

Land Off Hind Street Ottery St Mary, Devon

Addendum to Archaeological Evaluation Report





**LAND OFF HIND STREET, OTTERY ST MARY,
DEVON**

**Addendum to
Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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I= Internal Draft E= External Draft F= Final

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Addendum to Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

This document is an addendum to the previous Archaeological Evaluation, Topographic Survey and Watching Brief on Geotechnical Works report (WA 2011) on land off Hind Street, Ottery St Mary, Devon (NGR 309711, 095495), hereafter 'the Site'. Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by WYG Planning and Design on behalf of Sainsburys Supermarkets Ltd to carry out a further five evaluation trenches in the area of a car park, located immediately to the east of the earlier phase of archaeological evaluation.

This programme of works was agreed following consultation with the Devon County Council (DCC) Historic Environment Service (HES) in order to provide further information with regards to the nature of the archaeological survival on the Site.

Three trenches were excavated within the car park area, a substantial depth of modern made ground was present in all the trenches. A post-medieval pit and undated ditch were recorded in Trench 17 and Trenches 18. Trench 19 contained no archaeological features.

Due to the depth of made ground and date of features recorded in Trenches 17, 18 and 19 it was recommended by the DCC HES that no further archaeological works were required in this part of the Site, subsequently the remaining two planned trenches were not excavated, as agreed with DCC.

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The evaluation was directed by John Powell assisted by Elina Brook and Darryl Freer. This report was compiled by John Powell, the illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer and the finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd.

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Addendum to Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by WYG Planning and Design on behalf of Sainsburys Supermarkets Ltd (the Client), to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development at land off Hind Street, Ottery St Mary, Devon (NGR 309711, 095495) hereafter 'the Site' (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 A planning application (09/2354/MFUL) submitted to East Devon District Council (EDDC) for the erection of a Sainsbury's food store, customer parking, service access and associated development has been granted subject to a range of conditions, which include a programme of archaeological works. There is also an accompanying Listed Building Consent (09/2355/LBC) which has been granted.

1.1.3 Following consultation with the Devon County Council (DCC) Historic Environment Service (HES) an archaeological brief (DCC 2010) was prepared which formed the basis of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (WA 2010) for the works. The WSI was approved by DCC and laid out the specification and methodologies for the archaeological evaluation, topographic survey and monitoring of the geotechnical work. These works were required in order to provide further information regarding the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) (Nexus 2009), previously compiled for the Site, and to inform the nature of the archaeological survival.

1.1.4 An initial phase of archaeological evaluation, topographic survey and monitoring of the geotechnical work was undertaken in January 2011 (WA 2011). In addition to the main phase of archaeological works five further archaeological evaluation trenches were proposed within the area of a car park immediately to the east of the main site. Three of these were excavated, in April 2011 however, given the depths of made ground revealed (see 4.1.1 below) it was agreed, in consultation with DCC that the remaining two would be disregarded.

1.2 Scope of report

1.2.1 This report is an addendum to the Archaeological Evaluation report only, and presents the results of the additional evaluation trenches within the car park. Discussion of the results and their implications will also be made.

1.2.2 For all other project results, site description, archive arrangements and background information the archaeological evaluation report (Report Ref: 76050.03 - WA 2011) should be referred to.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 The aims of the programme of archaeological works, as outlined in the WSI (WA 2010), were to:

- clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be threatened by development.
- identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site.
- assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
- identify and record any remains associated with medieval and post-medieval activity on the Site
- compile an indexed archive of the site records, finds and reports
- produce a report which will present the project information in sufficient detail to allow interpretation without recourse to the project archive.
- record the remaining extant orchard features which are known to survive on the Site.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 For the general methodology that was applied to the excavation and recording of the archaeological remains encountered in the field and post-fieldwork including archive preparation the Archaeological Evaluation report (WA 2011) should be consulted.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Three archaeological evaluation trenches were machine excavated within the area of the car park (**Figure 1**). A substantial depth (up to 1.6m) of modern made ground was present across the three excavated trenches. As a result of the depth of made ground and the post-medieval date of the features recorded it was recommended by the DCC HES that no further archaeological works were required in this part of the Site, and subsequently the remaining two trenches were not excavated

4.2 Natural deposits and Soil Sequence

4.2.1 Modern made ground was present beneath the car park surface across the three excavated trenches. The depth of made ground was at its greatest towards the north of the car park with a maximum depth of 1.6m. The made

ground contained a mixture of levelled soils and dumped building rubble, a collection of archaeological material was scanned at Wessex Archaeology and dated to between the 19th and 20th century.

- 4.2.2 To the south of the car park in Trench 18 natural sand and gravel geology was recorded at a depth of 0.77m below ground level. The sand sloped down to the north and was recorded at a depth of 1.4m in Trench 17. In Trench 19 modern made ground was present up to a depth of 1.6m, due to Health and Safety constraints natural geology was only recorded within test pits at either end of Trench 19, these were immediately backfilled.

4.3 Archaeological Features

- 4.3.1 Two archaeological features of post-medieval date were recorded within Trench 17 and 18 (**Figure 1**). An oval pit (1705), that measured 0.53m in length by 0.40m wide and 0.30m deep, contained post-medieval pottery. It was cut into the natural gravel on the eastern edge of Trench 17 and was filled by a single deposit that was similar to the modern made ground. A shallow undated ditch (1707), aligned north-east to south-west ran across Trenches 17 and 18. The cut had a shallow concave profile (0.34m wide and 0.21m deep) and was filled by a single secondary deposit. No dating evidence was recovered from the ditch.

5 FINDS

- 5.1.1 The evaluation produced a small quantity of finds which were assessed and were assigned a post-medieval date. Material collected from the made ground was dated to between the 19th and 20th centuries.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL

- 6.1.1 No material suitable for environmental analysis was demonstrated to be present during the archaeological works.

7 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Discussion

- 7.1.1 Few features or deposits of archaeological interest were recorded during the archaeological works within the car park. The two features recorded were undated and post-medieval in origin.
- 7.1.2 The depth of made ground present across the three trenches suggests that significant terracing and earth moving had occurred at the Site. The car park surface sloped down from north to south, as did the recorded depths of made ground. It is possible that a considerable amount of terracing and subsequent levelling/re-instatement of the natural ground surface had occurred during the post-medieval period. It was unclear from the archaeological evaluation whether the made ground was a result of works

undertaken during the construction of the car park or was related to an earlier phase of groundwork.

- 7.1.3 The evidence recorded during the archaeological evaluation suggests that the potential for archaeological features within the car park is low.

7.2 Recommendations

- 7.2.1 Given the low archaeological potential established by these archaeological works it has been agreed with the DCC HES that no further archaeological works are to be recommended on the car park area of the Site.

8 REFERENCES

Nexus Heritage 2009, *Hind Street, Ottery St Mary, Devon, Desk-Based Heritage Impact Assessment*, unpublished. Client report ref. 3012.R01

Devon County Council 2010, *Brief for a Staged Programme of Archaeological Investigation and Mitigation*, ref Arch/dc/ed/15702

Wessex Archaeology 2010, *Hind Street, Ottery Saint Mary, Devon, Written Scheme of Investigation: Method Statement for an Archaeological Evaluation, Topographic Survey and Watching Brief on Geotechnical Works*, unpublished client report ref 76050.01

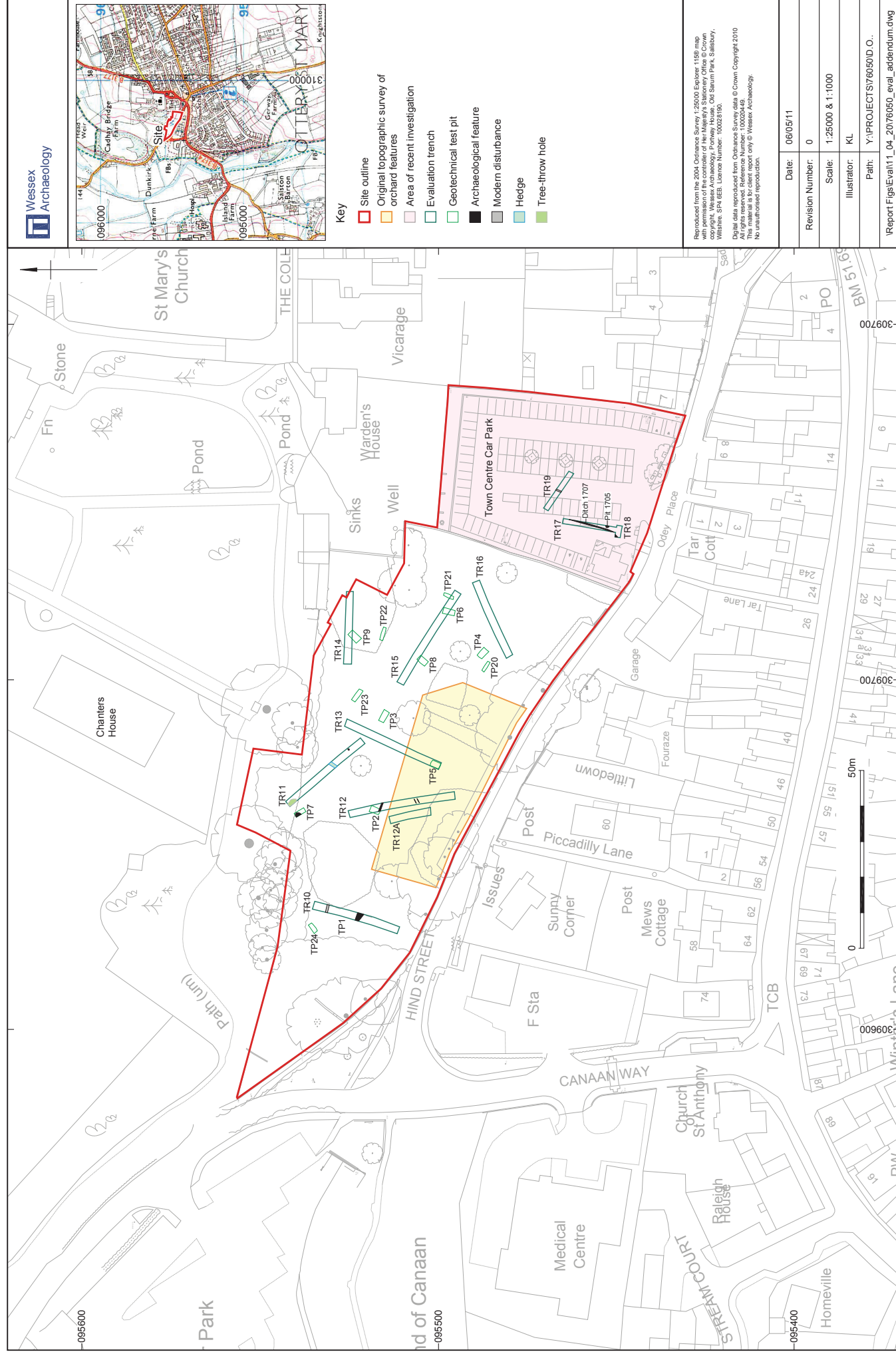
Wessex Archaeology 2011, *Hind Street, Ottery Saint Mary, Devon, Report on the results of an Archaeological Evaluation, Topographic Survey and Watching Brief on Geotechnical Works*, unpublished client report ref 76050.03

9 APPENDIX I TRENCH SUMMARY TABLES

Trench 17	Ground Level AOD 48.72m	Dimensions(m): 18.80m x 1.8m Max. depth(m): 1.45m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1700	Tarmac. Car Park Surface	0 - 0.1m
1701	Made Ground. Modern levelling for tarmac.	0.1 - 0.29m
1702	Made Ground. Dark grey, sandy clay with large sand stone and river gravels. CBM, slate and building rubble throughout layer.	0.29 – 0.61m
1703	Made Ground. Mid brown, sandy clay with moderate large sandstone and river gravels. CBM, slate, charcoal and building rubble throughout.	0.57 – 0.61m
1704	Made Ground. Mid greyish-brown silty sand, moderately compact with common large sandstone and river gravels. Charcoal flecks and slate.	0.62 – 1.45
1705	Cut of Pit. Oval pit of post-medieval date.	0.3m
1706	Deliberate Backfill of Pit. Dark Grey-brown sandy clay.	0.3m
1707	Cut of Ditch. NE-SW aligned ditch, shallow 'U' shaped profile. Undated.	0.21m
1708	Secondary Fill of Ditch. Mid grey-brown silty sand.	0.21m
1709	Natural Geology. Pale yellow-grey sand and gravels.	1.06m +

Trench 18	Ground Level AOD 48.74m	Dimensions(m): 5.1m x 1.87m Max. depth(m): 1.04m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1801	Tarmac. Modern car park surface.	0 - 0.1m
1802	Made Ground. Modern levelling for car park.	0.1 – 0.17m
1803	Made Ground. Large stones levelling/made ground for car park.	0.17 – 0.3m
1804	Made Ground. Dark grey-brown, sandy clay with common sandstone and flint. CBM, charcoal, slate and mortar throughout.	0.3 – 0.49m
1805	Made Ground/Subsoil. Mid grey-brown sandy clay fairly loose and friable. Flecks of charcoal and CBM throughout. Sparse large flint cobbles.	0.49 – 0.77m
1806	Natural. Light grey-brown sandy clay with abundant flint gravels, possibly river terrace gravels.	0.77m +
1807	Cut of Ditch, recorded in corner of trench not enough of feature visible in plan. Unexcavated same as 1707.	0.77m +
1808	Fill of Ditch, unexcavated same as 1708.	NA

Trench 19	Ground Level AOD 49.51m	Dimensions(m): 15.21m x 1.95m Max. depth(m): 1.60m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1900	Tarmac. Modern car park surface.	0 - 0.1m
1901	Made Ground. Modern levelling for car park.	0.1 – 0.35m
1902	Made Ground. Dark grey-brown sandy clay with sparse sandstone and flint gravels. Slate, CBM and mortar were present throughout deposit.	0.35 – 0.5m
1903	Made Ground. Mid to dark brown silty sandy clay with sparse sandstone inclusions. Slate, CBM, mortar and charcoal was present throughout layer.	0.5 – 0.64m
1904	Made Ground. Pale brown silty sand with common rubble consisting of mortar, CBM slate and building materials	0.64 – 0.8m
1905	Made Ground. Mid to dark brown sandy clay with sparse sandstones. Common slate, CBM, and concentrations of post-medieval pottery.	0.8 – 1.60m
1906	Natural. Pale yellow sand to the western end of trench and mid yellow-brown sand and gravels to eastern end of trench.	1.4m +



Site location plan showing archaeological works



Plate 1: General view of Trench 17, view from south (scales 1 x 1 and 2m)



Plate 2: General view of Trench 18, view from west (scales 1 x 1 and 2m)



Plate 3: General view of Trench 19, view from south-east (scales 1 x 1 and 2m)



Plate 4: South-west facing section of Trench 19 (scales 1 x 2, 1 and 0.5m)

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