



© Southampton City Council

Southampton Archaeology Unit

Report 1162

Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to the
Eastpoint Centre, Bursledon Road, Southampton
SOU1652

EL Anderson BA MA AlfA, MF Garner BA MlfA, and
Dr AD Russel BA PhD MlfA
2014

Client: Property and Infrastructure Section of Capita



Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| 1. Summary | 3 |
| 2. Introduction | 3 |
| 3. Site location, topography and geology | 3 |
| 4. Historical background | 4 |
| 5. Archaeological background | 5 |
| 5.1 Prehistoric find spots | 5 |
| 5.2 Barrow cemetery | 5 |
| 5.3 Roman road | 7 |
| 5.4 Roman find spots | 8 |
| 5.5 Undated | 8 |
| 5.6 Modern | 8 |
| 6. Aims of the investigation | 8 |
| 7. Evaluation methodology | 8 |
| 8. Results of the evaluation | 11 |
| 8.1. Natural deposits | 11 |
| 8.2. Prehistoric | 11 |
| 8.3. 19 th /20 th century | 12 |
| 8.4. Modern probably 1960s | 13 |
| 8.5 Modern Landscaping | 13 |
| 8.6 Unstratified | 13 |
| 9. Conclusions | 14 |
| Bibliography | 15 |
| Appendix 1. Context list | 16 |
| Appendix 2. Finds list | 18 |

Summary Sheet

| |
|--|
| Site name/address: Land adjacent to the Eastpoint Centre, Bursledon Road, Southampton |
| SOU site code: SOU 1652 |
| Contractor site code: SOU 1652 |
| Grid reference of centre of site: SU 47211 11548 |
| Fieldwork dates: 4/2/2014 to 18/2/2014 |
| Type of fieldwork: Evaluation |
| Name of contracting unit: Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit |
| Report author: EL Anderson, MF Garner, and Dr AD Russel |
| Name of client: Property and Infrastructure Section of Capita |
| <p>Non-technical summary</p> <p>Six evaluation trenches were excavated on the site of a proposed building.</p> <p>The land to the west of the site was investigated under SOU 1521 and prehistoric remains were found, consisting of nine probable prehistoric features, marked by charcoal, burnt flints, and flint flakes. One feature was dated by the radiocarbon method to 160BC to 60AD at 95% probability.</p> <p>The evaluation conducted as SOU 1652 revealed less certain prehistoric features, the only definite one being a 3m length of ditch, but spreads of burnt flint and charcoal were found, suggesting some sort of prehistoric activity at perhaps the same period as that found on SOU 1521.</p> <p>Neither site produced any pottery, so what sort of activities were going on is unclear. The presence of burnt flint and charcoal in the top of a tree disturbance suggests the prehistoric activity was taking place after, or perhaps during, the removal of tree cover. If so this is useful information relating to the human alteration of the environment of Southampton some 2000 years ago.</p> <p>The landscaping associated with the construction of Hightown Secondary School in the 1960s appears to have involved considerable movement of earth, including archaeological deposits, and what little is left of the archaeology survives buried between 800mm and 1900mm of modern deposits.</p> |

Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to the Eastpoint Centre, Bursledon Road, Southampton

By EL Anderson BA MA AIfA, MF Garner BA MIfA, and Dr AD Russel BA PhD MIfA

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Site code | SOU 1652 |
| Archaeology Unit report | 1162 |
| Ordnance Survey grid reference | SU 47211 11548 |

1. Summary

Six evaluation trenches were excavated on the site of a proposed building.

The land to the west of the site was investigated under SOU 1521 and prehistoric remains were found, consisting of nine probable prehistoric features, marked by charcoal, burnt flints, and flint flakes. One feature was dated by the radiocarbon method to 160BC to 60AD at 95% probability.

The evaluation conducted as SOU 1652 revealed less certain prehistoric features, the only definite one being a 3m length of ditch, but spreads of burnt flint and charcoal were found, suggesting some sort of prehistoric activity at perhaps the same period as that found on SOU 1521.

Neither site produced any pottery, so what sort of activities were going on is unclear. The presence of burnt flint and charcoal in the top of a tree disturbance suggests the prehistoric activity was taking place after, or perhaps during, the removal of tree cover. If so this is useful information relating to the human alteration of the environment of Southampton some 2000 years ago.

The landscaping associated with the construction of Hightown Secondary School in the 1960s appears to have involved considerable movement of earth, including archaeological deposits, and what little is left of the archaeology survives buried between 800mm and 1900mm of modern deposits.

2. Introduction

The Archaeology Unit of Southampton City Council carried out an archaeological evaluation at the site of a proposed redevelopment on land adjacent to the Eastpoint Centre, Bursledon Road, Southampton on behalf of the Property and Infrastructure Section of Capita. The work took place between 4/2/2014 and 18/2/2014, in taxing weather conditions. The project was managed by Matt Garner. Dr Andy Russel and Matt Garner identified the finds and edited this report.

3. Site location, topography and geology

The site lay close to the eastern boundary of Southampton, on the north side of Bursledon Road, north-west of its junction with Botley Road at Ordnance Survey grid reference SU 47211 11548 (fig 1). The site had been open grassland for some years,

and was part of the grounds of Eastpoint (originally Hightown Secondary) School. On the south edge of the site, close to Bursledon Road was an area of trees and shrubs.

The natural topography of the site had been obscured by urban development, but the land sloped down slightly to the south and west. The nearest spot heights shown on the Ordnance Survey map are 53m OD on Bursledon Road, some 200m west of the site and 56m OD at the road junction 50m to the south-east.

The geological survey map (Ordnance Survey, 1987) shows that the south-west half of the site lies on river terrace deposits of the eighth terrace (gravel and clay) and the remainder lies on the Wittering Formation, laminated clays and sands of the Bracklesham Group.

4. Historical background

by PR Cottrell

The site was formerly within the parish of Hound, part of Mansbridge Hundred. The manor of Hound does not appear in the Domesday Survey in Mansbridge Hundred, but is included in Meonstoke Hundred as belonging to Hugh de Port's manor of Warnford, not, however, paying geld with Warnford, but with the lands in Mansbridge Hundred. In 1242 Robert de St. John, heir of the de Ports, granted land to the abbey of Netley, founded by Henry III three years earlier. From then until the dissolution of the smaller monasteries in 1536 Hound remained in the possession of the abbey. Hound manor was then granted by the crown to Sir William Paulet, first marquis of Winchester (Page 1908, 472–478).

Netley Common was used by the military during the French Revolutionary Wars (1793–1802) and the Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815) for training and transit camps (Temple Patterson 1966, 96, 99). Soldiers from the Netley Camp were called for by the magistrates of Southampton in 1796 to disperse a mob demonstrating against high bread prices (Temple Patterson 1966, 110). Netley Common was then larger than its present extent and it is not certain whether any of the camps were in the area of the present site.

Editions of the Ordnance Survey maps from 1868 show the area as open heath or scrub, suggesting it was poor quality land unsuitable for cultivation. The 1933 edition shows parts of the area as cleared and enclosed, presumably for cultivation, and an aerial photograph dated 1953 shows that most of the assessment site and the surrounding area was cultivated. This had probably occurred during or after the Second World War.

Canadian soldiers were quartered on Netley Common during the Second World War during the preparations for D-Day. Evidence in the form of concrete foundations and brick-lined holes still survives on the open ground of the Common to the north of the present site.

In 1954 the boundaries of Southampton were extended to include the Thornhill area. The site and the surrounding area remained as cultivated fields until residential development during the 1960s. The present Eastpoint Centre complex was originally built in the early 1960s as Hightown Secondary School. The school was closed in the 1980s.

5. Archaeological background

The site lies in Area 15 (Netley Common) of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential (LAAP) as defined in the City of Southampton Core Strategy 2010. 'This area is part of a Bronze Age barrow cemetery that extends beyond the city boundary. There are three known barrow sites inside the city boundary. The Roman road between Bitterne Manor and Chichester crosses the area' (LAAP).

A desk-based assessment of the site was carried out by the Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit in 2009 (Cottrell 2009). It showed that the site lay within an area of scattered prehistoric finds and was immediately adjacent to the Bronze Age barrow cemetery. The route of the Roman road from Chichester to the Roman settlement of Clausentum at Bitterne Manor, Southampton could be seen to pass close to the north of the site. The report demonstrated the potential for important archaeological remains to be present, and an evaluation and watching brief (SOU 1521) took place in the in the west half of the site when the Eastpoint Centre was built. This work revealed nine probable prehistoric features, marked by charcoal, burnt flints, and flint flakes. One feature was dated by the radiocarbon method to 160BC to 60AD at 95% probability (Garner and Elliott 1979).

A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken in the vicinity of the site. Details are given below for sites and find spots within 1 kilometre of the site (fig 3). They are referred to by their SOU (Southampton) site code, Southampton City Council Historic Environment Record (HER) monument number (MSH ***) or Hampshire County Council (HCC) Archaeology and Historic Building Record (AHBR) number. References to reports are given. Where no report exists, the original archive was consulted.

5.1 Prehistoric find spots

A Lower Palaeolithic flint handaxe (MSH423) was found in the Butts Road area before 1919. It could have come from one of several former clay and gravel pits along Butts Road. A Palaeolithic handaxe (MSH426) was found in the "White Rail Pit" on Netley Common. There were several gravel pits on the common in the late 19th century, but the site of the "White Rail Pit" is not known.

A Neolithic flint axe (MSH418) was found in 1911 at a gravel pit near Butts Road, to the west of the site, and another (MSH419) nearby at Coates Road in 1958.

A decorated copper alloy axe head of Bronze Age date (MSH420) was found in 1898 in a clay pit in the area of Imber Way and Dragoon Close at the east end of Butts Road.

A scatter of burnt flints together with worked flakes of unknown date (HCC AHBR No 25981 + 25982) was found in 1975 east of the A27 road at Kaneshill.

5.2 Barrow cemetery

Maps of the 19th century and later show "tumuli" or barrows on Netley Common, some in areas that are now built over. Several barrows were recorded and other barrow sites suggested during the 20th century. The total number of barrow sites is unclear, although there could be at least seven, and the locations of some are uncertain. Some lie outside the current boundary of the City of Southampton,

including the only barrow still surviving above-ground. The barrow cemetery probably dates from the Early Bronze Age to the Late Bronze Age. Its full extent is not known.

The 1806 Ordnance Survey map shows various tumuli (barrows) on Netley Common. One isolated "tumulus" is shown some way south of an east-west road across the common. Another group of two, three or possibly four "tumuli" are shown north of the road, to the north-east. Although the map is very unclear, this is the earliest known representation of tumuli on the common; they are not shown on earlier maps covering the area.

The east–west road is not shown on the 1866 Ordnance Survey (OS) map but comparison with the 1806 map, 1866 map and current OS GIS base mapping allows the east–west road of 1806 to be identified as the Roman road, which probably went out of use after new roads were built in the area after 1806. The isolated tumulus shown south of this road in 1806 is not shown on the 1866 map or on later maps. The group of tumuli shown north of the road in 1806 are at roughly the same location as two "Tumuli" shown on the 1866 map, in the northeast corner of the common. The later maps of 1897 and 1909 also show two "Tumuli", probably the same as those on the 1866 map. The 1947 6" OS map also shows these tumuli. The current OS GIS base mapping shows a "Tumulus" mound at SU 4783 1185 and "Tumulus (site of)" to the northeast; these correspond to the tumuli on the 1897 and 1909 maps, the estimated grid reference of the second tumulus being SU 4788 1187. The early maps show no other tumuli in the vicinity. The grid reference of the isolated tumulus shown in 1806 can be estimated as SU 4756 1166.

In 1931, Fox reported on the condition of two tumuli on Netley Hill/Common shown on the then OS 6" map. These were clearly the two tumuli shown on the 1897 and 1909 maps. The north-eastern-most tumulus had apparently been destroyed by the erection of a villa, although the other was still intact. He also referred to two more tumuli found during clearance of the underwood some years previously (Fox 1932).

The remains of a large barrow (MSH427) were noted at grid reference SU 4754 1152 on Netley Common in 1975. There is no Ordnance Survey Antiquity record for a barrow at SU 4754 1152, so this may be the same as a tumulus shown on the 1806 map at estimated grid reference SU 4756 1166 (MSH429). No certain evidence of the barrow at SU 4754 1152 was found during a watching brief on the construction of the Torque Close/Tumulus Close/Barrow Down Gardens estate in 1992/3 (SOU 483). Several features were found; all were undated, and some were interpreted as natural stream channels. Most of the features found were in the vicinity of the reported barrow at SU 4754 1152. They were probably interpreted as being of natural origin because they were filled with natural-like deposits, and because no finds were seen in the sections. However their interpretation may be uncertain.

In 1971, a ditch (MSH 428) was found during the recording of a pipe trench on Netley Common at SU 4757 1181. It was overlaid by a layer thought to be a buried land surface, and above this was the probable metalling of a Roman road (Johnston and Soffe 1974.) No dating evidence was found in the ditch or the overlying layers. The report suggested that the ditch could be the ring ditch of a barrow, although noting that the other barrows recorded in the area did not apparently have ring ditches.

The 1806 OS map shows an isolated tumulus (MSH 429) on Netley Common. The grid reference of this isolated tumulus can be estimated at SU 4756 1166. It is not shown on later maps and is not now visible above-ground. It may be the same as the barrow recorded in 1975 at SU 4754 1152 (MSH427).

A group of four barrows has been recorded outside the City boundary, on Netley Hill. A bowl barrow (HCC AHBR No 25961) was severely damaged after the boundary ditch between the parishes of West End and Hound was aligned on the centre of the tumulus and excavated through it. A boundary stone marks the date of the boundary as 1898. Debris from the barrow was examined but only contained a flint hammerstone. In 1932 the barrow was still evident, although severely damaged.

The most prominent barrow of the group of four is bowl barrow HCC AHBR No 25963. In 1932 it was recorded as a tree-covered bowl barrow, 15m in diameter and 1.2m high with no visible ditch. It was surveyed in 1955 and a contour plan produced. It retains a reasonably smooth shape today, despite tree covering, and is 1m high.

Two previously unrecorded barrows with no visible ditches (HCC AHBR No 25964) were those observed by Fox in 1931 (Fox 1932). In 1969 no trace was visible but the area was covered with dense undergrowth. In 1975 they were not clearly visible.

5.3 Roman road

The route of the Roman Road from Clausentum (Bitterne Manor) to Chichester (Regnum) (MSH550) is discussed in several sources and, within the boundaries of the City of Southampton, has been confirmed by field survey and excavation in a number of places on Freemantle Common, Sholing Common, Weston Common and Netley Common. The route was numbered Route 421 by Margary (1955), and this has been followed by later authorities. The road from Bitterne Manor to Chichester was probably of first-century date (Johnston and Soffe 1974).

In 1914 OGS Crawford suggested that a causeway shown on the manuscript two-inch OS map of 1806 was the Roman road from Bitterne Manor to Chichester (Williams-Freeman 1914, 40–42). The causeway was not shown on the one-inch OS map engraved using this two-inch map. The causeway could be traced on the map from Chessell, across Freemantle Common (not named), Shoreland (later Sholing) Common and Netley Common. It did not coincide with the route of the main road (now Bursledon Road), also shown on the map. After the First World War, Crawford traced the course of the road on foot and marked it on his 6 inch map. In 1939/1940 Maitland Muller surveyed the route between Bitterne Manor and the Hamble River and marked the course on the 6 inch Ordnance Survey map (Johnston and Reed 1968). During the survey surface evidence of the road on the former Sholing Common was found just south of the Elephant and Castle Inn. No trace of the road was found between North East Road and Kathleen Road north of Weston Common. Traces of a causeway were found on Weston Common, and again across Dumbleton's Copse and Netley Common.

A slight causeway (MSH421) was recorded on Netley Common during the field survey in 1939/1940. By 1941 ploughing had reduced this to a band of spread gravel. The area is now covered by urban development. Further east on Netley Common, the 1939/1940 field survey noted a well-preserved causeway (MSH440) 25 feet

(7.6m) wide with side ditches. A section was recorded across the Roman road on Netley Common in 1971 (MSH 425, SOU 1288). Further west, a field survey carried out in 1939/1940 of the route of the Roman road across Weston Common revealed traces of a causeway (MSH422), thought to be the Roman road. Part of that area is now built over.

5.4 Roman find spots

A Roman coin, most likely to be of Claudius II Gothicus (Emperor from 268–270 AD), although possibly of Quintillus (Emperor in 270 AD) was found at Hinkler Green, Thornhill, in 2005 (MSH2456).

5.5 Undated

A small indistinct circular crop mark, possibly natural, is visible on air photographs some 400m to the south of the site (HCC AHBR No 25950).

A number of ridges in the grass were noted in 1975 on the slope immediately below and to the east of the farm buildings of Home Farm, Hedge End (HCC AHBR No 25980). The farm was demolished during the building of the M27.

5.6 Modern

Netley Common was the site of a Second World War military camp designated C3 (HCC AHBR No 54337). It was one of three shown on the Top Secret General Map 1944 Codename 'Overlord' which was the build up to D-Day and the invasion of Normandy. Large concrete foundation bases were used to erect semi-permanent structures.

6. Aims of the investigation

The main aims of the evaluation were 'to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality, and date of any archaeological remains encountered, as dictated by current best practice' (SCC 2014).

7. Evaluation methodology

The fieldwork methodology followed that detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation but the position of some trenches was altered due to very wet weather conditions and obstructions such as tree-protection areas. A total of six evaluation trenches were excavated. A portion of the middle of some trenches were not dug due to the heavy rain, by agreement with the Historic Environment Team, but both ends of the trenches retained their original numbering (fig 1).

The topsoil and subsoil were removed by machine, in spits, using a 13 ton, 360 degree, tracked machine with toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. When archaeological deposits were identified machining ceased and they were investigated by hand. Excavated spoil was examined for finds, including use of a metal detector. A portion of each feature was excavated to ascertain extent, date, and nature. Contexts were recorded on forms and by photography, drawing, and survey with a GPS. Finds were recovered and soil samples were taken.



Figure 1. Location of the site (inset marked by red star), and location of the trenches.

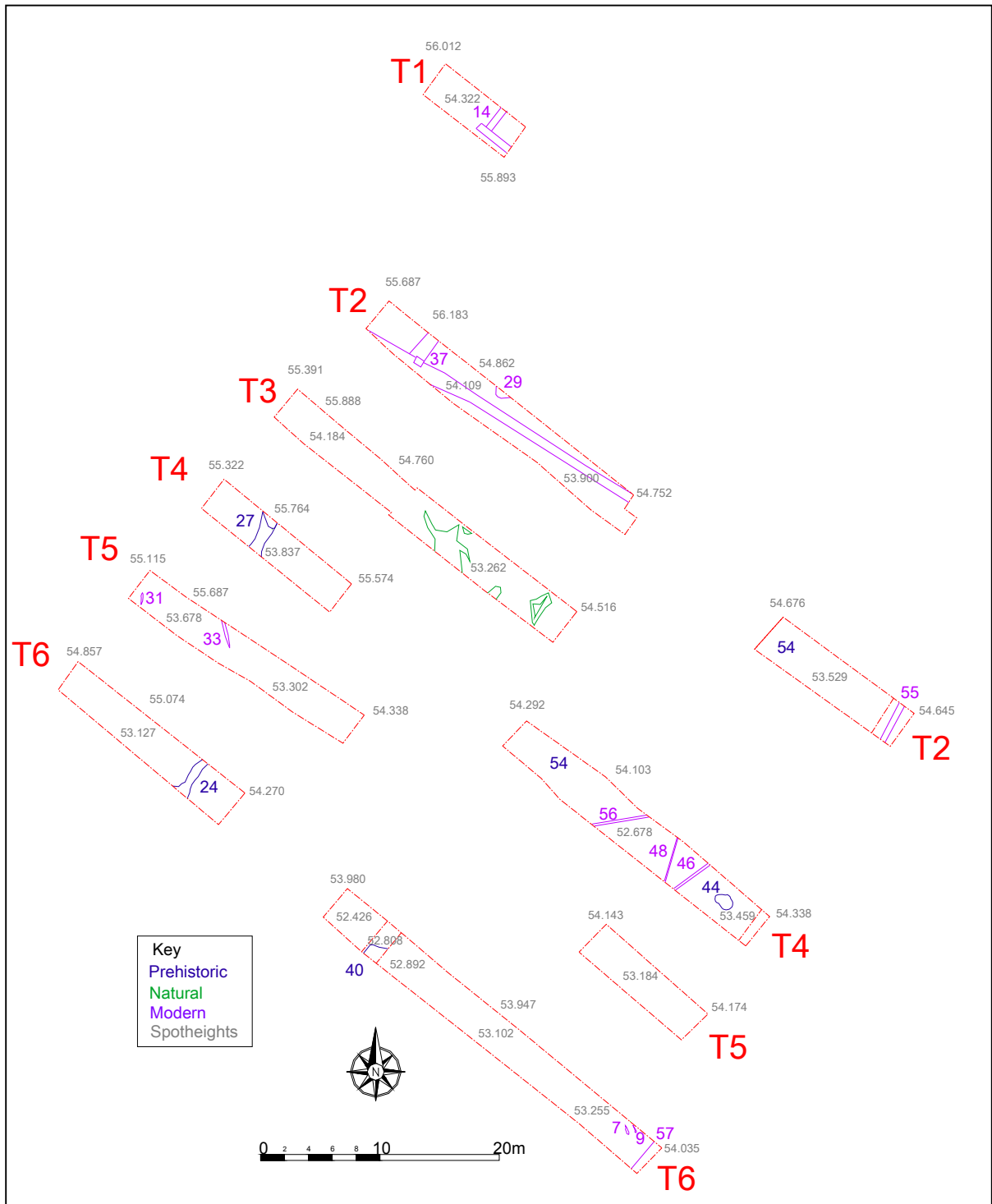


Figure 2. Plan of the evaluation trenches showing natural features, prehistoric features and layers, and modern features. Levels are in m OD (above Ordnance datum)

8. Results of the evaluation

8.1. Natural deposits

A layer of silty clay loam (context 5) was present in all trenches. It was mostly brownish yellow (10YR6/6) with patches of blue grey silty clay loam and lenses of gravel. It was situated 0.8m below the surface in the southeast and northwest of the site but it sloped down to 1.9m below the surface in the middle of the site. This appears to have been a shallow valley running roughly northeast–southwest through the centre of the site that had subsequently been filled to level the area, probably when it was developed as Hightown Secondary School.

8.2. Prehistoric

A number of definite tree-root disturbances were observed in trench 3. Two features in trench 4 were thought to be archaeological in origin and were excavated, and they were found to be tree disturbances as well, but may relate to tree clearance in the prehistoric period.

Tree disturbance [27] was situated in the northwest of trench 4. It was very irregular and was 900mm long, at least 150mm wide and 280mm deep. It was filled with a silty clay loam with some chalk fragments, context (28). It was variable in colour, dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2), with patches of very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2). No finds were present.

Tree disturbance [44] was situated in the southeast of trench 4. It was initially thought to be a pit but after cleaning, it was seen to be very irregular in plan. It was 2m long, 1m wide and 420mm deep and was 'V' shaped in section (fig 3). It was filled with (45), a light brownish grey (10YR 6/2), silty clay loam with patches of dark grey (10YR 4/1). It contained some charcoal and burnt flint at the very top of the fill. A soil sample of 35 litres was taken for retrieval of environmental remains. It produced charcoal, modern weed seeds, and burnt flint.

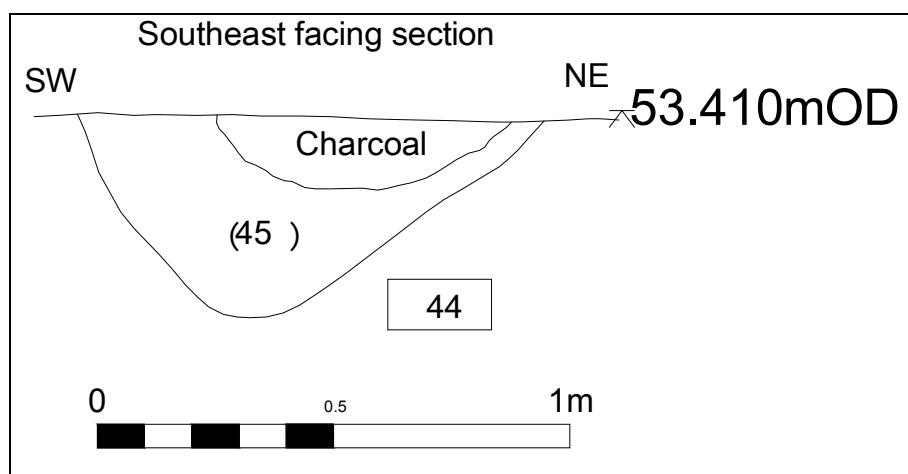


Figure 3. Section through tree disturbance 44.

Above layer 5 was moderately stony, grey (10YR 6/1), silty clay loam (layer 40/54) with abundant burnt flint. It was only observed in trenches 4 and 6 near the bottom of

the valley. It was situated 1.4–1.8m below the surface and was at least 100mm thick. A 20-litre sample of the layer was taken as a soil sample. It produced charcoal, modern weed seeds, a flint flake, debitage, and 2.7kg of burnt flint.

Ditch [24] ran roughly southwest–northeast across the northwest of trench 6. The sides sloped gently and the base was concave (fig 4). It was at least 3m long, 1.2m wide and 250mm deep. It was filled with a black (10YR 2/1), silty clay loam (25). No finds were recovered. A 40-litre soil sample was taken for environmental analysis. It contained 30 fragments of charcoal weighing less than 1g, modern weed seeds, and 11 fragments of burnt flint.

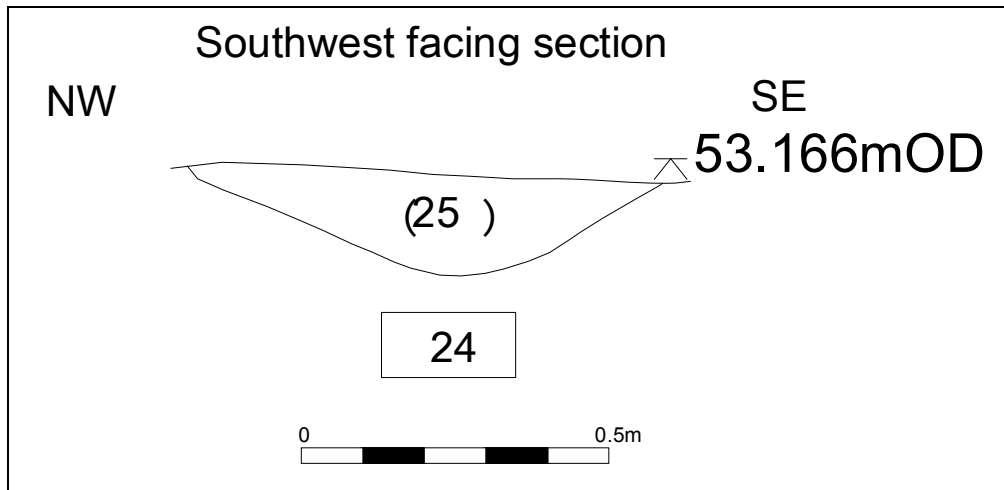


Figure 4. Section through ditch 24.

8.3. 19th/20th century

Four plough marks (features [7] [9], [31], and [33]) were observed in trenches 5 and 6. They all ran in a roughly southeast–northwest direction. They cut down into the natural by up to 100mm so were probably caused by a plough pulled by a machine. The soil in this part of Southampton is not conducive to agriculture and this ploughing may relate to the taking in of marginal areas of land during the Second World War.

Plough marks [7] and [9] ran parallel to each other and were situated in the southeast end of trench 6. Plough mark [7] was at least 600mm long, 150mm wide and 60mm deep and was 'V' shaped in section. It was filled with (8), a dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2), silty clay loam. No finds were recovered. Plough mark [9] was at least 800mm long, 130mm wide and 100mm deep and was 'V' shaped in section. It was filled with (10), a dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2), silty clay loam. No finds were recovered.

Plough mark [31] was at least 900mm long, 120mm wide and 100mm deep and was 'V' shaped in section. It was filled with (32), a grey, 10YR4/1, silty clay loam. No finds were recovered.

Plough mark [33] was at least 2.4m long, 270mm wide and 100mm deep. It seemed to be two plough marks very close to each other. It was 'W' shaped in section and was filled with (10), a very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2), silty clay loam. No finds were recovered.

8.4. Modern probably 1960s

A number of deposits and features were probably associated with the construction of the Hightown Secondary School in the 1960s.

Across the whole site was a layer of redeposited natural clay and silty soil, apparently used to fill in the shallow valley that existed prior to the school being built. There was no sign of a buried topsoil and it must have been removed prior to the dumping of this material. In some places wheel ruts were visible in the deposit, and it contained occasional fragments of brick, asphalt and coal. The various layers were numbered 2, 3, 4, 6, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 35, 36, 39, 43, 50, 51, 52, and 53. A representative section is shown as Figure 5. A 20-litre soil sample was taken of context 11. It contained burnt flint and a small amount of charcoal but also contained burnt and unburnt coal. A 10-litre sample was taken of context 39. It contained burnt flint, flint debitage, and a small amount of charcoal but also produced modern weeds. The presence of charcoal and burnt flint in these layers suggests soil including prehistoric deposits was scraped up from around the site and used for the levelling process.

The levelling deposit contained numerous land drains. They were numbered [37], fill (38); [46], fill (47); [48], fill (49); and [55], [56], and [57]. They contained extruded clay drainpipes of at least two types.

Feature [29] was an oval pit 840mm by 260mm. Its fill (30) was a black silty clay loam that contained modern glass.

Concrete foundations (15), in construction trench [14], were located in trench 1.

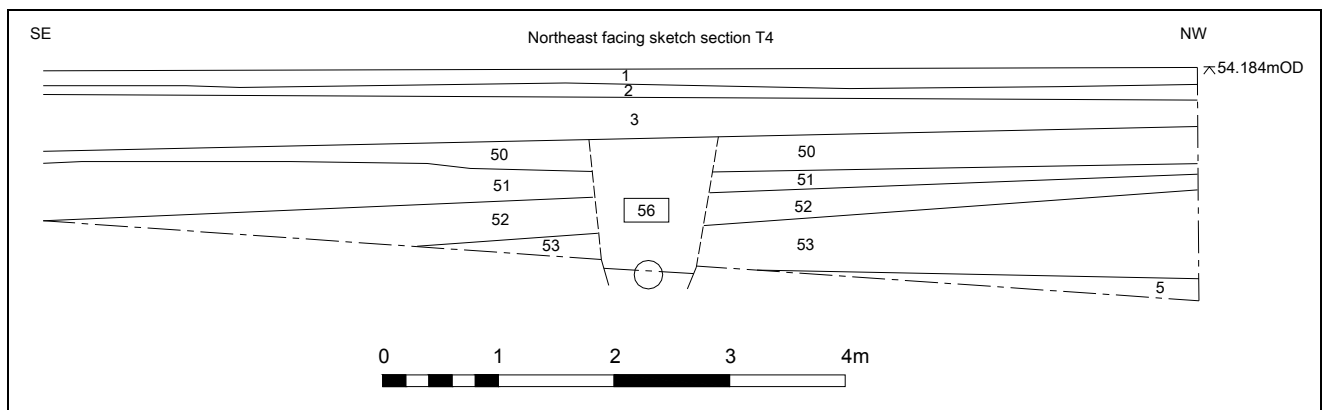


Figure 5. Representative section through the 20th century levelling deposits in Trench 4, cut by a land drain.

8.5 Modern Landscaping

Bank [12] (not on fig 2) had been constructed as part of the new Eastpoint Centre.

8.6 Unstratified

A fragment of Roman ceramic building material was recovered from context 41, together with a possible flint flake that may have been recently broken.

9. Conclusions

The land to the west of the site was investigated under SOU 1521 and prehistoric remains were found, consisting of nine probable prehistoric features, marked by charcoal, burnt flints, and flint flakes. One feature was dated by the radiocarbon method to 160BC to 60AD at 95% probability.

The evaluation conducted as SOU 1652 revealed less certain prehistoric features, the only definite one being a 3m length of ditch, but spreads of burnt flint and charcoal were found, suggesting some sort of prehistoric activity at perhaps the same period as that found on SOU 1521.

Neither site produced any pottery, so what sort of activities were going on is unclear. The presence of burnt flint and charcoal in the top of tree disturbance 44 suggests the prehistoric activity was taking place after, or perhaps during, the removal of tree cover. If so this is useful information relating to the human alteration of the environment of Southampton some 2000 years ago.

The landscaping associated with the construction of Hightown Secondary School in the 1960s appears to have involved considerable movement of earth, including archaeological deposits, and what little is left of the archaeology survives buried between 800mm and 1900mm of modern deposits.

Bibliography

Fox, CF, 1932 Tumuli on Netley Hill, Bursledon. *Proc Hants Field Club Archaeol Soc* Vol XII Part 1, 1932, 72-74.

Johnston, DE and Reed, R, 1968 'The Roman Road (Route 421) to Bitterne' *Proc Hants Field Club Archaeol Soc* **25**, 19–26.

Johnston D, and Soffe G, 1974 Route 421 and other Roman Roads in South Hampshire. *Rescue Archaeology in Hampshire, No 2, 1974. 101-3.*

Margary, ID, 1955 *Roman Roads in Britain, Vol 1.*

Munsell Color, 1975 *Munsell Soil Color Charts*, Baltimore.

Ordnance Survey, 1987 *Geological Survey of Great Britain – drift*. Sheet 315.

Page, W, (ed), 1908 *Victoria County History of Hampshire & the Isle of Wight*, Vol 3

Cottrell, P, 2009 *Desk-Based assessment of land adjacent to the Eastpoint Centre, Bursledon Road, Southampton*. Southampton Archaeology Unit Report 939.

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit, 2014 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to the Eastpoint Centre, Bursledon Road, Southampton*

Garner, MF, and Elliott, GL 2011 *Archaeological Investigations at The Eastpoint Centre, Burgoyne Road, Thornhill, Southampton, SOU 1521*. Southampton Archaeology Unit Report 979.

Williams-Freeman, JP 1914: *Notes on Roman roads in the south of Hants. Proc Hampshire Fld Club Archaeol Soc*, VII, 34 – 42.

Appendix 1. Context list

| CONTEXT | CATEGORY | KEYWORD | DESCRIPTION | FILL OF | FILLED BY |
|---------|----------|---------------------|---|---------|-----------|
| 1 | LAYER | TOPSOIL | Top soil | | |
| 2 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Gravel & clay | | |
| 3 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Redeposited natural. Used to level the site. 50-500mm thick, thicker in the middle of site | | |
| 4 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | 0.55m below the surface in SW of T6. Disappears in the middle of the trench. 0.1m thick in Trench 3 | | |
| 5 | LAYER | NATURAL | Natural clay, 0.8m below surface in S of T6. 1.2m below the surface in the NW of T6 & 2m below bank. Variable colour, mainly yellow-orange plus blue-grey, variable texture & stone abundance, Gravel lenses within the natural | | |
| 6 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Grey gravel turning more brown 10YR5/3 towards NE of T6. | | |
| 7 | FEATURE | PLOUGH MARK | Situated SE end of T6. Sub-oval in plan. Running parallel to 9. N-S. V-shaped. 30% excavated. | | 8 |
| 8 | FILL | PLOUGH MARK | Fill of ploughmark | 7 | |
| 9 | FEATURE | PLOUGH MARK | Linear, going N-S excavated 30%. Related to 7. steep sides, V-shaped base. | | 10 |
| 10 | FILL | PLOUGH MARK | Fill of ploughmark | 9 | |
| 11 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Dark layer, buried soil 0.8M below surface in the valley running across site. Flooded after being exposed. | | |
| 12 | LAYER | BANK | Layer of soil creating bank | | |
| 13 | LAYER | DEMOLITION | Demolition material. 1960s | | |
| 14 | FEATURE | CONSTRUCTION TRENCH | Construction trench, 'T' shaped | | 15 |
| 15 | FILL | CONCRETE | Concrete foundation | 14 | |
| 16 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Mostly brownish yellow in colour with dark greyish brown stripes. Wheel marks? 600mm below the surface. | | |
| 17 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Previous topsoil. Below the bank near new Eastpoint Centre. 900mm below surface | | |
| 18 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Situated 900mm below the surface | | |
| 19 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | 850mm below surface, in NW of site. Not below the bank | | |
| 20 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Grey gravel & soil. Situated 900mm below the surface. Not under the bank | | |
| 21 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Layer of dark soil. NW end of T6 | | |
| 22 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Yellow redeposited clay. | | |
| 23 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | NW end of T6. | | |

| | | | | |
|----|---------|-------------|---|----|
| 24 | FEATURE | DITCH | Possible ditch, NE-SW. Maybe slightly curved. Base concave. Excavated 20% | 25 |
| 25 | FILL | DITCH | Secondary fill of ditch. Silted up slightly, more greyish than 23 | 24 |
| 26 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Dark soil layer. 1.1m below surface | 28 |
| 27 | FEATURE | TREE | Shallow tree disturbance | |
| 28 | FILL | TREE | Fill of tree hole | 27 |
| 29 | FEATURE | PIT | Oval feature, modern | 30 |
| 30 | FILL | PIT | Dark fill with glass fragments | 29 |
| 31 | FEATURE | PLOUGH MARK | Plough mark situated in the NW end of T5. Roughly N-S. 'V' shaped in section. Half sectioned | 32 |
| 32 | FILL | PLOUGH MARK | Grey fill of plough mark | 31 |
| 33 | FEATURE | PLOUGH MARK | Plough marks, 'W' Shaped in section | 34 |
| 34 | FILL | PLOUGH MARK | Fill of plough mark. Approximately 40% excavated | 33 |
| 35 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Dark grey / black layer. NW end of T5 | 38 |
| 36 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Layer of greyish soil. At the end of T5 approx 10m from NW end. Only seen in SW facing section | |
| 37 | FEATURE | LAND DRAIN | Land drain, NW-SE | |
| 38 | FILL | LAND DRAIN | Mixed backfill. 20th C | 37 |
| 39 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Grey layer below 11 (subsoil?). Situated 1.6m below the surface. | 45 |
| 40 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Greyish soil with more gravel than 39. Situated 1.8m below the surface in the middle of the site | |
| 41 | UNSTRAT | UNSTRAT | Unstrat finds T6 | |
| 42 | UNSTRAT | UNSTRAT | Unstrat finds T2 | |
| 43 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Grey gravel lens. Situated in the SW end of the trench. 0.9m below the surface | 47 |
| 44 | FEATURE | TREE | Thought to be a pit, later seen to be a tree. Irregular in plan. Concave base, steep sides. 70% excavated | |
| 45 | FILL | TREE | Backfill of tree. Some patches of charcoal | |
| 46 | FEATURE | LAND DRAIN | Land drain. E-W. | 47 |
| 47 | FILL | LAND DRAIN | Mixed with yellow clay. Ridged pipe in situ | 46 |
| 48 | FEATURE | LAND DRAIN | Land drain, NE-SW. Not very visible. Flooded. Depth unsure | 49 |
| 49 | FILL | LAND DRAIN | Mix of blackish & yellow soil. Backfill of drain. Flooded. | 48 |
| 50 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | 0.7m below the surface in SW of T4, 0.5m below the surface in the NE. | 49 |
| 51 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Mixed clay layer. 10YR6/3 & 6/6. 1.3m below the surface in the SW of T4 & 0.8m in NE. | |
| 52 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Clay lenses, 1.1m below the surface. | |

| | | | | |
|----|---------|------------|---|--|
| 53 | LAYER | SITE LAYER | Soil & clay. Situated 1.2m below surface. Thicker in the middle of T4. | |
| 54 | LAYER | NATURAL? | Possible natural gravel. Situated 1.4m below surface in the middle of T4. | |
| 55 | FEATURE | LAND DRAIN | Land drain, NE-SW, SE end T2. | |
| 56 | FEATURE | LAND DRAIN | Land drain, E-W across T4. | |
| 57 | FEATURE | LAND DRAIN | Land drain, NE-SW, SE end T6. | |

Appendix 2. Finds list

| Context | Mat Type | Find Type | Wgt (gm) | No of frag | Description | Soil sample |
|---------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 11 | FLNT | BURN | 990 | 164 | Including 7 red frags | 0 |
| 11 | FLNT | BURN | 31 | 47 | | 2 |
| 11 | FLNT | FRAG | 1 | 1 | ? Thermal fracture | 0 |
| 11 | FLNT | FRAG | 17 | 1 | Pebble fragment - bashed | 0 |
| 11 | CHAR | FRAG | 7 | 80 | Burnt coal, coal & charcoal | 2 |
| 25 | FLNT | BURN | 13 | 11 | | 1 |
| 25 | CHAR | FRAG | 1 | 30 | Inc modern weeds | 1 |
| 39 | FLNT | BURN | 47 | 110 | | 3 |
| 39 | FLNT | FRAG | 1 | 2 | Tiny chips, from working? | 3 |
| 39 | CHAR | FRAG | 1 | 22 | Inc cinders and modern twig frags | 3 |
| 39 | PLNT | SEED | 1 | 30 | Modern weeds | 3 |
| 40 | FLNT | BURN | 1379 | 600 | | 4 |
| 40 | FLNT | BURN | 1356 | 600 | | 4 |
| 40 | FLNT | FLKE | 19 | 1 | Ancient edge damage | 4 |
| 40 | FLNT | FRAG | 1 | 14 | Tiny chip, from working? | 4 |
| 40 | CHAR | FRAG | 9 | 500 | | 4 |
| 40 | PLNT | SEED | 1 | 29 | Modern weeds | 4 |
| 41 | FLNT | FLKE | 2 | 1 | Possible flake. Modern? | 0 |
| 41 | CRMC | TILE | 168 | 1 | Roman | 0 |
| 45 | FLNT | BURN | 31 | 36 | Red flint & cracked flint | 5 |
| 45 | FLNT | BURN | 96 | 6 | Red & cracked | 0 |
| 45 | FLNT | FRAG | 22 | 1 | Pebble with flake scars? | 0 |
| 45 | CHAR | FRAG | 200 | 1 | | 5 |
| 45 | PLNT | SEED | 1 | 63 | Modern weeds | 5 |