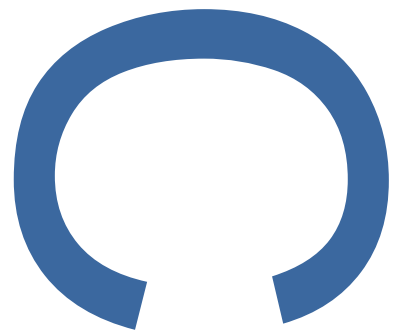


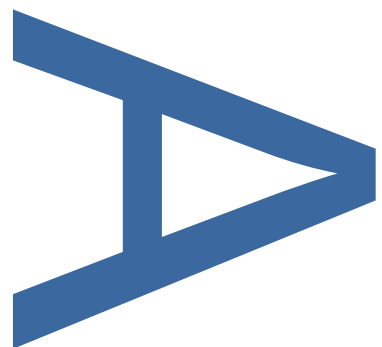
**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF ON GEOTECHNICAL
INVESTIGATIONS AT TREASURY
BUILDING, INNER TEMPLE,
LONDON EC4**



**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: CITY OF
LONDON**



SEPTEMBER 2017



DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

The Treasury Building, Inner Temple, London EC4

Type of project
An Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Investigations

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K4
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Site Code: ITM17

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 31359 81090

Written by Wayne Perkins

Pre-construct Archaeology Limited, May 2017

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1 Non Technical Summary

- 1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. conducted an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of four test pits at the Treasury Building, Inner Temple, City of London EC4 between 14th and 15th April 2017.
- 1.2 The watching brief monitored the excavation of four test pits in four locations (TP 1-4), whilst a fifth planned test pit (TP5) had to be abandoned due to its proximity to a live service.
- 1.3 The purpose of the test pits was to establish the sequence of below-ground deposits, to assess the buildings foundations and, where possible, to obtain brick samples from the original foundations of the building.
- 1.4 The work was conducted by CGL Ltd both inside and outside the building. Test pits TP3 & 4 were located against the exterior of the south wall, TP 2 against the exterior of the north wall and TP1 inside the building. Due to the thickness of the concrete the concrete breaker was replaced in favour of a corer to pierce the layer. This resulted in only the partial excavation of each pit.
- 1.5 By the end of the second day all four boreholes confirmed that the concrete foundations of the building were at least 1m thick. It was decided that it would be impractical to continue boring further or trying to locate the earlier brick foundations. In the event, none of the test pits were excavated to their planned limits; originally envisaged as being 1m x 1m square in plan.
- 1.6 Excavation of the trial pits was of limited value as only modern layers associated with the 20th-century were revealed.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 Between the 14th and 15th April 2017 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) undertook an archaeological watching brief during the proposed excavation of five test pits at the Treasury Building, Inner Temple, City of London EC4 (Figures 1 & 2).
- 2.2 The purpose of the test pits was to assess the current foundations of the building and to obtain brick samples of the original foundations where possible.
- 2.3 The work was commissioned by Bradbrook Consulting following consultation with Kathryn Stubbs, Assistant Director Historic Environment at the City of London. The watching brief consisted of the archaeological monitoring of the proposed excavation of five test pits. In the event, test pit (TP5) had to be abandoned due to its proximity to a live sewer.
- 2.4 The site groundworks were conducted by CGL Ltd. Test pits TP3 & TP4 were located against the exterior of the south wall, Test Pit 2 against the exterior of the north wall and Test Pit 1 inside the building. The work was archaeologically monitored by Mike Tunnicliffe of PCA and carried out according to the instructions laid out in the PCA Method Statement (Moore 2017).
- 2.5 PCA previously carried out an archaeological investigation in Church Court in August 1999, directly adjacent to the Treasury Building. This investigation, along with a second investigation between November 1999 and June 2000 found archaeological remains dating to the Saxon, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods (Butler 2005). It also found evidence for gravel extraction pits of post-medieval date which had impacted upon the earlier archaeological deposits and affected the natural topography of the area.
- 2.6 In 2016 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Bradbrook Consulting to undertake an Archaeological Impact Assessment of the Treasury Building, Inner Temple, City of London. The proposals for the site were for the current building to be refurbished and reconfigured. Redevelopment included the proposed addition of a new lift shaft and the re-building of a set of stairs in the basement. The construction of both of these structures had the potential to create a 'below ground' impact, possibly one that would threaten potential archaeological deposits (Hawkins 2016:2). A Watching Brief and Method Statement were duly prepared in relation to the proposed site investigation works.
- 2.7 The site is located at National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 31359 81090 and the project was allocated the name Project Pegasus.

- 2.8 The site of Inner Temple (including the church, garden and precincts) is bounded to the north by Fleet Street, Temple Lane to the east, the A3211 Victoria Embankment to the south and Middle Temple Lane to the west.

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Detailed Site Location, Trial Pit Locations

3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The site lies on River Terrace Gravels overlying London Clay. The top of these gravels was found during the excavations at Church Court at 8.37m OD (2.5m below ground level) in Trench 1 and 9.28m OD in Trench 5 (1.40m below ground level). However, gravel quarry pits are known in the area, so these levels may not accurately represent the top of the natural gravel (Butler 2005).
- 3.2 An archaeological evaluation at 5-6 Pump Court, Middle Temple approximately 109m to the south-west of the study area located gravels truncated by the basement of the present building at c.9.00m OD (Schofield & Maloney 1998, Butler 2005). This approximates well to the height of the gravels in the study area – which are suspected to have been reduced through gravel excavation.
- 3.3 The Inner and Middle Temple areas are extensively terraced and the general topography is one of a considerable slope from Fleet Street in the north down to the Victoria Embankment and the River Thames to the south (Butler 2005). The site would have originally sloped from north down to the south, towards the river. The medieval waterfront once ran roughly east-west c. 40m south of the Treasury Building and it is probable that the Middle Saxon waterfront was just behind (or north of) the medieval waterfront. The River Thames has been the subject of manmade reclamation and encroachments since Roman times (Butler 2005).
- 3.4 The current buildings appear to have been partly terraced into the slope and the ground level in Church Court was built up (Hawkins 2016).
- 3.5 The site lies c.245m due north of the modern north bank of the River Thames and is 380m west of the River Fleet which now runs through a sewer beneath modern day Farringdon Street.

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 Research into the archaeological and historical background of the site has already been carried out as part of an Impact Assessment of the site (Hawkins 2016). Much of the information below has been culled from the monograph produced from the Church & Hare Court excavations (Butler 2005) and summarised by Hawkins (2016).
- 4.2 Although excavations at the Church Court and Hare Court sites were limited in size and scope they revealed a series of significant discoveries from the Middle Saxon era to the post medieval period. Residual prehistoric lithics and Roman finds at both sites hinted at a presence in the area during both periods. In Hare Court the discovery of a probable Saxon cemetery including an inhumation with grave goods adds to the limited knowledge of Middle Saxon funerary practice in Lundenwic and is the first evidence for an eastern cemetery.
- 4.3 Later Middle Saxon occupation was also observed in Hare Court with the presence of structural elements and a well. The high status nature of some of the finds associated with the well, together with rare evidence of glassmaking on the site, suggest that this was an important part of a Saxon settlement. It either represents the easternmost part of Lundenwic yet discovered or an important occupation area between Lundenwic to the west and the putative religious enclave at St Paul's within the old Roman walls to the east.
- 4.4 An 11th/12th century quarry pit and cobbled courtyard associated with either the Bishop of Ely's Inn or the New Temple was also revealed in Hare Court. A similarly dated quarry pit in Church Court was probably associated with the construction of the Temple Church by the Knights Templar between 1161 and 1185. The eastern cloister built during the re-modelling of the church in 1220-40 was identified in Church Court.
- 4.5 Distinctive evidence of the lawyers' occupation of the Temple in the 16th and 17th centuries was present in both courts in the form of a sequence of rubbish pits and gravel yard surfaces in Hare Court, and the Temple Church south cemetery and the Lamb Building in Church Court. Finds from both sites provided evidence of the diet and wealth of the lawyers during this period. A large assemblage of green glazed Borderware pottery vessels with an associated assemblage of glass vessels provided an insight into the drinking practices of the members of the Inns of Court.
- 4.6 Analysis of a similarly dated bone assemblage provided a glimpse of the variety and richness of their diet. The skeletons found in the southern part of the Temple Church cemetery were of surprisingly young age at death and revealed an unusually high incidence of tooth decay.

- 4.7 The discovery of three pieces of printing type in Hare Court provide one of the earliest finds of such material from an archaeological site in the United Kingdom and was an *appropriate* find for the Fleet Street area with its history of printing.
- 4.8 The archaeological history of the site was seen to continue into the twentieth century with the discovery of the basement of the Lamb Building backfilled with fire debris from the incendiary bomb raid of May 1941, which destroyed it and gutted the interior of the Temple Church. Evidence of the former glory of the church was provided by an assemblage of decorated floor tiles found on both sites and a large assemblage of dressed Purbeck marble fragments which was dumped into a service trench in Church Court during the restoration work of the 1950s.
- 4.9 The Treasury Building was badly damaged by bombing in WWII and was demolished and rebuilt in the 1950s on the same footprint as the original building, but with a basement.

5 Archaeological Methodology

- 5.1 The fieldwork comprised the archaeological monitoring of the excavation of five test pits although, due to the presence of live services the fifth test pit, TP5, was abandoned (*Plate 4, Figure 2*). Their purpose was to assess the foundations of the Treasury Building and to obtain brick samples from the foundations where possible.
- 5.2 All aspects of the work followed national (IFA 2008) and local (GLAAS 2009) guidelines, and complied with PCA's own fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009). The fieldwork was carried out according to a method statement prepared by PCA (Moore 2017) and approved by Kathryn Stubbs on behalf of the City of London.
- 5.3 It had originally been intended to excavate five trial pits but this was reduced to four as explained above. TP2 was located on the exterior of the buildings north wall whilst TP3 and TP4 (*Plate 2 & 3, Figure 2*) were located on the exterior of the south wall. TP1 was centrally placed within the building (*Plate 1, Figure 2*). The pits were excavated by CGL Ltd.
- 5.4 Due to the thickness of the concrete encountered the concrete breaker was replaced by a cylindrical concrete corer which slowed the proceedings. However, in each instance the thickness of the concrete exceeded 1m and excavation was halted. It was considered impractical to proceed further and the digging of the test pits to their proposed full extent (1m x 1m) was abandoned as it was considered that it would not have produced any further results.

6 Watching Brief Observations

6.1 Although five test pits were planned, one was abandoned as it was found to be in proximity to a live sewer run.

6.2 Test Pit 1: Interior

0 – 1.00m: Modern concrete

6.3 Test Pit 2: Exterior, North Wall

0 – 1.00m: Modern concrete

6.4 Test Pit 3: Exterior, South Wall

0 – 1.00m: Modern concrete

6.5 Test Pit 4: Exterior, South Wall

0 – 1m: Modern concrete

6.6 Test Pit 5: Exterior, North Wall

Unexcavated

7 Discussion and Conclusions

- 7.1 The monitoring of the test pit excavation at the Treasury Building site had been, in part, a response to the quality and the quantity of finds made during earlier investigations (Butler 2005).
- 7.2 Unfortunately, in this instance, the modern concrete flooring and foundations proved to be too thick to allow the test pits to be opened to their fullest extent or for the brick foundations to be revealed.
- 7.3 No archaeological deposits were discovered during the excavation process.

8 Acknowledgements

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Stephen Davies of Bradbrook Consulting for commissioning the work, CGL Ltd for their co-operation during the excavations, Adam Knight of Hugh Broughton Architects Ltd. For his support and Kathryn Stubbs who monitored the project on behalf of the City of London.
- 8.2 The author wishes to thank Peter Moore for project management and editing this report, Tilia Cammegh for preparing the illustrations and Mike Tunnicliffe for the fieldwork.

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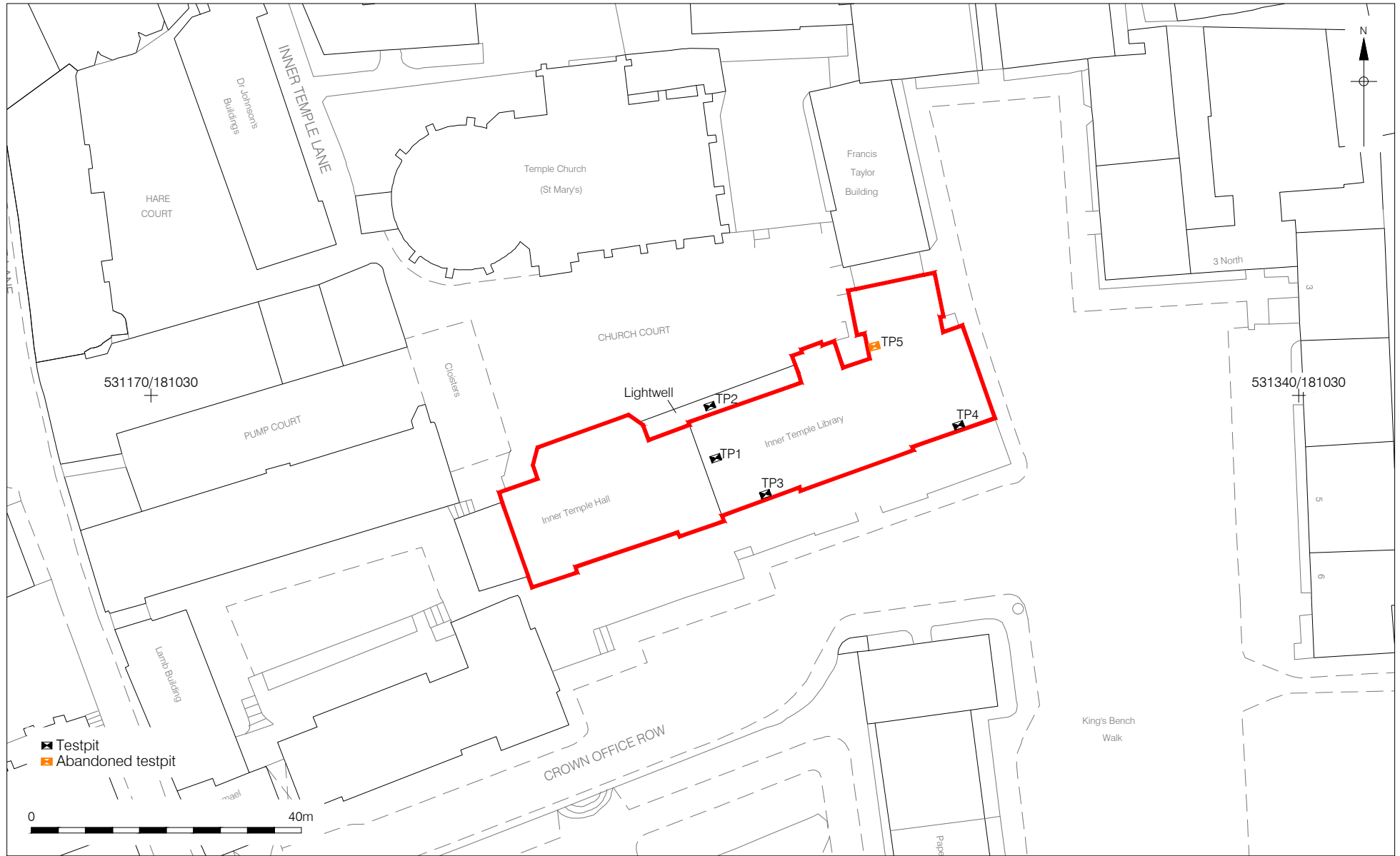
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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:12,500 at A4



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Figure 2
Detailed Site Location
1:800 at A4

APPENDIX 1: PLATES

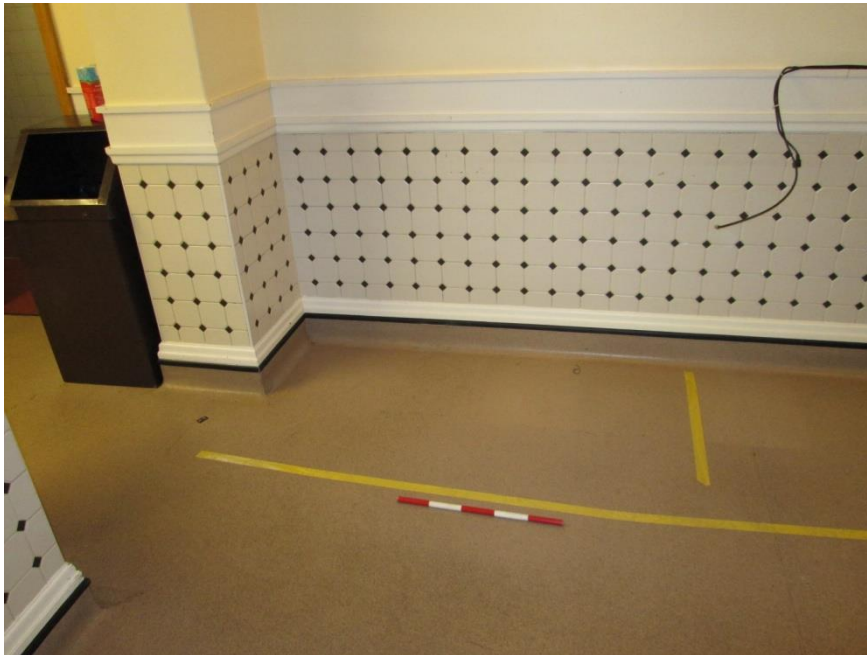


Plate 1: Area of Test Pit 1 pre-excitation, view to north (scale 0.5m)



Plate 2: Area of test Pit 4 pre-excitation, view to west



Plate 3: Test Pit 4 – concrete removal by corer, view to west



Plate 4: Area of Test Pit 5 – abandoned as located on top of live sewer (inspection covers plainly visible), view to north

APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

10 OASIS ID: preconst1-285747

Project details

Project name	Treasury Building, Inner Temple, City of London EC4
Short description of the project	Five test pits measuring 1m x 1m were planned to be opened in and around the Treasury Building, Inner temple, City of London EC4. In the event, only four test pits (TP1-4) were opened whilst the fifth, TP5 was abandoned due to its proximity to a live service. The purpose of the pits was to assess the foundations of the building and where possible, to retrieve bricks or material from its earlier foundations. In each case the excavators encountered a concrete foundation c.1m in depth which required a concrete corer to pierce their thickness. At this point work on the test pits ceased and no further work was done. No archaeological layers or geological deposits were reached by the operation.
Project dates	Start: 14-04-2017 End: 15-04-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	ITM17 - 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	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF LONDON INNER AND MIDDLE TEMPLES Treasury Building, Inner Temple, City of London EC4
Postcode	EC4
Study area	800 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 31359 81090 51.512946893333 -0.106769756675 51 30 46 N 000 06 24 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 8.37m Max: 9.28m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Kathryn Stubbs
Project design originator	Peter Moore
Project director/manager	Peter Moore
Project supervisor	Mike Tunnicliffe
Type of sponsor/funding body	Project Manager
Name of sponsor/funding body	Bradbrook Consulting

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Drawing", "Photograph"

Project bibliography 1

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