



ST JAMES GARLICKHYTHE
 London
 EC4

City of London

An archaeological watching brief report

August 2004

EU: E106360
 SO: S107A692
~~AA60: AAL078413~~

PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION		
PSDD	CPO	PPD
STD	02 NOV 2004	LTP
SSM		SE
No		PP
FILE		DD



MUSEUM OF LONDON
 Archaeology Service

CE

ST JAMES GARLICKHYTHE
London
EC4

City of London

An archaeological watching brief report

Site Code: SGU04
National Grid Reference: 532380 180857

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Summary (Non-Technical)

This report has been commissioned by Biscoe and Stanton Architects on behalf of the church in order to record and assess the results of a watching brief carried out at the northwest corner of St James Garlickhythe Church, Skinner's Lane.

Work on a new access ramp was monitored on the 20th July 2004.

No archaeological deposits were recorded as the foundation trenches only exposed recent made ground deposits.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

The watching brief took place at the northwest corner of St James Garlickhythe Church, Skinner's Lane, EC4, hereafter called 'the site'. The site is located outside of the church, bounded by Skinner Lane to the north and a public open space off Little Trinity Lane to the west (see Fig 1). The centre of the site lies at National Grid reference 532380 180857. Modern ground level adjacent to the site is c 8.7m OD. The site code is SGU 04.

1.2 The planning and legislative framework

The legislative and planning framework in which the archaeological exercise took place was summarised in the *Method Statement*, which formed the project design for the watching brief (see Section 1.2, Bateman 2004).

1.3 Planning background

Planning consent has been given for the work and requires arrangements for an archaeological watching brief on groundworks.

1.4 Origin & scope of the report

This report was commissioned by Biscoe and Stanton Architects on behalf of the church and produced by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS). The report has been prepared within the terms of the relevant Standard specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 1999).

The purpose of the watching brief was to determine whether archaeological remains or features were present on the site and, if so, to record the nature and extent of such remains. A number of more site-specific research aims and objectives were established in the preceding *Method Statement* (Bateman 2004), and are outlined in the following section.

The purpose of the present report is to analyse the results of the excavation against the original research aims, and to suggest what further work, including analysis or publication (if any), should now take place.

1.5 Aims and objectives

The following research aims and objectives were established in the *Method Statement* for the watching brief (Section 2.2):

- Is there any evidence for foundations or structural elements pertaining to earlier manifestations of the church of St James Garlickhythe or any of its associated buildings?
- Is there any evidence for any burials associated with St James Garlickythe?

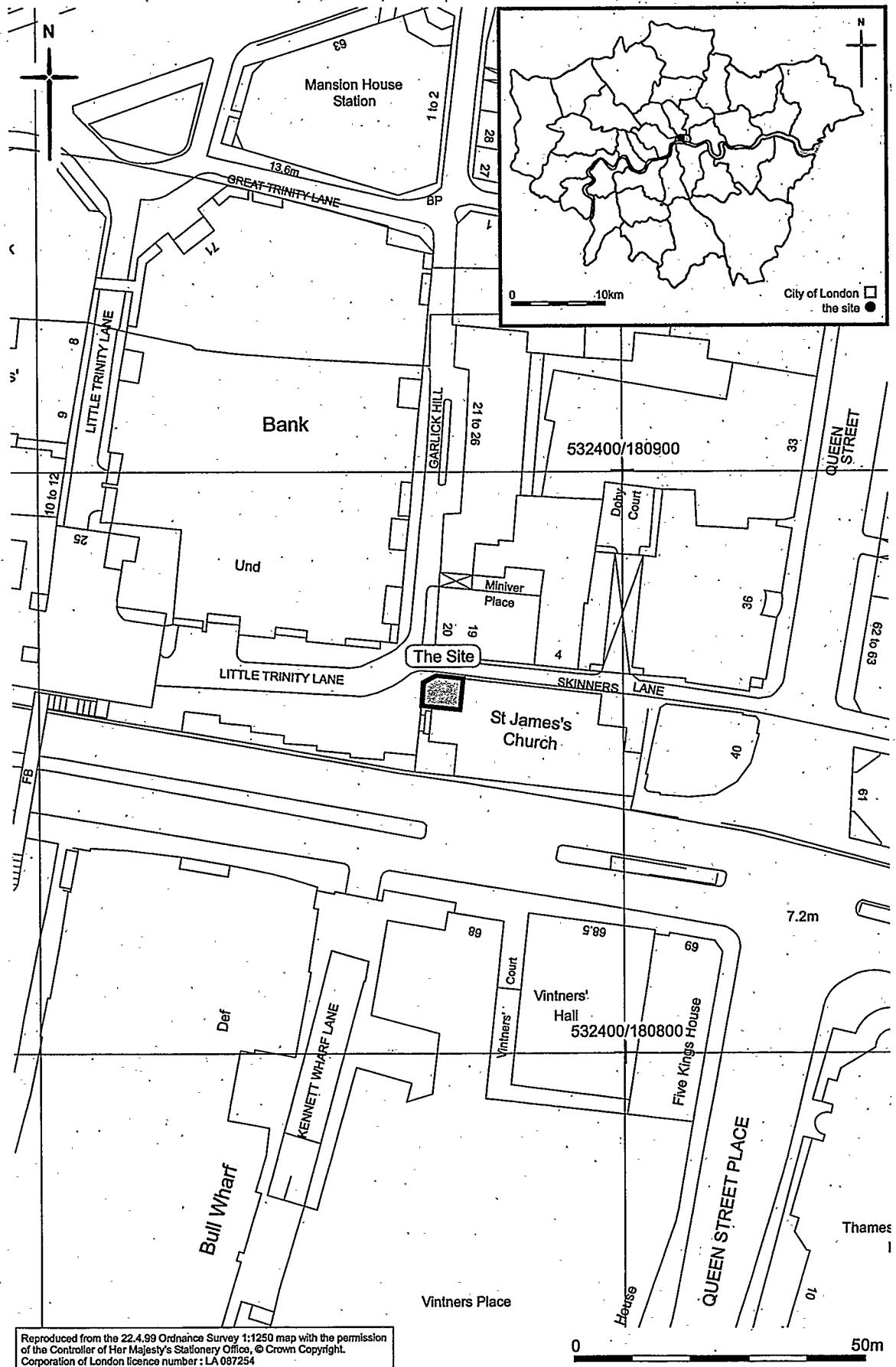


Fig 1 Site location

2 Topographical & Historical Background

The earliest reference to the church of St James was St James on the river bank (*super ripam*) and occurs in a writ of Henry I dated between 1108 and 1116. The term 'on the river bank' accurately conveys the church's initial proximity to the Thames frontage, which in the early twelfth century lay only a short distance south of the line of Thames Street. The parish is first mentioned in *c* 1198; its early by-names include *super Thamisiā* and *apud viniteriam* (at the Vintry), but by far the most common was the present one, first recorded in 1276.

The present church was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren between 1674 and 1683 at a cost of L5, 357 12s 10d to replace the medieval church, rebuilt in 1326, which had been destroyed in the Great Fire. It was opened in 1682, the Lord Mayor being present in state for the consecration.

An archaeological watching brief was carried out in the northeast of the Church, in 1992, where a burial vault with five lead coffins was recorded (Miles 1993).

3 The Watching Brief

3.1 Methodology

All archaeological excavation and recording during the watching brief was done in accordance with the *Method Statement* (Bateman 2004) and the MoLAS Archaeological Site Manual (MoLAS 1994).

The slab/ground was broken out and cleared by contractors under MoLAS supervision. Trenches were excavated by hand by the contractors, and monitored by a member of staff from MoLAS.

The locations of the areas of excavation were recorded by offsetting from adjacent standing walls and plotted on to a Basement Survey (Drg. No. 1193/P/16, Biscoe and Stanton). This information was then plotted onto the OS grid.

The site has produced: 1 trench location plan.

The site finds and records can be found under the site code SGU 04, which will be presented to the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork.

3.2 Results of the watching brief

The ground works consisted of the removal of the present paving stones and ground reduction within a specified area, see Fig 2.

Within the area highlighted, the ground level was reduced by 0.40m. This exposed made ground that comprised a wide range of building materials, including concrete and alabaster, and blue transfer ware pottery. There was no conclusive evidence for any structural remains and bone, of any type, was significant by its absence.

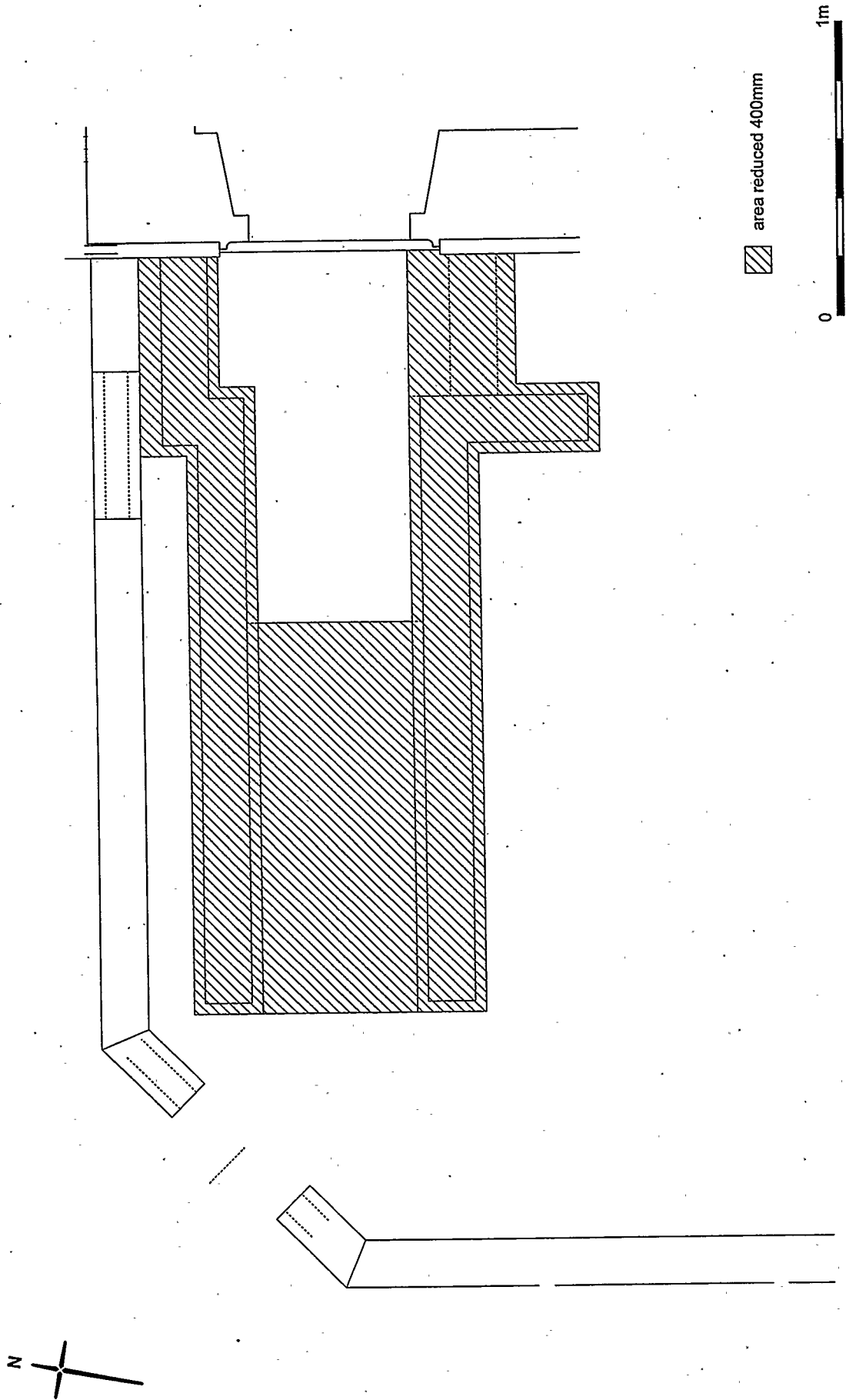


Fig 2 Area of watching brief

4 Potential Of Archaeology

4.1 Original research aims

- *Is there any evidence for foundations or structural elements pertaining to earlier manifestations of the church of St James Garlickhythe or any of its associated buildings?*

There was no conclusive evidence for any structural remains.

- *Is there any evidence for any burials associated with St James Garlickythe?*

There was no conclusive evidence for any burials.

4.2 New research aims

The results of the watching brief do not formulate any new research aims.

4.3 Significance of the data

Whilst the underlying archaeological remains of the church are undoubtedly of regional, or national importance, the significance of the results of the watching brief is not part of that importance.

5 Publication & Archiving

Information on the results of the excavation 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 London.

The site archive containing original records and finds will be stored in accordance with the terms of the *Method Statement* (Bateman 2004) with the Museum of London within 12 months of the end of the excavation.

In view of the limited potential of the material (Sections 4) and the relatively limited significance of the data (Section 4.3) it is suggested that a short note on the results of the watching brief should appear in the annual round up of the *London Archaeologist*.

6 Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Henry Shepherd of Briscoe and Stanton Architects for his contributions and help in producing this report.

7 Bibliography

Bateman, N, 2004 St James Garlickhythe ramp: method statement for an archaeological watching brief. Unpub MoLAS rep

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 1999 *By-Laws, Standards and Policy Statements of the Institute of Field Archaeologists* (rev. 1999), *Standard and guidance: watching brief*

Miles, A, 1993 St James Garlickhithe Church, Skinner's Lane, EC4: an archaeological investigation of the north-east burial vault. Unpub MoLAS rep

Museum of London, 1994 *Archaeological Site Manual 3rd edition*

8 OASIS form

OASIS ID: molas1-3449

Project details

Project name	St James Garlickhythe Ramp
Short description of the project	Work on a new access ramp was monitored. No archaeological deposits were recorded as the foundation trenches only exposed recent made ground deposits.
Project dates	Start: 20-07-2004 End: 20-07-2004
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	JAS 91 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	MADE GROUND Modern
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition
Prompt	Faculty jurisdiction

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CITY OF LONDON CITY OF LONDON St James Garlickhythe Church
Postcode	EC4
Study area	25 Square metres
National grid reference	TQ 32380 80857 Point

Height OD Min: 8m Max: 8m

Project creators

Name of Organisation MoLAS

Project brief originator City/Nat. Park/District/Borough archaeologist

Project design originator MoLAS

Project director/manager MoLAS

Project supervisor MoLAS

Project archives

Physical recipient Archive LAARC

Physical Exists? Archive No

Digital Archive recipient LAARC

Digital Archive ID SGU04

Digital Contents 'Survey','other'

Digital Media available 'Text'

Digital Archive Exists? No

Paper Archive recipient LAARC

Paper Archive ID SGU04

Paper Contents 'Survey','other'

Paper Media available 'Report','Survey ','Unpublished Text'

Paper Archive notes Survey data from plan supplied by Developer

Paper Archive Exists? No

Project bibliography 1

Publication type An unpublished document/manuscript
Title St James Garlickhythe Ramp, Skinner's Lane, EC4

Author(s)/Editor(s) Howell, I

Date 2004

Issuer or publisher MoLAS

Place of issue or
publication London

Description unpublished client report

Entered by .Isca Howell (ihowell@molas.org.uk)
Entered on 5 August 2004