

Shelly deposits were recorded at several locations, including site Q just below Kew Bridge, where a layer of sand contained shells of freshwater and hygrophile mollusca⁶⁴, and immediately downstream from Richmond Lock (FRM12) (Y), where a 0.15m thick layer of shells and sand lay below 0.10m of sandy silt containing frequent molluscan remains.

Conclusion

The survey provided RAS with a rare opportunity to participate in fieldwork, and to make a considerable contribution to the study of London's past. It has yielded information about how the Thames has influenced the region's settlement and economy since prehistoric times, and how successive generations have used and exploited the river. The results of the survey make a significant addition to London's archaeological record, for numerous features were discovered, a number of which have already been added to the Greater London SMR.

So far only a small proportion of the features discovered during survey have been fully recorded, and much work remains to be done on planning and identifying archaeological remains. To the extent that each low tide is as likely to uncover an interesting new feature as to bury an old one, the prospects for a fascinating ongoing survey are good. It is encouraging that the Environment Agency have agreed to fund the Thames Archaeological Survey for a further three years (1996-1999),

and that English Heritage have continued to support the project.

From a social standpoint, the abiding memory from the fine summer of 1995 is of a Society mud-larking with intent alongside a shimmering Thames until forced by the incoming tide to take refuge in an inviting riverside pub.

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Excavations and post-excavation work

City of London. Museum of London Archaeology Service, Walker House, 87 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4AB (0171-410 2200).

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 Jim Davison, 28 Blenheim Park Road, South Croydon, CR2 6BB.

Greater London (except north-east and south-east London), by Museum of London Archaeology Service. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to MOLAS, Walker House, 87 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4AB (0171-410 2200).

Borough of Greenwich. Cataloguing of excavated and other archaeological material, the majority from sites in the borough. For further information contact Greenwich Borough Museum, 232 Plumstead High Street, London SE18 1JT (0181-855 3240).

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 (0171-731 4498).

Kingston, by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. Rescue sites in the town centre. Enquiries to Kingston Heritage Centre, Fairfield Road, Kingston (0181-546 5386).

North-east London, by Passmore Edwards Museum. Enquiries to Pat Wilkinson, Newham Museum Service, Archaeology and Local History Centre, 31 Stock Street, E13 0BX (0181-472 4785).

Surrey, by Surrey County Archaeological Unit. Enquiries to Rob Poulton, Archaeological Unit Manager, Old Library Headquarters, 25 West Street, Dorking, RH4 1DE (01306-886 466).

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