



MACHINERY, TEMPLE MILLS LANE
London
E15

London Borough of Newham

A Standing structure survey report

April 2008



MUSEUM OF LONDON

**Archaeology
Service**

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

MACHINERY, TEMPLE MILLS LANE
London
E15

London Borough of Newham

A Standing structure survey report

Site Code: OL-08407
National Grid Reference: 538373 185388

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
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Museum of London Archaeology Service

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SUMMARY (non technical)

The Museum of London Archaeology Service and Pre-Construct Archaeology (MoLAS-PCA) were commissioned by the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) to analyse and record a standing structure; namely an item of unidentified machinery on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane, London E15. The structure was to be demolished in order to redevelop the site, and the archaeological investigation and a subsequent report were required as a condition of planning consent for the redevelopment. The investigation took place in November 2007, and comprised a measured survey and photography of the fabric and setting of the structure.

The structure comprised the remains of a brick shelter, constructed of yellow machine-made bricks, on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane in Stratford, E15. The shelter housed two cast iron air valves; the smaller was used to expel air under pressure from the water mains which runs under Temple Mills Lane. The larger valve released air from the mains when it was being filled, and admitted air when it was being emptied. The valves appear to have been constructed no later than the 1920s, as a new double air valve, which would combine both tasks, was being manufactured by Glenfield & Kennedy by 1931

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1 Introduction

1.1 Site background

The structure surveyed was situated on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane, in the London Borough of Newham. The site area is bounded on the south by a railway embankment, to the west by a road bridge over a railway line and to the north by Temple Mills Lane (Fig 1). The structure was within the area designated as Planning Delivery Zone 11 (PDZ11) of the Olympic and Paralympic Games and Legacy Facilities planning applications, in the London Borough of Newham. See Fig 1 for site location and the limits of Planning Delivery Zone 11 (in red).

The Ordnance Survey national grid reference for the centre of the site is 538373 185388. Modern ground level in Temple Mills Lane on the pavement in front of the structure was at 6m OD. The Museum of London site code, by which the records are indexed and archived, is OL-08407. For reference, this structure is known within the project as BH143.

A desktop *Archaeological and Built Heritage impact assessment* was previously prepared by MoLAS-PCA, which covers the whole area of Planning Delivery Zone 11 (MoLAS-PCA, 2007a).

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.

No previous description or investigation of the structure is known, with the exception of information contained within the document noted above.

Under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 MoLAS-PCA retains the copyright to this document.

Note: within the limitations imposed by dealing with historical material and maps, the information in this document is, to the best knowledge of the author and MoLAS-PCA, correct at the time of writing. Further archaeological investigation, or more information about the nature of the present structure may require changes to all or parts of the document.

1.2 Planning and legislative framework

The legislative and planning framework in which the archaeological exercise took place was summarised in the *Archaeological and Built Heritage impact assessment* was previously prepared by MoLAS-PCA, which covers the whole area of Planning Delivery Zone 11 (MoLAS-PCA, 2007a) and the *Written Scheme of Investigation* for the (then unidentified) structure (MoLAS-PCA 2007b), which formed the project design for the survey.

Neither the structure nor its surrounding area is a Scheduled Monument, nor is the structure listed as of special architectural or historic interest. The structure is not located in an Archaeological Priority Zone.

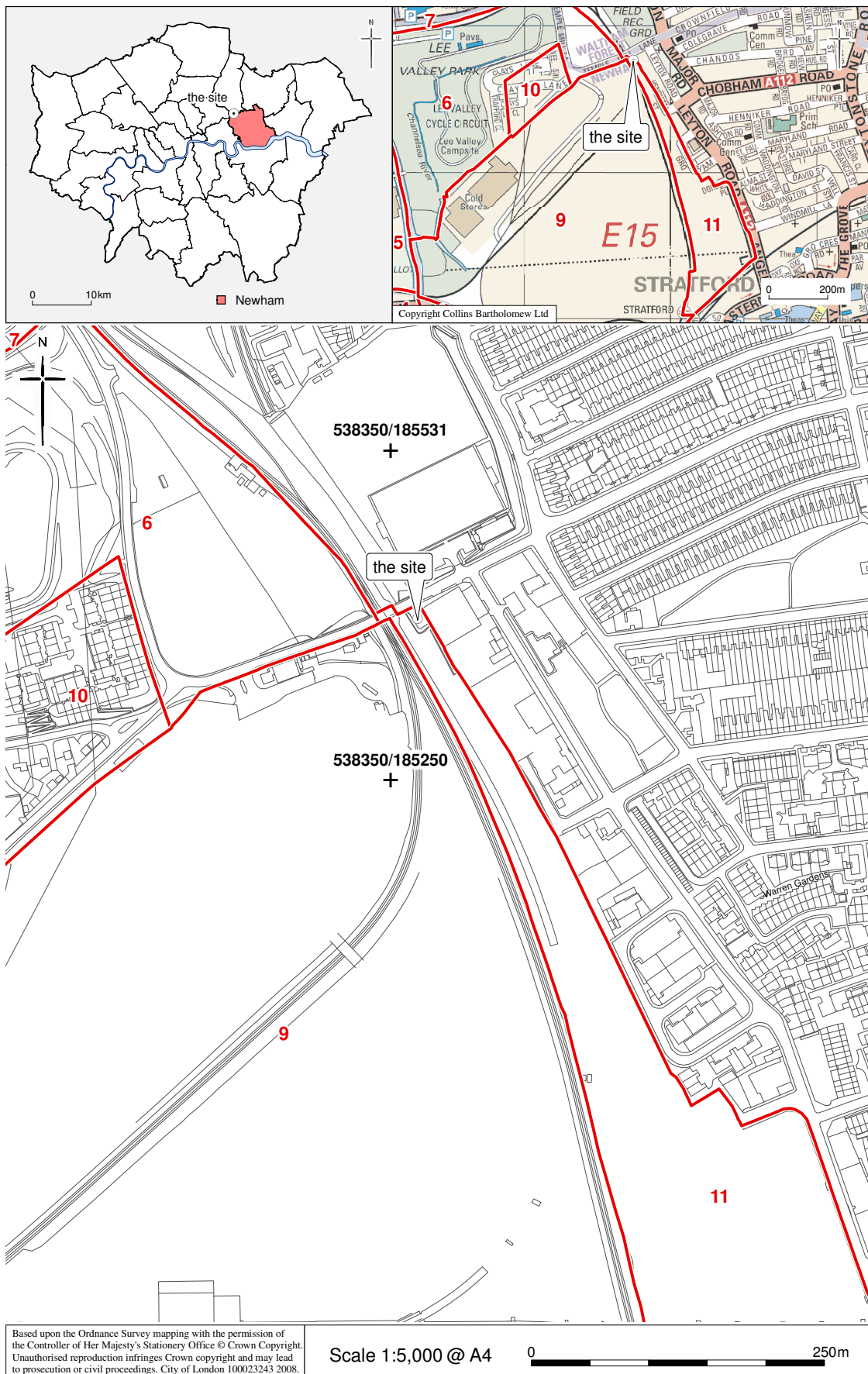


Fig 1 Location map

1.3 Planning background

In accordance with local and national policies, archaeological evaluation and built heritage survey of the areas of PDZ11 to be impacted upon in advance of its redevelopment was required as part of the planning process. Evaluation is intended to define the archaeological potential and significance of any structures present on the site, so that the local authority can formulate responses appropriate to any identified archaeological resource.

The recording of the subject site in PDZ11 will be undertaken in support of a condition required by English Heritage and attached to the consent granted by the Olympic Delivery Authority Planning Decisions Team with respect to Olympic, Paralympic and Legacy Transformation Planning Application Reference 07/90010/OUMODA. Condition OD.11.2 of planning permission 07/90010/OUMODA states:

Demolition of any historic building specified for recording in the submitted Built Heritage Written Schemes of Investigation shall not take place until the recording set out in the relevant Written Scheme of Investigation has been undertaken and written confirmation received from English Heritage that the recording is satisfactory and that the building can be demolished. A report detailing the recording shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within six months of the written confirmation received from English Heritage.
Reason: To ensure that buildings with an identified historic interest are recorded.

1.4 Origin and scope of this report

The archaeological work of analysis and recording, and the production of this report, were commissioned from the Museum of London Archaeology Service and Pre-Construct Archaeology (MoLAS-PCA) by the Olympic Delivery Authority. The work was carried out in accordance with the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (MoLAS-PCA, 2007b).

The report has been prepared within the terms of the relevant standards specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001) and corresponds to the form of record and reporting at 'Level 1', in the specifications, *Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice* recommended by English Heritage (2006).

This report presents the results of an analytical survey carried out on the site for an aggregate total of two days in November 2007, combined with the available results of documentary research.

1.5 Research aims and method of work

The research aims of this archaeological work were defined in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (MoLAS-PCA, 2007b) in conformity with applicable planning policies and English Heritage guidelines (Archaeological Guidance Paper No. 3, revised June 1998).

The overall aim of the programme of work was to secure 'preservation by record' of those aspects of the standing building and the site that were of architectural, archaeological and historical interest. The scope of the work as defined in the *Method Statement* was as follows:

'The exterior will be viewed, described and photographed. Drawings in the form of sketches may be undertaken if required. The structure's type/purpose, the materials used in

its construction and its possible date of construction will be summarised' (MoLAS-PCA 2007b, 3.3).

The investigation satisfied the research aims, and it was determined that it would not be necessary to investigate the structure further during demolition.

1.6 Organisation of this report and conventions used

All dimensions are given in metres or millimetres and in feet and inches where appropriate. Heights are given where appropriate in metres above Ordnance Datum (mean sea level), abbreviated 'm OD'.

| | |
|-------|---|
| BGS | British Geological Survey |
| DCMS | Department of Culture, Media and Sport |
| DoE | Department of the Environment |
| EH | English Heritage |
| GLAAS | Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service |
| MoLAS | Museum of London Archaeology Service |
| MoLSS | Museum of London Specialist Services |
| OD | Ordnance Datum (mean sea level at Newlyn, Cornwall) |
| ODA | Olympic Delivery Authority |
| OS | Ordnance Survey |
| PCA | Pre-Construct Archaeology |
| PFA | Pulverised fly ash |
| RCHME | Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, England |
| RSJ | Rolled steel joist |
| VCH | Victoria County History |

Table 1 abbreviations used in this report

2 Topographical and historical background

2.1 Geology and natural topography

The site is located on the eastern edge of the valley of the River Lea, c 3.5km north of its confluence with the River Thames.

The BGS Sheet 256 (North London) shows that the site lies on alluvium, which represents a range of different wetland and dryland environments existing on the floodplain of the Lea from the Mesolithic period onwards. The alluvium is underlain by the Lea Valley Gravels, deposited during the scouring-out of the valley floor during the Pleistocene.

Modern ground level at the east side of the site was at a height of 6m OD.

2.2 Early history of the site

The earliest maps of the site show that Temple Mills Lane was an established route by 1746. It connected the village of Wanstead, in the east, with Temple Mills, which stood on the Lead Mill Stream, later the Waterworks River, in the west (Fig 2). Milne's land-use map of 1800 indicates that the land now occupied by the site was under arable cultivation.

Stanford's map of London of 1862 (Fig 3) shows the increasingly urban nature of the area around Stratford, caused by the arrival of the Eastern Counties Railway (ECR) between Romford and Mile End in 1839, and the subsequent transfer of the company's locomotive works from Romford in 1847. 'Hudson Town', nicknamed after the chairman of the ECR, was built beside the works to house the railway company staff and their families. Stanford's map shows that the locomotive works were confined to a triangular area bounded to the west by the Eastern Counties Railway line to Cambridge, to the south by the main Romford to Bishopsgate line, and to the east by the railway company housing in Angel Lane, Angel Place, Railway Terrace and Castle Terrace. At the northernmost point of the works site were the carriage sheds, which stood immediately to the south of the present site, with some housing also situated on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane. The northern side of Temple Mills Lane, opposite the site, was still laid out as open fields.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1867 (Fig 4) shows that 'Hudson Town', or Stratford New Town, as it was now known, was expanding; the carriage shed to the south of the site had been replaced with railway sidings, and additional housing had been built to the east of the site, on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane.

The 2nd and 3rd edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1893 and 1916 depict the continuing expansion of east London in general and Stratford in particular. Later Ordnance Survey mapping shows the reduction in the number of railway sidings in the vicinity of the site that accompanied the closure of the Stratford locomotive works in the 1960s. The machinery and its brick casing in Temple Mills Lane are not shown on any of the available Ordnance Survey mapping.

2.3 Development and function of the standing structure

The machinery recorded was part of the local water-supply. Prior to the expansion of Stratford in the 1840s, water-supply had been largely derived from streams and private wells. There had been a public water supply in West Ham since the 1740s, when the West

Ham Waterworks Company established works on the River Lea at Bow, supplying Mile End and Stratford. The West Ham Waterworks Company was sold to the London Dock Co in 1807, and in the following year was sold on to the East London Waterworks Co. For almost a century, the East London Waterworks Co. was the chief supplier of water to the East End and suburban Essex, until they were brought out by the Metropolitan Water Board in 1904.

The water supply in Stratford was sourced from the River Lea, with intake works and two small settling reservoirs constructed at Old Ford in 1809. In 1829 the intake was moved upstream to Lea Bridge, and in 1853 the water intake was moved to the Copper Mills at Walthamstow; the first Walthamstow reservoirs and filter beds at Lea Bridge were constructed at this time. Supply could still be sporadic, however; in 1867, of the houses east of the River Lea which were served by the East London Co., 71.32 per cent had a constant supply.

With the advent of the Metropolitan Water Board in 1904, it became practical to make connections between the systems of the eight former London water companies; this was achieved by the construction of water mains across the city; the structure which is featured in this report served as an air valve on one such water main. By 1914, the whole of suburban Essex was provided with water; only 53 houses in Ilford, 16 in Barking Town, and one in Chingford were still dependent on private wells.

The structure recorded for this report was an air valve, manufactured by Glenfield & Kennedy Ltd of Kilmarnock, Ayrshire. The valve could release air, either when it had accumulated under pressure in the water mains because of an incline or change in pipe profile, or when the water mains had to be filled with water, and could admit air when water was being drained from the mains (Glenfield & Kennedy 1931, section B: 2). The date of manufacture of the structure itself is not tightly datable, although it conforms to known types, but see 3.3 below.

The origins of Glenfield & Kennedy Ltd lie with Thomas Kennedy, a watch, clock, and later gun-maker, who came to Kilmarnock from the West Highlands in 1824. He recognised the need for an accurate device for measuring water consumption, and perfected his design with colleague John Cameron, patenting it in 1852. A syndicate of four people financed the manufacture and marketing of Kennedy's water meter, and in 1863 they formed a private company called 'The Kennedy Patent Water Meter Co. Ltd'. In 1865 the same individuals formed Glenfield Co. Ltd to make iron castings and undertake general foundry work for the Meter Company, but gradually widened their interests and built up an extensive valve and hydraulic engineering business. In 1899 the two companies merged to form Glenfield & Kennedy Ltd (www.futuremuseum.co.uk/Default.aspx?Id=232&mode=collection).

The company took part of its name from the derelict Glenfield print works in Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire, which was brought for use as the factory site (Fig 5). The period between 1871 and 1904 was one of growth for Glenfield & Kennedy, under Thomas Kennedy, the nephew of Kennedy Senior. The company had substantial export orders and became the largest producer of air valves and water management equipment in what was then the British Empire (http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/comser/tourism/famous_sciences.asp).

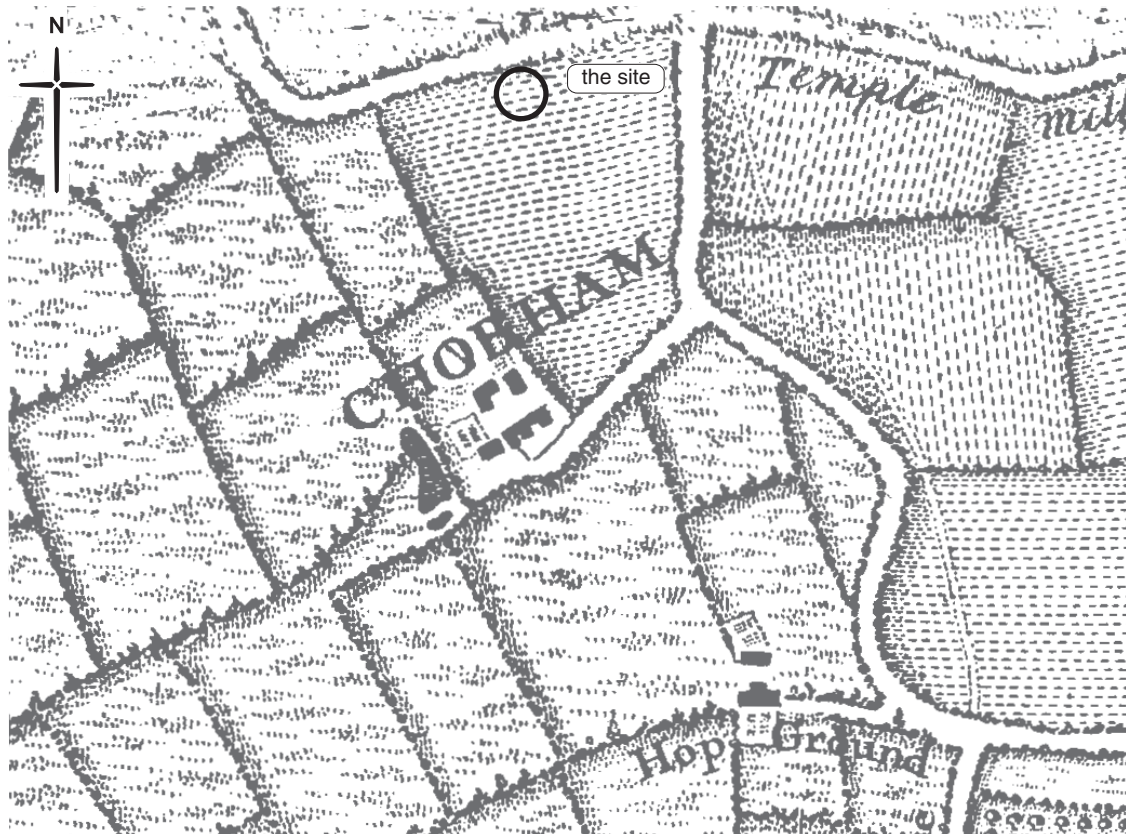


Fig 2 Rocque's map of London, 1746



Fig 3 Stanford's library map of London and its suburbs, 1862

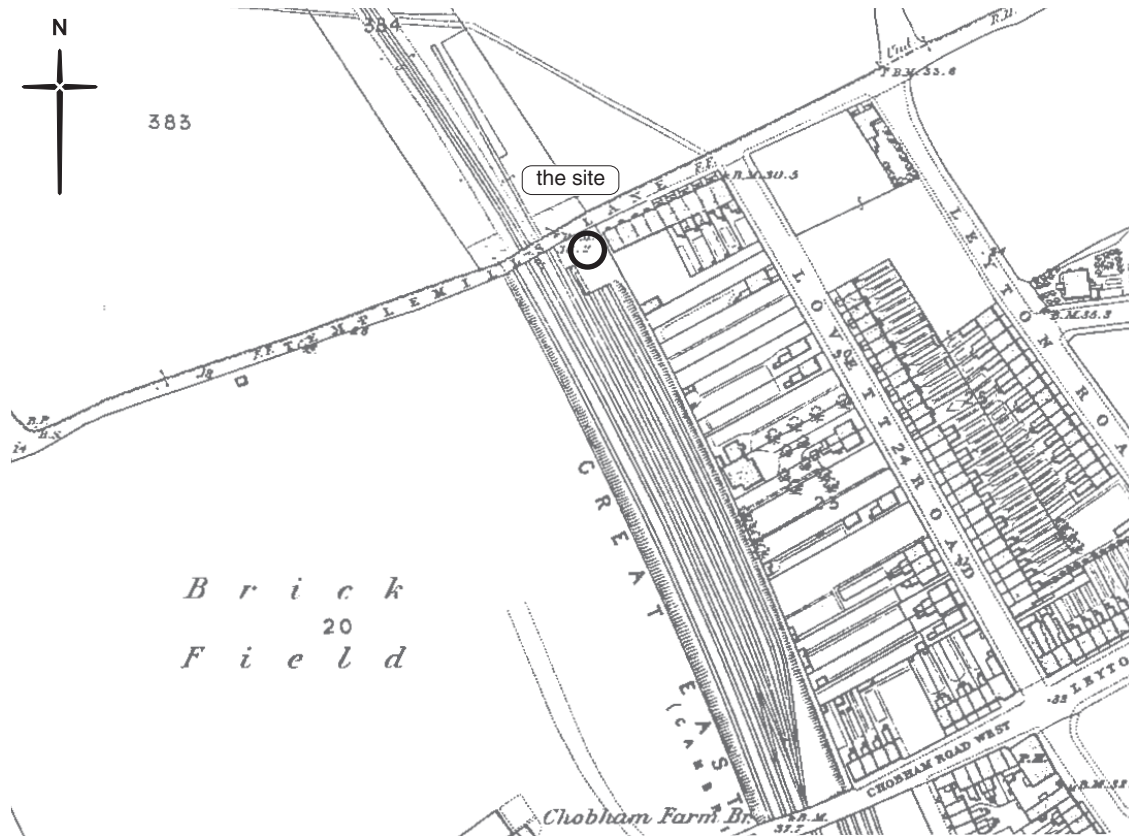


Fig 4 Ordnance Survey map, 1867



Fig 5 The Glenfield & Kennedy works, Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire (© East Ayrshire Council)

3 The standing structure survey

3.1 Methodology

All archaeological analysis and recording during the investigation on site was done in accordance with the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (MoLAS-PCA 2007b), the Museum of London *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994) and MoLAS *Health and safety policy* (2008).

The location and exterior of the standing structure were determined in outline on the modern Ordnance Survey plan. Details of the construction, development and function of the external elements of the structure were noted.

The site records comprise a total of 6 photographic images in 35mm and digital format, 5 site drawings, site notes and notes on the documentary evidence. No objects or samples were collected. The site records will be deposited and indexed in due course in the Museum of London archaeological archive under the site code OL-08407.

3.2 Description of the standing structure

This description should be read in conjunction with selected photographs taken in November 2007 (Fig 6-Fig 8).

The structure comprised an air valve housed within the demolished remains of a brick shelter, which was rectangular in plan and originally measured approximately 0.92 metres by 1.15 metres, and would have stood at least 1.3 metres high.

The shelter was constructed of pinkish-yellow machine-made bricks with cement mortar, in stretcher bond. The north-facing side of the shelter was open, and appeared to have been demolished. There may originally have been a door on the north side of the shelter, which could be opened to enable an engineer from the water board to operate the valve. The structure may also have had a roof, perhaps formed by a concrete slab. By the time of the survey, the brick shelter had been almost completely demolished; no evidence for a roof was visible.

The valve (Fig 6) was a large orifice single air valve, which was mounted on a horizontal isolating sluice valve. This was operated through mitre wheel gearing, to which a handle or wheel could be attached to open or close the valve (Fig 7). A large orifice air valve was used to release or admit air during filling or emptying of the water mains, and contained a buoyant vulcanite-covered ball which could sit on a rubber face which surrounded the outlet, providing an air- and water-tight seal (Glenfield & Kennedy 1931, section B: 2). A single orifice air valve with isolating cock was bolted onto the top of the large orifice air valve; this was used to relieve air under pressure in the mains and contained a rubber-coated ball which floated in water, again providing a seal, but which would fall away from the inlet when the water was displaced by excess air; the air could then be released from the valve (ibid). The valve was composed of cast iron, and the overall height of the structure was 1.22 metres. A shortened form of the company's name, 'Glenfield' was cast into the body and flanged top of the single orifice air valve (Fig 8).

3.3 Conclusions

By 1931 Glenfield & Kennedy were manufacturing double air valves, which combined the functions of small orifice and large orifice air valves in a single unit (Fig 9). This suggests the air valve unit on the site dates to the 1920s or earlier, as it had been constructed using two different types of valve. The brick casing surrounding the valve is a later construction, and probably replaces an earlier structure, albeit one that was not mapped by the Ordnance Survey.



Fig 6 Small and large orifice air valves mounted on horizontal isolating sluice valve, looking south



Fig 7 Air valves mounted on horizontal isolating sluice valve, looking west



Fig 8 Flanged top plate of the single orifice air valve, with maker's name cast into the fabric

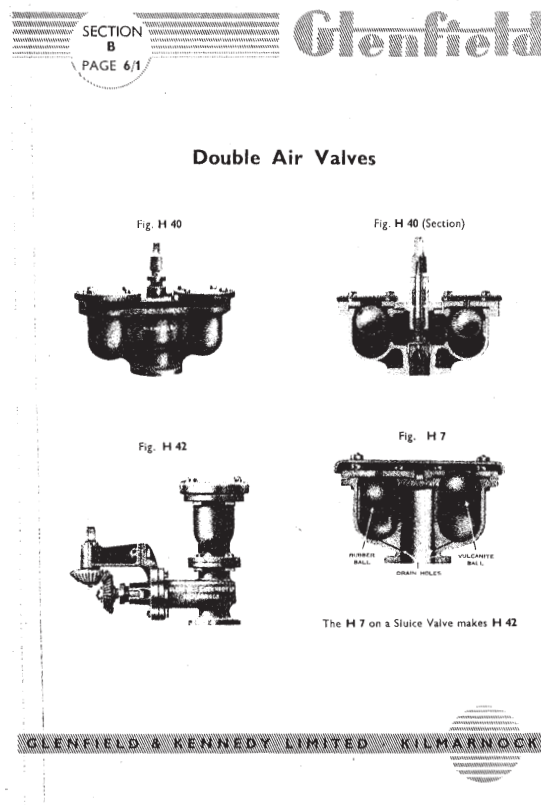


Fig 9 Glenfield & Kennedy Double Air Valves (Glenfield & Kennedy 1951, Section B: 6/1)

4 Potential of the archaeology

4.1 Original research aims

The archaeological investigation has fulfilled the original research aims through the creation of a photographic and drawn record and written description of the machinery in Temple Mills Lane.

4.2 New research aims

More documentary evidence in the form of design drawings for the air valve may survive in Glenfield & Kennedy's archive, which is held by Glasgow University Archive Services. These may specifically date the manufacture of the valve. The Metropolitan Board of Works' plans of the water mains in north London would also enhance our understanding of the structure's use; the equivalent plan for south London is held by the London Metropolitan Archive (ACC/2423/P/2042).

4.3 Significance of the data

The standing structure is undoubtedly of significance for the history of the immediate locality, but nothing was found to suggest that it is of wider regional or national importance. The academic requirement to publish the results of the investigation will be met by reporting the results in summary form in *Post-Medieval Archaeology*, in the annual excavation round-up in the *London Archaeologist*, and in the project built heritage monograph.

4.4 Salvaged fixtures, fittings and materials

There was no archaeological requirement to salvage any of the materials or fittings during the compilation of this report.

5 Publication and archiving

The site archive containing original records will be stored in accordance with the terms of the Written Scheme of Investigation (MoLAS-PCA, 2007b).

Information on the results of the survey 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.

In view of the limited potential of the material and the relatively limited significance of the data (Section 4.3) it is suggested that a summary of the results of the survey should appear in the *London Archaeologist* or the *Transactions of the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society*.

It is also recommended that the results of this recording exercise are assimilated into a site-wide assessment of all archaeological interventions to assign contextual significance and further refine the importance of the archaeological survival, and thereafter assimilated into any publication discussing/disseminating the results.

6 Acknowledgements

The archaeological survey and this report were commissioned by The Olympic Delivery Authority, whom the project manager and author wish to thank. They are grateful especially to colleagues at Capita Symonds Ltd, both in and out of the field. They also thank the staff of Newham Archives and Local Studies Library and the London Metropolitan Archive for providing historic maps and information.

Archaeological analysis and recording, and pencil drawings, were by Andrew Westman, Maria Utrero and Emma Dwyer. The archaeological photographs of the standing structure were taken by Maggie Cox, assisted by Maria Utrero, and off-site were scanned and printed by Maggie Cox. Documentary research was carried out by Monica Cortelletti and the figures were produced by Judit Peresztegi.

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8 Appendix 1: NMR OASIS archaeological report form

OASIS ID: molas1-40635

Project details

Project name Machinery, Temple Mill Lane, London E15: a Standing Structure Survey report

Short description of the project The Museum of London Archaeology Service and Pre-Construct Archaeology (MoLAS-PCA) were commissioned by the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) to analyse and record a standing structure, namely an item of unidentified machinery on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane, London E15. The structure was to be demolished in order to redevelop the site, and the archaeological investigation and a subsequent report were required as a condition of planning consent for the redevelopment. The investigation took place in November 2007, and comprised a measured survey and photography of the fabric and setting of the structure. The structure comprised the remains of a brick shelter, constructed of yellow machine-made bricks, on the southern side of Temple Mills Lane in Stratford, E15. The shelter housed two cast iron air valves; the smaller was used to expel air under pressure from the water mains which runs under Temple Mills Lane. The larger valve released air from the mains when it was being filled, and admitted air when it was being emptied. The valves appear to have been constructed no later than the 1920s, as a new double air valve, which would combine both tasks, was being manufactured by Glenfield and Kennedy by 1931

Project dates Start: 23-11-2007 End: 26-11-2007

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes OL-08407 - Sitecode

Type of project Building Recording

Site status None

Current Land use Other 12 - Verge

Monument type VALVE HOUSE Modern

Methods techniques & 'Annotated Sketch','Photographic Survey'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15

Project location

Country England
Site location GREATER LONDON NEWHAM STRATFORD Machinery, Temple Mills Lane, London E15

Postcode E15

Study area 2.00 Square metres

Site coordinates 538373 185388 538373 00 00 N 185388 00 00 E Point

Height OD Min: 6.00m Max: 6.00m

Project creators

Name of MoLAS/PCA
Organisation

Project brief ODA
originator

Project design MoLAS/PCA
originator

Project Alex Rose-Deacon
director/manager

Project supervisor Emma Dwyer

Type of ODA
sponsor/funding
body

Name of Olympic Delivery Authority
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive No
Exists?

Paper Archive LAARC
recipient

Paper Archive ID OL-08407

Paper Media 'Drawing','Map','Photograph','Report','Unpublished Text'
available

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Machinery, Temple Mills Lane, London, E15: a Standing Structure Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Dwyer, E

Date 2008

Issuer or MoLAS-PCA
publisher

Place of issue or London
publication

Description A4 report, paper

Entered by Emma Dwyer (edwyer@molas.org.uk)

Entered on 14 April 2008

9 Appendix 2: list of archaeological photographs

| Image number | Description |
|--------------|--|
| 27707590 | Valve unit and brick casing in Temple Mills Lane, looking south-west |
| 27707591 | Valve unit and brick casing in Temple Mills Lane, looking south-east |
| 27707592 | Detail of valve unit, looking south |
| 44607001 | 'Glenfield' name plate on valve unit |
| 44607002 | Valve unit in Temple Mills Lane, looking south |
| 44607003 | Valve unit in Temple Mill Lane, looking east |

10 Appendix 3: list of working drawings made on site

| Drawing | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Sketch plan and elevations of machinery in Temple Mills Lane |
| 2 | Detailed sketch of working mechanism |