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# Bulmershe Campus Reading, Berkshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Ref: 103070.01  
February 2014



**Bulmershe Campus  
Reading, Berkshire**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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\* I= Internal Draft; E= External Draft; F= Final

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# Bulmershe Campus Reading, Berkshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Cover image: View of former campus buildings



# **Bulmershe Campus Reading, Berkshire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at the Bulmershe Campus, Woodlands Avenue, Reading (NGR 474983 172884).

A reserved matters application (RM/2013/2411) has been granted consent by Wokingham Borough Council, following outline planning approval (O/2012/0155), for the demolition of the existing buildings and redevelopment of the site. The Archaeology Officer at Berkshire Archaeology, advisor to Wokingham Borough Council, recommended an archaeological trial trench evaluation to assess the archaeological potential of the site was undertaken.

Nine trenches on the western and eastern edge of the campus complex were machine excavated, and revealed considerable disturbance, which was most likely to have occurred when the campus was constructed in the 1960s. No archaeological features or deposits were found.

The evaluation was undertaken between the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014.



# **Bulmershe Campus Reading, Berkshire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **Acknowledgements**

The project was commissioned by CgMs Consulting and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Duncan Hawkins in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Fiona Macdonald (Principal Archaeologist for Berkshire Archaeology) for her advice and assistance.

The fieldwork was carried out by Naomi Brennan assisted by Matt Kendall. This report was written and compiled by Naomi Brennan with illustrations prepared by Karen Nichols. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr.



# **Bulmershe Campus Reading, Berkshire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Project background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting ('the Client'), to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at the Bulmershe Campus, Woodlands Avenue, Reading (hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 474983 172884.
- 1.1.2 A reserved matters application (RM/2013/2411) has been granted consent by Wokingham Borough Council, following outline planning approval (O/2012/0155) for the demolition of the existing buildings and redevelopment of the Site. Redevelopment will provide up to 216 residential units, a residential care facility, a local shop and associated landscaping and car parking, and the conversion and refurbishment of six halls of residence blocks and construction of a sports pavilion.
- 1.1.3 The Archaeology Officer at Berkshire Archaeology, advisor to Wokingham Borough Council, has recommended an archaeological condition (Condition 36) to ensure an appropriate programme of archaeological work is undertaken.
- 1.1.4 A Heritage Impact Assessment (CgMs 2013) was submitted with the planning application and detailed the archaeological and historical background to the Site. Further to this an archaeological trial trench evaluation was proposed to assess the archaeological potential of the Site.
- 1.1.5 The evaluation was undertaken from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

#### **1.2 The Site**

- 1.1.1 The Site lies within the administrative boundary of Wokingham Borough Council, and is positioned to the east of Reading at the junction of Church Road and Woodlands Avenue in Woodley, and has been in use as an education site since the early 1960s. It is bounded to the north by Woodlands Avenue, to the south by High Wood and to the east and west by residential properties (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 A number of redundant academic buildings and halls of residence buildings are mapped within the Site, with an approximate 8.25ha open playing field to the east, which will largely be retained for the University use as part of the development proposals.
- 1.1.3 The Site lies on gently sloping ground, descending eastwards towards the River Loddon. The campus is built on a relatively flat area across the western half of the Site at approximately 62m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The eastern half of the Site gently slopes down from 61m aOD to 58m aOD at the eastern extent. The Heritage Impact Assessment (CgMs 2013) considered the topography had been significantly altered by the construction of the campus buildings and levelling of the adjacent fields. A 2m high



embankment separates the higher north-east corner of the built area of the Site from the north-west corner of the playing fields.

- 1.1.4 The solid geology of the Site is London Clay Formation, comprising clay, silt and sand with superficial deposits of the Boyn Hill Gravel Member (sand and gravel) (British Geological Survey; 1:50,000 series, England and Wales, sheet 268).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background has been detailed in the *Heritage Impact Assessment: Bulmershe Campus, Woodley, Reading* (CgMs 2013), submitted with the planning application, the results of which are briefly summarised below.

### **2.2 Designated heritage assets**

- 2.2.1 No designated heritage assets are recorded on or within a 1km radius of the Site.

### **2.3 Non-designated heritage assets**

#### *Prehistoric*

- 2.3.1 No prehistoric remains are recorded on the Historic Environment Record within the Site itself, and although several find spots are known within a 1km study area, the evidence is limited and suggests a relatively low level of activity within the area. The finds include a single Palaeolithic hand axe recovered from a railway cutting, two Mesolithic finds recorded within the gravels to the north and east of the Site, and Neolithic stone tools to the east. A prehistoric flint assemblage is also recorded from the garden of 75 Quentin Road and two Iron Age coins are recorded broadly from 'Woodley'.

#### *Later activity*

- 2.3.2 Similarly, the potential for Romano-British activity is low with a single 4<sup>th</sup> century AD coin found 450m to the south of the Site and a further coin recorded 950m to the north-east.
- 2.3.3 Two nearby manors at Earley and Sonning are mentioned in Domesday, both of which include areas of woodland, and the Heritage Statement (CgMs 2013) concluded it was probable the area was woodland, potentially until the 13th century, when the manor of Bulmershe may have been formed (Lloyd 1977).
- 2.3.4 Bulmershe Court, located within the north-west corner of the Site, was built in the late 18th century, although only the kitchen garden walls still survive. Originally named Woodley House, it formed part of Woodley Park which included gardens, woodland, agricultural land and numerous farmsteads. The house was built by Henry Addington around 1796 and comprised a main square building with an additional u-shaped range to the west, and a separate range further to the east. A kitchen garden with a surrounding wall is situated to the south-west of the house, surrounded by a belt of woodland (CgMs 2013).
- 2.3.5 The 1843 tithe map shows the construction of a greenhouse along the northern wall of the kitchen garden. By the first edition Ordnance Survey, the former Woodley House is referred to as Bulmershe, and extensions to the house and an additional greenhouse are shown within the kitchen garden walls, and a lodge building had been constructed in the north-west corner of the Site. Latterly named Bulmershe Court, the house was used by the Ministry of Defence during the Second World War, but was abandoned and left derelict. It was demolished during the construction of Berkshire College of Education in 1962.

### 3 METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 The aims of this archaeological field evaluation were to:

- Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted by development;
- Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character and condition of any surviving remains within the Site;
- Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits;
- Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential; and
- Inform further stages of archaeological mitigation should this be necessary.

#### 3.2 Fieldwork methodology

3.2.1 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2014) and is summarised below.

3.2.2 The evaluation comprised the mechanical excavation of nine trenches, eight measuring between 30m long and 1.6m wide and one 15m long and 1.6m due to constraints on Site. The trenches were positioned within the proposed areas of development (**Figure 1**).

3.2.3 The trenches were excavated using a JCB type mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, operating under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through the topsoil, subsoil and any other modern deposits, until reaching either the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first.

3.2.4 Topsoil was separated from the subsoil and all other arisings, and was stored at a minimum of 1m from the trench edge. The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts. Upon completion of the fieldwork and recording, the trenches were backfilled with the excavated spoil, topsoil last in order to preserve the soil stratigraphy.

3.2.5 Where encountered, archaeological features were investigated by hand, with a sufficient sample of each layer/feature type excavated in order to establish, where possible, their date, nature, character, extent and condition.

3.2.6 The trenches, archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system which uses a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20, including both plans and sections; these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits.

3.2.7 A full photographic record was maintained using digital photography. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and the general context of the principal features and finds excavated as well as the Site as a whole. Digital images have been subject to a managed quality control and curation process which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and ensures the long term accessibility of the image set.

3.2.8 The survey was carried out with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit, using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.

3.2.9 A unique project code **103070** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.

### 3.3 Health and Safety

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

3.3.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*, 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 Best practice

3.4.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008).

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Due to the extensively built up nature of the Site, along with additional constraints such as trees and known services routes, there were very few locations available for trenching, however, nine trenches were opened, five within the western part of the Site and four on the eastern edge of the campus buildings (**Figure 1**). These locations beneath sports courts, car parks and open grassed areas were also most likely to have suffered the least impact from the 20<sup>th</sup> century construction of the campus buildings.

4.1.2 Five of the trenches were situated in areas of hard-standing such as car parks or sports courts (**Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7**). The remaining four trenches were in grassed areas (**Trenches 4, 5, 8 and 9**). Full details of the stratigraphic sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

### 4.2 Trench descriptions

4.2.1 **Trenches 1, 2 and 3** were situated in the former tennis court and adjacent car park in the western part of the Site. These trenches encountered between 0.11-0.19m of tarmac and underlying sub-base laid directly onto the natural, which was a sandy gravel. In **Trenches 1 and 2** a thin layer of discoloured, contaminated material was also seen (**103, 203**) while in **Trench 3** some patches of discolouration were visible. The interface with the natural geology was sharp and clean with no trace of any buried soil indicating that the ground has been previously stripped and potentially truncated. A number of French drains were also noted, as well as a modern ditch near the south-eastern end of **Trench 2 (205) (Plate 1)**.

4.2.2 **Trenches 4 and 5** were situated in the south-western part of the Site in areas of landscaping. Within **Trench 4**, approximately 0.10m of topsoil (**401**) overlay 0.15m of subsoil (**402**), while in **Trench 5** the soil profile was much deeper with 0.20m of topsoil (**501**) overlying 0.24m of subsoil (**502**), suggesting the ground may have been built up. A

number of modern features were found in both trenches indicative of considerable disturbance (**Plate 2**).

- 4.2.3 On the eastern side of the Site **Trench 6**, which lay within a former tennis court, showed a similar stratigraphic sequence to that recorded in **Trenches 1, 2 and 3**, with some modern disturbance and another French drain also noted. As with those trenches on the western side of the Site, the nature of the deposits indicated that the ground had previously been truncated.
- 4.2.4 **Trenches 7, 8 and 9** lay on a higher terrace, situated some 2.5m above the level of **Trench 6**. Based on cartographic evidence, the creation of this terrace seems to be contemporary with the construction of the campus buildings. **Trench 7** was situated within an area of hard-standing where the modern surfacing (**701, 702 & 703**) was found to overlie a buried soil deposit (**704**) (**Plate 3**). The results of the excavations here and also within the soil sequence encountered in **Trenches 8 and 9** (**Plate 4**), suggest that this ground has also seen modern disturbance, and that the soils encountered may be relatively modern. Areas of diffuse disturbance within the top of the natural geology imply that this area may also have been previously stripped.

## 5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

- 5.1.1 Only modern artefactual material was recovered from the Site, and included a milk bottle from the Slough and District Co-operative Society (**unstratified, Trench 3**). The Co-operative was founded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and grew and thrived until 1968 when they were taken over by the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society (Fraser 1980, 111-112).
- 5.1.2 Modern material consisting of brick, refined whiteware sherds, clinker and an undiagnostic section of clay pipe stem were noted on Site but not retained. The presence of this material and its context were recorded and the material subsequently discarded.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 Nine trenches excavated on the western and eastern edge of the campus complex revealed that the area had seen considerable disturbance, most likely when the campus was constructed in the 1960s. No archaeological features or deposits were found.

## 7 STORAGE AND CURATION

### 7.1 Archive

- 7.1.1 No suitable repository has been found for the project archive. Given the small scale of the project, and the lack of artefactual evidence, it is proposed that following the digital scanning of the records, the physical archive is not retained for long-term curation. The digital records, including this report, will be submitted to the HER, with a copy retained in the Wessex Archaeology security-copied and backed-up digital archive storage facility, under its designated Wessex Archaeology project code **103070**.
- 7.1.2 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms (**Appendix 2**). All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report.

## 7.2 Copyright

- 7.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms with the *Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003*.
- 7.2.2 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

## 7.3 Security Copy

- 7.3.1 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.

## 8 REFERENCES

### 8.1 Bibliography

British Geological Survey information available at:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

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## 9 APPENDICES

### 9.1 Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 1			
Dimensions: 29.10m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.32m	Ground level: 63.40m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 474751.68 N 172897.91			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	Layer	Modern tarmac surface used as a car park. Overlies 102.	0.00 – 0.04 bgl
102	Layer	Made ground – Fine dark grey silty sandy material which is used as the hard-core/base layer for 101. Overlies 103.	0.04 – 0.11 bgl
103	Layer	Contaminated material – Mid greyish blue silty sand with dark reddish patches containing sparse to occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flint inclusions (<0.05m). Most likely the interface of 104 which has been contaminated by the hydro-carbons from 101 and 102. Overlies 104.	0.11 – 0.20 bgl
104	Layer	Natural – Pale to mid yellowish brown silty sand (loose to firm) containing common to abundant sub-rounded to rounded flint gravels (<0.06m).	0.20+ bgl

TRENCH 2			
Dimensions: 30.40m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.36m	Ground level: 63.49m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 474753.77 N 172879.55			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	Layer	Modern tarmac surface used as a car park. Overlies 202.	0.00 – 0.04 bgl
202	Layer	Made ground – Fine dark grey silty sandy material which is used as the hard-core/base layer for 201. Overlies 203.	0.04 – 0.19 bgl
203	Layer	Contaminated material – Mid greyish blue silty sand with dark reddish patches containing sparse to occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flint inclusions (<0.06m). Most likely the interface of 204 which has been contaminated by the hydro-carbons from 201 and 202. Overlies 204.	0.19 – 0.28 bgl
204	Layer	Natural – Pale to mid yellowish brown silty sand (loose to firm) containing frequent to common sub-rounded to rounded flint gravels (<0.06m).	0.28+ bgl
205	Cut	<b>Cut of an unexcavated modern linear feature located in the eastern half of the trench. The nature of the deliberate backfill and the modern artefacts indicates that it is of modern date and associated with the construction of the car park or previous phases of construction. Cuts 204.</b>	-
206	Fill	Possible deliberate backfill of 205. Dark grey green silty sand with a slight hydro-carbon smell containing common sub-rounded to sub-angular flint inclusions (<0.06m) and sparse CBM fragments.	-



TRENCH 3			
Dimensions: 30.30m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.26m	Ground level: 63.00m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 474749.02 N 172852.86			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
301	Layer	Modern tarmac surface used as a car park. Overlies 302.	0.00 – 0.03 bgl
302	Layer	Made ground – Fine dark grey silty sandy material which is used as the hard-core/base layer for 301. Overlies 303.	0.03 – 0.15 bgl
303	Layer	Natural – Pale to mid orange brown silty sandy clay (loose to firm) containing sparse to common sub-rounded to sub-angular flint inclusions (<0.06m). The natural becomes more gravel rich towards the last 5m at the north-eastern end of the trench. Patches of contamination were encountered throughout.	0.15+ bgl

TRENCH 4			
Dimensions: 14.80m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.37m	Ground level: 63.36m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 474804.62 N 172828.82			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
401	Layer	Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sandy loam (loose) containing common rooting and sparse sub-rounded to sub-angular flints (<0.03m). Overlies 402.	0.00 – 0.10 bgl
402	Layer	Subsoil - Mid to dark grey silty sandy loam (loose to firm) containing sparse rooting and occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flints (<0.05m). Overlies 403.	0.10 – 0.25 bgl
403	Layer	Natural - Mid orange brown silty sand with common to abundant sub-rounded to rounded flint gravels (<0.07m).	0.25+ bgl
404	Cut	<b>Cut of a modern posthole which cuts 403. Measures 0.5m in diameter by 0.5m in length and 0.07m in depth. Has straight vertical sides and a flat base. Part of the post was still intact within in feature.</b>	0.07 deep
405	Fill	Deliberate backfill of 404. Mid grey silty sand containing occasional to frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular flints and root fragments. A CBM fragment and flake of plastic were recovered from this deposit but were not retained.	0.07 thick
406	Cut	<b>Cut of a north to south aligned linear service trench. Measures 1.85m in length by 0.6m wide and has vertical sides. Measures at least 0.3m deep (concrete was reached at this depth). Cuts through a root bowl.</b>	0.30+ deep
407	Fill	Deliberate backfill of 407. Mid grey silty sand containing common rounded to sub-angular flint (<0.04m) and occasional fragments of frogged red brick (<0.15m) which were not retained.	0.30 thick
408	Fill	Deliberate backfill of 406. Concrete capping used to cover over the utility.	-
409	Cut	<b>Possible linear which was partially exposed within Trench 4. Contained fragments of water pipe warning tape and is possibly related to 406 and it cuts through a couple of root bowls. Unexcavated.</b>	-
410	Layer	Deliberate backfill of 409. Mid grey silty sand containing occasional sub-rounded to rounded flints and water pipe	-



		warning tape fragments.	
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TRENCH 5			
Dimensions:29.40m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.58m	Ground level:62.10m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 474853.85 N 172775.62			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
501	Layer	Mid to dark grey silty sandy loam containing sparse rooting and sparse sub-rounded to sub-angular flint inclusions (<0.04m). Overlies 502.	0.00 – 0.20 bgl
502	Layer	Pale to mid yellowish grey silty sandy clay with patches of re-deposited natural and containing occasional to moderate sub-angular to rounded flint and CBM fragments (<0.07m). Overlies 503.	0.20 – 0.44 bgl
503	Layer	Natural - Pale to mid yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing abundant rounded to sub-angular flint gravels (<0.06m). N.B - Natural was not reaches in the majority of the trench as there was a lot of modern disturbance (services, timbers). These are probably derived from previous phases of construction with the waste materials being dumped over an area and topsoil spread over to cover them.	0.44+ bgl

TRENCH 6			
Dimensions:30.20m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.25m	Ground level:59.32m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 475077.30 N 172878.51			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
601	Layer	Modern tarmac surface used for a tennis court. Overlies 602.	0.00 – 0.03 bgl
602	Layer	Made ground - Abundant angular to sub-angular stone scalplings used as the base for 601. Overlies 603.	0.03 – 0.14 bgl
603	Layer	Natural - Mid brown silty sand containing abundant (90%+) rounded to sub-angular flint gravels (<0.06). Natural turns to London Clays for the last 6m at the north-eastern end of the trench.	0.14+ bgl

TRENCH 7			
Dimensions:30.40m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.64m	Ground level:61.79m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 475072.07 N 172930.98			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
701	Layer	Modern fragmentary tarmac surface used as a car park. Overlies 702.	0.00 – 0.04 bgl
702	Layer	Made ground - Mid yellow brown silty sand containing abundant sub-rounded to sub-angular flint gravels (<0.03m), Used as a hard-core base for 701 and overlies 703.	0.04 – 0.16 bgl
703	Layer	Made ground - Layer of CBM (frogged red brick) rubble used as a base for 702. Patches of cement and plaster/paint on the bricks shows that they have been re-used. Overlies 704.	0.16 – 0.27 bgl
704	Layer	Buried soil - Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay (firm to compact) containing sparse sub-rounded to sub-angular lint (<0.05m). Overlies 705.	0.27 – 0.56 bgl
705	Layer	Natural - Mixed; Mid to pale greyish brown silty sandy clay with occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flint (<0.05m)	0.57+ bgl



		and manganese flecks. To the west of the trench is becomes more gravel bases with abundant rounded to sub-angular flint gravels (<0.06m).	
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TRENCH 8			
Dimensions: 29.30m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.40m	Ground level: 61.80m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 475069.50 N 172980.46			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
801	Layer	Turf/topsoil - Dark grey silty sandy loam containing common rooting. Overlies 802.	0.00 – 0.05 bgl
802	Layer	Subsoil - Mid grey silty sandy clay (firm) containing rare rooting and sparse sub-rounded to sub-angular flint (<0.04m). Overlies 803.	0.05 – 0.26 bgl
803	Layer	Natural - Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay (compact) containing occasional to common rounded to sub-angular flint (<0.05m). Patches of Terrace gravels were identified at the south-west end of the trench.	0.26+ bgl

TRENCH 9			
Dimensions: 28.80m x 1.60m		Max. depth: 0.46m	Ground level: 61.58m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 475063.55 N 173021.56			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
901	Layer	Topsoil/turf - Dark grey silty loam containing abundant rooting. Overlies 902.	0.00 – 0.03 bgl
902	Layer	Subsoil - Pale greyish brown silty sandy loam containing sparse to occasional rounded to sub-angular flint (<0.05m). Possibly brought in to build up the playing field area. Overlies 903.	0.03 – 0.20 bgl
903	Layer	Made ground - Mid grey silty sandy clay (firm) with patches of mid orange natural. Contains occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flints (<0.06m). Overlies 904.	0.20 – 0.39 bgl
904	Layer	Natural - Mid brown silty sandy clay (compact) containing sparse to occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flints (<0.07m).	0.39+ bgl
905	Cut	<b>Cut of a modern feature which is possibly a wheel rut. Aligned on an east-west axis, it measures 2.5m in length by 0.5 wide and 0.08m deep. Has moderate concave sides and a flat base. Cuts 904.</b>	<b>0.08 deep</b>
906	Fill	Possible deliberate backfill of <b>905</b> . Dark grey silty sandy clay with a blue hue and a slight hydro-carbon smell. Contains sparse sub-rounded to sub-angular flints (<0.05m). Clinker fragments were recovered but not retained.	0.08 thick



## 9.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-172188

### Project details

Project name	Bulmershe Campus, Reading
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation at the Bulmershe Campus, Woodlands Avenue, Reading (NGR 474983 172884). A reserved matters application (RM/2013/2411) has been granted consent by Wokingham Borough Council, following outline planning approval (O/2012/0155), for the demolition of the existing buildings and redevelopment of the Site. The evaluation was undertaken between the 17th to the 19th February 2014, this encountered substantial evidence of modern disturbance, no archaeological features or deposits were found.
Project dates	Start: 17-02-2014 End: 19-02-2014
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	103070 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)



### Project location

Country	England
Site location	BERKSHIRE WOKINGHAM WOODLEY Bulmershe Campus, Reading
Postcode	RG6 1HY
Study area	17.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 474983 172884 50.9525208821 -1.32371470891 50 57 09 N 001 19 25 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 58.00m Max: 63.50m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Sue Farr
Project supervisor	Naomi Brennan
Type of sponsor/funding body	Archaeological Consultant

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Reading Museum
Digital Archive ID	103070
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Reading Museum



Paper Archive ID 103070

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Diary","Report"

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#### **Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Bulmershe Campus, Reading, Berkshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brennan, N.
Other bibliographic details	report number 103070
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Wessex Archaeology - Salisbury
Description	A4 bound client report



Location of site and evaluation trenches


Figure 1



Plate 1: View of Trench 2, from the east



Plate 2: View of Trench 5, from the south

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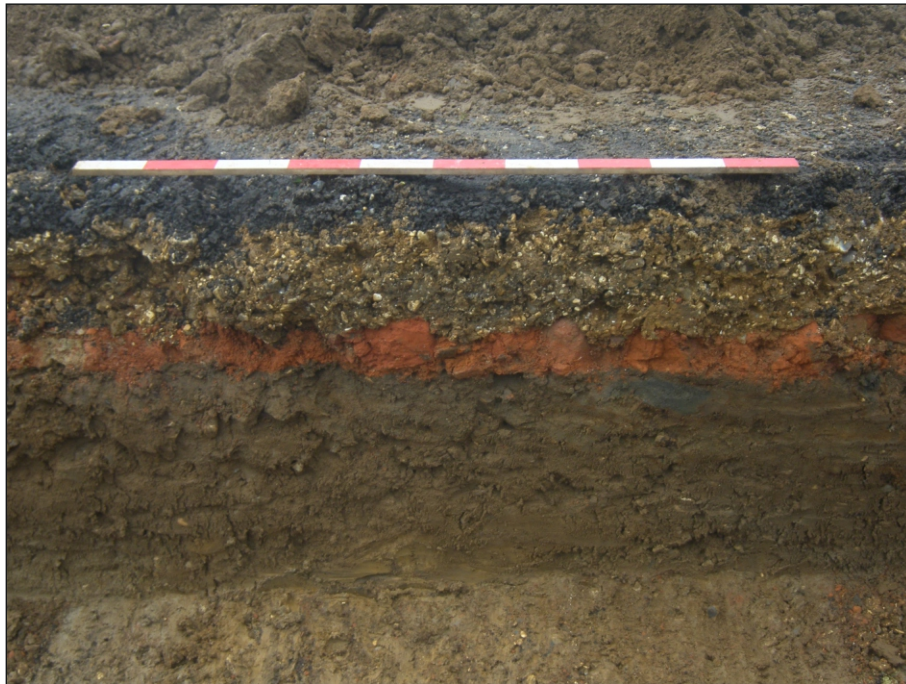



Plate 3: South facing section, Trench 7



Plate 4: South-west facing section, Trench 9

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