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Commentary

- 34 Commentary
Gromaticus

Features

- 46 Young Archaeologists' Clubs in London
Sarah Dhanjal, Mike Corbishley and Sophie Allen review how YACs are faring in the capital
- 58 Light fantastic?
Clive Orton visits one of London's most accessible Roman villas

Research

- 35 ST ALPHAGE'S TOWER, CRIPPLEGATE: MONUMENT TO TENACITY
The story of the survival of a City landmark
Caroline A. Sandes
- 41 WATCHING THE PAST UNFOLD BEFORE YOUR EYES
An excavation taking place on the web
Guy Hunt, Chaz Morse and Lorna Richardson
- 48 HOW USEFUL ARE ANTIQUARIAN DRAWINGS IN LOCATING AND INTERPRETING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES?
How reliable were Stukeley and Aubrey?
Sarah Ritchie
- 53 FIVE 19TH-CENTURY THAMES LIGHTERS FROM ERITH
Excavating London's maritime history
Giles Dawkes

Letter

- 39 Graham Dawson writes on Bermondsey Abbey's precinct

Reviews

- 40 Book reviews

News

- 60 Mosaic

Diary

- Inside back cover Diary



Front cover

While attention has been turned towards the Beijing Olympics this year, archaeologists have continued work on the London 2012 site. This Neolithic chipped-flint 'pre-form' axe, c. 4000-2000 BC, was found in 2008 close to Stratford High Street in excavations by MoLAS-PCA, on behalf of the Olympic Delivery Authority. The description 'pre-form' means that it had been knapped but not polished to its final form. The context in which it was found suggests the axe might not have been intended for chopping down trees but ritually deposited by the banks of the Lea.