

219-221 Bow Road London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report



Planning Ref: PA/14/03660 MoL Site Code: BOO16 Ref: 115161.01 November 2017



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Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

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November 2017

Report Ref: 115161.01 MOL Site Code: BOO16



Quality Assurance

Project Code	115161	MOL Site Code	BOO16	Client Ref.	-
Planning Application Ref.		Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	537680 183060)	

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
V01	1	MD	RD	RIMES	30.08.2017
File:	R:\projec	cts\115160_reports\	/01		
V02	Е	TP	RD	Rallo	31.08.2017
File:	R:\projec	cts\115160_reports\	/02		
V03	F	TP	RD	RIMES	27.11.2017
File:					
File:					
File:					

^{*} I= Internal Draft; E= External Draft; F= Final

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Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Quadrant Construction to undertake an archaeological evaluation and watching brief at 219-221 Bow Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 537680 183060 (**Figure 1**).

The evaluation was undertaken in order to establish the presence/absence, extent and character of archaeological remains within the Site prior to the construction of ninety-three residential units accommodated within 4-6 storey structures with associated infrastructure and landscaping.

Five out of six planned evaluation trenches were excavated within the development footprint, two trenches measuring $10m \times 1.8m$ and three trenches measuring $15m \times 1.8m$. A planned test pit measuring approximately $2m \times 2m$ located towards the site entrance and the sixth trench, located along the access road into the site, where not excavated due to the presence of live utilities as indicated by the use of the cable avoidance tool (CAT scan).

Archaeological remains found during the evaluation confirmed the presence of 19th century buildings recorded on the 1896 Ordnance survey map within the northern section of the site. Heavy truncation caused by modern disturbance was recorded in all excavated trenches. No other archaeological remains were identified.

The archaeological evaluation took place between the 28th November and 5th December 2016 with an initial site visit on 21st November 2016.

Following the evaluation phase of work a watching brief was conducted towards the front of the site adjacent to Bow Road where previous access during the evaluation was unavailable. The watching brief identified a well, covered by a concrete slab; the well was constructed of red bricks and chalk blocks. No dating evidence associated with the well was observed, however Bowles' folding map of 'Ye City of London, detail showing Bow' of 1731 shows dwellings along the frontage of Bow Road and it is likely the well corresponds to one of these. The watching brief also recorded that significant truncation had occurred in this part of the site with natural gravel lying directly below the previous development structures. No other finds or features were identified during the course of the watching brief.

A line of a single course of bricks, identified as the lowest course of a possible wall was observed in the north-western end of Trench 4. The brick sample taken was dated to the period c.1550-1666. The wall cut into the natural geological horizon and was the deepest lying feature observed within the evaluation trench. An archaeological evaluation by AOC in 2014 at 213-215 Bow Road, to the south west of the Site, revealed two 16th century residential buildings possibly relating to Sir Edmund Sheffield's C16-17 house, an 18th century quarry pit and remains relating to the known 19th and 20th century warehouse and workshops on the site and it could be possible that the wall remnant in Trench 4 could be related to Sir Edmund Sheffield's property at 213-215 Bow Road in some capacity but this cannot be proven.



Further research work on the potential origins of the wall in Trench 4 led the author of this report to "A New & Exact Plan of ye City of London, detail showing Bow" from Bowles' folding map of London 1731 which indicates a notable building in the vicinity of 213-215 Bow Road with terraced housing either side. The line of bricks observed in Trench 4 could possibly be as part of this terraced housing or an earlier form of it, of which no other remains were observed in the other evaluation trenches or during the subsequent watching brief phase of works.



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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Quadrant Construction for commissioning the work. Thanks are also due to John Gould and Adam Single the Archaeological Officers from GLAAS for their advice and guidance throughout.

Thanks are also extended to DDS Demolition for their assistance and help onsite during the fieldwork.

The fieldwork was directed by Mark Denyer with assistance from Martha Page. This report was written by Mark Denyer and the illustrations prepared by Jo Condliffe. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Rob De'Athe.



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Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Quadrant Construction ('the Client'), to undertake a trial trench evaluation and watching brief at 219-221 Bow Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets (hereafter 'the Site'), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 537680 183060 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 This evaluation and watching brief, along with a previously undertaken archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) (Heritage Collective 2014) forms part of an archaeological assessment of the Site to aid the planning process. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2016b); this was submitted to, and approved by GLAAS, prior to the start of fieldwork. The evaluation and watching brief were undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance: for field evaluation (2014) and Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief (2014).
- 1.1.3 The Site is to undergo the demolition of existing buildings on the site and the construction of ninety-three residential units accommodated within 4-6 storey structures with associated infrastructure and landscaping.
- 1.1.4 The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken on the 28th November to the 5th December 2016 and the watching brief was undertaken between 14th June and 5th July 2017.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is located off Bow Road and covers an area of approximately 0.33 hectares (**Figure 1**). The Site comprises an irregular shaped plot of land used for commercial and industrial purposes. Residential and commercial properties were still present within the Site boundary to the east, west and north of the centre of the Site, with the centre of the Site laid with concrete and tarmac hardstanding. A one storey deep basement is present along the entire western building footprint.
- 1.2.2 The Site is generally flat and is situated approximately between 9.1m aOD and 11.0m aOD.
- 1.2.3 The published geology for the Site as shown on the BGS Sheet No. 256 (North London) shows the Site is underlain by Taplow Gravel underlain by London Clay. Recent geotechnical investigations undertaken at the Site show made ground present to depths ranging between 1.1m below ground level (bgl) to 2.0m bgl across the Site.



2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The historical and archaeological background has been considered with reference to the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) prepared for the client (Heritage Collective 2014).
- 2.1.2 Bow Bridge across the River Lea to the east of the Site is in the vicinity of the first stone arched bridge built in England c. 1110 AD by Matilda, wife of King Stephen. It was the responsibility of Barking Abbey to maintain the bridge. Settlement developed around the crossing point of the river as it became a centre of transport and industry. Stratford meaning "street by the ford" was first recorded as a place name between 1066 and 1087, and takes its name from the old Roman crossing point in the Lea valley. The River Lea was used to transport goods from Hertfordshire to London where they were off loaded at Bow and moved on by road. On demolition of Bow Bridge in 1835 it was found to be supported by seven arches that are thought to date to the 15th century. The demolition of a pub on the east side of the River in the late 18th century revealed two arches of the former medieval Bow Bridge. This area is now an Archaeological Priority Area. A bronze tanged spear head was found during works on the bridge in 1862.
- 2.1.3 The church of St Mary's Stratford Bow to the southwest of the Site originally dates from the 14th century with many additions and alterations during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Monitoring of geotechnical groundworks at the church, recorded a possible post-medieval road surface (Site Code: BQW06). Monitoring of drainage repairs in 2007, within the churchyard, recorded in situ and disarticulated human remains.
- 2.1.4 A number of excavations and evaluations have taken place at Bow Baptist church located adjacent to the northeast boundary of the Site (MLO98097). These have recorded hundreds of post-medieval burials within the cemetery. 348 burials were found during the excavations in 2006, all aligned east-west. Most of the burials were in wooden coffins, two lead coffins were recovered from the main burial ground and a further five from the northern vault. Further works in 2007 and 2008 identified a further 83 burials and two brick-lined burials, again mostly interred in wooden coffins although two more lead coffins were found in the main burial ground and two from the eastern brick-lined grave. Two brick vaults also found and contained burials. Natural gravels where found in the cemetery and recorded at depths of between 6.22m aOD and 7.2m aOD.
- 2.1.5 South of the Site is the former location of St. Mary-le-Bow workhouse (MLO107391). First recorded in 1731 a number of different buildings are seen on historic maps in this location during the 19th century.
- 2.1.6 During works on Priscilla Road to the southwest of the Site in 1977 it was recorded that a layer of dark, gravelly plough soil extended across the whole site (Site Code: PRS77). Beneath was a pit cut into gravel, possibly of post-medieval date.
- 2.1.7 To the west of the Site near to the River Lee is thought to be a secondary production site for the Bow china works established in 1730. The site mainly produced glass and experimental specimens of porcelain.
- 2.1.8 To the north of the Site was the location of a 19th to 20th century footbridge that crossed the River Lee.



- 2.1.9 On the opposite side of Bow Road from the Site, No. 198 is at the location of a shop that was temporarily used for the 'Votes for Women' campaign in October 1912 by Silvia Pankhurst of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU).
- 2.1.10 To the southwest of the Site along Bow Road is Poplar Town Hall, built 1939 and was proclaimed as the first town hall on truly modern lines. Part of the site had previously been occupied by a modest Italianate vestry hall built circa 1868.
- 2.1.11 There is a record that at Bow Flour Mills which formerly stood at the corner of Bow Road near Bow Bridge that the corner office of the building was fortified during the WWII with loopholes.
- 2.1.12 To the west of the Site a watching brief at Grove Hall Park, Jebb Street, in 1993 (Site code: GHP93) during ground works for a development returned negative results.
- 2.1.13 The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1869 is the first map t to illustrate the area within the Site boundary in detail. This map shows the presence of a number of structures along the boundaries of the Site, with an area of open space in the centre. An area of designed garden space including a fountain occupied the northern part of the Site. The Site was bounded to the east and west by structures and other areas of garden space. A Baptist chapel is also shown to the east of the Site. The 1916 OS map also illustrates the continued presence of the buildings on the southern part of the Site; however two large structures have been constructed on the northern part of the Site.

3 AIMS AND METHODS

3.1 General aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 Prior to the commencement of works, a WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2016b) was produced which set out the agreed aims and objectives of the trial trench evaluation, and the methods by which these aims would be achieved.
- 3.1.2 The principal aim of the evaluation was to record the location, extent, date, nature, character and significance of archaeological remains as may exist on the Site; to report on the results of the evaluation so that an informed decision on their subsequent treatment could be made, in light of the impact of the proposed development.
- 3.1.3 The objectives of the evaluation were therefore to:
 - Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted upon by the development;
 - Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, and condition of any surviving remains within the Site;
 - Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits; and
 - To produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential.
- 3.1.4 The objectives of the watching brief were to:



- Monitor the groundworks at the front of the site adjacent to Bow Road where previous access during the evaluation phase was unavailable,
- Assess the degree impact from previous development in this area,
- Document the extent of any archaeological features that may survive; and
- Report on the findings.

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 The evaluation was conducted according to the agreed WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2016b), the proposed works were to comprise the excavation of six trenches, one measuring 20mx 1.8m, three measuring 15m x 1.8m and two trenches measuring 10m x 1.8m, located within the footprint of the development area (**Figure 1**). In addition, a single test pit was planned to be excavated towards the entrance to the Site.
- 3.2.2 Prior to machining, the trench locations were scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT). Due to the responses from the CAT prior to any excavation, the 20m x 1.8m trench and the test pit were unable to be excavated due to the presence of live services.
- 3.2.3 The trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° excavator employing a toothless ditching bucket, to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology.
- 3.2.4 The concrete ground level and made ground layers encountered were stored separately to facilitate appropriate backfilling and consolidation of each trench following the completion of recording. Excavation was under the instruction of the monitoring archaeologist in spits, approximately 50-200 mm at a time.
- 3.2.5 Excavated material was visually examined for archaeological material and a metal detector was used to enhance artefact recovery.
- 3.2.6 Due to the depths of made ground encountered, as indicated in the preliminary geoenvironmental and geotechnical assessment (Tweedie Evans Consulting 2016), each trench was stepped by 1 metre along each side. In addition, the nature of Trench 1 was deemed to be too unstable to access safely even with stepped sides and was recorded from ground level only.
- 3.2.7 The watching brief was to focus on the monitoring of groundworks at the front of the Site adjacent to Bow Road.
- 3.2.8 Any potential features and deposits of possible archaeological origin were partially excavated to ascertain their nature and function, and fully recorded using WA's *pro forma* record sheets by the archaeologist excavating the feature or deposit.
- 3.2.9 A digital photographic record was kept to illustrate both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds, trenches and the site as a whole.
- 3.2.10 A full graphic record was kept. The site drawings were drawn at an appropriate scale, typically 1:10 for sections and 1:20 for plans.



3.2.11 Site survey was carried out using a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was tied into the British National Grid coordinate system.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following section provides a summary description of the results of the archaeological evaluation. Details of individual contexts are retained in the Site archive and a detailed tabulated version of these trench records is provided in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.1.2 **Figure 1** presents the Site and trench location. **Plates 1-10** consist of photographs of the trenches, sections and archaeological features.

4.2 Stratigraphic sequence

4.2.1 The stratigraphic sequences recorded within the Site remained constant. The natural geology of Taplow gravels was encountered within all five of the excavated archaeological trenches. This geology was sealed by a made ground deposit of up to 1.60m thickness in all the trenches. The made ground was capped by a concrete layer of up to 0.20m in thickness across the whole site. In all the trenches post medieval and modern truncation was observed.

4.3 Trench descriptions

- 4.3.1 Trench 1 was located in the north-west area of the Site and was aligned south-west to north-east. The trench originally measured 10m x 1.80m, however this was shortened due to existing buildings and demolition work onsite. The trench was excavated to a depth of 1.70m below ground level (BGL) (9.36m aOD). The made ground in this trench was deemed too unstable to ensure safe entry to the base of the trench therefore all recording took place from ground level only. The natural geology was observed at a depth of approximately 1.60m BGL and was heavily truncated by modern wall foundations (**Plate 1**).
- 4.3.2 Trench 2 was located to the north of the Site and was aligned north-west to south-east. The trench measured 10m x 1.80m and was excavated to a depth of 1.30m BGL (9.30m aOD). The natural geology was observed at a depth of 1.20m BGL (Plates 2-4). Wall foundation cut 207 was located in the north-west limits of the trench and was found to be extremely shallow at only 0.02m in depth. Cut 207 was identified to be associated with a former small structure identified on the 1896 Ordnance survey map and would have formed part of the structure's south-east facing wall (See Figure 3). Foundation cut 204 was located in the south-east end of the trench. A single course of modern brick remained in situ and was identified as modern in date. A brick was also removed from structure 205 for dating purposes and found to be of 19th century date (See 5.3.1).
- 4.3.3 Trench 3 was located in the eastern area of the Site and was aligned south-west to north-east. The trench measured 8m x 1.80m at the base and excavated to a maximum depth of 2.00m BGL (8.30m aOD). Due to its depth, the trench was stepped 1.00m along the sides. The natural geology was observed at a depth of 1.40m BGL. The trench was heavily truncated by modern building rubble or demolition material and due to unstable made ground it was recorded from ground level only (**Plate 5**).



- 4.3.4 Trench 4 was located along the eastern edge of the Site and at right angles to Trenches 3 and 5. It was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 15m x 1.80m. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.43m BGL (8.70m aOD). Due to its depth, the trench was stepped 1.00m along the sides. The natural geology was observed at a depth of 1.38m BGL. There were three distinct areas of modern truncation observed along the base of the trench and a modern wall truncated the made ground 402 at the south-west end of the trench. A single course of bricks 406 identified as a former wall, was observed at the north-west end of the trench, with construction cut 407 and backfill 408. A sample of one of the bricks from wall 406 was retained for identification and dating purposes (see 5.3.1) (Plates 6-8).
- 4.3.5 Trench 5 was located in the eastern area of the Site and aligned south-west to north-east. The trench measured 13.8m x 1.80m at the base and was excavated to a depth of 1.50m BGL (8.45m aOD). Due its depth, the trench was stepped 1.00m along the sides. The natural geology was observed at a depth of 1.40m BGL. At the south-west end of the trench wall 506 with its associated cut 504 and backfill 505 was observed to cut the made ground. The wall was identified during the initial stepping of the trench and was found not to continue down to the natural horizon. Upon investigation it was established that wall 506 was of relatively modern construction and was proved to cut into made ground deposit 502 (Plates 9-10). Modern disturbance 507 was identified running across the centre of the trench and was recorded to be 0.20m deep. A second possible linear feature 508 was also identified running on a north-east to south-west alignment at a similar depth to 507. Upon investigation both features were found to contain large quantities of modern material and were identified as further modern disturbance. The feature's identified in Trench 5 are all located within the development footprint of the Lshaped structure recorded on the 1896 Ordnance survey map and were likely formed as a result of the construction and demolition of the building (Heritage Collective 2014:16).
- 4.3.6 The proposed location of Trench 6 was to be at the north-west end of the narrow access way into the Site. This trench was unable to be excavated due to live below ground services.
- 4.3.7 The test pit was planned to be located at the south-east end of the narrow access way into the Site. It was not possible to excavate the test pit due to multiple live services in this area.

4.4 Watching brief

- 4.4.1 The watching brief was conducted between the 14th June and the 5th July 2017 on groundworks taking place at the front of the Site near the main entrance adjacent to Bow Road. Development works here included the demolition of an existing structure and the grubbing out of the footings followed by the construction of a pile mat. The watching brief also monitored the reduction in ground level along the north western edge of the access way to the Site to facilitate piling.
- 4.4.2 During the course of the watching brief a well, constructed of brick and chalk blocks was recorded to the north of the access to Site and south of Trench 6. The well had been covered by a concrete slab which had been subsequently built over. The well was c.1m in diameter with the upper 0.6m constructed of red brick bonded with a light grey mortar below which a series of chalk blocks extended for a further c.2m (**Plate 11**). The observable base below the chalk blocks was also constructed of red bricks to the waterline. Probing of the well identified a silt layer 1m below the waterline. No dating evidence associated with the well was observed, however Bowles' folding map of 'Ye City



- of London, detail showing Bow' of 1731 shows dwellings along the frontage of Bow Road and it is likely the well corresponds to one of these.
- 4.4.3 Monitoring of the ground reduction and grubbing out of the footings of the demolished structure identified natural gravels directly below the previous development (**Plate 12**). No finds or features were identified. It is apparent that the previous development has severely truncated any archaeological bearing horizons at this part of the Site nearest Bow Road, removing them completely.

5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

- 5.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small quantity of finds, including two brick samples and a handful of items of domestic refuse. Finds were recovered from four of the six trenches excavated (no finds were recovered from Trenches 1 or 6) and, apart from the bricks, all finds came from made ground deposits.
- 5.1.2 All datable material is of post-medieval/modern date. All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	СВМ	Pottery	Other Finds
202		2/52	2 clay pipe
205	1/2731		
302		5/591	
404		2/24	1 glass
406	1/2739		
502			6 animal bone; 2 clay pipe
507		1/52	
Total	2/5470	10/719	

5.2 Pottery

5.2.1 The ten sherds of pottery include a number of ware types. One sherd of redware (PMR) from layer **202** is broadly dated as post-medieval, while two sherds of yellow-glazed Border ware (BORDY) from layers **404** and **507** respectively), can be more tightly dated to the 16th or 17th century, as can a sherd of Frechen stoneware (FREC), also from layer **404**. The second sherd from layer **202** is from a 19th century pearlware plate (PEAR) with a blue feathered edge. All five sherds from layer **302** are in refined whiteware (19th or 20th century), and include three sherds of possible sanitary ware, along with two plates (tableware), one transfer-printed in the popular Asiatic Pheasant design.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

5.3.1 Two brick samples were retained. The example from structure **406** is an unfrogged brick (235 x 115 x 60mm) in a coarse fabric, probably dating from the period *c*.1550–1666. The second example, from wall context **205**, is a 19th/20th century brick of plinth stretcher form (chamfered along one long edge).



5.4 Other Finds

5.4.1 Other finds comprise one piece of clear vessel glass (19th or 20th century), four plain clay tobacco pipe stem fragments, and six fragments of animal bone (including cattle, sheep, deer and cat).

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 The evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2016). Natural geological horizons have been found to exist at a depth of at least 1.30m BGL below a significant deposit of made ground across the Site. The archaeological evidence obtained from Trenches 2, 4 and 5 confirm the location of a number of buildings recorded on the 1896 Ordnance Survey map of the Site which were constructed between 1869 and 1896. The evaluation has also concluded that the site has been heavily truncated through modern disturbance. The likelihood of surviving archaeological remains pre-dating the middle of 19th century is minimal due to this truncation across the Site.
- 6.1.2 The line of a single course of bricks, identified as the lowest course of a possible wall observed in the north-western end of Trench 4. The brick sample taken was dated to the period c.1550-1666 (see 5.3.1). The wall cut into the natural geological horizon and was the deepest lying feature observed within the evaluation trench. An archaeological evaluation by AOC in 2014 at 213-215 Bow Road, to the south west of the Site, revealed two 16th century residential buildings possibly relating to Sir Edmund Sheffield's C16-17 house, an 18th century quarry pit and remains relating to the known 19th and 20th century warehouse and workshops on the site (http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk accessed 17/10/17), and it could be possible that the wall remnant in Trench 4 could be related to Sir Edmund Sheffield's property at 213-215 Bow Road in some capacity but this cannot be proven.
- 6.1.3 Further research work on the potential origins of the wall in Trench 4 lead the author of this report to "A New & Exact Plan of ye City of London, detail showing Bow" from Bowles' folding map of London 1731 (www.oldmapsonline.org accessed 17/10/2017) which indicates a notable building in the vicinity of 213-215 Bow Road with terraced housing either side. The line of bricks observed in Trench 4 could possibly be as part of this terraced housing or an earlier form of it, of which no other remains were observed in the other evaluation trenches or during the subsequent watching brief phase of works.
- 6.1.4 The watching brief has confirmed that the previous development has removed any archaeological remains that may have survived towards the front of the Site adjacent to the current Bow Road.

7 STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 Museum

7.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the evaluation be deposited with the Museum of London (LAARC), under the site code BOO16. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

7.2 Preparation of Archive

7.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the *General*



Standards for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives with the Museum of London (2009), and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

- 7.2.2 The physical archive currently comprises the following:
 - 1 files/document cases of paper records & A3/A4 graphics

7.3 Selection Policy

- 7.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, the further potential of this assemblage is severely limited by its small size, nature (commonly occurring and well documented types) and provenance (made ground deposits). Retention for long-term curation is not recommended.
- 7.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2011).

7.4 Security Copy

7.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.



8 REFERENCES

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9 APPENDICES

9.1 Appendix 1: Trench tables

Trench No	No 1 Length 10m		Width 1.80m		Depth 1	.70m	
Easting: 537642 N		Northing 183072		MaOD	11.06m		
Context	Fill Of/Fille	d Inte	erpretative	Description			Depth BGL
Number	With	Ca	tegory				
101		Lay	/er	Concrete.			0-0.80m
102		Lay	/er	Made ground. M			0.80-1.60m
				silty sand with gr		ıd	
				frequent building rubble			
103		Lay	/er	Natural. Mid orange brown sub		n sub	1.60-
				angular gravels. Taplow gravels.		1.70m+	

Trench No	2 Le	ength 10m	Width 1.80m Depth 1.3		.30m	
Easting: 537651 Northing 18		33095	3095 MaOD 10.60m			
Context	Fill Of/Filled	Interpretative	Description			Depth BGL
Number	With	Category				
201		Layer	Concrete.			0-0.20m
202		Layer	Made ground. Ge	nerally i	mid	0.20-1.20m
			grey brown sandy	/ silt.		
			Occasional sub a	•		
			and common buil	ding rub	ble	
			throughout.			
203		Layer	Natural. Mid oran	ge brow	n sub	1.20-
			angular gravels.	Γaplow ο	gravels.	1.30m+
204		Structure	Wall. Very compact dark brown 1.			1.30m
			grey silt and grav			
			CBM and single of	course o	f brick.	
			<0.01m thick			
205		Structure	Wall. 4 orange br		-	1.20-1.30m
			course remaining		_	
			of brick chamfered across its			
			length at 30 degre			
206	[204]	Fill	Backfill of wall co			1.30-1.48m
			[204]. Mid browni	sh oranç	ge fine	
		_	silty sand.			
207	(206)	Cut	Construction cut			1.30-1.48m
			and unknown side as extended			
	()		past Limit of Excavation			
208	(207)	Fill	Deliberate backfil	-		1.30-1.48m
			construction cut [207]		



Trench No	Trench No 3 Length 15m		15m	15m Width 1.80m Depth		Depth 2	2.00m
Easting: 53	37668		Northing 18	3089	MaOD	10.30m	
Context	Fill Of/Fille	d Inte	rpretative	Description			Depth BGL
Number	With	Cat	egory				
301		Layer		Concrete.			0-0.20m
302		Lay	er	Made ground. Da brown soft silty sa common brick fra carbon, glass, po white clay, small flints and building material.	and with gments rcelain, sub ang	, chalk, soft Jular	0.20-1.40m
303		Lay	er	Natural. Mid orange brown sub angular gravel. Taplow Gravels.			1.40m+

Trench No	4 Le	ength 15m	Width 1.80m Depth 1.43		.43m	
Easting: 537682 Northing 183097		33097	MaOD	10.00m		
Context	Fill Of/Filled	Interpretative	Description			Depth BGL
Number	With	Category				
401		Layer	Concrete.			0-0.10m
402		Layer	Made ground. Mi	0 ,		0.10-1.10m
			silty sand with bu	ilding ru	bble	
			throughout.			
403		Layer	Natural. Mid oran	•		1.38-
			angular gravels.			1.43m+
404		Layer	Made ground. Mi			1.10-1.33m
			silty sand with inc			
			charcoal, modern			
			fragments of anin		•	
			visible in section.	Modern	made	
405			ground deposit.	 		4 00 4 00
405		Layer	Made ground. Mi	•		1.33-1.38m
			silty sand. Moder	n made	ground	
406		Ctructura	deposit.	width a	sin alo	1.38-1.45m
406		Structure	Wall. Single brick		•	1.38-1.45111
			course remaining running SW-NE	, DIICK W	/all	
407		Cut	Construction cut.	Flat bac	20	1.38-1.45m
407		Cut	0.08m deep cut for		-	1.30-1.43111
408		Fill				1.38-1.43m
400		FIII	Backfill. Mid grey silt backfill of [407		sariuy	1.30-1.43111
			SIIL DAUNIII OI [407	<u>'</u>]		



Trench No 5 Leng		ength 15m	ength 15m Width 1.80m		Depth 1	1.50m
Easting: 537674 Northing 18		83072	3072 MaOD 10.10m			
Context	Fill Of/Filled	Interpretative	Description			Depth BGL
Number	With	Category				
501		Layer	Concrete.			0-0.10m
502		Layer	Made ground. Mi	d grey b	rown	0.10-1.20m
			silty sand and co rubble.	mmon b	uilding	
503		Layer	Natural. Mid orar	nge brow	n sub	1.40-
			angular gravels. Taplow Gravels.		1.50m+	
504	(505), 506	Cut		Construction cut for wall 506.		
			Cuts (502) and is	sealed	by	1.50m+
			concrete (501) so	o is relati	ively	
			modern.	` ´ ´		
505	[504]	Fill	Backfill of [504].	Mid grey	brown	0.10-
			silty sand.			1.50m+
506	[504]	Structure	Wall. Modern brid	ck wall. E	Base of	0.10-1.00m
			wall only visible t	o 1.00m	BGL.	
507		Disturbance	Made ground. Lig	ght greyi	sh	1.20-1.40m
			brown sub angula	ar grave	ls. Lots	
			of modern rubbis	h.		
508		Disturbance	Made ground. Lig	ght greyi	sh	
			brown silt with su	ıb angula	ar	
			gravels. Lots of n	nodern r	ubbish	

Trench 6 – Unable to excavate

Test pit – Unable to excavate



9.2 **Oasis Record Form**

OASIS ID: wessexar1-272800

Project details

219-221 Bow Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets Project name

Short description of the project

Five out of six planned evaluation trenches were excavated within the development footprint, two trenches measuring 10m x 1.80m and three trenches measuring 15m x 1.80m. A planned test pit measuring approximately 2m x 2m located towards the site entrance and the sixth trench, located along the access road into the site, where not excavated due to the presence of live utilities as indicated by the use of the cable avoidance tool (CAT scan). Across all five trenches that were excavated there was evidence of post medieval and modern structures and associated activity. No other archaeological features were identified. The watching brief phase of works identified a well of recent date, no other finds or features were observed, previous development has removed any archaeological remains that may have survived towards the front of the site

adjacent to Bow Road.

Project dates Start: 28-11-2016 End: 05-12-2016

Previous/future

work

Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference

codes

115160 - Sitecode

Field evaluation Type of project

Site status None

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 4 - Storage and warehousing

Monument type WALL Post Medieval

Monument type WALL Modern

Significant Finds **POTTERY Medieval**

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds **CBM Post Medieval** Methods & "Sample Trenches"

techniques

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

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country England

GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS BOW 219-221 Bow Road Site location

Postcode E3 2SJ

0.33 Hectares Study area



Site coordinates TQ 537680 183060 50.943085698913 0.18902101774 50 56 35 N 000 11 20 E

Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation

Wessex Archaeology

Project brief originator

Wessex Archaeology

Project design originator

Wessex Archaeology

Project

Rob De'Athe

director/manager

Project supervisor Mark Denyer

Type of sponsor/funding

body

Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive

Museum of London

recipient

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive

recipient

Museum of London

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive

recipient

Museum of London

Paper Media available

"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title 219-221 Bow Road London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Author(s)/Editor(s) Denyer, D.

Olliei bi

Other bibliographic 115160.01

details

Date 2017

Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology

Place of issue or

Maidstone

publication

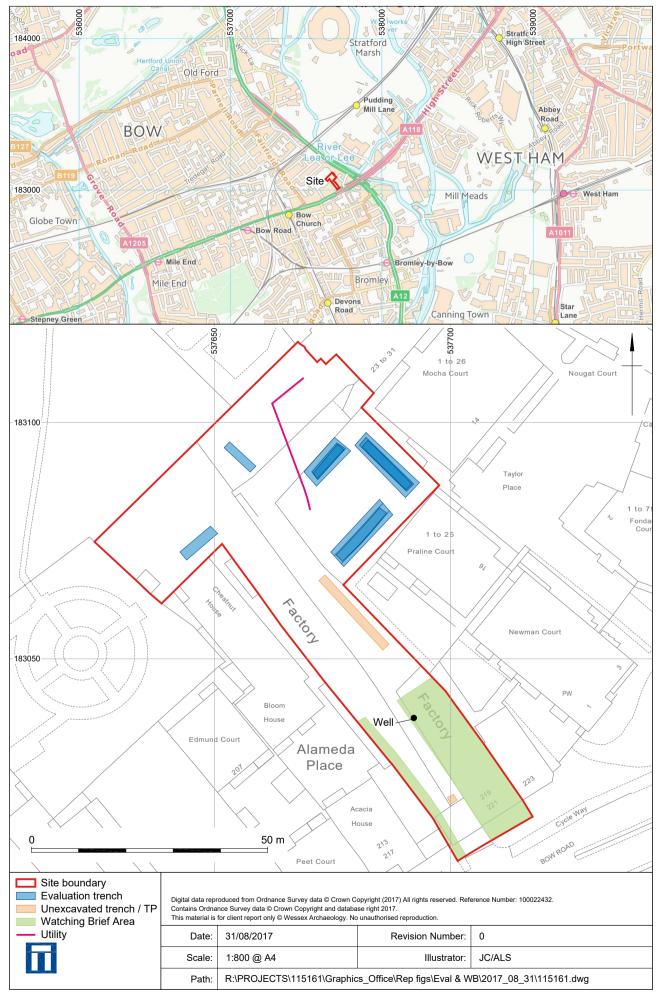
Entered by

Jo Condliffe (j.condliffe@wessexarch.co.uk)

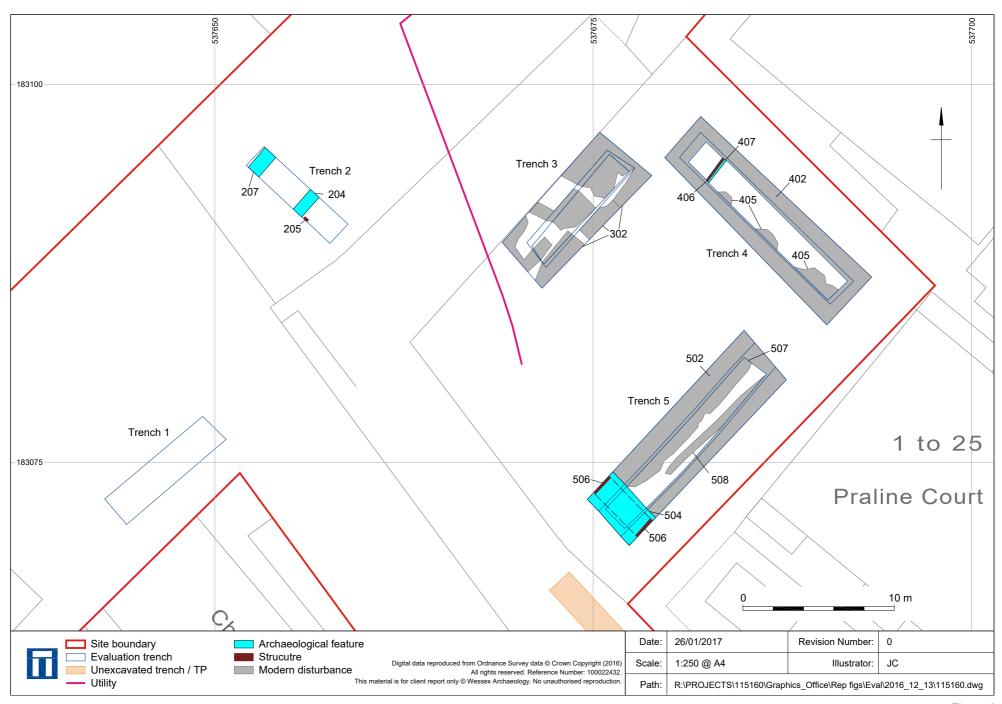


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9 January 2017



Site location and plan Figure 1



Trench plan

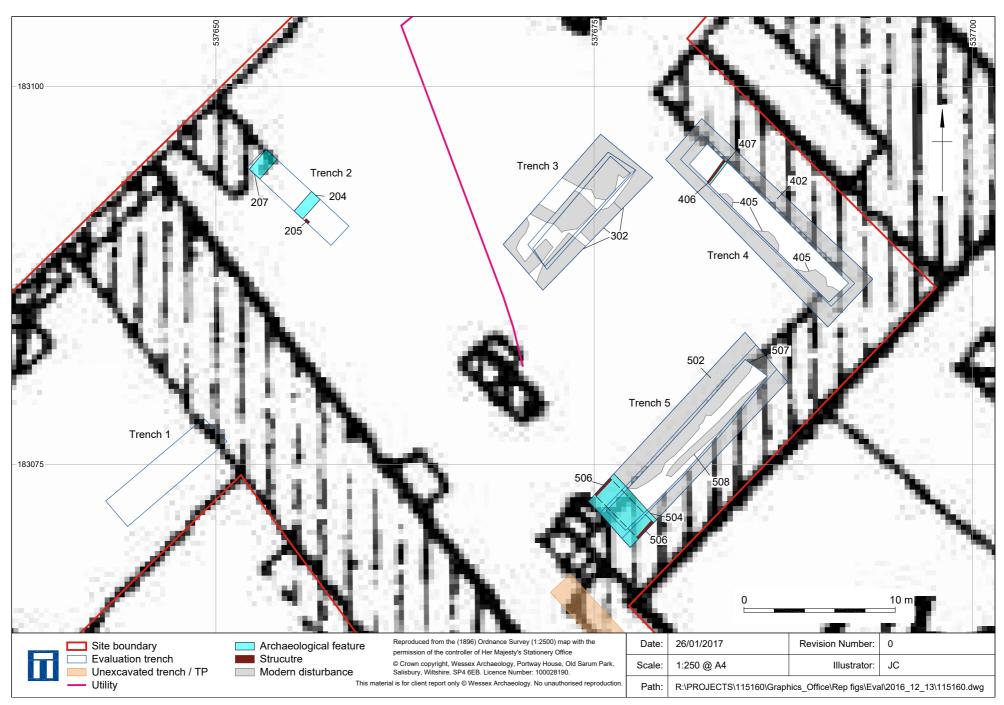




Plate 1: Southeast facing section of Trench 1, showing unstable made ground



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking northwest

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Plate 3: Structure 205 in Trench 2



Plate 4: Brick from wall 205

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Plate 5: Trench 3 looking northeast, showing modern truncation and unstable made ground



Plate 6: Trench 4 looking northeast

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Plate 7: Structure 406 in Trench 4



Plate 8: Slot through wall 406, showing fill 408 and cut 407

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Plate 9: Trench 5 looking northwest



Plate 10: Trench 5, southwest facing section

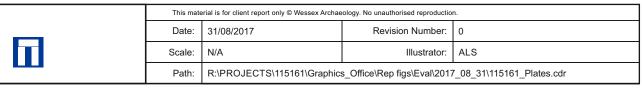
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Plate 11: Post-medieval well, viewed from the southeast



Plate 12: Service trench showing natural gravels directly beneath previous development, viewed from the southeast







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