

**An Archaeological Evaluation
at Land at South Lambeth Estate,
London Borough of Lambeth**

**NGR TQ 30783 77137
Planning Ref: 17/05993/O
ASE Project No: 200045
Site Code: SHL 20**

**ASE Report No: 2020160
OASIS id: archaeol6-400982**

By Tomasz Mazurkiewicz

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August 2020

By Tomasz Mazurkiewicz

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, was commissioned by Hill Developments to undertake a programme of archaeological work at land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth (NGR TQ 30783 77137).

Two evaluation trenches were excavated. No archaeological features, deposits or significant finds were encountered in the evaluation.

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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 at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, was commissioned by Hill Developments to undertake a programme of archaeological work at land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth (Figure 1; NGR TQ 30783 77137).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site comprises a rectangular parcel of land directly south-west of Dorset Road. The site is bound to the north-east by Dorset Road, to the north-west by Cobbett Street, to the south-west by the rest of the South Lambeth Estate, and to the south-east by Clapham Road.
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology of the site comprises London Clay overlain by Kempton Park sands and gravels (BGS 2020).

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 Full planning permission was granted (Ref.: 17/05993/O) for the construction of a new building on the corner of Dorset Road and Clapham Road to provide 30 residential units with associated parking and landscape works. Outline planning permission has also been granted for the demolition of 101 homes in Broadstone House, Sturminster House, Swanage House, Verwood House and Osmington and the construction of new buildings arranged in five blocks. The Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service attached a condition to the planning permission:

“A) No development other than demolition to existing ground level shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological evaluation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

B) Under Part A, the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) shall implement a programme of archaeological evaluation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation

C) No development other than demolition to existing ground level about the current building footprint and basement level within, shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

D) Under Part C, the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) shall implement a programme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation.

E) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and postinvestigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Parts (A and C), and the provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured”.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation undertaken at the site between 3–6th of August 2020.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following information is a summary of the background provided in the Desk Based Assessment (Oxford 2017).

2.2 Prehistory

- 2.2.1 The site was deemed to have a low potential to contain archaeological deposits dating from the prehistoric periods. Much of the settlement evidence for this period appears to be concentrated at least 500m to the north in the Vauxhall waterfront area.

2.3 Roman

- 2.3.1 The site was deemed to have a high potential to contain archaeological deposits dating from the Roman period. The line of the Roman road of Stane Street, crosses the south eastern part of the site and evidence for metalling and drainage ditches have been found during previous excavations along its length. There is also the possibility of finding other Roman finds and structures associated with the roadway given the proximity to London and that the site is located close to an intersection between Stane Street and the London to Lewes Road. It was nevertheless possible that any Roman deposits associated with Stane Street would have been disturbed and truncated by subsequent ground disturbance related to road maintenance and the installation of services.

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 2.4.1 The site has a low potential for archaeological deposits dating from the Anglo-Saxon period. There have been limited amounts of archaeological evidence for Saxon activity within the site although it is likely Stane Street continued in use from the Roman period.
- 2.4.2 The site had similarly low potential for archaeological deposits dating from the later medieval period. There were a number of medieval villages located within 500m of the site boundary, including South Lambeth to the north west, Vauxhall to the north and Stockwell and Loughborough to the south west and south east. Therefore, it is possible that the site was used as farmland although it may have had dispersed farmsteads located within the area (although if so, they were no longer present by the time of the first historic map – Rocque 1746).

2.5 Post-Medieval and Early Modern

- 2.5.1 The site had high potential to contain archaeological deposits dating from the post-medieval period. Any post-medieval deposits within the site were likely to be of low archaeological significance. Clapham Road continued in use from the Roman period to the present day so may have had some linear settlement activity along its route. During the early post-medieval period there may have been farmsteads using the site. By the early 19th century the site was used as a residential area and it was thought very likely that some remains of 19th century houses could exist on the site, although foundations may have been truncated. The site is known to have been developed for housing during the 19th century and on the basis of uneven ground adjacent to Dorset Road was likely to contain the buried remains of post-medieval houses. There are two 19th century houses that survive on the site, the Phoenix Public House on the corner of Dorset Street and Kibworth Street and the Village Restaurant on the corner of

Clapham Road and Dorset Road.

2.6 Project Aims and Objectives

2.6.1 The general aims of the evaluation 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

2.6.2 The site-specific aims of the evaluation were:

- Is there any evidence for Roman activity on site, in particular anything associated with Stane Street along the eastern boundary?

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

- R3, Para 3 Elucidating the relationship of the central core to nucleated settlements and villas, or agricultural settlements; did people gradually drift into the roadside settlements and the city itself? (pp 33)
- R4, Para1 Analysing the nature and reasons for the evolution of the road system, river crossings and internal street layouts and their importance as engines of development and change? (pp 34)

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Two archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated; measuring 5.10m x 1.80m 1.05m depth, and 5.00m x 1.80m, 1.20m depth. Trench 1 was moved from original location due to cabins obstructing the excavation area (Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the preceding WSI (ASE 2020), the Risk Assessment and The Method Statement prepared prior the excavation. All works were carried out in accordance with the ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2014a; 2014b; 2014c) and the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) Standards for Archaeological Work (Historic England 2015). Any variations to the scope of work was agreed with Hill Developments and the GLAAS archaeology advisor prior to implementation.
- 3.1.3 The client provided information regarding the presence of any below/above ground services, and the evaluation trench locations were scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services. A dead electric cable was located at the south east end of Trench 2 during the excavation.
- 3.1.4 Excavation was carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.80m wide flat-bladed ditching bucket. The trenches were excavated through undifferentiated topsoil and modern made ground in spits of no more than 0.25m until archaeological deposits were encountered or the top of the underlying natural sediments were reached.
- 3.1.5 All deposits were recorded to accepted professional standards, using standard Archaeology South-East recording forms.
- 3.1.6 Trench locations were planed using digital survey technology and a digital photographic record was maintained of all trenches.
- 3.1.7 A metal detector was used on the site to check all spoil heaps and a visual examination of spoil heaps for artefacts was made.

3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be offered to a suitable local museum in due course. The contents of the site archive are quantified in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Context sheets	13
Section sheets	0
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	11
Context register	0
Drawing register	0
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	2

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	0
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 Summary

4.1.1 The trenches were excavated between 4 and 5th of August 2020. Weather conditions were very good and offered a perfect visibility for observing and recording archaeological features deposits or finds.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

4.2.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a length of 5.10m. The encountered stratigraphic sequence in the trench was very straightforward and is tabulated in Table 3 below. A natural deposit of yellowish silty sandy gravel [008] was recorded on the base of the trench at approx. 4.10 AOD. The natural deposit was truncated by two modern features [005] concrete footing and [007] robber cut for a concrete footing. Both [005] and [007] were sealed by a sequence of modern made grounds relating to construction and demolition deposits. Directly above [005] and [007] was a layer of a brownish orange sandy made ground [004] sealed by a blacking grey sandy made ground [003]. The sequence of modern made grounds was capped by sandy light brown grey made ground [002] sealed by a layer of topsoil [001].

4.2.2 No archaeological deposits, features or finds were recorded in the trench.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Width	Length	Thickness	Height m AOD
001	Layer	Top Soil	1.70	5.10	0.28	5.16
002	Layer	Made Ground	1.70	5.10	0.28	4.88
003	Layer	Made Ground	1.70	5.10	0.38	4.60
004	Layer	Made Ground	1.70	5.10	0.38	4.22
005	Layer	Masonry	0.60	1.70	0.27	4.22
006	Fill	Fill of 007	0.60	1.70	0.41	4.20
007	Cut	Robber cut for footing	0.60	1.70	Depth :0.41	4.20
008	Layer	Natural clay gravel	1.70	5.10	-	4.10

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.3 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

4.3.1 Trench 2 was excavated to a length of 5.00m. The encountered stratigraphic sequence in the trench was very straightforward and is tabulated in Table 4 below. Natural deposits of yellowish silty sandy gravel [005] was recorded on the base of the trench at approximately 4.15 AOD. A sequence of modern made grounds truncated by a very modern service trench (ceramic pipe located in the trench) were recorded within the boundaries of Trench 2. Sealing natural deposit [005] was a sandy brown orange made ground [004]. Directly above [004] was a sandy yellowish brown made ground [003]. The sequence of modern made ground was capped by light grey brown deposit [002] which was sealed by topsoil [001].

4.3.2 No archaeological deposits, features or finds were recorded in the trench.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length	Width	Thickness	Height m AOD
001	Layer	Top soil	5.00	1.70	0.30	5.15
002	Layer	Made Ground	5.00	1.70	0.30	4.85
003	Layer	Made Ground	5.00	1.70	0.30	4.55
004	Layer	Made Ground	5.00	1.70	0.10	4.25
005	Layer	Natural	5.00	1.70	-	4.15

Table 4: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

5.1.1 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered in the evaluation trenches.

5.2 Potential impact on archaeological remains

5.2.1 Based on observation within the two excavated trenches there is a high possibility that any archaeological deposits/remains had they been present were removed during construction work related to the block of flats located south of the site.

5.2.2 There is considered to be a very low possibility of encountering archaeological remains during any construction work on the site.

5.3 Consideration of research aims

5.3.1 The archaeological evaluation was successful in establishing the absence of archaeological remains in the areas sampled due to truncation. Given an absence of archaeological deposits or features in the two excavated trenches none of the overreaching research aims could be met.

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HER Summary

HER enquiry no.						
Site code	SHL20					
Project code	ASE Project No: 200045					
Planning reference	17/05993/O					
Site address	Land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth					
District/Borough	Lambeth					
NGR (12 figures)	530783 177137					
Geology	London Clay					
Fieldwork type	Eval	Excav	WB	HBR	Survey	Other
Date of fieldwork	3–6 th of August 2020					
Sponsor/client	Hill Developments					
Project manager	Andy Leonard					
Project supervisor	Tomasz Mazurkiewicz					
Period summary	Palaeolithic	Mesolithic	Neolithic	Bronze Age	Iron Age	
	Roman	Anglo-Saxon	Medieval	Post-Medieval	Other None	
Project summary (100 word max)	<p>Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, was commissioned by Hill Developments to undertake a programme of archaeological work at land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth (NGR TQ 30783 77137).</p> <p>Two evaluation trenches were excavated. No archaeological features, deposits or significant finds were encountered in the evaluation.</p>					
Museum/Accession No.	TBC					

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
None			

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-400982

Project details

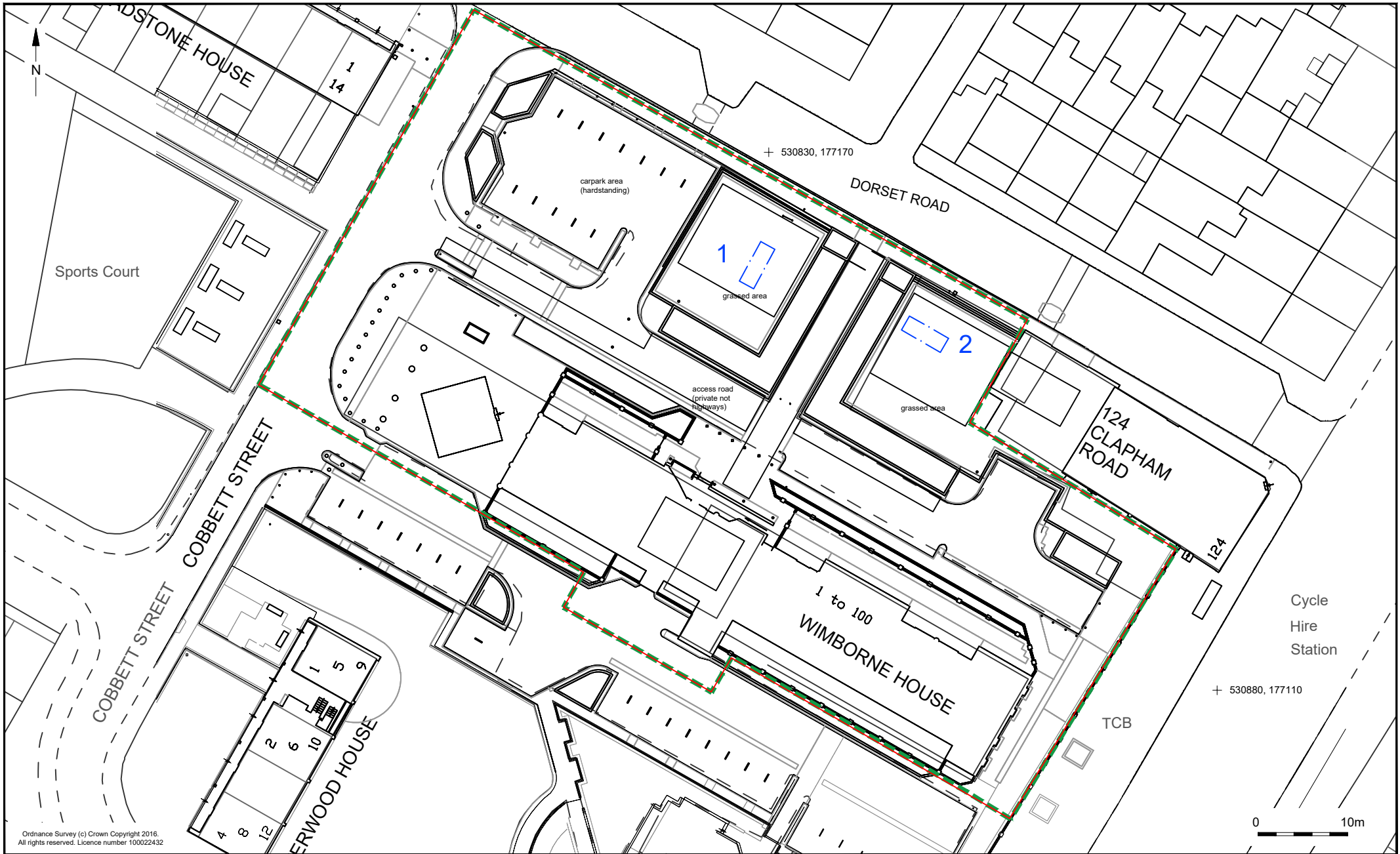
Project name	Land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, was commissioned by Hill Developments to undertake a programme of archaeological work at land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth (NGR TQ 30783 77137). Two evaluation trenches were excavated. No archaeological features, deposits or significant finds were encountered in the evaluation.
Project dates	Start: 03-08-2020 End: 06-08-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	SHL20 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	0 None
Significant Finds	0 None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON LAMBETH LAMBETH Land at South Lambeth Estate
Postcode	SW8 1AG
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	530783 177137 530783 00 00 N 177137 00 00 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 40m Max: 41m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	GLAAS
Project design originator	ASE

Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Tomasz Mazurkiewicz
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Hill Developments
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive Exists?	No
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Land at South Lambeth Estate, London Borough of Lambeth
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mazurkiewicz, T
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No: 2020160
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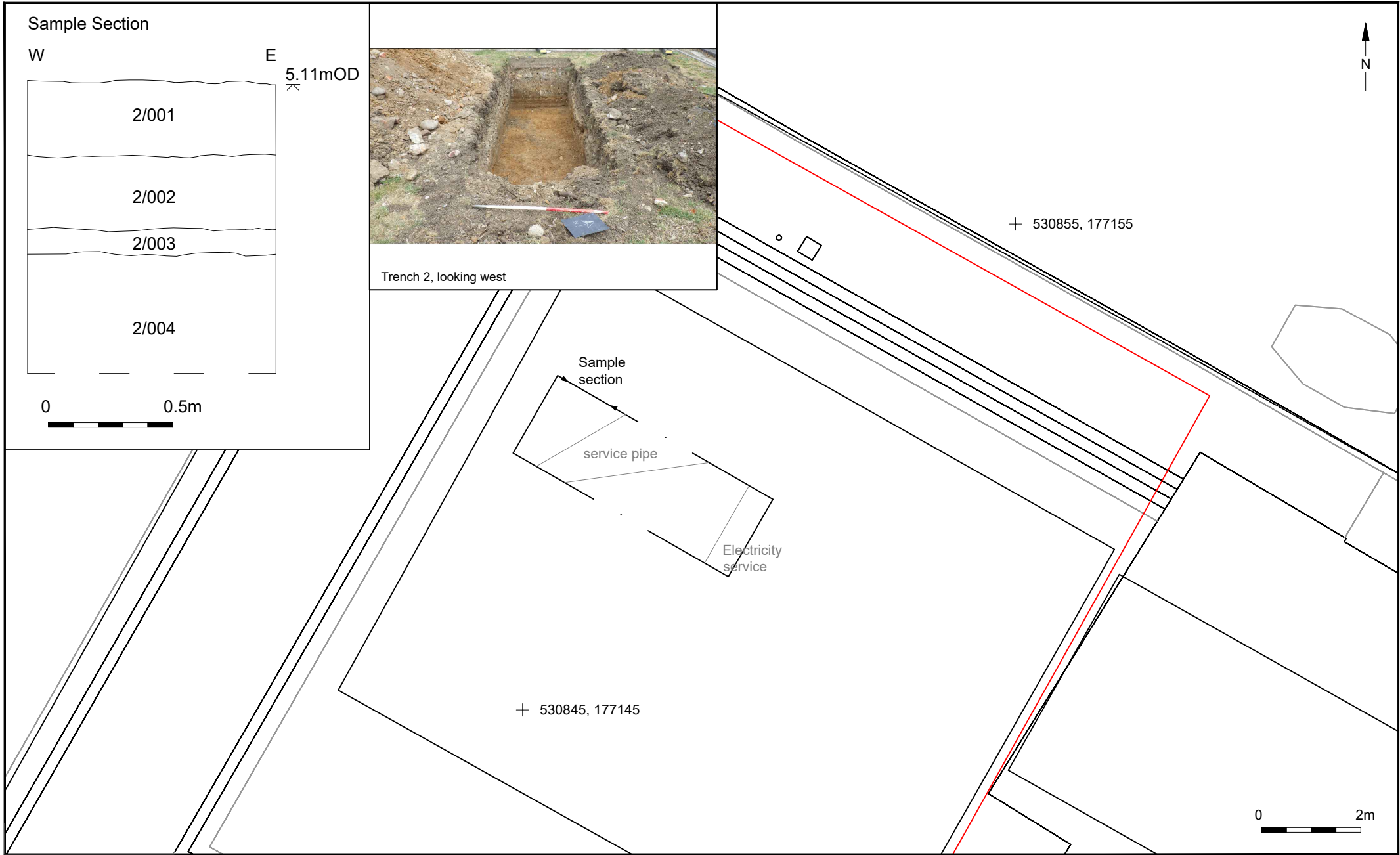
© Archaeology South-East		Land at South Lambeth Estate, LB Lambeth		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 200045	July 2020	Site location		
Report Ref: 2020160	Drawn by: NG			



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© Archaeology South-East		Land at South Lambeth Estate, LB Lambeth		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 200045	08 - 2020	Trench plan		
Report Ref: 2020160	Drawn by: NG			





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