Bournemouth Archaeology

488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation



SOU1727

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488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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Project summary

Project Name: Location: NGR: Project Type: Date of issue:	488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Hampshire Former Dairy Crest, 488- 496 Portsmouth Road Centred at 445990 110630 Archaeological Evaluation 1st November 2016
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Summary

From the 30/08/2016 - 01/09/2016 BUARC, Bournemouth University's archaeological field unit, BUARC, were commissioned by Crestland Homes Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation at 488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, in response to planning proposals to demolish two late Victorian houses and mid-20th century dairy facility and construct 25 residential units with associated parking and ancillary buildings under planning application 15/01158/FUL.

The proposed development intends two rows of houses facing inwards to a central access drive with gardens positioned around the perimeter of the site. Groundworks in the form of foundation and service trench excavation will be located mainly but not exclusively to and between the proposed building locations.

In response to Southampton County Council's recommendation that an archaeological field evaluation should be undertaken to determine the presence, importance and extent of any archaeological features, and in consultation with Southampton City Council's Historic Environment Team, a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by BUARC proposing a total of five evaluation trenches positioned at strategic locations around the development area to target areas in which proposed development groundworks had potential to cut below modern overburden and potentially disturb previously unknown archaeological deposits and features.

The project has demonstrated that late Victorian and mid-20th century deposits were present, including a wall, soak away, postholes, pits, possible ditches, service trenches and a pipe trench which were recorded in Trenches 1-5. Comparison of these trenches with historic mapping has identified that these features correlate directly to previous standing buildings which were recently demolished prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing.

Four features of uncertain date were recorded cutting the natural, three of which were only partially expose within the trenches and potentially represent the earliest features recorded on-site. Two of the features were possible ditch *termini* recorded in Trench 4 and two pit features which were recorded in Trench 2. No cultural material was retrieved from these features. A layer above these features contained CBM material and has been interpreted as a Victorian garden soil providing a *terminus ante quem* for these features.

This report comprises the final results of the archaeological evaluation project.

Abbreviations

- ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- DBA Desk-Based Assessment
- OS Ordnance Survey
- WSI Written Scheme of Investigation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 BUARC, Bournemouth University's archaeological research consultancy, was appointed by Crestland Homes Ltd. to carry out an archaeological evaluation at 488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton (herein 'the site') (NGR 445990 110630) (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The evaluation project was requested by Southampton City Council's Historic Environment in order to determine the presence, importance and extent of any archaeological features that may be present on the site, as part of a staged approach to further the understanding of the archaeological implications of the proposed development. Crestland Homes Ltd. intend to redevelop the former industrial site into a 25 unit residential development with associated parking and ancillary facilities (Application no 15/01158/FUL).
- 1.1.3 The evaluation project was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), which included a trench layout, approved by Southampton City Council's Historic Environment Team in advance of the project. This WSI document also included a detailed Desk Based Assessment (DBA) of the proposed development site, of which a summary is included in section 2 below.
- 1.1.4 This report comprises the final report on the archaeological evaluation.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Site Description

- 2.1.1 The site is located within Sholing, on the south eastern outskirts of Southampton, on the south side of the A3025 and centred on NGR 445990 110630.
- 2.1.2 The site is rectangular in shape and covers a 0.47ha sized area. It is bounded by and accessed from the A3025 on its northern side and its other boundaries are shared with residential properties and Oasis Academy, Mayfield.
- 2.1.3 Prior to the recent clearance of the site as part of the proposed development it was occupied by small modern industrial buildings and areas of hard standing associated with the former use of the site as a Dairy crest milk distribution depot. In the north-west corner of the site there was two brick-built Victorian houses (Nos. 488 and 490 Portsmouth Road) and associated gardens.

2.2 Geology and Topography

2.2.1 The site and surrounding area is topographically very flat and the underlying geology, according to the British Geological Survey of Great Britain comprises of sand, silt and clay of the Earnley Sand formation sedimentary bedrock overlain by sand and gravel river terrace deposits formed up to 3 million years ago during the Quaternary period. Contour mapping provided by Southampton City Council Historic Environment Record Officer suggests a former valley of a tributary of Tickleford gully to the east of the site.

2.3 Historical and Archaeological Background

2.3.1 A comprehensive Desk Based Assessment was carried out by BUARC in July 2016 (Bournemouth University, 2016). This assessment examined, in detail, the historical and archaeological background of the site including archaeological investigations carried out in the surrounding area. Listed buildings and Scheduled Monuments within a 1 kilometre radius of the site were also included in the DBA. A summary of the DBA document is included below.

2.3.2 Prehistoric

2.3.3 Prehistoric activity within the study area is represented by artefact find spots although the precise locations of many of these have not been recorded. Four Palaeolithic flint hand axes have been found locally. One, dated to the Lower Palaeolithic period was found in one of the former clay and gravel pits along Butts Road area before 1919 (MSH423), and three others that date to the Lower to Middle Palaeolithic can only be located to 'Sholing' as a general area. Similarly, a Mesolithic tranchet axe (MSH512), at least two Neolithic flint axe heads (MSH513 and 25966), a Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead and a flint knife or spearhead were found in the Sholing area at some point in time (MSH520).

2.3.4 Roman

2.3.5 A large quantity of Roman ceramic material, including pottery and tile, was recovered during a watching brief and excavation on land near Tickleford Drive, now Hurst Green Close, approximately 800m SW of the site (SOU471). Despite these finds coming from post-medieval and modern deposits this material strongly suggests the presence of a Romano-British settlement in this area. Roman tile fragments were also found in a small truncated pit during works outside 350 Portsmouth Road, 660m west of the site in or before 1972 (MSH407). Further to this evidence a small collection of Roman coins found in or around Sholing prior to 1887 (MSH516) attests to Roman activity in the area.

2.3.6 Late Saxon and Medieval

- 2.3.7 Part of the search area on the west side of the site probably falls within the land formerly defined as the manor of Woolston and referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 as "Olvestune".
- 2.3.8 Two settlements were identified in the local area as part of the RCHME Medieval Settlement project. A farmstead 'Laetanlia' at Old Netley Farm (39909) was first documented in 940AD and buildings were present in the 13th century at 'Niwetona' (New Farm), in the area now referred to a Newtown to the SW of the site (41322).
- 2.3.9 A small quantity of medieval pottery was also recovered residually during the same watching brief and excavation that generated the Roman finds at Tickleford Drive (SOU471). Additionally, 10th/11th century, potentially Late Saxon pottery was found in a pit outside 350 Portsmouth Road 660m west of the site (MSH407).
- 2.3.10 Netley Abbey is situated on the coast approximately, 1.7km from the site, and was a Cistercian abbey founded in 1239. Two aqueducts follow the route of Tickleford Gully from the abbey grounds towards the site and into the study area. The easternmost aqueduct (MSH84) may have fed fish ponds and the western aqueduct (MSH3427) may have supplied water to the main abbey buildings.

2.3.11 Post Medieval

- 2.3.12 Weston Grove was built in 1801 in extensive grounds overlooking Southampton Water. In 1854 the northern part of the estate became the Mayfield estate (MSH3660). Weston Grove house probably fell into ruin from about 1920 onwards and was subsequently demolished in the 1940's. Most of the area has now been redeveloped for housing although part of the grounds survives in the Mayfield Park public park (MSH3672), including the site of the former carriageway (MSH1850).
- 2.3.13 The former "Mayfield" country house was built in 1854, with extensive grounds (MSH3660). The Mayfield estate was formed out of the early 19th century Weston Grove estate (MSH3663). The grounds became a public park (Mayfield Park, MSH3672) in 1938, and include part of the grounds of Weston Grove. Although the house (MSH3661) was demolished in 1956 the following survive: Fox's Monument (MSH2536), The Stable on Wright's Hill (MSH2186), the lodge (MSH2185) and adjacent gate piers (MSH2535) on Weston Lane and a walled garden (MSH3662).

- 2.3.14 The site lies within an area of extensive common land on the outskirts of Southampton. Netley Common was used by the military for training and transit camps during the French Revolutionary Wars (1793–1802) and the Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815). The common was enclosed in the 19th Century and Canadian soldiers were quartered here during the Second World War in advance of D-Day.
- 2.3.15 The positions of former buildings present on the 1838 tithe map have been recorded as part of the Historic Rural Settlement Survey. Four of these (50220, 50221, 50222 and 50223) can be found at Netley Farm 1km east of the site.

2.3.16 Modern

2.3.17 St Mary's Extra Cemetery (MSH3674) is located within the study area and at its closest point is 125m from the site. The cemetery dates from 1879 and is still in use. In addition to the two chapels which have been listed, a number of other original features are recognised as heritage assets, including: a toilet block (MSH5290); the cemetery gateway and gates (MSH 5291); the war memorial (MSH 5292); and a water tap (MSH 5293).During the Second World War there was an anti-aircraft gun battery located at Netley over 900m SSE of the site (37645).

2.3.18 Undated

- 2.3.19 A small number of undated features are recorded within the settlement area. Linear features and pits of unknown or uncertain date were recorded during watching briefs on land at the rear of 27 44 Hawkhurst Close in 1993 (SOU471/SOU560).
- 2.3.20 Undated ditches and a late 19th / 20th century posthole were found during an evaluation excavation at Laxton Close in 2012 (SOU1591).
- 2.3.21 There are also a number of banks and ditches of unknown date in West Wood that extend into the study area (including MSH4934 and MSH4935), although some of these may be associated with Netley Abbey.
- 2.3.22 Several former field boundaries or drainage ditches were observed during an excavation at Tickleford Drive (SOU471).

2.3.23 Site Visit

2.3.24 As part of the DBA a site visit was made by a member of staff from BUARC on 11/05/16 part way through the demolition and clearance phase of the project. The site was inspected for any unrecorded evidence of archaeological activity, of which none was observed.

3 Archaeological Potential of the Site

- 3.1.1 Evidence from within the study area does provide some insight into the archaeological potential of the site. Prehistoric hand tools have been found in the local area within underlying gravel terrace deposits mainly during quarry activity. Although no such quarrying is believed to have occurred on this site there are numerous quarry pits shown in the local area on historic mapping, including either side of Portsmouth Road 150m to the SE of the site.
- 3.1.2 Roman pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) that has been recorded would appear to indicate the presence of a settlement, perhaps in the form of a farmstead in the vicinity of Tickleford Gully. There is, however, no strong evidence of any Roman settlement on the site.
- 3.1.3 The 10/11th century pottery found at 350 Portsmouth Road, along with the place name evidence for an established settlement at Old Netley Farm during the 10th century, attest to Late Saxon settlement activity in the vicinity of the site. During the medieval period farmsteads and larger settlements would have populated the landscape around Netley Common, and one of these was known to have been located in the area of Newtown to the SW of the site.
- 3.1.4 The site was part of Netley Common during the post medieval period and was on the periphery but not incorporated into the Western Grove Estate and its successor Mayfield Park in the 19th century. In addition it is likely the site was close to if not part of the land used by the military during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars and Second World War.
- 3.1.5 Definition of the site boundary occurred when the site was built on at the end of the 19th century. Its development into a dairy facility is documented in historic mapping and it would be expected that evidence of the multitude of industrial structures that have occupied the site would be found during trench evaluation investigations and proposed development ground works.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Project Aims

- 4.1.1 The trench evaluation will aim to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character and date of any archaeological deposits within the area affected by proposed development. This evidence will form the basis of any proposals for appropriate mitigation measures that may seek to limit the damage to significant archaeological deposits, and will aim to define any research priorities that may be relevant should further investigation be required.
- 4.1.2 The findings of the trench evaluation will aim to provide a context for the archaeological resource that may be identified and provide sufficient information so that the future treatment of the resources, in respect of the proposed development, can be determined in consultation with the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority.
- 4.1.3 The general aims of the trench evaluation are to:
 - identify the location, extent, date and significance of any archaeological finds or features, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains;
 - For the purposes of this project, archaeologically significant remains and contexts are defined as remains and contexts relating to pre-19th century human use of the area;
 - identify and record the nature, dimensions and relationship of natural deposits on the site, and the
 potential of those deposits to contain or conceal archaeological evidence, particularly prehistoric
 periods;
 - assess the character and extent of any archaeological features located;
 - produce an archive and report on the results of the site based investigations;

• publish and disseminate the results of any remains.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 5.1.1 Prior to the project commencing an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ was initiated by the Bournemouth Archaeology and key fields completed on Details, Location, and Creators forms.
- 5.1.2 The project was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) approved by Southampton County Council in advance of the project. In summary, a total of five trench locations were defined, measuring approximately 1.90m in width and c.20m in length, the number and array of trenches within the site is intended to address the impact of the proposed development on potential archaeological resources.
- 5.1.3 Further to the agreed trench locations stipulated within the WSI document some revisions were required during the fieldwork. Trench 1 was moved slightly to the south due to the presence of waste material and overgrown vegetation, Trench 2 was moved c.10m to the south due to re-enforced concrete hardstanding and Trench 3 was moved slightly to the east. Trenches 4 and 5 swapped numbers and their locations were altered from the WSI due to tree canopies and proximity to boundary walls. As such Trench 4 was moved to the east and Trench 5 was relocated c.8m to the east.
- 5.1.4 The project was carried out using a mechanical excavator and was monitored under the supervision of BUARC staff. The topsoil and subsoil was removed to the top of 'natural' or the top of any significant archaeological level, whichever was the higher.
- 5.1.5 Site drawings were completed using polyester-based drawing film, at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 as appropriate.
- 5.1.6 An adequate photographic record of the investigation was completed. This included digital images and black and white prints (on 35mm film), illustrating the principal features discovered in detail and in general context.

5.2 Post excavation methodology

5.2.1 The fieldwork archive has been consolidated, cross referenced and digitised. The archive includes all materials recovered and all written, drawn, and photographic records relating directly to the investigations. It has been quantified, ordered, and indexed, and forms the basis of this report.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Summary

- 6.1.1 A total of five trenches were mechanically excavated (Figure 2) and measured approximately 20m in length and 1.90m wide with a maximum depth of 0.80m (recorded in Trench 2). During the trench excavation a total of 21 archaeological features were either recorded in section and/or plan or digitally recorded. These comprised of one wall, three postholes, a soak away, six pits, two possible ditch termini, a possible gully, three building footings, two service trenches, a pipe trench and an area of modern disturbance.
- 6.1.2 A modern overburden layer was consistent across the site and was recorded in all trenches (recorded as 101, 200, 300, 401, and 501). This layer was derived from recent demolition work on the site prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing. An additional demolition deposit was recorded in Trench 4 (402), and was isolated towards the SW corner of the site boundary.
- 6.1.3 Remnants of a buried soil horizon were also observed in Trenches 1, 2 4 (recorded as 102, 201, 404) and has been interpreted as a garden soil. A layer of soil recorded in Trench 5 was initially recorded as a garden soil but has been interpreted as fill of a service trench which was recorded in cross section in this area.
- 6.1.4 Natural subsoil was observed in all five trenches (recorded as 116, 203, 301, 409 and 516) and consisted of river terrace deposits comprising gravel components within a brown-orange silty sand matrix. Trench 3 contained areas of reddish-brown sand and patches of dark brown discolouration were also observed. The same discolouration was also recorded in Trenches 4 & 5 containing patches of light-brown sand.

Trench 1 (Plate 1, Figures 2 & 3)

- 6.1.5 Trench 1 was machine excavated to a depth of 0.60m. A small number of features, including a wall, driveway or path, a soak away and three postholes were recorded in Trench 1. All features were sealed by modern overburden layer (101) and truncated buried soil horizon (102).
- 6.1.6 A wall and driveway feature ([103] and [115] respectively) identified in Trench 1 are interpreted as relating to the recently demolished house located to the immediate east. The features were not fully exposed with the trench.
- 6.1.7 The wall cut [103] (measuring >1.60m in length, 0.21m wide) (Plate 2) at the NE corner of Trench 1 was orientated NNW-SSE and contained red brick wall (104). The cut was recorded truncating garden soil (102) and natural gravels (116) to a depth of 0.15m. The red brick wall (104) survived to two courses, laid end to end with no bonding agent observed, and potentially represents a courtyard/ garden wall sealed by deposit (105).
- 6.1.8 A construction cut [115] (Plate 3) was recorded measuring >2.70m in length, >2.60m wide and c.0.21m in depth, and contained bedding material (105) and tarmac surface (106) probably representing a driveway or path on a NNW-SSE alignment. Deposit (105) comprised of reddish brown gritty sand containing predominantly gravel components and deposit (106) was recorded as a tarmac surface recorded sealing (105).
- 6.1.9 Located to the south, a soak away cut [107] had a sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides (measuring c.1.18m in length, c.1.18m wide and >1.50m in depth); the full depth of the feature was not exposed. The cut was brick lined (Plate 4) with an ESE-WNW aligned drain observed feeding into the feature towards the eastern extent. Red brick lining (108) formed a circular structure with no bonding agent which conformed to a tapered point towards the top of the structure. The average brick size was 220mm in length, 90mm wide and 70mm in depth; however, smaller worked pieces were also used in the construction. The soak away feature has also been interpreted as being associated with the recently demolished house located to the immediate east. This feature was observed cutting natural (116) and was truncated by posthole [113].

- 6.1.10 Sub-oval posthole [113] (measuring c.0.32m in length, c.0.29m wide and 0.18m in depth) had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep straight sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base (Plate 4). The cut was filled by single backfill (114) comprising of dark grey silty clay which contained frequent CBM <90mm inclusions.
- 6.1.11 Possible postholes [109] and [111] (Plate 5) were not excavated. Both features contained dark grey silty clay rubble backfills and were interpreted as being modern in origin. The postholes were located to the immediate north of posthole [113] all of which conform to a degree of contemporaneity and are aligned on an N/S orientation. Cut [109] was sub-circular in plan and measured c.0.25m in length and c.0.20m wide while cut [111] was sub-oval in plan measuring c.0.40m in length and c.0.20m wide. All three postholes were observed cutting natural (116).
- 6.1.12 Soil horizon (102) comprised of dark grey silty clay which contained infrequent gravel components <60mm. This layer was sealed by overburden (101) and overlying natural (116).
- 6.1.13 Modern overburden (101) comprised of mid-grey silty clay which contained a mixture of modern cultural material including CBM and pottery sherds.

Trench 2 (Plate 6, Figures 2 & 3)

- 6.1.14 Trench 2 was machine excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m. To the northern extent an area of modern disturbance was observed and remained unrecorded, while two large pits were recorded towards the southern extent of the trench.
- 6.1.15 Two pits ([204], [206]) (Plate 7, Figures 3 & 5) were recorded cutting natural gravels (203). Both pits contained compact light brown silty clay fills and were sealed by soil horizon (201).
- 6.1.16 Pit [204] was sub-oval in plan and had a gradual sloping north side with a gradual break of slope at the top and base (measuring 1.18m in length, 0.82m wide and 0.14m in depth). The south side had a sharp break of slope at the top with a moderate irregular side and a gradual break of slope at the base leading to a wide concave base. The cut was filled with deposit (205) which contained infrequent flint and pebble components and very infrequent charcoal flecking.
- 6.1.17 Irregular shaped pit [206], which extended beyond the eastern limit of Trench 2, had a sharp break of slope at the top with a steep slightly concave north side and a moderate concave (stepped) south side (measuring 2.12m in length, 1.50m wide and 0.52m in depth). Both sides had a gradual break of slope at the base with a wide slightly concave base. The cut was filled with deposit (207) which contained infrequent small flints and pebble inclusions and very infrequent charcoal flecking.
- 6.1.18 Soil horizon (201) consisted of dark grey silty clay which contained infrequent flints/gravels and CBM fragments. This layer was only present towards the northern extent of trench and was interpreted as a type of garden soil. This was sealed by modern overburden layer (200).
- 6.1.19 Modern overburden layer (200) contained CBM, concrete and stone inclusions.

Trench 3 (Plate 8, Figure 2)

- 6.1.20 Trench 3 was machine excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m. No archaeological features were present in Trench 3. A modern service trench was observed towards the northern extent of the trench on an E/W alignment. No additional modern truncations were observed within this trench.
- 6.1.21 A layer of overburden (300) was machine excavated and consisted of light grey-brown silty sand which contained naturally derived gravels with frequent CBM fragments and was recorded overlying natural gravels (301).

Trench 4 (Plate 9, Figures 2 & 4)

- 6.1.22 Trench 4 was machine excavated to a maximum depth of 0.62m. Two possible ditch termini ([405], [407]) were recorded cutting natural gravels (409) located towards the southern extent of the trench (Plates 10 & 11, Figures 4 & 5). The possible ditches are likely contemporary and were sealed by soil horizon (404). Both features were filled with single deposits which were likely derived through natural processes. Above this a further three layers were recorded (403, 402, 401) (Plates 12 & 13).
- 6.1.23 Cut [405] had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base (measuring >1.80m in length, 0.90m wide and 0.24m in depth). This feature was filled with deposit (406) comprising of a predominantly light grey silty sand (became darker in colour towards the northern edge) which contained frequent flint <90mm inclusions.
- 6.1.24 Cut [407] had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides (slightly stepped at south side), a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base (measuring >1.30m in length, c.1.25m wide and c.0.16m in depth). This feature was filled with deposit (408) consisting of dark grey silty sand which contained frequent flint <70mm inclusions.
- 6.1.25 Overlying the ditches was soil horizon (404). This layer consisted of dark grey silty clay and contained frequent flint <110m and infrequent 20th century pottery inclusions. This layer was overlaid by deposits (402) and (403) and potentially represents a garden soil.
- 6.1.26 Deposit (403) consisted of limestone/concrete inclusions recorded as partially overlaid by layer (402) and underlying layer (401). This deposit formed part of a car parking zone which was present in this area prior to recent demolition work.
- 6.1.27 Demolition rubble layer (402) and (401) are associated with recent demolition work which occurred on site prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing. The former, layer (402), was located towards the southern extent of Trench 4 and predominantly comprised of light red brick fragments and concrete sealed by layer (401).
- 6.1.28 Modern overburden (401) consisted of CBM, concrete, and stone inclusions.

Trench 5 (Plate 14, Figures 2 & 4)

- 6.1.29 Trench 5 was machine excavated to a maximum depth of c.60m. In total three building footings, four pits a possible gully, a service trench and a pipe trench were recorded in Trench 5 and were sealed by a modern overburden layer (501).
- 6.1.30 A small area of intercutting features was recorded at the northern extent of the trench including pits [510], [514] and possible gully [512].
- 6.1.31 Pit [510] and possible gully [512] represent the earliest features in this sequence both of which are truncated by pit [514]. The former, cut [510] (Plate 15), had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a slightly concave base (measuring c.0.84m in length, c.0.65m wide and c.0.19m in depth). This cut was filled by single backfill (511) which comprised of dark grey sandy silt and contained very infrequent Victorian brick and frequent flint <80mm inclusions.
- 6.1.32 Possible gully [512] (Plate 16) was orientated NNW-SSE and had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base (measuring c.>1.40m in length, 0.82m wide and 0.29m in depth). The cut was filled with possible backfill (513) comprising of dark-grey silty sand which contained very infrequent Victorian brick and frequent flint <60mm inclusions. The full extent of this feature was not established.

- 6.1.33 Pit [514] (Plate 15) had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep straight sides, an abrupt break of slope at the base and a slightly concave/ irregular base (measuring >1.30m in length, >0.70m wide and c.0.16m in depth). The cut was filled with single backfilling event (515) which comprised of dark grey silty sand which contained frequent flint <80mm and infrequent concrete and very infrequent Victorian brick inclusions. This feature was not fully exposed within the trench and was truncated by a modern pipe trench.
- 6.1.34 To the south of Trench 5 two juxtaposed pits were recorded cutting natural ([502], [505]) (Plates 18 & 19, Figures 4 & 5) and potentially conform to a degree of contemporaneity. Sub-oval pit [502] had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base (measuring 1.04m in length, 0.94m wide and 0.37m in depth). This pit was filled by deposits (503) and (504). The former represents a primary deposit comprising of brown silty sand which contained frequent gravels <40mm and likely formed through natural erosion. This fill was sealed by backfill (504) which consisted of dark grey silty sand which contained frequent flint <80mm and infrequent brick and bone fragments.
- 6.1.35 Small pit [505] had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep concave sides a gradual break of slope at the base and a flat base (measuring >0.58 in length, >0.52m wide and 0.25m in depth). This pit was filled with backfill (506) comprising of dark grey silty sand which contained frequent flint <50mm and infrequent brick fragments and glass shards.
- 6.1.36 Three building footings were identified within Trench 5, all of which were on a NE-SW axis. The footings were part of a recently demolished warehouse and only one of the footings was recorded fully. Footing [507] (Plate 17, Figures 4 & 5) was sub-rectangular in plan and had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate straight sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a flat base (measuring >1.40m in length, 1.18m wide and 0.26m in depth). This cut was filled by backfills (508) and (509). The former comprised of crushed yellow/white limestone containing infrequent flint <40mm, brick and concrete components. This deposit was only present towards the northern extent of the cut and was partially overlaid by deposit (509) which consisted of dark grey silty sand and contained frequent flint <60mm and infrequent brick <80mm and pebble <40mm inclusions.
- 6.1.37 The latest features within this trench were represented by a service and pipe trench (Figure 4). The final sequence was represented by modern overburden (501) which consisted of dark grey silty clay with frequent gravel components.

7 THE FINDS

7.1.1 The archaeological evaluation yielded a small amount of 20th century pottery whilst the majority of the features recorded on-site contained Victorian brick and modern CBM inclusions. As such no cultural material was retained from the site and no environmental samples were retrieved during the evaluation.

8 INTERPETATION AND DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 Prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing a program of demolition work was required in order to clear the site of standing buildings. Brick-built late Victorian houses and associated gardens were located in the NW area of the site. The remainder of the site was industrialised in the mid- 20th century and developed into a dairy facility.
- 8.1.2 The natural geology was river terrace deposits comprising of gravels within a sandy matrix. Four features of uncertain date were recorded cutting the natural, three of which were only partially exposed within the trenches and potentially represent the earliest features recorded on-site. Two of the features were possible ditch termini ([405] & [407]) recorded in Trench 4 and two pit features ([204] & [206]) which were recorded in Trench 2. Both pits contained very infrequent charcoal flecking whilst no cultural material was retrieved from any of these features. A layer above these features (layers (201) & (404) respectively) contained CBM material and has been interpreted as a Victorian garden soil providing a terminus ante quim for these features.
- 8.1.3 Evidence associated with the Victorian building was observed in Trenches 1 and 5. In Trench 1 a driveway or path associated with the building was represented by construction cut [115] which was observed in the northern extent of the trench aligned NW-SE. The cut was filled with bedding material (105) and tarmac surface (106). This feature potentially truncated an earlier Victorian wall (104) recorded on the same orientation which possibly marked a previous courtyard or garden boundary to the property. Trench 1 also contained a Victorian brick-lined soak away [107] and three possibly associated postholes ([113], [109], [111]). Four pits and a possible gully recorded in Trench 5 all contained very infrequent Victorian brick components and are likely contemporary with the late Victorian building.
- 8.1.4 The gardens or land associated with the Victorian properties were potentially extensive. A soil horizon interpreted as a potential garden soil was recorded in Trenches 1, 2 and 4 but was not evident towards the eastern extent of the development area, perhaps being removed by more recent use of the site.
- 8.1.5 The development of the dairy facilities in the mid-20th century was clearly evident in Trenches 2, 4, and 5. Photographs of the site taken during a site visit made on 11/05/2016, and documented in the WSI for this project, clearly show a car parking area towards the western and south-western extents of the development area. This car park was clearly evident in Trench 4 represented by bedding material (403).
- 8.1.6 Three building footings were identified within Trench 5, all of which conformed to a NE-SW axis. The footings were part of a recently demolished warehouse and only one of the footings was recorded fully (Figure 4). Modern disturbance recorded in Trench 2 may also be linked to the industrialisation of the site
- 8.1.7 Trench 3 contained no significant archaeological features. A modern service trench was observed towards the northern extent of the trench aligned WNW-ESE. An additional service trench was also recorded in Trench 5 on the same alignment and a pipe trench was also recorded on a NE-SW alignment in this trench truncating pit [514].
- 8.1.8 A modern overburden layer was recorded across all five trenches and derived through the demolition of the standing buildings prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing. An additional underlying brick demolition layer was recorded in Trench 4.

8.1.9 A review of the historic maps for the area allows for some correlation of features identified during the evaluation project to those depicted in the mapping, especially in relation to the previous standing buildings where the wall orientated NNW-SSE in Trench 1 appears to correlate with garden features or possibly a driveway evident on 1897, 1909 and 1933 mapping.

9 CONCLUSION

- 9.1.1 The project has demonstrated that late Victorian and mid-20th century deposits were present, including a wall, soak away, postholes, pits, possible ditches, service trenches and a pipe trench which were recorded in Trenches 1-5. Comparison of these trenches with historic mapping has identified that these features correlate directly to previous standing buildings which were recently demolished prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing.
- 9.1.2 Four features of uncertain date were recorded cutting the natural, three of which were only partially exposed within the trenches and potentially represent the earliest features recorded on-site, however no cultural material was retrieved from any of these features. Two of the features were possible ditch *termini* recorded in Trench 4 and two pit features which were recorded in Trench 2.
- 9.1.3 The results of the evaluation project indicate that there are late 19th and mid-20th century deposits present with no direct evidence of earlier features cutting natural. Redevelopment of the site has the potential to impact negatively on this archaeological resource, and this impact will depend on the nature and extent of the development and associated groundwork's, including but not restricted to, those for landscaping, foundations and services.

10 COPYRIGHT

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- 11.1.2 The author would like to thank the land owner and staff for providing assistance during the project and the team of archaeologists who carried out the field work. Thanks are also extended to Southampton City Councils Historic Environment Team for their input and for attending a site meeting during the fieldwork. The fieldwork was monitored on behalf of Southampton City Council by Ingrid Peckham.

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PLATES



Plate 1: SSW facing shot showing Trench 1 (2x1m scale)



Plate 2: NE facing shot showing wall (104) (1x0.4m scale)



Plate 3: Oblique shot facing ESE showing, natural (116), bedding deposit (105), tarmac surface (106) and overburden (101) (1x2m scale)



Plate 4: Overview shot showing soak away brickwork (108) and posthole [113] (1x1m scale)



Plate 5: Overview shot showing unexcavated postholes [111] and [109] (1x1m scale)



Plate 6: SSW facing shot showing Trench 2 (2x1m scales)



Plate 7: ESE facing shot showing pits [204] and [206] (1x2m scale)



Plate 8: SSW facing shot showing Trench 3 (2x1m scale)



Plate 9: NNE facing shot showing Trench 4 (2x1m scale)



Plate 10: West facing section showing possible ditch terminus [405] (1x0.4m)



Plate 11: WNW facing section showing possible ditch terminus [407] (1x0.4m scale)



Plate 12: ESE facing section of Trench 4 showing layers (401), (402), (404) and (409) (1x2m scale)



Plate 13: ESE facing section of Trench 4 showing layers (401), (403), (404) and (409) (1x2m scale)



Plate 14: SSW facing shot showing Trench 5 (2x1m scale)



Plate 15: Oblique shot facing east showing pits [510] and [514] (1x 1m, 1x0.4m scales)



Plate 16: SSE facing section showing possible gully [512] (1x0.4m scale)



Plate 17: NW facing section showing building footing [507] (1x1m scale)



Plate 18: NW facing section showing pit [502] (1x0.4m scale)



Plate 19: WNW facing section showing pit [505] (1x0.4m scale)

APPENDIX A- LIST OF CONTEXTS

Trench 1						
Length (m) Width (m) Height (aOD)						
20	20 1.90 34.5					
Context number					Maximum depth	
101	material and potter	y sherds. This layer was r	ecorded sealin	y clay which contained a mixture of modern cultural material including ceramic building g deposits (106), (110), (112), (114) and (108).	c.0.19m	
102	overburden (101) a	nd was truncated by featu	ires [107], [109	ay which contained infrequent gravel components <60mm. This layer was sealed by], [111], [113] and [115]. This layer also overlaid natural (116).	c.0.22m	
103	and a flat base. Re	corded cutting natural (11	6) and possibly		c.0.15m	
104		yard/ garden wall relating		2 brick thick construction laid end to end with no bonding agent observed. Potentially y demolished house located to the immediate east of this feature. This structure is	c.0.15m	
105	Reddish brown gritty sand (5YR, 4/4) comprising of predominantly gravel components. This material represents a bedding deposit sealed by tarmac surface (106) within construction cut [115].					
106	Tarmac surface recorded overlaying bedding material (105) within construction cut [115]. The tarmac relates to a recently demolished house located to the immediate east of the feature. Not fully exposed within the trench but likely represents a driveway or path on a NW-SE alignment. 0.0			0.05m		
107	Circular soak away cut which had a sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides; the full depth of the feature was not exposed. The cut was brick lined (108) and an E-W aligned drain was observed feeding into the feature towards the eastern extent. The soak away was related to a recently demolished house located to the immediate east.				>1.50m	
108	Red plain brick lining within soak away cut [107] and sealed by layer (101). A circular structure with no bonding which became tapered towards the top of the feature. The average brick size was 220mm in length, 90mm wide and 70mm in depth, however smaller worked pieces were used in the construction. The full depth of the feature was not fully exposed.					
109	Unexcavated circular posthole filled with backfill (110). Likely contemporary with postholes [113] and [111] which are aligned on an N-S axis. Layer (101) sealed this feature.				n/a	
110	Unexcavated dark	grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty clay	rubble backfil	l within posthole [109] and sealed by layer (101).	n/a	
111	Unexcavated sub-oval posthole filled with backfill (112). Likely contemporary with postholes [109] and [113] which are aligned on an N-S axis. Layer (101) sealed this feature.					
112	Unexcavated dark	grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty clay	v rubble backfil	l within posthole [111] and sealed by layer (101).		
113	Sub-oval posthole filled with backfill (114). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep straight sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base. Likely contemporary with postholes [109] and [111] which are aligned on an N-S axis. This posthole also truncated soak away cut [107] and bricks (108) and was sealed by layer (101).					
114	Dark grey silty (2.5YR, 4/1) clay backfill which comprised of frequent CBM <90mm. Fill of posthole [113] and sealed by layer (101).					

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115	Construction cut which had a sharp break of slope at the top with shallow concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope at the base and a flat base. This cut was filled with bedding material (105) and tarmac surface (106) and represents a driveway or path which relates to a recently demolished house located to the immediate east of the NW-SE aligned feature. This cut also truncates earlier wall (104).	
116	Natural gravels within a brown-orange (5YR, 5/6) silty sand matrix which remained consistent throughout Trench 1.	>0.19m

Trench 2	Trench 2				
Length (n	n)	Width (m)	Height (aOD)		
20		1.90	34.26		
Context number	Description			Maximum depth	
200	Modern overburder NW of the site.	n (10YR, 5/3) which contained CBM, o	concrete and stone inclusions derived from recent demolition of a house located to the	0.30m	
201	Soil horizon comprising of a dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty clay which contained infrequent flints/gravels and CBM fragments. This layer was only present towards the northern extent of trench and was interpreted as a type of garden soil. This was sealed by modern overburden layer (200). 0.15m				
202	Void				
203	Natural gravels within a matrix of brown-orange (5YR, 5/6) silty sand.			>0.10m	
204	Sub-oval pit which had a gradual sloping north side with a gradual break of slope at the top and base. The south side had a sharp break of slope at the top with a moderate irregular side and a gradual break of slope at the base leading to a wide concave base. Potentially represents a prehistoric pit possibly contemporary with another pit [206] located to the immediate south. This feature was filled with (205) and potentially truncates subsoil (203).				
205	Compact light reddish brown (5YR, 6/4) silty clay which contained infrequent flint and pebble components and very infrequent charcoal flecking. This material likely formed naturally over a long period of time within cut [204].			0.14m	
206	Irregular shaped pit which had a sharp break of slope at the top with a steep slightly concave north side and a moderate concave (stepped) south side. Both sides had a gradual break of slope at the base with a wide slightly concave base. Potentially represents a prehistoric pit cutting subsoil [0.52] layer (203) and filled with (207). Likely contemporary with pit [204] located to the immediate north.				
207	Compact light reddish brown (5YR, 6/4) silty clay which contained infrequent small flints and pebble inclusions and very infrequent charcoal flecking. This material likely formed naturally over a long period of time within cut [206].				

Trench 3				
Length (m	n)	Width (m)	Height (aOD)	
20		1.90	33.94	
Context number	Description			Maximum depth
300	Light grey-brown (7	7.5YR, 6/4) silty sand modern overbur	den which contained naturally derived gravels with frequent CBM fragments. Derived	

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		from recent demolition of a house located to the NW of the site.	0.20m
20	301	Natural gravels within a matrix of brown-orange (5YR, 5/6) silty sand. Areas of reddish-brown sand were also observed as well as patches of dark	
	301	brown discolouration (non-archaeological).	>0.15m

Trench 4	Trench 4					
Length (n	Length (m) Width (m) Height (aOD)					
18.50		1.90	34.51			
Context number	Description			Maximum depth		
401	Mixed modern over commencing.	rburden which contained CBM, concret	e and stone inclusions derived from recent demolition work prior to archaeological works	0.13m		
402	concrete sealed by	layer (401).	ent of Trench 4. Predominantly comprised of light red (2.5YR, 7/6) brick fragments and	0.17m		
403	Bedding deposit predominantly consisting of limestone/concrete (white, N) recorded as partially overlaid by layer (402) and underlying layer (401). Likely formed part of a car parking area which was present in this area prior to recent demolition work. 0.18m					
404	Soil horizon consisting of dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty clay with frequent flint <110m and infrequent 20 th century pottery inclusions. This layer was overlaid by deposits (402) and (403) and sealed possible ditch features [405] and [407].					
405	Possible ditch terminus which had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base. Possibly contemporary with another possible ditch terminus [407] located to the immediate south. This feature was filled with 0.24m single deposit (406) and was sealed by soil horizon (404).					
406	Single fill within possible ditch [405] comprising of a predominantly light grey (5YR, 7/1) silty sand (became darker in colour towards the northern			0.24m		
407	Possible ditch terminus which had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides (slightly stepped at south side), a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base. Possibly contemporary with another possible ditch terminus [405] located to the immediate north. This feature was filled with single deposit (408) and was sealed by soil horizon (404).			c.0.16m		
408	Single fill within possible ditch [407] comprising of dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty sand which contained frequent flint <70mm inclusions. Likely c.0.16m derived through natural processes.					
409	Natural gravels within a matrix of brown-orange (5YR, 5/6) silty sand. Also contained patches of dark brown discolouration (non-archaeological). >c.0.17m					

Trench 5	Trench 5				
Length (m	n)	Width (m)	Height (aOD)		
19.30		1.90	33.94		
Context number	Description			Maximum depth	
501	Modern overburden (5YR, 5/6) which contained CBM and stone inclusions derived from recent demolition work prior to archaeological works			c.0.21m	

	commencing.	
502	Sub-oval pit which had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base. This pit was filled by deposits (503) and (504) and was sealed by layer (501). This feature was located towards the southern extent of Trench 5 and to the immediate west of similar pit [505] potentially conforming to a degree of contemporaneity.	0.37m
503	Primary deposit within pit [502] likely formed through natural erosion of the feature sides and comprising of brown (7.5YR, 4/3) silty sand which contained frequent gravels <40mm. This fill was sealed by backfill (504).	c.0.30m
504	Backfill consisting of dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty sand which contained frequent flint <80mm and infrequent brick and bone fragments. Upper most fill of pit [502] sealed by layer (501).	c.0.27m
505	Small pit which had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep concave sides a gradual break of slope at the base and a flat base. This pit was filled with deposit (506) and was sealed by layer (501). This feature was located towards the southern extent of Trench 5 and to the immediate eats of similar pit [502] potentially conforming to a degree of contemporaneity.	0.25m
506	Dark grey silty (2.5YR, 4/1) sand which contained frequent flint <50mm and infrequent brick fragments and glass shards. A single backfilling event within pit [505] sealed by layer (501).	0.25m
507	Sub-rectangular building footing which had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate straight sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a flat base. This cut was filled by backfills (508) and (509) and was sealed by layer (501). The footing was part of a recently destroyed warehouse and represents one of three footings identified within Trench 5 all of which conform to a NE-SW alignment. Only this footing was fully excavated and recorded.	0.26m
508	Crushed yellow/white (10YR, 7/6) limestone comprising of infrequent flint <40mm, brick and concrete components. This deposit was only present towards the northern extent of cut [507] and was partially overlaid by backfill (509).	0.20m
509	Dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty sand which contained frequent flint <60mm and infrequent brick <80mm and pebble <40mm inclusions. Backfilling event within cut [507] and partially overlying deposit (508). This deposit was sealed by layer (501).	c.0.23m
510	Pit which had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a slightly concave base. This cut was filled by single deposit (511) and was truncated by possible pit [514].	c.0.19m
511	Single backfilling event within pit [510] comprising of dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) sandy silt and contained brick and frequent flint <80mm inclusions. This deposit was truncated by possible pit [514].	c.0.19m
512	Possible gully orientated NW-SE and filled with single deposit (513). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a concave base. The full extent of this feature was not established; however, the gully did get narrow towards the south-eastern extent where it was heavily truncated by possible pit [514].	0.29m
513	Single fill within possible gully [512] comprising of dark-grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty sand which contained very infrequent Victorian brick and frequent flint <60mm inclusions. Possible backfilling event heavily truncated by possible pit [514].	0.29m
514	Possible pit (not fully exposed) which had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep straight sides, an abrupt break of slope at the base and a slightly concave/ irregular base. The cut was filled with single deposit (515) and was sealed by layer (501). This feature also truncated pit [510] and possible gully [512] and was truncated by a modern pipe trench.	c.0.16m
515	Dark grey (2.5YR, 4/1) silty sand which contained frequent flint <80mm, infrequent concrete and very infrequent Victorian brick inclusions. A backfilling event within possible pit [514] truncated by a modern pipe trench and sealed by layer (501).	c.0.16m
516	Natural gravels within a matrix of brown-orange (5YR, 5/6) silty sand. Areas of light brown sand were also observed (non-archaeological).	>0.21m

APPENDIX B-LIST OF DRAWINGS

Drawing No	Туре	Description
1	Section	WNW facing section showing pit [502]
2	Plan	Plan showing pit [502]
3	Section	West facing section showing pit [505]
4	Plan	Plan showing pit [505]
5	Section	NW facing section showing building footing [507]
6	Plan	Plan showing building footing [507]
7	Section	Running section showing pits [510] & [514]
8	Plan	Plan showing pits [510], [514] and possible gully [512]
9	Section	SE facing section showing possible gully [512]
10	Section	West facing section showing pit [204]
11	Section	West facing section showing pit [206]
12	Plan	Plan showing Trench 5
13	Section	West facing section showing possible ditch [407]
14	Section	ESE facing section showing possible ditch [405]
15	Section	Running section showing possible ditch terminus [405]
16	Plan	Plan showing Trench 4

APPENDIX C - OASIS Report: OASIS ID - bournemo1- 267550

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation at 488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, Hampshire, November 2016
Project description	From the 30/08/2016 - 01/09/2016 BUARC, Bournemouth University's archaeological field unit, BUARC, were commissioned by Crestland Homes Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation at 488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, in response to planning proposals to demolish two late Victorian houses and mid-20th century dairy facility and construct 25 residential units with associated parking and ancillary buildings under planning application 15/01158/FUL. The project has demonstrated that late Victorian and mid-20th century deposits were present, including a wall, soak away, postholes, pits, possible ditches, service trenches and a pipe trench which were recorded in Trenches 1-5. Comparison of these trenches with historic mapping has identified that these features correlate directly to previous standing buildings which were recently demolished prior to the archaeological evaluation commencing. Four features of uncertain date were recorded cutting the natural, three of which were only partially expose within the trenches and potentially represent the earliest features recorded on-site. Two of the features were possible ditch termini recorded in Trench 4 and two pit features which were recorded in Trench 2. No cultural material was retrieved from these features. A layer above these features contained CBM material and has been interpreted as a Victorian garden soil providing a terminus ante quem for these features.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval; POSTHOLES Post Medieval; PITS Post Medieval; POSSIBLE DITCHES Uncertain; BUILDING FOOTINGS Post Medieval; PITS Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval; BRICK Post Medieval
Project location	•
Site location	HAMPSHIRE EASTLEIGH HEDGE END 488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation
Postcode	SO19 9LZ
Study area	0.47 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 445990 110630 50.896768628249 -1.365754122787 50 53 48 N 001 21 56 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Bournemouth University
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Bournemouth University
Project director/manager	Jonathan Monteith
Funding body	Crestland Homes Ltd.
Project Archives	
Physical Archive	No
Digital Archive ID	BUARC/2016/0173/2
Digital Contents	"Images raster / digital photography","Text","GIS"
Paper Archive ID	BUARC/2016/0173/2
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Diary","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title	488-496 Portsmouth Road, Sholing, Southampton, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Monteith, J. and Whitaker, A.
Report reference	BUARC/2016/0173/2
Date	2016
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