

# The Canons

## *Mitcham, South London*

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*Community Archaeological Excavation: May 2019*

*for*

The Canons House & Grounds 'Parks for People' Lottery Project

*June 2019*



*Hannah Shimko-Volunteer Group Picture*

## Addyman Archaeology

Archaeology   Heritage Consultancy   Architecture

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# The Canons

## Mitcham, South London

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### *Community Archaeological Excavation: May 2019*

MAD19:2191

June 2019

by Alice Amabilino

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# **The Canons**

## *Mitcham, South London*

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### *Community Archaeological Excavation*

#### *Executive Summary*

Addyman Archaeology undertook a community excavation at The Canons, Mitcham in advance of the delivery stage of a 'Parks for People' Lottery Project running from 2017-2022. The site of The Canons is focused on the Grade II\* Listed Canons manor house and gardens; it also includes a 15<sup>th</sup> century Grade II Listed Dovecote and a former medieval fishpond. The trenches were sited to target a possible medieval building close to the dovecote previously identified in a desk-based assessment and through geophysics.

Two trenches were hand excavated on the East Lawn of the house. The trenches targeted the findings of the geophysical survey. Trench 1 was heavily disturbed by roots and in the north end of the trench deep garden soil deposits were excavated. In the south end of the trench a possible mud plaster facing for a timber wall was found, bounding a possible mud-puddled floor surface. Below this deposit was a pebbled surface or underpacking. The lowest deposit reached contained brick and daub fragments and suggested a previously standing brick and daub building. In Trench 2 the level of excavation was relatively low as this was the main trench used for the school groups and community digging. Due to this a 1m x 1m test pit was dug at the east end of the trench which revealed a compact pebbled surface at approx. 0.5m below ground surface, similar to that found in Trench 1; a possible post-hole was cut into this surface. Beneath the pebbled surface was a dark garden soil. The results from both the trenches correlated with the results of the geophysical survey.

As part of the community excavation we had a number of school groups on site to learn about archaeology. This included a chance to learn some excavation skills, sieving for finds from the soil we had excavated and also participating in a number of archaeological activities such as finds drawing and 'piece the pot back together'. The community excavation also included supervised open digging on all three days for members of the community. This was an opportunity for anyone to come and have a go at digging with a chance to learn some archaeological skills and about the history of The Canons.

## ***1. Introduction***

### ***i. Background and previous work***

This report summarises the Community Archaeological Excavation that took place in the grounds of The Canons, Mitcham in May 2019 on behalf of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) ‘Parks for People’ project. Addyman Archaeology undertook three days of community excavation on the East Lawn of the Canons, a Grade II\* Listed Building. Previous geophysical investigations and walkover surveys on the East Lawn had identified a possible rectangular building to the north of the dovecote. The community excavation targeted the potential building with two trenches. The work followed the methods set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) (Addyman Archaeology 2019).

Addyman Archaeology has previously undertaken a Desk-based Assessment and Walkover Survey (Morrison 2016), Historic Building Recording (Macfadyen 2017) and Geophysical investigations (Shaw 2016), in partnership with Simpson & Brown Architects, who are working on the development of the wider site.

The finds and archive from the excavations will be stored by Merton Council Heritage Service for use in The Canons planned heritage space. This report will be deposited with the Greater London Historic Environment Record GLHER and with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service (*OASIS ID: addymanal-357027*) and the results will be disseminated via public presentation at a later date. A summary of the work will be included in the *London Archaeologist*.

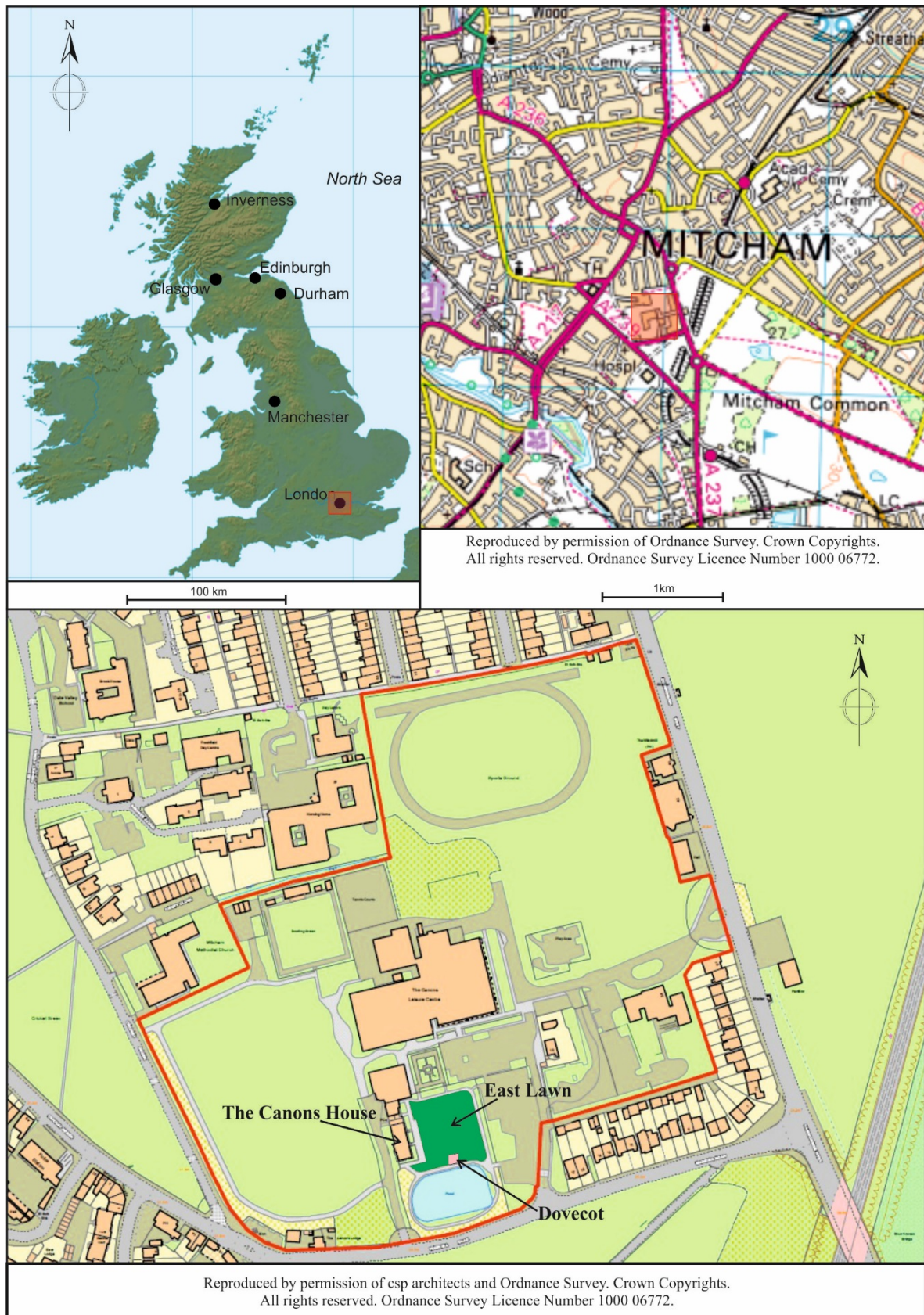
### ***ii. Site location and setting***

The Canons is located in the town of Mitcham, within the London Borough of Merton and the Mitcham Green Conservation Area. The site encompasses an area of approximately eight hectares, and is roughly centred on NGR TQ 27803 68469 (*figure 1*).

The East Lawn (*figure 1*) is an approximately rectangular area of grass lawn enclosed by hedgerow arches to the north and east, and bounded by the Grade II\* Listed manor house to the west and a 15th century Grade II Listed dovecote and fishpond to the south. The lawn is mostly flat except for a small mounded area to the south on which the dovecote sits. The pond is to the south of the dovecote.

The underlying geology is sedimentary bedrock of the London Clay formation, made up of clays and silts; the overlying superficial geology is a mix of sand and gravel of the Hackney Gravel Member to the south-east, and sand and gravel of the Taplow Gravel formation to the west and north (BGS 2015).





*Figure 1 Site location*

## **2. History of the Site**

The area surrounding The Canons has been settled for over 10,000 years. Prehistoric settlers were attracted by the fertile river terraces and hunting grounds of the Wandle River basin, while the location of what is now Mitcham along the road from Londinium to Chichester ensured a strong Roman presence in the area during the 1st to 5th centuries AD. The name Mitcham is derived from the Saxon place name ‘Mic’ and ‘ham’ referring to a large settlement in the area from at least the 7th century onwards. During the Medieval period, a moated farmstead associated with the Southwark Priory is known in the area, and is thought to underlie the current grounds of the Canons, established in the 17th century.

The earliest maps of the estate date from 1703 and subsequent maps show the growth and evolution of the 18th century estate through to the 20th century. The medieval dovecote and fishpond have been incorporated into the grounds of The Canons manor house.

The 19th century saw the construction of houses along the roadways and a continued expansion of nurseries associated with Park Place into the early 20th century. A pillbox and the establishment of allotment gardens in the western half of the site are testament to the site’s wartime role, noted from aerial photographs. By the 1960s the sports complex was fully formed with golf course, tennis courts, bowling greens, cricket pitches, and running track all in use.

During the present ‘Parks for People’ project and development of The Canons, a possible building on the East Lawn was identified during the desk-based assessment from photographs. It was interpreted as a possible masonry building associated with the former medieval farmstead recorded in this area (*figure 2*) and was thought to be contemporaneous with, or even predate, the dovecote and fishpond. Following this discovery a geophysical survey was undertaken of the East Lawn and a twin probe earth resistance survey was used to target this possible masonry building (Shaw 2016). This type of survey maps archaeological features when they are of higher or lower resistivity than their surroundings. For example, a stone wall foundation might impede the flow of electricity, while the organic deposits within a midden might conduct electricity more easily than surrounding soils. The survey identified a potential rectangular, east-west oriented stone building or surviving building foundations (*figures 3 and 4*) with possible rubble or surviving internal walls inside. A possible second separate building to the south was also identified.





*Figure 2 East Lawn of The Canons looking south-east, with possible building outlined in red*

### **3. Aims and Objectives**

The aims of the project were:

- to investigate the potential rectangular structure within the East Lawn as identified from photography and through the geophysical survey;
- to provide an opportunity for people to get involved in an archaeological excavation at The Canons and to promote the HLF funded 'Parks for People' project.

Specific research questions and archaeological objectives of the excavation were:

- Is there any below ground evidence for a building on the site?
- What is the date of the building?
- What was the building used for?
- What is the potential for further understanding of the archaeological remains on the site?

Specific research questions for community archaeology were:

- Have people learnt about archaeology?
- Have people enjoyed their experience?
- Will people return to The Canons?

### **4. Methodology**

The earth resistance survey showed several anomalies of high resistance in the 0.5m (*figure 3*) and 1m (*figure 4*) probe separation data, corresponding with the location of the possible rectangular building (Shaw 2016, 4). The results were interpreted as suggesting a potential surviving building in the same location as the photograph above, as well as a potential second building directly to the south (Shaw 2016, 4). Two trenches were excavated in locations based on the geophysics survey results in order to attempt to recover evidence for the building identified (*figure 6*). Trench 1 was 1m wide and 5.5m long, aligned north to south. Trench 2 was 1m wide and 5m long and aligned east to west. The trenches were de-turfed by hand and then hand excavated, using mattocks and shovels where required and trowels. Each trench was excavated using single context recording (taking down the deposits one at a time).

Our methodology for the three days was as follows:

Day 1:

- Set out the all proposed trenches using pre-determined points with long tapes.
- Volunteer health and safety induction
- Introduction to the site and project, looking at historical maps and geophysical survey and introducing archaeological recording.
- Archaeologists and volunteers de-turfed trenches 1 and 2 and began initial trowel clean.
- School groups arriving between 13.00 and 15.00 for excavation, finds sieving and activities.
- Visitors and participants arriving from 14.00 to 17.00 to learn about the project and trying out digging.

Day 2:

- Induction for new volunteers.
- Finds processing and processing by volunteers
- School groups between 10.00 - 11.30 and 13.30 - 15.00.
- Visitors and community digging between 15.00 and 17.30.

Day 3:

- Visitors between 10.00 and 15.00 for open digging and to learn about the project and archaeology.

- Archaeologists and volunteers do final recording of trenches and finds recording before backfilling and re-turfing trenches.

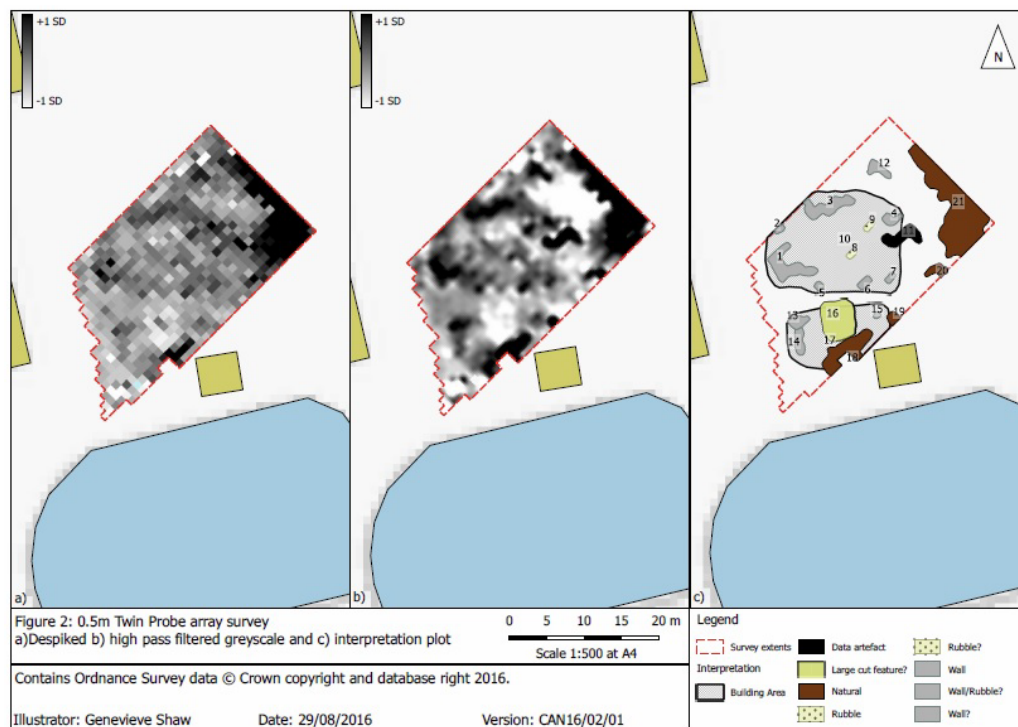


Figure 3 Geophysical Survey- 0.5m Twin Probe array survey (Shaw 2016)

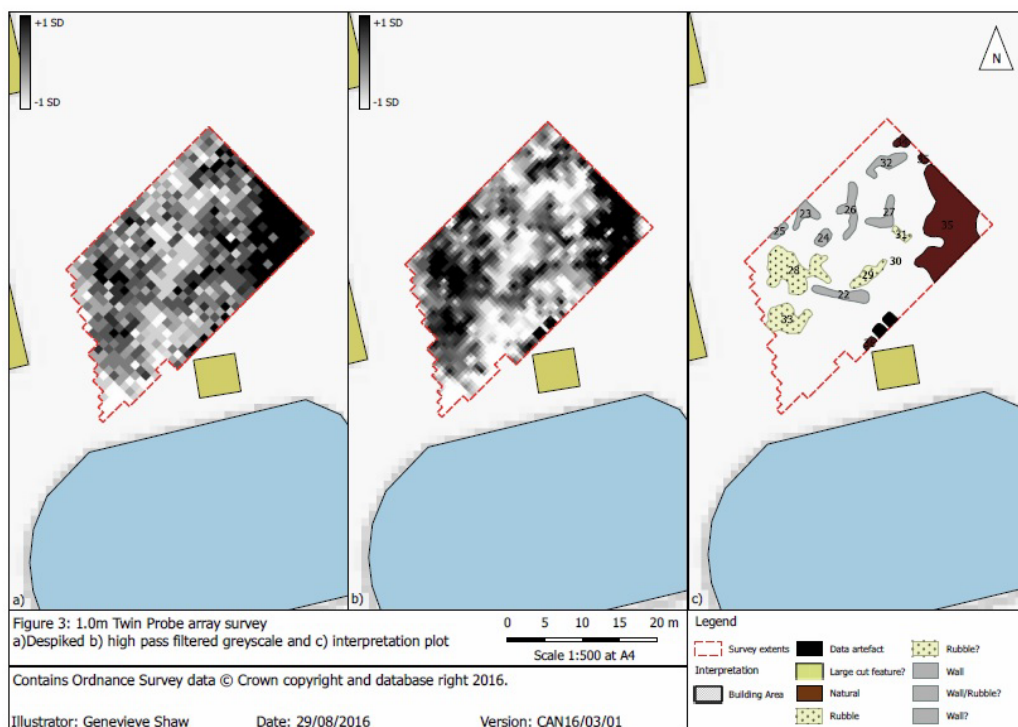
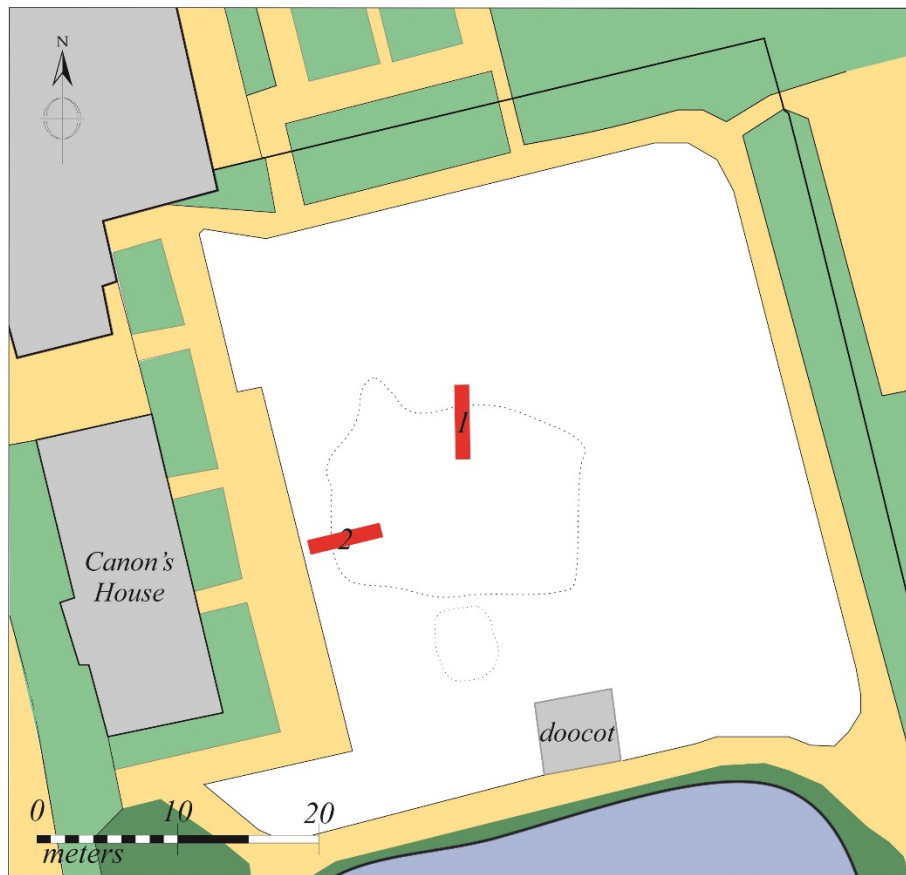


Figure 4 Geophysical Survey- 1.0m Twin Probe array survey (Shaw 2016)





*Figure 5 Trench locations.*



*Figure 6 Trench locations showing geophysics data*





*Plate 1 Trench 1, facing North after de-turfing*



*Plate 2 Trench 1, facing North post-excavation*



*Plate 3 Trench 2, facing East after de-turfing*



*Plate 4 Trench 2, east end, facing North*

## 5. Results

### i. Trench 1

Trench 1 was aligned north-south and targeted on one of the potential walls, placed so that it ran at roughly 90° to the expected course of the wall. It was initially de-turfed by archaeologists and volunteers; any remaining topsoil [101] was troweled off in a hard clean of the trench (*plate 1*). Once the topsoil was removed excavation of the lower deposits began using a combination of troweling, mattocking and shovelling.

Context No.	Recorded by	Date	Area	Description
101	AR	23/05/2019	TR1	Deposit. Turf and topsoil. Pale brownish-grey sandy silt with numerous flint inclusions and rare brick/tile fragments. D: 0.15m
102	PK	24/05/2019	TR1	Deposit. Compact light orangey-brown sandy silt with high concentration of poorly sorted angular, sub angular and rounded pebbles, flint and chert nodules and fractured nodules.
103	PK	25/05/2019	TR1	Deposit. Compact mid brown sandy silt with very high density (90%) of manganese. (Degraded rock?) D: 0.02m
104	PK	25/05/2019	TR1	Deposit. Firm mottled mid greyish-brown and light yellow silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles. D: 0.10m
105	PK	25/05/2019	TR1	Structural. Linear compact mid orangey-brown sandy clay with frequent small white flecks (shell?) with high rounded upper edge. W: 0.05m, H: 0.10m
106	PK	25/05/2019	TR1	Deposit. Firm mottled mid brown sandy silt with frequent rounded and angular small stones. D: >0.27m
107	PK	25/05/2019	TR1	Deposit. Compact mid greyish-brown sandy silt with very high (80-90%) density of poorly sorted rounded and sub rounded pebbles. L: 0.75m, W: >0.50m. unexcavated

Table 1 Trench 1 context register

Below the topsoil, deposit [102] extended across the trench. The north of the trench was heavily disturbed by roots and the only deposit present was [106], most likely a ‘garden’ soil.

In the south end of the trench is what appears to be a series of superimposed buildings, with the remnants of earlier phases appearing on the last day of excavation. At the south end, below deposit [102], was context [103], a thin spread of angular black mineral, most likely manganese. This was an unusual deposit as manganese is not usually found in such a concentrated spread. It may be the remains of a degraded stone, or may have accumulated as a deliberate spread over surface [104] below, possibly as a way of improving the soil (*figure 11*). Beneath [103] was a linear feature [105], made from compact sandy clay with a high rounded upper edge, possibly a mud plaster facing for a thin timber wall (*plate 5*). This bounded a possible mud-puddled floor surface [104] of clean yellowish clay which extended to the south beyond the limit of excavation (*figure 8*). This surface was identified at 0.26m-0.56m in depth, a result that correlates with the geophysical survey results (*figures 4 & 5*). Below [104] was deposit [107] (similar to deposit [203] in Trench 2) which appears to be a pebbled surface that is sloping down from south to north (*plate 6*). Below [107] we also began to uncover a further layer with concentrations of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) – brick and tile fragments -- and daub appearing in it, possibly a previously standing brick and daub building. Unfortunately due to time restraints this deposit was not fully excavated but did suggest further evidence of a building.





*Plate 5 Trench 1 Context [105]*



*Plate 6 Trench 1 North facing shot of [105]*

## ii. Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned east-west and was also designed to run across a possible western wall of the medieval building. Trench 2 was initially de-turfed by archaeologists and volunteers; any remaining topsoil [201] was troweled off in a hard clean of the trench (*plate 2*). Once the topsoil was removed we began excavating with trowels, recording each single context (*Table 2*).

Context No.	Recorded by	Date	Area	Description
201	AR	23/05/2019	TR2	Deposit. Turf and topsoil. Pale brownish grey sandy silt with numerous flint inclusions and rare brick/tile fragments. D: 0.15m
202	AR	24/05/2019	TR2	Deposit. Moderate compaction mid orangey-brown sandy silt with very frequent poorly sorted angular, sub angular and rounded pebbles, flint and chert nodules and fractured nodules. Within this deposit was also a thin spread of manganese. D: 0.34m
203	AA	25/05/2019	TR2	Deposit. Very compact mid orangey-brown sandy silt with high density (80-90%) of poorly sorted rounded and sub rounded pebbles and flint.
204	AA	25/05/2019	TR2	Cut. Small square cut with a sharp vertical break of slope, shallow concave sides and rounded base.
205	AA	25/05/2019	TR2	Fill of cut [204]. Mid orangey brown clayey silt with orange clay inclusions.
206	AA	25/05/2019	TR2	Deposit. Moderately compact dark greyish brown clayey silt garden soil.

*Table 2 Trench 2 context register*

Over the course of the three days this trench was mainly excavated by school groups, visitors and volunteers using trowels; due to this the majority of the trench remained in the compact deposit [202] directly below the topsoil. This careful excavation meant that a large number of finds were retrieved from [202], including pottery, glass, and iron nails and other items. A 1m x1m test pit was excavated at the east end of the Trench in order to reveal lower deposits and/or the natural geology.

This test pit revealed a compact pebbled surface [203] (*plate 7*) at 0.48m-0.58m below the ground surface. This correlates with the geophysical survey results of possible structures between 0.5 and 1.0m in depth below ground surface (*figure 3 & 4*). Cut into the pebbled surface was [204], a small shallow square cut (*plate 8*); this was filled with [205] orange brown silt with orange clay inclusions. Although it is not certain what the function of this small cut was, it is possible that it held a wooden post or upright for a fence or to support some other structure. Beneath surface [203] was dark grey brown garden soil [206]. This last deposit demonstrates that the area was being used, possibly for cultivation, by people even before the pebble surface was made, and hints at the possibility of further archaeology below.





*Plate 7 Trench 2 pebbled surface [203] and cut [204]*



*Plate 8 Trench 2, excavated cut [204]*

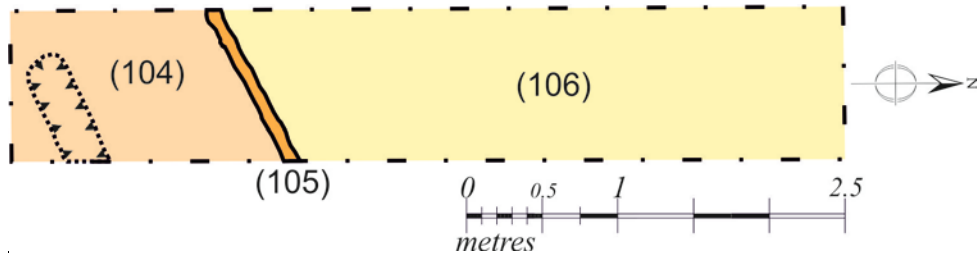


Figure 7 Trench 1 plan 24<sup>th</sup> May

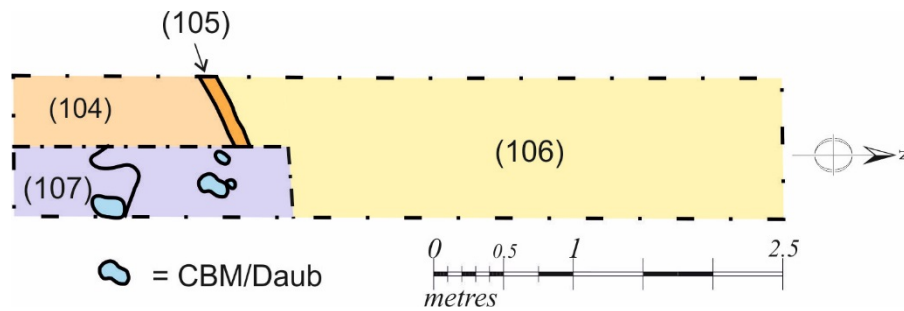


Figure 8 Trench 1 plan 25<sup>th</sup> May

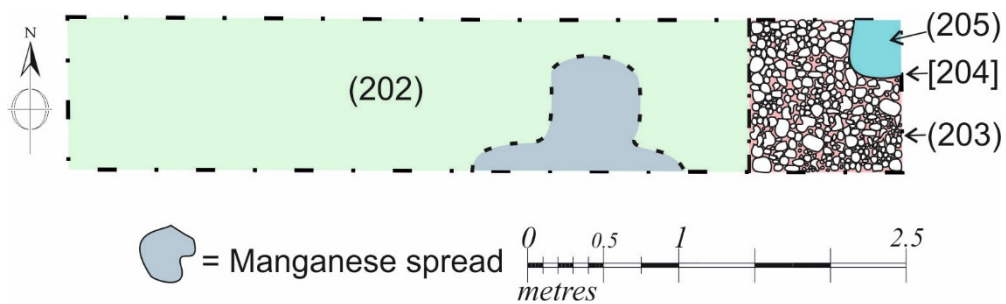


Figure 9 Trench 2 plan 24<sup>th</sup> May

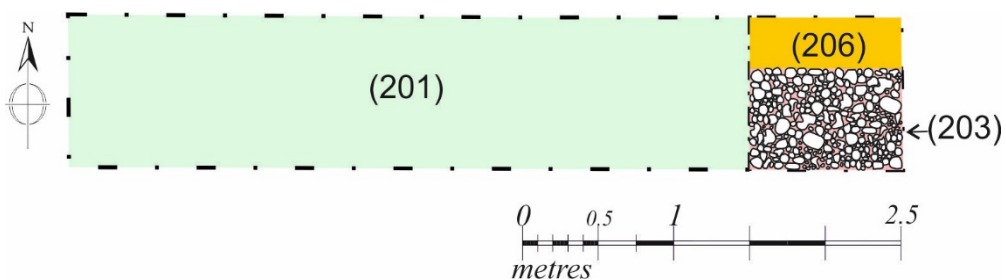


Figure 10 Trench 2 plan 25<sup>th</sup> May

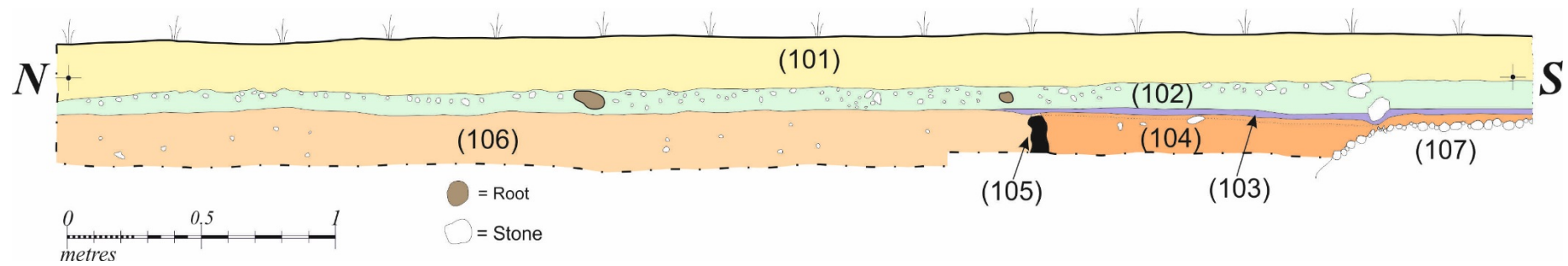


Figure 11 Drawing 1: Trench 1, West Facing Section

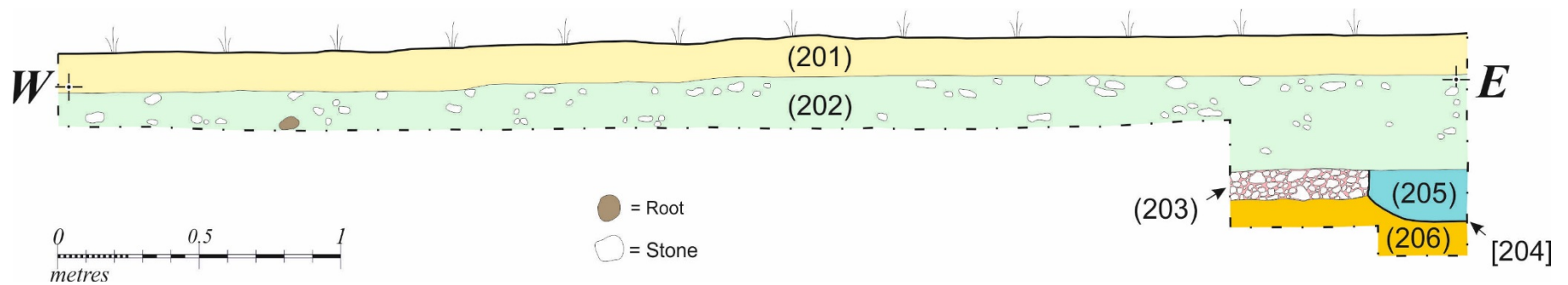


Figure 12 Drawing 2: Trench 2, South Facing Section



## 6. *Finds Assessment by Antoine Ruchonnet*

### i. *Summary*

A total of 589 artefacts were recovered during the Community Excavation. Finds were cleaned by volunteers on site during the course of the excavations. The composition of the assemblage is outlined in *Table 3*, below. The finds appear to be mostly domestic in nature, with little evidence of industry. The finds range in date from the Iron Age to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century; modern finds were recovered from the topsoil and as contamination in lower deposits. A full catalogue of the finds is contained in *Appendix A*.

<i>Artefact Type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Ceramic Building Material	273
Ceramic	68
Clay Tobacco Pipe	16
Daub	8
Faunal Remains	33
Fossil	31
Glass	47
Iron	50
Lead	2
Lithics	2
Mortar	4
Plastic	4
Pumice/Scoria	27
Slate	7
Vitrified Material	2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>589</b>

*Table 3 : Summary of Artefact Assemblage*

Eight samples were collected; these were mostly recovered from the finds and are either manganese or coal nodules. One sample is made up of a few lumps of the daub directly collected from feature [105].

### ii. *Finds*

#### a. *Ceramic Building Material*

By far the most numerous of the artefacts uncovered, the ceramic building material (CBM) was found in every context. A total of 273 brick and tile fragments were collected. Most of the material is highly fragmentary and could not be identified as to original form. None of the brick or tiles found were machine-made but were either hand-made (*Plate 9*) or mould-made (*Plate 10*), which dates them to before the Industrial Revolution (earlier than the 19<sup>th</sup> century).

A number of bricks and tiles showed clear evidence for the remains of a previously standing building that had been demolished. One mould-made tile (SF102.12) displayed traces of beige white glaze on one face (*Plate 11*). A few tiles have a peg hole, punctured prior to their firing near one end, in order to fix the roof tile by a peg (*Plate 12*).





*Plate 9 SF102.12, Hand-made tile (102)*



*Plate 10 SF102.12, Mould-made brick (102)*



*Plate 11 SF102.12, Glazed tile (102)*



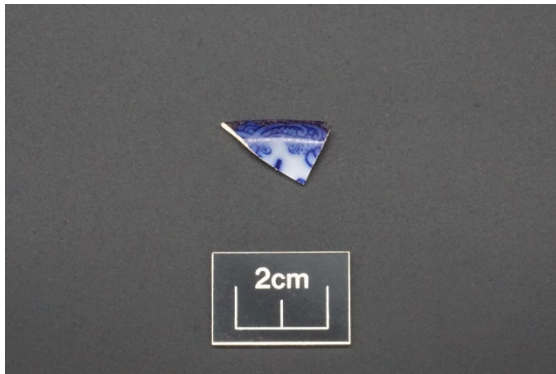
*Plate 12 SF102.12, Roof tiles with peg holes (102)*

*b. Ceramic*

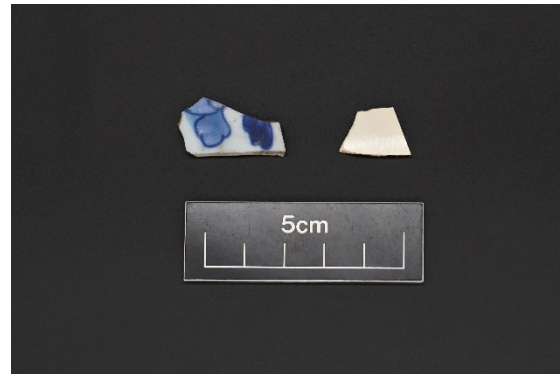
A total of 68 pottery fragments were uncovered during the excavation. No pottery later than the 18<sup>th</sup> century was found in either of the trenches. Most of the ceramic appears to date to the occupation of the Canons House, with a few residual Iron-Age, Romano-British and Medieval fragments.

The occupation of the Canons House is represented by 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery such as Blue and White earthenware (*Plate 13*, *Plate 14*, *Plate 15* and *Plate 17*). Blue and White earthenware was extremely popular in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and was originally imported from China (with Jingdezhen in Jiangxi as the largest producer) and Continental Europe (for example Delftware). The fragments collected from the excavation can be dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century as they all appear hand painted. Three fragments appear to be Chinese productions, and three appear to be continental productions.

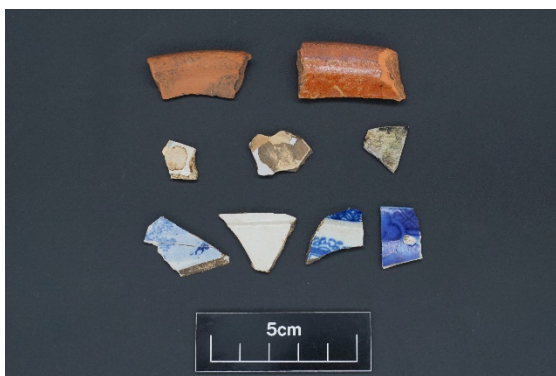
The rest of the 18<sup>th</sup> century ceramics are white tin-glazed (blueish) (*Plate 15*, *Plate 16*, and *Plate 17*) and salt-glazed (reddish) earthenware (see *Plate 14* to *Plate 17*). Also dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century are a few fragments of unglazed flower pot (see *Plate 16* and *Plate 17*) and some internally glazed fragments, likely to be from a chamber pot (*Plate 15*).



*Plate 13 SF101.01, Blue and White Earthenware (101)*



*Plate 14 SF103.01, Blue and White Chinese Porcelain (left) (103)*



*Plate 15 SF202.01, 18<sup>th</sup> Century Ceramics (202)*



*Plate 16 SF201.03, Mixed Ceramics (201)*



*Plate 17 SF102.02, Mixed Ceramics (102)*

A few residual fragments of medieval or early post-medieval pottery were found in both trenches. All are lead glazed red ware either reduced or with a reduced core (see *Plate 17*), reduced core with internal slip, or non-reduced (see *Plate 16*). Reduction is a process which takes place during the firing of the pottery and affects the appearance of the ceramic. If oxygen is let in during the firing, by opening the kiln, the pottery is said to be non-reduced or oxidized, and takes on a brown-red colour.

Inversely, if the oxygen supply is limited, the firing is known as reducing where the combustion strip oxygen from the clay or the glaze which gives it a dark-grey appearance.

The earliest artefacts found during the excavations are Iron Age or Romano-British (between 800BC to 400AD) residual pottery fragments (*Plate 17 to Plate 19*). They range from red wares to grey wares and differ in their firing, from reduced to non-reduced, *ie* non reduced grey ware, reduced core red ware, reduced red ware, non-reduced red ware, and reduced cream ware.

The early ceramics are considered as residual, as they are from contexts which contained more recent artefacts. They might have been brought in the site from another location, either during landscaping or manuring, or could have been brought to the surface by animal burrowing or root activity from deeper, earlier deposits.



*Plate 18 SF105.09, Iron Age/Romano-British Ceramics (106)*



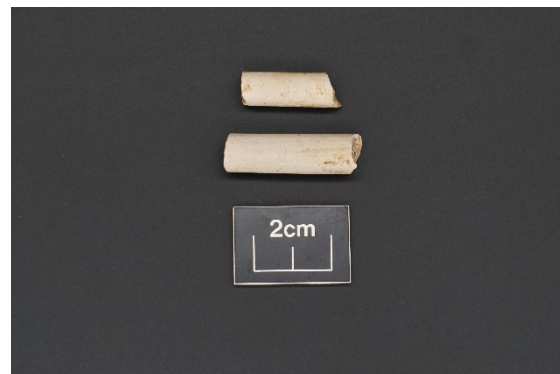
*Plate 19 SF106.04, Iron Age/Romano-British Ceramics (Unstratified)*

### *c. Clay Tobacco Pipes*

A total of 16 clay pipe fragments were uncovered. All of them were stems with no engraving, mouth piece or heel (*Plate 20 to Plate 23*). Tobacco pipes were introduced in Britain in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century but the price of tobacco made them rare until the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Their shape varies over time and they can be rather accurate dating tools. As no bowls or heels were found, the dates are rather broad, but those recovered from site can be approximately dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, based on the stem. They were most likely produced in one of the London manufactures, the largest area of production in Britain.



*Plate 20 SF102.01, Clay pipe stems (102)*



*Plate 21 SF105.04, Clay pipe stems (106)*



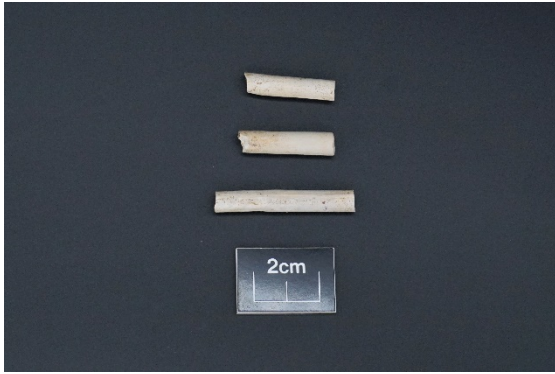


Plate 22 SF202.02, Clay pipe stems (202)

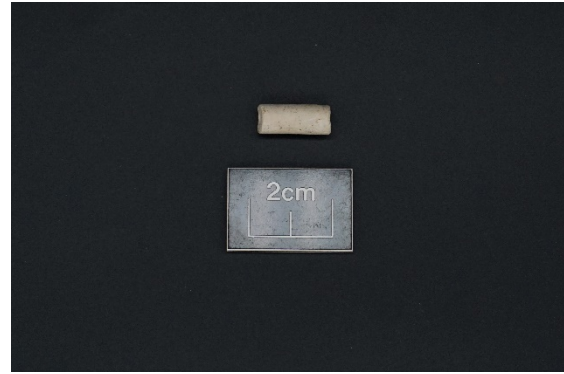


Plate 23 SF204.01, Clay pipe stems (Unstratified)

d. *Faunal Remains*

A total of 33 faunal remains were found, of which two were oyster shell fragments. All fragments were rather small and worn, due to the acidic nature of the soil. The identified species were cattle and sheep/goat. They were likely brought on site during the process of manuring, which enriched the soil by mixing in midden (rubbish heap) material to the topsoil.

e. *Fossils*

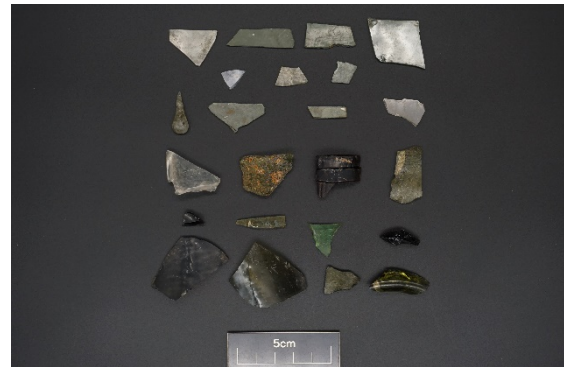
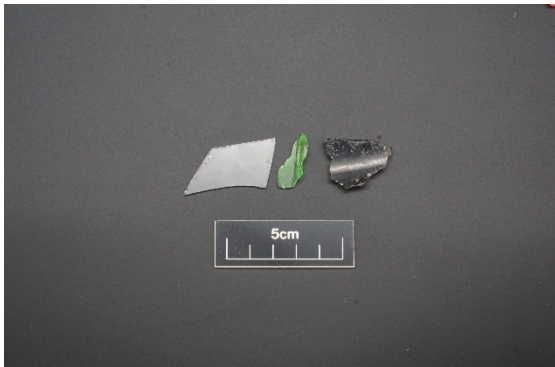
31 fossils were collected during the excavation. It is highly unlikely that these were deliberately brought to site, but occurred naturally in the chalk-with-flints of the surrounding geology.

f. *Glass*

A total of 47 glass shards were uncovered: 25 window shards, 21 bottle fragments (14 green, 4 clear, and 1 brown) and three manufacturing by-products. More analysis would be required to date the fragments, but they seem to be early in date, *ie* pre 19<sup>th</sup> century (Plate 24 to Plate 29).

Three shards have been burned and have taken on either a greenish or a blueish hue as a result (Plate 25, Plate 27 and Plate 28). This appears to have been accidental rather than undertaken for a particular purpose or as decoration.

Three drop shaped manufacturing by-products were found in Trench 1, probably the result of glass blowing (see Plate 25 and Plate 26). Along with the vitrified material from Trench 1 from 106), this was the only manufacturing waste found on site.



*Plate 24 SF101.03, Glass (101)*



*Plate 25 SF102.05, Glass (102)*



*Plate 26 SF103.02, Glass (103)*



*Plate 27 SF105.07, Glass (106)*



*Plate 28 SF106.01, Burned glass (Unstratified)*

*g. Iron*

A total of 50 iron objects were found during the excavation. The vast majority of the iron objects were square section nails, all pre-dating the Industrial Revolution. They were within the demolition rubble from a previously standing building, along with the large number of CBM fragments.

The most remarkable find of the site was a nearly complete skeleton key (SF102.11) found within Trench 1 (*Plate 30*). Further analysis would be required to have a better understanding of the type of door this key would open, but it may have been used to open the previously standing building or a nearby structure.



*Plate 30 SF102.11, Iron key (102)*

*h. Lead*

Two lead objects were found during the excavation, both within (102) in the heavily rooted area of Trench 1. One is an architectural fragment, thought to be either a window or a roof flashing. The second is a label with the number 28 die stamped at the base and a nail hole at the apex (*Plate 31*). This was probably a tree tag that was nailed to a tree trunk for identification. Its date is unclear, but it most likely dates to the occupation of the Canons House.



*Plate 31 SF102.10, Lead tree tag (102)*

*i. Lithics*

A total of 17 flint fragments were uncovered from both trenches. Considering the surrounding geology, flint nodules and shards were extremely numerous on site. Some of the shards are likely to be the result of fluvial breakage (*Plate 32 to Plate 34*). Any artefactual flint would be residual.



Two flints appear to be artefactual, both from (102). They have been identified as a possible scraper (*Plate 35*) and a blade flake (*Plate 36*). It is possible the latter could date to the Neolithic.



*Plate 32 SF105.03, Possible lithics (106)*



*Plate 33 SF201.04, Possible lithics (201)*



*Plate 34 SF204.05, Possible lithics (Unstratified)*



*Plate 35 SF102.03, Possible scraper (102)*



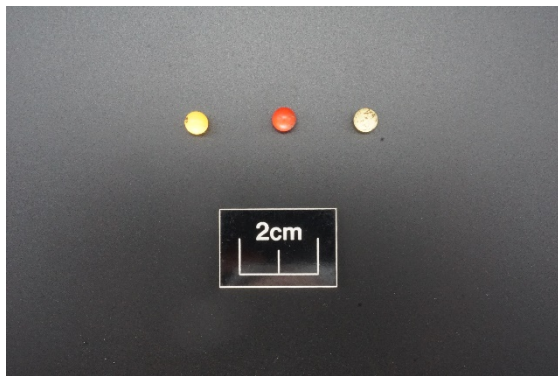
*Plate 36 SF102.03, Blade flake (102)*

*j. Plastic*

The only modern finds on site were four air gun or BB gun pellets, found within the topsoil (*Plate 37*) and an unstratified find from Trench 1 likely to be ‘stray bullets’ fired in the park in the last two to three decades.

*k. Pumice/Scoria*

A total of 27 fragments of porous volcanic stone were found at varying depths in Trench 1 (*Plate 38*). As the surrounding geology is non-igneous (not created by volcanic activity), this material would have been brought to the site deliberately. Considering its location it is highly likely that this was done for horticultural reasons as pumice and scoria improve the quality of the soil. The porosity of the rocks improves the gas exchange, increases the water retention and enhances the drainage of the soil. Furthermore, due to its inorganic nature, it does not rot and does not attract fungi or pests. As Trench 2 is close to the Canons House and further away from the gardens mature trees, this might explain the absence of pumice and scoria from this area.



*Plate 37 SF101.02, Plastic BB gun pellets*



*Plate 38 SF101.06, Volcanic stone fragments*

*l. Other Architectural Materials*

Further evidence for a demolished building is given by four fragments of mortar found in Trench 1. Three of these were white-buff lime mortar, with fine sand aggregate and lime nodule inclusions; the other was tan-brown earth mortar, with coarse sand aggregate and flint inclusions.

Eight fragments of daub, similar to that found part of Wall [105], were found near it and are likely to be part of the same or another related wall.

A total of seven small fragments of slate were found from the trenches. These may derive from the roof of the Canons House or the previously standing building.

### *iii. Discussion*

The two trenches produced a wide array of finds and the sieving of the spoil heaps by the school children, volunteers and members of the public resulted in a thorough collection of artefacts.

There was virtually no material dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The finds can be split into two phases: the occupation of the Canons House and the demolition and occupation of a previously standing brick and daub building.

The finds associated with the occupation of the Canons House date to the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> Century and appear to be related to landscaping and horticulture. Rich soils were brought on site, probably from the rubbish heap (or midden) of the occupants of the house, judging by the high quality of the ceramics. The garden was very well tended with volcanic stone brought in to help growth and a tree tag to identify specific trees; similar tags can still be seen on trees within the grounds.

The identification of an earlier building in Trench 1 is further attested to in the finds assemblage by the preponderance of architectural artefacts, such as bricks, tiles, nails, window glass, and lead flashing. The iron key appears to be related to that building.

Finally, a fair amount of residual material, possibly dating back to the Neolithic but more surely to the Iron Age were found during the excavation. This might indicate the presence of prehistoric settlements in or around the site.

## *7. Community Archaeology*

One of the main aims of the project was to provide an opportunity for people to get involved in an archaeological excavation at The Canons and to promote the HLF funded 'Parks for People' project.

Specific research questions for community archaeology:

- Have people learnt about archaeology?
- Have people enjoyed their experience?
- Will people return to The Canons?

In order to involve the community as much as possible, the three days were set out to involve a range of people with a range of activities. We had volunteers across the three days who were invaluable. They had an induction to site including learning about the desk-based assessment, building recording and geophysical survey that had been done previously. They were keen to learn about archaeology and the Canons as well as helping out with visitors on site. The volunteers working in Trenches 1 and 2 learnt:

- Excavation skills
- Context recording
- Photography
- Finds retrieval and labelling

On the Thursday and Friday we held taster sessions for classes from four local schools. These sessions gave the children a chance to experience the different aspects of archaeology from excavation skills in the trenches, sieving their spoil for finds and then archaeologically related activities of finds drawing (*Appendix D*), piecing the pot back together and an investigation 'The Lost backpack'.

The site was also open in the afternoons of the Thursday and Friday for open community digging, and all day on the Saturday and members of the community were encouraged to come and visit the site. This gave people the chance to dig in one of the trenches and also to learn about the Canons and its history.

Everyone who visited the site, including all the schools, were all very enthusiastic, eager and willing to get involved and learn.

## **8. Discussion**

The aim of the archaeological excavation was to investigate the potential rectangular structure within the East Lawn as identified through photographs and the geophysical survey.

Specific research questions and archaeological objectives of the excavation were:

- Is there any below ground evidence for a building on the site?
- What is the date of the building?
- What was the building used for?
- What is the potential for further understanding of the archaeological remains on the site?

The excavation of Trenches 1 and 2 demonstrated that there are archaeological remains contemporary with the Canons House (18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century) and possible earlier remains. In Trench 1 the possible mud plaster facing, mud-puddled floor surface and further pebbled surface provided evidence that a building previously existed on site, with lower deposits, containing fragments of brick and daub, also suggested further, earlier occupation deposits lower down. The mud-plaster facing and floor of Trench 1 suggest perhaps a temporary or rather flimsy building, an outbuilding or byre, perhaps, from the last usage of the monastic settlement and before the formal gardens of The Canons were laid out. The results from both trenches also matched up with the geophysical survey results as building fragments began to appear in our trenches from around half a metre down in depth; but there may be more than one building here rather than a single rectangular building, and the building(s) may be of more than one phase, changing through time as the use of the space changed.

In Trench 2 we had a substantial pebbled surface. This was only exposed in a small area, but also had a feature associated with it, a small pit or possible post-hole, exposed in the corner of the trench. The pebble floor could have been one inside a building, or an outside area of yard that was ‘metalled’ to avoid it becoming a muddy quagmire after rains. The small pit may have been the remains of a substantial timber pole driven in to the ground; we can only guess its function as a part of a fence line, a timber wall, or a post for a roof, perhaps. The pebble floor of Trench 2 is, in any case, more substantial than the mud-puddled clay floor and thin wattle wall of Trench 1, and so is either from a different time period, or a different structure – only further excavation could tell us which. These results suggest that the area was indeed a busy place, with potentially more than one structure around. Further, the dark soil below the pebble surface indicates that the area was inhabited and being used by humans, and strongly suggests the presence of further archaeology below. .

As well as the deposits and features found, the large number of finds from site also gave an insight to activity on site. The finds can be split into two phases: the occupation of the Canons House (18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries) and the demolition and occupation of a previously standing brick and daub building. In addition to the finds associated with the house and possible previous building, a number of finds were retrieved that indicate much older activity. This included stone tool fragments possibly dating back to the Neolithic, and pieces of pottery from the Iron Age or Romano-British period, when Mitcham was part of the Roman Empire and tied in to a system that reached from there to east of the Mediterranean. These finds indicate the presence of prehistoric and early historic settlements in or around the site.

One surprise of the excavation was the relatively sparse evidence for the use of The Canons’ gardens during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Perhaps the only certain 20<sup>th</sup> century finds we encountered were the plastic BB-gun pellets. Volunteers and members of the public who came along to the dig told us that the gardens were used extensively for picnics and other events and recreation; we might have expected many more discarded things from this use. Other community excavations in London and around

England have found a lot of evidence for the use of gardens and green spaces in test trenches (Lewis 2017), including a host of lost or broken toys, food wrappers, and pottery and glass. Perhaps the people using The Canons grounds were simply very good at clearing up!

Despite the presence of occupation deposits, features and many finds the purpose and extent of this possible sub-rectangular building was not clear however we now know there is potential for further understanding of archaeological remains.



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## Appendix A Finds Register

<i>Finds No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Material</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
101.01	101	1	Ceramic	23/05/2019	Volunteers	1	1 Rim blue and white earthenware, hand painted (Jingdezhen?)	18th Century
101.02	101	1	Plastic	23/05/2019	Volunteers	3	Air gun/BB gun pellets	20th Century
101.03	101	1	Glass	23/05/2019	Volunteers	3	1 Clear window glass / 2 Green bottle BS	
101.04	101	1	CBM	23/05/2019	Volunteers	9	6 Brick fragments / 2 Mould made tile fragments / 1 Vitrified daub?/plaster? fragment with white wash	?18th Century or Earlier
101.05	101	1	Fossil	23/05/2019	Volunteers	3	Possible fossils	
101.06	101	1	Pumice	23/05/2019	Volunteers	6	Pumice fragments	
102.01	102	1	Clay Pipe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	10	Stems	?18th - Early 19th Century
102.02	102	1	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	36	1 BS white and blue hand painted stoneware / 2 (1BS / 1 Base) blue and white hand painted earthen ware / 5 (4 Bases / 1 BS) tin glaze earthen ware / 5 BS salt glaze earthen ware / 6 (5 BS / 1 Rim) unglazed red ware / 2 BS reduced red ware with green lead glaze / 1 BS reduced core red ware with green lead glazed and internal slip / 9 (8 BS / 1 Rim) non reduced grey ware / 1 BS reduced core red ware / 5 BS reduced red ware / 1 BS non reduced red ware	Romano-British - Medieval - 18th Century
102.03	102	1	Lithics	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	1 Blade flake / 1 scraper?	Neolithic
102.04	102	1	Fossil	25/05/2019	Volunteers	18	2 Echinoids, 16 possible fossils	
102.05	102	1	Glass	25/05/2019	Volunteers	22	8 BS green bottle / 1 Neck brown bottle / 1 BS clear bottle / 1 Drop shaped manufacture by-product / 10 Clear window glass / 1 Green window glass	?18th Century or Earlier
102.06	102	1	Slate	25/05/2019	Volunteers	4	4 Slate fragments (1 with nail hole)	
102.07	102	1	Mortar	25/05/2019	Volunteers	3	3 white-buff lime mortar fragment, fine sand aggregate, with lime nodule inclusions	
102.08	102	1	Faunal	25/05/2019	Volunteers	7	2 Oyster shells / 2 Ovicaprid teeth (maxillary pre-molar and molar) / 1 Ovicaprid femur / 2 Long bone fragments	
102.09	102	1	Pumice	25/05/2019	Volunteers	3	Pumice fragments	
102.10	102	1	Pb	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	1 Flashing fragment / 1 Tree tag with repoussé "28"	
102.11	102	1	Fe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	19	14 Square section nails / 2 Joining fragments of a large key / 3 Unidentified objects	

<i><b>Finds No.</b></i>	<i><b>Context No.</b></i>	<i><b>Trench No.</b></i>	<i><b>Material</b></i>	<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Initials</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Description</b></i>	<i><b>Date</b></i>
102.12	102	1	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	53	1 Hand made brick fragment / 1 Mould made glazed tile fragment / 12 Mould made tile / 39 Fragments	
103.01	103	1	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	1 BS white earthen ware / 1 BS blue and white hand painted ?stone/?earthen ware	18th Century
103.02	103103	1	Glass	25/05/2019	Volunteers	5	1 Clear window glass / 2 Drop shaped manufacture by-product / 1 BS green bottle / 1 BS clear bottle (with trapped bubbles)	?18th Century or Earlier
103.03	103	1	Faunal	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	2 Unidentified burnt bone fragments	
103.04	103	1	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	2 Fragments	
103.05	103	1	Mortar	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Tan-brown earth mortar, coarse sand aggregate, with flint inclusions	
103.06	103	1	Shale	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	Burnt shale fragments	
104.01	104	1	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	BS salt glazed earthen ware	?18th Century
104.02	104	1	Fe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Square section nail	Pre 19th Century
104.03	104	1	Daub	25/05/2019	Volunteers	8	Daub fragments	
104.04	104	1	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	26	5 Mould made tile fragments / 3 Handmade brick fragments / 18 Fragments	
105.01	106	1	Faunal	25/05/2019	Volunteers	23	1 Cattle rib / 1 Cattle metatarsal / 1 Ovicaprid tibia / 1 Ovicaprid tooth / 1 Ovicaprid femur / 6 Long bone fragments / 1 Ovicaprid maxilla / 11 Unidentified	
105.02	106	1	Fossil	25/05/2019	Volunteers	5	Possible fossils	
105.03	106	1	Lithics	25/05/2019	Volunteers	4	1 Débitage / 3 Possible lithics	
105.04	106	1	Clay Pipe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	Stems	?18th - Early 19th Century
105.05	106	1	Pumice	25/05/2019	Volunteers	18	Pumice fragments	
105.06	106	1	Fe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	10	8 Square section nails / 2 Unidentified	Pre 19th Century
105.07	106	1	Glass	25/05/2019	Volunteers	6	3 Clear window / 2 BS green bottle / 1 BS burnt clear bottle (blueish)	?18th Century or Earlier
105.08	106	1	Slag	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	Ferrous slags	
105.09	106	1	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	5	2 BS reduced cream ware / 3 (2 BS / 1 Rim) non reduced red ware	Romano-British - Iron Age
105.10	106	1	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	51	6 Mould made tile fragments (1 with fired hole) / 45 Fragments	
106.01	U/S	1	Plastic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Air gun/BB gun pellet	20th Century
106.02	U/S	1	Glass	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	BS burned glass	?18th Century or Earlier
106.03	U/S	1	Fe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	4	Square section nails	Pre 19th Century
106.04	U/S	1	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	2 (1 BS / 1 Rim) reduced	Romano-

<i><b>Finds No.</b></i>	<i><b>Context No.</b></i>	<i><b>Trench No.</b></i>	<i><b>Material</b></i>	<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Initials</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Description</b></i>	<i><b>Date</b></i>
							core red ware	British - Iron Age
106.05	U/S	1	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	12	2 Mould made tile fragments / 10 Fragments	
201.01	201	2	Glass	23/05/2019	Volunteers	8	8 Clear window glass shards (3 greenish and 1 blueish)	
201.02	201	2	Fossil	23/05/2019	Volunteers	3	Possible fossils	
201.03	201	2	Ceramic	23/05/2019	Volunteers	7	2 BS unglazed red ware / 1 BS non reduced red ware with a green lead glaze / 1 Base tin glazed earthen ware / 2 BS salt glaze earthen ware / 1 Base unidentified	16th - 18th Century
201.04	201	2	Lithics	23/05/2019	Volunteers	5	Possible lithics	
201.05	201	2	CBM	23/05/2019	Volunteers	29	24 Fragments / 1 Vitriified daub? / 4 Mould made tile fragments	
201.06	201	2	Fe	23/05/2019	Volunteers	5	3 Square section nails / 1 Tack?/Nail? / 1 Square section bent rod	Pre 19th Century
202.01	202	2	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	9	1 BS salt glaze earthen ware / 2 BS tin glaze? earthen ware / 1 BS burned earthen ware / 3 (1 rim / 2 BS) white and blue earthen ware / 1 Rim unglazed red ware / 1 rim internal glaze	18th Century
202.02	202	2	Clay Pipe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	Stems	?18th - Early 19th Century
202.03	202	2	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	79	18 Mould made tile fragments / 61 fragments	
202.04	202	2	Fossil	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	Possible fossils	
202.05	202	2	Slate	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Slate fragment	
202.06	202	2	Faunal	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Very degraded ruminant molar	
202.07	202	2	Fe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	10	Square section nails	Pre 19th Century
203.01	203	2	Clay Pipe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Stem	
203.02	203	2	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	Mould made tile fragments	
203.03	203	2	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	BS reduced core red ware	?18th Century
204.01	U/S	2	Clay Pipe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Stem	?18th - Early 19th Century
204.02	U/S	2	Ceramic	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	1 BS tin glaze stone ware / 1 BS non reduced red ware	Romano-British - 18th Century
204.03	U/S	2	Fe	25/05/2019	Volunteers	1	Unidentified object	
204.04	U/S	2	Glass	25/05/2019	Volunteers	2	1 Clear window glass / 1 BS green bottle	?18th Century or Earlier
204.05	U/S	2	Lithics	25/05/2019	Volunteers	6	Possible lithics	
204.06	U/S	2	CBM	25/05/2019	Volunteers	11	2 Mould made tile fragments (1 with a fired hole) / 9 Fragments	



*Assemblage Photographs*



*Plate 39 Trench 1, Context (101)*



*Plate 40 Trench 1, Context (102)*



*Plate 41 Trench 1, Context (103)*



*Plate 42 Trench 1, Context (104)*





*Plate 43 Trench 1 Context (106)*



*Plate 44 Trench 1 Unstratified Context*





*Plate 45 Trench 2 Context (201)*



*Plate 46 Trench 2, Context (202)*



*Plate 47 Trench 2, Context (203)*



*Plate 48 Trench 2, Unstratified Context*

**Appendix B    Samples Register**

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Context No.</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comments</i>
101	101	1 Small Bag	23/05/2019	PK	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds
102	102	1 Small Bag	24/05/2019	AR	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds
103	103	1 Small Bag	25/05/2019	AR	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds
104	105	1 Small Bag	25/05/2019	PK	Daub from Wall	
105	106	1 Small Bag	25/05/2019	AR	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds
201	201	1 Small Bag	23/05/2019	AR	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds
202	202	1 Small Bag	25/05/2019	AR	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds
203	203	1 Small Bag	25/05/2019	AR	Manganese?/Coal?	Retrieved from finds



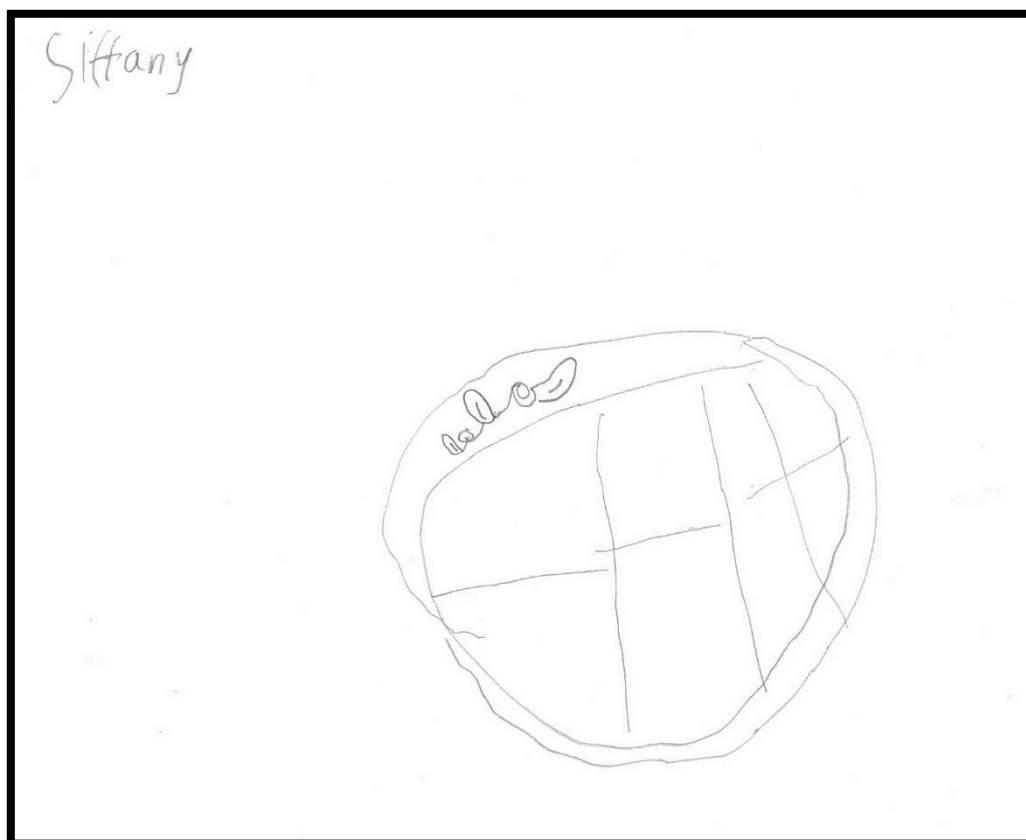
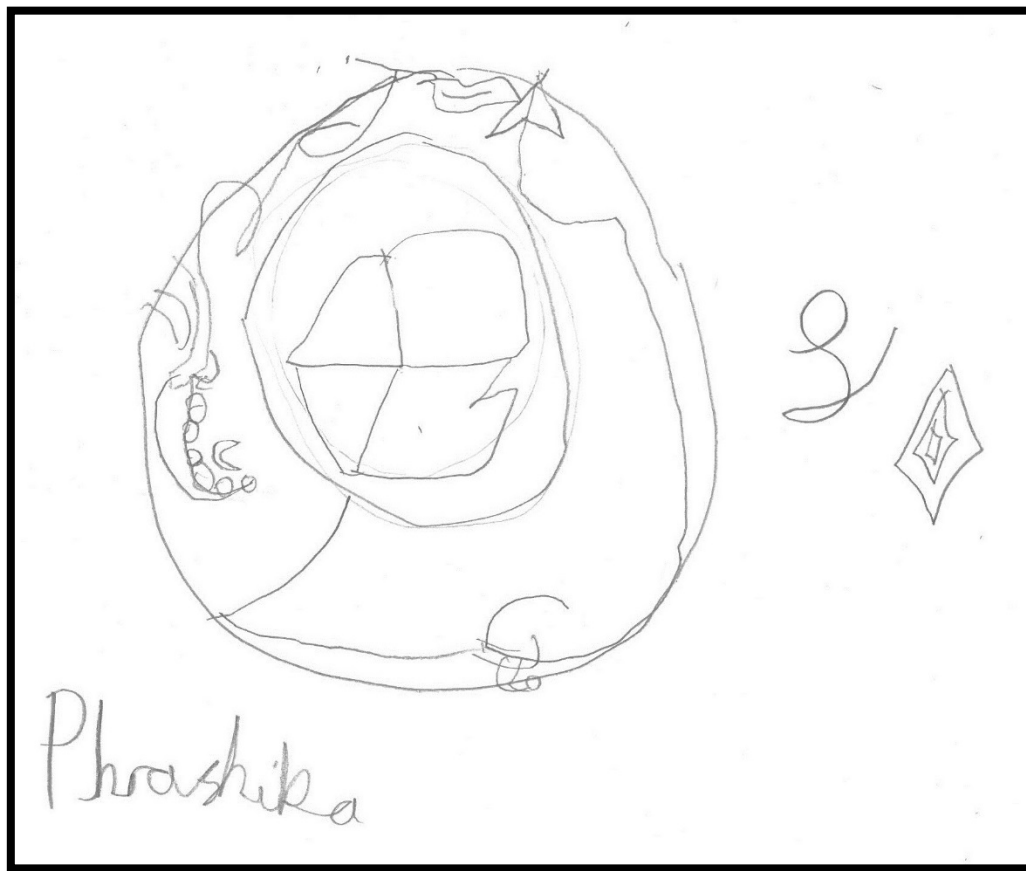
**Appendix C    Photograph Register**

<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Direction</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
001	24/05/2019	N	Trench 1, General view, (102) and compacted stone horizon	PK
002	24/05/2019	S	Trench 1, General view, (102) and compacted stone horizon	PK
003	24/05/2019	SW	Working Shot	PK
004	24/05/2019	N	Trench 1, Detail of (102) and compacted stone horizon	PK
005	24/05/2019	N	Trench 1, Detail of (102) and compacted stone horizon	PK
006	24/05/2019	W	Trench 2, General view, (202)	AR
007	24/05/2019	W	Trench 2, General view, (202)	AR
008	24/05/2019	E	Trench 2, General view, (202)	AR
009	24/05/2019	E	Trench 2, General view, (202)	AR
010	24/05/2019	SE	Trench 2, General view, (202)	AR
011	24/05/2019	SW	Trench 2, General view, (202)	AR
012	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF101.01	AR
013	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF101.02	AR
014	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF101.03	AR
015	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF101.04	AR
016	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF101.05	AR
017	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF101.06	AR
018	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, Assemblage 101	AR
019	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, Assemblage 101	AR
020	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.01	AR
021	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.02	AR
022	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.03	AR
023	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.04	AR
024	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.05	AR
025	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.05	AR
026	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF201.06	AR
027	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, Assemblage 201	AR
028	25/05/2019	-	Working Shot	AR
029	25/05/2019	-	Working Shot	AR
030	25/05/2019	-	Working Shot	AR
031	25/05/2019	N	Trench 1, General view, yellow clay surface (104)	PK
032	25/05/2019	N	Trench 1, Detail of yellow clay surface (104)	PK
033	25/05/2019	S	Trench 1, General view, yellow clay surface (104)	PK
034	25/05/2019	SW	Trench 1, General view, yellow clay surface (104) and daub wall [105]	PK
035	25/05/2019	SW	Trench 1, General view, yellow clay surface (104) and daub wall [105]	PK
036	25/05/2019	SW	Trench 1, Detail of daub wall [105]	PK
037	25/05/2019	W/Vert.	Trench 2, General view of test pit	AA
038	25/05/2019	W/Vert.	Trench 2, General view of test pit	AA
039	25/05/2019	SE	Trench 2, General view of test pit, with sections	AA
040	25/05/2019	SE	Trench 2, General view of test pit, with sections	AA
041	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF103.01	AR
042	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF103.02	AR

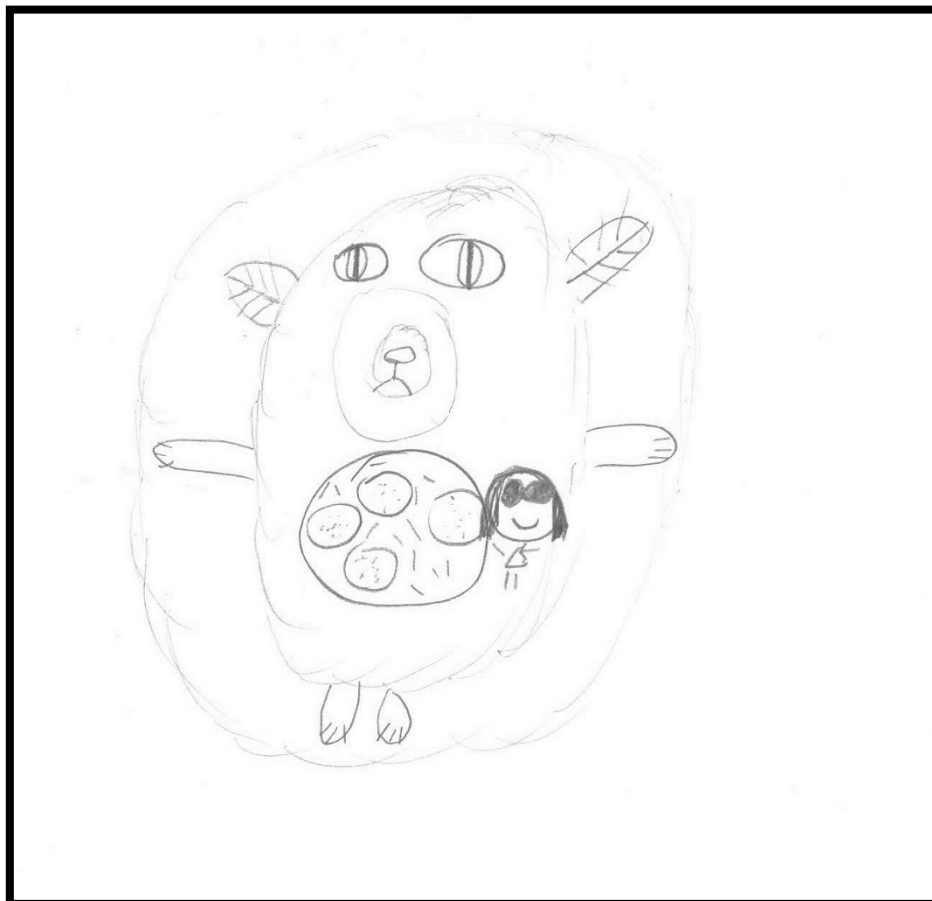
<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Direction</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
043	25/05/2019	NE	Trench 2, Cut [204] within test pit	AA
044	25/05/2019	NE	Trench 2, Cut [204] within test pit	AA
045	25/05/2019	NE	Trench 2, General view, cut [204] within test pit	AA
046	25/05/2019	N	Trench 2, Cut [204] within test pit	AA
047	25/05/2019	NE	Trench 2, General view, cut [204] within test pit	AA
048	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, Assemblage 103	AR
049	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF202.01	AR
050	25/05/2019	N	Trench 1, General view, (104) removed, showing pebbles (107) and wall [105]	PK
051	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, (104) removed, detail of wall [105]	PK
052	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, Detail of (104) half-sectioned with pebbles (107) underneath	PK
053	25/05/2019	S	Trench 1, General view of south end with (104) half-sectioned	PK
054	25/05/2019	N	Trench 1, South of wall [105], with CBM	PK
055	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, West facing section of wall [105]	PK
056	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, General view (104), post-ex	PK
057	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF202.02	AR
058	25/05/2019	N	Trench 1, General view, post-ex	PK
059	25/05/2019	S	Trench 1, General view, post-ex	PK
060	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, Composite view of west facing section, south to north	PK
061	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, Composite view of west facing section, south to north	PK
062	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, Composite view of west facing section, south to north	PK
063	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, Composite view of west facing section, south to north	PK
064	25/05/2019	E	Trench 1, Composite view of west facing section, south to north	PK
065	25/05/2019	W	Trench 2, General view, post-ex	AA
066	25/05/2019	N	Trench 2, Detail of test pit, post-ex	AA
067	25/05/2019	N	Trench 2, Detail of test pit, post-ex	AA
068	25/05/2019	N	Trench 2, Detail of test pit, post-ex	AA
069	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, Assemblage 202	AR
070	25/05/2019	-	Field Find Photos, SF102.01	AR
071	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 101	AR
072	-	-	Finds Photography, SF101.01	AR
073	-	-	Finds Photography, SF101.06	AR
074	-	-	Finds Photography, SF101.05	AR
075	-	-	Finds Photography, SF101.03	AR
076	-	-	Finds Photography, SF101.01	AR
077	-	-	Finds Photography, SF101.02	AR
078	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 102	AR
079	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.04	AR
080	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.10	AR
081	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.03	AR
082	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.03	AR
083	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.11	AR
084	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.11	AR
085	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.05	AR
086	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.02	AR
087	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.01	AR

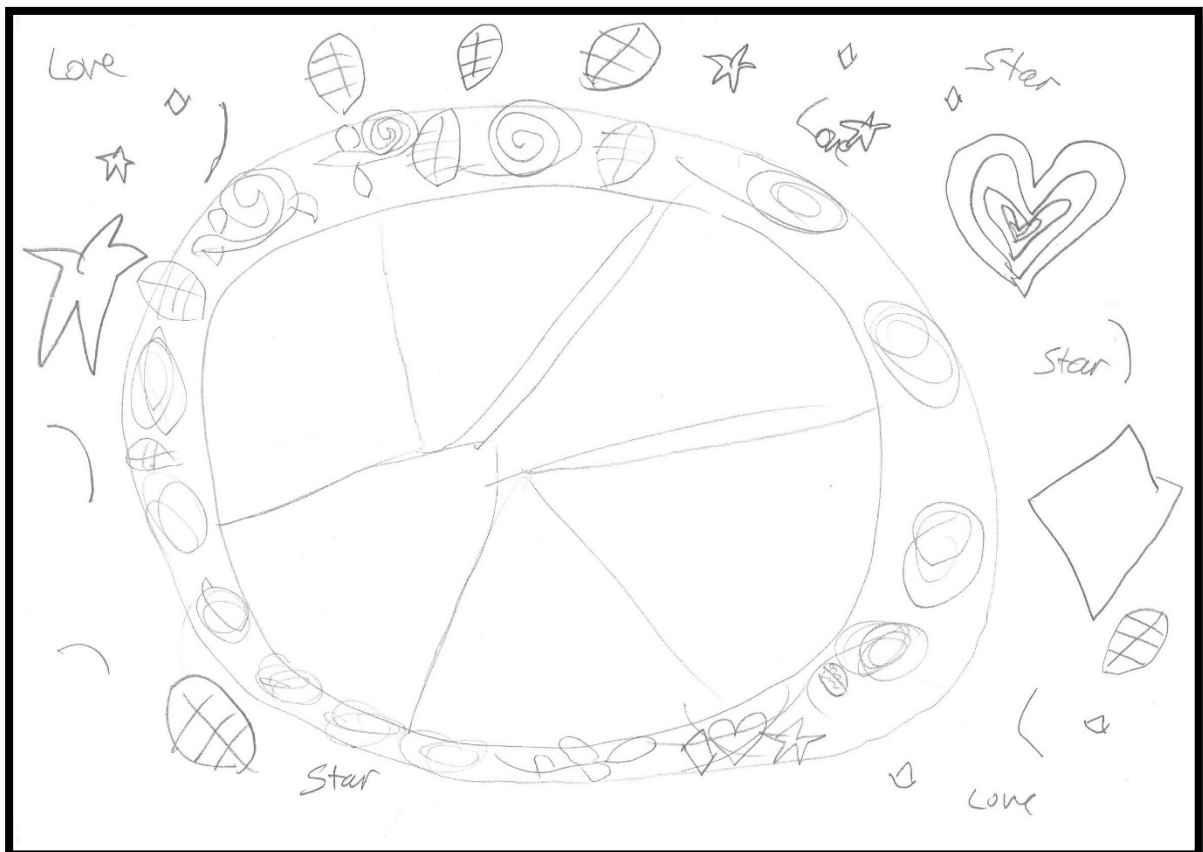
<i>Image No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Direction</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Initials</i>
088	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.12	AR
089	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.12	AR
090	-	-	Finds Photography, SF102.12	AR
091	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 103	AR
092	-	-	Finds Photography, SF103.02	AR
093	-	-	Finds Photography, SF103.01	AR
094	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 104	AR
095	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 105	AR
096	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.03	AR
097	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.04	AR
098	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.09	AR
099	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.07	AR
100	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.07	AR
101	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.02	AR
102	-	-	Finds Photography, SF105.10	AR
103	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 106	AR
104	-	-	Finds Photography, SF106.04	AR
105	-	-	Finds Photography, SF106.02	AR
106	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 201	AR
107	-	-	Finds Photography, SF201.02	AR
108	-	-	Finds Photography, SF201.04	AR
109	-	-	Finds Photography, SF201.06	AR
110	-	-	Finds Photography, SF201.03	AR
111	-	-	Finds Photography, SF201.01	AR
112	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 202	AR
113	-	-	Finds Photography, SF202.04	AR
114	-	-	Finds Photography, SF202.01	AR
115	-	-	Finds Photography, SF202.02	AR
116	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 203	AR
117	-	-	Finds Photography, Assemblage 204	AR
118	-	-	Finds Photography, SF204.02	AR
119	-	-	Finds Photography, SF204.01	AR
120	-	-	Finds Photography, SF204.05	AR

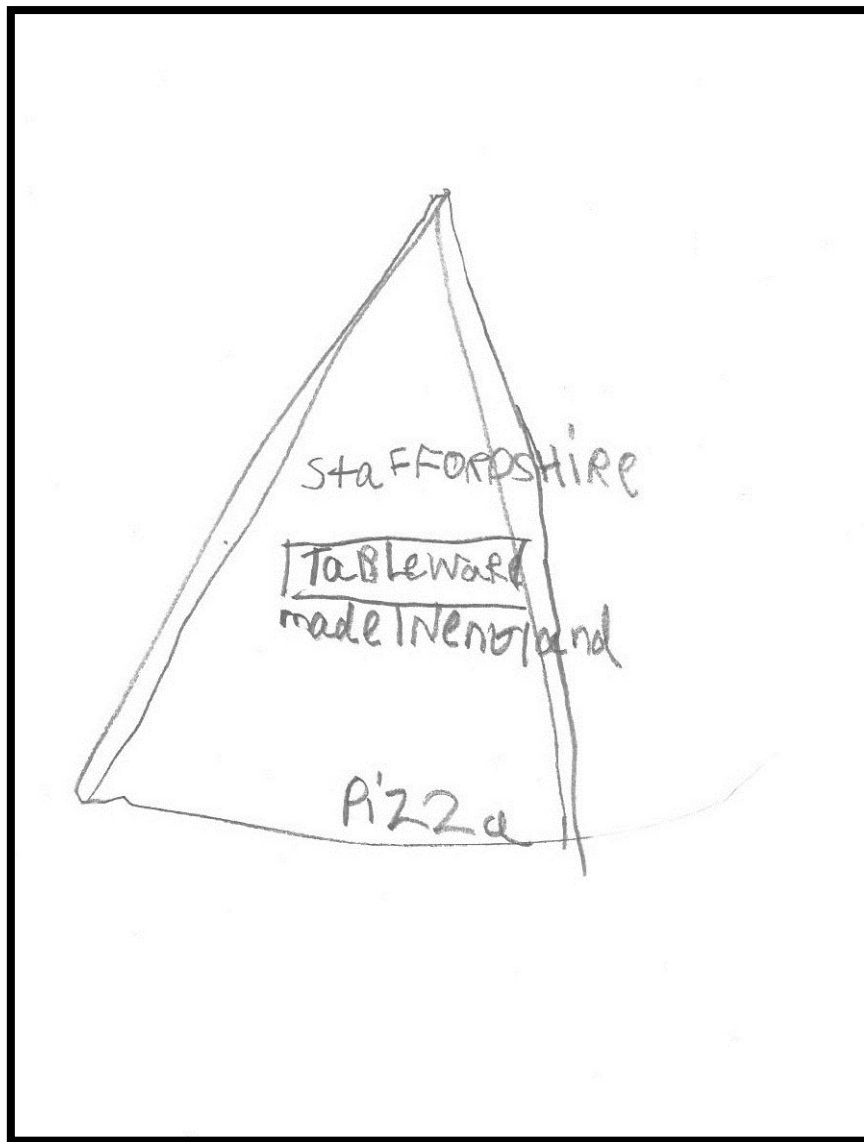
Appendix D Activity Drawings

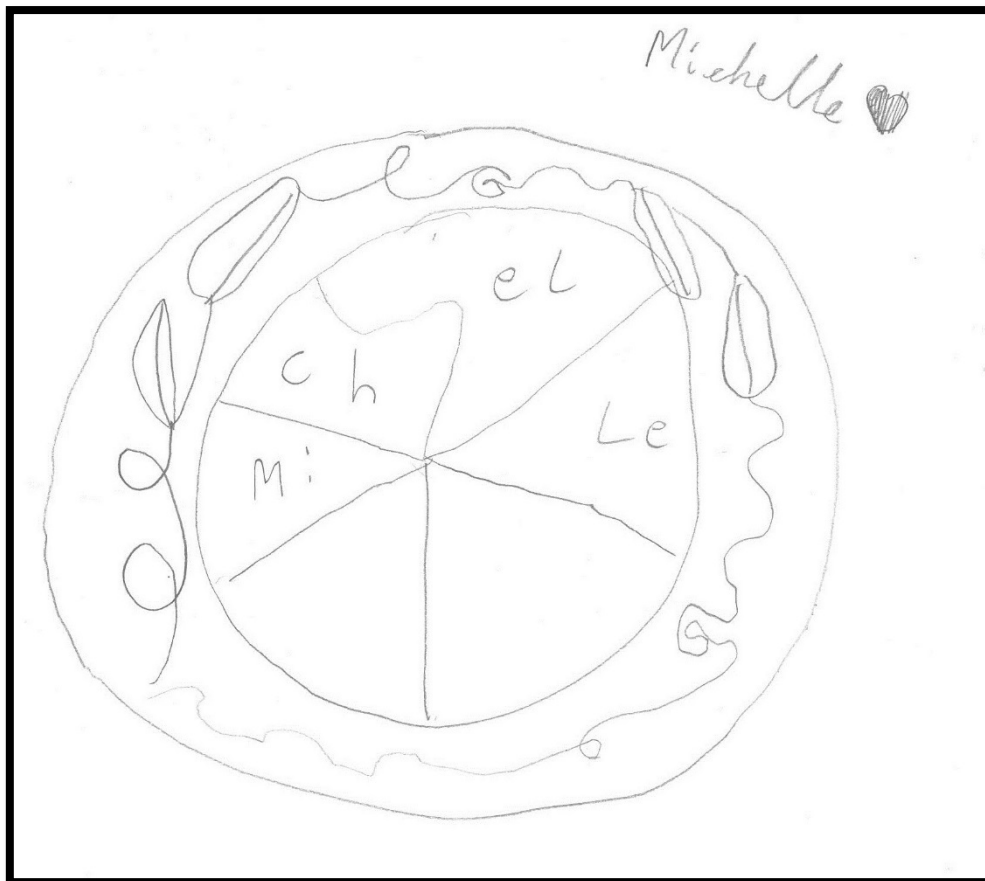














**Appendix E OASIS Form****OASIS ID: addymana1-357027****Project details**

Project name	The Canons, Mitcham - Community Archaeology Excavation
Short description of the project	Addyman Archaeology undertook a community excavation at The Canons, Mitcham as part of a 'Parks for People' Lottery Project. The site of The Canons is focused on the Grade II* Listed Canons manor house and gardens and also includes a 15th century Grade II Listed Dovecote and a former medieval fishpond. The trenches were sited to target a possible medieval building close to the dovecote previously identified in a desk-based assessment and through geophysics. Two trenches were hand excavated on the East Lawn of the house, sited based on the findings from of the geophysical survey. In Trench 1 a compact pebbled surface was revealed at approx. 0.5m below ground surface, into which was a small, shallow square cut of unknown function. Beneath the pebbled surface was a dark homogenous garden soil. Trench 2 was heavily disturbed by roots and in the north end of the trench there were no archaeological features. In the south end of the trench a possible mud plaster facing for a timber wall was found, abutted by a possible mud-pebbled floor surface. Below this was a pebbled surface similar to that found in Trench 1. The lowest deposit reached suggested a previously standing brick and daub building. The results from both the trenches correlated with the results of the geophysical survey undertaken. As part of the community excavation we had a number of school groups on site to learn about archaeology. This included a chance learn to some excavation skills, sieving for finds from the soil we had excavated and also participating in a number of archaeological activities such as finds drawing and 'piece the pot back together'. The community excavation also included supervised open digging on all three days for members of the community.
Project dates	Start: 22-05-2019 End: 24-05-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	MAD19 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	2191 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	BUILDING Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FAUNAL Uncertain
Significant Finds	LITHICS Uncertain
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NAILS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"

Development type	Extensive green field commercial development (e.g. shopping centre, business park, science park, etc.)
Prompt	Conservation/ restoration
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

### Project location

Site location	GREATER LONDON MERTON MITCHAM The Canons Mitcham
Postcode	CR4 4HD
Study area	10 Square metres
Site coordinates	NGR - TQ 27803 68469 LL - 51.400327695641 -0.162553990338 (decimal) LL - 51 24 01 N 000 09 45 W (degrees) Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Addyman Archaeology
Project brief originator	Addyman Archaeology and the client
Project design originator	Addyman Archaeology
Project director/manager	Elizabeth Jones
Project supervisor	Philip Karsgaard
Type of sponsor/funding body	County Council
Name of sponsor/funding body	Merton Council

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Merton Council
Physical Archive ID	MAD19
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Merton Council
Digital Archive ID	MAD19
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive	Merton Council

recipient

Paper Archive ID MAD19

Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)\_1

Title The Canons, Mitcham: Community Archaeological Excavation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Amabilino, A

Date 2019

Issuer or publisher Addyman Archaeology

Place of issue or publication Edinburgh

Description A4 colour report