

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**  
**AT THE SITE OF THE**  
**C.R.S. MILK BOTTLING DEPOT**  
**WHITTA ROAD, MANOR PARK**  
**LEVEL III REPORT**

Site Code: HE-WH 95

Accession No.: LDPEM/ACHE/298

TQ: 4172 8592

ALISON ANNE TELFER

8th March 1995

## CONTENTS

Abstract	page 2
Site Introduction and Methodology	page 3
Phase Discussion	page 4
Summary and Conclusion	page 5
Bibliography	page 6
Acknowledgements	page 7
Illustrations: Figure 1: Site Location	follows page 3
Figure 2: Trench Location	follows page 4
Figure 3: Section Drawings	follows page 5
Appendix I: Site Matrix and Group Discussion	page 8
Appendix II: Level III Index	page 20
Appendix III: Finds Index	page 22
Appendix IV: Sites and Monuments Record Form	

## **ABSTRACT**

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Newham Museum Service at the former Co-op Milk Bottling Depot, Whitta Road, Manor Park. It revealed modern make-up layers for the present day concrete raft, horticultural features, which may have related to the early 19th century Manor House and layers of natural gravel.

## **SITE INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY**

Newham Museum Service was commissioned by Countryside in Partnership to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the site of the C.R.S. Milk Bottling Depot from 9th to 17th February 1995. This was in accordance with an archaeological condition applied to the planning permission for the re-development of the site (Planning Application No.). The condition was imposed by Mr. Lawrence Pontin, Planning Officer (Archaeology) for North-East London.

This evaluation follows an earlier evaluation, two weeks previously, in the area of the Co-op Funeral Parlour. This was situated to the south-west of the Milk Bottling Depot, within the grounds of the same demolition site. It should be noted that all of the recording carries on numerically from the evaluation in the Funeral Parlour. For the purposes of the Museum's archive, Figure 2 shows the trench location of both the earlier C.R.S. Funeral Parlour evaluation (Area A) and the C.R.S. Milk Bottling Depot evaluation (Area B). Both evaluations carry the same site code HE-WH 95.

Wanstead sits upon a Flood Plain Gravel; previous excavation by the Museum upon this material have produced finds such as stone tools. The location of the site is very close to the Romford Road, which was formerly a Roman road. A number of manor houses have also been recorded in the area from the 11th century (Powell, 1973) and includes the Manor House situated to the east of the area under excavation, which was built around 1800 (Lund, 1973). There is therefore evidence for prehistoric, Roman and medieval activity in the area.

The site itself is bounded by Capel Road at the north, Whitta Road to the west and south and Gladding Road to the east (Figure 1).

It was planned to excavate a total of ten trenches, but two had to be abandoned due to their proximity to the on-going demolition. Each trench measured 10m by 2m, with the exception of Trench 11 (Figure 2), which was shortened to 7m by 2m for the same reasons as above. The trenches were positioned to maximise the potential information from the entire area under development. A breaker was used to remove the concrete raft. Each trench was then machined to a depth of 0.80m or to a maximum of 1.20m if the deposits were entirely modern.

The site was negotiated and directed by Mr. Ken MacGowan and supervised by the author.

## **PHASE DISCUSSION**

### **PHASE I**

Phase I represents the natural geology of the area under excavation. Throughout this report, the natural in each excavated trench has been given different context numbers in order to reflect the differing proportions of sand, silt, clay and gravel, as well as the variations in colour.

### **PHASE II**

Phase II represents a horticultural period, possibly relating to the previous existence of a garden or park in this area. Root-filled pits were recorded to the south of the Manor House. These features can be dated to the 19th century.

### **PHASE III**

This phase represents the modern layers of hardcore and demolition, which are consistent with the foundations of the concrete surface of the Co-op Depot (Group 35). These layers date to the late 20th century.

## **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

The evaluation reveals extensive modern structures and deposits overlying post-medieval contexts (Figure 3), which appear to be horticultural. Due to the proximity of the area under excavation to the 19th century Manor House, it is likely that remains of its gardens were recorded in the evaluation.

There may have been truncation of medieval to post-medieval deposits as part of the construction of the depot. The proximity of the natural gravel to the current ground surface, however, would considerably diminish the likelihood of any large-scale activity or occupation on this site prior to the modern construction.

It is the recommendation of this evaluation that no further archaeological work is required in the vicinity of the milk-bottling depot.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- LUND, K. 1973 "Buildings in Newham"  
London Borough of Newham
- MACGOWAN, K. & CHEW, S. 1995 "A Research Design for the Archaeological  
Evaluation of the C.R.S. Milk Bottling  
Depot, Whitta Road, Manor Park"  
Newham Museum Service
- POWELL, W.R. (Ed) 1973 "A History of the County of Essex"  
in PUGH, R.B. (Ed) "The Victoria History  
of the Counties of England" Vol. VI.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

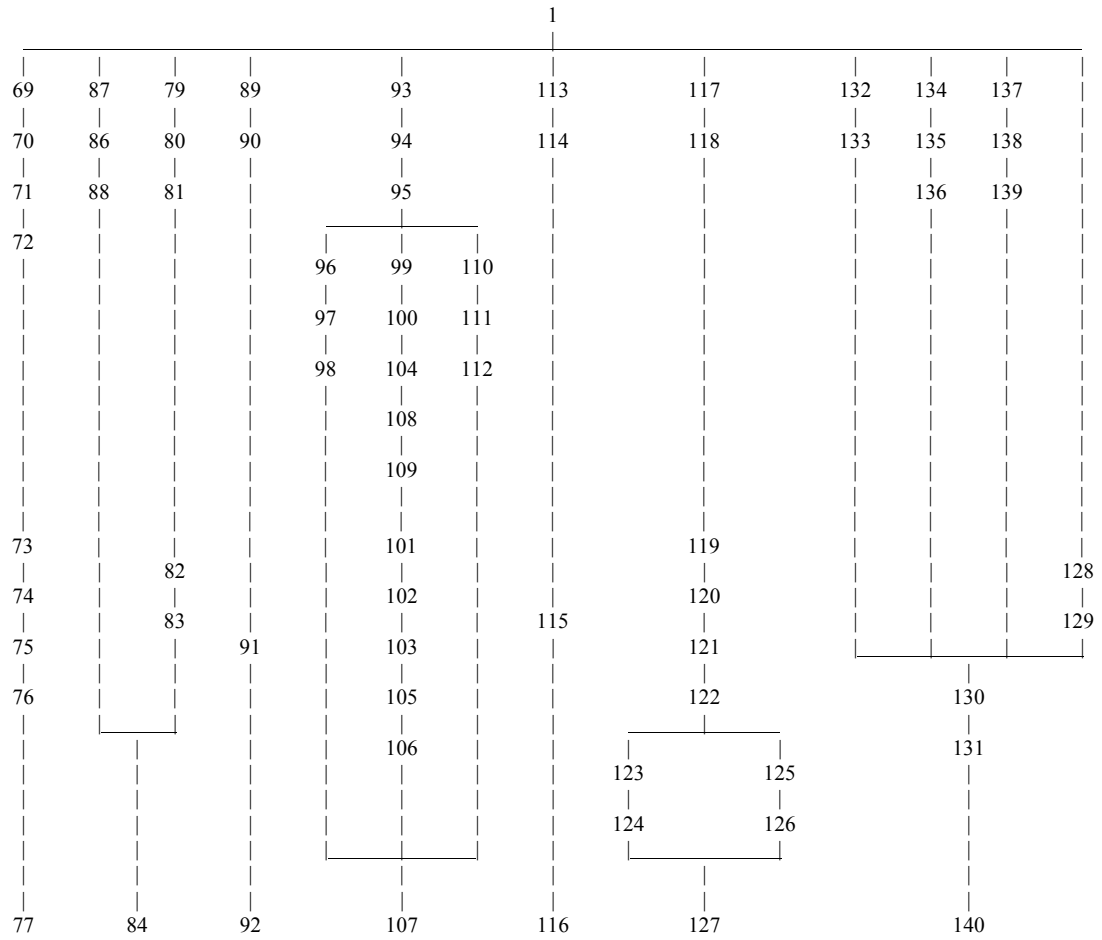
The Museum and author would like to thank Countryside in Partnership for kindly funding the project and for all their help during the course of the evaluation.

Thanks are also due the demolition team on site who went out of their way to assist us throughout the entire project.

The author would also like to thank Graham Reed for the illustrations, Chris Jarrett for the pottery analysis and Paul Cox for his work on site.

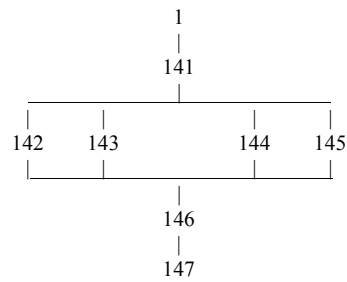


**APPENDIX I: SITE MATRIX**



**APPENDIX I: SITE MATRIX**

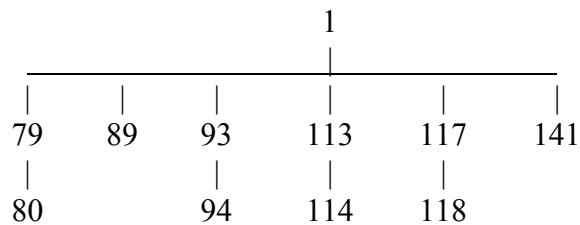
**TRENCH 13**



## GROUP DISCUSSION

### PHASE III

#### Group 35



#### Level in Metres above O.D.

#### Maximum Minimum

#### Context

(1): Layer, concrete raft		
(79): Layer, dark brown, clay silt with frequent brick and iron fragments	13.01	12.89
(80): Layer, crushed red and yellow bricks	12.95	12.81
(89): Layer, mid brown, sandy clay with occ. coal and charcoal fragments	13.05	12.81
(93): Layer, black, crushed coal	11.30	11.21
(94): Layer, dark orange brown, silty sand with frequent whole red bricks	11.24	11.08
(113): Layer, concrete rubble	11.64	11.47
(114): Layer, black, crushed tarmac	11.48	11.20
(117): Layer, black, crushed coal	11.32	11.25
(118): Layer, mid grey brown, sandy silt with frequent red and yellow bricks	11.29	11.17
(141): Layer, mid brown, sandy silt with frequent bricks	---	---

Group 35 represents the modern make-up for the concrete raft of the Co-op Depot. Context (1) represents the concrete slabs and the remaining contexts represent the underlying balast and hardcore.

#### Group 36

|  
69  
|  
70  
|  
71  
|

(69): Fill, bricks and hardcore	13.12	12.85
(70): Wall, red brick, running E-W	13.12	12.85
(71): Cut, top sharp, side steep, base flat	13.12	12.85

This group represents the construction of a modern foundation.

Photographs: c/s: 3: 2-5 b/w: 3: 2-5

**Group 37**

|  
72  
|

(72): Layer, bricks and hardcore	13.14	13.01
----------------------------------	-------	-------

Photographs: c/s: 3: 2-5 b/w: 3: 2-5

Group 37 represents a make-up layer for the depot's concrete raft.

**Group 38**

|  
87  
|  
86  
|  
88  
|

(87): Fill, mid brown, sandy silt	12.91	---
(86): Foundation, concrete	12.91	---
(88): Cut, top sharp, side slightly curved	12.91	---

This group represents the construction of a concrete foundation.

**Group 39**

|  
90  
|

(90): Layer, dark brown grey, sandy silt	12.91	12.62
--	-------	-------

This group represents a ground-levelling layer, in advance of the construction of the concrete raft.

Photographs: c/s: 3: 26-29 b/w: 3: 26-29

### Group 40

|  
95  
|

(95): Layer, mid brown grey, sandy clay with occasional slag 11.17 11.01

Group 40 represents a dumped or ground-levelling layer.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 5-8 b/w: 4: 6-9

### Group 41

|  
96  
|  
97  
|  
98  
|

(96): Fill of ground beam cut, unrecorded 11.00 ---  
(97): Concrete ground beam, unrecorded 11.00 ---  
(98): Cut for ground beam, unrecorded 11.00 ---

This group represents the construction of a modern ground beam.

### Group 42

|  
99  
|  
100  
|  
104  
|

(99): Fill, light yellow brown, sand with frequent crushed yellow brick 11.01 10.81  
(100): Fill, mid brown grey, sandy silt 11.06 10.82  
(104): Cut, top sharp, side straight, base irregular 11.06 10.85

This group represents a modern pit and dumped deposits.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 5-8 b/w: 4: 6-9

### Group 43

|  
108  
|  
109  
|

(108): Layer, dark grey brown, sandy silt	11.06	10.95
(109): Layer, mid brown, sandy silt	10.96	10.85

Group 43 represents a series of dumped deposits.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 5-8 b/w: 4: 6-9

**Group 44**

|  
110  
|  
111  
|  
112  
|

(110): Fill of ground beam cut, unrecorded	11.00	---
(111): Concrete ground beam, unrecorded	11.00	---
(112): Cut for ground beam, unrecorded	11.00	---

This group represents the construction of a modern ground beam.

**Group 45**

|  
132  
|  
133  
|

(132): Fill, light brown grey, sandy gravel	12.48	---
(133): Cut, top sharp, side vertical	12.48	---

Group 45 represents a modern test trench.

**Group 46**

|

134

|

135

|

136

|

(134): Fill of modern drain cut, unrecorded	12.50	---
(135): Drain cover, red brick, running N-S	12.50	---
(136): Cut for drain, unrecorded	12.50	---

Group 46 represents the construction of a drain.

**Group 47**

|  
137

|

138

|

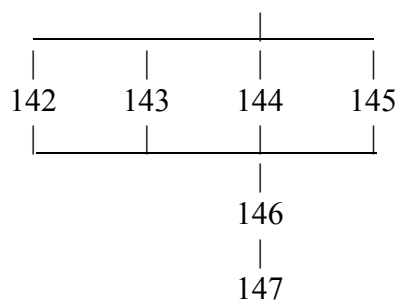
139

|

(137): Fill of modern drain cut, unrecorded	12.50	---
(138): Concrete drain cover, running NE-SW	12.50	---
(139): Cut for drain, unrecorded	12.50	---

Group 47 represents the construction of a drain.

**Group 48**



(142): Modern drain	---	---
(143): Backfilled natural over concrete raft	---	---
(144): Rubble filled pit	---	---
(145): Layer, light grey, silty clay	---	---
(146): Pit with concrete demolition	---	---
(147): Layer, mid yellow brown, sandy silt with frequent bricks and rubble	---	---

Group 48 represents Trench 13, which comprised modern make-up, dumped deposits and demolition rubble.

## **PHASE II**

### **Group 49**

|  
73  
|  
74  
|  
75  
|

(73): Lens, dark brown, sandy silt	13.04	12.91
(74): Layer, mid brown, sandy silt	13.04	12.83
(75): Layer, dark brown, sandy silt	12.91	12.62

This group represents a series of dumped deposits.

Photographs: c/s: 3: 2-5 b/w: 3: 2-5

### **Group 50**

|  
76  
|

(76): Layer, mid yellow brown, silty sand	12.78	12.58
---	-------	-------

Group 50 represents an interface layer between dumped deposits and the natural geology.

Photographs: c/s: 3: 2-5 b/w: 3: 2-5

### **Group 51**

|  
81  
|

(81): Layer, dark brown, clay silt	12.85	12.61
------------------------------------	-------	-------

This group represents a dumped deposit.

Photographs: c/s: 3: 30-33 b/w: 3: 30-33





### Group 56

|  
102  
|  
103  
|  
105  
|  
106  
|

(102): Fill, light grey brown, sandy silt	10.56	10.41
(103): Fill, blackish grey, sandy crushed coal	10.46	10.24
(105): Fill, mid brown, silty sand	10.39	10.06
(106): Cut, top sharp, side steep, base unexcavated	10.56	10.06

Group 56 represents a pit cut into the natural geology.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 5-8 b/w: 4: 6-9

### Group 57

|  
115  
|

(115): Layer, light yellow grey, clay sand	11.26	11.11
--	-------	-------

This group represents an interface layer between a tarmac make-up layer and the natural geology.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 13-16 b/w: 4: 14-17

### Group 58

|  
119  
|  
120

|  
121  
|  
122  
|

(119): Layer, mid brown, silty clay	11.21	11.11
(120): Layer, dark grey, silty sand	11.14	11.05
(121): Layer, mid brown, silty sand	11.12	10.91
(122): Layer, dark brown, sandy silt	10.97	10.67

This group represents a series of dumped deposits or ground-levelling layers.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 17-20 b/w: 4: 18-21

### Group 59

|  
123  
|  
124  
|

(123): Fill, mid brown, silty sand	10.70	---
(124): Cut, top sharp, side curving slightly	10.70	---

This group represents a horticultural activity; context (123) contained plant roots.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 17-20 b/w: 4: 18-21

### Group 60

|  
125  
|  
126  
|

(125): Fill, light-mid brown, silty sand	10.69	---
(126): Cut, top sharp, straight, forming V-shape	10.69	---

This group represents a horticultural activity; context (125) contained plant roots.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 17-20 b/w: 4: 18-21

### Group 61

|  
128

|  
129  
|

(128): Fill, mottled orange grey, clay silt 12.56 ---  
(129): Cut, top angled, side straight, base unexcavated 12.56 ---

This group represents a modern test-pit.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 25-28 b/w: 4: 26-29

**Group 62**

|  
130  
|

(130): Layer, mid grey brown, sandy silt 12.56 12.35

Group 62 represents a ground levelling deposit.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 25-28 b/w: 4: 26-29

**Group 63**

|  
131  
|

(131): Lens, mottled brown, sandy silt 12.40 12.25

Group 63 represents a disturbance between Group 62 and the natural geology.

Photographs: c/s: 4: 25-28 b/w: 4: 26-29

**PHASE I**

**Group 64**

|        |        |        |        |        |        |  
77      84      92      107     116     127     140  
|        |  
78      85

(77): Layer, mid orange brown, sandy gravel	12.71	12.43
(78): Layer, mid yellow brown, sandy silt	12.55	---
(84): Layer, mid orange brown, clay sand	12.59	12.36
(85): Layer, mid orange brown, sandy gravel	12.49	---
(92): Layer, mid-light orange brown, sandy gravel	12.64	---
(107): Layer, light yellow brown, silty sand	10.63	---
(116): Layer, mid orange brown, gravelly sand	11.16	---
(127): Layer, light yellow brown, clay sand	10.70	---
(140): Layer, mid orange brown, clay sand	12.45	---

This group represents the natural geology of the site and has been allocated separate context numbers to reflect its differing compositions.

## APPENDIX II

### LEVEL III INDEX

<u>CONTEXT</u>	<u>TRENCH</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PLAN</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>PHASE</u>
69	6	6	--	36	III
70	6	6	--	36	III
71	6	6	--	36	III
72	6	6	--	37	III
73	6	6	--	49	II
74	6	6	--	49	II
75	6	6	--	49	II
76	6	6	--	50	II
77	6	6	--	64	I
78	6	6	--	64	I
79	7	7	--	35	III
80	7	7	--	35	III
81	7	7	--	51	II
82	7	7	--	52	II
83	7	7	--	53	II
84	7	7	--	64	I
85	7	7	--	64	I
86	7	--	--	38	III
87	7	--	--	38	III
88	7	--	--	38	III
89	8	8	--	35	III
90	8	8	--	39	III
91	8	8	--	54	II
92	8	8	--	64	I
93	9	9	--	35	III
94	9	9	--	35	III
95	9	9	--	40	III
96	9	--	--	41	III
97	9	--	--	41	III
98	9	--	--	41	III
99	9	9	--	42	III
100	9	9	--	42	III
101	9	9	--	55	II
102	9	9	--	56	II
103	9	9	--	56	II
104	9	9	--	42	III
105	9	9	--	56	II
106	9	9	--	56	II
107	9	9	--	64	I
108	9	9	--	43	III
109	9	9	--	43	III

110	9	--	--	44	III
111	9	--	--	44	III
112	9	--	--	44	III
113	10	10	--	35	III
114	10	10	--	35	III
115	10	10	--	57	II
116	10	10	--	64	I
117	11	11	--	35	III
118	11	11	--	35	III
119	11	11	--	58	II
120	11	11	--	58	II
121	11	11	--	58	II
122	11	11	--	58	II
123	11	11	--	59	II
124	11	11	--	59	II
125	11	11	--	60	II
126	11	11	--	60	II
127	11	11	--	64	I
128	12	12	--	61	II
129	12	12	--	61	II
130	12	12	--	62	II
131	12	12	--	63	II
132	12	--	--	45	III
133	12	--	--	45	III
134	12	--	--	46	III
135	12	--	--	46	III
136	12	--	--	46	III
137	12	--	--	47	III
138	12	--	--	47	III
139	12	--	--	47	III
140	12	12	--	64	I
141	13	--	--	35	III
142	13	--	--	48	III
143	13	--	--	48	III
144	13	--	--	48	III
145	13	--	--	48	III
146	13	--	--	48	III
147	13	--	--	48	III

### **APPENDIX III: FINDS INDEX**

#### CONTEXT (28)

27 sherds of German Stone Ware, probably Nassau (SELZ) flask shaped	1800-1900
2 sherds of London Stone Ware (LONS)	19th C