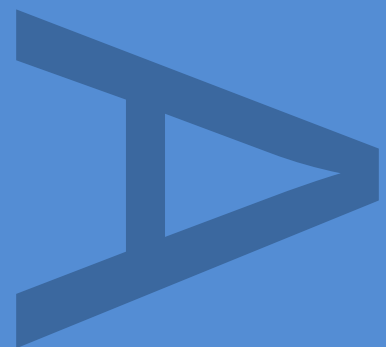


**LAND AT SEWARD STREET  
LONDON BOROUGH OF  
ISLINGTON, EC1**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION**

**LVS10**

**JANUARY 2011**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

LAND AT SEWARD STREET  
LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

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**Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, EC1  
An Archaeological Evaluation**

---

**Site Code: LVS10**

**Central National Grid Reference: TQ 3200 8250**

**Planning Reference: P072106**

**Local Planning Authority: London Borough of Islington**

**Written by Neil Hawkins**

**Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, December 2010**

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**January 2011**

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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the working methods and results of an archaeological evaluation at Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, EC1. The evaluation was commissioned by Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Mount Anvil. The evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. between 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010.
- 1.2 The work was required by a condition attached to an approved planning permission (application referencerP072106) for the development.
- 1.3 The evaluation recorded a sequence of natural terrace gravels cut by possible medieval gravel quarry pits sealed by post-medieval made ground, potentially dating to the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. A 19<sup>th</sup> century brick basement was also recorded cutting through the post-medieval sequence of made ground. Modern deposits, overlain by concrete, sealed all post-medieval and 19<sup>th</sup> century activity.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report details the methodology and results of an archaeological evaluation conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, EC1 (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The archaeological works were in response to a planning condition attached to full planning permission (application reference P072106) for the development.
- 2.3 The evaluation consisted of three stepped evaluation trenches across the site, excavated by 360° mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision down to archaeological features or deposit or natural stratigraphy.
- 2.4 The evaluation was undertaken between 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010.
- 2.5 Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting commissioned the work on behalf of Mount Anvil. The evaluation was undertaken by Rebecca Haslam and Neil Hawkins and project managed by Tim Bradley for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
- 2.6 The site was bounded to the north by Lever Street, to the east by Central Street, to the south by Seward Street and to the west by buildings fronting onto Seward Street (Figures 1 & 2).
- 2.7 The central National Grid Reference of the site is TQ 3200 8250.
- 2.8 The site was allocated the code LVS 10.

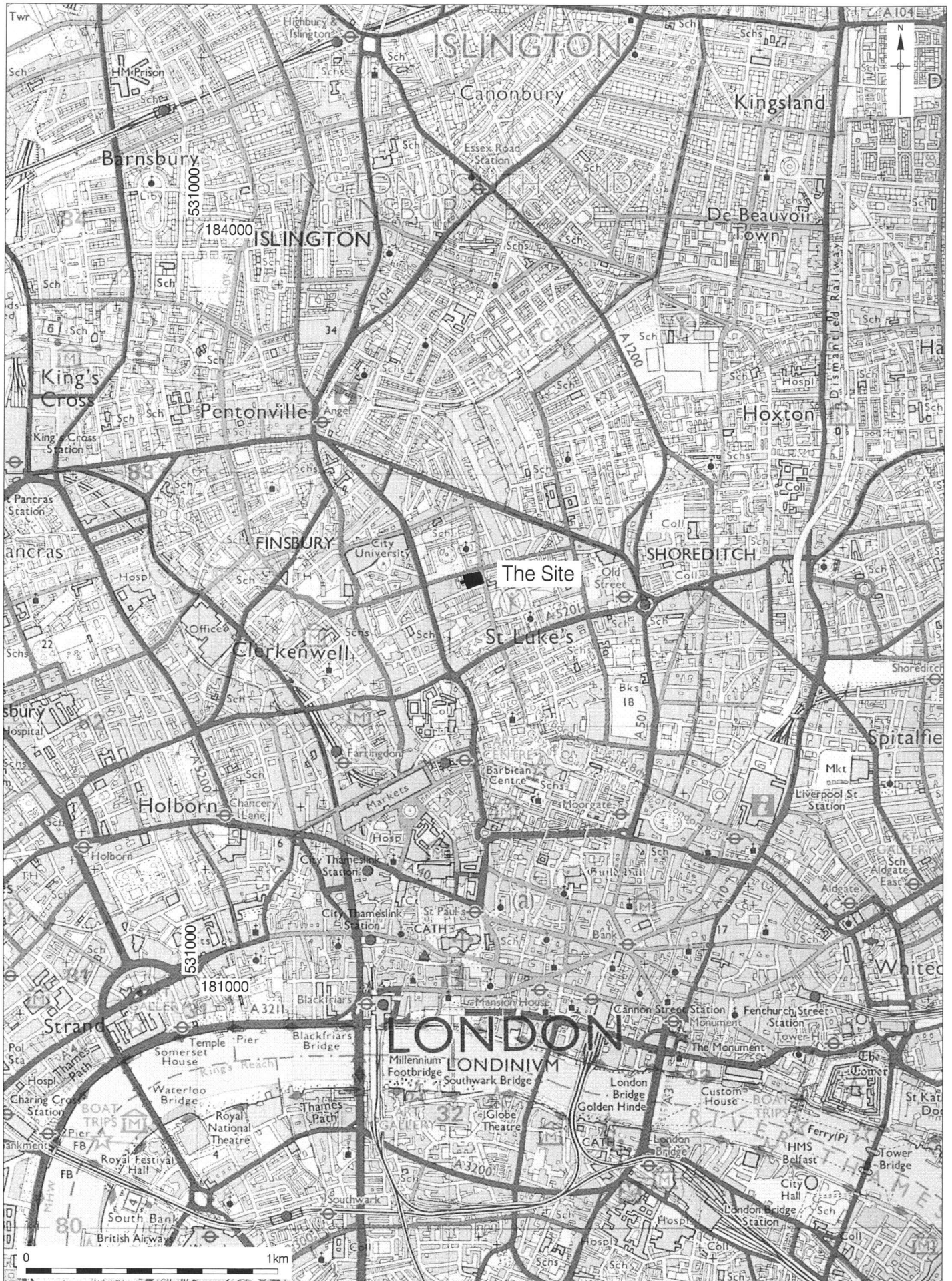


Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:20,000 at A4

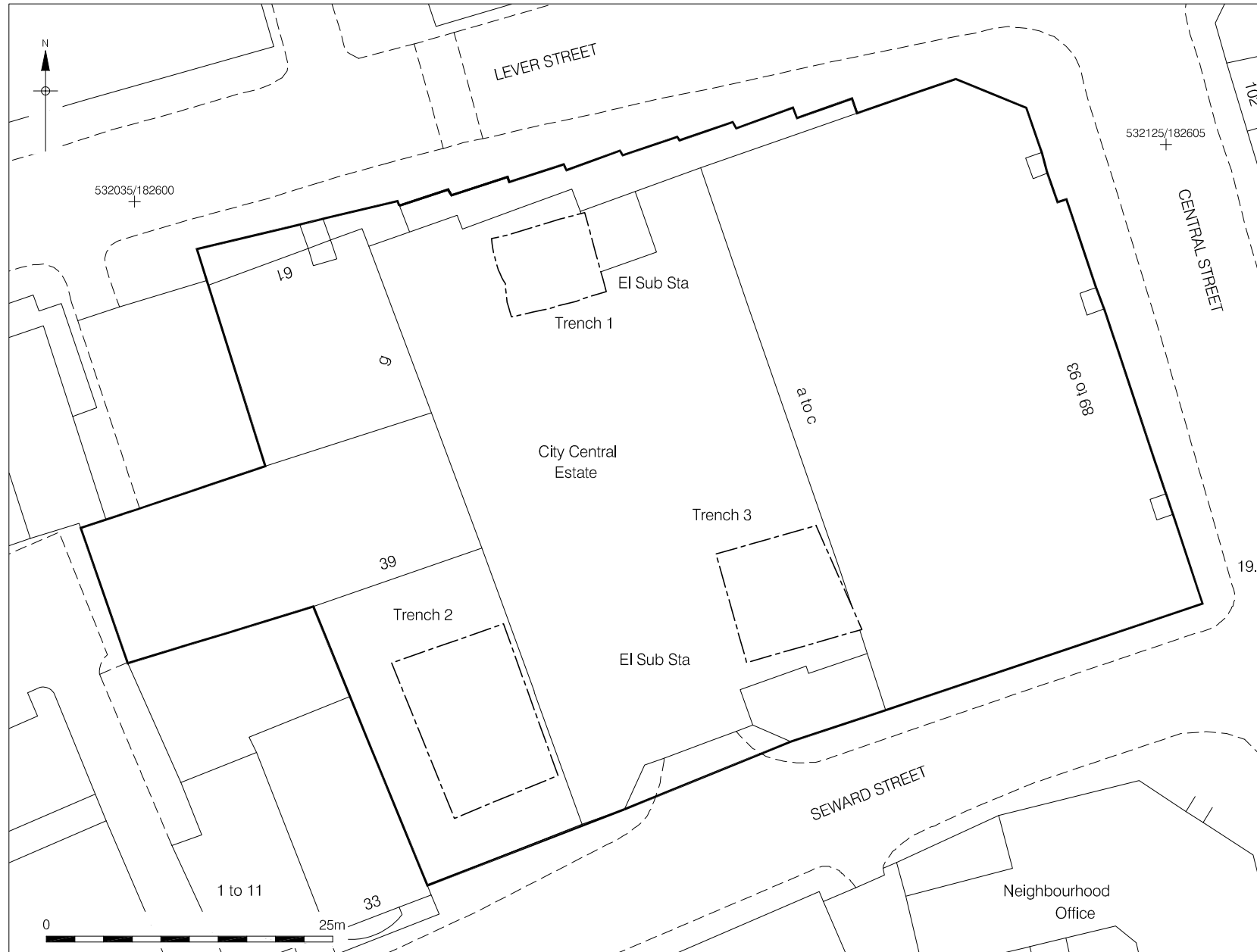


Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:500 at A4



### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1.1 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 (PPG16, under which the archaeological condition attached to the planning permission was issued, was superseded in January 2010 by Planning Policy Statement (PPS5)).
- 3.1.2 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
  - In appropriate circumstances seeks 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.
- 3.1.3 In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority is bound by the policy framework set by government guidance, in this instance PPG16, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 3.1.4 The relevant Strategic Development Plan framework is provided by 'The London Plan, Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London Consolidated with Alterations since 2004' (Feb 2008). It includes the following policy relating to archaeology within central London:

#### **POLICY 4B.15 ARCHAEOLOGY**

**THE MAYOR, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ENGLISH HERITAGE, THE MUSEUM OF LONDON AND BOROUGHs, WILL SUPPORT THE IDENTIFICATION, PROTECTION, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION OF LONDON'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES. BOROUGHs IN CONSULTATION WITH ENGLISH HERITAGE AND OTHER RELEVANT STATUTORY ORGANISATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE APPROPRIATE POLICIES IN THEIR DPDS FOR PROTECTING SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSETS WITHIN THEIR AREA.**

- 3.1.5 The Islington LDS has no supplementary policies relating to archaeology.

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **4.1 Geology**

- 4.1.1 The solid geology of the site is shown by the Institute of Geological Sciences (IGS 1979) as London Clay deposits forming the London Basin.
- 4.1.2 Further detail is provided by British Geological Survey Sheet 256 (North London: 1994) which shows the site to be underlain by deposits of Hackney Gravels (defined as 'Post-diversionary Thames River Deposits; gravel, sandy and clayey in part').
- 4.1.3 Boreholes (BH) and window samples (WS) were carried immediately south of the site during February 2008 which revealed deposits of Made Ground, up to 4.8m thick. Below the made ground, layers of clays, sands and gravels were observed, to a maximum depth of 10m.

### **4.2 Topography**

- 4.2.1 The area of the site is broadly level. A spot-height of 19.5m AOD is positioned immediately north of the junction of Seward Street and Central Street. A spot-height with a value of 21.81m AOD is recorded to the north of the site in Lever Street.
- 4.2.2 No geological or topographical anomalies are known within the vicinity of the study site.
- 4.2.3 No watercourses or naturally occurring bodies of water are known within the vicinity of the site.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 A detailed study of the archaeological and historical background of the site, including a historic map regression, has previously been undertaken for the site (Hawkins 2009). A summary of these results is detailed below:

*Virtually no evidence for activity during the prehistoric period was encountered within the area of the site. It is thought that the area of the site lay within open land or woodland during this period.*

*The line of Clerkenwell Road, which continues as Old Street to the south of the site, is thought to follow a Roman road. The digging of a sewer on Goswell Road in 1868, southwest of the site, revealed a sequence of five or six road surfaces associated with Roman coins c. 2.7m and 3.3m below ground level. Other than these road surfaces no other evidence for activity during the Roman period was encountered within the area of the site. Again it is thought that the area of the site lay as agricultural land or woodland.*

*The medieval period is well represented within the archaeological and historical background of the area of the site. Excavations at a number of sites in the vicinity recorded medieval activity; an archaeological investigation at 15-29 Seward Street, immediately west of the site, recorded medieval deposits with associated medieval pottery, copper, iron and leather objects. Trial trenching at Whitecross Street, southeast of the site, recorded the remains of a medieval road. 1-7 Dallington Street, to the southwest recorded medieval ploughsoils and quarry pits, as did 44-9 Great Sutton Street. Archaeological evaluations at 76-78 Old Street and at the Hat & Feathers public house, both to the southwest, also recorded medieval stratigraphy. Human remains thought to be medieval were also identified at 36-42 Clerkenwell Road, southwest of the site. The area of the site was thought to lie in marginal land beyond the extent of the known medieval settlement and activity outside the City.*

*The post-medieval period saw increased activity within the area of the site and is therefore well represented in the archaeological and historical background. The site of a Civil War fort has been identified at the western end of Seward Street. A 'plan of the City and suburbs of London as fortified by Order of Parliament in the Years 1642-1643' shows the extent of the City defences. William Lithgow's 'The Present Surveigh of London and England's State' dated 1643 recorded a trench surrounding Moorfields leading to a two storey high fort at Mountmill. This map reinforces the notion that the Mountmill defences lay towards Goswell Road, west of the site.*

*A plague pit associated with the Great Plague of 1665 is known to lie close by the site east of 'Mount mill'. In 1665 it had been estimated that 1377 residents of Clerkenwell had died of the plague and had been interred here.*

*The first cartographic source, John Rocque's map of 1745, shows Central Street (known then as Brick Lane) forming the eastern boundary of the site. The site itself is occupied by buildings fronting onto Central Street and associated gardens. By the 1827 Greenwood Plan the frontages of Lever Street, Central Street and Seward Street are built up with the centre of the site labelled as 'rope walk' where rope and cordage would have been manufactured.*

*The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1874 shows little change from the 1827 Greenwood Plan; Houses front onto Lever Street, Central Street and Seward Street with a 'ropery' illustrated to the rear. The site from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present day went through a series of changes from light industry, a public house and house to a small park then back to small warehouses and light industry. This was how the site remained pre-development and demolition which occurred prior to the archaeological evaluation.*

## **6 METHODOLOGY**

- 6.1 The excavation of three evaluation trenches was outlined in the Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation (Meager 2010). The aims of the evaluation were to address the following aims:
- To establish the presence or otherwise of Medieval, Post Medieval and Modern activity, together with any earlier activity, and to define the date and nature of such activity.
  - To establish the environmental context of Medieval, Post Medieval and Modern, together with any earlier and/or later activity.
  - Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development.
  - Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy.
- 6.2 After breaking out the reinforced concrete slab, Trenches 1 and 3 were excavated by 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-bladed ditching bucket in spits of between 150mm and 200mm, under archaeological supervision. Due to the depths of the trenches the sides were stepped at a depth of c. 1m leaving a c.1m baulk on three sides of the trench. The fourth face of the trenches was battered to 45° or less to provide safe access and egress to the trenches.
- 6.3 Following removal of the reinforced concrete slab within evaluation Trench 2 a number of substantial modern reinforced concrete ground beams were encountered meaning the trench could not be stepped as outlined in the specification. Following consultation between CgMs Consulting and English Heritage GLAAS, it was agreed that three sondages would be excavated between the areas of the concrete ground beams under archaeological supervision, photographed and recorded, then immediately backfilled.
- 6.4 Two levels for the site work were imported onto the site using GPS survey equipment, the values of which were 20.07m OD 20.99m OD.
- 6.5 Exposed sections were archaeologically cleaned and sample sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Locations of the geotechnical Trench locations were recorded on variably scaled site plans. All written data was entered on proforma sheets following standard 'single-context' recording methods, and a photographic record using digital and film format photography was made as appropriate.
- 6.6 Features were investigated by hand to define their shape and fills, and recover dating evidence.

## **7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE**

### **7.1 Phase 1: Natural**

7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered within evaluation Trenches 2 & 3 was the natural terrace gravel, contexts [49] and [45] respectively. In Trench 2 this deposit was recorded at 17.22m OD and 17.37m OD in Trench 3. The earliest deposit recorded in Trench 1 was natural sandy gravel, [10]. This deposit, a localised sandy variation of the natural terrace gravels, was recorded at 16.98m OD. A similar sandier variation of the natural was also recorded in the southern end of Trench 3, [40] & [44]. These natural deposits are consistent with the known underlying geology as recorded on British Geological Survey Sheet 256 (North London: 1994) which shows the site to be underlain by deposits of Hackney Gravels (defined as 'Post-diversionary Thames River Deposits; gravel, sandy and clayey in part').

### **7.2 Phase 2: Medieval Pitting (Figures 3 & 5)**

#### **7.2.1 Trench 1**

7.2.2 Recorded cutting the natural deposit [10] in Trench 1 were two extensive cuts, [2] and [4]. Both cuts appeared to be sub-circular in plan; however the full extent of both pits was not recorded as they continued outside the limit of excavation of the trench.

7.2.3 The recorded dimensions of pit [2] was 1.40m north-south by 0.40m east-west but continued both north and west outside the trench limits. Pit [4] had recorded dimensions of 2.08m north-south by 1.72m east-west and continued north, east and south outside the trench limits. Pit [2] was excavated to a depth of 0.45m at which point excavation was halted for health and safety reasons but continued below this level. Pit [2] was filled by two mixed but sterile sandy, silty-clay deposits, [7] & [1]. Pit [4] was excavated to a depth of 0.70m where again excavation was abandoned due to health and safety reasons but continued below this level. Pit [4] was again filled by two mixed sandy, silty-clay deposits, [8] & [3].

7.2.4 A single sherd of Cheam ware, potentially dating the feature to 1350-1500, was recovered from fill [8]. The two pits were recorded at c.16.90m OD. These two pits appear to have been deliberately backfilled and most likely represent gravel extraction pits.

#### 7.2.5 Trench 3

- 7.2.6 Recorded cutting the natural deposits in Trench 3 was a sequence of two intercutting pits, [43] & [38]. The two pits were similar to those recorded in Trench 1 and appeared to be sub-circular in plan although their full extent was not recorded as they continued outside the trench limit of excavation.
- 7.2.7 The recorded dimensions of pit [43] was 0.64m north-south by 1.94m east-west but continued west, south and east outside the trench limits. The recorded dimensions of pit [38] were 2.42m north-south by 1.54m east-west but it continued both east and west outside the trench limits. Both pits were only excavated to 0.50 deep due to health and safety reasons but both continued below this level. Both pits were filled by a virtually identical homogenous sandy, silty-clay deposit.
- 7.2.8 A single sherd of Cheam ware, potentially dating the feature to 1350-1500, was recovered from fill [42] of pit [43] whilst a single sherd of London type ware dating to 1080-1350 was recovered from fill [37] of pit [38]. Due to the similar nature of the fills of these two pits, the exact relationship between the two is unclear; however the evidence from the pottery dates suggests that pit [43] cuts pit [38]. The two pits were recorded at c. 17.40m OD. As with the pits recorded in Trench 1, these two pits appear to have been deliberately backfilled and are likely to represent gravel extraction pits.

### 7.3 **Phase 3: Post-medieval dump layers and features**

#### 7.3.1 Trench 1

- 7.3.2 Sealing the two pits in Trench 1 was a dump layer of silty-clay [5]. This layer was recorded in section at 17.57m OD and was 0.82m thick. No dateable material was recovered from this deposit. Cutting layer [5] was a cut feature, [13], which was only recorded in section. Only a small area of this feature was recorded, 0.20m north-south with a depth of at least 0.25m. No dateable material was recovered from its fill [50].
- 7.3.3 Sealing this cut feature was a sequence of two dump layers, [12] & [6]. These layers had a combined thickness of 1.07m and were recorded at a highest level of 18.69m OD. Layer [12] contained pottery dated to 1550-1600. This was sealed by layer [6] which contained pottery dated to 1580-1650. This sequence of two layers represents dumping and ground raising during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### 7.3.4 Trench 2

- 7.3.5 Sealing the natural terrace gravel in Trench 2 was a sequence of two dump layers [48] & [47]. These two layers had an overall thickness of 1.50m and were recorded at a highest level of 18.72m OD. These layers were recorded in section with no dateable material recovered from them. These may represent a phase of later post-medieval dumping prior to development of the area in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 7.3.6 Trench 3

- 7.3.7 Sealing the pits in Trench 3 was a dump layer of silty-clay [36]. This layer was recorded in section at 17.76m OD and was 0.25m thick. This layer was very similar to the deposits which filled the two pits, [43] & [38], which it sealed, and probably represents an episode of dumping and ground raising. Pottery recovered from this layer dated to 1250-1600, but is most likely the latter end of this range due to the date of the pottery recovered from the fills of the pits which were stratigraphically lower.
- 7.3.8 A small posthole, [35], was recorded cutting layer [36]. This feature was only recorded in section measuring 0.30m north-south and 0.26m deep. It was recorded at 17.69m OD. No dateable material was recovered from this posthole, which may have been cut originally from higher up. Sealing the posthole was a sequence of two dump layers, [33] & [29]. This sequence of dump layers had an overall thickness of 0.89m and was recorded at a highest level of 18.76m OD. No dateable material was recovered from these dump layers which represent to an episode of ground raising.

### **7.4 Phase 4: 19<sup>th</sup> Century brick foundations and dumping**

#### 7.4.1 Trench 3

- 7.4.2 Cutting the post-medieval dumped deposits in Trench 3 was a sequence of 19<sup>th</sup> century brick walls, [24], [28] & [21], and a brick floor, [32]. These 19<sup>th</sup> century brick features, representing a basement, were predominantly recorded in section due to health and safety restrictions. Heavily disturbed brick walls [21] and [24] were both aligned virtually east-west, continuing east outside the trench limits. Brick wall [28] was heavily truncated, running north-south between walls [21] and [24]. Walls [24] and [28] were recorded at 18.19m OD and wall [21] survived to a height of 1.30m and was recorded at a highest level of 18.90m OD.
- 7.4.3 Recorded in section, on the same level as the lowest course of brick wall [21], was a brick floor surface [32]. This consisted of a single course of bricks recorded at 17.99m OD. This surface was again badly disturbed.
- 7.4.4 Recorded in section cutting the 19<sup>th</sup> century remains was an extensive cut [41]. This feature was c. 1.75m deep being recorded at 18.86m OD. As it was only observed in section very little information can be gleaned about this feature. It may relate to intrusive below ground work involved in late 19<sup>th</sup> century building works or possibly even early 20<sup>th</sup> century activity.



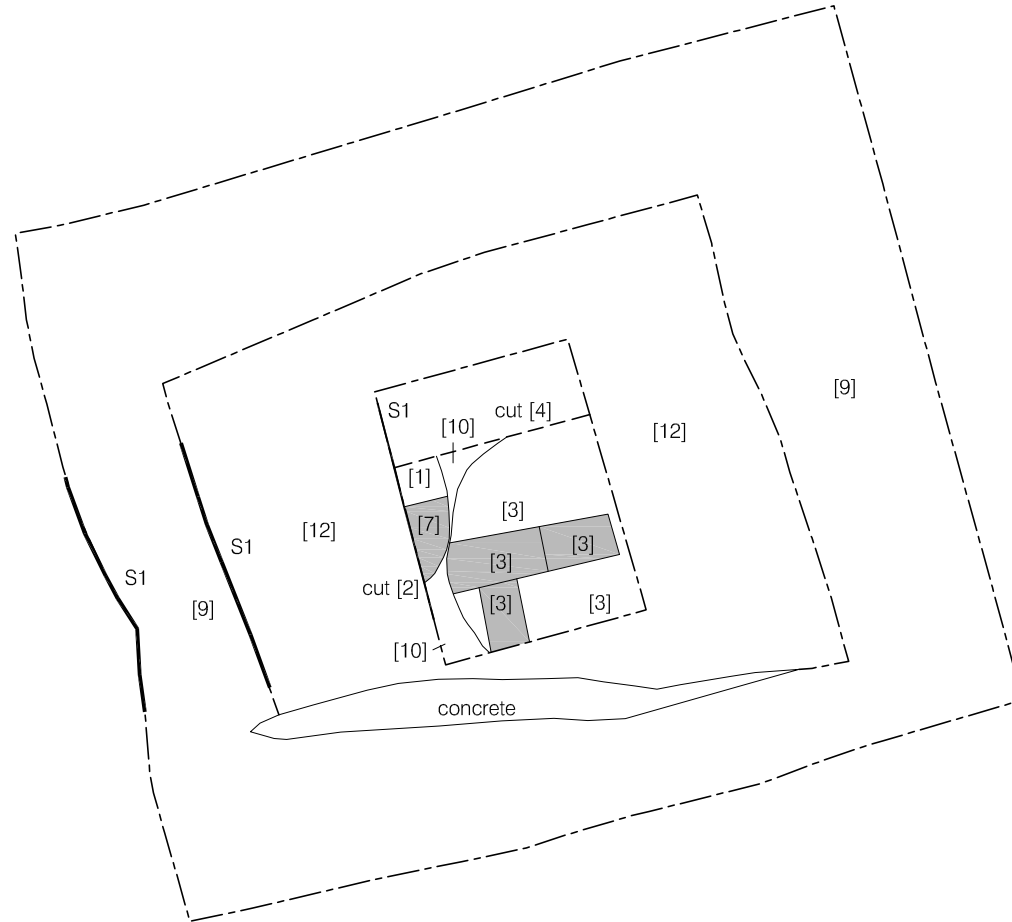
## **7.5 Phase 5: Modern**

- 7.5.1 Recorded within all evaluation trenches, sealing the various 19<sup>th</sup> century and post-medieval deposits, were modern layers of made ground sealed by concrete. In Trench 1 modern deposits [11] and [9] had a combined thickness of 1.40m with the modern concrete being recorded at 20.02m OD. In Trench 2 modern layer [46] had a thickness of 1.20m with the modern concrete being recorded at 20.32m OD. Also encountered below the modern concrete layer was a series of substantial concrete ground beams representing 20<sup>th</sup> century building foundations. In Trench 3 modern deposits [16], [15] & [14] had a combined thickness of 0.75m with the modern concrete being recorded at 20.07m OD.



532064/182594  
+

532078/182594  
+

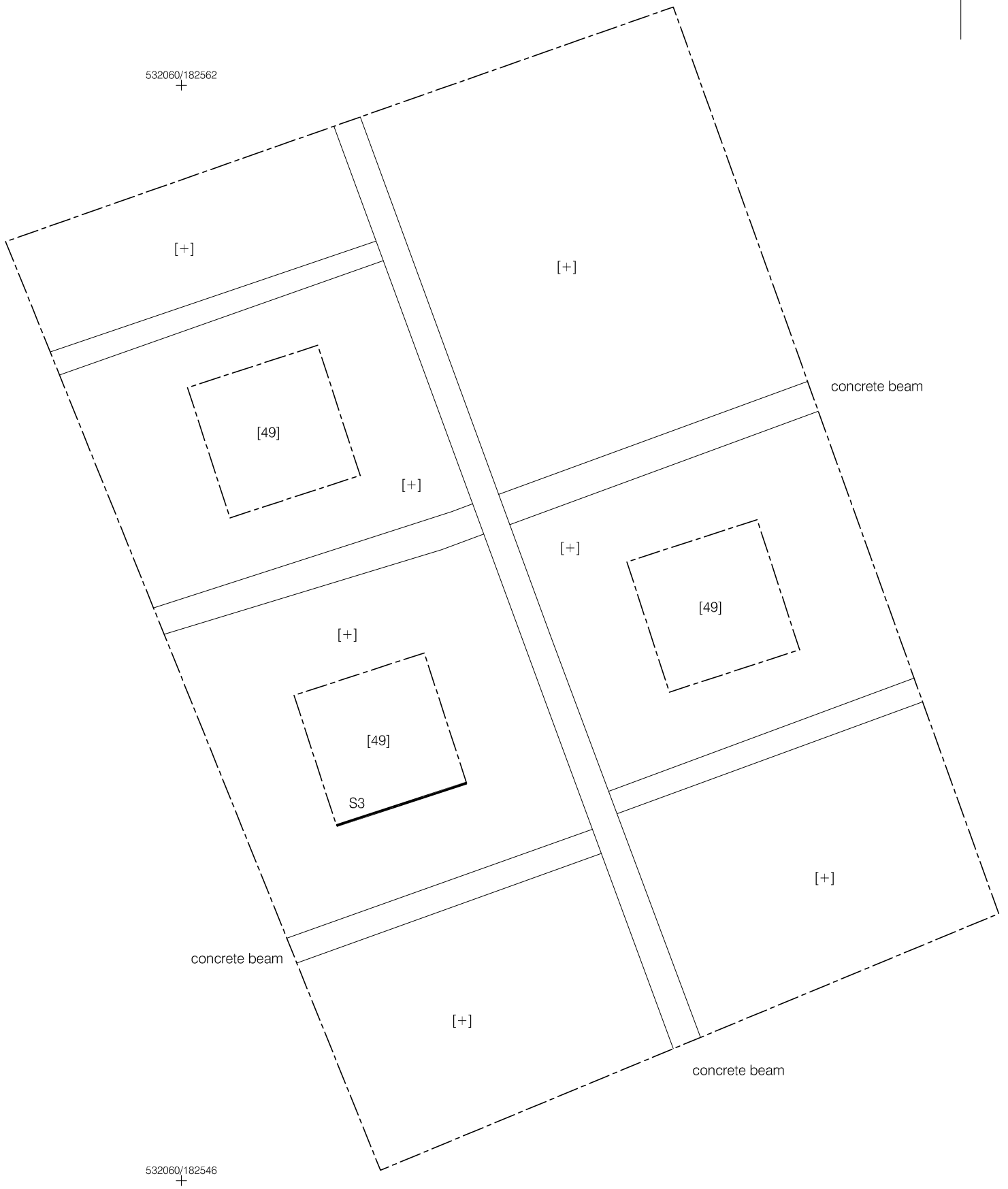


■ Excavated



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Figure 3  
Trench 1  
1:75 at A4



532060/182562

[+]

[+]

[49]

[+]

concrete beam

[+]

[49]

[+]

[49]

S3

concrete beam

[+]

[+]

concrete beam

532060/182546

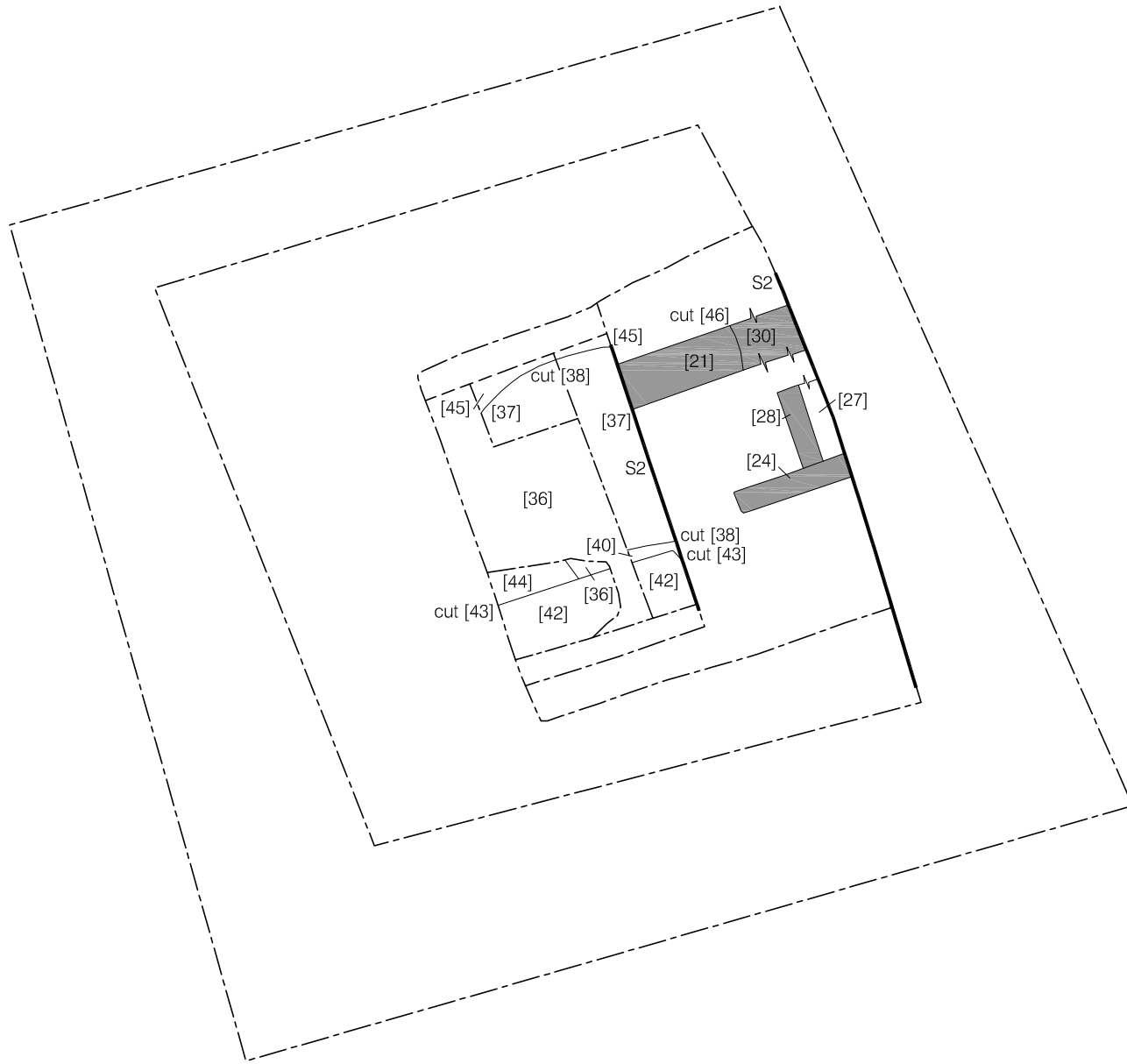


Figure 4  
Trench 2  
1:75 at A4



532084/182566  
+

532100/182566  
+

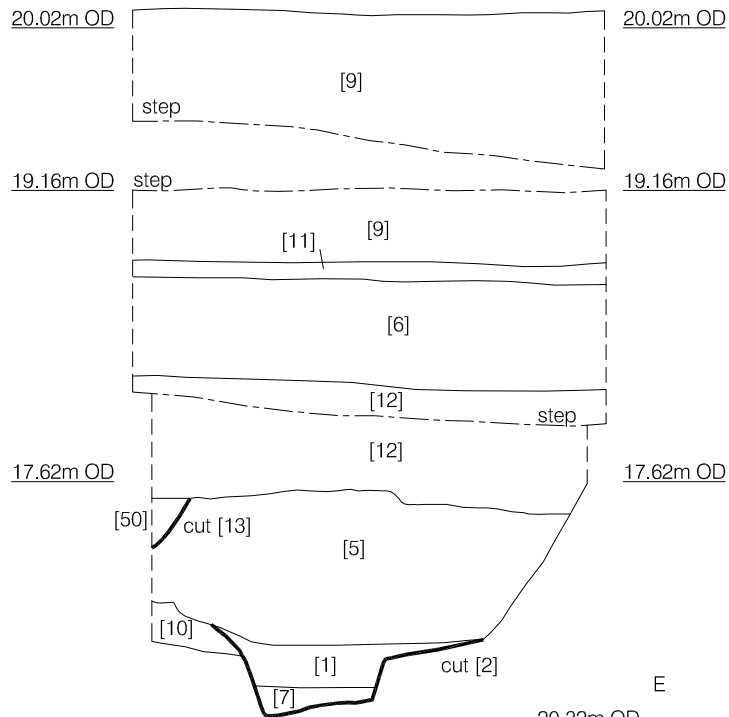


■ Masonry

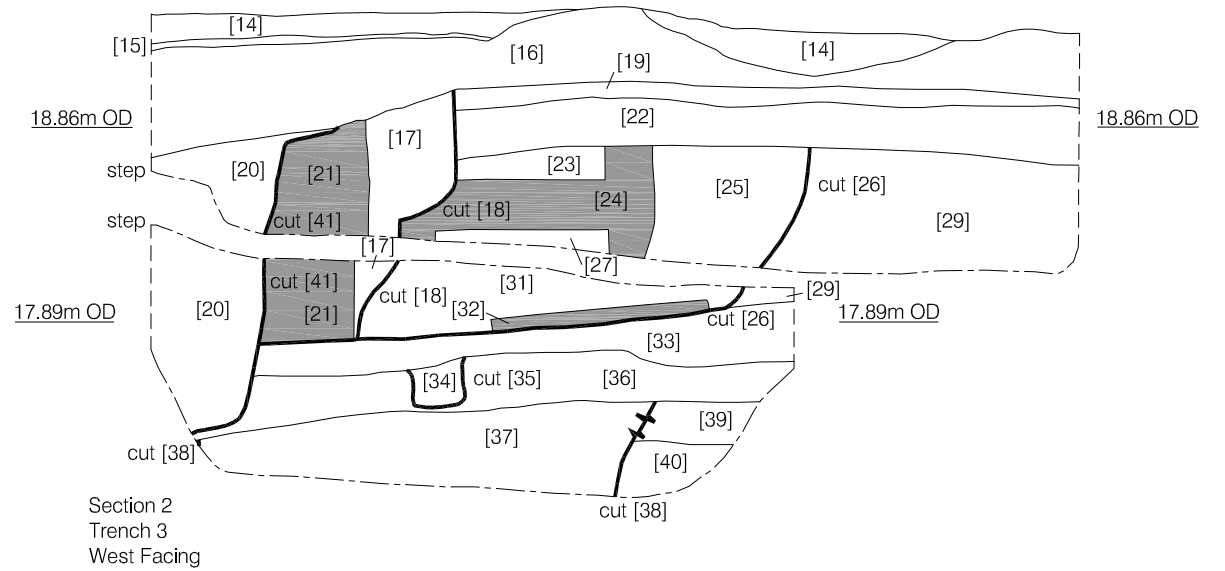


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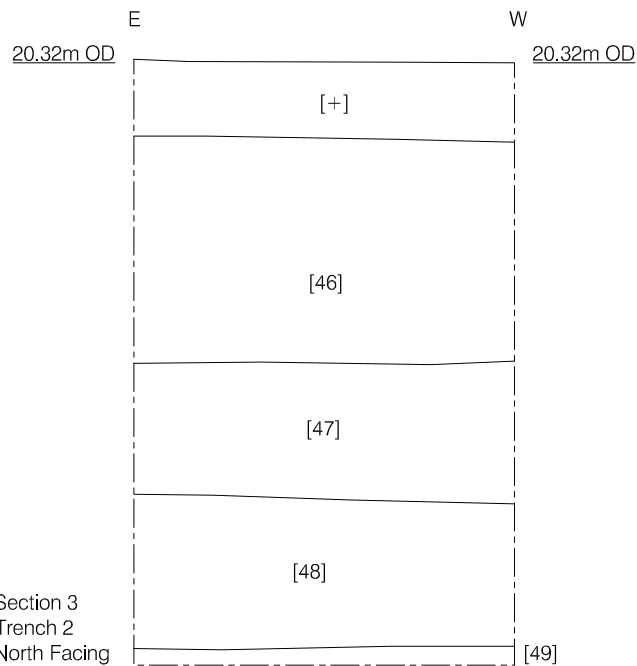
Figure 5  
Trench 3  
1:75 at A4



Section 1  
Trench 1  
East Facing



Section 2  
Trench 3  
West Facing



Section 3  
Trench 2  
North Facing



Figure 6  
Sections 1- 3  
1:40 at A4

## **8 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1 The evaluation recorded terrace gravels within all three trenches. These natural deposits are consistent with the known underlying geology as recorded on British Geological Survey Sheet 256 (North London: 1994) which shows the site to be underlain by deposits of Hackney Gravels (defined as 'Post-diversionary Thames River Deposits; gravel, sandy and clayey in part').
- 8.2 The earliest phase of human activity recorded on site was a series of pits recorded in evaluation Trenches 1 and 3. Four of these large pits were encountered, two within each trench. Three of these pits yielded pottery dating to the medieval period, one dating to 1080-1350 and two dating to 1350-1500. However each pit only yielded a single sherd of pottery, with no other dateable material being recovered. These pits were also deliberately backfilled, which combined with the lack of artefacts suggests they were not rubbish pits. The relatively large nature of these pits may suggest that they were quarry pits, excavated to extract the natural gravel deposits of the area.
- 8.3 Archaeological and documentary evidence suggests that the area of the site was well occupied despite being on the periphery of the medieval core of the City (Hawkins 2009). Archaeological interventions around the area have recorded various medieval deposits and features. Of note amongst these were quarry pits recorded at 1-7 Dallington Street and at 44-49 Great Sutton Street, both to the southwest of the site (Hawkins 2009). This illustrates that quarrying of the natural gravel was clearly an activity being undertaken in the area during the medieval period, again supporting this interpretation.
- 8.4 Sealing the potential medieval quarry pits was a sequence of post-medieval ground make up. This event was recorded within all three evaluation trenches. These deposits ranged in depth between 1 to 1.5m. Pottery recovered from some of these deposits dates to 1580-1650. Cartographic evidence suggests the area of the site was well developed by at least the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century. It seems reasonable that the extensive ground raising and consolidation potentially occurring during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries was in advance of development of the area of the site.
- 8.5 Recorded cutting the post-medieval dumped deposits in evaluation Trench 3 was a series of masonry walls dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As mentioned above the area of the site was well developed by at least the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century. This development continued into the 19<sup>th</sup> century culminating with a considerable number of buildings occupying the site as illustrated on the Ordnance Survey map of 1874 (Hawkins 2009). Despite the poor survival of these brick walls and floor within the trench, they were clearly of 19<sup>th</sup> century date, and represent the disturbed remnants of a 19<sup>th</sup> century basement as illustrated on either the first or second edition Ordnance Survey maps.

- 8.6 Sealing the majority of the post-medieval and 19<sup>th</sup> century deposits was a sequence of modern made ground sealed by concrete. The area of the site saw continued development throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Cartographic evidence also suggests the site may have suffered bomb damage during the Second World War (Hawkins 2009). The modern made ground and concrete recorded during the evaluation relates to development on the site in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work on behalf of Mount Anvil.
- 9.2 We also thank Kim Stabler of English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) for monitoring the work.
- 9.3 The author would like to thank Tim Bradley for project management and editing. Thanks also to Rebecca Haslam for supervising the bulk of the excavation, to Greg Crees and Shane Maher for their assistance on site, to Alison Tigg for the surveying, Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations and Sophie White for the logistics.

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## APPENDIX 1: PLATES



View of Trench 1 facing west



View of the base of Trench facing southwest



View of Trench 3 facing east



View of the base of Trench3 facing north



View of Section 3 in Trench 2 facing south

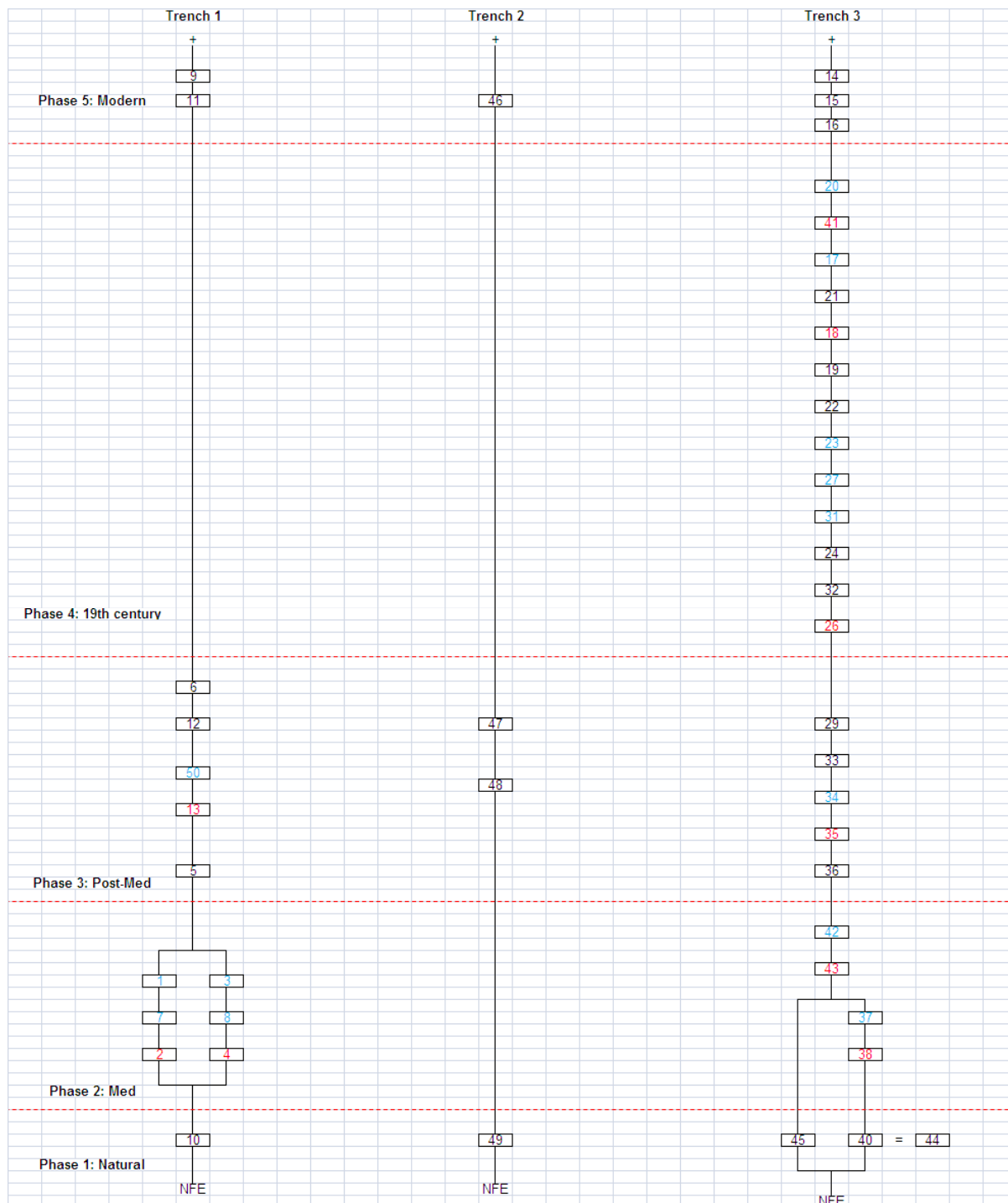
## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Type	Description	Phase
1	Fill	Fill of Pit [2]	2
2	Cut	?Quarry Pit	2
3	Fill	Fill of Pit [4]	2
4	Cut	?Quarry Pit	2
5	Layer	Post-medieval made ground	3
6	Layer	Post-medieval made ground	3
7	Fill	Fill of Pit [2]	2
8	Fill	Fill of Pit [4]	2
9	Layer	Modern made ground	5
10	Layer	Natural deposit	1
11	Layer	Modern made ground	5
12	Layer	Post-medieval made ground	3
13	Cut	Cut only seen in section	3
14	Layer	Modern made ground	5
15	Layer	Modern made ground	5
16	Layer	Modern made ground	5
17	Fill	Backfill associated with brick wall [21]	4
18	Cut	Possible construction cut for brick wall [21]	4
19	Layer	19 <sup>th</sup> Century made ground	4
20	Fill	Fill of extensive 19 <sup>th</sup> century cut [41]	4
21	Masonry	19 <sup>th</sup> Century basement wall	4
22	Layer	19 <sup>th</sup> Century Made Ground	4
23	Fill	Backfill associated with brick wall [24]	4
24	Masonry	19 <sup>th</sup> Century brick wall	4
25	Fill	Backfill associated with brick wall [24]	4
26	Cut	Possible construction cut associated with brick wall [24]	4
27	Fill	Backfill associated with brick wall [24]	4
28	VOID	VOID	VOID
29	Layer	Post-medieval dump layer	3
30	VOID	VOID	VOID
31	Fill	Backfill associated with brick wall [24]	4
32	Masonry	19 <sup>th</sup> Century brick floor/surface	4
33	Layer	Post-medieval dump layer	3
34	Fill	Fill of [35]	3
35	Cut	?Posthole	3
36	Layer	Post-medieval dump layer	3
37	Fill	Fill of Pit [38]	2
38	Cut	?Quarry PitUndated Linear	2
39	Layer	Natural sandy-gravel	1
40	Layer	Natural gravelly-sand	1
41	Cut	Extensive 19 <sup>th</sup> Century cut	4
42	Fill	Fill of Pit [43]	2
43	Cut	?Quarry Pit	2
44	Layer	Natural Gravelly-sand	1
45	Layer	Natural gravels	1
46	layer	Modern made ground	5
47	Layer	Post-medieval made ground	3

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48	Layer	Post-medieval made ground	3
49	Layer	Natural gravel	1
50	Fill	Fill of cut [13]	3

## APPENDIX 3: SITE MATRIX





## APPENDIX 4: POTTERY REPORT

Chris Jarrett

Context	Phase	Pottery type	Fabric code	Date range	Form	SC	Spot date
6	3	Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with yellow glaze	BORDY	1550-1700		1	1580-1650
		Frechen stoneware	FREC	1550-1700		1	
		Spanish olive jar	OLIV	1550-1750		1	
		post-medieval Essex black-glazed redware	PMBL	1580-1700		1	
		London-area post-medieval slipped redware with green glaze	PMSRG	1480-1650		1	
Total						5	
8	2	Cheam whiteware	CHEA	1350-1500		1	1350-1500
12	3	Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with green glaze	BORDG	1550-1700	Dish	1	1550-1600
		Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with green glaze	BORDG	1550-1700	Tripod pipkin?	12	
		Spanish olive jar	OLIV	1550-1750		1	
		London-area early post-medieval redware	PMRE	1480-1600		2	
		London-area post-medieval slipped redware with green glaze	PMSRG	1480-1650		1	
Total							
36		Kingston-type ware	KING	1240-1400			1250-1400
		London-type ware	LOND	1080-1350			
		Saintonge ware with even green glaze	SAIG	1280-1350			
Total							
37		London-type ware	LOND	1080-1350			1080-1350
42		Cheam whiteware	CHEA	1350-1500			1350-1500

Table 1. LVS10. Contexts containing pottery showing the types present, their date range and identified forms, together with a spot date for the deposit. SC: sherd count.

The site produced an assemblage of eighteen sherds (and none are unstratified) dating from the mid-late 13th and 14th centuries and the late 16th and 17th centuries. The pottery is fragmentary and largely unabraded indicating fairly rapid deposition soon after breakage or being discarded. None of the vessels have a complete profile. The pottery is significant for demonstrating sporadic activity on the site from the mid-late 13th century onwards until the early 17th century. The ceramic profile of the site is in keeping with London. Imported pottery is restricted to Saintonge green-glazed ware in the medieval period and Spanish olive jars in the post-medieval period: these are not unusual imports found in London. The main potential of the pottery is to date the stratigraphy it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work.

## APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-90622

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### Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, EC1
Short description of the project	An Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, EC1. The evaluation consisted of three stepped trial trenches. All three trenches recorded natural sandy gravel. Recorded cutting the natural in two trenches were possible medieval gravel quarry pits. Sealing the pits and natural was a sequence of post-medieval dumping dating possibly dating to the 16th and 17th centuries. Cutting the post-medieval dumping in one trench was a 19th century brick basement. Modern made ground and concrete completed the sequence in all trenches.
Project dates	Start: 06-12-2010 End: 14-12-2010
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LVS 10 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Monument type	MASONRY Post Medieval
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the	Not known / Not recorded

planning process

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Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON ISLINGTON ISLINGTON Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, EC1
Postcode	EC1V 3RF
Study area	3060.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3200 8500 51.5479382144 -0.09607090481780 51 32 52 N 000 05 45 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 16.98m Max: 17.37m

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Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Richard Meager
Project director/manager	Tim Bradley
Project supervisor	Rebecca Haslam/Neil Hawkins
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

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Project archives

Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Glass'
Digital Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Media available	'Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'

Paper Contents 'Ceramics'

Paper Media 'Context sheet', 'Drawing', 'Matrices', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section', 'Survey  
available'; 'Unpublished Text'

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Project

bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Land at Seward Street, London Borough of Islington, Ec1. An Archaeological  
Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hawkins, N.

Date 2011

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Entered by Neil Hawkins (nhawkins@pre-construct.com)

Entered on 6 January 2011

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