

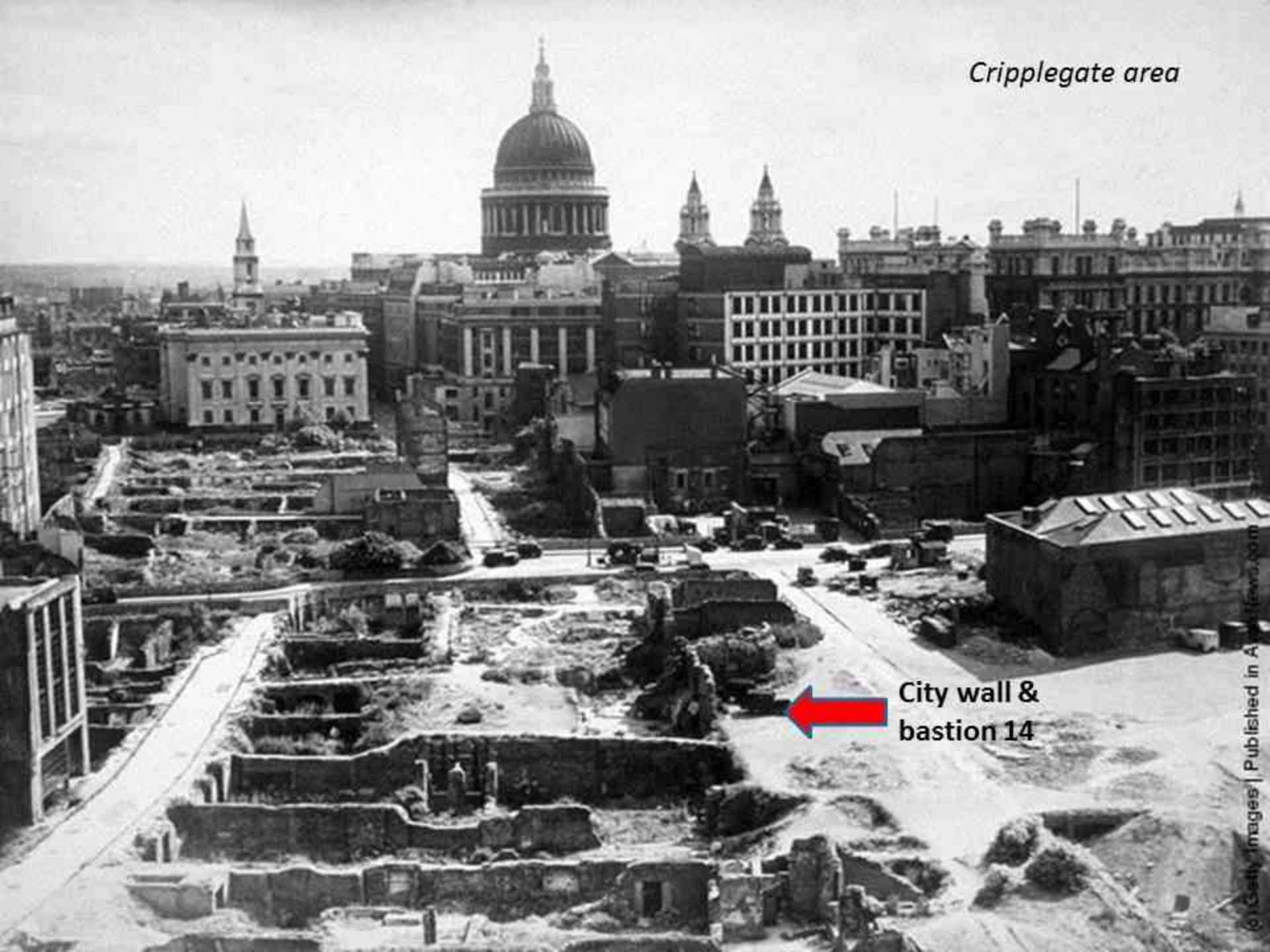
Hopes and Fears

An aerial photograph of the River Thames in London, showing the city skyline in the background. The river is wide and brownish, with several boats and a large ship docked. The city buildings are visible along the banks, including the tall, dark skyscraper of the Shard on the right. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Peter Marsden

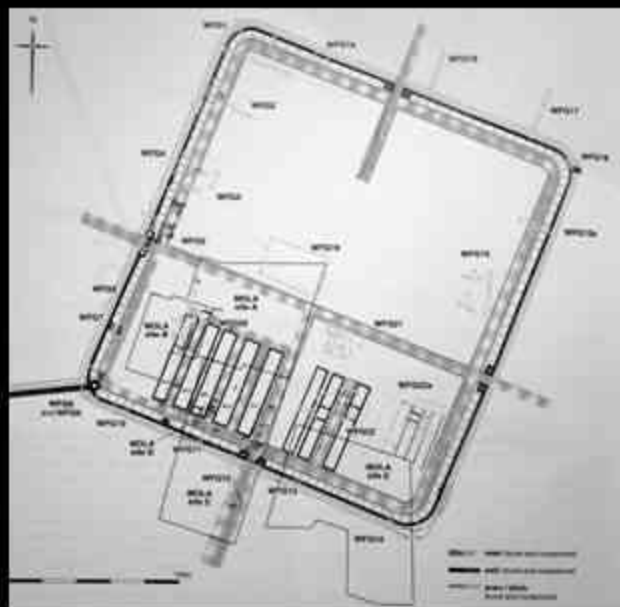
Guildhall Museum
Archaeology in the City of London 1959 - 1973

Cripplegate area



**City wall &
bastion 14**

*Professor William (Peter) Grimes,
1946 – 1962 / 1968*



Cripplegate fort
discovered 1949.



1954: Temple of Mithras

It was estimated that about 7,000 people saw the temple last night. The last of the public walked round the site fifty minutes after the advertised closing time of 6.30 p.m. Another 200 people were turned away.

** Discussion in Court of Common Council, page 4, and picture on page 16.

THE TEMPLE OF MITHRAS
REPRIEVED BY ECCLES



The head of Mithras discovered at the Roman Temple on Tuesday. The

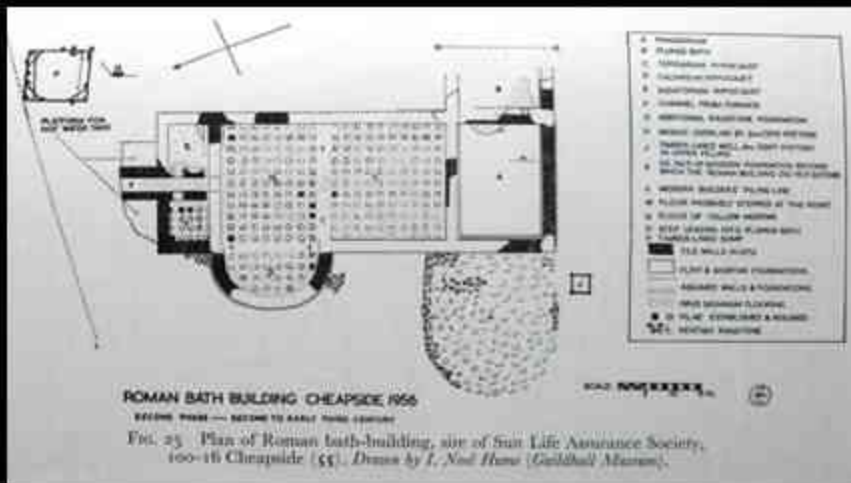
Was the Temple "saved"?



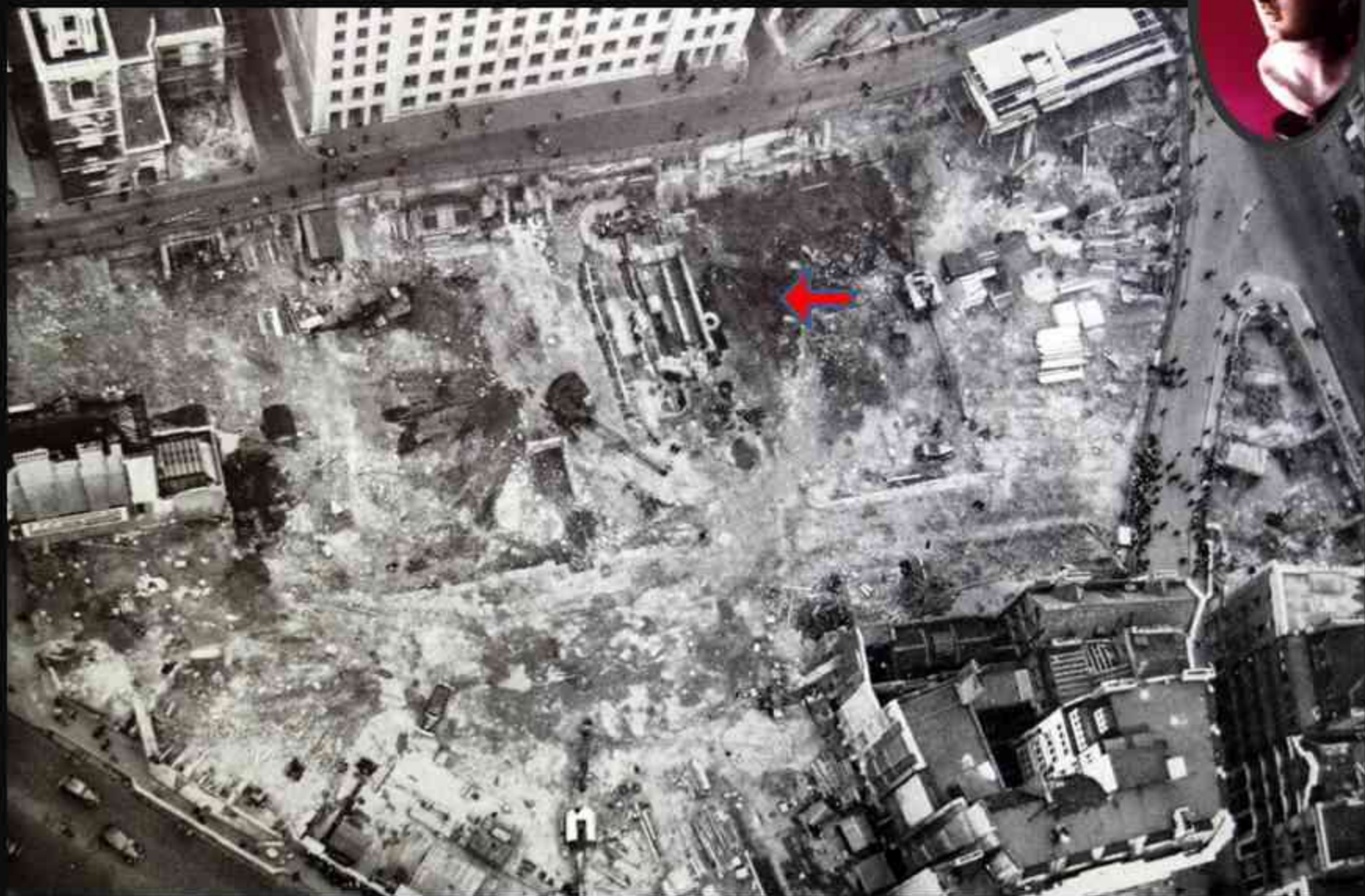
Ivor Noel Hume, 1949-57. Guildhall Museum



Cheapside Roman baths



1954: Roman well, Temple of Mithras site.



Peter Marsden 1954 – 1959, enthusiast.



Roman well, Temple of Mithras site,
1954.



Roman sarcophagus,
Minorities 1955.



Roman barge, Guy's Hospital
1958

**Peter Marsden 1959 – 1973. Guildhall Museum
Job: 'Excavations Assistant' to visit building sites
and find antiquities for the museum collection.**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS IN THE CITY OF LONDON 1965-6

Contributed by the Guildhall Museum

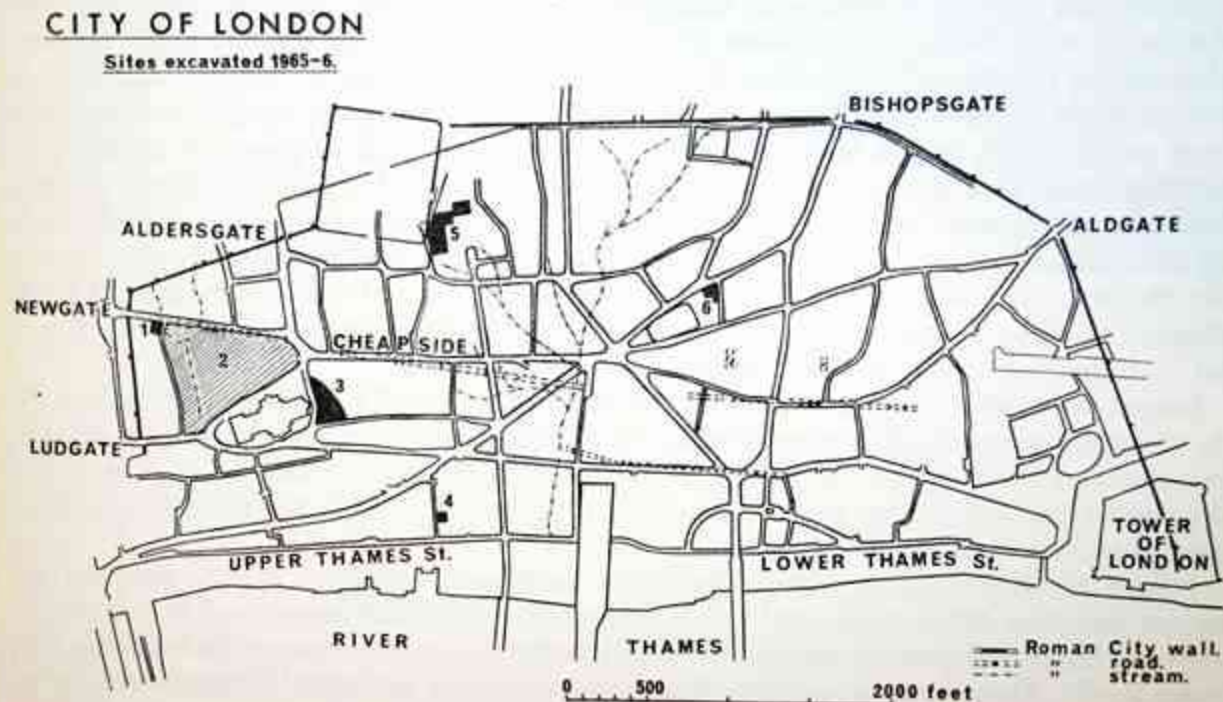


Fig. 1
City of London. Sites excavated 1965-6.

*Royal Exchange - the home of Guildhall Museum in 1959
(the Museum was part of Guildhall Library)*



Royal Exchange in World War 2



Grimes' excavations were winding down
in the early 1960's.

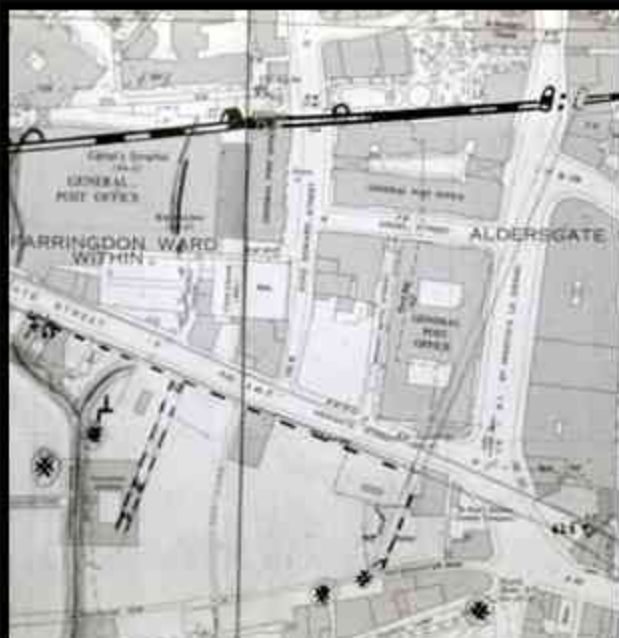
There were still huge bombed sites -
an unparalleled opportunity to visit the ancient past

There was nobody but me to seize the opportunity....

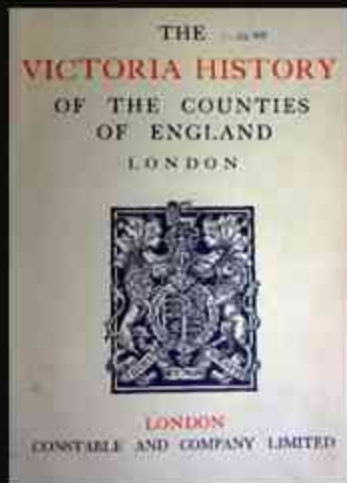
But my job was to find antiquities for the museum collection—



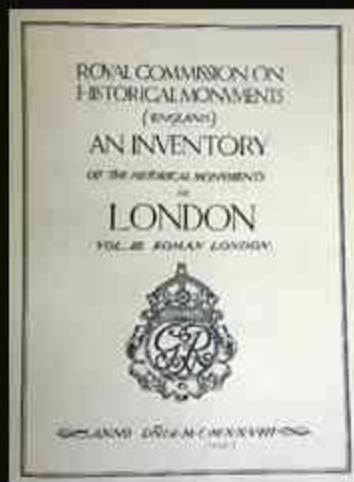
Roman building, Paternoster Row.



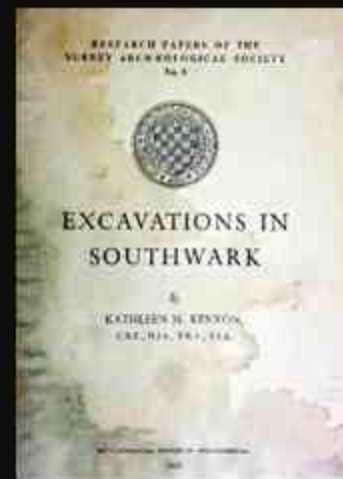
1960: Very little known about Roman London



1909



1927



1959



Meeting Sir Mortimer Wheeler – “The Times” site 1960.



Seizing the opportunity 1960:

- * Assembled the sites archives into files.***
- * Introduced recording with
Ordnance Datum levels.***
- * Recorded natural geology.***
- * Target Roman and medieval streets ,
public buildings, City defences.***
- * Collecting antiquities with contexts.***
- * Began publishing annual summaries in LMAS.***

The site of London:

* *Ordnance Datum levels and nature of natural.*

1962: discovered that Roman Southwark lay on a sandbank in riverside marsh & fixed site of first London Bridge.

Illustrated London News 1962









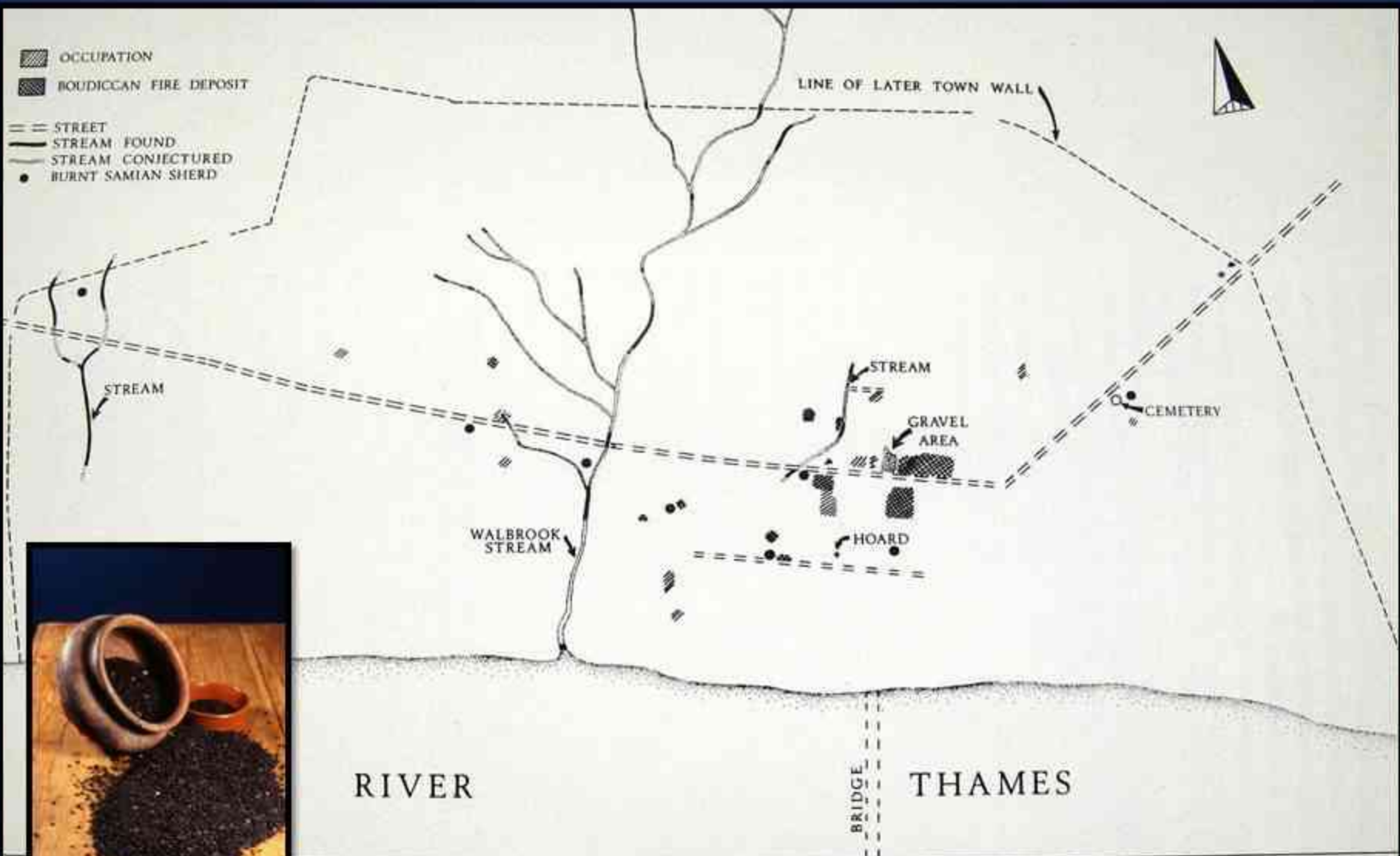
The beginning of London:

* *the Boudican fire*

Boudican fire level defined
extent of early Roman London.



-  OCCUPATION
-  BOUDICCAN FIRE DEPOSIT
-  STREET
-  STREAM FOUND
-  STREAM CONJECTURED
-  BURNT SAMIAN-SHERD



LONDON (LONDINIUM)

PERIOD: BOUDICAN (A.D. 60)

0 500 1000 METRES

Clue to the sites of Roman public buildings:

** Past finds of thick walls.*



*Ralph Merrifield,
mapping Roman London - published 1965.*

The Roman City of
LONDON
RALPH MERRIFIELD

