



33 Stannary Street
London SE11

Archaeological Excavation Report

**33 STANNARY STREET
LONDON SE11**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Prepared for:

JCMT Architects

by

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November 2004

**33 STANNARY STREET
LONDON SE11**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Summary

An Archaeological Watching Brief carried out on groundworks for a mixed residential/commercial development (centred on NGR 531330, 178045) confirmed that the Site had been severely disturbed by 19th century and later development.

The evidence from the Watching Brief suggests that the Site and general area was unoccupied prior to these developments but probably utilised as market gardens.

The evidence for the earliest activities at the Site was provided by a small ditch which dates to the early post-medieval period.

This feature did however contain a redeposited sherd of Romano-British pottery which provides very tentative confirmation of possible Romano-British activity in the area.

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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank JCMT Architects for commissioning the Watching Brief and employees of Andrew Towns-Wadey (Builders) Ltd for their assistance on site.

The report was prepared by Robert Wardill with illustrations by Mark Roughly.

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**33 STANNARY STREET
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This document has been prepared by Wessex Archaeology on behalf of JCMT Architects (the Client). It details the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief carried out during September 2004 on construction groundworks for a mixed residential/commercial development at 33 Stannary Street, Kennington, London SE11 (the Site).
- 1.1.2 The Watching Brief was requested by the Local Planning Authority in response to advice provided by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) of English Heritage. This advice was in line with the Department of Environment *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (1990).
- 1.1.3 The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (1994 as amended) and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Wessex Archaeology (2004) and approved by GLAAS.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1.1 Stannary Street adjoins Kennington Road close to its junction with Kennington Park Road (**Figure 1**) with the Site lying approximately half way along on its northerly side (centred on NGR 531330, 178045).
- 2.1.2 The Site was formerly occupied by a small manufacturing complex. The warehouse element of these works had been demolished but the office/administrative building that fronts Stannary Street to the south being retained and converted into dwellings.
- 2.1.3 The northerly side of the Site is bounded by existing industrial buildings and workshops. The westerly side is formed by Stannary Place, which is a small access road, and further industrial premises, and the easterly side abuts Aulton Place which is a pedestrian walkway.
- 2.1.4 The geology of the area comprises Kempton Park gravels that are a river terrace deposit of the Thames.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 The Site is located close to the junction of two Roman Roads. Kennington Park Road now runs along the route of Roman Stane Street. This was the main road from London Bridge to Chichester. Stane Street was joined opposite the present Kennington Road by another Roman Road that headed off to the south-west across Kennington Park.
- 3.1.2 Mid 18th century maps of the area show the Site to be occupied by what appear to be market gardens. By the early 19th century Stannary Street had been built, then known as Newington Place, along with Aulton Place, formerly known as Queens Row. The Site at that time was the location of terraced housing and back yards fronting Newington Place and Aulton Place. Later 19th century maps show a different configuration of housing and yards still fronting the same roads, indicating the redevelopment of the Site around the middle of the 19th century.
- 3.1.3 On early 20th century maps both of the current road names were in use but the buildings on the Site itself appear unchanged.
- 3.1.4 The building currently fronting the Site adjacent to Stannary Street (see 2.1.2 above) appears to be of mid 20th century construction. It, and the now demolished warehouse, had replaced all of the later 19th century dwellings.

4 WATCHING BRIEF AIMS

- 4.1.1 The overall aim of the Watching Brief was to establish whether any archaeological deposits or structures exist within the Site and to determine, as far as reasonably possible, their location, nature, date, form, character, extent, condition, significance and quality.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Health and Safety

- 5.1.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and the Management of Health and Safety regulations (1992) and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation and regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.
- 5.1.2 A risk assessment was prepared by Wessex Archaeology before the commencement of fieldwork.

5.2 Fieldwork

- 5.2.1 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (as amended 1999).
- 5.2.2 The construction groundworks comprised the removal of the existing 0.30-0.40m thick concrete slab from across the Site and the excavation of a series of strip foundations approximately 1.3-1.7m deep (**Figure 2**).
- 5.2.3 These machine excavations were observed, and if appropriate halted to enable closer inspections to be carried out.
- 5.2.4 A photographic record of the works was maintained and, where appropriate and safe to do so, representative sections were drawn to illustrate the sequence of deposits across the Site (**Figures 3 & 4**). A full description of the deposits recorded in the illustrated sections are contained in **Appendix 1**.

6 RESULTS

- 6.1.1 Observation of the strip foundations confirmed that the Site had suffered considerable disturbance from the 19th century and later development of the Site.
- 6.1.2 A large portion of the south-eastern half of the Site contained dumps of 19th century and later rubbish and building rubble that included red brick, tile and concrete pieces (**201 & 401**). These dumps extended to a depth of around 0.70-0.80m and directly overlay natural yellow/orange clay and gravel deposits (**104, 202, 302, 402 & 504**). Similar dumps of this material were observed in several places across the Site.
- 6.1.3 Elsewhere throughout the excavations, surviving 19th century building footings comprising several courses of orange/red brick were observed. A number of circular brick soakaways were also found across the Site.
- 6.1.4 These brick features were cut into a dark brown homogeneous clayey silt which contained fragments of oyster shell, animal bone, brick and clay pipe pieces (**301 & 503**). This deposit was usually between 0.60-0.70m thick and survived sporadically across the Site and probably represents a pre-development topsoil.
- 6.1.5 One small, flat bottomed ditch feature was found in the north west corner of the Site (**103**). This was cut into natural deposits and was overlain by a mixed dump deposit (**101**) containing building rubble, oyster shell and animal bone. It measured 0.95m wide, 0.20m deep and extended out from the excavation edge before being truncated by modern disturbance.
- 6.1.6 A small quantity of finds were recovered from the fill of the feature (**102**) which comprised one small sherd of Romano-British pottery and two tiny fragments of window glass probably of early post-medieval date.

7 FINDS

- 7.1.1 As described above, finds recovered from the Site comprised one small sherd of pottery (a fine, slightly micaceous oxidised sandy ware of probable Romano-British date), and two tiny fragments of window glass with oxidised surfaces (probably of early post-medieval date). All were recovered from a ditch feature found in the north-west corner of the Site.

8 CONCLUSION

- 8.1.1 The results of the Watching Brief confirm that the Site has been severely disturbed by at least three phases of 19th century and later development.
- 8.1.2 Prior to these developments, the evidence from the Watching Brief and early mapping suggests that the Site and general area was undeveloped land probably utilised for market gardening.
- 8.1.3 The evidence for the earliest activities at the Site was provided by a small ditch which dates to the early post-medieval period.
- 8.1.4 This feature did however contain a redeposited sherd of Romano-British pottery that provides very tentative confirmation of possible Romano-British activity in the area.

9 THE ARCHIVE

- 9.1.1 The project archive will be held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology at Old Sarum, Salisbury, under the project code 57210. Following conclusion of the project it will be deposited at the appropriate museum or storage facility.

10 OASIS

- 10.1.1 An Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) form has been completed in accordance with the GLAAS policy on improving access to information on PPG16 related fieldwork, and a hard copy is included in this report as **Appendix 2**.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Wessex Archaeology 2004 *33 Stannary Street, London SE11: Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme Of Investigation*. Unpub.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Section 1		Max Depth: 1.54m Surface height 3.30m aOD	
Context No.	Type	Description	Depths (in m from surface)
101	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. Contained fragments of red brick/tile, oyster shell and animal bone.	0.0 - 1.10
102	Fill of 102	Mid brown clayey silt. Contained fragments of pottery, animal bone, glass, charcoal, coal?	1.10 - 1.30
103	Cut	Probable ditch/gulley cut. 45° slope to sides, flat base.	
104	Natural geology	Yellow/orange silty clay and gravel.	1.10+

Section 2		Max Depth: 1.32m Surface height 3.27m aOD	
Context No.	Type	Description	Depths (in m from surface)
201	Layer	Rubble dump. Containing red brick/tile, blue patterned china, oyster shell, animal bone, clay pipe stems.	0.0 – 0.60
202	Natural geology	Yellow/orange silty clay and gravel.	0.60+

Section 3		Max Depth: 1.40m Surface height 3.35m aOD	
Context No.	Type	Description	Depths (in m from surface)
301	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. Contained fragments of red brick/tile, oyster shell and clay pipe stem.	0.0 – 0.65
302	Natural geology	Yellow/orange silty clay and gravel.	0.65+

Section 4		Max Depth: 1.40m Surface height 3.25m aOD	
Context No.	Type	Description	Depths (in m from surface)
401	Layer	Rubble dump. Contained modern and 19 th century building debris and general rubbish, pieces of clay pipe stem.	0.0 – 0.70

402	Natural geology	Yellow/orange silty clay and gravel.	0.70+
Section 5		Max Depth: 1.70m Surface height 3.65m aOD	
Context No.	Type	Description	Depths (in m from surface)
501	Layer	Mid/dark grey ashy silt. Contained flecks of chalk and pebbles	0.0 – 0.73
502	Layer	Mid grey silt. Contained frequent fragments of red brick/tile and white plaster	0.73 – 0.92
503	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. Contained fragments of red brick/tile, charcoal and white porcelain	0.92 – 1.14
504	Natural geology	Yellow/orange silty clay and gravel.	1.14+

APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: wessexar1-4953

Project details

Project name 33 Stannary Street, London, SE11

Short description of the project A watching brief carried out during groundworks showed that the site had been severely disturbed by 19th-century and later development. A small post-medieval ditch was recorded, from which was recovered a single sherd of redeposited Romano-British pottery .

Project dates Start: 08-09-2004 End: 23-09-2004

Previous/future work Not known / Not known

Any associated project reference codes 57210 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes SSY04 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 1404877 - NMR No.

Type of project Recording project

Monument type DITCH Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON LAMBETH STREATHAM 33 Stannary Street, London SE11
Study area	1400.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3133 7804 51.4855415160 -0.108323041563 51 29 07 N 000 06 29 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	R. Wardill
Project supervisor	R. Wardill
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive	Museum of London

recipient

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet', 'Microfilm', 'Miscellaneous Material', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 33 Stannary Street, London SE 11

Author(s)/Editor(s) Wessex Archaeology

Other bibliographic details 57210

Date 2004

Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology

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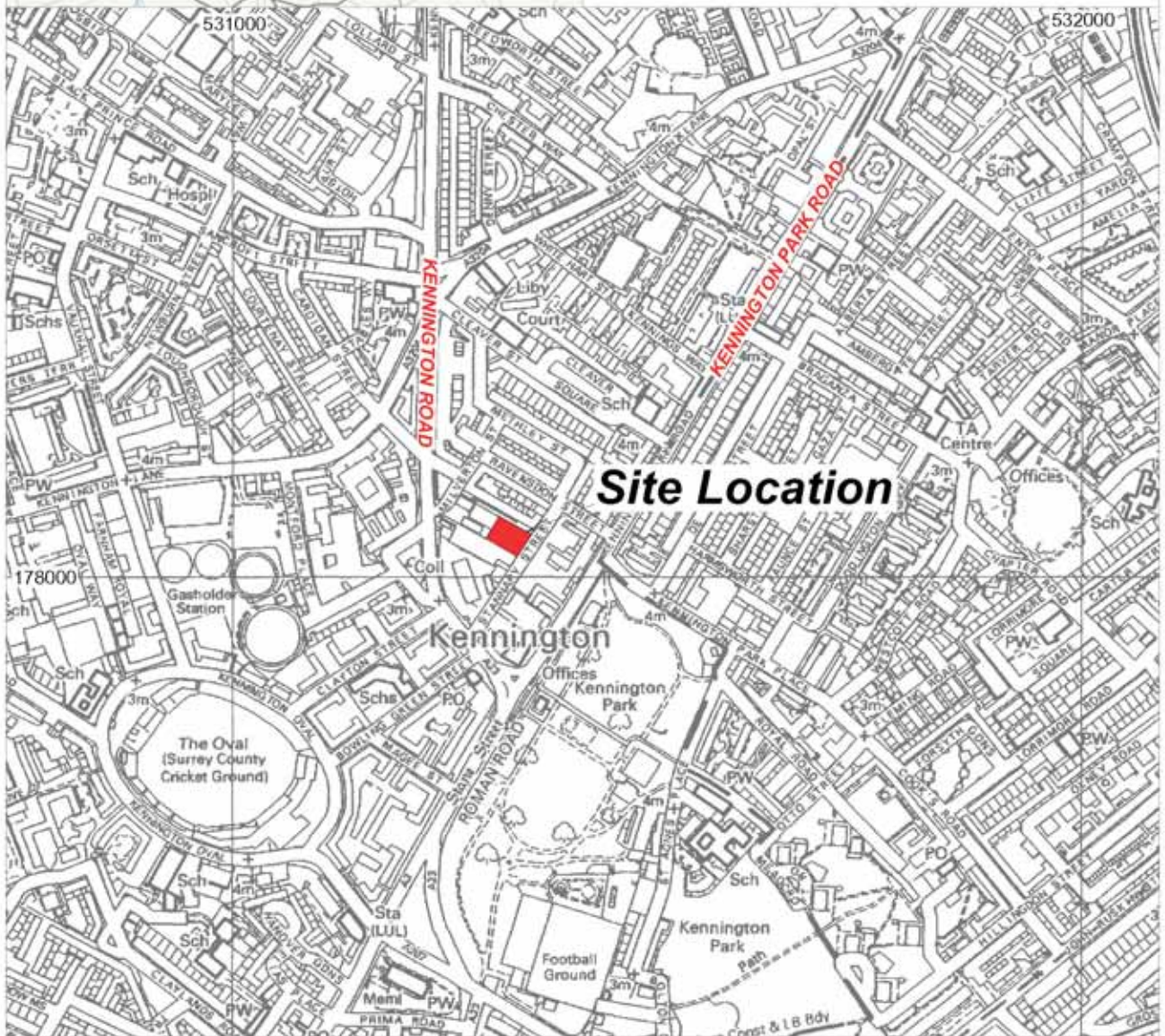
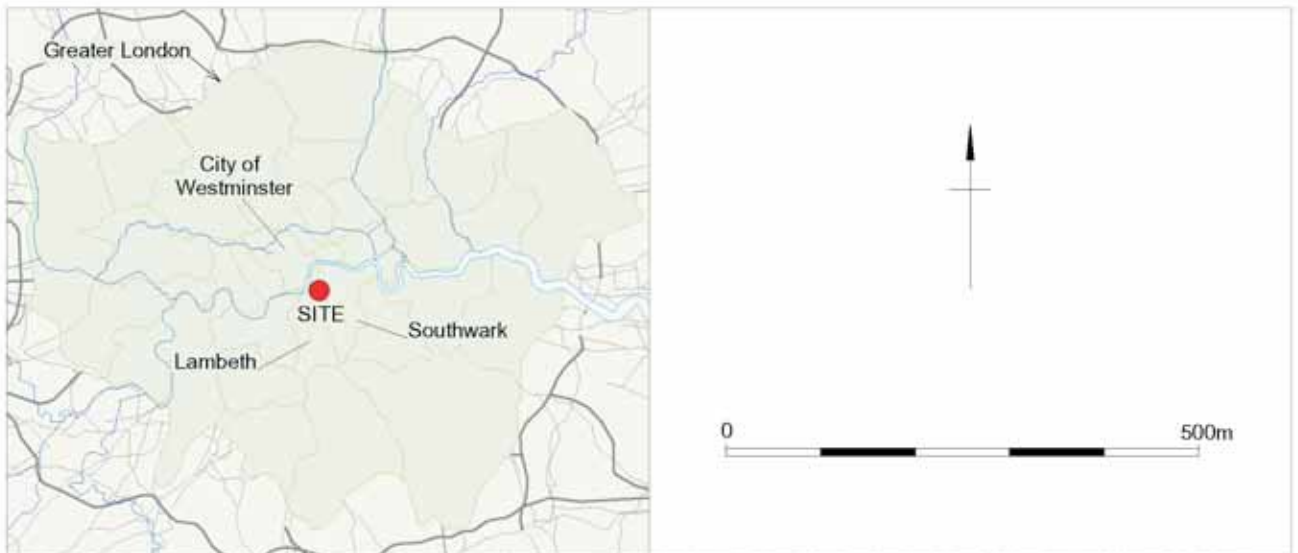
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OASIS:

Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice

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	Date: 04/11/04	Revision Number:	0
	Scale: 1:8000 @ A4	Illustrator:	MR
	Path: Y:\Projects\57210\Drawing Office\Report Figures (y-m)\WB		

Site Location map

Figure 1



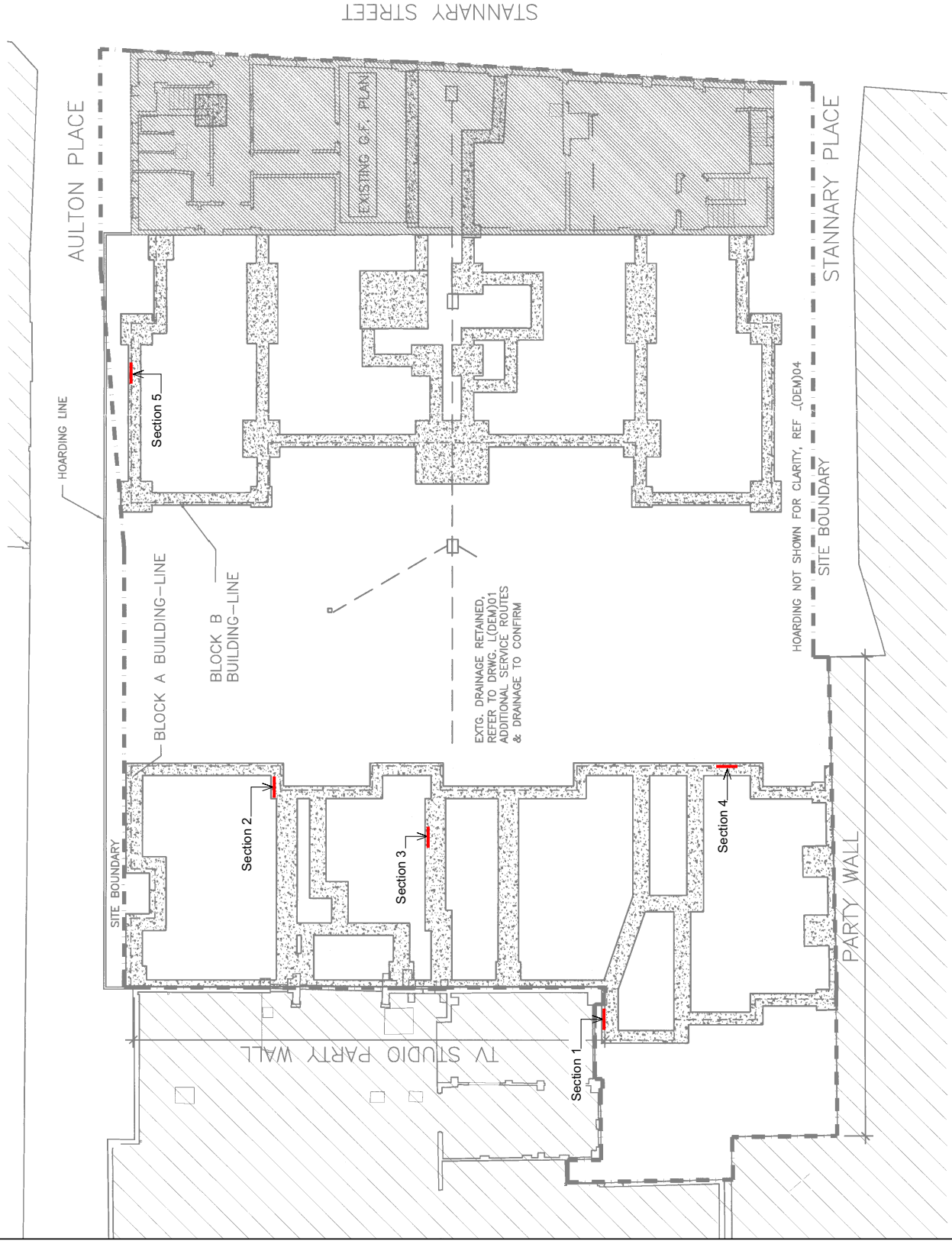
- SITE BOUNDARY
- - - PROPOSED BUILDING LINE
- ▨ BUILDING TO BE RETAINED
- ▩ NEW STRIP FOOTINGS



Plan showing location of sections based on drawings provided by J. Carr Architects. This drawing is for information only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

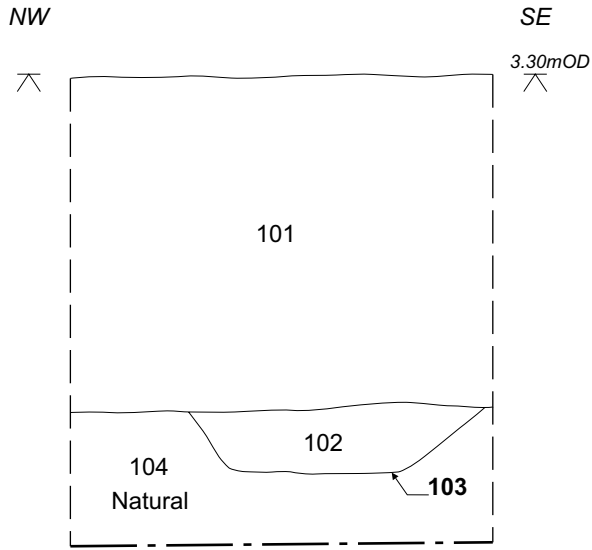
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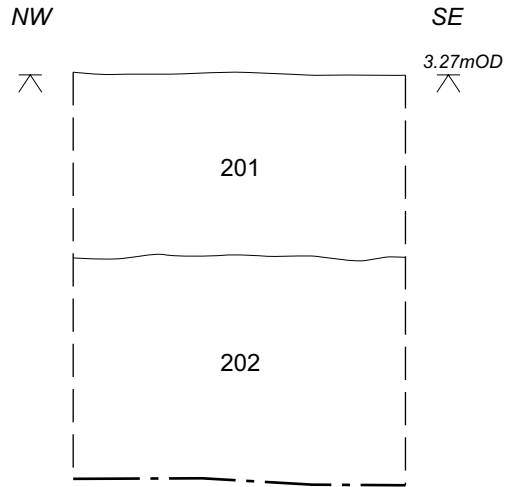


Site plan showing location of Sections

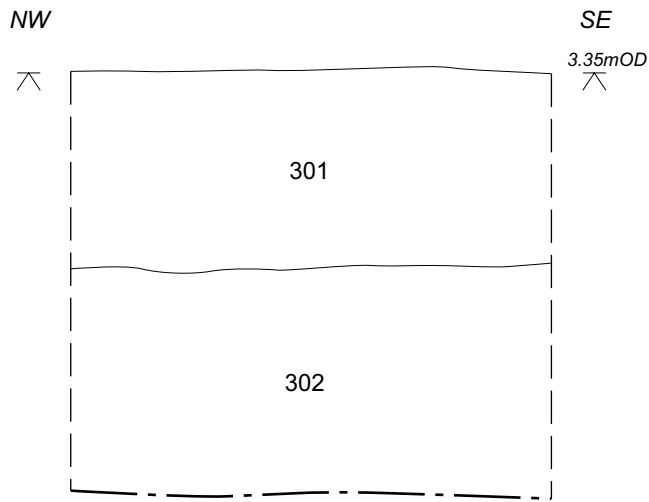
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SECTION 2

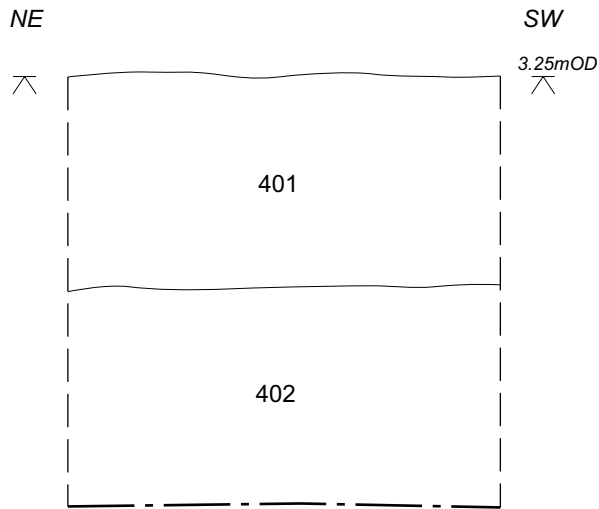


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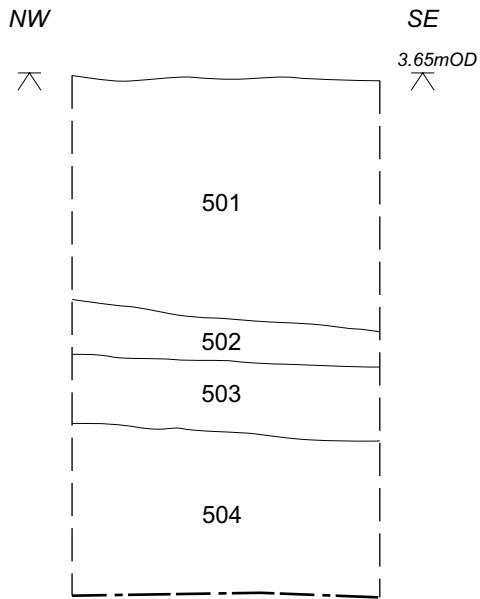



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SECTION 4



SECTION 5



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