

PDN81

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PDN81

11–11A Pudding Lane (now Namura House), 121–127 Lower Thames Street, EC3
G Milne

NGR: TQ 32925 80715

SMR: 043397–405

An 11-month excavation of Areas A, B and C on the W side of Pudding Lane, a 5-month excavation of Area F on the E side of Fish Street Hill, and a subsequent watching brief produced evidence of natural topography and the line of the N bank of the pre-Roman River Thames. A Roman piled embankment, timber landing stage, and late 1st c timber quay surviving to its full height (Fig*PDN), associated with two warehouse buildings (Areas C and F) were also found. Part of a possible timber bridge pier base (Fig*PDN) was recorded on the foreshore to the SW of the quay (Area F). On Area B, to the N, lay a mid-to late Roman masonry building which incorporated a tessellated bath, mosaic floor and hypocaust during its development. Roman activity was traced over the site from the 1st to the 5th c and was also represented by mud brick buildings (some of which had been burnt in a major fire) and timber-lined drains. The Roman period structures have formed the subject of a model in the Roman gallery of MoL (Fig*PDN).

The dark grey silts or waterlaid deposits sealing the latest Roman deposits were cut by many Saxon pits and two wells, and also by two sunken-floored buildings (Areas A and B). A series of Saxon surface-laid buildings was also found (Area A); and details of floors, foundations, baseplates and a door were recorded. Stone foundations of later medieval buildings cut through this sequence. The final section of the archive report includes a discussion of relevant material from the neighbouring Peninsular House site (PEN79), to the E of Pudding Lane.

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