

Introduction

It is a very great pleasure to introduce readers to the publication of the papers from the second CBA Mid-Anglia Group Conference. This is part of the continuing sequence of day conferences that the Group has held at the Museum of London. The first was recent work on Roman London held in 1996, which has now been published (Watson, B (ed) 1998 'Roman London Recent Archaeological Work' *Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Monograph Series* no.24), and it has been extremely well received as the most up to date overview of current work.

This volume follows its predecessor in presenting the papers from the 14 February 1998 conference on recent archaeological work and research on medieval London. It will find ready acceptance with both the archaeological fraternity and the interested reader. Medieval London is a rich source of material and, like Roman London, it is only through the meticulous and assiduous work of the archaeologists when the opportunities arise through redevelopment that more parts of the fascinating jigsaw puzzle that is the story of London can be pieced together.

The third conference in this series on the archaeology of post-medieval London was held at the Museum of London on the 27 November 1999 and the papers from this conference will form the third volume in this series. The post-medieval London conference was presented in association with our colleagues from CBA South-East and the Standing Conference on London Archaeology (SCOLA). It is anticipated that the papers from this third conference will be published by the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology.

The City of London Archaeological Trust (CoLAS) and English Heritage have both given substantial help in the financing of the publication of this volume of conference papers, for which the CBA Mid-Anglia group is most grateful. Also I wish to thank Gillian Clegg and Bruce Watson for seeing this publication through the press.

Such conferences do not just happen. They are the result of a lot of hard work by individuals, and as Chairman, I have had the substantial support of many colleagues on the Committee. The organisation of these conferences has been in the hands of Robin Densem and Bruce Watson, while Sue Walford and Derek Hills organised the sales of tickets and the provision of refreshments on the day, no easy task. Not least, Ray Pascoe, the Museum of London's projectionist, not only made sure that all the speakers' slides were perfectly presented with seeming ease, he was also a tower of strength on many other aspects of the organisation.

The group is extremely grateful for the constant support of Dr Simon Thurley, the Director of the Museum of London, who has given us every assistance. It is not without truth that he has taken on board the slogan that London has only one Museum, and the public response to the three CBA conferences, all of which have been sell-outs, shows that there is a ready audience for such events at the Museum of London.

Peter Clayton, Chairman CBA Mid-Anglia Group

Key to Fig 1. **1** Carmelite Friary (Whitefriars) **2** Dominican Friary (Blackfriars) **3** St Paul's Cathedral **4** Franciscan Friary (Greyfriars) **5** St Bartholomew's Priory and Hospital **6** Charterhouse (Carthusian monastery) **7** St Nicholas Shambles, City of London parish church **8** Bull Wharf and Queenhithe, Saxon and medieval port **9** St Lawrence Jewry, City of London parish church **10** Guildhall, headquarters of City of London government **11** St Benet Sherehog, City of London parish church and site of No 1 Poultry excavations **12** Swan Lane, medieval port **13** Austin Friary (Augustinian Priory) **14** London Bridge **15** Priory and Hospital of St Mary Bethlehem, Bishopsgate **16** St Andrew Hubbard, Eastcheap, City of London parish church **17** Billingsgate, medieval port **18** St Mary-at-Hill, City of London parish church **19** Billingsgate, Roman bath house **20** St Helen's Priory (Benedictine nunnery) **21** Holy Trinity Priory **22** Crutched Friars (Friars of the Holy Cross) **23** St Clare's Abbey (house of the Franciscan order of St Clare) **24** St Mary Graces (Cistercian House) **25** St Mary's Priory (Augustinian House), Southwark **26** Priory of the Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, Clerkenwell **27** St Mary's Clerkenwell (Augustinian nunnery) **28** St Saviour's Bermondsey (Cluniac Abbey), Southwark **29** Abbot's Lane, site of two medieval moated residences – the 'Rosary' and 'Fastolf's Place' **30** Priory and Hospital of St Mary Spital, Bishopsgate (Augustinian house) **31** Hospital of St Thomas the Martyr, Southwark.