



Historic England

 Lewisham

London Borough of Lewisham Archaeological Priority Areas Appraisal

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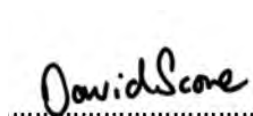
Honor Oak Park, 2009: a surviving length of Roman Road found under a Tennis Court

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London Borough of Lewisham
Archaeological Priority Area Appraisal
Final Report

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology were commissioned by Historic England, with support from the London Borough of Lewisham (the local planning authority), to carry out a review of the Archaeological Priority Areas within the borough. This appraisal is part of a long-term commitment by Historic England's Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service to review and update London's Archaeological Priority Areas.

Before this review the London Borough of Lewisham had 21 Archaeological Priority Areas. These areas were considered to be out of date as they only had outline descriptions and did not include more recent archaeological discoveries. They also did not align with the Greater London Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines which were produced in 2016.

This report sets out the results the Archaeological Priority Area review. A total of 18 new Archaeological Priority Areas have been identified within the borough. Two of these are Tier 1 APAs, twelve are Tier 2 APAs and four are Tier 3 APAs.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) has been commissioned by Historic England, with support from the London Borough of Lewisham (the local planning authority), to carry out a review of the Archaeological Priority Areas within the London Borough of Lewisham. This appraisal is part of a long-term commitment by Historic England's Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service to review and update London's Archaeological Priority Areas. This review uses evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) in order to provide a sound evidence base for local plans in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and its supporting Practice Guidance. The London Plan supports the Greater London Priority Area Review Programme, stating that 'to help identify sites of archaeological interest, boroughs are expected to develop up-to-date Archaeological Priority Areas'.
- 1.1.2 The appraisal follows the Historic England guidance for undertaking a review of Archaeological Priority Areas.¹
- 1.1.3 The appraisal is an opportunity to review the existing APAs in Lewisham and produce revised area boundaries and new APA descriptions. The proposals will be submitted to the London Borough of Lewisham and Historic England for consideration prior to adoption.
- 1.1.4 Further information about APAs, how they are defined and how they should be used can be found on the Historic England website.²

2 EXPLANATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS

- 2.1.1 An APA is defined as an area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or particular potential for new discoveries.
- 2.1.2 APAs or their equivalents exist in every London borough and were initially created in the 1970s and 1980s, either by the boroughs or by local museums.
- 2.1.3 The present review is based on evidence held within the GLHER, historic maps and a wide range of secondary sources. Guidelines³ have been produced to ensure consistency in the recognition and definition of these areas across the Greater London Area. These guidelines have been used in the preparation of this document.
- 2.1.4 In the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), archaeological interest means evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places and of the people and cultures that made them.

¹ Greater London Archaeological Priority Area Guidelines. Historic England, June 2016

² <https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/our-planning-services/greater-london-archaeology-advisory-service/greater-london-archaeological-priority-areas>

³ Ibid.

3 DEFINITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREA TIERS

3.1.1 To assist recognition and management of archaeological significance, APAs are divided into three tiers (1–3) indicating different degrees of sensitivity to groundworks. A fourth tier (4) covers all other land, reflecting the possibility of discoveries being made outside areas of known potential. The system is designed to be dynamic so that new discoveries and investigations can result in areas being moved from one tier to another, for example if remains of national importance were discovered.

3.2 Tier 1

3.2.1 Tier 1 is a defined area which is known, or strongly suspected, to contain a heritage asset of national significance (e.g. a scheduled monument or equivalent) or is otherwise of very high archaeological sensitivity. Thus Tier 1 covers heritages assets to which policies for designated heritage assets would apply and a few other sites which are particularly sensitive to small-scale disturbance. Tier 1 APAs are usually clearly focused on a specific known heritage asset and are normally relatively small. Scheduled monuments would normally be included within Tier 1.

3.3 Tier 2

3.3.1 Tier 2 comprises local areas within which the GLHER holds specific evidence indicating the presence or likely presence of heritage assets of archaeological interest. Planning decisions are expected to make a balanced judgement for non-designated heritage assets considered of less than national importance, considering the scale of harm and the significance of the asset. Tier 2 APAs will typically cover a larger area than Tier 1 APAs.

3.4 Tier 3

3.4.1 Tier 3 is a landscape-scale zone within which the GLHER holds evidence indicating the potential for heritage assets of archaeological interest. The definition of Tier 3 APAs involves using the GLHER to predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future. Tier 3 APAs will typically be defined by geological, topographical or land-use considerations in relation to known patterns of heritage asset distributions.

3.5 Tier 4

3.5.1 Tier 4 (outside an APA) is any location that does not on present evidence merit inclusion within an Archaeological Priority Area. However, Tier 4 areas are not necessarily devoid of archaeological interest and may retain some potential unless they can be shown to have been heavily disturbed in modern times. Such potential is most likely to be identified on greenfield sites, in relation to large-scale development or in association with listed buildings or other designated heritage assets.

3.6 Consultation guidelines

3.6.1 The nature or type of planning applications can be used alongside the tier level of an APA to establish whether archaeology will be a consideration in the planning process. In general, the scale of the development and the sensitivity of its location can be used

together to establish the likelihood that the development will cause significant harm to a heritage asset. The APA tier system sets out an approach for assessing the sensitivity of an area. Tiers 1-4 indicate progressively higher to lower sensitivity.

- 3.6.2 The consultation guidelines set out in the GLAAS charter⁴ link the APA tiers to specific thresholds for triggering archaeological advice and assessment. It is expected that, as a minimum, all major applications within Tier 1-3 APAs would trigger an archaeological desk-based assessment and, if necessary, a field evaluation to accompany a planning application. In more sensitive areas (i.e. Tier 1 and Tier 2 APAs) this procedure would also apply to some smaller-scale developments. In Tier 4 areas (areas which fall outside of an APA) most planning applications will not need an archaeological assessment. Exceptions to this would typically include large major developments, such as those subject to Environmental Impact Assessments, and schemes involving demolition of substantial works to historic buildings which have an archaeological interest (either above and/or below ground).

4 LEWISHAM: ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND TO THE BOROUGH

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The London Borough of Lewisham was created in 1965 when the Metropolitan Boroughs of Lewisham and Deptford were merged following the London Government Act of 1963. The Metropolitan Borough of Lewisham included the historic parishes of Lee and Lewisham, while the Metropolitan Borough of Deptford coincided with the historic parish of Deptford St Paul including Hatcham. Prior to becoming part of Greater London in 1889, Hatcham was historically part of the county of Surrey, while the rest of the area was part of the county of Kent. The borough covers a 35.15km² area and is bordered to the north and west by the Borough of Southwark, to the east by the Boroughs of Tower Hamlets and Greenwich, and to the south by the Borough of Bromley.

4.1.2 Two National Character Areas (NCA) intersect within the London Borough of Lewisham. The north-eastern tip of the borough is situated within NCA 81 *Greater Thames Estuary*. This NCA is predominantly made up of shallow creeks, drowned estuaries, low-lying islands, mudflats and broad tracts of tidal salt marsh and reclaimed grazing marsh. It forms the eastern edge of the London Basin and encompasses the coastlines of south Essex and north Kent, along with a narrow strip of land following the path of the Thames into east London.⁵ The rest of the borough is situated within NCA 112 *Inner London*. This NCA is predominantly urban and situated on a broad floodplain at the centre of the Thames Basin.⁶

⁴ Historic England, 2019 A Charter for the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS); <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/charter-for-greater-london-archaeological-advisory-service/charter-for-glaas/>

⁵ Natural England, 2013 NCA Profile: 81 Greater Thames Estuary (NE473)

⁶ Natural England, 2013 NCA Profile: 112 Inner London (NE476)

- 4.1.3 The bedrock geology of the borough is composed of London Clay, overlain by areas of pebble beds in the south. In the north, the borough is underlain by chalk with wide bands of Thanet Formation sand and by Lambeth Group clay silt and sand at the junction of the clay and chalks⁷.
- 4.1.4 The superficial geology within the borough correlates with the two major rivers in the area, the River Thames and the River Ravensbourne. To the north of the New Cross Road, the borough is situated in the floodplain of the Thames. This area is predominantly flat and low lying, situated at between 3m and 10m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The present floodplain was formed by river down-cut from an earlier flood plain (represented by the Kempton Park Gravels) which resulted from low sea levels and the large influx of meltwater into river channels that occurred after the Last Glacial Maximum of the Devensian Glacial Period (c 18000 BP).⁸ These high-energy fluvial conditions led to the depositions of a coarse-grained sediment across the valley floor, known as the Shepperton Gravels. These deposits are overlain by deep layers of alluvium, in some areas up to 12m thick, which have accumulated as a result of the repeated seasonal inundation of the Thames.⁹ The floodplain is interspersed with areas of higher ground formed from the Kempton Park Gravels. These areas appear to be similar to the eyots (large sand and gravel islands) that are recorded in Southwark.
- 4.1.5 To the south of the Thames floodplain the land within the borough rises to form the Kempton Park Terrace. Superficial deposits of the Langley Silt Complex are mapped in the north-western part of the borough overlying this terrace. The Langley Silt Complex (alternatively known as brick earth) is thought to have been deposited by a mixture of aeolian and colluvial processes during the late Devensian period (13,000-10,000 BP).¹⁰ The Shepperton Gravels, Kempton Park Member Gravels and the lower levels of the Langley Silts are considered to have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains.¹¹
- 4.1.6 The land level to the south of New Cross Road continues to rise, reaching high points of 50m aOD at Telegraph Hill, 51m aOD at Hilly Fields, 66m aOD at Downham Fields and 112m aOD at Sydenham Hill. The River Ravensbourne passes through the borough on a roughly south-west to north-east alignment. The river rises to the south of the borough at Caesar's well in Keston and flows in a northerly direction, entering the borough near Beckenham Place Park. From here it takes a sinuous course north through the borough, passing through the settlements of Southend, Catford, Lewisham and Deptford before finally joining with the River Thames. Deposits of Kempton Park Member sand and gravel and alluvium have been recorded in places

⁷ BGS, *Geology of Britain Viewer*, https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?_ga=2.153416635.261290771.1679045918-886810880.1679045918

⁸ Francis, A, 2013 Deptford Royal Dockyard, Convoys Wharf Prince Street London SE8, Post-excavation assessment report and updated project design, MOLA

⁹ Francis, A, 2017 *The Deptford Royal Dockyard and Manor of Sayes Court, London Excavations 2000-12*, Museum of London Archaeology Monograph 71, MOLA

¹⁰ Gibbard, P L, 1994 *The Pleistocene history of the lower Thames Valley*; Racham, J, Siddell, J, 2000 London's Landscapes: The Changing Environment, in *The Archaeology of Greater London: an assessment of archaeological evidence for human presence in the area now covered by Greater London*, MOLA

¹¹ Lewis, J, 2000 The Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Periods, in *The Archaeology of Greater London*, MOLA

along the river. The Kempton Park Member sand and gravels have the potential to contain Palaeolithic remains.¹²

4.1.7 The River Pool and the Quaggy River are both tributaries of the River Ravensbourne. The River Quaggy rises from two sources near Princess Royal University Hospital in the London Borough of Bromley and passes through the boroughs of Greenwich and Lewisham before joining the River Ravensbourne near Lewisham Station. The River Pool rises in Spring Park in Bromley, where it is known as the River Beck, and flows north along the Croydon-Bromley boundary. The river enters Lewisham near Lower Sydenham and joins the Ravensbourne at Catford. Deposits of Kempton Park Member sand and gravel and alluvium have been recorded in places along the rivers. The Kempton Park Member sand and gravels have the potential to contain Palaeolithic remains.¹³

4.1.8 The Borough of Lewisham has been subject to a large amount of archaeological investigation in recent history. The Greater London Historic Environment Record records 610 archaeological events within the borough. The majority of this work has been development-led and is located in the northern part of the borough, along the Ravensbourne Valley and within the borough's historic settlements. Away from these areas the borough is covered by large-scale housing estates which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries. These areas have been subject to much less archaeological investigation.

4.2 Prehistoric (950,000–11,600 BC)

4.2.1 The Palaeolithic period in Britain ranges in date from 950,000–11,600 BC.¹⁴ This period is characterised in the archaeological record principally by the presence of worked stone tools. The period is usually divided into the Lower, Middle and Upper Palaeolithic. The earliest subdivision, the Lower Palaeolithic, began between 950,000 and 850,000 years ago and continued until c 300,000 years ago. This period is associated with *Homo Heidelbergensis* and marks the first appearance of stone tools within the archaeological record.¹⁵ During the Middle Palaeolithic (c 250,000–40,000 BC) flint tools known as the Mousterian Industry appear. These remains have been associated with Neanderthal (*Homo Neanderthalensis*) populations. The Upper Palaeolithic (40,000–11,600 BC) is characterised by the development of projectile points made from bone and the development of fine flint blade tools. Throughout the Palaeolithic period populations were nomadic and practiced a hunter-gatherer economy.

4.2.2 Palaeolithic settlement activity and *in situ* remains are very rare and none have been recorded within Lewisham. Palaeolithic flint tools have been found within the borough, deposited in a secondary context by later soil movement. These finds have all been recorded from the north of the borough, close to Blackheath, Deptford and near Wickham Road, Brockley. The Kempton Park Gravel terraces, Shepperton

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Palaeolithic date ranges have been drawn from Historic England 2023, *Curating the Palaeolithic*, Historic England, Swindon

¹⁵ Historic England, 2023, *Curating the Palaeolithic*, Historic England, Swindon, 77

Gravels, and lower layers of the Langley Silts, located in the northern part of the borough and long the River Ravensbourne, are considered to have the potential to contain further Palaeolithic remains. Elsewhere within the Greater London area, rare relatively undisturbed Palaeolithic sites have been preserved within Langley Silt (brick earth) deposits.

- 4.2.3 The Mesolithic period in Britain ranges in date between 10,000 and 4000 BC¹⁶ and was characterised by populations with a mobile hunter-gatherer lifestyle. Mesolithic remains within Lewisham, as with their Palaeolithic predecessors, are largely characterised by flint tools and are often found in secondary contexts. The majority of the Mesolithic activity in the borough has been found adjacent to the River Ravensbourne and its tributaries. A particular concentration of Mesolithic remains has been recorded to the south of Lee, adjacent to the Quaggy River. To date only one Mesolithic flint has been recorded away from the river valleys and this was a single flint recovered from Trilby Road, Forest Hill. The distribution of Mesolithic sites in Lewisham and the surrounding boroughs suggests that river valleys and their floodplains were particularly favoured by early Mesolithic hunter-gatherers for settlement and resource procurement. The gravel islands within the alluvial floodplains of the Thames and the Ravensbourne have a particular potential to contain temporary camps and other Mesolithic activity. Mesolithic activity has also been recorded elsewhere on the Thames gravels and Langley Silt (brick earth) deposits suggesting that these areas were also exploited during this period.
- 4.2.4 The Neolithic period (4000–2400 BC¹⁷) is characterised by the practice of farming and extensive monumental constructions. Neolithic activity within the borough is limited and where present mostly comprises stone tools found along the Thames Foreshore in the north-east of the borough and along the banks of the River Ravensbourne. The only archaeological features dating from this period were a ditch and pit recorded at Plassy Road in Catford.
- 4.2.5 The Bronze Age (2400–700 BC¹⁸) continues from the Neolithic and is characterised by the increasing use of bronze. The adoption of metalworking was accompanied by a change in pottery styles and methods of production. Bronze Age activity within Lewisham has been recorded in the north of the borough, on the Thames floodplain at New Cross Gate and Sillwood Street and along the banks of the River Ravensbourne. The majority of the records of this date recorded by the GLHER relate to findspots. The only other Bronze Age remains recorded within the borough are a late Bronze Age cremation burial at Deals Gateway and a possible barrow cemetery recorded by antiquarian sources at Blackheath.
- 4.2.6 The Iron Age (800 BC–AD 43¹⁹) is characterised by the introduction of iron into the archaeological record. During this period large monuments such as hillforts and oppida were constructed. The only confirmed Iron Age remains to be recorded within the borough comprise an Iron Age pit, containing a flint blade and a fragment of saddle

¹⁶ Historic England Period List, retrieved from <http://heritage-standards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Periods-List-HE-FISH-WP.pdf>.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

quern, which was discovered during excavations at the Dover Castle Pub in Deptford. The borough may have been wooded during prehistory which could have made the area less attractive to prehistoric populations.

- 4.2.7 In addition to the remains discussed above, the GLHER records several findspots, palaeochannels, pits and buried land surfaces within the borough which have been allocated a general prehistoric date. These remains appear to be concentrated on the Thames floodplain in the north of the borough and alongside the River Ravensbourne.

4.3 Roman (AD 43–410)

- 4.3.1 The Roman period traditionally begins with the invasion of Britain in AD 43 and ends with the emperor Honorius directing the inhabitants of Britain to see to their own defence in 410 AD.²⁰ London was the capital of Roman Britain and was a central component of its economic infrastructure, facilitated by the extensive road network which spread out from it. The main settlement of Roman London was built on two low hills separated by the valley of the Walbrook, to the north of the River Thames. A second smaller settlement was located on the south bank of the river in Southwark. This settlement was situated on several gravel islands and gradually expanded to become an important centre and an integral part of Roman London.²¹
- 4.3.2 The London to Lewes Roman road passes on a broadly north to south alignment through the borough, linking the capital with the iron-producing and corn-growing areas along the south coast. Several roadside settlements have been recorded along the length of the road including a possible occupation site at the Fir Hill Road Sports Ground. Funerary activity, in the form of cremation burials, has also been recorded alongside the road at Telegraph Hill Park and Broad Mead.
- 4.3.3 The proposed alignment of a second Roman road, known as Watling Street, follows a west to east alignment through the borough, connecting London with Dover and the south-east. The exact route of the road is unconfirmed, but it probably followed the route of the New Cross Road, before crossing the Thames at Deptford and continuing east along the northern edge of Blackheath. Roman settlement activity has been recorded at Deptford and Roman cremation burials have been recorded in proximity to the putative road at Brookhill Road and Blackheath. A possible inhumation burial dating from the Roman period was also discovered at Vanguard Street, Deptford, and a Roman sarcophagus was found near to Deptford Broadway. The sarcophagus is now situated by the entrance to St Paul's Church. In addition, part of a Roman inhumation burial was recovered from the fill of a small enclosure ditch at the former Deptford Dockyard during archaeological excavation in 2011. The enclosure ditch was situated on the gravel terraces adjacent to the Thames, on an area of higher ground that had also produced Iron Age pottery²².

²⁰ Historic England Period List, retrieved from <http://heritage-standards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Periods-List-HE-FISH-WP.pdf>.

²¹ Perring, D, Bingham T, 2000 Londinium and its Hinterland: The Roman Period in *The Archaeology of Greater London: an assessment of archaeological evidence for human presence in the area now covered by Greater London*, MOLA

²² Francis, A, 2013, MoLA, Convoys Wharf, Prince Street, London, SE8, London Borough of Lewisham, post-excavation assessment report and updated project design.

4.3.4 Settlement within the borough increased during the Roman period, particularly along the valley of the River Ravensbourne, which offered easily accessible water and fertile soils.²³ Away from the Ravensbourne, settlement activity appears to have focused along the roads. Roman settlement remains have been recorded in Deptford, where a 'Janus'-like two-headed sculpture and Roman gateway were found in the 17th century and the remains of a brickwork and tessellated floor were discovered in the late 19th century. More recent archaeological investigations in Deptford have recovered pits and ditches containing Roman pottery.²⁴ Further settlement activity in the borough has been recorded in the vicinity of the Firhill Road Sports Ground, where excavations uncovered several Roman pits and ditches alongside a large amount of ceramic building material, interpreted as the remains of a Roman building²⁵ and away from the Roman roads an isolated Roman bathhouse was found at Jevington Way. Away from the roads and river valleys, less settlement activity is recorded, and Roman activity is characterised by isolated coins or fragments of pottery. This perhaps suggests that these areas were utilised for woodland or grazing rather than as settled agricultural land during the Roman period.

4.4 Early medieval (AD 410–1066)

4.4.1 The early medieval period covers the six centuries between the end of the Roman period and the Norman Conquest (1066). In the south of England this period is also referred to as the Saxon period. Archaeological evidence for early medieval activity within the borough is rare and mostly comprises stray finds or cemetery sites, with very little evidence for settlement activity. Most of the evidence for early medieval occupation within the borough is from documentary sources, and archaeological evidence from this period is rare. Roman Watling Street is believed to have continued in use into this period, becoming part of a longer route known as *Wæcelinga Stræt*.

4.4.2 Documentary sources record an early medieval settlement at Deptford, which was probably focused on Deptford Broadway, in the early to middle Saxon period, refocusing around St Nicholas's Church in the late Saxon period. Rescue excavations carried at Deptford Broadway in 1992 uncovered two burials. One of the burials, which contained a female associated with burial goods including beads, a pendant and a ring, was dated to the 6th century while the second burial, which had been interred in a nailed coffin, could have been either Roman or Saxon in date.²⁶

4.4.3 Elsewhere within the borough Saxon material is represented by pottery and stray finds. Thirty-one sherds of Saxon pottery were recorded at the Firhill Road Sports Ground, suggesting that the Roman settlement recorded here may have continued in use into the Saxon period, and a Bronze enamelled shield shaped medallion was discovered in Brockley.

²³ Crozier, P, and Philp, B, 1985 *The Archaeology of the Bromley Area*, Kent Archaeological Unit

²⁴ Philp, B, and Chenery, M, 1993 An outline report on rescue excavations in 1989 and 1992 at The Broadway, South East London Archaeological Unit

²⁵ Wragg, E, 2004 Assessment of an archaeological excavation at Firhill Road Sports Ground, London Borough of Lewisham, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

²⁶ Philp, B, and Chenery, M, 1993 An outline report on rescue excavations in 1989 and 1992 at The Broadway, South East London Archaeological Unit

4.5 Late medieval (1066–1540)

- 4.5.1 The beginning of the late medieval period is generally dated to 1066, following the Norman Conquest. The settlements of Lewisham, Deptford and Southend had already been established by this time and continued in use. By the Domesday survey in 1086 additional settlements had been documented in the borough, at Lee and Hatcham. During the 12th and 13th centuries other settlements developed at Brockley, Sydenham and Catford.
- 4.5.2 Archaeological evidence for later medieval activity within these settlements is rare, and where present it is concentrated around the medieval churchyards and comprises burials or the remains of churches. In Deptford archaeological evidence of the medieval settlement comprises walls, ovens, pits and pottery. The settlement has been a historic crossing point of the Thames since the Roman period and a wooden bridge is known to have existed here from 1345-6, replaced by a stone bridge in 1570. Rare preserved medieval timber stakes have also recovered from Deptford Creek, probably the remains of a wattle revetment on the east side of the river.
- 4.5.3 The Royal Dockyard was founded at Deptford in 1513 by Henry VIII, who formalised the *ad hoc* arrangements of his father, Henry VII, who had rented facilities here. The royal dockyard was centred around a storehouse. Archaeological remains of the Tudor storehouse are known to survive and are protected as a scheduled monument.
- 4.5.4 Elsewhere in the borough, medieval buildings thought to be the remains of Brockley Priory, a Premonstratensian abbey founded in the 12th century, were discovered in Brockley, and pottery sherds dating from the 12th and 14th centuries onwards have been recovered from Lee and Lewisham respectively. Archaeological remains of an undated (but probably medieval) moated site have also been recorded in Lee, although the site of the manor house has subsequently been developed.
- 4.5.5 The River Ravensbourne (and its tributaries) would have been used to power industry from the late Saxon period and 11 mills are recorded in association with the manor of Lewisham by the Domesday survey. The landscape surrounding the medieval villages is likely to have been made up of a combination of agricultural land, commons and wastes, with larger areas of woodland located on areas of higher ground. Elements of the medieval landscape survive as ancient woodland in Beckenham Place Park, while Blackheath preserves an area of former manorial waste. Away from the main villages and hamlets, settlement was probably made up of small farmsteads. Numerous manor houses would also have been built across the borough in this period, although in many cases the medieval buildings were replaced with later post-medieval manors, often in different locations. Moated manor sites are known to have been present at Hatcham (later referred to as New Cross) and Lee, and a medieval castle and later manor are documented in the environs of Sayes Court in Deptford. The medieval Sayes Court was replaced with a new building in 1568 and was partially demolished and rebuilt as a workhouse in 1729.

4.6 Post-medieval (1540–1900) and modern (1900 to present day)

- 4.6.1 The rural landscape of Lewisham remained relatively unchanged into the post-medieval period. Rocque's 1746 *Map of London and the Adjacent Country 10 Miles*

Round and the 1798-9 Ordnance Survey drawings show the composition of Lewisham at the end of the 18th century. At this time the borough was still rural and interspersed by numerous villages, hamlets, country houses and farms. The enclosure of the borough's open spaces and commons began in the 18th century and by the end of the 18th century only Blackheath and Sydenham Common remained open.

- 4.6.2 The Royal Dockyard at Deptford expanded significantly during this period. John Evelyn's 1623 map shows the extent of the dockyard at the beginning of the 17th century; at this time it comprised the Great Dock, the earlier storehouse known as Longe Storehouse, an adjacent house known as the Thrers House, and the Storekeeper's house and garden. The basin was probably located to the north, outside the area covered by the map. The dockyard continued to grow during the late 17th century and by 1698 a series of mast ponds, an anchor wharf and new storehouses had been built to the north-west of the basin and the storage facilities had been rationalised. Expansion of the dockyard continued throughout the 17th and 18th centuries but by the 19th century the dockyard had begun to decline. In 1821, by order of the Admiralty, the dockyard was to be maintained only as a depot for small maintenance work. Between 1830 and 1844 it was used for ship breaking and from 1844 the dockyard was reused to build small warships. The dockyard was finally closed in 1869 and in its final form it had five principal slips, the Great Dock, the basin, a main storehouse and ancillary structures.²⁷
- 4.6.3 The arrival of the railway in the mid-19th century resulted in the rapid development of the borough as a residential suburb of London. By the late 19th century, the majority of the borough was covered by large housing estates. Several public parks, including Hilly Fields, Telegraph Hill Park, Montsfield Park, Horniman Gardens, Wells Park and Beckenham Place Park, were opened as public parks in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to provide green space and recreation land in the otherwise well-developed borough.
- 4.6.4 The borough sustained significant damage during the Second World War when it was hit by 115 bombs. The extensive bombing of the area led to the destruction of 1129 houses, while a further 6858 were either rendered uninhabitable or seriously damaged, prompting the redevelopment of large parts of the borough. The parks and gardens of the borough were also utilised as part of the war effort, some housing barrage balloons, prisoner-of-war camps and anti-aircraft batteries, while others were converted to allotments.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREA IN LEWISHAM

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Prior to this review the borough had 21 APAs. Many of these had only outline descriptions and were considered to be out of date as they did not align with the

²⁷ Francis, A, 2013 Deptford Royal Dockyard, Convoys Wharf Prince Street London SE8: post-excavation assessment report and updated project design, MOLA

Archaeological Priority Area guidelines and did not include more recent archaeological discoveries.

- 5.1.2 The scoping exercise carried out by GLAAS in 2022²⁸ identified a further two areas which might merit inclusion as an APA. The scoping report confirmed that all the old APAs should be retained but noted that some of the APA boundaries would need to be revised and some APAs would need to be merged.
- 5.1.3 Following the review, a total of 18 new Archaeological Priority Areas were identified within the London Borough of Lewisham. Two of these are Tier 1 APAs, twelve are Tier 2 APAs and four are Tier 4 APAs.

Tier 1

APA	Name	Area (ha)
1.1	Deptford Dockyards and Sayes Court	32.83
1.2	Roman Bathhouse, Grove Park	0.32
Total		33.15

Tier 2

APA	Name	Area (ha)
2.1	Lewes to London Roman Road	112.87
2.2	Watling Street and New Cross	39.87
2.3	Lewisham Riverside Settlements	172.94
2.4	Lee and The Manor House	52.23
2.5	Sydenham	46.29
2.6	Southend	22.04
2.7	Brockley Priory	1.81
2.8	Blackheath	96.32
2.9	Lewisham burial grounds	19.82
2.10	Telegraph Hill Park	7.40
2.11	Hatcham Park Medieval Moated site	0.77
2.12	Horniman Gardens	7.07
Total		579.43

Tier 3

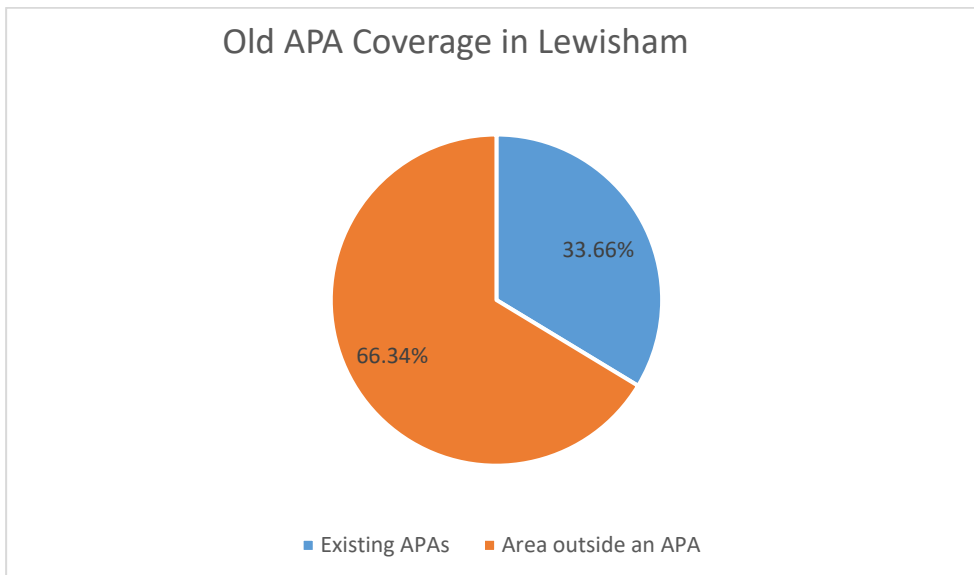
APA	Name	Area (ha)
3.1	Thames Gravel Terraces and alluvial floodplain	281.71
3.2	Beckenham Place Park	118.22
3.3	Lewisham Historic Commons and Parkland	81.54
3.4	Ravensbourne Alluvial Deposits	74.32
Total		555.78

Total area of all Archaeological Priority Areas in Lewisham (ha) 1168.36

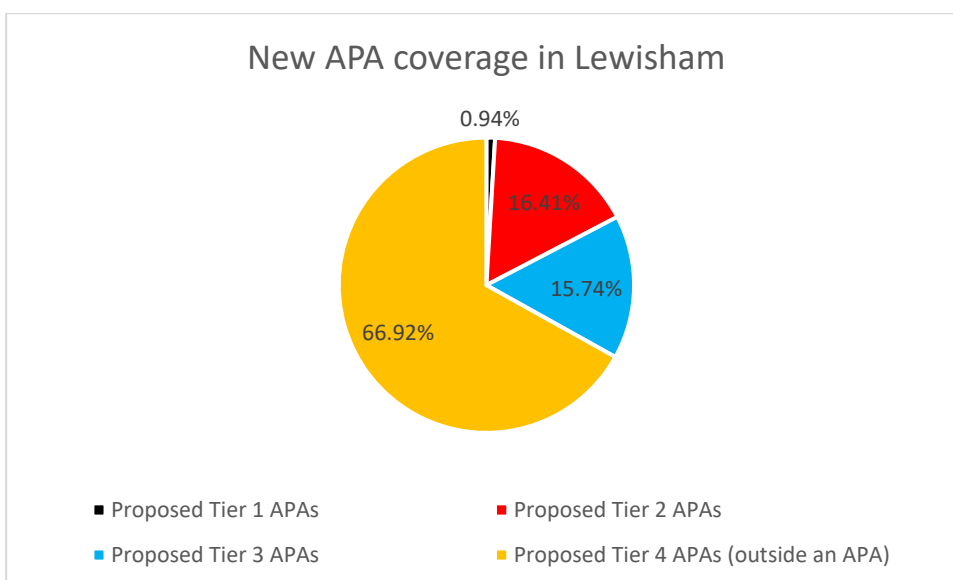
²⁸ Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service, e 2022 Lewisham Archaeological Priority Areas Scoping Report

5.2 APA Coverage in Lewisham

5.2.1 The charts below show the percentage APA coverage within Lewisham before and after the review. The old APAs include a 1188.44 ha area and cover 33.66% of the borough.



5.2.2 The new APAs include a 1168.36 ha area and cover 33.08% of the borough. In accordance with the APA guidelines the new APAs have been allocated a Tier rating: 0.94% of the borough falls within a Tier 1 APA, 16.41% within a Tier 2 APA and 15.74% within a Tier 3 APA. The remainder of the borough has been classified as Tier 4, as it falls outside the Archaeological Priority Area.



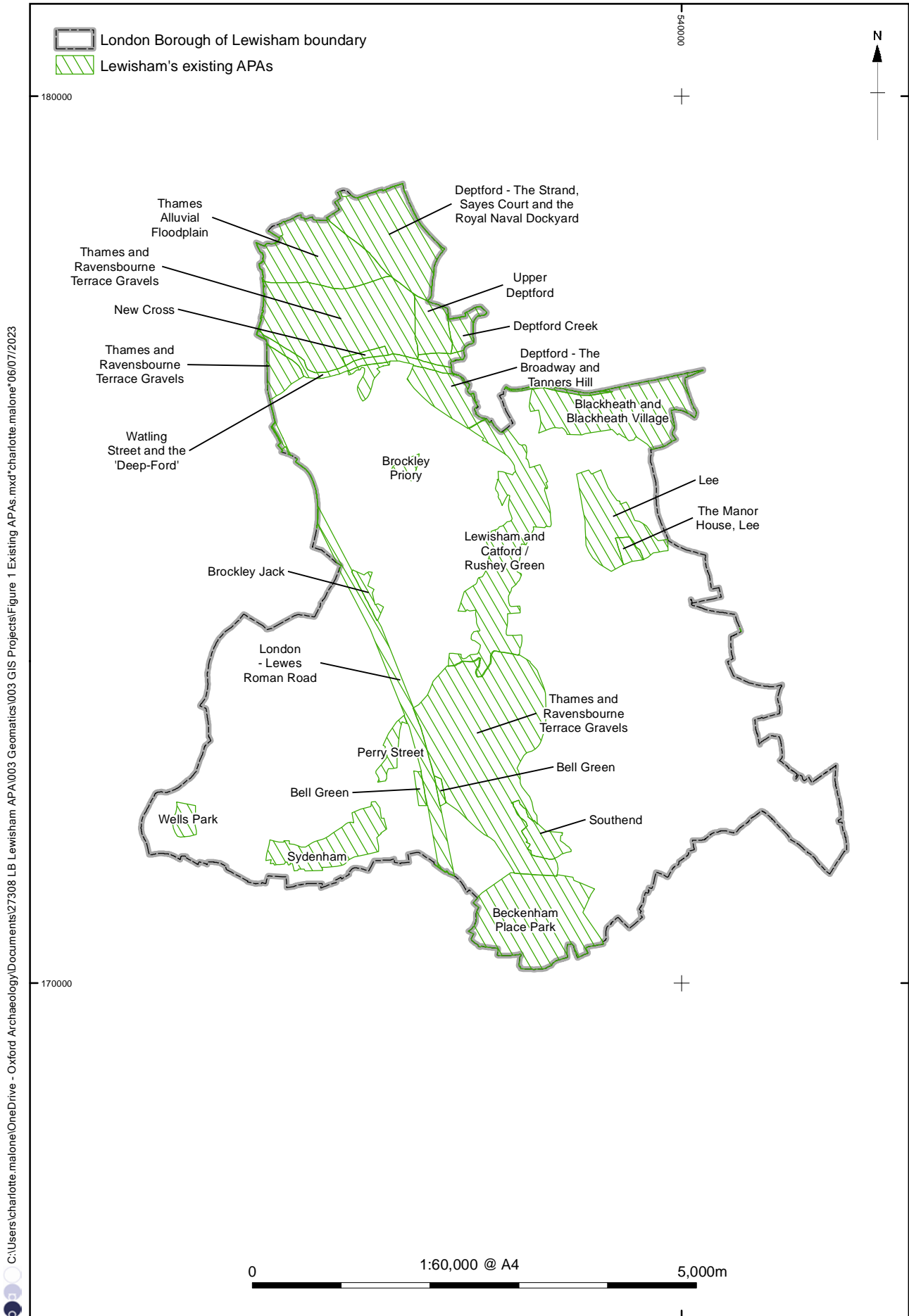


Figure 1: Lewisham's Old APAs

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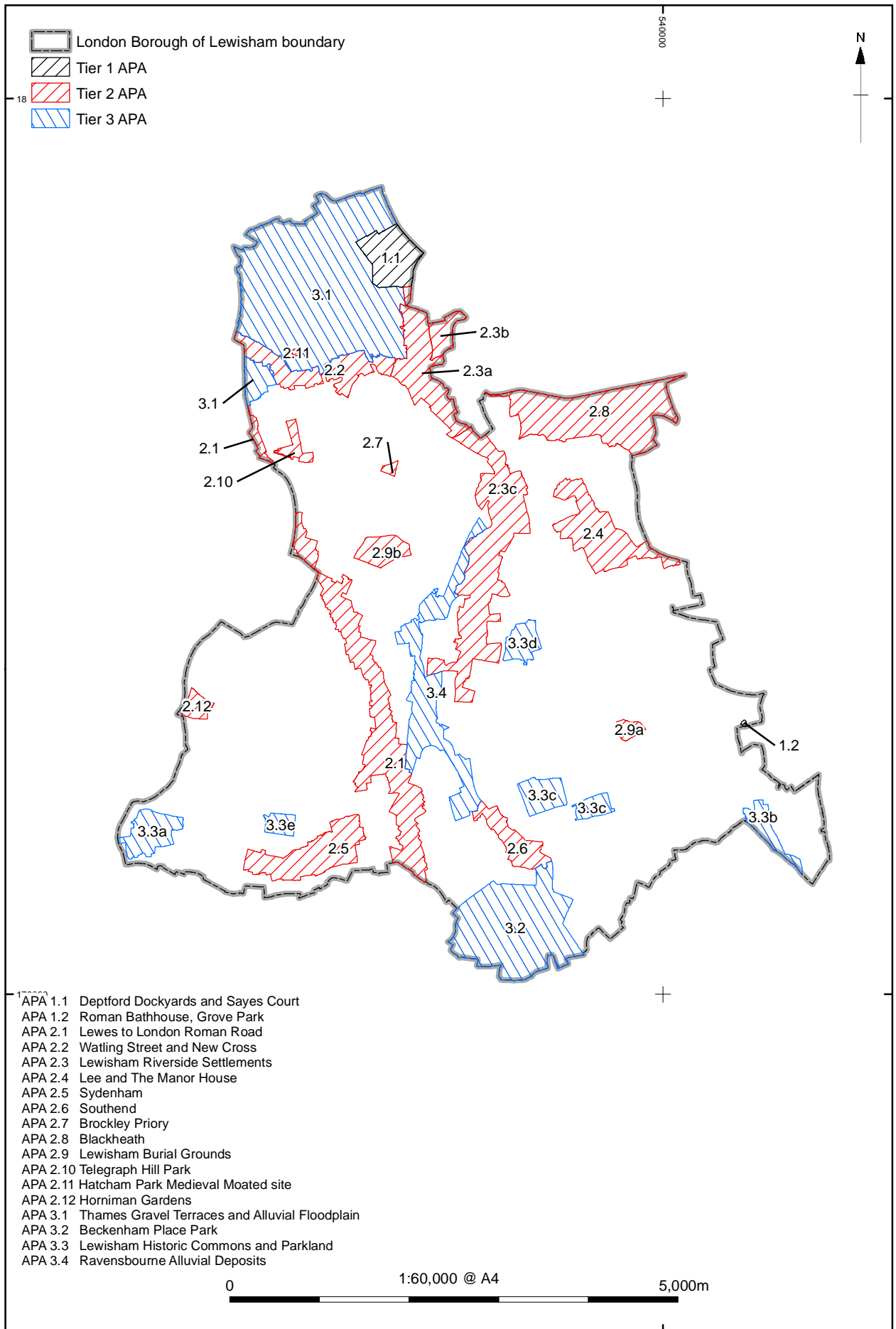
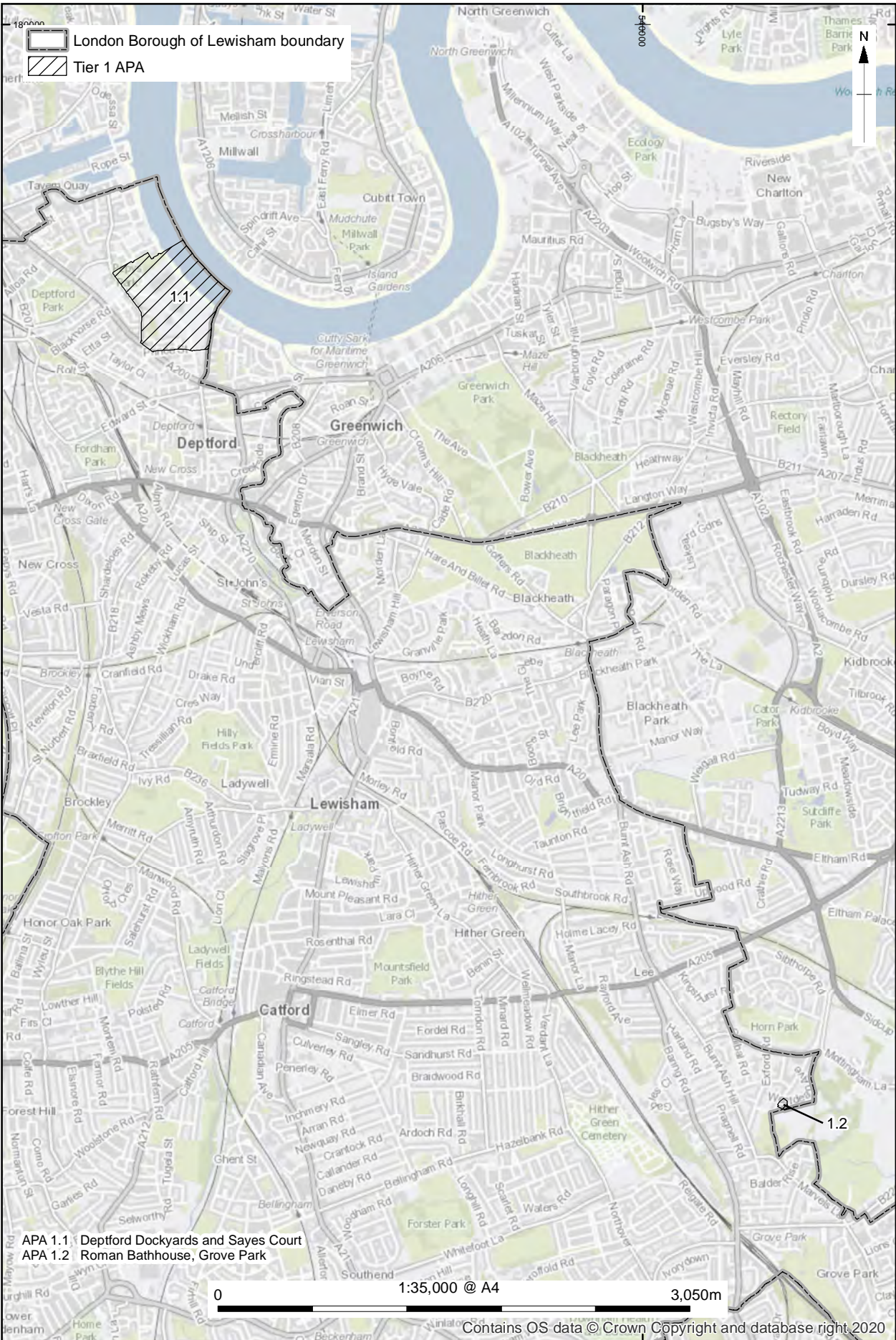


Figure 2: New APAs in Lewisham

6 NEW AREA DESCRIPTIONS FOR TIER 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS



APA 1.1 Deptford Dockyards and Sayes Court
 APA 1.2 Roman Bathhouse, Grove Park

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Lewisham New Tier 1 APAs

6.1 Lewisham APA 1.1 Deptford Dockyards and Sayes Court

Summary and Definition

- 6.1.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers Deptford Dockyard and the site of Sayes Court. Deptford Dockyard is one of the earliest royal dockyards and was founded in 1513. The original dockyard would have been simple in form but soon developed to contain a series of wet and dry docks and storehouses. The APA contains nationally important archaeological remains associated with storehouses, docks, the Basin, mast ponds, slips, wharfs and the river wall, together with their associated buildings and working surfaces. The Dockyard has significant historic interest having docked well known historical vessels such as the *Golden Hind* which was used by Francis Drake to circumnavigate the globe in 1577-80, Captain Cook's ships the *HMS Endeavour*, *HMS Adventure* and *HMS Discovery* and ships used in Nelson's campaigns. The remains of Sayes Court, a medieval manor house later occupied by John Evelyn, and the site of its famous 17th century gardens, are also included within the APA.
- 6.1.2 The APA is classed as Tier 1 as it contains the scheduled Tudor Naval Store House and nationally important archaeological remains associated with the Tudor (and later) Dockyard and Sayes Court.

Description

- 6.1.3 The APA is situated upon the complex geology of the Thames foreshore. The underlying pre-Quaternary bedrock geology of the area is made up of Thanet sand with an area of surviving chalk bedrock to the centre of the APA. This is overlain by the Kempton Park Gravels, which are remnants of an earlier floodplain. After the last glacial maximum of the Devensian glacial period (c 18,000 BP) the low sea levels and large influx of glacial meltwater caused a river to cut through the gravel terraces of the earlier floodplain (the Kempton Park Gravels) and led to the deposition of the Shepperton Gravels across the valley floor. The Shepperton Gravels were subsequently buried beneath deep deposits of alluvium.²⁹ The surface of the Shepperton Gravels lies between 1m and 5m below OD and they indicate the presence of a late Glacial to early Holocene channel running east to west through the APA.³⁰ This channel was an ancient tributary of the Thames known as the *Orfleditch*, first recorded in 1279. The *Orfleditch* and its associated marshlands formed a natural tidal pool in the riverbank, which was later converted into the Dockyard Basin in 1517.
- 6.1.4 The name Deptford is thought to refer to a medieval or earlier 'deep ford', indicating a crossing place over the River Ravensborne. During the medieval period the settlement at Deptford was located to the south of the APA and was divided between two manors, held by Earl Harold Godwinson and Brixi Cild respectively. These manors may have related to two separate settlement centres, located at Deptford Broadway and St Nicholas's Church (see new Lewisham APA 2.3). By 1086, the APA was situated within the manor of *Grenviz* (West Greenwich), which was held by Gilbert de

²⁹ Francis 2017, 13

³⁰ Francis 2013, 28

Magminot. De Maginot built a castle at around this time, but its exact location is unconfirmed. During the 17th century it was thought to be represented by the remains of some stone foundations close to the mast dock on the Thames Bank near Sayes Court (and within the APA).³¹ The creation of the castle may have prompted the settlement centre at Deptford to move away from St Nicholas's Church and refocus on Deptford Strand and Sayes Court. In the late 12th century, the manor of West Greenwich passed from the de Magminot family to their descendants the de Sayes family. By 1405 the de Sayes family had constructed a wooden manor house known as Sayes Court within the APA.

- 6.1.5 The initial basis to the local economy was probably fishing and there are medieval references to fisheries along the Strand shore. Brick-making was also carried out in the area and in 1418 the first dock was constructed at Deptford Strand to assist in the transport of bricks from Deptford to the London markets. Shipbuilding in the area began in 1420 with rebuilding and fitting of royal ships.

Sayes Court

- 6.1.6 Sayes Court was rebuilt on the site of the medieval manor in 1568 and a gateway was added to the house in the 16th century. Late in the 16th century the manor house and its estates, which were taken from the demesne lands of the manor, were separated from the manor. The house passed by lease to the Browne Family in 1585 and by 1608 it was nine bays long, two storeys high and contained 18 rooms.³² The manor house and its lands were seized by the Parliamentary government in 1649, and in 1652 John Evelyn, the famous writer, diarist and horticulturist, moved into the property. Following the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, Charles II granted Evelyn a lease for the manor house, gardens, orchards and adjacent fields for 99 years.
- 6.1.7 Evelyn developed his practical and horticultural skills through the design and construction of extensive gardens at Sayes Court, which are shown on a 1653 plan of the house and gardens. The gardens were inspired by Evelyn's earlier tour of gardens in Italy, France and Germany, and he drew on the experience and innovations developed at Sayes Court in his many influential publications on gardening and horticulture, including *Sylva, or a discourse of Forest Trees*, in which he refers specifically to planting trials at Sayes Court. The manor house was partially demolished in 1729 and rebuilt as a parish workhouse. It was substantially altered again in 1759 and was finally demolished in c 1930. Part of Sayes Court gardens now lies within a public park, and recent archaeological investigations revealed that evidence of Evelyn's ponds survives on adjoining properties.

The Royal Dockyard

- 6.1.8 In 1513 Henry VIII founded the Royal Dockyard at Deptford, formalising the *ad hoc* arrangements of his father, Henry VII, who had rented facilities here. The royal dockyard was centred around a storehouse (built in 1513) which is now a scheduled monument. The storehouse was associated with an undercroft which was filled with

³¹ Philipott 1659, 160, cited in Francis 2017, 14

³² Drake 1886, 7-9, cited in Francis 2013

rubble at the time of its demolition. The Great Dock was also probably built around this time and in 1517 the old pond at Deptford Strand was converted into a basin which accommodated several of the king's ships. The basin was surrounded by 7ft high oak palings and was situated at the western end of the storehouse. In 1574 the Great Dock was rebuilt, and between 1588 and 1589 the dockyard was enlarged to the north-west to increase the available wharfage.

- 6.1.9 By 1613 the dockyard, as illustrated on John Evelyn's 1623 map, comprised The Great Dock, the 1513 Storehouse and the Thrers House. The basin (formerly the old pond) fell outside the area covered by the map but would have been located to the north. By 1676 part of the basin was being utilised as a mast pond. The dockyard continued to grow during the late 17th century and by 1698 a series of mast ponds, an anchor wharf and new storehouses had been built to the north-west of the basin and the storage facilities had been rationalised.
- 6.1.10 During the late 17th and early 18th centuries the dockyard facilities began to expand into the land of the Sayes Court estate. Changes to the yard in this period included the extension of the Great Dock (1711), the creation of a new mast dock and anchor wharf (1712) and the replacement of a slip opening into the basin with a dry dock (1716). By 1753 the number of slips in the dockyard had increased and the basin had been remodelled and was in use as a large wet dock. These changes may reflect the change in emphasis of the dockyard from ship repair to ship building. The dockyard was extended again in 1765 to include ground taken from the Victualling Yard (north of the APA) and a new mast pond, mast house and building slip were constructed.
- 6.1.11 The dockyard changed very little during the late 18th and early 19th centuries and in 1821 by order of the Admiralty the dockyard was to be maintained only as a depot for small maintenance work. Between 1830 and 1844 the dockyard was used for ship breaking and from 1844 the dockyard was reused to build small warships. The Grade II listed Olympia building was constructed during the 19th century to cover the No. 2 and No. 3 slips, which were being rebuilt in brick, concrete and stone.
- 6.1.12 The dockyard was finally closed in 1869 and in its final form it had five principal slips, comprising the Great Dock, the basin, a main storehouse and ancillary structures.³³ Extant remains of the dockyard include the Grade II listed shed constructed in c 1846/47 to cover Nos 2 and 3 slipways, the Grade II listed early 18th century Master Shipwrights Apartment erected in 1700, river walls which show the location of the entrances to the slips and docks and the timber slipways exposed on the foreshore. However, by far the greater part of the dockyard survived as buried archaeological structures.
- 6.1.13 During its period of operation, the dockyard was linked to many notable historical events and there are records of almost every monarch of the 16th and 17th centuries visiting the yard. Francis Drake's *Golden Hind* was dry-docked at the dockyard following its circumnavigation of the globe in 1551. In 1698 Peter the Great, Czar of Russia, was trained in shipbuilding and naval architecture at the yard. Later, between

³³ Francis 2013

1772 and 1775, the dockyard was used to equip Captain Cook's ships, *HMS Resolution* and *HMS Adventure*, prior to his second voyage to the Pacific. The *Resolution* was again docked and equipped at the yard along with *HMS Discovery* for Captain Cook's last voyage in 1776-79.

- 6.1.14 Following its closure, the dockyard was converted into a cattle market and the Olympia cover building was put to use as a cattle shed. It remained in use as a cattle market until the Second World War, when it was utilised as a supply reserve depot for the Royal Army Service Corps. Bomb damage during the war led to the discovery of surviving remains associated with the Tudor storehouse. The Royal Dockyard is now known as Convoy's Wharf and comprises a large wharf with warehouse facilities owned by News International Ltd.
- 6.1.15 Between 2000 and 2012 the dockyard was subject to a programme of archaeological evaluation and excavation.³⁴ This work confirmed that archaeological remains associated with the Tudor and later dockyards survive within the APA. The excavations discovered remains of the 16th century Tudor storehouse, the large and small mast ponds, the dockyard basin, multi-phased buildings, the 18th century dockyard walls and other slipways. Waterlogged organic remains associated with the 16th and 17th timber river frontages were also recorded in the APA. John Evelyn's famous gardens were less well preserved, surviving only as truncated garden walls, while evidence for Sayes Court, including a preserved tiled floor and possible house foundations, were better preserved. The archaeological investigations sampled only a small part of the historic dockyards, leaving much of the archaeological evidence within the area preserved *in situ*.

Statement of Significance

- 6.1.16 Deptford is one of the earliest royal dockyards in England. The APA will contain nationally significant archaeological remains associated with the development and operation of the dockyards from the 16th century onwards. The APA contains the well-preserved and scheduled remains of the earliest surviving example of a Tudor storehouse in England (no other storehouse remains of Tudor date are known to survive). The APA will also contain buried remains and archaeological evidence relating to the development of the dockyard from its foundation in the 16th century through to its closure in the 19th century. Such remains will give an insight into industrial and economic activity on the site as well as providing evidence for technological development in the shipbuilding industry during the post-medieval period. The Royal Dockyard is also of historic interest as the docking place for several famous vessels, including Francis Drake's *Golden Hind* and Captain Cook's ships, the *HMS Resolution*, the *HMS Discovery* and the *HMS Adventure*.
- 6.1.17 The APA also has the potential to contain archaeological remain associated with the medieval castle built by Gilbert de Magminot and the medieval manor and later post-medieval manor of Sayes Court. If present, these remains would provide insight into changing settlement styles and fashions from the medieval period through to the early

³⁴ Francis 2017

20th century. The APA may also contain environmental remains associated with the manor and the landscape in which it was situated, as well as archaeological evidence for the famous gardens laid out by John Evelyn in the 17th century and their evolution over time.

- 6.1.18 The deep alluvial deposits and river gravels underlying the APA retain a significant potential to contain well-preserved archaeological remains and environmental evidence. The Kempton Park Gravels, Shepperton Gravels and the Langley Silt Complex have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, represent some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 6.1.19 The deep alluvium recorded in the northern part of the APA has the potential to contain archaeological remains from all periods. Such remains are significant, as they will contribute to our understanding of the early development of the River Thames, and the exploitation of its floodplain from the prehistoric period through to the present day. The alluvium and peat deposits in this area will contain waterlogged deposits which could preserve rare organic material and environmental remains. Preserved organic remains are not common in England. They are therefore of great interest and can provide information about everyday objects and what people ate and drank out of (e.g. wooden bowls, leather bottles, horn cups etc). Environmental remains can help reconstruct past landscapes, providing evidence of land use and landscape change which would not otherwise be available.

Key References

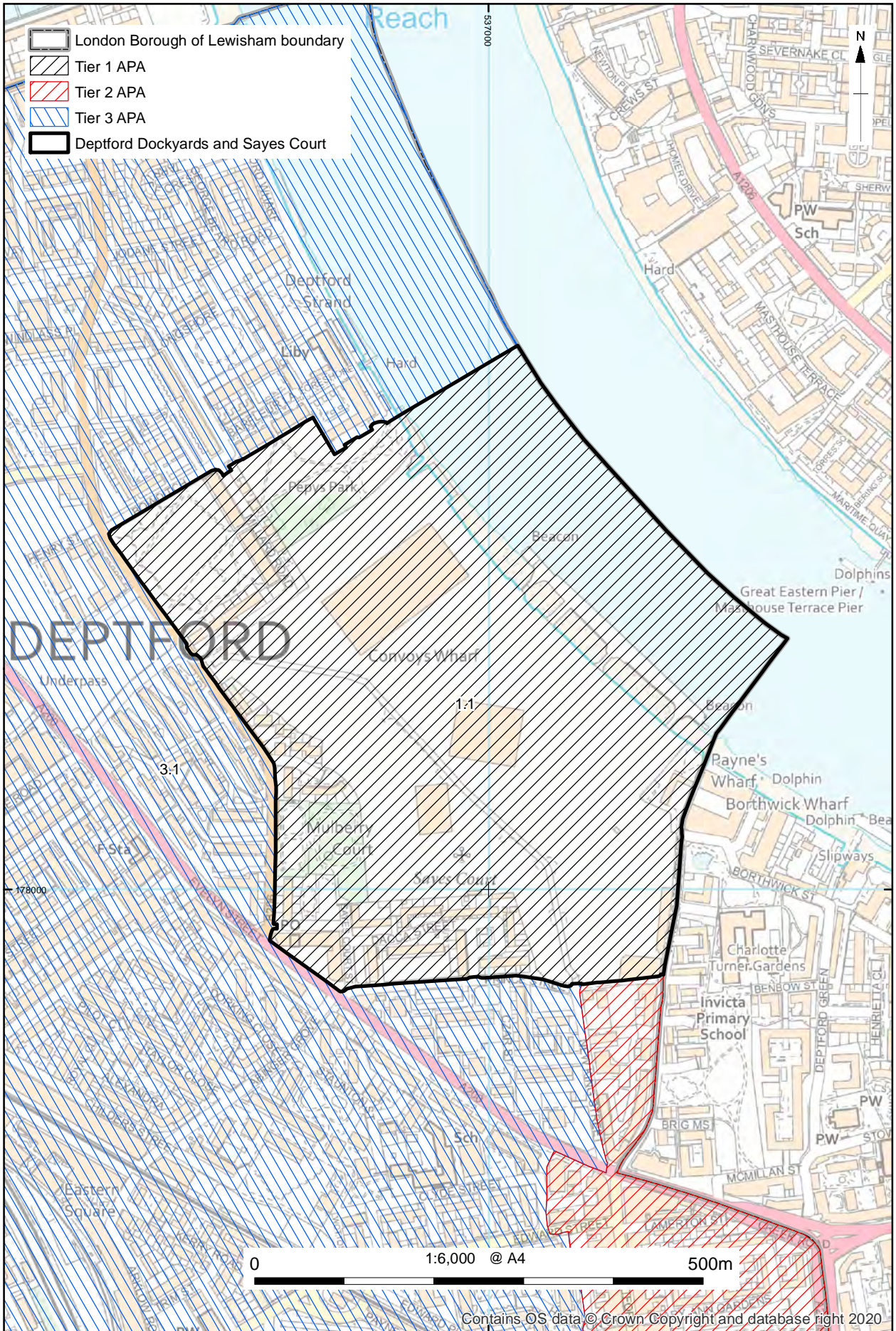
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Evelyn, J, 1653 Plan of Sayes Court House and Garden

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Francis, A, 2017 *The Deptford Royal Dockyard and manor of Sayes Court, London: excavations 2000-12*, Museum of London Archaeology Monograph 71, MOLA

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Lewisham New APA 1.1 Deptford Dockyards and Sayer's Court

6.2 Lewisham APA 1.2 Roman Bathhouse, Grove Park

Summary and definition

- 6.2.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers a 30m buffer area surrounding the site of an apparently isolated Roman bathhouse that was discovered at 101 Jevington Way during the construction of an air-raid shelter.
- 6.2.2 The APA has been included at Tier 1 as it contains the archaeological remains of a Roman bathhouse which may suggest the presence of a nearby villa or other high-status building. The area surrounding 101 Jevington Way has the potential to contain further evidence for the bathhouse and associated structures.

Description

- 6.2.3 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the site of an apparently isolated Roman Bath House. The Bathhouse was discovered in 1939 during the construction of an air-raid shelter in the garden of 101 Jevington Way. During the construction of the shelter a c 3 x 3m area of the garden was excavated and the Roman remains were discovered at a depth of c 1.4m. The remains included 36 well-preserved terracotta tiles with comb decoration, and square pipes about 0.3m long and 13cm wide. The tiles were later examined and found to be Roman *pilae* and box flue tiles, which would have formed part of a Roman underfloor heating system. Walling flints and pieces of imported stone (possibly granite) were also found. The remains may have continued to the south of the excavated area but were left *in situ* by the residents to prevent further damage. Dr Malcolm of the Horniman Museum, Forest Hill, visited the site and confirmed that the remains were Roman in origin.
- 6.2.4 The bathhouse was constructed in close proximity to the Quaggy River, on the eastern edge of the Borough. The bathhouse may have originally been associated with a villa or high-status building and accordingly there is the potential for further Roman structures to be present within the APA. Alternatively, it could be an isolated bathhouse similar to those recorded along the river valleys in the adjacent borough of Bromley (see Bromley APAs 1.6 and 2.16). To date no additional Roman remains have been recorded in the adjacent sports ground or gardens however, little modern archaeological work or research has been carried out in this area.

Statement of Significance






- 6.2.5 The APA contains archaeological remains associated with the construction and use of a Roman bathhouse and associated structures. It may also contain environmental evidence about the landscape in which the building was constructed. The archaeological interest in such remains arises from the information that they can provide about the extent and origins of the bath house. They could also provide insight into the lifestyle and economic status of the Roman rural population within Lewisham.
- 6.2.6 The circumstances of the discovery of the bathhouse illustrate the sensitivity of the archaeological remains within the APA and highlight that even small-scale excavations in this area could cause serious harm.

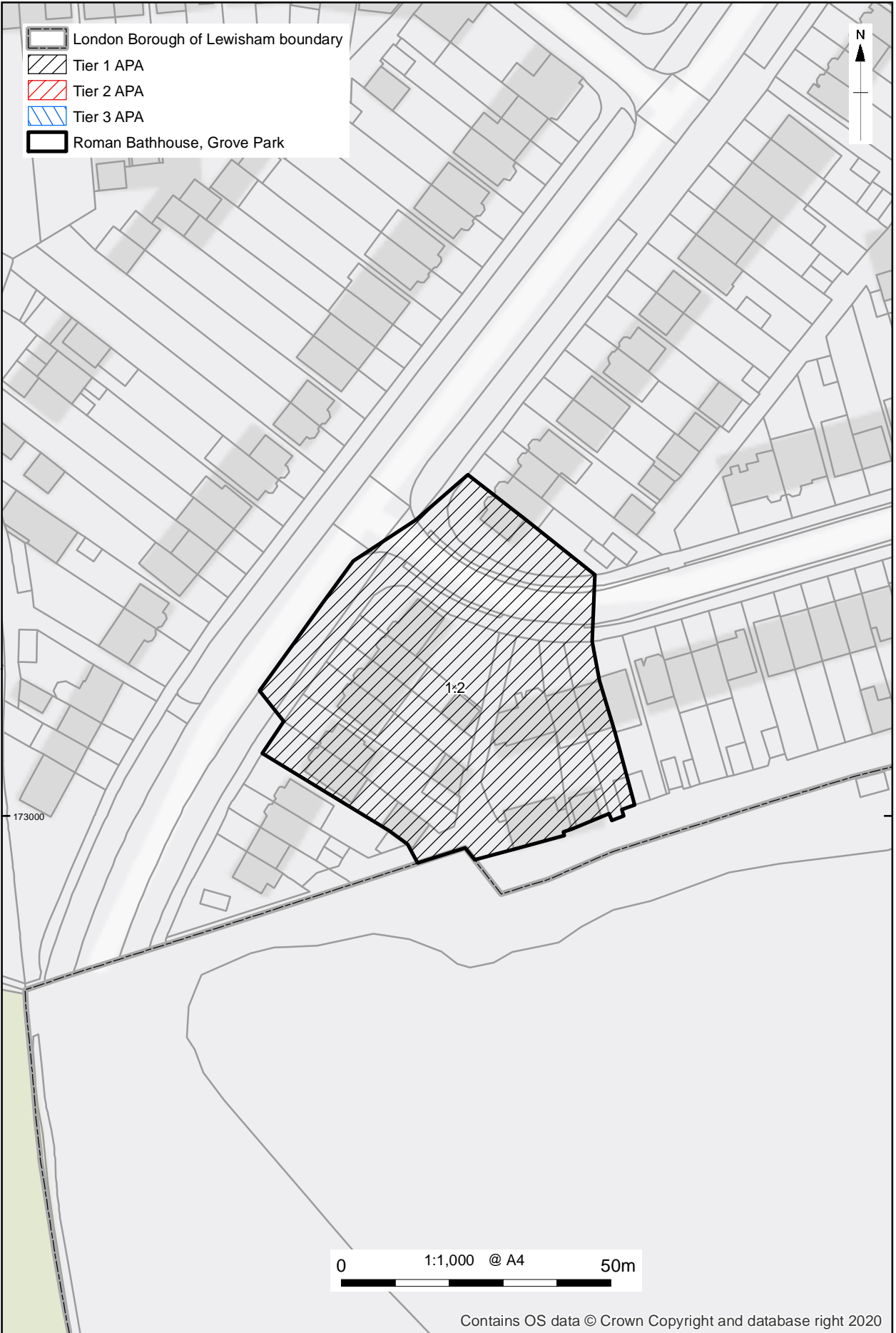
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-  London Borough of Lewisham boundary
-  Tier 1 APA
-  Tier 2 APA
-  Tier 3 APA
-  Roman Bathhouse, Grove Park



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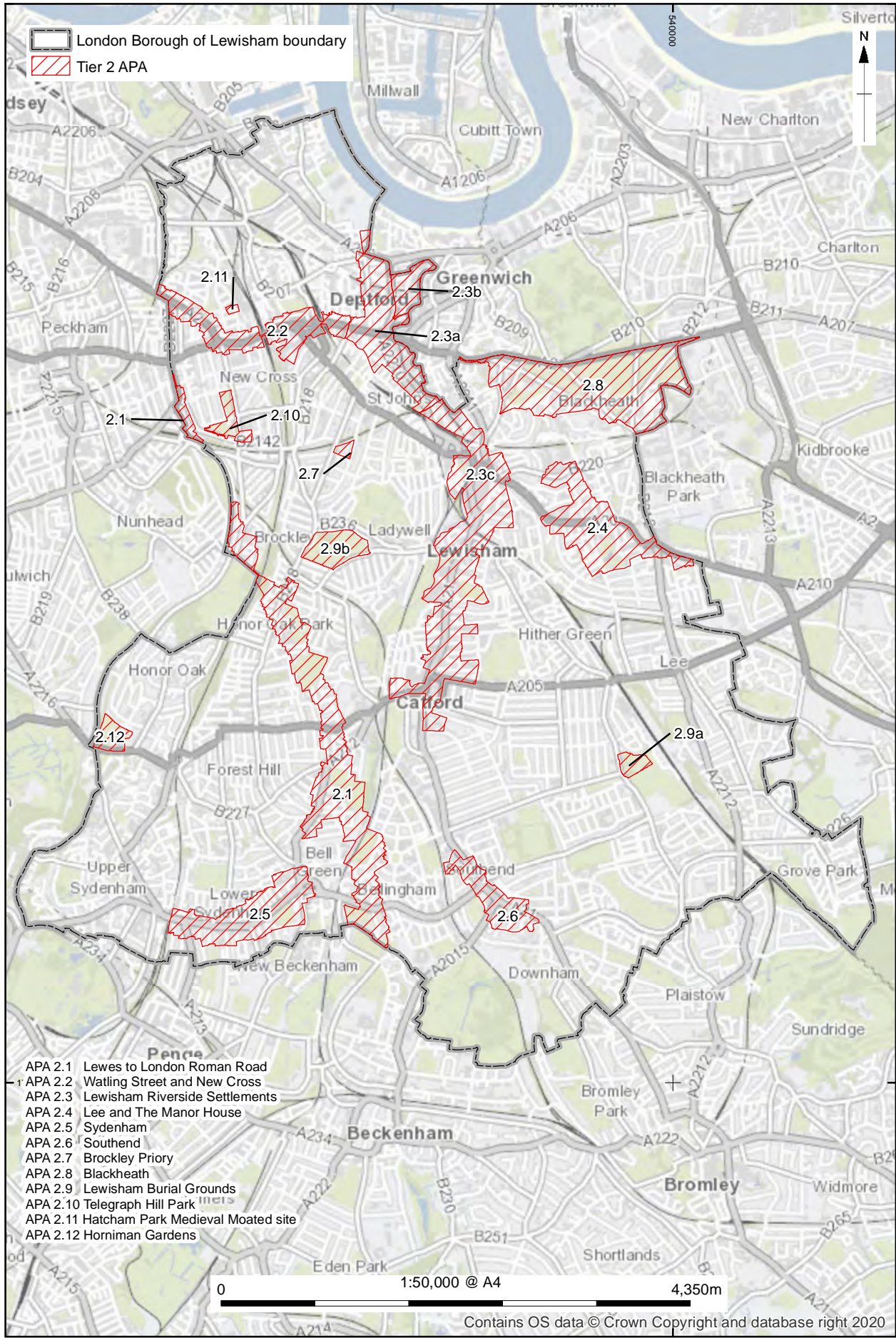
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Lewisham New APA 1.2
Roman Bathhouse, Grove Park

7 NEW AREA DESCRIPTIONS FOR TIER 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS



- APA 2.1 Lewes to London Roman Road
- APA 2.2 Watling Street and New Cross
- APA 2.3 Lewisham Riverside Settlements
- APA 2.4 Lee and The Manor House
- APA 2.5 Sydenham
- APA 2.6 Southend
- APA 2.7 Brockley Priory
- APA 2.8 Blackheath
- APA 2.9 Lewisham Burial Grounds
- APA 2.10 Telegraph Hill Park
- APA 2.11 Hatcham Park Medieval Moated site
- APA 2.12 Horniman Gardens

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Lewisham New Tier 2 APAs

7.1 Lewisham APA 2.1 Lewes to London Roman Road and Adjacent Roadside Settlements

Summary and Definition

- 7.1.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers a zone centred on the course of a Roman road running between Lewes and London. The road passes through the small Roman roadside settlement recorded within the Firhill Road Sports Ground.
- 7.1.2 The APA has been classified as Tier 2 as it covers a Roman road and a buffer zone encompassing a 200m-wide corridor centred on the alignment of the road. It is likely that there will be further evidence of Roman settlement and roadside activity in this area. The APA also has a localised potential to contain Mesolithic remains around the Firhill Road Sports Ground, as well as medieval and post-medieval remains associated with the settlements at Perry Hill and Brockley.
- 7.1.3 The Roman road continues in Bromley as Bromley APA 2.2: Lewes to London Roman Road and Roman Roadside Settlements and in Southwark as Southwark APA 1.1: North Southwark and Roman Roads.

Description

- 7.1.4 The APA contains the route of the Lewes to London Roman road, which was constructed in the late 1st or early 2nd century. The road was one of three major routes which led south from the Roman city of *Londinium*. The road linked the city with Lewes and connected it with iron-producing and corn-growing areas along the south coast.
- 7.1.5 The Lewes to London Road diverged from Watling Street in Peckham and then passed south through the present-day Boroughs of Lewisham and Bromley before continuing southward to Lewes. The alignment of the road as it passes through Lewisham is possibly preserved in some surviving public rights of way and street alignments, but it is mostly absent from the modern topography, despite its significant role in marking the boundary between the modern boroughs of Croydon and Bromley and the historic counties of Kent and Surrey. The deviation of the historic boundary of Lewisham from the Roman road may be partially explained by the heavily wooded character of the borough during the Roman and medieval periods.
- 7.1.6 The alignment of the Roman road crosses several areas of undeveloped land including Brockley Rise Sports Ground, Blythe Hill Fields, Elm Lane Sports Ground, Firhill Road Sports Ground and South End Park. Due to their undeveloped nature, these areas have a particular potential to contain well preserved archaeological remains.
- 7.1.7 Metalled road surfaces associated with the road have been recorded at several locations within the APA. A road surface metalled with flints was recorded at Nash Road in the northern part of the APA, and at Blythe Hill Fields excavations recorded an extant gravel road surface and fragments of Samian ware pottery. The road surface was also identified at Meadow Close in the southern part of the APA. The APA has the potential to contain surviving segments of the road as well as evidence for contemporary roadside and settlement activity,

- 7.1.8 The road is thought to cross the Pool River close to the foot bridge leading from Perry Hill to Broad Mead. An archaeological excavation adjacent to the Pool River in this area uncovered a Roman cremation burial. Further investigation at the Fir Hill Road Sports Ground, which is adjacent to the Pool River, recorded evidence of a Roman occupation site. The evaluation and subsequent excavation uncovered several pits and ditches, as well as large quantity of ceramic building material which suggested that a Roman building was once located in this area.
- 7.1.9 The archaeological work at the Fir Hill Sports Ground identified evidence of prehistoric activity. The evaluation uncovered Mesolithic and early Neolithic worked and burnt flint and late prehistoric or Roman ditches and pits. The subsequent excavation recorded over 60 pieces of worked flint and 0.5 kg of burnt flint, which were indicative of Mesolithic and early Neolithic activity and later Bronze Age activity. A series of post-holes pre-dating the Roman activity on the site were also recovered. These remains were located just to the north of a prehistoric palaeochannel which was recorded during an evaluation at Otterden Road. The infilled channel has the potential to contain waterlogged deposits which may contain preserved organic material and/or environmental evidence, and the adjacent areas have the potential to contain Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age remains.
- 7.1.10 The APA includes the medieval and post-medieval settlement at Perry Hill. The medieval settlement developed around a medieval manor house known as Sydenham Place, which later became known as Place House. The settlement remained a small rural hamlet into the 17th and 18th century before being surrounded by housing estates in the 19th century. This part of the APA has the potential to contain archaeological remains associated with the medieval manor house and the medieval and post-medieval settlement.
- 7.1.11 The site of a small medieval settlement, comprising a medieval inn and house, is located close to the junction of Brockley Road with Sevenoaks Road. The settlement is shown as Brockley Green on Rocque's 1746 map, when it comprised two farmsteads which were located on the sites of the of the 19th century Brockley Hall and Brockley House. An isolated building is also shown on the site later occupied by the 19th century Brockley Castle (public house). The inn was allegedly visited by Dick Turpin, a famous 18th century Highwayman. This part of the APA has the potential to contain medieval and post-medieval settlement remains.

Statement of Significance

- 7.1.12 The Lewes to London Roman road was one an important route that linked *Londinium* with the industrial and farming centres in Sussex. The APA contains archaeological and environmental remains associated with the road and at least one adjacent roadside settlement. It has the potential to contain the remains of additional roadside settlements which could enrich our knowledge of the different types of Roman roadside settlement, and the extent of Roman settlement in Lewisham.
- 7.1.13 A Roman cremation burial has also been recorded within the APA. Cremations were more common in the early Roman period and provide evidence of early Roman burial practices. The archaeological interest in such remains relates to differences in burial

practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors.

- 7.1.14 A concentration of Mesolithic, early Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools and burnt flints have been recorded within the Fir Hill Sports Ground. The APA has the potential to contain further associated remains which would provide insight into the nature and distribution of early prehistoric settlement in Lewisham.
- 7.1.15 Parts of the APA (Brockley Green and Perry Hill) have been continuously settled since the medieval period and thus have the potential to contain medieval and post-medieval settlement remains. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlements. This could provide insight into changing settlement and land use patterns as well as evolving lifestyles during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Any potential future work would help to develop understanding of the medieval settlements and their origins, particularly how and when they developed.

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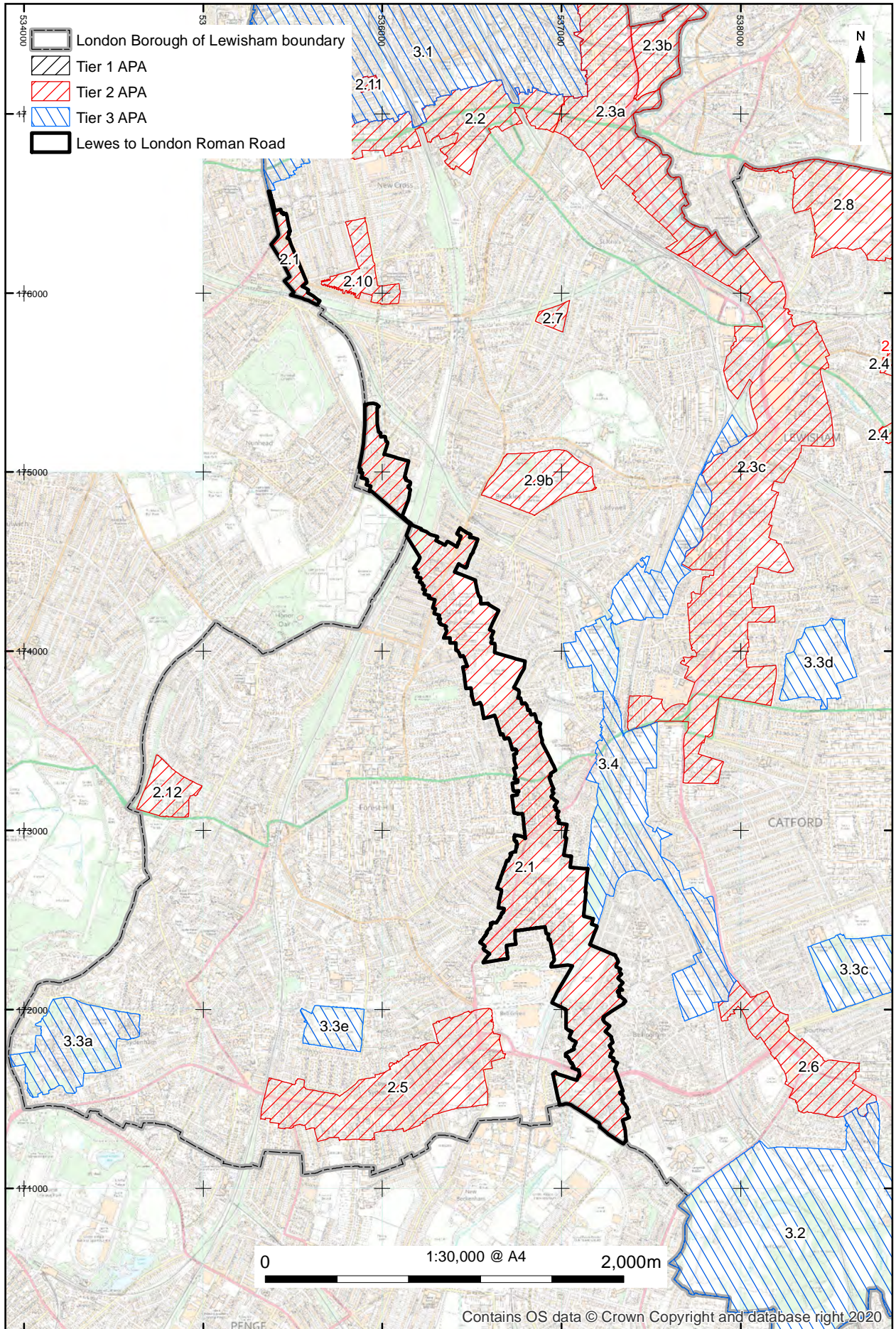
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Lewisham New APA.1 Lewes to London Roman Road

7.2 Lewisham APA 2.2 Watling Street and New Cross

Summary and Definition

- 7.2.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers a zone centred upon the projected course of the Roman road running between Dover and London. The exact course of the road has not been confirmed, although it is known to have followed the southern limit of the local Thames Gravel Terrace, crossing the River Ravensbourne via a ford. In Saxon times the route became part of a longer road known as *Wæcelinga Stræt* (Watling Street). By the 17th century the road had fallen into disrepair and sections were converted into turnpike roads in the early 18th century. The APA includes the post-medieval settlement of New Cross (known as Hatcham until the creation of the New Cross Turnpike during the 18th century).
- 7.2.2 The APA has been classified as Tier 2 as it covers the projected route of the Roman road and a buffer zone encompassing a 200m-wide corridor centred on the alignment of the road. The road continued in use during the medieval and post-medieval periods, and it is likely that this area contains evidence of Roman, early medieval, medieval and post-medieval roadside activity, including settlement remains.
- 7.2.3 The projected line of the road continues east into new Lewisham APAs 2.3 and 2.8 and continues west into Southwark as Southwark APA 1.1: North Southwark and Roman Roads.

Description

- 7.2.4 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the proposed route of Watling Street, a Roman Road which connected *Londinium* (London) with *Dubris* (Dover). The exact course of the road as it passes through Lewisham is unconfirmed but archaeological evidence for the road has been found in the neighbouring borough of Southwark, at Asylum Road, just to the south of the Old Kent Road. From here the road travelled west to east through Lewisham. It probably followed a similar course to the modern Black Heath Hill [road] and New Cross Road, skirting the southern limit of the local Thames gravel terrace to avoid the marshy ground and floodplain which would have occupied the northern part of the borough in Roman times. The road would have crossed the River Ravensbourne at Deptford via the 'deep ford' from which the town takes its name (see new Lewisham APA 2.3).
- 7.2.5 In Saxon times the route became part of a longer road known as *Wæcelinga Stræt* (Watling Street) and it appears to have remained in use throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. By the 17th century the road had fallen into disrepair and sections were converted into Turnpike Roads during the 18th century.
- 7.2.6 In medieval times, the road passed through the manor of Hatcham, which was referred to in the Domesday survey of 1086 as *Hacheham*, meaning 'Hæcci's village' or 'the village in the clearing in the woods'. The Domesday survey describes the settlement as a small settlement of nine villagers and two smallholders, associated with land for three ploughs, six acres of meadowland and woodland for three pigs. The manor was conferred on the Bishop of Bayeaux following the Norman Conquest and in the 12th century land from the manor was granted to Gilbert de Hatcham, who built a moated manor house in the area (see new Lewisham APA 2.11). The manor

house and its environs were bought by the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers in 1614.

- 7.2.7 The Haberdashers were one of the ancient guilds of the City of London and still continue their activities today. The Haberdashers Company established a brickwork business in the area, possibly to meet the demand for bricks following the Great Fire of London.
- 7.2.8 By the time of Rocque's 1746 map some development had sprung up along New Cross Road, which was named after the 18th century turnpike, and the present day Five Bells Lane had been established. Counter Hill House was built in the 18th century and was operated as a boarding school from 1792 until 1837, when it was replaced by the Grade II listed Goldsmiths College.
- 7.2.9 In the early 19th century, the turnpike was moved to New Cross Inn and several inns were established at New Cross to serve travellers using the road. The Croydon Canal was converted into a railway during the 19th century, allowing easy transport into the city. This prompted large-scale residential development of the area. The increased urbanisation and associated road traffic made use of the turnpike road unpopular and led to the closing of the toll gate in 1865.
- 7.2.10 The APA contains a Roman road that has continued in use through the early medieval, medieval, post-medieval and modern period. It is likely that this area will contain evidence of Roman, early medieval, medieval and post-medieval roadside activity. There is a particular potential for post-medieval settlement remains at New Cross, and this area may also contain evidence of the earlier, medieval settlement of Hatcham.

Statement of Significance

- 7.2.11 The Watling Street Roman road was an important routeway linking London with the south-east and the port of Dover. The APA has the potential to contain archaeological and environmental remains associated with the Roman road. It has the potential to contain the remains of additional roadside settlements which could enrich our knowledge about the different types of Roman roadside settlement, and the extent of Roman settlement in Lewisham. The road remained in use throughout the early medieval, medieval and post-medieval periods and thus the APA may also contain evidence of roadside activity during these periods.
- 7.2.12 By the 18th century the settlement of New Cross had been established alongside Watling Street. The APA has the potential to contain post-medieval settlement remains and may contain evidence of the earlier, medieval settlement of Hatcham. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlements. This could provide insight into changing settlement and land use patterns as well as evolving lifestyles during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Any potential future work would help to develop understanding of the medieval settlements and their origins, particularly how and when they developed.

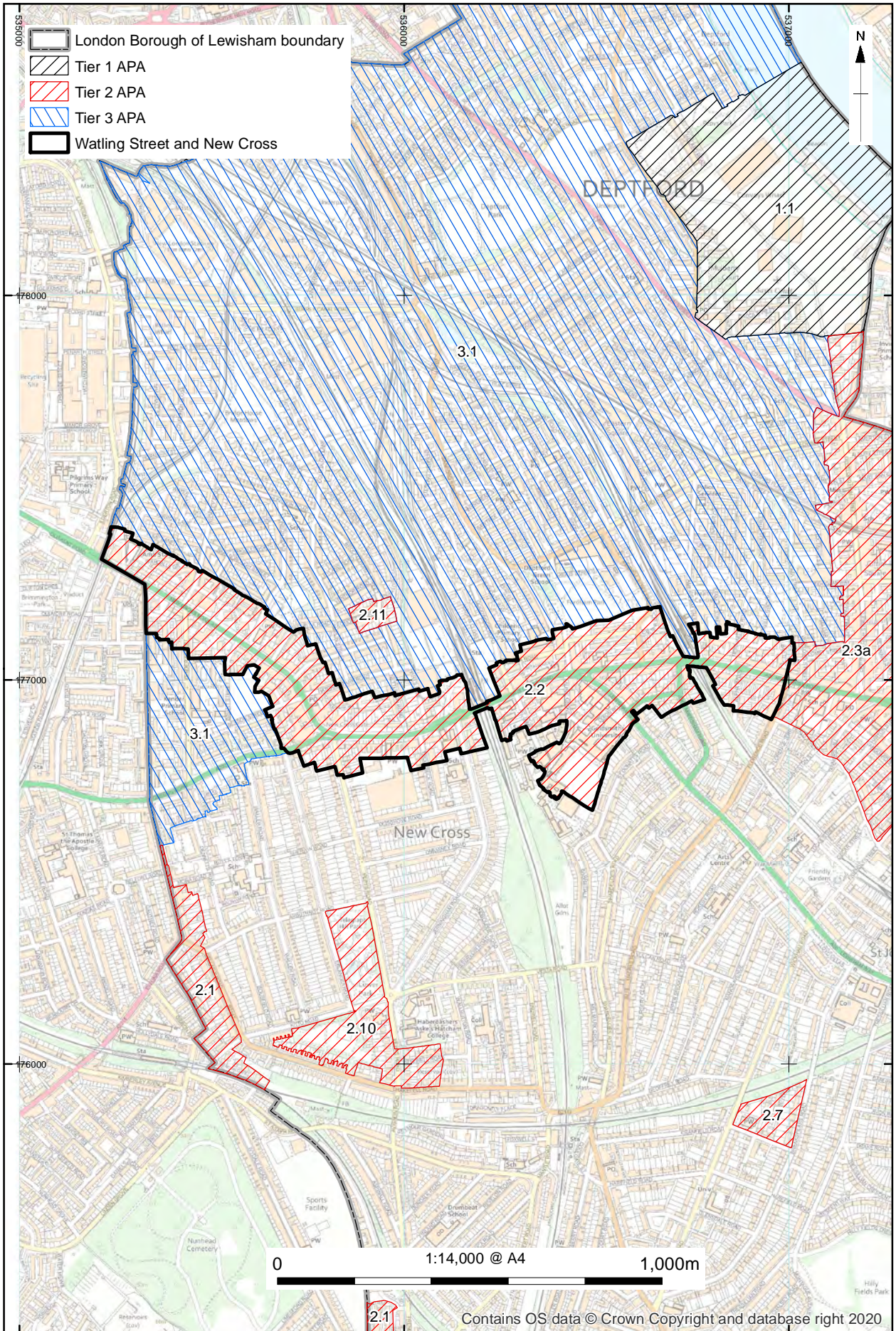
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Lewisham New APA.2
Watling Street and New Cross

7.3 Lewisham APA 2.3 Lewisham Riverside Settlements

Summary and Definition

- 7.3.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the medieval and post-medieval settlements of Deptford, Lewisham, Rushey Green and Catford, which run alongside the River Ravensbourne. The river was also a focus for industrial activity from the medieval period onwards, and many medieval and post-medieval water mills have been recorded along its length.
- 7.3.2 The APA also includes the alluvium and part of the Kempton Park Gravel terraces which run alongside the Ravensbourne. The river would have been a focus for activity throughout prehistory and a number of Mesolithic and Bronze Age find spots have been recorded within the APA. The alignment of the Watling Street Roman road (New APA 2.2) continues through this APA and is believed to cross the River Ravensbourne at Deptford.
- 7.3.3 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it has the potential to contain Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement and industrial activity. The churchyard associated with the Church of St Mary the Virgin in Lewisham will contain archaeological remains associated with the medieval church as well as medieval and post-medieval burials. The APA could also contain evidence of Watling Street Roman road and associated settlement activity. The underlying geological deposits have a high potential to contain organic remains and evidence of surviving archaeological features and landscapes as well as evidence of prehistoric activity dating from the Upper Palaeolithic through to the Bronze Age.

Description

- 7.3.4 The APA is situated on the edge of the Thames foreshore. The underlying pre-quaternary bedrock geology of the area is made up of Thanet sand and Lambeth Group clay, silt and sand, with an area of surviving chalk bedrock underlying parts of Lewisham and Deptford. Further south in Catford the bedrock geology transitions to London Clay. The bedrock geology is overlain by the Kempton Park Gravels and alluvial deposits associated with the River Ravensbourne. The Kempton Park Gravel terraces are remnants of an earlier floodplain and elsewhere they have yielded evidence Palaeolithic material. Palaeolithic finds have been recorded within the APA at the junction of New Cross Road and Florence Road.
- 7.3.5 The River Ravensbourne passes through the APA, and prehistoric palaeochannels have been recorded within the APA. Peat deposits and preserved timber stakes have been preserved within Deptford Creek in the northern part of the APA, and elsewhere infilled palaeochannels and alluvium deposits may contain waterlogged deposits which could contain rare preserved organic material and palaeoenvironmental evidence for past wetland and riverine environments.
- 7.3.6 The Ravensbourne would have been a focus for prehistoric activity throughout prehistory and a number of Mesolithic to Bronze Age findspots have been recorded along its length. A Bronze Age cremation burial and burnt mound were recorded adjacent to the river at Deals Gateway and middle Bronze Age postholes and a large

undated pit were discovered during an evaluation at Rushey Green Primary School. There is the potential for further prehistoric remains to be present within the APA.

- 7.3.7 The proposed route of Watling Street passes through the northern part of the APA (see also new Lewisham APA 2.2). The road would have crossed the Ravensbourne at Deptford via a ford. A Roman settlement, with Iron Age antecedents was established close to the ford on the banks of a creek which provided tidal wharfage.
- 7.3.8 Roman settlement activity comprising pits and storage pits has been recorded within the APA at Deptford Broadway and the remains of a Roman building with a tessellated floor were found at the junction of New Cross Road and Deptford High Street during the late 19th century. Further to the south, Roman cremation burials have been recorded at Brookmill Road in Deptford.

Lewisham APA 2.3a Deptford

- 7.3.9 The original name for the settlement at Deptford was recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Mereton*, meaning 'town in the marsh'. The name Deptford was first recorded in 1293 and probably refers to a medieval (or earlier) crossing of the River Ravensbourne, the 'deep ford'. The Broadway area may have been the focus of the early to middle Saxon settlement, while the church of St Nicholas appears to have been the settlement centre during the middle to late Saxon period, although there is likely to have been some settlement shift during the course of the early medieval period.
- 7.3.10 Evidence of Saxon funerary and settlement activity has been recorded in the north-eastern part of the APA. Two burials belonging to an adult female and an adult male were identified at No. 7 Deptford Broadway. Grave goods including glass beads, a gold wire ring, a pendant and an arm bracelet were recorded with the female burial while the male burial was placed in a substantial nailed wooden coffin and may be Roman in date.
- 7.3.11 During the medieval period the settlement at Deptford was divided between two manors, held by Earl Harold Godwinson and Brixi Cild respectively. These manors may have related to two separate settlement centres, located at Deptford Broadway and St Nicholas's Church (within the London Borough of Greenwich). By 1086, the APA was situated within the manor of *Grenviz* (West Greenwich), which was held by Gilbert de Magminot. De Maginot built a castle at around this time (see new Lewisham APA 1.1). The creation of the castle may have prompted the settlement centres at Deptford to move away from St Nicholas's Church and refocus on Deptford Strand and Sayes Court.
- 7.3.12 During the medieval period Deptford comprised two separate settlements, later known as Upper Deptford and Lower Deptford. Upper Deptford was focused on the Broadway and Deptford Bridge, while Lower Deptford was focused on the River Thames and included the villages of Deptford Green (focused around St Nicholas's Church in Greenwich) and Deptford Strand. Archaeological investigations around the Deptford Broadway area have found evidence for occupation in this area from the Norman period onwards. During the late 17th century, a Quaker meeting house was established in Deptford at No. 144 Deptford High Street. The meeting house closed in

the early 20th century, but notably was utilised by Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia, when he visited England in 1698.

7.3.13 During the 17th and 18th centuries, following the creation of the Royal Dockyard to the north, the settlement at Deptford began to expand. The development of Deptford High Street was led by John Evelyn to meet the demand for new housing to support the expanding dockyard (see new Lewisham APA 1.1). During the 17th and 18th centuries Deptford and nearby Woolwich produced more merchant and military ships than anywhere else in Europe. The growing shipbuilding industry attracted labourers and skilled craftsman to Deptford and the resultant settlement growth led to the merging of Upper and Lower Deptford into a large town. The area between Deptford High Street and Deptford Church Street contains extant 17th, 18th and 19th century buildings and has a high potential to contain archaeological remains associated with the post-medieval settlement, such as cellars and pits. The Grade I listed Church of St Paul and its associated burial ground were constructed within the APA during the 18th century. The church was built in response to the Fifty New Churches Act which aimed to provide new churches in rapid growth areas such as Deptford. The Baptist Unitarian meeting house and burial ground, and a burial ground associated with the Congregational chapel, were built along Deptford High Street in the 19th century.

7.3.14 The area between Deptford Broadway and Lewisham remained in use as open fields into the 18th century, with Tanners Hill becoming the location for early industries including an 18th century pottery. At this time the River Ravensbourne was used to power a small number of mills and a waterworks which was established in 1701. The waterworks was used to pump fresh water to the manor Sayes Court to the north (see new Lewisham APA 1.1). During the 19th century this area was gradually developed for housing, leading to the creation of the Deptford New Town estate.

Lewisham APA 2.3b Deptford Creek

7.3.15 The western bank of the creek within Lewisham contains archaeological remains which detail the history of flood defence, water supply and secondary riverside industries in the area.

7.3.16 The earliest developments include the tide mill north of Deptford Bridge, which is known to have been operating from at least the 12th century. The King's Slaughterhouse was built by the first half of the 16th century. Other industries moved into the area, including the 17th century copperas works and a variety of local 18th century potteries, pipe clay factories and tanneries. From the late 18th century, the Deptford Creekside area was known as the 'City', representing a local cultural subdivision, socially separate from the rest of Deptford and subject to its own rules and customs.

7.3.17 Surviving wooden walls have been recorded within this part of the APA. These remains are of historic interest and are particularly fragile habitats which support the ecology of the urban post-industrial creek, which makes a special contribution to local biodiversity.

Lewisham APA 2.3c Lewisham and Catford

- 7.3.18 The settlements of Catford and Lewisham developed to the south of Deptford on the banks of the River Ravensbourne. Lewisham was the dominant manorial estate in the area, with sub-manors at Catford, Bellingham, Brockley, Sydenham, Shroffolds and Bankers. The settlements in these areas shared a common economic dependence on the Ravensbourne, which eventually led to Lewisham and Catford merging into a continuous ribbon of settlement.
- 7.3.19 The settlement of Lewisham originated during the Saxon period. The first reference to the placename appears in a Saxon Charter of 862. The charter describes the boundaries of Bromley and mentions *Liofshema mearc*, meaning 'boundary of the people of Lewisham'. The placename later appears in a charter of 918 as *Lievesham*, meaning 'Leofsa's settlement'. The charter documented a grant of land from Elfrida, the daughter of Alfred the Great, to the Abbey of St Peter of Ghent. An alien priory associated with the abbey was established shortly after this and was probably formed as a rent-collecting station associated with the priory's main estate at Greenwich. The alien priory was not a monastic house and had none of the usual complex of buildings associated with a standard priory, although it was associated with a small chapel by 1376.
- 7.3.20 The 1086 Domesday survey recorded Lewisham as a large settlement of 50 villagers, nine small holders and three slaves, held by the Abbey of St Peters of Ghent. The early estate was probably located in the vicinity of the medieval parish church dedicated to St Mary (Listed Grade II*) on Lewisham High Street. The 11th century church was probably situated on the site of the current Grade II* listed Church of St Mary the Virgin. The current church was built between 1774 and 1777 by the local architect George Gibson junior and incorporates the base of a late 15th century tower. The churchyard surrounding the church was laid out as a public garden in 1886 and contains many tombs, which are predominantly 18th and 19th century in date. It will also contain medieval and post-medieval burials and has the potential to contain archaeological evidence of the medieval church.
- 7.3.21 By 1086 Lewisham was associated with eleven mills, although their exact location is unknown. The Domesday mills probably originated as grain or corn mills continuing in use until they were replaced during the medieval period. From the 14th century onwards the number of grain mills declined nationally, and the mills began to take on a more industrial character.
- 7.3.22 The placename Catford first appeared in 1240 as *Cateford* meaning 'the ford of the wild cats'. It originated as a ford crossing the Ravensbourne in what was once woodland. The settlement remained a small rural hamlet until the coming of the railway in 1857 prompted the large-scale development of the area. Catford is also referred to as Rushey Green, a name which refers to the marshy land adjacent to the Ravensbourne. This placename first appears in 1500 as *Rishotetes Grene*. During the 16th century there was a mansion here known as Rushey Green Place.
- 7.3.23 Mills powered by the River Ravensbourne remained a large part of the local economy and by the 18th and 19th century many different types of mill were in operation between Lewisham and Catford. Many of these later mills utilised or were rebuilt on the site of the earlier medieval mills. The Riverdale Mill, for example, was built in 1828

on the site of a 15th century corn mill, while Lewisham Bridge Mill, which was in use as a corn mill during the 17th century, was converted into a glass mill during the 18th century. The Lewisham Silk Mill also had a variety of different uses during its lifetime. It originated in the 14th century as a steel grinding mill, transitioning into an armoury and corn mill in the 17th century and a silk mill in the early 19th century before closing in 1937.

- 7.3.24 The area was subject to rapid industrial growth during the 18th and 19th centuries, leading to the amalgamation of the settlements of Catford and Lewisham. This period saw the increasing industrialisation of the mills within the APA, which were by this time producing a range of products including steel tools, weaponry, leather, mustard and corn/flour. Riverdale Mill is the only mill to survive within this part of the APA. The rest of the mills between Lewisham and Catford have been demolished.

Statement of Significance

- 7.3.25 The Kempton Gravels which underly the APA have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 7.3.26 Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age finds have been recorded alongside Deptford Creek and the River Ravensbourne and Bronze Age pits and ditches were recorded during an excavation at Rushey Green Primary School. If further prehistoric material was recorded within the APA this would provide insight into the early prehistoric use of the landscape and also technological development in these periods. The APA could also contain waterlogged deposits associated with Deptford Creek and the River Ravensbourne. Such deposits are of particular significance as they could contain preserved organic material. Preserved organic remains are not common in England. They are therefore of great interest and can provide information about everyday objects and what people ate and drank out of (e.g. wooden bowls, leather bottles, horn cups etc). These deposits can also contain environmental remains which can help reconstruct past landscapes, providing evidence of land use and landscape change which would not otherwise be available.
- 7.3.27 The proposed alignment of the Watling Street Roman road passes through the northern part of the APA. This was an important routeway linking Londinium with the south-east and the port of Dover. The APA has the potential to contain archaeological and environmental remains associated with the road. It has the potential to contain the remains of additional roadside settlements which could enrich our knowledge about the different types of Roman roadside settlement, and the extent of contemporary settlement in Lewisham. The Roman settlement remains in Deptford could enhance our understanding of the Roman occupation of Lewisham. The archaeological interest of these remains arises from the information that they can provide about the lifestyle and economic status of Roman settlements and the people that lived there.
- 7.3.28 Roman cremation burials have also been recorded within the APA. Cremation burials were more common in the early Roman period and provide evidence of early Roman

burial practices. The archaeological interest in such remains relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors.

- 7.3.29 The settlements of Deptford and Lewisham have been continually occupied since the early medieval period, while Catford has been occupied since at least the 13th century. These settlements have the potential to contain archaeological deposits associated with medieval and post-medieval occupation. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlements. This could provide insight into changing settlement and land use patterns as well as evolving lifestyles during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Any potential future work would help to develop understanding of the medieval settlements and their origins, particularly how and when they developed. The origins of Deptford and Lewisham extend back to the early medieval period. Any potential future work would help to develop our understanding of the early settlements and their origins.
- 7.3.30 The APA contains the medieval churchyard of St Mary the Virgin several post-medieval burials grounds. These areas will contain medieval and post-medieval burials and post-medieval burial monuments. Study of these remains could provide information on the life expectancy, general health and social background of the local community, and the range of diseases from which they may have suffered.
- 7.3.31 Burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. The interest in burials and burial grounds relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors, and to the study of human populations, including life expectancy, health and disease.
- 7.3.32 Burial grounds have their own specific legal protections. In accordance with national guidelines³⁵, archaeological investigation of burial grounds normally applies to burials which are over 100 years old. This is governed by ecclesiastical or secular jurisdiction and follows nationally accepted codes of practice and ethics.³⁶ For Christian burials, archaeological investigation follows relevant guidance, in particular that set out by the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England.³⁷ Such disturbance could be for development purposes or purposes other than routine small-scale cemetery operations. The views and feelings of relatives and associated faith communities, when known, would need to be considered.
- 7.3.33 The River Ravensbourne has been utilised for industrial activity from the medieval period onwards. Several waterside industries including medieval cornmills, post-medieval armoury mills, and silk mills as well as other industrial sites have developed along the banks of the river. The APA therefore also has the potential to contain

³⁵ Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds*, second edition, APAB

³⁶ BABAO 2019a British Association of Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology Code of Conduct, BABAO

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archaeological deposits relating to the use of the river for industrial purposes. Many of the mills recorded along the Ravensbourne were repurposed for a variety of different uses during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Remains associated with these mills will provide evidence of technological development during these periods. The evolving usages of the mills provides evidence for wider economic and social changes associated with new technologies and the growing shipbuilding and warfare industries within the borough.

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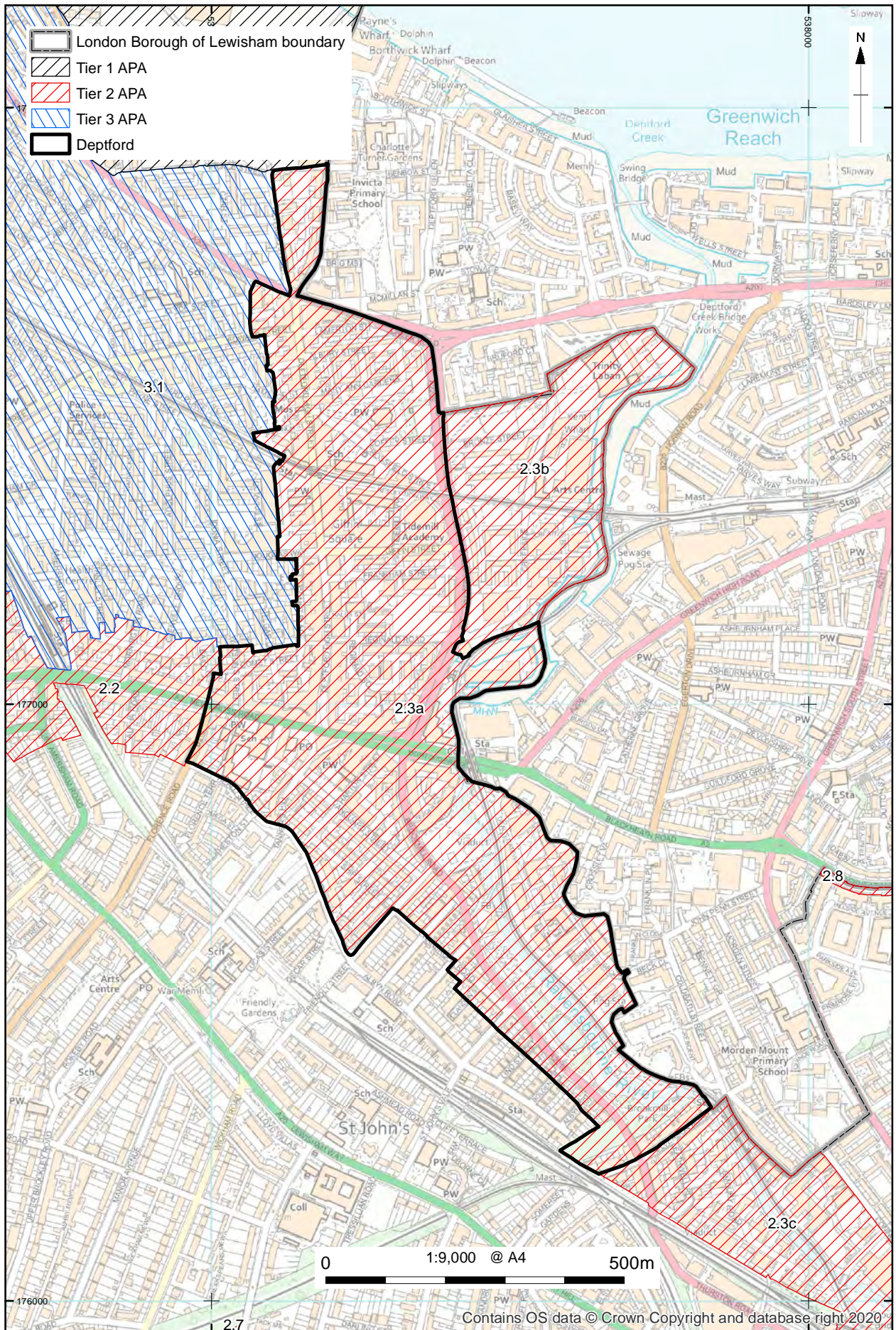
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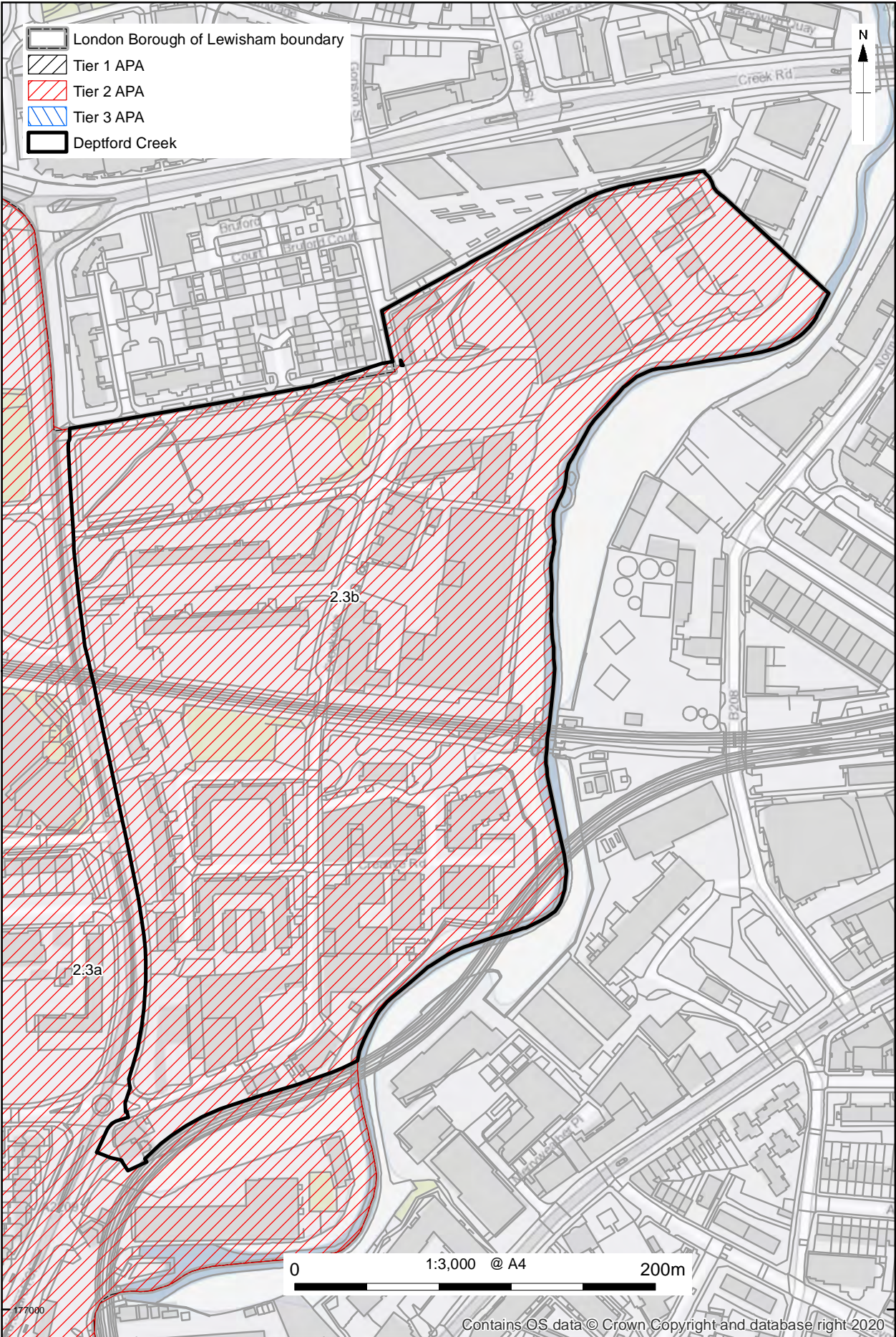
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Lewisham New APA2.3a
Deptford



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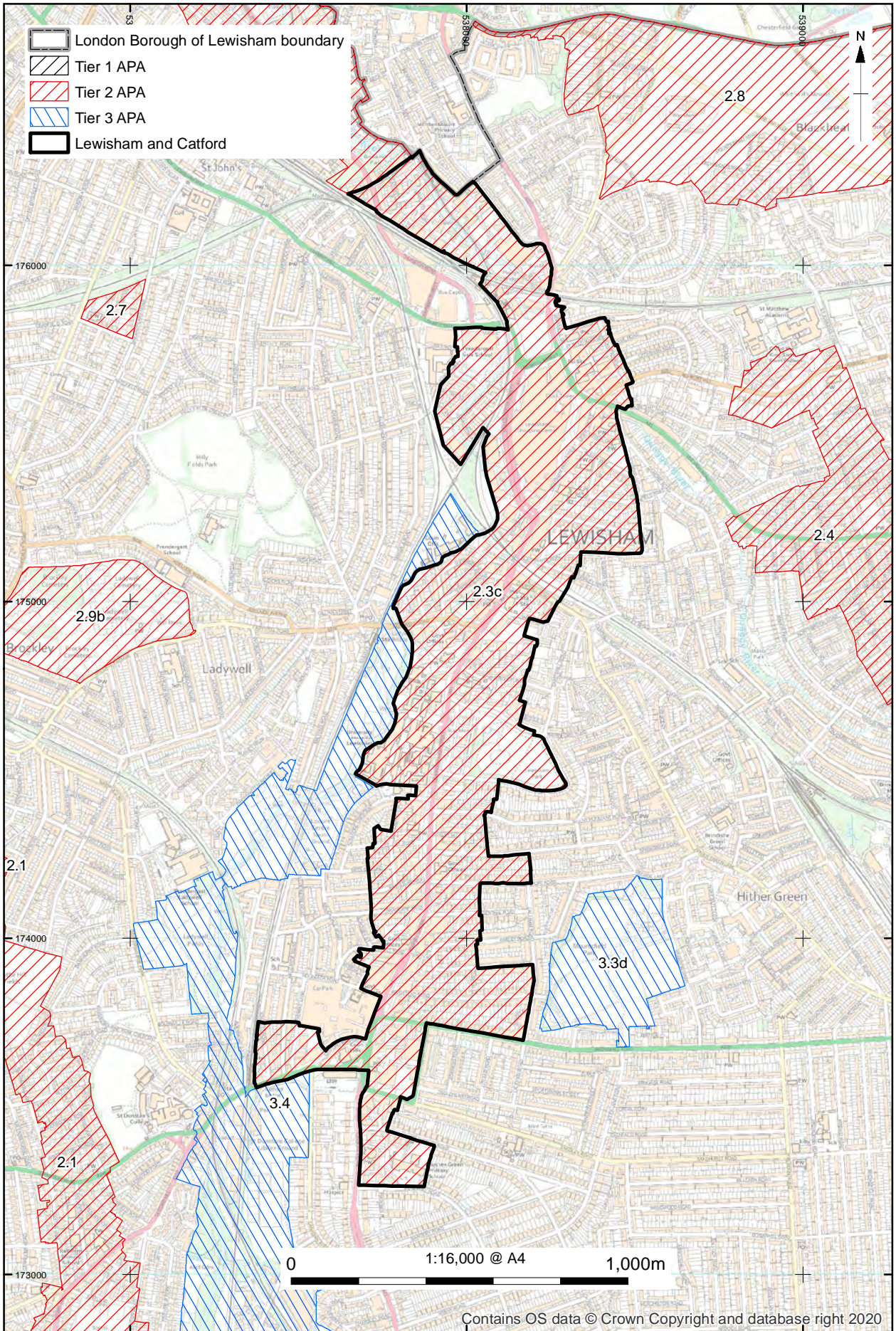
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Lewisham New APA2.3b
Deptford Creek

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Lewisham New APA 2.3c
Lewisham and Catford

7.4 Lewisham APA 2.4 Lee and The Manor House

Summary and Definition

- 7.4.1 The Archaeological Priority Area contains the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Lee. The settlement was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 and contains the site of the medieval church of St Margaret of Antioch and the site of Annesley House, a medieval moated manor. In addition, medieval tenements are likely to be preserved along Old Road and Brandram Road. The APA also includes the site of the 17th century Lee Place and the Victorian St Margaret's Churchyard.
- 7.4.2 The southern part of the APA contains the Grade II* listed 17th century manor house and its associated Grade II listed ice-house and gardens which are a Grade II registered park and garden.
- 7.4.3 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it has the potential to contain archaeological evidence of the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Lee. It will also contain evidence of the medieval and post-medieval manor houses and their grounds. The medieval churchyard associated with St Margaret of Antioch will contain archaeological remains associated with the medieval church as well as medieval and post-medieval burials. The Quaggy River passes through the southern part of the APA. The river was a focus for prehistoric activity and several Mesolithic finds have been recorded along its length. The APA thus also has a general potential to contain prehistoric remains.

Description

- 7.4.4 The Archaeological Priority Area contains the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Lee. The settlement is situated to the north and east of the Quaggy River, a tributary of the River Ravensbourne. The bedrock geology underlying the APA is a combination of Harwich Formation sand and gravel, Lambeth Group clay, silt and sand, and Thanet Formation sand. This is overlain by Kempton Park Gravels in the southern part of the APA. While no Palaeolithic remains have been recorded within the APA, the Kempton Park Gravels have yielded Palaeolithic material in other areas.
- 7.4.5 The Quaggy River was a focus for activity during the early prehistoric period, and elsewhere in the borough Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age finds have been recorded alongside its length. A large concentration of Mesolithic finds has been recorded immediately to the south of the APA. These remains highlight the potential for further Mesolithic remains to be found adjacent to the river within the APA. A mound which may represent a prehistoric barrow has been recorded in the northern part of the APA in the grounds of the Belmont Hill Convent, although the interpretation of this monument is unconfirmed.
- 7.4.6 The settlement of Lee was first recorded in the Domesday survey, when it was referred to as *Lee*, meaning 'place at the wood or woodland clearing'. The survey records the settlement as comprising 11 villagers, two cottagers and two slaves. The settlement was held by the Bishop of Bayeux and was associated with land for four ploughs, five acres of meadows and woodland for ten swine.

- 7.4.7 The medieval churchyard of St Margaret is located in the northern part of the settlement and includes the Grade II listed medieval tower formerly associated with the Church of St Margaret of Antioch and 23 Grade II or II* listed monuments or tombs. The Church of St Margaret of Antioch is thought to have been built around 1080, although it was not mentioned in contemporary chronicles until 1275. The nave of the church was demolished and rebuilt in 1813 to a design by Joseph Gwilt. The 19th century church began to collapse shortly after completion, prompting the construction of a new church which had to be built on the opposite side of Lee Terrace. The only above-ground remains associated with the medieval and early 19th century church are the first storey of the medieval tower. The foundations of the medieval church were re-used during the construction of the early 19th century church and are likely to survive as below-ground archaeological remains.
- 7.4.8 The churchyard contains a range of medieval and post-medieval burials and burial monuments, including the tomb of Edmond Halley (1656–1742), who was from 1720 England's Astronomer Royal and who is best known for computing the orbit of Halley's Comet. The burial ground also contains the tombs of two other Astronomer Royals, Nathaniel Bliss and John Pond.
- 7.4.9 In late 13th century the manor of Lee was held by John de Banquel, after which it passed through a number of hands until in 1511 it was granted to Henry VIII. In 1597 Queen Elizabeth granted the manor to Bryan Annesley and John Wildgoose (his son-in-law) for life. The medieval moated site which was located to the east of Lee Church Street was the home of the Annesley family in the 16th century, remaining intact until at least 1662. The majority of the manor passed to Cordell, Bryan Annesley's youngest daughter, following his death in 1604. Prior to his death, Annesley's oldest daughter Grace (married to Sir John Wildgoose) tried to have her father declared senile in order to take over management of the estate and prevent the property passing to Cordell. This scandal may have inspired the story line for the contemporary Shakespeare play King Lear.
- 7.4.10 Following Bryan Annesley's death in 1604 the manor at Lee became fragmented, and during the 17th and 18th centuries several large country houses were built in the area. Lee Place was built in the early 17th century and incorporated the site of the medieval moated site its grounds. Lee Place was built by George Thomson and in 1670 became the home of Christopher Boone, a wool merchant in London, who established the Grade I listed Almshouse and Chapel on the Lee High Road. The Lee Place estate was subdivided and sold off for piecemeal development in 1819 and in 1825 Lee Place was demolished.
- 7.4.11 Of the other large country houses built in the area at this time, only three survive, The Manor (Old Road), which is a Grade II* listed building, Pentland House (Old Road), which is a Grade II listed building that was built on part of the Lee Place estate, and The Cedars (Belmont Hill), which is now a Grade II listed convent.
- 7.4.12 The Manor was built to the south of the settlement at Lee in 1772 and was bought by Sir Francis Baring in 1792. It remained with the Baring family until it was sold to Lewisham Borough Council in 1899. The gardens associated with the house are a Grade II registered park and garden. They were laid out in the late 18th or 19th century

with a winding perimeter path surrounding a sweeping central lawn which descended to an artificial pond. A Grade II listed 18th century icehouse survives beneath the western boundary of the park.

- 7.4.13 The Grade II* listed Church of St Margaret was built by John Brown between 1839-41 to replace the older church to the north (new Lewisham APA 1.2a). The surrounding churchyard was consecrated in 1841 and covers a 1.5-acre area containing a number of large tombs.

Statement of Significance

- 7.4.14 The Kempton Gravels which underly the APA have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 7.4.15 Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age finds have been recorded elsewhere along Quaggy River and a number of Mesolithic finds are recorded just to the south of the APA. If further prehistoric material was recorded within the APA this would provide insight into the early prehistoric use of the landscape and also technological development in these periods.
- 7.4.16 The settlement of Lee has been continually occupied since the early medieval period. The APA has the potential to contain archaeological deposits associated with the medieval and post-medieval settlement. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlements. This could provide insight into changing settlement and land use patterns, as well as evolving lifestyles during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Any potential future work would help to develop understanding of the medieval settlements and their origins, particularly how and when they developed.
- 7.4.17 The APA contains the remains of a medieval and post-medieval moated site. Moated sites became fashionable in the 13th and 14th centuries, often surrounding isolated manors or farmsteads, but they continued to be created into the post-medieval period. Any archaeological remains associated with the moated site would provide an opportunity to develop a better understanding of the nature of moated complexes in Lewisham and would allow the origins of the manor to be better understood. Remains of the moat, if present, could provide insight into watercourse management and evolving architectural fashions during the medieval period. The infilled moat could also contain environmental remains associated with the manor house and the environment in which it was constructed.
- 7.4.18 The registered park and garden associated with The Manor, will contain archaeological remains associated with the 18th and 19th century country house, its ancillary buildings (including the icehouse) and the evolving garden layout. These remains will provide information about evolving fashions and technological developments during the post-medieval period.
- 7.4.19 The APA contains the medieval churchyard associated with St Margaret of Antioch and the post-medieval St Margaret's churchyard. The burial ground will contain post-

medieval burials and burial monuments. Study of these remains could provide information on the life expectancy, general health and social background of the local community, and the range of diseases from which they may have suffered.

7.4.20 Burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. The interest in burials and burial grounds relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors, and to the study of human populations, including life expectancy, health and disease.

7.4.21 Burial grounds have their own specific legal protections. In accordance with national guidelines³⁸, archaeological investigation of burial grounds normally applies to burials which are over 100 years old. This is governed by ecclesiastical or secular jurisdiction and follows nationally accepted codes of practice and ethics.³⁹ For Christian burials, archaeological investigation follows relevant guidance, in particular that set out by the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England.⁴⁰ Such disturbance could be for development purposes or purposes other than routine small-scale cemetery operations. The views and feelings of relatives and associated faith communities, when known, would need to be considered.

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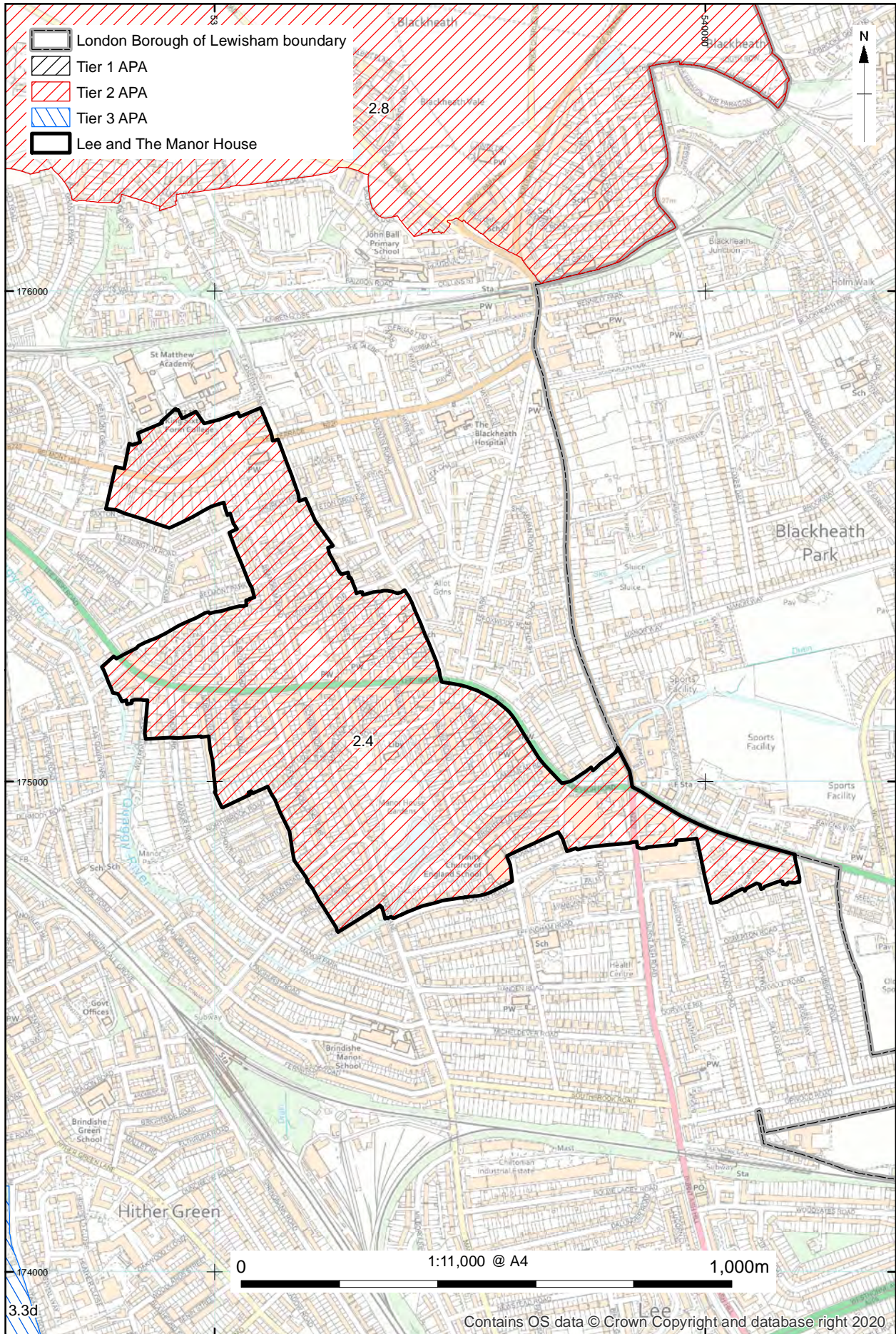
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³⁸ Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds*, second edition

³⁹ British Association of Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology, 2019 *Code of Conduct*; British Association of Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology, 2019 *Code of Practice*

⁴⁰ Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2015 *Large Burial Grounds, Guidance on sampling in Archaeological Fieldwork Projects*; Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds*, second edition; Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2023 *Science and the Dead: Destructive Sampling of Archaeological and Human Remains for Scientific Analysis*

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Lewisham New APA.2.4 Lee and The Manor House

7.5 Lewisham APA 2.5 Sydenham

Summary and Definition

- 7.5.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Sydenham as shown on Rocque's 1745 *Map of London and 10 Miles Round*.
- 7.5.2 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it has the potential to contain medieval and post-medieval settlement remains.

Description

- 7.5.3 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the medieval settlement of Sydenham, which was a sub-manor of Lewisham and adjoined the former Great North Wood. The settlement is first referenced in 1206 as *Chipenham*, meaning 'homestead or enclosure of a man called Cippa'.
- 7.5.4 The discovery of medicinal springs on West Wood Common (see new Lewisham APA 3.3a) in the 1640s attracted numerous visitors, including George II, to the area. This led to the expansion of the settlement at Sydenham and the construction of a number of large houses and villas within the APA. The opening of the Croyden Railway line in 1836 and of the Crystal Palace in Penge to the south of the settlement (see Bromley APA 2.1) prompted the further growth of the settlement.
- 7.5.5 The APA has the potential to contain archaeological remains associated with the medieval and post-medieval settlement. Previous small-scale archaeological investigation carried out within the APA have uncovered evidence of 18th and 19th century buildings, and a range of associated post-medieval features.

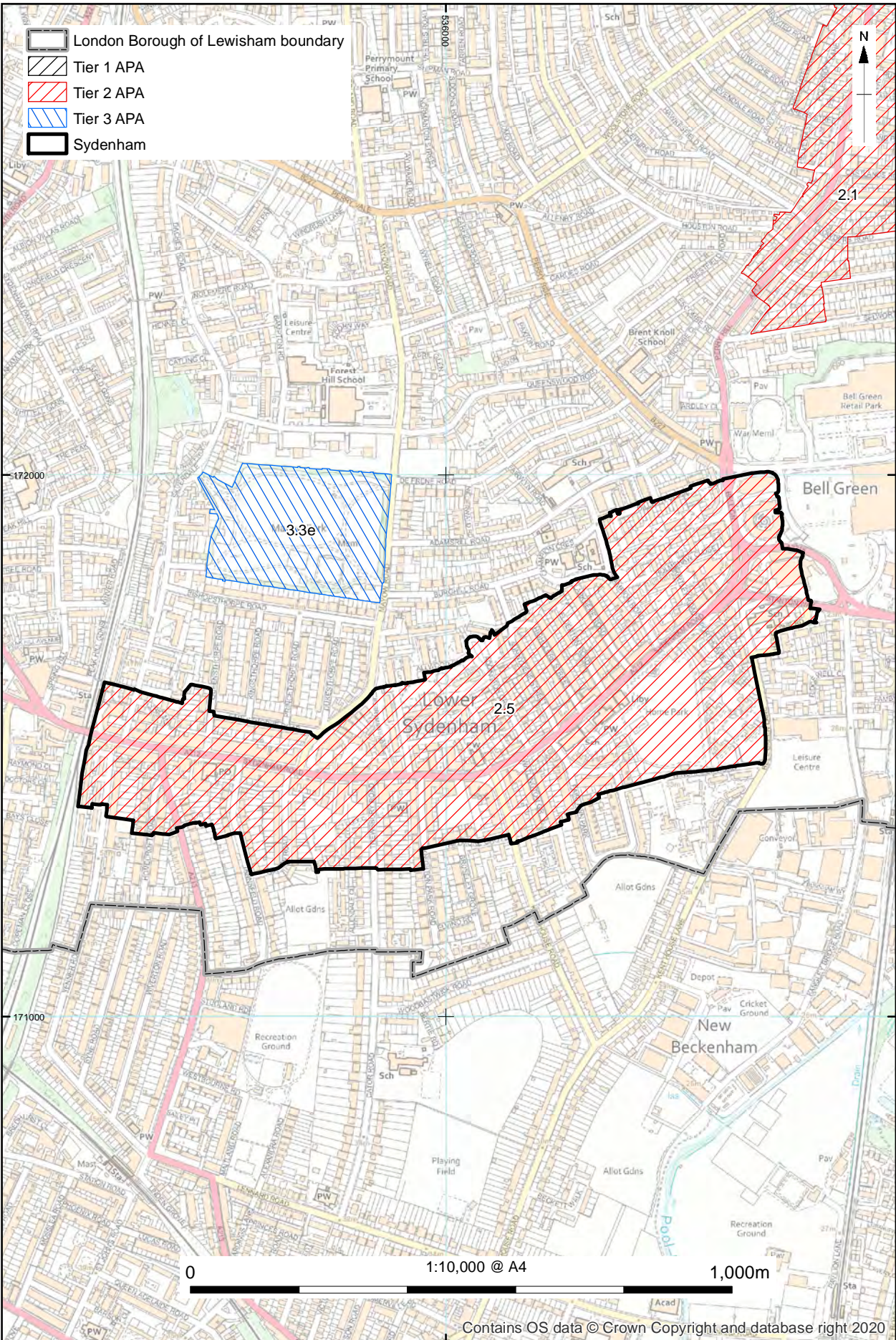
Statement of Significance

The settlement of Sydenham has been continually occupied since the medieval period. The APA has the potential to contain archaeological deposits associated with the medieval and post-medieval settlement. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlements. This could provide insight into changing settlement and land use patterns as well as evolving lifestyles during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Any potential future work would help to develop understanding of the medieval settlement and its origins, particularly how and when it developed.

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7.6 Lewisham APA 2.6 Southend

Summary and Definition

- 7.6.1 The APA covers the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Southend, which was named for its position at the south end of the Parish of Lewisham. The settlement was focused around the Lower and Upper Mill on the River Ravensbourne, and one of the former mill pools survives to the south-west of Bromley Road.
- 7.6.2 The APA has been included at Tier 2 due to its potential to contain medieval and post-medieval settlement remains including early mill structures and their associated ponds. The APA may also contain the remains associated with the medieval Bellingham Manor. The underlying geological deposits have a high potential to contain organic remains and evidence of surviving archaeological features and landscapes as well as evidence of prehistoric activity dating from the Upper Palaeolithic through to the Bronze Age.

Description

- 7.6.3 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Southend. The bedrock geology underlying the settlement is London Clay and Harwich Formation sand and gravel. These deposits are overlain by superficial deposits of Kempton Park Gravel. While no Palaeolithic remains have been recorded within the APA elsewhere the Kempton Park Gravels have yielded Palaeolithic material.
- 7.6.4 The settlement of Southend developed along the banks of the Ravensbourne, and superficial deposits of alluvium have been recorded alongside the river. These deposits may contain waterlogged deposits which could contain rare preserved organic material and palaeoenvironmental evidence for past wetland and riverine environments. The Ravensbourne would have been a focus for activity throughout prehistory, and a number of Mesolithic to Bronze Age findspots have been recorded along its length. There is the potential for similar remains to be present within the APA.
- 7.6.5 During the medieval period the APA was part of the manor of Bellingham. The placename was first referenced in 973 as *Beringa hammes gemæru* when it appeared in a description of the Anglo-Saxon boundaries of Bromley. The settlement later appears in a Saxon Charter of 998 as *Beringaham*, meaning 'homestead or enclosure of the family or followers of Bera'. The medieval manor house is believed to have been located in the northern part of the APA on the site of the later Bellingham Farm.
- 7.6.6 The rest of the medieval settlement appears to have developed around two medieval corn mills situated at the junction of Southend Lane and Bromley Road and to the east of the modern Chelford Road. The mill on South End Lane (also known as Lower Mill) remained a cornmill into the 17th century, becoming a cutlery mill and a mustard mill before reverting back to corn in the 19th century. The mill near the modern Chelford Road (also known as Upper Mill) was referred to as *Lithyngsmille* in medieval documents and was one of the 11 mills recorded along the Ravensbourne in the Domesday entry for Lewisham. This mill remained a cornmill into 19th century, but the last tenant, Jacob Perry, used it for electricity production. Both mills were associated with mill ponds, one of which survives within the modern settlement.

- 7.6.7 During the 18th and 19th centuries several large houses were built within Southend, including Park House, The Hall and Flower House. In 1824 a chapel of ease was built on Bromley Road opposite Lower Mill Pond. The chapel was retained in use as a church hall when the new church, dedicated to St John the Baptist, was built in 1926. The church, hall and gate piers in front of the church are Grade II listed buildings.
- 7.6.8 Following the construction of the railway in the late 19th century, the large country houses of Southend were converted for other uses. Flower House became a lunatic asylum, Park House became a hotel and eventually The Hall became a film studio. The rural character of the village persisted into the early 20th century but was lost following the First World War when large council estates were constructed on either side of the village.

Statement of Significance

- 7.6.9 The Kempton Gravels which underly the APA have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 7.6.10 The alluvium recorded alongside the Ravensbourne could contain waterlogged deposits which may preserve organic material and environmental remains. Preserved organic remains are not common in England. They are therefore of great interest and can provide information about everyday objects and what people ate and drank out of (e.g. wooden bowls, leather bottles, horn cups etc). Environmental remains can help reconstruct past landscapes, providing evidence of land use and landscape change which would not otherwise be available.
- 7.6.11 The River Ravensbourne appears to have been a focus for activity during early prehistory and elsewhere Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age remains have been recorded along its length. If further prehistoric material was recorded within the APA this would provide insight into the early prehistoric use of the landscape and also technological development in these periods.
- 7.6.12 The settlement at Southend has been continually occupied since at least the medieval period and thus the APA has the potential to contain medieval and post-medieval settlement remains. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlement which would provide insight into changing settlement patterns and land use patterns as well as evolving lifestyles during the medieval and post-medieval periods. The origin of the settlement may extend back to the early medieval period. Any future work would help to develop our understanding of the early settlement and its origins, particularly how and when it developed.
- 7.6.13 The APA will contain archaeological deposits associated with the medieval and post-medieval mills recorded at Southend. These remains will provide evidence for technological advances in the milling industry during the medieval and post-medieval periods. The varying usage of the mills over time will provide evidence for changing social and economic trends, resulting from technological developments and changing demand for certain types of goods. The surviving mill pond could also preserve

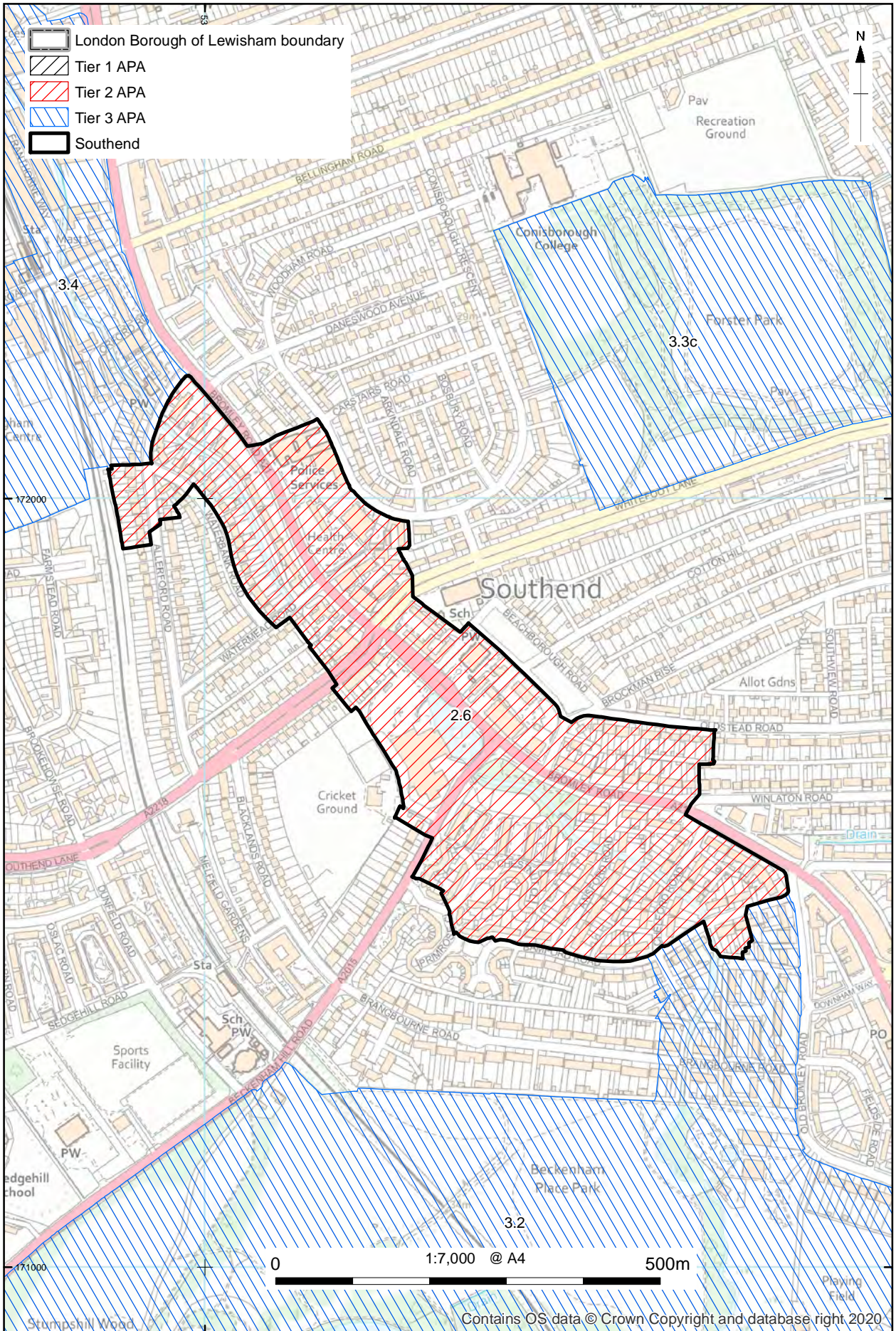
evidence for medieval and post-medieval watercourse management as well as environmental evidence associated with the medieval settlement and the landscape in which it was situated.

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Lewisham New APA 2.6
Southend

7.7 Lewisham APA 2.7 Brockley Priory

Summary and Definition

- 7.7.1 The APA covers the site of a medieval refectory associated with the Premonstratensian abbey known as Brockley Priory. The APA includes the area surrounding the Grade II listed St Peter's Church, the relatively undeveloped land to the north and the houses and gardens to the east.
- 7.7.2 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it contains the site of a medieval building associated with Brockley Priory. The building was discovered in the 19th century during building works at Manor Farm. The APA also has the potential to contain archaeological remains of the medieval abbey buildings and its grounds.

Description

- 7.7.3 The underlying geology of the APA is Lambeth Group clay silt and sand and London Clay, overlain by superficial deposits of Boyn Hill Gravel in the northern part of the APA. The Boyn Hill Gravel is believed to date to between 380 and 130 years BP. Elsewhere these deposits have yielded Acheulian hand axes, although their heavily rolled condition may suggest that they were redeposited from older sediments.
- 7.7.4 A Premonstratensian abbey was founded at Brockley in 1182 and remained in use until 1199, when it was relocated to Hampshire. The Premonstratensian Order was founded by St Norbert Xanten in 1120 and was strongly influenced by the Cistercian Order, which favoured a silent and austere regime of work and prayer. Unlike the Cistercians, the Premonstratensians were Canons Regular rather than monks, meaning that they were priests living together within a community. The canons followed the Rule of St Augustine, a timetable for daily communal devotion twinned with the importance of charity, obedience and individual poverty.
- 7.7.5 The site of the Brockley Priory was marked by some grassy mounds at Manor Farm. A well associated with the priory was uncovered during the construction of St Peter's Church in the late 19th century, whilst excavation of the mounds revealed the foundations of a building. The building was approximately 10.5m long and 6.5m wide with a recess of 3 x 2.9m at the north-east end. The building, believed to be the monastery's refectory, was entered from the south-west side and had a red tile floor. Coins dating from the 14th to 18th centuries were recovered during the excavation suggesting that building may have been reused following the relocation of the abbey.
- 7.7.6 The APA had reverted to agricultural use by the time of John Rocque's 1746 map and is shown on the Ordnance Survey Drawing of 1799 as part of Deptford Common.
- 7.7.7 Following the creation of the railway in the 19th century, the population of Brockley expanded rapidly. The Church of St Peter was built within the APA between 1866 and 1870 to serve this growing population. The church is Grade II listed and was designed by Frederick Marrable (1818-72). It is of particular architectural note due to its unusual and imaginative planning and massing, and the great spaciousness of its nave.

Significance

- 7.7.8 The APA contains the site of a medieval refectory associated with Brockley Priory. Post-conquest monasteries played a significant role in the medieval world.

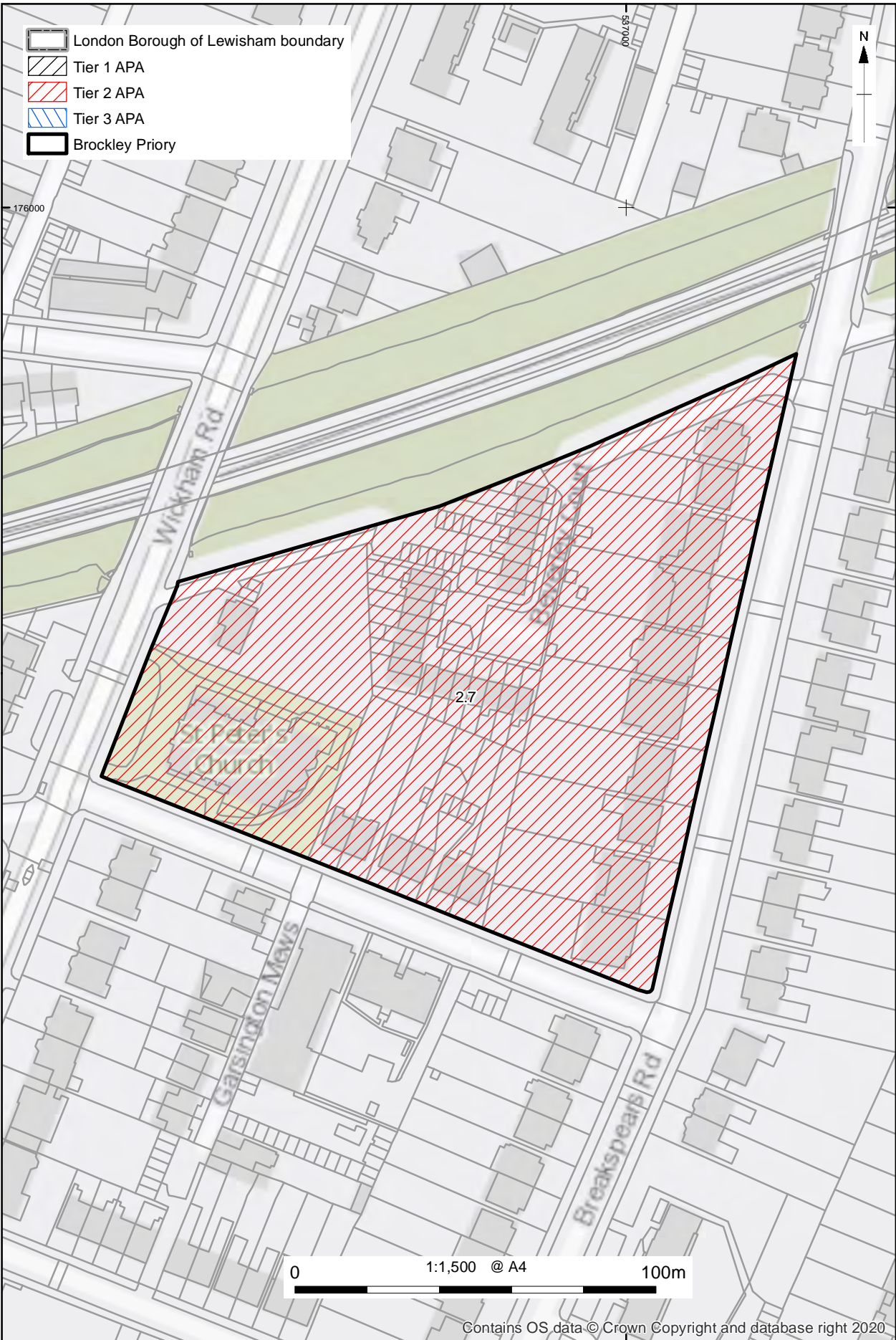
Archaeological remains associated with the priory will provide information about the layout, construction, use and abandonment of the priory. Further investigation of this area could provide information that will contribute to our knowledge and understanding of the life and economy of the priory and the reuse of its monastic buildings following the relocation of the order to Hampshire.

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7.8 Lewisham APA 2.8 Blackheath

Summary and Definition

- 7.8.1 The APA covers Blackheath and the adjacent post-medieval settlements of Dartmouth Hill and Blackheath Village (formerly Dowager's Bottom). The heath has been retained in use as manorial waste or parkland since at least the medieval period and was traditionally used as a place of assembly. The heath was the site of many battles and public events during the medieval and post-medieval periods and during the 18th century it was utilised for non-Conformist religious meetings.
- 7.8.2 The projected line of the Watling Street Roman road (which continues in New APA 2.2) runs along the northern boundary of the APA, and the heath contains site of several undated barrows and numerous prehistoric and Roman findspots that highlight the potential for prehistoric and Roman remains within the APA.
- 7.8.3 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it covers an undeveloped area of manorial waste which has the potential to contain archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric through to the post-medieval period. The heath is of archaeological interest as a surviving element of the medieval and post-medieval landscape and as an island of preservation for earlier remains. As the site of numerous medieval and post-medieval events, the heath has the potential to contain ephemeral evidence of the various assemblies that have taken place over the centuries.
- 7.8.4 The APA lies within the buffer zone for the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site.

Description

- 7.8.5 The earliest remains to be recorded within the APA are two Mesolithic stone tools found in the north-west part of the APA at Dartmouth Hill. A Bronze Age flanged axe and an Iron Age silver coin of Antendios, king of the Icenii, have also been recorded within the APA.
- 7.8.6 Documentary sources record several barrows or *tumuli* on Blackheath and within the walls of Greenwich Park.⁴¹ The barrows described in Greenwich Park, probably refer to the scheduled Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Greenwich Park. The remains at Blackheath included three tumuli or barrows located 'to the right-hand-side of where the road to Dover and that to Lee parts'. The barrows appear to have been partially excavated in 1710 and Hasted states that a great many urns were dug up here, including a globular urn, with Marcus Avrelivis III inscribed on it and a cylindrical urn containing ashes and several coins. The barrows are of uncertain date, but the urns would seem to be Roman in date. Three further Roman cinerary urns holding burnt bone, were discovered alongside a vase, a flagon and saucer in a garden at Dartmouth Hill.
- 7.8.7 The proposed route of Watling Street Roman road passes through the northern part of the APA (see also new Lewisham APA 2.2). The exact course of the road as it passes through Lewisham is unconfirmed but archaeological evidence for the road has been found in the neighbouring borough of Southwark, at Asylum Road, just to the south of the Old Kent Road. From here the road travelled west to east through Lewisham. It

⁴¹ Hasted 1797

probably followed a similar course to the modern Black Heath Hill [road] and New Cross Road, skirting the southern limit of the local Thames gravel terrace to avoid the marshy ground and floodplain which would have occupied the northern part of the borough in Roman times. The Roman road would have crossed the Ravensbourne at Deptford via a ford.

- 7.8.8 During the medieval period the APA was waste land associated with the manor of *Grenviz* (West Greenwich), which was held by Gilbert de Magminot in 1086. The heath apparently gained its name from the distinctive dark soil in the area and was first recorded as *Blachehedfeld* in 1166, becoming *Blakeheth* in 1275. The place name comes from the Old English *blæc* and *hæth*, meaning 'dark-coloured heathland'. The earlier use of *feld* refers to open land.
- 7.8.9 The heath was a traditional place of assembly and the scene of medieval and Tudor pageantry, violent confrontation and dissent. The nature of assembly changed in accordance with prevailing society. In 1011 the Danes were believed to have camped on the heath and in 1382 Wat Tylor gathered his supports here in advance of the Peasants Revolt.⁴² In 1450 Jack Cade and his followers camped on the heath during the Kentish Rebellion and in 1497 Henry VII defeated the Cornish rebels on the heath during the Battle of Deptford. Archaeological evidence of the Tudor battles may have been found during building works at No. 6 Elliot Vale, when circular structure interpreted as a Tudor defensive post was discovered. Alternatively, the structure could be the remains of an icehouse mentioned in a 17th century description of Greenwich Park.
- 7.8.10 Blackheath was also the site of more peaceful activities. Notably, Henry IV met Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Palaiologos on the heath in 1400, and Charles II was welcomed at the heath on his return to London during the Restoration. The heath became the site of an annual fair in 1689 and was used by James I to play golf. In the 18th century it once again became a place for public meetings when John Wesley and George Whitefield, founders of the Methodist movement, preached to crowds of their followers on the heath.
- 7.8.11 The edges of the heath began to be developed for homes for the upper middle classes in the late 17th century when Lord Dartmouth enclosed the western part of the heath to create Dartmouth Row and the Grade II* listed Church of the Ascension. The 17th century development is shown on John Rocque's 1746 map of London. At this time the heath was known as Blackheath Common and was sandwiched between Greenwich Park, Mordon College and a large estate known as Wrinklemarsh which was owned by Gregory Page. A small hamlet known as Dowager's Bottom separated the heath from Wrinklemarsh.
- 7.8.12 During the 18th and 19th centuries housing spread east along the southern edge of the heath, extending from the Grade II* listed Spencer House and Percival House, built in 1689 on the western edge of the heath, to the Grade II* listed Paragon House, built in 1794 in the east. In the 18th century a speculative development known as

⁴² The Peasant's Revolte, led by Wat Tylor protested against the institution of a poll tax and to demanded economic and social reforms.

Blackheath Village was constructed on the site of the earlier Dowager's Bottom and in the 19th century the Blackheath Vale developments were constructed.

- 7.8.13 The APA forms part of the buffer zone for the Greenwich World Heritage Site and contains the Grade II listed Church of All Saints, which was built between 1857 and 1858 by Benjamin Ferry. The spire of the church was constructed deliberately to enhance the Grand Axis of the Greenwich World Heritage Site.

Statement of Significance

- 7.8.14 Blackheath represents a rare island of undeveloped land within the intensively developed Greater London Area. Part of the significance of the APA arises from its relatively undisturbed state and thus its potential to contain well-preserved pre-medieval remains. Prehistoric findspots dating to the Mesolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age have been recorded within the APA, highlighting the potential for further remains dating from these periods. Such remains would improve our understanding of the prehistoric occupation of Lewisham and would provide evidence for technological development during the prehistoric periods.
- 7.8.15 Historical sources record the sites of three possible undated burial mounds within the APA. Further archaeological investigation would provide an opportunity to improve our understanding of the date and function of these features.
- 7.8.16 The proposed alignment of Watling Street passes through the northern part of the APA. This was an important routeway linking *Londinium* with the south-east and the port of Dover. The APA has the potential to contain archaeological and environmental remains associated with the road. It has the potential to contain the remains of additional roadside settlements which could enrich our knowledge about the different types of Roman roadside settlement, and the extent of Roman settlement in Lewisham.
- 7.8.17 Roman cremation burials and a large number of urns were discovered within the APA during the 18th century. Cremations were more common in the early Roman period and provide evidence of early Roman burial practices. The archaeological interest in such remains relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors, and to the study of human populations.
- 7.8.18 The heath has significant historical interest as the site of the battle of Blackheath Field and numerous other events including revel gatherings, military encampments and exercises, royal meetings, religious festivals, sport, fairs and circuses. It has the potential to contain ephemeral evidence of the various assemblies that have taken place over the centuries. Such remains will provide insight into the varied usages of the heath during the medieval and post-medieval periods. It is important that locations of, and relationships between, any unstratified artifacts, particularly metalwork, are appropriately recorded, as this information will make an important contribution to our understanding of the activities and gatherings held on the heath. Unstructured or irresponsible metal-detecting could cause serious harm to this evidence, as could surface-stripping of the topsoil.

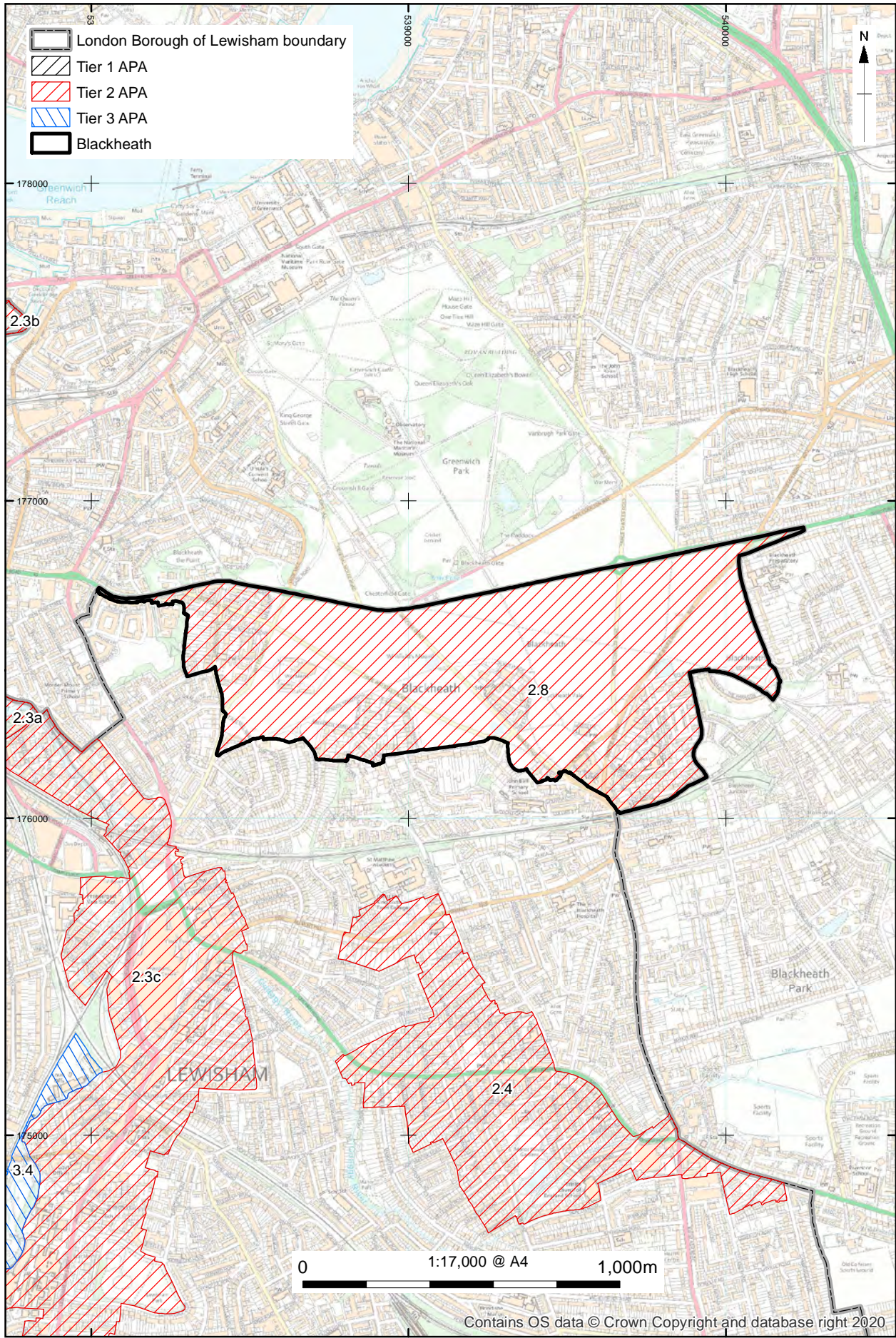
7.8.19 The southern part of the APA contains the site of the post-medieval hamlet of Dowager's Bottom, which was redeveloped in the 19th century to form Blackheath Village. This area has a localised potential to contain early post-medieval settlement remains. Such deposits present an opportunity to assess the buried evidence of historic settlements. This could provide insight into changing settlement and land-use patterns, as well as evolving lifestyles during the post-medieval period. Any potential future work would help to develop understanding of the settlement, its origins, and particularly how and when it developed.

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Lewisham New APA2.8
Blackheath

7.9 Lewisham APA 2.9 Lewisham Burial Grounds

Summary and Definition

- 7.9.1 The Archaeological Priority Areas covers burial grounds and cemeteries within the borough. The APA is classed as Tier 2 as it covers several 19th century cemeteries.
- 7.9.2 Cemeteries or burial grounds that are not discussed here fall within other APAs and have been discussed within the relevant APA descriptions.

Description

APA 2.9a Hither Green Cemetery

- 7.9.3 Hither Green Cemetery is situated in the south-eastern part of the borough, to the east of Verdant Lane. The cemetery was founded in 1873 as Lee Cemetery. The APA covers the original extent of the cemetery prior to its extension in the 20th century.
- 7.9.4 The cemetery contains two gothic chapels which were designed by Francis Thorne and have complex plans and intricate Decorated-style tracery. The western chapel is an Anglican mortuary chapel, while the eastern is a Non-Conformist mortuary chapel. The original cemetery also contained a gothic lodge, which was demolished in the 1960s. The cemetery was extended to the south in the 20th century to accommodate new burials and a garden of rest. A crematorium and chapel were added to the cemetery in 1956. The 20th century additions to the cemetery are excluded from the APA.
- 7.9.5 The APA will contain 19th century burials and burial monuments as well as archaeological remains of the demolished lodge. Notable burials include the cemetery's architect, Francis Thorne (d. 1885) and Lewisham historian Leland Duncan (d. 1923). Within the cemetery there is a Second World War memorial, a memorial to victims of the bombing of Sandhurst Road School (1943), the graves of 39 Commonwealth service personnel from the First World War and a further 198 from the Second World War.

APA 2.9b Ladywell and Deptford Cemeteries

- 7.9.6 Ladywell and Deptford Cemeteries were founded in the centre of the borough in 1858 to serve as burial grounds for the boroughs of Lewisham and Deptford. Both cemeteries were designed by the architectural firm Tinkler and Mophew and they were historically separated by a short wall. The wall was destroyed by bombing in the 1940s, but its alignment is preserved by a grassy ridge. In 1948, the two cemeteries were formerly merged into a single cemetery that now operates under the name Brockley Cemetery.
- 7.9.7 Ladywell Cemetery, which historically served the borough of Lewisham, is situated in the eastern part of the APA. It contains a non-conformist mortuary chapel, the Ladywell First World War memorial and the Grade II listed tomb of Alice, James and David Jones. The entrance gates to the cemetery are also Grade II listed. Historically the cemetery also had an Anglican Chapel, but this was destroyed by bombing during the Second World War.

- 7.9.8 Deptford Cemetery historically served the borough of Deptford and is situated in the western part of the APA. The cemetery contains a Grade II listed war memorial, a chapel and the Grade II listed tomb of the 19th century *cause celebre* Jane Clouson. Clouson was murdered in Kidbrooke Lane in 1871, aged 17, and the case attracted much attention in the press as she had been pregnant at the time of death and had recently been dismissed by her employer, Ebenezer Pook, due to her relationship with his son Edmund. Edmund was charged with her murder but was not found guilty.
- 7.9.9 Deptford Cemetery contained 50,000 occupants by 1889 and consequently it was expanded at this time by c 1.21ha to the south. The non-conformist part of the cemetery contained two chapels (Episcopal and Dissenters) linked by a porch. These were demolished in the 1940s following bomb damage. The south-west corner of the cemetery was used for Roman Catholic burials and from 1868 contained a chapel designed by E W Pugin, which was also demolished following bomb damage.
- 7.9.10 The APA will contain 19th century burials and burial monuments as well as archaeological remains of the demolished cemetery buildings. Some notable occupants of Ladywell and Deptford include the modernist poet David Jones (1885-1974), decadent poet and novelist Ernest Dowson (1867-1900), and the Cuban anarchist writer Fernando Tarrida del Majrrol (1861-1915).

- 7.9.11 Both cemeteries add to the archaeological interest of the Brockley Conservation Area.

Statement of Significance

- 7.9.12 The APA contains burial grounds and cemeteries dating to the 19th century and will contain human remains dating from these periods onwards. Study of any of the burials in these churchyards could provide information on the life expectancy, general health and social background of the local community, and the range of diseases from which they may have suffered.
- 7.9.13 Burials which are more than 100 years old are potentially of archaeological interest. The interest in burials and burial grounds relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors, and to the study of human populations, including life expectancy, health and disease.
- 7.9.14 Burial grounds have their own specific legal protections. In accordance with national guidelines⁴³, archaeological investigation of burial grounds normally applies to burials which are over 100 years old. This is governed by ecclesiastical or secular jurisdiction and follows nationally accepted codes of practice and ethics.⁴⁴ For Christian burials, archaeological investigation follows relevant guidance, in particular that set out by the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England.⁴⁵ Such disturbance could be

⁴³ Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds*, second edition

⁴⁴ British Association of Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology, 2019 *Code of Conduct*; British Association of Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology, 2019 *Code of Practice*

⁴⁵ Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2015 *Large Burial Grounds, Guidance on Sampling in Archaeological Fieldwork Projects*; Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds*, second edition; Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials, 2023 *Science and the Dead, Destructive Sampling of Archaeological and Human Remains for Scientific Analysis*

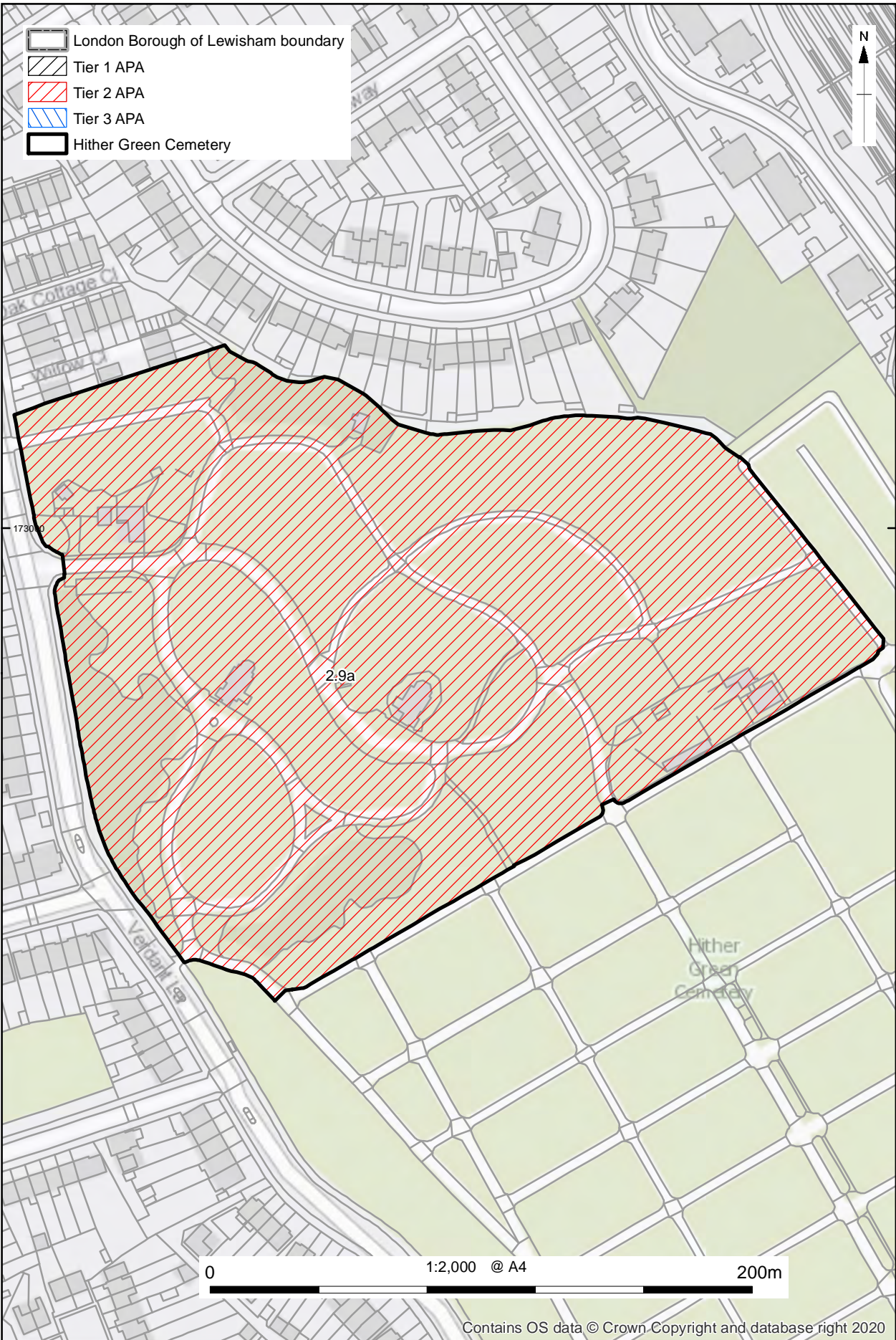
for development purposes or purposes other than routine small-scale cemetery operations. The views and feelings of relatives and associated faith communities, when known, would need to be considered.

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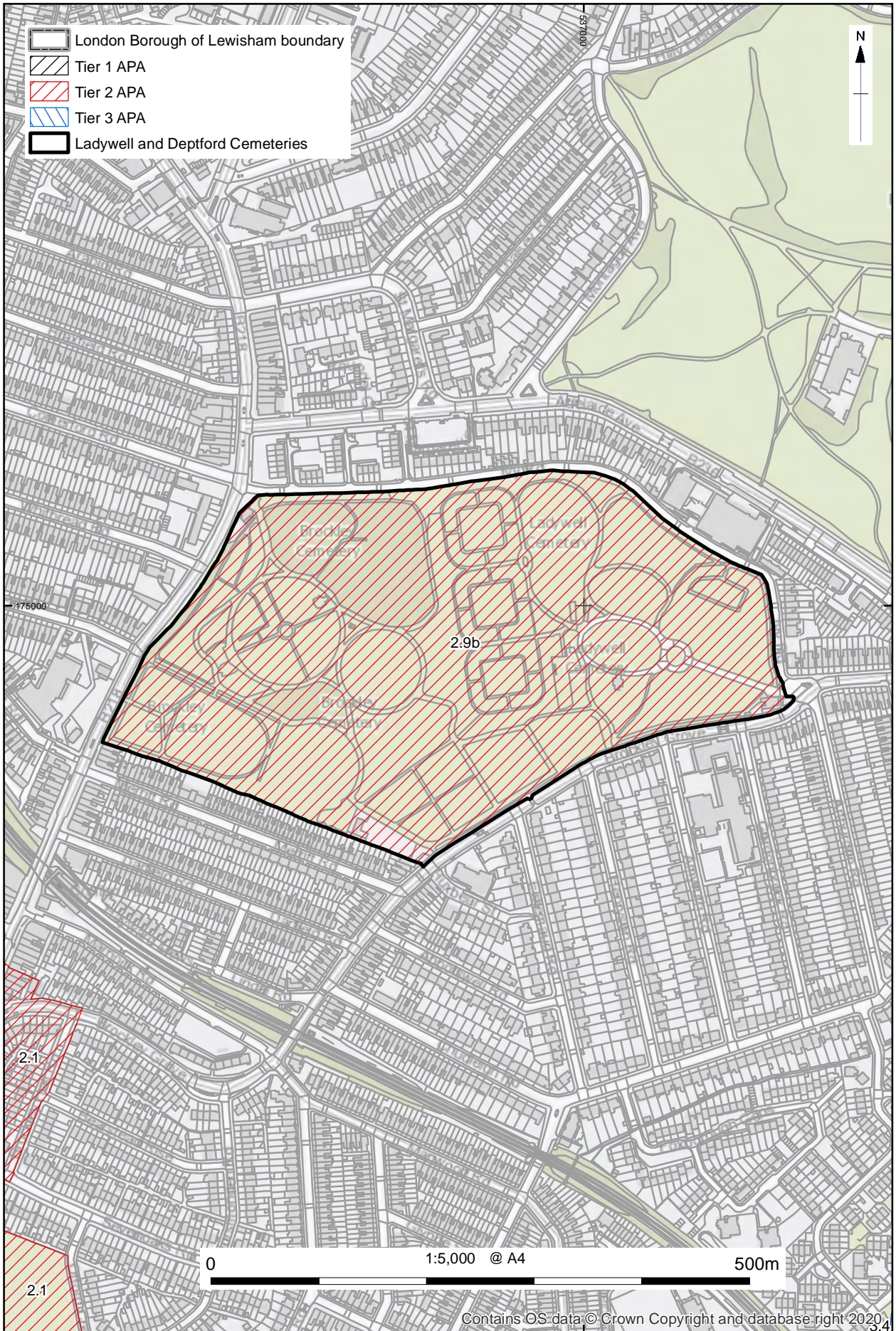


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Lewisham New APA2.9a Hither Green Cemetery

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Lewisham New APA2.9b Ladywell and Deptford Cemeteries

7.10 Lewisham APA 2.10 Telegraph Hill Park

Summary and Definition

- 7.10.1 The Archaeological Priority Area includes the site of Roman cremation burials to the east of the Lewes to London Roman road (APA 2.1) and the 19th century Telegraph Hill Park.
- 7.10.2 The Archaeological Priority Area has been included as Tier 2 as it is the site of two Roman cremation burials. The burials could be part of a wider burial group and may be indicative of a Roman settlement site to the east of the Roman road. Roman funerary and settlement activity could extend into the 19th century park, which sits between the cremations and the road. The parkland will also contain archaeological remains associated with the 18th century semaphore station which gave the park its name.

Description

- 7.10.3 The Archaeological Priority Area covers Telegraph Hill Park and the adjacent houses and gardens. The APA is situated 100m east of the Lewes to London Roman road (new Lewisham APA 2.1) which was one of three major routes which led south from the Roman city of *Londinium*. The road linked the city with Lewes and connected it with iron-producing and corn-growing areas along the south coast. Two Roman cremation burials were found in the eastern part of the APA along with a *Simpulum* (a Roman ladle) and five or six *Lachrymatories* (vessels associated with Roman burials which were thought to hold the tears of mourners). The cremations may indicate the presence of a wider burial group and could also suggest that there was a Roman settlement to the east of the road.
- 7.10.4 From the medieval period onwards, the APA appears to have been in agricultural use. It was known as 'Plow'd Garlick Hill' in 1746 and 1797 and remained in agricultural use until a telegraph station was constructed on the hillside in 1795. Prior to the creation of the optical telegraph, the fastest form of communication was via a rider on horseback. The conflict between Britain and France during the 18th century necessitated the development of a faster form of communication, and so the Semaphore Telegraph System was developed.⁴⁶ This system utilised a chain of intervisible buildings, built on prominent hillsides, which conveyed messages to one another using the eight shutters installed on their roofs. The shutters were opened and closed using a series of levers to create 63 different shutter combinations. Each combination corresponded with a different letter or word, allowing messages to be passed quickly along the chain.
- 7.10.5 The Telegraph Hill station was built in 1795 and was the third station in line from the Admiralty, passing messages to the adjacent station at St George in the Fields and Shooter's Hill. The telegraph station was used to signal Wellington's victory at Waterloo and Nelson's defeat of Bonaparte at Trafalgar. In 1816 a new single-mast telegraph was tried out on the hill and in 1824 a system with rotating pointers was

⁴⁶ Claude Chappe successfully demonstrated the feasibility of optical telegraphy in France in 1794 and shortly afterwards most countries in Europe (including England) created at least one experimental line.

also utilised. The station closed in 1836 following the introduction of the railway to the area and the development of the electrical telegraph, which provided a faster and more secure form of communication.

- 7.10.6 Telegraph Hill Park was created in 1898 on the site of the earlier telegraph station. The park was funded by George Livesey, a local philanthropist and director of the Metropolitan Gas Company, and designed by Lt-Col J J Sexby, the Chief Parks Superintendent to the London County Council. The park was laid out over two plots either side of Kitto Road and originally would have had a bandstand, ponds and elaborate walks, with perimeter planting. George Livesey also presented a drinking fountain to the park, but this is no longer present. A shelter and toilets were added later to the northern part of the park, and tennis courts were built on the site of the former semaphore station.

Statement of Significance

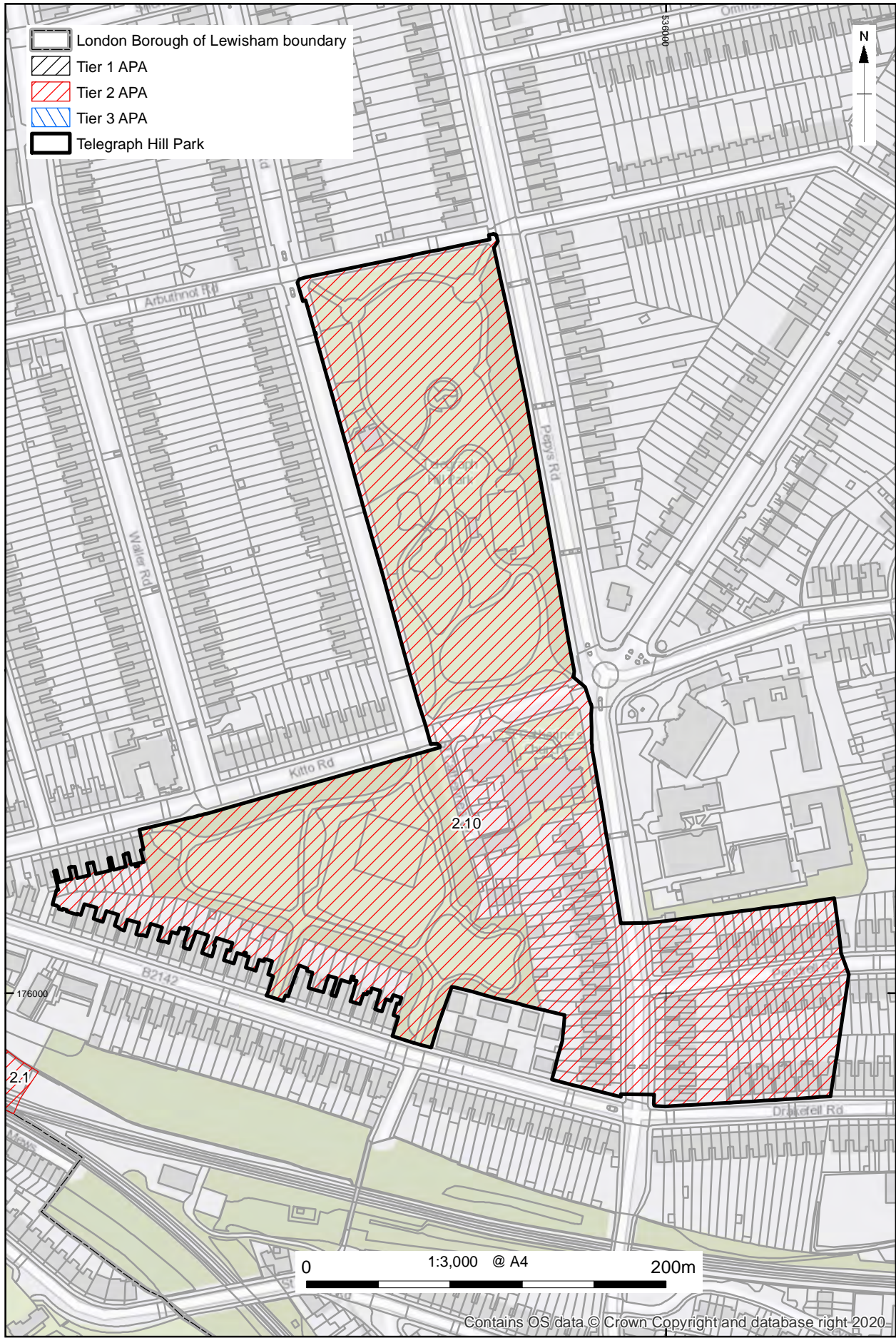
- 7.10.7 Telegraph Hill Park represents a rare island of undeveloped land within the intensively developed Greater London area. Part of the significance of the APA arises from its relatively undisturbed state and thus its potential to contain well-preserved pre-medieval remains. The two Roman cremation burials that have been recorded within the APA provide evidence of early Roman burial practices. The archaeological interest in such remains relates to differences in burial practices, buildings and monuments which typically reflect a variety of social and religious factors, and to the study of human populations.
- 7.10.8 Semaphore stations were developed in the 18th century to quickly pass messages between government offices and military installations. The optical telegraph system was replaced by the electrical telegraph in the 19th century and few of the earlier semaphore stations survive. The APA may contain archaeological remains associated with the 18th century semaphore station at Telegraph Hill. Such remains could provide evidence for technological development in the telegraph industry during the c 40 years of the stations operation. The remains will also be of historic interest due to the station's links with famous battles such as Trafalgar and Waterloo.

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Lewisham New APA2.10 Telegraph Hill Park

7.11 Lewisham APA 2.11 Hatcham Park Medieval Moated Site

Summary and Definition

- 7.11.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the site of a medieval manor house recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086. The house was bought by the Haberdashers Company in 1614 and is shown with a moat on Roques map of 1745. The house was rebuilt in 1770 and demolished in 1869.
- 7.11.2 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it has the potential to contain archaeological evidence of the medieval and post-medieval manor house and moat. While the moat has been infilled, it has the potential to contain waterlogged deposits which include organic material and paleoenvironmental remains.

Description

- 7.11.3 The Archaeological Priority Area contains the site of the medieval manor house associated with Hatcham. The underlying bedrock geology of the area is made up of Thanet sand, which is overlain by superficial deposits of Kempton Park Gravel topped by the Langley Silt Complex. While no Palaeolithic remains have been recorded within the APA, elsewhere the Kempton Park Gravel together with the layers at the base of the Langley Silt Complex have yielded well-preserved Palaeolithic remains.
- 7.11.4 The manor of Hatcham was referred to in the Domesday survey of 1086 as *Hacheham*, meaning 'Hæccī's village' or 'the village in the clearing in the woods'. The Domesday survey describes the settlement as a small settlement of nine villagers and two smallholders, associated with land for three ploughs, six acres of meadowland and woodland for three pigs. The manor was conferred on the Bishop of Bayeaux following the Norman Conquest and in the 12th century land from the manor was granted to Gilbert de Hatcham, who built a moated manor house in the area. The manor house and its environs were bought by the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers in 1614. The moated manor house appears on the 1619 Haberdashers Map and John Rocque's 1746 map. By 1746 the house was known as Hatcham House and was set within a square moat and surrounded by gardens.
- 7.11.5 The house was rebuilt in the 1770s and became the home of Joseph Hardcastle, who lived in the house between 1788 and 1819. Hardcastle was a prominent merchant, philanthropist and supporter of the abolition of slavery movement. The creation of the railway in the 19th century led to the decline of the house and in 1840 the Haberdashers' Committee for Estates began to discuss the conversion of the house and grounds of Hatcham Park. The house was demolished in 1869 and the new estate was completed by 1894.

Statement of Significance

- 7.11.6 The APA has the potential to contain remains of a medieval and post-medieval moated manor site. Moated sites became fashionable in the 13th and 14th centuries, often surrounding isolated manors or farmsteads, but continued in use into the post-medieval period. Any archaeological remains associated with the moated site would provide an opportunity to develop a better understanding of the nature of moated

complexes in Lewisham and would allow the origins and development of the manor to be understood.

7.11.7 Archaeological remains associated with the moat could provide insight into medieval and post-medieval watercourse management. The APA may also contain environmental remains associated with the manor and the landscape in which it was situated.

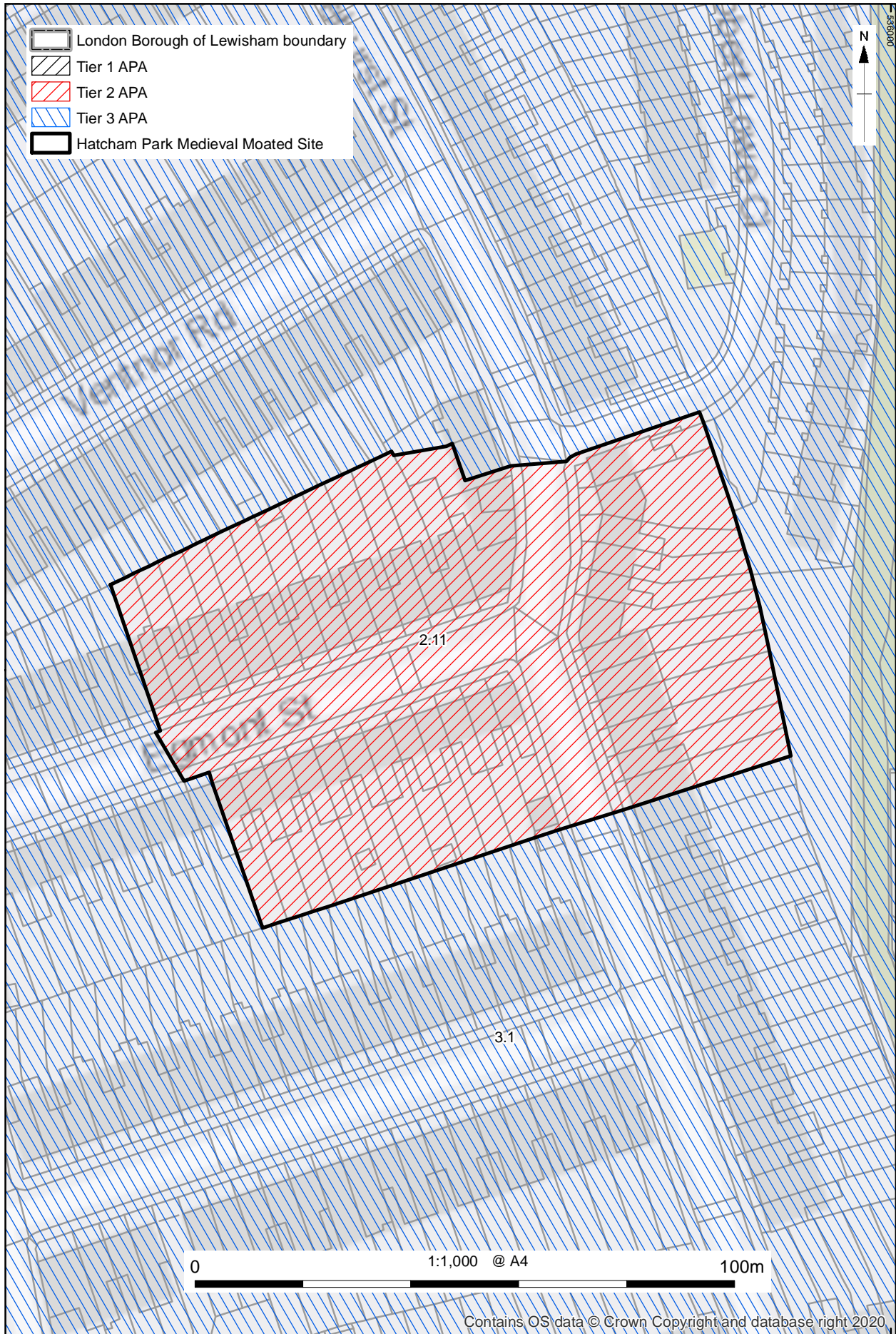
7.11.8 Superficial deposits of Kempton Park Gravel and the Langley Silt Complex underly the APA. These deposits have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.

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Lewisham New APA2.11 Hatcham Park Medieval Moated Site

7.12 Lewisham APA 2.12 Horniman Gardens

Summary and Definition

- 7.12.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the Grade II Registered Park and Garden and public park known as Horniman Gardens.
- 7.12.2 The APA has been included at Tier 2 as it will contain archaeological remains associated with the 19th century Surrey House and its associated gardens. The APA has been subject to little previous ground disturbance and accordingly it also has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains.

Description

- 7.12.3 Horniman Gardens is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden and public park and includes the site of the 19th century Surrey House and its associated gardens. The park was part of Wood Common (later Sydenham Common), a large area of common land in the south-west of the borough, until the area began to be developed in the 19th century. In 1868 Surrey House was purchased by Frederick Horniman, son of John Horniman, the founder of Horniman's Tea Company. In 1888 Horniman moved into the adjacent property, Surrey Mount, and Surrey House was converted into a public museum. In 1898 a new, purpose-built museum, Horniman Museum, was built to replace Surrey House, and in 1901 the museum and gardens were given to London County Council for the people of London as a gift in perpetuity. The Horniman Museum is a Grade II* listed building and the forecourt railings, walls and gate piers associated with the museum are a Grade II listed building. To the south of the entrance of the museum there are five levels of stone-paved terraces which are Grade II listed.
- 7.12.4 Surrey Mount was damaged during the Second World War and was used as a refreshments house until it was demolished during the 1960s. The site of the house is located in the area of the Prehistoric Garden. The gardens were extended in 1911 and 1930, when the houses situated on neighbouring plots on London Road were demolished. In the 1950s, the sloping land to the east was added to the park and in 1988 the conservatory from Coombe Cliff House (the Horniman family home) was rebuilt at the back of the museum. The Combe Cliffe Conservatory is a Grade II listed building.
- 7.12.5 The APA has been retained as common land and gardens since the 18th century and has been subject to little later disturbance. Accordingly, it has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains and will contain archaeological evidence associated with Surrey House, the Horniman Museum and the associated gardens.

Statement of Significance

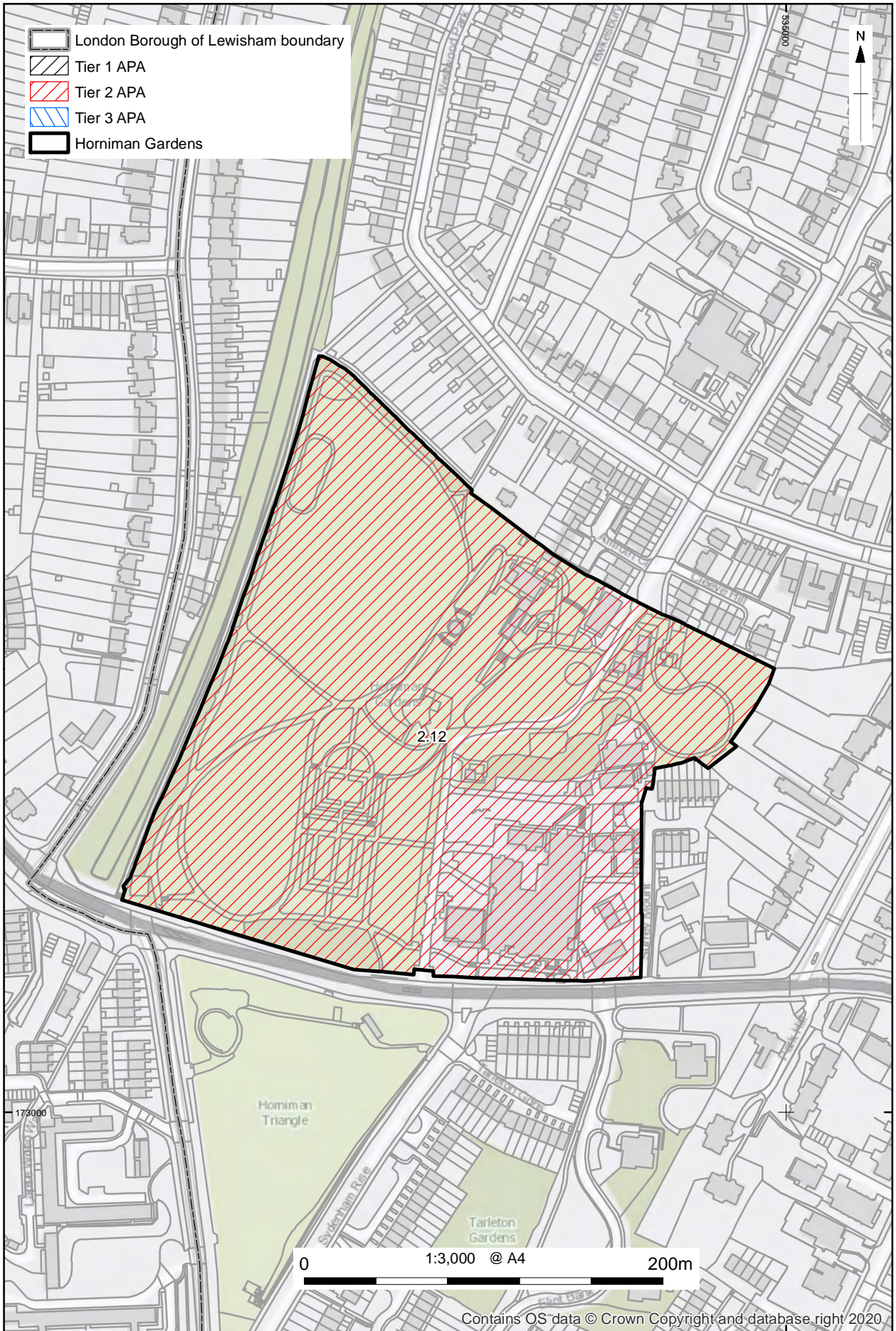
- 7.12.6 Horniman Gardens represents a rare island of undeveloped land within the intensively developed Greater London area. Part of the significance of the APA arises from its relatively undisturbed state and thus its potential to contain well-preserved pre-medieval remains.
- 7.12.7 Surrey House and its associated gardens were constructed within the APA in the 19th century. Archaeological remains and landscape features associated with the 19th

century house and gardens could provide insight into 18th and 19th century landscape design and evolving fashions and trends during the 18th and 19th centuries.

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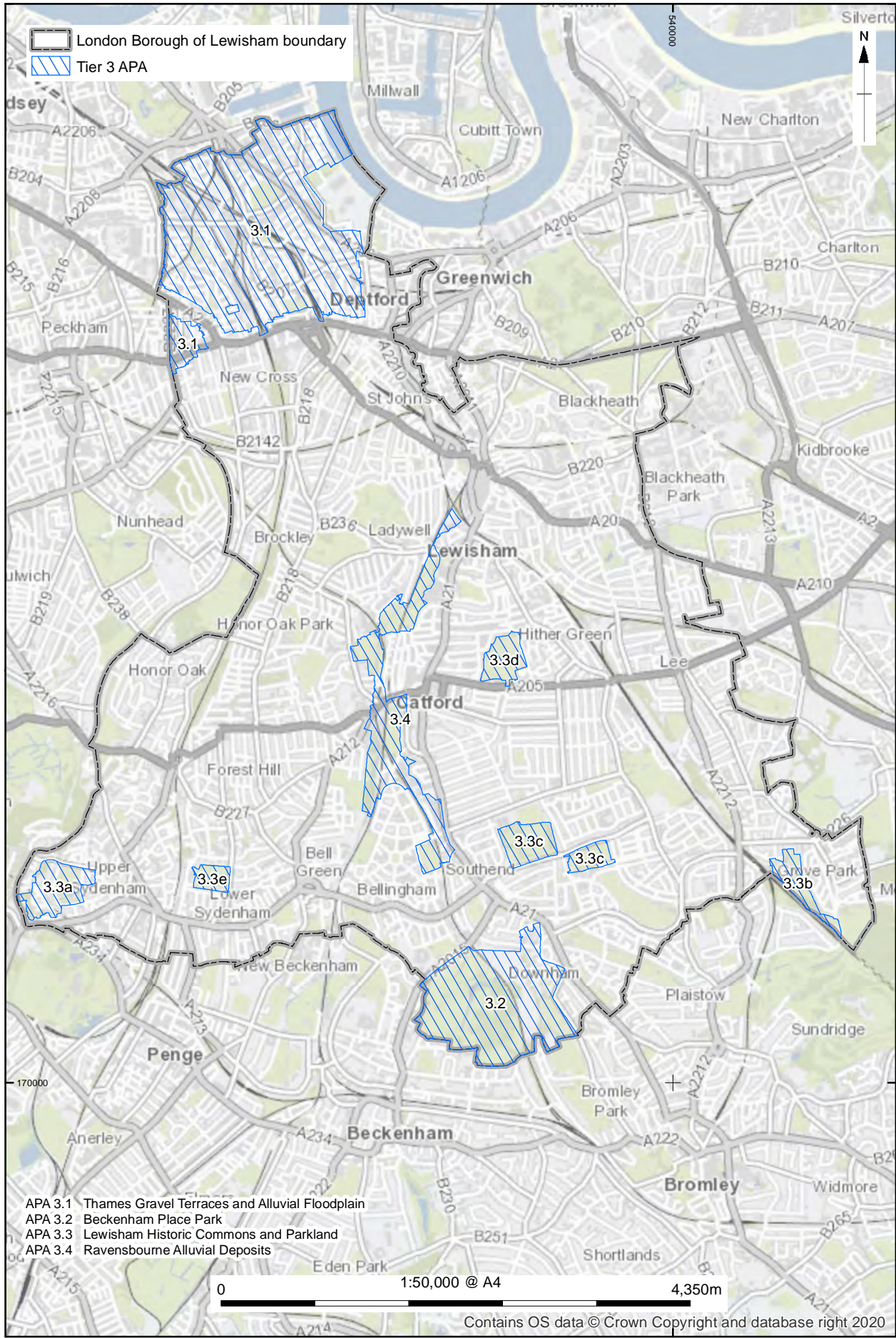


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Lewisham New APA 2.12
Horniman Gardens

8 NEW AREA DESCRIPTIONS FOR TIER 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS



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8.1 Lewisham APA 3.1 Thames Gravel Terraces and Alluvial Floodplain

Summary and Definition

- 8.1.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the alluvial deposits associated with the River Thames, as well as stretches of prominent river gravel terraces situated in the northern part of the borough. The gravel terrace deposits are commonly associated with evidence of successive prehistoric communities, including enclosed fields and open settlements. The alluvial deposits in the northern part of the APA and are up to 12m thick. These deposits will contain evidence of environmental changes as well as evidence of prehistoric activity dating from the Upper Palaeolithic through to the Bronze Age.
- 8.1.2 The Archaeological Priority Area has been included in Tier 3 because it is an extensive geological area with a high potential to contain organic remains and evidence of surviving archaeological features and landscapes. Groundworks associated with the large-scale railway infrastructure which divides the borough would have resulted in the truncation or removal of archaeological deposits from some parts of the APA.

Description

- 8.1.3 The underlying pre-Quaternary bedrock geology of the Archaeological Priority Area is made up of Thanet sand with surviving chalk bedrock in the north-east part of the APA and a band of Lambeth Group Clay Silt and Sand along the southern boundary of the APA. These deposits are overlain by Kempton Park Gravels. The Kempton Park Gravels are river gravel terraces associated with an earlier alignment of the River Thames. In places (such as new Lewisham APA 1.1) these terraces are cut by later alignments of the Thames. The Kempton Park Gravels are overlain in the south-western part of the APA by up to 3m of brickearth (Langley Silt Complex) which was deposited at c 17,000 BC. The gravels in the northern part of the APA are overlain by alluvium associated with the River Thames, which is in some places up to 12m thick.
- 8.1.4 The geological deposits within the APA have the potential to contain archaeological remains from all periods of prehistory. While no Palaeolithic remains have been recorded within the APA, elsewhere within London Palaeolithic finds have been recovered from the Kempton Park Gravels. The Kempton Park Gravels, the Shepperton Gravels and the base of the Langley Silt Complex are considered to have the most potential to contain Upper Palaeolithic remains in London.
- 8.1.5 The alluvial deposits in the northern part of the APA have the potential to contain waterlogged deposits which could preserve rare organic material or palaeoenvironmental evidence which could provide evidence for environmental change throughout prehistory, including the loss of the European land-bridge c 7000 BC and the prehistoric clearance of the once extensive woodland in this area. The deep alluvial deposits along the banks of the Thames have in adjacent boroughs yielded Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and early Neolithic flint scatters and evidence of middle and later Bronze Age sites, including the remains of tracks, timber platforms, occupation sites and vegetation clearance. Waterlogged deposits and peat have been recorded within the APA at Silwood Street and are probably Bronze Age in date. Isolated Neolithic and Bronze Age finds have also been recorded from the area.

- 8.1.6 During the prehistoric period the northern part of the borough probably consisted of low-lying marshes separated by braided river channels, interspersed with sand and gravel eyots. Prehistoric settlement activity within the APA is likely to be focused on these islands and the higher gravel terraces in the southern part of the APA. This part of the APA could contain archaeological evidence of successive prehistoric communities and settlements.
- 8.1.7 The alignment of the Roman road Watling Street runs immediately to the south of the APA (see new Lewisham APA 2.20). The road connected London with Dover in Roman period and remained an important routeway into the medieval periods. To date no Roman remains have been recorded within the APA. If Roman remains are present, they are likely to be focused on the southern part of the APA on the higher ground adjacent to the road.
- 8.1.8 During the medieval period, the APA was predominantly in agricultural use, with settlement activity focused upon the nearby towns at Deptford (see new Lewisham APA 2.3) and Hatcham (see new Lewisham APA 2.11) as well as the Royal Dockyard at Deptford (see new Lewisham APA 1.1).
- 8.1.9 In 1665 the area to the north of the Royal Dockyard, then known as Red House, was leased by Sir Denis Gauden, the licenced Surveyor of Marine Victuals, to ease the pressure of the Naval Board's victualing operations, which were based at Tower Hill. The Red House continued to be used for Naval Victualling by private contractors until 1742, when Red House and 11 acres of the Sayes Court Estate was leased by the Victualling Commissioners and the area was redeveloped with the intention of consolidating naval victualing activities in one location. In the 1740s a mill for producing oatmeal was built and a cooperage was built on the site to prepare damaged casks. In 1747 a bakehouse was also constructed on the site. The victualling yard was redeveloped in the 1780s following a series of fires to designs by James Arrow (Surveyor to Victualling Yard, 1774-1785) and by 1785 the yard became the centre of operation for the Navy's Victualling Board. The new victualling yard had a row of riverside storehouses with a variety of purpose-built manufacturing areas to the rear. A large cooperage was located in the south of the yard and a meat-processing area was constructed in the western part of the yard. The northern part of the yard contained housing for senior officers and a brewhouse, and the central part of the yard contained a large bakery.
- 8.1.10 The victualling yard expanded during the late 18th and early 19th centuries as a result of the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, and by 1813 the yard covered a c 20ha area. In 1858, following a visit by Queen Victoria, the yard was renamed the Royal Victoria Victualling Yard. Following the closure of the Royal Dockyard in 1869, the victualling yard expanded to the south and the boundary wall which previously separated the two areas was removed. The yard remained in operation into the 20th century, although after the Second World War it was utilised less as a storehouse and more for the quality checking and inspection of goods. The yard finally closed in June 1961 and the majority of the old victualing yard buildings were demolished.
- 8.1.11 During the 19th century the APA became increasingly industrialised, and the Grand Surrey Canal was constructed to transport timber from the Surrey Commercial Docks.

The first part of the canal, extending as far as the Old Kent Road, opened in 1807, and by 1826 the canal had been extended to Peckham. The canal began to decline in the 1940s, when part of it was abandoned, and in 1960 much of it was drained. The dock at the entrance of the canal was closed in 1970 and in 1974 the rest of the canal was drained.

- 8.1.12 By the late 19th century, the APA was crossed by several railway lines. The introduction of railways into the area at this time prompted the largescale residential development of the area and by the early 20th century the remaining agricultural land within the APA had been developed for housing.

Statement of Significance

- 8.1.13 The Archaeological Priority Area was extensively developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Ground disturbance associated with the construction of housing and railway lines will have disturbed more recent archaeological deposits in this area. However, the deep alluvial deposits and river gravels underlying this development retain a significant potential to contain well-preserved archaeological remains and environmental evidence. The Kempton Park Gravels and the Langley Silt Complex have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 8.1.14 The deep alluvium recorded in the northern part of the APA has the potential to contain archaeological remains from all periods. Such remains are significant as they will contribute to our understanding of the early development of the Thames, and the exploitation of its floodplain from the prehistoric period through to the present day. The alluvium and peat deposits in this area will contain waterlogged deposits which could preserve rare organic material and environmental remains. Preserved organic remains are not common in England. They are therefore of great interest and can provide information about everyday objects and what people ate and drank out of (e.g. wooden bowls, leather bottles, horn cups etc). Environmental remains can help reconstruct past landscapes, providing evidence of land use and landscape change which would not otherwise be available.
- 8.1.15 The Naval victualling yard in the north-eastern part of the APA will contain archaeological evidence of the mills, factories, storehouses and docks which were located in this area during the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. During the four centuries of its operation, the yard housed a variety of different storehouses, docks, mills, bakeries, butchers and breweries. Surviving archaeological remains associated with these structures will provide evidence for the former layouts of the yard and its evolution over time. These remains will also provide evidence for industrial advancement and development in the shipbuilding, milling and food and drink processing industries during the post-medieval period.

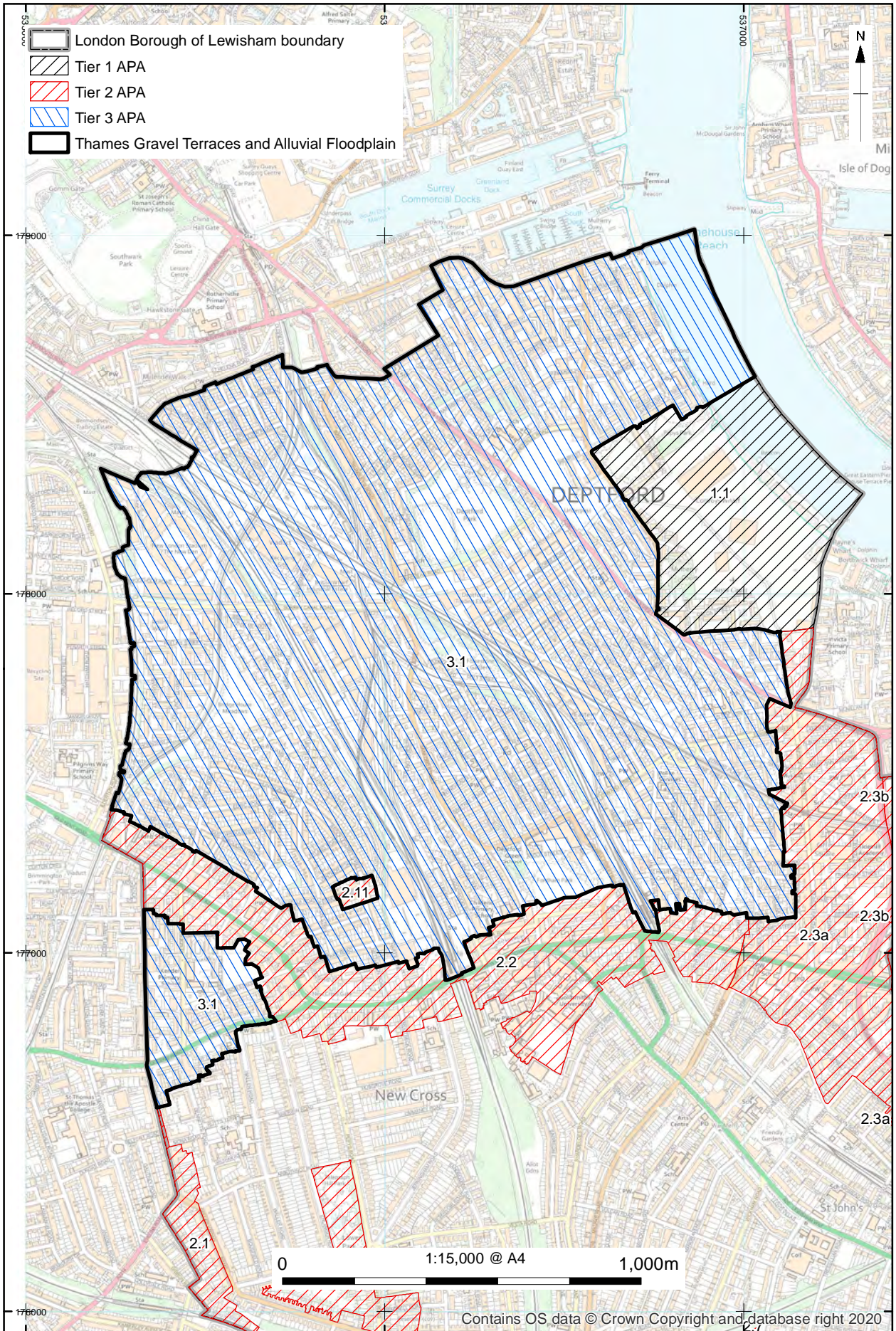
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Lewisham New APA3.1 Thames Gravel Terraces and Alluvial Floodplain

8.2 Lewisham APA 3.2 Beckenham Place Park

Summary and Definition

- 8.2.1 The Archaeological Priority Area covers the remains of Beckenham Place Park, which is located in the south-west of the borough. The park was created on the site of the medieval manor of Foxgrove and is centred on Beckenham Place a Grade II* listed 18th century manor house.
- 8.2.2 The layout of the 18th century park remains present, although it has been eroded by the construction of the 19th century railway line and the 20th century golf course. Pre-18th century landscape features, including field boundaries, ancient woodland and ridge and furrow earthworks, also survive within the APA.
- 8.2.3 The APA has been included at Tier 3 as it represents a distinctive rural landscape that has been subject to little previous development. The APA has the potential to contain archaeological remains associated with the medieval manor and post-medieval parkland. The River Ravensbourne passes through the eastern part of the APA and would have been a focus for activity throughout prehistory, and elsewhere a number of Mesolithic and Bronze Age findspots have been recorded it along its length. The alluvium and gravel deposits associated with the river have the potential to contain organic and environmental evidence which will provide evidence of environmental change and prehistoric activity. Given its proximity to the London to Lewes Roman Road the APA also has a general potential to contain Roman remains.

Description

- 8.2.4 The Archaeological Priority Area covers Beckenham Place Park, an 18th century parkland founded by John Cator the younger.
- 8.2.5 The geology within the eastern part of the park is a combination of Thanet Formation Sand and Lambeth Group Clay Silt and Sand, overlain by superficial deposits of Kempton Park Gravel. The River Ravensbourne runs on a sinuous, north to south alignment through this part of the APA and has laid down deposits of alluvium along its banks. The western part of the APA is situated on London Clay and Harwich Formation Sand and Gravel, which is overlain in places by superficial head deposits.
- 8.2.6 While no Palaeolithic remains have been recorded within the APA, elsewhere the Kempton Park Gravels have yielded Palaeolithic finds. The Ravensbourne would have been a focus for activity throughout the prehistoric periods, and a number of Mesolithic to Bronze Age findspots have been recorded along its length. Flint tools were recovered from the gardens of 18 Ashgrove Road within the APA and there is the potential for further prehistoric remains to be discovered alongside the Ravensbourne. The alluvium alongside the Ravensbourne has the potential to contain waterlogged deposits which may contain rare preserved organic material and/or palaeoenvironmental evidence.
- 8.2.7 At the time of the Domesday survey of 1086 the lands within the APA were probably part of the manor of Beckenham, which belonged to the Bishop of Bayeaux. At this time the estate probably included lands later associated with the manor of Foxgrove. The medieval manor of Foxgrove is shown on John Rocque's 1746 map of London a

short distance to the south of the 18th century Beckenham Place (around Beckenham Place Road) and is first mentioned in an inquisition document dated to 1274. By the 17th century the whole of the Beckenham Estate was owned by Walter St John and later by Fredrerick Viscount Bolingbroke. John Cator⁴⁷ acquired the land for Beckneham Place Park in 1757 and built his house in 1762. Shortly afterwards, in 1773, Cator also acquired the manorial rights to the Beckenham Estate.

- 8.2.8 The 18th century Beckenham Park was centred around the Grade II* listed Beckenham Place and contained several Grade II listed buildings, including the stable block, outbuildings and garden walls to Beckenham Place and a pair of park lodges on the northern edge of the park. A third lodge was located on the north-eastern edge of the park, near Ashgrove Road, but this is no longer present. The layout of the park is shown on the 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing of Bromley. At this time the park was a mixture of parkland and woodland, with some older agricultural enclosures in the western half of the park. The woodland in the park preserved parts of an older woodland known as Summerhouse Hill Wood, which is shown on John Roques' 1746 map. The remnants of Summerhouse Hill Wood are designated as ancient woodland. The original park also contained a U-shaped lake (in the centre of the APA) which has since been infilled. Elements of the agricultural landscape pre-dating the park survive within the APA, including field boundaries, wood banks, coppiced and pollarded standards, and areas of ridge and furrow earthworks. In the 19th century the park was divided into two parts by the London, Chatham and Dover Railway, and several gravel pits were opened up alongside the railway line.
- 8.2.9 Beckenham Place remained in the hands of the Cator family until 1927, although it was tenanted in later years, becoming a school for boys in the late 19th century and then a sanatorium. In 1927 it was purchased by London County Council and in 1929 part of the park opened as a golf course. Despite its change of use, remnants of the 18th century landscape park such as the woodland plantations survived within the golf course, although the lake was drained and some of the earlier plantations were reduced and obscured by golf course planting.
- 8.2.10 During the Second World War the park was used as a prisoner-of-war camp, and military installations including anti-aircraft batteries and barrage balloons were added. The rest of the park was utilised as allotments and grazing land. Greater London Council took control of the park in 1965, and from 1971 it became the responsibility of the London Borough of Lewisham. A Lottery-funded restoration project has reversed some of the later changes to the park and reinstated some historic features, such as the lake and areas of planting. The golf course no longer exists and the whole park has full public access.

Statement of Significance

- 8.2.11 The APA covers the remains of an 18th century landscaped park. It contains areas of ancient woodland and relict landscape features associated within the pre-18th century landscape. With the exception of the construction of the railway line in the

⁴⁷ John Cator was a prominent Quaker and during his lifetime was the MP for Wallingford, Ipswich and later became the Sheriff for Kent

19th century, the APA has remained undeveloped since the medieval period and represents a rare island of undisturbed land within the intensively developed Greater London area. Part of the significance of the APA arises from its relatively undisturbed state and thus its potential to contain well preserved pre-medieval remains.

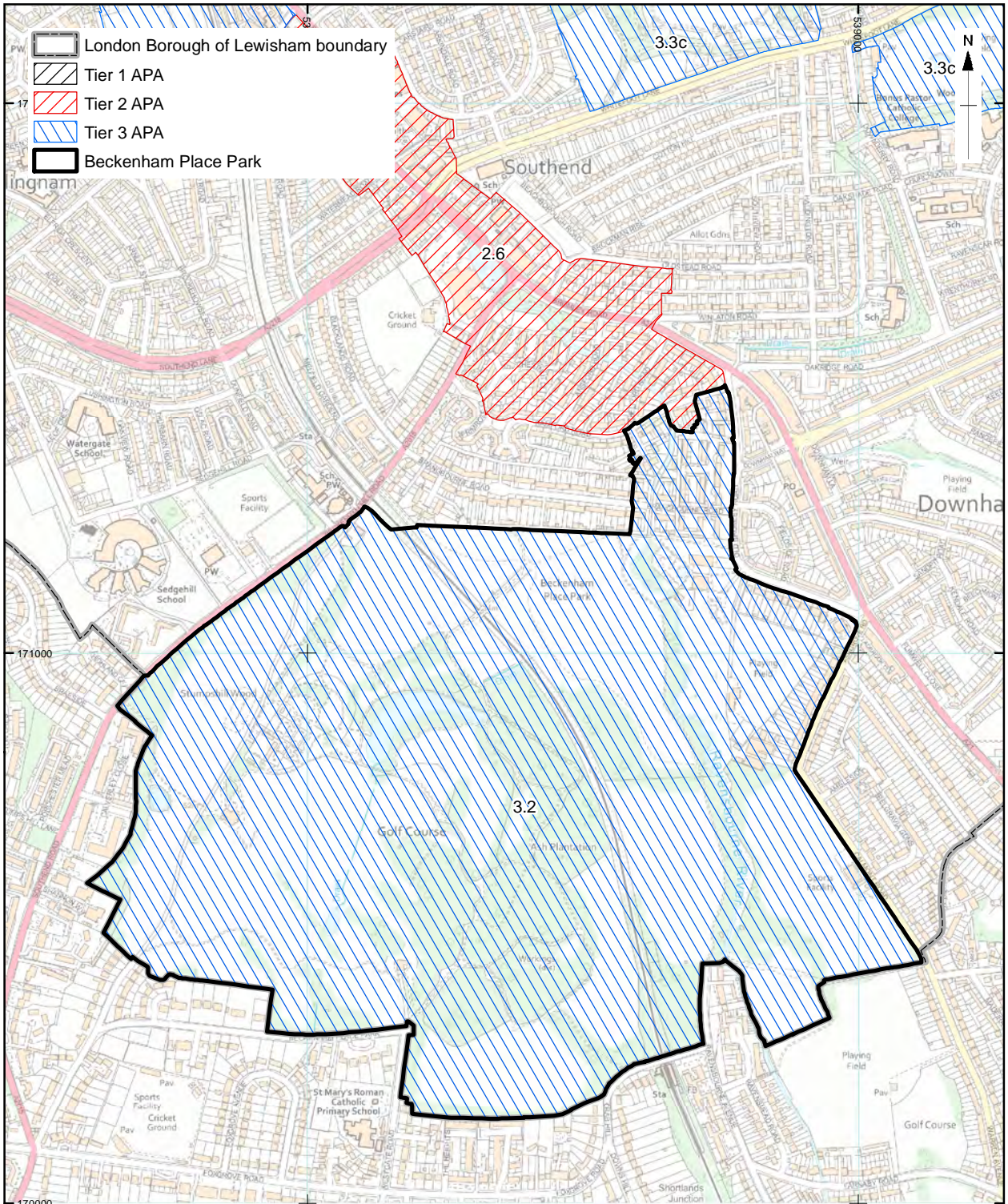
- 8.2.12 The park and the area of ancient woodland have the potential to contain archaeological and earthwork remains. Such remains could provide insight into previous land use and medieval and post-medieval woodland management techniques. The APA will also contain archaeological remains and landscape features associated with the 18th century park. Such remains could provide insight into the 18th century design of the park and evolving fashions in parkland design during the period of its operation. Any surviving features relating to the park's military usage would add to the archaeological and historic interest of the area, providing evidence for the parks wartime use.
- 8.2.13 The western part of the APA is situated on superficial deposits of Kempton Gravels and alluvium and is bisected by the River Ravensbourne. The River Ravensbourne appears to have been a focus for activity during early prehistory, and elsewhere Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age remains have been recorded along its length. If further prehistoric material was recorded within the APA, it would provide insight into the early prehistoric use of the landscape, and also technological development in these periods. The Kempton Park Gravels have a particular potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 8.2.14 The alluvium recorded alongside the Ravensbourne could contain waterlogged deposits which may preserve organic material and environmental remains. Preserved organic remains are not common in England. They are therefore of great interest and can provide information about everyday objects and what people ate and drank out of (e.g. wooden bowls, leather bottles, horn cups etc). Environmental remains can help reconstruct past landscapes, providing evidence of land use and landscape change which would not otherwise be available.

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Lewisham New APA3.2
Beckenham Place Park

8.3 Lewisham APA 3.3 Lewisham Historic Commons and Parkland

Summary and Definition

- 8.3.1 The Archaeological Priority area includes areas of historic common land and parkland within the borough. The APA covers modern recreation grounds and parks which are situated on the sites of earlier 18th or 19th century parks or historic common land.
- 8.3.2 These areas have been included as Tier 3 APAs as they represent distinctive rural landscapes which have been subject to little or no previous disturbance. Accordingly, they have a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. The APA also has a localised potential to contain archaeological remains associated with 18th and 19th century landscape parks. Wells Park and the adjacent areas have a localised potential to contain archaeological remains associated with a post-medieval spa.

Description

APA 3.3a Former Sydenham Common/ Wells Park

- 8.3.3 This part of the Archaeological Priority Area covers Wells Park and some adjacent woodland which is situated in the south-western corner of the borough. These areas have not previously been developed and were part of West Wood Common (later referred to as Sydenham Common) prior to its enclosure in the early 19th century. The area became famous for its mineral springs during the 16th and 17th centuries and was a popular retreat for wealthy visitors, including George III. The spa was known as Sydenham Wells by the mid-18th century and its continued success prompted several large houses to be constructed in the area. The spa remained in use until the 19th century, when the wells were covered by the Church of St Phillip and the surrounding area was developed. The area to the west of the church was opened as a public park (Wells Park) in 1901 following a campaign to save the land from being built over by housing. The park was laid out with broad paths, ornamental plantations and a miniature watercourse designed in imitation of the River Rhine.
- 8.3.4 The APA is a parcel of former common land that has been subject to little previous development. Accordingly, the APA has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. The housing estate to the east of the park has a localised potential to contain the remains of the wells associated with the post-medieval spa. The former railway line and post-1940s housing will have caused some localised disturbance to archaeological remains in this area, but away from these areas the undeveloped woodland and park have the potential to contain well-preserved archaeological remains.

APA 3.3b Grove Park and Chinbrook Meadows

- 8.3.5 The APA was part of a large woodland called Mosel Heath Wood until the 19th century, when the area was cleared and redeveloped for housing. Chinbrook Meadows was acquired by Lewisham Council in the 1920s as a public recreation ground.
- 8.3.6 The Quaggy River passes through the APA. The river was a focus for activity during the prehistoric period and elsewhere Mesolithic remains have been found along its length.

Due to its undeveloped state the APA has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. There may be some localised ground disturbance on the edge of the APA adjacent to the railway line.

APA 3.3c Forster Memorial Park and Playing Fields

- 8.3.7 The APA includes Forster Park and the playing fields to the south-east of the park. These areas are remnants of a large late 18th or early 19th century park shown on the Ordnance Surveyor's drawing of Bromley and the first edition Ordnance Survey map (1870). The park was owned by the Forster Family until 1919, when Lord Forster (a local resident and Governor-General of Australia between 1920 and 1925) made a gift of part of his estate as a memorial park to commemorate his sons Alfred and John, who were both killed during the First World War. Elements of the 19th century parkland, including woodland belts and a pond, are preserved within the APA.
- 8.3.8 The APA has been utilised as agricultural land and parkland since at least the 18th century and has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. It may also contain evidence of the late 18th or early 19th century park prior to its conversion into a public park.

APA 3.3d Mountsfield Park

- 8.3.9 The APA includes Mountsfield Park, a 20th century public park constructed on the site of Mountsfield House and its gardens. The 19th century Mountsfield House was constructed in 1845 for Henry Tibbats Stainton, a famous entomologist, as a gift from his father.⁴⁸ The grounds of the house were bequeathed as a public park by Henry's widow in 1903, and opened by 1905. The house was originally located in the north-west corner of the park and was demolished in 1905. The park originally contained an open-air theatre, an avenue from Brownhill Road, a drinking fountain and ponds, none of which are now present.
- 8.3.10 The APA is situated on the edge of the Kempton Park Gravel terrace and has served as agricultural land and parkland since at least the 18th century. As undeveloped land it has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. It will also contain archaeological evidence of the 19th century house and its associated grounds.

APA 3.3e Mayow Park, Lower Sydenham

- 8.3.11 The APA includes Mayow Park, a 19th century park created from agricultural land previously owned by the Mayow family, a prominent local family who lived at Old House, an early 17th century house on Sydenham Road. The land was sold to the Lewisham Board of Works in 1877 and a year later the park opened as the Sydenham Recreation Ground. The park is Lewisham's second oldest public space after Blackheath.
- 8.3.12 Mayow Park has many mature trees, including at least 20 pedunculate oak, some pollarded, that pre-date the park's 1870s layout. The trees indicate old field boundaries of the former Perry Vale Farm. The design of the park has been little

⁴⁸ Henry Tibbat Staintain was a famous entomologist who co-authored *A Manual of British Butterflies and Moths*.

altered since it was laid out, although tennis courts have been added on the south side. There is a central levelled area sunk below surrounding paths and further geometrical path layout between the notable older oaks. The park contains good specimen trees include araucaria, ginkgo and holm oak, and there are specimen conifers in the shrubbery beds. In the 1930s land was raised to create a plateau for the tennis courts and bowling green. A drinking fountain was erected by public subscription in recognition of the efforts of the Rev William Taylor Jones of Sydenham College in acquiring the land. The fountain is inscribed with the date of the park's opening on 1 June 1878. At the south-east entrance is the lodge and entrance gates with brick gate piers with stone capitals. The entrances off Silverdale Road have wrought iron gates.

- 8.3.13 The APA has been used as agricultural land and parkland since at least the 18th century. As undeveloped land it has a general potential to contain prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. It will also contain archaeological evidence associated with the 19th century Mayow Park.






Statement of Significance

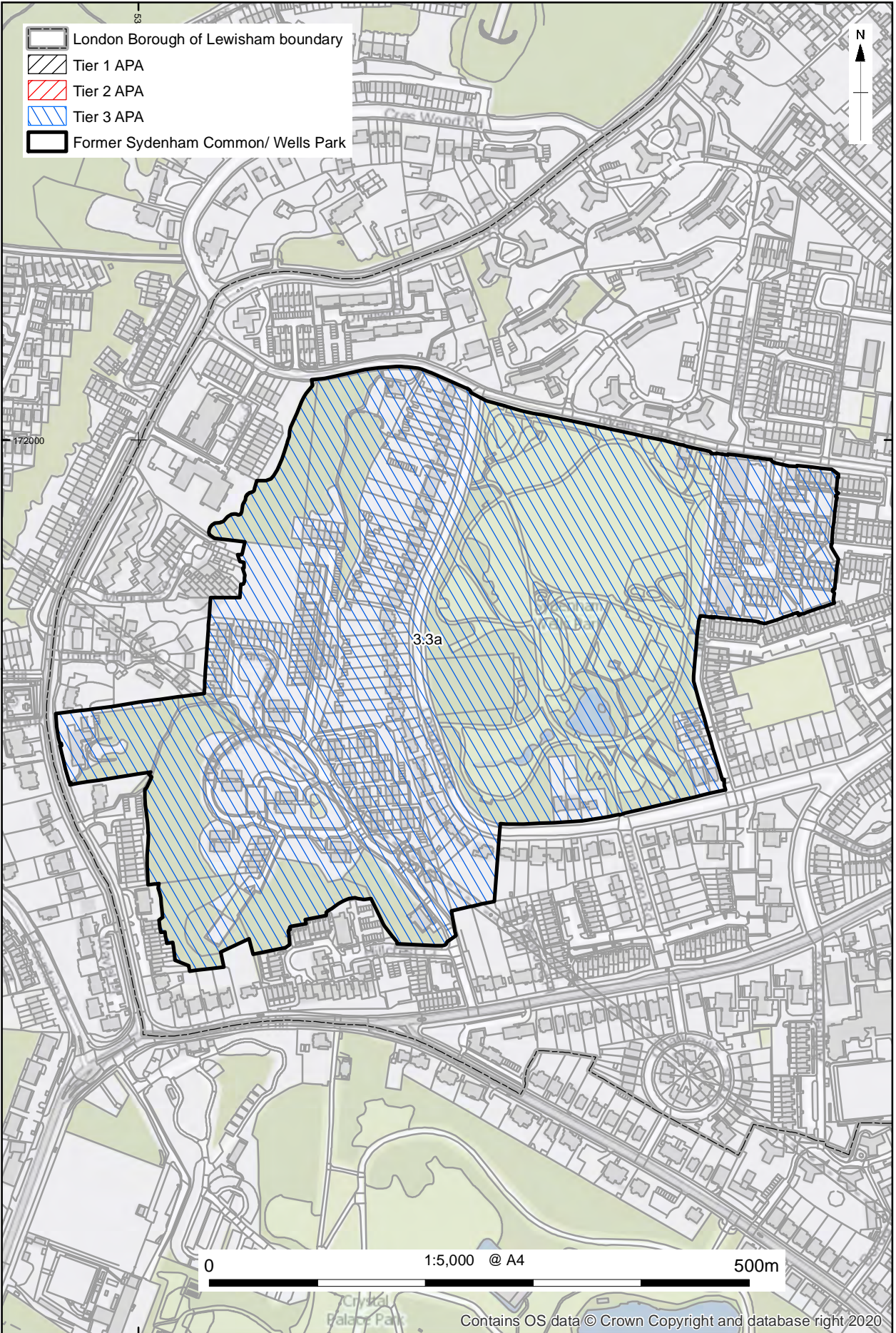
- 8.3.14 The APA contains several areas of historically undeveloped land which are preserved in modern recreation grounds and parks. These areas have remained undeveloped since the medieval period and represent rare islands of undisturbed land within the intensively developed Greater London area. Part of the significance of these areas arises from their undeveloped state and thus their potential to contain well-preserved pre-medieval remains.
- 8.3.15 The areas included within the APA have the potential to contain archaeological and earthwork remains associated with previous land use, such as field boundaries and ridge and furrow earthworks. Mountsfield Park and Forster Memorial Park and Playing Fields were created from 18th or 19th century parkland and accordingly these areas have the potential to contain archaeological remains and landscape features associated with the earlier parks. Such remains could provide insight into 18th and 19th century landscape design and evolving fashions and trends during this period. The former Sydenham Common/Wells Park area has the potential to contain archaeological evidence of the well associated with the post-medieval spa.
- 8.3.16 Mountsfield Park is situated on the edge of the Kempton Park Gravel Terrace. The Kempton Park Gravels have a particular potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 8.3.17 The Quaggy River, which passes through Grove Park, was a focus for activity during the prehistoric period, and elsewhere in the borough Mesolithic remains have been recorded along its length. Such remains, if present within the APA, would be of interest, as they provide insight into the Mesolithic use of the landscape and also technological development during this period.

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-  London Borough of Lewisham boundary
-  Tier 1 APA
-  Tier 2 APA
-  Tier 3 APA
-  Former Sydenham Common/ Wells Park



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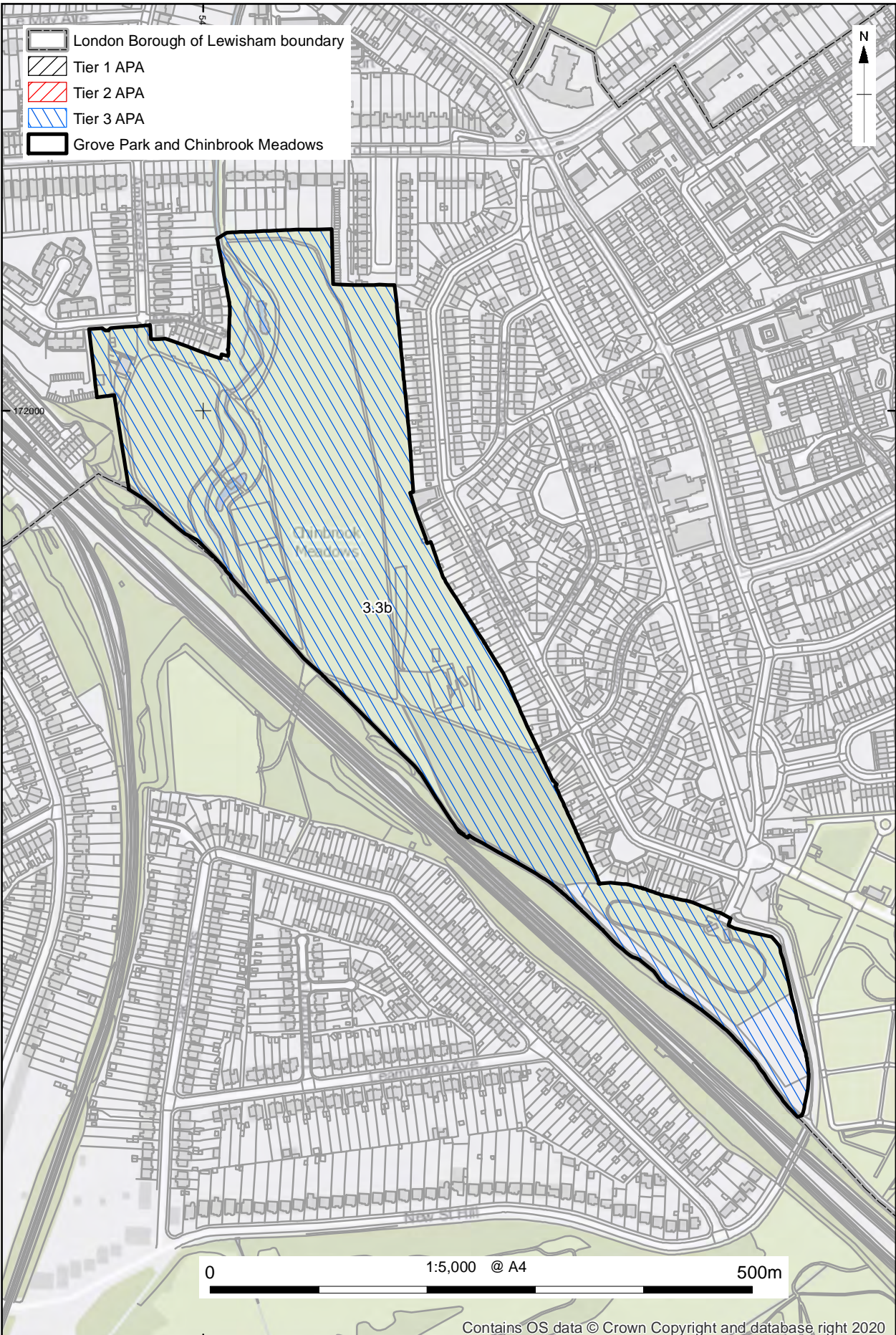
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Lewisham New APA3.3a
Former Sydenham Common/ Wells Park

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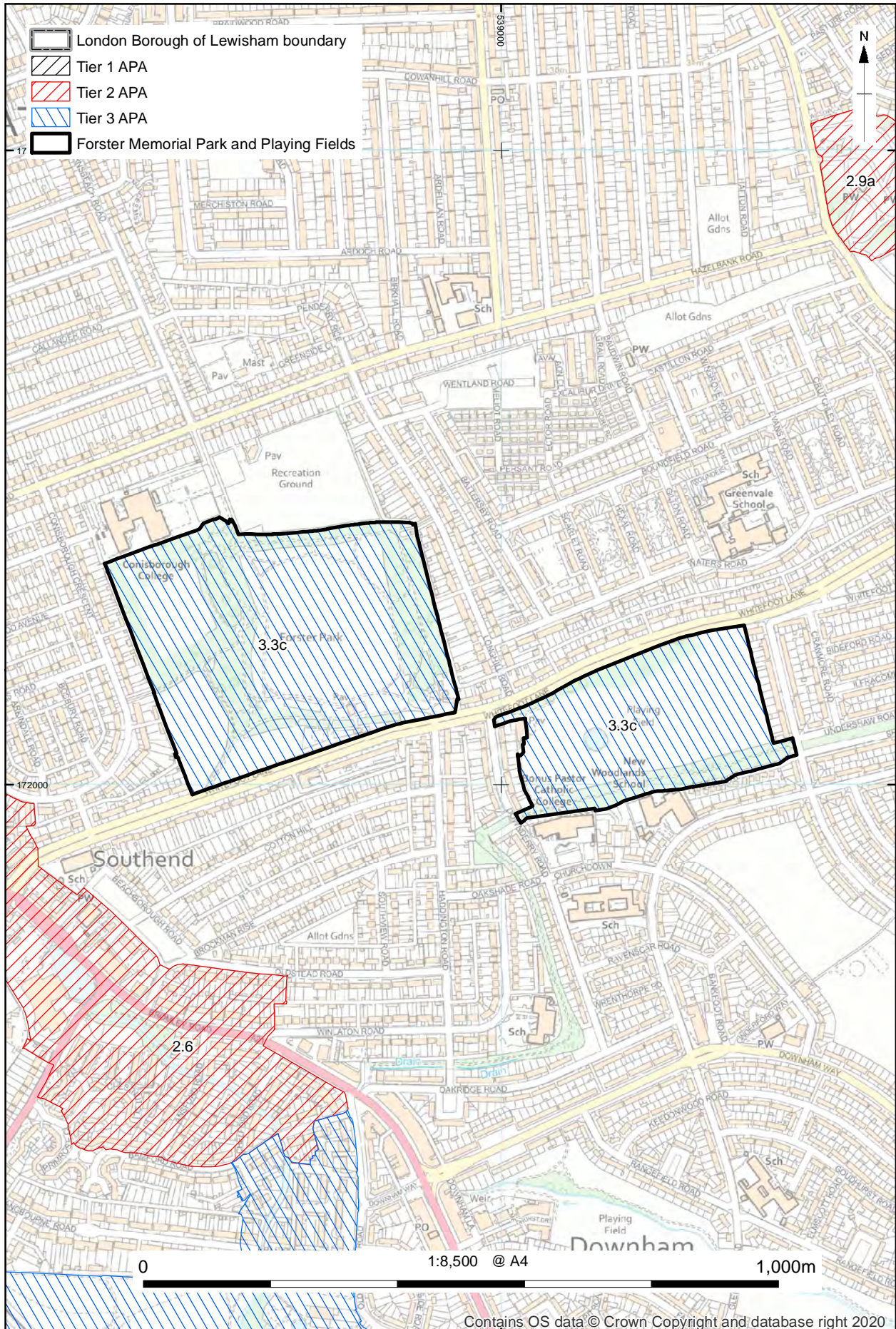


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Lewisham New APA3.3b Grove Park and Chinbrook Meadows

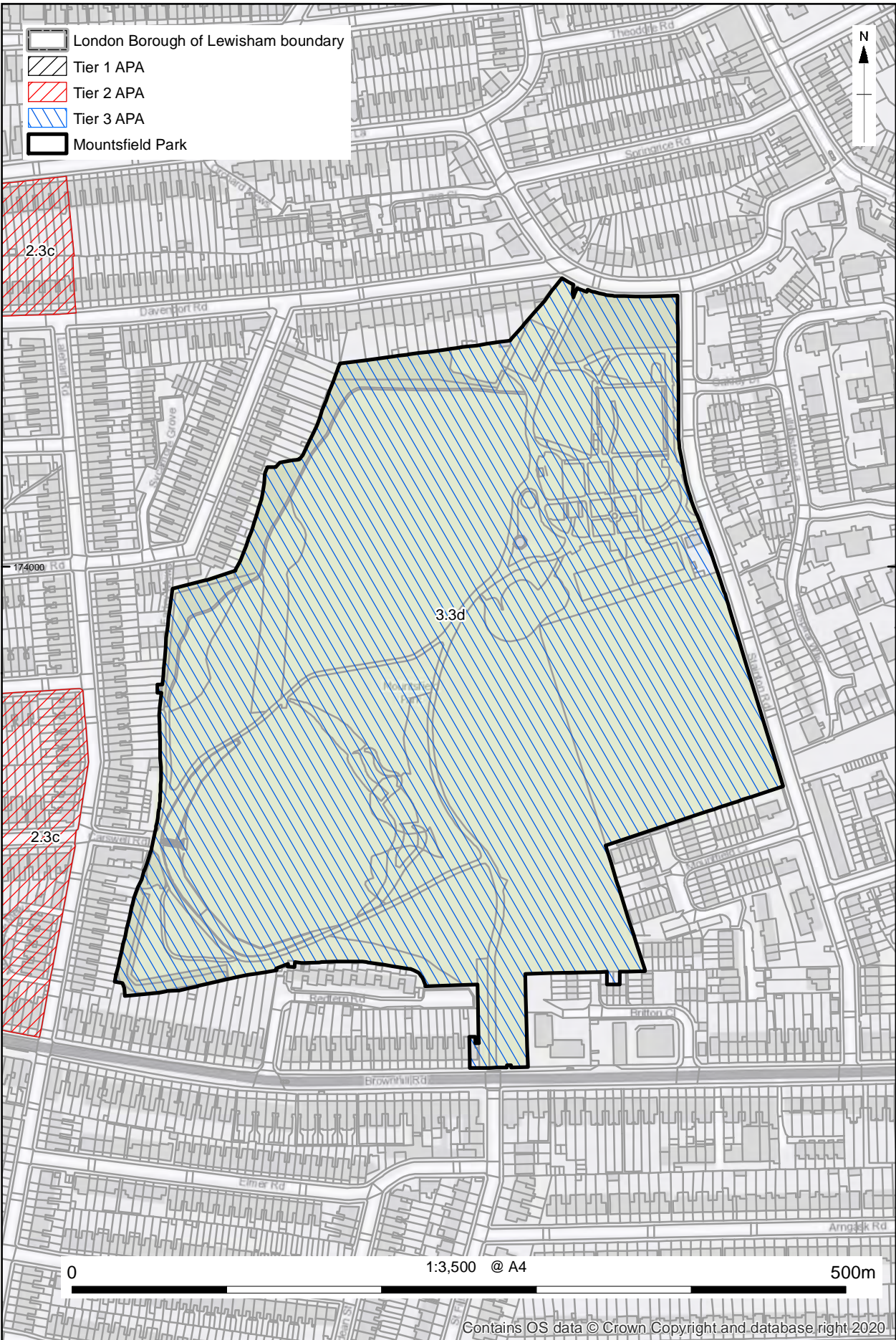
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Lewisham New APA 3.3c Forster Memorial Park and Playing Fields



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Lewisham New APA3.3d Mountsfield Park



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8.4 Lewisham APA 3.4 Ravensbourne Alluvial Deposits

Summary and Definition

- 8.4.1 The Archaeological Priority Areas covers the alluvial deposits associated with the River Ravensbourne and the adjacent areas of undeveloped land in the central part of the borough. In the north of the borough these deposits fall within New APA 2.1 and 2.3 and in the south of the borough they are situated in New APAs 2.6 and 3.2. Prehistoric worked flint pieces have been recorded within the APA near the Leisure Centre Sports Ground in Lewisham and at the Bellingham Recreation Centre.
- 8.4.2 The APA has been classified as Tier 3 because it includes alluvial deposits associated with the river Ravensbourne and adjacent undeveloped land situated on the Kempton Park Gravels. Elsewhere these deposits have yielded evidence of Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Bronze Age remains. The APA includes the historic and current course of the Ravensbourne, and the area has the potential to contain archaeological remains associated with the industrial exploitation of the river during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Infilled river channels in this area have the potential to contain waterlogged deposits which could preserve organic materials and environmental evidence. The railway line which passes through the APA would have caused some localised disturbance to archaeological remains within its footprint.

Description

- 8.4.3 The Archaeological Priority Area broadly covers the alluvial deposits associated with the River Ravensbourne and the Kempton Park Gravel terraces which underlie them. This area contains the current course of the River Ravensbourne, as well as infilled paleochannels associated with former alignments of the river. Evidence of infilled palaeochannels have been recorded during archaeological work at 124-136 Bromley Road and to the south of the Dunston College Jubilee Sports Ground. The palaeochannels and alluvium may contain waterlogged deposits which preserve rare organic material and palaeoenvironmental evidence for past wetland and riverine environments.
- 8.4.4 The Ravensbourne was a focus for activity during the prehistoric period, and elsewhere along its length Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Bronze Age remains have been recorded. The Kempton Park Gravel terraces are considered to have a particular potential to contain Palaeolithic remains, and Palaeolithic finds have been recorded along the river to the north of the APA at the junction of New Cross Road and Florence Road Ravensbourne (see Lewisham New APA 2.3). Within the APA, Mesolithic flint tools have been recovered from the Bellingham Recreation Ground and prehistoric flint flakes have been recovered near to the Leisure Centre Sports Ground in Lewisham.
- 8.4.5 By 1086 the Domesday survey recorded 11 mills associated with the manor of Lewisham along the Ravensbourne, although their exact locations are unknown. The site of the medieval mill known as *Frerrsmille* is believed to have been located near to Randlesdown Road, while *Fordmille* was located near to the Catford Road. The Domesday mills probably originated as grain or corn mills, continuing in use until they were replaced during the medieval period. From the 14th century onwards the

number of grain mills declined nationally, and mills began to take on a more industrial character.

- 8.4.6 During the medieval period, Ladywell Fields were meadowland adjacent to the river. The fields were named after a medicinal spring that was originally located at 148 Lady Well Road. The spring was believed to have healing properties and was visited by pilgrims on their way to Canterbury. A second mineral well was opened to the west of the original site of the spring. The introduction of the railway in the 19th century led to the residential development of the area, and by 1857 the Ladywell had been covered by housing. Ladywell Fields remained undeveloped during this period and were utilised as water meadows attached to St Mary's Church (New Lewisham APA 1.2b).
- 8.4.7 Mills powered by the River Ravensbourne remained a large part of the local economy during the post-medieval period, and during the 18th and 19th century many different types of mill were in operation long the river, producing a range of products including steel tools, weaponry, leather, mustard and corn/flour. The first edition Ordnance Survey (1870) map shows Catford Bridge Mill, a post-medieval corn mill, to the west of the Dunston College Jubilee Sports Ground. The Riverdale Mill is the only mill to survive within this part of the APA.

Statement of Significance

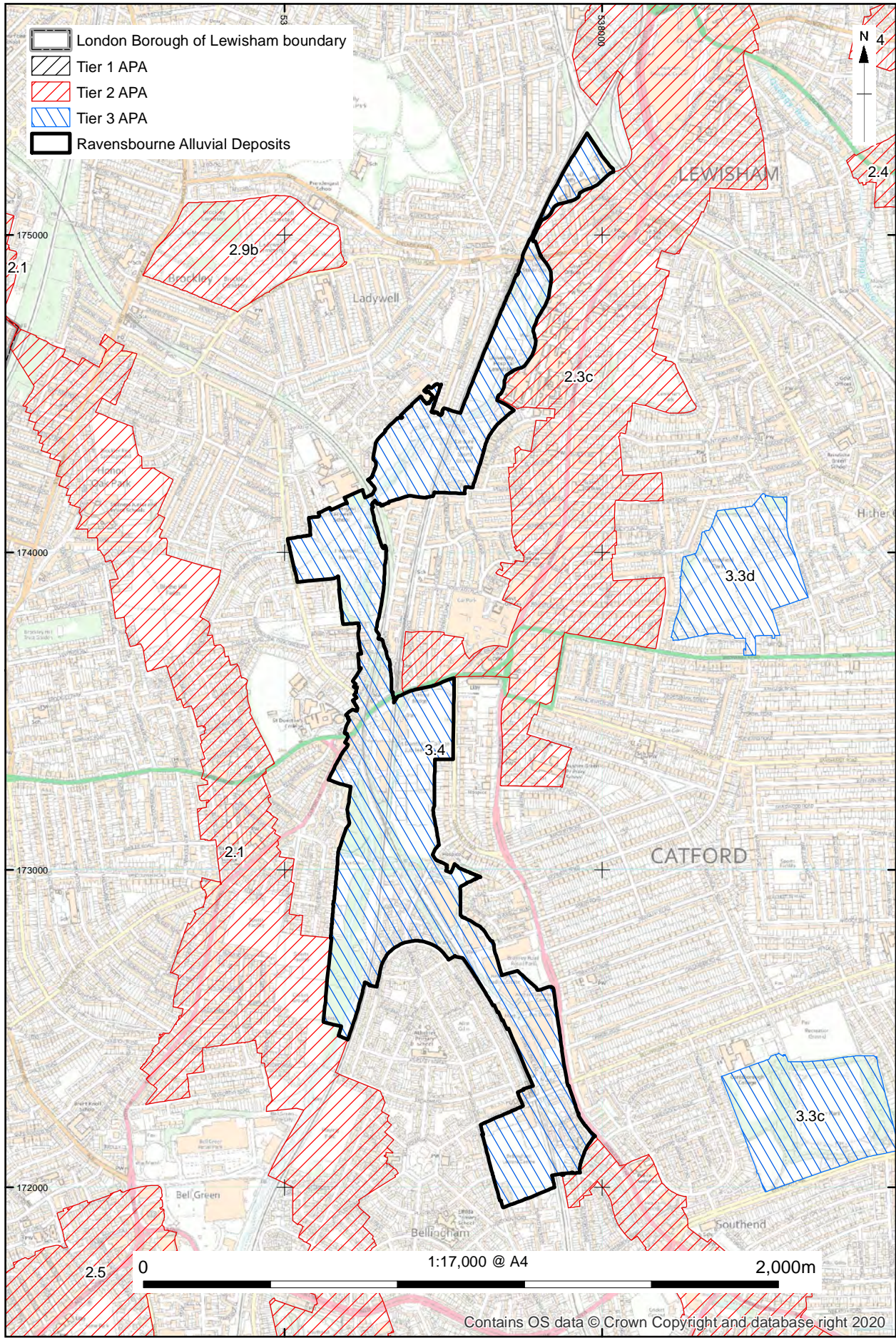
- 8.4.8 The APA contains several areas of historically undeveloped land which are preserved in modern recreation grounds and parks. These areas have remains undeveloped since the medieval period and represent rare islands of undisturbed land within the intensively developed Greater London area. Part of the significance of this area arises from their undeveloped state and thus their potential to contain well-preserved pre-medieval remains.
- 8.4.9 The Kempton Gravels which underly the APA have the potential to contain rare Palaeolithic remains. Palaeolithic sites in Britain, whether in primary or secondary contexts, contain some of the oldest fossils and artefacts in Europe. They are important as they offer rare glimpses into the ways of life of other human species, now extinct.
- 8.4.10 Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age finds have been recorded alongside the River Ravensbourne. If further prehistoric material was recorded within the APA, this would provide insight into the early prehistoric use of the landscape and also technological development in these periods. The APA could also contain waterlogged deposits associated the River Ravensbourne. Such deposits are of particular significance, as they could contain preserved organic material and environmental remains. Such remains are not common in England. They are therefore of great interest and can provide information about everyday objects and what people ate and drank out of (e.g. wooden bowls, leather bottles, horn cups etc). These deposits can also contain environmental remains which can help reconstruct past landscapes, providing evidence of land use and landscape change which would not otherwise be available.
- 8.4.11 The River Ravensbourne has been utilised for industrial activity from the medieval period onwards. Several waterside industries, including medieval cornmills, post-

medieval armoury mills and silk mills, as well as other industrial sites, have developed along the banks of the river. The APA therefore also has the potential to contain archaeological deposits relating to the use of the river for industrial purposes. Many of the mills recorded along the River Ravensbourne were repurposed for different uses during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Remains associated with these mills will provide evidence of technological development throughout these periods. The evolving usages of the mills would provide evidence for wider economic and social changes associated with new technologies and evolving medieval and post-medieval industries.

Key References

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Lewisham New APA3.4 Ravensbourne Alluvial Deposits

8.5 Glossary

Abbreviation

APA

GLAAS

GLHER

NPPF

Definitions

Archaeological Priority Area

Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service

Greater London Historic Environment Record

National Planning Policy Framework

APPENDIX A OLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY AREAS

APA 1	Thames Alluvial Floodplain
APA 2	Thames and Ravensbourne Terrace Gravels
APA 3	Watling Street and the 'Deep-ford'
APA 4	London-Lewes Road
APA 5	Bell Green
APA 6	Lewisham and Catford/Rushey Green
APA 7	Deptford – the Strand, Sayes Court and the Royal Naval Dockyard
APA 8	Deptford Creek
APA 9	Upper Deptford
APA 10	Deptford – the Broadway and Tanners Hill
APA 11	Lee
APA 12	Sydenham
APA 13	Southend
APA 14	New Cross
APA 15	Perry Street
APA 16	Brockley Jack
APA 17	Brockley Priory
APA 18	Blackheath and Blackheath Village
APA 19	The Manor House, Lee
APA 20	Beckenham Place Park
APA 21	Wells Park



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