

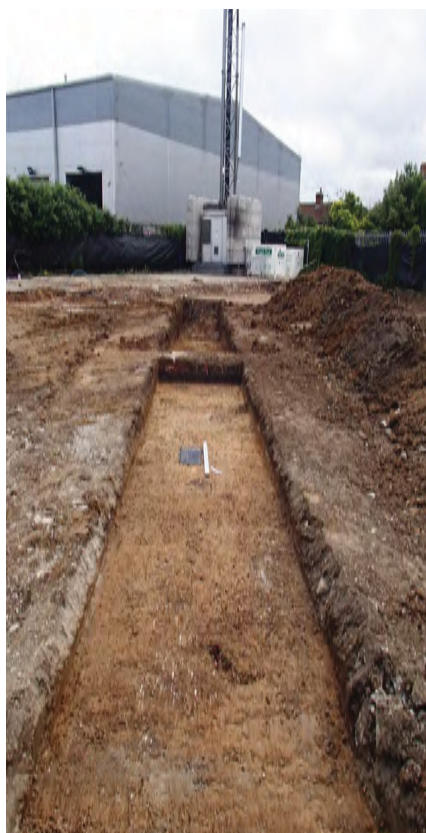
**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Lombard House, Purley Way
London Borough of Croydon**

NGR TQ 30788 66796

Planning Ref: 15/01236/P

**ASE Project No: 170170
Site Code: PLY 17**

**ASE Report No: 2017372
OASIS id: archaeol6-294068**





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|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--|
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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at Lombard House, Purley Way, London Borough of Croydon between the 7th and 14th August 2017. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd.

The fieldwork comprised the machine excavation of four evaluation trenches. Natural Hackney Gravels were recorded between 35.65m and 37.99m aOD. Across the north-west of the site significant truncation was encountered and the natural deposits were directly overlain by modern made ground. In the south-west, far better levels of survival were found with only thin made ground deposits overlying the natural geology and in some cases extant subsoil was present.

Probably the earliest feature on site, and the only one sealed by subsoil, was a root disturbed pit or tree throw which contained a piece of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint and unidentified burnt bone; it also contained a tiny fragment of post-medieval clinker. Given the root disturbance it remains unclear whether this is genuinely a prehistoric feature. Two 18th century pits were recorded in the central part of the site; historic mapping shows that the site was located in brick fields during this period and it is likely that these features were associated with that industry. The remaining features were of 20th century date and comprised a pit and postholes

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to carry out an archaeological field evaluation at Lombard House, Purley Way, London Borough of Croydon hereafter 'the site'. The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR TQ 30788 66796) its location is shown on Figure 1.
- 1.1.2 The site comprises an irregularly shaped parcel of land bound to the north by the A236 Mitcham Road, to the south by commercial units, to the west by housing and to the east by the A23 Purley Way.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 Geologically, the site is mapped as lying within a small area of London Clay overlain by made ground, surrounded by a large expanse of Hackney Gravels. The site is relatively flat, lying at approximately 36m aOD.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 Planning permission has been granted by Croydon Borough Council for the residential redevelopment of the site. Permission was granted subject to the following condition:

9. With the exception of demolition to ground level, no development including excavations for drainage and foundation work shall take place within the site 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. The development shall only be carried out in accordance with the agreed programme.

Reason: To safeguard the heritage of the Borough by providing an adequate opportunity to investigate and excavate archaeological remains on the site before development is carried out, in accordance with Policy UC11 of the Croydon Replacement Unitary Development Plan (The Croydon Plan 2006) Saved Policies 2013

- 1.3.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was compiled in support of the planning application (CgMs 2015). This document highlighted the potential for later prehistoric remains as well as post-medieval remains.
- 1.3.3 Accordingly, an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2017) was prepared prior to the commencement of this phase of works, this document set out the methodology for the evaluation. All works were carried out in accordance with this document and with the ClfA Code of Conduct and Standards and Guidance (ClfA 2014a, b and c) and with the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) Standards for Archaeological Work (Historic England 2015).

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out on the site between the 7th and the 14th August 2017 by Ian Hogg (Senior Archaeologist), Beatrijs de Groot and Chloe Ward (Assistant Archaeologists). The fieldwork was managed by Andy Leonard and the post-excavation work by Jim Stevenson.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following information is a summary drawn from an archaeological Desk-Based Assessment prepared for the site (CgMs 2015), used with due acknowledgement. Research for the DBA involved a search of entries within a 1 km radius of the site on the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER); associated reference numbers for these entries are provided in the text below.
- 2.1.2 The site lies within two Archaeology Priority Zones (APZ's) as designated by the London Borough of Croydon. One for Beddington (DLO37728) and a second for the River Wandle Gravels (DLO35794).

2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 Little Palaeolithic and Mesolithic material has been recorded in the area. The Wandle Gravels APZ has been designated due to the known presence of field systems across the gravels of the Wandle Valley, with occasional domestic activity dating from the prehistoric period.
- 2.2.2 A Neolithic bowl has been identified at Beddington Lane Transport Depot, west of the site (MLO4319), and Neolithic flintwork has been identified at Canterbury Road to the east (MLO19621). The Philips Factory site, at Beddington Farm Road to the southwest of the site, revealed Late Bronze Age/Iron Age features and finds (ELO4249, MLO58095, MLO5839, MLO98536).
- 2.2.3 The remains of a Bronze Age field system have been identified at 138 Beddington Lane to the west, together with over twenty pits, with finds including worked/burnt flint and pottery (MLO72229-31). Additional adjacent works revealed residual flintwork, ditches and up to twenty one pits. The finds were dated to the Neolithic and the Bronze Age (MLO75694, MLO21953). Evaluations at Purley Way and Beddington Lane, southwest of the site, revealed a field system dated to the Bronze Age and Iron Age, comprising inter-cutting ditches and pits with related pottery (MLO22490).
- 2.2.4 Evaluations on land to the east of Beddington Farm Road, and south of Stirling Way, Croydon to the west of the site, revealed limited prehistoric evidence comprising two linear features, including undiagnostic struck and burnt flint (ELO1257). Further fieldwork revealed bands of silt and buried soil horizons, containing pottery, animal bone and flintwork dated to the Late Bronze Age (ELO7419).
- 2.2.5 Observations at the Valley Point Industrial Park to the south of the site revealed two truncated ditches, with pottery and flint dating from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age, and a radiocarbon date for the late Iron Age period (MLO78264). A pot dated to the Iron Age was identified at the Waddon Gasworks to the southeast (MLO12364).

2.3 Roman

- 2.3.1 Activity at the Valley Point Industrial Estate to the south of the site indicated continuity into the Roman period (MLO78264). A field ditch interpreted as Roman has been identified at Beddington Lane to the west of the site (MLO21978).
- 2.3.2 Individual artefactual discoveries have included coins from Handcroft Road and Mitcham Road to the east and at 62 Marsden Crescent to the southeast (MLO9063, MLO9065, MLO12386, MLO8899, MLO10806).
- 2.3.3 Further afield, the line of the Roman road from London to Brighton is thought to follow the line of Handcroft Road, and London Road to the east of the study site (Margary 1955 Volume 1: 56). The site of Beddington Roman Villa is known some distance to the south-west of the site, and evidence of substantial Roman settlement has been identified in the centre of Croydon concentrated around Park Street and George Street, c.2km south-east of the site.

2.4 Anglo Saxon and Medieval

- 2.4.1 Croydon's entry in Domesday Book (1086) names it as *Croindene*, and indicates a sizeable settlement in the ownership of the Archbishop of Canterbury:

Archbishop Lanfranc holds Croydon in Lordship. Before 1066 it answered for 80 hides; now for 16 hides and 1 virgate. Land for 20 ploughs. In lordship 4 ploughs; 48 villagers and 25 smallholders with 34 ploughs. A church. A mill at 5s; meadow, 8 acres; woodland at 200 pigs. Restad holds 7 hides of the land of this manor from the Archbishop; Ralph, 1 hide. They have £7 8s in tribute from it. Total value before 1066 and later £12; now £27 to the Archbishop, to his men £10 10s.

- 2.4.2 Croydon developed as a planned medieval town, centred on the Archbishop's Palace. A church appears to have existed in Croydon from at least 960AD, although the present foundation dates from the 12th century, with later additions. Extensive archaeological evidence of medieval habitation and activity has been found in the historic centre of Croydon, centred c.2km south-east of the site (MLO72293-4). No finds of Anglo-Saxon date have been identified within a one kilometre radius of the site.
- 2.4.3 The sole find of medieval date within a one kilometre radius of the site is a building foundation identified as an agricultural building, located at Franklyn Way to the south-west of the site (MLO76263).
- 2.4.4 During the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods the site lay north-west of the centre of Croydon, most likely within open fields.

2.5 Post-Medieval and Modern

- 2.5.1 John Rocque's 1768 Survey of Surrey shows the site associated with a labelled brickfield, with structures present adjacent to the cross roads within the immediate vicinity. The 1800 Croydon Enclosure Map shows the site lying

within the immediate vicinity of a brick kiln, with two buildings within the eastern boundary.

- 2.5.2 The Croydon Tithe Map (1844) together with the associated Award shows the site occupied by meadowland and a field, with two cottages to the north-east and further buildings to the south and south-east.
- 2.5.3 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (1867) shows the absence of a building formerly to the south but otherwise no changes are shown from the Tithe Map. The Second Edition Ordnance Survey (1898) shows further buildings, boundaries and a pond within the southern part of the site. The Third Edition Ordnance Survey (1913) shows the absence of the building formerly within the south-eastern corner.
- 2.5.4 By 1940 industrial building occupied the east and centre of the site, these were added to in the immediate post-war period. By 1983 the industrial buildings had been demolished and Lombard House occupied the eastern part of the site.

3.0 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General Aims

- 3.1.1 The principle research objective as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2017) was to establish whether any archaeological remains exist in the area, with particular regard to any which were of sufficient importance to require preservation *in situ*.
- 3.1.2 The evaluation aimed to determine, as far as was 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 were potentially threatened was to be studied, and attention was given to remains of all periods (inclusive of evidence of past environments).
- 3.1.3 The evaluation sought 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.

3.2 Specific Research Aims

- 3.2.1 The specific aims of the evaluation with reference to the Research Framework for London Archaeology (MOLA 2002) were:

Prehistoric – Early Roman:

- P2 Palaeolithic: gathering baseline information, establishing a chronology, informing research and developing relevant models.
- P3 Palaeolithic-Mesolithic: gathering baseline information, understanding the locality and its evolution.
- P4 Mesolithic-Neolithic: understanding the transition, reconstructing the environment, understanding settlement and economic development and patterns, and the influence of the landscape upon settlement and the creation of monuments; developing a pottery typology.
- P5 Bronze Age-Iron Age: habitation and utilisation of the Thames Valley.
- P6 Late Iron Age-early Roman: assessing the relationship of London with the rest of the southeast, agricultural intensification, settlement patterns and roads.

London After 1500

- L1 instigating corroborative research with other historic disciplines to elucidate a framework for future research.
- L2 understanding developing building design, and socio-economic relations; how London related to its hinterland; the effect of royal palaces; government buildings; developing infrastructure; the development of suburbs and recreational spaces.
- L3 how archaeology contributes to understand social, economic, ethnic or religious aspects of different neighbourhoods, including sections of society with no history.
- L4 understanding human physical survival in London.

- L5 understanding London's defence system.
- L6 understanding the development of religious belief and related material culture.
- L7 understanding the history of leisure, links with trade and the economy.
- L8 understanding food production; London's growth and related environmental consequences.
- L9 understanding industry in London; poverty, social deprivation and disease.
- L10 understanding London as a distribution, financial and fashion centre; the adaptation of smaller towns within the London area; its continued world pre-eminence.

3.2.2 Site-specific research aims of the proposed archaeological exercise at the study site include the following:

- The exercise will seek to understand the context of the findings in relationship to the wider settlement pattern, landscape, economy and environment;
- The interpretation of locally distinctive or regionally/nationally significant archaeological features;
- How the site's topography has influenced past activity and settlement;
- To advance our knowledge of the archaeology of the region through the application of appropriate scientific dating techniques;
- To understand the impact of development since the eighteenth century.
- Where physical preservation is likely to be considered as a mitigation option, the primary factors affecting the present state of preservation and the direct and indirect effect of the proposed development should also be considered.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 4.1.1 The WSI for the evaluation (CgMs 2017) provided for the excavation of four trenches, each measuring 30m x 1.8m in plan (Fig. 2). Due to spatial constraints and asbestos exclusions zones, Trench 1 was moved west from its original location, Trench 2 was moved and shortened to avoid a large spoil heap, Trench 3 was shortened to avoid asbestos and Trench 4 was shortened due to a radio mast at its southern end.
- 4.1.2 The trial trenches were excavated using a 360 back-hoe excavator equipped with a toothless bucket and under constant supervision by an ASE Senior Archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until the top of archaeological or natural deposits were exposed, whichever was the higher.
- 4.1.3 The trenches were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate stratigraphic sequence in which they were excavated, and were left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.
- 4.1.4 Excavation and recording strategy was in accordance with the WSI (ibid) and with CIfA *Standards and Guidance* (CIfA 2014b).

4.2 Archive

- 4.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the London Archaeological Archive Research Centre in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Tables 1 and 2).

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Context sheets | 23 |
| Section sheets | 1 |
| Plans sheets | 3 |
| Colour photographs | 0 |
| B&W photos | 0 |
| Digital photos | 28 |
| Context register | 1 |
| Drawing register | 1 |
| Watching brief forms | 0 |
| Trench Record forms | 4 |

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

| | |
|--|--------|
| Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box) | 5 bags |
| Registered finds (number of) | 0 |
| Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples | 1 |
| 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

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 Trench 1

5.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the north-west of the site; it was north-east to south-west aligned and measured between 1.15m and 1.35m in depth (Figure 2). The trench location was altered slightly due to spatial constraints. Due to the depth and instability of the made ground deposits three sondages were excavated to ascertain the depth of the natural deposits.

5.1.2 The natural grey orange Hackney Gravels, [1/002], were recorded between 35.65m and 36.09m aOD. The natural deposits were overlain by modern made ground [1/001] comprising mixed brown orange and dark grey rubble and gravel between 1.12m and 1.29m thick (see Appendix 1). No archaeology was recorded in this trench.

5.2 Trench 2

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Height (m aOD) |
|---------|---------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 2/001 | Masonry | Concrete slab | 14.00 | 1.80 | 0.20-0.28 | 37.92-38.16 |
| 2/002 | Layer | Made ground | 14.00 | 1.80 | 0.08-0.16 | 37.70-37.88 |
| 2/003 | Layer | Subsoil | 14.00 | 1.80 | 0.15-0.26 | 37.68-37.72 |
| 2/004 | Layer | Natural | 14.00 | 1.80 | - | 37.57-37.65 |
| 2/005 | Fill | Fill, secondary | 5.95 | 1.80 | 0.26 | 37.63 |
| 2/006 | Fill | Fill, primary | 5.95 | 1.20 | 0.10 | 37.38 |
| 2/007 | Cut | Tree throw/pit | 5.95 | 1.80 | 0.35 | 37.63 |

Table 3. Trench 2 List of recorded contexts

5.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the central eastern part of the site of the site having been moved and shortened due to the presence of a large spoil heap in its original location; it was east-west aligned and measured between 0.35m and 0.51m in depth (Figures 2 & 3).

5.2.2 The natural grey orange Hackney Gravels [2/004] were observed between 37.57m and 37.65m aOD. The gravels were cut by an irregularly shaped feature, [2/007], most likely to represent a tree throw or a heavily root disturbed pit. The feature had irregularly sloping sides and an undulating base; it measured 5.95m in length, 1.80m in width and 0.35m in depth. The primary fill, [2/006], consisted of mottled pale grey silt sand 0.10m thick; this deposit did not contain any finds. The upper fill, [2/005], comprised dark grey sand silt with frequent charcoal and occasional root inclusions. It measured 0.26m in thickness and contained small fragments of unidentifiable burnt bone and worked flint, thought to pre-date the Bronze Age; it also contained magnetised material, including at least one tiny fragment of probable post-medieval clinker.

5.2.3 The feature was overlain by mid grey brown silt subsoil, [2/003], between 0.15m and 0.26m in thickness. The subsoil was sealed by modern made ground, [2/002], comprising dark grey sand silt between 0.08m and 0.16m in thickness. The made ground was overlain by concrete slabs, [2/001], between

0.20m and 0.28m thick. A modern wall was also noted in eastern end of the trench.

5.3 Trench 3

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Height (m aOD) |
|---------|-------|----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 3/001 | Layer | Subsoil | 19.50 | 1.80 | 0.10-0.21 | 37.30-37.57 |
| 3/002 | Layer | Natural | 19.50 | 1.80 | - | 37.09-37.36 |
| 3/003 | Fill | Fill, single | 2.80 | 0.93 | 0.43 | 37.25 |
| 3/004 | Cut | Pit | 2.80 | 0.93 | 0.43 | - |
| 3/005 | Fill | Fill, single | 4.25 | 1.80 | 0.55 | 37.12 |
| 3/006 | Cut | Pit | 4.25 | 1.80 | 0.55 | 37.12 |

Table 4. Trench 3 List of recorded contexts

- 5.3.1 Trench 3 was located in the central western part of the site, it was north-east to south-west aligned and measured between 0.21m and 0.25m in depth (Figures 2 & 4). The trench was shortened due to an asbestos exclusions zone lying at the north-eastern end of the trench; much of the overburden had already been removed in this area due to the presence of asbestos.
- 5.3.2 The natural grey orange Hackney Gravels, [3/002], were recorded between 37.30m and 37.57m aOD. The natural deposits were overlain by mid grey brown silt subsoil, [3/001], between 0.10m and 0.21m in thickness. At the south-western end of the trench, the subsoil was cut by a rectangular pit, [3/004]; the pit had vertical sides and a flat base; it measured 2.80m in length, 0.93m in width and 0.43m in depth. The single fill, [3/003], comprised mid grey brown silt and contained fragments of peg tile of broadly post-medieval date.
- 5.3.3 A second pit, [3/006], cut the subsoil at the north-western end of the trench; this feature was also rectangular in shape, with near vertical sides; the base was not observed due to water ingress. The pit measured 4.25m in length, 1.80m in width and at least 0.55m in depth. The single pit fill, [2/005], consisted of mid grey silt and contained roof tile and a fragment of 18th century brick.

5.4 Trench 4

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth (m) | Height (m aOD) |
|---------|-------|----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 4/001 | Layer | Made ground | 23.50 | 1.80 | 0.29-0.85 | 38.28-37.96 |
| 4/002 | Layer | Natural | 23.50 | 1.80 | - | 36.80-37.99 |
| 4/003 | Fill | Fill, single | 0.40 | 0.39 | 0.06 | 37.45 |
| 4/004 | Cut | Posthole | 0.40 | 0.39 | 0.06 | 37.45 |
| 4/005 | Fill | Fill, single | 3.10 | 1.80 | 0.65 | 37.63 |
| 4/006 | Cut | Pit | 3.10 | 1.80 | 0.65 | 37.63 |
| 4/007 | Fill | Fill, single | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.12 | 37.48 |
| 4/008 | Cut | Posthole | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.12 | 37.48 |

Table 5. Trench 4 List of recorded contexts

- 5.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the south-west of the site; it was north-east to south-west aligned and measured between 0.29m and 1.16m in depth (Figures 2 and 5). The trench alignment was altered and the trench shortened slightly due to a radio mast at the south-western end of the trench.
- 5.4.2 The natural grey orange Hackney Gravels, [4/002], were observed between 36.80m and 37.99m aOD. The gravels were cut by a posthole, [4/004], towards the south-western end of the trench; the posthole was subcircular with gently sloping sides and a concave base; it measured 0.40m in diameter and 0.08m in depth. The fill, [4/003], consisted of mid grey brown silt and was devoid of finds.
- 5.4.3 A second posthole, [4/008], lay to the north, it was subcircular in shape with moderately sloping sides and a concave base; it measured 0.37m in diameter and 0.12m in depth. The fill, [4/007], comprised mid grey silt and contained 20th century glass as well as CBM and possible fragments of an iron bucket. The posthole was cut by a rectangular pit, [4/006], which had steeply sloping sides and a flat base; it measured 3.10m in length, 1.80m in width and 0.65m in depth. The fill, [4/005], consisted of crushed red brick in a sand matrix. It contained 18th to 19th century pottery and CBM as well as iron nail fragments and clinker; the fill also contained bottle glass of 20th century date.
- 5.4.4 The features were overlain by modern made ground, [4/001], comprising dark grey sand silt between 0.29m and 0.85m in thickness.

6.0 THE FINDS

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered and were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 6). All finds have been packed and stored following CfA guidelines (2014c).

| Context | Lithics | Weight (g) | Pottery | Weight (g) | CBM | Weight (g) | Iron | Weight (g) | Glass | Weight (g) |
|---------|---------|------------|---------|------------|-----|------------|------|------------|-------|------------|
| 2/005 | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 3/003 | | | | | 8 | 212 | | | | |
| 3/005 | | | | | 13 | 2048 | | | | |
| 4/005 | | | 5 | 22 | 1 | 980 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 127 |
| 4/007 | | | | | 1 | 24 | 2 | 48 | 3 | 14 |
| Total | 1 | 3 | 5 | 22 | 23 | 3264 | 4 | 58 | 5 | 141 |

Table 6: Finds quantification

6.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

6.2.1 Context [2/005] produced a flake weighing 3g. It is made on a fine-grained flint with occasional inclusions. The thin scars on the dorsal surface and the abrasion of the platform suggests that the piece is likely to predate the Early Bronze Age.

6.3 The Pottery by Luke Barber

6.3.1 Just four sherds of pottery were recovered during the evaluation, all deriving from context [4/005]. Three of these (16g) are small but quite fresh sherds of quite early blue transfer-printed pearlware. A saucer with foliage design and a jar with Chinese design are represented. The fourth piece of pottery is from another saucer (4g) but is so heavily burnt/slugged that it is impossible to identify the ware. It could easily be another piece of pearlware. Overall the pottery would be in keeping with a c. 1780-1820 date range.

6.4 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

6.4.1 Twenty-six pieces of ceramic building material weighing a total of 3253g were recovered from four contexts: [3/003], [3/005], [4/005] and [4/009]. All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. This information was then entered into a digital Excel spreadsheet. Fabrics were identified with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope and, where possible, catalogued using Museum of London Archaeology's (MOLA) fabric reference codes. Fabric descriptions are provided below in Table 7.

- 6.4.2 All of the CBM was very fragmented, although apart from being very broken the tile fragments collected from [3/003] and [3/005] were in otherwise good condition. They were fairly thick fragments, all in the same fabric type T1. One fragment was clearly curved which could indicate it to be a fragment of pantile, which would provide a date of the later 17th century or later for that deposit, but as this was only one fragment it may have just been a misshapen flat tile. Several fragments had small and irregularly punctured nail holes.
- 6.4.3 Contexts [4/005] and [4/009] produced brick fragments in common London fabric 3032, which is a post-1666 fabric type. The fragment from [4/009] was too small to provide any dateable characteristics, but the heat-shattered fragments from [4/005] – although shattered and partially vitrified – contained very little burnt ash and a lot of calcareous material which is often indicative of later examples of this fabric type, and a 19th century date is likely.
- 6.4.4 Another brick fragment in well-fired red clay, B1, was recovered from [3/005]. It was broken across both headers but had a surviving width of 125mm and a thickness of 51mm, and very creased base and stretcher surfaces. A date range of the mid-later 18th century is suggested for this fragment.
- 6.4.5 None of the CBM is of any particular archaeological significance and the assemblage can be discarded.

| Fabric | Description |
|--------|--|
| 3032 | Dark red-purple fabric; parts of the surface are often discoloured by fine yellow speckling. Common burnt black ash and flint inclusions (up to 6mm) with varying amounts of quartz (up to 0.8mm). Clay pipe stems in some bricks. |
| B1 | Finely gritty fabric with common fine and medium sand, moderate mica and sparse calcareous and very coarse iron rich clay pellets. |
| T1 | Tile version of B1. |

Table 7: Fabric descriptions for ceramic building material

6.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Luke Barber

- 6.5.1 Context [4/005] produced a 2g stem fragment measuring 22mm long and with a bore diameter of 1.7mm. The fragment, which is quite fresh, can be placed in a c. 1750 to 1900+ date bracket.

6.6 The Glass by Elke Raemen

- 6.6.1 Five fragments of glass (weight 141g) were recovered from two different contexts. Context [4/005] contained a dark green shard from a wine bottle dating to the mid 19th to mid 20th century, as well as the base from a rectangular panelled bottle. The latter was incinerated at high temperature, but is of probable early 20th-century date. Three fragments (non-conjoining) from a clear glass cylindrical bottle were found in [4/007]. One fragment contains embossed letter "G(...)"; a second fragment contains partial embossings "(...)ea(...)" and "(...)ries(...)". The fragments are likely to derive from a 20th-century milk bottle.

6.7 The Slag by Luke Barber

- 6.7.1 Context [4/005] produced two tiny scraps (1g) of black aerated fuel ash slag/clinker – clearly waste from coal burning and very much in keeping with the date of the associated ceramics.
- 6.7.2 In addition small quantities of 'slag' were recovered from a single environmental residue (context [2/005]), both hand-picked and from the magnetic fraction. The slag material (<1g) consists of more granules of fuel ash slag, at least one of which appears to be late-post-medieval clinker. The magnetic fraction (<1g) consists almost entirely of granules of ferruginous stone that have had their magnetic properties enhanced through burning. However, one or two tiny granules of fuel ash slag are also present.

6.8 The Bulk Metalwork by Trista Clifford

- 6.8.1 A small assemblage of four fragments of iron was recovered from Trench 4, with a total weight 58g. The ironwork is in poor condition with adherent corrosion layers containing soil and brick fragments. Context [4/005] produced two nail stem fragments of square section. Two fragments from a probable iron vessel such as a tin or bucket came from [4/007]. The interior surface of these fragments is covered with a grey ashy layer containing charcoal, clinker and other burnt material. A late post medieval date is proposed for the assemblage.

6.9 The Burnt Bone by Dr Paola Ponce

- 6.9.1 A small amount of burnt bone was recovered from fill [2/005] of pit [2/007]. The excavated fill of the deposit underwent flotation and was processed as environmental sample <1>. The bone fragments were collected from the 2-4mm sieve fraction and weighed 0.3 grams. It was not possible to identify whether the fragments were of human or animal origin. With regards to the degree of oxidation of the organic component of bone, it was noted that 50% of the bone fragments were fully oxidised white but a combination of grey and blue hues were identified in the remainder of the sample, thus suggesting an incompletely oxidising process (at temperatures up to c. 600° C).

7.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Mariangela Vitolo

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 One bulk sediment sample was taken from fill [2/005] of pit [2/007] in order to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and Mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of the sample and the contribution that the environmental remains can make to discussions of diet, agrarian economy and environment at the site.

7.2 Method

7.2.1 The sample measured 40L in volume and was processed by flotation in its entirety; the flot and residue were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried. The dried residue was passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 2, Table 1). Artefacts recovered from the sample were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flot was scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and its contents recorded (Appendix 2, Table 2). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

7.2.2 Charred wood fragments were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000, Leeney and Casteel 1975). Charcoal specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004, Schweingruber 1990). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 2, Table 1.

7.3 Results

7.3.1 The flot matrix was dominated by sediment and <2mm charcoal fragments. Uncharred material, due to root activity, consisted of rootlets and seeds of goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). No charred plant macrofossils were recovered.

7.3.2 Finds from the residues included worked and fire cracked flint, burnt bone and a small amount of magnetic material. Charcoal was abundant, although the preservation state was poor. Fragments displayed signs of post-depositional sediment encrustations and were very friable. Both characteristics are likely due to fluctuations in the ground water level, leading to intermittent periods of wetting and drying. The only identified taxon was oak (*Quercus* sp.), with five more fragments being distorted and unidentifiable

7.4 Discussion

- 7.4.1 The environmental samples from Lombard Way yielded no charred plant remains and poorly preserved charcoal. The paucity and poor preservation of the archaeobotanical remains could be due to circumstances of deposition or the nature of the sampled deposit.

8.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

8.1.1 The natural Hackney Gravels were recorded across the site between 35.65 and 37.99m aOD. Although most of the overlying soils had been truncated, some subsoil was recorded in Trenches 2 and 3 in the south-west of the site. In Trench 2, a possible prehistoric feature was overlain by the subsoil but, in Trench 3, features of more recent origin were clearly cut into it.

8.1.2 Modern made ground deposits were found at the top of the archaeological sequence in all four trenches. In Trenches 3 and 4, the made ground, stratigraphically overlay the fills of probable late post-medieval archaeological features whereas, in Trench 2, it overlay the subsoil. Across the southern part of the site, the made ground deposits were relatively thin but they were significantly thicker to the north-west, in the area of Trench 1, this part of site seeming to have undergone heavy truncation.

8.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

8.2.1 Although the trenches were positioned outside of the previous building footprint, the presence of intact subsoil in Trenches 2 and 3 was unexpected, given the previous industrial use of the site. Although most of the remains encountered appear to be of later post-medieval date, there is no clear evidence of significant truncation across most of the site, despite the presence of thin deposits of made-ground. Further north, severe horizontal truncation was recorded in Trench 1, where the natural deposits were encountered around 1.5m lower than in other trenches. In this area much thicker deposits of made-ground were recorded.

8.3 Discussion of archaeological remains

8.3.1 Feature [2/007] either represents a root-disturbed pit or a tree-throw, as suggested by the frequent rootlets and uncharred weed-seeds recovered from the environmental sample of its upper fill. Stratigraphically, it appears to be the earliest element recorded on the site, as it was the only feature sealed by subsoil. The presence of a single Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint may indicate a prehistoric date and the recovery of tiny quantities of burnt bone possibly also suggest a pre-modern date for this feature; however magnetised material, recovered from the environmental sample included one tiny fragment (<1g in weight), identified as probable post-medieval clinker. It is certainly possible that such a small fragment could be intrusive in a root-disturbed prehistoric pit but the dating of this feature remains uncertain.

8.3.2 The remaining features were of later post-medieval and modern date. Large rectangular pits, [3/004] and [3/006], which cut the subsoil, are likely to be associated with the brick manufacturing which took place on site during the 18th century as recorded on John Roque's map of 1768 and the 1800 Croydon Enclosure map (CgMs 2015). The only associated datable material was CBM, including material of late 17th-18th century date.

8.3.3 A posthole and pit in Trench 4 were most likely of early to mid 20th century date; a further undated posthole was recorded just to the south.

8.4 Consideration of research aims

- 8.4.1 The evaluation has succeeded in addressing the general aims of the evaluation as outlined in the WSI (CgMs 2017). The evaluation found evidence of modern truncation in the north-west while the rest of the site appeared to be relatively undisturbed. Some extant subsoil was recorded in Trenches 2 and 3. Made ground sealed all of the trenches.
- 8.4.2 The only certain prehistoric evidence recorded on site was the single worked flint retrieved from the pit or tree throw in Trench 2; this material is likely to be Mesolithic or Neolithic in date but little more can be said about it. The date of the feature itself remains unclear due to the presence of a tiny fragment of post-medieval clinker, though it is possible that this was introduced by root disturbance. The fact that the feature is sealed by the subsoil shows that it almost certainly pre-dates the probable 18th century features in Trench 3, as these clearly cut the subsoil. At the very least, the worked flint suggests that some activity occurred in the area during the Mesolithic or Neolithic periods. Similar background scatters of flint have been noted on a number of local sites.
- 8.4.3 The site lies within an archaeology priority area for the Wandle Valley, an area known for the presence of Bronze and Iron Age field systems; however, no datable later prehistoric or Roman material was recorded during the evaluation.
- 8.4.4 The remaining activity on site dates to the post-medieval and modern periods. The post-medieval remains comprised two pits likely to be associated with 18th century brickmaking on site. As such they cannot provide answers to most of the specific post-medieval research aims; however, they do provide further evidence of industrial activity occurring even in relatively rural areas in the 18th century. London was a rapidly growing city during this period and would have been in constant need of building materials. The site is located only a short distance from the Brighton Road, the main access route into London in the area. Croydon was also expanding during the late 18th and early 19th century, serving first as a staging post *en route* to the fashionable Brighton and later as an increasingly important rail destination.
- 8.4.5 During much of the 19th century, the western half of site appears to have lain undisturbed. But during the early 20th century some small buildings began to occupy this part of the site. The early 20th century features on site are reflective of an open space behind the street front and likely represent post-built fence lines and rubbish pits.

8.5 Conclusions

- 8.5.1 The evaluation established that the site had undergone some significant horizontal truncation in the north-west; however much of the site had a good level of survival with subsoil intact in the area of Trenches 2 and 3.
- 8.5.2 A possible tree throw or root disturbed pit could not be securely dated but did contain one probable piece of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint and tiny fragments of unidentifiable burnt bone, as well as <1g of post-medieval clinker (though this could have been introduced by rooting activity). Its stratigraphic position in relation to the subsoil indicated that it pre-dated the late post-medieval period.
- 8.5.3 The remainder of the recorded features were of post-medieval and modern date with 18th century pits probably associated with the brickmaking industry as well as a pit and postholes of 20th century date.

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HER Summary

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|---------------|--------|
| Site code | PLY 17 | | | | |
| Project code | 170170 | | | | |
| Planning reference | 15/01236/P | | | | |
| Site address | Lombard House, Purley Way, Croydon | | | | |
| District/Borough | London Borough of Croydon | | | | |
| NGR (12 figures) | TQ 30788 66796 | | | | |
| Geology | Hackney Gravels | | | | |
| Fieldwork type | Eval | | | | |
| Date of fieldwork | 07-08-2017 to 14-07-2017 | | | | |
| Sponsor/client | CgMs Consulting | | | | |
| Project manager | Andy Leonard | | | | |
| Project supervisor | Ian Hogg | | | | |
| Period summary | Prehistoric | | | | |
| | | | | Post-medieval | Modern |
| Project summary | <p>The fieldwork comprised the machine excavation of four evaluation trenches. Natural Hackney Gravels were recorded between 35.65m and 37.99m aOD. Across the north-west of the site significant truncation was encountered and the natural deposits were directly overlain by modern made ground. In the south-west, far better levels of survival were found with only thin made ground deposits overlying the natural geology and in some cases extant subsoil was present.</p> <p>Probably the earliest feature on site, and the only one sealed by subsoil, was a root disturbed pit or tree throw which contained a piece of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint and unidentified burnt bone; it also contained a tiny fragment of post-medieval clinker. Given the root disturbance it remains unclear whether this is genuinely a prehistoric feature. Two 18th century pits were recorded in the central part of the site; historic mapping shows that the site was located in brick fields during this period and it is likely that these features were associated with that industry. The remaining features were of 20th century date and comprised a pit and postholes.</p> | | | | |

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-294068

Project details

Project name Lombard House, Purley Way Croydon

The fieldwork comprised the machine excavation of four evaluation trenches. Natural Hackney Gravels were recorded between 35.65m and 37.99m aOD. Across the north-west of the site significant truncation was encountered and the natural deposits were directly overlain by modern made ground. In the south-west, far better levels of survival were found with only thin made ground deposits overlying the natural geology and in some cases extant subsoil was present.

Short description of the project Probably the earliest feature on site, and the only one sealed by subsoil, was a root disturbed pit or tree throw which contained a piece of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flint and unidentified burnt bone; it also contained a tiny fragment of post-medieval clinker. Given the root disturbance it remains unclear whether this is genuinely a prehistoric feature. Two 18th century pits were recorded in the central part of the site; historic mapping shows that the site was located in brick fields during this period and it is likely that these features were associated with that industry. The remaining features were of 20th century date and comprised a pit and postholes

Project dates Start: 07-08-2017 End: 14-08-2017

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes PLY17 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 170170 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Monument type TREE THROW? Uncertain

Monument type PITS Post Medieval

Monument type PIT Modern

Monument type POSTHOLES Modern

Significant Finds WORKED FLINT Early Prehistoric

Significant Finds CBM Post Medieval

Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches"

Development type Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, 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 CROYDON CROYDON Lombard House, Pulrey Way |
| Postcode | CR0 3JP |
| Study area | 8555 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | TQ 30788 66796 51.384609271944 -0.120279148232 51 23 04 N 000 07 13 W Point |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 35.65m Max: 37.99m |
| 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 |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | CgMs Consulting |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | CgMs Consulting |
| Project archives | |
| Physical Archive recipient | LAARC |
| Physical Contents | "Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics" |
| Digital Archive recipient | LAARC |
| Digital Contents | "Stratigraphic","Survey" |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography","Survey" |
| Paper Archive recipient | LAARC |
| Paper Contents | "Stratigraphic" |
| Paper Media available | "Correspondence","Plan","Report","Section" |
| Entered by | Ian Hogg (ian.hogg@ucl.ac.uk) |

Entered on 24 August 2017

Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Depth (m) | Height (m aOD) |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1/001 | Layer | Made ground | 1.12-1.29 | 36.94-37.38 |
| 1/002 | Layer | Natural | - | 35.65-36.09 |

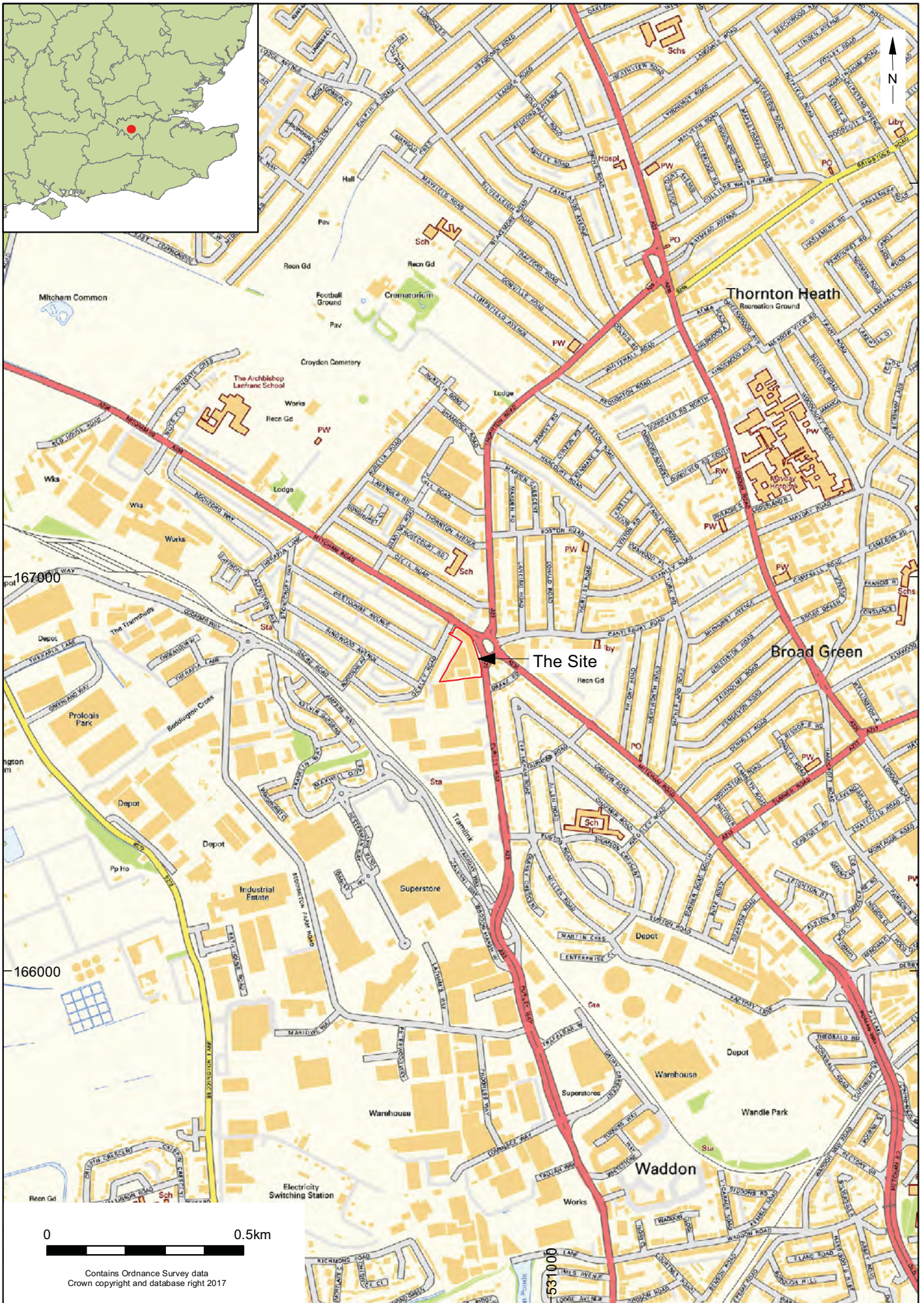
Appendix 2 Environmental Quantification

Table 1: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

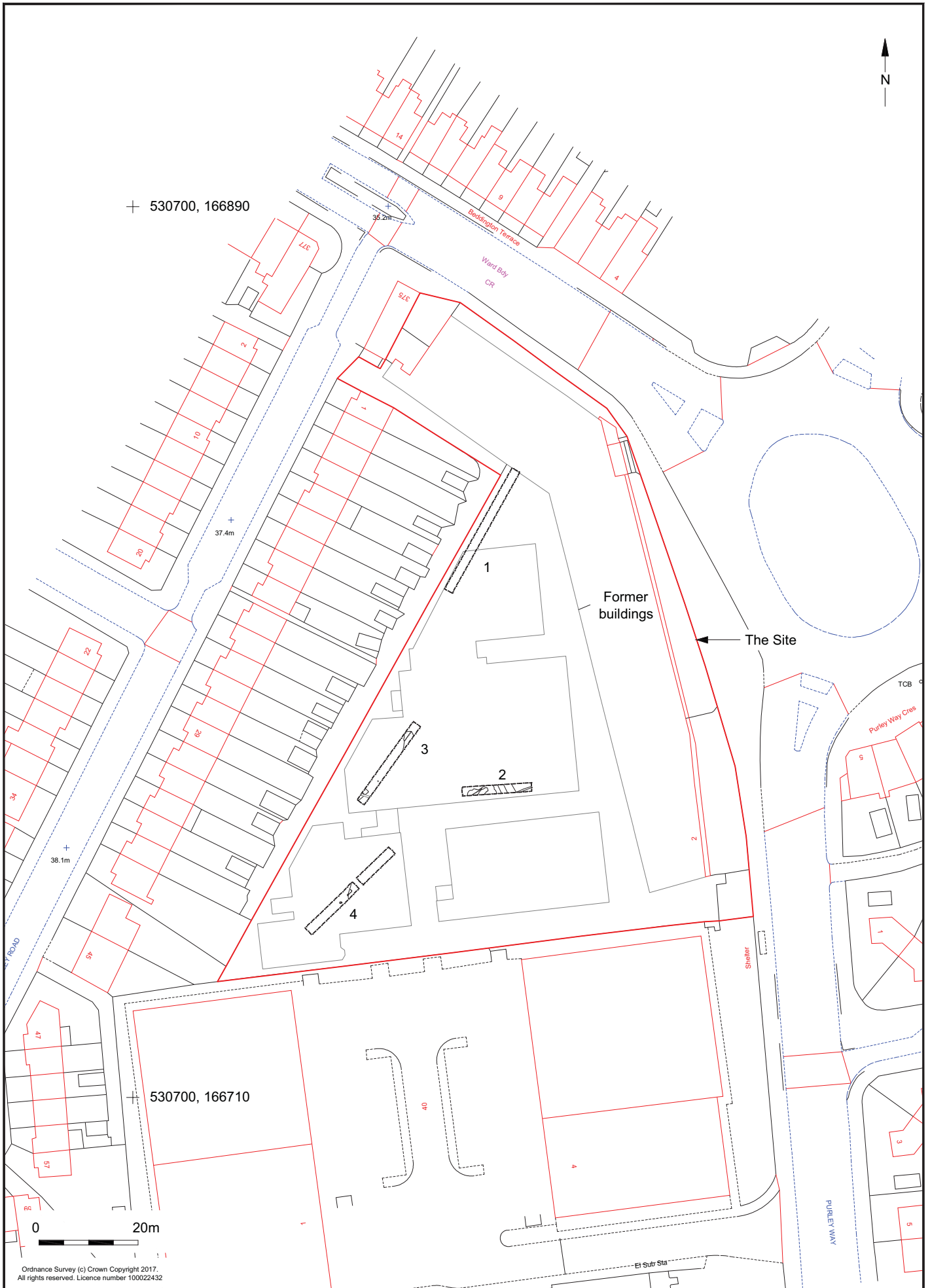
| Sample Number | Context | Context / Deposit Type | Sample Volume (L) | Sub-Sample Volume (L) | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal 2-4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal Identifications | Burnt Bone 2-4mm | Weight (g) | Other (eg. pot, cbm, etc.) (quantity/ weight) |
|---------------|---------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|---|------------------|------------|---|
| 1 | 2/005 | Pit/ Tree Throw | 40 | 40 | *** | 26 | **** | 7 | <i>Quercus</i> sp. 5, Indet./distorted 5. Visible sediment encrustations and friable fragments | * | <1 | Flint (*132g) FCF (**94g) Slag (*<1g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**1g) |

Table 2: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

| Sample Number | Context | Weight (g) | Flot volume (ml) | Volume Scanned (ml) | Uncharred (%) | Sediment (%) | Seeds Uncharred | Charcoal <2mm |
|---------------|---------|------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2/005 | 1.8 | 15 | 15 | 30 | 50 | * <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. | **** |

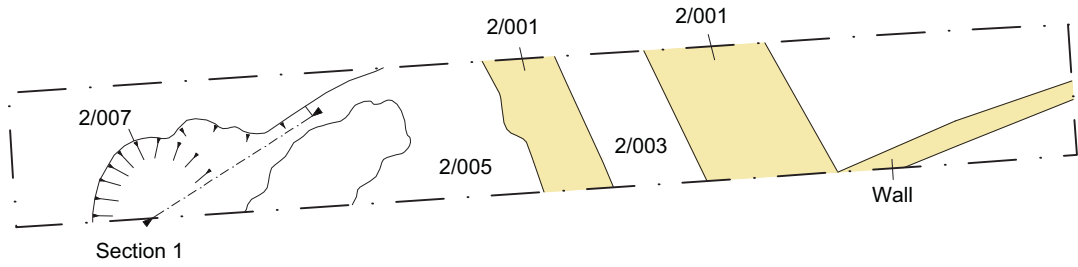


| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Lombard House, Purley Way, Croydon | Fig. 1 |
| Project Ref: 170170 | Aug 2017 | Site location | |
| Report Ref: 2017372 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Lombard House, Purley Way, Croydon | Fig. 2 |
| Project Ref: 170170 | Aug 2017 | Trench location | |
| Report Ref: 2017372 | Drawn by: JLR | | |

+ 530767, 166777



+ 530767, 166767

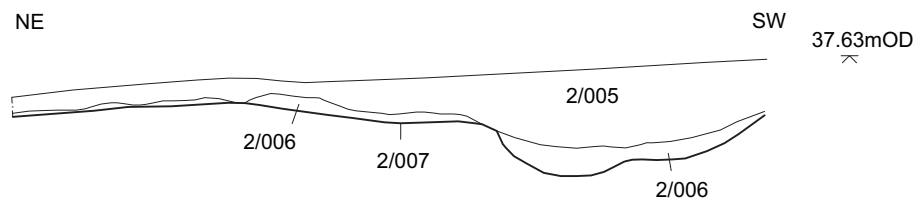
Concrete

0 2m

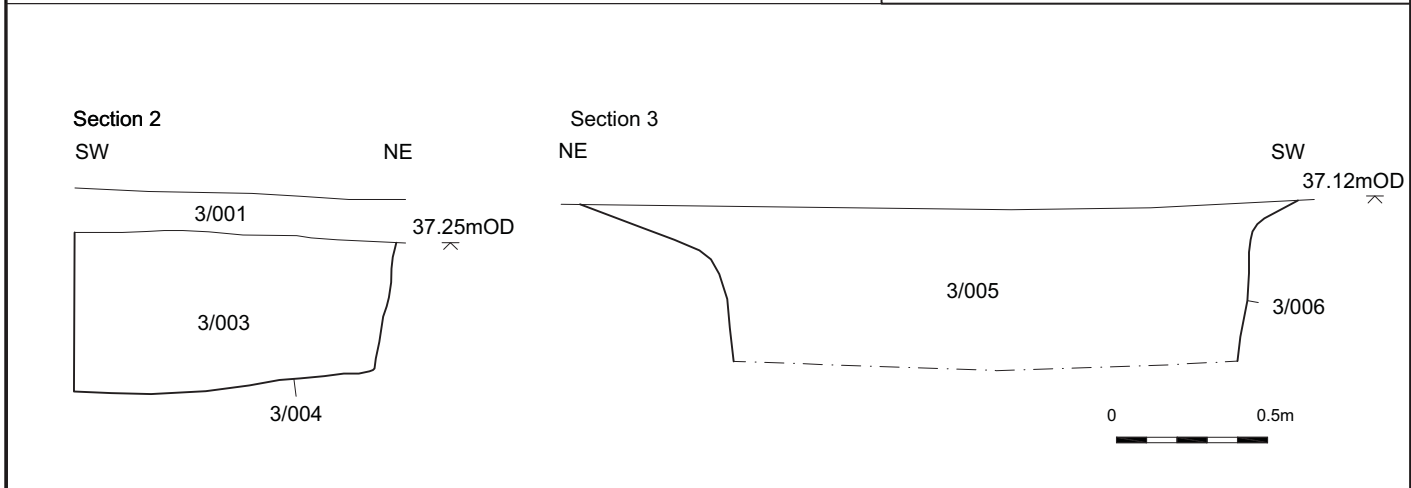
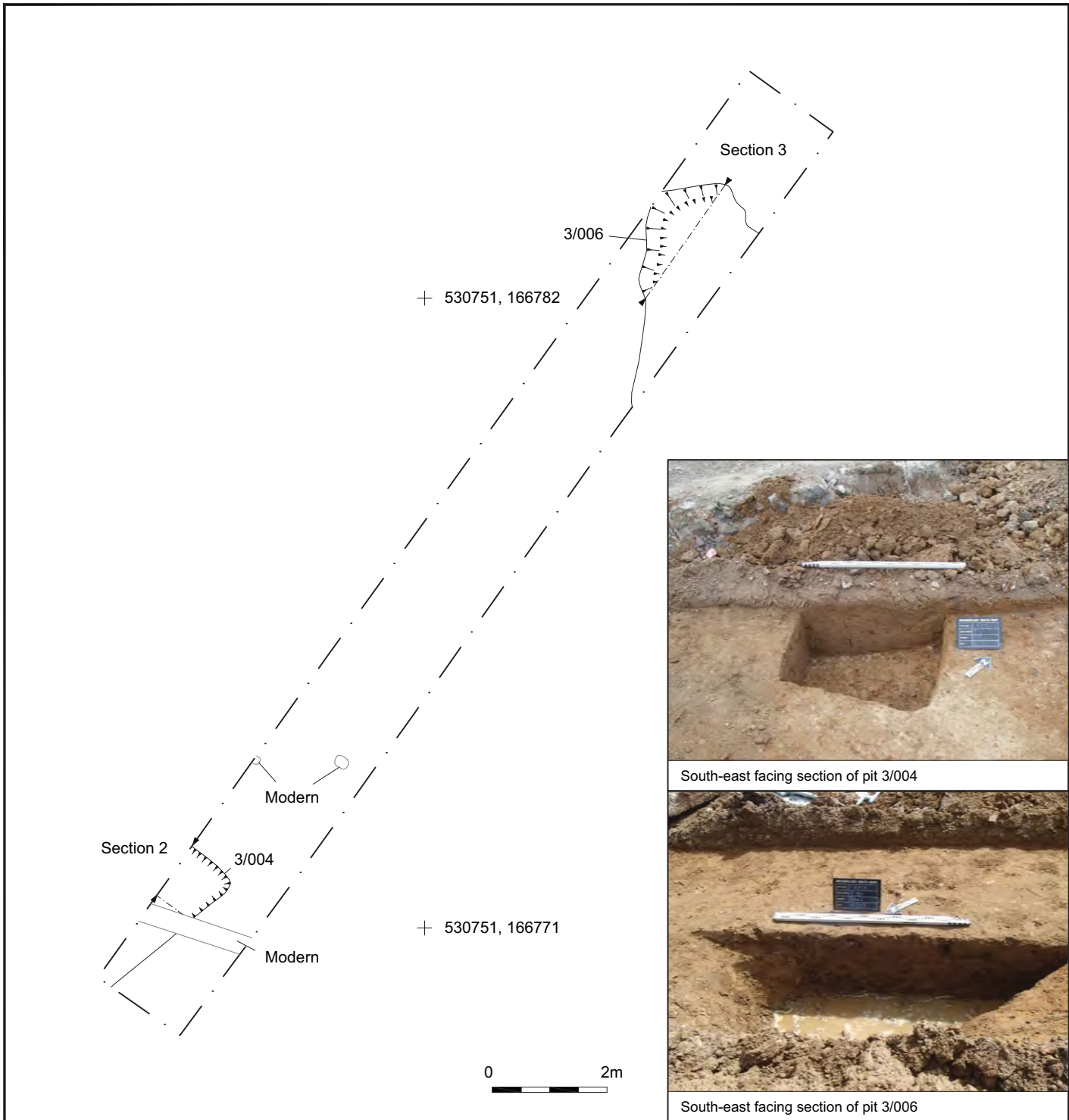


North-west facing section of tree throw or pit 2/007

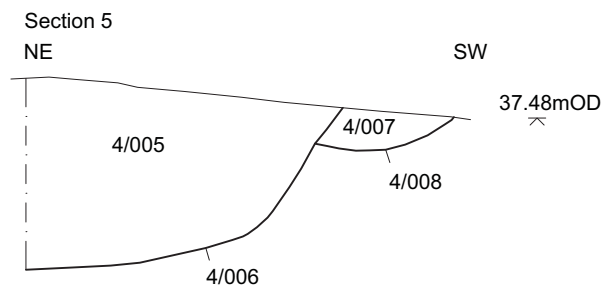
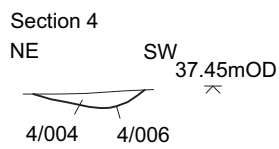
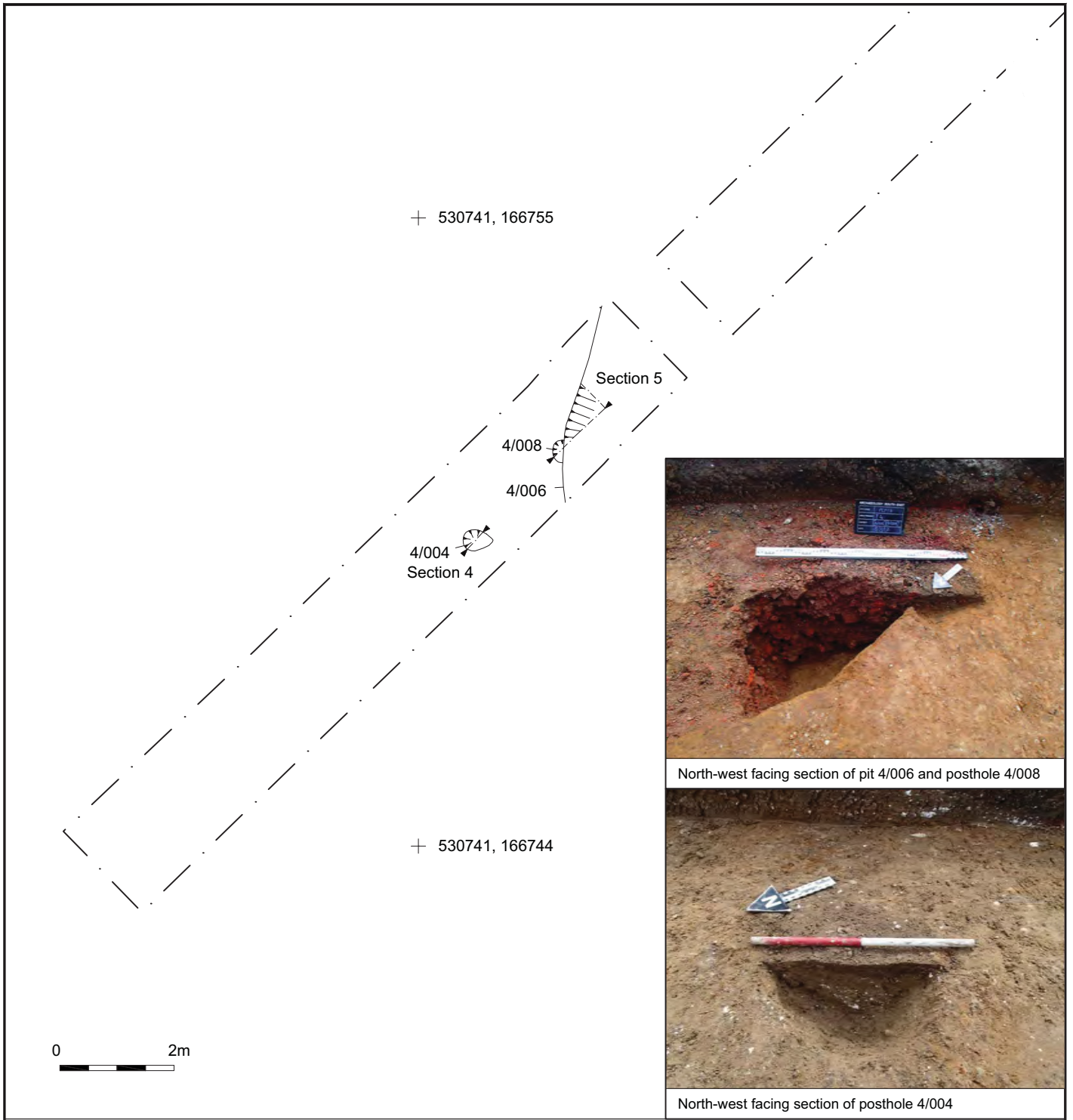
Section 1
NE



0 0.5m



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Lombard House, Purley Way, Croydon | Fig. 4 |
| Project Ref: 170170 | Aug 2017 | Trench 3 plan, sections and photographs | |
| Report Ref: 2017372 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Lombard House, Purley Way, Croydon | Fig. 5 |
| Project Ref: 170170 | Aug 2017 | Trench 4 plan, sections and photographs | |
| Report Ref: 2017372 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



Trench 1 looking north-east



Trench 2 looking east



Trench 3 looking south-west



Trench 4 looking south-west

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------|
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| Project Ref: 170170 | Aug 2017 | Trench photographs | |
| Report Ref: 2017372 | Drawn by: JLR | | |

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