46 FARNCOMBE STREET, BERMONDSEY, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK, SE16 4PT: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

SITE CODE: FCB17

FEBRUARY 2017

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

46 FARNCOMBE STREET, LONDON, SE16 4PT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Site Code:	**FCB17**
Local Planning Authority:	**London Borough of Southwark**
Planning Reference Number:	**APP/A5840/W/15/3089701**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TQ 3446 7966**
Written by:	**Tanya Jones** **Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited** **February 2017**
Project Manager:	**Helen Hawkins MCIfA**
Commissioning Client:	**A-ZERO ARCHITECTS** **Rev1 LBS comments**

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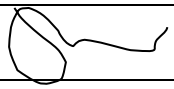
Project Manager Sign-off:	H Hawkins		27.2.2017

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1 ABSTRACT

1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at 46 Farncombe Street, London, SE16 4PT. The site was located within the London Borough of Southwark and was centred at National Grid Reference TQ 3446 7966.

1.2 Following the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (Hawkins 2016), an archaeological evaluation was conducted between 21st and 22nd February 2017 in advance of the construction of a dwelling. The investigation comprised one archaeological trial trench (Trench 1). The trench was excavated to the site formation depth of 1.2m below ground level. A sondage was carried out once the trench had been recorded, to assess the depth of the natural gravel.

1.3 The top of the natural gravel was recorded at 0.50m OD. Above the gravel was a layer of orange alluvium 1.00m thick.

1.4 The earliest deposit which can be associated with human activity on the site was a 19th to 20th century levelling layer associated with the reclamation and development of the site during the post-medieval period up to the present day.

1.5 No archaeology pre-dating the 19th century was found during the work.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at 46 Farncombe Street, London, SE16 4PT between 21st and 22nd February 2017. The site was located within the London Borough of Southwark and was centered at National Grid Reference TQ 3446 7966 (Figure 1).

2.2 The site comprised a sub-rectangular plot bounded by Farncombe Street to the north, a depot to the east, and houses to the south and west.

2.3 The site was located within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Southwark. An archaeological planning condition was attached to the planning permission (APP/A5840/W/15/3089701) for the site, requiring an archaeological evaluation to be carried out:

4) No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

2.4 The archaeological evaluation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited under the supervision of Tanya Jones and the project management of Helen Hawkins. This report was written by Tanya Jones. The archaeological work was commissioned by A-Zero Architects.

2.5 The evaluation comprised of one trench (Figure 2); measuring 7.2m by 1.8m in plan, the location of this trench was adjusted to allow for obstructions on site.

2.6 The site was assigned the unique site code FCB17, issued by the Museum of London. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will, upon completion of the project, be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) under that code.

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:

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).

3.2 The London Plan

3.2.1 The London Plan, first published July 2011, updated March 2015, includes the following policy regarding the historic environment in central London, which should be implemented through the Local Development Framework (LDF) being compiled at the Borough level:

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.

3.3 Archaeology in the London Borough of Southwark

3.3.1 This study 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 Policy 3.19:

Policy 3.19 – Archaeology

Planning applications affecting sites within Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs), as identified on the Proposals Map, 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.

3.3.2 Additional policy statements regarding the protection of buried archaeological heritage are also covered in the Southwark Unitary Development Plan:

Draft Southwark Plan (2002)

Policy 3.7 – Archaeology

"Planning applications affecting sites of archaeological potential shall be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development.

Development proposals will be required to preserve in situ, protect and safeguard scheduled ancient monuments and important archaeological remains and their settings, and where appropriate, provide for the permanent display and/or interpretation of the monument or remains.

The local planning authority will ensure the proper investigation, recording of sites and publication of the results by a suitably qualified archaeological contractor, as an integral part of a development programme where a development incorporates archaeological remains or where it is considered that preservation in situ is not appropriate.

Further information is contained in the Archaeology SPG.

Reasons

Southwark has an immensely important archaeological resource. Increasing evidence for prehistoric communities 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 the Borough, 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.

PPG 16 requires Council to include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings."

Current UDP Policy (1995)

Policy E.5.1

"The Council will seek to conserve and protect the Borough's archaeological heritage and to enhance the knowledge of its historical development. The policy will apply to sites of potential archaeological importance, where ancient remains are threatened by development.

i. The Council will expect the applicant to provide information to enable an assessment of the impact of a proposed development on the potential archaeology of the site. This would usually be desk-based information and would be expected prior to the determination of a planning application;

ii. Where there are likely to be important remains on a site, which may merit preservation in situ, then the results of an archaeological field evaluation will, if feasible, be required prior to the determination of a planning application;

iii. Where the evaluation reveals important remains their protection and preservation will be the primary objective. This can be achieved by redesigning the proposed development and by foundation modification;

iv. Where important archaeological remains cannot be preserved, or where remains do not merit preservation, then the council will use planning conditions to ensure excavation and recording of

the remains prior to redevelopment, i.e. preservation by record;

v. Archaeological investigations are to be undertaken by a recognised archaeological field unit to a written specification. These will need to be approved by the Council prior to commencement of any work.

Reason

To protect Southwark's archaeological heritage, which includes remains of national importance. These remains are under constant threat from proposed developments and the policy will ensure their protection through the planning process. The Council considers that the archaeology of the borough is a community asset and that its preservation is a legitimate objective, against which the needs of development must be balanced and assessed.

3.4 Site Specific Constraints

3.4.1 The site is located within the eastern part of the London Borough of Southwark's 'Archaeological Priority Zone: Bermondsey Lake' (DLO35764). A number of additional Archaeological Priority Zones are located nearby and comprise: 'Thames Alluvial Floodplain' (DLO35839) to the north-east; 'Thames and Ravensbourne Terrace Gravels' (DLO35840) and 'Watling Street and the 'Deep-Ford'' (DLO35841) to the south-east; and 'Old Kent Road' (DLO35767) and the 'London to Lewes Road' (DLO35762) to the south and south-west.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 The background cited below was obtained from the site-specific desk-based appraisal prepared by PCA for an adjacent site at 94 Bermondsey Wall East (Fairman 2015).

4.2 Geology

4.2.1 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').

4.2.2 The British Geological survey (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html) identifies the underlying Bedrock geology on the subject site to be the 'London Clay Formation'. This clay, silt and sand deposit formed between 34 and 55 million years ago during the Palaeogene Period. The bedrock geology is overlain by Alluvium which formed up to 2 million years ago during the Quaternary Period.

4.3 Topography

4.4 The River Thames runs roughly east-west approximately 92m north of the site. The former course of the Neckinger River, or St. Saviour's dock, follows a north-east south-west alignment c.0.57km to the west of the subject site. This part of Southwark is known to have been part of a chain of islands during the prehistoric period. Current projections of the island topography place the subject site within the tidal floodplain between the Neckinger River and the Bermondsey Eyot. As such the underlying topography is likely to exhibit a downward slope from west to east, with the higher ground of the island surface rising to the east.

4.4.1 Investigations within the immediate vicinity have highlighted that the current alignment of the bounding road, Bermondsey Wall East/Bermondsey Wall West, demarcates the line of medieval river defences. The immediate area has therefore been subjected to extensive modifications associated with these defences, water management and land reclamation. The shoreline has been artificially pushed northwards over the centuries.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1.1 Prehistoric

5.1.2 During the prehistoric periods the area of land now occupied by Southwark was typified as a series of variably sized, sandy islands separated by a network of channels. The tidal nature of the River Thames and its associated channels would have ensured that during high tide the land remaining above sea level was significantly reduced, a limiting factor for defined prehistoric occupation and settlement. However, the marshland environment within the tidal range would have provided significant economic attractions and it is probable that prehistoric communities exploited the island landscape at low tide.

5.1.3 Extrapolation of the prehistoric topography of Southwark places the site to the immediate west of the larger Bermondsey Eyot, within the tidal floodplain between the island and the Neckinger River. Such marginal locations can be utilised as important indicators of environmental change. These peripheral zones have been shown to yield evidence of prehistoric exploitation, such as that discovered on the Horsleydown eyot to the west. A series of archaeological interventions carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology investigated the latter eyot. A number of postholes, ditches and fragments of worked flint testified that despite much of the area remaining underwater during the prehistoric period, the sporadic visitation of marginal areas could leave archaeologically recoverable evidence.

5.1.4 Numerous features and findspots of prehistoric material have been recorded during foreshore surveys, and as such lie to the north of the study site. Prehistoric silts and peats were identified in one location, and contained animal and human bone, flints and other artefacts.

5.1.5 Evidence pertaining to the Bronze Age is limited. A Halberd Head or Dagger of this date was recovered from Jamaica Road to the south of the site, and excavations on Bermondsey Wall West and Chambers Street by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd to the west of the site identified Bronze Age activity. This was limited to peat and alluvial horizons overlying natural silts. The accumulated peat was recorded from c.0m OD and extended up to 0.60m in thickness. This was overlain by further silting indicative of sediments lain under a virtually stationary water body. The deposits suggested that the area comprised a marshy wetland, typical of regressions and transgressions in the prehistoric water levels. Such marshy conditions may have dissuaded later large scale human occupation. However the discovery of burnt and struck flint below the peat horizon suggested that such marshy environments were being exploited at least intermittently.

5.1.6 The only indications of Iron Age activity within close proximity to the study site derives from excavations carried out along Bermondsey Wall East c.70m east of the site. Iron Age pottery and flint flakes were recovered from dump layers and from within pit fills. The features were directly overlying natural sands and gravels.

5.1.7 Roman

5.1.8 Roman occupation in Southwark is currently accepted as beginning c. AD 50 following the construction of London Bridge. By this time, a number of military roads leading from the south coast had been established, i.e. Watling Street and Stane Street, and a north-south precursor of Borough High Street connected the convergence of these roads with the River Thames.

5.1.9 At its maximum extent Roman Southwark is estimated to have covered around 20-24 hectares. The population began to decrease around the 2nd century AD, confirmed by burials being identified over the site of former buildings. The focus for occupation is believed to have concentrated around the bridgehead area, or as ribbon development along the Roman roads. The closest road to the subject site (following the alignment of Borough High Street) is c.1.9km to the west and may suggest minimal occupation and settlement of the immediate vicinity.

5.1.10 There is evidence however, that the river frontages of the northern island were developed during the Roman period, with the remains of buildings fronting onto the Thames or its tributaries recorded along Tooley Street, Joiner Street and London Bridge Street. These generally date to the 1st to 2nd centuries.

5.1.11 The continuing influence of the braided network of river channels predominating during the prehistoric was also evident during the Roman period. Such waterways served an important role as a trade and communication supply. The discovery of a barge within the larger Guy's Channel (to the west of the subject site), land reclamation deposits and the construction of timber revetments/waterfronts testify to this and demonstrate numerous systems of water management were being utilised.

5.1.12 Excavations by the Department of Greater London Archaeology at Cherry Gardens identified one such revetted channel less than 100m to the east of the subject site. A large timber resting against a wattle structure was uncovered at the edge of a clay filled channel and was interpreted as revetting of Roman or Saxon origin, but potentially earlier. A series of additional upright driven stakes were identified, which branched into three lines and the spaces between each stake filled with wattle hurdling.

5.1.13 At the same location, three cremation burials were identified. These were concentrated in one small area of high ground, and other areas of high ground (beyond the channel) were traces of Roman ploughsoils. The burials and ploughsoils demonstrate that occupation of the immediate area was viable by the Roman period.

5.1.14 Other indications of Roman activity within the immediate area are minimal. A pit, potentially ritual in function, was recorded during an archaeological evaluation along John Felton Road and samian pottery and coins of Claudius and Vespasian were recovered during sewer construction works in 1845 along Chamber Street. The former pit was dated to the 1st century AD and contained animal bones, some of which were burned or calcined, but not butchered. Overlying the bones (of sheep, pig, ox and other mammal) was a complete mortarium and a sand tempered ware jar with a cross on it. Pottery and a glass bead was also within the assemblage.

5.1.15 Saxon/Early Medieval

5.1.16 The name Bermondsey is believed to derive from a Saxon landowner or lord 'Beormund's eye (island), the suffix *ey* indicating water, referring to the borough's topography as an island within marshes and former prehistoric eyot. The Millstream and Neckinger were among the more important watercourses at this time, which left Bermondsey prone to repeated flooding and inundation during high tides.

5.1.17 The earliest documentary reference to Southwark derives from a survey of lands designated for support of fortified places known as the *Burghal Hideage*, dating to around 886 AD. This denotes '*Sutheringa geoweorche*' roughly translated as 'a defensive work of the men of Surrey', suggesting some kind of fortified bridgehead. The later *Olaf Saga* describes '*Suthvirki*' as a 'great trading place' with large defensive ditches.

5.1.18 It is possible that an attack on London in 994 AD may have initiated a rebuilding of the bridge, and subsequently the fortification of Southwark. Such works may have utilised pre-existing burghal defences. The precise location of these defences has caused much debate, with one theory suggesting that the alignment of present day roads Montague Close and St. Mary Overy Dock could represent the location and orientation of the defences.

5.1.19 Archaeological evidence for activity during this period is largely absent within Southwark. That which has been recorded largely lies within the proposed boundaries of the bridgehead settlement and may suggest a retraction of occupation to within the defensible areas. This may explain the paucity of GLHER entries relating to this period within a 250m radius of the subject site, as this lies some distance from the bridgehead area. However, evidence from Cherry Garden Pier suggests that an earlier revetted channel was maintained, or re-established during the Saxon period where a large Saxon timber was found resting against a wattle structure.

5.1.20 Medieval

5.1.21 Alwyn Child founded the Cluniac Priory of St. Saviour in 1082, re-designated as an Abbey in 1381. The monks embanked the river and cultivated the lands using St. Saviours Dock as a port. Much of the economic growth of Bermondsey is therefore linked with the establishment of this Priory.

5.1.22 Medieval Southwark comprised five autonomous Manors, the smallest known from the 14th century as 'Guildable Manor' and belonged to the Crown. The westernmost third of this formed the Parish of St. Mary Magdalene, the area of the study site.

5.1.23 Trade and industry subsequently became the focus of Bermondsey's growth, and by the 1380s a few residents of the area are already listed as being engaged in tanning, an industry that flourished for centuries to come. Other industries within the area included lime burning and the use of tide mills. A mill owned by Edward II is believed to have been located along West Lane, 250m east of the subject site.

5.1.24 The population however suffered due to the major famine of 1315-16 and the Black Death of 1348-9, plus recurrence in 1381. It is estimated that as much as 60% of the former populous dropped due to these events. The recovery by the 16th century however led to rapid expansion, with former tenter grounds and gardens built over and pre-existing dwellings sub-divided.

5.1.25 Numerous excavations have testified to the medieval character of Southwark. However the majority of these lay beyond the 250m search radius around the site. Excavations carried out along Bermondsey Wall West represent the only evidence of medieval occupation within the immediate area. The results of these investigations might suggest the reason for this. Three sub phases of medieval activity were identified. The earliest comprised an 8m wide north-south aligned channel, believed to have lain open around the late 12th/early 13th century and served as a tidal tributary to the Thames. The channel was subsequently lined with chalk fragments and upright wooden stakes, interpreted as a possible barge bed with the stakes representing the remnants of a fish trap. The channel was subsequently dammed with a combination of upright wooden piles supporting hurdles and two large oak cross-beams. The structure was supported by two braces and served to block off the channel completely, allowing the construction of the medieval river wall. These defences consisted of a large bank aligned east-west, parallel to the Thames, with the uppermost height of the bank estimated at c.3.0m OD. A gully recorded to the south of the bank illustrated that water levels behind the defences were also being carefully managed. Such activities would have been essential to relieve waterlogging, allow continued reclamation, and keep the defences stable. These back channels could be related to features observed on a later map of 1610 drawn up for the Earl of Salisbury. It therefore seems probably that they extended into the footprint of the study site.

5.1.26 Post-Medieval

5.1.27 The population continued to increase and Bermondsey came to be viewed more as an extension of Southwark. The environs of the Abbey and riverside however were at differing stages of development, with Bermondsey characterised as built up areas set amongst open fields. London Bridge remained of economic importance to the development of Southwark during this period. The bridge provided direct access to the important market of the City of London.

5.1.28 From the end of the medieval period increasingly concerted attempts were made to reclaim large areas of Southwark and Bermondsey for industrial purposes, by the dumping of mixed refuse deposits. One of the primary industries to develop was tanning; the location offered cheap land, in close proximity to cattle markets and sources of oak bark, plus a plentiful water supply. It was reported that Londoners fled to the tanning pits during the Great Plague of 1665, believing medicinal aid was to be found in the nauseous smells. By 1763 of the 15 tanners listed in a London trade directory, all were based in Bermondsey.

5.1.29 Entries on the GLHER reflect not only the gradual growth of the immediate area, but also the necessity for improved drainage, and exploitation of the river. Evidence of the 16th to 17th century development derives from numerous excavations carried out in the immediate vicinity. An evaluation carried out on Chambers Street, to the west of the study site recorded 16th century levelling material. These deposits sealed rafts of ship timbers to consolidate the ground prior to the construction of numerous brick built cellared buildings. Traces of the 15th/16th century river wall were recorded during excavations c.50m east of the subject site at Cherry Gardens. The

revetment ran parallel to the River Thames and comprised horizontal fixed planking with numerous examples of reused ships timbers.

5.1.30 Drainage/water management features were also recorded to the south-west of the site, dating from the 17th century. On John Felton Road pits and ditches of this date were recorded, one of which was lined with timber and was interpreted as a former channel. Other indications of occupation were recorded and took the form of a brick lined well, cesspit, shallow pits and wall foundations. An evaluation on Chambers Street (in close proximity to the latter) exhibited extensive evidence of water management. An extensive drainage ditch was identified, and was considered to have facilitated later development of the site. Other features included brick soakaways, a brick culvert and several additional ditches, one of which contained several phases of timber revetting from reused ship timbers. Remnants of a trestle foundation were also identified which may indicate the presence of a bridge. These features were sealed by later development dating up to the 19th century and included brick buildings, a cellar, foundations and an associated well.

5.1.31 A roughly contemporary bridge to that described above, or the foundations associated with one, were recorded during an archaeological watching brief in Cherry Gardens to the east of the site. Wall foundations from possible 17th to 19th century warehouses were also identified with a possible land surface which ran along Paradise Street. Some of the masonry features could be identified with known structures, such as 'Mill Pond Bridge' associated with Hozier's Mill, documented from the 17th to 19th centuries. Other walls reflected former basements of granaries and warehouses, including evidence for a delftware pottery factory. Rotherhithe was famous for its cherry trees during this period, hence the name of 'Cherry Gardens' for this area.

5.1.32 The general sequence of development within the area, comprising water management, ground consolidation and repeated episodes of construction and levelling were highlighted during excavations along Bermondsey Wall West/Chambers Street to the west of the site. Following the construction of the river wall during the medieval period, a large log pipe aligned north-south was installed during the 16th to early 17th century, and overlain by repeated dump layers, including dumped timbers. The area was subsequently levelled prior to the construction of a 17th century building. The building was later robbed and considered to have relatively short life span with pottery recovered dating between 1625 to 1650. Later construction comprised early post-medieval buildings which became substantial brick terraced structures by the mid 18th century.

5.1.33 The continuation of development along Bermondsey Wall into the 19th century is identified at numbers 38-40 Bermondsey Wall West. The property here is illustrated as a public house from 1872, later in use as a commercial property. This terraced range running along 'Bermondsey Wall' essentially follows the line of the former medieval river defences and highlights the impact of earlier activity upon the layout of the waterfront roads and development of the wider area.

5.1.34 Other evidence of the development of the immediate area derives from interventions to the south-east and east of the subject site. Industrial activity was identified in the form of a 19th century gravel pit along Major Road, and the remnants of steam crane buffer stop in use until the mid 20th

century. An evaluation on Cherry Garden Street revealed a multi phase occupation site. A late 16th to 17th century structure was truncated by later basements and cellars and a brick lined soakaway. Later activity comprised 19th century pits and a drain constructed using re-used late 17th and 18th century materials.

5.1.35 Numerous surveys along the foreshore have yielded extensive evidence of post-medieval nautical activities. Such discoveries include timber, a mooring bollard and numerous unassigned timbers or consolidation deposits. A number of gridirons were also recorded for large sea-going vessels constructed with re-used nautical timbers. Timbers or features indicative of a wharf with associated stone surfaces and nail scatters were recorded to the north-west of the study site. Also, directly north of the site were the remnants of a timber and stone causeway denoted as 'Fountain Stairs'.

5.1.36 Evidence of shipyards, or the debris from ship-working scatter has been recorded from a number of locations along the foreshore. A number of boats have also been identified and include moored barges and a floating dock. Numerous miscellaneous timber structures identified along the foreshore include mooring blocks, timber windlass, clinker-built timber floor frame, a possible anchor point and a potential vessel engine box. Several structures could not be identified with any certainty.

5.1.37 Cartographic evidence illustrates land-use on and around the study site. The earliest cartographic source consulted comprised the Morden and Lea map of 1676-82. This illustrates the site as being largely undeveloped. Three property/field boundaries intersect within the site boundaries, which is bound to the north by 'Rope Yard' the precursor to Farncombe Street. The wider area appears to be comprised of small pockets of development surrounded by largely open fields. A number of the roads have already been formalised, and a number of structures, presumably wharves, are illustrated along the southern bank of the Thames.

5.1.38 By 1755 the wider area remains largely unchanged. The entirety of the site appears undeveloped, however, a small footpath seems to run through the site. Stairs to the river are clearly marked along the foreshore and include East Stairs, Mariners Stairs and Fountain Stairs to the west and east of the site respectively.

5.1.39 The Horwood map of 1792-99 illustrates the site in greater detail. By this time, the previously undeveloped Rope Walk is lined along the western side by construction, with a number of isolated buildings appearing along the eastern side. At least three or possibly four properties appear within the site boundaries. Numerous terraced properties with rear gardens appear along the streets to the east of the site.

5.1.40 No changes are illustrated to the properties within the site boundary by 1819. The road layout and development within the wider area also appears largely unchanged from 1792-99. Alterations do appear however along the foreshore, with an additional Dry Dock.

5.1.41 Stanford's map of 1862 does not illustrate the subject site in any great detail, although it does suggest that the properties previously on the site have been removed, with properties remaining

only to the north. However, it does illustrate the rapid and wide scale development of the area, with formalised road systems since the early 19th century. Since 1833-36 Cottage Place has since been renamed 'Cottage Row'. Fountain Dock is also clearly marked to the north of the site.

5.1.42 By 1878 some smaller buildings are marked on the site, with empty areas to the south. Beyond the immediate boundary of the site, the wet and dry docks associated with Fountain Dock are clearly marked and Duffield Sluice is demarcated to the immediate east. Within the wider area it appears that the majority of the properties along Bermondsey Wall are industrial in nature, with residential housing set back to the south of the river.

5.1.43 The Ordnance Survey map of 1894 illustrates the change in name of Cottage Row to Farncombe Street, the name it retains to the present. One small building occupies the site, set back from the road on the same footprint as the current building, and it is surrounded by open land. A school is marked to the south. The wider area remains largely unchanged with a combination of terraced housing along the southern streets and large industrial premises adjacent to the river. The wet dock associated with Fountain Dock does however appear to have been filled in since 1878.

5.1.44 Modern

5.1.45 The Ordnance Survey map of 1919 illustrates no changes to the property divisions depicted within the site boundary since 1894-96. The open area is now marked 'Timber Yard'. No other significant changes are illustrated to the site or within the wider area.

5.1.46 The LCC Bomb Damage map depicting damage caused between 1939 and 1945 illustrates a V2 strike to the north-west of the site, which caused damage beyond repair to the warehouses struck. Many of the terraced houses to the south-east of this strike are coloured red, indicating serious damage, doubtful if repairable. The house present on the site is marked as orange; general blast damage, not structural. Other than the listed damage, little changes are depicted to the immediate vicinity. An additional strike of a high explosive bomb is known along Emba Street to the south-east of the site. The bomb is known to have fallen sometime between October 7th 1940 and June 6th 1941. Southwark suffered significant damage during the bombing raids of WW2, with 1,651 high explosive bombs and 20 Parachute Mines falling between October 1940 and June 1941. Of those high explosive bombs, 134 fell in the riverside area alone.

5.1.47 The Ordnance Survey map of 1950 depicts the impact of the bombing raids. The properties formerly depicted as being damaged beyond repair or of doubtful repair have since been demolished. The building on the site retains the same footprint, but a building to the north is marked 'ruin'.

5.1.48 By 1971 large scale clearance works have impacted upon the wider area. All of the former terraced housing along Farncombe Street had since been demolished, in addition to properties along the adjacent streets to the west. Open areas and housing estates have since taken their place. The Old Justice public house remains the only property to the north of Farncombe Street to remain, with no illustrated changes to the footprint of this property. Fountain Dock also appears to have fallen out of use and infilled since 1950. The building on the site remains the same.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 The purpose of the archaeological investigation was to determine the presence or absence of surviving features at the site and, if present, to assist in formulating an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. All works were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines set out by the London Borough of Southwark, Historic England and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

6.2 The proposed methodology of the archaeological evaluation was detailed in the site specific Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2016), approved by the London Borough of Southwark.

6.3 The site was occupied by one residential building which was no longer occupied and no previous excavation work had been carried out on site

6.4 The excavation of the trench was undertaken using a mechanical excavator. Once the concrete slab was removed, the mechanical excavator used a toothless ditching bucket to remove modern overburden under the constant supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was mounded a safe distance from the edges of the trench. Machine excavation continued in spits of 100mm at a time until either significant archaeological strata were found or a level of 1.2m below ground level had been reached, whichever came first, as the site formation level was 1.2m below ground level. In the west end of the trench a sondage was dug until the natural ground was exposed.

6.5 The trench was excavated to the following dimensions, followed by a sondage in the west end:

Trench 1	7.2m by 1.8m by 1.2m deep
Sondage	1.7m by 1.0m by 1.30m deep

6.6 Excavation continued until a level of 1.2m below ground level was reached. Once this level had been reached machining was stopped and subsequent investigation was carried out by hand. Representative sections and plans were drawn. The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those widely used elsewhere in London; that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual and presented in PCA's *Operations Manual 1* (Taylor 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.

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

6.8 A site TBM was established with a value of 2.49m OD. This was brought in from a benchmark located on 96 Bermondsey Wall East, which had a value of 4.27m OD.

6.9 The complete archive produced during the evaluation, comprising written, drawn, photographic records and artefacts will be deposited with LAARC, identified by site code FCB17.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: Natural Deposits

7.1.1 Natural terrace gravel was exposed in the trench sondage at a level of +0.50m OD (context [3]).

7.1.2 Overlying the gravel was an alluvial layer of mid brownish yellow, silty clay [2] up to 1.0m thick, the top of which was located at a height of +1.50m OD. This layer was very clean and devoid of archaeological finds.

7.2 Phase 2: Post-Medieval

7.2.1 The alluvium was overlain by a firmly compacted, mid brownish grey sandy silt [1], which had frequent inclusions of ceramic building material (CBM) and chalk deposits and occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. The top of the layer was at 2.49m OD. The layer was interpreted as a levelling layer from the 19th to 20th century up to and including material relating to the construction of the existing dwelling. The layer was overlain by garden soil and concrete.

7.2.2 The surface of the trench comprised an open area with a concrete slab over laying it as part of the outdoor area to the existing dwelling.

8 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Research Objectives

8.1.1 The following research objectives were contained within the Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation.

To determine the palaeotopography of the site.

8.1.2 The archaeological evaluation has provided further evidence for the palaeotopography of the area, with the terrace gravel deposit [3] being recorded at 0.50m OD. The alluvium present over the gravel was in keeping with the area being within a marsh prior to the post-medieval period.

To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric / Roman / medieval activity.

8.1.3 There was no evidence of prehistoric / Roman / medieval activity on the site.

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

8.1.4 The late post-medieval levelling layer associated with the late 19th century development was the earliest evidence for human utilization of the site. This reflects the increased land reclamation and redevelopment of this part of Southwark for houses through the 19th century, as is demonstrated by the cartographic map regression (Fairman 2015, Figures 7-22).

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

8.1.5 The evaluation demonstrated made ground had been dumped on the alluvial deposits in the later post-medieval period, as expected for the area, indicating ground being reclaimed from the edge of the river.

8.2 Conclusions

8.2.1 No archaeology pre-dating the 19th century was found during the work. The late evidence demonstrated ground raising and housebuilding at the site from the later post-medieval period which continued through the 20th century.

8.2.2 Once the project is deemed complete and this report approved by the London Borough of Southwark, the completed archive comprising all site records from the fieldwork will be deposited by PCA with LAARC under site code FCB17. Until then the archive comprising all paper, digital and artefactual material will be stored at PCA's headquarters in Brockley, London.

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

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to Phillip Toyin of A-Zero Architects for commissioning the work, and Gill King for monitoring the work on behalf of the London Borough of Southwark.

9.2 The author would like to thank Helen Hawkins for project management and editing this report, Aidan Turner for his hard work during the evaluation, Ray Murphy for the CAD illustrations and Wayne Richards for help with logistics.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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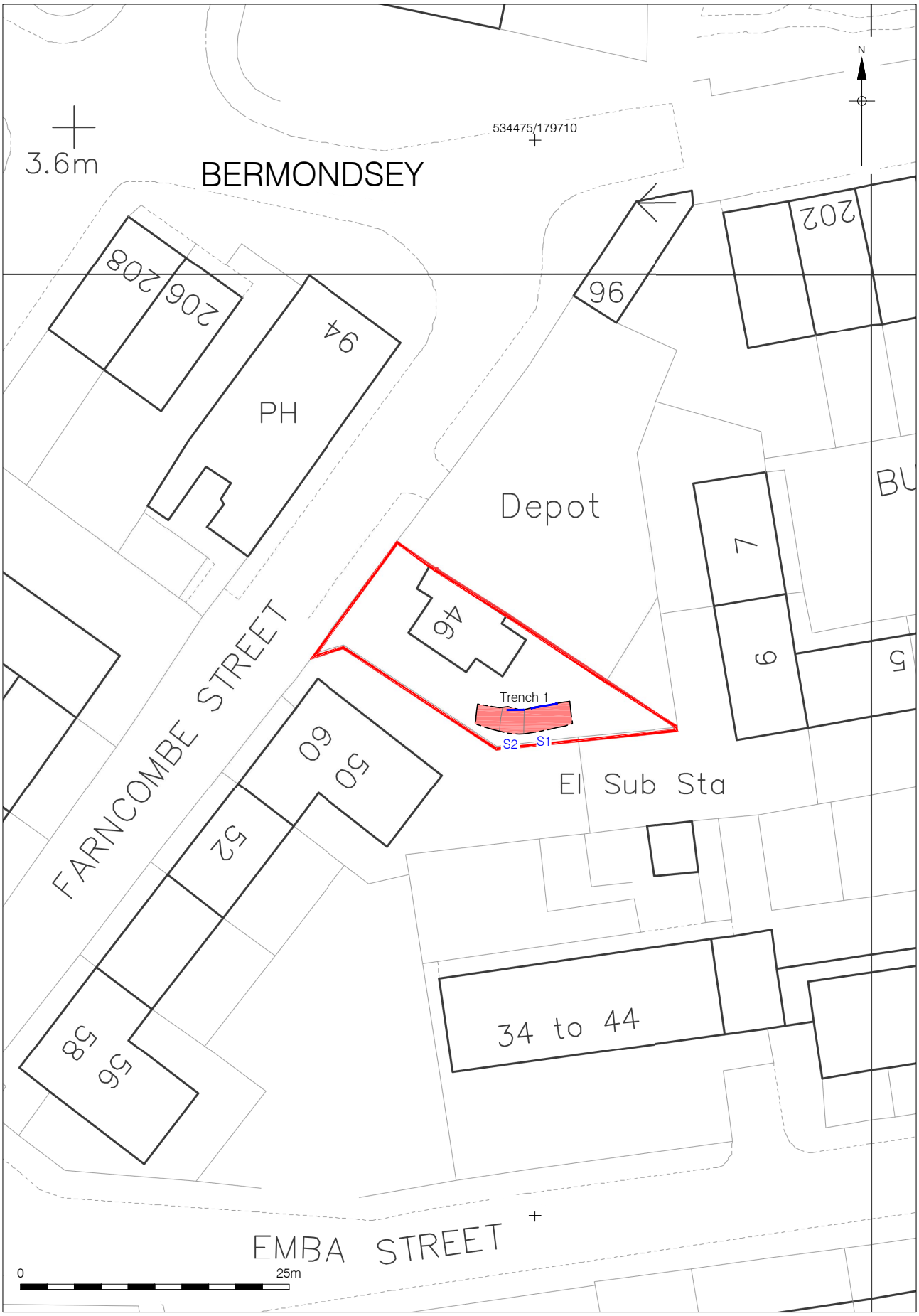
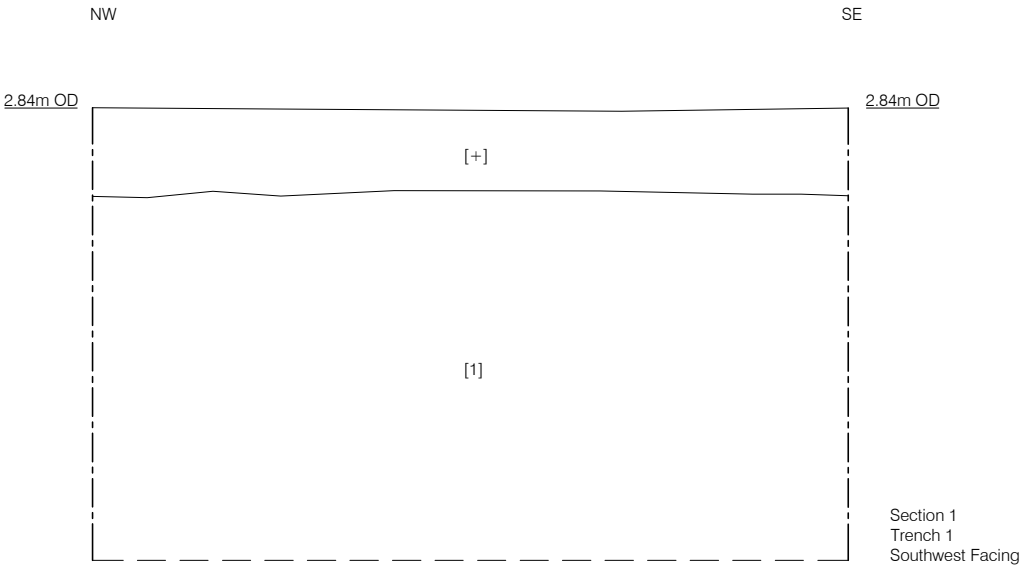
27/02/2017 RM

Figure 1
Site Location
1:12,000 at A4



27/02/17 RM

Figure 2
Detailed Site Location
1:400 at A4



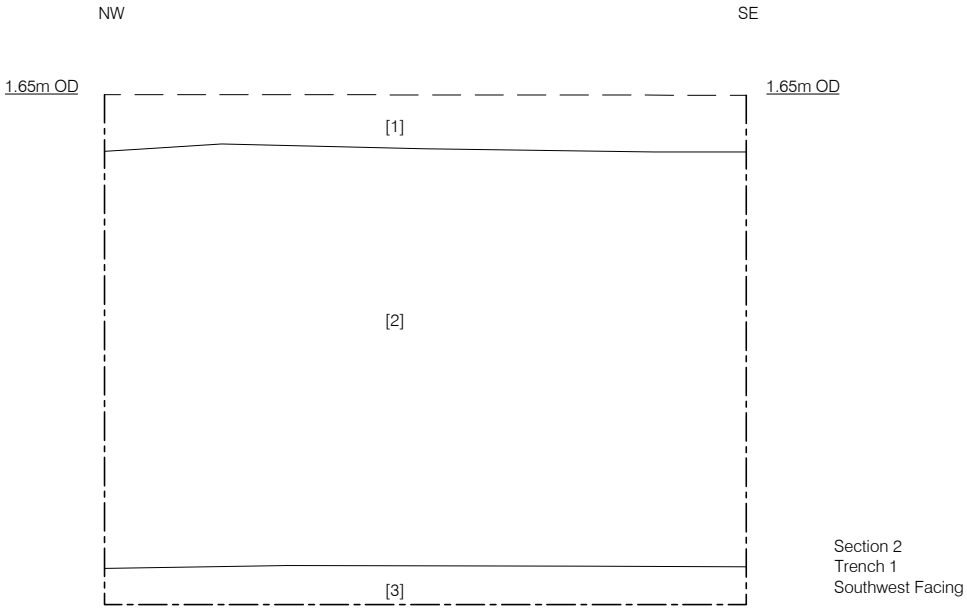


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Figure 3
Sections
1:20 at A4

Plates

Plate 1: Trench 1 Looking East

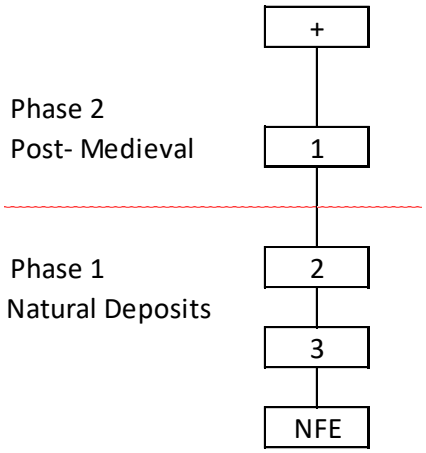
Plate 2: Trench 1 Section 1

Plate 3: Trench 1, Section 2

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Site Code	Context	Type	Trench	Description	Category	Phase
FCB17	1	Layer	1	19th-20th century levelling layer comprising freg small chunks of cbm, chalk and chalk flecks in a mid brownish grey, sandy silt matrix.	Bedding/make-up/levelling	2
FCB17	2	Layer	1	Naturally deposited alluvial materials, comprised of mid brownish yellow, silty clay	Natural	1
FCB17	3	Layer	1	Light brownish yellow small rounded and sub rounded stones in a sandy matrix	Natural	1

APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: OASIS DATA ENTRY FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-277245

Project details	
Project name	46 Farncombe Street, London, SE16 4PT
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation comprised of one trail trench was carried out at 46 Farncombe Street by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Natural gravel was identified in a sondage at 0.50m OD, overlain by a 1m thick layer of orange alluvium. The earliest deposit found during the work on site which can be associated with human activity was a levelling layer associated with the site's development from the 19th century to the present day. No significant archaeology pre-dating the 19th century was found during the work.
Project dates	Start: 21-02-2017 End: 22-02-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	FCB17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK BERMONDSEY ROTHERHITHE AND SOUTHWARK 46 Farncombe Street
Postcode	SE16 4PT
Study area	215 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3446 7966 51.499363887933 -0.062648612664 51 29 57 N 000 03 45 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.5m Max: 0.5m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Gill King
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins
Project supervisor	Tanya Jones
Type of sponsor/funding body	Housing Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	A-Zero Architects
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC

Digital Archive ID	FCB17
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	FCB17
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	46 Farncombe Street, London, SE16 4PT An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, T
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Place of issue or publication	London

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Entered on	23-Feb-17

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