



C261 ARCHAEOLOGY EARLY EAST
Interim Statement
Archaeological Watching Briefs and
Evaluation
Stepney Green Shaft - XRV10

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Fig 1 Location of trenches

1 Introduction

This Interim Report covers three phases of archaeological excavation carried out at the location of the Stepney Green Shaft by the C261 Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA).

All fieldwork was conducted between 21/07/10 to 14/01/11 and supervised by Robert Hartle and Dave Sankey (MOLA Supervisors), and included:

- A General Watching Brief on a water pipe trench at Stepney City Farm on the 21/07/10.
- A General Watching Brief on ground works at Stepney City Farm on the 20/08/10.
- Evaluation Trenches 1–9 from 13/12/10 to 14/01/11.

The event code (sitecode) is XRV10.

This document is an Interim Statement of the results of the completion of the above fieldwork at the Stepney Green shaft site. More extensive background, results, and conclusions will be included the Fieldwork Report which will be submitted within six weeks of the end of fieldwork (Crossrail, *Archaeology, Specification for Evaluation & Mitigation (including Watching Brief, Doc No. CR-PN-LWS-EN-SP-00001*, v. 0.3, 26.06.09).

The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with:

- A Crossrail **Site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation (SS-WSI)**: *C123 Intermediate Shafts, Stepney Green Shaft*, Doc No: C123-JUL-T1-TPL-CR094_SH005_Z-00001, Revision 6.0, June 2010, and the addendum to the SS-WSI Document No C123-JUL-T1-RGN-CR094_SH005_Z_00001, Revision 3.0, September 2010.
- An **Archaeological Method Statement**: MOLA, *C261 Early East Section Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief on a Water Pipe Trench at Stepney City Farm, Stepney Green (C123)*, Version 1, 19/07/10
- An **Archaeological Method Statement**: MOLA, *C261 Early East Section Method Statement General Watching Brief on Ground works at Stepney City Farm*, Doc No: C261-PDP-W-GMS-CRG03-00001, Version 1, August 2010.
- An **Archaeological Method Statement**: MOLA, *C261 Early East Section Method Statement for an Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Briefs at (C123) Stepney Green Shaft*, Doc No: C261-MLA-T1-GMS-CR094_SH005-00001, Version 2, 08/12/10

2 Aims and Objectives

These are defined in the SS-WSI and are reproduced below.

2.1 Research Aims

Selected research themes derived from A Research Framework for London Archaeology 2002 (Nixon et al, 2003) are included in the Assessment of Archaeology Impacts Technical Report (Crossrail 2005) and are set out below.

Evidence relating to the religious buildings and history of the site may contribute to the following research themes:

- To examine the changing roles and diversity of religions in London society at different times; and
- To identify the extent to which religious minorities and non-conformists had a distinct material culture in London, and developing archaeological models for future analysis.

2.2 Fieldwork Objectives

The general aims of the investigations at Stepney Green were:

- Identify and record any archaeological remains of modern and post-medieval date relating to the Congregational church, and the former street layout at the site;
- Identify and record any archaeological remains of post-medieval or earlier date associated with the nearby Worcester House or its predecessor; or later non-conformist activity;
- Identify and record any re-deposited artefacts of prehistoric, Roman, or medieval date relating to occupation of the area.
- Identify areas for preservation *in situ* prior to Crossrail groundworks commencing.

3 Provisional Results

3.1 General Watching Brief on Water Pipe Trench



Water pipe trench, looking south, with 20th-century walls (front)

Water Pipe Trench	
Location	The central south area of Stepney City Farm, between fields 10 and 9, as well as 5 and 6, east of the standing remains of the 19th-century Congregational church, north of Stepney Way, within the Stepney Green Shaft site. Pipe trench (c 25m long x 0.6–1.5m wide x 0.55–0.85m deep) dug N–S parallel to and 2.8m east of the standing remains of the Congregational Church.
Dimensions	c.25m long x 0.6–1.5m wide x 0.55-0.85m deep
London Survey grid coordinates	86176 36223
OS National grid coordinates	535828 181610
Modern Ground Level (adjacent to pit)	9.87m OD at north, c.11.48m OD at south end
Modern subsurface deposits	The ground east of the standing remains of the church wall was uniformly mid-grey-brown clay silt with frequent inclusions of modern brick, concrete fragments and occasional small gravel. Modern rubble and build demolition, with only approx. 20% brown clay silt, south of the standing building remains.
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of trench: c 9.30m OD at north and c 10.33m OD at north
Natural geology observed (truncated/not truncated ?)	Not reached
Extent of modern truncation	Whole area of trench
Archaeological remains	Date
None	
Trench interpretation and summary	
<p>The Congregational church wall was exposed at south end of the trench beneath the ground at c 10.93m OD and continued south on the same line as the standing remains. It was preserved <i>in situ</i>, with the pipe to run over the top.</p> <p>No earlier archaeology was observed.</p> <p>Remnants of three modern buildings seen, including:</p> <p>20th-century walls were seen at the north end of the trench, traces of which survived at ground level (9.87m OD). These were built of red and yellow brick, fogged and marked 'FARCO', dimensions 220x110x70mm, with hard white mortar, and one step at base of the wall, under which it is possibly sitting on a concrete foundation (0.6m bGL).</p> <p>Fragments of a concrete slab approximately 200mm thick were encountered on the eastern limit of excavation, opposite the corner of the church wall approx 0.5m below ground level. Probably the foundation for one of the terrace houses.</p>	

A return was seen for the yellow brick wall still attached to the south end of the standing remains of the church wall. This return continued across the trench and beyond the eastern limit of excavation, and was associated with a brick floor surface, seen on its interior. The wall was made of yellow brick (230x100x60mm) and was 230mm wide (ie one brick thick). 4 courses = 330mm high. Grey mortar. The floor (c 10.42m OD) was on the interior of the yellow brick building and 1.06m below the top of the standing wall (c 11.48m OD). It was made a single course of smooth, apparently modern, bricks (220x70x110mm, fogged, bevelled edged and bisected on the top) lain flat on a 150mm thick bed of crush.

The ground east of the standing remains of the church wall was uniformly mid grey brown clay silt with frequent inclusions of modern brick, concrete fragments and occasional small gravel.

South of the standing building remains and the yellow brick building was modern rubble and demolition debris, with only approx. 20% soil.



Modern walls at the north end of the water pipe trench, looking north (above) and Congregational Church wall revealed at north end (below)



3.2 General Watching Brief on ground works and installation of pig wallow



Cutting concrete, Stepney City Farm, looking south

This watching brief involved archaeological monitoring of the removal of a concrete slab being conducted as part of a refurbishment of Stepney City Farm. An area of concrete in the north-eastern corner of field 10 was removed and a shallow pit dug to create a pig wallow.

Pig Wallow Pit	
Location	The central south area of Stepney City Farm, north-eastern corner of field 10, north of the standing remains of the 19th-century Congregational church, north of Stepney Way, within the Stepney Green Shaft site.
Dimensions	4.2m long (N–S) x 2.6m wide (E–W) x 0.6–0.8m deep
London Survey grid coordinates	86173 36312
OS National grid coordinates	535825 181621
Modern Ground Level (adjacent to pit)	10.42m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	20th-century brick wall, 0.5m wide, running N–S. Made of red brick, fogged and marked 'FARCO' (dimensions 220x110x70mm), with hard yellow white mortar. To the west of the 20th-century wall: mid yellow-brown silt with frequent inclusions of modern brick, concrete fragments and occasional small



	gravel. East of the 20th-century wall: mid brown sandy silt with modern rubble
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	N/A
Natural geology observed (truncated/not truncated ?)	Not reached
Extent of modern truncation	Whole area of trench
Archaeological and built heritage remains	Date
None	
Trench interpretation and summary	
No significant archaeology was encountered during this watching brief. The only feature was a 20th-century wall, running approximately N-S.	



Machine excavating ground for a pig wallow, 20th-century brick wall (centre).

3.3 Evaluation Trenches

See Fig 1 for trench location

3.3.1 Trench 1



Trench 1 looking east

Trench 1	
Location	North side of Stepney City Farm
Dimensions	14.3m long x 9.45m wide x 2m deep (10m long x 5.5m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86162 36307
OS National grid coordinates	535812 181693

Modern Ground Level	9.78m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble 1.5m – 1.8m thick
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	7.4m OD
Natural observed	Brickearth
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	to 1.8m bGL across trench
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
Green-grey silt-clay at 7.97m OD, cut by:	No finds
Two parallel wall foundations, 1.0m – 1.1m wide, aligned north–south crossed the trench, the second of which returned at a right-angle and was exposed at the southern limit of the trench (made of 55mm-thick / two-inch bricks), at 7.97m – 7.87m OD	Brick samples – provisionally Tudor (tic)
A rough but very compacted layer of mortar between the two main wall foundations	No finds
A structural wall foundation at right angles to – and east of – these main foundations 0.7m-wide and continuing east of the trench, was made of 60mm-thick bricks set in lime mortar, at 7.98m OD	Brick sample – provisionally 16/17th-century (tic)
A wall parallel to the main foundations, 0.6m-wide and also of 60mm bricks	Brick sample – provisionally 16/17th-century (tic)
A 115m line of bricks attached to the east side of the main foundation mentioned above, made of both 55mm- and 60mm-thick bricks and terminating at the structural foundation mentioned above	No sample – provisionally 16/17th-century (tic)
An internal brick partition between the two main foundations	
A dump layer above walls in the east part of the trench	No finds
Interpretation and summary	
Substantial brick foundations made of two-inch thick (55mm) belong to the foundations of the former King John's Tower, a brick-built late-medieval or Tudor fortified gatehouse. With a half octagonal tower it conforms to a pattern of brick-tower gatehouses similar to that of Waynesflete Tower, Esher, Surrey, dated by tree rings to a felling date range of 1462–72 (Wayneflete Tower, Esher, Surrey:	

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results, Wessex Archaeology, 2006, 31, 6.3.9).

Further walls represent additions or partitions, still made with lime mortar, but with slightly thicker bricks, they may date to the transition from a domestic house to a Baptist College.

Later remains have been truncated by a thorough reworking after World War 2 bomb damage and demolition.

3.3.2 Trench 2



Trench 2 looking north

Trench 2	
Location	East side of site, parallel and adjacent to King John's Street and meeting Trench 1 to the north
Dimensions	17.9m long x 6.2m wide x 2.0m deep (15.5m long x 3m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86161 36294
OS National grid coordinates	535811 181680
Modern Ground Level	9.76m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble 1.3m thick

Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	7.6m OD
Natural observed	Brickearth
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	to 1.3m bGL across trench
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
A southern group of structures including a structural wall forming the west side of the trench made of 55mm-thick soft red bricks. 5.7m of wall was exposed with one section having a series of holes for floor joists. The wall had been truncated at 8.4m OD. Burnt wood also found here. A sleeper wall of 60mm-thick bricks may have been associated with the wooden floor it once supported,	Bricks – provisionally Tudor (tbc)
The structural wall was associated with a series of partition walls and a brick floor. They were also made of 60mm-thick soft red bricks.	Brick samples – provisionally 16/17th-century (tbc)
A northern group of structures including a structural wall and two layers of brick floors made with 66mm-thick brick, built over the top of the main structural walls in trench 1 (where the two trenches joined), with coal dust adhering to the brick	Brick samples - tbd
Demolition and dump layers above the northern group	none
A group of later structures including walls and floors above earlier remains.	none
Interpretation and summary	
Despite the southern group including an wall of 55mm-thick walls the main phase of structural remains relate to a series of semi-basement cellars of a domestic range of buildings built behind King John's Tower, relating to the period when the private house became a Baptist College. The Tower remained standing through this period, so the fact that the northern group partially overlay its foundation only indicates that they were tied into the earlier structure. They probably dated to the 17th and 18th centuries. Over the top of these were 19th-century outhouses to the rear of terraces facing King John Street	



Building remains south end of Trench 2. Remains of later (19th-century) structures are visible in the section at the level of the trench steps out



Coal cellar north end of Trench 2, built over part of the massive foundations exposed in Trench 1

3.3.3 Trench 3



Trench 3, looking north

Trench 3	
Location	On the east side of Garden Street, north side of the site
Dimensions	15.9m long x 6.3m wide x 1.2m deep
London Survey grid coordinates	86136 36291
OS National grid coordinates	535786 181676
Modern Ground Level	9.6m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble 1.2m thick
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of archaeological deposits was mostly 8.0m OD, but 7.06m OD south of a structural wall at the south end of the trench. Base of trench 8.38m OD
Natural observed	Gravel 7.43m OD, Brickearth 7.98m OD

Extent of modern truncation/overburden	1.2m
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
At 8.58m OD were found a group of orthogonal brick walls (0.6m wide) made of 60mm-thick red bricks, forming a range of rooms. They were butted up to an east–west aligned structural wall foundation, 0.6m wide, which crossed the south end of the trench. It was made of 60mm-thick soft red bricks and was founded in a trench dug into terrace gravels to 6.78m OD (1.56m below the level it had been truncated). To the south of the wall natural deposits had been truncated 0.9m deeper than to the north of it.	Brick samples – provisionally 16/17th-century (tbc)
A Red brick wall built over the earlier group, over 10m long and 0.5m wide, aligned with the standing remains of the Baptist chapel and surviving up to 9.6m OD	Brick sample – tbd
A series of brick-lined cess pits built onto the west face of the later wall above and cutting through the earlier walls	Tobacco pipe, pottery, glass – tbd
Interpretation and summary	
<p>The east–west aligned wall is thought to have been from the south range of a courtyard house (King John’s – or St John’s – Court). It may have been the north wall of the south range. Butting against it were the remains of either a west wing of the courtyard house or later buildings filling the courtyard.</p> <p>They had been truncated to form the later (early 19th-century) Baptist College buildings. In this case a structure, the north part of which was the college chapel.</p> <p>Whilst the chapel remained in use, the wall foundation south of it was re-used to form the east wall of a row of terrace slum dwellings facing onto Garden Street. They were without mains drainage and had internal cess pits.</p>	



Machine dug sondage south of the main east-west wall foundation

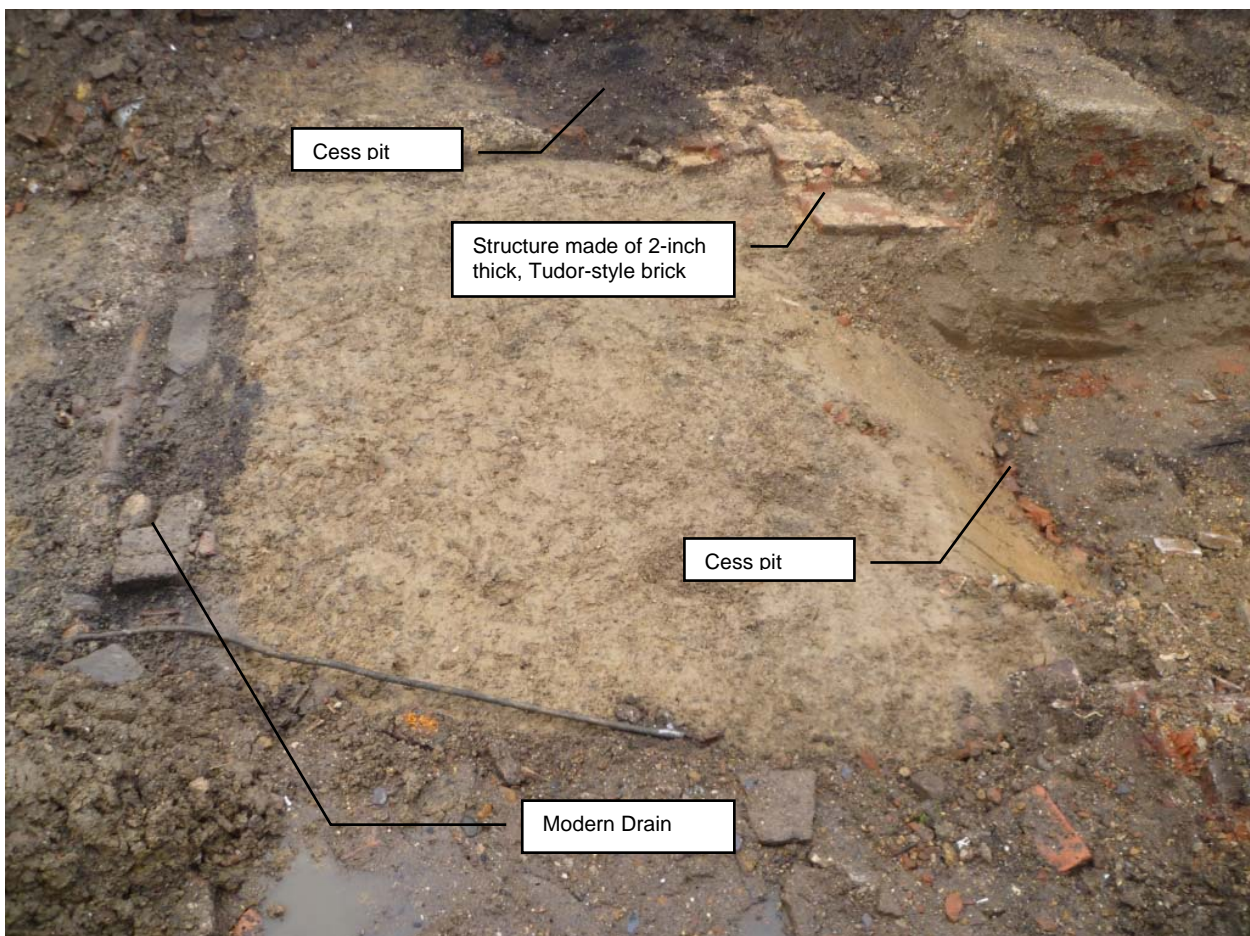
3.3.4 Trench 4



Trench 4, looking south

Trench 4	
Location	North-west of the site, next to the park all-weather pitch
Dimensions	17.2m long x 6.6m wide x 1.54m deep (15m long x 3.5m–2m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86112 36296
OS National grid coordinates	535761 181680
Modern Ground Level	9.74m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble 1.5m thick
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of the trench 8.22m OD, 19th-century cess pit continues below 7.22m OD at north end
Natural observed	Brickearth 8.22m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	1.5m b GL

Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
A right-angle (south-east) corner of a brick-walled structure. Made of 55mm-thick Tudor-style bricks. Was exposed on the west side of the trench at 8.51m OD (1.2m b GL). A 0.25m wide wall built with the same bricks butted against the south side of the structure.	Brick Sample, provisionally 16th-century (tbc)
To the south of the brick-walled structure was a brick-edged cess pit made with frogged bricks.	Bricks c 1800+ left <i>in situ</i>
At the north end of the trench a circular cess pit cut through by modern structures, was recorded at 7.55m OD. It continued below this level	None
Interpretation and summary	
The structure made of Tudor-style 2-inch thick bricks was set aside from the main "Worcester House" complex. It may have been an outbuilding set in its grounds, or it may have been the east edge of a neighbouring property.	



Trench 4, looking west

3.3.5 Trench 5



Trench 5, looking south, showing buildings bombed in World War 2

Trench 5	
Location	On the west side of Garden Street
Dimensions	18.7m long x 6.4m wide x <2m deep (16m long x 4m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86116 36279
OS National grid coordinates	535766 181663
Modern Ground Level	9.38mOD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble 1.5m thick
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of trench 8.0m OD
Natural observed	7.7m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	

Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
<p>The earliest remains were spread brick footings made with Tudor-style 2-inch thick bricks. They were not orthogonal with other remains of the same period but formed a wall with a 135-degree corner</p>	<p>Brick Sample – provisionally Tudor (tbc)</p>
<p>The brick foundations above, had, been truncated and were one of a series of features that had been isolated by trench-wide truncation, the rest of which were apparently much later in date. They included the base of a well and two pits</p>	<p>Cream ware pottery – provisionally 18th or 19th-century (tbc)</p>
<p>The remains of buildings bombed in World War 2 and dating from the 19th century, were well preserved.</p>	<p>provisionally 19th-century (tbc) Maps, pottery</p>
Interpretation and summary	
<p>The earlier brick foundation with 2-inch thick bricks has an internal angle that corresponds with that of an octagon. This is the signature motif of late 15th-century and 16th-century brick buildings and can occur as free-standing octagonal buildings (eg Abbots Bromley Market House, Staffordshire), or as three-quarter or half-octagon projections, towers, buttresses, oriel windows, etc, both on buildings and as (for instance) towers on perimeter walls.</p> <p>All other remains were late 18th or 19th-century in date and heavily truncated by building remains that correspond with buildings (and a small courtyard) north of Garden Place and between schools, on the 1870 OS map. They are marked as totally destroyed on the London County Council bomb maps.</p> <p>NOTE: a 1.7m-deep machine <i>sondage</i> north of this trench on the projected line of the deep east–west foundation in trench 3 did not expose it. It is possible that the wall continued this far at a lower depth than could be dug (for local logistical reasons).</p>	



Late 15th- or 16th-century (part octagonal) brick wall



A well which had been covered by a courtyard

3.3.6 Trench 6



Trench 6, looking south

Trench 6	
Location	South of three trenches west of Garden Street
Dimensions	19.6m long x 4.16m wide x 1.05m deep
London Survey grid coordinates	86100 36245

OS National grid coordinates	535751 181628
Modern Ground Level	9.78m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble 1m thick
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	8.7m OD
Natural observed	Brickearth 8.69m – 8.81m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	1m
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
Two adjacent square cut 19th-century cess pits, one of which contained very large quantities of oyster shell (pre-1840?), a square post hole and a 19th-century oval rubbish pit were the only remains exposed in this trench.	Transfer-printed pottery – provisionally 19th-century (tbc)
Interpretation and summary	
The level of natural brickearth in this trench is higher than elsewhere, This is probably neared the level it would have been elsewhere, had it not been truncated. It may be significant that no medieval or earlier remains were exposed.	

3.3.7 Trench 7



Trench 7, looking east

Trench 7	
Location	Central, east of garden street in the City Farm
Dimensions	14.5m long x 6m wide x 1.26m deep (9.5m long x 3.3m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86136 36247
OS National grid coordinates	535787 181632
Modern Ground Level	10.09m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose brick rubble and some more modern structures from the school that previously overlay it
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	8.07m OD base of trench
Natural observed	Gravel to 8.45m OD and brickearth to 8.9m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	1.2m

Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
The earliest remains were a series of ill-defined horizontally-truncated small holes, some of which may have been natural in origin, contained small undecorated fragments of prehistoric pottery	prehistoric pot
Over them was an east–west red brick (English Bond) wall with bricks 65mm-70mm thick.	Brick sample – provisionally c late 17th–18th- or early 19th-century (tbc)
The wall was truncated by a circular 19th-century brick-lined cess pit	Pot. Clay tobacco pipe – provisionally 19th-century (tbc)
These remains were truncated by a 19th-century yellow stock brick wall on large concrete pads	19th-century brickwork left <i>in situ</i> map
Interpretation and summary	
<p>The prehistoric remains are difficult to interpret, it is likely they are residual contained in natural features such as a tree throw or rabbit run. Nonetheless, they indicate (together with accounts of finding prehistoric pottery adjacent to the site in the 1980s) that settlement was nearby.</p> <p>It is thought that the red brick wall recorded is too far north to be that of the 17th-century Meeting House, and probably reflects the gradual filling in of the land between the Meeting House and the former Worcester House.</p> <p>The cess pit is thought to have been within buildings depicted north of the (Sunday) School depicted on the 1870s OS map.</p> <p>The LCC Bomb Map indicates that the school had been extended northwards by the 1940s, and it is this northern extension built after 1870 that had the large concrete base.</p>	

3.3.8 Trench 8



Trench 8, looking south-east

Trench 8	
Location	Central, south of 7, west of Congregational Church Wall
Dimensions	21m long x 6.5m wide x 2m deep (18.5m long and 4m wide below 1m and 5.5m long x 2.8m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86146 36225
OS National grid coordinates	535797 181610
Modern Ground Level	11.35m OD (south) to 10.82m OD (north)
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose brick rubble
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of trench 9.0m OD
Natural observed	8.9m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	0.5m–1.2m deep

Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
A line of rounded linear pits filled with topsoil and dirty brickearth.	None – to be compared with Rocque map 1746
They had been truncated by tan orthogonal arrangement of yellow stock brick walls and a concrete floor at 9.6m OD	19th-century structure left <i>in situ</i> To be compared with 1870s OS map
Interpretation and summary	
Despite the area excavated to brickearth being close to Trench 7, no prehistoric remains were found in this trench. The line of features cut into brickearth are thought most probably to have been bedding trenches for bushes or trees (orchard), compare with John Rocque's 1746 map. The brick and concrete remains are those of the Congregational School.	



Trench 8, looking south

3.3.9 Trench 9

Trench 9	
Location	South of site, within City Farm
Dimensions	16.5m long x 6.5m wide x 2m deep (4.5m long x 4m wide below 1.2m)
London Survey grid coordinates	86146 36199
OS National grid coordinates	535798 181584
Modern Ground Level	11.43m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Imported topsoil and clay
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of trench 9.39m OD
Natural observed	Loose sand 9.39m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	0.7m thick
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
A 19th-century quarry had truncated natural terrace gravel (sand at this location), through the backfill of which was cut a primitive concrete pad foundation, made of lime mortar, pebbles and brick and a spread of mortar with slate over it, cut through by a drain.	
These were overlain by a coal-ashy dump of nightsoil (and possibly industrial waste).	
Cutting through dump and concrete pads was a yellow stock-brick buttressed foundation	19th-century structure left <i>in situ</i> map
Interpretation and summary	
There were no remains of the 17th-century Meeting House exposed in this trench. Quarrying is likely to have been a short-lived event shortly before the construction of the Congregational Church. The primitive concrete pads were probably to provide a firmer footing both for the church and for construction activities, the dump that followed being merely an event in the construction sequence. The yellow-brick buttressed foundation closely matches the wall illustrated in the 1870 OS map.	

North Manhole Garden Street Sewer Diversion	
Location	North end of Garden Street
Dimensions	2m x 2m x 2.5m deep
London Survey grid coordinates	
OS National grid coordinates	
Modern Ground Level	9.34m OD
Modern subsurface deposits	Loose mixed modern demolition rubble
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	Base of trench 6.84m OD
Natural observed	Gravel 7.43m OD, Brickearth 7.98m OD
Extent of modern truncation/overburden	1.3m
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
A 0.6m-wide red brick wall foundation aligned north–south, made of 55mm-thick bricks was recorded from 8.04m OD (where it had been truncated by modern activity) to 6.84m OD (limit of observations). It continued beyond the trench to the north and south, and was recorded for a further 12m.	15/16th-century structure left <i>in situ</i>
Interpretation and summary	
Part of Worcester House, late-medieval or Tudor mansion	

4 Significance of Results (provisional)

4.1 Summary of Fieldwork Results

Residual prehistoric features were found in probably natural features indicating prehistoric activity near to the site.

Remains of a late-medieval or early Tudor courtyard house corresponding to the building known as Worcester House have been uncovered. The ground plan of the building complex is, as yet, uncertain, but may extend to the west side of Garden Street (through the area of the Crossrail shaft).

Remains of 17th- and 18th-century buildings marking the transition from a dwelling to a seminary can be traced across the site as far south as Trench 7, with possible details of contemporary gardens in Trench 8. No remains of the 17th-century Meeting House were found, however.

Remains of later buildings vary across the site, in trench 1 they had been completely destroyed whilst the bombed area of Trench 5 wall survived just below the surface.

4.2 Importance of Resources

The late-medieval or early-Tudor mansion, originally exposed in 1985, is a significant structure, and if exposed over a larger area could provide further information about the development of the building and associated structures over at least a 400 year period. The suggestion that the gatehouse could have origins in the 15th century would revise the currently accepted dating.

The remains of Worcester House and the later buildings and occupation illustrate the physical and social development of Stepney following the medieval period, as well as the growth on non-conformism in this satellite village away from the city centre.

Remains of bombed 19th-century buildings are of local importance.

Whilst the small prehistoric pottery assemblage from unidentifiable features is of low significance, they provide further information for a period rare in the locality, and suggest potential for further, perhaps better preserved, prehistoric remains elsewhere on site.

4.3 *Provisional* Assessment of Results against Aims and Objectives

The general aims of the investigations at Stepney Green were:

- Identify and record any archaeological remains of modern and post-medieval date relating to the Congregational church, and the former street layout at the site;
- Identify and record any archaeological remains of post-medieval or earlier date associated with the nearby Worcester House or its predecessor; or later non-conformist activity;
- Identify and record any re-deposited artefacts of prehistoric, Roman, or medieval date relating to occupation of the area.

The Congregational Church, adjacent School and some buildings west of Garden Street have been recorded. Cess pits inside the re-used walls of the Baptist College mark low status housing on the east side of Garden Street. Also identified and recorded were buildings and

structures associated with Worcester House and its transition to a nonconformist seminary and Baptist College.

Residual pottery has been found in probably natural features.. There may be potential for prehistoric deposits and features to survive elsewhere on site. No Roman or medieval finds were recorded (although some of the buildings and structures of Worcester House may have been built in the last stages of the Middle Ages).

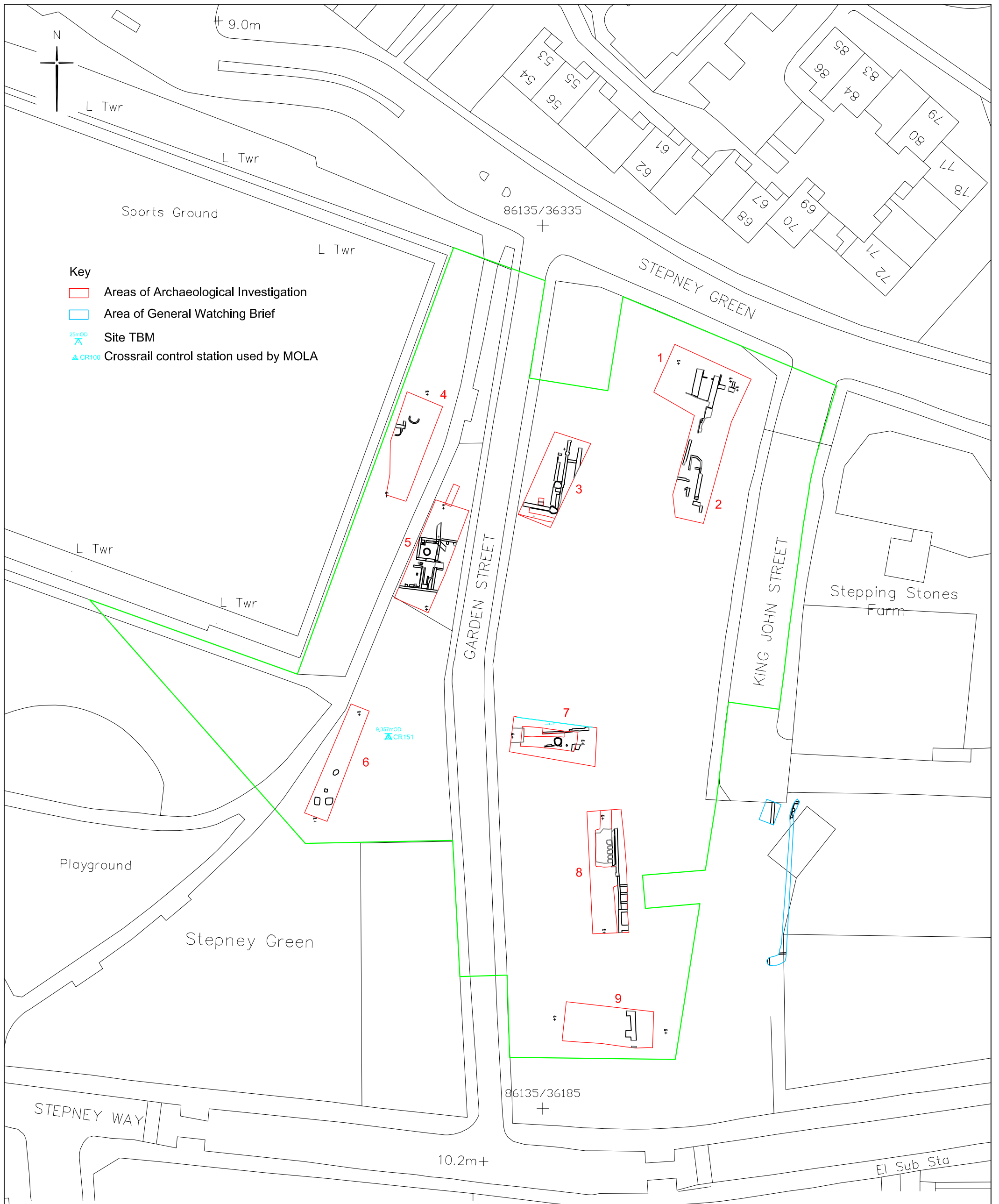
4.4 *Provisional conclusions for future work*

- The C123 FDC design archaeologist, Adam Brossler, will produce recommendations for further work if necessary, in particular during the Shaft excavation and for preservation *in situ* of the Tudor brickwork in the north west of the site (in the location of trenches 1, 2 and 3).
- Two watching briefs are not yet completed and the results are not contained in this report: GWB on Thames Sewer Diversion and GWB on EDF cable diversion.

5 Future Deliverables

The remaining deliverables for this site and their delivery dates as specified by *Crossrail, Archaeology, Specification for Evaluation & Mitigation (including Watching Brief, Doc No. CR-PN-LWS-EN-SP-00001, v. 0.3, 26.06.09*, are:

- **Survey Report** by 3rd February 2011
- **Fieldwork Report** (including OASIS Summary Sheet) 3rd March 2011
- **Summary Report** by 17th March 2011



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Event code / Site code:
XRV10: FIG 1

Site Address:
Crossrail: C123 Stepney Green shaft

Type of fieldwork:
GWB / Evaluation