#### An Archaeological Investigation at 3 Lovat Lane, City of London, EC3R 8DT

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Site code: LVA08

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3306 8078

Registered Planning Number: 07/00945/FULL

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### 1 Abstract (Figs 1 & 2)

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological investigation at 3 Lovat Lane, City of London, EC3R 8DT. The site is centred at National Grid Reference TQ 8806 8078.
- 1.2 The second phase of archaeological investigations at 3 Lovat Lane, following on from the archaeological evaluation of geotechnical investigations, consisted of power auguring eight pile positions and a watching brief on the insertion of new services beneath the concrete slab of the previous building's basement. It was demonstrated that limited stratified horizontal archaeological deposits, dating to the Roman and post-medieval periods, survive *in situ* at heights ranging between 11.54m OD 11.38m OD.
- 1.3 As with the first phase of fieldwork, archaeological observations indicated a variety of deposits had survived modern truncation: possible Roman brickearth slab foundations were found, as well as a garden soil or fill of probable post-medieval date, and an early 18<sup>th</sup> century dumped or possible fill deposit in the eastern part of the site. Similar material was found during the first phase of the site, although there were no further indications of the possible Roman pits previously identified.
- 1.4 Power auguring indicated that a natural brickearth horizon, overlying natural gravel, was present at heights ranging between 11.03m OD and 10.45m OD. This was consistent with the results obtained during the first phase of the archaeological investigation.

#### 2 Introduction

- An archaeological investigation was undertaken at 3 Lovat Lane, City of London, EC3 2.1 between the 26<sup>th</sup> November and 19<sup>th</sup> January (Fig. 1). This investigation comprised a watching brief monitoring the insertion of new services and power auguring the seven projected pile locations for the new build and one of the pile locations for the crane base (Figs. 1, 2 & 3) in accordance with the Method Statement submitted by Tim Bradley of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA)<sup>1</sup>. The investigation followed on from an initial desk based assessment<sup>2</sup> (DBA) and a subsequent archaeological evaluation of geotechnical works undertaken on the site by PCA during April and May 2008<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.2 The site is located on the west side of Lovat Lane and is bound to the north by a building occupying no. 1 Lovat Lane, to the east by Lovat Lane itself, to the south by a building occupying nos. 4-5 Lovat Lane and nos. 6-9 Botolph Alley and to the west by no. 16 Eastcheap. The Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference for the site is TQ 3306 8078.
- The initial DBA indicated that whilst the construction of basements during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 2.3 20th centuries would have undoubtedly impacted on pre-existing archaeological deposits, the site nonetheless had a high archaeological potential for the Roman and post-medieval periods, a moderate to high potential for the Saxon and medieval periods and a low to moderate potential for the prehistoric periods.
- 2.4 The subsequent evaluation of geotechnical investigations indicated that horizontal archaeological deposits had been truncated by previous development on the site, with only limited archaeological survival of deposits that possibly dated to the Roman and post-medieval periods at depths ranging between c.11.70 and c.11.10m OD whilst the natural brickearth horizon was encountered between c.11.00m OD and c.10.37m OD<sup>4</sup>.
- 2.5 The commissioning client was Lovat Lane Ltd and the archaeological investigations were undertaken by PCA under the project management of Tim Bradley and the supervision of the author.

Bradley 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Thompson 2008 <sup>3</sup> Taylor 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Taylor 2008

2.6 The site was recorded using the site code LVA08 and on the eventual completion of all archaeological reporting the complete archive will be deposited at LAARC.

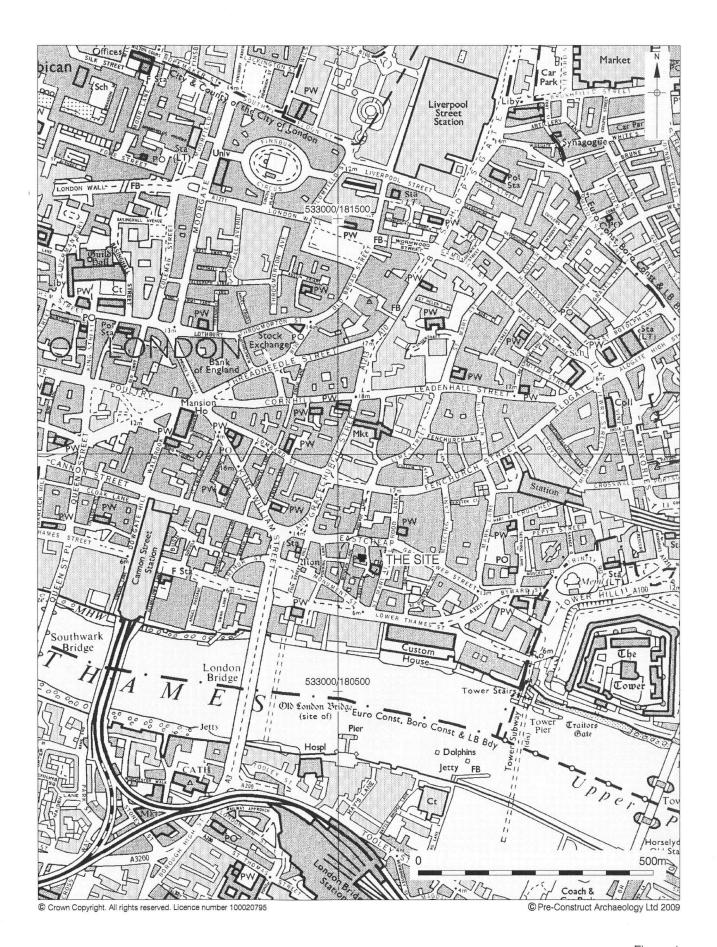
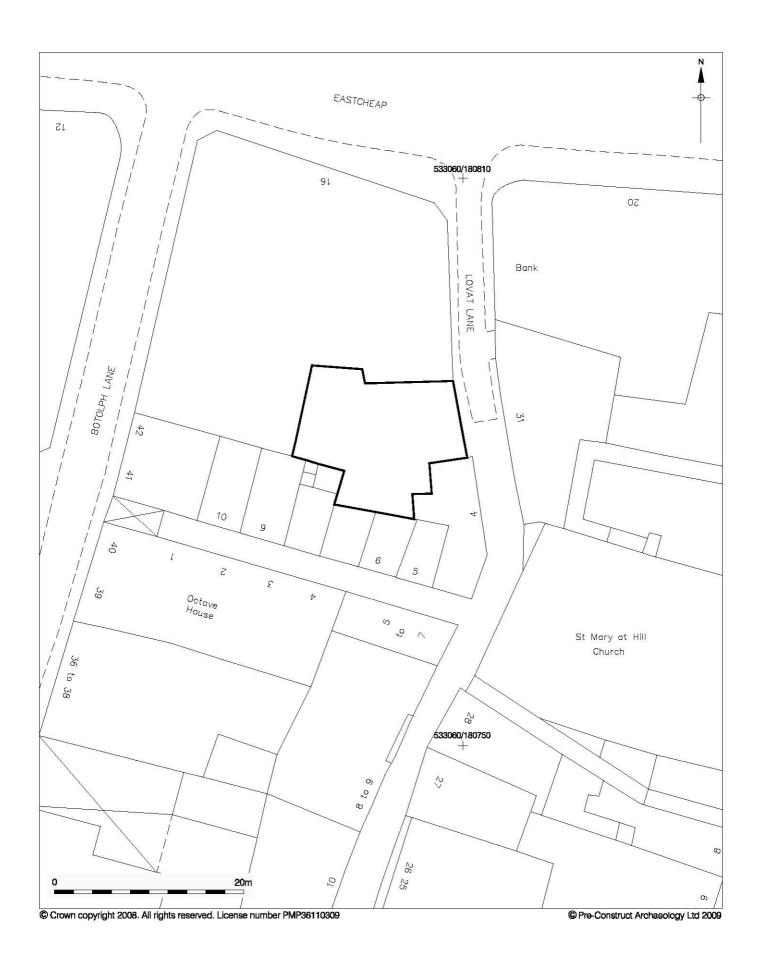


Figure 1 Site Location 1:8,000 at A4



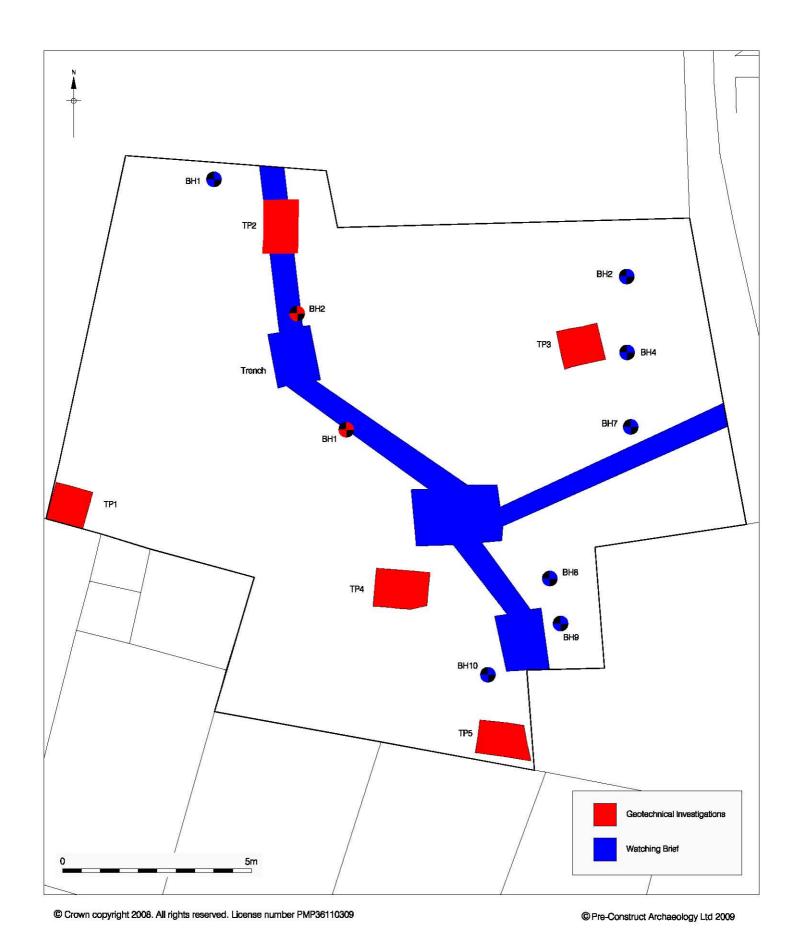


Figure 3 Trench, Test Pit and Borehole Location 1:100 at A4

### 3 Planning Background

#### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The site has previously been the subject of two reports:

Pre-Construct Archaeology, Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of No. 3 Lovat Lane, City of London EC3, April 2008

Pre-Construct Archaeology, An Archaeological Evaluation of Geotechnical Investigations at 3 Lovat Lane, City of London, EC3, June 2008

- 3.1.2 As detailed in paragraph 2.3 of this report, the DBA indicated that the construction of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century basements within the site would have impacted on pre-existing archaeological deposits, although the site had a high archaeological potential for the Roman and post-medieval periods, a moderate to high potential for the Saxon and medieval periods and a low to moderate potential for the prehistoric periods.
- 3.1.3 The subsequent site investigations confirmed that, despite the archaeological potential for the site, horizontal archaeological deposits had been truncated by previous development on the site. Limited archaeological survival, possibly dating to the Roman and post-medieval periods, survived in situ at depths ranging between c.11.70 and c.11.10m OD whilst the natural brickearth horizon was encountered between c.11.00m OD and c.10.37m OD.
- 3.1.4 The development involved the phased demolition of the present building on site to street level and the insertion of a new lightweight structural steel frame, floors and enclosure to accommodate eight new floors of serviced residential units over a lower-ground-floor mezzanine and a basement. The redevelopment of the subject site entailed the removal of the existing slab, the casting of a new reinforced concrete slab to the same height and 450mm thick. Seven new piles, each with a diameter of 225mm, would also be inserted by diamond drilling to reduce collateral disturbance and remove the need for pile probing. The proposed groundworks would remove some late post medieval cellar fill. The new piles would cause localised disturbance.
- 3.1.5 Given the limited impact generated by the procedures outlined above, the proposed archaeological site works, agreed with the City of London, consisted of the following:
  - The existing basement slab and makeup will be removed to a depth of 500mm under archaeological supervision. In the event that pre modern deposits are encountered, these would be archaeologically removed and recorded.

- This would be followed by power auguring of the seven pile locations and archaeologically recording the soil profiles.
- The insertion of new services would be archaeologically monitored. Where pre
  modern deposits are found these would be archaeologically excavated and recorded.
- 3.1.6 The archaeological fieldwork was completed in accordance with the Method Statement<sup>5</sup> submitted to, and approved by, the City of London in advance of the fieldwork.

#### 3.2 Planning Policy Guidance (PPG16)

- 3.2.1 In November 1990 the Department of the Environment issued Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG 16) 'Archaeology and Planning', which provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of archaeological remains.
- 3.2.2 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance PPG16, by current Unitary Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.

# 3.3 Archaeology in the City of London and the 2002 Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

3.3.1 The development site is located within an Area of Archaeological Potential, as defined by the City of London Unitary Development Plan, 2002. Development of the site was subject to the following policies, each of which has been 'saved' in accordance with Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004:

Requirements for Assessment and Evaluation of Sites of Archaeological Potential

#### POLICY ARC 1

To require planning applications which involve excavation or groundworks on sites of archaeological potential to be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site including the impact of the proposed development.

11.12. All of the City is considered to have archaeological potential unless it can be demonstrated that archaeological remains have been lost, due to basement construction or other groundworks. The Corporation will indicate the potential of a

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Bradley,2008

site, its relative importance, and the likely impact to a developer at an early stage so that the appropriate assessment and design development can be undertaken. Map 11.2 indicates areas of archaeological potential and this information will be updated periodically.

11.13. On sites of archaeological potential, which may be affected by development schemes or groundworks, an archaeological assessment will be required to be submitted with the application. This will set out the archaeological potential of the site and impact of the proposals. Where appropriate, this should be supplemented by evaluation, carrying out trial work in specific areas of the site to provide more information and inform consideration of the development proposals by the Corporation, prior to a decision on that application.

Preservation in situ and Recording of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Remains

#### POLICY ARC 2

To require development proposals to preserve in situ, protect and safeguard important ancient monuments and important archaeological remains and their settings, and where appropriate, to require the permanent public display and/or interpretation of the monument or remains.

#### POLICY ARC 3

To ensure the proper investigation, recording of sites, and publication of the results, by an approved organisation as an integral part of a development programme where a development incorporates archaeological remains or where it is considered that preservation in situ is not appropriate.

- 11.14. On sites where important monuments or archaeological remains exist, development proposals should take this fully into account and be designed to enhance physical preservation and avoid disturbance or loss. This can be done by the sympathetic design of basements, raising ground levels, site coverage, and the location of foundations to avoid or minimize archaeological loss and securing their preservation for the future, although they remain inaccessible for the time being.
- 11.15. The interpretation and presentation of a visible or buried monument to the public and enhancement of its setting, should form part of the development proposals. Agreement will be sought to achieve reasonable public access. The Corporation will consider refusing schemes which do not provide an adequate assessment of a site or make no provision for the incorporation, safeguarding or

preservation in situ of nationally or locally important monuments or remains, or which would adversely affect those monuments or remains.

- 11.16. In some cases, a development may reveal a monument or archaeological remains which will be displayed on the site, or reburied. Investigation and recording of those features will be required as part of a programme of archaeological work to be submitted to and approved by the Corporation. Where the significance of the remains is considered, by the Corporation, not sufficient to justify their physical preservation in situ and they will be affected by development, archaeological recording should be carried out. A programme of archaeological work for investigation, excavation and recording, and publication of the results, to a predetermined research framework, by an approved organisation, should be submitted to and approved by the Corporation, prior to development. This will be controlled through the use of conditions and will ensure the preservation of those remains by record.
- 3.3.2 Planning Advice is contained within the Corporation of London's Planning Advice Note 3: Archaeology in the City of London, Archaeology Guidance (CoL 2004).
- 3.3.3 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) within the boundaries of the application site; however two are situated within or immediately adjacent to the 100m radius of the study area. These include a SAM at the Watermen and the Lightermen Hall at no. 16-18 St Mary at Hill, approximately 75m to the south-east, and the Roman 'Billingsgate Bath House', preserved beneath no. 100 Lower Thames Street.
- 3.3.4 There are no Listed Buildings within the boundaries of the site.
- 3.3.5 The site lies within the Lovat Lane Conservation Area as designated by the City of London.

### 4 Geology and Topography

- 4.1 The Geological Survey of Great Britain 1:50,000 scale map of the area (Sheet 256, 'North London') indicates that the site is underlain by the sand and gravel of the Pleistocene Taplow Gravel Terrace, which in turn overlies London Clay. Three deep boreholes have been sunk by the BGS in the nearby vicinity, suggesting the following local ground profile in areas where basements do not exist:
  - Fill/made ground between 3m and 4m thick
  - Natural Sand and Gravel
  - London Clay
- 4.2 Archaeological and geotechnical investigation at sites in the vicinity have indicated that a natural brickearth horizon, of the Langley Silts complex, overlies the gravel terrace. Natural brickearth deposits was encountered at 11.75m OD at 13-21 Eastcheap and 12.08m OD during excavations at the church of St Mary-at-Hill.
- 4.3 The sequence outlined above was confirmed during the archaeological investigations, with natural gravel, encountered at heights varying between 10.91m OD in the northwest of the site and 10.26m OD in the southeast, overlain by a sandy brickearth horizon, encountered at heights varying between 11.03m OD in the north west to 10.45m OD in the south east.
- 4.4 No. 3 Lovat Lane is situated towards the midpoint of the steep downslope of the Thames river terrace, c.175m north of the present northern embankment of the River Thames.
- 4.5 At the time of the investigations, the 1970s office building that previously occupied the site had been completely demolished except for its steel frame, which has been retained to support the party walls of the neighbouring buildings. The basement slab of the single storey basement was broken out to reveal a second concrete slab below at a height of 11.96m OD. This earlier slab did not provide complete coverage of the basement area and part of the northwest corner revealed modern make-up below the upper slab. This area was temporarily sealed with concrete blinding by the contractors. Modern ground level outside the limits of the basement was estimated at c.14.00m OD.

#### 5 Archaeological and Historical Background

#### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Prior to the commencement of the archaeological assessment of geotechnical investigations, and forming the initial phase of archaeological assessment of the site, a Desk-based Assessment was compiled<sup>6</sup>. The Desk-Based Assessment assessed the archaeological and historical background of the site through the examination of all archaeological entries in the Greater London Sites and Monuments Record (GLSMR) within a 100m radius of the site and reference to relevant archaeological, documentary and cartographic evidence. The following archaeological and historical background summarises the information contained in that document.

#### 5.2 Prehistoric (450,000 BC – 43 AD)

- 5.2.1 Whilst no archaeological evidence of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic or Neolithic activity has been discovered in the 100m radius of the site archaeological investigations further to the south-west have recorded the fragmentary remains of prehistoric land surfaces, buried beneath later Roman stratigraphy. These have included a truncated Mesolithic marsh at Peninsular House, extensive Neolithic and later prehistoric peat deposits at the site of the former Suffolk House on Upper Thames Street and a peat marsh horizon at Arthur Street<sup>7</sup>.
- 5.2.2 Excavations to the south-east of the site, beneath the nave of the church of St Mary-at-Hill, recorded a prehistoric soil horizon, encountered at 12.08m OD and a shallow, east-west aligned linear feature dated to the Bronze Age period<sup>8</sup>. Similarly dated gullies and pits were discovered at St Martin Ongar churchyard and at 55-58 Gracechurch Street, suggesting that Bronze Age activity existed between Monument and Tower Hill<sup>9</sup>.
- 5.2.3 Evidence for Iron Age activity is limited within Greater London and evidence in the City is largely restricted to residual material<sup>10</sup>. Included in this material is a small bronze helmet crest, of Iron Age date, recovered from an unrecorded location on Eastcheap<sup>11</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Thompson 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Brigham & Woodger 2001: 13-14 & Swift 2008: 11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> GLSMR 042837 & 042836

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Jeffrey *et al* 1992: 193; MoLAS 2000: 94-95

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> MoLAS 2000: 114

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> GLSMR 041176

### 5.3 Roman (43 – 410 AD)

#### 5.3.1 1<sup>st</sup> century

- 5.3.1.1 Early Roman waterfront consolidation and revetting has been found at Regis House (c. AD 52), Miles Lane and Arthur Street (c. AD 54-5) whilst contemporary gravel extraction pits, probably associated with road construction, have been recorded at Botolph Lane<sup>12</sup> and Eastcheap<sup>13</sup>. At these sites the gravel extraction pits were post-dated by a phase of extensive terracing/ground levelling and evidence of Early Roman levelling layers have been identified on the north side of Eastcheap<sup>14</sup> and on the west side of St Mary-At-Hill<sup>15</sup>.
- 5.3.1.2 Following the construction of the terraces, timber warehouses and timber-framed structures were erected. Whilst archaeological evidence of this early phase of structural development has been found in the Eastcheap area, as evidenced by the presence of brickearth, gravel and plank floors<sup>16</sup>, no evidence of mid-1<sup>st</sup> century buildings has been identified on the terrace slope of Lovat Lane.
- 5.3.1.3 The Early Roman settlement was destroyed during the Boudican revolt of AD 60-1 and evidence of the event, e.g. the destruction horizon, has been recorded during excavations in the Eastcheap area<sup>17</sup>.
- 5.3.1.4 Following the revolt a short-lived fortification was established south-east of Cornhill at Plantation Place<sup>18</sup> and a north-south aligned 6m long ditch recorded at 21 Eastcheap may be associated with this encampment<sup>19</sup>. Contemporary quarry pits, recorded at Monument House, indicate activity in the area at this time<sup>20</sup>.
- 5.3.1.5 During the AD 70s work commenced on new public buildings and the construction of new structures replacing those that had been destroyed in the revolt. Evidence of these buildings have been found at nos. 13-21, 23-29, 41 Eastcheap and at Monument House<sup>21</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> GLSMR 044922 & MLO97823

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> GLSMR 044804

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Jeffrey *et al* 1992: 193 & GLSMR 044133

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> GLSMR 043004; 043005; 043006; 043007; 043008; 044615; 044616; 044617 & 044618

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> GLSMR 043009 & 044619

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 3 & Swift 2008: 20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 55

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> (GLSMR MLO75875; 043010; MLO77926; 044082 & Blair & Sankey 2007: 7)

## 5.3.2 Late 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> century

- 5.3.2.1 During the final decade of the 1<sup>st</sup> century and the early decades of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century the growth of Londinium accelerated and phases of late 1<sup>st</sup> and early 2<sup>nd</sup> century occupation has been found at Philpot Lane<sup>22</sup> whilst evidence of timber framed buildings fronting an east-west aligned street have been found around Eastcheap<sup>23</sup>. It is possible that the east-west aligned street may cross the northern part of Lovat Lane.
- 5.3.2.2 During the mid-120s the "Hadrianic Fire" destroyed much of the western half of the city and also caused widespread destruction in the south and east. Archaeological evidence indicates that whilst the level of destruction was less intense in the east of the city it nonetheless impacted on the vicinity of the site with early 2<sup>nd</sup> century destruction horizons recorded at 13-21 and 41 Eastcheap<sup>24</sup>. It would appear that following the fire, in the vicinity of the site, rebuilding was undertaken relatively promptly with clay and timber<sup>25</sup> and masonry structures<sup>26</sup> recorded in the vicinity.

### 5.3.3 Late 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> centuries

5.3.3.1 The later 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries were typified by a period of both settlement contraction and construction of substantial private and public masonry urban buildings<sup>27</sup>. Whilst it is possible that the presence of features backfilled in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century and a lack of 4<sup>th</sup> century material generally may indicate an contraction of settlement in the vicinity of the site during the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century<sup>28</sup> it is nonetheless possible that an absence of Late Roman deposits may be a consequence of later truncation to these levels. Indeed, observation of substantial *in-situ* Roman masonry remains during the 19<sup>th</sup> century<sup>29</sup>, the discovery of a late 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century subterranean building at 41 Eastcheap<sup>30</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup> century masonry building at Monument House<sup>31</sup> suggest that several high status buildings, of Late Roman date, existed in the vicinity of the site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> GLSMR 044520; 044521 & 044523

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> GLSMR 04251; 044520 & Merrifield 1965: 280-281

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> GLSMR 044924

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Jeffrey et al 1992: 193 & GLSMR 042839; MLO7580; 044133

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> GLSMR 085044; Blair & Sankey 2007: 58

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Milne 1995: 75

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Greenwood & Maloney 1996: 8 & GLSMR 085046

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Merrifield 1965: 281; GLSMR 041019; Weeks 1979: 7; GLSMR 041078; Merrifield 1965: 295; GLSMR 041077 & Harben 1918

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> GLSMR MLO97823

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> GLSMR 044912

#### 5.4 Early medieval/ Saxon (410 – 1066 AD)

- 5.4.1 Following an extended period of contraction and decline during the 4<sup>th</sup> century it is likely that the city was abandoned in the early 5<sup>th</sup> century<sup>32</sup>. A heavily truncated accumulation of 'dark earth' that sealed demolition debris associated with the 3<sup>rd</sup> century masonry building at Monument House had been cut by robber trenches, possibly dug towards the end of the Roman period or shortly afterwards<sup>33</sup>. A shift in settlement is evident at this time with archaeological evidence demonstrating that occupation during the Early and Middle Saxon periods was largely focused to the west of the city walls, known as Lundenwic, in the Covent Garden area<sup>34</sup>.
- 5.4.2 The reoccupation of London began in the mid-9<sup>th</sup> century, when King Alfred established a defensive *burh* behind the Roman walls in response to the Viking threat. The earliest phase of settlement developed around a grid of streets laid out in the late 9<sup>th</sup> century, which extended north from a landing place on the Thames (Queenhithe) towards Cheapside, via Garlick Hill/ Bow Lane and Bread Street<sup>35</sup>. It is likely that this early settlement was fairly small, and it was not until the second half of the following century that the intramural area once again became the site of a major town<sup>36</sup>.
- 5.4.3 By the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century a number of lanes on the alignments of present-day Botolph Lane, Lovat Lane, St Mary-at-Hill and possibly St Dunstan's Hill extended northward from the Thames towards Eastcheap and thence towards the major axial route of Fenchurch Street via Philpot, Rood and Mincing Lanes<sup>37</sup>. Archaeological evidence of Late Saxon development, a cellared building dated to *c*. 1050-60, was discovered at Monument House<sup>38</sup>, the truncated remains of 11<sup>th</sup> century pits were recorded at nos. 24-25 Lovat Lane<sup>39</sup> and a wicker-lined pit and the bottom of a timber-lined 11<sup>th</sup> century well were found at the Billingsgate Buildings site<sup>40</sup>.

#### 5.5 Medieval (1066 – 1539)

5.5.1 Whilst the Norman Conquest appears to have had little immediate impact upon Late Saxon London it has been suggested that a hoard of several hundred Late Saxon/Early Norman coins found buried beneath the east side of Love/Lovat Lane

33 Blair & Sankey 2007: 22 & GLSMR 044913; 044914

<sup>36</sup> MoLAS 2000: 191

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Milne 1995: 89

Milne 1995: 89 & MoLAS, 2000: 182
 Dyson 1989: 22 & MoLAS 2000: 192-3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 17 & MoLAS 2000: 193 Blair & Sankey 2007: 23 & GLSMR MLO76728

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Gadd 1983: 171-2 & GLSMR 043421

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> GLSMR 042177 & 042178

may have been concealed by a local merchant during the failed 'revolt of the three earls' of 1075<sup>41</sup>. The hoard was discovered in 1774 near the church of St Mary-at-Hill, possibly 28 Love Lane, at a depth of approximately 14-15ft (4.25-4.55m) beneath the 18<sup>th</sup> century ground surface<sup>42</sup>.

- The parish church of St-Mary-at-Hill was first documented towards the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> 5.5.2 century<sup>43</sup>, although it is likely to have been founded before this date, possibly as early as the Late Saxon period<sup>44</sup> and excavations within the church have identified a number of burials under the foundations of the 13<sup>th</sup> century church, possibly part of the extra-mural cemetery of an earlier church<sup>45</sup>.
- A significant number of streets were laid out in the city during the 12<sup>th</sup> century, 5.5.3 encouraging new building in previously vacant areas 46 with Thames Street (present Lower Thames Street) created to facilitate access to the riverside sites at Queenhithe, Vintry, Dowgate and Billingsgate<sup>47</sup>. Archaeological evidence of medieval development along Thames Street was discovered at no. 100 Lower Thames Street during the 19<sup>th</sup> century<sup>48</sup> and at the junction of Lower Thames Street and Monument Street<sup>49</sup>. As the volume of trade increased during the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries the tenements that lined the pre-Conquest lanes to the north of Thames Street became increasingly sought-after by those whose business depended upon Thames trade<sup>50</sup>. However, the presence of extensive basements to the north side of Eastcheap has ensured that archaeological traces of the tenements is restricted to rubbish pits<sup>51</sup>, wells<sup>52</sup>, cellars<sup>53</sup> and chalk foundations<sup>54</sup>.
- The earliest recorded mention of Love Lane is dated to 1394, when it was noted that 5.5.4 the lane had formerly been known as 'Roppelane' (or 'Roperlane' according to a document of 1349), presumably in honour of the trade of former residents<sup>55</sup>. The origin of the name Love Lane has been the subject of some debate: John Stow claimed in 1598 that it was a corruption of 'Lucas Lane', while Harben argued that it may have been renamed after a local property owner called Reynold Love in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Weeks 1979: 8 & GLSMR 041868

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Guildhall Library MS 10967 30/11/1852

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Schofield 1994b: 119

<sup>44</sup> Jeffrey et al 1992: 194

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> GLSMR 042840 & 041810

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Thomas 2002: 20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Dyson 1989: 23 & Thomas 2002: 21

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> GLSMR 041849 & 041850

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> GLSMR 042908

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> GLSMR 033011 & MLO97824

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> GLSMR 042516

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> GLSMR 042519

 <sup>54</sup> GLSMR MLO78123
 55 Harben 1918

1370s, whereas more recent authorities maintain that it was so-named as it had been a haunt of prostitutes in the Middle Ages<sup>56</sup>.

#### 5.6 Post-medieval and modern (1539 to present)

- 5.6.1 The area appears to have remained prosperous during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, and archaeological evidence has been discovered of the rebuilding of at least two high status properties during the period. Both nos. 9/ 9½ Lovat Lane (undercroft and vault remodelled *c*. 1620<sup>57</sup>) and a substantial high status tenement on the east side of Botolph Lane were at least partially rebuilt, the latter featuring brick-built cellars and the remains of an ornate Reigate stone mantelpiece<sup>58</sup>.
- 5.6.2 Documentary and archaeological evidence indicate that following the destruction caused by the Great Fire of 1666 the vicinity of the site was largely rebuilt within the next ten years. Contemporary maps depict a small courtyard at the site of the present no. 3 Lovat Lane with substantial structures, probably warehouses, on two sides and bordered to the south by the rear of two rebuilt tenements in Botolph Alley. It is also possible that the lane was one of nearly 150 that were compulsorily widened, to at least 14ft, in accordance with the Rebuilding Act of 1667.
- 5.6.3 The church of St Mary-at-Hill was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren between 1670 and 1676. Wren retained the tower and west wall in addition to elements of the north and south walls, but completely rebuilt the interior and east end of the church<sup>59</sup>. Subsequent works included the rebuilding of the tower in brick during the 1780s, and extensive alterations to the roof and windows in the 1820s<sup>60</sup>.
- 5.6.4 On Horwood's map of 1813 no. 3 Love Lane is shown occupied by an L-shaped range set back from the street overlooking a courtyard and a street directory of 1817 indicates that the building was the premises of McCarthy & Brown, wine & beer merchants<sup>61</sup>.
- 5.6.5 The depth and extent of truncation since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century has ensured that archaeological evidence of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century activity is confined to cut features, including cesspits<sup>62</sup>, rubbish pits<sup>63</sup> and cellars<sup>64</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Stow 1994: 216; Harben 1918 & Weinreb & Hibbert 1983: 500

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Gadd 1982: 18

<sup>58</sup> Blair & Sankey 2007: 32-34 & GLSMR 044917

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> GLSMR 200804

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup>Jeffrey et al 1992: 198

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup>Johnstone's London Commercial Guide and Street Directory 1817

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup>GLSMR MLO76718; 085048; 042517 & 043424

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup>GLSMR 044805 & MLO78124

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup>GLSMR 085049 & 044135

5.6.6 By the early 1840s four businesses traded from premises at no. 3 Love Lane, including two merchants, a Custom House agent and a wholesale druggist according to Robson's London Directory of 1843. Between 1835 and 1873 the courtyard of no. 3 had become obsolete and by the early 1870s the four buildings at no. 3 Lovat Lane were used by a wholesale tea merchant, a commission agent, a Custom House agent, a wine cooper and an unspecified merchant<sup>65</sup>. The Ordnance Survey of 1894 shows that by this time the earlier buildings on site had been demolished and a new building, covering almost the entire footprint of no. 3 and built with a basement, had been erected. By 1900 seven businesses, a collection of agents, merchants and importers, traded from no. 3<sup>66</sup>. The buildings on site survived the Second World War unscathed and remained largely unchanged until the 1970s when the recently demolished office buildings were constructed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup>Kelly's Post Office Directory 1871

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup>Kelly's Post Office Directory 1890 & 1900

#### 6 Methodology

6.1 This is the second phase of archaeological fieldwork at No. 3 Lovat Lane. The first phase, an archaeological evaluation of geotechnical investigations, was carried out by PCA between April and May 2008<sup>67</sup>. The object of the current phase of archaeological works was to monitor below-ground works on the site, This was achieved in two ways: firstly power auguring the seven projected pile locations for the new build and one of the pile locations for the crane base, and secondly performing an archaeological watching brief during the insertion of new services. The new services and pile locations were to be the only elements of the new build that would penetrate below the earliest concrete slab of the basement.

#### 6.2 **Pile Locations (Power Auguring):**

- 6.2.1 Eleven projected pile locations were surveyed into the basement by the building contractors: Seven of these (P001, P002, and P007-P011) were pile positions for the new build while four (P003-P006) would serve as support for a temporary crane base. It was proposed in the Method Statement<sup>68</sup> that all seven of the new build piles were to be power augured with the addition of one of the crane base piles (P004).
- 6.2.2 Surveying having been completed, the concrete slab above each of the pile holes was broken out by a pneumatic drill to allow power auguring to proceed. During the breaking out it was revealed that P001 rested upon a brick and concrete pier, a footing for the party wall with the neighbouring building to the north of No. 3 that was over 0.26m thick, and P002 lay directly over a reinforced concrete ground beam. In light of these discoveries the contractors elected to alter the positions of both P001 and P002 from their original positions and power auguring was performed at these new locations.
- 6.2.3 Additionally it became clear that P011 lay directly above Test Pit 5 from the previous phase of archaeological work<sup>69</sup> and further investigation would not add to what was already known about this area of site, the entire natural and later sequence already having been recorded with only recent backfill deposits being present in this location. Therefore power auguring was abandoned in this area.
- 6.2.4 The table below summarises the dimensions of the boreholes including the depths reached before further auguring proved impossible:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Taylor 2008 <sup>68</sup> Bradley 2008 <sup>69</sup> Taylor 2008

Pile Position	Max. Diameter of borehole	Max. Depth reached (m)	
	(m)		
P001 (Recorded as BH1)	0.10	1.13	
P002 (Recorded as BH2)	0.10	1.00	
P004 (Recorded as BH 3)	0.10	1.71	
P007 (Recorded as BH 7)	0.10	1.66	
P008 (Recorded as BH 8)	0.10	0.35	
P009 (Recorded as BH 9)	0.10	1.67	
P010 (Recorded as BH 10)	0.10	0.38	
P011	N/A (Previously excavated as	N/A (Previously excavated as	
	T.P. 5)	T.P. 5)	

- 6.2.5 All piles were augured from a height of 11.96m OD, the top of the lower basement concrete slab. This height had been extrapolated from Engineer Drawing 3170-SK01-T3 during the previous phase of archaeological investigations<sup>70</sup>.
- 6.2.6 The cores removed from the pile positions were then described using a single context recording system with sections of the cores drawn on permatrace at 1:10. No finds were recovered from the augur samples.

#### 6.3 Insertion of New Services (Watching Brief):

- 6.3.1 The preparatory groundwork for the insertion of new services involved breaking out the concrete blinding in the north-west corner of the site, the area not covered by the lower basement slab, and exposing the deposits beneath. This was achieved with a pneumatic drill and covered an area that measured 5.75m north-south by 7.90m eastwest, the concrete was approximately 0.10m thick and revealed 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made ground composed of silt and brick rubble at heights between 11.81-11.86m OD. This work was monitored by an archaeologist.
- 6.3.2 In order to reach formation level the concrete slab covering the remaining portions of the site was removed using a hydraulic breaker attached to a 360 mini excavator. During this phase of work the basement slab and the underlying 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made ground horizon were reduced by a total 0.20m in order to accommodate the new slab. In the northeastern part of the site the slab was underlain by approximately 0.80m wide north-south aligned reinforced concrete ground beams spaced approximately 1.00m to 1.50m apart.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Taylor 2008

- 6.3.3 The excavation of three service trenches was also monitored by the attending archaeologist. These trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 11.16m OD (0.80m below the current basement slab). Neither the ground reduction across the site or the excavation of the service trenches revealed any archaeological deposits, with only make-up for the basement slab being recorded.
- A single context recording system was used for the watching brief. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated and/or exposed features were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on permatrace, the plans being drawn at 1:50 or 1:20 and sections drawn at 1:10, 1:20, or 1:50 depending on whichever was most appropriate for the feature, test pit, or area plan. Photographs were taken in black and white and colour slide formats. Finds were removed from site according to standard practices.
- 6.5 Levels were derived from a height of 11.96m OD, the top of the lower basement concrete slab.

## 7 The Archaeological Sequence

#### 7.1 Pile position P001 – BH1 (Figs. 3 & 4)

- 7.1.1 A compact, mid orange, naturally deposited, sandy gravel horizon [49] was the earliest deposit encountered during the auguring of BH1 and was seen at a height of 10.91m OD. This was overlain by a 0.48m layer of thick, compact, mid orange brown sandy brickearth [48], which was probably a natural deposit. This brickearth was encountered at 11.03m OD. No evidence was recorded for the continuation of deep cut feature [9], recorded immediate to the southeast in TP2 during geotechnical evaluation, which had yielded pottery dating to the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century. The absence of this feature in BH1 provides further evidence that this was likely to be the base of an isolated pit or possible well, rather than a larger feature.
- 7.1.2 Post-dating the probable natural brickearth in BH1 was a 0.44m thick, firm, mid yellow grey-brown, silty brickearth [47] encountered at 11.47m OD. Though no finds were recovered to date this layer it bears a resemblance to the possible redeposited layers of brickearth encountered during the evaluation phase of the archaeological investigation, which may have represented internal brickearth floor slabs of Roman clay and timber buildings<sup>71</sup>.
- 7.1.3 All deposits were sealed by a 0.49m thick layer of late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made ground composed of silty brick rubble [+].

#### 7.2 Pile position P002 - BH2 (Figs. 3 & 4)

- 7.2.1 Unfortunately due to the core becoming irretrievably embedded within the pile hole only the first metre of this sequence has been recorded.
- 7.2.2 A layer of redeposited fairly firm light grey-brown sandy brickearth with very occasional CBM fleck inclusions [46] was encountered in BH2. It was at least 0.58m thick, was recorded at a height of 11.54m OD. This deposit is likely to be the same as deposit [15], a firm, light yellow grey, sandy brickearth encountered at c.11.37m OD, which was recorded in evaluation TP3 to the southwest. Redeposited brickearth [46] was sealed by a 0.42m thick layer of modern made ground [+].

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Taylor 2008

#### 7.3 Pile position P004 - BH4 (Figs. 3 & 4)

- 7.3.1 A compact, mid brown orange, naturally deposited, sandy gravel horizon [45] was the earliest deposit seen in BH4 and was encountered at 10.26m OD. This was overlain by a 0.19m thick, firm, light reddish grey-brown, brickearth horizon [44], encountered at 10.45m OD.
- 7.3.2 Overlying the brickearth [44] were a series of deposits: A fairly firm but friable mid orange-brown layer of gravel which was 0.07m thick and encountered at a height of 10.52m OD [43] which sealed a fairly compact layer of light reddish grey-brown brickearth which was 0.13m thick and encountered at 10.65m OD [42]. Overlying [42] was a compact but friable layer of mid orange brown gravel which was 0.08m thick and encountered at a height of 10.73m OD [41] which sealed a firm light reddish grey-brown brickearth with occasional CBM flecks which was 0.33m thick and encountered at 11.06m OD [40]. Deposit [40] as sealed by a layer of loose light yellow grey-brown sand which was 0.10m thick and was encountered at height of 11.16m OD [39] which was in turn overlain by a firm light grey-brown deposit of silty brickearth with occasional CBM flecks which was 0.34m thick and encountered at a height of 11.50m OD [38].
- 7.3.3 This sequence of brickearth-type deposits mirrors the findings from evaluation TP3 situated immediately to the east. Because no finds were recovered during the investigations it is uncertain whether the lower part of this series of deposits, [43]-[41], consisted of naturally deposited layers or part of an undated archaeological sequence. The upper layers show some signs of having been redeposited and may be internal brickearth floor slabs or ground raising deposits.
- 7.3.4 All layers were sealed by 0.38m thick layer of modern made ground [+] and a 0.07m thick layer of concrete, the lower basement floor slab [+].

#### 7.4 Pile position P007 – BH7 (Figs. 3 & 4)

- 7.4.1 A compact, mid orange brown, naturally deposited, sandy gravel horizon [37] was seen during the auguring of BH7 and was encountered at 10.36m OD.
- 7.4.2 Overlying the natural gravel was a 1.02m thick layer of firm dark black-brown slightly clay silt with occasional chalk pebbles, CBM flecks, oyster shell fragments and moderate charcoal flecks [36]. This layer is probably post-medieval in date and was encountered in BH7 as well as in evaluation TP3 (recorded as [2]) during the previous

phase of evaluation<sup>72</sup>, where fragments of clay pipe and tin glazed pottery dated the deposit to between 1700-1720. This deposit had a maximum height of 11.38m OD.

7.4.3 The post-medieval horizon was sealed by 0.49m of modern made ground [+] and the 0.07m thick lower basement slab [+].

#### 7.5 Pile position P008 – BH8 (Figs. 3 & 4)

7.5.1 Power auguring within BH8 reached a depth of 0.35m through the basement slab and modern made ground [+] before being unable to proceed any further. This may be the result of a modern reinforced concrete ground beam or wall footing, a remnant of a post-medieval structure such as a basement floor, or simply particularly compacted rubble within the modern backfill. Due to the small size of the borehole further investigation was impossible and the pile position was abandoned.

#### 7.6 Pile position P009 – BH9 (Figs. 3 & 4)

- 7.6.1 A compact, mid orange brown, naturally deposited, sandy gravel horizon [35] was seen during the excavation of BH9 and was encountered at 10.36m OD.
- 7.6.2 This was overlain by a 0.46m thick, firm, mid yellow grey-brown, sandy silt layer with occasional pebble, oyster shell, and fragmentary CBM inclusions [34] that was encountered at 10.82m OD. Rather than being redeposited natural this deposit could have been a layer of garden soil of the fill of a small feature. No datable finds were recovered from this deposit.
- 7.6.3 Deposit [34] was sealed by a firm black slightly clay silt [33] with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional chalk pebbles and oyster shell fragments. The layer was 0.56m thick and was seen at a height of 11.38mOD. This deposit represents a continuation of the post-medieval layer in BH7 and evaluation TP3.
- 7.6.4 Layer [33] was sealed by 0.53m of modern made ground [+] and the 0.06m thick lower basement slab [+].

#### 7.7 Pile position P010 – BH10 (Figs. 3 & 4)

7.7.1 Power auguring within P010 reached a depth of 0.38m through the basement slab and modern made ground [+] before being unable to continue any further. As with BH8 this may be the result of a modern reinforced concrete ground beam or wall

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Taylor 2008

footing, a remnant of a post-medieval structure such as a basement floor, or simply particularly compacted rubble within the modern backfill. Due to the small size of the borehole further investigation was impossible and the pile position was abandoned.

#### 7.8 Pile position P011 (Fig. 3)

- 7.8.1 Pile position P011 transpired to be in the same location as the previously excavated evaluation TP5, therefore power auguring was abandoned. For completeness sake the original description of TPi5 from the evaluation report<sup>73</sup> has been included below.
- 7.8.2 A loose, mid brown yellow, naturally deposited, sandy gravel horizon [24] was seen during the removal of Window Sample 5 (located in the north-west corner of Test Pit 5) and was encountered at c.10.04m OD. This was overlain by a 0.33m thick, soft, mid orange yellow, naturally deposited, silty sand horizon [23], encountered at c.10.37m OD. It is probable that this deposit represents the lower section of the natural brickearth horizon recorded in Test Pits 1 and 3 which was seen to exhibit a notably higher sand content towards the base of the deposit.
- 7.8.3 Overlying the upper natural horizon, and again seen during the removal of Window Sample 5, were a series of deposits which may represent natural deposition but may equally represent an undated archaeological sequence (see Test Pit 3). The deposits were comprised of a slightly loose, mid grey brown, silty sandy gravel [22] encountered at c.10.60m OD, a firm, mid yellow orange, sandy brickearth [21] encountered at c.10.83m OD and a firm, light brown grey, sandy brickearth layer [1] encountered at c.11.10m OD. The latter deposit was seen in Window Sample 5 and the base of Test Pit 5 and the Ordnance Datum height of the layer reflects the limit of late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century horizontal truncation in this part of the site.
- 7.8.4 The remainder of the trench was constituted by late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century deposits including a stepped, yellow stock brick foundation projecting 0.40m from the existing wall of the standing building, a 0.65m thick, 20<sup>th</sup> century silty brick rubble layer and a 0.30m thick concrete basement floor slab encountered at c.12.04m OD.

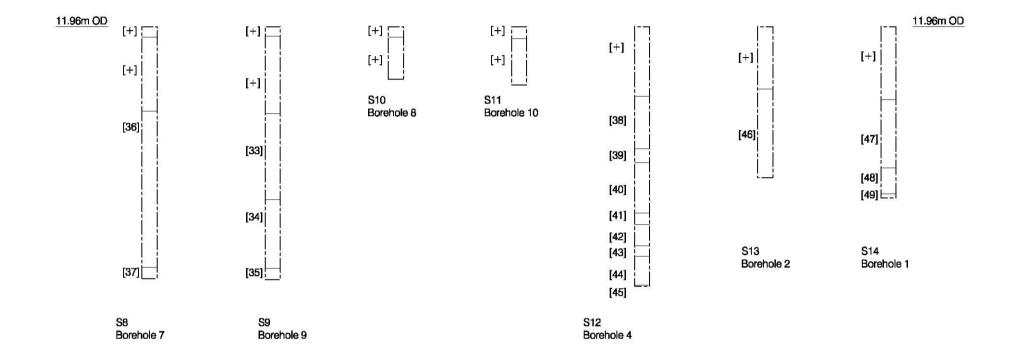
#### 7.9 Watching Brief on Service Installations

7.9.1 The watching brief on the installation of services followed. The extent of the service runs was reduced from the original scheme to three manholes linked by three service pipes. The depth of impact of the services ranged from between 600mm to 900mm below slab level. All interventions were monitored by the attendant archaeologist but

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Taylor 2008

no archaeological horizons were encountered, with only 20<sup>th</sup> century slab make-up deposits recorded.



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#### 8 Conclusions

#### 8.1 Phase 1

8.1.1 Power auguring the pile positions enabled the observation of the naturally formed stratigraphic sequence on site. This sequence can be typified as natural gravel, encountered at heights varying between 10.91m OD in the northwest of the site and 10.26m OD in the southeast, overlain by a sandy brickearth horizon encountered at heights varying between 11.03m OD in the northwest to 10.45m OD in the southeast. These results are broadly in line with those found during the first phase of archaeological work on the site except that natural brickearth was seen during this phase to be slightly thicker in the eastern part of the site than the west.

#### 8.2 Phase 1/2

- 8.2.1 Sealing the natural brickearth within three of the pile positions (BH1, BH2, and BH4) were layers of brickearth that due to their sterility could be naturally deposited, however, particularly in pile hole BH4, they formed part of a sequence of alternating bands of brickearth, sand and gravel.
- 8.2.2 Similar sequences were observed during the previous phase of archaeological works<sup>74</sup>, which were concluded to be possibly representative of Roman brickearth floor surfaces. Due to the limited exploratory capacity of the boreholes this remains as a hypothesis rather than a conclusion.
- 8.2.3 This brickearth horizon was seen in the northern part of the site and reached a maximum height of 11.54m OD.

#### 8.3 Phase 2

- 8.3.1 During the previous phase of archaeological works it was demonstrated that archaeological deposits, potentially representative of multiple brickearth slabs, existed *in situ*<sup>75</sup> in the western part of the site. The power auguring performed during the present archaeological investigation found similar deposits in BH4 which reached a maximum height of 11.50m OD.
- 8.3.2 Further interpretation of these deposits as a whole was not possible due to the restricted nature of the boreholes.

<sup>74</sup> Taylor 2008 <sup>75</sup> Taylor 2008

#### 8.4 Phase 3

8.4.1 An dumped or possible fill deposit and a possible garden soil or fill were encountered in pile positions BH7 and BH9 in the south-western part of the site directly overlying the natural gravel. Similar in character to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century deposits found in the eastern part of the site during the previous investigations, these deposits indicate that post-Roman material of an archaeological character is still extant in the southern and western parts of the site. However the power auguring could not confirm whether these post-medieval deposits were dump/levelling layers or fills of discrete features or even a basement.

## 8.5 Late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century

8.5.1 The archaeological investigation concurs with the earlier evaluation<sup>76</sup> that while there was extensive truncation to archaeological deposits during the late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> centuries it was not comprehensive. Obstructions encountered in BH8 and BH10, and the shifting of pile positions BH1 and BH2, demonstrate that previous below ground works may have included isolated deeper modern structures, such as reinforced concrete ground beams, below the lower basement slab.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Taylor 2008

#### 9 Research Questions

- 9.1 Several research objectives were set by the updated Research Design<sup>77</sup>.
- 9.2 What is the nature and level of the natural topography? How does this compare with results from other investigations in the vicinity of the site, and wider topographic models for the area?
- 9.2.1 The natural topography is composed of sand and gravel overlain by brickearth. The natural sand and gravel has been seen to rise to a maximum height of 10.91m OD in the north of the site and 10.26m OD in the south. The natural brickearth follows a similar profile reaching a maximum height of 11.03m OD in the north of the site and a maximum height of 10.45m OD in the south. This is indicative of the steep down-slope of the Thames river terrace on which the site is situated. Naturally deposited brickearth was encountered at 11.75m OD on a site at 13-21 Eastcheap to the north of the site and at 11.27m OD at 14-16 Eastcheap adjacent to the site, confirming this hypothesis. However at the Church of St Mary-at-Hill, approximately 30m to the southeast of the site, the brickearth subsoil was identified at a height of 12.08m OD. This may indicate terracing of No. 3 Lovat Lane and the surrounding area during the Roman period.

#### 9.3 What are the earliest deposits identified?

9.3.1 The earliest deposit encountered on site was the natural sandy gravel of the Thames river terrace.

#### 9.4 What are the latest deposits identified?

9.4.1 Immediately beneath the lower concrete basement slab and the layer of late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made ground composed of silty brick rubble, was a firm but friable dark black brown clay silt horizon with pebble, oyster shell and charcoal inclusions. During the evaluation phase this layer produced clay pipe and tin glazed pot dating to 1700-1720.

# 9.5 Do the surviving deposits contain any information which might suggest the nature of activity in the area of the site?

9.5. From the evidence gathered at 3 Lovat Lane it is not possible to conclusively define the nature of activity on site. Horizons of redeposited brickearth are potentially representative of multiple brickearth slabs, although they could represent ground

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Bradley, T. PCA Research Design: Updated 11<sup>th</sup> July 2008

make-up deposits. The excavation of evaluation TP2 recorded a cut-feature, 3.30m in depth and filled with a humic silt containing seven small fragments of 2<sup>nd</sup> century pottery, whilst a similarly deeply cut feature was also recorded in evaluation TP4. Evaluation BHs 1 and 2, situated between these two features, together with auger BH1 situated to the north, have demonstrated that these represent deep cut pits or wells rather than a linear feature.

- 9.6 The conjectured alignment of a Roman road between Cannon Street and Aldgate may have crossed or passed close by the site. Is there any evidence for this road in the area of the site?
- 9.6.1 None of the features identified on the site seem to have any direct relationship with the Cannon Street-Aldgate Roman road, although, as described above, there are possible brickearth floor slabs and pitting on the site dating to the Roman period.
- 9.7 Can any additional information be recovered to elucidate the nature of the brickearth slabs recorded during the evaluation of the site?
- 9.7.1 The power auguring during the present phase of archaeological investigation was unable to provide further information about the possible brickearth slabs.
- 9.8 Can the nature and date of the cut features previously recorded in Test Pits 2 and 4 be further elucidated?
- 9.8.1 There was no trace of the pitting found in evaluation Test Pits 2 and 4 during the power auguring, suggesting that these represented the bases of isolated deep cut features. Whilst a possible fill [34] did appear in BH9 in the proximity of Test Pit 4, it was of a quite different character to that described in Test Pit 4 [26] and no dating evidence was recovered.
- 9.9 Archaeological evidence of early medieval activity has previously been recorded at nos. 24-25 Lovat Lane in the form of truncated 11<sup>th</sup> century pits cut into the natural gravel below the basement slab. Does similar evidence of early medieval activity exist in the area of the site?
- 9.9.1 Although there is no confirmed evidence of medieval pitting on the site, deposit [34] in BH9 lies beneath the post-medieval horizon [33] and has thus been provisionally recorded as a garden soil or possible fill and dated to the post-medieval period (pre-18<sup>th</sup> century). However, since no dating evidence was recovered from it this deposit could conceivably be of an earlier date.

- 9.10 Cartographic and archaeological evidence indicates that much of the immediate vicinity was redeveloped following the Great Fire of 1666, and that a range of buildings surrounding a courtyard stood on the site. What evidence is there for this redevelopment of the area, particularly relating to cellars, in the area of investigation?
- 9.10.1 There is no direct evidence of post-medieval cellars on the site although auguring in pile positions BH8 and BH10 had to be abandoned due to a significant obstruction c. 0.35m beneath the modern made ground which could possibly be the remnants of a post-medieval cellar wall or floor. It is most likely, however, that the post-medieval cellars have been truncated by late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century intrusions, particularly the present basement.
- 9.11 The Church St Andrew Hubbard, situated to the north of the site, is known to have been demolished in the aftermath of the Great Fire. Is there any evidence in the area of the site for this event?
- 9.11.1 There is no evidence of the demolition of the Church of St Andrew Hubbard on the site.
- 9.12 What evidence remains for the later post-medieval development of the site, including the 19<sup>th</sup> century warehouse structure known to have existed on the site?
- 9.12.1 No extant traces of the 19<sup>th</sup> century warehouse were encountered during the archaeological investigation.
- 9.13 How does the depositional sequence within the site compare with other observations from the vicinity?
- 9.13.1 Natural deposits are consistent with those found on other sites in the vicinity of No. 3 Lovat Lane.
- 9.13.2 Roman activity has been found on Lovat Lane beneath the nave of the Church of St Mary-at-Hill, specifically a north-south aligned gully dating from the late 1<sup>st</sup> / early 2<sup>nd</sup> century, and possible traces of the Aldgate-Cannon Street Roman road at 14-16 Eastcheap which rested on redeposited brickearth. Roman activity at No.3 Lovat Lane is likewise represented by cut features, the postulated pitting, and redeposited possible brickearth slabs.

- 9.13.3 No definite medieval activity has been identified on site.
- 9.13.4 Post-medieval activity on site is represented by a clay silt horizon that is provisionally dated to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. There have been no traces of the Great Fire which have been found at Botolph Lane immediately to the south of the site in the form of destruction debris dumped in the cellars. There have been no cellar structures definitively identified at No. 3 Lovat Lane either.

# 9.14 What impact did the construction of the existing building have on the archaeological deposits?

9.14.1 Building works in the late 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century, specifically the creation of the basement, appear to have severely truncated potential archaeological deposits in the area of the site. The only confirmed archaeological deposits date to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and two discrete Roman features. It is possible, and indeed likely, that these archaeological deposits represent the bases of deep cut features such as a basement or large pit in the case of the post-medieval deposit, and wells or isolated pits in the case of the Roman material. It is also uncertain as to the extent that structures such as concrete ground beams or services may have discretely impacted on the archaeological sequence beneath the lower basement concrete slab.

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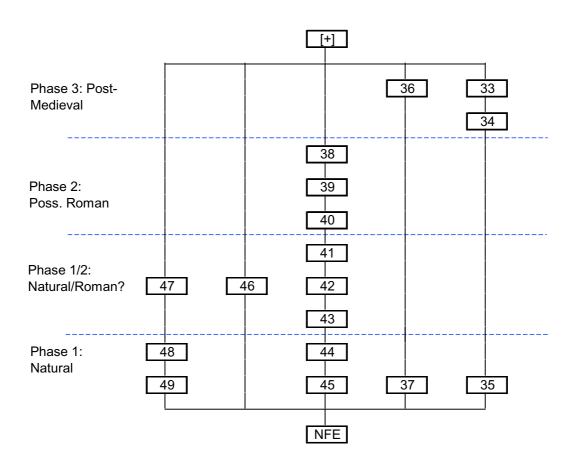
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## Appendix 1 Context Register

Site	Context			Section /				
Code	No.	Trench	Plan	Elevation	Type	Description	Date	Phase
LVA08	33	P009	N/A	S.9	Layer	Burnt layer	Post-Med	3
LVA08	34	P009	N/A	S.9	Layer	Garden soil/Fill	Post-Med	3
LVA08	35	P009	N/A	S.9	Natural	Gravel	N/A	1
LVA08	36	P007	N/A	S.8	Layer	Burnt layer	Post-Med	3
LVA08	37	P007	N/A	S.8	Natural	Gravel	N/A	1
LVA08	38	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Redeposited Brick-earth	Poss. Roman	2
LVA08	39	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Redeposited gravel	Poss. Roman	2
LVA08	40	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Redeposited Brick-earth	Poss. Roman	2
LVA08	41	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Redeposited gravel	Roman/Natural	1\2
LVA08	42	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Redeposited Brick-earth	Roman/Natural	1\2
LVA08	43	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Redeposited gravel	Roman/Natural	1\2
LVA08	44	P004	N/A	S.12	Layer	Brick-earth	N/A	1\2
LVA08	45	P004	N/A	S.12	Natural	Gravel	N/A	1
LVA08	46	P002	N/A	S.13	Layer	Redeposited Brick-earth	Roman/Natural	1\2
LVA08	47	P001	N/A	S.14	Layer	Redeposited Brick-earth	Roman/Natural	1\2
LVA08	48	P001	N/A	S.14	Layer	Brick-earth	N/A	1
LVA08	49	P001	N/A	S.14	Natural	Gravel	N/A	1

## **Appendix 2 Matrix**



#### **Appendix 3 OASIS Form**

#### 1.1 OASIS ID: preconst1-56621

#### **Project details**

Project name 3 Lovat Lane

Short description of the project

In November of 2008 Pre-Construct Archaeology undertook an archaeological investigation at 3 Lovat Lane in the City of London. The investigation consisted of power auguring in seven locations at the site in order to ascertain if any archaeologically significant deposits were present and at what depth. Following the power auguring exercise a watching brief was conducted during ground reduction

and excavation for the installation of services.

Project dates Start: 26-11-2008 End: 09-03-2009

Previous/future

work

Yes / No

Any associated

project reference

codes

LVA08 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status (other) Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP)

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Monument type LAYER Roman

Monument type LAYER Post Medieval

Methods &

techniques

'Augering'

Development type Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

#### **Project location**

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON CITY OF LONDON CITY OF LONDON 3 Lovat Lane

Postcode EC3

Site coordinates TQ 3307 8077 51.5097222222 -0.082222222222 51 30 35 N 000 04 56 W Point

#### **Project creators**

Name of Organisation

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Organioation

Project brief originator

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project design

Tim Bradley

originator

Project Tim Bradley

director/manager

Project supervisor James Langthorne Project supervisor Paw Jorgensen Type of Developer

sponsor/funding

body

Name of Lovat Lane Ltd

sponsor/funding

body

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive

Exists?

No

Digital Archive recipient

LAARC

Digital Media available

'Database', 'Images raster / digital photography', 'Images vector', 'Spreadsheets', 'Text'

Paper Archive

recipient

LAARC

Paper Media

'Context

available

sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished

Text'

#### **Project** bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of 3 Lovat Lane, City of London, EC3

Author(s)/Editor(s) Thompson, G

Date 2008

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Place of issue or

publication

Brockley, London

Description Unpublished report

#### **Project** bibliography 2

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title An Archaeological Evaluation of Geotechnical Investigations at 3 Lovat Lane, City of

London, EC3

Author(s)/Editor(s) Taylor, J

Date 2008

Issuer or

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

publisher

Place of issue or Brockley, London publication

Description Unpublished report

**Project** bibliography 3

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title An Archaeological Investigation at 3 Lovat Lane, City of London, EC3R 8DT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Langthorne, J Author(s)/Editor(s) Jorgensen, P

2009 Date

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Place of issue or

Brockley, London

publication

Description Unpublished report

Entered by Paw Jorgensen (pjorgensen@pre-construct.com)

11 March 2009 Entered on