

Post-medieval activity

Several partial and one whole 17/18th century cellars were exposed, as well as a number of 17th, 18th and 19th century wells, cess-pits and wall foundations. They reveal the gradual evolution and consolidation of the property boundaries which were extant until early 1985.

Conclusions

The site produced new evidence for a large 1st century Roman building, probably square, with a corridor or portico along the west side, fronting onto what may have been the main road leading down to Roman London Bridge. It may have been built at the same time as the infilled timber quay and warehouses to the south. Its function is not obvious, but it may have been official, perhaps directly linked to the workings of the port. Evidence for the development of this building during the 3rd and 4th centuries was unfortunately truncated.

The earliest medieval activity on the site – some of the pits – dates from the late 9th century, the period during which the city was resettled under Alfred. Most of the pits, and Buildings B and C, date from the late 10th to mid 11th century, and may therefore have been broadly contemporary with the waterfronts discovered at nearby Billingsgate Market (BIG 82) and New Fresh Wharf (NFW 74)¹⁴.

14. A. G. Vince 'Saxon and medieval pottery in London: a review' *Medieval Archaeol* 29 (1985) 88.

15. It is interesting to note that the initial establishment of

Moreover, they are generally of a date with the Billingsgate regulations of c 1000 which first mention the Bridge, the reconstruction of which must have been an integral part of the redevelopment of the area¹⁵. Subsequent development of buildings and their external areas in the 12th century and later seems to reveal an intensification of occupation, possibly linked to the building of Old London Bridge after 1176.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement is due first and foremost to Speyhawk Development Ltd., whose generous sponsorship made the project possible, and particularly to Geoff Brown and Steve Woodward whose cooperation made work a lot easier; also to the excavation team, including P. Bethell, T. Brigham, M. Burch, P. Cardiff, P. Chitwood, P. Durnford, G. Porter, T. Mckinder, M. Samuels, M. Shea and P. Wooton; and to the seven volunteers and COLAS members who provided much needed assistance, especially on Sundays. The finds were processed on site by J. Cowgill and J. Groves, and advice on the pottery was received from Drs. P. Tyers and A. Vince. The photography was provided by J. Scrivener. Particular thanks must go to J. Maloney and F. Hammer for help and advice during the excavation and writing of the report, and C. Milne who drew the figures for this paper.

Bishopsgate, a continuation of the same north-south axial road leading down to the bridge, has been dated as 11th century. See G. Milne, N. Bateman and C. Milne 'Bank deposits with interest' *London Archaeol* 4, no. 15 (1984) 400.

Excavations & Post-Excavation Work

City, by Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology. A series of long term excavations. Enquiries to DUA, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN (01-600 3699).

Croydon & District, processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collections every Tuesday throughout the year. Archaeological reference collection of fabric types, domestic animal bones, clay tobacco pipes and glass ware also available for comparative work. Enquiries to Mrs Muriel Shaw, 28 Lismore Road, South Croydon, CR2 7QA, (01-688 2720).

Greater London (except north-east and south-east London), by Museum of London, Department of Greater London Archaeology. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to DGLA, Museum of London (01-600 3699 x241).

Local enquiries to:

North London: 3-7 Ray Street, London EC1R 3DJ (01-837 8363).
South-west London: St. Luke's House, Sandycroft Road, Kew, Surrey (01-940 5989).

Southwark and Lambeth: Port Medical Centre, English Grounds, Morgans Lane, London SE1 2HT (01-407 1989).

West London: 273A Brentford High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (01-560 3880).

Hammersmith & Fulham, by Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group. Processing of material from Sandford Manor and Fulham High Street. Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m.-10 p.m. at Fulham Palace,

Bishop's Avenue, Fulham Palace Road, SW6. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 86 Clancarty Road, SW6 (01-731 0338).

Kingston, by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. Rescue sites in the town centre. Enquiries to Marion Shipley, Kingston Heritage Centre, Fairfield Road, Kingston (01-546 5386).

North-east London, by Passmore Edwards Museum. Enquiries to Pat Wilkinson, Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, E15 4LW (01-534 4545).

Surrey, by Surrey Archaeological Unit. Enquiries to David Bird, County Archaeological Officer, Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston, Surrey (01-541 8911).

Vauxhall Pottery, by Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Processing of excavated material continues three nights a week. Enquiries to S.L.A.S., c/o Cuming Museum, 155 Walworth Road, SE17 (01-703 3324).

The Council for British Archaeology produces a monthly British Archaeological News (9 issues a year). It gives details of conferences, extra-mural courses, summer schools, training excavations and sites where volunteers are needed. The annual subscription of £7.50 includes postage, and should be made payable to C.B.A., 112 Kennington Road, SE11 6RE (01-582 0494).