

**169-173 BLACKFRIARS ROAD,
LONDON SE1 8ER**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK**

PLANNING REFERENCE: 13/AP/0966

PCA REPORT NO: 11627

SITE CODE: BLC14

FEBRUARY 2014



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY



DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

169-173 BLACKFRIARS ROAD, LONDON SE1 8ER

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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169-173 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8ER

An Archaeological Evaluation

Site Code: BLC14

Central NGR: TQ 3170 7983 (531700,179835)

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Southwark

Planning Reference: 13/AP/0966

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting
on behalf of
Linden Homes Ltd.

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PCA REPORT NO. R11627

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This document details the results and working methods of archaeological evaluation conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at 169-173 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8ER. The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 3170 7983 in the London Borough of Southwark.
- 1.2 Following the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (Mayo 2013), an archaeological evaluation was carried out, between 7th and 17th of January 2014, in advance of redevelopment of the site. The investigation comprised four archaeological trial-trenches (Trenches 1 to 4)
- 1.3 Natural sandy gravel was recorded across the site between 1.44m OD and 0.46m OD in the south area and in the north area of the site respectively.
- 1.4 The archaeological evaluation demonstrates that the site is situated above the southern bank of a large E-W orientated river channel. The findings of the archaeological investigation are therefore consistent with the conclusions of the geotechnical study.
- 1.5 Evidence of post-medieval horizontal truncation was observed in the southern area of the site where the higher terrace gravel was sealed by post-medieval deposits interpreted as consolidation layers.
- 1.6 No evidence for prehistoric archaeology was found at the site.
- 1.7 Except for one fragment of Roman *tegula* recovered from the basal fill of the river channel no evidence of Roman activity was observed. Post-medieval terracing in the southern area of the site had probably truncated all potentially earlier deposits.
- 1.8 Only two finds dating to the medieval period were recovered during the archaeological investigation; both finds were interpreted as residual within post-medieval deposits interpreted as consolidation layers. No archaeological evidence of medieval activity was observed. However, it is possible that the river channel was active during the medieval period as a fragment of medieval abraded peg tile dated AD 1330 to 1390 was found within the alluvial infill.
- 1.9 Evidence of structural development in the form of walls and a culvert, dating from the 18th – 19th centuries, was found in the northern half of the site. These remains can be reconciled to the Horwood map of 1819.
- 1.10 Further structural evidence was found for the construction of properties dating to the late 19th and 20th centuries, some of which (particularly at the southern edge of the site) had sub-basement levels which had truncated lower deposits. These buildings can be reconciled to OS maps of the time, and also allow the supposition that the E-W wall found in Trench 4 represents the Municipal Boundary which is shown on maps from the late 18th to 20th centuries in the same position.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological investigation commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes Ltd was undertaken at 169-173 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8ER in the London Borough of Southwark between 7th and 17th of January 2014. The site was a sub-rectangular area of land, c. 1,700m² in extent, centred at TQ 3170 7983 (531700/179835).
- 2.2 The approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 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 evaluation was supervised by Ireneo Grosso and project managed by Chris Mayo for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. It was monitored by Dr Christopher Constable for the London Borough of Southwark and overseen by the client's archaeological consultant Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting.
- 2.3 The site of the proposed development is bounded to the north by Surrey Row, to the east by buildings comprising Pakeman House, to the south by Pocock Street and Blackfriars Road to the west.
- 2.4 CgMs Consulting (2013) has previously prepared an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment for the planning application.
- 2.5 The site was assigned the Museum of London site code BLC14. The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited within the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

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.

3.2 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 Local Policy: Archaeology in the London Borough of Southwark

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

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

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

Policy 3.19 Archaeology

Planning applications affecting sites within Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs), as identified in Appendix 8, shall be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development. There is a presumption in favour of preservation in situ, to protect and safeguard archaeological remains of national importance, including scheduled monuments and their settings. The in situ preservation of archaeological remains of local importance will also be sought, unless the importance of the development outweighs the local value of the remains. If planning permission is granted to develop any site where there are archaeological remains or there is good reason to believe that such remains exist, conditions will be attached to secure the excavation and recording or preservation in whole or in part, if justified, before development begins.

Reasons:

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

3.4 Site Specific Constraints

3.4.1 The site is not located within an Archaeological Priority Zone as set out within the LB Southwark's Proposals Map (2011). The site does not lie within the vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck site.

3.5 Site Specific Planning Background

- 3.5.1 Planning permission has been granted for the development by the London Borough of Southwark in October 2013 under application number 13/AP/0966. The proposed development is described thus:

Demolition of existing buildings and structures followed by the erection of a part 10 storey / part 6 storey building comprising 87 residential units, five retail/commercial units totaling 451 sqms (Use Classes A1-A5 and D1), a reception area, ancillary cycle and disabled car parking, private and public amenity space, basement and ancillary plant.

- 3.5.2 The consent includes 2 conditions relating to below-ground archaeology, as follows. A further condition relates to built heritage recording, and has been addressed in a separate study by Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners (2013).

Archaeological Mitigation

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

Reason: In order that the details of the programme of archaeological recording works are suitable with regard to the impacts of the proposed development and the nature and extent of archaeological remains on site in accordance with Chapter 12, paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, policy 12 of the Core Strategy 2011 and saved policy 3.19 of the Southwark Plan 2007

Archaeological Reporting

Within six months of the completion of archaeological site works and building recording, an assessment report detailing the proposals for post-excavation works, publication of the site and preparation of the archive shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and that the works detailed in this assessment report shall not be carried out otherwise than in accordance with any such approval given.

Reason: In order that the archaeological interests of the site are secured with regard to the details of the post-excavation works and building recording, publication and archiving to ensure the preservation of archaeological remains by record in accordance with Chapter 12, paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, policy 12 of the Core Strategy 2011 and saved policy 3.19 of the Southwark Plan 2007

- 3.5.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Mayo 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.

3.6 Research Objectives

3.6.1 The research design set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 2013) was to address the following objectives:

- To determine the palaeotopography of the site. Does the site lie at the northern edge of a higher gravel island as suggested by the geotechnical study?
- To determine the presence or absence of palaeoenvironmental remains. The geotechnical study recorded 'alluvial clay' atop the gravel at the northern edge of the site – does this alluvium have any palaeoenvironmental potential?
- To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity.
- To determine the presence or absence of Roman activity.
- To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.
- To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity.
- To establish the extent of past post depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Unless referenced otherwise, the geological and topographical background cited below was obtained from the desk-based assessment prepared by CgMs Consulting (2013).

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The solid geology of the study site is London Clay, forming the London Basin (British Geological Survey).
- 4.1.2 The drift geology of the study site is shown by British Survey Sheet 270 (South London 1998) to lie of the northern edged of Kempton Terrace Gravels with Alluvium shown in the north.
- 4.1.3 The site has been subject to a Site Investigation in 2013 which concluded the installation of 6 windowless samples. The result of the investigation demonstrates higher Terrace Gravels at the southern edge of the site falling to the north. In the WSL's at the northern edge of the site the gravel/sands were sealed by alluvial clay approximately 1.0m thick. All interventions showed thick deposits of made ground with an average thickness of 2.36m.
- 4.1.4 This deposit model suggests that the site may straddle the northern bank of one of Southwark's lost islands.

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 Mapping of the buried topography of Southwark indicates that the study site probably lay on the gravel terrace of higher ground of Southwark's 'mainland' close to the northern bank of a large palaeochannel, the Bankside Channel (MoLA 2011). The Bankside Channel was a tributary of the Thames and would have flowed between Southwark's islands and the gravel terrace on the south bank of the River Thames (Cowan et al 2009).
- 4.2.2 The current topography of the study site is level at approximately 3.7m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum).
- 4.2.3 The natural topography of the Southwark area, to the north of the site, is one of low gravel eyots separated by lower-lying areas and braided stream channels, which were periodically flooded. Episodes of Holocene transgression and regression of the Thames have led to the deposition of alluvial silts and clays interspersed with episodes of localised peat formation, especially in channel locations. As the site is thought to have lain on the northern edges of Southwark's 'mainland', deeply buried deposits are unlikely to be present on the site.
- 4.2.4 The site lies approximately 800m south of the current south bank of the River Thames.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Unless referenced otherwise, the archaeological and historical background cited below was obtained from the desk-based assessment prepared by CgMs Consulting (2013).

5.1 Prehistoric

- 5.1.1 The floodplain, and consequentially the area concerning the study site, would have been dry until the early Mesolithic period (up to 7,750 BP) and probably covered by dense vegetation and consequentially is very likely that it would have been favoured for occupation. Moreover in the 19th century, implements dating to the Mesolithic period were recovered at the Hopton Street, c 550m to the north of the site.
- 5.1.2 At the end of the early prehistoric period permanent occupation would have been difficult due to the marine transgression and the consequent inundation of the lower areas of the floodplain except for area of higher, drier, ground, known as 'eyots' and the higher gravel terraces. The site was probably located on an 'eyot'. In 1994-7, excavations at Hopton Street, c 180m to the northeast of the site, revealed evidence of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age occupation in the form of ard (plough) mark, postholes, pits, flints artefacts and pottery. Another excavation at 245 Blackfriars Road in 1987, north of the site, also revealed part of the eyot, along with a buried agricultural soil containing burnt flints of Iron Age pottery.
- 5.1.3 Activities such as grazing, fishing, fowling, salt making, exploitation of sources of craft materials [willows, reeds and rushes] and pottery manufacture would have been important in the low-lying intertidal marshland around the eyots and recent investigations within the study area have revealed evidence of former channels and terrestrial environments dated to the prehistoric, including buried peat.

5.2 Roman

- 5.2.1 A map reconstructing Roman Southwark shows the site as lying within undeveloped land. The site lay c900m to the west of the principal Roman road south-west out of London, Stane Street, which ran toward Chichester.
- 5.2.2 Most Roman settlement and activity in this part of Southwark appears to be concentrated to the north of Marshalsea Road, and then further west, north of Union Street. There is also a long thin linear band of settlement running southwards along Stane Street (now represented by the line of Borough High Street, a line to the east of Newington Causeway, and the line of Kennington Park Road).
- 5.2.3 During the Roman period, Londinium, on the north side of the river, developed as an urban centre and later the provincial capital. The Romans established a bridgehead on the southern bank of the Thames opposite Londinium, not long after the foundation of the city in c AD 50. At this time the river level was sufficiently low to permit the establishment of a small but important settlement along the bridgehead road, c 1.300km to the northeast of the site. Mid to late 1st and early 2nd century embankments have been identified along the main

river frontage, although there is no evidence for massive timber quays like those on the north bank. Investigations have revealed, in addition to settlement, extensive evidence of industrial activity.

- 5.2.4 The water level gradually fell during the Roman period. During this time the site was probably located on eyot in the marsh. There is evidence to suggest that there was some activity on the drier, fertile eyots in the marshes on the south side of the river. In 1987, an excavation c 700m north of the site at 245 Blackfriars Road revealed part of the eyot upon which the site is located, along with the agricultural soil containing fragments of pottery. Roman pottery has been found by chance c 160m to the southeast of the site. The exact significance of these finds is uncertain but indicates a low level of activity in the Roman period.

5.3 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

- 5.3.1 The abandonment of land around Southwark in the later Roman periods appears to continue through the Saxon and early medieval periods.
- 5.3.2 Southwark is identified as the site of a Saxon Burgh. According to the Burghal Hidage, the garrison was drawn from a district of 1800 burghs and the perimeter may have been over 2km in length. A ditch, thought to represent the Bourgh's defence was located beside the River Thames on Southwark's north island bound by tidal mudflats to the east and the west.
- 5.3.3 The site is thought to have lain outside the settled area of Saxon settlement in an area of agricultural or horticultural land. Only one unstratified find of Saxon material is recorded from the immediate vicinity of the site. An unstratified sher of Saxon chaff-tempered ware was recovered during excavation at 109-115 Union Street, to the north-east of the site.

5.4 Late Medieval and Post-Medieval

- 5.4.1 The study site is thought to have lain outside the settled area of late Medieval settlement in an area of agricultural or horticultural land, though a number of high status residences were established in the area of Marshalsea Road and Mint Street, toward the end of the late Medieval period, such as 'Suffolk House' a residence of the Dukes of Suffolk.
- 5.4.2 Rocque's map of 1747 shows the study site lying to the south of occupied by a building fronting 'Melancholy Walk' to the north and a field to the south.
- 5.4.3 Blackfriars Road, known as Great Surrey Street until 1829, was laid out from the southern end of Blackfriars Bridge to St George's Circus between 1770-1800.
- 5.4.4 By 1792-99 the Horwood Map shows the north of the study site occupied by buildings fronting 'Surrey Row', the west of the study site occupied by buildings fronting 'Great Surrey Street', and the south of the study site occupied by buildings fronting 'Wellington Street'.
- 5.4.5 An archaeological watching brief was carried out at 8-20 Pocock Street, c. 50m south of the study site, and the lowest recorded deposits were dumped deposits of 18th and 19th century date.
- 5.4.6 During these periods the study site probably comprised agricultural or horticultural land until it was partially developed in the 18th century. Remains of 18th century buildings are

considered unlikely to have survived post depositional impacts from cumulative phases of modern construction and demolition.

5.5 Modern

- 5.5.1 The 1819 Horwood map and the 1831 Parish Map show no significant changes to the buildings occupying the study site.
- 5.5.2 By the 1872 a Public House is shown in the north-west of the study site fronting Blackfriars Road, and an 'Emery and Blacklead Mills' factory are shown in the south of the study site along Wellington Street, with terraced properties fronting Surrey Row in the north.
- 5.5.3 By 1889 the Goad Plan shows the factory in the south of the site was removed and replaced with warehousing and small businesses.
- 5.5.4 By 1907 a block of flats was constructed at 169-172 Blackfriars Road in the south-west corner of the study site and new buildings were constructed to the rear.
- 5.5.5 Between 1907 and 1938 terraced properties in the north-east of the study site were demolished and cleared.
- 5.5.6 By 1952 the terraced property to the rear of the Public House fronting Surrey Row was demolished, and the London Bomb Damage Map shows general blast damage to the north-east of the study site.
- 5.5.7 By 1958 new buildings were constructed in the north-east of the study site along Surrey Row. Between 1958 and 1973-76 all buildings to the rear of 169-173 Blackfriars Road were demolished and cleared.
- 5.5.8 Garages were constructed on the rear of the study site in the late 20th century.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 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 IfA.
- 6.2 Four trenches were excavated (Trenches 1 to 4). They were stepped inwards at an appropriate gradient (approximately 1.2m at a gradient of 1:1, depending on ground conditions).
- 6.3 The excavation of all trenches was undertaken using a mechanical excavator. Once the concrete slab was broken and removed, the mechanical excavator used a toothless ditching bucket to remove modern overburden under the constant supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil will be mounded a safe distance from the edges of the trench.
- 6.4 Machine excavation continued in spits of 100mm at a time until either significant archaeological strata were found or natural ground exposed.
- 6.5 Following machine excavation, relevant faces of the trench that require examination or recording will be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. The majority of the investigation of archaeological levels was carried out by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and in section.
- 6.6 Trenches 1 to 4, as positioned in Figure 2, had the following details:

| Trench | Dimension at GL | Dimension at base | Maximum depth from GL | Trench orientation | Purpose |
|--------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1 | 8.14m x 4.91m | 3.90m x 2m | 2.88m | E-W | To evaluate higher gravel |
| 2 | 8.37m x 9.90m | 3.38m x 4.67m | 3.44m | N-S | To evaluate edge of channel, test higher gravel and also expose alluvial sequence |
| 3 | 8m x 5.2m | 3.20m x 1.80m | 3.05m | E-W | To evaluate higher gravel |
| 4 | 7.11m x 16.52m | 10m x 2.70m | 3.70m | N-S | To evaluate edge of channel, test higher gravel and also expose alluvial sequence |

- 6.7 A large quantity of fragments of cement asbestos was encountered during the machine excavation of the central area of Trench 2. As a result of the contamination it was not possible to excavate this trench to its proposed dimensions.
- 6.8 All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were evaluated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard single context recording methods. Features will be evaluated so as to characterise their form, function and date. Fabric samples were taken from brickwork structures and environmental samples were taken from the sequence of alluvium observed in the north part of the site.
- 6.9 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 and presented in PCAs Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.

- 6.10 A full photographic record was made during the archaeological investigation, comprising digital photographs.
- 6.11 The complete archive produced during the evaluation, comprising written, drawn, photographic records and artefacts will be deposited with LAARC, identified by site code BLC14.
- 6.12 Two temporary benchmarks (TBM1 and 2) were established with a GPS with a height of 3.78m OD and 4.15m OD respectively. TBM1 was located on the east side of the SW entrance of the site. TBM2 was located near the NE corner of the site.
- 6.13 The trenches were located onto the National OS Grid by means of GPS-survey.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

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 relationships are shown in Appendix 2.

7.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits (Figure 4)

7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered on site during the archaeological investigation was natural sandy gravel exposed at the base of all evaluation trenches. All contexts detailed below have been interpreted as natural sandy gravel:

| Trench | Context | Dimension | Highest level | Lowest level |
|--------|---------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | 9 | 0.28m N-S x 1.58m E-W | 1.44m OD | 1.36m OD |
| 2 | 12 | 3.32m N-S x 1.80m E-W | 0.71m OD | 0.63m OD |
| 3 | 22 | 1.80m N-S x 3.20m E-W | 1.43m OD | 1.41m OD |
| 4 | 30 | 3.65m N-S x 1.75m E-W | 0.90m OD | 0.46m OD |
| 4 | 36 | 4.90m N-S x 2.70m E-W | 1.08m OD | 1.01m OD |

7.1.2 The level of the natural sandy gravel is consistent with the site investigation (Southern Testing 2013a and b) which concluded that higher Terrace Gravels at the southern edge of the site fall to the north forming a large river channel, the Bankside Channel. However, it is very likely that post-depositional impacts in the south half of the site, consisting of terracing and insertion of deep foundations during the late post-medieval and modern periods, had removed the upper horizon of the terrace gravel.

7.2 Phase 2: Medieval Alluvial Deposits (Figures 3 and 4)

7.2.1 In the northern part of the site the lower terrace gravel was sealed by a sequence of alluvial deposits. In Trenches 2 and 4 natural sandy gravel [12], [30] and [36] (Figure 4) was sealed by a layer of plastic silty organic clay with moderate gravel inclusions recorded as [13] in Trench 2 and as [29] and [35] in Trench 4. Within layer [29] was found one single fragment of abraded Roman tegula dated AD 50 to 160. The layers were interpreted as the primary infill deposits of the Bankside Channel.

7.2.2 The organic silty clay was in turn sealed by more firm and less organic alluvium recorded in Trench 2 as [11] and in south half of Trench 4 as [34] and [33]. In the north half of Trench 4 the Alluvium was recorded as [37], [28] and [27]. Context [28] produced a fragment of abraded peg tile dated AD 1330 to 1390. All contexts detailed below were interpreted as alluvial infill of the river channel:

| Trench | Context | Dimension | Highest level | Lowest level | Section |
|--------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| 2 | 11 | 3.32m N-S x 1.80m E-W x 1.13m thick | 2.06m OD | | 2 |
| 2 | 13 | 3.32m N-S x 1.80m E-W x 0.27m thick | 0.93m OD | 0.80m OD | 2 |
| 4 | 27 | 1.70m N-S x 2m E-W x 1.10m thick | 1.68m OD | 1.45m OD | 4 |
| 4 | 28 | 2.20m N-S x 2m E-W x 0.70m thick | 1.50m OD | 0.63m OD | 4 |
| 4 | 29 | 3.40m N-S x 2m E-W x 0.30m thick | 1.00m OD | 0.60m OD | 4 |
| 4 | 33 | 2.46m N-S x 0.90m E-W x 0.27m thick | 1.72m OD | 1.69m OD | 6 |

| Trench | Context | Dimension | Highest level | Lowest level | Section |
|--------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| 4 | 34 | 2.46m N-S x 0.90m E-W x 0.20m thick | 1.45m OD | 1.42m OD | 6 |
| 4 | 35 | 2.46m N-S x 0.90m E-W x 0.20m thick | 1.27m OD | 1.22m OD | 6 |
| 4 | 37 | 1.30m N-S x 2m E-W x 0.40m thick | 1.43m OD | 0.83m OD | 4 |

7.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval (Figures 3 and 4)

7.3.1 In the southern part of the site in Trenches 1 and 3 the higher terrace gravel was sealed by a sequence of post-medieval consolidation deposits. In Trench 1 natural sandy gravel [9] was sealed at 1.77m OD by mid brown sandy clay gravel [8] with occasional charcoal flecks. Context [8] measured at least 0.85m N-S by 2m E-W by 0.25m thickness and was in turn overlaid by loose reddish brown sandy gravel [9] at 1.44m OD which measured at least 0.28m N-S by 1.58m E-W by 0.15m thick. One fragment of post-medieval peg tile dating 1600 to 1900 and one shard of pottery identified as Surrey-Hampshire border redware, dating 1550 -1900, were recovered from context [8] and [7] respectively.

7.3.2 In Trench 3 the natural sandy gravel [22] was sealed at 1.79m OD by layer [21] which had the same colour, compaction and composition of context [8] observed in Trench 1 (see above). Layer [21] measured at least 2.0m N-S by approximately 2.0m E-W by 0.40m thick; it was in turn overlaid by firm dark grey silty clay layer [23] at 2.01m OD which measured 2m N-S by 0.90m E-W by 0.17m thick. Layers [21] and [23] contained one fragment of peg tile dating AD 1180-1450 and one fragment of early post-medieval brick dating 1450-1700 respectively.

7.3.3 In Trench 4 the alluvial infill of the river channel was sealed to the south by layer [32] and to the north by layer [26]. Layer [26], consisting of firm light grey brown silty clay, was found at 1.72m OD and measured 3.20m N-S by 2m E-W by 0.25m thick. Layer [32] was found at 2.04m OD and consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional small fragments of CBM. Its dimensions were 2.16m N-S by 0.90 E-W by 0.35m thick and it contained one shard of pottery dating from the 18th to 19th century.

7.4 Phase 4: Late Post-Medieval (Figures 3 and 4)

7.4.1 In Trench 1 the post-medieval consolidation deposits (see Phase 2) were truncated by construction cut [1] for E-W orientated masonry [3], recorded at 2.79m OD. Context [3], situated near the SW corner of Trench 1, measured 1.20m E-W by 0.52m width by 0.55m high and was truncated to the east and west by modern intrusions. It consisted of bricks dating 1825 to 1900 forming an English coursing bonded with hard Portland-cement mortar.

7.4.2 In the north half of Trench 2 the Phase 2 alluvial deposits [15] and [11] (see Paragraph 7.3.2) were truncated by the insertion of two parallel N-S orientated masonry wall foundations recorded as [14] and [10], positioned alongside the east and west side of the trench respectively. Wall [14] measured at least 3.89m N-S by 0.47m wide by 1m high and was found at 3.03m OD. The dimensions of wall [10] were at least 8.32m N-S by 0.45m wide by 0.91m high and it was found at 2.90m OD.

7.4.3 The Phase 3 post-medieval consolidation deposits (see Paragraph 7.4.3) were truncated at 1.60m OD by E-W orientated construction cut [25] for brick masonry [31] situated

approximately in the central area of Trench 4. Masonry [31], found at 1.81m OD, was at least 1.80m long and 0.95m high and consisted of red narrow post fire bricks dating 1750 to 1900 bonded with clinker mortar forming an English course/bond. This masonry formed the north side of a culvert which was sealed by a modern E-W orientated foundation (see below Phase 5). Context [31] extended beyond the eastern and western limit of excavation in Trench 4.

7.5 Phase 5: Modern

- 7.5.1 In the central area of Trench 4, masonry [31] (see above, Paragraph 7.5.3) was built upon at 3.41m OD by E-W orientated modern masonry foundation [38]. Context [38] was at least 6.66m long, 0.35m wide, 1.40m high and consisted of modern 20th century yellow and red bricks sitting above 0.40m thick concrete foundation.
- 7.5.2 Keyed into the south face of masonry [38] were observed, at 3.34m OD and at 3.46m OD, parallel N-S orientated masonry foundations [39] and [40]. Context [39] was at least 7.86m long, 0.37m wide and 0.90m high; context [40] was 1m long, 0.25m wide and was truncated to the south by a modern intrusion. It is considered that it would have been linked to a further N-S orientated masonry foundation [41], seen to the south, which was at least 7.97m long, 0.50m wide and 0.92m high. All walls consisted of the same brick type (modern 20th century yellow and red bricks) and mortar, and were clearly part of the same building.
- 7.5.3 The upper 1.0m of the ground make-up in the southern half of the site had been locally truncated by various sub-basement structures associated with buildings fronting to Pocock Street (see all Plates, particularly numbers 2 and 6). These were late 19th – 20th century in date and were formed of brick walls on concrete footings, with concrete slab floors.
- 7.5.4 The ground sequences were completed in all trenches by deposits of made ground [+] of varying thickness, which contained 20th century material and clearly attested to the clearance and levelling of the site after the Second World War.

Plate 1: West facing view of Trench 1



Plate 2: South facing view of section 1 in Trench 1



Plate 3: South facing view of Trench 2



Plate 4: East facing section 2 in Trench 2



Plate 5: West facing view of Trench 3



Plate 6: North facing section 3 in Trench 3

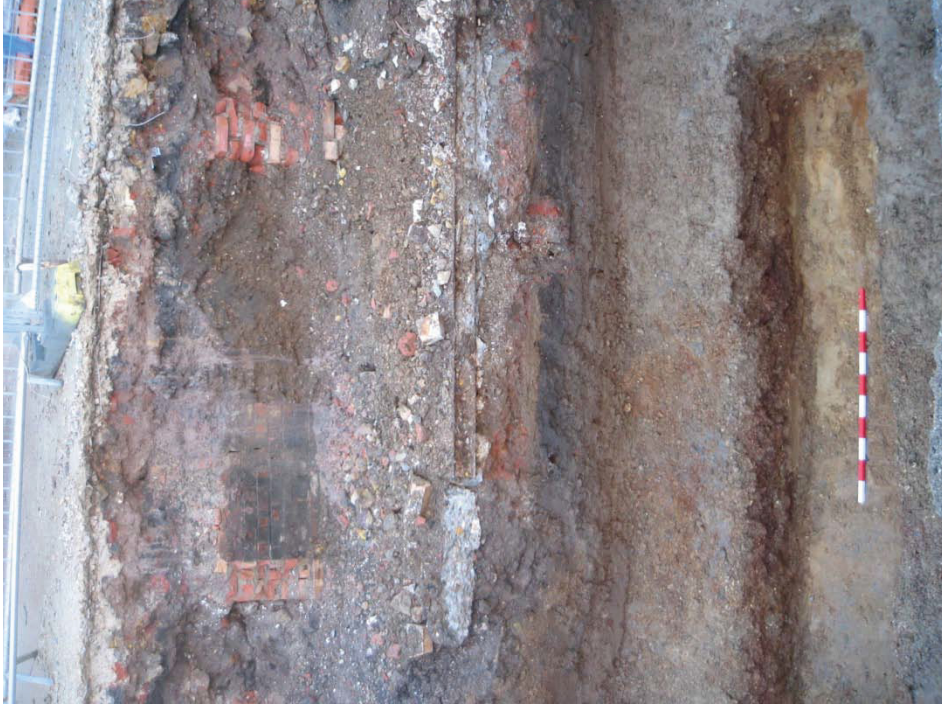


Plate 7: South facing view of Trench 4



Plate 8: East facing section 4 in northern half of Trench 4



Plate 9: West facing section 6 in southern half of Trench 4



8 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Interpretations

The evaluation at the site has recorded five distinct phases, which are interpreted as follows:

- 8.1.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits. This phase was represented by high terrace gravels at the southern edge of the site at 1.44m OD falling to a low of 0.46m OD at the northern edge of the site. This topography is easily explained, as the site straddles the southern boundary of the Bankside channel, as recorded in the geotechnical site investigation. The channel edge had not been worked or managed in anyway.
- 8.1.2 Phase 2: Medieval Alluvium. The channel contained four distinct alluvial fills, which contained no organic content in the sections exposed. The lowest fill yielded a single piece of Roman *tegula*, but this was heavily abraded and could have washed in from anywhere. The tertiary fill contained a piece of medieval tile, which at least serves to date the later period of natural in-filling and sedimentation of the channel.
- 8.1.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval Consolidation. This phase is represented by a series of made-ground deposits which were dated from the post-medieval periods. They attest to ground consolidation undertaken in order to render the contemporary site surface, which comprised a large area of alluvium, as workable for development.
- 8.1.4 Phase 4: Late Post-Medieval Development. Evidence of structural development in the form of walls and a culvert, dating from the 18th – 19th centuries, was found in the northern half of the site. These remains can be reconciled to the Horwood map of 1819 (Figure 5).
- 8.1.5 Phase 5: Late 19th Century / Modern Development. Further structural evidence was found for the construction of properties dating to the late 19th and 20th centuries, some of which (particularly at the southern edge of the site) had sub-basement levels which had truncated lower deposits. These buildings can be reconciled to OS maps of the time, and also allow the supposition that the E-W wall found in Trench 4 represents the Municipal Boundary which is shown on maps from the late 18th to 20th centuries in the same position (Figure 6 and CgMs 2013).

8.2 Research Questions

- 8.2.1 *To determine the palaeotopography of the site. Does the site lie at the northern edge of a higher gravel island as suggested by the geotechnical study?*
- 8.2.2 The archaeological investigation demonstrated that the higher terrace gravel in the southern area of the site, found at 1.44m OD and 1.43m OD in Trenches 1 and 3 respectively, declines in the northern area of the site to lowest levels of 0.63m OD and 0.46m OD in the northern end of Trenches 2 and 4 respectively. The archaeological evidence shows that the site is situated alongside the southern bank of a large E-W orientated river channel. As a result, the findings of the archaeological investigation are consistent with the conclusions of the geotechnical study.
- 8.2.3 *To determine the presence or absence of palaeoenvironmental remains. The geotechnical*

study recorded 'alluvial clay' atop the gravel at the northern edge of the site – does this alluvium have any palaeoenvironmental potential?

- 8.2.4 Alluvial silty clay, recorded in the northern area of the site, was interpreted as infill of the river channel. Two heavily abraded finds were recovered from these deposits: one fragment of Roman *tegula* dated AD 50-160 from the primary fill of the channel and a fragment of post-medieval peg tile dated AD 1330-1390 from the tertiary fill. It is certain that these finds had been re-deposited. No organic content was observed within the channel fill. No evidence of later re-cutting or management of the channel was observed during the archaeological investigation.
- 8.2.5 *To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity.*
- 8.2.6 Evidence of post-medieval horizontal truncation was observed in the southern area of the site where the higher terrace gravel was sealed by post-medieval deposits interpreted as consolidation layers. Evidence for neither prehistoric cut features nor prehistoric finds were observed in the south part of the site. It is possible that the later post-medieval activity had truncated all earlier deposits. It is also possible that the site lay in an area of marsh land during the prehistoric period.
- 8.2.7 *To determine the presence or absence of Roman activity.*
Except for one fragment of Roman *tegula* recovered from the basal fill of the river channel no evidence of Roman occupation was observed. Post-medieval terracing in the southern area of the site had likely truncated all potentially earlier deposits, should they ever have been present.
- 8.2.8 *To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.*
- 8.2.9 Only two finds dating to this period were recovered during the archaeological investigation. Both finds were interpreted as residual within post-medieval deposits, themselves interpreted as consolidation layers. No archaeological evidence of medieval activity was observed. However, it is possible that the river channel was active during the medieval period as a fragment of medieval abraded peg tile dated AD 1330 to 1390 was found within the alluvial infill.
- 8.2.10 *To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity.*
- 8.2.11 Evidence of buildings observed in Trench 2 were two parallel N-S orientated masonry walls. The 1819 Horwood map shows terraced properties fronting Surrey Row in the north of the site where the two parallel walls were located (Figure 5), and it is possible that these walls relate to the structure shown on that map.
- 8.2.12 Archaeological evidence for an E-W orientated brick culvert consisting of red narrow post fire bricks dating 1750 to 1900, bonded with clinker mortar, was seen in Trench 4. This culvert is located in approximately the same position as the back walls/property boundaries for structures fronting Surrey Row on the 1819 Horwood map.
- 8.2.13 To establish the extent of past post depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 8.2.14 During the late post-medieval period the southern half of the site was truncated by a process of ground reduction for the construction of industrial buildings. The north half of the site was

occupied by terraced properties. The extent of post-depositional impacts was evident across the site with landscaping, the construction of brick walls upon concrete foundations (with associated sub-basement levels), and their later demolition during the 20th century.

8.3 Conclusions

- 8.3.1 The evaluation has confirmed the expected presence of the Bankside Channel to run E-W across the site, bisecting it to create an area of high gravel at the southern side and low gravel, within the channel, on the northern side. Any potential which the site may have had for the presence of early human activity at the channel edge has been impacted by post-medieval and later development, which included sub-basement levels.
- 8.3.2 The available evidence shows that by the medieval period the channel had largely silted up as a result of natural processes. Activity in the post-medieval period sought to consolidate this newly created ground for development by various dumping episodes, which then allowed structural development as is shown in the cartographic map regression (CgMs 2013).
- 8.3.3 The evaluation has not shown the presence of significant archaeological remains or deposits. Those that have been found can be considered to have only limited local importance, although the confirmation of the location of the edge of the Bankside Channel is noteworthy for future research.
- 8.3.4 Once the project is deemed complete, the completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will eventually be deposited with LAARC under site code BLC14.
- 8.3.5 The results of the archaeological investigation will be published as an entry in the *London Archaeologist* 'Round Up'.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the archaeological work on behalf of Linden Homes Ltd. We also thank 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: Chris Mayo for project managing and editing of this report; Hayley Baxter for the illustrations; Chris Jarrett, Kevin Hayward and Kevin Rielly for their assessment of the pottery, building material and animal bones. Finally thank you to Patrick Cavanagh for his work on site, to Rik Archer for the surveying, to Chris Cooper for the logistic and David Old of O'Connell for opening the trenches by machine.

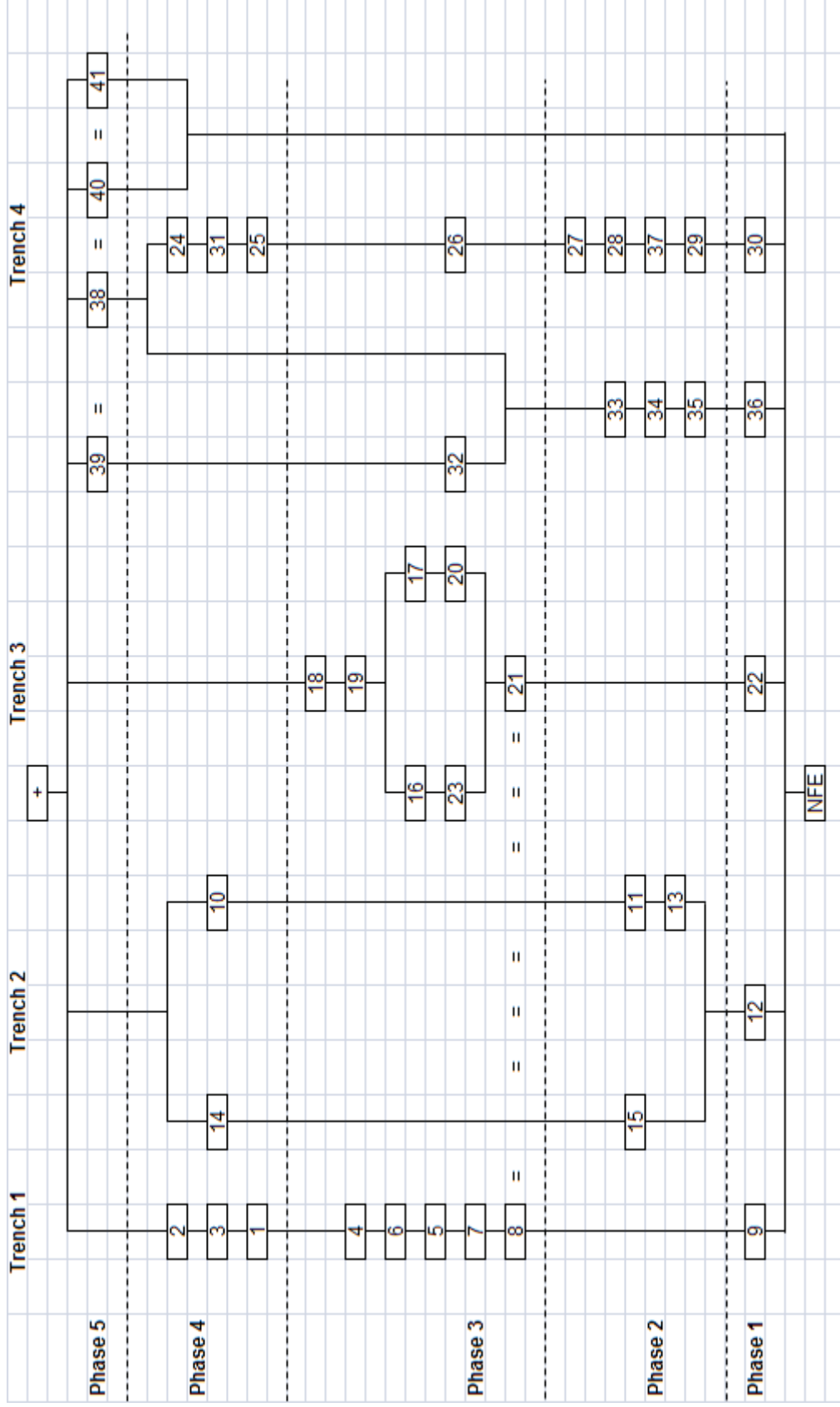
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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

| Context No | Trench No | Phase | Plan | Section | Type | Description | Highest Level | Lowest Level |
|------------|-----------|-------|------|---------|---------|--|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | 1 | 4 | Tr.1 | 1 | Cut | Construction cut for masonry [3] | 2.79m OD | 2.10m OD |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | Tr.1 | 1 | Fill | Construction cut backfill | 2.79m OD | |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | Tr.1 | 1 | Masonry | Post-med masonry wall | 2.79m OD | |
| 4 | 1 | 3 | Tr.1 | 1 | Layer | Post-medieval make up | 2.77m OD | 2.39m OD |
| 5 | 1 | 3 | Tr.1 | 1 | Cut | Modern cut feature | 2.06m OD | 1.40m OD |
| 6 | 1 | 3 | Tr.1 | 1 | Fill | Fill of modern cut feature [5] | 2.03m OD | 1.99m OD |
| 7 | 1 | 3 | Tr.1 | 1 | Layer | Greenish brown post-med layer | 2.05m OD | 2.03m OD |
| 8 | 1 | 3 | Tr.1 | 1 | Layer | Mid brown sandy clay gravel | 1.77m OD | 1.74m OD |
| 9 | 1 | 1 | Tr.1 | 1 | Layer | Natural sandy gravel | 1.44m OD | 1.36m OD |
| 10 | 2 | 4 | GPS | 2 | Masonry | Modern/post-med N-S orientated wall | 2.90m OD | |
| 11 | 2 | 2 | GPS | 2 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 2.06m OD | |
| 12 | 2 | 1 | GPS | 2 | Layer | Natural sandy gravel | 0.71m OD | 0.63m OD |
| 13 | 2 | 2 | GPS | 2 | Layer | Organic alluvial layer | 0.93m OD | 0.80m OD |
| 14 | 2 | 4 | GPS | | Masonry | Modern/post-med N-S orientated wall | 3.03m OD | 2.84m OD |
| 15 | 2 | 2 | GPS | | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 2.06m OD | |
| 16 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Layer | Sandy grit layer | 2.07m OD | 2.02m OD |
| 17 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Layer | Sandy grit layer | 2.10m OD | 2.05m OD |
| 18 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Fill | Fill of cut feature [19] | 2.10m OD | 2.06m OD |
| 19 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Cut | Cut feature filled by [18] | 2.10m OD | 1.80m OD |
| 20 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Deposit | Dark grey alluvial deposit | 2.05m OD | 1.97m OD |
| 21 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.79m OD | 1.73m OD |
| 22 | 3 | 1 | Tr.3 | 3 | Layer | Natural sandy gravel | 1.43m OD | 1.41m OD |
| 23 | 3 | 3 | Tr.3 | 3 | Deposit | Dark grey alluvial deposit | 2.01m OD | 1.99m OD |
| 24 | 4 | 4 | Tr.4 | 4, 5 | Fill | Construction cut backfill of masonry [31] | 1.60m OD | 1.59m OD |
| 25 | 4 | 4 | Tr.4 | 4, 5 | Cut | Construction cut for masonry [31] | 1.60m OD | 0.78m OD |
| 26 | 4 | 3 | Tr.4 | 4 | Layer | Post-medieval silty clay layer | 1.72m OD | 1.60m OD |
| 27 | 4 | 2 | Tr.4 | 4 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.68m OD | 1.45m OD |
| 28 | 4 | 2 | Tr.4 | 4 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.50m OD | 0.63m OD |
| 29 | 4 | 2 | Tr.4 | 4 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.00m OD | 0.60m OD |
| 30 | 4 | 1 | Tr.4 | 4 | Layer | Natural sandy gravel | 0.90m OD | 0.46m OD |
| 31 | 4 | 4 | Tr.4 | 5 | Masonry | E-W orientated masonry | 1.85m OD | |
| 32 | 4 | 3 | Tr.4 | 6 | Fill | Construction cut backfill of modern N-S foundation | 2.04m OD | 2.00m OD |
| 33 | 4 | 2 | Tr.4 | 6 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.72m OD | 1.69m OD |
| 34 | 4 | 2 | Tr.4 | 6 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.45m OD | 1.42m OD |
| 35 | 4 | 2 | Tr.4 | 6 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.27m OD | 1.22m OD |
| 36 | 4 | 1 | Tr.4 | 6 | Layer | Natural sandy gravel | 1.08m OD | 1.01m OD |
| 37 | 4 | 5 | Tr.4 | 4 | Deposit | Alluvial deposit | 1.43m OD | 0.83m OD |
| 38 | 4 | 5 | GPS | | Masonry | Modern E-W wall | 3.41m OD | 3.21m OD |
| 39 | 4 | 5 | GPS | | Masonry | Modern N-S wall | 3.34m OD | 2.28m OD |
| 40 | 4 | 5 | GPS | | Masonry | Modern N-S wall | 3.46m OD | 3.38m OD |
| 41 | 4 | 5 | GPS | | Masonry | Modern N-S wall | 3.31m OD | 2.39m OD |

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Hayward, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Assemblage Quantification and Spot-Dating

| Context | Fabric | Form | Size | Date range of material | | Latest dated material | | Spot date | Spot date with mortar |
|---------|----------------------|---|------|------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | Start | End | Start | End | | |
| 3 | 3032 3101 | Narrow Post Great Fire Brick Portland Hard Mortar | 1 | 1664 | 1900 | 1664 | 1900 | 1775-1900 | 1825-1900 |
| 8 | 2276 | Post medieval peg tile | 1 | 1480 | 1900 | 1480 | 1900 | 1600-1900 | No mortar |
| 10 | 3035 3032 3101 | Frogged yellow machine Estuary brick and narrow post great fire brick; clinker mortar | 4 | 1664 | 1940 | 1780 | 1940 | 1850-1940 | 1850-1900+ |
| 14 | 3032; 3101 | Unfrogged narrow post great fire brick clinker mortar | 2 | 1664 | 1900 | 1664 | 1900 | 1775-1900 | 1750-1900 |
| 21 | 2271 | Medieval Peg tile | 1 | 1180 | 1800 | 1180 | 1800 | 1180-1450+ | No mortar |
| 23 | 3046 | Early post medieval brick | 1 | 1450 | 1700 | 1450 | 1700 | 1450-1700+ | No mortar |
| 24 | 2271 | Medieval peg tile | 1 | 1180 | 1800 | 1180 | 1800 | 1180-1450+ | No mortar |
| 28 | 3076 | Abraded Penn Tile | 1 | 1330 | 1390 | 1330 | 1390 | 1330-1390+ | No mortar |
| 29 | 2459a | Abraded Roman Tegula | 1 | 50 | 160 | 50 | 160 | 50-160+ | No mortar |
| 31 | 3032; 3101 | Narrow Post Great Fire Bricks clinker mortar | 2 | 1664 | 1900 | 1664 | 1900 | 17575-1900 | 1750-1900 |

Review

The assemblage consists of a mixture of Roman, medieval and especially post medieval ceramic building material. Abraded Roman tegula [29] and medieval peg [21] [24] and 14th century floor tile [28] show the fingerprint of earlier activity in and around the site.

By far the largest part of the assemblage consists of a series of walls (culverts?) [3] [10] [14] [31] all dating on the basis of form, fabric and mortar from the mid 18th to the 19th century. In all probability these date to the second half of the 19th century.

Recommendations

The Victorian brick structures are very much of the period in terms of mortar and brick fabric and brick form and other than dating the later post medieval development of this part of London has limited value. Some potential lies with the Roman and especially medieval assemblage with a high status worn floor tile indicating proximity to an ecclesiastical building or a Bishops residence. However, there is limited potential for further excavation here.

APPENDIX 4: POTTERY AND CLAY TOBACCO PIPE ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Introduction

The pottery types are classified according to the Museum of London Archaeology Service and were quantified by sherd count and estimated number of vessels. The pottery is not abraded and survives as sherd material with no items surviving as intact or with complete profiles.

Pottery Assemblage Quantification and Spot-Dating

Context [7], spot date: 18th-19th century

- Surrey-Hampshire border redware (RBOR), 1550-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: chamber pot with internal cess deposit

Context [24], spot date: mid 19th century

- Chinese blue and white porcelain (CHPO BW), 1590-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: bowl; medium rounded
- Creamware with developed pale glaze (CREA DEV), 1760-1830, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: bowl or dish
- London stoneware (LONS), 1670-1900, two sherds, 2 ENV, form: saggar
- London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: unidentified
- Plain refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: jug
- English tin-glazed ware (TGW), 1670-1846, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: unidentified (abraded)
- Transfer-printed refined whiteware (TPW), 1780-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: plate with mid 19th century European floral design.

Context [32], spot date: 18th-19th century

- Surrey-Hampshire border redware (RBOR), 1550-1900, one sherd, 1 ENV, form: chamber pot

CTP Assemblage Quantification and Spot-Dating

Context [24], spot date: 18th century

- A single fragment of an unabraded clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered from context [24]. The stem is of a medium to thick diameter and a fine bore and can therefore only be broadly dated to the 18th century.

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The archaeological investigation produced a total of eleven sherds of pottery, representing some 10 MNV. The pottery types represented are those typically found in the London area. Contexts [7] and [32] solely produced single sherds of Surrey-Hampshire border redware, a pottery type produced over a long period of time from c. 1550 onwards. Both sherds are in the form of chamber pots and these are most frequently found in deposits dated to the 18th and 19th century on Southwark archaeological sites. Much of the pottery recovered from context [24] is rather mundane and consists of typical domestic household refuse; however the two sherds of London stoneware saggars represent kiln furniture and waste from a local pot house, located in this area on the south bank of the Thames.

The only potential of the pottery is to provide dating evidence for the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work.

The clay tobacco pipe stem has no significance, only limited dating potential to the context it was recovered from and there are no recommendations for further work.

APPENDIX 5: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-170935

Project details

| | |
|--|--|
| Project name | 169-173 Blackfriars Road, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 8ER: An Archaeological Evaluation |
| Short description of the project | Natural sandy gravel was recorded across the site, demonstrating that the site is situated above the southern bank of a large E-W orientated river channel. Evidence of post-medieval horizontal truncation was observed in the southern area of the site where the higher terrace gravel was sealed by post-medieval deposits interpreted as consolidation layers. Except for one fragment of Roman tegula recovered from the basal fill of the river channel no evidence of Roman activity was observed. Post-medieval terracing in the southern area of the site had probably truncated all potentially earlier deposits. Only two finds dating to the medieval period were recovered during the archaeological investigation; both finds were interpreted as residual within post-medieval deposits interpreted as consolidation layers. No archaeological evidence of medieval activity was observed. However, it is possible that the river channel was active during the medieval period as a fragment of medieval abraded peg tile dated AD 1330 to 1390 was found within the alluvial infill. Evidence of structural development in the form of walls and a culvert, dating from the 18th - 19th centuries, was found in the northern half of the site. These remains can be reconciled to the Horwood map of 1819. Further structural evidence was found for the construction of properties dating to the late 19th and 20th centuries, some of which (particularly at the southern edge of the site) had sub-basement levels which had truncated lower deposits. These buildings can be reconciled to OS maps of the time, and also allow the supposition that the E-W wall found in Trench 4 represents the Municipal Boundary which is shown on maps from the late 18th to 20th centuries in the same position. |
| Project dates | Start: 07-01-2014 End: 17-01-2014 |
| Previous/future work | No / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | BLC14 - Sitecode |
| Any associated project reference codes | 13/AP/0966 - Planning Application No. |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | None |
| Current Land use | Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing |
| Current Land use | Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing |
| Monument type | WALL Post Medieval |
| Monument type | CHANNEL Uncertain |
| Monument type | CULVERT Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | CBM Roman |
| Significant Finds | CBM Medieval |
| Significant Finds | CBM Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | CTP Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | POTTERY Post Medieval |
| Methods & techniques | "Targeted Trenches" |
| Development type | Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.) |
| Prompt | Planning condition |
| Position in the planning process | After full determination (eg. As a condition) |

Project location

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Country | England |
| Site location | GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK 169-173 Blackfriars Road, London |
| Postcode | SE1 8ER |
| Study area | 1700.00 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | TQ 3170 7983 51.5015430292 -0.102328595495 51 30 05 N 000 06 08 W Point |
| Lat/Long Datum | Unknown |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 0.46m Max: 1.44m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd |
| Project brief originator | Consultant |
| Project design originator | Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd |
| Project director/manager | Chris Mayo |
| Project supervisor | Ireneo Grosso |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Developer |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Linden Homes Ltd. |

Project archives

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Physical Archive recipient | BLC14 |
| Physical Contents | "Ceramics" |
| Digital Archive recipient | BLC14 |
| Digital Contents | "Stratigraphic" |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Text" |
| Paper Archive recipient | BLC14 |
| Paper Contents | "Environmental", "Stratigraphic" |
| Paper Media available | "Context sheet", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Plan", "Section" |

Project bibliography 1

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | 169-173 Blackfriars Road, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 8ER: An Archaeological Evaluation |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Grosso, I. |
| Other bibliographic details | PCA R11627 |
| Date | 2014 |
| Issuer or publisher | Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited |
| Place of issue or publication | London |
| Description | A4 client document with blue covers |

| | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Entered by | Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com) |
| Entered on | 7 February 2014 |



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Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A4



Figure 2
Trench Location
1:400 at A4



SURREY ROW

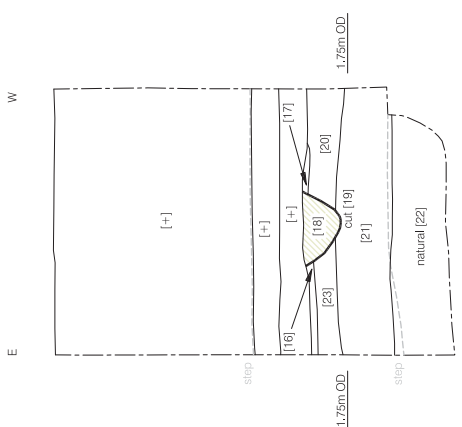


- Edge of Palaeochannel?
- Cut feature
- C18th/C19th Walls
- C19th/C20th Walls
- Building Outlines from 1893 OS Map

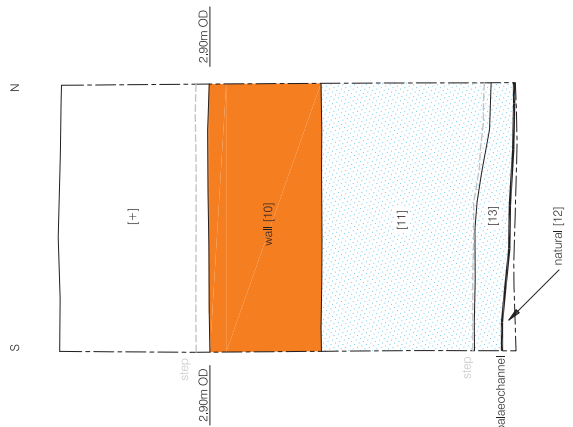
0 5m
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POCOCK STREET

Figure 3
 Plan of Trenches 1 - 4
 1:100 at A3



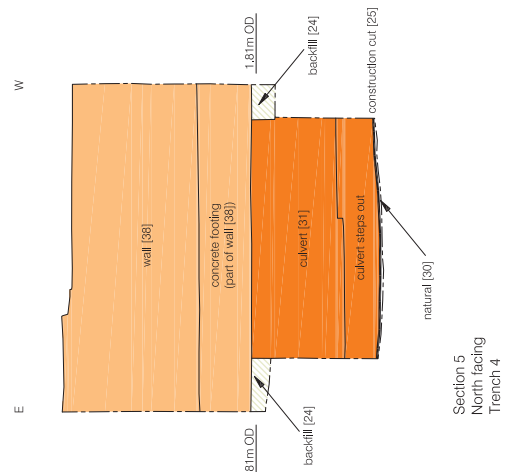
Section 3
North facing
Trench 3



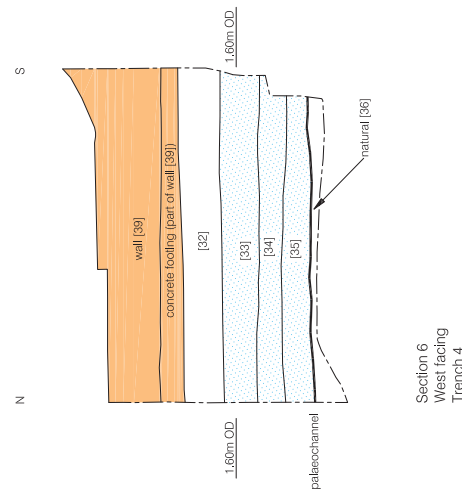
Section 2
East facing
Trench 2



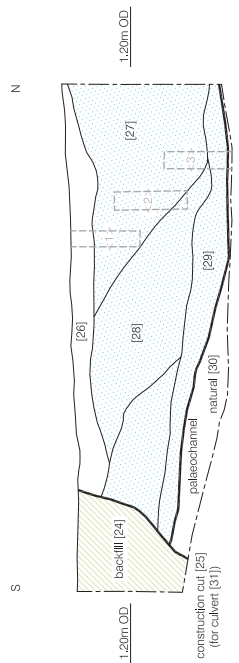
Section 1
North facing
Trench 1



Section 5
North facing
Trench 4



Section 6
West facing
Trench 4



Section 4
East facing
Trench 4

- Palaeochannel infill
- Cut feature
- C18th/C19th Walls
- C19th/C20th Walls



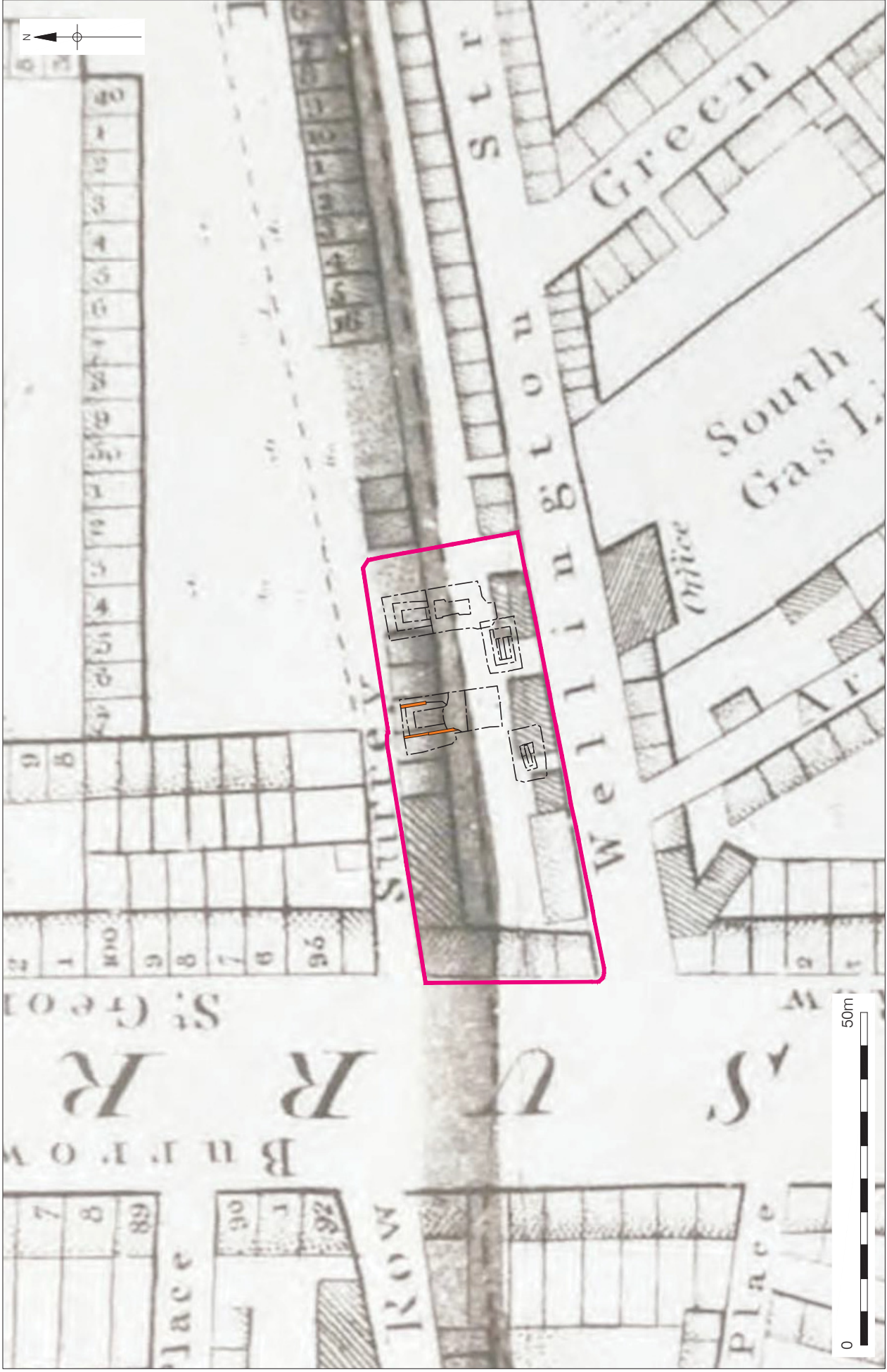


Figure 5
Plan of Trenches 1 - 4
overlay onto Horwood, 1819
1:800 at A4

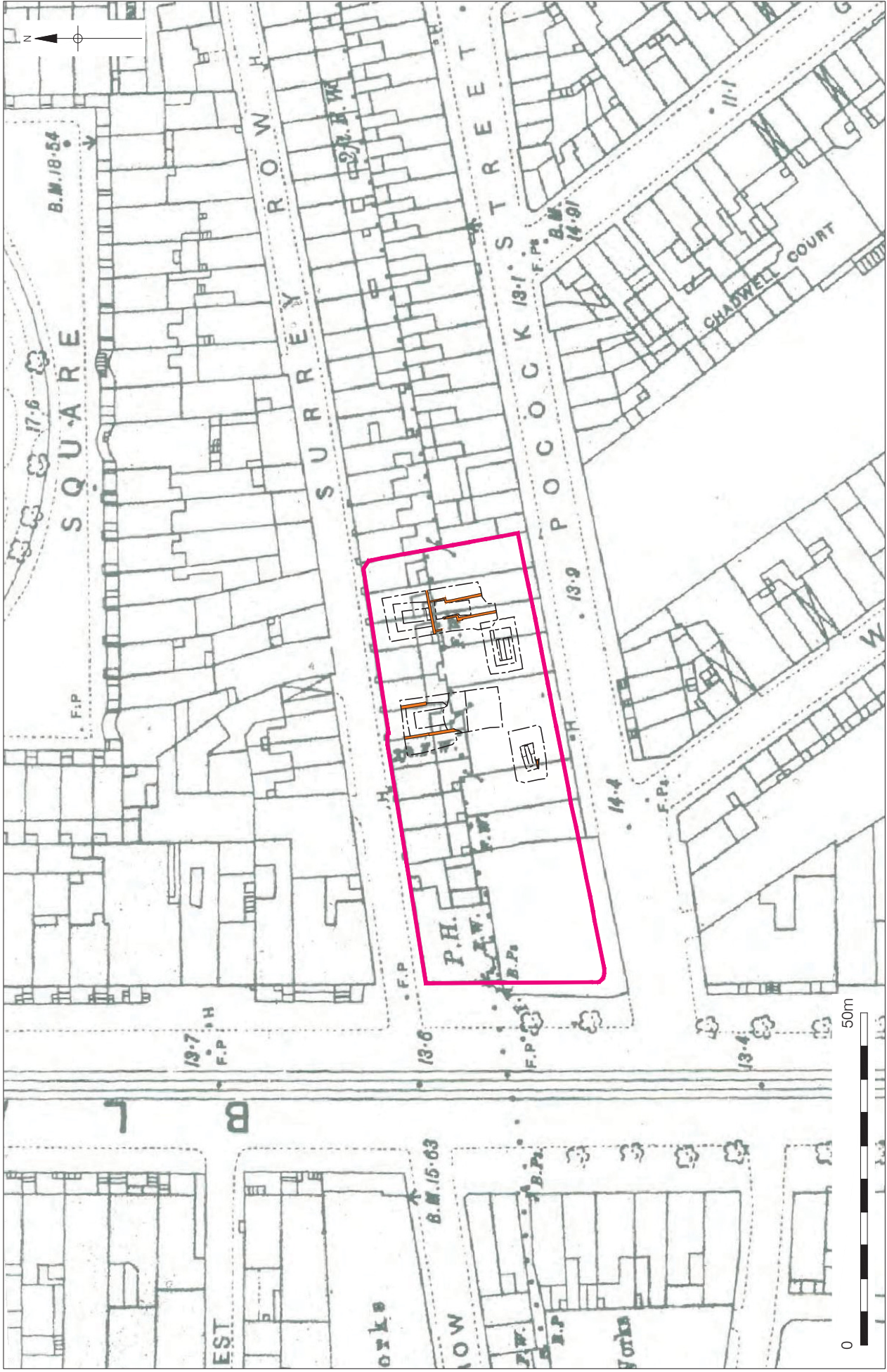


Figure 6
Plan of Trenches 1 - 4
overlay onto Ordnance Survey, 1893
1:800 at A4

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