Archaeology South-East

ASE

An Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Hampshire.

NGR: 451010 108233

ASE Project No: 7505 Site Code: CEH15

ASE Report No: 2015182 OASIS id: archaeol6-215182



By Hayley Nicholls Illustrations by Justin Russell

JUNE 2015

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd. to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land off Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Hampshire, in advance of the residential development of the site. A total of thirteen evaluation trenches were excavated.

All trenches excavated revealed a similar sequence of Quaternary riverine deposits of firm mid yellow-brown/orange-brown sand silt clay with frequent bands of gravel, overlain by a deposit of soft dark brown sand clay silt topsoil. A partially surviving subsoil horizon was identified in just two of the thirteen excavated trenches in the north of the site.

The undisturbed natural geology was encountered at depths of between 48.77m AOD in the north-west corner of the site and 45.05m AOD in the south-east corner.

All thirteen of the excavated trenches were devoid of archaeological finds and features. Extensive truncation from modern services was evident across the area, with additional horizontal truncation from modern levelling/landscaping of the site was visible across much of the southern half of the site.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL), was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation prior to residential development of land off Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Hampshire (NGR 451010 108233), hereafter referred to as 'the site' (Figures 1-2).

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site comprises the landscaped grounds of the former Coldeast Hospital site and, to the east, a strip of land adjacent to Fareham Community Hospital. The site is bounded by residential properties to the north, Hamilton Road to the south, hospital grounds to the east and Coldeast Way to the west.
- 1.2.2 According to the latest data held by the British Geological Survey, the solid geology of the site comprises sand, silt and clay of the Wittering Formation overlain by river terrace deposits (BGS 2015).

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 An outline planning application (P/97/0053/OA) was submitted to Fareham District Council for the residential development of the former hospital site. The Senior Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, as archaeological advisor to Fareham District Council, recommended that a program of archaeological works be undertaken ahead of development to enable the HCC Senior Archaeologist to make an informed decision on the requirement for any archaeological mitigation work that may be required.
- 1.3.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation was prepared by ASE (2015) prior to the commencement of this phase of fieldwork. This outlined the research aims and objectives of the current project and the methodology to be followed. It was submitted to and approved by CgMs and HCC prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 The current report provides the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site carried out between the 19th and 21st May 2015. The fieldwork work was undertaken by Ed Blinkhorn (Senior Archaeologist), and John Hirst (Assistant Archaeologist). The fieldwork was managed by Paul Mason and post-excavation by Jim Stevenson.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following background material has been derived from the written scheme of investigation (ASE 2015) with due acknowledgement.

2.2 Early Prehistoric

2.2.1 Unprovenanced find spots of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Bronze Age flint tools have been found within 1km of the site.

2.3 Bronze Age

2.3.1 A Bronze Age cremation cemetery was found at Locks Heath, Peters Road by Cotswold Archaeology in 2014 (AHBR:66802), around 1 km to the south west of the site.

2.4 Medieval and post-medieval

- 2.4.1 The possible location of a 14th century beacon lies c.0.5km north-east of the site.
- 2.4.2 Coldeast House was built in the early 19th century, c.0.25km south-west of the site.
- 2.4.3 Ordnance Survey mapping of the later 19th century shows the site itself as sparsely wooded rough pasture.
- 2.4.4 Coldeast House became the home of a Mental Deficiency Colony in 1924 and a number of white brick additions were built before the Second World War including ten villas, a school and an assembly hall. The hospital development can be seen encroaching along the western limit of the development site at this time.
- 2.4.5 The Ordnance Survey map of 1965 depicts hospital buildings, including the distinctive cruciform blocks within the site; these have recently been demolished.

2.5 Previous Work

2.5.1 In 1994, 104 archaeological test pits were excavated within the hospital estate by Wessex Archaeology. No significant archaeological features were located (Wessex Archaeology 1994).

2.6 **Project Aims and Objectives**

2.6.1 The general aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains likely to be threatened by the proposed works.

- 2.6.2 It was anticipated that the results of the evaluation should be sufficient to enable the HCC Archaeologist to make an informed decision on the requirement for any archaeological mitigation work that may be required. The evaluation report should include recommendations for such work.
- 2.6.3 The evaluation presented the opportunity to address a number of specific research questions/priorities relating to prehistoric and post-medieval sites in Hampshire, as presented in the *Solent-Thames Research Framework*, as follows:
 - Why and when did people stop using funerary monuments during the Bronze Age?
 - How common were cremations and burials in boundaries, field and settlements before monuments stopped being used?
 - To trace and confirm the development of village landscapes, landuse and field patterns in the post-medieval period

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological methodology was initially set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2015). All work was carried out in accordance with this document and in line with professional standards and guidelines (CIfA 2014a; 2014b).
- 3.1.2 Thirteen of the proposed 20 trenches were excavated in this phase of archaeological work. These were targeted to cover the area of the site to be impacted by the development.
- 3.1.3 Trenches were located as close as possible to those specified in the WSI (ASE 21015). In many cases, however, the discovery of service trenches and unmarked fibre optic cabling, sometimes only 0.5m below ground level, meant that trenches had to be shortened. Trench 1 was reduced in length to 24m in order to avoid a very steep bank, and Trenches 6 and 7 were reduced in length to 26m and 23m respectively in order to avoid modern services.
- 3.1.4 The locations of trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner) in order to check for services.
- 3.1.5 The location of the trenches was accurately established using a Leica Viva CS15 RTK GPS instrument.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited with an appropriate local museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	34
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	45
Permatrace sheets	0
Trench Record Forms	13

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Geology and Overburden

- 4.1.1 The trenches were situated on a south-facing slope with ground level at 49.1m AOD close to the northern site boundary, falling to 45.28m AOD in the south-east corner (See Figure 2).
- 4.1.2 The natural geology comprised high energy riverine deposits of firm mid yellow-brown/orange-brown sand silt clay with frequent bands of gravel. The undisturbed natural geology was encountered between 48.77m AOD in the north-west corner of the site and 45.05m AOD in the south-east corner.
- 4.1.3 A variable deposit of subsoil was encountered overlying the natural geology Trenches 2 and 5 only. In Trench 2 the deposit comprised a loose mid orange-brown sand clay with occasional gravel inclusions encountered across the whole trench. In Trench 5 the deposit comprised a dark grey silt clay with frequent gravel inclusions encountered at only the west end of the trench. The deposit measured 0.09m in depth in Trench 2 and 0.22m in depth in Trench 5.
- 4.1.4 Pockets of made ground deposit comprising loose slightly silty demolition rubble with frequent inclusions of modern glass and brick were encountered in the southern half of the site, in Trenches 7,8,10, 18 and 20. The deposit had a slightly greater thickness towards the centre of the site with a depth of 0.36m in Trench 7, becoming slightly shallower to the south, with a depth of 0.21m in Trench 20.
- 4.1.5 A topsoil deposit capped the sequence in all trenches. This comprised a soft dark brown sand clay silt with frequent gravel inclusions. The deposit varied in depth across the site from between 0.15m (Trenches 2 and 3) to 0.67m (Trench 8).

4.2 Trenches 1 to 10, and 18 to 20

4.2.1 None of the trenches excavated during phase 1 of the works revealed premodern archaeological deposits. A table of the depths of overburden in each trench can be found in Appendix 1.

5.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 5.1.1 Trenches excavated during phase 1 (1-10; 18-20) all revealed a similar sequence of Quaternary riverine deposits of firm mid yellow-brown/orangebrown sand silt clay with frequent bands of gravel, overlain by a deposit of soft dark brown sand clay silt topsoil.
- 5.1.2 The undisturbed natural geology was encountered at depths of between 48.77m AOD in the north-west corner of the site and 45.05m AOD in the south-east corner.
- 5.1.3 The only variations to the above sequence was a partial, heavily truncated intermediate subsoil deposit encountered across Trench 2 and the west end of Trench 5 and dispersed deposits of made ground encountered across parts of Trenches 7, 8, 10, 18 and 20.
- 5.1.4 The total depth of overburden varied in line with the presence or absence of made ground deposits. The greatest depths were encountered across Trenches 7 to 10 and 18 to 20 with maximum depths of between 0.41m and 0.67m, whilst the least depth of overburden was recorded in Trenches 1 to 6 with minimum depths of between 0.11m and 0.26m.
- 5.1.5 No archaeological finds and features were identified within this phase of works.
- 5.1.6 The methodology, as set out in the WSI, was successfully employed during the evaluation. The conditions on site were conducive to confident and efficient identification and recording of archaeological features and as such it is considered that this evaluation and report has successfully achieved its objective.

5.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 5.2.1 Undisturbed topsoil deposits were identified across the site area. As mentioned above, a subsoil horizon survived intact in only Trench 2 and the west end of Trench 5. The absence of subsoil elsewhere on the site coupled with the presence of substantial depths of made ground, suggests widespread horizontal truncation of the site, through prior levelling/landscaping of the site. Frequent truncation from modern services and land drains was visible in all but Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.
- 5.2.2 The minimum depth of overburden over the natural geology was 0.11m.
- 5.2.3 No archaeological features were encountered within the evaluation trenches but should they be present on site it seems likely they would be truncated by modern activities such as excavations for services and land drains and landscaping/levelling of the site.

5.3 Consideration of research aims

- 5.3.1 The archaeological investigations have succeeding in characterising the extent, character and condition of the archaeological remains.
- 5.3.2 There is no evidence for archaeological remains within the site area. However, it is likely that should archaeological deposits be present they would be dispersed and likely have been heavily impacted by modern services and prior levelling/landscaping of the site.
- 5.3.3 The site provided no evidence with which to address any of the specific research questions relating to prehistoric and post-medieval sites in Hampshire, as presented in the *Solent-Thames Research Framework*.

5.4 Conclusions

5.4.1 All thirteen of the excavated trenches were devoid of archaeological finds and features. Extensive truncation from modern services was evident across the area and contamination from modern levelling deposits was visible across much of the southern half of the site.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE 2015 Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation; Land at Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Hampshire

BGS 2015 *Geology of Britain viewer* <u>http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</u> accessed 22.06.15

ClfA 2014a. Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials

ClfA 2014b. Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation (revised edition)

Wessex Archaeology 1994, Coldeast Hospital, Fareham, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council for his guidance and monitoring. The excavation was directed by Ed Blinkhorn assisted by Jon Hirst and Susan Chandler. The author would like to thank Justin Russell who produced the figures for this report; Paul Mason who project managed the excavations and Jim Stevenson who project managed the post-excavation process.

HER Summary Form

Site Code	CEH15	CEH15				
Identification Name and Address	Land at Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Hampshire					
County, District &/or Borough	Hampshire					
OS Grid Refs.	451010 10	451010 108233				
Geology	Wittering Fo	Wittering Formation sand, silt clay (solid) overlain by river terrace deposits				
Arch. South-East Project Number	7505					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav .	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	<u>Green</u> Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 19-21/5/15	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMS	1		1		
Project Manager	Paul Mason	Paul Mason				
Project Supervisor	Ed Blinkhorn					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		

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OASIS Form OASIS ID: archaeol6-215182

Project details

the project

Land at Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Project name Hampshire

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Start: 19-05-2015 End: 21-05-2015 Project dates

Previous/future work Not known / Not known

Any associated project reference codes	CEH15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential

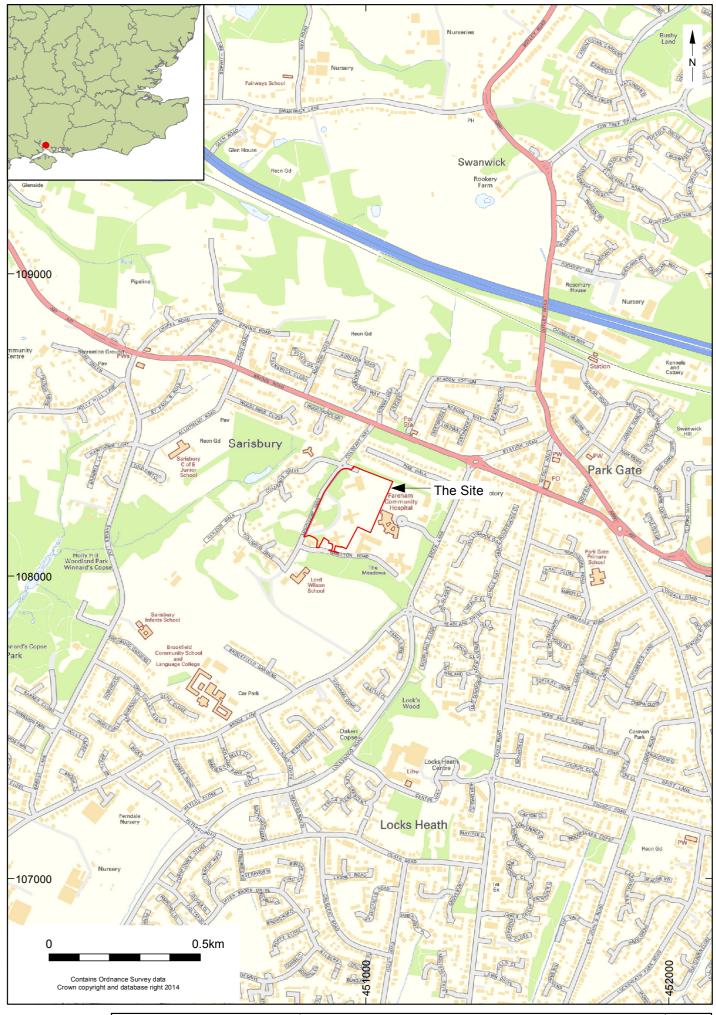
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE FAREHAM FAREHAM Land at Coldeast Way, Park Gate, Fareham, Hampshire.
Postcode	SO31 7YA
Study area	2.30 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 451010 108233 50.8945740281 -1.35864522551 50 53 40 N 001 21 31 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 45.05m Max: 48.77m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	ASE/CgMs
Project director/manager	Paul Mason
Project supervisor	Ed Blinkhorn
Type of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting Ltd.
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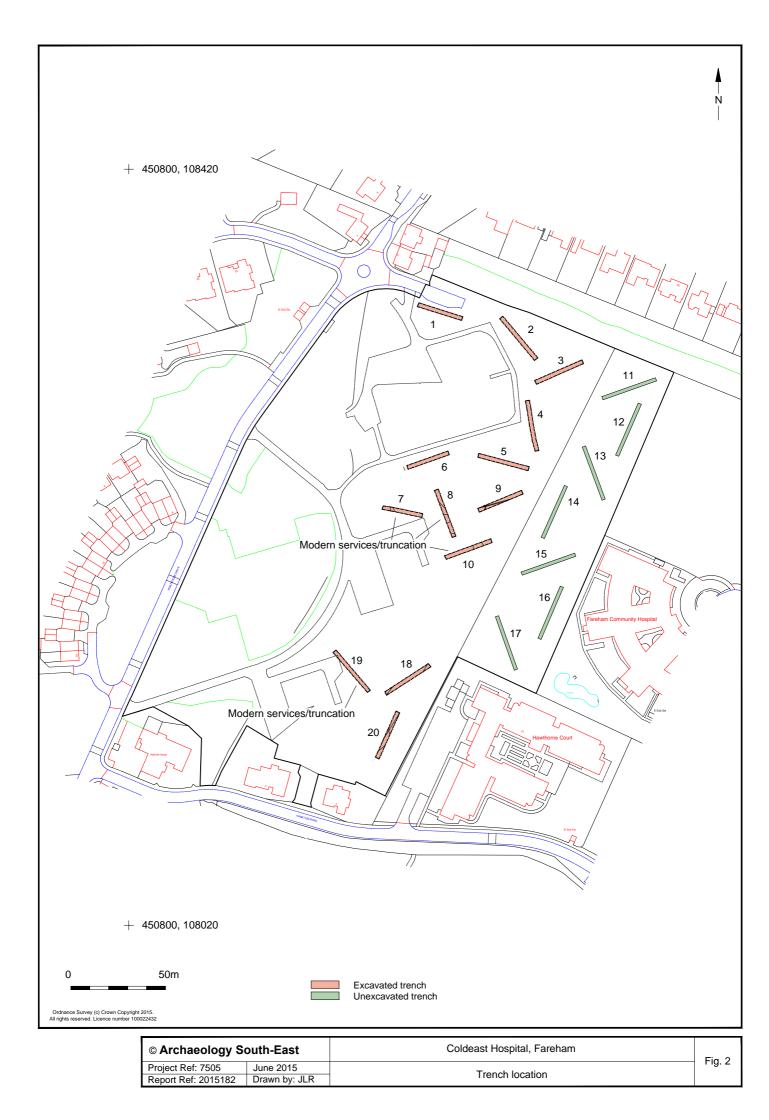
Appendix 1

Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts

Trench				Deposit	Height
Number	Context	Туре	Description	Thickness m	m AOD
01	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.35	49.16
01	02	Layer	Geology	0.04-0.22	48.8
02	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.15-0.23	49.19
02	02	Layer	Subsoil	0.02-0.09	
02	03	Layer	Geology	0.02+	49.02
03	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.15-0.24	49.23
03	02	Layer	Geology	0.07+	48.96
03	03	Layer	Gravel lens	0.05	
04	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.22-0.28	48.78
04	02	Layer	Geology	0.03+	48.34
05	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.34	48.38
05	02	Layer	Subsoil	0.22	
05	03	Layer	Geology	0.08+	48.06
06	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.11-0.34	48.20
06	02	Layer	Geology	0.18-0.42	47.56
07	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.30-0.39	47.67
07	02	Layer	Geology	0.24+	46.88
07	03	Layer	Made Ground	0.36	
08	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.67	47.93
08	02	Layer	Geology	0.20+	47.15
08	03	Layer	Made Ground	0.28	
09	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.40	48.11
09	02	Layer	Geology	0.10+	47.60
10	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.18-0.42	47.70
10	02	Layer	Geology	0.28+	47.03
10	03	Layer	Made Ground	0.24	
18	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.27-0.37	46.12
18	02	Layer	Geology	0.28+	45.53
18	03	Layer	Made Ground	0.18	
19	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.08-0.51	46.22
19	02	Layer	Geology	0.4+	45.33
20	01	Layer	Topsoil	0.19-0.24	45.28
20	02	Layer	Geology	0.16+	45.05
20	03	Layer	Made Ground	0.21	



© Archaeology South-East		Coldeast Hospital site, Fareham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7505	June 2015	Site location	
Report Ref: 2015182	Drawn by: RHC	Site location	





Trench 7 looking east



Trench 9 looking north-east



Trench 20 looking north

Project Ref: 7505 June 2015	- Fig. 3
Floject Rel. 7505 Julie 2015 Destagraphs	7 i ig. 5
Report Ref: 2015182 Drawn by: JLR Photographs	

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