

## DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

# DEREHAM PLACE, SHOREDITCH EVALUATION

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# **An Archaeological Evaluation at 8-15 Dereham Place, Shoreditch, London Borough of Hackney London EC2.**

**Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3337 8255**

**Site Code DMP 05**

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## **1.0 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited for Turnbull on land at 8-15 Dereham Place, London Borough of Hackney EC2 (Fig 1). The evaluation took place between 16<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005. The evaluation comprised the observation and recording of three trial trenches (Fig 2). This work was in advance of a proposal to construct an underground car park within the study site.
- 1.2 Natural brickearth and sandy gravel was observed across the site at a top height of 13.20 and 12.80m OD. Sealing the natural in one of the trenches were two probable ploughsoil layers of 17<sup>th</sup> century date. In Trench 1b an 18<sup>th</sup> century pit was located cutting the natural gravel. A layer of ploughsoil dating to the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century was recorded across the site. In Trench 2 the ploughsoil was truncated by two circular brick lined soakaways/wells and a small ovoid pit that was filled almost completely with butchered animal bones. Sealing these features was modern made ground.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd between 16<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005 at 8-15 Dereham Place, London Borough of Hackney, EC2 (Fig 1). The site is centred on national grid Reference TQ 3337 8255. The site was bordered by Dereham Place to the south and west, and properties and yards fronting onto the following; Rivington Street to the north, Curtain Road to the west and Shoreditch High Street to the east.
- 2.2 In accordance with PPG 16 and local policies, the archaeological work was undertaken to assess the nature, extent and date of any surviving archaeological remains. If any remains survived an assessment of the impact upon them by the proposed development will also be made. The evaluation followed the method statement<sup>1</sup> and was in accordance with the methodologies set out in:
- Archaeological Guidance Paper 3 Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork In London;
  - Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: Archaeological Reports;
  - Archaeological Guidance Paper 5 Evaluations.
- 2.3 The site is situated with the Archaeological Priority Zone centred on Shoreditch and the upper branches of the Walbrook Stream. The site has previously been the subject of a desk based assessment<sup>2</sup>.
- 2.4 The evaluation was commissioned by Turnbull. The project was managed by Tim Bradley for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, monitored for GLAAS by David Divers and the archaeological evaluation itself was supervised by the author.

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<sup>1</sup> Bradley, T 2005 Method Statement For An Archaeological Evaluation at 8-15 Dereham Place, London Borough of Hackney, EC2 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited unpublished Report

<sup>2</sup> Telfer, A. & Watson, S. 2000. 74 Rivington Street, Borough of Hackney; An Archaeological Evaluation Report. Museum of London Archaeology Service Unpublished Report



Reproduced from Ordnance Survey 1:25,000. Crown Copyright 1987.

Figure 1  
Site Location  
1:20,000



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Figure 2  
Trench Location  
1:625

### 3.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 In November 1990 the Department of the Environment issued Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) "Archaeology and Planning", providing guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the preservation and investigation of archaeological remains.
- 3.1.1 In short, government guidance provides a framework which:
- Protects Scheduled Ancient Monuments
  - Protects the settings of these sites
  - Protects nationally important un-scheduled ancient monuments
  - Has a presumption in favour of in-situ preservation
  - Requires adequate information (from field evaluation) to enable informed decisions
  - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not important enough to merit in-situ preservation.
- 3.1.2 In considering any planning application for development, the London Borough of Hackney will be guided by the policy framework set by government, in this instance PPG16, by current Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.
- 3.2 The London Borough of Hackney adopted a Unitary Development Plan in 1995. The policies outlined in this document strengthen the position of archaeology in the planning process and incorporate recommendations from PPG 16.
- 3.3 These recommendations are summarized and reformulated in the UDP sections *National Policy Context*, *Regional Policy Context*, *Metropolitan Context* and *Local Policy Context* (p50-52): particularly paragraphs 41, 45, 48 and 50 and are reproduced in Telfer & Watson (2002).
- 3.4 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the development site, however, as a consequence of the development site being in an archaeological priority area, it was required that an archaeological evaluation and possibly also excavation be carried out in advance of redevelopment.



## 4.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.1 Reference to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 256) indicates that the site is underlain by Hackney Gravel over London Clay.
- 4.2 Above the Tertiary bedrock, consisting of sands and clays, on which London lies, are the Pliocene (Quaternary) gravel deposits laid down by the River Thames. These deposits are laid down in terraces, reflecting the former floodplains of the river.
- 4.3 During the late Devensian stage (32,000-10,000 BP), sandy silt known as 'brickearth' overlay the gravel terrace. The brickearth and sandy gravel deposits have been eroded in some places by small tributaries of the Thames and one of the larger of these was the Walbrook, the north-western branch of which probably originated near what is now the south end of New North Road, the eastern branch originating near the bottom end of Hackney Road. In the main part of Shoreditch, the water has eroded away the brickearth, leaving a 'floodplain' of gravel and alluvium. In the areas where the streams were smaller, the brickearth remained largely undisturbed except in the centre of the channels.
- 4.4 The level of the natural brickearth at a site at 97-113 Curtain Road to the west of the study site was observed at 12.76m OD, and at 183-185 Shoreditch High Street it was seen at 12.56m OD. At Bateman's Row to the southwest no natural brickearth was located but sands and gravels were observed at a top height of 13.12m OD falling off to 11.35m OD, this was interpreted as indicating localized quarrying had taken place. At New Inn Yard excavations in 2004 revealed what was recorded as untruncated natural gravel at 11.10m OD<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Bazely, K. 2004 '14-20 New Inn Broadway and 17-25 New Inn Yard, Shoreditch, London Borough of Hackney Excavation and Watching Brief' Unpublished report Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

## 5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 5.1 Prehistoric

- 5.1.1 Artefacts of Palaeolithic age have been recovered in the London region, having been redeposited by glacial action and found within the Thames Terrace gravels as isolated finds, but few of these have been found within the City or in the area immediately around it. Palaeolithic hand-axes and other worked flints have been more frequently found in Hackney. A Mesolithic chipped flint axe (GLSMR Ref: 080011) was found on the Great Eastern Road to the east of the site, this may have been a stray find and not in itself indicative of occupation. It has been suggested that Old Street runs along the line of an Iron Age track way (GLSMR Ref: 080109) although this has not been confirmed.

### 5.2 Roman

- 5.2.1 The area around Dereham Place was not densely occupied during the Roman period and presumably lay within woods and fields outside the City, near to the source of the Walbrook stream. The site lies to the west of the main Roman road north of the City, Ermine Street, the course of which is closely followed by but not mirrored by modern Bishopsgate, Shoreditch High Street and Kingsland Road.
- 5.2.2 Burials have been recorded alongside the Roman road in Bishopsgate but none as far north as Shoreditch High Street. A 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman ditch parallel to Ermine Street was observed at the Geffrye Museum in Hackney and, at 183-185 Shoreditch High Street<sup>4</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman material was recovered in early layers including well preserved pieces of tegula and pot sherds, suggesting the presence of buildings in the vicinity. Archaeological investigations undertaken to the south of the site at New Inn Yard have also recorded dumped layers containing Roman building material dating to the 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD. An isolated female terracotta figurine with a turreted crown was also found at Paul Street to the west of the site (GLSMR Ref: 080092).

### 5.3 Anglo Saxon

- 5.3.1 There is little evidence to suggest that the City of London was inhabited after the Roman withdrawal in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Nor does it appear to have been settled by the early Saxon settlers who penetrated the Thames Valley in the following decades. Documentary records imply that there was certainly some activity in the area by the late 6<sup>th</sup> century. London was already the capital of the East Saxon kingdom by the time Christianity was introduced to Britain (AD 597), and St Paul's Cathedral was consecrated in AD 604.

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<sup>4</sup> Sloane, B. Excavations at 183-185 Shoreditch High Street MoLAS unpublished report.

- 5.3.2 The place name Shoreditch as with Hoxton to the north and several others in Hackney are thought to be of Saxon derivation, although there is little evidence of occupation before the Norman Conquest. There is an unsubstantiated tradition that there was a Saxon church in Shoreditch.

#### 5.4 Medieval

- 5.4.1 Following the Norman Conquest the defences of the City were strengthened and fortresses established on the City walls. By the 13<sup>th</sup> century the City boundaries extended to almost their present limits.
- 5.4.2 Shoreditch is not listed as a separate place in the Domesday Survey. The earliest reference to *Soerdich* is from c. 1148 and seems to refer to a drainage ditch leading down to the Thames. As late as 1745 two ditches ran either side of Long Alley. The nucleus of Shoreditch village was probably around the junction of Kingsland Road and Old Street.<sup>5</sup> Dominating Medieval Shoreditch was the Priory of St John the Baptist at Holywell founded in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The Priory was the ninth richest of the English nunneries at the time of the Dissolution in 1539.
- 5.4.3 The Priory at Holywell was founded for the Augustinian Canonesses by Robert Fitz Generan (or Gelran), the prebend of the site, between 1133 (when his name first appears as prebend) and 1150 (when he is no longer prebend). It originally consisted of 3 acres of 'moor' in which the spring Holywell rose to the surface.
- 5.4.4 A monastic precinct conforms generally to a prescribed pattern consisting of the church as the spiritual center of the community to which was attached the cloister, an enclosed square composed of the frater (refectory), the dorter and redorter (dormitory and latrine). And often the chapter-house. Towards the east end of the church, and often extending around it on one side, was the usual site for the cemetery. Extending outwards from this central unit were the more 'secular' buildings, such as kitchens, workshops and stables, the infirmary, store houses and others. Surrounding these were the gardens, guest houses, barns, orchards and fishponds. In many examples, the whole precinct was enclosed by a wall with a gatehouse.
- 5.4.5 The buildings of the Priory lay between Shoreditch High Street on the east and the fields of Finsbury to the west with the southern gate in Holywell Lane, which led from Shoreditch to the fields. The site at Dereham Place is located just to the north of the boundary of the precinct at the time of the Dissolution which extended from Bateman's Row to Holywell Lane and from Curtain Road to Shoreditch High Street, an area of approximately 8 acres. Excavations in 1989 at 183-185 Shoreditch identified two or three main phases of the Priory, with wall foundations, burials and some horizontal stratigraphy. A recent watching brief at New Inn Broadway revealed human remains at c. 3m below ground level that were thought to be associated with the Priory.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Miller, P. 1999 '96a Curtain Road, An Archaeological Assessment' Unpublished Report MoLAS

<sup>6</sup> Mayo, C. 2003 'An Archaeological Watching Brief of Land at 14-20 New Inn Broadway & 17-25 New Inn Yard, Shoreditch, London Borough of Hackney' Unpublished Report Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

## 5.5 Post Medieval

- 5.5.1 It is evident that the Priory was suppressed before 1539 as the break up of the precinct was under way by that year. Post Dissolution activity involved the carving up of the plot. Tenements and mansions replaced the monastic buildings and layout: by 1798 there were 'few traces', and the last piece of masonry was dismantled after 1904.
- 5.5.2 During the Tudor period, national economic factors led to the population of London quadrupling in size, but the medieval layout of the City did not change significantly. Whilst the City remained the commercial and Westminster the political centers, the areas between them and beyond the City walls began to be swallowed up in suburbs. In particular, the wealthy moved into the area of the Strand and the Inns of Court, with the poor occupying suburbs around Clerkenwell, Shoreditch, Aldgate and Southwark. The site appears to have been left as open ground and used as market gardens to feed the increasing population during this period.
- 5.5.3 The villages of Hoxton and Shoreditch started to expand in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and this process of expansion continued steadily through the later centuries. Hoxton and Shoreditch were also famous for their drinking taverns and the new theatres which were erected towards the latter half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Two playhouses were documented in the Shoreditch area, one was known as The Curtain and the other, simply named The Theatre, was built on the site of the Priory and is thought to be the earliest playhouse in London.
- 5.5.4 The Theatre is thought to have stood in the Liberty of Holywell, in the parish of St Leonards, Shoreditch. Documents suggest that it was constructed mainly of timber with some ironwork. It had a tiring house (changing room) and galleries, one at least was divided into upper rooms where the audience could sit or stand.
- 5.5.5 The Theatre was in use by 1577 and continued to house events such as plays and other public activities until approximately 1597 when problems in litigation resulted in it being pulled down. The timber from the Theatre was removed to the other side of the Thames 1598/9 and it is thought to have been used in the construction of the first Globe theatre in Southwark.<sup>7</sup>
- 5.5.6 The Greater London Sites and Monuments record suggests that during the English Civil War period (1642-1649) defences were erected close to the north-west of the site, although no definitive archaeological record of them has ever been made.<sup>8</sup> The defences comprised a system of forts and large ditches and there appears to have been two forts at Shoreditch. They were located on either side of the main road from the City (Kingsland Road) and the main defensive ditch extended roughly

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<sup>7</sup> Blatherwick, S. 1988 'London's Pre-Restoration Purpose Built Theatres of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries' English Heritage

<sup>8</sup> GLSMR 080201 at TQ 33 83

alongside modern Old Street. The danger was short-lived, however, and the ditch was probably filled in again by 1647.<sup>9</sup>

- 5.5.7 Up to 1660 housing was mainly concentrated along existing roads and around the existing village centres with ribbon development along Shoreditch High Street. The site is located to the rear of this development and is shown on the Newcourt and Faithorne map of 1658 (see front cover Telfer and Watson 2000, footnote 2) and appears to have been used for cultivation. Shoreditch was one of the 'upwind' suburbs fortunate to escape the destruction of the Great Fire of London in 1666 and urban development continued to expand.
- 5.5.8 Maps of the 18<sup>th</sup> century namely Rocque's map of c. 1746 (ibid. Fig. 4) shows an increase of market gardening in the area however the site remained undeveloped. By 1801 the population of Shoreditch was c. 34,000 although there were still some open fields to the north in the Hoxton area. By Greenwood and Pringle's map of 1827 (ibid. Fig. 5) the site had been developed. At this time the area was largely used for tenement housing, and had become synonymous with poverty and overcrowding.
- 5.5.9 By the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the area became known as a centre for the furniture industry. The Ordnance Survey map of 1873 (ibid. Fig. 6) shows the area to the north of the site as being occupied by a timber yard with tenements at 8-15 Dereham Place that are listed on the Goad Insurance map of 1919 as comprising two storeys. The revised Goad map of 1970 lists the property at Dereham Place as a two storey timber store.
- 5.5.10 Recent excavations in the area have uncovered post medieval activity at a number of sites. At 97-113 Curtain Road 18<sup>th</sup> quarry pits were recorded backfilled with 'cess' deposits and sealed by 19<sup>th</sup> make-up dumps and 19<sup>th</sup> century brick foundations. At 183-185 Shoreditch High Street a Tudor wall and possible church wall were located, as well as deep cut features of early post medieval date. In excavations at Hackney Community College quarry pits of 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century date were located in three of the six trenches. In the remaining trenches garden soils and dumped deposits of 18<sup>th</sup> century date were located cut by 19<sup>th</sup> century building foundations. Test pitting at Hoxton Market also revealed a post medieval ploughsoil cut by 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century building foundations. A horticultural horizon was located at Bateman's Row sealed by a layer of 'domestic ash and nightsoil'. Cutting the horticultural layer was a wooden barrel well or sump, a series of wooden stakes and a water channel, a ditch was also recorded cutting into the underlying redeposited brickearth.

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<sup>9</sup> Sturdy, D. 'The Civil War defences of London', *London Arch* 2 (13), (1975), 334-338

## 6.0 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 Three trial trenches (Trenches 1a, 1 and 2) were excavated in areas targeted where past development appears to have been limited. The area of each trench was surveyed for buried services using a cable avoidance tool (CAT scan) before digging commenced.
- 6.2 The evaluation trenches were opened under archaeological supervision by a JCB-type mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine operatives were certified to industry standards (CITB or equivalent) and along with all site staff wore appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times whilst working. Spoil was stored to the side of the trench.
- 6.3 Excavation was carried out using appropriate hand tools, in accordance with the methodologies set out in the Method Statement (footnote 1). Only tools suitable for the purpose were used for the hand excavation.
- 6.4 Due to the depth of the underlying natural deposits the trenches had to be stepped. Trench 1 was intended to be situated towards the west of the site and was divided in two due to the presence of a ground beam that traversed the trench. At modern ground level Trench 1a measured 2.60m E-W x 8.40m N-S and Trench 1b, 2.70m E-W x 5.00m N-S. The combined length of the two trenches at the base was 10.40m NS.
- 6.7 Trench 2 was located to the east of the site and measured 3.80m E-W x 11.40m N-S at modern ground level. The Trench had one step and measured 9.30m N-S at the base.
- 6.8 A long section and the base and step level of each trench were hand cleaned prior to recording. The recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere in the London Borough of Hackney, that is those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now published by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS 1994). All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were recorded using standard recording methods onto pro-forma recording sheets. Plans and sections were recorded on polyester based drawing film at scales of 1:20 and 1:10 respectively. The Ordnance Datum height of all principal strata and features was calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. A photographic record was also made in black and white print and colour slide format on 35mm film as appropriate.
- 6.9 A temporary benchmark (value 14.92m OD) was traversed onto the site from the Ordnance Survey Benchmark of 15.42m OD, located on the southwestern corner side of the London College of Fashion. The trenches were surveyed in by Total Station Theodolite and tied into the Ordnance Survey grid.
- 6.10 The site was allocated the unique site code DMP 05.

## **7.0 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

### **7.1 Natural Deposits**

- 7.1.1 The upper reaches of the natural sequence were recorded in both trenches. In the south of Trench 1a and across the whole of Trench 1b this consisted of a fine grained, pale yellowish-brown, clayey sandy silt (10:40:50) 'brickearth' [16] that was located at a top height of 13.20m OD overlying a orange brown, sandy coarse gravel [15] located at a top height of 13.15m OD.
- 7.1.2 In Trench 2 the natural deposit consisted of [15] (as described above) and was located at a height of 13.08m OD to the north of the trench gradually sloping down to 12.80m OD to the south.

### **7.2 Phase 1: 17<sup>th</sup> century**

- 7.2.1 Sealing the natural gravel in Trench 2 were two layers of possible ploughsoil. The lower, [14], comprised a loosely compacted, light brown gravelly, sandy silt containing occasional fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). This layer had a maximum thickness of 0.29m and was encountered at a height of between 12.97m and 12.88m OD. It was overlain by [13], a loose, mid brownish grey, gravelly sandy silt containing occasional charcoal flecks, oyster shells, CBM fragments and sherds of pottery dating from 1580-1700. This layer was up to 0.40m thick and had a top height of between 13.28 and 13.18m OD. The lack of comparable deposits in Trenches 1a and 1b may be due to later plough action (see below)

### **7.3 Phase 2: 18<sup>th</sup> century**

- 7.3.1 Truncating the natural in Trench 1b was a circular cut [5] (it extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east) that measured c.3m N-S by at least 2m E-W, being 0.50m deep. The cut was filled by [4] a mid to light grey, slightly sticky, sandy silt that contained frequent ceramic building material (mainly tile), animal bone and occasional pottery. The pottery from the fill was spot dated to 1580-1900. This feature was identified as a possible gravel extraction pit.

### **7.4 Phase 3: Late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century**

- 7.4.1 The natural brickearth in Trench 1a was sealed by [19] a dark greyish black silty sand that was located at a top height of 14.20m OD. Layer [19] varied in thickness along the trench due to the varying degrees of modern truncation but was on average 0.70m-1.00m thick. It contained pottery dating from 1780-1820/30 and was interpreted as a ploughsoil.
- 7.4.2 Sealing the pit cut in Trench 1b was [17], a similar layer to [19]. It was up to 0.80m thick, was encountered at a top height of 14.15m OD and contained clay tobacco pipe dating from 1570-1900

and pottery dating from 1690-1800. The interface between the ploughsoil and the underlying natural gravel [15] was jagged, with approximately 0.20m between each peak and an average depth of 0.08m for each depression. This interface was given the cut number [18] and probably represents plough action contemporary with ploughsoil [17].

- 7.4.3 Overlying possible ploughsoil [13] in Trench 2 was [12], a similar layer to [17] and [19], containing clay tobacco pipe dating from 1640-1660 and pottery dating from 1760-1800. This layer was up to 0.40m thick and had a top height of between 13.82 and 13.38m OD.

## **7.5 Phase 4: 19<sup>th</sup> century**

- 7.4.1 Three features cut ploughsoil [12] in Trench 2; two possible soakaways or wells and a pit. Circular soakaway/well [10] was built of bricks measuring 230 x 110 x 65-70mm in size, had an outer diameter of 1.18m, an inner diameter of 0.95m and continued into the western limit of excavation. It was situated directly inside and against its construction cut [11] which would suggest that it is more likely to have been a soakaway than a well. It was backfilled with [9] a firm, mottled, greyish and yellowish brown deposit of mortar and rubble which was not excavated. Possible soakaway/well [7] was also circular and, likewise, sat snug against its construction cut [8]. It had an outer diameter of 1.13m and an inner diameter of 0.90m, continued into the eastern limit of excavation, and was constructed using bricks measuring 230 x 100 x 70mm. It was backfilled with [6] a friable-loose, mid brown, ashy silty sand containing frequent CBM, clay tobacco pipe dating from 1820-1840/60 and sherds of pottery dating from 1825-1900. Ovoid pit [3], with concave sides and a rounded base, measured 0.64m N-S, 0.54m E-W and was 0.15m deep. It was filled by [2] a loose/friable, mid brownish grey, sandy silt which contained a large assemblage of butchered cow bones (see Appendix 3), clay tobacco pipe dating from 1570-1910 and pottery dating from 1690-1800.

## **7.5 Phase 5: 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century**

- 7.5.1 The soakaways/wells and pit in Trench 2 were sealed by [1] a loose-friable, dark brownish grey, sandy silt containing 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and CBM which was interpreted as made-ground. Likewise the features and deposits in Trenches 1a and 1b were sealed by 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made-ground.



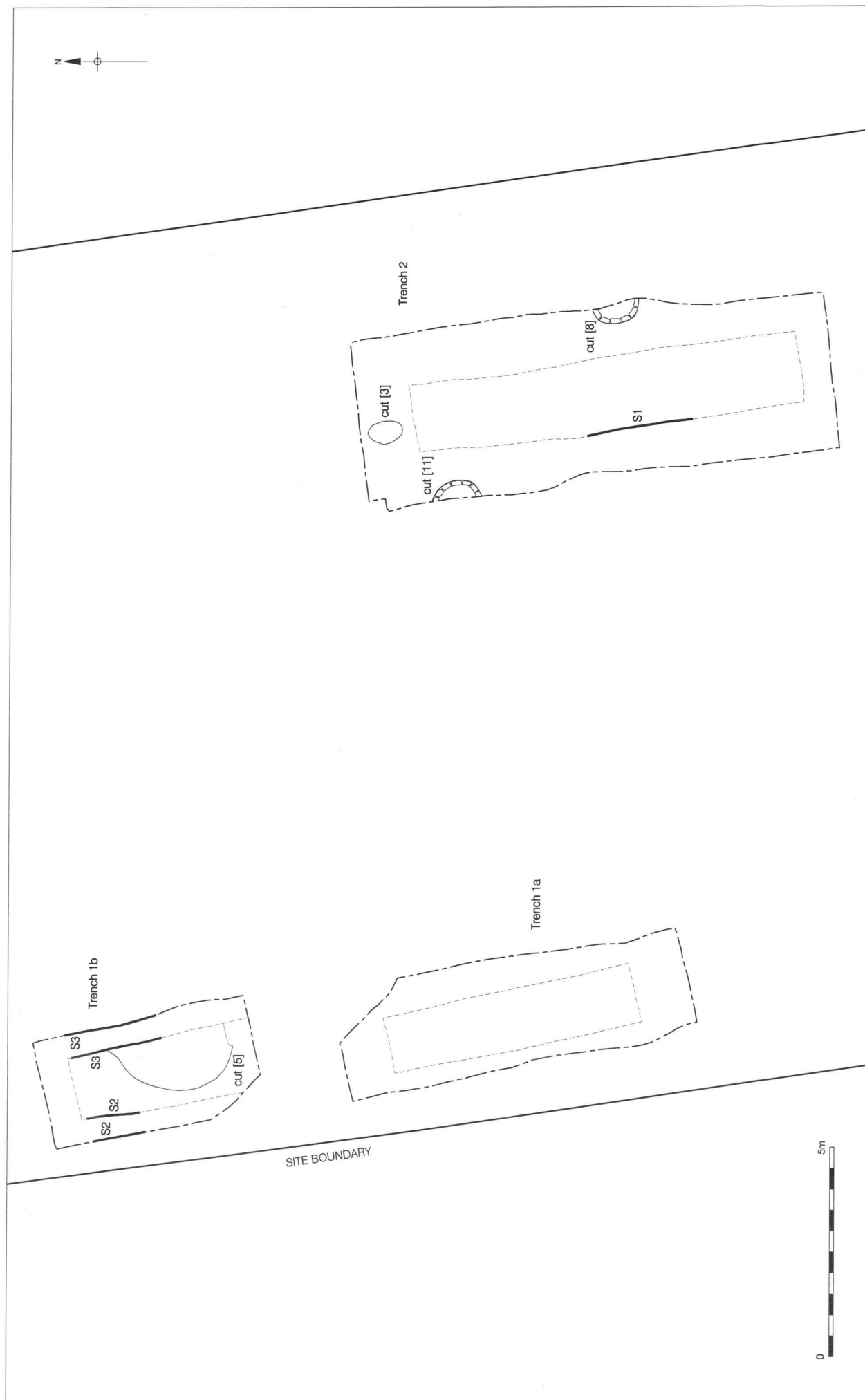


Figure 3  
Trenches 1a, 1b & 2  
1:125

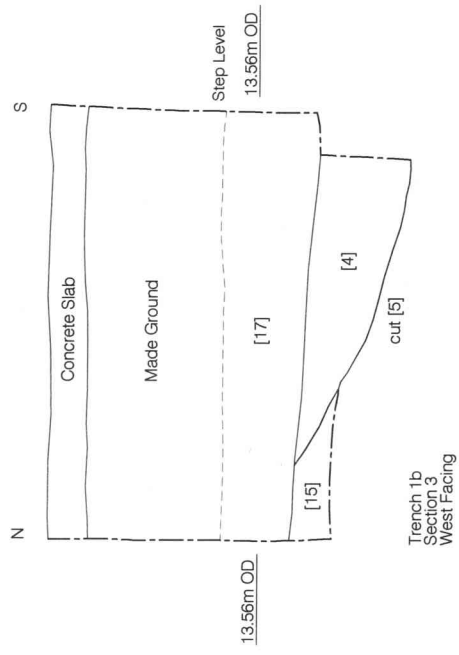
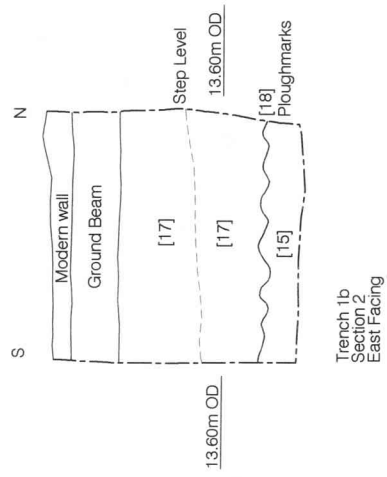
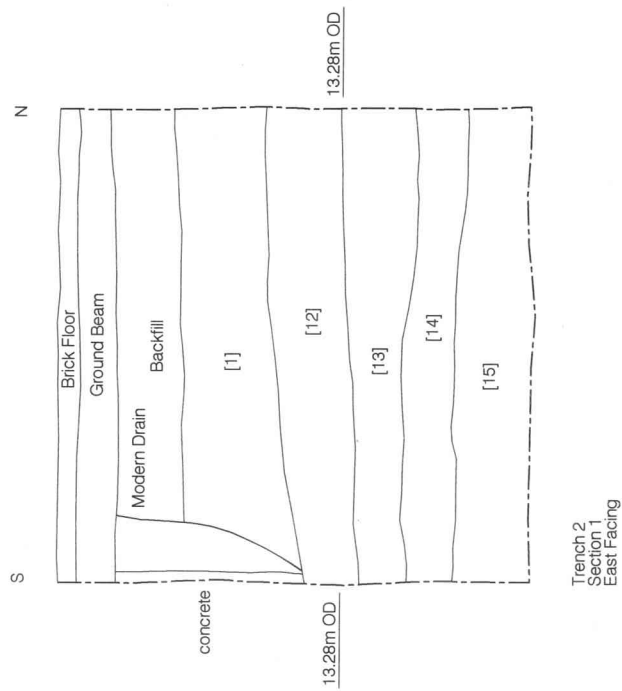


Figure 4  
Sections 1, 2 & 3  
1:40

## 8.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Natural brickearth and gravels were recorded across the site and were encountered at between 13.20 and 12.80m OD.
- 8.2 Two layers of possible ploughsoil dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century were recorded in Trench 2. A possible gravel extraction pit dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century was identified in Trench 1b. Both the pit and the ploughsoils were sealed by a further ploughsoil, dated to the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, which extended across the site. In Trench 1b, the interface between the earlier and later ploughsoils was clearly jagged which presumably represents the action of the plough. Two possible wells or, more likely, soakaways and a pit containing a large cow bone assemblage, all dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, were recorded cutting the ploughsoil in Trench 2. The features and deposits in all the trenches were sealed by 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century made-ground.
- 8.3 The Animal Bone Analysis Report by Lisa Yoemans (see Appendix 3) makes the following recommendations concerning the animal bone assemblage found in the 19<sup>th</sup> century pit found in Trench 2:
- It is recommended that the assemblage be fully studied because it provides evidence of raw material selection by the many industries known in the area to have produced artefacts from bone. The assemblage should also be analysed to identify preparation techniques and if there is any evidence for the types of products produced from the material. The sample also provides an extensive source of osteometric data from the period when breed improvements were changing the conformation of cattle. Additionally the study of bone reuse is important because it allows the trade of carcass parts between craftsmen to be reconstructed which may influence the animal bone recovered from butchery and consumption sites during the period.*
- 8.4 In light of the date and nature of the archaeologically significant features and deposits recorded, no further recommendations regarding mitigation of the site are made.

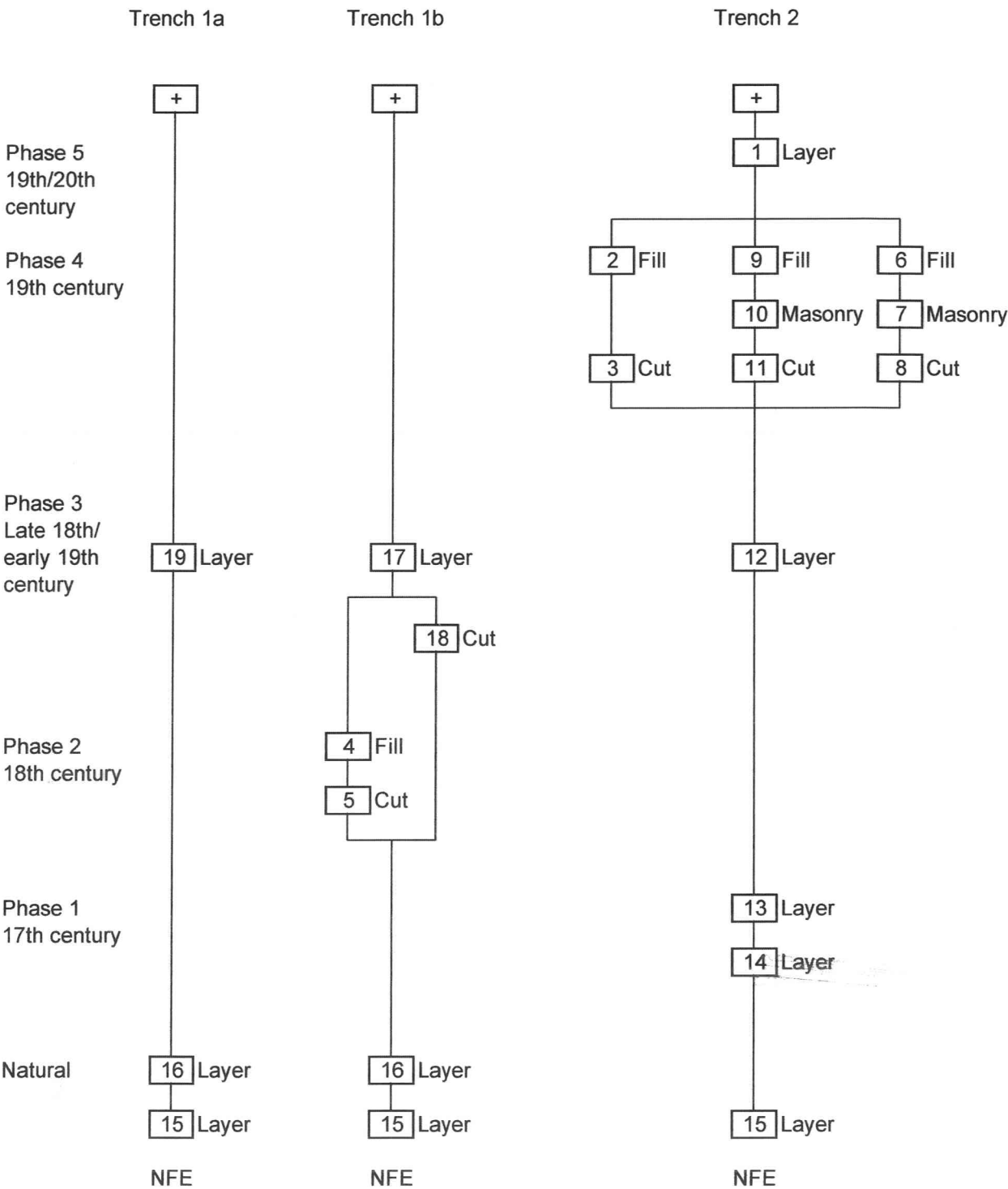
## **9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Turnbull for generously funding and commissioning this project. The author would like to thank Fiona Keith-Lucas for her hard work on site, Lisa Yeomans for her bone analysis, Josephine Brown for the illustrations and Tim Bradley for his project management and editing.

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Appendix 1: Site Matrix



## APPENDIX 2: Context Index

SITE CODE	CONTEXT	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	TRENCH	DATE (century)
DMP 05	1	LAYER	Made-Ground	2	19th/20th
DMP 05	2	FILL	Fill of [3]	2	19th
DMP 05	3	CUT	Pit	2	19th
DMP 05	4	FILL	Fill of [5]	1b	18th
DMP 05	5	CUT	Pit	1b	18th
DMP 05	6	FILL	Fill of [7]	2	19th
DMP 05	7	MASONRY	Soakaway/well	2	19th
DMP 05	8	CUT	Construction cut for [7]	2	19th
DMP 05	9	FILL	Fill of [10]	2	19th
DMP 05	10	MASONRY	Soakaway/well	2	19th
DMP 05	11	CUT	Construction cut for [10]	2	19th
DMP 05	12	LAYER	Ploughsoil	2	Late 18th/early 19th
DMP 05	13	LAYER	Ploughsoil	2	17th
DMP 05	14	LAYER	Ploughsoil	2	17th
DMP 05	15	LAYER	Natural gravel	1a,1b,2	
DMP 05	16	LAYER	Natural brickearth	1a.1b	
DMP 05	17	LAYER	Ploughsoil	1b	Late 18th/early 19th
DMP 05	18	CUT	Plough action	1b	Late 18th/early 19th
DMP 05	19	LAYER	Ploughsoil	1a	Late 18th/early 19th

### **Appendix 3: Animal Bone Analysis**

Lisa Yeomans

The fill [2] of a pit contained a large quantity of bone working waste of 17<sup>th</sup>-18th century date. A quick scan of the material suggests that it was mainly the distal part of adult cattle metapodia that were discarded in the feature. This is probably one of the largest deposits of bone working waste of this date apart from a similar group recovered at the recent MoLAS excavation at SRP98. It is recommended that the assemblage be fully studied because it provides evidence of raw material selection by the many industries known in the area to have produced artefacts from bone. The assemblage should also be analysed to identify preparation techniques and if there is any evidence for the types of products produced from the material. The sample also provides an extensive source of osteometric data from the period when breed improvements were changing the conformation of cattle. Additionally the study of bone reuse is important because it allows the trade of carcass parts between craftsmen to be reconstructed which may influence the animal bone recovered from butchery and consumption sites during the period.

Distal metapodials can also be used to indicate the use of draught cattle. A heavy workload can cause the distal condyles to 'splay' with new bone formation around the medial and lateral margins. A study of this modification in an assemblage of this size would be informative about the replacement of oxen by horses as the main draught animals in this period.





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**OASIS ID: preconst1-8540**

## Project details

**Project name** An Archaeological Evaluation at 8-15 Dereham Place, Shoreditch, London Borough of Hackney London EC2

**Short description of the project** 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited for Turnbull on land at 8-15 Dereham Place, London Borough of Hackney EC2 (Fig 1). The evaluation took place between 16th May and 19th May 2005. The evaluation comprised the observation and recording of three trial trenches (Fig 2). This work was in advance of a proposal to construct an underground car park within the study site. Natural brickearth and sandy gravel was observed across the site at a top height of 13.20 and 12.80m OD. Sealing the natural in one of the trenches were two probable ploughsoil layers of 17th century date. In Trench 1b an 18th century pit was located cutting the natural gravel. A layer of ploughsoil dating to the late 18th/early 19th century was recorded across the site. In Trench 2 the ploughsoil was truncated by two circular brick lined soakaways/wells and a small ovoid pit that was filled almost completely with butchered animal bones. Sealing these features was modern made ground.

**Project dates** Start: 16-05-2005 End: 19-05-2005

**Previous/future work** Not known / No

**Any associated project reference codes** DMP05 - Sitecode

**Type of project** Field evaluation

**Site status** None

**Current Land use** Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

## Project location

**Country** England

Site location	GREATER LONDON HACKNEY HACKNEY 8-15 Dereham Place, London Borough of Hackney EC2
Study area	750.00 Square metres
National grid reference	TQ 3337 8255 Point
Height OD	Min: 13.20m Max: 12.80m

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Self (i.e. landowner, developer, etc.)
Project design originator	Tim Bradley
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley
Project supervisor	Chris Pickard
Sponsor or funding body	Developer

#### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Local museum
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Ceramics'
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Local museum
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones', 'Survey'
Digital Media available	'Spreadsheets', 'Survey', 'Text'

Digital Archive  
Exists? No

Paper Contents 'Animal Bones', 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media  
available 'Context sheet', 'Diary', 'Drawing', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Section'

Paper Archive  
Exists? No

**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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