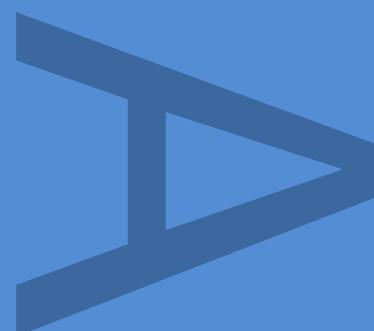


LAND AT HOLE LANE,
BENTLEY, HAMPSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION

REPORT NO: R12552

JULY 2016





PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Hole Lane, Bentley, Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Report Ref R12552

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1 ABSTRACT

Pre Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Land at Hole lane, Bentley, Hampshire. The Site is the subject of a proposed housing development comprising 37 dwellings, access and associated works.

The evaluation, within a fallow field, comprised 15 trenches each 30m X 2m and was carried out between the 23rd and 27th June 2016. At the time of the evaluation the Site was a fallow field.

The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological features or deposits. A number of linear features, such as in Trench 1, appeared to be modern in date. It is concluded that the evaluation appears to have demonstrated that the Site retains no significant archaeological resource potential.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project background

- 2.1.1 Pre Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land at Hole lane, Bentley, Hampshire (**Figure 1**), hereafter 'the Site' (NGR 478216 144077). The Site is the subject of a housing development comprising 37 dwellings, access and the provision of an improved car park for Bentley doctors surgery and associated works (East Hampshire District Council Panning Ref: 55417/002).
- 2.1.2 The evaluation was carried out as part of a staged approach to offset the impact of the proposed development on any archaeological potential within the Site and was a requirement of conditions of planning permission for the development.
- 2.1.3 This report provides the result of evaluation, which comprised 15 30m X 2m trenches opened between the 23rd and 27th June 2016. It has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015).

2.2 Location, topography and geology

- 2.2.1 The Site is located to the west of Hole Lane and on the western edge of the settlement of Bentley, a rural village situated between the market towns of Farnham and Alton. The Site comprises a field. The field is currently open pasture with established field boundaries defined by a band of mixed vegetation (trees and hedgerows) to the north and west. To the east the Site is bounded by Hole Lane with a doctor's surgery and allotment gardens. To the south the Site borders gardens of residential properties fronting onto the old A31 road.
- 2.2.2 The Site slopes down gently towards the south with heights varying from 100–95 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying natural geology is mapped as part of the Gault Formation, which is a sedimentary mudstone formed during the Cretaceous Period; no superficial deposits are mapped (BGS Online Viewer).

3 AIM

3.1 Archaeological Evaluation

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the character, extent, date, condition and significance of archaeological resources that may survive within the Site, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains.
- 3.1.2 This document reports on the results of the evaluation and aims to provide sufficient information so that the future treatment of archaeological resources identified within the site, in respect of the proposed development, may be determined.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The following presents a summary of the evaluation results based upon the Site archive, which comprises a Site diary, trench recording sheets, context sheets, drawings and digital photographs. A summary of recorded contexts is provided in a Trench Index in Appendix 1 and photographs of the trenches and trench sections in Appendix 2. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code HLBH16 and will in due course be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the methodology that was detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WA, 2015), which was approved on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by the Hampshire County Archaeological Officer in advance of the commencement of works.

4.2.2 The evaluation comprised the excavation of 15 trenches measuring 30m x 2m (**Figure 2 & Plate 1**). The location of the trenches was intended to provide a sample of any surviving below ground archaeological resources.

4.2.3 All the proposed trenches were opened and investigated for the presence of archaeological features and deposits. Trench 10 was not recorded owing to flooding caused by torrential rain.

4.3 Summary of Deposition Sequence

4.3.1 The deposit sequence shown by the evaluation trenches was consistent across the site (**Plate 2-4**). The trenches demonstrated a relatively shallow depth of cover above the natural, which was greyish silty clay with inclusions of flint and gravel, notably more so in the southern half of the Site. To the north, the natural was more consistently gravel rich. The natural was at an average depth of 0.33m below ground level (BGL) and lay directly beneath the topsoil.

4.3.2 Modern land drains were seen in every trench.

4.4 Archaeological Feature

4.4.1 Three linear features were identified in Trench 1 ([105], [107] and [109]); of the three, two ([107] and [109]) were clearly modern due to their straight sides and modern material found in their fills (**Plate 5**). The third feature [105] was not dated but was similar to the other two.

4.4.2 Trench 12 revealed a small, undated linear feature, which ran diagonally across the west end of the trench. However, due to flooding the feature was not excavated or recorded; it is thought likely to have been of modern date.

4.4.3 Trench 13 revealed a small sub-circular feature [1303], filled with burnt clayey loam. No finds were recovered from the fill (**Figure 3 & Plate 6**).

4.5 Conclusion

- 4.5.1 The evaluation revealed no significant archaeological features or deposits. A number of linear features, such as in Trench 1, appeared to be modern in date. It is concluded that the evaluation appears to have demonstrated that the Site retains no significant archaeological resource potential.

5 ARCHIVE PREPARATION & DEPOSITION

5.1 The Site Archive

5.1.1 The Site archive, to include all project records and cultural material produced by the project, will be prepared in accordance with 'Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage' (UKIC 1990) and the Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives' (ClfA 2014). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust

5.2 Copyright

5.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Hampshire County Council, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003. Further distribution and uses of the report either in its entirety or part thereof in paper or electronic form is prohibited without the prior consent of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

5.2.2 The licence extends to the use of all documents arising from this project in all matters relating directly to the project, as well as for bona fide research purposes (which includes the Hampshire County Council Archaeology and Historic Building Record).

5.2.3 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the content of this report. However, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd cannot accept any liability in respect of, or resulting from, errors, inaccuracies or omissions this report contains.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology is grateful to CgMs Consulting for commissioning the evaluation on behalf of Linden Homes and to Neil Adam, Hampshire County Archaeological Officer for advice.

The evaluation was supervised by Katherine Marshall, assisted by Gareth Hatt and Dom McAtominey. This report was prepared by Katherine Marshall with Illustrations prepared by Charlotte Faiers. The project was managed for PCA by Paul McCulloch.

7 REFERENCES

Wessex Archaeology, 2015, 'Land at Hole Lane, Bentley, Hampshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation', WA Ref: 110080.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Trench No.	Section No.	Context	Type	Description	Depth (m) BGL
1	-	101	Layer	Topsoil	Flooded before records taken
		102	Layer	Subsoil	
		103	Layer	Natural	
	-	104	Fill	Fill of [105]	
		105	Cut	Cut	
	-	106	Fill	Modern Fill of [107]	
		107	Cut	Cut	
	-	108	Fill	Modern Fill of [109]	
		109	Cut	Cut	
2	1a	201	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.30
		202	Layer	Natural	0.30+
3	1b	301	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.33
		302	Layer	Natural	0.33+
4	1c	401	Layer	Topsoil	0.00m -0.31
		402	Layer	Natural	0.31+
5	-	Flooded			
6	2b	601	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.29
		602	Layer	Subsoil	0.29 - 0.51
		603	Layer	Natural	0.51+
7	1d	701	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.39
		702	Layer	Natural	0.39+
8	2a	801	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.40
		802	Layer	Natural	0.40+
9	2c	901	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.35
		902	Layer	Natural	0.35+
10	-	Flooded			
11	2d	1101	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.33
		1102	Layer	Natural	0.33+
12	1e	1201	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.35
		1202	Layer	Natural	0.35+
13	1f	1301	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.24
		1302	Layer	Natural	0.24 +
	1g	1303	Cut	Cut of Small Pit	-
		1304	Fill	Burnt Fill of [1303]	-
14	2e	1401	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.29
		1403	Layer	Natural	0.29+
15	2f	1501	Layer	Topsoil	0.00 - 0.37
		1503	Layer	Natural	0.37+

APPENDIX 2: PLATES 1 - 6



Plate 1 – View of Trench 3, looking east



Plate 2 – Representative Section, Trench 4



Plate 3 - Representative Section, Trench 12



Representative Section, Trench 11



Plate 5 – Excavated Features [107] and [109] in Trench 01



Plate 6 – Excavated Feature [1303], Trench 13

APPENDIX 3: OASIS REPORT

OASIS ID: preconst1-256268

Project details

Project name	Land at Hole Lane, Bentley, East Hampshire: An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	Pre Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Land at Hole lane, Bentley, East Hampshire. The site is the subject of a housing development comprising of 37 dwellings, access and the provision of an improved car park for Bentley doctors surgery and associated works. The work was comprised of 15 trenches and carried out between the 23rd and 27th June 2016. A deposition sequence was seen across the site at an average depth of 0.33m BGL. Four linear features were identified and two were modern in date, and two were undateable. A small burnt pit was also identified. No significant archaeological features were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 23-06-2016 End: 27-06-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	HLBH16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (e.g. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE EAST HAMPSHIRE BENTLEY Land at Hole Lane, Bentley, East Hampshire
Postcode	GU10 5LP
Study area	1.8 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 78245 44080 51.190059998678 -0.880212604926 51 11 24 N 000 52 48 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.25m Max: 0.51m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA West
Project brief originator	CgMs Consultants Ltd
Project design originator	Paul McCulloch
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Katherine Marshall
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Linden Homes Southern

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive	Hampshire Cultural Trust

recipient

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media "Diary", "Report", "Survey ", "Unpublished Text"
available

Project

bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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Evaluation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Marshall, K.

Date 2016

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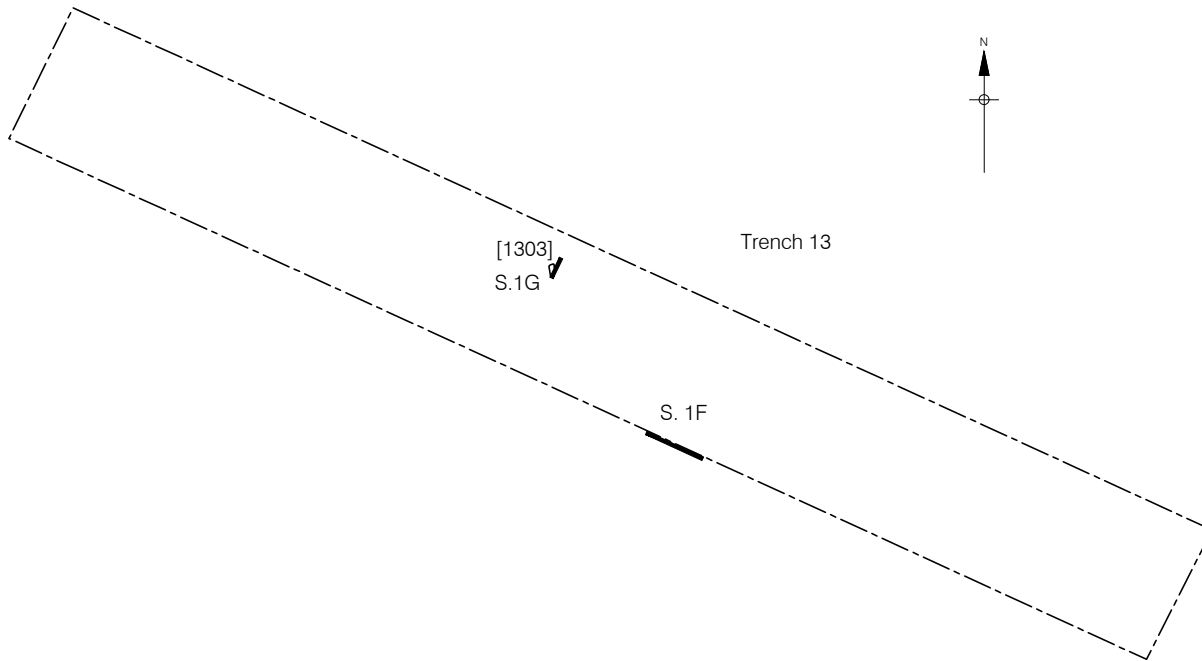
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 01/06/16 CF

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000; 625,000 & 25,000 at A4

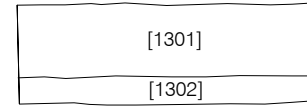


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Figure 2
 Detailed Site Location
 1:1,250 at A4

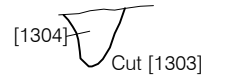


SE NW



Section 1F
North Facing
Trench 13

S N



Section 1G
East Facing
Trench 13



Figure 3
Trench 13 1:125 and Sections 1F and 1G 1:25 at A4

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