



**C257 Archaeology Central
Farringdon Eastern Ticket Hall**

SUMMARY REPORT

**Archaeological Targeted Watching
Brief 23–28 Charterhouse Square,
Farringdon (XSF10)**

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1 Summary for London Archaeologist

Islington

Crossrail: 23–28 Charterhouse Square, EC1 TQ 3189 8189 MOLA (Sam Pfizenmaier) watching brief Sept 2011 Crossrail XSF10

A watching brief was undertaken on a trench at the junction of Charterhouse Street and the NW corner of Charterhouse Square. This revealed natural gravels truncated by a 17th–18th-century cess pit constructed from re-used bricks of 1666–1700. The pit was filled with refuse, including pottery fragments and tobacco pipes dated 1730–50, and was most likely associated with either the gatehouse at the W entrance to Charterhouse Square or dwellings on the junction of Charterhouse Square and Charterhouse Lane which are visible on a map of 1682. The gatehouse was demolished by c.1799. The cess pit was sealed by a substantial demolition layer deposited in the 19th-century which included disarticulated human remains of at least two individuals. These may have been redeposited from the outer cemetery of Charterhouse which was used as a Black Death cemetery in the 14th-century and possibly later, but it is not certain whether this trench lay within or outside the burial ground. The demolition deposit was cut by an E–W aligned 19th-century brick wall which was possibly associated with a drainage related structure.

2 Summary for Britannia

Not required

3 Summary for Medieval Archaeology

Borough of Islington

CROSSRAIL 23–28 CHARTERHOUSE SQUARE, EC1 (TQ 3189 8189) S Pfizenmaier (MOLA) carried out a watching brief in one trench. Redeposited medieval human remains representing at least two individuals were retrieved from a 19th-century levelling layer. The two adult femurs and a tibia were recovered in good condition, but did display evidence of post mortem breakage. It is most likely that these are redeposited from the outer cemetery of Charterhouse, a 14th-century Black Death burial ground whose boundaries are uncertain. Evidence uncovered in previous fieldwork to the east identified burials at 1.5m beneath ground level in Charterhouse Square Gardens. Any burials at similar depths to this would have been removed. Therefore, evidence is equivocal as to whether this trench lay within or outside the burial ground. **OASIS ID: molas1-112600**



4 Summary for Post Medieval Archaeology

Borough of Islington

Crossrail 23–28 Charterhouse Square (TQ 3189 8189) S Pfizenmaier (MOLA) carried out a watching brief in 2011. A 17th–18th-century cess pit constructed from reused (1666–1700) bricks, and filled with refuse, pottery fragments and tobacco pipes (dated 1730–50) is most likely associated with either the gatehouse at the western entrance to Charterhouse Square or dwellings on the junction of Charterhouse Square and Charterhouse Lane visible on the Ogilby and Morgan map of 1682. The gatehouse does not appear on Horwood's survey of c 1799, suggesting that it was demolished between these dates. This was overlain by a substantial demolition horizon probably deposited to facilitate later 19th-century construction, within which three human bones were recovered, probably redeposited from the Charterhouse outer Cemetery. A brick wall aligned east–west represents 19th-century activity, possibly associated with drainage. **OASIS ID: molas1-112600**