

# Tesco, Yate, Gloucestershire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

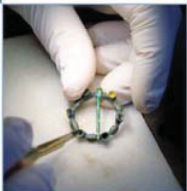
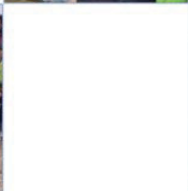
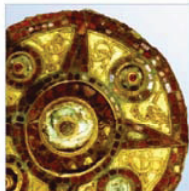
Planning Ref: PK07/3391/F & PK10/0159/NMA

National Grid Reference Number: ST 7153 8244

AOC Project no: 30554

Site Code: BRSMC: 2010/61

Date: August 2011



## **Tesco, Yate, South Gloucestershire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>ISG Pearce Limited</b> Parklands Stoke Gifford Bristol BS34 8QU
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>ST 7153 8244</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>30554</b>
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<b>Date of Document:</b>	<b>August 2011</b>

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

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<b>Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft</b>	<b>Date: August 2011</b>

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## Non-Technical Summary

*Between the 28<sup>th</sup> June and 9<sup>th</sup> August 2011, AOC Archaeology Group undertook a watching brief at Yate Shopping Centre, Yate, South Gloucestershire on behalf of ISG Pearce / Tesco Stores Ltd.*

*The watching brief was undertaken within the area of the existing Yate Shopping Centre car park, situated north of the Shopping Centre and South of Station Road. The work comprised the monitoring of ground reductions for the installation of drainage and foul sewer works and the strip, map and recording during the groundworks for an attenuation tank.*

*The watching brief revealed natural clays overlain by a mixture of modern made ground and dump deposits. Evidence for Celestine extraction pits was recorded in Trenches 1 and 2, and the mixed up nature of the upper deposits in these areas has been attributed to the excavation and backfilling of these pits prior to the construction of the existing Yate Shopping Centre.*

*No finds or features were noted, apart from one pit of possible mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century date. No further work is recommended.*

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief at Yate Shopping Centre, Station Road, Yate, South Gloucestershire (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The development site is located in the market town of Yate, lying within the Unitary Authority of South Gloucestershire. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) ST 7153 8244.
- 1.3 The site is formed by two parcels of land on either side of the B4059. The main area is located to the west of the B4059 with a smaller area to the east. The main site is irregular in shape and bound by Kennedy Way to the south, the B4059 to the east and Station Road to the north. The western limit of the site is formed by the existing Yate Shopping centre. The whole site encompasses 5.05 hectares (Figure 2).
- 1.4 This northern area of the site is bound by the B4059 to the east, Station Road to the north, the Yate Shopping Centre to the west / south-west and a both a temporary and an under construction Tesco store to the south (Figures 1 & 2).

## 2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is South Gloucestershire District Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by David Evans, Historic Environment Records Officer. An application for the former buildings on the site, followed by the construction of the new mixed-use building (Planning Application Nos. PK07/3391/F and PK10/0159/NMA) has been granted with Conditions.

- 2.2 Condition 19 states that:

*The developer shall appoint an archaeological contractor not less than three weeks prior to the commencement of any ground disturbance on site or demolition works to the public house, and shall afford him or other archaeologist nominated by the Local Planning Authority access at all reasonable times in order to observe the excavations and record archaeological remains uncovered during the work. This work is to be carried out in accordance with the attached brief*

Reason: In order to ensure the adequate protection of archaeological remains, and to accord with Policy L11 of the South Gloucester Local Plan (Adopted) January 2006.

- 2.3 The first stage in the archaeological investigation was the production of a desk-based assessment (AOC 2008). A second stage of archaeological investigation took place consisting of the production of a historic building record of the Swan Inn, prior to its demolition on site (AOC 2010).
- 2.4 Following study of geotechnical information of the site and of the construction methodology (utilising no ground reduction to formation level but piling through the existing car park surface) it was agreed that the planned erection of the new Tesco store in the southern section of the site would need no pre-evaluation work or monitoring. Deep excavations for attenuation and drainage in the northern section of the site would be subject to archaeological monitoring.
- 2.5 A WSI was then produced (AOC 2011) to fulfil the requirement for a detailed archaeological project design for the third stage of the investigation, the archaeological monitoring of ground works for the attenuation and drainage to the north of the new Tesco store
- 2.6 The evaluation was undertaken according to the WSI and fully conformed to the requirements of PPS 5 Planning and the Historic Environment Guidance (DCLG 2010). The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:

- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).

- Institute for Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (IfA 2008a).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).

### 3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey map indicates that a band of alluvium associated with the River Frome is present on the eastern limits of the site. The alluvial deposit consists of mainly mud (clay and silt), and is predicted to range in thickness between 1-2m (BGS 2000). This alluvial deposit generally overlies gravels and potentially peat deposits.
- 3.2 First River Terrace deposits occur at the western perimeter of the site. This consists of Plateau gravels, but may also contain sand and clay. Generally its thickness is within the range of a few metres (BGS 2000).
- 3.3 The underlying superficial deposits are the Carboniferous strata of the Lower Coal Measures. The Lower Coal Measures consists of blue grey occasionally red clay, with bands of quartzitic sandstone.

### 4 Archaeological and Historical Background

The following information is drawn from the desk-based assessment (AOC 2008).

#### **Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43) and Roman (c.AD 43 – 410) Periods**

- 4.1 During the prehistoric period, Gloucestershire was largely woodland and forest. Palaeolithic flints from Eastington Gravel Pit held by Stroud Museum are the oldest known finds from the Severn Vale. Further lithic items in the collections at Stroud Museum and from unpublished excavations in 1991 attest to the utilisation of the area during the Mesolithic period.
- 4.2 The woodlands would have been first modified during the Neolithic with the clearance of areas for a variety of activities. It is believed that this woodland was progressively felled throughout the Bronze Age and Iron Age resulting in the landscape that we largely see today.
- 4.3 Bronze Age activity within a kilometre of the site is limited to a late Bronze Age axehead, recovered during work at a quarry 650m to the east of the site.
- 4.4 Within the wider Iron Age landscape, there are a number of important sites out beyond the immediate vicinity of the site. For example, the Horton Camp Iron Age Hill fort is 5.5km northwest, and Dyrham Camp (also known as Hinton Hillfort), c. 5.5 km to the southeast of the site were important settlement centres during this period.
- 4.5 There is no excavated evidence for Iron Age settlement activity within a kilometre of the site, however, a number of Iron Age gold coins were recovered c.420m to the south east of the site.

#### **The Roman Period (AD 43 – 410)**

- 4.6 The area of modern Gloucestershire had a prominent Roman occupation period with the establishment of ports, communication networks and wealthy landowners based largely on an agricultural economy. The nearest known evidence for Roman activity to the site is, however, limited to a residual artefact scatter recovered from a disused stone quarry c. 500m to the southeast of the site.



### **The Early Medieval (Saxon) Period (AD 410 - 1066)**

- 4.7 Documentary evidence indicates that during the 8th century land within Yate was owned by King Ethelbald of Mercia and King Offa. Yate is mentioned as a Saxon settlement listed in the Domesday Book 1086. 'Yate' is derived from the Saxon word of *giete* or *gete*, which translates as 'gateway into the forested area'.
- 4.8 Records also suggest there was an early 9<sup>th</sup> century monastery at Yate, which was later (c.888), absorbed by the cathedral monastery at Worcester (South Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record, 2008).

### **The Medieval Period (AD 1066-1537)**

- 4.9 The medieval period saw the establishment of markets throughout the region, with Chipping Sodbury being regarded as the major market borough closest to Yate.
- 4.10 The medieval settlement of Yate lies 200m northwest of the site, and grew up around the 12<sup>th</sup> century Church of St. Mary's, although the village clearly has Saxon origins. The manor of Stanshawe within the parish of Yate is first mentioned in the Book of Fees in 1220. The exact extent of the manor is unknown, and no above-ground evidence of the manor house remains. Its location is now beneath the playing fields of schools and a housing estate 500m southwest of the site.

### **The Post-Medieval (AD 1537 – 1900) & Modern Periods (1900+)**

- 4.11 Yate was still a rural, agricultural village for much of the post-medieval period, with arable land and pasture dominating the landscape. There was limited building and settlement activity in Yate during the early part of the post-medieval period. The post medieval development of the village is represented by a number of structures, recorded in mid 19th century cartographic sources. These structures include a pound, a Baptist chapel and a milestone; all on Station Road to the north west of the site.
- 4.12 During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, mining and quarrying became important industries in Yate, boosted by the construction of the Gloucester – Bristol Railway in 1844. There are still quarry pits visible in the local landscape, at Wickwar Road and Brook Street.
- 4.13 One of the most prominent quarrying materials was Celestine. Celestine is a light colored crystalline rock, often referred to as 'spar'. It was mined widely in South Gloucestershire and was used for refining sugar beat and as an element in electronics, cosmetics and explosives. It is first recorded as being excavated in Yate for commercial purposes in 1875, with the last workings closing in c. 1991.
- 4.14 Information obtained from the Yate Heritage Centre in July and August 2011 suggests Celestine working was undertaken in and around the area of the modern day Yate Shopping Centre. The available Ordnance survey maps suggest that the nearest quarry pits to the site were located within the southern and eastern areas of the site, with further pits to the south and west, outside the site boundaries (see AOC 2008).
- 4.15 The information from the Yate Heritage Centre included photographs showing hand digging of the celestine pits in the 1920s, assisted by mechanical cranes on railtracks (Plates A and B). By the late 1940s, mechanical excavators were introduced in the form of bulldozers, used primarily for loosening and stripping of the upper deposits and then subsequent backfilling. Caterpillar tracked excavators were introduced in 1957 (Plate C), and many of the old sites were revisited when this technique became available.

- 4.16 Most of the pits went out of use by the early 1960s and were left to be filled by water and known locality as 'spar pool' (see Plate D).
- 4.17 No quarry pits are marked on the available mapping within the area of the proposed drainage works in the north of the site; however conversations with local residents and information from the Yate Heritage Centre suggested a number of pits lay in this area. Personal conversations with local residents suggests the main pits were located in the area of Duck Mead, to the west / south-west of the site; and transported to a loading bay at the rear of The Swan Inn, which was located in the north of the site.



PLATE A: Hand digging Celestine extraction pits in north Yate, c. 1920 (Yate Heritage Centre)



PLATE B: Celestine extraction pits and railway line, Yate, c. 1920 (Yate Heritage Centre)





PLATE C: Caterpillar Bulldozers used on the Celestine pits in the area of the Yate Shopping Centre site (Yate Heritage Centre)



PLATE D: 'Spar Pits' in Yate (Yate Heritage Centre)

## 5 Aims of the Investigation

5.1 The aims of the archaeological monitoring 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 map any archaeological remains encountered and sample excavate targeted features.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of excavated archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable David Evans, archaeology advisor to South Gloucestershire District Council, to make an informed decision to satisfy that condition.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.

5.2 The specific aims of the archaeological monitoring were:

- Determine the presence of any remains associated with the medieval settlement.
- Determine the presence of any evidence related to the development of the town during the post-medieval period.
- Identify any features that maybe associated with the occupation and use of the White Swan Public House between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century.

5.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions, through ADS OASIS website

## 6 Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief was carried out intermittently between the 28<sup>th</sup> June and 9<sup>th</sup> August and was focussed on observing the ground reductions for drainage and foul sewer works in the northern section of the site. The works were undertaken in intermittent phases to allow time for backfilling and moving of fencing along the pipe trench routes, thus allowing the car park to remain in use.
- 6.2 The scope of works comprised the observation of ground works associated with the excavation of new drainage and foul sewer runs and the strip, map and record of deposits overlying the archaeological horizon in the location of the attenuation tank.

## 7 Results

### Trench 1

- 7.1 Trench 1 comprised the pipe trench for the new storm water drain. The monitored section of the trench was approximately 60m in length, running eastwards from a manhole c. 18m from the site's western boundary (Figure 2). The first 30 metres of the trench was monitored between 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011, with the remaining c. 30m monitored between the 28<sup>th</sup> July and the 9<sup>th</sup> August.
- 7.2 The width and depth varied along the length of the pipe trench, but was generally between 0.80m and 1.00m in width at the base, stepped up to between 2.75m and 3.00m at ground level. The depth was generally 2.00m below ground level (mbgl). The ground level varied little along the length of the pipe trench, rising from 82.09m OD (Ordnance Datum) at the western terminus, to 82.10m OD at the eastern terminus.
- 7.3 The pipe trench was interspersed by two manholes, one located at the western terminus and another at c. 28m along the trench. These generally comprised rectangular trenches of c. 2.00m x 2.50m, extending to a depth of c. 2.00mbgl.

**Table 1: Trench 1 Stratigraphy**

Context	Description/Interpretation	Depth (mbgl)
101	Tarmac – Made Ground	0.00 - 0.15m
102	Stone and Gravel - Made Ground consolidation layer	0.15 – 0.40m
103	Mid-dark brown loamy clay - Made Ground	0.40 – 0.55m
104	Firm, brown / orange gravelly clay – Made Ground / Dump deposits	0.40 - 0.88m
105	Yellow / grey, compact stone – Made Ground / Dump deposits	0.80 – 1.00m
106	Firm, red / orange clay; more red with depth – Natural Deposits	1.00 – NFE
107	Reddy pink / orange, gravelly clay – Possible redeposited Natural	0.80 – 1.00m
108	Grey brown gravelly clay – Possible redeposited Natural	1.00 - 1.10m
109	Celestine	c. 2.00 +
110	Mixture of gravels, clays and redeposited naturals - Fill of Celestine extraction pit	c.0.40 – 2.00m
111	Cut of Celestine extraction pit	c.0.40 – 2.00m
112	Mixture of gravels, clays and redeposited naturals - Fill of Celestine extraction pit	c.0.40 – 2.00m
113	Cut of Celestine extraction pit	c.0.40 – 2.00m

- 7.4 The below ground deposits encountered varied along the length of the trench. Observations suggested that the earliest deposit was a firm, red / orange clay, which became redder with depth (106); interpreted as a natural deposit. This was seen through the majority of the trench length. Occasional deposits of weathered Celestine were noted within the lower natural contexts. Solid natural deposits of Celestine (109) were noted in places along the trench, underlying (106) at around 2m in depth.



PLATE E: General View of Trench 1, looking east at around 20m along the trench length



PLATE F: Section 1, Trench 1

- 7.5 For the first c. 28m of the trench, the natural deposits were generally overlain by a firm, brown / orange gravelly clay (104), followed by a mid-dark brown loamy clay (103) and the stone and gravel hardcore (102) and tarmac (101) of the existing car park. A yellow / grey, compact stone deposit (105) was noted overlying the natural at c.17m along the trench (see Section 1) and a possible re-deposited natural (107 and 108) at around 21 – 25m (see Section 2).
- 7.6 During observations of the next 20 to 28m of the pipe trench it became apparent that the below ground deposits were a mixture of naturally deposited clay and gravel (e.g. deposited by glacial action) interspersed by deposits of dumped material and backfill related to Celestine extraction pits.

- 7.7 One of these pits [111] was noted between 28 and 35m along the pipe trench and a second probable pit [113] at around 43.5m and 48m along the pipe trench. Both pits were filled by a homogenous mix of stones, gravels, clays and re-deposited natural to a depth of 2.00m (110) and 1.50m (112) respectively.
- 7.8 At around 34m along the trench, possible re-deposited natural quartzitic sandstone was noted at the base of the trench, but further examination was hindered by the depth of the excavations and water ingress. A solid outcropping of this sandstone deposit was noted at c. 54 – 55m along the trench.
- 7.9 Apart from the probable Celestine extraction pits; no archaeological features or finds were identified during this section of the watching brief.

## **Trench 2**

- 7.10 Trench 2 comprised the pipe trench for the new foul sewer. The monitored section of the trench was approximately 75m in length, running eastwards from a large manhole, c. 1.7m from the western boundary of the site (Figure 2). The first c. 35 metres of the trench was monitored between 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011; with the remaining c. 40m monitored between the 28<sup>th</sup> July and the 9<sup>th</sup> August.
- 7.11 The route of the foul sewer ran parallel and adjacent to that of the storm water drain (Trench 1) and the northern cut of Trench 2 therefore overlapped with the southern cut of Trench 1.
- 7.12 The width and depth varied along the length of the culvert, but as with Trench 1, it was generally between 0.80m and 1.00m in width at the base, stepped up to between 2.75m and 3.00m at ground level. The depth was generally between 2.00 – 2.30m at the western end, dropping down slightly towards the eastern end, with a maximum depth of c.2.70m below ground level (mbgl) recorded at around 30m. The ground level rose from 82.02m OD (Ordnance Datum) at the western terminus to 82.30m OD at the eastern terminus.
- 7.13 The trench included a large excavation at the western terminus in order to link on to the existing foul sewer. This comprised an area c. 3m x 3.6m and c. 2.30 m in depth.

**Table 2: Trench 2 Stratigraphy**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Description/Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (mbgl)</b>
201	Tarmac – Made Ground	0.00 - 0.15m
202	Stone and gravel hardcore – Made Ground	0.15 – 0.50m
203	Firm, red / orange clay; more red with depth – Natural Deposits	c. 0.80 – 2.00
204	Orangey Brown Clay – Made Ground / Dump deposits	0.50 - 0.80m
205	Light yellow brown clay – fill of pit [207]	0.70 – 1.20m
206	Dark grey, compact clay – fill of pit [207]	0.70 – 1.20m
207	Cut of Pit	0.70 – 1.20m
208	Celestine Deposits	2.15 - NFE
209	Firm, red / brown clay; Probably same as (203)– Natural Deposits	1.70 – 2.00
210	Light yellow brown clay – very similar to (205)	0.95 – 1.20m





PLATE G: General view of the Western end of Trench 2, showing large manhole excavation at the western terminus

- 7.14 The below ground deposits encountered varied along the length of the trench but were very similar to those encountered in Trench 1. Observations suggested that the earliest deposits were a firm, red / orange clay (203), becoming redder with depth (209); interpreted as a natural deposit and probably the same as (106). This was seen through the majority of the trench length.
- 7.15 Occasional deposits of weathered Celestine were noted within the lower natural.. Solid natural deposits of Celestine (208) were noted in places along the trench length at around 2.15m in depth (see Section 4). At around 30m along the trench, what appeared to be a firm yellow / grey stone deposit was noted at c. 2.30m. This is thought to probably be an outcropping of the natural quartzitic sandstone (as was seen in Trench 1).
- 7.16 In the western end of the trench, the natural deposit was generally overlain by a firm, orangey brown clay (204), overlain by stone and gravel hardcore (202) and tarmac (201) of the existing car park. This sequence was less apparent in the eastern part of the trench, where the upper deposits were a mix of gravel, stones and clays though to relate to the extraction of Celestine (as seen in Trench 1).
- 7.17 At approximately 9m along the trench, the northern baulk of the trench collapsed, exposing the edge of a small pit [207], measuring 2.9m in length and c. 1.20m in depth. The fills comprised a light yellow brown clay (205) with lenses of a dark gray compact clay (206), which included inclusions of moderate sized chunks of coal (see Section 4), underlain by another deposit of yellow brown clay (210). The pit was only seen in section and due to the unstable nature of the trench it was not possible to examine in more detail; however several fragments of Victoria pottery were recovered from the spoil heap (See Appendix B).
- 7.18 No further archaeological features or finds were identified during this part of the watching



PLATE H: Collapsed baulk in Trench 2, revealing Section 2.

### Trench 3

- 7.19 Trench 3 was located within the north-east of the site (Figure 2) and comprised the strip, map and recording of groundworks undertaken for the installation of a below ground attenuation tank.
- 7.20 The tank is roughly rectangular in plan, the main body measuring c. 10.00m x 18.00m. In addition, a c. 3.5 x 2.5m sondage was excavated on the northern side for a new manhole and a c. 11m x 4m sondage on the south / south-east for a manhole and holding tank.
- 7.21 The ground surface was recorded at 82.11m OD on the western side of the tank; 82.18m OD on the northern side; 82.12m OD on the eastern side; and 82.06m OD on the southern side. The tank was excavated to a depth of between c. 2.30 – 2.90mbgl; reaching 79.77mOD in the centre of the tank; 79.54m OD in the area of the manhole on the northern side and 79.60m OD in the area of the manhole on the southern side.

Table 3: Trench 3 Stratigraphy

Context	Description/Interpretation	Depth (c. mbgl)
301	Tarmac	0.00 – 0.15m
302	Stone and gravel hardcore	0.15 – 0.30m
303	Firm, red / orange clay, more red with depth	0.25 – 2.35m
304	Red brick masonry wall	0.15 – 0.55m
305	Concrete abutting (304)	0.25 – 0.40m
306	Concrete Drain	0.15 – 0.65m
307	Ceramic Water Pipe	2.00 – 2.40m
308	Concrete Foundation	.0.50m - NFE
309	Reddish Purple Gravel	2.35m - NFE
310	Plastic Drain Pipe	0.97 – 1.10m

- 7.22 The tank was excavated in sections, with the northern manhole dug first, followed by the northern half of the tank, then the southern half of the tank and finally the southern manhole and holding tank area.
- 7.23 The lowest deposit encountered was a dark reddy brown, natural gravel deposit (309) encountered at c. 2.87mbgl in the area of the holding tank. This was overlain by a firm, red / orange clay (303); becoming redder with depth; interpreted as a natural deposit and the same as (106 and 203 / 209).



- 7.24 Across all areas, the natural clay was overlain by modern made ground made up of stone hardcore (302) and modern tarmac (301) associated with the present day car park. The initial strip of the attenuation tank area revealed several modern wall lines and drains [304], [305], [306], [307]; which were all cut into the upper deposits of the natural clay (303).
- 7.25 Wall [304] comprised a red brick wall foundation, running south-west to north-east across the northern half of the attenuation tank trench, with a north-south return at the western end and a second roughly north-south return c. 4m inwards (See Figure 4). The wall was formed of red bricks measuring c 240mm x 110mm x 65mm, with English coursing and a pale grey mortar. The walls were a maximum of four courses deep, reaching (with a bedding layer) c.0.46m in depth and c. 0.24m in width. On the southern side wall [304] was abutted by a concrete foundation [305], c. 10.35m long, 1.37m in width and 0.17m thick.
- 7.26 Another modern feature [306] comprised a modern concrete surrounding drain, c. 10m + in length, 0.50m in width and 0.50m thick. This ran east – west across the southern end of the attenuation tank with a drain cover located at the western end. A ceramic water pipe [307] was also encountered at c. 2.15m below ground level, cutting through (303) in the southern half of the attenuation tank trench, below the level of [306]. The pipe measured 10m+ in length; 0.30m in width and 0.30m in depth and was still in use.
- 7.27 In the south-east corner of the trench, two modern features were noted in the holding tank area. These comprised a concrete foundation [308], c. 1.8m + in length, 0.50m in width and 0.50m in depth, encountered c 1mbgl; and a 0.10m diameter, plastic drain pipe [310], running north-east to south-west, c 3.6m+ in length and encountered c 0.97mbgl. Both [308] and [310] were cut into the upper deposits of (303).
- 7.28 Apart from the modern wall and drainage features, no archaeological features or finds were identified during the strip, map and recording of the attenuation tank area.



PLATE I: Stripping of the southern half of Trench 3, showing (303).



PLATE J: Sample section showing the made ground (301 and 302), the wall [304], and natural clay (303).



PLATE K: Post-excavation shot of the northern half of Trench 3, showing manhole.



PLATE L: Post-excavation shot of the southern half of Trench 3

## 8 Finds

- 8.1 A small assemblage of finds was collected during the course of the watching brief; all derived from context (206).
- 8.2 The finds assemblage consisted of 13 sherds of pottery. 9 of these sherds were from a stoneware tankard/drinking jug; 2 sherds from a large 'bucket' storage pot; and 2 sherds from a blue and grey transfer-print ware plate. See Appendix B for further details.
- 8.3 The assemblage is small in size, has limited significance and is likely to be mid- nineteenth century in date.

## 9 Conclusions

- 9.1 During the course of the watching brief on site the nature and extent of the archaeological potential was observed, in addition to the associated disturbance of this potential. A full sequence of deposits was recorded.
- 9.2 Within the north-western area of the site (Trenches 1 and 2) the watching brief revealed a sequence of modern made ground and dump deposits which are thought to relate to Celestine extraction pits and subsequent backfilling prior to the creation of the existing Yate Shopping Centre. No finds or features of archaeological significance were noted during any groundworks in this area.
- 9.3 Within the north-eastern area (Trench 3) site, a sequence of modern made ground overlying natural clays was encountered. Modern foundations and 19<sup>th</sup> century - modern drainage works were noted in this area; however there were no finds or features of archaeological significance.
- 9.4 It was agreed with David Evans, archaeology advisor to South Gloucestershire District Council, on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2011 that due to the absence of any significant archaeology, no further monitoring would be required. Following the production of this report, no further work is recommended.

## 10 Publication and Archive Deposition

- 10.1 The site archive will be prepared in the format agreed with the receiving local museum, the Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery. The site archive will comprise all artefacts and written and drawn records. It will be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records, reports and finds collated and ordered as a permanent record.
- 10.2 The excavation archive will be security copied and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (NAR) before deposition.
- 10.3 The site archive will be deposited within the Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery. It will then become publicly accessible. The archive will be prepared in accordance with Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990), specifically complying with Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery Guidelines.

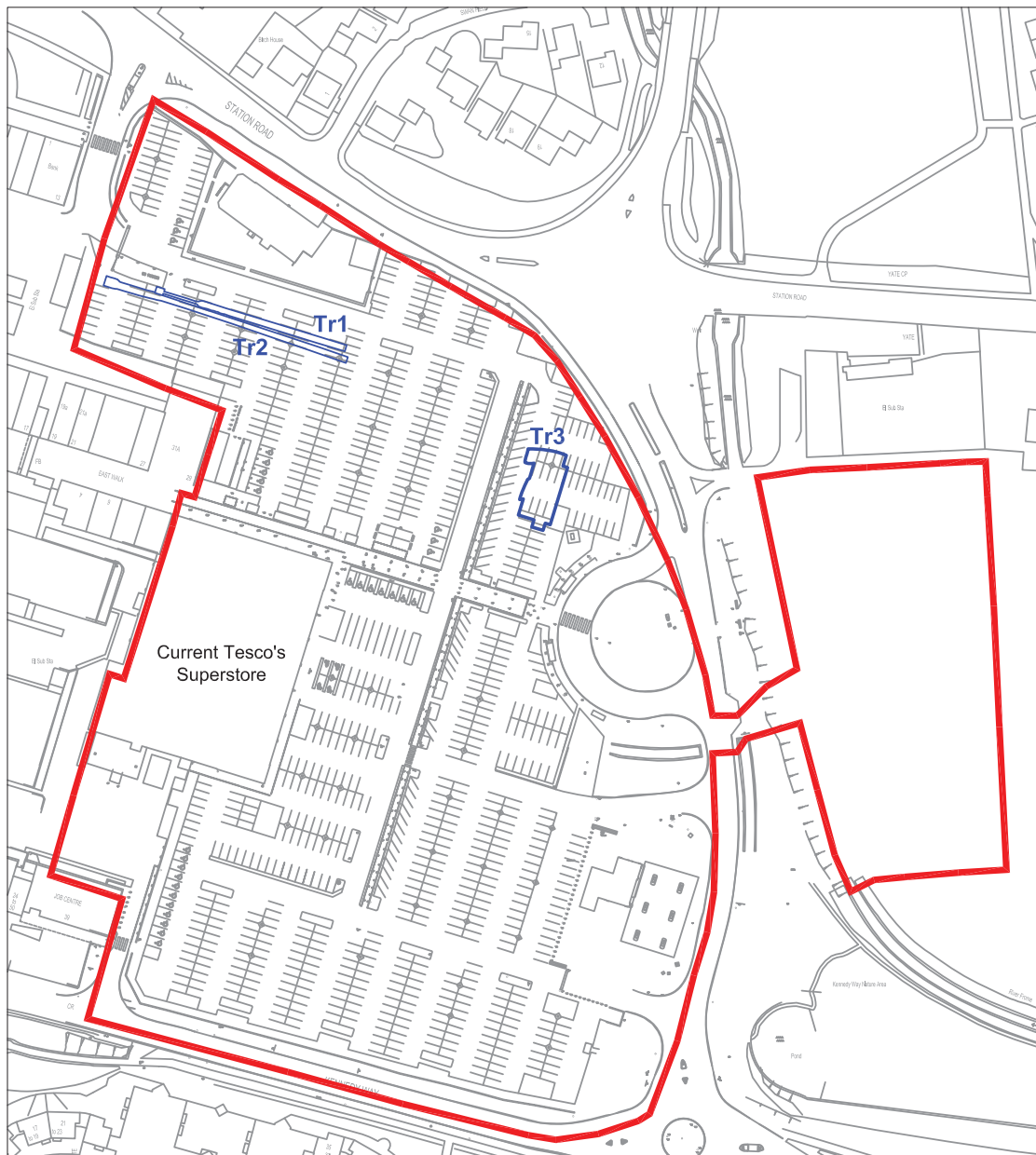
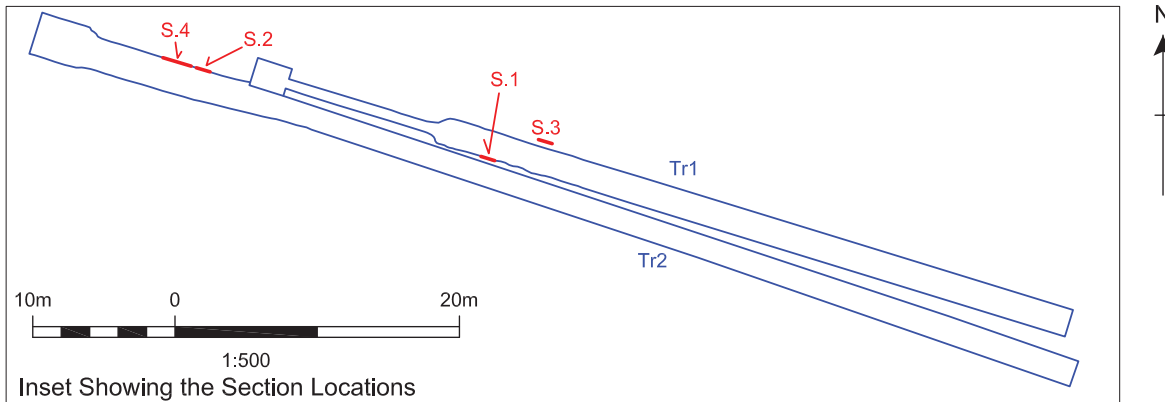
## 11 Bibliography

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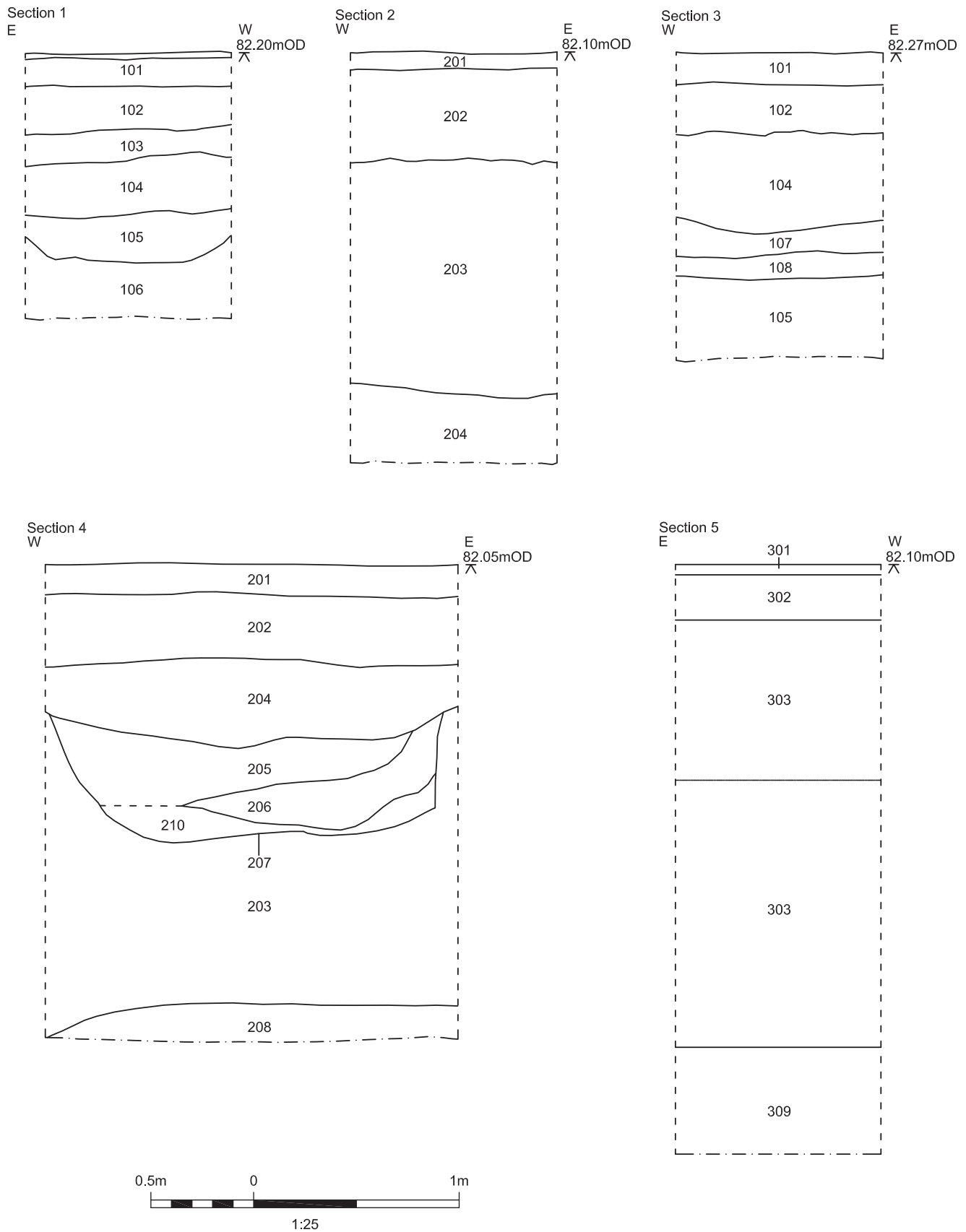
Figure 1: Site Location



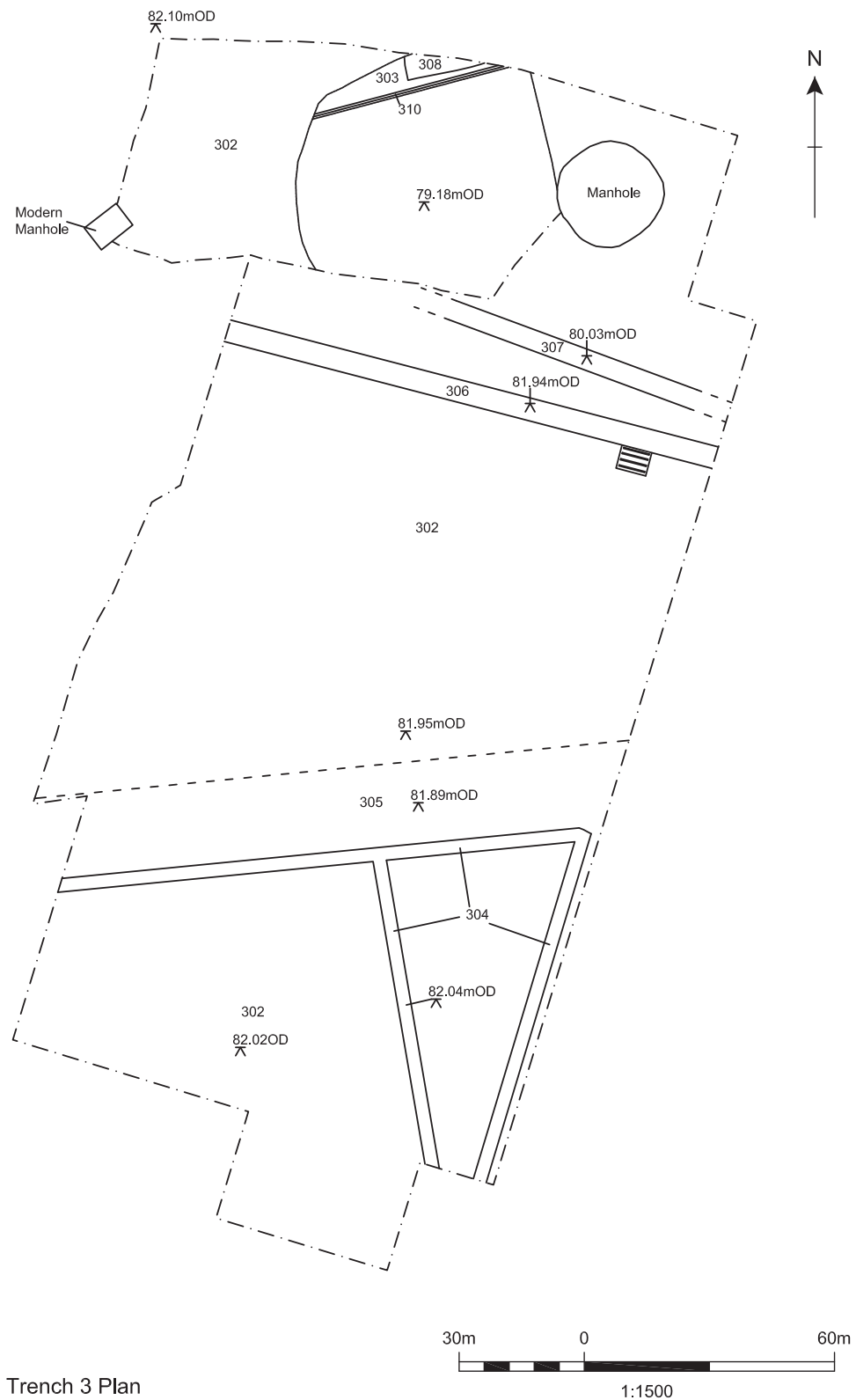
Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:1250 Superplan Digital Data of 2010  
with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office  
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**Figure 2:** Detailed Site / Trench Location Plan





**Figure 3:** Sample Sections



**Figure 4:** Trench 3 Plan

## Appendices

## Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
101	Tarmac	/	/	c. 0.15m
102	Stone and Gravel hardcore- made ground consolidation layer	/	/	c.0.20m
103	Mid-dark brown loamy clay	/	/	c.0.10 – 0.20m
104	Firm, brown / orange gravelly clay	/	/	c. 0.25 – 0.30m
105	Yellow / grey, compact stone	/	/	c. 0.20m – 0.30m
106	Firm, red / orange clay; more red with depth – Natural Deposits	/	/	1.00 – NFE
107	Reddy pink / orange, gravelly clay – Possible re-deposited Natural	/	/	c. 0.20 – 0.30m
108	Grey brown gravelly clay – Possible re-deposited Natural	/	/	c. 0.10 – 0.15m
109	Celestine	/	/	NFE
110	Mixture of gravels, clays and re-deposited naturals - Fill of Celestine extraction pit	/	/	c.1.60m
111	Cut of Celestine extraction pit	/	/	c.1.60m
112	Mixture of gravels, clays and re-deposited naturals - Fill of Celestine extraction pit	/	/	c.1.60m
113	Cut of Celestine extraction pit	/	/	c.1.60m
201	Tarmac	/	/	c. 0.15m
202	Stone and gravel hardcore	/	/	c.0.20m – 0.40m
203	Firm, red / orange clay; more red with depth – Natural Deposits	/	/	c. 1.00 – NFE
204	Orangy Brown Clay	/	/	c.0.25m - 0.40m
205	Light yellow brown clay – fill of pit [207]	/	/	c. 0.20m – 0.40m
206	Dark grey, compact clay – fill of pit [207]	/	/	c.0.05m – 0.15m
207	Cut of Pit	c. 2.00m	NFE	c. 0.55m
208	Celestine Deposits	/	/	NFE
209	Firm, red / brown clay; probably same as (203)	/	/	NFE
210	Light yellow brown clay – very similar to (205)	/	/	c. 0.25m
301	Tarmac	/	/	c. 0.05 – 0.12m
302	Stone and gravel hardcore	/	/	c.0.20m – 0.41m
303	Firm, red / orange clay, more red with depth	/	/	c.2.60 - NFE
304	Red brick masonry wall	NFE	c.0.25m	c.0.45m
305	Concrete abutting (304)	1.37m	10.35m	0.17m
306	Concrete Drain	c.10.00m - NFE	c.0.50m	c.0.50m
307	Ceramic Water Pipe	c.10.00m - NFE	c.0.30m	c.0.30m
308	Concrete Foundation	c. 1.8m - NFE	c.0.50m	c.0.50m - NFE
309	Reddish Purple Gravel	/	/	c.0.60m - NFE
310	Plastic Drain Pipe	/	/	/

## **Appendix B – An Assessment of ceramic from the Tesco store, Yate.**

### **Site code. BRSMG: 2010/61**

Paul Fitz

AOC Archaeology

#### **Summary**

Thirteen sherds of pottery were retrieved from context (206), eleven of which are stoneware from two vessels. The assemblage gives a likely mid- nineteenth century date to the context.

#### **The Pottery**

Nine sherds (weighing 470 grams) are from a stoneware tankard/drinking jug of a cream body with brown rim, probably from a Bristol factory. It has embossed human figures and tree foliage (pastoral or rustic scene) with a crude little plaque with four letters inscribed in it. The first is a 'P' but the other three are less clear. It has a faint excise transfer toward the rim, with a crown with VR below and 480 below that. This indicates that it is a legal pint (480 ml) jug from sometime in the reign of Victoria.

The two other stoneware pieces (723grams) are from a large 'bucket' storage pot, estimated to have been 22cm in diameter. It has a rich dark brown exterior colour with a grey internal colour with corded bands and an imitation handle set upward against the body. It is likely to be a good quality non-porous storage pot.

The two remaining sherds (22 grams) are from a transfer-print ware plate (European/English floral decoration). The colour is a blue tinted grey or light black and may be indicative of a poor firing as the colour would normally be expected to be a more vibrant blue or black print rather than grey.

#### **Discussion/Recommendations**

The pot assemblage is small in size and has limited significance on a local level. Whilst they may help date the context to the Victorian period, possibly 1860's there is little to be gained from further analysis.

The finds will be catalogued and stored at AOC South until site archive deposition with the Bristol Museum.

## Appendix D – OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: aocarcha1-81925**

### Project details

Project name Tesco, Yate, South Gloucestershire

Short description of the project HBR of the the Swan Inn, located on the north of the site. Seven different phases of build were clearly present, illustrating the change of use of the building from a small stone cottage of possible 18th century date to a public house, heavily modified on the ground floor. Between the 28th June and 9th August 2011, AOC undertook a watching brief of the installation of drainage and foul sewer works and a programme of strip, map and recording for an attenuation tank in the north of the site. No significant finds or features, however evidence for 19th and 20th century celestine extraction noted in the north-west of the site.

Project dates Start: 06-09-2010 End: 09-08-2011

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project codes reference 30554 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project codes reference BRSMG:2010/61 - Museum accession ID

Any associated project codes reference PK07/3391/F - Planning Application No.

Any associated project codes reference PK10/0159/NMA - Planning Application No.

Any associated project codes reference 2011/22 - Museum accession ID

Type of project Recording project



Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	PUBLIC HOUSE Post Medieval
Monument type	INDUSTRIAL Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Part Excavation','Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE YATE Tesco, Yate, South Gloucestershire
Postcode	BS37 4AJ
Study area	5.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	ST 7153 8244 51.5396623286 -2.410551882880 51 32 22 N 002 24 37 W Point

#### Project creators

Name Organisation	of AOC Archaeology
Project originator	brief south gloucester council
Project originator	design AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Alan Ford

Project supervisor Gary Baddeley and Angus Stephenson

Project supervisor Les Capon

Type of Developer  
sponsor/funding  
body

Name of IGS Pearce  
sponsor/funding  
body

### Project archives

Physical Archive No  
Exists?

Digital Archive Bristol Museum and Art Gallery  
recipient

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Survey','Text'  
available

Digital Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

Paper Archive Bristol Museum and Art Gallery  
recipient

Paper Media 'Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text',' Research','Drawing','Notebook -  
available Excavation','Photograph',' General Notes'

Paper Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title THE SWAN INN, YATE SHOPPING CENTRE, STATION ROAD, YATE,

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Author(s)/Editor(s) Capon, L.

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or London  
publication

Description A4, 26 pages, 6 figures, 16 plates, short oral history section

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**Project  
bibliography 2**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title TESCO, YATE, SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE: A WRITTEN SCHEME OF  
INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

Author(s)/Editor(s) Clarke, C.

Date 2011

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or London  
publication

Description A4 text, 2 illustrations, 19 pages bound between plastic covers

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**Project  
bibliography 3**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title TESCO, YATE, SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE:AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Carter, N G

Date 2011

Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or London  
publication

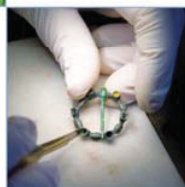
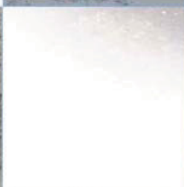
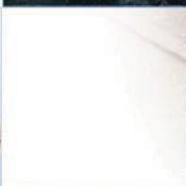
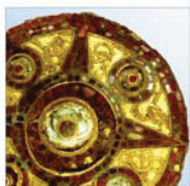
Description 22 pages, A4 binded, Digitised Sections and plans and site photographs

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Entered by Alan Ford (alan.ford@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on 31 August 2011

TESCO, YATE, SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT



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