

<https://www.abramsarchaeology.co.uk/>

# Assessment and Publication

## Post-Excavation Budget Management

Many of our clients have encountered the need for archaeological assessment in support of a planning application. Many have now funded archaeological evaluation works to test for the presence of remains. A smaller number have come across significant archaeological remains on a site. The idea of this can induce concerns about cost and time.

Abrams Archaeology is highly experienced in the management of risk in these circumstances. That experience does not stop once a development site is physically cleared and recorded. We extend our services across the full spectrum of tasks which can include Assessment, Analysis, Publication, Outreach and Archiving.

We use our skills to recognise risk and to anticipate costs. Change management is a key skill and we ensure that every stage of the fieldwork and post-excavation process is managed efficiently. You are kept up to date with changes and involved in the process.

## Post-Excavation assessment, analysis publication and archiving works

Once an investigation finishes, most archaeological planning conditions' require a level of reporting. This can fall into relatively short grey literature/commercial reports or it can mean two stage processes which require assessment and reflection on research priorities (Stage 1) followed by analysis and publication (Stage 2).

Our team are familiar with all stages. We have a wide network of specialist contractors to call upon, and we have staff with decades of experience writing and editing such text. We can control budget and quality on your behalf. At the right points we can ensure local planning authorities are informed and that conditions can be recorded as fulfilled.

## Outreach and education

The NPPF sets out the need for public benefit to be delivered through the Planning System. Archaeology is expected to contribute to this and is well placed to do so. The educational benefits are well established and there is a role for the public to view, learn and on occasion take part in archaeological activities. This can have benefits for enhancing a sense of place and in pulling a community into a development in a positive way.

### Who often uses this service?

Developers

### Why use this Service?

To fulfil a requirement of the local planning authority

### Relevant Project Examples

Dyers Hall, Dowgate Hill

A428 Road Scheme, Cambridgeshire

Staffordshire Rail Improvement Scheme

### Professional Standards and Guidance

Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide

Code of Conduct, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

### Contact

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When handled appropriately, safely and with some interesting archaeological material, outreach and education work can be very positive for a developer. There can be a requirement written into a scope of work on occasion and when it is, we are well able to organise and manage the following types of outreach:

- Open day on site (with proper supervision and safety precautions)
- A presentation in a neutral space on the results of works
- An exhibition organised after works are completed

## Case Study – Dyers Hall, Dowgate Hill, City of London

*Lift Going Down: Roman Finds at Dyers' Hall (Spring 2021 edition of London Archaeologist)*. This article describes the remarkable series of deposits and finds recovered within excavations for a new lift shaft at Dyers Hall, Dowgate Hill, the in City of London. Excavation recorded a sequence of archaeological deposits 2.5m deep, mainly of Roman date. The three stages of investigation were located in a former white wine cellar in the basement level of the building. They comprised Assessment (Research) monitoring of geo-technical test pits (evaluation<sup>1</sup>) and investigation during the construction stage (Mitigation<sup>2</sup>). Abrams Archaeology extend thanks to the Worshipful Company of Dyers, for whom the works were carried out. The works were required by Planning Condition 3 (Permission 18/01268/FULL) covering a series of works to the Dyers Hall, of which the lift shaft excavations were one part.



Photograph by Pre-Construct Archaeology:

This shows a nationally important and exquisitely carved cornice in Purbeck marble (1st Century AD)

Of national importance was an exquisitely carved cornice in Purbeck marble, thickly painted red on three sides with the iron pigment haematite (see Plate below), only the second provincial example of this rock to have surviving paint<sup>3</sup>.

Roman occupation of this site is interesting as it lies immediately adjacent (east of) the Walbrook River. The land was understood to have been in the estuary of the Walbrook until relatively recently. Buildings were not documented here until this investigation recorded them. They lay in many layers, as occupation was over several centuries and comprised masonry and timber structures. The remains of several schemes of painted wall plaster were found, including one collapsed wall, with a section of wall plaster shattered and lying, compressed where it fell. Many artefacts were removed during excavations and details were assessed, analysed, published and archived in an efficient way.

## Go ahead and ask.....

If you would like to talk over a site or any of the topics mentioned above, please give us a call or send an email. We are happy to help out with some preliminary observations on archaeology and heritage:

Find out More:

<https://www.abramsarchaeology.co.uk/>

<https://www.abramsarchaeology.co.uk/blog-commercial-archaeology>

<sup>1</sup> AOC Archaeology. Dyers Hall, Dowgate Hill, City of London. Archaeological Monitoring during geo-technical test pitting. 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Pre-Construct Archaeology. Dyers Hall, 10 Dowgate Hill, City of London. An Archaeological Watching Brief. 2018

<sup>3</sup> see F. Pritchard 'Ornamental stonework from Roman London' *Britannia* 17 (1986) 182