



# C257 Archaeology Central Summary Report

## Archaeological Watching brief and Excavation Moorgate Shaft (XSP10)

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## **1 Summary for London Archaeologist**

### **City of London**

**Crossrail, 91–109 Moorgate, EC2** TQ 3271 8162 MOLA (Sam Pfizenmaier, Antonietta Lerz) excavation, watching brief Oct–Nov 2013 Crossrail XSP10

Following work on adjacent utilities (LA13 supp. 3 (2013) 96), heavily truncated naturally deposited sandy clays were revealed, overlain by thin homogenous waterlain clays, representing flooding prior to human activity. These deposits were cut by two east–west aligned ditches, situated 15m apart, probably for drainage, which yielded Roman pottery, a human jaw (probably washed in by Walbrook tributaries) and animal bone. Associated stakes and postholes apparently represented fence alignments. Other shallow Roman features had been modified by the formation of the Moorfields marsh, sometime during either the late Roman, or as suggested by leather and pottery, the early medieval period. Truncation limited marsh survival across the site, particularly in the north, removing later deposits. Activity was limited to features cutting the marsh including: a north–south aligned ditch (c 12th–13th-century) – possibly representing an early failed attempt at marsh drainage, a rubbish pit (1350–1500) containing large quantities of animal bone, pottery and leather; a heavily truncated hooped wattle structure (c 14th–15th-century), and a circular pit (c 16th–17th-century), lined with large chalk blocks – possibly a partially robbed column/pier foundation, or the base of a well. These deposits were truncated by 19th- and 20th-century basements and foundations.

## **2 Summary for Britannia**

### **City of London**

**Crossrail, 91–109 Moorgate EC2** (TQ 3271 8162) excavation and watching brief by Sam Pfizenmaier and Antonietta Lerz for Crossrail (XSP10)

Thin homogenous waterlain clays represented flooding in the area prior to human activity. These were cut by two east–west aligned ditches, situated 15m apart, probably for drainage, which yielded Roman pottery, a human jaw (probably washed in by Walbrook tributaries) and animal bone. Associated stakes and postholes apparently represented fence alignments, and a possible ditch-crossing in the NW of site. Other shallow Roman features had been modified by the formation of the Moorfields marsh, sometime during the late Roman, or as finds (leather and pottery) from here suggest – the early medieval period.

## **3 Summary for Medieval Archaeology**

CROSSRAIL, 91-109 MOORGATE, EC2 (TQ 3271 8162) S Pfizenmaier and A Lerz (MOLA) carried out an excavation and watching brief on general ground reduction

Shallow Roman features had been modified by the formation of the Moorfields marsh, sometime during the late Roman, or as suggested by leather and pottery the early medieval period. Truncation limited marsh survival across the site, particularly in the N, removing later deposits. A ditch (c 12th–13th-c) aligned N–S possibly represents an early failed attempt at marsh drainage. Cutting the Moorfields marsh

were a rubbish pit (1350–1500), containing large quantities of animal bone, pottery and leather and a heavily truncated hooped wattle structure (c 14th–15th-c) **OASIS ID: molas1-165327**

## **4 Summary for Post Medieval Archaeology**

### **City of London**

CROSSRAIL, 91–109 MOORGATE (TQ 3271 8162) S Pfizenmaier and A Lerz (MOLA) carried out an excavation and watching brief between October and November 2013. Activity was limited to a circular pit (c 16th–17th-c), lined with large chalk blocks – possibly a partially robbed column/pier foundation, or the base of a well. These deposits were truncated by 19th-and 20th-c basements and foundations. **OASIS ID: molas1-165327**