

ships of the period. The large fragments of oak deck beam may be from the same craft; as a clear indicator of the scale of the vessel concerned, they are similar to the larger deck beams of the *Wasa*. Many smaller oak timbers probably also came from this vessel, such as the hatch, grating beams, other ship joinery including an elm belaying "timber head", and many small fragments of oak and elm carvel ship planking about 0.1m (4in) thick. Some of this planking shows extensive signs of repair (Fig. 6). All the hull planking is tangentially converted, probably "through and through" sawn. Much of the timber was cut from trees that would be considered too small to be usable by a modern sawmiller. The main fastenings used in the large vessel or vessels are parallel-sided oak trenails with ends split and caulked to form a triangle or square pattern.

From the medium-sized vessel, perhaps 12 to 20m (40 to 65ft) long, there are several roughly-hewn oak frames, which were still pierced by oak trenails and a few iron spikes. Much sapwood was left on these timbers; together with the rough hewing this implies

an origin in a short-lived vessel of low status, possibly a sailing barge or small coastal trader.

Conclusion

The variety of this material demonstrates the existence of complex evolving technologies. Given further study, we should be able to shed much light on London's riverine traffic, boat- and ship-building, and the development of vessels which ultimately carried capitalism and European culture world-wide. The work in progress on London's waterfronts and docklands will inevitably produce a great deal more of this type of material.

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Excavations & Post-Excavation Work

City, by Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology. A series of long term excavations. Enquiries to DUA, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN (01-600 3699).

Croydon & District, processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collections every Tuesday throughout the year. Archaeological reference collection of fabric types, domestic animal bones, clay tobacco pipes and glass ware also available for comparative work. Enquiries to Mrs Muriel Shaw, 28 Lismore Road, South Croydon, CR2 7QA (01-688 2720).

Greater London (except north-east and south-east London), by Museum of London, Department of Greater London Archaeology. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to DGLA, Museum of London (01-600 3699 x241).

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North London: 3-7 Ray Street, London EC1R 3DJ (01-837 8363).
South-west London: St. Luke's House, Sandycombe Road, Kew, Surrey (01-940 5989).

Southwark and Lambeth: 6-8 Cole Street, London SE1 4YH (01-407 1989 or 403 2920 - office - and 407 1258 - warehouse).

West London: Town Mission Hall, Mission Square, Pottery Road, Brentford, Middlesex (01-560 3880).

Hammersmith & Fulham, by Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group. Processing of material from Fulham Palace. Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m.-10 p.m. at Fulham Palace, Bishop's Avenue, Fulham

Palace Road, SW6. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 86 Clancarty Road, SW6 (01-731 4498).

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