POSTMAN'S PARK ENHANCEMENT WORKS, ST MARTIN'S LE GRAND, CITY OF LONDON EC1A

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



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An Archaeological Watching Brief

Site code: MLE17

APPROX. SITE CENTRE: TQ 32085 81480

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April 2017

Abstract

Between the 20th February and the 17th March 2017, Compass Archaeology conducted an archaeological watching brief on the site of Postman's Park, St Martin's le Grand, City of London, EC1A during groundwork associated with installing a new watering system, the removal of two trees and the excavation of a tree pit for one replacement. The watching brief was commissioned by the City of London Open Spaces Department and conducted in accordance with Scheduled Monument Consent ref: S00150822.

The programme of archaeological works entailed the monitoring and recording of 135m of trenching, 0.30m wide and 0.50m deep. The excavation of a new tree pit $(1.80m \times 1m \times 0.95m)$ was also monitored.

The stratigraphy was broadly similar across the site, comprising 0.30-0.60m of dark brown, fairly loose imported top soil (1), (2), (5), (6) and (10). These contexts contained varying amounts of CBM, pottery and bone inclusions. As the trenches were comparatively shallow, there were few other contexts that appeared. In the trench running W-E, (1) came down onto a pale grey backfill with CBM inclusions. One section of the trench ran through an existing path and so (10) was overlaid by mortar pavement bedding (9). The tree pit was excavated to a deeper level than the trenches. It revealed a buried surface, possible an old path comprised orange gravel (7) and made ground (8). There was an upright stone slab to the north end of the pit, which appeared to be associated with the buried surface, perhaps as a border stone demarcating a path.

The sequence was interpreted as post-medieval, through dating from the pottery and the clay tobacco pipe (CTP) that was found. The park had previously used as a burial ground for three surrounding churches in the 18th-19th centuries before it was turned into a park in the late 19th century. This reappropriation of the land is perhaps what resulted in the large deposit of imported soil and the lack of human remains recovered from the excavation. A small number of finds were recovered from some of the contexts, namely (1), (2) and (6), including pottery, animal bone, CTP and one fragment of human bone.

No features of archaeological interest were found, most likely due to the limited depth and breadth of the excavation. The lowest level recorded was 15.91m OD at the base of the tree pit.

At this stage, no further groundworks are proposed for Postman's Park therefore no further archaeological mitigation is required. If this changes, and updated/new proposal produced in consultation with the relevant parties shall be produced.

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1 Introduction

1.1 This document forms a summary of the results of an archaeological watching brief conducted in Postman's Park, St Martin's Le Grand, City of London, EC1A by Compass Archaeology on various dates between the 20th February and the 27th March 2017 (fig.1).

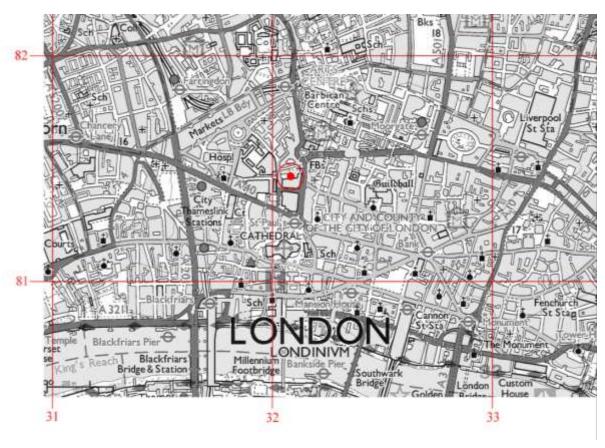
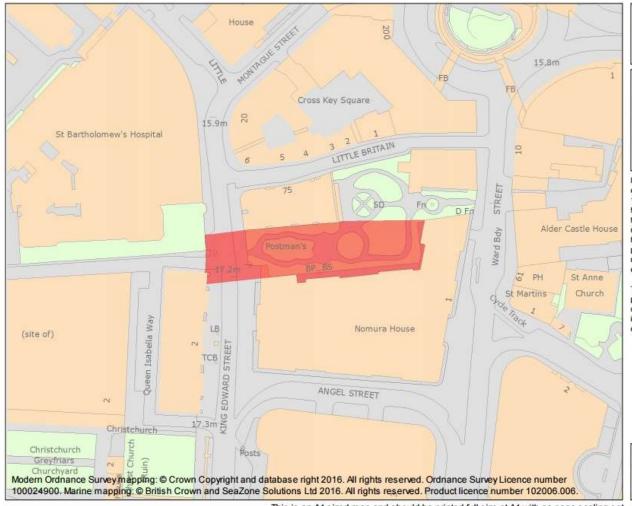


Figure 1: Site location, with approximate site centre marked in red. Fig.1 reproduced from OS data with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of HMSO.

1.2 The watching brief was commissioned by Bradley Viljoen, Project Development Officer, Open Spaces Department, City of London, due to the location of the proposed groundworks falling within an archaeologically sensitive site. Specifically the Scheduled Ancient Monument of London *Wall: section of Roman wall and medieval bastion in Postman's Park and King Edward Street* (UID 26331) (fig.2). The works are also situated within the former burial grounds of St Botolph Aldersgate, Christ Church Greyfriars and St Leonard, Foster Lane, now collectively known as Postman's Park. The site also lies within the *Postman's Park Conservation Area (No.7)* as defined by the City of London (fig.3).



This is an A4 sized map and should be printed full size at A4 with no page scaling set.

Name: London Wall: section of Roman wall and medieval bastion in Postman's Park and King Edward Street

Heritage Category:

Scheduling

List Entry No:

1018883

County: Greater London Authority

District: City and County of the City of

London

Parish: Non Civil Parish

Each official record of a scheduled monument contains a map. New entries on the schedule from 1988 onwards include a digitally created map which forms part of the official record. For entries created in the years up to and including 1987 a hand-drawn map forms part of the official record. The map here has been translated from the official map and that process may have introduced inaccuracies. Copies of maps that form part of the official record can be obtained from Historic England.

This map was delivered electronically and when printed may not be to scale and may be subject to distortions. All maps and grid references are for identification purposes only and must be read in conjunction with other information in the record.

List Entry NGR: TQ 32068 81465
Map Scale: 1:1250
Print Date: 18 October 2016

Historic England

HistoricEngland.org.uk

Figure 2: Map showing the Scheduled Area covering the southern part of Postman's Park. Adapted from Historic England map 1018883.

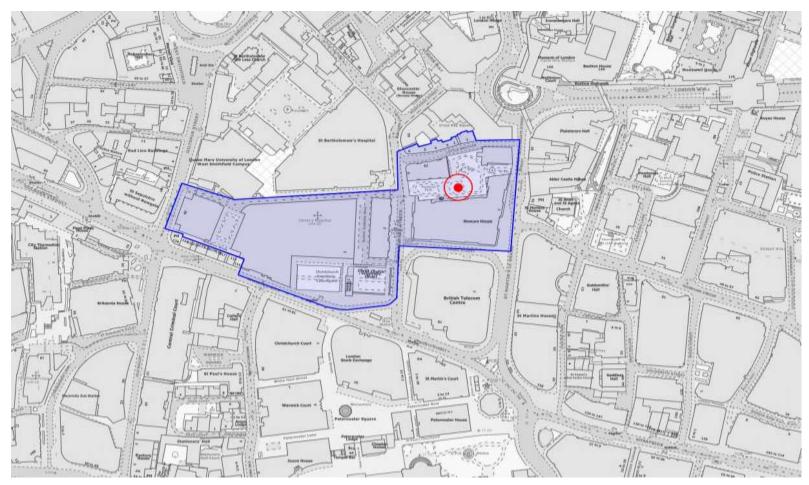


Figure 3: Postman's Park Conservation Area (blue) with site centre shown in red. Adapted from Postman's Park Conservation Area Character Summary (City of London).

- 1.3 The groundworks covered in this document comprised a series of ducting trenches running west to east through the centre of the park which were connected to mains water and five newly installed stand pipes. In addition a single tree pit was excavated for the planting of a tree to replace two that were removed as part of the works.
- 1.4 The works were undertaken in accordance with Scheduled Monument Consent (ref: S00150822) obtained by Mr B. Viljoen on behalf of The City of London Corporation.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2.1 Compass Archaeology would like to thank the City of London for commissioning Compass to undertake the archaeological watching brief and also JB Riney & Co Ltd for ensuring accessibility and support on site during their groundworks.

3 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The site is located at the northern end of St Martin's Le Grand, bounded by Little Britain to the north, Angel Street to the south and King Edward Street to the west. The park is enclosed on three sides by Nomura House to the south, St Botolph without Aldersgate Church to the east and Milton House Apartments to the west. The park can be accessed via St Martin's Le Grand/Aldersgate Street and King Edward Street. The area of investigation is approximately centred at NGR TQ 32085 81480.
- 3.2 According to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 256, North London) the site is situated on an interface between a deposit of Langley Silt overlying a larger expanse of Taplow Gravel, and Hackney Gravels to the north.
- 3.3 Aldersgate Street, to the east, sits at about 15.5mOD, whilst King Edward Street at the west end of the park sits at a higher 17.2mOD. Postman's Park itself is on a slight slope, from the west, levelling out on the east side. It sits at a slightly higher level than the surrounding ground due to the build-up of burial soils laid down in the 19th century.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Due to the site's location on the north-western edge of the historic city, the site and surrounding area's historical and archaeological background has been well documented, and shall not be reproduced at length here. For the purposes of this report, a summary relating to each of the major chronological periods has been included.

Further information regarding the historical site locations from the survey of the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) can be found in the WSI for Postman's Park (Compass Archaeology 2016).

4.1 Prehistoric

There is little archaeological evidence to suggest that this area of London was significantly utilised or occupied during the prehistoric period. Due to the predominantly marshy ground, settlement was focused closer to the River Thames where gravel eyots afforded higher and dryer ground. A total of 29 prehistoric sherds were recovered during an archaeological investigation at 1 London Wall between 2001 and 2002, with an additional 7 sherds of a possible Deverel-Rimbury urn, tentatively dated to the Middle or Late Bronze Age (HER reference MLO9781). These were recovered from Roman stratigraphy however, and are taken to be residual fragments. An additional single fragment of a small vessel used to hold milk based products was recovered from St Martins Le Grand, dated to c. 800-500BC (HER reference MLO16305). This evidence implies there was some activity taking place within the vicinity of the site, though it is probably most likely a small scale isolated incident, rather than a large scale occupation.

4.2 Roman

The site lies on the north-western boundary of the Roman settlement of *Londinium*. In the late second or early third century a defensive wall and ditch was built, enclosing the city from Ludgate Hill in the west, surrounding the main playing cardshaped fort at Cripplegate, and continuing to Tower Hill/Aldgate in the east. Sections of this wall and ditch have been extensively excavated and recorded around the circuit, with a length running east-west through the centre of the site. This section, SAM 26331, was revealed in 1887 during building works. It comprised a 39.93m stretch of wall, surviving to a total height of 4.37m, consisting of a rubble and mortar core, faced with squared ragstone with brick bonding and levelling courses. The defensive nature of this structure was reinforced with Bastion 17, exposed during works on the General Post Office, King Edward Street (HER reference MLO26160).

As well as evidence of fortifications, the evidence for occupation and activity is abundant, with archaeological investigations revealing both industrial and domestic features. Brickearth quarrying pits were recorded at 106-113 Newgate Street (HER references MLO1714; MLO68488), as well as numerous paths, rubbish pits and brick and wooden structures in the area. These features are accompanied by finds including pottery, coins and cremation urns.

3.3 Saxon

There is little evidence for early or middle Saxon activity in this area: the accepted view is that the City was largely abandoned, with settlement concentrated to the west in the area of the Strand and Aldwych. The entry for the year 856 in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records *King Alfred occupied London...and then entrusted the burgh (fortified place) in the keeping of the Ealdorman Ethelred.* It has been suggested that the 'fortified place' may refer to the area within the Roman walls, and that the City was therefore reoccupied by the 9th century.

Documentary evidence suggests the church of St Botolph was established in 1100-1135 (HER reference MLO17723), with land holdings to the south-west of the

church, now the park. Archaeological evidence for Saxon activity is limited to a number of findspots and isolated features, including cess pits and floor surfaces recorded on Little Britain (HER reference MLO22357; MLO26587) and a coin hoard of Æthelred from St Martins Le Grand, believed to be deposited in c1006-1017 (HER reference MLO24951).

3.4 Medieval

During the medieval period the site and its immediate environs became a focal point for religious occupation and activity. To the west, what is now Newgate Street became the home of the Greyfriars, who occupied the site until the Dissolution (HER reference MLO16583). The fraternity of Holy Trinity, established independently in 1377 occupied land at 191 Aldersgate Street (HER reference MLO16870). Groundworks at St Botolph's cut through chalk foundations at the south-east corner of the church, which possibly relates to the medieval building phase (HER reference MLO55931).

Archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the site have recorded extensive evidence of medieval city, including cut features, pits and building foundations at St Bartholomew's Hospital (HER references MLO99012; MLO101432), Little Britain (HER reference MLO22325) and 195-7 Aldersgate (HER reference MLO16871), in addition to quantities of animal bone, pottery and domestic detritus.

3.5 Post-Medieval

The 'Agas' map of c.1561 depicts the church of St Botolph, bounded by Little Britain to the west, Aldersgate to the east and Christ's Church and Hospital to the south (fig.4). Christ's Hospital, a charity school, was established in buildings vacated by the Greyfriars in the post-dissolution period. From the 18th century the churchyard was bounded to the south by Bull and Mouth Street, shown on Rocque's map of 1746 (fig.5), removed during the erection of the General Post Office buildings in 1825-29. The General Post Office eventually comprised 3 buildings located to the south of the site, with two further south along St Martins Le Grand. The main building is now known as Nomura House.

Although St Botolph's survived the Great Fire, many of the surrounding churches did not, causing problems of overcrowding in burial grounds. In the early 19th century. St Botolph's churchyard was expanded to incorporate burials from St Leonard's and Christ Church. The division is shown on Goad's Insurance Plan of 1886 (fig.6). In 1858 with St Botolph's churchyard no longer being needed, as a result of the Burials Act of 1851, the decision was made to clear any remaining burials and transform the site into a public park. Between 1858 and 1880 St Botolph's and Christ Church's churchyards were cleared and the park was opened, with St Leonard's being cleared by 1890. Taking its name from its popularity as a lunchtime spot for General Post Office Workers, Postman's Park was jointly funded by the Corporation of London, City of London and public donations. The park is most famous for its Memorial to Heroic Self Sacrifice, located beneath an awning on the east wall of Milton House. The memorial was created in 1900 by George Frederick Watts, and comprises 54 ceramic tiles, produced by William de Morgan and Royal Doulton, commemorating individuals who died saving the lives of others, the most recent of which was added in 2009.

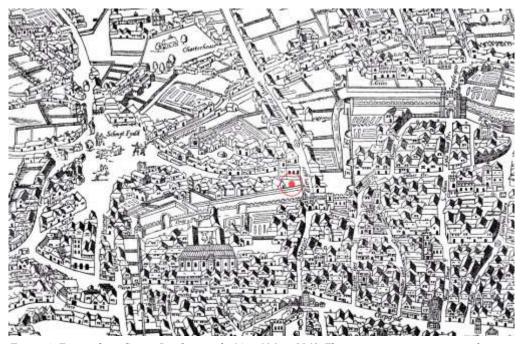


Figure 4: Extract from Civitas Londinium, the 'Agas' Map, 1561. The approximate site centre is shown in red, bounded by the City Wall to the south and St Botolph without Aldersgate to the north.

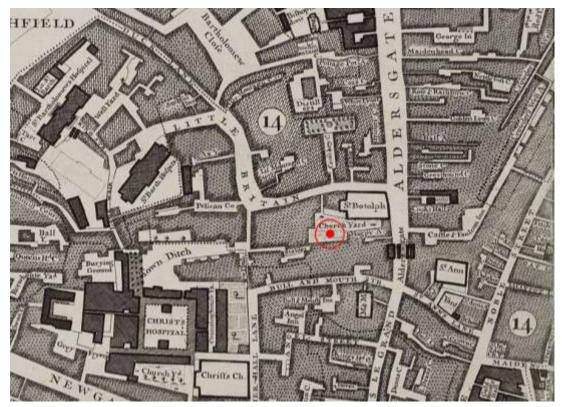


Figure 5: Extract from Rocque's survey of London, Westminster and Southwark 1746, with site centre marked in red. The enclosed churchyard can be seen bounded by Magpy Alley and Bull and Mouth Street to the south. The map also shows the Christ Church burial ground, west of the 'Town Ditch', which was later incorporated into St Botolph's churchyard.

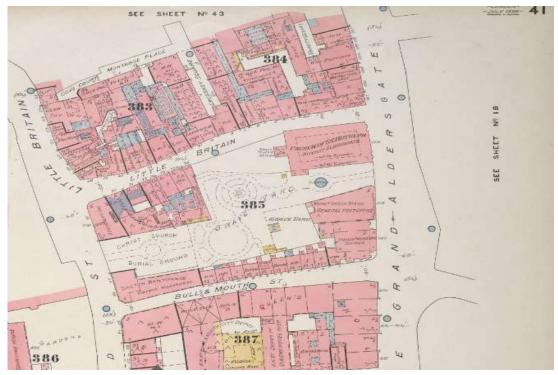


Figure 6: Extract from Goad's Insurance Plan, vol. II sheet 41 (1886), showing the 3 distinct burial grounds. The plan also shows a carpet warehouse and number of three storey office buildings to the south, which were demolished to make way for the General Post Office. The present day layout of Postman's Park remains relatively unchanged, with the central lawns and eastern pond remaining.

5 PLANNING AND OBJECTIVES

- 5.1 The groundworks entailed the excavation of 135m of trenching, running predominantly west to east through the centre of the park. This was to connect a water main to five newly installed standpipes to allow better water access for the park maintenance. The standpipes are located to the north of the west lawn, south of the east lawn, two within the northernmost herbaceous area and a final one east of the small pond by the Aldersgate Street entrance. The groundwork comprised of a c.300mm wide trench, machine excavated, up to a maximum of 500mm deep.
- Two trees, a horse chestnut (no. NW00167) and a plane (no. NW00170) located in the northern part of the park were removed. An additional tree was planted, in a pit that was monitored (fig. 7).
- 5.3 The site falls within the City of London, and as such a number of policies laid out in the current London Plan (adopted 2011) hold relevance, specifically those set out in Chapter Seven: London's Living Spaces and Places:

Historic Environment and Landscapes

Policy 7.8 Heritage assets and archaeology

Strategic

- A London's heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.
- **B** Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site's archaeology.

Planning decisions

- C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.
- **D** Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural design.
- E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes, and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public onsite. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or

managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

LDF Preparation

- F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.
- G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.
- Furthermore, the site lies within the Postman's Park Conservation Area therefore additional policies apply. These are laid out within the City of London *Local Plan* (adopted 2015), including Core Strategic Policy CS12: Historic Environment and Development Management Polices DM12.1 to 12.5. Of particular significance here are policies DM12.2 and DM12.4, set out thus:

Policy DM 12.2 Development in conservation areas

- 1. Development in conservations areas will only be permitted if it preserved and enhances the character or appearance of the conservation area.
- 2. The loss of heritage assets that make a positive contribution to the character or appearance of a conservation area will be resisted.
- 3. Where permission is granted for the demolition of a building in a conservation area, conditions will be imposed preventing demolition commencing prior to the approval of detailed plans of any replacement building, and ensuring that the developer as secured the implementation of the construction of the replacement building.

Policy DM 12.4 Ancient monuments and archaeology

- 1. To require planning applications which involve excavation or ground works on sites of archaeological potential to be accompanied by an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development.
- 2. To preserve, protect, safeguard and enhance archaeological monuments, remains and their settings in development, and to seek a public display and interpretation, where appropriate.

- 3. To require proper investigation and recording of archaeological remains as an integral part of a development programme, and publication and archiving of results to advance understanding.
- 5.5 The watching brief presents the opportunity to answer the following general and more specific questions.
 - Is there any more substantial evidence of prehistoric activity in the area, in addition to the isolated findspots recorded in the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER)?
 - Are there any finds or features associated with the Roman/medieval wall and ditch? What form do these take and at what level do these occur?
 - Are there traces/associated finds which can be related to the pre-Wren church or churchyard of St Botolph?
 - What, if anything, remains of the post-medieval churchyards belonging to St Botolph, Christ Church Greyfriars and St Leonard, Foster Lane? At what level do these occur?
 - If encountered, what is the natural geology and at what level does it exist across the site?

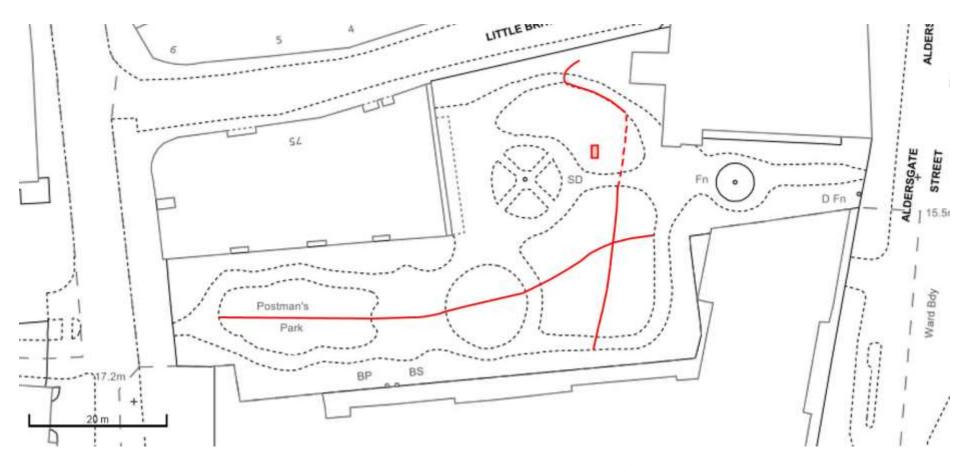


Figure 7: Trenching undertaken and tree pit marked in red. Note, the width of the trenching is not to scale, purely indicative of the location. Tree pit is to scale. Fig. 7 reproduced from OS data with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of HMSO.

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Standards

- 6.1.1 The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (*Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work, 2015*). Works also conformed to the standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (*Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation, 2014*). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full member of the Chartered Institute.
- 6.1.2 Fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Construction (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations. All members of the fieldwork team held valid CSCS (Construction Skills Certificate Scheme) cards, and wore hi-vis jackets, hard-hats, steel-toe-capped boots, etc., as required. All members of the fieldwork team also followed the contractors' health and safety guidelines.
- **6.1.3** The City of London and Historic England were kept informed of the progress of fieldwork and any finds recovered.

6.2 Fieldwork

- **6.2.1** The archaeological watching brief took place during groundworks for the trenching and tree pit as outlined above.
- **6.2.2** The trenches and tree pit were machine dug and the lengths of pipe were installed. The tree was planted and all excavations were backfilled.
- 6.2.3 Archaeological contexts were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* sheets by written and measured description, and drawn in plan and/or section, at scales of 1:20 and 1:10 respectively. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey grid. Levels were taken on deposits, transferred from the nearest Ordnance Datum Benchmark, *London, King Edward Street* at 17.47mOD (NGR TQ 3203 8145). The fieldwork record was supplemented by digital photography, in .jpeg and RAW formats.
- **6.2.4** The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement the recording and drawing sheets used are directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

6.3 Post-excavation

The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of a report, and by ordering and deposition of the site archive.

6.3.1 Finds and samples

Assessment of finds was undertaken by appropriately qualified staff, (see Appendix II). Finds and samples were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including

the Museum of London's 'Standards for the Preparation of Finds to be permanently retained by the Museum of London'. All identified finds and artefacts have been retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, although certain classes of building material and modern finds will be discarded once an appropriate record has been made.

6.4 Report procedure

- 6.4.1 This report contains a description of the fieldwork plus details of any archaeological remains or finds, and an interpretation of the associated deposits. Illustrations have been included as appropriate, including a site plan located to the OS grid. A short summary of the project has been appended using the OASIS Data Collection Form (Appendix III).
- **6.4.2** Copies of this report will be supplied to the Client and Historic England.
- **6.4.3** There is no provision for further analysis or publication of significant findings. Should these be made the requirements would need to be discussed and agreed with the Client.

6.5 The site archive

Assuming that no further work is required, an ordered indexed and internally consistent archive of the evaluation will be compiled in line with Museum of London Guidelines for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives, and will be deposited in the Museum of London Archaeological Archive under site code MLE17. The integrity of the site archive should be maintained, and the landowner will be urged to donate any archaeological finds to the Museum.

7 RESULTS

- 7.1 What follows is a written description of the observations made during the watching brief. Deposits are shown in round brackets, like so (x), and cuts and structures in square brackets, like so [x]. The trenching for the water pipe was excavated by machine, 300mm wide and 500mm deep. It was more than 130m long at the close of the project.
- 7.2 The first section of the trench ran from King Edward's Street west of the park, to the east through the centre of the park. The stratigraphy of this section comprised an imported, dark brown fairly loose silty soil, (1), with frequent inclusions of ceramic building material (CBM), pottery, clay tobacco pipes (CTP) and animal bone (see appendix II). This layer was c. 0.50m thick. Underlying this and making the base of the trench was made ground, comprising a pale grey silty clay, (3), with frequent inclusions of CBM and building material (BM), which may have been the backfill of the medieval ditch that ran alongside the Roman wall. The extent of this context is unknown (fig. 8).



Figure 8: Stratigraphy of trench running west to east through centre of Postman's Park. Context (1) is a dark brown soil with inclusions of CBM, animal bone and pot. (3) underlies this, comprising a pale grey, made ground with frequent inclusions of CBM.

7.3 The next section of trenching was positioned at the east end of the first section, where two trenches crossed each other, one oriented N-S and the other E-W. The stratigraphy in this section was made up of a similar dark brown, imported silty soil as (1), but containing fewer inclusions of CBM or pot. This context (2) only contained one fragment of pot (fig. 9). The layer was at least 0.50m deep but the full extent is unknown.



Figure 9: Stratigraphy of trench intersection at the east end of Postman's Park. Facing E. Scale 1m.

7.4 The stratigraphy in the section of trench that ran N-S toward St Botolph's church comprised a pale brown, clayey soil with no inclusions, (4). This layer was c.0.20m thick and it was overlying a dark brown soil, similar to (2). This context (5), appears in this trench to have been buried by (4) at some point. Context (5) was c.0.30m thick but its full depth is unknown (fig. 10).



Figure 10: Stratigraphy of N-S running section of trench. Context (4) can be seen overlying the darker context (5). Facing W. Scale 0.5m.

7.5 The last section of trenching was separate from the main channels. It was a short section positioned in the northeast of the park, to the west of St Botolph's, c.5m long. Part of this section cut through one of the existing paths. Underneath the paving stones was a layer of pale yellow mortar bedding (9), c.0.10m thick. Underlying this was (10), a dark brown soil with rare small stone inclusions, c. 0.40m thick. The full extent of this context is unknown (fig. 11).



Figure 11: The stratigraphy of this section consisted of context (9) overlying (10) - the darker brown soil. Facing E. Scale 1m.

7.6 The tree pit was excavated by machine, in the north-eastern part of the park. It measured c. 1.90m long, c. 0.90m wide and c. 0.95m deep (see appendix III for a plan). There was an iron pipe along the western edge of the pit, and an upright slab of oolitic limestone on the northern end (fig. 12). The limestone slab was c. 78mm thick and 0.74m wide oriented E-W. It went into the east section, and was cut on the west by the pipe.



Figure 12: Tree pit location in the north-eastern part of the park, showing iron pipe and upstanding stone slab. Facing N. Scale 0.5m.

The stratigraphy comprised a dark brown topsoil c. 0.60m thick, (6), with rare inclusions of CBM and some pot sherds (appendix II). This was overlying what appeared to be an old surface made up of an orange gravel c. 0.10m thick (7), above a pale grey made ground c. 0.25m thick (8), with frequent inclusions of CBM and BM. It is possible that this was the remnants of an old path, and the upright stone slab was part of its border (fig. 13).



Figure 13: Stratigraphy of the west facing section of the tree pit. Facing E. Scale 1m.

8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The stratigraphy observed across the site was fairly similar across both the trenches and the tree pit. The dark brown soil fills (1), (2), (5), (6) and (10) were very similar, some containing more inclusions of CBM and pot than others. This was interpreted as imported top soil, potentially introduced after the burial ground was cleared in order to create the park in the mid-late 19th century. It could also explain the lack of human remains found on this site as the soil that made up the burial ground was replaced by the present day soil. The pottery finds from these contexts corroborate this theory, though the CTP seems to be earlier in date, to the late 17th century. It is possible that these small finds were present in the soil when it was deposited. In one case the soil (1) overlay a made ground context (3), which was interpreted as potential backfill for the medieval ditch than ran west-east alongside the Roman wall. The shallow depth of the excavation however, meant that this could not be confirmed.
- 8.2 The stratigraphy in the tree pit suggested that the layout of the burial ground was slightly different to the park as we know it today. The buried contexts of (7) and (8) implied the existence of a path or other surface lying underneath the current top soil. The presence of the iron pipe which had no evidence of a cut, might have been laid at the same time, or slightly before, the soil (6) was deposited. Pottery finds from this context are of a similar date to those in (1) indicating that the soils were deposited around the same time in the late 19th century.
- 8.3 No further features were recorded. This is taken to be a result of the limited depth and breadth of the excavation. The lowest level recorded was 15.91m OD.

9 CONCLUSION

The following section provides a summary of the work undertaken with reference to the original research questions.

9.1 Is there any more substantial evidence of prehistoric activity in the area, in addition to the isolated findspots recorded in the GLHER?

No evidence for prehistoric activity in this area was found during the archaeological watching brief.

9.2 Are there any finds or features associated with the Roman/medieval wall and ditch? What form do these take and at what level do these occur?

There were no finds or archaeological features recovered that could be associated with either the Roman or the Medieval wall and ditch. All the finds recovered were post-medieval.

9.3 Are there traces/associated finds which can be related to the pre-Wren church or churchyard of St Botolph?

There was one human bone fragment recovered from context (1) that could have been from the churchyard of St Botolph's, though the exact date could not be established (See appendix II).

9.4 What, if anything, remains of the post-medieval churchyards belonging to St Botolph, Christ Church Greyfriars and St Leonard, Foster Lane? At what level do these occur?

The human bone fragment that was recovered from context (1) might also be evidence of the post-medieval churchyards of St Botolph's, Christ Church Greyfriars or St Leonard. Since there was no other finds from context (1) it is impossible to determine a date for this fragment. It is fairly unusual for an erstwhile burial ground to contain so few human bones, particularly one that was used by three churches. This could be due to the fact that the burial ground was not used for very long, preventing overcrowding and therefore the remains, upon the clearing of the churchyard, could be removed in their entirety. It is also possible that the burials were few enough that re-cutting of old graves was not necessary, and therefore did not mix bone into the backfill and topsoil. The fact that the topsoil present during this watching brief was thought to have been imported could also explain the lack of human remains fragments.

9.5 If encountered, what is the natural geology and at what level does it exist across the site?

The excavations were at a maximum of 0.50m deep therefore the natural deposits were not reached.

9.6 The lack of finds of archaeological interest at this site can be attributed to two things; the shallowness of the excavation and the remodelling of the burial ground into a park. The remodel occasioned a clearance of the burial ground and the depositing of a large quantity of imported topsoil across the entire site, resulting in a notable absence of archaeology at the level of the excavation.

10 SOURCES

10.1 Bibliography

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10.2 Cartographic Sources

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APPENDIX I: LIST OF CONTEXTS

Number	Description
(1)	Dark brown imported soil.
(2)	Dark brown silty soil
(3)	Pale grey silty clay under (1)
(4)	Pale brown clayey soil
(5)	Dark brown soil, under (4)
(6)	Dark brown soil
(7)	Orange gravel under (6)
(8)	Pale grey made ground under (7)
(9)	Yellow mortar bedding
(10)	Dark brown soil under (9).

APPENDIX II: THE FINDS

POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 38 sherds with a total weight of 413g. It was mostly post-medieval, and was recorded using the conventions of the Museum of London Type-Series (eg. Vince 1985), as follows:

BORDG: Green-Glazed Border Ware, 1550-1700. 1 sherd, 36g. BORDB: Brown-glazed Border Ware, 1620 – 1700. 1 sherd, 4g.

CBW: Coarse Border Ware, 1270 – 1500. 1 sherd, 3g.

HORT: Horticultural Earthenwares, $19^{th} - 20^{th}$ century. 3 sherds, 16g.

PMR: Post-medieval Redware, 1580 – 1900. 13 sherds, 220g.

RAER: Raeren Stoneware, 1480 – 1610. 1 sherd, 8g. **REFW:** Refined Whiteware, 1800-1900. 3 sherds, 24g.

SHER: South Hertfordshire-type Greyware, 1170-1350. 1 sherd, 5g

TGW: English Tin-Glazed Ware, 1600-1800. 8 sherds, 80g.
TPW: Transfer-printed Whiteware, 1830-1900. 5 sherds, 20g.

TUDG: 'Tudor Green' Ware, 1350 – 1500. 1 sherd, 1g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region.

Most of the pottery is of $16^{th} - 17^{th}$ century date, and comprises a mixture of tablewares and more utilitarian material. The former includes a fragment of the rim of a charger with Wan Li style decoration, which generally dates to the first half of the 17^{th} century (Orton 1988, 321). It is possible that the sherd of REFW in context 1 is intrusive. If so, the assemblage should be given a *terminus post quem* of the early 17^{th} century.

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	SH	ER	CE	BW	TU	DG	RA	ER	PN	ИR	BOF	RDG	TC	ίW	BOI	RDB	НО	RT	RE	FW	TF	W	
Cntxt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date								
1			1	3			1	8	11	186	1	36	8	80	1	4			1	3			19thC
2									1	21											1	5	19thC
6	1	5			1	1			1	13							3	16	2	21	4	15	19thC
Total	1	5	1	3	1	1	1	8	13	220	1	36	8	80	1	4	3	16	3	24	1	5	

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Clay Tobacco Pipe

The clay pipe recovered from Postman's Park is a typical representation of the assemblages that are found in London. A total of five whole and partial bowls, some with stem attached were found, along with an additional 36 stem fragments.

The pipes were all recovered from context (1) which also contained some animal bone. The earliest pipe bowl dates to 1660-1680, whilst one bowl dating to 1680-1710 indicates that the deposit could tentatively be dated to c. 1680.

The pipe bowls were mostly undecorated, and none bore maker's marks. Of the three decorated bowls, they all featured a geometric band around the rim of the bowl. One showing a plain line and the other two featuring a dogtooth band.

The majority of both bowls and stems did not display any smoke staining; only 4 stems were lightly stained. Of the four, only two were stained on the interior and exterior indicating that the pipes may not have been used either at all, or for only a very brief period of time before deposition.

Bibliography

Atkinson, D. and Oswald, A., (1969). 'London Clay Tobacco Pipes', Journal of the Archaeological Association. Third Series Vol. XXXII

Grillo, K., Aultman, J. and Bon-Harper, N., (2003). 'DAACS Cataloguing Manual: Tobacco Pipes'

Catalogue

There follows a catalogue of the assemblage compiled using the guidelines set out in the DAACS Cataloguing Manual: Tobacco Pipes, by Kate Grillo, Jennifer Aultman and Nick Bon-Harper (updated February 2012).

Key:

Abbreviations across head of table

BH = Bowl height

BW = Bowl width

SL = Stem length

SW = Stem width

BS = Borehole size

Abbreviations within text of table

BC = On bowl, circumference of bowl rim

BF = On bowl, facing smoker

All bowls have been identified using the following guide:

Atkinson, D. and Oswald, A., (1969). 'London Clay Tobacco Pipes', Journal of the Archaeological Association. Third Series Vol. XXXII

All dates are approximate, all measurements are given in millimetres (mm).

Context	Form	Type	Date	Count	BH	BW	SL	SW	BS	Comments
(1)	Bowl with partial stem	15	1660- 1680	1	38	19	45	9	3	Stamped line BC.
(1)	Bowl with no stem	20	1680- 1710	2	46- 49	16	-	-	3	-
(1)	Bowl with no stem	18	1660- 1680	1	33	12	-	-	2	Partial stamped geometric band, BF
(1)	Partial bowl	18	1660- 1680	1	-	-	-	-	3	Stamped geometric band BF, the only section of rim remaining.
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	64	8	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	60	10.5	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	34	8.5	2	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	47	10.5	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	67	9.5	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	68	9	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	52	10	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	43	8	2	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	29	9.5	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	58	12	4	Smoke stained interior and patch on exterior.
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	47.5	10	3	Very light smoke staining on exterior
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	31	10	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	33	9.5	2.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	41	8.5	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	37	5	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	54	11	3	Very beginning of spur remaining.
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	34	9	3	-

(1)	I D .: 1	_	1	Ι.,	1	1	20.5	· ·		
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	38.5	6	2	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	31	8.5	3	Smoke stained exterior
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	19	6	2.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	34	5	1.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	32	10	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	51.5	9	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	37.5	6	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	38	11	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	48	10	2.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	44	7.5	2.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	31.5	8	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	67	9	3	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	46	9	2.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	57.5	9	2	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	29.5	9	3.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	29	9	2.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	39	6	1.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	25	6	1.5	-
(1)	Partial stem	-	-	1	-	-	55.5	8	2	Smoke stained exterior and interior, heavier at one end than the other.

Human Bone

One human bone fragment was recovered from context (1). It was the proximal end of a right ulna. The bone was fused and it suffered some weathering. Its date is unknown.

Animal Bone

The animal bones that were found at Postman's Park were fragmented and therefore species was unidentifiable for the most part. There were a total of 17 animal bones present, two of which were whole

Of the identifiable species, sheep were the most common with three of the four identifiable bones attributed to the species. There was a single specimen from a cow. The rest of the assemblage could not be identified down to taxon level and were recorded as large mammal (in three instances), and medium mammal for the remaining ten bone fragments.

There was a high instance of young individuals present, four of the six bones where fusion levels were observable were unfused; the remaining two were fused. Poor rates of preservation and high levels of fragmentation meant the fusion levels for the rest of the assemblage were unobservable.

Butchery marks were observed on six of the bones; mostly fairly shallow, short cut marks on ribs, a calcaneus and unidentified long bones.

Bibliography

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Key for in-table text

L = left

US= un-sided

UI = unidentified

UO = unobservable

Context	Taxon	Side	Bone	Fusion	Fragmentation	Comments
(1)	Ovis	L	Calcaneum	Fused	Complete	One thin shallow cut mark on mid-medial side.
(1)	Ovis	US	Phalanx 1	Unfused	Complete	Epiphyseal plate present.
(1)	Ovis (?)	US	Radius	Unfused	Proximal end	Epiphyseal plate missing making identification of both species and bone difficult.
(1)	Bos	US	Rib	Unfused	Medial end fragment	Epiphyseal plate missing.
(1)	Large mammal	US	Calcaneum	UO	Partial end fragment	-
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib	Fused	End fragment	-
(1)	Medium mammal	US	UI long bone	UO	Fragment of one end	One relatively deep cut mark on shaft, two shallow ones bisecting it.
(1)	Large mammal	US	Rib	UO	Fragment of shaft	Two short cut marks.

(1)	Large mammal	US	UI bone	long	UO	Fragment of shaft	One cut mark.
(1)	UI mammal	US	UI		UO	Fragment	Possible cranial or long bone shaft fragment.
(1)	Medium mammal	US	UI bone	long	UO	Shaft fragment	Frequent cut marks, short and fairly shallow along shaft, multiple orientations.
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib		UO	Shaft fragment	-
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib		Unfused	Sternal end fragment	Epiphyseal plate missing.
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib		UO	Shaft fragment	-
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib		UO	Shaft fragment	-
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib		UO	Shaft fragment	One cut mark across shaft
(1)	Medium mammal	US	Rib		UO	Sternal end fragment	Fusion unobservable due to poor preservation.

APPENDIX III: ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLANS AND SECTIONS

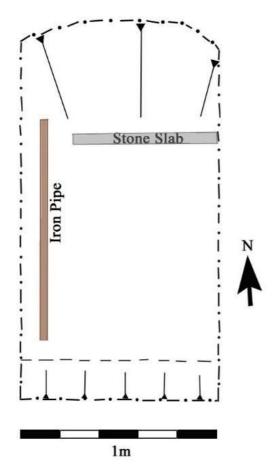


Figure 14: Plan of tree pit. Original drawn at 1:20.

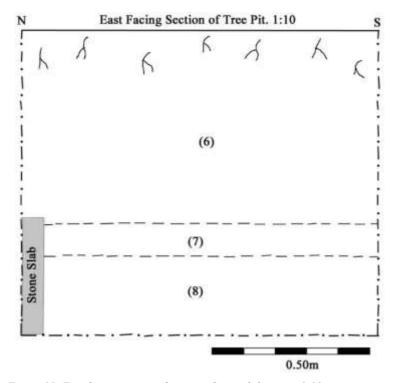


Figure 15: East facing section of tree pit. Original drawn at 1:10.

APPENDIX IV: SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT



LONDON OFFICE

Mr Bradley Viljoen Direct Dial: 020 7973 3738

City of London

Open Spaces Department Our ref: S00150822

PO Box 270 Guildhall London

EC2P 2EJ 9 November 2016

Dear Mr Viljoen

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended); Section 2 control of works

Application for Scheduled Monument Consent

ROMAN WALL, POSTMAN'S PARK, ST MARTIN'S LE GRAND, LONDON, EC1A Scheduled Monument No: SM 26331, HA 1018883

Our ref: S00150822

Application on behalf of The City of London Corporation

1. I am directed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport to advise you of the decision regarding your application for Scheduled Monument Consent received 19 October 2016 in respect of proposed works at the above scheduled monument concerning the excavation of a trench for water pipes. The works were detailed in the following documentation submitted by you:

Scope of Works
Route Plan
Conservation Statement
Written Scheme of Investigation

- 2. In accordance with paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1979 Act, the Secretary of State is obliged to afford you, and any other person to whom it appears to the Secretary of State expedient to afford it, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for that purpose. This opportunity was offered to you by Historic England and you have declined it.
- 3. The Secretary of State is also required by the Act to consult with the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (Historic England) before deciding whether or not to grant Scheduled Monument Consent. Historic England considers the effect of the proposed works upon the monument to be minor ground works where restriction of levels can avoid damage to its buried archaeological deposits.







Telephone 020 7973 3700

HistoricEngland.org.uk

Historic England is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). All information held by the organisation will be accessible in response to an information request, unless one of the exemptions in the FOIA or EIR applies.

Historic England will use the information provided by you to evaluate your application for Scheduled Monument Consent. Information contained in this application and any information obtained from other sources will be retained in all cases in hard copy form and/or on computer for administration purposes and future consideration where applicable.



LONDON OFFICE

I can confirm that the Secretary of State is agreeable for the works to proceed providing the conditions set out below are adhered to, and that accordingly Scheduled Monument Consent is hereby granted under section 2 of the 1979 Act for the works described in paragraph 1 above, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The works to which this consent relates shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, who will be advised by Historic England. At least 1 weeks' notice in writing of the commencement of work shall be given to Jane Sidell, Historic England, 1 Waterhosue Square, 138-42 Holborn, London EC1N 2ST jane.sidell@historicengland.org.uk in order that an Historic England representative can inspect and advise on the works and their effect in compliance with this consent.
- (b) No digging shall be undertaken without a suitably experienced archaeologist present. Records shall be made of the works and a report submitted to Historic England within three months of completion.
- (c) Should any significant archaeological remains be encountered, a site visit will be convened to consider preservation in situ and how to divert the water route.
- (d) The contractor shall complete and submit an entry on OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations - http://oasis.ac.uk/england/) prior to project completion, and shall deposit any digital project report with the Archaeology Data Service, via the OASIS form, upon completion.
- 4. By virtue of section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within the period of five years beginning with the date on which this consent was granted (being the date of this letter), this consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless a shorter time period is set by a specific condition above).
- 5. This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bye law, order or regulation other than section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.
- 6. Your attention is drawn to the provisions of section 55 of the 1979 Act under which any person who is aggrieved by the decision given in this letter may challenge its validity by an application made to the High Court within six weeks from the date when the decision is given. The grounds upon which an application may be made to the



1 WATERHOUSE SQUARE 138-142 HOLBORN LONDON EC1N 2ST



Telephone 020 7973 3700

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LONDON OFFICE

Court are (1) that the decision is not within the powers of the Act (that is, the Secretary of State has exceeded the relevant powers) or (2) that any of the relevant requirements have not been complied with and the applicant's interests have been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply. The "relevant requirements" are defined in section 55 of the 1979 Act: they are the requirements of that Act and the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 and the requirements of any regulations or rules made under those Acts.

Yours sincerely

Jane Sidell

Inspector of Ancient Monuments
E-mail: jane.sidell@HistoricEngland.org.uk
For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

cc Ms Kathryn Stubbs

1 WATERHOUSE SQUARE 138-142 HOLBORN LONDON EC1N 2ST



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APPENDIX V: OASIS RECORDING FORM

OASIS ID: compassa1-282241

Project details

Project name Postman's Park Enhancement Works, St Martin's Le Grand, City of

London, EC1A

the project

Short description of Between the 20th February and the 27th March 2017, Compass Archaeology conducted an Archaeological Watching Brief on the site of Postman's Park, City of London, EC1A during groundworks to lay new water ducting and standpipes. Two trees were removed and one tree pit was excavated for a replacement. The programme of archaeological works entailed the monitoring and recording of a series of narrow (0.30m), shallow (0.50m deep) trenches, 135m long in total, and the excavation of one tree pit, 1.80m X 1m X 0.95m. The stratigraphy was generally similar across the site, comprising 0.30-0.60m of imported, dark brown topsoil with varying amounts of CBM, pot and bone inclusions. This was dated to the mid-late 19th century. There was evidence of a buried surface in the tree pit, made of an orange gravel above made ground, no dating possible. No features of archaeological interest, such as evidence of the Roman wall or the post-medieval churchyard were recovered. The lowest level recorded

was 15.91m OD at the bottom of the tree pit.

Project dates Start: 20-02-2017 End: 27-03-2017

Previous/future

work

Yes / No

Any associated project reference

codes

MLE 17 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Other 14 - Recreational usage

Monument type **NONE None**

Significant Finds CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Uncertain

Investigation type "Watching Brief" **Prompt** Planning condition

Project location

Country **England**

Site location GREATER LONDON CITY OF LONDON CITY OF LONDON

Postman's Park

Postcode EC1A 4EU

30 Square metres Study area

Site coordinates TQ 532100 181479 50.941813848475 0.181017053937 50 56 30 N

000 10 51 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 15.91m Max: 17.18m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Compass Archaeology

Project brief originator

B. Viljoen - City of London Open Spaces Department

Project design originator

Compass Archaeology

Project

director/manager

Geoff Potter

Project supervisor

Heidi Archer

Type of

sponsor/funding

body

City of London Corporation

Name of sponsor/funding

body

Open Spaces Department

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient

Museum of London archaeological archive

"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Human Bones" **Physical Contents**

Digital Archive recipient

Museum of London Archaeological Archive

"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Human Bones", "Stratigraphic" **Digital Contents**

Digital Media available

"Survey","Text"

Paper Archive recipient

Museum of London Archaeological Archive

Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Human Bones"

Paper Media available

"Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report", "Survey

","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Postman's Park Enhancement Works, St Martin's le Grand, City of

London, EC1A

Author(s)/Editor(s) Fulbright, M.

Date 2017

Issuer or publisher Compass Archaeology Place of issue or publication

250 York Road, London, SW11 3SJ

Description

A short report summarising the results of the watching brief. Contains relevant background details including reasons for commission, site location, historical and archaeological background and site and post-excavation methodology. Results include plans, photographs and text of the monitored work with a short discussion and conclusion. Results are supported by relevant specialist analyses.