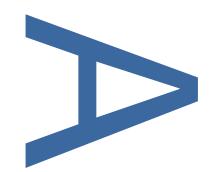
Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple, City of London

Watching Brief



Planning reference	19/00619/FULL		
Local planning authority	City of London		
PCA report no.	R14000	Site Code	ITG19
PCA project no	K6160	Date	January 20

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED

www.pre-construct.com

Project Information		
Site name	Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple, City of London	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Site address	Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple, City of London	
NGR	TQ 3135 8085	
Local planning authority	City of London	
Planning reference	19/00619/FULL	
Commissioning client	The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple	
Project dates	9/9/19 to 27/9/19	
Archive site code	ITG19	

PCA Information						
PCA project code	K6160 PCA report number R14000					
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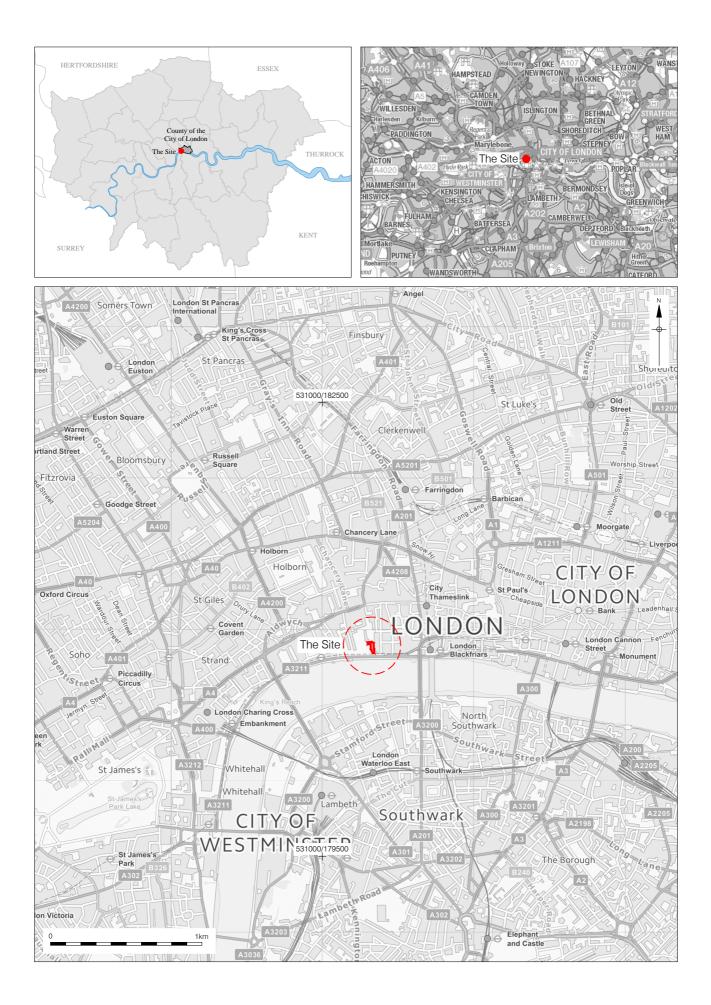
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1 ABSTRACT

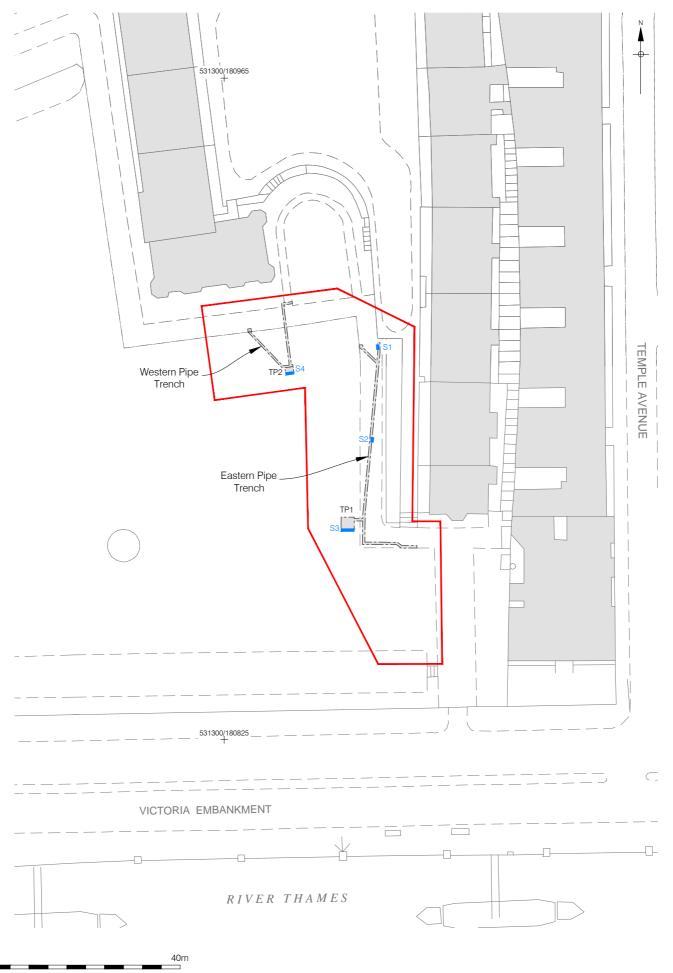
- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by PCA in September 2019, on drainage improvement works in the Inner Temple Garden, TQ 3135 8085.
- 1.2 The watching brief revealed deposits dating from the 1772 enlargement of the river embankment. This finding confirms historical records and maps of the area which suggest the area of land under investigation to have been built up from the foreshore in the early 1770's.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-construct Archaeology Ltd between the 9th and the 27th September 2019, on drainage improvement works in the Inner Temple Garden, TQ 3135 8085 (Fig. 1).
- 2.2 Approximately 400sq m in size, The Inner Temple Garden is bounded to the west by a terrace fronting middle Temple Lane, to the north by Crown Office Row, to the East by Kings Bench Walk and to the south by the Victoria Embankment of the River Thames.
- 2.3 The Inner Temple Garden has been the subject of a number of archaeological investigations and studies in the recent past, including a watching brief during the installation of a water tank and an impact assessment on proposed refurbishment works.
- 2.4 A site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation ('Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief During Drainage Improvement Works in the Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple London EC4', P. Moore June 2019) was prepared prior to the fieldwork, detailing the methodology and work programme for the archaeological watching brief and approved by Kathryn Stubbs Archaeological Advisor for the Corporation of London.
- 2.5 The investigation was conducted by PCA under the supervision of the author, Aidan Turner and the project was managed by Peter Moore of PCA and was monitored by Kathryn Stubbs on behalf of the Corporation of London. The archaeological work was commissioned by The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple.
- 2.6 The works were given a unique Site Code ITG19. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will, upon completion of the project, be deposited with the appropriate local repository under that code.



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Figure 2 Detailed Site and Trench Location 1:800 at A4

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 Commissioning

- 3.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was commissioned by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple to write a Written Scheme of Investigation for the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief during below ground excavations associated with the drainage improvement works in the Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple, City of London EC4.
- 3.1.2 The vicinity of Inner Temple Garden has recently been subject to an Impact Assessment¹ which demonstrated that the area of these proposed drainage improvement works straddle the projected alignments of both the pre-1772 and the 1772 embankments along the River Thames (see Figure 2).

3.2 Mitigation

- 3.2.1 In recent years, there has been a persistent problem of standing water on the garden footpaths after periods of heavy rain. In order to solve this The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple introduced a programme of drainage improvement works.
- 3.2.2 A phase of archaeological mitigation (known as a Watching Brief) was therefore proposed for the site, in support of the planning application for works to improve footpath drainage in the garden.

3.3 Aims and Objectives

- The archaeological watching brief will address the following objectives:
- To record the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological remains revealed by the investigation.
- To locate and identify previous embankments, their construction and date.
- To assess if cultural material was used in the embankment imported made ground and to assess if any social or economic information can be gained by assessing it.
- To see if any evidence for the use of the previous foreshores can be found within the proposed excavations
- To further establish the medieval and post-medieval activities on this part of the site.
- To report on the results of the watching brief.

¹ Hawkins, N., "Temporary Accommodation Associated with the Refurbishment of the Treasury Building, Inner Temple, London EC4: An Archaeological Impact Assessment", Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited unpublished report April 2018.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The site lies on River Terrace Gravels overlying London Clay. The top of these gravels was found during the excavations at Church Court at 8.37m OD (2.5m below ground level) in Trench 1 (Figure 5) and 9.28m OD in Trench 5 (1.40m below ground level). However, gravel quarry pits are known in the area, so these levels may not accurately represent the top of the natural gravel.

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 The Inner and Middle Temple areas are extensively terraced and the general topography is one of a considerable slope from Fleet Street in the north down to the Victoria Embankment. The site would have originally sloped from north down to the south, towards the river. The medieval waterfront was located c. 40m south of the Treasury Building and it is probable that the Middle Saxon waterfront was just behind the medieval waterfront. Much of the Inner Temple Garden lies on reclaimed land made by creating encroaching embankments into the River Thames and filling the newly enclosed land with made ground. There are two project lines of embankments within the proposed site, the pre-1772 and the 1772 embankments (see Figure 2).

5 ARCHAEOLGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 **Previous Investigations**

- 5.1.1 The important results of the excavations at Church Court and Hare Court to the north of the Inner Temple Garden, along with a number of other archaeological investigations, are summarised below.²
- 5.1.2 Although excavations at the Church Court and Hare Court sites were limited in size and scope they revealed a series of significant discoveries from the Middle Saxon era to the post medieval period. Residual prehistoric lithic and Roman finds at both sites hinted at a presence in the area during both periods. In Hare Court the discovery of a probable Saxon cemetery including an inhumation with grave goods adds to the limited knowledge of Middle Saxon funerary practice in Lundenwic and is the first evidence for an eastern cemetery.
- 5.1.3 Later Middle Saxon occupation was also observed in Hare Court with the presence of structural elements and a well. The high status nature of some of the finds associated with the well together with rare evidence of glassmaking on the site suggest that this was an important part of a Saxon settlement. It either represents the easternmost part of Lundenwic yet discovered or an important occupation area between Lundenwic to the west and the putative religious enclave at St Paul's within the old Roman walls to the east.
- 5.1.4 An 11th/12th century quarry pit and cobbled courtyard associated with either the Bishop of Ely's Inn or the New Temple was also revealed in Hare Court. A similarly dated quarry pit in Church Court was probably associated with the construction of the Temple Church by the Knights Templar between 1161 and 1185. The eastern cloister built during the remodelling of the church in 1220-40 was identified in Church Court.
- 5.1.5 Distinctive evidence of the lawyers' occupation of the Temple in the 16th and 17th centuries was present in both courts in the form of a sequence of rubbish pits and gravel yard surfaces in Hare Court, and the Temple Church south cemetery and the Lamb Building in Church Court. Finds from both sites provided evidence of the diet and wealth of the lawyers during this period. A large assemblage of green glazed Borderware pottery vessels with an associated assemblage of glass vessels provided an insight into the drinking practices of the members of the Inns of Court.
- 5.1.6 Analysis of a similarly dated bone assemblage provided a glimpse of the variety and richness of their diet. The skeletons found in the southern part of the Temple Church cemetery were of surprisingly young age at death and revealed an unusually high incidence of tooth decay.
- 5.1.7 The discovery of three pieces of printing type in Hare Court provide one of the earliest finds

² Butler op. cit. in note 1

of such material from an archaeological site in the United Kingdom and was an appropriate find for the Fleet street area with its history of printing.

- 5.1.8 The archaeological history of the site was seen to continue into the twentieth century with the discovery of the basement of the Lamb Building backfilled with fire debris from the incendiary bomb raid of May 1941, which destroyed it and gutted the interior of the Temple Church. Evidence of the former glory of the church was provided by an assemblage of decorated floor tiles found on both sites and a large assemblage of dressed Purbeck marble fragments which was dumped into a service trench in Church Court during the restoration work of the 1950s.
- 5.1.9 The Treasury Building was badly damaged by bombing in WWII and was demolished and rebuilt in the 1950s on the same footprint as the original building, but with a basement.
- 5.1.10 A watching brief (TCP89) was carried out on a BT shaft at King's Bench Walk in 1989 (TQ 3129 8100) and found London Clay at 5.04m OD. Cutting into it were two clay pits possibly cut from the Thames foreshore. They were backfilled with waterlogged silt and peat, the later of the features backfilling dating to the 12th century. In turn they were overlain by the Post-Medieval dumps of rubble and soil.³
- 5.1.11 A watching brief (KBA00) undertaken in 2000 at 12 King's Bench Walk consisted of the monitoring of the installation of a lift pit which recorded 18th century made ground at 2.27m OD, which was at least 0.30m thick and continued below the excavation limit. This was sealed by a considerable thickness, 1.15m, of concrete located at 3.64m OD. This site was located between the 1772 and pre-1772 embankment area and the encountered 18th century made ground was interpreted again to relate the land reclamation between the two embankments.⁴
- 5.1.12 A watching brief (INT01) was undertaken in 2001 on the eastern side of the Inner Temple Garden and consisted of the excavation of seven Test Pits (TP), the largest of which TP 1 recorded 18th and 19th century made ground, between 2.81m OD and 2.30m OD, continuing deeper, sealed by modern topsoil at 3.01m OD. The remaining six TPs recorded undated made ground below topsoil which ranged in thickness between 0.30m to 0.40m, located between 3.37m OD and 2.80m OD. The encountered 18th and 19th century made ground was thought to represent dumping relating the construction of the 1772 embankment (Bagwell 2001).⁵

⁵ Bagwell Op. Cit. in note 2

³ Heathcote, J "Excavation Round-up 1989, Part 1: City of London", London Archaeologist 1990, Vol 6 No 6, P160-7

⁴Cuthbertson, T "An Archaeological Watching Brief at 12 Kings Bench Walk, Inner Temple, City of London, London EC4", Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, unpublished report 2000

6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The methodology employed during the watching brief followed that outlined in the WSI ('Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief During Drainage Improvement Works in the Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple London EC4', P.Moore June 2019) except where minor alterations in the drainage layout were adopted by the contractor undertaking the works.
- 6.2 The works observed consisted of the excavation of two soak away pits (referred to as TP1 & TP2 in this document) and their associated drains and pipe trenches. The size and maximum depth.
- 6.3 The soak away pits and associated drainage trenches were excavated with a 1.5 tonne 360 deg back acting excavator, machining in spits, under archaeological observation.
- 6.4 Where it was safe to do so Archaeological deposits were investigated and cleaned by a PCA staff member hand tools, such as a trowel or brush.
- 6.5 Describe recording methodology used. Eg single context recording method, on *pro forma* context and planning sheets or GPS as appropriate. Plans and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10 as appropriate. Digital photographs were taken, including 'working shots' of activities on site.
- 6.6 In this report archaeological context numbers, used to identify stratigraphically discrete features, are written in squared brackets [], small finds are denoted by SF.

7 PHASED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

The archaeological sequence is reported by phase then by location.

7.1 Phase 1

Late 18th Century Made Ground

- 7.1.1 The excavation works did not reveal any deposits believed to pre-date the 18th century. This finding is consistent with historical records and maps of the area which show the area of land under investigation to have been built up from the foreshore in the early 1770's.
- 7.1.2 The deposits were made of mixed layers of largely brick demolition rubble, dust and ash. This type of deposit was found in all the excavated areas, with no underlying foreshore, soil or indeed, natural deposits being observed.

Made Ground in the Pipe Trenches

- 7.1.3 The Made Ground was observed forming the base of all the drainage pipe trenches. These generally did not go very deep with the pipe trenches barely penetrated the historic layer near the drain inlets and, with a relatively shallow fall, not going any deeper than 0.6m below ground level (bgl). The Made Ground was recorded in two sample sections (Sections 1 & 2), drawn during the excavation of the western drainage trench. In these locations the Made Ground was given the Context No's. [3] and [6] in Sections 1 and 2, respectively.
- 7.1.4 Context [3] was described as consisting of dark blackish grey silty rubble with very frequent soft red brick fragments. It was found at a depth of 0.30m bgl and with the trench being 0.40m in depth, only the top 0.10m or so of the deposit could be observed.
- 7.1.5 Context [6] was described as being of a similar consistency. It was also found at a depth of 0.30m bgl and with just the top 0.10m of the deposit observable.

Made Ground in the soak away pits

7.1.6 The deposits forming the Made Ground, could be better observed in the much deeper soak away pits, referred to in this text as TP1 and TP2. These are each illustrated respectively in Sections 3 and 4.

Made Ground in TP1

7.1.7 Context [10] formed the basal deposit in the soak -away pit TP1. It was described as consisting of dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble, with very frequent red brick fragments and mortar. It was found at a depth of 1.00m bgl and recorded down to the base of the pit, at 1.65m below the surface. Building materials found in this deposit appeared to consist largely of post 1666 red brick, but with fragments of earlier 17th and thinner, Tudor period bricks also appeared. There were also examples of fragments of roughly dressed chalk and very occasional pieces of rag-stone, suggesting that a wide number of demolished buildings had provided the source material for these dumped deposits.

- 7.1.8 Context [10] was overlain by a thinner layer, Context [9], a light grey, silt sand containing a high proportion of chalky-lime mortar rubble. This was found at 0.80m bgl and was 0.20m thick. Although slightly different in appearance to the underlying deposits, it is regarded by the author as representing part of the same phase of land reclamation, undertaken around 1772.
- 7.1.9 This deposit was itself overlain by more demolition derived material, Context [8]. This was described as being compact made ground of a dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble. This also appeared to be from the late 18th century and was found immediately below the topsoil, at 0.40m bgl. The layer was 0.40m thick.

Made Ground in TP2

- 7.1.10 Context [15] formed the basal deposit in the soak away pit TP2. It was described as consisting of made ground, formed of a light grey, silt sand ashy rubble, with very frequent red brick fragments and mortar. It was found at a depth of 1.8m bgl and recorded down to the base of the pit at 1.90m below the surface. Building materials found in this deposit consisted of a lot of late 17th and early 18th century red brick, but also included fragments of earlier 17th and 16th century bricks. There were also many fragments of chalk and other stone building material making an appearance, suggestive of a wide date range of buildings providing the source material for this deposit.
- 7.1.11 Context [15] was in turn overlain by a thin layer, Context [14], composed of a light grey, silty sandy chalky mortar rubble. Differing in appearance to the underlying deposits, it is regarded as part of the same phase of land reclamation dump. This layer was found at 1.80m bgl and was 0.10m thick.
- 7.1.12 This deposit was overlain by Context [13]. This deposit was described as made ground, mid brownish grey, clayey silt sand rubble, circa late 18th C. This was found at 1.30m bgl and was 0.40m thick.
- 7.1.13 Context [13] was in turn overlain by Context [12], a light grey, silty sandy chalky mortar rubble.All the Made Ground deposits are regarded as part of the same phase of land reclamation.

7.2 Phase 2

Remains of Late 19th Century wall

7.2.1 At the southern end of the western pipe trench the very fragmentary remains of what appeared to be part of a wall or small foundation structure were observed. Context [16] was recorded as a possible Wall fragment built of greenish-yellow stock bricks, which measured 225 x108 x68mm in size. The wall or structure appeared to have a possible N-S alignment, was just about observable in the trench base at around 0.35m bgl and may have measured at least 0.22m in width. It is unclear whether or not this fragment of masonry is part of an extant wall foundation or is just dumped demolition material. It is quite possible that if it is 'in situ.' that it may be part of a manhole or other similar service structure. The bricks forming this appear to date from the later 19thC. At the earliest.

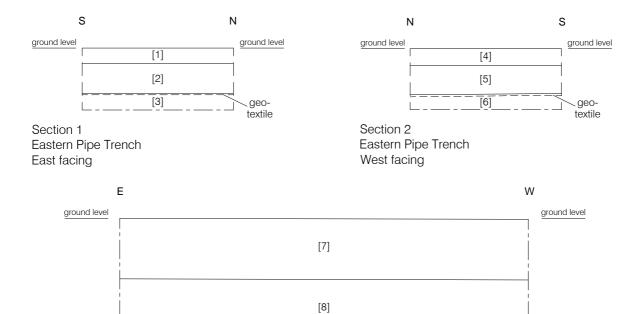
7.3 Phase 3

Modern Surfacing

7.3.1 Where the pipe trenches crossed areas of garden path, the underlying 18th century made ground was overlain with a geotextile 'Terram' style mat, covered in a 0.20m thick layer of pink 'Type 2' stone chippings, Context [2] & [5]. This was topped with a 0.10m thick layer of finer, grey crushed stone 'Cedec' grit and gravel path, [1] & [4].

Topsoil

7.3.2 The soak away pits and the remainder of the pipe trenches in the lawned areas of the garden, the underlying 18th century made ground was overlain with a rather compacted 0.40m thick layer of top-soil, which was a dark blackish brownish grey colour, formed of a clayey silt sand, overlain with grass. This was recorded as Context [7] in TP1 and [11] in TP2.



[9]

[10]



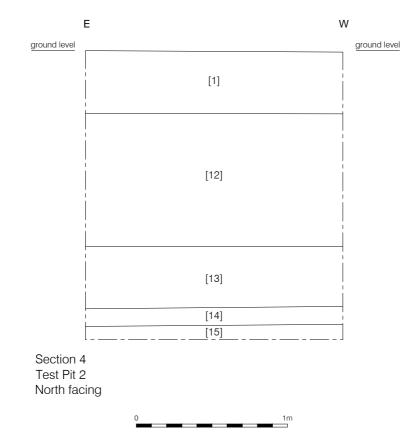


Figure 3 Sections 1-4 1:25 at A4



Plate 1: North End of Western Pipe Trench, looking NE



Plate 2: TP 1 ,Shows elevation of Soak -way pit, looking North, 1/2 m scale



Plate 3: TP 2 ,Soak -way pit, looking NE





Plate 4: TP1, Installation of drainage crates, looking NE

Plate 5: Excavation of Western Pipe Trench, looking South



Plate 6: TP1, Connecting the drainage , looking North

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The watching brief did not reveal any deposits or features pre-dating the 1772 enlargement of the river embankment. This finding is consistent with historical records and maps of the area which show the area of land under investigation to have been built up from the foreshore in the early 1770's.
- 8.2 The deposits were made of mixed layers of largely brick demolition rubble, dust and ash. Building materials found in these deposits consisted of mostly 18th century red brick, but also included fragments of earlier 17th and 16th century bricks, as well as fragments of chalk and other stone building materials. This type of deposit was found in all the excavated areas, with no underlying riverbed, foreshore, soil or natural deposits being observed. No structures predating the 1772 embankment enlargement were identified.
- 8.3 The results of the watching brief suggest that it is unlikely that a large quantity of significant pre- 1772 structures or deposits survive in the first 1 2m below the current main level of the garden, but this scenario cannot be ruled entirely.
- 8.4 Assessing the future archaeological potential of the site is therefore not entirely straight forward, as the particular works observed during the watching brief were neither extensive enough, nor went deep enough to reveal the known full potential of the site. Examination of the two soak away pits, does, however suggest a fairly uniform, 0.40m thickness of topsoil covers the main area of the garden, which may give reasonable reliable guidance for future work.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

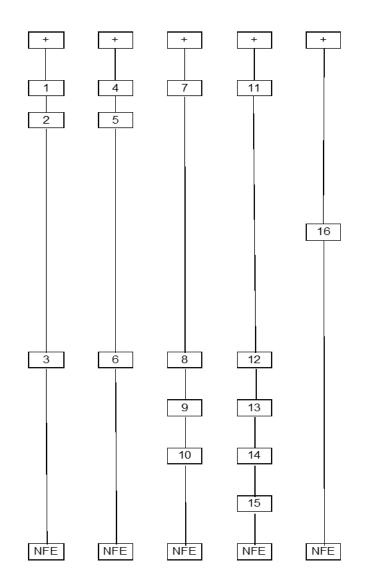
9.1 The author would like to thank The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, especially Head Gardiner Sean Harkin, for was commissioning the archaeological investigation. Thanks is also due to Kathryn Stubbs (Archaeological Advisor to the Corporation of London), Peter Moore (PCA project manager) and Mark Roughley of PCA, for the illustrations in this report. A special thanks goes to Jeff Lacks (the drainage contractor) and his associates, along with the Inner Temple staff.

A1 APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Туре	Loc-ation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Level (mbgl)	Thick-ness (m)	Phase
1	Layer	Sec. 1	Pavement Surfacing, fine light grey stone chippings, 'Cedec' surface	>1.00m	>0.40m	0m	0.10m	3
2	Layer	Sec. 1	Pavement Sub-base, light pink stone chippings, compacted 'Type 2'	>1.00m	>0.40m	0.10m	0.20m	3
3	Layer	Sec 1	Made Ground, dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>1.00m	>0.40m	0.30m	>0.10m	1
4	Layer	Sec 2	Pavement Surfacing, fine light grey stone chippings, 'Cedec' surface	>1.00m	>0.40m	0m	0.10m	3
5	Layer	Sec 2	Pavement Sub-base, light pink stone chippings, compacted 'Type 2'	>1.00m	>0.40m	0.10m	0.20m	3
6	Layer	Sec 2	Made Ground, dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>1.00m	>0.40m	0.30m	>0.10m	1
7	Layer	Sec 3	Topsoil, dark blackish brownish grey clayey silt sand, overlain by grass	>2.70m	>2.70m	0m	0.40m	3
8	Layer	Sec 3	Made Ground, dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>2.70m	>2.70m	0.40m	0.40m	1
9	Layer	Sec 3	Made Ground, light grey, silt sand chalky mortar rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>2.70m	>2.70m	0.80m	0.20m	1
10	Layer	Sec 3	Made Ground, dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>2.70m	>2.70m	1.00m	>0.65m	1
11	Layer	Sec 4	Topsoil, dark blackish brownish grey clayey silt sand, overlain by grass	>1.70m	>1.70m	0m	0.40m	3
12	Layer	Sec 4	Made Ground, dark brownish grey, silt sand rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>1.70m	>1.70m	0.40m	0.90m	1
13	Layer	Sec 4	Made Ground, mid brown-grey, clayey silt sand rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>1.70m	>1.70m	1.30m	0.40m	1
14	Layer	Sec 4	Made Ground, light grey, silt sand chalky mortar rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>1.70m	>1.70m	1.70m	0.10m	1
15	Layer	Sec 4	Made Ground, light grey, silt sand ashy rubble, circa late 18 th C.	>1.70m	>1.70m	1.80m	>0.10m	1
16	Masonry	Pipe Tr.	Possible Wall frag. greenish-yellow brick 225x108x68mm mid-late 19thC.	>0.40m	0.22m?	0.35m	>0.0m	2

Inner Temple Garden, Inner Temple, City of London; Watching Brief © Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, 01/01/2020

A2 APPENDIX 2 MATRIX



APPENDIX 3 A3 **OASIS FORM**

OASIS ID: preconst1-379903

Project details	
Project name	Inner Temple Garden Drainage Improvement Works
Short description of the project	an archaeological watching brief undertaken on drainage improvement works in the Inner Temple Garden
Project dates	Start: 09-09-2019 End: 27-09-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ITG19 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	EMBANKMENT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Environmental (unspecified schedule)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF LONDON INNER AND MIDDLE TEMPLES Inner Temple Garden
Postcode	EC4
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3135 8085 51.510791975651 -0.106988828829 51 30 38 N 000 06 25 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Project brief originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project design originator	Peter Moore
Project director/manager	Peter Moore
Project supervisor	Aidan Turner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Inns of Court
Name of sponsor/funding body	The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Greater London SMR, British Library, NMR and local library
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Greater London SMR, British Library, NMR and local library
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Plan", "Section"
Entered by	A Turner (aturner@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	8 January 2020

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