DOLPHIN RETAIL PARK, SOUTHAMPTON ROAD, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

REPORT NO: R11602

JANUARY 2014

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOLPHIN RETAIL PARK, SOUTHAMPTON ROAD, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Site Code:	**WSSR13**
Central National Grid Reference:	**E415498 N129408**
Local Planning Authority:	**Wiltshire County Council**
Planning Application Number:	**S/2012/1808**
Commissioning Client:	**IHCM on behalf of Lothbury Property Trust**
Written and Researched by:	**Stuart Watson**
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CONTENTS

1 Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land currently occupied by the Dolphin Retail Park, Southampton Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2LB.

The archaeological investigation was conducted in advance of the proposed development of the site, which will involve the demolition of the current retail units and the construction of new retail warehousing with associated roads, parking, landscaping and services.

The work was commissioned by the consultants IHCM Ltd on behalf of their client Lothbury Property Trust Company Ltd and was in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission granted for the development. Following discussions between IHCM Ltd and Wiltshire County Council, an archaeological evaluation, involving the excavation of eight 3m^2 test pits, was considered to be a suitable strategy to address the condition and the work was undertaken between the 18th and 27th November 2013.

Late post-medieval archaeological deposits and modern made-ground were encountered in the test pits. These were observed to overlie alluvial deposits including peat that appear to characterise the valley floor of the River Bourne. A possible palaeo-channel was recorded in Test pit 2. Bulk samples of the peat were assessed for PCA by ARCA and were identified to have some potential for reconstructing past environments although the potential appears to be limited by the absence of clear dating evidence for the formation of the sampled peat horizons.

The investigation indicated that natural deposits across the site had been horizontally truncated and sealed by post-medieval and modern layers of made ground, to an average depth of approximately 1m.

It is concluded that no significant archaeological resources were found in the evaluation and that it is highly unlikely that the site retains any archaeological potential.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted between the 18th and 27th November 2013 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land occupied by Dolphin Retail Park, Southampton Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2LB, hereafter 'the site' (Figure 1), NGR 415498 129408.

2.1.2 The evaluation was commissioned by archaeological consultants IHCM Ltd on behalf of Lothbury Property Trust Company Ltd and was monitored by Richard Hughes of IHCM ltd and Claire King, the Wiltshire Assistant County Archaeologist.

2.1.3 An archaeological desk based assessment prepared for the site (WA 2008) examined cartographic evidence, which indicated that the site was undeveloped rural farmland up until the 1960s when the Dolphin Retail Park was developed.

2.1.4 The archaeological evaluation followed a methodology set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared for the site (PCA 2013) and approved by the Wiltshire County Archaeologist. The aim of the evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological resources within the site and, where present, determine their nature, extent, date, condition and significance.

2.1.5 This report presents the results of the evaluation and aims to provide sufficient information on which to base decisions concerning the future treatment of any archaeological resources that have been identified.

2.1.6 The evaluation was undertaken following the relevant standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008). The completed site archive will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage and Museums and Library, under the site code **WSSR13**.

2.2 Location Geology and Topography

2.2.1 The site is located north of Southampton Road, Salisbury, in the parish of Milford, and occupies an area of approximately 38,000m2. It comprises existing retail premises and is bordered to east and west by similar industrial and retail developments. It is bordered to the north by a railway line and the north-eastern and eastern boundaries of the site are formed by the coarse of the River Bourne, a tributary of the River Avon, into which it flows approximately 400m to the south-east

2.2.2 The British Geological Survey's digital mapping service (BGS 2013) records the study site is located on superficial deposits of Alluvium – Clay, Sand and Gravel; alluvial geology formed by the Rivers Bourne, Avon and Nadder.

2.2.3 The site is flat, lying at approximately 45.20mOD and can be characterised as a built-up urban environment developed with single-story retail units, service roads and car parking places dating to the 1960s and 1980s.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site and its wider context was set out in an archaeological desk-based assessment (WA 2008). The assessment considered the site's archaeological resource potential as local or regional in terms of significance and potentially comprising evidence of later prehistoric, Saxon and medieval date, based on the discovery of finds and other evidence from within the site and its immediate vicinity.

3.1.2 Despite the evidence for settlement activity over the wider area during the Saxon and medieval periods, it is likely that the study site itself formed part of the agricultural hinterland of the surrounding settlements. The site is likely to have been an unattractive choice for settlement, due to its position on a flood plain, but at its southern extent may have included a ford and later bridge over the River Bourne serving the historic route south from Salisbury.

3.1.3 The area may have functioned as Salisbury's 'town-lands' following the city's establishment in the 13th century, hence the lack of any distinct later medieval community in the area.

3.1.4 Cartographic evidence indicates that the study site was given over to farmland throughout the 19th century, with pasture as the main land use. The lack of development in the post-medieval period is probably due to the site's susceptibility to flooding from the near-by River Bourne.

3.1.5 The site continued to be used for agricultural land until the late 1960s when Dolphin Park Industrial Estate was developed, along with similar development to the south side of Southampton Road. Further industrial and retail development to the east of the site took place in the 1980s and now characterises the area.

4 Archaeological Methodology

4.1.1 The evaluation was conducted according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA 2013) prior to the commencement of works. The fieldwork was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological and palaeo-environmental remains and, where present, determine their nature, extent, date, condition and significance, which may require further investigation.

4.1.2 The site, covering the proposed development area, measures approximately 3.8 hectares in extent. Much of the site is occupied by redundant warehouses and access to these was restricted owing to asbestos within their structures.

4.1.3 The WSI for the evaluation stipulated that eight 3m by 3m test pits were to be sited within areas of parking and access in order to provide a reasonable sample of the site. This strategy avoided the extant buildings and the asbestos within them as well as the deeper level of existing impact that they represented.

4.1.4 The depth at which natural deposits were expected to occur below ground was suggested by prior geotechnical investigations to be between 1.44m and 1.80m. The dimension of the test pits was determined on this basis and allowed for them to be stepped-in if necessary, to achieve their required depths.

4.1.5 Of the eight proposed test pits (TP), only six were eventually excavated (TP1, TP2, TP3, TP5, TP7 & TP8) (Figure 2). TP6 was located in a part of the site yet to be vacated and was not excavated. In TP4, a substantial amount of corrugated asbestos cement panels was present in modern made-ground layers and the trench had to be abandoned for safety reasons, after partial excavation down to 1m below ground level. Smaller quantities of asbestos roof panels was also found in TP2 and TP3 but these could be dealt with in-situ and were collected, bagged up and stored on site (inside Unit 6) for later disposal by specialist contractors. Three of the test pits had to be re-located due to site constraints; TP7 was re-located east to be within the concrete block barrier guarding the site, while TP3 and TP5 were re-sited south and west respectively to avoid services.

4.1.6 TP5 was only partially excavated; a deep slot along the western edge revealed only modern made ground to a depth of 1.50m below ground level and evidently continuing further down as a modern ceramic waste pipe was noted in the base of the test pit. These modern intrusions will have truncated deep into the natural horizon and further excavation would have been unproductive.

4.1.7 The positions of the test pits were located using triangulation based on the mapped extant buildings.

4.1.8 A 7 tonne tracked excavator, fitted with a flat ditching bucket, was used under archaeological supervision to remove the overburden down to the either the archaeological or natural horizon.

4.1.9 Archaeological and environmental deposits were assigned individual context numbers

and recorded onto pro-forma sheets and recorded in plan at scales of 1:20 and 1:50 and in section at scales of 1:10 and 1:20.

4.1.10 Where appropriate, bulk environmental samples of Alluvial and Peat deposits were collected (minimum 20 litres if possible) for later analysis of macro faunal and floral remains.

4.1.11 A comprehensive photographic record was made of each test pit post-excavation, using high-resolution (12.5MP) digital photography.

4.1.12 All levels were calculated from topographic data supplied by the archaeological consultant and the nearest spot height to each test pit's location was used as a temporary bench mark (TBM): 45.25mOD at TP1, 45.37mOD at TP2, 45.22mOD at TP3, 45.11mOD at TP4, 45.06mOD at TP5, 44.98mOD at TP7 and 45.05mOD at TP8.

5 Results

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 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. A list of contexts is provided in **Appendix 1**, a list of samples taken is provided in **Appendix 2** and a phased stragtigraphic matrix is provided in **Appendix 3**.

5.1.2 Samples taken from peat horizons were processed and assessed by ARCA on behalf of PCA. A report on the peat samples is provided in **Appendix 4**.

5.2 The Stratigraphic Sequence

Natural deposits; phases 1a to 1d.

Phase 1a: Natural Gravels (Figures 3 & 4)

5.2.1 The earliest deposits encountered comprised natural gravels. Localised variations were noted in the composition of these deposits.

5.2.2 In the base of TP1 was natural gravel [1]. This was loose mid blue-grey coarse gravel composed of small to medium angular flints within a soft clay matrix. This deposit abutted natural gravel [2], a loose light greyish-white coarse gravel composed of small to medium angular flints within a chalky clayey matrix. These deposits were encountered at 1.70m below ground level at a height of 43.59mOD (Plate 1).

5.2.3 In the base of TP3 was natural gravel [18] a loose mid greyish yellow coarse gravel composed of small to medium angular pebbles. In this variation of the natural gravel there was little clay in a binding matrix. This deposit was encountered at 1.70m below ground level at 43.52mOD (Plate 5).

5.2.4 In the base of TP7 similar natural gravel to that described above was encountered. Given the context number [14], this was a loose mid grey coarse gravel composed of small to medium angular pebbles with very occasional clay as a binding matrix. This deposit was encountered at 1.56m below ground level at 43.95mOD (Plate 3).

5.2.5 In the base of TP8 was natural gravel [10]. This was loose mid blue-grey coarse gravel composed of medium angular flints within a soft clay matrix. This deposit was similar to gravel [1] in TP1 and was encountered at 1.30m below ground level at a height of 43.75mOD (Plate 4).

Phase 1b: Natural alluvium (early phase) (Figures 3 & 4)

5.2.6 Early phase natural alluvial deposits also demonstrated localised variations per test pit.

5.2.7 In TP 1 a natural alluvial layer [3] was encountered overlaying gravels [1] and [2]. This was a soft mid greenish grey clayey sand with very small occasional shell fragments

as an inclusion. The deposit, seen in section only, was 0.28m thick, the top at 1.40m below ground level at 43.85mOD. A 40 litre sample <1> of this layer was collected

5.2.8 This was overlain by [4] a layer of firm light greyish green sandy silt alluvium 0.42m thick. The top of this deposit was 0.98m below ground level at 44.27mOD. A 40 litre sample <2> of this layer was collected (Figure 4 & Plate 1).

5.2.9 In TP3 natural alluvial layer [17] was encountered overlaying gravel [18]. This was soft dark grey clayey sand with very small very occasional rounded pebbles as an inclusion. The deposit, seen in section only, was 0.20m thick, the top at 1.50m below ground level at 43.72mOD (Figure 4 & Plate 5).

5.2.10 In TP8 natural alluvial layer [9] was encountered overlaying gravel [10] and was plastic dark greyish green clayey sand with occasional fine gravel as an inclusion. The deposit, seen in section only, was 0.20m thick, the top at 1.08m below ground level at 43.97mOD (Figure 4 & Plate 4).

5.2.11 This sand was overlain by [8] of firm light greyish green sandy silt alluvium between 0.30m and 0.40m thick. The top of this deposit was 0.76m below ground level at 44.29mOD. A 40 litre sample <2> of this layer was collected. This deposit was similar to [4] described above.

5.2.12 Forming the base layer of TP2 was alluvial deposit [22]. This was a firm light yellowish brown layer of clayey silt with very occasional mollusc shell and very occasional fragment of ceramic building material (CBM) as inclusions. This was encountered at c.1.35m below ground level at 44.04mOD. A 20 litre sample <6> of this layer was collected (Figure 4 & Plate 2). A fragment of peg-tile from this context was spot dated to the post-medieval period and is likely to be a residual find from this natural layer.

5.2.13 Layer [22] had been cut into by a natural palaeo-channel [24]. In plan the feature was irregular, possibly linear, and measured 1.50m north-south by 2.80m east-west. The sides were vertical. The feature was unexcavated. The level at the top of the cut was 44.04mOD and the lowest exposed level was 43.90mOD (Figure 4 & Plate 2).

5.2.14 Palaeo-channel cut [24] was filled with [23], a firm light greyish blue clayey silt with very occasional shell fragments as inclusion, interpreted as alluvium. The top was noted at 1.30m below ground level at 44.04mOD. The feature was not excavated. A 20 litre sample <5> of this deposit was collected (Figure 4 & Plate 2).

Phase 1c: Natural Peat

5.2.15 Deposits of natural peat were noted in three of the test pits and were sampled.

5.2.16 In TP 3 overlying the alluvium [17] was a layer of peat [16]. This was described as firm dark reddish brown peat with moderate fibrous organic material. This layer was 0.10m thick and encountered at 1.40m below ground level at 43.82mOD. A 20 litre sample <4> of this layer was collected. This deposit is similar to [21] and [16] described below (Figure 4 & Plate 5).

5.2.17 In TP 2 overlaying the palaeo-channel fill [23] cut [24] and alluvial clayey silt [22] was

a layer of peat [21]. This was described as firm dark reddish brown peat with moderate fibrous organic material. This layer was 0.10m thick and encountered at 1.25m below ground level at 44.13mOD. A 10 litre sample <7> of this layer was collected (Figure 4 & Plate 2).

5.2.18 In TP 7 overlaying the gravel [14] was a layer of peat [13]. This was described as firm dark reddish brown peat with moderate fibrous organic material and very occasional fragments of CBM as inclusions. This layer was 0.38m thick and encountered at 1.21m below ground level at 43.78mOD. A 40 litre sample <3> of this layer was collected (Figure 4 & Plate 3). Two fragments of CBM from this context were spot dated AD1180 to 1900, but probably post-dates AD1400. In this natural layer the finds are presumed to be residual.

Phase 1d: Natural alluvium (later phase)

5.2.19 A single layer of a later phase alluvial deposit was recorded in TP 7 as context [12] overlaying peat [13]. This was a layer of firm light greyish green sandy silt alluvium 0.09m to 0.18m thick and was encountered at 1.08m below ground level at 43.90mOD. This layer is similar to [4] and [8] but lies above the peat layers [16], [13] and [21] and is therefore indicative of a later flood event (Figure 4 & Plate 3).

Phase 2: Post-medieval

5.2.20 In TP 8, cutting down into alluvial layer [8], was cut [6]. This was an irregular linear feature aligned broadly north-south and measured c.3m north-south by 1m east-west by a maximum depth of 0.35m. The sides were a shallow concave slope and the base was rounded. The top of the cut (0.72m below ground level) was at 44.24mOD and the base at 43.75mOD. It had a single fill [7] a dark greyish brown silty sand with moderate amounts of medium sized sub-rounded chalk blocks occasional fragments of CBM (brick and peg-tile) and very occasional pottery shards. The Pottery was provisionally spot dated to AD1400-1600 and may be an example of Verwood ware. The CBM brick fragments were of unfrogged red brick; 1 fragment possibly Tudor in date (15^{th}-16^{th}centuries) and one fragment of possibly 16^{th}-18^{th} century date. 1 fragment of peg- tile was dated to the late medieval/early post-medieval period. The top of this fill was recorded at 44.24mOD and was 0.35m thick at its maximum. Context [6] is interpreted as a trench cut filled with post-medieval rubble (Figure 4 & Plate 4).

5.2.21 In TP1 and sealing alluvial layer [4] was layer [5], a dark greyish brown silty sand deposit with occasional small sub-angular pebbles as inclusion. Seen in section only the deposit was only 0.06m thick, the top encountered at 0.92m below ground level at 44.33mOD. This is interpreted as a thin surviving layer of a cultivated soil horizon (Figure 4 & Plate 1).

5.2.22 A very similar deposit was seen in TP7. Sealing alluvial layer [12] is cultivated soil layer [15]. This was a dark greyish brown silty sand deposit with occasional small sub-angular pebbles and very occasional CBM fragments as inclusions. This layer was 0.18m thick and its top encountered at 0.90m below ground level at 44.80mOD. This is interpreted as a thin surviving layer of a cultivated soil horizon (Figure 4 & Plate 3).

5.2.23 In TP2 cutting into alluvial layer [22] was cut [25]. This was a wide (trench width) irregular feature seen in section only and was c. 0.50m deep where exposed. It had an irregular multi-indented base profile. The height at the top was 44.13mOD and the base at 43.80mOD. It was filled by [20] a post-medieval deposit [20] composed of re-deposited natural coarse gravel within a silty sand matrix. It contained very occasional fragments of CBM as an inclusion. The deposit was between 0.30m and 0.50m thick and top was noted at 0.90m below ground level at between 44.46mOD and 44.30mOD (Figure 4 & Plate 2). CBM recovered from this context included one fragment of unfrogged brick with a date range of AD1450-1900 but probably pre-AD1750 and one fragment of peg- tile with a date range of AD1180-1600 which may be a transitional form of late medieval /early post-medieval date.

5.2.24 Sealing the above feature was layer [19] a mid-greyish brown silty sand deposit with occasional small to medium sub-angular pebbles, very occasional CBM fragments and pottery shards. This layer was 0.55m thick and the top encountered at 0.60m-0.70m below ground level at 44.67mOD. It is interpreted as a cultivated soil layer similar to [5] and [15] (Figure 4 & Plate 2). Pottery from this context was spot dated to the early 20th century.

5.2.25 The remaining deposits in all of the test pits was composed of approximately 1m thick layers of modern made-ground deposits topped by concrete slabs or tarmac forming the current ground surface at heights of between 44.98mOD (TP7) to 45.37mOD (TP2).

6 Conclusions

6.1.1 The evaluation was designed to assess the presence or absence of significant archaeological and palaeo-environmental remains and, where present, determine their nature, extent, date, condition and significance, which may require further investigation.

6.1.2 Alluvial deposit sequences were observed in the base of TP1, TP2, TP3, TP7 and TP8 (Figure 4 & Plates 1-4) and owing to a lack of stratigraphically secure and datable artefacts within the sequence these remain undated. The earliest natural horizon comprised deposits of coarse gravel, with localised variations of either clay or chalky clay forming the matrix binding the gravel together.

6.1.3 The gravel was overlain by either alluvial clayey silt deposits from flood events of the nearby River Bourne, or peat deposits. A relatively late flood event was evidenced in TP7 by the presence a thin layer of alluvial clayey silt sealing a layer of peat.

6.1.4 In TP 2 a possible palaeo-channel was noted, perhaps the course of a small braded tributary flowing into the main channel of the River Bourne, approximately 3m east of the test pit.

6.1.5 No evidence for activity in the prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval periods was encountered during the investigation. There was also no evidence for historic management of the valley floor, such as to improve river banks and drainage

6.1.6 There was limited evidence for activity in the early post-medieval. A shard of pottery recovered from context [7] in TP8, spot dated to AD1400-1600 along with CBM fragments all indicate an early post-medieval date for this feature, but in essence the finds are merely an indication of background activity from this period.

6.1.7 Finds of CBM fragments from natural deposits [13] and [22] are likely to be residual.

6.1.8 The evident lack of settlement at the study site is a reflection of the site's historical location on the floodplain of the River Avon and its tributaries. The peat deposits found in some of the test pits indicate the formation of a wetland environment and may have the potential to provide information on the past environment of the valley floor (**Appendix 4**).

6.1.9 There was at least one major episode of flooding that occurred at a relatively late date evidenced by the layer of alluvium over the peat deposits seen in TP7. This event perhaps indicates that the site was unsuited to settlement in the past and documentary evidence shows that the predominant land use was as pasture, up until the site's eventual development in the 1960s.

6.1.10 Late post-medieval layers and modern made-ground were encountered in the test pits, of an average thickness of 1m. These indicate site-wide truncation of the natural landscape has occurred, removing any potential archaeological resources that may have survived. It is concluded that no significant archaeological resources were found in the evaluation and that it is unlikely that the site retains any significant archaeological potential.

7 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Richard Hughes of IHCM Ltd on behalf of Lothbury Property Trust Company Ltd for commissioning this project. The advice of Claire King, the Wiltshire County Archaeologist who monitored the project is duly acknowledged.

The author is grateful to Kari Bower (site work), Chris Cooper (logistics) and the post-excavation team of Chris Jarret (ceramics) and Bernie Seddon (CBM) who dated the finds, PCA CAD department for the illustrations and Paul McCulloch who managed the project and edited this report.

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Plates 1-5.

Plate 1: Shot D1.10 taken 19/11/13. Test Pit 1 showing natural gravels [1] and [2] overlain by alluvial clayey sand [3] and alluvial sandy silt [4]. Scales are 2m and 1m looking SW.

Plate 2: Shot D2.10 taken 25/11/13. TP2 showing blue/grey alluvial fill [23] in palaeo-channel [24] cutting natural yellow brown clayey silt deposit [22]. Scale 1m and 2m looking SE.

Plate 3: Shot D1.22 taken 21/11/13. TP7 view showing natural peat deposit [13] overlain by blue grey alluvial clayey silt [12]. The deposition of alluvium over the peat indicates a later flood event. In other test pits the peat overlays the alluvium. Scales are 0.5m and 1m looking N.

Plate 4: Shot D1.13 taken 2011/13. TP8 View showing natural gravel [10] at base overlain by alluvial deposits clayey sand [9] and silt [8]. Post-med. trench [6] filled with dump material [7] cuts through [8] picture right. Scales are 1m and 2m looking N.

Plate 5. D2.2. Taken 22/11/13. TP3 view showing peat deposit [16] a dark thin band directly below layers of modern made ground and overlaying [17] an alluvial clayey sand sealing natural gravel [18]. Scales are 1m and 2m looking E.

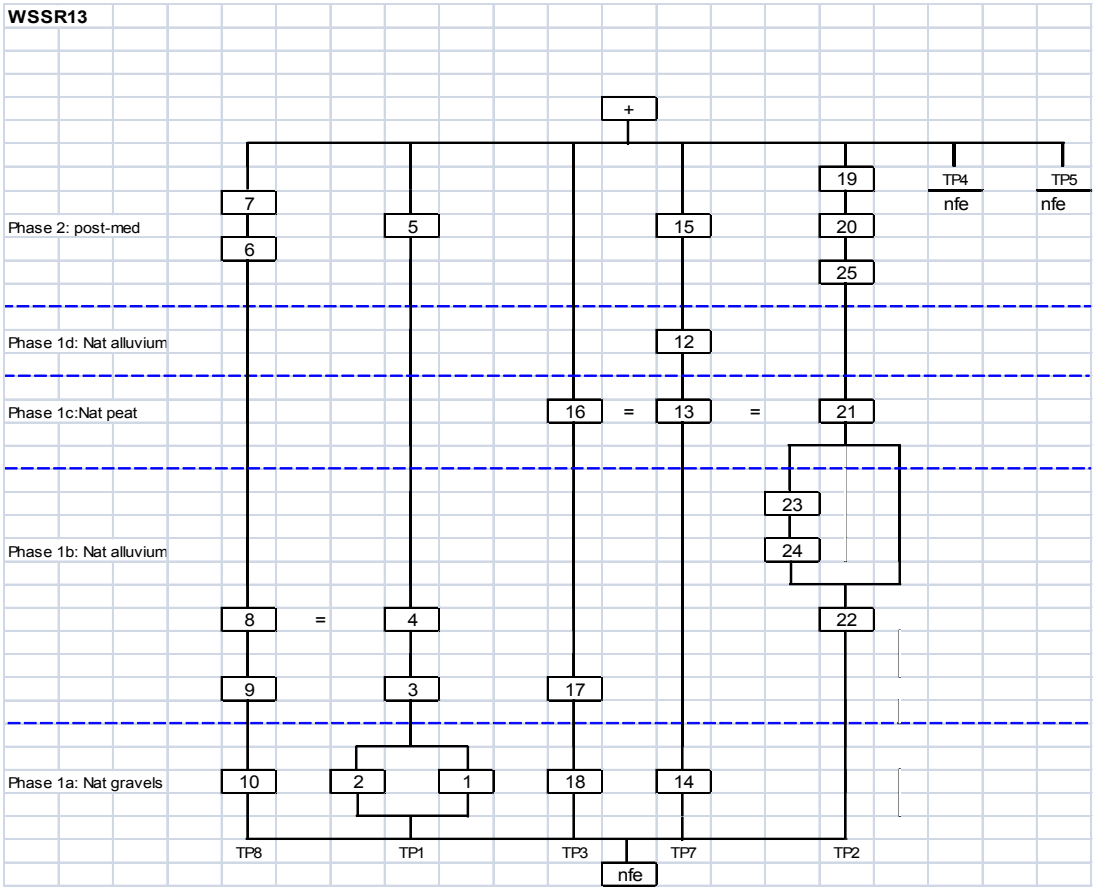
Appendix 1: Context Index

Context	Plan/Trench	Section	Type	Description	Date	Phase
1	TP1	S1	Natural	Coarse gravel in clay	Nat	1a
2	TP1	S1	Natural	Coarse gravel in chalky clay	Nat	1a
3	TP1	S1	Natural	Alluvial clayey sand	Nat	1b
4	TP1	S1	Natural	Alluvial sandy silt	Nat	1b
5	TP1	S1	Layer	Cultivated soil	Post-med	2
6	TP8	S 8	Cut	Dump trench	Post-med	2
7	TP8	S 8	Fill	Dump fill of [6]	Post-med	2
8	TP8	S 8	Natural	Alluvial silt = [4]	Nat	1b
9	TP8	S 8	Natural	Alluvial clayey sand, some gravel	Nat	1b
10	TP8	S8	Natural	Gravel within clay	Nat	1a
11	Not used					
12	TP7	S 7	Natural	Late phase alluvial silt	Nat	1d
13	TP7	S 7	Natural	Peat	Nat	1c
14	TP7	S 7	Natural	Gravel-less clay	Nat	1a
15	TP7	S 7	Layer	Cultivated soil = [5]	Post-med	2
16	TP3	S 3	Natural	Peat = [13]	Nat	1c
17	TP3	S3	Natural	Alluvial clayey sand	Nat	1b
18	TP3	S3	Natural	Gravel = [14]	Nat	1a
19	TP2	S2	Layer	Cultivated soil = [5]	Post-med	2
20	TP2	S2	Fill	Of [25]. Re-deposited gravel	Post-med	2
21	TP2	S2	Natural	Peat = [13]	Nat	1c
22	TP2	S2	Natural	Alluvial Yellow brown clayey silt	Nat	1b
23	TP2	S2	Fill	Alluvial fill of palaeo-channel [24]	Nat	1b
24	TP2	S2	Cut	Of palaeo-channel	Nat	1b
25	TP2	S2	Cut	Trench cut	Post-med	2

Appendix 2: Environmental Sample Index

Sample Number	Context Number	Test Pit Number	Feature Type	Number of Buckets (1 bucket = 10 litres)
<1>	(3)	TP1	Alluvial layer	X4
<2>	(4)	TP1	Alluvial layer	X4
<3>	(13)	TP7	Peat deposit	X4
<4>	(16)	TP3	Peat deposit	X2
<5>	(23)	TP2	Alluvial fill of palaeo-channel	X2
<6>	(22)	TP2	Alluvial clayey silt cut by palaeo-channel	X2
<7>	(21)	TP2	Peat deposit	X1

Appendix 3: Site Matrix



Appendix 4: ARCA Report on Bulk Samples

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Dolphin Retail Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire: bioarchaeological assessment of bulk samples

Keith Wilkinson
December 2013

Introduction
ARCA assessed three bulk samples from the Dolphin Retail Park, Salisbury site in December 2013. The work was carried out for Pre-Construct Archaeology (West) (PCA) and was intended to examine the palaeoenvironmental/palaeoeconomic potential of the samples, all of which were from strata described as peats.

Methodology
The samples received from PCA comprised between 10 and 40 litres of sediment stored in 10l plastic buckets (Table 1). One litre sub-samples, extracted using a graduated flask were examined for the purposes of this assessment. The sub-samples were processed separately using the flotation technique with mesh sizes of 500 and 250 µm employed for the residue and flot respectively. The flot was retained in a wet state and is currently stored in tap water, while the residue was dried at 40^{o}C for 24 hours. Both flot and residue were systematically examined under a low-power binocular microscope and quantitative observations made on the preserved biological remains. In the text that follows plant names are after Stace (1991) and mollusc taxonomy follows Kerney (1999).

Results

Table 1 shows the results of the bioarchaeological assessment of the Dolphin Retail Park samples. In the case of sample <3> and <4> the peat is highly humified and in the residue forms fine pebble-sized aggregate bonded by fine roots. Sample <7> on the other hand is primarily mineral in composition. There are no organic aggregates and it would seem unlikely that (21) is a true peat.

Sample	Context	TP	Vol.	Bioarchaeology/artefacts (R= residue, F= flot)
<3>	(13)	7	40l	Ceramic fragments (granular) R - 3 Wood charcoal (fine pebble) R - 5 Polygonaeceae R – 3, F - 1 Chenopodiaeceae R – 13, F- 1 *Rubus* sp. R - 1 Coleoptera F - 3
<4>	(16)	3	20l	Polygonaeceae R – 5, F – 1 Chenopodiaeceae F 1 *Carychium* sp. R - 1 *Cochlicopa* sp. R - 1 *Vallonia* sp. R – 3 *Oxychilus*/*Aegopinella* sp. F - 1 *Trichia hispida* R – 5, F - 3
<7>	(21)	2	10l	Ceramic fragments (granular) R - Frequent Wood charcoal (fine pebble) R – Frequent Polygonaeceae F – 1 Chenopodiaeceae F - 2 Bone (granular) R – 1 *Carychium* sp. F – 2 Succineidae F - 1 *Trichia hispida* R – 1, F – 3 Coleoptera F - 2

Table 1. Bulk samples assessed from the Dolphin Retail Park, Salisbury (numbers are absolute counts

Sample <3> (13) contains frequent well-preserved seeds of moderate diversity. The plant taxa represented are a mixture of weeds of arable crops and hedgerow types. The absence of shell and chalk fragments suggests that the context is decalcified. However, Coleopteran (beetle) remains were found in a well-preserved state within the flot. Clearly context (13) is associated with cultural activity as witnessed by the presence of wood charcoal and ceramics.

Although having a high organic content, sample <4> (16) contains only moderate well-preserved seeds of low diversity. The plant taxa in the sample are ruderals. The remaining organic content comprises roots, other fibres and amorphous humic-bonded fragments. Mollusc shells were noted in moderate quantities, while the taxa encountered have catholic, open country and shaded environmental preferences. There are no insect remains and no artefactual residues or charcoal fragments in the sample. In other words the peat of context (16) is likely to have accumulated as a result of non-anthropogenic processes.

Sample <7> (21) contains low numbers of well-preserved seeds with a low diversity. The plant taxa are ruderals. Mollusc shell is present in moderate quantities while the taxa are characteristic of damp, terrestrial habitats. Coleoptera are present in low quantities, but in a well-preserved state, while wood charcoal, ceramic and bone indicate that Context (21) has an intimate association with anthropogenic activity.

Assessment

The palaeoenvironmental potential of the three samples depends upon the nature of the archaeological remains that were found in association. Samples <3> and <7> have a high potential to reconstruct palaeoenvironments contemporary with human activity given the good preservation of biological remains and the association with

cultural debris. Sample <4> has a moderate palaeoenvironmental potential on account of the presence of lesser quantities of identifiable biological remains and the absence of archaeological materials in the samples. All samples have a low potential for reconstructing past economies on account of the absence of crop plants and near absence of vertebrate bone.

Recommendations

It is recommended that plant macro remains and Coleopteran analysis be carried out on the full volumes of samples <3> and <7> should further archaeological study take place of contexts (13) and (21).

References

Kerney, M.P. (1999) *Atlas of the land and freshwater molluscs of Britain and* Ireland. Harley Books, Colchester.
Stace, C.A. (1991) *New flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Appendix 5: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: preconst1-165897

Project details

Project name	LAND AT DOLPHIN RETAIL PARK, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE SP1 2LB. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION.
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land currently occupied by the Dolphin Retail Park, Southampton Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2LB The investigation was conducted in advance of the proposed redevelopment of the site, continuing its use as retail warehousing. The work was commissioned in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission, involving the excavation of eight 3m square test pits, undertaken between 18th - 27th November 2013. Only late post-medieval archaeological features and modern made-ground layers were encountered in the test pits. These were observed to overlay palaeo-environmental features; Alluvial deposits from flood events of the nearby River Bourne, and a possible palaeo-channel in Test pit 2 along with Peat deposits associated with palaeo wet-lands created by the River. The investigation revealed that the natural horizon had been horizontally truncated by post-medieval and modern layers of made ground, to an average depth of approximately 1m.
Project dates	Start: 18-11-2013 End: 27-11-2013
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WSSR13 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	PALAEOCHANNEL Uncertain
Monument type	TRENCH Post Medieval
Monument type	TRENCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods &	"Test Pits"

techniques	
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (e.g. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY SALISBURY DOLPHIN RETAIL PARK, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE
Postcode	SP1 2LB
Study area	38000.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 415498 129408 50 -1 50 54 49 N 001 24 32 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 43.59m Max: 43.95m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA West
Project brief originator	IHCM
Project design originator	Richard Hughes
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Stuart Watson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Lothbury Property Trust Company Ltd

Project archives

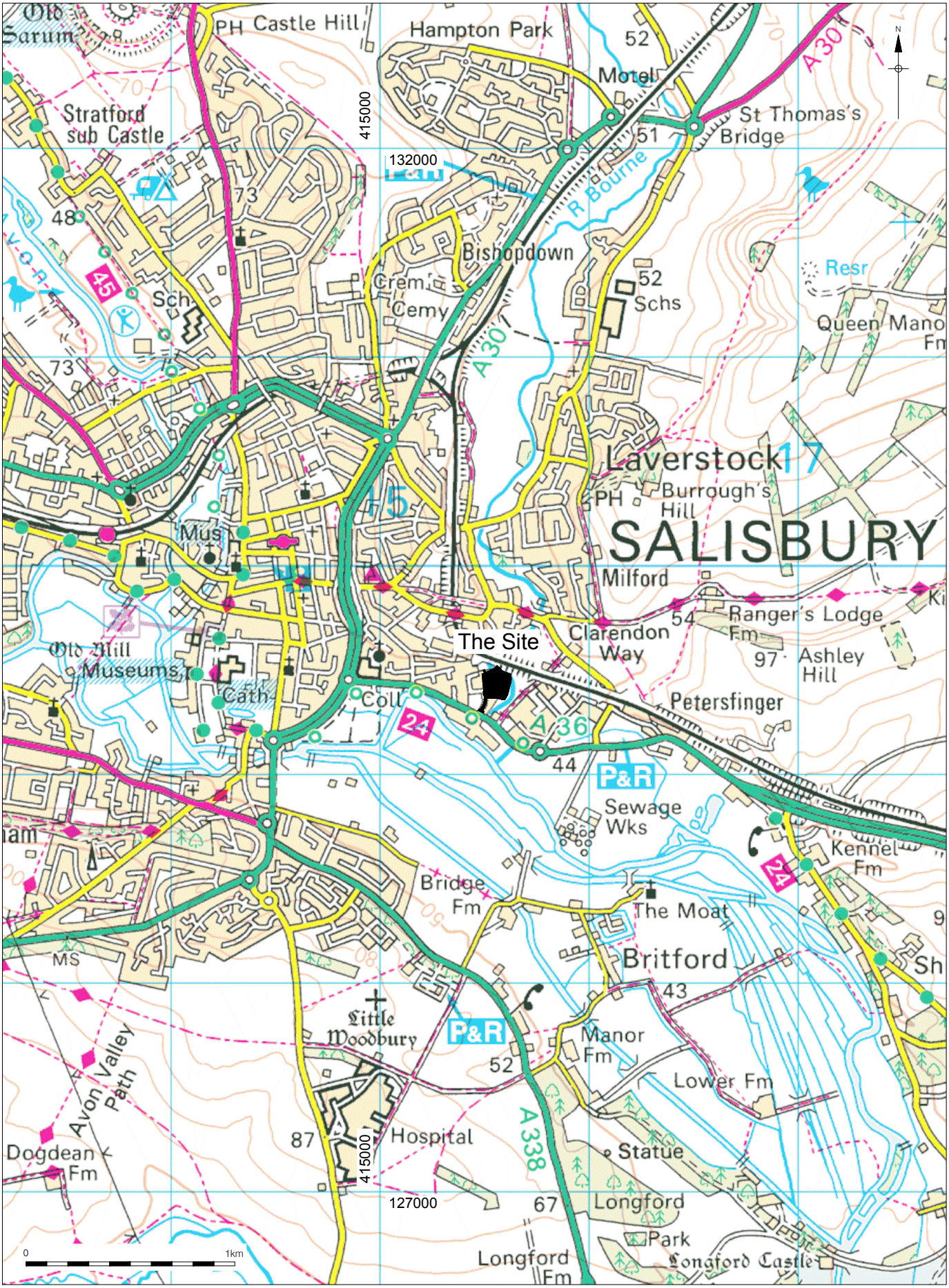
Physical Archive recipient	Wiltshire Archives
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive	Wiltshire Archives

recipient	
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Wiltshire Archives
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

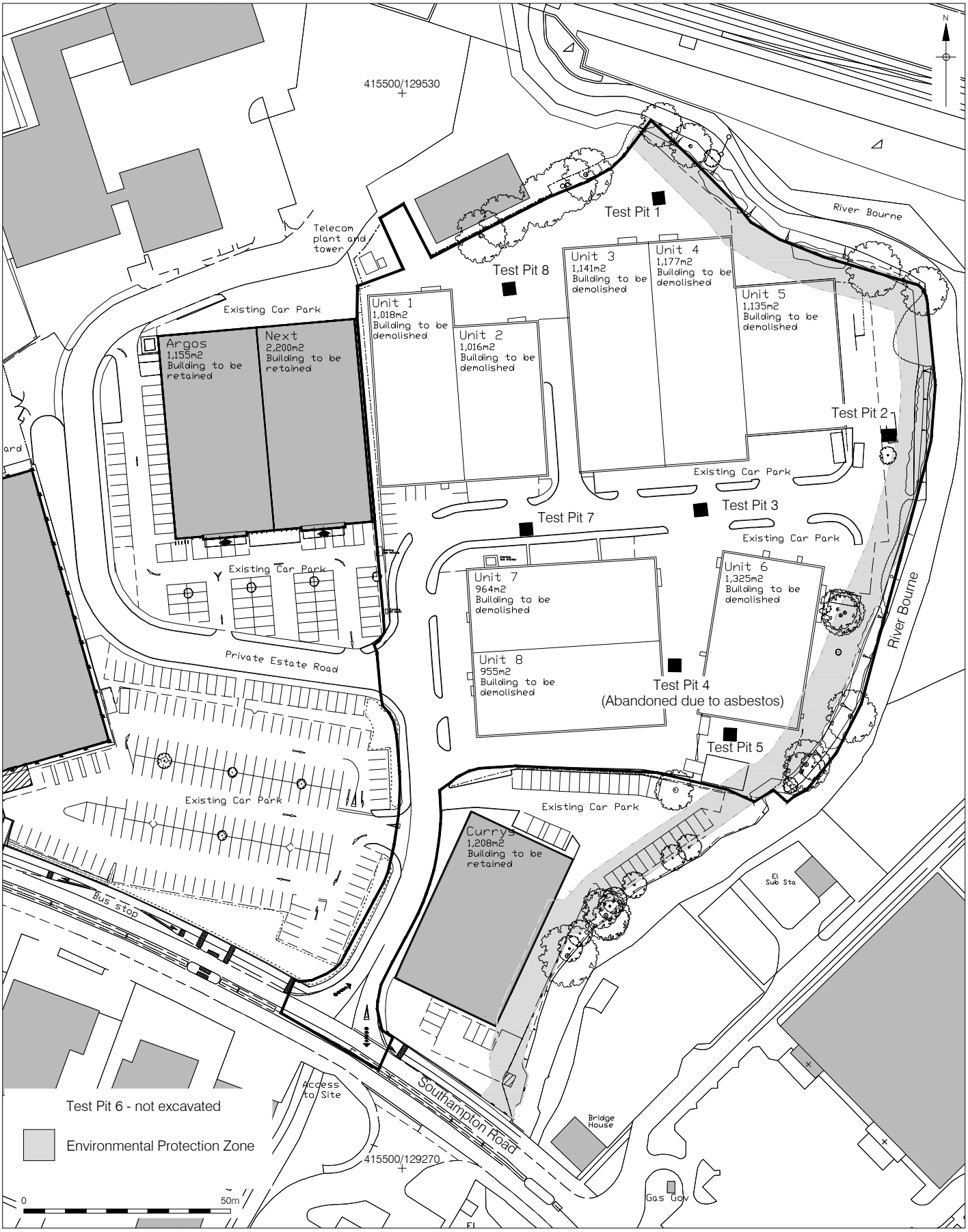
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	LAND AT DOLPHIN RETAIL PARK, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE SP1 2LB. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Watson, S.
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology ltd (West)
Place of issue or publication	Winchester
Description	A4 client report, blue cover.

Entered by	Stuart Watson (pmcculloch@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	2 December 2013



09/12/13 JS

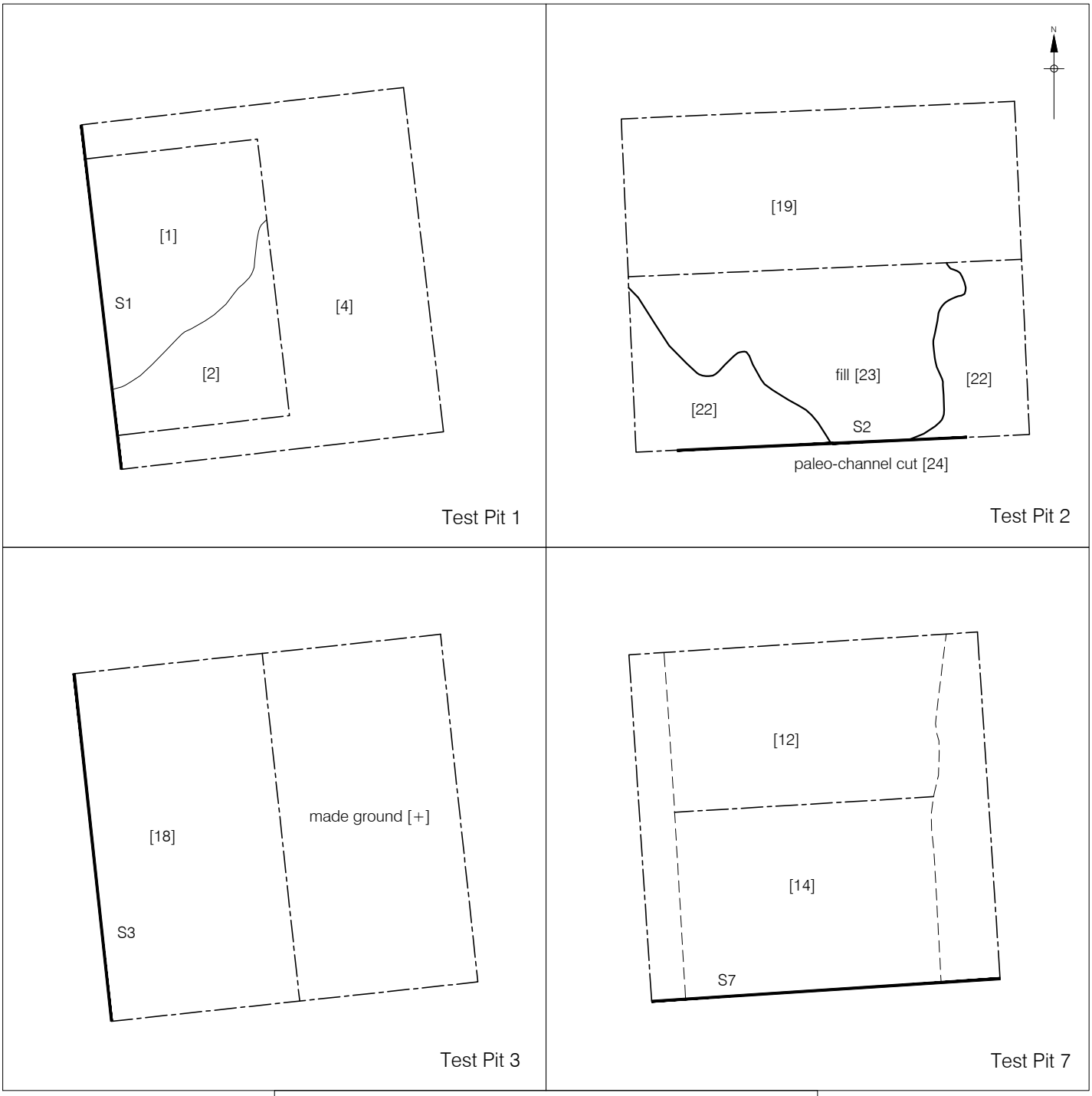
Figure 1
Site Location
1:25,000 at A4



Based on a drawing supplied by LHC GROUP, 2013

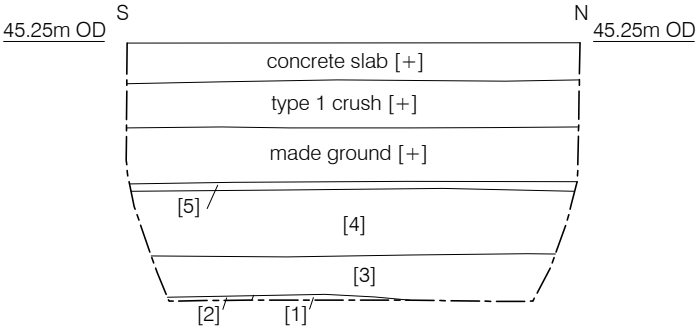
09/12/13 JS

Figure 2
Test Pit Location
1:1,250 at A4

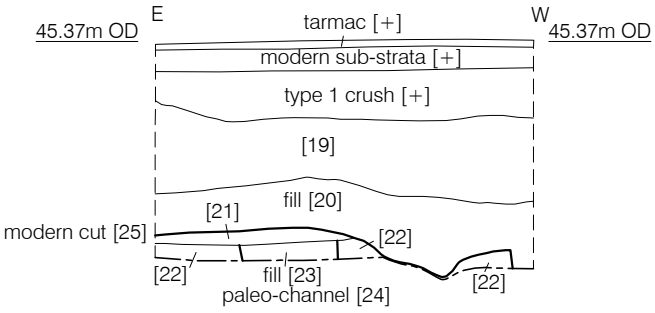


09/12/13 JS

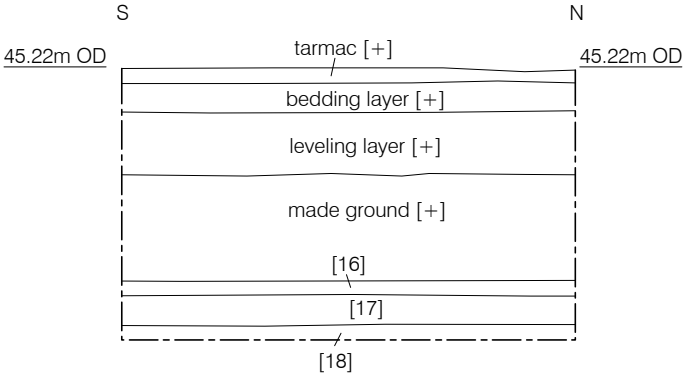
Figure 3
Test Pit Plans
1:50 at A4



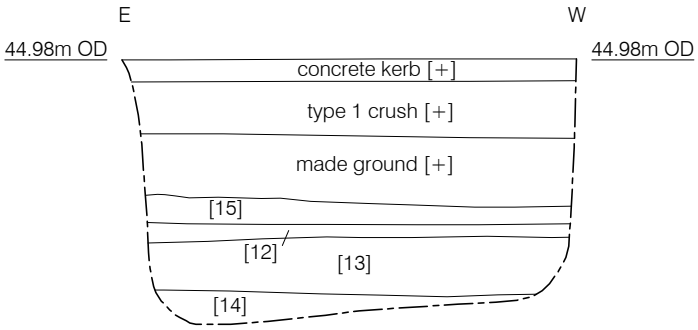
Section 1
Test Pit 1
East Facing



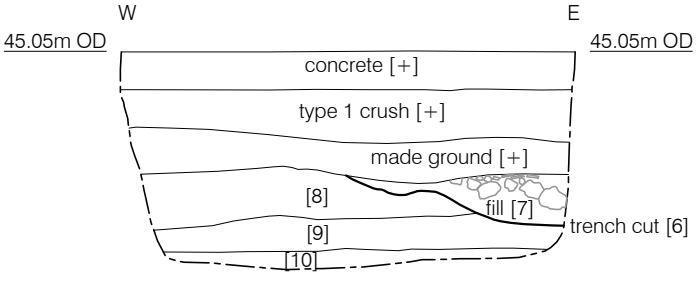
Section 2
Test Pit 2
North Facing



Section 3
Test Pit 3
East Facing



Section 7
Test Pit 7
North Facing



Section 8
Test Pit 8
South Facing

0 2m

09/12/13 JS

Figure 4
Sections
1:50 at A4

P C A

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