ST MICHAELS CATHOLIC COLLEGE
JOHN FELTON ROAD
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK
SE16 4UN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PCA REPORT NO: R12658

SITE CODE: JFR16

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

ST MICHAELS CATHOLIC COLLEGE
JOHN FELTON ROAD
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited			K4621
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Aidan Turner		September 2016
Graphics Prepared by:	Charlotte Faiers		September 2016
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		October 2016
Project Manager Sign-off:	Tim Bradley		October 2016

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT ST MICHAELS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, JOHN FELTON ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

Site Code:	**JFR16**
Local Planning Authority:	**London Borough of Southwark**
Planning Application Number:	**14/AP/3286**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TQ 34225 79669**
Written By:	**Aidan Turner** **Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, October 2016**
Project Manager:	**Tim Bradley** **Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited**
Commissioning Client:	**Lakehouse**

Contractor:	**Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited,** **Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre,** **96 Endwell Road,** **Brockley,** **London, SE4 2PD.**
Tel:	**020 7732 3925**
Fax:	**020 7732 7896**
E-mail:	**tbradley@pre-construct.com**
Web:	**www.pre-construct.com**

PCA Report Number: R12658

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1 ABSTRACT

1.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land St Michaels Catholic College, John Felton Road, London Borough of Southwark, SE16 4UN (Figure 1).

1.1.2 The work was carried out from 25th July 2016 until 10th August 2016. A single area of re-development comprising the entire basement footprint of a new school building was observed.

1.1.3 No evidence was found dating from the medieval or any earlier archaeological periods, with thick deposits of alluvium recorded underlying the post-medieval sequence.

1.1.4 The remains found from the late post-medieval period were extremely fragmentary but likely to relate to both domestic and industrial uses of the site from the late 18th to early 20th centuries. These showed evidence of being extensively truncated by developments during the latter half of the 20th century.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) on land St Michaels Catholic College, John Felton Road, London Borough of Southwark, SE16 4UN (Figure 1).

2.1.2 The site was subject to a planning application (Application 14/AP/3286) for a new school building replacing an adjacent temporary classroom.

2.1.3 The field investigation was supervised by the author of this document, Aidan Turner of PCA. The archaeological project manager was Tim Bradley of PCA.

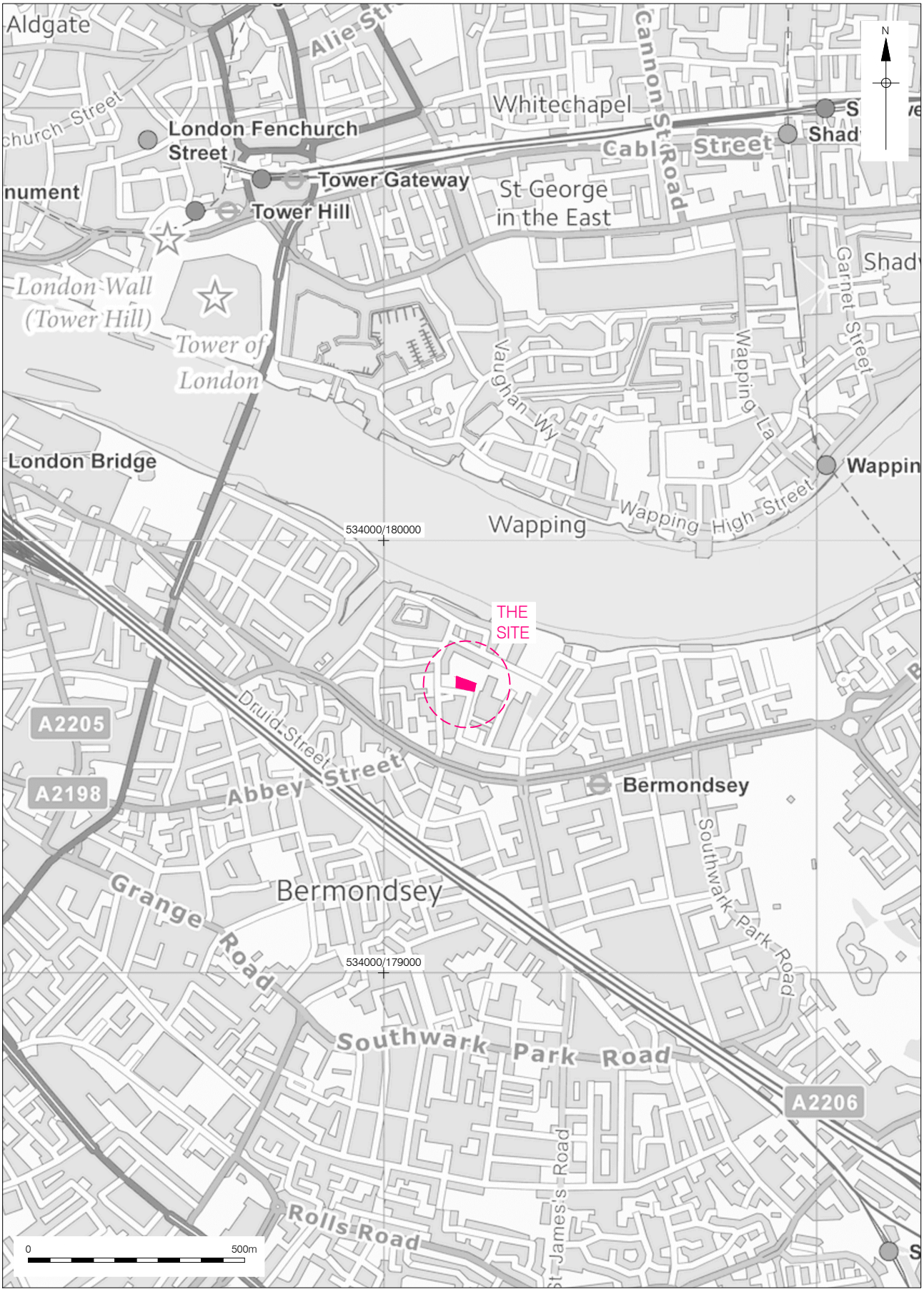
2.1.4 The work preceded by the preparation of an archaeological desk based assessment (AECOM 2014), and was undertaken following an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Bradley 2016).

2.1.5 The excavation works were observed from 25th July 2016 until 10th August 2016. This work was conducted under the supervision of Aidan Turner and Bruce Ferguson of PCA.

2.1.6 The site is located within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Southwark in their Unitary Development Plan. This Archaeological Priority Area is associated with the area's likely Roman, Saxon and medieval origins.

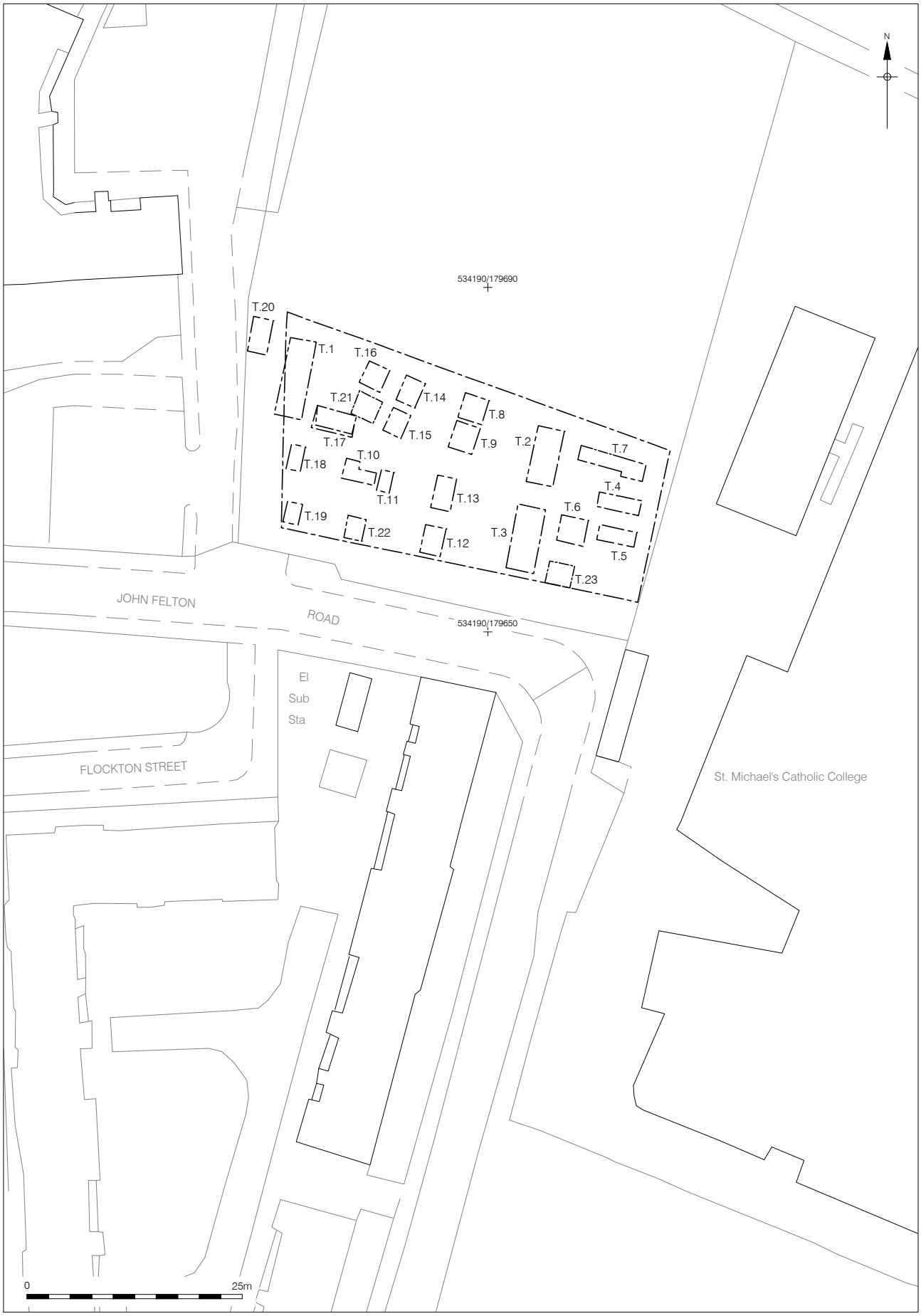
2.1.7 During the watching brief deposits of late post-medieval and modern made ground were recorded, along with truncated walls and structures associated with the site's use in these periods. These features were found to overlie an alluvial sequence, believed to overlie the sequence of drift geology in the locale.

2.1.8 The site records will be archived at the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the site code JFR16.



23/08/16 CF

Figure 1
Site Location
1:12,500 at A4



22/08/16 CF

Figure 2
Trench Location
1:625 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1.1 A planning application was submitted (Application 14/AP/3286). The development proposals comprise a new build, 4 storey, block of teaching facilities along with alterations to the existing multi-use games area, the site's landscaping and boundary wall treatment and the removal of two prefabricated classroom blocks. Intrusive groundwork associated with this process was to include initial site clearance and removal of below ground obstructions, and the installation of piles and pile caps and the excavation for foundations and services. The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the London Borough of Southwark, associated with the area's likely Roman, Saxon and medieval origins.

3.1.2 Full planning permission was granted for the development (14/AP/3286). In response to the archaeological potential of the site, Southwark Council imposed the following planning conditions:

7 Before any work hereby authorised begins, the applicant shall secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological mitigation works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason :- In order that the details of the programme of works for the archaeological mitigation are suitable with regard to the impacts of the proposed development and the nature and extent of archaeological remains on site in accordance with Strategic Policy 12 - Design and Conservation of The Core Strategy 2011, Saved Policy 3.19 Archaeology of the Southwark Plan 2007 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

3.1.3 Consultation was carried out between AECOM and Dr Christopher Constable, the Senior Archaeological Officer for Southwark Council at the time of the application, which identified that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during groundworks to record the potential post-medieval and other archaeology present on site.

3.1.4 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was therefore prepared by PCA, setting out the methodology for recording and reporting any archaeological deposits that may have been found in the course of the investigations in accordance with the above archaeological Condition 7 and the requirements of the Senior Archaeological Officer at Southwark. This was approved by Southwark Council in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork.

3.1.5 This report details the results of the archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the approved WSI.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1.1 The solid geology of the site consists of London Clay Formations (comprising of clays, silts, and sand) with the Kempton Park gravel formations and alluvium making up the overlying drift geology. The site lies in an area within the floodplain of the River Thames, and was mostly marshland until the post-medieval period, when the area began to be drained. At various times in the past the site was inundated allowing deposits of alluvium to be laid down across much of the site. In the south -eastern corner of the site the level of the natural gravel is much higher, indicating that it may have been on the edge of a raised gravel island known as an 'eyot', divided from other areas of higher ground by channels and marshland (MoLAS 2008). The current area of investigation is towards the west of the school site, and therefore remote from this higher ground.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1.1 The site lies within the Archaeological Priority Zone (APZ) of Borough, Bermondsey and Riverside. APZs have been highlighted as regions where significant and/or extensive archaeological remains may have survived. This area is included in the zone due to the large amount of Roman and medieval settlement evidence and the historic settlement areas of Bankside, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe.

5.1.2 Thirty-six heritage assets were recorded within the study area. These ranged in date from the Bronze Age to modern, although there were no recorded sites of early medieval date. To the immediate east of the site, where the current school buildings are located, previous archaeological investigations revealed that across the majority of the investigated area deposits of alluvium were present, indicating past inundation of the area around the site, probably first as a channel, and then later as marshland. A higher gravel eyot was located in the south eastern part of the investigated area. This had evidence of Roman occupation, and residual prehistoric material both in the alluvium and in later post-medieval dumped deposits. This indicated that earlier occupation may also have taken place but the higher ground did not extend into the south western part of the area and such conditions were considered unlikely to be found within the current development area. The whole area around the site was gradually drained in the post-medieval period, and then built up and developed first for industrial and later, increasingly domestic usages.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1.1 In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2016), the monitoring works were arranged in order to fully investigate the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains exposed during the construction groundwork.

6.1.2 The watching brief comprised of the observation of preparatory works for the construction of a new school building. The preparatory works consisted of a series of 'pile probing' pits, designed to identify any obstruction to the later piling works. These pile pits effectively represented the entire intrusive groundwork (bar the piling itself) necessary for the proposed development.

6.1.3 These pits were given the designation Trenches 1 to 23 by the attending archaeologists, and were monitored in their entirety.

6.1.4 Under the supervision of the attending archaeologist, a 13 tonne excavator, equipped with a variety of attachments depending on the nature of the ground, was used to dig the pits down to a level which proved clear of any pre-existing obsolete foundations. Excavation progressed through modern materials and late post- medieval deposits until the top of the underlying alluvium was discernible.

6.1.5 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, later re -published by Museum of London Archaeology (MoLAS 1994). Individual descriptions of all archaeological and geological strata, along with 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 1:100 and the sections at 1:20. The OD heights of all principle strata were calculated from a topographic survey of the site, and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. A photographic record was also kept during the watching brief.

6.1.6 On site recording and survey was conducted using measuring from fixed survey points.

6.1.7 The completed archive, comprising all written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) under the Site Code JFR16.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

PILE PIT DESCRIPTIONS

The following section describes the nature and sequence of the deposits and strata found on the site.

Trench 1

7.1.1 The base of Trench 1 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay. This was interpreted as an alluvial deposit, its colour and texture suggesting that it was probably laid down in low energy conditions on the margins of the river Thames.

7.1.2 This deposit, recorded as Context [14], was of unknown thickness and was recorded at approximately 1.20m above Ordnance Datum (henceforth given the abbreviation AOD).

7.1.3 The alluvium was overlain by a deposit of compact, light yellow slightly silty sand, Context [13]. This may represent the development of possible subsoil, perhaps redeposited from higher ground.

7.1.4 The sand was 0.20m in thickness and was found at approximately 1.40m AOD.

7.1.5 Overlying the sand was 0.4m to 0.6m thick layer of made ground Context [12]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments, along with occasional flecks of charcoal. This deposit clearly dated to the late post-medieval period, probably formed sometime during the 19th century as the area was increasingly developed.

7.1.6 The made ground was found at 1m below ground level (abbrev. BGL) at approximately 1.2m AOD. It had been disturbed in places by modern developments, including the insertion of a mains gas pipe, which transected the excavated area from south to north.

7.1.7 The made ground was covered by a 1m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from school buildings previously occupying the site in the post war period.

Trench 2

7.1.8 The base of Trench 2 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay, Context [16]. This was interpreted as an alluvial deposit, of a similar nature to that found in Trench 1.

7.1.9 As the deposit was not excavated, it remains of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.9m AOD.

7.1.10 Overlying the alluvium was a 0.4m to 0.6m thick layer of made ground, Context [17]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments, along with occasional flecks of charcoal. This deposit clearly dated from the late post-medieval period, probably formed during the 19th century.

7.1.11 The made ground was covered by a 1m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from school buildings previously occupying the site in the post war period.

Trench 3

7.1.12 The base of Trench 3 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey alluvial silt clay, Context [18]. As the deposit was not excavated, it remains of unknown thickness and was recorded at approximately 1.1m AOD.

7.1.13 Overlying the alluvium was a layer of loose, light grey brown, silt sand rubble. This contained frequent brick & mortar fragments and was interpreted as late industrial period made ground or possibly demolition material. This was assigned the Context no. [17] and was found at approximately 2m AOD.

7.1.14 The made ground was covered by a 0.8m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, probably formed from the demolition of buildings previously occupying the site in the post war period.

Trench 4

7.1.15 The base of Trench 4 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey alluvial silt clay, Context [18]. As the deposit was not excavated, it remains of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 1.1m AOD.

7.1.16 On the eastern side of the trench the alluvium was immediately overlain by a 0.90m thick concrete foundation for floodlighting.

7.1.17 The western half of the trench was taken up by brick built basement structure, Context [29], which appeared to have been lined with reinforced concrete at a later date. This structure, which was over 3m deep, was flooded with ground water and is further described in Trench 7.

7.1.18 The modern concrete lining to this basement wall appeared to form a return westwards from this location.

Trench 5

7.1.19 The base of Trench 5 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay, Context [23]. This was interpreted as an alluvial deposit.

7.1.20 As the deposit was not excavated, it remains of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.38m AOD.

7.1.21 The alluvial clays were overlain by a dark coloured deposit of made ground, Context [22]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick, tile and mortar fragments. This deposit was dated to the late post-medieval period, most likely formed during the 19th century.

7.1.22 This deposit was 0.57m thick and was recorded at a height of 0.95m AOD.

7.1.23 This deposit was covered by a thin, 0.15m thick layer of crushed brick and whitish lime mortar, Context [21]. This was interpreted as made ground, perhaps formed by a demolition spread associated with redevelopment of the site during the 19th or early 20th century.

7.1.24 The made ground was covered by a 0.9m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from the demolition of buildings previously occupying the site.

Trench 6

7.1.25 The basal deposit of Trench 6 consisted of a light grey alluvial clay silt, Context [28]. This deposit was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.25m AOD.

7.1.26 The basal deposit was overlain by an extensive deposit of made ground, formed of a loose, light whitish grey red silty sand rubble, Context [27]. This deposit was 1.15m in thickness and was recorded at approximately 1.60m AOD.

7.1.27 This deposit surrounded a number of inter- related red brick structures, Contexts [24], [25] and [26]. These were all formed of red stock brick, measuring 223 x 100 x 65mm. These were cemented together with light whitish grey lime mortar containing chalk flecks. These features probably had their origin in the 19th century.

7.1.28 Contexts [25] and [26] were highly truncated and found in the far south western and north western corners of the Trench. Due to these factors, these could not be extensively interpreted, but appeared to be solidly built foundations, probably built up upon the clay below. If so, they had a height of 1.45m and were found at a height of approximately 1.60m AOD.

7.1.29 Context [24] consisted of a small pair of similarly built walls, 0.40m apart, and around 0.42m in height. These were 0.23m in width and found just below the modern made ground, at around 1.60m AOD. This feature may represent the base of a shallow soak away, or perhaps an ash pit midden.

Trench 7

7.1.30 The base of Trench 7 was formed from a deposit of firm, dark grey silty clay. This was interpreted as an alluvial deposit, Context [31]. This was greater than 1.40m in thickness and found at a height -0.1m AOD.

7.1.31 Constructed directly on top of the alluvium was the corner of a yellow brick wall foundation, Context [30]. This was built from yellow stock, frogged brick, measuring 225mmx 100mmx 65mm, cemented together with light grey cement mortar. This was interpreted as a late 19th - early 20th wall, which returned northwards and eastwards from this location.

7.1.32 The wall was found at approximately 1.20m AOD and was 1.20m in height.

7.1.33 Trench was crossed by a basement wall, which was also observed in Trench 4, Context [31]. This was built from red stock brick, measuring 225 x 100 x 65mm, with a light grey cement mortar. This structure probably dated from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century.

7.1.34 The wall wasfound at approximately 1.60m AOD and was 3.10m in height.

7.1.35 Overlying these features was a 1.20m thick layer of modern crushed concrete.

Trench 8

7.1.36 The base of Trench 8 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light blue grey, silt clay, interpreted as an alluvial deposit.

7.1.37 This deposit, recorded as Context [33], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.9m AOD.

7.1.38 The alluvium was overlain by a 1.25m thick layer of made ground, Context [32]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments, along with occasional flecks of clinker and charcoal. This deposit was from the late post-medieval period, probably formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.39 The made ground was found at approximately 2.15m AOD.

7.1.40 Above the made ground was a 0.7m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from buildings previously occupying the site.

Trench 9

7.1.41 The base of Trench 9 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light blue grey, silt clay, interpreted as an alluvial deposit.

7.1.42 This deposit, recorded as Context [35], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.95m AOD.

7.1.43 The alluvium was overlain by a 0.99m thick layer of made ground, Context [34]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments. This deposit was from the late post-medieval period, probably formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.44 The made ground was found at approximately 1.94m AOD.

7.1.45 Above the made ground was a 0.86m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from buildings previously occupying the site.

Trench 10

7.1.46 The basal layer of Trench 10 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light blue grey silty clay, interpreted as an alluvial deposit, Context [37].

7.1.47 This deposit was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 1.00m AOD.

7.1.48 The alluvium was overlain by a 0.99m thick layer of made ground, Context [36]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent red brick and occasional oyster shells. This deposit was probably formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.49 This deposit was found at approximately 2.00m AOD.

7.1.50 Above the made ground was a 0.80m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from demolition of buildings previously occupying the site.

Trench 11

7.1.51 The base of Trench 9 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light blue grey silty clay, interpreted as an alluvial deposit.

7.1.52 This deposit, recorded as Context [39], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 1.00m AOD.

7.1.53 The alluvium was overlain by a 1m thick layer of made ground, Context [38]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments. This deposit was probably formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.54 The made ground was found at approximately 2.00m AOD.

7.1.55 Above the made ground was a 0.80m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore, which was formed from buildings previously occupying the site.

Trench 12

7.1.56 Trench 22 was abandoned due to the presence of modern services.

Trench 13

7.1.57 The base of Trench 13 was formed from a deposit of soft, dark blackish brown silty clay, this was recorded as an alluvial deposit, Context [44]. The deposit was found at a height of -1.6m AOD. No anthropogenic materials from this deposit were identified, although observation was difficult due to the extreme depth of the trench. It is likely that deposit was laid down relatively deeply in the Thames river channel.

7.1.58 This was overlain by a soft slightly friable, dark blackish brown silty clay, Context [43]. This was also recorded as an alluvial deposit. This was 0.9m thick and was found at -0.7m AOD.

7.1.59 This was overlain by a further alluvial deposit of soft to firm, mid blue grey, clay silt, Context [42]. This was 0.3m thick and was found at -0.4m AOD.

7.1.60 Capping this was a darker brown silt clay deposit, Context [41]. This was 0.6m thick and was found at 0.2 m AOD.

7.1.61 The alluvial sequence was overlain by a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, containing frequent brick and mortar fragments, Context [40]. This was interpreted as late post medieval made ground. This was 1.7m thick and was found at 1.9 m AOD.

7.1.62 Above the made ground was a 0.90m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core, which was formed from buildings previously occupying the site.

Trench 14

7.1.63 The base of Trench 14 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light blue grey, silt clay, interpreted as an alluvial deposit, Context [47]. This deposit was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.30m AOD.

7.1.64 The alluvium was overlain by a 1.10m thick layer of made ground, Context [46]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand. It contained occasional brick and mortar fragments. This deposit was from the late post-medieval period, probably formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.65 The made ground was found at approximately 1.40m AOD.

7.1.66 Overlying this deposit was a layer of loose, light grey brown, silt sand rubble, Context [45]. This contained frequent red brick & mortar fragments and was interpreted as late industrial period made ground. This was found at approximately 2.20m AOD.

7.1.67 Above the made ground was a 0.60m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore.

Trench 15

7.1.68 The base of Trench 15 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay alluvium.

7.1.69 This deposit, recorded as Context [50], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.30m AOD.

7.1.70 The alluvium was overlain by a 1.10m thick layer of made ground, Context [49]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments. This deposit was no doubt formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.71 This made ground was found at approximately 1.40m AOD.

7.1.72 The 19th century made ground was overlain by a layer of loose, light grey brown, silt sand rubble, Context [48]. This contained frequent red brick & mortar fragments and was interpreted as late industrial period made ground. This was found at approximately 2.10m AOD.

7.1.73 Above the made ground was a 0.70m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore.

Trench 16

7.1.74 The basal layer of Trench 16 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light greyish brown, silt clay alluvium, Context [52].

7.1.75 This deposit was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.40m AOD.

7.1.76 The alluvium was overlain by a 1.60m thick layer of made ground, Context [53]. This was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent red brick and occasional oyster shells. This deposit was probably formed sometime during the 19th century.

7.1.77 This deposit was found at approximately 2.00m AOD.

7.1.78 Above the made ground was a 0.80m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore.

Trench 17

7.1.79 The base of Trench 17 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay, interpreted as an alluvial deposit.

7.1.80 This deposit, recorded as Context [56], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 0.65m AOD.

7.1.81 The alluvium was overlain by a 0.15m thick layer of made ground, Context [55]. The made ground was recorded at approximately 0.80m AOD.

7.1.82 It was formed of a loose, dark blackish grey clay silt sand rubble. It contained frequent brick and mortar fragments. This deposit was probably formed sometime during the 19th century and was probably dumped against, or cut through by an overlying wall, Context [54].

7.1.83 The wall was north-south orientated, built of red stock brick, measuring 223 x 100 x 65mm and cemented with light whitish grey lime mortar. This wall probably dated from late 18th to the mid-19th century.

7.1.84 Above the wall was a thin layer of loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble Context [53]. This may well have been re-deposited over the wall following its demolition. This was found at 1.94m AOD.

7.1.85 Above this deposit was a 0.80m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore, which formed the sub – base of the school's playground.

Trench 18

7.1.86 The base of Trench 18 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay alluvium.

7.1.87 This deposit, recorded as Context [59], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 1.2m AOD.

7.1.88 The alluvium was overlain by a possible demolition spread of light whitish grey red, mortar and red brick rubble layer, Context [58]. This layer was found at 1.4m AOD and was 0.2m in thickness.

7.1.89 The demolition spread was overlain by a 0.5m thick layer of made ground, Context [57]. This was formed of a loose, light grey, silt sand rubble. It contained frequent red and yellow brick and mortar fragments. This deposit was no doubt formed sometime during the late industrial period. This deposit was found at approximately 1.90m AOD.

7.1.90 Above the made ground was a 0.90m thick layer of crushed concrete hard-core.

Trench 19

7.1.91 The base of Trench 19 was formed from a deposit of soft to firm, light grey, silt clay alluvium.

7.1.92 This deposit, recorded as Context [61], was of unknown thickness and wasfound at approximately 0.90m AOD.

7.1.93 The alluvium was covered by a layer of loose, light grey brown, silt sand rubble, Context [60]. This contained red brick & mortar fragments and was interpreted as late industrial period made ground. This was found at approximately 1.90m AOD.

7.1.94 Above the made ground was a 0.90m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore.

Trench 20

7.1.95 The base of Trench 20 was formed by a road surface Context [57]. This was constructed of stone paving sets, measuring s 111mm wide by 150mm - 440mm in length.

7.1.96 The road was covered with a single layer of very firm dark blackish grey sand silt clay, containing frequent brick rubble and concrete fragments. This was found at height of 2.80m AOD.

Trench 21

7.1.97 The base of Trench 21 was formed from a deposit of firm, light grey, silt clay alluvium.

7.1.98 This deposit, recorded as Context [11], was of unknown thickness and was found at approximately 1.00m AOD.

7.1.99 Immediately above the alluvium was a 0.22m thick layer of firm, grey brown, silty clay, containing charcoal and oyster fragments, Context [10]. This was interpreted as post-medieval made ground. This deposit was found at 1.38m AOD.

7.1.100 Overlying this was a 0.12m thick layer of soft brown silty sandy clay, oyster shell mortar and CBM flecks Context [9]. This was also interpreted as forming part of the post-medieval made ground. This was found at a height of 1.50mAOD.

7.1.101 Above this layer was a deposit of firm, grey brown, sandy clay, containing frequent brick and mortar fragments, forming the uppermost part of the post medieval made ground in this Trench. This was recorded as Context [8].

7.1.102 This deposit was 0.2 m in thickness and found at a height of 1.7mAOD.

7.1.103 The made ground sequence had been truncated on the western side by foundation recorded as Context [3]. This was built from yellow stock frogged brick cemented with a light grey cement mortar. This is structure is most likely to date from sometime during the late 19th or early 20th century. This structure was found below 1.70m AOD.

7.1.104 A demolition spread from this structure was observed above it and recorded as Context [2].

7.1.105 On the northern sire of the Trench a red brick wall was observed, Context [6]. This was constructed from red stock brick cemented with a lime mortar. This is likely to have dated from between the late 18th to mid-19th century. This structure was highly truncated. This structure was found below 1.70m AOD.

7.1.106 Above the made ground was a 1.10m thick layer of crushed concrete hardcore, which was formed from buildings previously occupying the site. This was recorded by the observing archaeologist as Context [1]

Trench 22

7.1.107 Trench 22 was abandoned due to the presence of modern services.

Trench 23

7.1.108 Trench 23 was abandoned due to the presence of modern services.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION

Phase 1 - Alluvial Deposits

8.1.1 The basal deposits across the site consisted of alluvium deposits, made up of silt clays, ranging in colour from dark grey to light bluish grey. For the most part excavation stopped as these deposits where reached, as their presence indicated the likely absence of further obstructions to any future piling works in these locations.

8.1.2 In a few locations, however, the presence of deeper concrete foundations led to deeper excavation. This allowed some characterisation of the alluvial sequence that indicated that it was made up, for the most part, of alluvial silts and clays. Virtually all the deposits exposed appeared to have been most likely to have been deposited within the Thames river channel, as opposed to edge of river channel deposits produced by occasional inundation. The main exception to this was a slightly more organic deposit, Context [43], recorded in Trench 13. This could represent the possible development of marsh -like deposits, though the depth, at -0.70 m AOD might indicate otherwise.

8.1.3 As anticipated prior to the investigation, no further evidence of higher 'eyot' type gravel was recorded within the area of the development, as had previously been identified to the south east.

Phase 2- Late 18th to Mid -19th Century

8.1.4 Phase 2 consisted of brick walls, and deposits dating from the late 18th to mid -19th centuries. These were built from red stock brick cemented with a lime mortar. Examples of these structures were found in Trenches 6, 17 and 21. These may represent the remains of dwellings known to be occupying the eastern half of the site during the first part of the 19th century.

8.1.5 A pair of small walls, Context [24], could represent the remains of a soak away, cess pit or 'ash- pit midden' type latrine typically associated with this type of dwelling.

Phase 3 - late 19th to Mid - 20th Century

8.1.6 Phase 3 consisted of brick walls, foundations and deposits dating from the late 19th to mid -20th Century. These were built from red and yellow stock brick cemented with hard cement mortar. Examples of these structures were found in Trenches Tr.7, Tr.17 and Tr. 21. The cobbled surface recorded in Tr. 20 is also likely to relate to this period and represent part of the narrow lane running parallel with George Row and East Lane until the reconfiguration of the site in the mid 20th century.

8.1.7 The structures constructed from yellow stocks of these may represent the remains of buildings that that stood on the site during the first part of the 20th century. It is not clear whether or not the red brick basement walls found in the north east corner of the site formed part of the post-war college buildings, or were simply built against when the college was constructed in the post-war period.

Phase 4 – Modern Developments

8.1.8 This phase consisted of the construction of a 'MUGA', or 'Multi -Use Games Area'. This appears to have been constructed upon crushed material derived from the post-war college buildings. Extensive concrete foundations, including deep piles and fragments of ground beams, were also seen during the excavation works.

8.1.9 The sub base of the 'MUGA' was found to be at approximately 2.80 m AOD.

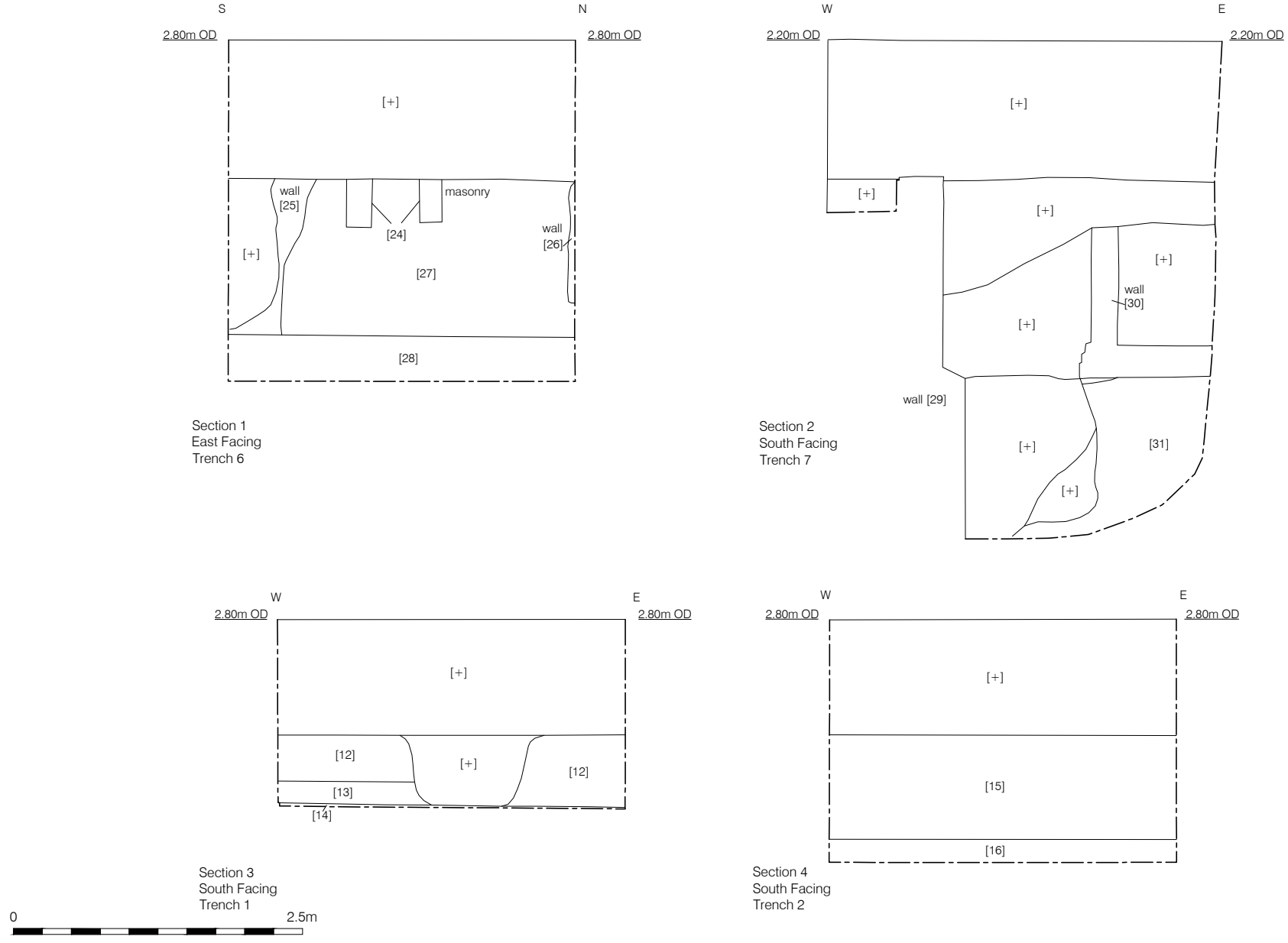
Plate 1. West facing shot of Tr. 6, showing remains of post med. foundations [24], [25] & [26]

Plate 2. South facing shot of Tr.10, Scale 0.5m in length.

Plate 3. South facing shot of post-med. road surface [63] exposed in Tr. 20

Plate 4. East facing shot of Tr .5

Plate 5. North West facing shot of Tr. 7 showing basement wall, Context [7]



23/08/16 CF

Figure 3
Sections 1-4
1:50 at A4

23/08/16 CF

Figure 4
Trenches showing pile probing pits and Post-Medieval walls
1:200 at A4

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1.1 The site investigation recorded some evidence for the development of the upper parts (up to 1.8m) of the alluvial deposits underlying the area.

9.1.2 Although the site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone (APZ) of Borough, Bermondsey and Riverside, as defined by the London Borough of Southwark, which was established due to the potential for the presence of archaeological finds and features from the medieval and Roman periods, no evidence was found dating from this or any earlier periods. The absence of any higher gravel within the area of the new development is likely to represent a significant factor in this absence of early archaeological activity.

9.1.3 The remains found from the late post-medieval period are extremely fragmentary, relating to the development of the area from the later post-medieval period into the 20th century. These remains have themselves been extensively truncated by developments during the latter half of the 20th century.

9.1.4 Once the project is deemed complete, the completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will eventually be deposited by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited with LAARC under site code JFR16. Until then the archive will be stored at our headquarters in Brockley, London.

9.1.5 The results of the archaeological investigation will be published as an entry in the London Archaeologist 'Round Up'.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1.1 PCA would like to thank Lakehouse for commissioning this project and their cooperation during the archaeological fieldwork.

10.1.2 The author would like to thank Bruce Fergusson for monitoring monitoring certain sections of the fieldwork, Charlotte Faiers for the illustrations and Tim Bradley for project management and editing.

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APPENDIX 1: OASIS

OASIS ID: preconst1-260590

Project details

Project name	ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT ST MICHAELS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, SOUTHWARK
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land St Michaels Catholic College, John Felton Road, London Borough of Southwark, SE16 4UN. The work was carried out from 25th July 2016 until 10th August 2016. A single area of re-development comprising the entire basement footprint of a new school building was observed. No evidence was found dating from the medieval or any earlier archaeological periods, with thick deposits of alluvium recorded underlying the post-medieval sequence. The remains found from the late post-medieval period were extremely fragmentary but likely to relate to both domestic and industrial uses of the site from the late 18th to early 20th centuries. These showed evidence of being extensively truncated by developments during the latter half of the 20th century.
Project dates	Start: 25-07-2016 End: 10-08-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"'Watching Brief"'

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK BERMONDSEY ROTHERHITHE AND SOUTHWARK St Michaels Catholic College, Southwark
Postcode	SE16 4UN
Site coordinates	TQ 34225 79669 51.499500752936 -0.066029083884 51 29 58 N 000 03 57 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: -1.6m Max: 1.9m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Project brief originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project design originator	Tim Bradley
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley
Project supervisor	Aidan Turner
Project supervisor	Bruce Ferguson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Lakehouse

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"

Paper recipient	Archive	LAARC
Paper available	Media	"Plan","Section"

Entered by	Tim Bradley (tbradley@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	12 October 2016

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Type	Description	Trench No.	Section / Elevation	Dimensions N-S (m)	Dimensions E-W (m)	Depth / Thickness (m)	Level (m AOD)	Phase
1	Layer	Loose, yellowish brown, sandy clay, concrete & modern materials, Modern Made Ground	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.7	2.3	4
2	Layer	Loose, sandy mortar, fragments of peg tile and mortar. post med. Made Ground	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.3	2.3	3
3	Masonry	Yellow stock, frogged brick, 225 x 100x 65, light grey cement mortar late 19th -early 20th wall	TR21	TR21	2.5	0.3	1.1	1.7	3
4	Cut	Linear, vertical sides, flat base, mid- late 19th C. construction cut	TR21	TR21	2.5	n/a	1.1	1.7	3
5	Layer	Loose, yellowish brown, sandy clay, post med. Made Ground	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.6	0.7	2
6	Masonry	Red stock brick, 223x100x65mm, light whitish grey lime mortar with chalk flecks, late 18th -mid 19th C. wall, truncated	TR21	TR21	0.2	0.3	n/a	1.7	2
7	Layer	Linear, vertical sides, flat base, east - west, mid- late 19th C. construction cut	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	1.7	1.7	2
8	Layer	Firm, grey brown, sandy clay, freq. brick & mortar fragments, post med. made ground	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.2	1.7	2
9	Layer	Soft brown silty sandy clay, oyster shell mortar and CBM flecks, Made Ground	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.12	1.5	2
10	Layer	Firm, grey brown, silty clay, freq. charcoal and oyster fragments, post med. made ground	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.22	1.38	2
11	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR21	TR21	2.5	3	0.1	1	1
12	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 1	TR 1	9	3	0.9	1.8	2
13	Layer	Compact, light yellow slightly silty sand, possible Sub -Soil	TR 1	TR 1	9	1.2	0.2	1.4	2
14	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 1	TR 1	9	3	0	1.2	1

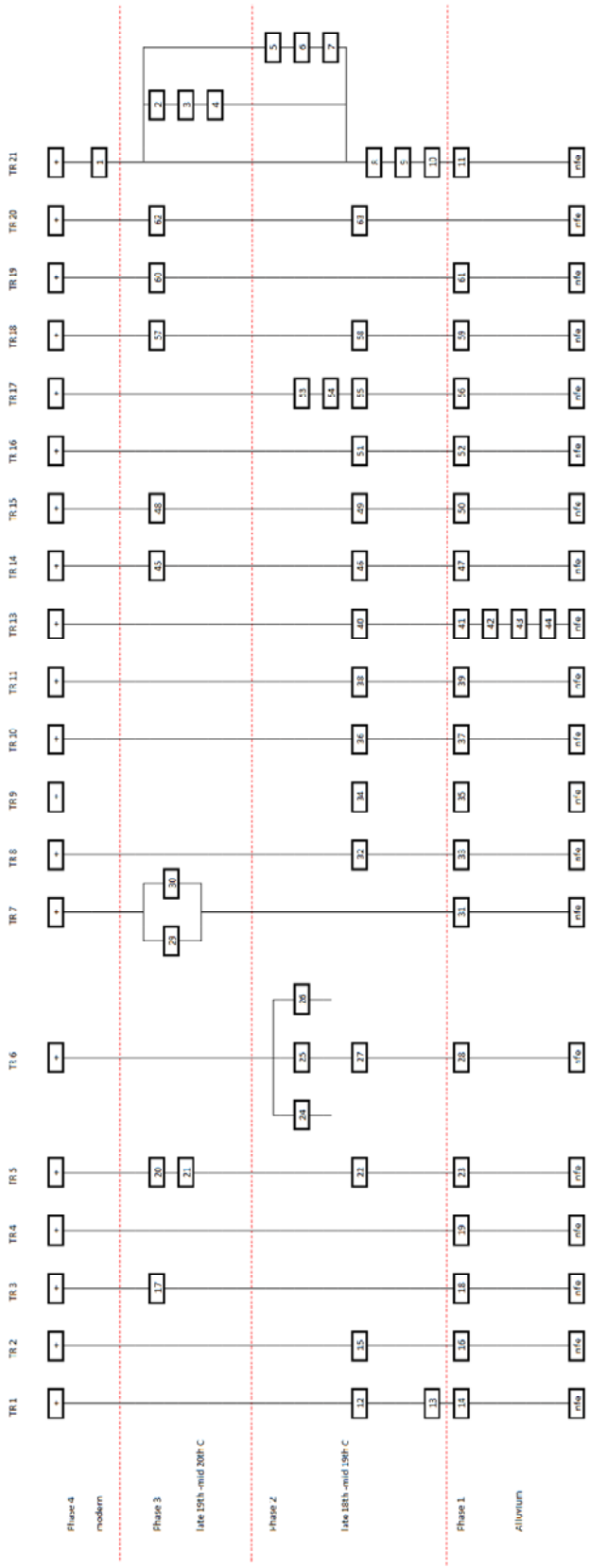
15	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 2	TR 2	6.5	3	0.9	1.8	2
16	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 2	TR 2	6.5	3	0.7	0.9	1
17	Layer	Loose, light grey brown, silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments, late post med. made ground	TR 3	TR 3	7.5	3.4	0.9	2	3
18	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 3	TR 3	7.5	3.4	0.3	1.1	1
19	Layer	Soft to firm, dark greyish brown, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 4	TR 4	7.5	2	1.85	1.9	1
20	Layer	light whitish grey red, mortar and red brick rubble layer, post med. made ground	TR 5	TR 5	1.8	2	0.8	1.9	3
21	Layer	light whitish grey red, mortar and red brick rubble layer, post med. made ground	TR 5	TR 5	1.8	2	0.15	1.1	3
22	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 5	TR 5	1.8	2	0.57	0.95	2
23	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 5	TR 5	1.8	2	0.18	0.38	1
24	Masonry	Red stock brick, prob. frogless,, 223x100x65mm, light whitish grey lime mortar with chalk flecks, late 18th -mid 19th C.	TR 6	TR 6	0	0.85	0.42	1.6	2
25	Masonry	Red stock brick, 223x100x65mm, light whitish grey lime mortar with chalk flecks, late 18th -mid 19th C. wall, truncated	TR 6	TR 6	0	0.3	1.35	1.6	2
26	Masonry	Red stock brick, 223x100x65mm, light whitish grey lime mortar with chalk flecks, late 18th -mid 19th C. wall, truncated	TR 6	TR 6	0	0.1	1.35	1.6	2
27	Layer	Light whitish grey red, mortar and red brick rubble layer, post med. made ground	TR 6	TR 6	3	3	1.35	1.6	2
28	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 6	TR 6	3	3	0.4	0.25	1
29	Masonry	Red stock brick, 225x100x65mm, light grey cement mortar, late post med. wall to modern	TR 7	TR 7	2	0.45	3.1	1.6	3

		basement wall							
30	Masonry	Yellow stock, frogged brick, 225 x 100x 65mm, light grey cement mortar late 19th -early 20th wall	TR 7	TR 7	0.6	0.25	1.3	1.2	3
31	Layer	Firm, dark grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 7	TR 7	2	2	1.4	-0.1	1
32	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 8	TR 8	3	3	1.25	2.15	2
33	Layer	Soft to firm, light blue grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 8	TR 8	3	3	0.3	0.9	1
34	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 9	TR 9	3	3	0.99	1.94	2
35	Layer	Soft to firm, light blue grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 9	TR 9	3	3	0.25	0.95	1
36	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 10	TR 10	1.6	4	1	2	2
37	Layer	Soft to firm, mid blue grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 10	TR 10	1.6	4	0.15	1	1
38	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 11	TR 11	2.5	1.6	1	2	2
39	Layer	Soft to firm, mid blue grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 11	TR 11	2.5	1.6	1	1	1
40	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 13	TR 13	4	2.5	1.7	1.9	2
41	Layer	Soft to firm, mid blackish grey brown, silt clay, Alluvial Deposit	TR 13	TR 13	4	2.5	0.6	0.2	1
42	Layer	Soft to firm, mid blue grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 13	TR 13	4	2.5	0.3	-0.4	1
43	Layer	Soft to friable, dark blackish brown, peaty silt clay, Alluvial Deposit	TR 13	TR 13	4	2.5	0.9	-0.7	1
44	Layer	Soft to firm, dark blackish brown, silt clay, Alluvial Deposit	TR 13	TR 13	4	2.5	0.1	-1.6	1
45	Layer	Loose, mid greyish brown, silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments	TR 14	TR 14	3.2	2.5	0.6	2.2	3

		charcoal, late post med. Made Ground							
46	Layer	Firm, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar, late post med. Made Ground	TR 14	TR 14	3.2	2.5	1.1	1.4	2
47	Layer	Soft to firm, light blue grey brown, silt clay, Alluvial Deposit	TR 14	TR 14	3.2	2.5	0.1	0.3	1
48	Layer	Loose, light greyish brown, silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar, late post med. Made Ground	TR 15	TR 15	3	2.3	0.7	2.1	3
49	Layer	Firm, dark blackish grey, silt clay sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 15	TR 15	3	2.3	1.1	1.4	2
50	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 15	TR 15	3	2.3	0	0.3	1
51	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 16	TR 16	3	3	1.6	2	2
52	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 16	TR 16	3	3	2	0.4	1
53	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 17	TR 17	2.8	5	0.24	1.94	2
54	Masonry	Red stock brick, 223x100x65mm, light whitish grey lime mortar chalk flecks, late 18th -mid 19th C. wall, truncated	TR 17	TR 17	2.8	5	0.9	1.7	2
55	Layer	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt sand rubble, freq. brick & mortar fragments charcoal, late post med. Made Ground	TR 17	TR 17	2.8	5	0.15	0.8	2
56	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 17	TR 17	2.8	5	0.05	0.65	1
57	Layer	Light grey red, silt sand rubble, mortar and red brick, post med. made ground	TR 18	TR 18	3	1.8	0.5	1.9	3
58	Layer	Light whitish grey red, mortar and red brick rubble layer, post med. made ground	TR 18	TR 18	3	1.8	0.2	1.4	2
59	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey brown, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 18	TR 18	3	1.8	0.1	1.2	1
60	Layer	Light grey red, mortar and red brick rubble layer, post med. made ground	TR 19	TR 19	2.5	2	0.9	1.9	3

61	Layer	Soft to firm, light grey, clay silt, Alluvial Deposit	TR 19	TR 19	2.5	2	0.3	0.9	1
62	Layer	Very firm dark blackish grey sand silt clay, freq. rubble and concrete fragments	TR 20	TR 20	4	2.5	0.95	2.8	3
63	Masonry	Stone sets 111mm x 150mm - 440mm	TR 20	TR 20	4	2.5	0	1.85	2

APPENDIX 4: SITE MATRIX



P C A

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

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

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

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

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

REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA