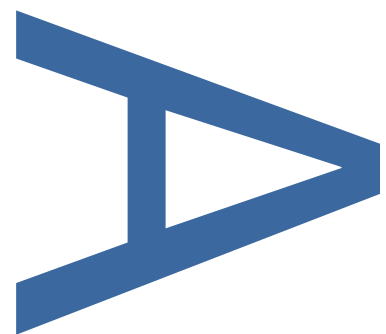
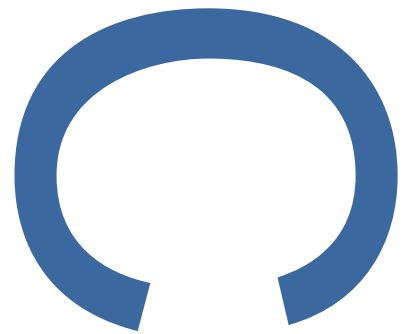


**767 – 785 COMMERCIAL ROAD,  
LIMEHOUSE,  
LONDON,  
E14 7HA**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION**

**SITE CODE: CMI19**

**JULY 2019**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**


**DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

**767 – 785 COMMERCIAL ROAD, LIMEHOUSE, LONDON, E14 7EH**

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

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**767-785 COMMERCIAL ROAD, LIMEHOUSE, LONDON E14 7HA  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

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**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:** LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

**SITE CODE:** CMI19

**CENTRAL NGR:** TQ 36772 81148

**COMMISSIONING CLIENT:** ARCHAEOLOGY COLLECTIVE ON BEHALF OF THE  
OVERALL CLIENT

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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation that was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) under the overall management of Archaeology Collective at 767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London E14 7HA (TQ 36772 81148).
- 1.2 The evaluation was conducted between 28<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and comprised excavation of three trenches within the open areas of the site. The aims of the project were to determine the level of post depositional truncation on the site and establish what prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains survive.
- 1.3 Natural deposits (Phase 1) consisting of sandy gravel were encountered at a height of 6.88m OD within Trench 1 and 3.59m OD within Trench 2. Natural deposits were not reached within Trench 3.
- 1.4 Phase 2 of the revealed archaeological sequence consisted of deposits of the post-medieval made ground most likely dating to the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 1.5 The next phase of the archaeological sequence comprised post-medieval buildings dating to the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Trench 1 revealed the remains of a post-medieval structure, overlaid and truncated by services and concrete surfaces. Within Trench 2 the post-medieval structures were seen, with numerous alterations and repairs. A basement was exposed within Trench 3.
- 1.6 Modern Phase 4 consisted of backfill deposits in Trench 2 and in the basement in Trench 3 with demolition rubble, overlaid by levelling layers and a concrete surface above all of the trenches.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation that was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) under the overall management of Archaeology Collective at 767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London E14 7HA (Figure 1). The site consists of four separate and derelict properties comprising former commercial and industrial buildings and unoccupied areas along the street frontage and is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 36772 81148.
- 2.2 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was prepared for the site (Archaeology Collective 2017). The site is located within a local authority Archaeological Priority Area: Limehouse. The area is described as having potential to contain remains of the commercial and industrial development of Limehouse as well as proposed Roman activity.
- 2.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared for the project (PCA 2019), which defined a programme of archaeological evaluation. This report is to further inform the archaeological mitigation strategy required by Condition 16 of the conditional planning consent (LB Tower Hamlets Planning Ref. PA/16/03657).
- 2.4 The investigation was conducted by PCA between 28<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 under the supervision of Stacey Amanda Harris, and the project management of Zbigniew Pozorski. Adam Single of Historic England Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) monitored the fieldwork on behalf of the LB Tower Hamlets. The work was commissioned by Archaeology Collective on behalf of the overall client. Archaeology Collective undertook overall management of the archaeological evaluation work.
- 2.5 The site was allocated the unique site code CMI19. The complete archive comprising written, drawn, and photographic records and artefacts will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC).
- 2.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:
- *767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London E14 7HA: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation* (Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited 2019)
  - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015)
  - *Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London* (Historic England Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service HE GLAAS 2015)
  - *Standard and guidance for an archaeological evaluation* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014).

- *Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual*, (Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited; Taylor, J & Brown, G. 2009, updated 2018).

### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

3.1 Conditional planning permission was granted for demolition of 785 Commercial Road (behind retained facade) and 767 Commercial Road. Mixed-use redevelopment of site to accommodate 2,549sqm of Class B1(a) office space within restored Sailmaker's Warehouse, 134-room sui generis communal living accommodation and associated facilities on east and west sites, and 272sqm of Class B1(a) office space and 9 no. self-contained Class C3 residential flats on the corner site at 767 Commercial Road (LB Tower Hamlets Planning Ref. PA/16/03657).

3.2 Planning condition (16) attached to the permission reads as follows:

16. No development shall take place on any part of the site until:

A) The developer has implemented a programme of archaeological evaluation in accordance with a Stage 1 written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

B) If heritage assets of archaeological interest are identified by the evaluation under Part A, then prior to the commencement of development (other than demolition to existing ground level) on that part of the site, a programme of archaeological investigation for that part of the site shall be implemented in accordance with a Stage 2 written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

The development shall not be carried out otherwise than in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation. 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 (B), and the results and archive deposition has been secured and provided to the local planning authority for analysing, publication and dissemination.

Reason: Heritage assets of archaeological interest may survive on the site and to insure the safeguarding of the site's archaeological interest in accordance with London Plan Policy 7.8, Tower Hamlets Core Strategy 2010 Policy.

3.3 This report provides for the results of the Stage 1 archaeological investigation: the evaluation, and is to further inform the archaeological mitigation strategy.



## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS) identifies the underlying solid geology across the site as being London Clay overlain by Taplow Gravels of Anglian to Devensian date, which are in turn capped by a remnant deposit of Langley Silt (or 'brickearth'). The BGS map depicts the current site as lying very close to the southern edge of that brickearth deposit and to the boundary between the Taplow and Kempton Gravel terraces.
- 4.1.2 Geotechnical site investigation carried out on the site by Albury S.I. Ltd in 2016 (Albury 2016) indicated that significant thicknesses of made ground (3.00-6.10m thick) overlie the Kempton Park Gravel of Recent or Pleistocene age. At depth, the London Clay Formation of Eocene age has been shown to be present. An archaeological watching brief was carried out by PCA during geotechnical works on the site prior to the evaluation at St Anne's Quay to the immediate east of the current site (Cipin 2014). The watching brief found a sequence of natural deposits across the site at depths of between 2 and 3 metres below ground level within the test pits. Possible agricultural silts and clays, occasionally with organic content, sealed the natural gravel. However, during the archaeological evaluation conducted later on that site by PCA, the natural gravels in the areas not truncated by basements or other structures were encountered at as little as between 1.00m and 1.40m below existing ground level and at 4.30m – 4.40m OD (Jorgensen 2014).
- 4.2 The site lies on a land generally level at c. 6m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The site is located approximately 490m north-north-east of the River Thames and adjacent south of the Limehouse Cut (Figure 1). The triangular site is divided into 4 separate and derelict properties comprising former commercial and industrial buildings and unoccupied areas along the street frontage (Figure 2). The property at No 767 at the western end of the site contains small commercial building and some limited open space to the south and west of it, site at Nos 769-775 remains unoccupied whilst Nos 777, 779-783 and 785 contain large former industrial buildings, with the latter property having some open area in the south-eastern corner of the site.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 The following background is summarised from the site-specific archaeological desk-assessment (Archaeology Collective 2017) with the information updated prior to the current works. In summary:
- 5.2 The site is located within a local authority Archaeological Priority Area: Limehouse. The area is described as having potential to contain remains of the commercial and industrial development of Limehouse as well as proposed Roman activity. During the Roman period, the Limehouse area was located c. 2.5km east of the Roman settlement of Londinium and c. 1.5km from the Roman bathhouse at Shadwell. The Highway, an east-west orientated Roman road, possibly passed through the Limehouse area and it should not be discounted that Roman roadside activity may exist.
- 5.3 Aside from residual material found along the Limehouse shoreline there is a lack of evidence for activity during the Saxon period, whilst in addition Limehouse was not recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Limehouse is first recorded in 1367 as 'le Lymostes', a name derived from the lime kilns which had been established at Limekiln Dock by 1363. The character of Limehouse during the medieval period was determined by its growth as a Thames riverside strip development with commerce focused around maritime trade.
- 5.4 The church of St Anne's Limehouse built in 1727 and designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor stands 80m south of the site, on the opposite side of Commercial Road. The church is surrounded by its former graveyard.
- 5.5 The commercial and industrial nature of the area during the post-medieval period is well attested and remains evident in many of the street names which survive today. Waterways connecting the River Thames with Regent's Canal Lock were constructed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. One of London's early immigrant populations settled the area from China during this time and may have left archaeological traces. The description in the Historic England Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) says the Limehouse archaeological priority area offers much archaeological potential, particularly with regards to the presence of in situ archaeological remains of medieval and post-medieval date and industrial archaeology from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Specifically, remains of maritime services and wharves, pottery manufacture and evidence of early modern immigration may be expected. Historic maps, in particular those dated to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, suggest various activity on the site in locations of the trenches including a residential building, workshops and a Salvation Army Hall.
- 5.6 In 2014 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by PCA at St Anne's Quay, to the immediate east of the redevelopment site (Jorgensen 2014). During the evaluation prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval features were recorded. Prehistoric remains comprised pits cut

into the natural gravel. Those features contained some burnt flint. Late medieval remains consisted of pits and post-holes. 18<sup>th</sup> century pits, ditches and brick-constructed soakaway were also present. The vast majority of the archaeological sequence was dominated by archaeological structures, features and deposits dated to the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century although earlier features survived in truncated form below these. Numerous wall and levelling layers were present amongst the 19<sup>th</sup> century features.

## **6 RESEARCH DESIGN**

6.1 The main aim of the evaluation works was to investigate the archaeological potential of the site, to discover the extent and significance of any surviving archaeological features and deposits.

The other archaeological objectives were formulated as below:

- Are there prehistoric remains on the site and can those be related to the remains found in the area?
- Is there an evidence of Roman activity on the site?
- Is there any archaeological evidence of medieval origin?
- Are remains of industrial activity on the site are present and what is their character?
- What is the level and extent of truncation on the site and of what character?

## 7 METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 Prior to the excavation each trench was located and marked to avoid recently installed monitoring wells and on site structures and the areas were CAT scanned by a trained individual.
- 7.2 Concrete layers were broken using a hydraulic breaker attached to the mechanical excavator. Then the excavation commenced with a flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision from an archaeologist, in 100mm spits until the top of the archaeological sequence or possible live services were reached.
- 7.3 The excavation was monitored by Adam Single of GLAAS on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 7.4 Excavation within Trench 1 was limited due to the presence of live services, the presence of concrete and archaeological structures.
- 7.5 Due to limited space on site, in situ structures and the presence of a monitoring well Trench 2 could not be opened in its entirety at a single time but had to be excavated in sections that were backfilled before the next section could be opened. Trench 2 was originally to measure 8m by 8m, but it was extended to the south as advised by GLAAS to allow further understanding of the archaeological material, although the presence of an armoured cable, and a live telecoms signal meant that excavation within this southern extension was limited to the eastern side. The presence of a partly ruined outbuilding immediately to the east of the trench prevent extending of the trench in that direction for safety reasons.
- 7.6 Within Trench 3 a presence of loose and collapsible material within the post-medieval backfill of the earlier basement meant that natural deposits could not be reached, although the floor of the basement was located. The presence of a live electrical signal across the northern half of the trench, and the need to avoid existing structures meant that the deeper excavation was limited to the southern half of the trench.
- 7.7 The maximum dimensions of each trench are shown in the table below.

Trench	North-south max (m)	East-west max (m)	Maximum depth (m OD)
1	2.55	2.30	6.31
2	12.86	10.75	3.34
3	2.90	2.74	4.23

- 7.8 Trenches were located and temporary benchmarks were installed with the use of GPS survey equipment.

- 7.9 Where possible trenches were hand cleaned, before being hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and sections drawn at a scale of 1:10. The archaeological deposits that they contained were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets and a full photographic record was compiled.
- 7.10 When all post-excavation reports have been approved, the site archive, comprising artefactual, written, drawn and photographic records, will be transferred to the London Archaeological Archive (LAA) under the unique code CMI19.

## **8 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

### **8.1 Phase 1: Natural gravel**

#### **Trench 1**

- 8.1.1 The earliest deposit uncovered within Trench 1 was a moderately compacted light yellow brown coarse sand and gravel layer [72] (Plate 1). This layer was seen at a height between 6.88m and 6.83m OD and was the highest surviving in situ natural seen across the whole site.

#### **Trench 2**

- 8.1.2 Within Trench 2 the earliest deposit was a layer of firm mid orange sandy gravel [111]. This deposit was seen at a height of 3.59m OD within the base of a sondage excavated towards the south of the trench.

#### **Trench 3**

- 8.1.3 No natural deposits were seen within Trench 3.

### **8.2 Phase 2: Post-medieval Made Ground**

#### **Trench 2**

- 8.2.1 Within Trench 2 the natural gravels [111] seen within the southern sondage were overlain by several layers of made ground. These consisted of a layer of firm mid brown sandy silt [109], a 0.22m thick layer of loose black sandy silt [108], a layer of friable yellow white sandy mortar, a layer of soft orange sand [106] and a layer of firm mid brown sandy silt [105] (
- 8.2.2 Plate 2).
- 8.2.3 Towards the east of Trench 2 a further sondage revealed three layers of made ground, the earliest of which was a mid orange silty sand [97] which may be the same as the aforementioned layer [106]. This was overlain by a soft and friable grey brown silty sand [78] and a 0.44m thick layer of friable black brown sandy silt [110] which was seen to a height of 5.73m OD.
- 8.2.4 To the south of Trench 2 a small area of friable dark grey brown silty sand [89] was seen at a height of 5.78m OD which may have been a remnant of [110] separated by later construction.
- 8.2.5 A sondage excavated within the north of Trench 2 revealed two layers of made ground, the earliest was a firm mid pinky brown clay silt [38] seen from a height of 3.69m OD and continuing below the limit of excavation (LOE) at 3.34m OD. This was overlain by a layer of pale grey yellow sandy mortar [37] with lenses of black possibly charcoal or clinker, which may represent a continuation of layers [107] and [108] that were seen within the southern sondage.

8.2.6 Within the north-eastern corner of Trench 2 part of a layer of brown orange clay silt [12] was exposed through a truncation within the floors. This most likely represents a layer of made ground similar to that seen within the sondages.

### 8.3 Phase 3: Post-Medieval (mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century) Buildings

#### Trench 1

8.3.1 Within Trench 1, construction cut [40] was seen to cut the natural gravel [72] along the western edge of the trench. Within this cut were white stone walls [33] and [41] (Plate 3), these abutted each other forming a T shape, and were most likely the remnants of an earlier foundation surviving to a height of between 6.88m and 7.01m OD the stone and mortar being dated 1825-1950.

8.3.2 To the west of wall [33] a dark grey brown sandy silt [75] with frequent masonry rubble and mortar was seen, most likely a demolition layer it continued beyond the western LOE.

8.3.3 Overlying [75] and [33] a north-south red brick wall [31] (Plate 3) was seen. This wall was constructed from a combination of frogged and unfrogged brick suggesting reuse of materials. Abutting the east of this wall, was a remnant of east-west red brick wall [32]. Assessment of the brick and mortar of this wall have provided a date range of 1830-1849, with historic maps of the site show a series of shops fronting onto Commercial road in this location visible from 1870.

8.3.4 Stone wall foundation [41] was truncated to the east by [73] (Plate 1), a vertical sided cut which continued beyond the northern, southern and eastern LOEs. This cut contained a concrete deposit [74] at a height of 6.31m OD, which was most likely encasing a service. This was backfilled by a soft grey brown silty sand [46] with inclusions of clay tobacco pipe (CTP) and pottery dated 1830-1900.

8.3.5 Backfill [46] of cut [73] was truncated by east-west construction cuts [66] and [70] for red brick walls [47] and [68] (Plate 4) respectively. Assessment of the brick and mortar from these walls has given a date range of 1850-1950. These may represent the instillation of an internal division or the raising of the internal floor.

8.3.6 Within construction cut [70] to the north and south of wall [68] backfill was seen, a dark grey brown sandy silt [69] [71].

8.3.7 Across Trench 1 a layer of dark grey brown silty sand [36] was seen to a maximum height of 7.02m OD. This formed the levelling layer for a possible concrete surface [34] which was seen across the north-eastern part of the trench.

8.3.8 Trench 1 was sealed by a layer of loose mid grey brown sandy silt [30] to a maximum thickness of 0.32m.



## Trench 2

- 8.3.9 To the northeast of Trench 2 a north-south red brick wall [11] (Plate 5) was seen to cut into layer [12] from a height of 4.50m OD, with a deposit of grey brown clay silt [15] was seen against its western edge. Wall [11] has been dated 1800-1900 and is likely part of an earlier structure.
- 8.3.10 To the east of Trench 2, three further north-south walls were seen [1], [2] and [3] (Plate 6 Plate 7) which have all been dated 1875-1950. Wall [1] was built within construction cut [20] cut into layer [37] and was constructed from red stock brick. Walls [2] and [3] were built from a mixture of red and yellow stock brick.
- 8.3.11 The northern end of wall [2] appeared to have been truncated, with an east-west section of yellow stock brick wall [4] constructed to connect it to wall [3]. A further segment of masonry [6] was constructed to the south of [4] from red frogged brick, likely to add support or strength to the pre-existing structure.
- 8.3.12 Between walls [2] and [3], and to the south of walls [4] and [6] a layer of compacted grey gravel [22] was seen. This layer likely formed a surface.
- 8.3.13 Between walls [1] and [2] a 1.67m thick layer of firm mid red /black grey sandy silt [24] with gravel inclusions was seen to a height of 5.50m OD.
- 8.3.14 Overlaying both layer [22] and [24] was a 0.40m thick layer of loose mid brown grey sandy silt [29] with occasional animal bone and frequent gravels.
- 8.3.15 To the west of wall [1] a layer a 1.19m thick layer of orange sandy gravel [21]. This appears to be redeposited natural gravel used to make up the ground.
- 8.3.16 A straight and vertical cut [59] was seen to the west of layer [21]. This cut was itself truncated to the north and west, and continued beyond the southern LOE. This cut contained two fills, the earliest of which was a firm but friable dark brown black silty clinker [60] with rare gravel and occasional pottery inclusions of a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century date. This was overlain by a mid pink brown mortar sandy silt [58] with rare shell and pottery fragments, surviving to a height of 5.06m OD.
- 8.3.17 Cutting both layer [21] to the north and [110] to its south, the construction cut [64] for brick drain [63] (Plate 7 Plate 8) was seen to extend 5.70m north-south. This drain was constructed from red brick in a stretcher pattern that has been dated 1892-1940. The drain contained a silting deposit of soft mid grey brown sandy silt [62] with inclusions of natural stone and ceramic building material (CBM). The construction cut of the drain [64] was backfilled with a firm pale grey brown silty sand [61] with rare inclusions of pottery.

- 8.3.18 A construction cut [42] was seen to truncate the north western portion of brick drain [63] to allow the connection of a ceramic pipe [45]. This drain was constructed from interlocking circular ceramic drain pipe (dated 1875-1950). The drain was silted up with a friable dark red brown sandy silt [44], whilst the construction cut [42] was backfilled with a firm mid brown pink sandy silt (43).
- 8.3.19 The northern ends of brick drain [63] and walls [1] and [2] were truncated by east-west construction cut [19]. A substantial red and yellow brick wall [5] (Plate 7 Plate 10) dated 1800-1900 was built within this cut and survived to a height of 5.37m OD. To the south of wall [5] the construction cut was backfilled with a firm yellow brown silty sand [23] with inclusions of ceramic building material (CBM), CTP (dated 1730-1910) and pottery (dated 1830-1900).
- 8.3.20 Built against the north of wall [5] was a grey stone floor [48] (Plate 10) constructed from York stone pavers that has been dated 1825-1925. This floor was seen at heights between 4.66m and 4.49m OD, measuring 5.05m east-west and over 2.00m north -south, continuing beyond the northern LOE. Remnants of white paint on the northern side of wall [5] along with two iron fixings and an iron nail suggest that this was a functional basement room.
- 8.3.21 A remnant of floor surface [13] to the east of [48] also comprised of York stone pavers at a height of 4.54m OD may have once been part of the same floor, although later alterations have obliterated any physical relationship. This is further supported by remnants of white paint visible on the western face of wall [3] to the north of where wall [4] connected it to wall [5], suggesting that this may have been one large basement room.
- 8.3.22 The eastern extent of wall [5] and floor [48] (Plate 10) was truncated by a north-south construction cut [50] [57]. This construction cut was seen to cut from a height of 5.40m OD and continue below the LOE at a height of 3.84m OD. To the south of wall [5] where a sufficient depth was reached, a concrete footing [65] (Plate 12) was exposed from a height of 4.24m OD. Built on top of footing [65] was a north-south red and yellow frogged brick wall [49]. This wall [49] had an east-west return which keyed into wall [5] (Plate 11). A void to the north of where it abutted wall [5] still had a cast iron pipe running through east-west although what this pipe was for, or what it leads too is unknown. The construction cut [57] was backfilled with a friable dark black silty clinker deposit [56] with inclusions of metal, glass, CTP and pottery dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and a large conch shell (Queen conch) which would have originated from the Caribbean.
- 8.3.23 To the north of wall [49] there appeared to have been a number of changes (Plate 11). A section of wall [51] was constructed from red brick (dated 1892-1940) and continued beyond the northern LOE. Between wall [49] and [51] an area of masonry appears to have been truncated [52] with a repair of red brick and stone [53]. Truncating the tops of both [51] and [53] a rectangular cut [54] contained a cast concrete repair [55].

- 8.3.24 The area of the north western room of Trench 2 was filled by a dark brown and black sandy silt [18]. This deposit was 0.46m thick and contained a heavily worn coin dated 1830-1837. A similar deposit [17] was seen to the east which was most likely the same deposit, although the relationship was obscured by a later cast wall [10].
- 8.3.25 Layer [18] was overlaid by a mid brown grey sandy silt [27] with occasional gravels, inclusions of metal wire, and iron S hook, CTP (dated 1840-1880), glass (dated late 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> century) and pottery (dated 1850-1870).
- 8.3.26 Against the west of wall [3] a deposit of firm light grey gravelly sandy silt [25] was seen, which may also have been a part of the same backfilling phase.
- 8.3.27 To the northeast of Trench 2 a concrete floor [7] was seen at a height of 4.57m OD, sealing deposit [15]. This floor surface [7] exhibited steel fixings forming a rectangle within the centre of the floor.
- 8.3.28 To the east and west of floor [7] were cast concrete walls [8] and [10] (Plate 6). Wall [10] (dated 1900-1950) was at least 2.62m in length, continuing beyond the northern LOE, whilst wall [8] was truncated to the north at just 1.12m in length, sealing deposit [25] to the east of it. A possible small section of concrete cast wall [16] was exposed to the east of [10], although this may be an inclusion within the backfill of this room that just happens to be on end and not an in situ wall.
- 8.3.29 A concrete floor [9] (Plate 6) was seen to seal the top of cast wall [10] and continue to wall [49] in the west and beyond the LOE in the north. This floor was relatively level with heights between 5.29m and 5.24m OD.
- 8.3.30 Filling the space between cast concrete walls [8] and [10] was a friable black sandy clinker deposit [26] with inclusions of pottery dated 1890+ and a squashed tin bucket.
- 8.3.31 Cutting made ground layer [110] was the construction cut [95] of circular brick soak away [96]. The full relationship between soak away [96] (Plate 9) and brick drain [63] was not established during the evaluation, although it appeared that these two features were most likely part of the same drainage system. The brick soakaway [96] contained several fills, the earliest seen was a soft brown grey silty sand [94] with occasional inclusions of chalk fragments and gravel and rare pottery (dated 1830-1900), glass (1810-1900) and CTP (1730-1910). Fill [94] was seen from a height of 5.71m OD and continued below the LOE at a height of 5.10m OD. Fill [94] was overlaid by a friable dark brown black silty sand [93] with frequent inclusions of slag, overlain by a friable mid brown grey silty sand [92] with occasional fragments of chalk and frequent gravels, the uppermost fill being a friable brown black silty sand [91] with frequent clinker inclusions.

- 8.3.32 A remnant of a narrow east-west brick wall [79] (Plate 8) was seen to have been built over the southern portion of brick drain [63]. This wall [79] survived as just two courses of reclaimed red and yellow brick dated 1850-1950, and most likely formed a garden wall.
- 8.3.33 The northern end of a north-south wall [83] was seen at the southern extent of Trench 2, continuing beyond the LOE. This wall was partially overlain by a layer of hard dark red brown silty sand [88].
- 8.3.34 Brick wall [79] and the uppermost fill [91] of soakaway [96] were sealed by a layer of hard dark red brown silty sand [86].
- 8.3.35 The western edge of layer [86] was truncated by north-south construction cut [77] (Plate 9), in which was built a red and yellow brick wall [76] (Plate 8) surviving to a height of between 5.87 and 5.80m OD. A layer of slate was visible on its upper exposed surface probably a damp course suggesting that this was just above the ground level at the time of construction. To the east of wall [76], construction cut [77] was backfilled with two deposits. The first of which was a firm mid brown grey silty sand [98] from a height of 5.53m OD and continuing below the LOE, this was overlain by a firm light grey brown silty chalk [85] with occasional inclusions of crushed brick and charcoal.
- 8.3.36 Layer [86] and [88] appeared very similar, although it was not possible to establish if they were the same layer due to limitations on excavation within this area. These two deposits form bedding layers for a brick and stone set surface across the south-eastern part of Trench 2. Overlaying the eastern extent of layer [86] was a red and yellow brick surface [81], and overlaying layer [88] was a stone set surface [82]. A further area of stone sets [80] was seen to seal the backfill [85] of construction cut [77] which cuts the bedding layer, suggesting that this was a later repair. A date of 1800-1900 was obtained for brick floor [81], although it is impossible to determine if this is due to the use of reused bricks, or if this is an earlier yard surface reused as an internal floor surface for the structure seen on historic maps from 1870 until 1830. The presence of several different materials within this surface would support this being a frequently repaired and long lived surface.
- 8.3.37 A ceramic drain was visible within a deposit of firm but friable concrete [84] to the west of floor surfaces [81] and [82] which appeared to relate to the southern face of wall [77] and may have originally been connected to a down pipe.

### **Trench 3**

- 8.3.38 A north-south wall [102] (Plate 14) was seen within the southwest of Trench 3, surviving to a height of 5.68m OD there was evidence of white paint on the eastern facing side of this wall. Historic maps show a wall within the location of this wall from 1870 until 1951, with bomb damage maps showing this part of the site to have suffered from blast damage during the war.

8.3.39 Whilst excavation to the west of wall [102] was not possible, excavation to the east revealed a brick floor at a height of 4.27m OD.

8.3.40 The brick floor [104] was overlaid by a concrete skim [103] resurfacing the earlier floor.

#### 8.4 Phase 4: Modern

##### Trench 2

8.4.1 Truncating fill [26] was a vertical sided rectangular pit [14] with oval rounded base. This pit was filled by a firm light grey brown sandy silt [28] with frequent inclusions of rubble, occasional concrete, rare pottery and a singular leather shoe. This most likely relates to an earlier phase of ground investigation work associated with a previous landowner.

##### Trench 3

8.4.2 Backfilling the space to the east and west of wall [102] was a loose rubble fill with yellow brown silty sand [100] and [101] (Plate 14). The only find from this trench was from the deposit to the east [100] and it was an iron draw with copper-alloy components most likely from a filing cabinet.

8.4.3 Sealing the backfill deposits was a layer of compacted mid yellow grey brick rubble and silty sand [99] (Plate 14). This layer was seen to a height of 6.14m OD across the entire trench.



Plate 1: Trench 1, looking west, wall [33] cut into natural gravel [40], truncated by service cut [73] into which was built wall [47]



Plate 2: Trench 2, looking west, layers [105], [106], [107], [108] and [109] within southern sondage.



Plate 3: Trench 1, looking south, walls [31], [33] and [41]



Plate 4: Trench 1, looking west, walls [31] and [68]



Plate 5: Trench 2, looking north, floor remnant [13] and earlier wall [11]



Plate 6: Trench 2, looking south, north-south brick walls [3], [2] and [1] (from left to right), cast concrete walls [8] and [10] and floors [7] and [9] in the foreground.





Plate 7: Trench 2, looking north, from left to right drain [63], walls [1] and [2] cut by east-west wall [5].



Plate 8: Trench 2, looking east, southern extent of drain [63] with east-west wall [79] and wall [76] in the foreground.



Plate 9: Trench 2, looking east, soak away [96] and construction cut [77] within eastern sondage



Plate 10: Trench 2, looking south, stone floor surface [48] with brick wall [5] in the background



Plate 11: Trench 2, looking west, wall rebuilds and repairs [49], [51], [53] and [55]



Plate 12: Trench 2, looking northwest, wall [5] cut by construction cut [57] for concrete foundation [65] and brick wall [49]



Plate 13: Trench 2, looking north, surfaces [80] and [88]



Plate 14: Trench 3, looking south, basement wall [102] with backfill deposit [100] and [101] overlain by layer [99]

## 9 INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

9.1 The results of this evaluation have enabled the research questions that were set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2019) to be addressed:

- *Are there prehistoric remains on the site and can those be related to the remains found in the area?*

9.1.1 There was no evidence of prehistoric archaeological remains seen during the evaluation.

9.1.2 Previous works on the site directly to the east (Jorgensen 2014) revealed a prehistoric sub-rounded pit containing a small number of pieces of burnt flint suggesting a prehistoric date.

9.1.3 Whilst no evidence was seen of prehistoric activity, natural deposits were only reached in a few locations due to the presence of post-medieval archaeological structures, modern services and current buildings, and so there is still a potential for the survival of prehistoric archaeology below the later phases where truncation has not been severe.

- *Is there any evidence of Roman activity on the site?*

9.1.4 There was no evidence of Roman activity seen during the evaluation.

9.1.5 As mentioned previously, the lack of evidence is not proof of absence, as the natural deposits were only reached in small isolated areas and therefore Roman deposits could still survive where post-medieval truncation has not been severe.

- *Is there any archaeological evidence of medieval origin?*

9.1.6 There was no evidence of medieval archaeology.

- *Are remains of industrial activity present on the site and what is their character?*

9.1.7 The evaluation confirmed that remains of the post-medieval (mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century) occupation of industrial character are present across on the site.

9.1.8 Walls constructed in that period were uncovered within Trench 1 to the west of the site. Historic maps show the north-south wall to probably have related to a 3-storey high building containing shops fronting onto Commercial Road (Figure 7). These are seen from 1870 until 1914. The later east-west walls could represent the instillation of internal divisions or the raising of the internal floor level.

9.1.9 Evidence of industrial activity in the later decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was particularly dominant in Trench 2 within the area to the west of the listed building number 777-783 Commercial Road. A series of heavily altered structures with ground floor and basement floor surfaces were uncovered there.

- 9.1.10 The earliest masonry was seen in the form of a north-south brick wall to the north-east of the trench. This wall was only seen in part thanks to truncation by the later building. The wall is believed to have related to the external wall of the building occupying the centre of the site between its north and south boundaries and housing “veterinary smithy” in the northern part as shown on 1894 map (Figure 7). Further western wall of the structure was also seen as well as the internal division wall separating the northern and southern parts of the building.
- 9.1.11 One floor surface to the north-east of this area had fixings for what could have been machinery.
- 9.1.12 To the south, there was what appeared to have been an external surface repurposed as an internal floor. This floor had been heavily repaired and most likely used recovered material.
- 9.1.13 To the far west of the site a number of post-medieval walls were uncovered within Trench 1, and to the southeast a backfilled basement was observed along with a resurfaced floor.
- 9.1.14 There is a strong possibility that earlier structures still survive below the archaeological deposits exposed and recorded during this evaluation particularly across the central and western parts of the site.
- 9.1.15 Both the areas around Trench 1 and 2 are much altered in the 1947 OS map and 1951 Goad map (Figure 9), with only the Salvation Army Hall remaining, and the construction of a metal store outbuilding to the west of 777 Commercial Road. This is most likely as a result of damage during WW2 as can be seen within the bomb damage maps showing damage beyond repair (purple) and blast damage (orange and yellow) across this area (Figure 8).
- *What is the level and extent of truncation on the site and of what character?*
- 9.1.16 The post-medieval development of the area has had a substantial localised impact within the area of basemented structures due to their construction. The natural gravels were present as high as 6.88m AOD in the western end of the site whilst in the area of Trench 2 the deposits on the site were truncated down to 3.59m AOD, and the eastern end of the site being also deeply truncated by the basement. This suggest significant impact of the late post-medieval development on the earlier archaeological remains potentially present.

## **10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

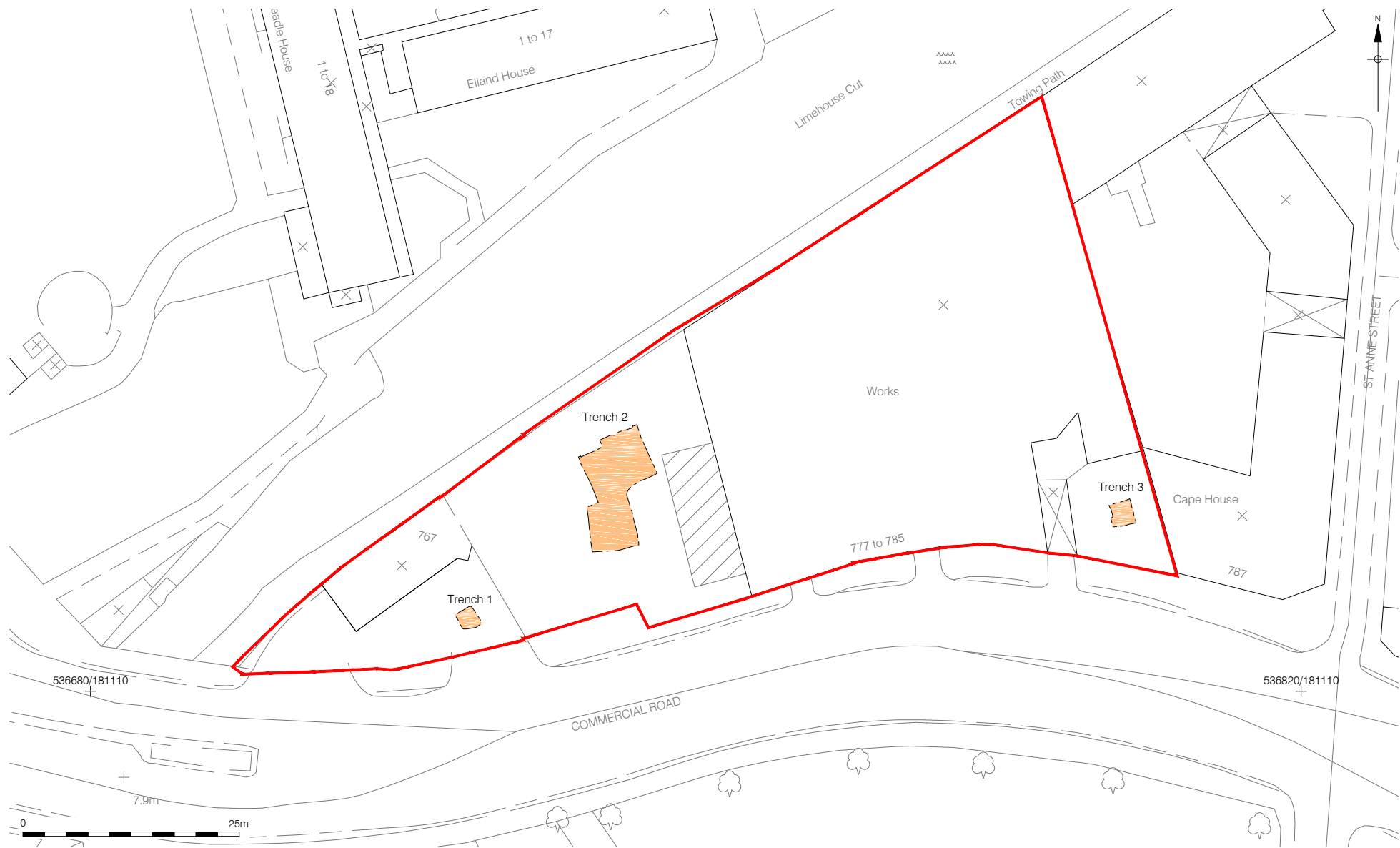
- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Would like to thank Charlotte Vallance of Archaeology Collective for commissioning the work on behalf of the overall client, and Adam Single of GLAAS for monitoring the fieldwork. Thanks also to Iain Griffith for facilitating the fieldwork on site.
- 10.2 The supervisor would like to thank Richard Krason, Armi Utriainen, James Langthorne, Jim Heathcoat and Omar Quadir for their hard work on site and John Joyce for logistical support.
- 10.3 The author would like to thank Zbigniew Pozorski of Pre-Construct Archaeology for his project management and editing, also Diana Valk for the CAD illustrations, Amparo Valcarcel for her analysis of building materials, Märit Gaimster for her analysis of metal finds, Kate Turner for her assessment of the marine shell, Kevin Rielly for his evaluation of the animal bone and Chris Jarrett for his spot dating of clay tobacco pipe, glass and pottery.

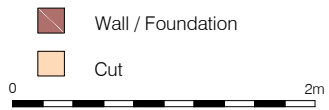
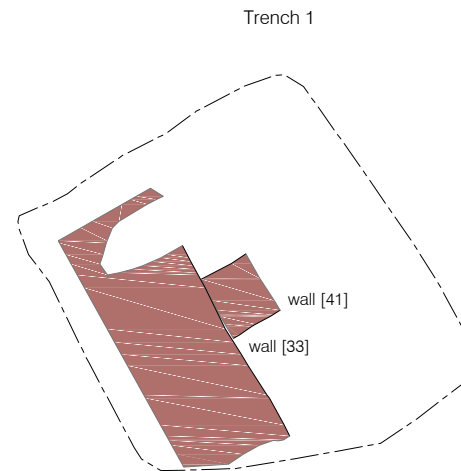
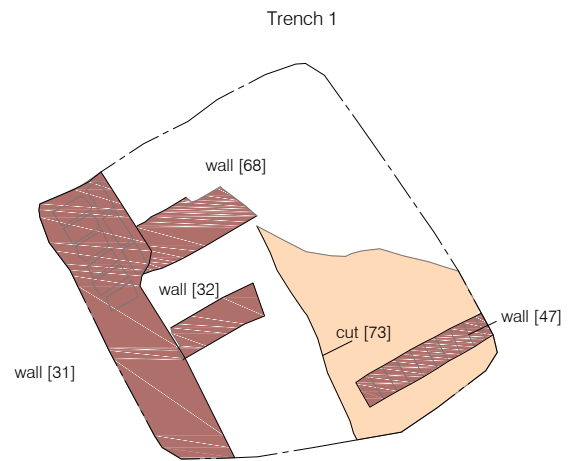
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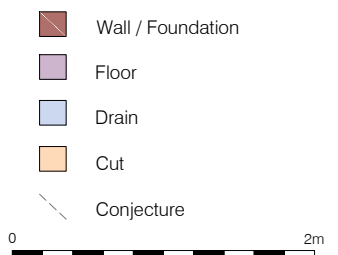
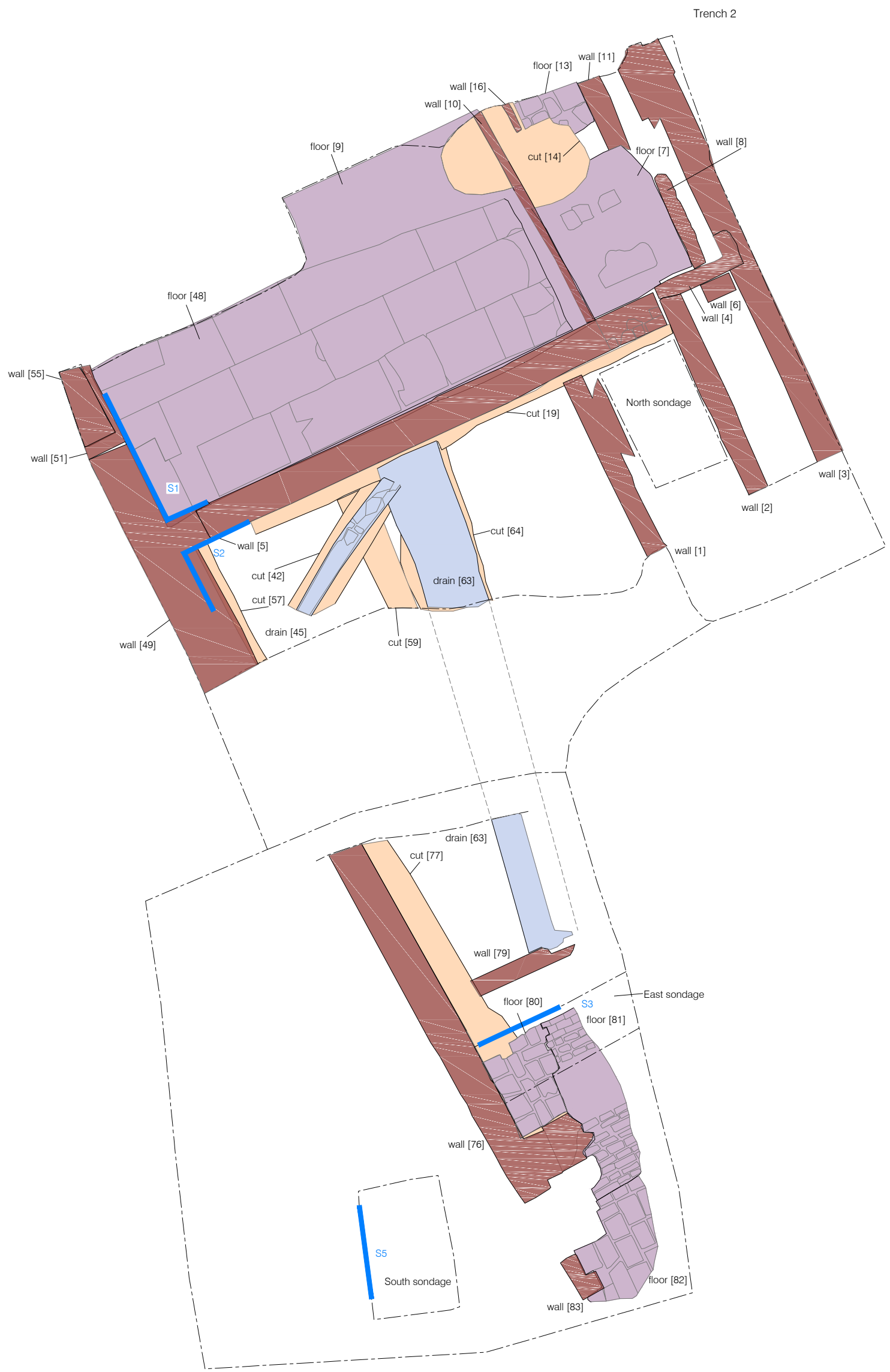
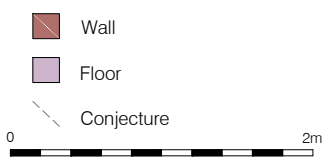
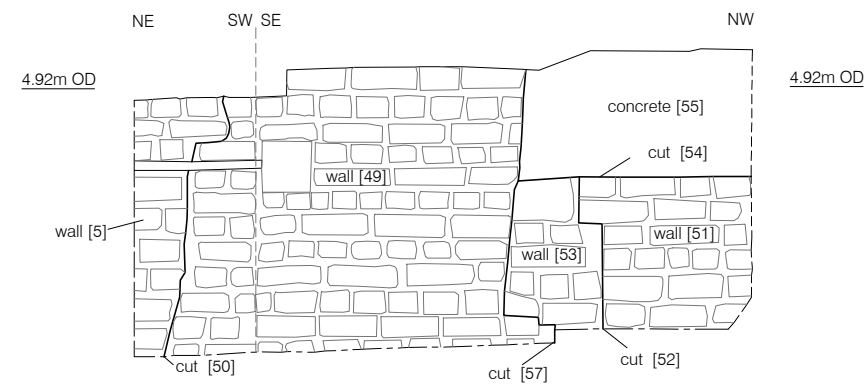
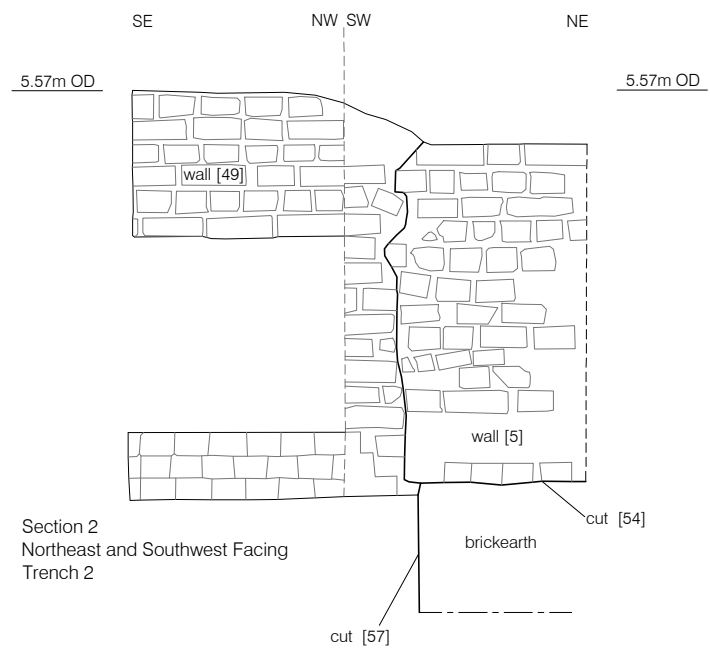


Figure 4  
Plan of Trench 2  
1:50 at A3

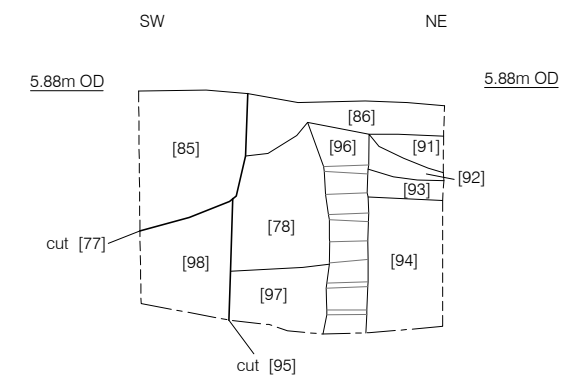




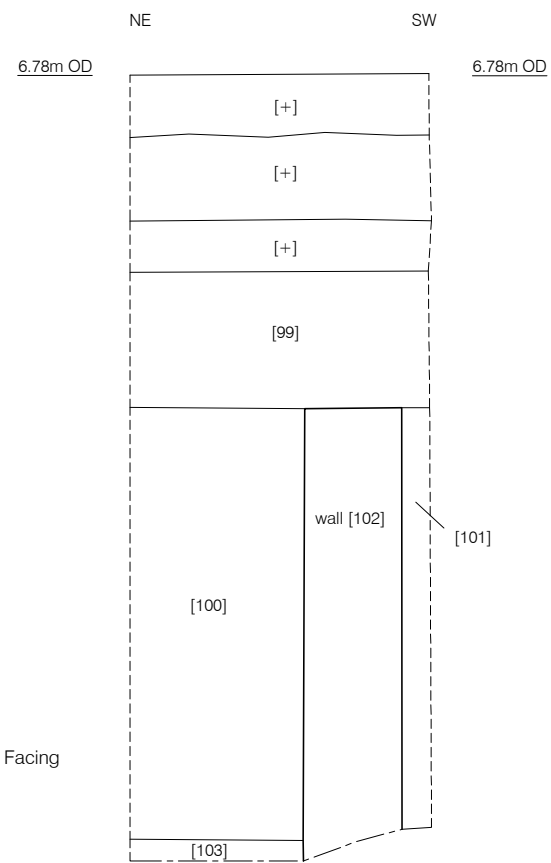
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Northwest and Northeast Facing  
Trench 2



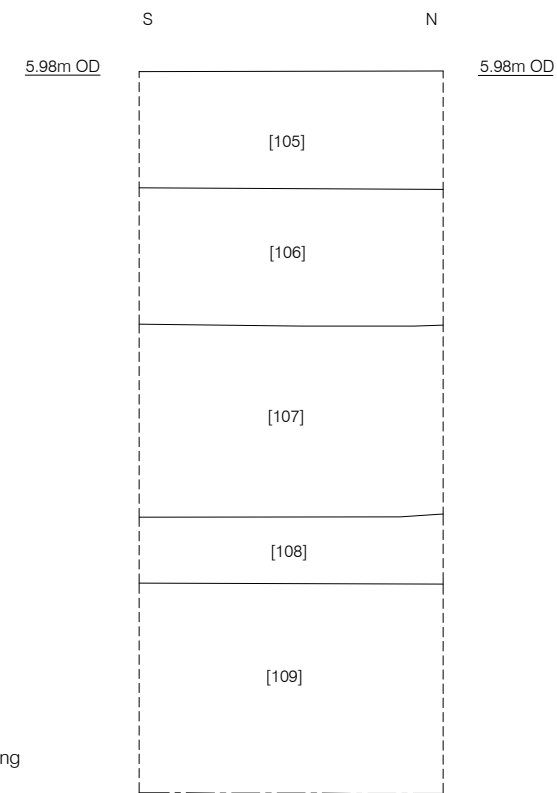
Section 2  
Northeast and Southwest Facing  
Trench 2



Section 3  
Southeast Facing  
Trench 2



Section 4  
Northwest Facing  
Trench 3

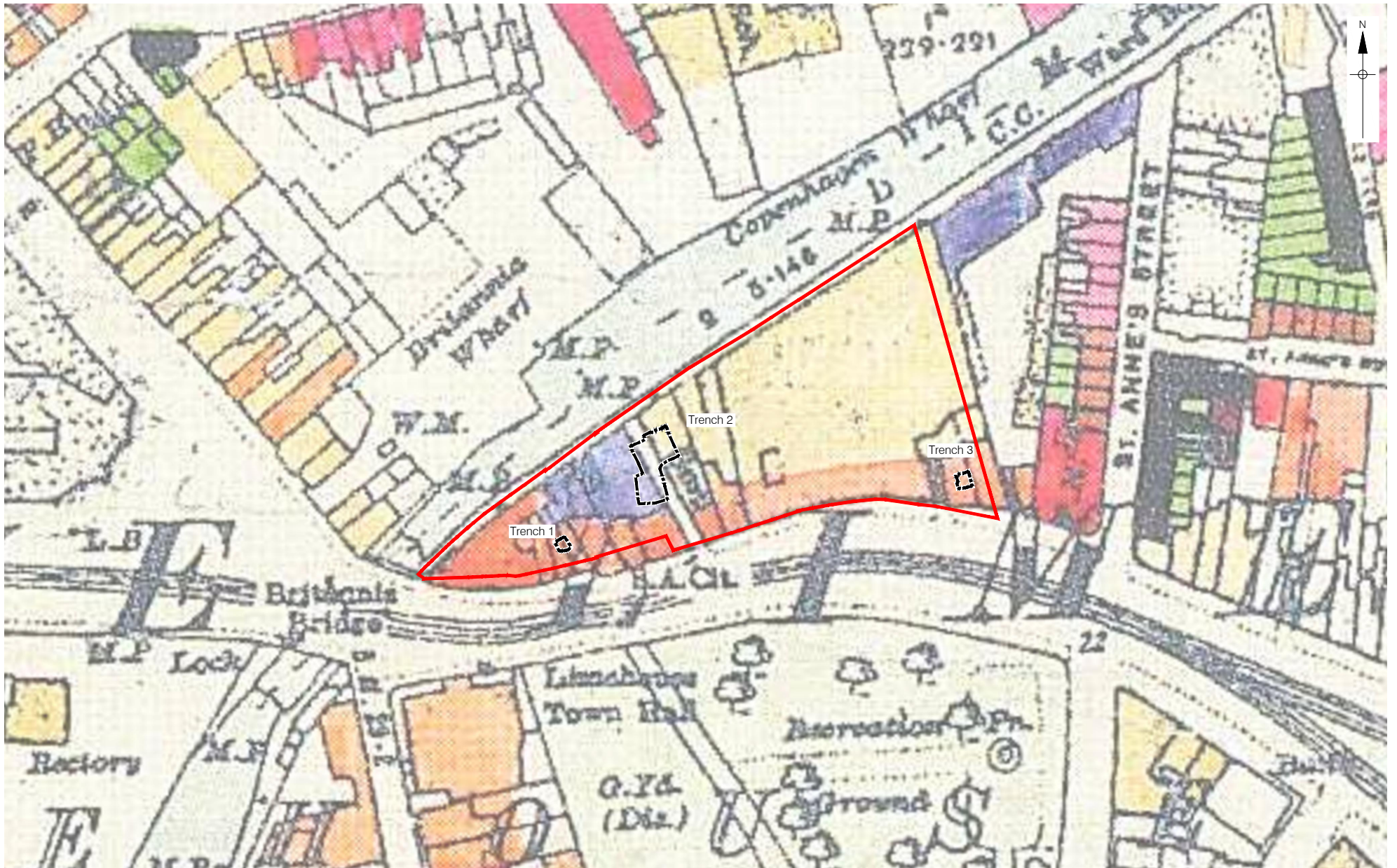


Section 5  
East Facing  
Trench 2





Figure 7  
Goat Fire Insurance Plan, 1894  
1:500 at A4





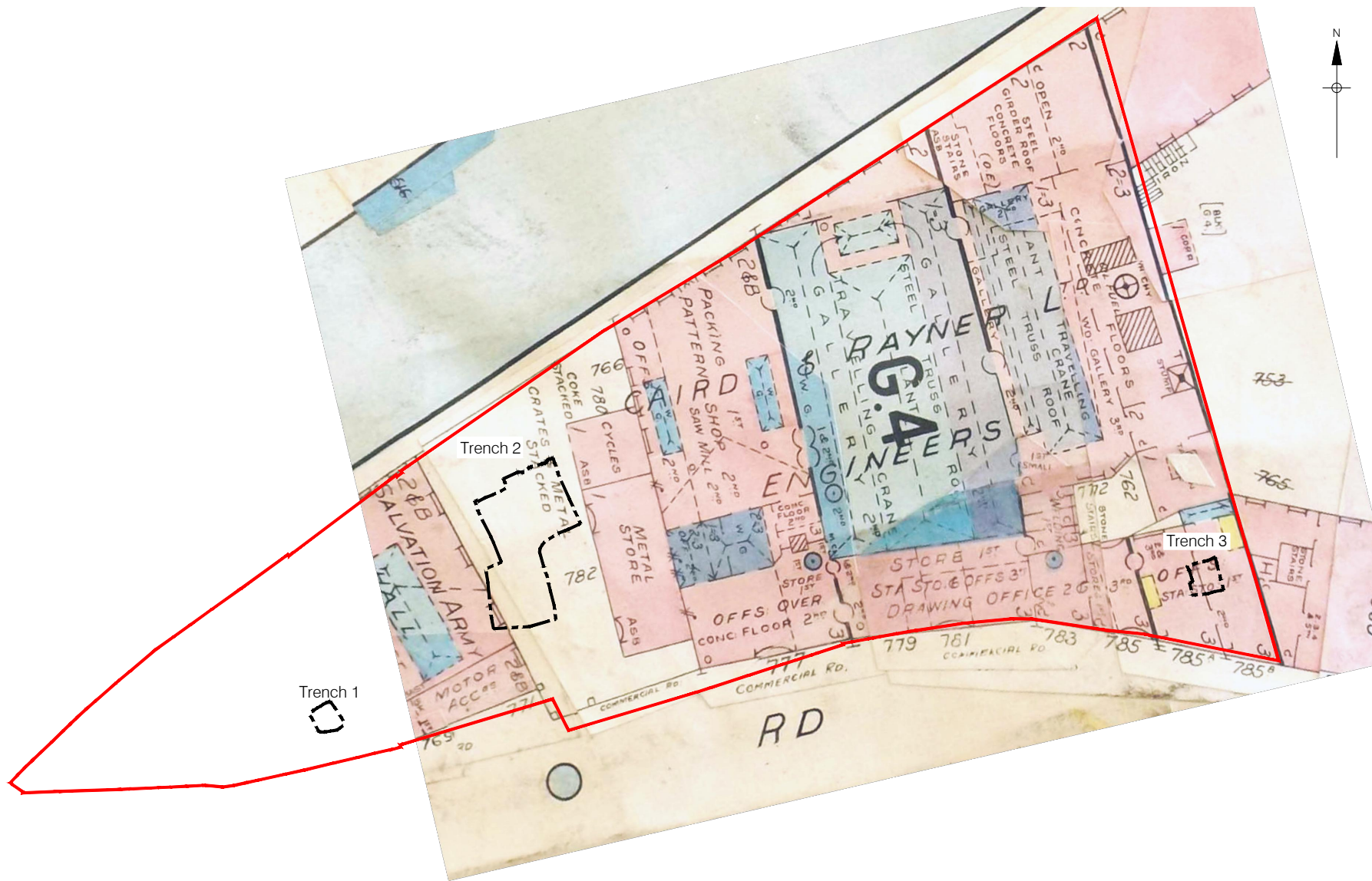


Figure 9  
Goad Fire Insurance Plan, 1951  
1:500 at A4

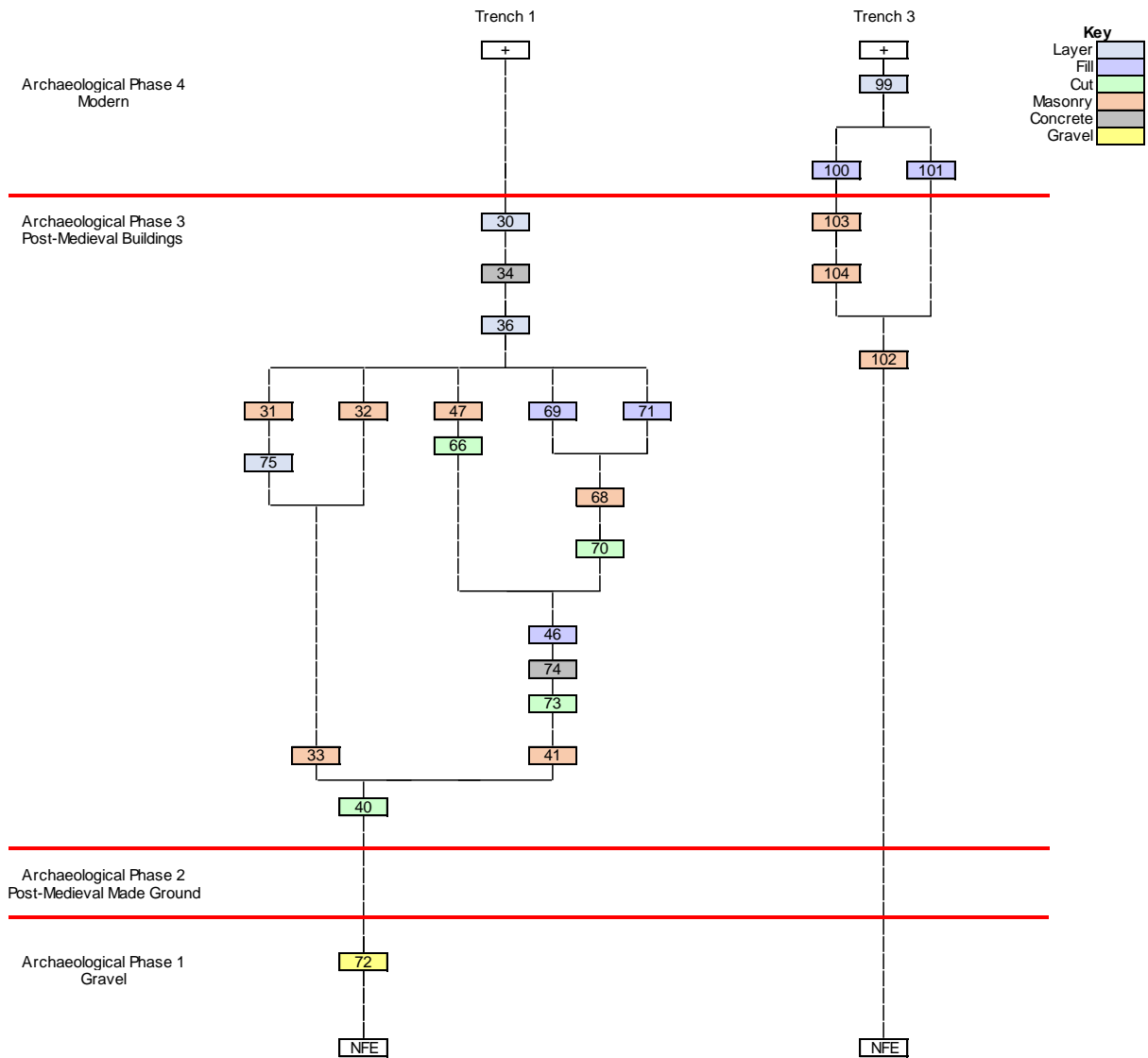
**APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX**

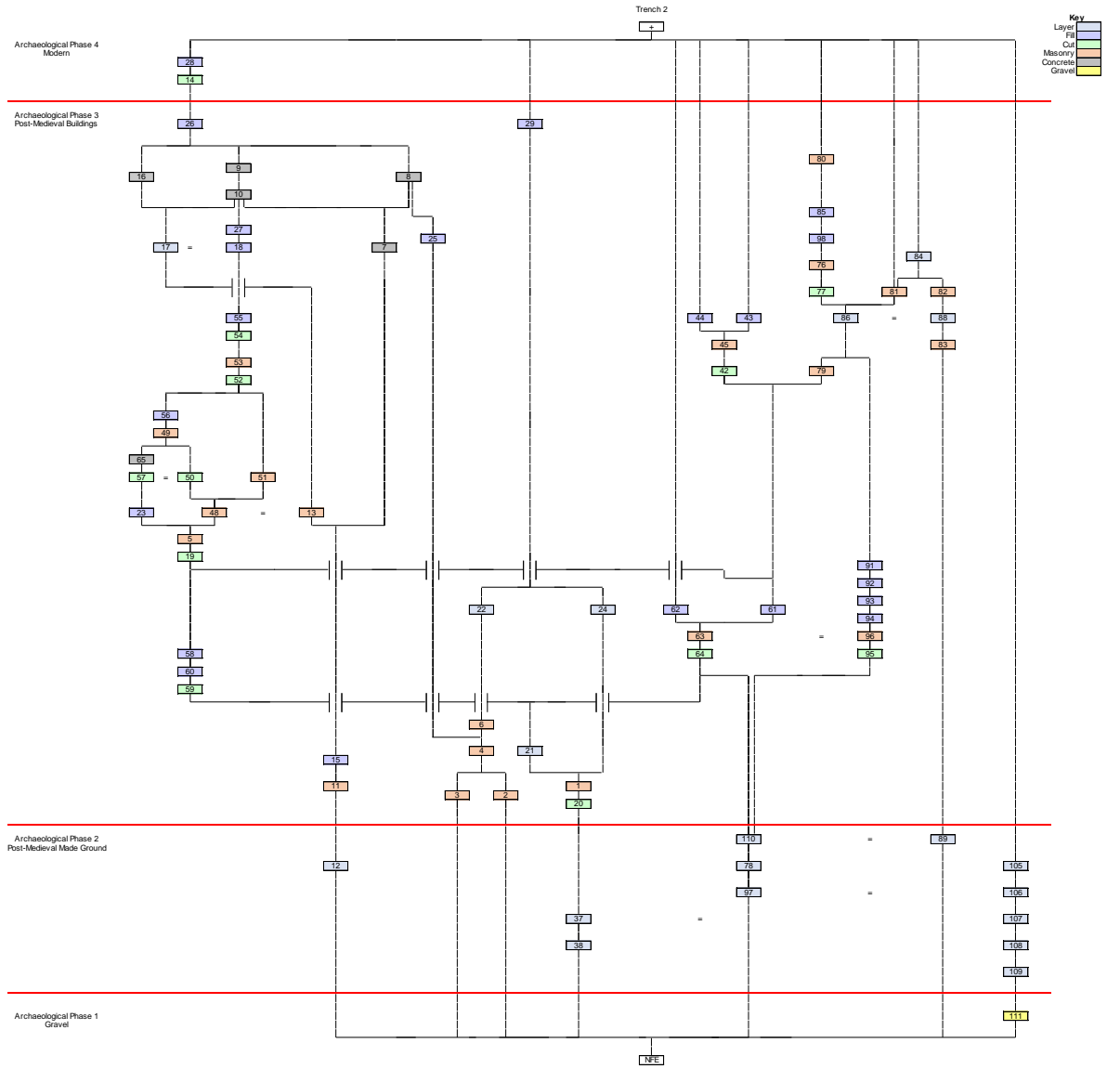
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1	Masonry		2	1	North-south basement wall	Wall	2.15	0.27	0.66	5.27	5.1
2	Masonry		2	1	North-south basement wall	Wall	2.21	0.25	0.79	5.32	5.22
3	Masonry		2	1	North-south basement wall	Wall	4.61	0.85	0.73	5.44	5.27
4	Masonry		2	1	Rebuild/repair of basement wall	Wall	1.04	0.22	0.8	5.38	4.85
5	Masonry		2	1	East-west basement wall	Wall	5.6	0.4	0.77	5.37	4.61
6	Masonry		2	1	Brick addition to basement walls	Wall	0.34	0.22	0.2	5.37	4.61
7	Masonry		2	1	Concrete floor with metal fixings	Floor	1.64	1.31	0.12	4.57	
8	Masonry		2	1	Cast concrete wall	Wall	1.12	0.18	0.7	5.29	
9	Masonry		2	1	Concrete floor	Floor	5.29	2.68	0.1	5.29	5.24
10	Masonry		2	1	Cast concrete wall	Wall	2.62	0.28	0.7	5.3	4.95
11	Masonry		2	1	North-south wall	Wall	0.73	0.22	0.02	4.5	
12	Layer		2	1	Brown orange clay silt	Make-up	1.26	0.34		4.48	
13	Masonry		2	1	Basement floor surface	Floor	0.73	0.46	0.05	4.54	
14	Cut		2	1	Possible test pit	Pit	1.26	1.4	0.91	5.29	4.38
15	Layer		2	1	Layer to west of wall [11]	Levelling	0.9	1.04		4.5	
16	Masonry		2	1	Cast concrete wall	Wall	0.9	1.04		4.5	
17	Layer		2	1	Clinker layer	Levelling	0.62	0.32		4.42	
18	Fill		2	1	Dark brown sandy silt backfill	Backfill	5.22	2.68	0.46	4.95	4.83
19	Cut		2	1	Construction cut of wall [5]	Construction Cut	5.12	0.5	0.94	5.22	5.07
20	Cut		2	1	Construction cut of wall [1]	Construction Cut	2.06			5.22	5.07
21	Layer		2	1	Orange sandy gravel	Make-up	2.34	1.7		5.09	4.99
22	Layer		2	1	Compacted gravel	Surface (Internal)	2.11	0.63	0.09	5.25	5.19
23	Fill	19	2	1	Backfill of construction cut	Backfill	5.12	0.1	0.94	5.2	5.19
24	Layer		2	1	mottled grey sandy silt with gravel and concrete fragments	Make-up	2.2	1.07	1.67	5.5	5.49
25	Fill		2	1	Fill against western side of wall [3]	Backfill	1.2	0.25	0.5	5.12	
26	Fill		2	1	Fill of northeast room lined with concrete [7] [8] [10]	Backfill	3.1	1.7	0.46	5.88	
27	Fill		2	1	Brown grey sandy silt fill of northwest room	Backfill	5.22	2.7	0.31	5.19	5.16
28	Fill	14	2	1	Fill of possible test pit	Backfill	1.3	1.65	0.7	5.19	
29	Fill		2	1	Fill of southeast room between walls [1] and [3]	Backfill	2.5	1.6	0.4	5.6	5.59
30	Layer		1	2	Grey brown sandy silt	Levelling	2.39	2.21	0.32	7.46	7.26
31	Masonry		1	2	Red unfrosted brick wall	Wall	1.8	0.33	0.11	7.05	7.03
32	Masonry		1	2	Red brick wall	Wall	0.62	0.22		7	
33	Masonry		1	2	White stone wall	Wall	1.84	0.58	0.11	7.01	6.88
34	Layer		1	2	Concrete	Surface (External)	1.4	1.25	0.05	7.02	
35	Void				Void	Void					
36	Layer		1	2	Dark grey brown silty sand	Levelling	2.39	2.21	0.14	7.02	6.93
37	Layer		2	1	Pale grey yellow sandy chalk and mortar	Make-up	1	0.8	0.21	3.9	
38	Layer		2	1	Pinky brown clay silt	Make-up	1	0.8	0.35	3.69	
39	Void				Void	Void					
40	Cut		1	2	Construction cut for walls [33] and [41]	Construction Cut	1.68	0.34		6.88	6.83

Context	Type	Fill of	Trench	Baseline	Interpretation	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Levels high (m OD)	Levels low (m OD)
41	Masonry		1	2	Red brick wall	Wall	0.44	0.36	0.11	6.89	
42	Cut		2	1	Construction cut of ceramic drain [45]	Construction Cut	1.8	0.48	0.3	5.1	4.8
43	Fill	42	2	1	Fill of construction cut [42] for drain [45]	Backfill	1.8	0.48	0.28	5.1	
44	Fill	42	2	1	Silting deposit of ceramic drain [45]	Natural Silting	1.78	0.2	0.08	4.98	
45	Masonry	42	2	1	Ceramic drain	Drain	1.7	0.2	0.2	5.09	5.08
46	Fill	73	1	2	Fill of service cut	Wall	0.44	0.36	0.11	6.89	
47	Masonry		1	2	Red brick wall	Wall	0.8	0.23	0.15	6.94	
48	Masonry		2	1	Grey stone floor	Floor	5.05	2	0.08	4.66	4.49
49	Masonry		2	1	Red and yellow frogged brick basement wall	Wall	3.7	0.93	1.34	5.54	5.47
50	Cut		2	1	Construction cut for wall [49]	Construction Cut	1.2	0.3	0.89	5.38	4.53
51	Masonry		2	1	Red unfrogged brick wall	Wall	0.6	0.3	0.5	5.12	
52	Cut		2	1	Construction cut for wall repair [53]	Construction Cut	0.33	0.3	0.5	5.12	4.7
53	Masonry		2	1	Red frogged brick wall repair	Wall	0.32	0.3	0.5	5.12	4.72
54	Cut		2	1	Cut for wall repair [55]	Construction Cut	0.71	0.3	0.36	5.54	5.22
55	Masonry		2	1	Cast concrete wall repair	Wall	0.7	0.3	0.42	5.54	5.47
56	Fill		2	1	Backfill of construction cut [57]	Backfill	1.46	0.3	1.16	5.4	
57	Cut		2	1	Construction cut for wall [49]	Construction Cut	5.4	0.7	1.56	5.4	3.84
58	Fill	59	2	1	Rubble and demolition fill	Backfill	1.5	1.35	0.55	5.06	4.99
59	Cut		2	1	Heavily truncated cut	Other	1.73	0.55	0.72	5.06	4.34
60	Fill	59	2	1	Dark fill of [59]	Backfill	1.5	0.55	0.17	4.51	
61	Fill		2	1	Backfill over drain [63]	Backfill	1.86	0.7	0.13	5.07	
62	Fill		2	1	Silting of brick drain [63]	Natural Silting	1.86	0.7		4.94	
63	Masonry		2	1	Red unfrogged brick drain	Drain	5.7	0.7	0.37	5.07	4.94
64	Cut		2	1	Construction cut of brick drain [63]	Construction Cut	5.7	0.82		4.94	
65	Masonry		2	1	Concrete foundation for wall [49]	Foundation	1.4	0.4		4.24	
66	Masonry		1	2	Cut for brick foundation [47]	Wall	0.8	0.24	0.15	6.94	
67	Void				Void	Void					
68	Masonry		1	2	East-west unfrogged brick wall	Wall	0.7	0.12	0.14	6.84	
69	Fill	70	1	2	Backfill of construction cut [70]	Wall	0.7	0.04	0.14	6.89	
70	Cut		1	2	Construction cut for wall [68]	Construction Cut	0.7			6.89	
71	Fill		1	2	Backfill of construction cut [70]	Backfill	0.34	0.08		6.89	
72	Layer		1	2	Natural sandy gravels	Natural	1.8	0.54	0.57	6.88	6.83
73	Cut		1	2	Construction cut for concrete encased service	Construction Cut	2	1.08	0.63	6.94	6.31
74	Other		1	2	Concrete casing of service within cut [73]	Other	0.74	0.54		6.31	
75	Layer		1	2	Demolition layer	Demolition	1.74	0.1		6.89	
76	Masonry		2	4	Red and yellow brick wall	Wall	4.44	0.36		5.87	5.8
77	Cut		2	4	Construction cut for wall [76]	Construction Cut	4	0.3	0.7	5.85	
78	Layer		2	4	Made ground layer	Make-up	1.62	0.63	0.32	5.72	
79	Masonry		2	4	Red and yellow frogged stock brick wall	Wall	1.24	0.2	0.15	5.82	5.72
80	Masonry		2	4	Grey granite set floor	Floor	1	0.68	0.1	5.99	

Context	Type	Fill of	Trench	Baseline	Interpretation	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Levels high (m OD)	Levels low (m OD)
81	Masonry		2	4	Red and yellow brick floor	Floor	2.1	0.62	0.1	6	5.99
82	Masonry		2	4	Grey granite set floor	Floor	1.22	1.04	0.1	6.05	5.97
83	Masonry		2	4	Red brick wall	Wall	5.6	2.3	1.5	5.97	5.89
84	Layer		2	4	Deposit over floors [81] and [82]	Dump	0.98	0.61	0.07	6.03	5.76
85	Fill	77	2	4	Backfill of construction cut [77]	Backfill	4.14	0.61	0.7	5.88	5.83
86	Layer		2	4	Dark reddish brown silty sand bedding layer with frequent slag	Bedding	2.41	1.12	0.07	5.9	5.84
87	Void				Void	Void					
88	Layer		2	4	Bedding layer for [82]	Bedding	1.2	0.71	0.1	5.76	5.73
89	Layer		2	4	Friable dark brown layer abutting [83]	Dump	0.48	0.14		5.78	
90	Void				Void	Void					
91	Fill	95	2	4	Friable dark brown black silty sand fill	Backfill	0.8	0.25	0.12	5.73	
92	Fill	95	2	4	Friable brown grey silty sand fill	Backfill	0.8	0.25	0.13	5.73	5.63
93	Fill		2	4	Dark brown black silty sand	Backfill	0.8	0.25	0.12	5.53	5.51
94	Fill		2	4	soft brown grey silty sand	Backfill	0.8	0.25	0.44	5.71	5.7
95	Cut		2	4	Construction cut of soak away	Construction Cut	0.8	0.7	0.96	5.78	5.18
96	Masonry	95	2	4	Brick soak away	Other	0.8	0.7	0.96	5.65	
97	Layer		2	4	Layer of redeposited sand	Make-up	0.8	0.31	0.24	5.3	
98	Fill		2	4	Backfill of construction cut [77]	Backfill	4	0.32	0.8	5.53	5.43
99	Layer		3		Compacted leveling layer	Levelling	2.9	2.74	0.46	6.14	
100	Fill		3		Backfill of basement	Backfill	1.16	1.68	1.43	5.68	
101	Fill		3		Backfill of basement	Backfill	1.22	0.78	1.4	5.68	
102	Masonry		3		Basement wall	Wall	0.73	0.32	1.5	5.68	
103	Masonry		3		Concrete scree resurfacing of basement floor	Floor	1.68	1.3	0.07	4.3	
104	Masonry		3		Brick basement floor	Floor	1.68	1.14		4.27	
105	Layer		2	4	Mid brown sandy silt layer	Make-up	1	0.8	0.39	5.98	
106	Layer		2	4	orange sand layer	Make-up	1	0.8	0.45	5.59	
107	Layer		2	4	Sandy mortar layer	Make-up	1	0.8	0.63	5.14	
108	Layer		2	4	Dark sandy silt layer	Make-up	1	0.8	0.22	4.51	
109	Layer		2	4	Brown made ground	Make-up	1	0.8	0.7	4.29	
110	Layer		2	4	Dark brown made ground	Make-up	0.8	0.3	0.44	5.73	
111	Layer		2	4	Natural sandy gravel	Natural				3.59	

## APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX





## APPENDIX 3: FINDS REPORTS

### Pottery Assessment

Chris Jarrett

#### Introduction

A small assemblage of post-Roman pottery was recovered by hand from the excavation, amounting to 2 boxes. In total, there are 77 sherds, representing 48 estimated number of vessels (ENV), weighing 9.582kg, of which seven sherds/7 ENV/479g are unstratified. The pottery dates solely to the post-medieval period and more so the 19th century. The pottery is in a good condition, with little evidence for abrasion but with a relatively high level of fragmentation, although six vessels have a complete profile and five vessels are intact (all of which are stoneware dwarf ink bottles). The pottery was found in nine contexts, all of which are small sized (less than 30 sherds) sized groups.

The assemblage was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in a database format, by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the pottery types is according to the Museum of London Archaeology typology (MOLA 2014). The forms were identified in accordance with the Medieval Pottery Research Group's guide to the classification of forms (MPRG 1998), besides that of MOLA (2014). The pottery was quantified by sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV's) and weight. A summary of the pottery types and forms appears below in Table 1 while the distribution of the ceramics is shown in Table 2 which shows the contexts containing pottery with date ranges and suggested spot dates.

#### The assemblage

The range of pottery types, their quantification and the forms that are present in the types are shown in Table 1. The most frequently occurring pottery type is refined whiteware (REFW), dated 1805–1900 (Hildyard 2005) onwards and found as a total of 47 sherds/21 ENV/912g or 61% sherds/43.8% ENV/9.5% weight. Refined white earthenware in this assemblage can be plain (REFW), painted with under-glaze colours and transfer-printed in blue (TPW) or here in mulberry (TPW4). Blue transfer-printed whiteware (TPW) is the most frequent pottery type in the assemblage (see Table 1) and occurs mostly as table wares (different-sized bowls, plates and an egg-cup). The patterns on this ware consist of the willow pattern, introduced from c. 1789 (contexts [23], [27] and [60]) and a mid-late 19th-century variation of this pattern (context [60]) which frequently occurs on wares marked 'Stone China'. Dating from c. 1830 are represented the Wild Rose border pattern with a central Nuneham Courtney design (contexts [46] and [60]), besides a version consisting of the trees in the Albion design (context [23]). Plates with blue-shell edged rims (REFW CHROM), dated c. 1840–70 and 1850–1900 were noted in context [27], while another plate has late 19th-century-blue line decoration on the rim which is partially blurred and was found in context [26], while another sherd of the same vessel was unstratified. A colour-

glazed (COLGE) plate with a scalloped bead and reel border rim, resembles creamware and represents one of the latest datable ceramics in the assemblage. On the underside of the base is a black-printed rectangular makers mark containing a two masted medieval boat above the name 'GRINDLEY', which is in turn over 'MADE IN ENGLAND'. The plate was made by W H Grindley & Co, Tunstall, Staffordshire, c. 1880–1991, while the mark itself is dated to c.1936–54 (Birks 2005, <http://thepotteries.org/mark/g/grindley.htm>). Sherds of this plate were found in contexts ([24] and [26]).

Pottery type	Code	Date range	S C	EN V	Wt	Forms
Bone china	BONE	1794–1900	4	4	76	Saucer. Teacup, unidentified,
Coloured-glazed refined whiteware	COLGE	1800–1900	6	1	170	Dinner plate
Creamware	CREA	1740–1830	1	1	3	Dinner plate
English brown salt-glazed stoneware	ENGS	1700–1900	5	5	500	Dwarf-shaped inkwell, ink bottle
English stoneware with Bristol glaze	ENGS BRST	1830–1900	1	1	242	Bottle or jar
London stoneware	LONS	1670–1926	2	2	407 9	General cylindrical section bottle, upright bottle
London-area post-medieval redware	PMR	1580–1900	12	9	371 3	Two-handed flared bowl, chamber pot, flowerpot, unidentified specific shape
Pearlware with transfer-printed decoration	PEAR TR	1770–1840	1	1	2	Saucer
Refined white earthenware	REFW	1805–1900	5	4	73	Cylindrical jar, plate, Hamilton fluted teacup, unidentified,
Refined white earthenware with under-glaze polychrome-painted decoration in 'chrome' colours	REFW CHROM	1830–1900	7	4	105	Dinner plate
Refined whiteware with under-glaze colour transfer-printed decoration (green, mulberry, grey etc)	TPW4	1825–1900	1	1	3	Toy saucer
Refined whiteware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration	TPW	1780–1900	28	11	561	Deep bowl, rounded bowl, oval bowl, egg cup dinner plate, soup plate, tea plate, saucer, tureen,
White salt-glazed stoneware	SWSG	1720–1780	1	1	19	Chamber pot
Yellow ware	YELL	1820–1900	1	1	18	Oval dish
Yellow ware with slip decoration	YELL SLIP	1820–1900	2	2	18	Unidentified

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage by ware type and the forms present in the different types. SC = Sherd count. ENV = Estimated number of vessels. Wt = Weight in grams.

A small, but notable quantity of 19th to early 20th-century dated stoneware is recorded in the assemblage (eight sherds, 8 ENV, 4.821kg in total) and includes five English stoneware dwarf ink



bottles, all of which are intact (unstratified: four examples, context [26], one example). The frequency of the ink bottles indicates that writing was an important activity to the residents of the study area. Additionally, there is present a bottle or jar base recorded in English stoneware with a Bristol-glaze, dated 1830–1900+ (context [26]), while fragments of a large upright bottle made in London stoneware was noted in context [60]. A residual mid 18th-century white salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG) chamber pot base was recovered from deposit [27].

The local coarse red earthenware (PMR) (Nenk and Hughes 1999) is also frequent in this assemblage (see Table 1) and three-handled flared bowls of a medium and large size were noted in context [27], although these appear to be residual and of an early to mid-18th-century date by their form and decoration. Of particular interest are four vessels recovered from context [49] of a specific unidentified shape that take the form of double-walled/ring dishes with a diameter of 185–195mm and the centre of the bases (100mm in diameter) are cut out. The outer wall/rim is flared with a rounded thickening and have a height of 47-61mm, while the internal ring is upright, simple and always shorter (47–50mm tall). The vessels are fairly crudely finished and are all reduced dark grey. The form is known from excavations in the gardens of Audley End House, Essex, where multiple incidences of the shape are recorded and in more than one fabric with oxidised firings (Caitlin Scott pers. comm.). The inference at Audley End House are that these vessels had a horticultural function, although this is yet to be confirmed.

## Distribution

The distribution of the pottery is shown in Table 2 which shows for each context containing pottery, the cut it fills, the size of the assemblage, quantification by sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight in grams (WT), the date range of the latest pottery type (Context ED and LD), the pottery types forms and decoration present and a spot date for the deposition of the finds.

Context	Fill of	Size	SC	ENV	Wt	Context ED	Context LD	Pottery types (forms: decoration)	Spot date
0			7	7	479			ENGS (dwarf ink bottles), REFW (Hamilton-shaped teacup), REFW CHROM (dinner plate), YELL SLIP (unidentified)	0
16		S	2	2	28	1740	1830	CREA (dinner plate), LONS (cylindrical bottle)	19th century
23	19	S	14	11	283	1825	1900	BONE (teacup), PMR (flowerpot), REFW (cylindrical jar, unidentified), TPW (rounded bowl; Albion design, deep bowl: landscape) TPW4 (toy saucer: floral), YELL (oval dish), YELL SLIP (unidentified)	1830–1900
24		S	13	7	3629	1805	1900	COLGE (dinner plate), PMR (unidentified), REFW (plate)	1890+
26		S	8	3	439	1830	1900	COLGE (dinner plate), ENGS BRST (bottle or jar), REFW CHROM (dinner plate)	1890+

27		S	13	4	132	1830	1900	REFW CHROM (dinner plate: blue shell edges), SWSG (chamber pot, TPW (bowl: Willow pattern)	1850–1870
46	73	S	3	3	47	1794	1900	BONE (teacup, unidentified), TPW (soup plate: Wild Rose border/Nuneham Courtney landscape)	1830–1900
56		S	2	2	99	1780	1900	ENGS (dwarf ink bottle), PEAR TR (saucer: geometrical)	19th century
60		S	14	8	4440	1830	1900	BONE (saucer: Chelsea sprigged pattern), LONS (upright bottle), REFW (unidentified), TPW (egg cup: Willow pattern variant; dinner plate: Wild Rose and Willow pattern, tea plate: willow pattern)	Mid 19th century
94		S	1	1	6	1780	1900	TPW (dinner plate: floral)	1830–1900

Table 2. Distribution of the pottery

### Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The pottery is generally of little significance as it occurs in a small quantity, however, the assemblage contains some low socio-economic wares, which are often poorly made, while the high incidence of ink bottles indicate writing was important to the 19th-century household(s) located on the site, which may include retail premises. The occurrence of the four double-walled/ring dishes in context [49] are of interest for being a rare shape identified in London and would be useful for inclusion of a synthetic study of London area post-medieval redwares (Pearce in prep). The main potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was found in, as well as indicating 19th-20th-century activity on the site, while residual 18th-century pottery types and forms indicate earlier activity on the site. There are no recommendations for further work on the assemblage, which as it has been fully recorded can be discarded at the archive stage of the project. The four PMR double-walled/ring dishes found in context [49] should be retained and deposited with the archive.

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## Clay Tobacco Pipe Assessment

Chris Jarrett

### Introduction

A small sized assemblage of clay tobacco pipes was recovered solely by hand from the archaeological work. The fragments are not abraded, although the two bowls are damaged to various extents. The material appears to have been deposited under secondary circumstances. The clay tobacco pipe assemblage consists of 11 fragments, present as two bowls and nine stems. The bowls were classified by Atkinson and Oswald's (1969) typology (AO), while new additions to the typology are according to Higgins (2004). The material was catalogued according to Higgins (2017) and the pipes were coded by decoration and quantified by fragment count. Contexts containing only stems have been broadly dated according to the thickness of the stem and the diameter size of the bore. Clay tobacco pipes occur in five contexts as only small (under 30 fragments) sized groups. The bowl types range in date to between 1840–1910. The clay tobacco pipes are discussed by their bowl types, etc.

### The Assemblage

#### The bowl types

All of the bowl fragments have been smoked and were solely found in context [27].

1840–1880

AO28S (Higgins 2004): one small spurred-type bowl with wheatear borders on the front and back of the bowl. The border on the back of the bowl is poorly moulded and the spur is missing.

1840–1910

AO30: a single bowl of this type survives as mostly the stem and the base of the bowl. Both the front and the back of the bowl have surviving evidence for wheatear borders.

#### Stems

All of the stems were plain and are mostly thin and all have fine bores and indicate these items date to the period c. 1730–1910.

### Distribution

The distribution of the clay tobacco pipes is shown in Table 1. Where a wide date was assigned to the context then this reflects that only stems were present and were dated according to the size of the bore.

Context	No. of fragments	Assemblage Size	Context ED	Context LD	Bowl types etc.	Spot date
23	3	S	1580	1910	Stems	1730–1910
24	1	S	1580	1910	Stems	1730–1910
27	3	S	1840	1880	X2 bowls: x1 AO28S, x1 AO30, x1 stem	1840–1880
46	3	S	1580	1910	Stems	1730–1910
94	1	S	1580	1910	Stem	1730–1910

Table 1. Distribution of the tobacco pipes showing the number of fragments, the size of the assemblage, the date range of the latest clay tobacco pipe bowl, etc. (Context ED and LD), the bowls/material present and a context considered date (spot date) for each context clay tobacco pipes occurred in.

### Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The clay tobacco pipes are of no interest as the assemblage is in a largely fragmentary condition, is absent of maker marked items and have little meaning. The only potential of the clay tobacco pipes is to date the contexts they were recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the assemblage.

### References

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## **Glass Assessment**

Chris Jarrett

### **Introduction**

A small sized assemblage of glass was recovered from the site (less than one box). The glass dates entirely to the post-medieval period and mostly to the 19th century or later. The fragments show no evidence for abrasion. The assemblage consists of fragmentary items and five intact vessels and the majority of the stratified glass appears to have been discarded soon after it was broken or the contents were no longer needed. The glass was quantified by the number of fragments, estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight and was recovered from four contexts and individual deposits produced small (fewer than 30 fragments) groups.

All of the glass (17 fragments, representing 15 ENV or items and weighing 1.345kg, of which 8 fragments, representing 8 ENV or items and weighing 598g are unstratified) was recorded in a database format, by type, colour and form. Tim finishes and shapes are catalogued according to (Lindsey 2018). The assemblage is discussed by its types and distribution. The assemblage consists of mostly different types of bottles.

### **The assemblage**

The range of forms are as follows:

Bottle: 2 fragments, 2 ENV, 129g

Two moulded vessels dated to the late 19th-early 20th century could only be assigned to a basic shape. A green bottle, for the storage of an alcoholic or beverage drinks, has a collared rim finish with an internal thread and the hardened rubber stopper (with its top missing) is still in place (unstratified). A dark brown glass rim has a brandy-type finish and was recovered from context [27].

Bottle, champagne-type, squat: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 367g

An intact bottle of this shape is mould made in dark green glass and has a champagne-type (squared cordon) string finish and the base has a relatively deep conical kick with a rounded top. The item was unstratified, dates to the late 19th-20th century and was most likely to have contained a branded alcoholic drink.

Bottle, cylindrical: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 56g

A generic dark green glass moulded cylindrical bottle survives only as a base with a rounded topped deep kick and it is dated to the late 19th-20th century (context [56]).

Bottle, cylindrical, squat: 2 fragment, 2 ENV, 377g

Two moulded vessels were assigned to this bottle type and both are dated to the late 19th-20th century. The first vessel is made in dark blue glass and survives only as a recessed base and the lower wall (unstratified). The bottle was most likely to have contained a pharmaceutical product. The second vessel is intact and made in dark green glass and has a champagne (squared cordon) string finish, a cylindrical neck and a rounded shoulder marginally wide than the base, which has on the underside a rounded topped relatively deep kick. The vessel was found in context [56] and was likely to have contained a branded alcoholic drink.

Bottle, flat octagonal-section: 2 fragments, 1 ENV, 133g

This type of Ricketts moulded vessel is made in amber glass and survives as a rim with a packer-type finish (context [27]) and the base has a recessed underside (unstratified). The item is dated to the late 19th-20th century.

Bottle, oval-section: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 25g

The moulded vessel type occurs in clear glass and survives as a rim sherd with a patent extract finish, which is attached to a cylindrical neck and rounded shoulder. The vessel is dated to the late 19th-20th century and was recovered from context [56].

Ink bottle, squat: 1 fragment: 1 ENV, 61g

An intact late 19th-20th century squat ink bottle was unstratified. The vessel has a rounded rim, short neck, rounded shoulder and a recessed base.

Lid: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 22g

The item is mould made in amber glass and it is intact and composed of two sections: a disc with a recessed top, which is attached to an open underside (unstratified) and would have fitted into the rim of the flat octagonal section bottle (unstratified, context [56])

Stopper: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 14g

A late 19th-early 20th century dated stopper is intact and consists of a disc with a concave top attached to a spike and was made in green-tinted glass. The item was unstratified.

Wine/beer bottle: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 131g

The form survives only as a moulded amber coloured base sherd with a rounded kick and could only be dated to after c. 1810 (context [94]).

Windowpane: 3 fragments, 1 ENV, 10g

The window glass was solely found in context [67] and is made in clear glass and it is thin walled (1.5mm thick). The material is dated to the 19th-20th century and its manufacturing technique is uncertain.

Wine glass: 1 fragment, 1 ENV, 20g

The wine glass is made in clear glass and survives only as the foot and start of the stem. The vessel dates to the late 19th-20th century and was unstratified.

### Distribution

The distribution of the glass is shown in Table 1, which shows for each context containing glass, the cut it fills, the quantification by fragment count, ENV and weight in grams (Wt), the forms present and a suggested deposition date (spot date).

Context	Fill of	No. frags	ENV	Wt	Forms	Spot date
0		8	8	598	Bottles, including champagne-shape, squat, cylindrical, squat, flat octagonal-section, dwarf Ink bottle, lid, stopper and wine glass	
27		2	1	158	Bottles, including a flat octagonal-section example	Late 19th-20th century
56		3	3	448	Bottles, cylindrical-types, including a squat-type and a oval-section bottle	
67		3	1	10	Windowpane	19th-20th century
94		1	1	131	Wine bottle	1810–1900+

Table 1. Distribution of the glass

### Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The glass has no significance at a local level as the assemblage consists of frequent late 19th-20th century dated forms that occur in such a small quantity that the material has little meaning. The main potential of the glass is 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.

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## Building Material Assessment

Amparo Valcarcel

### BUILDING MATERIALS SPOT DATES

Conte xt	Fabric	Form	Quant ity	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
1	3032nr3035, 3101PM	Frogged and unfrogged machine bricks,	3	1800	1950	1666	1950	1875-1950	1875-1950
2	3220, 3101PM	Frogged machine bricks,	5	1850	1950	1850	1950	1875-1950	1875-1950
3	3032nr3035, 3034,3101PM	Frogged and unfrogged machine bricks including post-great fire bricks	3	1666	1950	1850	1950	1875-1950	1875-1950
4	3101PM,3035	Yellow stock frogged bricks	3	1770	1940	1770	1940	1875-1940	1875-1940
5	3032	Frogged and unfrogged post-great fire bricks	4	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	1800-1900
10	3101PM		1						1900-1950
11	3032,3101PM	Frogged and unfrogged post-great fire bricks	4	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	1800-1900
13	3108	York stone paver	1	50	1900	50	1950	1825-1925	No mortar
18	3120	Circular granite fragments (bollard? Weight)	3	50	1950	50	1950	1800-1925	No mortar
23	UNK	A decorative tile frame from a mirror or a bathroom. In blue with golden lines	1	1900	1950	1900	1950	1900-1950	No mortar
24	3101PM,2279	Post-medieval pan tiles	4	1630	1850	1630	1850	1630-1850	1630-1850
27	2279	TPA	1	1630	1850	1630	1850	1630-1850	No mortar
31	3220,3101PM, 2850L, 3032nr3035; 3108	Frogged and unfrogged post-great fire and machine bricks; Flemish unglazed floor tiles; York stone paver	9	50	1950	1875	1950	1875-1950	1830-1849
33	3101PM; 3110	Portland worked stone (ashlar?)	2	1666	1950	1666	1950	1825-1950	1825-1950
45	unk	Modern pipe	7	1875	1950	1875	1950	1875-1950	No mortar
46	2281; 3032	Unfrogged post-great fire bricks; Modern pipe	3	1666	1900	1850	1925	1850-1925	1850-1925
47	3032nr3035	Frogged machine bricks	2	1800	1950	1800	1950	1850-1950	No mortar
48	3108	Yorkstone paver	1	50	1950	50	1950	1825-1925	No mortar
51	3032	Unfrogged post-great fire bricks	2	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	1892-1940
63	3032nr3035	Frogged machine bricks	3	1800	1950	1850	1950	1850-1950	1892-1940
67	3032	Frogged post-great fire bricks	1	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	1830-1849
68	3101PM		1						1850-1950
76	3035	Yellow stock unfrogged brick	1	1770	1940	1770	1940	1850-1940	1850-1940
79	3220; 3032	Frogged machine and post-great fire bricks	3	1666	1950	1850	1950	1850-1950	No mortar
80	3120	Granite pavers	2	50	1950	50	1950	1800-1925	No mortar
81	3034	Post-great fire frogged bricks	2	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	No mortar
83	3035; 3220	Frogged and unfrogged yellow and machine bricks	3	1770	1940	1850	1950	1850-1950	No mortar
102	3032	Unfrogged post-great fire bricks	2	1666	1900	1666	1900	1800-1900	1800-1900



## **Introduction and Aims**

Several samples of ceramic building material were retained from an archaeological evaluation at 767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London (CMI19). The assemblage (77 examples, 146.35 kg) consists mainly in frogged machine bricks, mortar, stone and less quantity of roofing tiles.

The assemblage was assessed in order to:

- Identify (under binocular microscope) the fabric and forms of the brick structures in order to date the structures and any subsequent alterations.
- Identify (under binocular microscope) the mortars.
- Identify (under binocular microscope) the stone.
- Made recommendations for further study.

## **Methodology**

Two whole brick samples were examined per structure. At same time brick and mortar samples retained at the same time ensured that representative samples could be examined at the assessment stage. A small quantity of building material was collected from fills and layers.

The fabrics were examined at the offices at Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd using the London system of classification with a fabric number allocated to each object. The application of a 1kg masons hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10).

### **Ceramic Building Material (69 examples, 85.59 kg)**

Most of the ceramic building material consisted of whole brick samples (red/orange/yellow sandy industrial bricks), all of which have a fabric, form and brick stamp consistent with the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> to early mid20<sup>th</sup> centuries development and alterations. The bricks are principally frogged and heavy, with sharp arises that suggests a machine manufacture.

### **Bricks (41 examples, 75.79 kg)**

All the remaining construction bricks either examined from the structures consisted of different late post-medieval and modern fabrics, especially post great fire 3032 and 3034. The bricks are mainly frogged, with sharp arises and very heavy suggesting machine made manufactured between 1800 and 1900 and early-mid20<sup>th</sup> century. The bricks are bonded with different mortars, all of them very hard, almost cemented dated from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to mid20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Post-great fire bricks (1666-1900) (18 examples, 34.79 kg)**

3032: *post Great Fire purple clinker rich* (15 examples, 29.41 kg)

3034: *yellow with purple and calcium carbonate clinker inclusions* (3 examples, 5.37 kg)

A large group of purple and yellow post great fire bricks were recovered from the site. The largest proportion of bricks is narrow and gently frogged. The bricks have sharp arises indicating machine manufacture and were bonded with hard mortars such as Roman and Portland. The presence of these bricks shows a phase of redevelopment at the 19th century.

3035: *yellow with frequent fine specks of ash and charcoal inclusions (1770-1940)* (4 examples, 9.89 kg)

A few examples of frogged and unfrogged yellow stock bricks were collected from walls [4], [76] and [81], bonded with yellow cemented mortar.

3032nr3035: *yellow and clinker mixture (1800-1950)* (10 examples, 20.44 kg)

A small assemblage of a 19th to mid19th century intermediate bricks in fabric 3032nr3035 combining facets of both yellow stocks and post great fire purples were collected from different structures. The examples were frogged, wide (106-112 mm), machine manufactured and with sharp arises, indicating a 1875-1950 date. All of them were bonded with hard cemented mortars.

3220: *Gault bricks, creamy white to yellow with pinky/red flashing (1666-1950)* (9 examples, 10.61 kg)

Gault clay when fired produces a smooth heavy yellow clay brick which was widespread in the Victorian period. It became popular in the 19th century, particularly in the latter part when red brick fell out of fashion.

### **Roofing tile**

2279 *Pan tile (1630-1850)*, (2 examples, 981 g.)

It is important to note that the only two roofing tiles were found during the archaeological evaluation. Although this fabric is very common in London the assemblage is very small. This curved, nibbed roofing tile which came into force only during the mid17th century.

### **Floor tiles (3 examples, 3.29 kg)**

2850L (1600-1800) *moderate quartz, frequent red iron oxide/clay inclusions, silty bands*

Three unglazed Flemish silty floor tiles were recovered from wall [31].

#### **Decorative Tiles (1 example, 63 gr.)**

A fragment of a possible ceramic frame was found in context [23]. The fragment is L-shaped, in blue with golden lines and probably was part of a mirror. The fragment has no mortar and a small hole on the side for fixing it, would have formed the corners of the mirror surround. The pattern indicates an early 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

#### **Drain pipe (30 examples, 1.18 kg)**

Two modern drain fragments were recovered from contexts [45] and [45]. Fragment from [46] was cream glazed and bonded with Roman mortar, and fragments from [45] were unglazed made of local sandy fabric. Both fragments are modern.

#### **Mortar (13 examples, 3.23 kg)**

The mortar types identified from excavations at CMI19 provide the basis for simplistic a chronological sub-division of all of the structures. Mortar are very hard, most of them cemented, with a lime matrix and pebbles and charcoal inclusions. These mortars were used in 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, associated to frogged and sometimes machine bricks.

#### **Stone (9 examples, 60.75 kg)**

Some examples of Yorkstone and granite paving slabs from post-medieval surfaces were recorded from contexts [13] [31] [48] and [80]. These slabs were used common in Victorian houses and factories and were usually laid directly on the ground and not tied into the building structure at all. A Portland ashlar was found in wall [33].

From context [18] three circular pieces, with a hole in the middle, represented bollards or weights. The pieces are nor completely, but the height preserved in one of them is 32 cm, the diameter is between 58-62 mm and the base is flat. The pieces do not preserved mortar.

#### **Recommendations**

The site probably remained as open agricultural land until the early-mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, related to extensive industrial development of the surrounding area. The site was completely developed by the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and was fully occupied by buildings up until today. No early building material was found from the site. The absence of early buildings and structures is related, possibly with the continuing demolition and rebuilding of the area. Bricks made of post great fire fabrics 3032 and 3034 are the earliest material recorded, dated 1666-1900.

The most common forms are frogged machine bricks, bonded with hard cemented mortars, dated late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A few examples of roofing tiles and drain pipes were found in the evaluation.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century was a period of revivalism in domestic architecture and industrial building related to the infrastructure of factories, warehouses, railway bridges. During this period, a greater number of bricks were made. Brick manufacturing methods had improved. From the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards the manufacturing process was becoming mechanised. With improvements in travel and communications, bricks and stone could be transported over wide areas which removed the traditional local variations. Improvements in the production of mortar also occurred during the late 18<sup>th</sup>. The development of natural cements including Roman cement and other hydraulic limes, were vital to the speed of construction that the Industrial Age demanded.

The ceramic frame from context [23] should be retained and the rest of the material should be discarded. No further work is recommended.

### **Bibliography**

Harris, S. 2019: 767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London E14 7HA: An Archaeological Evaluation, PCA unpublished document.

Pozorski, Z. 2019. 767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London E14 7HA: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation. Pre-Construct Archaeology

### **Cartographic Sources**

1658 Richard Newcourt's Map  
1746 Rocque  
1794-99 Extract from Horwood's map  
1819 Extract from Horwood's map  
1873 Ordnance Survey map  
1896 Ordnance Survey map  
1916 Ordnance Survey map  
1947 – 1950 Ordnance Survey map  
1960 – 1964 Ordnance Survey

## Metal Finds

Märit Gaimster

### Introduction

Fourteen metal objects were recovered from the excavations; they are listed in the table below. All finds were recovered from Phase 3 contexts, associated with post-medieval buildings on the site. Two unstratified finds also fit well with a general date in the 19th to early 20th centuries. Identifiable objects, besides iron and copper-alloy nails, include dress accessories in the form of a small copper-alloy button from Context [39] and a decayed leather shoe or boot from Context [28]. The majority of finds could be described as household or workshop furnishings, such as a tin bucket (Context [26]) and a copper-alloy ferrule that may have originated from a tool such as a paintbrush or similar (Context [60]). A substantial S-hook of iron, from Context [27], would have been for suspending bales, sacks or other items in storage. A complete drawer from an iron filing cabinet was the single find from Trench 3. Two heavily decayed iron horseshoes were also recovered. A single base-metal coin from Context [18] is likely a penny of George IV (1830–1837); while this may give a terminus post quem date, base-metal coins theoretically remained legal tender until decimalization in 1971.

### Significance and recommendations

The metal objects from Commercial Road only present a general picture of people and activities associated with the site in the 19th and early 20th centuries, with a focus on objects that may be related to businesses or small-scale industries present during this time. There is no further work recommended for this assemblage and it may now be discarded

context	description	pot date
+	Copper-alloy nail; complete with circular body and flattened tip; flat circular head; L 64mm	n/a
	Iron horseshoe; incomplete and heavily corroded with heels entirely worn away; four nail holes present at each shank; shank W 25mm; L 85mm+	n/a
18	Copper-alloy coin; complete but heavily corroded and illegible; diam. 33mm corresponds with penny of William IV (1830-1837)	n/a
26	Tin bucket; complete but squashed with thin wire handle; ht. c 230mm	1890+
27	Copper-alloy electrical wire of twisted strands, wound with fabric strip; L 55mm+	1850-1870
	Iron S-hook; complete but heavily corroded; W 150mm; L 310mm	1850-1870
28	Leather shoe; several decayed fragments of lace-up shoe or boot; stacked heel present; W 75mm; L 75mm; ht. 45mm	n/a
39	Copper-alloy button; plain slightly dished disc with remains of wire loop for fastening; diam. 13mm	n/a

56	Iron sheet; heavily corroded 90 x 155mm fragment only	19th century
60	Copper-alloy ferrule; complete but slightly squashed tapering of rolled sheet; recessed pointed finial and circumferential embossed lines at open end; L 36mm; opening diam. c 15mm; likely from wooden tool	mid-19th century
	Iron nail; incomplete and heavily corroded	mid-19th century
67	Iron nail; incomplete and heavily corroded	n/a
86	Iron horseshoe; near-complete but heavily corroded with toe entirely worn away; shank W 25mm; L 140mm+	n/a
100	Iron drawer; complete with two circular copper-alloy backplates for single bale handle; internal copper-alloy lock present; W 315mm; L 470mm; ht. 125mm; likely from filing cabinet	n/a

**CMI19: metal objects**

## Marine Shell Assessment

Kate Turner

### Introduction

An assemblage of whole and fragmented shells was recovered during an archaeological evaluation of land at 767-785 Commercial Road. This material was taken from three construction cuts, [19], [57] and [59]. The aim of this assessment is to: (1) determine the degree of fragmentation and preservation of the oyster shell assemblage; (2) quantify the number of oyster shells, and (3) record any other shell that was present in this assemblage.

### Methodology

Shells were collected via handpicking by on-site archaeologists, and hand-cleaned with a soft toothbrush to remove any residual soil. Oyster shell was recorded using a standardised procedure set out by Winder (2011). The first stage of recording involved identifying and separating the left and right valves, and then sub-classifying these into measurable and un-measurable specimens. Both measurable and un-measurable shells (UMV) were then counted, to determine the minimum number of individuals in the assemblage (MNI), along with the percentage of damaged shells (% UMLV/RV). Measurable shells are those specimens retaining the umbo/ligament scar, the adductor muscle scar and at least two-thirds of the shell body (Winder 2011). MNI is determined as whichever value is greater out of the total number of left valves and the total number of right valves. As the sampled context did not contain a statistically significant (containing over 100 left and right valves) oyster assemblage, shell was therefore quantified, and no further recording was carried out.

For the non-oyster assemblage, whole shells and quantifiable broken shells (those with a complete umbone for bivalves, and complete apertures for gastropods) were weighed and quantified, and any fragments recorded, with the results being presented in table 1.

### Results

#### Oysters

Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) was the principal species recovered, making up 89% of the counted shells. Overall, this assemblage was small; comprised of 7 left, and 9 right valves, both measurable and unmeasurable. The overall MNI for the sample set was 9, from a total of 16 left and right valves. Preservation of the oyster shell in this assemblage was good; only around 19% of the recorded valves were deemed to be unmeasurable; i.e. without an intact hinge. Context (60), the fill of cut [59], contained the greatest abundance of specimens, and the majority of the shells from this sample set, yielding 13 valves in total, 6 left and 7 right, with an MNI of 13.

Shells were identified across a range of size and thickness categories, though no particularly large specimens were recovered. The presence of misshapen valves and those with juvenile oysters attached in contexts (23) and (60) is an indication that specimens are likely to have been sourced from natural oyster beds in which there was a struggle for space, rather than farmed beds (Wyles, 2011),

Evidence of parasitic infestation was common; boreholes of the sponge *Cliona celata* were present on several of the specimens from contexts (23) and (60), including several which were degraded and fragmented to an extent that suggested a serious infestation. Burrows of the marine polychaete worm *Polydora ciliata* were also recognised on shells from (60), along with the encrusted remains of sand tubes, created by sabellid worms. Barnacles and barnacle scars were also abundant on several left valves. Generally speaking, shells from context (60) showed very high levels of infestation; these organisms tend to be very habitat specific and can be used to determine the environment in which the oysters developed, and thus aid in suggesting a provenance for this material.

#### Other Marine and Terrestrial Shell

Context (56), the fill of cut [57], whilst not producing any oyster shell, contained a single specimen of common periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*) and a large shell of the edible sea snail *Lobatus gigas* (Queen conch), a species native to the Caribbean. The latter measured 220 mm (length) by 218 mm (width); weighing 1.878 kilograms and exhibited signs of predation by sea sponge (*Cliona celata*). This specimen may have been imported for decorative uses.

#### Conclusions

The shell assemblage collected from Commercial Road indicates that Native Oyster and periwinkle may have formed part of the diet for occupants of this site. As this assemblage was not of statistically significant (containing over 100 left and right valves in any single context) size, no further analysis is recommended prior to publication, although a summary of this assessment should be included in any future reports.

#### References

- Winder, J. 2011 *Oyster Shells from Archaeological Sites: A Brief Guide to Basic Processing* Online at: <http://oystersetcetera.files.wordpress.com/2011/03/oystershellmethodsmanualversion11.pdf>
- Wyles, S. F. (2011) Marine Shell. In: Barnett, C., McKinley, J., Stafford, E., Grimm, J. M. and Stevens, C. J. (eds.) Volume 3: *Late Iron Age to Roman human remains and environmental reports (Settling the Ebbsfleet Valley, High Speed 1 Excavations at Springhead and Northfleet, Kent; The Late Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval Landscape)*. Wessex Archaeology Monograph Series. Wessex Archaeology, pp. 77-83.



Table 1: Quantification of Shell from 767-785 Commercial Road (CMI19)

Context No.	Context Type	Feature No.	Feature type	Trench	Oyster weight (g)	Oyster (LV)	Oyster (UMLV)	Total LV	% UMLV	Oyster (RV)	Oyster (UMRV)	Total RV	% UMRV	Total Number of Left and Right Valves	Fragments	Oyster MNI	Notes	Marine shell weight (g)	<i>Lobatus gigas</i>	<i>Littorina littorea</i>
23	Fill	19	Construction cut	2	80	1	0	1	0.00%	2	0	2	0.00%	3	-	2	Warped right valve, <i>Cliona celata</i> boreholes, colour retained	0	0	0
56	Fill	57	Construction cut	2	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	-	0	<i>Cliona celata</i> boreholes on <i>Lobatus gigas</i> shell, iron staining, attachment scars (possibly inverted barnacle), large hole possibly caused by weakening of shell due to predation	1882	1	1
60	Fill	59	Truncated cut	2	327	4	2	6	33.33%	6	1	7	14.29%	13	+	7	<i>Cliona celata</i> boreholes, some shells with severe sponge damage, barnacles and barnacle scars, colour retained, warped and misshapen shells, juveniles attached, <i>Polydora ciliata</i> burrows, sand tubes	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>					<b>407</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28.57%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11.11%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1-10</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>1882</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**Key:** RV = right valve. LV = left valve. UM = un-measurable. MNI = maximum number of individuals

## **Bone Assessment**

Kevin Rielly

### **Introduction**

This site is situated at the eastern end of Commercial Road, some 600m north-west of Canary Wharf. The evaluation consisted of three trenches, these providing evidence for late 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century activity. Animal bones were restricted to Trench 2 and from deposits within Phase 2, this corresponding to the development of this area following a period of late post-medieval consolidation. All the bones were hand collected.

### **Methodology**

The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered.

### **Description of faunal assemblage**

The excavations provided a total of 27 hand collected bones, all relatively well preserved and moderately fragmented. Dating to Phase 3 (see Table 1), they were taken from layer (29) and the fills (23), (56) and (60) of construction cuts [19], [57] and [59]. The combined 19<sup>th</sup> century assemblage consisted of a variety of domesticates (sheep, pig and chicken) alongside a possible game species (rabbit), although this could represent the remains of a hutch-bred animal. Keeping rabbits for their meat was undoubtedly a major concern in early 19<sup>th</sup> century London, Mrs Beeton referred to two establishments, each with some 1,500 to 2,000 breeding does (1869, 222). The cattle-size bones are very likely to be cattle, these comprising a series of ribs from notably large animals, many of which have been sawn. Notably, the sheep and pig bones also feature a number from large animals and again are often sawn. One example, a sheep femur, has been sawn twice, providing a 'napkin ring' item, this clearly intended as a small marrow bone for stews/broths. There is a general mix of skeletal parts, although the great majority are clearly the remains of various meat cuts. Another common feature is a high proportion of bones with rodent gnawing marks. It can be observed that this combination of bones from large animals, the extensive use of the saw and the plethora of rodent gnawing, can all be associated with the late post-medieval era (here following similar evidence from contemporary sites in London, see Rielly in prep).

### **Conclusion and recommendations for further work**

These few bones offer information concerning the diet of the 19<sup>th</sup> century residents of this area. Further excavation will undoubtedly provide more bones, although judging by the quantity so far recovered, it is unlikely that this collection will be anything more than moderately sized. However, there is case to be made for providing further material to study the 19<sup>th</sup> century diet, with too few sites in London providing

similar or better (larger) collections. Notable exceptions include the bones from Stockwell Street in Greenwich (Rielly 2013) and the Thameslink excavations (Rielly in prep). It's also worth mentioning that the bones were well preserved, which bodes well for the survival of bones from smaller species. A sampling strategy can certainly be recommended.

## References

Rielly, K, 2013 The animal bone recovered from 4-19 Stockwell Street, Greenwich, London, SE10 9BD (SKQ10), PCA Archive Report

Rielly, K, in prep a The animal bones, in S, Teague, The Thameslink Project Monograph 2, Life in medieval and post-medieval Southwark, Pre-Construct Archaeology/Oxford Archaeology Monograph, London

Phase	3					UD	Total
<b>Context</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>67</b>	
<b>Feature</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>57</b>	<b>59</b>			
Cattle-size		2	3		5		5
Sheep/Goat		2	1	1	4		4
Pig		3			3		3
Sheep-size	1		9		10	1	11
Rabbit			2	1	3		3
Chicken		1			1		1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>

Table 1. Species representation by phase, context and cut number, all hand collected, where UD is undated.

## APPENDIX 4: OASIS REPORT

### OASIS ID: preconst1-357016

#### Project details

Project name	767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse: An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	The evaluation comprised three trenches within the open areas of the site. The aims of the project were to determine the level of post depositional truncation on the site and establish what prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains survive. Trench 1 revealed the remains of a post-medieval structure, overlaid and truncated by services and concrete surfaces. Within Trench 2 post-medieval structures were seen, with numerous alterations and repairs. A post-medieval basement was exposed within Trench 3 backfilled with demolition rubble and overlaid by levelling layers and a concrete surface. Natural deposits were not reached within Trench 3. Natural sandy gravel was encountered at a height of 6.88m OD within Trench 1 and 3.59m OD within Trench 2.
Project dates	Start: 28-05-2019 End: 14-06-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	FLOOR Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METAL Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted 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 TOWER HAMLETS TOWER HAMLETS 767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London
Postcode	E14 7HA
Study area	3034 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 36772 81148 51.512180805325 -0.028780256571 51 30 43 N 000 01 43 W Point

Height OD / Depth    Min: 3.59m Max: 6.88m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation    Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project brief originator    Archaeology Collective

Project design originator    Zbigniew Pozorski

Project director/manager    Zbigniew Pozorski

Project supervisor    Stacey Amanda Harris

Type of sponsor/funding body    Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient    LAA

Physical Archive ID    CMI19

Physical Contents    "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Leather","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient    LAA

Digital Archive ID    CMI19

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

Paper Archive recipient    LAA

Paper Archive ID    CMI19

Paper Media available    "Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type    Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title    767-785 Commercial Road, Limehouse, London E14 7HA: An Archaeological Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s)    Harris, S. A.

Date    2019

Issuer or publisher    Pre-Construct Archaeology

Entered by    archive ([archive@pre-construct.com](mailto:archive@pre-construct.com)) Entered on 25 June 2019

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