

**325 BOROUGH HIGH  
STREET: AN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF AND  
EVALUATION**

**LONDON BOROUGH OF  
SOUTHWARK**

**REPORT NO: R11471**

**JULY 2013**



**An Archaeological Watching Brief and Evaluation at 325 Borough High Street,  
London SE1 1JL**

**Site Code:** BUH13

**Central NGR:** TQ 3224 7953

**Local Planning Authority:** London Borough of Southwark

**Planning Reference:**

**Other reference if any:**

**Commissioning Client:** Life Less Ordinary

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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological investigation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Life Less Ordinary at 325 Borough High Street, London SE1 1JL (Figure 1). The archaeological investigation was conducted between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013.
- 1.2 The archaeological investigation of the site comprised two trial pits (TP 2 and 3) and one evaluation trench (Trench 1).
- 1.3 The area of the site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the London Borough of Southwark in the Southwark Plan (2007).
- 1.4 The archaeological Watching Brief carried out on two test pits excavated within the basement of the existing property recorded natural sands and gravels consistent with the underlying geology of the Kempton Park Gravel formation. Evidence for quarrying of sand was encountered in TP3. The sands and gravels were sealed by the concrete floor of the existing basement.
- 1.5 Archaeological evidence of post-medieval deposits and structures were found in evaluation Trench 1. A cobbled stone surface was revealed at the base of the trench in turn sealed by post medieval demolition and ground make up of post-medieval date.
- 1.6 A northwest to southeast aligned cellar which pre-dated the construction of the existing property truncated the post-medieval make up deposit.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 An archaeological investigation commissioned by Life Less Ordinary was undertaken at 325 Borough High Street, London Borough of Southwark, London SE1 1JL between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2013. The site was a rectangular area of land, c. 120m<sup>2</sup> in extent, centred at TQ 3224 7953.
- 2.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation (Moore 2013) detailed the methodology by which the archaeological investigation was undertaken. The WSI followed the English Heritage guidelines (GLAAS 2009) and the Institute of Field Archaeologist (IFA, 1993). The watching brief and evaluation was supervised by Ireneo Grosso, project managed by Peter Moore for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and monitored by Dr Christopher Constable on behalf of London Borough of Southwark.
- 2.3 The site of the proposed development is bounded to the north by a Police Station, to the east by a yard, to the south by King's Place and Borough High Street to the west. Currently the site has a basement extending from the street frontage over much of the site, though there is a small area to the rear with no basement.
- 2.4 The site was given the Museum of London site code BUH13. The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited within the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).

### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

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

- 3.1.1 In March 2012 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), replacing Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5) 'Planning for the Historic Environment' which itself replaced Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) 'Archaeology and Planning'. It provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of heritage assets.
- 3.1.2 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.
- 3.1.3 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.

#### **3.2 Regional Guidance: The London Plan**

- 3.2.1 The over-arching strategies and policies for the whole of the Greater London area are contained within the Greater London Authority's London Plan (July 2011) which includes the following statement relating to archaeology.

##### Policy 7.8

##### Heritage assets and archaeology

##### Strategic

A London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

B Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site's archaeology.

##### Planning decisions

C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

##### LDF preparation

F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.

G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

### **3.3 Archaeology in Southwark and the Unitary Development Plan**

- 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 they are the custodians. The Borough's 'Southwark Plan' (adopted in July 2007), and the draft Archaeology Policy, contains policy statements in respect of protecting the buried archaeological resource.

#### 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.

- 3.3.2 The study site is located within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the London Borough of Southwark Plan (2007). There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments located within or close to the site.
- 3.3.3 Archaeological planning conditions
- 3.3.4 In accordance with the condition laid down by Southwark Council a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Moore 2013) was prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and submitted for approval prior to the commencement of works on the site. The Scheme was approved by Dr Christopher Constable, Senior Archaeology Officer for Southwark Council.



## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **4.1 Introduction**

4.1.1 Unless referenced otherwise, the geological and topographical background cited below was obtained from the desk-based assessment prepared by CgMs (Darton, 2008).

### **4.2 Geology**

4.2.1 The solid geology of the study site is London Clay, forming the London Basin.

4.2.2 The drift geology of the study site is shown by the British Geological Survey Sheet 270 (South London 1998). This indicates the study site to lie within an area of Kempton Park Terrace Gravels.

### **4.3 Topography**

4.3.1 The study site is located on a gravel terrace to the south of the Thames floodplain. Current ground level along Borough High Street at the site frontage is at c. 3.8m OD.

4.3.2 The natural topography of the Southwark area, to the north of the study site, is one of low gravel eyots separated by low-lying areas and braided stream channels, which were periodically flooded (Ridgeway, 2002). Episodes of Holocene transgression and regression of the Thames have led to the deposition of alluvial silts and clays interspersed with episodes of local peat formation, especially in riverside locations. As the study site is thought to have lain away from the edge of the Thames floodplain, palaeochannels with localised peat and alluvial deposits are less likely to be present on the study site.

4.3.3 The site lies c. 1km south of the River Thames.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Unless referenced otherwise, the archaeological and historical background cited below was obtained from the desk-based assessment prepared by CgMs (Darton, 2008).

### **5.2 Prehistoric**

- 5.2.1 The study site lies on higher ground to the south of a series of sand and gravel eyots dissected by channels and tributaries of the Thames. Evidence from the large number of archaeological interventions to the north of the study site suggest a concentration of human activity from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age on the higher ground represented by these eyots (Sidell et al, 2002).
- 5.2.2 Pottery and worked flints found in north Southwark indicate that the area was frequented and later settled from the Mesolithic period onwards. What is now an intertidal zone would have varied in character depending on the periodic rising and falling of the sea level due to climatic fluctuations. During periods with higher water levels the area would have presented many opportunities for the exploitation of natural resources such as fish, eels and game for food and reeds which would have served as building materials. In drier periods the light sandy soils would have proved attractive to early farmers. It is probable that permanent settlements were established in the area during the late Neolithic and Bronze Age as ard-marks recorded in the surface of the sands and gravels indicate the use of wooden ploughs to till the land. Numerous examples of this type of land-use have been found across north Southwark and Bermondsey from sites such as Hopton Street, Three Oak Lane (here a very rare ard was discovered), and Wolseley Street. Evidence from the later prehistoric period is a little sparse. A few Iron Age burials are known from the area but no settlement sites are known. This may reflect the marginal nature of the area as sea level rose throughout the later Iron Age then peaked in the early Roman period (Killock 2010, 12).
- 5.2.3 A late prehistoric channel was recorded during an archaeological watching brief at 6-8 Marshalsea Road, c. 250m north-east of the study site. At 289 Borough High Street, c. 100m north-east of the study site, a late Neolithic to Bronze Age flint arrowhead was recovered during an archaeological excavation.
- 5.2.4 Residual Bronze Age lithics and potsherds were recovered from an archaeological excavation at the former Sorting Office, Swan Street, c. 250m north of the study site. At Trinity Street in 1909, late Iron Age ring money was recovered.

### **5.3 Roman**

- 5.3.1 The study site lay south of the Roman settlement at Southwark, which was focussed on areas of higher ground along the Roman road leading to London Bridge. The Roman roads Watling Street and Stane Street converged to the south of Roman Southwark, probably close to the study site.
- 5.3.2 Several archaeological investigations within the study area have revealed evidence for Roman activity.
- 5.3.3 At 137 Great Suffolk Street a ditch containing late Roman pottery was recorded during an archaeological evaluation, and at 239 Borough High Street and excavation in the basement of the Post Office revealed a large roman feature containing water laid and dumped fills.
- 5.3.4 At 175-287 Borough High Street a sandy deposit was recorded which contained Roman pottery and tile. Residual Roman pottery from a relict plough soil was recovered during an evaluation at 282-302 Borough High Street and residual pottery and ceramic building material was recovered from ploughsoil at 302-382 Borough High Street.
- 5.3.5 An excavation at Swan Street c. 250m to the north of the study site recorded evidence for 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman agricultural activity represented by a field system of N-S aligned ditches. Roman refuse pits and quarry pits were found across the site, as well as possibly ritual deposits of bone. Although postholes and stakeholes were recorded, no clear evidence of structures was recorded and it is suggested that settlement was to be found further north.

- 5.3.6 At 289 Borough High Street an excavation recorded Roman features including foundations, surfaces and pits.
- 5.3.7 Roman coins were recovered during building works on Kings Place, close to the study site, 1858. Roman coins were also recovered from Trinity Street in 1909. A Roman bone hairpin and a folding scale were recovered from 240-246 Borough High Street, and a Roman bowl was found from an unknown location in Borough High Street in 1865.
- 5.3.8 A Roman cremation was recorded from 6A Great Dover Street and a Roman sandstone block with an inscription was found on Borough High Street in 1869.
- 5.3.9 At 235 Borough High Street an excavation in 1947 failed to locate Roman levels but two superimposed layers of gravel metalling were observed in a construction trench nearby possibly representing a Roman road surface, c. 200m north-east of the study site. A Roman road is recorded on Tabard Street as part of an alignment linking Watling Street with London Bridge, to the north-east of the study site.
- 5.3.10 During this period the study site probably lay within agricultural or marginal land to the south of the focus of settlement activity along the main road to London Bridge.

#### **5.4 Saxon/Early Medieval**

- 5.4.1 Southwark is identified as the site of a Burh. According to the Burghal Hidage, the garrison was drawn from a district of 1899 burhs and the perimeter may have been 2263m in length (Vince, 1990).
- 5.4.2 There are no archaeological finds or sites dating to the early medieval period recorded on the HER within the study area. During this period the study site probably lay within marginal land to the south of the Burh.

#### **5.5 Late Medieval**

- 5.5.1 Evidence for Medieval occupation is recorded from excavations along Borough High Street at Nos 218-224 and 275-287.
- 5.5.2 During this period the study site probably comprised agricultural and horticultural land and was located on the road leading to Borough High Street, at the southern fringe of late medieval Southwark.

#### **5.6 Post Medieval**

- 5.6.1 Southwark Fair was held on Borough High Street in the early Post-Medieval period and it was fully built up by the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Weinreb & Hibbert, 2008).
- 5.6.2 Cartographic evidence indicates the study site lay on the southern margins of the settlement of Southwark. The Newcourt map of 1658 shows the study site occupied by a building fronting the road named 'St Georges' on the line of Borough High Street, with gardens and orchards to the rear.
- 5.6.3 The Roque map of 1745 shows the site occupied by buildings fronting 'Blackman Street', with 'Locks Yard' to the south. An Orchard is shown to the rear of the buildings with 'Tender Grounds' to the south-east.
- 5.6.4 By the 1792 the Horwood map shows a building occupying the study site, with a yard to the south.
- 5.6.5 By 1879, the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map shows that the existing building at 325 Borough High Street had been constructed on the study site, with King's Place to the south and the Police Station to the north. Small terraced houses are shown extending from the rear of the study site, fronting King's Place to the south.
- 5.6.6 During the Second World War the study site underwent significant bomb damage. Serious damage to the building occurred as a result of a V2 Rocket landing on Newington Causeway c. 50m south-west of the study site.

5.6.7 By 1950 the bombed buildings to the south and east of No 325 Borough High Street were cleared and removed. There were no further changes to the study site between 1950 and 2013.

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The archaeological investigation consisted of a single evaluation trench (Trench 1) and two geotechnical test pits (TP 2 and 3, Figure 2). Trench 1 was located at ground level in the eastern part of the site, outside the footprint of the existing basement. The trench measured 1.95m northwest-southeast by 2.15m northeast-southwest at the top and was excavated by the principal contractor, under archaeological supervision, until archaeological deposits were exposed. All excavation of archaeological deposits was undertaken by archaeologists.
- 6.2 A watching brief was undertaken on the excavation of Test Pits 2 and 3, located within the footprint of the existing basement. TP 2 measured 1.5m northeast-southwest by 1m wide and 0.70m deep. TP 3 was 1.5m northeast-southwest by 1m wide and 1m deep. Both test pits were excavated to the level of the natural sand.
- 6.3 The purpose of the archaeological investigation was to determine the presence or absence of surviving features at the site and, if present, to assist in formulating an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out by English Heritage and the Institute of Field Archaeology.
- 6.4 The research design set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Moore, 2013) aimed to address the following objectives:
- What evidence is there for prehistoric occupation of the site?
  - Can the results of the archaeological investigation contribute to understanding of the ritual Roman landscape of the area, which includes ritual pits previously recorded at Swan Street (Beasley, 2006), the Tabard Square temple and ritual landscape (Killock & Sheppard forthcoming), as well as the burial activity recorded at Southwark Bridge Road, Lant Street (Sayer & Sudds forthcoming), Great Dover Street and most recently at Trinity Street (Killock, 2010)?
  - Is there any evidence for the Roman road to Chichester which crossed the current Borough High Street slightly to the south of the subject site?
  - What evidence is there for the development of the site in the post-medieval period? Can the activity dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century recorded during the evaluation on the site be further elucidated, especially during the excavation of the rear of the site?
- 6.5 The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those widely used elsewhere in London that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS 1994). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.
- 6.6 All context, section and plans were recorded on pro-forma sheets. Plans were drawn at a scale 1:20 and section were recorded at scale of 1:10 as applicable and fabric samples were taken from brickwork structures.
- 6.7 A full photographic record was made during the archaeological investigation, comprising black and colour slide. A digital photographic archive was maintained during the course of the archaeological investigation.
- 6.8 The complete archive produced during the evaluation and watching brief, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the Museum of London site code BUH13.
- 6.9 A temporary benchmark (TBM) was established with a GPS in Borough High Street with an height of 3.57m OD from which, using a dumpy level, the level of the existing concrete floors of the property at 325 Borough High Street were calculated. The concrete floor at ground level was established at 3.66m OD, the concrete floor in the basement at 1.03m OD.

## **7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

### **7.1 Introduction**

7.1.1 The following text is an overview of the archaeological sequence recorded during the watching brief and evaluation. Full individual context description and Ordnance Datum levels are detailed in Appendix 1 and stratigraphic relationship are shown in Appendix 2. Figure 2 shows the investigation locations, Figure 3 shows evaluation Trench 1 plan and sections 3 and 4, Figure 4 shows TP 3 plan and section 1, and Figure 5 shows TP 2 plan and section 2.

### **7.2 Phase 1: Natural Deposits**

7.2.1 Natural sand and gravels were exposed in TPs 2 and 3. Natural sandy gravel [7] was found at 0.86m OD in TP2 and natural sand [1] was found at 0.84m OD in TP3. The natural sands and gravels were sealed by the existing concrete floor of the basement.

7.2.2 The upper part of the natural deposits is very likely to have been truncated during the construction of the existing basement and as a result the excavation of the basement through the top of the sand and gravels had probably masked the natural topographic profile.

### **7.3 Phase 2: Undated**

7.3.1 The natural sand [1] in TP3 was truncated at 0.83m OD by cut [5]. The dimensions of the feature were 0.75m northwest to southeast by 0.55m southeast to northwest by 0.80m deep. The feature was truncated to the west by the modern concrete foundation for one of the existing basement walls. Context [5] extended to the southwest under the party wall and to the southeast beyond the limit of excavation of TP3. The cut infill consisted of a sequence of sand and gravels recorded as fills [4], [3] and [2]. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature, however as it is located in the immediate vicinity of the Roman road to Chichester it may be interpreted as a quarry pit for the extraction of sands and gravel associated with the construction of the Roman Road (Stane Street). Alternatively it can be interpreted as a quarry pit of later date.

### **7.4 Phase 3: Post-med (17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century)**

7.4.1 The earliest archaeological deposit exposed in evaluation Trench 1 was cobbled/stone floor [14] found between 2.53m OD and 2.33m OD. Context [14] measured 1.40m northeast to southwest, 1.94m southeast to northwest and extended beyond the northwest and southeast limit of excavation of Trench 1. The floor consisted of a mix of cobbled stone and roughly worked stone with very occasional reused CBM and bonded with very hard mortar. A small fragment of CBM recovered from the floor dated between 1450-1700. The floor/surface was interpreted as an early post medieval yard.

### **7.5 Phase 4: Post-med (early 19<sup>th</sup> century)**

7.5.1 The cobbled stone surface was truncated at 2.45m OD by semicircular pit cut [13] that measured 0.30m north to south and 0.32m east to west. The pit cut extended beyond the northwest limit of excavation of Trench 1 and was filled by fairly compacted mid brownish reddish sandy silt [11] with occasional gravel inclusions. This fill was only partially excavated as Trench 1 was too deep to allow any further excavation and as a result the function of pit cut [13] is unknown.

7.5.2 Fill [11] was overlaid at 2.51m OD by dark brownish black sandy silt [10] with very frequent CBM fragments inclusions. This layer measured 1.40m northeast to southwest, 1.94m southeast to northwest and 0.10m thick and extended beyond the northeast, southeast and northwest limit of excavation of Trench 1. The CBM encountered in this layer consisted mostly of large broken fragments of pan tiles dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. In addition pottery shards dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century were also recovered from context [10]. This layer was interpreted as a demolition layer of post-medieval date.

7.5.3 Demolition layer [10] was overlaid at 3.38m OD by mid greyish brown sandy silt deposit [9] with very occasional gravel, moderate CBM fragments and occasional shards of pottery. This deposit had the same dimension of context [10] and extended beyond the limit of excavation of Trench 1. The pottery retrieved from context [9] dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Context [9] was interpreted as post-medieval consolidation/make up ground.

## **7.6 Phase 5: Post-med (second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century)**

- 7.6.1 Deposit [9] was truncated to the south, at 3.30m OD, by northwest to southeast orientated masonry wall [12]. Context [9] was 1.95m long, 0.12m wide and was partially excavated to maximum depth of 2.30m OD. This masonry consisted of possibly reused bricks dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century with a stretcher coursing bonded with very hard light grey lime mortar. The southwest elevation of masonry [12] represents the inside of a structure which was interpreted as a post-medieval cellar pre-dating the construction of the existing property at 325 Borough High Street.
- 7.6.2 Masonry [12] was sealed at 3.47m OD by a firm layer of dark brown blackish sandy silt [8] with moderate gravels and CBM fragments in turn overlaid by the concrete floor of the existing property which was recorded at 3.66m OD.

**Plate 1 SOUTHEAST FACING VIEW OF TP2**



**Plate 2 NORTH FACING VIEW OF TP3**





**Plate 3 SOUTHEAST FACING VIEW OF EVALUATION TRENCH 1**



## **8 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **8.1 Interpretation**

8.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief and Evaluation (Moore 2013) prepared before archaeological work commenced at 325 Borough High Street highlighted specific research objectives to be addressed by the archaeological investigation.

#### **8.1.2 What evidence is there for prehistoric occupation of the site?**

No evidence of prehistoric activity was observed on the site. The reasons for this, at this stage of the archaeological investigation, are probably the result of two main factors. The first is related to the presence of a basement which truncated horizontally approximately 80% of the archaeological deposits across the site down to the level of the natural sand and gravels. The second reason is related to the depth of evaluation Trench 1 as it was unsafe to excavate this trench down to the level of the earliest archaeological deposits.

#### **8.1.3 Can the results of the archaeological investigation contribute to our understanding of the ritual Roman landscape of the area, which includes ritual pits previously recorded at Swan Street (Beasley 2006), the Tabard Square temple and ritual landscape (Killock & Sheppard, forthcoming), as well as the burial activity recorded at Southwark Bridge Road, Lant Street (Sayer & Sudds forthcoming), Great Dover Street and most recently at Trinity Street (Killock 2010)?**

No evidence of Roman activity was recorded on the site. The reasons for this are associated with the presence of a basement which truncated horizontally most of the archaeological deposits of the site and the methodological constraints associated with the excavation of evaluation Trench 1 (see above Paragraph 8.1.2).

#### **8.1.4 Is there any evidence for the Roman road to Chichester which crossed the current Borough High Street slightly to the south of the subject site?**

The archaeological investigation did not find evidence for the Roman road to Chichester Street. However, one undated quarry pit observed during the Watching Brief in the basement may be associated with the extraction of sand and gravel, during the Roman period, for the construction of the Roman road.

#### **8.1.5 Is there any evidence for further Saxon activity given the residual evidence for such activity found at Trinity Street?**

No evidence of Saxon activity was encountered during the archaeological investigation.

#### **8.1.6 What evidence is there for the development of the site in the post-medieval period? Can the activity dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries recorded during the evaluation of the site be further elucidated, especially during the excavation of the rear of the site?**

A number of archaeological deposits and masonry structure of post-medieval date were identified in evaluation Trench 1. One large cobbled and stone surface was recorded at the base of the evaluation trench. The surface was interpreted as part of a yard and was dated to the 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century. Post-medieval demolition and ground raising deposits, dated to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century sealed the yard surface. During the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century a cellar was constructed in the southeast corner of the subject site. The cellar truncated to the south the earlier post-medieval archaeological deposits.

### **8.2 Conclusions**

8.2.1 The results of the archaeological investigation have concluded that no deposits of prehistoric date were extant in the part of the site within the footprint of the existing basement.

8.2.2 One undated quarry pit observed under the existing basement's concrete floor can be associated with the gravel and sand extraction for the construction of the Roman road. Further evidence of archaeological deposits dating to the Roman period may survive under the post-medieval cobbled and stone surface observed at the base of evaluation Trench 1.

- 8.2.3 Evidence for post-medieval activity on the subject site was identified. A cobbled and stone surface interpreted as a part of a yard dating approximately to the 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century was recorded in evaluation Trench 1. This was sealed by a sequence of demolition and ground raising deposits in turn truncated to the south by a cellar dating to the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Life Less Ordinary for commissioning the archaeological work. Thanks also to Dr Christopher Constable, Senior Archaeologist for the Planning and Regeneration Department, who monitored the site for the London Borough of Southwark.
- 9.2 Furthermore the author would also like to thank: Peter Moore for project managing and editing this report; Hayley Baxter for the illustrations; Berni Seddon and Chris Jarrett for their assessment of the pottery and building materials and Rick Archer for the surveying.

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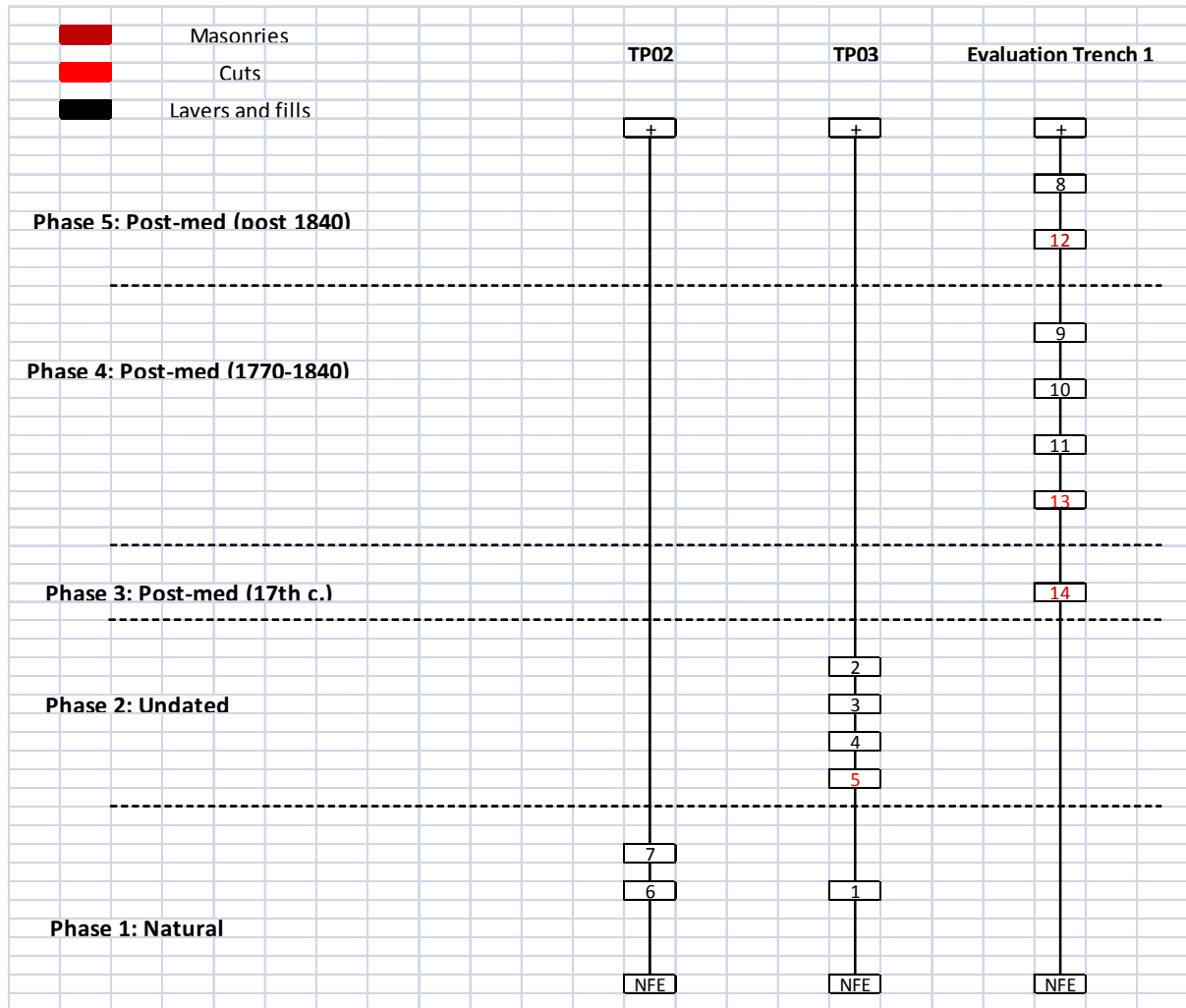
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## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No	Test Pit/Trench No	Phase	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Highest Level	Lowest Level
1	TP03	1	1	1	Layer	Natural sand	0.84m OD	0.03m OD
2	TP03	2		1	Fill	Upper fill of quarry pit [5]	0.89m OD	0.84m OD
3	TP03	2		1	Fill	Secondary fill of quarry pit [5]	0.83m OD	0.66m OD
4	TP03	2		1	Fill	Primary fill of quarry pit [5]	0.81m OD	0.46m OD
5	TP03	2	1	2	Cut	Undated quarry pit filled by [2], [3] and [4]	0.83m OD	0.03m OD
6	TP02	1	6	2	Layer	Natural sand	0.79m OD	0.71m OD
7	TP02	1	6	2	Layer	Natural sandy gravel	0.86m OD	0.84m OD
8	Trench 1	5	12, 14	3, 4	Layer	Post-med burnt layer	3.47m OD	3.43m OD
9	Trench 1	4	12	3, 4	Layer	Sandy silt post-med layer	3.38m OD	3.31m OD
10	Trench 1	4		3, 4	Layer	Post-med demolition layer	2.51m OD	2.36m OD
11	Trench 1	4	14	3	Fill	Fill of post-med pit cut [13]	2.42m OD	2.38m OD
12	Trench 1	5	12, 14	4	Masonry	East-West orientated cellar wall	3.30m OD	2.78m OD
13	Trench 1	4	14	3	Cut	Post-med pit cut	2.45m OD	
14	Trench 1	3	14	3	Masonry	Cobbled/stone surface (post-med?)	2.53m OD	2.33m OD

## APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



## APPENDIX 3: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-155708

### Project details

Project name	325 Borough High Street, Southwark: An Archaeological Watching Brief and Evaluation
Short description of the project	The archaeological investigation of the site comprised two trial pits (TP 2 and 3) and one evaluation trench (Trench 1). The area of the site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the London Borough of Southwark in the Southwark Plan (2007). The archaeological Watching Brief carried out within the basement of the existing property recorded natural sands and gravels consistent with the underlying geology of the Kempton Park Gravel formation. Evidence for quarrying of sand was encountered in TP3. The sands and gravels were sealed by the concrete floor of the existing basement. Archaeological evidence of post-medieval deposits and structure were found in evaluation Trench 1. A cobbled and stone surface was revealed at the base of the trench in turn sealed by post medieval demolition and ground make up of post-medieval date. A northwest to southeast orientated cellar which pre-date the construction of the existing property truncated the post-medieval make up deposit.
Project dates	Start: 02-07-2013 End: 09-07-2013
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	BUH13 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Uncertain
Monument type	COBBLED FLOOR Post Medieval
Monument type	CELLAR Post Medieval



Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""""Targeted Trenches""""; """"Test Pits""""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

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### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK Land at 325 Borough High Street, London Borough of Southwark
Postcode	SE1 1JL
Study area	120.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3224 7953 51 0 51 29 55 N 000 05 40 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 1.00m Max: 1.00m

---

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	PCA
Project design originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project director/manager	Peter Moore
Project supervisor	Ireneo Grosso
Type of	Developer

sponsor/funding  
body

Name of sponsor/funding  
body Life Less Ordinary

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### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient LAARC

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Matrices", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An Archaeological Watching Brief and Evaluation at 325 Borough High Street, London SE1 1JL

Author(s)/Editor(s) Grosso, I.

Date 2013

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Place of issue or London

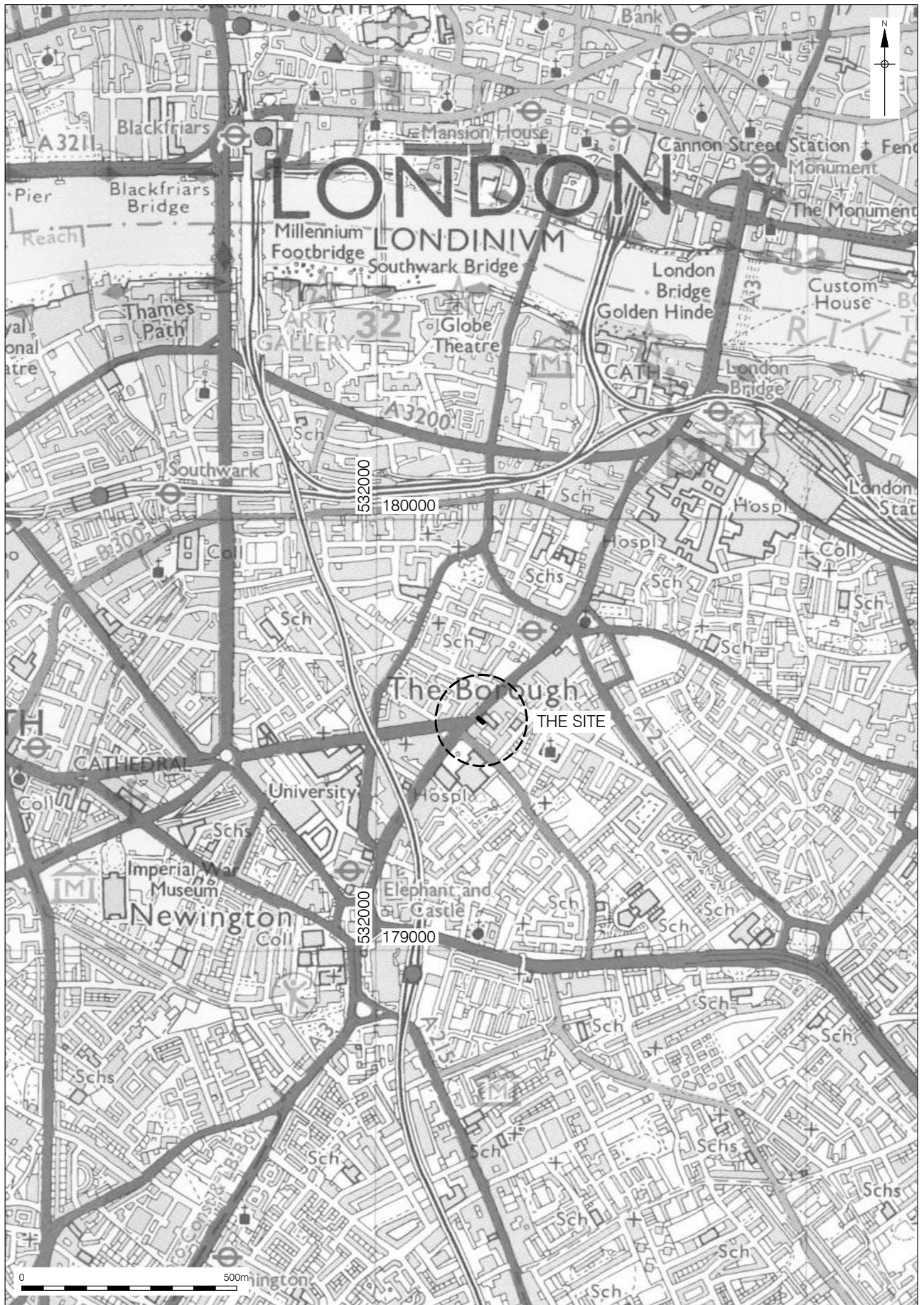
publication

Description Unpublish client report, A4 spiral bound with blue cover

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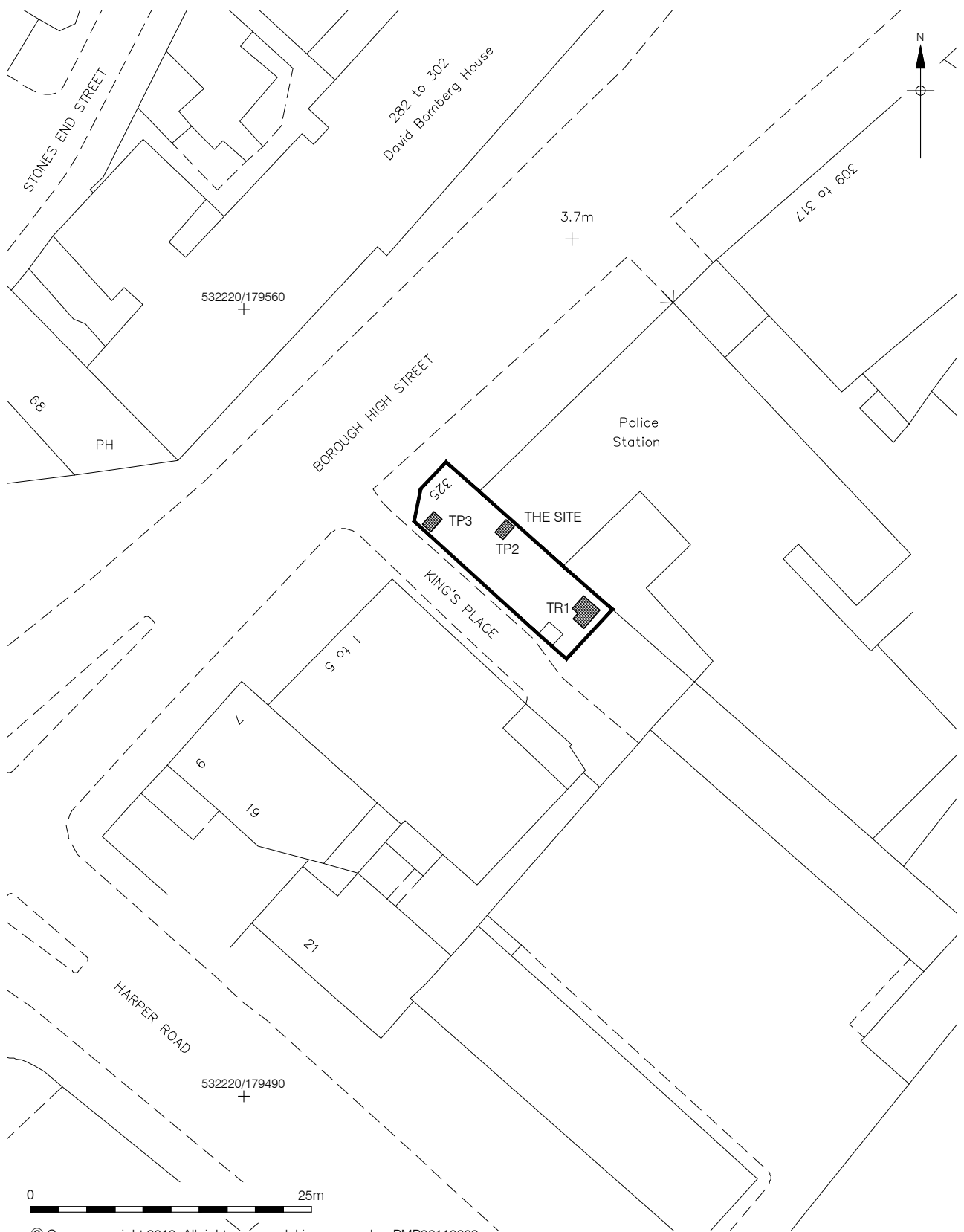
Entered by Helen Hawkins (hhawkins@pre-construct.com)

Entered on 1 August 2013



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Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:12,500 at A4



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Figure 2  
 Evaluation Trench & Test Pit Location  
 1:500 at A4

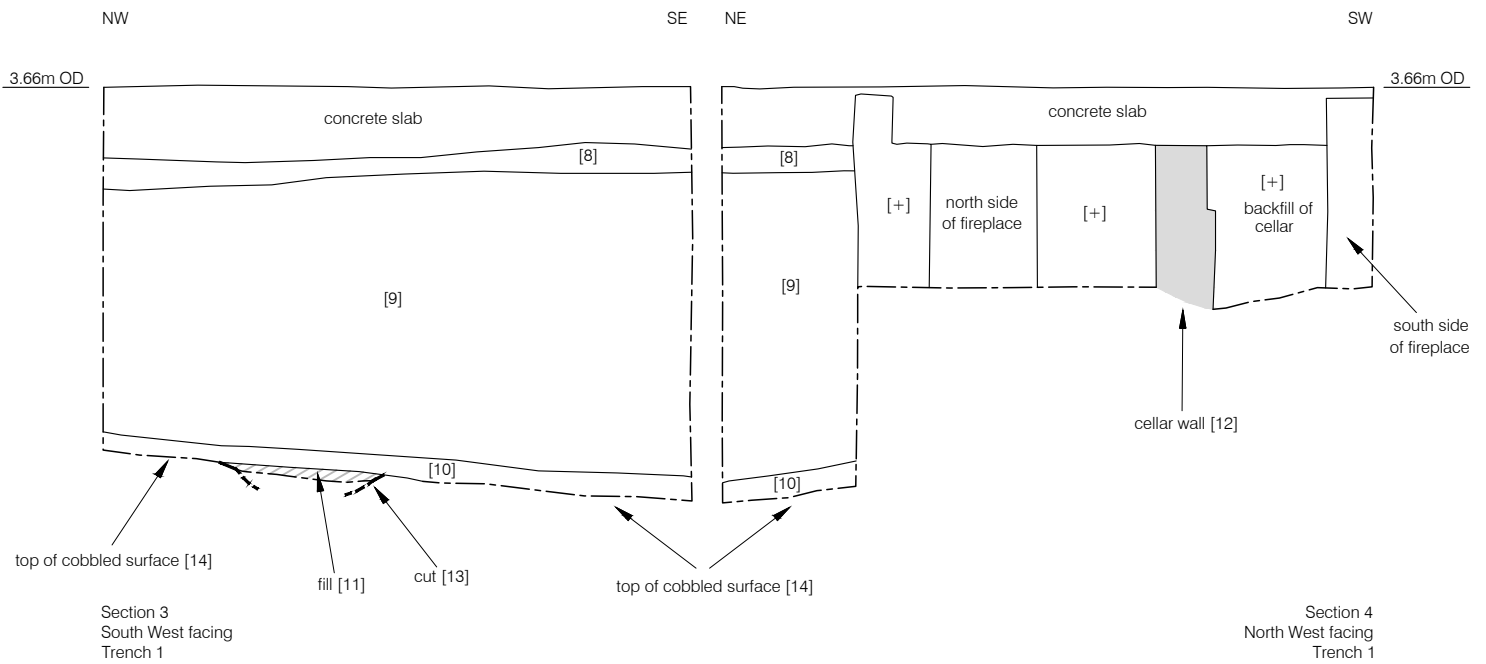
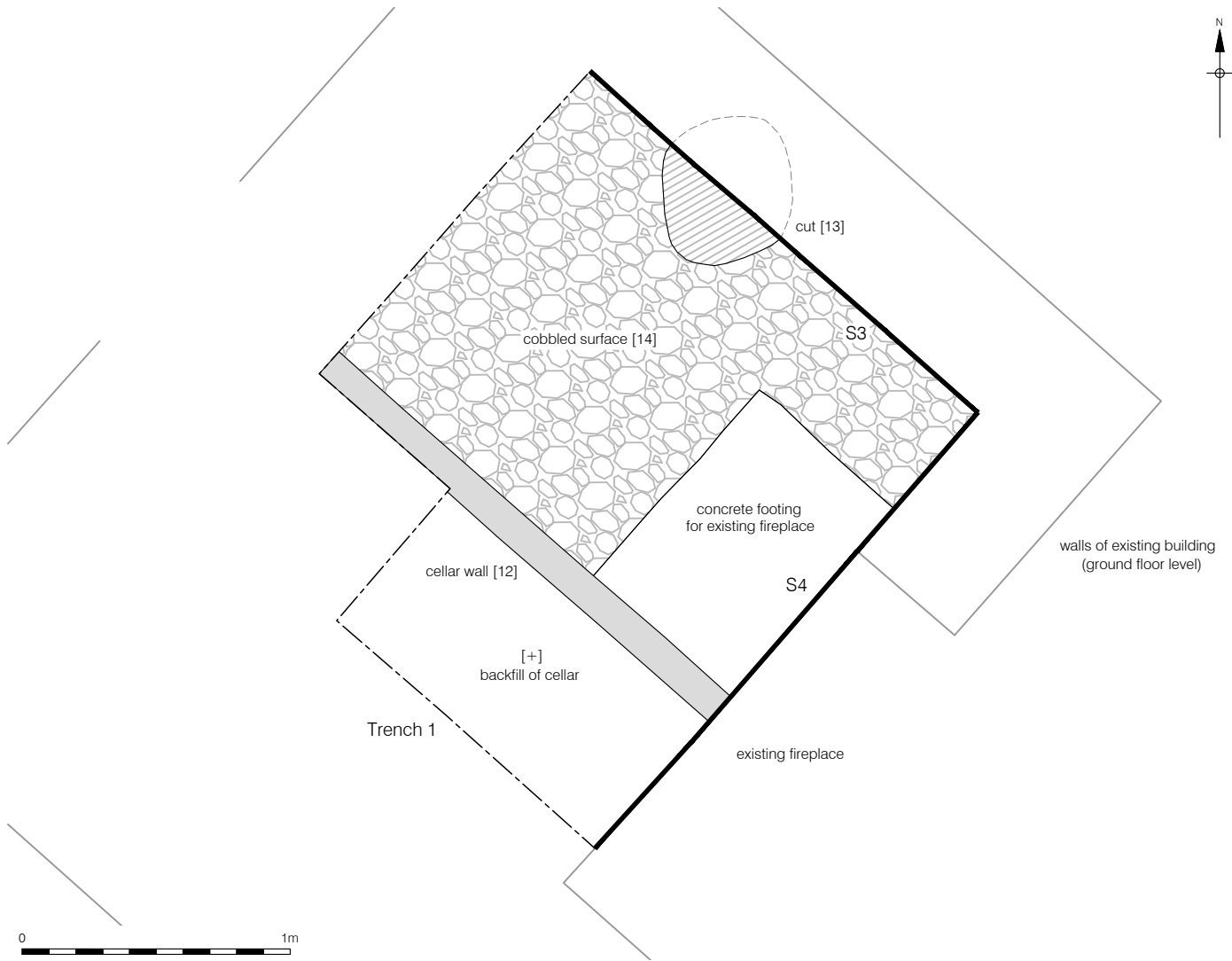
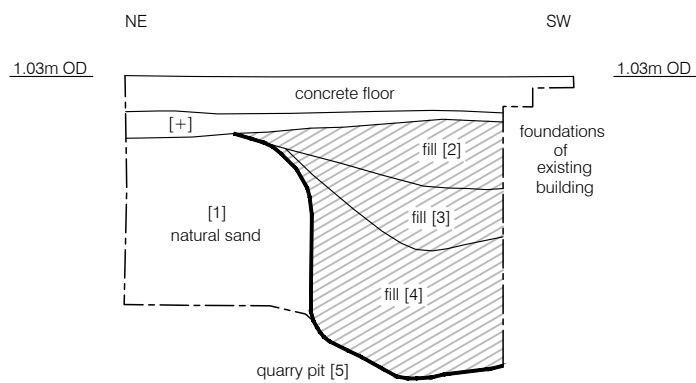
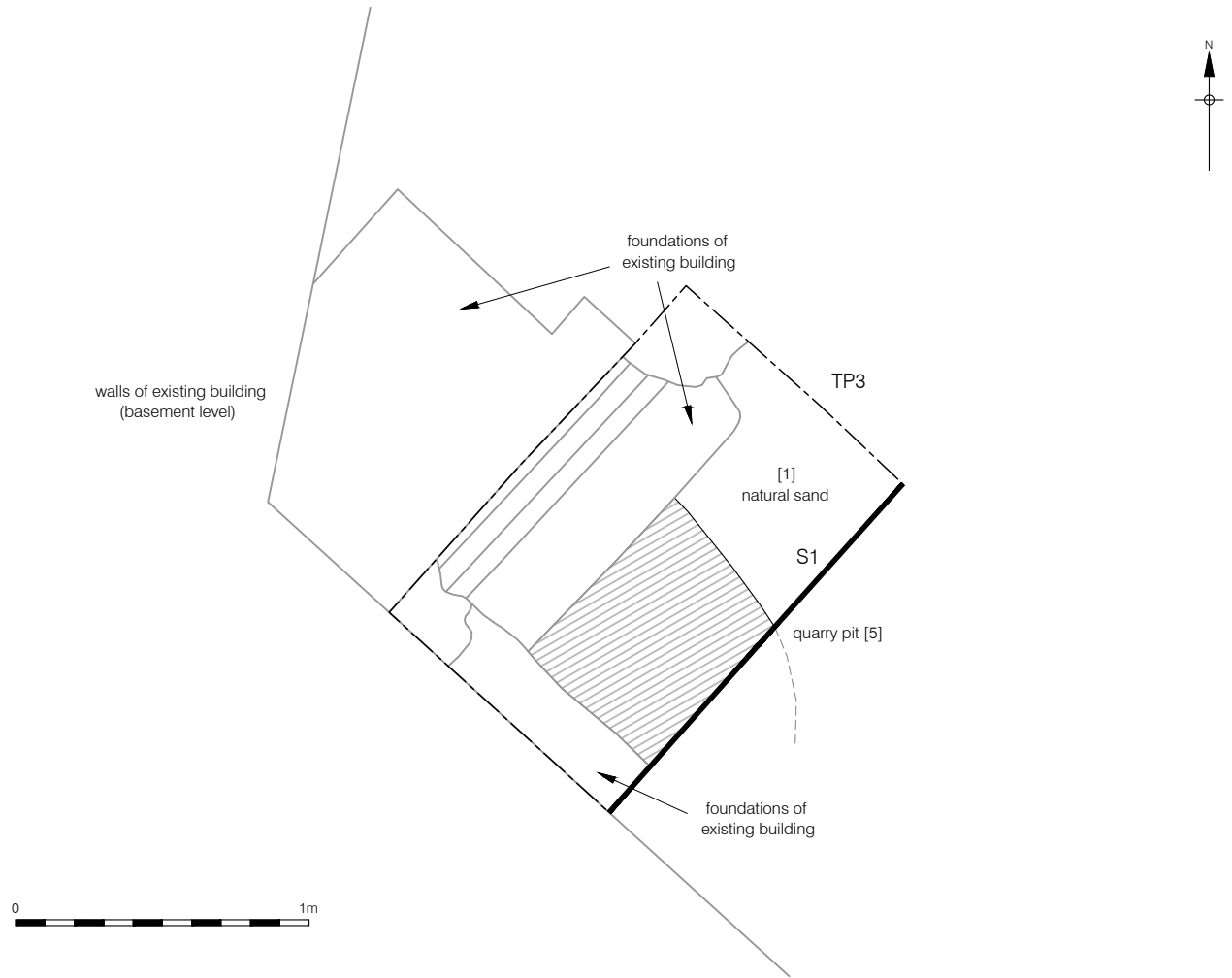
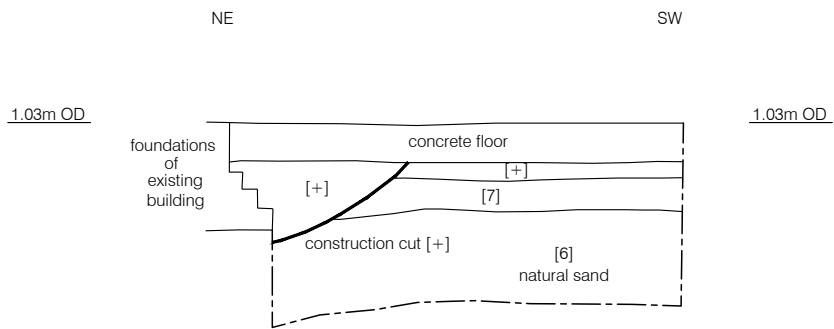
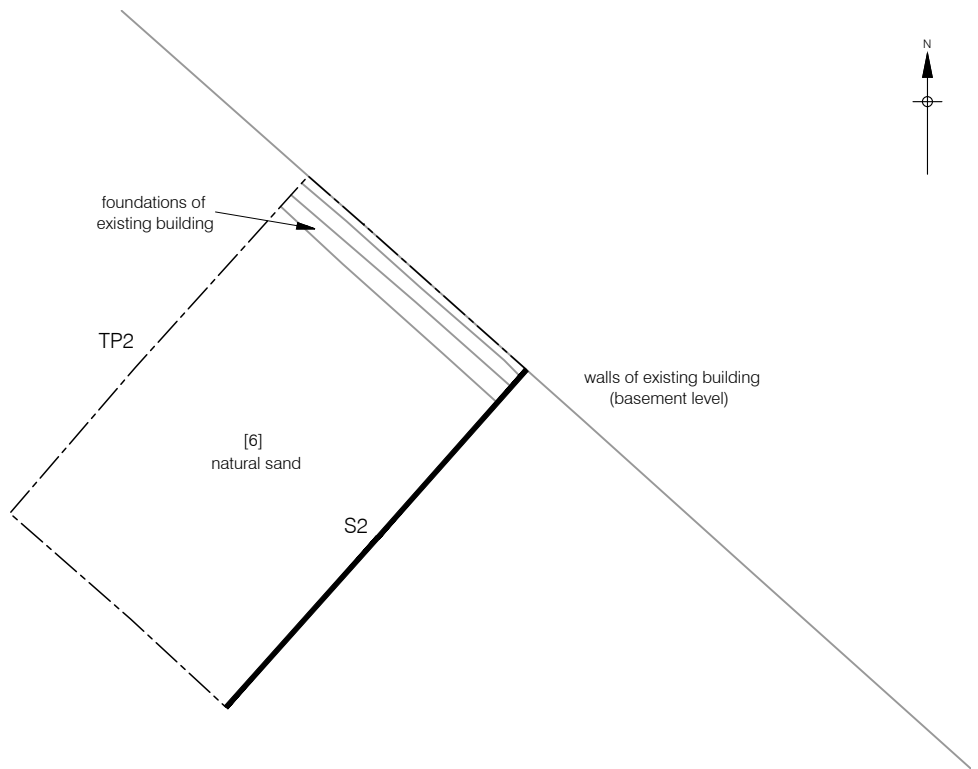


Figure 3  
Evaluation Trench 1 Plan & Sections 3 & 4  
1:25 at A4



Section 1  
North West facing  
TP3



Section 2  
North West facing  
TP2



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Figure 5  
Test Pit 2 Plan & Section 2  
1:25 at A4



# PCA

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