

FRI88

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10 Friar Street, 69 Carter Lane, EC4
B Watson

NGR: TQ 31810 81060

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Excavations here were funded by MEPC Developments Ltd. The earliest feature identified was an unlined well of 12th c date and several gravel pits. Parts of the Dominican priory of Blackfriars, established c 1276, were known to have occupied the site. To the N, these included the E end of the choir of the priory church, but little of the walls of the choir remained as they appear to have been replaced by existing basement walls on the N and E edges of the site. Inside the choir, five burials and two brick burial vaults were found, the latter emptied and then used for rubbish disposal some time after the dissolution of the priory in 1538. To the S, the prior's lodging and a garden are documented. These were represented by stone foundations and an external garderobe pit, the former surrounding a floor of Delftware tiles and last used as a coal cellar before demolition in the late 17th or 18th c.

The party wall along the S edge of the site incorporated stone foundations of the external wall of an undercroft (recorded further to the S in 1900, located below the provincial's hall and the south dorter). These foundations were buttressed to the N; to the W upstanding masonry contained a large window of c 14th c date, subsequently blocked, which will be preserved and displayed in the new development. Along the W edge of the site, to the S, another substantial medieval foundation was recorded: probably the E wall of the chapter house.

Most of the finds are post-medieval in date. Copper-alloy objects include eleven coins and a variety of domestic articles. An iron Jew's harp was recovered, as well as two fragmentary ivory double-sided combs and some textile. A good selection of glass vessels, in turquoise and green as well as clear glass, includes an almost complete colourless wine glass. A gold coin of George III was recovered. The pottery includes several whole vessels, among which is a Westerwald panel jug depicting the seven electors of the Holy Roman Empire, with the date 1603, and a Frechen Bellarmine with the arms of Amsterdam on the medallion.

London Archaeol, 6, 1990, 162; *Medieval Archaeol*, 34, 1990, 177

Spence, C, & Grew, F (eds), 1990 *The Annual Review 1989* (DUA, MoL), 16-17

Watson, B, 1988 Testpit survey prior to excavation and development of 10 Friar Street, 69 Carter Lane EC4 (FRI88), Evaluation Report