

**GROUND INVESTIGATION WORKS  
AT HANCOCK ROAD, LONDON BOROUGH OF  
TOWER HAMLETS  
E3 3EG**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief**



**June 2019**

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An Archaeological Watching Brief

Site code: HCC19  
NGR (centre): TQ 38002 83019

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## ***Abstract***

*Between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 Compass Archaeology conducted an Archaeological Watching Brief at Hancock Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets E3 3EG during ground investigation works. The work was commissioned and undertaken by JOMAS Associates Ltd. The scheme was monitored due to its location within an Archaeological Priority Area and proximity to the historic religious complex of St Leonard's Priory.*

*The programme of archaeological works entailed the monitoring and recording of three trial pits and a single borehole, undertaken as part of a larger ground investigation scheme. The trial pits, excavated around the perimeter of the site to inspect existing wall foundations exposed modern and post-medieval ground below the modern tarmac and concrete surfaces. Much of the material is taken to be modern backfill associated with the construction of the Blackwall Tunnel Northern Approach Road which runs approximately NW-SE along the western side of the site.*

*A series of boreholes undertaken across the site exposed a deep stratigraphic sequence comprising up to c4m of made ground overlying alluvium, associated with the floodplain of the River Lea which bounds the site to the northeast. This alluvium, encountered at approximately 0mOD, overlay a sequence of natural geological gravels, London Clay and chalk, recorded to a depth of 50m below ground level.*

*No finds or features of archaeological interest were observed during the watching brief. This is taken to be a result of the limited scope of the groundworks and potential truncation of earlier features through the creation of the existing industrial site.*

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*Figs.7 and 8 supplied by JOMAS Associates Ltd. Drawing no.P1859JI633.*

*Fig.11 photograph supplied by JOMAS Associates Ltd.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document forms a summary of the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken at Hancock Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets E3 3EG by Compass Archaeology between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (fig.1).

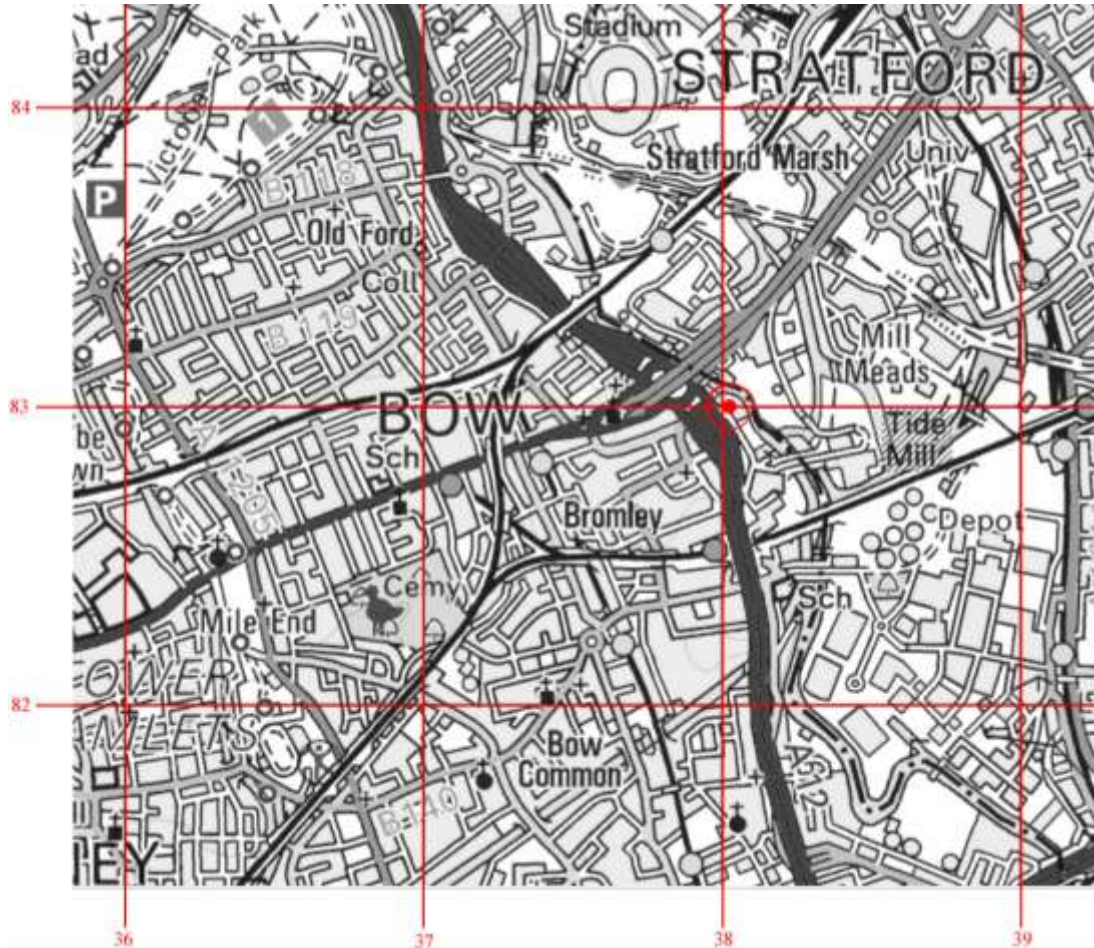


Figure 1: Site location, marked in red.

- 1.2 The watching brief was commissioned by Tom Elbourne (Geo-environmental engineer) of JOMAS Associates Ltd. on behalf of their client Southern Housing Group.
- 1.3 The site is located within the Lea Valley Tier 3 Archaeological Priority Area (APA) and adjacent to the Bow Tier 2 APA. The site is also situated in close proximity to St Mary's Churchyard- the last visible evidence of the medieval Priory of St Leonard Stratford-at-Bow and its post-medieval successor, the parish church of St Mary Bromley-by-Bow (fig.2).
- 1.4 The programme of archaeological works entailed the monitoring and recording of three trial pits, excavated to inspect existing wall foundations, and a single borehole situated towards the centre of the site.



Figure 2: Site location (red) in relation to the Bow APA (blue), the Lea Valley APA (purple) and St. Mary's Churchyard (green).

## 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2.1 Compass Archaeology would like to thank JOMAS Associates Ltd. for commissioning Compass to undertake the archaeological watching brief and also for ensuring accessibility and support on site during their groundworks.

## 3 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 The site was located at the land at 3 Hancock Road, lying to the north-east of the A12 and the south-west of the River Lea.

3.2 According to the British Geological Survey (Sheet 256: *North London*) the site overlies a large area of alluvium which follows the course of the River Lea (fig.3). The area is bounded to the south by Taplow Gravels interspersed with pockets of Langley Silt and London Clay.

3.3 The site is relatively level, sitting at approximately 4.5mOD. The land lies on a terrace, dropping down from the west at c10mOD along the Blackwall Tunnel Approach, to the bank of the River Lea in the east, lying at 4.3mOD. There has been recent landscaping to the south with the creation of Ashley Court between 2014 and 2016 however the levels remained relatively unaltered.

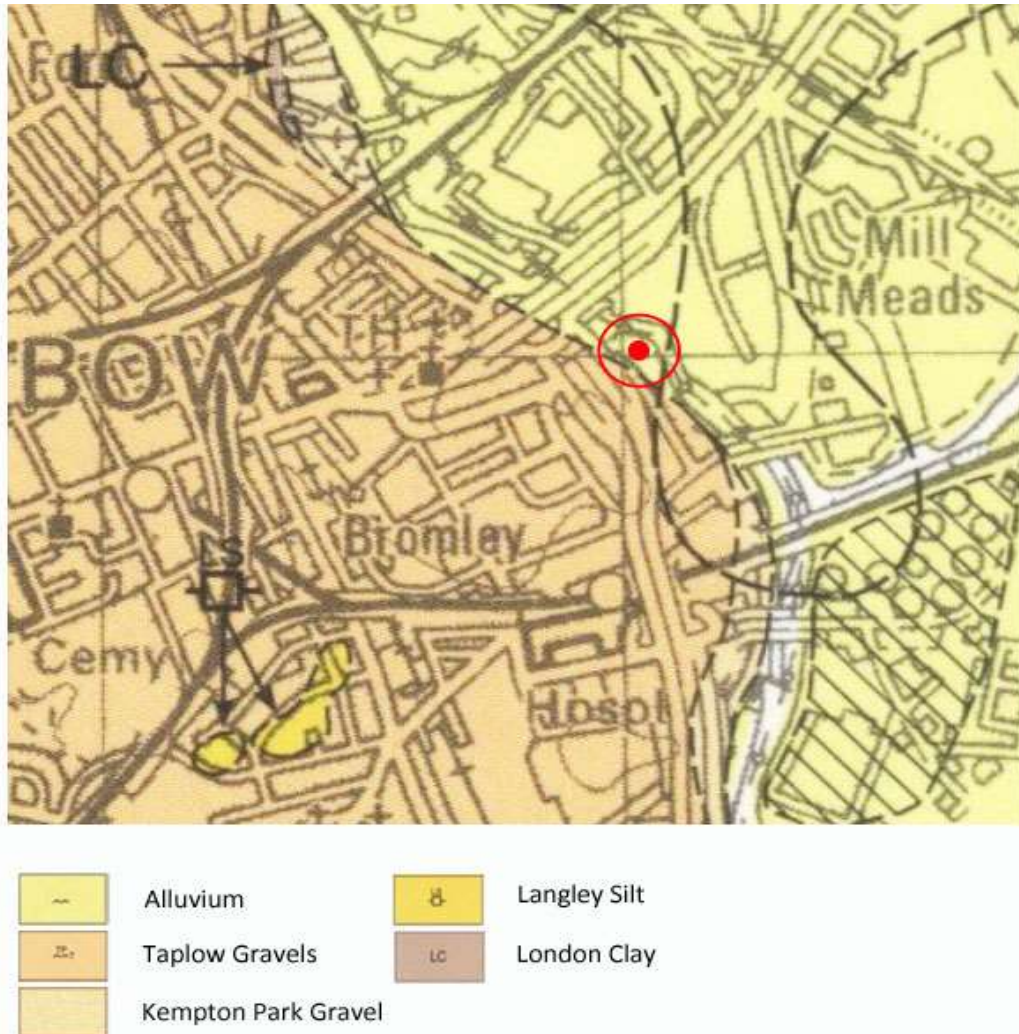


Figure 3: Extract from the British Geological Survey, 1994, sheet 256 with the site marked in red.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

The archaeological and historical background of the site was discussed at length in the preceding Written Scheme of Investigation (Compass Archaeology, April 2019) so shall not be reproduced. Instead, a summary of the major historical periods with specific reference to the site's development is given.

### 4.1 Prehistoric

During the prehistoric period the land around the site was likely a marshy landscape, stemming from the presence of the rivers Thames and Lea to the south and east. The site itself sits on a higher area of gravels which therefore would have been attractive to settlers looking for dry land on which to live. Evidence for the occupation of the area however is relatively sparse. To the north-east of the site, an evaluation at Pudding Mill Lane Station revealed extensive prehistoric peat deposits and a water channel though this was only broadly dated as being pre-medieval. Other spot finds of worked flints and other artefacts have been recovered from the banks of the Lea, though their origin is untraceable and does not indicate prehistoric activity in the area.



## 4.2 *Roman*

The site lies outside of the Roman city of *Londinium* which was centred on the modern City of London from Ludgate in the west to Tower Hill/Aldgate in the east. The Roman road from Colchester to London passes c.1km north of the site, crossing the River Lea around Old Ford. Well-preserved remains of the road have been encountered at Old Ford, along with remains of a more permanent settlement including funerary and structural remains spanning almost the entire Roman period. However, there appears to be little archaeological evidence of significant activity within the immediate vicinity of the site.

## 4.3 *Saxon*

Though the River Lea was becoming an important feature for mills in the borough the area immediately surrounding the site had yet to be significantly utilised. There is little evidence of Saxon occupation or activity in the area.

## 4.4 *Medieval*

The nearby settlement of Stratford, first recorded c.1067 as *Streatforda*, developed due to its position near the important River Lea. The river was used to transport goods into London from the surrounding areas; goods would be transferred at Bow to carts and taken the rest of the way in to the city by road. Documentary evidence suggests the existence of several roads in the area by this period, including St Leonard's Street immediately adjacent to the site to the west. Just west of the site was the location of the first stone arched bridge in Britain. It was constructed in c.1100 to replace the Roman crossing at Old Ford and was subsequently demolished in 1835, eventually replaced with a four-lane flyover. It is thought that the bow-like appearance of this bridge was the impetus for the name *Stratford-atta-Bow*, or Stratford-at-Bow before the two places ultimately became separately known as Stratford and Bow.

The main development in the area during the medieval period was the founding of the Priory of St Leonard's Stratford-at-Bow. It was first recorded in 1122 but the actual foundation date was likely earlier than this. The Priory was positioned where St Mary's Churchyard is today, c.120m south-west of the site though very few details of the complex or its layout survive. The Priory gradually expanded, a license granted by Edward II (1307-1327) meant it could acquire land worth up to £10 per year and in 1350 held granted land, fishponds and buildings at the Stews in Southwark. In the later 14<sup>th</sup> century the Priory became fairly well-known, mentioned in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* and was the place of residence of Elizabeth of Hainault, sister to Queen Philippa, wife of Edward III. From the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century the Priory began to decline, with the recorded number of nuns in residence dropping from 30 nuns in 1354 to just 10 in 1528.

Much of the activity taking place during this period appears to be focused around the river, with documentary sources referring to a number of mills along its length (and in the area of the presently named Three Mills Island). It is likely that this was an important location, acting as an invaluable link between the City and the wider trading network across the country and Europe.

## 4.5 *Post-medieval*

At the time of the Dissolution (1536) the Priory comprised a house, the church, steeple and churchyard and the Manor of Bromley which included a hall, a parlour, kitchen, buttery, a great chamber, a brewhouse and a malting house, and a barn; all in the name of the Prioress. The Prioress at the time of the Dissolution was allowed to retain some of the demesne lands to cover her expenses, the rest of the buildings and their contents were sold. In 1539 Henry VIII granted ownership of the former Priory and Manor to Sir Ralph Sadler. In the 1630s many of the Priory buildings had been replaced by a new brick mansion – Bromley House. The property was built by Sir John Jacob and surrounded by a large estate comprising a series of walled gardens, orchards and fishponds. The last remaining vestige of the Priory was St Mary's Church, shown on Rocque's map of 1746 (fig.4). This map shows the layout of Bromley House in relation to the site outline, indicating that the study site is situated in the Manor ponds.



Figure 4: Extract from Rocque's Plan (1746) showing the Bromley House estate, with approximate site location marked in red.

By 1819 when Horwood's map was published (unillustrated) the Bromley House estate had been broken up. All that remained of the original complex was the Church of St Mary and its churchyard. The church was subjected to reconstruction in 1842 after an attempt to repair and enlarge it resulted in the collapse of the west wall and Norman arch. The rebuilt church included some elements of the medieval building, including the burial vaults under the vestry and the later 17<sup>th</sup> century apse. The churchyard remains mostly untouched, believed to retain upwards of 100, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century headstones, tombstones and vaults. It is thought to contain burials dating back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

Another significant property in the vicinity of the site was The Old Palace of Bromley, situated immediately west of St Leonard's Street. The house dates from two main periods of construction: early James I (1606) and later 18<sup>th</sup> century, c1750. The presence of a piece of Purbeck marble carved with a 15<sup>th</sup> century date might indicate that the house was built in part from the remains of the Priory of St Leonards. It was originally built by James I who established a small settlement of Scots in the area and used the house as an occasional residence or hunting lodge. The house was converted into two merchant's houses in 1750, replacing some of the original features including the windows. Remnants of the 17<sup>th</sup> century oak window frames were found built into walls and floors. After this conversion, it was used as a boarding school and occasional residences. In 1893 it was sold to the London School Board who partially demolished the building, with the main room and the large fireplace being relocated to the Victoria and Albert Museum for preservation.

By the 19<sup>th</sup> century the site itself was situated within a bustling riverside manufactory. The Bow area had been subject to intense development and occupation over the last century and very little of the religious and private estate remained. During the mid-19<sup>th</sup> much of the site was occupied by the Lloyd's Paper Mills, with a small area at the northern end occupied by residential housing – Ammiel Terrace and Ammiel Street (figs.5-6). By the late-19<sup>th</sup> / early-20<sup>th</sup> century a number of businesses had moved on to the premises and the site was occupied by the Ratner Safe Works, London General Omnibus Company's Depot, Albion Oil and Grease Works, a disused Soap Works and a Mineral Water Manufactory (which came within feet of St Mary's Church).



Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6-inch map (1863) with site outline marked in red.



Figure 6: Extract from the OS five-feet-to-the-mile map (1894), with site outline marked in red.

Evidence of the post-medieval development of the area is well documented in the archaeological record, with investigations in the vicinity recording previous buildings, such as the Bow Porcelain Works, terraced housing along St Leonard's Street, pits and revetments associated with river management and even a drain made out of hollowed tree trunks.

## 5 PLANNING AND OBJECTIVES

5.1 The groundworks entailed the completion of four trial pits, five boreholes and eight windowless sampler boreholes, also utilised for concrete coring sampling. The investigation works were situated across the site footprint in areas of open ground between the extant buildings (fig.7).

Four trial pits were undertaken against existing foundations on the northeast and southwest sides of the site to inspect standing walls and structures.

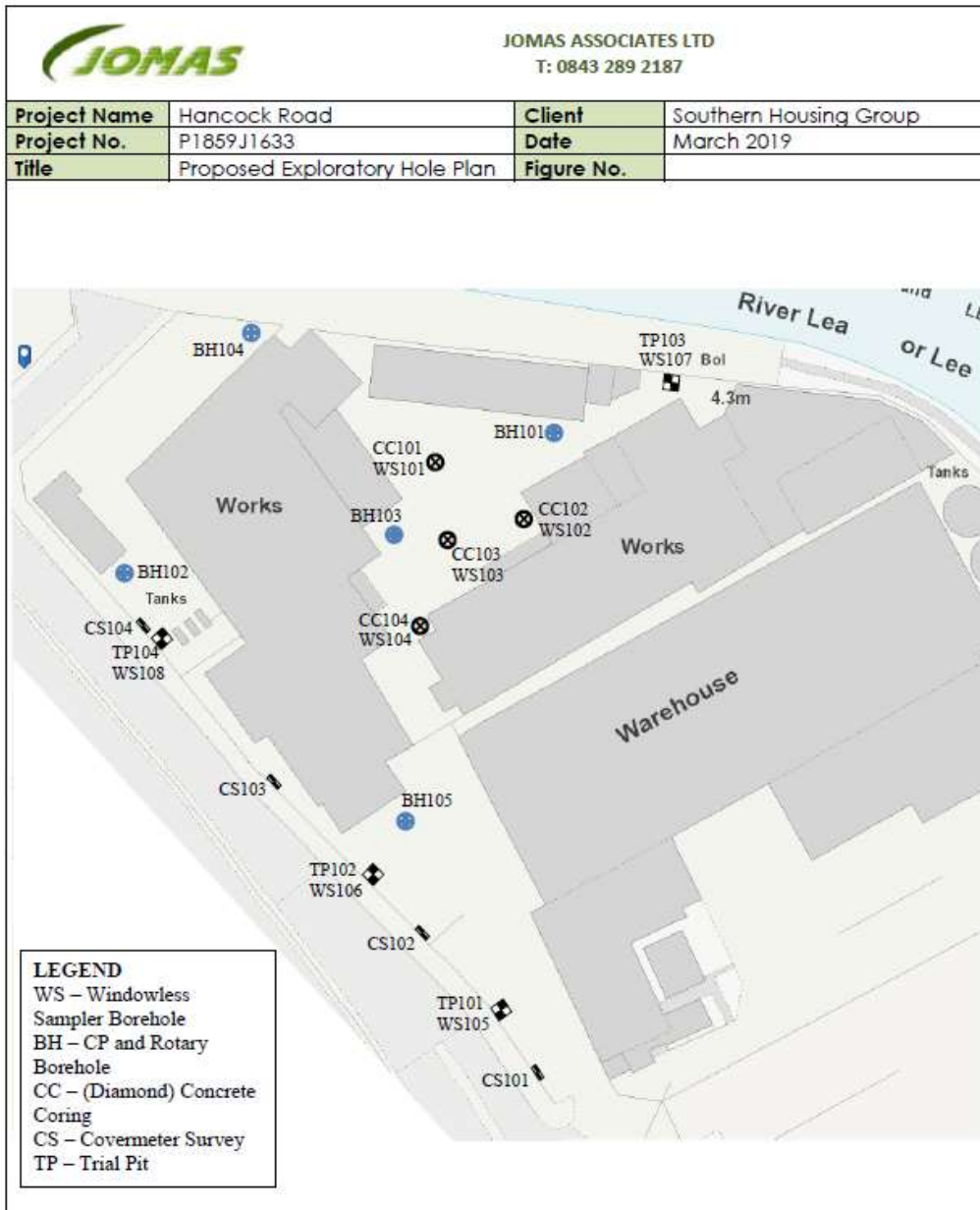


Figure 7: Plan showing the locations of boreholes and test pits undertaken. Drawing supplied by The Client (P1859J1633).

- 5.2** The borehole and sampling works were undertaken via specialist rigs. The four trial pits were undertaken via hand excavation.
- 5.3** The work followed the standards set out in the London Plan (*Chapter Seven: London's Living Spaces and Places*) which states that new developments are expected to align with the following procedures:

***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 on-site. 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.*

**5.4** The fieldwork presented the opportunity to answer the following general and more specific research questions:

- Is there any evidence of prehistoric activity or occupation? If so, what form does this take?
- Is there any evidence of the occupation of the site prior to the medieval period?
- Are there any surviving elements of the St Leonard's Estate – either as a religious complex or a private house following the Dissolution?
- What remains of the post-medieval industrial utilisation of the area? Can any remains be identified through comparison with cartographic sources?
- If encountered, what is the natural geology and at what level does it exist across the site?

## **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 an archaeological watching brief 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 Client 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 ground investigation works at Hancock Road, monitoring the completion of three hand excavated trial pits and a single borehole, undertaken between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (fig.8). A fourth trial pit was also recorded but not monitored.

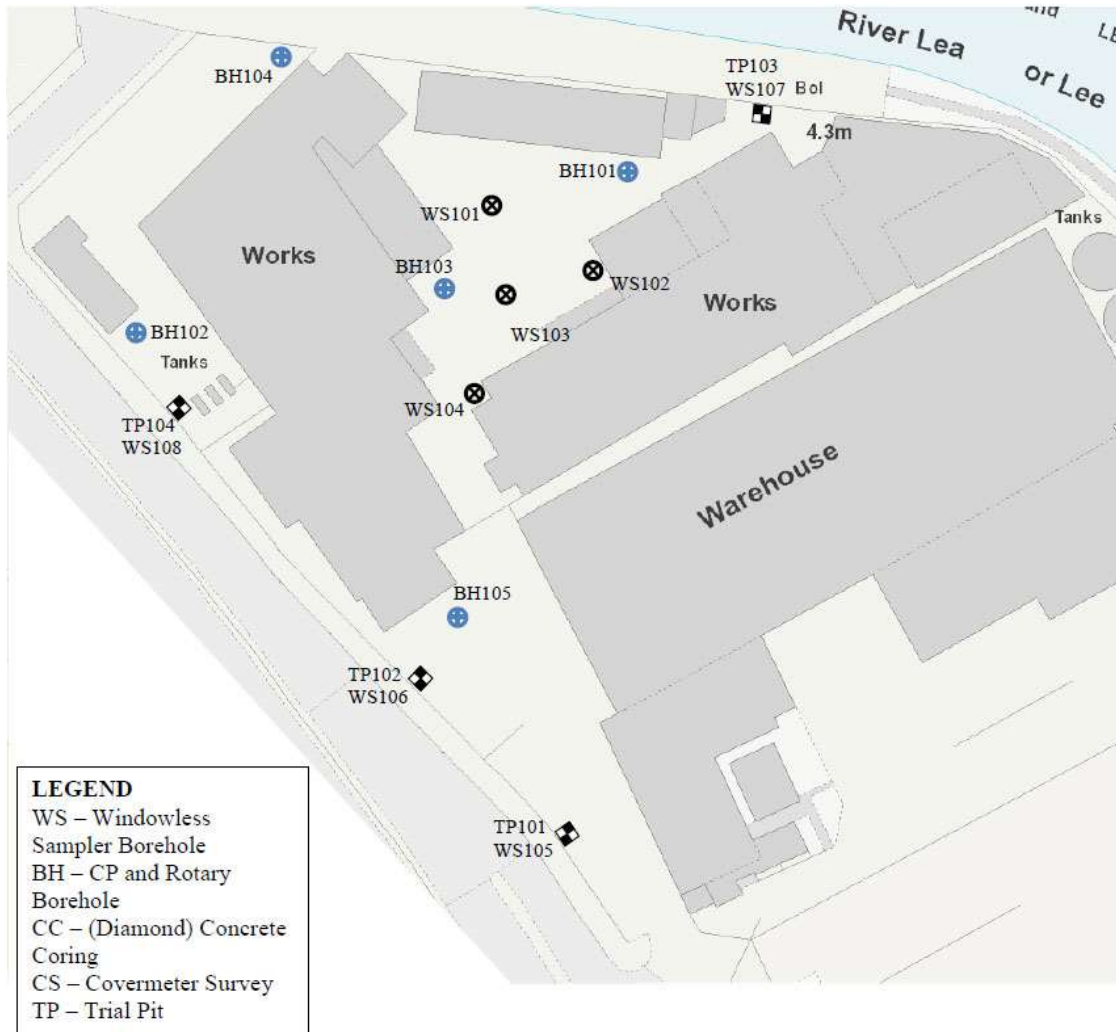


Figure 8: Edited extract from Drawing no. P1859J1633 supplied by the Client, showing the location of works discussed below in Section 7.



**6.2.2** Archaeological contexts were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* sheets by written and measured description, and drawn in plan or section, generally at scales of 1:10 or 1:20. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey grid. Levels were taken on archaeological features or deposits, transferred from the nearest Ordnance Datum Benchmark, a spot height noted on Ordnance Survey Plans *River Lea Path*, at 4.3mOD. The fieldwork record was supplemented by digital photography, in.jpeg and RAW formats, and shapefiles in .shp and .dwg formats.

**6.2.3** The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London (MoL) 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**

No finds or samples were recovered during the programme of archaeological monitoring.

### **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.

**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. 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 MoL Guidelines for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives, and will be deposited in the Museum of London Archaeological Archive under site code HCC19. 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 The following forms a written description of observations made during the watching brief. Deposits are shown as (x), cuts and structures as [x]. The text is supplemented with illustrative photographs.

### 7.2 TP101

7.2.1 The first trial pit was situated in the southwestern corner of the site, immediately adjacent to the A12. The trench measured 1.1m in length x 0.5m in width x 1.0m in depth (fig.9).



Figure 9: TP101, showing modern backfill surrounding the wall foundation (behind scale). Facing SW. Scale 1m.

7.2.2 The stratigraphy comprised 100mm of well compacted black tarmac (1) above 130mm of loosely compacted MOT Type 1 (2). This existing car park surface and bedding overlay 600mm of modern made ground (3), consisting of a moderately compacted brown silty soil containing frequent stones and modern material including timber and tile. At a depth of 0.83m the material became slightly sandier (4), measuring at least 170mm in thickness, continuing below the level of excavation.

**7.2.3** The works exposed the foundations of the wall separating the site from the Blackwall Tunnel Northern Approach, which extended north-eastwards into the trench by 0.45m and measured 0.6m in thickness, exposed at a depth of 0.2 below ground level.

**7.2.4** No finds or features of archaeological interest were observed.

### **7.3 TP102**

**7.3.1** TP102 was situated along the western edge of the site, to the north of TP101. The trench was again undertaken to assess the foundations of the wall separating the site from the Blackwall Tunnel approach road. The trench measured 0.7m in length x 0.5m in width x 0.5m in depth (fig.10).



*Figure 10: TP102, showing made ground below concrete. Facing NW. Scale 0.5m.*

**7.3.2** The stratigraphy comprised 150-200mm of coarse mix concrete (5) over at least 300mm of mid to dark brown moderately compacted soil (6) containing frequent small angular stones, taken to be made ground.

**7.3.3** No below ground foundations for the approach road and wall were observed.

**7.3.4** No finds or features of archaeological interest were recorded.

## 7.4 TP103

7.4.1 The third trial pit, TP103 was situated on the northern side of the site, adjacent to the boundary wall between the Hancock Road site and the River Lea footpath. The trench measured approximately 0.7m in length x 0.4m in width x 1.2m in depth (c3.1mOD) (fig.11).



Figure 11: TP103, showing black sandy gravel below the existing concrete. Facing NNE. No scale. Photograph supplied by JOMAS Associated Ltd.

7.4.2 The stratigraphy in the third trial pit comprised approximately 160mm of compact light grey concrete (7) above 1.04m of loose black very sandy gravel (8) consisting of fine-coarse angular to sub-rounded brick, concrete, flint, slate and clinker.

7.4.3 The darker composition and inclusions of post-medieval CBM suggests the material is possibly post-medieval in date, and more indicative of the ground make-up prior to modern disturbances, however no finds were recovered to confirm this.

## 7.5 TP104

7.5.1 The final trial pit was situated towards the northwest corner of the site, immediately adjacent to an area formerly occupied by fuel tanks. The trench measured 1.1m in length x 0.4-0.5m in width x 1.0m in depth (fig.12).



Figure 12: TP104, showing modern backfill below concrete. Facing SW. Scale 1m.

- 7.5.2 The stratigraphy comprised 100mm of light grey concrete (9) overlying at least 900mm of loosely compacted brick and stone rubble within a sandy / mortar matrix (10).
- 7.5.3 The concrete foundation of the approach road was seen extending north-eastwards into the trench by approximately 0.7m and continued below the level of excavation.
- 7.5.4 The presence of plastic within the backfill (10) suggests it is recent in date. No finds or features of archaeological interest were observed.

## **7.6 Borehole Survey**

- 7.6.1** Eight windowless sampler boreholes were undertaken across the site footprint, four of which were in the same location as the trial pits described above and the remainder being sited within open ground between the extant buildings, reaching up to 4m in depth. An additional five boreholes were undertaken across the site reaching depths of up to 50m.
- 7.6.2** Twelve of the thirteen samples completed recorded made ground below the concrete up to depths of between 2.1 and 4.95m. Much of this is taken to be post-medieval and modern in date. The general composition of the samples would suggest it is general activity stratigraphy / levelling layers, rather than attributable to one specific function. It is most likely associated with the industry which has occurred on the site for much of its history – many of the logs also recorded some degree of contamination / presence of hydrocarbons.
- 7.6.3** One borehole, BH102, located in the northwest corner of the site by TP102 recorded made ground to a depth of 10.2m however this is taken to be a result of the truncation caused by the insertion of the below ground tanks and subsequent backfilling, rather than a specific archaeological feature.
- 7.6.4** Alluvium was generally recorded between the depths of approximately 2m and c5.4-5m, representative of the site's close proximity to the River Lea. This level was also relatively uniform across the site and not immediately indicative of any previous courses of the river or associated channels. It is therefore taken that the site sits on the historical floodplain of river.
- 7.6.5** Of potential significance was a layer of peat recorded in BH105 between a depth of 4.95 and 5.4m. This was the furthest south of the boreholes, situated close to TP102, and also the furthest from the river, so its context is not easily explained. It is of possible archaeological origin although this cannot be confirmed.
- 7.6.6** Below a depth of c5.4-5.5m the sequence was uniform across all boreholes, comprising a natural geological sequence of Kempton Park and Taplow Gravels reaching c11-12m in depth, overlying London Clay up to 16-18m, above layers of the Lambeth Group and Thanet Formation – recorded between c18 and 45-48.5m. Below this, boreholes BH104B and BH105 recorded a deposit of undifferentiated chalk.
- 7.6.7** In general, the depth of made ground recorded across the boreholes and samples suggests the area has been much truncated and altered over time, the majority of which has occurred throughout the post-medieval and modern periods.

## **8 CONCLUSION**

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

### **8.1 *Is there any evidence of prehistoric activity or occupation? If so, what form does this take?***

No evidence of prehistoric activity or occupation was recorded during the watching brief. However, this does not prove that there was not a presence in the area – it is more likely that prehistoric levels have either been truncated by later activity, or were not encountered due to the limited depths of the observable trial pits.

### **8.2 *Is there any evidence of occupation of the site prior to the medieval period?***

Similarly, the limited nature of the groundworks meant that significant levels of stratigraphy were not reached and therefore no evidence of earlier land use was recorded.

### **8.3 *Are there any surviving elements of the St Leonard's Estate – either as a religious complex or a private house following the Dissolution?***

No in-situ features, remains or residual finds associated with the St Leonard's Estate were recorded during the watching brief.

### **8.4 *What remains of the post-medieval industrial utilisation of the area? Can any remains be identified through comparison with cartographic sources?***

Some ceramic building material was noted within several of the contexts observed in the trial pits, and it is most likely 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century in date. Much of the material is taken to attributable to the earlier post-medieval warehouses present on the site prior to its current configuration, however as there were no *in-situ* remains they cannot be said to be consistent with a particular building.

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

Natural geology was recorded in many of the boreholes and samples completed across the site. It was recorded at an average depth of 2m below ground level (c2.3mOD). The sequence comprised c2m of alluvium, associated with the River Lea, overlying 6-7m of Kempton Park and Taplow Gravels above c6m of London Clay. Below the London Clay, from depths of c18m the Lambeth Group and Thanet Formation gravels were recorded, reaching c45m. Undifferentiated Chalk was recorded in two boreholes reaching depths of at least 49.5m.

## **9 SOURCES**

### **9.1 Digital Sources**

Greater London Historic Environment Record. [glher@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:glher@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

London Archaeological Archive & Resource Centre (LAARC) database. <http://archive.museumoflondon.org.uk/laarc/catalogue/>

### **9.2 Bibliography**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. (2014). *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. (2015). *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief.*

Compass Archaeology (2019). *Hancock Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets E3 3EG. A Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief during Ground Investigation Works.*

Historic England. (2015). *Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Greater London.*

Historic England. (2015). *Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: Standards for Archaeological Work.*

Jomas (2019). *Preliminary Exploratory Hole Logs for the site at Hancock Road, Bromley-by-Bow.*

Mayor of London. (2018) (draft). *The London Plan.*

### **9.3 Cartographic Sources (in chronological order)**

Rocque, J. (1746a). *A Plan of the Cities of London and Westminster, and Borough of Southwark.*

Ordnance Survey (1863). *Six-inch.*

Ordnance Survey (1894). *Five-feet-to-the-mile.*

British Geological Survey (1993). *Sheet 256: North London.*



## APPENDIX I: LIST OF CONTEXTS

Number	Description
(1)	Existing tarmac car park surface
(2)	MOT Type 1 below (1)
(3)	Made ground below (2)
(4)	Sandier made ground below (3)
(5)	Concrete
(6)	Mid to dark brown soil – made ground
(7)	Concrete
(8)	Black sandy gravel below (7)
(9)	Concrete
(10)	Modern backfill below (9)

## APPENDIX II: OASIS RECORDING FORM

**OASIS ID: compassa1-355409**

### Project details

Project name	Watching Brief at Hancock Road, Tower Hamlets E3 3EG
Short description of the project	Between the 7th and 9th April 2019 Compass Archaeology conducted an Archaeological Watching Brief at Hancock Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets E3 3EG during ground investigation works. The work was commissioned and undertaken by JOMAS Associates Ltd. The scheme was monitored due to its location within an Archaeological Priority Area and proximity to the historic religious complex of St Leonard's Priory. The programme of archaeological works entailed the monitoring and recording of three trial pits and a single borehole, undertaken as part of a larger ground investigation scheme. The trial pits, excavated around the perimeter of the site to inspect existing wall foundations exposed modern and post-medieval ground below the modern tarmac and concrete surfaces. Much of the material is taken to be modern backfill associated with the construction of the Blackwall Tunnel Northern Approach Road which runs approximately NW-SE along the western side of the site. A series of boreholes undertaken across the site exposed a deep stratigraphic sequence comprising up to c4m of made ground overlying alluvium, associated with the floodplain of the River Lea which bounds the site to the northeast. This alluvium, encountered at approximately 0mOD, overlay a sequence of natural geological gravels, London Clay and chalk, recorded to a depth of 50m below ground level. No finds or features of archaeological interest were observed during the watching brief.
Project dates	Start: 07-04-2019 End: 09-04-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	HCC19 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

### Project location

Country England

Site location	GREATER LONDON TOWER HAMLETS BOW Land at Hancock Road
Postcode	E3 3EG
Study area	0.6 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 538002 183019 50.943040240374 0.189477323767 50 56 34 N 000 11 22 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: -50m Max: 0m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Historic England GLAAS
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Heidi Archer
Type of sponsor/funding body	Site Investigation, Engineering and Environmental Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body	Jomas Associates Ltd.

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London Archaeological Archive
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archaeological Archive
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Map","Photograph","Plan","Unpublished Text"

## Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Ground Investigation Works at Hancock Road, London Borough of Tower Hamlets E3 3EG. An Archaeological Watching Brief.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Archer, H.
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	250 York Road, Battersea SW11 3SJ
Description	short report summarising the watching brief. First part outlines the project background including site information, historical and archaeological background, objectives and methodology. The second part summarises the result, including relevant photographs where appropriate. Finishes with concluding remarks and sources. Context list and OASIS form included as appendices.