

The Petersfield School, Petersfield, Hampshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

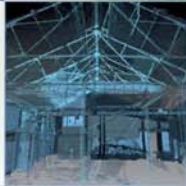
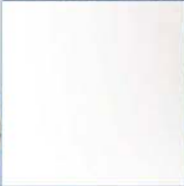
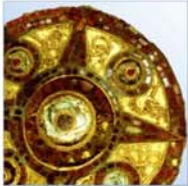
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ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

The Petersfield School, Petersfield, Hampshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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National Grid Reference (NGR): SU744228

AOC Project No: 30515

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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Non-Technical Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at The Petersfield School, Petersfield, Hampshire by AOC Archaeology on behalf of The Petersfield School in September 2009. The watching brief was carried out on all intrusive excavations extending below the topsoil.

Natural deposits were recorded across the site at depths of between 0.40m and 0.90m. These deposits were overlain in most cases by plough soil and topsoil. A single pit dating from the 16th to 17th centuries was recorded in the south of the site. Two probable ditches were also recorded, these were undated. The archaeological remains were of low significance.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document is a report detailing the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken during at enabling works at The Petersfield School, Petersfield Hampshire (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The site is located within The Petersfield School site, off Cranford Road in the town of Petersfield, Hampshire. It covers an area of approximately 5.7ha, comprising an irregularly shaped plot of land measuring up to 274m north to south and 310m east to west (Figure 2). The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) **SU 744 228**, and is bound by residential properties fronting onto Cranford road to the south, residential properties fronting onto Grange Road to the east, residential properties to the north and a supermarket complex to the east.
- 1.3 The main body of works comprised the laying of an artificial grass pitch and installation of floodlights on a currently open playing field to the east of the main school block. This area will also be used for the laying of 2 tennis courts and an extension to the existing sports hall for use as a changing room. Other works within the school grounds were limited to re-alignment of existing tennis/netball courts, the re-siting of a cricket cage and long jump pit and the re-painting of lines for a running track and two sports pitches, to the north of the school buildings.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The local planning authority is Hampshire County Council (HCC). Archaeological advice to the Council is provided by Hannah Fluck of HCC.
- 2.2 In accordance with Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG16) issued by the Department of the Environment (DoE, 1990) and the recommendations of the archaeology advisor an archaeological watching brief was required as a condition of planning permission.
- 2.3 An Initial Archaeological Site Appraisal (AOC, 2009a) revealed that few archaeological remains were present within the vicinity of the site, suggesting that it was water meadow until the 18th century. Accordingly a subsequent Desk Based Assessment was deemed unnecessary and the mitigation programme advanced to a watching brief.
- 2.4 A WSI (AOC, 2009b) was prepared to satisfy the archaeological requirement within the conditional planning permission.
- 2.5 Subsequent discussions with the groundwork contractor revealed part of the site was to be stripped using a bulldozer. It was therefore agreed with HCC that five trenches would be excavated in advance of the strip in this area. This work was undertaken in accordance with an addendum to the original WSI (AOC, 2009c)

3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The town of Petersfield is situated at the western end of the Sussex Weald, bound by the chalkland of the South and North Downs, and the eastern end of the Hampshire Plateau.
- 3.2 The British Geological survey (Sheet 300) indicated that the site is underlain by Lower Greensand beds. The site sloped approximately 2.00m from south to north.

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

Prehistoric (Before c.AD 43)

- 4.1 The wider area of Petersfield has been subject to human activity from the early prehistoric period onwards, and tools dating to the Mesolithic (c. 10,000 - 4000 BC) have been found at a number of sites in the surrounding area, including: Petersfield Heath, Longmoor, Sheet, Chalton and East Meon (www.petersfieldmuseum.hampshire.org.uk). Mesolithic flint and burnt flint have also been found within the town of Petersfield, c. 200m to the north of the site.
- 4.2 During the Bronze Age Petersfield Heath, c. 700m to the east of the site, was used as a burial ground and a barrow cemetery survives with some 21 barrows recorded at this site, while settlement evidence is recorded at the West Mark site at Sheet, near the River Rother (www.petersfieldmuseum.hampshire.org.uk).
- 4.3 Iron Age settlement in this area was characterised by hillforts surrounded by defensive earthworks and gated entranceways. These defensible settlements or 'forts' were located in prominent points in the landscape, developed in response to the volatile social and economic conditions of the tribal Iron Age culture. The natural topography in this part of Hampshire provided ideal settings for the location of such settlements, and hillforts have been found at Old Winchester Hill, Butser and Torberry Hill.

Roman (c.AD 43 – 410)

- 4.4 Following the Roman invasion in AD43 many of the Iron Age settlements in the wider area exhibit a continuation of occupation and gradually became Romanised villages.
- 4.5 Evidence of Roman activity has been discovered within the town of Petersfield in the form of coarseware Pottery recovered from a Roman ditch, c.250m to the south-east of the site. Further pottery finds are recorded from a well, c. 250m to the north-east of the site (Hampshire Historic Environment Record).
- 4.6 In the wider area, a large Roman villa was excavated to the south of Stroud, c.1.5km to the north-west of the site. This villa was built in the 100's A.D. and later, in 200 A.D. the western five bays of the aisled barn were divided into tessellated floored rooms and hypocausts were installed in two of them. This site is now under pasture (www.petersfieldmuseum.hampshire.org.uk).

Anglo-Saxon (c.AD 410 – 1066)

- 4.7 Agriculture was the main basis of the economy, primarily the growth of wheat and barley, with sheep kept for meat, wool and skins. There are no fortified towns or burghs in East Hampshire, which suggests it was relatively quiet and stable during the 9th century, Viking raids taking place elsewhere.

- 4.8 The Hampshire Historic Environment Record database contains no evidence relating to Anglo-Saxon activity within the area surrounding the site, although the wider area is known to have been settled during this period. In the 600's A.D. one Saxon group settled on Church Down, Chalton, c. 7km south of the site, where excavations revealed 61 structures, mostly rectangular timber halls and a similar site is also recorded at Catherington, c.10km to the south-west of the site.

Medieval (c.AD 1066 – 1485)

- 4.9 There is no mention of Petersfield in the Domesday Survey of 1086 but it is most probably included in the entry under Mapledurham in Finchdean hundred (VCH, 1908). The name 'Petersfield' derives from the Old English spelling '*Peteresfeld*' recorded in 1182, meaning (settlement at) the open land with a church dedicated to St Peter' (Mills, 2003).
- 4.10 The town appears to have been founded in the early 12th century by William, Earl of Gloucester as a deliberately formed 'planned town' (www.localhistories.org/petersfield). It is the medieval planned layout, still visible in the modern settlement pattern, which is reflected in the designation of the centre of Petersfield as a Conservation Area (EHP, 1982).
- 4.11 The Hampshire Historic Environment Record database contains a number of records relating to medieval activity within the limits of the historic core of Petersfield. The medieval settlement focus was located in the area to the north-east of the site while the site itself is likely to have been located outside the limits of the medieval town. A grange is recorded in 1484, which is thought may be a monastic grange possibly linked with the Premonstratensian house at Durford. The location, based on later cartographic evidence, is given c. 120m to the east of the site, and it is possible that the site may have fallen within the grounds.
- 4.12 The town quickly became a sizeable community, being granted a charter by the subsequent Earl of Gloucester that provided the town's inhabitants with various rights (www.localhistories.org/petersfield). This support eventually led to it becoming the fifth earliest borough and the only town outside of the main markets of Winchester, Southampton, Portsmouth and Andover to have a weekly market and guild of merchants. This acted as a spur for development, drawing in craftsmen and merchants from the wider region, some of whom would have chosen to settle in the town and surrounding area.
- 4.13 The growth of the town was also aided by the granting of two annual fairs each year by Henry III, further confirming the importance of the town. At this time the town's economy revolved primarily around the wool and leather tanning trades at this time (VCH, 1908); however, by the 15th century Petersfield, like so many other settlements in England, was severely impacted by the collective effects of poor harvest, famine and the Black Death (EHP, 1982).

Post-Medieval (c.AD 1485 - Modern)

- 4.14 In the 16th century Petersfield became a key location in the extensive growth of the wool industry. However, the town also suffered a severe outbreak of plague in 1666 with the emergence of the Bubonic Plague, which stifled the growth of the town. During the 17th century the wool trade had started to decline in importance and by the 18th century Petersfield had become a small market town. The town regained some of its former prosperity with the opening of a regular stagecoach service through the town, en-route from London to Portsmouth; the tithe map of 1773 shows dense

settlement activity concentrated around the market square and St. Peters Church in the centre of the town (VCH, 1908).

- 4.15 Hampshire Historic Environment Record indicates that the site is located within the historic Water Meadows of the Town. These areas would have historically fallen within the flood-plain of the water course first marked as a stream on the 1676 map of Grange Farm. The liability to flooding means that the majority of the land within the historic water meadows / floodplain is likely to have remained unsettled prior to the development of water defence and management systems in this area, including the canalisation of the stream by the time of the 1773 Hylton Estate map.
- 4.16 Petersfield House was constructed in 1730 with a large landscaped garden with ornamental ponds. The house was demolished in 1793 and part of the area previously occupied by this landscaped parkland now falls within the boundary of the site. Works in and around this area have revealed a foundation trench, a small number of pits and the occasional residual piece of post-medieval pottery. The Grade II Listed Grange, an 18th century stable constructed as one part of a pair of stables for Petersfield House, is situated c. 35m to the north of the existing school playing field.
- 4.17 The railway finally reached Petersfield in 1859, when the town was connected to the London to Portsmouth mainline. The population continued to grow and by 1900 the population had reached 4,000. During the 20th century the Petersfield Secondary School moved to its current site, south of the historic medieval core, with construction beginning in 1957. The population growth continued, reaching 8,000 residents by 1970 and over 12,000 by 1990.

Historic Buildings

- 4.18 While there are a considerable number of historic buildings within the town of Petersfield; there is only a single structure in close proximity to the site. This is the Grade II Listed Grange, an 18th century stable constructed as one part of a pair of Stables for Petersfield House, situated c. 35m to the north of the existing school playing field.

5. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

- 5.1 The aims of the watching brief were defined as being:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
 - To enable Hannah Fluck, archaeology advisor to Hampshire County Council to make an informed decision on the status of the condition, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.
- 5.2 The specific objectives of the investigation were to:
- Determine the presence of any prehistoric archaeological remains.

- Determine the presence of any remains associated with the medieval settlement of Petersfield.
 - Determine the presence of post-medieval remains associated with Petersfield House.
 - Assess the degree and extent of truncation of earlier deposits by phases of modern landscaping connected to the construction of the school.
- 5.3 The final aim was to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6. Scope of Works and Strategy

- 6.1 The watching brief was conducted upon intrusive groundworks on the site including the excavation of a temporary car park (Trench 1). Due to the slope of the site levels of ground reduction in the east of the site would vary greatly across the site from 0.90m in the south to the raise of the ground level by 1.00m in the north.
- 6.2 Prior to ground reduction 5 trenches (Trenches 2-6) were excavated in the east of the site to ascertain the depth of the natural deposit. It was concluded that only in the area of the eastern tennis courts (Trench 7) would there be any impact on the archaeology. The area of the western tennis courts was not reduced sufficiently to impact on any archaeology present. The excavation of 2 soak-away pits (Trenches 8 and 9) was also monitored (Figure 3).
- 6.3 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London's Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).
- 6.4 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2009b) and the subsequent addendum (AOC 2009c).
- 6.5 A unique site code (**A2009.34**) for the project was obtained before commencing work on site.
- 6.6 The watching brief was undertaken by Ian Hogg, Project Supervisor, under the overall direction of Andy Leonard, Project Manager.
- 6.7 The watching brief was monitored by Hannah Fluck, the archaeology advisor to Hampshire County Council.

7. METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 An experienced Project Supervisor was present to observe all ground works, positioned outside the working area of the mechanical excavator, in the normal working arrangement. When access to an area was required the machine would cease operations and if necessary relocate to ensure safe access while the Supervisor entered the excavation area to carry out close inspection or record limited sections.
- 7.2 Archaeological recording, where not precluded by Health & Safety considerations, consisted of:
- Limited hand cleaning of archaeological sections and surfaces sufficient to establish the stratigraphic sequence exposed.
 - The collection of dating evidence from *in-situ* deposits and spoil scans.
 - A scaled photographic recording of representative exposed sections and surfaces, along with sufficient photographs to establish the setting and scale of the groundworks.

- 7.3 Records were produced using watching brief record sheets and by the single context planning method and were compatible with those published by the Museum of London (MoL 1994)
- 7.4 A record of the full sequence of all archaeological deposits as revealed in the watching brief was made. Plans and sections of features were drawn at an appropriate scale 1:10 or 1:20, with sections drawn at 1:20.
- 7.5 Staff present on site wore the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

8. RESULTS

8.1 Trench 1

- 8.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the north of the site and was excavated to construct a temporary car park. It measured 26.50m x 14.00m and was irregular in shape (Figure 3).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
101	0.00m	0.32m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
102	0.30m	0.13m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.

- 8.1.2 The natural deposit was not observed in this trench. Mid yellowish brown silty clay plough soil or subsoil (102) was overlain by topsoil (101), a mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional rubble inclusions, it was 0.30m thick and contained residual five pieces of worked flint, including a bladelet, a pointed end scraper (Appendix B).

8.2 Trench 2

- 8.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the southeastern corner of the artificial sports pitch area; it was aligned north-south and measured 5.00m x 2.00m (Figure 3).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
201	0.00m	0.41m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
202	0.40m	0.78m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
203	1.20m	0.04m	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand

- 8.2.2 The natural sand (203) was observed 1.20m below ground level, this was overlain by (202) a 0.80m thick deposit of subsoil very similar to (102). This was sealed by topsoil (201), equivalent to (101) and 0.40m thick. No archaeological finds or features were identified in Trench 2.

8.3 Trench 3

- 8.3.1 Trench 3 was situated in the north of the artificial sports pitch area; it was aligned east-west and measured 5.00 x 2.00m (Figure 3).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
301	0.00m	0.35m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
302	0.35m	0.43m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
303	0.80m	0.11m	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand

8.3.2 The natural deposit (303) was observed 0.80m below ground level and was overlain by (302) a 0.45m thick deposit of probable plough soil very similar to (102). It was sealed by topsoil (301), equivalent to (101) and 0.35m thick.

8.4 Trench 4

8.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the located in the southwestern part of the artificial sports pitch area; it was aligned east-west and measured 5.00 x 2.00m (Figure 3 and 4).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
401	0.00m	0.55m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
402	0.56m	0.32m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
405	0.90m	0.16m	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand

8.4.2 The natural deposit (405) was observed 0.90m below ground level and was cut by a possible ditch [404] which was linear, aligned northwest-southeast and was filled by dark greyish brown sandy silt (403) containing occasional rubble. The ditch was left unexcavated due to its depth below ground level and the fact that the ground reduction in this area was minimal. This feature was overlain by (402), a 0.44m thick deposit of probable plough soil very similar to (102) and containing 12th/13th century pottery and CBM (Appendix B). It was sealed by topsoil (401), equivalent to (101) and 0.56m thick.

8.5 Trench 5

8.5.1 Trench 5 was located in the located in the northwestern corner of the artificial sports pitch area; it was aligned north-south and measured 5.00 x 2.00m (Figure 3).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
501	0.00m	0.34m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
502	0.36m	0.36m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
503	0.70m	0.14m	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand

8.5.2 The natural deposit (503) was observed 0.70m below ground level and was overlain by (502) a 0.34m thick deposit of plough soil very similar to (102). It was sealed by topsoil (501), equivalent to (101) and 0.36m thick.

8.6 Trench 6

8.6.1 Trench 6 was located in the west of the eastern tennis court area; it was aligned east-west and measured 5.00 x 2.00m (Figure 3).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
601	0.00m	0.39m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
602	0.39m	0.17m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
603	0.56m	0.42m	Natural. Mid orange brown mottled sandy clay

8.6.2 The natural sandy clay (603) was observed 1.20m below ground level and was overlain by (602), a 0.40m thick deposit of probable plough soil very similar to (102). This was sealed by topsoil (601), equivalent to (101) and 0.40m thick.

8.7 Trench 7

8.7.1 Trench 7 covered the area of the future tennis courts in the east of the site. Monitoring was deemed necessary in this area as it was to be reduced more significantly than the land to the south and Trench 6 had proved that the natural deposit lay at a relatively shallow depth. The trench was aligned east-west and was 69.50m long and 17.30m wide (Figures 3 and 4).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
701	0.00m	0.20m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
702	0.20m	0.40m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
703	0.40m-0.60m	0.55m	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand and sandy clay
706	0.20m	-	Made Ground. Dark greyish brown silt

8.7.2 The natural sand and sandy clay (705) was only observed in the southwestern corner. It was cut by a circular pit [704] with vertical sides and a flat base and measured 1.25m in diameter and 0.55m deep. The pit contained fill (703), a mid brownish grey sandy silt. Within the fill were a range of finds including residual worked flint, medieval pottery, 16th/17th century pottery, and post-medieval brick and tile (Appendix B). The pit can be dated to the 16th/17th century.



Plate 1. Pit (704) looking south.

8.7.3 The pit was sealed by probable plough soil (702), equivalent to (102) and between 0.40 and 0.20m thick. In the centre of the trench the plough soil was overlain by a deposit of modern (20th Century) made ground (706). It consisted of dark grayish brown silt and contained frequent modern glass and brick, it was not excavated. The made ground was sealed by topsoil (701), very similar to (101) and 0.20m thick.

8.8 Trench 8

8.8.1 Trench 8 was located in the northeastern corner of the artificial sports pitch area; it was aligned north-south and measured 24.00m x 8.00 x 2.00m (Figures 3 and 4).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
801	0.00m	0.15m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
802	0.15m	0.58m	Plough soil Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
803	0.73m	0.25m	Subsoil. Firm, mid yellowish brown silty gravel.
806	0.98m	0.80m	Natural. Mid yellow mottled sand

- 8.8.2 The natural deposit (806) was observed at a depth of 0.98m below ground level. It was cut by a probable ditch [805] which was linear, shallow sided and with a flat base, 8.00m long, 2.20m wide and 0.30m deep. The ditch fill (804) consisted of loose dark grayish brown silty gravel; a single worked flint was retrieved from this context.
- 8.8.3 The ditch was overlain by subsoil (803), a well sorted dark brown silty gravel 0.25m thick. This was sealed by plough soil (802), equivalent to (102), and 0.58m thick. In turn it was overlain by topsoil (801), 0.15m thick.

8.9 Trench 9

- 8.9.1 Trench 9 was located just to the east of the western tennis courts; it was aligned north-south and measured 12.00m x 6.00m x 1.80m (Figure 3).

Context	Depth below ground level	Thickness	Description
901	0.00m	0.26m	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.
902	0.26m	0.55m	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.
903	0.81m	1.0m	Natural. Mid yellow mottled sand

- 8.9.2 The natural sand (903) was observed 0.81m below ground level. It was overlain by (902) a 0.55m thick deposit of plough soil very similar to (102), and it was sealed by topsoil (901), equivalent to (101) and 0.26m thick.

9. FINDS

Finds were retained from three contexts, (101), (402) and (703) including five sherds of pottery, seven pieces of ceramic building material and seven pieces of struck flint (Appendix B).

9.1 Pottery

- 9.1.1 Of the five sherds of pottery, context (402) contained two sherds of 12th/13th century pottery; the abraded nature of these finds suggests they may not be *in situ*. A third sherd of medieval pottery, as well as two sherds of 16th/17th century pottery were recovered from the pit fill (703).

9.2 Ceramic Building Material

- 9.2.1 Seven pieces of CBM were recovered from contexts (402) and (703). A single piece of peg tile was recovered from context (402). This is thought to be of medieval date and contemporary with the pottery of the same context. Three pieces of peg tile, two pieces of brick and one unidentified piece were retrieved from pit fill (703). This material is undiagnostic but is thought to be contemporary with the post-medieval pottery from the same context.

9.3 Worked Flint

- 9.3.1 Of the seven pieces of struck flint recovered, five came from topsoil (101) including a bladelet and a broken scraper. A single piece thought to be a scraper was recovered from pit fill (703) and a single possible struck flint was recovered from ditch fill (804). Some of this flint is thought to date to the late Neolithic period and is residually deposited.

10. CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 Limited archaeological remains and artefacts were observed during the watching brief. The natural geology of greensand was exposed in only three areas; across the remainder of the site ground reduction was not sufficient to expose the natural deposit.
- 10.2 A possible boundary ditch containing a single piece of worked flint was found in the northeast of the site and a pit probably dating from the 16th to 17th century was observed in the south, this pit may have been used for quarrying. Low level medieval activity was also observed through three sherds of 12th/13th century pottery. A scattering of residual worked flint in the plough soil indicates some potential for prehistoric remains.
- 10.2 The retrieved finds have been assessed (Appendix B). Due to the limited nature of the results it is recommended that no further work is required. However, the final decision rests with Hannah Fluck of Hampshire County Council.
- 10.3 The results of the watching brief will be made public via the ADS OASIS project (Appendix C). A copy of this report will be sent to the Hannah Fluck, the local museum and made available to the local studies library.

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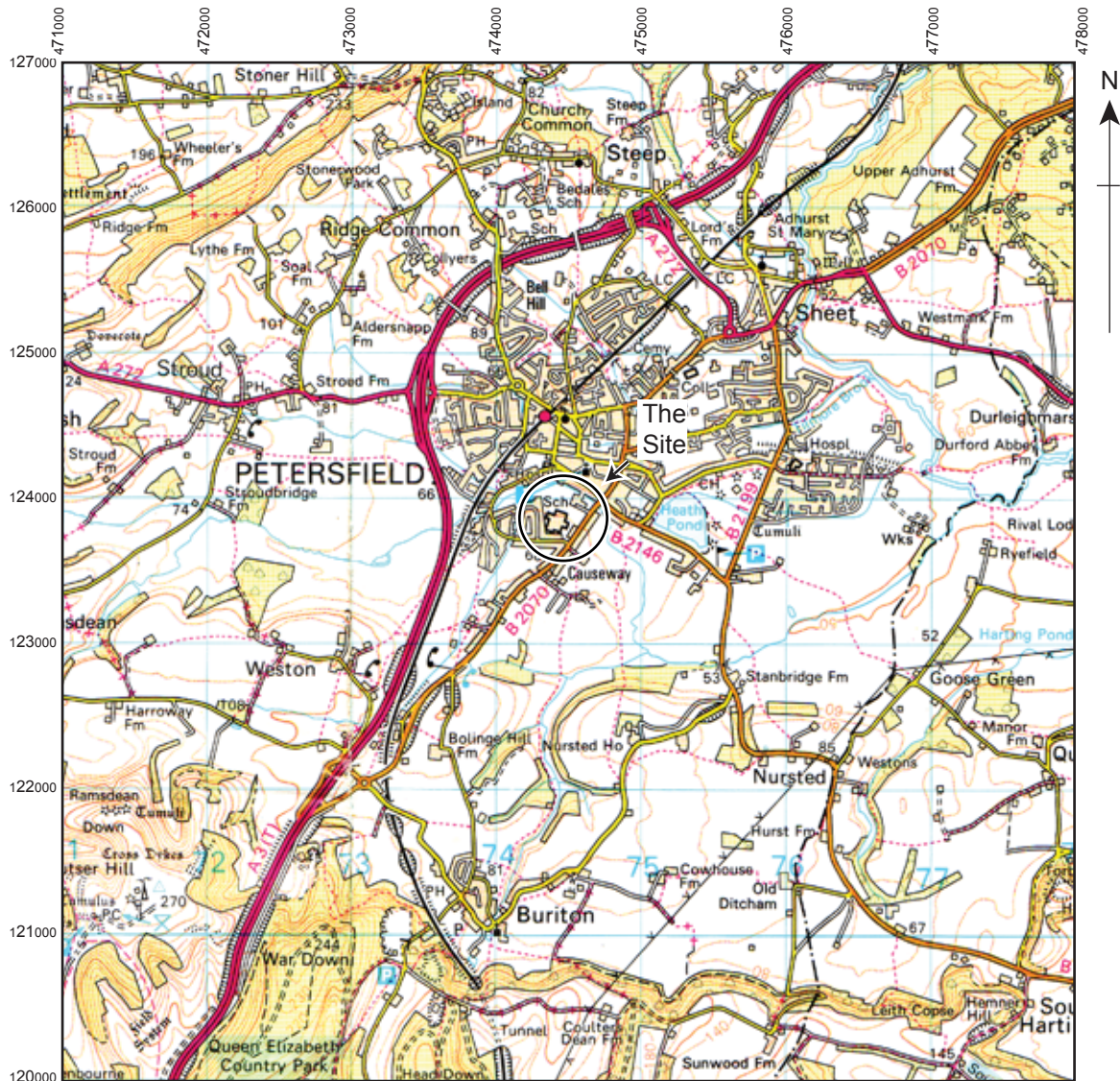
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THE PETERSFIELD SCHOOL, PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

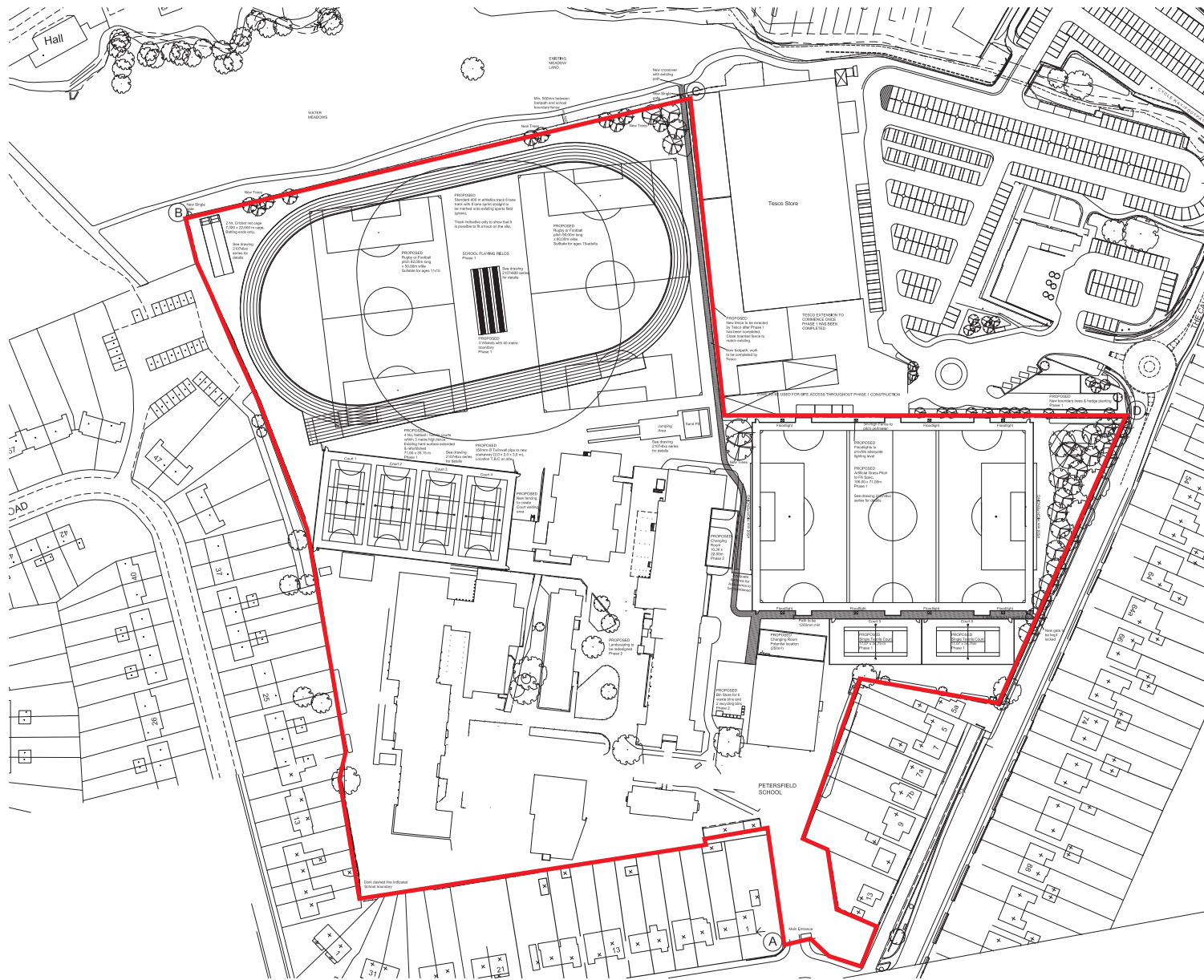


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Figure 1: Site Location

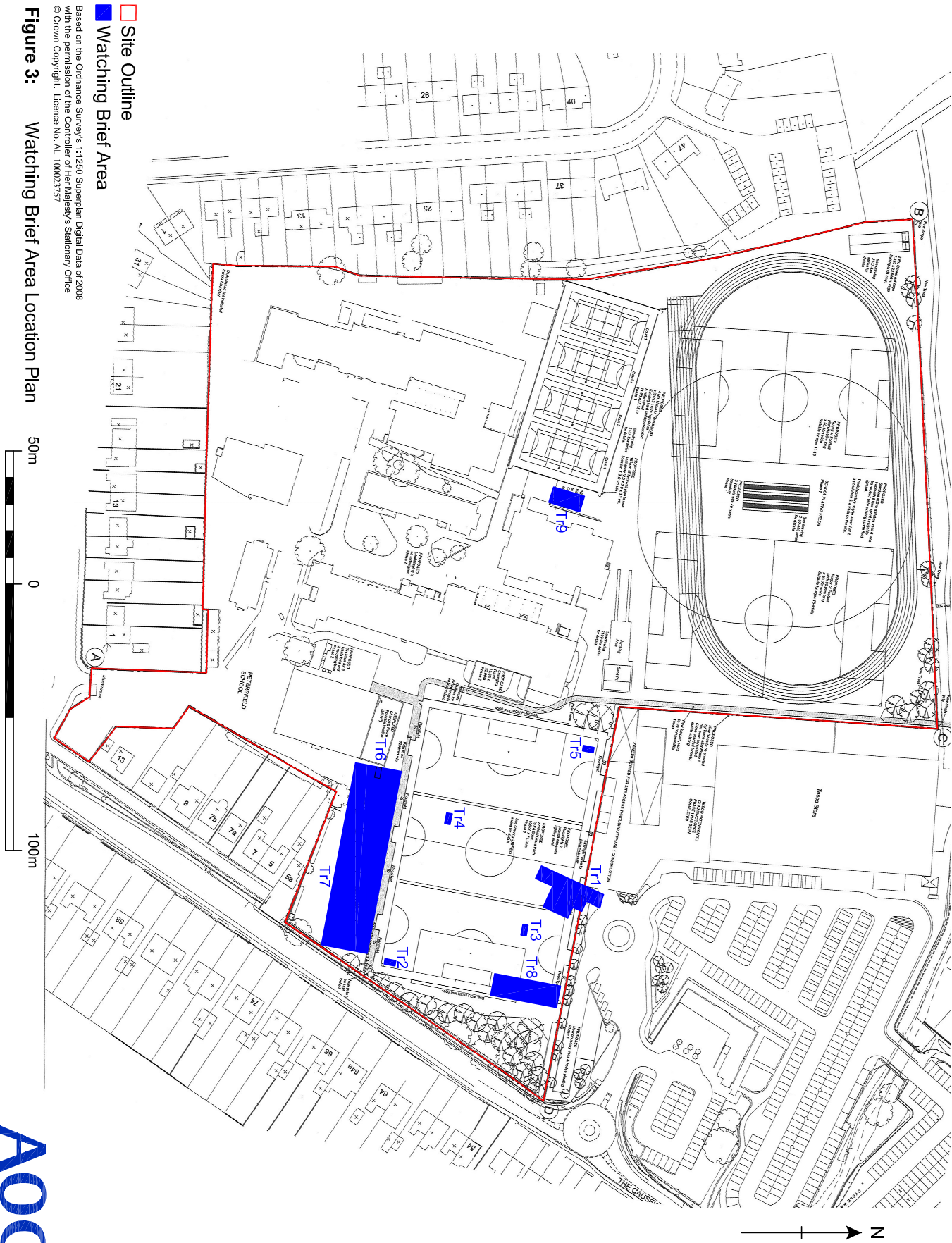
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Based on the Plan Produced by Lewandowski Willcox

Not To Scale

Figure 2: Detailed Site Location



- Site Outline
- Watching Brief Area

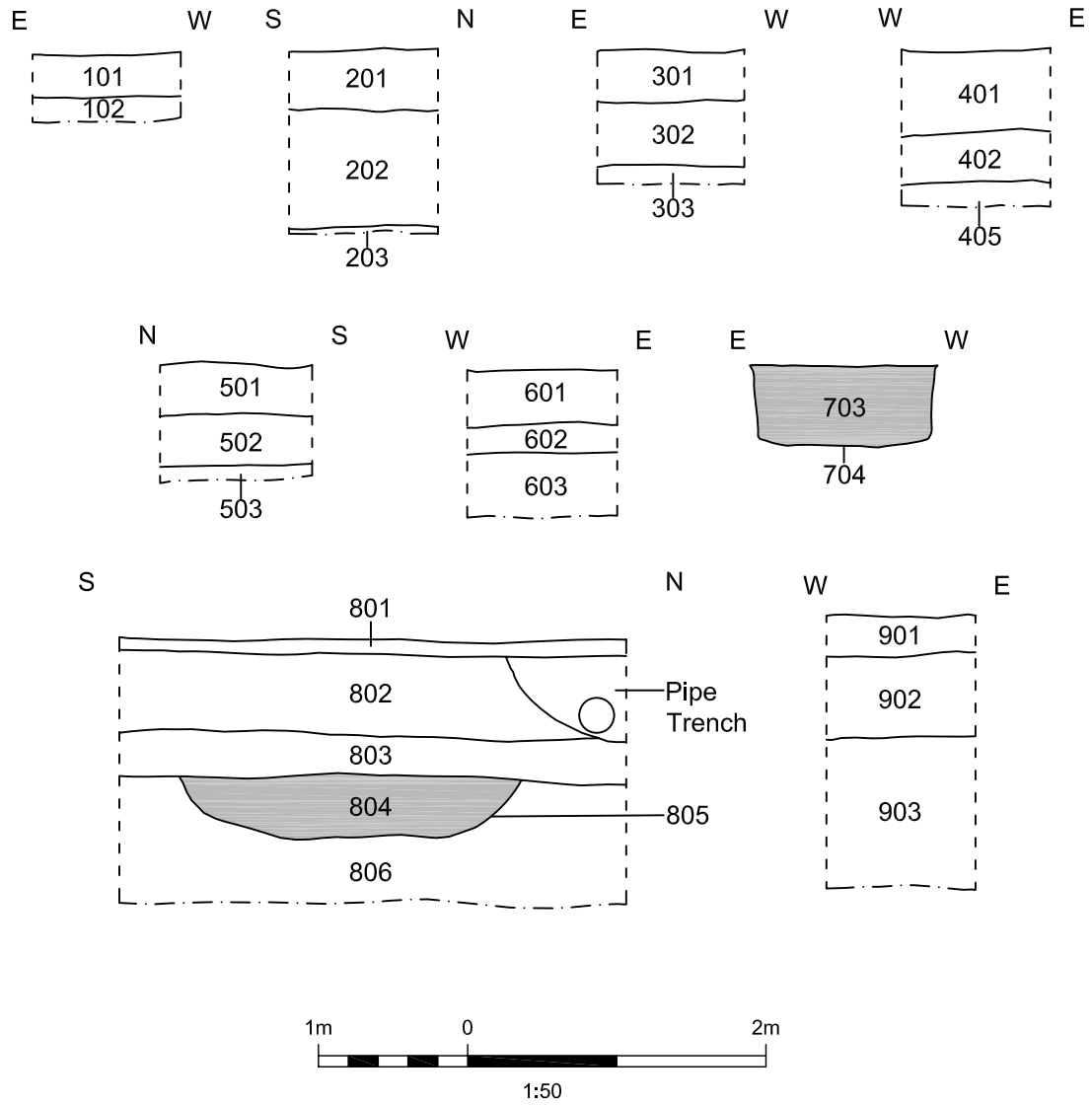
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Figure 3: Watching Brief Area Location Plan

1:2000
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Figure 4: Plan Showing Archaeological Features



■ Archaeological Features

Figure 5: Sample Sections

Appendices

Appendix A: Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Plan No.	Section No.
101	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	26.50m	14.00m	0.32m	1	1
102	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	26.50m	14.00m	0.13m	1	1
201	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.41m	2	2
202	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.78m	2	2
203	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand	5.00m	2.00m	0.04m	2	2
301	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.35m	3	3
302	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.43m	3	3
303	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand	5.00m	2.00m	0.11m	3	3
401	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.55m	4	4
402	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.32m	4	4
403	Possible ditch fill	2.00m	2.50m	0.16m	4	4
404	Possible ditch	2.00m	2.50m	0.16m	4	4
405	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand	5.00m	2.00m	0.16m	4	4
501	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.34m	5	5
502	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.36m	5	5
503	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand	5.00m	2.00m	0.14m	5	5
601	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.39m	6	6
602	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	5.00m	2.00m	0.17m	6	6
603	Natural. Mid orange brown mottled sandy clay	5.00m	2.00m	0.42m	6	6
701	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	69.50m	17.30m	0.20m	7	-
702	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	69.50m	17.30m	0.40m	7	-
703	Natural. Mid brownish orange mottled sand and sandy clay	69.50m	17.30m	0.55m	7	7
704	Pit fill	1.25m	1.25m	0.55m	7, 10	7
705	Pit cut	1.25m	1.25m	0.50m	7, 10	7
706	Made Ground. Dark greyish brown silt	69.50m	17.30m	-	7	-
801	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	24.00m	8.00m	0.15m	8	8
802	Plough soil Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	24.00m	8.00m	0.58m	8	8
803	Subsoil. Firm, mid yellowish brown silty gravel.	24.00m	8.00m	0.25m	8	8
804	Ditch fill	8.00m	2.20m	0.30m	8	8
805	Ditch cut	8.00m	2.20m	0.30m	8	8
806	Natural. Mid yellow mottled sand	24.00m	8.00m	0.80m	8	8
901	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey sandy silt.	12.00m	6.00m	0.26m	9	9
902	Plough soil. Firm, mid yellowish brown sandy silt.	12.00m	6.00m	0.55m	9	9
903	Natural. Mid yellow mottled sand	12.00m	6.00m	1.0m	9	9

Appendix B: Finds Assessment

An Assessment of the Finds from The Petersfield School, Hampshire Site Accession A2009.34

Paul Fitz
AOC Archaeology

The Pottery

A total of five sherds of pottery were retrieved from two contexts.

Context (402), a possible plough soil, contained two medieval sherds of probable 12th/13th century date. One base sherd has a feint green glaze splash, whilst a smaller courser fabric is quite abraded.

Pit fill (703) contained a sherd of Hampshire/Surrey green glazed borderware (1550-1700) and a sherd of import Frechen stoneware (1550-1700). Also within the fill was a small sherd of lead green glazed medieval pot which was on the external surface.

Ceramic Building Material

Ceramic building material was recovered from those same two contexts from which the pottery was recovered.

One piece of peg tile with a splash of whitish glaze was recovered from plough soil (403). This is also likely to be of a contemporary medieval date.

Three pieces of peg tile, two brick pieces and an unidentified piece came from pit fill (703). The material was not diagnostic and it is assumed they are of a contemporary date with the pottery from this context.

The Flint

Seven flint pieces were recovered from three contexts; (101) a topsoil, (703) an early post-medieval pit fill, and (804) the fill of a linear feature.

Of the five pieces from (101) one is a probable bladelet with the top end broken off, two pieces are from the same pointed end scraper broken in half and one piece is debitage or a later struck piece.

The piece from (703) although quite small appears to be fashioned into a scraper.

The single piece from (804), although struck, appears to have no form, indeed it has cortex surviving along one side.

Most pieces look to be genuine struck prehistoric pieces. Some of the flint is likely to have derived from the late Neolithic period though on the whole this small assemblage would not warrant further analysis.

Recommendations

The limited assemblage of finds highlights prehistoric activity in the locality of the site. The medieval assemblage is indicative of medieval activity at the site. Those pieces from the plough soil may not have originated at the site; they may have been imported. However, the finds from the pit suggest low-key medieval and post-medieval activity at the site in the form of dumping.

No further work is recommended for this limited assemblage. It is recommended that all the finds are retained and archived to Hampshire County Museum standards

Appendix C: Oasis Data Collection Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-64194

Project details

Project name The Petersfield School

Short description of the project The Watching Brief was carried out on all intrusive groundworks below the topsoil. Natural deposits were recorded across parts of site at depths of between 0.40m and 0.90m. These deposits were overlain in most cases by plough soil and topsoil. A single pit probably dating to the 16th to 17th centuries was recorded in the south of the site. Two probable ditches were also recorded, these were undated. The archaeological remains are of low significance.

Project dates Start: 07-09-2009 End: 21-09-2009

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project codes reference 30515 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project codes reference A2009.34 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Community Service 1 - Community Buildings

Monument type PIT Post Medieval

Monument type DITCHES Uncertain

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Significant Finds CBM Medieval

Significant Finds FLINT Early Prehistoric

Significant Finds CBM Post Medieval

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE EAST HAMPSHIRE PETERSFIELD The Petersfield School

Postcode GU32 3LU

Study area 5.70 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 744 228 50.9992331275 -0.939614909143 50 59 57 N 000 56 22 W
Point

Project creators

Name of
Organisation AOC Archaeology Group

Project
originator brief Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project
originator design AOC Archaeology Group

Project director/manager Andy Leonard

Project supervisor Ian Hogg

Type of sponsor/funding body school

Name of sponsor/funding body The Petersfield School

Project archives
Physical Archive recipient Hampshire County Museum

Physical Archive ID A 2009.34

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'

Digital Archive recipient Hampshire County Museum

Digital available Media 'Images raster / digital photography'

Paper Archive recipient Hampshire County Museum

Paper available Media 'Context sheet','Plan','Report','Section'

Entered by Ian Hogg (ian.hogg@aocarchaeology.com)

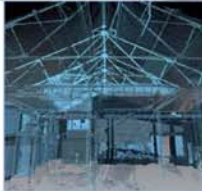
Entered on 12 October 2009

OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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