

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at 15 Artillery Passage, London
Borough of Tower Hamlets, E1 7LJ**

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3348 8165

Site Code: APS07

**Written and researched by Richard Humphrey
Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, May 2008**

Commissioning Client: Gifford

Contractor:

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

**Tel: 0207 732 3925
Fax: 0207 732 7896**

Email: tbradley@pre-construct.com

Website: www.pre-construct.com

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at 15 Artillery Passage, London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The site National Grid Reference is TQ 3348 8165. The watching brief was undertaken between 29th January and 29th February 2008 by Richard Humphrey, Denise Mulligan and Ireneo Grosso. The commissioning agent was Gifford, the archaeological consultants to the client, Dr Murtuza Hasnaini and his architects, Accent BDA.
- 1.2 The works consisted of the monitoring the underpinning of the property in order to create a basement for a new dental surgery to be located on the premises.
- 1.3 Excavation of the basement revealed several phases of re-deposited brickearth horizons containing occasional Roman building materials. These were sealed by medieval dumped deposits rich in domestic waste material. Monitoring of the ground reduction works in the back yard of the property revealed 19th- and 20th-century service trenches cut through ground-raising deposits of a similar date.

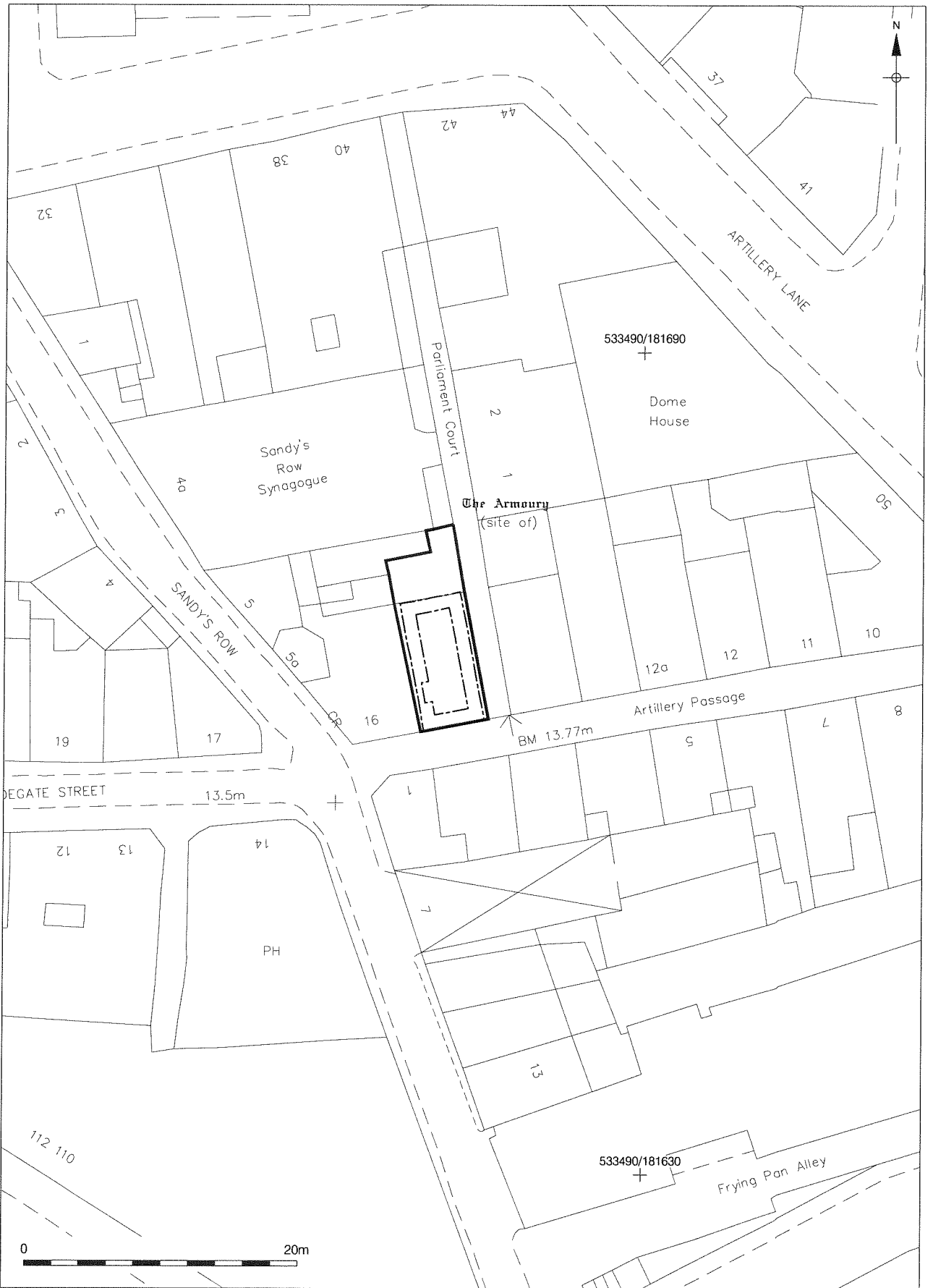
2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd between 29th January and 29th February 2008. The work was supervised by Richard Humphrey, Denise Mulligan and Ireneo Grosso, and the Project Manager was Tim Bradley. The work was undertaken on behalf of Gifford, the archaeological consultants to the client, Dr Murtuza Hasnaini and his architects, Accent BDA.
- 2.2 The works took place at 15 Artillery Passage, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, E1 7LJ (Fig.1). The site is bounded to the south by Artillery Passage, to the east by Parliament Court, to the west by property number 16 and to the north by Sandy's Row Synagogue.
- 2.3 The works consisted of monitoring the ground reduction of the existing basement floor as part of an underpinning strategy for deepening the basement of the property. In addition to this, reduction of the back yard of the site was also recorded. An archaeological watching brief on geotechnical investigations, conducted in August 2007, suggested that significant occupation horizons would be encountered during the fieldwork¹.
- 2.4 The work was commissioned by Gifford and was undertaken to the specifications provided in Gifford's *Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (14339/R02) which was approved by Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) in September 2007. The watching brief followed English Heritage guidelines.² The work was monitored by David Divers, English Heritage (GLAAS), on behalf of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.
- 2.5 The watching brief phase of works formed one part of a phased programme of archaeological mitigation works created by Gifford and approved by GLAAS. Previous work entailed the archaeological watching brief on engineering test pits¹, the results of which were summarised in Gifford report 14339.R01, issued in September 2007.

¹ O'Donoghue, D (2007) An Archaeological Evaluation at 15 Artillery Passage, Tower Hamlets, E1 7LJ Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, Unpublished Report

² English Heritage, Greater London Advisory Service, (1992) *Archaeological Guidance Papers: 3 Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London; 4 Archaeological Watching Briefs*

2.6 The National Grid Reference of the site is TQ 3348 8165 and the site was allocated the code APS07.



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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:400 at A4

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The site lies in an area of Langley Silt (brickearth) a deposit laid down by wind and possible river action towards the end of the last Ice Age about 26,000 to 13,000 BC (Douglas 2005). The untruncated top level of brickearth is around 10.50 to 11.00m OD. A gravel deposit of the River Thames known as the Taplow terrace underlies the brickearth. This was cut and deposited by the river between about 120,000 and 26,000 BC.

- 3.2 The top level of Taplow gravels is about 10.02 to 10.76m OD. The area is fairly flat, with a slight slope to the south, towards the River Thames.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The following historical background is based on research carried out by Douglas³.

4.2 PREHISTORIC

4.2.1 Apart from a few residual prehistoric lithics recovered from excavations at 250 Bishopsgate, little prehistoric evidence has been recovered from immediate area.

4.3 ROMAN

4.3.1 The site lies to the east Ermine Street, a major Roman road that connects the suburb of Southwark, via London Bridge, to Londinium and on through Bishopsgate to the north.

4.3.2 Roman cemetery areas have been discovered adjacent to the main roads leading east, west, north, north-east and south from the City. The northern cemetery lay on either side of Ermine Street where over the years more than 150 burials and cremations have been uncovered. Roman burials have been found at 5-13 Spital Square, Lamb St (SQU94), at 35 Spital Square (SSA01), at 12-14 Folgate Street (FLG 82), at 31-37 Northon Folgate (BGB98), Stothard Place (STO 86), 282-294 Bishopsgate (BOS 87), at 250 Bishopsgate (STE 95), at 192-200 Bishopsgate (BHS 87), at 280 Bishopsgate (SRP98) and at 201 Bishopsgate (BGB98). In addition, ditches and brickearth quarries have been found in the surrounding area, as well as funerary ceramics at the Central Foundation Girl's School, Spital Square (SPT 85), and 6-13 Spital Square (SPI91).

4.4 MEDIEVAL

4.4.1 The Priory and Hospital of St. Mary-without-Bishopsgate was founded in c. AD 1197. The initial precinct centred on a small area around Spital Square. This was

³ Douglas, A., (2005) *Phased Summary and Assessment Document of the Excavations at Artillery Lane, London Borough of Tower Hamlets*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Unpublished Report

substantially increased in 1235 and the establishment was re-founded. A new church and infirmary were built and stretched west-to-east from the modern-day streets of Bishopsgate to Nantes Passage and south-to-north from Artillery Passage to Fleur-de-lis Street.

4.4.2 The site considered in this report lies in the outer precinct of The Priory and Hospital of St. Mary-without-Bishopsgate, which was to the south of the inner precinct around modern Spital Square. Documentary evidence shows that the Priory was acquiring farming crofts and strips south of the inner precinct in the 13th century and these acquisitions became the area of the outer precinct by about AD 1270. Plots (surrounded by ditches) used for pits, rubbish disposal, growing crops, were observed during preliminary excavations at 250 Bishopsgate (STE 94). Other plots contained timber structures and stone buildings. Parts of the cemetery of the Priory and Hospital of St Mary Spital have also been identified at Spital Square (SPT82, SPT85, SPI91, and SPM96). Large quantities of 12th- and early 13th-century animal bone and substantial evidence of primary butchery waste were found, indicating butchery work or dumping of animal waste in the area.

4.4.3 The site lies within and outside the south-east corner of the outer precinct. The earthen bank boundary was found at the Spitalfield Residential excavation (SQU 94) just to the north.

4.5 POST-MEDIEVAL

4.5.1 The outer precinct, with what are described as “new brick walls” were leased to the Honourable Artillery Company in AD 1538 and also used by ‘Gunners of the Tower’. Evidence from excavations at 250 Bishopsgate (STE 95) suggests that the area was used for growing plants and also for artillery practice with numerous musket balls and pieces of shot recovered. A firing range lay on the east side of the Artillery Ground with a butt to the north and a gun platform to the south. The Artillery Ground was sold off for housing development and closed in AD 1682.

4.5.2 Houses fronting onto the newly laid out Crispin Street backed onto the Artillery Ground wall to the west. The houses at the junction of Crispin Street and Artillery Lane, included a Town Hall for the increasingly populated area of Spitalfields, a row of Almshouses for the poor and several private houses.

4.5.3 By the 18th century many of the modern streets had been laid out and new houses constructed.

4.5.4 In 1868 the Convent of Mercy and Night Refuge moved into their present imposing building in Crispin Street from their original location at Providence Row in Finsbury Square .

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The area of all proposed groundwork was broken out and excavated by contractors under archaeological supervision. The spoil, make-up and any other “modern debris” was removed by the sub-contractor and monitored by an attendant archaeologist, with absolute and relative depths recorded.
- 5.2 A single archaeologist was present during the ground reduction phase of the work to examine the nature of the *in situ* and removed soils, to examine the soils for artefacts and to record the results. All elements of the ground reduction phase of the development were monitored, including the breaking out of the existing basement slab, bulk excavation around the perimeter of the building walls for the underpinning, as well as general basement ground reduction. Ground reduction in the area of the yard was also monitored intermittently to ensure that archaeological levels were not impacted on.
- 5.3 Recording on site was undertaken using the single context recording system as specified in the Museum of London Site Manual⁴. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20, and representative sections at a scale of 1:10. Contexts were numbered sequentially and recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets. A full photographic record was also taken during the monitoring and recording process.
- 5.4 A temporary bench mark was transferred to the site from an Ordnance Survey benchmark located on the north-west corner of Christ Church, on the intersection of Fournier Street and Commercial Street, with a value of 15.35 m OD.
- 5.5 The was allocated the code APS07.

⁴ Museum of London, (1994) *Archaeological Site Manual*

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

- 6.1 Underpinning works were undertaken as approximately 1m non-continuous sections around the interior of the existing basement walls. This strategy was designed to avoid having the complete section of any one wall undermined at any given time. Sections were recorded as works progressed and the following represents a combination of the results observed around the basement and within the yard area.

Phase 1: Re-deposited Brickearth

- 6.2 Brickearth was recorded in the west-facing section as context [117] at a height of 10.58m OD. This was similar to layer [115] seen in the north-facing section at a height of 10.60m OD. Whilst it is possible that these contexts represent natural, undisturbed stratigraphy, deposits of a similar composition and height observed throughout the rest of the basement contained anthropogenic material in the form of ceramic building material. In particular, deposit [104], recorded at a height of 10.66m OD around all sides of the basement, contained abraded Roman brick and tile. Although these fragments were abraded and almost certainly re-deposited, their presence confirms Roman activity in the vicinity. There was, however, a sizeable portion of medieval ceramic building material recovered from the same context. It has been suggested that a possible source for this material is the Priory and Hospital of St Mary Spital to the north of the site. Contexts [111] and [124] represent redeposited brickearth at a similar height to [104], namely at 10.81 and 10.78m OD respectively.
- 6.3 Redeposited brickearth deposits [114] and [116] overlaid horizons [115] and [117] at heights of 10.75 and 10.68m OD. These were seen in the north- and west-facing sections of the basement. Although no dating evidence was recovered from these layers, the presence of fragmentary oyster shell suggests they represent redeposited rather than natural stratigraphy, and of a similar composition to [104] above.

Phase 2: Medieval Dumped Deposits

- 6.4 The redeposited brickearth horizons of [104], [111], [114] and [124] were overlain by a sequence of sandy-silt dump layers. Recorded as contexts [103], [110], [113] and [123] and observed at heights between 11.04 and 11.29m OD, these layers were rich in oyster shell, with occasional animal bone and ceramic building material (CBM) fragments. They ranged between 0.3 and 0.45m in thickness. Dates for the pottery recovered from layer [103] suggest a range from AD 1350 to 1500 and from CBM of the same layer from AD 1180 to 1500. Both of these dates suggest that this layer,

and deposits of a similar height and composition, are representative of medieval dumping of domestic waste across the area.

Phase 3: Post-Medieval Dumped Deposits

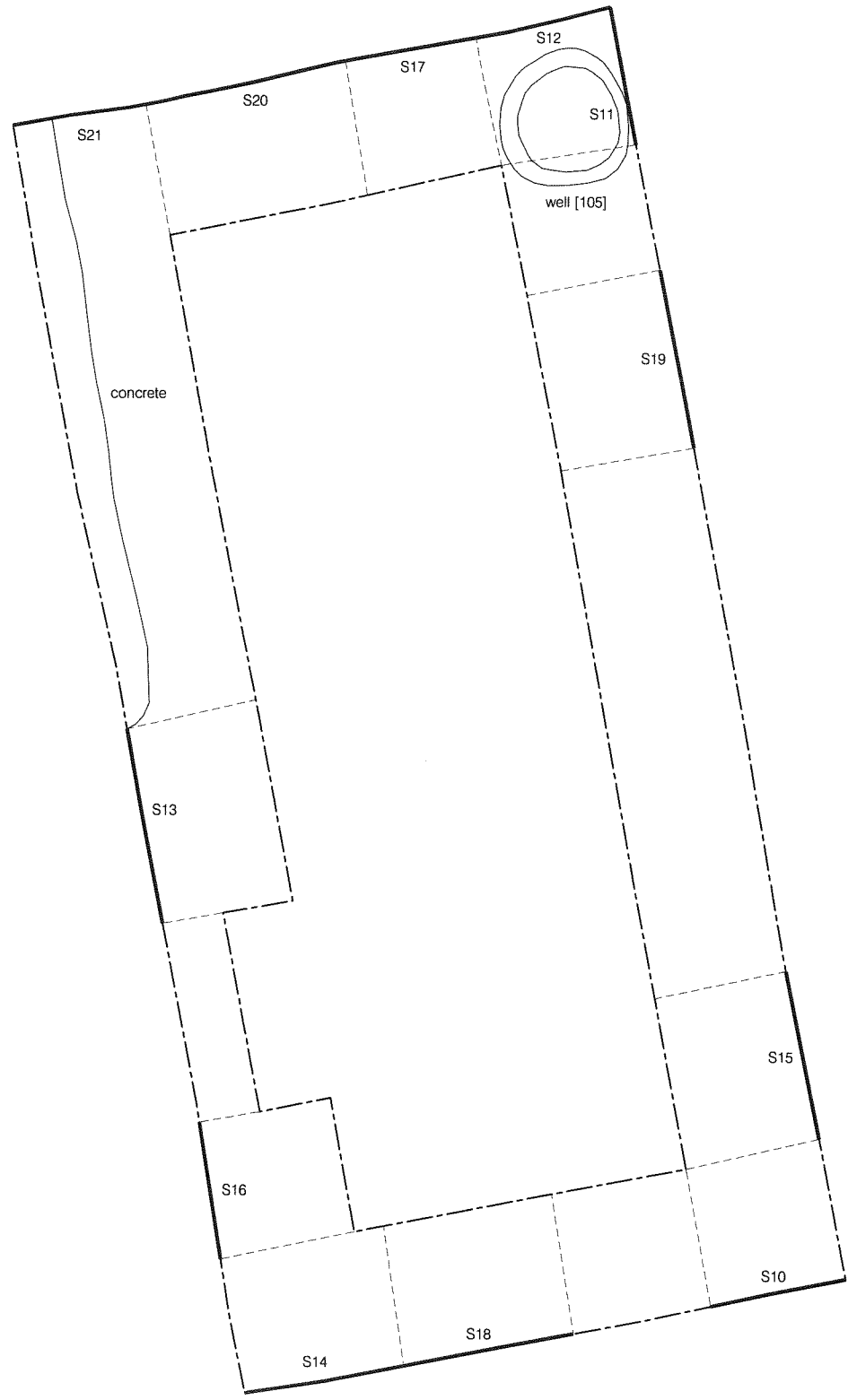
- 6.5 In the west-facing section, an area of post-medieval dumping was seen to overlie layer [104] and was recorded as [119]. This was seen at a height of 11.25m OD, and was composed of a combination of clay and silt with occasional charcoal and chalk flecks. At 0.40m in thickness, it is suggested that this layer acted as a precursor to a surface, [118], recorded directly above it. This was composed of well-compacted broken brick fragments set in a hard mortar and extended as far south as the cut for the original north wall of the property ([120] and [121]). It also remains a possibility that rather than representing a yard surface this is merely the remnants of demolition rubble that has become cemented over time.
- 6.6 Layers [102] and [122] were recorded at heights of 11.28 and 11.55m OD and represent deposits sealing contexts [103] and [123]. They were composed of very similar material to those below them, namely sandy-silts with frequent oyster shell and animal bone inclusions, suggesting that they too represent medieval to post-medieval dump layers of domestic waste prior to the establishment of the extant property.
- 6.7 Whilst layer [122] was directly overlain by a modern deposit and not part of the archaeological sequence, layers [102] and [118] were sealed by horizon [101]. This was a similar to deposit to layers [109] and [112], (that sealed the dump layers [110] and [113]). The three layers were recorded at heights of 11.60, 11.59 and 11.48m OD and ranged in thickness of between 0.32 and 0.45m. A date obtained from a fragment of clay pipe in layer [101] gives a date range from 1580 to 1910. Although broad, this goes some way to supporting the theory that these layers represent later post-medieval dump layers of domestic waste. The same is suggested by the high percentage of oyster shell and animal bone inclusions. Unusually, there were no cut lines for rubbish pits observed in any of the sections.

Phase 4: Later Post Medieval Development

- 6.8 The construction cut for the original northern wall of the property, [121] cut layer [101]. This confirmed the addition of a later extension to the property and the partial demolition of the northern wall. It would have been aligned east-to-west and was filled by backfill [120]. Directly overlying these structural features were the four walls of the basement of the building prior to the underpinning works, [100]. Some evidence was

recorded in the eastern and western sections of attempts to secure the red-brick of these walls by limited injection of concrete below their bases. The addition of a chimney breast was also seen on the east-facing section. These features were not contemporary with the original construction of the property.

- 6.9 A circular red-brick well was recorded in the north-eastern corner of the basement, [105]. It is suggested that this feature is approximately contemporary with the original northern wall of the building, as detailed above, and would have been located in the back yard of the property. The height of the top of the well was recorded as 11.61m OD and it measured 0.93m in diameter. The base extended beyond the depths observed as part of the underpinning works. The well was backfilled with fill [106], amongst which were pottery sherds ranging in date from 1820 to 1900, clay pipe dateable from 1580 to 1910 and CBM from 1750 to 1900. The impression given from these dates is one of late post-medieval backfilling, prior to the construction of the extension on the north of the building.
- 6.10 Ground reduction in the present-day back yard area of the property revealed modern ground-raising deposits to be truncated sporadically by modern service trenches. No archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.



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Figure 3
Section Location
1:50 at A4

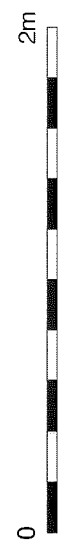
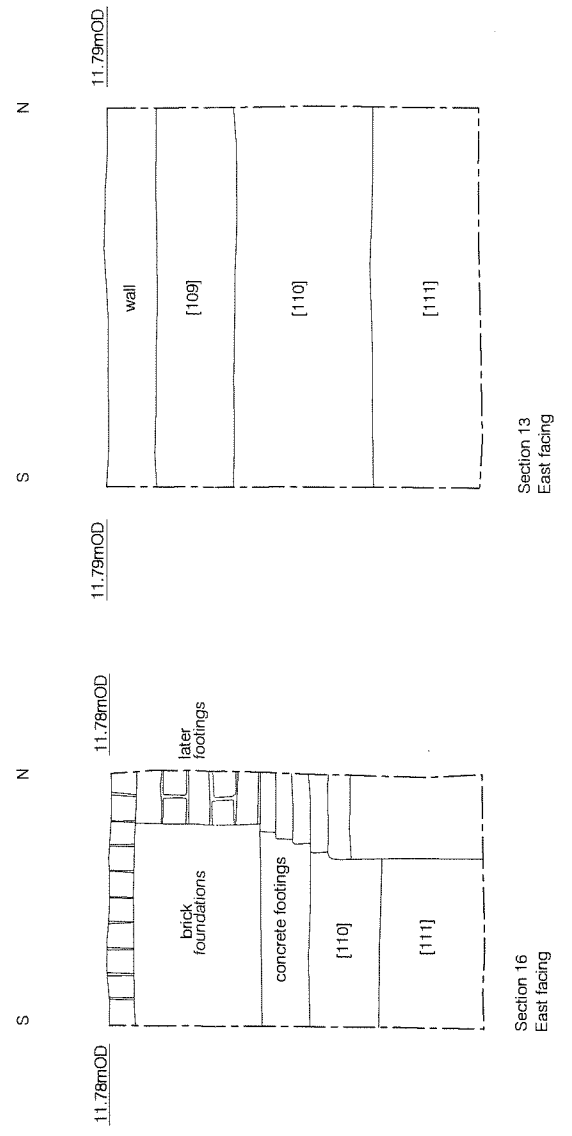
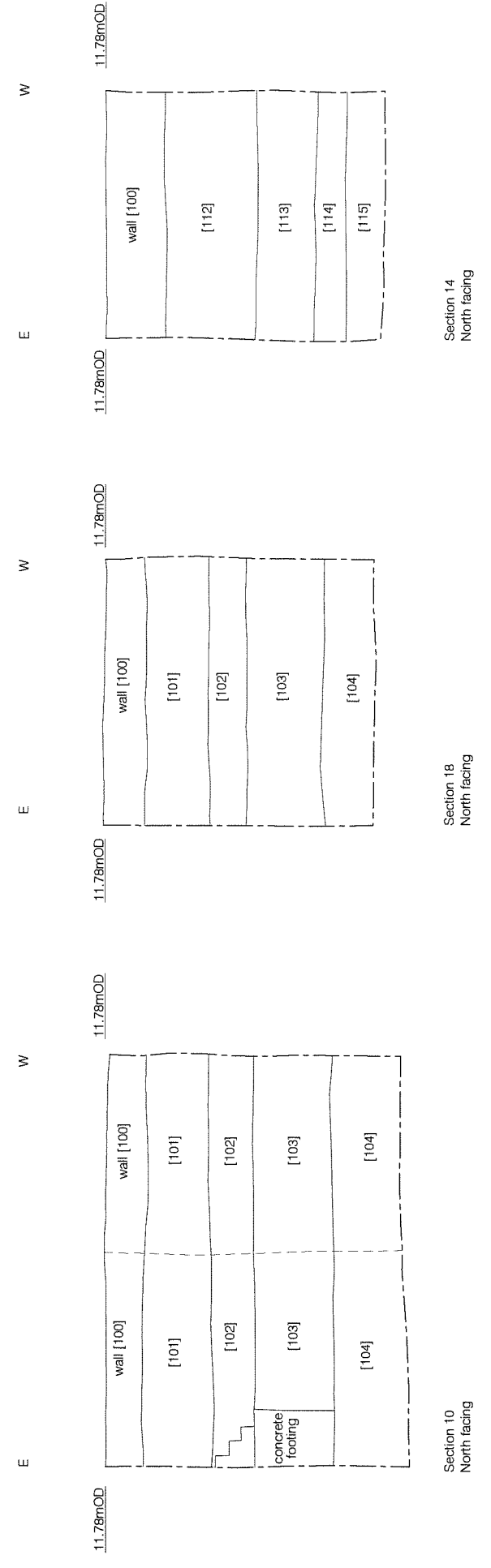
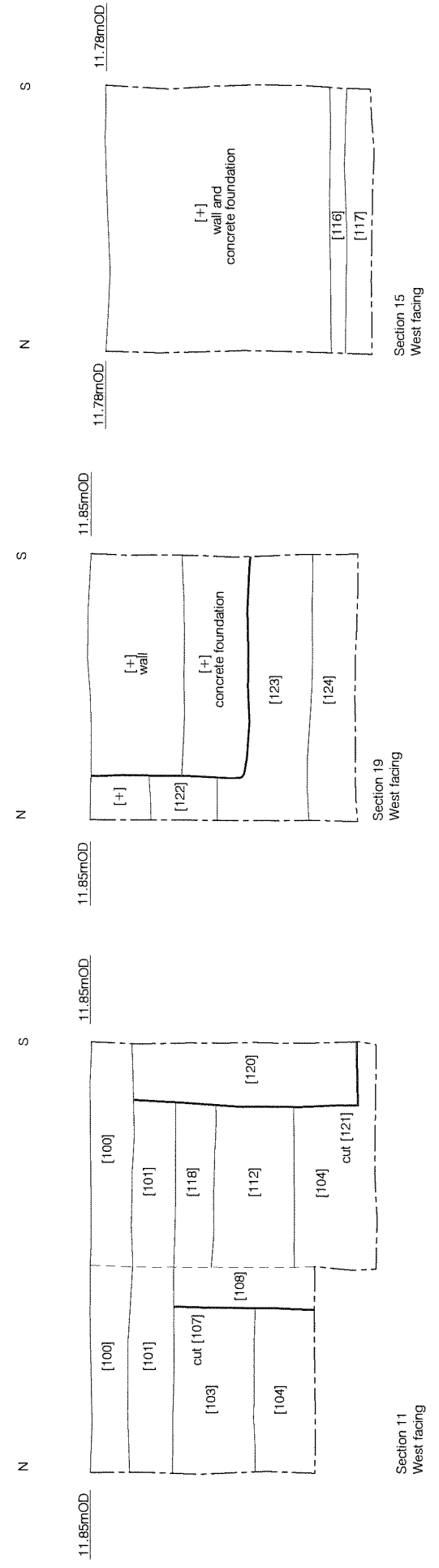
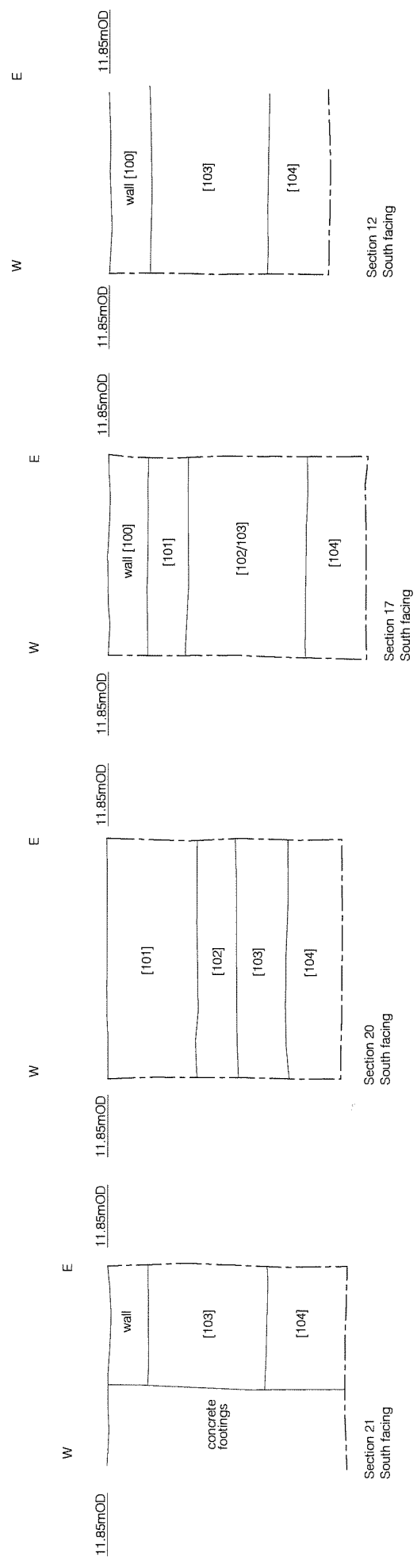


Figure 4
Sections
1:30 at A3

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Brickearth deposits were recorded throughout the basement area at heights beginning at 10.58m OD. There was sufficient anthropogenic material in the lowest of these layers to suggest that they are not representative of undisturbed natural deposits and more likely represent re-deposited material. Abraded Roman ceramic fragments combined with medieval material suggest the brickearth observed across the site has been disturbed on several occasions. Although it is suggested the Roman material has been transported from its original environment, its presence confirms activity from this period in the immediate vicinity.
- 7.2 A sequence of thick dump layers was seen to seal these horizons across the site. Contained within these deposits were domestic waste materials such as animal bone and oyster shell. Ceramic building material and pottery dates from these suggest they were laid down in the medieval period.
- 7.3 A horizon comprised of brick fragments within a mortar matrix may represent a yard surface from the back of the present day building. Alternatively, it may simply represent a dump of demolition material prior to the construction of the property.
- 7.4 A dumped layer rich in domestic waste material was seen to seal these deposits. Pottery, brick and clay pipe evidence suggests a post-medieval date, and this layer represents the final archaeological horizon deposited prior to the construction of the present day building. Unusually, these dumped layers showed no evidence of being pit fills, as suggested in the earlier evaluation work.
- 7.5 Evidence exists in section for the original northern wall of the structure, which has since been demolished and moved northward. Perhaps contemporary with the construction of this wall was the digging of a red brick well observed in the north-eastern corner of the basement. It is suggested that this would have been located in the original back yard of the property. Evidence from the fill suggests it went out of use in the later post-medieval period.
- 7.6 The present back yard of the property revealed 20th-century ground-raising activity truncated regularly by modern service trenches.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

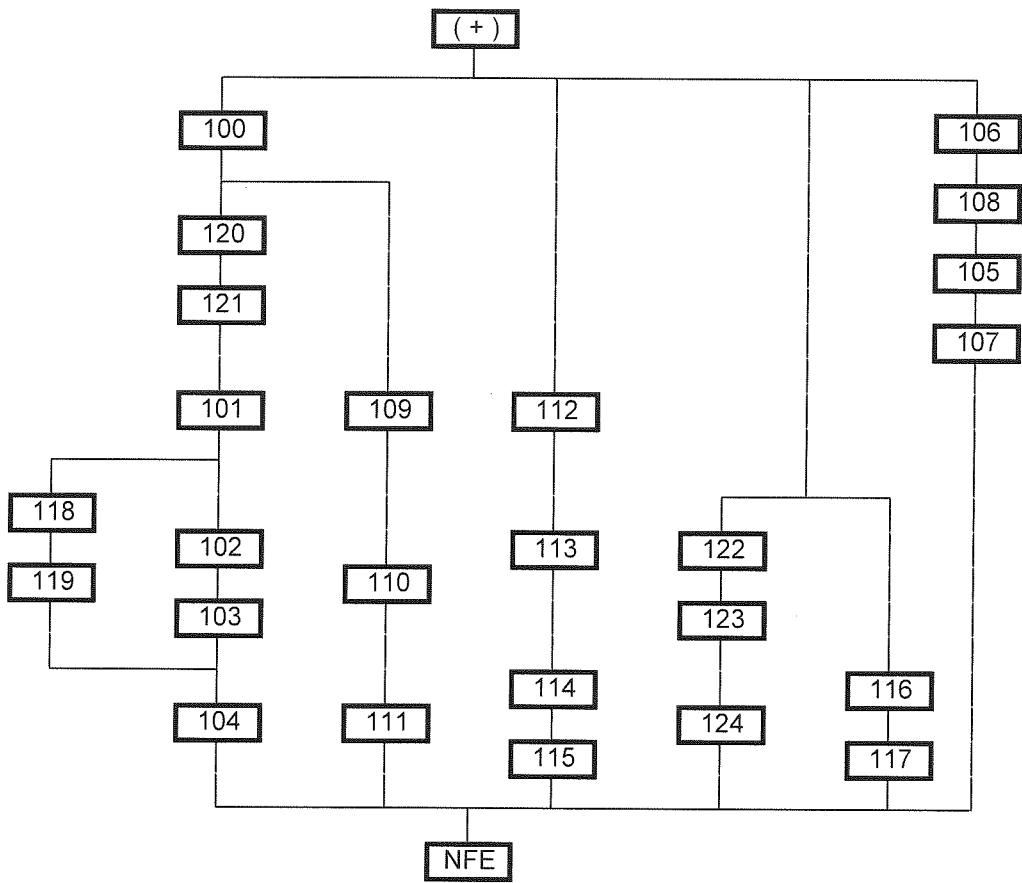
- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Phil Emery of Gifford for commissioning this project, and David Divers, English Heritage (GLAAS), for monitoring the fieldwork on behalf of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.
- 8.2 The author would like to thank the Denise Mulligan and Ireneo Grosso for assistance with fieldwork, Hayley Baxter for the illustrations, Chris Jarrett for pottery dating and Berni Sudds for ceramic building material dating. Tim Bradley managed the project and edited this report.

APPENDIX 1

CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Type	Name	Comments
100	Masonry	R. H.	Shallow wall foundation
101	Layer	R. H.	PM layer
102	Layer	R. H.	PM shell-rich layer
103	Layer	R. H.	Late M layer
104	Layer	R. H.	Redeposited brickearth
105	Masonry	R. H.	Brick well
106	Fill	D. M.	Backfill of cut [107]
107	Cut	D. M.	Cut for well [105]
108	Fill	I. G.	Backfill of cut for well
109	Layer	I. G.	PM shell-rich layer
110	Layer	I. G.	M layer
111	Layer	I. G.	Redeposited brickearth
112	Layer	I. G.	PM shell-rich layer
113	Layer	I. G.	PM layer
114	Layer	I. G.	Dirty brickearth
115	Layer	I. G.	Redeposited brickearth
116	Layer	I. G.	Dirty brickearth
117	Layer	I. G.	Redeposited brickearth
118	Layer	D. M.	Yard surface
119	Layer	D. M.	PM layer
120	Fill	D. M.	Backfill of [121]
121	Cut	D. M.	Cut for rear wall of property
122	Layer	I. G.	PM dump layer
123	Layer	I. G.	PM - M dump layer
124	Layer	I. G.	Gravelly brickearth
125	Layer	R. H.	PM sandy dump layer

APPENDIX 2
SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ASSESSMENT

Chris Jarrett

Introduction

A small-sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (1 box). The pottery dates to the late medieval period (1350-1500) and the 19th century. Very few sherds show evidence for abrasion and were probably deposited fairly rapidly after breakage. The fragmentation of the pottery ranges from sherd material to identifiable forms and only two vessels have complete profiles. The ceramics were recovered from two contexts, both with only small-sized groups of pottery (under 30 sherds).

All the pottery (10 sherds and none are unstratified) was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in an ACCESS database, by fabric, form, decoration, sherd count and estimated number of vessels. The classification of the pottery types is according to the Museum of London Archaeological Service. The pottery is discussed by types and its distribution.

THE POTTERY TYPES

Medieval

Medieval pottery is represented as five sherds and exclusively as coarse Surrey-Hampshire border ware (CBW), dated 1270-1500, but rare in London before c. 1350. Forms consist of a dripping dish and a large rounded jug (CBW LGR), the latter dated 1340-1500.

Post-medieval

A total of five sherds of post-medieval pottery is present and all dating to the 19th century. The main ware type in the assemblage is as industrial finewares: Transfer-printed ware (TPW), 1780-1900 and a variant with a brown print (TPW3), dated 1810-1900, as well as slip-decorated Yellow ware (YELL SLIP), dated 1820-1900. The transfer-printed ware is present only in the form of teacups, whilst the Yellow ware could only be identified as a chamber pot.

London-area post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900 occurs only as a 19th-century bowl decorated with an unusual rouletted border.

DISTRIBUTION

Table 1 shows the contexts containing pottery, the number of sherds, the date range of the pottery types in the deposit and a spot date for the group.

Context	Sherd count	Date range of pottery types	Date range of the latest pottery	Pottery types	Spot date
103	5	1270-1500	1340-1500	CBW, CBW LGR	1350-1500
106	5	1580-1900	1820-1900	PMR, TPW, TPW3, YELL SLIP	1820-1900

Table 1. APS07: Distribution of pottery types showing individual contexts containing pottery, what phase and trench the context occurs in, the number of sherds, date range of the pottery and a suggested deposition date.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COLLECTION

The pottery has no or little significance at a local level. The ceramics indicate intensive activity on the site in the late medieval period and the 19th century. The ceramic profile of the site is mostly in keeping with the London area. The pottery is almost certainly derived from activity on the site and is probably associated with medieval activity around the hospital and priory of St Mary Spital and later 19th-century urban development.

POTENTIAL

The pottery has the potential to date the features in which it was found and to provide a sequence for them, but only one vessel requires illustration. The assemblage is fairly predictable for London in that Coarse Border ware dominates the late medieval assemblage and the 19th-century ceramics have a typical national ceramic profile.

Research aims

No research aims are suggested from the small amount of pottery recovered from this phase of site work.

Recommendations for further work

Should a publication be required the pottery from this phase of excavation should be written up in conjunction with ceramics recovered from the previous archaeological work. The post-medieval redware bowl with a rouletted border would merit illustration if a publication of the site were required.

APPENDIX 4

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL REPORT

Berni Sudds

THE BUILDING MATERIALS

Total number of boxes: less than 1

Total count: 15 fragments

Total number of contexts producing building material: 3

Introduction and methodology

A very small assemblage of brick and roof tile was recovered from excavations at 15 Artillery Lane. This included material of Roman, medieval and post-medieval date. A date range of the material in each context and a suggested date of deposition is presented below in Table 1.

The building materials were examined using the London system of classification. A fabric number is allocated to each object, specifying its composition, form, method of manufacture and approximate date range. Examples of the fabrics can be found in the archives of PCA and/or the Museum of London. The material was examined under magnification (x20) and quantified by number but not measured or weighed. Fabric identifications remain provisional. A database cataloguing these attributes has been generated using Microsoft Access.

Roman

Three fragments of brick or tile dating to Roman period were recovered from deposit [104], each of the local 2815 fabric group typical to London. The examples from Artillery Passage are abraded and re-deposited but attest to the presence of Roman activity in the vicinity, known from nearby excavations to be represented by roadside activity to Ermine Street, including ribbon development, quarrying and burial (Sudds *et al* forthcoming).

Medieval and Post-Medieval

The roof tile is predominantly medieval or late medieval in date in fabrics all common to the London region, namely 2271, 2273, 2586 and 2587. A single example of 2273 was provisionally identified, dating from c.1135 to 1220, although is unusual in demonstrating both slip and glaze decoration. Fabrics 2271 and 2586 date from c.1180 to 1800 but manufacture

and the use of coarse moulding sand suggest that most probably pre-date 1500, whilst iron oxide rich fabric 2587 is dated from c.1240 to 1450. Most of this tile was recovered from deposit [104] but demonstrated some evidence for re-use suggesting a later date is possible. A potential source for some of this material is the medieval Priory and Hospital of St Mary Spital to the north of site (Thomas *et al* 1997).

A single post-medieval brick and fragment of roof tile were recovered from deposit [106]. The fabric of the roof tile is unknown and possibly non-local. The brick fabric is a variant of the local 3034 type and has a shallow frog to the sanded side suggesting a date from the mid or late 18th to 19th centuries.

Context	No of frags	Date range of material	Latest dated material	Suggested date of deposition
103	2	1135 1800	1180 1800	1180 – 1220/1500
104	11	50 1800	1240 1450	1240 – 1450
106	2	1666 1900	1666 1900	1750 – 1900

Table 1: Dating table.

Recommendations

The material recovered from Artillery Lane can be largely well-paralleled in the London region and as non-structural provides little more than background evidence for Roman, medieval and post-medieval activity taking place in vicinity. Consequently, no further analysis is recommended.

REFERENCES

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Thomas, C., Sloane, B., Phillpotts, C., 1997. Excavations at the Priory and Hospital of St. Mary Spital, London. Museum of London Archaeology Service, Monograph 1, Museum of London.

APPENDIX 5

CLAY TOBACCO PIPE REPORT

Chris Jarrett

INTRODUCTION

This report considers clay tobacco pipes from context [100] onwards. There are a total of three stems: one from context [101] and two from context [106] and they can only broadly date those deposits to between 1580-1910. The material has no significance at a local, regional or any other level and its only potential is to provide broad dating evidence for the deposits they were found in. No further work is recommended.

APPENDIX 6

OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-41036

Project details

Project name An Archaeological Watching Brief at 15 Artillery Passage, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, E1 7LJ

Short description of the project An archaeological watching brief on underpinning works was monitored by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at 15 Artillery Passage, London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The works consisted of the monitoring the underpinning of the property in order to create a basement for the new dental surgery to be located on the premises. Excavation of the basement revealed several phases of medieval dumped deposits rich in domestic waste material. Below these were several phases of redeposited brickearth horizons with occasional Roman building material. Monitoring of the ground reduction works in the back yard of the property showed 19th- and 20th-century service trenches to cut through ground-raising deposits of a similar date.

Project dates Start: 29-01-2008 End: 29-02-2008

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference codes APS07 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS TOWER HAMLETS 15
Artillery Passage

Postcode E1 7LJ

Study area 50.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 3348 8165 51.5174816190 -0.07600681254550 51 31 02 N
000 04 33 W Point

Height OD Min: 10.58m Max: 10.58m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator Gifford

Project design originator Phil Emery, Gifford

Project director/manager Tim Bradley

Project supervisor Richard Humphrey

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics', 'Glass'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Phased Summary and Assessment Document of the Excavations at Artillery Lane, London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Author(s)/Editor(s) Douglas, A.

Date	2005
Issuer or publisher	Unpublished
Place of issue or publication	PCA
Project	
bibliography 2	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 15 Artillery Passage, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, E1 7LJ
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Bradley, T.
Date	2007
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Unpublished
Entered by	Richard Humphrey (rhumphrey@pre-construct.com)
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