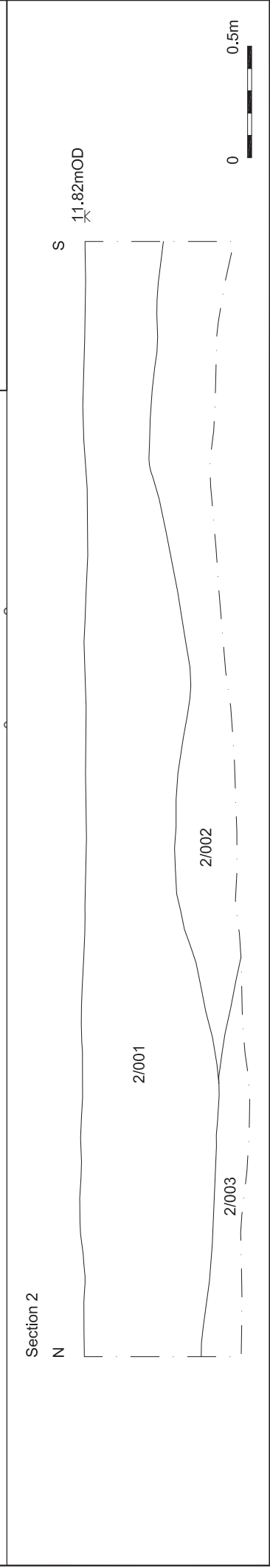
Trench 1 looking west



© Archaeology South-East		Mulberry House, 3 Putney Park Avenue		Fig.3
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Trench 2 looking south



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Project Ref: 7424	Oct 2015	Trench 2 plan, section and photo	
Report Ref: 2015359	Drawn by: LG		

Fig.4

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