

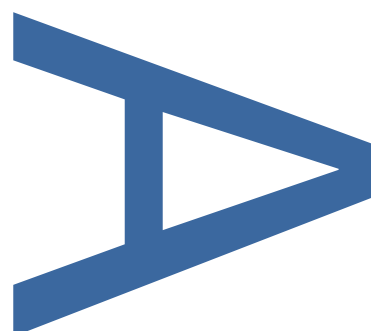
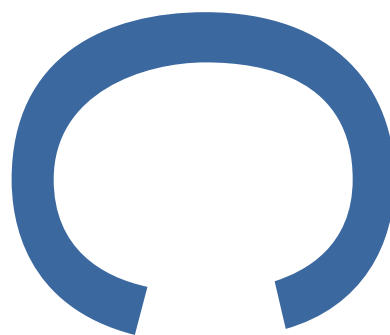
**PORTCHESTER COASTAL
FRONTAGE FLOOD AND EROSION
RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF ON GROUND
INVESTIGATION WORKS**

PCA REPORT NO: 13060

SITE CODE: PCF17

OCTOBER 2017



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

**PORTCHESTER COASTAL FRONTAGE FLOOD AND EROSION RISK
MANAGEMENT SCHEME – AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON
GROUND INVESTIGATION WORKS**

Issue 1: For approval

Site Code: PCF17

Central NGR: SU 62828 05649

Commissioning Client: Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership

Written/Researched by: Gareth Hatt

Project Manager: Paul McCulloch (MCIfA)

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (Winchester)

5 Red Deer Court

Elm Road

Winchester

Hampshire SO22 5LX

Tel:

01962 849 549

E-mail:

pmcculloch@pre-construct.com

Web:

www.pre-construct.com

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

October 2017



© The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent. Whilst every effort has been made to provide detailed and accurate information, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies herein contained.

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Portchester Coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme – Archaeological Watching Brief on Ground Investigation Works

Report Ref R13060

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K4982
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	G Hatt		16/10/2017
Graphics Prepared by:	Charlotte Faiers		29/09/2017
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		29/09/2017
Project Manager Sign-off:	Paul McCulloch		19/10/2017

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

CONTENTS

1	Non-technical Summary	4
2	Introduction	5
3	Aim.....	7
4	Results	8
5	Archive preparation and Deposition	11
6	Bibliography	12
7	Acknowledgements	13
	Appendix 1: Observation Index	14
	Appendix 2: Plates	16
	Appendix 3: OASIS Report.....	20

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Detailed Site Location

1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) was commissioned by Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground work for geotechnical investigations associated with the Portchester Coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme.
- 1.2 The work is of archaeological interest as the south-western extent lies within the Scheduled Monument of Portchester Castle (Ref. 26714). The archaeological watching brief was undertaken as a condition of Scheduled Monument Consent on the advice of Historic England to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).
- 1.3 This report details the results of the watching brief undertaken during the geotechnical investigation. The watching brief took place between the 24th April and 9th May 2017.
- 1.4 A general sequence of deposits was identified across the site, but no significant archaeological remains were noted within the monitored boreholes or trial pits. A single sherd for Roman pot was recovered from a subsoil deposit within Borehole 1 but this is thought to be residual.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) was commissioned by Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for geotechnical investigations associated with the Portchester Coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme, hereafter 'the Site'.

2.1.2 This report presents the results of the watching brief and has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for *Archaeologists standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs* (ClfA 2014a) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).

2.1.3 Geotechnical groundworks were organised and carried out by a team from S.M Associates Ltd.

2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

2.2.1 The Site comprised a large part of the frontage and foreshore along the eastern shores of Portchester and the southern shore of Paulsgrove (**Figure 1**).

2.2.2 The topography of the frontage is semi-urban or open combining stretches of sea wall and foreshore between modern infrastructure, buildings and recreational space, with Portchester Castle at the south-western extent of the site.

2.2.3 Modern ground levels are noted at no more than 2m above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

2.2.4 The Site lies on chalk bedrock, covered by superficial deposits of sand, silt and gravel (British Geological Survey).

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.3.1 The site is of archaeological importance as the scheduled monument of Portchester Castle (Ref. 26714) is located at the south-western extent of the investigation at the end of a low promontory on the northern shore of Portsmouth Harbour. Originally constructed as a shore fort in the late Roman period, Portchester was reused in the Saxon period for settlement and in the late 10th century as a defensive burh. Furthermore, in the late 11th century a tower keep castle was constructed within the shore fort walls while the outer bailey of the castle is noted to incorporate the remains of an early 12th century Augustinian priory of which the church of St Mary is the only part surviving above ground.

2.3.2 The Norman castle, with later alterations and additions lies in the north-west corner of the Roman fort and utilises part of its western and northern walls. The remaining sides of the castle are defined by a curtain wall, incorporating a rectangular corner bastion and on the southern side, a gatehouse. This extends into and over a wet moat filled tidally from the inner ditch of the Roman fort.

2.3.3 The Saxon shore fort at Portchester is a well-preserved example of its class with the entire defensive circuit surviving with very little later modifications. Within and around the fort the list entry notes that there is significant evidence for its later use as the tower keep castle contains in its fabric a complex history of use and modification while the 10th century defensive burh and the 12th century priory give the site an unusual dimension in terms of the range of uses to which it was put. Moreover, excavations over the years have demonstrated the extent to which remains of all aspects of its use and development survive below ground.

3 AIM

3.1 Archaeological Watching Brief

- 3.1.1 The primary aim of the programme of works is to determine the absence/presence of archaeological remains. The archaeological work will identify, investigate and record any archaeological remains observed during the watching brief. The results will be used to inform decisions regarding further archaeological mitigation measures that may be required.
- 3.1.2 This report aims to provide an assessment of the results of the archaeological investigation and to demonstrate that the watching brief was carried out in accordance with the requirements for monitoring made by ESCP.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The following summary is based on the Site archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic records. The archive will be held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code **PCF17** and will ultimately be deposited with Portsmouth Museum. A detailed index of the observations is provided in **Appendix 1** and site photographs are provided in **Appendix 2**.

4.1.2 The site will be split into two main areas for the discussion of the results: Area 1, containing the geotechnical investigation adjacent to Southampton Road (A27) and Area 2, containing the geotechnical investigations around Portchester Castle and along the nearby shoreline.

4.1.3 The Watching brief took place between 24th April and 9th May 2017. A total of eight Boreholes and 13 hand excavated trial pits were monitored.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 All geotechnical investigations that were required to be monitored were agreed in advance with ESCP. The boreholes consisted of a hand excavated starter pit approximately 0.40m by 0.40m, dug to a depth of 1.2m below ground level (BGL). The boreholes were then drilled to a maximum depth of 10m BGL. The dimensions of the trial pits varied due to a number of constraints however, all were excavated to a depth of 1.2m.

4.2.2 The archaeological watching brief comprised the monitoring of all intrusive groundworks associated with the geotechnical investigation with a detailed record made of each borehole/trial pit. Recording followed PCA's standard recording system based on *pro-forma* sheets.

4.3 Area 1

4.3.1 Area 1 consisted of three boreholes (BH06, BH07 and BH08) and three trial pits (TP10, TP11 and TP12).

General Sequence

4.3.2 Two stratigraphic sequences were observed behind the sea wall in boreholes 6, 7 and 8 (BH06, BH07 and BH08) and in front of the sea wall on the foreshore within trial pits (TP10, TP11 AND TP12).

4.3.3 The boreholes uncovered a thin deposit of topsoil across the area between 0.12m and 0.20m thick above a layer of subsoil at depths of between 0.54-0.76m, followed by a layer of made ground c. 1.7-2.3m below ground level. The made ground contained inclusions of modern ceramic building material (CBM) and concrete rubble.

4.3.4 Geological deposits comprised of light yellowish brown, chalky silty clay, were noted between 1.7-2.3m below ground level.

4.3.5 The foreshore deposits comprised a gravel layer c. 0.04-0.20m thick above dark grey clay at depths of up to 0.14-0.56m below ground level. Superficial geology comprised of mid yellowish-brown clay was observed at 1.2m below ground level.

4.4 Area 2

4.4.1 Area 2 consisted of five boreholes (BH01, BH02, BH03, BH04 and BH05) and ten trial pits (TP01, TP02, TP03, TP04, TP05, TP06, TP07, TP08 TP09 and TP13).

General Sequence

4.4.2 Three stratigraphic sequences were noted within Area 2; one behind the seawall within both the boreholes and trail pits and two in front of the sea wall within the trial pits alone.

4.4.3 The first sequence of foreshore deposits (TP01 and TP02) comprised a gravel layer up to 0.06m thick, above a dark grey clay at depths of c. 0.12m BGL, followed by a brown clay noted at a depth of 1.2m.

4.4.4 A similar sequence was observed in TP03, with a gravel layer up to 0.5m thick, above light brownish grey clay observed to a depth of 1.2m below ground level in TP03. Wood was observed at a depth of 1m BGL in TP03, although this was thought to be a tree root.

4.4.5 The second sequence of foreshore deposits (TP09 and TP13) comprised dark grey silty clay c. 0.65m thick, above grey silty clay observed to a depth of 1.2m below ground level.

4.4.6 The deposits in TP05 comprised of a gravel layer c. 0.45m thick followed by black silty clay observed to a depth of 1.2m below ground level. This area was believed to be an old jetty.

4.4.7 The deposits observed within TP07 and TP08 also consisted of a black silty clay. TP07 was not excavated due to ground conditions while TP08 was excavated to a depth of 0.7m before it was stopped as part of the concrete sea defences were uncovered and also due to the incoming tide.

- 4.4.8 The third sequence (BH03, BH04, BH05, TP04 and TP06) was comprised of made ground deposits up to a depth of 0.9-1.6m below ground level that contained post-medieval pottery sherds (BH03), modern ceramic building material and fragments of concrete. Beneath the made ground was a grey silty clay at depths of up to 1.2-2.7m BGL that may represent the superficial geology within this area.
- 4.4.9 BH02 was comprised of a layer of gravel (path) up to a depth of 0.14m BGL, beneath which was a layer of made ground (chalk) up to a depth of up to 1m followed by a layer of black silty sand up to a depth of 4.5m. Chalk bedrock was noted at the base of the trench.
- 4.4.10 Within BH01, a layer of dark greyish brown sandy silt was noted up to a depth of 0.32m below ground level. Inclusions of modern glass and ceramic building material were noted throughout the deposit. This deposit was followed by a mid-greyish brown sandy silt layer c. 0.43m thick, up to 0.75m below ground level. A single sherd of abraded Roman pottery was recovered from this layer; however, the find is likely residual as it was recovered from a subsoil deposit.
- 4.4.11 Superficial geology comprising mid reddish-brown clay was noted from 0.75m below ground level.

4.5 Finds

- 4.5.1 Nineteenth and twentieth century material was recovered from the made ground deposits uncovered during the investigations although none were of any archaeological significance so were not retained.
- 4.5.2 One sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from a subsoil deposit in BH01, located within the Scheduled Monument area of Portchester Castle. However, the sherd is thought to be residual and not indicative of Roman activity within the BH01.

4.6 Conclusion

- 4.6.1 Five stratigraphic sequences were identified across the site with no significant archaeological deposits, features or finds identified in the majority of the investigation.
- 4.6.2 A residual sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from within BH01 between 0.32m to 0.75m below ground level. However, due to the limited nature of the investigations it is not possible to conclude with certainty whether the areas investigated may or may not retain archaeological potential. The deposits that were revealed appeared to represent a fairly consistent sequence of foreshore deposits or made ground overlying natural deposits of silt, clay and/or chalk.

5 ARCHIVE PREPARATION AND 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 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives' (CIfA 2014b). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited in accordance with the provisional arrangements made at the onset of the watching brief with Portsmouth Museum.

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. Portsmouth City 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 Portsmouth Historic Environment 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 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014a. *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, CIfA.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014b. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, CIfA.

Walker, K., 1990. *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*, Archaeology Section, United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.

Online Sources

The British Geological Survey website: www.bgs.ac.uk. This was consulted for information regarding the geology of the study area.

The MAGIC website: www.magic.gov.uk/website/magic/. MAGIC is a partnership project involving six government organisations including Historic England and Natural England. The website is essentially an interactive map collecting information on key environmental schemes and designations.

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology is grateful to the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership, in particular Caroline Timlett, Coastal Engineer, for commissioning the Watching Brief and Julian Lovell of SM Associates Ltd for assistance on Site.

This report was prepared by Gareth Hatt. The report illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Faiers and the project was managed for PCA by Paul McCulloch of the Winchester Office.

Appendix 1: Observation Index

Identifier	Deposit Description	Depth of Material (BGL) (m)	Comments	Archaeology?
BH01	Dark greyish brown sandy silt	0-0.32		FCF, CBM, Glass - modern
	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	0.32-0.75		Pot - Roman
	Mid reddish brown silty clay	0.75-1.2		None
	Light Yellow clay	1.2-1.8+		None
BH02	Gravel	0-0.14	Path	None
	Made ground	0.14-1		None
	Blackish grey silty sand	1-4.5		None
	Natural	4.5-5+		None
BH03	Made ground	0-0.15	Path	CBM – modern
	Made ground	0.15-1		CBM, concrete - modern
	Blackish grey clayey silt	1-1.6		pot, glass, plastic - post medieval to modern
	Dark grey clay	1.6-2.7		None
	Mid yellowish grey clay	2.7+		None
BH04	Made ground	0-0.15	Path	None
	Made ground	0.15-0.9		CBM – modern
	Dark grey silty clay	0.9-2+		None
BH05	Topsoil	0-0.15		None
	Made ground	0.15-1.4		CBM, concrete - modern
	Mid grey silty clay	1.4+		None
BH06	Topsoil	0-0.2		CBM – modern
	Subsoil/ made ground	0.2-0.54		None
	Made ground	0.54-1.7		CBM, concrete - modern
	Natural	1.7+		None
BH07	Topsoil	0-0.12		None
	Subsoil/ made ground	0.12-0.72		CBM – modern
	Made ground	0.72-2.3		CBM, concrete - modern
	Natural	2.3-4+		None
BH08	Topsoil	0-0.14		None
	Subsoil/ made ground	0.14-0.76		None
	Made ground	0.76-2.3		CBM, concrete - modern
	Natural	2.3+		None
TP01	Gravel	0-0.06		None
	Dark grey silty clay	0.06-0.12		None
	Mid brown clay	0.12-0.8		None
	Light brownish grey clay	0.8-1.2+		None

TP02	Gravel	0-0.06		None
	Dark grey gravelly clay	0.06-0.12		None
	Dark greyish brown clay	0.12-1.2+		None
TP03	Gravel	0-0.5		None
	Mid brownish grey gravelly sand	0.5-0.75		None
	Dark grey silty clay	0.75-1.3+		Wood (1m BGL)- root?
TP04	Made ground	0-0.2	Path	CBM – modern
	Made ground	0.2-0.9		CBM – modern
	Made ground	0.9-1.2+		Chalk rubble, CBM - modern
TP05	Gravel	0-0.45		CBM – modern
	Black silty sand	0.45-1.2+		None
TP06	Made ground	0-0.42		CBM – modern
	Made ground	0.42-0.97		Chalk rubble, CBM - modern
	Light greyish brown clayey silt	0.97-1.2+		None
TP07	Black silty clay	0+	Not dug	None
TP08	Black silty clay	0-0.7+		Pot, glass – modern
TP09	Dark greyish brown gravelly silty clay	0-0.07		None
	Dark grey silty clay	0.07-0.4		None
	Dark blackish grey silty clay	0.4-1.2+		None
TP10	Gravel	0-0.2		None
	Dark grey clay	0.2-0.56		None
	Mid yellowish brown clay	0.56-1.2+		None
TP11	Gravel	0-0.04		None
	Dark grey clay	0.04-0.14		None
	Mid yellowish brown clay	0.14-1.2+		None
TP12	Gravel	0-0.16		None
	Dark grey clay	0.16-0.3		None
	Mid yellowish brown clay	0.3-1.2		None
TP13	Dark greyish black silty clay	0-0.6		Chalk rubble, CBM - modern
	Mid grey silty clay	0.6-1.2+		None

Appendix 2: Plates



Plate 1, TP13 – Area 1, looking north west.



Plate 2, TP01 – Area 2, looking north west.



Plate 3, BH01 – Area 2, looking north.



Plate 4, BH01 – Starter pit.



Plate 5, TP11 – foreshore trail pit.



Plate 6, TP06 – frontage trail pit.



Plate 7, BH04 – starter pit.

Appendix 3: OASIS Report

OASIS ID: preconst1-298449

Project details

Project name Portchester Coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme: An Archaeological Watching Brief on Ground Investigation Works

Short description of the project Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) was commissioned by Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the ground work for Geotechnical work associated with the Portchester Coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme.

The watching brief took place between the 24th April and 9th May 2017.

A general sequence of deposits was identified across the site, but no significant archaeological remains were noted within the monitored boreholes or trial pits. A single sherd for Roman pot was recovered from a subsoil deposit within Borehole 1 but this is thought to be residual.

Project dates Start: 24-04-2017 End: 09-05-2017

Previous/future work Yes / Not Known

Any associated project reference codes PCF17 – Site code

Type of project Recording project

Site status Scheduled Monument (SM)

Current Land use Coastland 2 - Inter-tidal

Monument type NONE

Significant Finds SHERD Roman

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE PORTSMOUTH Portchester coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme

Study area 0 Kilometres
Site coordinates SU 62828 05649 50.846387318259 -1.107477148835 50 50 46 N 001 06
26 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Project brief originator None

Project design originator None

Project director/manager Paul McCulloch

Project supervisor Gareth Hatt

Name of sponsor/funding body Portsmouth City Council

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Portsmouth Museum

Digital Archive ID PCF17

Digital Contents "Stratigraphic"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text", "Database"

Paper Archive recipient Portsmouth Museum

Paper Archive ID PCF17

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic"

Paper Media available "Diary", "Notebook - Excavation", ' Research', ' General Notes', "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Portchester Coastal Frontage Flood and Erosion Risk Management Scheme- An Archaeological Watching Brief on Ground Investigation Works: An Archaeological Watching Brief on Ground Investigation Works

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hatt, G.

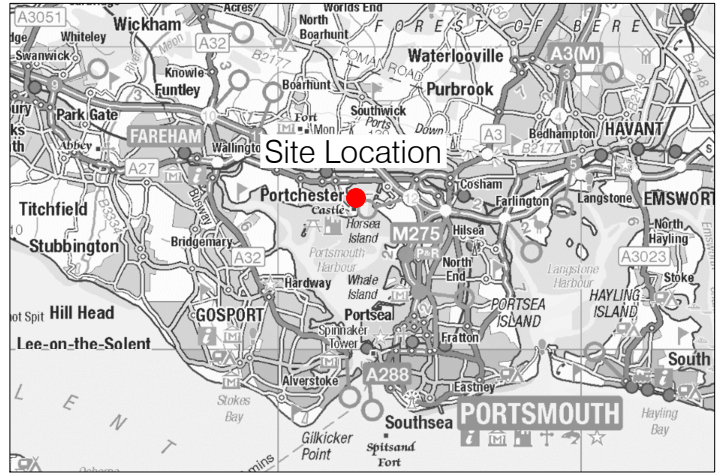
Date 2017

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology

Place of issue or publication Winchester

Entered by Scott Vance (svance@pre-construct.com)

Entered on 16 October 2017



© Crown copyright 2006. All rights reserved. License number 36110309
 © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2017
 29/09/17 CF

Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000, 1:250,000 & 1:25,000 at A4

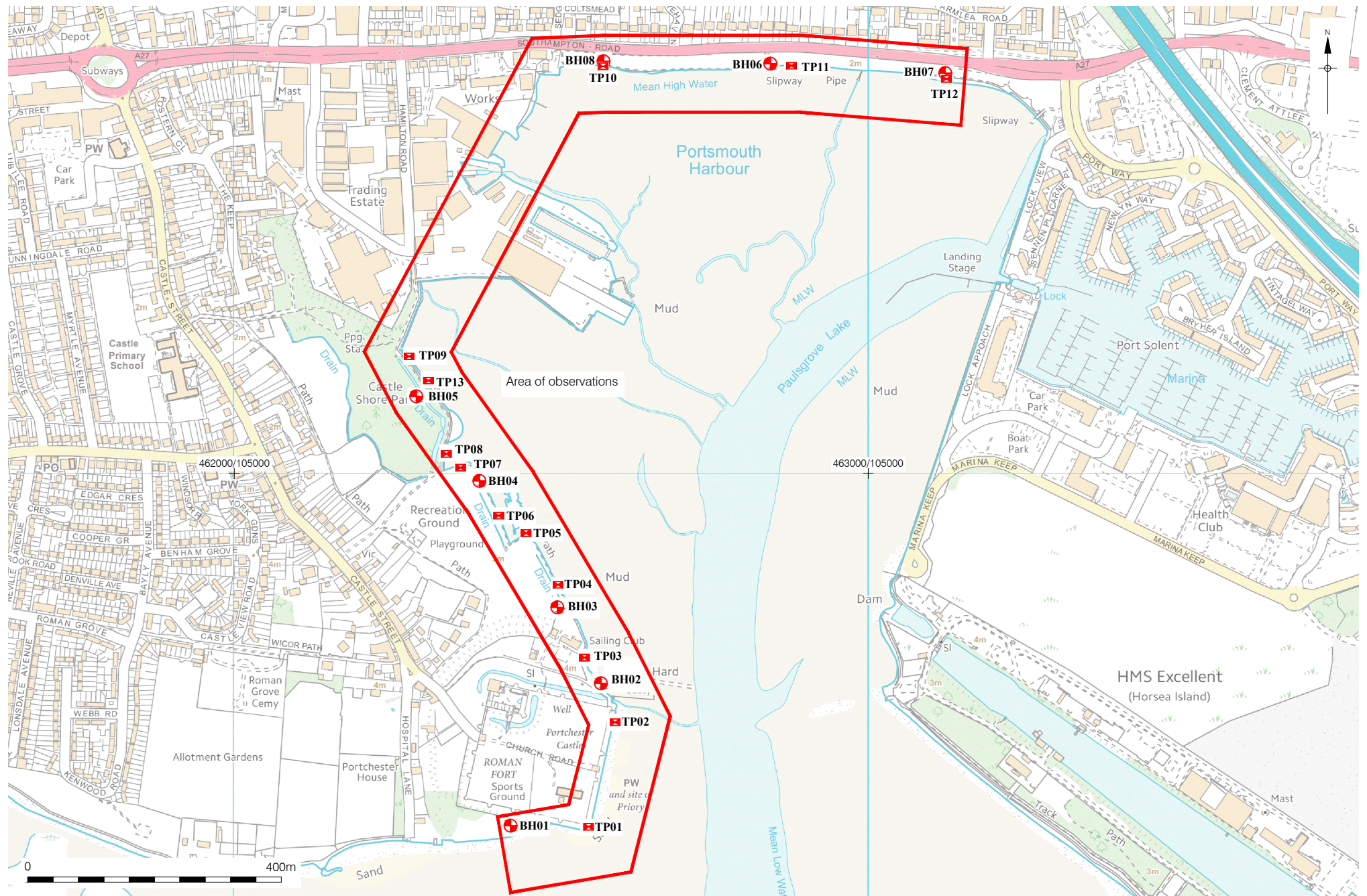


Figure 2
 Detailed Site Location
 1:8000 at A4

PCA

PCA SOUTH

UNIT 54
BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD
BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091
FAX: 020 7639 9588
EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PCA NORTH

UNIT 19A
TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
DURHAM DH6 5PG
TEL: 0191 377 1111
FAX: 0191 377 0101
EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

PCA CENTRAL

THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
TEL: 01223 845 522
FAX: 01223 845 522
EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

PCA WEST

BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB
TEL: 01962 849 549
EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

PCA MIDLANDS

17-19 KETTERING RD
LITTLE BOWDEN
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN
TEL: 01858 468 333
EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com

