

# Excavation Round-up 1990: part 2, London Boroughs

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EXCAVATIONS ARE listed by the London Borough in which they took place. They are followed by the grid reference, the name of the Society or Unit and the name of the director of the excavation. I thank Alan Thompson for collating the entries from the Museum of London, Department of Greater London Archaeology (DGLA), and Pamela Greenwood for collating those from the Passmore Edwards Museum.

## BARKING

**Amberley House/Barking Abbey Industrial Estate, Barking** TQ 439 838 Passmore Edwards Museum (Ken MacGowan)

Excavation in advance of retail warehouse development was preceded by a Radar survey as part of an experiment to determine the use of Radar as a non-invasive investigative tool.

The site is near that excavated in 1985. Removal of concrete revealed medieval features. In the E were the remnants of the E, S and W wall-footings of the building with a cellar, located in 1985, and its two clay floors, each with pitched tile hearths. In the final phase these hearths had been used to melt lead, possibly that from the Abbey at its dissolution in 1541. In the W of the trench was a major wall running the length of the site in a N direction. To the W were two garderobes; one semi-circular, butted to the major wall, and one to the N of the first and probably square.

The medieval features lay above or cut an horizon, removal of which revealed Saxon features. They comprised pits and a boundary ditch running E-W dividing the site in half. One of the pits produced material used in glass-working: half a tuyère, crucibles, slag, kiln-lining, parts of a possible glass tank, window and vessel glass, millefiori rods and reticella rods, together with worked pieces of this type of glass. To the W lay a kiln base made of unfired clay with neatly-laid Roman tile pressed into it. Archaeomagnetic dating gave a last firing date of this possible glass kiln of 920 + 50 years with 98% confidence.

**St Margaret's Church, Barking** TQ 441 839 PME (Ken MacGowan)

Work was carried out to establish the possible depth of a raft to support the construction of a new Church Hall. After an initial Radar survey, 10 test pits revealed that the signal was from various brick plinths of different styles lying at least 1m (3ft) above the actual graves, and from family vaults. There was also a wall-footing, at right-angles to the Church wall, in the W of the site.

## BARNET

**19-25 High Street, Chipping Barnet, Herts** TQ 2473 9634 Hendon & District Archaeological Society (B Wrigley & A P Simpson)

Trial-trenching before redevelopment revealed the remains of a medieval pebble surface yielding much medieval pottery (1150-1400) of London and local wares. It overlies undisturbed natural clay and sandy gravel, and is cut by modern disturbance.

**The Mitre public house (r/o), 58 High Street, Chipping Barnet, Herts** TQ 2469 9647 HADAS (B Wrigley & A P Simpson)

A trial trench before redevelopment revealed a post-medieval tile-and-clay footing cutting into a layer of medieval pebble soil yielding medieval sherds of a variety of wares going back to 1150 AD, but no evidence of medieval structures. The medieval layer directly overlay undisturbed natural gravel.

**Iver to Arkley Pipeline** TQ 1780 9350 Department of Greater London Archaeology (Trevor Cox) IVA90

The profile of a gravel road located in a trench to the E of the A5, together with its two ditches, is almost certainly Watling Street. The E ditch appears to have been re-cut at least once.

Dump deposits located to the W of the A5 contained gravel and broken tile.

**St Mary's School, Regents Park Road, Finchley, N3** TQ 2510 9065 DGLA (Bruno Barber) REG90

Evaluation work before redevelopment revealed evidence of early medieval occupation in the form of postholes, beam slots and two hearths. Sherds from cooking pots and domestic vessels in local or South Herts fabrics and flint-tempered wares suggests the most intensive period of occupation was c 1150-1250 AD.

**BEXLEY – no reports**

**BRENT – no reports**

**BROMLEY – no reports**

## CAMDEN

**31-4 Ely Place, EC1** TQ 3146 8164 DGLA (Bruno Barber & Gordon Malcolm) EEL90, ELP90 and ELY90

Excavation and recording during groundworks for the refurbishment of this Georgian terrace revealed substantial remains of the hall and E range of the Bishops of Ely's London residence, established c 1290. Human burials were found, including two thought to date to the Civil War period, when the site was used as a prison and hospital. Several other features were observed including a possible Roman ditch, but ground disturbance is being kept to a minimum, so most deposits will be preserved *in situ*.

**14 Flask Walk, Hampstead, NW3** TQ 2646 8575 DGLA (Aileen Connor & Stewart Hoad) FLK90

18th c walls recorded during work on the Flask public house seem to be part of a cellar belonging to the earlier Flask Tavern.

**Gordon Square, WC1** TQ 2950 8240 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm & Chris Thomas) GOD90

An irregular channel was interpreted as a minor tributary of the River Fleet.

**68A Neal Street** TQ 3021 8121 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) NEL90

Some deep cut features are undated, although the site is close enough to the Saxon settlement to have some associated remains.

## CROYDON

**2/4 Coombe Road, Croydon** TQ 3260 6481 Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society (Jim Davison)

Excavations in the gardens of demolished houses produced a few worked flints plus pottery of Bronze Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval dates. The only feature located was a gravel drive of the mid 19th c.

**Farthing Down, Croydon** TQ 2980 5820 DGLA (Pat Miller) FAD90

A small oval pit found in a pipe trench contained small fragmentary flint-tempered pottery sherds, including a rim-sherd, which have been given a preliminary Neolithic/Bronze Age date.

**20 Haling Park Road, Croydon** TQ 3232 6379 CNHSS (Jim Davison)  
A trench in the garden of a demolished house close to the site of Haling Manor produced a few worked flints plus pottery of the late Saxon and post-medieval periods. No features were located.

**112-114 High Street, Purley** TQ 3158 6177 DGLA (Bob Bazely) PUH90  
Trial trenching produced prehistoric finds only, and plough soil from the medieval and post-medieval periods.

**Mint Walk, Croydon** TQ 3230 6530 DGLA (Mark Barratt) MTW90  
Trial trenching produced prehistoric and Roman finds. A medieval pit was found plus material indicating a 19th c pipe kiln in the area.

**9 Old Palace Road, Croydon** TQ 3200 6538 CNHSS (Jim Davison)  
A small excavation in a front garden opposite the E end of Croydon Palace found the continuation of a brick culvert first located in the grounds of the Palace in 1989.

**Philips Factory Site, Gate 1 Beddington Farm Road** TQ 3070 6560 DGLA (Steve Tucker) PCB90 and PFC90

PCB90 Two areas were examined; in the first an area of silt and gravel produced Late Bronze Age pottery and flints. The nature of the feature was unclear; Mesolithic cores and flakes were also found.

In the second area a linear ditch, V-shaped in profile, produced no dating evidence, but it could be Late Iron Age or Roman.

PFC90 Three areas were excavated. The first, consisting of two trenches within an existing building, indicated that severe truncation of archaeological deposits had occurred. A small N-S linear feature, cutting into the low-lying gravels, may be Late Iron Age, although dating evidence was not recovered.

A single trench in area 2 indicated severe truncation of the archaeological deposits. A few struck flints were recovered.

The third trenched area produced a series of shallow intercutting linear features. No dating information was recovered, but the features are thought to be signs of Late Bronze Age/Iron Age farming activity.

A large shallow linear feature contained post-medieval material.

**35-36 Surrey Street, Croydon** TQ 3225 6549 DGLA (Gill Batchelor) SYC90

Although the excavation produced no evidence of ancient settlement or occupation, a prehistoric flint tool was discovered.

## EALING

**St Bernard's Hospital, Windmill Lane, Ealing** TQ 1445 8000 DGLA (Helen Jones) EAL90

A six-week evaluation was carried out to assess the archaeological potential before redevelopment.

The site is situated on Lynch Hill gravels at a height of 24.00m OD with a covering of brickearth in the SW corner. Two of the trenches produced a dispersed assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery fragments and flints, but with no associated features.

A ditch to the E of the scatters had sloping sides with a vertical-sided flat-bottomed central channel c 1.00m (3ft) deep. There were no finds in the ditch and its date is uncertain.

## ENFIELD

**Aylands Allotments, Larman Road, Enfield** TQ 3530 9910 DGLA (Patricia Allan) AYL90

A one-month trial excavation uncovered shallow features cut into the natural brickearth subsoil in 8 trenches across the 6.5 acre site. There was evidence for 3 main phases: 1) late Mesolithic/early Neolithic (c 6000-3000bc) activity across the whole site; 2) late Bronze/early Iron Age activity (1000-400bc) concentrated on the higher gravels and possibly associated with settlement and 3) two early Saxon sunken houses (grübenhäuser) – the only known settlement of this period in NE London. Documentary sources suggest that no further occupation took place.

**Capel Manor, Bullsmore Lane, Enfield** TQ 3440 9970 DGLA (Trevor Cox) CAP90

Post-medieval features, which might be associated with Capel House, were located but no evidence for the house itself was found.

**Greentrees Hospital, Enfield** TQ 3170 9180 DGLA (V Birbeck) GTH90

Twelve trial trenches were dug on the site of the demolished hospital. Several redeposited flints were found. The earliest archaeological feature was a ditch dating to AD 1070-1100, and thought to represent agricultural activity which continued until the early 20th c.

**Hoe Lane, Enfield, Middlesex** TQ 3430 9810 DGLA (Trevor Cox) HOE90

No archaeological features survived.

**Southgate House, Cannon Hill, N14** TQ 2995 9320 DGLA (Vaughan Birbeck) SOU90

Redeposited prehistoric flint 'waste flakes', burnt flint and many redeposited 12th and 13th c pot sherds were found.

A ditch or 'ha-ha', aligned E-W, a raised gravel and clay surface (possibly associated), and a probably 17th-18th c E-W brick and tile drain were found. They seem to relate to the gardens.

## GREENWICH – no reports

## HACKNEY

**Sutton House, 2-4 Homerton High Street, E9** TQ 3527 8507 (Chris Phillpotts) SUT90

Excavation inside 16th c house and in courtyard revealed evidence of occupation and alteration of structure, ranging in date from c 1535 to modern times, and including outbuildings, a 16th c well, boundary walls, floor surfaces and hearths.

Standing structure analysis undertaken by English Heritage tied in with the excavation work.

## HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

**Distillery Site, Winslow Road, W6** TQ 2330 7790 DGLA (Neil Bugler) HAM90

Excavation exposed 3 rectangular sunken-featured buildings of early Saxon date, orientated E-W, with 2 postholes set at mid points of the two short sides, and other associated postholes.

**Fulham Palace Walled Garden & Playground** TQ 2420 7630 DGLA (Fiona Walker & John Mills) FPA90

Excavation revealed post-medieval build-up/garden soil with clay-pipes, brick and tile etc.

## HARINGEY – no reports

## HARROW

**Headstone Manor, Harrow** TQ 140 897 Wessex Archaeology (Ian Barnes)

Archaeological excavation was commissioned by the London Borough of Harrow in advance of the relocation of a timber granary from Pinner Park Farm, Pinner to Headstone Manor, now the Harrow Heritage Centre. The excavations were SW of the medieval moated site of Headstone Manor, near the associated 16th c Tithe barn. An archaeological evaluation, conducted by the Museum of London in 1989, had identified stratigraphic deposits and surviving timbered structural elements.

The excavations produced evidence of brick and timber structures representing five phases of building activity, the earliest almost certainly later than 1750. Cartographic and documentary evidence showed that at least eight different structures had stood on the site since 1819. Unlike excavations carried out by the Museum of London under the 'Small Barn' to the NE, no medieval artefacts or deposits were encountered. This must be due to either their destruction by later groundworks or lack of activity in this part of the Manor complex in the medieval period.

**The Park, Harrow on the Hill** TQ 1550 8750 DGLA (Fiona Walker) PHA90

Post-medieval deposits/top soil were observed and recorded.

## HAVERING

**Bridge Road, Rainham** TQ 321 823 PME (Frank Meddens)

The stratigraphic sequence consists of deposits representing dry periods and flooding (see *LA* 6 no. 9 (1990) 242-8).

**Hunts Hill Farm, Upminster** TQ 560 831 PME (Pamela Greenwood)

Work on the first phase of this site within major cropmarks began as salvage excavation. Further rescue work revealed a number of enclosures and field systems with some subdivisions. They dated mainly to the early Roman period, although some continued into at least the 4th c AD. An oven/kiln-like structure produced an archaeomagnetic date within a 4th-c AD range. In later salvage work a square, timber-lined well of unusual construction was recovered; it has promising tree-ring samples.

Earlier features are some prehistoric pits with flint-gritted pottery and three round-houses, apparently of early Iron Age date. WC

## HILLINGDON

**Cranford Lane, Harlington, Hillingdon** TQ 0930 7720 DGLA (Fiona Walker) CLH90

Following evaluation work in 1989, sitewatching and excavation in the spring of 1990 revealed much later prehistoric and Romano-British activity in the form of pits, ditches and postholes.

The later prehistoric activity, provisionally dated to the later Bronze Age, comprised a series of field boundary ditches and a few pits. The Roman activity, provisionally dated to the 3rd and 4th c AD, comprised one corner of a small enclosure containing a series of pits and ditches.

Earlier activity is hinted at by the finding of a large part of a small part-polished Neolithic axe in a late Roman feature.

**Rear of 195 High Street, Uxbridge** TQ 0569 8403 DGLA (Fiona Walker) UX90X

Small-scale excavation was carried out in advance of construction work. A pit probably of late 17th-early 18th c date and a brick-built trough or tank, probably of the late 18th c, were found.

**Rear of 175-222 High Street, Uxbridge** TQ 0570 8400 DGLA (Fiona Walker *et al*) UX90XI

15 test pits were intended to provide information on local geology and possible truncation in advance of proposed redevelopment. Medieval and later garden soil and ploughsoil were encountered in most of them.

**101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge** TQ 0525 8463 DGLA (Andrew Boucher) UX90VIII

Excavation exposed sediments containing a scatter of Upper Palaeolithic flint artifacts.

A backfilled channel and two ditches have been dated to the post-medieval period.

**Wimpey/Alcan Depot, Rigby Lane, Stockley Park, Dawley** TQ 0870 8010 DGLA (John Lewis) RLS90

14 test pits were excavated in an attempt to locate scatters of Middle Palaeolithic flint artifacts at the interface between the brickearth and the natural gravel.

No artifacts were recovered. Samples for brickearth particle size analysis and thermoluminescence dating were taken to characterise and date the sediments in this area.

## HOUNSLOW

**413-9 Staines Road, Bedfont** TQ 0960 7390 DGLA (Bob Cowie) SRB90

No archaeological features were revealed.

**Turnham Green Bus Garage, Belmont Road, Chiswick, W4** TQ 2067 7866 DGLA (Andrew Boucher) TGB90

One prehistoric feature was located, cut into brickearth and sealed beneath a clay layer. It contained several pieces of struck flint and burnt clay/daub and some charcoal.

**3 Yew Walk, West Street, Harrow on the Hill** TQ 1520 8755 DGLA (Heather Fear) WSH90

The site produced possible Saxon sherds (abraded) in a ditch, and a small ditch and pit containing medieval pottery.

19th c postholes and pits, brick drain and well, were found.

## ISLINGTON

**1-7 Albion Place, EC1** TQ 3169 8195 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) JAN90

A large site in the outer precinct of St John's Priory, Clerkenwell. After an evaluation during which a number of 18th-c delft tiles were recovered, an area 20m (66ft) square was opened at the E edge of the site. Four 18th-c tenement buildings were recorded, overlying extensive 16th and 17th-c structures belonging to Berkeley House and another, earlier building. Many early 16th-c moulded bricks associated with this structure suggest that it was probably part of the mansion of Sir Thomas Docwra, Prior of the Order of St John from 1501-1527.

**6-9 Briset Street & 12-13 St John's Square, EC1** TQ 3168 8201 DGLA (John Roche) BAD90

Excavation revealed a Roman ground surface with pottery.

A steep-sided linear ditch, aligned N-S, was possibly a storm drain related to St John's Priory. Evidence of demolition within the life of the Priory.

Two 16th c brick wall foundations running E-W across the site, joined by a N-S party wall, formed the foundations of two buildings, each c 5m (16ft) square. The N wall was founded on two courses of freestone-faced blocks, obtained from the demolition of part of the Priory.

**2-5 Carthusian Street, EC1** TQ 3205 8192 DGLA (David Bowsher) CAR90

Shallow cut features contained Roman tile and pottery. See also this issue, pp 000-000.

**55 Clerkenwell Road, EC1** TQ 3158 8206 DGLA (Mark Atkinson) GIN90

Archaeological evaluation of this site, within the precincts of the priory of St John of Jerusalem, showed that most archaeological deposits had been destroyed by the basements of Booths Gin distillery. Most surviving deposits proved to be 17th c garden soils and rubbish pits. The only early feature was the base of a barrel well: two complete waterlogged barrels, their joints reinforced with re-used fragments of Caen stone, contained evidence of its final silting, including Tudor cooking vessels and a wooden bucket.

**119-125 Finsbury Pavement, London, EC1** TQ 3275 8185 DGLA (Vaughan Birbeck) VER90

Excavation indicated that a tributary of the River Walbrook appeared to have been used as the moat on the E side of Finsbury Court moated manor house in the medieval and Tudor periods. There were two early 17th c features cut into its infill.

**125 Golden Lane, EC1** TQ 3221 8228 DGLA (Mark Atkinson) GOL90  
During excavation a block of dressed sandstone, provisionally Tudor pottery and a post-medieval yellow-glazed tile were found, and layers containing small greensand fragments were observed.

**7-21 Goswell Road, EC1** TQ 3208 8207 DGLA (Christopher Kirby) GSW90

Excavation revealed a ditch containing residual human bone, pottery and tile dated to the 1st-3rd c AD. It could be a road drainage ditch. See also this issue, pp 000-000.

**Honourable Artillery Company Ground, City Road, EC1 TQ 3277 8212 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) HAC90**

Archaeological deposits, probably medieval, were found in test pits.

**St Bartholomew's Medical College, EC1 TQ 3200 8210 DGLA (Mark Barratt) MED90**

Following work in 1989 (*LA* 6 no. 7, 190), a month's evaluation was carried out ahead of development of a site immediately N of College Green, which covers the cloister garth of the London Charterhouse (1371-1537) (see this issue, pp 000-000).

**6-7 St John's Lane, EC1 TQ 3175 8193 DGLA (Mark Atkinson) SJL90**

A small excavation within the outer precinct of St John's Priory, Clerkenwell. Many 14th to 17th-c pits filled with domestic rubbish were recorded, together with fragments of medieval wall footings from which the stone had been robbed. As well as tile and pottery, a 15th-c gold ring made from two twisted spirals was found.

**14 St John's Lane, EC1 TQ 3169 8195 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) KEE90**

Two areas were examined before and after demolition. The site lies in the outer precinct of St John's Priory, Clerkenwell. The first, in the basement, produced evidence of 16th-c occupation and several domestic animal burials, including a horse. They had been interred, semi-articulated, in rubbish pits cut into the natural gravel. The second area included 15th to 17th-c wall footings and a brick wardrobe belonging to Berkeley House. A 15th-c ceramic watering can was found in a barrel-lined well.

**159-173 St John Street/8-15 Aylesbury Street, EC1 TQ 3165 8217 DGLA (Mark Atkinson) ASS90**

This site was located N of the church within the precinct of St John's Priory, Clerkenwell. Eight trenches were opened within the standing building to assess the archaeological survival. There had been little truncation by modern buildings; medieval masonry and soft stratigraphy survived well. At the W edge of the site a series of Tudor brick vaults were thought to have been cellars along Jerusalem Passage. Finds included a significant group of 13th-c Kingston ware and 18 pieces of carved sandstone.

**394-416 St John Street, EC1 TQ 3170 8280 DGLA (Jim Hunter) JOE90**

Early 19th-c brick walls and straight-sided square pits, probably 19th-c quarry pits for gravel, were found.

## **KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA**

**25 Oakley Gardens, Chelsea, SW3 TQ 2737 7775 DGLA (Ian Grainger) OAK90**

Excavation revealed two fragments of foundation which may have been part of a boundary wall for the Tudor manor house to the S, although one appeared to be later, possibly a Georgian rebuild of the original wall. A layer of brick rubble was found which may relate to the demolition of the manor house.

## **KINGSTON UPON THAMES**

**Athelstan Road, Kingston upon Thames TQ 1880 6860 DGLA (Bob Bazely) AKW90**

The first area, the roadway site, was near the recorded location of the Oil Mill, the latest mill on the site, which was presumably on or close to the site of the Leatherhead Mill. Excavation failed to uncover any structural remains. River silts lay below at least 4m (13ft) of made ground. The site of the mill presumably lies N of the trenched area.

The second area, the former allotments site, revealed made ground to a depth of between 3 and 4m (10 and 13ft), below which lay a truncated alluvial layer overlying gravel. It was not possible to date the alluvial deposit, but it was current-laid, suggesting it was not deposited as a result of damming activities associated with the mill, and therefore possibly of some antiquity.

**Bentall's Department Store, West Street/Fife Road & Clarence Street TQ 1800 6940 DGLA (Pat Miller & Gill Batchelor) BEN90**

The site was on the course of an ancient river channel, cut during the last glacial period and possibly a tributary of the Thames or the Hogsmill Rivers. It was silted up, becoming obsolete. Ancient river-laid sediments were recorded during this watching brief, both from strata containing Roman finds and from lower/earlier strata. A piece of antler, possibly an antler pick of Neolithic date, was recovered. Several pieces of Roman tile and brick were also found.

**Charter Quay (Odeon Cinema Site), High Street, Kingston TQ 1780 6910 DGLA (Robin Nielson) CQD90**

Excavation following evaluation was carried out along the High Street frontage and just back from the bank of the Thames. The street frontage excavation revealed occupation layers and remains of structures dating from the 18th and 19th c. Traces of pitch-tile kilns/hearths were found with much medieval pottery. Up to three waterfront timber revetments were recorded. The one closest to the present river was provisionally dated to the late 14th-early 15th c.

**The Bittoms (Car Park Site), Kingston TQ 1800 6855 DGLA (John Dillon) BIM90**

Evaluation revealed worked flints and two pits of Saxon date. Post-medieval dumping also occurred.

**Turk's Boatyard Thameside, Kingston TQ 1780 6950 DGLA (Jonathon Nowell) TUK90**

Evaluation work revealed activity thought to be linked with the medieval waterfronts and Bridge located to the S in 1986.

Beneath the post-medieval build-up, an E-W ditch was located thought to be of 15th/16th c date. It sealed the remains of a timber revetment aligned N-S, parallel to the River Thames, and comparable to those found to the S in 1986.

## **LAMBETH**

**Lambeth Palace Chapel, SE1 TQ 3060 7190 DGLA (Derek Seeley/Mark Samuel) LPC90**

Alterations in the SE corner of the early-13th c chapel exposed an infilled doorway, probably built in the 15th c. The moulded stones that once formed the arch over the doorway and fragments of a Purbeck marble sill were used as the infill of the doorway. The infilling occurred during remodelling in the early 19th c.

**113-127 Lambeth Road, SE1 TQ 3070 7899 DGLA (Mike Webber) NOR90**

Excavations were concentrated at the N end of the site where trial work had revealed stone and later brick foundations that were part of Norfolk House, the London residence of the Earls and Dukes of Norfolk. Some flint tools of prehistoric date and a small amount of Roman pottery were found. A group of pits containing much pottery, a pond and a hearth are dated from the mid 12th to the 14th c. The earliest building is a stone structure of late 14th c date. From the Tudor period the remains of five buildings, some with floors surviving, were identified. From the late 16th c many alterations were evident. This coincides with the period following the sale of the property by the Dukes of Norfolk and its later conversion into industrial premises. By the mid 18th c the site was occupied by a row of tenements. Large quantities of household goods, including kitchen, bathroom and dining room items, were recovered from 3 brick-lined pits at the rear of these buildings.

**Waterloo Site B, Addington Street, SE1 TQ 3091 7970 DGLA (Tom McDonald) WSB90**

Excavation revealed natural waterlaid sands and gravels at +0.70m OD, sealed by brown sand-silt layers containing a concentration of prehistoric pottery, flint tools and waste flakes at about +1.0m OD. A quantity of the finds were retrieved from cut features. The E side of a clay-filled channel was uncovered on the W side of the site; struck and burnt flint flakes were recovered from its base.

**Waterloo Site C, Addington Street, SE1 TQ 3091 7966 DGLA**  
(Tom McDonald) WSC90

Flood plain gravels survived at +0.34m OD and overlying sands to +0.82m OD, sealed by alluvial clay-silts at +1.49m OD. At the interface of the sands and alluvial clay-silts numerous prehistoric cut features, pits, post-holes and linear slots, were exposed. These features and the surrounding sands produced more than 370 flint tools, plus flakes and potsherds. This activity is provisionally dated from late Mesolithic to early Neolithic. A layer sealing the alluvial clay-silts produced 16th-c pottery.

**Waterloo Site E, Upper Marsh, SE1 TQ 3092 7952 DGLA**  
(Julian Bowsher) WSE90

The site lay on an area of high sands just within the medieval village of Lambeth Marsh. 19th c basements on the street front had obliterated any earlier structures, apart from an 18th c well, that might have existed. The sands contained only a few flints but the overlying ploughsoils were rich in 12th c material and preserved traces of plough furrows in section.

On the site was the Canterbury Music Hall, built in 1852, enlarged in 1854 and 1858 and rebuilt in 1876. It had been destroyed during the war but many cellars remained available for study. They provided different information from that of the surviving architectural documentation, revealing unrecorded passageways and basement divisions. Little was found of the 1852 building and the 1858 extension lay outside the excavation, but the 1854 foundations, also supporting the 1876 rebuild, were well preserved.

**Waterloo Site F, Carlisle Lane, SE1 TQ 3095 7936 DGLA**  
(Lyndon Cooper) WSF90

The site is within the grounds of medieval Carlisle House. No medieval or earlier material was recorded. A number of pits contained Tudor and post-medieval pottery including abundant kiln furniture and wasters which probably came from the Carlisle House delftware and salt-glazed stoneware kilns. A large 17th- or 18th-c wall foundation is probably the remains of a boundary wall shown on a map of 1799.

## **LEWISHAM – no reports**

## **MERTON**

**Bradbank Sports Ground, Beverley Way TQ 2230 6877 DGLA**  
(Gill Batchelor) BEV90

Excavation revealed truncated natural, and post-medieval land drains.

**Egal House, London Road, Mitcham TQ 2777 6926 DGLA**  
(Phillip Emery) EGL90

No archaeological features were located.

**470-472 London Road, Mitcham TQ 2720 6820 DGLA** (Dave Saxby) LRD90

Trial trenching located a 18th/19th c red brick wall.

**Merton Priory, Merantum Way, SW19 TQ 2670 7020 DGLA**  
(Penny Bruce and Simon Mason) MPY88

A continuation of the excavations started in 1986, focussing upon the areas of the infirmary, domestic ranges and outlying areas to the S and E of the main monastic complex. A large Reigate stone drainage system was excavated to the SE of the infirmary. A wharf/slipway was also uncovered, associated with a channel lying to the S of the site. Roman activity was demonstrated by the presence of a ditch in the Infirmary cloister.

Notable finds included a 15th c betrothal ring, remnants of a collapsed stained glass window, and architectural fragments.

**Morden Road/London Road, Mitcham TQ 2715 6808 DGLA**  
(Jim Hunter) LRM90

No archaeological features survived.

**SW junction of Morden Road and London Road, Mitcham TQ 2715 6808 DGLA** (Bruno Barber) LMM90

Trial trenching revealed post-medieval quarrying.

## **NEWHAM – no reports**

## **REDBRIDGE**

**25-27 Clements Road, Ilford TQ 437 863 PME** (Frank Meddens)

Late 19th c cellars were found, together with Victorian demolition debris and some earlier undatable cuts.

**A12-M11 Link Road (Phase 1), Wanstead TQ 410 884 and 410 879 PME** (Frank Meddens)

Evidence for late 18th-c land improvement schemes was uncovered in the form of a mole drain. There were also some undatable cuts.

## **RICHMOND UPON THAMES**

**The Coal Wharf Site, Hampton Water Treatment Works, Lower Sunbury Road, Hampton TQ 1340 6925 DGLA** (Robert Cowie) HWW90

Excavation revealed post-medieval dump layers above the alluvium. A large flat-bottomed intrusive feature was provisionally identified as a coal bunker.

**Cromwell House, Thames Bank, Mortlake TQ 2030 7620 DGLA** (Mark Barratt) CWH90

Evaluation excavation on a site next to the Thames foreshore revealed considerable recent disturbance, and no trace of prehistoric or medieval occupation.

**Jodrell Laboratory, Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew TQ 1900 7730 DGLA** (David Beard) RGB90

Evaluation in advance of an extension to the Jodrell Laboratory produced struck flints on the natural waterlaid sands. Also located was a 19th c structure, probably a greenhouse connected to the earlier Jodrell Laboratory.

**Lichfield Gardens Car Park, Lichfield Gardens TQ 1820 7510 DGLA** (Gill Batchelor) LFG90

No archaeological features were recovered.

**11 Lower Teddington Road, Hampton Wick Middlesex TQ 1760 6960 DGLA** (Jonathon Nowell) LTR90

Excavation revealed 3 truncated features, containing mixed Roman pottery, cutting natural river terrace gravels.

Mainly small pits associated with domestic activity in the garden area and a small ditch running N-S across site, have been dated to the post-medieval period.

**Mortlake Green School, Lower Richmond Road TQ 2010 7580 DGLA** (Dave Saxby) MRT90

A large trench in the centre of the area to be developed revealed layers dating from the 17th to 19th c. Naturally-deposited clay/sand layers may be associated with an early watercourse, of which only the S edge was within the excavated area. The depth of the layers (more than 3m – 10ft) show the watercourse to have been large, with the bank towards the S end of the trench.

**Public Records Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew TQ 1960 7720 DGLA** (David Beard) RTAK90

Evaluation E of the Public Record Office revealed clay and sand soils showing evidence of plough furrows.

## **SOUTHWARK**

**100-104 Bermondsey Street, SE1 TQ 3320 7970 DGLA** (Aidan Allen) BER90

Evaluation revealed clay deposits just above OD. They contained 13th-14th c domestic refuse mixed with similar post-medieval material. A number of 17th- or 18th-c mortar floors were superimposed. A stone wall, provisionally dated to the mid 13th c, but possibly built at a later date with re-used stone, was located next to the street frontage.

**85-87 Borough High Street, SE1 TQ 3263 8009 DGLA (Jim Hunter) 85BHS90**

Excavation of a lift shaft and drain trenches revealed waterlaid clays and sands cut by a Roman ditch and sealed by Roman dumped deposits and a brickearth floor. Although no evidence of the medieval Tabard Inn was discovered, part of a floor of the 17th-c inn was found.

**210-212 Borough High Street, SE1 TQ 3240 7973 DGLA (Aidan Allen) 210BHS90**

Two sections, exposed by the cut for a lift shaft, were drawn.

**289-299 Borough High Street, SE1 TQ 3234 7959 DGLA (Alison Steele) 289BHS90**

The site lies on the E side of the projected line of Stane Street. In the ploughsoil overlying natural gravel a Neolithic or Bronze Age arrowhead was found. A compacted gravel surface with fragments of limestone and roof tile indicated Roman activity nearby. From this feature and surrounding deposits six 4th-c coins, late 3rd-c Alice Holt wares and a 3rd-c lamp were recovered. Post-medieval features included two barrel-lined pits dated to the mid 17th c and a rectangular brick-lined pit containing a large group of mid 18th-c domestic pottery.

**Guys Hospital, Area D, St Thomas's Street, SE1 TQ 3292 8003 DGLA (Robin Wilson) GHD90**

Excavation revealed the floor of a small building, over 4.60m (15ft) square, dated to the late 17th c. The floor surface was constructed of large blocks of chalk pressed into the underlying clays. Four rectangular joists survived at the base of each wall, all with rectangular, unfilled, mortice joints cut at regular intervals through them. The lower plank of each wall survived, although they were undisturbed in only the S and E walls.

**Horseshoe Wharf, Clink Street, SE1 TQ 3257 8041 DGLA (Luke Fagan) HSW90**

The site lies within the Winchester Palace Scheduled Ancient Monument, on the river front and next to a site which revealed remains of 12th- and 14th-c timber waterfronts and a later stone river wall. Evaluation was unable to reach levels equivalent to the adjacent medieval waterfronts. Overlying deposits are undisturbed and indicate that the waterfronts should survive if they continue into Horseshoe Wharf. At the SE corner of the site, a finely-cobbled road surface with limestone curbing was uncovered, aligned NW-SE towards the slype at the W end of the Great Hall. It was sealed by a mid 17th-c floor containing much brick and tile waste. The S side of a substantial stone-built river wall of 16th-17th c date was revealed.

**Montague Chambers, Montague Close, SE1 TQ 3271 8032 DGLA (Kieron Heard) MON90**

Excavation indicated that natural gravels were truncated, probably by quarrying for materials to construct the nearby Roman roads, the London Bridge approach and the road running SW from London Bridge towards the Westminster crossing. The remains of a sequence of 3 clay and timber buildings, all aligned on the London Bridge approach, were uncovered. The earliest building, probably of the 1st c AD, had at least 2 rooms.

Rubbish pits and layers of crushed stone and building material were of medieval date. They were truncated by 2 post-medieval foundations, one incorporating moulded stone fragments probably derived from the Priory of St Mary Overie.

**6-8 Morocco Street, SE1 TQ 3316 7965 DGLA (Aidan Allen) MRC90**

Excavation showed that waterlaid clay was sealed by a peat layer up to 0.3m (1ft) thick with its surface at about +0.07m OD (thought to be the Bronze Age Tilbury IV horizon), in turn sealed by layers of clay. A post-medieval drainage ditch, buildings along the street frontage and pits for use in the tanning industry, were found.

**National Wharf, Rotherhithe, SE16 TQ 3472 7974 DGLA (Aidan Allen) NAT90**

Evaluation revealed a 4.5m (15ft) deep sequence of post-medieval deposits dating from at least the early 17th c. Two phases of timber waterfronts were partly exposed, both incorporating re-used boat timbers. The waterfront structures were sealed by substantial dumped deposits.

**New British Wharf/Clink Wharf, Clink Street, SE1 TQ 3253 8042 DGLA (Sophie Jackson) NBW90**

Archaeological evaluation of this site, next the Winchester Palace Scheduled Ancient Monument, was to determine the presence and survival of medieval and post-medieval waterfronts. In Clink Wharf a 12th-c timber post was sealed by 12th-14th c dumped deposits containing residual Roman material. A 15th-16th c stone river wall with a tidal drain was partly revealed on New British Wharf. In Clink Wharf a brick-built river wall was possibly a replacement for a continuation of the stone wall found in New British Wharf. 18th- and 19th-c buildings were constructed on dumped deposits behind the river wall on both sites. Beyond the stone river wall on New British Wharf late-18th/early 19th c dumping is interpreted as infill behind a replacement river wall.

**281-333 Old Kent Road TQ 3370 7840 DGLA (Peter Thompson) EAR90**

Four days of the proposed 8-week evaluation were completed, during which only initial machining was carried out. Post-medieval pits and wall foundations were revealed. Deeper stratigraphy (undated) survived in the N and E ends of the trenches, possibly suggesting the presence of natural channels. Evidence of other possible features survived, but no excavation took place.

**Old Kent Road/Canal Bridge, SE1 TQ 3430 7790 DGLA (Peter Thompson) OKR90**

Excavation revealed that natural waterlaid sands, gravels and clays occur at about +0.70m OD and slope down towards the E. On the surface of these deposits a thin layer of weathered sand contained flint blades, scrapers, cores and waste flakes. Three shallow undated gullies may be contemporary. Waterlaid clays sealed the prehistoric levels and were in turn cut and overlaid by Roman features. Drainage ditches containing much pottery suggest there was a settlement nearby. A metalled gravel surface containing 2nd-c pottery could be part of a small yard.

**Old Kent Road, Bowles Road and former Surrey Canal, SE15 TQ 3430 7789 DGLA (Wendy Rogers) BAQ90**

Prehistoric flint-working areas and a stretch of the Roman Watling Street were excavated (see LA 6 no. 9 (1990) 227-32).

**Old Kent Road Widening Scheme, SE1 TQ 3356 7839 DGLA (Peter Thompson) HUM90**

The site, on the N side of the Old Kent Road, crosses the Earl's Sluice, a lost river. The natural subsoils consist of waterlaid sands, gravels and clays. At the W end gravels survive to +0.70m OD near the Earl's Sluice. About 150 flint tools and flakes were found in deposits lying directly over the natural at the E end of the site. A single feature, a small gully probably of prehistoric date, contained a layer of burnt material. Sections of two Roman ditches were recorded. No evidence for Roman Watling Street was found. The Earl's Sluice runs below modern Humphrey Street.

**1-83 Peckham High Street, SE15 TQ 3404 7674 DGLA (Jim Hunter) PEC90**

Evaluation of this large redevelopment site to the NW of the medieval village of Peckham was intended to determine if any evidence of early occupation survived. Some flint flakes and abraded pottery were the only evidence for prehistoric and Roman presence. A pit, a ditch and other features contained 12th-c and residual Saxon pottery and fragment of a loom weight. 14th-c pottery dated a sequence of post holes. Most features on the site relate to post-medieval market gardening.

**R/o 18 Park Street, SE1 TQ 3250 8027 DGLA (Helen Jones) PRK90**  
Excavation exposed dark earth sealing a series of Roman deposits. Natural (at about +1.20m) was a very gravelly sand. The site is referred to as Area 6 in LA 6 no. 10, 255-62.

Earlier trial work produced a composite ring made in gold with enamel decoration and an amethyst setting, thought to be 17th/18th c in date.

**Platform Wharf, Rotherhithe, SE16 TQ 3480 7963 DGLA (Simon Blatherwick) PW90**

Further work, funded by London Docklands Development Corporation, was undertaken on the southern half of Platform Wharf (See LA 5 no. 15, 395-401).

No prehistoric features were found but a superb Neolithic polished axe and at least one Mesolithic blade was recovered.

Pre-dating the moat of the manor house was a linear gully with pottery of early medieval date; a line of stakeholes ran along the W edge of the S part of this gully and turned E across the bottom. Medieval activity – postholes and beam slots – pre-dated three chalk-lined pits (provisionally interpreted as cess-pits).

No structures which could indisputably be associated with the 17th c pottery factory were recorded, although much delftware and kiln material were recovered.

**St James's Road, SE16 TQ 3440 7790 DGLA (Wendy Rogers) SJR90**

Excavation revealed that natural waterlaid clays and peats to the N of Roman Watling Street were in part destroyed by 19th-c industrial features, and in places sealed by a thick layer of brick rubble and sand which is probably associated with the construction of the nearby Surrey Canal.

**The Surrey Theatre, St George's Circus, SE1 TQ 3163 7951 DGLA (Aidan Allen) SUR90**

Excavation was undertaken in order to investigate surviving remains of the Surrey Theatre.

Substantial remains of the 1865 music hall building were recorded, including the foyer, pit/stalls area, orchestral part of the suspended pit floor and ancillary rooms. The depth of the stage area precluded any examination but traces of what might have been part of the original Circus of 1782 were recorded. Nothing could be related to the first theatre of 1808.

**99-101 Waterloo Road, SE1 TQ 3126 7995 DGLA (Tom McDonald) LOO90**

Excavation exposed a gully cut into the surface of a layer of waterlaid clay at -0.85m OD, and sealed by a thick band of peat surviving to +0.80m OD (probably laid during the Tilbury IV regression in the Bronze Age). Remains of a tree within the peat could be part of a trackway.

## SUTTON

**34 Beddington Lane, Beddington TQ 3020 6540 DGLA (Dave Saxby) BLT90**

Trial trenching revealed prehistoric fire-cracked flints.

**Beddington Roman Villa, Beddington TQ 2960 6550 DGLA (Bob Bazely) NRA90**

Evaluation exposed a possible prehistoric or Romano-British trackway of flint nodules. Flint flakes and waste flakes were found in silt sealing layers.

Ditches of 17th and 18th c date were located.

**Carew Manor, Beddington TQ 2966 6526 Carew Manor Group (John Phillips)**

A 5 × 2m (16 × 6½ft) trench within the former gardens of Carew Manor was excavated in an attempt to establish the position of the outer edge of the moat around Carew Manor. The moat edge was not located and must lie to the N of the trench.

The foundations of an 18th c garden wall were located, together with a gravel garden path and associated plant beds of 18th or early 19th c date. The lower layers of the soil contained a few pieces of prehistoric and Roman pottery, and sherds of all periods from early Saxon to early medieval. There were few features associated with this pottery apart from an ditch running E-W, cut into the natural gravel. The latest finds from it were of early medieval date.

**Carshalton High School for Girls, West Street, Carshalton TQ 2750 6505 DGLA (Steve Tucker) CHS90**

Two trenches were investigated, the first of which was abandoned due to severe truncation of deposits.

The earliest feature in the second trench was a V-shaped linear ditch, producing undateable struck flints. It was covered by a medieval ploughsoil and was possibly of Iron Age date.

Other features were a post-medieval boundary ditch and a possible Victorian well.

**Century House, Kingsway Road, Cheam TQ 2472 6350 DGLA (Pat Miller) SWC90**

Two trenches were opened. Trench A to the SE contained an undated truncated ditch and three small cuts. Running N-S across this trench was a wall or footing of two lines of rough-hewn chalk blocks filled with chalk, flint and brick rubble. It was 0.90m (3ft) wide and c 5.00m (16ft) long.

Trench B exhibited a line of boundary post-holes running N-S, a small square structure and two large pits. The natural below the subsoil was chalk.

The area of excavation was probably on the edge of a long-established farm originally dating to the Tudor period. All of the features encountered were probably of a later date. It is probable that the area had been in use during the medieval period as farm land, and during the Tudor period, possibly associated with Nonsuch Palace. The trenched areas were not built upon or enclosed until at least the 17th c. The chalk footing in Trench A probably dates to the 17th c and is either a boundary wall or footing of a structure relating to Cheam Court Farm. One 17th/18th c pit, a structure and boundary (fence) dating to the 18th/19th c were recorded, all relating to Cheam Court Farm, whose buildings were demolished early this century.

**London Carriers Ltd, Beddington Lane, Beddington TQ 2996 6665 DGLA (Steve Tucker) LCL90**

Three trench areas were excavated to underlying terrace gravels.

Trench 3 produced two semi-circular features which may be of late Bronze Age date.

A V-shaped linear ditch which ran NW to S across trench area 3 may be a Roman field boundary.

Two trenches contained drainage ditches, probably 19th c in date.

**19 Park Road, Cheam, Surrey TQ 2433 6377 DGLA (Phillip Emery) PRO90**

Two trenches were excavated in the garden, to the W and S of the Victorian house. About 0.5m (1ft 8in) of garden soil was stripped by machine to expose the Thanet Sand and features cut into it.

The prehistoric ground surface had been truncated by gardening. The frequency of struck and burnt flint in medieval and later deposits suggests occupation in the Neolithic period. The flintwork included some finely touched implements.

No evidence of Roman or Saxon activity was found.

At the N end the fill of a straight V-shaped ditch, aligned E-W, yielded several sherds of a Shelly Ware pot (11th/12th c), and much burnt flint.

At the S end of the site, a length of ditch was found in each trench, on a common E-W alignment. The ditch fill in the W trench produced Guy's Ware and Cheam Ware sherds.

Several large cuts were found in the W trench, dating between 1600 and 1950 (?). They are believed to be quarries for sand and brickearth, probably associated with brick-making. Two comparatively shallow cuts contained many finds of ?18th c date.

**Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton TQ 2770 6250 DGLA (Penny Bruce) QMH90**

A watching brief produced prehistoric fire-cracked flints.

**Wandle Meadows, London Road, Hackbridge TQ 2850 6650 DGLA (David Saxby) WAM90 and WAS90**

The excavations was situated on the floodplain of the River Wandle, laid down during the Pleistocene c 12,000BC. Two of three trenches contained material of archaeological interest.

In the N of trench 2 a linear ditch aligned E-W, probably a field boundary, contained a sherd of late Bronze Age pottery. N of the ditch was a pit or large posthole. In the middle of the trench were four circular pits or postholes. They seem to be aligned NW-SE c 1.00m (3ft) apart, suggesting a structure. S of them were four smaller postholes regularly spaced at 1.40m (4½ft) intervals in a semi-circular pattern, again suggesting a structure. The purpose of three irregular-shaped isolated pits is unknown. Only one of them contained artifacts: fire-cracked flint and a small sherd of late Roman pottery.

In Trench 3 a linear ditch ran NE and contained many pieces of fire-cracked flint and late Bronze Age pottery. It cut a small ditch to its S. There were also two isolated circular shallow pits.

## TOWER HAMLETS

**Armagh Road, E3 TQ 3684 8351 DGLA (K Pitt) AGH90**

The excavation was located in a known Roman settlement the E of *Londinium*. Early Roman gravel quarrying, presumably for the construction of the London to Colchester road, was the earliest activity. The quarries were backfilled when the first structures were built, represented by postholes and ditches which may indicate buildings or property boundaries. The occupation may have been associated with agriculture, represented by ploughsoil. This activity continued but a more substantial building was constructed, evidenced by ground beams supporting wattle and daub walls.

**2-6 Fairclough Street, E1 TQ 3425 8114 DGLA (Bruno Barber/Ken Pitt) FAG90**

The site lies within the E burial area of *Londinium*. Trial work before demolition of the standing structures showed extensive truncation of the natural gravels by 17th and 18th c quarrying. No earlier features survived.

**343-345 Mile End Road, E1 TQ 3621 8241 DGLA (Kevin Williams) QMC90**

Excavation revealed undated cut features below a ploughsoil, which may date from prehistoric to medieval. A major timber building, represented by a line of post-holes, was probably medieval and may have been a barn. The agricultural phase ends, probably in the late 18th c, with the building of terraced houses.

**Queen Mary and Westfield College, Mile End Road, E1 TQ 6320 8246 DGLA (Carol Williams) UNC90**

No archaeological survival.

**29 West Tenter Street/59 Mansell Street, E1 TQ 3384 8108 DGLA (Bruno Barber) WTE90**

Excavations within the E burial area of *Londinium*, immediately to the S of the 1987-88 site on Mansell Street revealed further evidence for the Roman cemetery. Nine inhumations, ten cremations, two ditches and two mausolea were recorded. A wide range of grave goods and general finds were recovered, including a fragment of funerary inscription in polished marble.

## WALTHAM FOREST – no reports

## WANDSWORTH

**Tooting Bec Hospital, Church Lane, SW17 TQ 2860 7170 DGLA (Tim Haillay) TBH90**

Victorian dumping layers containing a high proportion of broken wine bottles and other glass/ceramic pieces may relate to Tooting Lodge (built 1803). A large feature may be the Tooting Lodge fishpond or a gravel quarry. A sequence of strata indicates a staged backfilling. There was no evidence of waterlogging.

## WESTMINSTER

**55-57 Drury Lane, WC2 TQ 3049 8110 DGLA (Stewart Hoad) DRY90**

A possible ploughsoil of the Roman period was found. Associated ditches, probably field boundaries, contained Roman and prehistoric pottery and coins (600BC-AD350).

The area was part of *Lundenwic* in the Saxon period. Numerous Saxon finds included several rubbish pits, containing domestic artifacts and one *sceat* (Saxon coin). Other interesting Saxon features included seven wood-lined storage pits. A rectangular pattern of postholes, beam-slots, and associated stake-holes, indicating the presence of a timber structure, was found. Two wells were excavated nearby.

Several medieval pits were also excavated. They contained finds indicating their use for the disposal of domestic rubbish.

**Ebury Bridge House, Victoria, SW1 TQ 2859 7845 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) VIC90**

A single undated feature was recorded in section.

**The Floral Hall and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden TQ 3039 8100 DGLA (Robert Cowie) ROH90**

A test pit in the Royal Opera House revealed a brick floor, which probably belongs to the theatre built by Robert Smirke in the early 19th c (precursor of the present Opera House), or possibly the first Covent Garden Theatre built in 1731/2. Several pits cut into the river terrace gravel beneath the Floral Hall contained large fragments of brickwork, including demolition debris from a floor, probably from one of the earlier theatres.

Excavations revealed strata provisionally dated to the middle Saxon period including pits and a well. A sherd of Kingston-type ware from the upper fill of one pit may have been intrusive or may indicate a medieval date for the feature.

Post-medieval strata included a large intrusive feature which produced 16th/17th c Martincamp pottery, brick walls, a brick-lined cesspit, and a well.

Two inhumation burials were found (C14 date pending).

**Kings College, Strand, WC2 TQ 3085 8086 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) KIL90**

Test pits produced a possible Saxon rubbish pit and of what appeared to be part of the medieval waterfront or associated structures. Extensive Tudor remains were recorded including foundations and indications of earlier robbed-out structures.

**Marlborough House, Pall Mall, SW1 TQ 2940 6800 DGLA (Mark Barratt) MRB90**

A month-long excavation in the grounds and basement of Wren's 1709 red-brick town house revealed (i) foundations of the kitchen ranges of Henry VIII's St James's Palace (1538), destroyed by fire in 1809, associated metalised surfaces, and a large part of the brick boundary wall of the 17th c Capucin friary that originally stood at the E end of Inigo Jones's Queen's Chapel (1627). (ii) walls and floors of Wren's original building (altered in the 1770s and again in 1861-3) were recorded beneath later basement floor levels. Finds included architectural fragments spanning the period 1250-1840, pottery dated from 1150 to 1900 and fragments of 14th c decorated floor tiles; the early material may originate from the Hospital of St James the Less, an Augustinian foundation pulled down by Henry to make way for his palace.

# Books

**The Rebirth of Towns in the West**, Richard Hodges and Brian Hobley (eds.). *C.B.A. Research Report no. 68*, 1988. 135 pp., 69 figs., bibliogs., index. £29 paperback.

THIS IS A review of current research into how, when and why there was a rebirth of towns between 700 and 1050, based on papers presented to an international conference held at the Museum of London in March 1986. It contains 17 papers in five parts: Europe, Italy, Gaul, Scandinavia and Britain, the authors being from Germany, Sweden, Italy, France, Netherlands, the USA and Britain. Each paper ends with a useful bibliography making the whole work a very good reference aid.

With the enormous growth of excavations in the post-war years, archaeology constitutes a substantive resource for re-examining the history of this enigmatic period. Ten years ago the historic importance of Ipswich, for example, was barely known, but systematic rescue excavation has revealed that Ipswich was founded in the early 7th century with a street system that has largely survived to the present day. Similarly, due to excavations since 1946, it has been

shown that the origin of Hamwic (Southampton) began around the start of the 8th century on the west bank of the River Itchen downstream from its Roman predecessor of *Claesentum*.

In Chester, excavation has revealed a vivid picture of widespread survival of Roman buildings and their influence on the development and plan of the medieval city. The street pattern and principal elements of the present city considerably reflect the influence of its origins.

In Italy evidence from two cities, Rome and Naples, is discussed and suggests that the pattern of events in Rome consisted of an irregular decline in the 5th and 6th centuries, leaving only about 10% of its population, followed by a period of stagnation in the 7th and 8th centuries. A revival occurred, gaining momentum in the last quarter of the 8th century, but the difference between the Imperial metropolis and its Dark Age successor could hardly have been greater. The case of Naples is less clear, and until more evidence from archaeology is available, it may be thought that it was a predominantly agricultural community.

**55-57 Marylebone High Street** TQ 2836 8200 DGLA (Bruno Barber) MAY90

A test pit revealed a wall, which may well be part of the 13th c Marylebone Manor House, or one of its post-medieval rebuilds. Demolition debris from the soil layers shows that medieval and post-medieval structures stood on, or close to, the site.

**Paddington Goods Yard**, W2 TQ 2260 8140 DGLA (Jim Hunter) PGY90

Excavation revealed only 19th c pottery dumps.

**Apartment 29, St James Palace**, SW1 TQ 2936 8100 DGLA (Carol Williams) HRH90

Two areas were examined in Apartment 29, the location of an excavation in 1989. In the cloakroom a sleeper wall was removed from the fireplace in the SE corner to reveal the original palace brickwork. A larger area was examined in the kitchen; about 4.0m (13ft) square was cleared for the insertion of a drain. Under the modern floor the joists had been laid on a flagstone pavement which seemed to have been re-laid. Several of the flagstones were removed, enabling the underlying stratigraphy to be recorded. A posthole and demolition debris were removed from the drain trench including greensand fragments which are thought to be rubble from the medieval hospital that stood on the site before the palace.

**406-408 Strand**, WC2 TQ 3038 8071 DGLA (Chris Thomas) STR90  
No archaeological survival.

**36-48 Wigmore Street**, W1 TQ 2855 8137 DGLA (Gordon Malcolm) WOT90

Undated archaeological deposits were observed undisturbed under basement slab. 16th c pottery was identified.

## ESSEX

**Abbey Church, Waltham Abbey** TL 3814 0065 Waltham Abbey Historical Society & West Essex Archaeological Group (Peter Huggins)

An excavation to establish the form of the E ends of the two pre-Conquest stone churches. The E end of church 2 (of Brixworth type) ended in a rectangular chancel/sanctuary. Church 3, that of Harold and dedicated c 1060, had transepts and crossing but no E extension. The internal details of church 2 were presumably altered to a simple nave arcade, the old foundations being used where possible. The chancel and altar of church 2 could have remained in use while church 3 was being built around it.

**Abbey Gardens, Waltham Abbey** TL 382 007 WAHS (Ken Bascombe)

Examination of parchmarks in the scheduled AM during the latter part of the hot summer (the culmination of many months of dry weather) enabled an addition to be made to the E end of the Abbey church as planned by Charlton and Borenus in 1938 (VCH Essex V, 172). A retrochoir 10.7m (35ft) E to W, with a possible chapel and tomb at the N end, and an E chapel 13m (42ft) long and (if symmetrical about the central axis of the church) 4.2m (14ft) wide, with a probable chapel or vestry on the N side, were indicated. The retrochoir may have been part of the original building begun in 1177 and dedicated in 1242, since the N wall of the retrochoir ran on as the N wall of the presbytery for about 30m (100ft). In addition, the E walls of the choir aisles in the published plan have very narrow foundations. The foundation published as the E wall of the presbytery is now seen as that of an altar or reredos. The chapel was presumably a Lady Chapel and may be a later addition. Its discovery extends the overall length of the medieval church to c 151m (495ft).

**Baptist Church, Waltham Abbey** TL 3810 0050 WAHS/WEAG (Peter Huggins)

An excavation to check the line of a ditch surrounding *Eldeworth*, the old enclosure, of 4 acres (1½ha), mentioned in 1235. A C14 date for vegetation, just to the N at Church Street, calibrated to the Middle Bronze Age. A ditch was found where expected, but it had been dug out in medieval times. A piece of stamped Saxon pottery of Briscoe type A 5ai may date to the Pagan period.