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# 10–12 Queensway, Southampton

Archaeological Evaluation Report



SOU 1639  
Planning Ref: 12/01262/FUL  
WA Report Ref: 101100.03  
November 2013



**10-12 Queensway, Southampton,  
Hampshire**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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**November 2013**


**Southampton City Council Planning Ref. No: 12/01262/FUL**

**SOU 1639  
WA Report Ref: 101100.03**



## Quality Assurance

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<b>Planning Application Ref.</b>	Southampton City Council Planning Ref. No: 12/01262/FUL	<b>Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)</b>	442210 111208		

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# 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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# 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

### Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Hampshire & Regional Property Group Ltd on behalf of PMC Construction & Development Services Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological trial trenching at 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 442210 111208. The works were required as a planning condition in advance of the demolition of the existing buildings and the development of residential accommodation.

The evaluation consisted of three trenches, which all encountered modern and post-medieval deposits beneath the concrete floor of the warehouse building. Natural geology was found at a depth of 1.5m below the top of the concrete level. A very small quantity of finds was recovered from post-medieval layers overlying natural geology and consisted of two undatable small fragments of clay pipe stem and a single fragment of possibly residual medieval fine glazed ware. The remains of a backfilled brick cellar were also noted, confirming the previous existence of 19th century buildings within the site.

The fieldwork was carried out between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2013.



# 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

### Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Hampshire & Regional Property Group Ltd, acting on behalf of PMC Construction & Development Services Ltd, who commissioned the archaeological evaluation. In particular, thanks are due to Steve Cripps and Tim Guest (PMC Construction and Development Services Ltd and Shaun Adams (Hampshire & Regional Property Group Ltd) for their help and assistance during the course of the project. Thanks are also due to Kevin White (Southampton City Council Planning Archaeologist) who monitored the work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

The evaluation was carried out by Piotr Orczewski and Andy Sole. This report was written and compiled by Piotr Orczewski. Finds were identified by Lorraine Mephram and the illustrations were drawn by S.E James. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andy Manning.



# 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Hampshire & Regional Property Group Ltd on behalf of PMC Construction & Development Services Ltd (the Client) to undertake a trial trench evaluation at 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire (**Figure 1**). The site is situated within a block of previously developed land within central Southampton (NGR 442210 111208), hereafter referred to as 'the Site'.
- 1.1.2 A planning application was submitted in September 2013 (Southampton City Council Planning Ref. No: 12/01262/FUL) for the demolition of a block of existing buildings, including offices and warehouses and redevelopment comprising six 3-storey townhouses and one 2-storey house with associated car parking and bin/cycle storage.
- 1.1.3 The Southampton City Council Planning Archaeologist (within the Historic Environment Team, which forms part of the Planning, Transport and Sustainability Division) was consulted and indicated that a phased programme of archaeological work would be required to be carried out, commencing with an initial phase of trenched evaluation within the accessible areas of the Site.
- 1.1.4 The results of the evaluation would be used to assess the archaeological potential within the Site and inform decisions during the determination of the application. In addition, the results would also inform the scope, nature and extent of any future programme of archaeological mitigation, which may be required, including appropriate reporting and archiving of records.
- 1.1.5 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (WA 2013), which was submitted to, and approved by, Southampton City Council Planning Archaeologist, before the commencement of the works. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (as amended in 2008).
- 1.1.6 The fieldwork was undertaken from 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

#### 1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The proposed development is located at the south end of Queensway, to the east of the historic core of Southampton. The Site is occupied by former 1950/60s offices along the western half of the Site, which front on to Queensway, with a large rear open warehouse/garage and service area within the eastern half, which is accessed from the adjacent Brunswick Square, which lies to the east of the Site. The Site is bounded to the north by Halfords Autocentre at 14 Queensway and a (disused) nightclub at 2-8 Queensway, immediately to the south.





- 1.2.2 The entire Site covers an area of 22m by 55m (1,210m<sup>2</sup>) although the only area accessible for archaeological trial trenching was the warehouse/garage and service area within the eastern part of the Site, which measures approximately 15m by 50m (750m<sup>2</sup>).
- 1.2.3 The Site is located on the Earnley Sand Formation, which comprises sand, silt and clay deposits, and lies at a height of approximately 4.5m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) (BGS website; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A detailed archaeological and historical background for the Site has been compiled and presented previously (WA 2013), and as such will not be repeated here.
- 2.1.2 In summary, the Site is located within Area 8 of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential (LAAP) which is one of sixteen areas defined in the City of Southampton Core Strategy and which offers a general guide to the archaeological potential in Southampton. In 2009, a detailed desk-based assessment was produced which covered covering the area of the Fruit and Vegetable market, the High street, Bernard Street and Queensway (Cottrell 2009). In general, the assessment concluded that area covered in the report, including the Site, was 'likely to contain well-preserved archaeological deposits of great importance, principally relating to the foundation and growth of Southampton from c. AD950 to 1940', although there is the potential for earlier prehistoric or Roman-British remains.
- 2.1.3 A substantial amount of archaeological fieldwork has been carried out within the vicinity of the study area used for the DBA, especially within the walls of the medieval city. A number of these sites are particularly relevant to the Site at 10-12 Queensway. These include:
- **SOU338 Orchard Place:** Located approximately 115m to the south-east of the Site, a watching brief during trenching observed a sequence at least 0.62m in depth comprising of a brickearth type material containing CBM, shell, bone and other material, sealed by a buried soil and modern deposits.
  - **SOU 566 14 Queensway:** Immediately to the north of the Site, a watching brief on the site of the present Halfords Autocentre showed that the western part of the site had been disturbed by deep cellars of the former 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. On the eastern side, the natural was exposed at a depth of 1.42m below the current ground surface, and was overlaid by a 0.40m soil containing large quantities of post-medieval finds
  - **SOU 588 10-12 Briton Street:** Located approximately 90m to the south-east of the Site, an evaluation found the western half of this site had been heavily impacted by basements. The natural was encountered on the eastern half although again with substantial evidence of modern truncation and 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century features, including a well.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 Prior to the commencement of the works, a methodology was written (WA 2013), which set out the agreed aims of the trial trench evaluation and the methods by which these aims would be achieved.



3.1.2 The general aim of the trial trench evaluation was to provide initial information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these within the constraints of the proposed trial trench evaluation. Further aims of the works were to:

- *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.*
- *Consider the results of the evaluation in light of the archaeological potential of the Site to contribute to current local, regional and wider archaeological research objectives*

### **3.2 Fieldwork methodology**

3.2.1 The evaluation was conducted according to the agreed (WSI 2013) and comprised the excavation of three trial trenches, each measuring 8m x 1.6m (see **Appendix 1** for details). The trenches equates to a 7.8% sample of the total Site area. All proposed trenches were excavated.

3.2.2 Prior to machining, the concrete floor of the building was broken using a machine mounted hydraulic pecker. The trenches were then excavated under constant archaeological supervision by a tracked mechanical 360° excavator using a toothless bucket.

3.2.3 Trench positioning had to be adjusted to fit within the enclosed space of the warehouse and allow for safe tracked excavator movement. Concrete was removed of areas larger than actual trench sizes to provide easier access and additional stability of trench sides.

3.2.4 Mechanical excavation continued in shallow spits and the trenches were stepped in order allow safe access. The resulting material was stored separately to facilitate appropriate backfilling and consolidation of each trench following the completion of recording. All spoil was scanned for artefacts.

### **3.3 Health and safety**

3.3.1 Health and Safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices will override archaeological considerations at all times.

3.3.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work Act 1974* and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.

### **3.4 Recording**

3.4.1 Archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Sections of archaeological deposits were hand-drawn at 1:10; these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) heights of all principal levels were calculated and this information is included on the sections. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits with all features and deposits being assigned an unique number. Soil descriptions were based on the *Soil Science Handbook*, using Munsell colour descriptions.



- 3.4.2 A digital photographic record was kept. Special attention was placed on the recording of the mechanical excavation, spoil handling and storage prior to, during and following the completion of the trial trenching.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Details of individual contexts are retained in the project archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in the **Appendix 1**.

### 4.2 Natural deposits and soil sequences

- 4.2.1 Natural clay geology was encountered in all trenches, at an average depth of 1.5 m below the current, concrete ground surface. Across the Site, an average of 0.30m of concrete overlay modern made-ground deposits/demolition material (Layers **101/201/301**) up to approximately 0.65m in depth. This demolition material sealed a series of garden soils (Layers **102/202/203/302/303**), which was between 0.34 to 0.60m in depth, which overlaid the natural at a maximum depth of 1.48m (3.02m aOD) below the top of the concrete floor (**Figure 2**).
- 4.2.2 The garden soils contained a small quantity of modern brick, oyster shell and a small quantity of modern pottery.

### 4.3 Results

- 4.3.1 No archaeological features were identified during the course of the fieldwork.
- 4.3.2 A small amount of structural evidence was recorded. A backfilled cellar (**Plate 1**) was recorded occupying the majority of Trench 1, the walls of which truncated the natural geology. In Trench 2, a cavity was noted, although this appears to represent a former animal burrow.

## 5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

- 5.1.1 A very small quantity of finds was recovered from the post-medieval garden layers overlying natural geology and consisted of oyster shell,(Layers **102, 202, 302** and **303**) two undatable small fragments of clay pipe stem (**102**) and a small fragment of possibly residual medieval fine glazed ware and modern willow pattern (Layer **102**). This material was examined and assessed by Lorraine Mephram (Senior Project Manager) and the material recommended for discarding.

## 6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the course of the fieldwork.

## 7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1.1 The evaluation has revealed no evidence for archaeological features or finds relating to pre post-medieval activity, with the exception of the single medieval sherd.
- 7.1.2 The evaluation was, however, successful in identifying the presence of a cellar of a Victorian house in Trench 1. Historic mapping does indicate a pattern of 19<sup>th</sup> century housing in the vicinity, with a row of buildings running in a north-south alignment through the north-western half of the Site and at the southern edge of the Site, a number of rows

of east-west running housing accessed by lanes to Charlotte Street to the west, with which the cellar may be associated with (Map 11 1898, Cottrell 2009).

## **8 STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **8.1 Preparation and deposition**

8.1.1 The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance to Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Archive Preparation and accordance with Guideline for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990). Details of the archaeological evaluation will also be entered into the online "OASIS" database maintained by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). A copy of the OASIS entry has been included in this report (**Appendix 2**).

### **8.2 The archive**

8.2.1 The complete archaeological evaluation archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; IfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code **SU1639**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- *1 files/document case of paper records & A3/A4 graphics*
- *Digital data (site photographs, drawings, Word and pdf files)*

8.2.3 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury under the project code **101100/SU1639**. On completion of the project, it is anticipated that the archive will be deposited with Southampton City Council.

### **8.3 Discard policy**

8.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.

8.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002).

### **8.4 Security copy**

8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

## 9 REFERENCES

- ADS 2013. *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice
- Brown, D.H. 2011. *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)
- Cottrell, P. R. 2009. *Desk-based assessment of the archaeological potential of the site of the Fruit and Vegetable market, High Street, Bernard Street and Queensway, Southampton*, Southampton City Council, Southampton Archaeological Unit Report 430
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## APPENDIX 1: TRENCH TABLES

bgl = below ground level

<b>TRENCH 1</b>			
<b>Dimensions:</b> 7.80x1.60m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.20m	<b>Ground level:</b> 4.50m aOD
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth (m)</b>
101	<i>Layer</i>	Very mixed material, predominantly red brick and other building detritus. Most likely a levelling layer prior to the warehouse construction. Capped with concrete floor.	0.20-0.84 bgl
102	<i>Layer</i>	Very dark brown (Munsell 10yr 2/2) silty clay. Moderate inclusions of brick, blue willow ware, rare oyster shells and other Victorian waste material. Possibly old garden soils. Built up against brick cellar walls. Becomes diffuse with natural brick earth towards base of trench.	0.84-1.18 bgl
103	<i>Natural</i>	Dark yellowish brown (Munsell 10yr 4/4) silty clay. Occasional coarse components; stones 0.04m<. Brick earth only seen in N and S ends of Trench as a result the cellar.	1.18+ bgl

<b>TRENCH 2</b>			
<b>Dimensions:</b> 7.20mx1.60m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.20m	<b>Ground level:</b> 4.50m aOD
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth (m)</b>
201	<i>Layer</i>	Mixed material containing predominantly red brick and other building detritus. Most likely a levelling layer prior to the warehouse construction. Capped with concrete floor.	0.38-0.88 bgl
202	<i>Layer</i>	Very dark brown (Munsell 10yr 2/2) silty clay. Rare inclusions of brick, oyster shells and other waste material. Possible garden soils.	0.88-1.20 bgl
203	<i>Layer</i>	Diffused layer lighter in colour than 202 and less material; (Munsell 10yr 3/4) dark yellowish brown silty clay.	1.20-1.48 bgl
204	<i>Natural</i>	Dark yellowish brown (Munsell 10yr 4/4) silty clay. Occasional coarse components. Sondage at W end of the trench suggests this may be an alluvial/colluvial layer as it becomes clearer and brighter a little further down into the brick earth.	1.48+ bgl

<b>TRENCH 3</b>			
<b>Dimensions:</b> 7.80x1.60m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.20m	<b>Ground level:</b> 4.50m aOD
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth (m)</b>
301	<i>Layer</i>	Mixed material containing predominantly red brick and other building detritus. Most likely levelling layer prior to the warehouse construction. Capped with concrete floor.	0.26-0.80 bgl
302	<i>Layer</i>	Very dark brown (Munsell 10yr 2/2) silty clay. Rare inclusions of brick, oyster shells and other waste material. Possible garden soils.	0.80-1.20 bgl
303	<i>Layer</i>	Diffused layer lighter in colour than 302 but contains more oyster shell; (Munsell 10yr 3/4) dark yellowish brown silty clay.	1.20-1.46 bgl
304	<i>Natural</i>	Dark yellowish brown (Munsell 10yr 4/4) silty clay. Occasional coarse components.	1.46+ bgl



## APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-164272**

### Project details

Project name	10-12 Queensway, Southampton
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Hampshire and Regional Property Group Ltd on behalf of PMC Construction and Development Services Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological trial trenching at 10-12 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 442210 111208. The works were required as a planning condition in advance of the demolition of the existing buildings and the development of residential accommodation. The evaluation consisted of three trenches, which all encountered modern and post-medieval deposits beneath the concrete floor of the warehouse building. Natural geology was found at a depth of 1.5m below the top of the concrete level. A very small quantity of finds was recovered from post-medieval layers overlying natural geology and consisted of undatable two small fragments of clay pipe stem and a single fragment of possibly residual medieval fine glazed ware. The remains of a backfilled brick cellar were also noted, confirming the previous existence of 19th century buildings within the site. The fieldwork was carried out between 24th and 25th of October 2013.
Project dates	Start: 24-10-2013 End: 25-10-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	101100 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	SOU 1639 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

### Project location

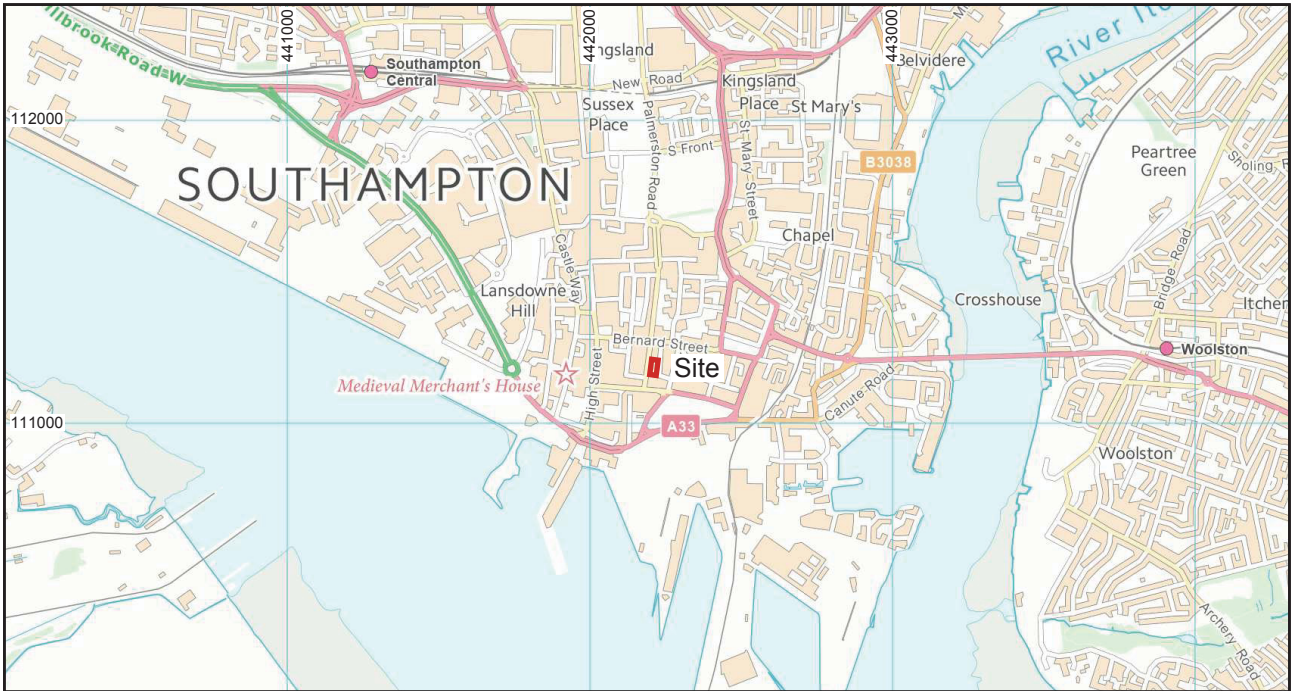





Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE SOUTHAMPTON SOUTHAMPTON 10-12 Queensway
Postcode	SO14 3AZ
Study area	0.10 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 422 112 50 -1 50 53 53 N 001 23 59 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.00m Max: 4.50m

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Entered by	Andrew manning (a.manning@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	14 November 2013

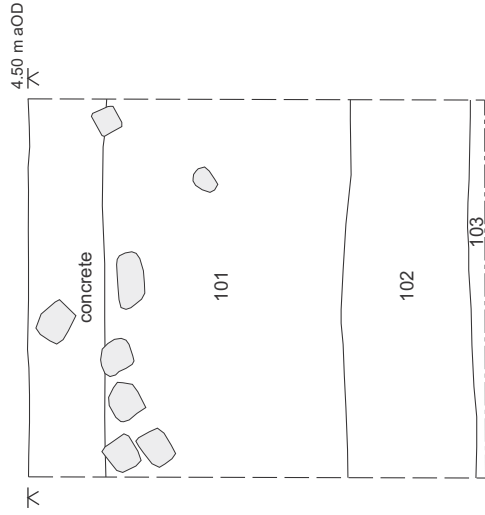




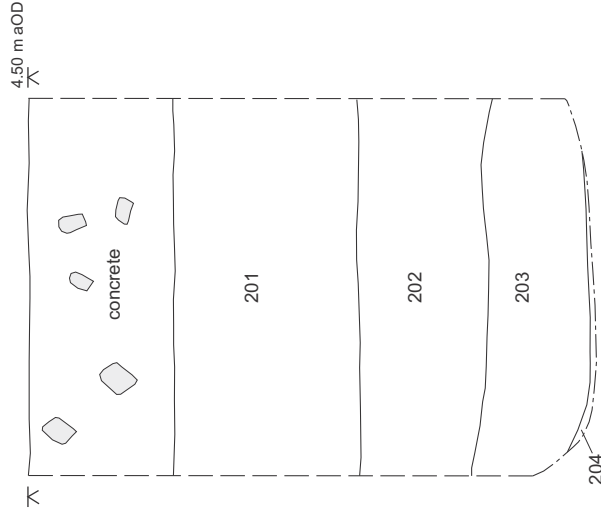
<p> The Site</p> <p> Evaluation trench</p>	<p>0</p> <p>25 m</p> <p>Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright (2013). All rights reserved. Reference Number: 100020449.          Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2013.          This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>		
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Location of Site and evaluation trenches

Figure 1



Section 1: Trench 1 east facing section



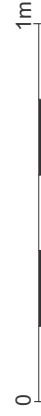
Section 2: Trench 2 south facing section



Section 3: Trench 3 east facing section



Brick



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Plate 1: View of TR1 from north with visible brick cellar



Plate 2: East facing section of TR1

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Plate 3: View of TR2 from east



Plate 4: South facing section of TR2



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Plate 5: View of TR3 from south



Plate 6: West facing section of TR3

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	<p>Scale: N/A</p>		<p>Illustrator: AMB</p>
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The logo for Wessex Archaeology features a stylized 'W' icon composed of three vertical bars of increasing height, followed by the word 'wessex' in a blue sans-serif font and 'archaeology' in a larger, bold, black sans-serif font below it.

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