

**IBIS HOTEL EXTENSION  
43-47 Southwark Bridge Road  
London  
SE1 9HH**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

December 2017



**IBIS HOTEL EXTENSION  
43-47 Southwark Bridge Road  
London  
SE1 9HH**

Site Code IBH17  
NGR 532350 180235  
OASIS reference molas1-302674

Planning reference 17/AP/3035  
Condition Number N/A

Report on archaeological evaluation

**Sign-off history:**

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1	12.12.17	Tony Mackinder (senior archaeologist)	Derek Seeley (project manager)	First issue
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 **MOLA**

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# Summary

*This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by MOLA at Ibis hotel extension, 43-47 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1. The report was commissioned from MOLA by CgMs behalf of the client Accor Hotels.*

*In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (MOLA dated 18/10/17) two evaluation trenches were excavated on the site between 20 and 23 November 2017.*

*Natural was not reached. There was just over 2.0m of modern deposits that date from redevelopment of the site in the late 1980s. Modern services meant only one trench was investigated.*

*In trench 2 there was a large brick foundation that was possibly the base for machinery associated with the Anchor Brewery that occupied the site from the late 19th to the early 20th centuries.*

*Based on this evaluation and the results of the nearby SUB00 evaluation, the report concludes earlier deep cut features may survive beneath the 19th century basements and may be impacted by the redevelopment but that it is highly unlikely that any early land surfaces from the prehistoric and later periods will survive. The impacts will be limited to new piles as any new pile caps and ground beams will probably be within the 2.0m of modern deposits.*

*The development site is located entirely within the former 19th century brewery basements suggesting the potential for archaeological survival is very low and thus the impact of the redevelopment also very low.*

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Site background

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was carried out by MOLA at Ibis Hotel Extension 43-47 Southwark Bridge Road London SE1 ('the site') between 20-23/11/17 (see Fig 1). This document is the Report on that work.
- 1.1.2 The site comprises the rear area of the Ibis Hotel, 43-47 Southwark Bridge Road in the London Borough of Southwark. The site is bounded by the existing Ibis Hotel to the north, the hotel and 49 Southwark Bridge Road to the west, a Novotel Hotel building to the south, properties fronting Maiden Lane to the east. The centre of the site lies at National Grid reference 532350 180235. The site is currently occupied by a car parking area to the rear of the Ibis and Novotel Hotels. Modern pavement level near to the site lies at c 3.5m to 4m OD.
- 1.1.3 The site is currently located in the London Borough of Southwark's Borough, Bermondsey and Riverside Archaeological Priority Zone which incorporates the Roman and medieval settlement and the historic settlement areas of Bankside, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe. Archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods have previously been recorded in the vicinity of the site. A previous evaluation and work on the site (site code SUB00) was carried out in 2000-2001 and recorded cut features including a Roman ditch, two Roman pits and a post-medieval pit at the north of the site.

## 1.2 Planning background

- 1.2.1 The legislative and planning framework in which the evaluation took place was fully set out in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* which formed the project design for the evaluation (see Section 1.2, MOLA 2017).
- 1.2.2 The evaluation was carried following a planning application that was submitted 04/08/2017 with the Local Planning Authority (planning reference 17/AP/3035) which has yet to be decided.
- 1.2.3 The results of the evaluation will inform the construction design and allow the Project Team and Local Planning Authority to identify an appropriate mitigation strategy for any archaeological remains that would be affected by the development.

## 1.3 Scope of the evaluation

- 1.3.1 Evaluation is defined by Historic England as intended to provide information about the archaeological resource in order to contribute to the:
- formulation of an appropriate response or mitigation strategy to planning applications or other proposals which may adversely affect such archaeological remains, or enhance them; and/or
  - formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigations within a programme of research
- 1.3.2 An archaeological evaluation is a limited fieldwork exercise designed to test the conclusions of preliminary desk based work. It is not the same as full excavation.
- 1.3.3 The evaluation was carried out within the terms of the relevant Standard for evaluation specified by the Chartered 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.

- 1.3.5 All work was undertaken within research aims and objectives established in the Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation (Section 2, MOLA 2017)

## 2 Topographical and historical background

### 2.1 Topography

- 2.1.1 The site is located on the south bank of River Thames in an area where there was formerly a series of low-lying sand and gravel islands (eyots) in the prehistoric and early Roman period. The eyots were separated by channels and wider expanses of water, with mudflats exposed at low tide. The site is located near the north-west edge of the northernmost of two principal eyots, sometimes known as the Bridgehead Island. Geotechnical and archaeological works in the site vicinity indicate high points for the surface of the eyots at approximately 1.30m OD. Previous evaluation at the site (see below) recorded natural sand deposits at between 0.30m OD to 1.14m OD. British Geological Society mapping indicates the site lies on alluvium at the north and gravel at the south suggesting the site lies on the edge of the eyot.

### 2.2 Archaeological background

#### *Prehistoric*

- 2.2.1 In the prehistoric period, the site was located within the Bankside Channel. Nearby excavation of the former Courage's Brewery site recovered a range of prehistoric material from the Neolithic to the Iron Age, including evidence for the use of the Thames foreshore for hunting and fishing activities.

#### *Roman*

- 2.2.2 During the early Roman period, the site was thought to be located to the south of the Bankside Channel on the eyot as a result of falling river levels and land reclamation, the settlement expanded and by the later 2nd century AD, it lay on the north-western edge of the Bridgehead Island. Evidence for Roman buildings (of clay and timber and later masonry construction) and industrial activity has been recorded in the area. Additionally timber waterfront revetments are thought to be located in the site vicinity following the edge of the eyot. The Roman City Map shows a revetment crossing the site in a rough east-west alignment and a possible road to the south.

#### *Medieval*

- 2.2.3 Evidence for the early medieval (Saxon) occupation of north Southwark is less well documented than that for the Saxon settlements of Lundenwic and Lunden burgh on the north side of the river. In the immediate vicinity of the site, evidence is limited to dark earth deposits representing the abandonment of former urban areas.
- 2.2.4 The later medieval settlement was concentrated around the southern bridgehead of London Bridge, rebuilt in stone in 1176. An early reference to Southwark in Domesday Book (1086) describes a 'Monasterium' in 'Sudwerce', thought to be the site of Southwark Cathedral. The Priory Church of St Mary Overie, built on the cathedral site in 1106 by the Augustinian Canons, replaced an earlier 9th century church.
- 2.2.5 Important clerics locate their townhouses in Southwark and by the early 14th century, nine prelates had residences in Southwark, including Winchester Palace to the north-east of the site and the town house of the Abbots of Waverley to the west.
- 2.2.6 Numerous inns also developed from the 14th century that profited from the passing travellers and traders. Activities flourished in Southwark that were not tolerated within the City, such as limeburning, tanning and prostitution. During the 15th

century, the brewing industry grew and other activities requiring large quantities of water, such as fulling and dying also became established.

### *Post-medieval*

- 2.2.7 During the post-medieval period, Southwark expanded rapidly, with the main settlement becoming an area of densely packed houses and tenements. Faithorne and Newcourt's map of 1658 gives an overview of the location of the site in relation to the early post-medieval settlement on the south side of the Thames. The area is shown as housing areas of formal gardens and orchards to the rear of large properties lining the precursor to Park Street. The site of the Globe Theatre is c 100m to the north. The site is shown located in a garden or orchard at this date.
- 2.2.8 On Morgan's map of 1682 the immediate area has become more built up and the site is shown in an open area to the rear of properties with adjoining yards/gardens fronting Castle Street (modern Thrale Street). Rocque's map of 1746 places the site mainly in a tenter ground. A burial ground (Deadman Place Burial Ground) is shown to the north of the site. By the time of Horwood's map of 1799, the site has been developed in the north-east corner. The Ordnance Survey maps of 1873 and 1914 show the site occupied by buildings in the southern part of the Anchor Brewery. Extensive cellars associated with the brewery are shown on plans in the site area and previous excavation on the site (see below) indicates deep areas of modern made ground suggesting these cellars were backfilled after the brewery went out of use.
- 2.2.9 The WWII Bomb Damage map for the area (London Topographic Society 2005, map 76) shows the site as avoiding bomb damage or some areas localised areas receiving minor blast damage.

### *Previous archaeological investigation of the hotel site – Site code SUB00*

- 2.2.10 Excavation of two evaluation trenches, measuring 12m by 10m from ground level to reveal were undertaken to investigate any archaeological remains on the site, primarily prehistoric alluvial deposits and the Roman occupation, and to reveal the level of truncation by 19th- century cellars of the former brewery. The location of these evaluation trenches is shown on Fig 2.
- 2.2.11 Within evaluation Trench 1 was a sequence of prehistoric alluvial deposits. One such deposit contained pieces of fire-cracked flint indicating the presence of prehistoric activity on the higher drier ground of this island. A north-west-south-east aligned ditch was cut by two Roman pits. The ditch contained numerous finds of Roman pottery, building material and animal bone. A find of note was a small lead miniature "mattock" which may have been deposited within the ditch as a votive offering. A near complete ceramic bowl was also recovered from the ditch (placed or thrown upside-down). An 18th-century pit truncated the Roman deposits. The trench was horizontally truncated by 19th-century brewery cellars to 1.2m OD.
- 2.2.12 Trench 2 had a similar horizontal truncation, however further modern truncations meant no archaeological deposits survived, although natural sands survived to 1.14m OD in part of the trench. Post-medieval pottery was recovered from the backfill of the modern truncations
- 2.2.13 A watching brief in the form of an auger hole survey was carried out after evaluation of the site. Sediments recorded have shown that a pronounced slope existed in the foreshore at the northern edge of the Northern Island, in this location. This would have been quite dramatic in the prehistoric period, especially to the north of auger holes 2 and 9 where the ground fell sharply away into the Bankside Channel. However, as a result of the deposition of tidal river mud in the mid to later Holocene the land surface levelled-up so that the marshy soil inferred from auger holes 4 and 5 at roughly 1.5m OD was likely to have existed across much of the site. The extent



of modern truncation was also found to be much more extensive than was formerly thought, especially in the north-west part of the area (auger holes 1 and 8).

## 3 Evaluation methodology

### 3.1 Field methodology

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- 3.1.1 Two evaluation trenches were excavated using a tracked JCB excavator.
- 3.1.2 The car park slab was broken out and cleared by contractors under MOLA supervision.
- 3.1.3 Archaeological excavation was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (MOLA 2017)
- 3.1.4 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

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- 3.2.1 A written and drawn record of all archaeological deposits encountered was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (MOLA 2017).

### 3.3 Site archive

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Number of trench record sheets	2
Number of overall location plans	1
Number of Context (SU) sheets	0
Number of photographs	13
Number of Plan sheets	0
Number of Sections	0

## 4 Results of the evaluation

For trench locations see *Fig 2*.

### 4.1 Trench 1

Location	Car park (south)
Dimensions	2.50m E/W x 1.90m N/S x 1.10m deep
Modern ground level/top of slab	c 3.50m OD
Depth of modern deposits	0.10m tarmac plus 0.30m make-up
Depth of archaeological stratigraphy above natural (if any)	N/A
Level of base of lowest features or deposits observed	c 2.40m OD
Top of surviving natural observed at	N/A
Level of base of trench	c 2.40m OD

- 4.1.1 The modern tarmac and make-up for the car park was removed. Beneath this was a modern deposit of pink stone chippings and machine excavation started. A modern plastic duct was encountered at 1.10m below ground level at c 2.40m OD. As this probably contained live services and ran across the trench, no further excavation was possible. Based on previous the evaluation in 2000 (SUB00) and results from the current trench 2 it seems highly likely the modern pink deposits will be c 2.00m thick.

### 4.2 Trench 2

Location	Car park (north)
Dimensions	2.0m E/W x 1.90m N/S x 3.10m deep
Modern ground level/top of slab	c 3.50m OD
Depth of modern deposits	0.10m tarmac plus 0.30m make-up
Depth of archaeological stratigraphy above natural (if any)	N/A
Level of base of lowest features or deposits observed	c 0.40m OD
Top of surviving natural observed at	N/A
Level of base of trench	c 0.40m OD

- 4.2.1 The modern tarmac and make-up for the car park was removed. Beneath this was a modern deposit of pink stone chippings (similar to that in trench 1) and machine excavation started. At c 1.20m OD (2.30m bgl) there was a red and yellow brick foundation that probably is part of the 19th century brewery. The Goad insurance plan shows basements in this area. The brickwork was over a concrete slab at c 0.40m OD which was not removed but its northern edge running east-west was visible just within the trench limits. An iron girder running north-south was visible within the brickwork showing this foundation was reinforced and was possibly the base for machinery.

## 4.3 The finds

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No finds were recovered during the evaluation.

## 4.4 The site as a whole

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- 4.4.1 Apart from the post-medieval brick and concrete foundation found in trench 2 that dates to the 19th-20th century brewery, no deposits were found. Trench 1 was abandoned due to a service duct being found at 1.10m bgl and all other possible locations also had live services. There was about 2.30m depth of modern deposits that date to the late 1980's redevelopment of the site as the Southwark Bridge Office Village (Business Park). This evaluation confirms what was found in the SUB00 evaluation and watching brief when the Ibis and Novotel Hotels were constructed c 2001. It appears any archaeology above c 1.20m OD was removed in the two previous redevelopment of the site. However, there is the possibility that deep cut features such as the Roman ditch found in trench 1 of SUB00 could survive in places, but will be truncated by the basements of the 19th century brewery.
- 4.4.2 Although natural deposits were not found in this evaluation, they were in SUB00 with alluvial deposits at 0.68m OD (trench 1) and sands at 1.14m OD (trench 2). So it seems likely trench 2 is located over natural channel deposits in the so called Bankside Channel which could explain the depth of the foundation found.

## 5 Archaeological potential

### 5.1 Answering original research aims

- 5.1.1 The primary objective of the evaluation is to confirm the extent, nature and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits or structures in the car park.
- 5.1.2 The assessment of significance of any surviving remains is undertaken in the context of the wider archaeological research priorities for London. These are set out in the Museum of London's 'A research framework for Greater London' (MOL 2002).
- 5.1.3 A number of broad objectives and research questions were identified for this evaluation:

- *What is the nature and level of natural topography?*

Unknown as not seen, however at SUB00 there were alluvial deposits at 0.68m OD (trench 1) and sands at 1.14m OD (trench 2).

- *What are the earliest deposits identified?*

Not applicable.

- *Is there any evidence of Roman activity on the site?*

Not applicable.

- *Is there any evidence of post-medieval activity on the site?*

There was an east-west 19th century brick foundation that was probably part of the brewery known to be on the site.

- *What are the latest deposits identified?*

See above.

- *What is the extent of modern disturbance?*

There was 2.30m of modern deposits above the brick foundation down to c 1.20m OD.

### 5.2 General discussion of potential

- 5.2.1 The evaluation has shown that the potential for survival of ancient ground surfaces (horizontal archaeological stratification above natural ground) on the site is probably nil.
- 5.2.2 There is potential for survival of deep cut features such as the Roman ditch seen in trench 1 at SUB00 evaluation. This will depend on the beneath the truncation caused by any basements relating to the 19th century brewery.

## 5.3 Significance

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- 5.3.1 Whilst the archaeological remains are of local significance there is nothing to suggest that they are of regional or national importance.

## 5.4 Assessment of the evaluation

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- 5.4.1 By comparing the results and levels with those from the SUB00 evaluation, there is a high level of confidence in the results of this evaluation to provide the basis of a mitigation strategy for the site.

## 6 Proposed development impact and conclusions

- 6.1.1 Taking into account the results of the evaluation and those from SUB00, it appears that any archaeological remains that survive the 19th century basements will be deep cut features.
- 6.1.2 The proposed redevelopment at the site involves a three-storey rear extension comprised of two floors of additional hotel guest bedroom accommodation raised up on columns at ground-level. The impact of this on any surviving archaeological remains will be limited to the new pile locations, as any pile caps or ground beams will be in the 2.0m of modern deposits from the late 1980s.

## 7 Acknowledgements

- 7.1.1 The author would like to thank GEH Groundworks specialists Ltd, Richard von Kalinowski-Meager (CgMS) who commissioned this work and Gillian King (Senior Planning Officer Southwark) who monitored the work for the Local Authority.



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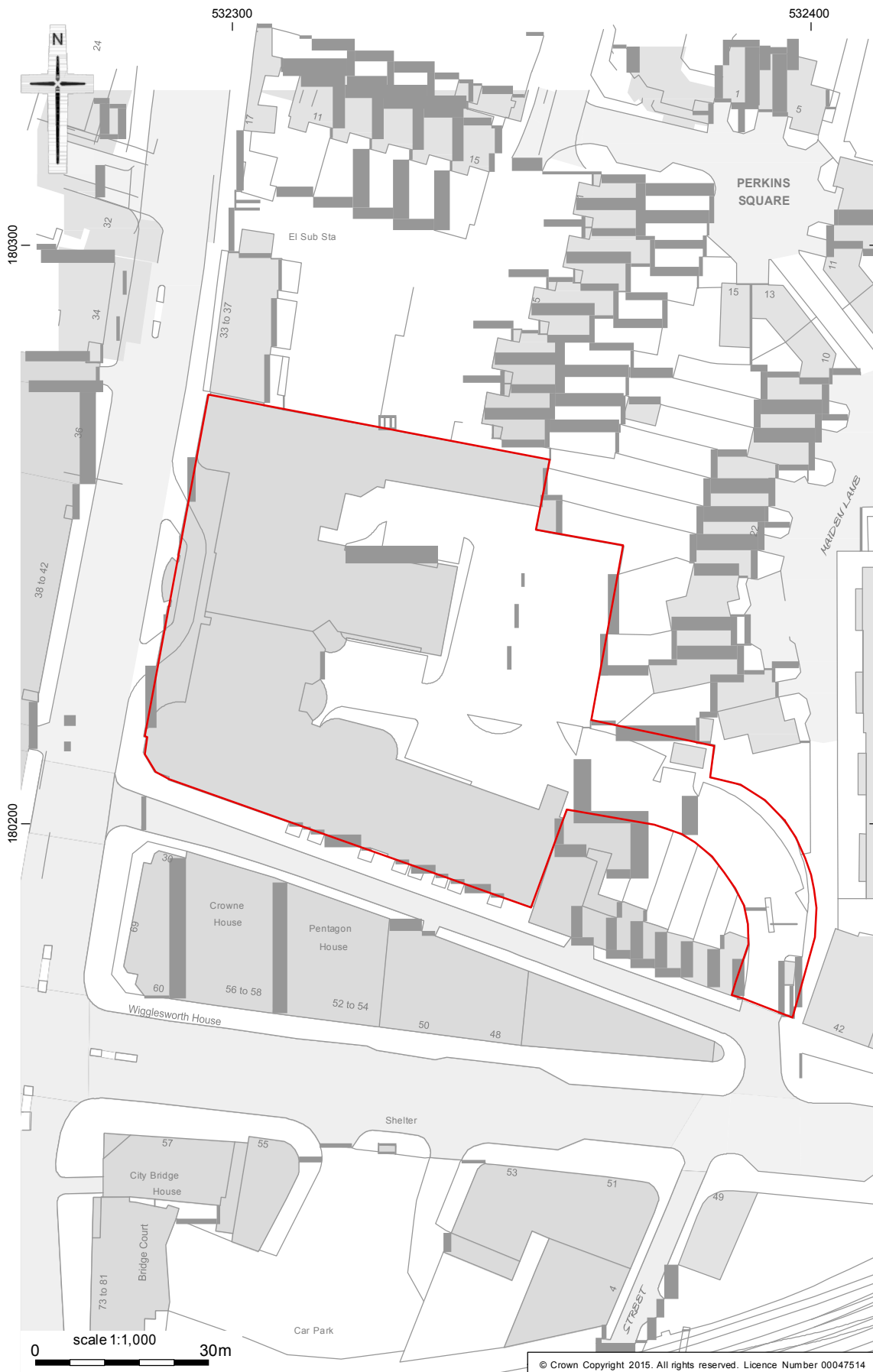


Fig 1 Site location





*Fig 3 Photo; Trench 2 showing the 19th century brick foundation beneath the modern pink deposits, looking south*



*Fig 4 Photo; Trench 2 showing the concrete below the partially removed brick foundation, the remains of the iron girder to left and the modern pink deposits, looking west*





## 9 OASIS archaeological report form

**OASIS ID: molas1-302674**

### Project details

<b>Project name</b>	<b>Ibis Hotel Extension, 43-47 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HH</b>
<b>Short description of the project</b>	<b>Two evaluation trenches were excavated on the site between 20 and 23 November 2017. Natural was not reached. There was just over 2.0m of modern deposits that date from redevelopment of the site in the late 1980s. Modern services meant only one trench was investigated. In trench 2 there was a large brick foundation that was possibly the base for machinery associated with the Anchor Brewery that occupied the site from the late 19th to the early 20th centuries.</b>
<b>Project dates</b>	<b>Start: 20-11-2017 End: 23-11-2017</b>
<b>Previous/future work</b>	<b>No / Not known</b>
<b>Any associated project reference codes</b>	<b>IBH17 – Site code</b>
<b>Type of project</b>	<b>Field evaluation</b>
<b>Site status</b>	<b>Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area</b>
<b>Current Land use</b>	<b>Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure</b>
<b>Monument type</b>	<b>BREWERY Post Medieval</b>
<b>Methods &amp; techniques</b>	<b>"Targeted Trenches"</b>
<b>Development type</b>	<b>Car park (flat)</b>
<b>Prompt</b>	<b>Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16</b>
<b>Position in the planning process</b>	<b>Between deposition of an application and determination</b>

### Project location

<b>Country</b>	<b>England</b>
<b>Site location</b>	<b>GREATER LONDON SOUTHWARK BERMONDSEY ROTHERHITHE AND SOUTHWARK Ibis Hotel Extension, 43-47 Southwark Bridge Road, London</b>
<b>Postcode</b>	<b>SE1 9HH</b>
<b>Study area</b>	<b>5250 Square metres</b>
<b>Site coordinates</b>	<b>TQ 32350 80235 51.505030802199 -0.092816282822 51 30 18 N 000 05 34 W Point</b>

<b>Project creators</b>	
<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>MOLA</b>
<b>Project brief originator</b>	<b>London Borough of Southwark</b>
<b>Project design originator</b>	<b>CgMs</b>
<b>Project director/manager</b>	<b>Derek Seeley</b>
<b>Project supervisor</b>	<b>Tony Mackinder</b>
<b>Type of sponsor/funding body</b>	<b>Client</b>
<b>Name of sponsor/funding body</b>	<b>Accor Hotels</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Project archives</b>	
<b>Physical Archive Exists?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Physical Archive recipient</b>	<b>LAA</b>
<b>Digital Archive recipient</b>	<b>LAA</b>
<b>Digital Media available</b>	<b>"Images raster / digital photography","Text"</b>
<b>Paper Archive recipient</b>	<b>LAA</b>
<b>Paper Media available</b>	<b>"Diary","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Report"</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Project bibliography</b>	
<b>1</b>	
<b>Publication type</b>	<b>Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Ibis Hotel Extension, 43-47 Southwrk Bridge Road, Londion SE1 9HH</b>
<b>Author(s)/Editor(s)</b>	<b>Mackinder, T</b>
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**Entered by**                    **Tony Mackinder (tmackinder@mola.org.uk)**  
**Entered on**                    **30 November 2017**

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**OASIS:**

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