

**An Archaeological Evaluation on  
Land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake**

**NGR 488620 121878**

**Project No. 4499  
Site Code: WIX 10**

**ASE Report No. 2010164  
OASIS id: archaeol6-83728**

**Chris Killeen**

**With contributions by  
Anna Doherty, Sarah Porteus, Elke Raemen, Lucy Sibun**

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**October 2010**

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**Abstract**

*A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the land west of Williams Lane in Mortlake in advance of the construction of 17 houses and 2 blocks of flats with associated access and facilities. The work was undertaken during the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010 on behalf of CgMs Consulting. Ten, 20m evaluation trenches were excavated.*

*Three of the trenches were heavily disturbed by 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century building and demolition. This 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century activity was recorded but not excavated. Six trenches contained evidence of post-medieval activity and one trench contained evidence of medieval activity.*

*The archaeological horizon was sealed by between 0.68m and 0.95m of made ground and subsoil.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of the University College London Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology were commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client, Shanly Homes to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation on the land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake, in advance of residential redevelopment (Figure 1; NGR 488620 121878).

1.1.2 Due to the depth of the footings of the construction work on the site, it was deemed that any archaeological remains would be affected by the proposed works.

1.1.3 The project was managed by Andy Leonard, supervised by Chris Killeen with site assistance from Catherine Douglas and Roddy Mattinson. Post excavation survey was carried out by Lesley Davidson. The evaluation was carried out between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2010.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The solid geology of the site is shown by the Institute of Geological Sciences [IGS 1979] as London Clay deposits forming the London Basin. The British Geological Survey (BSG) sheet (270) shows the underlying geology to comprise Kempton Park floodplain Gravels (defined as 'Post-diversionary Thames River Terrace Deposits: gravel, sandy and clayey in part'). Geotechnical information from the study of the site in October 2009 suggests made ground 0-7-1.6m thick above the river terrace deposits.

1.2.2 The site is largely level, comprising overgrown land that was formerly sports facilities for the neighbouring brewery removed during the 1960s and 1990s. The site is bounded by residential housing to the north and south west, by Williams Lane to the east and south east and by Clifford Avenue to the west. The site has recently housed two bowling greens and a tennis court, but is currently waste ground, until recently overgrown but cleared at the time of the evaluation.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 The proposed redevelopment of the site is for residential properties.

1.3.2 An initial *Desk Based Assessment* (DBA) of the site (CgMs, 2009) deemed the site to have modest archaeological potential for the prehistoric, post-medieval and modern periods.

## **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

1.4.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation were set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs, 2009) and are herewith reproduced in full.

1.4.2 The main aim of the archaeological evaluation is to identify any archaeological remains surviving within the site which may be impacted upon by the proposed development and more specifically:

- To establish whether any archaeological sites exist in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to require preservation in situ.
- The evaluation should aim to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied, and attention should be given to sites and remains of all periods, inclusive of evidence of past environments.
- The evaluation and watching brief should also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- Within these parameters, the proposed archaeological works present an opportunity to address the following objectives:
  1. To establish the presence or otherwise of Prehistoric or later activity/occupation and define the date and nature of that activity/occupation.
  2. To establish the palaeoenvironmental context of any prehistoric, or later occupation/activity.
  3. Evaluate the likely impact of past land use.
  4. Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy. (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.)

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

2.1 The DBA records several finds found in the immediate vicinity of the study site.

### **2.2 Prehistoric (4000BC to 43AD)**

2.2.1 Un-diagnostic prehistoric finds have been recorded in the high street area of Mortlake, Neolithic and Bronze Age artefacts have been found in the vicinity of Townmead Road. These finds in the vicinity led to the DBA allocating moderate archaeological potential for prehistoric archaeology.

### **2.3 Roman (43AD to 410AD)**

2.3.1 No Roman finds have been found in the immediate vicinity of the site. As a result the DBA allocated low potential for Roman archaeology on the site.

### **2.4 Anglo-Saxon (410AD to 1066AD)**

2.4.1 No finds of Anglo-Saxon date have been found in the immediate vicinity of the site. As a result, the DBA allocated low potential for Anglo-Saxon archaeology on the site.

### **2.5 Medieval (1066AD to 1485AD)**

2.5.1 The site of the Archbishops palace at Mortlake is situated around 270m to the east of the site along with associated finds. There is also evidence of dumping to the northwest of the site on the High Street. The area was probably on the periphery of areas of settlement in this period and as a result the DBA allocated low potential for medieval archaeology on the site.

### **2.6 Post-medieval and Modern (1486AD-Present)**

2.6.1 There has been a lot of activity on the site since the medieval period. This has largely been determined through map data, using John Rocque's survey of London (1745) tithe maps and the Ordnance Survey. The earliest map (1745) show a rectangular building occupying the frontage of the site, set in agricultural land. Later maps (1768 and 1793) show the site as open land with no buildings. The 1839 tithe map shows buildings occupying the south of the site, with little change until 1919 when the neighbouring Watney's brewery set up a sports club on the site, levelling the land. The 1935 Ordnance Survey map shows two bowling greens on the site, this was later added to with the addition of a tennis court in the northeast of the site which first appears on the 1960 Ordnance Survey. The land facilities were demolished after they fell out of use prior to 2000 and the site became overgrown by aerial photographs were taken in 2008. The land was cleared by machine prior to excavation.

**3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1** The archaeological evaluation comprised the machine excavation, under constant archaeological supervision of 10 evaluation trenches (Figure 2), measuring 20.0m long by 1.8m wide, totalling some 200.0m of trenching.
- 3.2** Trenches were located to avoid known services and to provide even coverage of those parts of the site currently accessible. Further minor revision of trench locations was required in the light of on-site constraints.
- 3.3** The trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool [CAT]. Subsequent machine excavation was undertaken under the guidance of an experienced archaeologist and continued to the surface of the underlying natural geology or archaeological deposits, whichever was higher.
- 3.4** The evaluation trenches were surveyed using a Leica Smartrover with repeater box.
- 3.5** All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the standard context record sheets used by UCLFAU with colours recorded using visual inspection. Sections were drawn at appropriate scales on plastic drafting film.
- 3.6** Backfilling and compaction was undertaken by the machine on completion of the work. No further reinstatement was required.

Number of Contexts	90
No. of files	1
Plan and sections sheets	4
Bulk Samples	N/A
Photographs	28 digital images, 1 roll B/W, 1 roll C/S
Bulk finds	1 crate box
Registered finds	N/A
Environmental flots/residue	N/A

Table 1: Quantification of site archive



**4.0 RESULTS** (Figures 2 – 5)

**4.1 Natural Geology and Overburden**

4.1.1 The natural geology observed on the site was an orangey yellow clayey sand.

**4.2 Trench 1**

4.2.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.90m

Orientation: East-west

Number	Type	Description	Max. length.	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. Height [m OD]
1/001	Deposit	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.90m	6.54
1/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.66

Table 2: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 1

4.2.2 Summary

The underlying natural geology, comprising orangey yellow sand [1/002] was encountered at a maximum height of 5.66 OD at the eastern end of the trench,

No archaeological features were observed in the trench.

**4.3 Trench 2**

4.3.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.95m

Orientation: Northwest-southeast

4.3.2 Summary

Natural orangey yellow silty sand [2/007] was encountered at 5.65m OD below subsoil [2/006] of loose mid brown silty sand. This in turn was below made ground [2/001].

Shallow pit [2/002] was found to the south east of the trench, containing [2/001]. Fill described as firm light brown silty sand with occasional small stones. Feature contained a medieval strap handle jug fragment and late medieval or early post-medieval ceramic building material [CBM]. To the north of [2/002], posthole [2/004] was found. Posthole contained fill [2/003], a dark grey cindery silty sand with flecks of charcoal and glazed red earthenware pottery fragments.

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. Height [m OD]
2/001	Fill	Shallow pit fill	1.37m	1.37m	0.16m	5.57
2/002	Cut	Shallow pit cut	1.37m	1.37m	0.16m	5.57
2/003	Fill	Posthole fill	0.41m	0.41m	0.16m	5.56
2/004	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.41m	0.41m	0.16m	5.56
2/005	Deposit	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.75m	6.16
2/006	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.95m	-
2/007	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.65

Table 3: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 2

#### 4.4 Trench 3

4.4.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.97m

Orientation: Northwest-southeast

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. Height [m OD]
3/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.70m	6.13
3/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.53
3/003	Deposit	subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.71m	-

Table 4: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 3

#### 4.4.2 Summary

Natural geology, comprising mid yellow sand [3/002] was encountered at a maximum elevation of 5.53m OD. This was below subsoil [3/003], a loose mid brown silty sand containing large chunks of brick rubble. Above this was made ground [3/001].

No archaeological features were observed.

#### 4.5 Trench 4

4.5.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.71m

Orientation: Northwest-southeast

#### 4.5.2 Summary

Natural geology of orangey yellow sand [4/002] was recorded between 5.59m OD. This was overlain by a layer of dark grey made ground [4/001].

Towards the southeast end of the trench plough scar [4/003] was found. This was extremely shallow, containing [4/004] a friable grey silty clay with

occasional angular flint gravel inclusions. The scar ran in a northeast-southwest orientation across the trench. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century clay tobacco pipe and animal bone fragments were recovered in this fill.

To the northwest of [4/003] was plough scar [4/005] This ran on a slightly different northeast-southwest orientation and contained fill [4/006], a reddish grey silty clay fill containing 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century pottery fragments and 18<sup>th</sup> century clay tobacco pipe.

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. height [m OD]
4/001	Deposit	Made Ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.67m	6.07
4/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.59
4/003	Cut	Cut of plough scar	1.78m ex	0.24m	0.02m	5.61
4/004	Fill	Fill of plough scar	1.78m ex	0.24m	0.02m	5.61
4/005	Cut	Cut of plough scar	2.56m ex	0.46m	0.07m	5.54
4/006	Fill	Fill of plough scar	2.56m ex	0.46m	0.07m	5.54

Table 5: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 4

#### 4.6 Trench 5

4.6.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.96m

Orientation: northeast-southwest.

#### 4.6.2 Summary

Natural orangey yellow sand [5/003] was observed at 5.53m OD. This was sealed by subsoil [5/002], in turn overlain by made ground [6/001].

Natural [5/003] in this trench was cut by five plough scars, [5/004], [5/006], [5/008], [5/010] and [5/012]. These scars contained fills [5/003], [5/005], [5/007], [5/009] and [5/011]. Flecks of charcoal, CBM [5/009] 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century window glass [5/007] and occasional 18th century pottery fragments [5/003] were noted in the fills.

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. Height [m OD]
5/001	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.60m	6.13
5/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.80m	-
5/003	Fill	Fill of plough scar	?	0.40m	0.08m	5.46
5/004	Cut	Cut of plough scar	?	0.40m	0.08m	5.46
5/005	Fill	Fill of plough scar	?	0.50m	0.10m	5.47
5/006	Cut	Cut of plough scar	?	0.50m	0.10m	5.47
5/007	Fill	Fill of plough scar	?	0.50m	0.10m	5.51
5/008	Cut	Cut of plough scar	?	0.50m	0.10m	5.51
5/009	Fill	Fill of plough scar	?	0.50m	0.10m	5.52
5/010	Cut	Cut of plough scar	?	0.50m	0.10m	5.52
5/011	Fill	Fill of plough scar	?	0.45m	0.05m	5.53
5/012	Cut	Cut of plough scar	?	0.45m	0.05m	5.53
5/013	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.53

Table 6: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 5

#### 4.7 Trench 6

4.7.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.90m

Orientation: Northwest-southeast

#### 4.7.2 Summary

Natural orangey yellow sand [6/002] was encountered at a maximum height of 5.45m OD covered by made ground [6/001].

Trench 6 contained the demolished remains of a late 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century building. This was recorded but not excavated so depth data is not known. This largely consisted of pits and spreads of demolition fill. This was recorded as [6/003] to [6/005] and [6/009] to [6/011]. The remains of a construction cut was observed as [6/006] and the remains of a construction cut with foundation wall was recorded as [6/007] and [6/008].

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. Height [m OD]
6/001	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.90m	6.21
6/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.45
6/003	Fill	Demolition fill	0.71m	0.46m	-	5.46
6/004	Fill	Demolition fill	4.60m	2.02m	-	5.49
6/005	Fill	Demolition fill	-	-	-	5.49
6/006	Fill	Construction cut fill	-	-	-	5.49
6/007	Fill	Construction cut fill	0.72m	0.63m	-	0.58
6/008	Masonry	Foundation wall	2.04m	0.65m	-	5.57
6/009	Fill	Demolition fill	0.84mm	0.73m	-	5.60
6/010	Fill	Demolition fill	-	-	-	
6/011	Fill	Demolition fill	0.26m	0.42m	-	5.41

Table 7: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 6

#### 4.8 Trench 7

4.8.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 1.10m

Orientation: East-west

#### 4.8.2 Summary

Natural geology, consisting of orangey yellow sand [7/021] was encountered at around 5.46m OD.

Trench 7 contained nine post-medieval features. At the western end of the trench, pit [7/004] contained fill [7/005], a silty sand fill with chalk and charcoal inclusions and printed pearlware and creamware pottery fragments, 19<sup>th</sup> century glass and CBM. Fill [7/009] in [7/010] was similar in consistence and composition and contained cologne jug pottery fragments and CBM. Pits [7/006] and [7/008] were intercutting with an undetermined relationship as the fill was very similar silty sand with chalk and charcoal inclusions and post-medieval pottery and CBM found in the fills.

Pit [7/016] towards the eastern end of the trench contained a stiff fill [7/015] which extended below 0.35m from the top of the feature. Because of the features proximity to the north edge of the trench it proved to be impossible to excavate further. The fill contained 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century clay tobacco pipe fragments.

Two linear features [7/012] and [7/014] extended diagonally across the middle of the trench, these linear features were identified as plough scars and the fills, [7/011] and [7/013] respectively both consisted of silty sand

with chalk and charcoal inclusions and contained post-medieval pottery fragments and CBM.

The two postholes in the eastern end of the trench, [7/018] and [7/020] contained fills [7/017] and [7/019]. These fills consisted of a loose dark grey sandy fill and contained post-medieval pottery fragments and some CBM.

Number	Type	Description	Max.length	Max.width	Max.depth	Max.height [m OD]
7/001	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.65m	6.39
7/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	1.00m	-
7/003	Fill	Fill of pit	0.95m ex	0.91m	0.35m	5.37
7/004	Cut	Cut of pit	0.95m ex	0.91m	0.35m	5.37
7/005	Fill	Fill of pit	0.50m ex	0.86m	0.21m	5.42
7/006	Cut	Cut of pit	0.50m ex	0.86m	0.21m	5.42
7/007	Fill	Fill of pit	0.78m ex	0.93m	0.20m	5.44
7/008	Cut	Cut of pit	0.78m ex	0.93m	0.20m	5.44
7/009	Fill	Fill of pit	0.78m	0.78m	0.16m	5.45
7/010	Cut	Cut of pit	0.78m	0.78m	0.16m	5.45
7/011	Fill	Fill of plough scar	2.02m	0.56m	0.10m	5.44
7/012	Cut	Cut of plough scar	2.02m	0.56m	0.10m	5.44
7/013	Fill	Fill of plough scar	2.01m	0.80m	0.21m	5.47
7/014	Cut	Cut of plough scar	2.01m	0.80m	0.21m	5.47
7/015	Fill	Fill of pit	0.58m ex	0.99m	0.33m ex	5.45
7/016	Cut	Cut of pit	0.58m ex	0.99m	0.33m ex	5.45
7/017	Fill	Fill of posthole	0.68m	0.68m	0.13m	5.48
7/018	Cut	Cut of posthole	0.68m	0.68m	0.13m	5.48
7/019	Fill	Fill of posthole	0.45m	0.45m	0.09m	5.47
7/020	Cut	Cut of posthole	0.45m	0.45m	0.09m	5.47
7/021	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.46

Table 8: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 7

## 4.9 Trench 8

4.9.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.91m

Orientation: Northwest-southeast

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. height [m OD]
8/001	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.91	6.52
8/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.41
8/003	Masonry	Foundation wall	1.87m	0.79m	-	5.45
8/004	Fill	Demolition fill	2.63m	0.48m	-	5.45
8/005	Fill	Demolition fill	3.38m	1.29m	-	5.45
8/006	Masonry	Foundation wall	4.06m	0.36m	-	5.48
8/007	Fill	Demolition fill	-	-	-	5.56
8/008	Masonry	Foundation wall	1.93m	0.36m	-	5.56
8/009	Fill	Demolition fill	1.75m	0.96m	-	5.29
8/010	Fill	Pipe cut	1.73m ex	0.33m	-	5.38

Table 9: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 8

### 4.9.2 Summary

Natural geology, comprising orangey yellow sand [8/002] was encountered at a maximum height of 5.41 m OD.

This was overlain by a layer of modern made ground [8/001].

This trench contained the remains of a demolished 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century building that was recorded but not excavated.

At the northwest end of the trench foundation wall 0 [8/003] was found, made of modern machine cut red brick bonded by modern mortar. This was surrounded by demolitions fills [8/004] and [8/005]. [8/004] was very dark grey silty clayey sand with brick and mortar rubble inclusions. [8/005] was dark grey silty clayey sand. This demolition fill was bounded by foundation wall [8/006]. This foundation wall was constructed from machine cut red brick bonded with modern mortar.

In the middle of the trench fill [8/007], a dark grey silty sandy clay with modern brick and mortar rubble inclusions was found. This fill was immediately next to foundation wall [8/008], which was made of machine cut red brick and bonded with modern mortar.

In the southwest end of the trench, demolition fill [8/009] was found. This fill was made largely of yellowish white mortar with brick fragment inclusions.

At the extreme southwest end of the trench was a dark grey fill of a pipe cut.

#### 4.10 Trench 9

4.10.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.95m

Orientation: Northeast-southwest

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. height [m OD]
9/001	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.95m	6.44
9/002	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.61
9/003	Fill	Pipe trench fill	3.61m	0.96m	-	5.53
9/004	Fill	Pipe trench fill	1.64m	0.65m	-	5.51
9/005	Fill	Pipe trench fill	1.64m	0.83m	-	5.56
9/006	Fill	Pipe trench fill	1.99m	0.91m	-	5.52
9/007	Fill	Demolition rubble	-	-	-	-
9/008	Cut	Cut of posthole	0.36m	0.36m	0.07m	5.44
9/009	Fill	Fill of posthole	0.36m	0.36m	0.07m	5.44

Table 10: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 9

#### 4.10.2 Summary

Natural orangey yellow sand [9/002] was encountered at a maximum height of 5.61m OD. This was covered by modern made ground [9/001] Made ground contained a large amount of brick rubble, and the trench section suggested a demolished modern wall.

The trench contained four modern pipe cut fills, [9/003], [9/004] [9/005] and [9/006]. These fills were recorded, but not excavated. The trench also contained a demolition rubble fill, [9/007] which was recorded but not excavated.

At the northeast end of the trench, posthole [9/008] was found. This contained light grey silty sand fill [9/009] which contained a lower valve of a mature oyster shell.



#### 4.11 Trench 10

4.11.1 Length: 20.00m                      Width: 1.80m                      Depth: max 0.87m

Orientation: north-south

Number	Type	Description	Max. length	Max. width	Max. depth	Max. Height [m OD]
10/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.26m	6.30
10/002	Deposit	Made ground	Tr.	Tr.	0.82m	-
10/003	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.81m	-
10/004	Cut	Cut of pit	1.00m	0.56m	0.23m	5.86
10/005	Fill	Fill of pit	1.00m	0.56m	0.23m	5.86
10/006	Cut	Cut of pit	0.63m	0.59m	0.07m	5.70
10/007	Fill	Fill of pit	0.63m	0.59m	0.07m	5.70
10/008	Cut	Cut of pit	1.10m	0.92m	-	5.81
10/009	Fill	Fill of pit	1.10m	0.92m	-	5.81
10/010	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	-	5.72

Table 11: List of Recorded Contexts – Trench 10

##### 4.11.1 Summary

Natural geology, comprising orangey yellow sand [10/010] was encountered at 5.72m OD. This was overlain by a layer of brownish grey silty sand subsoil [10/003], in turn covered by made ground [10/002] which was sealed by topsoil.

At the south end of the trench three pits were found, two of which, [10/004] and [10/006] contained mostly articulated parts of animal skeletons. These were truncated by the third [10/008]. Pit [10/004] contained fill [10/005] which consisted of friable brown silt. This pit contained part of a large animal skeleton, identified as that of an adult horse as well as pottery fragments.

Pit [10/006] contained fill [10/007] which consisted of friable dark brown silt. This fill contained a mostly articulated skeleton of a large animal, identified as a juvenile horse, as well as CBM.

Both skeletons were in a poor condition and had been damaged by the machine used to excavate the trench.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation. A summary can be found in Table 12. Finds were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate and were counted, weighed and bagged by material, according to IFA guidelines.

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)
2/001	1	86	1	78										
2/003	1	2												
4/004					1	6					3	10		
4/006	2	10									1	2		
5/003	1	14	4	84										
5/005	1	8	2	52										
5/007	2	14	1	24					1	<2				
5/009			1	20										
7/005	31	256	1	426					2	24			1	<2
7/007	1	4	3	474										
7/009	1	16			13	14								
7/011					14	146								
7/015			4	216							1	4		
9/009							1	62						
10/001	2	12							5	56				
10/007											1	6		

Table 12: Quantification of the Finds

### 5.2 The Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 A probable sherd of Roman pottery, weighing 4 grams, was recovered from context [5/007]. The sherd has no diagnostic features and but its fabric is a good match for later Roman fine red wares from Hadham (dated to c.AD250-400). However, it was clearly residual in its context and is also highly abraded, so it may have been redeposited over some distance.

### **5.3 The post-Roman Pottery** by Elke Raemen

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage consisting of 40 sherds was recovered from nine individually numbered contexts. The earliest piece consists of a medieval strap handle from a jug ([2/001]). Early post-medieval sherds include a Cologne jug fragment dating to the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century ([7/009]). Green-glazed borderware of mid 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>-century date was recovered from [4/006], as was a fragment of glazed red earthenware. A fragment of the latter was also recovered from [2/003].
- 5.3.2 Later sherds include a Staffordshire combed slipware bowl fragment of 18<sup>th</sup>-century date ([5/003]), glazed red earthenware fragments, fragments from a blue transfer printed pearlware bowl (dated ca. 1780-1910) and fragments from a creamware bowl (dated ca. 1760-1820). The latter two wares were both recovered from [7/005]. Blue transfer printed china of 19<sup>th</sup>-century date was recovered from [7/007].

### **5.4 The Ceramic Building Material** by Sarah Porteus

- 5.4.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material [CBM] was recovered from seven contexts. Within the assemblage three peg tile fabrics and two brick fabric were identified.
- 5.4.2 The earliest fragments recovered were from context [2/001] and [7/005]. Context [7/005] contained a fragment of brick [1/432g] of 108mm breadth with a largely reduced core. The brick was in provisional fabric type B1, an orange sandy fabric with abundant fine quartz and sparse coarse quartz inclusions. The brick is handmade with rounded arises and unfrogged and of probable later medieval or early post-medieval date. A single flake [1/26g] in fabric B1 was recovered from context [503]. A second fragment of unfrogged brick [1/376g] in a similar fabric to B1 from context [7/007] has a bubbled vitrified stretcher on one side with an underfired edge on the opposing stretcher and possibly represents a kiln waster this fragment is more likely to be of post-medieval date. Also of later medieval or early post-medieval date were peg tile fragments in provisional fabric T3, a soft fired brownish orange fabric with a scatter of medium sized quartz and occasional pale silt inclusions and sparse orange silt and calcareous inclusions. Peg tile in fabric T3 was recovered from context [2/001] [2/118g] and [5/005] [1/18g]. Also in context [2/001] was an undated fragment of probable flooring brick of 31mm thickness [1/84g] in provisional fabric B2, a fine orange fabric with sparse rounded iron rich inclusions and sparse coarse quartz.
- 5.4.3 The remainder of the assemblage was made up of post-medieval roof tile, a single fragment [1/68g] of which is in provisional fabric T2; an orange fine sandy fabric with fine micaceous speckling and sparse medium sized calcareous inclusions. This was recovered from context [7/007]. The remainder of the assemblage was in fabric T1, a sandy fabric with moderate fine quartz inclusions of broad post-medieval date: [5/003] [3/62g]; [5/007] [1/24g]; [5/005] [2/44g]; [5/009] [1/22g]; and [7007] [1/68g]. A single pantile fragment in fabric T1 was also recovered from context [7/007].

**5.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 Five fragments of plain clay tobacco pipe (CTP) stem fragments were recovered from three individually numbered contexts. Most fragments date between the mid 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century (i.e. [4/004], [7/015]). An 18<sup>th</sup>-century fragment was recovered from [4/006].

**5.6 The Glass** by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 Only three fragments of glass were recovered, the earliest of which consists of a pale green window pane fragment of 17<sup>th</sup>- to 18<sup>th</sup>-century date and recovered from [5/007]. Two fragments from an opaque white cylindrical vessel dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century were recovered from [7/005].

**5.7 The Animal Bone** by Lucy Sibun

5.7.1 Animal bone was recovered from five stratified contexts. Small quantities were recovered from [4/004], [7/009] and [7/011]. Plough scar [4/004] contained a single cattle tarsal fragment and pit fill [7/009] produced cattle and sheep-sized long-bone fragments. Plough scar [7/011] contained sheep-sized cranial, mandible and scapula fragments, and cattle-sized long-bone and innominate fragments. The sheep scapula and cattle innominate fragments have been sawn through.

5.7.2 A large quantity of animal bone was recovered from two large pits excavated in Trench 10 [10/004] and [10/006]. Each pit contained the partial skeleton of a horse, recorded as articulated in the field. Skeletal elements recovered from [10/005] include ribs, vertebrae and long-bones from a juvenile animal. [10/007] contained vertebrae, ribs and long-bones from an adult animal.

**5.8 Other Finds** by Elke Raemen

5.8.1 A single fragment of fuel ash slag was recovered from [7/005].

5.8.2 Context [9/009] contained the lower valve from a mature oyster.

## **6.0 DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 Introduction**

7.1.1 Archaeological features were noted in 6 of the 10 excavated trenches, with a range of features present including a handful of pits, several plough scars, a few postholes, two animal burials and the foundation remains of at least 3 modern buildings. The only medieval evidence from the site came from a pit in Trench 2, in the west of the site. Post-medieval ploughing appears to be focused on the east side of the site.

### **7.2 Interpretation**

#### 7.2.1 Roman

7.2.2 Whilst a fragment of Roman pottery was found on site, the small size and highly abraded nature of the fragment suggests that it is redeposited.

#### 7.2.3 Medieval period

7.2.4 There is potential evidence for late medieval activity in Trench 2 in the northwest of the site. All evidence for this comes from pit [2/002], which contained a medieval pottery fragment and late medieval or early post-medieval ceramic building material, suggesting a late medieval or early post-medieval date for the feature.

#### 7.2.5 Post-medieval period

7.2.6 Based on the results from Trenches 4 and 6, the plough scarring suggests agricultural activity in the north east corner of the site at some point in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Whilst there is early post-medieval finds in some of the fills, this is far outweighed by the large numbers of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery and ceramic tobacco pipe fragments found in the same contexts. This agricultural use of the land is also seen in Trench 7, although the exact dating of the plough scars in this trench are undetermined. The plough scars are seen to be running in a roughly east-west alignment in Trench 4; whilst in Trench 7 they had a roughly north-south alignment.

7.2.7 The pitting in Trench 7 appears to post-date the agricultural activity in Trenches 4 and 5. Whilst pit [7/010] contains early post-medieval pottery in the form of a cologne jug fragment dated to the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the rest of the pitting contains dating that suggests 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century dating for these features.

#### 7.2.8 Modern Period

7.2.9 Trenches 8, 6 and 10 all contain the foundations and demolished remains of 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. The building remains in Trench 8 appear to be associated with a building first visible on the 1868 Ordnance Survey map, and later labelled as "The Elms" on the 1896 Ordnance Survey. This building was demolished down to the foundations with demolition fill filling what is assumed to be basements. This building does not appear on the

1935 Ordnance Survey. Due to the recent nature of these buildings it was decided to record these features, but not to excavate them.

- 7.2.10 The remains of the building in Trench 10 is also first seen on the 1868 Ordnance Survey, and appear to be outbuildings associated with "The Elms". This structure was an L- shaped building in the southeast corner of the site.
- 7.2.11 The remains of the structure in Trench 6 does not appear on any map until 1960, and is probably associated with improvements to the sports facilities first seen on the Ordnance Survey in 1935.
- 7.2.12 Trench 9 contained trench cuts for modern services, most likely associated with the modern sports facilities built on the site in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 7.2.13 At the extreme south of Trench 10, two largely articulated horse skeletons were uncovered, one adult and one juvenile. These appear to have been buried as a result of the laying of the made up ground on the site, rather than as a result of being buried in a pit. The skeletons were damaged by the machine during the excavation of the trench as part of this evaluation.
- 7.2.14 The two trenches that contained no archaeology, Trenches 1 and 3, were excavated through a layer of made ground straight onto natural. There was some evidence of root disturbance in Trench 3 but no change in the natural noted in Trench 1.

## **8.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1 Of the 10 evaluation trenches opened on this site, 8 showed some form of archaeology. Of those 8, three of them contained the foundations of 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings and 6 had some form of cut feature in them. Of these cut features, there were a collection of plough furrows, focussed on the north east and eastern parts of the site. These features were either undated or contained 18<sup>th</sup> century finds, giving a suggested date for the time of the ploughing.
- 8.2 There was little activity on the western and north-western parts of the site, with only one feature, a pit of late medieval or early post-medieval date in the south-eastern end of Trench 2.
- 8.3 The centre of the site contained the remains of a 20<sup>th</sup> century structure associated with the sports facilities on the site. This structure does not appear on the 1935 Ordnance Survey, but is visible on the 1968 Ordnance survey map.
- 8.4 The south and south-eastern parts of the site show the remains of modern buildings that were recorded but not excavated, and evidence of modern service trenches for piping in Trench 9, most likely associated with the modern sports facilities.
- 8.5 Trench 10 also contained the remains of two horses, one adult and one

juvenile at the extreme south of the trench. The dating of the deposition of these remains is unknown, although it does not appear to have been buried in a pit, rather buried when the made ground was deposited on the site.

- 8.6 The site has clearly been extensively damaged during the demolition of the 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings on the site and the construction of the bowling greens and other sporting facilities on the site. This was demonstrated by the lack of surviving features and the depth of made ground throughout the site. It appears that the site was grubbed out to as deep as a metre in the past and as a result the archaeology is very disturbed.

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IFA 1994 (Rev. 2008) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank CgMs consulting for commissioning the project, on behalf of their clients Shanly Homes, particularly Peter Humm, as well as Mark Stevenson of GLAAS for monitoring the works on behalf of Richmond upon Thames.



**SMR Summary Form**

Site Code	WIX 10					
Identification Name and Address	An Archaeological Evaluation on land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake					
County, District &/or Borough	Richmond Upon Thames					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ201 760					
Geology	Kempton Park floodplain Gravels					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4499					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban ✓	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 20/09/10- 24/09/10	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Ashill Developments					
Project Manager	Andy Leonard					
Project Supervisor	Chris Killeen					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED ✓	PM ✓	Other Modern	✓	
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the land west of Williams Lane in Mortlake in advance of the construction of 17 houses and 2 blocks of flat with associated access and facilities. The work was undertaken the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010 on behalf of CgMs. Ten evaluation trenches of 20m in length were excavated.</p> <p>Three of the trenches were heavily disturbed by 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century building and demolition. This 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century activity was recorded but not excavated. Six trenches showed evidence of post-medieval activity and one trench showed evidence of medieval activity. Two trenches were devoid of any archaeology from any period.</p>						

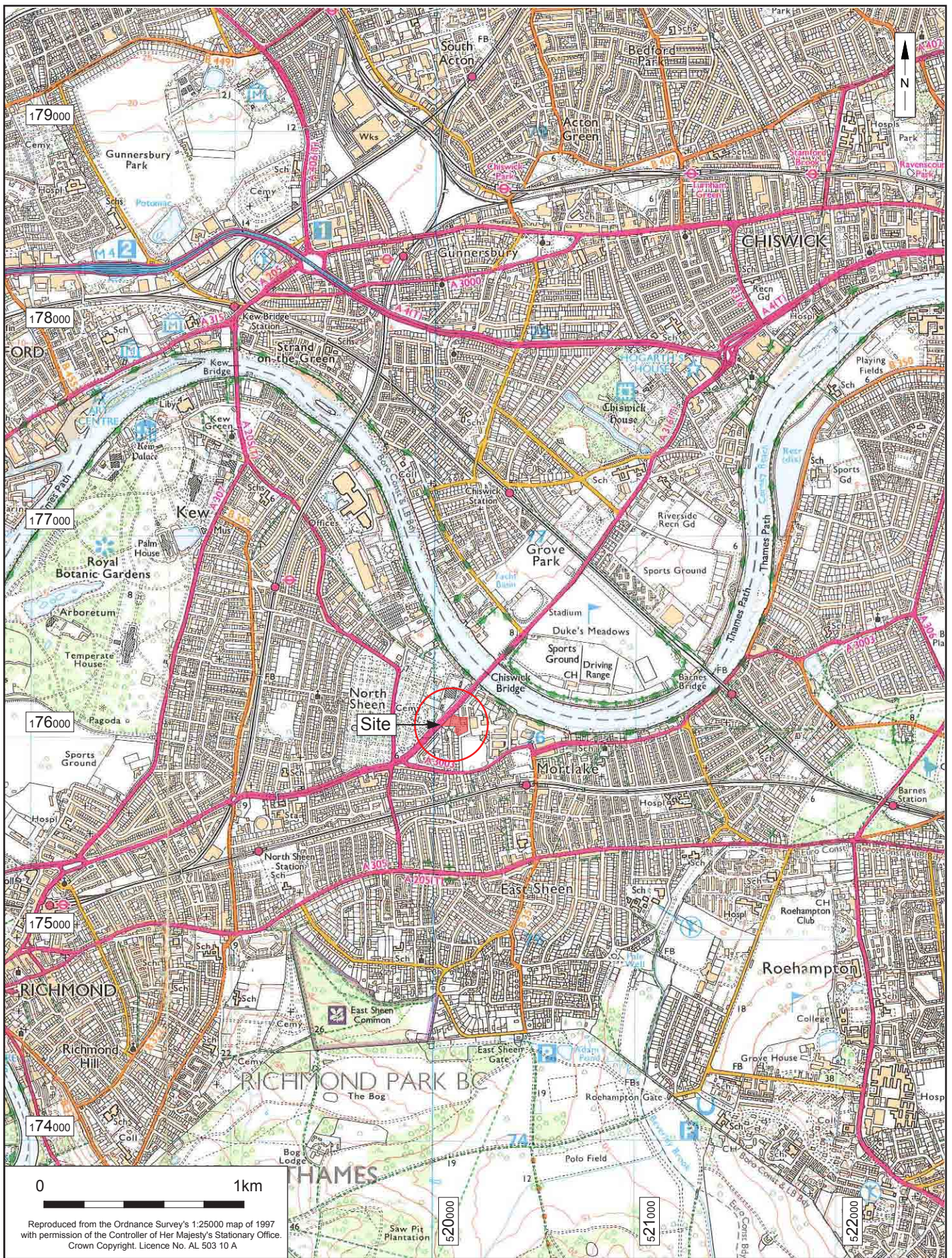
**OASIS ID: archaeol6-83728**

Project details

Project name	Land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East (ASE), a division of the University College London Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology have been commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of their client, Shanly Homes to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation on the land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake, in advance of the construction of 17 houses, 2 blocks of flats and associated services and amenities. [Site centred TQ201 760] A total of 10 trenches, totalling some 200m of trenching, were excavated across the site. The underlying natural sand was encountered between 5.41m OD in the far southeast of the site [Trench 8] and 5.66m OD in the western extreme of the site [Trench 1]. Archaeological features were encountered in six of the excavated trenches. Possible medieval activity is suggested by medieval pottery sherds in a pit in the west of the site [Trench 2]. Post-medieval activity is focussed largely in the east of the site, [Trenches 4, 5 and 7] in the form of pits and plough furrows. Modern building foundations in the south and south east [Trenches 6,8,9 and 10].The archaeological horizon is sealed by between 0.65m and 0.95m of Made ground. With the greatest depths of made ground being recorded in the southern central parts of the site [Trench 9].
Project dates	Start: 20-09-2010 End: 24-09-2010
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WIX10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post-medieval
Monument type	PLOUGH SCAR Post-medieval
Monument type	FOUNDATIONS Modern
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post-medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND UPON THAMES Land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake
Postcode	SW14 7
Study area	6200.00 Square metres

Site coordinates	TQ 201 760 51.4697066736 -0.270690786186 51 28 10 N 000 16 14 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Chris Killeen
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Ashill Developments
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Glass'
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'none'
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation on the land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Killeen, C
Date	2010
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South East
Place of issue or publication	Archaeology South East
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Entered by	Chris Killeen (chris__killeen@hotmail.co.uk)
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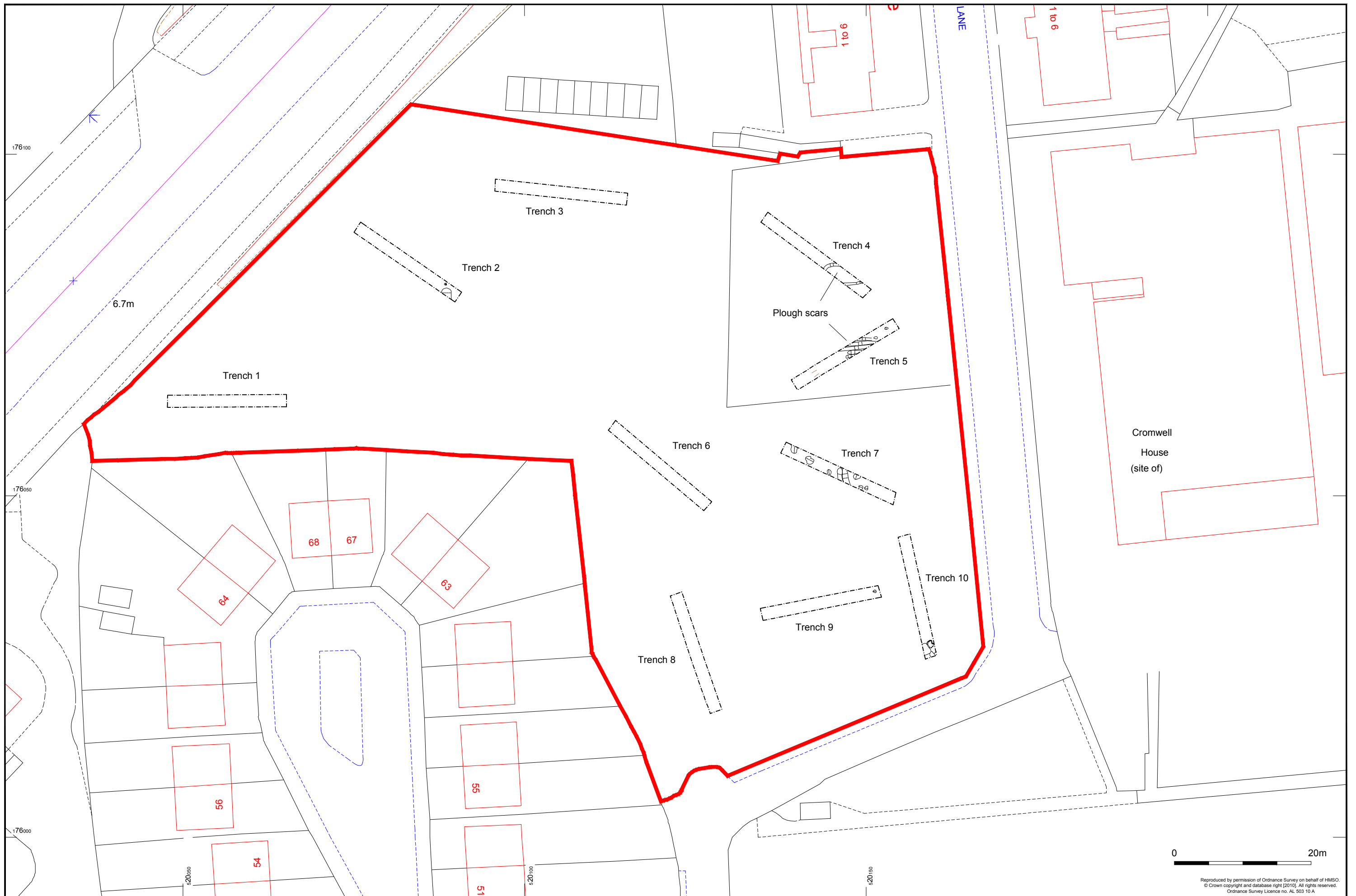




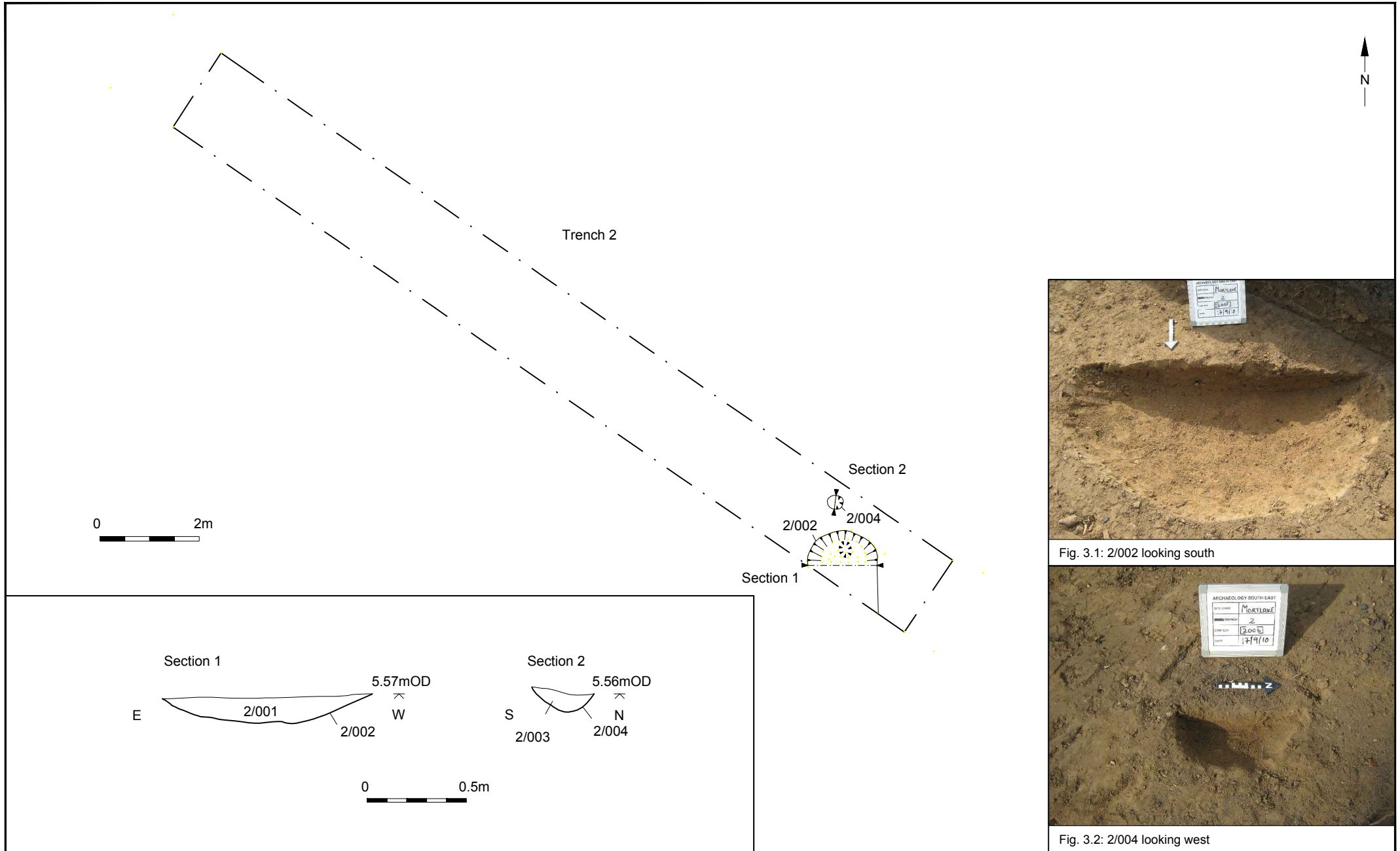
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© Archaeology South-East		Land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4499	Sept 2010	Site Location		
Report Ref: 2009164	Drawn by: DJH			





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Project Ref: 4499	September 2010	Trench locations		
Report Ref: 2010164	Drawn by: DJH			



© Archaeology South-East		Land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 4499	Oct 2010	Trench 2: Plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2010164	Drawn by: DH/JR		

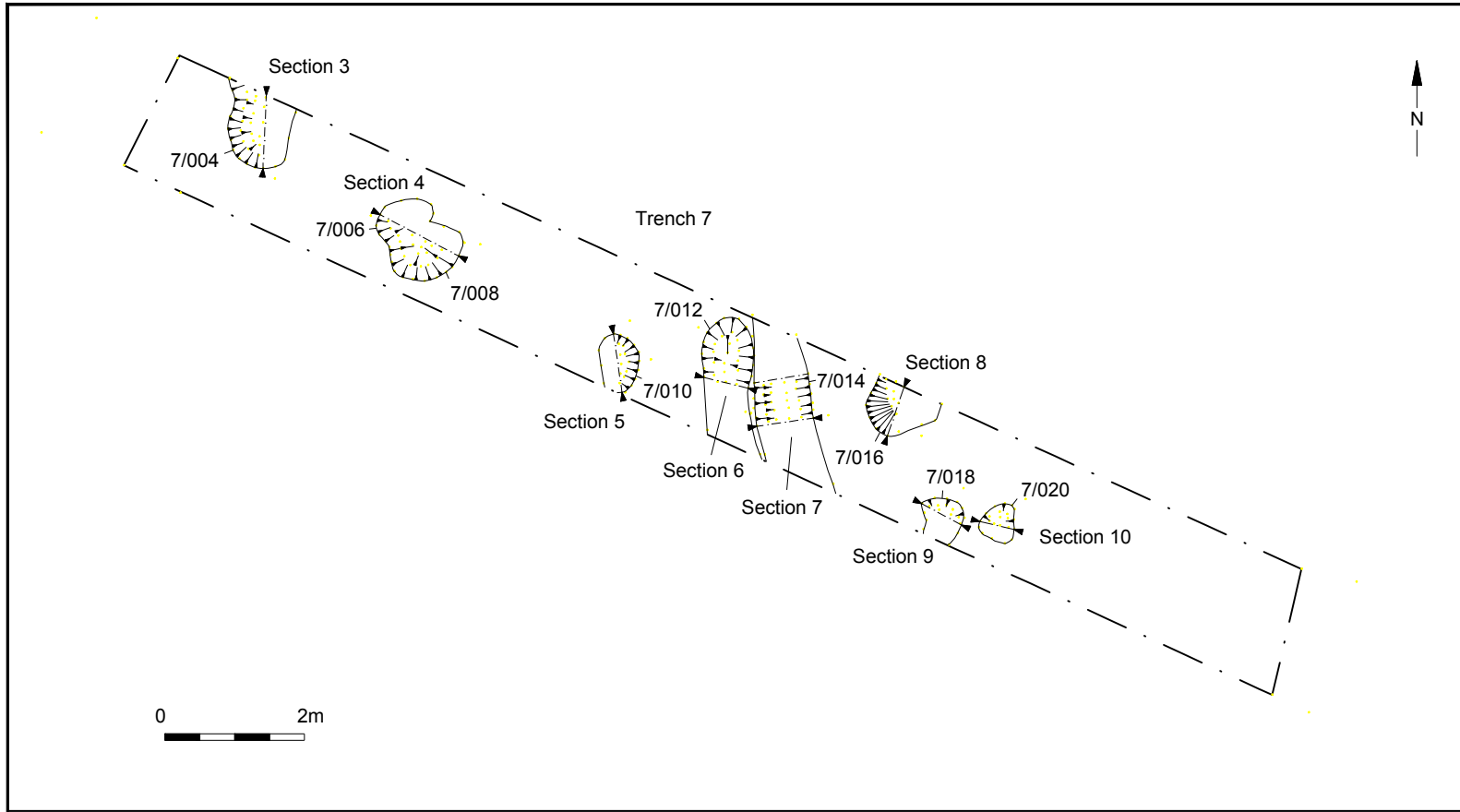
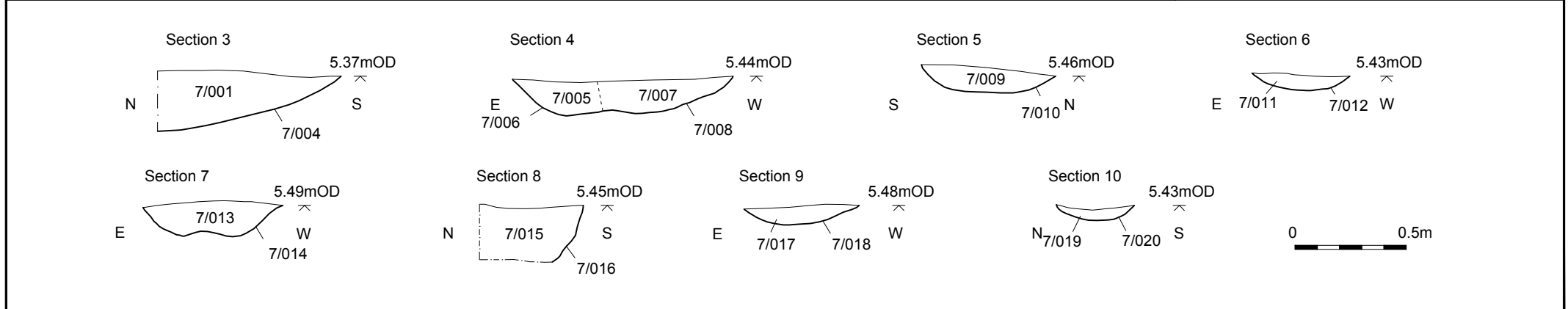


Fig. 4.1: 7/004 looking east



Fig. 4.2: 7/006 and 7/008 looking north



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Project Ref: 4499	Oct 2010	Trench 7: Plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2010164	Drawn by: DH/JR		

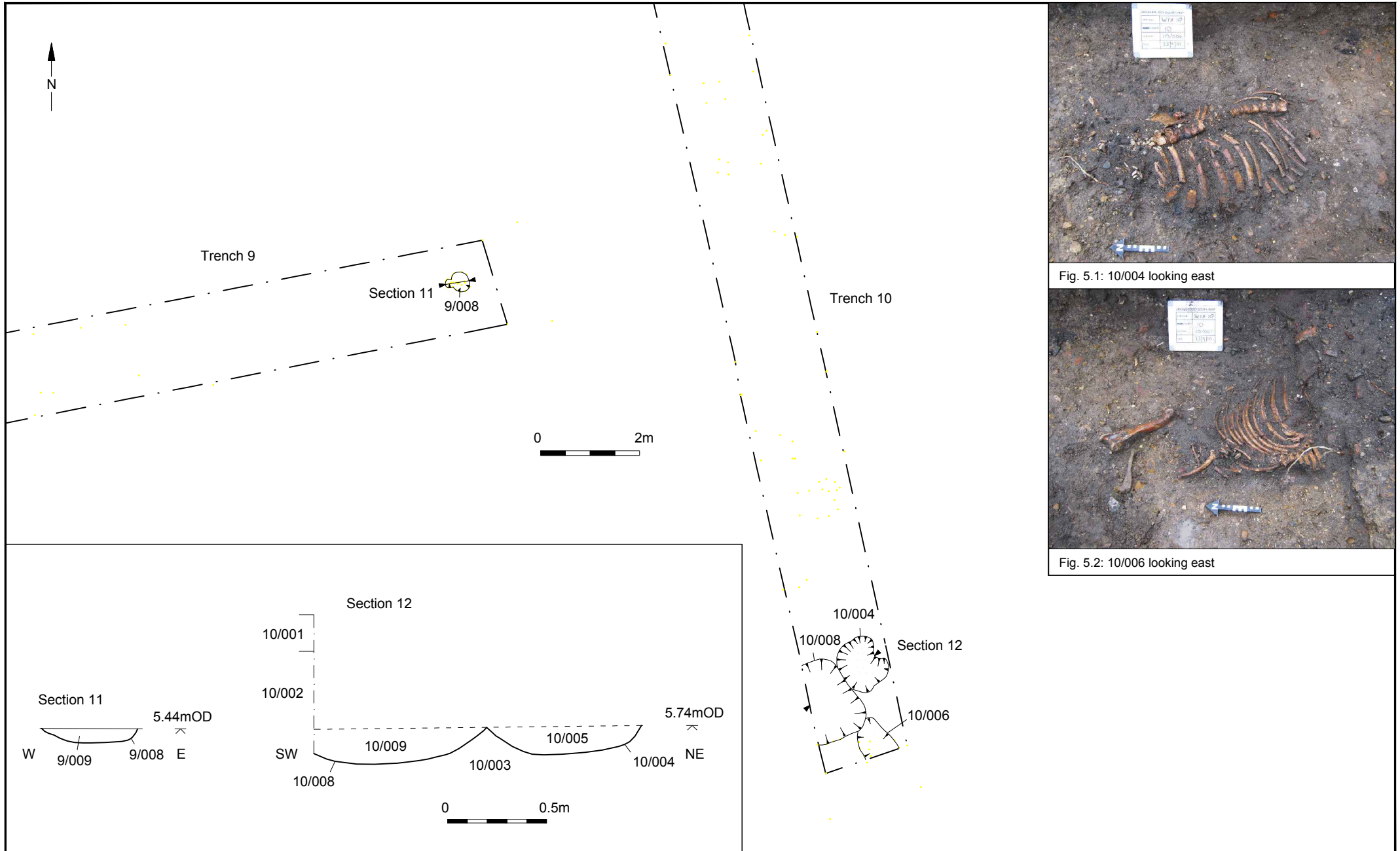


Fig. 5.1: 10/004 looking east



Fig. 5.2: 10/006 looking east

© Archaeology South-East		Land west of Williams Lane, Mortlake	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 4499	Oct 2010	Trench 9 and 10: Plan and photographs	
Report Ref: 2010164	Drawn by: DH/JR		



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