

## William King Flour Mill, Uxbridge, Buckinghamshire

Strip, Map, Sample and Assessment Report





Strip, Map, Sample Assessment Report

prepared on behalf of

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Front Cover - King William Flour Mill (built 1836). Viewed from the south Back Cover - King William Flour Mill emblem

## Strip, Map, Sample Assessment Report

#### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited, acting on behalf of Weston Homes, to undertake an archaeological Strip, Map and Sample and archaeological assessment on the site of the former William King Flour Mill, Uxbridge, Buckinghamshire, centred on National Grid Reference 505220 184875. The one hectare site is an elongated oval-shaped area of land surrounded by water and is the subject of an on-going approved development including part conversion of existing buildings and part redevelopment to residential usage in the remainder of the site.

This document represents an archaeological assessment of the results of the watching brief and strip, map and sample fieldwork undertaken in November 2010 and February/March, June/July 2011 respectively. It also proposes any further works required, including publication of the results in an appropriate format.

No archaeological features were encountered from the Site during the current fieldwork. No finds predating the post-medieval and modern periods (1500 – present) were recorded. However, the number and spread of interventions recorded archeologically on the Site, both in an earlier geoarchaeological borehole survey and the current fieldwork observation and sampling, should enable a greater understanding of the chronology of sedimentary sequences in this part of the Colne Valley, where other sites are known to contain nationally important evidence of Late Glacial and Early Mesolithic human activity, including the nationally and internationally important site of Three Ways Wharf *c.* 50m to the south-east.

It is proposed to undertake further palaeoenvironmental analyses on elements of the palaeoenvironmental assemblage with the greatest potential, which would also include a small number of radiocarbon determinations. A publication text would also consider earlier geotechnical information from the Site as well as additional discussion on the significance of the results from the Site, within the wider context of the Colne valley Late Glacial and Early Mesolithic evidence.

It is proposed that the report will take the form of a medium length journal article, preferably in the *Records of Buckinghamshire*, a peer-reviewed journal with a regional and national readership.

## Strip, Map, Sample and Assessment Report

#### **Acknowledgements**

The programme of strip, map and sample fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited, acting on behalf of Weston Homes, and Wessex Archaeology would particularly like to thank Gary Hurley (Weston Homes) and Duncan Hawkins (CgMs Consulting Limited) for their help during the fieldwork. Wessex Archaeology would also like to acknowledge the assistance, helpful advice and comments of Eliza Alqassar (Buckinghamshire County Council). Lastly, we would like to thank the Coinford groundworker crew for their help and cooperation during the fieldwork.

The fieldwork was directed by Chris Ellis (Senior Archaeologist) with the assistance of Mark Bagwell. This report was compiled by Chris Ellis, with contributions from Dave Norcott, Chris Stevens, and Sarah Wyles (palaeoenvironmental assessment). The figures were prepared by Kitty Brandon. The fieldwork and post-excavation was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Richard Greatorex, who also edited this report.

## Strip, Map, Sample and Assessment Report

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited, acting on behalf of Weston Homes, to undertake an archaeological strip, map, and sample archaeological assessment on the site of the former William King Flour Mill, Uxbridge, Buckinghamshire, centred on National Grid Reference 505220 184875 (see Figure 1) – hereafter referred to as the 'Site'.

#### 1.2 Scope and context of Document

- 1.2.1 This document represents an archaeological assessment of the results of the initial watching brief and the strip, map and sample fieldwork undertaken in November 2010 and February/March, June/July 2011 respectively.
- 1.2.2 This report follows earlier desk-based studies (CgMs 2004, 2008) aimed at identifying the general potential of the Site, and also a deposit modelling exercise produced by MoLAS from existing geotechnical borehole logs in 2005 (MoLAS 2005); which characterised the subsurface deposits and defined specific areas of archaeological or palaeoenvironmental potential (referred to as Areas of Archaeological Interest, or AAIs).
- 1.2.3 This report also follows a borehole survey undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in July 2009 (of **AAI 1** from 2005) for which an interim report has already been submitted which supplied initial comment on the sequences and the range and potential of palaeoenvironmental and/or archaeological indicators present (Wessex Archaeology 2009b).
- 1.2.4 This report aims to define as far as possible the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of the sequences on the Site, especially with regard to the important nearby Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic sites at Three Ways Wharf, Sanderson Road, Denham and Riverside Way.

### 1.3 Site Location and Topography

- 1.3.1 The Site is an elongated oval-shaped area of land surrounded by water and covers approximately 1 hectare (**Figure 1**). It is bounded by the Grand Union Canal to the east and the River Colne to the west. It lies towards the eastern edge of the River Colne floodplain and within this particular stretch of the Colne Valley, the River flows through a mixture of man-made and natural channels. The Site is the subject of an on-going approved development including part conversion of existing buildings and part redevelopment to residential usage in the remainder of the Site.
- 1.3.2 The southern extent of the Site lies approximately 50m north-west of the nationally important Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic site of Three Ways Wharf (Lewis and Rackham 2010).

## 1.4 Geology and Soils

- 1.4.1 The geology of the immediate area is mapped by the British Geological Survey as alluvium overlying undifferentiated River Gravels these have since been identified as belonging to the Colney Street Gravels (Gibbard 1985, 82). The gravels are underlain by London Clay, which is in turn underlain by Reading Beds (BGS Sheet 255, 1974).
- 1.4.2 Made ground has been identified at varying depths across the site during previous geotechnical works (Tait and Lara 2003).
- 1.4.3 The same study also indicated a variable sequence of sediments across the site, with made ground in the south-western area directly underlain by sand/gravel, whilst in the central area fine-grained alluvium was recorded over sand/gravel, and in the north-eastern part of the Site an alluvial sequence including peat deposits was present.

#### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Previous examination of data in the Buckinghamshire and Greater London Historic Environment Records (HERs) and published sources indicated that the archaeology of the study site is dominated by the historic settlement of Uxbridge some 1km to the east. However, of more direct relevance to the archaeological potential of the Site are the Late-Glacial and Mesolithic sites at Three Ways Wharf investigated between 1986 and 1988, and this and other relevant data is considered further below.

Table 1 – Period chronology used in this report

Prehistoric	Date Range
Palaeolithic	450,000 - 12,000 BC
Late Glacial	12,000 – 9,500 BC
Mesolithic	9,500 - 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 - 2150 BC
Bronze Age	2150 - 700 BC
Iron Age	700 - AD 43
Historic	
Romano-British	AD 43 - 410
Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval	AD 410 - 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 - 1499
Post-Medieval	AD 1500 - Present

## 2.2 Lower (650,000 – 300,000 BC) and Middle Palaeolithic (300,000 – 40,000 BC)

2.2.1 The BCSMR and GLSMR do not record any flint handaxes or other artefactual or faunal finds of these periods in the vicinity of the Site. The Colney Street Gravels are recognised as having very low potential (Wymer 1999).

## 2.3 Upper Palaeolithic/Late Glacial (40,000 – 9500 BC) and Mesolithic (9500 – 4,000 BC)

2.3.1 Over the last four decades this section of the Colne Valley at Uxbridge has become one of the best studied localities for Late Glacial and early Mesolithic settlement and environment in Britain (**Figure 1**). Since the 1950s

and 60s, monitoring of gravel extraction and other developments at several locations in the area like Boyer's Old Pit, Sandstone Pit (Lacaille 1963), Denham (Wessex Archaeology 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009a), Sanderson Site (MoLAS 2006, 2009), and Mansfield Farm, have resulted in the discovery of quantities of predominantly Late Glacial and Mesolithic lithics, but also later prehistoric lithics. In some instances these scatters are in association with peat deposits yielding Late Glacial and early Post-Glacial flora (Wymer 1977, 1999).

- 2.3.2 During archaeological investigations in advance of the construction of the M25 (at TQ 040 834), a lithic scatter and desiccated peat sequence was investigated.
- 2.3.3 By far the most importance discovery in the local area was that of *in-situ* lithic scatters associated with faunal material at Three Ways Wharf, located c. 50m south-east of the southern extent of the Site (Lewis 1991; Lewis *et. al.* 1992; Lewis and Rackham 2010) and c. 200m south-east of the borehole survey in AAI1. These earlier investigations confirmed the archaeological potential for this general area to contain highly significant deposits and/or human activity of Late Glacial and Mesolithic date.
- 2.3.4 More recent archaeological investigations at the site of the former Sanderson's factory (c.150m north-east of the Site) discovered flint scatters situated on an area of slightly raised gravel, most likely a gravel bar (MoLAS 2006).
- 2.3.5 In view of the broad location and alluvial similarities on the Site to Three Ways Wharf and Denham to the west, there was clearly a high potential for artefact bearing deposits and/or deposits containing environmental evidence to be present.

#### 2.4 Neolithic - Bronze Age - Iron Age

- 2.4.1 Little of Neolithic, Bronze Age or Iron Age date has been recovered from the flood plain of the River Colne. However, chance finds and several archaeological investigations immediately off the valley floor have produced evidence of settlement and agricultural activity on the adjacent gravel terrace.
- 2.4.2 Occupation on the gravel terrace west of the investigation area is suggested by a stone axe of probable Neolithic date, found on New Denham Meadows some 60m to the north-west. Archaeological investigations at Three Ways Wharf identified late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age artefacts within a locally worked calcareous tufa deposit and a layer of clay stratified above the black clay deposit (Lewis and Rackham 2010). Recent excavations at The Lea have recorded a possible barrow (Mark Collard, pers. comm.).

- 2.4.3 More recently, excavations on the former Jewson's Yard (off Harefield Road) have produced Neolithic flints and a polished axe (Barclay 1995). In addition, a large ditch of Middle Bronze Age date was associated with a 6m diameter hut circle and a four-poster probable granary building. In the Late Bronze Age, settlement was superseded by a major landscape boundary and droveway comprising a revetted bank flanked by two large ditches and a further parallel ditch pointing towards the Colne flood plain. Ephemeral and low density settlement features (pits, postholes) and field boundary ditches of Middle and Late Bronze Age periods have also been recorded at The Lea, c. 1km north of the Site (Mark Collard, pers. comm.) and Denham (Wessex Archaeology (2005, 2009a).
- 2.4.4 In short, although the range of prehistoric deposits are probably less varied in the this section of the Colne Valley compared to its confluence with the Thames at Staines, it is clear that a settled and farmed landscape had developed on the gravel terraces alongside the Colne and its subsidiary streams in the Uxbridge area. Some potential therefore exists for archaeological features of a Neolithic and later date.
- 2.4.5 The presence of Neolithic and Bronze Age material within alluvial deposits in the upper sequence at Three Ways Wharf demonstrates that there may also be potential for the presence of palaeoenvironmental sequences which span this period.

#### 2.5 Romano-British

- 2.5.1 The Site does not lie in the vicinity of any known Roman road or other focus of settlement and no Romano-British farmsteads are recorded in the vicinity. However, a 3rd century pottery flagon was found in the River Colne immediately west of the Site. A small quantity of Romano-British pottery and roof tile fragments have been recorded from the topsoil/subsoil at Denham as well as field boundaries (Wessex Archaeology 2005, 2009a). Field boundaries, settlement and cremation sites of Romano-British date have also been recorded at The Lea (Mark Collard, pers. comm.).
- 2.5.2 Further east, in Uxbridge, several sherds of Roman pottery have been recovered from building sites (Cotton *et al* 1986, 67) and six pits containing possible cremations and domestic rubbish were investigated at the Jewson's site (Barclay 1995).
- 2.5.3 In view of the limited extent of finds locally and their general distribution on the gravel terrace adjacent to the Colne a low potential was anticipated prior to the investigation being undertaken.

#### 2.6 Saxon to Medieval

2.6.1 There are no sites or finds dated to the Saxon period close to the Site. During this period, increased precipitation, sea level rises and tidal changes in the Lower Thames appear to have impeded river drainage across much of the London Basin which in-turn caused marshland to expand across the flood plains of tributary valleys making settlement in this area highly unlikely.

- 2.6.2 Uxbridge, meaning "a dwelling house at the Oxebridge", is first mentioned in a charter of 1107. The settlement is not mentioned again until the 1180's when it was awarded a market and from this date onwards the importance and size of the settlement grew. Archaeological excavations have established that the core of the settlement lay along the present High Street.
- 2.6.3 The Site lies within but at the very edge of Denham parish. The Domesday Survey of 1086 mentions two mills in the Manor of Denham. The two Mills, one for fulling and the other for Corn, were recorded in 1303 as lying adjacent to each other. The two Mills were known as 'Abotts Mill's. The construction of a new Mill on the Site is suggested by the name 'New Mill' recorded in 1388. Later cartographic evidence shows the Site was occupied by a Mill in 1602.

#### 2.7 Post-Medieval

- 2.7.1 The earliest map which shows the Site at a reasonable scale is dated to 1602. The map depicts the Site occupied by a Mill constructed over the 'Colne Streame'. The Mill is depicted as two separate buildings, one with a large chimney. A bridge is shown crossing the 'Colne Streame' in front of the Mill and further to the south on a spur of land a third building is shown. The Mill building appears to be located in the area where the access to William King Flour Mill crosses the River Colne in the vicinity of Midway cottage.
- 2.7.2 The Mill is recorded having been burnt down in the 18th century (Lathbury 1904:BCSMR 0289400000). The original part of the current Mill was built in 1836 and is located further to the north than the Mill depicted on the 1602 map. The Tithe Map and Award of 1842 records the Mill as being called 'New Mill'. The map shows changes to the course of the River Colne to power the Mill, including the construction of a weir and the cutting of an inlet to the north of the Mill. Four buildings are depicted on the spur of land currently occupied by Midway Cottage (No. 641). The Grand Union Canal (built in 1796) is shown passing the eastern edge of the Site.
- 2.7.3 There was little change on the Site until 1962 when the Mill was extended and a large additional (warehouse) building was constructed to the north. By 1974 the building to the north of the original Mill building is extended and the inlet between the two buildings appears to have been partially filled in. The garages which currently occupy the southern part of the Site are visible on the 1974 Ordnance Survey. Between 1974 and 1989 further extensions were made to the Mill, and vehicle maintenance garages were built in the south-east of the Site. The rest of the Site remained relatively unchanged.

#### 3 PREVIOUS FIELDWORK

#### 3.1 Geotechnical and Desk-based Surveys

3.1.1 A number of desk-based studies (CgMs 2004, 2008) have already been undertaken on the Site, aimed at identifying the general archaeological potential of the Site. A deposit modelling exercise (MoLAS 2005) defined specific areas of archaeological or palaeoenvironmental potential (referred to as Areas of Archaeological Interest, or AAIs), one of which (AAI 1) was further investigated in 2009 (Wessex Archaeology 2009b).

#### 3.2 Borehole Survey( 2009)

- 3.2.1 This area (**AAI 1**) was a *c*. 1200m<sup>2</sup> area in the north-eastern corner of the Site, characterised by an area of Colney gravels overlain by black peat which might form/comprise a site/island of Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic activity.
- 3.2.2 From an archaeological viewpoint the results of the assessment of the borehole material from **AAI 1** were superficially disappointing, given the lack of alluvial deposits or incipient soils sealed beneath peat or black humic clay which at the nearby sites had yielded early prehistoric lithic and faunal assemblages of considerable importance. No worked flints were recovered, nor was worked wood, hazelnuts or any other indicators of human activity.
- 3.2.3 However, the radiocarbon date from this assessment of deposits at the William King Flour Mill site has indicated that stratified peat deposits present are likely to span the Early Mesolithic phase of activity previously identified at the adjacent nationally important site of Three Ways Wharf. The deposits recorded at the William King Flour Mill have the potential to provide this palaeoenvironmental context for Early Holocene human activity within the Colne Valley as they were absent from stratified organic deposits contemporary with the Early Mesolithic assemblages from Three Ways Wharf and the nearby Sanderson site.

#### 4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1.1 A detailed project design for the work was compiled (CgMs 2010), following a project brief from BCAS (2010), providing full details of the research aims and methods. Although these detailed method statements will not be reiterated here a brief summary of the methodology is provided below.

#### 4.1.2 The aim of the project was to:

- Identify in-situ Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic sites and undertake detailed investigation to recover their full composition and spatial patterning artefactual, ecofactual and structural data. Where appropriate, undertake detailed artefactual studies, including where appropriate refitting and use-wear analysis.
- Record the buried Holocene landscape and recover a full and detailed environmental record for the Site, paying particular attention to evidence for human intervention in the landscape (e.g. deliberate burning of vegetation).
- Identify and record structures related to human use and modification of the watercourses in historic periods in order to better understand the history of milling and water management in the area.
- Undertake a programme of scientific dating related to the above.
- Complete the analysis and publication of the results to an appropriate standard placing the Site within its wider local, regional and national context.

#### 5 METHODOLOGY

#### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Initially a watching brief investigation was undertaken over three **Areas** (1-3) in the north of the Site for which an interim statement was produced (see *Results* section below). The watching brief was undertaken between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010. The observations were made of machine excavated ground reduction in these areas (0.50 – 2m depth) though deep excavations, for removal of existing concrete stanchions were recorded from ground level due to Health and Safety concerns.

#### 5.2 Strip, Map and Sample

- Further groundwork for basement car parks in the west (**Area A**) south-east (**Area B**) of the Site were undertaken under continual archaeological supervision as ground levels were reduced by c. 3m after sheet piling had been installed around the circuit of both areas. Two further test pits (**TP 1** and **2**) were machine excavated to the south of Area A. These were civil engineering geotechnical pits required by Weston Homes to check ground conditions at this specific location. Both were monitored and fully recorded.
- 5.2.2 In discussions with Eliza Alqassar (BCC) and Duncan Hawkins (CgMs) on site it was agreed that during the excavation of **Areas A** and **B** could be undertaken in small 'blocks' of stratigraphy, whilst maintaining 'running' sections along and across the areas as appropriate to record the stratigraphic sequences. This meant that work could proceed more effectively and earlier 'blocks' of stratigraphy could be recorded whilst other 'blocks' were removed under archaeological supervision. It also meant that as the work level was reduced by machine in each 'block', it ensured a good level of overburden remained intact on unexcavated 'blocks', to facilitate the removal of spoil without damage to underlying (intact) stratigraphic sequences.
- 5.2.3 The Colney Street gravels were exposed and recorded in plan over the whole of **Areas A** and **B**, after the overlying alluvial deposits and recent soils and disturbance had been removed under archaeological supervision. The formation levels of the basement car parks to be constructed in these two area were *c*. 0.50 1.0m below the final recorded levels. It was not deemed necessary for the required further ground reduction of the natural gravels (immediately prior to concrete pouring) to be supervised and recorded.
- 5.2.4 A series of columnar environmental samples were taken from the sequences in both **Areas A** and **B**. This included the taking of monolith samples with associated contiguous columns of bulk samples.
- 5.2.5 All observations were surveyed with a Trimble real time differential GPS system, recording all observation in real-world coordinates and heights in metres above Ordnance Datum (m aOD).

#### 6 RESULTS

#### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 This section includes all information on the natural deposits encountered and the archaeological features and deposits recorded. A detailed summary of the stratigraphic sequence and deposits of each area (1-3, A, B) and test pits (1, 2) are listed in **Appendix 1**.
- 6.1.2 No archaeological artefacts predating the post-medieval period (1500 present) were recorded from any areas during fieldwork.

#### 6.2 Watching Brief (November 2010)

- 6.2.1 A watching brief was undertaken on three areas (**Figure 1**) in the north of the Site (**Areas 1- 3**) for which an interim report has already been submitted (November 2010). No artefacts of archaeological importance were recorded during these works; however, alluvial deposits were recorded in deeper parts of the excavations undertaken, sealed below recent, mixed soil deposits.
- 6.2.2 Ground reduction of 0.50m was undertaken for **Area 1**, which included mixed soil deposits (**3**, **4**) containing post-medieval and modern materials and artefacts below a 0.30m thick concrete slab (**1**) and rubble bedding layer (**2**).
- 6.2.3 Area 2, was machine excavated to a maximum depth of 2m below ground level of which the uppermost 1.05m was comprised of topsoil (4) and mixed, recently deposited soils (5-7) overlying an alluvium (8), of possible medieval or early post-medieval date, containing occasional oyster shells, clay roof tile fragments and an iron nail. This overlaid dark grey-black alluvial clay layer (9) in the base of the area, which is very similar to a deposit recorded in Area 3 and in Areas A (21) and B (48) to the south.
- 6.2.4 **Area 3**, which was excavated to a depth of 2.3m, was heavily impacted upon by modern ground beams, concrete stanchions and piles to a depth of up to c. 4m. The removal of two stanchions within this area revealed a similar sequence to that recorded in **Area 2** with a very distinctive black clay alluvium, similar to (9), at c. 2m depth.

#### 6.3 Area A

- 6.3.1 This area was located on the west side of the Site and to the north of the historic mill building and was initially excavated to *c*. 3.30m depth, exposing the natural Colney Street gravels over the whole of the base of the area. The northern half and the north-west corner of the area had been heavily impacted upon from structural remains (concrete beams and stanchions) associated with the earlier modern mill buildings on this location. However, intact stratigraphy was still *in-situ* between these modern intrusions and modern disturbances (from earlier demolition and geotechnical works).
- 6.3.2 A subtle change was recorded in the stratigraphic sequence c.19m from the west end of the area. Some natural gravel deposits (18, 19) thinned out, and others thickened and sub-divided, notably peat deposit (24) into deposits (27) (30) in the east.

- 6.3.3 The natural gravels (17) were characterised by a mid grey fine sand matrix containing abundant sub-rounded, sub-angular and rounded blue/grey and black flint gravel (<80mm, mostly <30mm). These dipped gently down to the east by c.0.75m over the length (east-west) of the area from 30.73m (aOD) in the west, which is reflected in the thickening of the alluvial sequence eastwards. In the west of the area, thin deposits of a humic ('peaty') gravel (18) and a calcareous gravel (19) overlaid the clean, Colney Street Gravels (17).
- 6.3.4 The natural gravels were overlaid by *c*.1.20m of soft alluvial sediments, of inorganic or high organic content, with some areas having modern deposits (**23**) or modern disturbance (**25**) which extends to the full depth of the area. This compares relatively well with the 0.70 1.80m of soft deposits recorded below modern 'made ground' from earlier boreholes (WS7, WS8) in the area (Tait and Lara 2003).
- 6.3.5 The alluvial deposits (**20**, **21**, **22**, **26**, **31**) were mainly comprised of fine alluvial silts and clays with few inclusions, though (**22**) and (**26**) contained calcareous (tufaceous?) 'grains' (3-4mm). Tufaceous deposits were recorded at Riverside Way and Denham Area 4 (Holocene). A particularly noteworthy alluvium deposit is the black clay (**21**) recorded in the latest parts of the stratigraphic sequence. It contained very common degraded waterlogged plant remains (<2mm), and is equivalent to (**48 Area B**), (**9 Area 2**), (**12 TP1**) and a deposit at *c*. 2m depth in **Area 3**, suggesting possible contemporaneity of elements of the stratigraphic sequence across the Site.
- 6.3.6 Within the alluvial sequence a number of organic-rich peat deposits were recorded (**24, 27 30**) in the mid-upper (*c*. 31.30m aOD) and mid-lower parts (*c*. 30.70 31.30m aOD) of the sequence. These were characterised by *c*. 0.20m thick deposits of dark red/brown silts or clay/silts containing sparse to abundant (**29**) degraded waterlogged wood (<0.15m diameter, usually <20mm diameter) and plant remains (leaves).
- 6.3.7 The peat deposits become more widespread and thicken to the east of the area, where most (27 30) have thickened and sub-divided from (24) in the westernmost c.19m of the area.

#### 6.4 Area B

- 6.4.1 This area was located in the south-east of the Site (**Figure 1**), only *c*.50m from the archaeologically significant Three Ways Wharf site (Lewis and Rackham 2010). It was initially excavated to *c*. 2.30m depth, exposing the natural Colney Street gravels over the whole of the base of the area. A large zone in the north of the area had been heavily contaminated with hydrocarbons (noted in Tait and Lara 2003) due to the mill vehicle maintenance garages that used to occupy this part of the Site (CgMs DBA 2008, *Figure 8*). In the mid-west modern structural foundations had also heavily impacted the stratigraphic sequence to at least the depth of the natural gravels.
- 6.4.2 The available alluvial sequence for most of this area (*c.* 0.80m generally) was less than that for **Area B**, and noted in an earlier geotechnical survey of the Site (Tait and Lara 2003) where very little (0.40m) or no soft deposits were noted below 'made ground' and above natural 'sand and gravel' (WS1-WS3, BH2).

- 6.4.3 The full alluvial sequence was fully sampled at its maximum recorded thickness of 1.64m, in the south of the area. This thickening is partially attributable to the 0.70m drop in level in the natural gravels to the south, from *c*. 30.50m to 29.80m aOD. However, this is probably as a result of relatively recent truncation of this part of the Site, such as the construction of the Grand Union Canal (built 1796) to the immediate east and/or during landscaping groundwork for the modern mill workings on the Site.
- 6.4.4 The natural gravels (37=38) were characterised by a light grey-brown coarse sand matrix with abundant sub-rounded and sub-angular blue/grey flint gravel (<0.10m, mostly <30mm). Also contains abundant flint 'chips' (<2mm) giving a very 'gritty'; texture. Heavily contaminated with hydrocarbons, particularly in the northern half of the area.
- 6.4.5 The alluvial deposits (**36**, **39**, **40**, **47**, **48**, **50**, **51**, and **53**) were characteristically *c*. 0.20 0.50m thick, grey-brown or grey silt or sand/clays or clay/sands, especially overlying the natural gravels (**54**). Other alluvial deposits were gleyed (**36**, **39**, **40**) suggesting deposition in waterlogged, anaerobic conditions, whilst others had mineralogical staining (**36**, **47**). Some of the deposits contained black lensing or mottling suggestive of much degraded organic material having blue coloured (**40**, **51**) or degraded waterlogged wood and plant remains (**48**, **40**).
- A black clay alluvium (48) in the upper part of the stratigraphic sequence (c.31.30 31.50m aOD) is equivalent to, and the same general height (m aOD) as other black alluviums recorded in Area A (21), Area 2 (9) though lower than those recorded in TP1 (12) (c. 31.70 32.00m aOD). This deposit was also recorded at c.2m depth (c.30.30m aOD) from a pile void in the base of Area 3, though the height is only approximate.
- 6.4.7 A single peat deposit (**49**) was recorded in the middle part of the stratigraphic sequence (*c*. 30.60m aOD) in the southern half of the area. It was characterised by a 0.30m thick, dark brown clay containing rare, small to medium sized pieces of degraded wood and plant remains.
- 6.4.8 A gravel bank (**52**) was recorded against west side of the area. It was a maximum of 6.40m (+) wide and 0.58m thick (thickest to the west) and was characterised by a pale brown coarse sand matrix containing abundant, poorly-sorted small to medium angular and sub-angular flint gravel. This was possibly recorded in an earlier geotechnical investigation (Tait and Lara 2003 WS2) where 'clayey sand and gravel' was recorded at a depth of *c*.1.0m. This deposit possibly represents the remains of a minor gravel *eyot* in this part of the Site.

#### 6.5 Test Pit 1

6.5.1 This test pit, between the existing mill building and **Area A**, recorded modern disturbance (**10**, **11**) to a depth of 1.70m (*c*. 32.0m aOD), overlying another distinctive black clay alluvium (**12**) similar to (**21** - **Area A**) and other areas noted earlier. This overlaid a grey alluvium (**13**) and a peat deposit (**14**) equivalent to (**22**) and (**24**) respectively in **Area A**.

#### 6.6 Test Pit 2

6.6.1 This was located to the immediate south of **TP1** and modern rubble (**15**) and a very mixed deposit of redeposited alluviums containing modern building materials and modern wood pieces (**16**) to a depth of 2.30m(+) and represents the recent infilling of the east end of a mill dock, probably during demolition of the mill's modern ancillary buildings.

#### 7 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

#### 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 No archaeological features were encountered during this phase of works, so the palaeoenvironmental sampling was entirely focussed on the potentially important sequence of peat and alluvial deposits present across the Site. These deposits were identified as being of high potential during a previous phase of bore holing *c*. 30m to the north-east (see para 3.2 above) (**Figure 1**).
- 7.1.2 Eleven bulk samples of 20 litres were taken from alongside monolith samples in two sections, from **Area A** and **Area B** (see **Figures 2**, **3**). The samples were processed for the assessment of waterlogged remains. Smaller, more confined, duplicate samples of 2 litres were also taken for dating and/or molluscs from contiguous columns of bulk samples. These samples were not processed at this stage.
- 7.1.3 Five monolith samples were also taken, which are discussed below. Heights (m aOD) or thicknesses of deposits in **Tables 2** and **3** may differ slightly from those in **Appendix 1** due to the specific characteristics of each deposit at the specific point of sampling.

### 7.2 Sediments

- 7.2.1 Of the five monolith samples taken (1, 7, 16/17, 25) from exposed sedimentary sequence sections (Figure 1), three were fully analysed for this particular assessment (16/17 and 25) as listed in Tables 2, 3 where the detailed geoarchaeological sediment descriptions are given. The selected monoliths were cleaned prior to recording and standard descriptions used, (following Hodgson 1997) including Munsell colour, texture, structure and nature of boundaries, as given below in Tables 2 and 3.
- 7.2.2 The three sequences from **Area A** west (Monolith Sample 1), mid-east (Monolith Sample 7), and east (Monolith Samples 16/17) were all broadly similar and observed in the field as belonging to the same continuous sequence of deposits; it was therefore possible to identify the most promising monolith sequence in the field, (Monolith Samples 16/17), and to target them for additional adjacent sampling (continuous mollusc bulk sampling as well as larger bulk sampling of contexts), and for laboratory description and sub-sampling.
- 7.2.3 Monolith Sample **25** was taken through the sedimentary sequence in the south of Area B (**Figure 2**), and was also selected for laboratory description and further work.

#### Monolith Sample 16/17

- 7.2.4 Basal gravels (17) were overlain by a thin (0.09m) layer of fine alluvium (31), which in turn was overlain by a humified peaty deposit (30 0.13m thick) with sparse inclusions of fine quartz sand throughout due to its homogeneity, lack of waterlogged macrofossils and distribution of sand grains, this has been interpreted as a probable peaty soil rather than a peat proper. This would represent a (relatively) drier and fairly stable land-surface upon which archaeological activity could have taken place.
- 7.2.5 Above the peaty soil a peat proper (29) was recorded from 30.56 to 31.17m aOD. This represents a highly vegetated wetland environment. The peat became finer further up the sequence with smaller recognisable plant remains, which may reflect changes in the vegetation of the immediate locale over time. An episode of more mineralogenic peat/clay (28) at 30.84 30.93m aOD may represent a temporary rise in water levels.
- 7.2.6 Above the peat (from 31.17 31.39m aOD) a black clay (21) was recorded, greasy and soapy in texture and recognisable as very similar to that recorded at Three Ways Wharf and other sites from the Colne and Kennet valleys. The exact provenance of this deposit is unclear, but it would have been deposited in still or very slow-moving water, and probably contains a proportion of heavily degraded peat and possibly micro-charcoal.
- 7.2.7 The black clay (21) was sealed beneath c. 0.2m of fine alluvium (26), the upper portion of which may be disturbed by intrusive material from the modern overburden above (from 31.61m aOD).

#### Monolith Sample 25

- 7.2.8 This sample was taken c. 16m from the south end of Area B, where the sedimentary sequence was thickest, and least impacted upon by post-medieval and modern disturbances. The overall sequence is quite similar to Monolith Sample 16/17 from Area A, although with some noteable differences.
- 7.2.9 Above the basal gravels (**54**) a sandy clay loam (**53**) at (29.95-30.18m aOD, with particle sizes becoming finer up-sequence represents an alluvial environment with reducing flow rate over time. Above this was a finer alluvial deposit (**51**) to 30.50m aOD, which represents low-energy deposition; this might not have been continuous, although no indication of soil formation or stases were recorded.
- 7.2.10 Waterlogged roots were present, and in the upper portion an increase in organic content and indications of bioturbation mark the onset of peat development (50).
- 7.2.11 The peat (**49**, **50**) in Area B was noticeably coarser than that recorded in **Area A** (Monolith Sample **16/17**), with larger recognisable plant remains, and was c.0.50m thick to 31.06m aOD.
- 7.2.12 Above the peat was very dark brown humic clay (48) superficially quite similar to the black clay (21) in Area A.

### 7.3 Waterlogged plant remains

- 7.3.1 Sub-samples of 2 litres were taken and processed for waterlogged plant remains from bulk samples contiguous with Monolith Sample 16/17 (Area A) and Monolith Sample 25 (Area B). The majority of samples were wet sieved using a 0.25mm mesh and stored in sealed containers with water, in two cases where larger heavy residues (e.g. gravels, and sands) were present in the samples the samples were processed by flotation onto a 0.25mm mesh.
- 7.3.2 The flots were visually inspected under an x10 to x40 stereo-binocular microscope to determine if waterlogged material occurred. Where waterlogged material was present, preliminary identifications of dominant taxa were conducted and are presented in **Table 4.** Nomenclature follows that in Stace (1997).
- 7.3.3 The samples varied in the amount of material, but with the exception of that from the peat (27) were not particularly rich in waterlogged plant remains.

#### Area A

- 7.3.4 The lowest sample from alluvium (31) had remains of common meadow-rue (*Thalictrum flavum*), and gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*), along with probable sedges (*Carex* sp.). These are all indicative of general fen-marsh grassland, with little indication of aquatics.
- 7.3.5 The sample from the probable peaty soil (**30**) had no waterlogged material, supporting its interpretation as a relatively dry land surface. The peat deposit that had formed above this (**29**) had only evidence for occasional seeds of common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*), with the presence of nettle suggesting periodic relatively dry conditions.
- 7.3.6 The overlying fine peat (28) had large numbers of fine roots but no waterlogged macrofossils, again suggesting that it had been subject to drying in the past.
- 7.3.7 The fine peat from context (27) had large numbers of well persevered branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*) fruits, suggesting standing or flowing water. Along with a few seeds of sedge this suggests a continuation of open marsh, although woundwort (probably *Stachys arvensis* or *S. sylvatica*) would be more indicative of woodland edge or rough grassland. The deposit also had a single seed of possible birch (*Betula* sp.),
- 7.3.8 The black clay (21) had no plant remains in while the overlying alluvium (26) had a few seeds of bulrush (*Typha* sp.) and mint (*Mentha* sp.), indicative of standing to slow-flowing water and grassland-marshland.

Table 2 - Sediment description: Monolith Sample 16/17

				onolith Sample 16/17		
Feature:	n/a	Mono:	17	<b>Comments:</b> Mono <16> top 31.68, <1	7> top 31.34	
Level (top):	31.68m aOD	Drg:	10			
Depth (m OD)	Associated bulk samples	Context	Sediment	t description	Interpretation	
31.68- 31.61			small iron	very dark greyish brown clay, gritty, staining patches, boundary quite mixed with below	?redeposited soil material	Modern overburden
31.61- 31.49	16	26		greyish brown clay, occasional grit, undary with below over 5cm.	Alluvium	Fine alluvium, possibly disturbed
31.49- 31.39		26		olive brown silty clay loam, mixed above darker alluvium	Alluvium	ne ium, sibly rbed
31.39- 31.17	18	21	loam, but organic co inclusions	black clay (soapy texture of silty clay confident that is a product of high content). Very sticky, highly organic, no or plant remains, one rootlet cast filled with browner clay. Clear (not undary.	clay (c.f. gyttja)	Black organic clay
31.17- 30.93	19	27	Very fine horizontal	ry fine peat, with some silt content. fibrous plant remains, no obvious ity/ layering observed. Continues at interrupted by clayey layer below - andary.		Ve
30.93- 30.84	20	28	slightly fil	y clay loam to clay; still peaty and brous but more of a highly organic than a peat on balance. Sharp		Very fine peat
30.84- 30.73		28	silt conte remains,	30.93; black very fine peat, with some ent. Very fine recognisable plant no obvious horizontality/ layering Clear boundary,		
30.73- 30.56	21	29	slightly le recognisa layering o	5/1 black peat, similar to above but ess fine with more (and larger) ble plant remains, and horizontal bserved. Wood/ root chunk at 30.58-to sharp boundary.		Fine peat
30.56- 30.43	22	30	very hum from fine feel. Bour	5/1 black very fine peat (or possibly ic peaty soil). Speckled appearance quartz sand content, but not gritty to ndary sharp but slightly interdigitated rizontal bits of below grey alluvium in cm)	soil	Peaty soil
30.43- 30.36	23	31	sandy gri	very dark grey silty clay loam, slightly ittiness to top; darker ?humic band ck @30.39m. Gravel in base.	Alluvium	Alluvium over gravel

Table 3 - Sediment description: Monolith Sample 25

Feature:	n/a	Mono:	25	Comments:		
Level (top):	31.15m aOD	Drg:	12			
Depth (m OD)	Associated bulk samples	Context	Sedimen	t description	Interpretation	
31.15- 31.06	26	48	no inclus	very dark brown clay. Highly organic, ons, very fine rootlets / slight peaty sharp) boundary.	Organic clay	Dark brown humic clay
31.06- 30.55	27	49		t, lots of recognisable plant remains – parser than in other area with <17>. undary.	Peat	_
30.55- 30.50		50	physical	very dark grey silty clay loam, slight mixing with below, rare quartz sand ble. Sharp to clear boundary		Peat
30.50- 30.18	28	51		dark greyish brown silty clay loam, il waterlogged root, clear to sharp	Fine grained alluvium	Alluvium
30.18- 29.95	29	53	loam, sar	very dark greyish brown sandy clay id size as well as quantity increasing ds (fining upwards sequence). Gravel	fining upwards	Sandy alluvium

Table 4 - Assessment of the charred plant remains and	charred plant rema	_	charcoal									
Section	•	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	12	12	12	12
Monolith		17	17	17	17	17	17	16	25	25	25	25
Context type		Alluvium (over gravel )	Peaty soil	Peat	Fine	Fine	Black Clay	Fine grained alluvium	Sandy alluvium (fining upwards)	Alluvium	Peat	Dark brown clay
Context		31	30	29	28	27	21	56	53	51	49	48
Sample		23	22	21	20	19	18	24	59	28	27	26
Flot Size		200	200	620	1000	750	20	20	250	250	1750	200
							Process all if					
Waterlogged Plant Remains		C14		C14		C14 X	poss C14	C14			C14	
	common meadow-											
Thalictrum flavum	rue	+	1	,			,	1	1	1	,	1
Urtica dioica	common nettle		1	+		1	,		,	,	ı	
Betula sp.(seed)	birch		1	,		15	,		,	•	+	_
Corylus avellana Montia fontana subsp	hazelnut	1	•					1	1	1		++frgs.
chondrosperma	blinks	,	•	ı	,	,	1	,	+	,	ı	,
Salix catkin bud scale	willow bud scale		1	,			,		cf.+	,	+	
<i>Stachys</i> sp.	woundwort		1	1	1	+	,	,	,		,	
Lycopus europaeus	gypsywort	+	1	+	,	,	,	,	,	,	,	
<i>Mentha</i> sp.	mint		1	,			,	+		,	,	1
Potamogeton sp.	pondweeds		1	,					+	•	,	
Juncus sp.	rush		1					1			,	+
Carex sp. (trigonous)	sedge (trigonous)	٥.		ı	,	+	ı		+	,	+	
Carex nigra/pulicaris	common/flea sedge		1	,			,		+	•	+	
Sparganium erectum (fruit/achene)	branched bur-reed	,	1	ı	,	+ + +	ı	,	,	,	ı	,
Typha latifolia/angustifolia	bulrush					ı		+		ı		

Table 4 (continued) - Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Context type		Alluvium (over gravel )	Peaty soil	Peat	Fine	Fine	Black Clay	Fine grained alluvium	Sandy alluvium (fining upwards)	Alluvium	Peat	Dark brown clay
Context		31	30	59	28	27	21	26	23	51	49	48
Sample		23	22	21	20	19	18	24	29	28	27	26
Flot Size		200	200	620	1000	750	70	50	250	250	1750	200
							Process all if					
						C14	ssod					
Waterlogged Plant Remains		C14		C14		Ø	C14	C14			C14	
Seed indet. large			,	1		1			1	1	+	
Wood twig		-	1	•						ı	+	
Other												
Worm cocoons			•	,					+	,		+
Indet Insect fragments		+	,	,	1	+		+	++++	<i>د</i> .	+	+
Charcoal	small fragments			1	1		+	+			1	+
Vallonia type?	Mollusc shell	ı	ı	,	,		7		,	,	,	
Planorbids (small Anisus type)	Mollusc shell			,	1				•	,	ı	_
Arvicola/Microtus/Myodes sp.	vole (teeth)		1	1	ı	1	ı	,	,	ı	1	_

#### Area B

- 7.3.9 The lowest sample from the sandy alluvium (53) was somewhat richer, with a number of sedge seeds, as well as probable blinks (*Montia fontana* subsp. *chondrosperma*) indicative of wet flushes on disturbed ground and pondweed. A possible willow bud scale may indicate some localised scrub vegetation. The overlying sample from the alluvium (51) contained no waterlogged material.
- 7.3.10 Remains of birch (*Betula* sp.) seeds from the upper two samples (contexts **49** and **48**) would be consistent with a Late glacial/Early Holocene date, while the recovery of fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*), but no alder from the very top of this sample might rather suggest an Early Mesolithic date around 8500 to 7500 cal. BC. As such it may be contemporary with the date on a stone of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) recovered from Borehole 8 at 2.45-2.50m depth (Wessex Archaeology 2009b).

#### 7.4 Micromorphology

7.4.1 Samples from monoliths <16 and 17> will be submitted for micromorphological analysis, in order to elucidate formation processes of the poorly understood black clay (21).

#### 7.5 Charcoal

7.5.1 Small fragments of charcoal were present within a few of the uppermost samples, i.e. the top two samples from Monolith Sample 16/17 contexts (21) and (26), as well as the uppermost sample from Monolith Sample 25, context (48). However none of these fragments would be large enough for identification to species.

#### 7.6 Insect remains

- 7.6.1 Insect remains were generally sparse within the samples. The richest sample was that from the base of Monolith Sample 25 (context 53), which also had a head fragment. The two contexts (49, 48) from the same sequence, also had insect remains, while the final context (51), had some potential small insect fragments.
- 7.6.2 Monolith Sample **16/17** had fewer insect remains, although the lowest context (**31**) and the uppermost context (**26**) both contained some fragments along with that from context (**27**) associated with the branched bur-reed.

#### 7.7 Land and fresh/brackish water molluscs

7.7.1 Few remains of molluscs were present in any of the samples. Two probable shells of *Vallonia* sp., a terrestrial species came from the black clay (21) in **Area A**. A single shell of an aquatic Planorbid (probably *Anisus* sp. type) came from the uppermost context (48) in **Area B**.

#### 7.8 Small animal bones

7.8.1 A single tooth, probably of vole, e.g. water vole (*Arvicola* sp.), field vole (*Microtus* sp.) or bank vole (Myodes sp.) was recovered. This came from the uppermost context (**48**) of **Area B**. No other animal bones were noted.

#### 7.9 Pollen

7.9.1 The decision was taken not to delay the programme by undertaking further assessment for pollen at this stage, as it was already known from the results of the borehole assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2009b) that pollen preservation should

be good and concentrations high. The samples will therefore be taken from assessment straight to analysis in the next phase of works.

## 7.10 Diatoms

7.10.1 In order to avoid delaying the programme, diatom assessment will be carried out at the next stage, with the samples being taken straight from assessment to analysis if suitable.

#### 8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 The results of the present phase of archaeological investigations of the Site have recorded no artefacts that predate the post-medieval period, though some of the ceramic roof tiles and fragments recorded in later soil deposits across the site may be of medieval date. No artefacts of Upper Palaeolithic or Mesolithic date were recorded though deposits similar to other Late Glacial and Mesolithic sites in the area, most notably Three Ways Wharf only *c*. 50m to the south-east, have recorded similar alluvial sequences of Early Holocene date.
- 8.1.2 The results of the current fieldwork, particularly the two basement car park areas (Areas A and B) have exposed stratigraphic sequences of alluvial deposits between 1.20 1.60m thickness overlying the Colney Street Gravels, which have been recorded dipping gently from west to east and from north to south (in Areas A and B respectively). A gravel bank recorded in the west of Area B, along with the gentle dipping of the natural gravel topography, point to a complex riverine development of successive braided channels and gravel eyot formation.
- 8.1.3 Although no archaeological features were encountered during the fieldwork the number and spread of interventions recorded archeologically, both in an earlier geoarchaeological borehole survey, and the current fieldwork observation and sampling, should enable a greater understanding of the chronology of sedimentary sequences in this part of the Colne Valley, known to contain nationally important evidence of Late Glacial and Early Mesolithic human activity.

#### 9 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

#### 9.1 Stratigraphic sequence

- 9.1.1 The archaeological observations on the Site in the strip, map and record areas (**A** and **B**) and watching brief areas (**1-3**) as well as in the earlier geotechnical borehole survey (Wessex Archaeology 2009b) have recorded a relatively deep sedimentary sequence despite truncations and disturbance from post-medieval and modern building and terracing activities.
- 9.1.2 No further stratigraphic analyses are required of the relatively straightforward sequences recorded, although further palaeoenvironmental analyses may allow patterns of association between specific sediments and processes on the Site with sequences in the broader landscape, which may have an impact on the greater understanding of human activity in the area.

### 9.2 Sampling

9.2.1 The palaeoenvironmental sampling was entirely focussed on the potentially important sequence of peat and alluvial deposits present across the Site. These deposits were identified as being of high potential during a previous phase of boreholing *c*.30m to the north-east (see para 3.2 above) (**Figure 1**).

#### 9.3 Waterlogged plant remains

9.3.1 Waterlogged plant remains have the potential to provide information pertaining to the local vegetation surrounding the channel as well as the vegetation along the channel edge. In addition they also can provide useful material for radiocarbon dating. The potential of many of the samples is limited given the narrow range of species present and the low number of seeds. However, given the importance of the assemblage even such limited information is useful.

### 9.4 Insect remains (including chironomids)

- 9.4.1 Insect remains can provide a useful supplementary source of information to pollen and waterlogged plant remains, in particular given that the source of insects may be wider than that of plant macrofossils. As well as providing some insight on local vegetation, certain species can also provide information on the presence of dung from large grazing animals. Additionally given the potential age of the deposit Coleoptera can provide insights into changing temperatures over the formation of the deposits.
- 9.4.2 The potential of the insect assemblage may be limited given the low number of remains present, however, a few of the samples, in particular that from (53) have potentially enough remains for analysis. While those from the base (31) of Area A (east) and from the top of Area B (south), contexts (49, 48) might provide some insights both into the colonisation of woodland and changing temperatures.
- 9.4.3 In addition, the examination of any chironomid remains (non-biting midges) which might be present in the black clay from both **Areas A** (21) and **B** (48) may help to elucidate the formation environment of this imperfectly understood deposit which appears at many sites in the local and wider area within the Colne and Kennet valleys in particular.

#### 9.5 Land Snails and fresh/brackish water molluscs

9.5.1 Molluscs can be useful in the examination of the local vegetation and the nature of the channel environment. Given the few shells recovered there is no potential for further work, although identification of individual shells might provide some limited information.

#### 9.6 Sediments

9.6.1 The sediments have been described and have the potential to be sub-sampled for further work.

#### 9.7 Magnetic susceptibility

9.7.1 Undertaking magnetic susceptibility measurement at intervals along the core samples may help to identify and corroborate any periods of stasis or soil formation – particularly context (30) in the base of **Area A**.

#### 9.8 Loss on ignition

9.8.1 This rapid and inexpensive technique will help to characterise the deposits by quantifying organic/ mineral content.

#### 9.9 Pollen & microcharcoal

- 9.9.1 The deposits are likely to contain high concentrations of pollen, which has the potential to provide a palaeoenvironmental context for Early Holocene human activity within the Colne Valley.
- 9.9.2 The quantification of microcharcoal from the pollen samples may inform us of burning in the area, including that derived from human activity.

#### 9.10 Small animal and fish bones

9.10.1 Given the presence of only a single tooth there is no further potential for the animal bone assemblage.

### 9.11 Dating

- 9.11.1 There is potential for radiocarbon dating material from the sequences of both **Areas A** and **B**. Within Area A, the lowest sample from context (31) has suitable seeds of common meadow-rue (*Thalictrum flavum*), while fruits of branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*) also provide suitable material for dating. There is less potential for dating the middle and top of this sequence, although such material might be forthcoming from contexts (28) and (26). A date on the organic black clay (21) may be possible on the sediment, particularly as no roots were seen within the context, although such a date should be constrained by dating the contexts either side. There is also potential to extract material from the more constrained sample column within this Area's sequence.
- 9.11.2 The sedimentary sequence of **Area B** has slightly better potential for dating, given the greater numbers of plant macrofossils. Although those from contexts (**51**) and the basal sand alluvium (**53**) have slightly less potential.

#### Sample selection for radiocarbon

9.11.3 Suitable dating material will be selected from each monolith or bulk as appropriate. Material to date will be identifiable plant remains where available, derived from terrestrial or non-submerged species only (non-submerged aquatics acquire their carbon atmospherically, and are not subject to the old-carbon errors associated with submerged aquatic plant species).

#### 10 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

#### 10.1 Aims and Objectives

- 10.1.1 The aims for the analysis and publication phase are as follows;
  - To carry out an agreed programme of post-excavation analysis and reporting following the procedures set out in *Management of Archaeological Projects* 2 (English Heritage 1991).
  - To produce an integrated and synthesised report on the findings, and an interpretation and discussion of them, for dissemination as an academic publication commensurate with the significance of the data recovered.
  - To ensure the long-term curation of the data recovered and its dissemination in a form appropriate to its significance and academic value.

#### 10.2 Waterlogged plant remains

- 10.2.1 It is proposed to fully examine the 11 sub-samples from **Area A** (east) column of sample for further material suitable for dating as well as waterlogged plant remains, in particular the samples from the base context (31), context (29) and context (27). It is also proposed to process and examine all of the material from the sample of the black clay (21), which may hopefully yield enough material for a duplicate date.
- 10.2.2 Further work is also proposed on the bulk samples from the dark brown clay (48) with hazelnut shell fragments and the peat deposit (49) below.
- 10.2.3 All identifiable waterlogged plant macrofossils will be identified using stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) and with reference to modern reference collections where appropriate, quantified, and the results tabulated.

#### 10.3 Insect remains (including chironomids)

- 10.3.1 It is proposed to process 10 litres of sediment from the base middle and top of the sampled stratigraphic sequence from **Area A** (east), namely contexts (31), (29) and (26).
- 10.3.2 Two sub-samples will be taken from the black clay (21), to assess for the presence of, and analyse the chironomid population. One further sample will be taken from either **Area A** (east) or **Area B** (south) samples depending on further results.

#### 10.4 Land snails and fresh/brackish water molluscs

10.4.1 No further work is proposed on molluscs, although individual identifications of shells should be conducted, following the nomenclature of Kerney (1999).

#### 10.5 Sediments

10.5.1 The sediment samples will be archived after sub-sampling.

#### 10.6 Pollen

- 10.6.1 It is proposed to take 16 samples from Monolith Sample **16/17** and 12 samples from Monolith Sample **25** to full analysis.
- 10.6.2 Samples will be processed using standard procedures (Moore et al. 1991). Preparation will involve the following treatment: 20mls of 10% KOH at 80°C for 30 minutes; 20mls of 60% HF (80°C for 2 hours); 15 mls of acetolysis mix (80°C for 3 minutes); stained in 0.2% aqueous solution of safranin and mounted on glass microscope slides in silicone oil following dehydration with tert-butyl alcohol.
- 10.6.3 Sampling will follow closer intervals than those used in the assessment. Extended counting will be used and counts calculated as a percentage of the pollen sum (A. glutinosa, Cyperaceae, spores and aquatics calculated as percentage TLP + Group Sum). Identification will be made using a Nikon SE / Nikon eclipse e400 at x400 magnification. Pollen nomenclature is based on Bennett (1994; Bennett et al. 1994) and ordered according to Stace (1997). The pollen diagram prepared using Tilia v 2.0.2 (Grimm 1991).

#### 10.7 Small animal remains

10.7.1 No further work is proposed on the small mammal remains.

#### 10.8 Dating

10.8.1 It is proposed to carry out a maximum of seven radiocarbon dates in total; provisionally four dates on Monolith Sample 16/17 (Area A east) and a further three on Monolith Sample 25 (Area B south). The exact number, distribution and positioning of the samples for dating will be determined by the suitability of the material extracted during preparatory works.

#### Sample selection for radiocarbon

10.8.2 Suitable dating material will be selected from each monolith or bulk as appropriate. Material to date will be identifiable plant remains where available, derived from terrestrial or non-submerged species only (non-submerged aquatics acquire their carbon atmospherically, and are not subject to the old-carbon errors associated with submerged aquatic plant species).

#### 11 PUBLICATION

- 11.1.1 A report on the results of the post-excavation analysis will be produced, with additional discussion on the wider importance of the results from the Site, because of the archaeological significance of this particular part of the Colne valley to contain evidence of human activity from the Late Glacial to Early Mesolithic periods, including the nationally important site of Three Ways Wharf to the immediate southeast. The report will be a synthesis of the landscape context of these sites and the evidence of early human activity that it contains, to try and give a greater understanding of the strategies employed by hunter-gatherer groups in the Early Holocene of this part of the Colne valley.
- 11.1.2 It is proposed that the report will take the form of a medium length journal article. The preferred forum of publication would be *Records of Buckinghamshire*, a peer-reviewed journal with a regional and national readership.

### 11.2 Report Structure

- 11.2.1 It is proposed that the report will present a fully integrated, thematic account of the fieldwork and associated archival research. The results will be discussed in the wider context of the known Late Glacial and Early Mesolithic sites in this part of the Colne valley, particularly those from Three Ways Wharf, where appropriate.
- 11.2.2 The following outlines the proposed structure of the report:

A) Introduction Project background Geology, topography, land-use Archaeological background (Colne Valley)	Estimated length Estimated length Estimated length	300 words 300 words 2000 words
B) Methodology Excavation & Sampling methodology	Estimated length	400 words
C) Results The Deposits & Stratigraphic sequence Environmental Results	Estimated length Estimated length	500 words 2000 words
D) Discussion	Estimated length	5000 words

E) Illustrations (6-8 Figures, 1-2 Plates)

## 12 PROVISIONAL TASK LIST, RESOURCES AND PROGRAMME

#### 12.1 Task List

12.1.1 **Table 5** below presents the list of tasks required within the proposed programme to produce the publication report, together with the necessary resources. Proposed personnel and their qualifications are listed.

Table 5 – Draft Analysis and Publication Task List and Costs

Task	Grade	Days	Cost
PRE-ANALYSIS TASKS			
Processing of samples for insects and plant remains (3 insect samples + 13 waterlogged samples)	EO	3	£600
Commissioning analysis and contracts	SPO 1	0.5	£120
Sampling for Pollen	SPO 3	1	£240
Pollen Sample Preparation and Loss on Ignition	Ext.		£750
ANALYSIS TASKS			
Waterlogged Plant Remains, 13 samples	SPO 2	5	£1200
Pollen and Microcharcoal Analysis	SPO 3	28	£5450
Insect analysis (£500 per x 3)			£1500
Diatom assessment & analysis	Ext.		£270
Micromorphology	Ext.		£1000
Chironomid analysis x 3	Ext.		£300
Magnetic susceptibility: sample preparation and measurement	SPO 1	0.5	£120
Magnetic susceptibility (reporting)	SPO 1	0.5	£120
Environmental Illustration Requirements	SPO 1	1	£240
C14 selection/IDs, commissioning and reporting	SPO 1	2	£480
Radiocarbon dates (£290 per date) – x 7			£2030
REPORTING TASKS			
Overview and Palaeoenvironmental Summary	SPO 1	5	£1200
Site illustrations	Drawing Office	1	£200
EDITING TASKS			
Editing/reading and amendments	Project Manager	0.5	£160
	SPO 1	0.5	£120
	Reports Manager	0.5	£160
Printing costs: 20pp @ £50.00 per page	Rec. of Bucks.		£1000
OTHER TASKS			
Management	Project Manager	0.5	£320
Archive preparation	Archives Officer	0.25	£50
TOTAL COSTS			£17,640

#### 12.2 Personnel

12.2.1 It is currently proposed that the following Wessex Archaeology core staff will be involved in the programme of post-excavation analyses.

Senior Project Manager Richard Greatorex, **BA (Hons)**Senior Project Officer 1 Dave Norcott **BA (Hons)** 

Senior Project Officer 2 Dr. Chris J. Stevens **Bsc**, **PhD**, **MIFA**Senior Project Officer 3 Dr. Michael Grant Bsc, Msc, **PhD**, **MIFA** 

Environmental Officer Sarah Wyles **BA**, **AIFA** 

External sp. (Chironomids) Dr Peter Langdon (Southampton

University)

Drawing Office TBC

Reports Manager Julie Gardiner BA, FSA, MIFA

Archives Officer Helen MacIntyre **BA** 

#### 12.3 Programme

12.3.1 It is anticipated that a publication text would be completed within six months of approval of the post excavation assessment.

#### 13 ARCHIVE

13.1.1 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). The excavated material and archive, including plans, photographs and written records, are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology (Salisbury) offices under the project code **76120**, the contents of which are listed in **Appendix 2**. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum.

#### 14 COPYRIGHT

14.1.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), 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.

#### 15 SECURITY COPY

15.1.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (English Heritage), a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

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## 17 APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH SUMMARY TABLES

All deposits/features of archaeological significance are shown in **bold**. All (+) indicate deposits/features not fully excavated. 'Depth' equals depth from present ground surface.

Area No. 1	Co-ordinates: (NW) 505208.23E, 184917.79N; (SW) 505208.16E, 184801.08N Ground Level (m AOD): (NW) 34.12, (SW) 32.26	Dimensions: 116m x 13m Max.depth: 1.7m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
1	Modern concrete slab.	0 – 0.30
2	Modern crushed concrete bedding layer for (1).	0.30 - 0.50
3	Redeposited soil - Same as (5) in Area 2. A dark grey silty clay (slightly humic) containing occasional small gravel, coal mortar lumps, oyster shells, pottery, bone, metal objects and cbm frag's.	0.50 – 1.40
4	A dark brown sandy clay silt with occasional root disturbance from canalside tree. Contains pottery, cbm (brick) frag's.	1.40 – 1.70(+)

Area No. 2	Co-ordinates: (SW) 505178.88E, 184891.61N; (SE) 505205.57E, 184885.79N Ground Level (m AOD): (SW) 33.39; (SE) 32.69	Dimensions: 27.2 x 23m Max.depth: 2.2m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
5	Redeposited soil Same as (3) in Area 1.	0 - 0.30
6	Post-medieval deposit – a mid grey slightly humic, very fine- grained silty clay with occasional shell fragments. Very similar to (5) above though contains very few finds and no inclusions.	0.30 – 0.80
7	Possible post-medieval buried soil, probably derived from recent and adjacent tree-lined riverside. Mid to dark brown, 'gritty' organic silt deposit with common, well-sorted angular and sub-angular stones and moderate root disturbance.	0.80 – 1.05
8	Undated alluvium (Medieval/Post-medieval?) – a mid grey clay deposit, smooth with no inclusions, homogenous, malleable. Contains occasional shells, clay roof tile frag's and an iron nail.	1.05 – 1.20
9	Alluvium – a dark grey/black organic, homogenous, soft, malleable and sterile clay containing fine roots and plant material.	1.20 – 1.40(+)

Area	Co-ordinates: (SW) 505199.16E, 184802.40N;	Dimensions: 35.6 x 10m
No. 3	(NW) 505205.40E, 184832.40N	Max.depth: 2.3m
	Ground Level (m AOD): (SW) 32.41; (NW) 32.18	
Context	Description	Depth (m)

An area much disturbed with modern structural remains including concrete beams, stanchions and piles. The disturbance was exacerbated by the need to remove these large structural elements, by machine, which caused much further disturbance of the area.

A dark, organic alluvium (equivalent to (9) in Area 2) was recorded at c.2m depth in one of the pile holes, once extracted. Similar to Layers 3-4 in BHs 2 & 8 (Report 69850.04).

Test Pit No. 1	Co-ordinates: (SW) 505172.09E, 184840.60N; (SE) 505174.43E, 184838.97N Ground Level (m AOD): (SW) 33.68; (SE) 33.78	Dimensions: 3m x 1.6m Max.depth: 2.48m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
10	Modern rubble hard core.	0 – 0.86
11	Disturbed alluvium – a dark bluish-grey gleyed clay with brick frag's and steel objects and pieces.	0.86 – 1.70
12	Alluvium – black clay.	1.70 – 1.97
13	Alluvium – a dark bluish-grey gleyed clay, sterile and homogenous. Equivalent to (22) in Area A.	1.97 – 2.20
14	Peat – a dark reddish-brown silty clay with no coarse components. Equivalent to (24) in Area A.	2.20 – 2.48(+)

Test Pit No. 2	Co-ordinates: (NW) 505174.36E, 184830.58N: (SW) 505175085E, 184833.94N Ground Level (m AOD): (NW) 33.48; (SW) 33.68	Dimensions: 3m x 1.6m Max.depth: 2.3m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
15	Modern rubble hard core.	0 – 1.15
16	(Modern) mixed deposit – black and dark bluish-grey gleyed clay, contains modern wood pieces, buried tree roots (cut) lead pipe, bricks, plastic. Modern disturbance of underlying alluvial deposits (equivalent to (12) and (13) in TP 1).	1.15 – 2.30(+)

Area A	Co-ordinates: (SW) 505155.18E, 184850.39N; (SE) 505196.25E, 184836.41N Ground Level (m AOD): (SW) 33.68; (SE) 33.78	Dimensions: 43m x 17m Max.depth: 3.30m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
17	Natural gravels – below (18), a mid grey fine sand matrix containing abundant sub-rounded, sub-angular and rounded blue/grey and black flint gravel (<80mm, mostly <30mm). Recorded at the base of the sections and seen in plan over whole area. Slope gently down to the east by <i>c</i> . 0.50m	2.95 – 3.30(+)
18	Natural gravel (peaty) – below (19), above (17), a dark bluish-grey fine sandy silt (with a dark reddish-brown hue) containing abundant, well-sorted, blue/grey and black flint gravel (<50mm, mostly <20mm). Only recorded in westernmost <i>c</i> .11.50m then thins out.	2.86 – 2.95
19	Natural gravel (calcareous) - below (20), above (18), a pale yellowish-white silt (with a light greenish hue) containing abundant, well-sorted, angular and sub-angular blue/grey and black flint gravel (<20mm).	2.81 – 2.86
20	Alluvium – below (24), above (19), a light brown fine silt containing very rare charcoal flecks and calcareous inclusions (<3mm). Has diffuse interface with peat (24). Eastwards of westernmost <i>c</i> . 19m this deposit grades gradually and subdivides and into (30) and (31).	2.61 – 2.81
21	Black clay alluvium — below (22), above (20), a highly distinctive black clay with very common degraded, fine roots (<2mm diam.). Diffuse interface with (24). When cleaned had a very distinctive dark bluish-grey 'steely' appearance. Extends over whole area.	2.20 2.40

Area A Cont	Co-ordinates: (SW) 505155.18E, 184850.39N; (SE) 505196.25E, 184836.41N Ground Level (m AOD): (SW) 33.68; (SE) 33.78	Dimensions: 43m x 17m Max.depth: 3.30m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
22	Alluvium (with tufa) – below (23), above (21), same as (26), equivalent to (13) in TP1. A light yellowish-brown clay containing common calcareous flecks and sub-rounded 'grains' (3-4mm). Extends over whole area.	2.00 – 2.20
23	Post-medieval soil – above (22)=(26), Cut by a number of modern features/disturbance (25). A light to mid brown fine silt containing very rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flints (<80mm, mostly <20mm). Finds include clinker, coal and iron slag frag's, Post-Med brick frag's (<0.20m).	1.34 – 2.00
24	Peat – below (21), above (20), equivalent to (14) in TP1. A dark reddish-brown silt containing red/brown waterlogged wood (<20mm diam.) very degraded, as well as fine roots. Diffuse interface with (21). Thickens, subdividing and grading gradually eastwards from westernmost <i>c</i> . 19m, into two peaty deposits ( (27) and (29)/(30) separated by alluvium (28)).	2.40 – 2.61
25	Modern disturbance – a modern intrusion into the stratigraphic sequence of Area A, cutting diagonally across the area from the north-west to south-east corners. Probably associated with modern ancillary structures for the mill.	1.34 – 3.30(+)
26	Alluvium (with tufa) – below (23), above (21), same as (22), a light yellowish-brown clay containing common calcareous flecks and sub-rounded 'grains' (3-4mm) and very rare small stones. Extends over whole area. Closer inspection shows this is made up of three subtly different alluvial deposits, all 90mm thick. A basal mid bluish-grey clay, a middle dark bluish-grey clay and an upper mid greyish-brown clay (with a bluish hue).	1.93 – 2.20
27	Peat – above (28), below (21), equivalent to upper part of (24) to the west. A very dark reddish-brown clayey silt containing moderate, waterlogged wood remains (<0.15m diam., mostly <20mm diam.). Only recorded in easternmost c. 24m of area.	2.40 – 2.56
28	Peaty alluvium – below (27), above (29). Alluviation episode within peat deposition (24)=(27)/(29). A very dark reddish-brown slightly clayey silt containing very rare, degraded, waterlogged plant remains (<1-2mm diam.). Thickens slightly and becomes more 'peaty' to the east. Only recorded in easternmost $c$ . 24m of area.	2.56 – 2.70

Area A Cont	Co-ordinates: (SW) 505155.18E, 184850.39N; (SE) 505196.25E, 184836.41N	Dimensions: 43m x 17m Max.depth: 3.30m	
0	Ground Level (m AOD): (SW) 33.68; (SE) 33.78	Davide (m)	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
29	Peat – below (28), above (30), equivalent to basal part of (24) to the west. A very dark reddish-brown clayey silt containing abundant, very degraded, waterlogged wood and plant remains (<0.15m diam., mostly <20mm diam.). Thickens to the east. Only recorded in easternmost <i>c</i> . 24m of area.	2.70 – 2.94	
30	Peat – below (29), above (31), equivalent to basal part of (24) and upper part of (20) to the west. A very dark reddish-brown clayey silt containing sparse, degraded, waterlogged wood (<40mm diam.) and very rare sub-angular blue/grey flint gravel (<40mm). Only recorded in easternmost c. 24m of area	2.94 – 3.06	
31	Alluvium – below (30). Basal part of deposit (20) recorded in the westernmost c. 19m of area. A mid greyish-brown clayey silt containing rare, sub-angular and sub-rounded blue/grey flint gravel (<40mm) especially in basal part. Has a 30-40mm fine sand component at interface with natural gravel (17) below. Only recorded in easternmost c. 24m of area.	3.06 – 3.17	

Area B	Co-ordinates: (NE) 505224.39E, 184777.17N; (SE) 505212.94E, 184709.82N Ground Level (m AOD): (NE) 31.44;( SE) 32.18	Dimensions: 73m x 17m Max.depth: 2.28m	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
Recorded	stratigraphy below was observed after $c$ . 0.50 – 0.70m of received	nt pile mat, rubble hard-core	
layer had b	peen removed.		
32	Modern disturbance – below (35), above (36), equivalent to (34). A dark greyish-brown silty clay with moderately well-sorted, moderate, sub-angular and angular flint and sparse root disturbance, especially in upper 0.20m. Contains brick frag's (<60mm).	0.60 – 1.20	
33	Modern feature/disturbance – a 3.6 x 3.5m irregular feature with concave base, cuts (32) and (34). Filled with an (upper) greyish-black silty clay and a (lower) mixed clayey sand.	0.60 – 1.22	
34	Modern disturbance/overburden – cut by [33], above (35). A greyish-brown, loose, silty sand matrix with very pale brown flecks throughout. Contains abundant small and medium, sub-angular flint gravel and common root disturbance. Also contains rare brick frag's.	0.60 – 1.05	
35	Buried soil (modern) – below (34), above (36), same as (41). A dark brown clayey sand, organic rich, very friable, loose and homogenous. Contains sparse, small, subrounded and sub-angular flint gravel (<5mm) and very common fine roots.	1.05 – 1.20	
36	Alluvium – below (32), equivalent to (39). A light grey sandy clay (slight bluish hue) with common, light orange/brown mineralised lenses and chalk flecks (<1mm). Contains sparse to moderate angular flint gravel small flint	1.20 – 1.35	

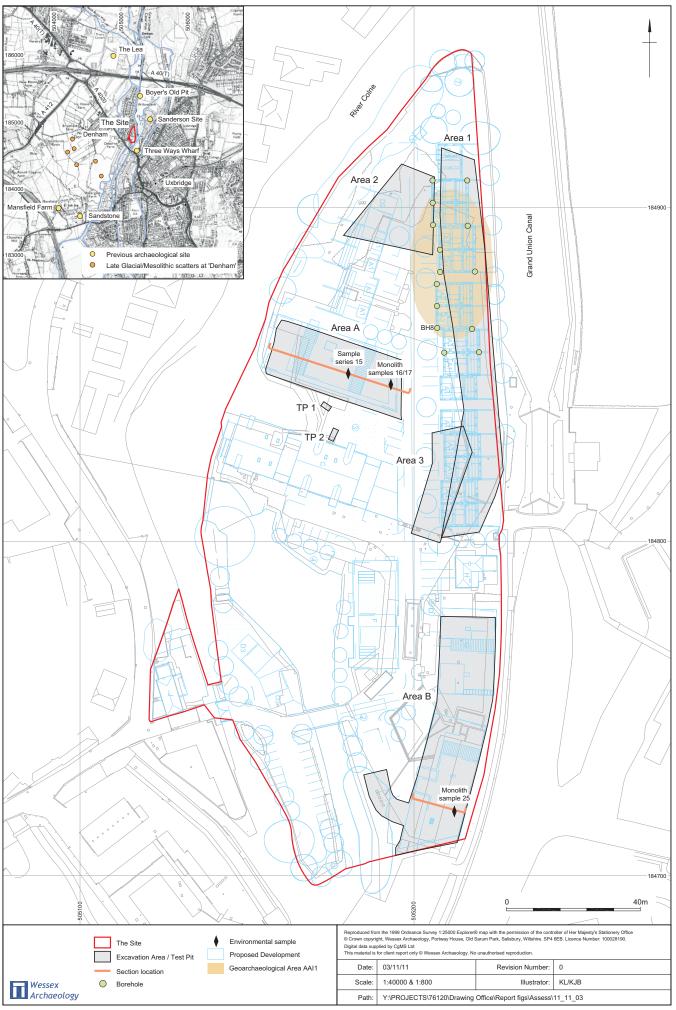
Area B Cont	Co-ordinates: (NE) 505224.39E, 184777.17N; (SE) 505212.94E, 184709.82N Ground Level (m AOD): (NE) 31.44;( SE) 32.18	Dimensions: 73m x 17m Max.depth: 2.28m	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
37	Natural gravel – below (36), equivalent to (38) in northern part of Area B. Light grey coarse silty sand matrix with abundant, small to medium angular and sub-angular flint gravel. Sparse to moderate large angular and sub-angular clasts (<0.12m).	1.35 – 1.55(+)	
38	Natural gravel – equivalent to (37), below (39). Physically cut by modern disturbance in places. A light greyish-brown coarse sand matrix with abundant sub-rounded and sub-angular blue/grey flint gravel (<0.10m, mostly <30mm). Also contains abundant flint 'chips' (<2mm) giving a very 'gritty'; texture. Heavily contaminated with hydrocarbons	1.35 – 1.55(+)	
39	Alluvium – below (40) and (41), above (38), equivalent to (36). A light grey slightly silty clay (slight bluish hue) with very rare sub-angular flint gravel (10mm). Diffuse interface with (40).	1.20 – 1 .38	
40	Alluvium – below (43), above (39). A strong, light bluish-grey gleyed clay with very rare sub-angular and angular flint 'chips' (<10mm, mostly <2mm). Contains distinctive very dark bluish-grey/black lensing and mottling (degraded organic material). Heavily impacted upon by modern disturbance.	1.11 – 1.20	
41	Buried soil (modern) – below (42), above (39), same as (35). A strong, very dark brown (reddish hue) fine silt with abundant fine roots and moderate to common degraded roots (<0.15m diam.). Contains very rare brick frag's (<50mm).	1.11 – 1.20	
42	Redeposited alluvium – above (41), below (43), similar to (39). A dark bluish-grey clay (with silty patches and lenses). Contains rare, small angular and sub-angular flint gravel and rare brick frag's.	0.81 – 1.11	
43	Modern made ground – above (40) and (42). A very mixed deposit of grey, brown, pale brown and black silty clays with sparse angular and sub-angular flint gravel and root disturbance. Contains yellow London Stock Bricks and frag's.	0.31 – 0.81	
44	Modern disturbance – a mixed brown, orange/brown, pale brown, grey, and black silty sandy clay with common small and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint gravel and common brick and concrete rubble.	0 – 1.08	
45	Fill of drain (modern?) – fill of [46], below (44) a dark brown sandy silt backfill over a modern ceramic drain pipe.	0.32 – 0.96	
46	Drain cut – cuts (47), filled with (45). A north-south aligned modern service trench, 0.50m wide.	0.32 – 0.96	
47	Alluvium – cut by {46}, above (48). A light to mid grey clay (greenish hue) with rare, small, sub-angular and angular flint gravel.	0.30 - 0.62	
48	Alluvium (very dark grey/black clay) - below (47), above (49). Malleable, homogenous, sterile, though contains rare frag's of degraded wood and plant remains.	0.62 – 0.88	

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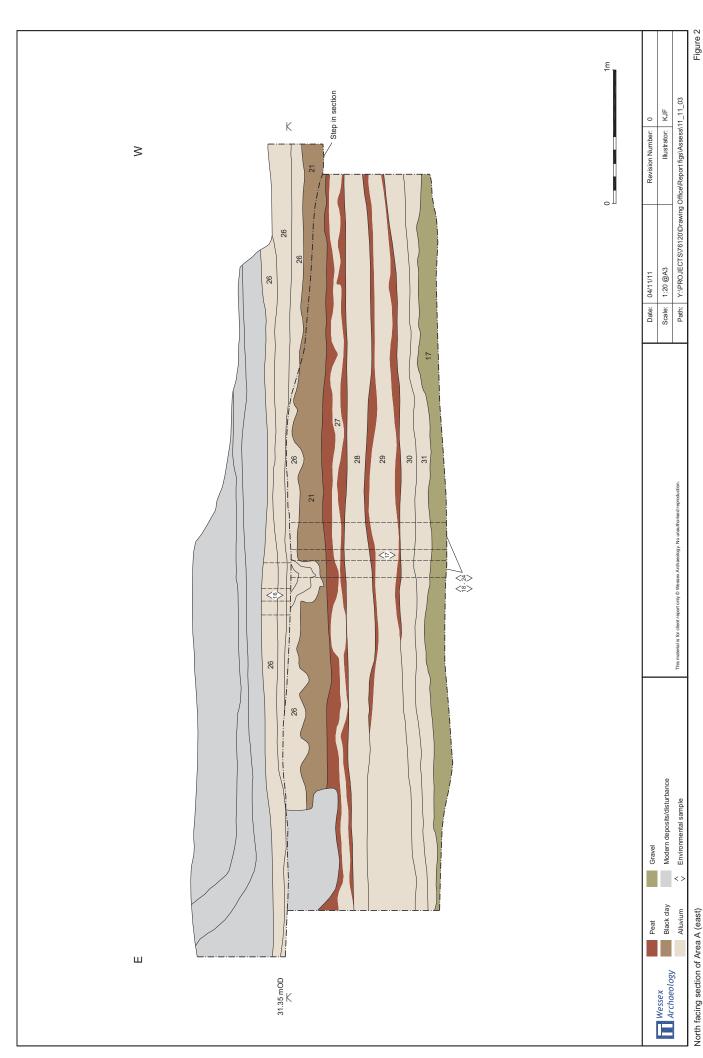
Area B Cont	Co-ordinates: (NE) 505224.39E, 184777.17N; (SE) 505212.94E, 184709.82N Ground Level (m AOD): (NE) 31.44;( SE) 32.18	Dimensions: 73m x 17m Max.depth: 2.28m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
49	Peat – below (47), above (49). A dark brown organic-rich clay deposit (0.30m thick) with rare lenses of alluvial clay. Contains rare, small to medium sized pieces of degraded wood and plant remains.	0.88 – 1.40
50	Alluvium – below (49), above (51). A dark greyish-brown organic clay with very rare degraded wood frag's.	1.40 – 1.50
51	Alluvium – below (50), above (52). A pale grey clay (0.45m thick) with occasional brown and black organic flecks. Contains very rare, small to medium sub-angular and angular flint gravel and rare, degraded wood frag's.	1.50 – 1.88
52	Gravel layer – below (51), above (53). Pale brown coarse sand matrix containing abundant, poorly-sorted small to medium angular and sub-angular flint gravel. A gravel bank that thickens (to 0.56m) towards to west suggesting an eroded <i>eyot</i> .	1.02 – 1.60
53	Alluvium – below ( <b>52</b> ), above (54). A pale brown/light grey clayey sand (0.25m thick) with multiple lenses of clayey sand and coarse sand.	1.93 – 2.18m
54	Natural gravel - below (53). A pale orange/brown coarse sand matrix with abundant, poorly-sorted small to medium sub-rounded, sub-angular and angular flint gravel. Slope gently down to the south.	2.18 – 2.28(+)

## 18 APPENDIX 2 – ARCHIVE INDEX

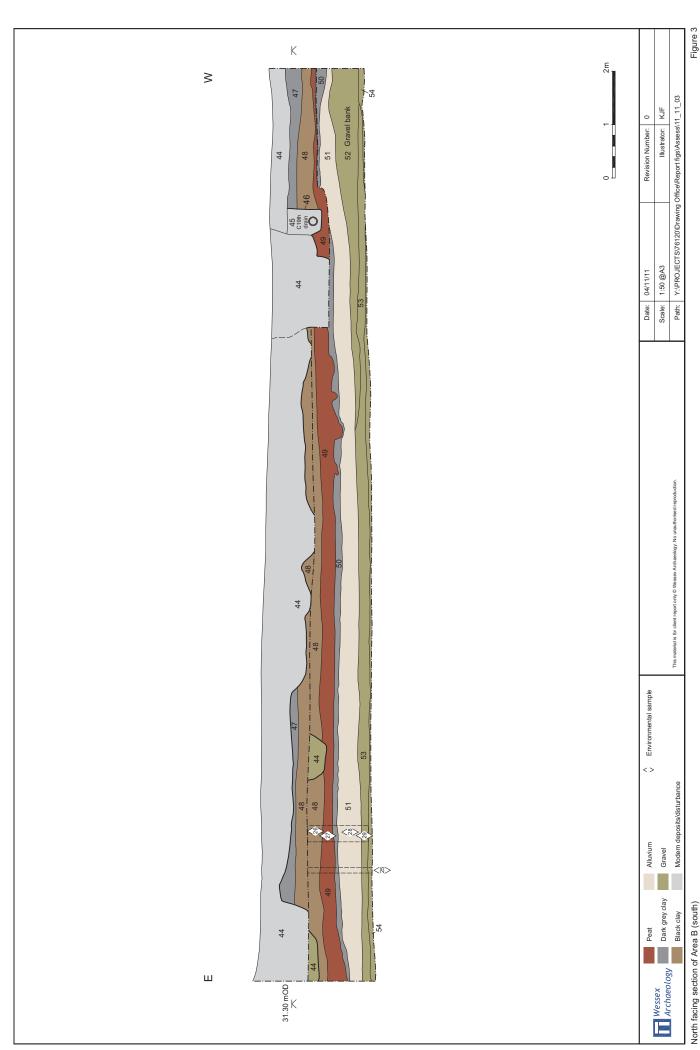
File No.	Details	Format	No. Sheets
1	Index to Archive	A4	1
1		A4 A4	45
	Client Report		
1	Client Report	A3	3
1	Day Book (photocopy)	A4	44
1	Context Index (Area A)	A4	3
1	Test Pit/Trial Trench Records	A4	5
1	Context Records	A4	48
1	Graphics Register	A4	2
1	Survey Data Index	A4	2
1	Survey Data Print-out	A4	7
1	Environmental Sample	A4	2
	Register		
1	Environmental Sample	A4	29
	Records		
1	Photographic Register	A4	12
2	Site Graphics	A4	2
2	Site Graphics	A3	11
3	B+W Negatives	35mm	36
3	Colour slides	35mm	36
4	Digital photographs	-	337
FINDS	1 box		



Site location and fieldwork plan Figure 1



North facing section of Area A (east)



North facing section of Area B (south)



Plate 1: East end of Area A, north facing section (Scales: 1m, 2m)



Plate 2: Environmental samples 16 & 17 in-situ (Scale: 1m)

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Wessex Archaeology	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	KJF	
	Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\76120\Drawing Office\Report figs\Assess\11_11_03			



Plate 3: North facing section of Area B (south) (Scales: 2m)

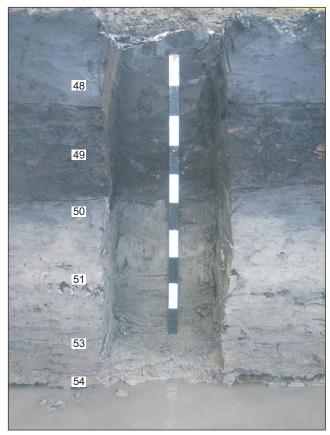


Plate 4: Environmental sample 25 location (Area B - south) (Scale: 1m)

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