ENTERPRISE BUSINESS PARK,
2 MILLHARBOUR,
LONDON E14 9WT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:
PA/14/01246

SITE CODE: MHB15

DECEMBER 2015

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

ENTERPRISE BUSINESS PARK, 2 MILLHARBOUR, LONDON E14 9WT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

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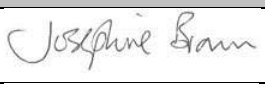
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		December 2015
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ENTERPRISE BUSINESS PARK, 2 MILLHARBOUR, LONDON E14 9WT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Site Code:	**MHB15**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TQ 35760 79740**
Local Planning Authority:	**London Borough of Tower Hamlets**
Planning Application Number:	**PA/14/01246**
Written and Researched by:	**Wayne Perkins** **Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited** **December 2015**
Project Manager:	**Chris Mayo**
Commissioning Client:	**CgMs Consulting**
On Behalf of:	**Millharbour LLP**

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1 ABSTRACT

1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited between the 7th and 9th December at Enterprise Business Park, 2 Millharbour.

1.2 A single evaluation trench measuring 19m long by 2m wide was excavated, which was designed to target a putative raised eyot in the Thames gravels located during a prior geotechnical investigation. The aim of the trench was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site, to determine the presence (or absence) of any surviving archaeology and to understand how the proposed works would or would not affect those remains.

1.3 The evaluation concluded that although the gravels were located at around – 1.19m AOD (1.2m lower than expected) there existed variations in the height of the gravel over a relatively short area. It was evident that high and low energy water environments - such as those that create channel incision - would have shaped the beds through erosion and deposition creating such variation.

1.4 The truncated remains of three vertical wooden stakes, possibly dating to the post-medieval period, were found arranged in a north-south line.

1.5 The gravel eyot, upon examination, did not show any evidence for human activity.

1.6 The evaluation has demonstrated that, contrary to the suggestions made from the deposit model, the site does not contain a high gravel island or eyot but in fact is more likely to be underlain by high gravel ridges which have been naturally scoured by riverine action. No further work is considered to be necessary.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) between the 7th and 9th December 2015 at Enterprise Business Park, 2 Millharbour (Figure 1). The project was designed and managed by Chris Mayo of PCA and was commissioned by Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Millharbour LLP. The archaeological work was supervised by Wayne Perkins of PCA

2.2 The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 35760 79740 and lies within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The proposed site comprised of a rectangular parcel of land which is bounded to the north by existing buildings and offices, to the west by Mastmaker Road, to the south by Lighterman's Road and to the east by Millharbour (Figure 2). The site measures c. 10,260 sq m.

2.3 The Archaeology Advisor to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, John Gould of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) at Historic England, monitored the project on behalf of the LPA.

2.4 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake works necessary to deal with an archaeological planning condition attached to planning permission for development at Enterprise Business Park, 2 Millharbour.

2.5 The site is currently under preparation for piling following demolition of the existing buildings and the removal of their basements. It is to be redeveloped for residential units; planning permission has been granted following a submission application has been made which included an Environmental Impact Assessment and a Desk-Based Assessment which was carried out by CgMs Consulting in 2014.

2.6 Working from the findings in the DBA relating to the possibility of raised gravel eyots, a Deposit Modelling Exercise was executed by PCA using information garnered from test pitting and borehole cores taken across the site and in the immediate area of the site. This formed the basis of a separate report (Edmonds 2015) which proposed a hypothetical model of a gravel eyot located along the centre of the southern side of the site. Following this modelling exercise, PCA were then instructed to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation which designed a trial-trench evaluation to assess the archaeological potential of the site and to be carried out prior to the determination of the planning application (PA/14/01246) (Mayo 2015).

2.7 The WSI was submitted to and approved by Mr John Gould of GLAAS.

2.8 The site is not located within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

2.9 The primary objective of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological remains.

2.10 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:

- The Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 2015)
- Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work (GLAAS 2015)
- MoRPHE (English Heritage, 2006).

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Guidance: National Planning Policy Framework

3.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was adopted on March 27 2012, and now supersedes the Planning Policy Statements (PPSs). The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications. Chapter 12 of the NPPF concerns the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.

3.1.2 In considering any proposal for development, including allocations in emerging development plans, the local planning authority will be mindful of the policy framework set by government guidance, existing development plan policy and of other material considerations.

3.2 Regional Guidance: The London Plan

3.2.1 Additional relevant planning strategy framework is provided by The London Plan, which was updated in 2015. It includes the following policy of relevance to archaeology within London:

Historic environments and landscapes

POLICY 7.8 HERITAGE ASSETS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Strategic

A London's heritage assets and historical 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 utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

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

Planning decision

C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D Development affecting heritage assets and their setting 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 assets or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that assets.

LDF preparation

F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural

identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.

G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organizations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their setting where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

3.3 London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Local Plan: Strategic Policies

3.3.1 The local planning authority responsible for the study site is the London Borough of Tower Hamlets whose strategic policy (adopted September 2012) stipulates as follows:

SP12

3.3.2 Improve, enhance and develop a network of sustainable, connected, well-designed places across the borough through:

a. Ensuring places are well-designed so that they offer the right lay out to support the day to day activities of local people
b. Retaining and respecting the features that contribute to each places' heritage, character and local distinctiveness
c. Ensuring places have a rang and mix of dwelling types and tenures to promote balanced, socially mixed communities
d. Ensuring places have access to a mixed-use town centre that offers a variety of shops and services
e. Ensuring places have a range and mix of a high quality publicly accessible green spaces that promote biodiversity , health and well-being
f. Promoting places that have access to a range of public transport models in order for local people to access other parts of the Borough and the rest of London
g. Ensuring places provide for a well- connected, safe and attractive network of streets and spaces that make it easy and pleasant to walk and cycle
h. Ensuring spaces promote wider sustainability and assist in reducing society's consumption of resources and its carbon footprint
i. Ensuring development proposals recognise their role and function in helping to deliver the vision, priorities and principles for ach place

3.4 Site Specific Planning Background

3.4.1 Planning permission has been granted for the following development, under application number PA/14/01246:

PA/14/01246| the erection of seven mixed-use buildings—A, B1, B2, B3, C, D and E (a 'link' building situated between block B1 and D)—ranging in height from 8 to 42 storeys. New buildings to comprise: 901 residential units (Class C3); 1,104 sqm (GIA) of ground-floor mixed-use (Use Class B1/ A1/ A2/ A3/ A4/ D1); a 1,049 sqm (GEA) 'leisure box' (Use Class D2); plant and storage accommodation, including a single basement to provide vehicle and cycle parking, servicing and plant areas; new vehicle and pedestrian accesses and new public amenity spaces and landscaping.

3.4.2 The planning application was supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment and a Desk-Based Assessment which was carried out by CgMs Consulting in 2014. This led to an archaeological watching brief being undertaken during a geotechnical site investigation, information from which was then assessed with other local data to form a deposit model for the site (Edmonds (2015). The Archaeology Advisor to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets then required an evaluation to investigate a possible area of high gravels located at the southern edge of the site. The evaluation, herein reported, was designed in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Mayo 2015) which was approved by GLAAS.

3.4.3 The site is not located within an Area of Archaeological Significance as defined within the LB Tower Hamlets' Unitary Development Plan. The site does not lie within the vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck site.

4 GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The Bedrock geology of the site consists of London Clay capped by Thames Gravels.

4.2 The study area was originally occupied by a building with a basement. The variation in the surface topography of the site represents this with current ground level between 4.65m OD and 3.85m OD on the higher ground and levels between 1.63m OD and 1.45m OD at the base of the former basement.

4.3 The deposit modelling exercise recently conducted for site (Edmonds 2015), and based upon new geotechnical information, contained the following conclusions:

> Natural terrace gravels are extant across the study area and show significant variations in surface elevation [between a high point of -0.05m AOD towards the west down to a level of -2.66m AOD to the east]. Whilst it is possible that some of this variation may be due to human activity, the presence of alluvial sequences overlying the gravels across much of the area suggests that channel incision is a likely to have been responsible for much of the topographical variation recorded with a curving channel cutting across the site from the west to the south. The south-western half of the site at least, appears to have been underlain by a significant piece of high ground in the gravel surface with the fall in depth to the north-east that may reflect an extensive channel here, with this higher ground possibly being suitable for human habitation.
>
> The natural terrace gravel was overlain at many locations by extensive and complex sequences of alluvial deposition and peat formation, these deposits generally being more than 4m thick. Clearly this amount of deposition and formation took place over a considerable time period and the exercise has attempted to break the sequences down into more manageable units. A very general distinction between broad lower (earlier) and upper (later) alluvial units has been made.
>
> The lower alluvial unit, comprising coarse and fine sedimentary layers, along with a peat formation, is generally in excess of 1m thick and represents extensive alluvial inundation of the area through flooding, interspersed with relatively drier periods of less inundation and peat formation. Given the generally wet nature of the environment suggested by these deposits, it is unlikely that there would have been significant human occupation within the study area during later prehistory, though evidence of marginal activity at the edges of channels may be extant.
>
> The upper alluvial unit is generally more than 1.5m thick, though locally this figure is in excess of 2m, and there are also areas where the alluvium is quite thin as a result of truncation from later development. Again this unit comprises fine and coarse-grained alluvium with occasional evidence of peat formation. There has been no direct dating of the layers forming the overall unit but it is believed that this material was deposited over a broad length of time up to the late medieval/early post-medieval period. There seems to be very little evidence of Roman activity on the Isle of Dogs though it is known that the tidal

range of the Thames fell during the Roman period possibly enhancing opportunities for settlement (Hawkins 2014, 11). In all probability the site probably comprised of estuarine mud flats during this period.

As mentioned above, there are discrepancies in the illustrated patterns of upper alluvium and earlier post-medieval made ground as a result of variable levels of later truncation over relatively small spatial distances. However the broad model for the surface of post-medieval made ground gives a general indication for the level at which deposits of potential archaeological interest may be encountered, though much of this evidence is likely to be associated with development of the docks up to the 19th century. This material is likely to be encountered at a broad level of c. +4m AOD and beneath approximately 1m to 1.5m of modern deposits.

Overall, the modelling exercise has shown that the study area is underlain by natural terrace gravels incised by a potential natural channel, and that for much of the period from the Bronze Age, if not significantly earlier, the site has been susceptible to frequent flooding, as the alluvial formation suggests. This will have restricted human exploitation of the area. Following cessation of flooding the area was exploited, most notably by the development of the docks. From an archaeological point of view, deposits of probable later prehistoric date – if they are to be found – are likely to be located on the areas of higher gravel in the south and to the north of the site. Deposits or remains of prehistoric to later medieval date may be preserved in the central areas of the site, but are likely to be dominated by natural accumulation or channel infilling rather than significant human or domestic activity.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The site specific desk-based assessment (Hawkins 2014) concluded that:

> 6.3 Archaeological investigations immediately west and immediately north east of the study site revealed no evidence for Prehistoric activity although archaeo-environmental deposits of local to regional importance were encountered.
>
> 6.4 The study site is thought to have a low archaeological potential for in situ remains of the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age. Alluvial deposits on the site are likely to be of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date. A peat unit identified at minus 0.73m to minus 1.13m OD is possibly Bronze Age.
>
> 6.5 During the Iron Age the Isle of Dogs appears to have fallen into an estuarine environment and was subject to frequent flooding and the deposition of alluvial clays. Only high areas of gravel would have been habitable.
>
> 6.6 A low archaeological potential is identified for the Roman period. During the Anglo Saxon, early Medieval, late Medieval, post Medieval and Modern periods to 1868 the study site comprised of marsh pasture.
>
> 6.7 The study site has a low archaeological potential for the period 1868-2013. In particular no significant industrial heritage features are present. The study site redline boundary specifically excludes the west wall of the West India and Millwall Docks.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation was conducted according to an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by PCA (Mayo 2015). The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of archaeological remains.

6.2 One trench, 22m long by 4m wide was envisaged to allow a 'stepped' trench to be created with internal dimensions of 20m long by 2m wide which was opened by mechanical excavator. In the event, due to perched water being found at the west end the trench was curtailed at 19m in length.

6.3 A JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket 1.8m wide was used under archaeological supervision to remove non-archaeological soils down to the highest archaeological horizon or natural level.

6.4 Following the opening of the trench the vertical sections were cleaned and all possible features identified were investigated by hand. Investigation was intended to identify the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence. The deposits, fills, and features were assigned individual context numbers.

6.5 All recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in London; that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual and presented in PCAs *Fieldwork Operations Manual 1* (Taylor 2009). Individual descriptions of all archaeological and geological 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 at scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10. The OD heights of all principle strata were calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

6.6 A photographic record of the investigations was made using digital formats.

6.7 Survey was carried out using hand-held GPS.

6.8 Upon the completion of the archaeological work the trenches were backfilled under archaeological supervision.

6.9 The complete site archive including site records, photographs and finds will be deposited at the London Archaeological Archive Research Centre, (LAARC) under the site code MHB15.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION TRENCH 1

7.1 Trench Results

7.1.1 The area under evaluation was effectively the footprint of the basements that had been removed by demolition, up to three meters below street level. The base of this area had been reconstituted by the rolling and compacting of a c. 0.5m layer of fragmentary building materials (or, 'crush') to seal the alluvial clays below. This presented its own problems and a 360 mechanical excavator with a toothed bucket had to be employed to break through this layer (Figure 2).

7.1.2 Below this layer a pit, [103] was discovered containing a mix of building materials as described above (Figure 3).

7.1.3 Below this 'made ground' layer the alluvial deposits were encountered and found to be 2.20m to 1.78m thick. Due to its depth the trench had to be stepped out at 1m (Figure 4).

7.1.4 A row of three stakes were found 3m west of the east end of the trench, one was damaged and one was only partially visible in the section.

7.1.5 Once the natural gravels were exposed underneath the clay the water table had effectively been breached and the trench began to fill with water.

7.1.6 Prior to the watering of the trench it was possible to investigate the gravels with shovel and trowel. Although the top of the gravels had been stained a dark blueish grey, once trowelled the natural mid yellowish orange sand and gravel was exposed underneath. No finds or features were seen throughout the gravel surface.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASED SEQUENCE

8.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

8.1.1 The bedrock geology of the site consists of London Clay capped by Thames Gravels (Hawkins 2014). Evaluation Trench 1 recorded the top of the gravel at -1.19m OD in Section 101, at -0.98m OD at Section 102, at -1.04m OD at Section 103 and at -1.24m OD at Section 104, the section furthest west (Plates 1, 2 & 3).

8.1.2 The top of the gravels were stained dark blueish-grey on their surface but were a mid-orange colour a few centimetres below the surface. In some areas patches of dark brown clay were observable but this appeared to be relict bioturbation.

8.1.3 Above the gravels was a layer of firm, dark blueish grey alluvial clay, between 2.2m thick at the east end and 1.78m m at the west. Although the sequence would have been lain down over a long period of time there was no discernible differentiation in the layers and little in the way of successive laminations. Small pockets of dark brown, humic peat-like material were noted as well as the occasional tree branch or root.

Plate 1: Trench 1, natural gravels [105] visible at base of Section 101 (looking south, east end)

Plate 2: Natural gravels [105] visible at base of Section 102, (5m from east end of trench, looking south)

Plate 3: Natural gravels [105] visible at base of Section 103 (10m from east end, looking south)

8.2 Phase 2: Post Medieval Wooden Stakes or Posts

8.2.1 At 3.5m west of the east end of the trench a row of 3 wooden stakes were encountered aligned roughly north –south unevenly spaced apart and of differing fabrication (Plate 4). Stake or post [106] was only partially exposed, 1m north of the south L.O.E. on the internal terracing step of the trench. It had been damaged *in situ* and was only exposed for approximately 0.4m of its length. It was rectangular in cross-section with roughly planed sides. At 1.51m to the NNW was stake or post [107] was rounded with smooth sides with a diameter of 84mm and was exposed

for 1.23m of its length. The third stake or post, [108], was 0.49m to the north to [107] and was embedded in the north wall of the terrace step and only partially visible. Due to the potential for trench collapse it was not examined in detail but also appeared to be rounded in cross section. Together the ensemble formed a row which unfortunately, due to the high water table and potential for trench collapse, could not be closely inspected or interpreted. They had clearly been truncated form above by the construction of the previous structure on site. Their dating is conjectural based upon the fact that they appeared to have been cut or at least displaced by pit [103].

Plate4: Trench 1, Post Medieval Posts or Stakes [106], [107] & [108] (looking west).

8.3 Phase 3: Modern 19th/20th Century

8.3.1 A large, irregularly-sided pit [103], containing modern fragmentary building material, glass, blue plastic and some fragments of 19th century pottery was discovered at the east end of Trench 1. It was directly below the layer of crush [101] and its perimeter was close to the three wooden stakes to the west. It was 3.16m across and 0.98m deep. The presence of plastic suggests a 20th century date and therefore the pottery must be residual/curated material.

8.3.2 Following the removal of the basement to the former buildings the base of the site had been consolidated by a layer of rolled and compacted building materials (crush) [101] that sealed the alluvial layers below [104]. There was slight variation but it was generally between 0.48m and 0.33m thick. It was recorded at heights between 1.20m OD and 1.23m OD.

9 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Original Research Objectives

9.1.1 The following research objectives were put forth in the Written Scheme of Investigation and these can now be addressed

To determine the natural topography and geology of the site, and the height at which it survives.

9.1.2 The natural topography of the site was seen to be slightly different to that predicted by the Deposit Modelling Exercise (DME), which recorded high gravels in NBH03 (less than 10m to the west of Trench 1) at around 0m OD. The evaluation trench showed gravels at an average, undulating elevation of approximately -1.10m OD, rising gently to the west towards NBH03. However even at the western end of the trench the gravels were recorded at -1.20m OD.

9.1.3 The evaluation trench was sited appropriately at the surface of the high gravel eyot predicted by the DME. Figure 4 shows this modelled eyot with the evaluation trench location superimposed.

9.1.4 The work has disproven the hypothesis of modelling exercise, and the implication is that the higher gravels recorded within the DME may only represent a high escarpment of gravels which had been incised by riverine activity.

To establish the presence or absence of prehistoric and Roman activity.

9.1.5 There was no evidence of prehistoric activity found in the evaluation. The suggestion in the DBA and DME that during the Roman period the site was likely to have been alluvial mudflats seems to have been borne out by the evidence.

To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.

9.1.6 There was no evidence of medieval activity found in the evaluation.

To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity at the site.

9.1.7 The date of the three stakes or posts, [106], [107] & [108] is likely to fall into this period but that will have to remain conjectural as no other dating evidence was found in conjunction to their setting. Further, the stakes had been significantly impacted upon by pit [103] and truncation from above when the basement was constructed.

To establish the nature, date and survival of activity relating to any archaeological periods at the site.

9.1.8 The only archaeological period represented on the site was the late post-medieval line of posts.

These are likely to be remnants of Post Medieval activity in the former estuary. They had been significantly truncated by the modern basement construction and successive demolition phase.

To establish the extent of all past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.

9.1.9 From the present appearance of the site, it can be seen that three meters have been truncated from the current street level by the previous buildings and the removal of the associated basements. The works have created a large, sub-rectangular hollow and it is in this reduced area that the evaluation trench was located. Even at this depth another layer, consisting of crushed building materials 0.50m-0.60m thick, was encountered. Everything has been truncated down to around 0.86m OD in the base of the hollow.

9.1.10 At the western end of the trench two modern piles were exposed on the north side of the step which attests to prior piling of the site (a plan of such prior piling operations does not exist or was unavailable according to the contractors).

9.2 Conclusions and Recommendations

9.2.1 The evaluation has demonstrated variations in the gravel horizon which imply natural scouring by water action to create a gravel ridge, rather than a high gravel island or eyot which may have been attractive for human activity. The evaluation demonstrates the risk of using a relatively small geotechnical dataset to endeavour to predict a deposit model.

9.2.2 The gravel surface was closely scrutinised for human activity however none was to be found.

9.2.3 The timber stakes or posts had clearly been driven form a much higher level which had then been truncated by the construction of the previous building on site. They may have been a relic of a land boundary or water feature. They had also been truncated from the side by a large modern feature.

9.2.4 The evaluation has demonstrated that, contrary to the suggestions made from the deposit model, the site does not contain a high gravel island or eyot but in fact is more likely to be underlain by high gravel ridges which have been naturally scoured by riverine action. No further work is considered to be necessary.

9.3 Publication and Archive

9.3.1 The results of the site investigation will be published by PCA as a summary in the annual 'Round-Up' of *London Archaeologist*.

9.3.2 Upon approval this report and with confirmation that the site work is complete, the archive will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the unique site code MHB15.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs for commissioning the work on behalf of Millharbour LLP.

10.2 PCA would like to thank site contact David Hughes and Galliard Homes for the kind use of the mechanical excavator.

10.3 The author would like to thank Mike Tunnicliffe for his help in the field, Richard Archer for the survey, Wayne Richards for organising the logistics, Jen Simonson for the illustrations and Chris Mayo for his project management and editing.

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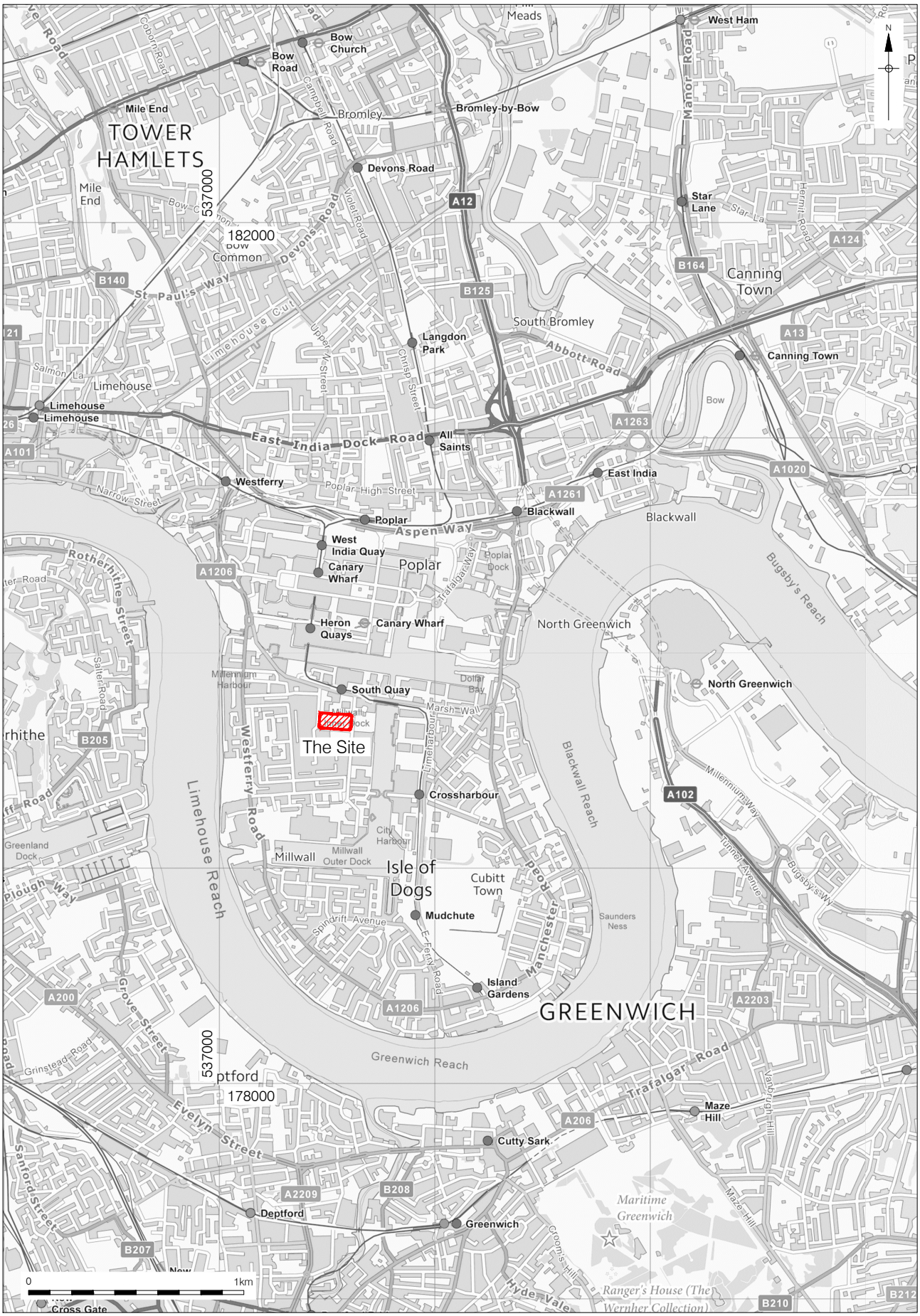

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Figure 1
Site Location
1:25,000 at A4

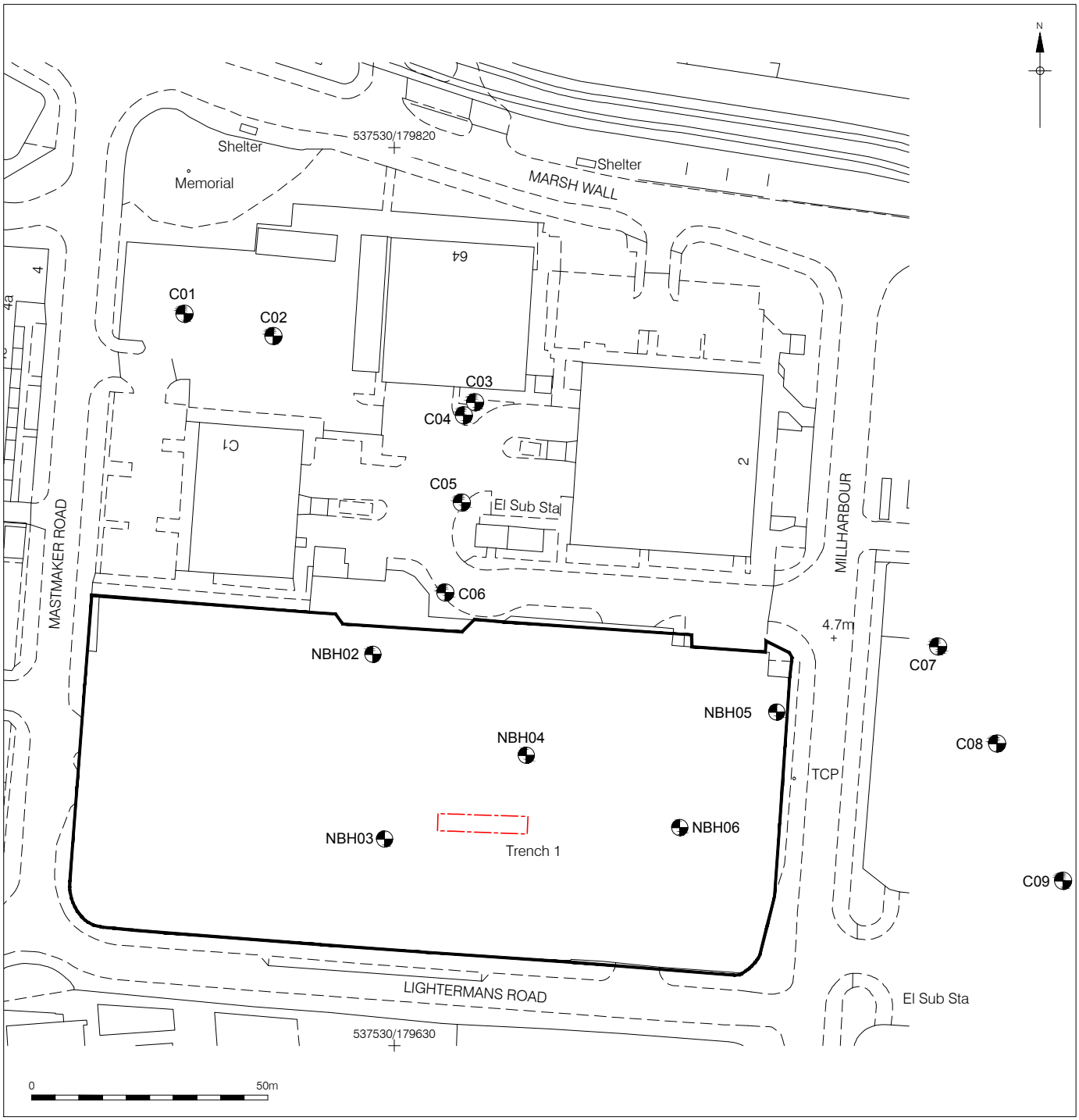

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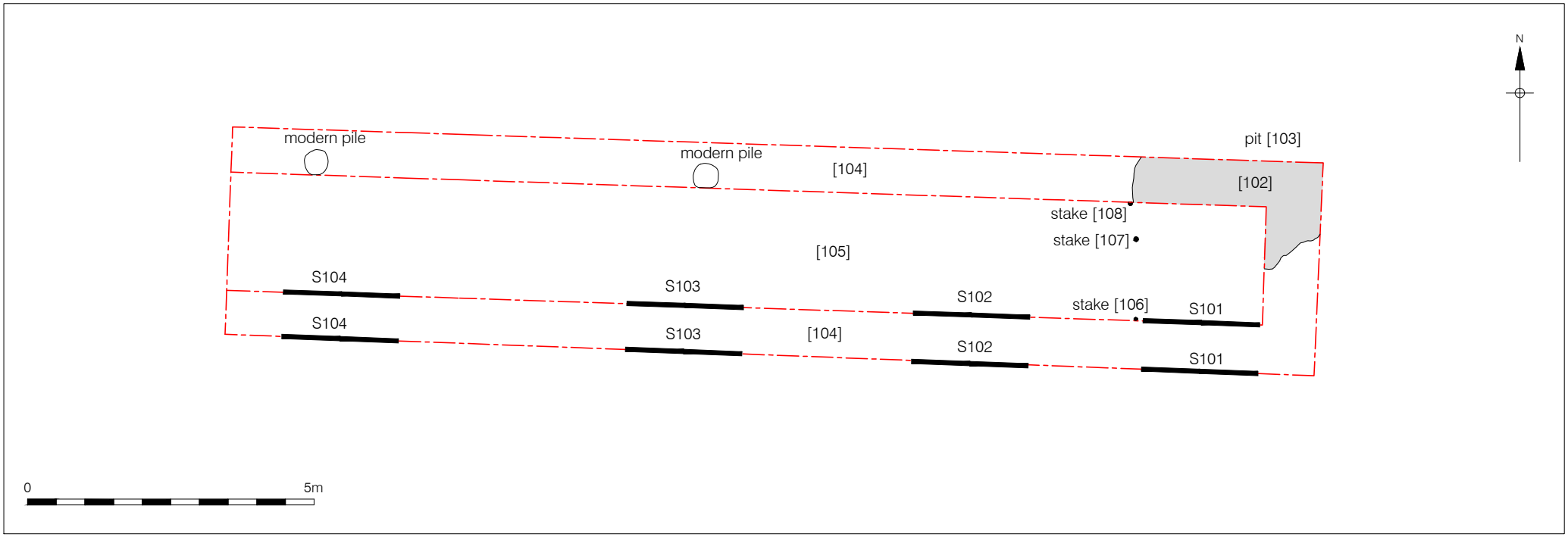
Figure 2
Trench Location
1:1,250 at A4



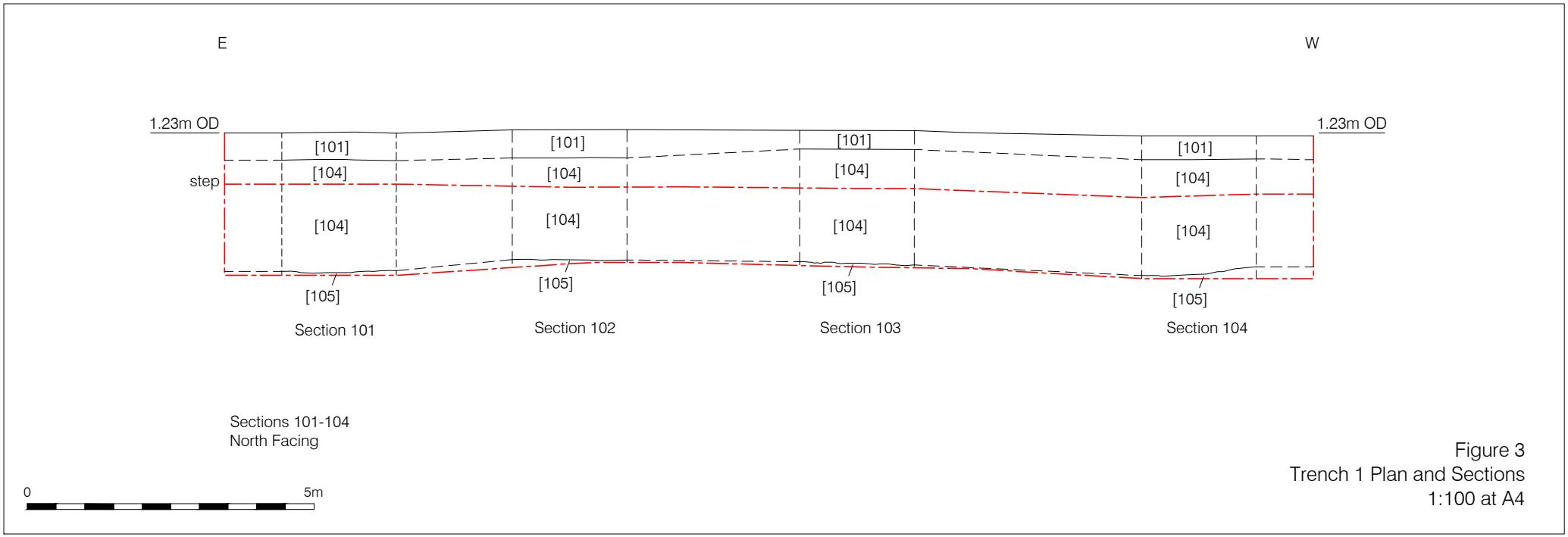
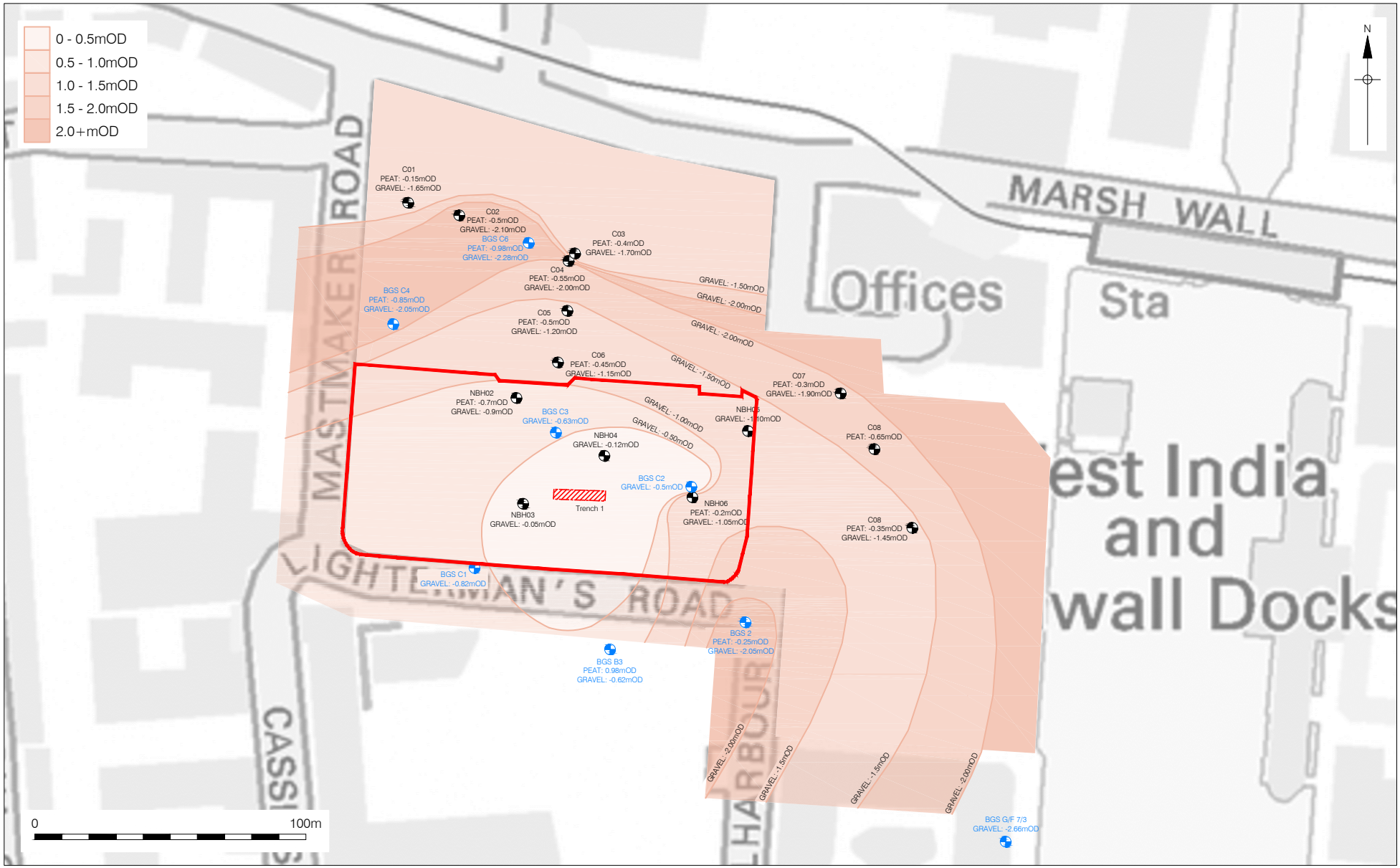


Figure 3
Trench 1 Plan and Sections
1:100 at A4

 16/12/15 JS



21/12/15 JS_revision 1 (& MR)

Figure 4
Trench Location Plan showing known levels for gravels and peat deposits and conjectured surface model for the gravel deposits
1:2,000 at A4

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context No.	Trench	Plan	Section / Elevation	Type	Description	Date	Phase
MHB15	101	1	TR1	1,2,3,4	Layer	Compacted building material	Modern	3
MHB15	102	1	TR1	-	Fill	Fragmentary building material	Modern	3
MHB15	103	1	TR1	-	Cut	Irregular, sub oval pit	Modern	3
MHB15	104	1	TR1	1,2,3,4	Layer	Alluvial clay	Natural	1
MHB15	105	1	TR1	1,2,3,4	Layer	Natural gravels	Natural	1
MHB15	106	1	TR1	-	Timber	Post or stake	Post medieval	2
MHB15	107	1	TR1	-	Timber	Post or stake	Post medieval	2
MHB15	108	1	TR1	-	Timber	Post or stake	Post medieval	2

PHASES

1. Natural
2. Post Medieval (1540 – 1901)
3. Modern (1901 - Present)

APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-234100

Project details	
Project name	3-6 Millharbour and 6, 7 and 8 South Square, London E14 9WT: An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	A single evaluation trench measuring 19m long by 2m wide was excavated, which was designed to target a putative raised eyot in the Thames gravels located during a prior geotechnical investigation. The evaluation concluded that although the gravels were located at around - 1.19m AOD (1.2m lower than expected) there existed variations in the height of the gravel over a relatively short area. It was evident that high and low energy water environments - such as those that create channel incision - would have shaped the beds through erosion and deposition creating such variation. The truncated remains of three vertical wooden stakes, possibly dating to the post-medieval period, were found arranged in a north-south line. The gravel eyot, upon examination, did not show any evidence for human activity.
Project dates	Start: 07-12-2015 End: 09-12-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	MHB15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	PA/14/03195 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	POSTS/STAKES Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After determination
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS TOWER HAMLETS 3-6 MILLHARBOUR and 6, 7 and 8 SOUTH SQUARE, LONDON E14 9WT
Postcode	E14 9WT
Study area	10260 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 37574 79679 51.498783593351 -0.017802017666 51 29 55 N 000 01 04 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: -1.24m Max: -0.98m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Chris Mayo
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Wayne Perkins
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Millharbour LLP
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	MHB15
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	MHB15
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Section"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	3-6 Millharbour and 6, 7 and 8 South Square, London E14 9WT: An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Perkins, W.
Other bibliographic details	PCA R12317
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	A4 grey lit client report with PCA covers
Entered by	Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	17 December 2015

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