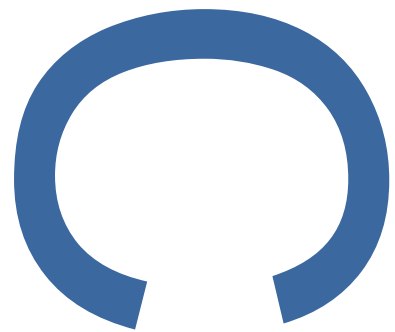


**ST. JAMES'S CHURCHYARD,  
THURLAND ROAD, LONDON  
BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING  
BRIEF**

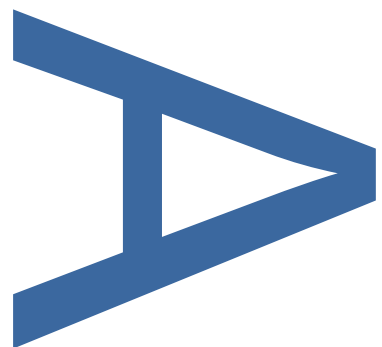


**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:  
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK**



**SITE CODE: THU18**

**APRIL 2018**



**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**  
**St. James's Churchyard, Thurland Road, LB Southwark**  
**Type of project**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**  
**Quality Control**

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code:		K5508	
		Report Number:	R13245
	Name	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	K Deighton A Fairman		April 2018
Graphics Prepared by:	M Steel		April 2018
Graphics Checked by:	J Brown	J Brown	April 2018
Project Manager Sign-off:	A Fairman	A Fairman	April 2018

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT ST JAMES'S CHURCHYARD,  
THURLAND ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK**

**Site Code:** THU18

**Local Planning Authority:** London Borough of Southwark

**Central National Grid Reference:** TQ 34296 79339  
**Written By:** Karen Deighton and Amelia Fairman

**Project Manager:** Amelia Fairman

**Commissioning Client:** London Borough of Southwark

**Contractor:** Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited,  
Unit 54, Brockley Cross Business Centre,  
96 Endwell Road,  
Brockley,  
London, SE4 2PD.

**Tel:** 020 7732 3925  
**Fax:** 020 7732 7896  
**E-mail:** [afairman@pre-construct.com](mailto:afairman@pre-construct.com)  
**Web:** [www.pre-construct.com](http://www.pre-construct.com)

---

**© Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited**

**April 2018**

© The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent. Whilst every effort has been made to provide detailed and accurate information, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies herein contained.

## CONTENTS

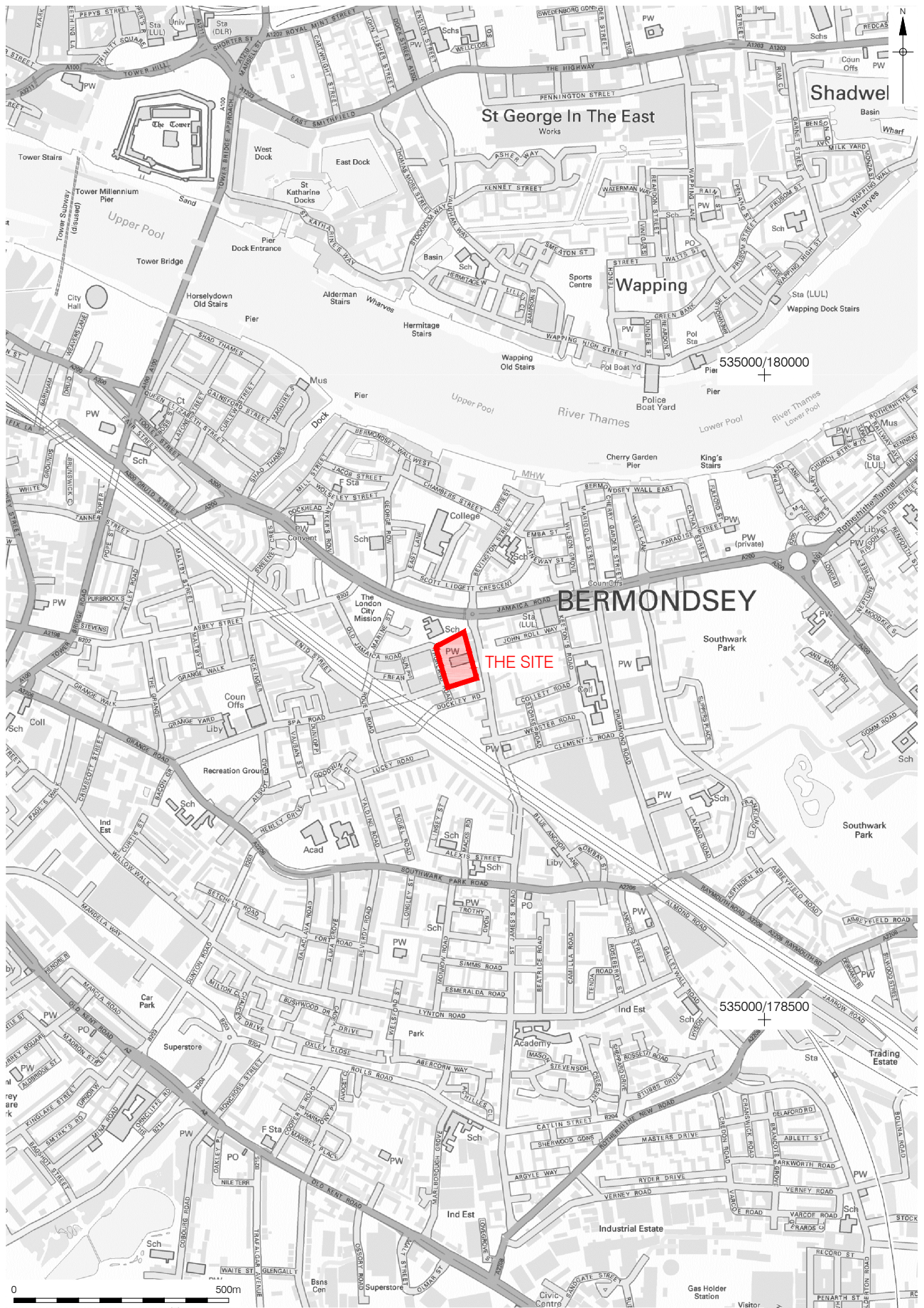
1	ABSTRACT .....	3
2	INTRODUCTION .....	4
3	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	7
4	GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY.....	9
5	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND .....	9
6	METHODOLOGY .....	11
7	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE .....	12
8	CONCLUSIONS .....	17
9	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	18
10	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	18
	Figure 1: Site location .....	5
	Figure 2: Trench Location .....	6
	Figure 3: Sections .....	16
	APPENDIX 1: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM .....	19
	APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX.....	22
	APPENDIX 3: SITE MATRIX .....	23

## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological investigation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land St James's Churchyard, Thurland Road, London SE16 4QJ (Figure 1). The site is located within the London Borough of Southwark and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 34296 79339.
- 1.1.2 Following a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (Fairman, 2017) an archaeological watching brief was carried out between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018. A single trench for an electric cable was excavated within St James's Churchyard, with four deeper areas of investigation for new lamp posts (column bases).
- 1.1.3 Only made ground and topsoil was observed during the excavations.

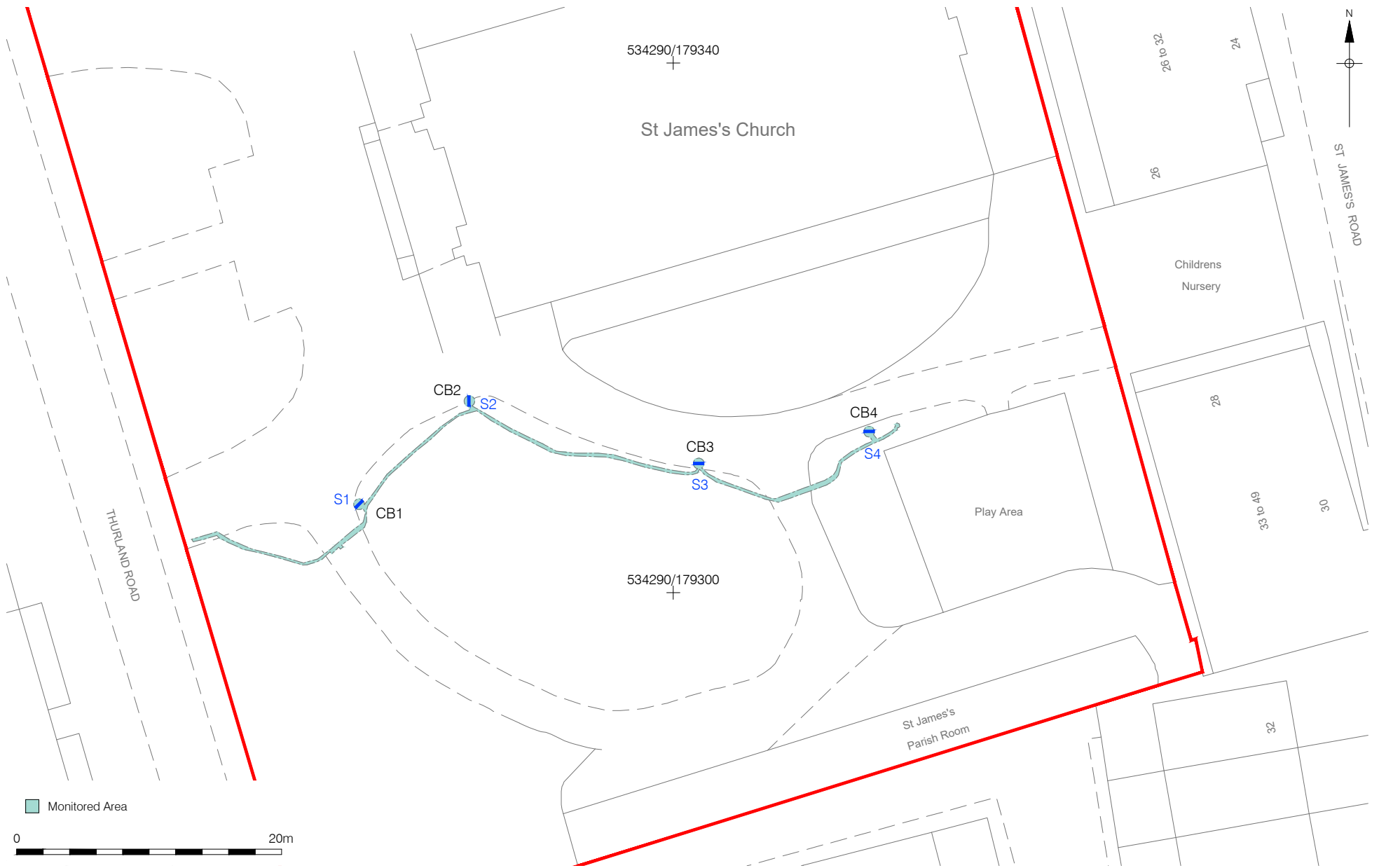
## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) on land at St James's Churchyard, Thurland Road, London Borough of Southwark (Figure 1) between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The site is located within the London Borough of Southwark and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 34296 79339.
- 2.1.2 The watching brief monitored the hand excavation of a single cable trench which was interspersed with four deeper areas of excavation for column bases (new lamp posts). The deepest areas of excavation extended to 0.80m below ground level (BGL) within the latter interventions (Figure 2).
- 2.1.3 The site is not located within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined by the LB Southwark's Proposals Map (2011). The site does not lie within the vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck site. St. James's Church however retains Grade II\* listed status and the church grounds are classed as 'Borough Open Land'.
- 2.1.4 The archaeological watching brief was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited under the supervision of Karen Deighton and the project management of Amelia Fairman. The archaeological work was commissioned by the London Borough of Southwark and was monitored by Christopher Campbell, on behalf of the London Borough of Southwark, and Gillian King on behalf of Historic England.
- 2.1.5 The site records will be archived at the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre under the site code THU18.



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018  
 © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018  
 26/04/18 MS

Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:12.500 at A4



© Crown copyright 2018. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309  
 © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018  
 26/04/18 MS

Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:400 at A4



### **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.

#### **3.2 Regional Policy: The London Plan**

3.2.1 The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by the London Plan Consolidated with Alterations Since 2011. The Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP) were adopted 10 March 2015. It includes **Policy 7.8 Heritage Assets and Archaeology**.

#### **3.3 Local Policy: Archaeology in the London Borough of Southwark**

3.3.1 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).

3.3.2 The Southwark Plan also contains relevant policy statements, which were 'saved' in April 2013:

##### **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.

### **3.4 Site Constraints**

- 3.4.1 The site is not located within an Archaeological Priority Zone, as defined by Southwark Adopted Policies Map (updated 2016). The site does not lie within the vicinity of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Historic Battlefield or Historic Wreck site. St James's Church however retains Grade II\* listed status and the church grounds are classed as 'Borough Open Land'.
- 3.4.2 This report details the results of the archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the WSI (Fairman 2017), and approved by Gillian King, Senior Planning Archaeologist for Southwark.

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey indicates that the solid geology within the vicinity of the site consists of London Clay deposits forming the London Basin, overlain by a superficial geology consisting of Kempton Park Gravel Formation (Sand and Gravel).
- 4.1.2 Boreholes carried out within the immediate vicinity recorded gravel c.0.5m below ground level to the west of the site (BGS ID: 597080)
- 4.1.3 Archaeological investigations carried out to the immediate east of the site (Holden, 2003) identified natural gravels at heights of between 0.73m and 0.81m OD. The latter investigations took place directly along the eastern boundary of the subject site and suggested that ground levels had been raised historically by up to 0.60m.
- 4.1.4 The study site lies c. 0.5km to the south of the River Thames.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 5.1.1 The following background is summarised from Archaeological Evaluations carried out along the eastern boundary of the subject site (Holden, 2003).

### **Prehistoric and Roman**

- 5.1.2 It is likely that the area during the later prehistoric and Roman periods was used for farming. The potential remains for finding isolated pits and ditches truncating natural horizons. Evidence for these periods may also comprise palaeochannels and evidence of historic water management.

### **Saxon and Medieval**

- 5.1.3 The Burghal Hidage, an Anglo-Saxon document dated to the 10th century refers to Suthriganaweorc meaning 'fort of the men of Surrey'. A lack of evidence for Saxon activity from the immediate area however suggests that occupation was minimal or lay outside the immediate vicinity.
- 5.1.4 The Domesday Survey of 1086, which sheds light on the earlier 11th century, lists Southwark (Sudweca, meaning southern defensive work) as an un-manorialised port settlement without a direct lord. The majority of the settlement appears to have been largely confined to the high ground around the bridgehead with rights to the local tolls held by Edward the Confessor and the Earl of Godwin.
- 5.1.5 Due to the presence of key road networks from London to the south and southeast, the medieval city soon expanded to occupy the area of Southwark. These arterial roads lay some distance to the west of the subject site however, so are likely to have had a negligible impact upon the surroundings and development of the subject site.

### **Post-Medieval**

- 5.1.6 Cartographic sources from the latter 17th century illustrate the site as being in use for horticultural or agricultural purposes. Rocque's map of 1746 illustrates the route of St James Road as being established by this date along the eastern boundary of the study site. A West Estate map of 1823 illustrates the area of the church as marked 'Land sold to New Church Committee'. The Church and graveyard are illustrated in their current positions by the Ordnance Survey map of 1872.
- 5.1.7 The area of the study site suffered damage during the bombing raids of WWII and High-Explosive bombs are documented to have fallen to the south, close to Dockley Road, to the north close to Jamaica Road, as well as multiple strikes to the east and west of the site ([bombsight.org](http://bombsight.org))

## **6 METHODOLOGY**

- 6.1.1 In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Fairman 2017), the excavation works were arranged in order to fully investigate the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains.
- 6.1.2 The watching brief comprised of the observation of preparatory works for the installation of outdoor lighting. The preparatory works consisted of a 300mm deep cable trench and 4 columns up to 800mm deep for lamp posts. The cable trench extended to a length of c.50m by up to 200mm width.
- 6.1.3 The column locations were given the designation column bases 1 to 4 (CB1, CB2, CB3, CB4) by the attending archaeologists. Each base measured 300mm in diameter.
- 6.1.4 The excavations were undertaken by a small team of groundworkers who hand excavated all locations. A pneumatic drill was used to break through localised areas of hard standing. All excavation works were continuously monitored by the attendant.
- 6.1.5 All trench features were recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard single context recording methods. The areas were subsequently surveyed in by a PCA surveyor.
- 6.1.6 The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those widely used elsewhere in London, which is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual and presented in PCAs Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009). The site archive was organised to be compatible with the archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area.
- 6.1.7 A full photographic record was made during the archaeological investigation, comprising digital photographs.
- 6.1.8 The archaeological works were monitored by Gillian King, Head Planning Archaeologist for the London Borough of Southwark.
- 6.1.9 The complete archive produced during the watching brief, comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with LAARC, identified by site code THU18.
- 6.1.10 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited is a Registered Archaeological Organisation (number 23) with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and operates within the Institute's 'Code of Practice'.

## **7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

### **7.1 Cable trench**

- 7.1.1 The cable trench connecting all column base locations was excavated to a maximum depth of 300mm below ground level. Only topsoil [+] was identified.



Plate 1: View to west of Cable trench

### **7.2 Column Base 1 (CB1)**

- 7.2.1 The earliest deposit identified within CB1 was just seen at the limit of excavation (0.69m below ground level). This was interpreted as a levelling deposit, of unknown date.
- 7.2.2 Overlying the chalk was a 0.12m to 0.13m thick layer of grey brown clay-silt. The deposit [1] contained frequent chalk flecks and was interpreted as modern made ground.
- 7.2.3 The made ground was sealed by a 570mm thick layer of topsoil from the landscaping of the churchyard.



Plate 2: View to south of CB1

### 7.3 **Column Base 2 (CB2)**

- 7.3.1 Yellow brown silty clay [3] was observed from 0.60m BGL and contained frequent CBM and occasional chalk fragments. This was interpreted as a makeup layer. As the deposit was not fully excavated, it remains of unknown thickness.
- 7.3.2 Overlying the makeup layer was a 600mm layer of topsoil.



Plate 3: View to south-east of CB2

### 7.4 **Column Base 3 (CB3)**

- 7.4.1 Yellow grey clay silt [4] was identified within CB3 at 0.40m BGL and extended beyond the limit of excavation. The layer contained occasional CBM and chalk fragments and was interpreted as modern made ground.
- 7.4.2 Sealing deposit [4] was a layer of topsoil which extended between 400mm and 450mm in thickness.



Plate 4: View to south of CB3

## 7.5 Column Base 4 (CB4)

- 7.5.1 No archaeological deposits of note were revealed during the excavation of CB4. A concrete layer over 0.48m in thickness was identified as extending to an unknown depth. The latter was overlain by an 80mm thick layer tarmac and topsoil in turn.
- 7.5.2 The concrete and tarmac were likely to have been associated with the construction of the adjacent children's play area.



Plate 5: View to south of CB4

## 7.6 Archaeological Phase Discussion

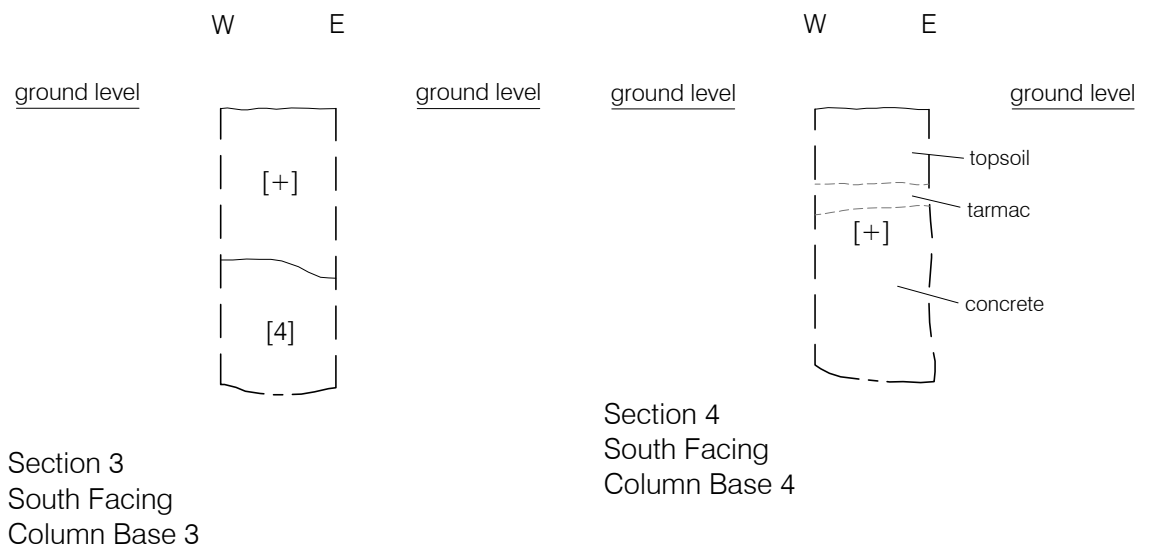
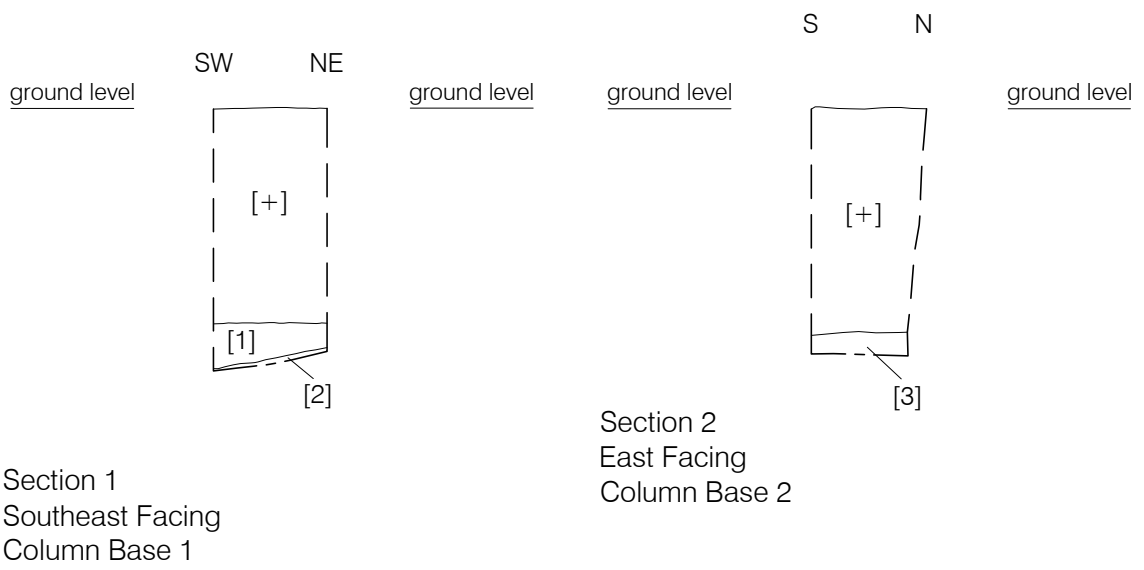
### Phase 1: Undated

- 7.6.1 A single undated layer of chalk was encountered within CB1. The layer was left *in situ* and therefore further interpretation is not possible. The layer is likely however to represent a levelling deposit.



**Phase 2: Modern**

- 7.6.2 Comparable deposits of silty clays were observed in CB1, CB2 and CB3 and are likely to represent roughly contemporary made ground/levelling layers.
- 7.6.3 All levelling deposits were overlain by modern topsoil.



## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

8.1.1 Two phases of activity were observed at the subject site:

- Phase 1: Undated - Levelling
- Phase 2: Modern – Made ground

8.1.2 No archaeological horizons pre-dating the late post-medieval/modern periods were identified during the site investigations.

8.1.3 The shallow depth of the investigations and current land usage as a park suggests that if any archaeological horizon do survive on the site, they exist below the limit of excavation.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1.1 PCA would like to thank The London Borough of Southwark for commissioning this project and Christopher Campbell and Gillian King for monitoring the fieldwork on behalf of the London Borough of Southwark.
- 9.1.2 The author would like to thank, Mick Steel for the illustrations and Amelia Fairman for project management and editing.

## **10 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

British Geological Survey:

597080 [http://scans.bgs.ac.uk/sobi\\_scans/boreholes/597080/images/12228589.html](http://scans.bgs.ac.uk/sobi_scans/boreholes/597080/images/12228589.html)

Bomb Sight: <http://www.bombsight.org/#17/51.49704/-0.06625>

Fairman, 2017, Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Investigation at St James's churchyard, Thurland Road London Borough of Southwark, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd: unpublished report

Holden, S, 2003, An Archaeological Evaluation of Land off St James Road, Bermondsey, London Borough of Southwark: A Community Archaeology Excavation, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd: unpublished report

Southwark Council undated, <http://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-transport-policy/development-plan/local-plan>

## APPENDIX 1: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

**OASIS ID: preconst1-315848**

### Project details

Project name	St James's Churchyard, Thurland Road, LB Southwark
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) on land at St James's Churchyard, Thurland Road, London Borough of Southwark. The watching brief monitored the hand excavation of a single cable trench and four deeper areas of excavation for column bases (new lamp posts). The deepest areas of excavation extended to 0.80m below ground level (BGL). Made ground and topsoil were observed.
Project dates	Start: 09-04-2018 End: 10-04-2018
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	THU18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	LAYER Modern
Monument type	LAYER Uncertain
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK St James's Churchyard, Thurland Road, LB Southwark
Postcode	SE16 4QJ
Site coordinates	TQ 34296 79339 51.496518021231 -0.06513234157 51 29 47 N

000 03 54 W Point

---

### Project creators

Name of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Organisation

Project brief Southwark Council

originator

Project design Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

originator

Project Amelia Fairman

director/manager

Project supervisor Karen Deighton

Type of Southwark Council

sponsor/funding

body

Name of Southwark Council

sponsor/funding

body

---

### Project archives

Physical Archive No

Exists?

Digital Archive LAARC

recipient

Digital Archive ID THU18

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

available

Paper Archive LAARC

recipient

Paper Archive ID THU18

Paper Media "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook -

available Excavation',' Research',' General

Notes","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

---

### Project

#### bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title An Archaeological Watching Brief at St James's Churchyard,  
Thurland Road, London Borough of Southwark

Author(s)/Editor(s) Deighton K

Author(s)/Editor(s) Fairman A

Date 2018

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Place of issue or London  
publication

Description A4 folio

---

Entered by Amelia Fairman (afairman@pre-construct.com)

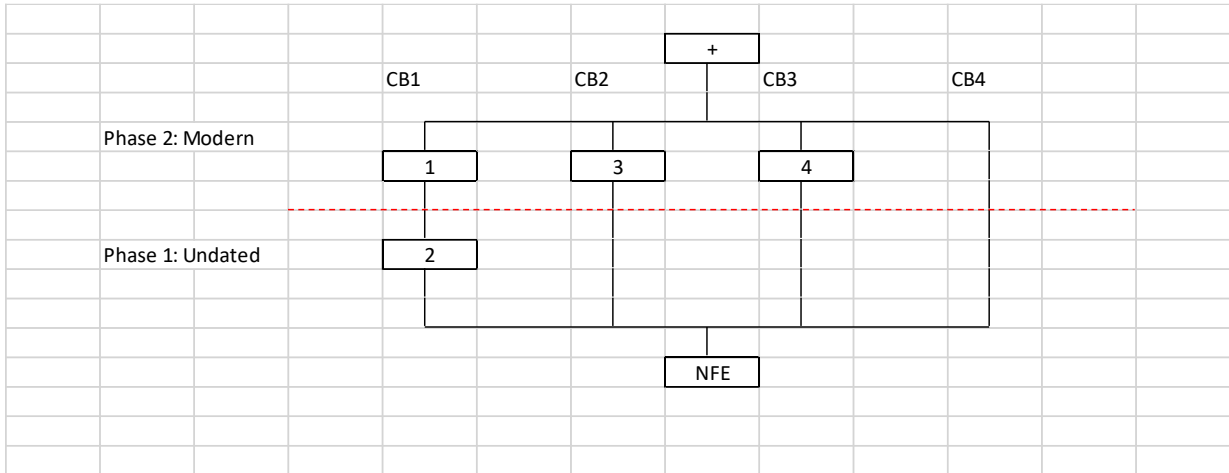
Entered on 30 April 2018

## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Type	Description	Trench No.	Section / Elevation	Dimensions N-S (m)	Dimensions E-W (m)	Depth / Thickness (m)	Phase
1	Layer	Firm ,mid grey brown silt/clay which frequent small chalk fragments	CB1	CB1	0.3m	0.3	0.13(exc)	2
2	Layer	Firm light greyish white chalk	CB1	CB1	0.3m	0.3	Not excavated	1
3	Layer	Moderately firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt with frequent CBM,occasional chalk and root intrusions	CB2	CB2	0.46	0.3	0.65(exc)	2
4	Layer	Fairly firm light yellow brown(with mid brown patches)clay silt sand with occasional CBM and chalk fragments	CB3	CB3	0.38	0.36	0.35(exc)	2



### APPENDIX 3: SITE MATRIX



# PCA

## **PCA CAMBRIDGE**

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM  
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN  
t: 01223 845 522  
e: [cambridge@pre-construct.com](mailto:cambridge@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA DURHAM**

UNIT 19A, TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK  
TURSDALE  
DURHAM DH6 5PG  
t: 0191 377 1111  
e: [durham@pre-construct.com](mailto:durham@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA LONDON**

UNIT 54, BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE  
96 ENDWELL ROAD, BROCKLEY  
LONDON SE4 2PD  
t: 020 7732 3925  
e: [london@pre-construct.com](mailto:london@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA NEWARK**

OFFICE 8, ROEWOOD COURTYARD  
WINKBURN, NEWARK  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG22 8PG  
t: 01636 370410  
e: [newark@pre-construct.com](mailto:newark@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA NORWICH**

QUARRY WORKS, DEREHAM ROAD  
HONINGHAM  
NORWICH NR9 5AP  
T: 01223 845522  
e: [cambridge@pre-construct.com](mailto:cambridge@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA WARWICK**

UNIT 9, THE MILL, MILL LANE  
LITTLE SHREWLEY, WARWICK  
WARWICKSHIRE CV35 7HN  
t: 01926 485490  
e: [warwick@pre-construct.com](mailto:warwick@pre-construct.com)

## **PCA WINCHESTER**

5 RED DEER COURT, ELM ROAD  
WINCHESTER  
HAMPSHIRE SO22 5LX  
t: 01962 849 549  
e: [winchester@pre-construct.com](mailto:winchester@pre-construct.com)

