

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Mountview Performing Arts Academy
Peckham Hill Street, Peckham
London Borough of Southwark**

NGR: TQ 3418 7685

Planning Ref: 16/AP/2649

ASE Project No: 160921

Site Code: PHL17

ASE Report No: 2017177



By Steve White

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by the Focus Consultants to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Mountview Performing Arts Academy, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham London Borough of Southwark, between the 3rd and 6th of April, 2017. The work comprised of the excavation of five evaluation trenches (3x 20m by 1.80m at base, and 2x 10m by 1.80m at base).

The evaluation revealed natural deposits between 4.27m and 4.87m AOD. A single archaeologically significant feature, a 13th – 14th century AD medieval ditch, was observed in Trench 1.

The western side of site appears to have been completely truncated for the construction of the mid-20th century industrial buildings known as 'Eagle' Wharf'. The Eagle Wharf structure extends as far to the west as the site boundary, whilst the foundations observed in Trench 2 seem to indicate its eastern extent.

It is therefore theoretically possible that further archaeology may survive between the eastern side of Trenches 2 and 5, and the western sides of Trenches 1, 3 and 4. It is also possible that there is further potential survival to the east of Trench 1 and to the south of Trench 3.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Focus Consultants on behalf of their client, Mountview Performing Arts Academy, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of Peckham Library, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, London Borough of Southwark (Figure 1; NGR: TQ 3418 7685).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site lies in the London Borough of Southwark, in the historic centre of Peckham, towards the southern end of Peckham Hill Street. The site is an L-shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 4,800m² and is bound to the south by Peckham Library, to the west by open land on the former location of a branch of the Surrey Canal, to the east by Peckham Hill Street and to the north by a timber yard. The site lies within the Rye Lane Peckham Conservation Area. The site is roughly level at approximately 6m OD and sits on natural geology of Palaeocene clay, silt and sand of the Lambeth Group, overlain by Pleistocene interglacial lacustrine deposits of clay and silt.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application (Planning Ref: 16/AP/2649) has been submitted for the construction of a five-storey building to provide a School of Theatre Arts, a café/restaurant/bar with associated landscaping, parking and amenities. In support of the application a Desk Based Assessment was prepared (ASE 2016). Having considered that document the London Borough of Southwark has required a programme of pre-commencement archaeological work be carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation.

1.3.2 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation was prepared (ASE 2017) for this phase of work and approved by GLAAS prior to the commencement of fieldwork. All work was undertaken in accordance with this document.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out on the site between the 3rd and 6th of April, 2017.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following archaeological background is drawn from the Desk-Based Assessment (ASE 2016). For a full account of the archaeological background of the site and area, please refer to that document.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 The early prehistoric period is poorly represented within the vicinity of the site, with the closest clusters of activity being focused to the north (Bermondsey) or west (Uxbridge) of the site.

2.2.2 The first real evidence for activity in the broader area is from the Bronze Age, where a series of sites including Phoenix Wharf, Lafone Street, Wolseley Street and Hopton Street have revealed evidence for cultivation in the form of ard marks.

2.2.3 Pottery assemblages of Middle Iron Age date have been recovered from sites at Bermondsey Abbey and Coronation Buildings in Lambeth, confirming activity of this date in the wider area, although there is no evidence for sites of this date within proximity of the site.

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 London, or *Londinium*, was a major town in the Roman period, with the Old Kent Road, formerly Watling Street, leading from Canterbury to the City to the north of the site. However, there is relatively little evidence for Roman activity in the vicinity of the site, possibly owing to a paucity in proximate fieldwork projects. There are only seven finds spots held on the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) for remains of this period within 500m of the site.

2.4 Saxon

2.4.1 The early Saxon period saw central London largely abandoned, with a new trading centre established in the 7th Century at *Lundenwic*, in the west-end vicinity of The Strand. Instead, a number of small settlements grew up around the periphery, including at Peckham. The place-name Peckham itself is of Saxon origin, meaning 'village or homestead by a peak or hill' indicating its humble origins as a small agricultural settlement and is first recorded in Domesday in AD 1086. There is one finds spot within the vicinity of the site for remains of this period; a sherd of Saxon pottery recovered at Hanover Park.

2.5 Medieval

2.5.1 Medieval *Pecheham* was centred on the junction of Rye Lane and Peckham High Street. There are ten finds spots and sites recorded on the GLHER from this date.

2.6 Post-medieval

2.6.1 Peckham retained its character as a small agricultural settlement into the 19th century, when the construction of the railways opened up the hinterland of the city and allowed the spread of suburbs which eventually absorbed earlier settlements. The later 19th century saw the development of a dense network of streets around the original historic core. Walton's Wharf had been constructed within the site by the mid-19th century, later being replaced by Eagle Wharf/Mill timber yard and sawmill. Eagle Wharf survived until the early 21st century as a reminder of early canal-side industry.

2.7 Project Aims and Objectives

2.7.1 The general aims of the evaluation (ASE 2017) were:

- To define, insofar as possible, the date, character, form and function of any archaeological features observed on site
- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the footprint of the proposed development and to preserve by record any such remains
- 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

2.7.2 The site specific aims of the evaluation (ASE 2017) were:

- Is there any evidence for medieval settlement activity on the site?
- Is there any evidence for post-medieval industrial activity on the site?
- Specifically, are there any remains relating to the canal industry, such as Walton's Wharf or other ancillary structures?

2.7.3 Specific relevant research aims highlighted by the research framework for London Archaeology (Museum of London, 2002) were:

Medieval

- "Understanding the nature and extent of urban development, and the social and economic relationship of the core to its region" (M1, para 1).

Post-medieval

- "Identifying the changes in house design and construction during the period, and considering what social and economic origins and effects these changes

had on urban life” (L2, para 1)

- “Contributing to our understanding of the creation of the London suburbs and the meanings and values of domestic as well as public gardens” (L2, para 7)

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The trenches were located as per the WSI (ASE 20167).
- 3.1.2 The surface made ground 'crush' deposits were very loose across site, resulting in trenches being stepped at relatively shallow depths for health & safety reasons.
- 3.1.3 The trench locations were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) operated by accredited ASE personnel.
- 3.1.4 Trenches were excavated by a tracked machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision, grading in spits of no more than 100mm at a time until the first archaeological horizon or natural geology was reached.
- 3.1.5 All features, deposits, both geological and archaeological, were recorded using standard ASE context sheets with colours recorded by visual inspection only. A digital photographic record was made of the trenches.
- 3.1.6 Trenches were located and levelled using a GPS and tied into the Ordnance Survey.
- 3.1.7 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned by eye, for unstratified artefacts.
- 3.1.8 All hand excavation, recording and planning was conducted as per the methodology in the WSI (ASE 2017).

3.2 Archive

3.3.1 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).

Context sheets	10
Section sheets	4
Plans sheets	5
Digital photos	73
Drawing register	1
Trench Record forms	5

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1

Context	Type	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m AOD)
1/001	layer	crush	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.80	6.09
1/002	layer	demolition layer	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.28	5.19
1/003	layer	make up	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.20	5.03
1/004	masonry	wall	L: Trench, W: 0.40, D: 0.40	4.94-5.32
1/005	cut	construction cut	L: Trench, W: 0.40, D: 0.40	4.94
1/006	layer	levelling deposit	L: 6.00, W: Trench, D: 0.16	4.83
1/007	layer	demolition layer	L: 1.20, W: Trench, D: 0.25	4.97
1/008	layer	levelling deposit	L: 1.20, W: Trench, D: 0.20	4.85
1/009	layer	subsoil	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.76	5.16
1/010	fill	animal burrow	L: 3.25, W: 1.95, D: 0.63	4.38
1/011	cut	animal burrow	L: 3.25, W: 1.95, D: 0.63	3.75-4.38
1/012	fill	fill, upper	L: 0.95, W: 0.69, D: 0.10	4.33
1/013	fill	fill, secondary	L: 0.95, W: 0.97, D: 0.16	4.29
1/014	fill	fill, primary	L: 0.95, W: 0.98, D: 0.22	4.28
1/015	cut	ditch	L: 0.95, W: 1.13, D: 0.	3.47-4.33
1/016	masonry	concrete pad	L: 3.00, W: Trench, D: 1.02	5.35
1/017	layer	natural	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.28	4.27

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

- 4.1.1 Trench 1 measured 20m long (N-S) by 3.5m wide (E-W) by a maximum depth of 2.00m. The earliest identifiable deposits were the natural Pleistocene interglacial lacustrine deposits of clay and silt [1/017] situated at 4.27m AOD.
- 4.1.2 A ditch [1/015] crossed the trench on a north-east to south-west orientation. The ditch contained three fills [1/014], [1/013] and [1/012], all of which contained 13th – 14th century AD medieval pottery. The middle fill [1/013] contained 2 pieces of possibly post-medieval tile; the upper fill a medieval pricket candlestick. Animal bone (pig, cattle, sheep/goat and small mammal) were also recovered.
- 4.1.3 The ditch had a maximum depth of 0.86m with the base at 3.47m AOD. It was truncated by animal burrow [1/011], containing two sherds of later 12th- to mid-13th- century AD pottery, along its southern edge. The animal burrow was an undulating, uneven feature that measured 3.25m (N-S) x 1.95m (E-W) x 0.63m. The ditch and burrow were sealed by a subsoil horizon [1/009] that ran the length and width of the trench and was observed at a height of 5.16m AOD.
- 4.1.4 In section, it was observed that subsoil [1/009] was truncated by construction cut [1/005] for wall [1/004]. The wall was 0.40m wide and 0.40m deep, and was comprised of orange brick that measured 100mm breadth by 70mm thick by 205mm long.

- 4.1.5 The wall was overlain by two levelling deposits ([1/006] & [1/008]), which were in turn sealed by demolition deposit [1/007] and make up [1/003].
- 4.1.6 This was truncated by concrete pad [1/016] at the southern end of the trench that was then overlain by (presumably quite modern) demolition layer [1/002]. The trench was then capped off by the modern crush layer [1/001].

4.2 Trench 2

Context	Type	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m AOD)
2/001	layer	crush	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 1.10	6.11-6.13
2/002	layer	made ground	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.50	5.01-5.18
2/003	masonry	concrete foundations	L: 13.00, W: 2.00	4.84-4.97
2/004	layer	natural	L: 5.00, W: 2.00	4.83-4.85

Table 4: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 2 was 20m long (N-S) by 4.3m wide (E-W) by a maximum depth of 1.60m. The earliest identifiable deposit in Trench 2 were the natural Pleistocene interglacial lacustrine deposits of clay and silt [2/004] situated between 4.83-4.85m AOD. These deposits were heavily disturbed during a previous phase of demolition works, but were still somewhat intact. These deposits were truncated by substantial modern concrete foundations [2/003], that are presumably associated with 20th century structure of Eagle Wharf that are first observed on the 1951-1952 OS map (ASE 2016, fig 17). The foundations were observed between 4.84m and 4.97m AOD. Ground reduction work to the west of this trench strongly indicates that the concrete foundations observed here correspond to the eastern extent of the Eagle Wharf buildings.
- 4.2.2 The concrete foundations were overlain by made ground [2/002] that was in turn sealed by the modern crush deposits at ground level.

4.3 Trench 3

Context	Type	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m AOD)
3/001	layer	crush	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.41	6.07-6.08
3/002	layer	demolition layer	L: 7.50, W: 1.80, D: 0.27	5.86-5.92
3/003	layer	levelling deposit	L: 5.00, W: 1.80, D: 0.21	5.64-5.69
3/004	layer	levelling deposit	L: 5.00, W: 1.80, D: 0.24	5.50-5.53
3/005	layer	subsoil	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.42	5.30-5.32
3/006	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
3/007	fill	destruction debris	L: 2.55, W: 1.80, D: 0.72	5.86
3/008	masonry	wall	L: 1.80, W: 0.25, D: 0.72	5.86
3/009	cut	construction cut	L: 2.55, W: 1.80, D: 0.72	4.84-5.36
3/010	masonry	concrete pad	L: 1.10, W: 0.85	4.83
3/011	masonry	wall	L: 1.10, W: 0.85	4.83
3/012	cut	construction cut	L: 1.10, W: 0.85	4.83
3/013	layer	natural	L: Trench, W: Trench	4.74-4.85
3/014	masonry	concrete beam	L: 1.80, W: 0.70, D: 0.50	5.27
3/015	masonry	concrete beam	L: 1.80, W: 0.95, D: 0.50	5.29
3/016	masonry	concrete beam	L: 2.05, W: 1.00, D: 0.50	5.7

Table 5: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Trench 3 was 20m long (E-W) by 2.1m wide (N-S) by a maximum depth of 1.40m. The earliest identifiable deposits in Trench 3 were the natural Pleistocene interglacial lacustrine deposits of clay and silt [3/013] situated between 4.74m and 4.85m AOD. A sherd of 13th – 14th century AD medieval pottery was recovered from the surface of the natural geology. This was overlain by subsoil [3/005] that was observed between 5.30m and 5.32m AOD.
- 4.3.2 The subsoil was overlain by levelling deposits [3/004] and [3/003]. The upper levelling deposit [3/003] was truncated by construction cut [3/009] for basement [3/008]; the basement wall was comprised of frogged red brick. The basement was backfilled with demolition debris [3/007] and then overlain by demolition layer [3/002].
- 4.3.3 The subsoil was also truncated by construction cut [3/012] for concrete pad [3/010] and its associated masonry [3/011]. Concrete beams [3/014], [3/015] and [3/016] were also observed truncating the subsoils.
- 4.3.4 All of the above deposits were then capped by modern crush layer [3/001] at ground level.

4.4 Trench 4

Context	Type	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m AOD)
4/001	layer	crush	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.54	6.02-6.13
4/002	layer	subsoil	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.41	5.42
4/003	layer	natural	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.36	4.75-4.87
4/004	masonry	concrete beam	L: 2.20, W: 1.00, D: 0.45	5.2
4/005	masonry	concrete pad	L: 6.80, W: 2.75, D: 0.90	5.45-5.65

Table 6: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was 10m long (NW-SE) by 2.70m wide (NE-SW) and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.30m.
- 4.4.2 The earliest identifiable deposits in Trench 4 were the natural Pleistocene interglacial lacustrine deposits of clay and silt [4/003] situated between 4.75m and 4.87m AOD. These deposits were overlain by subsoil [4/002] at 5.42m AOD. The subsoil was truncated by both concrete beam [4/004] and concrete pad [4/005]. These were both then capped by the modern crush layer [4/001] at ground level (6.02-6.13m AOD)

4.5 Trench 5

Context	Type	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Height (m AOD)
5/001	layer	crush	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.85	6.00-6.03
5/002	layer	destruction debris	L: Trench, W: Trench, D: 0.45	5.18-5.35
5/003	masonry	concrete floor	L: Trench, W: Trench	4.64-4.90

Table 7: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 Trench 5 was 10m long (NW-SE) by 3.80m wide (NE-SW) and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.39m. Natural deposits were not observed; the base of the trench was a large concrete floor [5/003], presumably associated with the concrete beams observed in Trench 2 and the PCs reduction area. The concrete floor was observed between 4.64 and 4.90m AOD. This was overlain by destruction debris layer [5/002] before being capped off at ground height by modern crush deposit [5/001]

4.6 Primary Contractor's Ground Reduction Area

- 4.6.1 While the evaluation exercise was being undertaken the primary contractor on site began to do some ground reduction work along the western perimeter of the site, into the currently standing green park area. The total area stripped was equivalent to the length of the site running north-south, and some c. 10m wide and offset from the western edges of Trenches 2 and 5 by c.2m. The area was documented by photographs (Figure 8).
- 4.6.2 The ground reduction revealed more of the concrete beams and floor observed in Trenches 2 & 5, with its overall shape very much resembling the mid-20th century Ordnance Survey outline of Eagle Wharf. The concrete structures identified here, therefore, look to correspond to the western extent of the Eagle Wharf buildings.

5.0 The Finds

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered, washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 8). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014).

Context	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)
1/010	2	22						
1/012	1	32			1	76		
1/013			2	194			5	30
1/014	3	12					7	170
3/013	1	2						
Total	7	68	2	194	1	76	12	200

Table 8: Finds quantification

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

- 1/010 – c. 1175-1250
- 1/012 – c. 1240-1350
- 1/014 – c. 1240-1350
- 3/013 – c. 1240-1350

5.2.1 The evaluation recovered just seven sherds of post-Roman pottery from the site, all but one sherd coming from Trench 1. The whole assemblage is of medieval date and, despite a small average sherd size, the material is in quite fresh condition. As such it would not appear to have been subjected to any significant reworking. Animal burrow [1/011], fill [1/010], produced two sherds suggesting a later 12th- to mid-13th- century date. These consist of a fresh cooking pot sherd in shelly sandy ware (18g) and a 2g London-type ware sherd from a reduced jug decorated with external white slip and green glaze over applied strip decoration.

5.2.2 Ditch [1/015] produced sherds from both its upper and lower fills. The primary fill [1/014] contained a 2g sherd from an oxidised cooking pot in fine/medium sandy ware and two sherds (8g) from two different green glazed jugs in Kingston-type whiteware. The upper fill [1/012] produced a 32g fragment from a wide strap handle from a London-type ware jug decorated with white slip under green glaze. Taken together the material in the ditch is best placed between c. 1240 and 1350.

5.2.3 The natural layer [3/013] in Trench 3 produced a further small sherd (2g) from an oxidised London-type ware jug, this time decorated with white slipped lines. A similar c. 1240-1350 date range is suggested.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.3.1 Two tile pieces, collectively weighing 192g were recovered from [1/013]. Each tile fragment was in a different fabric type, one dense and slightly laminated with minimal quartz and coarse moulding sand; the other a coarser fabric with common medium quartz, cream silty deposits and finer moulding sand. These tile pieces cannot be dated with any precisions, but are thought to be post-medieval.

5.4 The Ironwork by Trista Clifford

5.4.1 A single, very corroded, iron fragment weighing 76g was recovered from context [1/012]. The fragment requires x-radiography but appears to be a pricket candlestick. It has two side scrolls either side of a central spike of square, tapering section. Similar objects date from c12th-15th century (Goodhall 2011, 314).

5.5 The Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee

5.5.1 A small assemblage of animal bone containing 9 fragments weighing 200g was recovered from the excavation. The faunal remains were hand-collected from two contexts, ditches [1/013] and [1/014]. The faunal remains are in a moderate state of preservation, with some signs of surface erosion present. The assemblage is dominated by the main domesticate species, bones are fragmented and no complete long bones are present.

5.5.2 A limited range of taxa have been identified (Table 9). The assemblage contains only mammal bones, and includes the three main domesticates of cattle, sheep/goat and pig. Medium mammal bone fragments are also present due to preservation levels and taphonomic processes. No wild taxa have been identified within the assemblage. From the 9 faunal bone fragments present, only 7 were identified to taxa.

Taxa	NISP
Cattle	1
Pig	3
Sheep/goat	1
Medium Mammal	2
Total	7

Table 9: The NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) count

5.5.3 Context [1/013] produced a fragment of pig mandible with two loose worn adult incisors.

5.3.4 Context [1/014] contained a fragment of cattle mandible with worn dentition producing a Mandibular Wear Stage (MWS) of 45 and a sheep/goat mandible fragment with worn dentition produced a MWS of 47. These scores indicate that both animals were of an adult age at death. Two medium mammal mandible fragments were also recovered.

- 5.3.5 The animal bone assemblage suggest that domestic refuse disposal was undertaken in this area. The assemblage does not contain any measurable long-bones. No evidence of burning, butchery, gnawing, non-metric traits or pathology were recorded.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

6.1.1 Natural geology, observed at 4.27m AOD in Trench 1, and then between 4.74 and 4.87m AOD across Trenches 2-4, was cut by:

- a ditch [1/015] of probable medieval date sealed by a subsoil horizon
- large 20th century concrete beams, foundations, and pads in the western third of site very much resembling the mid-20th century Ordnance Survey outline of Eagle Wharf

6.1.2 The subsoil horizon was truncated by:

- a brick wall [1/004]. Based on the orientation and location of the wall, it is possible that it was one of the garden walls observed on the 1874 OS map (ASE 2016; Fig 12)
- an early modern basement [3/009] and by various small concrete beams and pads. This activity occupied the centre and eastern part of site.

6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

6.2.1 The intact subsoil horizon observed across the central and eastern side of site indicates potential for good archaeological survival across these areas, as there is no evidence of horizontal truncation. However, the western side of site (as seen in Trenches 2 and 5) displayed heavy truncation for the construction of the concrete beams and foundations that look to be those for the structure referred to as 'Eagle Wharf' on mid-20th century Ordnance Survey maps.

6.3 Consideration of research aims

6.3.1 With regards to the general research aims of the project:

- To define, insofar as possible, the date, character, form and function of any archaeological features observed on site.

The archaeological features on site indicate a medieval rural character with the small ditch observed in Trench 1. This then gives way to the standard suburban London development in the 19th and 20th centuries. In particular, the western part of site has a certain industrial character during this period.

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the footprint of the proposed development and to preserve by record any such remains

A single medieval ditch was recorded in Trench 1. Various modern walls and concrete structures were observed throughout the rest of the trenches.

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

The single medieval feature on site was observed underneath the subsoil in Trench 1. The subsoil was observed to survive in three of the trenches (1, 3 and 4), indicating good potential for archaeological survival in the central and eastern part of site. The subsoil was observed between 5.16m and 5.42m AOD.

- To determine the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits

The single medieval feature suggests a rural character for the site at this time. The remains are not considered to be of special significance.

6.3.2 With regards to the site specific aims of the evaluation:

- Is there any evidence for medieval settlement activity on the site?

There was evidence of medieval activity on site. A single cut feature, ditch [1/015], has been dated quite solidly to the medieval period by pottery. This is not demonstrable evidence of settlement per say though.

- Is there any evidence for post-medieval industrial activity on the site? Specifically, are there any remains relating to the canal industry, such as Walton's Wharf or other ancillary structures?

The large concrete structures observed in Trenches 2 & 5 seem to correspond to buildings observable on the mid-20th century Ordnance Survey plans. While these are industrial in purpose, they appear to be modern in date.

6.3.3 With regards to the specific relevant research aims highlighted by the research framework for London Archaeology (Museum of London, 2002):

Medieval

- "Understanding the nature and extent of urban development, and the social and economic relationship of the core to its region" (M1, para 1).

No in situ evidence for urban medieval activity taking place on site was recorded.

Post-medieval

- "Identifying the changes in house design and construction during the period, and considering what social and economic origins and effects these changes had on urban life" (L2, para 1)

No archaeological remains relating to this topic were observed on site.

- "Contributing to our understanding of the creation of the London suburbs and the meanings and values of domestic as well as public gardens" (L2, para 7)

No archaeological remains relating to this topic were observed on site.

6.4 Updated Research Agenda

- 6.4.1 The archaeological context of the medieval ditch recorded in Trench 1 is not fully understood. Whilst the feature could simply represent a rural field boundary/drainage ditch, the recovered finds of pottery, animal bone and an iron candlestick, might suggest that settlement was proximate to the feature, rather than remote. Medieval Pecheham was centred on the junction of Rye Lane and Peckham High Street some 200m to the south of the site. Any consideration of further work should take this possibility into account.

6.5 Conclusions

- 6.5.1 A single medieval ditch observed sealed beneath an intact subsoil horizon recorded in the central and eastern parts of the site represents the only significant archaeological finding. The western side of site appears to have been completely truncated for the construction of the mid-20th century industrial buildings known as 'Eagle' Wharf. The Eagle Wharf structure extends as far to the west as the site boundary, whilst the foundations observed in Trench 2 seem to indicate its eastern extent. It is therefore theoretically possible that further archaeology may survive between the eastern side of Trenches 2 and 5, and the western sides of Trenches 1, 3 and 4. It is also possible that there is further potential survival to the east of Trench 1 and to the south of Trench 3.

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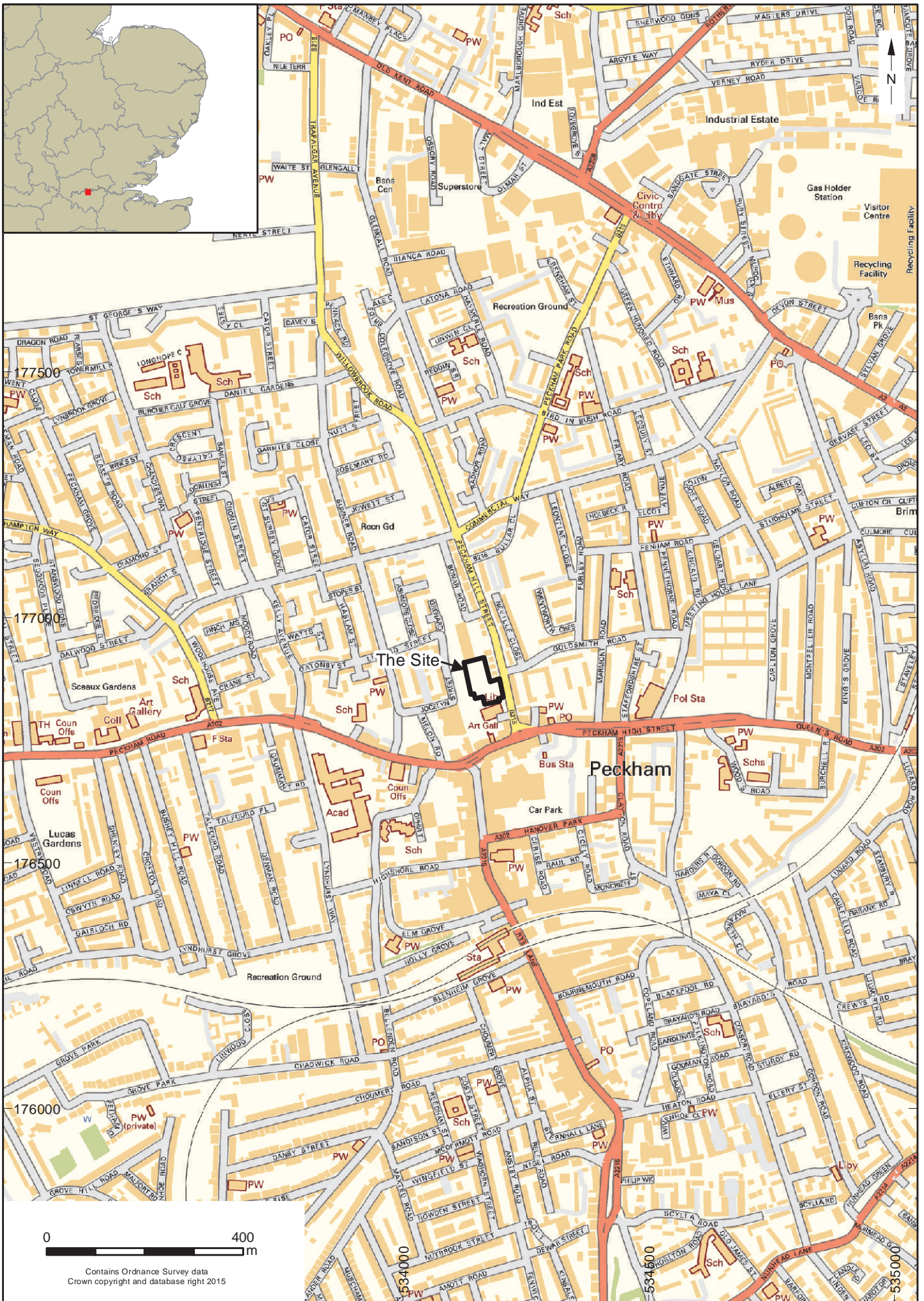
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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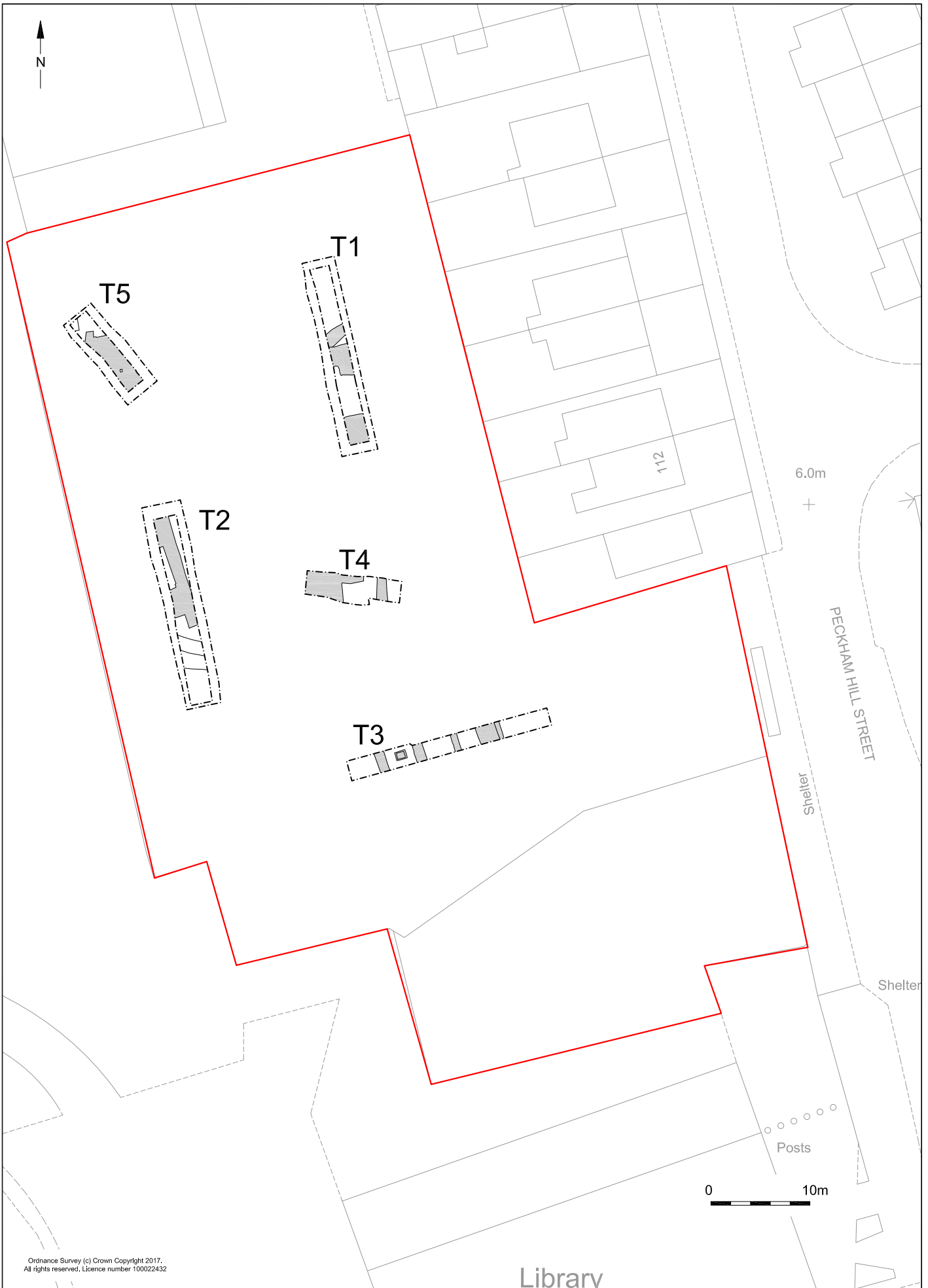
HER Summary

Site Code	PHL17					
Identification Name and Address	Mountview Performing Arts Academy, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham					
County, District &/or Borough	London Borough of Southwark					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 3418 7685					
Geology	Palaeocene clay overlain by Pleistocene interglacial lacustrine deposits of clay and silt					
Arch. South-East Project Number	160921					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.					
Type of Site			Urban			
Dates of Fieldwork	03/04/17 06/04/17					
Sponsor/Client	Focus Consultants					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Steve White					
Period Summary						
			Post-medieval	Modern		
<p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by the Focus Consultants to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Mountview Performing Arts Academy, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham London Borough of Southwark, between the 3rd and 6th of April, 2017. The work comprised of the excavation of five evaluation trenches (3x 20m by 1.80m at base, and 2x 10m by 1.80m at base).</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed natural deposits between 4.27m and 4.87m AOD. A single archaeologically significant feature, a 13th – 14th century AD medieval ditch, was observed in Trench 1.</i></p> <p><i>The western side of site appears to have been completely truncated for the construction of the mid-20th century industrial buildings known as ‘Eagle’ Wharf’. The Eagle Wharf structure extends as far to the west as the site boundary, whilst the foundations observed in Trench 2 seem to indicate its eastern extent.</i></p> <p><i>It is therefore theoretically possible that further archaeology may survive between the eastern side of Trenches 2 and 5, and the western sides of Trenches 1, 3 and 4. It is also possible that there is further potential survival to the east of Trench 1 and to the south of Trench 3.</i></p>						

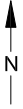


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© Archaeology South-East		Mountview Performing Arts Academy		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160921	Mar 2017	Site location		
Report No: 2017177	Drawn by: APL			



© Archaeology South-East		Mountview Performing Arts Academy, Peckham	Fig.2
Project Ref: 160921	Apr 2017	Trench locations	
Report Ref: 2017177	Drawn by: APL		



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T1



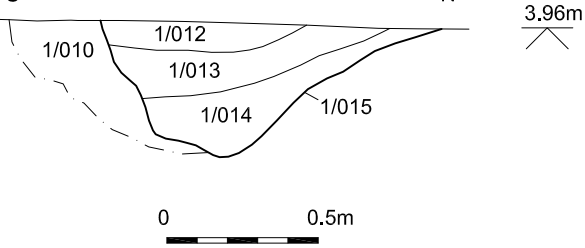
Trench 1 looking north, 1m scale

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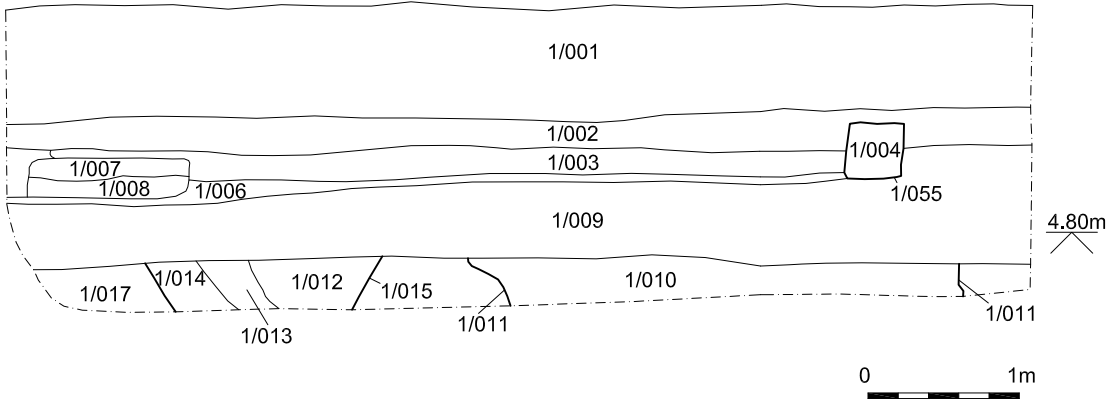
animal burrow

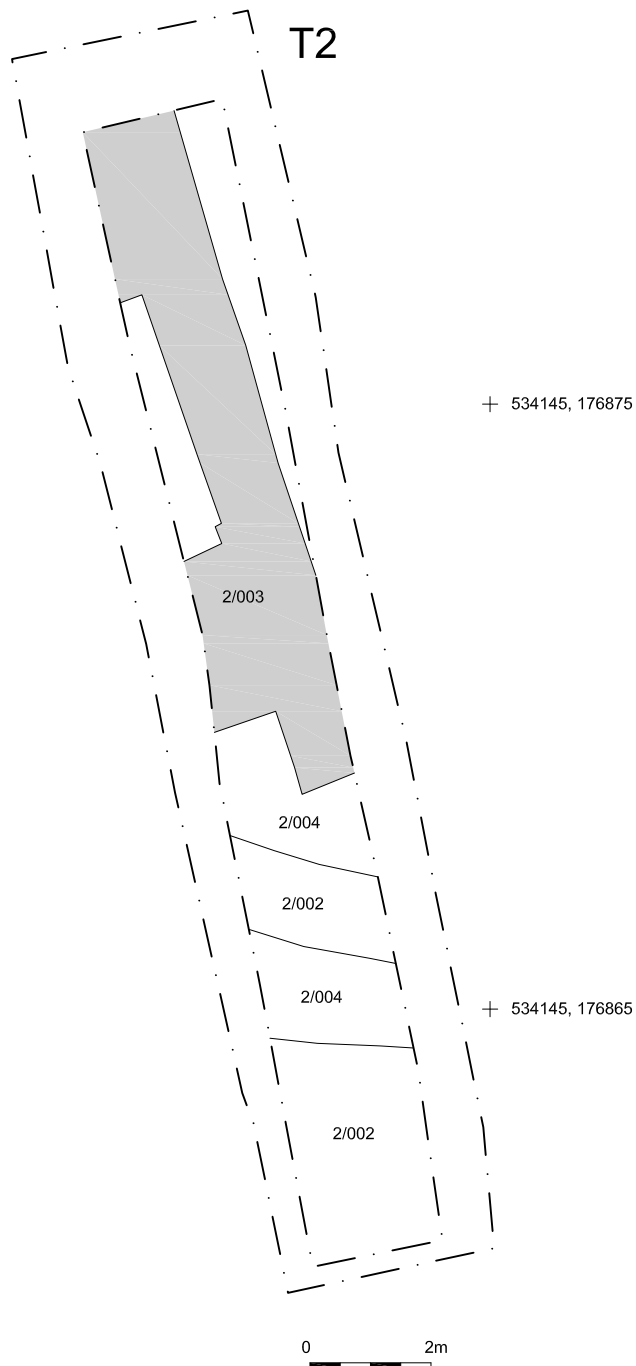
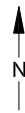
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Section 1



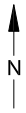
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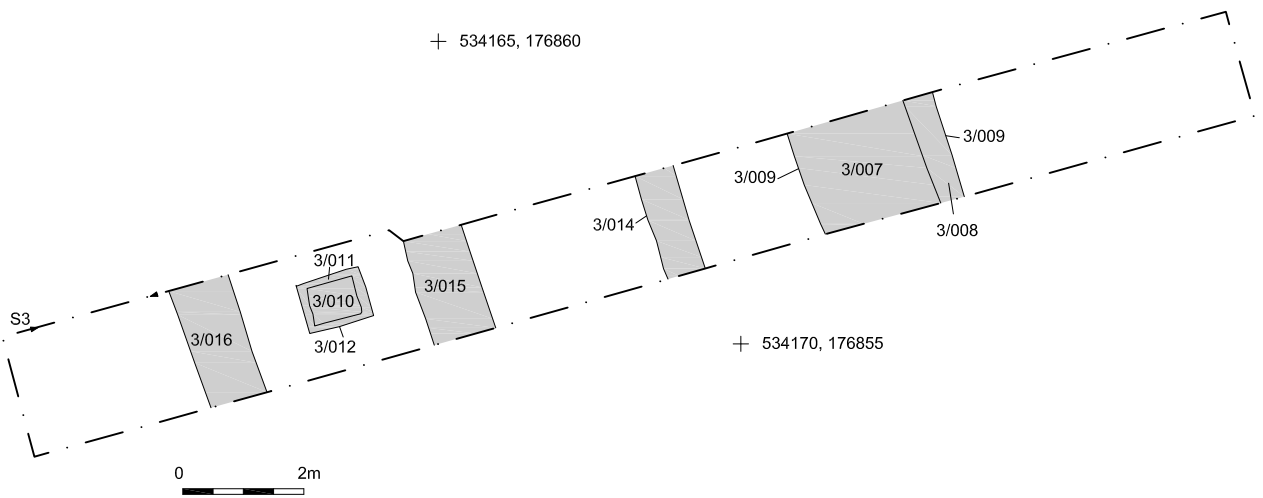
Trench 2 looking south, 1m scale

© Archaeology South-East		Mountview Performing Arts Academy, Peckham	Fig.4
Project Ref: 160921	Apr 2017	Trench 2 plan and photograph	
Report Ref: 2017177	Drawn by: APL		



T3

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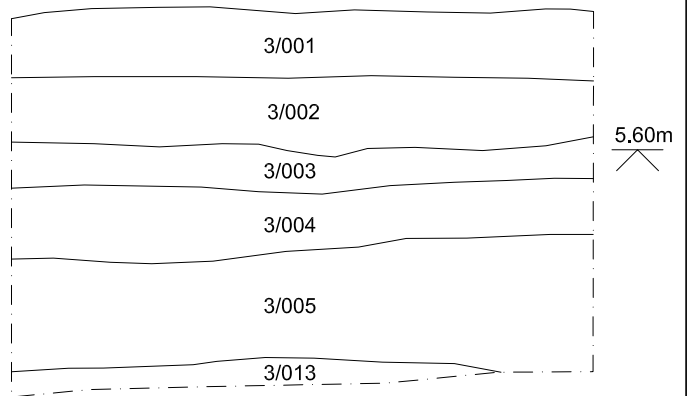


Trench 3 looking east, 1m scale



Trench 3, north facing section, 1m scale

Section 3
W E



0 0.5m



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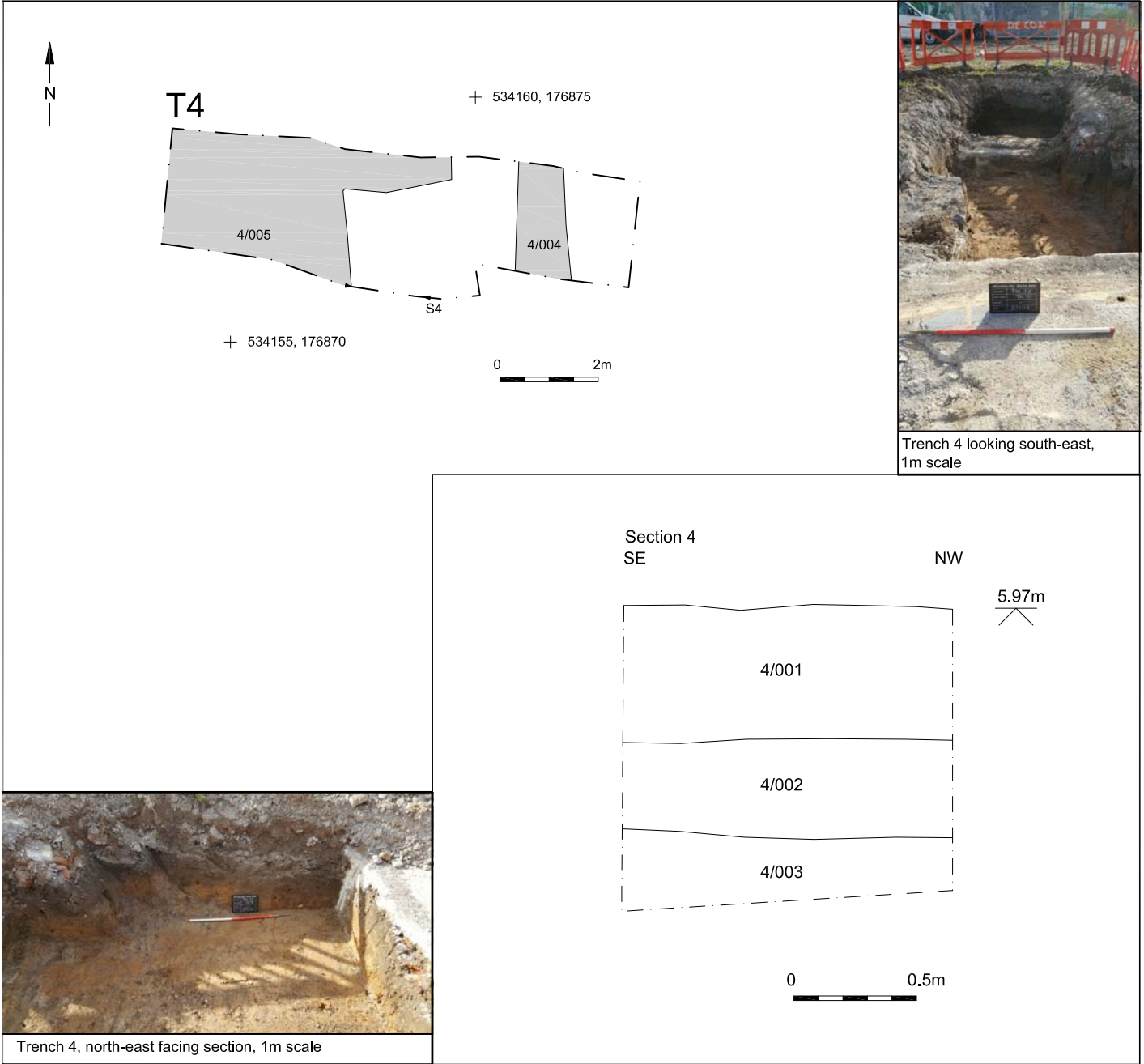
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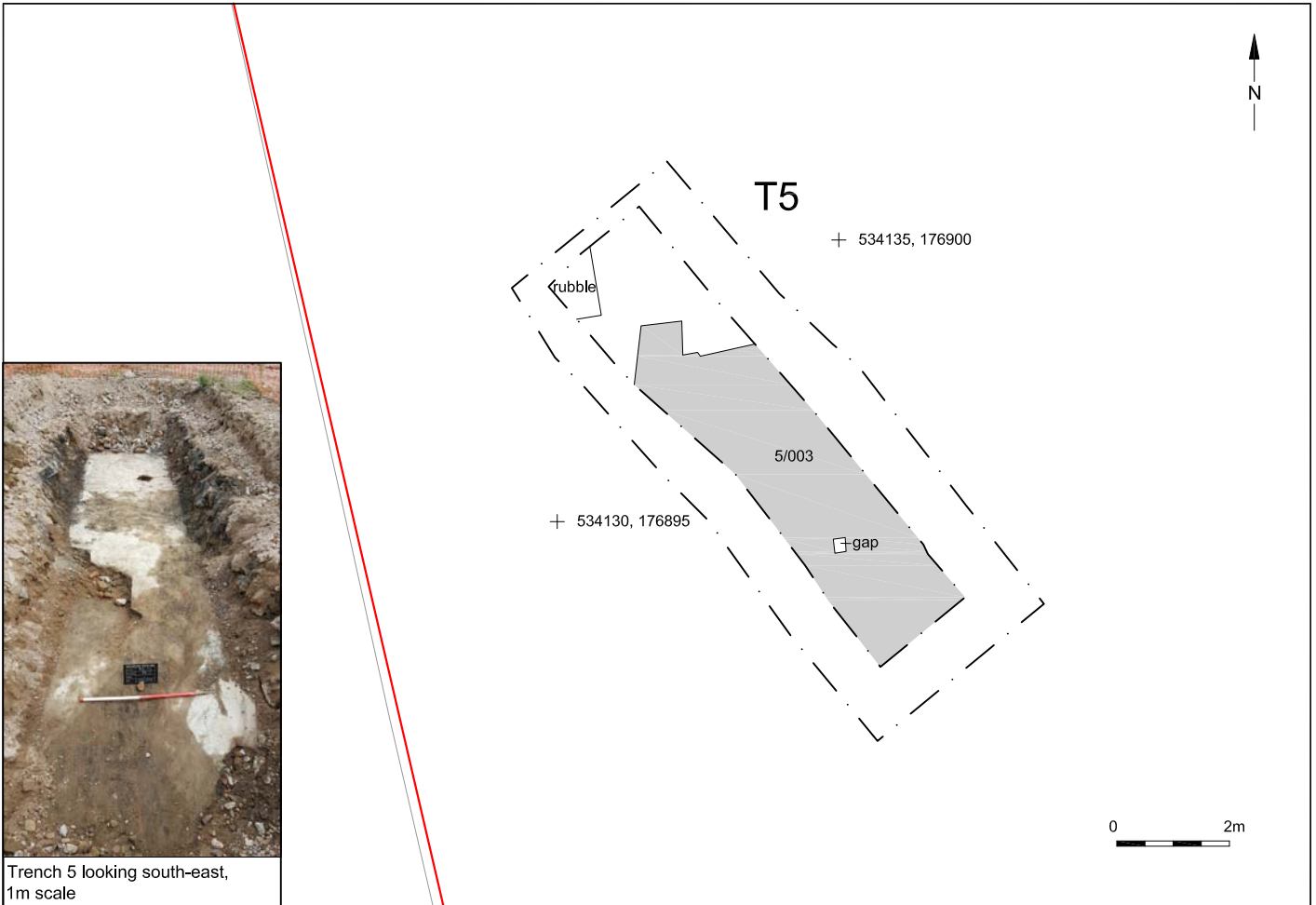
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Trench 3 plan, section and photographs

Fig.5



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Project Ref: 160921	Apr 2017	Trench 4 plan, section and photographs	
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Project Ref: 160921	Apr 2017	Trench 5 plan and photographs	
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View north along the groundworks area



View north along the groundworks area



View north-east across the site



View north-west showing Trench 2 and the adjacent groundworks area. The concrete beams for Eagle Wharf are displayed quite prominently.

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Project Ref: 160921	Apr 2017	Photographs showing groundworks undertaken by primary contractor	
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