

CURTIS GREEN BUILDING London SW1

City of Westminster

Archaeological watching brief report

June 2015



**Curtis Green Building
Whitehall
London SW1**

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Report on an archaeological watching brief

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Graphics: Judit Peresztegi

Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out by MOLA at the Curtis Green Building, Whitehall, London, SW1. The report was commissioned from MOLA by BAM Construction Ltd on behalf of the client the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). The current building is being retained and extended to the east and west.

An evaluation carried out in June 2014 (MOLA 2014c) showed that until the late 18th-century, the site was located on the Thames foreshore, and the riverside was subsequently reclaimed in the late 19th century.

In accordance with a planning condition a watching brief was carried out on the site between 07/02/15 and 01/04/15 on a series of pile probing trenches (W1-4) and (E1-18).

Apart from a possible foreshore deposit in one trench natural ground was not reached. Deposits recorded to the west were 18/19th century in date and were probably brought onto the site to build up the ground behind the north-south river wall indicated on the Horwood 1799 map. Deposits to the east were mid to late-19th century in date and were probably associated with the construction of the Victoria Embankment (1864–1870) further to the east. There were also some 20th century deposits that are probably associated with the building of the Curtis Green building in the late 1930's. A rare fragment of decorated terracotta was recovered and probably comes from the nearby Tudor palace of Westminster

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1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

- 1.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by MOLA at the Curtis Green Building, Whitehall, London SW1, ('the site') between 07/02/15 and 01/04/15 (see *Fig 1*). This document is the Report on that work which comprised monitoring pile probing associated with the proposed east and west extensions to the current building. The site comprises the Curtis Green Building (formerly Whitehall Police Station) and is bounded by Richmond Terrace to the north, Victoria Embankment to the east, the Norman Shaw Building (New Scotland Yard) to the south, and Richmond House to the west. The centre of the site lies at National Grid reference 530285 179870 (*Fig 1*). The site is currently occupied by the former Whitehall Police Station building that was designed by William Curtis Green and built in 1937–40.
- 1.1.2 Ground level lies at c 3.0m OD and c 4.80m OD. The existing basement slabs lie at c 2.90m OD.
- 1.1.3 The site is within the Lundenwic and Thorney Island Area of Special Archaeological Priority as designated by the City of Westminster for its particular potential for evidence of Saxon activity and occupation. The site is within the Whitehall Conservation Area.
- 1.1.4 A desk top Archaeological Assessment (HEA) was previously prepared which covers the whole area of the site (MOLA 2014b). This document should be referred to for information on the natural geology, archaeological and historical background of the site (and the initial assessment of its archaeological potential).
- 1.1.5 Field evaluation was carried out by MOLA in June 2014 and an Evaluation Report was written on the results (MOLA 2014c).
- 1.1.6 Further to the condition on Planning Consent, a Written Scheme of Investigation for a watching brief was prepared (MOLA 2014a). All archaeological work has been carried out in accordance with that WSI.

1.2 Planning background

- 1.2.1 The legislative and planning framework in which the watching brief took place was fully set out in the HEA (see Section 10, MOLA 2014b).
- 1.2.2 The watching brief was carried out to fulfil a condition attached to the Planning Consent given by the Local Authority (14/03879/FULL Condition 19).

1.3 Scope of the watching brief

- 1.3.1 An archaeological watching brief is normally a limited fieldwork exercise. It is not the same as full excavation, though individual features may be fully excavated.
- 1.3.2 The watching brief was located in the west courtyard behind the current building and to the east in front of the current building. No work was carried out within the current building due to the presence of existing basements.
- 1.3.3 The watching brief was carried out within the terms of the relevant Standard for watching brief specified by the Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA, 2014).
- 1.3.4 All work has been undertaken within the research priorities established in the Museum of London's A research framework for London Archaeology, 2002. All work was undertaken within research aims and objectives established in the Written

Scheme of Investigation for the watching brief (Section 2.2), where the following broad questions were outlined:

- What are the earliest deposits identified?
- Is there any evidence relating to the prehistoric foreshore preserved by the palaeoenvironmental remains?
- What does the palaeoenvironmental data as well as useful data about the regional environment?
- Do any remains associated with Whitehall Palace survive on site?
- Is there any evidence of the 18th/19th century river wall?
- What is the eastern extent of land reclamation during the post-medieval period within the site?
- What are the latest deposits identified?
- What is the extent of modern disturbance?

2 Topographical and historical background

2.1.1 A detailed description of the geology, archaeology and history of the site was provided in the earlier Archaeological desk-based assessment (MOLA 2014b).

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The natural topography of the area is dominated by the former floodplain of the Thames and its tributaries: the site is located at the confluence of one such tributary, the Tyburn, and the Thames. The natural topography of the deep and ancient channel is however entirely obscured by historic and modern development which has reclaimed the area and built the ground up.

2.2.2 Geotechnical and archaeological investigations in the vicinity have found river alluvium of the Thames and Tyburn, above terrace gravel, indicating that fluvial action of the ancient Tyburn has not entirely eroded out the gravels down to the underlying London Clay, as suggested by the BGS data.

2.3 Archaeology

2.3.1 During the archaeological evaluation in 2014 (MOLA 2014c), a few post-medieval date features of low significance were recorded. No evidence was found relating to the river stairs belonging to the extensive Tudor Whitehall Palace to the west or any remains of the subsequent 18th-19th century river wall.

2.3.2 The results of the evaluation suggest that until the late 18th-century, (see front cover), the site was located on the Thames foreshore, with the Tudor river wall being located somewhere to the west. The evidence demonstrates that the riverside was subsequently reclaimed by extending the land eastwards, out into the river.

2.3.3 Palaeoenvironmental deposits of clay and peat were recorded in a series of geoarchaeological boreholes, though these were not found to contain any prehistoric material associated with the earlier foreshore. These deposits are currently being looked at and the results will be reported in a forthcoming post excavation assessment.

3 The watching brief

3.1 Field methodology

- 3.1.1 A series of machine dug trenches for new pile locations were observed and recorded by MOLA between 07/02/15 and 01/04/15. In total 22 trenches were recorded, 4 (W1–W4) were located in the western courtyard and 18 (E1– E18) were located to the east of the current building.
- 3.1.2 Trench locations were plotted on plans provided by the client using an ‘offset methodology’ and subsequently tied to the OS grid by MOLA Geomatics.

3.2 Recording methodology

- 3.2.1 All recording was carried out in accordance with the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (MOLA 2014a) and the *Archaeological Site Manual* (MOL 1994).

3.3 Site archive

Number of overall location plans	2
Number of Context sheets	25
Number of photographs	30 (digital)
Number of Sections	2
Number of Sketch Sections	8 sheets

4 Results of the watching brief

For trench locations see *Fig 2*

4.1 Trench W1

Location	west courtyard
Dimensions	1.0m N/S by 3.0 m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	3.0m OD
Base of modern deposits	2.60m OD
Depth of deposits	>2.60m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	0.0m OD

- 4.1.1 The only deposit in this trench was [20], a dump of demolition material that continued below the base of the trench. This was dated by pottery to 1770-1800 and included a clay tobacco pipe dated c 1660–80.



Trench W1 looking west

4.2 Trench W2

Location	west courtyard
Dimensions	1.60m N/S by 4.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	3.0m OD
Base of modern deposits	2.40m OD
Depth of deposits	>2.40m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	0.0m OD

4.2.1 See *Fig 3*

4.2.2 There was a dump of demolition material [22], that was similar to [20] found further to the south in Trench W1. This was overlain by another dump [21] that became thicker towards to the east.

4.3 Trench W3

Location	west courtyard
Dimensions	1.70m N/S by 4.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	3.0m OD
Base of modern deposits	2.55m OD
Depth of deposits	>2.55m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	0.0m OD

4.3.1 At the base of the trench there was a gravelly deposit [24] with brick fragments that may be a foreshore deposit. This was overlain by a dump of demolition material [23] that included a rare fragment of decorated Tudor terracotta <9> (see finds) and some pottery dated 1660-1846 suggesting a very mixed deposit.



Tudor Terracotta fragment

4.4 Trench W4

Location	west courtyard
Dimensions	1.60m N/S by 4.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	3.0m OD
Base of modern deposits	1.55m OD
Depth of deposits	>1.55m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	0.0m OD

4.4.1 The only deposit in this trench was a clayey silt [25] with brick and tile fragments, that continued below the base of the trench.



Trench W4 looking north

4.5 Trench E1

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.20m OD
Depth of deposits	2.40m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.5.1 The only deposit found in this trench was a light brown silt whose total lack of any inclusions such as bricks suggests this was a modern deposit that had been screened to remove any inclusions. Consequentially this was not contexted. This continued beyond the base of the trench.

4.6 Trench E2

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.20m OD
Depth of deposits	2.40m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.6.1 The only deposit found in this trench was a grey brown silt, this was a modern deposit that had been screened to remove any inclusions. Consequentially this was not contexted. This continued beyond the base of the trench

4.7 Trench E3

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.20m OD
Depth of deposits	2.40m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.7.1 The only deposit found in this trench was a brown silt, this was a modern deposit that had been screened to remove any inclusions. Consequentially this was not contexted. This continued beyond the base of the trench.

4.8 Trench E4 and E5

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	3.30m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3/0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	3.30m OD

Depth of deposits	1.50m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.8.1 These two trenches were dug as one and beneath almost 2.0m of disturbance associated with a modern drain the only deposit was [43] a silt that included brick and mortar fragments. This continued beyond the base of the trench.

4.9 Trench E6

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.30m OD
Depth of deposits	2.50m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.9.1 A demolition dump [30] at 3.50m OD that included stone fragments continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by another dump [29]. Both are fairly modern ground raising dumps.

4.10 Trench E7

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.30m OD
Depth of deposits	2.50m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.10.1 See *Fig 4*
- 4.10.2 The lowest deposit [33] was an orange grave with brick fragments that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a ground raising dumps [32] and [31]; the latter is dated by finds to the mid-late 19th century.



Trench E7 looking south west

4.11 Trench E8

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.30m OD
Depth of deposits	2.50m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.11.1 The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [36] that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a dump [35] that comprised large fragments of slate that were too thick for roofing but were possibly debris from architectural work. This was overlain by [34] which was a deposit of brown clay and yellow sand.

4.12 Trench E9

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.30m OD

Depth of deposits	2.50m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.12.1 The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [38] that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a deposit [37] that lacked any obvious inclusions so may be a modern screened deposit.



Trench E9 looking west

4.13 Trench E10

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.60m m OD
Depth of deposits	2.70m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.13.1 The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [28] that included masonry fragments and pottery dating to the mid-late 19th century. This deposit continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by [27] a sand and gravel deposit [27], which was overlain by a further ground raising deposit [26].

4.14 Trench E11

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD

Base of modern deposits	4.10m OD
Depth of deposits	2.70m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

4.14.1 The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [45] that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a yellow sandy clay deposit [44].



Trench E11 looking south west

4.15 Trench E12

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m NW-SE by 1.0m SW-NE by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.00m OD
Depth of deposits	2.20m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

4.15.1 See *Fig 5*

4.15.2 The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [40] with masonry fragments that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a dump [39].



Trench E12 looking north east

4.16 Trench E13

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m NW-SE by 1.0m SW-NE by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.00m OD
Depth of deposits	2.20m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.16.1 The sequence was exactly the same as in trench E12. The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [40] with masonry fragments that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a silty dump with brick rubble [39].

4.17 Trench E14

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	1.0m N/S by 2.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD

Base of modern deposits	3.80m OD
Depth of deposits	2.00m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.17.1 The archaeological sequence was exactly the same as in trench E12 and E13. The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [40] with masonry fragments that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a silty dump with brick rubble [39].

4.18 Trench E15

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m NW-SE by 1.0m SW-NE by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	3.80m OD
Depth of deposits	2.00m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.18.1 The archaeological sequence was exactly the same as in trench E12, E13 and E14. The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [40] with masonry fragments that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a silty dump with brick rubble [39].

4.19 Trench E16

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	1.0m N/S by 2.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.00m OD
Depth of deposits	2.20m OD
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.19.1 See *Fig 6*
- 4.19.2 The archaeological sequence was slightly different the lowest deposit was a silty dump with brick rubble [41] that continued beyond the base of the trench. Then was overlain by the same sequence of [40] and then dump [39].



Trench E16 looking north

4.20 Trench E17

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	3.20m OD
Depth of deposits	1.40m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.20.1 The archaeological sequence was exactly the same as in trench E12, E13 and E14. The lowest deposit was a ground raising dump [40] with masonry fragments that continued beyond the base of the trench. This was overlain by a silty dump with brick rubble [39] that includes a clay tobacco pipe dated to c 1740–1800.

4.21 Trench E18

Location	east courtyard
Dimensions	2.0m N/S by 1.0m E/W by 3.0m deep
Modern ground level/slab	4.80m OD
Base of modern deposits	4.00m OD
Depth of deposits	2.20m
Top of surviving natural	Not reached
Level of base of trench	1.80m OD

- 4.21.1 See *Fig 7*

- 4.21.2 The lowest deposit was a loose silty dump [42] that may have been a garden soil

dump. This was overlain by dump [41] and then by dump [40].

4.22 The finds

4.22.1 Ceramic Building material - Tudor terracotta moulding

Ian Betts

- 4.22.2 A remarkable piece of terracotta moulding was recovered from dumped demolition material (context [23] <9>). This is made from cream and orange fired clay. The moulding comprises a flat base with small decorative elements. Larger hand-moulded decoration was fixed separately. The latter has what may be scales suggesting it may be a dragon or similar beast. The surviving area could be part of a tail or the base of a leg with a hoof. The background and smaller decorative elements are covered with fine combing. Next to the tail/leg is a small 8mm diameter hole situated near the edge. This edge has the remains of a textile impression. There are small areas remaining of what is almost certainly paint. The flat combed background has traces of dark red paint whilst the tail/leg may have been pale blue.
- 4.22.3 There is only three pieces of terracotta known from Britain which are even remotely similar. These all came from Richmond Palace in Surrey (Smith 2001, 36-38). Although the decoration is very different, they show two pairs of centrally ribbed leaves springing from ribbed stalks, these too have holes and painted decoration. The three Richmond Palace examples, all identical, would each have had three round holes which Smith (2001, 38) believes were added to facilitate firing. As the moulds are relatively thin this would seem unnecessary, instead it is far more likely they were added to allow each moulding to be attached in some way. Smith suggests the Richmond Palace examples were set internally, decorating a screen or set horizontally in a decorative ceiling. The fine detail on the Curtis Green example suggests this too was set internally. The Richmond place tiles have the remains of blue paint, whilst some of the terracotta from St John's Clerkenwell, London has the remains of red, white and yellow paint.
- 4.22.4 The Curtis Green and Richmond Palace pieces are clearly the products of the same group of terracotta manufacturers which, as such pieces are unknown elsewhere, were probably based either in London or located somewhere close by. They represent a brief fashion during the period c 1515-1540 among the nouveau riche in south-eastern England and East Anglia to adorn their houses, both internally and externally, with decorative terracotta (Smith and Watson 2014, 120). The most likely building near the Curtis Green site to have installed such elaborative decoration was Henry VIII's Whitehall Palace.
- 4.22.5 **Post-medieval Pottery**
- Nigel Jefferies
- 4.22.6 The post-medieval pottery was found in four contexts and comprised 21 sherds (from 20 vessels, 1193g).
- 4.22.7 Context [20] yielded a small selection of tea and hygiene wares dated c 1770–1800 and includes the profile of a Chinese porcelain teabowl with a *café-au-lait* glaze and the painted mark of a fish on the external base and a lotus leaf decorating the internal. The two sherds of creamware (CREA) in this deposit are of the teabowl and chamber pot form and are common to the last quarter of the 18th century. This context also contained the earliest dated pottery vessel: the upper profile of a

London slipped red ware with yellow glaze (PMSRY) carinated bowl of the late 16th to 17th century but which is presumed residual.

4.22.8 The London made tin-glazed ware with plain pale blue glaze (TGW BLUE: c 1660–1846) chamber pot, however, identifies [23] as potentially the earliest dated post-medieval landuse.

4.22.9 Otherwise the remaining two contexts [28] and [31] comprised several sherds each of factory made pottery manufactured in the Midlands and north of England during the mid- to late 19th century. Refined whitewares with blue-transfer printed decoration (TPW2) largely feature with marbled, Asiatic pheasants and Albion designs identified. A candlestick in dye-bodied refined earthenware (DYE) with a sage coloured glaze and delicate over-glazed polychrome floral sprigs in [28] provides the standout vessel in these two deposits.

4.22.10 **The clay pipes**

Jacqui Pearce

4.22.11 Two clay pipe bowls were recorded, one each from contexts [20] and [39]. They were identified according to Atkinson and Oswald's 1969 typology for London clay pipes (given the prefix AO). Recording follows current MOLA procedure, with the data entered onto the Oracle database. Neither pipe is decorated.

4.22.12 The earlier of the two pipes comes from context [20], a type AO13 bowl datable to c 1660–80. The other pipe is later, and dates context [39] to c 1740–1800. This is a distinctive type AO26 bowl, with its characteristic long, forward-pointing spur. It has been marked by the maker with a small raised dot, moulded in relief on each side of the spur. Unfortunately, it is impossible to relate this mark to any known pipe maker. No clay pipe stem fragments or mouthpieces were collected.

4.23 **Conclusions**

4.23.1 In the west courtyard trenches W1–W4 revealed only dumped deposits that are probably all 18/19th century date. These were probably brought onto the site to build up/reclaim the ground behind the north-south river wall indicated on the Horwood 1799 map. There is also a rare fragment of Tudor decorated terracotta recovered from one dump that must have come from the demolition of the nearby Whitehall Palace and being incorporated with the later material.

4.23.2 To the east, where the ground level was 1.80m higher at c 4.80m OD, trenches E1–18 revealed dumped deposits that are early to mid-19th century in date having been brought onto the site to build up/reclaim the ground during construction of the Victoria Embankment to the east of the site between 1864 and 1870. There were also significant deposits of (referred to as 'screened' deposits) that are 20th century in date that are probably associated with the building of the Curtis Green building in the late 1930's.

5 Archaeological potential

5.1 Answering original research aims

5.1.1 Only the following research questions are relevant to the watching brief and can be answered;

- *Do any remains associated with Whitehall Palace survive on site?*

No, the site appears to be too far east for the Tudor Palace but a rare fragment of Tudor decorated terracotta was found in a dump and must be from the Palace.

- *Is there any evidence of the 18th/19th century river wall?*

No evidence for the river wall, according to the Horwood map of 1799, this wall was probably in the basemented area of the site.

- *What is the eastern extent of land reclamation during the post-medieval period within the site?*

The whole area appears to have been reclaimed in the 19th century during construction of the Victoria embankment (1864-70).

- *What are the latest deposits identified?*

The latest deposits identified are mid to late-19th century in date.

- *What is the extent of modern disturbance?*

Many of the trenches to the east have screened deposits that are probably 20th century in date and associated with the construction of the Curtis Green building in the late 1930's.

5.2 Answering new research aims

5.2.1 The watching brief has not identified any new research aims.

5.3 Significance of the data

5.3.1 Whilst the archaeological remains are demolition and ground raising dumps and are only of local significance; there is nothing to suggest that they are of regional or national importance.

5.3.2 The one exception is probably the fragment of Tudor decorated terracotta, its rarity and provenance are probably of regional importance.

6 Publication and archiving

- 6.1.1 The results of the watching brief will be made publicly available by means of a database in digital form, to permit inclusion of the site data in any future academic researches into the development of this area of Westminster and the Thames riverside.
- 6.1.2 The site archive containing original records and finds will be stored in accordance with the terms of the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (MOLA 2014a) with the Museum of London Archaeological Archive (LAARC) within 12 months of the end of the watching brief.
- 6.1.3 In view of the limited potential of the material (Sections 5) and the relatively limited significance of the data (Section 5.3) it is suggested that only a short note on the results of the watching brief should appear in the annual round up of the *London Archaeologist*.

7 Acknowledgements

- 7.1.1 The author would like to thank the following for their contributions and help in producing this report: Mark Burch (geomatics), also Gavin Pantlin, Project Manager, BAM Construction Ltd and all the site managers at BAM for their assistance during the watching brief.

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Fig 2 Areas of investigation

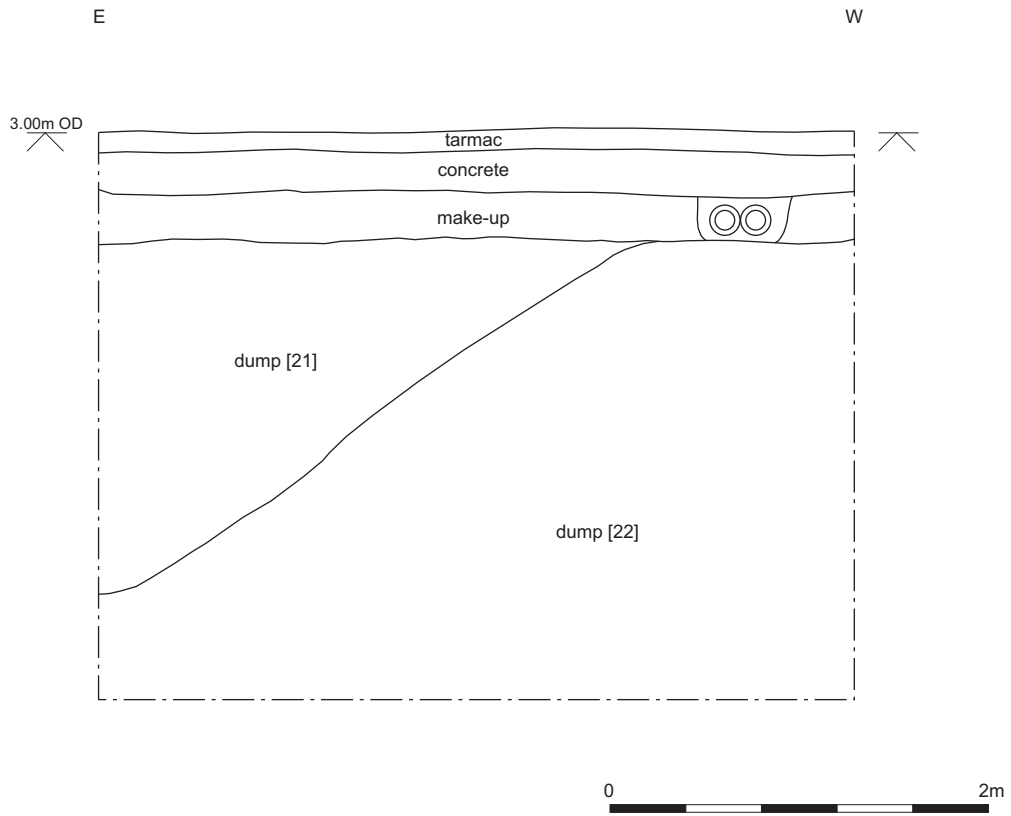


Fig 3 Trench W2

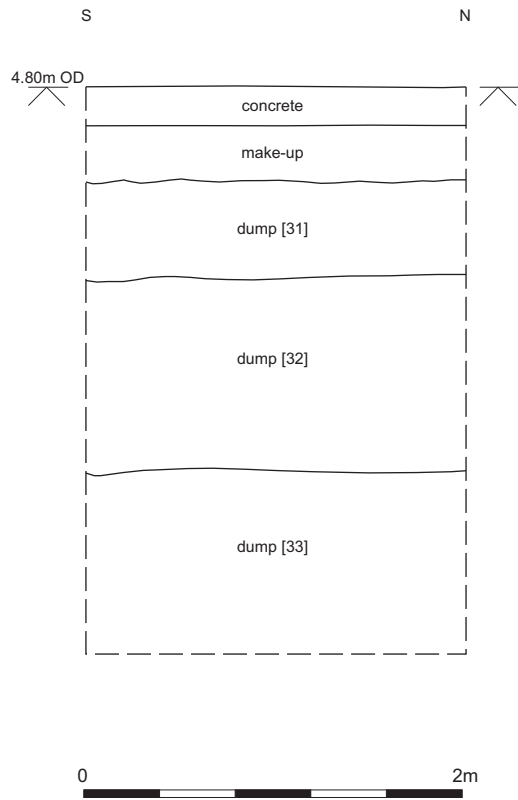


Fig 4 Trench E7

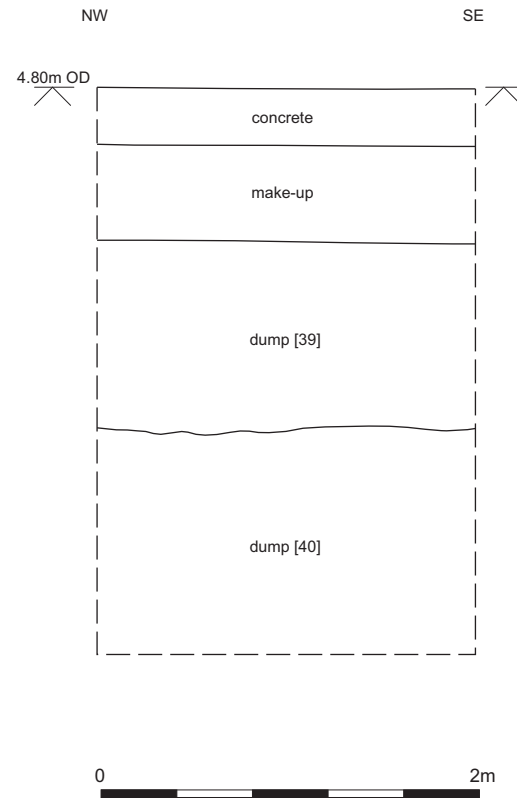


Fig 5 Trench E12

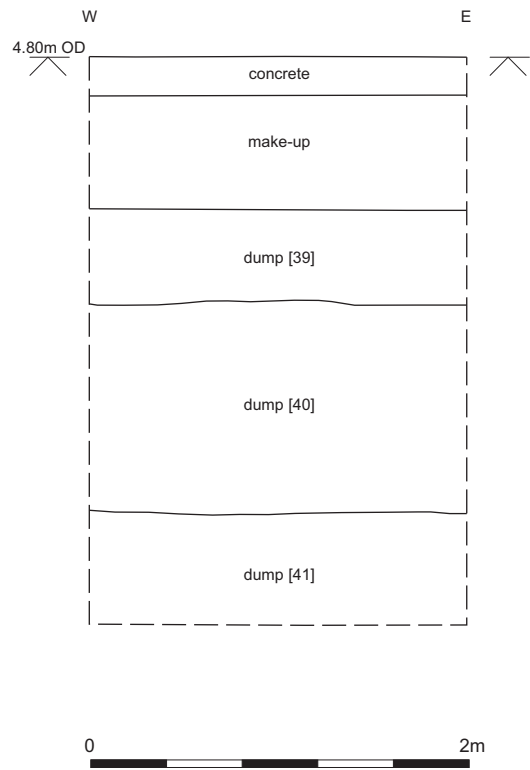


Fig 6 Trench E16

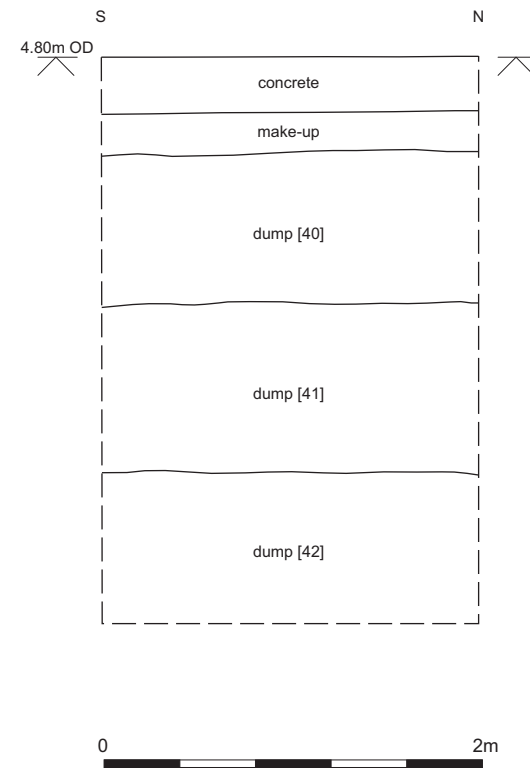


Fig 7 Trench E18

9 OASIS archaeological report form

OASIS ID: molas1-213358

Project details

Project name	Curtis Green Building, London SW1
Short description of the project	Following an earlier evaluation (OASIS molas1-186194) a watching brief was carried out on a series of pile probing trenches (W1-4) and (E1-18). Apart from a possible foreshore deposit in one trench, natural ground was not reached. Deposits recorded to the west were 18/19th century in date and were probably brought onto the site to build up the ground behind the north-south river wall indicated on the Horwood 1799 map. Deposits to the east were mid to late-19th century in date and were probably associated with the construction of the Victoria Embankment (1864-1870) further to the east. There were also some 20th century deposits that are probably associated with the building of the Curtis Green building in the late 1930's. A rare fragment of Tudor decorated terracotta was recovered and probably comes from the nearby Tudor palace of Westminster
Project dates	Start: 07-02-2015 End: 01-04-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	VRE14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	molas1-186194 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 2 - Offices
Monument type	WATERFRONT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TERRACOTTA Tudor
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF WESTMINSTER WESTMINSTER Curtis Green Building
Postcode	SW1
Study area	2464.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 30285 79870 51.5022311895 -0.122690795779 51 30 08 N 000 07

21 W Point**Project creators**

Name of Organisation	MOLA
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	MOLA
Project director/manager	Stewart Hoad
Project supervisor	Tony Mackinder
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	BAM Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive ID	VRE14
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	VRE14
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	VRE14

Project bibliography

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Curtis Green Building
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mackinder, T
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	MOLA
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	A4 client report with figs

Entered by	Tony Mackinder (tmackinder@mola.org.uk)
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Entered on

8 June 2015