

**Archaeology West - Contract No. C254**  
**Archaeological Watching Briefs at 18-19 Hanover Square**  
**Bond Street Station (Eastern Ticket Hall)**  
 Fieldwork Report

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## SUMMARY

A series of nine geotechnical test pits were subject to a targeted watching brief undertaken by Oxford Archaeology/Gifford (OAG) in the basements of 18 and 19 Hanover Square. This work was part of the works for the Bond Street Station Eastern Ticket Hall (ETH), centred around Hanover Square, City of Westminster, London. The works took place in July 2010 and, due to the restricted nature of the watching brief works and the extent of 20<sup>th</sup>-century truncation encountered, the results and conclusions of the investigations were limited. At the base of several test pits the underlying natural was identified as Lynch Hill terrace gravels.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 In July 2010 Oxford Archaeology/Gifford (hereafter OAG) undertook a targeted watching brief within the footprint of 18-19 Hanover Square, City of Westminster, London; TQ 2884 8107, (Figure 1). The work consisted of inspections during geotechnical investigations undertaken as part of the preparations for the main construction works at 18-19 Hanover Square.
- 1.1.2 The works were carried out in accordance with the Site Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (SSWSI) for the site produced by the framework design consultant WSP (Document No: C132-WSP-T1-RGN-C125-0009 Rev 2.0). In response OAG produced an Archaeology Method Statement (C254-PDP-W-GMS-C125-00001, OAG16188.R03). The works involved a Targeted Watching Brief (Specification for Evaluation and Mitigation, CR-PN\_LWS\_EN\_SP\_0001; section 7.H.4).
- 1.1.3 Targeted watching briefs are used for areas of known occasional, dispersed features which are either not considered to be of sufficient significance to warrant archaeological investigation in advance of construction, or where access prior to construction has not been possible and where, as a result, there is a possibility of unexpected discoveries, (*ibid*).
- 1.1.4 This report is a full Fieldwork Report in line with Section 8F of the Specification for Evaluation and Mitigation (CR-PN\_LWS\_EN\_SP\_0001), produced following the completion of site works in order to disseminate the results of the investigations.

### 1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 This data is summarised from the Detailed Desk-Based Assessment (DDBA) undertaken for Bond Street Station (Document reference: CR-SD-BOS-EN-SR-00001). The buildings at 18-19 Hanover Square have a combined site area of 0.2 hectares (0.5 acres), with a 33 metre wide frontage onto Hanover Square and a 51 metre return frontage onto Tenterden Street (Figure 1).

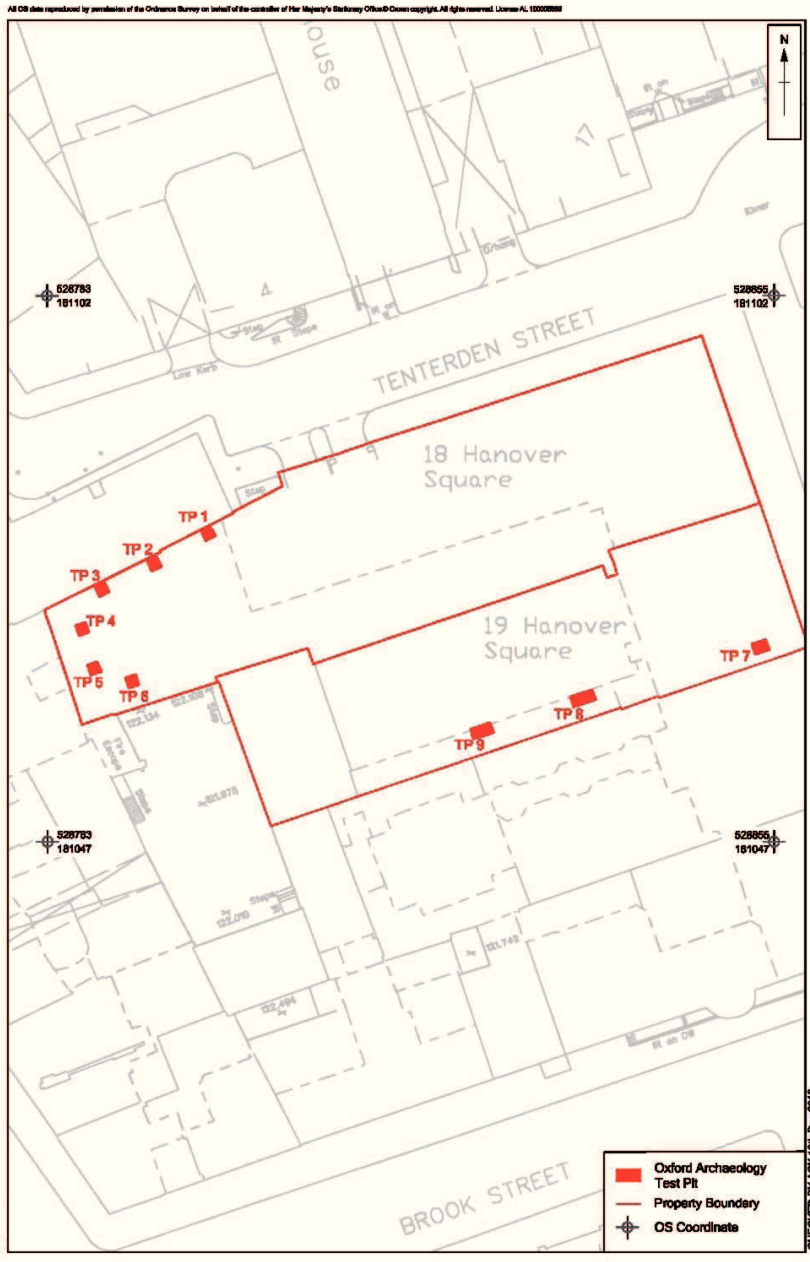


Figure 1: Site location

- 1.2.2 The ground surface topography for the study area reflects the infilled Tyburn River valley to the west, the river now being culverted below South Molton Lane. The ground slopes almost imperceptibly from west to east. The urban landscape consists of offices and shops of at least 4 storeys surrounding the rectangular open space of Hanover Square.
- 1.2.3 Here the superficial geology is the Lynch Hill Thames Terrace Gravels. However, there has been extensive basemending work in the area of the proposed station box, with natural gravels cut through and re-deposited. Based on exploratory boreholes, numbers B7, B8, B9, B10, B11, B12 and B1, made ground was predicted to lie between 0.65m and 4.35m below present ground surface (119.95m ATD to 124.25m ATD) in areas which were not basemended. The Terrace Gravels deposits were suggested to vary between 0.20m and 6.15m thickness (117.75 ATD to 122.70m ATD). Heights are given in metres Above Tunnel Datum (ATD), unless otherwise stated.

### 1.3 Archaeological background

- 1.3.1 The following outline is taken from the DDBA undertaken for Bond Street Station (Document reference: CR-SD-BOS-EN-SR-00001).
- 1.3.2 There is evidence that the locality of the Bond Street investigation area has been extensively occupied by various peoples throughout time. The River Tyburn formerly ran through the study area, and it is likely that the rich resources associated with this watercourse would have encouraged prehistoric peoples to settle and forage along its banks. A number of Palaeolithic axes found in the area surrounding the site support this hypothesis.
- 1.3.3 A medieval settlement was located to the north of the present Bond Street Station site, centred around the parish church of St John the Evangelist. Whilst the churchyard may have extended south below Oxford Street the area remained largely rural, as evidenced by field ditches located near Wigmore Street and Tenterden Street. This settlement eventually declined and people moved north-west to the Marylebone area.
- 1.3.4 The area south of Oxford Street was known as Conduit Meadow from 1589 onwards. Conduit Street itself reflects the diversion of a rising spring in the 15th century and implies a low density of population. In 1926 the River Tyburn was diverted from near Oxford Street to the City via a number of conduits. This route is still visible in the street patterning around Bond Street.
- 1.3.5 Civil war defences were constructed in 1642/3 and were in existence until at least 1647. Although the presence of forts close to Wardour Street, linked with a possible fort at Mount Row (to the south of the site), is likely, the location of the line of earthworks between these can only be speculative.
- 1.3.6 Urbanisation in the area gathered pace in the 17th century and the street patterning surrounding the study area is Georgian, and rectilinear in form. The Hanover Square site was designed in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, with the first buildings being completed around 1717. John Strype's survey of Westminster in 1720 states that *'there are certain new and splendid Buildings, called, in Honour of his present Majesty, HANOVER-SQUARE: Some finished, and some erecting; consisting of many compleat'*, (Strype 1720).

- 1.3.7 It is reported in the Victoria County History of the area that the local newspaper of the time, *The Weekly Medly*, recorded in 1717 that: 'Round about the new square, which is building near Oxford Road [now Oxford Street], there are so many other edifices that a whole magnificent city seems to be risen out of the ground, that one would wonder how it should find a new set of inhabitants. It is said it will be called by the name of Hanover Square. The chief persons that we hear of who are to inhabit that place when it is finished, having bought houses, are these following:—The Lord Cadogan, a general; also General Carpenter, General Wills, General Evans, General Pepper, the two General Stuarts, and several others whose names we have not been able to learn.' (VCA 1878:315).
- 1.3.8 The area was evidently remarkable for its distinguished residents and formidable apartments. The east side of the square contained the Hanover Square Rooms, or Queen's Concert Rooms, where Sir John Gallini created a number of concert hall rooms which King George II frequently attended. It was originally on land known as Mill Field after a mill which adjoined it. The area also housed the Arts Club at No. 17, whilst the Royal Academy of Music was located in Tenterden Street after being established in 1822.
- 1.3.9 There is an assertion that the original style of architecture in Hanover Square was more unusual than other squares since it showed stronger Baroque influences (Summerson 1945, 82-83). The original buildings were built or dark grey, red and yellow brickwork with narrow windows that were connected into vertical strips by brick lacing or rusticated 'aprons', (*ibid*).



Plate 1: 1787 copy by Pollard and Jukes of Dayes 'Hanover Square', looking south



1.3.10 On the eastern side of Hanover Square, adjacent to the present site, both Nos. 20 and 21 are listed (Grade II\* and Grade II, respectively). These buildings are constructed in brick and are domestic in scale, whilst the larger commercial buildings of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and of the 20<sup>th</sup> century tend to be in stone or faience. 20 Hanover Square is a substantial terraced town house dating from 1718-20. The building is made from darkened yellow stock brick and consists of four storeys, an attic and a basement. No. 21 Hanover Square is a town house dating from between 1740-50 that was remodelled in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The building is made from red brick with Portland stone and painted dressings and incorporates three storeys, a basement and a slated mansard roof with dormer window (City of Westminster 2005). Another surviving example is that of No. 24 Hanover Square on the south-western side.



Plate 2: Nos 20 and 24 Hanover Square

1.3.11 From the early 19<sup>th</sup> century there was continual redevelopment of the various streets around and within Hanover Square. The site of 18-19 Hanover Square is shown as the Oriental Club on maps from 1862 (see below). This organisation was founded in 1824 by Sir John Malcolm and had a membership drawn from the East India Company and officials in public service in India. Hanover Square was the second location for the club, the first being in Grosvenor Street, where it was for four years. The club then moved to Hanover Square, into a building which was demolished and replaced by a purpose-built clubhouse. There were reports that *'the building is constructed after the manner of club-houses in general, having only one tier of windows above the ground-floor. The interior received some fresh embellishment about the year 1850, some of the rooms and ceilings having been decorated in a superior style by Collman, and it contains some fine portraits'* (Walford 1878, 314-326).



- 1.3.12 'On 2 March 1826 the committee offered £14,000 to JD Alexander for the freehold to his house at 18 Hanover Square, which included the use of a stable yard held under lease to City of London. Benjamin Wyatt was appointed architect charged with turning the townhouse into a clubhouse. He opted to pull down the existing house and build another at a cost of £17,000. The purchase of the Hanover Square property was financed partly by loans raised from members on the security of any property the Oriental would eventually own, with some 100 signatories agreeing to loan £160 each in 1825. The new clubhouse was ready in 1828 and the Oriental remained there until 30 November 1961', (London Metropolitan Archives 2003, Ref No. LMA/4452).
- 1.3.13 No. 18 (also incorporating 1A Tenterden Street) was erected following planning permission in 1963 and it has been in use as a mixture of offices and showroom since (Crossrail 2005).
- 1.3.14 No. 19 was erected after planning permission was granted in 1971 for basement car parking, a ground floor showroom and offices on the floors above (six floor structure). Later permissions (1993 and 2002) were granted for a new shopfront and various alterations including a new ground floor entrance and canopy and a rear extension at third and fourth floor levels incorporating a roof terrace (*ibid*).
- 1.3.15 Planning permission was granted in 2005 for the redevelopment of 18 and 19 Hanover Square to form a new building comprising offices and the Crossrail Ticket Hall on the ground floor (*ibid*).

#### 1.4 Map Regression

- 1.4.1 A historic map regression exercise was undertaken as part of the DDBA for Bond Street. This is summarised below.
- Mordern and Lea's map of 1690 shows the area already developed and the Tyburn entering a conduit head in open fields north of the Tyburn Road (Oxford Street).
  - The 1746 Roque map shows that the Hanover Square and Davies Street sites have developments on them. These were likely to have shallow foundations.
  - The more detailed 1792-99 Horwood map depicts Hanover Square as completely built and with properties of various sizes along the frontages. It also indicates that the houses on the western side were historical larger, with bigger gardens than the other three sides (shown below).



Plate 3: Horwood's map of 1792-99

- The 1824 Greenwood map indicates a building, or group of buildings, on the west side of Hanover Square, north of Brook St, with an open space at the rear, and the manner in which it is depicted suggests they may still be gardens.
- The 1862 Stanford map shows the study area and marks the Hanover Square site as the location of the Oriental Club and, although the plot of land does not depict the rear gardens on the west side, they were almost certainly still there as they are shown on subsequent mapping.
- The 1870 OS map shows the individual buildings and landmark features. The Hanover Square site shows the Oriental Club facing to the north now, and depicts several buildings in the site. There are two gardens to the rear of the buildings fronting onto Hanover Square.
- The 1889 Booth poverty map shows that the study area appears to be pink and light blue, indicating poor to fairly comfortably-off people lived here, with some red-coded inhabitants facing the streets.
- The later 1914 OS map depicts a number of the buildings which appear to have been redeveloped or extended to the rear in the Hanover Square site. The site itself is still listed as the Oriental Club.

## 1.5 Conclusions of the desk top study

1.5.1 Generally, it was concluded within the desktop study that there was a:

- low potential for the recovery of Palaeolithic remains from the Lynch Hill Terrace gravel in the area of the Hanover Square Box and eastern grout shafts (subject to a watching brief which will be reported on in subsequent OAG reports). Such features, if they survive, are likely to be of low importance if they are re-deposited but possibly of high importance if they remain *in situ*; and
- moderate to high likelihood of locating post-medieval remains associated with localised dumping and ground build-up across the Bond Street site (where new build basements have not truncated these deposits). Trench monitoring carried out in these areas has indicated that archaeological features of limited significance, relating to this post-medieval urbanisation process, survive. These are likely to be of low to moderate importance.

## 1.6 Previous Archaeological Works

1.6.1 A borehole at 19 Hanover Square (XRB92, B9) indicated truncation to the natural geology, covered by post-medieval dumping. Excavations carried out at site no. TEN98 however, to the immediate east of the Hanover Square Eastern Ticket Hall, located truncation of the natural geology by 18<sup>th</sup>-century and Roman features down to 121.61m ATD. There is a record of quarrying located at the west side of Hanover Square (MLO 67031).

1.6.2 Basement depths for buildings at 18-19 Hanover Square and 1a Tenterden Street, were established as being typical single-depth basements (2.4m). At 18 Hanover Square these sat on a slab with a maximum thickness of 0.3m. At 19 Hanover Square the basements were underpinned by column bases. It was predicted that the foundations were likely to end at c.118.0m ATD, but that the columns at 19 Hanover Square may have truncated through to the London Clay. This indicated likely historical truncation of potential archaeological deposits at these locations (C132-WSP-T1-RGN-C125-00009).

## **2. RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

2.1.1 The overall objectives of all archaeological investigations at the site is to establish the character, nature, date, extent and state of preservation of any surviving archaeological remains that would be/will be impacted upon by the development.

2.1.2 It was hoped that the targeted watching briefs discussed here could provide information regarding the understanding the growth and development of the area.

### **2.2 Bond Street Station Investigation Aims**

2.2.1 The SSWSI (Document No: C132-WSP-T1-RGN-C125-0009 Rev 2.0) contains a number of research and work objectives, for which the current watching brief could only provide limited assistance. The aims are outlined below:

- To record the post-medieval development of central London, including evidence for the absorption of the rural landscape into the urban one through domestic and industrial structures;
- Charting how and why different parts of the Soho area of London developed as specialist producers, and understanding the implications of this for the London area;
- To define, if possible, the western extent of St Giles village and its hinterland – what evidence survived if any of related structures, property/field boundaries or routeways;
- To verify and record the line of the Roman roads and surviving associated sequences; and
- To define levels of truncation in relation to adjacent past archaeological investigations and geotechnical works to provide a clear deposits model to inform further development works in the area.

## **3. INVESTIGATION METHODOLOGIES**

### **3.1 Watching Brief Methodology**

3.1.1 All archaeological works were carried out according to the Archaeological Method Statement approved by Crossrail (Document No.C254-PDP-W-GMS-C125-00001)

- 3.1.2 A Watching Brief, as defined in the Generic WSI, is 'a programme of archaeological monitoring (*i.e.* observation, investigation and recording) which is carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist during site investigations (*e.g.* geotechnical test pits, boreholes and utilities trial trenches) and construction works'. The purpose of this watching brief was to identify the potential of any archaeological remains that were uncovered in the course of the works and record them appropriately (as far as was reasonably practicable).
- 3.1.3 There was the stipulation that 'except in cases where unexpected, potentially nationally important, archaeological remains are discovered, the targeted watching brief shall be designed and implemented so as to avoid adverse impact on the construction programme, wherever practicable', (Specification for Evaluation and Mitigation, CR-PN\_LWS\_EN\_SP\_0001; section 7.H.6).
- 3.1.4 The following observations were recorded on a daily basis.
- The Event Code and location of the area observed;
  - The date of the observation;
  - Personnel employed on site;
  - A description of the construction works observed;
  - Depths and extents of excavation works observed;
  - A measure of confidence that any archaeological remains would have been observed and reasons;
  - The reasons why any particular area of the works was not observed, and noting those areas not subject to disturbance from construction;
  - Location and description of any archaeological remains; and
  - Location and description of any modern remains.
- 3.1.5 The watching brief has resulted in the preparation of an ordered archive.

### **3.1.6 Techniques for Watching Brief Work**

- 3.1.7 The watching brief aimed to include archaeological supervision during the initial removal of overburden/ topsoil/subsoil followed, as necessary, by localised hand inspection, and archaeological assessment. All work was done with the aim of recovering sufficient information to determine function, form, and date.
- 3.1.8 Heights for all deposits have been related to the depth below ground level (BGL) which in this case was the concrete slab within the existing basement of the building, accessibility restrictions precluded the measurement of the depths in relation to approved Ordnance Survey Bench Marks (OSBM).
- 3.1.9 It was frequently not possible to clean and record the archaeological profile exposed during the excavation of the geotechnical test pits, due to health and safety or access constraints. Every effort was made to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits, the depth of modern intrusions, key stratigraphic components and natural deposits.

### **3.1.10 Recording standards**

- 3.1.11 The archaeological remains were recorded to best practice standards (see below), recognising the special circumstances of a watching brief, which demand flexibility in order to achieve archaeological objectives and requirements within the construction environment.
- 3.1.12 The recording included a written record on appropriate *pro forma*, a drawn record where appropriate, and photography.
- 3.1.13 The drawn record incorporated plans and section drawings. The photographic record consisted of 35mm monochrome and colour, as well as digital formats.
- 3.1.14 All structures, deposits and finds were recorded by OAG according to current best practice and accepted professional standards (see OA Fieldwork Manual 1992, Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual 1990), and as outlined in:
- Bond Street Station Station. Site-Specific Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (SSWSI), C132-WSP-T1-RGN-C125-00009 Rev 2.0
  - Archaeology West – Contract No. C254, Archaeological Works at Bond Street Station, Archaeology Method Statement, Document No. C254-PDP-W-GMS-C125-00001
  - Archaeological Generic Written Scheme of Investigation, Document No: CR-PN-LWS-EN-SY-00001, 7 July 2009 (AWSI)
  - Archaeology Specification for Evaluation and Mitigation (including Watching Brief), Document No: CR-PN-LWS-EN-SP-00001, 26 June 2009, (ASEM)
  - Works Information (Volume 1 - General), Document No: CR-SD-PRW-X-RT-00151, 5 June 2009 (WIV1)
  - Works Information (Volume 2 - Particular), Document No: CR-SD-PRW-X-ITT-00001, 13 July 2009 (WIV2)
  - Crossrail standards and specifications;
  - Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation, 2008 (revised);
  - Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief, 2008 (revised);
  - Museum of London collections and archive policies and guidance;
  - English Heritage – *Geoarchaeology*, 2007;
  - English Heritage - Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists, 2003;
  - GLAAS Archaeological Guidance Papers 1999;
  - Corporation of London archaeology guidance – Planning Advice Note 3, 2004; and
  - Museum of London Archaeology Service site recording manual (MOLA 1994).

## 3.2 Investigation Methodology

- 3.2.1 The watching brief took place in the basements of standing buildings and as such there were both space and health and safety constraints on the work that could be done. The conditions under which the works were carried out are demonstrated below.



Plate 4: General view of test pit works in the basement of 18 Hanover Square, looking west



- 3.2.2 All trenches had the concrete slabs cut out and removed by the Principal Contractor and the underlying modern slab preparation deposits removed either by mechanical excavation or by hand, with the methodology being dictated by the Principal Contractor's method statement. This element of the works did not require permanent archaeological supervision. Subsequent to this initial breaking out phase archaeological supervision became dependent on the rate of works.
- 3.2.3 The majority of the archaeological investigations took place during the opening up of the trenches and during the installation of shoring. Every effort was made to conduct the archaeological work alongside the contractor's work in order that there was no stoppage time for archaeological reasons. The density of archaeological remains and their level of significance meant that this was entirely possible. The order in which the trenches were excavated was dictated, purely, by the programme of works, with no archaeological input.


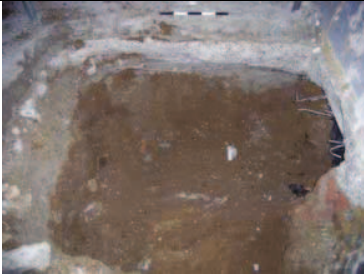



#### 4. RESULTS (SEE FIG.1)

##### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The scope of the watching brief work reported here was small in terms of size and duration and formed only a small part of the general ongoing works in this area of the scheme. In all cases the archaeological recording aimed to be consistent, of the highest standards and integral to the whole project. However, the logistics and health and safety aspects of some elements of the work did preclude the highest level of recording in cases where physical access to areas was limited.
- 4.1.2 Where contexts could be identified in more than one test pit they have been linked and the phases referred to are those determined by the larger scale excavation works, where applicable.
- 4.1.3 The results are presented below by geographical location. Any variations in what was recorded is due primarily to the depths achieved, the manner of works, localised truncations and whether the area had been recently subjected to disturbance.

Trenches	Results	
<b>18 Hanover Square</b>		
Test Pit 1	 <p data-bbox="523 1397 756 1429">Test Pit 1, looking east</p>	<p data-bbox="844 1124 1460 1308">Test Pit 1 measured 2m x 2m and was dug to a maximum depth of 2.2m BGL. In this trench there was 0.9m of concrete slab overlying a 0.2m thick deposit of pale brown clay with brick fragment inclusions. This deposit was seen only in the south-east part of the test pit. Below this was 1.3m thick layer of pale brown sandy gravel. It was not possible to determine whether this gravel was natural or re-deposited natural.</p>
Test Pit 2	 <p data-bbox="523 1720 756 1736">Test Pit 2, looking east</p>	<p data-bbox="844 1438 1460 1653">Test Pit 2 measured 2m x 2m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.7m BGL. In this trench there was 0.6m of concrete slab overlying a 1m deep rubble-filled cut, seen on the north side of the test pit only. This cut was probably for the modern construction and it truncated the mid brownish orange sandy gravels. These gravels appear to be intact natural rather than redeposited natural, although the upper portion maybe affected by human activity.</p>

Trenches	Results	
Test Pit 3	 <p data-bbox="523 584 748 607">Test Pit 3, looking east</p>	<p data-bbox="842 304 1458 465">Test Pit 3 measured 2m x 2m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.8m BGL. In this trench there was 0.7m of concrete slab overlying over 1m of mid brownish orange sandy gravels. These gravels were similar to those seen in other test pits and appeared to be <i>in situ</i> natural. A deeper concrete foundation was seen in the west section.</p>
Test Pit 4	 <p data-bbox="523 893 748 916">Test Pit 4, looking north</p>	<p data-bbox="842 613 1458 860">Test Pit 4 measured 2m x 2m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.2m BGL. In this trench there was 0.5m of concrete slab overlying a 0.6m of mid brown coarse sandy gravel. This deposit had a more mixed texture than the gravels seen in Test Pits 2 and 3, was of a darker hue, and was probably redeposited natural. There were traces of brickwork in the south-east corner of the test pit. The brickwork was red and yellow and may have been part of the previous standing structure on the site.</p>
Test Pit 5	 <p data-bbox="523 1214 748 1236">Test Pit 5, looking north</p>	<p data-bbox="842 934 1458 1095">Test Pit 5 measured 2m x 2m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.6m BGL. In this trench there was 0.6m of concrete slab overlying over 0.8m of mid brownish orange sandy gravels. These gravels were similar to those seen in other test pits and appear to be natural. A deeper concrete beam was seen in the south-eastern corner.</p>
Test Pit 6	Not excavated	Not excavated




19 Hanover Square		
Test Pit 7	 <p data-bbox="523 651 751 678">Test Pit 7, looking west</p>	<p data-bbox="842 371 1453 589">Test Pit 7 measured 2.3m x 1.3m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.4m BGL. In this trench there was 1m of concrete slab overlying a mid greyish brown, stoney, sandy silt, more than 0.4m deep. This deposit had a more mixed texture than the identified natural gravels and was more similar to the lower deposit seen in Test Pit 8. The material could have been deposited during the construction of the present modern building or be disturbed material from earlier activities.</p>
Test Pit 8	 <p data-bbox="523 972 751 999">Test Pit 8, looking east</p>	<p data-bbox="842 692 1453 824">Test Pit 8 measured 2m x 1.3m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.6m BGL. In this trench there was 1m of concrete slab overlying a mid greyish brown, stoney, sandy silt, more than 0.6m deep. This lower deposit contained inclusions of froged red brick fragments.</p>
Test Pit 9	 <p data-bbox="523 1292 751 1319">Test Pit 9, looking north-west</p>	<p data-bbox="842 1012 1453 1167">Test Pit 9 measured 1.8m x 1.3m and was dug to a maximum depth of 1.3m BGL. In this trench there was 1m of concrete slab overlying a mid brown sandy gravel, more than 0.75m deep. This deposit had a darker hue and a more mixed texture than the identified natural gravels seen elsewhere. It may be redeposited natural rather than intact natural gravels.</p>

Table 1: Results of archaeological monitoring of test pits below 18-19 Hanover Square

- 4.1.4 Deposits that were confidently identified as *in situ* natural were seen only in the areas where the deepest works were undertaken. The geological sequence in this general area of London should consist of clayey brickearth; overlying sandy gravels of the Lynch Hill series; which overlie London Clay. However, as has already been reported, the Hanover Square area lacks any identified brickearth.
- 4.1.5 The mid orange sandy gravels, seen in Test Pits 2, 3 and 5, were the only ones which could be confidently identified as *in situ* undisturbed natural gravels. The deposits were consistent with the Lynch Hill terrace gravel sequence. The majority of the test pits varied between 1.2m (TP4) and 1.8m (TP 3) deep, with TP1 being the exception at 2.2m depth. Although the relative depths of the test pits may be a factor, it would seem that the natural deposits were present towards the back, western part of the site, while more disturbed deposits lay towards the east. It is possible that these disturbed deposits could relate to quarrying activity or perhaps represent the construction activities that occurred around Hanover Square from the outset of its development.

- 4.1.6 In the other test pits (1, 4, 7, 8 and 9) it was difficult to determine whether these darker hued more mixed deposits were undisturbed natural deposits, whether they were quarry backfills or were simply redeposited natural gravels.
- 4.1.7 The upper deposits and rare brick remains seen only in Test Pit 4 were all of a Victorian or modern date. The upper deposits related to the late 20<sup>th</sup>-century construction of the buildings at 18-19 Hanover Square.

## 4.2 Stratigraphic Results: Overview

- 4.2.1 The site archive from the watching brief produced a minimal record and no finds and required no issue of context numbers for the observed remains, the majority of which were late 20th-century in date. A number of constraints on the work and thus the potential for results arose, and are outlined below.
- 4.2.2 The first was the level of visibility. The amount of archaeology visible was dependant on how the trench was dug, the manner of work (*i.e.* manual or mechanical), whether shoring was put in place, lighting conditions and the restriction on time in order to clean and observe sections. This also related to the depths achieved; in some instances the test pits reached a depth that meant the trench became defined as a confined space and entry was restricted.
- 4.2.3 A second main issue was the degree of truncation from later features and from previous services.

## 5. RESULTS IN RELATION TO INVESTIGATION AIMS

- 5.1.1 Each component of the Bond Street Station project has specific aims that were established as part of the framework of investigation. Alongside this were general site objectives into which all the work could filter information.
- 5.1.2 These have been stated in Section 2 but, to reiterate, the primary objective was to provide information regarding the early settlement and land use sequences that would be relevant to understanding the growth and development of the area. Unfortunately, the results of the work reported here could not provide any significant information towards this objective.
- 5.1.3 Another aim was to define levels of truncation in relation to adjacent past archaeological investigations and geotechnical works, and thus to provide a clear deposits model to inform mitigation of further development works in the area. The watching brief works at 18-19 Hanover Square have demonstrated a large degree of truncation and a minimal probability of archaeological remains being present within areas which have previously been basemented.
- 5.1.4 This does not preclude the existence of more important archaeological remains in the immediate vicinity, since the nature of truncation could leave isolated islands of remains. The results of the watching brief vary little from those of the boreholes noted in the 2008 DDBA where it was said that, 'At the Hanover Square site the superficial geology is the Lynch Hill Thames Terrace Gravels, however there has been extensive basementing work in the area of the box with natural gravels cut through and re-deposited.', (Crossrail 2008, 7).

## 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1.1 The results of the watching brief reported here have identified no features of archaeological significance. The vast majority of deposits that did survive were late 20<sup>th</sup>-century in date and resulted from recent building construction.

## 7. ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

- 7.1.1 The project archive includes paper records and indices, permatrace drawings as well as digital photographs (see Appendix 2). These will be prepared following the guidelines set out in Environmental Standards for the Permanent Storage of Excavated Material from Archaeological Sites (UKIC 1984, Conservation Guidelines 3) and Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (Walker 1990).
- 7.1.2 The digital data will be temporarily stored on the server at OA South which is backed up on a daily basis. For long term storage of the digital data CDs/DVDs will be used and will include the report, plans, scanned images and digital photographs. Each disk will be fully indexed and accompanied by the relevant metadata as provenance.
- 7.1.3 The recipient museum will be:

Museum of London Archaeology  
Mortimer Wheeler House  
46 Eagle Wharf Road

London N1 7ED  
tel: 020 7410 2200  
<http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk>

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology and Gifford wish to thank Crossrail for commissioning the project and in particular Praveen Kalmekolen, Matt Houston and Steve Webster for their support and guidance and Jay Carver for his interest and enthusiasm.

At Eirscott thanks are due to Dave Nelson for his essential on site support and help while working alongside the archaeologists.

The watching brief work was undertaken by Mark Dodd, Dave Jamieson and Gary Evans.

The report was compiled by Vix Hughes; and the drawings produced by Dan Watkeys. The report was edited by Richard Brown and Andy Shelley who were also responsible for overall project management.



## APPENDIX 1 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- City of Westminster 2005 Bond Street Station – Eastern Ticket Hall 18-19 Hanover Square, W1, draft planning brief, City of Westminster
- Crossrail 2008 Desk-Based Assessment (DDBA) (Document Reference no. CD-SD-BOS-EN-SR-0001)
- Crossrail 2010 C134 – Bond Street Station - Site-Specific Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation Document Number: C132-WSP-T1-RGN-N125-00009 Rev 2.0
- Oxford Archaeology/Gifford 2010 Bond Street Station: Archaeology Method Statement, Document No. C254-PDP-W-GMS-C125-00001, OAG16188.R03
- Strype, J 1720 A survey of the Cities of London and Westminster; Book 4, Chapter 7  
[http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/strype/TransformServlet?page=book4\\_120&display=normal&highlight=Hanover%20Square](http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/strype/TransformServlet?page=book4_120&display=normal&highlight=Hanover%20Square)
- Summerson, J 1945 *Georgian London*, London
- Walford, E (ed) 1878 *Old and New London: Hanover Square and neighbourhood*, Victoria County History, Vol 4

**APPENDIX 2 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

**Client name:** Crossrail

**Site name:** Bond Street Station: Hanover Square (Eastern Ticket Hall)

**Site code:** XSG10

**Grid reference:** 78845/35811 **LSG** (centred on)

**Type of investigation:** watching briefs

**Date and duration of project:** 9<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2010

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Museum of London in due course.

Description	Watching Brief
<b>Contexts</b>	
Context numbers used	<i>None issued</i>
Checklists	<i>None issued</i>
<b>Drawings</b>	
Plans	4
Checklists	1
<b>Sections</b>	
Sections	6
Checklists	1
5mx5m Permatrace	5 sheets
<b>Small finds</b>	
<b>Small finds</b>	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Bulk Finds</b>	
<b>Bulk Finds</b>	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Environmental samples</b>	
<b>Environmental samples</b>	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Photographs</b>	
Individual digital photographs	16
Approximate size of the digital archive	45MB
Checklists	

**Folders:-**

1 x A4 folder containing all the relevant paperwork; watching brief records, drawings, photo indices

## 9. APPENDIX 3 – SMR / HER / OASIS RECORD FORMS

**OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM:** England

**OASIS ID:** oxfordar1-88437

### Project details

**Project name:** Crossrail, Bond Street Station, 18-19 Hanover Square Watching Brief  
Short description of the project: A series of nine geotechnical test pits were subject to a targeted watching brief undertaken by Oxford Archaeology/Gifford (OAG) in the basements of 18 and 19 Hanover Square. This work was part of the works for the Bond Street Station Eastern Ticket Hall (ETH), centred around Hanover Square, City of Westminster, London. The works took place in July 2010 and, due to the restricted nature of the watching brief works and the extent of 20<sup>th</sup>-century truncation encountered, the results and conclusions of the investigations were limited. At the base of several test pits the underlying natural was identified as Lynch Hill terrace gravels.

Project dates Start: 09-07-2010 End: 23-07-2010  
Previous/future work Yes / Not known  
Any associated project reference codes XSG10 - Sitecode  
Any associated project reference codes XSG10 - Museum accession ID  
Type of project Recording project  
Site status None  
Current Land use Other 3 - Built over  
Monument type NONE None  
Significant Finds NONE None  
Investigation type 'Watching Brief'  
Prompt Schedules 9, 10 and 15 and the Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMR) of the Crossrail Bill

### Project location

Country England  
Site location GREATER LONDON CITY OF WESTMINSTER CITY OF WESTMINSTER  
Crossrail, Bond Street Station, 18-19 Hanover Square  
Study area 0.20 Hectares  
Site coordinates TQ 2884 8107 51.5133484485 -0.143061821496 51 30 48 N 000 08 35 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Oxford Archaeology/Gifford  
Project brief originator Crossrail  
Project design originator Oxford Archaeology/Gifford  
Project director/manager Richard Brown  
Project supervisor D Jamieson  
Project supervisor D Jamieson  
Project supervisor D Jamieson

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
Digital Archive recipient Oxford Archaeology  
Digital Archive ID XSG10  
Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic'  
Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography','Text'

3

Paper Archive recipient      Museum of London  
Paper Archive ID              XSG10  
Paper Contents                'Stratigraphic'  
Paper Media available        'Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type      A forthcoming report  
Title                    Archaeological Watching Briefs at 18-19 Hanover Square, Bond Street Station  
(Eastern Ticket Hall), Fieldwork Report  
Author(s)/Editor(s)    Hughes, V  
Date                    2010  
Issuer or publisher    Crossrail  
Place of issue or publication    unknown  
Description              Forthcoming client report

Entered by      Susan Rawlings (susan.rawlings@oxfordarch.co.uk)  
Entered on      3 December 2010

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Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice

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