202-204 LONG LANE,
SOUTHWARK,
LONDON BOROUGH OF
SOUTHWARK



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



March 2013



**REPORT: R11398** 

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

## **DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

## Site Name

## 202-204 Long Lane, Southwark London Borough of Southwark, SE1 4QB

## Type of project

## Archaeological Evaluation

## **Quality Control**

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Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd Unit 54 Brockley Cross Business Centre 96 Endwell Road London SE4 2PD An Archaeological Evaluation at 202-204 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 4QB

Site Code: LON13

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3301 7649

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**Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, March 2013** 

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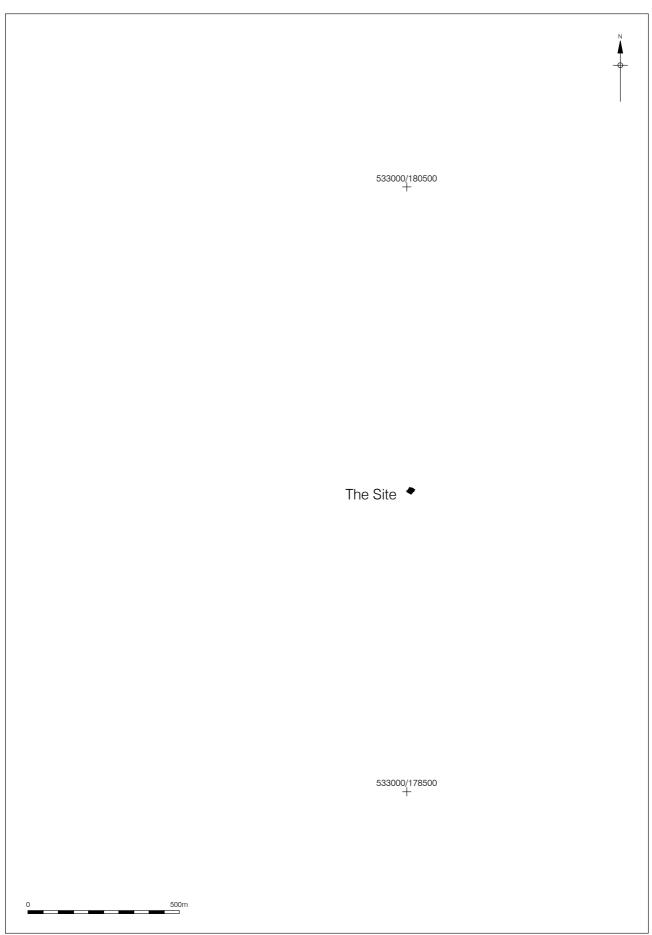
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#### 1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

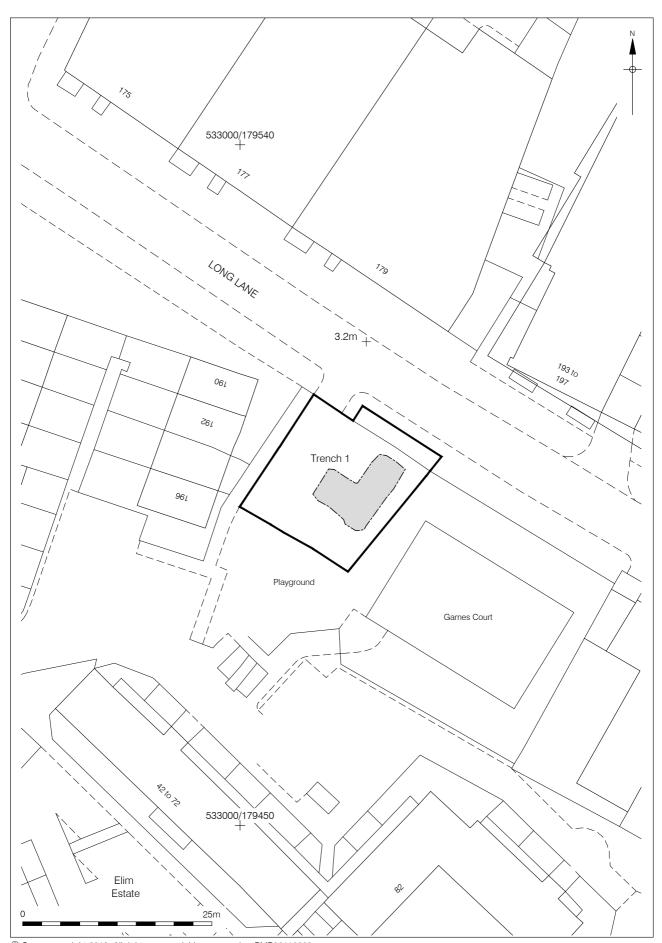
- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of archaeological investigations undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on behalf of GC Bankside LLP at 202-204 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark. SE1 4QB (Figure 1). The archaeological investigations comprised an evaluation conducted between the 12th and 15th March 2013.
- 1.2 The archaeological evaluation of the site comprised of one inverted L-shaped trench measuring 10.50m N-S by 4.25m E-W with an extension towards the south-west measuring 4.50m N-S by 4.00m E-W.
- 1.3 The archaeological evaluation demonstrated that naturally deposited sands and gravels are present on site at a height of 0.63m AOD, however the natural deposits had suffered significant truncation and the heights are not considered reflective of the natural horizon.
- No evidence of prehistoric activity was recorded during the archaeological evaluation, however a large cut feature containing Roman pottery was recorded in the western part of Trench 1. In addition, a pit containing 13th/14th century pottery was recorded in the western part of the trench, whilst two pits containing late medieval/early post-medieval pottery were recorded at the trenches northern extent. In addition, a large post-medieval ditch or quarry pit which contained a number of fills, the latest of which produced pottery dated to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, was recorded in the eastern part of the trench.
- 1.5 The remainder of the deposits encountered during the evaluation comprised an isolated area of 19<sup>th</sup> century truncation along the south-west trench edge, 20<sup>th</sup> century made ground deposits and 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century concrete surfaces. Whilst the intrusive activity has had some impact on the underlying archaeological horizons, post-depositional disturbance can be largely considered as minimal.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 202-204 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited between the 12th and 15th of March 2013 (Figure 1). The site is located at National Grid Reference TQ 3301 7949.
- 2.2 The site is a sub-rectangular shaped plot, covering approximately 300m². The site is bound to the north by Long Lane, to the east by a games court, to the south by a playground and blocks of flats and to the west by blocks of flats. A planning application has been made to the London Borough of Southwark for the construction of a block of flats incorporating a basement. The LB Southwark advised that an archaeological evaluation is required so as to inform the determination of the planning application.
- 2.3 The archaeological evaluation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited under the supervision of Iain Bright and the project management of Peter Moore. The report was written by Joanna Taylor and Iain Bright. The archaeological work was commissioned by GC Bankside LLP and the project was monitored by Dr Christopher Constable on behalf of the London Borough of Southwark.
- 2.4 The site was given the Museum of London site code LON13. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).



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#### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 National Policy: National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.1.1 In March 2012 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued National Planning Policy Framework (superseding Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5): Planning for the Historic Environment) which provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of archaeological remains. The conservation of heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance is one of the Core Principles underlying the NPPF. In Section 12 "Conserving and enhancing the historic environment", page 30 paragraph 128 it states:

In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance NPPF by current Unitary Development Plan policy and by other material considerations. The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by the London Plan, published February 2004. It includes the following policy of relevance to archaeology within central London:

#### Policy 4B.15 Archaeology

4.2.1 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 UDPs for protecting scheduled ancient monuments and archaeological assets within their area.

#### 3.2 Archaeology in the London Borough of Southwark

- 3.2.1 This study aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Southwark, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians. The Southwark Plan (formerly the Borough's 'Unitary Development Plan' (UDP)), adopted July 28<sup>th</sup> 2007, contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.
- 3.2.2 The site is located within the Archaeological Priority Zone of 'Borough, Bermondsey and Rivers' as defined in the Southwark Plan. As such, the proposed development will be subject to the Council's Archaeology Policies outlined in the Plan:

#### **POLICY 3.19 – ARCHAEOLOGY**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AFFECTING SITES WITHIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES, AS IDENTIFIED IN APPENDIX 7, 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. PPG16\* requires the Council to include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.

- \* now replaced by PPS5
- 3.2.3 Although the study site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone, it does not lie within a Conservation Area as designated within the Southwark Plan, neither are there any Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) within the development site, though the SAM of Bermondsey Abbey lies a little more than 250m to the south-east.

#### 4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

#### 4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series Sheet 270 (South London) indicates that the site is underlain by a superficial deposit of alluvium, which overlies Pleistocene Kempton Park Gravels. The drift deposits are underlain by Eocene London Clay, which in turn is underlain at depth by deposits of the Lambeth Group.
- 4.1.2 The geological sequence has been confirmed by a 2007 borehole survey of the site (Ground Engineering 2007). This recorded made ground to a depth of 2m bgl with Kempton Park Gravel extending below this to a depth of 8.6m bgl. Below this was London Clay, with the surface of the Lambeth Group recorded at 17.9m bgl. However, the post-glacial sedimentary sequence is not as straightforward as the geological mapping and borehole surveys suggest. Holocene alluvium in the area was deposited by the River Thames and the River Neckinger (an associated braided channel) during episodic periods of transgression and regression. These episodes produced complexes of alluvial clays and silts which are interspersed with localised peat horizons (Allen et al. 2005, 74).

#### 4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 Previous archaeological interventions in the area have established that the palaeotopography of the Southwark and Bermondsey area comprises a number of sand and gravel islands eroded and dissected by braided channels and tributaries of the Thames. These water courses produced a landscape of low lying islands or eyots which were also separated by mudflats and marshes. Archaeological evidence recorded at 211 Long Lane, a short distance east of the study site, suggests that the study site lies on the north-western edge of the Bermondsey eyot which was separated from the northern Horsleydown eyot by the Neckinger River (Allen et al. 2005, 73-74).
- 4.2.2 The current ground level on site is located at approximately 3m AOD and gently rises towards the south. The site is located approximately 800m south of the River Thames, which drains towards the east.

#### 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following text has been extracted from the site specific Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment previously compiled for the site (Taylor 2013). Compilation of the text included an examination of all archaeological entries in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) within a 250m radius of the site, with reference to other archaeological, documentary, and cartographic sources.

#### 5.2 Prehistoric

- 5.2.1 Prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site has been largely determined by the natural development of the surrounding landscape during the Holocene and the location of the site near the margins of the Bermondsey Eyot. Although there is a growing body of evidence for prehistoric activity on the former Thames eyots in the Southwark area, there area only a handful of entries on the GLHER within 250m of the study site relating to a prehistoric presence here. An excavation at 180-196 Long Lane, little more than 25m north-west of the study site recovered three struck flints of variable date from Mesolithic to Late Bronze Age. A little further afield, an evaluation and excavation at 217-219 Long Lane, some 55m south-east of the study site found a number of struck and burnt flints, which provided limited evidence for Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic activity in the vicinity (Saxby 2003).
- 5.2.2 There have also been archaeological interventions nearby at 211 Long Lane, virtually opposite the study site. The only prehistoric feature was a pit of uncertain function that produced sherd of Iron Age pottery, though residual Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age material was also recovered (Allen *et al.* 2005, 74). More important however, was the sedimentary sequence recorded at the site, which demonstrated landscape development at the margins of Bermondsey Eyot and the Neckinger floodplain from the Neolithic to Romano-British periods and showed that the area became suitable for occupation during the Late Iron Age and early Romano-British periods. The interventions at 211 Long Lane recorded a sharp drop in the underlying surface from south to north at the edge of the eyot, the implication for the study site located a little further south being that it would have been located on the eyot proper but still close to a marginal position.
- 5.2.3 Whilst not providing any definitive dating evidence, an archaeological evaluation at 9 Leathermarket Street, a little more than 150m north-east of the study site uncovered two layers of peat at -0.25m AOD and +0.70m AOD respectively, the two being separated

by waterlain clays and silts. A possible south-west to north-east aligned channel was recorded within the lower peat deposit whilst a later east-west aligned channel was sealed by the upper peat deposit (Greenwood *et al.* 1995, 348).

#### 5.3 Roman

- 5.3.1 The evidence for Roman activity within the vicinity of the study site is a little more substantial than that for the prehistoric periods, though the main focus of activity at this time was further to the north-west in the Borough High Street area and close to a river crossing near London Bridge. The archaeological excavation at 180-196 Long Lane revealed three ditches of early Roman date; two aligned north to south and the third approximately perpendicular to these (Richardson 1981, 49). On the opposite (northern) side of Long Lane, excavations by the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee (SLAEC) in 1981 at 175-177 Long Lane found further evidence of Roman occupation. To the south-east, the interventions at 211 Long Lane revealed some evidence of low-key Romano-British agricultural activity, mostly focussed on the 1st 2nd centuries AD (McKinley 2006, 88-9). Further to the north, a significant quantity of 2nd 3rd-century Roman pottery associated with a partially waterlain, possible foreshore deposit, was recovered during the evaluation at 9 Leathermarket Street.
- 5.3.2 A little less than 200m north-west of the study site, an archaeological watching brief at 127 Long Lane recorded an east to west aligned channel sealed by alluvial clay deposits of probable Roman date (Pickard and Dobson 1998), whilst at Rephidim Street, some 230m south of the site excavations in 1977 revealed a ditch system, tidal creek and possible evidence of Roman land reclamation to the north of a Roman Watling Street (Richardson 1977, 39). There was also possible evidence of crop processing. Further afield significant archaeological finds have recently been uncovered at Bermondsey Square and at Tabard Square east and west of the subject site respectively.
- 5.3.3 In addition to the formal archaeological interventions within 250m of the study site a number of chance finds of Roman material have been made in the vicinity. During an excavation for an air raid shelter in 1939/40 a Roman inhumation burial was exposed at Tabard Gardens some 220m WSW of the site. A cremation urn with associated bones was also found in 1899 some distance north-west of the site, and chance finds have also been found closer to the site.

#### 5.4 Anglo-Saxon

5.4.1 Southwark is referred to in the Burgal Hidage of AD 914 as Suthringa geweorch which

translates as 'the defensive work of the men of Surrey', a fortified place. However no evidence has yet been found of these defences during archaeological investigations, indeed very few remains of Late Saxon date have been recorded in Southwark as a whole.

- 5.4.2 A Minster is recorded at Southwark in Doomsday Book of AD 1086 and this is likely to have had Late Saxon Origins. The exact location of the Minster has never been identified but it is widely thought to have been located in the area now occupied by Southwark Cathedral, some distance north-west of the study site. Documents of the 11<sup>th</sup> century also indicate that Southwark had its own mint at this time and that it was the focus of a significant population.
- 5.4.3 The only evidence for possible Late Saxon Activity within 250m of the study site has come from an evaluation at 241-253 Long Lane, some 220m to the south-east. One pit of Late Saxon or possibly early medieval date was identified along with evidence of further pitting (Haslam 2007).

#### 5.5 Medieval

- 5.5.1 The nucleus of Medieval Southwark developed around the market held on Borough High street and the southern bridgehead to the city of Londn, in much the same area as Roman occupation had been focussed. Further to the south-east, developments in the earlier post-conquest period were most likely associated with the establishment of Bermondsey Abbey in the later 11<sup>th</sup> century. The study site would have been located approximately midway between these two areas of potentially heightened activity.
- 5.5.2 Entries on the GLHER within 250m of the study site suggest an increase in activity in the area during the medieval period. This was probably associated with the establishment of an access route in the late 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century that is now marked by Long Lane. This was originally a causeway which crossed marshland linking Bermondsey Abbey to the south-east with the settlement at Borough to the north-west. At 180-196 Long Lane several pits interpreted as possible gravel quarries of medieval date were identified, whilst a short distance to the west, a watching brief at 174-178 Long Lane recorded early and later medieval pits along with post-medieval features (Valler 2005).
- 5.5.3 The interventions at 211 Long Lane showed that periodic flooding and alluviation in the early medieval period raised the ground level in the northern half of the site. Later medieval drainage ditches were established, draining to the north into the now less substantial Neckinger and the area appeared to have remained as low-key marginal agricultural land, though may now have been farmed by the occupants of Bermondsey

Abbey (McKinley 2006, 89). Late medieval ditches running parallel with Long Lane were also identified.

- 5.5.4 At 217-219 Long Lane, medieval activity was represented by a number of pits and a ditch dating to the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. These have been interpreted as evidence of a small rural settlement adjacent to the original Long Lane. Less than 60m to the northeast, evaluation and excavation at 239 Long Lane revealed twelve medieval pits, two postholes and a number of stakeholes. It was suggested that the site may have served some type of industrial function (Bates 1996). The watching brief at 127 Long Lane recorded a medieval garden soil.
- 5.5.5 A watching brief at the corner of Bermondsey Street, a little more than 200m south-west of the study site revealed a structure of coursed masonry (which has been preserved). The structure was thought to be part of the medieval or post-medieval street frontage and the blocks are likely to have been re-used from the nearby Bermondsey Abbey (Price 1995).
- 5.5.6 At 6-8 Morocco Street, some 210m north-east of the study site a linear feature recorded during excavation is believed to have been of medieval date (Filer 1991,306), and finally a single chance find of medieval date recovered within 250m of the site was an inlaid floor tile found some distance to the north-west of the study site.

#### 5.6 Post-Medieval

- 5.6.1 Activity along Long Lane began to intensify during the post-medieval period, though the earliest maps showing the area in any detail suggest that initially this entailed little more than formal land division in the vicinity of the study site.
- 5.6.2 The earliest map to show the area of development in any detail is a 'Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster' dated 1720 (not illustrated and probably earlier than the date indicated). This shows the area around the site occupied by a number of regular, rectangular plots, either side of an unnamed road (Long Lane). The site was located on the north-eastern part of one of the rectangular plots, and although this and the other plots either side of the road are shown as undeveloped, intensive development is shown further to the north and north-west in the vicinity of the River Thames, London Bridge and Borough High Street. The area along what is now Bermondsey Street, to the east of the site is also shown as developed. Another map dated 1720 is 'A Plan of the City's of London, Westminster and Borough of Southwark', which does show some development on Long Lane. Similar rectangular land divisions are shown either side of the road (now named Long Alley) but there are structures on the street frontages of a number of properties along the north side of the road. The properties along the south side

however, including the study site, remain undeveloped.

- 5.6.3 John Rocque's 'Plan of the Cities of London and Westminster' dated 1747 names Long Lane and shows a number of the plots either side of the road as having been developed. The study site contains buildings fronting on to Long Lane, yard to the rear and passageway along the east side. A further range of building is on the south side of the yard, but the west is open. North of the road a number of buildings and tanning yards are shown. Buildings are also shown immediately to the south-east of the site, with trees in rectangular plots beyond, To the east of the site a lane called Wilds Rents is now shown extending south on a perpendicular alignment to Long Lane, there are further developments south of Long Lane including a Quakers' burial ground, and the Bermondsey Street area has been further developed. The burial ground is recorded on the GLHER, which notes that the land was purchased by the Society of Friends in 1697 for £120 and was closed to burial in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. A separate Ebenezer burial ground was also established immediately adjacent to the Quakers' site. Part of the perimeter wall of the burial ground still survives and is now a listed structure.
- 5.6.4 Richard Horwood's Plans of London of 1799 1819 shows that the site had been redeveloped with four new structures covering much of the study site with the exception of the south-east corner. There has been further infilling south of the site, with structures along a number of roads, including Elim Street, which has been established between Wilds Rents (interestingly shown as Miles's Rents on this plan) and another parallel lane named Baal Zephon Street extending south of Long Lane, further to the west. Some open ground still remains to the south of the study site and to the south-east the separate burial ground adjacent to the Quakers' burial ground is shown. There have been a number of modifications in layout to some of the tanners yards north of Long Lane and to the north of these a glue factory is now shown. The tenter ground to the north-west is no longer named as such. Little change to the site and the surrounding areas is evident on Greenwood's Map of London dated 1824-6, though this is at a much smaller scale than the previous plan so that any subtle changes are not necessarily visible.
- 5.6.5 Stanford's Library Map of London and its Suburbs dated 1862 (not illustrated) shows a small access road along the north-west and south-west boundaries of the site. To the north of Long Lane a leather market is shown beyond the tanners yards and a larger tannery has appeared to the east. There has also been extensive development in the area around the site. This is one of the earliest maps of the area to show railway development; a railway line and a "Brighton and South Coast Railway Station" (now London Bridge Station) being shown some 600m north of the site.

- 5.6.6 The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1872 shows further buildings along the northern and southern boundaries of the site, with a small courtyard area in the centre and an access road along the western boundary. There is a cooperage adjacent to the eastern side of the site, though much of the area immediately surrounding the site has been infilled with terraced housing and associated roads. Approximately 100m southwest of the site an engineering works is shown and a large area north of Long Lane is occupied by a curriery, Beyond which are Bermondsey Leather Market and further currieries and tanneries. The burial ground east of the site is now shown as disused.
- 5.6.7 A number of the features shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map are listed on the GLHER as being of interest. A post-medieval house is recorded at 175 and 175A Long Lane, some 35m north-west of the study site and a small curriery is recorded on Weston Street, some 60m to the north. The latter site has been redeveloped but remains of the curriery may still be extant. Small tanneries are also recorded on Long Lane, a little more than 50m south-east of the site and a further 85m beyond this. Another post-medieval house is recorded at 225 Long Lane as are a house and shop at 227-229 Long Lane, all to the south-east of the study site.
- 5.6.8 A small tannery is recorded on Wild's Rents on a site that was later redeveloped as a metal printing works and another small tannery is recorded some 185m north-east of the study site in the Morocco Street area. The latter was partly redeveloped as warehousing. Nearby a small curriery was later redeveloped as a site works. Further developments in this area include a small tannery and a large curriery. To the north, a small warehouse is recorded on Leathermarket Street and although partly demolished, remains may be extant at 22 Leathermarket Street. A small timber yard is also recorded on Long Lane, which has since been redeveloped, along with two large tanneries, which were both completely redeveloped for housing. Whilst a large part of the area north of Long Lane was occupied by tanneries and other industries, the south side of the road around the study site appears to have remained an essentially residential area throughout much of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5.6.9 In addition to the now mostly demolished structures listed above and the listed wall of the former Quaker's burial ground, there are a number of other surviving buildings of 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century date within 250m of the study site that are now listed. These include an 18<sup>th</sup>-century red brick building with 20<sup>th</sup>-century additions at 142 Long Lane and Simon The Tanner public house, a three-storey brick-built building dating to 1829 at 231 Long Lane. A number of elements of Bermondsey Leather Market are also listed. These comprise Units 7 & 8 of the market, dated to 1833; a four-storey, late 19<sup>th</sup>-century Gothic Revival-style warehouse in Leathermarket Yard; a later 19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings in the

Leather Market and on Leathermarket Street.

- 5.6.10 The Goad Fire Insurance Plan of 1887 shows the site and surrounding properties in some detail. Four structures are shown along the Long lane frontage, with an access route to the west of these. Yards extend south of the buildings, beyond which is a rectangular structure that had been visible on earlier maps but is now shown as ruins. The small courtyard area south of the site is shown as Winter's Square and the cooperage to the east is named as "Miles Druce & Co. Metallic Cask Factory". Baal Zephon Street has now been renamed Weston Street.
- 5.6.11 The layout of the site still remains essentially unchanged on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1894-6. The engineering works to the south-west are no longer named and these appear to have been replaced by new, large structures. The site itself also remains unchanged on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1914, though the new development to the south-west is shown as a jam and confectionery works and the former burial ground to the east is also now shown as a recreation ground, the smaller adjacent burial ground having apparently been built over.
- 5.6.12 The 1938 Ordnance Survey Map whilst showing some changes north of Long Lane indicates that there has been major redevelopment on and around the study site. The buildings that were located on the site along with a number that fronted Elim Street to the south have been replaced with a large complex comprising a laundry development. Residential properties along Elim Street and Wild's Rents and Wilderness Street to the south have been replaced by the Elim Estate, which comprises a number of large, multistorey blocks.
- 5.6.13 The site shows little change on the 1951 Ordnance Survey Map, though a medical school is shown near the junction of Long Lane and Wild's Rents and a number of structures north of Long Lane are shown as ruins, presumably as a result of wartime bombing. Ordnance Survey Maps of 1958 1964 also show little change to the site itself, it still being part of the laundry complex. Buildings immediately east of the site however, appear to have been cleared and the building further to the east formerly called a medical school is now named as St Christopher House. The former tanneries north of Long Lane are mostly shown as works.
- 5.6.14 Ordnance Survey Maps of 1969 to 1984 show that during this period much of the laundry complex was demolished to make way for residential development. The study site itself however, is still occupied by the north-eastern part of the laundry building, which covers approximately two thirds of the site area and is shown clearly as Nos. 202 204 Long Lane.

- 5.6.15 The 1995 Ordnance Survey Map shows the site layout similar to that before, though it is now flanked by open ground to the east and south. There have also been some apparent modifications to the Elim Estate to the south. Between 1995 and the present day, areas east and south of the site became occupied by formal recreation areas.
- 5.6.16 In addition to the evidence gathered from cartographic and documentary sources, post-medieval remains have also been recorded during a number of archaeological interventions in the vicinity of the study site. At the nearby 211 Long Lane the medieval roadside ditches appeared to have been backfilled in the 16<sup>th</sup> century followed by intensive activity during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, dominated by the tanning industry, various elements of which were recorded during the excavation. During the later 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries there was extensive ground-raising and a shift northwards of the tanning industry (McKinley 2006, 90-3).
- 5.6.17 An archaeological evaluation at 193-197 Long Lane, a little more than 40m north-east of the study site revealed remains of 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings and associated features (Evans 2004). 16<sup>th</sup>- to 18<sup>th</sup>-century finds were also recovered, along with a single residual sherd of Roman pottery, and a peat deposit was also recorded. A number of early 19<sup>th</sup>-century, timber-lined tanning pits were recorded at 217-219 Long Lane and a number of post-medieval pits sealed by dumping deposits, along with two large drains or sewers were recorded at 239 Long Lane. The remains of two 18<sup>th</sup>-century cellars and a 19<sup>th</sup>-century wall were recorded during the excavation at 241-253 Long Lane, whilst the interventions at 9 Leathermarket Street revealed extensive evidence of 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>-century activity including a timber-lined channel, a large dump of pottery and kiln waste, and a timber-lined drain cut by a horncore and wattle-lined pit. The excavation at 6-8 Morocco Street recorded 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>-century building footings and floors and a timber-lined pit, and nearby at 5 Morocco Street 18<sup>th</sup>-century made ground and a 19<sup>th</sup>-century wall were recorded (Duckering 2005).
- 5.6.18 Further to the north-west of the study site, the watching brief at 127 Long Lane recorded 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century wall fragments along with a backfilled cellar. An archaeological evaluation was also undertaken at 169 Long Lane, some 120m north-west of the site, but this revealed that previous developments had removed any archaeological and/or palaeoenvironmental remains with the exception of a thin layer of grey clay sealing natural gravels (Brown 1995).
- 5.6.19 It is therefore clear from the cartographic, documentary and archaeological evidence that overall the area in the vicinity of the study site was heavily developed and redeveloped during the post-medieval period.

#### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The site constraints of deeper than expected deposits, live services and accumulated material meant that the archaeological evaluation of the site comprised of one inverted L-shaped trench measuring 10.50m N-S by 4.25m E-W with an extension towards the south-west measuring 4.50m N-S by 4.00m E-W. The overburden, comprising several slabs of concrete were broken out and mechanical excavation to the top of archaeological features was undertaken in spits using a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Thereafter all excavation was undertaken by hand.
- 6.2 All recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in London; that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLAS 1994). Individual descriptions of all archaeological and geological strata and features excavated and exposed were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on polyester based drawing film, the plans being at scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10 as applicable. The OD heights of all principle strata were calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.
- 6.3 A full photographic recorded was made during the evaluation comprising black and white film, colour slide and digital formats. A digital photographic archive was maintained during the course of the watching brief.
- 6.4 The completed archive produced during the evaluation, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC). The site was given the Museum of London site code LON13.

#### 7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

#### 7.1 Phase 1: Natural

7.1.1 Natural deposits in the form of Kempton Park Gravel were encountered at 0.63m AOD. They comprised of loose mid yellowish orange gravelly sand [4]. Where encountered they appeared at the base of a large post-medieval cut feature and as such horizontal truncation is likely.

#### 7.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric/Roman

- 7.2.1 Overlying the Kempton Park Gravels was a 0.50m thick layer of firm, mottled light reddish yellowish grey silty sand [12]. It contained occasional small sub-rounded pebbles and displayed evidence of rootlet activity. Observed within the south-west extension to Trench 1, it measured 1.90m N-S by 0.65m E-W. It occurred between 1.23m AOD and 1.13m AOD.
- 7.2.2 Although no cultural material was recovered from this layer it gave the appearance of redeposited sand and as such could represent a prehistoric or early Roman soil horizon. This interpretation is purely speculative however and based on solely on a limited portion of the layer as encountered during the evaluation.

#### 7.3 Phase 3: Roman

- 7.3.1 Truncating the layer of silty sand [12] was an apparently linear cut [14], orientated NE-SW, measuring 1.90m NE-SW by 1.30m NW-SE, although the full length and width was not ascertained due to it extending into the north, west and south LOE's of the trench. The sides varied from sharp to gradual, with a step perceivable within the section before continuing further to what appeared to be a concave base. The feature was cut from 1.30m AOD and measured approximately 0.80m in total depth.
- 7.3.2 This apparent linear feature contained a mixed fill comprising of a soft/friable mid greenish grey clayey sand [13] displaying lenses of reddish sand. It contained occasional sub-angular flint pebbles, occasional evidence of iron staining and 1 sherd of black burnished ware dated to 120-400 AD.
- 7.3.3 Due to the fact that what was encountered in the trench represents merely a small portion of the entire area of the feature, any discussion of its nature is purely speculative. However it is possible that is forms either a ditch, representing a Roman land boundary, or could relate to quarry activity pertaining to the same period. Stratigraphically however it is also possible that the sole sherd of pottery recovered from the fill was residual in nature and that the feature could date to the early medieval

period. If this is the case it should still be noted that this and the other residual Roman artefacts recovered from other features illustrate Roman activity at least in the vicinity of the site.

#### 7.4 Phase 4: Medieval (13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Century)

- 7.4.1 Observed cutting the gravel towards the south of the trench and at the base of a later feature, was a pit [10] measuring 1.22 N-S by 0.30m E-W. The feature is undoubtedly larger as it continues beyond the eastern and southern LOE's. It would have also have likely been of greater depth than the 0.30m recorded due to it being horizontally truncated by the later feature [11]. It appeared to be sub-circular/possibly linear in shape with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was recorded at 0.68m AOD.
- 7.4.2 The pit contained one fill which consisted of a firm dark greenish grey sandy silty clay [9], with cessy characteristics. Included within the fill were occasional flecks of charcoal, small sub-rounded flint pebbles, animal bone, 1 residual fragment of Roman *tegula* or flat tile and 1 sherd of Kingston Ware datable to 1240-1400 AD.
- 7.4.3 It appears that this feature represents a linear pit (possibly a cess pit) datable to the medieval period.

## 7.5 Phase 5: Medieval (14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Century)

- 7.5.1 During the late medieval period a layer of made ground was established which comprised of a soft mid brownish grey clayey sand [17]. The layer was observed in section only and measured 0.45m in thickness. It contained occasional sub-angular pebbles, fragments of bone, oyster shell, CBM, flecks of charcoal, 1 rim from a residual Roman whiteware (Verulaneum) mortaria and 1 sherd of cream ware dating the context to 1350-1500 AD.
- 7.5.2 The layer, recorded at 1.73m AOD, seals the fill of the earlier Roman feature and is truncated by a large post-medieval cut feature [11].

#### 7.6 Phase 6: Post-medieval (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Century)

- 7.6.1 Two intercutting pits [6] & [8] were observed towards the north of the trench, extending into the natural gravel. Originally cut from higher in the sequence, they have been subsequently truncated a later feature.
- 7.6.2 The first pit [8] was sub-circular/oval in shape with very steep, near vertical, sides and a concave base. It measured 1.66m N-S by 0.42m E-W by 0.78m deep and extended into the eastern LOE. It was recorded at 0.63m AOD and truncated at the north end by a

contemporary pit [6], and from above by a later post-medieval feature [11]. The fill consisted of a firm dark brownish grey (with orange/brown lenses) silty sandy clay [7], containing occasional charcoal flecks, small sub-rounded pebbles and 2 clay tobacco pipe stems datable to 1580-1740 AD.

7.6.3 Pit [6] was circular/sub-circular in plan with moderately steep, concave sides and a concave base. Extending into the northern LOE of the trench it measured 0.56m N-S by 0.42m E-W by 0.60m deep. Recorded at 0.63m OD it contained one fill which comprised a firm, dark brownish grey silty sandy clay [5]. This fill contained frequent charcoal flecks, occasional flecks of chalk, fragments of oyster shell, small sub-rounded pebbles, 2 clay tobacco pipe stems, and 2 sherds of pottery which combined date the context to 1580-1650 AD.

## 7.7 Phase 7: Post-medieval (17<sup>th</sup> Century)

- 7.7.1 Truncating all earlier layers and features (with the exception of the Roman linear), was a large cut feature [11] extending beyond the entire length of the trench, with a width of east least 3.50m at the top, extending into the eastern LOE.
- 7.7.2 Apparently linear in shape, orientated NE-SW with a slight curve evident towards the south, the sides were gradual tapering towards a concave base. The total depth of the feature was approximately 1.10m, cut from 1.73m OD. Two fills were evident within the feature, [2] & [3]. The primary fill consisted of a firm, dark brownish grey clayey sandy silt [3] containing occasional flecks of charcoal and chalk and small sub-rounded pebbles. No datable material was recovered from this context, which was 0.27m thick and recorded at 0.93m OD. The overlying fill was comprised of a stiff, dark greenish grey sandy silty clay [2] and contained occasional flecks of charcoal and chalk, small sub-rounded pebbles, 1 fragment of peg tile and 1 clay tobacco pipe bowl datable to 1680-1710 AD. This fill was 0.66m thick and observed at 1.53m OD.
- 7.7.3 The overlying made ground [1] appeared to extend into the top 0.20m of the feature suggesting that a shallow cut was still visible at ground level when this layer began to accumulate or was dumped. As it was not possible to ascertain the true shape of this feature in plan it could either be interpreted as a substantial 17<sup>th</sup> century ditch/boundary or, if revealed to be more circular in nature could represent post-medieval quarrying activity.

#### 7.8 Phase 8: Post-medieval (17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Century)

7.8.1 Sealing all earlier features and deposits was a 0.48m thick dump layer/made ground [1]. It consisted of a stiff dark brownish grey sandy silty clay containing frequent flecks of

coal, chalk and small sub-rounded pebbles. It also two sherds of pottery datable to 1640-1690.

7.8.2 This layer extended the full length and width of the trench and was recorded as occurring at 2.02m OD. It is plausible that this layer suffers from horizontal truncation from substantial 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century brick and concrete foundations.

## 7.9 Phase 9: Post-medieval (19<sup>th</sup> Century)

- 7.9.1 A portion of a sub-circular pit [16] was observed to the west of the trench. Due to substantial amounts of concrete intrusions within the locality of the feature it was only visible subsequent to machining down to the prehistoric/Roman horizon. The pit was located adjacent to concrete footings and a battered LOE and as such it was not possible to ascertain the level from which it was cut. However cultural material recovered from its fill enables us to confidently attribute it to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 7.9.2 The base of the feature was flat and what remained of the sides were gradual. Where observed in the trench it measured 1.30m N-S by 0.60m E-W with a depth of 0.30m although it was undoubtedly cut from higher in the sequence and as such would originally have been of substantially greater depth. The base was recorded at 0.58m AOD and it was observed truncating the fill of the Roman linear [14].
- 7.9.3 The pit was filled with a soft greyish, greenish black clayey silt [15] which contained frequent chalk and charcoal flecking, occasional CBM, clay tobacco pipe stems and pottery datable to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 7.10 Phase 10: Modern (20<sup>th</sup> Century)

7.10.1 Substantial brick and concrete footings/pad foundations and slabs [+] relating to 20<sup>th</sup> century building activity were observed across the entire area of the trench. It is important to note, however, that they did not greatly impinge on the earlier archaeological horizons and features, extending no deeper than the layer of 17<sup>th</sup> century made ground.



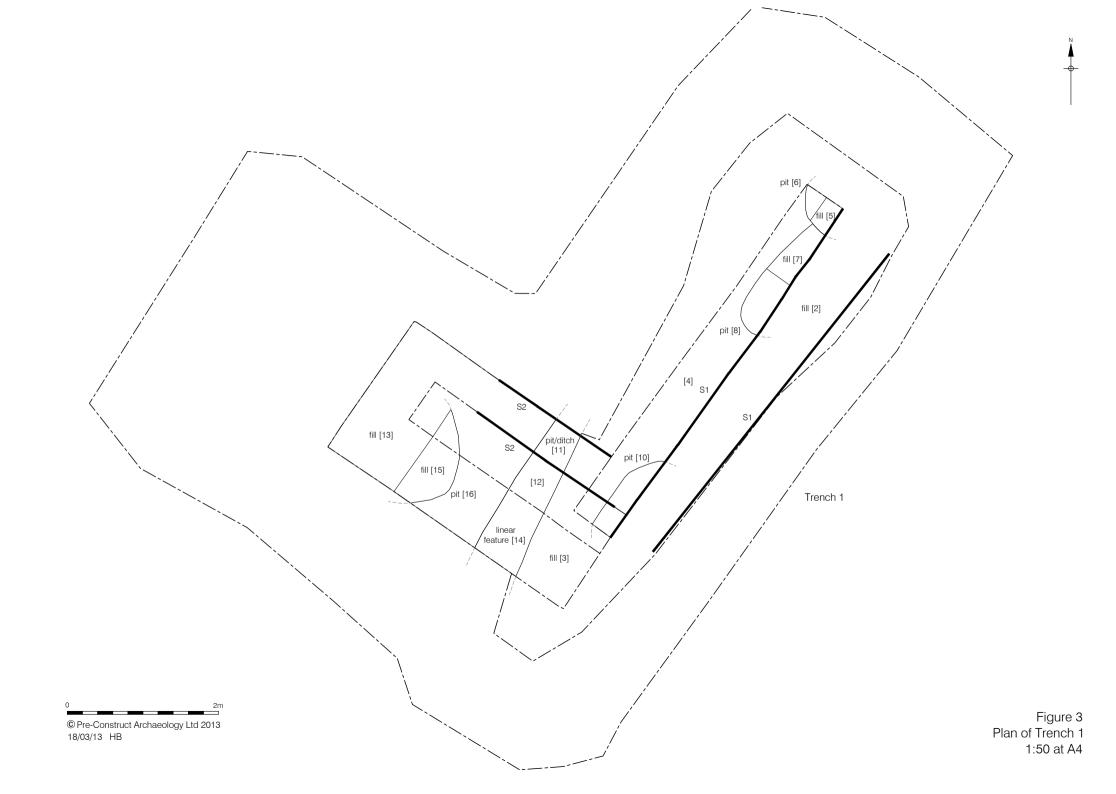
Plate 1: Pre-ex shot of Trench 1, looking north showing pits [6], [8] & [10] truncating natural gravel.

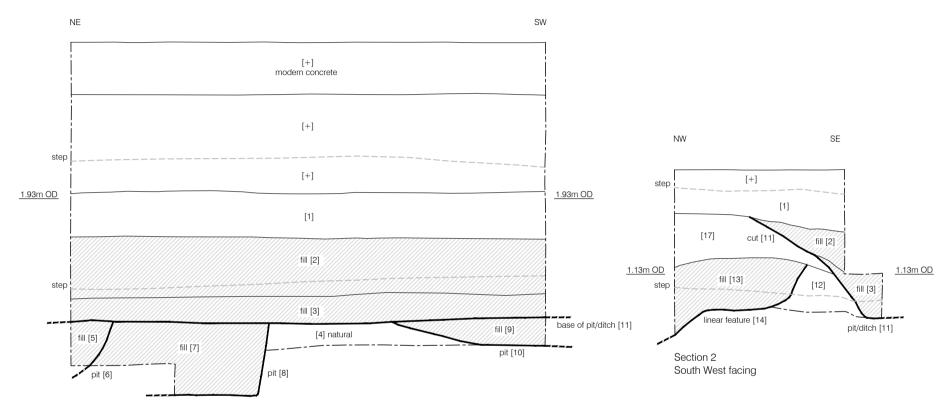


Plate 2: Pre-ex shot of western extension of Trench 1, looking north-east showing Section 2, the 19<sup>th</sup> century pit [16], Roman linear [14], silty sand horizon [12] and 17<sup>th</sup> century cut feature [11].



Plate 3: Post –ex shot, looking north, showing excavated Roman linear [14] within slot.





Section 1 North West facing



#### 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The research questions identified in the evaluation WSI (Moore 2013) were:
  - .1 To determine the palaeotopography.
  - .2 To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity.
  - .3 To determine the presence or absence of Roman activity.
  - .4 To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.
  - .5 To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity.
  - .6 To establish the extent of past post depositional impacts on the archaeological resource
- 8.2 The archaeological evaluation of the site demonstrated that naturally deposited sands and gravels are present on site at a height of 0.63m AOD. However the natural horizon had suffered significant truncation during later phases of activity and these Ordnance Datum heights cannot be considered reflective of the palaeotopography of the area.
- 8.3 No tangible evidence prehistoric activity was recorded during the archaeological evaluation of the site. However a layer of silty sand overlying the Kempton Park Gravels could feasibly stand as evidence of a prehistoric or early Roman soil horizon. However, further investigation would be necessary to verify this supposition.
- A large cut feature containing Roman pottery was located towards the south-west of Trench 1. The majority of the cut feature was located beyond the limits of excavation and as a consequence it is not known whether it forms part of a ditch or large quarry pit, however its existence aptly demonstrates the presence of Roman activity on site. In addition a residual fragment of Roman tegula was recovered from a medieval pit and the partial rim of a Roman whiteware mortaria was retrieved from a later medieval layer.
- 8.5 A pit containing 13th/14th century pottery was recorded in the western part of the Trench, whilst two pits containing late medieval/early post-medieval pottery were recorded at its northern extent. The presence of these three pits indicates that medieval activity exists on site.
- 8.6 The eastern part of the trench, including the medieval and late medieval/early post-medieval pits, were truncated by a large cut feature which may represent a large post-medieval ditch or quarry pit. The cut feature contained a number of fills, the latest of which produced pottery dated to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

8.7 The remainder of the deposits recorded within the trench comprised an isolated area of 19<sup>th</sup> century truncation along the south-west trench edge, 20<sup>th</sup> century made ground deposits and 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century concrete surfaces. Whilst the intrusive activity has had some impact on the underlying archaeological horizons, post-depositional disturbance can be largely considered as minimal.

#### 9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank GC Bankside LLP, especially Yumeng Chang, for commissioning the archaeological work and Faye Lord of DP9 for her help. Thanks are also due to Dr Christopher Constable, Senior Archaeology Planning Officer for his monitoring the site on behalf of the London Borough of Southwark and for his help in achieving the required timetable.
- 9.2 Furthermore the authors would also like to thank Peter Moore for his project management and editing, Hayley Baxter for the CAD illustrations, Chris Jarrett for spot dating the pottery, Kevin Hayward for spot dating the CBM, Kevin Rielly for identifying the animal bone and Richard Archer for the survey work. Thanks are also due to Chris Cooper for the logistics and Nick Byrne and Neil Hawkins for the on-site fieldwork.

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## **APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER**

Site								
Code	Context	Trench	Plan	Section	Туре	Description	Prov Date	Phase
		Trench				•		
LON13	1	1	n/a	S1, S2	Layer	Made ground	17th-18th Century	8
LON13	2	Trench 1	n/a	S1, S2	Fill	Fill of pit/ditch [11]	17th Century	7
LON13	3	Trench 1	n/a	S1, S2	Fill	Fill of pit/ditch	17th Century	7
LON13	4	Trench 1	Tr 1 Pre-x, Tr 1 Post-ex	S1	Layer	Natural sand/gravel	Natural	1
		Trench				-		
LON13	5	1	Tr 1 Post-ex	S1	Fill	Fill of pit [6]	16th-17th Century	6
LON13	6	Trench 1	Tr 1 Post-ex	S1	Cut	Pit	16th-17th Century	6
LON13	7	Trench 1	Tr 1 Post-ex	S1	Fill	Fill of pit [8]	16th-17th Century	6
LON13	8	Trench 1	Tr 1 Post-ex	S1	Cut	Pit	16th-17th Century	6
	_	Trench				-	,	
LON13	9	1	n/a	S1	Fill	Fill of pit [10]	13th-14th Century	4
LON13	10	Trench 1	Tr 1 Post-ex	S1	Cut	Pit	13th-14th Century	4
LON13	11	Trench 1	Tr 1 Pre-x, Tr 1 Post-ex	S2	Cut	Pit/ditch	17th Century	7
LON13	12	Trench 1	Tr 1 Pre-x, Tr 1 Post-ex	S2	Layer	Reddish-yellow silty sand	Prehistoric/Roman	2
		Trench	Tr 1 Pre-x, Tr			Fill of linear		
LON13	13	1	1 Post-ex	S2	Fill	feature [14]	Roman	3
LON13	14	Trench 1	Tr 1 Pre-x, Tr 1 Post-ex	S2	Cut	Linear feature	Roman	3
LON13	15	Trench 1	Tr 1 Pre-x	n/a	Fill	Fill of pit [16]	19th Century	9
LON13	16	Trench 1	Tr 1 Pre-x	n/a	Cut	Pit	19th Century	9
LON13	17	Trench 1	n/a	S2	Layer	Made ground	14th-15th Century	5

## **APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM**

OASIS ID: preco	nst1-145650
Project details	
Project name	202-204 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 4QB
Short description of the project	The archaeological evaluation demonstrated that naturally deposited sands and gravels are present on site at a height of 0.63m AOD, however the natural deposits had suffered significant truncation and the heights are not considered reflective of the natural horizon. No evidence of prehistoric activity was recorded during the archaeological evaluation, however a large cut feature containing Roman pottery was recorded in the western part of Trench 1. In addition, a pit containing 13th/14th century pottery was recorded in the western part of the trench, whilst two pits containing late medieval/early post-medieval pottery were recorded at the trenches northern extent. In addition, a large post-medieval ditch or quarry pit which contained a number of fills, the latest of which produced pottery dated to the late 17th century, was recorded in the eastern part of the trench. The remainder of the deposits encountered during the evaluation comprised an isolated area of 19th century truncation along the south-west trench edge, 20th century made ground deposits and 20th/21st century concrete surfaces. Whilst the intrusive activity has had some impact on the underlying archaeological horizons, post-depositional disturbance can be largely considered as minimal.
Project dates	Start: 12-03-2013 End: 15-03-2013
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	LON13 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Roman
5	
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
	POT Medieval POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	
Significant Finds Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds Significant Finds Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval  CBM Roman

Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK BERMONDSEY ROTHERHITHE AND SOUTHWARK 202-204 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 4QB
Postcode	SE1 4QB
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3301 7649 51 0 51 28 16 N 000 05 05 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 1.00m Max: 1.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	PCA
Project brief originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Project design originator	Peter Moore
Project director/manager	Peter Moore
Project supervisor	lain Bright
Type of sponsor/funding body	GC Bankside LLP
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	LON13
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	LON13
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive	LAARC

recipient	
Paper Archive ID	LON13
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Plan","Section"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at 202-204 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 4QB
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Bright, I
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Taylor, J
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Brockley
Entered by	archivist (archive@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	18 March 2013

#### **OASIS:**

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## **APPENDIX 3: ARTEFACT SPOT DATING**

CONTEXT	MATERIAL	DESCRIPTION CONTEXT DATE	
NO.			
1	Pottery	1 x TGWF	
	Pottery	1 x BORDG	1640-1690
2	СВМ	Peg Tile	
	СТР	1 x bowl	1680-1710
5	Pottery	1 x PMFRY	
	Pottery	1 x BORDO	
	СТР	2 x stem	1580-1650
7	СТР	2 x stem	1580-1740
9	СВМ	Roman Tegula or flat tile	
	Animal bone	1 x sheep, 1 x cattle, 2 x ribs	
	Pottery	Kingston Ware?	1240-1400
11	Pottery	1 x MPUR	1480-1750
13	Pottery	1 x Black Burnished Ware	120-400 AD
15	СВМ	2 x fragments	
		1 x Chinese porcelain	
		3 x Refined whiteware	1805-1900
17	СВМ	2 x fragments	
	Pottery	1 x Roman whiteware (Verulaneum) mortaria rim	
	Pottery	1 x Cheam Ware	1350-1500

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