



Peartree Apartments Salisbury Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring Report



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Summary

The primary interest for this area of Salisbury is tied to the Palaeolithic as artefacts of this period have been discovered a number of times to the north of the site. These are located within brickearth, the southern extent of which has not been identified. Also, early settlement (12th century) is known to extend northwards along Mill Road and may have extended as far north as this property.

Though no artefacts were recovered as part of this project, brickearth has been identified and represents the known southernmost extent of the brickearth in the north Salisbury area. This adds to a growing body of information relating to an important area of Palaeolithic activity. No deposits or artefacts dating to the 12th century were identified.

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Trustees of the Howle Hotels Pension Fund to undertake archaeological monitoring during the development of a property at Peartree Apartments, 17–19 Mill Road, Salisbury, SP2 7RT, centred on NGR 413755 130080. The development was to comprise the building of several extensions and small buildings. The archaeological monitoring was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Wiltshire Council as part of a programme of archaeological work, which had included a desk-based assessment.

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Peartree Apartments, Salisbury, Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by The Trustees of the Howle Hotels Pension Fund (the Client), to undertake archaeological monitoring during the development of a property at Peartree Apartments, 17–19 Mill Road, Salisbury SP2 7RT (the Site). The Site is centred on NGR 413755 130080 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The property was to be developed in three phases (**Figure 1**). Phase 1 consisting of a new office and vending building connected to the main building via a glazed link, Phase 2 consisting of a new apartment and laundry blocks, and Phase 3 a new apartment extension.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological monitoring was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Wiltshire Council (reference 18/04070/FUL), as part of a programme of archaeological work, which has included a desk-based assessment (DBA; Wessex Archaeology 2018). Planning permission was permitted subject to a condition.

5 No development shall commence until:

a) A written programme of archaeological investigation, which should include on-site work and off-site work such as the analysis, publishing and archiving of the results, has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and

b) The approved programme of archaeological work has been carried out in accordance with the approved details.

REASON: To enable the recording of any matters of archaeological interest.

- 1.1.4 The archaeological monitoring was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2019). The Assistant County Archaeologist, the archaeological advisor for Wiltshire Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA), approved the WSI, on behalf of the LPA, prior to fieldwork commencing. The archaeological monitoring was undertaken between the 17 April 2019 and the 6 February 2020.

1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the archaeological monitoring, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site was located within the Fisherton area, on the western side of Salisbury city centre. It lies on the western side of Mill Road, approximately equidistant between the junctions



with Churchfields Road to the south, and with Southwestern Road to the north, and is occupied by a two-storey, painted brick building, with tiled roof and extensions to the rear. The principal building, “Peartree Serviced Apartments”, was converted from a pair of cottages, probably of 19th century date, into a hotel in the 1930s.

- 1.3.2 Locally the topography slopes down gradually towards a broad northward arc in the course of the River Nadder some 100 m to the south, and its confluence with the River Avon to the south-east.
- 1.3.3 The Site is situated at approximately 50 m Ordnance Datum (OD). It is predominantly flat, although there is an abrupt step in height where the hard-surfaced yard meets the rear garden and patio area, the latter of which are slightly more than 1 m higher than the adjoining yard. This appears to have been the result of past remodelling, possibly involving ground reduction to provide a level building platform for the rear extensions to the main building. The ground level at the front of the principal building is generally consistent with that of the immediate environs. The station car park, however, immediately to the north, appears to have been artificially raised above the level of Mill Road and the front and rear gardens within the Site to facilitate access to the railway station.
- 1.3.4 The underlying geology is mapped by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2019) as Chalk of the Newhaven Chalk Formation, overlain by superficial (Pleistocene) deposits recorded as “River Terrace Deposits, 4 - sand and gravel”. No historic borehole logs in the immediate vicinity of the Site were available through the BGS Geology of Britain Viewer.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2018). This assessment considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 500 m radius of the Site. The following summary is not exhaustive, but details those records considered relevant to the Site. Relevant entry numbers from the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) are included with additional sources of information referenced as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the development

- 2.2.1 Aside from the earlier desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2018), no previous archaeological works are known to have been undertaken within the Site boundary. Excavations carried out opposite the Site at 68–72 Mill Road during the late 1990s (EWI5609), however, revealed medieval features, including three pits (MWI75985) in the southern area of the investigation. Several undated features were also revealed, as well as post-medieval surfaces, pits and two ditches, aligned north to south, along the western edge of the excavation area (MWI75986).
- 2.2.2 The Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (WSHER) contains numerous entries relating to other investigations which have previously been carried out in the vicinity. These have comprised desk-based studies, programmes of historic building recording, evaluation trenching, excavations and watching briefs/archaeological monitoring maintained during construction works. Those most relevant to the Site have been cited below.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Palaeolithic (970,000–8,500 BC)

- 2.3.1 The Pleistocene River Terrace Deposits 4 — mapped by the BGS within the valley of the proto-Avon, and with which the Site coincides, are not known to have produced significant numbers of Palaeolithic artefacts. Prolific quantities of Palaeolithic artefactual material have, however, been found in the Fisherton area, particularly to the north of the Site. The exact provenance of much of this material is uncertain, although the majority of the discoveries appear to have been made during the 18th and 19th centuries, when the fine-grained brickearth deposits that overlie the river terrace deposits across much of the Fisherton area were intensively quarried.
- 2.3.2 The local stratigraphic sequence is also of considerable significance as ‘one of the most complete faunal assemblages yet discovered in British Pleistocene strata came to light last century in brickearth deposits at Fisherton Anger...’ (Delair and Shackley 1978). Reports of such material being unearthed in Fisherton’s extensive brickearth quarries attracted the attention of antiquarians and geologists, who recorded discoveries of fossilised remains of many species no longer present in Britain, such as mammoth (*Elephas primigenius*), hyena (*Hyaena crocuta*), lion (*Felis leo*), arctic hare (*Lepus arcticus*) and rhino (*Rhinoceros antiquitatis*). Amongst the various taxa recorded from the Fisherton brickearth, molluscan remains were frequently encountered, while Dr H.P. Blackmore, who was responsible for many of these early records, also reported the remarkable discovery of fossilised birds’ eggs (Delair and Shackley 1978).
- 2.3.3 In one exceptional circumstance, a sub-triangular Mousterian (Middle Palaeolithic) *bout-coupe* type hand-axe (MWI11077) is recorded by Evans (1897) as being found ‘beneath the remains of a mammoth’ in 1874. Another handaxe, possibly a third, and two flakes were also found in the same location, although the exact site of the discovery is unknown.
- 2.3.4 The 19th century observations of Blackmore, and others, of exposed sections through the Fisherton deposits revealed that the brickearth deposits attained thicknesses of up to 5.5 m, though some variation was evident across the wider area (Delair and Shackley 1978). The brickearth deposits, which were identified as being composed of several distinct strata, were also frequently observed to be capped with soliflucted material and/or coombe rock.
- 2.3.5 The Fisherton deposits received relatively little further attention until the late 20th century, when Delair and Shackley (1978) and Green *et al.* (1983) conducted limited investigations of the Quaternary sedimentary sequences of this area. More recently, a series of investigations of the Fisherton brickearth deposits have been carried out at a site on Highbury Avenue, some 700 m north-west of the Site. Trial trenching on the site in 2010 led to the recovery of a mineralised, unidentified, animal bone from the brickearth deposit, which was also seen to contain molluscs and fragments of charcoal, and to be sealed by coombe rock (Cotswold Archaeology 2010).
- 2.3.6 A subsequent test-pit evaluation at Highbury Avenue in 2012 determined that the brickearth survived at relatively shallow depth from the current ground surface. Intact brickearth was found to lie at 57.40 m aOD, though, where truncated by earlier quarrying, the brickearth occurred at 55 m aOD. Analysis of preceding geotechnical works established that the brickearth attained thicknesses in excess of 3.5 m. Although no Palaeolithic material or Pleistocene faunal remains were encountered, it was noted that

the sequences as well as the brickearth itself, which contain archaeologically important artefactual and palaeo-environmental material of Palaeolithic date, have great potential

to give greater understanding and contextualisation of regionally and nationally important Palaeolithic evidence in the Salisbury area (Wessex Archaeology 2012, 9).

- 2.3.7 Accordingly, a further episode of test-pitting was carried out at the Highbury Avenue site in 2014. This examined a 4.4 m thickness of the brickearth deposits overlying the river terrace gravels. The upper brickearth levels had been redeposited, but the lower levels were largely *in situ* and seemed to have been deposited within a floodplain, environment. Two optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dates from the *in situ* brickearth levels returned dates of 47±8 Ka BP and 56±9 Ka BP (TVAS 2014). No artefacts were recovered during the investigation.
- 2.3.8 Evaluation trenching at Llangarran on Wilton Road, some 300–500 m to the north-west of the Site, in 2011 (EWI7135) also demonstrated the presence/survival of brickearth deposits, despite sometimes substantial truncation caused by earlier quarrying. Only undiagnostic flint knapping waste was, however, discovered within the backfilled quarry pits (Wessex Archaeology 2011). The 1837–8 Fisherton Anger tithe map records the presence of a ‘Brickworks’ some 180 m north-west of the Site, suggesting that the brickearth deposits quarried at the neighbouring Llangarran site also extended closer to Mill Road.
- 2.3.9 It is uncertain if the Fisherton brickearth deposits also extended beneath the Site; geological mapping available to view via the BGS Geology of Britain viewer does not distinguish these deposits from the underlying river terrace gravels or other superficial deposits recorded within the local area. In addition, it has not been possible to obtain a copy of the report on the excavation carried out at 68–72 Mill Road during the late 1990s (EWI5609), which would presumably confirm whether brickearth was present in this area. There is also an absence of historic borehole logs within the Site, although two boreholes were placed at the Elim Christian Centre, some 100 m to the east (BGS ID: 12709231/BGS Reference: SU13SW171; BGS ID: 12709231/BGS Reference: SU13SW171). These recorded the presence of fine-grained deposits and gravels, though it is uncertain how these relate to the stratigraphic sequence observed elsewhere across the Fisherton area.

Mesolithic to Bronze Age (8,500–700 BC)

- 2.3.10 A small quantity of worked flint (MWI11109), including flakes and blades, possibly dating to the Late Mesolithic–Early Neolithic was recovered within in the vicinity, at land adjoining 120 Fisherton Street (EWI6601). The flint was found within two post-medieval ditches, although it was noted that its relatively fresh condition implied that the material had not travelled far from its original point of deposition.
- 2.3.11 As noted previously, sample trenching at Llangarren, on Wilton Road, in 2011 (EWI7135; Wessex Archaeology 2011) also produced a small assemblage of residual finds from quarry pit backfill dumps in the north of the site, which included undiagnostic worked flint knapping waste of probable earlier prehistoric date. No contemporary features, however, were revealed at the site.
- 2.3.12 The only notable indication of Bronze Age activity recorded in the vicinity derives from the chance discovery of a bronze rapier (MWI9878), reportedly found in 1860 during the excavation of foundations for a building some 200 m south-east of the Site. The corresponding WSHER entry indicates that it lay ‘about 4ft down’ in a shallow basin on the surface of the gravel.
- 2.3.13 Other WSHER records possibly indicating evidence of prehistoric activity include, a ditch (MWI11339) found during any evaluation (EWI4147) at the former infirmary site on Cranebridge Road in 1996. Although not definitively dated, the fills of the ditch, which were

sealed beneath late-medieval alluvial deposits, produced a single worked flint flake and piece of burnt flint, suggesting that the feature was possibly prehistoric in origin.

- 2.3.14 During a site visit associated with the DBA (Wessex Archaeology 2018), a single piece of worked flint and several pieces of burnt flint were identified at the upper surface of the garden soils to the front and rear of the main building. Assuming that the garden soils had not been imported to the Site from elsewhere, these finds may be indicative of prehistoric activity, although whether they represent anything other than a background presence in the local area is unclear. The finds, along with other artefactual material observed during the site visit (see below) were left on the Site.

Iron Age to Romano-British (700 BC–AD 410)

- 2.3.15 The Site is located c.3 km to the south of the Iron Age hillfort at Old Sarum, and the Romano-British settlement (*Sorviodunum*) which later developed there. These sites must have been a major focus of activity in the wider area during these periods, although relatively little evidence of contemporary activity has been identified across much of Salisbury.
- 2.3.16 The main exception to this is the site at Highbury Avenue, where excavations carried out between 1866 and 1869 by Dr H.P. Blackmore, Mr A.T. Adlam and Mr E.T. Stevens uncovered ‘...one of the first, if not the first Iron Age sites in Wilts to be systematically recorded’ (Stevens 1934).
- 2.3.17 The 19th century excavations revealed a substantial ditch enclosing a large number of earlier pits, interpreted at the time as the remains of dwellings (Stevens 1934), along with human and dog remains, and a smaller enclosure ditch to the south. Part of the main enclosure ditch at the Highbury Avenue site was re-examined during a single trench evaluation in 2000 (Wessex Archaeology 2000). This was followed by further evaluation in 2010 (Cotswold Archaeology 2010), and excavation of the site in 2013 (TVAS 2015; Taylor 2016). These investigations revealed an enclosed Iron Age settlement, along with several Middle Iron Age inhumation burials. Occupation continued into the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period. There followed a hiatus in activity, until the site was re-occupied in the later Roman period.

Saxon (AD 410–1066) and medieval (AD 1066–1500)

- 2.3.18 Old Sarum was occupied during the Late Saxon period, but it was the period immediately following the Norman Conquest when the site was developed into an important defensive and economic centre. By the late 12th and early 13th centuries, restrictions on space and availability of water at the site combined with other difficulties, lead to the creation of the ‘new town’ of Salisbury, or *New Sarum* to the south. Fisherton, or Fisherton Anger, which lay to the west of New Sarum, was, however, already in existence as a settlement at the foundation of the new town.
- 2.3.19 Fisherton, or ‘*Fiscartone*’ was documented in the Domesday survey of 1086, indicating that it was almost certainly established by the Late Saxon period. The entry in Domesday records that Fisherton was a relatively small settlement comprised of nine households, with two ploughlands, 40 acres each of meadow and pasture, and a mill.
- 2.3.20 St Clement’s Church was located on the western side of Mill Road (previously known as Church Road) some 30–40 m south of the Site. The extent of the medieval and post-medieval graveyard associated with St Clement’s is uncertain, although documentary sources indicate that the churchyard was enlarged in 1788 and again in 1809 (Crittall 1962). The extent of the graveyard shortly before the demolition of the church is shown on the

1843–4 Fisherton Anger tithe map. This area, which now lies behind houses on the southern side of Churchfield Road, has remained undeveloped.

- 2.3.21 St Clement's presumably formed the nucleus around which the medieval settlement of Fisherton developed. The early settlement appears to have extended northwards along what is now Mill Road, from the mill located on the River Nadder (Crittall 1962). The Site was therefore located within what is suspected to have been the core of the early medieval settlement.
- 2.3.22 By the 13th century, suburban settlement also developed along Fisherton Street, which linked the new town of Salisbury with Wilton, via Fisherton (Cave Penney 2004, 66). The development of the Fisherton Street suburb appears to have influenced the later form of the medieval village of Fisherton further to the west, effectively changing the main axis of the village from a north-south orientation along Mill Road, to an east–west alignment by the 14th century (Cave Penney 2004, 66).
- 2.3.23 Excavations undertaken opposite the Site at 68–72 Mill Road (EWI5609) in 1999 uncovered evidence of medieval activity apparently relating to the early occupation of Fisherton. This took the form of several stake/postholes, gullies and a small pit of probable medieval date, which pre-dated three 13th–14th century pits. No structural pattern appeared to be formed by the stake/postholes, while the pits may have been associated with a building further back in the plot. Although evidence of post-medieval activity was also encountered, there was a notable absence of features from the later 14th–15th century (Cave-Penney 2004, 37).
- 2.3.24 A single small sherd of grey, sand tempered pottery, thought to be a medieval coarseware, was found in the Site at the upper surface of the garden soil within the rear garden during a site visit (Wessex Archaeology 2018).

Post-medieval to modern (AD 1500–present day)

- 2.3.25 In the 19th century, the western part of Fisherton became a favoured location for the construction of villa residences for the richer inhabitants of Salisbury, who were motivated by the lack of space and unsanitary conditions within the core of the old town.
- 2.3.26 Improvements in public sanitation following the cholera outbreak of 1849, and the arrival of the railway in 1856–7 brought better health and more employment to the people, and so enlarged the population of Fisherton. In 1801, Fisherton had 865 inhabitants, though its population had risen almost six-fold by 1891 (Crittall 1962). In turn, this led to the development of the locality with numerous smaller houses.
- 2.3.27 The earliest cartographic depictions of Salisbury, such as John Speed's plan of 1611, and William Naish's map of 1751 do not illustrate the Fisherton area in detail, although the latter depicts the site of St Clement's Church at the western edge of the town along with a scatter of buildings on either side of Mill Road. The precise location of the Site cannot be distinguished on Naish's map. Nevertheless, the map suggests that, by the mid-18th century, development within the former village of Fisherton was more dispersed than that along the line of Fisherton Street, further to the north.
- 2.3.28 Andrews and Dury's 1773 map of Wiltshire presents a similar depiction of the Mill Road area to that of Naish's map. Although several individual buildings, contained within plots, are shown fronting immediately onto the road, it is not possible to correlate the location of the Site precisely with any of these.

- 2.3.29 The Site can be positively identified on the 1843–4 Fisherton Anger tithe map as having coincided with two discrete parcels of land (labelled ‘8’ and ‘9’). The map depicts a building within the eastern-most parcel of land (labelled ‘9’ on the map), set back from the road, and occupying approximately the same footprint as the existing main building. The corresponding entry in the tithe apportionment indicates that the plot contained a ‘House and garden’. The western-most parcel of land (labelled ‘8’), is described in the apportionment as a ‘Garden’. Both plots were occupied, in 1842, by John Pike.
- 2.3.30 The 1880 Ordnance Survey (OS) 1:500 town map provides a very detailed depiction of the Site. The map indicates that the footprint of the house shown on the tithe map was occupied by two adjoining dwellings, labelled ‘Phoenix Cottages’. These are thought to represent the same structure as the existing main building, prior to its conversion into a hotel in the 1930s.
- 2.3.31 It is uncertain if the cottages were formed by the sub-division of the building shown on the preceding tithe map. However, the cottages appear, on the 1880 map, to have occupied a slightly different, and larger footprint than the building shown on the 1843–4 map, suggesting that these may have replaced an earlier structure.
- 2.3.32 The 1880 map also shows several extensions or outbuildings/ancillary structures adjoining the western (rear) and southern elevations of the pair of cottages, along with gardens laid out to the front and rear of the properties. The gardens coincide approximately with the parcels of land labelled ‘8’ and ‘9’ on the tithe map. The north-western edge of the plot to the rear of the cottages appears, however, to have been encroached on by neighbouring development.
- 2.3.33 The Site appears relatively unchanged on the 1901 edition 25 inch OS. By the time of the 1925 edition, Mill Road (still known then as Church Street) had been straightened and widened, encroaching on the gardens to the front of the two cottages within the Site. The outbuildings, or ancillary structures previously shown extending to the south of the cottages also appear to have been partially demolished.
- 2.3.34 The building within the Site is still shown as being divided into two adjoining properties on the 1936 25 inch OS, its conversion into a hotel apparently not having been recorded by the time of the survey. The map indicates that some of the outbuildings and extensions to the rear of the building had been demolished and/or rebuilt, apparently having been replaced with a glasshouse, and a new extension.
- 2.3.35 The 1953 1:1,250 OS map shows the cottages to have been united to form the ‘Cloveley Hotel’. Several minor alterations seem to have been made to the structure and its gardens, and new outbuildings are shown to the south and rear of the building.
- 2.3.36 Subsequent editions of OS mapping show little evidence of change within the Site, excepting the removal of the outbuildings shown on the 1953 map, and the appearance, after 1985, of the existing linked extension to the rear of the main hotel building.
- 2.3.37 Direct archaeological evidence for post-medieval and 19th century occupation has frequently been encountered during investigations in the vicinity. Of particular note, are the results of the excavation carried out opposite the Site at 68–72 Mill Road (EWI5609) in 1999. This recorded a series of compact flint and chalk yard surfaces of 16th–17th century date. These were subsequently cut by a series of ditches aligned north to south, which gradually migrated eastwards as they were replaced or recut several times suggesting that both sets of features existed for a long time (Cave Penney 2004).



- 2.3.38 Numerous pieces of later post-medieval, 19th century and early 20th century pottery, along with clay pipe, brick and tile were observed to be present within the garden soil to the front and rear of the existing main building during the site visit. Several pieces of dressed, and un-faced stone were also seen within a flower bed to the rear of the building. It is unknown whether these represent re-used fragments of an earlier structure that may have once stood within the Site, or if the stones were imported to embellish the garden

3 CONSTRUCTION GROUNDWORKS AND IMPACT

- 3.1.1 Generally, construction groundworks were likely to impact the zone where most significant archaeological deposits are likely to occur, between a depth of 200 mm to 1500 mm below the present ground surface, though these deposits can extend considerably deeper within historic urban areas. For all of the phases of development at Peartree Apartments the impact on significant deposits (if any) was likely to be confined to excavations for foundations, landscaping, ground reduction and services.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Aims

- 4.1.1 The aims of the archaeological monitoring, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019) and as defined in the ClfA *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), were to:

- allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other works;
- provide an opportunity, if needed, for the attending archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the archaeological monitoring itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

4.2 Research Objectives

- This project is covered by the Solent Thames Research Framework (STRF; Hey and Hind 2014): and this will be used to assist in the identification of research topics and hence the significance of archaeological deposits identified during the archaeological monitoring.
- The identification of meaningful research objectives cannot be made at this stage, due to the lack of knowledge of the survival of significant deposits within this particular property boundary. However, these will be identified and linked to the research objectives identified for the areas of archaeological interest later in the project process (post-excavation assessment).

5 METHODS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a).

5.2 Fieldwork methods

General

- 5.2.1 The attending archaeologist monitored mechanical excavations within the specified area, where possible using a toothless grading and/or ditching bucket. Where necessary, the surfaces of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. A sample of archaeological features and deposits were hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the archaeological monitoring. Areas monitored are labelled as Trenches 1 to 6 (**Figure 1**).
- 5.2.2 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

Recording

- 5.2.3 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the OS National Grid.
- 5.2.4 Existing drawings and Site plans were used to locate archaeological deposits, though where drawings were not available or the groundworks "as built" vary from those "as intended" set out of archaeological works areas were tied in to the OS National Grid and Ordnance Datum (OD; Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15.
- 5.2.5 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 5.2.6 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long-term accessibility of the image set.
- 5.2.7 Trench 5 (**Figure 1**) was excavated to provide a retaining wall to the adjoining property. It was both deep (c 2.5 m) and narrow (0.5 m), limiting observation and access to enable photographic and drawn records to be made. The eastern edge of Trench 6, however provided a more accessible exposure (though not as deep) for recording. Though the attending archaeologist felt that 503 and 504 were separate deposits, it seems safer (given the restricted circumstances of the narrow and deep trench) to assume for the purposes of this project they are the same.

5.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 5.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).



5.4 Monitoring

- 5.4.1 The Assistant County Archaeologist monitored the project on behalf of the LPA, though no site visit was made. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the Assistant County Archaeologist.

5.5 Early termination of fieldwork

- 5.5.1 Though the project was to observe groundworks over three phases of construction a request was made after the completion of Phase 1 and partial completion of Phase 2 (**Figure 1**). Having completed more than 50% of the groundworks, it was considered that continuing the archaeological monitoring would not add materially to the results obtained. The results had been both positive with regard to contributing to defining the extent of brickearth (with a good record having been secured), which elsewhere had contained Palaeolithic material, but would be unlikely to contribute more had the archaeological monitoring continued, and negative with regard to the extent of 12th century settlement.

6 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The most significant results of the fieldwork were the identification and recording of brickearth deposits, and the absence of deposits relating to 12th century settlement.

6.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

Alluvial and natural deposits

- 6.2.1 At the west end of the Site Trench 6 records an alluvial deposit (602) to a depth of 0.80 m below ground level (bgl; 0.41 m thick). This comprised a greyish brown silty-clay with occasional inclusions of chalk, ash and charcoal with common fragments of modern (19th–20th century) glass, glazed pottery and ceramic building material (CBM). The inclusions were largely concentrated towards the upper half of the deposit. It is uncertain if this is re-worked, re-deposited alluvial material or is natural with a disturbed upper layer where it interfaces with (601); on balance it is likely to be the latter. The equivalent layer in Trench 5 is 501. A greyish brown silty clay deposit (404) recorded in Trench 4, to a depth of 0.79 m bgl (0.27 m thick) is likely to represent a continuation of this same deposit (**Plate 1**).
- 6.2.2 The underlying natural is recorded as a mid-reddish-brown, sandy-clay with abundant inclusions of flint gravel (603) and is similar, or the same as 502 (see also **Figure 3, A**) which, along the length of the west side of Trench 5, can be seen to a depth of 1.40 m bgl (0.40 m thick) dropping briefly to a depth of 2 m (1.0 m thick) towards the northern end, before rising and continuing above two similar deposits (503 and 504; **Figure 3, B–E**). This (502) is almost certainly alluvial in nature.
- 6.2.3 A deposit of very light brown unconsolidated sand and chalk, with patches of chalky combe rock (503; **Figure 3, B–E**). is similar to deposit 504 (**Figure 3, B–E**) is comprised of light yellowish brown, buff, coarse silt, with inclusions of small flint gravels with occasional larger flints. These deposits sit below that of 502 (**Figure 3, A**). These deposits (503 and 504) may also be associated with those observed towards the base of Trench 4 (405; **Plate 1**) and extending under the retaining wall for the railway station car park (200; **Plate 3**) in the north-east corner of the Site.

Garden soils and made ground

- 6.2.4 Much of the Site comprised an uppermost deposit of garden soil (100, 201 401, 501 and 601) with variable depths. A depth of 0.16 m bgl was recorded in Trench 4 (**Plate 1**) and a depth of 0.37–0.9 m bgl was recorded in Trench 6 (**Figure 3**).
- 6.2.5 There was some evidence for the deposition of made ground, firstly in the varying depths of the garden soils described above, and in the inclusion of several paving slabs and quantities of mortar.
- 6.2.6 The present station car park is at a significantly higher level than the Site and a retaining wall forms the northern boundary. It is anticipated that the ground level of the station car park had been raised closer to that of the platforms. It is interesting to note that the retaining wall was founded on natural deposits in places and on made ground in others (compare **Plates 2 and 3**).

7 FINDS EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 A very few finds were recovered from the Site; these are quantified by material type and by context in Table 1. The assemblage is probably entirely of post-medieval/modern date, although some of the ceramic building material (CBM) could be medieval.
- 7.1.2 Pottery is the most closely datable material here. The 15 sherds recovered include 6 of Verwood-type earthenware from east Dorset, 3 redwares (including 2 from unglazed flowerpots), 2 pearlwares (1 from a slip-decorated cylindrical mug or tankard, 1 from a transfer-printed tableware vessel), 2 refined whitewares (from a transfer-printed serving dish), and a complete salt-glazed stoneware ink bottle. The Verwood-type earthenwares have a lengthy potential date range but in this context are likely to be 18th century or later; the same is true of the redwares. Only one context (403) produced only earthenwares. Pearlware, refined whiteware and stoneware ink bottle date to the 19th or 20th century; these serve to date contexts 305, 308, 501 and 602.
- 7.1.3 The CBM includes three roof tile fragments from context 202. These are relatively hard-fired in an orange-red sandy fabric. This does not fall within the range of the coarse, pale-firing tile fabrics which are particularly characteristic of medieval contexts in the city, but a medieval date cannot be entirely ruled out; the fragments are broadly dated as medieval/post-medieval. Other CBM consists of post-medieval/modern brick fragments.
- 7.1.4 The clay pipe is represented by a single plain stem fragment of 18th century or later date.

Table 1 All finds by context (number/weight in grammes)

Context	CBM	Clay Pipe	Pottery
102	2/288		
202	3/279		
305		1/3	6/324
308			1/15
403			2/62
501	1/5		3/17
602			3/314
Total	6/572	1/3	15/732



8 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 8.1.1 No deposits were considered to be likely to contain significant environmental material relevant to the aims of the project.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Discussion

- 9.1.1 Early settlement in the 12th century appears to have extended northwards along Mill Road, from the mill located on the River Nadder (Crittall 1962). The Site was therefore located within what is suspected to have been the core of the early medieval settlement. Given that a number of features of medieval date were found during excavations opposite the Site at 68–72 Mill Road during the 1990s, there was a strong potential, despite later development, for the survival of medieval features. No archaeological remains relating to this period were, however, observed during monitoring of the Site despite the potential identified in the DBA (Wessex Archaeology 2018).
- 9.1.2 Although no archaeological remains were identified at the Site, the local stratigraphic sequence is, however, of interest. In the vicinity of the Site ‘one of the most complete faunal assemblages yet discovered in British Pleistocene strata came to light last century in brickearth deposits at Fisherton Anger...’ (Delair and Shackley 1978).
- 9.1.3 The area in which the bone and flints are likely to have been found is mapped (BGS 2019) as river terrace deposits, which form part of the Fisherton Terrace at the southern fringes of the Fisherton brickfields. Green *et al* (1983) observed sections in 1974, when the site of the former County Gaol was redeveloped, describing layers of red brown soliflucted clay, which sealed deposits of buff coloured silty clay and grey-green sand. These fine-grained deposits were found on or, as isolated pockets, within the fluvial terrace gravel.
- 9.1.4 Similar deposits, which were covered by 0.85 m of dark grey garden soil, have been recorded at the Site. These deposits have confirmed the sequence whereby red-brown clay (**Figure 3, A**) overlay a bed of fine yellow-brown, buff, coarse silt (brickearth, **Figure 3, B**), which is similar to the brickearth yielding faunal remains and Palaeolithic artefacts. This material also incorporates pockets of chalky rubble (**Figure 3, C**) mixed with yellow, grey-green sand and silt (**Figure 3, D and E**), which suggest periglacial activity incorporating material from the underlying terrace deposits. The apparent inclusion of green sand is undoubtedly derived from Greensand bedrock (Lower Cretaceous) in the Vale of Wardour, through which the River Nadder flows.
- 9.1.5 The brickearth at the Site was thinner, was probably uneconomical to extract for brick production, and did not contain the numerous faunal remains and artefacts that characterise the deposits to the north.

10 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 Museum

- 10.1.1 The archive resulting from the archaeological monitoring is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Salisbury Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code SBYWM:2020.22. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.



10.2 Preparation of the archive

- 10.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Salisbury Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 10.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the site code 201051, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
- 1 cardboard box or airtight plastic box of artefacts;
 - 1 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;

10.3 Selection policy

- 10.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, ie the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.
- 10.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; WA's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's 'Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives'. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and documented in the project archive.
- 10.3.3 In this instance, given the small scale of the project, and the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below.
- 10.3.4 These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 10.3.5 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- 10.3.6 Given the quantity of finds recorded, their nature and date range (commonly occurring types of relatively recent date, well paralleled within the city), retention for long-term curation is not warranted. These finds have no archaeological significance and no further research potential.

Documentary records

- 10.3.7 Any paper records (site records, hard copies of site reports) will be offered to the Museum.



Digital data

- 10.3.8 Given the results of the fieldwork (little of archaeological significance), it is recommended that only selected digital data are deposited with ADS, an approach commensurate with the scale and significance of the project. Deposition will involve the uploading of the site report via OASIS, possibly with selected additional photographs.

10.4 Security copy

- 10.4.1 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.

10.5 OASIS

- 10.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 1). A.pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Assistant County Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

11 COPYRIGHT

11.1 Archive and report copyright

- 11.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 11.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

11.2 Third party data copyright

- 11.2.1 This document and the project archive 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 Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



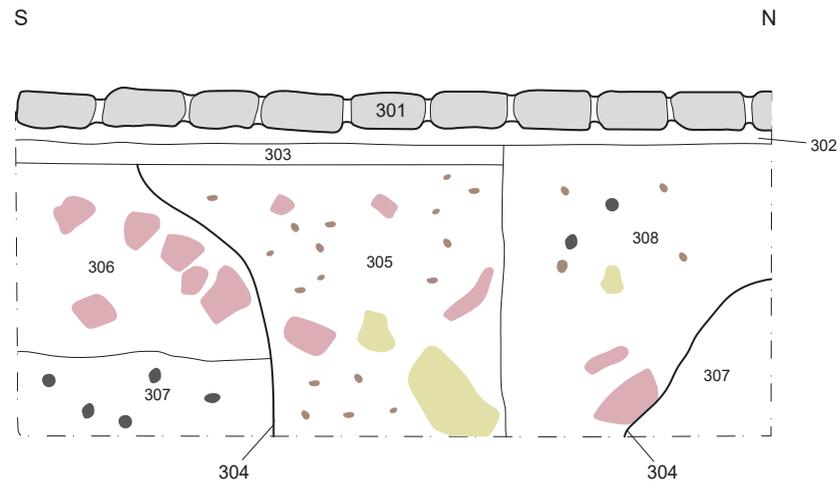
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Site plan and trench location

Figure 1



- Stone
- CBM
- Flint
- Charcoal
- Chalk fleck/mortar

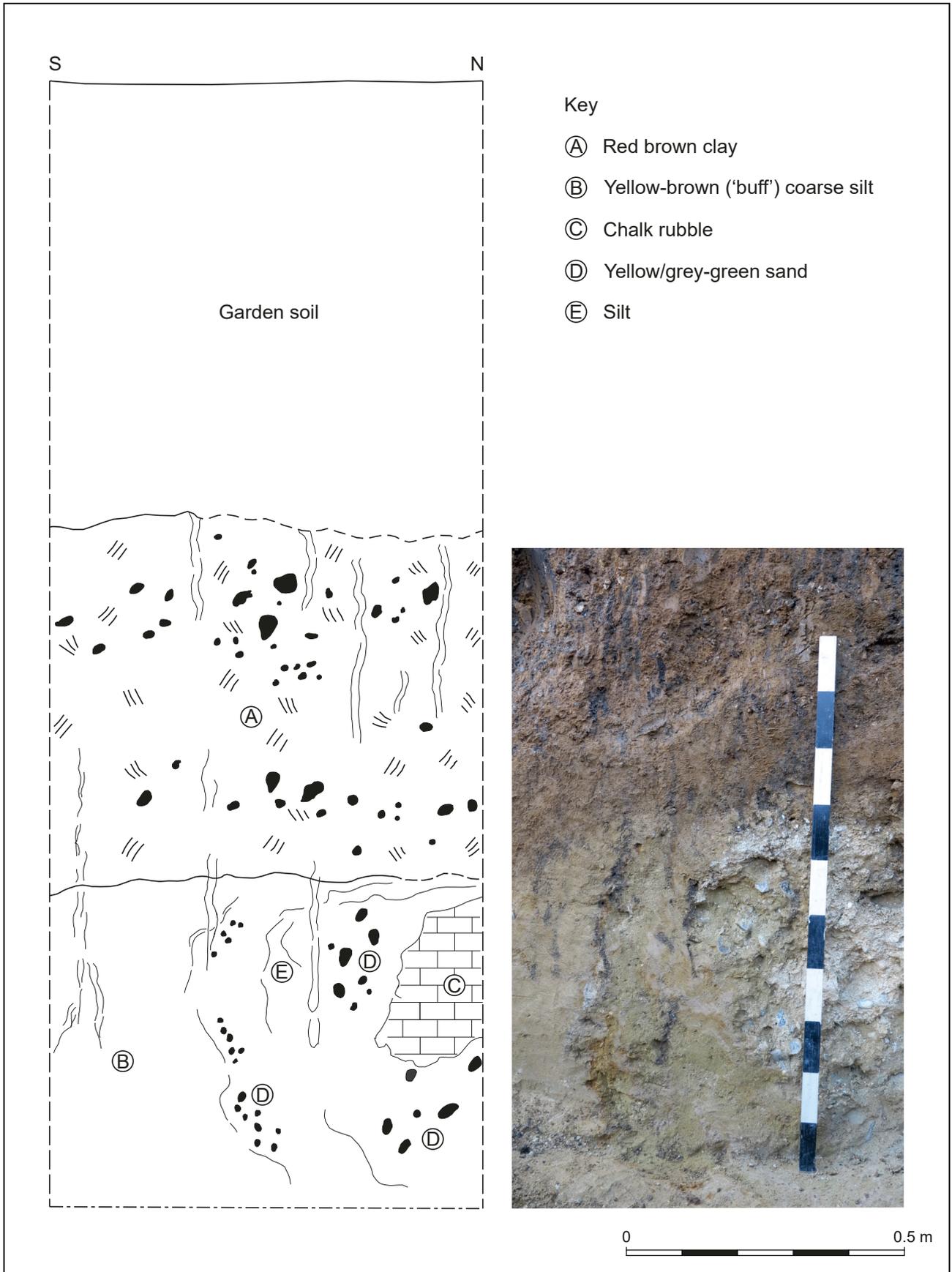


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East facing section, Trench 3

Figure 2



Key

- Ⓐ Red brown clay
- Ⓑ Yellow-brown ('buff') coarse silt
- Ⓒ Chalk rubble
- Ⓓ Yellow/grey-green sand
- Ⓔ Silt

Garden soil

0 0.5 m

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Figure 3 East facing section, Trench 6 (Phil Harding)

Figure 3



Plate 1: West facing section, Trench 4. (Scales 1 x 1 m and 1 x 0.5 m)



Plate 2: South facing section, Trench 1. (Scales 2 x 1 m and 1 x 0.5 m)

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Plate 3: South facing section, Trench 2 (Scale 1 x 1 m)

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 OASIS record

11.3 OASIS ID: wessexar1-385483

Project details

Project name	Peartree Apartments, Salisbury, Wiltshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by The Trustees of the Howle Hotels Pension Fund to undertake archaeological monitoring during the development of a property at Peartree Apartments at 17-19 Mill Road, Salisbury. The property was to be developed in three phases. Phase 1 consisting of a new office and vending building connected to the main building via a glazed link, Phase 2 consisting of a new apartment and laundry blocks, and Phase 3 a new apartment extension. No archaeological remains were observed during monitoring of the Site. The local stratigraphic sequence is however of considerable significance, and deposits have confirmed the sequence whereby red-brown clay overlay a bed of fine yellow-brown, buff, coarse silt.
Project dates	Start: 17-04-2019 End: 06-02-2020
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	201051 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	SBYWM:2020.22 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY SALISBURY Peartree Apartments
Postcode	SP2 7RT
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 13755 30080 51.069352344329 -1.803663216002 51 04 09 N 001 48 13 W Point



Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Wessex archaeology
Project director/manager	Simon Woodiwiss
Project supervisor	Julie Martingale
Project supervisor	Dave Murdie
Project supervisor	Matt Kendall
Project supervisor	Steve Legg
Project supervisor	Phil Harding
Project supervisor	Joe Whelan

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	ADS
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Salisbury Museum
Paper Archive ID	SBYWM:2020.22
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Peartree Apartments, Salisbury, Wiltshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Froud, S and Harding, P
Other bibliographic details	report number 201051.03
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Wessex Archaeology - Salisbury
Description	A4 bound client report
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