

**ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE
STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS,
LONDON**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF**

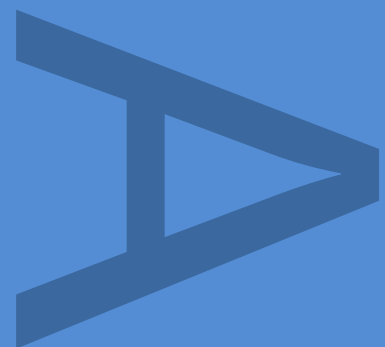
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ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE STREETSCAPE
IMPROVEMENTS, LONDON

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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Royal Courts of Justice Streetscape Improvements, London

An Archaeological Watching Brief

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and tRiIO®

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CONTENTS

1	Abstract	4
2	Introduction.....	5
3	Planning Background	6
3.1	<i>National Policy: National Planning Policy Framework</i>	6
3.2	<i>Regional Policy: The London Plan</i>	6
3.3	<i>Local Policy: City of Westminster’s Local Development Framework – Core Strategy</i>	7
3.4	<i>Site Specific Planning Constraints</i>	7
3.5	<i>Planning Permission</i>	8
3.6	<i>Project Design</i>	9
4	Geology and Topography.....	10
5	Archaeological and Historical Background	11
6	Archaeological Methodology	13
7	Archaeological Sequence	15
7.1	<i>Phase 1: 1500-1700</i>	15
7.2	<i>Phase 2: 18th Century</i>	16
7.3	<i>Phase 3: 19th Century</i>	20
7.4	<i>Phase 4: Modern</i>	21
8	Discussion and Conclusions.....	23
9	Acknowledgements	25
10	Bibliography.....	26

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1: Site Location	27
Figure 2: Trench Location	28
Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1.....	29
Figure 4: Plan of Trench 2.....	30
Figure 5: Plan of Trench 3.....	31
Figure 6: Sections	32

PLATES

Plate 1: Excavation underway in Trench 3 in the Strand.	13
Plate 2: View west along Trench 2 within Carey St, west of Serle Street.....	14
Plate 3, View west within Trench 1 showing [51], [55] and [56].....	18
Plate 4: View south in Trench 2 in Carey St, showing 19th century cellars [107] & [108].	21
Plate 5: Deposit [50] at the base of the western end of Trench 1, view east.....	22

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Context Index	33
Appendix 2: Pottery Assessment (STR11)	34
Appendix 3: Animal Bone Assessment	36
Appendix 4: Ceramic Building Material Spot Dates	37
Appendix 5: OASIS Form	39

1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited adjacent to the Royal Courts of Justice in the City of Westminster. The work was completed in phases between the 24th of July 2012 and the 27th of June 2014. The archaeological fieldwork monitored the excavation of three trenches.
- 1.2 The watching brief aimed to record the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological remains affected by the investigation, and to assess, where appropriate, the ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from within the site.
- 1.3 The watching brief recorded limited structural remains of some of the buildings preceding the Royal Courts of Justice. Predominantly the remains consisted of vaulted cellars with the earliest ones dating from 1500 to 1700 and the later from 1700 to 1900. The trenches were excavated for the purpose of moving existing services to make way for the footings for the new security features. As such, the trenches were targeting existing services; the installation of which had caused severe truncation to the archaeological resource leading to only fragmented survival of the structural remains. With very few exceptions the trenches did not extend fully below the modern backfill of the previous service trenches or the made ground/dumped deposits resulting from the construction of the Royal Courts of Justice in the late 19th century. Due to these factors very few archaeological horizons were observed/recorded and the structural remains appeared as small islands of earlier masonry surrounded by much later deposits. It is therefore difficult to offer any definitive conclusions regarding the association of the structural remains with specific buildings portrayed within the cartographic or documentary record.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited during the excavation of three trenches during works associated with the Royal Courts of Justice Streetscape Improvements scheme. The watching brief was undertaken in stages between the 24th of July 2012 and the 27th of June 2014. The archaeological project was designed and managed by Chris Mayo of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and was commissioned by West One Infrastructure Services with a small additional piece of work commissioned by National Grid. The Watching Brief was undertaken by Sarah Barrowman, Ian Cipin, Irene Grosso, Guy Seddon, Richard Humphrey, Joe Brooks and Paw Jorgensen, all of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Diane Abrams of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service monitored the project on behalf of the City of Westminster.
- 2.2 The site lies within the City of Westminster and is located in three areas adjacent to the Royal Courts of Justice; to the north in Grange Court and along Carey Street, to the east along Bell Yard and to the south of the site in the pavement area adjacent to the Strand (Figures 1 and 2). It is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 3100 8115. The site also included the area known as the West Green Area (centred on NGR Reference TQ30968108) to the southwest of the buildings of the Royal Courts of Justice.
- 2.3 All three trenches were excavated by staff from Murphy Group and tRiIO®, and were archaeologically monitored when excavation proceeded beyond demonstrably modern horizons (generally accepted as being approximately 500mm BGL).
- 2.4 The project was allocated the Museum of London site code STR11. Following the completion of the project the entire site archive will be deposited at the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under that code.
- 2.5 All works were undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 2012a and b) and the following guidance:
- Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work: London Region, English Heritage, External Consultation Draft (English Heritage 2009)
 - Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1990)
- 2.6 Prior to the start of the fieldwork PCA had produced an archaeological Desk-Based Assessment for the site (Butler 2011). Additionally, a number of geotechnical trial holes had previously been excavated under archaeological supervision (Barrowman 2011).
- 2.7 Upon completion of all phases of the work the completed archive will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) under the unique site code STR11.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Policy: National Planning Policy Framework

3.1.1 In March 2010 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5), which provided guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of heritage assets.

3.1.2 Planning Policy Statement 5 has since March 2012 been superseded by the National Planning Policy Framework; however the project herein reported was permitted, designed and approved under the auspices of PPS5.

3.2 Regional Policy: The London Plan

3.2.1 Regional Policy is provided by policy 7.8 from The London Plan:

Historic environment and landscapes

Policy 7.8 Heritage assets and Archaeology

Strategic

A London's historic environment, including natural landscapes, conservation areas, heritage assets, World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and memorials should be identified, preserved and restored.

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

Planning decisions

C Development should preserve, refurbish and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D New development in the setting of heritage assets, and conservation areas should be sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources and significant memorials. Where the artefact or memorial cannot be moved from the site without damaging its cultural value, the assets should where possible be made available to the public on-site.

LDF preparation

F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and increase the contribution of built heritage to London's environmental quality and economy while allowing for London 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 and protecting heritage assets scheduled ancient monuments, archaeological assets, memorials and natural landscape character within their area.

3.3 Local Policy: City of Westminster's Local Development Framework – Core Strategy

3.3.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of the City of Westminster, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which they are the custodians.

3.3.2 Part V of the City of Westminster's Local Development Framework – Core Strategy (adopted January 2011) includes policies pertaining to the preservation and conservation of Westminster's wider historic environment.

POLICY CS24 HERITAGE

Recognising Westminster's wider historic environment, its extensive heritage assets will be conserved, including its listed buildings, conservation areas, Westminster's World Heritage Site, its historic parks including five Royal Parks, squares, gardens and other open spaces, their settings, and its archaeological heritage. Historic and other important buildings should be upgraded sensitively, to improve their environmental performance and make them easily accessible.

Reasoned Justification

The intrinsic value of Westminster's high quality and significant historic environment is one of its greatest assets. To compete effectively with other major, world-class cities the built environment must be respected and refurbished sensitively as appropriate. Any change should not detract from the existing qualities of the environment, which makes the city such an attractive and valued location for residents, businesses and visitors.

Detailed policies for each type of heritage asset will be set out in the City Management Plan. Area-based characteristics and detailed measures required to protect and enhance heritage assets have been set out in Conservation Area Audit Supplementary Planning Documents and the Westminster World Heritage Site Management Plan.

3.3.3 The Core Strategy has now been superseded by *Westminster's City Plan: Strategic Policies* (adopted November 2013). Policy S25 Heritage therein contained repeats the above Policy CS24.

3.4 Site Specific Planning Constraints

3.4.1 The site lies within one of the five Areas of Special Archaeological Priority as defined by the Westminster Unitary Development Plan, covering Westminster, Lundenwic and Thorney Island. This covers a large part of the southern area of the City of Westminster, stretching along the Thames from the Strand to Smith Square.

3.4.2 The Strand Conservation Area incorporates the area from the River Thames through to the southern end of Kingsway and Lincoln's Inn Field, adjacent to the London Borough of Camden and the City of London. The riverside location of the conservation area has shaped its street layout and development. The area's built frontage to the river (the Embankment and Somerset House in particular) makes a significant contribution to the central Thames corridor.

3.4.3 Within this conservation area there are areas of distinct character. The two main routes are the

Strand and the Victoria Embankment. The remaining smaller streets contrast in scale with the formal redevelopment around Kingsway and the Aldwych. This includes the substantial complexes of Somerset House and King's College, the Royal Courts of Justice and the London School of Economics.

- 3.4.4 The site of the proposed development does not contain any Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- 3.4.5 The Royal Courts of Justice buildings together with screen walls, gates, railings and lamps are Grade I listed. There are numerous other listed buildings and other listed items such as telephone boxes and lamps in the near vicinity in the Strand, Fleet Street, Chancery Lane, Carey Street, Essex Street and the Inns of Court.
- 3.4.6 A Heritage Impact Assessment has been prepared for the client in a separate report (Purcell Miller Tritton 2011).

3.5 Planning Permission

- 3.5.1 In June 2011 a planning application was submitted by Purcell Miller Tritton LLP on behalf of Her Majesty's Court Service proposing a scheme of streetscape alterations in the Strand, Bell Yard and Carey Street. At the same time an application was submitted for listed building consent for carrying out alterations to the existing complex. Conditional planning permission (application number 11/05848/FULL) and listed building consent (application number 11/05849/LBC) were granted in October 2011 by the City of Westminster City Council. Of these conditions number 7 of the planning permission was of particular relevance to the current study. This condition specified the need for archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of investigation submitted to English Heritage. The condition reads:

Condition 7:

You must carry out the archaeological work and development according to the Written Scheme of Investigation submitted to English Heritage. You must produce a written report of the investigation and findings, showing that you have carried out the archaeological work and development according to the approved scheme. You must send copies of the written report of the investigation and findings to us, to English Heritage and to the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record, 1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn, London EC1N 2ST.

Reason:

To protect the archaeological heritage of the City of Westminster as set out in Planning Policy Statement 5 and CS24 of our Core Strategy that we adopted in January 2011 and DES 11 of our Unitary Development Plan that we adopted in January 2007. (R32BC)

3.6 Project Design

- 3.6.1 An archaeological desk based assessment (DBA) was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited prior to the commencement of the proposed scheme (Butler 2011). While the DBA concluded that the proposal site had a low potential for prehistoric remains and a low to moderate potential for Roman and Middle Saxon activity it was considered to have a high potential for medieval and post-medieval remains. It was recommended that a watching brief was undertaken during all invasive groundworks.
- 3.6.2 The initial phase of invasive groundworks consisted of the excavation of 31 trial trenches of varying sizes in order to determine the presence of services and the underlying ground conditions. Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited was appointed to carry out a watching brief during the trial trenching in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation detailing the proposed working methods for the archaeological work (Mayo 2011). While the watching brief did record several masonry remains predating the Royal Courts of Justice complex it was concluded that it was unlikely that any ground reduction less than a metre in depth was unlikely to impact upon significant archaeological horizons. However, the archaeological potential remained in areas where the proposed impact exceeded a metre in depth and/or extended across a wider area (Barrowman 2011).
- 3.6.3 Another watching brief was carried out in the western part of the site within the area known as the West Green where the installation of new bollards, some landscaping and service installations necessitated the excavation of a larger area. The proposed working method for the watching brief within the West Green area were outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation produced ahead of the work commencing (Mayo 2012b). While the watching brief in the West Green Area was subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation the results of that watching brief are presented within this report. The scheme also involved the replacement and in places displacement of a gas main running roughly parallel to the Strand. This work was carried out by National Grid Gas and also monitored by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. The results of the excavation of this trench are discussed within this report as part of Trench 3. The archaeological works for the main scheme were designed in a further Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 2012a).

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The site is situated at the interface of two gravel units making up the superficial deposits underlying the site. In the northern part of the site the superficial deposit consists of the Hackney Gravel Member while at the very southern extreme of the site the Taplow Gravel Formation underlies the site. Both of these river terrace deposits were laid down up to 2 million years ago during the Wolstonian Age (British Geological Survey 2014).
- 4.1.2 London Clay forms the bedrock geology across the entire site. This sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period and comprises clay, silt and sand. The deposit was formed in an environment dominated by deep seas from infrequent slurries of shallow water sediments which were then redeposited as graded beds (British Geological Survey 2014).
- 4.1.3 While none of the current interventions were excavated into the bedrock geology or indeed the overlying superficial deposits, historic borehole data to the east (BGS ID: 19342909) and west (BGS ID: 1065843) of the site can be used to describe the geological deposits underlying the site. These indicate that the superficial deposit underlying the site consists of brown sandy gravel to brown clay with sand and gravel. This is consistent with the British Geological Society's description of the deposits of the Hackney Gravel Member or Taplow Gravel Formation underlying the site although this simply describes the deposits as "sand and gravel, locally with lenses of silt, clay or peat". The boreholes record the top of the superficial deposit at between 14.14m OD to the east and 13.56m OD to the west (British Geological Survey 2014).
- 4.1.4 The London Clay bedrock geology was recorded by the boreholes as stiff brown clay to silty clay at the height of 11.04m OD to the east of the site and 10.36m OD to the west. At approximately 9.50m OD this becomes firm to stiff bluish grey fissured silty clay suggesting that the bedrock deposit below this point remains relatively unweathered (British Geological Survey 2014).

4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 The study site rises from roughly 14.3m OD along the Strand to the south to approximately 17.4m OD along Carey Street to the north as the terrain continues to climb away from the Thames to the south.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site is described in full in the Desk Based Assessment (Butler 2011). A summary of the potential for the site, as assessed in this document, is as follows:
- 5.2 There have been no prehistoric finds recovered from within the search area and only a smattering of finds have been found in the general area. Therefore the potential for uncovering prehistoric artefacts was considered low.
- 5.3 There is some evidence to suggest that burials and isolated structures along the line of the Roman road leaving Ludgate may be present. However, as it is likely that the present development will have a limited impact, the potential for uncovering in situ Roman remains was considered low to moderate, although residual Roman finds are a possibility as Roman finds have been found on the site previously.
- 5.4 The site is on the edge of the Middle Saxon settlement of Lundenwic centred on the Strand and Covent Garden area. The potential of finding remains of Middle Saxon date had been considered as low to moderate.
- 5.5 The site was built up in the medieval period and it is likely that cellars, wells, cess and rubbish pits and road and yard surfaces might survive. The potential for finding medieval remains was therefore considered to be high.
- 5.6 Documentary and cartographic evidence suggests that the site was heavily occupied in the post-medieval period. The area was covered by Elizabethan and later timber framed buildings, and prior to their demolition for the construction of the New Law Courts the houses within the site were described and illustrated by the Illustrated London News (December 15th 1866 issue). The area appeared to be a mixture of run down ancient buildings inhabited by the abject poor and houses of a more lofty status inhabited by lawyers and other more elevated personages. Old Boswell Court was the home of 'the quality' as were parts of Shire (later Shere) Lane, but other places such as Hemlock Court are full of lodging houses sleeping up to 30 persons a night and Newcastle Court was almost entirely filled with brothels. The site chosen to build the New Law Courts was therefore a mix of great poverty and wealth often living almost cheek by jowl.
- 5.7 The decision to combine all the various courts under one roof was made in parliament in 1858; the was chosen in 1860 and a bill to clear it was introduced in parliament in 1861. At the time when the site was cleared in the late 1860s it covered an area of seven and a half acres, and contained 33 streets, ways and courts, with over 400 buildings with a resident population of 4175 (Thornbury 1872). It took some time for construction work to begin once the site had been demolished with the foundations not being laid until 1871-2, with building beginning in 1874, and the opening of the courts occurring in December 1882 (Butler 2011).

- 5.8 As with the medieval period it is likely that cellars, wells, cess and rubbish pits and road and yard surfaces might survive. The potential for finding post-medieval remains was thus considered to be high.
- 5.9 It was anticipated that any archaeological remains on site would have a moderate value, being of regional importance and of enough significance to justify the area being deemed an archaeological priority area.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The watching brief was conducted according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by PCA (Mayo 2012a and b). It aimed to determine and fully document the location extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- 6.2 Excavation was undertaken using by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a flat ditching bucket, combined with extensive hand digging by ground workers from Murphy Group, particularly given that numerous live and ambiguous service runs were encountered during the works.



Plate 1: Most of the trenches were comprised entirely of fill of modern and antiquated services. This photo shows excavation underway in Trench 3 in the Strand, immediately to the east of the main entrance to the RCJ.

- 6.3 The results of the previous archaeological monitoring of the excavation of test pits across the entire site were used in conjunction with information provided by the client regarding trench formation levels to determine the archaeological potential for each proposed trench. Where the proposed formation level was likely to impact on the buried archaeological resource the excavation was monitored constantly by PCA while periodic monitoring was carried out in areas where the formation level of the trenches was unlikely to impact on archaeological remains.
- 6.4 Prior to the excavation of each trench service plans were consulted and known services marked on the surface. A CAT (Cable Avoidance Tool) scanner was also used prior to and during the excavation of the trenches in order to reduce the risk of damaging live services.

- 6.5 The recording systems were fully compatible with those used elsewhere in the City of Westminster. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated and exposed were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on polyester based drawing film, the plans being drawn at a scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10. A digital photographic record was made of the investigations as they progressed.
- 6.6 Heights above Ordnance Datum were established by a use of a detailed site survey drawing provided by the client (drawing number UA0002876-H-100-GA-[01 to 04] Rev A).
- 6.7 Upon completion of all phases of the work the completed archive will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) under the unique site code STR11.
- 6.8 Three continuous trenches were monitored in total (Figure 2), with details as follows:

Trench	Length	Width	Purpose
1	23.45m	2.13 to 2.79m	Scheme implementation
2	115.34m	1.30 to 3.00m	Scheme implementation
3	115.71m	0.79 to 2.67m	Scheme implementation / new gas main



Plate 2: View west along Trench 2 within Carey St, west of Serle Street.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: 1500-1700

- 7.1.1 The earliest archaeological remains encountered during the watching brief consisted of a dumped deposit of firm mid-brown sandy clay, [104], with occasional patches of crushed Reigate stone, charcoal flecks, mortar flecks and slate fragments. It was only encountered in the central part of Trench 2 where the trench had to be excavated slightly deeper in order to place ducts under an existing service. As such, the full extent of the layer could not be determined as it extended beyond all sides of the intervention. The exposed part of the layer measured 2.50m east-west by 1.30m north-south by at least 50mm thick, although the base of the deposit was not reached. At the highest point the deposit was recorded at approximately 17.30m OD. Excavation of the layer produced fragments of ceramic building material spot dated 1500-1700, although the fragments could be as early as 1450, and a sherd of pottery dated 1300-1500. Considering the whole assemblage of finds from the deposit it seems likely that the deposition date was either the very late 1400s or the very early 1500s.
- 7.1.2 Another deposit, [113], of a slightly later date was recorded at the eastern end of Trench 2 although the characteristics of this layer were different from those of [104]. Deposit [113] comprised soft dark grey sandy silt with very frequent small rounded and sub-angular stones and occasional mollusc shell fragments. Like [104], deposit [113] was only seen within a deeper part of the trench. As exposed it measured 7.50m east-west by 1.75m north-south by at least 0.30m in thickness, although the base of the deposit was not reached. At its highest point the layer was recorded at 17.24m OD. Excavation of the deposit produced a relatively large quantity of ceramic building material fragments dated 1500-1700 although the majority of the material was earlier than this. A single sherd of pottery dated 1550-1700 was also recovered from the layer. It seems likely, then, that the overall date for the deposit is 1550-1700, but possibly towards the earlier part on account of prevalence of earlier material.
- 7.1.3 In the central to eastern part of Trench 2, in the northern part of the site, the earliest encountered archaeological evidence consisted of a 2.00m long, roughly east-west aligned brick wall section, [110]. Only the north face of the wall was seen as only 0.10m of the width of the wall was contained within the trench. The base of the wall was also not reached due to the limited depth of the trench. At the west end the upper 0.40m of the wall was exposed and here it survived to a height of roughly 17.50m OD. To the west the wall was abutted by the roof of a barrel-vaulted cellar, [111]. The span of the vaulted roof was 2.00m east-west and the springer course of the vaulting located roughly 0.33m lower than the internal apex of the vault. Externally the apex of the vault reached a height of 17.52m OD. Both the wall and the vaulted cellar had been constructed using shallow, wide, poorly made Tudor type bricks of slightly irregular sizes. These were set in a sandy gravel mortar. Both the bricks and the mortar could be dated to between 1500 and 1700.
- 7.1.4 In the western part of Trench 2 were two parallel and roughly north-south aligned wall sections, [59] and [60], spaced 0.34m apart. Both of these extended across the entire trench (1.30m) north to

south and continued beyond the limits of excavation. While both walls had been constructed from identical red early post-medieval bricks bonded with sandy fawn mortar the coursing was different, suggesting different phases of construction. Wall [59] measured 0.22m in width and had been constructed using bricks laid in common bond with one course of headers to three courses of stretchers while wall [60] measured 0.33m in width and its bricks had been laid in English bond with alternating courses of headers and stretchers. The top of wall [59] was recorded at 17.63m OD while the top of wall [60] was seen at the slightly higher level of 17.69m OD. Neither wall was fully exposed as they extended below the formation level of the trench, which was 17.33m OD in this area. The bricks used in the construction of both walls were given a spot date of 1600-1800 while the mortar was spot dated 1500-1700 suggesting an overall construction date of 1600-1700.

- 7.1.5 Near the west central part of Trench 2 the earliest feature encountered was large pit, [62], first seen at a height of 17.43m OD. It measured at least 2.20m north-south by at least 1.90m east-west by at least 0.10m deep. To the south and east the pit extended beyond the limits of the trench and the base of the feature was not reached as it extended below the formation level of the trench. The sides of the pit were relatively steep with a sharp break of slope at the top. As exposed in plan the pit appeared to be sub-circular in shape, although this cannot be said with certainty as it was not fully exposed. The pit, as excavated, contained a single fill, [61], which comprised friable mid-grey silty clay and crushed lime mortar with frequent brick flecks. Excavation of the pit fill produced both pottery sherds and ceramic building material dated 1550-1700 and 1500-1800 respectively. It seems likely that the deposition date for the pit fill is between 1550 and 1700.

7.2 Phase 2: 18th Century

- 7.2.1 In the western part of Trench 2 the two 17th century walls, [59] and [60], were sealed by a dump layer, [58], comprising friable mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small to medium sub-rounded stones and small flecks of charcoal and mortar. To the north, south and west the layer extended beyond the limits of the trench and to the east it had been truncated by the installation of modern services. As exposed it measured 7.70m north-south by 1.30m north-south by 0.17m thick, although the base of the deposit was not reached; at the highest point the layer was recorded at 17.78m OD. Excavation of the layer produced several sherds of pottery most of which were dated to the 18th century although a single sherd was dated 1550-1700, but this was considered to be residual.
- 7.2.2 Sealing deposit [104] in the central part of Trench 2 was a series of dumped deposits. The lowest of these was a layer of soft mid-greyish brown sandy silt, [103] with frequent small rounded and sub-angular stones. This was sealed by [105], comprising firm dark brownish grey sandy silt with moderately frequent small sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Overlying this was a layer of loose light brown sand, [102], with very frequent flecks of lime mortar and occasional small rounded stones and this was in turn sealed by [101] forming the top of the 18th century dump sequence at a maximum height of 18.18m OD. At the west end of the trench this layer had been recorded as [57], although the two contexts formed part of the same deposit. The top layer,

[57]/[101] of the dump sequence comprised compact dark brownish grey silty sand with frequent small round and sub-angular stones. Although the 18th century dump sequence had been heavily truncated by modern services it was clear that it had extended across the majority, if not all, of the trench. Artefactual material recovered from the dump sequence included sherds of pottery (from [105]) and fragments of ceramic building material (from [101], [102], [103] and [105]). Although the sequence must be considered to be of mid- to late 18th century date, much of the artefactual material was earlier than this and was considered to be residual.

7.2.3 In Trench 1, in the southwest corner of the study site, the earliest archaeological remains consisted of the remains of a brick laid path, [55], aligned along a roughly north-south axis. The bricks had been laid in a diagonal bond with the edging consisting of single lines of bricks laid header to header. At least two courses of brickwork survived although the base of the path was not exposed. It is therefore possible that it may have survived to a greater depth. The bricks had been bonded with a hard very light grey lime mortar with frequent white flecks. While most of the bricks were unfrogged, some seemed to have very shallow frogs. There was some variation in the size of the bricks used, although the dark red to purple fabric seemed to be consistent. On average the size of the bricks was 220mm x 100mm x 60mm and the overall dimensions of the surviving brickwork, as exposed, were 0.93m east-west by 2.80m north-south by 0.10m high and it was first seen at a height of 12.97m OD. To the north and south the path extended beyond the limits of the trench.

7.2.4 Near the northern edge of Trench 1 the path, [55], was straddled by an east-west aligned brick wall, [56]. This had been constructed using dark red to purple unfrogged bricks measuring on average 220mm x 100mm x 60mm laid in English bond and bonded with hard light yellowish brown lime mortar. The wall extended west beyond the limits of the trench and to the east, immediately after crossing over the path, it had been truncated by a modern service trench. As exposed the wall measured 2.65m east-west by 0.95m north-south by at least 0.11m high and it was first seen at a height of 13.02m OD. While the relationship between the wall and the path is not entirely certain it did seem that the path predated the wall. This is thought to be the case as where the wall straddles the path the edging of the path had been removed and the resultant gaps in the brickwork filled in using mortar identical to that used in the construction of the wall.

7.2.5 At the western end wall [56] was abutted to the south by another wall section, [51]. To the south this wall section had been heavily truncated, presumably by the construction of a column base for one of the compound columns of the late 19th century boundary wall of the West Green. The surviving wall section comprised part of a north-south aligned wall. At the south end the wall section turned west, forming what appeared to be the southeast corner of a building. Wall [51] had been constructed using unfrogged red bricks measuring on average 220mm x 95mm x 60mm. The interior faces (north and west) of the wall were clad with a 15mm thick skin of hard very light grey lime mortar with very frequent small sub-angular stones. This was identical to the mortar used as the bonding agent for the wall itself, suggesting that the mortar skin had been applied during the construction phase of the wall rather than as a later addition. Only the north-south aligned section of the wall survived to its full width, 0.98m, while the east-west aligned section of the wall had been

truncated to the south. As such, this section of the wall only survived to a width of 0.32m. The length of the north-south aligned portion of the wall measured 1.20m while the length of the east-west aligned section measured 1.70m. However, both sections had been truncated, so the dimensions represent the surviving portions of the wall sections rather than their original measurements. Only the upper 0.26m of the brickwork was exposed and the top of this was recorded at 13.39m OD. While not enough of the brickwork was exposed to determine the pattern of the bond with certainty, it was suggested by the exposed courses that the brick bond consisted of at least three courses of headers to one course of stretchers.



Plate 3, view west within Trench 1 showing [51], [55] and [56]

- 7.2.6 The remains of several vaulted cellars, [124], [127], [128] and [129], were exposed in Trench 3 in the southern part of the study site. These were oriented roughly north-south and appeared approximately perpendicular to the Strand. Cellar [124] had been truncated to the west by a modern service trench and it was therefore not possible to determine its full size. To the north and south the cellar extended beyond the limits of the trench. As it survived it measured 1.12m east-west by 2.10m north-south by at least 0.62m in depth. The surviving parts of the cellar consisted of the east wall and part of the barrel vaulted roof to the west of this. Both the wall and the vaulted roof had been constructed using red handmade unfroged bricks measuring 220mm x 96mm x 60mm set in mid- to light grey sandy lime mortar.
- 7.2.7 Both the east and west walls of cellar [128] survived to some extent although the west wall only did so in section. The semi-circular barrel vault had been partially truncated, resulting in the removal of the crown of the vault. Even so, the span of the cellar could be estimated as both the supporting

walls survived. The distance between the east and west walls was recorded as 3.90m (external) and 3.14m (internal) and at the centre of the vault the internal rise was at least 0.60m. Another similar cellar, [129], was recorded 0.85m to the east of [128]. Only part of the western haunch of the cellar vault was seen as the cellar extended beyond the limits of the trench. Like cellar [128], the crown of the vault of [129] had been removed due to later truncation. Both cellar [128] and [129] had been constructed using handmade unfrosted red bricks measuring 222mm x 90mm x 60mm.

7.2.8 Further to the west were the remains of another vaulted cellar, [127]. Unlike the cellars previously discussed, no part of the vaulting of cellar [127] survived. However, the curved southern (back) wall of the cellar and the springer course on the west wall survived. Only a small section measuring 2.30m east-west by 0.40m north-south was exposed within the trench. To the east and west the wall disappeared into the northern edge of Trench 2. A similar wall, [114], which seemed to be aligned along the same east-west axis, was located further to the west. Along with the wall itself, [114], a cellar compartment topped with a semi-circular barrel vault, [116], survived to the north. Walls [114] and [127] and cellar [116] had all been constructed using identical handmade unfrosted red bricks measuring on average 220mm x 90mm x 60mm and bonded with a light grey lime mortar.

7.2.9 It is likely that the vaulted cellars, all recorded as truncated fragments of masonry, formed part of a cellared range of buildings fronting Butchers Row (now the Strand) in the 18th century. While cartographic evidence shows that the north side of the Strand was already lined with buildings in c. 1562 it is clear from the brick and mortar used in the constructions of the exposed cellars that the recorded structures belong to a later phase of development. From the cartographic evidence alone it is difficult to determine when the earlier buildings were demolished and replaced although there does appear to have been substantial changes made to the street layout around St Clement Danes between 1747 and 1792. It seems possible therefore that the construction of the vaulted cellars took place sometime during the second half of the 18th century.

7.2.10 To the east of the easternmost cellar, [124], a number of wall sections, [117], [119]-[123], [125] and [130], were uncovered. These likely belonged to the buildings with which the cellars were associated, although the fragmentary state of the walls made interpretation difficult. However, the construction materials of the wall sections were identical suggesting that they all belonged to the same phase of construction. In addition, the bricks and mortar were identical to the brick and mortar used in the construction of the cellars. The bricks measured 220mm x 90mm x 60mm and were bonded with a light grey lime mortar. Measurements of the wall sections are presented in the table below.

Wall	North-South	East-West	Height
[117]	0.50m	1.40m	1.20m
[119]	0.20m	0.60m	0.10m
[120]	0.30m	0.20m	0.10m
[121]	0.24m	1.26m	0.10m
[122]	0.32m	0.34m	0.10m
[123]	0.10m	1.74m	1.20m
[125]	0.04m	0.50m	0.10m
[130]	0.50m	0.60m	0.10m

7.2.11 Due to the fragmentary state of the walls it was difficult to determine their exact alignment as not all of the wall sections had surviving faces. However, it was clear that walls [117], [119], [121] and [123] were aligned along an east-west axis.

7.2.12 Sealing the wall sections and cellar remains was a layer of moderately compact dark brown sandy silt, [115]/[118], with occasional small sub angular and sub-rounded stones and coal flecks. This layer extended across the majority of Trench 3 and was sealed directly by the make up layers for the current road and pavement. The layer had been heavily truncated by modern intrusions such as service trenches, manholes, tree planting pits, lamp post foundations, etc. It did seem though that the deposit antedated the demolition of the cellars and associated structures, which likely occurred in the mid-19th century when the site was cleared of buildings in preparation for the construction of the Royal Courts of Justice. The layer may represent backfilling around the cellars and walls following their construction.

7.3 Phase 3: 19th Century

7.3.1 In Trench 1 this phase was represented by two layers of made ground, [54] overlain by [53], likely resulting from the construction of the Royal Courts of Justice in the late 19th century. Layer [54] comprised loose light brownish grey silty sand and crushed concrete while [53] consisted of moderately compact mid-brownish red gravelly silty sand with occasional brick fragments.

7.3.2 Additional 19th century remains were recorded in Trench 2 where a number of brick cellars were found. Specifically these consisted of two parallel north-south aligned brick walls, [106] and [108], representing the east and west walls of the building respectively. Internally these were abutted by brick arches [107] and [109] forming two vaulted bays. All of these components had been constructed using frogged red bricks measuring 200mm x 100mm x 70mm bonded with light grey lime mortar with frequent white flecks and small clinker fragments. In both of the walls, [106] and [108], the bricks had been laid in English bond.

7.3.3 Sealing the top layer, [101], of the 18th century dump sequence in Trench 2 was a moderately compact 19th century deposit of mid brown sandy silt, [112], with occasional clay lenses, small sub-rounded stones and brick fragments. The top of the deposit was recorded at 18.10m OD.



Plate 4: View south in Trench 2 in Carey St, showing 19th century cellars [107] & [108].

7.4 Phase 4: Modern

7.4.1 In Trench 1 two 20th century made ground deposits were recorded as [50] and [52]; these were overlain directly by the lawn of the West Green. Deposit [50] comprised loose to friable mixed brownish grey to light grey sandy silt and silty sand with occasional patches of yellow sand. It also contained very frequent pockets of brick and mortar rubble, frequent chalk flecks, small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stones, occasional charcoal flecks and slate and tile fragments. The second made ground deposit, [52], consisted of hard mid-greyish yellow sand with frequent concrete fragments.

7.4.2 Sealing the earlier features and deposits in Trenches 2 and 3 were deposits of 20th century made ground, [+], capped with the concrete bedding for the current tarmac and stone slab surfaces.



Plate 5: Deposit [50] at the base of the western end of Trench 1, view east.

8 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Discussion

- 8.1.1 While cartographic material covering the area dates back to at least the middle of the 16th century it is difficult, with any certainty at least, to relate the earlier masonry to buildings depicted on these maps due in part to perspective distortion. It is, however, clear that at least part of the site had been built up by 1562. This is especially true for the southern part of the site where the map clearly shows buildings fronting Butcher's Row, which is now part of the Strand. According to John Stype (1720) Butcher's Row assumed its name from the butchers' shambles on the south side of the street. Stype described the area to the north of Butcher's Row as consisting of several small courts.
- 8.1.2 Walls [51], [55] and [56] likely represent the remains of house along the street labelled as Back Side on Rocque's 1747 map. This street connected Butcher Row in the east with Holy Well Street and Wych Street in the west. By the time of Horwood's 1792-9 map the south side of Back Side had been demolished leaving a larger plaza like space around St Clements Church. Back Side was already in existence by 1658 as it appears on Newcourt's Map although it is not yet in existence by the time of the Braun and Hogenberg map of 1572. Additional evidence for the 18th century buildings along Back Side and Butcher Row was seen in form of the remains of vaulted cellars and walls [114], [116], [117], [119]-[130].
- 8.1.3 From Newcourt's 1658 map it becomes clear that by the middle of the 17th century the entire site had been built up with houses fronting a series of alleys, courts and streets then occupying the area. At this time the area was populated by inhabitants from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. Boswell Court, which was located towards the western part of the study site, for example, was home to Lady Raleigh and Sir Edward Lyttleton.
- 8.1.4 Walls [59] and [60] are likely associated with the buildings shown on the 1658 Newcourt map along the south side of what later became Carey Street. At the time the area to the north of the street was undeveloped and formed part of a field known as Lower Lincolns Inn Fields. Brick and mortar samples from these walls indicate a spot date of 1600-1700. A vaulted cellar represented by walls [109] and [110] probably formed part of the same row of buildings along Carey Street, although the cellar could be dated as early as 1500 and was certainly in existence by 1700.
- 8.1.5 Later phase of the buildings along the south side of Carey Street were represented by walls [106], [107], [108] and [109], which form the walls and roofs of two vaulted cellars. Brick samples date these to 1800-1900.

8.2 Conclusions

- 8.2.1 Natural stratigraphy was not observed during the works as the depth to which the excavations reached was not beyond that of historical and modern ground raising deposits, generally being limited to shallow trenches around 1.0m deep and with only localised deeper excavations.
- 8.2.2 The results of the works demonstrate that the site underwent significant disturbance to the upper horizons in the 1860s resulting in severe upper truncation. Where previous remains had escaped the 1860s clearance, these remains themselves were often seen to comprise 18th century basements which would have caused further disturbance to earlier remains. The truncation caused by the installation of numerous services was also abundantly visible.
- 8.2.3 Given the limited findings of the project, both resulting from modern truncation and only comparatively slight impacts from the proposed scheme, PCA considers that no further work is appropriate or necessary for this project. Upon approval of this report from the Archaeology Advisor to the Local Planning Authority, PCA will supply copies of this report to the Local Studies Library and the local archaeological societies. A copy will be lodged with the Greater London Historic Environment Record.
- 8.2.4 PCA will prepare a summary of the site and its findings for inclusion in the London Archaeologist annual Fieldwork Round-Up, thereby publicly disseminating the results of the project.
- 8.2.5 The entire site archive comprising written and photographic records from the excavation will be deposited with LAARC under site code STR11.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank West One Infrastructure Services for commissioning the work and particularly Tony Abreu for his assistance. PCA also thanks the ground crew from Murphy Group for their assistance on site. Special thanks go to Ciaran Ward of Murphy Group for his help.
- 9.2 The watching brief monitored work required by the scheme to divert a gas main (Trench 3), which was commissioned by tRiIO® (joint venture partnership between Morrison Utility Services and Skanska Construction UK).
- 9.3 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would also like to thank Diane Abrams of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service for monitoring the project on behalf of the City of Westminster.
- 9.4 The author would like to thank Sarah Barrowman, Ian Cipin, Ireneo Grosso, Guy Seddon, Richard Humphrey and Joe Brooks their work in undertaking part of the watching brief, Chris Jarrett and Kevin Hayward for dating the finds, Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations and Chris Mayo for his project management and editing this report.

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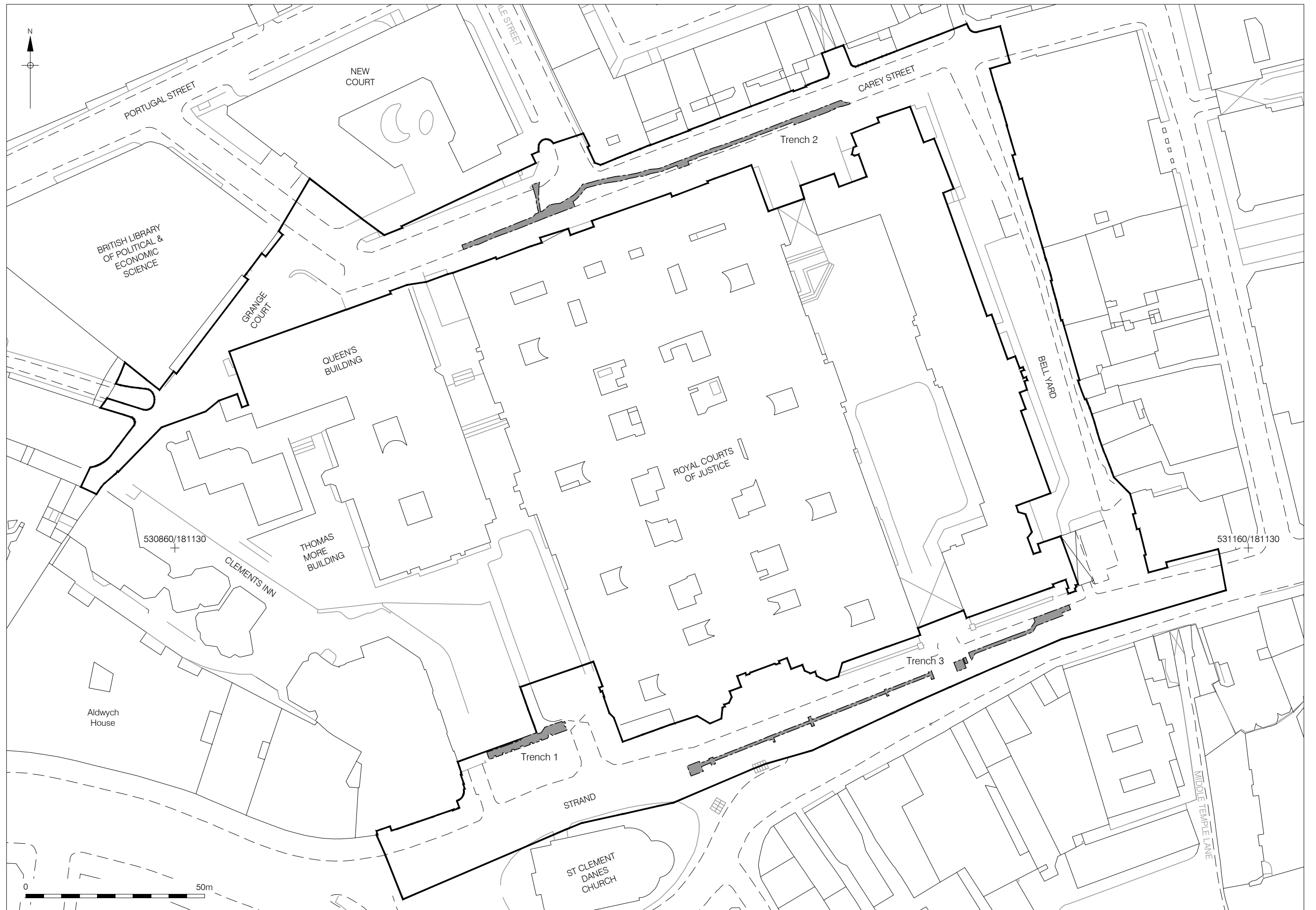


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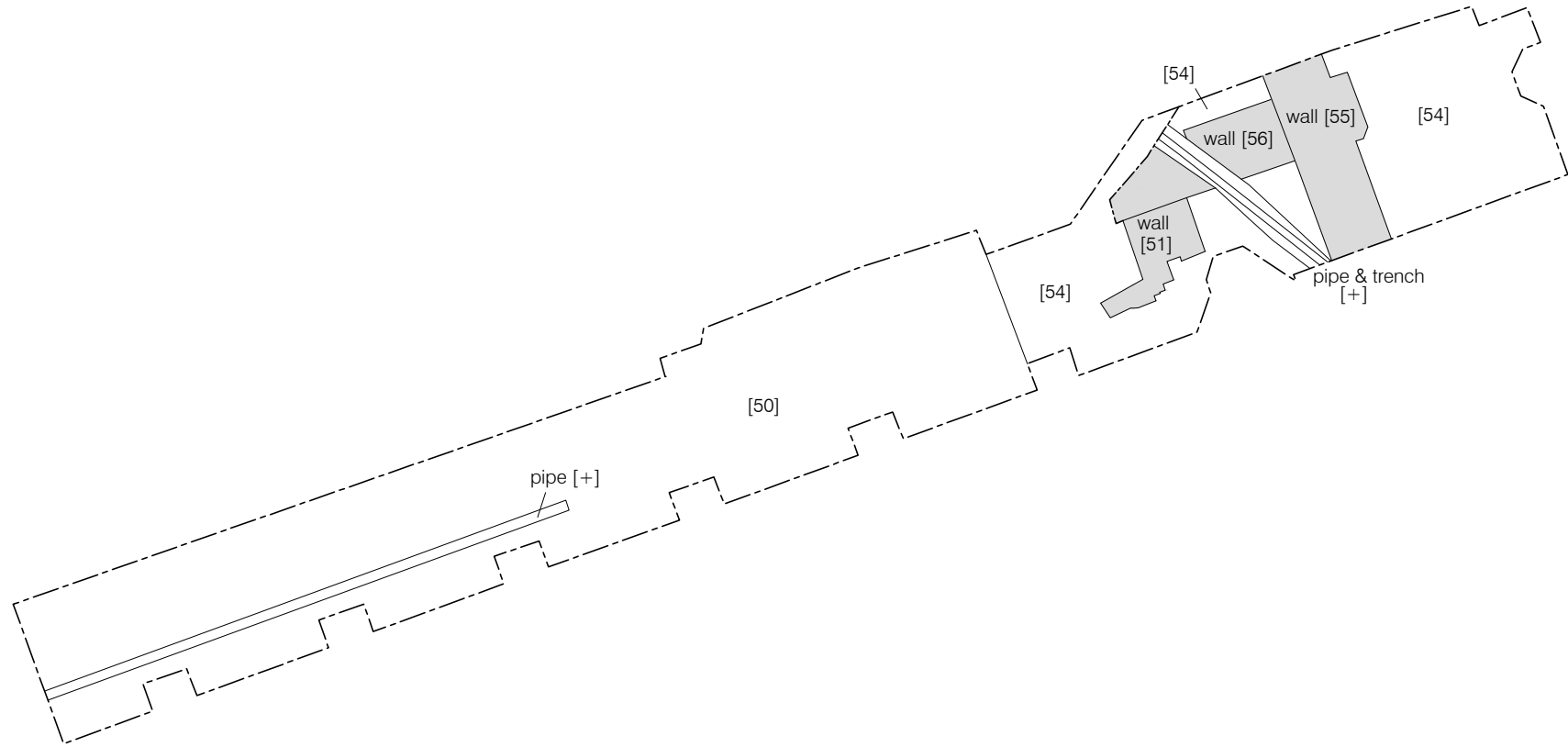
Figure 1
 Site Location
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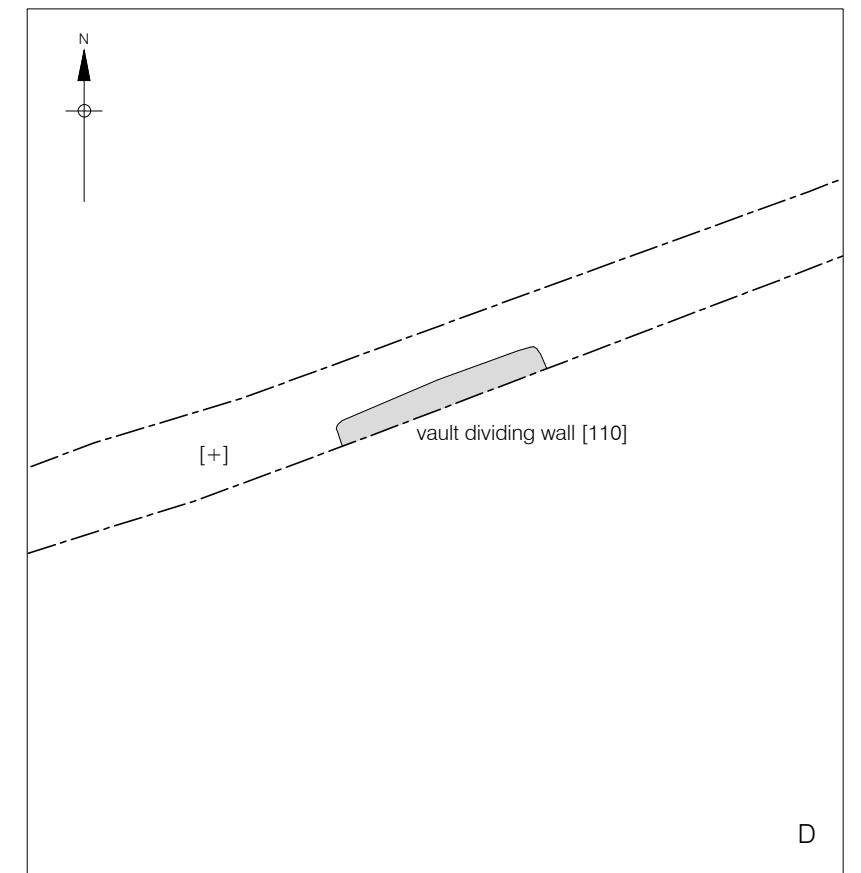
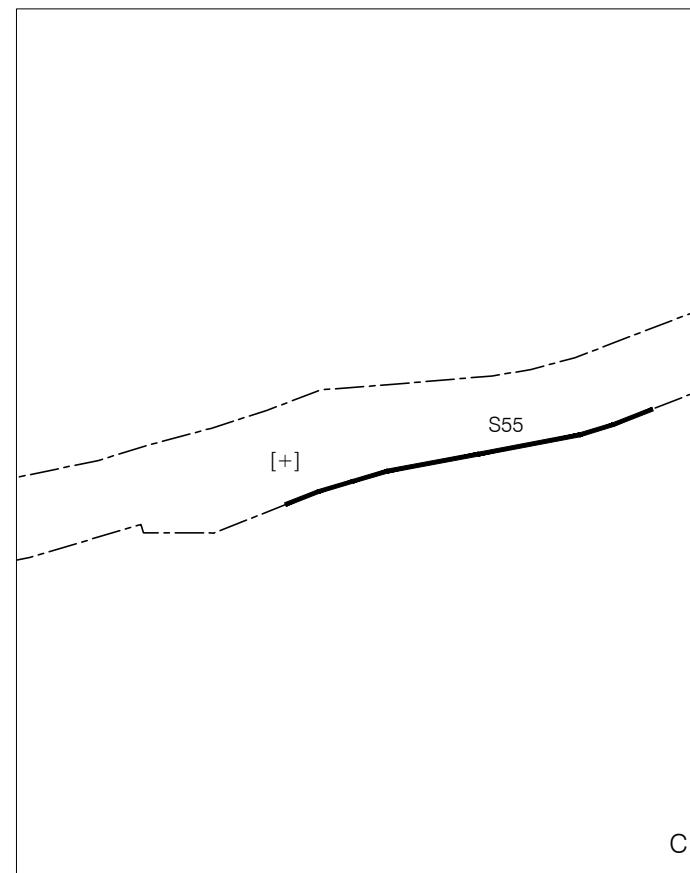
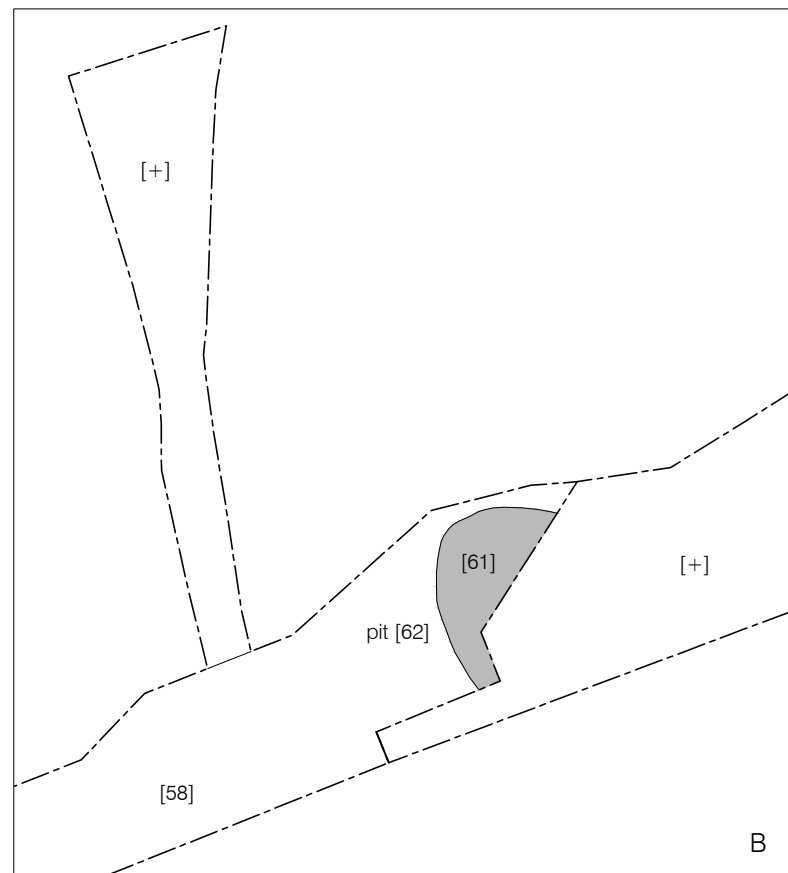
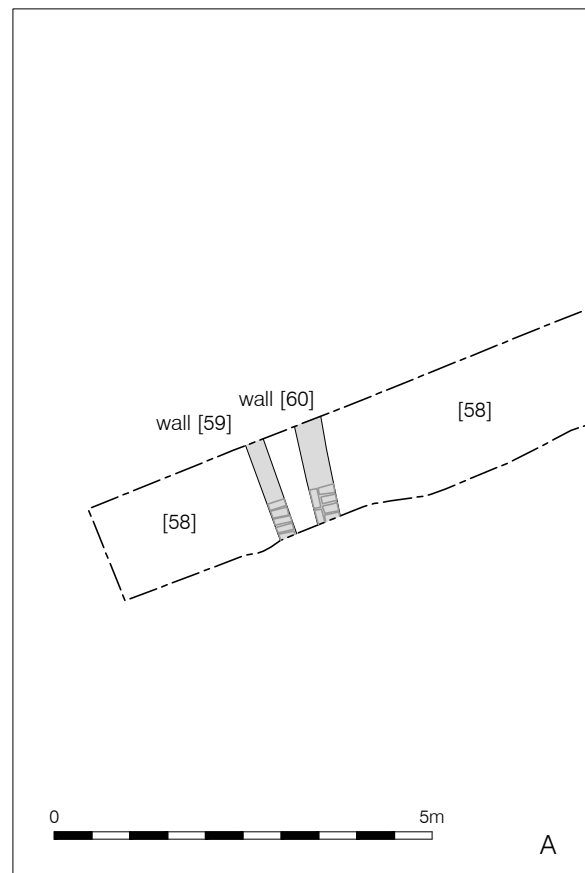
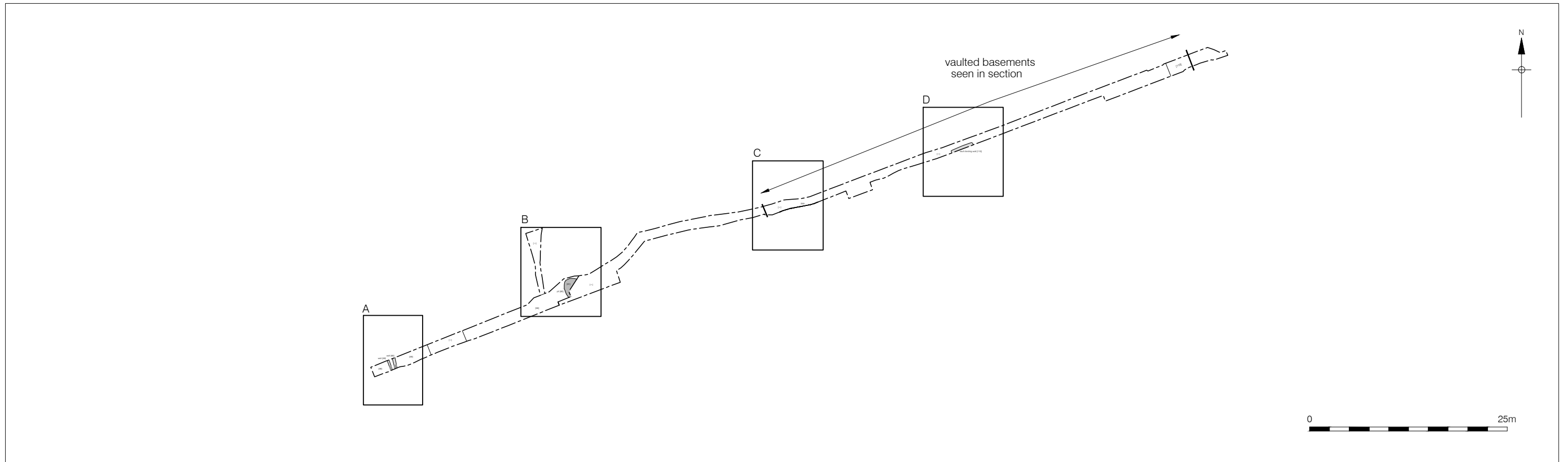


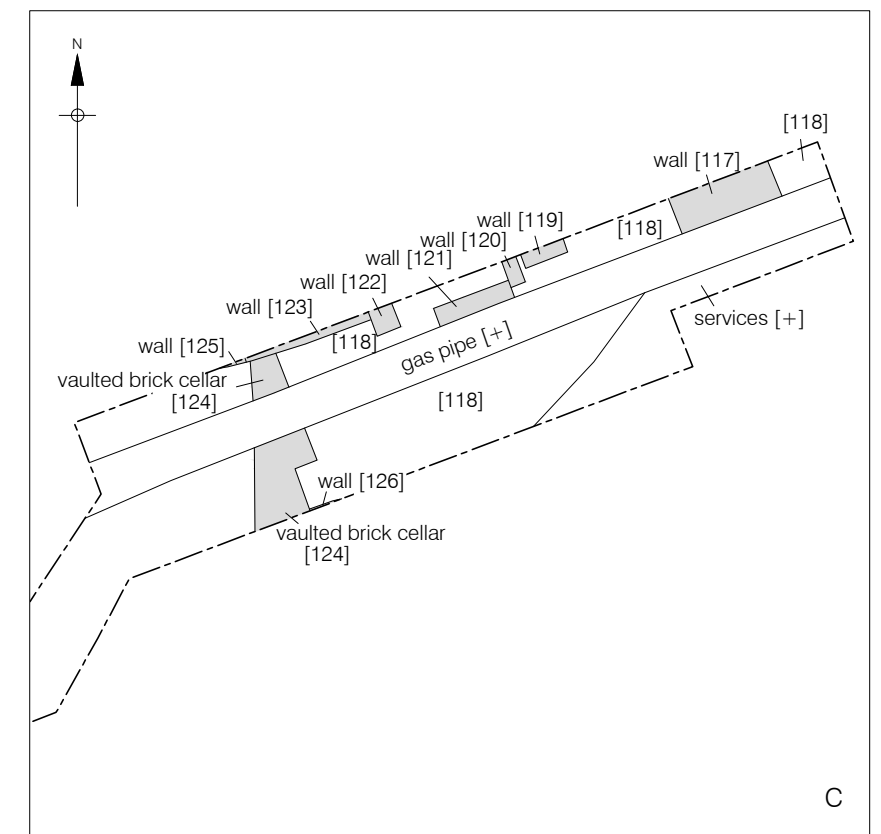
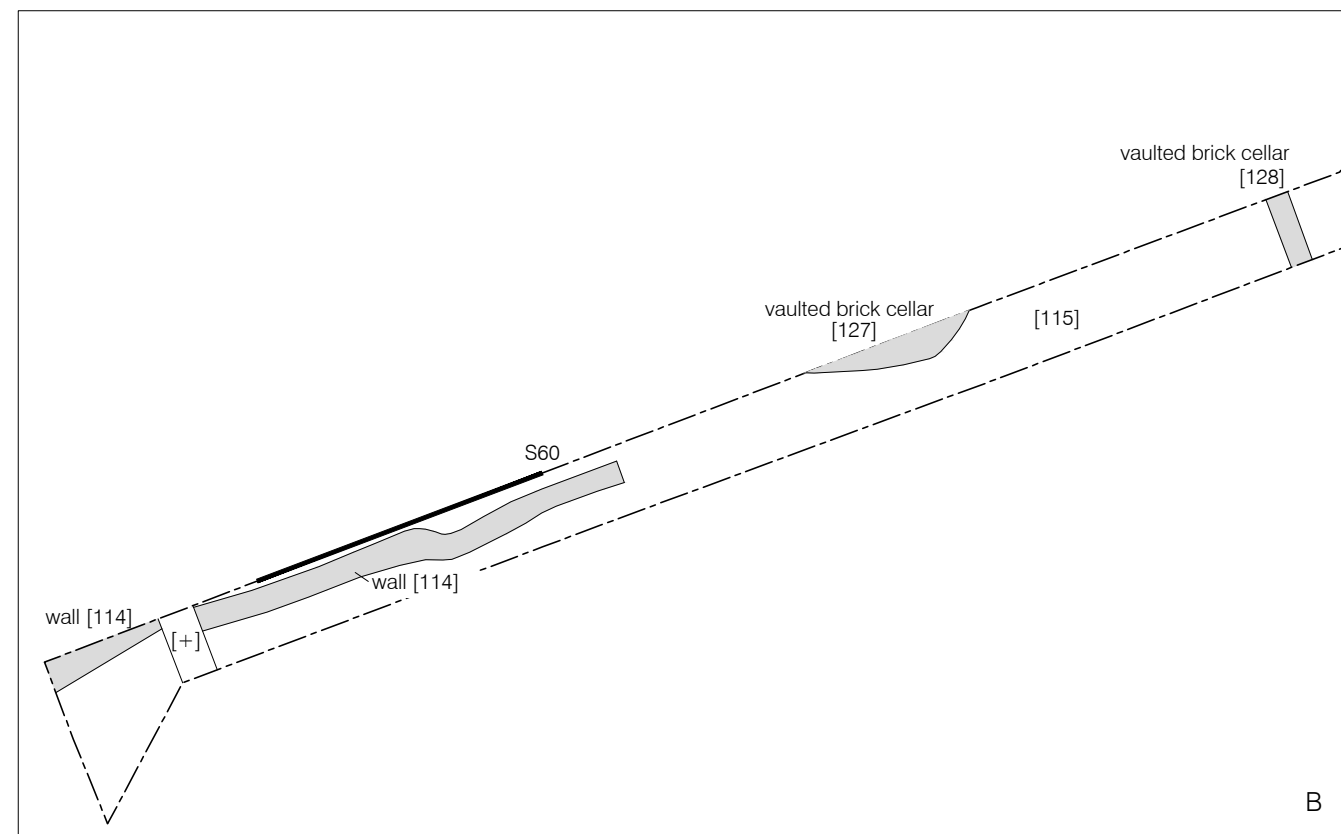
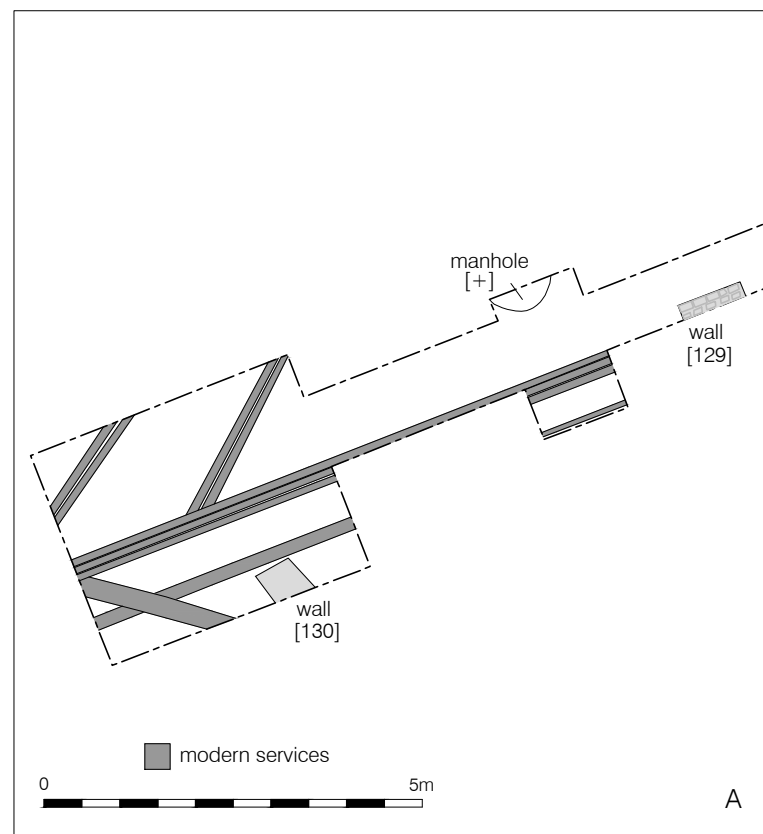
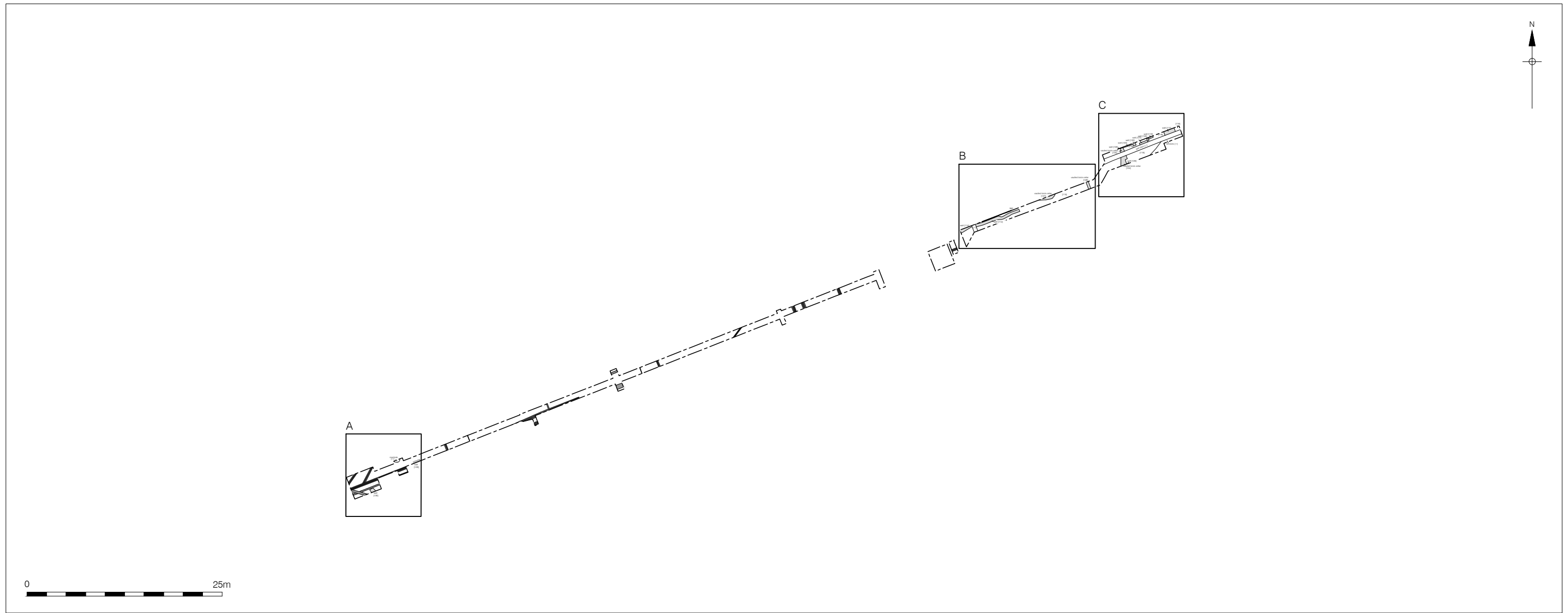
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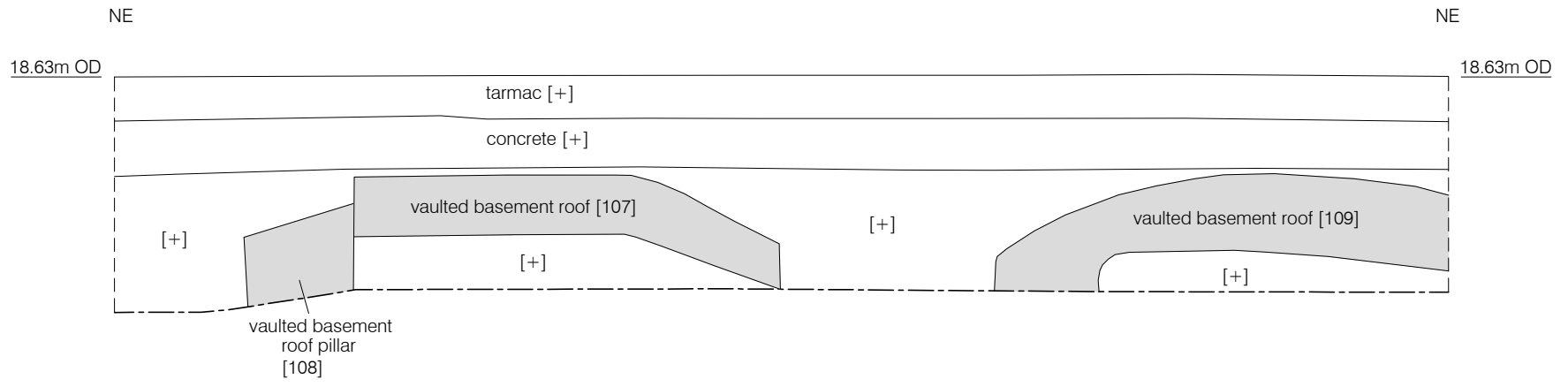
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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:1,000 at A3

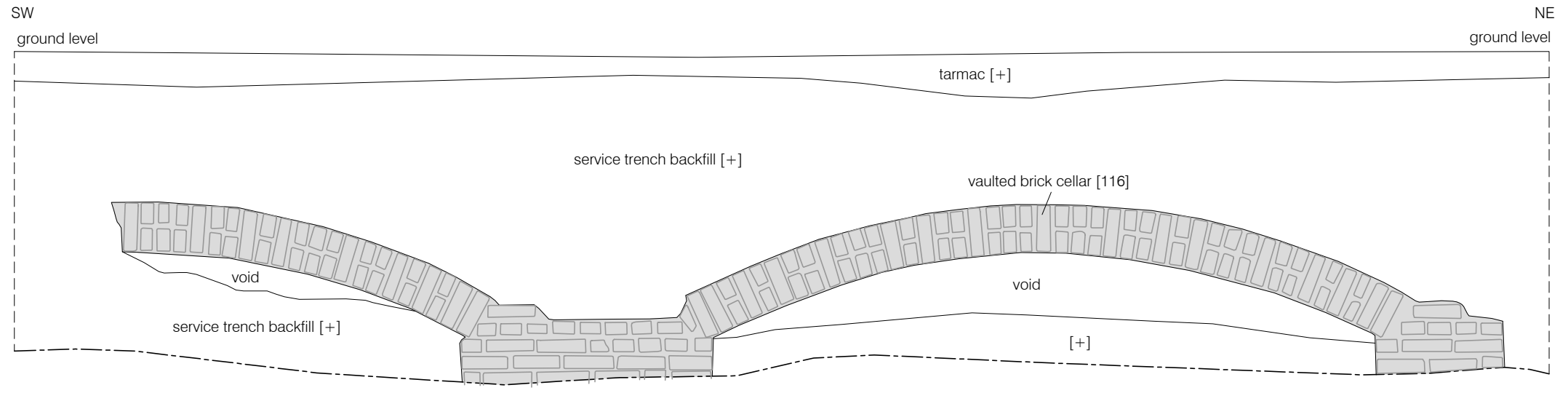








Section 55
Trench 2
Northwest Facing



Section 60
Trench 3
Southeast Facing

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Trench No.	Type	Description	Date	Phase
50	TR 1	Layer	Modern Made Ground	20 th century	4
51	TR 1	Masonry	Pre RCJ Building Remains	18 th century	2
52	TR 1	Layer	Bedding Layer for Stone Paving	20 th century	4
53	TR 1	Layer	Made Ground assoc. With RCJ Cons.	19 th century	3
54	TR 1	Layer	Made Ground assoc. With RCJ Cons.	19 th century	3
55	TR 1	Masonry	N-S Wall	18 th century	2
56	TR 1	Masonry	E-W Wall	18 th century	2
57	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	1720-1780	2
58	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	18th century	2
59	TR 2	Masonry	Pre RCJ Building Remains	1600-1700	1
60	TR 2	Masonry	Pre RCJ Building Remains	1600-1700	1
61	TR 2	Fill	Fill of [62]	1600-1800	2
62	TR 2	Cut	Pit	1600-1800	2
101	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	1600-1800	2
102	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	1500-1800	2
103	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	1700-1800	2
104	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	1500-1700	1
105	TR 2	Layer	Service Trench backfill	1400-1700	2
106	TR 2	Masonry	Cellar Wall	1800-1900	3
107	TR 2	Masonry	Vaulted Basement Roof	1800-1900	3
108	TR 2	Masonry	Vaulted Basement Roof Pillar	1800-1900	3
109	TR 2	Masonry	Vaulted Basement Roof	1800-1900	3
110	TR 2	Masonry	Vault Dividing Wall	1500-1700	1
111	TR 2	Masonry	Vaulted Basement Roof	1500-1700	1
112	TR 2	Layer	Made Ground	19 th century	3
113	TR 2	Layer	Re-deposited material	1550-1700	1
114	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
115	TR 3	Layer	Made Ground	18th Century	2
116	TR 3	Masonry	Vaulted Brick Cellar	18th Century	2
117	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
118	TR 3	Layer	Made Ground	18th Century	2
119	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
120	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
121	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
122	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
123	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
124	TR 3	Masonry	Vaulted Brick Cellar	18th Century	2
125	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
126	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2
127	TR 3	Masonry	Vaulted Brick Cellar	18th Century	2
128	TR 3	Masonry	Vaulted Brick Cellar	18th Century	2
129	TR 3	Masonry	Vaulted Brick Cellar	18th Century	2
130	TR 3	Masonry	Brick Wall	18th Century	2

APPENDIX 2: POTTERY ASSESSMENT (STR11)

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Introduction

A total of fifteen stratified sherds, representing 13 estimated number of vessels, weighing 571g, dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods were recovered from the archaeological work. The material is in a good condition, indicating that it was deposited soon after breakage. The assemblage consists of sherd material with identifiable forms present. The pottery was quantified by sherd count, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight and was classified according to the Museum of London Archaeology (LAARC 2007). The assemblage is discussed by context as an index.

Pottery index

Context [6], considered spot date: 1740-1780

- White salt-glazed stoneware with cobalt and incised decoration (SWSG COB). 1740-1780, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 48g, form: unidentified

Context [57], considered spot date: 1720-1780

- Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with clear (yellow) glaze (BORDY), 1550-1700, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 14g, form: unidentified
- Miscellaneous post-medieval pottery (?transitional redware) (MISC), 1480-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 14g, form: unidentified
- Combed slipware (STSL), 1660-1870, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 15 g, form: dish
- White salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG), 1720-1780, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 1g, form: unidentified

Context [58], considered spot date: 18th century

- Surrey-Hampshire border redware (RBOR), 1550-1700, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 71 g, form: chamber pot
- Staffordshire-type mottled brown-glazed ware (STMO), 1660-1800 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 222g, form: straight-sided bowl
- London tin-glazed ware with pale blue glaze and dark blue decoration (Orton and Pearce style H) (TGW H), 1680-1800, 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 101 g, form: simple plate with a central potted flower design

Context [61], considered spot date: 17th century

- Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with clear (yellow) glaze (BORDY), 1550-1700, 1 sherd,

1 ENV, 12 g, form: unidentified

- Frechen stoneware (FREC), 1550-1700, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 59 g, form: jug

Context [104], considered spot date: 1300-1500

- Tudor Green' ware (TUDG), 1300-1500, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 3g, form: carinated bowl or cup

Context [105], considered spot date: 1480-1600

- London-area early post-medieval redware (PMRE), 1480-1600, 2 sherds, ENV, 8 g, form: unidentified

Context [113], considered spot date: 1550-1700

- Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with green glaze (BORDG), 1550-1700, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 3g, form: drinking jug

Significance and potential of the assemblage and recommendations for further work

The assemblage has little significance at a local level and the pottery types present fit the ceramic profile for London and all of the pottery types are frequently encountered in medieval and post-medieval excavations in the region. The only potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was recovered from. None of the pottery requires illustrating. There are no recommendations for further work.

APPENDIX 3: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Rielly, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

7 animal bones were recovered from 2 deposits, [113] (6 bones) and [105] (1 bone). The larger collection consisted of 5 cattle-size and one sheep-size rib, while the single bone from [105] is a cattle maxillary molar, this from an adult individual. The cattle-size ribs most likely belong to cattle rather than equid (the two cattle-size animals typically found on British archaeological sites) and their notably large size suggest they belong to one or more 'improved' breed. This would suggest they date from at least the latter part of the 18th century.

APPENDIX 4: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL SPOT DATES

By Kevin Hayward, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

CBM Index

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Mortar spot date
59	3065; 3101	Chunk of red early post medieval brick in a T3 sandy fawn mortar	1	1450	1800	1450	1700	1600-1800	1500-1700
60	3065; 3101	Chunk of red early post medieval brick in a T3 sandy fawn mortar	1	1450	1800	1450	1700	1600-1800	1500-1700
61	3065; 2271; 2587; 2276	Chunk of red early post med brick; late medieval and early post med peg tile	5	1180	1900	1480	1900	1500-1800+	No mortar
100	3065; 1977; 2586; 2276; 2850	2/3rds of a 16 th or 17 th century brick sunken margin; unglazed Flemish floor tile; early post medieval peg tile	6	1180	1900	1480	1900	1600-1700+	No mortar
101	3065; 2271; 2850; 2586	Red early post med brick; non glazed Flemish silt floor tile; worn glazed med peg tile	6	1180	1800	1450	1700	1600-1800	No mortar
102	3039; 2271; 2276; 3046	Fragments of early post medieval brick, medieval and early post med peg tile	5	1180	1900	1480	1900	1500-1800	No mortar
103	3065; 3101	Reused early post medieval brick fragments in a T4 dark grey clinker mortar	3	1450	1800	1450	1700	1700-1800	1750-1850+
104	2586; 3065	Early post medieval brick fragments and late med early post med peg tile	4	1180	1800	1450	1700	1500-1700+	No mortar
105	2587	Abraded medieval peg tile	1	1240	1450	1240	1450	1400-1700+	No mortar
109	3032	Shallow Frogged Narrow Post Great Fire Brick T2 mortar	1	1664	1900	1780	1900	1780-1900	1800-1900
110	3033; 3101	Shallow wide poorly made Tudor type brick T3 sandy gravel mortar	1	1450	1700	1450	1700	1500-1700	1500-1700
111	3033; 3065; 3101	Shallow wide poorly made Tudor type bricks T3 sandy gravel mortar	2	1450	1700	1450	1700	1500-1700	1500-1700
113	3046; 2320; 2587; 2276; 3101	Highly abraded local medieval floor tile no glaze left; splash glazed medieval peg tile; early post medieval peg tile and brick T5 lime mortar	7	1180	1900	1480	1900	1500-1700+	1500-1700+
400	3035; 3101	Machine Frogged yellow London Stock brick with a hard gravel Roman mortar T6	1	1780	1940	1850	1940	1850-1940	1880-1940

Summary

This small sized ceramic building material assemblage (49 examples 21.4kg) is dominated by post medieval brick, peg tile and floor tile. However an abraded medieval floor tile in the local sandy fabric 2320 (1300-1550) and a splash glazed peg tile in fabric 2587 (1240-1450) provide glimpses of medieval activity or dumping of medieval tile. No Roman material was recovered which was surprising given the sites proximity to the city wall.

Three phases of brick structure can be identified. The first from structures [110] [111] consist of wide (110mm plus), relatively shallow (55mm) poorly made Tudor/Stuart bricks in the common red fabric 3033 (1450-1700). These are bonded in a soft brown sandy gravel mortar typical of Tudor and Stuart construction in the city and Southwark (Hayward pers. obs.). Red bricks with sunken margins from [100] are a further indication of an early date. These vaulted structures may therefore date to sometime between 1500 and 1700.

By contrast structures [8] [20] and [109] have a much later construction date. The bricks are all frogged, made from hard clinker recipes (T1-T3) typical of 19th century manufacture. Furthermore, they have a post great fire clinker rich fabric 3032, common only after 1664. Finally, all these brick are small and narrow (220x100x60mm) confirming in size to the brick tax legislation brought in between 1780 and 1850.

Finally brick structure [400] is almost certainly a 20th century or at the very earliest late 19th century.

The main focus of interest for the Royal Courts of Justice site therefore lies with the dating and origin of brick walls [110] and [111]. The form, size, fabric and mortar type are indicative of a Tudor/Stuart brick construction, pre-dating the later walls by as much as 200 years.

APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-193928

Project details

Project name	Royal Courts of Justice Streetscape Improvements
Short description of the project	Between July of 2012 and June 2014 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited carried out periodic a watching brief during the streetscape improvement project at the Royal Courts of Justice. The watching brief recorded structural remains of some of the buildings preceding the Royal Courts of Justice. Predominantly the remains consisted of vaulted cellars with the earliest ones dating from 1500 to 1700 and the later from 1700 to 1900. The trenches were excavated for the purpose of moving existing services to make way for the footings for the new security features. As such, the trenches were targeting existing services; the installation of which had caused severe truncation to the archaeological resource leading to only fragmented survival of the structural remains. With very few exceptions the trenches did not extend fully below the modern backfill of the previous service trenches or the made ground/dumped deposits resulting from the construction of the Royal Courts of Justice in the late 19th century. Due to these factors very few archaeological horizons were observed/recorded and the structural remains appeared as small islands of earlier masonry surrounded by much later deposits. It is therefore difficult to offer any definitive conclusions regarding the association of the structural remains with specific buildings portrayed within the cartographic or documentary record.
Project dates	Start: 24-07-2012 End: 27-06-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	STR11 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	11/05848/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	11/05849/LBC - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	preconst1-115337 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Listed Building Consent
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF WESTMINSTER WESTMINSTER Royal Courts of Justice
Postcode	WC2A 2LL
Study area	13376.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3100 8115 51.5135696845 -0.111918571093 51 30 48 N 000 06 42 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Chris Mayo
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Paw Jorgensen
Project supervisor	Richard Humphrey
Project supervisor	Guy Seddon
Project supervisor	Ian Cipin
Project supervisor	Sarah Barrowman
Project supervisor	Ireneo Grosso
Project supervisor	Joe Brooks
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	West One Infrastructure Services

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	STR11
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	STR11
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	STR11
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Matrices","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Royal Courts of Justice Streetscape Improvements, London: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jorgensen, P.
Other bibliographic details	PCA R11994
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