Historic England

Archaeological Priority Area Appraisal

London Borough of Lambeth



Summary

This appraisal provides an overview of the areas within the London Borough of Lambeth that hold archaeological potential. It aims to support informed decision-making for development and heritage management across the borough.

This document has been prepared by Mark Stevenson with assistance from Valeria Powell. It is one is of a series of documents on London's Archaeological Priority Areas. This edition published by Historic England August 2026.

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Front cover: Lambeth Palace, Archaeological Excavations, 2023, showing multiple phases of earlier medieval buildings.

Dedicated to

GRAHAM GOWER
Lambeth Archivist

1942 – 2024

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1. Introduction

This document has been produced by the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), part of the London and South-East office of Historic England. The London Borough of Lambeth Archaeological Priority Area (APA) Appraisal is part of a long-term commitment to review and update London's Archaeological Priority Areas. The review uses evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) to provide a sound evidence base for local plans that accord with the National Planning Policy Framework and its supporting Practice Guidance.

Historically, the Borough's APAs had been based upon 1980s information with a partial review in the 1990s. The current Borough APAs was adopted in 2004. This is therefore the first comprehensive review for Lambeth in over two decades.

The assessment follows the Tier model, whereby the whole borough is assigned to one of four levels that relate more closely to potential significance and definable triggers in the planning process. To date most of the Greater London boroughs have been revised using the new model. Historic England undertook this review of Lambeth's APAs to bring the borough in line with others, and with the Mayor's London Plan (2021).

The appraisal assigns a tier to each of the identified APAs, on occasion splitting an historic APA into two areas of differing tiers. Where a split is recommended, the character description has been split accordingly. Overall, the Tier 1 to 3 APA coverage of the borough has increased from 4.09% to 8.38%. The aim of this appraisal is to comprehensively review the Borough's APAs and to make changes where considered necessary.

The appraisal has been prepared to support the Lambeth Local Plan by identifying where archaeological assessment and mitigation may be needed on development schemes.

2. Background

What is an Archaeological Priority Area?

An Archaeological Priority Area is a defined area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or a clear potential for new discoveries.

APAs exist in every London borough and were initially created in the 1970s and 1980s, either by the boroughs or local museums. The present review of these areas is based on evidence held in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER). Guidelines have been published to promote consistency in the recognition and definition of these areas across Greater London and have been used in the preparation of this document.

Definition of Archaeological Interest

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. However, heritage assets of archaeological interest can also hold other forms of heritage significance – artistic, architectural or historic interest.

For many types of above ground heritage asset (e.g. historic buildings, landscapes and industrial heritage) these other interests may be more obvious or important. Sometimes heritage interests are intertwined, as is often the case with archaeological and historical interest.

While the APA system does not seek to duplicate protection given by other heritage designations, such as Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas, it does aim to overlap and integrate with such approaches. Understanding archaeological significance can enhance appreciation of historical or architectural interest and vice versa.

How to understand and use Archaeological Priority Areas

APAs highlight where important archaeological interest might be located based on the history/topography of the area and previous archaeological investigations. They help local planning authorities to manage archaeological remains that might be affected by development by providing an evidence base for Local Plans. This evidence base identifies areas of known heritage assets of historic and archaeological interest and wider zones where there is an expectation that currently unidentified heritage assets will be discovered in the future.

APAs act as a trigger for consultation with the borough's archaeological advisor and are justified by a description of significance which will inform development management advice and decision making. The appraisal can also indicate how archaeology might contribute towards a positive strategy for conserving and enjoying the local historic environment, for example through recognising local distinctiveness or securing social or cultural benefits.

However, archaeological research and discovery is a dynamic process, so it is not possible to anticipate all eventualities, threats and opportunities. This appraisal should provide a flexible

framework for informed site-specific decision making. The APAs should therefore be kept under review to enable significant archaeological discoveries to be reflected within the APA mapping by triggering specific area revision ahead of a future round of borough-wider APA review.

Archaeological Priority Area Tiers

Previously, all parts of the borough were either inside or outside an Archaeological Priority Area. Under the new system all areas of the borough will be within one of four possible tiers defined by archaeological significance and potential.

Tier levels indicate when there is a need to understand the potential impact of the proposed development on the heritage asset's significance. The type of planning application and the tier level with in which it is located, indicates the likelihood that archaeology will need to be a consideration in reaching a planning decision. Tiers 1-3 descend in significance, with all remaining areas within the borough to be regarded as Tier 4.

GLAAS consultation guidelines are set out in our Charter, and link the tiers to specific thresholds triggering archaeological advice and assessment. As a minimum, all major applications[1] within Archaeological Priority Areas Tiers 1-3 should require an archaeological desk-based assessment, and if it is necessary a field evaluation, to accompany a planning application. In the more sensitive Tier 1 and Tier 2 areas this procedure would also apply to some smaller scale developments.

Outside Archaeological Priority Areas (Tier 4) some major developments, such as those subject to Environmental Impact Assessment, may warrant similar treatment. Pre-application consultation with GLAAS is encouraged to ensure planning applications are supported by appropriate information.

Tier 1

This is a defined area which is known, or strongly suspected, to contain a heritage asset of national importance (a Scheduled Monument or equivalent); or is otherwise of very high archaeological sensitivity. Thus Tier 1 covers heritage assets to which policies for designated heritage assets would apply and a few other sites which are particularly sensitive to small scale disturbance[2]. They will be clearly focused on a specific heritage asset and will normally be relatively small. Scheduled Ancient Monuments would normally be included within a Tier 1 APA[3].

Tier 2

This is a local area 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 assets considered of less than national importance considering the scale of any harm and the significance of the asset. Tier 2 APAs will typically cover a larger area than a Tier 1 APA and may encompass a group of heritage assets.

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[1] Major applications include development involving 10 or more dwellings or an application site of 0.5 hectares or more on outline applications. For other types of applications, including commercial or industrial development, a major application may be defined as being 1000m2 floorspace or more, or an application site of 1 hectare or more, on an outline application.

[2] However, this does not mean that the policies for assets of national importance would apply to every development in a Tier 1 APA as that will depend upon the nature of the proposals and results of site-specific assessment and evaluation.

[3] Tier 1 APAs around Scheduled Monuments will often extend beyond the boundary of the scheduled area to reflect the full extent of the asset, including the potential for associated remains. It will not usually be practicable for an APA to define the totality of the Scheduled Monument's setting, rather they will attempt to reflect areas close to the monument that would be especially sensitive. A few Scheduled Monuments which have been designated for their historical or other non-archaeological interest will not merit the definition of a Tier 1 APA.

Tier 3

This 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 distribution.

Tier 4

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.

Changes in Tier

New information may lead to areas being reassigned to a different tier. For example, a positive archaeological evaluation could result in a Tier 2 area (or part of it) being upgraded to Tier 1 if the remains found were judged to be potentially of national importance. As states above, it is important to understand that the new tiered system is intended to be dynamic and responsive to new information which either increases or decreases the significance of an area.

How to Read this Document

This document comprises an appraisal of all the APAs in the borough which has been allocated to one of the Tiers 1-3. Each APA entry comprises:

- A summary and definition which identifies the key features justifying its selection;
  - How its boundaries were defined, and;
  - An explanation as to why it has been placed in its tier.
- A description, providing more detail about the history and archaeology of the APA to outline its overall character.
- A section on the potential significance of the APA, with reference to its archaeological interest and related historical interest.

Each APA description is accompanied by a map extract to show the defined area of the APA and in a colour to denote the proposed Tier level (black – Tier I, red – Tier 2, blue – Tier 3).

3. Lambeth's Historical and Archaeological Interest

Administrative History

The London Borough of Lambeth (27.25 km^2) is an inner London borough created in 1965 under the London Government Act 1963, consisting of the former Lambeth Metropolitan Borough Council with about 40% of the former Wandsworth Metropolitan Borough Council (Streatham and Clapham). Before the Local Government Act of 1888, Lambeth had been part of the county of Surrey.

Location and Population

The Borough is located to the south-west of central London and is bordered by Southwark to the east and Wandsworth to the west. At the southern end the border is mainly with the Borough of Sutton and to a lesser extent, Merton. The River Thames forms its northern boundary that includes the river as far as mid-channel, where it borders the City of Westminster. The Borough is one of the most densely populated areas in the country with an average of over 11,300 people per sq. km. The focus of the population is located within the north, and historic areas of settlement.

Geology and Topography

The geology at depth is London Clay. The surface geology, Drift, is found across the northern half of the Borough and comprises river deposited sands and gravels, with silt or alluvium at the very north. The permeable geology of the river terraces was more attractive for pre-industrial settlement than the heavy intractable clays seen elsewhere.

The topography consists of low-lying land in the north— in the areas of Lambeth, Vauxhall and Waterloo. To the east the land rises at Denmark Hill and Herne Hill, while to the south it rises across the area of Central Hill, Streatham Common and West Norwood. Gipsy Hill and Knights Hill in the very southeast are part of the high ground of Norwood Ridge.

The main tributaries to the Thames, such as the River Effra, flow north into the river from the Norwood Ridge and would have been a focal point for human activity through history and prehistory, in addition to the land in the margins of the floodplain.

Archaeological and Historical Overview

Early man-made features that cross the borough are the Roman roads of Stane Street, and a secondary road branching south that would have led to The Weald and the coast beyond. This feature, in addition to the main topographical aspects, has given rise to a series of important settlements such as Balham, Clapham, Kennington and Streatham as well as Lambeth itself.

The Borough of Lambeth was generally rural in the central and southern areas until it was encompassed by the 19th and 20th century expansion of London, prompted by the expansion of the commuter rail network. The northern section had been increasingly impacted by commerce and industry which expanded exponentially in the 18th and 19th centuries. However, much development also occurred during the inter-war years and post-Second World War with the building of extensive

housing estates and more recently, in areas of regeneration. The northern area of the borough has traditionally seen the greatest rate of change.

Prehistoric (500,000 BC to 42 AD)

The earliest artefacts date to the Palaeolithic and have been identified within the areas of Clapham and Streatham Common, which are on relatively higher ground. This does not mean people confined themselves to this type of landscape, rather that these areas have likely been less significantly altered since that time.

The Thames foreshore has produced a rich legacy of prehistoric activity including timber structures dating to the Mesolithic and Bronze Age. Numerous Iron Age artefacts have been recorded as possible votive offerings.

Former routes of the Thames have the potential to provide not just further cultural material but also environmental data to help understand the landscapes people would have experienced. On the west of the Borough is the eastern edge of the Battersea Channel, with a feeder channel that starts on the higher ground in Kennington. The Thames in the late Mesolithic ran south of its present course, so that the southern foreshore would have occurred west-east through the area immediately south of Waterloo Station.

Roman (43 AD to 409 AD)

As mentioned above, the route of Roman Stane Street ran southwest to Chichester (known as *Noviomagus Reginorum*) and northeast to London (*Londinium*), and Southwark. It negotiated the wetlands of north Southwark to arrive at the Thames crossing, just to the east of present-day London Bridge.

A second but unnamed Roman road appears to branch south from Stane Street in the area east of the present-day Oval. The route of the road takes it south along the length of Lambeth, to then be used as the borough boundary where it is the present-day London Road at Norbury which continues into Croydon. Associated with these roads is therefore an expectation for roadside settlement and industry. The south bank of the Thames, where relative higher drier ground is situated against the open river, has been shown to be favoured occupation or other activity in the Roman and earlier periods. This is also true within the area of Lambeth Palace Library.

Anglo-Saxon (410 AD to 1065 AD) and Medieval (1066 AD to 1539 AD)

Given that the main settlement was across the Thames at Lundenwic and Westminster, the known Saxon archaeology from across the borough is quite elusive and has yet to yield evidence of a cemetery.

Where fragmentary early Saxon period archaeology has been identified within the area of Tulse Hill, occupation appears to have been short lived, dating from the pre-Roman period to about 600AD, when other Saxon settlements began to appear at Balham, Clapham, Kennington and Lambeth. Archaeological work in advance of the Lambeth Palace Library revealed Saxon sunken buildings with an array of artifacts, including a quantity of small lead fishing weights.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in 1042 mentions the manor of St Mary's Lambeth, so it can be assumed that the Borough's origins go back to an earlier time. It is known that in the late Saxon period, Edward the Confessors' sister, Goda, held Lambeth manor but that by the 13th century it was being sub-divided with lands being transferred to Mitcham, Streatham and Vauxhall (Fawkes Hall).

Hamlets occurred through the landscape. The hamlet of Lambeth Marsh developed along the safe route through the marsh, echoed today by the street names of Upper Marsh and Lower Marsh. Most such settlements occurred along routeways, such as the former Roman road, as well as other cross-country routes. Clapham and Kennington were established in the north of the borough, and Balham and Streatham in the south, with Stockwell evolving around the moated manor house of Stockwell Green.

Major works at Kennington Palace were undertaken from 1353 to 1363, including the demolition of the original hall by the son of Edward II, Edward of Woodstock, the Duke of Cornwall and known as the Black Prince. Vauxhall Manor dates from at least 1362 when it became the seat of the Faulkes di Breaute family. In time an elaborate building was constructed with octagonal towers topped with octagonal domes.

Post-medieval (1540 AD to 1900 AD) and Modern (1901 AD to present day)

The proximity to London and access to the Thames encouraged a mix of important houses and estates to be established, while the scale of industrial activity grew relentlessly. Well-known residences included Bonner Hall around Lower Marsh and the present-day Westminster Bridge Road, and Norfolk House opposite Lambeth Palace, which was used as a London town house by the earls and dukes of Norfolk. Moving south, Kennington Palace was demolished in the 16th century by Henry VIII, having planned to use the building materials in the construction of Whitehall. The only element to survive was the Long Barn, but it too was also eventually demolished in 1795.

The English Civil War directly impacted the north of the Borough, as well as neighbouring Southwark, with the construction of a series of forts or gun platforms, connected by defence/communication lines of bank and ditch and palisade. To this end, buildings and trees were demolished and felled with accounts of complaints from those affected. A study undertaken in 2022 by Mills Whipp Projects for Historic England and Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee enabled the locations of the defensive elements south of the Thames to be historically researched and better defined.

The 18th century saw the start of bridge building across the Thames, with the construction of Waterloo and Westminster bridges providing new routes into London to encourage widescale residential development, particularly in the north of Lambeth. Vauxhall Bridge's opening in 1816 and Lambeth Bridge's in 1862 helped accelerate this change, as did the building of the railways that enabled the mass transport of people and goods.

Further south, changes also occurred in rural areas with farmland being taken over by country estates and their landscaped grounds. Examples include Howland House and Park Hill in Streatham. Streatham's gentrification and the discovery of two mineral wells led to the settlement becoming a spa destination.

During the 19th century a network of new roads was created to facilitate the ever-expanding need for housing, with many of the country estates eventually being sold and the parkland built over.

The land adjacent to the Thames witnessed the emergence of a range of industries that required a ready supply of water. We see the emergence of breweries, distilleries, gunhouses, marble cutting mill works, pothouses and soapworks, as well as significant glass and pottery industries.

In the north very poor housing was generally intermixed with these industries. Further south, industries also occurred adjacent to residential development but were in the main considered 'cleaner', such as jewellery workshops and those for the manufacture optical devices, telescopes and

lenses. As elsewhere, in areas that contained good brick making clay such as Clapham, localised brickworks could be expected to be found.

Arguably the biggest feats of engineering were the construction of Waterloo Station and the Albert Embankment. The latter opened up this area for new leisure sites by the River Thames, while taking away domestic and business waste.

During the Second World War parks and open spaces were used to house search lights and barrage balloons, as well as public shelters including the deep level shelter at Clapham. With extensive post-war rebuilding, much of this evidence has been lost. Our understanding of what remains therefore becomes increasingly important.

Many parts of London are currently being regenerated, with certain areas selected by the Mayor for accelerated development. These provide valuable opportunities to explore Lambeth's' history and prehistory.

4. Proposed Archaeological Priority Areas

Previous APAs

The report from 2004 identified 16 areas, covering 4.09% of Lambeth's 6056 hectares. These are summarised in the table below.

Name	Size (ha)
Lambeth Waterfront	102.23
Lambeth Palace Grounds	2.89
Kennington	2.04
Roman Road (Stane Street)	44.24
South Lambeth	3.07
Roman Road (Bristol Causeway)	67.61
Clapham	35.43
Stockwell	7.8
Loughborough Road	3.62
Brixton	2.24
Brixton Hill	2.03
Upper Tulse Hill	1.55
Streatham	10.61
Streatham Hill	4.09
West Norwood	5.19
Streatham Common North	1.93
Total	**296.57**

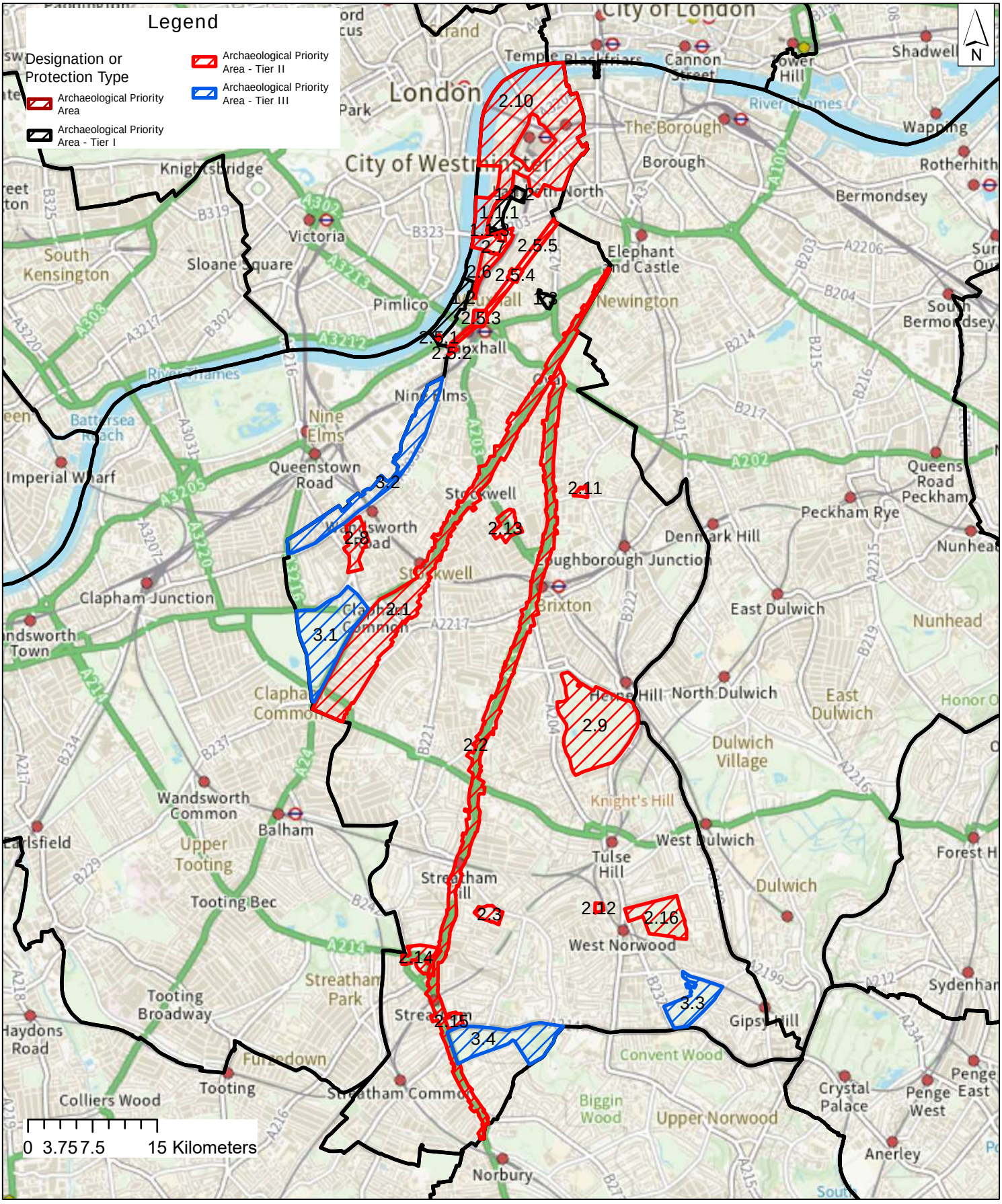
New APAs

The new APA list comprises 32 areas, numbered according to Tiers 1-3, and covering 8.4% of the borough. 5 Tier 1 areas totalling 16.2 hectares or 0.3%; 20 Tier 2 areas totalling 380.1 hectares or 6.3%; and 4 Tier 3 areas totalling 112.6 hectares or 1.9% of the borough.

The remaining 91.6% of the Borough is therefore assigned Tier 4 status.

No. by Tier	Name	Size (ha)
1.1.1	Lambeth Palace	4.2
1.1.2	Cathedral site	1.8
1.1.3	St Mary's at Lambeth Church	0.3
1.2	Vauxhall Thames Foreshore	16.6
1.3	Kennington Palace	1.5
2.1	Roman Road - Stane Street	88.4
2.2	Roman Road	76.1
2.3	Leigham Court Streatham	3.3
2.4	Norfolk House	0.6
2.5.1	Vauxhall Blockhouse	-
2.5.2	Vauxhall Redoubt	0.6
2.5.3	Vauxhall Fort	2.1
2.5.4	Lambeth Butts Fort	1.1
2.5.5	Lines of Communication	8.7
2.6	Doulton Factory and Albert Embankment Pottery	3.6
2.7	Water Lambeth	6.3
2.8	Clapham	8.0
2.9	Brockwell Park	51.7
2.10	Lambeth North with Waterloo and Waterloo East	97.8
2.11	Loughborough Road	1.0
2.12	Norwood Levehurst	0.7
2.13	Stockwell Green	5.1
2.14	Streatham	6.9
2.15	Tooting Bec, Streatham Common	2.1
2.16	West Norwood Cemetery	16.0
3.1	Clapham Common	36.9
3.2	Battersea Channel and Hesewall Dyke, Wandsworth Road	33.3
3.3	Norwood Park	14.5
3.4	Streatham Common	27.8
Total		508.8

Archaeological Priority Areas



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:50,826
Print Date:	July 2026

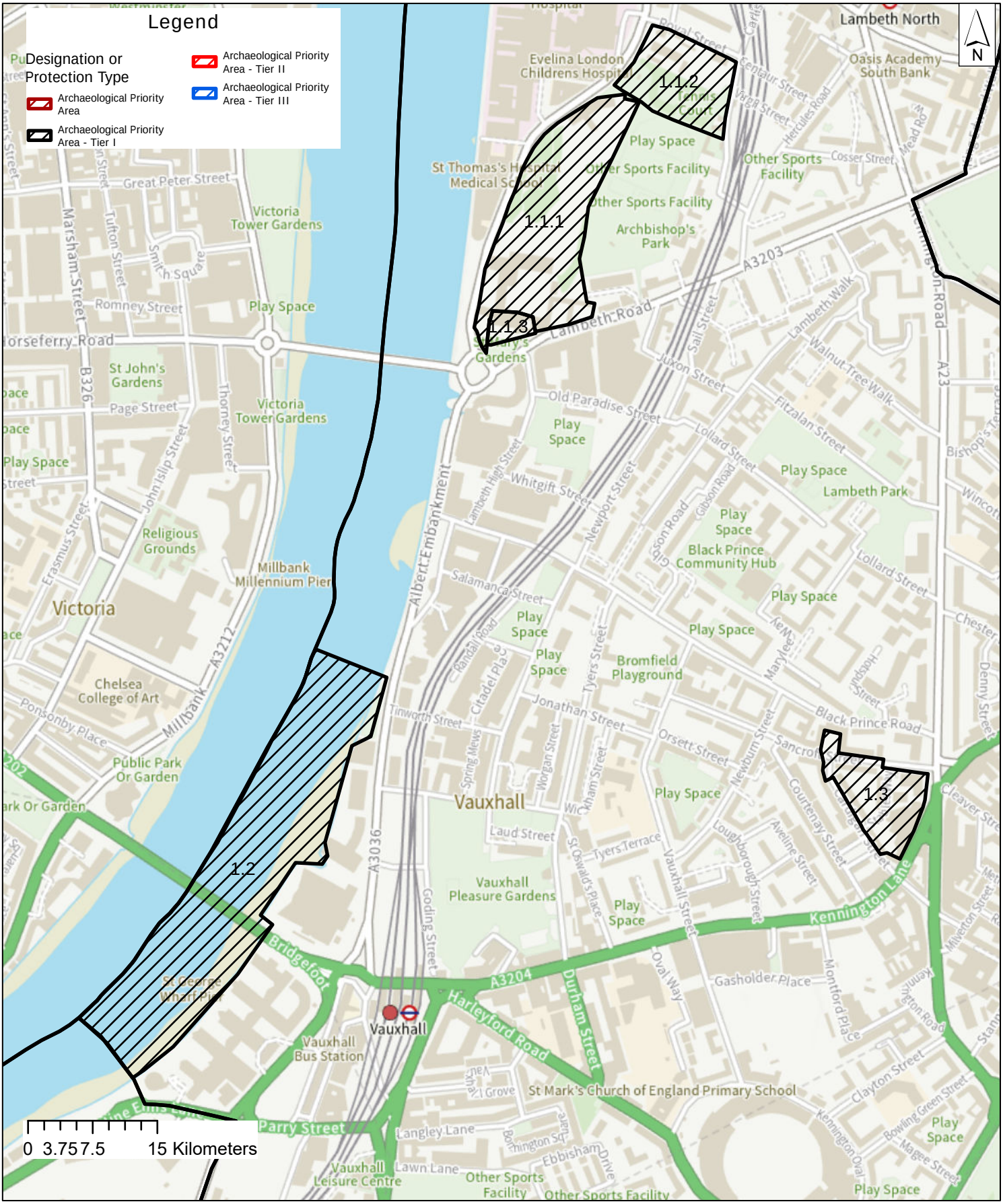
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Tier 1



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
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Tier 1

1.1 Lambeth Palace and Environs

Summary and Definition

Lambeth Palace is a Grade I listed complex of medieval and post-medieval buildings. The palace has been the Archbishop of Canterbury's London residence for almost a thousand years. Archaeological investigations have demonstrated widespread survival of earlier buildings and associated remains. Lambeth Palace is assigned to Tier 1 because of its exception survival as an ecclesiastical residence of the highest national significance from the Norman period to the present day.

The historic complexity of the ever-changing Palace, that developed from a moated manor next to a Saxon church, elevates the archaeological potential and significance of the site.

The APA comprises three parts: Lambeth Palace itself, the site of an aborted cathedral and St.Mary's Church.

1.1.1 Lambeth Palace

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in 1042 mentions the manor of St Mary's Lambeth with the Domesday book in 1086 referencing Lambeth as Lanchei, possibly meaning riverbank.

It was probably Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, who in the 1090s first used Rochester Cathedral priory's manor on this site as the official Archbishop's London residence, beginning a tradition that continues today. The Palace's location adjacent to the Thames foreshore gave it easy river access, as well as being in reach of the seat of power at Westminster.

The occupied buildings of the manor may have been of late Saxon construction and during the medieval period the Palace retained this appearance, complete with a moat linked to a north-south drainage canal aligned to its northeast corner.

In 1197 the church and manor of Lambeth was swapped with land held by the monks of Rochester. As a result, the whole of the settlement of Lambeth became the property of the archbishopric.

In November 1200 Pope Innocent III allowed Hubert Walter to build himself a new college in honour of Saints Stephen and Thomas for 20 cannons of the Premonstratensian Order.

Tim Tatton-Brown has suggested that the current building plan at Lambeth Palace includes elements reminiscent of other foundations by this Order i.e. the layout of the palace about a cloister. Archaeological evidence suggests a complex building plan that included earlier structures with some possibly dating to the late Saxon period. The current Great Hall may be on the site of the monastic church. It is not known how advanced the building work for the Order had progressed before it was halted and then partially demolished for other building works.

The Chapel at Lambeth Palace was built in the early 13th-century, using in places, walls from the Premonstratensian Order building phase with the Great Hall and associated buildings being built at a similar date. The current Great Hall dates to 1660-3, following the Restoration of the Monarchy. Archaeological work within the Great Hall, subsequently used as a library, produced hints as to its earlier origin.

The site continued to be altered, developed and repaired but it was in the 15th century that Henry Chichele, who had risen to power and influence under the Bishop of Salisbury to become Chancellor of Salisbury, commissioned the building of chambers for visiting important dignitaries and in 1435 a tower to the west of the Great Hall, later called Lollard's Tower. It was at this time that a new river landing stage was built in the vicinity of the current River Café. To its south a ditch with sluice gates was constructed along the south side of the churchyard and then around the southeastern corner of the Palace site. A second tower was then added in the 16th century and was also later known as Lollard's Tower.

The significance of Lambeth Palace can best be stated by reference to Henry VIII, when he created two new dukes and two new earls during a ceremony held on 2 February 1514, beginning with a High Mass in the chapel while Parliament sat in the Great Hall. Feasting then followed at Thomas Wolsey's new residence of York Place, Whitehall, across the Thames. Over the years following this event, much building work occurred east of the Great Hall which was completed in the 1560s.

On 11 May 1640 a crowd of possibly 500 artisans and apprentices attacked Lambeth Palace, then home to Archbishop Laud, because of his religious dogma. He escaped across the river to Whitehall. Further unrest occurred in the following month, but it was during the Civil War, August 1642 – September 1651 that the Palace was commandeered by the state to be used as a prison as well as to accommodate troops and their horses. It has been suggested that the Palace in effect became one of the south London fortifications connected by communication lines. Following the Restoration, the Palace reverted to the Archbishop of Canterbury who then undertook repairs. In 1780 the Palace was again the focus of a crowd during the Gordon Riots, who on this occasion did not manage to gain entry.

It was the extensive remodelling of the site in the early Victorian period that produced much of the site we see today. The architect Edward Blore designed new buildings that required the demolition of many of the old buildings that made up Lambeth Palace. A watercolour by Edward Blore,1828, captures the suite of old buildings before their demolition, buildings that no doubt contained elements of a rich legacy of the many building phases that the site had undergone. It is only in recent time that the foreshore has been reclaimed from the river with the creation of an embankment and road, from 1866-91. The Palace grounds had been extended north to take in Souters Lands with the land south of Royal Street to be utilised as the kitchen garden annexed in 1784. Beyond, to the north, Westminster Bridge and its connecting road were built in 1750, while Lambeth Bridge replaced a horse ferry in 1860. Subsequently this bridge was replaced in 1932.



Morton's Tower, 2022

During the Blitz in September 1940 a bomb fell on the drawing room, demolishing much of the north face of the Victorian built range as well as areas of the basement. The Lollard's Tower was hit by incendiary bombs in the December. In April 1941 further bombs fell, five hitting the gallery and library. Then in July 1944 a flying bomb fell in an area just north of Morton's Tower demolishing a section of high brick-built boundary wall, but the greater damage was the loss of the 13th century chapel doors.

In 1995 a Channel 4 television program, Time Team, excavated two trenches in the garden of Lambeth Palace to investigate excavations from 1935 where it had been claimed a Roman road had been seen. The 1995 work concluded that what was seen must have been a post-medieval formal garden gravelled avenue walkway. Archaeological evaluation ahead of the building of the new Lambeth Palace Library on the northwestern boundary to the garden identified extensive Roman ditches and pits that included a small square enclosure. The evaluation work also identified Saxon dwellings in the form of sunken-floored buildings, complete with Roman and Saxon artifacts including a decorative bone comb along with a quantity of lead fishing weights.

In response to extensive modernisation works to improve the home and working facilities of Lambeth Palace, new cabling and air heating pipes were installed 2022-4. The archaeological work was to investigate each area in turn to inform final routes for the services. The result of this work was the identification of a series of 18th and 19th century drains, 17th century walls of buildings, and extensive elements of possible 14th century chalk block constructed walls plus an earlier wall, flanked by two of walls that may be Saxon.

As part of the archaeological evaluation for the new library, a geophysical survey was undertaken that identified a large circular ditched enclosure, the date and function of which has not been determined but would be ideal for a community project.

North of the complex of buildings is the Palace Garden, one of the oldest and largest private gardens in London. Today the garden includes wild herb and Chinese gardens, plus a terraced rose garden, set within a formal landscape by John Nash. It is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden.

1.1.2 Cathedral site

The cathedral site is located north of Lambeth Palace grounds and includes the tennis courts at the north end of Archbishops Park with the western boundary being Lambeth Palace Road, and the railway into Waterloo to the east.

In Spring 1190, Archbishop Baldwin began the construction of a new great church, dedicated to the Blessed Martyrs Stephen and Thomas, which is believed to be at the north end of today's Archbishops Park. About the great church a new close of about 24 acres was also laid out for the building of canon's houses. Following Baldwin's death on crusade in the Holy Land in November 1090, the project continued for a further 18 months before Pope Celestine III ordered 'the closure of the church at Lambeth' on 16 May 1192. It is at this date that Lambeth becomes the property of the archbishopric, with the Pope giving the canons of Lambeth his protection for their church and property on 30 January 1193.

Hubert Walter, Bishop of Salisbury, who was in effect the king's senior civil servant, was elected as Archbishop of Canterbury and then Justiciar of England, following his negotiation in Germany to secure the release of Richard I. Hubert restarted work on the great church. The chronicler Gerald of Wales wrote about this building phase:

> A chapel and some small houses, and a suitable site close to the City of London and near to the Royal court which the Archbishop of Canterbury frequented on business of both Church and State.

In 1197 Hubert Walter gave the Bishop of Rochester, for his new London house, 'a piece of ground next the church of the Blessed Martyrs Stephen and Thomas at Lambeth eastward'. This land remained in their possession until 1539 when ownership was transferred to the Archbishop of Carlisle and continued into the 19th century. The survival of this plot meant it was indicated on early modern maps. Tim Tatton-Brown has argued that the location of the proto-cathedral can be inferred from knowing the plot is east of the great church. Furthermore, a dispute between the Archbishop and the Bishop Rochester over the right of access by the Bishop to the River Thames via the Stangate Stairs, supports this, as locating the stairs helps to determine the Archbishop's land.

Construction work continued through 1197-8 but was then stopped by Pope Innocent III, with demolition work starting 1199-1200.

1.1.3 St Mary's at Lambeth Church

Otherwise known as Lambeth Church, it is located to the immediate east of Morton's Tower and was once connected by a house and enclosed yard.

The original church was Saxon and was at least in part replaced by a second wooden church built in 1062 by Goda, sister to Edward the Confessor. This in turn was replaced by a stone church towards the end of that century. The church was again rebuilt in 1377 when a bell tower was added.

The church was wealthy, as evidenced by the numerous wills by which people ordered plots for tombs within the church. The earliest example of a chantry tomb to be found in the country is in the church – to a Hugh Peyntwyn who died 1504. The churchyard is the final resting place for a significant number of local people, about 26,000, including notable people such as from 1817, the body of Admiral William Bligh who had lived at 100 Lambeth Road. In 1851-2 the historic aisle and nave of the medieval church was rebuilt by architect Philip Charles Hardwick.

A Second World War bomb destroyed the church's stained-glass, as well as breaking the altar that had been donated in 1888 by Sir Henry Doulton as a memorial to his wife.

In 1972 the church became redundant and rather than becoming part of the activities of Lambeth Palace, the Church Commissioners obtained consents to demolish with the first step being the removal of the pews, altar and bells.

In 1976 the Tradescant Trust, so named after John Tradescant the Elder – a noted gardener and botanist who died in 1638 and is buried in the churchyard – was set up and was granted a 99-year lease from the Diocese of Southwark. Following extensive fundraising, in 1977 the Garden Museum took root and has developed the site since.

Between 2015 and 2017 archaeological investigation, monitoring and recording was undertaken in response to a planning permission condition. The work included new buildings within the churchyard and internal church remodelling to improve the museum offer. The main outcome was the identification of forgotten tombs and a 'hidden' crypt in the floor at the east end of the chancery. The crypt contained the coffins of John Moore, Archbishop of Canterbury, his wife Catherine Moore and John Buttesford, Dean of Arches. The archaeological survey also identified the coffin that probably belonged to Richard Bancroft, also an Archbishop of Canterbury who had been one of the supervisors of the drafting of the King James bible. Each of the Archbishops' coffins were adorned, in addition to name plates with tin mitres.

Statement of Significance

Lambeth Palace is of national importance because of its association with the state, and central position within the Church of England that has endured for almost a thousand years. Its location and substance reflect the need of the Archbishop for a grand residence close to the royal palace of Westminster and Westminster Abbey.

Lambeth Palace is one of the most important of the approximately 150 bishop's palaces that existed in medieval England. All palace and great house sites with significant surviving archaeological remains are considered as being of national importance. (Settlement Sites to 1500: Scheduling Selection Guide, Sept 2018, Historic England)

Had it been completed, the cathedral might have challenged the role of Westminster Abbey. Identification of surviving elements would be of interest as a rare incomplete fossilised construction site. However, the land later known as Souter's Land is now under St Thomas's Hospital. While

archaeological site work has and will occur within certain areas of the site, it is unlikely that the main building location will see redevelopment for some time, but it is however important to recognise its potential.

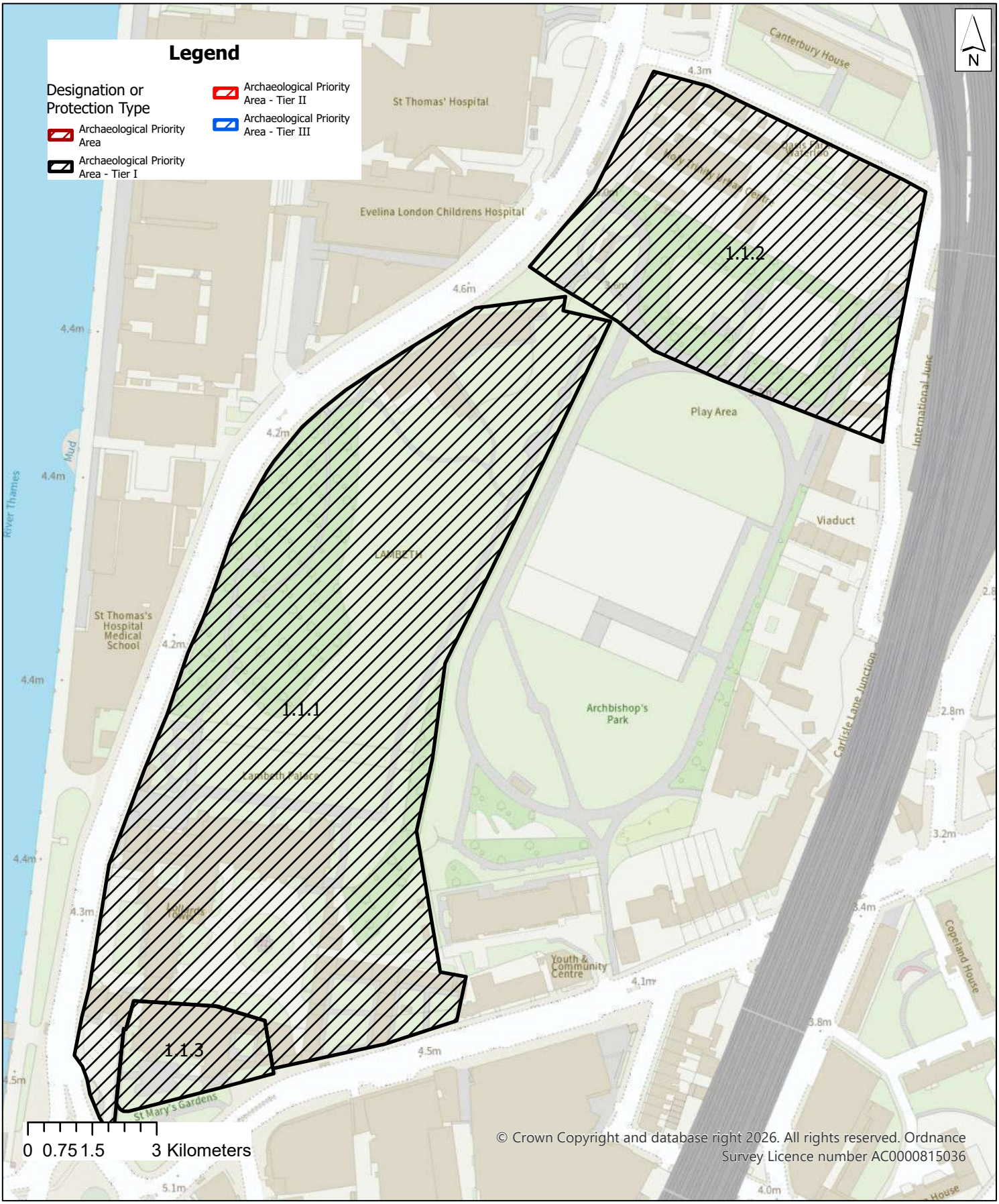
St Mary Church is also of national importance by association with Lambeth Palace, the noted individuals buried within the churchyard, and Archbishops within the chancel. It can also be anticipated that within its grounds will be the location for the Saxon church, linked to royalty. The church and burial ground sit alongside Morton's Tower to provide a unique historic view from the junction of roads.

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1.1 Lambeth Palace and Environs



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:2,298
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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1.2 Vauxhall Thames Foreshore

Summary and Definition

The foreshore from Lambeth Bridge upstream to Vauxhall Bridge, over the point where the River Effra meets the Thames, and on to Nine Elms, is rich in archaeological material that includes Bronze Age and Iron Age metal shields, Bronze Age swords and spears, as well as *in situ* timber structures.

Whilst most sections of the Thames have archaeological potential, the very rare survival of highly vulnerable prehistoric timber structures and individual artefacts of the highest significance and rarity at Vauxhall stand out to justify Tier 1 status.

The stretch of the Albert Embankment, by St Thomas's Hospital, is not included as the Victorian embankment extended a significant distance into the river from the historic shoreline.

Description

Mesolithic foreshore

The oldest remains are a series of Mesolithic timbers. Initially six possible stakes were discovered at very low tide in 2010, but to date not one has been recovered to enable identification as to whether they were fashioned before being driven into the shingle. The area in front of the MI6 building has also yielded a tranchet adze, and Neolithic pottery has been found around the river access ramp.

Bronze Age foreshore

Upriver, more archaeological material including Neolithic and Mesolithic flint tools, has been recorded across an area that includes timbers dated to the Bronze Age and associated with two bronze spearheads. The structure was the subject of an investigation for a tv programme, Time Team, aired in April 2001. The site work suggested that the timbers higher on the foreshore were erected in post-holes, while those lower down were driven. This may indicate different periods reflecting the dryness/wetness of the landscape.



Wooden ?Henge, Vauxhall foreshore, 2010

When the group of timbers are viewed from the low point looking towards land, the layout suggests that the main timbers are arranged in an arc with a line of smaller timbers beyond. The arrangement may indicate different periods of construction, with the main timbers being the surviving landward segment of a small timber henge. The occurrence of these structures at this location may have been to mark the tidal limit on the Thames at that time.

Post-Medieval Foreshore

A study of historical sources concerning the English Civil War London Defences suggests that the Vauxhall Blockhouse was located on the foreshore, in the vicinity of the Bronze Age timbers. It therefore does not have its own policy map but is shown in the mapping as 2.5.1 in this report for information.

Statement of Significance

The foreshore is under threat from an increasing pace of erosion with exposed timbers deteriorating as more of the timber lengths become exposed. Recent developments on the foreshore may also give rise to change in water flow that will increase foreshore erosion. The Bronze Age and Mesolithic timbers represent a stretch of foreshore that is of national importance due to the rarity of national survival of such monuments, and no regional parallels.

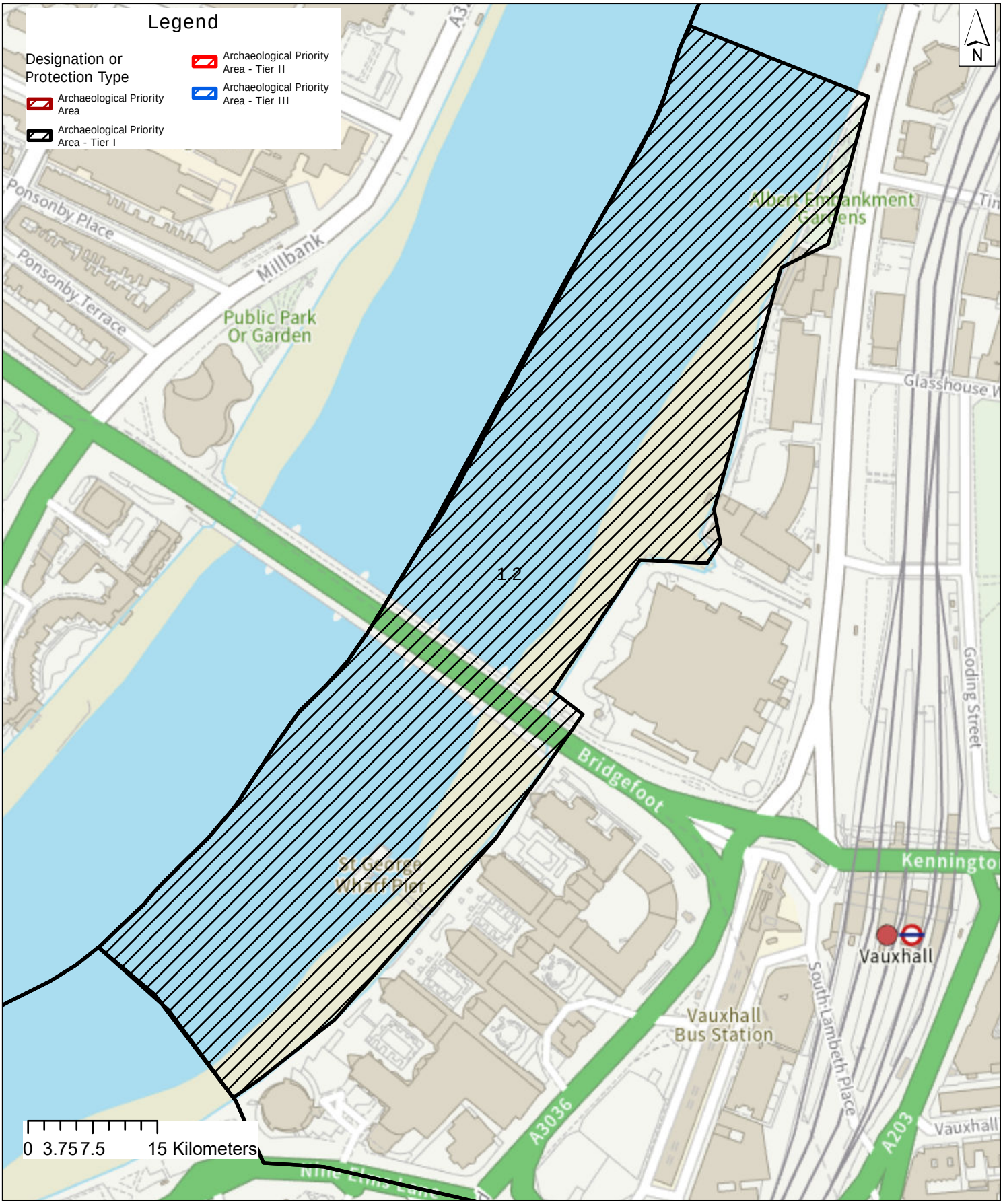
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Mills Whipp, 2025, 'London's English Civil War Defences Project: Locations of the Defences – Study Area 5, Vauxhall to Rotherhithe'

1.2 Vauxhall Thames Foreshore



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1.3 Kennington Palace

Summary and Definition

Discoveries and excavations over the years have established that the main site of Kennington Palace is contained within a triangle shaped parcel of land, defined by Kennington Road to the south, Sancroft Street to the east and Cardigan Street to the west. The present-day St Anselm's Church sits within the southeast corner of this site.

Kennington Palace is assigned to Tier 1 because of the extensively documented archaeological remains from previous investigations.

Description

Demolished in the 16th century, Kennington Palace was situated on Kennington Lane at the junction with present day Cardigan Street. The house had been built by the Black Prince, Edward of Woodstock, in 1337-62. The area was part of the estates belonging to the Duke of Cornwall, a title he inherited in 1337 from his father King Edward III.

Being close to Westminster, Parliament met at the palace in 1342 and it was often used by royalty, including Richard II and Catherine of Aragon. However, it was Henry VIII who ordered the demolition the palace in 1531, when he was to start work constructing a new palace at Whitehall, intending to recycle much of the building materials. A survivor of this demolition was the 'Long Barn' before it too was demolished in 1795.

Archaeological excavations in the 1960s established that the Palace, rather than being a single large building, was an assortment of buildings that collectively operated as a palace. The excavations successfully identified the location of a range of the buildings including the stables, kitchen, the Prince's Chamber and the Great Hall, which was found to have had an undercroft and possibly evidence for the chapel.

The recovered building materials used suggested that the construction was likely to be of a chalk block-built wall dressed in green sandstone, with Reigate stone for carved mouldings around windows and doorways.

Statement of Significance

Palaces and great houses with significant surviving archaeological remains are considered as being of national importance. Kennington Palace provides a window on a period of history where there is often little chance of recovering direct archaeological evidence relating to the old palace format. This is because such sites are often rebuilt on a grander scale which removes evidence of earlier building phases in the process.

However, it is unclear how much of Kennington Palace has survived modern development after the 1960s archaeological investigation.

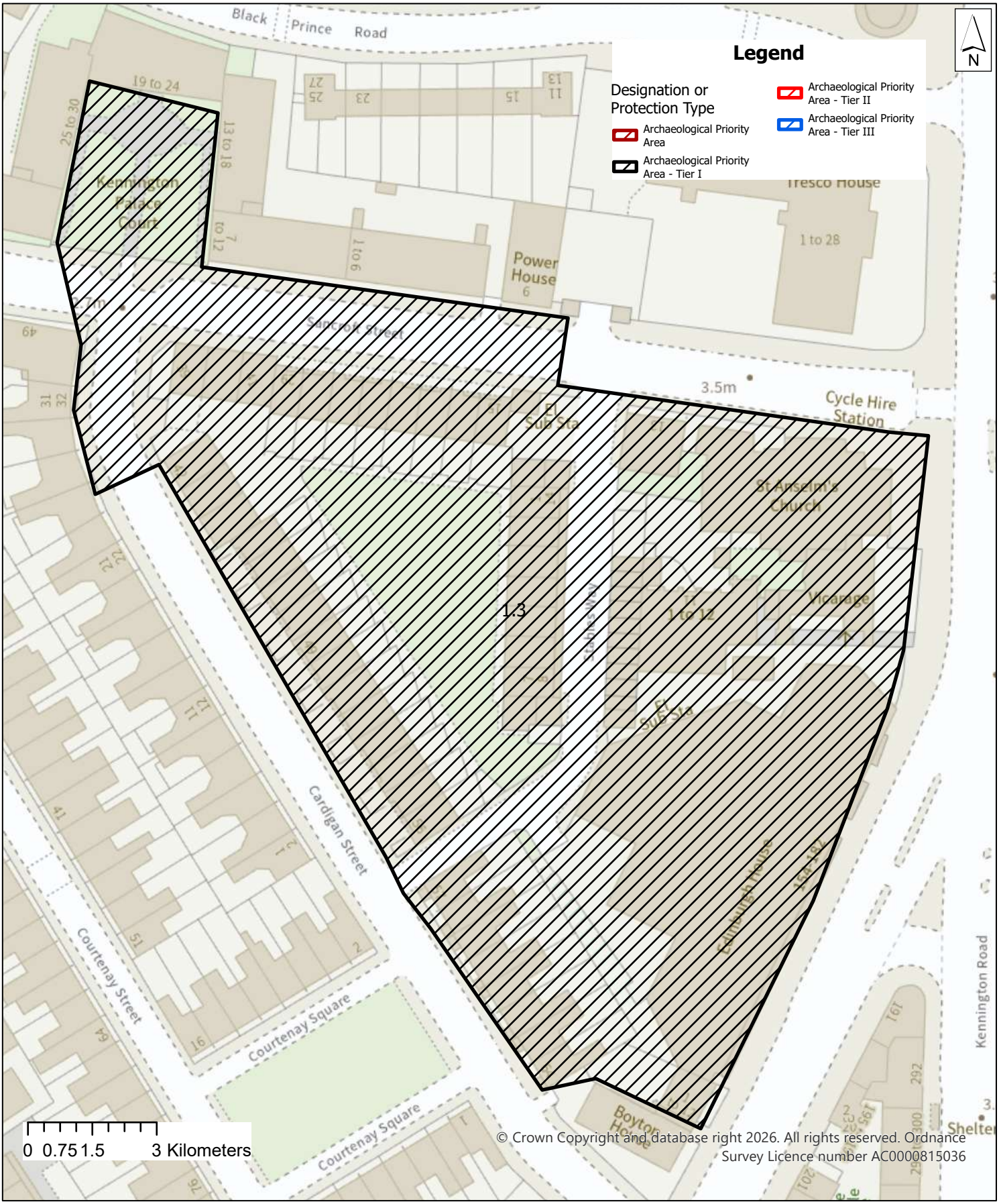
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1.3 Kennington Palace



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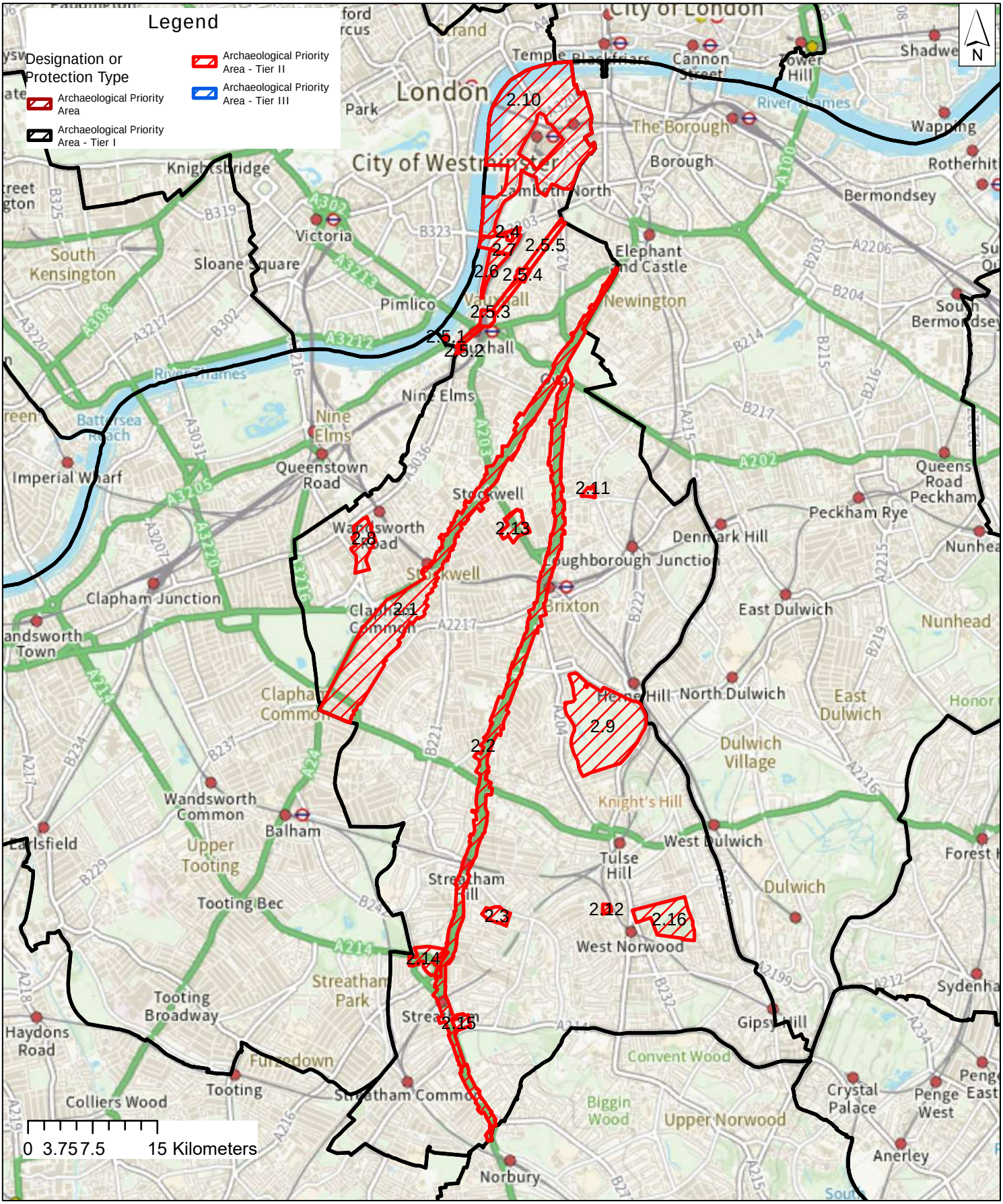
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Tier 2



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Tier 2

2.1 Roman Road – Stane Street

Summary and Definition

South of the Thames a network of roads became the main thoroughfares connecting centres of trade, as well as staging posts for places further afield. One of these routes known as Stane Street ran southwest-northeast across the northern portion of this borough, south of the marsh around the Lower Marsh area, then south of the area of marshland denoted by the Battersea Channel, following a route now followed by the present-day Kennington Park Road, before continuing through Clapham to Chichester (*Noviomagus*) a port on the south coast.

The Tier 2 Stane Street APA represents a corridor for the road itself and the potential for associated roadside activity. It connects to Wandsworth's APA 2.17 Stane Street and Southwark's North Southwark and Roman Roads APA.

The southern portion of this APA takes in a wider corridor of land, up to Clapham Common, that is on Lynch Hill Gravel, represents an area of former floodplain, with the very southern area being part covered by head, silt, deposits.

This area represents a possible alternative line of the Roman road that would run roughly parallel to the north side of Abbeville Road and southeast of Clapham Common South Side, which may correspond to the actual course of the Roman road based at this stage on topographical analysis. The absence of archaeological evidence along this line of the southeastern projection means that both possible routes need considering.

The southern boundary of this area is defined by APA 2.1, Roman Road - Stane Street which connected London with Chichester.

Description

Several Palaeolithic axes have been recorded from the southern portion of this area of Lambeth having arrived in the area through glacial movement. Otherwise, the south Common area lacks prehistoric material.

This road was called Stane Street, derived from Stone Street, suggesting that it was paved. At both Clapham and Stockwell, possible sections of this road were seen some 50 years ago in excavations for new developments.

Along the Roman road there would have been single farms or small settlements where small-scale industrial activity could be expected to occur, to take advantage of the local markets, passing trade to provide the needs of the traveller, or wider trade links afforded by the road. Cemeteries could also be present as is the case associated with the north end of the road, within the borough of Southwark.

However, Mills Whipp Projects suggested in a desk-based assessment (December 2015, rev April, July 2016 and January 2017) that the line of the southern portion of this Roman road was possibly along the southside of Clapham Common. This conclusion was based upon the lack of evidence despite extensive archaeological investigations in 2002 and 2003 that produced no Roman archaeology, and that the current proposed 'straight line' did not take account of the topography which would have

required terracing, of which no evidence remains. It was therefore proposed that the line of the road runs along present-day Clapham High Street and Clapham Common South Side.



In the grounds of the local library and theatre at Clapham Common North side is a Roman stele, or memorial stone. It was gifted after its discovery during the demolition of nearby Cavendish House in 1912[4].

The house was located at the junction of Cavendish Road and Clapham Common South Side, and the occurrence of the stone at this location would suggest that the Roman road may have been along Clapham Common South Side.

The stone was listed at Grade II in 1981, but the description does not provide further context as to its origin. It was erected by Vitus Ticinius Ascanius, probably in the first century AD. On one face of the rectangular stone block is a two-line border within which is the inscription: '*to the spirits of the departed and to Vitus Licinius Ascanius, he made this for himself in his own lifetime*'.

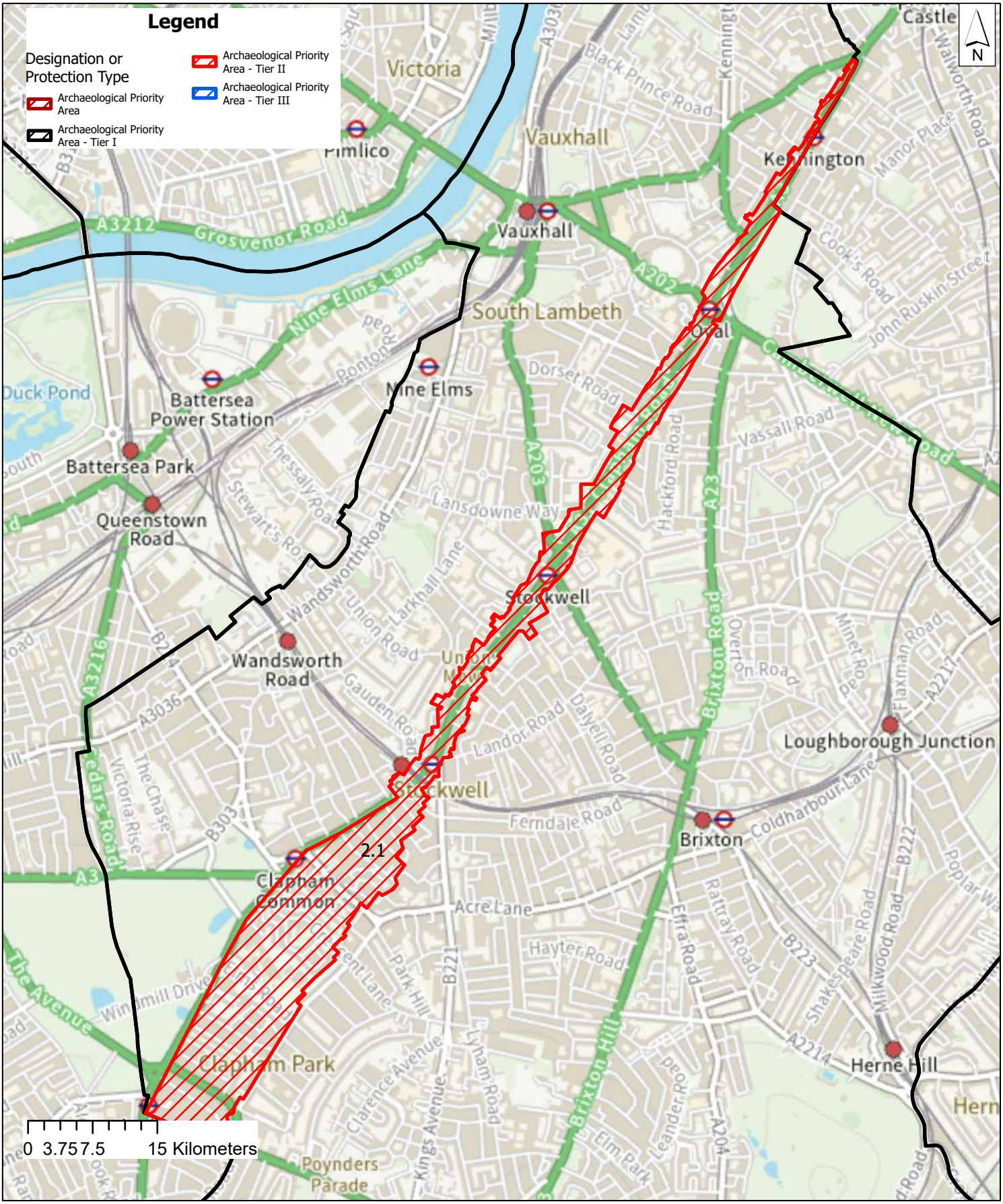
Roman commemorative stone

Statement of Significance

Stane Street was one of the main routes connecting London with the rest of the territory. Opportunities to confirm the actual route of the road and location of possible roadside activity centres will be important to the understanding the potential for Roman period archaeology to be identified within the borough. The fact that modern roads still follow part of its route through the borough demonstrates how it influenced road layouts in subsequent centuries. Further discoveries have the potential to develop our understanding of the relationship between London and its immediate hinterland, as well as roadside services.

[4] Alternatively, it has been suggested by the librarian J Reed Welch that the stone was in fact acquired after its discovery in 1777 in the foundations of Lanthorn Tower at the Tower of London.

2.1 Roman Road - Stane Street



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2.2 Roman Road

Summary and Definition

The second Roman road to occur within the borough is a road for which we have no name. This route heads south from a junction with Stane Street, possibly in the vicinity of Kennington Park, along present-day Brixton Road to Streatham and on to Croydon. It is not known if this route was metaled or remained a dirt track that fulfilled a more local need.

The Tier 2 Roman Road APA covers a corridor for the road itself and the potential for associated roadside activity. It links to Croydon's APA 2.19 London to Brighton Roman Road.

Description

Just south of Streatham on Stanthorpe Road, to the east of Streatham High Road, recorded in *Streatham Old and New* (1912) is a possible area of Roman period metalling, interpreted at the time to be part of a road. Whether this was part of a regional road or something more local is not understood. While the Roman road north of Croydon follows London Road, the route through Lambeth is not determined, but this corridor that passes through Streatham would logically continue northeast to merge with Stane Street at the Oval.

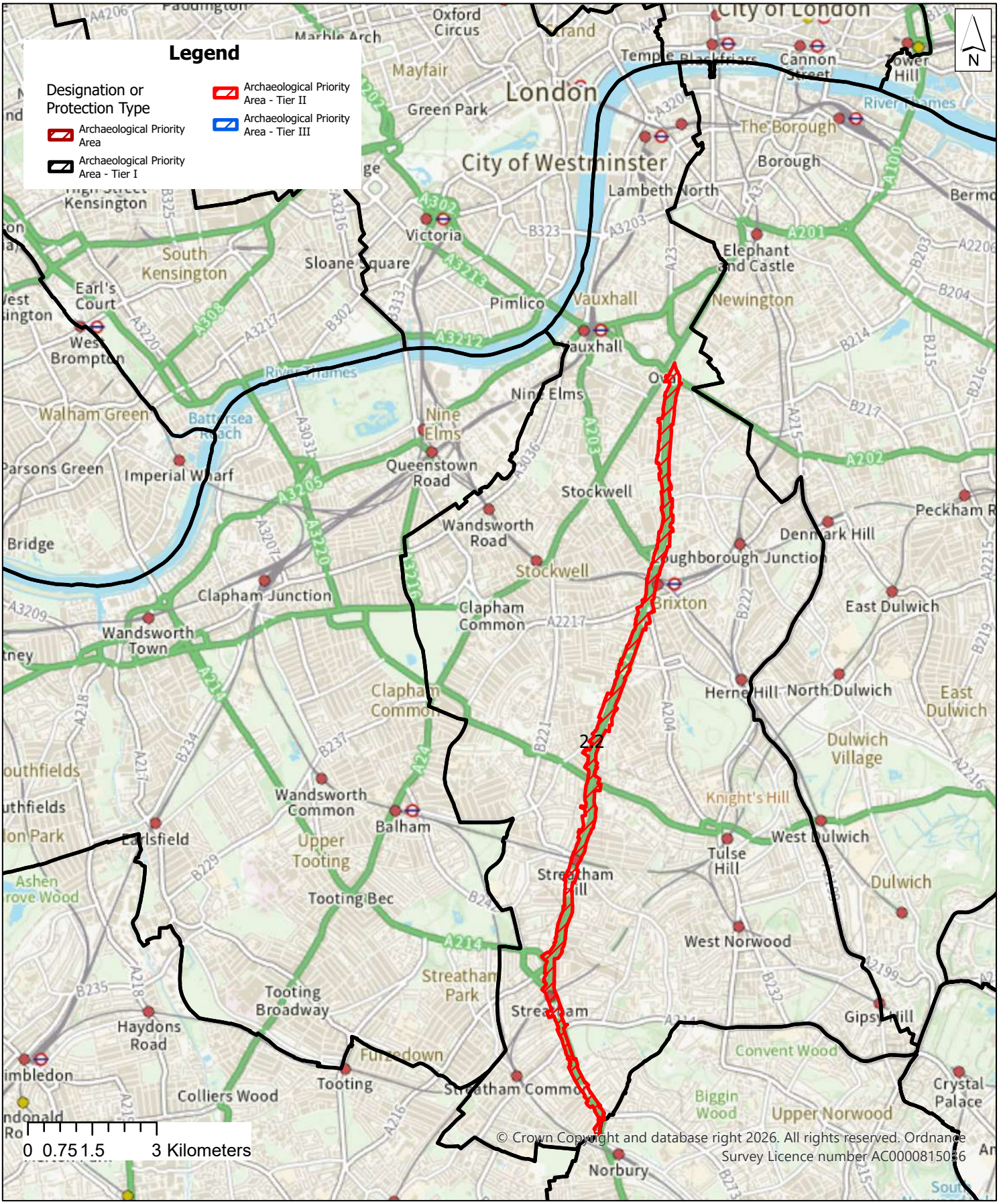
Statement of Significance

This Roman Road was not as important as Stane Street. However, it is an example of a smaller Roman road, and it is possible that settlements may have developed along its route. It is possible that the road could have been established prior to the Roman occupation, in which case it would be one of a growing number of a prehistoric trackways which was adopted and enhanced in the Roman period.

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2.2 Roman Road



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Map Scale:	1:50,924
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2.3 Leigham Court, Streatham

Summary and Definition

The Leigham Court APA covers the site of a medieval manor house and is assigned to Tier 2 because it is a documented medieval settlement.

Description

The Manor of Leigham Court was granted by Ela, wife of Jordan de Sackville, to the Abbey of Bermondsey in 1152. The site of the court was later occupied by Uplands House, having been rebuilt in the Tudor period. The reference to the Prior of Bermondsey's house has led to the assessment that this was possibly on the site of buildings known as Mundnorth or Mount Nod Farm. This APA captures the location of this farm as being on the site of the manor.

The Manor House was positioned on Streatham Hill, close to the present-day junction of Leigham Avenue with Conifer Gardens, built before 1558 at a location adjacent to the detached copyhold land associated with the Manor near Herne Hill. The property has had several names down the years—Mundnorth Barn, Mount Nod Farm, and Mount Nod before being called Leigham Court in 1852.

Leigham Court Road was developed with the building of a series of large Victorian houses on land purchased from the Manor of Leigham in 1836.

The land of the former Leigham Court estate was purchased in 1909 by the Artisans Labourers and General Dwellings Company to build an estate for the working classes, which took some 40 years to complete. The area where the house stood is today occupied with housing in an area south of Leigham Court Road and Leigham Avenue, east of Sackville Estate and west of Leigh Orchard Close and Dunraven School.

Statement of Significance

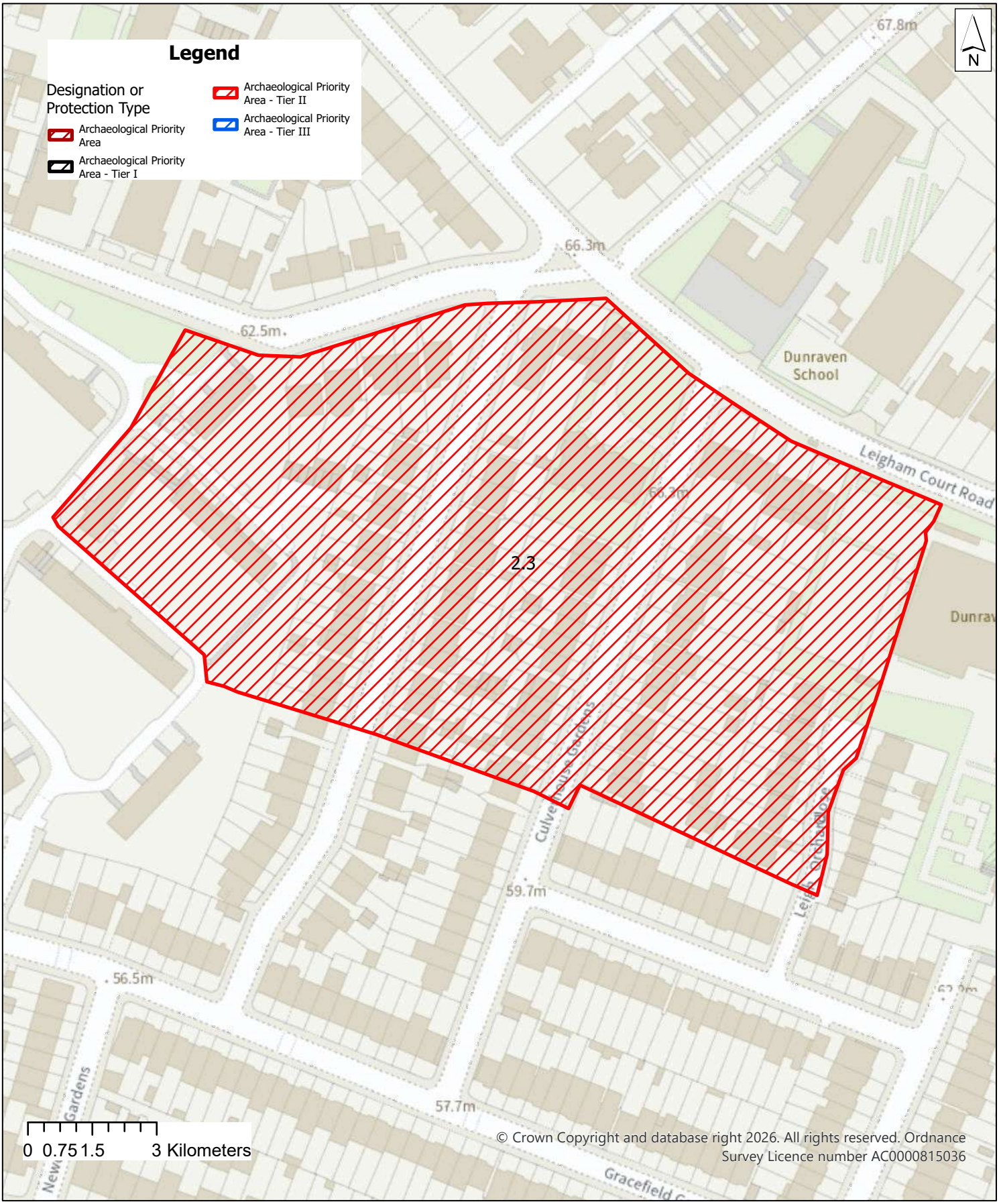
Leigham Court is of interest as an example of a medieval rural manor in the hinterland of the City of London. It has not had any archaeological investigation, so the survival and significance of its archaeological remains is uncertain.

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2.3 Leigham Court, Streatham



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2.4 Norfolk House

Summary and Definition

Norfolk House is a Tier 2 APA covering the site of a late medieval and Tudor aristocratic residence.

The house was located to the immediate southeast of Lambeth Palace in the area of present day 113-129 Lambeth Road, which has saw archaeological excavation in the 1990s that demonstrated that elements of the building survived within the fabric of the later buildings.

Description

In the late 13th and early 14th centuries Norfolk House was the London home of the Dukes and Earls of Norfolk, hence its name. Over time, it was home to the son of Edward I, Thomas de Brotherton, the Earl of Arundel and Henry VIII's fifth wife, Katherine Howard.

Archaeological excavation has demonstrated that the site was occupied in the 12th century, as well as possibly in the Roman period. The excavations also established the ground floor room layout, many of which contained decorative tiles and contained evidence for plasterwork.

The courtyard to this grand house was accessed via a substantial gate. To the east were the kitchens and a chapel stood on the west side of the courtyard, framing the house which had a private garden to its rear.

Following Katherine Howard, the property was sub-divided with new partitions being constructed and new floors laid. Leases and deeds show that the house was then further sub-divided and was eventually demolished in the 1780s.

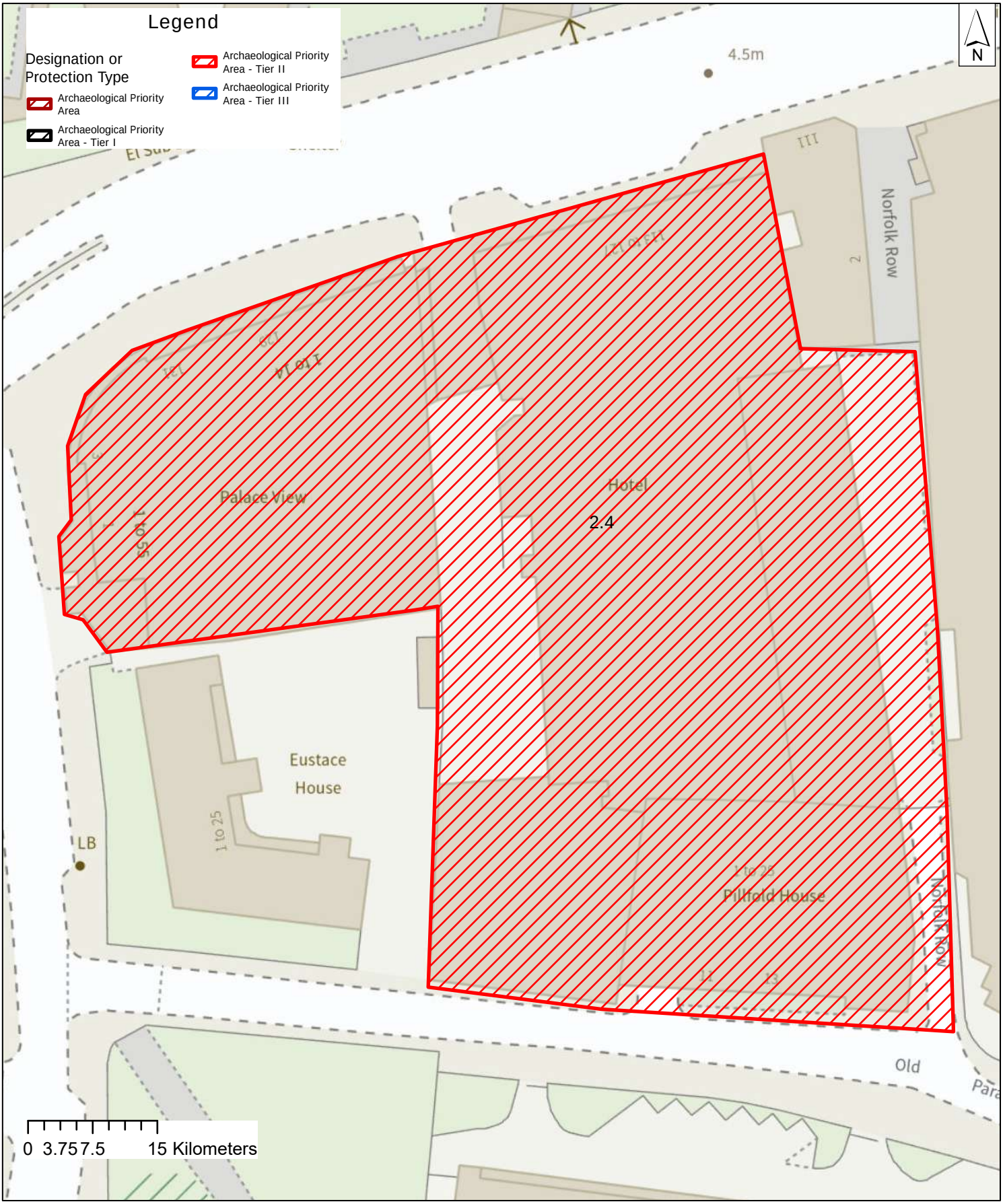
Statement of Significance

Norfolk House is of interest as an example of a late medieval and Tudor great house with royal associations. The property had been owned in the fourteenth century by the Ear of Arundel and then in the fifteenth century by the Duke of Norfolk. It is possible that the major building(s) lay outside of the areas excavated and so has the potential for the site in the future to be raised to a Tier I.

Key References

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2.4 Norfolk House



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
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2.5 English Civil War Defences

The English Civil War

The Wars of the Three Kingdoms occurred between 1639-1653 over religious and political rights. Within this wider conflict from 1642 to 1651 were a series of civil wars in England between the Royalists and Parliamentarians.

In London, members of the East India Company and Levant Company plus Merchant Adventurers, aldermen, and many leading citizens, remained loyal to the crown. In lieu of a standing army, London had four trained reservists, or bands, linked to the different wards and which could be summoned by the Lord Mayor.

The wealth of London was vitally important to the Parliamentarians, with the Royal Mint producing currency from the security of the Tower. Therefore, to counter the Mayor, the Parliamentarians drafted a Militia Ordinance under a committee of nominated radicals. A series of demonstrations on the streets of London followed.

The conflict between the Mayor and Militia continued until Parliament voted to impeach the Mayor in June 1642, and he was then taken to the Tower of London where he eventually died in 1647.

The City of London's Common Council sent a petition to the Parliamentarians and the King in a bid the find a peaceful resolution, but neither side was in a mood for peace and so civil war began in August 1642.

The Defences

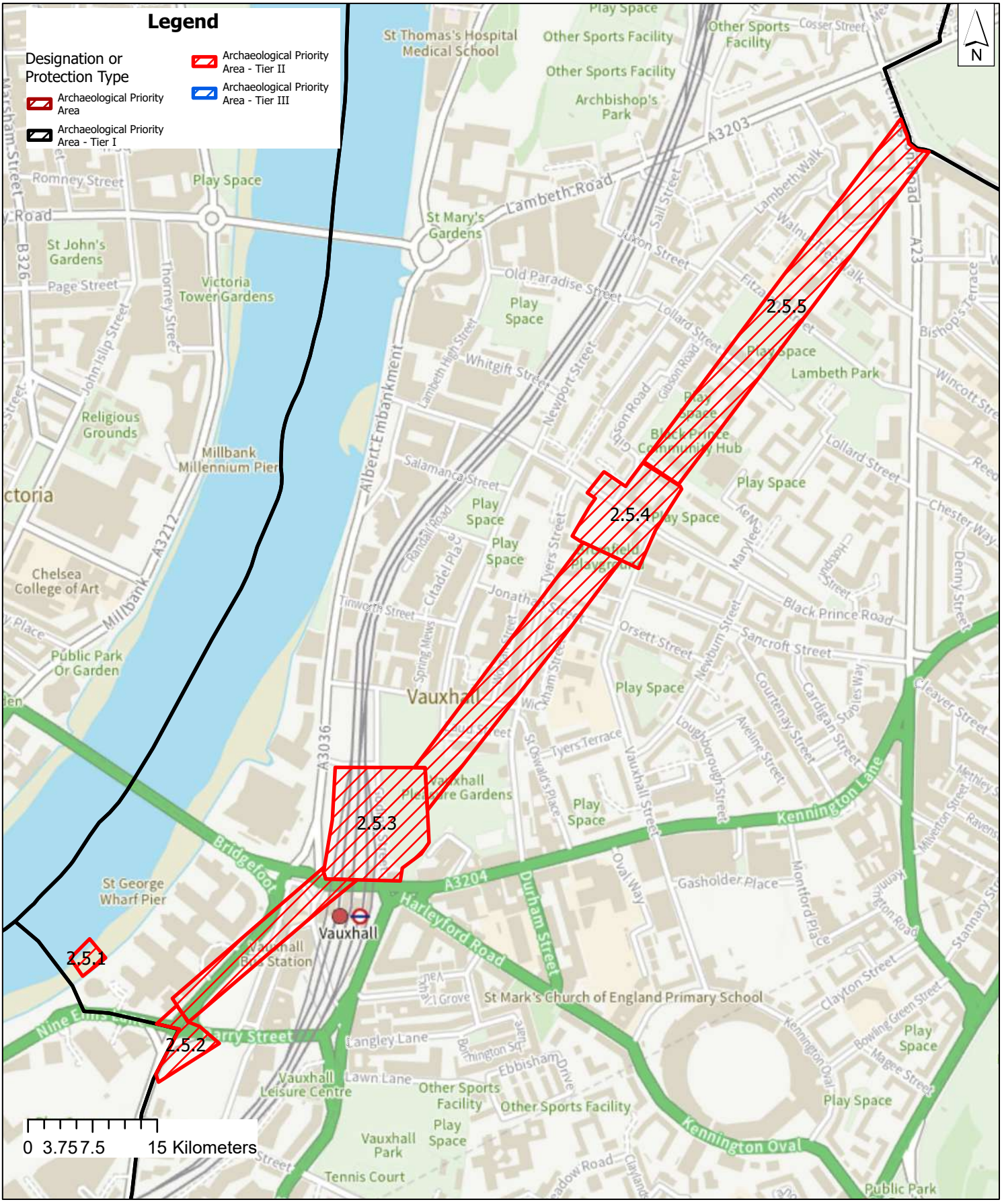
In February 1643 the Common Council ordered the making of defences about London comprising a series of forts connected by bank, ditch and fencing. Lines of communication were established, not so much for defence but to provide protection for people moving from fort to fort with valuable information and materials. Some additional strong points were established by the Thames within the wider defended area while others, such as the Nine Elms Fort (in Wandsworth), were located beyond these defences. Four fortifications linked by the lines of communication are known in Lambeth. The land around the defences was likely impacted by their construction including use for quarries and clearance of structures within their field of fire. While the forts have been levelled and their locations redeveloped, given the scale of the fort works, archaeological evidence is anticipated to remain.

In August 1647 Fairfax marched four regiments for the Parliamentarians into Southwark, to be greeted by its residents. It has been argued that the fortifications helped Parliament to maintain its grip upon London against both external enemies and internal dissent.

Following the restoration of the monarchy, effort was made to reduce or remove elements of the fortifications to prevent them from being used by Londoners against the king. Some of the fort communication lines became new roads in time, with their forts being robbed of building material. Meanwhile the hastily constructed mounds upon which forts were built remained for some time, only being reduced fully once the surrounding areas had been developed by an expanding London.

This appraisal takes advantage of an in-depth study undertaken by Mills Whipp Projects, blending historic archives with reinterpreted archaeology recorded from archaeological site work, with the research of the Lambeth and Southwark section of the Civil War defences being funded by Historic England and the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee.

2.5 Civil War Defences



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:7,184
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.5.1 Vauxhall Blockhouse

Summary and Definition

This covers the likely site of a small fortification placed on the south bank of the Thames to interdict river traffic.

It is located within APA 1.2 Vauxhall Thames Foreshore in the vicinity of the Bronze Age timbers and therefore does not have its own policy map, but is shown in the mapping in this report for information.

Description

A Blockhouse was the name given to a small fortification with firing holes in its walls so those within could defend themselves and guard the immediate area. During the 17th century, Blockhouses became towers with gun platforms.

The location of this Blockhouse was against the Thames, in the area immediately south of the later Vauxhall Bridge and on land redeveloped as St George's Wharf. An alternative location would place it under the southern end of Vauxhall Bridge. The latter would have positioned the Blockhouse between two short inlets that would have meant that any approach would have to come from only one direction, from the southeast. If in the former possible location, the Blockhouse would have sat within a larger area of land with a significant inlet from the Thames extending as far as the entrance today to Vauxhall railway station. The difference between the two locations is just about 10m and so will not affect the boundary to this APA.

The Blockhouse would have been constructed on elevated ground that was enhanced by sods of de-turfed grass and brickearth from shallow nearby quarries. It is likely that the mound was surrounded by a ditch, which given the location, was likely to have been flooded. Evidence to locate and date related ditches and revetments will help locate the Fort.

Statement of Significance

Archaeological evidence to confirm the presence and detail of the Blockhouse would be important as a distinctive element of the defence of London in the 17th century. Evidence of period quarries would narrow the possible position of the Blockhouse.

Key References

Mills Whipp, 2025, 'London's English Civil War Defences Project: Locations of the Defences – Study Area 5, Vauxhall to Rotherhithe'

2.5.2 Vauxhall Redoubt

Summary and Definition

This part of the Civil War Defences APA covers the likely location of a fort at the western end of the lines of communication south of the Thames.

Description

Research of the Civil War London Defences has identified not only that Vauxhall Blockhouse was likely to have been further upriver than previously considered, but that it permits the inclusion of Vauxhall Redoubt which in turn connected via the Lines, with the main local defence of Vauxhall Fort.

A document from the Court of Common Council in 1647 states that there are 'two Forts at Vauxhall, and the rest of the Forts down to the waterside, be surrounded to his Excellency Sir Thomas Fairfax, or any other whom he shall please to appoint'. When considering the distances recorded by Daynes in 1643 from Vauxhall Fort and Vauxhall Blockhouse, the Reboubt would be located within the area of intersecting roads of Nine Elms Lane and Parry Street with Wandsworth Road.

The square-plan fortification with would be located at the right-angled intersection of the Communication Lines from Vauxhall Fort to the northeast and Vauxhall Blockhouse to the northwest. While Hollar's map of 1644 shows the redoubt as a four-bastion form, this has not yet been collaborated by other sources.

Statement of Significance

Archaeological evidence to confirm the presence and detail of the Redoubt would be important in respect of the defence of London in the 17th century. As with other forts, identifying evidence of the Lines and related ditches and revetments will help to establish its location.

Key References

Mills Whipp, 2025, 'London's English Civil War Defences Project: Locations of the Defences – Study Area 5, Vauxhall to Rotherhithe'

2.5.3 Vauxhall Fort

Summary and Definition

This part of the Civil War Defences APA covers the likely location of a large fort near the western end of the lines of communication south of the Thames.

Description

Historic maps show the location of the Fort to be within a rectangular plot of land, the majority of which is beneath the north end of Vauxhall railway station, with the eastern third of the Fort occurring to the east of the station in an area of public realm forming the southwestern area of the wider Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens. Maps suggest that it was a square Fort with major bastions projecting from each corner. The Fort's scale and major construction suggests that it was the centre that oversaw the functioning of the Blockhouse to its west and Nine Elms Fort to the south, as well as providing a strong line of defence with St George's Forth to the northeast.

Evidence of period quarries or the defence ditch may be archaeologically identified. The identification of the Fort, particularly the eastern portion, beyond the railway, would be important in respect of our understanding of the defence of London in the 17th century as well as being of regional importance.

The square-plan fortification with corner bastions was located at the southwestern end of the south London defence works close to the Thames, with a double palisade and surrounded by a ditch.

Statement of Significance

Archaeological evidence to confirm the presence and detail of the Fort would be important in respect of the defence of London in the 17th century. As with other forts, identifying evidence of the Lines and related ditches and revetments will help to establish its location.

Key References

Mills Whipp, 2025, 'London's English Civil War Defences Project: Locations of the Defences – Study Area 5, Vauxhall to Rotherhithe'

2.5.4 Lambeth Butts Fort

Summary and Definition

This part of the Civil War Defences APA covers the possible location of a poorly documented fort on the lines of communication south of the Thames.

Description

There is but a single reference to the presence of this Fort, it is not shown on Hollar's map of 1643. The surviving William Lithgow records of incomplete forts in May 1643 state that this Fort occurred midway between the main forts of St George's to the northeast and Vauxhall to the southwest.

Given the lack of information, one can only speculate as to what the fort at this location may have looked like. Given that it may have been overlooked in the 1643 map, perhaps it was on a similar scale to that of a Blockhouse and constructed possibly on a low mound formed from turfs and soil derived from shallow quarries.

Mills Whipp Projects suggest that it may have been located at the point where the Lines cross Black Price Road.

Statement of Significance

Archaeological evidence to confirm the presence and detail of the Fort would be important in respect of the defence of London in the 17th century. It could resolve questions raised by the sparse documentary records. As with other forts, identifying evidence of the Lines and related ditches and revetments will help to establish its location.

Key References

Mills Whipp, 2025, 'London's English Civil War Defences Project: Locations of the Defences – Study Area 5, Vauxhall to Rotherhithe'

2.5.5 The Lines of Communication

Summary and Definition

This element of the Civil War Defences APA comprises three segments of the Lines of Communication which linked the forts around the defensive circuit.

Description

Connecting the four fortifications that occurred within the borough were three Lines that enabled people and supplies to be transported between the forts while being provided with a measure of protection.

The main communication line in Lambeth ran between Vauxhall Fort and St George's Fort, just over the border in Southwark, with Lambeth Butts located approximately at the halfway point. Much of this south section of the works that ringed London was not designed for in-depth defence. Given their low-lying topographical context, elements of the Lines consisted of layered turf and brickearth from shallow quarries. Records suggest that sections of existing property fences were requisitioned, likely for use in the Lines' construction. Further, it was recorded in early 1643 by an Oxford Royalist newspaper, that the intent was to make use of the low-lying topography by drawing water from the Thames to supplement the defences across Lambeth and Southwark. However, the interpretation may have been a speculation given the scale of the construction.

The short length of western segment of the Lines has been revised to connect the relocated Vauxhall Blockhouse on the foreshore and Vauxhall Redoubt, and not Vauxhall Fort as previously thought. Unfortunately, this section of the Lines will have significantly been impacted by developments over the past 20 years.

The Lines connected Vauxhall Fort and Lambeth Butts, extending therefore across what is now Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens before diagonally crossing the present-day grid of streets towards the Black Prince Road junction with Vauxhall Street.

The Lines are as important as the forts they connect. Identifying their locations is likely to be through the identification of shallow quarries of this period.

Statement of Significance

Evidence to locate and date related ditches and revetments will in turn help locate the forts and to assist in the interpretation of this regionally important aspect of London history.

Key References

Mills Whipp, 2025, 'London's English Civil War Defences Project: Locations of the Defences – Study Area 5, Vauxhall to Rotherhithe'

The History of London https://www.thehistoryoflondon.co.uk/london-during-the-civil-war/ accessed on 29/01/2026

2.6 Doulton Factory and Albert Embankment Pottery Industry

Summary and Definition

The Doulton Factory and Albert Embankment Pottery Industry APA is assigned to Tier 2 because it covers a 19th century industrial complex which produced nationally and internationally recognised ceramics. Archaeological investigations have demonstrated the survival of significant buried remains.

Description

John Doulton's first factory in 1815 was on Vauxhall Walk, before moving and building a pothouse in 1826 on the west side of Lambeth High Street under the new name of Doulton and Watts. In 1835 John's son Henry joined the business, and soon the factory expanded with a kiln built for the firing of terracotta sculptures. More land was acquired north of the High Street in 1843 and yet more in 1854, so that the full length of the High Street on the south side was now part of the operation. It was not long until there were 70 kilns in use to keep up with demand.

Doulton built a new head office on the corner of Black Prince Road with Lambeth High Street that still stands and was highly decorated sporting many different architectural terracotta forms from its catalogue. External decorations celebrate the craft of the potter and the success of the company.

While the company expanded into other areas of the country, Lambeth was its home. By end of the 19th century, Doulton was the dominant factory in the borough, spreading along the Thames side along Albert Embankment. This provided more space for kiln building, as well as access to shipped in raw materials and the transfer out of finished products.
Whilst most of the products were utilitarian stonewares, the business was also one of the first British makers of art pottery.

However, competition and the introduction of machinery for the mass production of items such as ginger beer and ink bottles in glass started the company's decline and forced a focus on the profitable parts of the business – decorative pottery and artwares. The last kiln was closed in 1956 and Doulton's operations in Lambeth ceased 15 years later.

Opportunities down the years have enabled elements of the pottery industry in this area to be investigated. The latest area to be excavated was in 2011-2 at 20-21 Albert Embankment which found a further kiln base that showed signs of modification. Eventually, with a representative sample of production sites across the area and across the whole period of activity, an assessment of changing kiln technology should be possible.

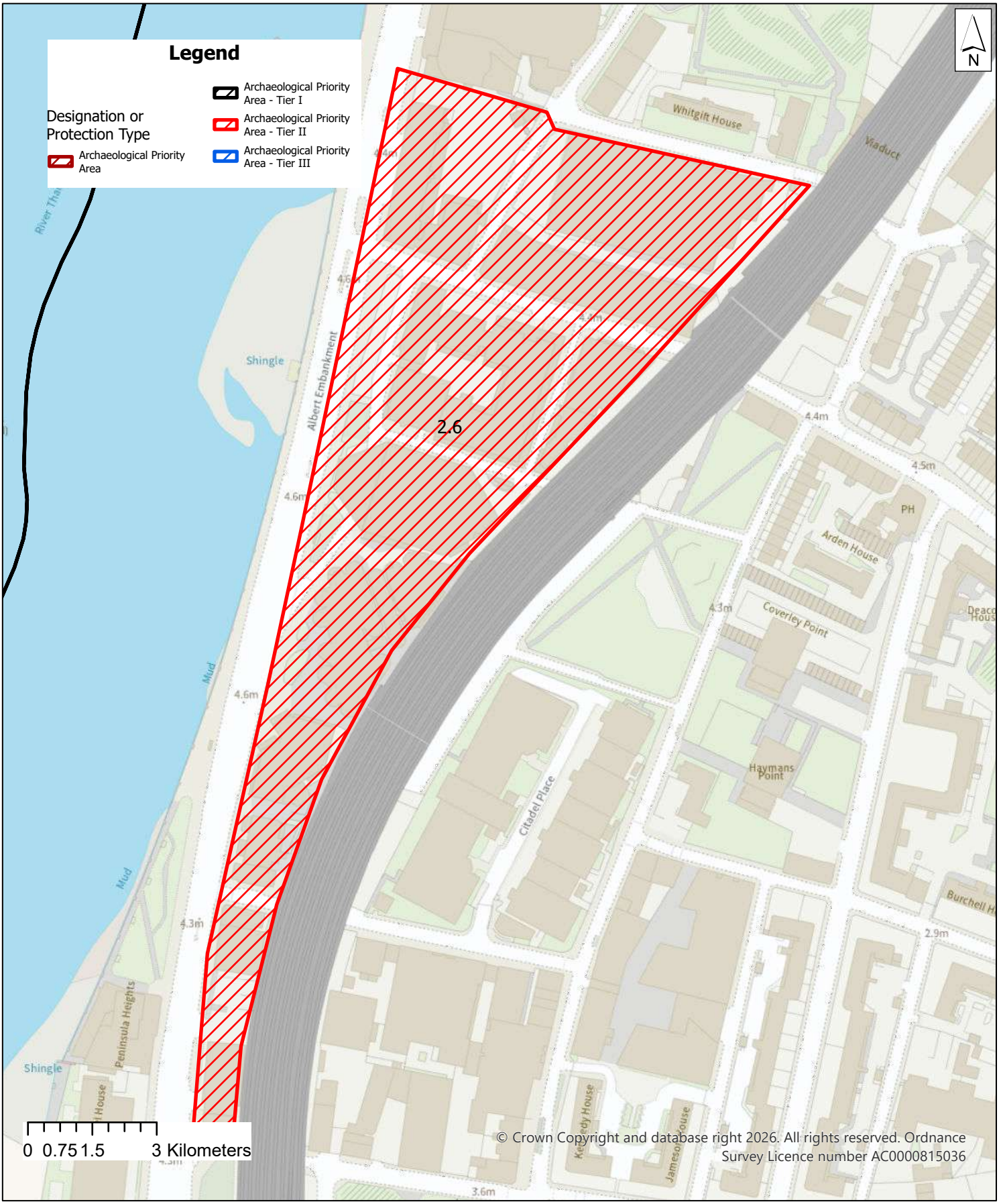
Statement of Significance

A lot of research has been undertaken in respect of the various classes of products produced by this factory, some of which have artistic as well as historical interest, but relatively little is known about the manufacturing process. Unfortunately, many of the earliest kilns which could have held national significance have been destroyed due to subsequent developments that included basements. Nonetheless, substantial industrial structures can have good interpretative value and might be displayed within new development.

Key References

Tyler, K. et al, 2005 'The Doulton stoneware pothouse in Lambeth', MOLAS

2.6 Doulton Factory and Albert Embankment Pottery Industry



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:2,268
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.7 Water Lambeth

Summary and Definition

This is a localised area defining the site of the medieval village of Water Lambeth, set against the Thames immediately up stream of present-day Lambeth Bridge, with Lambeth High Street marking the settlement's back lane. Over time the settlement name became simply Lambeth.

Description

Lambeth High Street marked the focus for this small yet significant medieval settlement, with the backs of properties on the west side having access to the Thames to permit water-borne trade.

From Old English, Lambeth translates as the landing place for lambs, or it could be a reference to muddy loam colour of the harbour. In the 16th century early Delftware was produced here by Antwerp potters, who had moved into this area of London.

The creation of the Victorian embankment plus modern development will have had a significant impact on the archaeology of this historic settlement.

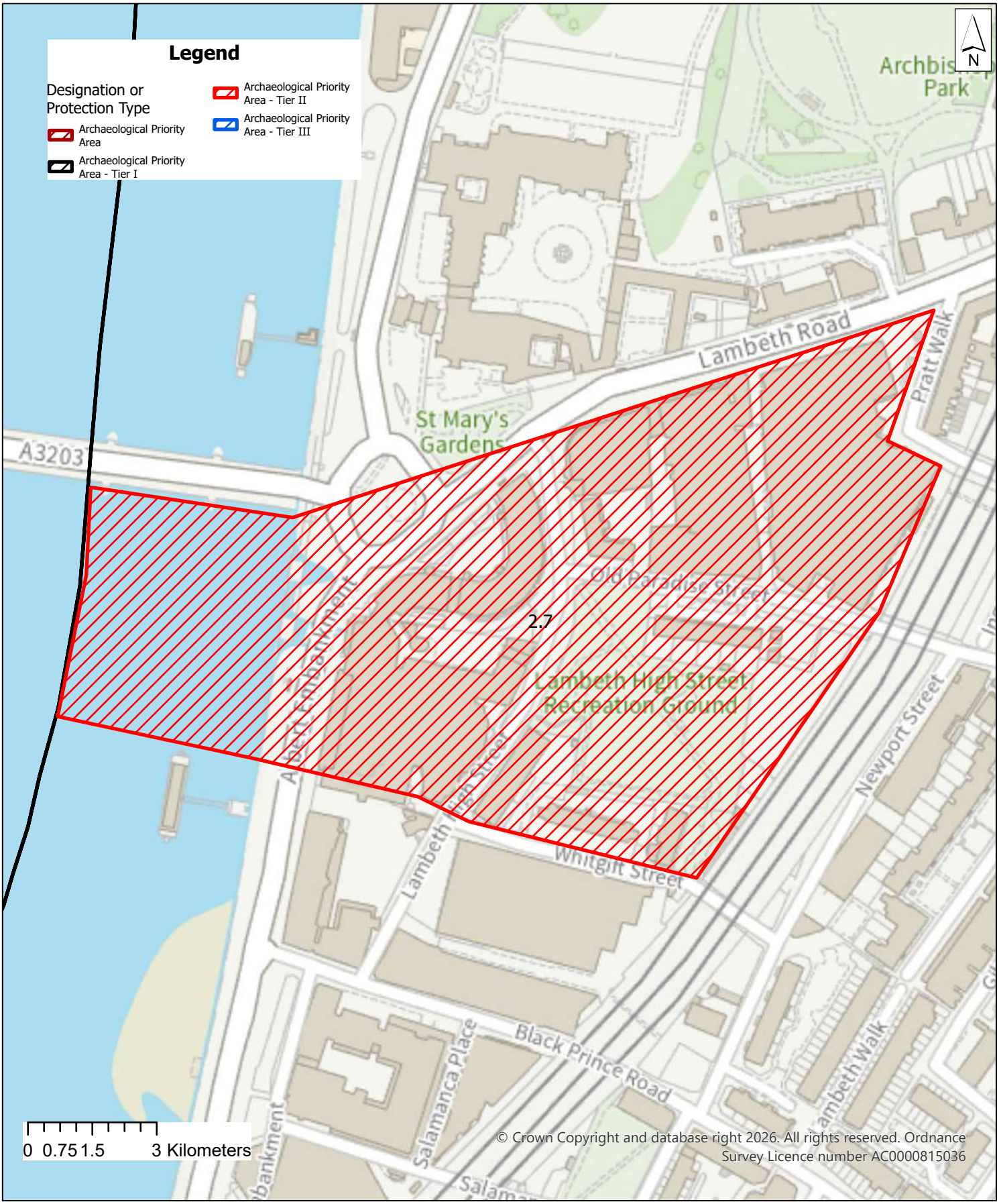
Statement of Significance

The early Medieval settlement at Water Lambeth contributed to the broader development of London by acting as a gateway for goods and people moving between the city and its hinterlands. Its riverside location facilitated trade and communication. The settlement's ability to attract craftspeople and traders from abroad, such as the Antwerp potters, demonstrates its contribution to London's economic and cultural growth during the Medieval and post-medieval periods.

Key References

Survey of London: Volume 23, Lambeth: South Bank and Vauxhall, Part 1, 1951

2.7 Water Lambeth



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:2,389
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.8 Clapham

Summary and Definition

The historic settlement sits on Hackney Gravel south of Wandsworth Road, and on the eastern boundary of the old Battersea Channel marshes. Between the southerly converging streets of Rectory Grove and North Street to the west the land dips to form a shallow valley that at one time possibly had a small stream or winterbourne.

Given the number of archaeological interventions that have been undertaken across this historic APA, it can be concluded that the focus for on-going archaeological potential is within the northern area around North Street and Rectory Grove, and the APA has been contracted so the southern boundary aligns with Fitzwilliam Road.

Description

A Neolithic occupation site was identified during excavation in 1980, consisting of flint waste flakes from the making of tools and a fragment of a pottery bowl. Going back even further in time, a small pit with a retouched Mesolithic worn scraper was excavated in 1995 west of Rectory Grove. Within this area of Clapham at 4 Rectory Grove abutting Roman ditches and building material have been identified.

The name Clapham is derived from Old English 'Clopeham' or 'Clopham', meaning enclosure near a hill or homestead. It was first recorded in the late ninth century. St Mary's Church and churchyard is located at the north end of the village and the immediate south of Wandsworth Road. Records show that a church was located here in the 12th century and was renamed Trinity Church in the Reformation. In the 18th century the church was demolished, and a new church built on Clapham Common in 1775.

To the immediate south of the church is the site of the medieval manor recorded as Clopeham or Clopham Manor, possibly within the area of Rectory Grove and Larkhall Rise, close to Turret Grove. The medieval manor house was rebuilt in the late 16th century by Bartholomew Clerke. It became a boarding school for young ladies in 1749 and was finally being demolished in 1837.

On the original site of St Mary's Church, a new church called St Paul's was built in the early 19th century as a chapel of ease to the Holy Trinity Church at Clapham Common. The churchyard was closed in 1854, and headstones were removed in the 20th century, but a record had been made of their inscriptions and locations in the 1920s. The churchyard is now a garden, named Eden at St Paul's.

Interestingly, the settlement was not on this road but on a route that connected Wandsworth Road with Stane Street (APA 2.1). The modern road pattern is represented by Rectory Grove with the northern end continuing as a path called Matrimony Place. This takes a specific route around the current church, suggesting that the earlier churches may have been to its west.

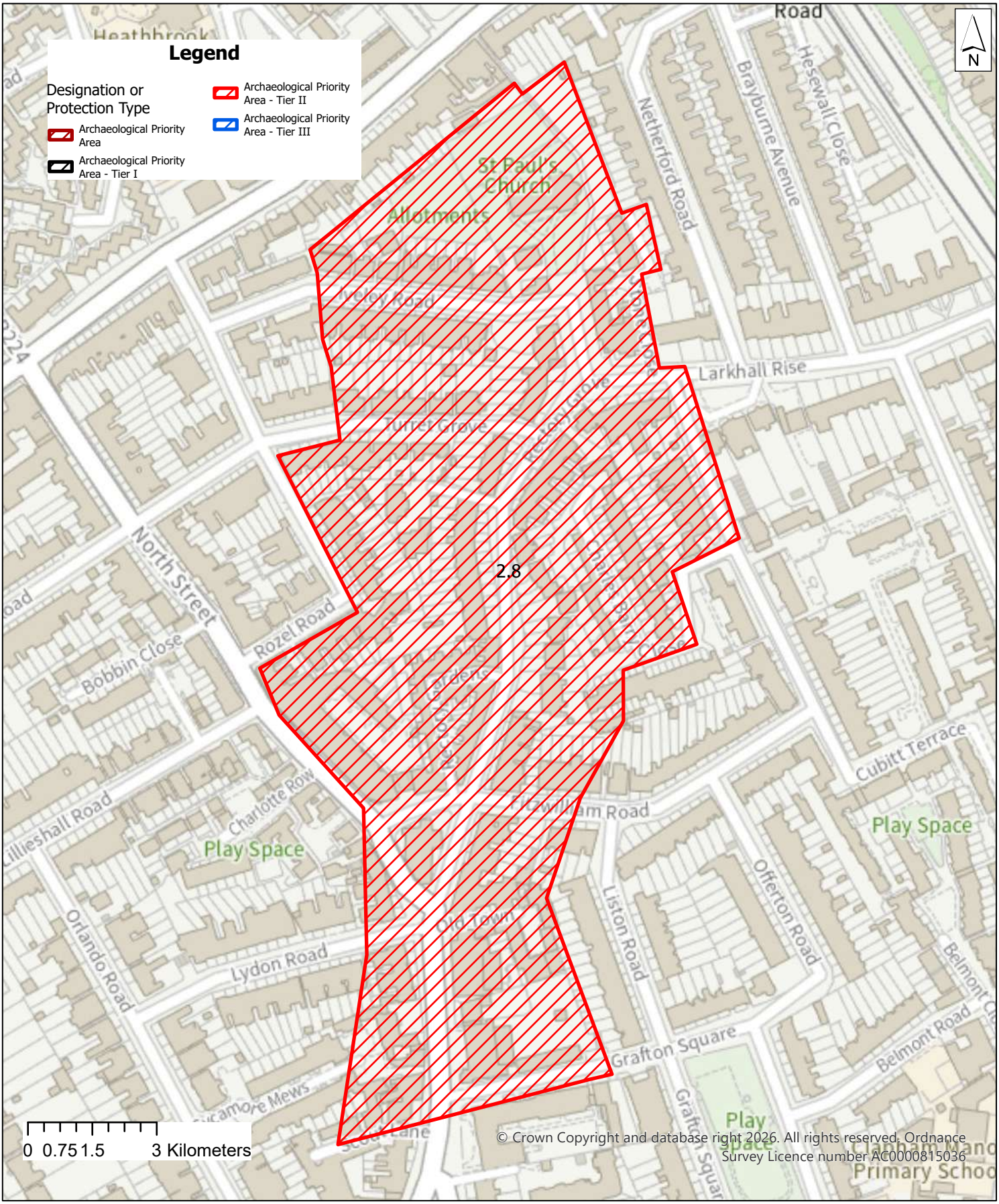
Along Rectory Grove to the west was evidence for a pre-Conquest plough soil, with 10-11th century sherds occurring at its base horizon. On the east side of Rectory Grove and rear of 9-57 Rectory Grove a number of early Saxon grass-tempered spindle-whorls have been recorded, along with residual or redeposited Roman artifacts. It is also possible that the Roman items had been collected by Saxon people as evidence of past times.

During the later medieval and into the Georgian periods, the focus of the settlement moved towards the north-eastern corner of Clapham Common, and the area now referred to as Old Town.

Statement of Significance

Studying Clapham’s transformation from a rural manor to a London suburb can further our understanding of the city’s development. Research may focus on exploring Clapham Manor's early history.

2.8 Clapham



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Map Scale:	1:2,633
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Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.9 Brockwell Park

Summary and Definition

Brockwell Park is a 50.8ha Grade II Listed Registered Park and Garden. London glass merchant John Blades purchased the estate and built the Grade II* Listed Brockwell Hall from 1811-13. He later sold the land to the Metropolitan Board of Works who turned it into a public park in 1892. The landscaped grounds include a walled garden, ponds and paths dating to the original construction of the house. The Tritton Clock Tower was added in 1908 and the Grade II listed Brockwell Lido was built in 1937 in the north of the park.

Description

Unlike many country houses this building survives, providing an opportunity to explore the relationship between the house and its estate. The archaeological potential for periods pre-dating the house also remains high given the lack of development over a large area. Brockwell Park was once part of a medieval estate owned by the Hospital of St Thomas, and later in private ownership. The extent of the old estate is mirrored in the park boundary today.

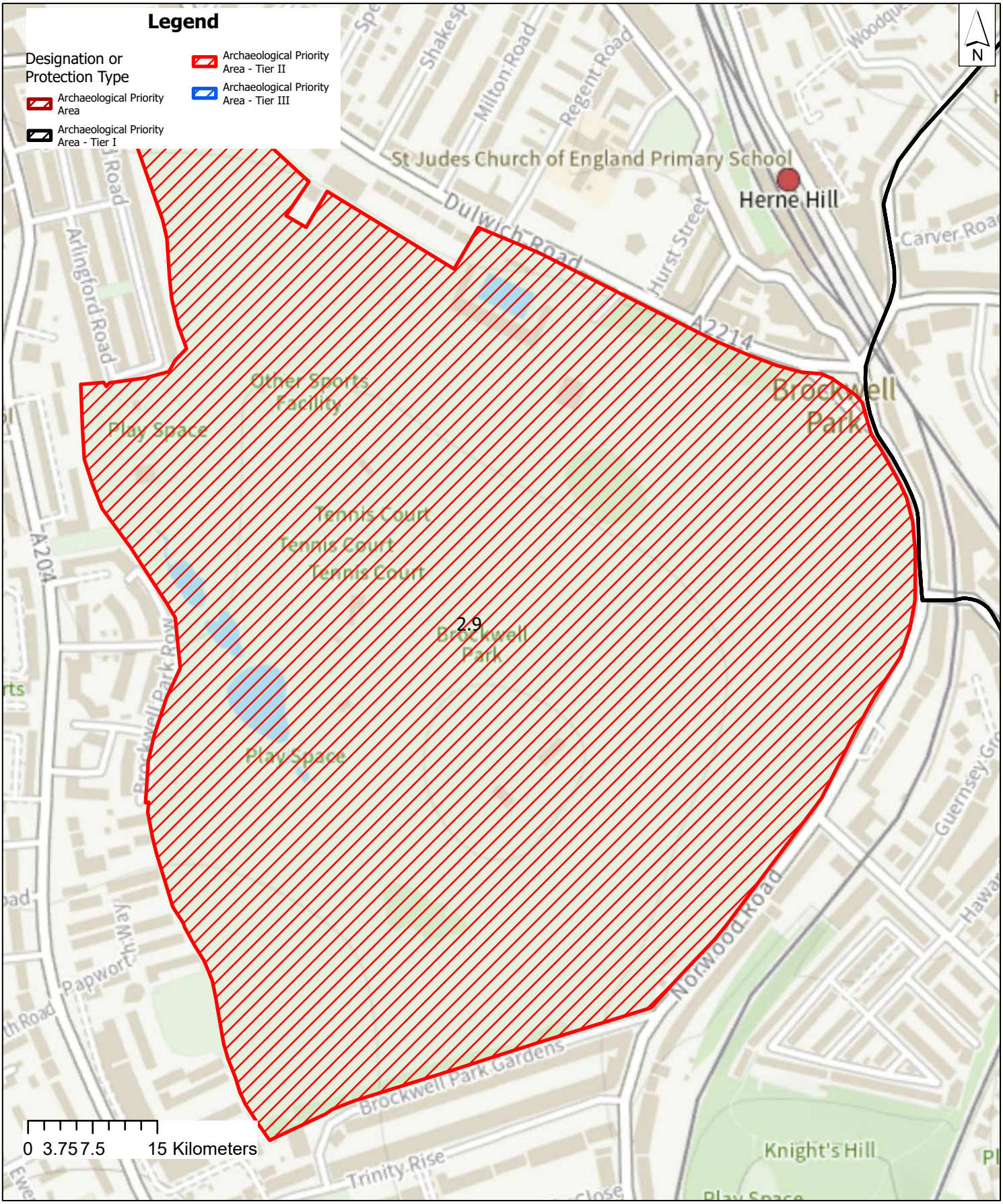
Statement of Significance

Given Brockwell Park's relatively unaltered state, further investigation could provide valuable insight into earlier land use and occupation. Brockwell Hall is of interest as an early 19th century suburban villa. Non-invasive survey methods such as geophysical and Lidar analysis could enhance our understanding of both visible and buried features across the park. As such, could be an ideal candidate for community based archaeological/heritage projects.

Key References

London Parks and Gardens Trust

2.9 Brockwell Park



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:4,941
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Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.10 Lambeth North with Waterloo and Waterloo East

Summary and Definition

Defined to the west and north by the Thames, the APA lies north of Westminster Bridge Road and south of the borough boundary with Southwark. Waterloo Station is the area to the northeast that includes Waterloo East Station and its environs. The APA includes land between Stamford Street and York Road with the Thames and an area to the east between Waterloo Station and Baylis Road. This Tier 2 APA encompasses the Thames foreshore and riverside development as well as the historic settlement about Lower Marsh.

Description

The foreshore upstream of Lambeth Bridge is a Tier 1 APA due to the presence of significant *in situ* prehistoric archaeology. The archaeological potential here in this APA on the foreshore downstream of Lambeth Bridge is represented by a significant quantity of material from all periods of history and prehistory, back to the Mesolithic, while medieval and industrial remains, in the Waterloo area was predominately developed in the Georgian and Victorian periods.

West of Lambeth Palace's garden is the site of anticipated Roman and Saxon occupation associated with the historic line of the foreshore, as evidenced from the garden excavations.

North of Lambeth Palace and the site of the proto-cathedral is the settlement of Lambeth Marsh that today is called Lower Marsh and sits alongside Waterloo Station to its north.

Topographically the settlement developed along a ridge of higher ground, with marshland to its north. It projects into APA 3.1 for Waterloo and Waterloo East, meaning it shares the landscape's archaeological potential.

The area about the ridge had been a favoured location for human activity through prehistory that includes a large quantity of Mesolithic/Neolithic material associated with a settlement site recorded southwest of the station, with further Neolithic pottery being recorded along Lower Marsh. However, no Iron Age archaeology has yet been identified within this area. This absence may be linked to the weather becoming colder and wetter and the marshland witnessing more river flooding.

It has been speculated that Lower Marsh and Upper Marsh, formerly Lambeth Marsh Road, was the line of a Roman road, but there is as yet no evidence to support this suggestion despite a Roman ditch recorded on Lower Marsh, and an occupation site identified from Finck Street also in an area of relatively high gravel against the marsh to the north.

There is high potential for Roman archaeology north of the junction of Borough Road and Westminster Bridge Road – where Samian pottery, tesserae, amphora, a burial urn and a cache of coins have been recorded at the southern end of Blackfriars Road. There is additional interest with this area of Blackfriars Road– a sherd of chaff-tempered Saxon pottery was excavated by SLAEC in 1988 from 109-115 Blackfriars Road and at the northern limit of the currently recorded Roman archaeology; suggesting that there may be a small Saxon site on part of the Roman remains.

Saxon archaeology from the area of Lambeth North is conspicuous by its absence. It was not until the 14th century that land reclamation of the marsh was first attempted in this area, and even then, it remained susceptible to flooding up until the post-medieval period when larger scale works occurred.

Significant archaeological evidence has been recovered from Lower Marsh to show that it was a small village in the medieval period, represented by numerous pits, possible property ditches and evidence of buildings.

The northern area of this APA is defined by the Thames to the west and north and York Road and Stamford Street to the east and south. The area was part of the Manor of Kennington. Interestingly a small 12th century reservoir with an embankment was recorded at 1-6 Barge Street, and a dyke called 'The Banke' has been identified. A road between two water courses names Great Dyke and Narrow Walls is also testimony to the concerted water management that took place in this area. The area known as South Bank therefore includes the medieval and post-medieval riverside developments, industries, jetties, stairs and embankment works. Moreover, Bronze Age archaeology has been found in the peat deposits that occur across much of this area.

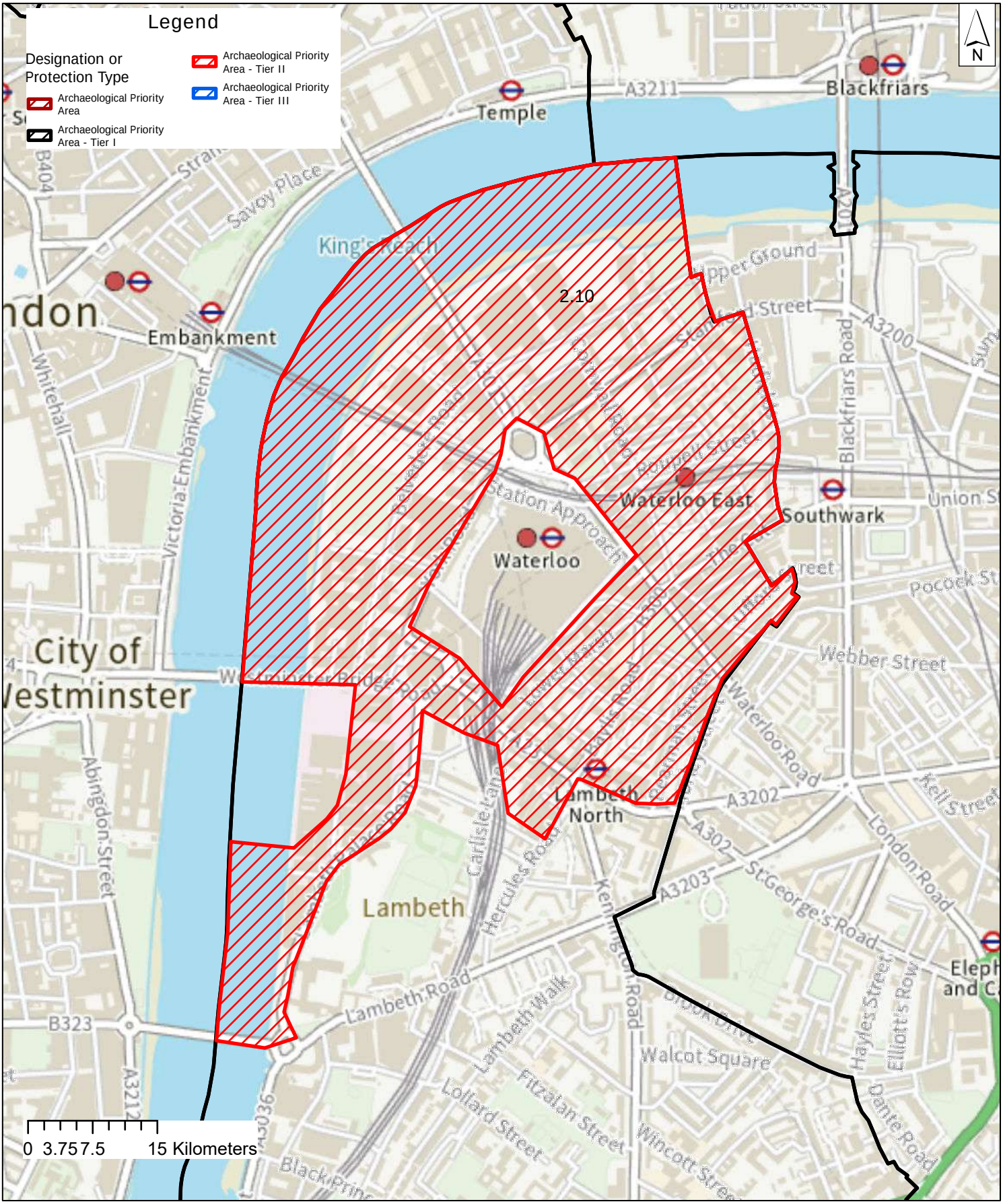
Industry in this area included the Vauxhall Glasshouse, the Coadstone Factory, timber yards and warehouses.

Statement of Significance

This area is of interest is due to the diverse range of remains and artefacts recorded within its boundaries. The presence of prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval, and industrial features highlights the complexity and depth of the historical landscape here.

The APA has been defined for what it can tell us about this area dynamic relationship with the River Thames, such as the evidence of gradual land reclamation and water management over the centuries. The transformation from marshland to settled village, and eventually to an industrious riverside district reflects broader patterns of urban development in London. Any evidence of Saxon occupation would be of particular interest owing to the gap in the archaeological record here. Areas of this APA will hold potential for waterlogged remains to enrich the archaeological record.

2.10 Lambeth North with Waterloo and Waterloo East



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Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.11 Loughborough Road

Summary and Definition

This APA is centred on the location of Loughborough House, named after its owner, Henry Hastings who became first Baron Loughborough in 1660. It was built on the site of the post-medieval Wyke Manor House and Calledwye Court. During the Georgian period, houses were built within mainly the area between Cromwell Road and Loughborough Road North before the whole area was developed as early Victorian terraced housing.

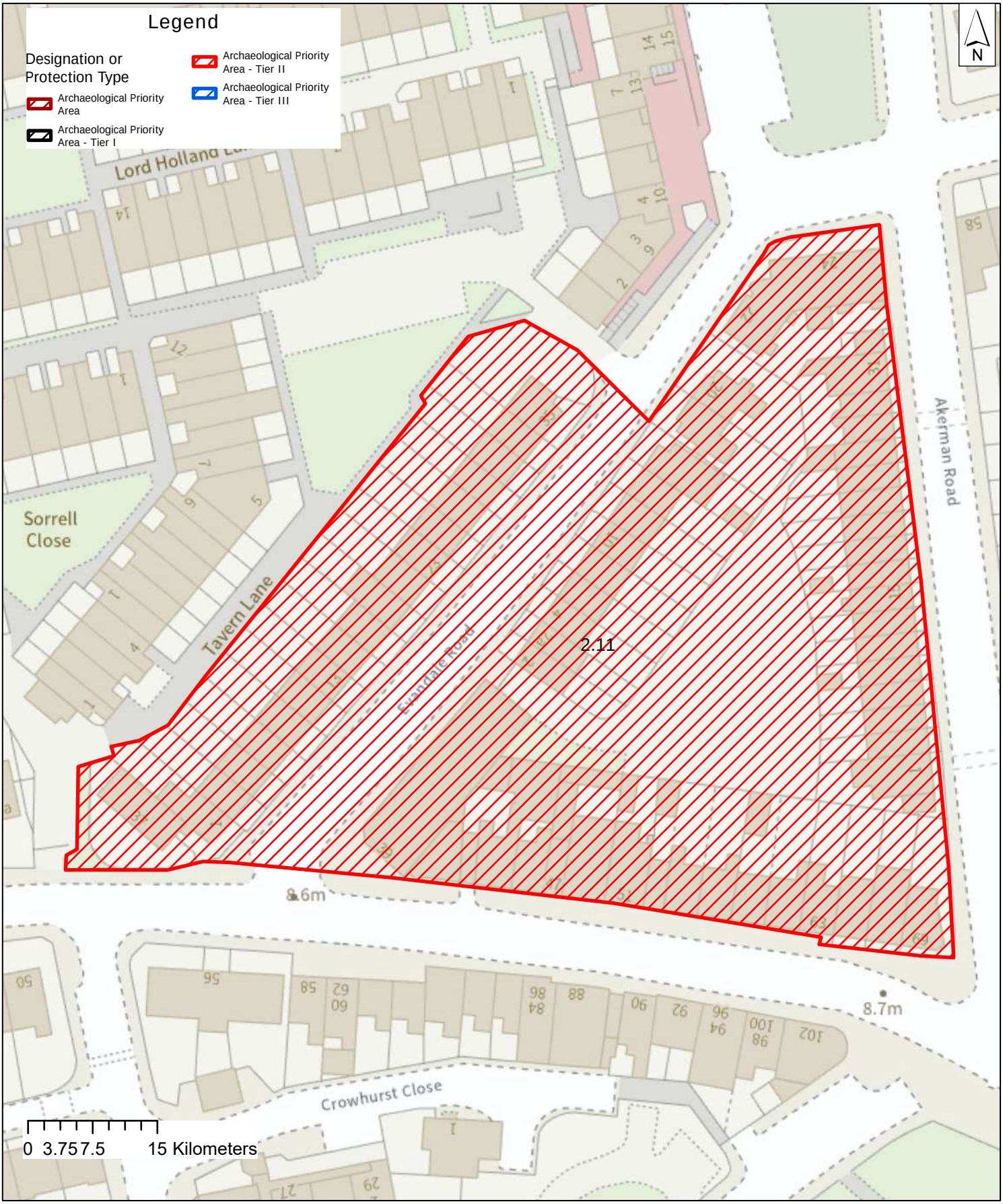
Description

Archaeological excavation undertaken in 1983 by members of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee discovered brick wall footings of a possible garden wall associated with Loughborough House. No evidence of the medieval manor was identified but it may not be far from present day Loughborough Road.

Statement of Significance

The significance of this APA lies in its potential to yield further evidence about the origins and layout of Loughborough House and the preceding manor estates. Surviving archaeological features would contribute to our understanding of the transition from rural manorial land to suburban development.

2.11 Loughborough Road



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Map Scale:	1:810
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.12 Norwood Levehurst

Summary and Definition

The Norwood Levehurst Tier 2 APA covers the presumed site of a small medieval manor.

Description

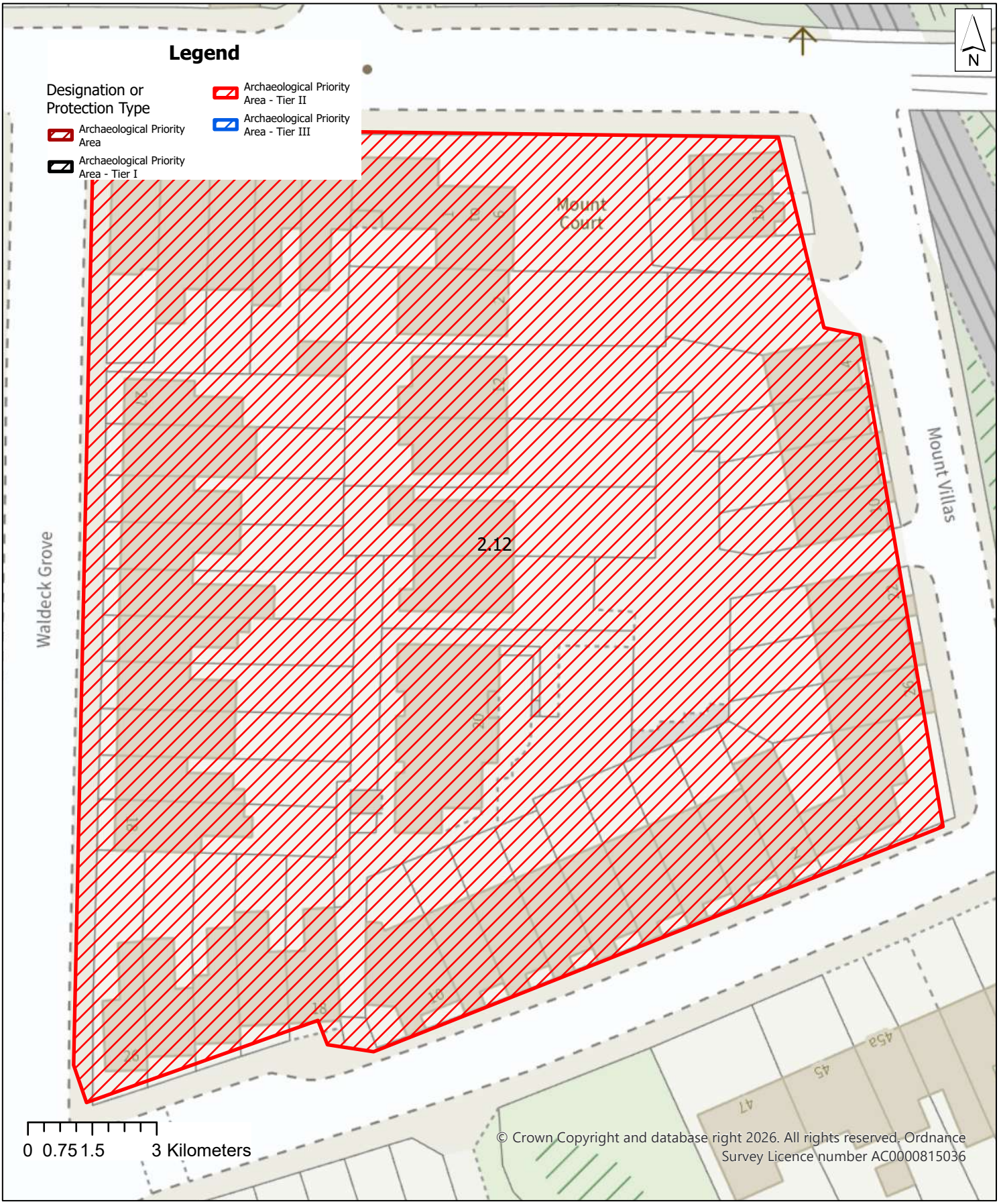
The small manor of Levehurst is thought to have lain between Canterbury Grove, Leigham Vale and Norwood Road. The estate appears in historic records in 1290 and a map of the property survives from 1563 In 1795 the manor was purchased from Navy Lieutenant James Wall by Edward Thurlow, First Baron Thurlow and Lord Chancellor, owner of nearby Leigham Manor and Thurlow Lodge. The Lambeth Manor Enclosure Act of 1806 enabled the estate to be developed for housing.

Oddly, Rocque's map of 1746 appears not to show the manor and so its true location is uncertain. Donald Imber has suggested the manor was on the north side of Canterbury Grove and between Mount Villas and Waldeck Grove.

Statement of Significance

The significance of this APA lies in its potential to yield further evidence about the origins and layout of Levehurst and its place in the landscape. Surviving archaeological features would contribute to our understanding of the transition from rural manorial land to suburban development.

2.12 Norwood Levehurst



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:513
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.13 Stockwell Green

Summary and Definition

The Tier 2 APA covers the historic settlement that developed alongside a manor created at the same time as the manor of Vauxhall, from the manor of South Lambeth.

Description

The name Stockwell was possibly derived from a well with a post. It is also possible that punishment stocks were located by the well, or simply that there was an animal stock enclosure with a well. In the 13th century the manor was under the jurisdiction of Vauxhall Manor, reflecting the fact that it was created to control South Lambeth. The manor house was located around Stockwell Green, northeast of Stockwell Road. It was demolished in the 18th century once a new house had been built in 1756. It is not known if the original manor was moated or had fishponds.

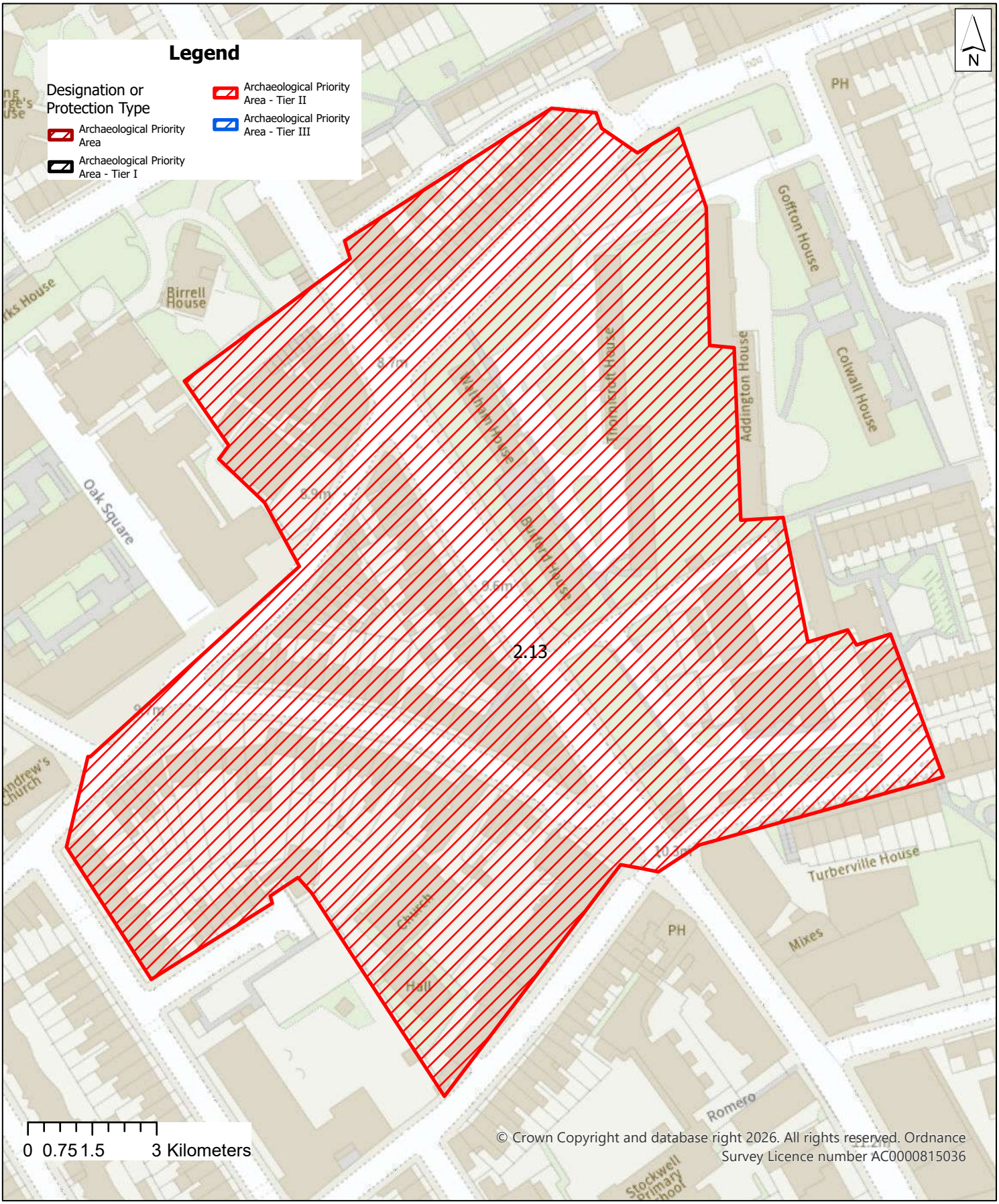
The settlement prospered due to the intersection of two important routes, Stane Street and the locally important medieval route which is today known as the A203 Southern Lambeth Road/Stockwell Road.

The arrival of the City and South London Railway saw a station open in 1890 that heralded the rapid transformation of the rural landscape into an expansion of the suburbs. The rail depot located between Stockwell and Clapham Roads was also the location for the building of the electric trains for the City and SLR.

Statement of Significance

Learning more about the origins of the settlement at Stockwell would provide valuable insights into the development patterns of the area, particularly in relation to the way important transport routes influenced settlement growth. Further archaeological and historical investigation could reveal more about daily life, land use, including the changing functions of Stockwell Green through time.

2.13 Stockwell Green



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Map Scale:	1:1,709
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Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.14 Streatham

Summary and Definition

The village of Streatham, recorded in Domesday Book in 1086 as Estreham, developed around the junction of several roads with the church located in the centre between Tooting Bec Gardens and Streatham High Road. It is assigned to Tier 2 because it is an historic settlement with medieval origins.

Description

Interestingly the settlement does not appear to have a manor, with the nearest being Tooting Bec to the south. Opposite the church and east of Streatham High Road was Bedford Farm, known to have existed by 1573 before being rebuilt in 1739 and then enlarged in 1783. Is it possible that this farm may be on the site of a lost early manor, before the land became part of the Manor of Tooting Bec.

The current Grade II Listed St Leonard's Church includes elements of 14th century masonry that survived an extensive rebuild in 1831-41. It is surrounded by a cemetery with medieval origins. The chapel recorded in Domesday Book may be located under the current church, or within the area of the churchyard.

Several late third- to fourth-century Roman coins and masonry found in the churchyard suggest the site's history predates current records. Notably a small figure, possibly Hercules, was discovered on Ambleside Avenue close to the junction with Tooting Bec Gardens, suggesting that a Roman building of some note may have stood close by. However, archaeological investigations in this area have not yet identified any Roman archaeology.

The area between Mitcham Lane and Streatham High Road appears to have been open ground in the medieval period, possibly a village green where livestock could be secured. North of the church, on parsonage glebe land, a tithe barn was located close to present day Prentis Road, which marks the northern limit of this APA.

In the 13th century gallows were built on the order of the Abbot of Bec, located opposite the church on the other side of Streatham High Road. It is therefore possible that remains may have been interred nearby.

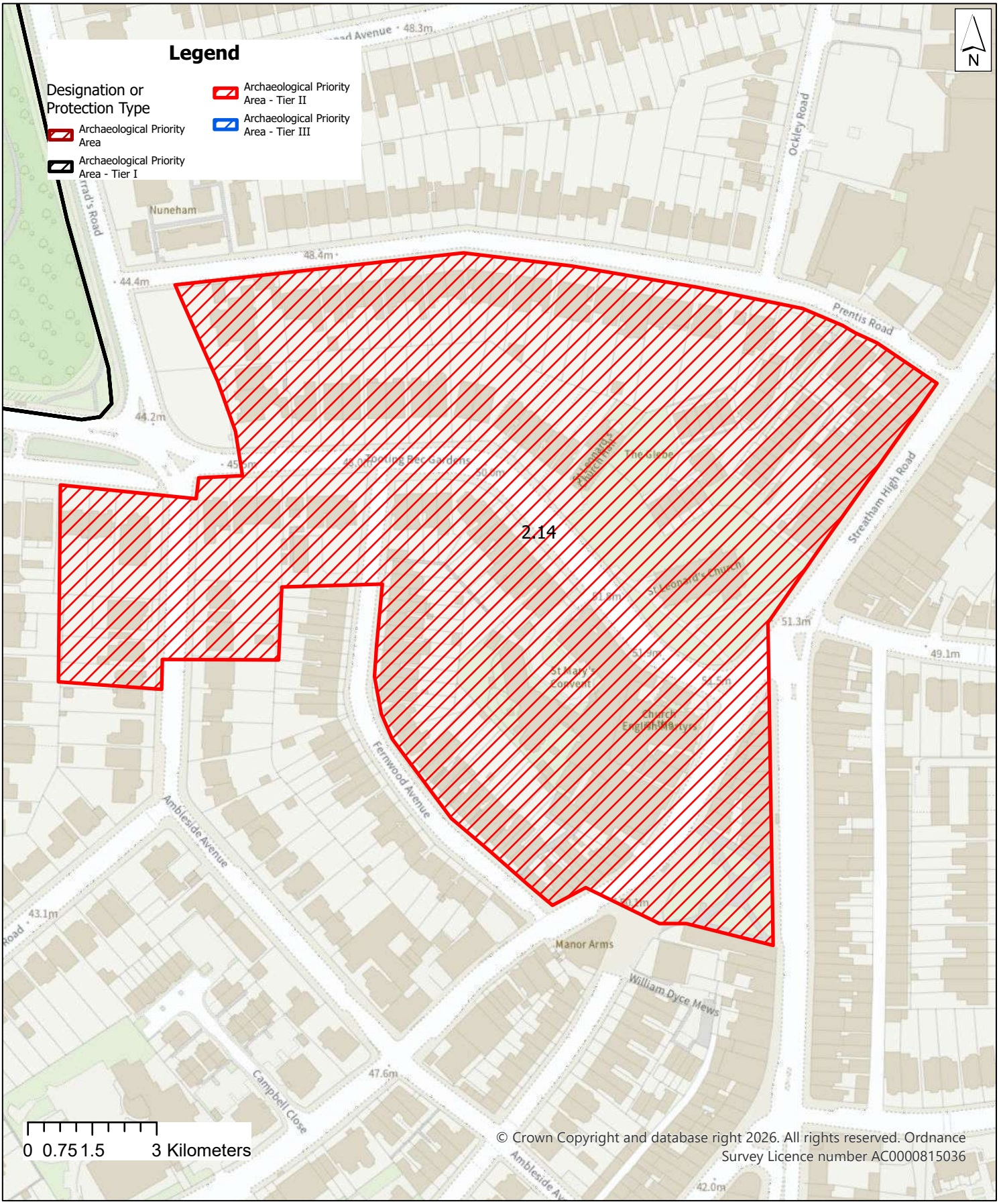
Statement of Significance

The settlement of Streatham shows occupation since Roman times. The late 11th century reference to a chapel and apparent lack of a medieval manor is interesting and further investigations could help clarify whether one existed and was lost, or whether the settlement developed differently to its neighbours.

Key References

Imber, D. *Lambeth Lost and Found, survey of archaeological and historical sites*, SLAEC 1979

2.14 Streatham



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:2,250
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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2.15 Tooting Bec, Streatham Common

Summary and Definition

This APA is located on the northwest corner of present-day Streatham Common and represents the site of the Manor of Tooting Bec that was linked to estates in Streatham and Tooting.

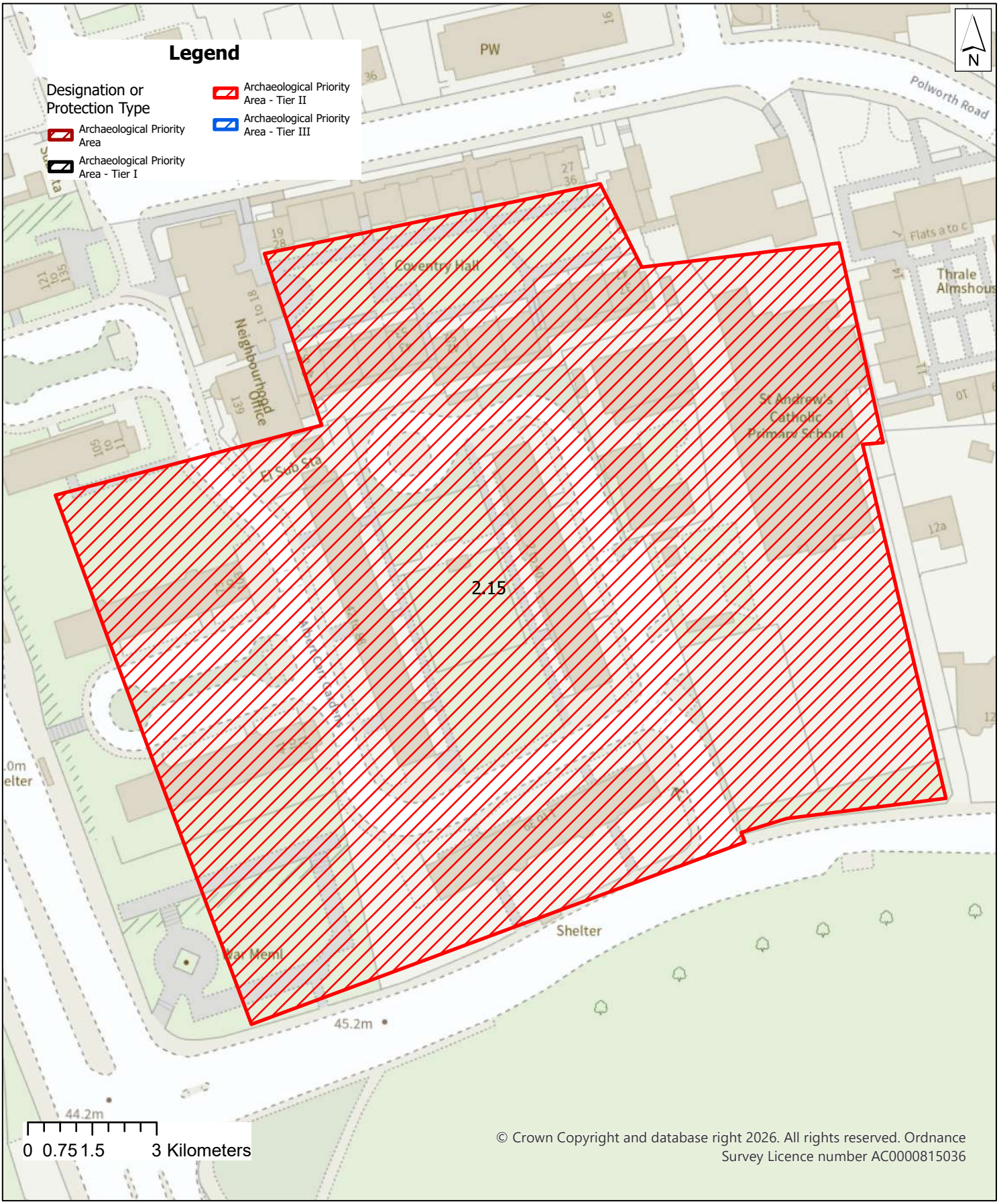
Description

A house was built in 1394 by the Cobrands and then rebuilt in 1550. Subsequent houses on the site have come and gone, with the site used today for a school and apartment blocks. The southwestern corner area is a war memorial garden known as The Chimes.

Statement of Significance

Evidence of the original manor house would be locally significant.

2.15 Tooting Bec, Streatham Common



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2.16 West Norwood Cemetery

Summary and Definition

The APA has been classed as Tier 2 as it contains a 19th century burial ground.

Description

Opened in 1837 as the South Metropolitan Cemetery, it was the second of London's 'Magnificent Seven' cemeteries that were established between 1832 and 1847. In 1915 it was the first to open a crematorium. Its layout of serpentine paths and planting of trees created a parkland ambiance, with two chapels and an entrance lodge, all later demolished following bomb damage. Many illustrious Victorians were buried here and there is a separate Greek burial section that contains particularly fine monuments.

The need for new cemeteries to bury London's dead arose from the early 19th century when many of London's small churchyards had acute problems of overcrowding and insanitation, leading to the creation of large cemeteries on what was then the edges of London. West Norwood Cemetery was established in what was then open countryside and has been in use since, with Lambeth Council taking over management of the site in 1965.

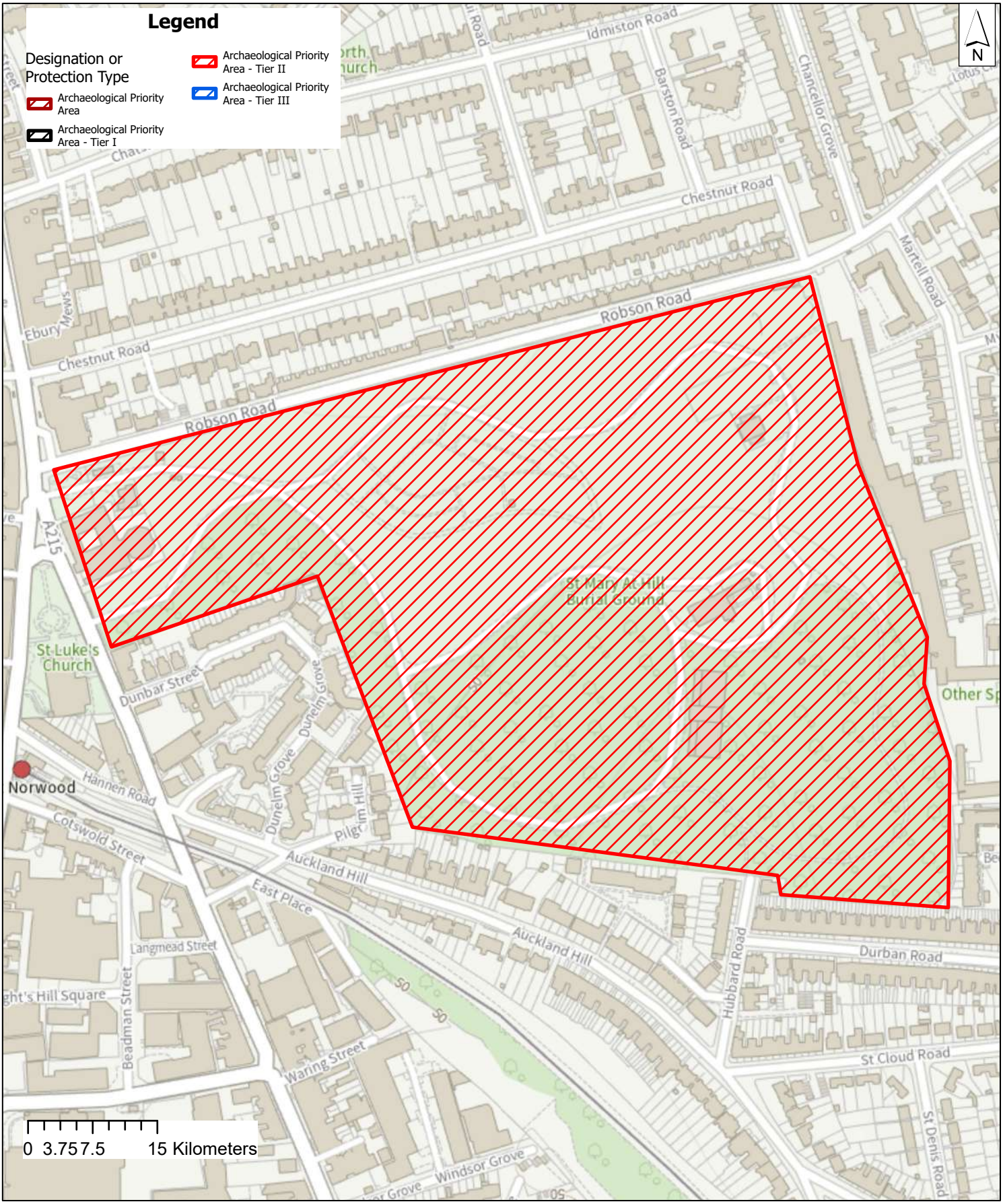
The site today offers two chapels, the Hall of Memory, an oak columbarium and a recordia. The chapels are kept closed when services are not held, but visitors may visit the rest of the building during opening times. It is home to over 65 listed monuments and is a Grade 2 registered landscape.

Statement of Significance

West Norwood Cemetery offers insights into Victorian attitudes towards death and commemoration. The variety of monuments and memorials reflects the social history and changing funeral practices of the era. Its continued use and preservation contribute to its significance and future study of burials may provide information regarding such matters as life expectancy, social matters and health and diseases.

Burials that are 100 years of age or greater are of potential archaeological interest in accordance with national guidelines and in reference to Christian burials the guidance produced by the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE 2015 and 2017). Disturbance, other than routine small-scale cemetery operations, for development purposes would need to fully consider the views and feeling of relatives and associated faith groups.

2.16 West Norwood Cemetery



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:3,510
Print Date:	July 2026

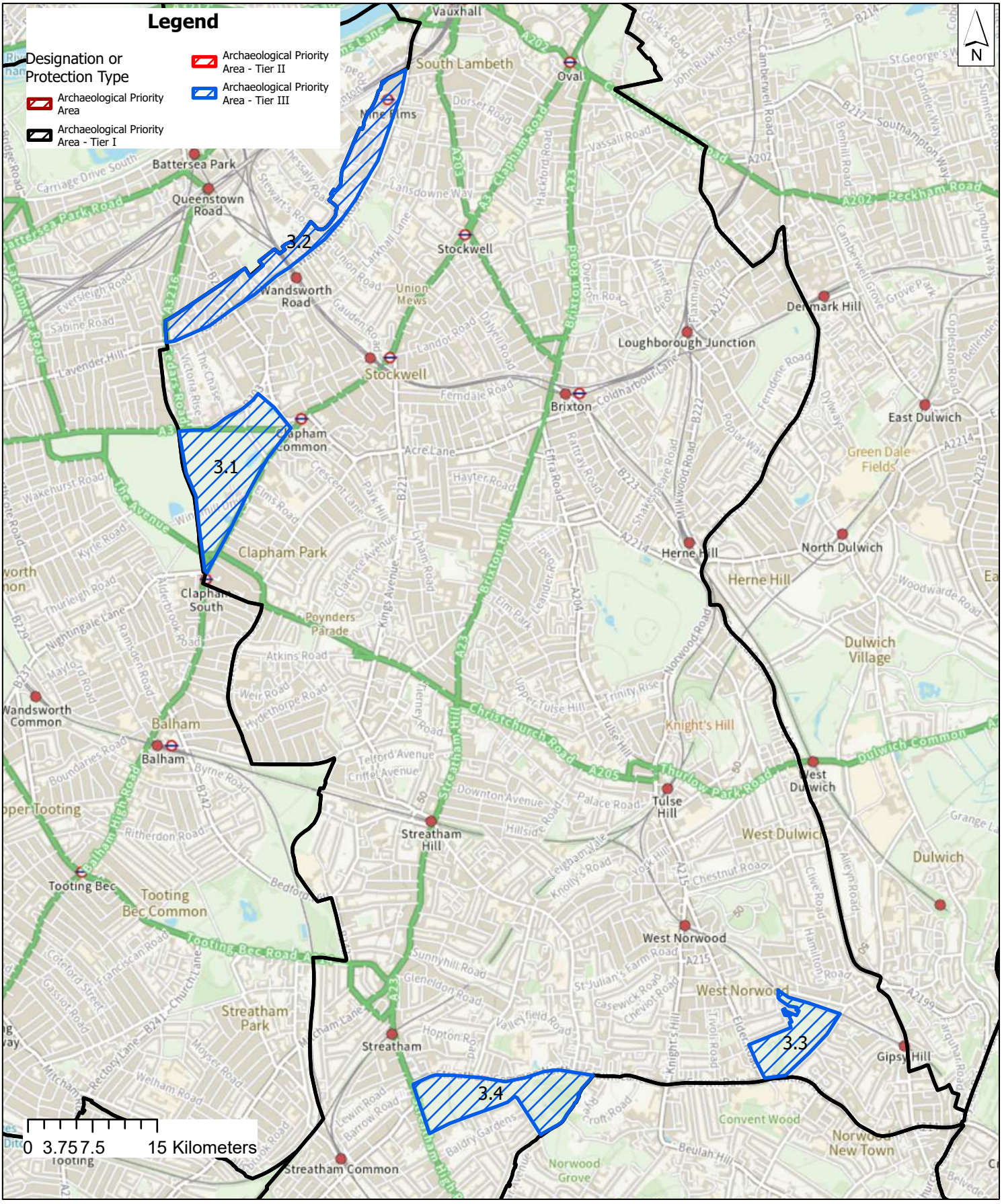
Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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Tier 3



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Tier 3

3.1 Clapham Common East

Summary and Definition

The Clapham Common APA covers the eastern portion of Clapham Common that lies within Lambeth. The APA is classified as Tier 3 because it is an area that represents a good survival of a distinctive historic rural landscape.

Description

Clapham Common is located on an area of high ground to the east of the Falcon River. Such a location would have been advantageous for communities who may have settled in the area during the prehistoric period. A number of Palaeolithic handaxes have been found in both the Wandsworth and Lambeth areas of the common and a discoidal knife dating to either the Neolithic or early Bronze Age was also found on the common in 1935. These finds could indicate that some form of activity was taking place in this area during various stages of the prehistoric period although the precise nature and extent of such activity is currently unknown.

The boundary between the parishes of Battersea and Clapham passed through Clapham Common and the borough boundary between Lambeth and Wandsworth follows the same route. In the early 18th century, a ditch was excavated to mark the boundary between the two parishes although it was filled in soon afterwards. From the mid-18th century onwards grand country mansions started to be built around the perimeter of the common. Historic maps from the 18th century show the common as a somewhat wild and possibly marshy area. Several pits or ponds are also depicted on these maps, the largest of which was the Mount Pond which is the only surviving pond in the Wandsworth section of the common. Mr Heaton Brown, a city banker who lived in a house on the south side of the common, built a pagoda style summer house on the island within Mount Pond in the 18th century.

In the second half of the 18th century the common was drained and a variety of tree species were planted. However, on the first Ordnance Survey map from 1874 the common still appears to be generally unkempt with the only notable features being the Mount Pond and a pump well to the south of Clapham Common North Side. After the Metropolitan Board of Works took over the common in 1877 it was drained further, it became far less wild, paths were laid out and a bandstand was installed in 1890.

The common was converted into allotments during both World Wars of the 20th century and holes or trenches were dug on the common during the Second World War to prevent enemy aircraft from potentially landing there. Barrage balloons were also installed close to Clapham South Station.

Statement of Significance

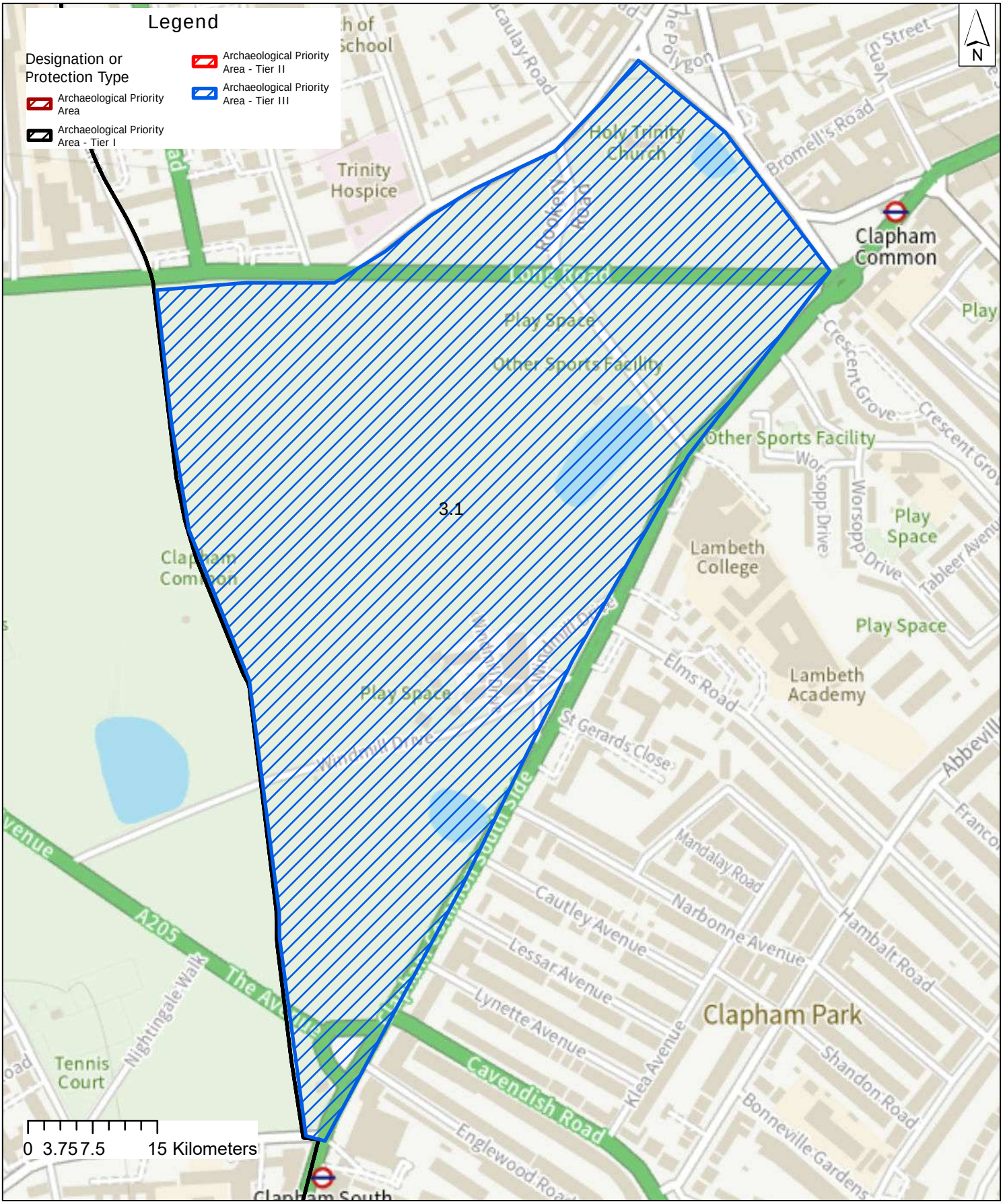
Clapham Common has never been built on and therefore has the potential for finds or features relatively close to the surface. These finds might relate to prehistoric activity that took place in the area or the nearby historic settlement of Clapham. Former known structures that were built on the common that may have left an archaeological trace include the parish boundary ditch, the pump well, the pagoda on Mount Pond Island and any features associated with the common's use during both World Wars. Any remains found on Clapham Common would enhance our knowledge of how such a large area of open land has been utilised during various periods.

Key references

Clapham Past, G. Clegg, Historical Publications, 1998

The Story of Clapham Common, The Clapham Society, 1995

3.1 Clapham Common



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:5,453
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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3.2 Battersea Channel and Hesewall Dyke, Wandsworth Road

Summary and Definition

The main area represented by the former Battersea Channel is within the borough of Wandsworth (Battersea Channel APA 3.1). This Tier 3 APA is bounded by Wandsworth Road to the western borough boundary completes the capture of this important landscape feature.

Description

Topographically the land west of Wandsworth Road slopes away from the road to define the former channel edge. The channel consisted of a series of braided channels with shifting eyots, which silted up over time until the area was drained and raised, primarily for industrial use. Residential development along and adjacent to Wandsworth Road has revealed significant Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age archaeology.

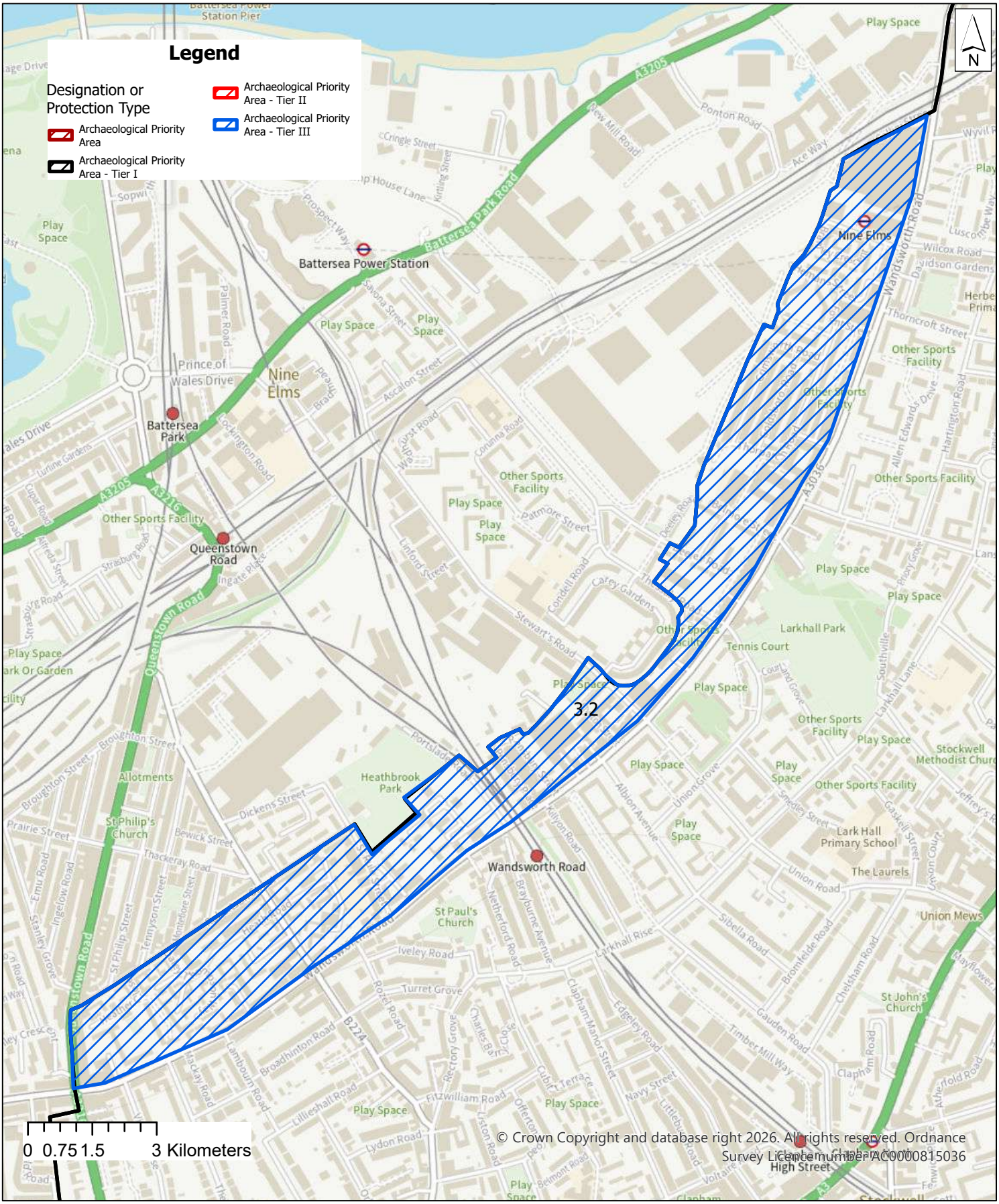
Some sources suggest that a linear earthwork, or dyke, was constructed along the boundary between Lambeth and Battersea parishes. It is perhaps more likely that the parish boundary was created in the tenth century using features already within the landscape. A dyke, if present, was therefore likely to be of Iron Age date. Saxon place names occasionally denote a dyke using the term 'Hetheswall.' The origin is unclear, but it may be a corruption of 'hazel wall.' To the east the River Effra flowed north into the Thames and may therefore have provided a further landscape feature significant to the local Saxons.

If the dyke was built during the Iron Age, it is unclear why it was placed along the edge of Battersea Marsh instead of using the protection afforded by this natural boundary.

Statement of Significance

Further investigation in this area could yield insights into settlement patterns and land use along the former Battersea Channel, adding to our understanding of the evolving landscape from prehistory onwards. Understanding shifting waterways and the subsequent adaptation of communities in response to this environmental change would be of interest, and evidence of the dyke itself would be significant.

3.2 Battersea Channel and Hesewall Dyke, Wandsworth Road



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:9,172
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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3.3 Norwood Park

Summary and Definition

Norwood Park is what remains of Norwood Common and derives its name from the Great North Wood. It is a hilly park, occupying the highest location within the borough. It is assigned to Tier 3 as a surviving area of historic landscape.

Description

Norwood Park was once part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Great North Wood which stretched from Selhurst at its southern limit to Deptford at its north. It was dominated by trees such as sessile oak and hornbeam. During the medieval era, the area was common land and managed for resources such as timber (including shipbuilding), charcoal, tanning for Bermondsey's leather industry, and firewood. However, it underwent deforestation from the 17th century and was eventually enclosed in 1806 after the loss of woodland made it economically unviable. The area became a mix of private land and housing development, containing a market garden, a small-holding, gardens of two houses on Salter's Hill and the pleasure grounds of Inglewood House.

In 1908, the London County Council bought 13.57 hectares, assisted by Lambeth Council and local fundraising, to preserve it as public open space. Opened as New Park in 1911, its layout was completed by unemployed workers. As a result of there being no development, the archaeological potential remains high.

Statement of Significance

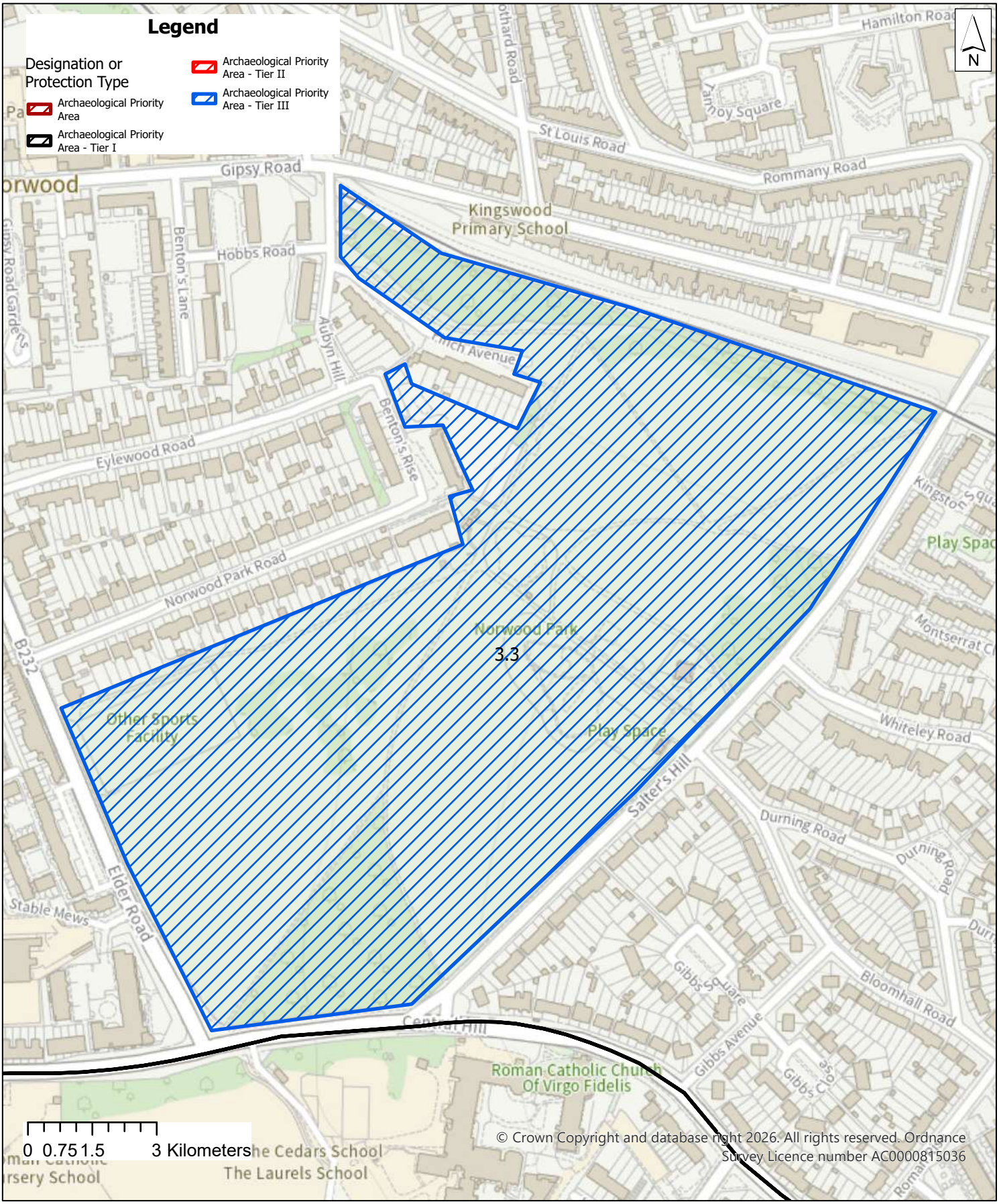
Norwood Park holds archaeological and historical interest related to its use as common land, woodland management, and evidence of past settlements and agricultural activity. There is potential for subsurface remains to survive given the lack of development. Non-invasive survey methods such as geophysical and Lidar analysis could enhance our understanding of both visible and buried features across the park. Understanding historic land management could assist with future management and public interpretation.

Key References

Draper, M. 1979 'Lambeth's Open Spaces, An historical account', LB Lambeth

London Parks and Gardens Trust

3.3 Norwood Park



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:3,404
Print Date:	July 2026

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3.4 Streatham Common

Summary and Definition

The Common was part of an extensive network of woodland known as the Great North Wood and often used as a source of wood for the Royal Navy. As the wider Common land became enclosed and developed, the area of Streatham Common remained to be purchased and designated as Metropolitan Common in 1884 to be publicly accessible space. As a result of there being no development the archaeological potential remains high. It is assigned to Tier 3 as a surviving area of historic landscape.

Description

The common was once part of the Manor of South Streatham, with its tenants having common rights to gather fuel and graze cattle here. In 1086 at the time of Domesday Survey it stretched from Norwood to Tulse Hill and was known as Lime Common. It was in the ownership of the church from 1362, when the Black Prince gave it to the Prior and Convent of Christ Church Canterbury. At the Dissolution of the Monasteries it passed to the Dean and Chapter and in 1862 to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The village at Streatham had prospered, partly due to its position midway between the Archbishop of Canterbury's palaces at Croydon and Lambeth. People settled here, as at Clapham, after the Great Fire of 1666, and it became a place of resort following the discovery of medicinal springs in 1659. By the early 19th century the heathland was replaced by hayfields, farms and small holdings supplying London markets, with a cattle pond in the south-west corner and a silk weaving industry nearby from the 1820s.

In 1883 it was taken over by the Metropolitan Board of Works and an Act of Parliament ensured its protection in perpetuity, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners selling c.26.5 hectares to the MBW for £5. Trees were planted around the perimeter and part of the common was mowed, part allowed to become woodland. Most of the lower part was used as allotments during Second World War with temporary housing erected around the perimeter.

Statement of Significance

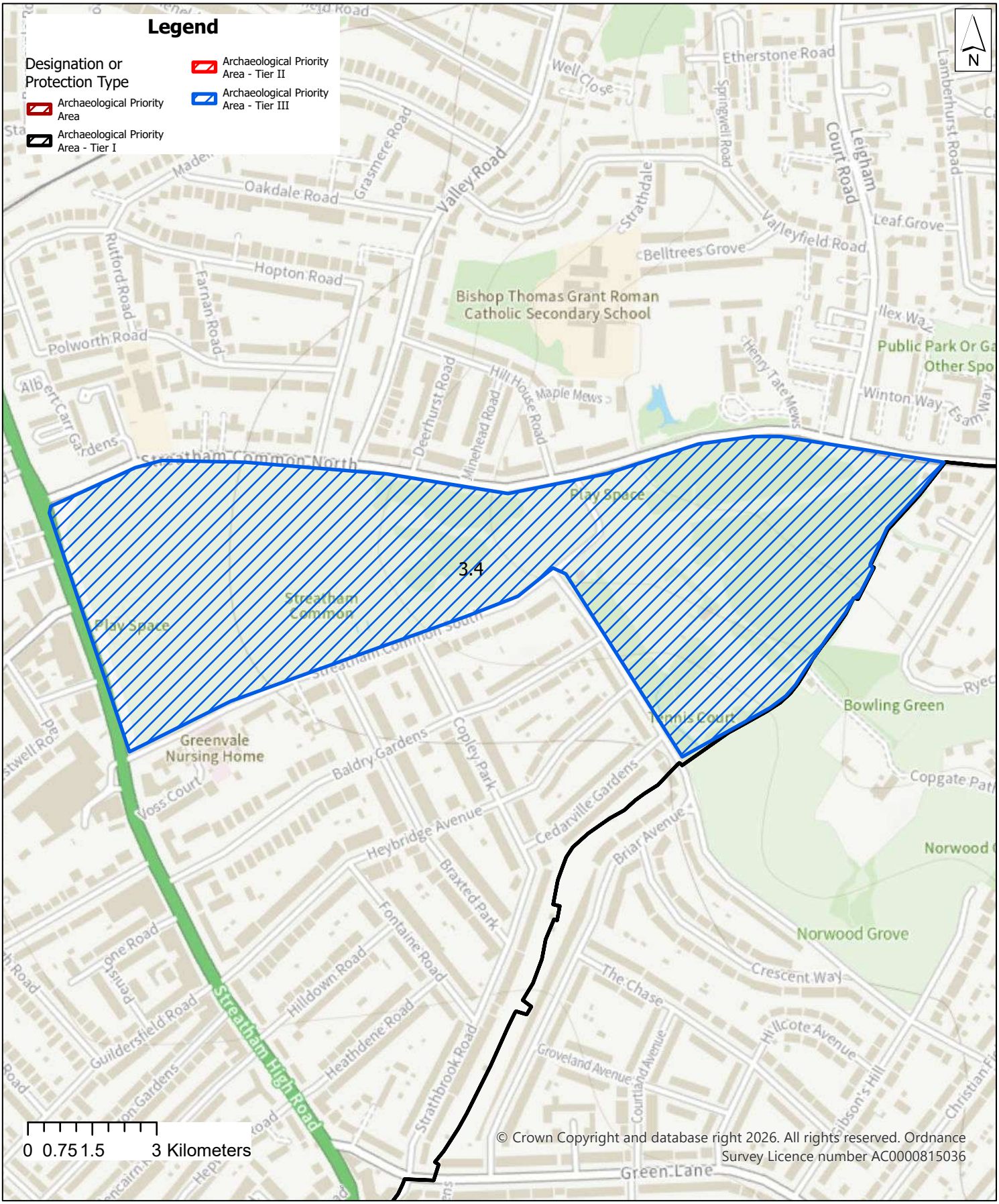
Streatham holds archaeological and historical interest related to its use as common land, woodland management, and evidence of past settlements and agricultural activity. There is potential for subsurface remains to survive given the lack of development. Non-invasive survey methods such as geophysical and Lidar analysis could enhance our understanding of both visible and buried features across the common. Understanding historic land management could assist with future management and public interpretation.

Key References

Draper, M. 1979 'Lambeth's Open Spaces, An historical account', LB Lambeth

Friends of Streatham Common, ‘The Great North Wood’ https://streathamcommon.org/great-north-wood/ accessed on 29/01/2026

3.4 Streatham Common



Map Centre:	123456, 123456
Map Scale:	1:6,576
Print Date:	July 2026

Archaeological Priority Areas : Lambeth

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5. Glossary

Archaeological Priority Area: A defined area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or potential for new discoveries. Sometimes called other names including Archaeological Priority Zones, Areas of Archaeological Significance/Importance/Interest or Areas of High Archaeological Potential.

Archaeological interest: There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset as they are viewed as an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations (184 NPPF 2019). There can be an archaeological interest in buildings and landscapes as well as earthworks and buried remains.

Conservation (for heritage policy): The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance.

Designated heritage asset: Such an asset could be a World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.

Heritage asset: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Historic environment: All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged and landscaped and planted of managed flora.

Historic Environment Record: Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use. Historic England maintains the Historic Environment Record for Greater London.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): The 2012 version was replaced by the July 2018 edition and then in February 2019, before the current version 19 December 2024. The document sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. Chapter 16 addresses the historic environment.

Potential: In some places, the nature of the archaeological interest cannot be specified precisely, but it may still be possible to document reasons for anticipating the existence and importance of such evidence. Circumstantial evidence such as geology, topography, landscape history, nearby major monuments and patterns of previous discoveries can be used to predict areas with a higher likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future.

Setting of a heritage asset: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

Sensitivity: The likelihood of typical development impacts causing significant harm to a heritage asset of archaeological interest. Sensitivity is closely allied to significance and potential but also takes account of an asset's vulnerability and fragility.

Significance (for heritage policy): The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence but also from its setting.

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