

**T H A M E S      V A L L E Y**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

**S E R V I C E S**

**47A Bevois Valley Road,  
Southampton, Hampshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**by David Platt**

**Site Code: BVR14/33  
SOU1653**

**(SU 4254 1320)**

**47A Bevois Valley Road,  
Southampton, Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
for Radian Group**

by David Platt

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SOU1653

**April 2014**

## Summary

**Site name:** 47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton, Hampshire

**Grid reference:** SU 4254 1320

**Site activity:** Archaeological Watching Brief

**Date and duration of project:** 17th – 21st February 2014

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Genni Elliot

**Site code:** SOU1653

**Area of site:** c. 100 sq m

**Summary of results:** A single pit of late post-medieval date was observed in a foundation trench dug on the south west of the site. The groundworks to the south exposed the natural geology whereas those to the north did not. No deposits of archaeological interest were recorded.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Southampton City Museum in due course.

*This report may be copied for bona fide research or planning purposes without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website:  
[www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp](http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp).*

|   |
|---|
| Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford ✓ 25.04.14<br>Steve Preston ✓ 23.04.14 |
|---|

# 47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton, Hampshire An Archaeological Watching Brief

by David Platt

Report 14/33

## Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at 47a Bevois Valley Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO14 OJS (SU 4254 1320) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Chris Edmonds, of Edmonds Associates, 1-3 Lyon Street, Southampton, Hampshire SO14 0LD, on behalf the Radian Group, Collins House, Bishopstoke Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 6AD..

Planning permission (13/00295/FUL) has been gained from Southampton City Council for redevelopment of the site for the construction of six new apartments. The consent is subject to two conditions (16 and 17) which relate to archaeology. As a requirement of the planning consent, a watching brief has been requested as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the City's policies on archaeology. This work is to take place during groundworks as a result of the possibility of damage or destruction of archaeological deposits. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Kevin White, Southampton City Archaeologist. The fieldwork was undertaken by Genni Elliot between 17th and 21st February 2014 and the site code is SOU1653. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Southampton City Museum in due course.

## Location, topography and geology

The site is located on an irregular parcel of land covering around 460 sq m, bordered to the east by Bevois Valley Road and to the west by Earls Road (Fig. 2). The site is 0.5km west of the River Itchen and c.3km north of the River Test, at an elevation of c. 10m above Ordnance Datum and the underlying geology is River Terrace Deposits (BGS, 1987) and this was observed in the southernmost trenches as a yellowish brown sandy gravel.

## Archaeological background

The site lies on the boundary of a 'Local Area of Archaeological Potential' (zone 7) defined in the City of Southampton Core Strategy (2010). This area includes a range of sites around Bannister's Park with a number of prehistoric, Roman and medieval sites and finds recorded. To the south-east is Northam Farm, first recorded in

the 9th century. The site generally lies close to the River Itchen and on the opposite bank to the substantial defended Roman settlement *Claesentum* (Bitterne Manor) (Cotton and Gathercole 1958).

## **Objectives and methodology**

The aims of the project were to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the construction of the new apartments. The work was to involve the examination of all areas of intrusive groundworks, such as ground reduction, the digging of foundation trenches, deep service trenches and other intrusive structures such as soakaways. Archaeological deposits which were exposed were to be recorded but not further excavated unless they were threatened by the groundworks. Foundation trenches were dug using a machine fitted with a toothless bucket and excavation was temporarily ceased when archaeological deposits were encountered above the formation level.

## **Results**

The foundation trenches were 0.75m wide and c.1.25m deep (Fig. 3 and Pl. 1). The stratigraphy observed in the foundation trenches (Fig. 4) typically consisted of 0.14m of Tarmac (50) overlying 0.46m of dark greyish brown sandy clay (51), this in turn overlay 0.23m of dark greyish brown sandy clay (52) which overlay 0.40m of pale greyish brown sandy clay (54) which in turn overlay the natural gravel geology (53). However, to the north a thick deposit of brick rubble was encountered and the natural geology was not observed.

A single pit (1) of post medieval date was observed in the westernmost trench (Pl. 2). This was 0.68m in diameter and 0.50m deep and contained a single fill (55) which consisted of a dark grey brown sandy clay loam with occasional gravel inclusions. It contained pottery, clay pipe and glazed brick (not retained) and is likely to be of 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century date .

### *Pottery by Genni Elliott*

Five sherds from the same English Stoneware vesselweighnig 219g were recovered from pit 1 (55) of 18<sup>th</sup>.19<sup>th</sup> century date.

### *Clay Pipe* by Genni Elliott

Two clay pipe stems weighing 4g were recovered from pit 1(55) of 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century date.

### *Brick* by Danielle Milbank

One fragment of purple glazed brick weighing 120g was recovered from from pit 1(55) of 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century date.

## **Conclusion**

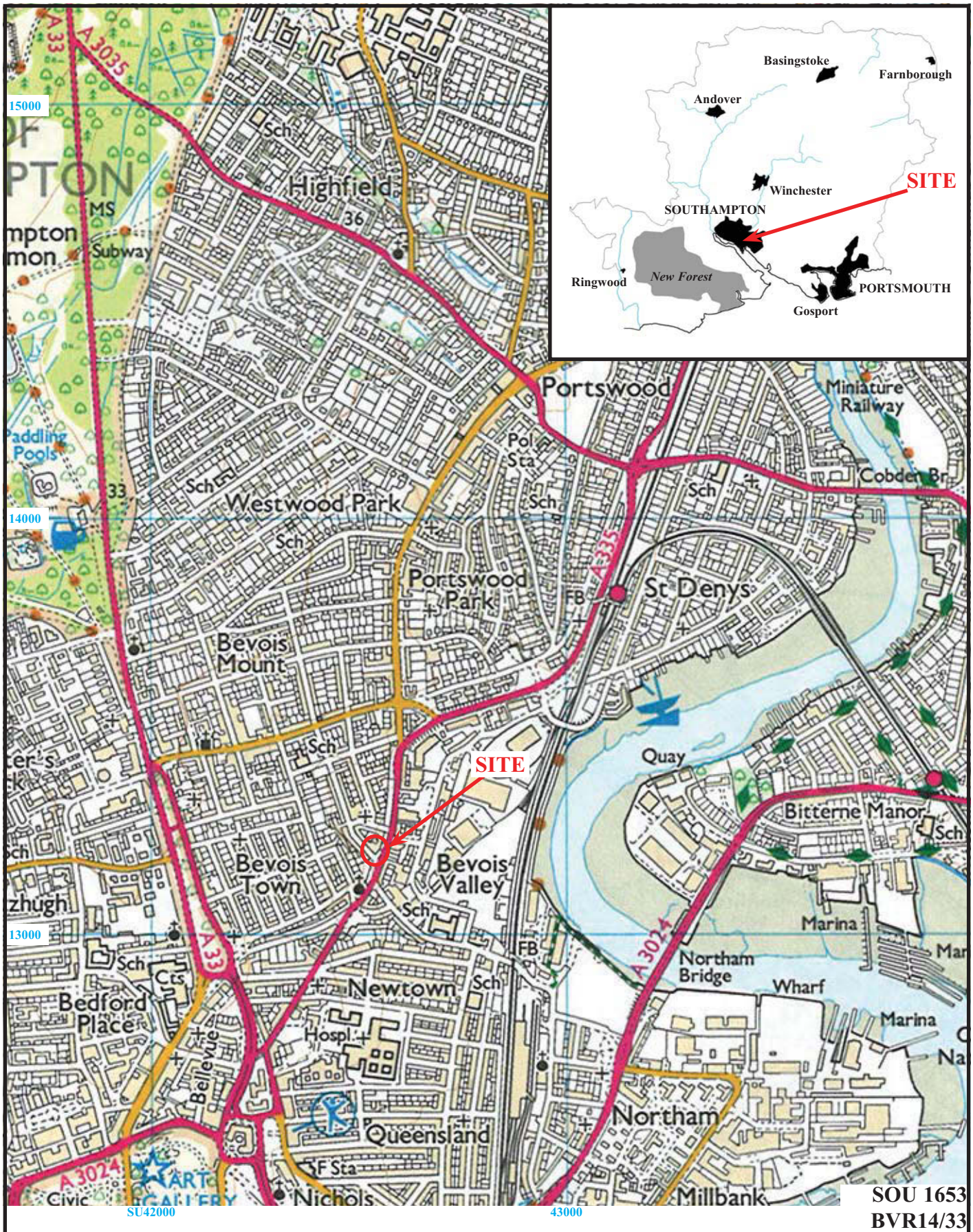
Only a single post-medieval pit was observed during the groundworks and nothing of archaeological interest was recorded. The natural geology was only exposed for parts of the site.

## **References**

BGS, 1987, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 315, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth  
Cotton, M A and Gathercole, P, 1958, *Excavations at Clausentum, Southampton, 1951-54*, London  
NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London

**APPENDIX 1: Feature details**

| Cut | Fill (s) | Type | Date  | Dating evidence     |
|-----|----------|------|---|---------------------|
| 1   | 55       | Pit  | Post medieval (18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> Century | Pottery , clay pipe |



**47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton,  
Hampshire, 2014  
Archaeological watching brief**

Figure 1. Location of site within Southampton and Hampshire.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure map 22 at 1:12500  
Ordnance Survey Licence 100025880

THAMES VALLEY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SERVICES

SOU 1653  
BVR14/33





SOU 1653  
BVR14/33

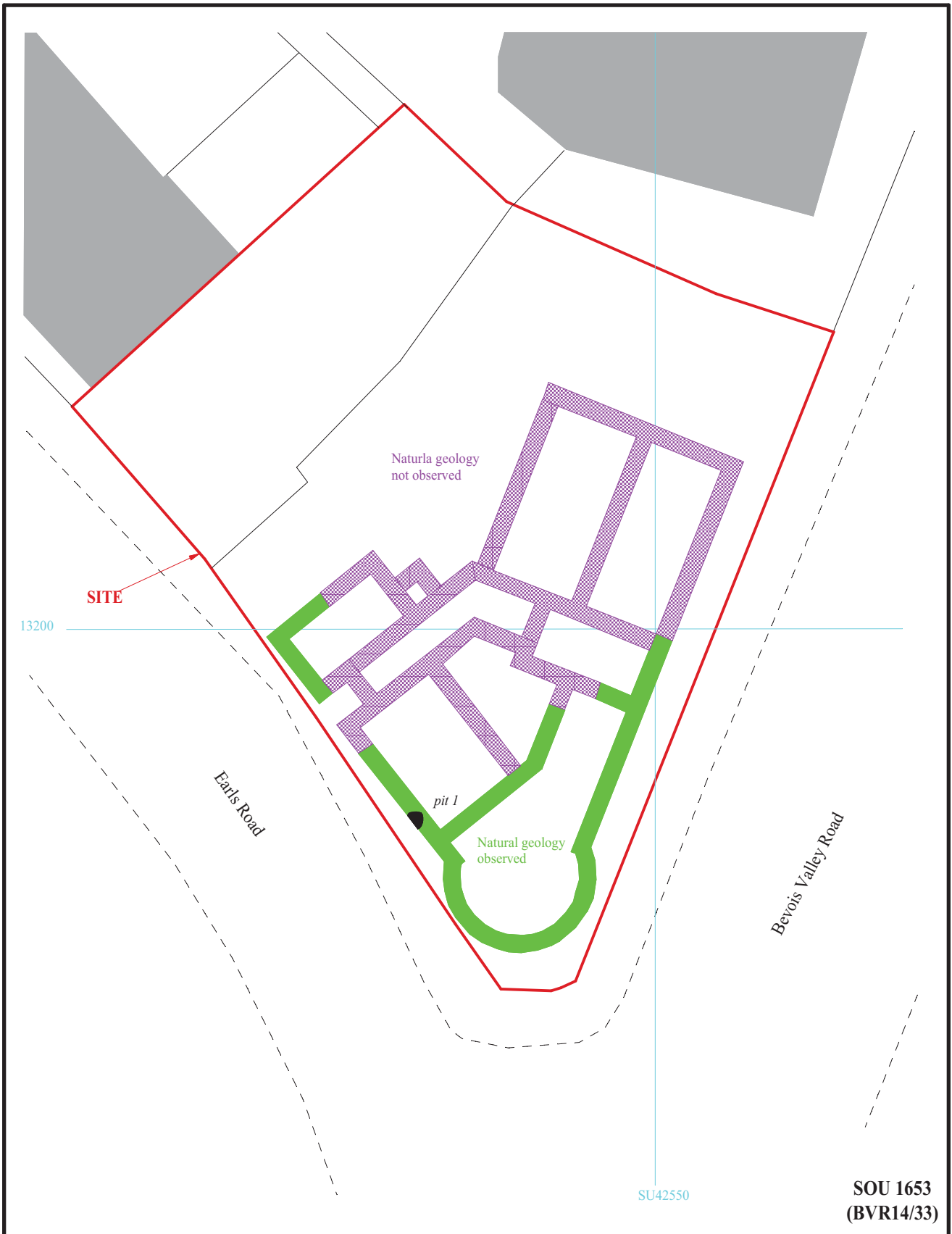


**47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton,  
Hampshire, 2014**  
**Archaeological watching brief**

Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Bevois Valley Road.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Digital Mapping under licence.  
Crown copyright reserved. Scale 1:1250

THAMES VALLEY  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL**  
SERVICES



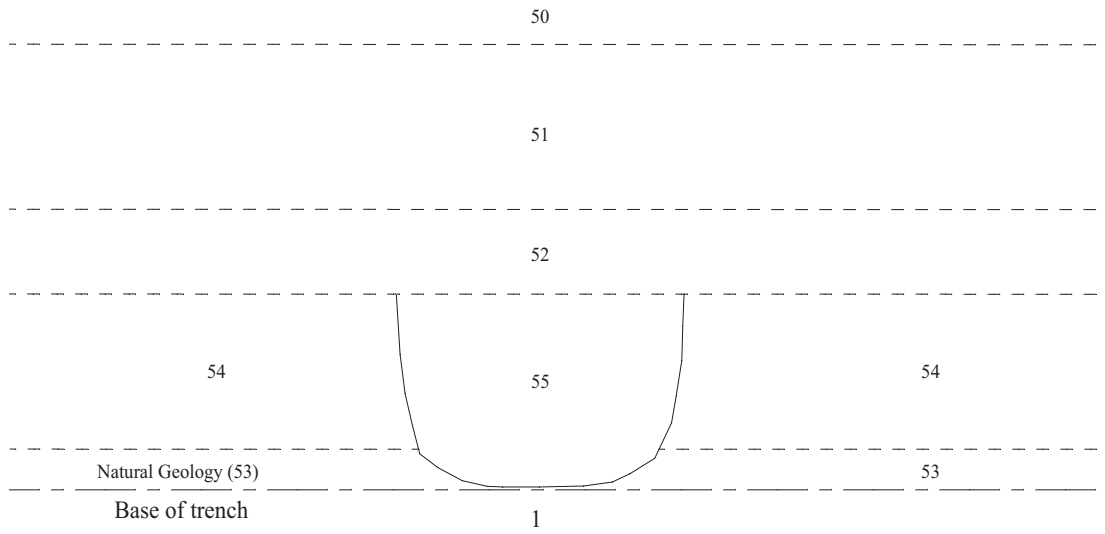
**47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton,  
Hampshire 2014  
Archaeological watching brief**

Figure 3. Location of observed areas.



SE

NW



SOU1653  
(14/33)

**47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton,  
Hampshire, 2014  
Archaeological watching brief**

Figure 4. Representative section.



THAMES VALLEY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SERVICES

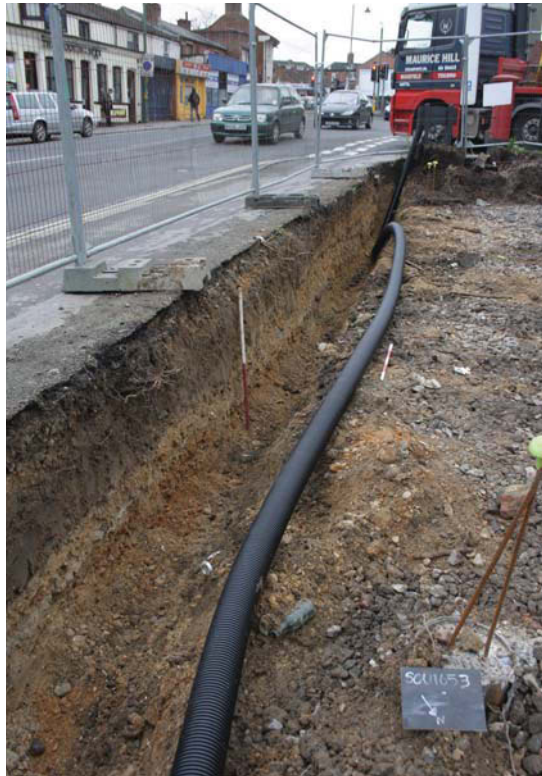


Plate 1. Site section against road edge, looking looking south west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Footing containing cut 1, looking south west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

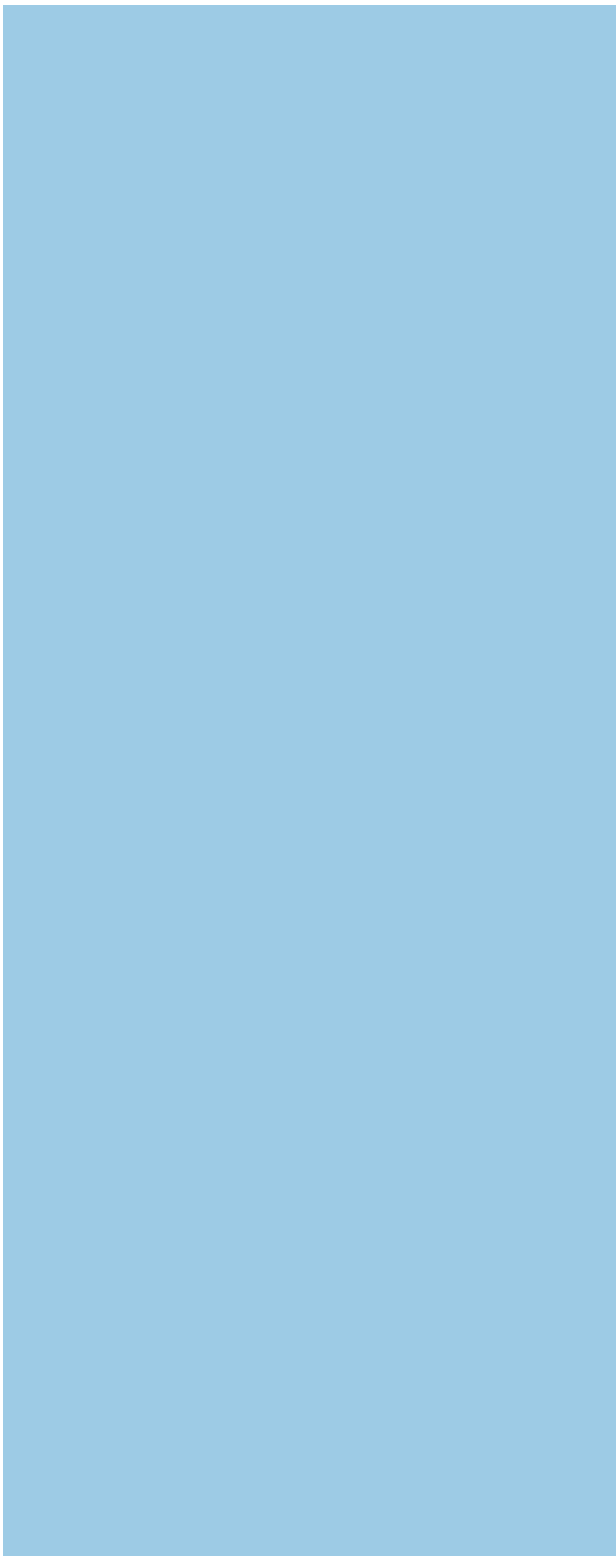
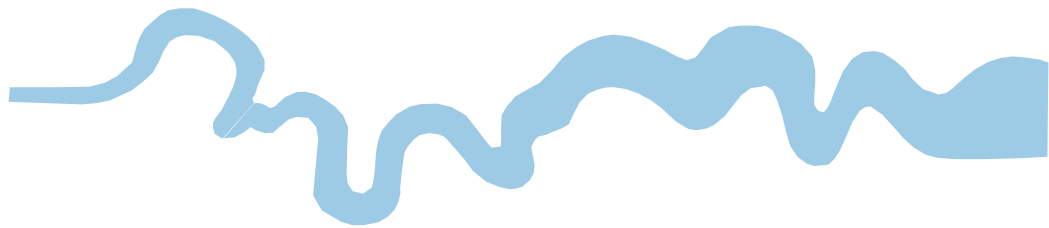
**SOU 1653**  
**BVR14/33**

**47A Bevois Valley Road, Southampton,**  
**Hampshire, 2014**  
**Archaeological watching brief**  
Plates 1 - 2.

THAMES VALLEY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SERVICES

## TIME CHART

|                            | Calendar Years  |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Modern _____               | AD 1901         |
| Victorian _____            | AD 1837         |
| Post Medieval _____        | AD 1500         |
| Medieval _____             | AD 1066         |
| Saxon _____                | AD 410          |
| Roman _____                | AD 43           |
| Iron Age _____             | BC/AD<br>750 BC |
| Bronze Age: Late -----     | 1300 BC         |
| Bronze Age: Middle -----   | 1700 BC         |
| Bronze Age: Early -----    | 2100 BC         |
| Neolithic: Late .....      | 3300 BC         |
| Neolithic: Early .....     | 4300 BC         |
| Mesolithic: Late .....     | 6000 BC         |
| Mesolithic: Early .....    | 10000 BC        |
| Palaeolithic: Upper .....  | 30000 BC        |
| Palaeolithic: Middle ..... | 70000 BC        |
| Palaeolithic: Lower .....  | 2,000,000 BC    |
| ↓                          | ↓               |



**Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd,  
47-49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading,  
Berkshire, RG1 5NR**

**Tel: 0118 9260552  
Fax: 0118 9260553  
Email: [tvas@tvas.co.uk](mailto:tvas@tvas.co.uk)  
Web: [www.tvas.co.uk](http://www.tvas.co.uk)**