

## London Gateway Dredging Watching Brief

### Summary of Work Conducted Between 30<sup>th</sup> Aug and 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2010

WA Ref: 72435

Mobilisation occurred on Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 2010. The watching brief took place between Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Aug and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. The first day was spent receiving a site induction, followed by a visit to the London Gateway offices where material that was picked up from the reclaimed land area in Phase 1 of the project was subject to archaeological review. This material had come through the dredger and been deposited with the dredged material. However, the original location of the material, i.e. the area from which it was dredged, is currently unknown.

The material at the London Gateway offices consisted of nine pieces of disarticulated cattle bone, two ceramic bottles (one broken into four pieces), two cannonballs and a wooden dead eye from a ship's rigging. This material was recorded using both object records basic measurements along with a photographic record. Date will be assessed (where possible) when the material is transferred to Wessex Archaeology (WA) Salisbury office.

The following day (Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Sept) was the first day of monitoring on the dredger (*Uilenspiegel*), which had been actively dredging since Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Aug within Zones 32, 33 and 34. The crew of the dredger had separated some examples of animal bone from the accumulated pile of dredged waste material, along with a cannonball. The accumulated pile of material contained a considerable amount of broken wood. This was subject to archaeological assessment leading to the discovery of several worked timbers, possibly disarticulated material from a wreck site. These timbers were mainly frames and were all broken. Whilst on board the dredger went to Zone 38 for one dredging trip, which resulted in the recovery of two pieces of yellow brick along with further animal bone.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. The dredger was experiencing problems this day. It was therefore not possible for WA staff to get on board as the dredger was at anchor away from the site.

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. Dredging in Zones 32, 33, and 34 continued and saw the recovery of five fragments of various types of brick, two ships timbers, a fragment of ceramic and a lead sounding weight.

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. Dredging continued in Zones 32, 33 and 34 and saw the recovery of three pieces of broken ships timbers, one section of heavily corroded iron chain and a small cannon ball.

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. Dredging continued in Zones 32, 33 and 34 and saw the recovery of seven pieces of ships timber along with three fragments of varying types of brick (including yellow bricks).

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. Dredging continued in Zones 32, 33 and 34 and saw the recovery of four pieces of ships timber, two cannonballs (one likely to have been broken by the dredger) and two pieces of (?)cattle bone. On the previous run the dredger had been slowed by 2 knots and suction was lost in the dredge head. A position for this was recorded as 51 29.315N 0 47.702E. A possible reason for this was that they hit a patch of clay or something stronger than the surrounding seabed. When raised, the dredge head contained a lot of damaged wood. Most was too damaged to be confirmed as being part of a wreck, however four pieces of wood with ships fastenings were recognisable. Therefore, in the opinion of the monitoring archaeologist, it is thought likely that the dredger went directly through a buried section of

wooden wreck, with the timbers being fragmented by the dredge head rendering much of the recovered wood un-recognisable.

Tue 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. The archaeologist was not on the dredger – time was spent compiling records. Later that day the archaeologist was informed that dredging would not be continuing within the vicinity of Sea Reach 1 and the Watching Brief was suspended. De-mobilisation occurred on Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Sept.

### Archaeological Finds List

<b>Object ID</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>
1000	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1001	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1002	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1003	Reclaimed Land	Ceramic bottle
1004	Reclaimed Land	Cannonball
1005	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1006	Reclaimed Land	Ceramic bottle
1007	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1008	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1009	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1010	Reclaimed Land	Ceramic fragment
1011	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1012	Reclaimed Land	Animal Bone, cattle
1013	Reclaimed Land	Wooden dead eye
1014	Reclaimed Land	cannonball
1015	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1016	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1017	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1018	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	8 fragments of yellow bricks
1019	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Leather sole of shoe
1020	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1021	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1022	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1023	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1024	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1025	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1026	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1027	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1028	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1029	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1030	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1031	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Cannonball
1032	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1033	From dredging in Zone 38	2 fragments of yellow coloured brick
1034	From dredging in Zone 38	Animal Bone, cattle
1035	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	2 fragments of yellow coloured brick
1036	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	1 complete yellow coloured brick
1037	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	2 fragments of brick
1038	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1039	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1040	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber

<b>Object ID</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>
1041	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Lead sounding weight
1042	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1043	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1044	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1045	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Iron chain
1046	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Cannonball
1047	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1048	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1049	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1050	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Red brick fragment
1051	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Yellow brick fragment
1052	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Yellow brick fragment
1053	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1054	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1055	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1056	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1057	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Cannonball
1058	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1059	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1060	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1061	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Ships Timber
1062	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Cannonball (broken)
1063	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle
1064	From dredging in Zones 32, 33 and 34	Animal Bone, cattle

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9<sup>th</sup> September 2010