

**1 SCOUT LANE, CLAPHAM,
LONDON SW4 0LA**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND RECORDING**

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski MA (field work & report)	
NGR: TQ 29165 75590	Report No. 3759
District: London Borough of Lambeth	Site Code: SCO 11
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3960
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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	1 Scout Lane, Clapham, London SW4 0LA		
<p><i>In January and February 2011 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at 1 Scout Lane, Clapham, London SW4 0LA (NGR TQ 29165 75590). The monitoring was commissioned in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a two-storey commercial building (B1 use), with landscaping to the front and rear of the site.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as set out on the Lambeth Unitary Development Plan, relating to the medieval settlement of Clapham. The site had a potential for Saxon and medieval archaeological remains.</i></p> <p><i>In the event the monitoring revealed remains of 19th century soakway, drain and footpath.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	31/01, 10/02 and 16/02/2011		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	3960	Site code	SCO.11
Type of project	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Site status	Within Archaeological Priority Area		
Current land use	Car park		
Planned development	New two-storey office building		
Main features (+dates)	19 th century soakway, drain and footpath		
Significant finds (+dates)	-		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Greater London	London Borough of Lambeth	Clapham
HER/ SMR for area	Greater London HER		
Post code (if known)	SW4 0LA		
Area of site	c. 200m ²		
NGR	TQ 29165 75590		
Height AOD (min/max)	c. 16.50m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	EH GLAAS		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Zbigniew Pozorski		
Funded by	Indigo Design Associates Ltd		
Full title	1 Scout Lane, Clapham, London SW4 0LA. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Authors	Pozorski, Z.		
Report no.	3759		
Date (of report)	March 2011		

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In January and February 2011 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at 1 Scout Lane, Clapham, London SW4 0LA (NGR TQ 29165 75590). The monitoring was commissioned by Indigo Design Associates Ltd, and in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a two-storey commercial building (B1 use), with landscaping to the front and rear of the site.

The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as set out on the Lambeth Unitary Development Plan, relating to the medieval settlement of Clapham. The site had a potential for Saxon and medieval archaeological remains.

In the event the monitoring revealed remains of 19th century soakway, drain and footpath.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In January and February 2011 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at site at 1 Scout Lane, Clapham, London SW4 0LA (NGR TQ 29165 75590; Figs. 1 & 2). The monitoring was commissioned by Indigo Design Associates Ltd, and in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a two-storey commercial building (B1 use), with landscaping to the front and rear of the site (London Borough of Lambeth Planning Ref.10/01435/FUL).

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance to an advice from English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (EH GLAAS) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 16/06/2010), and approved by EH GLAAS. The project adhered to EH GLAAS *Archaeological Guidance Papers* (AGPs, revised 1998), in particular *AGP No 3; Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London*. The project also conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for An Archaeological Watching Brief* (revised 2008).

1.3 The objectives of the archaeological monitoring and recording were:

- to ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;

- to secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme; and
- to secure the analysis, interpretation, publication (if required), long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

Planning policy context

1.4 PPS5 states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The Planning Policy Statement aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. It aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. It states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment and to contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past, and to make this publicly available, should be taken, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site lies on the northern side of Scout Lane which lies close by to the west of Old Town in Clapham (Figs. 1-2). The site comprises a small (c.200m²) rectangular plot located to the rear of the building fronting the Old Town. It is currently not occupied by any standing structures and to the north it is bounded by a tall brick wall.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at c. 16.50m AOD on a land gently sloping towards the south and south-east. It rises for the next c.100m to the north and thereafter falls towards the Thames. The site lies within the London Basin, which covers London and the majority of south-east England. The solid geology consists of Eocene London Clay overlain by Langley Silt and Kempton Park Gravel, the latter of which is first terrace alluvium (British Geological Survey 1978).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Few prehistoric finds have been made locally, though a Mesolithic tranchet axe (HER 7631), Neolithic flint work and unstratified fragments of Grimston/Lyles Hill ware have been recorded to the east (Densem & Sealey 1982).

4.2 During the Roman period, the character of the area is also relatively

unknown, though the former Roman road of Stane Street (HER 4064, 4181 & 23071) that ran from *Londinium* through the Weald to Chichester followed close to the line of the present Clapham Road. In addition, excavations at Rectory Grove 125m to the south revealed a Roman enclosure (Densem & Seeley 1982).

4.3 Early Saxon settlement is known from Rectory Grove with occupation in the 5th century and 6th-7th centuries (MoLAS 2000). Late Saxon occupation of Clapham is suggested by references to the settlement in the reign of King Alfred, recorded in the register of Chertsey Abbey (Weinreb & Hibbert 1983). The settlement was subsequently recorded in Domesday as belonging to the De Mandeville family who continued to hold it for many generations.

4.4 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as set out on the Lambeth Unitary Development Plan, relating to the medieval settlement of Clapham. Medieval settlement is known in Lambeth, Stockwell (first recorded in 1197) and Clapham along the medieval roads (HER 13565, 13567, 23345). The original parish church of St Paul at Rectory Grove was recorded in 12th century. Clapham remained a small village throughout the medieval period and witnessed the construction of St Martins Bridge in the 13th century.

4.5 The growth of Clapham as a suburb after the 17th century was stimulated by the demand for country houses by wealthy city merchants. The properties tended to be constructed along the Clapham and Stockwell Roads with several pre-dating the division of the Stockwell Manor into small lots in 1802. A workhouse (HER 11399), coach house (HER 51734) and a church (HER 24665) were constructed during this time. Residential development along the side streets largely occurred from the 1830s onwards, as the increasing suburban development extended south west.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1. The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all groundworks, the inspection of the subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features and the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Archaeological features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was checked for finds and the excavated area was scanned by metal detector.

5.2 The principal elements monitored were the mechanically-excavated foundation trenches for a new office building (Fig. 3).

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The deposits located within the area of development were recorded in sample sections shown below.

<i>W foundation trench, N end. Sample section 1, facing E</i>		
<i>0.00 = 16.57m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.23m	L1000	Modern Made Ground. Light brown, loose, clayey silt with sand and moderate CBM fragments.
0.23 – 0.28m	L1001	Grey, loose, fine gravel.
0.28 – 0.42m	L1002	Greenish brown, friable, silty sand.
0.42 – 0.47m	L1003	Black, soft, clayey silt with ash.
0.47 – 0.65m	L1004	Reddish brown, loose, gravel with sandy silt.
0.65 – 1.05m	L1005	Mid grey, friable, clayey silt with frequent CBM fragments.
1.05m+	L1006	Natural. Mid grey, compact, clay with sand and gravel.

<i>W/central foundation trench, N end. Sample section 2, facing E</i>		
<i>0.00 = 16.67m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.16m	L1000	Modern Made Ground. As above.
0.16 – 0.36m	L1007	Mid to dark yellow, loose, sand.
0.36 – 0.50m	L1008	Mid grey, compact, clayey silt with frequent CBM fragments.
0.50 – 0.88m	L1005	As above.
0.88m+	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

<i>S foundation trench, central part. Sample section 3, facing N</i>		
<i>0.00 = 16.74m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Modern Made Ground. As above.
0.30 – 1.05m	L1009	Mid brown, loose, silty sand with occasional CBM fragments.
1.05m+	L1006	Natural clay. As above.

6.2 The monitoring revealed a brick-made soakway with an associated drain and a possible footpath.

The soakway, M1010, was located within the western foundation trench and 1.60m to the south of the boundary wall (Fig. 3; DP 4). It was roughly circular in plan (0.69-0.76m in diameter) and was present at c. 0.50m below ground level. It was constructed of red bricks (0.217 x 0.100 x 0.068m), full-size and halves, with no bond but with plastering on the inside of the ring comprising light grey cement mortar. Three courses of bricks were revealed. At the basal level and on its northern side, the soakway was connected with Drain M1011 (DP 4). The drain (0.94 x 0.25m) was constructed of the same bricks as the soakway laid on edges to create an open channel leading to the soakway. The drain appeared to be cut by the boundary wall or connected to the other drainage which may have existed along the northern site boundary.

Below the soakway and drain and within L1005, the remains of what may have been a footpath were found (DP 5). M1012 (1+ x 1.30m) was present

1m below ground level and 1.05m south of the boundary wall and may have consisted of two adjacent parts (each 0.65m wide) laid symmetrically along the northern site boundary. The southern part was severely damaged whilst the northern element was intact. Also the southern part was positioned c. 3cm lower creating a small step. The path was constructed of red bricks, fragmented into irregular parts of c.half size (0.105 x 0.06m) and laid horizontally with no bonding material. Some of the bricks appeared to have been re-used.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 At the time of monitoring the ground level had been already reduced (by c. 0.20 – 0.30m) with the removal of the concrete car park surface throughout the site. The site was commonly overlain modern made ground (L1000, 0.10 – 0.30m thick). Further deposits of made ground and several layers containing building materials were present below.

8.2 The natural clay, L1006, was present at 0.75 – 1.10m below existing ground level and comprised a mid grey, compact, clay with sand and gravel.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had a potential for archaeological remains, in particular for the Saxon and medieval archaeology. Such remains have been found in the vicinity of the site, in particular, within the Rectory Grove to the south.

9.2 In the event the monitoring revealed the remains of drainage system and footpath. The path may have provided access to the rear of the site where stables were located to the immediate west of the site (the building is now converted into office/residential use). The soakway with associated drain may have served the stables. Although the footpath was the earlier feature all the brickwork was 19th/early 20th century. No residual finds were recovered during the monitoring.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at London Archaeological Archives and Resource Centre (LAARC). The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Indigo Design Associates Ltd for commissioning the project (in particular Messrs Erat Valeri and Colin Duckworth for their assistance).

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Mark Stevenson of English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (EH GLAAS).

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Site at 1 Scout Lane, Clapham. View WSW.



DP 2. The site. View ENE.



DP 3. Foundation trenches. View W.



DP 4. W foundation trench. Soakway with associated drain. View ENE.



DP 5. W foundation trench. Possible footpath. View ENE.



DP 6. W foundation trench. Sample section. View WSW.



DP 7. W/central foundation trench. Sample section. View WSW.



DP 8. Central foundation trench. View NNE.



DP 9. S foundation trench. View ENE.



DP 10. S foundation trench. View E.



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
Scale 1:400 at A4