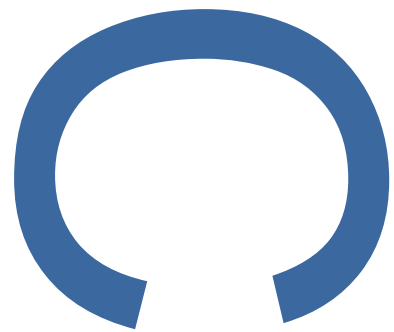


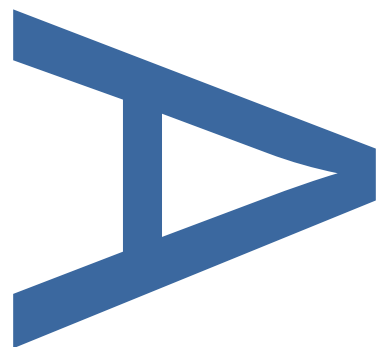
**161 – 165 BOROUGH HIGH STREET,
LONDON BOROUGH OF
SOUTHWARK, SE1 1HR
POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT
OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**



**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK**



SITE CODE: BHH17

MAY 2017



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**161 – 165 BOROUGH HIGH STREET, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK,
SE1 1HR: POST-EXCAVATION ASESMENT OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF**

Site Code: BHH17

Central NGR: TQ 3255 7994

Local Planning Authority: LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

Planning Reference: 13/AP/2007

Commissioning Client: ARCHAEOLOGY COLLECTIVE
ON BEHALF OF BEDS AND BARS LTD

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on behalf of Archaeology Collective at 161-165 Borough High Street, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 1HR (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The watching brief monitored the excavation of two column bases and the excavation for a new slab within the existing basement of the property.
- 1.3 The methodology employed was outlined in a written scheme of investigation prepared before commencement (Densem 2016). The excavations were taken to a depth of between 0.70m and 1.00m below the previous floor level using mattocks and shovels. The work conformed to national (ClfA 2014), regional (GLAAS 2009) and PCA's own (Taylor and Brown 2009) standards and procedures for archaeological fieldwork.
- 1.4 The archaeological watching brief demonstrated that naturally deposited sands were encountered at 0.85m OD
- 1.5 The archaeological watching brief showed that despite heavy horizontal truncation, down to the natural sands, during the construction of the original basement in the late 19th century, the bases of earlier features were still present, comprising two Roman pits and a probable medieval well.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Between the 30th January and 7th February 2017 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd conducted an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at 161-165 Borough High Street, SE1 1HR (Figures 1 & 2).
- 2.2 The area monitored was roughly square in plan and measured 6m by 4.8m in plan. The area monitored lay in a basement bounded by Borough High Street to the west, 159 Borough High Street to the north and 167 Borough High Street to the south. To the east are old warehouses, which have been converted into offices.
- 2.3 The archaeological watching brief was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited under the supervision of Guy Seddon and project management of Peter Moore. The report was written by Guy Seddon. The archaeological work was commissioned by Archaeology Collective on behalf of Beds and Bars Limited and the project was monitored by Gillian King on behalf of the London Borough of Southwark.
- 2.4 The site was given the Museum of London site code BHH17. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive (LAA). The results of the investigation will be combined with those of an evaluation at 153-159 Borough High Street for publication.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was adopted on 27 March 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.

3.1.2 Chapter 12 of the NPPF concerns the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment, with the following statements being particularly relevant to the proposed development:

128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

3.1.3 Additionally:

141. Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.

3.1.4 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will now be guided by the policy framework set by the NPPF.

3.1.5 The NPPF also states that:

214. For 12 months from the day of publication, decision-takers may continue to give full weight to relevant policies adopted since 2004 even if there is a limited degree of conflict with this Framework.

215. In other cases and following this 12-month period, due weight should be given to relevant policies in existing plans according to their degree of consistency with this framework (the closer the policies in the plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).

3.1.6 As such the local planning authority will continue to also be guided by the existing London Plan and the London Borough of Southwark's Development Plan, and by other material considerations.

3.2 **Regional Policy: The London Plan**

3.2.1 Additional relevant planning strategy framework is provided by The London Plan, published in January 2011. It includes the following policy of relevance to archaeology within central London:

Historic environment and landscapes

POLICY 7.8 HERITAGE ASSETS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Strategic

A London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

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

Planning decisions

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

D Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

LDF preparation

F 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 organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

Local Policy: Archaeology in the London Borough of Southwark

3.2.2 The document aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Southwark, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which it is the custodian. Relevant policy statements for the protection of the buried archaeological resource within the borough are contained within the Core Strategy (April 2011):

Strategic Policy 12 – Design and conservation

How we will achieve our vision to improve our places

SO 2F: Conserve and protect historic and natural places

Our approach is

Development will achieve the highest possible standards of design for buildings and public spaces to help create attractive and distinctive places which are safe, easy to get around and a pleasure to be in.

We will do this by

1. Expecting development to conserve or enhance the significance of Southwark's heritage assets, their settings and wider historic environment, including conservation areas, archaeological priority zones and sites, listed and locally listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, world heritage sites and scheduled monuments.

3.2.3 Also:

5.109 Throughout the borough there are many attractive and historic buildings, monuments and sites that reflect Southwark's rich history and add to the unique character and identity of places. We currently have 40 conservation areas covering 686ha (23% of the borough) and around 2,500 listed buildings and monuments. The Tower of London, a World Heritage Site, is located across the River from London Bridge. There are also archaeological remains that cannot be seen that provide important evidence of our past. We have identified 9 Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs) covering 679ha (23% of the borough).

Fact box: Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs)

These are areas where there is significant potential for archaeological remains. It is important that proposals on sites in APZs assess any remains which may be on site.

- 3.2.4 The Southwark Plan also contains relevant policy statements, which were ‘saved’ in July 2010:

Policy 3.19 – Archaeology

Planning applications affecting sites within Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs), as identified in Appendix 8, shall be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development. There is a presumption in favour of preservation in situ, to protect and safeguard archaeological remains of national importance, including scheduled monuments and their settings. The in situ preservation of archaeological remains of local importance will also be sought, unless the importance of the development outweighs the local value of the remains. If planning permission is granted to develop any site where there are archaeological remains or there is good reason to believe that such remains exist, conditions will be attached to secure the excavation and recording or preservation in whole or in part, if justified, before development begins.

Reasons

Southwark has an immensely important archaeological resource. Increasing evidence of those peoples living in Southwark before the Roman and medieval period is being found in the north of the borough and along the Old Kent Road. The suburb of the Roman provincial capital (Londinium) was located around the southern bridgehead of the only river crossing over the Thames at the time and remains of Roman buildings, industry, roads and cemeteries have been discovered over the last 30 years. The importance of the area during the medieval period is equally well attested both archaeologically and historically. Elsewhere in Southwark, the routes of Roman roads (along the Old Kent Road and Kennington Road) and the historic village cores of Peckham, Camberwell, Walworth and Dulwich also have the potential for the survival of archaeological remains.

PPG16 requires the Council to include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.

Site Constraints

- 3.2.5 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within a 125m radius of the development site.
- 3.2.6 The site does lie within the New Southwark Plan PREFERRED OPTION October 2015 ‘Class I Archaeological Priority Zone: 14 Borough High Street East South Island’.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The archaeology of the Southwark area is inextricably linked with climatic changes, which have had an impact on the geology and topography of the area since the last glacial episode. These conditions have largely determined the nature of settlement in the area through time.

4.1.2 London occupies part of the London Basin, a broad syncline of chalk filled in the centre with Tertiary sands and clays. Across most of London this Tertiary series consists of London Clay. Above the London Clay lie the Pleistocene (Quaternary) fluvial deposits of the River Thames arranged in flights or steps of terraces, which represent the remains of former floodplains of the river. The 'drift' geology of north Southwark is formed by these Pleistocene gravels and, in places, alluvial sand or clay, deposited as sea levels periodically rose during the post-glacial period (periods of so-called 'marine transgression'). The surface height of the alluvial material varies according to the level of the underlying deposits. Post-glacial sea-level changes in the lower Thames estuary also account for the formation of organic peats, during periods of relative sea-level fall (so-called 'marine regressions').

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 At the time of the Roman Conquest in AD 43 a broad 'main channel' existed between the north bank of the Thames, some 100m to the north of the modern city waterfront, and a south bank lying close to the modern riverfront of north Southwark. Evidence from numerous archaeological investigations, in addition to data collected from engineering trial pits and boreholes, has established that to the south of the 'main channel' the river crossed north Southwark in braided channels intersecting islands or eyots of land, with surfaces no higher than c.+1.8m OD. The margins of the eyots existed as tidal mudflats or marshland, exposed at low tide but subject to diurnal flooding. The tidal range at the time has been estimated as between c. +1.25m OD (high tide) and c.1.0m OD (low tide). Depending on their precise location and height some of the relatively elevated eyot surfaces may also have been flooded during exceptionally high tides. Evidence and mapping of Southwark during the Roman period suggests that the study site would have lain upon one such eyot, with a smaller channel potentially by the northern edge of the site.

4.2.2 During the mid-1st century AD, the ground surface in the vicinity of the study site would have been at around the mean high water mark of the Thames and, therefore, possibly prone to occasional flooding. The Roman period was, however, marked by a marine regression, and this, coupled with extensive embanking and revetting of the edges of the marginal ground, kept the higher areas permanently dry, as well as allowing lower lying and previously unusable portions of Southwark to be utilised by the local population. From the late Roman era onwards, sea-level rose due to a marine transgression, and the vicinity of the site would have been prone to periodic riverine inundation. By the 14th century, riverside embankments had been constructed to defend Southwark and north Lambeth, although the area was still subjected to occasional flooding due to its low-lying nature.

4.2.3 The site is approximately 500m south of the River Thames.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 Prehistoric – Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic

5.1.1 The Palaeolithic period (Old Stone Age) represents the earliest known period of human culture. The hunter-gatherers of this period came to Britain during interglacial periods and following the last Ice Age, at a time when Britain and the continent were still linked by a land bridge. Very little evidence survives for their temporary camp sites, apart from characteristic large stone (mainly flint) handaxes, which are usually found on river terraces, usually as residual artefacts, having been re-deposited by later fluvial action. No finds of Palaeolithic date have been recorded within c.150m of 161 Borough High Street.

5.1.2 During the Mesolithic period (c.12,000 BC), as the climate warmed and vegetation increased, hunter gatherer communities moved between seasonal camps, following herds of animals, fishing, and making more sophisticated flint tools. By c.6000 BC, the ice sheets finally melted, sea levels rose and Britain became an island. The majority of Mesolithic material found in Greater London consists of isolated flintwork from surface or riverine contexts.

5.1.3 Mesolithic implements have been found at 84-86 Borough High Street and at 107-115 Borough High Street.

5.1.4 The Neolithic period (New Stone Age) is characterised by the first farming communities, who carried out large-scale wood and land clearance to provide land for the cultivation of crops and animal rearing. These settled communities were the first to build large earth and stone built monuments for burial, and probable ceremonial and ritual functions. Pottery vessels appeared for the first time alongside the continued refinement of flint tools and weapons.

5.1.5 Neolithic flints have been identified from flint assemblages from a number of excavations in north Southwark, including 84-86 Borough High Street.

5.2 Prehistoric – Bronze Age and Iron Age

5.2.1 The Bronze Age is named from the introduction of bronze metalworking technology for the manufacture of both tools and weapons, which became increasingly widespread during the third-second millennium BC, although flint tools were still widely used.

5.2.2 Archaeological excavations at 106-114 Borough High Street revealed prehistoric finds, of possible mid-late Bronze Age to early Iron Age date, which included abraded pottery, pottery sherds, flints and charcoal, found in the upper layers of the natural sand. A prehistoric burial was also found, perhaps of Iron Age date.

5.2.3 Investigations, on both banks of the Thames, have failed, so far to provide any evidence of a tribal centre, in the late pre-Roman Iron Age.

5.3 **Roman**

5.3.1 Roman Southwark grew up as a bridgehead settlement soon after the Roman invasion in AD 43. A bridge was built linking the Roman city (Londinium), situated on higher ground on the north bank of the river, with the northernmost of the gravel islands amongst the mudflats on the opposite bank, in Southwark. A major road, Road 1, later known as Stane Street, ran from the bridge on the line of Borough High Street towards Chichester (Noviomagus), meeting the major road from London to Canterbury (Durovernum) at a junction close to the modern Borough Tube Station.

5.3.2 The line of the approach road to the bridge (Road 1) has been confirmed by archaeological excavation at several locations alongside Borough High Street. The Roman road was formed of rammed gravel, over a sandy make-up layer, or bank (agger), laid, when the road was crossing the soft fills of former channel courses, over a foundation raft of horizontal timbers.

5.3.3 The site at 161 Borough High Street lay on the east side of Road 1. The remains of Roman clay and timber buildings have been found on the same, eastern, side of the Roman road, and on the opposite, western, side of Borough High Street, at 106-114 Borough High Street, at 116-126 Borough High Street and 120-124 Borough High Street, for example. Archaeological excavations at the latter site identified two phases of timber buildings, probably of 2nd century date, flanking the Roman road that was 7.5m wide at this point. At 106-116 Borough High Street the Roman road lay on natural clay at c.1.20m OD – at about the same height as the existing modern concrete slab at 161 Borough High Street.

5.3.4 A probable Roman burial with grave goods was found at Newcomen Street in 1818,

5.4 **Saxon**

5.4.1 Evidence for Saxon activity in the vicinity of 161 Borough High Street is lacking, and it may be that occupation was absent in north Southwark until the Late Saxon period, from c.AD 850. There was a late Saxon defended settlement or fort at Southwark, extending as far south as St Thomas's Street, c.400m north of 161 Borough High Street. It has been suggested that the Late Saxon settlement area may have extended as far south along Borough High Street, from the putative Saxon bridge to St George's Church, by modern Borough underground station.

5.5 **Medieval**

5.5.1 It is clear that medieval settlement extended along Borough High Street, with many inns and ale-houses. Marshalsea Prison dated from at least the 14th century and was on its site north of Mermaid Court by 1381 when it was attacked by Wat Tyler's rebels in the Peasants Revolt. It is also clear from later maps, that the prison lay immediately east of, adjacent to, but beyond, the site at 161 Borough High Street.

5.6 **Post-medieval**

5.6.1 Map regression, shows the development of Southwark. Detailed maps show the Marshalsea Prison lying adjacent to and east of the site at 161 Borough High Street, between Mermaid Court and Newcomen Street between 1720 and 1813, though in fact the prison between was closed on Christmas Eve, 1811 and moved to a new site, a hundred metres to the south of 161 Borough High Street.

5.6.2 The map regression shows that 161 Borough High Street was occupied by a part of a rectangular terrace of buildings by the time of Strype's map of 1720.

5.6.3 Buildings also lie on the site on Rocque's map of 1746 and on Horwood's map of 1792, and its revision by Faden of 1813.

5.6.4 Map evidence suggests the existing building at 161 Borough High Street had been constructed by 1872. Later maps show no change to the building's footprint.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY AND OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The purpose of the archaeological watching brief as defined in the site specific WSI, (Densem 2016) was to:
- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains.
 - To record the character, date, location and preservation of any archaeological remains on site.
 - To record the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological deposits or remains on site.
- 6.2 The site was subject to ground reduction within an area of the basement measuring 6m x 4.80m.
- 6.3 All excavation was undertaken by hand, using mattocks and shovels.
- 6.4 Relevant faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. All investigation of archaeological levels was by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and in section.
- 6.5 All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills) were excavated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard single context recording methods. Features were excavated so as to characterise their form, function and date.
- 6.6 The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those widely used elsewhere in London that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS 1994) and with PCA Site Manual (Taylor and Brown, 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.
- 6.7 A full photographic record was made during the archaeological investigation consisting of a digital photographic archive that was maintained during the course of the archaeological investigation.
- 6.8 The complete archive produced during the evaluation and watching brief, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will be deposited with the Museum of London site code BHH17.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: Natural

7.1.1 The earliest deposit observed during the archaeological watching brief consisted of naturally deposited sand, [5], found at 0.41m OD, across the base of the entire trench (Figures 3 & 4). It was pale yellow in colour and had a thickness of over 0.15m.

7.1.2 Overlying [5] was another layer of naturally deposited sand [4]. This differed from [5] by comprising of thin laminated layers of mid brown and yellow sand, probably indicating frequent flooding events.

7.2 Phase 2: Roman

7.2.1 Cutting into the top of layer [5] were three features, [2], [7] and [9] (Figure 3), all of which were probably cut from higher up, although this relationship has been lost due to the horizontal truncation that took place during the construction of the basement in Victorian times. Due to the truncation all the features had a surface height of c.0.88m OD.

7.2.2 Features [2] and [9] appear to be the bases of Roman pits. Their fills, [1] and [8], respectively, contained pottery and cbm dating to AD 120-150 and AD 140-160 respectively. Pit [2] measured 2.20m east-west by more than 1.20m north-south, being truncated by the northern foundations of the basement, and had a depth of 0.55m. Pit [9] measured 0.70m north-south and had an east-west measurement of over 0.36m, continuing beyond the western L.O.E. of the study area, and a depth of 0.13m (Plate 2).

7.3 Phase 3: Medieval

7.3.1 Feature [7] is probably a medieval well, or very deep pit (Figures 3 & 4; Plate 2). The fill [6] contained pottery dating to AD 1170-1220. It was sub-circular in plan with steep sides and measured 1.08m north-south by 1.16m east-west with a depth of over 0.45m, continuing beyond the formation level of the new basement slab.

7.4 Phase 4: Post-medieval

7.4.1 Sealing the archaeological features was layer [3]. This contained artefacts from a mixture of dates, from the Roman period to Victorian times and probably represents a working surface (trample), from the construction of the basement.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION

8.1 Phase 1: Natural Sands

8.1.1 Two distinct layers of natural sands were identified on the study site. The earliest [5] was pale yellow in colour and was located at a height of 0.41m OD.

8.1.2 Overlying layer [5] was layer [4]. This differed from [5] by comprising of many thin, laminated layers of mid brownish yellow sands and is probably indicative of seasonal flooding events. Due to the horizontal truncation caused by the existing basement it had a level of 0.85m OD.

8.2 Phase 2: Roman

8.2.1 This phase is represented by two pits, [2] and [9], both of which had suffered from horizontal and vertical truncations during the construction of the Victorian basement. The presence of these pits ties in well with recognised wealth of Roman activity in the immediate vicinity of the study site and could well represent road-side activity from the period.

8.3 Phase 3: Medieval

8.3.1 The medieval phase is characterised by cut [7], probably that of a well. The pottery recovered is in the main from jugs and storage jars and indicates a closure date for the well in the early 13th century.

8.4 Phase 4: Post-medieval

8.4.1 This phase comprises a single layer, [3]. It is possible that this is a bedding layer for the Victorian basement slab, but it is possible that the soft, wet nature of the ground surface, may be a working surface, (trample), from the time of the basement's construction.

9 ORIGINAL AND REVISED RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

9.1 Primary Objectives

9.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation (Densem 2016) prepared prior to the commencement of archaeological work at 161-165 Borough High Street highlighted a set of specific objectives to be addressed by the investigation.

9.2 To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains.

9.2.1 Archaeological deposits and remains were recorded as being present on the study site.

9.3 To record the character, date, location and preservation of any archaeological remains on site.

9.3.1 The archaeological watching brief found evidence of Roman, medieval and post-medieval activity on the site.

9.3.2 The Roman activity took the form of two pits which contained pottery dating to the early to mid-2nd century AD.

9.3.3 The medieval period was represented by a probable well containing pottery which gave it an early 13th-century closure date.

9.3.4 The pottery vessel types retrieved from the well are indicative of an inn group, many of which were situated on Borough High Street in the medieval and post-medieval periods, however the pottery group predates the establishment of any known inns within the area.

9.3.5 The post-medieval activity dates to the construction of the original basement during the Victorian period. This took the form of a single layer that covered the entire site and was probably a working surface that effectively seals the archaeological horizon.

9.4 To record the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological deposits or remains on site.

9.4.1 The construction of the basement in the late 19th century caused severe horizontal truncation to the archaeological horizon. It effectively removed all archaeological layers and features down to a depth of 0.85m OD, exposing the natural sands, thus only features that were cut deep enough for their bases to remain intact were preserved for the record.

10 CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 The archaeological watching brief showed that the area of the study site had suffered from severe horizontal truncation during the construction of the original basement during the late 19th century, effectively removing the majority of the archaeological sequence.
- 10.2 Despite the truncation of the site, a medieval well and the bases of two Roman pits were recorded during the site investigation. The truncation has essentially removed the features from all their associated contexts, effectively causing them to be isolated and difficult to truly interpret, however with the ongoing evaluation/excavation at 153-159 Borough High Street, that has much better preservation of stratigraphy, this may be able to be rectified.
- 10.3 No real conclusion can be made about the nature of the Roman pits due to the isolation of the features, however the medieval well could be of interest. As stated earlier in the report the pottery assemblage recovered from the medieval well is indicative of an inn group, but pre-dates any of the known inns in the area. It could therefore be of interest to see if any similar assemblages are encountered in the area in the future.
- 10.4 The results of the watching brief are however intended to be published together with the results of an archaeological investigation at 153-159 Borough High Street, Southwark. Given the close proximity of the latter site to the subject site, it is hoped that the few features identified at 161-165 Borough High Street can be placed into context with the wider area.

11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Archaeology Collective for commissioning the archaeological work on behalf of Beds and Bars Limited.
- 11.2 Thanks also to Gillian King, Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Southwark, for monitoring the work on site.
- 11.3 The author would also like to thank: Peter Moore for project managing and editing this report; Mark Roughley for the illustrations; Eniko Hudak for the Roman pottery assessment, Chris Jarrett for the post-Roman pottery assessment, Karen Deighton for the animal bone assessment and Amparo Valcarcel for the building material assessment.

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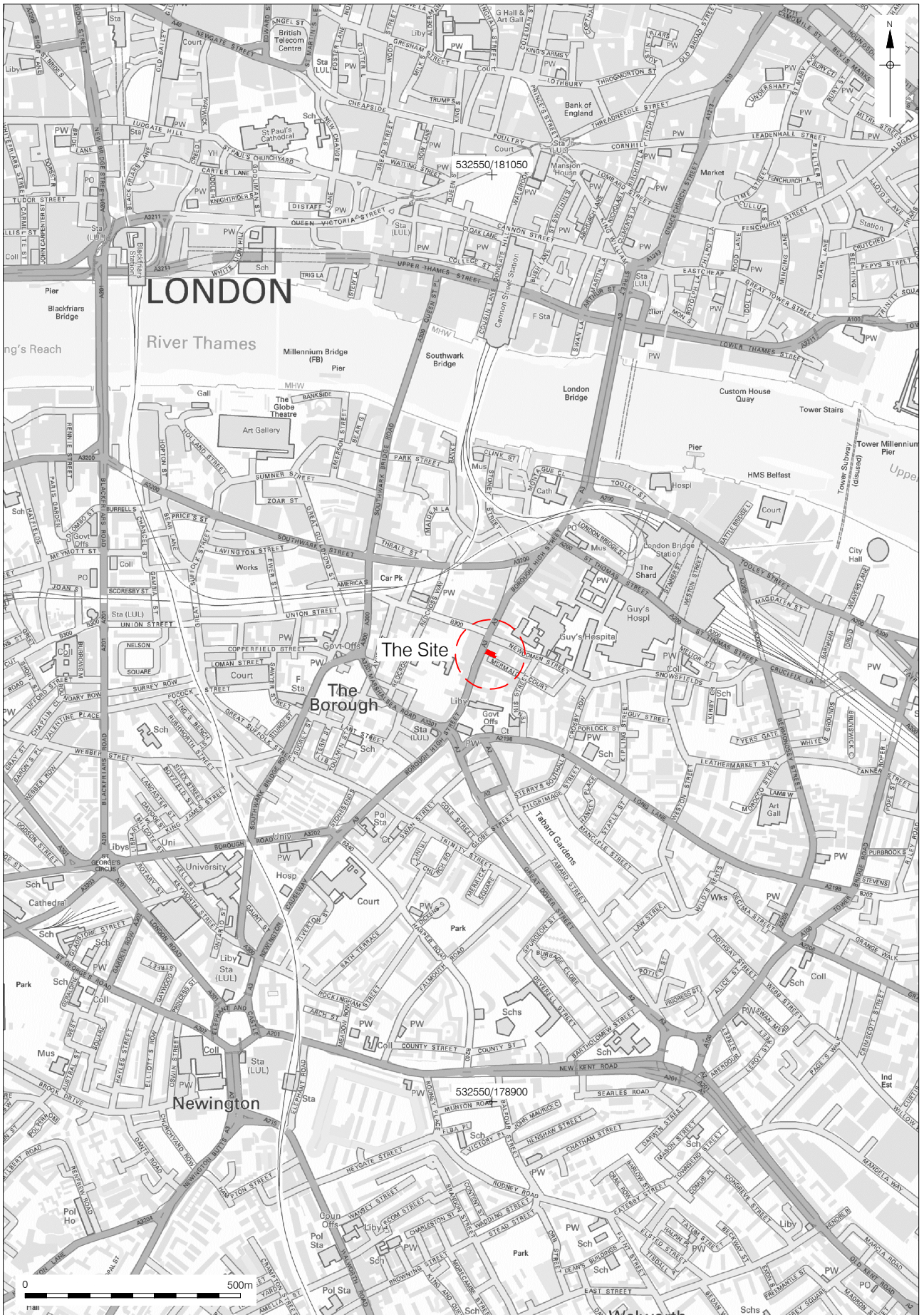
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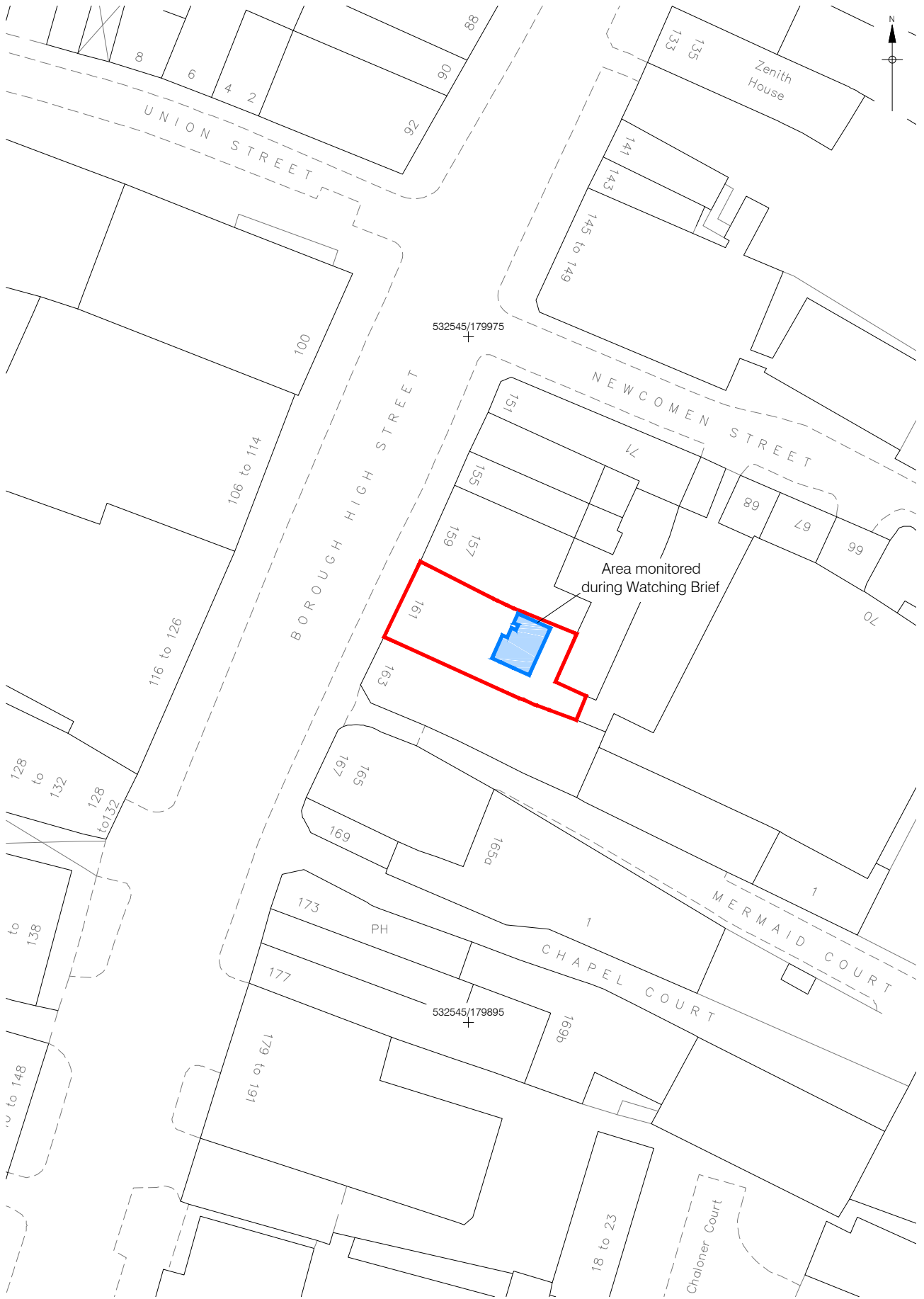
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24/02/17 MR

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:12,500 at A4



0 25m

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Figure 2
Detailed Site Location showing Watching Brief Area
1:625 at A4

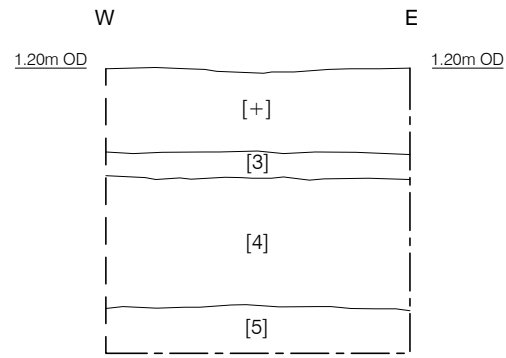


0 2m

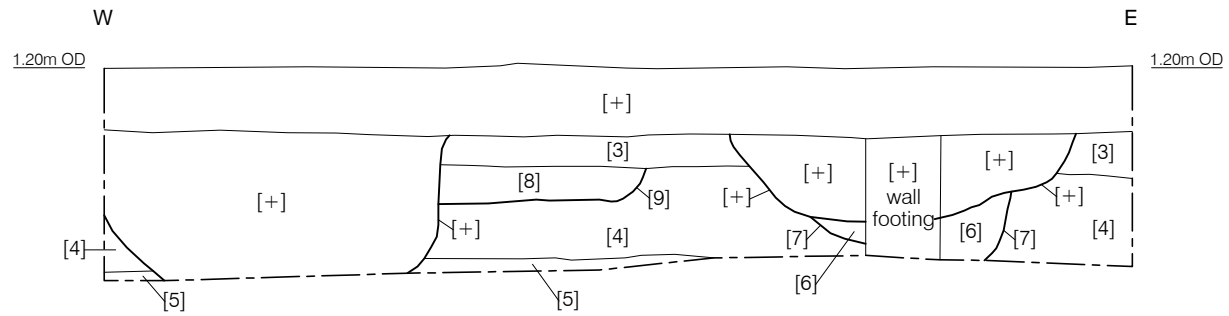
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Figure 3
Plan of Watching Brief Area
1:40 at A4



Section 1
North facing



Section 2
East facing

PLATES:



Plate 1: Section 1, Looking South

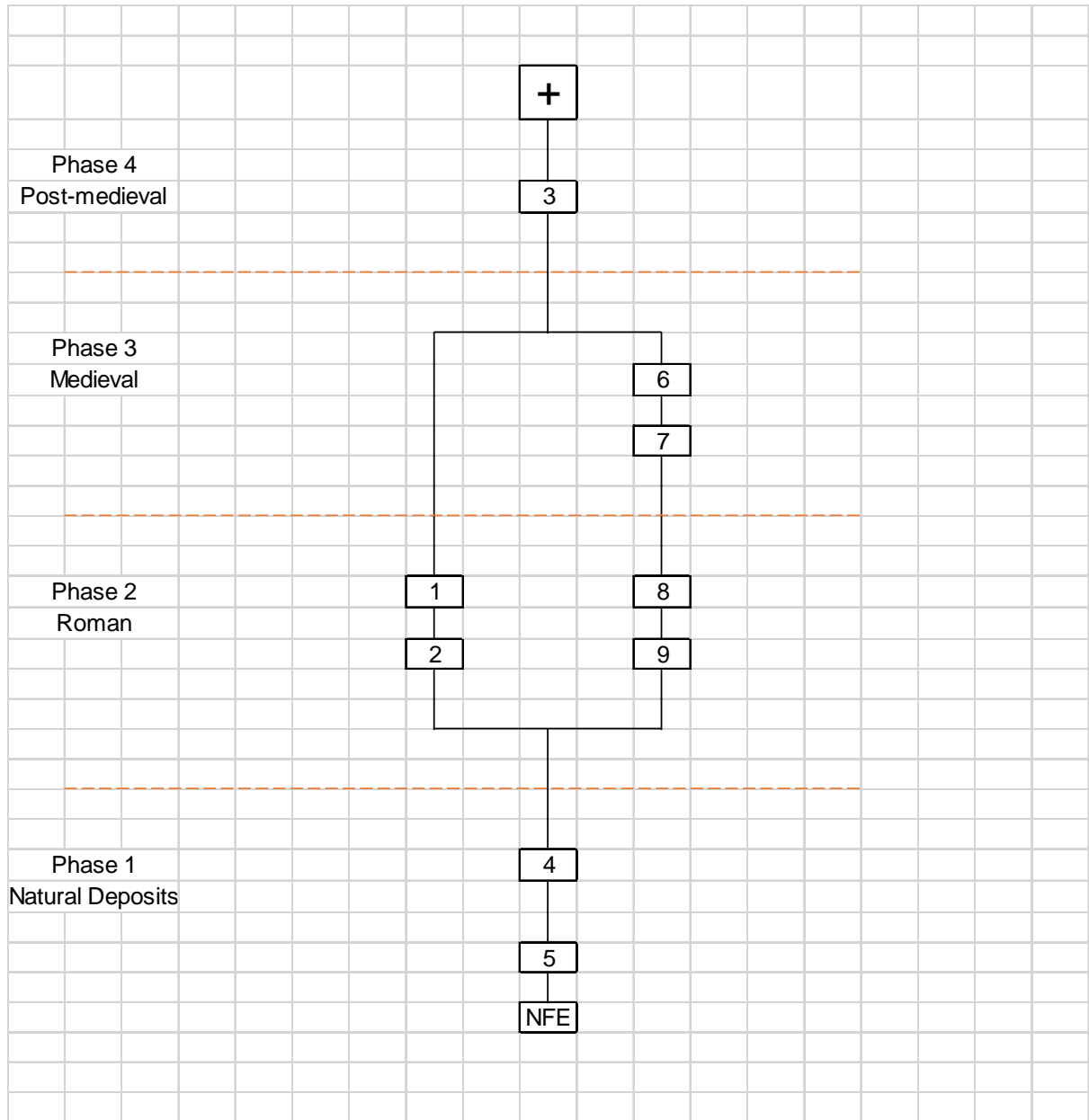


Plate 2: Section 2, Looking West. Medieval Well [7] and Roman Pit [9]

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context	Type	Trench	Interpretation	Category	Length	Width	Depth	Levels high	Levels low	Phase	Date	Roman pot	Post Roman pot	CBM
BHH17	1	Fill	1	Backfill of pit [2]	Backfill	2.2	1.2	0.55	0.85		2	Roman	120-150	1300-1500	55-160
BHH17	2	Cut	1	Cut of Roman pit	Pit	2.2	1.2	0.55	0.85	0.3	2	Roman			
BHH17	3	Layer	1	Late Post-med dump layer	Dump	6	4.8	0.2	0.93		4	Post-med	70-100	1580-1900	1666-1900
BHH17	4	Natural	TR1	Dirty, naturally deposited sands	Natural	6	4.8	0.44	0.85		1				
BHH17	5	Natural	1	Clean natural sands	Natural	6	4.8		0.41		1				
BHH17	6	Fill	1	Backfill of medieval well [7].	Disuse	1.16	1.08	0.45	0.98		3	Medieval	70-100	1180-1200/20	55-160
BHH17	7	Cut	1	Cut of medieval feature. Probably a well, possibly a deep pit.	Well	1.16	1.08	0.45	0.96	0.51	3	Medieval			
BHH17	8	Fill	1	Backfill of Roman pit [9].	Backfill	0.7	0.36	0.13	0.88		2	Roman	140-160		55-160
BHH17	9	Cut	1	Cut of Roman pit.	Pit	0.7	0.36	0.13	0.88	0.75	2	Roman			

APPENDIX 2: PHASED SITE MATIX



APPENDIX 3: ROMAN POTTERY ASSESSMENT

Eniko Hudak

The watching brief at 161-165 Borough High Street, Southwark (BHH17) produced a small assemblage of Romano-British pottery totalling at 144 sherds weighing 7.997kg (1.58 EVEs). The pottery was fully quantified and catalogued using the standard measures of sherd count, weight, and Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs). The assemblage was recorded using standard Museum of London fabric codes (Symonds 2002) into an MS Access database.

Roman pottery was recovered from four individually numbered contexts. There are two small (less than 30 sherds) and two medium (30-100 sherds) sized context assemblages. The pottery survived in a variety of states from abraded to fresh with a rather high mean sherd weight of 55.53g, and a number of sherds show signs of post-firing modifications.

There is a restricted range of fabrics represented in the assemblage, all dating to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD. Coarse wares dominate the assemblage with AHSU and VRW being most common followed by HWC and NKSH. Fine wares are mainly Terra Sigillata, including joining fragments of a freshly broken 5DR18/31 dish, three sherds of FMIC, two joining fragments of LOMI, and a single unsourced colour-coated ware with white barbotine decoration. Amphorae are all BAET Dressel 20 olive oil amphorae including some large fragments; and there are a few sherds of VRW mortaria and a rim sherd of a Colchester/Kent Cam497 mortarium.

Almost half of the assemblage is residual in medieval and post-medieval phases from contexts [3] and [6]. The pottery from these contexts is more abraded, and the mean sherd weight is much lower (36.34g), which also suggest a degree of redeposition had taken place.

The pottery from the Roman phase (Phase 2) was recovered from two pits, with fill [1] (Pit [2]) containing the largest and fill [8] (Pit [9]) the smallest context assemblage, although they were both truncated by later activity on the site. The pottery from these pits is in a better condition with a very high mean sherd weight of 71.32g and with a high number of freshly broken sherds some of which join. This could indicate that some of these vessels were deposited as complete or semi-complete vessels, or that they were deposited shortly after breakage. There are six sherds with one or more post-firing holes in the site assemblage, four of which were recovered from fill [1]. The presence of a HWC+ jar in context [1] and of a Colchester/Kent Cam 497 mortarium in context [8] suggest an early/mid 2nd-century date for the pits.

All the assemblage has been fully recorded and needs no further analysis at this stage. The types of Roman pottery present in this assemblage are well attested from other excavations in London and Southwark. Although the nature of the two Roman pits is difficult to judge and the small size of the assemblage limits discussion, the high number of freshly broken sherds and post-firing holes, especially from fill [1] of Pit 2, is notable and could be of significance given the site's proximity to the religious precinct at Tabard Square (Killock 2015).

Context	SC	Wt(g)	EVEs	Spot date
1	62	2698	0.91	AD120-150
3	45	1907		AD70-100
6	20	455	0.35	AD70-100
8	17	2937	0.32	AD140-160

Table 1: Quantification per context and spot dates

Fabric	SC	SC%	Wt(g)	Wt%	EVE	EVE%
AHSU	38	26.39%	1068	13.36%	0.3	18.99%
BAET	17	11.81%	3828	47.87%		0.00%
CC	1	0.69%	11	0.14%		0.00%
CCGW	2	1.39%	20	0.25%		0.00%
COLWW	3	2.08%	500	6.25%	0.32	20.25%
ERMS	2	1.39%	29	0.36%	0.12	7.59%
FINE	1	0.69%	3	0.04%		0.00%
FMIC	3	2.08%	5	0.06%		0.00%
GAUL	3	2.08%	96	1.20%		0.00%
HWC	7	4.86%	230	2.88%	0.13	8.23%
HWC+	1	0.69%	45	0.56%	0.23	14.56%
LOMI	2	1.39%	103	1.29%		0.00%
NFSE	1	0.69%	16	0.20%		0.00%
NKSH	7	4.86%	398	4.98%		0.00%
OXID	4	2.78%	78	0.98%		0.00%
RDBK	1	0.69%	3	0.04%		0.00%
SAM	11	7.64%	123	1.54%	0.41	25.95%
SAND	1	0.69%	19	0.24%	0.07	4.43%
VRW	39	27.08%	1422	17.78%		0.00%
TOTAL	144	100.00%	7997	100.00%	1.58	100.00%

Table 2: Quantification per fabric

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APPENDIX 4: POST-ROMAN POTTERY ASSESSMENT

Chris Jarrett

Introduction

The post-Roman pottery assemblage consists of 33 sherds, representing 18 estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weighing 3.083kg, none of which was unstratified. The pottery dates mainly to the medieval period with one sherd of post-medieval redware. The condition of the pottery is very good and comprises mostly large sherds that are assignable to a form type. The pottery was most likely to have been deposited under secondary conditions. However, the pottery recovered from one of the contexts was considered to be intrusive (see below). The pottery was recovered from three contexts as only small sized groups (less than 30 sherds). The pottery was catalogued according to the Museum of London Archaeology (2014 coding system and was quantified using sherd counts, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight. The material is discussed as an index ordered by context.

Spot dating index

Context [1], spot date: 1350-1500

The pottery is deemed to be intrusive.

Cheam whiteware (CHEA), 1350–1500, 3 sherds, 1 ENV, 165g, form: jug Base, discrete thumbing and flaring wall, external green glaze splashes

Context [3], spot date: 1580-1900

Cheam whiteware (CHEA), 1350-1500, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 44g, form: jug Base, convex. ?Conical jug

London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 43g, form: Base, convex

Context [6], spot date: 1180-1200/20

Early medieval gritty ware (EMGY), 1080-1200, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 7g, form: cooking pot/jar. Body sherd, internal blackened deposit, external sooting.

Early medieval shell-tempered ware (EMSH), 1050-1150, 3 sherds, 1 ENV, 550g, form: tall rounded jar. Rim sherd, upright, narrow rounded top and exterior. Body sherds with vertical and horizontally

applied thumbled strips. The base is thick walled and has internal wiped black surface and external sooting.

Early medieval sand- and shell-tempered ware (EMSS), 1000-1150, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 13g, form: unidentified. Body sherd with an internal white ?limescale deposit.

London-area greyware (LOGR), 1050-1170, 4 sherds, 1 ENV, 125g, form: cooking pot/jar. Base: convex, with external sooting and an internal blackened deposit. Conical gastropod shell inclusion noted in the fabric.

London-type ware with Rouen-style decoration (LOND ROU), 1180-1270, 5 sherds, 1 ENV, 652g, form: jug. Rim sherd: expanded and thickened internally and particularly on the exterior, while the top of the rim is convex and gently grooved. The handle is of a vertical loop oval-section rod-type, which is mortised to the rim and body. The body of the jug is decorated with pairs of diagonal white slip lines and the space in between has been painted with a red slip and the vessel has a clear (dull orange-fired) glaze.

London-type ware with Rouen-style decoration (LOND ROU), 1180-1270, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 248g, form: baluster jug. Neck with cordons and the body is decorated with broad, thick white slip bands forming probable triangular panels that are painted with red slip and white slip dots.

London-type ware with Rouen-style decoration (LOND ROU), 1180-1270, 2 sherds, 1 ENV, 18g, form: baluster jug. Rim sherd: simple, flat topped with an external bead. The body sherd is decorated with a broad white slip band creating panels containing white slip dots. Orange fired body and clear glaze.

Shelly-sandy ware (SSW), 1140-1220, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 5g, form: unknown. Body sherd with an internal white ?limescale deposit.

Shelly-sandy ware (SSW), 1140,-1220, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 42g, form: jar. Convex base with external sooting.

Shelly-sandy ware (SSW), 1140-1220, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 60g, form: medium shouldered jar. Rim sherd: expanded with a narrow flat top attached to a short upright neck and a distinct rounded shoulder.

Shelly-sandy ware (SSW), 1140-1220, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 100g, form: tall rounded jar. Shoulder and wall sherd: decorated with applied thumbled strips - one at the top of the shoulder and another vertically on the body. Internal blackened deposit.

Shelly-sandy ware (SSW), 1140-1220, 4 sherds, 1 ENV, 582g, form: tall rounded jar. Rim sherd: expanded internally and externally with a narrow flat top and attached to an everted neck and decorated with an applied thumbled strip at the top of the shoulder and another one vertically on the body.

Shelly-sandy ware (SSW), 1140-1220, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 359g, form: tall rounded jar. Rim sherd, expanded, flat top, horizontal upright neck, decorated with an applied thumbled strip at the top of the shoulder.

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The post-Roman pottery has some significance at a local level and demonstrates medieval activity dating from the mid to late 12th century on this area of Borough High Street. The pottery types are those frequently found in Southwark and the London area, although London-area greyware (LOGR) is not such a frequent find on Southwark excavations as it is compared to the City, where it is more frequent (Pearce 2010). The pottery recovered from context [6] is dated c.1180-1200/1220 and predates activity associated with the Marshalsea Prison, immediately to the rear of the study area and documented from at least the 14th century. The site may also have been the location of one of the many medieval and post-medieval inns situated on Borough High Street and possibly the site of the King on Horseback inn/public house, which was listed at 118 Borough High Street in a Post Office (1841, 27) directory. Therefore, the study area may have had a long history for this type of land use. However, the earliest reference to inns dates to the early and mid 14th century and it is not certain how much earlier these establishments existed.

The pottery has great potential to date the contexts that it occurs in. Of interest is the c.1180-1200/1220 dated group of pottery recovered from context [6], which produced similar quantities of jugs to that of cooking pots/jars, which might indicate an inn. However, as discussed above, the group of pottery is most likely to predate the establishment of inns on Borough High Street. Despite the pottery being of interest, the fact that it is a small assemblage makes it difficult to justify a publication on the material and therefore there are no recommendations for further work on the pottery.

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APPENDIX 5: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

Karen Deighton

Approximately 40 fragments of animal bone were recovered from the fills [1] and [8] of two Roman pits [2], [9] a medieval well [6] (fill [7]) and a post-medieval sealing layer [3] during the course of a watching brief.

The assemblage

Preservation

The bone was moderately fragmented largely as a result of butchery consistent with chopping. Canid gnawing was noted on a single bone from context [3].

Phase	Cattle	Cattle size	Sheep/goat	Sheep size	Partridge
Roman	1	3	1		
Medieval	3	1	5	3	1
Post-medieval	1	2			

Table1: identified taxa by phase

Potential and recommendations

The potential and significance of the assemblage is severely limited by its small size and no further work is recommended.

APPENDIX 6: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL ASSESSMENT

Amparo Valcarcel

Building Materials Spot Dates

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material	Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
1	3006;2452	Early Roman <i>imbrex</i> and tile	2	50 160	55	160	55-160	No mortar
3	2454;2459a; 3006;2452; 2276; 2279;3032;3034 ;3101R	Early Roman Eccles and sandy fabrics (tiles, bricks, <i>imbrex</i>); post medieval pan and peg tiles; post great fire bricks; <i>opus caementicium</i>	20	50 1900	1666	1900	1666-1900	50-400 (residual)
6	2454;2459a; 3006;2452	Early Roman Eccles and sandy fabrics (tiles, tegula, bricks and box flue tile)	9	50 160	55	160	55-160+	No mortar
8	3006;2452	Early Roman sandy fabrics	5	50 160	55	160	55-160	No mortar

Review

The small assemblage (36 fragments, 7.55kg) consists mainly of pieces of early Roman ceramic building material (*tegula*, *imbrex*, box flue tiles, tiles and bricks), and less quantities of post-medieval material (bricks, peg and pan tiles).

All the Roman building material is in a fragmentary condition which would suggest that it may have been reused. Furthermore, Roman tile and brick appears in medieval and post-medieval contexts. As expected the common first century to early second century red sandy group 2815 dominates, with a few Eccles fabric group examples. Horizontal elements in the form of small fragments of tile and brick are numerous (50%), and are made of London sandy fabrics 2459a, 3006 and 2452. High-status bath-house material (e.g. combed box flue tile) is represented by one fragment [6]. Six examples of flanged roofing tiles were collected from [3] [6] and [8], and are made of the London sandy fabric 2549a, 3006 and 2452. All are in a fragmentary condition.

Rectangular shaped roofing tiles made from the London sandy fabric 2276, and curved, nibbed roofing tile (fabric 2279) were recovered from [3], attesting to extensive later post-medieval roofing tile development in this area.

Two examples of local post-Great Fire bricks are recovered from the site. The presence of these bricks shows a phase of redevelopment at the end of 18th century.

The building material assemblage reflects the early Roman occupation in Southwark associated to the structural development of the Roman road and the later post-medieval (18th-20th centuries) development of this site.

APPENDIX 7: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-276258

Project details

Project name	161-165 Borough High Street, An Archaeological Watching Brief
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on behalf of Archaeology Collective at 161-165 Borough High Street, London Borough of Southwark, SE1 1HR. The watching brief monitored the excavation of two column bases and the excavation for a new slab within the existing basement of the property. The archaeological watching brief showed that despite heavy horizontal truncation, down to the natural sands, during the construction of the original basement in the late 19th century, the bases of earlier features were still present, comprising two Roman pits and a probable medieval well.
Project dates	Start: 30-01-2017 End: 07-02-2017
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BHH17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	WELL Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK 161-165 Borough High St
Postcode	SE1 1HR
Study area	28.8 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3255 7994 51.502332516937 -0.090046853256 51 30 08 N 000 05 24 W

Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 0.84m Max: 0.85m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project brief originator Archaeology Collective

Project design originator Archaeology Collective

Project director/manager Peter Moore

Project supervisor Guy Seddon

Type of sponsor/funding body Private company

Name of sponsor/funding body Beds and Bars Limited

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic"

Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"

Paper Archive recipient LAARC

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 161-165 Borough High Street, London SE1 1HR, London Borough of Southwark,

An Archaeological Watching Brief

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