

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF DURING  
GEOTECHNICAL  
INVESTIGATIONS AT  
WEDGE HOUSE, 32-40  
BLACKFRIARS ROAD,  
LONDON BOROUGH OF  
SOUTHWARK, SE1 8NZ**

**SITE CODE: BFS 14**

**REPORT NO: R11914**

**NOVEMBER 2014**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT  
ARCHAEOLOGY**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief during Geotechnical Investigations at  
Wedge House, 32-40 Blackfriars Road, London Borough of Southwark,  
SE1 8NZ**

**Site Code: BFS 14**

**Central National Grid Reference: TQ 31628023**

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Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, November 2014**

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**Commissioning Client: Concept Consultants**

**Planning Application Number: N/A**

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November 2014**


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**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

**Site Name**  
**32-40 Blackfriars Road, Southwark**  
**Type of project**

**Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Investigations**

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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken intermittently between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 during geotechnical investigations at 32-40 Blackfriars Road, Southwark (Figure 1). The watching brief was commissioned by Concept Consultants.
- 1.2 The watching brief involved the monitoring of two test pits (Figure 2).
- 1.3 The watching brief was carried out during to establish the presence, nature and depth, or lack of, archaeological deposits within the study area.
- 1.4 Modern made ground capped with concrete was noted in both test pits.
- 1.5 A deposit of burnt clay levelling material was noted in the north of Test Pit 2 on Blackfriars Road.
- 1.6 Natural deposits were not seen in either test pit.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. at 32-40 Blackfriars Road, Southwark (Figure 1) between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014.
- 2.2 The site is bounded by Colombo Street to the north and west, Blackfriars Road to the east and the Friars Bridge Court building to the south. The test pits were located on the exterior of Wedge House which presently occupies the site. Test Pit 1 was sited on Colombo Street and Test Pit 2 on Blackfriars Road.
- 2.3 The test pits were hand excavated by geotechnical ground workers and were monitored by the author.
- 2.4 The watching brief was commissioned by Concept Consultants, the project was managed for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. by Helen Hawkins and the supervising archaeologist was Shane Maher.
- 2.5 The National Grid Reference of the site was centred at TQ 3162 8023
- 2.6 The site was given the code BFS14.

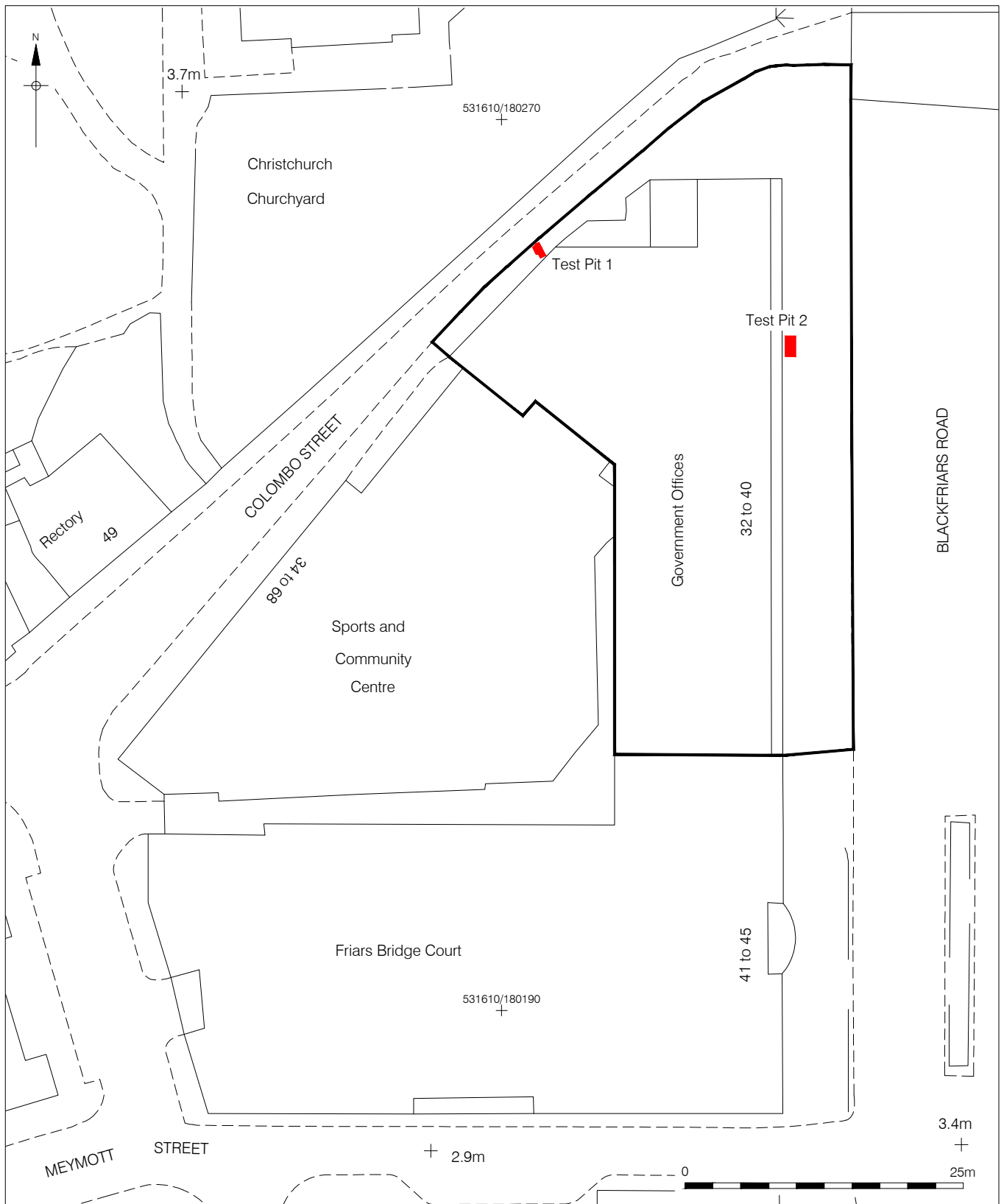


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17/11/14 JS

Figure 1  
Site Location  
1:20,000 at A4



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 17/11/14 JS

Figure 2  
 Test Pit Location  
 1:500 at A4



### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework Framework (NPPF), which replaces national policy relating to heritage and archaeology (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment).
- 3.2 Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled *Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development
  - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment
  - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and
  - Recognition of the contribution that heritage assets make to our understanding of the past.
- 3.2.1 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be *no more than sufficient* to review the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 3.2.2 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as: a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. They include designated heritage assets (as defined in the NPPF) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the planmaking process.
- 3.2.3 Annex 2 also defines *Archaeological Interest* as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are a primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.
- 3.2.4 A *Designated Heritage Asset* comprises a: World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area.
- 3.2.5 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 3.2.6 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets (which include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas)
  - Protects the settings of such designations
  - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions
  - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not significant enough to merit *in-situ* preservation.

- 3.3 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 3.4 The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by the London Plan published 22 July 2011. Policy relevant to archaeology at the site includes:

## **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, REUSE 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. BOROUGHES 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. BOROUGHES, 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.**

- 3.5 The London Borough of Southwark Core Strategy was adopted in April 2011 and contains the following relevant policy:

#### **STRATEGIC POLICY 12 – DESIGN AND CONSERVATION**

**DEVELOPMENT WILL ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDARDS OF DESIGN FOR BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC SPACES TO HELP CREATE ATTRACTIVE AND DISTINCTIVE PLACES WHICH ARE SAFE, EASY TO GET AROUND AND A PLEASURE TO BE IN. WE WILL DO THIS BY:**

- 1. EXPECTING DEVELOPMENT TO CONSERVE OR ENHANCE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SOUTHWARK'S HERITAGE ASSETS, THEIR SETTINGS AND WIDER HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING CONSERVATION AREAS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES AND SITES, LISTED AND LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS, REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS, WORLD HERITAGE SITES AND SCHEDULED MONUMENTS.**
- 2. CAREFULLY MANAGING THE DESIGN OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE THAMES POLICY AREA SO THAT IT IS SENSITIVE TO THE MANY SPECIAL QUALITIES OF THE RIVER.**
- 3. MAKING SURE THAT THE HEIGHT AND DESIGN OF DEVELOPMENT CONSERVES AND ENHANCES STRATEGIC VIEWS AND IS APPROPRIATE TO ITS CONTEXT, THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND IMPORTANT LOCAL VIEWS**
- 4. REQUIRING TALL BUILDINGS TO HAVE AN EXEMPLARY STANDARD OF DESIGN AND MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO REGENERATING AREAS AND CREATING UNIQUE PLACES. LOCATIONS WHERE TALL BUILDINGS COULD GO ARE IN LONDON BRIDGE, THE NORTHERN END OF BLACKFRIARS ROAD, ELEPHANT AND CASTLE AND ACTION AREA CORES. THESE ARE SHOWN ON THE KEY DIAGRAM.**
- 5. CONTINUING TO USE THE SOUTHWARK DESIGN REVIEW PANEL TO ASSESS THE DESIGN QUALITY OF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS.**
- 6. REQUIRING DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENTS WITH APPLICATIONS AND ENCOURAGING BUILDING FOR LIFE ASSESSMENTS AND HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENTS.**

- 3.6 The London Borough of Southwark Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted in July 2007. The Plan contains Policy 3.19 - Archaeology which seeks to protect and safeguard archaeological remains. This policy has been saved until the adoption of the Local Development Framework.

#### **POLICY 3.19 – ARCHAEOLOGY**

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS AFFECTING SITES WITHIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES, AS IDENTIFIED IN APPENDIX 7, SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF THE SITE, INCLUDING THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT. THERE IS A PRESUMPTION IN FAVOUR OF PRESERVATION IN SITU, TO PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE, INCLUDING SCHEDULED MONUMENTS AND THEIR SETTINGS. THE IN SITU PRESERVATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE WILL ALSO BE SOUGHT, UNLESS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OUTWEIGHS THE LOCAL VALUE OF THE REMAINS. IF PLANNING PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO DEVELOP ANY SITE WHERE THERE ARE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OR THERE IS GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE**

**THAT SUCH REMAINS EXIST, CONDITIONS WILL BE ATTACHED TO SECURE THE EXCAVATION AND RECORDING OR PRESERVATION IN WHOLE OR IN PART, IF JUSTIFIED, BEFORE DEVELOPMENT BEGINS.**

- 3.7 In terms of designated heritage assets, as defined above, the site does not lie within the vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck site. The study site does not lie within an 'Archaeological Priority Zone', on the adopted Core Strategy proposals map (adopted 2011).

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### 4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The site lies in the alluvial floodplain of the River Thames (British Geological Survey Sheet 270 South London 1998).

4.1.2 The solid geology of the study site is London Clay, forming the London Basin (British Geological Survey).

### 4.2 Topography

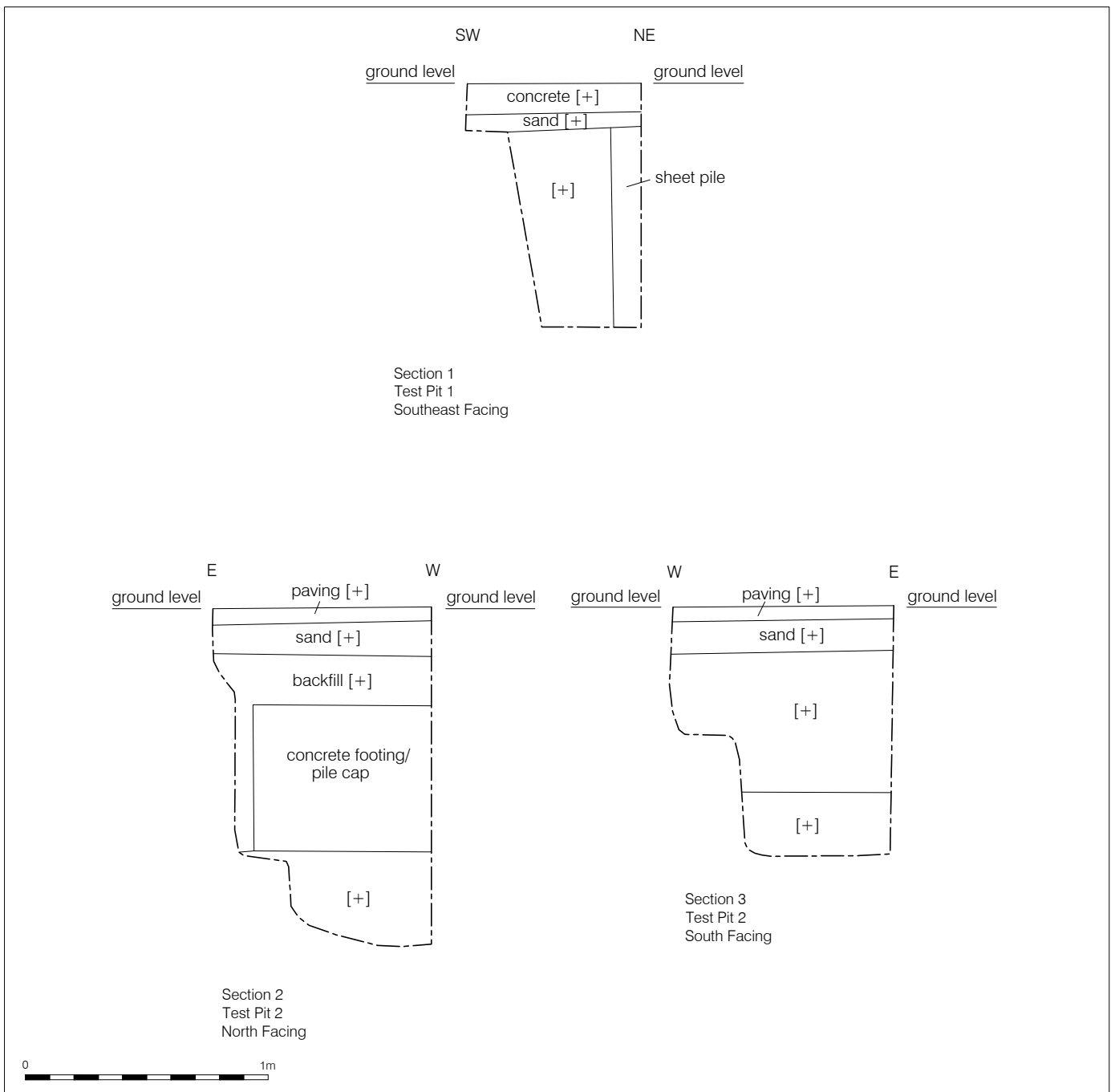
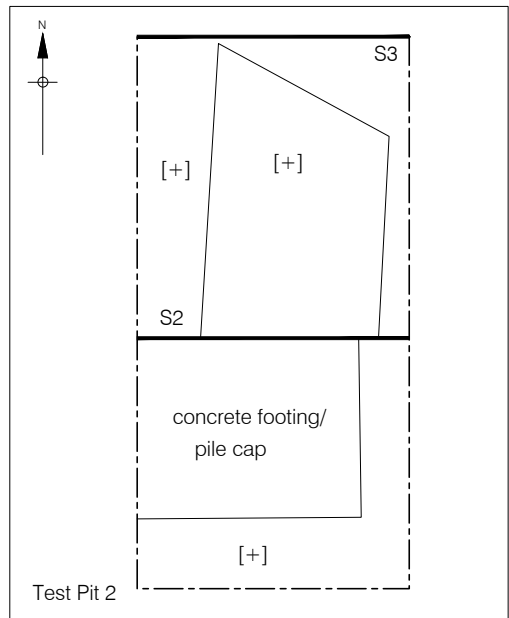
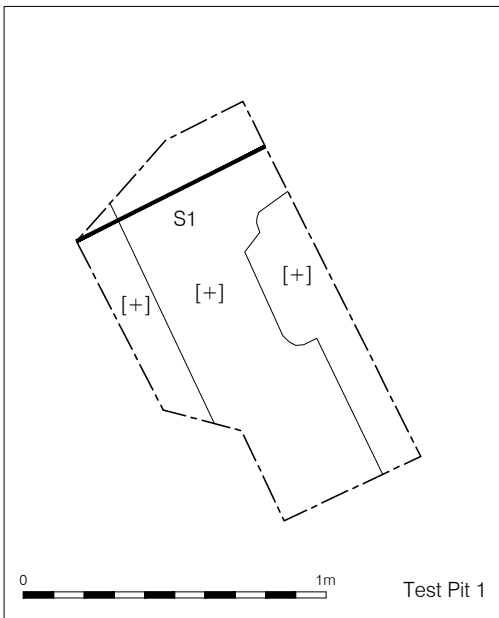
4.2.1 The current topography of the study site shows a gradual slope along the Blackfriars Road frontage from c. 3.6m OD in the south of the study site down to c. 3.9m OD in the north.

4.2.2 The study site lies approximately 200m to the south of the current south bank of the River Thames.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The archaeological and historical background is taken from the report of a site to the immediate northeast (Grosso 2008) and summarised below.
- 5.2 Prehistoric – Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Ages
- 5.2.1 The floodplain, and consequentially the area concerning the study site, would have been dry until the early Mesolithic period (up to 7,750 BP) and probably covered by dense vegetation and consequentially is very likely that it would have been favoured for occupation. Moreover in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, implements dating to the Mesolithic period were recovered at Hopton Street, c 180m to the north-east of the site.
- 5.2.2 At the end of the early prehistoric period permanent occupation would have been difficult due to the marine transgression and the consequent inundation of the lower areas of the floodplain except for area of higher, drier, ground, known as 'eyots' and the higher gravel terraces. The site was probably located on an 'eyot'. In 1994-7, excavations at Hopton Street, c 180m to the northeast of the site, revealed evidence of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age occupation in the form of ard (plough) mark, postholes, pits, flints artefacts and pottery. Another excavation at 245 Blackfriars Road in 1987, north of the site, also revealed part of the eyot, along with a buried agricultural soil containing burnt flints of Iron Age pottery.
- 5.2.3 Activities such as grazing, fishing, fowling, salt making, exploitation of sources of craft materials (willows, reeds and rushes) and pottery manufacture would have been important in the low-lying intertidal marshland around the eyots and recent investigations within the study area have revealed evidence of former channels and terrestrial environments dated to the prehistoric period, including buried peat.
- 5.3 Roman
- 5.3.1 During the Roman period, *Londinium*, on the north side of the river, developed as an urban centre and later the provincial capital. The Romans established a bridgehead on the southern bank of the Thames opposite *Londinium*, not long after the foundation of the city in c AD 50. At this time the river level was sufficiently low to permit the establishment of a small but important settlement along the bridgehead road, c 1.25km to the northeast of the site. Mid to late 1<sup>st</sup> and early 2<sup>nd</sup> embankments have been identified along the main river frontage, although there is no evidence for massive timber quays like those on the north bank. Investigations have revealed, in addition to settlement, extensive evidence of industrial activity. When the settlement was at its full extent its western edge lay c 600m east of the site.
- 5.3.2 The water level gradually fell during the Roman period. During this time the site was probably located on an eyot in the marsh. There is evidence to suggest that there was some activity on the drier, fertile eyots in the marshes on the south side of the river. In 1987, an excavation c 75m north of the site at 245 Blackfriars Road revealed part of the eyot upon which the site is located, along with the agricultural soil containing fragments of pottery. Roman pottery has been found by chance c 160m to the southeast of the site. The exact significance of these finds is uncertain but indicates a low level of activity in the Roman period.
- 5.4 Early medieval period (AD410-1066)
- 5.4.1 Following the departure of the Roman army in AD 410, *Londinium* was abandoned, and Early and Middle Saxon settlements grew up to the west of the Roman town in the area of the Strand and Covent Garden. The Roman bridge across the Thames, c 1.2km to the northeast of the site, would have required maintenance and may have fallen out of use in this period. Between the early 5<sup>th</sup> and late 9<sup>th</sup> century there appears to have been sporadic human activities within the area of Southwark beside the bridgehead eyot, perhaps connected with a ferry.

- 5.4.2 In the mid to late 9<sup>th</sup> century London formed part of a nationwide system of fortified settlements known as burhs, which developed in response to the increasing number of devastating raids by the Vikings. The defended settlements of Lundenburh formed the basis of the later medieval city. The Burghal Hideage, a document listing all burths dated to AD 910-920, indicates that Southwark was also the site of a burth. This is the first mention of Southwark (Suthringa Geweor). It is likely that the burth was constructed in order to defend the southern bridgehead following the resettlement of the Roman city and re-establishment of the bridge crossing, and may have been built by King Alfred himself.
- 5.4.3 There are no sites or finds dated to the early medieval period within the site or study area. Throughout this period, the site was located within an extensive marsh on the south of the River Thames, owned by the Bishop of Winchester. The area would have been prone to flooding, and the Late Saxon marine transgression resulted in severe inundation of the lower-laying areas in Southwark.
- 5.5 Later medieval period (AD1066-1485)
- 5.5.1 During the later medieval period the site lay within the open fields in the southern part of Parish Garden Manor. The manor house lay c 300m to the north and the lands attached to the manor consisted of 100 acres of marshy riverside land that was prone to flooding. Throughout this period the area was known as Wideflete or The Wiles meaning willows. The manor originally belonged to Bermondsey Abbey and in AD1166 it was granted to the Knights Templar, who held it until the time of their suppression in the early 14th century, after which it was passed to the Knights Hospitallers. By 1420 the name changed to Parish Garden and later to Paris Garden.
- 5.5.2 The first attempt to drain and reclaim the marshland date to the 14th century when drainage channels dug around parcels of land is likely to have taken place in stages following the construction of sea walls built successively further out of the edge of the higher ground. As a result of successful sea defence and reclamation, the riverside rapidly developed, resulting in the establishment of settlements long the south bank and industry, shipyards and docks further east at Rotherhithe. The characteristic irregular shape of the main roads in the area suggests that they ran along the original flood defence embankments. Drainage ditches formed part of a system of water management, which included mills, and the remains of a medieval tidal millpond and ditches, suggesting the presence of a nearby mill (Widflete Mill), were recorded c 175m north-west of the site.
- 5.6 Post-medieval period (AD1485-present)
- 5.6.1 Christ Church was built to the immediate north of the site in 1670. This was paid for by a legacy from John Marshall, a local businessman, on land given by William Angell, the Lord of the Manor of Paris Gardens. The church served the rapidly increasing population on the south side of the Thames. In 1738 the church was rebuilt because the original sank into the Lambeth Marsh and had to be demolished. During the Blitz of 1941 the church was totally destroyed and was again rebuilt, in 1959.
- 5.6.2 The 1746 Rocque Map shows the site occupied by buildings to the southeast of the churchyard of Christ Church, fronting a street called The Green Walk.
- 5.6.3 By 1792-99 the Horwood Map shows the study site occupied by buildings fronting Blackfriars Road, to the east and The Green Walk to the west.
- 5.6.4 No notable change to the site was noted until the construction of the property presently occupying the site in 1965.





## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

### 6.1 Methods

6.1.1 In accordance with the *Derwent Valley London Ltd, Wedge House, 32-40 Blackfriars Road, Ground Investigation: Technical Specification* (ARUP August 2014) the following aspects of the geotechnical investigation were to be archaeologically monitored:

- The excavation of two geotechnical test pits

6.1.2 After the surface concrete was broken and removed by a concrete breaker (Test Pit 1) and the paving slabs lifted (Test Pit 2), both test pits were excavated using hand tools under the supervision of an archaeologist.

6.1.3 Following excavation, each test pit was cleaned by hand tools (where possible), evaluated, and recorded using plans, sections and notes. All plans and sections were drawn at 1:20. All depths were calculated a below ground level (BGL).

6.1.4 The table below summarises the dimensions of the test pits:

Test Pit	Dimensions North-South (Length)	Dimensions East-West (Width)	Maximum Depth Below Ground Level (BGL)
1	1.3m	0.7m	1.2m
2	1.84m	0.9m	1.4m

6.1.5 The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those widely used elsewhere in London, that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual and presented in PCA's Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.

6.1.6 A full photographic record was made during the archaeological investigation, comprising digital photographs.

6.1.7 The complete archive produced during the evaluation, comprising written, drawn, photographic records and artefacts will be deposited with LAARC, identified by site code BFS14.

## 7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

- 7.1 Test Pit 1 (Figures 2 and 3 and Plate 1)
- 7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered was a layer of modern dumped material consisting of light to mid grey brown silty sand with moderate inclusions of modern concrete and CBM fragments which was seen at 0.20m BGL. This deposit was noted extending beyond the maximum test pit depth of 1.2m BGL.
- 7.1.2 The dumped deposit was covered by a 0.05m thick layer of mid yellow brown sand seen at 0.15m BGL. This was acting as the bedding layer for the 0.15m thick concrete footpath which sealed the test pit.
- 7.2 Test Pit 2 (Figure 2 and Plate 2)
- 7.2.1 A layer of mid pinky red clay [1] with very frequent inclusions of burnt clay fragments was seen at 0.76m BGL, in the northern section face (see Figure 3, section 3). This was the earliest deposit seen in the test pit and extended beyond the excavated depth of 1.4m BGL and the northern limit of excavation (LOE).
- 7.2.2 The clay layer [1] was truncated to the south by the cut for a modern concrete pile cap which was encountered at 0.4m BGL. Modern sandy gravelly backfill deposits were noted at 0.2m BGL covering the pile cap in the south of the test pit and the clay layer [1] in the northern section face. The backfill was 0.6m thick in the north of the test pit and extended beyond the trench limits in the south.
- 7.2.3 A 0.14m thick layer of sand was recorded at 0.06m BGL, above the backfill. This was the bedding material for the, 0.05m, thick concrete paving slabs which covered the test pit.

*Plate 1 Northeast view of Test Pit 1; Fibre optic cable, steel sheet pile and modern backfill*



*Plate 2 West facing view of Test Pit 2; showing red burnt clay [1] and pile cap*



## **8 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### 8.1 Interpretation

8.1.1 The pink burnt clay [1] noted in Test Pit 1 was the only deposit of archaeological interest seen during the investigations. It is likely to be a remnant of a much larger layer of burnt clay and was possibly a Victorian levelling deposit.

### 8.2 Conclusions

8.2.1 The presence of the burnt clay layer extending beyond the northern limit of Test Pit 2 suggests that some deposits of interest could survive outside the present building's footprint.

8.2.2 Because of the limited size and scope, particularly the depths, of the investigations it is uncertain to what degree the modern building has impacted upon the archaeology. The presence of the basement carpark suggests that this impact would be severe. But as no internal investigations were conducted this cannot be certain.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Emma Lopez for her help on site and Wilton Bennet of Concept Consults for commissioning the work.
- 9.2 The author would like to thank Hayley Baxter for the CAD figures, and Helen Hawkins for her project management and editing.

## **10 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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## APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Test Pit	Type	Description
1	TP 2	Layer	Red Burnt Clay Layer

## APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-195157

### Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Wedge House, 32-40 Blackfriars Road, Southwark
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief on two geotechnical test pits was undertaken at Wedge House 32-40 Blackfriars Road, London Borough of Southwark on the 10th and 11th November 2014. The site is bounded by Colombo Street to the north and west, Blackfriars Road to the east, and the Friars Bridge Court Building to the south. Both test pits were located on the exterior of Wedge House, Test Pit 1 on the pavement on Colombo Road and Test Pit 2 on the Blackfriars Road pavement. Test Pit 1 measured 1.3m by 0.7m with a maximum depth of 1.2m and revealed a sequence of modern made ground overlain with bedding sand and concrete. Test Pit 2 measured 1.84m by 0.9m with a maximum depth of 1.4m and revealed a deposit of Victorian pinkish red burnt clay truncated by a modern concrete pile cap, overlain with modern backfill deposits.
Project dates	Start: 10-11-2014 End: 11-11-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BFS14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Monument type	LAYER Post Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK 32-40 Blackfriars Road, Southwark
Postcode	SE1 NZ
Site coordinates	TQ 3162 8023 51.5051567276 -0.103331349961 51 30 18 N 000 06 11 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA
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Project brief originator	Concept
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	Shane Maher

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#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

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#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief during Investigations at Wedge House, 32-40 Blackfriars Road, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 8NZ
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Maher, S

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Entered by	S Maher (smaher@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	13 November 2014

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