



making sense of heritage

Premier Inn: Redhill Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Planning Ref: 15/00683/F
Ref: 111370.02
April 2016



**Premier Inn: Redhill
Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey
Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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April 2016

**Report ref: 111370.02
Planning Application Ref. 15/00683/F**



Quality Assurance

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

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Premier Inn: Redhill Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by PSE Associates on behalf of Whitbread Group PLC (hereafter “the Client”), to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land at the Premier Inn Redhill, at Mill House, Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 528220 146770. The evaluation was carried out on 4th April 2016. The evaluation followed on from an archaeological watching brief carried out from 29th to 31st March for a cable diversion trench.

The possibility had been highlighted of 17th-century and possibly earlier remains relating to the former Salford Mill and Mill House surviving on the site. However, the evaluation and watching brief identified no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts. The lack of remnant subsoils and the thicknesses of made ground along the southern edge of the Site suggests widespread levelling, most likely during the construction of the Premier Inn and associated structures and car parks.



Premier Inn: Redhill Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by PSE Associates on behalf of Whitbread Group PLC, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Matthew Mills in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Jason Bell of Carter Lauren and Euan Brown of Walsingham Planning for their help and assistance during the course of the project. Thanks are also extended to Nick Truckle of Surrey County Council (SCC), who monitored the project on behalf of the local authority.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Bill Moffat and Jamie McCarthy. The report was compiled by Bill Moffat and the graphics were prepared by Nancy Dixon and Karen Nichols. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Ruth Panes, who also edited this report.



Premier Inn: Redhill Brighton Road, Salfords,, Surrey

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by PSE Associates on behalf of Whitbread Group PLC (hereafter the 'Client') to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at the Premier Inn Redhill, at Mill House, 15 Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 528220 146770 (hereafter 'the Site'; **Figure 1**).

1.1.2 A consultation response, dated 12/05/2015, was issued by the Surrey County Council (SCC) Archaeological Officer, acting as advisor to Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, with respect to the planning application (15/00683/F:

'The application site is large - over the 0.4 hectares which is recommended for archaeological assessment and possibly evaluation under policy Pc8 of the Reigate and Banstead Local Plan. In addition the Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the Mill House Hotel, which is adjacent to the proposed extension, dates from the 17th century, although it is suggested that there was settlement on the site in the medieval period. It is therefore possible that further archaeological material exists in the area.

As the site is partly developed already, I do not consider that remains worthy of preservation in situ will be present, and it will not be necessary to conduct any archaeological work prior to determination of the application. I would however recommend that a condition requiring a scheme of archaeological work be included if planning permission is granted, to ensure that should remains exist within the area of the proposed extension and new car park, they can be recorded and removed by qualified archaeologists prior to their destruction. The immediate area surrounding the site appears to have been little explored archaeologically, so I would recommend that the first stage of this scheme would be to conduct an archaeological evaluation on the site, which will aim to create a more accurate picture of the archaeological potential, and make recommendations as to what (if any) further archaeological work is required....'

1.1.3 On the advice of the SCC Archaeological Officer, a condition (Condition 5) was attached to the planning consent, which was granted on 2nd October 2015:

'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.



Reason:

The site covers an area in which it is considered necessary to preserve for future reference any archaeological information before it is destroyed by the development with regard to the Reigate and Banstead Local Plan 2005 policy Pc8.'

1.1.4 The fieldwork strategy and methodology was documented in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (WA 2016) and was submitted to and approved by the Archaeological Officer at Surrey County Council (SCC) prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.5 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 4th April 2016.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The Site is situated on the northern edge of Salfords, Surrey, on the eastern side of the A23 Brighton Road. It encompasses a long narrow area having a 45 m wide frontage to the A23 and an overall length of 230 m (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 Set back 42 m from the frontage is The Mill House, currently a Beefeater restaurant, covering an area of 560 sq m. Beyond this, on the north side of a central driveway, is the existing two-storey Premier Inn building, which is linked at first floor level to the hotel extension on the south side. Beyond that, the car park, containing 105 spaces, extends a further 65 m beyond the end of the hotel building. The remainder of the Site is open grassland.

1.2.3 The southern boundary of the Site is formed by the Salfords Stream, beyond which is a haulage/container depot. Open fields extend to the north of the Site, and to the north-west is a domestic residence, 13 Brighton Road. The Mill House building, which is of 16th-17th century date, is a Grade II Listed Building (List entry no. 1180097). There is a group Tree Preservation Order dating from 1975 on a group of trees on the Site's northern boundary.

1.2.4 In total, the Site occupies an area of some 1.3 hectares. However, the main development footprint will be restricted to an area of approximately 20 m by 15 m corresponding with the proposed extension at the eastern end of the existing Premier Inn building, and the footprint of the extension to the car park, which will measure approximately 47 m by 3 m.

1.2.5 The Site is situated at an elevation of approximately 56 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The bedrock geology underlying the Site is mapped as Mudstone of the Weald Clay Formation, overlain by superficial deposits of alluvium laid down along the valley of the Salfords Stream (British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer; <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>; Accessed on 27/10/2015).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1.1 Very little archaeological investigation is known to have been undertaken within the immediately surrounding area and, as a consequence, the recorded historic environment resource is currently very limited.

2.1.2 The earliest recorded evidence of activity in the vicinity comprises the chance discovery of a rolled and broken Lower Palaeolithic hand axe on ploughed land to the north of the Site, although the exact provenance of the find spot is uncertain (Wessex Archaeology 1993).



- 2.1.3 The Surrey Historic Environment Record (SHER) contains no entries pertaining to any evidence of subsequent activity within the local surroundings of the Site until the early medieval period. However, the possibility that buried remains of prehistoric or Romano-British date could be encountered within the Site cannot be entirely discounted in light of the limited nature of previous archaeological investigation in the surrounding area.
- 2.1.4 The Grade II Mill House Hotel, now a Beefeater restaurant, which is situated to the west of the proposed development areas, dates from the 17th century. The 25 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1870 depicts the location of the house, labelled 'Salford Farm', in close association with a number of other structures, all of which have subsequently been demolished. The proposed development areas appear to coincide with the locations of gardens and fields depicted by the 1870 map in the area to the east of the farm complex.
- 2.1.5 The 1870 map also illustrates the site of a corn mill, labelled 'Salford Mill', on the north bank of the Salfords Stream, to the south-west of 'Salford Farm' / the Mill House Hotel. The SHER indicates that the mill site (ID 3735) dates from the late 18th century, although the original building burnt down in 1887. The mill was subsequently rebuilt, but a second fire broke out in 1900, after which the structure was abandoned. Structural remains associated with the mill site were apparently uncovered in this location in 1994 during attempts to landscape the gardens of the adjacent Mill House Hotel.
- 2.1.6 Although speculative, it is possible that the location of the former Salford Mill and the Mill House hotel may have been occupied since the medieval period. As such, it is possible that associated archaeological remains of medieval to post-medieval date may be encountered within the proposed development areas.
- 2.1.7 The SHER contains a number of other entries relating to medieval activity in the vicinity. The local place-names Honeycrook Lane and Honeycrook Cottages (SHER ID 3013), located to the south-east of the Site, could indicate that a pottery kiln was located in the vicinity. A nearby hedgerow and 'trackway' (possibly referring to Honeycrook Lane) have also been suggested to be of possible Saxon origin (SHER ID 3012).
- 2.1.8 Other putative traces of medieval activity within the local area include the site of a possible deserted farm complex situated approximately 1 km to the north of the Site, which has been identified from soilmarks and scatters of pottery, tile, charcoal and metalwork (Pastscape, http://pastscape.org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=968373; Accessed on 27/10/2015). A possible medieval moated site (SHER ID 4559) has also been identified some 900 m to the north-west of the Site, near Petridgewood Farm.
- 2.1.9 The SHER contains a number of entries relating to post-medieval sites and buildings (a number of which are also Listed) in the local area. However, none of these are situated in close proximity to the Site, or provide any specific indication that associated archaeological remains are likely to be present within the proposed development areas.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 The overall aim of this programme of archaeological evaluation was to provide further information regarding the potential location and nature of archaeological remains within the Site. If remains were present, the evaluation was to seek to establish sufficient details such that informed decisions could be made regarding the need and scope of any further mitigation that may be required before or during the development of the Site.

3.1.2 With due regard to the ClfA *Standard and guidance for field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), the generic aims of the project were to:

- *Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site;*
- *Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site;*
- *Produce a report which will present the results of the trial trenching to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the location, scope and nature of any further archaeological mitigation, if required.*

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

3.2.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2016). In format and content it conforms with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, English Heritage 2006). All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (ClfA 2014b).

3.2.2 The watching brief comprised of the archaeological monitoring of one, hand excavated cable diversion trench to re-route an existing electrical supply, prior to the archaeological evaluation (**Figure 1**). The cable diversion trench measured 10m long by 0.5m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.6m. The watching brief was undertaken from the 29th to 31st March 2016.

3.2.3 For the evaluation, all four of the trenches were laid out using a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below and in general accordance with the pattern given in the WSI (**Figure 1**). The investigation areas were scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT) by trained WA staff experienced in the use of such equipment prior to machining, and minor adjustments made to the layout of trenches to take account of buried services.

3.2.4 Trench excavation for the evaluation was carried out using a nine tonne, rubber tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and was supervised by a suitably qualified archaeologist at all times. The tarmac, topsoil and other overburden were removed by machine in a series of level spits to the top of the archaeology or natural geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The machine excavated arisings were stored at the side of the trench and were scanned for artefacts at regular intervals.

3.2.5 Areas of investigation were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate order in which they were excavated and left level on completion.

3.3 Recording

3.3.1 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using WA's *pro forma* recording system.

3.3.2 A complete drawn record of archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey National



Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels was calculated and plans/sections annotated with OD heights.

- 3.3.3 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images were subject to managed quality control and curation processes which embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The works subject to watching brief (rerouting of electricity supply) (**Plate 1**) exposed no archaeological remains.

- 4.1.2 The following summary details the results of the archaeological evaluation, which comprised the excavation of four trenches measuring between 4.7 and 5.8m long by between 0.6 m (Trench 1) and 1.8 m wide (**Figure 1**). The width of Trench 1 was restricted by a disconnected service along the northern edge adjacent to the car park. Trenches 1 & 2 were located on the southern edge of the development area alongside the Salfords Stream, and Trenches 3 & 4 in the north-western corner of the car park adjacent to the hotel buildings.

- 4.1.3 Full details of the stratigraphic sequence can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Natural deposits and soil sequences

- 4.2.1 The underlying natural was exposed in Trenches 2, 3 and 4, (203, 304 and 404) and consisted of mid-yellowish brown very compact sandy clay with occasional rounded stone inclusions. This was exposed at 300mm Below Ground Level (BGL) in the north of the site (**Plates 3 & 4**) and at 600mm BGL in Trench 2 (**Plate 2**). It was not exposed in Trench 1.

- 4.2.2 Within Trenches 3 and 4, a heavily gleyed natural (303 and 403) was revealed which overlaid natural deposits 304 and 404. The gleyed deposits both comprised of a dark bluish grey coarse sandy clay, with common, poorly sorted, water-worn small to medium flint gravels (**Plates 3 & 4**). Within Trench 3, deposit 304 was investigated by machine to a depth of 0.7m BGL and revealed an undifferentiated deposit with no laminations. Both gleyed deposits have been interpreted as natural, and most likely represent areas in the natural which have been subject to anaerobic conditions.

- 4.2.3 No intact soil sequences or their remnants were observed. This suggests that they were removed during construction works for the car park. See also below.

4.3 Modern disturbances

- 4.3.1 Trench 1 was adjusted to avoid the disconnected electricity supply for the carpark lighting. The trench for this supply formed the northern edge of the Trench.

- 4.3.2 All trenches revealed modern made ground deposits. In Trenches 3 and 4 (302 and 402), these consisted of compacted brick rubble to 300mm BGL, forming the makeup for the existing car park, while Trenches 1 and 2 revealed thicker deposits (102/103 and 202) of rammed clay with brick and concrete rubble. These extended to 1.20m BGL in trench 1 and 0.6m BGL in Trench 2 (**Plate 2**). These are most likely to relate to the construction of



the carpark and may largely be derived from material removed from the north of the car park being used to level up its southern edge.

5 ARTEFACTUAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Artefactual Evidence

5.1.1 No archaeological finds were recovered during the course of the fieldwork.

5.2 Environmental evidence

5.2.1 No material suitable for environmental sampling was present within the monitored areas and accordingly no samples were taken.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 The evaluation identified no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts. The made ground deposits and lack of soil sequences suggest that the Site has been subject to some levelling and truncation, most likely during the construction of the Premier Inn and its car park.

7 STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 Museum

7.1.1 The local museum for this project is Guildford Museum.

7.1.2 It is understood that Guildford Museum is no longer accepting archives from archaeological investigations, nor are any suitable alternative repositories available within the administrative area of the Local Planning Authority.

7.1.3 In the absence of a recipient museum, the archive will be retained at Wessex Archaeology Head Office, Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP4 6EB for a period of three months beyond the completion of all works associated with this project.

7.1.4 Thereafter, the archive will be returned to the landowner for appropriate storage. If no such storage facility is available, Wessex Archaeology can continue to hold the archive for a nominal monthly storage fee (£2 per archive item per month), though it must be noted that Wessex Archaeology is not a certified and approved archive storage facility, and cannot provide a temperature / humidity controlled storage environment.

7.2 Archive

7.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

7.2.2 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive). A copy of the OASIS entry has been included in this report (Appendix 2).



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

- 1 file of paper records.

7.3 Discard policy

7.3.1 WA 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 further analysis. In this case, however, none were present.

7.4 Security copy

7.4.1 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.

8 REFERENCES

ADS 2013, *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice

British Geological Survey (BGS) website

Brown, D.H., 2011, *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)

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Wessex Archaeology, 2016. *Premier Inn: Redhill, Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey*. WSI for Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation.

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer)



http://pastscape.org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=968373 (Pastscape)

URLs accessed on 27/10/2015



APPENDIX 1: TRENCH TABLES

Trench No	001	Length	5m	Width	0.6m	Depth	1.0m	
Easting		528265.0870	Northing		146759.1210	mAOD		55.76
Context No	Interpretive Category	Description				Depth BGL		
101	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam, various modern debris				0 – 0.1		
102	Made Ground	Pale yellow clay, sand and redeposited soil and modern debris				0.1 – 0.34		
103	Made Ground	Mid yellowish brown silty clay. Compact with modern inclusions				0.34 – 1.0m+		

Trench No	002	Length	5.8	Width	1.6m	Depth	1.25m	
Easting		528307.2090	Northing		146760.7600	mAOD		56.26
Context No	Interpretive Category	Description				Depth BGL		
201	Topsoil	Thin turf and dark sandy topsoil				0 – 0.2		
202	Made Ground	Yellowish brown compact sandy clay, freq bandfs and lenses of sandy gravel, occasional brick fragments, pebbles concrete lumps and rare angular Wealden sandstone boulders.				0.2 – 0.60		
203	Natural	Pale yellowish brown heterogenous silty clay with frequent discrete lumps of harder, iron mottled, yellow grey clay and fragments of mudstone				0.6 – 1.2		
204	Bedrock	Very hard iron mottled silty clay with rounded mudstone fragments.				1.2+		

Trench No	003	Length	4.7m	Width	1.8m	Depth	0.7m	
Easting		528221.2030	Northing		146785.2080	mAOD		56.8
Context No	Interpretive Category	Description				Depth BGL		
301	Tarmac	Carpark surface				0.-0.11		
302	Makeup	Rammed brick rubble				0.11 – 0.3		
303	Gleyed natural	Dark blue/grey coarse sandy clay with common, poorly sorted and water-worn small to medium flint gravels. Heavily gleyed.				0.3 – 0.7m+		
304	Natural	Yellowish brown compact sandy clay with with extensive sesquioxide mottling.				0.3+		



Trench No	004	Length	5m	Width	1.6m	Depth	0.55m
Easting	528229.3460	Northing	146783.4540	mAOD			56.8
Context No	Interpretive Category	Description			Depth BGL		
401	Tarmac	Car park surface			0 – 0.15		
402	Makeup	Rammed brick rubble			0.15 – 0.30		
403	Gleyed natural	Heavily gleyed dark blue grey coarse sandy clay. Common water-rounded small to medium flint gravels. Same as 303. Occupies all but northerly metre of Trench.			0.30 – 0.55+		
404	Natural	Yellowish brown compact sandy clay with with extensive sesquioxide mottling.			0.30+		



APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: wessexar1-248004

Project details

Project name	Premier Inn Redhill, Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by PSE Associates on behalf of Whitbread Group PLC to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land at the Premier Inn Redhill, at Mill House, Brighton Road, Salfords, Surrey, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 528220 146770. The evaluation was carried out on 4th April 2016. The evaluation followed on from an archaeological watching brief carried out from 29th to 31st March for a cable diversion trench. The possibility had been highlighted of 17th-century and possibly earlier remains relating to the former Salford Mill and Mill House surviving on the site. However, the evaluation and watching brief identified no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts. The lack of remnant subsoils and the thicknesses of made ground along the southern edge of the Site suggests widespread levelling, most likely during the construction of the Premier Inn and associated structures and car parks.
Project dates	Start: 29-03-2016 End: 04-04-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	111370 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Rural commercial
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SURREY REIGATE AND BANSTEAD SALFORDS AND SIDLOW Premier Inn Redhill
Postcode	RH1 5BT



Study area	1.3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 528220 146770 50.910724540953 0.1740428743 50 54 38 N 000 10 26 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 55m Max: 56m

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	Ruth Panes
Project supervisor	Bill Moffat
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Whitbread Group PLC

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Not yet transferred
Digital Archive ID	111370
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Not yet transferred
Paper Archive ID	111370
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Report", "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", 'Research', 'General Notes', "Plan"

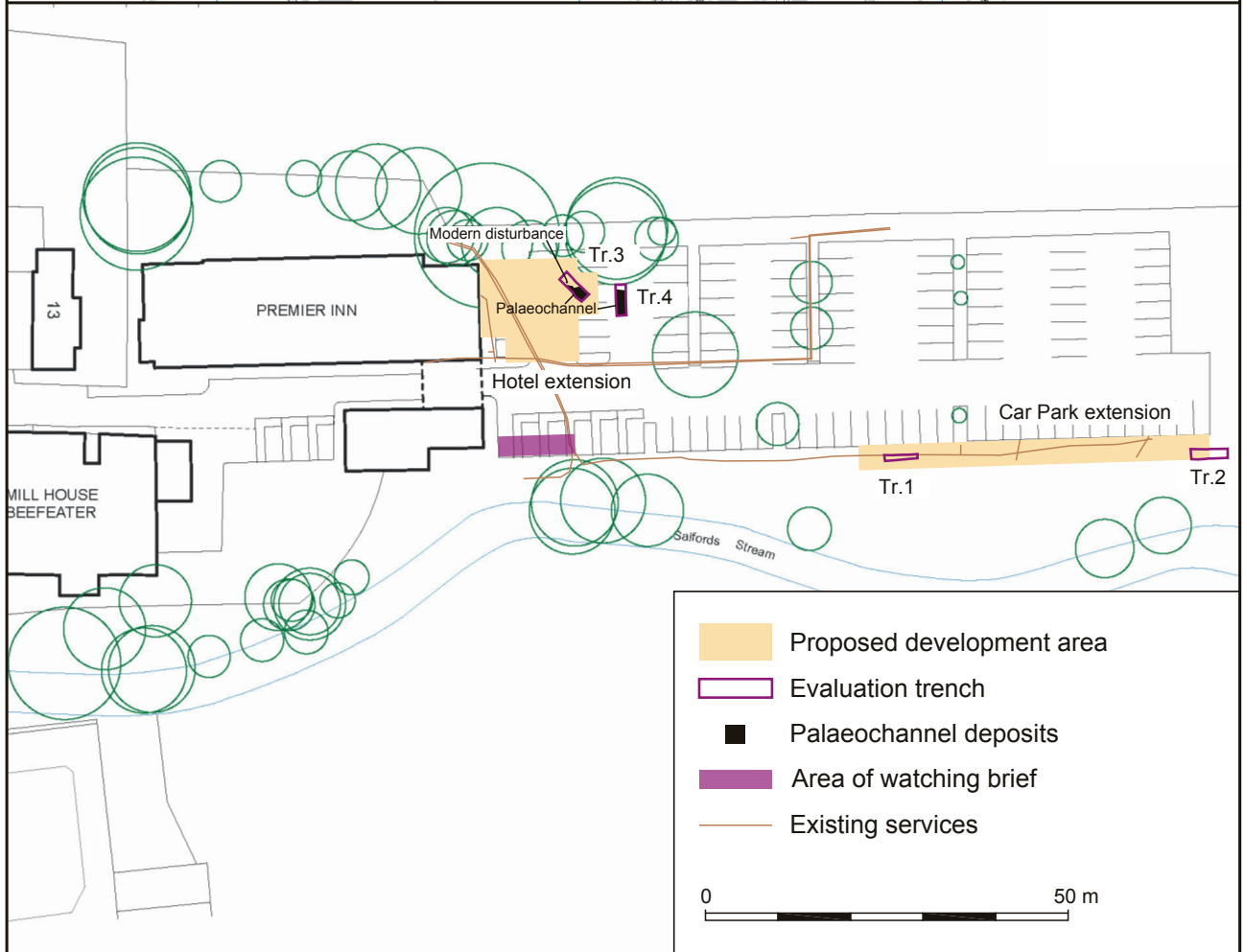
Project bibliography 1


Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)



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Location of the Site, development area and evaluation trenches

Figure 1



plate 1: Watching brief cable diversion trench, north facing section



Plate 2: Trench 2 facing west



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Plate 3: Trench 3 facing south-east



Plate 4: Trench 4 facing north

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