

**70-76 DE BEAUVOIR CRESCENT
De Beauvoir Town
Hackney
N1**

A report on the evaluation
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Summary (non-technical)

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by the Museum of London Archaeology Service on the site of 70-76 De Beauvoir Crescent London, N1. The report was commissioned from MoLAS by Higgins Construction on behalf of the client Islington and Shoreditch Housing Association (ISHA).

Two evaluation trenches aligned N-S were excavated across the site. Both evaluation trenches measured 10m by 1.80m.

The results of the field evaluation have helped to refine the initial assessment of the archaeological potential of the site. The results have demonstrated the presence of substantial amount of made ground, consisting mainly of post- medieval dumps. The results have also shown that post medieval brick structures, such as wells, survive in the area.

In the light of revised understanding of the archaeological potential of the site the report concludes the impact of the proposed redevelopment is low.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

The evaluation took place at the site of 70-76 De Beauvoir Crescent, Hackney, London, N1, hereafter called 'the site'. The site, located in De Beauvoir Town is bounded to the south by Regent's Canal, to the east by 2-10 Hereford Road, to the west by 60-68 De Beauvoir Crescent and to the north by De Beauvoir Crescent and the south end of Hereford Road. The OS National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is 533290 183765. The site code is DBC07.

A desk-based *Archaeological assessment* was previously prepared, which covers the whole area of the site (Bull, 2007). The assessment document should be referred to for information on the natural geology, archaeological and historical background of the site, and the initial interpretation of its archaeological potential.

1.2 Planning and legislative framework

The legislative and planning framework in which the archaeological exercise took place was summarised in the *Archaeological impact assessment* which formed the project design for the evaluation (see Section 3, MoLAS, 2007).

1.3 Planning background

The proposed redevelopment involves construction of 25 residential units with commercial (B1) space at ground floor level, within one overall five-storey construction block. The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined by the London Borough of Hackney and similarly lies within the Kingsland Road Conservation Area. The Priority Area is based on the site of the post-medieval, and possible medieval Balmes Manor house, centred on De Beauvoir Crescent and De Beauvoir Road. An archaeological condition was attached to the planning permission.

1.4 Origin and scope of the report

This report was commissioned by Higgins Construction on behalf of the client Islington and Shoreditch Housing Association (ISHA) 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, 2001).

Field evaluation, and the *Evaluation report* which comments on the results of that exercise, are defined in the most recent English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage, 1998) as intended to provide information about the archaeological resource in order to contribute to the:

Fig 1 Site location

- formulation of a strategy for the preservation or management of those remains; and/or
- 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

1.5 Aims and objectives

All research is undertaken within the priorities established in the Museum of London's *A research framework for London Archaeology*, 2002

The purpose of the evaluation was to provide information on the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, the extent of horizontal truncation and the depth of surviving archaeological deposits. The limited nature of the archaeological evaluation made it unreasonable to establish many specific archaeological research objectives. The archaeological brief was essentially limited to establishing levels and nature of surviving archaeological deposits. Nevertheless, a few broad site-specific research question and objectives were outlined in the Method Statement (Molas, 2007). They were compiled with reference to the known history of the area and with consideration to previous observations. A complete list of research aims and results can be found in Section 4.1 of this report.

2 Topographical and historical background

A detailed description of the geology, archaeology and history of the site was provided in the earlier *Archaeological desk-based assessment* (Bull 2007). A brief resume is provided here:

2.1 Topography

The site is situated on imperceptibly sloping ground in a built up part of southern Hackney immediately north of the cutting for the artificial watercourse the Regents Canal and *c* 200m west of the Kingsland Road trunk road.

The site overlies Hackney Gravel Terrace deposits of sandy gravels. The gravel terrace is overlain, in parts, by a sandy silt termed ‘brickearth’ which formed in the late Devensian (32,000-10,000 years BP). The survey also indicates the site lies within a block of either partially or wholly backfilled quarries. The block covers much of De Beauvoir Town, limited to the south by the Canal cut. Such reference to worked ground probably reflects historic use of the area for brickfields. Based on nearby site investigations it is estimated that natural gravel within the site lies at *c* 16.3m OD. If brickearth lies within the site it is anticipated that the truncated surface of this will lie at *c* 17.5m OD.

A site contamination survey was carried out in 2005 (MRH Geotechnical 2005) consisting of seven boreholes spread across the site. The results showed that London Clay was present at *c* 5.3m depth beneath the site, beneath River Terrace deposits present to *c* 2.1m–3.2m below present ground level. It is also noted that a ‘hotspot’ of lead contamination was present at 1m depth in the south-west of the site (BH 4, *ibid*, 7). The depth of made ground varied dramatically between 1.8 to 5.3m, thickening towards the south of the site (possibly as a consequence of the construction of the adjacent stretch of the Regent’s Canal). The variation also corresponds to the BGS survey showing that the site lies within an area of worked ground.

2.2 Prehistoric

Despite the site’s location on a well drained gravel terrace, within reasonable distance of an ancient watercourse which would have been attractive for early settlement, prehistoric evidence in the site vicinity is limited to antiquarian finds of dispersed Palaeolithic and Mesolithic flint objects.

2.3 Roman

The immediate area around the site is not well known in the Roman period. The site presumably fell within fields or woods outside the city of *Londinium*, approximately 180m west of the main Roman road running north from the City to Lincoln (Ermine Street, followed now by present day Kingsland High Street). Two finds of isolated Roman ceramic objects to the east and north-east indicate a slight presence in the vicinity.

2.4 Medieval

Hoxton and Haggerston, to the south and east of the site respectively, have Saxon origins. Hoxton is derived from *Hochestone* named for the enclosure or farm of Hoch (or *Hocg*). The village was apparently well established by the time of the Domesday Survey. Haggerstone similarly derives from *Hergotestane* (VCH *Middlesex* iv, 23). Despite the preceding settlement and place name evidence, archaeological evidence for Saxon occupation in the area is limited to a small quantity of residual Late Saxon or Norman pottery (c 1000 or 1050 -1150) found in medieval deposits at 182–4 Hoxton Street, to the south of the site.

Immediately after the Norman Conquest, Domesday Book refers to Hochestone as a manor of ‘three hides’ (c 145 hectares or 360 acres). The exact location of the manor house and the village of Hoxton is not known. The earliest mention in documentary sources is of the manor of Hoxton estate in 1305–06 when it consisted of a house, mill, 167 acres, and rents in Hackney and elsewhere (VCH *Middlesex*, vol 10, 1995, 75). The documents indicate that the manor seat lay north of present day Hoxton and probably coincides with the location of the 16th century moated Balmes Manor to the immediate north and west of the site. Archaeological investigations at both St Leonard’s Hospital and Hoxton Street, over 300m to the south, indicated the presence of medieval remains relating to the settlement at Hoxton.

2.5 Post-medieval

The reputed manor of Hoxton probably gained the name Balmes from Adam Bamme, mayor of London in the late 14th century. Bamme came into occupancy of the manor by marriage to the widow of the previous owner, Sir John Philpot (who died in 1384); however the manor remained in the Philpot family possession until 1634. The first cited reference to Bamme (or Bames) is dated to 1509. In 1634 the estate was sold to the Whitmore family; the deed of sale shows that Balmes then consisted of a house, a cottage, two gardens, an orchard, and 153 acres in Hackney and Shoreditch. The manor and lordship passed through several Whitmore generations until the death of the sole descendant William Whitmore in 1684, and was then sold in 1687 to Richard de Beauvoir. The Balmes lordship and estate remained in the De Beauvoir family until the early 19th century. It is probable that the site at this time either lay within open fields at, or near, the south-eastern edge of the moated manor estate.

The earliest available map to show the area of the site in any detail is that of Rocque, dated to 1745. It shows the site as open land at the south-east corner of the gardens of Balmes House, bordered by hedges and straddling the connecting path to the estate from the Kingsland road to the east. Although some of the estate lands around the manor were leased to brick makers, early 19th century maps indicate that the site lay within arable fields between Kingsland Road and Hoxton. By 1816 the manor house had been put into use as a lunatic asylum for the aristocracy and is clearly indicated as a ‘Mad Ho[use]’ on Greenwood’s map of 1824. The site is demarcated by the line of what was to become De Beauvoir Crescent to the north and the Regents Canal to the south. Open land and a field boundary are the only features depicted within the site at this time.

The area was subsequently developed as ‘De Beauvoir Town’, an early large scale housing development to a formal plan, parts of which can be seen today. The estate

was intended to be almost wholly residential, except around Kingsland Basin and at the south-west corner around the site. The strip of land immediately north of the canal had become wholly converted to industrial use by the close of the 19th century. The area of the site has remained partly residential and partly light industrial due its location by Kingsland Basin and the canal, to the present day.

3 The evaluation

3.1 Methodology

All archaeological excavation and monitoring during the evaluation was carried out in accordance with the preceding *Method Statement* (MoLAS, 2007), and the *MoLAS Archaeological Site Manual* (MoLAS, 1994).

Two evaluation trenches, aligned roughly north-south, were excavated across the site. Trench 1 was located slightly west of the centre of the site and trench 2 in the east side of the site. Both trenches measured 10m by 1.80m meters

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

The locations of evaluation trenches were recorded by MoLAS Geomatics Department using real-time, survey-grade Global Positioning System (GPS). This information was then plotted onto the OS grid. Levels were calculated by measuring from a Temporary Bench Mark established on site by the MoLAS Geomatics Team using GPS.

A written and drawn record of all archaeological deposits encountered was made in accordance with the principles set out in the MoLAS site recording manual (MoLAS, 1994).

The site has produced: 1 trench and feature location plan; 6 context records and 19 digital photographs. In addition 1 box of finds were recovered from the site.

The site finds and records can be found under the site code DBC07 in the MoLAS archive.

3.2 Results of the evaluation

For trench locations see Fig 2.

Fig 2 Areas of evaluation

<i>Evaluation Trench 1</i>	
Location	Central area of the site, aligned N-S
Dimensions	10m by 1.80m by 2.80m depth
Modern ground level/top of concrete crush	18.16m OD
Base of modern crush	17.76m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	> 2 m deep (brick lined sump)
Level of base of deposits observed and/or base of trench	15.36m OD
Natural observed	15.36m OD or N/A

During the initial opening of Trench 1 a north-south aligned brick culvert, most likely draining into the canal, was encountered at 15.66m OD. It immediately became apparent that any archaeological deposits would have been truncated by the cut for the culvert and so this trench was repositioned further to the east (see Fig 3).

The relocated Trench 1 revealed natural yellow sands and gravel overlain by thin patches of clayey slightly sandy brickearth at 15.36m OD. A series of dump layers (together approximately 2.40m thick), of a probable post-medieval date, were recorded overlaying the natural sands and gravel. Cut into the made ground a small (0.62m in diameter) brick lined sump or well [2] was recorded directly below the modern crushed concrete at 17.75m OD. The well was constructed from reused bricks which had been roughly cut to a wedge shape. The bricks were dated to the late 19th century (see specialist report Appendix D section 11). The fill of the well [1] within the brick structure consisted largely of thick broken tiles, most likely paving slabs.

Fig 3 Trench 1

<i>Evaluation Trench 2</i>	
Location	East side of the site, aligned N-S
Dimensions	10m by 1.80m by 2.48m depth
Modern ground level/top of crushed concrete	18.07m OD
Base of modern crush	17.69m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	> 2.30m deep (brick lined well/ vat)
Level of base of deposits observed and/or base of trench	15.59m OD
Natural observed	15.59m OD

Natural yellow sand was recorded at 15.59m OD overlain by a 0.20m thick, (natural), deposit of orange clayey slightly sandy brickearth (15.79m OD). A series of post-medieval dumped deposits (together approximately 2m thick) were recorded overlaying the natural brickearth and sand and were sealed by a 0.40m thick layer of modern concrete and brick crush. In the northeast corner of the trench the dumped deposits were truncated by a modern cut, which was probably associated with the nearby gas mains, running just east of the trench.

The southern end of the trench revealed a large brick lined well or vat [5] cutting into the dumped deposits, almost directly below the modern crushed concrete. The highest survival for the brick lining was recorded at 17.85m OD. The top five courses were mortared and the rest appeared unmortared. The highest point for the construction cut was recorded at 17.40m OD, where the mortared courses appear to end. It may be that the mortared courses were originally standing above the contemporary ground level. The brick lined structure also had an 'outlet' (west side), a circular culvert, possibly for directing water for use elsewhere from the well/ vat. It was not possible to determine where the culvert was heading or to positively confirm its function. The well/vat was later converted for use as a soakaway and a ceramic pipe leading to it and another leading from it were added, by creating openings through the brick work. The bricks used for the construction of the well appear to be reused and of various dates, the earliest of the bricks date to late 15th or 16th century (see specialist report Appendix D section 11)

When the brick lined structure fell out of use it was infilled with rubbish and probably briefly functioned as a cess/rubbish pit. Its fill [4] contained post-medieval pottery and domestic objects. All the material recovered is Victorian in date, and the pottery would suggest a date of deposition between c 1830-50 (see specialist reports, starting from section 8).

Fig 4 Trench 2

3.3 Assessment of the evaluation

GLAAS guidelines (English Heritage, 1998) require an assessment of the success of the evaluation 'in order to illustrate what level of confidence can be placed on the information which will provide the basis of the mitigation strategy'.

In the case of this site two evaluation trenches were located across the eastern and central area of the proposed development to investigate the area of impact. This was successfully achieved.

The evaluation established that post-medieval brick lined structures survive in the area. The evaluation also established that thick layers of post-medieval dumped deposits and underlying natural deposits survive across the site. Both trenches evaluated the area of proposed development down to natural deposits.

In consequence, a high degree of confidence may be placed on the evaluation results.

4 Archaeological potential

4.1 Realisation of original research aims

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

The natural deposits encountered consist of natural sands and gravel overlain by clayey slightly brickearth. Natural deposits were encountered at 15.36m OD in Trench 1 and at 15.59m OD in Trench 2.

- *What are the earliest deposits identified?*

The earliest deposits encountered consist of series of substantial post-medieval dump layers overlaying the natural deposits in both of the trenches.

- *What are the latest deposits identified?*

Apart from the modern crushed concrete sealing the archaeological deposits, the latest deposits encountered comprise the infills [1] and [4] of the post medieval brick lined structures [2] and [5] respectively. The large brick lined well/vat [5] in Trench 2 appeared to have briefly functioned as a cess/rubbish pit prior to falling out of use and large amounts of domestic material were recovered from its infill [4]. All the material recovered is Victorian in date, and the pottery would suggest a date of deposition between c 1830-50.

- *Is there evidence to suggest Late Saxon activity in the site, associated with the possible settlement at Hoxton to the south?*

No evidence to suggest Saxon activity was encountered during the evaluation.

- *Are features or deposits of medieval date present within the site, and if so do these relate to the medieval moated manor site (Balmes) located in the vicinity?*

No evidence of features or deposits of medieval date were encountered during the evaluation.

- *Do structures or features relating to the post medieval manor of Balmes House survive within the site?*

No direct evidence for structures or features relating to the post-medieval manor of Balmes house was encountered during the evaluation. However, some of the bricks used in the construction of the large post-medieval brick lined well or vat [5] in Trench 2 are reused and likely to be of late 15th or 16th century in date (see Appendix D section 11). The reused bricks are contemporary with the manor and may well have originated from buildings/structures associated with the medieval manor.

- *Is there evidence of later post-medieval quarrying and brick making within the site prior to the development of De-Beauvoir Town?*

Apart from the presence of substantial post-medieval dumping, no evidence of later post medieval quarrying or brick making was encountered on site.

- *Do 19th century industrial features or structures survive within the site and if so how do these contribute to present understanding of the industrial use of the area along side Kingsland basin and the Regent's Canal?*

The large well or vat [5] encountered in Trench 2 may have been constructed for industrial purposes prior to being reused as a domestic rubbish/cesspit. Similarly the small well [2] in Trench 1 may have been used for industrial purposes.

4.2 General discussion of potential

The evaluation has shown that the potential for survival of ancient ground surfaces (horizontal archaeological stratification) on the site is low-moderate. There is also potential for survival of post-medieval structures and features. The average depth of archaeological deposits where they do survive is likely to be 2m below the current ground level.

4.3 Significance

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

5 Proposed development impact and recommendations

The proposed redevelopment involves construction of 25 residential units with commercial (B1) space at ground floor level, within one overall five-storey construction block. The works are likely to involve piling and associated enabling groundwork's, such as removing underground obstacles. The impact of this on the surviving archaeological deposits will be to remove all deposits within the piles and partially or wholly with the pile caps.

The decision on the appropriate archaeological response to the deposits revealed within the site of 70-76 De Beauvoir Crescent rests with the Local Planning Authority and their designated archaeological advisor.

6 Acknowledgements

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8 Appendix A: The medieval and later pottery

by Nigel Jeffries

8.1 Quantification and assessment

8.1.1 Site archive: finds and environmental, quantification and description

Table 1 Finds and environmental archive general summary

Post-medieval pottery	38 sherds. Total 3.5 kg
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8.1.2 The medieval and later pottery

8.1.2.1 Methodology

The medieval and later pottery was recorded on paper and computer, using standard Museum of London codes for fabrics, forms and decoration. The numerical data comprises sherd count, estimated number of vessels and weight and entered onto the ORACLE database. This assessment aims to evaluate the character and the date range of the assemblage, determine the research questions the material has the potential to address and identify any areas of further work.

8.1.2.2 Introduction

This text considers the pottery retrieved from the archaeological evaluation at DBC07. All this material was recovered from the one context ([4]), the fill of a brick-lined feature, and was therefore recovered within an undisturbed and uncontaminated deposit. Consequently this material can be used to provide a solid platform for characterising this deposit and establishing a consistent chronology for the archaeological sequence. Weighing 3515 grammes (average weight per sherd of 92.5 grammes), up to 38 sherds from a minimum number of 26 vessels (Estimated number of vessels: ENV) were recovered. All this material is Victorian in date, and was probably deposited c1830–50 and is relatively well preserved, with some substantially complete vessels found alongside more fragmented pottery.

8.1.2.3 Post-medieval pottery fabrics and forms

As is common for archaeological ceramic assemblages dating to the Victorian period, all the pottery found is British made, reflecting the dominance of Great Britain's pottery industry and its worldwide markets. Factory made refined earthenwares predominate - it is the largest group within the assemblage (69.2% of vessel count) - as is the case throughout the London area, and indeed the whole country. The rapid growth during the mid 18th century of the Midlands industries which mass-produced durable, refined earthenwares, and later the various kinds of ironstone chinias, granites

and so on, as well as the overwhelming success of transfer-printing as a major force in the field of decoration, all combined to transform the production, marketing and use of pottery in Britain. Factory made refined earthenwares is a term used here to describe a selection of twice-fired refined whiteware bodies which are plain and undecorated, or with transfer-printed, painted, and industrial slip decoration.

From DBC07 transfer-printed refined whitewares are the most frequent among this group (total 39.7% of vessel count), with blue transfer-printed refined whitewares the most popular (30.8% of vessel count). This small collection is largely made up of a few dinner and tea plates with similar Asiatic prints applied dating to the second quarter of the 19th century. 'Chinese Figures' is the only marked print, the remainder appearing to depict an Indian scene but all have gardrooned edges. Whilst there is only a limited collection of refined whitewares in other coloured transfer-prints (black, green colours and so on), these are generally reserved for the toilet box and the teapot lid in green and mauve coloured transfer-prints respectively. Completing the printed group, the refined whitewares with various Flow Blue prints applied (Coys and Henrywood 1984, 140) comprise a tea cup fragment and the rim of a wash bowl.

Three vessels survived relatively intact. The first is a refined earthenware (REFW: a plain, undecorated, refined whitewares) chamber pot, the second a yellow ware chamber pot with industrial slip mocha decoration (YELL SLIP, made in various factories around the north Midlands) and thirdly, an almost complete stoneware ink bottle stamped with 'ENCRE JAPONAISE' (donating its ink contents) and 'N. ANTOINE & FILS' (Parisian manufacturers) stamp was found. The two complete vessels are the dwarf sized inkwell in English made stoneware and an uncommon late London made polychrome tin-glazed ware ointment pot with green coloured tin-glaze applied externally and plain white internally.

8.2 Analysis of Potential

8.2.1 Post-medieval pottery

This small group of domestic pottery, when added to the other materials found, provides an important dataset for understanding a particular household in this part of Victorian Hackney. It offers the opportunity to examine in context a representative sample of 'everyday' pottery belonging to individual Victorian household in London, from vessels used for decanting and storing ink, to a small set of apparently matching dining vessels. The key to understanding this group (and its potential) remains in unpicking the particular components (ceramics and otherwise) in terms of social space, chronologies, function and cost and then establishing the identity of the Victorian inhabitants of nos. 70-76 De Beauvoir Crescent during the 1840s and 50s whom were responsible for the discard of this material. The composition and dating of this group suggests that the pottery would have brought and used for around 10 years, perhaps by one generation of occupants.

8.3 Significance of data

8.3.1 Local significance

The potential of the pottery in terms of supplying a more discursive text is the significant assemblage of the Victorian pottery recovered in context [4]. Significantly, the combination of the finds, stratigraphic and historical data should allow reasonably precise dates of deposition of these groups to be fixed, and establish by whom. A thorough search of the available documentary records could allow ownership to be traced. Combining the pottery and the other material culture found here can contribute to two specific areas of interest into the archaeology of the period. The first is adopting a 'household archaeology' approach to interpreting the role of possessions in the increasingly materialistic Victorian world and what the discard of this group suggests about changing patterns of residence. The second is its contribution toward establishing the status and economic conditions of the inhabitants of this household whilst questioning the motivations behind the apparent systematic backfilling of this well.

9 Appendix B: The registered finds

by Nigel Jeffries

9.1 Quantification and assessment

9.1.1 Site archive: finds and environmental, quantification and description

Table 1: Summary of registered finds by material and period

Material	Post-med	Total	Comment
Bone	1	1	
Ivory	1	1	
Ceramic	1	1	
Glass	4	4	
Total	7	7	

9.1.2 Registered finds catalogue

9.1.2.1 Introduction/methodology

The registered finds were recorded on card and on the MoLAS Oracle database in line with standard procedure. This assemblage comprises Victorian dated material, recovered from one context, [4]. All are catalogued, by period and material. The catalogue is preliminary for reference only.

Bone

<6> [4] toothbrush; complete L 16.5 cm but minus bristles; stamped with druggists/chemists shop mark 'Deanes London Bridge'.

Ivory

<5> [4] handle; for whittle tang knife with remains of heavily corroded composite blade

Ceramic

<7> [4] clay tobacco pipe; complete bowl; incuse mark Swinyard on two lines on bowl facing smoker; AO29 type (1840-1880); either James (1828–54) or Thomas Swinyard (1836–53) of Westminster.

Glass

<1> [4] vase; free blown, painted floral decoration in opaque white milk coloured glass. Made after the repeal of the excise tax of 1845. Display item. One fragment. Wt 21 grammes.

<2> [4] lamp?; free blown, in opaque white milk coloured glass. Made after the repeal of the excise tax of 1845. Display item. One fragment. Wt 14 grammes.

<3> [4] wine glass; colourless; bowl profile and upper portion of stem; (9) faceted bowl. Similar to <4>. One fragment. Wt 36 grammes.

<4> [4] wine glass; colourless; bowl and upper portion of stem; (9) faceted bowl. Similar to <3>. One fragment. Wt 47 grammes.

9.2 Analysis of Potential

9.2.1 Registered finds

This is a domestic assemblage derived from the one feature, a brick-lined well or soakaway. Despite the small size of this group, this material performed a variety of different functions within the Victorian household, from a matching pair of wine glasses used for taking wine, to the evidence of smoking (clay tobacco pipe), through to attention to dental hygiene (as evidenced by the toothbrush). It provides important dating evidence for the abandonment of the feature it was found in, with the presence of opaque white milk coloured glass dating after the repeal of the excise tax after 1845, together the clay tobacco pipe bowl marked with one of the Swinyard family between 1828 and 1854. The group would appear to have been used within the same general timescale and therefore might have been derived from the one household.

9.3 Significance of data

9.3.1 Local significance

The registered finds can be seen as complementing the various components of the materials found in this feature, from there similar chronologies to the domestic nature of these artefacts. Taken together they appear to suggest the accumulation of rubbish into this feature over a period of about 5 to 10 years.

10 Appendix C: The bulk glass

by Nigel Jeffries

10.1 Quantification and assessment

10.1.1 Site archive: finds and environmental, quantification and description

Table 2 Finds and environmental archive general summary

Bulk glass	3 vessels. Total 0.71 kg
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10.1.2 The bulk glass

10.1.2.1 Methodology

This technical report considers the Victorian dated glass recovered from DBC07. Recovered from context [4] only, this small assemblage yielded material dating after 1844, but probably no later than the third quarter of the 19th century. Preservation was excellent: all the bulk glass vessels were recovered in a complete condition.

10.1.2.2 Victorian glass

The glass is all British made, as is normal for excavated glass assemblages dating to the 19th century from the United Kingdom, reflecting the dominance and popularity of British manufactured goods during this period. After describing the bulk glass found from the site, this material is discussed following the remit for the interpretive sections as proposed in the project design. The description of the three bulk glass objects from this site is given below:

Bottle: three piece mould cylindrical beer bottle with bipartite collar and string rim, in naturally coloured olive or black glass. Sand pontil scar. Relief lettering around shoulder ‘Imperial pint’ (in reference to the implementation of an Imperial Standard by the Weights and Measures Act of 1824) and ‘Ricketts Bristol’ on the base and dating between 1821–50. Complete bottle (1 piece/1 vessel/623 grammes).

Stopper: naturally coloured blue-green glass. Circular relief lettering on top of rim ‘Kilner Bros Dewsbury’. Kilner & Sons of Thornill Lees, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire became Kilner Bros after 1844. Complete stopper (1 piece/1 vessel/59 grammes), probably used to seal the famous Kilner jars produced by this company and exported worldwide.

Stopper: naturally coloured green glass. Complete stopper (1 piece/1vessel/29 grammes), probably used to seal a small bottle or phial containing pharmaceutical products.

10.2 Analysis of Potential

10.2.1 Bulk glass

The few Victorian vessels found from the brick-lined feature are domestic in nature and provides a few chronological markers for the abandonment of this feature, from the three piece mould used to make the ale bottle (patented in 1821) to the presence of glass made by the Kilner Brothers (after 1844). This material presents not only evidence of taking alcohol, but in the Kilner jar stopper, also evidences activities, in canning and storing foods.

10.3 Significance of data

10.3.1 Local significance

The bulk glass complements well the rest of the materials discarded in this feature, from the crockery to the registered finds. The chronologies suggest a mid 19th date for the abandonment of this feature, and indicate that the material recovered is derived from a nearby property.

11 Appendix D: Building Material Assessment

By Ian Betts

11.1 Site archive: finds and environmental, quantification and description

Table 3 Finds and environmental archive general summary

Building material	Four brick samples, discarded after recording (not weighed)
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11.2 The building material

11.2.1 Introduction/methodology

All the building material has been recorded using the standard recording forms used by the Museum of London. This has involved fabric analysis undertaken with a x10 binocular microscope. The information on the recording forms has been added to an Oracle database.

11.2.1.1 Post-medieval building material

11.2.1.1.1 FABRICS

Tudor fabric

3046 (near 3033).

Later fabric

3032.

11.2.1.1.2 FORM

Red brick

Table 4 Post-medieval brick

Contexts	Fabric	Size (mm)	Date range
[2]	3032	? x 98–99 x 60–64	1800–1900
[5]	3032	213 x 92 x 60–63	1800–1900
[5]	3046 (near 3033)	230 x 109–110 x 52–56	1450–1666

The bricks from context [2] are frogged: one with a shallow frog, the other with a deep frog, the latter indicating a 19th century, or later date. These bricks have been crudely cut to a wedge shape for reuse in the small brick-lined well. One brick has a worn/weathered stretcher face indicating it was used as external walling prior to be reused.

The two bricks sampled from the large brick well or vat [5] are of different date. The earliest is a thin dark red brick with an indented border. This has a general date range of 1450–1666, but based on thickness is more likely to be late 15th or 16th century. The other brick is clearly reused as there is a light grey mortar layer with a white mortar layer below. Both have black inclusions of what appear to be charcoal, coal (?) and ash, which would suggest a 19th century, or later date.

All the bricks for the site were probably made at brickyards close to London.

11.3 Analysis of potential

11.3.1 Building material

Only four brick samples were retained, but these are not without interest. The technique of crudely cutting the bricks to a wedge shape in order to be used in a circular brick structure is unusual in London. Normally in brick structures a circular shape is achieved by varying the thickness of the mortar joints. Presumably the small size of the brick structure at DBC07 meant this technique could not be employed.

The other brick feature has a mixture of early and late post-medieval bricks, both of which appear to have been reused from earlier structures.

Both brick structures are probably of 19th century, or later date.

11.4 Significance of the data

The building material is only of local significance, but it does illustrate the common practice of reusing bricks from earlier buildings in wells and other minor brick structures.

12 Appendix E: Conservation Assessment for De Beauvoir Crescent (DBC07)

by Liz Barham

12.1 Quantification and assessment

12.1.1 Conservation

Table 5 Summary of conservation work

	Material	No. accessioned	No. conserved	No. to be treated (see below)
Inorganic	Glass	4	0	0
	Ceramic	1	0	0
Organic	Bone	1	0	0
	Composite	1	0	0

12.1.1.1 Introduction/methodology

The following assessment of conservation needs for the accessioned and bulk finds from the excavations at De Beauvoir Crescent, Hackney, encompasses any requirements for finds analysis, illustration, analytical conservation and long term curation. Work outlined in this document is needed to produce a stable archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1992) and the Museum of London's Standards for archive preparation (Museum of London 1999).

MoLAS Conservation support was available at the time of the excavation. Treatments are carried out under the guiding principles of minimum intervention and reversibility. Whenever possible preventative rather than interventive conservation strategies are implemented. Procedures aim to obtain and retain the maximum archaeological potential of each object: conservators will therefore work closely with finds specialist and archaeologists.

All conserved objects are packed in archive quality materials and stored in suitable environmental conditions. Records of all conservation work are prepared on paper and on the Museum of London collections management system (Multi MIMSY) and stored at the Museum of London.

12.1.1.2 Finds analysis/investigation

The accessioned finds were assessed by visual examination of both the objects and the X-radiographs, closer examination where necessary was carried out using a binocular microscope at high magnification. The accessioned finds were reviewed with

reference to the finds and pottery assessments by Nigel Jeffries. No items were identified for further investigation prior to publication.

12.1.1.3 Work required for illustration/photography

No items were identified as requiring conservation input to prepare them for photography or illustration.

12.1.1.4 Preparation for deposition in the archive

The accessioned finds are stable and appropriately packed for the archive. No further work is necessary for transfer.

12.1.1.5 Remedial work outstanding

There is no remedial work outstanding.

13 NMR OASIS archaeological report form

OASIS ID: molas1-35456

Project details

Project name 70-76 De Beauvoir Crescent

Short description of the project Two evaluation trenches, aligned roughly N-S, were excavated across the site. Trench 1 was located slightly west of the centre of the site and trench 2 in the east side of the site. Both trenches measures 10m by 1.80m meters. Both trenches revealed extensive layers of made ground and natural sands and gravel overlain by thin layer brickearth were recorded at 2.80m (15.36m OD) below present ground level in Trench 1 and 2.60m (15.59m OD) below present ground level in Trench 2. A small red brick lined well/ sump [2] (0.62m in diameter) was recorded in the southern end of Trench 1 directly below and sealed by the floor of the recently demolished building. Its fill [1] consisted mainly of large broken red tiles, possibly paving slabs. In addition a large (2.60m in diameter) circular red brick well or vat [5] was recorded cutting into the made ground deposits in the southern end of trench 2. The appears to have briefly function as a rubbish/cess pit and its fill [4] contained post-medieval pottery (date of deposition between c 1830-50) and domestic objects.. The brick lined structure had an 'outlet' (west side), a circular culvert, possibly for directing water for use elsewhere from the well. Due to the limits of the evaluation it was not possible to determine where it was heading and to positively identify its function. The well /vat was later converted for use as a soakaway, prior its use as a rubbish pit, and a ceramic pipe leading to it and another leading from it were added.

Project dates Start: 21-10-2007 End: 25-10-2007

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes DBC07 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Site status Conservation Area

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Monument type WELL Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Methods & 'Targeted Trenches'
techniques

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the After full determination (eg. As a condition)
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON HACKNEY HACKNEY 70-76 De Beauvoir
Crescent

Postcode N1

Study area 500.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 533290 183765 50.9438365111 0.182806005069 50 56 37 N
000 10 58 E Point

Height OD Min: 15.36m Max: 15.59m

Project creators

Name of MoLAS
Organisation

Project brief MoLAS project manager
originator

Project design MoLAS
originator

Project Stewart Hoad
director/manager

Project supervisor Johanna Vuolteenaho

Type of Higgins Construction plc
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive LAARC
recipient

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Worked bone'

Digital Archive LAARC
recipient

Digital Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Stratigraphic','Survey'

Digital Media 'Survey','Text'
available

Paper Archive LAARC
recipient

Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Survey'

Paper Media 'Context sheet','Map','Matrices','Miscellaneous
available Material','Photograph','Plan','Report','Survey ','Unpublished Text'

Entered by Johanna Vuolteenaho (jvuolteenaho@molass.org.uk)