

Winchester Wharf 4 & 5 Clink Street London SE1

London Borough of Southwark
An archaeological assessment and foreshore survey report
Site code: FSW12
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November 2010

SUMMARY (non technical)

Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) and The Thames Discovery Programme (TDP) were commissioned by Mike Slade of Cousins Wojciechowski Architects, on behalf of the client Winchester Wharf Management Ltd. to record the foreshore at Winchester Wharf, 4 & 5 Clink Street, Southwark, London SE1. The investigation took place in November 2010.

Three discrete deposits of 19th-20th century date were identified on the site, one of which contained occasional residual sherds of medieval pottery, along with a river wall dating to the 19th/20th century. No archeologically significant features or structures were observed. It is recommended that no further mitigation is required.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

The development site is situated in Southwark (see Fig 1). It is bounded to the north by the Thames, to the south by Winchester Wharf, to the east by the Old Thameside Inn and to the west by New British Wharf.

The Ordnance Survey National Grid reference for the centre of the site is 532551 180425. Within this report, the development area is referred to as 'the site'.

The proposed scheme involves the addition of balconies to the building overlooking the site. Prior to this scaffolding will be erected upon the foreshore.

The Museum of London site code, by which the records are indexed and archived, is FSW12.

The foreshore survey took place on the south bank of the River Thames (see Fig 1). This area of the foreshore has been surveyed previously in the 1940s by Ivor Noel Hume, and by the Thames Archaeological Survey during the late 1990s.

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Note: within the limitations imposed by dealing with historical material and maps, the information in this document is, to the best knowledge of the author and MOLA/TDP, correct at the time of writing. Further archaeological investigation, or more information about the nature of the present buildings may require changes to all or parts of the document.

1.2 Planning and legislative framework

1.2.1 National planning policy guidance

Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS 5) sets out the Secretary of State's policy on archaeological remains (heritage assets), and provides recommendations for local development plans. The key points in PPS 5 are summarised as:

Policy HE12: Policy principles guiding the recording of information related to heritage assets

HE12.1 A documentary record of our past is not as valuable as retaining the heritage asset, and therefore the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether a proposal that would result in a heritage asset's destruction should be given consent.

HE12.2 The process of investigating the significance of the historic environment, as part of plan-making or development management, should add to the evidence base for future planning and further the understanding of our past. Local planning authorities should make this information publicly available, including through the relevant historic environment record.

HE12.3 Where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset's significance is justified, local planning authorities should require the developer to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost, using planning conditions or obligations as appropriate. The extent of the requirement should be proportionate to the nature and level of the asset's significance. Developers should publish this evidence and deposit copies of the reports with the relevant historic environment record. Local planning authorities should require any archive generated to be deposited with a local museum or other public depository willing to receive it. Local planning authorities should impose planning conditions or obligations to ensure such work is carried out in a timely manner and that the completion of the exercise is properly secured.

1.2.2 Regional guidance: The London Plan

The over-arching strategies and policies for the whole of the Greater London area are contained within the GLA's London Plan (Feb 2008) also include statements relating to archaeology:

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.

1.2.3 Local Planning Policy

The Borough of Southwark Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted in 1995 and the draft Southwark Plan in 2002.

Policy E.5.1 in the UDP states that:

The Council will seek to conserve and protect the Borough's archaeological heritage and to enhance the knowledge of its historical development. The policy will apply to sites of potential archaeological importance, where ancient remains are threatened by development.

- i. The Council will expect the applicant to provide information to enable an assessment of the impact of a proposed development on the potential archaeology of the site. This would usually be desk-based information and would be expected prior to the determination of a planning application;
- ii. Where there are likely to be important remains on a site, which may merit preservation in situ, then the results of an archaeological field evaluation will, if feasible, be required prior to the determination of a planning application;
- iii. Where the evaluation reveals important remains their protection and preservation will be the primary objective. This can be achieved by redesigning the proposed development and by foundation modification;
- iv. Where important archaeological remains cannot be preserved, or where remains do not merit preservation, then the council will use planning conditions to ensure excavation and recording of the remains prior to redevelopment, i.e. preservation by record;

v. Archaeological investigations are to be undertaken by a recognised archaeological field unit to a written specification. These will need to be approved by the Council prior to commencement of any work.

Reason

To protect Southwark's archaeological heritage, which includes remains of national importance. These remains are under constant threat from proposed developments and the policy will ensure their protection through the planning process. The Council considers that the archaeology of the borough is a community asset and that its preservation is a legitimate objective, against which the needs of development must be balanced and assessed.

The Southwark Plan was adopted in July 2007. Policy 3.19 Archaeology in the Southwark Plan states that:

313 Planning applications affecting sites within Archaeological Priority Zones (APZs), as identified in Appendix 8, shall be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development. There is a presumption in favour of preservation in situ, to protect and safeguard archaeological remains of national importance, including scheduled monuments and their settings. The in situ preservation of archaeological remains of local importance will also be sought, unless the importance of the development outweighs the local value of the remains. If planning permission is granted to develop any site where there are archaeological remains or there is good reason to believe that such remains exist, conditions will be attached to secure the excavation and recording or preservation in whole or in part, if justified, before development begins.

Reasons

314 Southwark has an immensely important archaeological resource. Increasing evidence of those peoples living in Southwark before the Roman and medieval period is being found in the north of the borough and along the Old Kent Road. The suburb of the Roman provincial capital (Londinium) was located around the southern bridgehead of the only river crossing over the Thames at the time and remains of Roman buildings, industry, roads and cemeteries have been discovered over the last 30 years. The importance of the area during the medieval period is equally well attested both archaeologically and historically. Elsewhere in Southwark, the routes of Roman roads (along the Old Kent Road and Kennington Road) and the historic village cores of Peckham, Camberwell, Walworth and Dulwich also have the potential for the survival of archaeological remains.

315 PPG16 requires the council to include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.

The draft Southwark Archaeology Policy and Supplementary Planning Guidance document identifies a number of Archaeological Priority Zones within the Borough; the site is situated within one of these zones:

5.1.2 Borough/Bermondsey/Riverside

This large zone incorporates the Roman and medieval settlement and the historic settlement areas of Bankside, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe. The archaeological potential of the Southwark riverside accounts for the inclusion of the strip of land parallel to the river outside of these known historical settlement areas.

1.3 Site status

The site does not contain any nationally designated sites, such as Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings or Registered Parks and Gardens. However, the site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area, as mentioned above.

1.4 Origin and scope of this report

The archaeological work of assessment, analysis and recording, and the production of this report, were commissioned from Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA Archaeology) and the Thames Discovery Programme (TDP) by Mike Slade of Cousins Wojciechowski Architects, on behalf of the client Winchester Wharf Management Ltd. All archaeological analysis and recording during the investigation on site was done in accordance with the Museum of London *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994) and MoLAS *Health and safety policy* (2009).

This report presents the results of a foreshore survey carried out on the site during one low tide window on the 9th of November 2010.

1.5 Research aims

A number of research aims were identified in the Written Scheme of Investigation¹:

Can we determine the nature of the geology and topography on the foreshore?

Are there any prehistoric artefacts or structures, surviving on the foreshore?

Is there any evidence for palaeoenvironmental deposits? If so are samples taken suitable for dating/pollen/diatom analysis?

Is there any evidence for Roman activity on the site?

Are there any Saxon or medieval deposits / artefacts surviving on the foreshore?

Are structures or artefacts (relating to maritime activity) dated to the post-medieval period preserved on the site? What is the extent of the post-medieval remains on the foreshore?

¹ Hoad & Wragg 2010: 10.

2 Methodology and sources consulted

For the purposes of this report sources, including the results from archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the proposed development and a study area around it, were examined in order to determine the likely nature, extent, preservation and possible significance of any archaeological remains that may be present within the site.

The following sources were consulted:

Published historic maps and archaeological publications
Internet - web-published material including Local Plan

The assessment included a site visit, a photographic survey and a geomatic survey carried out on the 9th of November 2010 in order to determine the topography of the site and existing land use, and to provide further information on areas of possible past ground disturbance and general archaeological potential. Observations made on the site visit have been incorporated into this report.

The degree to which archaeological deposits actually survive on the site will depend on previous land use, so an assessment is made of the destructive effect of the previous and present activity and/or buildings, from the study of available plan information, ground investigation reports, or similar.

2.1 Organisation of this report and conventions used

All dimensions are given in metres.

BGS	British Geological Survey
DCMS	Department of Culture, Media and Sport
DoE	Department of the Environment
EH	English Heritage
GLAAS	Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
GLSMR	Greater London Sites and Monuments Record
MoLA	Museum of London Archaeology
MoLAS	Museum of London Archaeology Service
MoLSS	Museum of London Specialist Services
OD	Ordnance Datum (mean sea level at Newlyn, Cornwall)
OS	Ordnance Survey
RCHME	Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, England
TDP	Thames Discovery Programme
VCH	Victoria County History

Table 1: abbreviations used in this report

3 Topographical and historical background²

3.1 Introduction

A foreshore survey carried out by the Thames Archaeological Survey in the late 1990s recorded no archaeologically significant features within the confines of the site boundary³.

The time-scales used in this report are as follows.

Palaeolithic	c 450,000 - 12,000BC
Mesolithic	c 12,000–4000 BC
Neolithic	c 4000–2000 BC
Bronze Age	c 2000–600 BC
Iron Age	c 600 BC–AD 43
Roman	AD 43–410
Early medieval	AD 410–c 1000
Later medieval	c AD 1000–1500
Post-medieval–modern industrial)	(including c 1500–present

3.2 Geology and natural topography

London occupies part of the Thames Basin, a broad syncline of chalk filled in the centre with Tertiary sands and clays. In the City, and in most of London, this Tertiary series of bed-rock consists of London Clay. Above the bed-rock lie the Pleistocene (Quaternary) fluvial deposits of the River Thames arranged in flights or gravel terraces. These terraces represent the remains of former floodplains of the river, the highest being the oldest with each terrace becoming progressively younger down the valley side.

During the post-glacial rise in sea level, Britain became separated from the European Continent. Subsequent climatic changes produced fluctuations in sea levels resulting in change to coastal and river patterns. In the Lower Thames Valley and Medway a series of silt and peat deposits in the estuaries have produced evidence for five marine transgressions over the past 8,500 years. Over that period the sea level has risen by 25m.

The result of this rise in sea level was that the Lower Thames Valley saw a build up of alluvial silts. The rise was not constant and during periods of regression the exposed areas of newly deposited silt was colonised by vegetation resulting in the deposition of peat. These processes of transgression and regression have resulted in layers of peat being sandwiched between layers of alluvial silts and sands⁴.

The site is situated on the south bank of the river Thames below Winchester Wharf. The geology of the area comprises terrace gravels.

² This information is mainly drawn from Hoad & Wragg 2010: 7-8. Information from other sources will be individually referenced.

³ Burch, pers. comm.

⁴ Cohen 2008: 7-8

3.3 Archaeological and historical summary

3.3.1 Prehistoric

During the later prehistoric period, the area around Winchester Wharf comprised a series of islands and channels which extended up to 50m into the modern river channel. Core samples taken from the foreshore indicate that these islands comprised mixed woodland from, at least, the fourth millennium BC. Mesolithic Thames picks and tranche axes have been recovered from the foreshore indicating human activity during this period, while Iron Age pottery has also been found in the area of the site. To the east, close to London Bridge, a jetty has been recorded, radiocarbon dating suggesting a date range of 160 BC to AD 150/220. Excavations in 2003 at Blows Yard, 15 Winchester Walk revealed a prehistoric land surface which was sealed by later prehistoric flood clay. The skeleton of an adult human leg was found on top of this layer.

3.3.2 Roman

In the 1940s Ivor Noel Hume recorded a quantity of Roman pottery on the foreshore along with a pavement of this date. In 1996 a Roman intaglio depicting a galley was recovered from the area of the site. Excavations at 16 Winchester Walk and Clink Street in 1961 and 2002 identified evidence for Roman masonry and clay and timber buildings along with dump deposits, while those at Blows Yard suggested that the area was reclaimed during the Roman period by dumping large deposits of made ground, over which was found a masonry building with traces of an opus signinum floor. A gravel surface containing Roman material was found during a watching brief at the Globe Theatre and Anchor Terrace car park in 1997.

3.3.3 Medieval

Saxon beads and medieval pottery were found on the foreshore during the 1940s, while, downstream of the site, a fish trap of Saxo-Norman date has been recorded. To the south of the site, the land was occupied by the palace of the Bishop of Winchester from the 12th century, the area now designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Excavations during 1990 at Horseshoe Wharf revealed timber waterfronts dating to the 12th and 14th centuries along with a cobbled road surface. Further excavations in the area have found evidence of medieval walls, foundations, levelling dumps, floor surfaces, stables, tennis courts, the kitchen of the Great Hall and associated gardens. It seems likely that the palace was extended in the 13th century and further construction occurred in the 14th-15th centuries.

3.3.4 Post medieval – modern

During the 16th and 17th centuries, the Palace was developed further, excavations revealing evidence of brick built wall foundations, a drain or soakaway, levelling dumps, pits and garden horizons.

The Palace was sold in 1649, part of the land was subsequently used for industrial purposes; at Blows Yard evidence for a hearth, brick-lined cess pits, soakaways and metal working was recorded. This area was extensively cellared during the 18th century, while the pits were backfilled during the 19th century. Excavations at Winchester Wharf in 2000, revealed wall foundations and floors dating to the late

17th-18th centuries, along with glass bottle fragments and further evidence of metal working. A watching brief carried out at Stoney Street and Clink Street in 2004 recorded levelling dumps and a rubbish pit over the site of the Palace's stables and tennis courts. Clink Street was constructed during the mid 17th century.

To the west of the Palace, the Globe theatre was erected in 1599, the site of which is also a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The Globe Theatre and Anchor Terrace car park excavations revealed a possible boundary ditch associated with the Globe estate, a number of 16th century pits, and evidence of a structure which may have fronted onto Globe Alley. In 1613 the original theatre burnt down and was subsequently rebuilt twelve times before 1655 when the site was used for domestic properties.

4 The foreshore survey

4.1 Methodology

All archaeological analysis and recording during the investigation on site was done in accordance with the Museum of London *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994) and MOLA *Health and safety policy* (2009).

The site was surveyed during one low tide window (9 November 2010) with a predicted low water level of 0.70m. Access to the foreshore was provided via Globe Stairs. Photographic and geomatic surveys were also undertaken.

The site record comprises site notes, digital survey data and 6 digital photographs. No objects or samples were collected. The site records will be deposited and indexed in due course in the Museum of London archaeological archive under the site code FSW12. The project was designed to produce an archive that could be integrated with the Thames Archaeological Survey (TAS) records.

4.2 The archaeology of the foreshore (Fig. 2)

A walkover and topographic survey was conducted in front of Winchester Wharf. No features of archaeological significance were observed. The foreshore, within the area of the site, sloped down from south to north with a maximum height of 2.20m OD and a minimum of 0.80m OD.

Three discrete deposits were recorded during the survey. The first comprised a matrix of small-medium gravels, with frequent 19th/20th century ceramic building material (CBM), occasional animal bone, slag and sherds of 19th/20th century pottery (α301). It was recorded in the north-western part of the site and extended up to 17m northwest-southeast and extended down the foreshore beyond the confines of the site to the northeast.

The second was recorded as a deposit of small gravels with frequent fragments of slag, and occasional medium gravels, 19th/20th century CBM, 19th/20th century pottery, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone and glass (α302). It was recorded in the south-eastern part of the site and extended up to 15m northwest-southeast and extended down the foreshore beyond the site boundary to the northeast.

The last deposit observed comprised a matrix of small gravels, tile and slag, with moderate clay tobacco pipe, occasional medium gravels, animal bone, oyster shell, 19th/20th century glass, 18th-20th century CBM, and occasional sherds of pottery dating from the late medieval period through to the 20th century (α303). It was recorded as lying primarily to the east of the site, although a small part of it (c. 0.70m x 0.70m) extended onto the south-eastern part.

The river wall (α304) was observed to be of 19th/20th century date and evidence of phases of rebuilding was noted. On the face of the wall, 20th century features such as fenders or bumpers and the remains of a ladder were recorded.

5 Archaeological potential

5.1 Original research aims

A number of research aims were identified in the Written Scheme of Investigation⁵:

Can we determine the nature of the geology and topography on the foreshore?

The surface of the foreshore was recorded as small-medium gravels intermingled with primarily 19th/20th century demolition and industrial/domestic debris. The foreshore sloped down in a uniform fashion in a broadly south-north direction with a maximum height of 2.20m OD and minimum of 0.80m OD.

Are there any prehistoric artefacts or structures, surviving on the foreshore?

No prehistoric artefacts or structures were observed on the foreshore.

Is there any evidence for palaeoenvironmental deposits? If so are samples taken suitable for dating/pollen/diatom analysis?

No peat or organic deposits were observed during the walkover survey.

Is there any evidence for Roman activity on the site?

No evidence of Roman activity was recorded on the foreshore.

Are there any Saxon or medieval deposits / artefacts surviving on the foreshore?

No deposits of these dates were recorded on the foreshore. 19th/20th century deposit α303 contained occasional residual sherds of late medieval green-glazed pottery.

Are structures or artefacts (relating to maritime activity) dated to the post-medieval period preserved on the site. What is the extent of the post-medieval remains on the foreshore?

The river wall was observed be of 19th/20th century date, with 20th century features such as fenders and a ladder attached to its face. Post-medieval remains were represented by scatters of primarily 19th/20th century demolition/industrial/domestic debris.

5.2 New research aims

Given the relatively recent date of the deposits identified during the survey, no new research aims are necessary.

⁵ Hoad & Wragg 2010: 10.

5.3 Significance of the data

The features identified are of marginal significance for the history of the immediate locality; nothing being found of wider regional or national importance. The academic requirement to publish the results of the investigation will therefore be met by reporting the results in summary form in the annual excavation round-up in the *London Archaeologist*.

5.4 Salvaged fixtures, fittings and materials

There was no archaeological requirement to salvage any of the materials or fittings.

5.5 General discussion of archaeological potential

The nature of the tidal regime on the Thames foreshore is very dynamic with noticeable large-scale erosion and deposition taking place along the river. A comparison of this foreshore survey and one carried out by the Thames Archaeological Survey in the late 1990s, however, suggests that the site has been subject to neither⁶.

The foreshore survey has shown that while no deposits or features of prehistoric, Roman, Saxon or medieval date have been discovered, there was some evidence of late medieval occupation in the area, in the form of a small number of residual pottery sherds recorded within a 19th/20th century deposit.

Three discrete deposits were recorded on the site, all dating to the 19th/20th century. The river-wall was observed as dating to the 19th/20th century and had been rebuilt a number of times. Recorded on its face were a number of 20th century features including fenders and the remains of a ladder.

⁶ Burch, pers. comm.

6 Publication and archiving

Information on the results of the survey will be made publicly available to permit inclusion of the site data in any future academic researches into the development of London.

The site archive containing original records will be stored with the Museum of London.

In view of the limited significance of the data (Section 5.3) it is suggested that:

A summary of the results of the survey should appear in the annual round up of the *London Archaeologist*.

7 Proposed development impact and recommendations

7.1 Impact of proposals

The future work on the site is intended to be limited to the erection of scaffolding on the foreshore surface and, as such, is likely to have only a small impact upon that surface.

7.2 Recommendations

As no archaeologically significant features or structures were recorded on the site, and as the proposed works are likely to be non-intrusive, it is recommended that no further mitigation is necessary.

8 Acknowledgements

Museum of London Archaeology and the Thames Discovery Programme would like to thank Mike Slade of Cousins Wojciechowski Architects, on behalf of the client Winchester Wharf Management Ltd. for commissioning the foreshore survey and report.

The author would like to thank Mark Burch and Catherine Drew for the on-site surveying and illustrations.

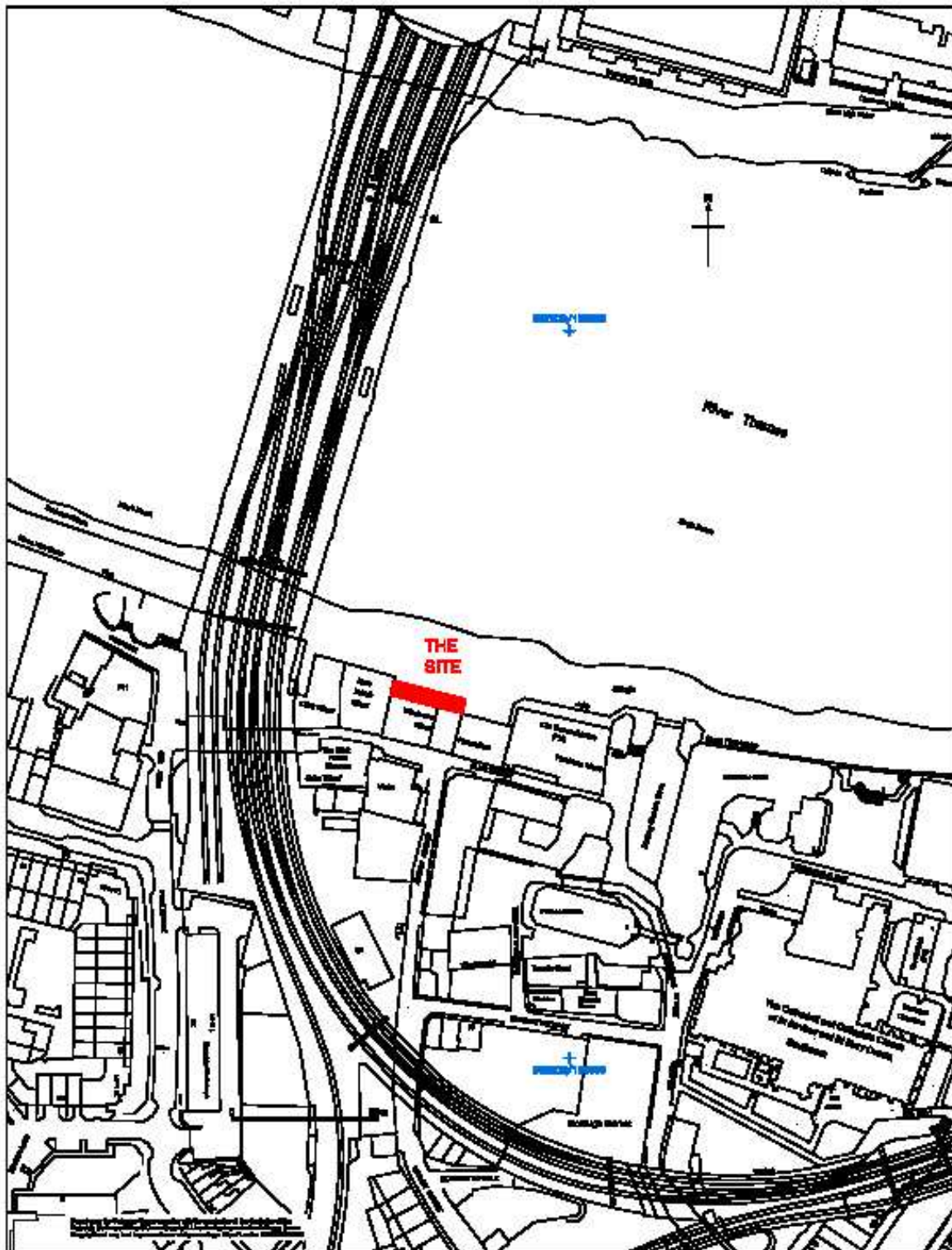


Figure 1 Site Location

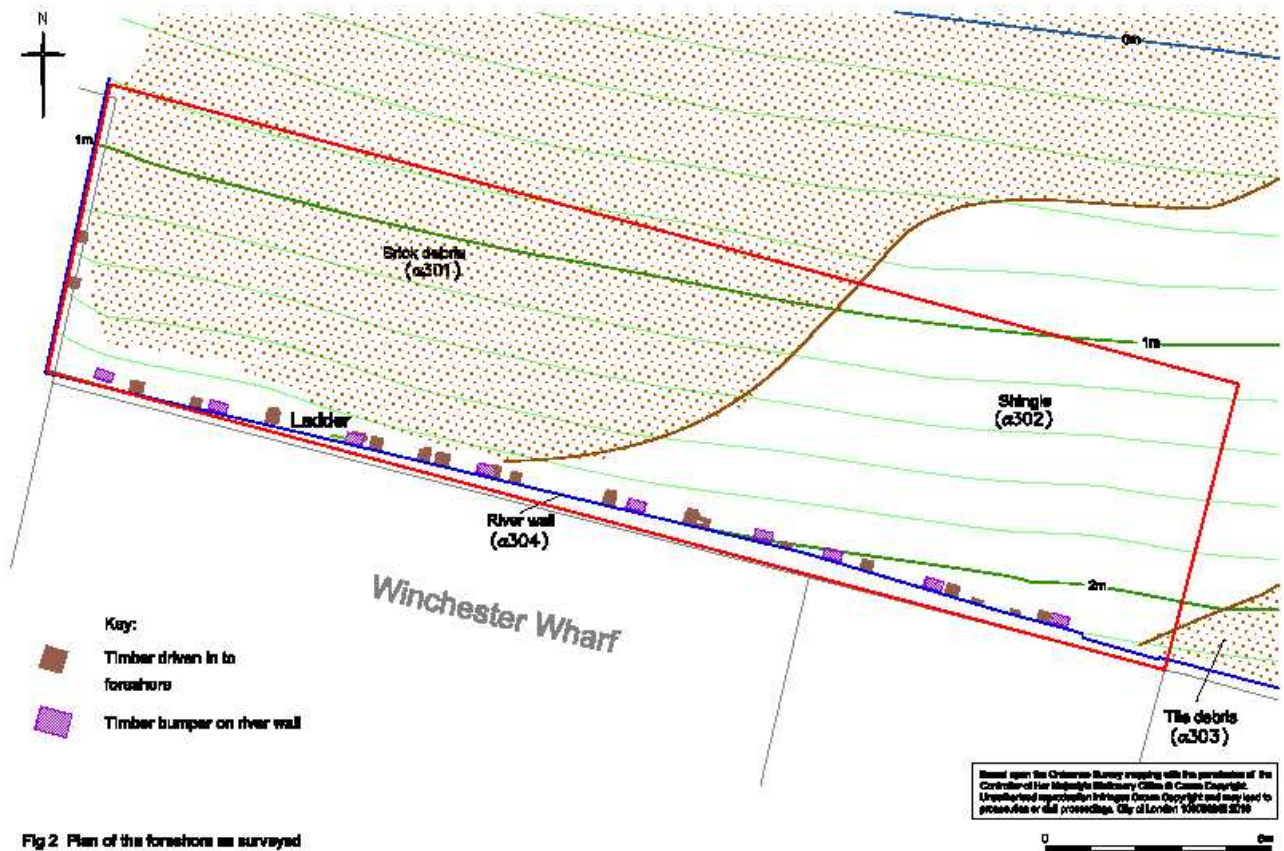


Fig 2 Plan of the foreshore surveyed



Fig 3: Deposit α301. Looking south. © MoLA/TDP



Fig 4: Deposit α302. Looking south. © MoLA/TDP



Fig 5: Deposit α303. Looking south. © MoLA/TDP

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10 NMR OASIS archaeological report form

OASIS ID: thamesdi1-87404

Project details

Project name An archaeological assessment and foreshore survey report at Winchester Wharf, 4 and 5 Clink Street, London SE1

Short description of the project Three discrete deposits of 19th-20th century date were identified on the site, one of which contained occasional residual sherds of medieval pottery, along with a river wall dating to the 19th/20th century. No archeologically significant features or structures were observed.

Project dates Start: 09-11-2010 End: 23-11-2010

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference FSW 12 - Sitecode codes

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Site status (other) Archaeological Priority Zone

Current Land use Coastland 2 - Inter-tidal

Current Land use Open Fresh Water 1 - Running water

Monument type RIVER WALL Post Medieval

Monument type RIVER WALL Modern

Monument type LAYER Post Medieval

Monument type LAYER Modern

Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Methods techniques	& 'Annotated Sketch','Documentary Search','Fieldwalking','Photographic Survey','Topographic Survey','Visual Inspection'
Development type	Building refurbishment/repairs/restoration
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK SOUTHWARK Winchester Wharf
Postcode	SE1
Study area	170.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 532551 180425 50.9408546188 0.181614227743 50 56 27 N 000 10 53 E Point
Project creators	
Name	of Thames Discovery Programme/Museum of London
Organisation	Archaeology
Project originator	brief Consultant
Project originator	design Elliott Wragg and Stewart Hoad
Project director/manager	Elliott Wragg and Stewart Hoad
Project supervisor	Elliott Wragg

Type of
sponsor/funding body Developer

Name of
sponsor/funding body Cousins Wojciechowski Architects

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive
recipient Museum of London

Digital Contents 'Survey'

Digital Media
available 'Images raster / digital photography', 'Survey'

Paper Archive
recipient Museum of London

Paper Contents 'Survey', 'other'

Paper Media 'Notebook - Excavation', 'Research', 'General
available Notes', 'Report', 'Unpublished Text', 'Unspecified Archive'

Project bibliography
1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title An archaeological assessment and foreshore survey
report. Winchester Wharf, 4 and 5 Clink Street, London
SE1

Author(s)/Editor(s) Wragg, E.

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher MoLA/TDP

Place of issue or
publication London

Description A4 pamphlet

Entered by Elliott Wragg (e.wragg@thamesdiscovery.org)
Entered on 23 November 2010

11 Appendix 1: list of archaeological photographs

Image number	Direction of view	Description
IMG0975	S	Deposit (α301)
IMG0976	S	Deposit (α302
IMG0977	S	Deposit (α303
IMG0981	SW	Working shot. Surveying the site.
IMG00982	SW	Working shot. Surveying the site.
IMG0983	SW	Working shot. Surveying the site.

12 Appendix 2: updated alpha survey record

α Number	Type	Description
α301	Deposit	19 th /20 th century foreshore surface
α302	Deposit	19 th /20 th century foreshore surface
α303	Deposit	19 th /20 th century foreshore surface
α304	Structure	19 th /20 th century river wall