

Bermondsey Spa, 126 Spa Road, London Borough of Southwark, Archaeological Evaluation Report

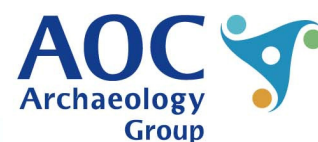
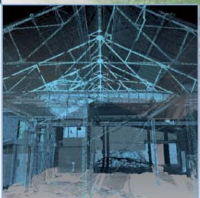
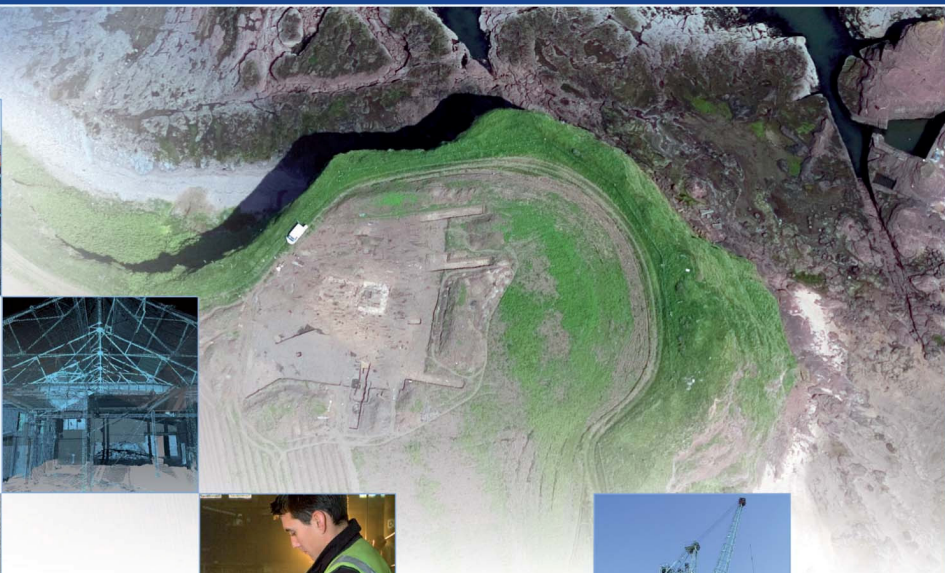
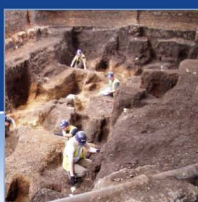
Planning Application Number: 11-EQ-0026

National Grid Reference Number: TQ 3420 7935

Site Code: BER11

AOC Project No: 30979

Date: June 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Bermondsey Spa, 126 Spa Road, London Borough of Southwark

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of:	Hyde Housing Association 181 Lewisham High Street London SE13 6AA
National Grid Reference (NGR):	TQ 3420 7935
AOC Project No:	30979
Prepared by:	Catherine Edwards
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Date of Report:	June 2012

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Non-Technical Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group between the 6th and 11th June 2012 at the site of Bermondsey Spa, 126 Spa Road, London Borough of Southwark. The work was undertaken on behalf of Hyde Housing Association. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of development on any surviving archaeological remains.

The evaluation comprised of two trenches measuring 20.00m x 1.80m. Both trenches contained a series of made ground deposits overlying brickwork and concrete footings. An early post-medieval buried soil was also recorded in the trenches, heavily truncated by the later footings. The natural deposits were recorded in both trenches as sandy silt clay overlying gravel.

Due to the lack of significant archaeological remains and the probable truncation of deposits on site, no further archaeological work is recommended.

Publication of the evaluation findings will be carried out through a short summary of the fieldwork submitted to the local fieldwork roundup. An OASIS form has also been completed and an electronic copy of the watching brief report will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The site archive will be prepared in accordance with local and national guidance and will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document details the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken at the proposed development at Bermondsey Spa, 126 Spa Road, London Borough of Southwark (Figure 1). The investigation took place from 6th to the 11th June 2012 and comprised of the excavation of two trenches measuring 18.00m-20.00m x 1.80m. All works were undertaken by a team of professional archaeologists.
- 1.2 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 3420 7935 (Figure 1). The site is located on the southern side of Spa Road (Figure 2). The site is bounded to the north by Spa Road, to the east by Rouel Road, to the south and west by adjacent properties. At the time of writing the site is occupied by a motor vehicle repair shop / garage and yard. The body of works will comprise the demolition of the existing buildings and the erection of a new build, in a roughly L-shaped footprint, along the western and northern areas of the site.

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Southwark. Archaeological advice to the borough is provided by Dr Chris Constable of Southwark Council.
- 2.2 The site is not located within an Archaeological Priority Zone designated by the London Borough of Southwark's Unitary Development Plan (2004). There are no Listed Buildings within the site boundary and the site neither contains nor lies within the area of any defined World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Areas of Historic Woodland.
- 2.3 The development is in the pre-planning application stage (Pre-Planning Ref: 11-EQ-0026). Consultation between Alan Ford of AOC Archaeology and Dr. Chris Constable of Southwark Council has confirmed that a programme of evaluation trenching would be required as a condition on the granting of the planning consent. The works were carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) (AOC 2011). The WSI was approved by the Southwark's Senior Archaeology Officer prior to the commencement of works.
- 2.4 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation.

3. Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The geology of the application site comprises Kempton Park Gravels, fluvial in origin and dating from the end of the last glaciation; approximately 12,000 years ago. Where inspected in the area, the gravels have been identified at approximately 1.3 to 2m above Ordnance Datum. Present ground levels at the application site are approximately 2.6m above Ordnance Datum.
- 3.2 The gravels have been subject to much modification and marine incursions and changes in sea-level have produced a complex sequence. Studies of the ancient topography of the Bermondsey area have established the presence of a number of low lying sand and gravel islands or eyots located on the banks of the Thames. The application site lies centrally located on the Bermondsey eyot which has been estimated to have been 400ha in extent during the Roman period (Heard 1996).

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 4.1.1 The gravel terraces and alluvial lowlands are likely to have provided an attractive prospect for prehistoric peoples, situated as they were close to reliable sources of water. There is an abundance of artefactual evidence of earlier prehistoric activity in the area, although the focus of this has either been removed by later disturbance or awaits discovery (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.1.2 Artefacts from the Palaeolithic period (c.50,000-10,000 BC) have been recovered from sites in the Southwark area, but the majority of earlier prehistoric finds are of Mesolithic or Neolithic date (c.8,000-2,500 BC). Finds from the Neolithic period represent the earliest encountered within the study area. The most complete evidence has come from two excavations carried out by DGLA at the Courage Brewery, on Park Street [TQ 3241 8020 SMR No's 091375/091159/091376] (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.1.3 The Tilbury IV peat horizons, which formed during the Bronze Age, have been recorded at Park Street at depths of c. -2.00m OD [TQ 3241 8020 GLSMR 091193]. The site has provided concrete evidence of Bronze Age/Late Iron Age (c. 1300 BC - AD 43) settlement in the region, as both revealed post holes, some with timber still *in situ*.
- 4.1.4 Archaeological work undertaken at Spa Road and Thurland Street as part of the Bermondsey Spa Regeneration Project, recovered prehistoric flint and pottery. Many of the finds were residual indicating post-depositional activity; however abraded Iron Age pottery (c600BC-AD43) was recovered from subsoil and topsoil deposits (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.1.5 At 7–25 Bermondsey Street a watching brief carried out by MoLAS in 1998 revealed a thick, silty clay flood deposit, which appeared to contain peat horizons. Other entries relating to the discovery of the Tilbury Peat Horizons have been found at 74 - 90 Weston Street, Vine Land and Morgans Lane (AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.2 Roman

- 4.2.1 During the Roman period, Southwark provided the first place upriver on the Thames where it was possible to construct a harbour and a bridge, which could be reached by road from the major invasion entry points on the coast (Sheldon and Schaaf 1984, 10). Three military roads converged on Southwark, leading to the crossing point of the Thames near London Bridge.
- 4.2.2 The building of a military supply base at Southwark began c. AD 50 and by the end of the 1st century AD the settlement had become densely populated and covered an area of some 13 hectares. Construction of the roads was only made possible by the embankment of the river channels and inlets and extensive drainage of the marshes, bridging the eyots.
- 4.2.3 Archaeological evaluations have been undertaken at 74-76 Spa Road and at Alscot Road in 1993. These investigations revealed Roman and medieval pottery within a plough soil and a pair of late prehistoric-Roman ditches respectively. The presence of features and artefacts of this date extended the limit of Roman activity within Southwark to beyond the Borough High Street and have been interpreted as the remains of agricultural activity possibly associated with an outlying small scale settlement or farmstead (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.2.4 An excavation at 141-143 Tooley Street, undertaken by MoLAS in 1995 revealed natural gravels, cut by a large shallow depression thought to be part of a small inlet on the northern edge of the eyot of Horseleydown on the southern margins of the Thames which produced reworked timbers, four cow skulls and a small amount of unabraded pottery including on nearly complete miniature carinated bowl. A watching brief recording geotechnical test pits, undertaken by MoLAS at 2 – 25 Bermondsey Street, in January 1998, discovered peat horizons that were recorded within a flood deposit, the

uppermost of which may have been Roman. These were believed to correspond to periods of river 'regression' (AOC Archaeology 2009).

- 4.2.5 The most notable Roman period activity in relation to 126 Spa Road was recorded during archaeological investigations immediately adjacent the proposed development site on the west (Site Code SRQ07). Excavations revealed a bi-partite archaeological sequence comprising discreet Roman features sealed in part below a Roman alluvial horizon and overlaid by extensive post-medieval deposits and structures (AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.3 Saxon

- 4.3.1 There is no archaeological evidence for any significant Saxon occupation in Southwark until the late 9th century AD. This is probably due to the general rise of the Thames water level in the area. It is also likely that the upheavals and general instability consequent upon the establishment of the new Saxon kingdoms was a cause of great insecurity to the newcomers. In addition, the removal of the *Londinium* settlement some miles upstream to the new *Lundenwic*, at the Strand, made the site of the former bridgehead less attractive (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.3.2 Southwark is mentioned in the Burghal Hidage, and refers to the defensive work of the men of Surrey. An excavation at 141-143 Tooley Street in 1995 by MoLAS revealed such defensive structures, including several pits and ditches dating to the medieval period (AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.4 Medieval

- 4.4.1 Throughout the medieval period Southwark remained a fairly small but thriving City suburb with the river to the north, Horsleydown to the east, Bankside to the west and the church of St. George the Martyr to the south. As with its Roman predecessor, it grew, ribbon-like, along the major roads. At the same time, large houses and inns were established beyond its boundaries, where solid ground could be found in the marsh (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.4.2 Throughout the medieval period Southwark became the centre for a large number of industrial activities including milling, fulling, brewing, leatherworking and trades associated with military procurement. The borough also lay on the southern end of the only crossing of the River Thames with London Bridge being built in stone in 1209. The borough was therefore once more the location of the meeting of important road routes into London and was known for the services provided to travellers including inns and brothels. The borough also became known for its large immigrant population.
- 4.4.3 Excavations at Abbots Lane have revealed a medieval channel with several different phases of wooded revetments and timbers from a clinker built boat, as well as the precinct wall of The Rosary, a moated house built by Edward II in 1325 along with associated domestic artefacts. Excavations along Tooley Street have revealed evidence of river clays and mudflats that contain 11th century finds and a medieval Watergate. The site of the Maze Gate is also located along Tooley Street, as well as the site of the Abbot Battles Inn, various medieval stone walls and timber revetting and stone drains and water courses (AOC Archaeology 2009).
- 4.4.4 At Morgan's Lane excavations revealed the remains of a medieval mill stream and the remains of a chalk and stone medieval building as well as a large ditch or channel which was replaced by a brick culvert in the 17th century. Excavations at 171 Bermondsey Street revealed two phases of drainage ditches cut into the alluvial layers. The ditches contained wooden bowls and seventeen leather shoes. At 39-49 Bermondsey Street, a watching brief revealed part of a chalk and mortar wall that is believed to be part of the Bermondsey Abbey precinct wall.

4.4.5 A burial ground of St. Olaves Church, established in 1586, also used by St. Johns Church is located at Tooley Street. The grounds were converted in to a recreational ground in 1888. Excavations at Vine Lane revealed that the area was wet and marshy until the 16th century with no evidence of occupation. An evaluation undertaken by MoLAS in 1995 revealed a channel of late or post-medieval date and latrine pits of a similar date (AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.5 Post-Medieval

4.5.1 By the Tudor period, the old parts of Southwark were fairly well built up. The 17th century saw the rise of a variety of non-conformist religions in the Southwark area, in addition to the parish churches, perhaps in response to the large number of travellers that were settling in the region. These different churches each used a separate burial ground. One of which was the Quaker Burial ground, on the northern corner of Ewer Street. This was destroyed by the construction of the railway viaduct in the mid 19th century, when all of the burials were exhumed. However it is known that 'dissenters' were reburied upon the site of the old Quaker burial ground, when the railway was constructed (AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.5.2 Land reclamation allowed for the land to be development in the 18th century, evidence of this is seen along Tooley Street where a series of evaluations and excavations have revealed 18th century brick foundations associated with cess pits and drains and timber water pipes. The 18th century saw large scale industrial development and dumps of domestic and industrial waste were used to raise the land above the flood levels There is evidence of occupation on Tooley Street from the 16th and 17th century onwards (AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.5.3 Further expansion of Southwark took place early in the 19th century, so that little remained of the semi-rural landscape to the south of the main town. In 1819 Southwark Bridge, designed by John Rennie, was constructed in cast iron. A number of new roads were also laid across the area, including Sumner Street, which was built in 1839.

4.5.4 Archaeological investigations immediately adjacent the proposed development site on the west (Site Code SRQ07) revealed post-medieval evidence comprising several walls, tanning pits, lime vats and brick culverts related to a 19th century tannery within the east and south of the site and 18th to 19th century refuse pits and modern truncations, alongside concrete foundations for a public house in the northwest corner of the site. Subsequent excavation works revealed extensive post-medieval deposits and structures and categorised the tannery site into four periods; 17th -18th century pre-tannery remains, 19th century tannery and domestic structural remains, 19th century tannery abandonment remains and the subsequent 20th century structures(AOC Archaeology 2009).

4.5.5 The results of the archaeological excavations indicated that the tannery site extends into the area of the 126 Spa Road site.

5. Aims of the Investigation

5.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were defined as being:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.

- To enable the archaeology advisor to the London Borough of Southwark to make an informed decision on the status of the condition, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.

5.2 The specific aims of the archaeological evaluation were defined as being:

- Determine the presence of any Romano-British activity on site.
- Determine the presence of any early medieval/medieval activity on site? Is there any evidence for settlement at this time?
- Determine the presence of any post-medieval activity on site associated with the tannery identified during investigations on the adjacent Spa Road site.
- Assess the potential of the site to inform on the post-medieval development and chronology of London.
- Assess the degree and extent of truncation of earlier deposits by late post-medieval buildings on the site.
- Assess the geoarchaeological potential of the site;
- To provide suitable information concerning the preservation in situ of archaeological deposits so as to inform further mitigation through foundation design or archaeological mitigation.

5.3 The final aim was to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6. Methodology

6.1 The evaluation consisted of archaeological trial trenching (archaeological evaluation). The evaluation involved the machine excavation of two trenches, excavated under archaeological supervision.

6.2 The trenches were located as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2011). Due to the presence of a large modern intrusion within the eastern end of Trench 1, the trench was excavated to a length of 18.00m.

6.3 All machining was carried out using a JCB 3CX with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under the constant supervision of the archaeological Project Officer.

6.4 The accession code BER12 was obtained from the LAARC for the project, and was used for all fieldwork.

6.5 All evaluation trenches were accurately located to the National Grid and their levels calculated using a temporary benchmark (TBM) established on site by the fieldwork team having moved the level from a benchmark on the railway bridge on Spa Road. The value of the benchmark was 2.98mOD whilst the TBM on site was valued at 3.55mOD.

6.6 All recording was in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Museum of London's *Archaeological Field Manual* (MoL 3rd edition 1994).

6.7 All of the work was carried out in line with:

- Archaeological Guidance Papers (AGP): 2-4, Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (English Heritage 2009)
- IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008).

6.8 A continuous unique numbering system was employed. For the single trench, a block of numbers in a continuous sequence was allocated. In this report the archaeological fills and layers are

represented in curved brackets i.e. (), whilst the cut numbers are represented in square brackets i.e. [].

- 6.9 Written descriptions, comprising both factual data and interpretative elements, were recorded on standardised sheets.

7. Results

Trench 1

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
100	0.35m	2.94m – 2.59m	Reinforced concrete.
101	0.40m	2.59m – 2.19m	Brick and concrete hardcore. Made ground.
102	0.15m	2.19m – 2.04m	Concrete.
103	0.65m	2.04m – 1.39m	Dark grey sandy silt clay with inclusions of brick, concrete, stone and pottery. Made ground.
111	0.25m	1.39m – 1.14m	Dark grey brown gritty sandy clay with inclusions of pottery, animal bone and clay tobacco pipe. Buried soil horizon.
113	NFE	1.14m +	Orange sandy clay. Natural.
114	NFE	1.14m+	Orange sandy gravel. Gravel.

- 7.1 Trench 1 measured 18m x 1.80m and was aligned roughly east-northeast-west-southwest (Figures 2 and 3).
- 7.2 The lowest deposits recorded in Trench 1 were (113) and (114), natural orange sandy clay and gravel respectively. Overlying the natural, within two small pockets of the trench, was (111), a 0.25m thick layer of dark grey brown gritty sandy clay with inclusions of pottery, animal bone, small window glass fragments and clay tobacco pipe stems. The pottery sherds recovered from the deposit have been identified as fragments of pink fabric with external cream slip but no glaze and tin glaze ware with blue banding on white background. The latter dating to 1570 to 1800 AD. Also recovered from layer (111) was a small 15 mm in diameter copper alloy disc. The presence of concretion on the back may be an indication of a loop or attachment suggesting a button. On the face there appears to be a partially abraded horseshoe or harp-type motif with possible tiny lettering seen on one edge (an I and/or L).
- 7.3 Cutting into (111) was a series of structural remains varying between brickwork and large concrete bases (Figure 3). Located in the far eastern extent of the trench was east-west and north-south wall [112], which measured 2.20m x 0.40m x 0.80m. The wall was constructed in red and yellow brick on a concrete base. Approximately 3.0m west of the wall was [104] a large square concrete base measuring 1.50m x 1.20m x 1.30m. It is unclear whether the base and the wall have any direct relationship.



Plate 1 – Concrete base [104] and wall [105]

- 7.4 Approximately 2.40m further west was north-south wall [105]. The wall measured 0.90m x 1.80m x 0.85m deep and composed of red and yellow brick and constructed on a bed of concrete. The cut for the wall, [106] was recorded in section and measured 2.10m wide. A north-south concrete service [107], possibly sewer or foul water, was recorded a further 0.90m west of wall [105]. The service was located centrally within its cut [108] which was observed in section measuring 1.35m wide.
- 7.5 Overlying the above structures was a 0.65m thick layer of made ground recorded as (103). The deposit was formed out of dark grey sandy silt clay with inclusions of brick, concrete and late post-medieval pottery. The sherds of pottery have been identified with the latest in date being a sherd of blue/white transfer printed pearlware dated to c1770-1850. Other sherds included a rim piece from a large, plain red earthenware vessel, dated 1580-1900, a sherd of internal green glazed stone coloured earthenware with a grey fabric and tin glazed ware (white with blue band decoration), dated 1570-1800. Also present in the fill was a large piece of dark green cullet glass.
- 7.6 At the far western extent of the trench, cutting into (103) was a very large intrusional feature or pit, [110]. The large cut measuring, 2.20m wide and 2.50m deep, was observed both in section and plan as a curved vertical edge. The pit was filled with (109) very loose brick and concrete hardcore rubble. The function of the pit is unclear. It is possible that the pit is a result of previous grubbing out or perhaps a bomb pit.
- 7.7 Overlying the trench was (102), a 0.15m thick layer of concrete which was overlaid by (101), a 0.40m layer of hardcore rubble. The final layer overlying the trench was (100), a 0.35m thick layer of reinforced concrete which formed the internal floor of the pre-existing building on site.
- 7.8 No significant finds or archaeological remains were recorded in Trench1.

Trench 2

Table of the stratigraphic sequence

Context No	Depth	Height of Deposit (mOD)	Description/Interpretation
200	0.25m	2.69m – 2.44m	Concrete surface
201	0.73m	2.44m – 1.71m	Dark brown silty clay with brick, concrete, glass and late post medieval pottery. Made ground.
211	0.30m	1.71m – 1.41m	Dark grey brown gritty sandy clay with pottery, animal bone and clay tobacco pipe. Buried soil.
212	0.15m	1.41m – 1.26m	Light grey brown gritty sandy clay with no inclusions. Buried soil.
210	0.10m+	1.26m – 1.16m+	Mid light brown sandy clay with occasional gravel.

7.9 Trench 2 measured 20m x 1.80m and was aligned roughly northwest-southeast (Figures 2 and 4).

7.10 The lowest deposit recorded in Trench 2 was (210), the natural light brown sandy clay with occasional gravel. Overlying the natural were two buried soil layers recorded as (211) and (212). The lowest deposit, (212) measured 0.15m thick and was only observed within the northern and southern limits of the trench as the central area of the trench was heavily truncated by later structural features. Layer (212), was overlaid by, (211), a 0.30m thick layer of dark grey brown gritty sandy clay with pottery, animal bone and clay tobacco pipe. The recovered pottery has been identified as sherds of polychrome (yellow and blue on white) tin glazed pot (all from the same vessel) dated to 1570-1800 and a redware rim with internal red-brown glaze dated 1580-1900. Again, this deposit was only observed at the ends of the trench due to truncation.



Plate 2 – Buried soils (212) and (211) truncated by wall [202]

7.11 Overlying the buried soils was a spread of concrete, (209), measuring 0.50-0.65m thick, (not illustrated). The spread appeared to link north-south wall [206] with concrete base [203] and east-west wall [202]. Both walls [206] and [202] were constructed primarily in yellow stock brick and appeared to be the lower courses of a wall footing which sat directly on a concrete foundation. Wall [206] measured 0.80m x 2.70m x 0.70m, whilst wall [202] measured 1.40m x 1.80m x 1.25m deep. In between the walls was a large concrete base [203] which measured 2.50m x 0.70m x 0.80m. The base had a large construction cut [205], measuring 3.0m x 1.80m x 0.80m+ which was filled by (204), a loose sandy clay with inclusions of yellow stock brick.

- 7.12 Associated with the structural remains was small intrusive pit [208]. The pit measured 2.10m x 0.50m. The pit was filled by (207), a dark brown sandy silt clay with inclusions of brick fragments.
- 7.13 Overlying the structural remains was (201), a 0.73m thick layer of dark brown sandy silty clay with inclusions of brick, concrete, glass and late post medieval pottery.
- 7.14 Overlying the trench was a 0.25m thick layer of reinforced concrete (200).
- 7.15 No significant finds or archaeological remains were recorded in Trench 2.

8 Finds (Appendix C)

- 8.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered from deposits (103), (111) and (211), interpreted as buried soil horizons and made ground. The collected assemblage consists of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, glass, animal bone and metal.
- 8.2 Finds recovered from made ground deposit (103) included five sherds of pottery. The latest sherd being of blue/white transfer printed pearlware dated 1770-1850. Other fragments included a rim piece from a large, plain red earthenware vessel, not terracotta but possibly a garden pot dated 1580-1900 and a sherd of internal green glazed stone coloured earthenware with a grey fabric. This may be the result of overfiring or being burnt, is not easy to identify but is certainly post-medieval. Two sherds of tin glazed ware (white with blue band decoration) are also present dated to 1570-1800. Also recovered from the layer was a lump of dark green cullet glass.
- 8.3 Buried soil horizon (111) produced two sherds of pottery. One is a small pink fabric with external cream slip but no glaze and the other is a tin glaze ware with blue banding on white background dated to 1570-1800. Also present in this context are four pieces of small mammal bone, two tobacco pipe stems and two tiny sherds of window glass. A 15mm diameter copper alloy disc is the notable find from the context. Concretion on the back and a small area on the rim may be over a loop fix on the back, suggesting a button. Though partially abraded, the front has a horseshoe or harp type motif with possible tiny lettering seen on one edge (an I and/or L).
- 8.4 Three sherds of pottery were collected from context (211). These have been identified as polychrome (yellow and blue on white) tin glazed pot (all from the same vessel) dated 1570-1800 and a redware rim with internal red-brown glaze dated 1580-1900.

9 Discussion

- 9.1 The archaeological evaluation established the presence of natural deposits on site overlaid by early to mid post-medieval buried soil horizons. These are likely to have been deposited on site prior to the later large-scale developments. The structural remains recorded on site were observed as both brickwork walls and concrete bases. Historical maps suggest that the site was occupied by several different developments from the 1870's onwards, from buildings possibly associated with the adjacent tannery, to a public house and a later custard powder factory.
- 9.2 Later made ground observed on site, overlay the demolished buildings remains and are likely to have been deposited during the redevelopment of the site. Modern concrete overlaid both trenches.

10 Recommendations

- 10.1 Due to the lack of significant archaeological remains on site, it is recommended that no further work is required. The final decision rests with by Dr Chris Constable, Senior Archaeology Officer.

11 Publication

- 11.1 Due to the nature of the project, initial publication is expected to be limited to a summary in the London Archaeologist Round-up and publication via the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) (Appendix B).

12 Archive deposition

- 12.1 On completion of the project, the archive, consisting of paper records, drawings, and digital photographs, will be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive and Resource Centre.

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Figure 1: Site Location

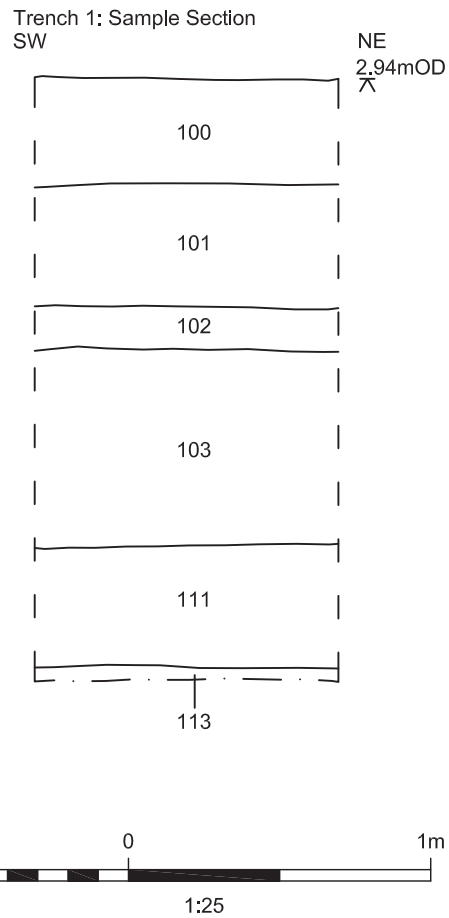
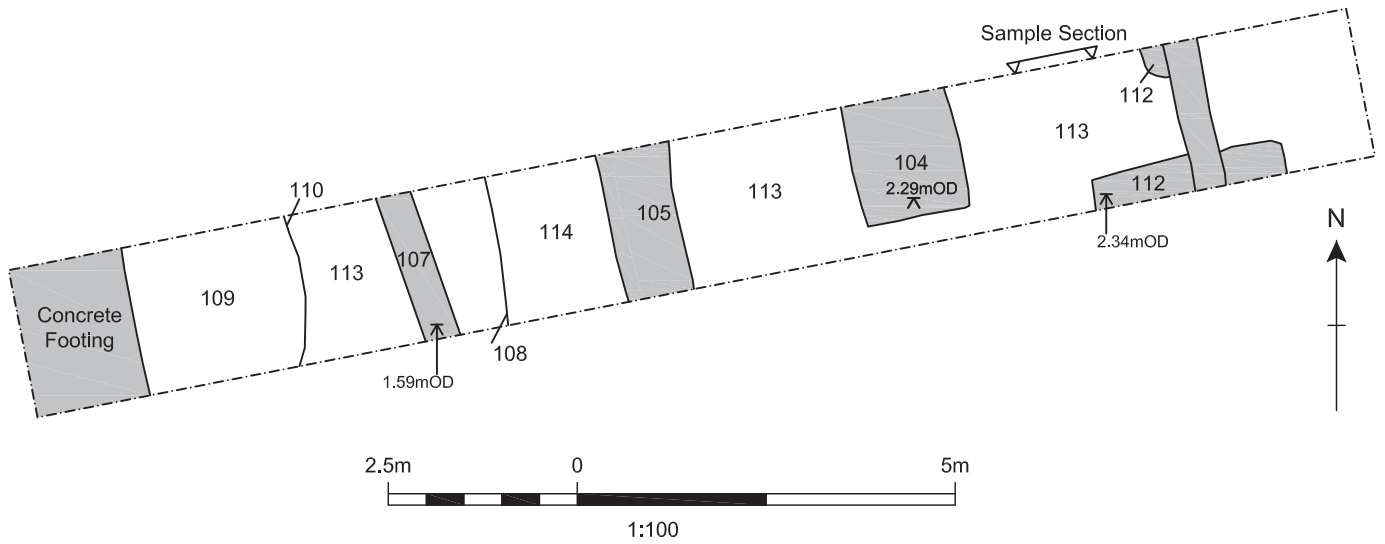


Based on the Plan Provided by the Client



- Site Outline
- Proposed Development
- Proposed Archaeological Evaluation Trenches

Figure 2: Detailed Site/Evaluation Trench Location Plan



■ Post-medieval - Modern Structural Remains

Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan and Sample Section

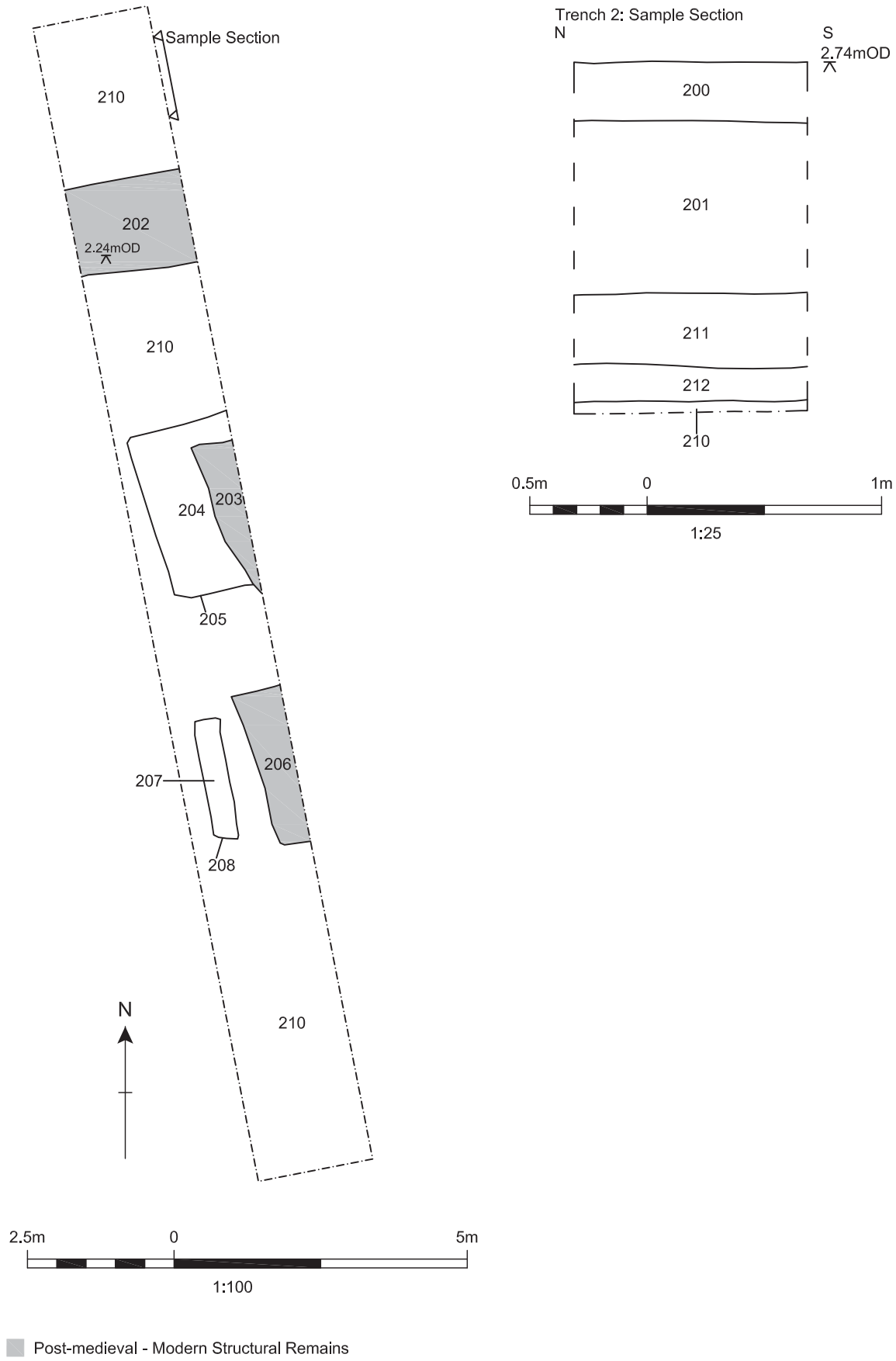


Figure 4: Trench 2: Plan and Sample Section

Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
100	Concrete	18.00m	1.80m	0.35m
101	Made ground	18.00m	1.80m	0.40m
102	Concrete	18.00m	1.80m	0.15m
103	Made ground	18.00m	1.80m	0.65m
104	Concrete base	1.40m	1.50m	1.30m
105	Brick wall	0.90m	1.80m	0.85m
106	Cut for wall	2.10m	1.80m	0.85m
107	Concrete service	0.50m	1.80m	0.60m
108	Cut for service	1.40m	1.80m	0.60m
109	Large pit fill	2.20m	1.80m	1.80m
101	Cut for pit	2.20m	1.80m	1.80m
111	Made ground-buried soil	18.00m	1.80m	0.40m
112	Brick wall	2.50m	0.40m	1.25m
113	Natural clay	18.00m	1.80m	NFE
114	Natural gravel	18.00m	1.80m	NFE
200	Concrete	20.00m	1.80m	0.25m
201	Made ground	20.00m	1.80m	0.73m
202	Brick wall			1.25m
203	Concrete base			0.80m
204	Fill of concrete base cut			NFE
205	Cut for base			NFE
206	Wall footing			0.70m
207	Pit fill			NFE

208	Pit cut			NFE
209	Concrete spread	20.00m	1.80m	0.65m
210	Natural clay	20.00m	1.80m	NFE
211	Soil horizon	2.80m & 5.00m	1.80m	0.30m
212	Soil horizon	2.80m & 5.00m	1.80m	0.15m

Appendix B – Oasis Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-101278

Project details

Project name Bermondsey Spa

Short description of the project Excavation of two archaeological trenches. The trenches exposed natural clay and gravel overlain by buried soil horizons dated to the post medieval period. later post 18th century brick and concrete footings were recorded which truncated the natural and buried soils in places. Made ground and concrete overlaid the trenches

Project dates Start: 06-06-2012 End: 11-06-2012

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project codes reference 30979 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project codes reference BER12 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing

Monument type WALL Post Medieval

Monument type PIT Modern

Significant Finds CERAMICS Post Medieval

Significant Finds BUTTON Post Medieval

Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK BERMONDSEY ROTHERHITHE AND SOUTHWARK Bermondsey Spa, 126 Spa Road, Bermondsey

Postcode SE16

Study area 1.00 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 3420 7935 51 0 51 29 47 N 000 03 59 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 1.00m Max: 1.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project originator brief AOC Archaeology

Project originator design AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Alan Ford

Project supervisor Catherine Edwards

Type of sponsor/funding body developer

Name of sponsor/funding body Hyde Housing Association

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic"

Digital available Media "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Text"

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

Paper available Media "Context sheet", "Microfilm"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title BERMONDSEY SPA, 126 SPA ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Edwards, C

Date 2012

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or publication London

Description grey literature with illustrations and finds reports.

Entered by catherine edwards (catherine.edwards@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on 15 June 2012

Appendix C – Specialist Reports

An Assessment of Finds

By Paul Fitz

Summary

A small, mixed assemblage from three contexts was recovered during the excavation of two trenches. All contexts are spot dated to the post period, and are summarised below.

Context (103)

5 sherds of pottery (378 grams) were retrieved from this context, the latest being a sherd of blue/white transfer printed pearlware (?) <1770-1850>. A rim piece from a large, plain red earthenware vessel, not terracotta but possibly a garden pot. <1580-1900>. A sherd of internal green glazed stone coloured earthenware with a grey fabric, possibly from overfiring or being burnt, is not easy to identify but is certainly post medieval. Two sherds of tin glazed ware (white with blue band decoration) are also present. <1570-1800>. If they are Lambeth wares then an early eighteenth century date is likely.

A lump of dark green cullet glass (60 grams) is also present in this context.

Context (111) has two sherds of pot. (24 grams) One is a small pink fabric with external cream slip but no glaze and the other is a tin glaze ware with blue banding on white background <1570-1800>. Like the sherds from (103) should this be Lambeth tin glaze then early 18th century is a likely date.

Also present in this context are four pieces of small mammal bone (21 grams), two tobacco pipe stems (one with a 3mm diameter bore), weighing 12 grams.

Two tiny 1mm thick sherds of window glass, weighing 1 gram, are also present.

A 15 millimetre diameter copper alloy disc (1 gram) is the notable find from the context. Concretion on the back and a small area on the rim may be over a loop fix on the back, suggesting a button? Though partially abraded the front has a horseshoe or harp type motif with possible tiny lettering seen on one edge (an I and/or L).

Context (211) has three sherds (23 grams) of polychrome (yellow and blue on white) tin glazed pot (all from the same vessel) <1570-1800> and a redware rim (31 grams) with internal red-brown glaze is also present <1580-1900>

Discussion/Recommendations

The finds assemblage is small in size and has little significance on a local or national level.

The finds will be catalogued and packed to Museum of London archive guidelines.

Material for illustration

None

Analysis of potential

The ceramic provides broad dating evidence for the features in which they occur.

Significance of the data

International and national

The assemblage is not of international or national significance.

Regional and local

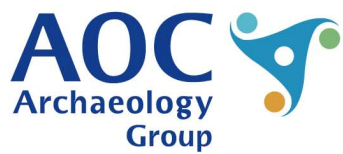
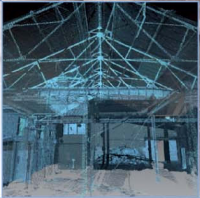
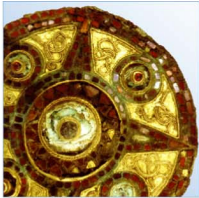
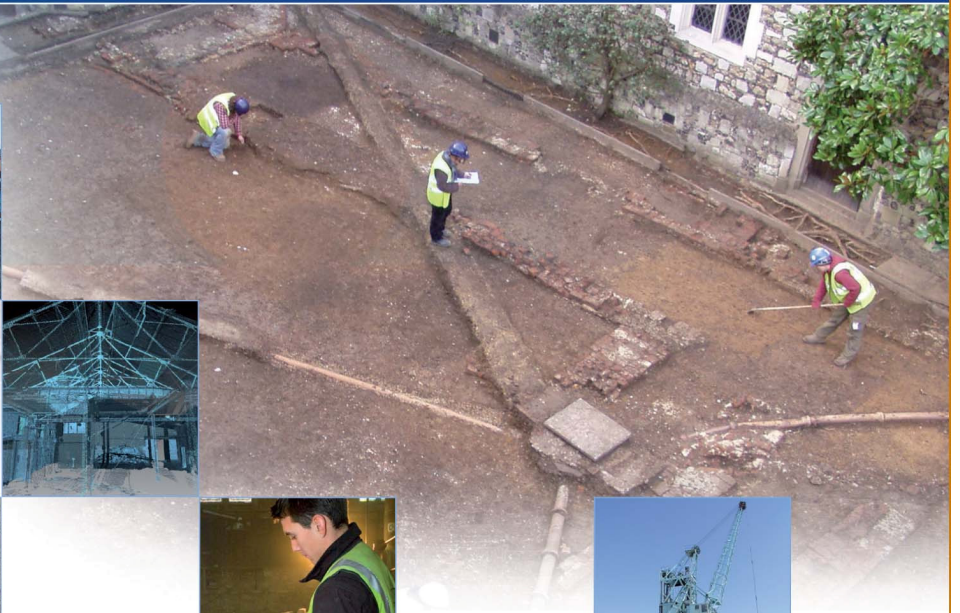
The assemblage is not of Regional or Local significance.

Further work required

The copper alloys object to be accessioned.

Preparation for deposition in the archive and conservation

None



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