Wessex Archaeology

St Mary's Primary School, Ascupart Street, Southampton

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Site Code: SOU1565

Ref: 78880.03

September 2011

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ASCUPART STREET, SOUTHAMPTON

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared for:
Mike Kemp Dip LA CMLI
Groundwork Solent
49 Stoke Road
Gosport
Hants
PO12 1LS

by
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

Report reference: 78880.03
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QUALITY ASSURANCE

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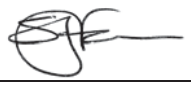
1	I	SLR	SF		16/09/11	X:\PROJECTS\78880\REPORT\78880.V1.DOC
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- **I= INTERNAL DRAFT E= EXTERNAL DRAFT F= FINAL**

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, ASCUPART STREET, SOUTHAMPTON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Summary

Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Groundwork Solent (the Client), to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development within the school playing fields at St Mary's Primary School, Ascupart Street, Southampton, centred on NGR 442743 112144.

The evaluation consisted of the mechanical excavation of eight trenches located within the proposed footprint of a multi-use games area (MUGA). The work was intended to assess the archaeological potential, and to inform the extent and nature of any further archaeological mitigation which may be necessary in this area of high archaeological potential.

The trenches positioned in the south-western corner of the development area revealed extensive post-medieval and modern disturbance, presumably associated with the construction and realignment of the railway line which previously ran through the playing fields.

Three of the trenches each contained a large pit of middle Saxon date. Although hand excavation of the features was limited due to the depth of overburden (up to 1.2m), augering of the pits confirmed the features survive to depths ranging from 1.2-2.3m. Earlier archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity have identified similar features which have been interpreted as localised brickearth quarry pits, later used for the disposal of rubbish/cess.

The main impact from the proposed construction works will comprise footings and services for the MUGA. When details on the construction methodology are known, the Planning Archaeologist at Southampton City Council should be consulted to determine the nature of any further mitigation necessary. Given the substantial overburden across the development area, due consideration should be given to facilitate the preservation *in situ* of the archaeological deposits identified.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL, ASCUPART STREET, SOUTHAMPTON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned for this project by Groundwork Solent, and would like to thank Mike Kemp in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Stephen Appleby who monitored the project on behalf of Southampton City Council.

The archaeological evaluation was directed on Site by Steve Beach with the assistance of Jonathan Kaines. The report was compiled by Sian Reynolds. The finds were assessed by Lorraine Mepham and the environmental samples were processed by Nicki Mulhall and assessed by Sarah F. Wyles. The report graphics were prepared by Linda Coleman. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL, ASCUPART STREET, SOUTHAMPTON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Groundwork Solent (the Client), to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of development within the school playing fields at St Marys Primary School, Southampton (**Figure 1**), centred on NGR 442743 112144, (hereafter 'the Site').

1.1.2 The proposed siteof for a new multi-use game area (MUGA), in the existing school grounds, lies in the centre of the middle Saxon (AD650-850) town of Hamwic. A number of cemeteries are recorded in the immediate vicinity, including that at St Mary's Stadium, which is less than 100m from the school.

1.1.3 In line with PPS5 requirements, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken in order to establish the archaeological potential of the development area.

1.1.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Wessex Archaeology and approved by the Planning Archaeologist at Southampton City Council in advance of the fieldwork commencing (WA 2011). This document set out the methods and standards to be employed throughout the work and followed the standards and guidance for archaeological evaluation published by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008).

1.1.5 This report details the results of the trial trench evaluation of the Site which was carried out between the 15th and 17th August 2011.

1.2 Site location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The Site is located on the west side of the River Itchen, to the east of the modern commercial centre of Southampton (**Figure 1**). It is bounded to the south by a remnant of the former Bevois Street, to the west by Golden Grove, on the north by the main London–Southampton railway line and to the east by the railway line to the East Docks, formerly the main line to Southampton Terminus Station.

1.2.2 The natural topography of the Site has been obscured by urban development, but the surrounding terrain has a slight slope up from north to south. The land in the area of the school buildings is generally level, and lies at approximately 4.0m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.2.3 The British Geological Survey map for the area indicates that the surface deposits at the Site consist predominantly of made ground with River Terrace Deposits (mainly gravel) of the first terrace at the west side of the area.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological Background

2.1.1 The Site forms part of the middle Saxon town of Hamwic, first discovered in the mid-19th century. Since then a large number of archaeological excavations, watching briefs, evaluations and observations have been undertaken in the vicinity of St Mary's School

2.1.2 The surrounding sites comprise a number of cemeteries, including that at St Mary's Stadium, located less than 100m to the east of the school. This is potentially the earliest of the known Hamwic cemeteries, featuring cremations in burial urns, burials with weaponry, and burials with gold jewellery. Other sites within the area found evidence of middle Saxon structures, yards, roads, rubbish pits and cesspits. Evidence of prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval activity has also been found within the search area

2.1.3 Within the playing fields, to the south of the development area, excavations in 1999 (SOU 1013) found a middle Saxon yard surface, two postholes, and three pits. The pottery and other finds indicate that the pits were filled in the middle Saxon period. Evidence of bone-working and metalworking industries was also recovered. An excavation in 1951 (SOU 39) found 13 middle Saxon pits, a bone with a runic inscription and a silver coin.

3 AIMS

3.1 General

3.1.1 The aims of the archaeological field evaluation were to:

- Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted 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 to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
- Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the WSI (WA 2011). All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA, 2008).

4.1.2 A total of 8 machine excavated trial trenches of various lengths were opened under constant archaeological supervision using a JCB excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. Although 10 trenches were originally proposed, due to the confines of the Site, two of the trenches were combined to facilitate the machine excavation. Overall, the evaluation trenches covered

an area of approximately 53 square metres, rather than the 49 square metres originally proposed.

4.1.3 The mechanical excavation proceeded in spits to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon. The machine excavated arisings were stored at the side of each trench and were scanned for artefacts at regular intervals from both the topsoil and subsoil.

4.1.4 Archaeological features and deposits were subsequently hand cleaned and sample excavated as per the methodology set out in the WSI (WA, 2011). Features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets and a unique numbering system for individual contexts, and were planned at a scale of 1:20. Sections were drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum. The monitored areas were located using a Leica GPS survey system. Following all investigation and recording, the areas were then backfilled.

4.1.5 A photographic record of the evaluation was maintained through digital images as well colour transparencies and black and white negatives. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeological remains revealed, and the Site as a whole.

4.1.6 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. All artefacts, as a minimum, have been washed, weighed, counted and identified.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the information held in the Site archive. Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the Site archive and a tabulated version of these can be found in **Appendix 1** of this report.

5.1.2 Eight 1.5m wide machine excavated trenches of various lengths (1.7-8.0m) were opened within the proposed footprint of the MUGA. Their placement allowed for a representative sample of the natural and archaeological deposits to be assessed, and all areas were investigated (**Figure 2**).

5.2 Natural deposits and soil sequences

5.2.1 Each trench shared the same basic stratigraphy, characterised by the truncation and consolidation of the natural deposits.

5.2.2 A mid-dark grey brown sandy silt redeposited topsoil 0.09-0.32m deep, overlay various mixed deposits of modern made ground which contained 19th/20th century material. These deposits were deepest in the western trenches, being recorded as 1.03m BGL (below ground level) in **Trench 5** and extending beyond 1.2m in **Trenches 6** and **8**. Due to the confines of the Site, it was not practicable to step trenches to enable greater depths to be excavated and 1.2m was regarded as a maximum safe working depth, given ground conditions.

5.2.3 **Trenches 1**, **2** and **4** contained a *c.* 0.2m thick layer of pale-mid grey brown silty clay interpreted as a buried topsoil, lying below the modern made ground and directly above the natural deposits (**Plate 1**).

5.2.4 Natural geology was encountered in 6 of the trenches and recorded as brickearth, as indicated on the geological survey map of 1987 (sheet 315). The underlying sandy gravel of the river terrace was found at depths of 2.18-3.28m BGL during the auguring of archaeological features, although it is unclear whether this is a true reflection of the depth of the gravel across the Site overall, as it is not known if, or to what depth, the features extended into these deposits.

5.3 Archaeological features

5.3.1 Archaeology was encountered in three of the eight trenches, **Trenches 2**, **3** and **4**. Each of these trenches exposed portions of large pits with dark upper fills. Due to health and safety constraints these features were not excavated, but were instead augured to obtain depth and deposit modelling information, and recorded prior to backfilling.

5.3.2 **Trench 2** contained a large sub-rectangular pit [**205**], aligned NNW-SSE and measuring 2.5m x 1.5m (**Plate 2**). This feature was augured to a depth of 3.25m BGL (2.17m feature depth), at which point river gravel was recorded. The lower fills (**208** and **209**) were light-mid yellow brown sandy silty clay with some humic material in the basal deposits. Above this was a 0.65m deep layer of redeposited brickearth **207** and a final 1.35m thick dark grey brown silty sand refuse deposit containing charcoal, fired clay, pottery and burnt flint **206**. The pottery was identified as being middle Saxon in date, concurrent with other sites in the local area.

5.3.3 **Trench 3** contained [**305**], a large pit of indeterminate shape at its north-east end. Approximately 2m of the pit's surface (**306**) was exposed, and comprised a dark grey brown silty clay fill with flint inclusions. Three small fragments of lava stone were recovered, a common find from middle Saxon sites within Hamwic, and sufficient to identify this feature as broadly contemporary with the pits in **Trenches 2** and **4** which produced pottery of this date. The pit was augured to a depth of 2.18m BGL (1.2m feature depth).

5.3.4 **Trench 4** contained a smaller semi-circular portion of a pit [**405**], of which 1.7m x 1m was exposed. This pit contained three fills, a basal deposit (**408**) of sand and gravel that can be assumed to have eroded from the sides of the feature following its construction, and two dark grey silty fills (**404** and **407**) which contained charcoal, animal bone, fired clay and pottery. The lower of these, **407**, was measured with the augur as lying 2.60-3.23m BGL and produced a sherd of pottery dating to the middle Saxon period. The deposits contained a few charred plant remains and included a grain of free-threshing wheat. There were also a low number of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments.

5.3.5 This feature was the deepest of the three recorded during this evaluation, measuring 2.3m from the natural geology.

5.4 Undated features

5.4.1 Two undated features were recorded in **Trench 3**. One of which, [**307**], was a large feature of indeterminate age/function, shown to run for 3m along the south-west portion of the trench. It was filled with **308**, a mid yellow brown

silty clay and was very different in character to the fills of the Saxon pits described above. No visible dateable material was recovered.

5.4.2 Cutting the fill of feature [**307**] was [**309**], an E-W aligned linear feature, terminating to the east. Measuring 1.7m long and 0.15m wide, this feature was filled with a mid yellow brown silty clay with moderate flint inclusions. Despite being stratigraphically later than [**307**], it is not possible to further refine the dating of either feature.

5.5 Modern features

5.5.1 **Trench 5** contained [**505**], a NW-SE aligned linear feature filled with dark grey brown silty sand (**506**) which produced modern Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and pottery. This feature was augured to assess the impact which it may have had on surviving archaeological deposits, and it had a recorded depth of 0.4m below the base of the machine trench, 1.43m BGL. Given the three pits noted on the Site have BGL depths of 2.18-3.28m, any impact by this modern disturbance on features beyond the machine trenches, would be limited to the upper fills.

5.5.2 A power cable also crosses the south of **Trench 5**, running NW-SE.

6 FINDS

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small quantity of finds, deriving from contexts within five trenches (**Trenches 1** – **5**). The majority of the datable finds recovered are of post-medieval or modern date, although a few items of middle Saxon date were also identified.

6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Appendix 2: Table 2**.

6.2 Stone

6.2.1 Three small fragments from pit [**305**] (fill **306**) are in lava stone, originating in the Eifel region of Germany. Lava stone, either in blocks as ballast or as quernstones, was imported into *Hamwic* in some quantity during the middle Saxon period, and is a common find on sites of this date within the town; quern manufacture from imported blocks is attested at Six Dials (Morton 1992, 65-6; Andrews 1997, 240).

6.3 Pottery

6.3.1 Pottery provides the majority of the primary dating evidence for the Site. Of the 13 sherds recovered, two are of middle Saxon date, while the remainder are modern.

6.3.2 The two middle Saxon sherds came from pit [**205**] (fill **206**) and augured layer **407** respectively, and provide the sole dating evidence for these features. Both are in relatively fine-grained sandy fabrics, and can be paralleled amongst the range of sandy wares previously identified from *Hamwic* (Timby 1988, fabric group III, probably fabric 10). The sherd from **407** is from the rim of a vessel, although of unknown form.

6.3.3 The remaining sherds, from topsoil **101** and **400**, made ground layer **301**, and linear feature [**505**] (fill **506**), are all modern (19th/20th century), and comprise one sherd of an earthenware flowerpot, and ten sherds of refined whitewares, some transfer-printed.

6.4 Other Ceramic

6.4.1 One fragment of flat roof tile was recovered from topsoil **101**, and one fragment of brick (in a coarse fabric) from linear feature [**505**] (fill **506**). Both are of broad post-medieval date.

6.5 Clay tobacco pipe

6.5.1 Six fragments of clay tobacco pipe were found, of which five were plain stem fragments. The sixth, from topsoil **400**, is an incomplete decorated (fluted) bowl, with the maker's initials I/E in relief on the spur. The bowl is of early 19th century type; the maker is unknown.

6.6 Other Finds

6.6.1 Other finds comprise a few fragments of animal bone, all too small to ascertain species; one piece of burnt, unworked flint; one small fragment of oyster shell, and one fragment of undiagnostic burnt clay.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

Environmental samples taken

7.1.1 A series of seven small samples measuring 0.25-0.75 litres were taken by auger from three unexcavated mid Saxon pits located in **Trenches 2**, **3** and **4**. These were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals to see if charred material was preserved within these features and whether it was comparable with that recovered from other Saxon sites in Hamwic, such as the nearby site of St Mary's Stadium (Birbeck 2005).

7.1.2 Although a further three bulk samples of 30-40 litres were taken from the upper fills of the unexcavated pits, these samples have not been processed or assessed, due to the high risk of contamination within the upper deposits of the features. The detailed environmental sampling undertaken during the excavations at the St Mary's Stadium site, demonstrated the upper deposits from similarly dated pits in the vicinity are unlikely to provide reliable environmental results.

7.2 Charred plant remains and wood charcoal

7.2.1 The small samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.25mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm, 1mm and 0.5mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10–x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Appendix 2: Table 3**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

7.2.2 The flots were relatively large considering the small sample size. There were low numbers of roots within the flots that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. The charred material exhibited varying degrees of preservation, from poor to well preserved material noted.

7.2.3 A few charred plant remains were recovered from pit **405**. The cereal remains included a grain of free-threshing wheat and the weed seeds comprised a small quantity of seeds of goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) and knotgrass (Polygonaceae). There were also a low number of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments.

7.2.4 Small quantities of wood charcoal fragments were observed in all of the samples.

7.3 Small animal and fish bones and marine shell

7.3.1 Fragments of bone, including fish scales and vertebrae, were present in samples from two of the pits. There were also fragments of marine shell, mussel and oyster in the samples from two of the pits.

7.4 Potential

7.4.1 There is no potential for analysis on the charred material or on the bone or marine shell from these samples to provide any detailed information due to the paucity of the remains recovered. The small quantities of remains recorded, (in terms of both the type of environmental remains present and the species range) are comparable with those recorded at the nearby St Mary's Stadium site.

7.5 Recommendations

7.5.1 Despite the small samples collected, the results have demonstrated that charred material, bone and marine shell are preserved within some of the features within the Site. If further excavation is undertaken, a small number of larger samples could be collected from the lower fills of selected pits to augment the data obtained from St Mary's Stadium and other sites in Hamwic. The upper fills from these pits are unlikely to provide good environmental data, as indicated during the excavations at St Mary's Stadium

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1.1 Of the eight trenches excavated on the Site, three were shown to contain archaeological features (**Trenches 2**, **3** and **4**), three were devoid of any archaeological features or demonstrated only modern disturbance (**Trenches 1**, **5** and **7**), and two were not excavated to the natural geology due to the considerable depth of the post-medieval/modern overburden (**Trenches 6** and **8**).

8.1.2 All of the trenches were recorded with deep overburden (0.86m+), possibly relating to ground clearance and levelling associated with the construction and subsequent realignment of the Southampton-London railway which

originally ran along the south-western edge of the Site and currently runs *c.* 50m to the east.

8.1.3 Test pits opened during previous archaeological investigations within St Mary's School playing fields (**SOU 1013**) showed a marked division between the areas to the north-east and the south-west of the 19th century railway line. Those to the south-west were all shown to contain middle Saxon features and deposits, including a gravelled yard surface, two postholes, and five rubbish and cess pits. These features cut natural brickearth at a depth of 0.3-0.4m below ground level, markedly shallower than the levels recorded during this evaluation. The north-eastern trenches, located on the eastern edge of the playing fields and along the path to the north, did not record any archaeological features, possibly due to later disturbance (Cottrell and Russell 2011, **Figure 1**).

8.1.4 Within the Site the trenches under discussion here also demonstrated the severe nature of disturbance associated with the 19th century railway. **Trenches 6** and **8**, those closest to the line, were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m, yet failed to reach natural geology, whilst in **Trench 5** brickearth was exposed at 1.03m but contained an large area of modern disturbance following the NW-SE course of the railway.

8.1.5 This evaluation has proved that, while the area of the Site may well have suffered from considerable disturbance in the post-medieval/modern periods, where present, deep archaeological features do survive well. Due to the limited nature of the trial trench investigation it is not possible to confidently rate the potential for the survival of shallower, structural features related to these pits. These features, if present, may have been removed during previous works on the Site, or they may lie beyond the bounds of the trenches discussed here.

8.1.6 A layer interpreted as a buried topsoil was recorded in **Trenches 1**, **2** and **4**, in a localised area in the north-east of the Site. This was shown to contain post-medieval clay tobacco pipe (**102**) and to directly overlie the mid Saxon features where present. If this is interpreted as an earlier ground surface, subsequently covered by the made ground which now dominates the stratigraphy of the Site, then it is possible that in this area at least, further small and structural remains as found to the south-west, could survive.

8.1.7 Archaeological features recorded during this evaluation were limited to three large pits, one in each of **Trenches 2**, **3** and **4**. Due to their size and the dimensions of the trenches, none were fully exposed in plan and therefore assumptions regarding their shape must be conjectural. The visible portions of [**305**] and [**405**] suggest a circular shape, whilst [**205**] could plausibly suggest a sub-rectangular form. The St Mary's Stadium site, *c.* 100m to the east, produced a high number of middle Saxon pits, over half of which were 'large' features (*c.* 2m diameter and 1.5-2m deep), while around 12% were 'large sub-rectangular' forms (1.5-2m wide and up to 2.5m deep) (Birbeck 2005). The three pits under discussion here clearly fit into this framework, with plausible extrapolated diameter/lengths of *c.* 2-3m and depths of *c.* 1.2-2.3m from the natural geology.

8.1.8 It is likely that the large number of pits found on middle Saxon sites in Southampton are associated with the extraction of brickearth for local use as

building materials etc. Once open they would then fulfil a secondary use as rubbish/cess pits, filling with domestic and industrial waste gradually over time. Pottery recovered from the fills of [**205**] and [**405**], and fragments of lava quern from the fill of [**305**] date the infilling of these features to the mid-Saxon period, comparable to the date of occupation of sites in the surrounding area (Cottrell and Russell 2011).

8.1.9 The proposed development of the Site is for the construction of a multi-use games area serving St Mary's Primary School. Any groundworks deeper than 0.75m could potentially adversely impact on the archaeological horizon and would require appropriate mitigation. When full details on the construction methodology are available, the Planning Archaeologist at Southampton City Council should be consulted to determine the nature of any further mitigation necessary. Given the substantial overburden across the development area, due consideration should be given to facilitate the preservation *in situ* of the archaeological deposits identified.

9 ARCHIVE

9.1 Preparation and Deposition

9.1.1 The complete archaeological project archive will be prepared in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Archive Preparation and in accordance with *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2007). It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with Southampton Museum under accession number **SOU 1565** until that time the archive will be held at Wessex Archaeology's offices.

9.2 The Archive

9.2.1 The project archive was prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (UKIC 1990). It comprises a ring-bound file containing a site 'day book', trench record sheets, photographic register and *Written Scheme of Investigation*.

9.2.2 The archive is currently held at Wessex Archaeology's office building under the site code **78880**.

9.3 Copyright

9.3.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

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APPENDIX 1: TABLE OF TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

All depths are below ground level.

Trench 1	**Dimensions :**	2.4m x 1.5m x 1.1m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NW) 442739.34, 112131.7, 5.12m aOD (SE) 442740.26, 112128.03, 5.03m aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
100	Layer	Topsoil – Mid grey brown silty sand with rare stone inclusions.	0.00-0.12
101	Layer	Made Ground – Mid orange brown with occasional stone inclusions, charcoal, coal, pottery and CBM.	0.12-0.86
102	Layer	Possible buried topsoil – Mid grey brown silty sand with moderate stone inclusions.	0.86-0.95
103	Layer	Natural – Brickearth. Mid yellow brown silty clay with no inclusions.	0.95+
	Dimensions :	7m x 1.5m x 1.1m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NW) 442745.66, 112131.73, 4.97 aOD (SE) 442749.87, 112123.68, 4.81 aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
200	Layer	Topsoil – Dark grey brown silty sand with rare stone inclusions.	0.00-0.11
201	Layer	Made Ground – Dark grey brown silty sand, solid, with charcoal and CBM.	0.11-0.25
202	Layer	Made Ground – Mid yellow brown silty clay with CBM, stone, charcoal. Looser compaction than **201**.	0.25-0.63
203	Layer	Possible buried topsoil – Mid grey brown silty sand with moderate stones.	0.63-0.86
204	Layer	Natural – Brickearth. Mid yellow brown silty clay with no inclusions.	0.86+
205	Cut	Pit – Cut of large, sub-rectangular pit. 2.5m x 1.5m exposed in trench. Filled with **206** – **209**. Augured but unexcavated.	1.08-3.25
206	Fill	Fill of **205** – Dark grey brown silty sand with charcoal, fired clay, pottery and burnt flint.	1.08-1.43
207	Fill	Fill of **205** – Redeposited natural brickearth, yellow brown sandy silty clay.	1.43-2.08
208	Fill	Fill of **205** – Mid yellow brown sandy silty clay.	2.08-2.48
209	Fill	Fill of **205** – Light yellow brown silty clay with lenses of rich humic material.	2.48-3.25
210	Layer	Natural – Sandy gravel.	3.25+
ench 3	**Dimensions :**	6.1m x 1.5m x 0.98m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NE) 442753.97, 112122.33, 4.81 aOD (SW) 442746.82, 112118.51, 4.93 aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
300	Layer	Topsoil – Dark grey brown silty sand with rare stone inclusions.	0.00-0.09
301	Layer	Made Ground – Dark grey brown silty sand, with charcoal and stone inclusions.	0.09-0.11
302	Layer	Redeposited Natural - Mid yellow brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	0.11-0.48
303	Layer	Made Ground – Dark grey brown silty sand with stone and charcoal inclusions.	0.48-0.86
304	Layer	Natural – Brickearth. Mid yellow brown silty clay with no inclusions.	0.86+
305	Cut	Pit – Cut of large possibly circular pit. *C.*2m exposed	0.98-2.18

		within the trench. Augured but unexcavated.	
306	Fill	Fill of **305** – Dark grey brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	0.98-2.18
307	Cut	Irregular feature – Large feature of indeterminate date/function, running for 3m along the SW portion of the trench. 0.7m exposed width. Unexcavated.	0.98+
308	Fill	Fill of **307** – Mid yellow brown silty clay.	-
309	Cut	Linear – E-W aligned linear, terminating to the east. 1.7m long, 0.15m wide.	0.98+
310	Fill	Fill of **309** – Mid yellow brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	-
311	Layer	Natural – Light yellow brown sand, homogenous, sterile.	2.18+
Trench 4	**Dimensions :**	8m x 1.7m x 1m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NE) 442744.06, 112124.38, 4.96 aOD (SW) 442736.88, 112120.91, 5m aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
400	Layer	Topsoil (imported) – Mid grey brown fine silty clay. Occasional flint gravel and pebble inclusions with flecks of charcoal and cinders.	0.00-0.20
401	Layer	Made Ground – Orange brown clay silt. Occasional flint gravel and CBM and common flecks of charcoal and cinders.	0.20-0.60
402	Layer	Topsoil (buried) – Pale grey brown silty clay. Occasional flint gravel and pebbles, occasional flecks of charcoal and cinders.	0.60-0.88
403	Layer	Topsoil – Pale grey brown silty clay. Very occasional small flint gravels and rare charcoal flecks, probably sorted from **402**.	0.88-0.98
404	Fill	Fill of **405** – Very dark grey brown silty clay with occasional flint gravels and pebbles. Common charcoal flecks and fired clay.	0.98-2.60
405	Cut	Pit - Cut of large possibly circular pit. *C.*1.7m exposed within the trench. Augured but unexcavated.	0.98-3.28
406	Layer	Natural – Brickearth. Light orange brown silty clay with rare flint inclusions.	0.98+
407	Fill	Fill of **405** – Dark grey silty sand with small charcoal and animal bone inclusions.	2.60-3.23
408	Fill	Fill of **405** – Mixed deposit of yellow brown sandy gravel and dark grey silty sand basal fills.	3.23-3.28
409	Layer	Natural – Mid yellow sandy gravel.	3.28+
Trench 5	**Dimensions :**	7m x 1.5m x 1.1m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NW) 442732.69, 112124.94, 5.06 aOD (SE) 442736.64, 112116.75, 4.94 a OD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
500	Layer	Topsoil – Dark grey brown silty sand.	0.00-0.14
501	Layer	Made Ground – Dark grey brown silty sand with charcoal flecks. Very compact.	0.14-0.59
502	Layer	Redeposited Natural – Mid yellow brown sily clay.	0.59-0.74
503	Layer	Made Ground – Dark grey brown silty sand with charcoal flecks.	0.74-1.03
504	Layer	Natural - Brickearth. Light orange brown silty clay with rare flint inclusions.	1.03+
505	Cut	Irregular linear feature – running NW-SE through trench for *c.*4.5m. Modern.	1.03-1.43
506	Fill	Fill of **505** – Dark grey brown silty sand with charcoal and modern CBM and pottery.	1.03-1.43

Trench 6	**Dimensions :**	5.6m x 1.7m x 1.2m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NE) 442739.19, 112114.89, 4.92 aOD (SW) 442734.1, 112112.13, 4.79 aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
600	Layer	Topsoil – Mid to light grey sandy silt with common inclusions of small fractured flints, CBM and plastic. Redeposited.	0.00-0.32
601	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed light yellow brown clay with topsoil derived mid grey sandy silt. Small to medium fractured flint inclusions, and rare large limestone blocks.	0.32-0.89
602	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed mid to dark sandy clay with light yellow brown clay mottling. Common inclusions of modern brick, concrete and glass, sparse inclusions of fractured flint rubble.	0.89+
Trench 7	**Dimensions :**	1.7m x 1.6m x 0.96m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NE) 442752.99, 112117.61, 4.82 aOD (SW) 442751.38, 112116.78, 4.84 aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
700	Layer	Topsoil – Mid to light grey sandy silt with sparse inclusions of small rounded gravels, sparse small chalk rubble and modern CBM and clinker. Redeposited.	0.00-0.25
701	Layer	Redeposited Clay – Light brown clay, well compacted with topsoil derived mottling. Sparse inclusions of modern CBM, fractured flints, and charcoal flecks.	0.25-0.63
702	Layer	Made Ground – Dark grey brown sandy silty clay with small, sparse inclusions of modern CBM, rounded flint gravels, and fractured flint rubble.	0.63-0.94
703	Layer	Natural – Brickearth. Mid to light orange brown clay.	0.94+
Trench 8	**Dimensions :**	1.7m x 1.7m x 1.2m	
	Land use:	Playing Fields	
	Coordinates:	(NE) 442740, 112111.02, 4.88 aOD (SW) 442738.47, 112110.27, 4.82 aOD	
Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
800	Layer	Topsoil – Mid to light grey sandy silt with common small inclusions of fractured flint rubble and gravel, CBM and plastic. Redeposited.	0.00-0.20
801	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed light yellow brown clay with topsoil derived mid grey sandy silt. Small to medium inclusions of fractured flint rubble and gravel, CBM.	0.20-0.84
802	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed mid to dark grey sandy clay with light yellow brown clay mottling. Common inclusions of large modern brick, concrete, glass and sparse fractured flint rubble.	0.84+

APPENDIX 2 : FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL TABLES

Table 2: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Stone	Pottery	Other Ceramic	Pipe Clay	Animal Bone	Other Finds
101		3/93	1/40			
102				3/8		
206		1/11			1/1	1 burnt flint
301		2/16		1/3		
306	3/18				4/5	
400		4/16		2/7		1 oyster shell; 1 burnt clay
407		1/6				
506		2/24	1/36		1/1	
TOTALS	**3/18**	**13/166**	**2/76**	**6/18**	**6/7**	

CBM = ceramic building material; Fe = iron; Pb = lead

Table 3: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Samples				*Flot*							
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments		
Mid Saxon Pits											
Trench 3											
305	306	2	0.5	15	3	-	-	-	-	1/<1 ml	Mussel frags, bone frags
Trench 4											
405	404	3	0.75	15	3	C	-	C	Indet. grain frag, *Corylus avellana* shell frag	1/<1 ml	Bone frags
405	407	4	0.75	10	5	C	-	C	Free-threshing wheat grain, *Chenopodium*	<1/<1 ml	Bone frags
405	408	5	0.5	7	5	-	-	C	*Corylus avellana* shell frag	<1/<1 ml	Bone + fish scale frags
Trench 2											
205	207	7	0.5	10	3	-	-	-	-	0/<1 ml	Shell frags, bone frags
205	208	8	0.25	5	5	-	-	-	-	0/<1 ml	Shell frags, bone frags
205	209	9	0.75	15	3	-	-	-	-	2/1 ml	Shell frags, bone frags, fish bone

Key:A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5;

APPENDIX 3 : OASIS RECORD FORM

OASIS ID - wessexar1-110217

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Sue Farr	s.farr@wessexarch.co.uk	16 September 2011

Completed sections in current version

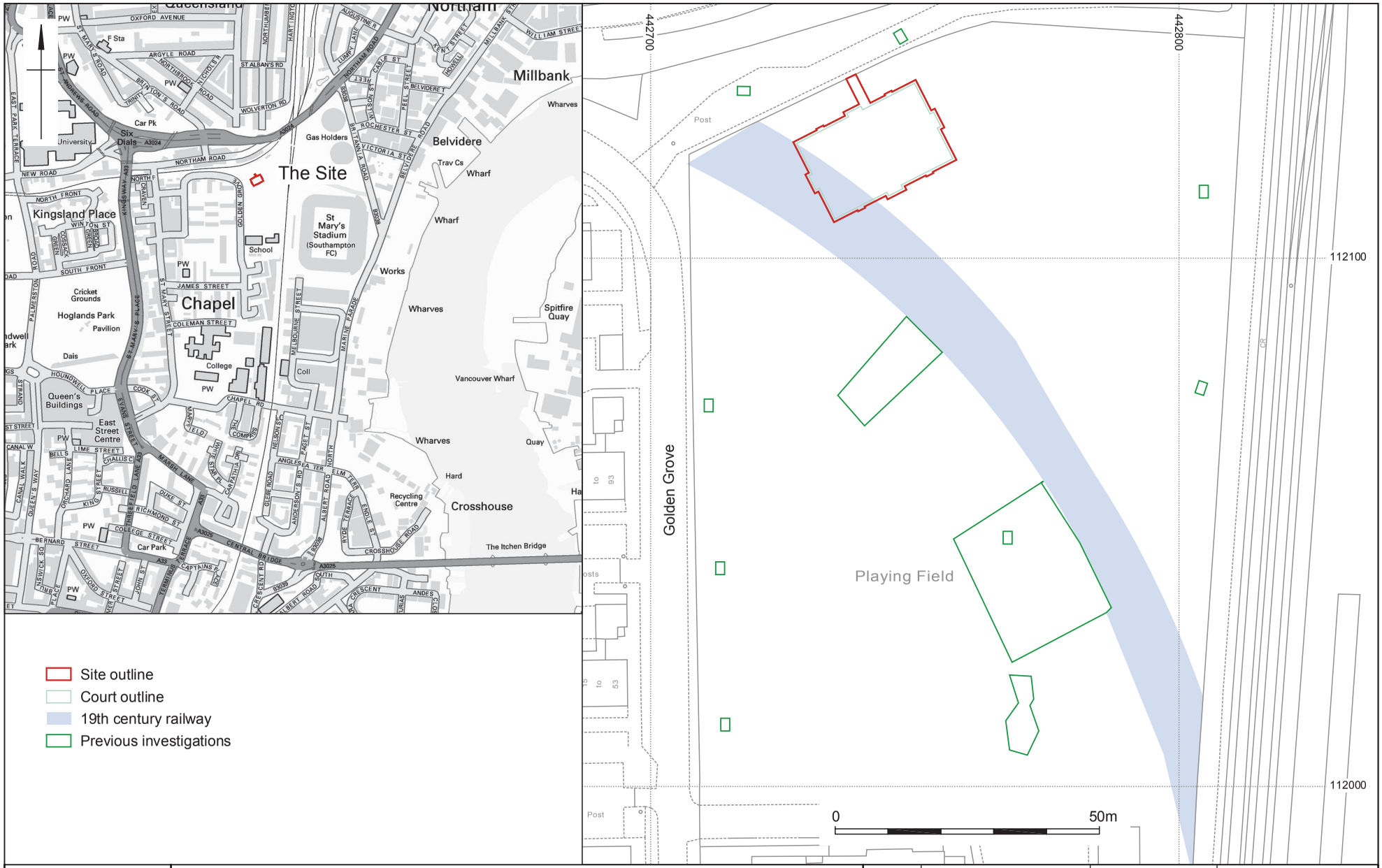
Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

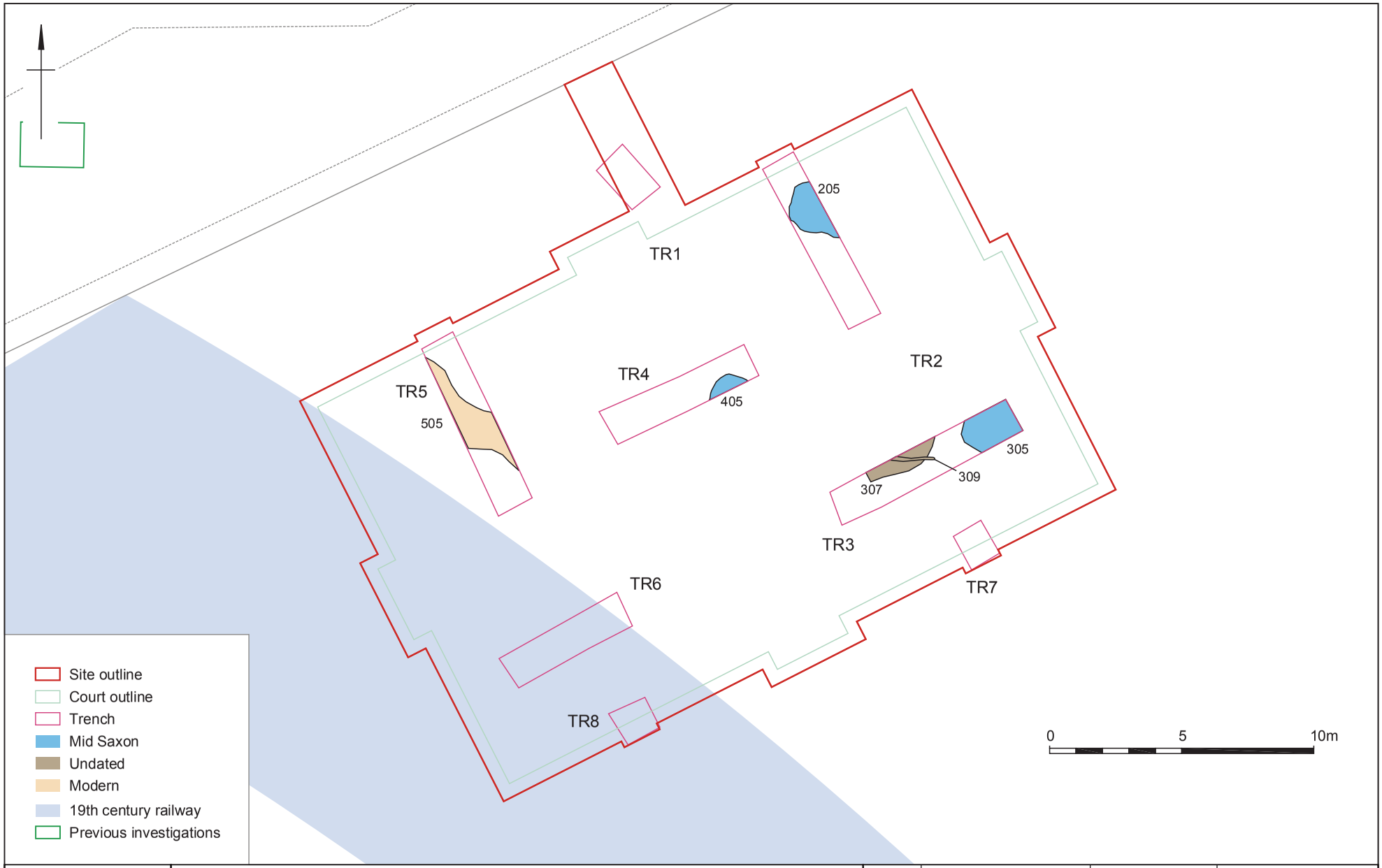
Grey literature report submitted?	No	Grey literature report filename/s	
Images submitted?	No	Image filename/s	
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename	
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?	



Date:	15/09/11	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:12 500 & 1:1000 @ A4	Illustrator:	LJC
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\78880\D.. O..\Rep..\Eval\11_09_15\78880_eval.dwg		

Site location plan and approximate location of 19th century railway and previous test pits and excavation areas

Figure 1



Wessex Archaeology

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Trench location with features

Figure 2

Plate 1: North west facing section of pit **405** capped by buried topsoil (402/3)

Plate 2: Pit **205** showing a number of fills in cross section

Date:	16/09/11	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	JVC
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Wessex Archaeology

WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.
Registered Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk
Regional offices in **Edinburgh**, **Rochester** and **Sheffield**
For more information visit **www.wessexarch.co.uk**