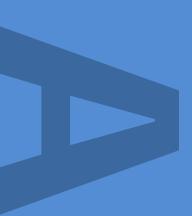
'SHOPMOBILITY' TWO **RIVERS RETAIL PARK**, **MUSTARD MILL ROAD, STAINES-ON-THAMES**, **SURREY** 

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION SITE CODE: STRS13** 

**REPORT NO: R11391** 







**MARCH 2013** 

# 'SHOPMOBILITY' TWO RIVERS RETAIL PARK, MUSTARD MILL ROAD, STAINES-ON-

# THAMES, SURREY

#### AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Site Code:	STRS13
Central National Grid Reference:	SU 503400 171655
Local Planning Authority:	Spelthorne Borough Council
Planning Application Number:	12/00441/FUL
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# **DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

# Site Name

# 'SHOPMOBILITY', TWO RIVERS RETAIL PARK,

# STAINES ON THAMES, SURREY

# Type of project

# Archaeological Evaluation

**Quality Control** 

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code		K3032	
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### 1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at Two Rivers Retail Park, Staines-On-Thames, Surrey, within the administrative area of Spelthorne Borough Council (Figure 1). The archaeological investigation was conducted in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site. The work was commissioned by Two Rivers (One) Ltd and Two Rivers Two Ltd in response to an archaeological condition attached to planning permission (12/00441/FUL) granted for the development of the site, and was undertaken on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013.
- 1.2 The evaluation found no palaeotopographic evidence during this study and no archaeological evidence relating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval or early post-medieval periods.
- 1.3 A single trench (TR1) was excavated within the footprint of the proposed development (Figure 2). A sequence of modern and late post-medieval made ground layers were encountered. The natural horizon was not reached.
- 1.4 In the centre section of TR1 a modern concrete capping was encountered that is believed to be sealing the culverted section of 'Sweep's Ditch', an historic watercourse that connects with the confluence of the Rivers Colne and Wraysbury, just to the west of the site. the construction backfill for the culvert occupied much of the rest of the trench.
- 1.5 All recommendations for further work are at the discretion of the Archaeological Officer for Surrey County Council.

### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land located in the car park of Two Rivers Retail Park, Staines-on-Thames, Surrey, within the administrative area of Spelthorne Borough Council. The National Grid Reference of the site is SU 50 3400 17 1655 (Figure 1)
- 2.2 The evaluation was commissioned by Two Rivers (One) Ltd and Two Rivers Two Ltd and was monitored for the Local Planning Authority by Mr Gary Jackson, Archaeological Officer for Surrey County Council. The field investigation was supervised by Stuart Watson and project managed by Helen Hawkins for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. All work was undertaken following the appropriate English Heritage (GLAAS) (1998) and IFA (1993) guidelines.
- 2.3 The evaluation was undertaken in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission granted for the development of the site (12/00441/FUL) by Spelthorne Borough Council.
- 2.4 The site had previously been the subject of an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Taylor 2012) which set out the detailed archaeological background to the site.
- 2.5 The site is approximately rectangular in shape and measures approximately 35m NW/SE by c.18m NE/SW giving an approximate area of 630m<sup>2</sup>.
- 2.6 The study site occupies the south western corner of a large car park that servers Two Rivers retail park which is accessed via Mustard Mill Road to the north and west (Figure 2). Adjacent to the west of the site is the confluence of two rivers (hence the name) the Colne and the Wraysbury which join (as the River Colne) to flow a short distance to the Thames. Sweep's Ditch, a drainage channel, also forms part of this confluence and flows east-west as an open waterway for 20m before being culverted below ground and continuing, it is believed, through the central portion of the study site, and beyond. To the immediate south of the site is the 'Vue Cinema'. The site is located c.150m to the northwest of the High Street, a short distance to the north of the historic core of Staines.
- 2.7 The site itself is currently occupied by hard landscaping, paved areas and a central planting bed that borders seven accessible parking spaces.
- 2.8 The archaeological evaluation followed the methodology set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared for the site (Hawkins 2013) which proposed that a single trial trench be excavated across the site.
- 2.9 The evaluation aimed to address the primary objectives which were set out in the WSI, as follows:
  - To determine the palaeotopography of the site.
  - To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric activity.
  - To determine the presence or absence of Roman activity.
  - To establish the presence or absence of medieval activity.
  - To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval activity.
  - To establish the nature and status of Sweep's Ditch and its associated palaeoenvriomental potential.
  - To establish the extent of past post depositional impacts on the archaeological resource.
- 2.10 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material will be deposited at Spelthorne Museum under the site code **STRS13**.

#### 3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which replaces national policy relating to heritage and archaeology (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment).
- 3.2 Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
  - Delivery of sustainable development
  - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment
  - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and recognition of the contribution that heritage assets make to our understanding of the past.
- 3.2.1 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be *no more than sufficient* to review the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 3.2.2 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as: a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. They include designated heritage assets (as defined in the NPPF) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process.
- 3.2.3 Annex 2 also defines *Archaeological Interest* as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.
- 3.2.4 A *Designated Heritage Asset* comprises a: World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area.
- 3.2.5 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 3.2.6 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- 3.2.7 Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets (which include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas)
- 3.2.8 Protects the settings of such designations
- 3.2.9 In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions
- 3.2.10 Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not significant enough to merit in-sit u preservation
- 3.2.11 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 3.2.12 The Localism Act, which came into being 15 November 2011, contains provisions which will result in the abolition of regional strategies. However, their abolition will require secondary legislation and until such time as this is introduced they will remain part of the development

plan.

- 3.2.13 On 6 May 2009 the Secretary of State published the final approved Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the South East (The South East Plan). The RSS replaces the Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (RPG9), together with the relevant County Structure Plans. The South-East Plan holds the following policy with regard to the historic environment:
- 3.3 Local Policy: Archaeology in Spelthorne
- 3.3.1 The study aims to satisfy the objectives of Spelthorne Borough Council, which fully recognises the importance of the buried heritage for which it is the custodian. Relevant saved policy statements for the protection of the buried archaeological resource within the borough are contained within the Spelthorne Borough Local Plan:

#### 'ARCHAEOLOGY, ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

4.73. Spelthorne is situated entirely on various alluvial and gravel deposits associated with the Thames, whose river terraces were attractive to ancient settlements. This has resulted in an area rich in archaeological finds and with great potential for further discoveries. From the Neolithic period onwards, significant finds including small settlements have been found across a wide area of Spelthorne with many Roman remains found around the important Roman town of Staines. The Council will seek to protect this archaeological heritage. Government guidance contained in PPG16 paragraph 8 contains a presumption in favour of the preservation of nationally important remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, and paragraphs 15 and 16 note the need to protect other important sites identified in the development plan. On the basis of currently available information all Scheduled Ancient Monuments are worthy of preservation, their sites are shown on the Proposals Map. Close liaison will be maintained with the Environment Department of Surrey County Council which holds the archaeological Sites and Monuments Record and with the Surrey County Archaeological Unit which conducts archaeological investigation and research. Any new areas of archaeological importance identified through the national Monuments Protection Programme of English Heritage or local research will be added to the areas covered by the policies which follow. Where archaeological investigation is required in the context of a development proposal, the applicant will be asked to fund the work deemed necessary. Planning conditions or legal agreements will be used where appropriate to secure compliance with policies.

4.74. There are four Scheduled Ancient Monuments which are by definition of national importance within the Plan area (see Appendix 5) and which the Council will seek to preserve from any development adversely affecting site or setting. An application for Scheduled Monument Consent must be made to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions for any proposal affecting these sites. In addition to the scheduled sites and monuments, two others of special local importance have been identified on the basis of current information from the County Sites and Monuments Record which should also be preserved (see Appendix 5). The Council will encourage as appropriate the management and interpretation of these sites and monuments to develop their educational and recreational potential. These sites are identified on the basis of currently available information, and during the currency of the plan, additional sites may be identified to be of national importance following archaeological evaluation, or reassessment of sites on the Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 3.4 POLICY BE24

There will be a presumption against any development which would adversely affect a scheduled or other nationally important ancient monument or its setting. Development adversely affecting a site or monument of County archaeological importance will not normally be permitted.

4.75. In addition to the above sites and monuments, other areas exist where there is good evidence for the existence of archaeological remains based on previous finds, maps or aerial photographs. These individual sites and areas of high potential are shown on the Proposals Map and are listed in Appendix 5. Any development proposal affecting such an area should include an initial assessment by a qualified archaeologist of its archaeological potential and what, if any, further field evaluation is required. An evaluation should assess the impact of the development upon the preservation of any archaeological remains. Where possible, remains should be left in situ. Proposals for development should wherever possible avoid damage to or disturbance of the archaeological remains. The Council will encourage the local display of archaeological finds, where appropriate, at the Spelthorne Museum or other suitable location.

Developers are advised to refer to the British Archaeologists and Developers Code of Practice, and to Supplementary Planning Guidance produced by Surrey County Council entitled "Archaeology and Historic Landscapes" which gives a fuller explanation of Areas of High Archaeological Importance.

#### 3.5 POLICY BE25

In considering proposals for development within areas of high archaeological potential, the Borough Council will:-

(a) require an initial assessment of the archaeological value of the site to be submitted as part of any planning application

(b) expect the applicant to arrange an archaeological field evaluation to be carried out prior to the determination of the planning application, where, as a result of the initial assessment, important archaeological remains are considered to exist

(c) have a preference for preservation in situ, and in such circumstances will impose conditions or seek a legal agreement, where appropriate, to ensure that damage to the remains is minimal or will be avoided

(d) require by planning condition or seek a legal agreement to secure a full archaeological investigation and recording of the site and subsequent publication of results in accordance with a scheme of work to be agreed in writing with the Council prior to the commencement of the proposed development, where important archaeological remains are known or considered likely to exist but their preservation in situ is not justified.

4.76. Work in recent years has resulted in sites of major archaeological importance being discovered in the course of gravel extraction, where no previous specific evidence existed for them. In view of Spelthorne's river gravel base, it is reasonable to assume that any large scale development is likely to affect features of archaeological interest and that discoveries could be made in any size of new development site. Any new development proposal for sites larger than 0.4 hectares and smaller sites where requested should include agreed arrangements for archaeological assessment or evaluation, and where appropriate investigation, and allow for future preservation of remains as deemed appropriate.

#### 3.6 POLICY BE26

Outside the defined areas of high archaeological potential, the Borough Council will require an agreed scheme of archaeological assessment or evaluation appropriate for the site concerned to be submitted with any new development proposal for a site larger than 0.4 ha, and for smaller sites if deemed necessary. Where evidence of significant archaeological remains is found then the requirements set out in policy BE25 will apply.

4.77. Where other land is identified as of historic interest but is not covered by historic building, conservation area or archaeological protection policies, the Council will nonetheless seek to preserve the historic and amenity value of such land. This may include landscaped gardens and open landscapes. Where such areas are affected by development proposals it is important to record their historic details. The extent of such areas is to be further investigated by Surrey County Council for the County as a whole but in Spelthorne currently known sites are Sunbury Park and Laleham Park.

#### 3.7 POLICY BE27

The Council will seek to ensure that any proposed development within or adjacent to an area of historic landscape value, or garden of special historic interest, does not detract from its character or appearance. An adequate record will be required where development affecting such an area is permitted. Where necessary the Council will encourage the sensitive restoration of gardens of special historic interest within the Borough.

#### **Designated Historical & Archaeological Assets**

The southern extent of the site is located partially within an Archaeological Priority Area and adjacent to a Conservation Area as defined by Spelthorne Borough Council. There are no Listed Buildings on the site itself and there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments listed within the vicinity of the site.

#### The proposed development

3.7.1 The proposed development is to build a single story 'New Shopmobility & Toilets Block'. This is to include a store/charging room, a toilet block and a 1,060ft<sup>2</sup> shopmobility block. To the south of the new building, and west of the retained parking spaces, a paved open-area with

benches and cycle racks is to be created and the adjacent pedestrian crossing is to be repositioned.

# 4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

#### 4.1 Geology

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey digital mapping (Internet 1) indicates that the site lies on superficial sediments composed of Alluvial deposits of Silt, Sand and Gravel which overlies the bedrock geology of the London Clay Formation.
- 4.1.2 The natural horizon was not encountered during this investigation, its presence being masked and truncated by modern/late post-medieval made ground deposits.

#### 4.2 Topography

- 4.2.1 The site is currently occupied by a narrow triangular paved area edged by planting beds flanking seven accessible parking spaces. The ground surface is generally flat and has a height of approximately 15.65mOD.
- 4.2.2 The River Thames passes through Staines and is located c.300m to the south and south-west of the study site. In addition, the confluence of two tributaries of the Thames, the Wraysbury and Colne rivers, and the mouth of a drainage watercourse, Sweep's Ditch, are all located a short distance to the west of the site.

# 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 An extensive overview of the archaeological and historical background is presented in the Desk Based Assessment prepared for this site (Taylor 2012.6) and the following is an abridged summary of the information contained in that document.
- 5.2 There is a significant amount of evidence to suggest that the rivers, valleys and forests of the area were being economically exploited by prehistoric groups during the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. It is feasible that the study site, which is located close to or above a number of watercourses, could have been economically exploited during this time and, as a consequence, evidence of prehistoric activity may exist on site.
- 5.3 There is abundant archaeological evidence to demonstrate that the near vicinity of the study site was occupied throughout the Roman period. However, the study site itself is located on the margins of the gravel island on which the Roman settlement was built and as such it is probable that it functioned as part of an area of meadowland or flood plain, with modified channels and drainage features potentially being present.
- 5.4 As in the Roman period, there is abundant archaeological evidence to demonstrate that the near vicinity of the study site was occupied during the Saxon and medieval periods, whilst the study site itself probably continued to function as part of an area of meadowland or flood plain, possibly with modified channels and drainage features also being present.
- 5.5 There is also abundant evidence for the development of the town throughout the postmedieval period, however cartographic sources from the 18th and 19th century show that the site remained undeveloped at this time. The northern and central parts of the site probably functioned as a meadow, flood plain or agricultural environment, whilst the southern part of the site was occupied by an east-west orientated watercourse named as 'Sweep's Ditch'. This narrow channel forms part of the southern boundary of the parish (internet 2) and is believed to be either wholly man-made or a natural watercourse modified to a drainage ditch. Cartographic evidence indicates that Sweep's Ditch was in existence from at least the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Stukeley 1723, quoted in Taylor 2012. 6.6.3) and is likely have existed in the medieval period (Taylor 2012. 6.5.3). Its use as a parish boundary (internet 2) would suggest an even earlier date and may have originated as a natural stream that was modified over time.
- 5.6 Little or no development appears to have taken place on the site until the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when land to the north of Sweeps Ditch, including the study site, was subsumed into an expanding Linoleum factory complex (Taylor 2012). The town was a major producer of Linoleum after the formation of the Linoleum Manufacturing Company in 1864 by its inventor, Frederick Walton. Linoleum became the main industry of the town and was a major employer in the area until the 1960s. The factory was closed around 1970 (internet 3).
- 5.7 The site is now occupied by the Two Rivers Retail Park and its associated car park which was opened in 2002; the study site is located in the south western corner of the car park.

### 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation was conducted according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Hawkins 2012) prior to the commencement of works. The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains, which may require further investigation.
- 6.2 The study site is approximately rectangular in shape and measures approximately 35m NW/SE by c.18m NE/SW, giving an approximate area of 630m<sup>2</sup>.
- 6.3 The WSI for the archaeological evaluation stipulated that a single trench was to be located within the area of the proposed development. The trench measured 7m long by 1.50m wide at northern end narrowing down to 1.10m wide due to the presence of an electricity cable along the trench's eastern side.
- 6.4 The trench was relocated slightly to be accommodated wholly within the flower bed area for ease of excavation.
- 6.5 The trench was excavated to a depth of 1.00m at which point a rammed concrete backfill and concrete capping was discovered through much of the trench. As these deposits were believed to relate to the culvert for the Sweep's Ditch, they were not broken out.
- 6.6 A small sondage (0.40m NS by 0.60m EW by 0.30m deep) was hand dug in the base of the northern end of TR1 in an attempt to identify the natural horizon. this was the only area not occupied by rammed concrete backfill or concrete capping.
- 6.7 The trench was located using GPS survey equipment.
- 6.8 A wheeled JCB backhoe excavator fitted with a flat ditching bucket was used under archaeological supervision to remove overburden. The features and deposits identified within the trenches were then cleaned and investigated by hand. Investigation was limited to identifying the extent and nature of the deposits and to recover dating evidence.
- 6.9 The archaeological deposits were assigned individual context numbers and recorded onto pro-forma sheets and recorded in plan and section as appropriate.
- 6.10 A comprehensive photographic record was made of the trench post-excavation using high-resolution (12.5MP) digital photography.
- 6.11 A temporary bench mark (TBM) was established on the north-west corner of the trench, which had a value of 15.62m OD and was obtained using GPS survey equipment.

# 7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

- 7.1 The following description of the stratigraphy details the main characteristics of each context and its position within the phased stratigraphic matrix, as encountered during the archaeological evaluation. More details of the archaeological sequence can be found in Appendices 1 & 2.
- 7.2 Only two phases, the modern and post-medieval periods respectively, were exposed during this study. The natural horizon was not reached.
- 7.3 Phase 1: Post-Medieval
- 7.3.1 The earliest deposit was encountered in the northern end of trench 1 in the base of a shallow sondage and consisted of a dark grey black 'clinker'/furnace waste deposit given the context number [4] (Plate 2, Figure 3). It contained frequent fragments of unidentified burnt material and was 0.10m thick to the trench's base limit of excavation. The height on top of this deposit was recorded at 14.54mOD, 1.10m below ground level. No finds were recovered.
- 7.4 Phase 2: Modern
- 7.4.1 In the southern part of TR 1 was layer [5], this was a layer of very hard modern concrete with inclusions of small pebbles and CBM fragments as a course aggregate (Plate 1, Figure 3). The deposit formed the base of the trench at 14.70mOD, 0.75m below ground level. No finds were recovered.
- 7.4.2 In the northern end of the trench was context [3], a 0.20m thick layer of compact brick rubble within a sandy matrix (Plate 2, Figure 3). This contained as inclusions frequent fragments of red and yellow stock bricks and was very similar to [5]. The height on top of this deposit was recorded at 14.80mOD, 0.85m below ground level. No finds were recovered. It is likely that [3]3 and [5] form the backfill of the construction cut for the culvert [2]. The cut itself was not identified and may lie outside the confines of the trench.
- 7.4.3 Layers [5] and [3] were both overlain by masonry structure [2]. This was an area of very hard mid yellow brown concrete with small well rounded pebbles as a medium aggregate mix (Plates 1 & 2, Figure 3). Running transversely east-west across the central section of Trench 1, this deposit measured 2.40m north-south by 1.0m east-west and was encountered at 0.75m below ground level at 14.90mOD. This is thought to be a modern capping to the culvert enclosing Sweep's Ditch. No finds were recovered.
- 7.4.4 All of the above layers were sealed by [1] a 0.60m thick layer of hard compacted mid grey unconsolidated cement rubble, probably acting as sub-strata or 'shoulder' to the hard standing above. The layer was recorded at 15.40mOD, 0.25m below ground level. No finds were recovered (Plate 1, Figure 3).
- 7.4.5 This in turn was covered by a 0.25m thick layer of modern topsoil [+], the top of which formed the current ground surface at 15.65mOD (Plates 1 & 2, Figure 3).

# 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The evaluation conducted on land at Two Rivers Retail Park, Staines-On-Thames, Surrey, found no palaeotopographic evidence during this study and no archaeological evidence relating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval or early post-medieval periods was unearthed during the investigation.
- 8.2 A single trench (TR1) was excavated within the footprint of the proposed development. A sequence of modern and late post-medieval made ground layers was encountered. The natural horizon was not reached, but is believed to have been heavily truncated by the construction of the culvert.
- A post-medieval layer [4] was likely to relate to the large linoleum factory that occupied the site from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century until its subsequent demolition in the 1980s. The clinker layer [4] may be surmised to originate as waste products from the factories' fires and furnaces.
- 8.4 The course of Sweep's Ditch, a narrow drainage channel that may date back to the medieval period, was projected to pass east-west through the evaluation trench. While the first 20m of Sweep's Ditch remains open to the west of the site (Plate 3), it continues below ground in a culvert. It is believed that structure [2] is the concrete covering of the watercourse's culvert. The concrete was both a distinctive yellow colour (noticeably different from the surrounding concrete layer) and has a definite east-west alignment that was in-line with the visible part of Sweeps' Ditch to the west (Plates 1 & 2, Figure 2).
- 8.5 The remaining features in the trench all appear to be concrete sub-strata supporting the hard standings laid during the development of the Two Rivers car park in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- 8.6 All recommendations for further work are at the discretion of Gary Jackson, Surrey's Archaeological Officer.

### 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Dan Hen from Tuffin Ferraby Taylor LLP for commissioning the work on behalf of Two Rivers (One) Ltd and Two Rivers Two Ltd. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would also like to thank Adam Talbot, the retail park manager for his help on site.
- 9.2 The author would like to thank Denny, the machine driver from O'Connell plant for his work. Thanks are also due the archaeological team of Kari Bower (site work), Chris Cooper (logistics) and Rick Archer (GPS survey).
- 9.3 The author would also like to thank PCA CAD department for the illustrations and Helen Hawkins who managed the project and who edited this report.

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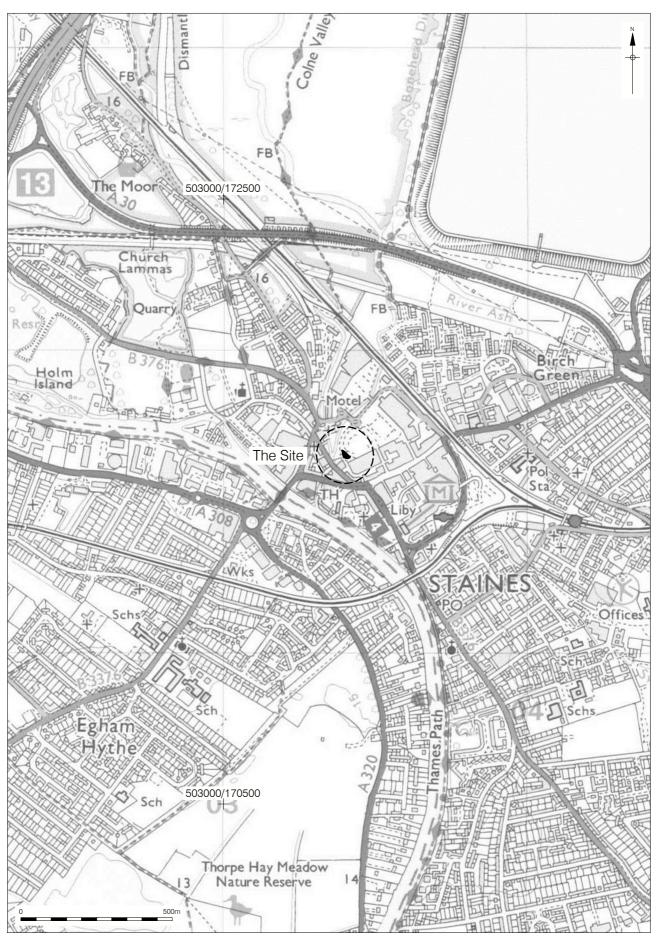
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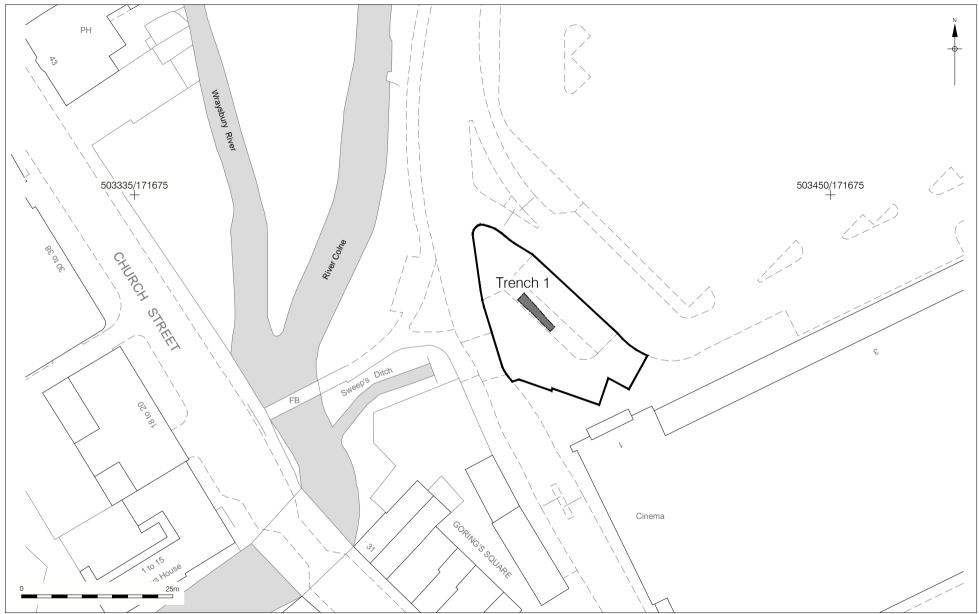
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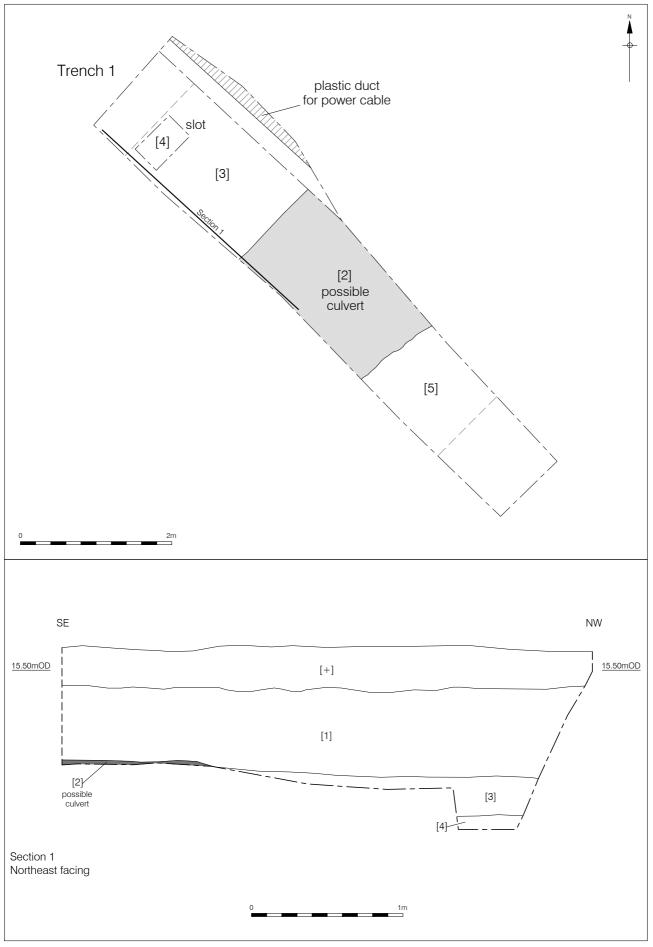
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#### Plates 1-3.



Plate 1: Shot D1.15 taken 5/3/13. Trench 1. The culvert capping of Sweep's Ditch [2] is the yellow concrete area under the scales Scales are 1.0m and 0.5m looking NW.



Plate 2: Shot D1.16 taken 5/3/13. Trench 1. In the fore ground is post-med. made ground [3], the clinker layer [4] is in the base of the small sondage in the lower centre, culvert capping [2] is below the 1m scale and concrete layer [5] is in the background. Scales 1.0m & 0.5m looking SE.

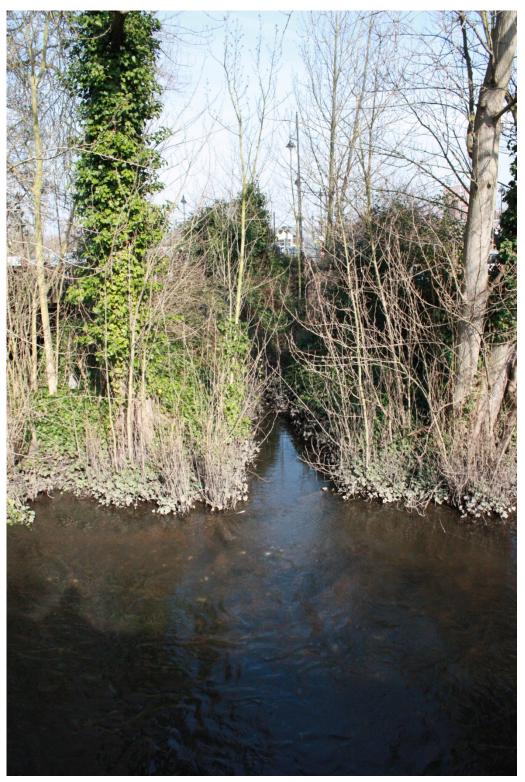
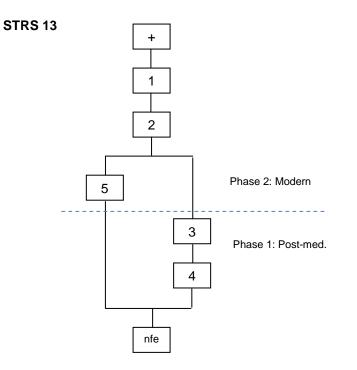


Plate 3: Shot D1.11 taken 2/3/13. The mouth of Sweep's Ditch as it enters the River Colne. View looking E. Trench 1 lies just beyond the foliage.

# **APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX**

Context	Plan/Trench	Section	Туре	Description	Date	Phase
1	TR1	S1	Layer	Unconsolidated concrete. Made-ground	Modern	2
2	TR1	S1	Masonry	Poss. culvert capping	Modern	2
3	TR1	S1	Layer	Brick rubble	Post- med	1
4	TR1	S1	Layer	Black clinker	Post- med	1
5	TR1	n/a	Layer	Concrete	Modern	2

# **APPENDIX 2: SITE MATRIX**



# **APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM**

OASIS ID: preconst1-145074

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Project name	'SHOPMOBILITY' TWO RIVERS RETAIL PARK, MUSTARD MILL ROAD, STAINES-ON-THAMES, SURREY. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION.
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre- Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at Two Rivers Retail Park, Staines-On-Thames, Surrey. The archaeological investigation was conducted in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site and was undertaken on 4th and 5th March 2013. The evaluation found no palaeotopograhic evidence during this study and no archaeological evidence relating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval or early post- medieval periods. A single trench (TR1) was excavated within the footprint of the proposed development. A sequence of modern and late post-medieval made ground layers were encountered. The natural horizon was not reached. In the centre section of TR1 a modern concrete capping was encountered that was believed to be sealing the culvert section of 'Sweep's Ditch', an historic watercourse that connects with the confluence of the Rivers Colne and Wraysbury, just to the west of the site.
Project dates	Start: 04-03-2013 End: 05-03-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	STRS 13 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	CONCRETE CAPPING OF WATERCOURSE CULVERT Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None

Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SURREY SPELTHORNE STAINES Two Rivers Retail Park, Mustard Mill Road, Staines-on-Thames, Surrey
Postcode	TW18 4WB
Study area	630.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 503400 171655 50 -1 50 57 04 N 001 16 59 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: Om Max: Om
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Surrey County Council
Project design originator	Helen Hawkins
Project director/manager	Helen Hawkins

Stuart Watson

Project supervisor

Type sponsor/fundi body	of ng	Developer
Name sponsor/fundi body	of ng	Two Rivers (One) Ltd and Two Rivers Two Ltd

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Spelthorne Museum
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Spelthorne Museum
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	'Shopmobility' Two Rivers Retail Park, Mustard Mill Road, Staines on Thames, Surrey. An Archaeological Evaluation.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Watson, S.
Author(s)/Editor(s) Date	Watson, S. 2013

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