

# Archaeological Watching Brief

**17 Lower Marsh, Lambeth**

Planning reference 20/00282/VOC

Local planning authority London Borough of Lambeth

PCA report no. R14334 Site Code LMH20

PCA project no K6307 Date December 20

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Project Information	
Site name	17 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RJ
Project type	An Archaeological Watching Brief
Site address	17 Lower Marsh, South Bank, London SE1 7RJ
NGR	TQ 31069 79646
Local planning authority	London Borough of Lambeth
Planning reference	20/00282/VOC
Commissioning client	RPS Consulting
Project dates	08/07/20 and 03/10/20 05/11/20
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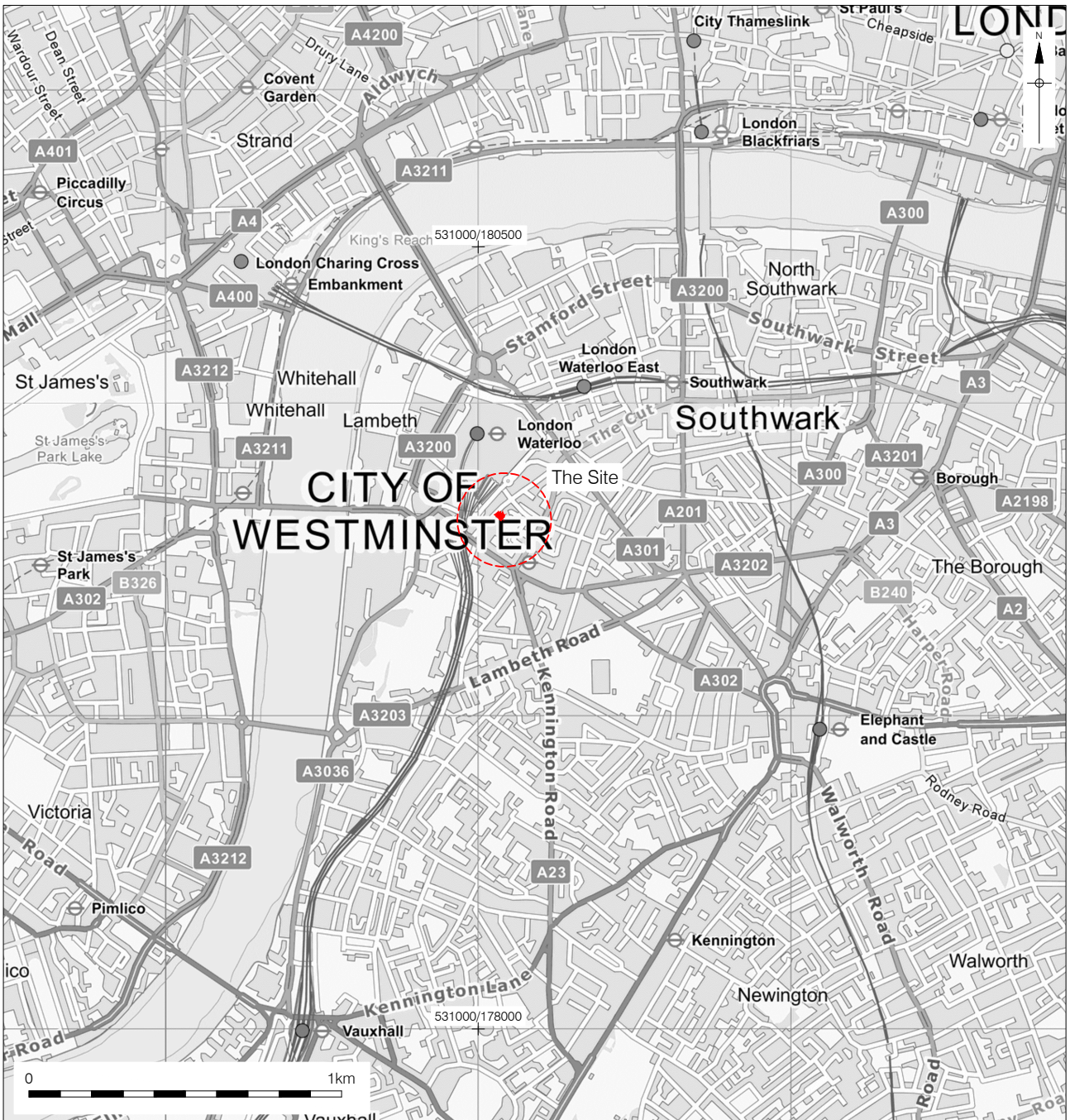
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## **1 ABSTRACT**

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief by Pre-Construct Archaeology at 17 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RJ, in the London Borough of Lambeth. The central grid reference of the site was TQ 31069 79646.
- 1.2 The fieldwork was undertaken on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020, and PCAs commissioning client was RPS Consulting.
- 1.3 The watching brief recorded natural sandy gravel beneath a layer considered to represent a natural subsoil. There was no evidence present for prehistoric, Roman, or medieval activity.
- 1.4 The only archaeological evidence exposed during the watching brief was related to post-medieval activity. This comprised a sequence of made ground levelling layers into or on which had been built a number of brick structures, these comprising the foundations to the current structure, or supporting sleeper walls to a brick floor which predated the current basement slab, or to wells / soakaways which would have stood to the rear of the earlier properties on site. It is concluded that the remains found predominantly date from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, around the time of Horwood's map, and comprise structural remains of the contemporary building. The wells exposed lay to the rear of the historic property, in what would have been the yard or garden area.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at the site of 17 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RJ in the London Borough of Lambeth. The site was located within a former commercial property and was centred at National Grid Reference TQ 31069 79646.
- 2.2 The fieldwork was carried out on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- 2.3 Planning permission had been granted by the London Borough of Lambeth for the retention and renovation of an existing building together with the erection of a mansard roof extensions to provide 5 flats (use class C3), and flexible commercial use (use class A1/A3) at ground and lower levels (Planning Ref 20/00282/VOC). An archaeological planning condition was attached to the consent.
- 2.4 An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared by CgMs Heritage (2018) to support the planning application. This showed that the site was located within the Lambeth Waterfront Archaeological Priority Area, as defined by the London Borough of Lambeth. The sites potential location on a raised island within the floodplain of the River Thames may have made it a favoured for occupation from the early prehistoric periods. Lower Marsh may have followed the alignment of an earlier Roman road and was a roadway from the medieval period onwards.
- 2.5 As archaeological consultants, RPS Consulting agreed a scope of work to deal with the condition whereby an archaeological watching brief would be carried out during development groundworks. The groundworks included underpinning trenches and an area of reduction to enlarge an existing basement.
- 2.6 The investigation was conducted by PCA under the supervision of Natasha Bilson, Amparo Valcarcel and Bruce Ferguson, and the project was managed by Chris Mayo. The work was monitored by Mark Stevenson of the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service, Historic England, on behalf of the local planning authority. The archaeological work was commissioned by RPS Consulting.
- 2.7 The site was given the unique site code of LMH20. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will, upon completion of the project, be deposited with the London Archaeological Archive local repository under that code.







### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 National Policy: The National Planning Policy Framework**

3.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was adopted on March 27<sup>th</sup> 2012 (updated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019), and now supersedes the Planning Policy Statements (PPSs). The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications. Chapter 16 (Paragraphs 189, 190, 199, 212-214) of the NPPF concerns the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.

3.1.2 In considering any proposal for development, including allocations in emerging development plans, the local planning authority will be mindful of the policy framework set by government guidance, existing development plan policy and of other material considerations.

#### **3.2 Regional Guidance: The London Plan**

3.2.1 Additional relevant planning strategy framework is provided by The London Plan, published January 2016. It includes the following policy of relevance to archaeology within central London:

##### **Historic environments and landscapes**

##### **POLICY 7.8 HERITAGE ASSETS AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

##### Strategic

A. London's heritage assets and historical environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

B. Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site's archaeology.

##### **Planning decision**

C. Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D. Development affecting heritage assets and their setting should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E. New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological assets or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that assets.

##### **LDF preparation**

F. Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of



built, landscaped and buried heritage to London's environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London's ability to accommodate change and regeneration.

G. Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organizations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their setting where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

### 3.3 **Local Policy: Archaeology in the London Borough of Lambeth**

3.3.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of the London Borough of Lambeth, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which it is custodian. Relevant policy statements for the protection of the buried archaeological resource within the borough are contained within the Lambeth Local Plan (September 2015) Policy Q23:

#### **Policy Q23:**

##### **Undesignated heritage assets: local heritage list**

(a) The council will maintain a list of undesignated heritage assets which it considers to be of local (or greater) significance. It will be known as the 'local heritage list'. It will include:

- (i) archaeology (archaeological priority areas);
- (ii) buildings and structures (local list); and
- (iii) designed spaces and landscapes (local landscape register).

(b) The objectives of maintaining the local heritage list are to:

- (i) raise awareness of these assets and foster a greater appreciation of them;
- (ii) sustain or enhance their significance; and
- (iii) protect their settings.

(c) The council will:

- (i) resist the destruction of assets on the local heritage list and expect applicants to retain, preserve, protect, safeguard and where desirable enhance them when developing proposals that affect them;
- (ii) require proper investigation and recording of archaeological remains and publication and archiving of results to advance understanding.

#### **Section 10: Quality of Built Environment**

10.93 Assets on the local heritage list are 'undesignated heritage assets'. Applicants will be required to provide a heritage statement/ archaeological assessment/site evaluation for their proposals. Proposals that will have a harmful impact will be required to meet the relevant tests set out in paragraphs 131-134 of the NPPF.

10.94 The council will seek to keep the local heritage list up to date with input from local people, groups and national amenity societies. However, through the delivery of normal planning duties the council may identify undesignated heritage assets that

may not be on the local heritage list. Where applications are received for such assets this policy will apply.

10.95 Where appropriate the council will seek statutory designation (designated heritage asset status) to secure the protection of undesignated heritage assets.

10.96 The local list can be viewed on the council website. Proposals affecting buildings and structures will be permitted where their architectural interest, historic interest, townscape value and rarity are sustained or enhanced in accordance with established conservation best practice.

10.97 Proposals affecting designations associated with a close historical association will be permitted where they maintain those aspects of the building/structure which were present during the period of the recognised historical significance.

10.98 Archaeological priority areas are identified on the council's website. The council will require applicants for proposals which involve excavation or ground works on sites of archaeological potential to

- submit an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the site, including the impact of the proposed development
- preserve, protect, safeguard and enhance archaeological monuments, remains and their settings in development, and seek a public display and interpretation where appropriate
- undertake proper investigation and recording of archaeological remains as an integral part of a development programme, and publication and archiving of results to advance understanding.

### 3.4 **Site Specific Planning Background**

3.4.1 Planning permission was sought for the retention and renovation of an existing building together with the erection of a mansard roof extension and rear extensions, to provide 5 flats (use class C3), and flexible commercial use (use classes A1/A3) at ground and lower ground levels (Reference 20/00282/VOC).

3.4.2 The following planning condition was attached to the consent:

4a) No development on site other than demolition or site clearance to existing ground level shall take place until a programme of geo-archaeological evaluation site work has been implemented in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation for the relevant part of the development (which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing) and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.

b) No development other than demolition or site clearance to existing ground level within the current building footprint and basement level shall take place until a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation has been implemented in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation for the

relevant part of the development (which has been submitted and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing) and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.

c) No development other than demolition to existing ground level within the current building footprint and basement level shall take place until a programme of archaeological mitigation has been implemented in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation for the relevant part of the development (which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing) and a report on that evaluation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.

d) Prior to occupation of the site, site investigation and post-investigation assessment must be completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Parts (a, b and c), and the provision for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: Heritage assets of archaeological interest may survive on the site. The Local Planning Authority wishes to secure the provision of appropriate archaeological investigation, including the publication of results, in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF.

- 3.4.3 The archaeological advisor to the local planning authority, the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service at Historic England, agreed that a watching brief would be an appropriate response to deal with the condition. This was designed within a Written Scheme of Investigation (Fairman 2019) which was approved by Mark Stevenson of GLAAS.
- 3.4.4 The site is located within the Lambeth Waterfront Archaeological Priority Area, as defined by the London Borough of Lambeth.

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The following background is taken from the WSI (Fairman 2019).

- 4.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS) of England and Wales, the local geology consists of clay of the London Clay Formation. Superficial deposits comprise the Kempton Park Gravel Member (sand and gravel).
- 4.2 Three trial pits have been carried out in the garden area of the study site. These recorded depths of made ground between 1.40m and 3.40m below ground level. The latter sealed horizons of brown sand and gravel. The potentially natural horizons were identified between 1.40m and 2.40m below ground level and appear to indicate variable levels of truncation.
- 4.3 The site lies on roughly level ground at around 9.70m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The site comprised a former retail premises at ground floor level with a partial basement covering the front half of the site closest to Lower Marsh, the internal floor level to which lay at around 7.80m OD. The rear half of the site was unbasemented with floor level at around 10m OD.
- 4.4 The area of the study site is located within a former marsh, known to have existed from at least the Mesolithic period until the later 18<sup>th</sup> century. The marsh was characterised by a series of low islands or eyots dissected by braided channels leading to the river Thames.
- 4.5 The southern bank of the River Thames lies approximately 480m west of the study site.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The following background is taken from the WSI (Fairman 2019).

- 5.1 The study site has been identified as having a moderate potential for the Mesolithic and post-medieval periods.
- 5.2 No Palaeolithic material was recorded within the vicinity of the study site; by contrast to a large amount of Mesolithic material. An occupation site is recorded at Addington Street and comprised a substantial assemblage of worked and burnt flint, in addition to a number of eroded pits. Although the potential for the Mesolithic period was considered to be moderate, this is likely to comprise isolated and unstratified finds.
- 5.3 Based on the available information, evidence of Neolithic date appears to be concentrated closer to the current course of the River Thames. It was considered that the archaeological potential of the study site to contain evidence of Neolithic, Bronze Age or Iron Age activity was low.
- 5.4 Lambeth Marsh Road (later Upper and Lower Marsh), being on higher ground, may have followed the alignment of a former Roman road leading to the river crossing at Westminster, although no archaeological evidence to support this has as yet been identified. Evidence relating to this period has however been found at Finck Street (an occupation site) and at

Lower Marsh (a possible boundary ditch) in addition to residual material found in the wider area. As a consequence, a low potential was identified for the study site to contain evidence of Roman activity.

- 5.5 No evidence was highlighted on the Greater London Historic Environment Record (GLHER) for the Anglo-Saxon period and Lower Marsh was not recorded by the Domesday survey of 1086. As such activity is likely to have been minimal during this period, and as a consequence a low potential for identifying such remains on site was identified.
- 5.6 During the medieval period the study site lay within Lambeth Marsh, the first reference to which dates from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. This is recorded as being a small village and evidence relating to the settlement has been identified in the wider area in the form of cut features, roads/trackways, agricultural soils and building remains. The subject site however is likely to have lain at the periphery of what was a small settlement. The archaeological potential for this period was subsequently deemed to be low.
- 5.7 The study area was not extensively developed until the later post-medieval period. The area of the study site is known to have been developed as part of the historic core of Lower Marsh since at least the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Features relating to the development of the wider area have been identified archaeologically in the form of cut features, foundations and other remains of buildings in addition to cultivated soil horizons.
- 5.8 Cartographic sources illustrate the development of the subject site during the later post-medieval periods. The earliest source consulted comprised Morgan's map of 1682 which clearly illustrates buildings fronting onto Lambeth Marsh road. It is therefore highly likely that development of this period was largely limited to the northern limits of the site, with the southern limits comprising undeveloped land and/or a back plot. A similar development footprint was illustrated into the later 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. By the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, the buildings within the study site had been altered/rebuilt from their precursors with some development encroaching into the southern limits. A former road 'Lambeth Square' also defined the western limits of the site at this time. Additional development then appears within the southern limits of the site during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, with the site remaining largely unaltered until the redevelopment of the immediate area involving construction of the extant building and removal of Lambeth Square.

## 6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The main proposed ground impact from the scheme was excavation to create a basement level across the site at a level of 7.35m OD in the front half and 8.20m OD in the rear half. The first phase of excavations in the summer of 2020 monitored during the watching brief was to remove the existing basement slab at the front of the property and allow some minor ground reduction (Trench 1, see Figure 2), and to remove a historic decking surface in an external yard at rear of the site and then some shallow ground reduction in this area (Trench 2, Plate 1). Both initial phases of excavation were to reach a suitable working level from which the underpinning could be started.



*Plate 1: Trench 2, view NE*

- 6.2 In autumn 2020 works for the underpinning commenced across the site and were subject to the watching brief (Trenches 10-16). This monitoring continued until an instruction to stop the watching brief was agreed between RPS Consulting and GLAAS.
- 6.3 Breaking out and excavation of the existing basement floor and underpinning pits inside the property were carried out by hand. Breaking out and machining of the underpinning pits and area outside the property was carried out with a mechanical excavator using a flat bladed ditching bucket at spits of not in excess of 250mm at a time. The excavations was carried out under archaeological supervision until either significant archaeological strata/remains were found, or until natural deposits or formation level was reached.

- 6.4 OD heights were calculated from topographic survey plans provided by the client. Interventions were located by measurement to the topographic survey.
- 6.5 Where it was safe to do so, archaeological deposits were excavated by PCA staff using hand tools, i.e. trowels, shovels and mattocks. Where safe access could not be made recording was carried out from the top of the intervention.
- 6.6 Single context recording method, on *pro forma* context and planning sheets or GPS as appropriate. Plans and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10 as appropriate. Digital photographs were taken.
- 6.7 In this report all context numbers (cuts, layers and fills) are written in squared brackets [ ], small finds are denoted by SF and environmental samples are bracketed with curly brackets {}.



## 7 PHASED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

### 7.1 Phase 1a: Natural Gravel

#### *Trenches 10-13*

7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered in each of these four trenches was a dark yellowish grey sandy gravel [106], [110], [117] and [123] measuring between 0.10m and 0.60m thick. This was encountered heights between 6.78m OD and 6.93m OD.

### 7.2 Phase 1b: Natural Subsoil

7.2.1 The following deposits appeared to be either the surface of the gravels or a possible subsoil horizon.

#### *Trench 1*

7.2.2 The basal deposit in Trench 1 was a dark brown clayey sand with light yellowish-brown mottling [10], measuring at least 0.60m thick. This was encountered from an upper height of 8.35m OD.

#### *Trenches 10-13*

7.2.3 Overlaying the natural [106], [109], [117] and [123] was a dark greyish brown silty sand [105], [116] and [122] measuring between 0.37m and 0.30m thick. This was encountered at a height of between 7.17m OD and 7.22m OD.



*Plate 2: Trench 14, natural sand [126] overlain by subsoil [125], view S*

### **Trenches 14-16**

7.2.4 The earliest deposit in each of the three trenches encountered was a mid-brownish yellow sand [126] measuring at least 0.85m in thickness (Plate 2). This was encountered at upper heights between 8.90m OD and 8.00m OD.

7.2.5 This was overlain by a soft greyish brown sandy clay [125] measuring between 0.55m and 0.90m thick. This was encountered at a height of approximately 9.45m OD

### **7.3 Phase 2: Post-Medieval**

#### **Trench 1**

7.3.1 Cut into the natural [10] were construction cuts [4] and [7] for foundation walls [2] and [5] to the existing structure (Plate 3). The NW-SE aligned wall [2] consisted of unfroged red brick with a dark brown silty sand mortar measuring 4.20m long by 0.60m high. The NE-SW aligned wall [5] consisted of unfroged red brick with a dark brown silty sand mortar measuring 3.55m long by 0.60m high (Figures 3 & 4).

7.3.2 At the southern corner to Trench 1 was seen one area of a sub-rectangular pit [9], measuring at least 1.64m by 0.60m with a depth of 0.65m. The pit, seen at an upper height of 7.40m OD, cut through the construction cuts to walls [2] and [5] so was clearly later, perhaps associated with an internal reconfiguration of the structure.



*Plate 3: Foundation walls [2], view SW*

### **Trench 2**

- 7.3.3 The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 2 was a loose dark greyish brown clayey silt [11] measuring 6m by 4.5m by at least 0.40m thick and encountered at a height of approximately 9.6m OD. This included small – medium subangular and subrounded stones and yellow and red frogged bricks.

### **Trench 10**

- 7.3.4 Sealing [105] was a dark grey silty sand [104] measuring 1m by 1.10m by 0.26m thick and encountered at a height of 7.44m OD. This appeared to be made ground which included occasional ceramic building material (CBM) flecks and rounded gravel.
- 7.3.5 Overlying [104] was a dark blackish brown silty sand [101] and [103] measuring 1m by 1.10m by 0.17m thick and encountered at a height of 7.61m OD. This appeared to be made ground which included frequent CBM fragments which suggested a date of 1750-1850.
- 7.3.6 Truncating [101] and [103] was a NW-SE aligned red brick feature [102] with a yellowish sandy mortar with fragments of chalk and charcoal inclusions, measuring 1.10m long by 0.38m wide by 0.28m high and encountered at a height of 7.61m OD. This was probably an internal sleeper wall, dating between 1800-1900, which ran parallel to the external wall on Lower Marsh.
- 7.3.7 This was sealed with a dark greyish silty sand [100] measuring 1m by 1.10m by 0.12m thick which was encountered at a height of 7.73m OD. This was a made ground levelling deposit which included frequent CBMs dating from 1900 onwards.

### **Trench 11**

- 7.3.8 Sealing [109] was a dark yellowish-brown silty sand [108] measuring 1m by 1.1m by 0.38m thick and encountered at a height of 7.56m OD. This appeared to be made ground which contained frequent CBM fragments dating from the late post medieval.
- 7.3.9 This was overlain by a soft dark greyish brown silty sand [107] measuring 1m by 1.10m by 0.12m thick and encountered at a height of 7.68m OD. This appeared to be made ground which included frequent CBM dating 1850-1925.

### **Trench 12 (Plate 4)**

- 7.3.10 Constructed on top of [116] was a NE-SW aligned red unfrogged brick wall [114] measuring 1.26m long by 0.26m wide by 0.39m high and encountered at a height of 7.64m OD. This appeared to be a brick sleeper wall, dating 1800-1900, running parallel to the internal wall.
- 7.3.11 On the south west side of the wall [114] was a soft dark blackish brown sandy clay [113] measuring 1m by 0.35m by 0.06m thick and encountered at a height of 7.38m OD. This appeared to be a thin soil horizon.
- 7.3.12 Sealing [113] was a dark greyish silty sand [112] measuring 1m by 0.35m by 0.36m thick and encountered at a height of 7.63m OD. This appeared to be a made ground deposit which



contained frequent CBM dating 1800-1900.

- 7.3.13 On the north east side of wall [114] was a dark greyish yellow silty sand [115] measuring 1m by 0.65m by 0.43m thick and was encountered at a height of 7.60m OD. This appeared to be a levelling layer including occasional CBM flecks and gravels.
- 7.3.14 Sealing the layers [112] and [115] was a red unfrosted brick floor [111] measuring 1.26m by 1m by 0.08m thick and was encountered at a height of 7.71m OD. This was bonded with a hard-greyish lime mortar with frequent chalk inclusions. The bricks within the floor dated from 1825-1900.



*Plate 4: Trench 12 including [111] and [114], 0.50m scale, view NW*

### **Trench 13**

- 7.3.15 Constructed on top of [122] was a NE-SW aligned red unfrosted brick wall [120] measuring 1.26m long by 0.26m wide by 0.47m high, which was encountered at a height of 7.66m OD. This appeared to be a brick sleeper wall, dating 1800-1900, running parallel to the adjacent structural wall.
- 7.3.16 On the south west side of wall [120] was a dark greyish silty sand [119] measuring 1.24m by 0.28m by 0.44m deep, encountered at a height of 7.67m OD. This appeared to be demolition rubble used as levelling material, which contained frequent CBM dating 1800-1900.
- 7.3.17 On the north east side of wall [120] was a dark greyish yellow silty sand [121] measuring

1.07m by 0.51m by 0.44m which was encountered at a height of 7.67m OD. This contained occasional CBM flecks and gravel and was likely a levelling layer.

- 7.3.18 Sealing [119] and [121] was a red unfrosted brick floor [118] measuring 1.24m by 1.07m by 0.09m high, encountered at a height of 7.72m OD. This was bonded with a hard-greyish lime mortar with frequent chalk inclusions. The bricks within the floor dated between 1825-1900.

**Trench 14-16**

- 7.3.19 Sealing [125] was a greyish brown sandy clay [124] measuring between 0.50-0.60m thick, encountered at a height of approximately 10m OD. This contained frequent small to medium rounded flints and small to large fragments of CBM dating from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 7.3.20 In Trenches 15 and 16 there were two brick-lined wells or soakaways [128] and [131] (Plates 5 and 6) measuring approximately 2.20m deep, each of which were seen and photographed but unable to be closely inspected or fully recorded due to unstable ground conditions in the immediate area.



*Plate 5: Brick lined well [128], view W*

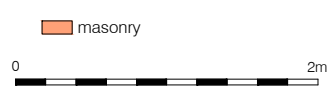
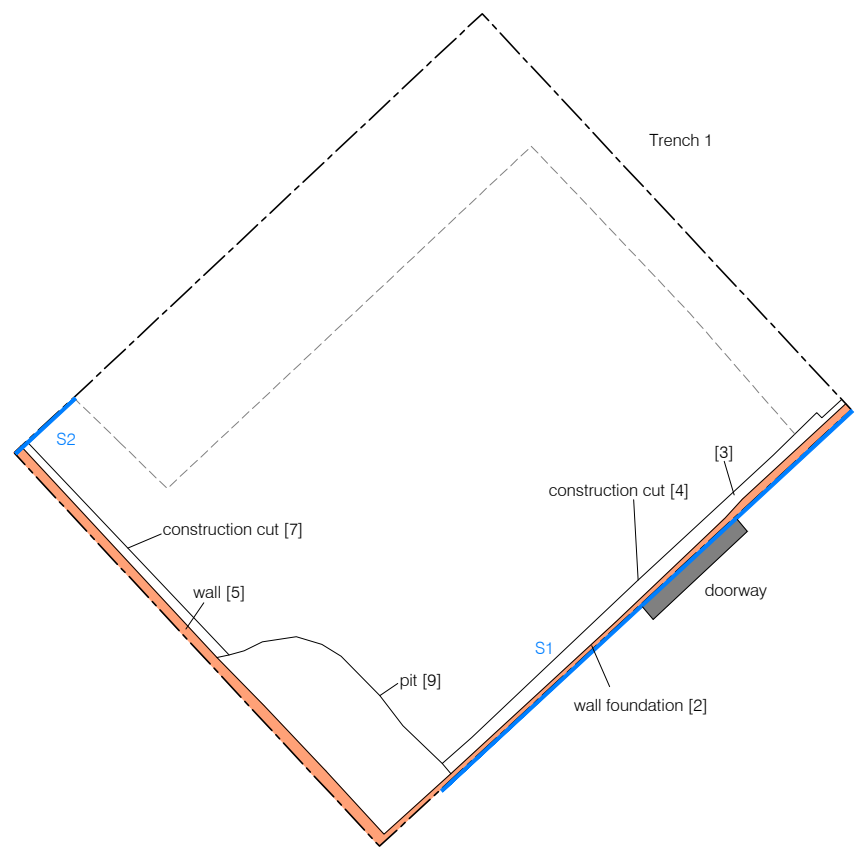




*Plate 6: Brick lined well [131], view SW*

**All Trenches**

7.3.21 The entire site was overlain by the modern concrete surface and existing building [+].





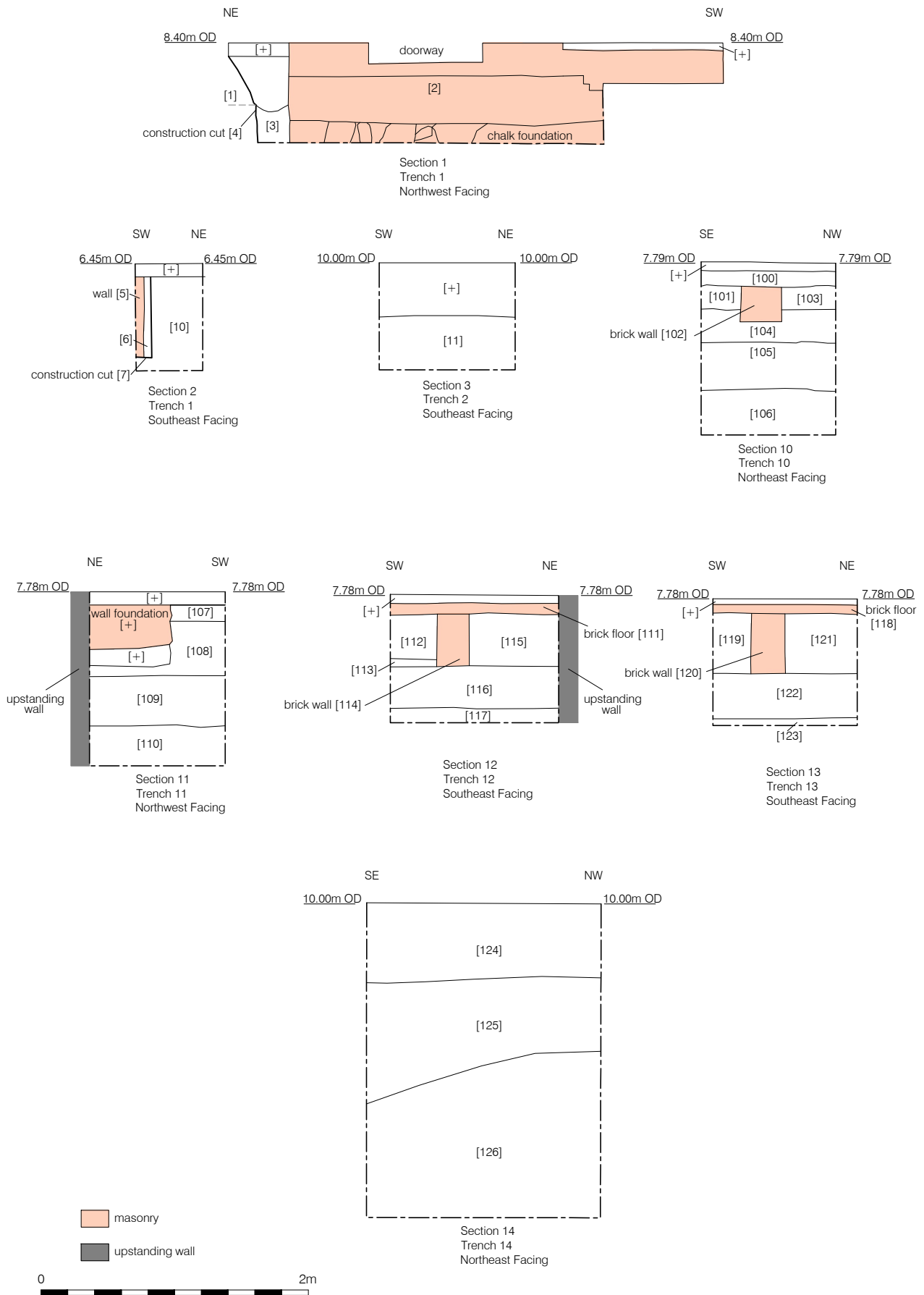


Figure 4  
 Sections  
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## 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The watching brief recorded natural sandy gravel at an upper height of 6.93m OD in Trenches 10-13. In all the other trenches (except Trench 2) a layer of clayey sand was observed, directly sealing the gravels in Trenches 10-13. The clayey sand was recorded at upper heights between 7.17m OD and 8.90m OD.
- 8.2 The clayey sand yielded no anthropogenic material and is therefore considered to represent a natural subsoil. The variety in the heights of this deposit is explained by its historic truncation from post-medieval development.
- 8.3 There was no evidence present for prehistoric, Roman, or medieval activity.
- 8.4 The only archaeological evidence exposed during the watching brief was related to post-medieval activity. This comprised a sequence of made ground levelling layers into or on which had been built a number of brick structures, these comprising the foundations to the current structure, or supporting sleeper walls to a brick floor which predated the current basement slab, or to wells / soakaways which would have stood to the rear of the earlier properties on site.
- 8.5 Map regression undertaken for the desk-based assessment (Hawkins 2018) demonstrates that Lambeth Marsh, later Lower Marsh, was fronted by buildings by at least the time of Morgan's map of 1682. Horwood is the first to illustrate the site in detail; his map of 1799-1819 shows a wide building fronting the road with a yard or garden to the rear, and a lane on the NE side of the site by which the land to the rear was accessed. The features exposed during the watching brief have been dated by their CBM content from 1750 onwards, with all material sharing a date overlap in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. On this basis it is reasonable to assume that the remains found predominantly date from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, around the time of Horwood's map, and comprise structural remains of the contemporary building. The wells exposed in Trenches 15 and 16 lay to the rear of the historic property, in what would have been the yard or garden area.
- 8.6 Upon approval of this report and with confirmation that the site work is complete, the paper archive will be offered to the London Archaeological Archive identified by the unique site code LMH20. The artefacts from the site comprising only CBM material are not worthy of retention, and will be disposed at the archive deposition stage. Until then the whole archive will be stored by PCA at its offices in Brockley, London.
- 8.7 The results of the site investigation will be published by PCA as a summary in the annual 'Round-Up' of *London Archaeologist*.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank RPS consulting for commissioning the works and Mark Stevenson of Historic England's Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS), archaeological advisor to the LB Lambeth.
- 9.2 Thanks to Chris Mayo for his management of the project and the editing this report.
- 9.3 Thanks to Natasha Bilson, Amparo Valcarcel and Bruce Ferguson for their site supervision and Ray Murphy for the illustrations.

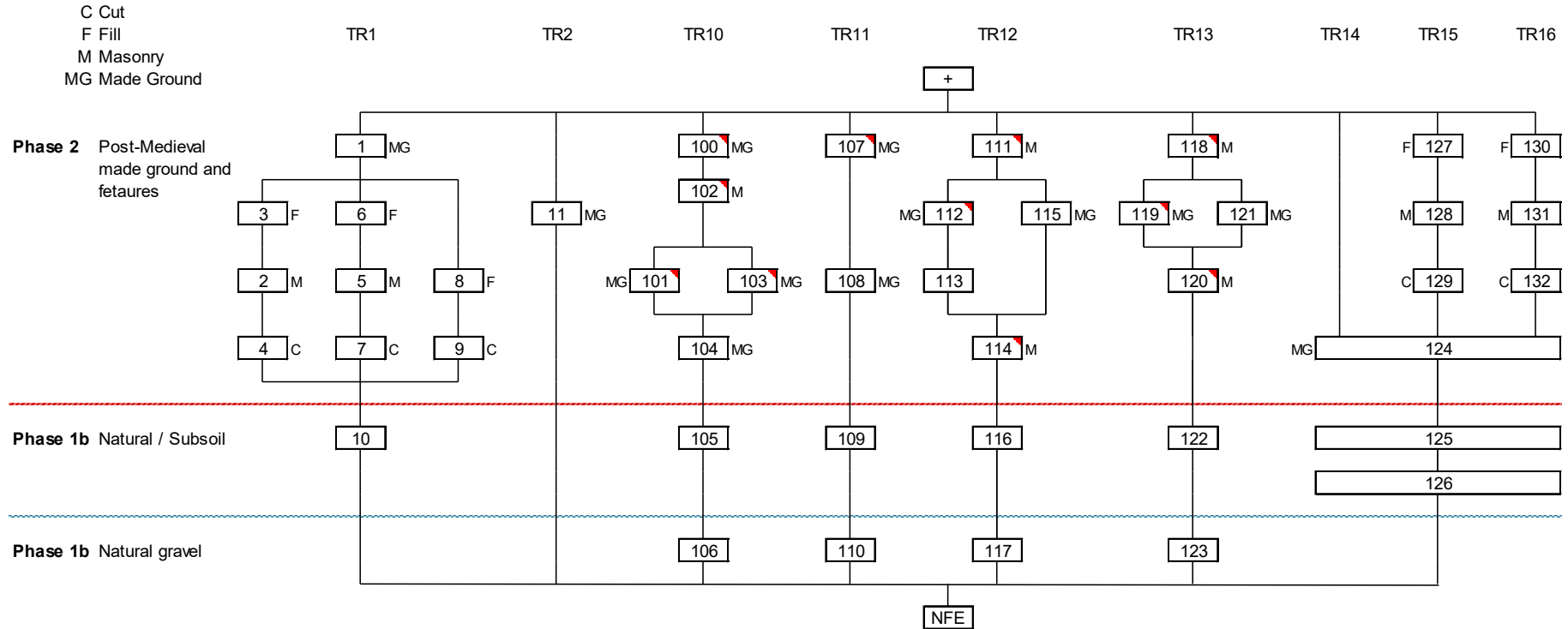
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## 11 APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Type	Trench	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	OD Height (m)
1	Layer	1	Redeposited natural	0.17	-	0.25	8.30
2	Masonry	1	Foundation Walls	4.20	-	0.60	8.40
3	Fill	1	Backfill of [2]	4.20	0.16	0.25	7.88
4	Cut	1	Construction cut of [2]	4.20	0.16	0.25	7.88
5	Masonry	1	NE-SW wall in basement	3.55	-	0.60	8.40
6	Fill	1	Back fill of [5]	3.55	0.10	0.60	8.40
7	Cut	1	Construction cut of [5]	3.55	0.10	0.60	8.40
8	Fill	1	Fill of [9]	1.64	0.60	0.65	7.40
9	Cut	1	Cut of pit	1.64	0.60	0.65	7.40
10	Layer	1	Natural sand	-	-	>0.60	8.35
11	Layer	2	Post med Made ground	6.00	4.50	0.40	9.60
100	Layer	10	Made ground	1.00	1.10	0.12	7.73
101	Layer	10	Made ground	1.00	1.10	0.17	7.61
102	Masonry	10	Internal wall	1.10	0.38	0.28	7.61
103	Layer	10	Made ground	1.00	1.10	0.17	7.61
104	Layer	10	Post med Made ground	1.00	1.10	0.26	7.44
105	Layer	10	Silty sand layer	1.00	1.10	0.36	7.18
106	Layer	10	Natural gravel	1.00	1.10	0.33	6.82
107	Layer	11	Modern made ground	1.00	1.10	0.12	7.68
108	Layer	11	Post-med made ground	1.00	1.10	0.38	7.56
109	Layer	11	Silty sand layer	1.00	1.10	0.37	7.17
110	Layer	11	Natural gravel	1.00	1.10	0.30	6.78
111	Masonry	12	Brick floor	1.26	1.00	0.08	7.71
112	Layer	12	Post-med made ground	1.00	0.35	0.36	7.63
113	Layer	12	Organic layer	1.00	0.35	0.06	7.38
114	Masonry	12	Brick wall	1.26	0.26	0.39	7.64
115	Layer	12	Levelling layer	1.00	0.65	0.43	7.60
116	Layer	12	Silty sand layer	1.26	1.00	0.31	7.22
117	Layer	12	Natural gravel	1.00	0.26	0.10	6.93
118	Masonry	13	Brick floor	1.24	1.07	0.09	7.72
119	Layer	13	Post-med made ground	1.24	0.28	0.44	7.67
120	Masonry	13	Brick wall	1.26	0.26	0.47	7.66
121	Layer	13	Levelling layer	1.07	0.51	0.44	7.67
122	Layer	13	Silty sandy layer	1.07	1.26	0.30	7.22
123	Layer	13	Natural gravel	1.26	1.07	0.06	6.89
124	Layer	14	Post-med made ground	1.75	1.50	0.60	10.00
125	Layer	14	Sandy clay layer	1.75	1.50	0.90	9.45
126	Layer	14	Natural sand	1.75	1.50	1.25	8.90
127	Fill	15	Backfill of [128]	-	-	>2.30	10.00
128	Masonry	15	Brick lined well	-	-	>2.30	10.00
129	Cut	15	Construction cut of [128]	-	-	>2.30	10.00
130	Fill	16	Backfill of [131]	-	-	>2.20	10.00
131	Masonry	16	Brick lined well	-	-	>2.20	10.00
132	Cut	16	Construction cut of [131]	-	-	>2.20	10.00

## 12 APPENDIX 2 MATRIX



## 13 APPENDIX 3 OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-408680

### Project details

Project name	17 Lower Marsh, South Bank, London SE1 7RJ
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief conducted at 17 Lower Marsh, South Bank, London SE1 7RJ. The natural geology on site of sandy gravel was encountered at a height of between 8.90m OD and 6.78m OD. There was a number late 18th - early 19th century features on site including brick walls, floor and wells likely to be part of the development of the area during this period. There were also walls and deposits which are likely part of the later 19th century and early 20th century development of the area.
Project dates	Start: 08-07-2020 End: 05-11-2020
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	LMH20 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	WELL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON LAMBETH LAMBETH 17 Lower Marsh, South Bank, London
Postcode	SE1 7RJ
Study area	170 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 31069 79646 51.500036309006 -0.111483759905 51 30 00 N 000 06 41 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 6.78m Max: 8.9m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	PCA
Project design originator	Amelia Fairman
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Natasha Billson

**Project supervisor** Amparo Valcarcel

**Project supervisor** Bruce Ferguson

**Type of sponsor/funding body** Consultant

**Name of sponsor/funding body** RPS Consulting

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**Project archives**

**Physical Archive Exists?** No

**Digital Archive recipient** LAA

**Digital Archive ID** LMH20

**Digital Contents** "none"

**Digital Media available** "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Text"

**Paper Archive recipient** LAA

**Paper Archive ID** LMH20

**Paper Contents** "none"

**Paper Media available** "Context sheet", "Plan", "Section"

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**Project bibliography**

1

**Publication type** Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

**Title** 17 Lower Marsh, South Bank, London SE1 7RJ: An Archaeological Watching Brief

**Author(s)/Editor(s)** Jones, T.

**Date** 2020

**Issuer or publisher** Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

**Place of issue or publication** London

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