

**BBC TELEVISION CENTRE,
WOOD LANE, WHITE CITY,
W12 7RJ:**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION**

SITE CODE: BBC 14

REPORT NO: R12183

AUGUST 2015



**PRE-CONSTRUCT
ARCHAEOLOGY**

BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City, W12 7RJ:

An Archaeological Evaluation

Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

Planning Application Number: 2014/02531/COMB

Site Code: BBC14

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 23202 80488

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION



Site Name

BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City, W12 7RJ:

Type of project

An Archaeological Evaluation

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, W12 7RJ in advance of redevelopment. The investigation took place in two stages between 14th-16th July 2015 and 22nd – 3rd August 2015. The work was commissioned by Iain Williamson of AECOM and monitored by Gillian King, the Historic England Archaeology Advisor to the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
- 1.2 The evaluation took place in two different areas of site, Plot D (former Blue Peter Garden) and Plot F, a former service yard, with a single trench in Plot D and two trenches in Plot F. The trenches varied between 6.30-20.00m in length and 1.90-4.75m in width at base. All trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and extended to a depth at which archaeologically sterile geological deposits were observed.
- 1.3 The results of the archaeological evaluation indicated that the Cowley Brick Works and White City Exhibition Grounds of the late 19th-early 20th century as well as the development of BBC Television Centre had entirely truncated any potential earlier archaeological deposits and had an impact on the natural clay and brickearth.
- 1.4 The only discrete features encountered during the investigation were several cuts for services, and a recent construction cut containing a concrete base foundation. Additionally a concrete manhole was encountered in the eastern part of the site during ground reduction works in the Pavilion area of Television Centre.
- 1.5 No other archaeological activity or deposits that pre-dated the late 19th-early 20th century were recorded during the archaeological evaluation. No remains of the White City exhibition grounds were present on the site and no remains predating the 19th century were recorded.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted between 14th-16th July 2015 and 22nd – 3rd August 2015 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) at BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, W12 7RJ in advance of redevelopment (Figure 1). The site is centred at TQ 23202 80488.
- 2.2 The evaluation was commissioned by Iain Williamson of AECOM and was monitored by the Historic England Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Gillian King. The field investigation was supervised by James Langthorne and project managed by Helen Hawkins. All work was undertaken following the appropriate English Heritage (1991, 2008) and Historic England (2015) guidelines.
- 2.3 The site, currently occupied by BBC Television Centre, covered an area of approximately six hectares. The boundaries of the site were defined by land owned by London Underground and residential housing fronting onto Frithville Gardens to the south, by Hammersmith Park to the west, by the Wood Lane Estate and the White City Territorial Army Centre off South Africa Road to the north and by Wood Lane to the east. The specific areas of the site excavated during the evaluation were Plot D, which had previously served as the Blue Peter Garden along the western edge of the site, and Plot F, a former service yard, which previously contained a bank of large satellite dishes in the southern part of the site.
- 2.4 The site has previously been the subject of a Written Scheme of Investigation (URS 2015) that suggested a modest potential for the presence of remains associated with the 1908 Great White City exhibition grounds within Plots D and F which were considered to have been less impacted by the later construction of the BBC Television Centre.
- 2.5 The archaeological evaluation consisted of one trench in Plot D and two trenches in Plot F they varied between 6.30-20m in length and 1.90-4.75m in width at base. All trenches were archaeologically investigated and recorded.
- 2.6 The evaluation aimed to address the general and site specific objectives as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (URS 2015). These were as follows:
- 2.7 General objectives:
- To record the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, depth, condition, state of preservation, significance and complexity any subsurface archaeological remains revealed by the trial trench evaluation of plots D and F.
 - To record the location and extent of any modern ground disturbance, revealed by ground reduction activities within the site;
 - To record the condition or state of preservation of any archaeological deposits or features encountered;
 - To recover the range, quality and quantity of artefactual and any surviving environmental evidence present.
 - To confirm the presence or absence of surviving archaeological or palaeo-environmental remains within the site;
 - To determine the location, nature, extent, date, condition, state of preservation, significance and complexity of any archaeological remains;
 - To determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;
 - To inform the design of any detailed archaeological mitigation required, if appropriate

Site specific objectives:

- To record the presence/absence, location and extent of any archaeological remains associated with the 1908 Great White City Exhibition Grounds;
 - To record the presence/absence, location and extent of any archaeological remains that predate the construction of the 1908 Great White City Exhibition Grounds;
 - To identify evidence for previous ground reduction associated with the Cowley Brickworks.
- 2.8 The complete archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material will be deposited at LAARC under the site code BBC14.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 The evaluation at BBC Television Centre was set up under the planning regulations that were current in 2014, specifically Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

3.2 The study site lies within the iconic and nationally significant BBC Television Centre.

3.3 The following planning condition relating to archaeology was attached by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (planning reference: 2014/02531/COMB):

(a) No development (save for the approved Enabling Works and the approved works associated within the specified area subject to the written scheme of investigation as approved under ref: 2014/04259/DET) shall commence on each Plot until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work for that Plot in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Council. Fieldwork for each plot may comprise:

- (i) archaeological evaluation;*
- (ii) historic buildings appraisal;*
- (iii) appropriate mitigation based on the results of (i) and (ii) above; and*
- (iv) historic building recording based on results of a completed historic buildings appraisal;*

The approved written scheme of investigation for each Plot is to be implemented as approved.

(b) No residential and/or commercial unit within each Plot shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the relevant programme set out in the written scheme of investigation approved under part (a), and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured.

3.4 In accordance with the condition a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared for the fieldwork by AECOM (URS 2015) and approved by Historic England.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.1 The solid geology of the site is shown on the British Geological Survey as London Clay deposits. Overlying the London Clay are Kempton Park Gravels which are in turn sealed by superficial deposits composed of the Langley Silt Member brickearths.
- 4.2 Ground investigations have occurred across the site since the original construction of the television centre during the 1950s. A review of this data confirmed the geological sequence described above and indicated that large areas of the site had been worked or quarried. The extant brickearth horizon was present between 3.60-7.13m OD with between 0.30-4.50m of 'made ground' deposits capping it (URS 2015).
- 4.3 The natural topography of the site gradually slopes downwards to the south and south-west from a height of 7.50m OD in the northern part of the site to 6.50m OD at its southern boundary.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The following background detail has been summarised from the Written Scheme of Investigation (URS 2015):
- 5.2 It was considered likely that during the prehistoric and Roman periods that the site would either have been wooded or agricultural land supporting the dispersed settlements that characterised the west London area during these periods. This situation would have likely continued until the systematic clearance of wooded areas in this part of London during the medieval period after which point the site was known to be agricultural until the late 19th century.
- 5.3 The Cowley Brick Works encompassed the site from the 1890s. The extraction of brick earth that this would have entailed, as indicated by the geotechnical investigations, was likely to have completely truncated any previous archaeological deposits that were extant at the site.
- 5.4 The Cowley Brick Works appeared to have been a short lived venture as by 1908 the site formed part of the 1908 Great White City Exhibition Grounds which continued until 1936, with buildings still being extant at the site, albeit in a ruinous condition, until 1953.
- 5.5 The BBC acquired the site following the Second World War and construction began on the new television studios in 1950. The areas of site under archaeological investigation, Plot D and Plot F, were occupied by the Blue Peter garden and a bank of large satellite dishes respectively. These areas were considered to have a low degree of modern disturbance.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a methodology set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (URS 2015) and Method Statement for Archaeological Evaluation (Hawkins 2015).
- 6.2 Three trenches were excavated within Plots D and F at the site (Figure 2). Originally the investigation called for five trenches, however the extraordinary concentration of services in Plot F only permitted the excavation of two trenches in that area. The location, dimensions and orientation of each of the trenches are detailed in the following table:

Trench	Plot	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Max. Depth (m)
1	F	N-S	6.30	4.15	0.95
2	F	E-W	22.40	4.20	1.50
5	D	NW-SE	15.00	4.75	1.20

- 6.3 A 13 tonne machine fitted with a breaker and flat bladed grading bucket was used under constant archaeological supervision to remove overburden down to the highest archaeological or natural horizon. The features and deposits identified within the trenches were then cleaned and investigated by hand. Investigation was limited to identifying the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence. The archaeological deposits were assigned individual context numbers and recorded onto pro-forma sheets and recorded in plan and section as appropriate using the Museum of London single context recording system. Upon completion of the trench excavations, 1:50 scale plan drawings were made as well as 1:10 scale section drawings. Heights of deposits in relation to Ordnance Datum were also recorded. A digital photographic record was made.
- 6.4 Trench locations in Plot F were recorded by GPS and Trench 5 in Plot D was recorded using triangulation from map detail. Two temporary benchmarks were set up on site at heights of 6.84m OD and 6.62m OD in Plots D and F respectively.
- 6.5 In addition to the archaeological evaluation in Plots D and F a concrete structure was encountered in the Pavilion area of the site. The position of this structure was surveyed, allotted a context number and recorded on pro-forma sheets and by digital photography.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 PLOT F

7.2 Trench 1

- 7.2.1 Trench 1 was located in the eastern part of Plot F (Figures 2 & 3). The final dimensions of this trench were curtailed due to the presence of active services in the surrounding area and another contractor to the north.

Plate 1: Trench 1, looking east (2m scale)



Plate 2: West facing section in Trench 1 (1m scale)



Phase 1

- 7.2.2 The earliest deposit recorded in the base of Trench 1 was a layer of naturally deposited firm-compact light orange brown brickearth with clay patches [114]. It was encountered at a maximum height of 5.57m OD.

Phase 2

- 7.2.3 Truncating natural brickearth [114] at the north end of the trench was an east-west orientated cut [113] measuring 4.14m east-west by 0.85m north-south and was more than 0.20m deep. This cut was filled with firm but friable mottled mid brownish grey silty clay [112]. A variety of glass, CBM, shoe leather, metal and pottery fragments was recovered from this fill which dated to 1850-1950. The character of this feature indicated that it was probably a cut for services.
- 7.2.4 Sealing service cut [113] was a 0.32m thick layer of firm but friable mid orange grey brown with black mottling clay silt [111]. This layer of made ground, dating from the late 19th-early 20th century, contained frequent charcoal and coal flecks, moderate CBM and pottery fragments, occasional small sub-angular, sub-rounded and rounded pebbles, glass fragments and very occasional animal bone. There was also a considerable amount of corroded metal including several fragments of mattress springs and a piece of sheet metal. Layer [111] was encountered at heights between 5.87-6.02m OD.
- 7.2.5 Made ground [111] was overlain by firm, mid-light mottled greyish orange brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded and rounded pebbles, oyster shell fragments, charcoal flecks and mortar and CBM flecks [110]. This layer of redeposited clay was 0.40m thick and seen at heights between 6.07- 6.17m OD.
- 7.2.6 Overlying redeposited clay [110] was a fairly loose dark brown black layer of brick, tarmac and concrete rubble [109]. Layer [109] was 0.38m thick and seen at a maximum height of 6.47m OD. Modern services including water pipes and a concrete drain access were seen to cut this layer of modern made ground and it was ultimately capped by the tarmac surface of the current area.
- 7.3 Trench 2
- 7.3.1 Trench 2 was situated in the western part of Plot F (Figures 2, 4 & 6).

Plate 3: Trench 2, looking north (2m scale)



Plate 4: Trench 2, east facing section (1m scale)



Phase 1

- 7.3.2 The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 2 comprised firm mid orange brown clay [124] at heights that varied between 5.38-5.43m OD. This layer was cleaned and examined for any potential prehistoric or later activity with no such evidence being observed.

Phase 2

- 7.3.3 Overlying natural clay [124] was a 0.30m thick layer of firm mid yellowish grey slightly silty clay with occasional CBM, glass, peat grit and coal flecks and fragments [123]. The CBM recovered from this layer consisted of modern roof tile dated to 1850-1950. This layer of made ground was recorded at a maximum height of 5.80m OD.
- 7.3.4 Two northwest-southeast linear cuts for modern services [120] and [122] truncated the made ground [123] in the western part of the trench. The dimensions and details of these features are described in the following table:

Context	Fill	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Maximum Height (m OD)
120	119	4.35	0.80	0.60+	5.80
122	121	4.35	0.29	0.80	5.80

- 7.3.5 Fills [119] and [121] were both described as fairly firm light-mid grey brown slightly silty clay with occasional pea grit, coal flecks and CBM fragments. A ceramic pipe was seen in the base of cut [122] whereas cut [120] was not bottomed.
- 7.3.6 Cuts [120] and [122] were sealed by redeposited clay [118] of the same description as [110] in Trench 1. Layer [118] was 0.40m thick and seen at a maximum height of 6.06m OD.
- 7.3.7 Redeposited clay [118] was overlain by a 0.32m thick layer of fairly loose but friable black tarmac aggregate at a maximum height of 6.43m OD [117].
- 7.3.8 Layer [117] was succeeded in the central part of the trench by a concrete slab [116] that measured 10.50m east-west by 4.20m north-south and was 0.26m thick.

- 7.3.9 Slab [116] was sealed by a 0.12m thick layer of modern made ground [115] composed of loose, friable light-mid grey brown sandy silt with frequent pea grit, small angular, sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles, occasional large timbers, moderate brick and CBM rubble and occasional disused iron pipes. Made ground [115] was encountered at heights between 6.42-6.53m OD.
- 7.3.10 These successive modern deposits were ultimately capped by the tarmac and gravel horizon of the current area.
- 7.4 PLOT D
- 7.5 Trench 5**
- 7.5.1 Trench 5 was an 'L' shaped trench in Plot D (Figures 2, 5 & 6).

Plate 5: Trench 3, looking north-west (1m scale)



Phase 1

- 7.5.2 Natural clay and brickearth [104] was recorded in Trench 5 at heights between 6.01-6.17m OD. It was characterised as being firm light yellow grey brown clay with brickearth patches.

Phase 2

- 7.5.3 Measuring a maximum of 0.25m thick, a layer of firm mid brownish grey slightly silty clay with moderate iron staining and occasional CBM and coal flecks [103] overlay natural deposit [104]. This redeposited clay layer was recorded at heights between 6.26-6.37m OD. This layer was believed to relate to the truncation of the top of the original brickearth by recent landscaping.
- 7.5.4 Sealing redeposited clay [103] was a 0.50m thick layer of modern made ground composed of fairly loose, friable mid-dark brownish grey sandy silt with frequent pea grit and small sub-rounded and rounded pebbles, moderate coal fragments and occasional CBM, oyster shell, clay tobacco pipe and animal bone fragments [102]. A large amount of glass and pottery was retrieved from this layer including a number of intact or nearly intact vessels including bottles, marmalade jars, ointment pots and a teapot. These finds spot dated deposit [102] to the late 19th-early 20th century. Layer [102] was recorded at heights between 6.31 - 6.76m OD.
- 7.5.5 Truncating made ground [102] were two recent cuts [106] and [108]. Neither cut was bottomed. The dimensions and details of these features are described in the following table:

Context	Fill	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Maximum Height (m OD)
106	105	E-W	2.10	1.15	6.33
108	107	NW-SE	11.65	0.40	6.31

- 7.5.6 Feature [106] appeared to be a construction cut that contained a concrete foundation base backfilled by fairly firm but friable mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional-moderate root activity, moderate pea grit and gravel and occasional brick fragments.
- 7.5.7 Extensive linear cut [108] on the other hand appeared to be for services and backfilled with a large amount of building rubble and loose dark brown silty clay [107].
- 7.5.8 Capping both features was a 0.35m thick layer of topsoil composed of fairly firm but friable light-mid yellowish grey clay silt with frequent root activity, occasional CBM flecks and fragments and small sub-rounded and rounded pebbles [101]. The topsoil was encountered at heights between 6.76-6.88m OD.
- 7.6 PLOT G
- 7.7 Structure in Pavilion Area
- 7.7.1 A concrete manhole [125] was encountered during ground reduction in the eastern part of the site (Figure 2). Initially taken to be a column and therefore possibly part of the Exhibition Grounds, further excavation revealed that it was constructed in part of pre-cast concrete elements and was therefore likely to be a redundant and unrecorded part of the BBC Television Centre services. The 'fluting' on the sides related to methods used to prefabricate the concrete. The manhole had a circular opening in the top which had been backfilled, but it was difficult to see any more of the feature as it was in the section and below the scaffolding.

Plate 6: Concrete manhole [125] in Pavilion area, looking north-west (1m scale)



- 7.4.2 The top part of the structure was 1.10m in diameter while at base it measured 1.85m east-west by 1.40m north-south and was 1.82m deep. The top of the manhole was encountered at a maximum height of 7.07m OD.

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The earliest deposit encountered in all three trenches was naturally deposited clay and brickearth. These deposits varied in height from 6.17m OD in Trench 5 to the north-west of the site and 5.54m OD and 5.43m OD in the southern plot would appear to be lower than the heights proposed by previous geotechnical studies but following the topographic profile suggested by them.
- 8.2 No specific features that could be directly related to the 1908 Great White City Exhibition Grounds, the Cowley Brick Works or earlier periods were encountered during the archaeological evaluation. The features that were recorded in all three trenches appeared to be cuts for services with a potential construction cut containing a concrete base in Trench 5. The brickearth encountered in Trench 5 had been truncated by modern landscaping and showed no evidence of brickworking. The concrete manhole encountered during ground reduction in the Pavilion area was considered to be recent, based on its proximity to another manhole just outside the trench. Information from the site contractor also suggested that the prefabricated nature of the concrete was identical to that used in the manholes they had been inserting elsewhere.
- 8.3 Made ground deposits in all three trenches contained pottery, CBM and glass dated to the late 19th-early 20th century, notably [111] in Trench 1, [123] in Trench 2 and [102] in Trench 5. Assessment of this material has led to the conclusion that some of the artefacts would potentially have been used by the employees of the Cowley Brick Works while other items were associated with the Exhibition Grounds of the early 20th century. This assumption was reached due to the fairly tight dating of the artefacts and also that a number of them were whole, and therefore it is unlikely that they had travelled very far before deposition.
- 8.4 The presence of these items, within made ground deposits that sealed the naturally deposited clay and brickearth of the site, with no intervening deposits of an earlier date in addition to the dating of the features and the heights of the natural clay and brickearth testified to the late 19th century and modern disturbance of the site, particularly through landscaping.
- 8.5 Once the project is deemed complete, the completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will eventually be deposited with LAARC under site code BBC14.

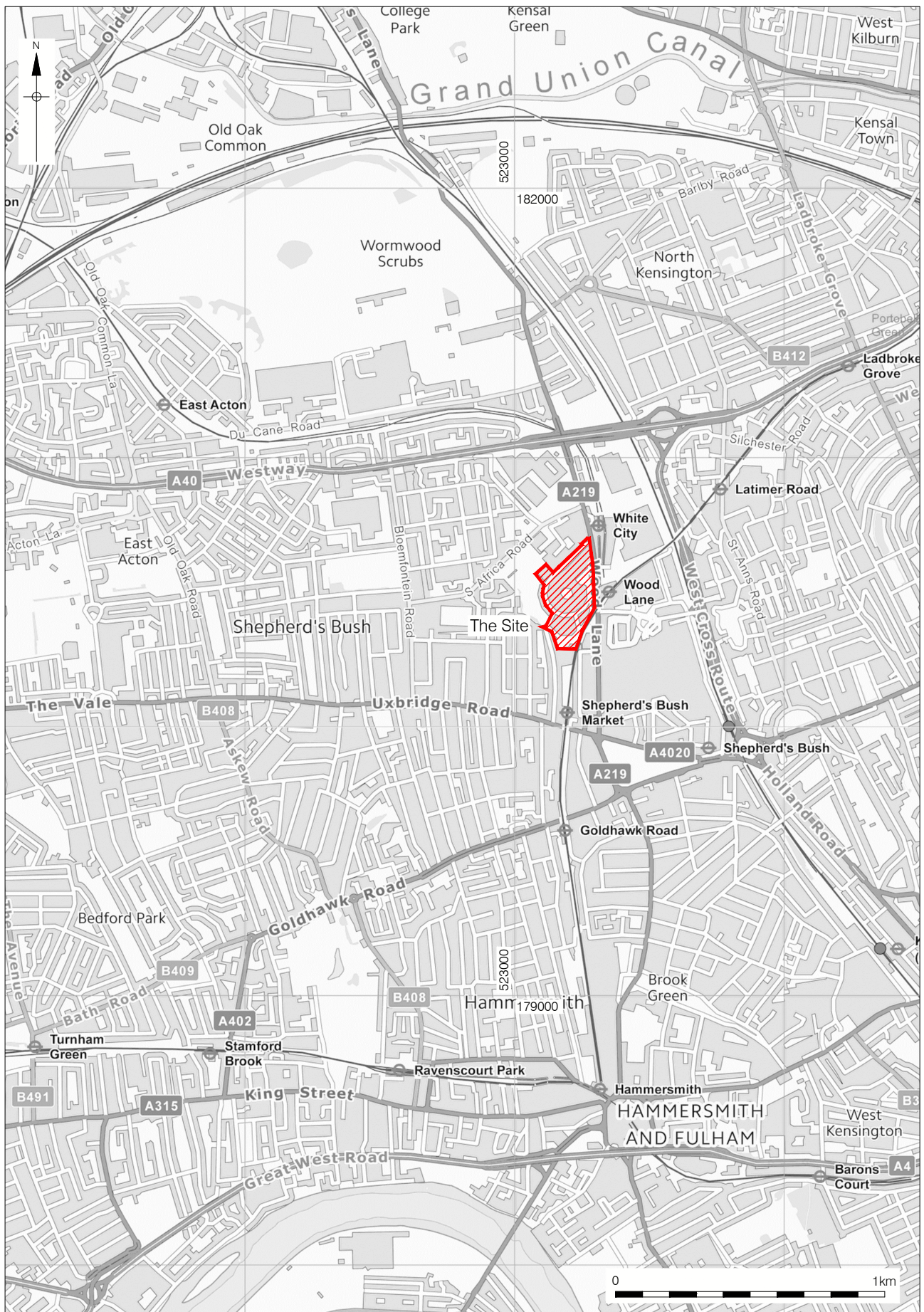
9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank AECOM for commissioning the works, and Michelle Statton of AECOM and Gillian King of Historic England for monitoring the project. We would also like to thank David Ivory and Tony Yeomans of MACE for facilitating the site work.
- 9.2 The author would like to thank Evgenia Nikolopoulou, Rick Archer, Christina Reade, John Joyce and Patric Kavanagh for their assistance on the project, Jennifer Simonson for the figures, Chris Jarrett and Kevin Hayward for their assessment of the finds, Gemma Stevenson for project management and Helen Hawkins for project management and editing this report.

9.3

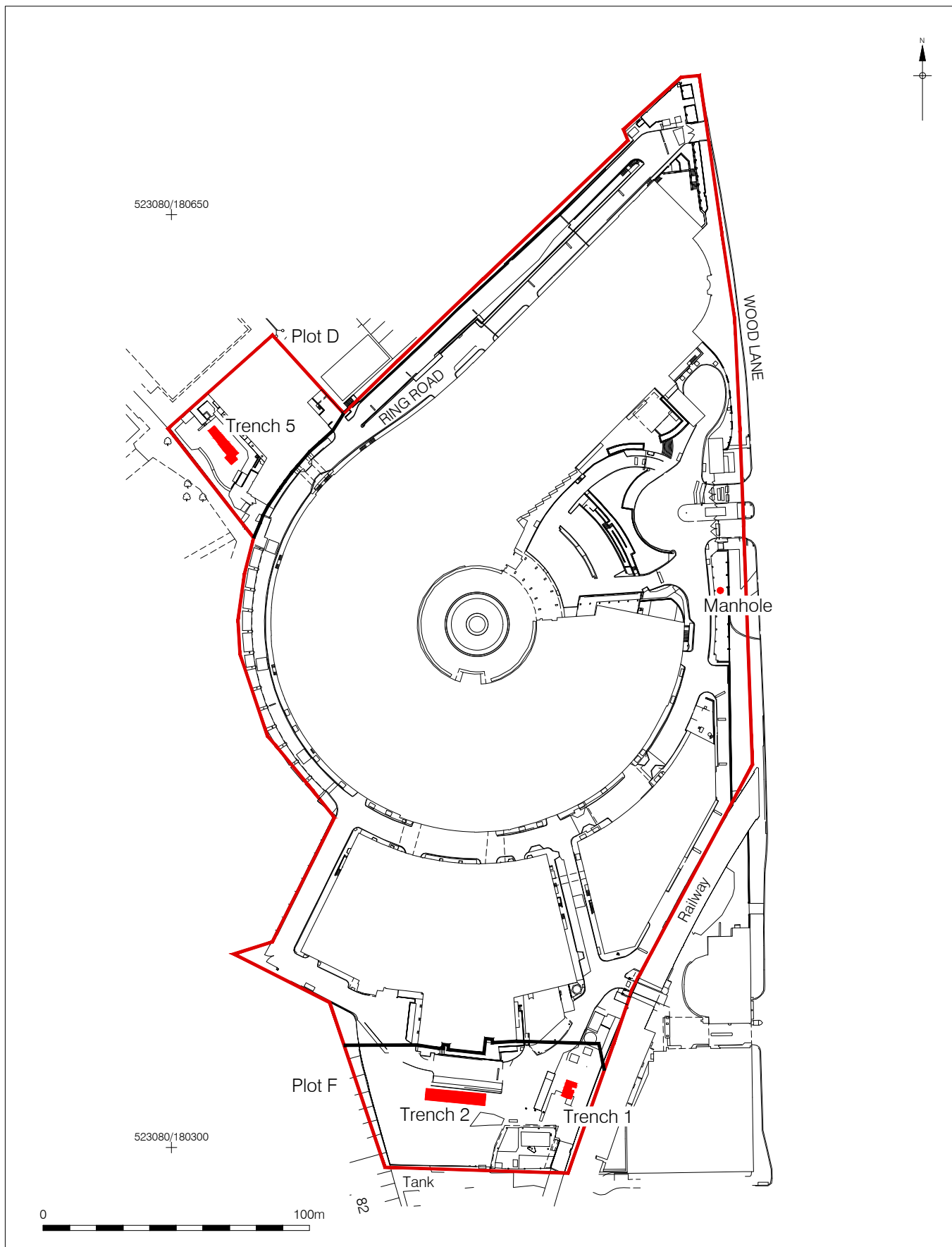
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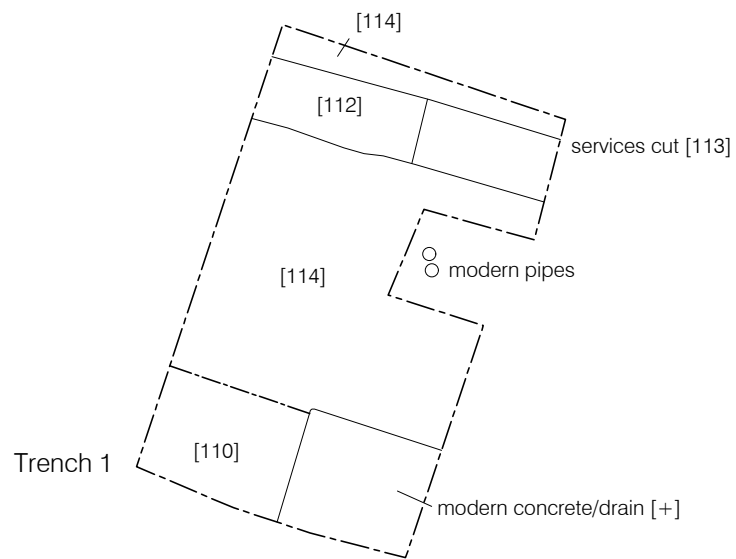
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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:20,000 at A4



Mapping Detail provided by Plowman Craven
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 15/09/15 JS_revision 1

Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:2,000 at A4

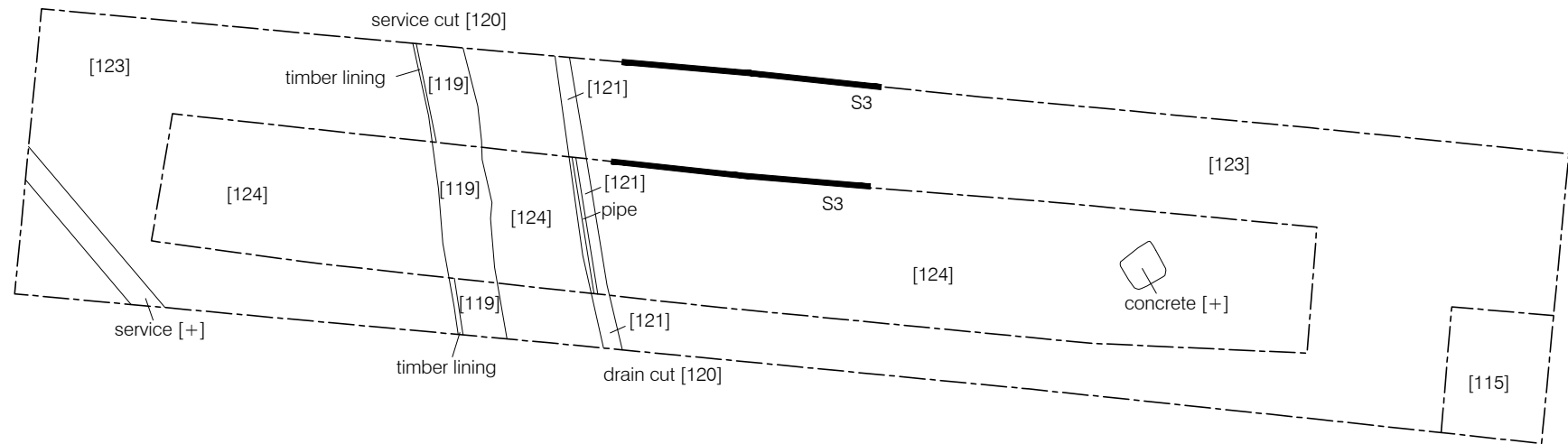


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Figure 3
Trench 1
1:100 at A4

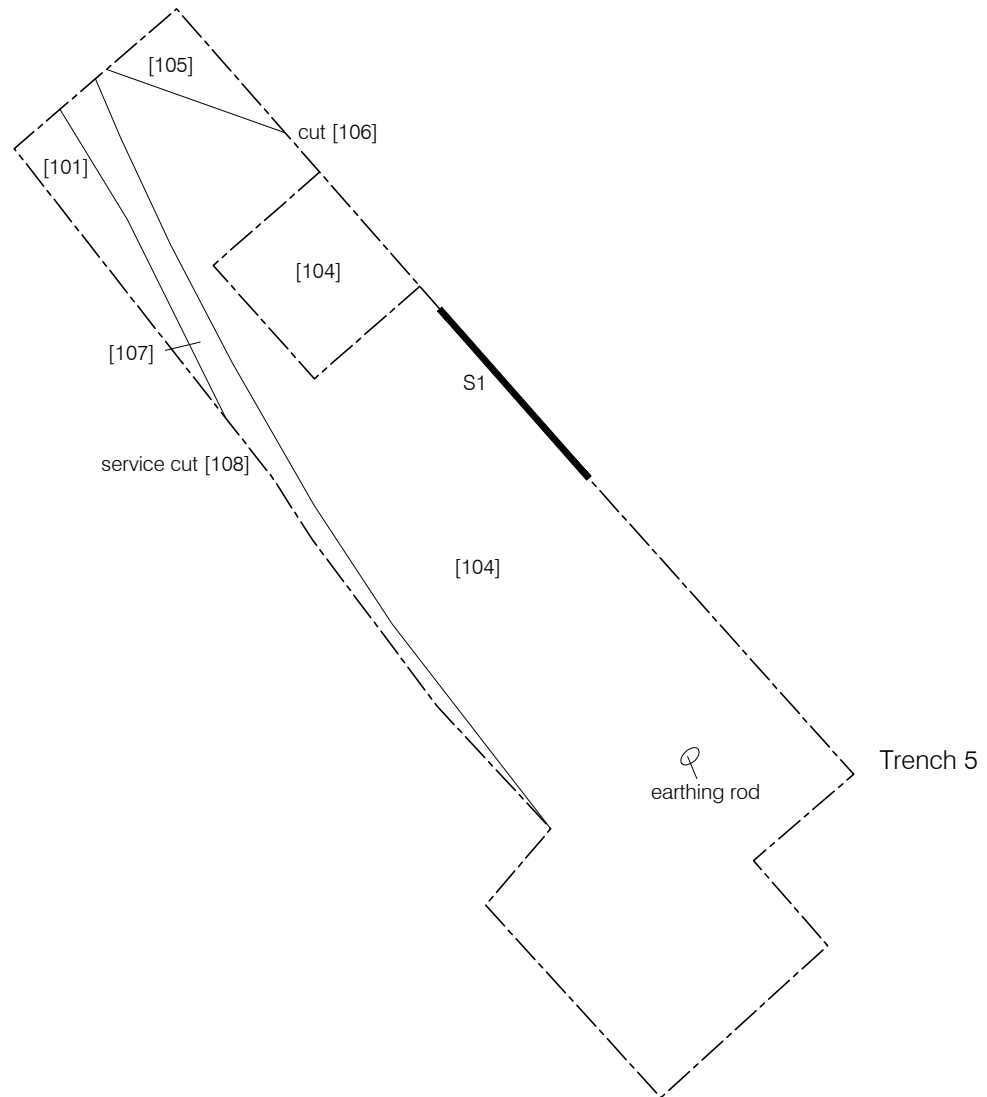


Trench 2



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Figure 4
Trench 2
1:100 at A4



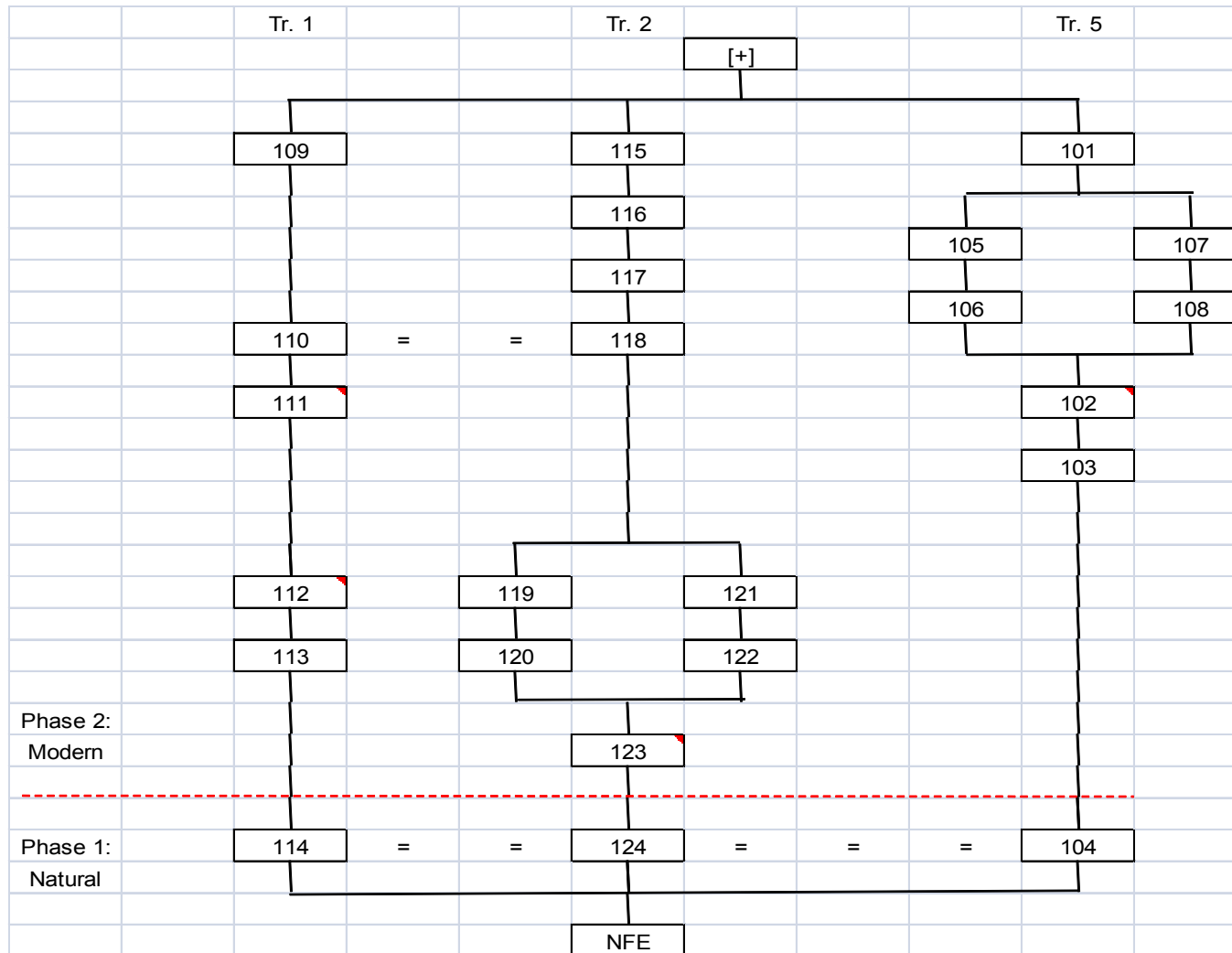
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Figure 5
Trench 5
1:100 at A4

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Type	Trench	Comments	Phase
101	Layer	5	Topsoil	2
102	Layer	5	Modern made ground	2
103	Layer	5	Redeposited clay	2
104	Layer	5	Natural	1
105	Fill	5	Fill of [106]	2
106	Cut	5	Construction cut	2
107	Fill	5	Fill of [108]	2
108	Cut	5	Cut for modern services	2
109	Layer	1	Modern made ground	2
110	Layer	1	Redeposited clay	2
111	Layer	1	Made ground	2
112	Fill	1	Fill of [113]	2
113	Cut	1	Cut for modern services	2
114	Layer	1	Natural	1
115	Layer	2	Modern made ground	2
116	Layer	2	Concrete slab	2
117	Layer	2	Made ground	2
118	Layer	2	Redeposited clay	2
119	Fill	2	Fill of [120]	2
120	Cut	2	Cut for modern services	2
121	Fill	2	Fill of [122]	2
122	Cut	2	Cut for drain	2
123	Layer	2	Made ground	2
124	Layer	2	Natural	1
125	Structure	WB	Manhole	2

APPENDIX 2: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: OASIS ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

10.1 OASIS ID: preconst1-219608

Project details

Project name	BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation comprising three trenches and a short watching brief. The results of the archaeological evaluation indicated that the Cowley Brick Works and Exhibition Grounds of the late 19th-early 20th century as well as the development of BBC Television Centre had entirely truncated any potential earlier archaeological deposits and had an impact on the natural clay and brickearth. The only discrete features encountered during the investigation were several cuts for services, and a modern construction cut containing a concrete base. Additionally during the watching brief a concrete manhole was encountered in the eastern part of the site during ground reduction works in the Pavilion area of Television Centre. No other archaeological activity or deposits that pre-dated the late 19th-early 20th century were recorded during the archaeological evaluation.
Project dates	Start: 14-07-2015 End: 03-08-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BBC14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	SERVICES Modern
Monument type	MANHOLE Modern
Monument type	FOUNDATION Modern
Monument type	MADE GROUND Post Medieval
Monument type	MADE GROUND Modern
Monument type	NATURAL None
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	LEATHER SHOES Modern
Significant Finds	METAL OBJECTS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METAL OBJECTS Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Modern
Significant Finds	LEATHER SHOES Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches", "Visual Inspection"
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Development type	Building refurbishment/repairs/restoration
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City
Postcode	W12 7RJ
Study area	6.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 23202 80488 51.5093775285 -0.224481413485 51 30 33 N 000 13 28 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 5.38m Max: 6.17m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	AECOM
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	James Langthorne

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	BBC14
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","Leather","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	BBC14
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	BBC14
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Matrices","Plan","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, White City, W12 7RJ:
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Langthorne, J.
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APPENDIX 4: POTTERY SPOT DATING INDEX

Chris Jarrett

Introduction

A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (three boxes). The Post-Roman pottery dates entirely from the post-medieval period. None of the sherds show evidence for abrasion or lamination, while residual material is not obviously represented, indicating that the pottery was deposited fairly rapidly after breakage and probably under secondary circumstances. The assemblage comprises sherd material, although a large number of vessels have complete profiles and seven vessels are intact or nearly so items. The pottery was quantified by sherd count (SC) and estimated number of vessels (ENVs), besides weight. Only three contexts produced pottery and the size of the groups are mostly small (fewer than 30 sherds), except for one medium (31-100 sherds) sized group.

In total the assemblage consists of 58 sherds, 50 ENV, 5.551kg (none of which was unstratified). The assemblage was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and entered into a database format, by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the pottery types follows the Museum of London Archaeology (2013) typology (form and fabric series).

SPOT DATING INDEX

Context [102], spot date: late 19th-early 20th century

- Bone china (BONE), 1794-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 11g, form: teacup. Base, fairly robust form.
- Bone china (BONE), 1794-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 119 g, form: plate; dinner size. Complete profile, foot ring.
- Bone china with under-glaze painted decoration (BONE PNTD), 1794-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 4g, form: teacup. Rim sherd, handle, ext. pink lines
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 105 g, form: jar: cylindrical; medium. Rim sherd, simple, ext incised line below the rim, poorly stamped logo above 'D. BUMS.../ROYAL ?DR.../86 LOM?/...'
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 34g, form: jar: shouldered. Shoulder
- London stoneware (LONS), 1670-1926, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 280g, form: bottle; annatto-type. Intact, upside down conical rim, no true neck, short curved shoulder with step around the top of the right angled shoulder/wall carination. Oval stamp at the top of the wall 'C. MORRIS LONDON'
- London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900+, 2 sherds, 2 ENV, 153g, form: flower pot, base sherds
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 4g, form: unidentified. Body sherd with small circular piercing
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 18g, form: bowl: medium rounded. Rim sherd, rounded, ?pudding basin
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 4 sherds, 3 ENV, 144g, form: jar: cylindrical; medium. Rim sherd, simple with an ext. groove below and close vertical fluting
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 44g, form: jar: cylindrical; medium, rim sherd, rounded, groove below, close vertical fluting
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, jar: cylindrical, small, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 12g, form: Rim sherd, rounded, ext. groove below and close vertical fluting
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 51g, form: ?mortar. Intact. Small disc with concave top and a flat base

- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 87g, form: ointment pot. Nearly intact, external lid-seated, splayed base, stamped on the underside '1', possible stain of a paper label on the exterior. Small sized ointment pot
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 52g, form: plate; dinner size. Rim sherd from a robust form
- Refined white earthenware with under-glaze polychrome-painted decoration in 'chrome' colours (REFW CHROM), 1830-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 30g, form: plate; dinner size. Rim sherd with enamelled red/pink band and line. Late 19th-early 20th century
- Refined white earthenware with under-glaze polychrome-painted decoration in 'chrome' colours (REFW CHROM), 1830-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 700g, form: teapot. Intact, except for the missing spout and handle. Globular shape. Illegible stamp on the base underside. Tortoiseshell-type glaze with the addition of blue.
- Rockingham ware with mottled brown glaze (ROCK), 1800-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 42g, form: teapot. Base with foot ring
- Sunderland-type coarseware (SUND), 1800-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 28g, form: chamber pot. Rim sherd, narrow, rounded, everted, internal white slip, internal and external glaze
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 2g, form: unidentified. Body sherd, ?closed form
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 14g, form: bowl; medium rounded. Splayed base
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 19g, form: dish; oval. Rim-wall carination, decorated in the Willow pattern
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 475g, form: jar: cylindrical; medium. Intact marmalade-type jar. Possible blue, very bled logo on the front. Moulded 'MALING /NEWCASTLE' on the base underside around the edge
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 129g, form: tureen lid. Rim sherd /flanged. Mauve geometrical borders including one with overlapping interlaced circles: ?Chinese cash symbol. Late 19th-early 20th century
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 57g, form: plate; dinner size. Base, Nuneham Courtney design (mid 19th century)
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration (TPW), 1780-1900+, 6 sherds, 1 ENV, 256g, form: plate, soup shape. Complete profile, footring. Rim sherd: floral border and central design. Underside has a large mark difficult to read owing to the fine glaze crazing and soil staining
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze brown or black transfer-printed decoration (TPW3), 1810-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 414g, form: jar: cylindrical; medium. Nearly intact marmalade jar. 'GRAND MEDAL OF MERIT VIENNA 1873' above an acorn and oak leaf border containing 'JAMES KEILLER & SON'S/DUNDEE/MARMALADE'. 'H' below a knot in the wreath (possible date mark). 'Only prize medal for marmalade/London. 1862'. MALING /NEWCASTLE moulded on the base underside
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze brown or black transfer-printed decoration (TPW3), 1810-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 174g, form: ointment pot. Largely intact, external lid-seated rim, recessed base. On the exterior 'FURZECOTT./PERFUMER./26 HIGH ST. NOTTING HILL'
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze brown or black transfer-printed decoration (TPW3), 1810-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 56g, form: plate, dessert size. Complete profile, foot ring base. On the rim is a border consisting of lines and two dots repeating and a brown geometrical ribbon design. Underside basal mark of a brown buckle with '...NGHILL' surrounding '...HOUSE'
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze brown or black transfer-printed decoration (TPW3), 1810-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 125g, form: plate, dessert size. Complete profile, foot ring, brown ribbon design on the rim/wall. Underside basal mark of two globes with 'TRADE MARK' in ribbon across them, above 'BROWNFIELD & S[ONS]' and below the globes 'VICTORIA RIB[BON]'. WILLIAM BROWNFIELD (& SON(S), manufacturers of earthenware and porcelain (the latter from 1871) at Cobridge, c. 1850-1891. The globe marks date to after c. 1871.

- Refined whiteware with under-glaze colour transfer-printed decoration (green, mulberry, grey etc) (TPW4), 1825-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 64g, form: bowl; deep rounded. Everted rim, internal lid-seated. Purple panel design containing roses.
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze colour transfer-printed decoration (green, mulberry, grey etc) (TPW4), 1825-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 11g, form: bowl, rounded. Rim sherd. Green transfer: lines and dot border above a geometrical ribbon design. Same design as brown retransfer design marked '...NGHILL' surrounding '...HOUSE'
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed and over-glaze painted decoration (TPW6), 1810-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 57g, form: plate, dessert size. Complete profile, red lined edge on the side of the rim, blue overlapping ellipsoid border featuring also a ribbon with tubular flowers, shaded with red and pale green yellow enamel
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed and over-glaze painted decoration (TPW6), 1810-1900+, 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 35g, form: plate; dinner size. Rim sherd and base. Red line on the rim. A trellis border shaded with yellow over-glaze enamel. Rim wall has Chinoiserie composite flowers, the base has the same border as the rim.

Total: 45 sherds/37 ENV/3.806kg

Context [111], spot date: late 19th-early 20th century

- Bone china (BONE), 1794-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 8g, form: saucer, complete profile with foot ring
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 2 sherds, 2 ENV, 206g, form: jar: cylindrical; medium. Recessed base and clear glazed post 1850 dated
- Refined white earthenware with under-glaze polychrome-painted decoration in 'chrome' colours (REFW CHROM), 1830-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 36g, form: plate, large. Rim sherd, blue lines and a band containing a red Greek key border
- Refined whiteware with under-glaze brown or black transfer-printed decoration (TPW3), 1810-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 151g, form: lid, large knob with 'FROM MAPLES & C LONDON' in black lettering
- Westerwald stoneware (WEST), 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 492g, form: seltzer bottle, base

Total: 6 sherds/6 ENV/893g

Context [112], spot date: late 19th-early 20th century

- English stoneware (ENGS), 1670–1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 97g, form: ginger beer bottle, rim sherd of an angular blob type, stamped 'R.WHI[TE]' on the shoulder. Derbyshire source
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 1 sherds, 1 ENV, 329g, form: cylindrical bottle, base, stamped 'BAILEY & Co/FULHAM' clear Bristol glaze
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 1 sherds, 1 ENV, 32g, form: cylindrical bottle, wall sherd with clear Bristol glaze
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 1 sherds, 1 ENV, 85g, form: ink bottle, rim sherd, pouring spout, cordon at the base of the short neck and shoulder. Clear Bristol glaze
- English stoneware with Bristol glaze (ENGS BRST), 1830-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 37g, form: flat lid, intact, flat disc with foot ring. Clear Bristol glaze
- London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 196g, form: unidentified, body sherd of a large vessel
- Refined white earthenware (REFW), 1805-1900+, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 76g, form: cylindrical jar (jam or marmalade), wall/base. close fluting of different sizes, stamped on the underside 'MA[LLING] NEW[CASTLE]'

Total: 7 sherds/7 ENV/852g

SIGNIFICANCE, POTENTIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

Although the assemblage is relatively recent in date it does contain a number of intact items and vessels with the names of local businesses, e.g. the transfer-printed ointment pot with the legend 'FURZECOTT./PERFUMER./26 HIGH ST. NOTTING HILL'. The pottery is consistent with the ceramic profile

of London for the late 19th-early 20th century. The teapot with a variant 'tortoise-shell' glaze is of interest for taking its inspiration from the then recent past. It is possible that some of the ceramics were used by the workers at the Cowley Brick Works, located on the site in the 1890s and first decade of the 19th century, although other items could be associated with the Franco-British exhibition buildings, built in 1908 and survived on the site until the 1930s (Williamson 2015). The pottery has the potential to date the contexts it was recovered from and a number of vessels merit photographing. Additionally, the pottery has the potential to demonstrate what activities were occurring on the site prior to the construction of the BBC buildings in the 1950s.

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Museum of London Archaeology 2013. Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes. <http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/Publications/Online-Resources/MOLA-ceramic-codes.htm>. Accessed July 2015.

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APPENDIX 5: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIALS SPOT DATING INDEX

Kevin Hayward

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material	Latest dated material	Spot date	Spot date with mortar
11	3032; 3101; 2276; 3115PM	Narrow post great fire unfrogged brick; adhered with hard Roman cement and pan tile; North Wales modern roofing slate	3	106 1900	1664 1900	1780-1900	1830-1950
12	Moulded concrete, 3032; Encaustic Wall Tile	Post great fire unfrogged brick, moulded concrete fragment and Encaustic Wall Tile	3	166 1950+	850 1950	1850-1950	1850-1950+
23	2276	Modern peg and pan tile roofing	2	148 1900+	480 1900	1850-1950	No mortar

Review

This small building material assemblage (10 examples 4kg) from BBC Television Studios, White City, and (BBC 14) consists entirely of Victorian-modern ceramic building material, stone, mortar and concrete.

The bricks from [111] and [112] are typical of the Victorian era. Narrow post great fire frogged bricks would have only been in circulation following the brick tax brought about by government legislation after 1780.

1776	Brick size regulation Act: took effect July 1777, first blanket national legislation. Min. size of bricks at 8 ½ x 4 x 2 ½ ". Last legislation on sizes until the 20 th century, remained in force until the 19 th century	216 x 101.5 x 63.5	Parliament (Act)
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Given the presence of roofing material, which consists of early modern curved and flat tile elements [111] [123] as well as the moulded concrete, hard Roman type mortar and an Encaustic Wall tile [112], a late Victorian to early post medieval date can be given to the building material from all features on the site.

Recommendations

The building material assemblage very much reflects the late Victorian development of this part of West London and none of the material is of intrinsic interest – all should be discarded. No further work

APPENDIX 6: GLASS SPOT DATING INDEX

Chris Jarrett

Introduction

A small sized assemblage of glass was recovered from the site (two boxes). The glass dates solely to the post-medieval periods. None of the fragments show any evidence for abrasion and were therefore probably deposited fairly rapidly after breakage. Some of the glass fragments have natural weathering deposits resulting from burial conditions. The glass assemblage is in a fairly fragmentary state except that five vessels are intact or nearly so and most of the forms could be readily identified. The glass was quantified by the number of fragments, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight and was recovered from four contexts and individual deposits produced small sized (fewer than 30 fragments) groups.

All of the glass (24 fragments, 21 ENV, 2.857kg, none of which is unstratified) was recorded in a database format by type, colour and form. The assemblage is discussed as a spot dating index.

Spot dating index

Context [102], spot date: late 19th-early 20th century

- Bottle, Hamilton-type, pale aquamarine HLLA moulded, 2 fragments, 1 MNV, 477g, near intact, blob rim, pointed base, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: octagonal section, dark blue HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 9g, base, concave, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: ink, dark olive green HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 67g, intact, closed form flat top, rounded shoulder and a short, angled spout on the side top. Cylindrical wall with below the spout a rounded topped panel. The other side is embossed 'blackwood & co' in an arc, over 'patent/ -.- /London', recessed base, late 19th-20th century
- Bottle: flat, octagonal section, clear HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment 1 MNV, 12g, wall fragment, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: flat, octagonal section, green tinted HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 22g, wall fragment with horizontal embossed measurement marks, c. 1810 onwards
- English cylindrical wine bottle, late-type, green tinted soda glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 85g, weathered. Rim sherd, fairly crudely applied narrow, straight-sided collar, conical neck, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: English cylindrical wine bottle, green tinted soda glass, moulded, 3 fragments, 1 MNV, 65g, weathered. Rim sherd, fairly crudely applied narrow, straight-sided collar, conical neck, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: cylindrical, green tinted HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 32g, base, concave, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: cylindrical, clear HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 7g. Base, concave, embossed design of an asymmetrical, gridded hexagon containing 'y/g/co', late 19th-20th century
- Bottle: cylindrical, green tinted HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 740g. Intact, rounded rim with a narrow squared cordon below, gently convex neck, rounded shoulder, straight-sided wall, slightly kicked base, c. 1810 onwards.
- Bottle: cylindrical, Green tinted soda glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 129g, weathered. Neck to base, fluting (x14) which continues on to the neck, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle: cylindrical, pale grey blue soda glass, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 9g, wall, c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle, square section, dark olive green high-lime low-alkali (HLLA) glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 546g. Intact. Bevelled, collared rim, very short neck. Rounded shoulder, square sectioned body, wider at the top than the concave base: flared wall, c. 1810 onwards

- Bottle, oval section, green tinted HLLA moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 184g, very slightly weathered. Near intact, rim mostly missing, although a collared type is indicated, rounded shoulders, seam marks: vertical and middle of the sides. Embossed on the front vertically 'dineford's/solution/of. MAGNESIA', oval recessed base. c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle, oval section, green tinted HLLA moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 26g, very slightly weathered. Rs, flat topped, rounded finish with a bevelled deep cordon, short neck. c. 1810 onwards
- Bottle, oval section, clear soda moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 14g, weathered. Wall with a vertical ridge containing the embossed name 'sharpe.../.....'. c. 1810 onwards

Total: nineteen fragments, 16 MNV, 2424kg

Context [111], spot date: 19th- 20th century

- Bowl or dish, clear HLLA glass, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 22g, simple rounded, fire finished rim and a flared wall. 19th-20th century

Context [112], spot date: late 19th- 20th century

- Candlestick, amber lead glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 89g, stem and socket with a cordon, fluted decoration on the stem, leaf moulding on the socket. 19th-20th century
- Bottle, green HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 16g, splayed base
- English cylindrical wine bottle, late type, dark olive green, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 280g, base, recessed with a central small boss
- Vessel glass, dark olive green HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 280g, wall fragment.

Total: three fragments, 3 MNV, 385g,

Context [123], spot date: 19th- 20th century

- Soda bottle, green tinted HLLA glass, moulded, 1 fragment, 1 MNV, 26g, base, recessed

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

Although the glass ware in this assemblage is of a relatively recent date, and mostly of forms frequently found in London, there are a number of intact items of interest, while the ink bottle with a spout on the shoulder and embossed with the name 'blackwood & co' (context [102]) is more unusual. The glassware complements the functions provided by the pottery in the assemblage, although both mediums provide a notable number of containers (see Jarrett, Appendix 4). The glass has the potential to date the contexts it was recovered from and a number of items could be photographed. As the Blue Peter Garden (located on the site) was a present day culturally significant landmark, then the glass ware is of interest for showing activities predating this BBC studios feature. The glassware, if published with other finds from the study area, could help to promote the study of archaeology with the general public who are eager to relate to news associated with the iconic children's TV programme.

APPENDIX 7: METAL FINDS SPOT DATING INDEX

Chris Jarrett

Introduction

A total of fourteen fragments of metal finds were found and recovered from only two contexts. All of the metal finds date to the mid 19th and possibly 20th century. The data is provided as a spot dating index.

Spot dating index

Context [111], spot date mid 19th–20th century

- Fourteen fragments of springs or coils and other components of a bed mattress (186g). The coils are a Bonnell type (they survive as conical shapes, but would have originally been hour glass-shaped). These are the earliest type of coil used in bed spring mattresses, the latter dating to the mid-late 19th century, although the spring type continues to be used today.
- One fragment of cast iron sheet metal with possible rivets (309g). The fragment is in a rusted state and has a fragment of roofing slate adhering to it.

Context [112], spot 19th–20th century

- A rectangular plate lock, or stock lock, operated with a rotary key (936g). The item probably dates to the 19th or 20th century and it is intact with a base plate and internal mechanism, although in a rusted state. The plate lock measures 152mm in length x 108mm wide x 18mm thick.

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The metal finds have no significance at a local level. The only potential of the finds are to broadly date the contexts they were found in. There are no recommendations for further work on the material.

APPENDIX 8: LEATHER ASSESSMENT

Chris Jarrett

There are a total of six fragments of leather derived from four shoes and all of this material was recovered from context [112]. One shoe sole, of a size suitable for female attire, has a pointed toe part and closely spaced short metal pins in a straight linear pattern. One other shoe fragment has a closely stitched seam around its edge and an inner line of tacking, besides an additional inner seam of wider spaced stitching holes. Two fragments of sole have much coarser stitching holes around the edge of the sole and a curving line of pins, which delineate the area of the ball/front part of the shoe sole. A fragment of the upper part of a shoe is also recorded and this was made in thin leather. The shoe fragments probably date to the late 19th-early 20th century.

The leather has little significance and limited potential for further research. It is recommended that there is no further work on this material.

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