



10–12 SHRUBBERY ROAD
London
SW16

London Borough of Lambeth
An archaeological evaluation report

July 2007



MUSEUM OF LONDON

Archaeology Service

10–12 SHRUBBERY ROAD
London
SW16

London Borough of Lambeth
An archaeological evaluation report

Site Code: SYU07
National Grid Reference: 530186 171751

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Project Manager | Stewart Hoad |
| Reviewed by | Jon Chandler |
| Author | Sadie Watson |
| Graphics | Carlos Lemos |

Museum of London Archaeology Service
© Museum of London 2007
Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, London N1
7ED
tel 020 7410 2200 fax 020 7410 2201
email molas@molas.org.uk
web www.molas.org.uk

Summary (non-technical)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by the Museum of London Archaeology Service on the site of 10-12 Shrubbery Road, London, SW16 2AT. The report was commissioned from MoLAS by Tabis Properties and Developments.

Following the recommendations of English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service two evaluation trenches were excavated on the site to provide information of the level and nature of existing foundations and any surviving archaeological deposits.

The results of the field evaluation have helped to refine the initial assessment of the archaeological potential of the site. The sole surviving archaeological deposit recorded in the trenches was a Victorian soil horizon that contained broken pottery and glass bottles. This was directly above natural clay. There were no cut features or other deposits of archaeological interest.

A photographic record was made of the standing buildings on the site and this is attached to this report as an appendix.

In the light of revised understanding of the archaeological potential of the site the report concludes the impact of the proposed redevelopment is negligible on buried archaeology and therefore no further work on the site is recommended.

Contents

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 | Site background | 1 |
| 1.2 | Planning and legislative framework | 1 |
| 1.3 | Planning background | 1 |
| 1.4 | Origin and scope of the report | 1 |
| 1.5 | Aims and objectives | 3 |
| 2 | Topographical and archaeological background | 4 |
| 2.1 | Topography | 4 |
| 2.2 | Archaeology | 4 |
| 3 | The evaluation | 5 |
| 3.1 | Methodology | 5 |
| 3.2 | Results of the evaluation | 6 |
| 3.3 | Assessment of the evaluation | 7 |
| 4 | Archaeological potential | 10 |
| 4.1 | Realisation of original research aims | 10 |
| 4.2 | General discussion of potential | 10 |
| 4.3 | Significance | 10 |
| 5 | Proposed development impact and recommendations | 11 |
| 6 | Acknowledgements | 12 |
| 7 | Bibliography | 12 |
| 8 | Appendix 1 Photographic record of standing buildings | 14 |
| 8.1 | Introduction | 14 |
| 9 | NMR OASIS archaeological report form | 20 |

List Of Illustrations

| | |
|---|----|
| <i>Front cover: Photograph of industrial buildings at east side of site</i> | |
| Fig 1 Site location | 2 |
| Fig 2 Trench locations | 8 |
| Fig 3 South facing section of trench 2 | 9 |
| Fig 4 View to south from site entrance | 15 |
| Fig 5 View to east of two-storey building on east side of site | 15 |
| Fig 6 View to southeast of garage block at southeastern corner of site | 16 |
| Fig 7 View to north of site entrance through mews passage | 16 |
| Fig 8 Internal view to east of ground floor of building at east side of site | 17 |
| Fig 9 Internal view to west of first floor of building at east side of site | 17 |
| Fig 10 Internal view to southwest of building at southwest corner of site with poured concrete ceiling slab above arched corrugated iron sheets | 18 |
| Fig 11 Internal view to north of building at western side of site with arched corrugated iron sheet ceiling | 18 |
| Fig 12 Internal view to south of building on west side of site | 19 |
| Fig 13 Internal view to south of first floor of building at west side of site | 19 |

1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

The evaluation took place at 10-12 Shrubbery Road, London, hereafter called ‘the site’. It is located in Streatham within the Borough of Lambeth, and is bounded by adjoining properties to the east and west, and by the gardens of properties fronting on to Gleneldon Road to the south. The centre of the site lies at National Grid reference 530186 171751. Modern pavement level near to the site lies at *c* 45.30m OD. No existing basement slabs are known on the site. The site code is SYU07.

1.2 Planning and legislative framework

The legislative and planning framework in which the archaeological exercise took place was summarised in the *Method Statement* which formed the project design for the evaluation (see Section 1.2, MoLAS, 2007).

1.3 Planning background

The archaeological evaluation was carried out on the site as a requirement of a planning condition placed upon the development (condition ref 05/03242/FUL).

1.4 Origin and scope of the report

This report was commissioned by Tabis Properties and Developments and produced by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS). The report has been prepared within the terms of the relevant Standard specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA, 2001).

Field evaluation, and the *Evaluation report* which comments on the results of that exercise, are defined in the most recent English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage, 1998) as intended to provide information about the archaeological resource in order to contribute to the:

- formulation of a strategy for the preservation or management of those remains; and/or
- formulation of an appropriate response or mitigation strategy to planning applications or other proposals which may adversely affect such archaeological remains, or enhance them; and/or
- formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigations within a programme of research



Fig 1 Site location

1.5 Aims and objectives

All research is undertaken within the priorities established in the Museum of London's *A research framework for London Archaeology*, 2002

The following research aims and objectives were established in the *Method Statement* for the evaluation (Section 2.2):

What is the nature and level of natural topography?

What are the earliest deposits identified?

What are the latest deposits identified?

Is there any evidence for Roman occupation associated with the Roman road that passes to the west of the site?

Is there any evidence for Saxon and/or medieval settlement on the site?

2 Topographical and archaeological background

2.1 Topography

The site is located in a built up area comprising mainly of residential terraced housing with gardens to the rear. The site is situated on a hill, with the ground level sloping down to the south. The modern ground surface was recorded at 49.50m OD.

The natural deposits in this area are made up of London Clay overlying chalk.

2.2 Archaeology

The site lies in an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Lambeth, some 100m east of the projected line of a Roman road, the London-Portslade Way (Margary, 1967). This part of Streatham is noted as being the focus of an early Saxon settlement, later developing into a medieval village, with associated settlement activity extending into the post-medieval period.

3 The evaluation

3.1 Methodology

All archaeological excavation and monitoring during the evaluation was carried out in accordance with the preceding *Method Statement* (MoLAS, 2007), and the *MoLAS Archaeological Site Manual* (MoLAS, 1994).

Two evaluation trenches were excavated within the site footprint.

The concrete slab was broken out and cleared by contractors under MoLAS supervision. Trenches were excavated by machine by the contractors, and monitored by a member of staff from MoLAS.

The locations of evaluation trenches were recorded by MoLAS offsetting from adjacent standing walls. This information was then plotted onto the OS grid.

A written and drawn record of all archaeological deposits encountered was made in accordance with the principles set out in the MoLAS site recording manual (MoLAS, 1994). Levels were calculated by traversing from a Bench Mark located on the police station on the corner of Shrubbery Road and Streatham High Road.

The site has produced: 1 trench location plan; 2 trench plan drawings at 1:20, 5 context records; 2 section drawings at 1:20; and 6 photographs. In addition 4 bags of finds were recovered from the site.

The site finds and records can be found under the site code SYU07 in the MoL archive.

3.2 Results of the evaluation

For trench locations see Fig 2.

| <i>Evaluation Trench 1</i> | |
|--|--|
| Location | North side of site, oriented north-south |
| Dimensions | 10m by 2m by 1.30 depth |
| Modern ground level/top of slab | 49.51m OD |
| Base of modern fill/slab | 49.31m OD |
| Depth of archaeological deposits seen | 0.70m deep |
| Level of base of deposits observed and/or base of trench | 48.31 m OD (base of trench) |
| Natural observed | 48.71m OD Orange/brown clay |

Trench 1 was located at the eastern end of the site and measured 10m x 2m and was excavated to a depth of 1.30m. Natural deposits were revealed at 48.71m OD. These deposits comprised orange/brown clay (London Clay).

Overlying the natural deposits was a post-medieval garden soil, which was sealed by layers of modern make-up 0.70m thick. This in turn was sealed by a modern concrete slab. The ground surface was recorded at 49.51m OD.

| <i>Evaluation Trench 2</i> | |
|--|--|
| Location | South side of site, oriented east-west |
| Dimensions | 8.60m by 3m by 1.50m depth |
| Modern ground level/top of slab | 49.30m OD |
| Base of modern fill/slab | 48.80m OD |
| Depth of archaeological deposits seen | 0.90m deep |
| Level of base of deposits observed and/or base of trench | 47.80 m OD (base of trench) |
| Natural observed | 48.37 m OD Orange/brown clay |

Trench 2 was located at the western end of the site and measured 8.60m x 3m and was excavated to a depth of 1.50m. Natural deposits were revealed at 48.37m OD. These deposits comprised orange/brown clay (London Clay). The natural deposits were truncated by drains and grease interceptors. These were thought to be associated with the catering firm that was once located on the site. Leaching from the drains and interceptors had stained the natural clay dark grey in the south-western corner of the trench (see Fig 3).

Overlying the natural deposits was a series of modern make up layers comprising of modern rubble 0.90m thick which was capped by a modern concrete slab. The ground surface was recorded at 49.30m OD.

3.3 Assessment of the evaluation

GLAAS guidelines (English Heritage, 1998) require an assessment of the success of the evaluation ‘in order to illustrate what level of confidence can be placed on the information which will provide the basis of the mitigation strategy’. In the case of this site the two trenches excavated covered a fairly large area within the site footprint. The similarity of the archaeology seen in both trenches suggests that they provided a representative sample of remains across the site and that unforeseen archaeology is unlikely to be discovered at a later date.

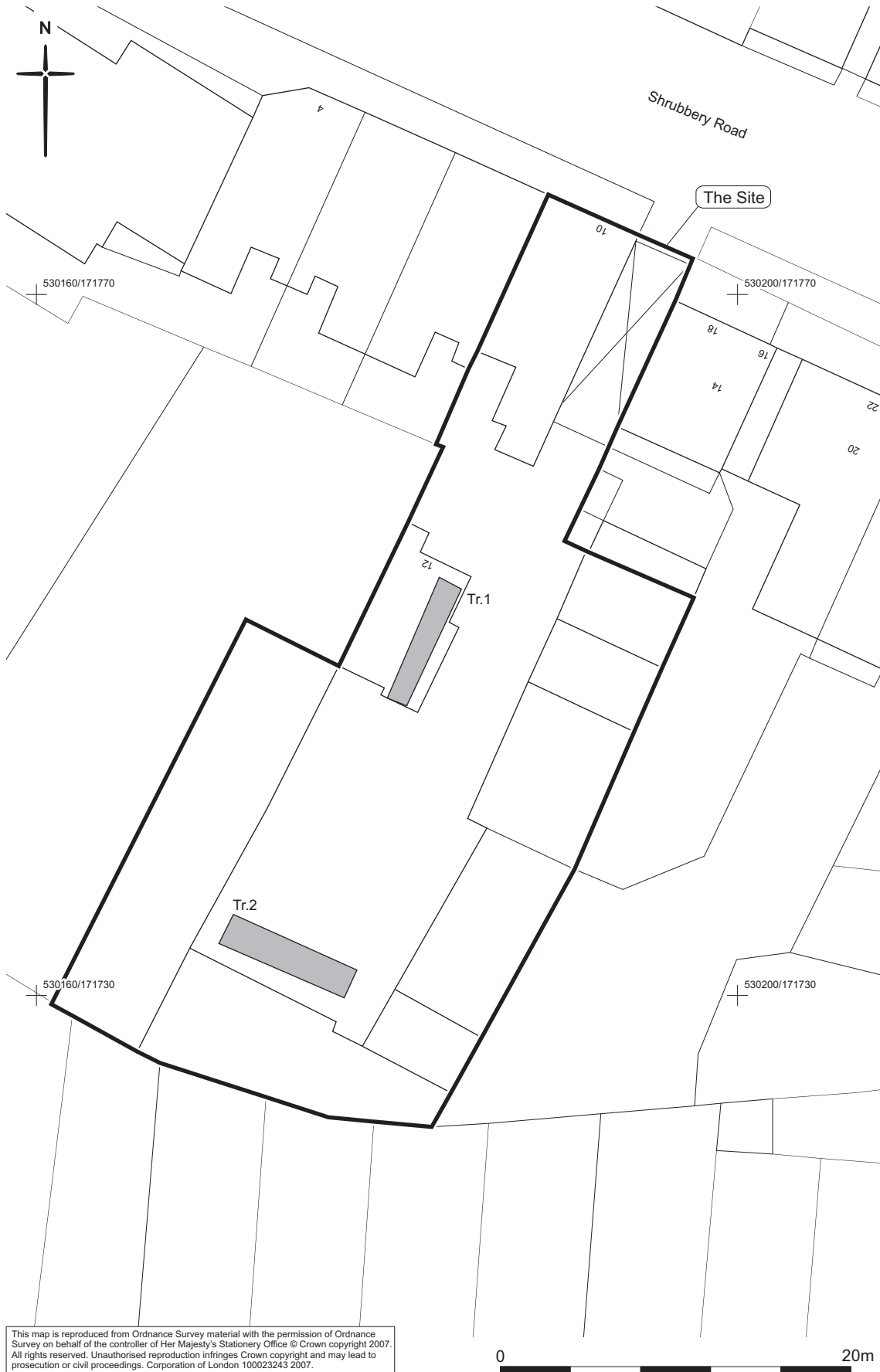


Fig 2 Trench locations

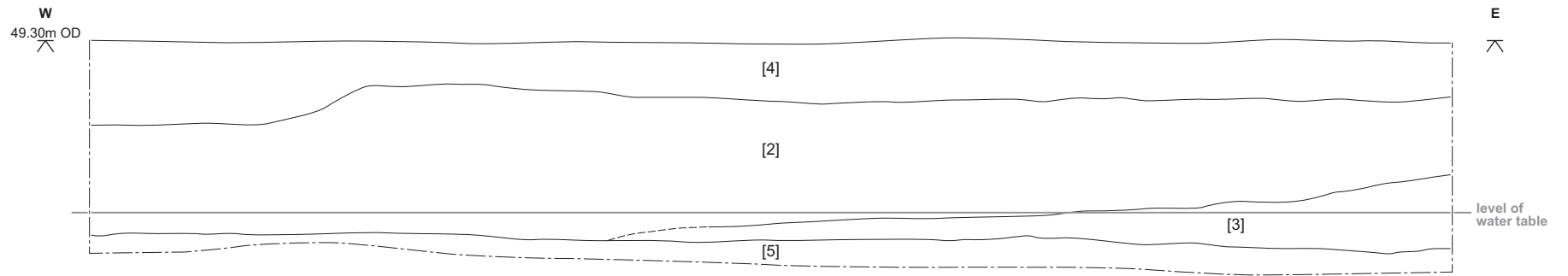


Fig 3 South facing section through Trench 2

4 Archaeological potential

4.1 Realisation of original research aims

- *What is the nature and level of natural topography?*

Natural topography is London Clay, seen at the north end of the site at 48.71m OD and at the south at 48.37m OD. The clay was a mid orange-brown colour and contained very few inclusions.

- *What are the earliest deposits identified?*

The earliest deposit identified was a dark brown silty clay that contained Victorian and later material, glass bottles and other broken pottery. Presumably this dates from the construction of the small-scale industrial buildings seen on the site.

- *What are the latest deposits identified?*

The latest deposits identified were modern tarmac and concrete. There were also modern brick footings from demolished outbuildings running along the northern part of trench 1 in an east-west direction.

- *Is there any evidence for Roman occupation associated with the Roman road that passes to the west of the site?*

No Roman evidence was recovered.

- *Is there any evidence for Saxon and/or medieval settlement on the site?*

No Saxon evidence was recovered.

4.2 General discussion of potential

The evaluation has shown that the potential for survival of ancient ground surfaces (horizontal archaeological stratification) on the site is minimal. Neither is there potential for survival of cut features. The average depth of archaeological deposits where they do survive is likely to be approximately 0.60m deep and they will relate to the late post-medieval (Victorian) period.

4.3 Significance

Whilst the archaeological remains are of some limited local significance there is nothing to suggest that they are of regional or national importance.

5 Proposed development impact and recommendations

The proposed redevelopment at 10-12 Shrubbery Road involves the partial demolition of several existing buildings in the courtyard area to the rear of the site and the construction of two storey buildings to create eight mews houses, together with the provision of five parking spaces and a cycle store plus landscaping. The impact of this on the surviving archaeological deposits will be to effectively truncate them away completely as they are immediately below the concrete tarmac.

The assessment above (Section 4) does not suggest that preservation *in situ* would be the appropriate mitigation strategy. MoLAS considers that the remaining archaeological deposits do not merit being fully excavated archaeologically in advance of any further ground reduction (i.e. preservation by record).

The decision on the appropriate archaeological response to the deposits revealed within the London Borough of Lambeth rests with the Local Planning Authority and their designated archaeological advisor.

6 Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Frank Tabis of Tabis Properties & Developments for commissioning the archaeological investigation, James Tabis for assistance during the site works and Diane Walls of GLAAS, for providing guidance on the archaeological requirements. Andy Chopping of MoLAS undertook the standing building photographic survey, Neville Constantine and Catherine Drew completed the OS survey and Harry Matthews provided logistical support.

7 Bibliography

Cultural Heritage Committee of the Council of Europe, 2000 *Code of Good Practice On Archaeological Heritage in Urban Development Policies; adopted at the 15th plenary session in Strasbourg on 8-10 March 2000* (CC-PAT [99] 18 rev 3)

Department of the Environment, 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance 16, Archaeology and Planning*

English Heritage, 1991 *Exploring Our Past, Strategies for the Archaeology of England*

English Heritage, May 1998 *Capital Archaeology. Strategies for sustaining the historic legacy of a world city*

English Heritage, 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*

English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, June 1998 *Archaeological Guidance Papers 1-5*

English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, May 1999 *Archaeological Guidance Papers 6*

Hoad, S 2007 *10-12 Shrubbery Road, London, SW16 2AT. Method Statement for an archaeological evaluation and photographic record survey*. MoL rep unpub

Institute of Field Archaeologists, (IFA), 2001 *By-Laws, Standards and Policy Statements of the Institute of Field Archaeologists*, (rev. 2001), *Standard and guidance: field evaluation*

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), supplement 2001, *By-Laws, Standards and Policy Statements of the Institute of Field Archaeologists: Standards and guidance – the collection, documentation conservation and research of archaeological materials*

London Borough Of Lambeth Unitary Development Plan Adopted August 1998

Margary, I D, 1967 (1955) *Roman roads in Britain*, rev edn, London

MoLAS, 2007, *Method Statement for an archaeological evaluation and photographic record survey at 10-12 Shrubbery Road, London SW16 2AT*

Museum of London, 1994 *Archaeological Site Manual 3rd edition*

Museum of London, 2002 *A research framework for London archaeology 2002*

Schofield, J, with Maloney, C, (eds), 1998 *Archaeology in the City of London 1907-1991: a guide to records of excavations by the Museum of London and its predecessors*, Archaeol Gazetteer Ser Vol 1, London

Thompson, A, Westman A, and Dyson, T (eds), 1998 *Archaeology in Greater London 1965-90: a guide to records of excavations by the Museum of London*, Archaeol Gazetteer Ser Vol 2, London

8 Appendix 1 Photographic record of standing buildings

8.1 Introduction

The works undertaken at 10-12 Shrubbery Road consisted of an external and internal photographic survey of the existing buildings prior to demolition. A selection of the photographs are reproduced here with captions, the full survey record is available in the site archive held at LAARC under the site code SYU07.



Fig 4 View to south from site entrance



Fig 5 View to east of two-storey building on east side of site



Fig 6 View to southeast of garage block at southeastern corner of site



Fig 7 View to north of site entrance through mews passage



Fig 8 Internal view to east of ground floor of building at east side of site



Fig 9 Internal view to west of first floor of building at east side of site



Fig 10 Internal view to southwest of building at southwest corner of site with poured concrete ceiling slab above arched corrugated iron sheets



Fig 11 Internal view to north of building at western side of site with arched corrugated iron sheet ceiling



Fig 12 Internal view to south of building on west side of site



Fig 13 Internal view to south of first floor of building at west side of site

9 NMR OASIS archaeological report form

9.1 OASIS ID: molas1-28374

Project details

| | |
|--|--|
| Project name | 10-12 Shrubbery Road |
| Short description of the project | Evaluation trenches excavated to identify buried archaeology. Modern tarmac was over a Victorian deposit containing glass bottles and broken pottery. Below this at 48.71m OD was orange natural clay. |
| Project dates | Start: 02-07-2007 End: 03-07-2007 |
| Previous/future work | No / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | SYU07 - Sitecode |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI) |
| Current Land use | Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed |
| Monument type | ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | BOTTLE Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | JAR Post Medieval |
| Methods & techniques | 'Targeted Trenches' |
| Development type | Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.) |
| Prompt | Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16 |

Position in the After full determination (eg. As a condition)
planning process

Project location

Country England
Site location GREATER LONDON LAMBETH STREATHAM 10-12
Shrubbery Road
Postcode SW16 2AT
Study area 650.00 Square metres
Site coordinates TQ 30186 71751 51.4292826786 -0.127107224108 51 25 45 N
000 07 37 W Point
Height OD Min: 48.37m Max: 48.71m

Project creators

Name of Organisation MoLAS
Project brief originator Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service
Project design originator MoLAS
Project director/manager Stewart Hoad
Project supervisor Sadie Watson
Type of Developer
sponsor/funding body
Name of Tabis Developments and Properties
sponsor/funding body

Project archives

Physical Archive LAARC
recipient

Physical Archive ID SYU07

Digital recipient Archive LAARC

Digital Archive ID SYU07

Paper recipient Archive LAARC

Paper Archive ID SYU07

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 10-12 Shrubbery Road, London SW16 2AT A report on the evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Watson, S

Date 2007

Issuer or publisher MoLAS

Place of issue or publication London

Description Unpublished A4 client report

Entered by Sadie Watson (sadiew@molas.org.uk)

Entered on 6 July 2007
