

**30-32 DUNTON ROAD,
BERMONDSEY, SE1 5TJ**

**ASSESSMENT OF AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF**

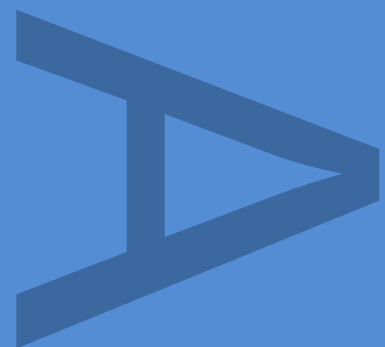
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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY



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30-32 DUNTON ROAD, BERMONDSEY, SE1 5TJ

ASSESSMENT OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF

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ASSESSMENT OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Site Code: DNN12

Central NGR: TQ33747879

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Southwark

Planning Reference: 12/AP/0152

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological mitigation watching brief undertaken at 30-32 Dunton Road, Bermondsey, SE1 5TJ in the London Borough of Southwark.
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by Urbanicity (Penton Place Project) LLP, and carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd in late October and November 2012. The watching brief monitored all groundworks necessitated for the redevelopment of the site, comprising the excavation of foundation trenches.
- 1.3 A previous evaluation at the site had recorded the presence of high sands and gravels, into which had been cut two quarry pits which were backfilled in the 17th century.
- 1.4 The watching brief documented the presence of a further three post-medieval quarry pits in the western portion of the site. In addition to these features, a post-medieval well lined with dry-laid bricks was also recorded near the southern boundary of the site.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological mitigation watching brief was conducted intermittently between the 24th October and 1st November 2012 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at 30-32 Dunton Road, Bermondsey SE1 5TJ (Figure 1), during groundworks necessitated by a permitted redevelopment. The National Grid Reference of the site is TQ33747879, and it is located within the boundaries of the London Borough of Southwark.
- 2.2 The work was commissioned by Urbanicity (Penton Place Project) LLP and was monitored by Dr Constable, Senior Archaeology Planning Officer at the London Borough of Southwark. The investigation was supervised by Paw Jorgensen and project managed by Chris Mayo for PCA.
- 2.3 The site is an L-shaped plot of land previously occupied by 19th century public house called the Claremont. The northernmost part of the site was taken up by a concreted yard belonging to the Claremont, and a driveway. The easternmost edge of the site and a part on the west of the site were also concreted yards. An L-shaped basement measuring approximately 16.10m east to west by 4.90m north to south was located below the easternmost part of the pub.
- 2.4 The site is bounded to the east by Dunton Road, to the south by Setchell Road, to the west by a residential building and its front garden and to the north by a residential building (Figure 2).
- 2.5 Full planning permission for the proposed development has been granted by the London Borough of Southwark under planning application number 12/AP/0152. The permission included an archaeological condition, which stipulated that a trial-trench evaluation was necessary. PCA were appointed to undertake that work by the client, and completed the evaluation of a single trench in August 2012. The trench revealed natural sandy gravel present at surprisingly high levels, and cut by two extensive pits which probably relate to quarrying of the underlying sand and gravel during the post-medieval period, and were backfilled in the 17th century. They were sealed by a reworked ploughsoil horizon.
- 2.6 Based upon the results of the evaluation, it was recommended by Dr Constable that further archaeological work would need to be undertaken during groundwork associated with the new development, in the form of an archaeological watching brief during development groundworks focussing on the areas outside of the basement of the Claremont, where all archaeological deposits had already been completely truncated.
- 2.7 A Written Scheme of Investigation for the mitigating watching brief was prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (Mayo 2012).
- 2.8 Prior to the determination of the planning application PCA was appointed by the client to undertake a heritage desk-based assessment of the site (Bates 2011).
- 2.9 The site archive was prepared using the unique code DNN12, which had previously been obtained for the evaluation work. Following approval of this report, which details the results and working methods of the watching brief, the entire site archive will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) under that site code.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Guidance: National Planning Policy Framework

3.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was adopted on March 27 2012, and now supersedes the Planning Policy Statements (PPSs). The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications.

3.1.2 In considering any planning application for development the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by the NPPF, by current Local Plan policy and by other material considerations.

3.2 Regional Policy: The London Plan

3.2.1 The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by “The London Plan, Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London Consolidated with Alterations since 2004” (Feb 2008). It includes the following policy relating to archaeology within central London:

Policy 4b.15 Archaeology

The Mayor, in partnership with English Heritage, the Museum of London and Boroughs, will support the identification, protection, interpretation and presentation of London’s archaeological resources. Boroughs in consultation with English Heritage and other relevant statutory organisations should include appropriate policies in their DPDs for protecting Scheduled Ancient Monuments and archaeological assets within their area.

3.3 Local Policy: Archaeology in the London Borough of Southwark

3.3.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Southwark, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which it is the custodian. Relevant policy statements for the protection of the buried archaeological resource within the borough are contained within the following documents:

- The Southwark Plan (adopted 2007)
- Southwark Policy Guidance (Archaeology) (2007)

3.3.2 The proposed development of the site is subject to the Council’s Archaeology Policies and justifications:

Policy 3.19 Archaeology

Planning applications affecting sites within Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs), as identified in Appendix 8, shall be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development. There is a presumption in favour of preservation in situ, to protect and safeguard archaeological remains of national importance, including scheduled monuments and their settings. The in situ preservation of archaeological remains of local importance will also be sought, unless the importance of the development outweighs the local value of the remains. If planning permission is granted to develop any site where there are

archaeological remains or there is good reason to believe that such remains exist, conditions will be attached to secure the excavation and recording or preservation in whole or in part, if justified, before development begins.

Reasons:

Southwark has an immensely important archaeological resource. Increasing evidence of those peoples living in Southwark before the Roman and medieval period is being found in the north of the borough and along the Old Kent Road. The suburb of the Roman provincial capital (Londinium) was located around the southern bridgehead of the only river crossing over the Thames at the time and remains of Roman buildings, industry, roads and cemeteries have been discovered over the last 30 years. The importance of the area during the medieval period is equally well attested both archaeologically and historically. Elsewhere in Southwark, the routes of Roman roads (along the Old Kent Road and Kennington Road) and the historic village cores of Peckham, Camberwell, Walworth and Dulwich also have the potential for the survival of archaeological remains.

- 3.3.3 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within a 250m radius of the development site.
- 3.3.4 The site is located within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the London Borough of Southwark.

5.1.3 Old Kent Road

This zone has been designated because of the presence of early prehistoric activity adjacent to the Old Kent Road and because the road itself is thought to follow the line of Roman Watling Street, the route from London to Canterbury.

3.4 Planning Permission

- 3.4.1 Planning permission has been granted for the development by the London Borough of Southwark under application number 12/AP/0152. The proposed development involves the demolition of the vacant public house and the construction of a two and four story building complex, comprising of eight residential units. The consent includes 3 conditions relating to below-ground archaeological works, as follows:

- 13) Before any work hereby authorised begins, the applicant shall secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological evaluation works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order that the applicants supply the necessary archaeological information to ensure suitable mitigation measures and/or foundation design proposals be presented in accordance with Chapter 12, paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, policy 12 of the Core Strategy 2011 and saved policy 3.19 of the Southwark Plan 2007.

- 14) Before any work hereby authorised begins, the applicant shall submit a written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological recording, which shall be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and implemented and shall not be carried out other than in accordance with any such approval given.

Reason: In order that the details of the programme of archaeological excavation and recording works are suitable with regard to the impacts of the proposed development and the nature and extent of archaeological remains on site in accordance with Chapter 12, paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, policy 12 of

- the Core Strategy 2011 and saved policy 3.19 of the Southwark Plan 2007
- 16) Within six months of the completion of archaeological site works, an assessment report detailing the proposals for post-excavation works, publication of the site and preparation of the archive shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and that the works detailed in this assessment report shall not be carried out otherwise than in accordance with any such approval given.
Reason: In order that the archaeological interests of the site are secured with regard to the details of the post-excavation works, publication and archiving to ensure the preservation of archaeological remains by record in accordance with Chapter 12, paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, policy 12 of the Core Strategy 2011 and saved policy 3.19 of the Southwark Plan 2007
- 3.4.2 In accordance with condition 13, PCA undertook an archaeological evaluation at the site which recorded the localised presence of post-medieval remains, and a high-level of natural geology. Based upon this Dr Constable at the London Borough of Southwark recommend that the impact upon the site from the new development be mitigated by an archaeological watching brief during groundworks. PCA was appointed for this additional work and prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 2012), which was approved by Dr Constable.
- 3.4.3 This report represents the assessment detailed within Planning Condition 16.
- 3.4.4 A further heritage condition, number 15, required Historic Building Recording of the Claremont Public House. This work has been undertaken for the client by PCA, and is reported elsewhere (Garwood 2012).

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 On the British Geological Survey (BGS) Sheet 270 the site is shown to be located above an area of Quaternary deposits of the Kempton Park Gravel. This in turn is overlying Eocene London Clay. The site is located on what was Bermondsey Eyot, one of the many sand and gravel islands formerly located within the River Thames. Previous work on Bermondsey Eyot has shown the top of the natural sandy gravel deposits to lie at around 1.20m OD (Heard 1996). However, in the vicinity of the current study site the height of the sandy gravel deposit has been shown to range between 0.68m OD and 1.67m OD (Sargent 2006). An archaeological evaluation carried out in the northeast portion of the site in June 2012 showed the height of the natural sandy gravel ranging from 1.73m OD to 1.85m OD (Hawkins 2012).

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 During much of the Holocene the area consisted of relatively low-lying marshland heavily dissected by braiding streams and rivers. Occasional sand and gravel banks rose out of the marshland below to form islands, or eyots, within the riverine landscape. The current study site is located on the back on one of the largest of these islands known as Bermondsey Eyot. Throughout the medieval and post-medieval period land reclamation was taking place along the periphery of the island resulting in the natural topography being obscured.

4.2.2 The ground within the current site is relatively flat at 2.70m OD.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A detailed summary of the previous archaeological investigations and general historical background of the site and its vicinity was produced by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd in the form of a heritage desk-based assessment for the study site (Bates 2011). The following brief summary of the archaeological and historical background of the area is largely based on that previous study.

5.1 Prehistoric

5.1.1 During the prehistoric period the Southwark area would have comprised marshland dissected by streams. Several sand and gravel islands rose out of the low lying landscape along the shoreline. While the marshland would have been prone to flooding and generally not considered suitable for permanent habitation the larger eyots would have provided a more attractive settleable environment. The study site would have been located towards the southern edge of one of the larger eyots, later known as Bermondsey Eyot, consisting of circa two square kilometers of terra firma within the surrounding marshland.

5.1.2 Evidence of human activity throughout the prehistoric period has been recorded across the island during previous investigations. Approximately 500m southeast of the site, flint scatters concentrated around two hearths attest as well as evidence for ditches and timber structures attest to early Mesolithic settlement of the eyot. In addition to this, Bronze Age activity was recorded on the site of Bermondsey Abbey and evidence for a late Iron Age settlement was seen during excavations along Grange Road.

5.2 Roman

5.2.1 A settlement existed at Southwark from even the earliest stages of the Roman occupation. A bridge crossing between Southwark and Londinium on the northern shore of the Thames was built in AD50. The centre of Roman Southwark was concentrated to the south of this bridge, along the present day Borough High Street, and the approach roads to the city, where the ground was higher and firmer. At its greatest extent, the settlement extended about a third of a mile along the river and a half of a mile along the roads to the south, including an area of around 20 to 24 hectares. The settlement included shops and craftsmen as well as high status buildings with hypocausts and tessellated floors. The shoreline was stabilised with wooden revetments and several warehouses were built nearby for imported goods. A substantial riverside wall was built in AD255-70 and a system of revetted ditches helped to control flooding from the Thames (Tames 2001, Carlin 1996).

5.2.2 The study site was located on Bermondsey Eyot, which was outside of the central settlement at Southwark. However, it would have been located within close proximity to Watling Street, which was the main road connecting the settlement at Southwark to the Kent coast. Evidence exists to show that Watling Street ran on a course parallel to the Old Kent Road, approximately 400m south of the site, skirting the marshes on an area of slightly

higher ground (Bird 2000). It has also been suggested that another road may have been running along the line of Long Lane and Grange Road, to the north of the site, as several Roman finds and sites are concentrated along this line (Heard 1996).

5.2.3 These road networks that connected London to the countryside resulted in a number of roadside settlements near to London. Evidence for small settlements and farmsteads come from several of the gravel sites just outside of London (Bird 2000).

5.2.4 Archaeological evidence from Bermondsey Eyot suggests that it was a similar countryside location during the Roman period. Ditches have been found on about half the Roman sites on Bermondsey Eyot. Some of these, dug along the margins of the island, where seasonal flooding would have been a problem, have been interpreted as drainage ditches. However, others may relate to agriculture. The frequency of these ditches suggests a managed rural landscape, possibly one which developed out of a pre-existing native field system. The proximity of the area to the Southwark settlement and Londinium suggests that market gardening was more likely to be practised than cereal production (Heard 1996).

5.2.5 While pits and ditches are common, not much evidence in the way of buildings or structures has been found on Bermondsey Eyot. However, some postholes at the Alaska Works on the present day Grange Road, approximately 300m northwest of the site, have been interpreted as a possible structure, perhaps for storage (Heard 1996).

5.2.6 From the study area itself, only one entry comes from the GLHER which dates to the Roman period. The evidence recovered from this site was in the form of several intercutting pits, which contained abraded domestic pottery as well as animal bones. This evidence has been interpreted as relating to a possible settlement site in the vicinity (Heard 1996).

5.3 Saxon

5.3.1 By the end of the 4th century the Roman settlement of Southwark was abandoned after which there is an almost complete lack of archaeological evidence for human activity within the area until the middle of the 8th century (Tames 2001). Excavations at the site of Bermondsey Abbey yielded large quantities of middle Saxon pottery as well as coins dating to the middle of the 8th century (Heard 1996). Documentary sources describe the construction of a quayside and state that some type of fortified bridgehead was in place by the 10th century. Around a century later the Domesday survey lists Southwark as settlement comprising 50 houses in possession of eleven manorial landholders in Surry, a dock and herring fishery (Tames 2001).

5.4 Medieval

5.4.1 Southwark grew considerably in the medieval period. New parishes and manors were created and an extensive network of new streets was set up, along with extensive riverside embankments and ditches to control the river and reclaim the surrounding land. Industries and institutions wanting to exploit the riverside location, such as tidal mills, as well as those unwelcome in the city, such as tanning, prostitution and hospitals for the poor were set up in the area. Another main feature of the medieval settlement was the establishment of the

Cluniac Bermondsey Abbey, founded as a priory in 1082, about 1km northwest of the site (Carlin 1996).

- 5.4.2 This abbey changed the face of Bermondsey, as it led to the formation of a set of roads south of Tooley Street, connecting Bermondsey with Southwark and the Thames. However, the study site would have likely remained open land at this time. Bermondsey Street was known as 'the causeway leading to Bermondsey' in the late 12th and early 13th centuries, suggesting that this district was low-lying and underdeveloped at the time. As well, Kent Street (now the Old Kent Road) was known to have been bordered by large meadows and fields with few residences in the medieval period (Carlin 1996).

5.5 Post-Medieval

- 5.5.1 Bermondsey Abbey was handed over to the King at the dissolution and the land was gradually sold off (Malden 1967). However, the site itself would not have altered much, still remaining within agricultural land. Farming was widespread all around South London up until the middle of the 19th century. A large amount of cattle were being raised, but there was a low diversity of crops, with grass or hay being the most prominent (Brandon & Short 1990). Archaeological evidence for post-medieval farming comes from very near to the study site. An evaluation c. 75m to the south of the site encountered a layer of plough soil dating to the 16th or 17th centuries. A watching brief c. 150m northeast of the site encountered a layer which was interpreted as 17th or 18th century agricultural soil (Sargent 2006).
- 5.5.2 Archaeological evidence for localised 17th century sand and/or gravel extraction was recorded during an archaeological evaluation in the northeast corner of the current study site in August 2012 (Hawkins, 2012). A potential quarry pit, also backfilled during the 17th century, was identified during previous archaeological work on Grange Road, some 250m north of the site (Bates 2011).
- 5.5.3 The first cartographic source is Rocque's Map of 1739-47, which shows that the study site sits within a large open field, fronted by a row of trees and a road running north to south. This field appears to be in use as meadowland, as opposed to the cultivated fields to the north. The landscape is generally vacant, although opposite this road is a group of buildings labelled as the Bull and Butcher, as well as a small group of buildings sitting along Blue Anchor Lane to the north. To the northwest is the Grange and to the southwest the Kent Road can be seen.
- 5.5.4 Greenwood's 1824-26 Map shows the first known development of the site. Two small buildings are now seen along the western side of the Grange Road. The southernmost building crosses into the northern edge of the site. The rest of the site is still located within a field. The surrounding landscape is noticeably more built up. Residences now line both sides of the Kent Road to the south and more residences and tanneries have been built to the northwest of the site.
- 5.5.5 The 1894-96 Ordnance Survey map shows a similar landscape. The surrounding area is still mainly taken over by terraced housing. A tram line now runs along Blue Anchor Lane to the

north. The stables appear to have been replaced with a railway depot. The GLHER also records that a rubberworks was in the area during the late 19th century. The site itself has only changed slightly. The building to the south is now labelled as a public house and has been extended slightly further to the west. However, the terraced house on the north of the site has not changed.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The excavation of foundation trenches for the new development was monitored. Excavation for the foundation was carried out as a continuous trench measuring between 0.50m and 0.90m in width and 1.90m and 2.50m in depth. Only the areas not previously occupied by the basement of The Claremont public house were monitored as the establishment of the basement during the buildings construction in the 19th century had removed all archaeologically significant deposits.
- 6.2 Due to the depth of the trench it was not deemed safe to access the excavation and all archaeological deposits and features encountered were recorded from the top of the trench except where they occurred at less than 1.20m below the top of the excavation.
- 6.3 The trench was excavated with a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist.
- 6.4 All deposits were recorded on proforma context sheets. Trench plans and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:50 and 1:10 respectively. The trench was located using scaled engineering plans showing site outline and proposed footings
- 6.5 A photographic record was also kept of all the trench.
- 6.6 Ground level at the site, which is flat, was recorded at c 2.72m OD. This level was used to calculate the heights in this report.
- 6.7 The trenches were set out by the groundwork contractor prior to the commencement of the watching brief. For the purpose of archaeological recording the location data provided by the developer was used to locate the trenches.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: Natural (Figure 4)

7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered during the watching brief was a layer of naturally deposited firm light yellowish brown sandy clay, [61], extending across the entire trench and beyond. As the deposit was encountered near the base of the excavation it was not fully excavated, so its full vertical extent was not ascertained although it was seen to exceed 0.22m. The top of the layer was first encountered at a height of 0.81m OD. Thin horizontal bands of iron staining occurred moderately frequent throughout the deposit suggesting that the layer had been submerged for prolonged periods of time during its formation.

7.1.2 This was sealed by a 0.12m thick layer of poorly sorted granule to pebble sized sub-rounded gravel in a reddish brown coarse sand matrix [60]. Like layer [61] below it extended across the entire trench. The surface of the gravel maintained a relatively steady gradient and was measured at 0.93m OD in the eastern part of the trench and 0.90m OD in the western part. It did appear slightly lower towards the centre of the site where it dipped down to 0.75m OD to form what appeared to be a roughly north-south aligned channel. At this point the thickness of the layer also increased slightly to 0.20m.

7.1.3 Sealing [60] was a 0.25m thick layer of firm sandy clay, [59], first seen at a height of 1.18m OD. This layer was light yellowish brown in colour and with occasional thin horizontal lenses of iron stained sand generally not exceeding 4mm in thickness. This was in turn overlain by another layer of poorly sorted gravel, [54]. Like gravel deposit [60] this comprised granule to pebble sized sub-rounded stones contained in a reddish brown sand matrix. The top of the layer was relatively level at 1.43m OD and unlike the lower gravel deposit it did not dip down near the centre of the site, but maintained its gradient throughout.

7.1.4 This was sealed by a moderately compact 0.19m thick deposit of light yellowish brown to light reddish yellow coarse grained poorly sorted sandy gravel, [51]. While some granule sized stones were seen the gravel component was dominated by sub-rounded pebble sized stones. Occasional thin horizontal lenses of slightly silty fine pale yellow sand occurred throughout the deposit. At its highest point in the north part of the trench the layer occurred at 1.68m OD, though it did slope down towards the south where the top of the deposit was seen at 1.60m OD.

7.2 Phase 2: Subsoil

7.2.1 In the northeast portion of the site a small patch of subsoil, [65], comprising mid brownish grey moderately gravelly silty sand overlaid the natural sandy gravel, [51]. It extended both north and south beyond the confines of the trench and had been truncated to the east and west by pits [71] and [67] respectively. As seen the deposit measured 1.30m east-west by 0.90m north-south by 0.30m thick. It was first observed at 1.90m OD. This layer yielded no datable finds.

7.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval (Figure 3)

- 7.3.1 This phase of activity was represented by six quarry pits [53], [56], [58], [67], [69] and [71], and a brick lined well [63]. Two of the pits recorded during the watching brief represented the continuation of pits exposed during the evaluation.
- 7.3.2 In the western portion of the site pit [58] had been cut into the natural gravel, [51]. Although only partially exposed, it appeared that this pit was significantly smaller than any of the other pits recorded during the watching brief. It appeared to be oval in shape and aligned roughly north-south. The exposed part of the pit measured 1.20m east-west by 1.30m north-south by 0.50m deep and was first seen at a height of 2.20m OD. All of the exposed sides were moderately steep with a sharp break of slope at the top and at the base gradual transitioned into a slightly concave base. The pit was filled with loosely compacted mid-greyish brown to dark greyish brown silty sand, [57], with frequent charcoal flecking and moderately frequent rounded pebbles. Excavation of the fill yielded only one sherd of pottery which could only be dated to the post-medieval period. To the northeast it had been truncated by another pit, [56].
- 7.3.3 Pit [56] extended both south and west beyond the trench and had been truncated to the north by a modern drain. As such only a small portion of the pit was seen. As exposed the pit measured 5.46m east-west by 2.40m north-south by 0.72m deep and it was first seen at a height of 2.20m OD. It was filled by [55], a loosely compacted deposit comprising light grey to brownish grey silty sand with moderately frequent flecks of ceramic building material and frequent rounded pebbles.
- 7.3.4 Another three pits were located in the north-eastern portion of the site. Two of these, [67] and [69], appear to be the northward continuation of pits [7] and [5], respectively, recorded during the earlier evaluation.
- 7.3.5 Pit [67] extended both north and west beyond the limits of the trench (Plate 3) and to the south it had been truncated by the basement of The Claremont public house. Judging from the one unaltered side that was observed within the excavation the pit had moderately steep and slightly concave sides with a sharp break of slope at the top and a more gradual break towards the base. The base of the feature was relatively flat. As seen the feature measured 2.45m east-west by 2.75m north-south by 0.70m deep and was first seen at a height of 1.95m OD. It was filled by [66] comprising friable light brownish grey sandy silt with occasional coal flecks and small fragments as well as moderately frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles.
- 7.3.6 Approximately 1.30m east of pit [67] was another large, albeit relatively shallow pit, [71]. It extended north and south beyond the confines of the trench and had to the east been truncated by pit [69]. As seen pit [71] measured 2.20m east-west by 0.90m north-south by 0.42m deep and was first observed at 1.95m OD. The only visible side was steep, near vertical, with a sharp break of slope at both the top and base and the base slightly concave. Filling the pit was a deposit of loosely compacted slightly silty sand, [70], of a dark greyish brown colour and containing frequent charcoal flecks.

7.3.7 Pit [69] truncated the eastern part of pit [71] and extended north and east beyond the confines of the trench. To the south it had been truncated by the basement for The Claremont public house. Within the trench only the western side survived unaltered. This sloped moderately steeply towards a relatively flat base. At both the top and base the break of slope was sharp and easily definable. As seen the pit measured 5.50m east-west by 3.30m north-south by 0.65m deep and was first observed at a height of 1.95m OD. It was filled by deposit [68], which comprised mid brown to mid greyish brown moderately compact sandy silt with moderate flecks of ceramic building material and occasional charcoal flecks. A single pocket, presumably a tip line, of light yellowish grey sandy gravel approximately 0.20m in thickness was also seen within the western part of the pit.

7.4 Phase 4: 19th Century (Figures 3 and 4)

7.4.1 Towards the western extreme of the site quarry pit [53] truncated the top of the natural sequence. Although not fully exposed the size of the pit could be estimated to be at least 3.20m east-west by 2.00m north-south by 0.80m deep. The west side was almost vertical while the east side sloped gently towards the concave base of the pit. On the west side the break of slope was sharp at the base due to the vertical nature of the side whereas on the east side the transition between side and base was more gradual – at the top the break of slope was sharp on both the exposed sides. Unfortunately the exact shape of the pit could not be ascertained due to the nature of the trench and the fact that the southern portion of the feature had been completely truncated by the installation of a modern drain. Filling the pit was a deposit of loosely compacted light grey to brownish grey silty sand, [52], containing moderately frequent ceramic building material flecks and frequent rounded pebbles. Excavation of the deposit yielded sherds of pottery and fragments of clay tobacco pipe dating the deposit to the 19th century.

7.4.2 Towards the south-central part of the site was a brick lined well or soak-away, [63], which had been cut into the natural sandy gravel, [51]. Only about half of the feature was exposed, but based on the visible part it could be estimated that it must have an external diameter of at least 1.50m – it was first seen at 2.10m OD. In this part of the site the trench was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.70m OD; the brick lined feature extended below this point.

7.4.3 The brick lining of the well had been constructed by laying unfrogged red- to orange fabric bricks in regular courses one header wide; these were laid directly against the vertical sides of the well's construction cut, [64]. There was little variation in the size of the bricks used and on average these measured 220mm x 92mm x 66mm. The bricks had been laid tight against the construction cut of the well and without the use of a bonding agent. The fabric of the brick suggests a date range from 1650 to 1850. However, the brick contained residual mortar suggesting that its use in the well lining was secondary as no mortar had been used in the construction of the well. A more likely construction date for the feature is the early 19th century. This would also correspond well with the cartographic evidence, which shows the beginning development of the area in the 1820s.

- 7.4.4 Backfilling the well was a friable deposit of dark grey to dark greyish brown sandy silt, [62] with moderate ceramic building material flecks and occasional slate fragments. Excavation of the deposit yielded pottery and glass dating to the mid- to late 19th century.
- 7.4.5 Both the well and the pits were sealed by a layer of reworked plough soil, [50], comprising soft dark brown sandy silt with moderately frequent small fragments of coal, sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks and occasional flecks of ceramic building material. Excavation of this layer did not yield any datable finds, but it must post-date the 19th century pit and backfilling of the well. This was sealed by the bedding sand for the various current concrete and concrete slab surfaces.

8 ORIGINAL AND UPDATED RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

8.1 Original Research Objectives

8.1.1 The written scheme of investigation for the archaeological (Mayo 2012) outlined a number of research objectives for the watching brief:

- To determine the palaeotopography

8.1.2 The watching brief recorded a number of stratified natural sand and gravel deposits. Little variance was seen in the levels of the uppermost of these deposits across the trench suggesting that the site was located on a relatively flat part of Bermondsey Eyot. The level at which the natural gravel was first encountered (c. 1.60-1.68m OD) was consistent with the height of the gravel seen on other sites in the immediate vicinity (c. 1.67m OD). However, these are slightly elevated compared with the height of the gravel (c. 1.20m OD) in the wider Bermondsey area.

- To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity.

8.1.3 No evidence of prehistoric activity was found during the watching brief.

- To determine the presence or absence of Roman activity.

8.1.4 The watching brief did not encounter evidence for Roman activity.

- To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.

8.1.5 While a single residual sherd of Saxon pottery dated 400-750 was recovered during the archaeological evaluation in the northeast corner of the site (Hawkins 2012) no evidence for Saxon or medieval activity was found during the watching brief.

- To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity.

8.1.6 The earliest evidence for human activity on the site was seen in form of two quarry pits first recorded during an archaeological evaluation in the northeast corner of the site (Hawkins 2012). Further excavation of the northern part of these occurred during the watching brief discussed in this report. While excavation of these yielded no datable finds, artefactual evidence recovered during the evaluation had revealed the pits to have been backfilled during the 17th century.

8.1.7 One of the quarry pits recorded in the western part of the site yielded 19th century pottery showing that gravel and/or sand extraction also occurred during this time. An additional three quarry pits were recorded in the northeast and western portions of the site. These did not yield any datable material. However, as all the pits recorded appeared very similar in

every detail it is perhaps likely that a date range between the 17th and 19th century can be assumed for the undated pits.

8.1.8 Cartographic evidence shows that the site was located within an area of cultivated fields until the 19th century. By the 1820 the development, which had been hitherto been centred on the junction of what is now Grange Road and Dunton Road, had reached the northern boundary of the site. A cartographic survey of London by John and Christopher Greenwood between 1824 and 1826 show a building immediately north of the site. It is probable that the well recorded during the watching brief was associated with this building. Alternatively it may have been associated with The Claremont public house built on the site by 1868-76. The former is perhaps more likely as the well appears to have been backfilled by the late 19th century; perhaps in preparation for the construction of the public house.

- To determine the extent of the pits seen during the evaluation. Can these be confirmed as quarry features?

8.1.9 The features revealed during the evaluation were recorded again, with varying dimensions. That their fills did not yield substantial quantities of detritus leads to the conclusion that they were not rubbish pits. Their excavation into the gravels below coupled with their large size would reinforce the interpretation from the evaluation, that these features were excavated for gravel extraction.

- To ascertain whether any features related to the potential 17th or pre 17th century activity are present, and their nature / function.

8.1.10 No evidence of activity predating the 17th century was found during the watching brief. The earliest archaeological deposit (other than the natural drift geology) was a layer of subsoil which sealed the gravels and was undated. It is likely that this layer represents a naturally accumulated horizon.

- To establish the extent of past post depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

8.1.11 The easternmost part of the site had been deeply truncated by the localised basement of The Claremont public house, which had been built by 1868-76. A number of drains associated with the later life of the public house dissected the area to the west of the building causing localised truncation to the underlying archaeology.

- To report on the findings of the work and, if appropriate, propose an appropriate level of analysis and publication.

8.2 Updated Research Objectives

- 8.2.1 In light of the findings of the work, which are considered to be of local interest only, no further work at either field or post-excavation level is considered appropriate for this development. However, given the surprisingly high level of the survival of natural ground at the site, any further development in the immediate vicinity of the site should include mechanisms to further record this high gravel island, and any archaeology which may be associated with it.
- 8.2.2 Further work in the area, therefore, should attempt to define the high gravel island and also place the limited findings from this work, the post-medieval quarry pits, in context with any contemporary archaeological activity.

9 CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 The contents of the archive (from both the evaluation and watching brief) are:

The paper archive:

	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Drawings</i>	<i>Sheets</i>
Context Sheets	-	-	30
Plans	1:20	1	2
	1:50	1	10
Sections	1:10	2	3

The photographic archive:

Digital Format	34 from evaluation
	8 from WB

The finds archive:

All finds (pottery, CTP, CBM, glass, animal bone)	1 box in total
---	----------------

('Box' refers to a standard archive box = 0.46m x 0.19m x 0.13m)

10 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The archaeological evaluation trench excavated in the northeast portion of the site in August 2012 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd uncovered evidence of sand and gravel quarrying in the form of two post-medieval quarry pits. During the current watching brief the northern continuation of these two pits was recorded. In addition to this four more quarry pits were recorded; three near the western extreme of the site and one in the northeast portion of the site.
- 10.2 A single brick lined well was also recorded in the south central portion of the site. It is probable that this served The Claremont public house, which until recently occupied most of the site. Alternatively it may have been associated with the house shown near the northern boundary of the site on Greenwood's map dated 1824-26. On earlier maps no buildings are shown within the vicinity of the site, so it is unlikely that the well predates the 1820s.
- 10.3 In light of the findings of the work, which are considered to be of local interest only, no further work at either field or post-excavation level is considered appropriate for this development. However, the findings of the archaeological work should be published as a summary in the annual Fieldwork Round-Up of the London Archaeologist.
- 10.4 Following approval of this report By Dr Constable of the London Borough of Southwark, the entire site archive will be deposited by PCA with the LAARC under site code DNN12.

11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Urbanicity (Penton Place Project) LLP for commissioning the work, and LR Lima Construction for facilitating it on-site. We also thank Christopher Constable of Southwark Council for monitoring the project.
- 11.2 The author would like to thank Jennifer Simonson for the CAD work and Chris Mayo for project management and editing this report. Thanks also to Chris Jarrett, Kevin Reilly and Kevin Hayward for assessing the finds.

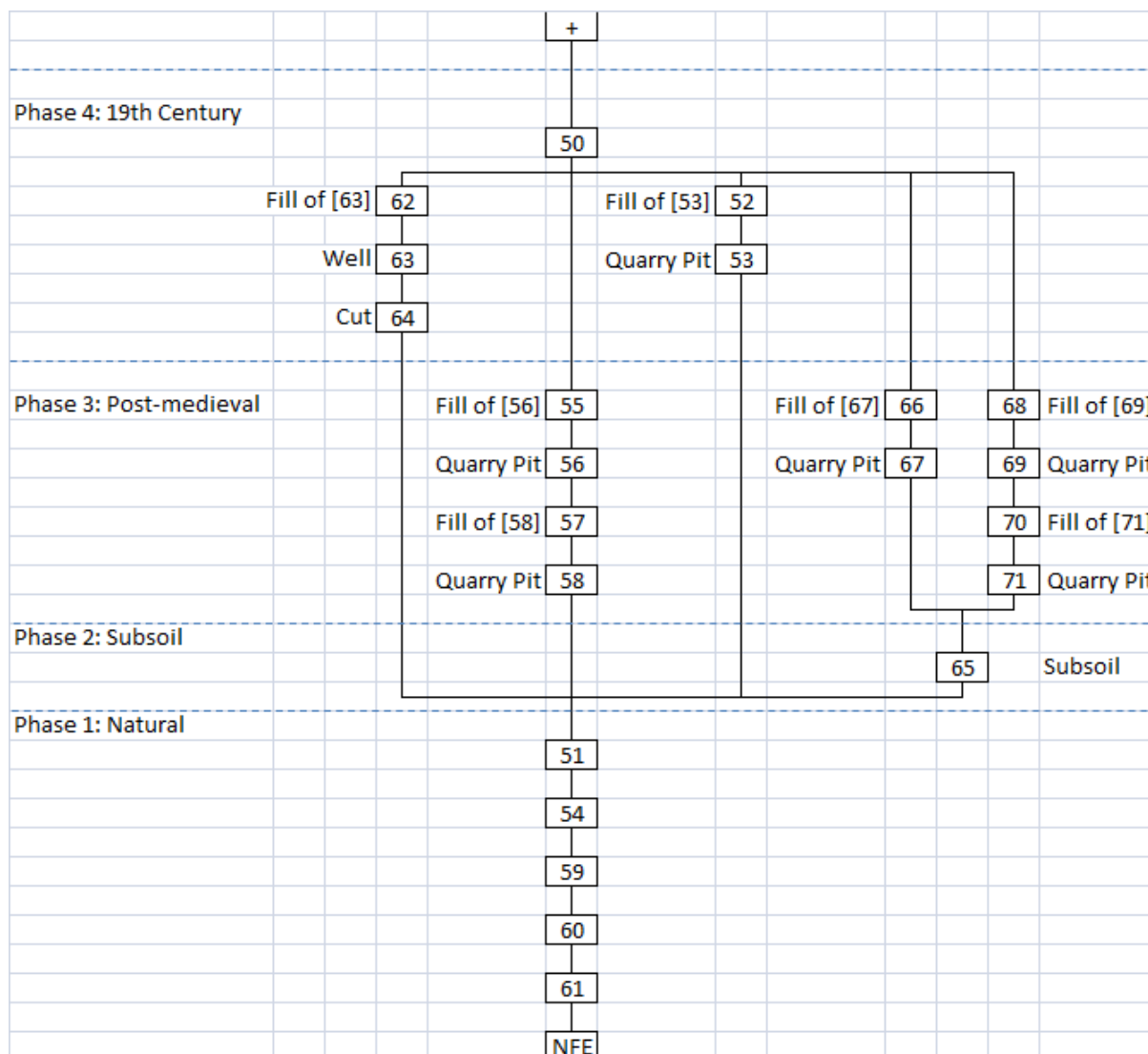
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13 APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER

Site Code	Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Date	Phase
DNN 12	50	WB TR1		50	Layer	Reworked plough soil	Post med	4
DNN 12	51	WB TR1		50	Layer	Natural sandy gravel	Natural	1
DNN 12	52	WB TR1			Fill	Fill of [53]	Late 19th	4
DNN 12	53	WB TR1	53		Cut	Quarry pit	Post med	4
DNN 12	54	WB TR1		50	Layer	Natural gravel	Natural	1
DNN 12	55	WB TR1			Fill	Fill of [56]	Post med	3
DNN 12	56	WB TR1	56		Cut	Quarry pit	Post med	3
DNN 12	57	WB TR1			Fill	Fill of [58]	1480-1900	3
DNN 12	58	WB TR1	58		Cut	Quarry pit	Post med	3
DNN 12	59	WB TR1		50	Layer	Natural sandy clay	Natural	1
DNN 12	60	WB TR1		50	Layer	Natural gravel	Natural	1
DNN 12	61	WB TR1		50	Layer	Natural sandy clay	Natural	1
DNN 12	62	WB TR1	63		Fill	Fill of (63)	1837-97	4
DNN 12	63	WB TR1	63		Masonry	Brick lined well	1610-1800*	4
DNN 12	64	WB TR1	63		Cut	Construction cut for (63)	Post med	4
DNN 12	65	WB TR1			Layer	Subsoil	Post med	2
DNN 12	66	WB TR1			Fill	Fill of [67]	Post med	3
DNN 12	67	WB TR1	67		Cut	Quarry pit	Post med	3
DNN 12	68	WB TR1			Fill	Fill of [69]	Post med	3
DNN 12	69	WB TR1	69		Cut	Quarry pit	Post med	3
DNN 12	70	WB TR1			Fill	Fill of [71]	Post med	3
DNN 12	71	WB TR1	71		Cut	Quarry pit	Post med	3

14 APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



15 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-136822

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief at 30-32 Dunton Road, Bermondsey, London Borough of Southwark SE1 5TJ
Short description of the project	An Archaeological Watching Brief at 30-32 Dunton Road, Bermondsey, London Borough of Southwark SE1 5TJ consisted of monitoring the excavation of foundation trenches during the groundwork phase of the redevelopment of the site. This recorded natural sandy gravel (Kempton Park Gravel formation) into which was cut six post-medieval quarry pits, backfilled after the 17th century, as well as a brick-lined well of 19th century date. These were overlain by a reworked plough soil horizon which was sealed by modern horizons.
Project dates	Start: 24-10-2012 End: 01-11-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	DNN12 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	preconst1-132098 - OASIS form ID
Any associated project reference codes	12/AP/0152 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	WELL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK BERMONDSEY ROTHERHITHE AND SOUTHWARK 30-32 Dunton Road, Bermondsey
Postcode	SE1 5TJ
Study area	345.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3374 7879 51 0 51 29 30 N 000 04 24 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 1.60m Max: 1.68m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	City/Nat. Park/District/Borough archaeologist
Project design originator	Chris Mayo
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Paw Jorgensen
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Urbanicity (Penton Place Project) LLP

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Matrices","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	30-32 Dunton Road, Bermondsey, London SE1 5TJ: Assessment of an Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jorgensen, P.
Other bibliographic details	R11326
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	Unpublished A4 client report
Entered by	Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	14 November 2012

16 APPENDIX 4: SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Plate 1: Representative site section, view north, at north-westernmost corner of the site, boundary with 51 Setchell Road



Plate 2: Overview of site viewed northwest.



Plate 3: Section showing pit [67], viewed northeast.

17 APPENDIX 5: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Hayward, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Context	Fabric code	Description	No	Date	Suggested spot-date
2	2271 2276	Abraded (no glaze) medieval peg tile and early post medieval peg tile	3	1180-1900	1480-1700
57	3120	Stone Vessel basaltic material, could be an import	1	50-1600	50-1450
63	3065	Narrow locally produced red brick 215x99x63 Light grey soft mortar	1	1450-1800	1650-1850

Table 1: Spot Dates

- 17.1 This small assemblage consists of medieval and post medieval peg tile and a locally produced narrow red brick from [63], which could well be late 17th or more probably 18th century. The mortar recipe, a soft light grey lime clinker, recipe is typical of this period.
- 17.2 The CBM finds serve only to provide spot-dating for their contexts. They are not considered to be worthy of further analysis.

18 APPENDIX 6: POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

18.1 Introduction

18.1.1 A total of 21 sherds, representing 15 estimated number of vessels (ENV) and 727g of pottery were recovered from five contexts. Most sherds are in a good condition (unless otherwise stated) and so were deposited soon after breakage. The pottery dates to the Saxon and post-medieval periods. A catalogue of the pottery follows.

18.2 Catalogue of the pottery

18.2.1 Context [2], spot date: 1612-1800

- Chaff-tempered ware (CHAF), AD 400-750, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 34g, body sherd, thick walled, abraded.
- London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 62g, cauldron or tripod pipkin base with foot.
- London-area post-medieval slipped redware with clear (yellow) glaze (PMSRY), 1480-1650, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 18g, abraded base sherd.
- Surrey-Hampshire border redware (RBOR), 1550-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 23g, body sherd.
- Biscuit-fired tin-glazed ware (TGW BISC), 1570-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 35g, kiln furniture, 'T'- shaped end of a girder. Tin-glazed ware production started in Southwark in 1613 and this sherd gives a terminus post-quem date to the context.

18.2.2 Context [4], spot date: 1550-1700

- Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with green glaze (BORDG), 1550-1700, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 17g, flat rim of a bowl or dish,

18.2.3 Context [52], spot date: 1805-1900

- English stoneware (ENGS), , 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 237g, 19th-century cylindrical bottle base sherd with a Bourne Codnor Park semi circular stamp
- London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 44g, body sherd
- Plain refined white earthenware (REFW), 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 115g, nearly intact bear's grease type pot

18.2.4 Context [62], spot date: mid – late 19th century

- Bone-china (BONE), 1794-1900, 1 sherd , 1 ENV, 4g, plain body sherd.
- Transfer-printed refined whiteware (TPW), 1780-1900, 4 sherds, 1 ENV, 39g, oval dish with the willow pattern, base sherd with a 'U'-shaped stamp in the form of an illegible name around an anchor.
- Transfer-printed refined whiteware (TPW), 1780-1900, 4 sherds, 1 ENV, 63g, dinner plate with a complete profile, marked on the underside '[W]ARRANTED/[STAFFORDSHIRE/J. MEIR & SON'. the makers stamp dates to between c.1837-97.
- Transfer-printed refined whiteware (TPW), 1780-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 16g, soup plate rim with the Albion design.

- Transfer-printed refined whiteware (TPW), 1780-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 9g, soup plate rim with a floral/rose design.

18.2.5 Context [65], spot date: 1550-1900

- Surrey-Hampshire border redware (RBOR), 1550-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 11g, everted jar rim

18.3 Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

18.3.1 The pottery has very little significance at a local level. The presence of a Saxon sherd of chaff-tempered ware pottery is of interest as this period is poorly represented in Southwark; however the large sherd is abraded and may have been derived from an offsite source. The presence of the tin-glazed earthenware kiln furniture is also of note; however waste material from this industry was dumped widely across the Borough in the 17th and 18th centuries. The only potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was found in and there are no recommendations for further work.

19 APPENDIX 7: POST-MEDIEVAL CLAY TOBACCO PIPE ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

19.1 Introduction

19.1.1 A small assemblage of clay tobacco pipes was recovered from two contexts and consists of only three poorly dated stems. A catalogue of the material follows:

19.2 Catalogue of the clay tobacco pipes

19.2.1 Context [6]: suggested spot date: ?17th century

- One medium thickness stem with a wide bore, probably 17th century

19.2.2 Context [52]: suggested spot date: 19th century

- Two stems, one has a thick diameter and probably dates to the late 17th-early 18th century and the other is thin with a narrow bore diameter and probably dates to the 19th century.

19.3 Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

19.3.1 The clay tobacco pipes have no significance at a local level and very little potential beyond a broad dating tool. There are no recommendations for further work.

20 APPENDIX 8: POST-MEDIEVAL GLASS ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

20.1 Introduction

20.1.1 A small assemblage of glass was recovered from the site consisting of two vessels recovered from one context. A catalogue of the glass follows:

20.2 Catalogue of the glass

20.2.1 Context [62]: date: mid-late 19th century

- One cylindrical bottle present with a recessed base in aquamarine soda glass. The vessel was made in a two part mould and dates to after c.1827.
- One moulded flat base sherd of a vessel in pale green soda glass. The surviving short wall has embossed the number '3' on its side with a cordon above it. The vessel is dated to the mid to late 19th century

20.3 Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

20.3.1 The glass assemblage has no significance at a local level and beyond its ability to date the contexts it was recovered from, so it has very little potential. There are no recommendations for further work.

21 APPENDIX 9: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Rielly, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

21.1 Description of the bones

21.1.1 Excavations at this site, consisting of an evaluation and a watching brief, recovered a series of post-medieval quarry pits and a brick-lined well. Animal bone recovery was limited to the initial incursion, essentially from the tertiary fill [2] of quarry pit [5], this fill dated between 1580 and 1650. The assemblage consists of 2 cattle bones, a right mandible displaying most of the cheek tooth row from an adult individual (probably in excess of 5 years, based on age criteria after Maltby 1981, 182); and a skull fragment - the dorsal/posterior part of the right orbit which may also represent an adult animal.

21.2 Conclusion and recommendations for further work

21.2.1 There are clearly too few animal bones to warrant any further comment.

21.3 References

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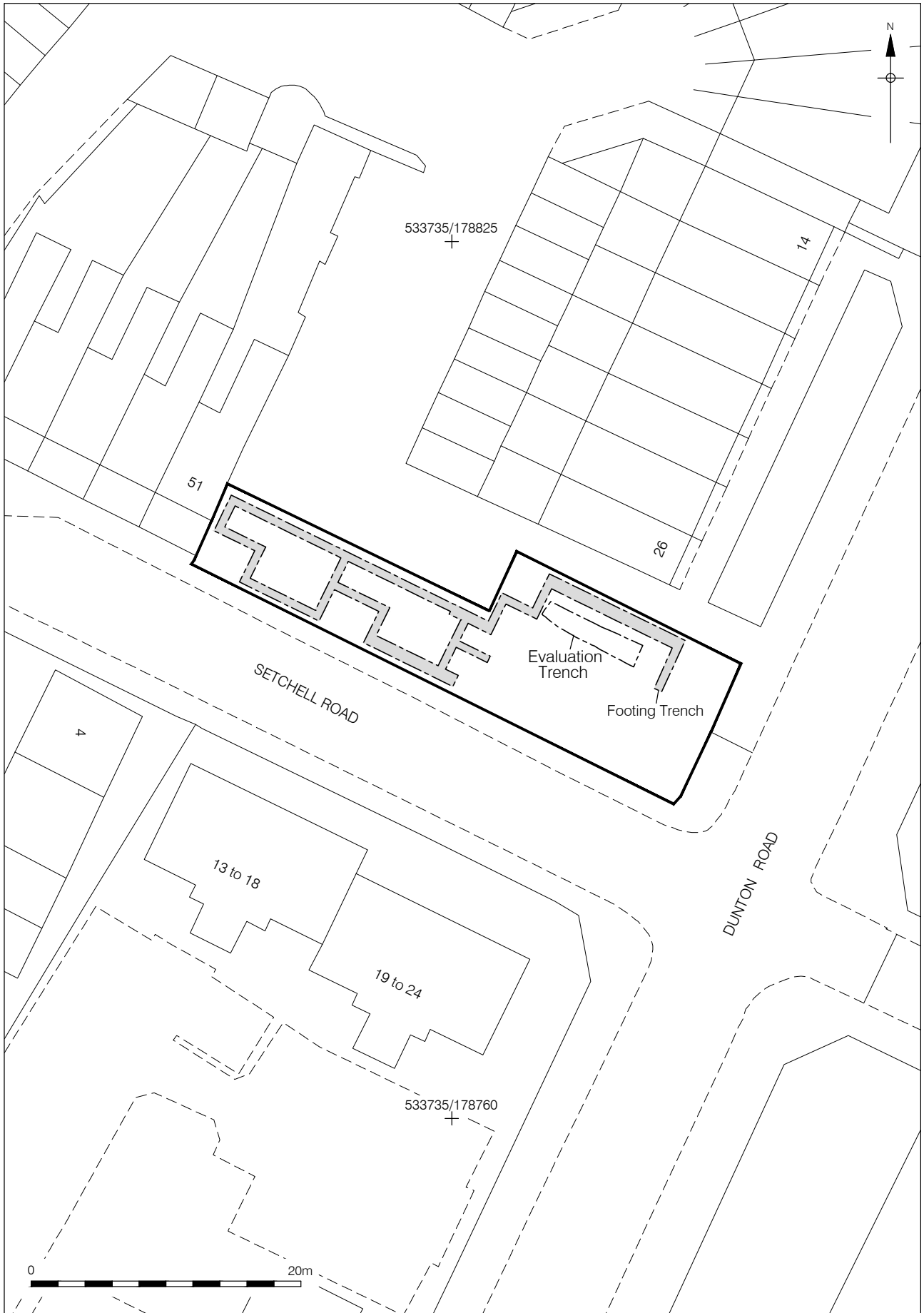


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Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:400 at A4

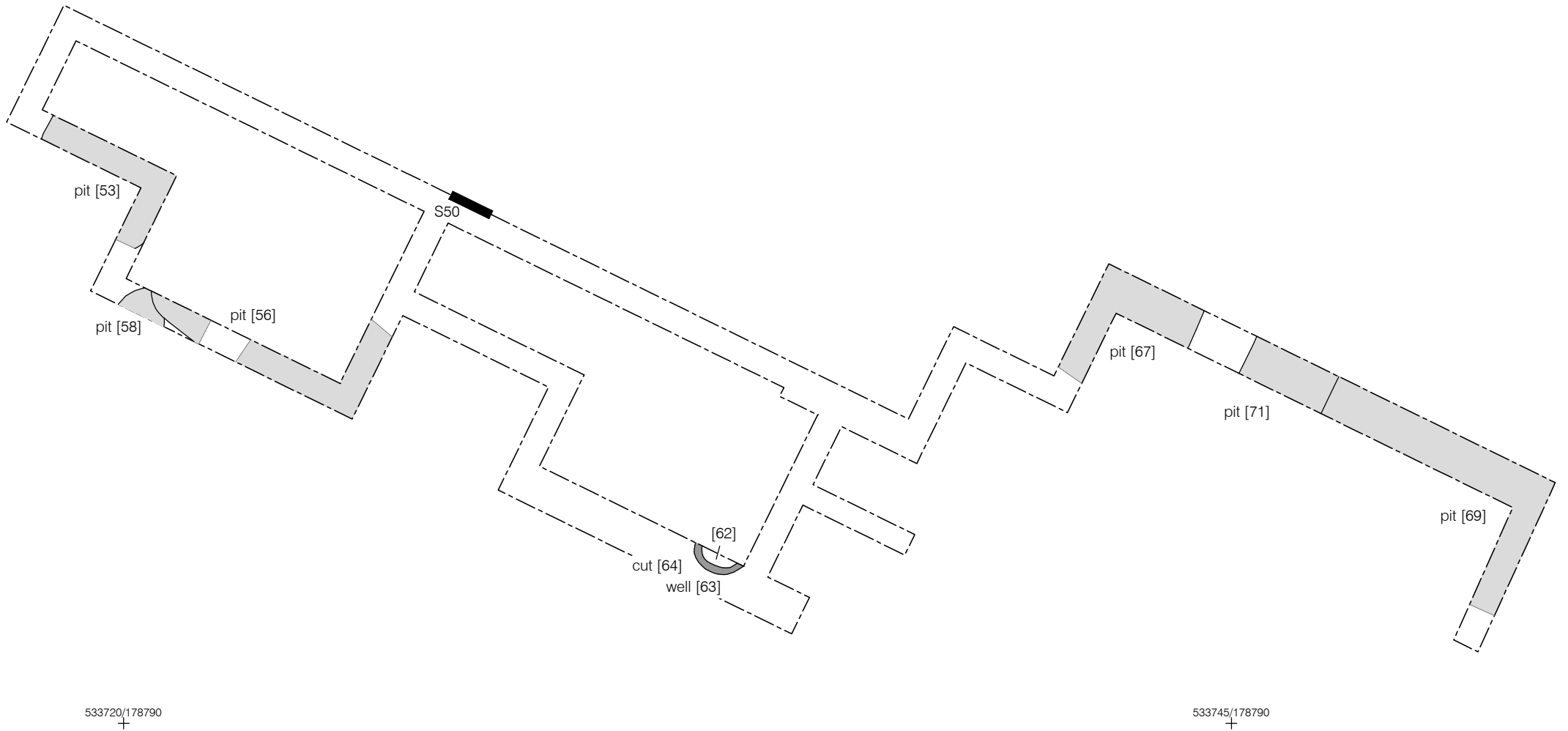
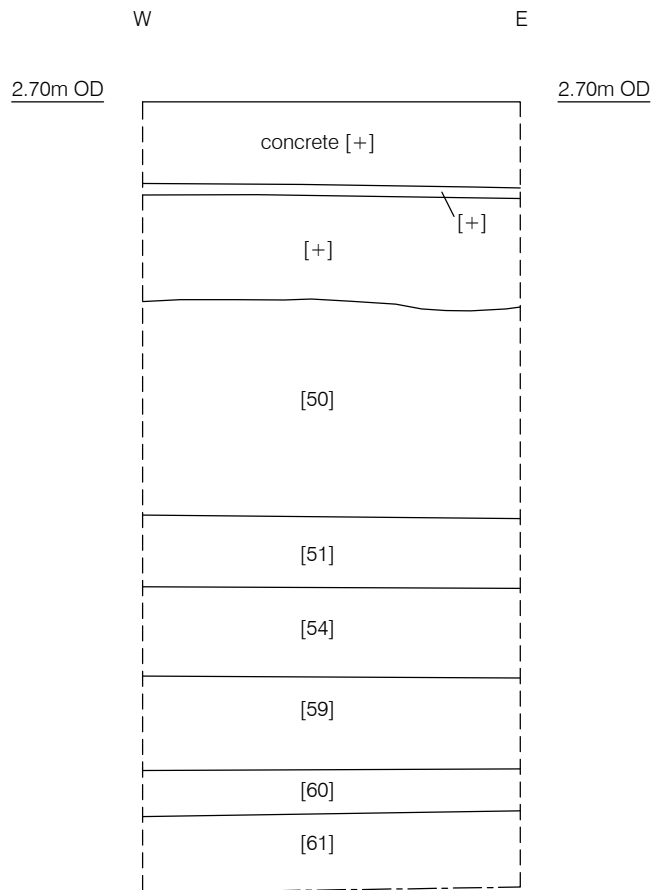


Figure 3
Plan of features
1:125 at A4



Section 50
Footing Trench
South Facing



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Figure 4
Section 50
1:20 at A4

PCA

PCA SOUTH

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