

CBR Site History

The oldest available map of the site dates back to 1557

The history of the site and its surrounding area has been assessed using extracts of historical ordnance survey (OS) maps dating from 1682 to 1987.

The existing buildings lie close to the eastern edge of the site of the Anglo Saxon village of Lundenwic, which was established in the 7th century and stretched from the present day National Gallery in the west to Aldwych in the east - traces of the medieval occupation of the site are evident in the maze of narrow interconnecting streets that survives.

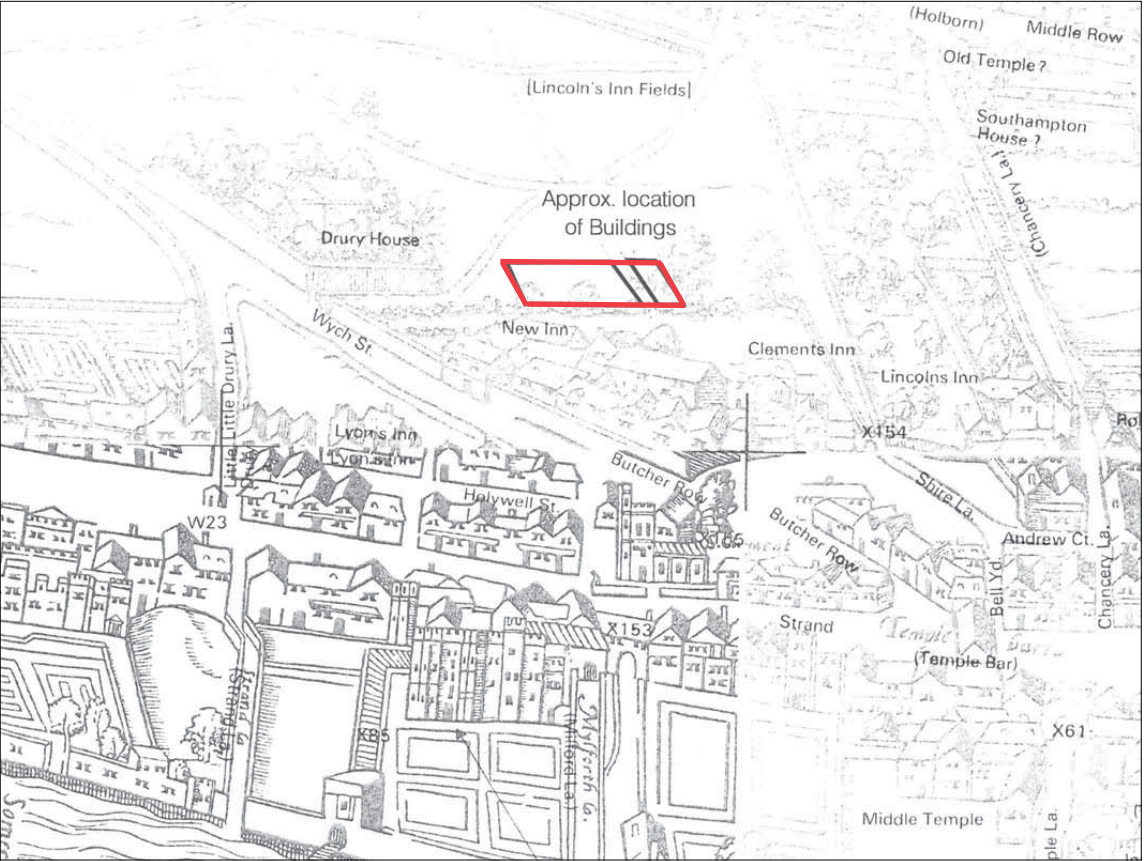
During the late 17th century Clare Market occupied the thoroughfare to which it gave its name, and since the area was untouched by the Great Fire of London, the medieval and Elizabethan buildings survived until the end of the 19th century when low rise housing and industrial buildings comprised the majority of the buildings on the site.

In the late 19th century, the area, by then packed with slum dwellings, was redeveloped by the London County Council to create the thoroughfares of Aldwych and Kingsway. The LSE first occupied buildings on the site in Clare Market and Houghton Street in the 1920's, and acquired adjacent buildings as it grew during the 1930's and 1940's.

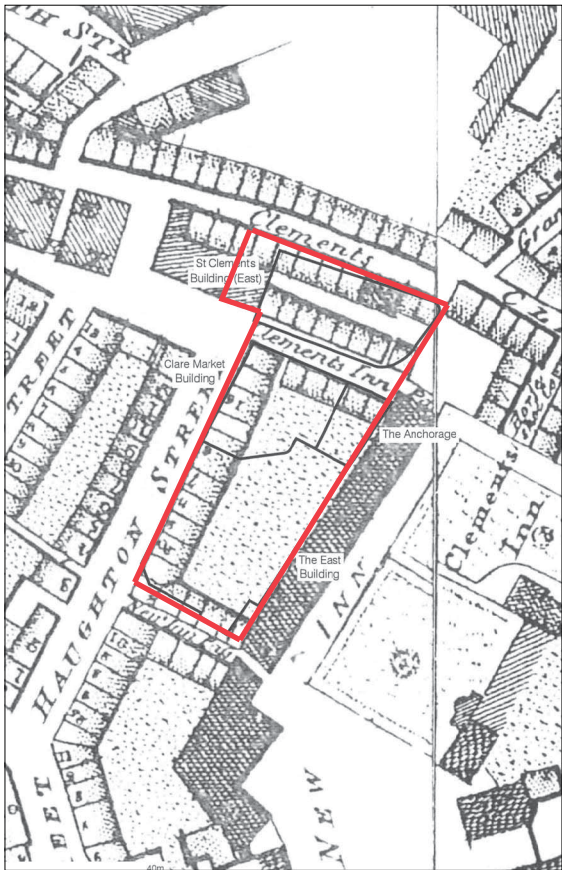
This initial period of expansion was temporarily halted by the Second World War, and there is evidence that buildings in Portugal Street suffered bomb damage during the course of it.

Following the war the site has undergone a process of expansion which continues to the present day. Buildings on Clare Market and Houghton Street were partially redeveloped in the 1960's and recent minor additions were made to the East building in the 1980's and 1990's.

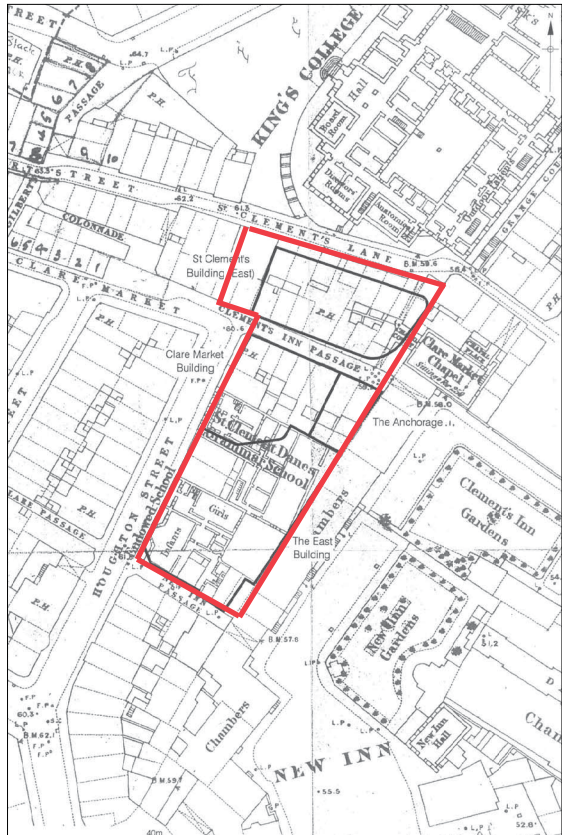
Date	Site	Surrounding area
1682	Street plan of area established. Houghton Street, Clare Market and Clements Lane visible.	The surrounding area is mainly occupied by residential houses
1792-99	Market area developed with buildings filling in some of the open space. Terraced houses face south onto Clements Inn Passage. The street pattern now established remains largely unaltered.	The street layout is already present.
1874-78	The northern half is occupied by row of terrace houses. The southern part is labeled "St Clemens School" although it is difficult to read the map and it appears to be occupied by large buildings. The street layout is already present with Clemens Inn cutting across the site and New Inn Passage marking the border of the site to the south.	The Kings College Hospital is located to the north.
1896	The houses to the north have been partly demolished to leave space for open ground.	The Royal Court of Justice appears to the north east with its large buildings.
1916	Northern part of the site now occupied by a large building.	Several surrounding houses appear to be replaced by larger buildings such as banks, theatres, etc.. The Kings College Hospital is no longer shown.
1951-53	Large building to the north labeled as "Government Laboratory". Row of houses in the center of the site still shown. Modern layout of the site is shown to the south with U shape building.	A large building known as strand house appears to the north with an electric substation to its southern tip. London School of Economics buildings are shown to the west.
1958-72	Bridges over Clare Market and Clements Inn Passage are shown	Royal Court of Justice building layout changes with the addition of Queen's building.
1962-90	No change	Buildings to the east change in layout.
1965-68	No change	No change.
1974-76	Large building shown in the center of the site partly replacing the row of houses.	No change.
1995	No change	No change



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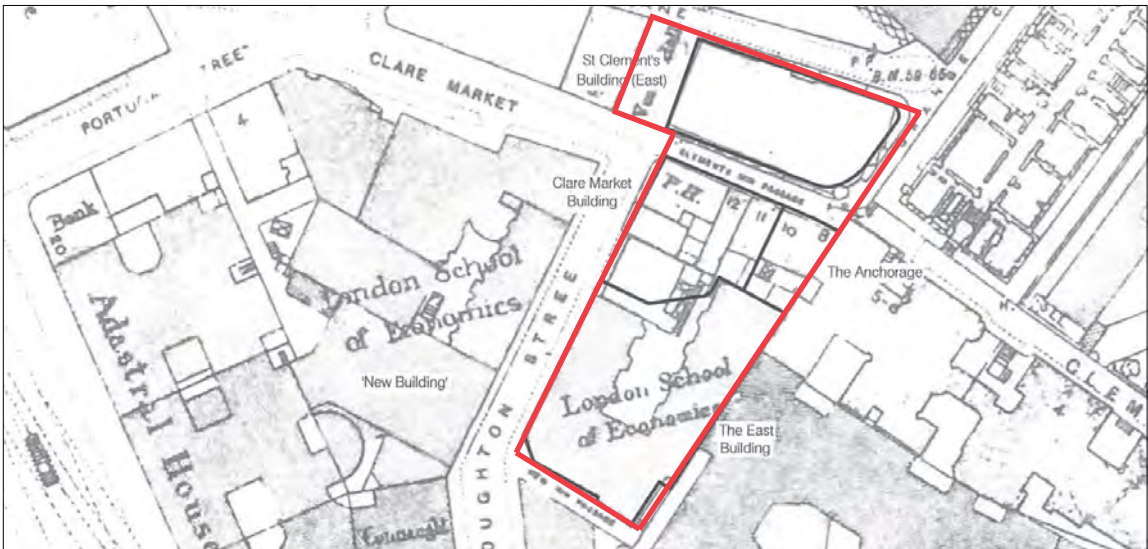
Historical map - 1792-1799



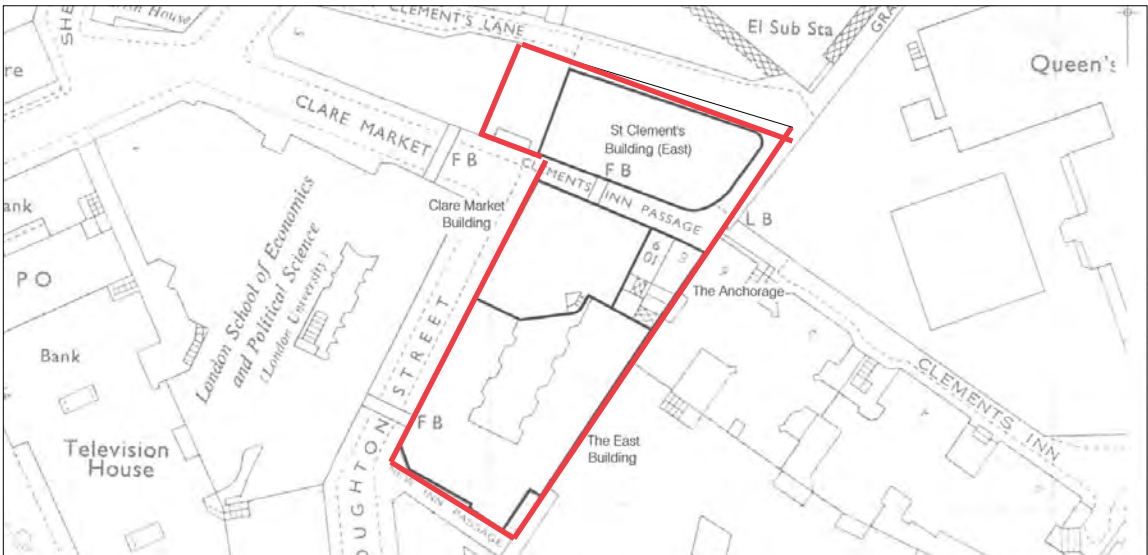
Historical map - 1867-74



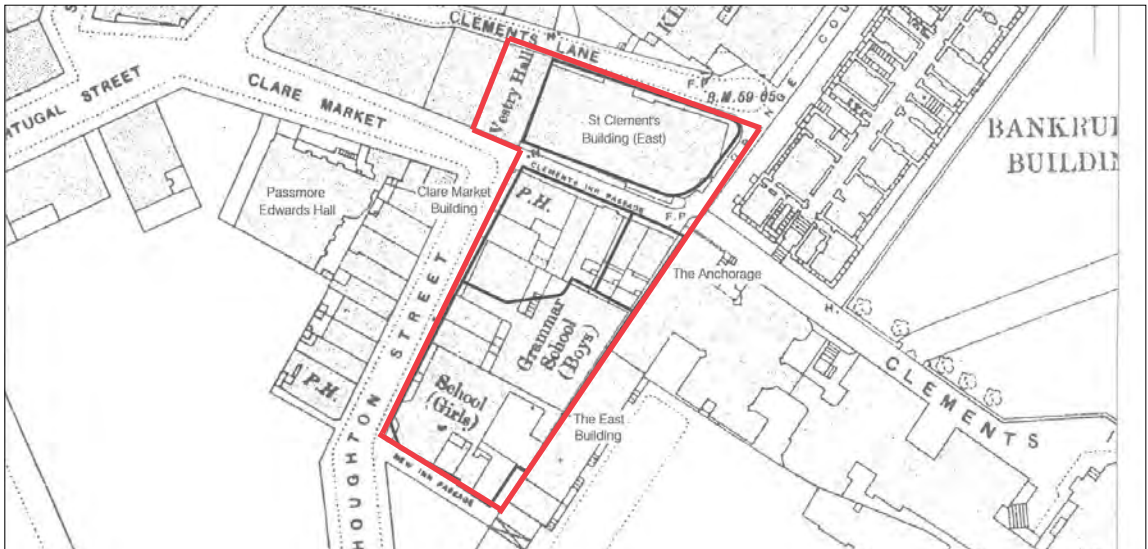
Historical map - 1894-96



Historical map - 1932



Historical map - 1969



Historical map - 1906-09



Historical map - 1952



Historical map - 1987

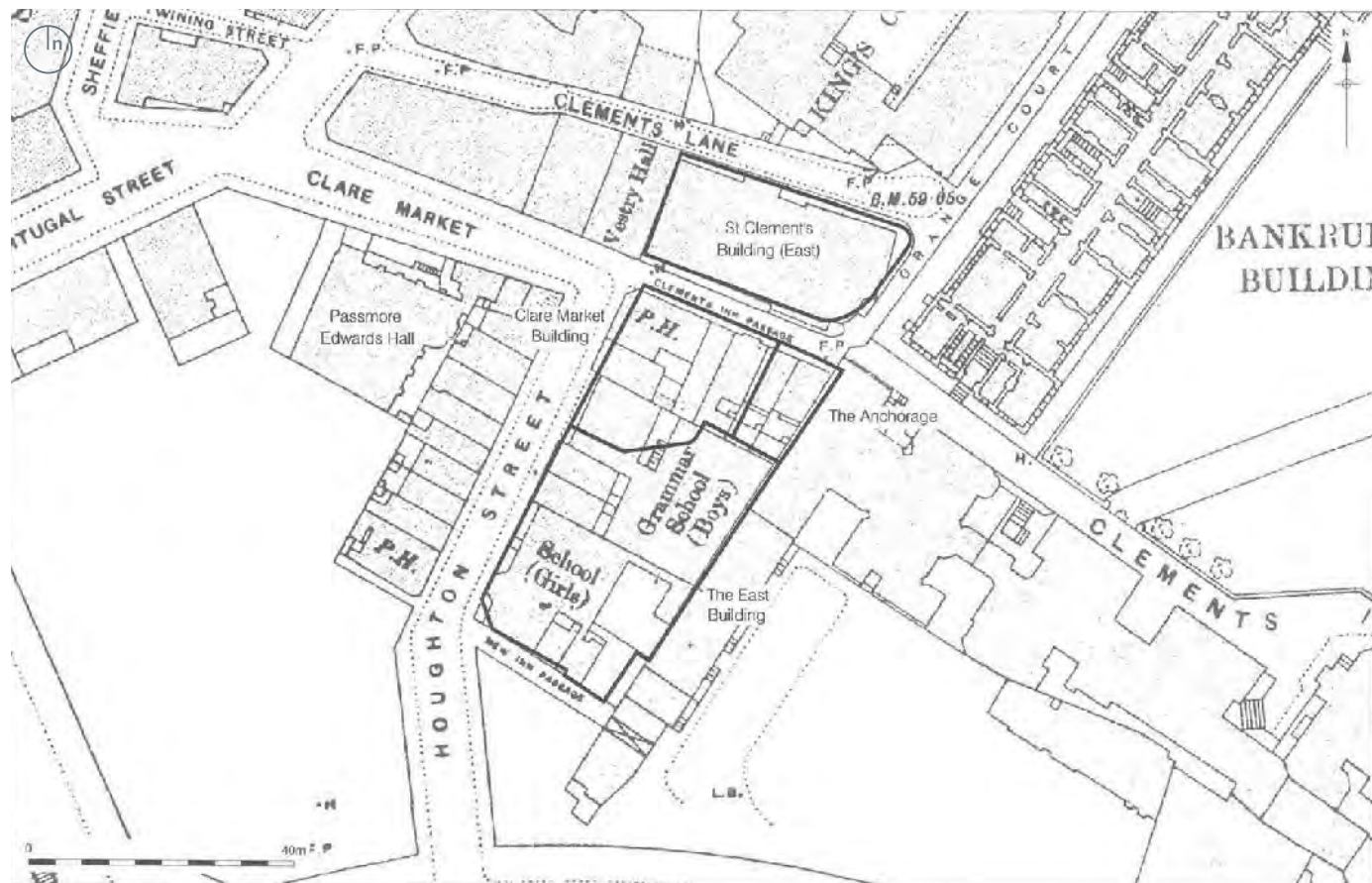


Figure 3.5: OS map of 1906



Figure 3.6: OS map of 1932

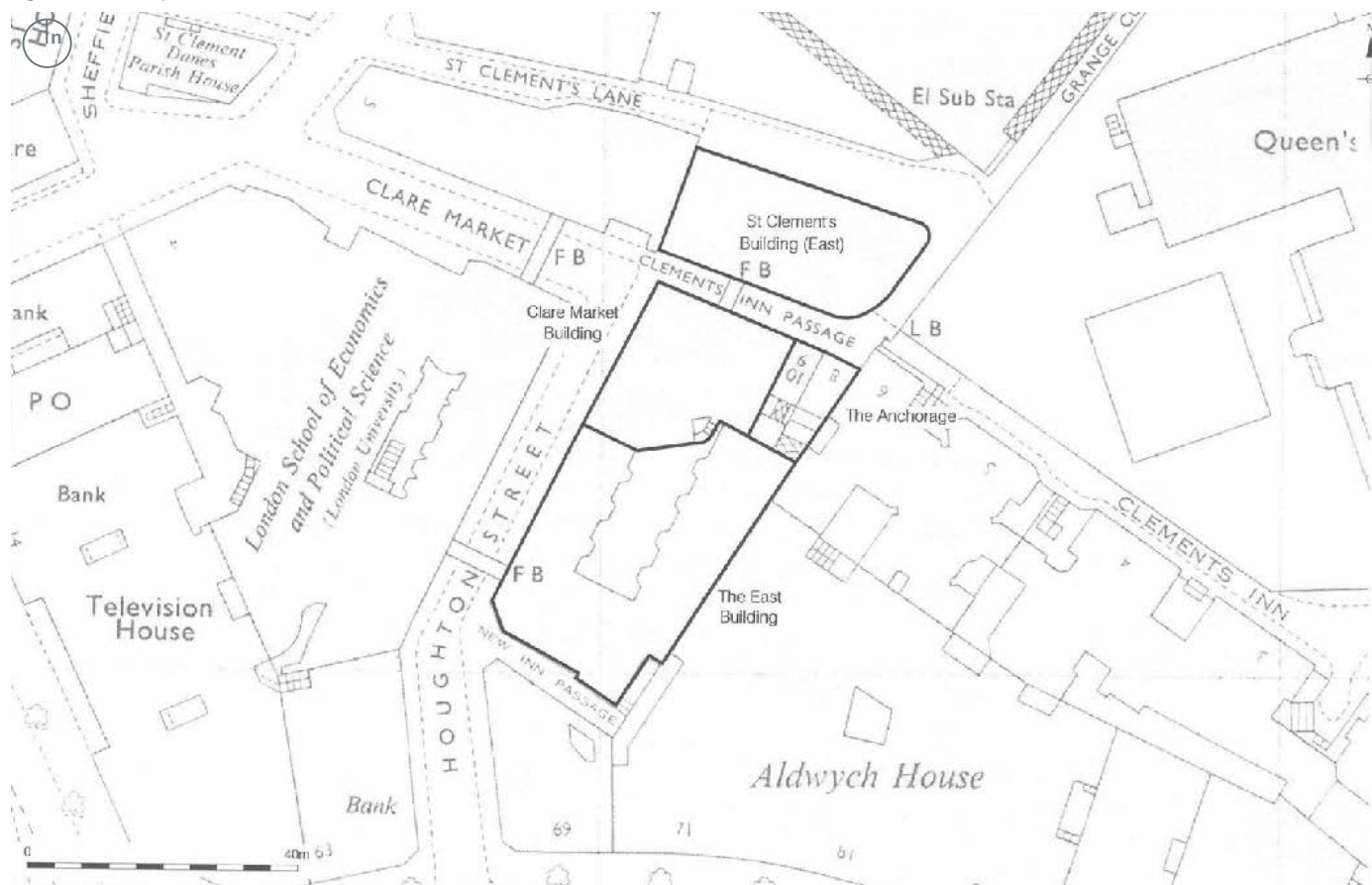


Figure 3.7: OS map of 1969