

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report  
Marble Arch Tower  
55 Bryanston Street  
London, W1H 7AJ**

**NGR: 527768 181041  
(TQ 27768 81041)**

**Planning Ref: 14/11220/FULL  
ASE Project No: 160372**

**Site Code: BRT15  
ASE Report No: 2017037**

**By Jonathan Gardner**

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**Abstract**

*This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out by Archaeology South-East at Marble Arch Tower, (55 Bryanston Street, L.B. Westminster, W1H 7AJ) between 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The fieldwork was commissioned by Waterman Energy, Environment & Design Ltd, in advance of demolition of the existing building and basement excavation.*

*No archaeological remains were recorded. The site was extensively truncated into underlying natural gravels.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Waterman Group to undertake archaeological watching brief at Marble Arch Tower, 55 Bryanston Street, London, W1H 7AJ (Figure 1), specifically in the area of the basement of the current Odeon Cinema and Marble Arch Tower Podium basement (Figure 2).

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The solid geology of the site is shown by the British Geological Survey as London Clay Formation; a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. Overlying the London Clay is a superficial deposit of Lynch Hill Gravel Member consisting of sand and gravel and formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period.

1.2.2 A recent geotechnical investigation by RSK (RSK 2013) concluded that:

*"[...] beneath the existing concrete basement slab (from 0.45 to 0.70m), the ground conditions generally consist of mixed granular and cohesive made ground soils (from 0.70 to 2.80m) overlying medium dense to very dense sandy gravels and very soft to soft silty clays, of the Lynch Hill Gravel (from 3.80 to 5.20m), firm to very stiff London Clay (to 43.40 to 44.00m) with very stiff to hard Lambeth Group proven to the terminal depth of investigation of 55.00m. The interface between the London Clay and Lambeth Group was encountered at elevations between -19.93 to -20.47mAOD".*

1.2.3 Ground level outside the site slopes from 26.60m OD at the junction of Edgware Road and Bryanston Street in the north-west, to 26.40m OD at the junction of Edgware road and Bayswater Road in the south-west.

1.2.4 The site is currently occupied by Marble Arch Tower, a 21 storey building comprising offices, retail units and a cinema, and located in the north-western part of the site at the junction of Bryanston Street and Edgware Road - all of which is currently undergoing demolition. Marble Arch Tower is located above a two-storey podium that extends the length of the site along Bryanston Street and Edgware Road, connecting to an eight storey building located to the south-east of the site fronting Marble Arch. A single storey basement extends the entire area of site to a depth of 23.5m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) (nominally 3.5m in depth).

1.2.5 The site is bounded by Bryanston Street to the north; by buildings fronting Marble Arch and Great Cumberland Place to the east; Bayswater Road to the south and Edgware Road to the west.

### **1.3 Planning Background**

- 1.3.1 A planning application (Planning Ref: 14/11220/FULL) for redevelopment of the site was approved on the 25th June 2015. The application is for the demolition of the existing buildings and the erection of two new buildings with two basement levels and two mezzanine levels below ground. The proposed buildings will be a mix of uses comprising offices, up to 54 residential units, retail, restaurant, bar and cinema; provision of car parking spaces, cycle parking spaces, plant and works to public realm, including a new pedestrian route between Marble Arch and Bryanston Street.
- 1.3.2 An archaeological desk based assessment was prepared in support of the planning application (Waterman 2014a). The document found that the site had moderate potential for finds and features from the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval periods.

### **1.4 Aims and Objectives**

- 1.4.1 The general aims of the watching brief were, through the monitoring of the ground works, to:

*Record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered in terms of their physical composition (e.g. sand, gravel, organic materials, etc.) and their archaeological formation (primary deposits, secondary deposits, etc.);*

*Assess the overall level of truncation across the site caused by industrial age developments in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries;*

*Assess the overall presence and survival of any artefactual evidence encountered, its condition given the nature of the deposits encountered;*

*Assess the overall presence and survival of the main kinds of ecofactual and environmental evidence (e.g. including plant remains, pollen, charcoal, molluscs, soils, etc.), its condition and potential, given the nature of the deposits encountered.*

- 1.4.2 The specific aims of the watching brief were to determine the following:  
*To record and characterise any evidence of prehistoric and palaeoenvironmental materials associated with water channels;*

*To record and characterise the impacts of medieval, post medieval and industrial age development of the site and any associated heritage assets / artefacts encountered;*

*To record and characterise any features relating to the historic crossroad and the site's use as a place of execution; and*

*To sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use across the site and within its wider context.*

## **1.5 Scope of Report**

- 1.5.1 This report details the results of the archaeological monitoring of demolition of the basement slab of the Odeon Cinema and Podium area between 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Waterman 2014b).
- 1.5.2 The site fieldwork was carried out by Steve White, Tom Rugg, Craig Carvey, Ian Hogg and Jonathan Gardner and was managed by Andy Leonard (fieldwork) and Jim Stevenson (post-excavation).

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Overview**

2.1.1 The archaeological background is set out in the Heritage Desk Based Assessment prepared for the site (Waterman 2014a) and summarised below.

### **2.2 Period Summaries**

#### **2.2.1 Prehistoric**

There are no finds recorded from the prehistoric period within the site, although a hand axe of uncertain prehistoric date, but believed to be from between the Lower Palaeolithic to early Neolithic date, was recovered from a made-ground deposit (i.e. not in situ) approximately 200m north-east of the site (MLO420).

#### **2.2.2 Roman**

No finds or features from the Roman period have been recorded within the site. However, the site is located near to the known remains of a Roman road (MLO21677) running east to west approximately 100m south-west of the site, on the southern edge of Bayswater Road. The remains of a Roman road were recorded as 9.14m wide and sealed by Roman pottery and other finds.

The site is also within the vicinity of two post-medieval roads, one running north to south (MLO18478) along the course of the present day Edgware Road, 150m north-west of the site, and one running east to west (MLO3171) along the north side of the present day Oxford Street, approximately 100m east of the site. Both of these roads have possible Roman origins (Margary 1967, cited in MOLAS 2009).

#### **2.2.3 Anglo Saxon**

There are no finds or features from the Anglo-Saxon period within the site or in immediately surrounding the site. However, several of the settlements that surround the site, such as Tyburn and Paddington, to the south-east and north-west of the site respectively, have their origins in Saxon times (MOLAS 2009).

#### **2.2.4 Medieval**

The earliest place name associated with the site is 'Tyburn', referred to as 'Tiburne' in the Domesday Book, and commonly believed to mean 'boundary stream'.

The site occupies the location of the former Tyburn Gallows (MLO15316), first erected in 1388 (Weinrebb and Hibbert 1995, cited in MOLAS 2009).

There is evidence for a conduit ditch (MLO52002) approximately 50m south-east of the site. The conduit ditch was used to supply additional water for the City and is likely to have been in use into the post medieval and industrial periods.



There is also evidence for a medieval arable field system (MLO67330), surviving in the present northwest area of Hyde Park covering an area of c. 10ha. Ditched boundaries and ridge-and-furrow cultivation are clearly visible in aerial photographs. These fields pre-date Henry VIII's enclosure of the park in 1536 and formed part of the manorial lands of Hyde, a moiety of Eye-next-Westminster, belonging to the Abbey of Westminster.

### **2.2.5 Post-Medieval**

The site of the Tyburn Tree, approximately 30m from the south-west of the site, was a place of execution erected in 1571. It is now marked by a stone on the traffic island at the junction of Edgware Road, Marble Arch and Oxford Street. The executions at this place continued into the late eighteenth century.

Holmes, 1897 (cited in GLHER record) identified MLO70959/ELO680, within the site boundary (the corner of Bryanston Street and Edgware Road, to the north of the Tyburn Gallows, also within the site), as the burial place for those executed at Tyburn. However, MLO23167/ELO642 marks the site where, according to the Thames Basin Archaeological Observation Group, skeletons of medieval and post medieval date were found, including one apparently wearing manacles, approximately 30m to the south-west of the site.

### **2.2.6 Modern**

Rocque's map (dated 1747) depicts a quarry approximately 100m east of the site. This is likely to have been a brickearth quarry, common in this period of rapid expansion. There are examples of other quarries nearby from recent archaeological evaluations.

Both the Tyburn Gallows (within the site) and the Tyburn Tree are also shown on Rocque's map from 1747, but have disappeared by the time of the 1799 Horwood map.

Horwood's map from 1799 shows that the site had been developed, with properties fronting the eastern, southern and western boundaries of the site, and with the stables of Cumberland Mews running through the centre of the site.

The Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1870 does not indicate a significant change in use of the site, but by 1914 the OS map shows additional buildings alongside the west of the site, with the Church Army Headquarters also clearly marked. Cumberland Mews is still shown crossing the site.

The Regal (now the Odeon) on the site was first built in 1928. It was renamed as the Odeon Theatre in 1945. The original building was demolished to make way for a new cinema theatre in 1964. The current building opened in 1967.

The 1953 OS map shows that within the site, the Church Army Headquarters was located to the north of the Odeon Theatre and a public house (New Inn) was located at the southern entrance of Cumberland Mews on the western side.

By 1964, the OS map shows the new Odeon Cinema developed over the site, a development which included the Marble Arch Tower, as it is today.

### **2.3 Previous Investigation on the site for Geotechnical and Service Trenches**

- 2.3.1 ASE undertook a previous watching brief on the site and its surrounding pavement between 17<sup>th</sup> August and 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 in order to investigate fifteen trial trenches/pits located outside the buildings perimeter for service diversion and geotechnical investigation (see ASE 2015 and Figure 2).
- 2.3.2 This work revealed little archaeological survival and that in most trenches services had truncated the underlying deposits to c. 1.2m below ground level (which varied around the perimeter from 26.40m to 27.36m AOD).
- 2.3.3 As well as makeup/demolition material associated with modern basements and construction of the Marble Arch Tower, in Trial Holes 13 and 15 masonry structures of post-medieval date were identified.
- 2.3.4 Trial Hole 15 (3.80m N-S x 0.70m E-S x 1.22m deep; with ground level at 27.20m OD), located to the north of the site in the centre of Bryanston Street, revealed two red brick arches which were interpreted as post-medieval E-W oriented culverts. In this trench (and all others except Trial Hole 13) the natural deposits were not reached at the maximum depth (25.98m OD).
- 2.3.5 Trial Hole 13 (4m NNE-SSW x 0.60m ENE-WSW x 1.20m deep; ground level at 26.40m OD) was located to the south of the site on the pavement of Marble Arch Road and approximately 20m SSE of the main basement area monitored in the present Watching Brief. This revealed a post-medieval (likely 19-20<sup>th</sup> century) red brick wall and associated red brick floor, overlying a 0.74m thick deposit of made ground which in turn covered the natural sand and gravel at 25.20m OD.
- 2.3.6 The previous watching brief for these fifteen trial holes and, Trial Hole 13 in particular suggests that the potential for archaeological survival at lower levels within the site boundary, namely beneath the cinema and podium's basement slab would be limited, given that natural was observed as high as 25.20m OD and the top of the basement slab is located around 3m lower.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

- 3.1.1 The archaeological watching brief comprised monitoring the excavation of a c. 25m NNW-SSE x 15m (max) ENE-WSW area in which the basement slab below the former Odeon Cinema was being broken (Figure 2). Three small trenches for pile investigation in the podium basement (Figure 2) were also monitored.
- 3.1.2 The basement slab being up to 0.60m thick in this area was broken out using a 47-ton machine and breaker and then the concrete and associated rebar along with the underlying crush was removed using a toothed bucket down to the either the level of modern made ground or natural sandy gravel. The small trial trenches in the Podium area were broken-out by Brokk remote-controlled machine and excavated using a 2-ton tracked excavator and 1.8m ditching bucket.
- 3.1.3 ASE archaeologists monitored all excavation from the sides of all areas and trenches opened given the busy working conditions and heavy plant movement on site. Where appropriate the attending archaeologists created sketch plans and sections and recorded site works and deposits with photography (the majority of which comprised working shots without scale).
- 3.1.2 All deposits and features were recorded using ASE standard recording sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only.

#### **3.2 Fieldwork Constraints**

- 3.2.1 The site was undergoing wholesale demolition using several large tracked-excavators (up to 47-tons) and an on-site concrete crusher, and, alongside the basement slab break-out, concrete and metals processing was ongoing at the time of all site visits as well as strip-out and demolition of the base of the Marble Arch Tower's lower storeys. This combined with frequent tower-crane lifting operations meant the site was extremely busy and there were limited opportunities to access the main basement slab area being monitored which necessitated recording from the sides and limiting the ability to create detailed plans or sections.
- 3.2.2 The thickness of the basement slab and depth of truncation on the site meant that in all monitoring activities no archaeological remains, other than 20<sup>th</sup> century made ground or basement works associated with the 1920's previous structure, were observed.

### 3.3 The Site Archive

3.3.1 No finds or samples were observed or collected during the watching brief fieldwork. The contents of the paper and digital archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	18
Section sheets	0
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	51
Context register	1
Drawing register	0
Watching brief forms	11
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper/digital archive

## 4.0 RESULTS

### 4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 This small trench, approximately 1.5m x 1.3m x 1m deep (max) and aligned with the south-west site boundary, was excavated as part of the investigation of the Podium building's foundations and revealed a single 20<sup>th</sup> century brick wall [1/004] (Figure 4). No archaeological finds were observed and natural was not reached.

4.1.2 Wall [1/004] was a single course high and a header and stretcher's width (c. 0.35m) and comprised unfrogged mid grey-yellow bricks (10x7x22 mm) bonded with concrete. The wall ran roughly N-S and appeared to sit upon a smooth/screeded unreinforced concrete surface [1/005] and seemed to form a boundary to a possible below ground structure situated to the east. The deposits and masonry were truncated to the south-west by modern reinforced concrete. The wall could be a part of the previous 1920s Regal/Odeon Cinema and may be connected to its western wall which lies approximately at this location on the 1953 OS map.

4.1.3 No further excavation took place in this trench and natural was not reached, but above the wall and to its west, a dumped deposit of brown grey compacted modern made ground [1/003] lay approximately 0.2m thick below 0.2m of rubble [1/002] and the reinforced concrete basement slab [1/001] itself which here was 0.4m thick.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
1/001	MAS	Modern concrete slab	Trench	Trench	0.4
1/002	Layer	Modern crush/rubble	Trench	Trench	0.2
1/003	Layer	Compacted modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.2
1/004	MAS	20 <sup>th</sup> -Century brick wall	c.1.0	0.35	0.1
1/005	MAS	Concrete surface	1.0	0.8	N.F.E.

Table 2: List of recorded contexts in Trench 1

## 4.2 Trenches 2 and 3

4.2.1 These two trenches were excavated for similar investigative purposes as Trench 1 and were monitored on 20<sup>th</sup> January and from 24-26<sup>th</sup> January 2017 respectively. In both cases no archaeological remains or finds were observed other than makeup deposits from the current building. No OD heights could be obtained for these trenches but it is assumed the height of the top of the slab here was approximately 22.40m AOD – the same level as the main area (Trench 4) to the east. Trench 2 was approximately 6m long x 1.6m wide and a maximum of 1.2m deep (below top slab level) whilst Trench 3 was 7.5m in length by 2m wide and a maximum of 2.5m deep.

4.2.1 The sequence in Trench 3 saw the natural yellow-orange sandy gravel observed at a depth of approximately 1m below slab level and at around 2.5m below slab level ground water emerged through this natural. Above this was (in places) a thin band (max. 0.3m thick) of very hard dark brown grey silty clay with modern CBM, metal fragments, and wood (similar to [1/003] in Trench 1) which was interpreted as compacted made ground, laid down prior to the bedding material for the slab this processed aggregate/crush-like material was itself around (0.20m) thick in this trench. This was then overlain by the basement slab itself which was up to 1m thick.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Deposit Thickness m
2/001	MAS	Modern concrete slab	Trench	Trench	0.5-1.0
2/002	Layer	Modern crush/rubble	Trench	Trench	0.20
2/003	Layer	Compacted modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.3
2/004	Layer	Natural sandy gravel	Trench	Trench	NFE
3/001	MAS	Modern concrete slab	Trench	Trench	0.5-0.65
3/002	Layer	Natural sandy Gravel	Trench	Trench	N.F.E.

Table 3: List of recorded contexts in these archaeologically blank trenches

### 4.3 Main Area Basement Excavation (Trench 4)

- 4.3.1 The main area of monitoring was located in the eastern and southern area of the site approximately following the footprint of the southern two thirds of the present Odeon Cinema (fig. 2). The trench was approximately a maximum of 28 metres wide (WSW-ENE) and approximately 45 metres long (NNW-SSE). As described above, this area was undergoing basement slab breaking and removal down to the natural deposits of sandy gravel.
- 4.3.2 The southern 28m x 20m segment was monitored in three stages from 4<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and the final 25m x 15m segment was monitored from 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017. No archaeological remains were observed on any visit except a small cut feature [4/007] in the northern area of the trench. This shall be discussed shortly, but generally across the area the sequence was similar with a natural of mid-yellow orange sandy gravel overlain by a thin horizon of dark brown-grey compacted modern made ground [4/003] up to 0.2m thick with occasional CBM inclusions. This in turn was sealed by a 0.3m thick modern crushed concrete/rubble crush layer [4/002] providing bedding for the extant reinforced concrete basement slab [4/001] which in places was 0.8m thick and also covered a number of reinforced pile caps which were left in situ but which were up to 2m x 2m in plan.
- 4.3.3 In the final 25x 15 m area but adjacent to the previous excavated southern area a large 20<sup>th</sup> century basement and culvert truncated the natural to at least approximately 3m below slab level (i.e. approximately 19.4m OD) without natural being observed. At this depth ground water arose freely and filled this basement which was not recorded in detail (i.e was treated as a modern truncation) given it appeared to be part of the 1920s Regal/Odeon construction (based on its construction of frogged yellow stock brick and metal superstructure of steel I-beams.).
- 4.3.4 The sole archaeological feature which indeed may also be of relatively modern date was a shallow 5m x 2.6mx 0.30m deep cut in the north of the latest monitored area. This cut feature [4/007] was filled with a shallow clinker or coal waste top fill [4/005] which also contained very occasional fragmentary inclusions of animal bone and one (possibly intrusive) broken unfrogged red half-brick, overlaid a thicker lower fill [4/006] of mid-grey brown silty sandy-gravel with no visible inclusions. The feature was truncated to the south most likely during machining of the basement slab so its full extent cannot be ascertained.
- 4.3.5 Given the depth of this feature (the top of the top fill being at c. 20.40m OD) and its stratigraphic position, sealed below the compacted modern made ground [4/003] and cutting the natural [4/004], it is likely either to be the very base of a small quarry pit or similar excavation which predates construction of any dwellings on the site (roughly this feature would appear to correspond with the location of what was Cumberland Mews) in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century (Waterman 2014b, p. 2) or more likely, was associated with the later demolition of properties here and levelling of ground below the basement of the 1928 Regal/Odeon structure. Unfortunately, without securely dateable finds, it is impossible to be certain of the date of this feature.

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Max. Length m</b>	<b>Max. Width m</b>	<b>Deposit Thickness m</b>
4/001	MAS	Modern concrete slab	Trench	Trench	0.8m (max)
4/002	Layer	Modern crush/rubble	Trench	Trench	0.3
4/003	Layer	Compacted modern made ground	Trench	Trench	0.2
4/004	Layer	Natural sandy gravel	Trench	Trench	NFE
4/005	Fill	Clinker/ash fill of shallow cut [4/006]	5	2.6	0.10 (max)
4/006	Fill	Lowest fill of [4/006]	5	2.6	0.20 (max)
4/007	Cut	Shallow modern cut feature	5	2.6	-

Table 4: List of recorded contexts in Trench 4



## **5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **5.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence**

5.1.1 Across most of the site the stratigraphic sequence was as follows: a natural yellow orange sandy gravel was observed between 20.4 and 20.7 m OD (i.e. from around 0.7m to 1m below the top of the basement slab). In most instances this was overlain by a very hard artificially compacted silty-clay modern made ground which was usually a maximum of 0.2m thick which in turn was sealed in places by up to 0.4m of rubble/crush which served as a bedding layer for the extant basement slab across the site, itself varying between 0.5m and 1m in thickness with a top level of around 21.40m OD.

5.1.2 The only feature was a post-medieval shallow cut observed in the north of Trench 4 and is discussed in 5.3 below.

### **5.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts**

5.2.1 No archaeological remains survive within the perimeter of the site due to extensive basement construction first in the 1920s and then across the entire area with the construction of Marble Arch Tower

### **5.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period**

5.3.1 The only remains identified were of the post medieval or modern period in one area at the extreme north of Trench 4 and the fragmentary remnants of potentially the 1928 cinema basement in Trench 1 (Figure 3).

5.3.2 The base of a single cut feature [4/007] likely of 20<sup>th</sup> century date was present in this northern area of Trench 4, though it may be the base of a truncated post-medieval quarry pit or similar. Its function could not be discerned due to lack of finds.

5.3.3 In Trench 1 a single course of 20<sup>th</sup> century brickwork and concrete was observed under and truncated by the present building's basement slab and was identified as potentially part of the original 1928 cinema complex based on its proximity that buildings footprint from OS mapping though this is cannot easily be proven and is of little archaeological interest.

5.3.4 In all other areas no other archaeological remains were observed.

### **5.4 Potential impact on archaeological remains**

5.4.1 Given that all archaeological deposits appear to be truncated by extensive basements across the site from the 1920s onwards (and indeed in the surrounding pavement and roads (ASE 2015) it is not envisaged that the current development will impact on any archaeological remains.

## 5.5 Consideration of research aims

- *Assess the overall presence and survival of any artefactual evidence encountered, its condition given the nature of the deposits encountered;*

No artefactual evidence was observed within the trenches monitored.

- *Assess the overall presence and survival of the main kinds of ecofactual and environmental evidence (e.g. including plant remains, pollen, charcoal, molluscs, soils, etc.), its condition and potential, given the nature of the deposits encountered;*

No ecofactual or environmental evidence was observed within these trenches.

- *To record and characterise any evidence of prehistoric and palaeoenvironmental materials associated with water channels;*

No prehistoric or palaeoenvironmental evidence was observed within these trenches, though ground water was encountered at around 19m OD in the base of Trench 3.

- *To record and characterise the impacts of medieval, post medieval and industrial age development of the site and any associated heritage assets / artefacts encountered;*

In Trench 1 20<sup>th</sup>-century brick work was uncovered, potentially associated with the construction of the 1928 Regal/Odeon Cinema though this cannot be proved other than on the basis of map evidence. In the main monitoring area (Trench 4) a single shallow cut feature of post-medieval date was observed [4/007] but its fills and function(s) cannot be conclusively explained due to its truncation and lack of finds, though potentially may be the base of an early modern quarry pit.

- *To record and characterise any features relating to the historic crossroad and the site's use as a place of execution;*

No features relating to the historic crossroad and the site's use as a place of execution were encountered within the trial holes.

- *To sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use across the site and within its wider context;*

No environmental remains were encountered within the monitored area.

## **5.6 Conclusions**

- 5.6.1 Due to extensive truncation across the whole site from the construction of Marble Arch Tower, the Odeon and associated structures and their basements, as well as the previous 1928 Regal/Odeon Cinema, no archaeological remains survive on site.
- 5.6.2 Those few remains which were preserved and discussed above, are all likely to be of 20<sup>th</sup> century date and associated with the original Cinema construction.
- 5.6.3 Due to said truncation, unfortunately no association can be made with the site's sequence with its historical fame as the site of the Tyburn Gallows or indeed its usage in earlier periods.

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**HER Summary**

Site code	BRT15				
Project code	160372				
Planning reference	14/11220/FULL				
Site address	Marble Arch Tower 55 Bryanston Street				
District/Borough	London, W1H 7AJ				
NGR (12 figures)	527768 181041				
Geology	Lynch Hill Gravel Member				
Fieldwork type			WB		
Date of fieldwork	13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 and 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2017				
Sponsor/client	Waterman Group				
Project manager	Andy Leonard				
Project supervisor	Steve White, Tom Rugg, Craig Carvey, Ian Hogg and Jonathan Gardner				
Period summary					
				Post-Medieval	
Project summary	<i>No archaeological remains were recorded. The site was extensively truncated into underlying natural gravels.</i>				

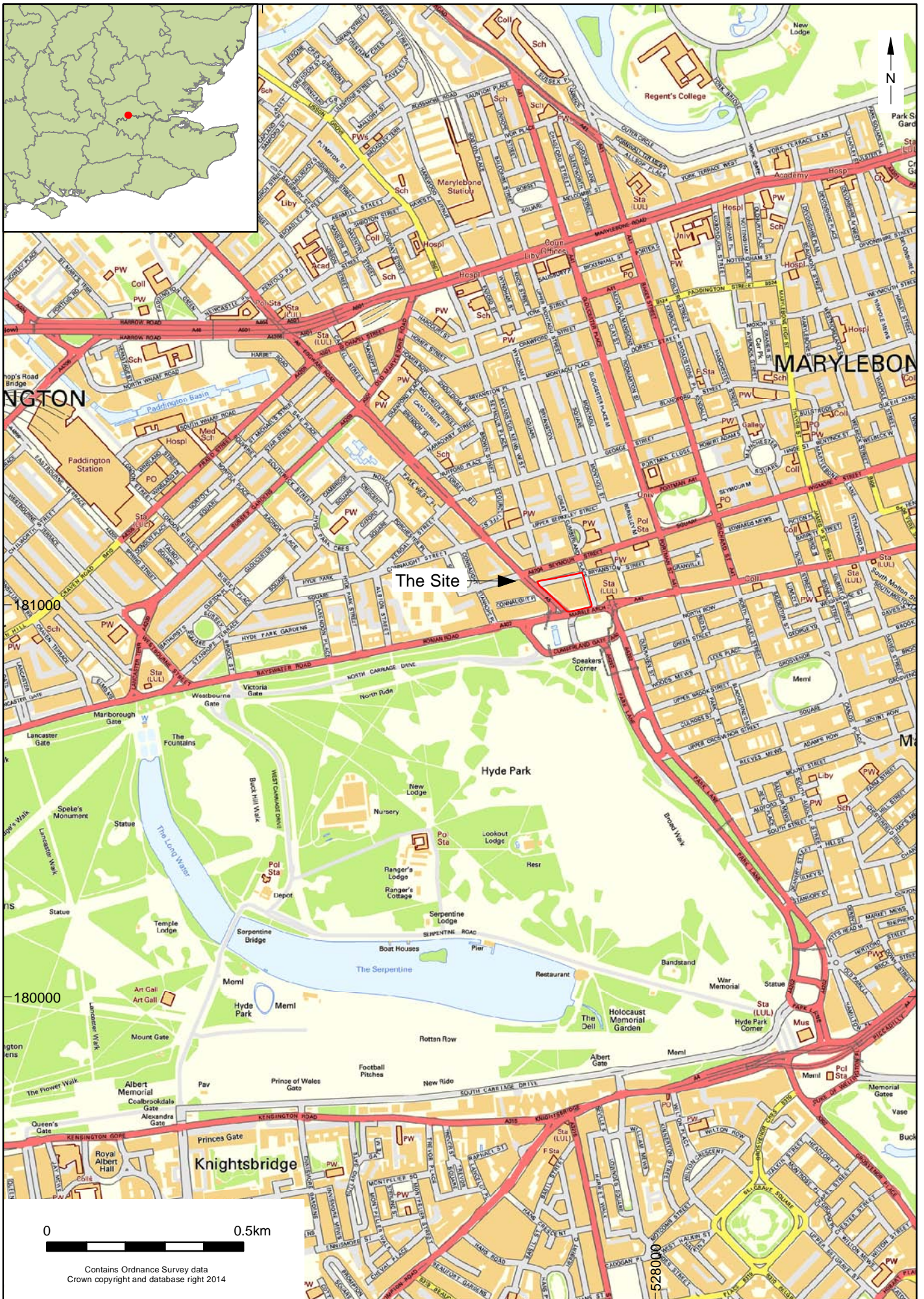
## OASIS Form

### OASIS ID: archaeol6-275149

#### Project details

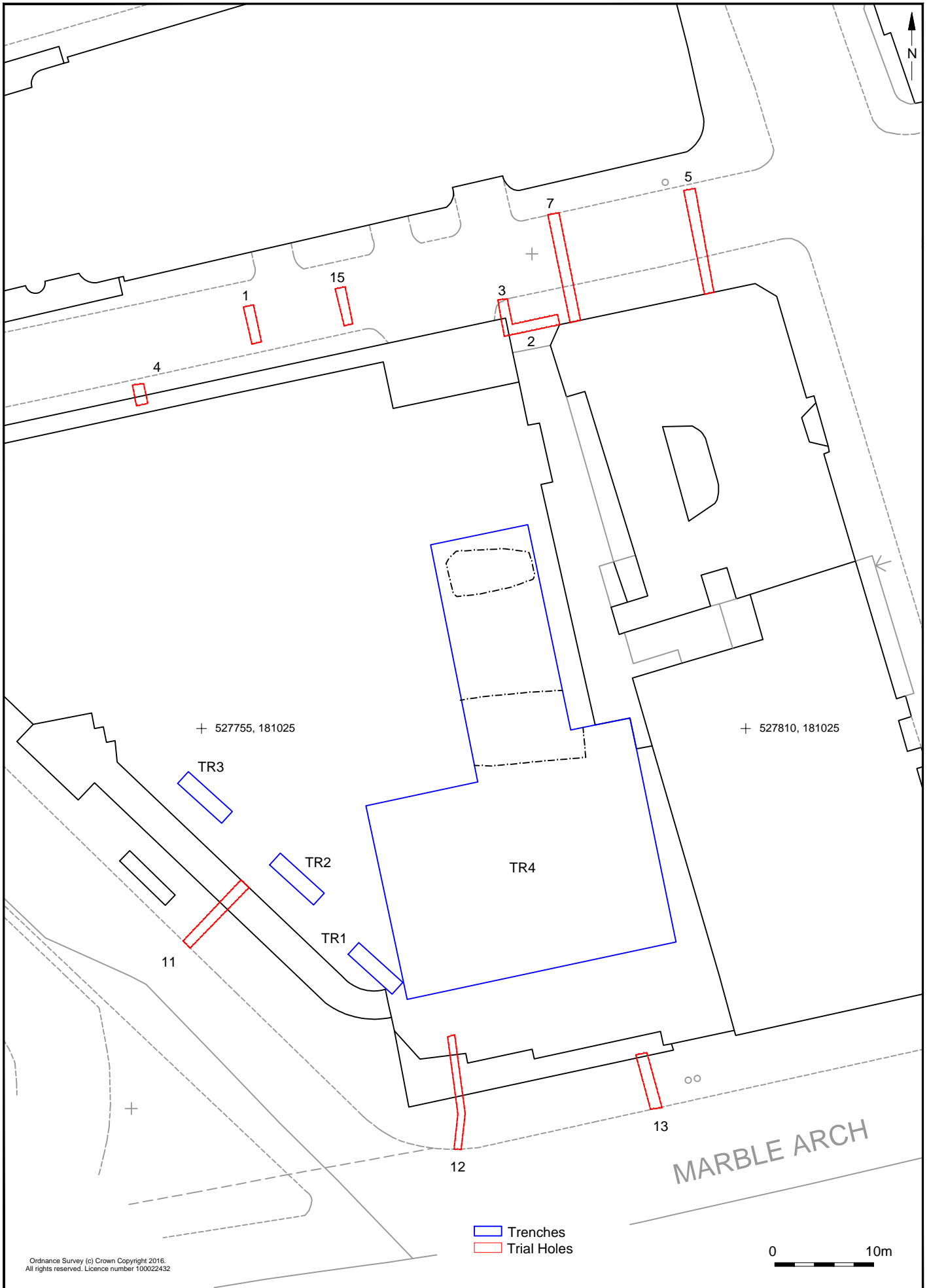
Project name	Archaeological Watching Brief Report Marble Arch Tower 55 Bryanston Street London, W1H 7AJ
Short description of the project	No archaeological remains were recorded. The site was extensively truncated into underlying natural gravels.
Project dates	Start: 13-12-2016 End: 26-01-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BRT15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF WESTMINSTER CITY OF WESTMINSTER Marble Arch Tower
Postcode	W1H 7AJ0
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 277 810 51.512978667819 -0.159508563284 51 30 46 N 000 09 34 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	GLAAS
Project design originator	Waterman Group
Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Jonathan Gardner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Waterman CPM Ltd
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	BRT15
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	BRT15

Digital Media available "Text"  
Paper Archive recipient LAARC  
Paper Archive ID BRT15  
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Miscellaneous Material", "Report"  
Project bibliography 1  
Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Watching Brief Report, Marble Arch Tower  
Author(s)/Editor(s) Gardner, J  
Other bibliographic details ASE Report No: 2017037  
Date 2017  
Issuer or publisher ASE  
Place of issue or publication Portslade  
Entered by Dan Swift (d.swift@ucl.ac.uk)  
Entered on 2 February 2017



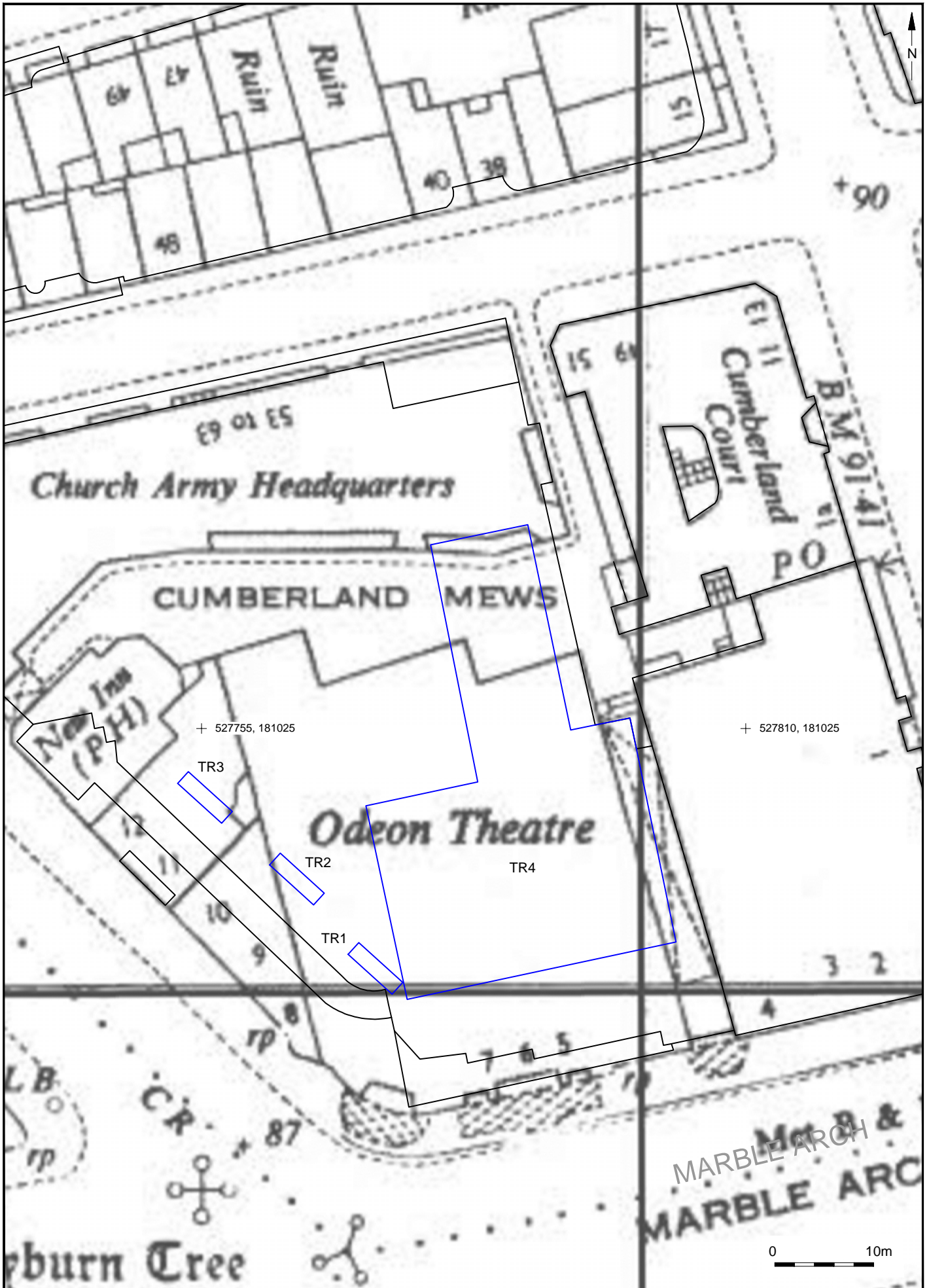
© Archaeology South-East		Westminster, Marble Arch Tower	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7752	Feb 2017	Site location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: AR		





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© Archaeology South-East		Marble Arch Tower, Westminster		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160372	Feb 2017	Trench location with location of sole cut feature 4/007		
Report Ref: 2017037	Drawn by: AR			



© Archaeology South-East		Marble Arch Tower, Westminster		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 160372	Feb 2017	Trench location overlain on 1952-1954 OS Map		
Report Ref: 2017037	Drawn by: AR			



1/004 and 1/005, looking north east



4/007, looking west



Trench 3, sequence of deposits, looking north east



Trench 4, modern truncation, looking west



Trench 4, looking north

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