



C261 Archaeology Early East
 STEPNEY GREEN SHAFTS
 SUMMARY REPORT

Archaeological Excavation, targeted and
 general Watching Briefs
 (XRV10)

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1 Summary for London Archaeologist

Tower Hamlets

Crossrail: Stepney Green Shaft, Stepney Way and Garden Street, E1 TQ 35780 81640
MOLA excavation and watching briefs (David Sankey) Jul 2010–Feb 2011 Crossrail XRV10

Excavation followed an earlier evaluation (LA13 supp.1 (2011) 37-8). Truncated natural brickearth was cut by a later medieval ditch (possibly the Common Sewer or 'Black Ditch' which flowed from Bethnal Green to Limehouse) which was backfilled in the second half of the 16th-century. This was surrounded by a probable boundary wall dated to the late 15th- or 16th-century. Inside this lay a walled moat built c. 1450–1550 around the manor house of King John's Court (later Worcester House), of which some internal walls also survived. A timber baseplate lay on a natural gravel causeway across the moat, and appears to have supported a bridge leading to the SW corner of the house. The moat was filled in, and a cesspit (containing 16th-century fine glassware) dug into the fills at the beginning of the 17th century. It may represent clearance around the time of the acquisition of the house by the 1st Marquis of Worcester. Finds from the moat included leather footwear, a wooden bowling ball, and a medieval rowel spur. A series of drains may mark the remodelling of the site as it evolved into two religious institutions, elements of which were excavated: a 19th-century Congregational church and attached school, and a 19th-century Baptist college. Standing remains from the church and college will be preserved in situ. Walls, cess pits, and wells or soakaways from 19th- and early 20th century terraced houses were also excavated.

2 Summary for Britannia

Not required

3 Summary for Medieval Archaeology

TOWER HAMLETS

CROSSRAIL: STEPNEY GREEN SHAFT, STEPNEY WAY AND GARDEN STREET. E1 (TQ 35780 81640) David Sankey (MOLA) carried out an excavation and watching briefs on behalf of Crossrail Ltd, following an evaluation earlier in 2011 (OASIS ID: molas1-94376). Residual pottery suggests occupation in the area from the 12th century onwards, and medieval finds include a 14th- or 15th-century iron rowel spur. A late medieval ditch, backfilled in the second half of the 16th century, was surrounded by a probable boundary wall, dated to the late 15th- or 16th-century. Inside this lay a walled moat built c 1450–1550 around the manor house of King John's Court (later Worcester House), of which some internal walls also survived. **OASIS ID: molas1-11193**

4 Summary for Post-medieval Archaeology

CITY OF LONDON AND TOWER HAMLETS

CROSSRAIL: STEPNEY GREEN SHAFT, STEPNEY WAY AND GARDEN STREET. E1 (TQ 35780 81640) David Sankey (MOLA) carried out an excavation and watching briefs on behalf of Crossrail Ltd, following an evaluation earlier in 2011 (OASIS ID: molas1-94376). Excavation followed an evaluation earlier in 2011. A late medieval ditch, backfilled in the second half of the 16th century, was surrounded by a probable boundary wall, dated to the late 15th- or 16th-century. Inside this lay a walled moat built c 1450–1550 around the manor house of King John's Court (later Worcester House), of which some internal walls also survived. A timber baseplate lay on a natural gravel causeway across the moat, and appears to have supported a bridge leading to the SW corner of the house. The moat was filled-in, and a cess pit (containing 16th-century fine glassware) dug into the fills at the beginning of the 17th century. It may represent clearance around the time of the acquisition of the house by the 1st Marquis of Worcester. A series of drains may mark the remodelling of the site as it evolved into two religious institutions, elements of which were excavated: a 19th-century Congregational Church and attached school, and a 19th-century Baptist College. Standing remains from the Church and College will be preserved in situ. Walls, cess pits, and wells or soakaways from 19th- and early 20th century terraced houses were also excavated. Significant finds include fine Tudor glassware, leather footwear, a bowling ball and a medieval rowel spur. **OASIS ID: molas1-111939.**