

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
at 160-166 Crisp Street  
London E14**

**NGR: TQ 37813 81564**

**Planning Ref: PA/15/00039**

**ASE Project No: 7612  
Site Code: CSP15**

**ASE Report No: 2015372  
OASIS id: archaeol6-226119**



**October 2015**

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**Steve White  
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<b>Revision:</b>			

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**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation at 160-166 Chrisp Street, London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The work comprised of the excavation of five evaluation trenches across the site. Natural deposits were observed between 3.71m and 4.22m, overlain by a subsoil horizon and a sequence of modern make-up deposits. Two extensive areas of deep truncation into underlying natural gravels were identified, while further, deeper truncation in the area of an unexcavated trench is apparent from prior geotechnical work carried out on the site.*

*In addition, a series of five geo-archaeological test pits were excavated across the site to determine the Palaeolithic and palaeoenvironmental potential of the Kempton Park Gravels and overlying Langley Silt Brickearth although these did not recover any Palaeolithic or biological material.*

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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 to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at 160-166 Chrisp street, London E13 (Figure1, NGR: TQ 37813 81564).

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The site comprised an irregular parcel of land bound by Rifle Street and residential housing to the north, the Docklands Light Rail line to the east, Cording Street to the south, and Chrisp Street to the west. The site had previously been the premises of the London Hoist Company, and featured a quite prominent crane in the south-eastern quadrant. Current ground varied between 5.11m and 5.31m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.2.2 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2015) the solid geology of the site comprises Langley Silt Brickearth overlying Kempton Park Gravel Formation sands and gravels, which in turn overlies London Clay.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A planning application was submitted on the 12th of January, 2015 (ref: PA/15/00039) for the demolition of the existing buildings on site and the redevelopment of new buildings ranging from three to twelve stories, providing 254 residential units together with associated car parking.

1.3.2 Planning permission for redevelopment is anticipated to be granted shortly. The Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) Officer for the Borough has previously requested that a planning condition for archaeology be added to the granting of consent. The draft wording is set out below:

*Reason: Heritage assets of archaeological interest survive on the site. The planning authority wishes to secure the provision of archaeological investigation followed by the subsequent recording of significant remains prior to development (including preservation of important remains), in accordance with recommendations given by the borough and in the NPPF.*

*A) No demolition or development shall take place until the applicant 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 by the local planning authority.*

*B) No development or demolition shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (A).*

*C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and*

*post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (A), and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured.*

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

- 1.3.3 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* outlining the scope of the required archaeological works, in the form of a Stage 1 evaluation of the site, was subsequently prepared by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2015) and duly approved by GLAAS. All work was carried out in accordance with this document and with the relevant standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA 2014a; 2014b).

#### **1.4 Scope of Report**

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out on the site in September 2015. This report has been prepared in accordance with the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMs 2015).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The following information is taken from the Heritage Statement (Wessex 2014), with due acknowledgement.

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 Prehistoric evidence from within the vicinity of site was relatively common and mainly comprised isolated finds such as axes and other flint tools. This is likely to be due to the position of the site on the Kempton Park Gravels which hold an increased potential for the recovery of prehistoric remains. In addition to this, the position of the site close to both the Thames and the River Lea may have made it an attractive place for later prehistoric activity, as suggested by a Bronze Age ditch and gully and also a Bronze Age hoard within the vicinity of the site. It is also possible that prehistoric flint implements could be recovered from the Kempton Park Gravels that lie beneath the site.

### **2.3 Roman and medieval**

2.3.1 Poplar and Limehouse are villages that were established in the medieval period and a number of medieval roads traverse the vicinity of site, one of which may have passed close to the site on a north-east/south-west alignment. It is likely that the site formed part of the rural agricultural land during the medieval and Romano-British periods.

### **2.4 Post-medieval**

2.4.1 The site has been developed since at least the 1860s and prior to this, was used as agricultural land and partially market gardens. The development within the site comprised factory buildings, for rope manufacturing and later a cake and biscuit factory, as well as a number of terraced houses lining Cording Street, Rifle Street and Chrisp Street. It is possible that remains relating to the industrial use of the Site in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries as well as possible drainage features or field boundaries relating to the agricultural use of the Site could be exist within the development area.

### **2.5 Project Aims and Objectives**

2.5.1 The aims and objectives of the investigation were set out in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (CgMs 2015) and are herein reproduced in full below:

- To establish whether any archaeological sites exist in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to require preservation in situ.
- The evaluation should aim to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of

any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened was to be studied, and attention should be given to sites and remains of all periods (inclusive of evidence of past environments).

- The evaluation should also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.

2.5.2 Within these parameters, the evaluation of this site presents an opportunity to address the following objectives:

- To establish the presence or otherwise of any prehistoric activity, together with any earlier or later activity, and to define the date and nature of such activity;
- To establish the environmental context of any prehistoric activity, together with any earlier and/or later activity;
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development;
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy.



### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

3.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation proposed the excavation of six trenches, totalling some 145m of trenching, as shown in Figure 2. Due to existing site constraints, however, access could not be gained to the location of Trench 1 (which was not excavated) and the locations of Trenches 2 to 5 had to be substantially revised to avoid on-site obstructions and services. The locations of the excavated trenches are shown on Figure 3. All amendments to trench location were agreed in advance with CgMs Consulting and GLAAS.

3.1.2 In addition, a programme of geo-archaeological investigations was carried out on the site, to determine the palaeoenvironmental and Palaeolithic potential of the Langley Silt and underlying Kempton Park Gravels known to exist on the site. The location of the geo-archaeological test pits is shown on Figure 3 and the results of this work can be found in Appendix 2.

#### **3.2 Archive**

3.2.1 ASE informed the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) before the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated. The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the LAARC in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	36
No. of files/paper record	8
Plan and sections sheets	1
Digital photos	17
Permatrace sheets	6
Trench Record Forms	5

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

## **4.0 RESULTS**

**4.1** All five excavated trenches proved devoid of any archaeological finds or features (Figures 3 and 4). A summary of recorded contexts in these trenches can be found in Appendix 1.

### **4.2 Trench 2**

4.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the western part of site. Natural brickearth [2/006] was encountered at the base of the trench between 3.71 and 3.74m aOD. This was overlain by a layer of mid brown silty clay subsoil [2/005] which was in turn overlain by a modern make-up layer of clinker [2/004]. This was in turn sealed by another make-up layer ([2/003]) that was then overlain by a layer of ballast make-up [2/002] for concrete slab [2/001].

4.2.2 No archaeological deposits or finds were observed.

### **4.3 Trench 2A**

4.3.1 Trench 2A was located in the western part of site, extending south from Trench 2. Natural brickearth [2A/006] was encountered at the base of the trench between 3.75 and 3.88m aOD. This was overlain by a layer of subsoil [2A/005], in turn overlain by a make-up layer of clinker [2A/004]. This sealed by another make up layer [2A/003], a layer of ballast [2A/002] and concrete slab [2A/001].

4.3.2 The southern end of the trench contained a large modern concrete intrusion [2A/007], cut down from below ballast layer [2A/007]. This was the same concrete intrusion as [3/008] in Trench 3.

4.3.3 No archaeological deposits or finds were observed.

### **4.4 Trench 3**

4.4.1 Trench 3 was located in the west of site. Natural brickearth [3/005] was observed at the base of the trench between 3.74 and 4.05m aOD. This was overlain by subsoil horizon [3/004] which was in turn sealed by a brick rubble make-up layer. This was truncated by a modern concrete intrusions [3/008] and [3/009] that were then sealed by a ballast layer ([3/002]) and overlain by modern concrete [3/001].

4.4.2 No archaeological deposits or features were observed.

### **4.5 Trench 4**

4.5.1 Trench 4 was located to the east of site. Natural brickearth [4/006] was observed at 3.88m aOD at the far eastern end of the trench, with subsoil [4/003] overlying it. This was truncated by a modern intrusion [4/005], backfilled with demolition material and re-deposited gravels [4/004], which also extended across much of Trench 5 to the north. Wall [4/007] was situated within this modern intrusion. These were all then sealed by make-up layer [4/002] that was in turn overlain by modern concrete [4/001].

4.5.2 No archaeological deposits or features were observed.

#### **4.6 Trench 5**

4.6.1 Trench 5 was located in the north-east part of site. Natural brickearth [5/005] was observed in the north of the trench at 4.22m AOD. This was overlain by subsoil [5/004], sealed by make-up layer [5/003]. This sequence was truncated by a large modern intrusion [5/009] that extended across the remainder of Trench 5 to the south and into Trench 4. Situated within this modern truncation was a masonry pad [5/006] (not illustrated), a concrete building foundation ([5/007]) and a wall ([5/008]).

4.6.2 No archaeological deposits or features were observed within the trench.

## **5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **5.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence**

- 5.1.1 The sequence across site can be categorised essentially as natural deposits truncated by modern intrusions. Natural Langley Silt Brickearth was observed across site between 3.71m and 4.22m aOD. Where present, this was sealed by an intact subsoil horizon, in turn sealed by modern make-up deposits.

### **5.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts**

- 5.2.1 Two extensive, deep, modern intrusions in the vicinity of Trench 3 and Trenches 4 and 5 (see figure 3) will have undoubtedly have obliterated any potential archaeological horizon in these locations. Trench 1 was not excavated but the geotechnical work carried out in this area indicates truncation to a greater depth than the modern intrusions observed in Trenches 2 to 5. It seems reasonable therefore, to assume little or no archaeological survival in this area of the site as well.
- 5.2.2 Elsewhere on the site, the survival of a subsoil horizon overlying the natural Langley Silt brickearth indicates that any putative archaeological horizon might survive outside the footprint of the deeper intrusions discussed above. However, no such horizon was identified during the course of the investigation.

### **5.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period**

- 5.3.1 No archaeological finds or features were observed on site. Specifically, geo-archaeological examination of the Langley Silts and underlying Kempton Park Gravels did not identify any Palaeolithic or palaeoenvironmental material. These deposits are therefore deemed to be of low potential in these locations (see Appendix 2).

### **5.4 Potential impact on archaeological remains**

- 5.4.1 The absence of any archaeological finds or features, or any Palaeolithic or palaeoenvironmental material in the excavated trenches (see Appendix 2) suggests that the proposed development will have a negligible impact on archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains.

### **5.5 Consideration of research aims**

- 5.5.1 To establish the presence or otherwise of any prehistoric activity, together with any earlier or later activity, and to define the date and nature of such activity;

*No archaeology was observed on site*

- 5.5.2 To establish the environmental context of any prehistoric activity, together with any earlier and/or later activity;

*No archaeology was observed on site*

5.5.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development;

*No archaeology was observed on site*

5.5.4 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy.

*No archaeology was observed on site*

## **5.6 Conclusions**

5.6.1 The site at 160-166 Crisp Street revealed a great deal of modern truncation. No archaeological remains of any description were observed within the trenches.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Borough of Tower Hamlets: Heritage Statement*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and GLAAS for their guidance and monitoring. The excavation was directed by Stephen White, with assistance from Tom Rugg, Jody Bloom and Jasmine Vieri. The author would like to thank all archaeologists who worked on the excavations; Andrew Lewsey who produced the figures for this report; Andy Leonard who project managed the excavations and Jim Stevenson who project managed the post-excavation process.

**HER Summary Form**

Site Code	CSP15					
Identification Name and Address	160-166 Chrisp Street, London, E14					
County, District &/or Borough	London Borough of Tower Hamlets					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 37813 81564					
Geology	Brick Earth					
Arch. South-East Project Number	7612					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. X	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban X	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 16/9/15-24/9/15	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CGMS					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Steve White					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern X		
<p>Summary</p> <p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by the CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a site at 160-166 Chrisp Street, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, between the 16th and 24th of September, 2015. The work comprised of the excavation of five evaluation trenches. The Evaluation revealed a series of modern truncations down to the natural deposits. Natural deposits were observed between 3.71m and 4.22m OD.</i></p>						

## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-226119**

### Project details

Project name	160-166 Chrisp Street
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East was commissioned by the CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a site at 160-166 Chrisp Street, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, between the 16th and 24th of September, 2015. The work comprised of the excavation of five evaluation trenches. The Evaluation revealed a series of modern truncations down to the natural deposits. Natural deposits were observed between 3.71m and 4.22m OD.
Project dates	Start: 16-09-2015 End: 24-09-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CSP15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS TOWER HAMLETS 160-166 Chrisp Street
Postcode	E14
Study area	6349 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 37813 81564 51.515665866247 -0.013623883314 51 30 56 N 000 00 49 W Polygon
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.71m Max: 4.22m

### Project creators



Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Steve White
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs

### **Project archives**

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	CSP15
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	CSP15
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database", "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	CSP15
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Diary", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Plan", "Report", "Survey "

### **Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at 160-166 Crisp Street
Author(s)/Editor(s)	White, S
Date	2015

Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Portslade
Description	Grey lit
Entered by	Steve White (stephen.white@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	9 October 2015

**Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts**

<b>Trench Number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness m</b>	<b>Height m AOD</b>
2	2/001	Layer	Concrete slab	0.15-0.20	
2	2/002	Layer	Made ground	0.18-0.25	
2	2/003	Layer	Made ground	0.25-0.35	0
2	2/004	Layer	Made ground	0.17-0.40	
2	2/005	Layer	Subsoil	0.27-0.40	
2	2/006	Layer	Natural	>0.57	
2A	2A/001	Layer	Concrete slab	0.15-0.17	
2A	2A/002	Layer	Made ground	0.25-0.30	
2A	2A/003	Layer	Made ground	0.20-0.45	
2A	2A/004	Layer	Make up	0.22-0.35	
2A	2A/005	Layer	Subsoil	0.25-0.34	
2A	2A/006	Layer	Natural	>0.27	
3	3/001	Layer	Concrete slab	0.15-0.80	
3	3/002	Layer	Balllast	0.15-0.30	
3	3/003	Layer	Brick rubble make up	0.20	
3	3/004	Layer	Subsoil	0.30	
3	3/005	Layer	Natural	>0.55	
3	3/006	Fill	Geotech trench	1.40	
3	3/007	Cut	Geotech trench	1.40	
3	3/008	Masonry	Modern disturbance	0.90	
3	3/009	Layer	Modern disturbance	0.90	
4	4/001	Layer	Concrete Slab	0.15-0.40	
4	4/002	Layer	Makeup	0.25-0.30	
4	4/003	Layer	Subsoil	0.20	
4	4/004	Fill	Modern disturbance	0.40-0.60	
4	4/005	Cut	Modern disturbance	0.40-0.60	
4	4/006	Layer	Natural	>0.40	
4	4/007	Masonry	Wall	1.10	
5	5/001	Layer	Concrete slab	0.17-0.37	
5	5/002	Layer	Make up	0.05-0.17	
5	5/003	Layer	Make up	0.14-0.60	
5	5/004	Layer	Subsoil	0.32	
5	5/005	Layer	Natural	>0.08	
5	5/006	Masonry	Concrete pad	1.00	
5	5/007	Masonry	Concrete foundation	1.00	
5	5/008	Masonry	Wall	1.00	
5	5/009	Layer	Modern disturbance	>0.20	

Table 2: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts

**Appendix 2: Geo-archaeological investigation report**

# 160-166 CHRISP STREET, POPLAR, LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

## Geoarchaeological Field Investigations

**NGR:** TQ 378 816

**Date:** 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015

**Written by:** Dr P. Allen



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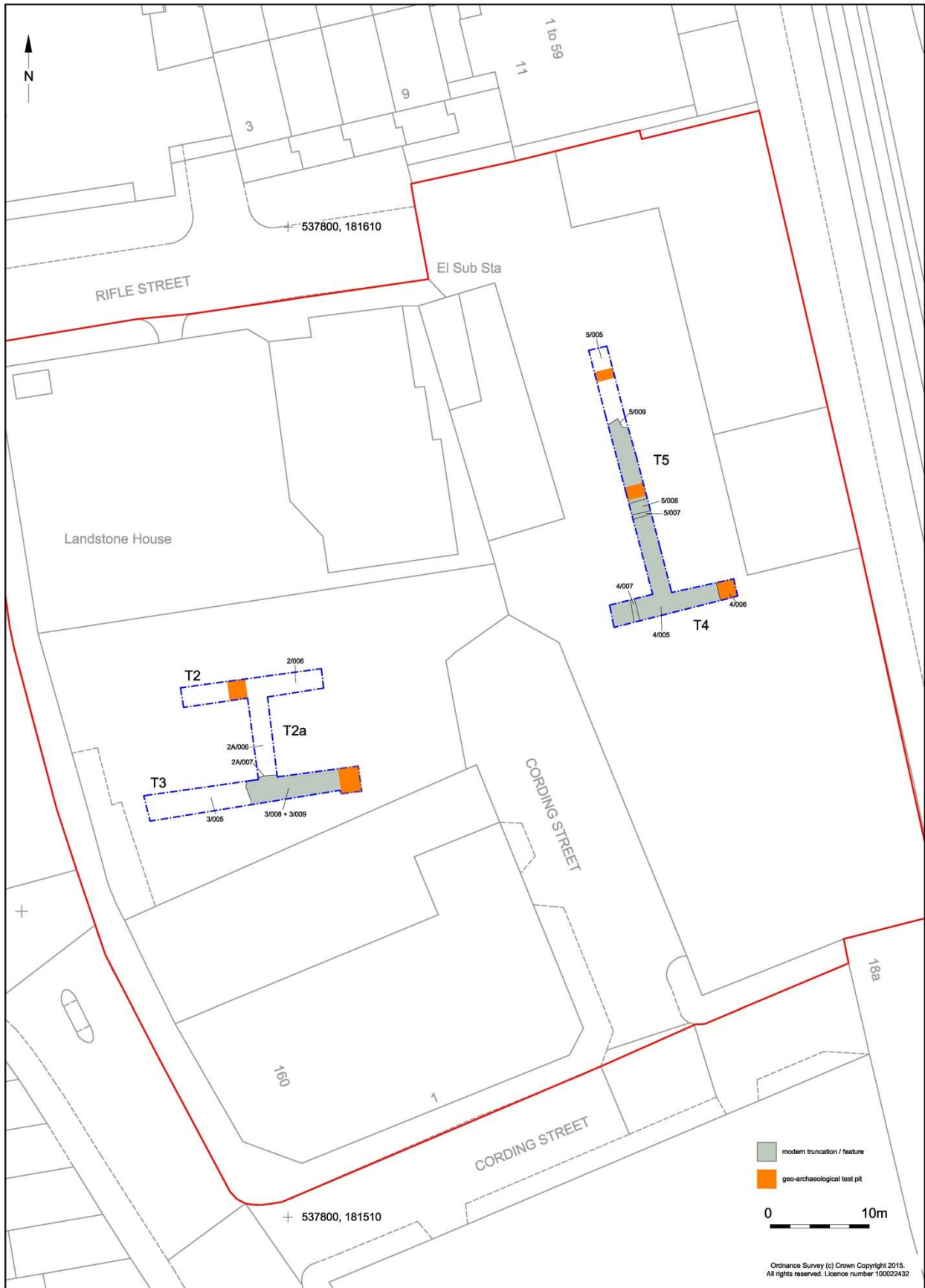
1. Introduction
2. Site Context
3. Methods
4. Results and Interpretation of the Geoarchaeological Investigations
5. Conclusions and Recommendations
6. References

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This report summarises the findings arising out of the geoarchaeological investigations undertaken by Quaternary Scientific (University of Reading) in connection with the proposed development at 160-166 Chrisp Street, Poplar, London Borough of Tower Hamlets (Figure 1). During recent archaeological investigations on the site multiple trial-pits were put down across the site for geoarchaeological purposes. The main aims of the investigation were to: (1) observe and record the sediments excavated; (2) interpret the sub-surface stratigraphy across the site and (3) highlight sediments of potential palaeoenvironmental and Palaeolithic significance.

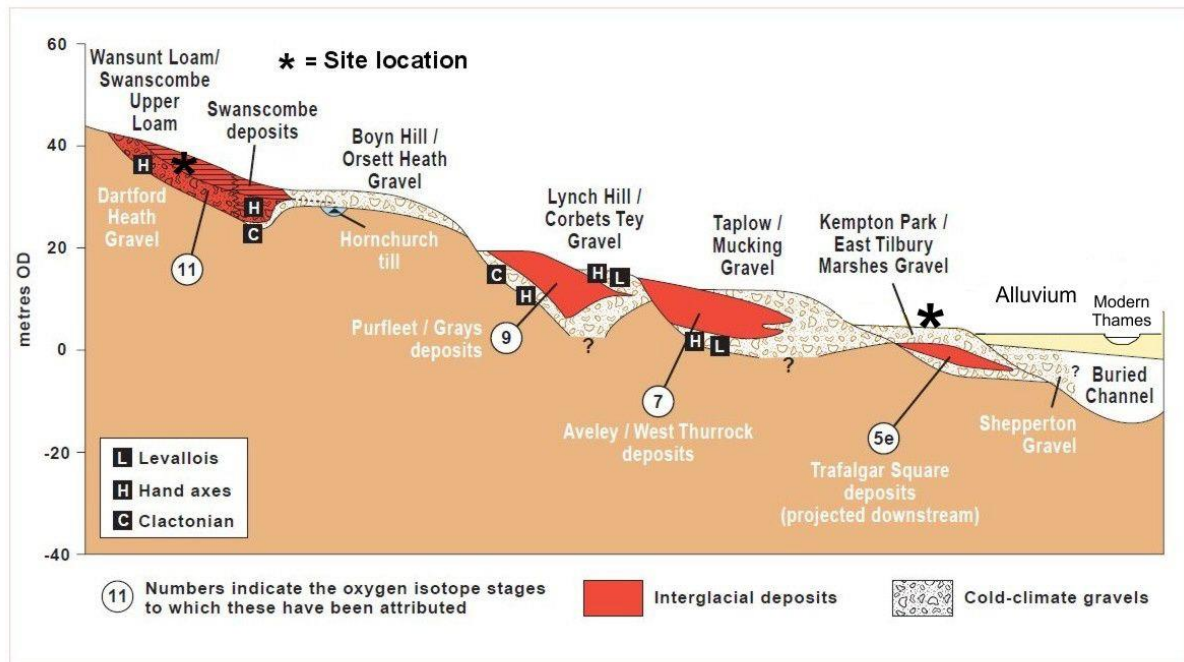
## **2. SITE CONTEXT**

The 160-166 Chrisp Street site lies approximately 4km east of the City London, at TQ 378 816. The area is reasonably flat at 5.0 – 6.0m OD, lying approximately 1km north of the Thames and 0.5km west of the River Lea, on a thin patch of Devensian Langley Silt, overlying the Devensian upper element of the Kempton Park Gravel. The Kempton Park Gravel forms the lowest of the Thames terraces (Figure 2). The area has a poor record of Palaeolithic finds. Wymer (1968, 1985) noted two hand-axes found locally, one certainly a forgery and the other of 'doubtful workmanship'. Summaries of the geological and archaeological histories are available in Bridgland (1994), Gibbard (1994) and Ellison et al. (2004).



**Figure 1: Trench locations, 160-166 Crisp Street, Poplar, London Borough of Tower Hamlets**





**Figure 2: Site position within Thames terrace staircase**

### 3. METHODS

Five trenches were designated for inspection, but access to the site for Trench 1 was not possible at the time of the visit, so only Trenches 2 to 5 were inspected. These were cut to a depth of 1.0 or 1.2 m, except the east end of Trench 3 and part of Trench 2 where there was a deeper excavation to 1.50 m. All were examined for the presence of Langley Silt or Kempton Park Gravel. A summary section is given below (Table 1).

**Table 1: Summary Stratigraphy, 160-166 Crisp Street**

<b>Made ground</b>	concrete pad at ground surface
	brick and other coarse material (coarse spoil)
	gravel, sometimes with a black industrial matrix and occasional brick and concrete (pebbly spoil)
	clayey silt, often similar to, but darker than, the Langley Silt and including small amounts of debris such as brick or concrete (silty clay spoil), often transitional into the Langley Silt.
<b>Langley Silt</b>	clayey silt
<b>Kempton Park Gravel</b>	sandy gravel/gravelly sand (seen only in Trench 2)

#### 4. RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Annotated photographs and tabulated descriptions are provided for each trench (Tables 2-6; Figures 3-7). Two sections were investigated in Trench 5 due to the irregular presence of Langley Silt.

**Table 2: Lithostratigraphic description of Trench 2, 160-166 Chrisp Street**  
Section situated at 4.8 to 6.6 m from the west end of the trench, on the north face.

Unit	Depth (m bgs)	Approximate Depth (m OD)	Lithostratigraphic Description
2.1	-0.15 0.15 – 0.40 0.40 – 0.65 0.65 – 0.90 0.90 – 1.10	5.50 – 5.35 5.35 – 5.10 5.10 – 4.85 4.85 – 4.60 4.60 – 4.40	<b>Made ground</b> Concrete Sand Coarse rubble Pebbly spoil Silty clay spoil Transition to 2.2 Langley Silt
2.2	1.10 – 1.55	4.40 – 3.95	<b>Langley Silt</b> Transitional from 2.1 Made Ground Silty clay, finely brecciated, no visible bedding 7.5YR4/6 (strong brown) with c.10% orange mottles, 5YR5/8 (yellowish red) Very occasional small flints, up to 2cm long,
2.3	1.55 +	< 3.95	<b>Kempton Park Gravel</b> Exposed in floor of trench Sandy gravel. Mostly flint, up to 8cm, with larger sizes common, mostly rounded or sub-rounded, some sub-angular Matrix 7.5YR5/6 (strong brown)

**Table 3: Lithostratigraphic description of Trench 3, 160-166 Chrisp Street**  
Section width approximately 1.8 m, situated at the east end of the trench

Unit	Depth (m bgs)	Approximate Depth (m OD)	Lithostratigraphic Description
3.1	- 0.10 0.10 – 0.25 0.30 – 0.75	5.50 – 5.40 5.40 – 5.20 5.20 – 4.75	<b>Made ground</b> Concrete Coarse rubble Pebbly spoil Transitional to 3.2 Langley Silt
3.2	0.75 – 1.2	4.75 – 4.30	<b>Langley Silt</b> Transitional from 3.1 Made Ground Silty clay, finely brecciated, no visible bedding 10YR4/6 (dark yellowish brown) Very occasional small flints, up to 2 cm long

*Deepened section at east end dug to 1.5m, but spoil falling into pit allowed recording only to 1.2 m bgs*

**Table 4: Lithostratigraphic description of Trench 4, 160-166 Crisp Street**  
 Section width approximately 1.8 m, situated at the east end of the trench

Unit	Depth (m bgs)	Approximate Depth (m OD)	Lithostratigraphic Description
4.1	0.0 - 0.25 0.25 – 0.45 0.45 – 0.70 (to 1.20)	5.50 – 5.25 5.25 – 5.05 5.05 – 4.80 (to 4.30)	<b>Made ground</b> Concrete Coarse rubble Pebbly spoil, to 0.70 bgs, 4.80m OD, above Langley Silt, but to 1.20 bgs, 4.30m OD in cuts/trenches either side of the Silt
4.2	0.70 – 1.20	4.80 – 4.30	<b>Langley Silt</b> Silty clay, finely brecciated, no visible bedding 10YR4/6 (dark yellowish brown) Very occasional small flints, up to 2 cm long, but has a pebbly core area (Stony Langley Silt), but clasts

**Table 5: Lithostratigraphic description of Section 1, Trench 5, 160-166 Crisp Street**  
 Section situated between 2.3 and 3.3 m from the north end of the trench on its west side.

Unit	Depth (m bgs)	Approximate Depth (m OD)	Lithostratigraphic Description
5.1.1	- 0.18 0.18 – 0.42 0.42 – 0.55 0.55 - 0.85	5.50 – 5.32 5.32 – 5.08 5.08 – 4.95 4.95 – 4.65	<b>Made ground</b> Concrete Coarse rubble Pebbly spoil Sandy silty clay, occasional small pieces of plastic and brick, dark colour (?due to contamination). Transitional to 5.1.2 Langley Silt
5.1.2	0.85 – 1.20	4.65 – 4.30	<b>Langley Silt</b> Transitional from 5.1.1 Made Ground Silty clay, finely brecciated, no visible bedding 7.5YR4/6 (strong brown) Very occasional small flints, up to 2 cm long Sub-vertical worm (?root) channels

**Table 6: Lithostratigraphic description of Section 2, Trench 5, 160-166 Crisp Street**  
 Section situated 14.30 to 15.60m from north end of trench, on its west side.

Unit	Depth (m bgs)	Approximate Depth (m OD)	Lithostratigraphic Description
5.2.1	-0.20 0.20 – 0.30 0.30 – 0.55 0.55- 0.75	5.50 – 5.30 5.30 – 5.20 5.20 – 4.95 4.95 – 4.75	<b>Made ground</b> Concrete Sand Coarse rubble Pebbly spoil
5.2.2a In situ 14.3 to 14.5 m from N end	0.75 – 1.20	4.75 – 4.30	<b>Langley Silt</b> Silty clay, finely brecciated, no visible bedding 7.5YR4/6 (strong brown) Minor mottling, red-orange Very occasional small flints, up to 2 cm, sub- rounded and sub-angular Topmost 0.5 m darker (?humic or ?clay-silt spoil of 5.1.1) Sub-vertical lateral change to 5.2.2b
5.2.2b Trench infill 14.5 to 15.4 m from N end	0.75 – 0.90          0.90 – 1.20	4.75 – 4.60          4.60 – 4.30	<b>Made Ground</b> Sub-vertical lateral change from 5.2.2a Sandy silty clay, massive (not brecciated) Slightly lighter in colour 7.5 YR5/6 (strong brown) No mottling Occasional small flints, up to 4 cm, sub-rounded and sub-angular Both upper and lower 0.25 m darker (?contamination ?humic) Pebbly spoil. Topmost 0.3 m cemented. Matrix-supported; ratio of pebbles to matrix greater (more pebbly) than in in situ Kempton Park Gravel Sub-vertical lateral change to 5.2.2c
5.2.2c Infill 15.4to 15.6 m from N end	0.75 – 0.90 0.90 – 1.20	4.75 – 4.60 4.60 – 4.30	<b>Made ground</b> Sub-vertical lateral change from 5.2.2b Sandy pebbly spoil Pebbly silty clay, including fragments of brick

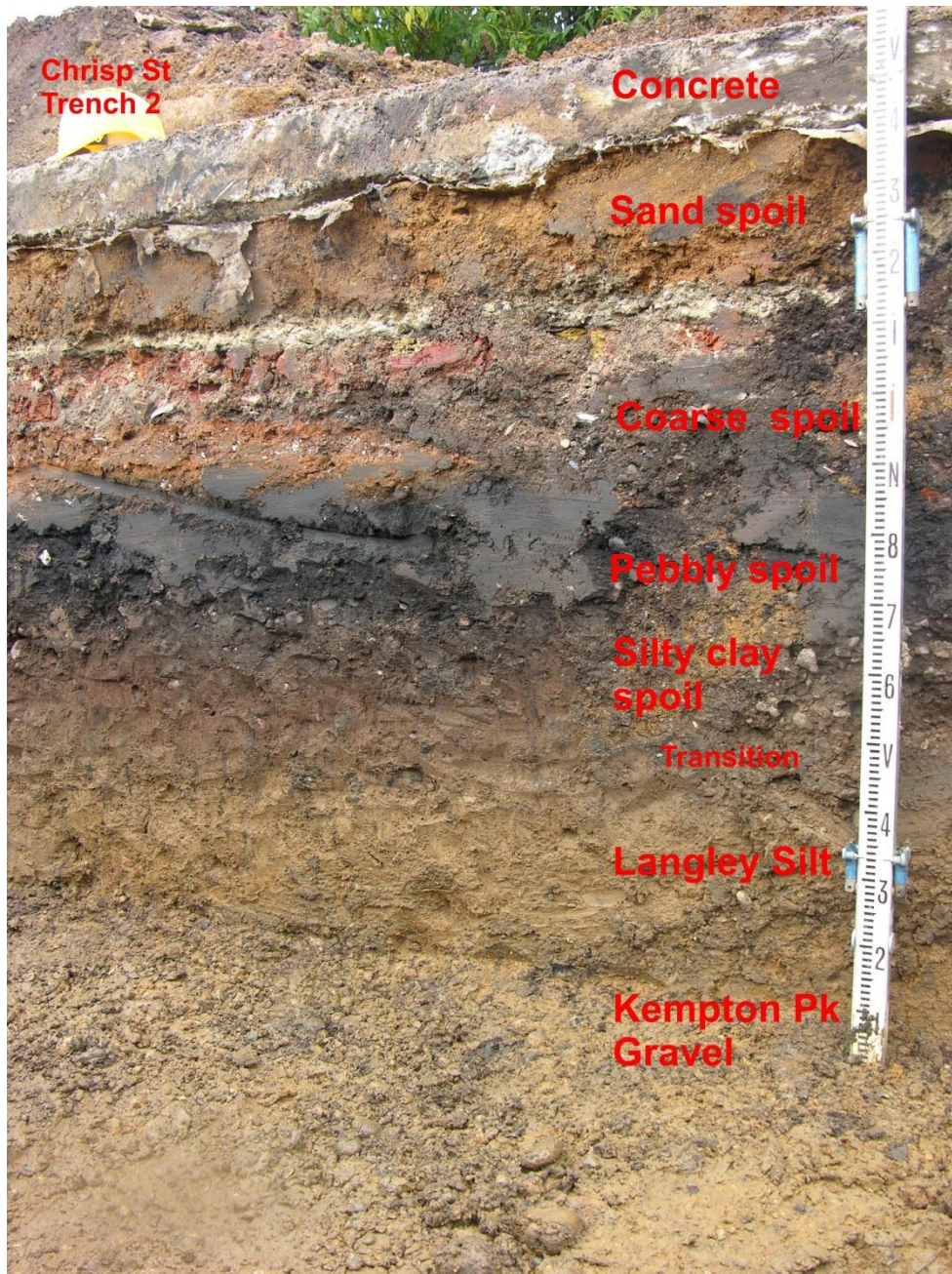


Figure 3: Annotated photograph of Trench 2

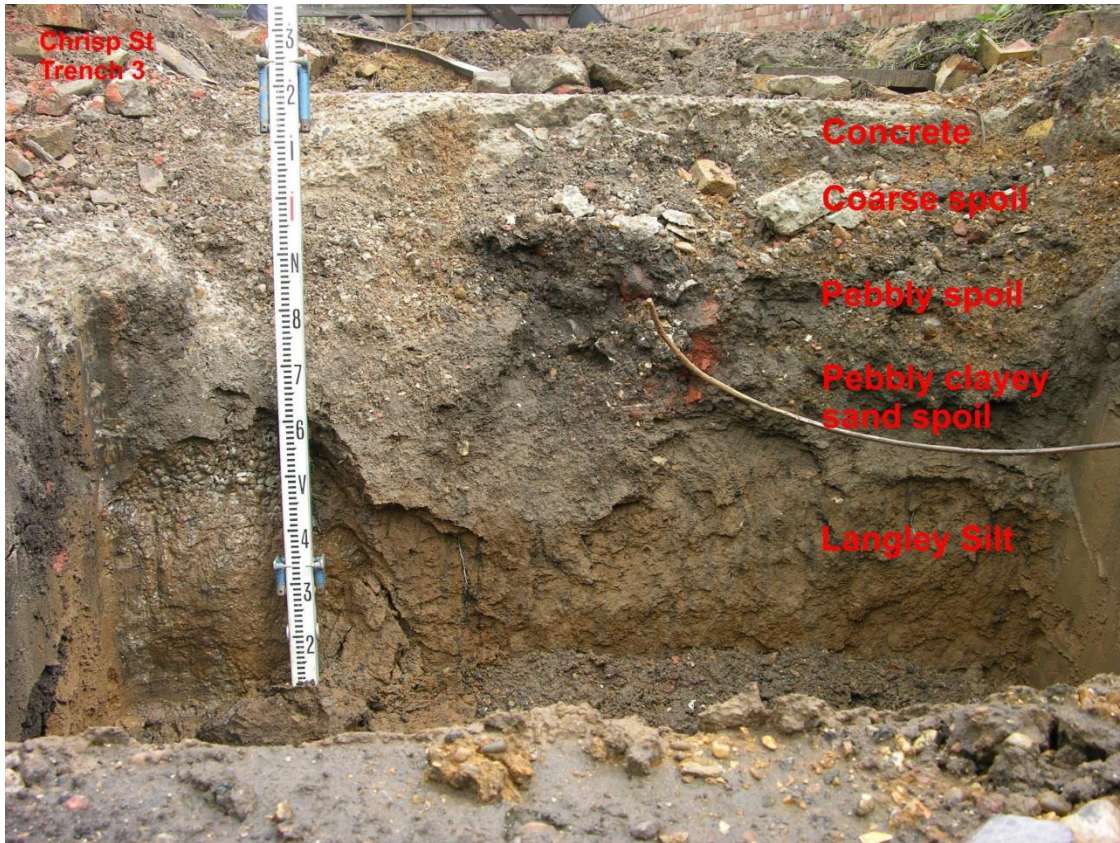


Figure 4: Annotated photograph of Trench 3

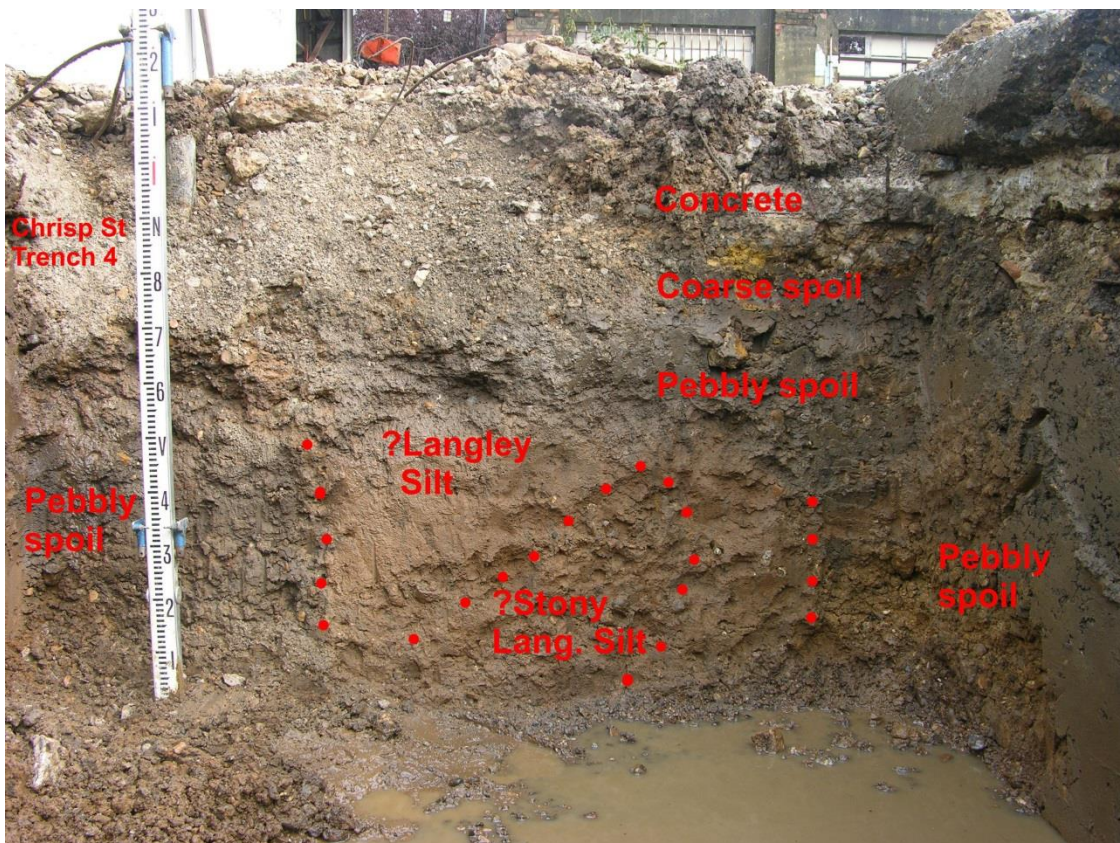


Figure 5: Annotated photograph of Trench 4

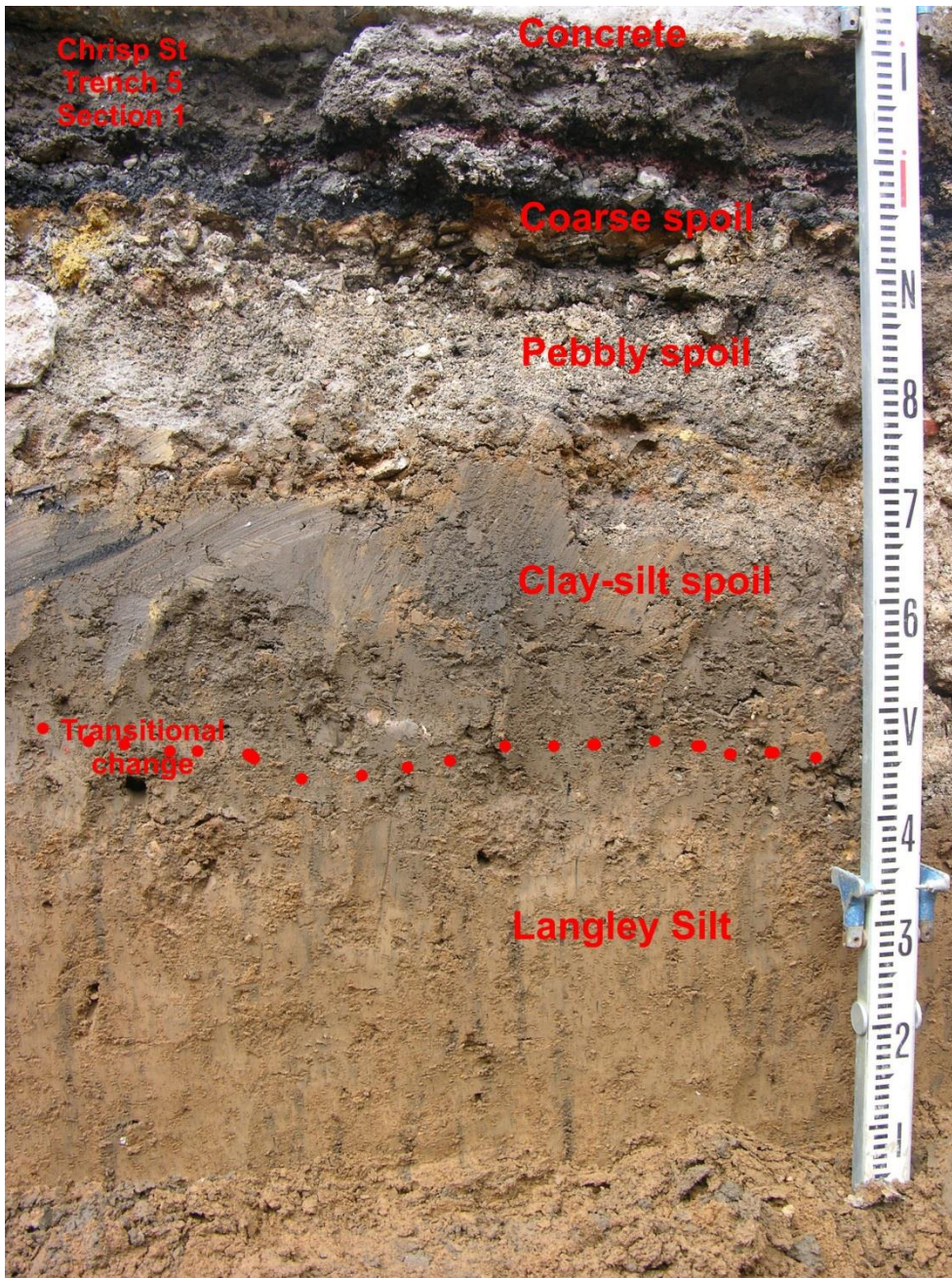


Figure 6: Annotated photograph of Trench 5, Section 1

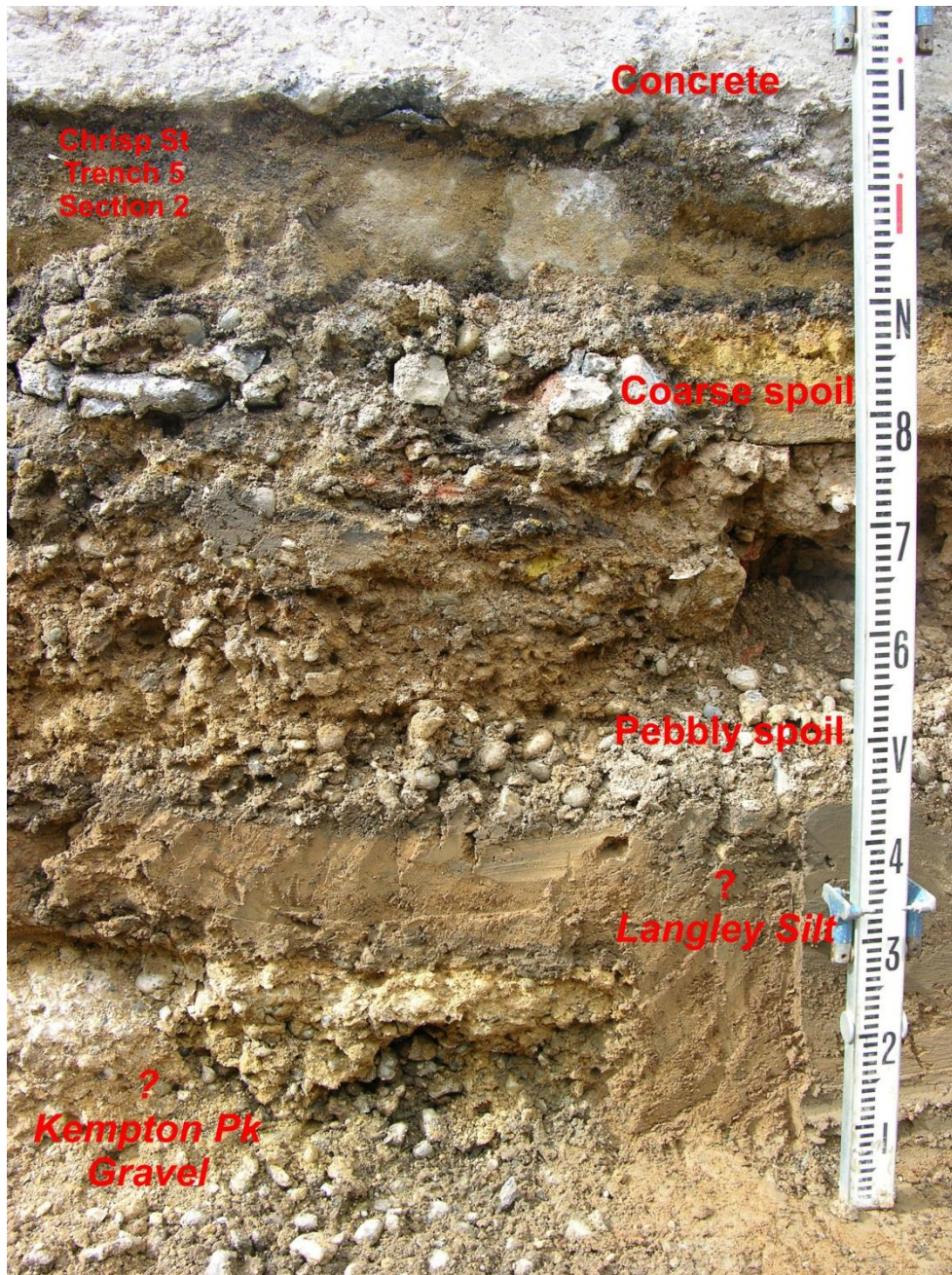


Figure 7: Annotated photograph of Trench 5, Section 2



## **5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Langley Silt**

Inspection of the side and end walls of Trenches 2 to 5 and detailed examination of five sections showed very little flint material, except in Section 4, and that which was seen in all sections was less than 5 cm in length, too small for significant Palaeolithic finds. No material of biological origin was seen. The on-site observations and the paucity of finds reported by Wymer (1968, 1985) give no reason to recommend further investigation for Palaeolithic or palaeoenvironmental material.

### **Kempton Park Gravel**

This Gravel was only seen in the floor of Trench 2 and was not accessible for a meaningful examination, so there is little on-site information upon which to make a judgement. The interglacial deposits within the Gravel has been productive with significant palaeoenvironmental finds at Peckham, Trafalgar Square and west London (Gibbard, 1985, 1994), but there has been a paucity of worked flint. This paucity of Palaeolithic finds extends to Poplar, as reported by Wymer, suggesting that it is unlikely that the Kempton Park Gravel is worth further investigation for Palaeolithic artefacts, though there is the possibility of interglacial biological palaeoenvironmental material being found.

## 6. REFERENCES

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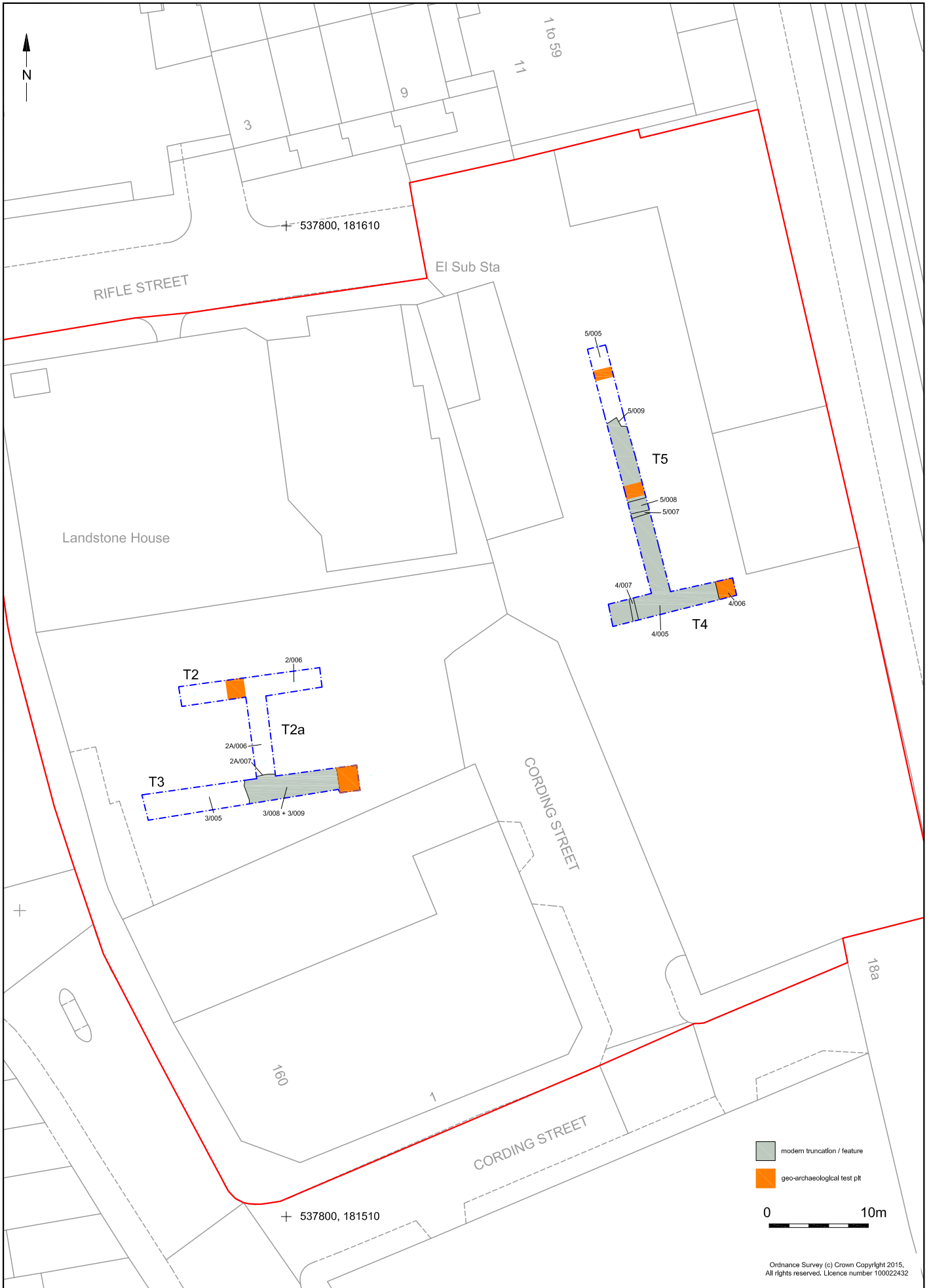
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Project Ref: 7612	Oct 2015	Site location		
Report No: 2015372	Drawn by: APL			



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Project Ref: 7612	Oct 2015	Proposed trench locations	
Report Ref: 2015372	Drawn by: APL		



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Project Ref: 7612	Oct 2015	Location of excavated trenches and geo-archaeological test pits	
Report Ref: 2015372	Drawn by: APL		



View of Trench 2 looking west



Trench 2 south facing section



View of Trench 2A looking north



View of Trench 3 looking east



View of Trench 4 looking east



View of Trench 5 looking south



Trench 2A east facing section

© Archaeology South-East		160-166 Crisp Street, Tower Hamlets	Fig.4
Project Ref: 7612	Oct 2015	Selected photographs	
Report Ref: 2015372	Drawn by: APL		

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