

**LAND AT BRADWELL STREET,
MILE END, LONDON BOROUGH OF
TOWER HAMLETS, E1**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION &
WATCHING BRIEF**

PCA REPORT NO: R11794

JULY 2014




PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

BRADWELL STREET, MILE END,
LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION & WATCHING
BRIEF

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited			K3555
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Amelia Fairman & Joe Brooks		July 2014
Graphics Prepared by:	Jennifer Simonson		July 2014
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		July 2014
Project Manager Sign-off:	Tim Bradley		July 2014

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Unit 54
Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
London
SE4 2PD

**LAND AT BRADWELL STREET, MILE END, LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER
HAMLETS, E1; AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF**

Museum of London Site Code: BDW14

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Central NGR: TQ 35750 82660

Commissioning Client: CgMs Consulting

Written and Researched by: Amelia Fairman & Joe Brooks
Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, July 2014

Project Manager: Tim Bradley

Contractor: Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
Brockley
London
SE4 2PD

Tel: 020 7732 3925

Fax: 020 7732 7896

Email: tbradley@pre-construct.com

Website: www.pre-construct.com

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief and evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. during development works on land at Bradwell Street, Mile End, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, E1.
- 1.2 The fieldwork was carried between 19th May and 14th July 2014. The first phase in the programme of works comprised a watching brief and the excavation of three evaluation trenches in the east of the site. The second phase involved a watching brief that monitored the excavation of foundation trenches located in the western part of the site.
- 1.3 The evaluation and the watching brief recorded a consistent sequence across the entire site with natural gravelly sand overlain by a layer of natural brickearth. Sealing the natural sequence was a post-medieval agricultural horizon, which was truncated in places by 19th century intrusions. Sealing these deposits and features was a layer of 20th century made ground that constituted the modern ground level. Until current development the land has been use as a recreation space and for garages.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological watching brief and evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) during works necessitated by the development of land at Bradwell Street, Mile End, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, E1 4DB.
- 2.2 The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 335750 82660 and occupied a plot of land bordered to the north by Bradwell Street/Apple Tree Yard Road, and to the south by residential housing blocks including Litcham and Brancaster House with adjacent grassed areas and a tennis court. The eastern limits of the site are bound by an access road linking Bradwell Street with Longnor Road and the western limits by Moody Street.
- 2.3 PCA was commissioned to undertake the evaluation and watching brief by Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting in order to fulfil archaeological Planning Condition 7, which is attached to the full planning permission for the development. No Scheduled Ancient Monuments are adjacent to or contained within the bounds of the site, however due to its close proximity to a projected Roman Road, the site was considered to hold potential for the discovery of Roman remains.
- 2.4 The project was undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs Consulting 2014).
- 2.5 Following the completion of the project the site archive will be deposited in its entirety with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) identified by the unique code BDW14.
- 2.6 The initial watching brief was conducted between 19th and 21st May 2014. This was supplemented by an evaluation carried out between 27th and 30th May 2014 and an additional watching brief was carried out within the western limits of the site between 19th May and 14th July 2014. The project was monitored by Adam Single, GLAAS Officer for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, and project-managed for PCA by Tim Bradley. The watching brief and evaluation was supervised by Amelia Fairman, Joe Brooks and Ian Cipin of PCA.

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 the 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 Guidance: London Borough of Tower Hamlets

- 3.3.1 The relevant Development Plan framework is provided by the Tower Hamlets Core Strategy document, adopted September 2010, which contains the following relevant policy:

SO22

Protect, celebrate and improve access to our historical and heritage assets by placing these at the heart of reinventing the hamlets to enhance local distinctiveness, character and townscape views.

SP10

2. Protect and enhance the following heritage assets and their settings:

- World Heritage Sites
- Statutory Listed Buildings
- Conservation Areas
- London Squares
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Archaeological Remains
- Archaeological Priority Areas
- Locally Listed Buildings
- Local Landmarks
- Other buildings and areas that are identified through the Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Guidelines

3. Preserve or enhance the wider built heritage and historic environment of the borough, enabling the creation of locally distinctive neighbourhoods, through:

- a. Promoting and implementing placemaking across the borough to ensure that the locally distinctive character and context of each place is acknowledged and enhanced.
- b. Protecting, conserving, and promoting the beneficial reuse of, old buildings that provide suitable locations for employment uses, including small and medium enterprises.
- c. Encouraging and supporting development that preserves and enhances the heritage value of the immediate and surrounding environment and the wider setting.
- d. Working to reduce Heritage at Risk.

3.3.2 In terms of designated heritage assets, no Scheduled Ancient monuments lie within the site or its immediate vicinity. The western end of the site lies within an Area of Archaeological Importance as defined by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The solid geology of the study site is shown by the Institute of Geological Sciences (IGS 1979) as London Clay deposits forming the London Basin. Overlying the London Clay is a series of gravel terraces deposited during periods of glacial and inter-glacial conditions (Bridgland 1996).
- 4.1.2 Further detail is provided by British Geological Survey Sheet 256 (North London: 1994) which shows the study site to lie in an area of Taplow Gravels, defined as 'post diversionary Thames River Terrace Deposits; gravel, sandy and clayey in part.
- 4.1.3 During the fieldwork a layer of brickearth attributed to the Langley Silt Complex was observed overlying the gravelly Thames River Terrace deposits.

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 The site is roughly level with a spot height of 12.5m OD situated at the junction of Moody Street and Longnor Street to the southwest of the site.
- 4.2.2 Two temporary benchmarks were established during the course of the evaluation, adjacent to Trench 1 and to the west of Trench 3 with the respective values 12.83m OD and 12.88m OD.
- 4.2.3 No naturally occurring watercourses or standing bodies of water are known within the vicinity of the study site. The line of the Regents Canal runs from north to south to the east of the site.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

5.1 A site specific archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CgMs Consulting 2013) has been prepared from which the following is summarised. This also included a review of archaeological find spots within a 750m radius held on the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) along with a historic map regression exercise charting the development of the site.

5.2 Prehistoric

5.2.1 No finds of features of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic date have been identified within a 750m radius of the study site.

5.2.2 From around 4000 BC the mobile hunter-gathering economy of the Mesolithic gradually gave way to a more settled agriculture-based subsistence. The pace of woodland clearance to create arable and pasture-based agricultural land varied regionally and locally, depending on a wide variety of climatic, topographic, social and other factors. The trend was one of a slow, but gradually increasing pace of forest clearance.

5.2.3 By the 1st millennium, i.e. 1000 BC, the landscape was probably a mix of extensive tracts of open farmland, punctuated by earthwork burial and ceremonial monuments from distant generations, with settlements, ritual areas and defended locations reflecting an increasingly hierarchical society.

5.2.4 No finds or features of Neolithic, Bronze Age or Iron Age date have been identified within a 750m radius of the study site.

5.3 Roman

5.3.1 The available evidence for the Roman period within the study area indicates that the line of a Roman road linking Londinium and Camulodunum (Colchester) runs diagonally from southwest to northeast, clipping the western end of the study site. An associated roadside settlement has been identified at Old Ford to the north of the site.

5.3.2 Typical archaeological features associated with Roman roads can include evidence for settlement and occupation, roadside ditches and associated land division, together with quarry pits, burials and chance losses.

5.3.3 Possible Roman ploughsoils were identified during a watching brief around Old Ford Road to the northeast of the study site. A single sherd of Romano-British coarseware pottery was found on land adjacent to 10 Viking Close, northeast of the study site and a vase of Upchurch Ware has been recorded from White Horse Lane to the southwest.

5.3.4 Residual Roman material was derived from 19th century subsoil during a watching brief on Thames Water works at Roman Road, Parnell Road and Anthill Road to the northeast of the study site.

5.4 Anglo Saxon & Medieval

5.4.1 No finds of Anglo Saxon date have been identified within a 750m radius of the study site. The chance of such finds occurring at the study site can therefore be considered as low.

5.4.2 During the Medieval period, settlement developed along the Mile End Road leading east from the City of London.

5.4.3 The site of Stepney Manor House, including a chapel is known from Bonner Road to the north; the site of a Leper Hospital is also known, to the southeast of the site on the north side of Mile End Road.

5.4.4 An evaluation at 343-353 Mile End Road, to the southeast of the study site, found a line of postholes of probably Medieval date. These were interpreted as the site of a possible Medieval barn.

5.5 Post-Medieval & Modern

5.5.1 Early maps show the study site to lie in open land situated away from known areas of settlement (Gascoyne's Survey 1703, St. Dunstan's Parish Map 1720, Rocque's Survey of London 1745, Horwood's Map 1799-1819 and Crutchley's Map of 1830, none of which are reproduced in this report).

5.5.2 The Stepney Tithe Map (1840) shows the line of the Eastern Counties Railway to the north of the site, and the western end developed with elements of terraced housing.

5.5.3 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (1873) shows the study site occupied by terraced houses fronting the north side of Bradwell Street, the east side of Albert Road and the west side of Buckeridge Street. The Second Edition Ordnance Survey (1894) and the LCC Revised Ordnance Survey (1938) show no change within the site; Albert Road has been renamed Moody Street on the Second Edition survey.

5.5.4 The World War Two Bomb damage map (1946) shows damage at the western end of the site, due to the impact of a V1 bomb. Buildings are coloured black (total destruction), purple (damage beyond repair), dark red (serious damage, doubtful if repairable) and yellow (blast damage minor in nature).

5.5.5 An 1945 aerial photograph shows the extent of the damage, as does the 1947 Ordnance Survey, with no buildings from before the war present only on the south side of Bradwell Street. The buildings present on Moody Street, Buckeridge Street and the corner of Bradwell Street are probably temporary pre-fabricated houses. The 1953 Ordnance Survey shows further bomb damage related clearance within the site.

5.5.6 The composite 1962-1988 Ordnance Survey shows the site laid out as existing, occupied with rows of garages and playgrounds associated with the houses to the south. The current site survey shows no change from the previous map.

5.5.7 The potential of the study site for the post-medieval and modern periods can be identified as low.

5.6 Negative/Neutral Evidence

5.6.1 An evaluation at Queen Mary Westfield College Mile End Road, to the southeast of the site revealed no archaeological remains. Evaluations at Suttons Wharf North to the northeast also revealed no archaeology. An evaluation at 131 Mile End to the southwest also revealed nothing of particular archaeological interest. Evaluation at 445-447 Roman Road to the north of the study site also revealed no archaeological finds or features.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 In accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs Consulting 2014), an archaeological watching brief and additional evaluation was undertaken. The Phase 1 watching brief comprised the machine excavation of the concrete slab and cobbled road surface across the eastern and western limits of the site. The evaluation consisted of the machine excavation of three trenches within the footprint of the three easternmost proposed new residential blocks. The machine excavation was monitored by the attendant archaeologist until archaeological deposits or features, or natural stratigraphy was encountered. The Phase 2 watching brief comprised monitoring the excavation of a complex of structural trenches in the western part of the site. These trenches were approximately 0.7m wide and excavated to approximately 1.20m below ground level.
- 6.2 The evaluation trenches and exposed watching brief sections were cleaned by hand, recorded and photographed. Recording of the deposits was accomplished using the Single Context Recording Method on proforma context and planning sheets, as presented in PCAs Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009). Contexts were numbered and are shown in this report within squared brackets. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:50 and sections at a scale of 1:20.
- 6.3 The archaeological trenches were located by means of a TST survey.
- 6.4 The completed archive, comprising all written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the unique Site Code BDW14.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: Natural

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered across the site comprised a firm orangey yellow gravelly sand, which was observed in the trench designated H1 during the Phase 2 watching brief at an uppermost elevation of 11.77m OD.
- 7.1.2 This was overlain with a firm, mid brown natural brickearth [4]=[7]=[12] as recorded within Trenches 1, 2 and 3 respectively. This was recorded from an uppermost elevation of 12.20m OD within easternmost Trench 3. Within the evaluated side of the site the upper horizon of brickearth exhibited a slight western declination, dropping to 11.89m OD within western Trench 1. The same horizon was recorded at a depth of 12.17m OD in H1 and H2 and at 12.00m OD in H3 on the watching brief side of the site.

7.2 Phase 2: Post-Medieval

- 7.2.1 Truncating the upper horizon of the natural brickearth within Trench 1 was an ephemeral cut feature [3] seen in section. This was identified from 11.89m OD and extended to a maximum width of 0.64m by 0.56m in depth with a squared profile. The feature did not continue into the opposite section, nor was this observed in plan. It is possible that this represents an agricultural feature, such as a gully, or a small pit. Filling [3] was compacted yellow brown clay-silt [2] containing frequent flecks of charcoal.
- 7.2.2 Sealing [2] was a potential post-mediaeval “plough soil” horizon. This layer of firm, grey-brown clay-silt contained occasional flecks of charcoal and CBM, and very occasional small fragments of residual, abraded Roman and post-medieval pottery.
- 7.2.3 The boundaries of this horizon exhibited noticeable undulations and extended across all trenches. This was identified as deposits [1]=[6]=[11] in Trenches 1-3 respectively. Similarly to the underlying natural brickearth, the horizon exhibited a slight east-west declination, dropping from 12.53m OD in the east to 12.35m OD in the west. The layer measured between 0.36m and 0.56m in thickness, which reflects the undulations in the lower boundary of the horizon.
- 7.2.4 A similar post-medieval agricultural horizon, designated [17], [15] and [13] was recorded within trenches H1, H2 and H3 respectively.
- 7.2.5 This “plough soil” layer was encountered during the western watching brief area at an uppermost level of 12.37m OD in H1, at 12.57m OD in H2 and at 12.48m OD in H3. The thickness of the horizon was seen to be between 0.20m and 0.48m thick across the watching brief area.
- 7.2.6 Occasional flecks of CBM and charcoal were observed but no finds were recovered from these contexts.
- 7.2.7 Sealing the agricultural horizon within Trenches 2 and 3 only was a thin deposit of soft, dark brown-grey silty-clay containing very occasional inclusions of small angular gravels. This was recorded as layers [5]=[10] and extended between 80mm and 0.14m in thickness.

7.3 Phase 3: Late 19th Century

- 7.3.1 The remnants of two lines of parallel footings [8] and [9] were identified within Trench 1. These followed a north-west south-east alignment and were spaced c.2.50m apart from one another. The red brick footings appeared to have been surface lain directly over a silt layer [5] from a founding level of 12.37m OD. The constructions utilised red unfrogged bricks (19th century – see Appendix 4) and were preserved to a maximum of three courses in height (0.35m). It is likely that these represent former footings associated with the 19th century properties depicted cartographically along the southern side of Bradwell Street. These properties, although not directly damaged by WWII bombing were known to have been demolished during the redevelopment of the wider area in the mid 20th century.
- 7.3.2 In the western part of H1 a pit [21] 1.15m north-south by 0.70m east-west, filled with late 19th century material [20] was identified cutting the agricultural horizon. The depth of the pit was not ascertained as it was seen to extend beyond the formation level of the foundation trench. It is postulated that this feature may have functioned as a rubbish pit and was possibly situated in the back garden of a terraced house seen depicted on 19th century maps in this location.

Plate 1: South facing shot of trench one showing ephemeral cut feature



Plate 2: South east facing shot of trench two



Plate 3: South facing shot of trench three



Plate 4: West facing shot of watching brief trench



Plate 5: West facing section in H1



8 INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 A natural deposit of gravelly sand, observed in the western part of the site, was the earliest horizon recorded. Overlying this was a horizon of naturally occurring brickearth, which was observed across the entire site.
- 8.2 Sealing the brickearth was a layer of mixed “plough-soil” which represents agricultural activity in the area, which continued up until urban development of the site in the 19th century when terraced houses were built. A small sized assemblage of abraded Roman and post-medieval pottery was recovered from this agricultural layer on the western side of the site, but these sherds can be considered residual, reflecting the known Roman and later activity in the wider vicinity of the site.
- 8.3 An ephemeral cut feature, attributed to the pre-19th century agricultural phase, was identified in the eastern most trench on site and may indicate the presence of a small pit or gully.
- 8.4 Late 19th century activity was recorded across the site, consisting of several brick footings and a deep, straight sided rubbish pit. These features have are interpreted as being associated with residential properties which were demolished shortly after WWII.
- 8.5 The depositional sequence of the site was completed by modern made ground which formed the modern ground level on which a recreational space and garages were built in the mid twentieth century.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the fieldwork.
- 9.2 The authors would like to thank Tim Bradley for project management and editing, Ian Cipin for his work on site, Chris Jarrett for his pottery report, Kevin Hayward for assessing the ceramic building material, and Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Taylor, J. with Brown, G. 2009. *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual 1*, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited



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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:25,000 at A4

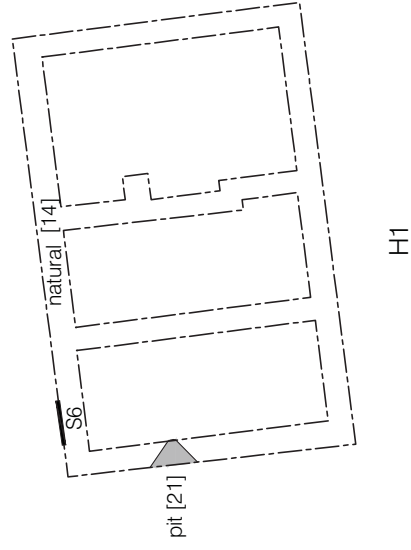
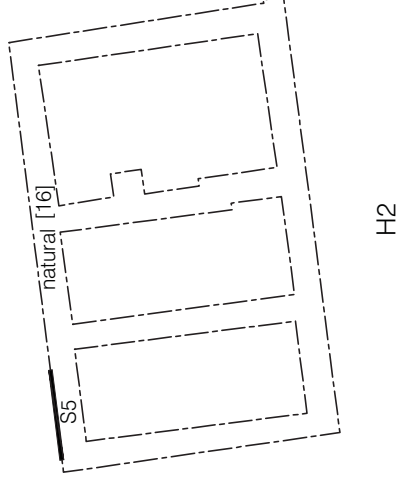
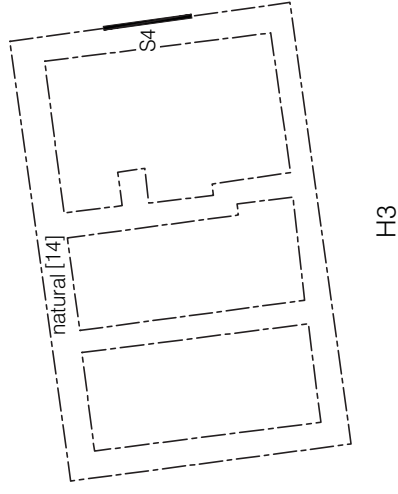


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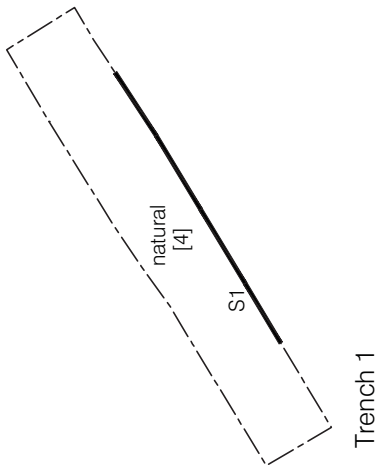
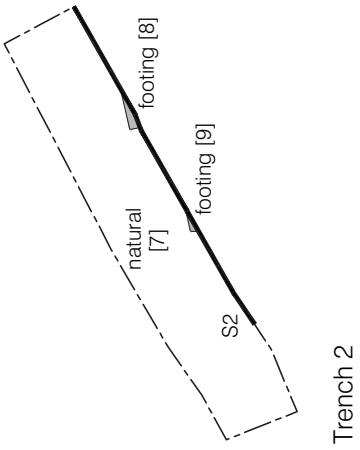
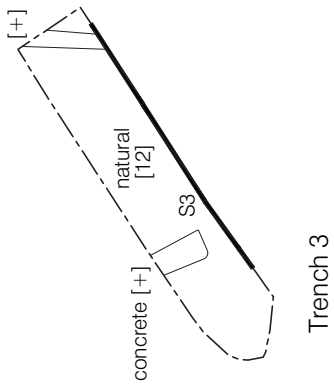
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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:625 at A4



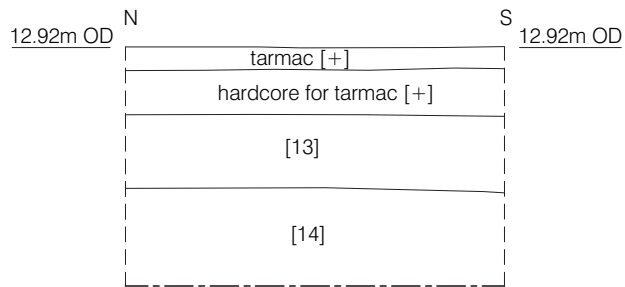
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Figure 3
Watching Brief Trench Plans
1:200 at A4

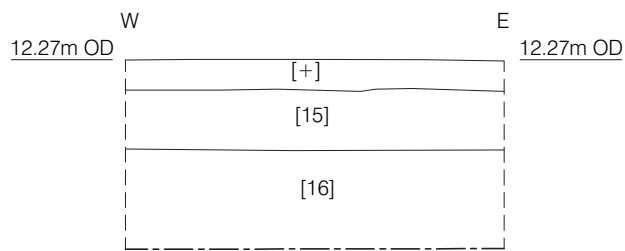


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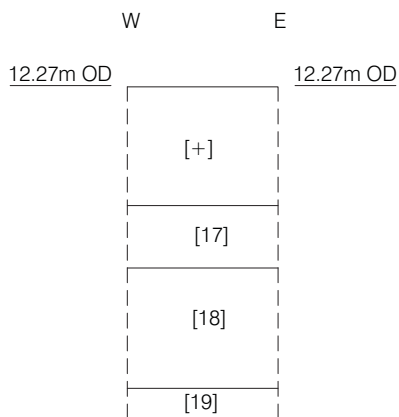
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Evaluation Trench Plans
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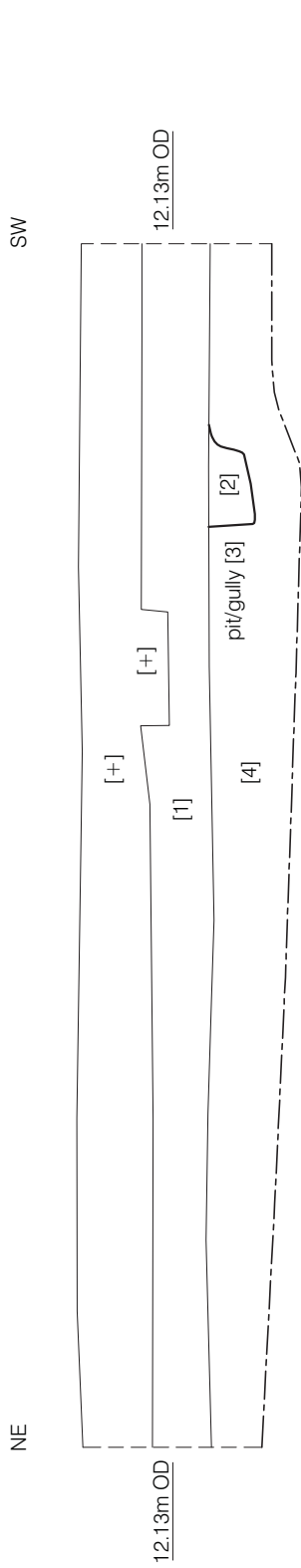
Section 4
Trench H3
West Facing



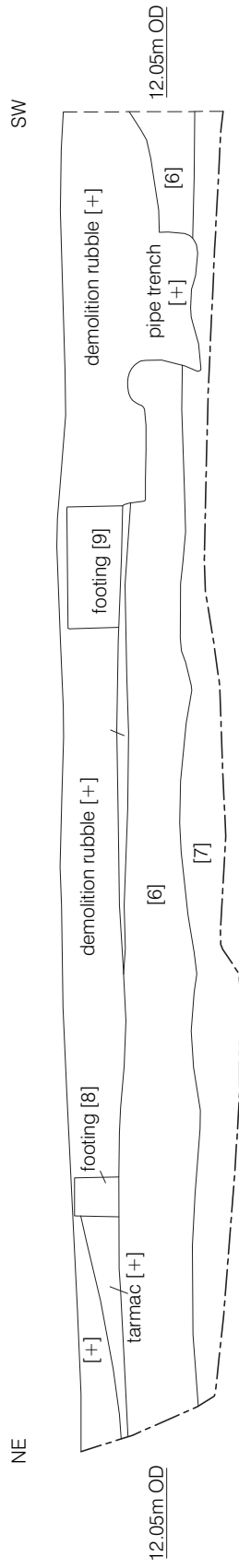
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Trench H2
South Facing



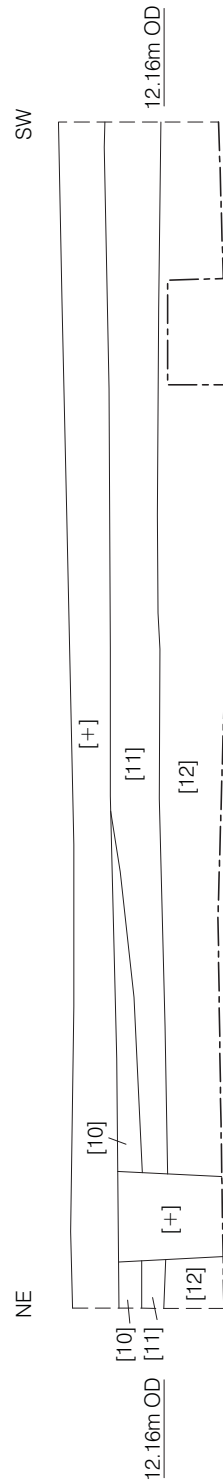
Section 6
Trench H3
South Facing



Section 1
Trench 1
Northwest Facing

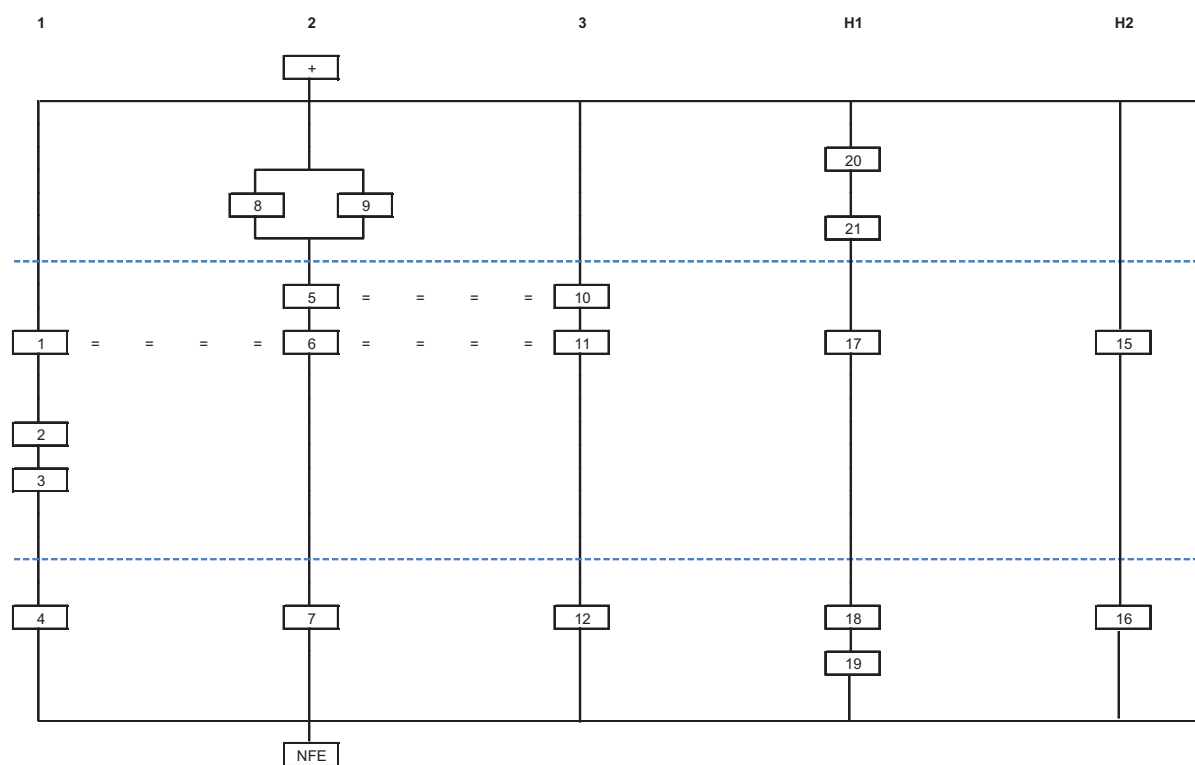


Section 2
Trench 2
Northwest Facing



Section 3
Trench 3
Northwest Facing

APPENDIX 1: PHASED MATRIX



APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context No.	Plan	Section / Elevation	Type	Description	Date	Phase
BDW14	1			Layer	Agricultural horizon	Post-mediaeval	2
BDW14	2			Fill	Fill of [3]	Undated	2
BDW14	3			Cut	Small pit or gully (seen in section)	Undated	2
BDW14	4			Layer	Natural brickearth	Natural	1
BDW14	5			Layer	Silty-clay levelling	Undated	2
BDW14	6			Layer	Agricultural horizon	Post-mediaeval	2
BDW14	7			Layer	Natural brickearth	Natural	1
BDW14	8			Masonry	19th Century footings	19th Century	3
BDW14	9			Masonry	19th Century footings	19th Century	3
BDW14	10			Layer	Silty-clay levelling	Undated	2
BDW14	11			Layer	Agricultural horizon	Post-mediaeval	2
BDW14	12			Layer	Natural brickearth	Natural	1
BDW14	13			Layer	Agricultural horizon	Post-mediaeval	2
BDW14	14			Layer	Natural brickearth	Natural	1
BDW14	15			Layer	Agricultural horizon	Post-mediaeval	2
BDW14	16			Layer	Natural brickearth	Natural	1
BDW14	17			Layer	Agricultural horizon	Post-mediaeval	2
BDW14	18			Layer	Natural brickearth	Undated	1
BDW14	19			Layer	Natural	Natural	1
BDW14	20			Fill	Backfill of 19th Century pit	19th Century	3
BDW14	21			Cut	19th Century pit	19th Century	3

APPENDIX 3

Pottery

By Chris Jarrett

Introduction

A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (one box). The pottery dates to the Roman and post-medieval periods. The Romano-British pottery demonstrates evidence for abrasion and was therefore likely to have been recovered from tertiary depositional circumstances, while the post-medieval pottery is not abraded although it is in a fragmentary state and likely to have been deposited under secondary conditions. The assemblage comprises sherd material, although two forms could be identified. The pottery was quantified by sherd count (SC) and estimated number of vessels (ENV's), besides weight. The sizes of the groups of pottery are all small (fewer than 30 sherds) and the assemblage was recovered from three contexts.

In total the assemblage consists of five sherds, 5 ENV, 70g (of which none was unstratified). The assemblage was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and entered into a database format, by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the pottery types follows the Museum of London Archaeology (Museum of London Archaeology 2013 a and b) typology (form and fabric series). The pottery is discussed by its distribution.

Distribution

Context [1], spot date: 50-400 AD

Un sourced oxidised wares (OXID), 50-400 AD, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 7g, form: unidentified

Un sourced sand-tempered wares (SAND), 50-400 AD, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 11g, form: bowl

Total: two sherds, 2 ENV, 18g

Context [6], spot date: 1480-1650

London-area post-medieval slipped redware (PMSR), 1480-1650, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 25g, form: unidentified

Total: one sherd, 1 ENV, 25g

Context [6], spot date: 1650-1900

London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1650, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 27g, form: sugar cone mould

The sugar cone mould has an internal white slip and is therefore more than likely to date to after c.1650.

Total: one sherd, 1 ENV, 27g

Significance of the collection

The assemblage recovered from BDW14 is of little significance at a local level. The Roman pottery is abraded and appears to be residual, while the post-medieval pottery occurs in small groups without much meaning, although the post-medieval redware sugar cone mould indicates sugar refining was occurring in the area, although this was most likely to have been located further to the south of the and close to the Thames, e.g. Narrow Street. The pottery types are those typically found in the London region.

Potential of the assemblage

The pottery has no potential, beyond dating the contexts that it was recovered from.

Recommendations for further work

There are no recommendations for further work on the assemblage.

References

Museum of London Archaeology 2013a. London Roman pottery codes.
<http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/Publications/Online-Resources/MOLA-ceramic-codes.htm>. Accessed July 2014.

Museum of London Archaeology 2013b. [Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes](http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/Publications/Online-Resources/MOLA-ceramic-codes.htm).
<http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/Publications/Online-Resources/MOLA-ceramic-codes.htm>. Accessed April 2014.

APPENDIX 4

Ceramic Building Materials

By Kevin Hayward

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
1	2271	Abraded medieval peg tile	1	1180	1800	1180	1800	1180-1450+	No mortar
8	3032; 3101	Narrow post great fire brick earthy clinker mortar possibly earlier than 9	1	1664	1900	1664	1900	1780-1900	1800-1900
9	3032; 3101	Reused Narrow post great fire brick 19 th century mortar and large chunk of gravel mortar	2	1664	1900	1664	1900	1780-1900	1860-1950
11	2587; 2271; 2452; 3102	Abraded medieval peg tile and Roman tile fleck; burnt daub	5	1500 bc	1600	1500bc	1600	1240-1450+	No mortar

Review

This small assemblage (9 fragments 2.5kg) contains examples of Roman, medieval and post medieval ceramic building material. The Roman and medieval ceramic building material from [1] and [11] is all abraded with any trace of splash glaze on the peg tile surface removed. Much later are bricks from [8] and [9] made from the post great fire fabric 3032. The dimensions 62mm x 100mm conform with sizes brought by brick tax legislation brought in between 1776 and present day (see below).

1776	Brick size regulation Act: took effect July 1777, first blanket national legislation. Min. size of bricks at 8 ½ x 4 x 2 ½ ". Last legislation on sizes until the 20 th century, remained in force until the 19 th century	216 x 101.5 x 63.5	Parliament (Act)
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There is a difference in mortar types between [8] and [9] with the earlier mortar type (earthy clinker mortar recipe) [9] pre-dating the later Portland and Gravel mortar [8]

Recommendations

The value of this small assemblage lies simply in dating the sequence. There is a tiny quantity of background abraded Roman and medieval tile which attests to occasional Roman and medieval activity possibly in dung from the plough soil in this area.

APPENDIX 4: OASIS REPORT FORM

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief at Bradwell Street, Mile End, Tower Hamlets, London, E1
Short description of the project	An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief at Bradwell Street, Mile End, Tower Hamlets, London, E1. Three evaluation trenches and three foundation trenches were monitored, excavated and recorded on the footprint of a new building. Natural deposits were overlain by an agricultural horizon containing residual Roman and post-medieval pottery. Two walls and a pit were also recorded, associated with the previous 19 th century terraces located across the site.
Project dates	Start: 19-05-2014 End: 14-07-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BDW 14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)
Monument type	AGRICULTURE AND SUBSISTANCE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Amenity area (e.g. public open space)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS STEPNEY Bradwell Street, Mile End
Postcode	E1
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3573 8271 51.5264707001 -0.0431868513748 51 31 35 N 000 02 35 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.89m Max: 12.20m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley
Project supervisor	Amelia Fairman
Project supervisor	Joe Brooks
Type of sponsor/funding body	Private company
Name of sponsor/funding body	Tower Hamlets Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
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Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Bradwell Street, Mile End, London Borough Of Tower Hamlets, E1. An Archaeological Evaluation And Watching Brief.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brooks, J., Fairman, A.
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Place of issue or publication	London

Entered by	Joe Brooks (pra04jgb@hotmail.co.uk)
Entered on	16 July 2014

PCA

PCA SOUTH

UNIT 54
BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD
BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091
FAX: 020 7639 9588
EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PCA NORTH

UNIT 19A
TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
DURHAM DH6 5PG
TEL: 0191 377 1111
FAX: 0191 377 0101
EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

PCA CENTRAL

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
TEL: 01223 845 522
FAX: 01223 845 522
EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

PCA WEST

BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB
TEL: 01962 849 549
EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

PCA MIDLANDS

17-19 KETTERING RD
LITTLE BOWDEN
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN
TEL: 01858 468 333
EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com

