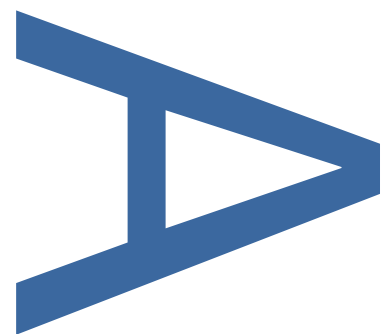
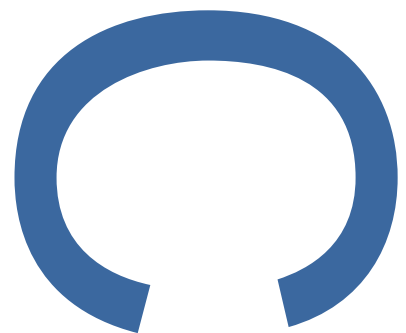


**WORKSHOP,  
RODMILL LANE,  
LONDON, SW2 4EL**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF  
ON GEOTECHNICAL SITE  
INVESTIGATION**

**SITE CODE: ROL19**

**APRIL 2019**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**


**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

**WORKSHOP, RODMILL LANE, LONDON, SW2 4EL**

**Type of project**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON GEOTECHNICAL SIT INVESTIGATION**

**Quality Control**

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code		K5955	
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
Text Prepared by:	C Sinclair		01.04.2019
Graphics Prepared by:	D Valk		01.04.2019
Graphics Checked by:	M Roughley		01.04.2019
Project Manager Sign-off:	Z Pozorski		02.04.2019

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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

---

**WORKSHOP, RODMILL LANE, LONDON, SW2 4EL**  
**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON GEOTECHNICAL SITE**  
**INVESTIGATION**

---

**SITE CODE:** ROL19

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

**PLANNING REFERENCE:** 16/03675/FUL

**CENTRAL NGR:** TQ 3039 7356

**WRITTEN BY:** CHLOE SINCLAIR  
PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED

**PROJECT MANAGER:** ZBIGNIEW POZORSKI  
PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED

**COMMISSIONING CLIENT:** BLACK ARCHITECTURE LTD ON BEHALF OF THE  
OVERALL CLIENT

**VERSION:** 1.0

---

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

**Tel:** 020 7358 8950 | 020 7732 3925

**Email:** zpozorski@pre-construct.com

**Website:** www.pre-construct.com

---

**© Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited**

**April 2019**

© The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent.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 .....	5
4	GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND .....	6
5	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND .....	7
6	RESEARCH DESIGN .....	8
7	METHODOLOGY .....	9
8	RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.....	10
9	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE.....	15
10	INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS .....	16
11	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	17
12	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	17
	PLATES.....	18

## **FIGURES**

FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION .....	21
FIGURE 2: DETAILED SITE LOCATION .....	22
FIGURE 3: PLAN OF INVESTIGATION AREA 1 .....	23
FIGURE 4: PLAN OF INVESTIGATION AREA 2 .....	24
FIGURE 5: SECTIONS .....	25

## **APPENDICIES**

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX .....	26
APPENDIX 2: SPECIALIST REPORTS .....	28
APPENDIX 3: OASIS REPORT .....	34

## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief during geotechnical site investigation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) at the site of Workshop, Rodmill Lane, London SW2 4EL. The area of the investigation was located within the existing building and its immediate vicinity and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 3039 7356.
- 1.2 The archaeological investigation was conducted between 13<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and comprised the inspection and recording of eleven geotechnical test pits, two boreholes and three window samples. The excavations were located within the footprint of the workshop and at various points along the perimeter of the adjacent buildings. The test pits were hand excavated by the attending groundworkers to determine the depths and condition of the building's existing footings. The boreholes and window samples were to assess general ground conditions on the site.
- 1.3 Natural superficial deposits were observed across the site and consisted of London clay. Natural geology was overlain by post-medieval and modern made ground deposits and the remains of the 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century development on the site.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief during geotechnical site investigation, undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) at the site of Workshop, Rodmill lane, London SW2 5EL (Figure 1). The site is located within the site which is occupied by vacant warehouse building and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 3039 7356.
- 2.2 The monitoring took place between 13th and 19th March 2019.
- 2.3 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was prepared for the site (PCA 2015). The site had a potential for archaeological remains of Roman period. The Roman London-Brighton road passed just to the east of the site and previous finds and interventions have shown the existence of possible remains of the road nearby.
- 2.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared for the project (PCA 2019), which defined a pro-active programme of observation and recording during the geotechnical site investigation works. The results of the watching brief are to further inform the archaeological evaluation strategy.
- 2.5 The investigation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited under the supervision of Clare Davey, and the project management of Zbigniew Pozorski. The archaeological work was commissioned by Black Architecture Ltd on behalf of the overall client.
- 2.6 The site was allocated the unique site code ROL19. The complete archive comprising written, drawn, and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).
- 2.7 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:
- *Workshop, Rodmill Lane, London SW2 4EL: Written Scheme of Investigation for An Archaeological Watching Brief* (Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited 2019)
  - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2016)
  - *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London* (Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service HE GLAAS 2015)
  - *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014).
  - *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual*, (Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited; Taylor, J & Brown, G. 2009).

### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 Planning permission was granted following an appeal for the demolition of existing site buildings and the erection of a 3-storey building to provide a terrace of 7 dwellings (use Class C3) with the provision of refuse and recycling storage and cycle parking (London Borough of Lambeth Planning Ref 16/03675/FUL; Appeal Ref APP/N5660/W/16/3162500)

3.2 The planning condition (9) attached to the decision issued on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017 reads as follows:

*9) A) No demolition or development shall commence until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions, and all of the following:*

*i) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording;*

*ii) The programme for post investigation assessment;*

*iii) Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording;*

*iv) Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation;*

*v) Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation;*

*vi) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation;*

*B) No demolition or development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part (A) of this condition.*

*C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part (A) of this condition and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.*

3.3 The requirement for the archaeological work was subsequently discussed between PCA and Mark Stevenson of Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), archaeological advisors to LB Lambeth. A requirement for the archaeological watching brief during geotechnical site investigations was confirmed. If the results of this site investigation proved the archaeological remains to be present on the site, a further watching brief on the construction groundworks or another form of investigation may be requested by GLAAS.

## **4 GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS) of England and Wales, the local geology consists of clay of the London Clay Formation. Superficial deposits comprise of clay, silt, sand and gravel.
- 4.2 A borehole investigation at the junction of Streatham Place and Brixton Hill recorded soft/firm sandy clay with occasional gravel at a depth of 2m below ground level with a thickness of 4m.
- 4.3 The site lies on land that exhibits little variation in elevation, there having been much modification of the natural topography over the last two millennia. However, there is a gradual downwards slope in the modern surface from south to north, ground elevation at the site being recorded at approximately 48.7m AOD.
- 4.4 There are currently no natural bodies of water within the immediate vicinity of the site, though the River Thames lies 4.47km to the north. However, south to north flowing feeder streams to the now buried River Effra were located to the east of Brixton Hill and a little further south a stream forming one branch of the River Falcon also flowed in an east to west direction but is also now buried.



## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (2015) for the site. In summary:

- 5.1 There is limited evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the study site. Much of the evidence comes from residual artefactual material, mostly worked flint, though some prehistoric pottery has also been recorded.
- 5.2 Roman roads carrying traffic in and out of London criss-crossed the river at various points, in particular the London- Brighton/Portslade Way, or the A23, which ran adjacent to the proposed site. During the medieval period this section of road was known as 'Brixton Causeway' which later turned into 'Brixton Hill'. Archaeological evidence for the road was believed to have been uncovered on Telford Avenue, to the south of the site. Some evidence of Roman activity was recovered from a site at Upper Tulse Hill, 600m east of the proposed development, where residual Roman ceramic building material was recovered.
- 5.3 Archaeological evidence of early medieval occupation has also been recovered at a site at Upper Tulse Road, to the east of the proposed site. However, although the settlement would have been located in broadly the same area as the proposed development, there has been negligible archaeological evidence for early medieval activity in the immediate vicinity.
- 5.4 Development of the area around the proposed site began in earnest from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century; large houses with generous gardens were constructed, creating a new suburb of London. Within the area of the proposed site there were a series of gardens and associated outbuildings, one of which belonged to a nursery. Redevelopment in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century led to the building of smaller, terraced housing in the area, whilst the site itself contained a number of small buildings and a small parcel of open land. By the 1950's the site had been redeveloped again and the entire site was covered by the warehouse building that stands today.

## **6 RESEARCH DESIGN**

6.1 The archaeological investigation was designed to determine the presence or absence of surviving deposits and features at the site which may be impacted by the development and, if present, to investigate and record them. The investigation did also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival.

6.2 The following site-specific research questions are also posed:

- Are there Roman remains present on the site, and do they relate to the known Roman road nearby?
- Is there any evidence of medieval activity on the site and can it relate to the settlement in the area?
- Are remains of post-medieval occupation present on the site?
- Is there evidence for burials within the site?

## **7 METHODOLOGY**

- 7.1 The proposed methodology of the archaeological work was detailed in the site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2015) and comprised the archaeological monitoring of eleven geotechnical test pits, two boreholes and three window samples located within the office building on the site (Figure 2). Three test pits (No 3, 6 and 9) were abandoned by the contractor due to access and practical issues.
- 7.2 Any potential archaeological features or deposits encountered within the test pits were cleaned and investigated by hand and recorded by the attending archaeologist. However, investigation of the archaeological features and deposits was restricted due to the limited dimensions of the test pits.
- 7.3 All recording systems adopted during the investigation were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in London Borough of Lambeth; presented in PCAs *Operations Manual 1* (Taylor & Brown 2009, updated 2018). A selective section of each test pit was drawn by hand at a scale of 1:10 in order to illustrate the observed sequences, modern disturbance and current ground level. In addition to a series of digital photographs recording the encountered deposits a written record of each deposit was also produced. Location of the section drawing was located by offsetting from the internal walls and plotted onto OS mapping data by CAD.
- 7.4 Following the completion of all phases of fieldwork and reporting the project archive will be deposited in its entirety with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) with the unique site code ROL19.

## **8 RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION**

### **8.1 Test Pit 1**

- 8.1.1 The pit was located along the eastern interior wall of the workshop. It measured 0.42m x 0.30m and was excavated to a depth of 1.37m below ground level (BGL).
- 8.1.2 The natural clay [9] was recorded at the base of the pit at a depth of 1.33m BGL.
- 8.1.3 The natural was overlain by a 0.40m thick layer of grey clay [22] present at 0.95m BGL, which was truncated by the construction cut for the warehouse footings [59].
- 8.1.4 The footing construction cut had been filled in by dump layers; a 0.10m thick yellowish grey sand [21] at 0.65m BGL, and two sequential layers of yellowish sand [73]. [57] seen at 0.35m BGL and 0.20m BGL respectively.
- 8.1.5 The sequence was sealed by a 0.20m thick concrete slab.

### **8.2 Test Pit 2**

- 8.2.1 The pit was located along the south interior wall of the warehouse and was excavated to a depth of 2.00m BGL.
- 8.2.2 A 0.20m thick layer of redeposited natural [13], [15] was seen at the base of the pit. This was overlain by a yellowish-brown sandy clay [14] 0.20m thick at a depth of 0.69m BGL, which was in turn covered by a mid greyish yellow sandy clay [12] 0.49m thick, at a depth of 0.27m BGL.
- 8.2.3 The clay sequence was capped by a 0.16m thick yellow sand bedding layer [55], underlying the 0.20m thick concrete slab.

### **8.3 Test Pit 4**

- 8.3.1 Test Pit 4 was located to the south-east of the building within the surface of Rodmill Lane. The pit measured 0.38m x 0.37m and it was excavated to a depth of 0.85m BGL.
- 8.3.2 No archaeological deposits were recorded in Test Pit 4.
- 8.3.3 Two bedding layers for the road were recorded; a 0.19m thick greyish yellow sand [58] at a depth of 0.69m BGL, and a 0.48m thick greyish yellow sand [56] with flint gravel fragments at a depth of 0.20m BGL. These were capped by a 0.09m thick tarmac slab.

### **8.4 Test Pit 5**

- 8.4.1 Test Pit 5 was located to the south-east of the main doors of the warehouse, it measured 0.28m x 0.25m and was excavated to a depth of 1.00m BGL.
- 8.4.2 The earliest deposit recorded was a mottled orangey grey clay [68] at a depth of 0.74m BGL and continued below the limit of excavation. This was overlain by a 0.18m thick layer of mid grey yellow clay [67].

8.4.3 The clay sequence was covered by two yellow sand bedding layers; a greyish yellow sand [66] 0.24m thick at 0.57m BGL, and a greyish yellow sand [65] 0.20m thick as 0.13m BGL.

8.4.4 A 0.14m thick concrete and tarmac slab capped the deposits.

#### 8.5 **Test Pit 7**

8.5.1 The pit was located to the north-west of the building and as the remaining pits was situated along Rodmill Lane north-eastern/eastern boundary. It measured 0.40m x 0.22m and was excavated to a depth of 0.50m BGL.

8.5.2 No natural deposits were observed in Pit 7 (Plate 2).

8.5.3 The earliest feature recorded was a cut [43] for a former red brick foundation [41] and its packing [36]. These were seen at 0.39m BGL, 0.22m BGL, and 0.20m BGL, respectively.

8.5.4 Overlying the foundation, was the cut [44] for a yellow brick culvert [40] and its yellow grey sand packing [43]. These were recorded at 0.22m BGL, 0.06m BGL, and 0.03m BGL.

8.5.5 The above sequence was truncated by the construction cut for the current tarmac construction [42] seen at 0.06m BGL. This was overlain by a clayey sand [35] and dark grey tarmac and clinker levelling layers, 0.18m BGL, and 0.05m BGL. These were capped by a 0.05m thick slab of tarmac.

#### 8.6 **Test Pit 8**

8.6.1 This pit measured 0.52m x 0.83m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m BGL.

8.6.2 The earliest deposit encountered was a 0.41m thick layer of greyish brown sandy clay [64], recorded at a depth of 0.30m BGL. This was overlain by a 0.15m thick layer of black garden soil [63] at a depth of 0.06m BGL.

8.6.3 The sequence was truncated by a 0.15m thick layer of concrete and capped by a 0.06m thick tarmac slab.

#### 8.7 **Test Pit 10**

8.7.1 Test Pit 10 was located just to the north of the warehouse. The pit measured 0.40m x 0.54m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.98m BGL.

8.7.2 The earliest deposit encountered was a yellowish grey sandy clay [70] at a depth of 0.43m BGL and continued below the lower limit of excavation.

8.7.3 The sandy clay [70] was overlain by a 0.10m thick layer of yellowish grey made ground [71] at a depth of 0.35m BGL. This was covered by a 0.25m thick yellow bed layer [69] recorded at 0.10m BGL.

8.7.4 The sequence was capped by a 0.10m thick slab of tarmac.

#### 8.8 **Test Pit 11**

- 8.8.1 The pit measured 0.44m x 0.50m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.00m BGL.
- 8.8.2 A 0.10m thick layer of natural [4] was recorded at a depth of 0.90m BGL and continued below the limit of excavation. This was overlain by a 0.50m thick layer of yellowish grey clay [5], seen at a depth of 0.17m BGL.
- 8.8.3 Sealing the sequence was a 0.23m thick dump [5] layer recorded at 0.18m BGL, capped by a 0.18m thick concrete and tarmac slab.

#### 8.9 **Test Pit 12**

- 8.9.1 Test Pit 12 was located along the western perimeter of building 15, measuring 0.40m north/south, 0.40m east/west, excavated to a depth of 1.03m BGL.
- 8.9.2 A 0.32m thick layer of greyish yellow sandy clay [1] seen at a depth of 0.70m BGL and continued below the lower limit of excavation. This was overlain by a 0.54m thick layer of dark brown garden soil [3] seen at 0.15m BGL.
- 8.9.3 The latest deposit was a 0.10m thick sand bedding layer [2] recorded at a depth of 0.06m BGL, capped by a 0.06, thick concrete slab (Plate 1).

#### 8.10 **Test Pit 13**

- 8.10.1 The pit measured 0.40m x 0.45m and was excavated to a depth of 1.50m BGL.
- 8.10.2 A 0.20m thick layer of very organic sandy silt [17] was observed at the base of the pit to a height of 1.30m BGL. This was overlain by a 0.60m thick layer of organic silty clay [16] recorded at a depth of 1.10m BGL.
- 8.10.3 The sequence was sealed by two yellow sand bedding layers for the former driveway [52] and 0.10m thick current concrete slab. These consisted of a 0.60m thick layer [11] seen at 0.50m BGL, and a 0.30m thick layer [10] 0.30m BGL.

#### 8.11 **Test Pit 14**

- 8.11.1 This pit measured 0.50m x 0.60m east/west and was excavated to a depth of 0.70m BGL.
- 8.11.2 A yellowish grey clay [20] 0.25m BGL was the earliest deposit recorded and continued below the limit of excavation.
- 8.11.3 This was overlain by two sand bedding layers seen across the site. The earlier being a 0.14m thick greyish yellow sand [18] at 0.14m BGL, and a 0.14m thick layer of greyish yellow sand [19] at 0.08m BGL. These were capped by a 0.09m thick concrete slab.

#### 8.12 **Borehole 1**

- 8.12.1 Borehole 1 was located in the northern interior of the workshop and was excavated to a depth of 10m.

8.12.2 A series of natural deposits were recorded from the base to 0.40m BGL. The earliest of these was a gravel layer [73] at 9.2m BGL, overlain by three natural clay deposits; a 7.4m thick yellowish grey mottled clay [9] observed at 1.80m BGL, and a 0.70m thick layer of greyish yellow clay [51] recorded at 1.10m BGL, and a 0.70m thick layer of yellowish grey sandy clay [50] at 0.40m BGL.

8.12.3 The natural sequence was covered by a 0.20m thick yellow sand bedding layer [49] and sealed by a 0.20m thick concrete slab.

### 8.13 Borehole 2

8.13.1 Borehole 1 was located in the south-eastern part of the warehouse and was excavated to a depth of 6m BGL.

8.13.2 The earliest deposit was a 2.60m+ thick yellowish grey mottled clay [9] observed at 3.40m BGL, overlain by a 1.60m thick layer of redeposited light grey gravel with silty sand [8]. Above was [7], a 1.00m thick layer of yellowish grey clay and sand, likely a levelling layer for the warehouse, present at 0.80m BGL. A thin (0.10m) layer of clay and sand [6] was present above capped by concrete slab.

### 8.14 Borehole 3

8.14.1 Borehole 3 was located in the western interior of the workshop, excavated to a depth of 6.00m BGL.

8.14.2 A series of natural deposits were recorded from the base to a depth of 0.50m BGL. The earliest of these was a 3.20m thick layer of yellowish grey mottled clay [9] recorded at 2.80m BGL. This was overlain by three natural deposits; a 1.80m thick layer of silty sand [31], a 0.60m thick layer of gravelly sand [30], and a 0.30m thick layer of silty gravelly sand [29]. These were recorded at 2.80m BGL, 1.60m BGL, and 0.80m BGL respectively.

8.14.3 The natural sequence was covered by two levelling layers for the current workshop floor. These consisted of a 0.25m thick orangish brown sand [27] at 0.25m BGL, and a 0.12m thick brownish orange sand [26] seen at 0.13m BGL.

8.14.4 The bedding layers were sealed by a 0.13m thick concrete slab (Plate 3).

### 8.15 Window Sample 1

8.15.1 Window Sample 1 was located at the base of Test Pit 7 to the north-west of the building and at Rodmill Lane. A 0.45m thick layer of mid yellowish grey gravel and sand with CBM [32] was present at 0.15m BGL, overlying a layer of London Clay [9] seen throughout the site, at a depth of 1.20m BGL. [32] was sealed by a 0.15m thick tarmac of the road surface.

**8.16 Window Sample 2**

8.16.1 Window Sample 2 was located directly adjacent to Test Pit 12 and revealed a mid-brown clay [61] at a depth of 0.50m BGL, overlain by a dark brown clay [60] observed at 0.30m BGL, sealed by a 0.20m thick tarmac.

**8.17 Window Sample 3**

8.17.1 Window Sample 3 was located at the base of Test Pit 14 and revealed a layer of mid grey clay [62] at 1.00m BGL, overlying a layer of London Clay [9] seen throughout the site, at a depth of 1.20m BGL, sealed by a 0.10m thick concrete slab.

**8.18 Window Sample 4**

8.18.1 Window Sample 4 revealed London Clay [9] at a depth of 3.80m BGL, which was overlain by an alluvial deposit; a mid yellow grey clay [48] at 0.70m BGL.

8.18.2 The natural layers were covered by redeposited natural [47], and a greyish levelling layer [46], seen at 0.40m BGL, and 0.30m BGL respectively.

8.18.3 The sequence was capped by a 0.10m thick concrete, and 0.20 m thick tarmac.



## **9 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

9.1 The following section describes the deposits recorded during the investigation by archaeological phase.

### **9.2 Phase 1: Natural**

9.2.1 Natural superficial deposits were encountered in most of the test pits and in the boreholes. The earliest of these recorded was a sandy gravel [73] at the base of BH1, 9.20m BGL. The gravel was overlain by the London Clay [9] seen between 1.20m and 3.40m BGL.

9.2.2 The London Clay was overlain by a sequence of sandy gravel deposits [31], [30], [29], and layers of sandy clay [70], [64], [51], [50], [20], [5], [4], [1].

### **9.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval**

9.3.1 Two pieces of post-great fire brick (1700-1950), and post-medieval peg tile were recovered from deposits [14] and [22] respectively, though these are believed to be either residual, or at the latter end of the dating spectrum mentioned, as all concurrent deposits were found to be modern in date.

### **9.4 Phase 4: Modern**

9.4.1 In all areas observed, modern sandy bedding layers, garden soil, and made ground underly the concrete and tarmac and consisted of these deposits: [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [8], [10], [11], [12], [13], [15], [16], [18], [19], [20], [21], [22], [25], [26], [27], [28], [32], [33], [34], [35], [36], [39], [46], [47], [49], [55], [56], [57], [58], [60], [62], [63], [64], [65], [66], [68], [69], [70], [71].

9.4.2 Brick foundations were observed in Test Pit 7 and 10 [40], [41] and [72] and are believed to belong to an earlier phase of the adjacent buildings.

## **10 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 10.1 The watching brief identified the level of the London Clay at the depth between 1.20m and 3.80m BGL. Within the building the Clay was recorded between 1.80m and 3.40m BGL dropping from north to south and rising again to the south and being overlain by natural deposits of alluvial character. To the north of the building the Clay was present at 1.33m BGL whilst to the south-east the Clay was recorded at 1.20m BGL. This may suggest a presence of natural depression or a channel, possibly orientated west to east, crossing the site in its centre.
- 10.2 Other deposits on the site were of modern character. Redeposited gravel and clay were used as levelling material and sandy bedding layer for the concrete and tarmac slabs were seen across the site. The area within interior of the warehouse appears to contain those deposits down to between 0.60m and 1.20m BGL and present directly above natural geology. Within the workshop and in other locations the made ground deposits were truncated in places by foundations of the adjacent buildings.
- 10.3 No archaeological deposits predating 1900 were observed.

## 11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 11.1 Pre-Construct would like to thank Steve Burr and Marco Fiusco of Black Architecture Ltd for commissioning the work on behalf of the overall client. We also thank Mark Stevenson of Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service for his input and advice to the project.
- 11.2 The author would also like to thank Zbigniew Pozorski for his project management and editing this report, and Diana Valk for the illustrations.

## 12 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014 Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief CfA 2014

Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, 2015, *Standards for Archaeological Work*

Historic England, 2016, Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment MoRPHE

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, 2015, *298-300 Brixton Hill. An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment*. Unpublished report No 12197

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, 2019, *Workshop, Rodmill Lane, London SW2 4EL: Written Scheme of Investigation for An Archaeological Watching Brief*

Taylor, J. with Brown, G. 2009, updated 2018, *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual 1*, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

## PLATES



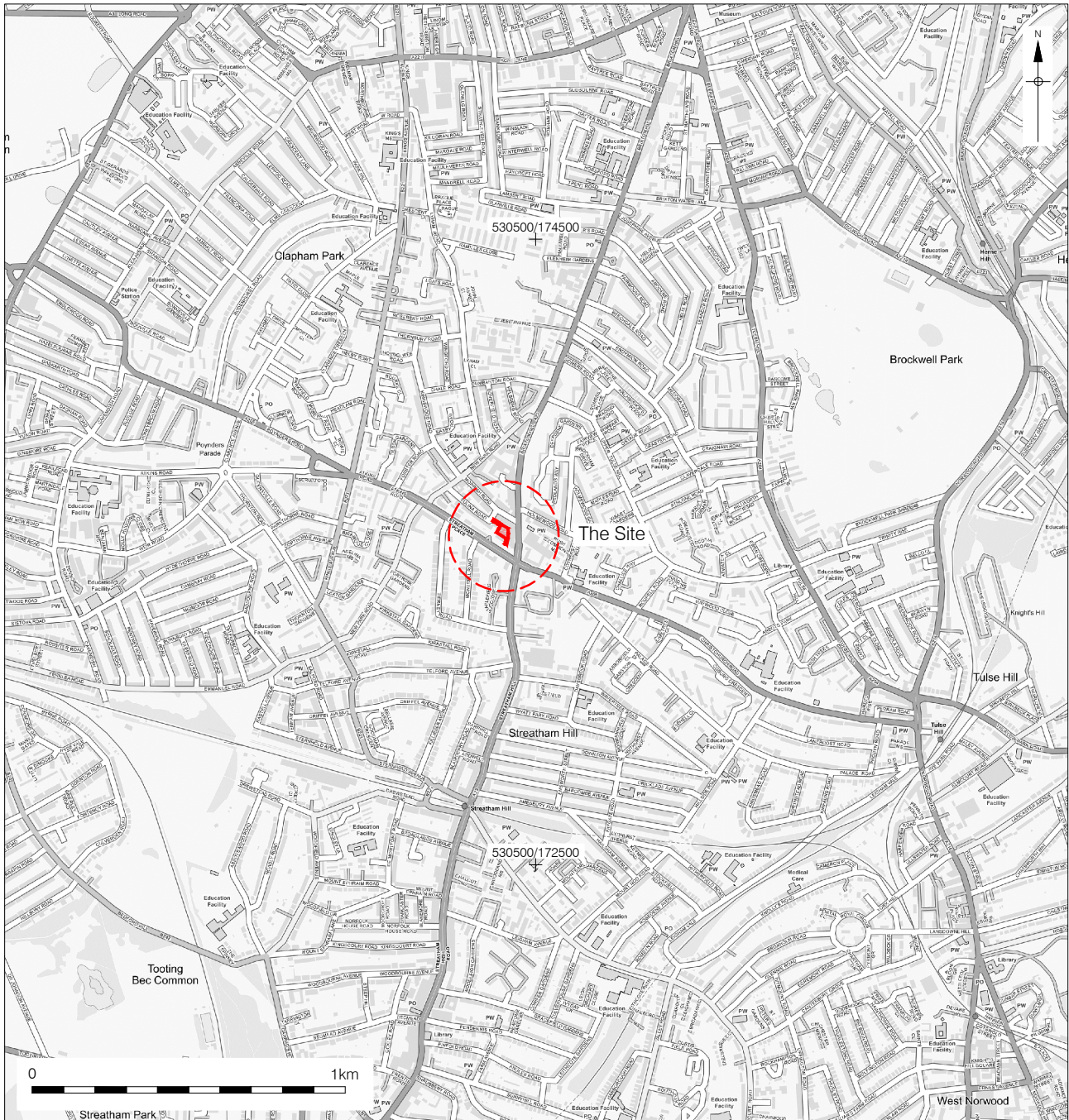
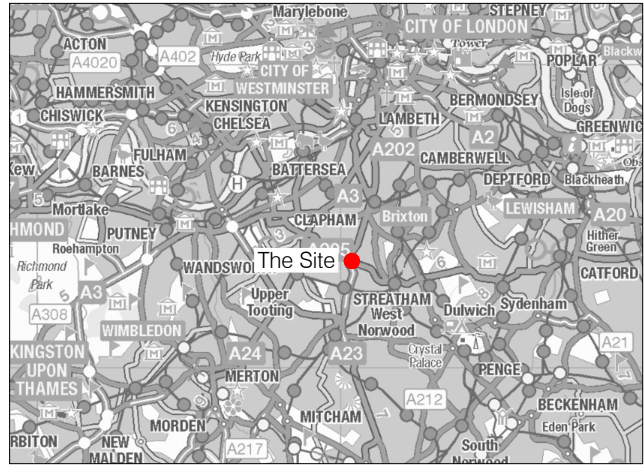
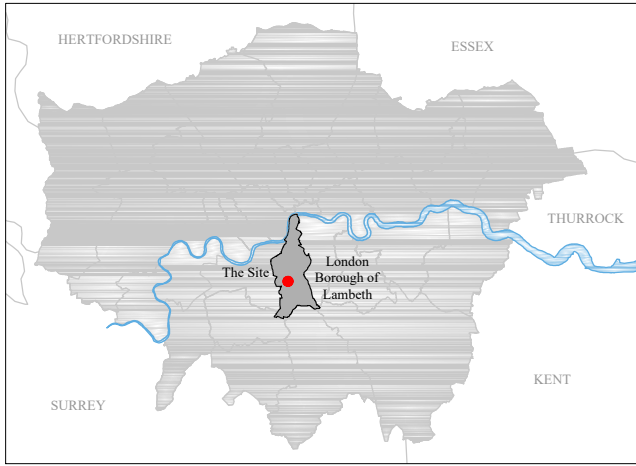
**Plate 1: Test Pit 12, looking north.**

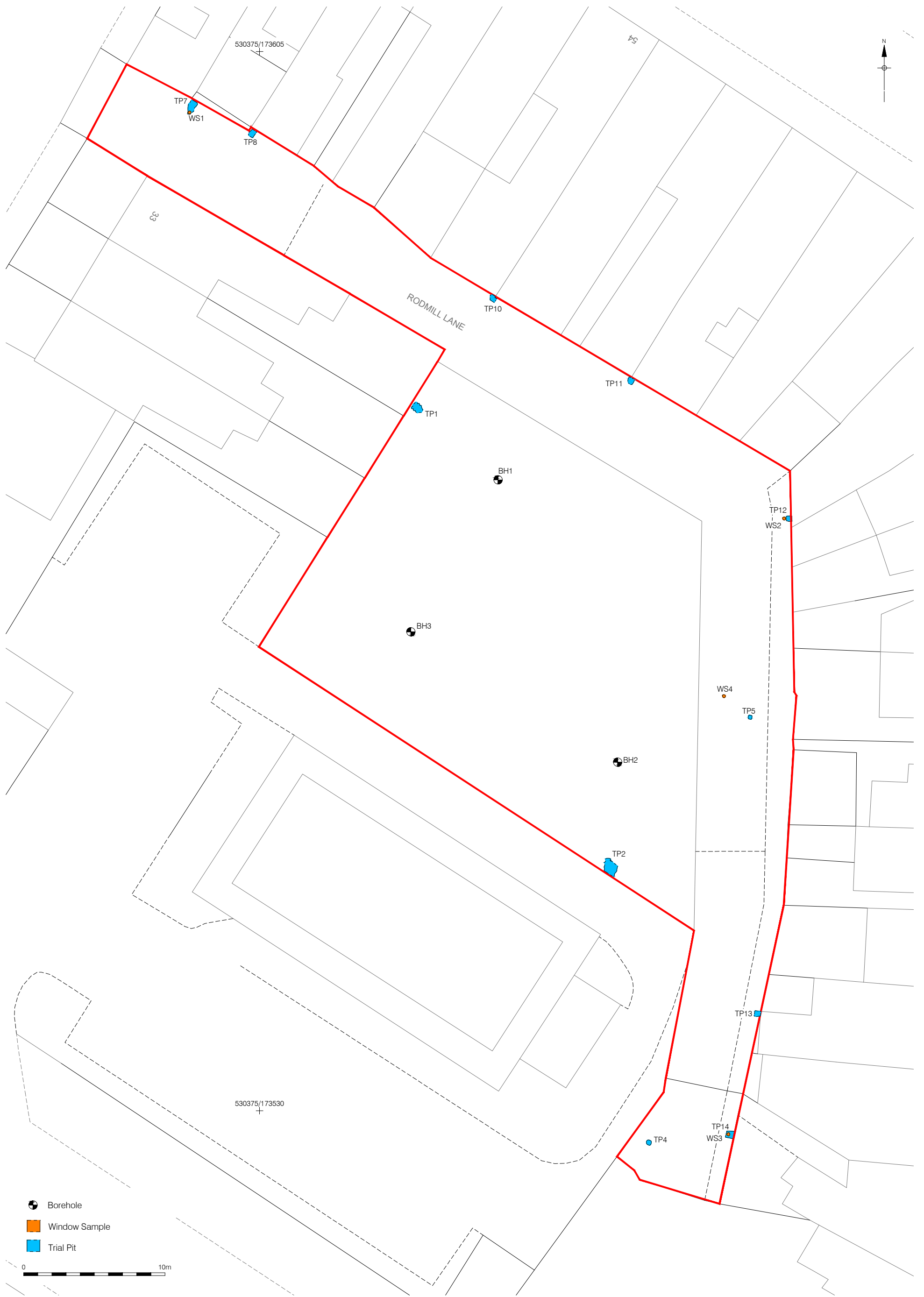


**Plate 2: Test Pit 7, looking north-east.**

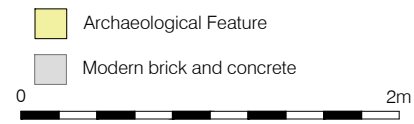
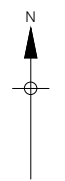


**Plate 3: Borehole 3, looking north-west.**



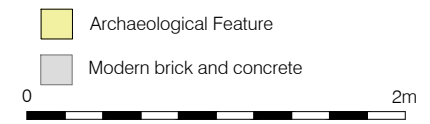
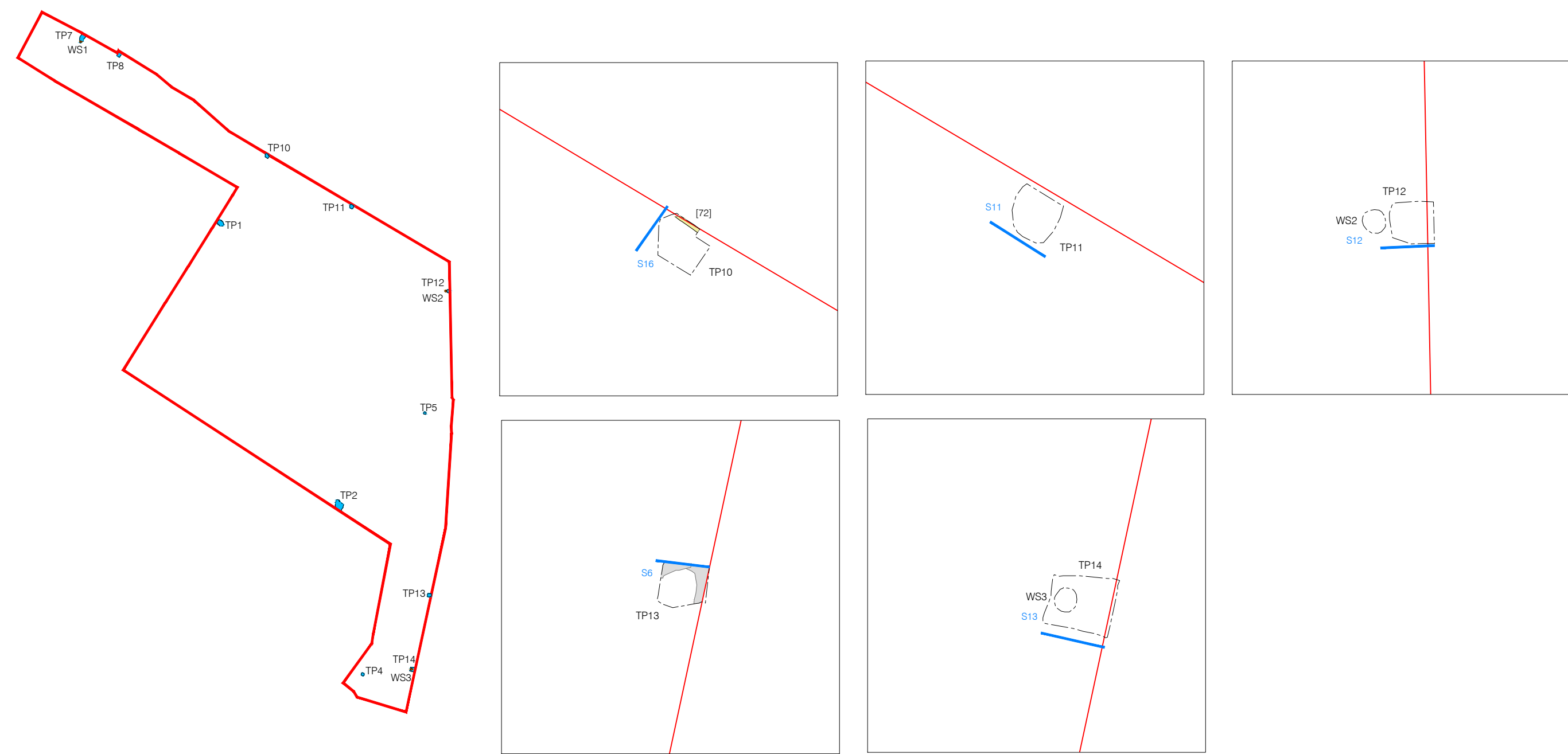
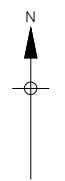






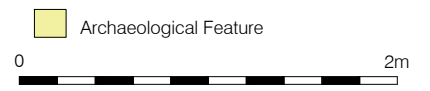
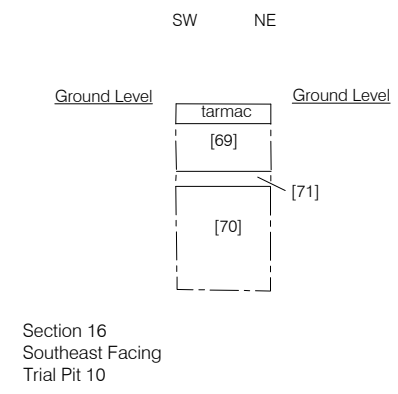
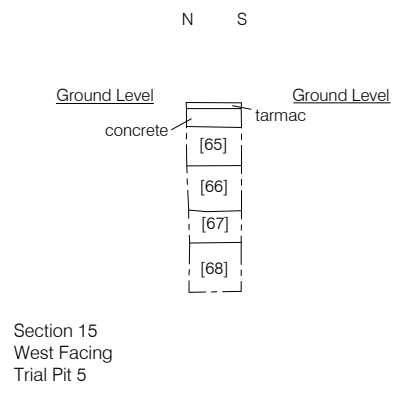
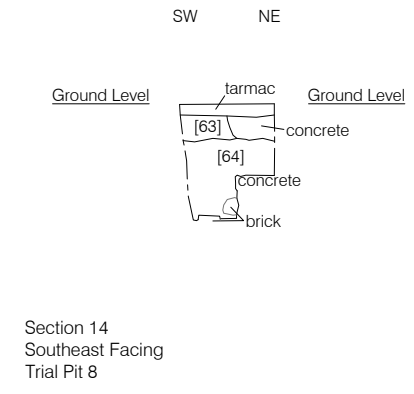
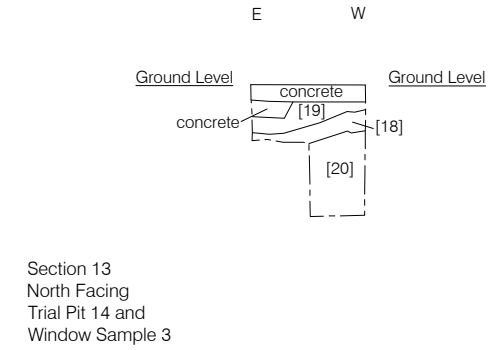
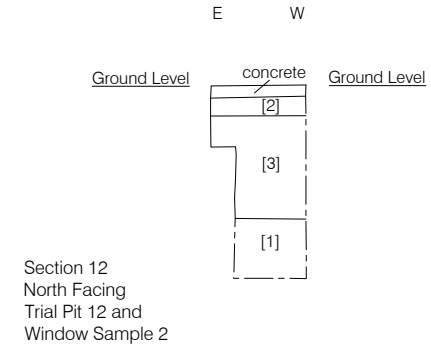
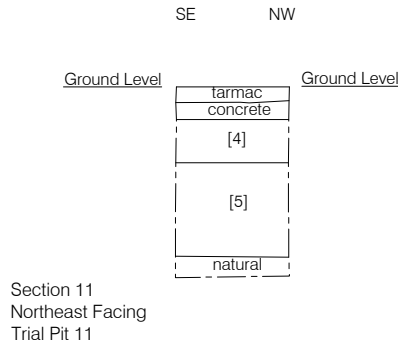
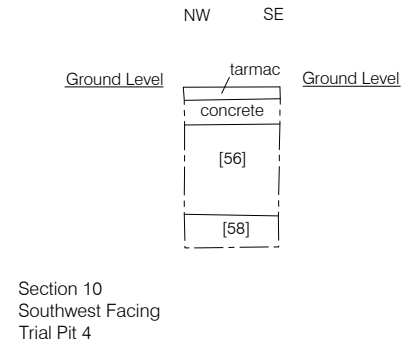
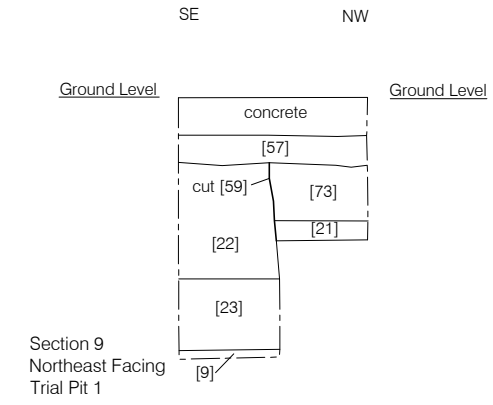
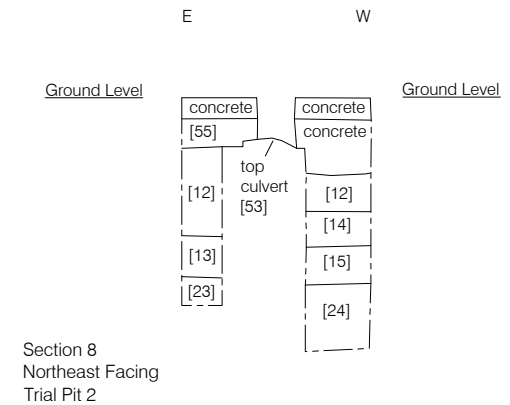
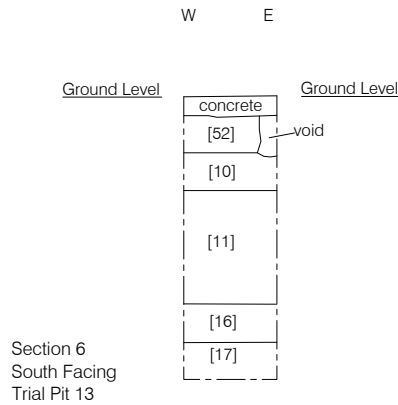
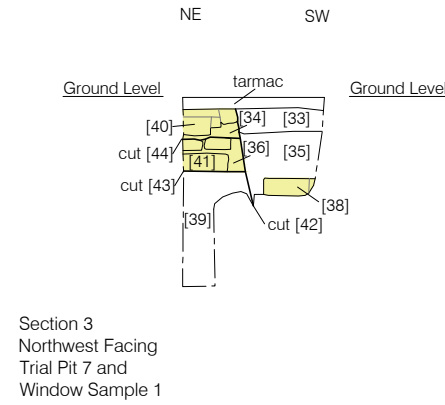
- Window Sample
- Trial Pit

- Archaeological Feature
- Modern brick and concrete



- Window Sample
- Trial Pit
- Archaeological Feature
- Modern brick and concrete

Figure 4  
Plans of Trial Pits 10 - 14 and Window Samples 2 and 3  
Site Map at 1:500 and Insets at 1:40 at A3



## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	CTX_Type	Trench	CTX_Category	CTX_Levels_high
1	Layer	TP12	Natural	
2	Layer	TP12	Bedding	
3	Layer	TP12	Dump	
4	Layer	TP11	Dump	
5		TP11	Dump	
6	Layer	BH2	Bedding	0.29
7	Layer	BH2	Garden Soil	0.8
8	Layer	BH2	Bedding	1.8
9	Layer	BH2	Natural	
10	Layer	TP12	Bedding	0.3
11	Layer	TP13	Make-up	0.5
12	Layer	TP2	Make-up	
13	Layer	TP2	Make-up	
14	Layer	TP2	Make-up	
15	Layer	TP2	Garden Soil	
16	Layer	TP13	Garden Soil	1.1
17	Natural	TP13		1.3
18	Layer	TP14	Make-up	
19	Layer	TP14	Make-up	
20	Layer	TP14	Make-up	
21	Layer	TP1	Demolition	
22	Layer	TP1	Dump	
23	Layer	TP1	Natural	
24	Layer	TP2	Natural	
25	Layer	TP2		
26	Layer	BH3	Levelling	
27	Layer	BH3	Levelling	0.25
28	Layer	BH3	Bedding	0.5
29	Layer	BH3	Natural	0.8
30	Layer	BH3	Natural	1
31	Layer	BH3	Natural	
32	Layer	WS1	Levelling	0.15
33	Layer	TP7	Levelling	0.06
34	Layer	TP7	Dump	0.02
35	Layer	TP7	Dump	0.19
36	Layer	TP7	Dump	0.02
37	Fill	TP7	Natural	1.2
38	Masonry	TP7	Other	0.43

Context	CTX_Type	Trench	CTX_Category	CTX_Levels_high
39		TP7	Dump	0.4
40	Masonry	TP7	Foundation	0.6
41	Masonry	TP7	Foundation	0.22
42	Cut	TP7	Construction Cut	0.18
43	Cut	TP7	Construction Cut	0.39
44	Cut	TP7	Construction Cut	0.22
45	Void	TP7		
46	Layer	WS4	Levelling	0.3
47	Layer	WS4	Make-up	0.4
48	Layer	WS4	Natural	0.7
49	Layer	BH1	Levelling	0.2
50	Layer	BH1	Natural	0.4
51	Layer	BH1	Natural	1.1
52	Layer		Road	0.1
53	Masonry	TP2	Other	
54	Masonry	TP2	Other	
55	Layer	TP2	Bedding	
56	Layer	TP4	Bedding	
57	Layer	TP1	Bedding	
58	Layer	TP4	Make-up	
59	Cut	TP1	Construction Cut	
60	Layer	WS2	Make-up	
61	Layer	WS2	Natural	
62	Layer	ws3	Make-up	
63	Layer	TP8	Bedding	
64	Layer	TP8	Make-up	
65	Layer	TP5	Bedding	
66	Layer	TP5	Bedding	
67	Layer	TP5	Natural	
68	Layer	TP5	Make-up	
69	Layer	TP10	Bedding	
70	Layer	TP10	Bedding	
71	Layer	TP10	Make-up	
72	Masonry	TP10	Foundation	

## APPENDIX 2: SPECIALIST REPORTS

### Ceramic Building Materials

By Amparo Valcarcel

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material	Latest dated material	Spot date	Spot date with mortar
12	2281	Modern drain pipe	1	1700 1950	1700 1950	1875-1950	No mortar
14	3032;3101PM	Post-great fire brick; concrete	2	1666 1900	1666 1900	1800-1900	1800-1900
15	3100	Modern wall plaster	1	1850 1950	1850 1950	1850-1950	No mortar
21	2281	Modern drain pipe	1	1700 1950	1700 1950	1875-1950	No mortar
22	2276;3032	Post-medieval peg tile; burnt post-great fire brick	2	1480 1900	1666 1900	1666-1900	No mortar
34	3100	Modern painted render	1	1900 1950	1900 1950	1900-1950	No mortar
56	2281	Drain pipe, cover drain pipe	2	1700 1950	1700 1950	1875-1950	No mortar

### Review

The building material assemblage (11 fragments, 1.05 kg) recovered during the watching brief consists mainly in post-medieval peg tiles and bricks, modern drain pipes and wall plaster. The earliest material was collected from [22] and comprises a local sandy peg tile with moulded sand dated 1700-1900. Two post Great fire brick fragments were found in contexts [14] and [22], the absence of dimensions make difficult to assign a date, although the example from [14] is bonded with concrete suggesting a late 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Some examples of modern drain pipes, light brown glazed were collected from [12], [21] and [56]. The rest of the material consists in a red and yellow painted render example [34], probably from the earliest 20<sup>th</sup> century and a small modern render fragment from [15].

### Recommendations

The value of this small assemblage lies in dating features from between the mid19<sup>th</sup> and mid20<sup>th</sup> century. The material collected from the site reflects the later post-medieval and modern development of this site and none of the material is of intrinsic interest. No further work recommended.

## Clay tobacco pipe

By Chris Jarrett

### Introduction

A small assemblage of clay tobacco pipes was recovered by hand from the excavation (four fragments consisting of two bowls and two stems). The finds are in a fragmentary condition and were deposited under both secondary and tertiary conditions. Clay tobacco pipes occur in three contexts as small (under 30 fragments) sized groups. The clay tobacco pipe bowls were classified by Atkinson and Oswald's (1969) typology (AO) and catalogued according to Higgins's (2017) guidelines. The assemblage is discussed as a distribution table.

### Distribution table

Context	Part	Bowl type	No. of fragments	Bowl date range	Comments	Spot date
12	Bowl		1	Undated	Very damaged, the rim is missing and only the back and right side of the bowl survives. Covered in a red stain?AO28 or AO29 bowl type	Mid-late 19th century
15	Bowl	AO28	1	1820–1850	Front of the bowl is missing. Plain band around the rim and fine ribs of the same size covering the rest of the bowl. One rib continues on to the stem forming a branch with blobby leaves. Dart borders on the top and bottom of the stem and relief writing of the maker and address on the sides of the stem, which is worn and illegible. Smoked. The style of the bowl is dated to the 1820–1830's	1820–1830's
15	Stem		1		Thin, fine bore (19th century)	
34	Stem		1		Thin, fine bore (19th century)	19th century

Table1: Distribution of the clay tobacco pipe

Table 1 shows the distribution of the clay tobacco pipes, which shows for each context containing the material, the part, the bowl type, its date range, its quantification by the number of bowls/fragments, a comment on the material and a spot date for the deposition of the finds.

### Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The assemblage has no significance at a local level and consists of only fragmentary material with little meaning. The material does have the potential to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are

no recommendations for further work on the material, which as it has been fully catalogued can be discarded at the archive stage of the project.

### **Reference**

Atkinson D. and Oswald, A., 1969 'London clay tobacco pipes'. *Journal of British Archaeology Association*, 3rd series, Vol. 32, 171-227.

Higgins, D., 2017, Guidelines for the Recovery and Processing of Clay Tobacco Pipes from Archaeological Projects. Unpublished document.



## Glass assessment

By Chris Jarrett

### Introduction

The glass assemblage consists of five fragments (32g) dating solely to the post-medieval period and more precisely the 19th century. The condition of the glass is fairly good, although it is comprised of only shard material and probably represents secondary and tertiary deposition. The material could not always be assigned to a form type. The glass was recovered from three contexts and the material is discussed as a distribution Table

### Distribution Table

Table 1 shows the distribution of the glass, which shows for each context containing glass, the vessel form, the colour of the metal, its quantification by fragment count, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight, a comment on the material and a spot date for the deposition of the glass.

Context	Form	Colour	No. of fragments	ENV	Wt (g)	Comments	Spot date
12	Unidentified	clear	1	1	15	Polygonal fragment with one straight edge, very thick walled (8mm thick). Has the appearance of thick window glass, but may have had another use. Slightly weathered. 19th century	19th century
13	Bottle, octagonal-section	clear	1	1	11	Wall fragment, moulded. 1810–1900. Slightly weathered.	1810–1900
15	Vessel	clear	1	1	3	Body sherd with a circular panel and narrow rounded wall. ?Coffin-type flask. Moulded. 1810–1900. Slightly weathered.	1810–1900
	Window pane	clear	2	2	3	Small polygonal fragments, 2mm thick. 19th century. Slightly weathered	19th century

Table1 Distribution of the pottery. SC: sherd count), ENV: estimated number of vessels (ENV)

### Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The glass has no significance at a local level and consists of only fragmentary material with little meaning. The material does have the potential to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the glass, which as it has been fully catalogued can be discarded at the archive stage of the project.

## Post-Roman pottery

By Chris Jarrett

### Introduction

A small assemblage of pottery was recovered by hand from the excavation (eight sherds/6 estimated number of vessels/187g, none of which was unstratified). The pottery dates entirely to the post-medieval period and particularly the 19th century. The assemblage is in a good condition, although it is present as mostly sherd material, except for one vessel with a complete profile. None of the pottery shows evidence of abrasion, one sherd has partially laminated surfaces and none of the finds are residual. The assemblage appears to have been deposited under both secondary and tertiary circumstances. The material was found in five contexts as small sized groups (under 30 sherds). The classification of the pottery types is according to the Museum of London Archaeology (2014). The assemblage is discussed as a distribution table.

### Distribution table

Context	Pottery type	Code	Date range	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Form	Comments	Spot date
13	Surrey-Hampshire border redware	RBOR	1550-1900	1	1	65	Unidentified	Base. ?Bowl	1820–1900
	Yellow ware	YELL	1820-1900	1	1	30	Jug	Splayed base with a foot ring	1820–1900
15	Refined white earthenware with under-glaze polychrome-painted decoration in 'chrome' colours	REFW CHROM	1830-1900	3	1	18	Saucer	Complete profile. Ogee-shape, internal floral border on the rim, red flowers and berries, black curving stem and small leaves, large dark green leaves	1830–1900
21	Refined white earthenware	REFW	1805-1900	1	1	30	Unidentified	Body sherd, glaze has partially laminated on both surfaces. ?Water closet	1805–1900
34	London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580-1900	1	1	38	Flower pot	Body sherd, evenly oxidised	18th-19th century
56	Chinese porcelain	CHPO	1580-1900	1	1	6	Dish	Rim sherd. crudely applied white slip scroll with red enamel. Blue glaze. 19th century. South East Asian porcelain.	19th century

Table1 Distribution of the pottery. SC: sherd count), ENV: estimated number of vessels

Table 1 shows the distribution of the pottery, which shows for each context containing pottery, the ware type, its code and date range, its quantification by sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV)

and weight (Wt (g)), besides the vessel form, a comment on the material and a spot date for the deposition of the pottery.

### **Significance, potential and recommendations for further work**

The pottery has little significance at a local level as it consists of pottery types frequently found in the London area and has little meaning. The only potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the material, which, as it has been fully recorded, can be discarded at the archive stage of the project.

### **References**

Museum of London Archaeology, 2014. Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes.  
<http://www.mola.org.uk/resources/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes>

## APPENDIX 3: OASIS REPORT

### OASIS ID: preconst1-347809

#### Project details

Project name	Workshop, Rodmill Lane, London SW2 4EL
Short description of the project	archaeological watching brief during geotechnical site investigation
Project dates	Start: 13-03-2019 End: 19-03-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ROL19 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

---

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON LAMBETH BRIXTON Workshop, Rodmill Lane, London SW2 4EL
Postcode	SW2 4EL
Study area	500 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3039 7356 51.44549453849 -0.123507789795 51 26 43 N 000 07 24 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 43m Max: 43.8m

---

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	GLAAS
Project design originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project director/manager Zbigniew Pozorski  
Project supervisor Clare Davey  
Type of sponsor/funding body Architectural Practice

---

#### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC  
Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Glass"  
Digital Archive recipient LAARC  
Digital Contents "Ceramics", "Glass"  
Paper Archive recipient LAARC  
Paper Contents "Ceramics", "Glass"  
Paper Media available "Section", "Unpublished Text", "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report"

---

#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Workshop, Rodmill Lane, London SW2 4EL: An Archaeological Watching Brief on Geotechnical Site Investigation  
Author(s)/Editor(s) C Sinclair  
Date 2019

---

Entered by Zbigniew pozorski (zpozorski@pre-construct.com)  
Entered on 2 April 2019

# 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)

