

PHASE DISCUSSION

PHASE 1

This phase represents the natural deposits in both trenches and consists of groups 6.1 and 13.1.

GROUP 6.1

	40		
		Levels in metres	
		A.O.D	
		highest - lowest	
		10.41	-----
(40) Layer - greyish orange sandy gravel		10.41	-----

Group 6.1 represents the natural deposits in trench 1, consisting of gravels with high sand composition. The site lies near the edge of the eastern gravel terrace of the River Lea. The slight difference in the two trenches could be due to either differences in the overlying strata leaching downwards or to localised differences in the composition of natural deposits throughout Leyton.

GROUP 13.1

	27		
(27) Layer - Compact orange sandy gravel		10.00	-----

Group 13.1 represents the natural deposits in trench 2.

SUMMARY OF PHASE

This phase represents the natural deposits in both trenches.

PHASE 2

This phase represents the pre eighteenth century activity on the site and is present only in trench 1. This phase comprises groups 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 9.4 and 10.1.

GROUP 4.2

|

42
|
41
|

- (42) Layer - Moderately compacted light yellowish brown silty gravelly sand. 9.93 9.90
- (41) Layer - Light yellowish grey sandy silty clay. 9.77 -----

Group 4.2 represents two layers of uncertain function which are however below the early eighteenth century walls on the site and are therefore pre eighteenth century activity. The dating evidence from this group consists of a small quantity of early brick and tile.

Group 5.1

|
46
|
43
|
80
|

- (46) Fill - Moderately compact light yellowish brown gravelly silty sand. 9.60 -----
- (43) Fill - Moderately compacted light greyish brown sandy clay silt. 9.65 -----
- (80) Cut - 1.70m x 0.45m deep (not fully excavated), width unknown (recorded from section). Filled with (46) and (43). 9.65 -----

Group 5.1 represents a cut which has no obvious function but which is below the early eighteenth century walls and therefore represents pre eighteenth century activity. However no dating evidence was recovered from this group.

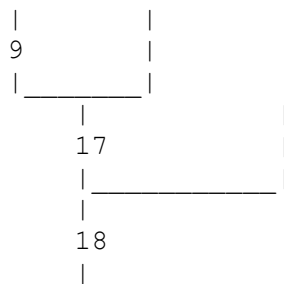
GROUP 5.2

|
71
|
78
|

- | | | |
|--|------|------|
| (71) Layer - plastic greeny brown sandy silty clay. | 9.78 | 9.57 |
| (78) Layer - Moderately compacted grey sandy silty clay. | 9.74 | 9.48 |

Group 5.2 represents two layers of uncertain function.

GROUP 5.3



- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| (9) Layer - moderately compacted mottled bluish greenish grey sandy clay silt. | 9.93 | ----- |
| (17) Layer - moderately compacted grey brown clay sandy silt. | 9.93 | 9.74 |
| (18) Layer - moderately compacted greyish green clayey silty sand. | 9.59 | 9.24 |

Group 5.3 represents probable buried ground surfaces, possibly buried ploughsoil, and the earliest activity found on the site. (9) seems to be an accumulation of washed out silt on the earlier ground surfaces. This group produced a small sherd of possibly early medieval pottery.

C/S F1, 2-4 B/W F1, 2-4 GROUP 9.4



- | |
|---|
| (74) Fill - Friable greenish brown gravelly sandy |
|---|

silt.

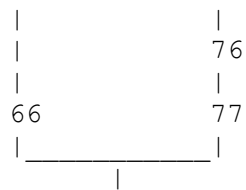
9.97 -----

(75) Cut - truncated by limits of excavation,
unexcavated, minimum 1.30m E - W x 1.00m
N - S, sub - circular. Filled with (74).

9.97 -----

Group 9.4 represents a roughly circular cut of uncertain function which was not excavated due to the limited time available.

GROUP 10.1



(66) Layer - firm greenish brown silty clay. 10.05 -----

(76) Layer - compact dark yellowish brown sandy
silt. 9.97 -----

(77) Layer - compact light yellowish brown clayey
sandy silt. 9.76 -----

Group 10.1 represents three layers which may be buried soil horizons. No dating evidence was recovered from this group but the group is below the early eighteenth century walls and therefore represent pre eighteenth century activity.

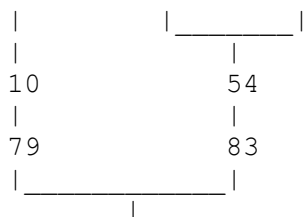
SUMMARY OF PHASE

Phase 2 represents the earliest phase of activity on the site. In fact this activity consists of two cuts of uncertain function cut into possible buried soil horizons, together with these buried soils showing possible earlier ground surfaces.

PHASE 3

This phase represents early eighteenth century activity, including the construction of a brick building. This phase comprises groups 3.3, 4.1, 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 and is only present in trench 1.

GROUP 3.3



- (10) Wall foundation - unfrogged red brick, bricks 55mm x 100mm x 190mm (d x b x l), English coursing, bonded with sandy lime mortar. Dimensions 0.74m N-S x 0.27m wide x 0.23m deep, oriented N - S, truncated by limits of excavation. Same as (54). 10.00 -----
- (79) Cut - construction cut for trench built wall (10). 10.00 -----
- (54) Wall foundation - unfrogged red brick, bricks 222mm x 140mm x 50mm (l x b x d), English coursing, bonded with sandy lime mortar. Dimensions 1.60m N - S x 0.22m wide x 0.35m deep. Truncated by limits of excavation. Same as (10). 9.85 9.54
- (83) Cut - construction cut for trench built wall (54). 9.85 -----Group
- 3.3 represents two wall foundations and their construction cuts.

C/S F2, 1-4,13,14

B/W F2, 1-4,13,14

C/S F2, 35,36. F3, 1-3,25-30

B/W F2, 34-36, F3, 2-4,26-31

GROUP 4.1



- (12) Layer - compact reddish brown sand,brick,tile

and gravel.

10.00 -----

Group 4.1 represents a compact rubble layer which may be a floor surface.

GROUP 9.1

53	50
70	72

(53) Wall foundation - unfrogged red brick, bricks 235mm x 100mm x 60mm (l x b x d), irregular coursing, bonded with lime mortar. Forms right angled turn, dimensions 2m N-S x 1.14m E - W x 0.27m wide (not fully excavated). Oriented N-S and E-W (L - shaped). Truncated by later cut and by limits of excavation. Same as (50).

10.05 9.96

(70) Cut - construction cut for trench built wall (53). Same as (72).

10.05 -----

(50) Wall foundation - unfrogged red brick, bricks 223mm x 110mm x 64mm (l x b x d), irregular coursing, bonded with sandy lime mortar. Dimensions 1.55m E - W x 1.30m N - S (not fully excavated). Roughly L - shaped but later cut and limits of excavation. Oriented N-S and E-W. Same as (53).

10.06 9.83

truncated by

(72) Cut - construction cut for trench built wall (50). Same as (70).

10.03 -----

Group 9.1 represents a two brick wall foundations and their construction cuts. These two walls are in fact the same but are physically separated by later features.

C/S F3, 10-18

B/W F3, 11-19

GROUP 9.2

|
73
|
52
|
81
|

- (73) Fill - loosely compacted brown silt. 9.96 -----
- (52) Drain - red unfrogged linear brick drain, bricks 220mm x 110mm x 64mm (l x b x d), irregular coursing, bonded with sandy lime mortar, dimensions 1.60m NE - SW x 0.40m wide (not fully excavated), truncated by limits of excavation and by later cut. Oriented NE-SW. 9.96 9.81
- (81) Cut - construction cut for trench built brick drain. 9.97 -----

Group 9.2 represents a brick drain, its construction cut and its fill.

C/S F3, 10-18

B/W F3, 11-19

GROUP 9.3

|
51
|

- (51) Wall foundation - red unfrogged brick, bricks 220mm x 110mm x 64mm (l x b x d), consists of 3 bricks laid flat no coursing visible, bonded with sandy lime mortar. Dimensions 0.36m N - S x 0.22m wide, no cut visible. Oriented N-S. 10.02 -----

Group 9.3 represents a wall foundation.

C/S F3, 10-18

B/W F3, 11-19

SUMMARY OF PHASE

This phase represents the earliest structure on the site, consisting of five truncated red brick wall foundations and a red brick drain. These foundations have generally been badly truncated by later activity on the site and have also not been fully exposed due to the limits of excavation. The structure in this phase is generally cut into the earlier ground surfaces represented by phase 2. The structure represented by this phase is a rectangular building with a brick drain (fig.2). The general lack of domestic rubbish and occupation debris may indicate that the site was some distance from domestic activity so possibly this phase may represent outhouses of some sort. The bricks from this phase are dated to the early eighteenth century and so this phase may be either a short lived building or a hitherto unknown construction phase of Leyton House.

PHASE 4

This phase represents a rebuilding of one of the walls in phase 3 and is only present in trench 1. It comprises groups 3.1 and 3.2.

GROUP 3.1



(20) Wall - rebuild of wall (54). Red unfrogged bricks, bricks 220mm x 100mm x 50mm (l x b x d), English coursing, bonded with chalky sandy lime mortar. Dimensions 1.60m N - S x 0.21m wide x 0.15m deep. Truncated by limits of excavation. Oriented N-S.

10.06 9.94

(38) Floor surface - red unfrogged brick floor surface, bricks 230mm x 100mm x 59mm (l x b x d), stretchers laid in same direction, oriented N - S, bonded with and laid in a bed of sandy lime mortar. Dimensions 1.2m N - S x 0.4m wide, truncated by limit of excavation. Associated with brick wall (20).

9.84 9.78

Group 3.1 represents a wall and a floor surface.

C/S F1, 11-16. F2, 35,36. F3, 1-3,25-30

B/W F1, 11-16. F2, 34-36. F3, 2-4,26-31

GROUP 3.2

|
19
|
82
|

(19) Drain - red unfrogged brick drain , bricks 230mm x 100mm x 69mm (l x b x d), no bonding material present, laid unbonded to line the cut. Dimensions 1.60m N - S x 0.40m wide, x one course deep, truncated by limits of excavation. Oriented N-S.

9.91 9.92

(82) Cut - Construction cut for drain (19). Shallow linear cut lined with brick to form drain.

9.92 9.91

Group 3.2 represents a brick drain and its construction cut.

C/S F1, 11-16 B/W F1, 11-16

SUMMARY OF PHASE

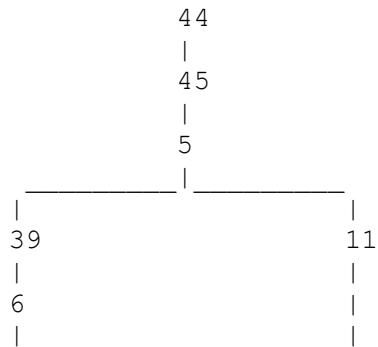
This phase represents the rebuilding of wall (20) from phase 3 and the addition of a drain to the structure (fig.3).

PHASE 5

This phase represents the destruction of the earlier structures and the levelling of the site. It is only present in trench 1 and comprises groups 2.3, 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5.

GROUP 2.3

|



- (44) Layer - moderately compacted orange brown silty sand. 10.17 -----

- (45) Layer - moderately compacted light yellowish grey gravelly silty sand, frequent mortar and building material fragments. 10.17 ----- (5)
- Layer - moderately compacted light yellowish brown silty gravelly sand. 10.20 -----
- (39) Layer - loosely compacted light grey silty clay sand, frequent fragments of mortar. 10.02 -----
- (6) Layer - moderately compacted light greyish brown clay silty sand, frequent mortar, brick and tile fragments. 10.02 -----
- (11) Layer - compact greyish white mortar with frequent brick and tile fragments. 10.07 -----

Group 2.3 represents a series of demolition and levelling layers.

GROUP 8.3



- (62) Layer - firm dark orange brown gravelly sandy clay with frequent brick fragments. 10.72 -----
- (63) Layer - very compact dark orange brown gravelly sandy clay.

10.53 -----

Group 8.3 represents probable levelling layers.

GROUP 8.4

|
64
|
65
|
67
|

- (64) Fill - moderately compacted greyish brown
mortary sandy clay with 35% brick fragments
(18th century brick).
10.40 10.15
- (65) Fill - moderately compacted greyish brown
mortary sandy clay.
10.40 10.15
- (67) Cut - recorded in section only, 2.20m N - S
x 0.35m deep, filled with (64), (65).
10.40 -----

Group 8.4 represents a cut and its fills. This cut appears to be a robber cut for the demolition of phase 3 wall (53).

GROUP 8.5

|
68
|
69
|

- (68) Layer - moderately compacted dark orange
brown gravelly silty clay.
10.42 -----
- (69) Layer - moderately compacted dark orange
brown silty clay.
10.22 -----

Group 8.5 represents two layers which may be build up of material against wall (53). The relationships in this area are slightly obscured by the destruction caused by the robbing of wall (53).

SUMMARY OF PHASE

This phase represents the destruction of the earlier structures contained in phases 3 and 4. These early eighteenth century structures seem to have been demolished at some time in the later eighteenth century to make way for the construction of the more substantial brick building found in phase 6. The presence of the robber cut contained in group 8.4 seems to suggest that the bricks from the earlier structures may have been reused in the later building, as some trouble has been taken to remove all the brickwork down to a low level over the whole area, rather than just in the places where it would have obstructed the construction of the later building. The layers contained in groups 2.3 and 8.3 seem to have been formed by a deliberate levelling of the site after the earlier brickwork had been removed, prior to the construction which took place in the next phase.

PHASE 6

This phase represents the construction of the most substantial eighteenth century structures on the site, and comprises groups 2.1, 2.2 and 8.2. This phase is only present in trench one.

GROUP 2.1

|
1
|

(1) Layer - Very compact concreted white slightly
gravelly mortar.

10.37 10.21

Group 2.1 represents a dump layer of mortar probably built up by the dumping of spare mortar during construction work.

F1, 2-4 B/W F1, 2-4

GROUP 2.2

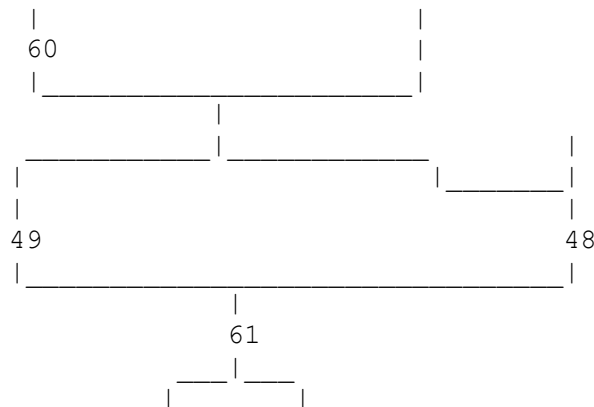
|
2

|
3
|
4
|

- (2) Layer - loosely compacted orange brown silty clay gravel with 20% brick, tile and mortar fragments. 10.63 9.97
- (3) Layer - moderately compacted red crushed brick and large brick fragments with some crushed mortar fragments. The bricks were not mortared, i.e. they had not been used. 10.23 10.11
- (4) Layer - firmly compacted light yellowish brown silty sand with frequent brick fragments. 10.60 10.02

Group 2.2 represents probable construction debris, particularly layer (3) which is a dump of unmortared bricks and brick fragments, probably debris from brick dressing.

GROUP 8.2



- (60) Fill - moderately compacted light greyish brown mortary sandy clay. 10.67 _____
- (48) Wall foundation - unfrogged red brick, bricks 230mm x 100mm x 60mm (l x b x d), bonded with yellowish brown lime mortar. Irregular coursing, a fairly random combination of headers and stretchers laid in all directions. 11 courses visible (not fully excavated) with a slight step out 8 courses down. Dimensions

4m E - W x 0.50m wide x 0.86m deep, truncated
by limits of excavation. Oriented E-W.

10.94 10.80

(49) Wall foundation - unfrogged red brick, bricks
205mm x 95mm x 60mm (l x b x d), very
irregular coursing, a mixture of stretcher,
on headers at all angles, headers and end
with gaps in the masonry and gaps infilled
with excess mortar. The bottom 5 rough
courses extend to 70mm wider than the rest.
Dimensions 4m N - S x 0.49m wide x 0.88m
deep (not fully excavated), bonded with
yellowish brown lime mortar. Oriented N-S.

10.90 10.74

(61) Cut - construction cut for walls (48) and
(49). Not excavated, recorded from section.
N face of (48) and W face of (49) built right
against the sides of the cut, with a gap of
0.15m between the S face of (48) and the E
face of (49) and the edge of the cut. Filled
with (48), (49), (60).

10.67 -----

Group 8.2 represents the construction of the wall foundations
(48) and (49) which are in fact the same building, (48) being the
E - W wall and (49) the N - S wall, the two walls forming a right
angle.

C/S F2, 20-22,26-28 B/W, 19-21,25-27

C/S F2, 23-28. F3, 19-24 B/W F2, 22-27. F3, 20-25

SUMMARY OF PHASE

Phase 6 represents the construction of the most substantial
eighteenth century structure on the site. (fig.2). This is
assumed to be the building known from documentary evidence as
Leyton House, which occupied the site from the early eighteenth
century until it was demolished in 1907. Groups 2.1 and 2.2 are
debris from the construction of the walls in group 8.2.

PHASE 7

This phase represents a small rebuild of wall (48) and comprises
group 8.1. This phase is only present in trench one.

GROUP 8.1

|
47
|

(47) Wall - red unfrogged brick , bricks 220mm x 105mm x 75mm (l x b x d), only 2 courses survive, one of headers and one of stretchers, bonded with lime mortar. Dimensions 2.66m E - W x 0.25m wide x 0.23m deep.

10.91 10.79

Group 8.1 represents a small rebuild of wall (48) butting onto its top surviving course, and making it slightly wider. No cut or other relationships were visible due to the very high level of (47) in relation to the modern ground surface - it was only just underneath the surface and only sealed by modern make-up.

SUMMARY OF PHASE

This phase represents a small rebuild of one of the walls in phase 6.

PHASE 8

This phase represents the demolition of the structures contained in the previous phase and the levelling of the site. It comprises groups 1.1, 1.2, 7.1, 7.2, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3 and 12.4.

GROUP 1.1

|
55
|
57
|
56
|

(55) Layer - loosely compacted yellowish brown silty sandy gravel.	10.87	-----
(57) Layer - compact dark reddish orange brick and crushed brick.	10.62	-----
(56) Layer - friable light greyish brown silty sand.	10.72	-----

Group 1.1 represents modern dump layers.

GROUP 1.2

|
7
|
8
|

(7) Fill - moderately compacted brownish grey sandy silty gravel.	10.74	-----
(8) Cut - cut for modern sewer pipe.	10.74	-----

Group 1.2 represents a modern sewer pipe trench.

GROUP 7.1

|
58
|
59
|

(58) Layer - moderately compacted dark greyish brown silty clay sand.	10.91	-----
(59) Layer - moderately compacted dark greyish black sandy silt.	10.83	-----

Group 7.1 represents modern dump layers.

GROUP 7.2

|
14
|
15
|
16
|

(14) Layer - very compact dark orange brown silty clay gravel.	10.54	-----
(15) Layer - moderately compacted greyish white sandy clay mortar.	10.32	-----
(16) Layer - moderately compacted silty mortar and brick.	10.20	-----

Group 7.2 represents modern dump layers.

GROUP 11.1

|
32
|
33
|

(32) Fill - compact greyish brown sandy silt.	9.92	-----
(33) Cut - roughly rounded cut , 1.70m N - S x 0.98m E - W x 0.35m deep, filled with (32).	9.92	9.65

Group 11.1 represents a modern cut of uncertain function.

GROUP 11.2

|
34
|
35
|

- (34) Fill - compact brown clay sand silt. 9.88 -----
- (35) Cut - rectangular cut 0.65m E - W x 0.93m
N - S, not excavated. Filled with (34). 9.88 -----

Group 11.2 represents a modern cut of uncertain function.

GROUP 11.3

|
36
|
37
|

- (36) Fill - dark grey brown silty sand. 9.72 -----
- (37) Cut - rectangular cut 0.74m N-S x 0.90m E-W,
(not fully excavated). Filled with (36). 9.72 -----

Group 11.3 represents a modern cut of uncertain function.

GROUP 12.1

|
21
|
22
|
23
|
24
|

|

(21) Fill - moderately compacted yellowish brown silty sand.	11.10	-----
(22) Cut - rectangular cut, 0.97m N - S x 3.0m E-W, (not fully excavated). Filled with (21).	11.10	-----
(23) Layer - loosely compacted very dark greyish brown sandy silt.	11.05	-----
(24) Layer - friable yellow sandy silty clay.	10.80	-----
(25) Layer - friable grey brown sandy silty clay.	10.70	-----

Group 12.1 represents a modern cut and modern layers.

GROUP 12.2

|

26

|

29

|

(26) Fill - friable dark yellowish brown silty sand.	10.50	-----
(29) Cut - recorded from section, 1.72m N - S x 0.40m deep. Filled with (26).	10.08	-----Group

12.2 represents a modern cut of uncertain function. Fill (26) also forms the layer above the cut as no difference was discernible between them, which accounts for the discrepancy in the levels. The cut may have been a gully which was levelled using (26).

GROUP 12.3

|

28

|

(28) Layer - friable brown sandy gravelly silt.		
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10.08 -----

Group 12.3 represents a modern levelling layer.

GROUP 12.4

|
30
|
31
|

(30) Fill - friable yellowish brown clayey sandy silt.

9.91 -----

(31) Cut - oval, 1.10m N-S x 0.80m E-W x 0.50m deep. Filled with (30).

9.91 -----

Group 12.4 represents a modern cut of uncertain function.

SUMMARY OF PHASE

This phase represents the latest phase of activity on the site, consisting of demolition of Leyton House, the levelling of the site and the twentieth century activity on the site. No large scale demolition debris was found, suggesting that the site was cleared after the demolition of the earlier structures.