

# Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, City of London

## An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

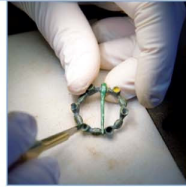
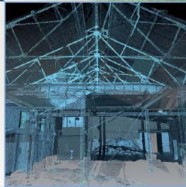
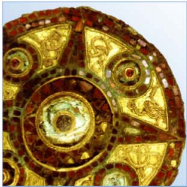
Planning Application Number: 07/00949/FULL

National Grid Reference Number: TQ 3341 8172

AOC Project no: 30499

Site Code: BIJ 09

Date: November 2011



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

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# Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, City of London

## An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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**On Behalf of:** Bishopsgate Institute  
230 Bishopsgate  
London  
EC2M 4QH

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** TQ 3341 8172

**AOC Project No:** 30499

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**Date:** November 2011

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

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## Non-Technical Summary

*This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief of site excavations at Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, City of London, by AOC Archaeology. The work was undertaken on behalf of the Bishopsgate Institute.*

*The archaeological investigation revealed the natural gravel and sand horizon overlaid by the truncated remains of brickearth. Above the natural deposits were made ground sequences which contained a moderate level of residual Roman and medieval finds, suggesting that post-medieval and modern activities had truncated possibly previously in situ deposits. The only in situ archaeological remains recorded on site were an undated linear wall and a circular well structure with an infill dated to 1750-1775.*

*The development has now been completed and no further work is required on site. Publication of the findings will be carried out through a short summary of the fieldwork submitted to the London Archaeologist fieldwork and publication roundup. An OASIS form has also been completed and an electronic copy of the evaluation 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 Site Location

- 1.1.1 This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at the Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate in the City of London (Figure 1). The development site is sandwiched between Artillery Lane and Brushfield Street, on the east side of Bishopsgate. It is bounded to the east by Fort Street and is irregular in shape. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 3341 8172.
- 1.1.2 Proposed development of the site comprised the general refurbishment of the premises including services; new lift; and a new café in the courtyard on Brushfield Street.

### 1.2 Planning Background

- 1.2.1 The local planning authority is the City of London. Archaeological advice to the City is provided by Kathryn Stubbs.
- 1.2.2 Two Planning Applications have been approved for alterations to the Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, subject to conditions. The first (Ref. No.: 07/00949/FULL) refers to the main elements of work and notification to the City of London for this work falls within the 'informatives' section for planning approval. The second application (Ref. No.: 07/01039/FULL) relates to works specific to the café. Following approval of the applications the archaeological advisor to the City of London recommended that an archaeological condition was placed on planning consent. This was in accordance with *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (PPG 16) issued by the Department of the Environment in 1990 (DoE 1990). This policy has now been replaced by Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS 5) (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010).

Condition 10 of the planning approval states:

*"No development shall take place until arrangements have been made for an archaeological 'watching brief' to monitor development groundworks and to record any archaeological evidence revealed. Details of these arrangements shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of the work."*

REASON: To ensure an opportunity is provided for the archaeology of the site to be investigated and recorded in accordance with the following policies of the Unitary Development Plan 2002: ARC2, ARC3.

- 1.2.3 No desk-based assessment was required as part of the archaeological investigation.
- 1.2.4 A WSI was prepared detailing the methodology for the evaluation (AOC 2009). The works were carried out on site in line with the methodology stated in the WSI and the current guidelines stated therein.
- 1.2.5 This report details the results of the archaeological watching brief. The archaeological watching brief conformed with current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines.
- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
  - English Heritage – Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation Reports (Guidelines) (EH 1992).
  - English Heritage – Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (EH 1998a).
  - English Heritage – Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (EH 2002).

- Institute for Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance and Guidelines for Finds Work (IfA 2008).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (IfA 2008).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
- Museum of London – Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).
- RESCUE & ICON – First Aid for Finds (RESCUE & ICON 2001).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice (UKIC 1990).

### **1.3 Geology and Topography**

- 1.3.1 The British Geological survey Sheet 256 (BGS 2006) indicates that the site is underlain by Langley Silt (Brickearth sandy clay and silt) and London Clay formation on top of Lambeth Group sand and pebble bed and chalk deposits.

## **2 Archaeological and Historical Background**

The following survey of archaeological evidence in and around the subject site at 230 Bishopsgate has been drawn from records held in the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC), the Centre for Human Bioarchaeology, Museum of London, summaries of previous works by various archaeological units as well as in the published literature.

### **2.1 Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)**

- 2.1.1 A small amount of prehistoric archaeological evidence was identified during excavations at 7 Bishopsgate, which included a flint scraper, a blade and some degraded pottery (Sankey & McKenzie 1997). Very little other evidence for prehistoric activity in and around Bishopsgate has been documented.

### **2.2 Roman (c.AD 43 – 410)**

- 2.2.1 Known archaeological excavations immediately north of Bishopsgate have identified the 'northern' Roman Cemetery. The cemetery was located outside the city walls and along the main northern Roman road. Roman burials have also been found as part of the northern cemetery on a site at Ermine Street near to Liverpool Street Station. A survey by Barber and Hall (2000) identified a total of 28 cremations and 181 inhumations from the Bishopsgate area. The cremation burials broadly date from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century. The inhumation burials date from AD100, but predominantly occur between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. Excavations at 250 Bishopsgate Street, at the Steward Street car park, and Brushfield Street by MoLAS in 1995, identified evidence for brickearth and gravel extraction, Roman field boundaries and agricultural activities, (MoLAS 1995). Two Roman skeletons were uncovered, probably relating to the northern cemetery. Pits containing Roman plaster and postholes were also found. A watching brief and excavation undertaken by MoLAS in 2000 at 288 Bishopsgate identified a probable Roman boundary fence and later hedge parallel to the main Roman road leading northwards out of the City, (MoLAS 1998). East of the fence was a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> century well. Further evidence for a large Roman gravel extraction pit was also found.
- 2.2.2 Roman burials were found beneath the excavations of the substantial medieval priory hospital at Spital Square, Spitalfields excavated by MoLAS. This site is located to the northeast of the subject site. To date approximately 70 inhumations and two urned cremation burials have been identified (Thomas 2004.). The largest concentration of burials was in the south-west of the site adjacent to Bishopsgate. Four high status burials, including two robbed-out sarcophagi were found together with



a timber-lined mausoleum and a complete stone sarcophagus with an articulated female skeleton. In addition, quarry pits, ditches and a timber-lined well were also identified.

- 2.2.3 Part of the western Roman cemetery has been identified west of the subject site and located close to Aldersgate and Barbican, in the area now known as Smithfield (Barber & Hall 2000). The cemetery dates to between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> century AD. 137 burials have been recovered to date from the site. Remains of the cemetery have been uncovered at Giltspur Street, St. Bartholomew's Hospital (Bentley & Pritchard 1982) and at Atlantic House (Watson 2003). A total of 60 cremations and 189 inhumations have been discovered from this cemetery to date.
- 2.2.4 Bishopsgate itself is named after the Bishop's Gate located at the City gate, first built by the Romans at Ermine Street and leading to the north of the City (Weinreb & Hibbert 1983, 69). The Bishop of London, *Eorconweald*, rebuilt the gate in the 7<sup>th</sup> century and it was further re-built in 1471 by Hansa merchants. In 1731 a final attempt to rebuild the gate was made by the City authorities before it was demolished in 1760. It was located in the present Bishopsgate opposite Camomile Street (Weinreb & Hibbert 1983, 69).
- 2.2.5 An archaeological evaluation by MoLAS at Kempson House and Bishops House, 25-37 Camomile Street and 106-126 Bishopsgate in 2000 failed to identify the City wall, which indicates that the wall was located along the southern edge of the present buildings or even further to the south, MoLAS 2005). Excavations at 20-21 Wormwood Street, 105-107 Bishopsgate by MoLAS in 1994 found further evidence of medieval quarry pits and part of the post-medieval city ditch (MoLAS 1996). Roman tiles from the demolished Roman City Wall were recovered from residual deposits at the site. A watching brief in 1993 at Hasilwood House, Bishopsgate identified successive Roman metalled surfaces and evidence for a masonry building fronting onto the Roman Street. Substantial Roman ditches and an east-west aligned road have also been found further to the south of Bishopsgate (Sankey & McKenzie 1997). Clay and timber buildings, a cellar and stairs all dating to the Roman period were also found during these works.

### **2.3 Anglo-Saxon (c.AD 410 – 1066)**

- 2.3.1 The focus of Saxon settlement was located in present Covent Garden and its environs. There is very little evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity in Bishopsgate. A watching brief was undertaken in 1986 in the graveyard of St Katherine Cree Church in Mitre Street by MoLAS (Schofield & Lea 2005). Brickearth, patchy Roman surfaces, a possible quarry pit sealed by homogenous dumps, were truncated by burials in stone and mortar cists, probably a continuation of the Late Saxon graveyard excavated to the East for part of Holy Trinity Priory. Burials at the site continued into the modern period.
- 2.3.2 Excavations in 1984 at 71-77 Leadenhall Street, 32-40 Mitre Street uncovered standing masonry of the prior of Holy Trinity Aldgate. Roman material suggests the presence of at least six 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century timber structures. Large quantities of medieval plaster, opus signinum, tessera cubes, and other building material were also found in medieval contexts. There was possible evidence for a deliberate preparation of a Late Saxon graveyard with 42 articulated burials. The site covered a portion of the south side of the church of the priory of Holy Trinity Aldgate founded in 1108.

### **2.4 Medieval (c.AD 1066 – 1485)**

- 2.4.1 Archaeological excavations were undertaken by MoLAS at the site of Spital Square at Spitalfields Market, on the northern side of Folgate Street, Bishopsgate in the 1990's (Thomas 2004). Over 10,000 medieval skeletons were excavated from the Augustinian priory and hospital of St. Mary

Spital, founded in 1197. The priory is located northeast of the subject site. Excavations at 280 Spital Square, Spitalfields in 1998 identified evidence for medieval brickearth extraction pits, probably predating the Priory and Hospital. The east end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century church has also been found on the site, as have walls of the canons' dormitory. An industrial building with large hearths and pits has also been recorded. The church was largely demolished in 1539 after the Dissolution. Excavations by MoLAS at 250 Bishopsgate also found medieval remains of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century quarrying for brickearth and gravel and 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century wells. Two complete pots of 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century date were also recovered from pits. Further evidence of the outer precinct of the Priory was present with wooden and stone structures and a boundary wall. Two skeletons dating to the late medieval period were also recovered.

- 2.4.2 A number of investigations have identified further evidence of medieval priory and church remains in the area surrounding Bishopsgate. Excavations in 1979 at Mitre Square, 10-14 Mitre Street, slightly to the south of subject site, have identified the foundations of the west side of the cloister of Holy Trinity Priory, which was founded in 1108. Three main phases of building in the cloister have been identified together with medieval burials to the south of the cloister. A site at the Guildhall Yard East was excavated at Portland House, 72-73 Basinghall Street between 1992 and 1997. The site originally formed part of the medieval churchyard of St. Lawrence Jewry, a lay cemetery, from which burials have been recovered dating from the 11th century. A number of graves also contained copper alloy bells.
- 2.4.3 A watching brief and excavation undertaken by PCA in 2000 at St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate identified the medieval chalk and tile buttress of the northwest corner of the church together with a yard surface with ceramic building material and decorated tile. In addition, a redeposited soil horizon in the limits of the churchyard contained redeposited post-medieval funerary monuments.
- 2.4.4 A watching brief undertaken by MoLAS at 35-41 Folgate Street in 2000 identified a bank of brickearth probably associated with the eastern boundary of the precinct of the medieval priory and hospital of St. Mary-without-Bishopsgate. Backfill deposits of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century or later cellars were also identified (MoLAS 2000). Further south at 7 Bishopsgate, works revealed the top of foundations overlying the crypt of the Merchant Taylor's chapel as reported by Sankey & McKenzie (1997).
- 2.4.5 Weinreb & Hibbert (1983, 69) refer to the construction of mansions for rich merchants in Bishopsgate from the later medieval period onwards. Evidence of medieval city life has been identified across various projects in and around Bishopsgate. An evaluation by MoLAS in 2003 at Stonehouse Court, 128-150 Bishopsgate and 1-17 Devonshore Row, identified garden soil and a surface possibly related to the medieval Dolphin Inn. A second inn, Bull Inn, is known to have hosted performances and plays. A MoLAS watching brief in 2003 identified medieval fragments of buildings on the east side of Bishopsgate Street. One length of wall foundation contained a relieving arch constructed from late 15<sup>th</sup> century bricks locally made in Moorfields. At the junction of Bishopsgate and Camomile Street there was a medieval gatehouse demolished in 1760. Excavations at 288 Bishopsgate by MoLAS in 2000 identified a wide medieval ditch likely to be part of the medieval water supply system feeding southwards into the city. The ditch backfill contained leather shoes and some metalworking crucibles. Further possible gravel extraction pits, one with 13th century pottery, were also recovered.

## **2.5 Post-Medieval (c.AD 1485 - Modern)**

- 2.5.1 There is comparatively less recorded post-medieval archaeology in the vicinity of the site. However, one important site is a post-medieval municipal cemetery, which was founded in 1569 and remained in use until 1714. It was located at the site of the modern Broad Street and Liverpool Street stations.



This is located immediately southwest and very close to the subject site. The site of Broadgate was excavated by MoLAS between 1984 and 1987 and approximately 400 skeletons were recovered.

- 2.5.2 Part of the former outer precinct of the priory of St. Mary Spital became leased as the site of the Artillery Ground in January 1537 (Sheppard 1957), and was identified at 280 Spital Square containing a brick kiln and brick building. On the east side of the site was a brick house known as the Master Gunner's House. Parts of Fort Street, Steward Street, Spital Square and Lamb Street were recorded by MoLAS during these works. Fort Street is particularly important in this respect in providing the eastern boundary of the subject site. Evidence for the Old Artillery Ground was also found at 250 Bishopsgate, and the land was used by the Honourable Artillery Company for practising drills and shooting. A number of musket balls and boundary walls were found together with rubbish pits and trenches in previous works by MoLAS.
- 2.5.3 An evaluation by MoLAS at *St. Ethelburga* the Virgin Church at Bishopsgate in 1998 uncovered the chalk foundations of the northwest corner of the church, possible foundations for 19<sup>th</sup> century pews, elements of Victorian heating ducts and some disarticulated human bone. Medieval and post-medieval stone and timber recording was also undertaken. Work by MoLAS in 1998 at 158-164 Bishopsgate also identified post-medieval or later brick cellars.

### 3 Strategy

#### 3.1 Aims of the Investigation

- 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 Katherine Stubbs, archaeology advisor to the City of London 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 in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.

##### 3.1.1 The specific objectives of the investigation were:

- Given the close proximity of the subject site to known Roman burial sites (particularly to the north and west), the watching brief will aim to determine the presence of any remains, particularly burials, from the Roman period.
- Given the known occurrence of medieval remains in the vicinity of the site, particularly the priory and hospital of St. Mary Spital, the watching brief will aim to determine the presence of any burials or structural medieval remains.
- The watching brief will aim to determine further the potential for building remains belonging to the post-medieval artillery ground as well as the potential for associated military finds.
- The watching brief will aim to determine further the presence for any other post-medieval archaeology, including the potential for further burials in the area.

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

## **3.2 Methodology**

3.2.1 The watching brief was undertaken between August and November 2009. The investigation involved the monitoring of the ground reduction, service trenches and foundation trenches (Figure 2).

3.2.2 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) (MoL 1994).

3.2.3 The monitoring, recording and reporting conform to current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:

- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
- English Heritage – Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation Reports (Guidelines) (EH 1992).
- English Heritage – Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (EH 2002).
- English Heritage – Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (EH 2006)
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance and Guidelines for Finds Work (IfA 2008a).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (IfA 2008b).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2008c).
- Museum of London – Archaeological Site Manual (Third Edition) (MoL 1994).
- RESCUE & ICON – First Aid for Finds (RESCUE & ICON 2001).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice (UKIC 1990).

3.2.4 Archaeological recording consisted of:

- Limited hand cleaning of deposits sufficient to establish the stratigraphic sequence exposed.
- A scaled photographic record of representative exposed features, sections and surfaces, along with sufficient photographs to establish the setting and scale of the groundworks.
- Annotations of existing plans provided by the client and sections of exposed deposits drawn at 1:20 scale.

3.2.5 The monitoring was undertaken by Paul Fitz, Catherine Edwards, Paul Harris and Les Capon under the overall direction of Melissa Melikian, Operations Director. The site was monitored on behalf of the City of London by Kathryn Stubbs.

3.2.6 A unique site code for the project (BIJ 09) was obtained from the London Archaeological Archive Resource Centre and was used as the site identifier for all records produced

## 4 Results

### 4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 Trench 1 comprised the excavation of a service trench which ran northwest-southeast and north-south (Figure 3). The trench was recorded in three sections (A, B and C) which have been summarised in the tables below.

#### Trench 1A

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
101	0.16m	Concrete floor
102	0.08m	Sand and concrete. Made ground
103	0.05m	Grey silty clay. Made ground
104	0.05m	Mid brown sandy clay. Brickearth
105	0.10m	Brown and orange gravel. Natural

4.1.2 Within Trench 1A, the lowest deposit was recorded as a (105), a brown and orange natural gravel recorded 0.34m below the existing basement floor. The natural gravel was overlain by (104), a 0.05m thick deposit of mid brown sandy clay brickearth which in turn was overlaid by (103), a 0.05m thick deposit of grey silty clay made ground, with occasional stone inclusions. Above layer (103), was (102), a 0.08m thick deposit of sand and crushed concrete levelling material laid as preparation for (101) a 0.16m thick concrete surface.

4.1.3 No archaeological features or finds were found within Trench 1A.

#### Trench 1B

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
101	0.16m	Concrete floor
106	0.06m	Stone and sand. Bedding layer
107	0.02m	Layer of slate. Made ground
108	0.17m	Brown sandy clay. Made ground

4.1.4 The lowest deposit in Trench 1B was recorded as (108), 0.17m+ thick layer of brown sandy clay interpreted as made ground. Overlying (108) was (107), a 0.02m thick layer of slate fragments. This deposit might represent a demolition horizon or dump deposit within the made ground. Overlying (107) was (106), a 0.06m thick layer of stone and sand bedding material for the existing concrete floor recorded as (101).

4.1.5 No archaeological features or finds were found within Trench 1B.

## Trench 1C

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
101	0.16m	Concrete floor
109	0.08m	Sand and gravel levelling layer
110	0.10m	Dark brown and black sandy clay made ground
111	0.11m	Brown sandy clay made ground
105	0.10m	Brown and orange gravel - natural

4.1.6 The lowest deposit in Trench 1C was recorded as (105), a natural brown and orange gravel. Overlying the gravel was (111), a 0.11m thick layer of brown sandy clay interpreted as made ground. Overlying (111) was (110), a 0.10m thick layer of dark brown and black sandy clay interpreted as made ground. Above (110) was (109), a 0.08m thick layer of stone and sand bedding material for the existing concrete floor recorded as (101).

4.1.7 No archaeological features or finds were found within Section C.

## 4.2 Trench 2

4.2.1 Trench 2 comprised the excavation of a service trench and soakaway (2a and 2b). Trench 2a ran northwest-southeast and east-west and measured 6.00m x 0.30m, whilst Trench 2b was roughly square measuring 1.30m x 1.10m x 1.00m deep. The trenches were located within the south-east corner of the basement (Figure 3).

### Trench 2A

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
201	0.04m	Concrete floor
202	0.14m	Concrete rubble hardcore
203	0.15m	Grey sandy clay. Made ground
204	0.13m+	Brown sandy clay brickearth. Natural

4.2.2 The lowest deposit recorded in Trench 2a was (204), a brown sandy clay interpreted as brickearth. This deposit was recorded 0.23m below the existing basement floor. Overlying (204), was (203), a 0.15m thick layer of grey sandy clay interpreted as made ground. Above (203) was (202), a 0.14m thick concrete rubble and hardcore levelling layer deposited in preparation for (201), a 0.04m thick layer of concrete floor.

4.2.3 No archaeological features or finds were found within Trench 2a.

## Trench 2B

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
201	0.04m	Concrete floor
202	0.14m	Concrete rubble hardcore
207	0.52m	Mid - light brown sandy clay. Disturbed brickearth
208	0.22m	Brown and orange gravel. Natural

- 4.2.4 The earliest deposits recorded in Trench 2b were recorded as (208), a 0.22m+ deposit of natural gravels and sands. This was recorded 1.60m below the existing basement floor. Overlying the natural was (207), a mid to light brown sandy clay with inclusions of natural stone and angular flint. This deposited has been interpreted as a disturbed brickearth deposit. Above (207), was (206), a 0.77m thick layer of dark grey sandy clay with inclusions of rare charcoal, natural stone, oyster shell and a brick fragment. Interpretation on site suggested that the deposit may resemble either loose made ground or perhaps a large backfilled feature which extended outside the parameters of the soakaway excavation.
- 4.2.5 Truncating (206) was [205] the cut and backfill for the exposed foundations of the overlying building. The cut measured 0.37m wide and ran the length of the southern edge of the soakaway pit. The foundations located within the cut were recorded as [209], a 0.90m thick layer of concrete overlaid with stepped red and yellow bricks measuring 220mm x 110mm x 60mm. The footings observed in the soakaway pit measured 0.70m wide. The footings were backfilled with a 0.37m thick deposit of dark brown sandy clay.
- 4.2.6 Overlying the foundation cut was (202), a 0.14m thick concrete rubble levelling layer laid in preparation for a concrete floor recorded as (201),
- 4.2.7 No archaeological features or finds were found within Trench 2b.

## 4.3 Trench 3

- 4.3.1 Trench 3 was excavated within the location of the proposed lift shaft situated within the north-eastern corner of the basement (Figure 2). The trench measured 3.15m x 2.50m.

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
301	0.40m	Dark grey sandy, silty clay. Made ground
308		Yellowish grey sandy clay. Made ground
309	0.10m+	Banded mid - light orange and yellow gravel and sand. Natural

- 4.3.2 The earliest deposit in Trench 3 was recorded as (309), a natural banded mid - light orange and yellow gravels and sands measuring 0.10m+ thick. Overlying the natural was (301), a 1.10m thick deposit of dark grey sandy silty clay interpreted as made ground.
- 4.3.3 Cutting into deposit (301) was [305], a circular well measuring 1.35m in diameter and 1.90m deep. The well cut had vertical sides that broke sharply to a flat based. Within the base of the structure was layer (308), a thin layer of yellowish grey sandy clay which appeared to have been used as a water seal for the well. The well structure itself, [303], was brick lined, constructed from red bricks measuring 230mm x 100mm x 60mm. The brick were bonded by a sandy orange mortar in a header coursing, one row wide.



Plate 1: Brick lined well [305]

- 4.3.4 Three individual fills were identified within the well backfill and were recorded as (307), (306) and (304). The lowest fill deposit, (307), was recorded as a 0.28m thick layer of green orangey grey sandy clay with inclusions of post-medieval peg tile; window, phial and bottle glass; clay tobacco pipe stems; residual Reigate stone fragment and a post-medieval pottery assemblage that included examples of creamware, black glazed redware, green glazed Beauvais whiteware and Staffordshire-type white salt glazed stoneware. Fill (307) was overlain by (306), a 0.45m thick layer of greyish brown sandy clay with inclusions of residual Roman pottery sherds, animal bone, post-medieval borderware sherds, peg tile and a clay tobacco pipe stem. The final well fill was recorded as (304), a 0.37m thick layer of dark grey black silty clay with inclusions of animal bone, peg tile, window and bottle glass, clay tobacco pipe stems and a post-medieval pottery assemblage that included examples of Raeren mug, post-medieval redware, and tin glazed sherds. The pottery assemblage recovered from the well suggests infilling took place between 1750 and 1775 with residual pottery fragments being present in the upper backfilled deposits.
- 4.3.5 Also cutting into made ground deposit (301), was the exposed remains of the current buildings foundations [302]. The foundations were composed of a 0.45m thick concrete footing overlaid by courses of red and yellow brick measuring 230mm x 100mm x 70mm.

#### 4.4 Trench 4

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was located on a roughly east west orientation, within a toilet block in the north-eastern corner of the basement. The trench was excavated in order to install temporary supports for the ceiling and doorway. The trench measured 5.00m x 0.90m x 0.35m deep.

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
401	0.10m	Concrete Floor



402	0.25m	Dark brown silty clay. Made ground.
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4.4.2 The lowest deposits recorded in Trench 4 was (402), a 0.25m thick layer of dark brown silty clay with inclusions of brick and tile, interpreted as made ground. Overlying the made ground was (401), a 0.10m thick layer of concrete floor of the current basement.

4.4.3 No archaeological remains were recorded in Trench 4.

## 4.5 Trench 5

4.5.1 Trench 5 was excavated within the former male changing rooms, situated centrally within the north of the basement which is connected to the northern basement corridor. The trench comprised the excavation of a manhole measuring 1.36m x 1.32m.

### Trench 5

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
501	0.03m	Concrete floor
502	0.16m	Hardcore levelling layer
503	0.58m	Dark brown, clayey silt, medieval cess-like deposit

4.5.2 The lowest deposit recorded in Trench 5 was (503), a dark brown clayey silt, sticky cess-like deposit with occasional oyster shell, peg tile and rare medieval pottery sherds. The pottery assemblage contains examples of coarse sandy ware and south Hertfordshire-type greyware which suggests a date range of 13<sup>th</sup> to late 14<sup>th</sup>/early 15<sup>th</sup> century. Due to the limited nature of the excavation it was impossible to determine whether this deposit was a layer or a fill within a cut feature. Overlying (503) was a (502), a 0.16m thick partially concreted hardcore bedding layer which was laid in preparation for the existing concrete floor recorded as (501).

## 4.6 Trench 6

4.6.1 Trench 6 was excavated within the former male changing rooms, situated centrally within the north of the basement which is connected to the northern basement corridor. The trench comprised a drainage trench extending from the manhole to the southeast measuring 2.30m x 0.40m wide.

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
601	0.03m	Concrete floor
602	0.08m	Hardcore levelling layer
603	0.40m	Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Buried soil

4.6.2 The lowest deposit recorded in Trench 6 was layer (603), a 0.40m+ dark greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional oyster shell and medieval pottery sherds. Again, due to the limited nature of the deposit it is unclear whether (603), was part of a feature or a dump deposit.

4.6.3 Overlying (603), was (602), a 0.08m thick layer of concrete and aggregate hardcore levelling layer which was in turn overlaid by the existing concrete basement floor (601).

## 4.7 Trenches 7

4.7.1 Trench 7 was located within the northern corridor of the basement level and was excavated as a drainage trench.

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
701	0.03m	Concrete floor
702	0.13m	Hardcore levelling layer
703	0.20m	Mid greyish brown clayey silt. Made ground

4.7.2 The lowest deposit in Trench 7 was (703), a mid grey brown clay silt with inclusions of residual Roman ceramic brick material and pottery sherds and post-medieval peg tile. Following complete excavation it was ascertained that the deposit was within the backfill of an earlier drainage pipe which explained the presence of the mixed dating assemblage.

4.7.3 Overlying (703), was (702), a 0.13m thick layer of hardcore rubble which in turn was overlaid by (701), a 0.03m thick layer of concrete flooring.

## 4.8 Trench 8

4.8.1 Trench 8 was located in the Goss room, to the south of the basements northern corridor. The trench measured 2.05m x 0.60m x 0.78m deep.

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
801	0.03m	Concrete floor
802	0.15m	Hardcore levelling layer
803	0.60m	Dark brown compact clayey silt. Made ground.

4.8.2 The lowest deposit recorded in Trench 8 was (803), a 0.60m+ thick dark brown compact clayey silt, with moderate charcoal and shell fleck inclusions. No dating evidence was recovered from the deposit. Overlying (803), was (802), a 0.15m thick layer of rubble hardcore levelling for the existing concrete floor (801).

4.8.3 No archaeological features or finds were revealed during the excavation of Trench 8.

## 4.9 Trenches 9 & 10

4.9.1 Within the northern corridor of the basement level a new drainage trench was excavated, extending 38m on a roughly northeast - southwest orientation, before turning at its western extent on a north-south orientation for 10.00m. The excavation of the trench was watched in four stages, recorded as Trenches 7, (previously discussed), 9, 10 and 11 (Figure 3). The trench measured 0.50m wide and was excavated up to a depth of 1.66m below the existing floor level.

### Trench 9

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
901	0.04m	Concrete floor
902	0.14m	Concreted levelling deposit

903	0.50m	Mid - dark greyish brown clayey silt. Made ground
907	0.50m+	Mid greyish brown clayey silt. Made ground

#### Trench 10

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
1001	0.03m	Concrete floor
1002	0.13m	Hardcore levelling layer
1003	1.24m+	Dark brown clayey silt. Made ground

- 4.9.2 The lowest deposit recorded within the east-west drained trench was (907) and (1003), a firm mid greyish brown clayey silt interpreted as made ground. This deposit measured up to 1.24m deep. Cutting into the made ground in Trench 9 was a brickwork foundation trench recorded as [905]. The trench was orientated northwest – southeast measuring 0.38m x 0.50m x and 0.30m deep with steep sloping sides and a flat base. Within the cut were the remains of a wall, [904], composed of pinkish red stock bricks measuring 220mm x 100mm x 60mm, bonded with a highly friable light grey sandy mortar and coursed in a stretcher layout. The wall measured 0.38m x 0.28m x 0.21m high. The foundation trench was backfilled by (906), a dark black humic peaty clay with no inclusions.
- 4.9.3 Overlying the above was (903), a 0.50m thick layer of mid dark grey brown clay silt with inclusions of animal bone, pantile, beaker and bottle glass, clay tobacco pipe stems, and post-medieval pottery assemblage that includes examples of post medieval redware and sherds of imported Dutch redware dating to the mid 17<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 4.9.4 Overlying the made ground deposits (903) and (1003) was (902) and (1002), a 0.13m thick hardcore bedding layer for the existing concrete basement floor recorded as (901) and (1001).

#### 4.10 Trench 11

- 4.10.1 Trench 11 was located on a northeast – southwest alignment and was part of the same drainage system excavation as recorded as Trenches 9 and 10.

Context No	Depth	Description/Interpretation
1101	0.03m	Concrete floor
1102	0.15m	Hardcore levelling layer
1103	1.05m	Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Re-deposited soil
1104	0.44m	Yellowish brown gravelly clay. Re-deposited soil

- 4.10.2 Recorded within the base of the excavated trench was [1105], a concrete cover overlying a drainage pipe that had previously occupied the drained trench. Overlying the trench were two deposits of redeposited material recorded as (1104) and (1103). The lowest deposit (1104) was recorded as a 0.44m thick layer of yellowish brown gravelly clay with inclusions of Roman and post-medieval ceramic building material, a whelk shell, Kentish Ragstone, sandstone, limestone, iron nail and a large assemblage of Roman pottery. Overlying deposit (1103), was a 1.05m thick layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt with inclusions of animal bone, oyster shell, iron nail, Roman and post-

medieval ceramic building material and both Roman and early post-medieval redware. The mixed date of these deposits suggests that the original excavation for the drainage truncated through, possibly *in situ* Roman archaeology, which became redeposited within the drainage trench.

- 4.10.3 Overlying the redeposited material (1102), a 0.15m thick hardcore levelling deposit similar to that found throughout the rest of the trench. This in turn was overlaid by (1101), the existing concrete floor.

## 5 Finds

- 5.1 A moderate find assemblage was recovered from the archaeological investigation at the site. Eleven contexts contained finds which included pottery, ceramic building material, glass, metal, animal bones, shell, stone and clay tobacco pipe.
- 5.2 The Roman pottery assemblage totalled 30 sherds which were recovered from four contexts on site. The largest group originated from redeposited soil layer, [1104], in Trench 11, which also contained post-medieval dating material. Roman pottery also appeared to be residual in the other contexts where it was represented. The datable range of Roman pottery was fairly broad and the assemblage contained a few early Roman elements including sherds of a south Gaulish samian Dragendorff 29 bowl (c. AD50-80), a probable butt-beaker (c. AD 50-80) and a fine grey ovoid beaker (c. AD55-100). However, even within the possible redeposited Roman soil layer, [1104], there was a mixture of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> century material. Diagnostic later pottery from the site included several sherds of central Gaulish samian (c. AD120-200), the base of a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker (c. AD150-400) and a Black-burnished style bead and flange bowl (c. AD250-400). No further work is recommended.
- 5.3 The post-Roman assemblage spanned a number of different periods with the earliest sherds being of probable 13<sup>th</sup> century date and the latest sherd dating to the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. No 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery was present. By far the majority of the assemblage, including all the largest sherds, belonged to the mid 17<sup>th</sup> to early/mid 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. All of the contexts that produced pottery can be considered stratified to a degree. Low numbers of sherds, often consisting of undiagnostic pieces in long-lived fabrics, do not allow a reliable assessment of residuality/intrusiveness in some instances though it is clear residuality is present. The largest context groups consisted of a mere 15 sherds each (contexts [307] and [903]), both dated to the early post-medieval period. The assemblage is not considered to be of suitable interest to warrant further detailed analysis. This is due to its small overall size, very small individual context groups, lack of diagnostic sherds and proportionally high amount of residuality. However, the current pottery does shed light on the main periods of activity within the investigated area and indicates the presence of at least French, German and Dutch imports.
- 5.4 A total of 54 fragments of ceramic building material was recovered from nine contexts. The assemblage comprised Roman tegula, imbrex and peg tile of later medieval to early post-medieval date and a small quantity of post-medieval brick and peg tile. Whilst all the Roman CBM was residual to the contexts from which it has been recovered it did indicate the presence of heated buildings with tiled roof in the area, though not necessarily the site, during the Roman period. The later medieval to early post-medieval assemblage are typical of features excavated from urban areas. No further work is required.
- 5.5 The glass assemblage from the site was small containing only nine fragments from three individually numbered contexts. On the whole the assemblage consisted of small undiagnostic shards with moderate/heavy surface corrosion. The material can nearly all be placed in a mid 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup>

- century date bracket and as such correlates well with the associated pottery and clay tobacco pipes. No further work is required.
- 5.6 A small clay pipe assemblage was recovered from the site numbering 18 pieces from four individually numbered contexts. All of the pipe fragments consisted of undecorated stems with no notable chronological mixing. The majority of pieces were recovered from the three well fills (contexts [304], [306] and [307]). The largest, and notably latest, group from these three deposits coming from the lowest fill [307]. In this the clay pipes closely correlated with the pottery from this feature suggesting infilling started between 1750 and 1775 but with the later dumped infillings consisting largely of residual material. No further work is recommended.
- 5.7 Three pieces of ironwork were recovered from two separate contexts. The objects were heavily corroded with some adherent soil and pebbles. Re-deposited soil layer [1103] contained a single heavy duty iron nail with circular head and circular section stem. Re-deposited soil layer [1104] contained a similar nail, together with a curved, square sectioned iron rod (length 114mm). None were diagnostic of date. No further work is required.
- 5.8 Only two contexts contained stone fragments. The lower fill of the well, context [307] dated to the later 17<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> century, produced a 166g irregular and somewhat weathered piece of Reigate stone. This was almost certainly from a residual ashlar building block but no original faces remain. The remaining stone was recovered from layer [1104], dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> century based on the ceramics. Five different stone types were present but no pieces show any signs of having been humanly modified and the degree of residuality is uncertain. No further work is required.
- 5.9 A small assemblage of shell was recovered from two separate contexts. Three species were represented which included immature specimens of the Common Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Common Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) and Common Whelk shell (*Buccinum undatum*). All species present were edible. No further work recommended.
- 5.10 A small assemblage of animal bone, comprising 90 fragments was recovered from eight individual contexts dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods. The bone was in a good state of preservation with some large fragments present. A single fragment of cattle mandible was recovered from medieval context [503]. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from post-medieval contexts. Cattle are represented by all parts of the skeleton, including fragments from long-bones, scapulae, ribs and vertebrae. There was evidence for butchery consistent with carcass splitting, jointing, and kitchen waste. Both immature and mature cattle were represented. A distal metapodial shaft showed signs of having been close to a fire, with cracking and slight charring on the surface. Sheep were also represented by all parts of the skeleton but there is less evidence for butchery, with only a single element displaying signs consistent with skinning of the carcass. Both mature and immature sheep were recorded. Three fragments of pig were recorded; two metapodials and a single tooth. The remaining fragments consist of a dog radius, cat scapula and a bird ulna. No further work was required.

## 6 Conclusions

- 6.1 The watching brief successfully established the presence or absence of archaeological remains on site. The majority of the site appears to have truncated through possibly earlier archaeological remains as evidence within drainage runs, made ground and foundation cuts contained residual Roman pottery and ceramic building material.
- 6.2 Natural gravel and sand was recorded in several of the excavated trenches especially those located towards the east and north east of the site. Also recorded within these locations was a layer of

brickearth which was not observed anywhere else on site. *In situ* archaeological remains were only observed in two trenches (Trenches 3 and 9). The remains were recorded as a circular well and a brick wall foundation. The finds assemblage from the well indicate that the structure is likely to have been infilled between 1750-1775AD. No dating evidence was recovered for the wall.

- 6.3 The finds, though residual in nature, suggest that during the Roman period a heated building with a tiled roof was located within the area though not necessarily the site. Post-Roman remains suggest the deposition of domestic waste which includes imported pottery and butchered animal bone.
- 6.4 Based on the archaeological remains it is clear that a high level of early to late post-medieval activity and truncation has been carried out on site resulting in a high level of residual finds within the made ground deposits.
- 6.5 As the development has been completed no further on site work is required.

## **7 Publication and Archive Deposition**

- 7.1 The archive will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines provided by London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre and the Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990). The archive will be security copied and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (NAR).
- 7.2 Due to the nature of the project, publication will be restricted to a summary of results in the London Archaeologist Summary of Fieldwork.
- 7.3 An OASIS form has been completed initiated (Appendix B) and this will be completed and deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).



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BISHOPSGATE INSTITUTE, 230 BISHOPSGATE, CITY OF LONDON:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

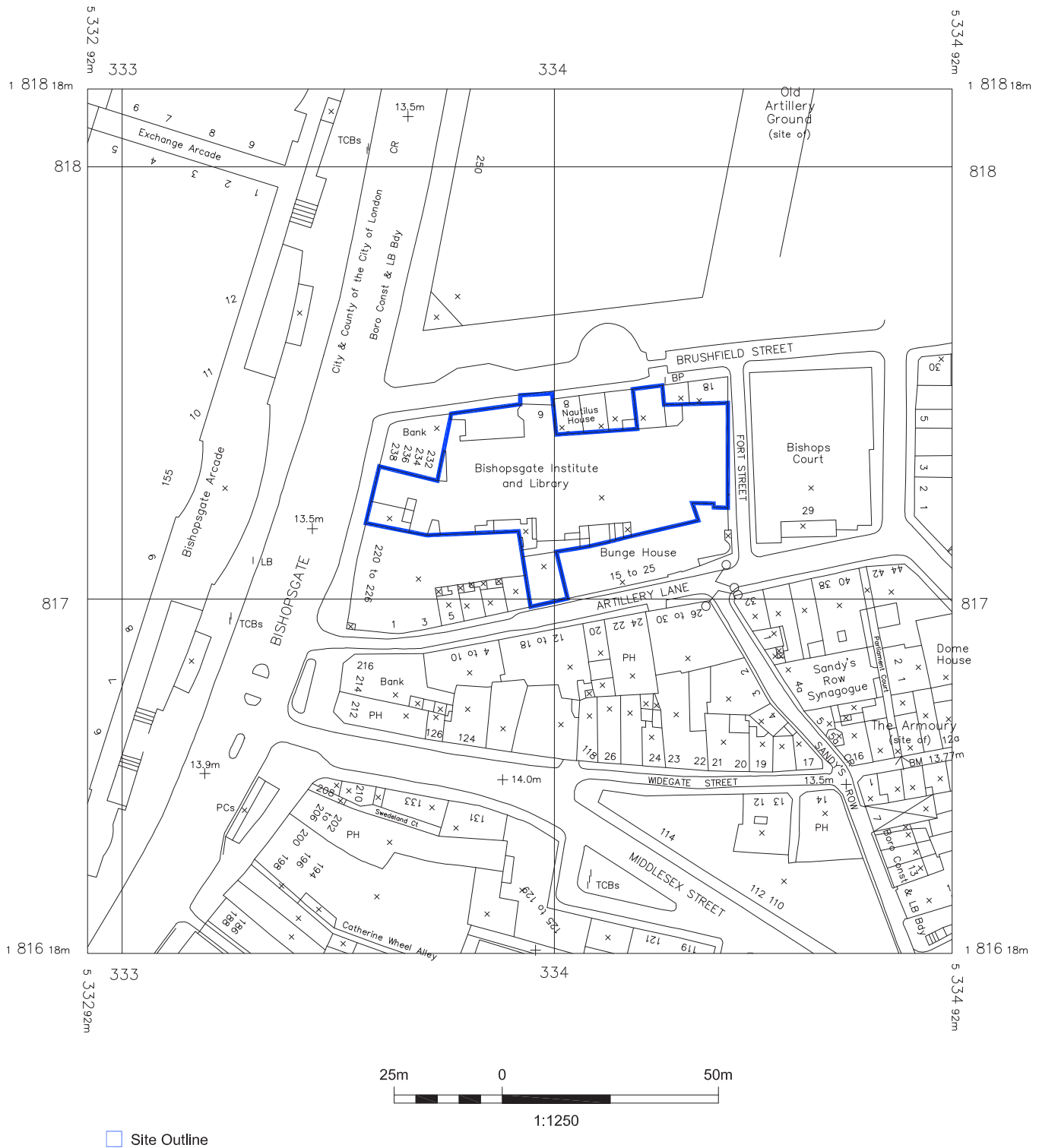


Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:50 000 Landranger map of 1997  
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**Figure 1:** Site Location

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**Figure 2:** Detailed Site Location

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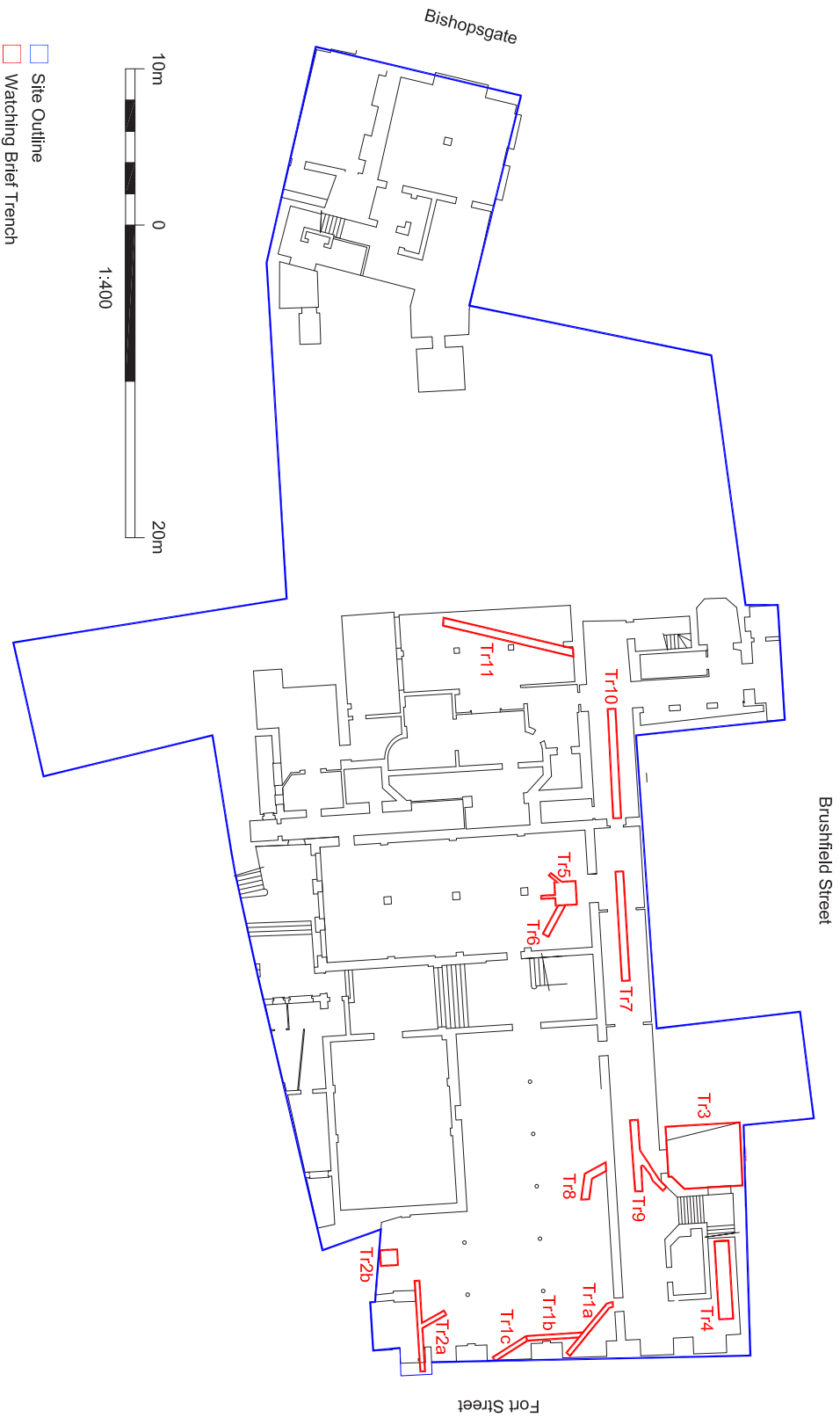
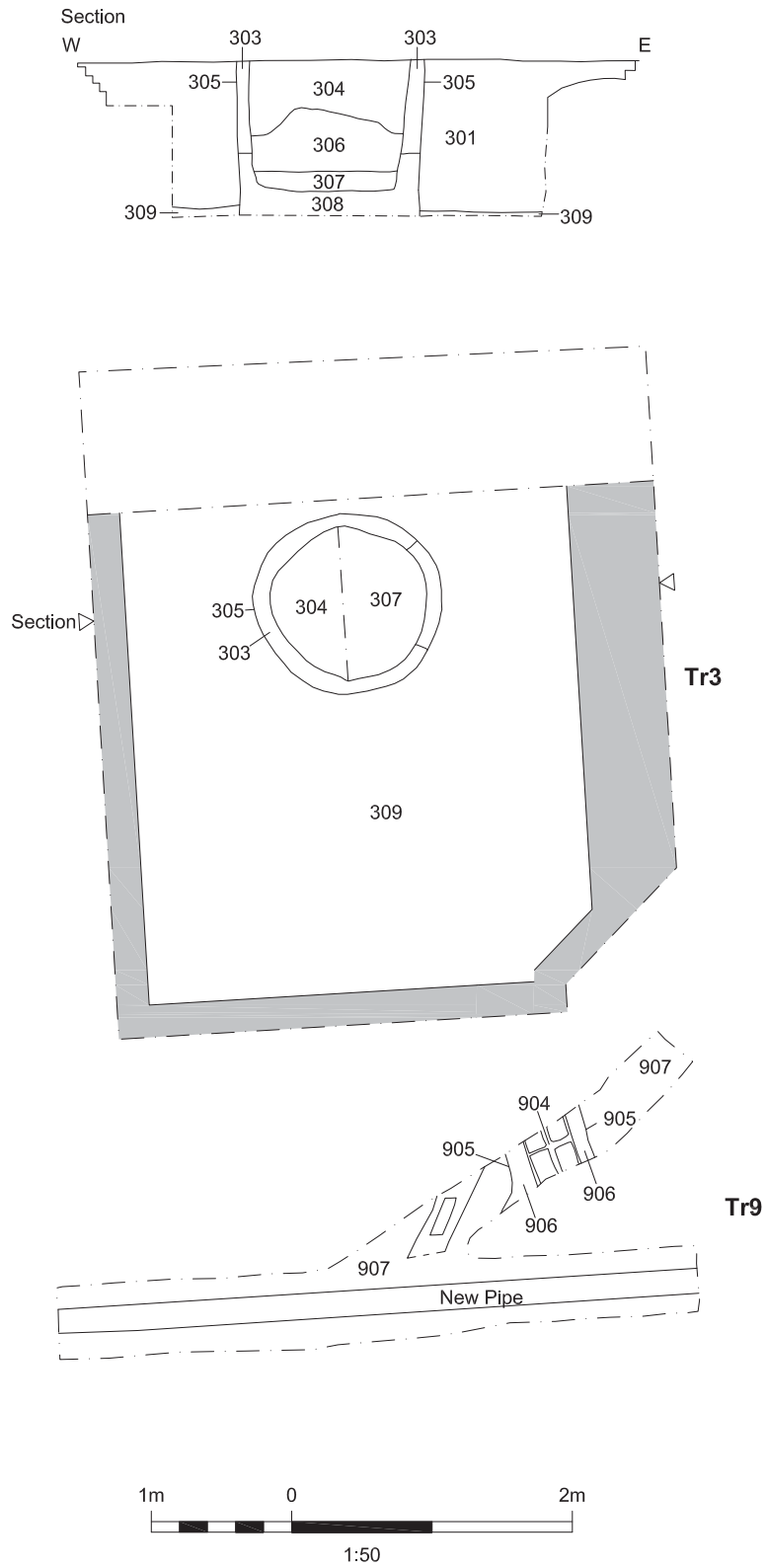


Figure 3: Detailed Watching Brief Trench Locations

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■ Footings

**Figure 4:** Plans of Trenches 3 & 9 and a Section through Trench 3

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## Appendices





## Appendix A – Context Register

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth
101	Concrete floor			0.16m
102	Sand and concrete made ground			0.08m
103	Grey silty clay made ground			0.05m
104	Mid brown sandy clay brickearth			0.05m
105	Brown and orange gravel - natural			0.10m
106	Stone and sand bedding layer			0.06m
107	Layer of slates			0.02m
108	Brown sandy clay made ground			0.17m
109	Sand and gravel levelling layer			0.08m
110	Dark brown and black sandy clay made ground			0.10m
111	Brown sandy clay made ground			0.11m
201	Concrete floor			0.04m
202	Concrete rubble hardcore			0.14m
203	Grey sandy clay made ground			0.15m
204	Brown sandy clay brickearth - natural			0.13m+
205	Dark brown sandy clay foundation trench backfill			0.37m
206	Dark grey sandy clay backfill			0.77m
207	Mid - light brown sandy clay			0.52m
208	Brown and orange gravel - natural			0.22m
209	Red and yellow brick footings		0.37m	0.37m
301	Dark grey sandy, silty clay made ground			0.40m
302	Red and yellow brick footings			0.10m
303	Brick well lining	1.35m	1.35m	0.60m
304	Dark grey black, silty clay tertiary well backfill	1.15m	1.10m	0.37m
305	Foundation trench for brick lined well	1.35m	1.35m	0.60m
306	Greyish brown sandy clay secondary well backfill	1.15m	1.10m	0.45m
307	Orangey grey sandy clay primary well backfill	1.15m	1.10m	0.28m
308	Yellowish grey sandu clay made ground	1.35m	1.35m	
309	Banded mid - light orange and yellow gravel and sand natural	3.15m	2.50m	0.80m+
401	Concrete Floor			0.10m
402	Dark brown silty clay. Made ground.			0.25m
501	Concrete floor			
502	Hardcore levelling layer			
503	Mid greyish brown clayey silt made ground			
601	Concrete floor			0.03m
602	Hardcore levelling layer			0.08m
603	Mid greyish brown clayey silt made ground			0.40m
701	Concrete floor			0.03m
702	Hardcore levelling layer			0.13m
703	Mid greyish brown clayey silt made ground			0.20m
801	Concrete floor			0.03m
802	Hardcore levelling layer			0.15m
803	Mid greyish brown clayey silt made ground			0.60m
901	Concrete floor			0.04m
902	Concreted levelling deposit			0.14m
903	Mid - dark greyish brown clayey silt made ground			0.50m
904	Red brick wall in foundation trench 905	0.38m+	0.28m	0.21m
905	Wall foundation trench	0.38m+	0.50m	0.30m
906	Dark black peaty clay fill of 905	0.38m+	0.50m	0.30m
907	Mid greyish brown clayey silt made ground			0.50m+
1001	Concrete floor			0.03m
1002	Hardcore levelling layer			0.13m

<b>1003</b>	Dark brown clayey silt made ground			1.24m+
<b>1101</b>	Concrete floor			0.03m
<b>1102</b>	Hardcore levelling layer			0.15m
<b>1103</b>	Dark greyish brown clayey silt re-deposited medieval soil			1.05m
<b>1104</b>	Yellowish brown gravelly clay re-deposited roman soil			0.44m

## Appendix B – Oasis Form

**OASIS ID: aocarcha1-61860**

### Project details

Project name	Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, City of London
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on renovation works at the Bishopsgate Institute, City of London. This consisted of the recording of drainage runs, manhole placements and a new lift pit. The excavation indicated that the post-medieval / modern services and foundations had possibly truncated through Roman and medieval archaeology as the backfill for the trenches contained a moderate level of residual pottery and CBM. A post-medieval brick-lined well was also uncovered in the area for a new lift pit which was infilled between 1750-1775.
Project dates	Start: 20-07-2009 End: 27-11-2009
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BIJ 09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	30499 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings
Monument type	WELL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF LONDON CITY OF LONDON Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate
Postcode	EC2M 4QH
Study area	240.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 3341 8172 51.5181273101 -0.07698868506610 51 31 05 N 000 04 37 W Point

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation		AOC Archaeology
Project originator	brief	Brief not produced
Project originator	design	AOC Archaeology
Project		Andy Leonard

director/manager		
Project supervisor		Catherine Edwards
Project supervisor		Paul Fitz
Project supervisor		Paul Harris
Project supervisor		Les Capon
Type of sponsor/funding body		Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body		Bishopsgate Institute

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### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient		LAARC
Physical Archive ID		BIJ09
Physical Contents		'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Metal'
Physical Archive notes		post-medieval, medieval and roman pottery, bone, iron nails, tile, tobacco pipe
Digital Archive recipient		LAARC
Digital Archive ID		BIJ09
Digital Contents		'Stratigraphic'
Digital Media available		'Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Text'

Digital notes	Archive	jpeg images and LAARC archive files,tables will be created.
Paper recipient	Archive	LAARC
Paper Archive ID		BIJ09
Paper Contents		'Stratigraphic'

---

**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	BISHOPSGATE INSTITUTE, 230 BISHOPSGATE, CITY OF LONDON:
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Edwards, C
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	bound report with illustrations and specialist reports

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Entered by	catherine edwards (catherine.edwards@aocarchaeology.com)
Entered on	5 December 2011



## Appendix C – Specialist Finds Reports

### THE ROMAN POTTERY by Anna Doherty

A small assemblage of Roman pottery, totalling 30 sherds, weighing 706g, was recovered from four numbered contexts on site. The pottery was recorded on pro-forma sheets according to standard fabric and form codes for the London region (Marsh & Tyers 1979; Davies et al 1994). It was quantified by sherd count and weight.

The largest group comes from a redeposited soil layer, [1104], which also contained post-medieval dating material. Roman pottery also appears to be residual in each of the other contexts where it is represented.

The datable range of Roman pottery is fairly broad and the assemblage contains a few early Roman elements including sherds of a south Gaulish samian Dragendorff 29 bowl (c. AD50-80), a probable butt-beaker (c. AD 50-80) and a fine grey ovoid beaker (c. AD55-100). However, even within the possible redeposited Roman soil layer, [1104], there is a mixture of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> century material. Diagnostic later pottery from the site includes several sherds of central Gaulish samian (c. AD120-200), the base of a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker (c. AD150-400) and a Black-burnished style bead and flange bowl (c. AD250-400).

#### Significance and potential

Owing to the unstratified nature of the assemblage, its only significance is in providing some further evidence for Roman activity in the immediate vicinity of the site. It holds no potential for further analysis.

#### Further work

No further work is proposed

### THE POST-ROMAN POTTERY by Luke Barber

#### Introduction

The archaeological work at the site produced 60 sherds of pottery, weighing 2328g, from eight individually numbered contexts. Some 44 different vessels are represented in the assemblage. As part of the assessment the pottery has been fully quantified (number, weight and ENV) for the archive using Museum of London codes for fabric, form and decoration where known. This data has been input into an excel spreadsheet which also forms part of the archive.

Sherd sizes vary greatly. There are many small sherds (< 20mm across) as well as numerous large sherds (> 50mm across), though no complete vessels are present. Sherd size tends to be largest for the mid 17<sup>th</sup>- to early 18<sup>th</sup>- century material with the earliest pottery generally being represented by smaller, often slightly abraded, sherds. However, overall the post-Roman pottery from the site does not show extensive signs of abrasion suggesting the majority of it has not been subjected to repeated reworking.

The assemblage spans a number of different periods with the earliest sherds being of probable 13<sup>th</sup>- century date and the latest sherd dating to the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. No 19<sup>th</sup>- century pottery is present. By far the majority of the assemblage, including all the largest sherds, belongs to the mid 17<sup>th</sup> to early/mid 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. A breakdown of the pottery by period is given in Table 1. All of the contexts producing pottery can be considered stratified to a degree, though few are truly

closed. Low numbers of sherds, often consisting of undiagnostic pieces in long-lived fabrics, do not allow a reliable assessment of residuality/intrusiveness in some instances though it is clear residuality is present. The largest context groups consist of a mere 15 sherds each (contexts [307] and [903], both dating to the early post-medieval period.

Period	No	Wt (g)	ENV	Number of fabrics
<b>High Medieval</b> (C13th – late 14 <sup>th</sup> /early 15 <sup>th</sup> )	8	225g	8	6
<b>Transitional</b> (Late C14th/early 15th – early/mid 16 <sup>th</sup> )	5	52g	5	3
<b>Early Post-medieval</b> (early/mid C16th – mid 18 <sup>th</sup> )	46	2037g	30	8
<b>Late Post-medieval</b> (Mid C18th – 19 <sup>th</sup> )	1	14g	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2328g</b>	<b>44</b>	

Table 1: Post-Roman pottery assemblage by sub-period

Due to the size and nature of the assemblage it has been considered most appropriate to give an overview of the pottery by period rather than by dated context spot dates. As such all sherds of a period, whether residual/intrusive or not, will be considered if they are of specific interest. A full list of the assemblage by individual context is housed with the archive.

## The Assemblages

### ***High Medieval (13th to late 14th/early 15th century)***

The small assemblage of medieval pottery was recovered as residual sherds from early post-medieval deposits as well as from two contexts ([503] and [603]) that only contained medieval sherds and may actually date to the period. However, quantities are always so low and sherds generally small that their reliability for dating is uncertain. The earliest pieces include a cooking pot bodysherd in a coarse sandy ware with rare shell inclusions (MoL fabric code yet to ascertain) from cess-like deposit [503] and a reduced bodysherd from a London-type ware (MoL code LOND) fine sandy jug with external white slip under a green glaze (residual in well fill [306]). These pieces are probably of the 13th century. There are a couple of Surrey whiteware sherds residual in well fill [307], possibly from Kingston (KING), including a green glazed jug bodysherd and a sooted cooking pot bodysherd, though the fabrics are not typical. Most of the remaining sherds consist of South Hertfordshire-type greywares (SHER). Most consist of the medium sand tempered fabric (including a cauldron leg from cess deposit [503]) but glazed jugs in this and a finer sandy fabric are also present.

### ***Transitional (late 14th/early 15th to early/mid 16th century)***

The few sherds attributed to this period include a couple of Coarse Borderware (CBW) or early Border ware type jar sherds residual in well fills [304] and [306], a frilled base fragment from a Raeren mug (residual in [304]) and an oxidised sherd from a hard-fired sandy vessel with rare chalk inclusions (residual in layer [1103]).

### ***Early Post-medieval (early/mid 16th to mid 18th century)***

At least five contexts of this period produced pottery. The earliest appears to be [1103] which produced a small number of early-type post-medieval redware bodysherds (PMRE) and a potential yellow glazed Border ware bodysherd (BORDY) as well as a little residual earlier material. Although a larger assemblage would be needed to be certain, a 16th-century date is probable. The majority of the early post-medieval assemblage can be placed between the mid 17th and early 18th centuries though a few pieces could be of the early 17th century. London-type post-medieval redwares is by far the most common fabric type (PMR) with a number of jars and bowls and pipkins being present. Of note is a cauldron bodysherd with horizontal applied thumbled strip around its neck (well backfill [304] – this sherd could be of 16th-century date), two bowls/dishes from made ground [903], one of which has a complete profile, and two pieces from an unglazed but internally white slipped sugar mould (fill [304]). Well fill [307] produced a number of large fresh sherds (6/327g) from a post-medieval black glazed redware bowl (PMBL) and there is a sherd of Red Borderware (RBOR) from well fill [306]. There are also a few small sherds of white Border ware with yellow or green glazes (BORDY/BORDG). More refined wares are represented by several tin-glazed vessels (TGW). These include a drug jar with blue cable decoration and plain chamber pot (both badly stained) from layer [903] as well as a possibly imported charger with turquoise colour infill and Neves blue-type vessel from well fill [304]. Definite imports consist of a Dutch redware 2-handled bowl (DUTR) (5/198g: layer [903]) and a bodysherd of green glazed Beauvais whiteware (BEAG) from well fill [307]. The latest sherds in this period consist of two rim fragments (31g) from Staffordshire-type white salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG) dinner plates with moulded dot, diaper and basket decoration from lowest well [307]. These are likely to date to between 1725 and 1775.

#### ***Late Post-medieval (Mid/late 18th century)***

A single base sherd from a creamware plate (CREA) was recovered from the lowest well fill [307]. This, along with the SWSG sherds noted above, suggest infilling took place between 1750 and 1775 but with the upper infills consisting of redeposited earlier material.

#### **Potential for Analysis**

The post-Roman pottery assemblage is not considered to be of suitable interest to warrant further detailed analysis. This is due to its small overall size, very small individual context groups, lack of diagnostic sherds and proportionally high amount of residuality. In addition most fabrics/forms appear to be of common types already well known/published in the capital. Any pottery from the site recovered during later stages of fieldwork would need to be assessed in light of the current assemblage. However, the current pottery does shed light on the main periods of activity within the investigated area and indicates the presence of at least French, German and Dutch imports. As such a summary pottery report ought to be included in the final site archive report from which information can be pulled for integration into any published site narrative.

### **THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL** by Sarah Porteus

#### **Introduction**

A total of 54 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 7180g were recovered from nine contexts. The assemblage comprises Roman tegula, imbrex and peg tile of later medieval to early post-medieval date and a small quantity of post-medieval brick and peg tile.

#### **Methodology**

The assemblage has been recorded on pro forma record forms for archive and entered into an Excel spreadsheet. A provisional fabric series has been drawn up with the aid of a X10 binocular microscope (Table 2), where possible fabrics have been compared with the Museum of London (MoL) fabric series. Fabric samples have been retained for archive and the remainder of the material

(approximately two thirds) has been discarded. Table 3 summarises the forms and fabrics recovered by context.

Fabric	Description	Date range
MoL3006	Orange fabric with variable quantities of quartz and occasional iron oxide inclusions.	Roman
T1	Pale browish orange fine sandy fabric with fine micaceous speckling	C15th-C17th
T2	Orange fabric with moderate quartz and moderate black iron rich inclusions	C18th-C19th
MoL3032	Purplish red fabric with voids and inclusions of industrial waste and iron rich inclusions	Mid C18th-C19th

Table 2: Provisional CBM fabric series

### Roman

Contexts: [703], [1103], [1104]

The Roman assemblage consisted of residual, highly abraded fragments of material. Two fragments of flue tile were recovered, one from context [1103] had crossed combed keying pattern with a comb of 4 teeth and 16mm wide. The second fragment of flue tile from context [1104] had a wavy combed keying pattern with a comb of 11 prongs and 35mm width. Roofing tile in the form of tegula and Imbrex have also been identified in the assemblage from contexts [703], [1103] and [1104]. Whilst the assemblage is highly fragmentary and abraded it does indicate that a heated Roman structure would once have been present within the area, though not necessarily the immediate vicinity of the site.

### Late Medieval to Early Post-medieval

Contexts: [304], [306], [307], [503], [1003], [1103], [1104]

Some fragments of brick and tile could not be accurately assigned to either the medieval or post-medieval period due to the prolonged use of similar forms and fabrics during the transition from medieval to post-medieval. Peg tile fabric T1 is likely to date from the 15th to 17th century, the majority of fragments in this fabric have a reduced core and are soft fired and abraded. A circular peg hole was observed in one fragment from context [304]. A fragment from context [306] has a partial splash glaze effect which may indicate a medieval date for the fragment.

### Post-medieval

Contexts: [303], [306], [307], [703], [709]

Peg tile in fabric T2 is of broadly post-medieval 17th to 18th century date. A small number of fragments were recovered from context [306], [307] and [703]. A curved tile recovered from context [709] also in fabric T2 is of uncertain form, fine sanding on the outer curved edge indicates that it is not Roman Imbrex. The curved tile is possibly a pantile, and of 17th to 19th century date. Also of post-medieval date were two bricks from context [303], the bricks have very shallow partial frogs and quite sharp arises, frogs become more common post AD1750 suggesting the bricks are likely to have a mid 18th to 19th century date. The bricks measure 220mm in length with widths of 110 and 100mm and thickness' of 58 and 65mm. The bricks are in a fabric similar to MoL3032, an industrial brick tempered with industrial waste.

### Summary

The ceramic building material assemblage represents a range of periods from Roman to post-medieval times. Whilst all the Roman CBM is residual to the contexts from which it has been recovered it does indicate the presence of heated buildings with tiled roof in the area, though not necessarily the site, during the Roman period. The later medieval to early post-medieval assemblage are typical of features excavated from urban areas.

Context	Fabrics	Forms
303	MoL3032	Brick
304	T1	Peg tile
306	T1, T2	Peg tile
307	T1, T2	Peg tile
503	T1	Peg tile
703	MoL3006, T1	<i>Tegula, imbrex</i> , tile, peg tile, flue tile
903	T2	Curved tile/pantile
1003	T1	Peg tile
1103	MoL3006, T1, T2	<i>Tegula, imbrex</i> , tile, peg tile
1104	MoL3006, T1, T2	<i>Tegula, imbrex</i> , tile, peg tile, flue tile

Table 3: Summary of ceramic building material by context

#### Further Work

The findings of this report should be incorporated into any publication report as required. No further specialist work is required.

#### THE GLASS by Luke Barber

The archaeological work at the site produced a small assemblage of glass: nine fragments, weighing 116g, from three individually numbered contexts. The assemblage has been fully listed for the archive and is summarised in Table 4.

Context	Colour	Form	Number	Weight	Corrosion	Comments
304	Colourless	Window	1	2g	Heavy flaking/rainbow sheen	1.5mm thick
	Pale blue	Bottle cylindrical	1	14g	Flaking/rainbow sheen	Base kick
307	Green	Bottle cylindrical	1	10g	Flaking. Gold/rainbow sheen	3.6mm thick body shard. Wine bottle
	Colourless	Phial	1	1g	Rainbow sheen	0.6mm thick. Long neck
	Colourless	Window	2	2g	Slight rainbow sheen	1.6mm thick. C18th?
903	Colourless	Beaker	2	1g	Flaking/rainbow sheen	80mm di simple rim. 0.4mm thick. C17th?
	Green	Bottle cylindrical	1	86g	Heavy flaking/gold surface	Onion/globular type wine bottle: late C17th – early 18th

Table 4: Summary of glass assemblage

On the whole the assemblage consists of small undiagnostic shards with moderate/heavy surface corrosion. The material can nearly all be placed in a mid 17th- to mid 18th- century date bracket and as such correlates well with the associated pottery and clay tobacco pipes. The assemblage includes a range of forms (Table 1) quite typical in a domestic context but quantities are too small to draw reliable conclusions from.

The glass assemblage from the site is too small and fragmentary to warrant detailed analysis and no further work is proposed. However, observations on the glass assemblage should be included in the site narrative. The above table can be used as a source for this data.

**The Clay Tobacco Pipe** by Luke Barber

The archaeological work at the site produced a small assemblage of clay pipe: a mere 18 pieces, weighing 82g, from four individually numbered contexts. The assemblage has been fully listed for the archive and is summarised in Table 5.

Context	Part	Number	Weight	Bore diameter	Comments	Date
304	Stem	2	8g	2.7-2.9mm	-	Mid C17th
306	Stem	1	4g	2.5mm	Stained/burnt breakage post	Later C17th to early 18 <sup>th</sup>
307	Stem	11	34g	1.5-1.8mm	XI spur. Most stained brown	Mid C18th – 19 <sup>th</sup>
903	Stem	4	36g	2.1-2.4mm	XI round heel. Quite fresh	Late C17th – early/mid 18th

Table 5: Summary of clay pipe assemblage



As all of the pipe fragments consist of undecorated stems apparently with no notable chronological mixing within their respective contexts there is little information to add beyond that presented in Table 1. The majority of pieces were recovered from the three well fills (contexts [304], [306] and [307]). The largest, and notably latest, group from these three deposits coming from the lowest fill [307]. In this the clay pipes closely correlate with the pottery from this feature suggesting infilling started between 1750 and 1775 but with the later dumped infillings consisting largely of residual material.

The clay pipe assemblage is small and composed entirely of undecorated stem fragments. As such the assemblage does not hold any potential for further analysis beyond that already undertaken for assessment. No further work is proposed and no separate report is required for the report.

#### **THE METALWORK** by Trista Clifford

Three pieces of ironwork were recovered from two separate contexts. The objects are heavily corroded with some adherent soil and pebbles.

Re-deposited soil layer [1103] contained a single heavy duty iron nail with circular head and circular section stem. Re-deposited soil layer [1104] contained a similar nail, together with a curved, square sectioned iron rod (length 114mm). None were diagnostic of date.

#### **Significance and potential**

The iron objects are of minimal significance with no potential for further analysis.

#### **Further Work**

The iron objects have been recorded on pro forma sheets and digitally for the archive. No further work is proposed.

#### **THE GEOLOGICAL MATERIAL** by Luke Barber

The archaeological work at the site recovered stone from two contexts only. The lower fill of the well, context [307] dated to the later 17th to early 18th century, produced a 166g irregular and somewhat weathered piece of Reigate stone. This was almost certainly from a residual ashlar building block but no original faces remain.

The remaining stone was recovered from layer [1104], dated to the 16th century based on the ceramics. This deposit produced six pieces of stone weighing 1122g. Five different stone types are present but no pieces show any signs of having been humanly modified and the degree of residuality is uncertain.

The largest piece consists of a 724g irregular fragment of Kentish Ragstone. A 54g piece of glauconitic medium-grained sandstone (Hassock) and two pieces (118g) of Lower Greensand chert can all be seen as deriving from the Lower greensand quarries of the Medway valley. The other two stone types consist of off-white limestones. One piece (68g) is fossiliferous but contains some ooliths, while the other piece (158g) is truly oolitic. Oolitic limestones are common in the capital and come from a number of sources. The current pieces do not appear to be of Bath or Portland stone but may well be from the Oolitic limestones of the Nottinghamshire/Lincolnshire area.

The stone assemblage although being quite diverse considering its size is too small and lacking in worked pieces to warrant further analysis. This situation is compounded by the fact all of the stone is likely to be residual material from much earlier than the 17th century. No further work on the assemblage is proposed.

## THE SHELL by Trista Clifford

A small assemblage of shell (wt 80g) was recovered from two separate contexts. Three species are represented (Table 6).

Context	Number	Wt (g)	Species	MNI
1103	10	72	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	5
1103	4	2	<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	2
1104	1	6	<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	1
Total	15	80		

Table 6: Summary of the shell assemblage

Re-deposited soil [1103] contained immature specimens of the Common Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) and Common Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*). A single Common Whelk shell (*Buccinum undatum*) came from re-deposited soil [1104]. All species present are edible.

### Significance and potential

The assemblage is considered to hold minimal significance with no potential for further work

### Further work

The assemblage has been fully recorded both digitally and on pro forma archive sheets; no further work is proposed.

## THE ANIMAL BONE by Lucy Siburn

A small assemblage comprising 90 fragments was recovered from eight individual contexts dating from the medieval ([503]) and post-medieval ([304], [306], [307], [903], [1103], [1104]) periods. The bone was in a good state of preservation with some large fragments present.

### Methodology

Wherever possible, bone fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. The bone was identified using the in-house reference collection and Schmidt (1972). Where bone fragments were not identifiable to species or they have been recorded as cattle or sheep-sized. To assist with the MNE calculations and in an attempt to avoid the distortion caused by differing fragmentation rates, the elements have been recorded according to the part and proportion of the bone present.

A single complete element was present and this has been measured according to Von Den Dreisch (1976). Each fragment was studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology.

### Results

The identified assemblage from dated contexts has been fully quantified and recorded in an excel spreadsheet. The table below shows the Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) divided by taxon and phase. For the purposes of this report, fragments recorded as cattle or sheep sized have been included in the cattle and sheep totals respectively.

	Medieval	Post-medieval
<b>Cattle</b>	1	51
<b>Sheep</b>		32
<b>Pig</b>		3
<b>Dog</b>		1
<b>Cat</b>		1
<b>Bird</b>		1
<b>Total</b>	1	89

**Table\*** Quantification of animal bone by period

#### **Medieval**

A single fragment of cattle mandible was recovered from medieval context [503]. No other information was available.

#### **Post-medieval**

The majority of the assemblage was recovered from post-medieval contexts. Cattle are represented by all parts of the skeleton, including fragments from long-bones, scapulae, ribs and vertebrae. There is evidence for butchery consistent with carcass splitting, jointing, and kitchen waste. Both immature and mature cattle are represented. A distal metapodial shaft shows signs of having been close to a fire, with cracking and slight charring on the surface.

Sheep are also represented by all parts of the skeleton but there is less evidence for butchery, with only a single element displaying signs consistent with skinning of the carcass. Both mature and immature sheep were recorded.

Three fragments of pig were recorded; two metapodials and a single tooth. No other information was available.

The remaining fragments consist of a dog radius, cat scapula and a bird ulna.

#### **Potential**

The assemblage does not merit further study as it is too small for meaningful statistical analysis. It can therefore be used to provide information on the species present. The data suggests that the three main domestic species (cattle, sheep and pig) were utilised in the post-medieval period and that cattle at least were kept for meat.

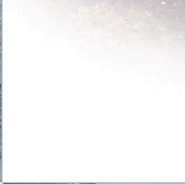
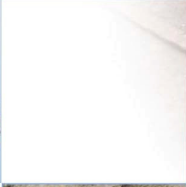
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